

Hosta la Vista

Until we meet again



Aug. '14

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

People say that you can never have too much of a good thing. But, when gardening is concerned maybe you can. There might just come a time when there are too many and there is too much.



Sometimes having a small yard is just perfect. There is only space to grow and appreciate a certain number of plants and therefore the selections are carefully made and only the best make it into the beds. It can even be necessary to choose which old favorite might have to get out of town if a particularly wonderful new plant just has to join the collection.

Having too much space can be a burden as well as a joy. The opportunity and enthusiasm to expand in each and every direction may at some stage have to be curbed. The larger the area under cultivation the more work is required to keep it spick and span. The more plants in the collection the more effort that is required to understand their diverse needs and provide each genus and variety with all that they need to reach their full potential. Simply knowing which plants are where often becomes a problem.

It is not just the extra weeding that is needed. It is not simply that more and more bags of mulch need

to be spread. It is not a problem that can be solved by an extra length of hose.

At some stage a large garden can simply be too much for those that care for it.

All those who garden understand an additional or new flowerbed or garden can be a big commitment in time, effort and money. Very rarely is the area chosen for expansion completely fit for purpose. It will need to be defined, dug and no doubt amended. It might require to be marked out at least with a line of stones or timbers and maybe a proper retaining wall. The bed might well need to be raised, maybe to enhance the appearance, maybe to bring the new plants nearer the eye or simply to take the new roots out of an especially wet area.

When completed and planted the new area will bring joy but it also brings responsibilities. It is likely to need fertilizing. Eventually it will need weeding. With luck most new plants will be in the right spot but it might not be long before they need dividing or simply moving slightly. There are those of us who simply enjoy throwing the various colors and textures together whilst there are others who need carefully plan position, effect and pattern. As Beth Chatto once famously declared, "Right plant, right place".

So when an unexpected box arrives in the mail and it is found to contain a collection of intriguing new irises there is, even then, an issue - "Where on earth can I plant these?"

There is apparently only one solution. A new bed will need to be dug, raised and amended in a sunny spot. You see, you can never have too much of a good thing.

Mike

Kathy responds.....

We are so fortunate to have a large property.... But while we are blessed with space, we are NOT blessed with sun. Just as women with curly hair long for shiny straight locks, and those with straight hair long for curls... planting bed after bed of hosta, hosta, hosta.... And the odd fern... can be mind-numbing. SO - the box of irises that arrived is not a problem but an OPPORTUNITY to reach for the sunny side of the street - and since deer won't bother irises, I am thinking a cheerful bed in the orchard would be just the thing.... Don't you?

Mike may write the President's message, but I get to edit....



PICNIC MEETING & AUCTION

The next meeting of the WNY Hosta Society is the ever-popular picnic at Eagle Bay Hosta Gardens

Sunday, August 10, 2014 – 11-ish to 5 pm
Eagle Bay Hosta Farm—Sheridan, NY

Thruway to Silver Creek/Irving exit – west on US 20 for 8-ish miles to blinking light in Sheridan. Eagle Bay is one more mile on the right—please park neatly on the verge.

Agenda

Garden Visit

Drag & Brag

2014 Calendar Update

Public Sale Planning

Fall Hosta Forum -

DAMN RIGHT I'VE GOT THE BLUES

Award Luncheon - JP Fitzgerald's - 10/4/14

Hosta Breakfast—11/1/14

Fall Meeting—November 9th

Fun and Frolics

AUCTION

A SPLENDID TIME IS GUARANTEED FOR ALL

We generally wander in about 11-ish—allowing ample time to see the gardens and shop if you've a mind to.

True, we have a sort of meeting—but it's all stuff you want to/need to know.... And you'll be amply rewarded with hot dogs and such!

We are changing it up this year - instead of having individual kiosks for the various talks - the demonstrations will be AT THE TABLES right there in front of you.....

THEME IS:

AND THEN THERE WERE TWO

Propagation techniques for hostas

Including:

Rossizing

Zumbarizing

Bud Isolation

And best practice for dividing

And we'll raffle all these things later

And then, to top off the festivities, We will have our famous MEMBERS ONLY auction (bring something to add to the fun, please - doesn't have to be a hosta).

In the immortal words of Mister "T", I pity the fool that misses this!



NOTE ON DONATIONS

This applies to AUCTION donations for the picnic and SALE donations later....

