



Heartland Hosta & Shade Plant Society

Spring 2012

**Board of Directors
President**

Gwen Wheeler
(816) 228-9308
gmwheeler@juno.com

Vice President:

Charlene Wendel
(816) 313-2907
gramcracer@hotmail.com

Secretary

Cerise Harris
(816) 353-8905
cjharris@kc.rr.com

Treasurer

Annella Kuhar
(913) 888-4258
churharr2@yahoo.com

Newsletter

Penny Balfour
(913) 722-4925
gmwheeler@juno.com

Membership

Nancy Erwine
(816) 781-8542
drtangel@kc.rr.com

Website

Pat Jerez
(816) 729-9124
dimedame@sprintmail.com

Program Coordinator

Gayle Alley
(816) 697-2007
jpagha@gmail.com

Hospitality

Carmon Martinache
(816) 228-9308
kagwheeler@aol.com



President's Message

Hello! Such an interesting Winter this has been! Now in mid-February, everyone is wondering how our plants will react in the coming growing season. The Hellebores are reacting with lovely blooms as always. With my usual excited anticipation as Spring approaches, I'm expecting the rest of my favorites to follow suit. There have been several days that felt like Spring, but the telltale brown said otherwise!

Our **March 24th meeting** date is approaching quickly, so be sure to mark your calendars for that Saturday morning of friendship, learning and, of course, eating! Remember to bring a dish to share and have lunch with us.

Our wonderful **speaker, Leo Blanchette**, will be presenting a program entitled "Five Genera for the Shade", which we know you'll enjoy. Mr. Blanchette is owner, operator and propagator of Blanchette Gardens in Carlisle, Massachusetts.

Another important date to be noted on your calendar is **Plant Sale Day, May 12th**. As you have come to expect, we will have a large selection of exciting hostas and perennials from which to choose. Those of you have shared your email have already received a sneak preview list.

We are happy to be introducing a couple new projects this year, one of which is **Leaf Show 101**. We'll be meeting at Annella Kuhar's house in Overland Park on Tuesday evening, May 22, at 6:30 with our favorite hosta leaf in hand. The leaves will be properly cleaned, displayed and examined as if for judging. Should be fun and we hope to see many of you there.

June 2nd you will have the pleasure of gathering at Carmon and Bob Martinache's

home in rural Oak Grove for a delightful **Summer garden tour and picnic**. This will be a potluck event and since the large leaf contest was such a hit last year, we will continue that this year. Watch for more information on this event as the time nears. You will not want to miss this one.

Another new feature will be an opportunity to share each other's gardens. A list will be prepared of those willing to have other member's visit, with a phone call to confirm convenience of time for both. Most of us love to **share our gardening experiences**, so this should be a lot of fun for all.

Have you made your reservation for the **AHS convention** June 13 – 16, 2012, in Nashville, TN? Several of us have already reserved and look forward to a great time. The website to check for more info is: www.hosta2012.com

Another great convention opportunity is the **Regional Convention** July 12-14, 2012 in Rochester, MN. That one is a bit closer, an easy drive from KC. The website to find more info on that is: www.soghs.org/2012mrhsconvention/

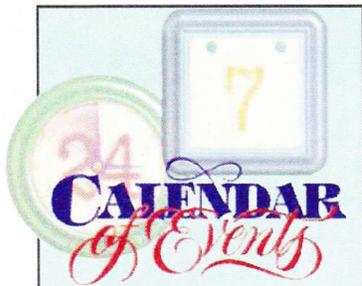
In **appreciation to Faith Lutheran Church** for their excellent hospitality in opening the facility to us, we have purchased two folding tables for their use, and ours, in their Friendship Hall

We also **donated numerous plants to Powell Gardens** last season.

We very much look forward to seeing and visiting with all of you at the March 24th meeting!!

Gwen

**Hosta Meeting Saturday March 24, 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.,
Potluck following, at Faith Lutheran Church,
67th & Roe, Prairie Village, Kansas**



2012 Events

March 24

Heartland Hosta Spring Meeting
(Faith Lutheran Church)

May 12

Heartland Hosta Annual Plant Sale
(Faith Lutheran Church)

June 2

Heartland Hosta Annual Garden Party at Bob & Carmen Martinache

June 13-16

AHS National Convention
Nashville, TN

July 12-14

Midwest Regional Convention
Rochester, MN

September 22

Heartland Hosta Fall Meeting
(Faith Lutheran Church)



Leo Blanchette

Speaker's Title: "Five Genera for the Shade"

Leo Blanchette has been a collector of shade plants for many years and has one of the largest collections of Polygonatum and Astilbe in the country. He will feature many unusual forms in the in-depth lecture. Among his favorite genera are: Polygonatum, Anemonella, hardy Arisaema, Astilbe and Primula sieboldii. Each of these makes a great companion for Hosta.

Leo Blanchette is the owner, operator and propagator of Blanchette Gardens in Carlisle, Massachusetts. Blanchette

Gardens specializes in numerous rare and unusual perennials with two-thirds of their stock suited for the shade. As a former teacher, he has lectured to numerous groups throughout the United States as well as Canada and Japan. He has been awarded the Silver Medal from the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, the Bronze Medal from the American Rhododendron Society and he has also been featured in a number of national gardening magazines both as a propagator and as a grower of fine plants.

Have a Hosta Question?