Please make sure that **HOSTAS ARE LABELED** - and make sure all plant material is disease-free and attractive to a buyer or bidder!

At the picnic we have TWO categories for donations this year.... Auction and non-auction... and the auctioneers will be "the Deciders". This will keep the momentum high and the opportunities UNLIMITED.



POT LUCK

This is our "pot luck" picnic. **So bring a dish to pass... something to complement the house specialty**—hot dogs and/or bratwurst.

Beverages will be provided - but we will need finger-friendly desserts as well.



If you have "HOSTA BUCKS", bring them for the auction.. And this is a great opportunity to see Ran and Katie's gardens, including the amazing plants they manage to keep alive in the micro-climate of Eagle Bay.

Welcome New Members!!!

The Western NY Hosta society is going pretty well these days. While many plant societies, interest groups and social clubs are suffering a decline in membership, ours continues to slowly rise. Currently we have 197 memberships, but 30 of those are joint, so our total members are well over 200! We have members across the US and even International members (Canada). Make sure you make our newest folk feel welcome.

Please welcome our newest members:

Gordon Ballard/Brian Olinski - Buffalo
Rita Gallagher - Buffalo
Carol Hamp - Lancaster
Susan Holt - Williamsville
Susan Keenan - East Aurora
Rosemary Kort - Orchard Park
Kevin Lane - Orchard Park
Walter Malesa - Hamburg
William Maxwell - East Amherst
Leslie Murray - Orchard Park
Mitzi Neiders - Amherst
Jim Sheley - Brockway, PA
Christing van Zandbergen - Ontario
Barbara Vickers - Buffalo
Darlene Whitney - Williamsville

These folks have all joined this year. May your stay with us be long and satisfying.



ANNUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTIONS



The Western New York Hosta Society is looking for YOU! How can you make the Society your own? How can you make a lasting impact on the direction the Society takes? By serving as an officer or director of the Society is how. The WNY Hosta Society is always looking for a few good members to lead the Society in the 21st Century. Officer positions open for election on an annual basis are President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary and serve a one year term. There are three board of directors positions up for election this year and serve two year terms. The officers and board members meet once a month in the evening in a restaurant for about two hours to discuss Society business and communicate via e-mail in between meetings. This is your chance to make the Society yours! It is great fun and great friendships. Please consider running for an officer or board member position.

Elections are at our Fall meeting - Ballot enclosed for nominations. please contact John Walczak if you are interested: 825-0002 or Johnwalczak@hotmail.com

PLANT Sale

Our Public Plant Sale *Members Invited*

Western New York Hosta Society's
big fund raiser

Saturday, August 23rd
9am until 2pm

Buffalo & Erie County Botanical Gardens
2655 South Park Avenue - Buffalo, NY

Loads of Hostas (and Daylilies & Irises)

Volunteers needed

Friday, August 22nd
5pm until about 8pm

Refreshments and fun provided

**Plus an opportunity
to redeem your Hosta Bucks**

Saturday, August 23th
8am until 3pm (set up to clean up)
Refreshments provided

Our Members' Plant Sale *Public Invited*

The Sale.....

We have a GREAT selection of hosta for sale this year.

We need help on Friday evening to set up the tables and display the plants - we will be in the ADMINISTRATION BUILDING ON THE RIGHT SIDE... AND KIND OF BEHIND THE GLASSHOUSE..

Helpers on Friday evening will have the opportunity to use their hosta bucks. Dolores (dgalbo@localnet.com) is in charge of transporting the hostas to the sale and all things financial.

We now have developed a NEW way of setting up the hostas which should make things much easier.

Please bring brooms too – no silly, to sweep the floors, not for transport.

We will also need help at 2pm on Saturday to clear everything away, return unsold plants to the NEW hoop house site in Orchard Park, and to provide an armed guard for Dolores and all those dollars as she makes her way to the night safe. *So please don't all rush away too quickly at the end.*

KILLING HOSTAS – WITH KINDNESS

I have been growing hostas since the early eighties. The first two hostas I bought were H. 'Hadspen Blue' and H. 'Fransee'. Despite the fact that I read the label wrongly and for many years called it H. 'Fransec' I was pretty smitten with them from the start.

I was very new to gardening, my previous all consuming hobby being fish keeping. I loved the fact that you could get two fish, give them the right conditions and several weeks later have hundreds of baby fish. I soon learnt it was the same with hostas although not quite as fast. You could take your hosta, cut it in half and have two hostas. I was annoying that you could take the seed from a hosta and, unlike fishes, the babies would not look like the parent. But I could live with that.

I had several wonderful mentors during those early years. People who told me how to grow hostas, find hostas, breed hostas and speak hosta. I learnt about soil, I learnt about pots, I learnt about fertilizers, I learnt about sun and shade and I learnt that it was very difficult to kill a hosta. I fell very quickly into the murky realms of hosta addiction. I made lists of my acquisitions, I made list of other peoples' collections, I reveled in the ownership of the unique, the unusual and the hard to get.

All this happened in four or five years in England were the climate was designed to grow garden plants. Then I met Americans and found out that I had only scratched to surface. I met people whose lives were hosta, whose fortunes were hosta and whose dreams were about hosta. I traveled to America several times a year. I attended conventions, Hosta College and Hosta Society meetings. I even traveled to Washington, DC to hear my dear friend, and fellow Brit, Diana Grenfell give a talk about hostas. How crazy is that? But then I met a hosta wife. How lucky was that? I came to live in the USA and became even more deeply immersed in Hostaphilia. By then I thought I knew a bit about hostas and was bold enough to plant hosta gardens. I listened carefully to my wife's hosta gardening advice. "Dig a hole, throw in the hosta and stand back". She was right. The most undemanding plant you could possibly meet.

I tell anyone who will listen that it is so easy to grow hostas and that they are the ultimate 'guy plant'. You can lie on the couch all winter watching sport on TV and in the spring you just need to crawl over to the window, look out and there is your garden already grown and ready for another year.

But, I have just discovered, after all this time, that it is possible to kill hostas. A combination of ignorance and kindness is all that you need. We open our garden to the public for a few days each summer. Visitors were fascinated by the "Hosta Mice" and loved the story about H. 'Blue Mouse Ears' and all those sports. We decided to make a really big show of all the 'mice'. We were able to order a few of many more common varieties at a reasonable wholesale price.



They arrived, with lots of other plants, in early spring, before the last frost date. We potted everything but we dare not put them outside. Rather they were lined out on the garage floor and when the weather was good the garage door was left open.

Most of the new hostas we had ordered were in leaf but the 'mice' we barely little nubs of potential. The hostas remained in the garage for three or four weeks. Those plants in leaf needed water and they were watered frequently. Alongside were the 'mice'. They got watered too.

Oh dear. It simply did not occur to me. Before the leaves emerge from the early shoot they need little or no water. Just enough to begin that leaf expansion process. Just like the blood flowing into the wing of a butterfly as it emerges from the chrysalis. If they are watered heavily or even just too much they are unable to take up the water.

In the garden this is rarely a problem as the water drains away and the roots absorb just enough to continue the emerging process but in a small pot it is not so easy for the water to drain away and the plant begins to drown. It seems that I also pot hostas very firmly. With a plant in full leaf this is not a problem but with hostas still emerging from dormancy it simply adds to the drainage problem.

The more my new hostas failed to emerge the more water I gave them. The more water I gave them the more they began to rot away beneath the surface.

It was not that I didn't understand the process of transpiration. Plants need to loose water through their leaves to create that vacuum that can draw fresh water, and the nutrients it contains, up from the roots, though the plant and out through the leaves. I just wasn't thinking. No leaves and no transpiration can occur. Eventually the potted plants could go outside and the spring weather was all they needed to grow. It is a busy time in the garden and the new plants did not get looked at too often. Still the 'mice' failed to emerge. When I did look at them closely I found that they had all rotted away. They were mush. The tops pulled off with the slightest tug. The roots were soft and black. I had killed them.

I hope that I have learnt the lesson. No artificial watering until the plant has begun to leaf out and then only in moderation.

I have also realized that it does not help to water those plants that were over-wintered in pots but that failed to appear in the spring. Watering them is not going to help. If below the surface there is a weak plant struggling to make its way in an alien world, drowning it is not the answer.



George Donsky's Hostas

Kathy and I drove to the 2014 Convention in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. We regard the trip there and back as part of the vacation and the bonus is that we have a whole car that we can fill with more plants. We always try to visit interesting places on the route.

This year we were especially lucky to team up with a Brit, two Dutchmen and a nice guy from Kansas to visit three hosta establishments that we knew well but had never actually visited.