Want to know what that funny looking plant with the red berries is doing in your garden? Have a disagreement with your significant other about how best to warm up your compost bed? Forums are the perfect way to get your questions answered and to also share your own experiences. A number of forums are hosted by Hallson Gardens at the web address shown below. Our favorite is the

Hosta forum, but there is also a Hellebore forum, a Heuchera forum, and at least 20 others related to gardening. Check out one or more of them and find a wealth of information, make friends, or share photographs and experiences.

<http://www.perennialnursery.com/forums/index.php>

Article by Gayle Alley

Leaf Show 101—May 22

This is a new event this year. We will meet at Annella Kuhar's home -5608 W 98th Terr., Overland Park, KS 6:30 PM. Everyone bring a leaf and we will prepare it for show.

Info: Call Gwen 816-228-9308 or Annella 913-888-4258



Broad Band—Large



Dancing Stars—Med.



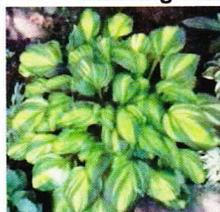
Hudson Bay—Large



Regal Supreme—Large



Liberty—Large



Rainbow's End—Med.



Rare Breed—Med.

Facts: TRILLIUM

Family: Liliaceae

Genus: Trillium

Common: Wake Robin

Origin: Moist wooded areas throughout the Pacific Northwest, low to mid-elevations

Description: Plant: White trillium is a perennial plant, arising from a single rootstalk (rarely two) approximately 8"-16" tall (University of Wisconsin). This rootstalk grows from a short rhizome containing long roots (Hanzawa et. al. 1993). The plant has quite a long lifespan; the plant takes about 17 years to mature and can live over 70 years (Knight 2006). Flower: The flower contains three white petals, elliptical shaped with pointed tips. As the plant matures, the petals turn pink. The flower is solitary and grows from a 2"-3" stalk above the leaves (University of Texas). Fruit: The flower can produce a round, pale green berry approximately 1/2" wide. The berry is odorless and mealy inside (University of Wisconsin).

Characteristics: Leaves are triangular to oval shaped; usually three, held in a whorl at the top of a 10 to 12" stem. A singular flower rests on or shortly above the whorl of leaves.

Colors range from white to greenish yellow to purple, depending on species. Sometimes forming a curved to flat, open triangle of three petals, or standing upright from the surface of the leaves, again depending on the species.

Culture: Plant in full to partial shade, in soil rich with organic matter and good drainage. Wants regular water during the growing

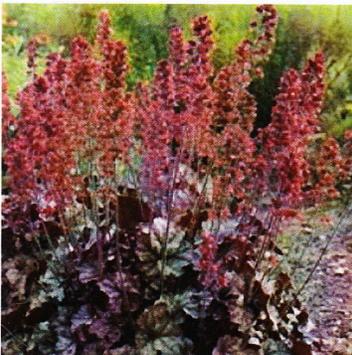


season, little or none in summer when plant goes dormant.

Diseases/Pests: Snails and slugs can be a problem. In poorly drained soil rhizomes can rot and plants can suffer from fungal diseases.

Medicinal Uses: This plant has a variety of medicinal uses and was often used in ancient medicine. The root is a diuretic and can also be grated and applied to eyes for the reduction of swelling as well as to rheumatic joints to ease pain. The root's bark can be used in the form of eardrops in order to reduce soreness (during ear infections). Finally, the grated root can be simmered in water and drunk for treatment of cramps and irregular menses (Plants for a Future).

Edible Uses: The leaves can be cooked and eaten, similar to spinach.



Heuchera, Hollywood



Athyrium Fern, Pictum



Adiantum pedatum Fern
Maiden Hair Fern



Trillium stamineum



Heartland Hosta Society Dues

To ensure your continued newsletter mailings, please make sure you're current on dues. If you're not sure, check your mailing address label for the year next to your name. You are paid up through that year. We ask that you prepay at least 2 years at a time.

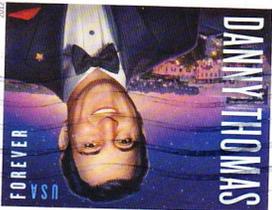
Join the American Hosta Society

The publications alone are worth the annual dues. Visit the AHS website (www.hosta.org) for the latest membership options.

Join the Midwest Regional Hosta Society

The MRHS (including both KS and MO) publishes two newsletters a year, holds an annual Summer Convention and a Winter Scientific Meeting. Dues are only \$10 per year payable to MRHS.

Send dues to:
Barb Schroeder
1819 Coventry Dr.
Champaign, IL 61822-5239



Heartland Hosta & Shade Plant Society
 Penny Balfour, Newsletter Editor
 4912 Pawnee Dr.
 Roeland Park, KS 66205

☞ Heartland Hosta and Shade Plant Society ☞ Membership and Renewal Form

Your dues are currently paid up through the year noted next to your name on the mailing address label. We ask that all members prepay at least 2 years at a time to minimize the paperwork and bookkeeping. Dues are \$10.00 per year or \$25.00 for 3 years.

Check One: NEW MEMBER RENEWAL

Name:	Street Address:
City, State, Zip	Home Phone:
E-Mail Address:	Member of American Hosta Society? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Would you like to volunteer?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality	<input type="checkbox"/> Plant Sale
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Is your Garden open to visitors?

Please return this form with your email address even if your dues are paid up. Return this form and your dues to:

Nancy Erwine
900 Hillside, Liberty, MO 64068