First on the list was the Q and Z wholesale nursery and we were lucky enough to be treated to the Grand Tour by Mark Zilis. The sheer number of plants produced by such places is mind boggling and further evidence that the hosta is indeed America's favorite perennial.

We also visited Josh Spece and his family at 'In the Country Gardens and Gifts'. They had a huge array of unusual hostas for sale. All were well grown and reasonably priced. In addition there were a series of gardens laid out with examples of many well grown mature hostas and perennials. More importantly we were able to see the new Spece family home.

Members may recall that over the last couple of years we have mentioned that Josh and his family came very close to having a new house built for their special needs by TV's 'Extreme Makeover' program. Sadly it was not to be. How disappointing is that? Local folks started a charity fund drive to build them a new, specially adapted, home and the hosta fraternity across the States and beyond weighed in with fund-raisers and contributions.

Well, the house is built. It is not yet finished but the Spece family has recently moved in. The siding is not yet fixed, the elevator needs to be installed, landscaping and driveways are still lacking but it is already a home that is being enjoyed and appreciated.

In between we all went to Jim Swart's amazing hosta garden. Never before have I seen so many hostas crowded into such a small space. Not that the garden was that small. It was simply that there were so many hostas and dozens and dozens that I had never seen before. I was surprised to see a mature example of our own George Donsky's H. 'Lily Blue Eyes'. I had seen the original in George and Barbara's garden in Orchard Park a few years ago but I didn't realize that it was in production and available. Jim told me that one of the gardens that we would shortly see on the Convention Tour contained many of George's plants.



H. 'Stud Muffin'

Apparently before his untimely death George had sensibly traded his seedlings with a few select hosta folk to both see how they fared in different locales and to make sure that there were examples out there should those in his own garden fail.

Sure enough a couple of days later we found ourselves in the McBurney Garden. This one acre garden was planted mostly with hostas although sadly few of them were labeled. Garden owners, Jim and Lois told me they had owned the house since 1978 but had only really begun to make a garden in 1995 "once the kids had left home." There were many, many hostas growing well in the garden, but finding which ones were from George was not easy.

George had sent them many of his seedlings when they were very new. They were of course un-named and sadly we now have no way of knowing of their origins. H. 'Stud Muffin' and H. 'Yes, Sir!' were both in the garden and other seedlings were pointed out so it was good to see that another hosta grower appreciated them.

George registered six hostas – one sport and five seedlings. They are described below exactly as they appear on the International Cultivar Registration Authority web site maintained by the American Hosta Society at WWW.Hostaregistrar.org where all registered hostas can be viewed. The sport, H. 'Plebe's Blue', a fertile streaked version of H. 'Blue Cadet', was found by Jim in his garden and registered by George in 2004.

We will be showing pictures of the Convention gardens and Josh Spece's new home as part of the program of entertainment at our 'Appreciation Lunch' at J.P. Fitzgerald's on Saturday October 4th.

'Lily Blue Eyes' G. Donsky (ONIR) 2007

Plant: 27 in. (69 cm) diameter, 10 in. (25 cm) high; upright, .
Leaf: 9 in. (23 cm) long, 6 in. (14 cm) wide; 9 to 11 pairs of veins; intensely blue-green; serrated; glaucous bloom on top; glaucous bloom underneath; moderately wavy; broadly ovate; cordate base;
Flower: 1.5 in. (4.31 cm) long; tubular; Orchard Park, NY - July 15 to Aug 15;
Seed: sets viable seed; green seed pod;
Clump History: the original seedling; 5 yrs old; Orchard Park, NY;
Notable Characteristics: leaf edge serrated
[H. 'Salute' x H. 'Azure Snow']

'Yes, Sir!' G. Donsky (OIR) P. Lehtola (N) 2009

Plant: 30 in. (76 cm) diameter, 21 in. (53 cm) high; upright; medium.
Leaf: 11 in. (27 cm) long, 6 in. (14 cm) wide; 7 to 9 pairs of veins; medium green; dull on top; glaucous bloom underneath; lightly folded; ovate; rounded base;
Flower: tubular; Orchard Park, NY - July 15 to Aug 15;
Clump History: the original seedling; 5 yrs old; Orchard Park, NY;
[H. 'Salute' x open pollinated]

'Sabrina's Smile' G. Donsky (ONIR) 2009

Plant: 30 in. (76 cm) diameter, 13 in. (33 cm) high; mound-like; medium.
Leaf: 10 in. (25 cm) long, 5 in. (11 cm) wide; green to gray green; creamy yellow margin;
Flower: tubular; Orchard Park, NY - July 15 to Aug 15;
Seed: sets viable seed; green seed pod;
Clump History: the original seedling; 4 yrs old; Orchard Park, NY;
Notable Characteristics: two-tone green leaf center, with a margin that starts creamy yellow
Seasonal Variation: margin turns white in summer
[seedling x H. 'Yellow Highness']

(Donsky hostas continued)

'Stud Muffin' G. Donsky (OIR) P. Lehtola (N) 2009

Plant: 17 in. (43 cm) diameter, 12 in. (30 cm) high; mound-like; fast.

Leaf: 5 in. (11 cm) long, 4 in. (11 cm) wide; 9 to 10 pairs of veins; yellow; dull on top; slightly shiny underneath; moderately cupped, moderately corrugated; nearly round; cordate base;

Scape: 14 to 16 in. (36 cm) long; green.

Flower: 1.5 in. (4.31 cm) long; tubular; Orchard Park, NY - June 1 to July 15;

Seed: sets viable seed;

Clump History: the original seedling; 9 yrs old; Orchard Park, NY; [H. 'Midas Touch' x H. 'Tea and Crumpets']

'Lime Custard' G. Donsky (ONIR) 2009

Plant: 36 in. (91 cm) diameter, 19 in. (48 cm) high; ; medium.

Leaf: 10 in. (24 cm) long, 9 in. (22 cm) wide; 4 to 5 pairs of veins; light green; slightly rippled; dull on top; glaucous bloom underneath; lightly wavy; broadly ovate; cordate base;

Flower: Orchard Park, NY - July 15 to Aug 15;

Clump History: the original seedling; 5 yrs old; Orchard Park, NY; [H. 'Lemon Meringue' x H. 'Riptide']

'Plebe's Blues' J. McBurney (OI) G. Donsky (NR) 2004

Plant: 15 in. (38 cm) diameter, 9 in. (23 cm) high; upright; medium.

Leaf: 4 in. (9 cm) long, 2 in. (5 cm) wide; 7 to 9 pairs of veins; slightly blue green with unstable streaks of varying shades of yellow; slightly rippled; glaucous bloom on top; glaucous bloom underneath; lightly twisted; ovate; rounded base; petiole is some are streaked.

Scape: 11 to 16 in. (28 cm) long; green.

Flower: 1.25 in. (3.67 cm) long; pale purple stripes on white base inside of tepal; tubular; Orchard Park, NY - June 1 to July 15; 6/30-7/10-7/24; *codes 4-4-4;

Seed: sets viable seed; green seed pod;

Clump History: a 1st generation division; 3 yrs old; Orchard Park, NY;

Notable Characteristics: fertile, streaked sport of 'Blue Cadet' [Sport of H. 'Blue Cadet']



I would like to express my thanks to all of you who helped make the Hosta Show our biggest, best and most beautiful ever. I want each and every one of you to know that we could not have achieved this success without YOU!

Many members were involved so I will not name each off each of you individually. Some of you were not only new to our hosta society but had never previously participated in a hosta show. It was a pleasure to see newbies working right along side more experienced participants.

I also want to thank our hosts, the Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens, for the use of its unique and beautiful facility for our show, as well as their knowledgeable and helpful staff.

Dianne Giordano, Hosta Show Chair

See results page 9

Nominations for the WNYHS Board 2014 elections

Positions up for election include President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. There are also three Board positions available. **NOMINATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY 10/31/13**

I am nominating the following person(s) for a position on the 2014 WNYHS Board:

President _____

Vice President _____

Secretary _____

Treasurer _____

Board Positions (3)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Contact John Walczak at 825 0002 Email johnwalczak@hotmail.com if you have any questions or nominations. Please include nominee's phone no. and/or email address.

YOUR NAME _____ (please print)

Positions expiring and up for re-election or nomination in 2015 include:

Officers

President: Mike Shadrack

Vice President: Ran Lydell

Treasurer: Dolores Galbo

Secretary: Marcia Sully

Board Positions

Jackie Adams

Dianne Giordano

Mike Sheehan

Credit Where Credit Is Due: The Paul Aden Registrations

by The American Hosta Society Nomenclature Committee

In April 2012, The American Hosta Society president appointed the AHS Cultivar Origination Commission with this mission:

Investigate origins of Paul Aden's registrations and report findings to the International Registrar for the Genus Hosta for modifying the Hosta Registry.

Members were Tom Micheletti (Chair), Warren I. Pollock, W. George Schmid and Mark R. Zilis. Tom was AHS Immediate Past President and a member of the AHS Executive Council. Mark is author of the 1125-page instant classic *The Hostapedia* and the just published 428-page *Mark Zilis' Field Guide to Hostas*. George and Warren co-chair the AHS Nomenclature Committee and are members of the AHS Board of Directors. George wrote the classic reference *The Genus Hosta – Giboshi Zoku*.

The Commission's first report was published in the 2012 issue of AHS's *Online Hosta Journal*, pages 5–6. The second and final report was in the 2013 issue, pages 4–5.

The Commission found that many hostas assumed to be creations of Paul Aden, who died in 2010, were originated by Kevin C. Vaughn, now residing in Salem, Oregon, and the late Florence M. Shaw, who lived in Weston, Massachusetts, and died in 1975. Both were prolific hosta hybridizers. Widely known are Kevin's *H. 'Bette Davis Eyes'* (registered in 1987) and *H. 'Tijuana Brass'* (1988), and Mrs. Shaw's *H. 'Birchwood Elegance'* (1986) and *H. 'Birchwood Parky's Gold'* (1986).

The Commission has determined alternate originators for fewer than 50 hostas of the more than 200 that Aden registered or were registered for him. For details, please refer to the reports, which also were published by the Hosta Registrar, Kevin P. Walek, in the blue-cover *Registrations 2012* and *Registrations 2013* editions of *The Hosta Journal*.

We will only mention here a few of the altered cultivars that hosta fanciers likely have in their gardens. First and foremost is the popular *H. 'Sum and Substance'*. You'll now be noting that "(F. Shaw - 1980)" is cited after this cultivar name; the original registration date remains. Also, (F. Shaw - 1986) now marks *H. 'Blue Angel'*. Others are *H. 'Blue Cadet'* (F. Shaw - 1974), *H. 'Big Daddy'* (F. Shaw - 1976), *H. 'Big Mama'* (F. Shaw - 1976), *H. 'Love Pat'* (F. Shaw - 1978) and *H. 'Zounds'* (F. Shaw - 1978).

Kevin Vaughn now is credited as originator of *H. 'Fragrant Bouquet'*, registered in 1982. We also recognize *H. 'Fragrant Blue'* (K. Vaughn - 1988), *H. 'Fringe Benefit'* (K. Vaughn - 2010), *H. 'So Sweet'* (K. Vaughn - 1986) and *H. 'Sweetie'* (K. Vaughn - 1988).

At this writing the registrar has not yet altered the registrations in the online AHS Hosta Registry. This is a huge task requiring considerable time of a computer programmer. Since many parentages stated by Aden are incorrect, changes will be considerable. We understand that the registrar plans to start the project this summer (2014).

Publications of The American Hosta Society now reflect these changes, for example in the Photo Indexes at the end of recent issues of *The Hosta Journal*. And some nurseries have modified their catalogs and lists, citing K. Vaughn or F. Shaw instead of P. Aden. But, frankly, the conversion process in the industry has been slow. Simply put, folks just are hesitant to make changes to things they've been accustomed to for years and years.

However, we hope that home gardeners will take the lead in modifying relevant plant labels and records.

If you have questions, please contact Warren at giboshiwip@aol.com or George at hostahillwgs@comcast.net.

The Western New York Hosta Society Hosta Show.

Everything other year our Society holds an accredited Hosta Show. (We have too much going on the early summer to hold it annually). This year our show was at a new location and very differently organized.

One of the perpetual problems with hostas shows is that to do it properly it takes a long time to judge the entries. Often our experts are still judging our leaves way after the time public admission has been advertised and a line of frustrated visitors often forms.

This year circumstances forced us to do it differently and we think it all worked out pretty well. Our Show was held at the Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens, on South Park in Lackawanna. On the Saturday members had all morning to enter and display their leaves. It was a fun time for all involved and many new to hosta shows learnt much. It was a delight to see those members with more experience helping and instructing the novices. Then the Judges had all afternoon to adjudicate and award prizes. No rush, no hassle.

Interestingly it was one of those novices, Barbara Sylvester, who listened to that advice and who attended one of the Hosta Show Master classes, who won the coveted Best in Show Award.

Then on Sunday morning volunteer members moved the entire show a couple of hundred yards to a display area in the greenhouses that the previous day had witnessed a wedding breakfast. It didn't take very long and our finished show, that was open to the public all day Sunday, looked really good. Ran Lydell an experienced veteran hosta judge said that the quality of the hosta leaves on display were among the best he had ever seen, even at National Hosta Shows. Well done Western New York and a very warm thank you to the Judges and to Dianne Giordano, Carolyn Schaffner and their team for a good job very well done.



The results of the show appear on page 9

2014 HOSTA SHOW RESULTS BUFFALO: CITY OF LIGHT

It was a fabulous show... we had 17 exhibitors and 267 entries.

The big winners were:

Best of Show	Barb Sylvester	H. 'Fatal Attraction'
Best Seedling/Sport	Mike Sheehan	
Sweepstakes	Paulette Combs	36 blue ribbons!
Section I	Paulette Combs	H. 'Uncle Albert'
Section II	Mike Shadrack	H. 'Irish Luck'
Section III	Barb Sylvester	H. 'Fatal Attraction'
Section IV	Sue Buckner	H. 'Kiwi Full Monty'
Section V	Mike Shadrack	H. 'Lakeside Scamp'

Container Grown Hosta

Grand Award Mike Sheehan H. 'Birchwood Parky's Gold'

Trough Container Gardens

Grand Award Mike Shadrack

CONGRATULATIONS EVERYONE!!

.... The rest of the story

The rest of the hosta year will look like THIS (after the picnic)

9/19 & 20 - FALL HOSTA FORUM in Edinboro, PA.... A chance to hear some fabulous speakers, buy some fabulous plants, learn some fabulous new things and enjoy the camaraderie of folks from western NY, Pittsburgh, PA and all kinds of other far-flung and exotic locales. It's a very good time. You can come Friday night and enjoy dinner followed by hospitality - or come for just for the day.

10/4 - MEMBERS' APPRECIATION LUNCH ... JP Fitzgerald's Restaurant in Hamburg, NY. A nice afternoon with good food, a program on the 2014 hosta convention and some recognition of our folks.

11/1 - HOSTA BREAKFASTS WILL RESUME - we will send a reminder by HOSTA FLASH

11/9 - ANNUAL MEETING - East Aurora Senior Center. We generally have a speaker at this meeting.. Details on the meeting will be in the next newsletter.

Hosta la Vista

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716-941-6167



We're on the web
Wnyhosta.com

OPPOBKNOCKITY TUNES

FALL HOSTA FORUM—9/20/14

The 16th Fall Hosta Forum, jointly hosted by our own Society and the Daffodil and Hosta Society of Western Pennsylvania, will be held in Edinboro, PA on Saturday September 20th.

You should all have received a copy of the brochure and registration form. If not, or if you're new, or if it has been lost, we will have some available at the picnic.

The theme this year is **DAMN RIGHT, I've GOT THE BLUES!** and the four main speakers will be concentrating on those folks who bring us the blues.... Blue hostas, and blues in the garden! Our speakers are all world-class: Don Dean is President of the American Hosta Society and King of the Blues, Rick Goodenough is hybridizer of amazing hostas like 'Stag's Leap', Oscar Cross is a popular speaker at Hosta College and will show us some perennials to chase the blues and Laura Deeter is a popular speaker and calls herself "The Garden Hoe". We are still working out the Friday night entertainment. And, of course, those Friday

night folk will receive a special hosta as a gift. The venue has remained the same as last year...the Comfort Suite for accommodations but all activity will take place at Edinboro University - as different from the Riverside as the earth is from Mars.

Our fame has been spreading... we have one guy who comes all the way from Chicago, one woman who comes from Maine and it's on the AHS website so if you have not registered yet, you really should! (Especially if you need a hotel room - the Edinboro Comfort was releasing our block on 7/31, but you should still be able to get a room if you hustle - 814-969-7000) So... it's going to be a good time - it's always fun - and it's your last chance in 2014 to learn something new and add some cool plants to your garden. Oh yes.... Plaaaaaants.

