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# Heartland Hosta & Shade Plant Society

## President's Message

*Spring is on the way!!* Surely the bright sunlight and warmer temps are pointing that way, as are the lively bird songs I'm beginning to hear!! To celebrate Spring, join us for our gathering on Saturday, March 21, 2015 at the Faith Lutheran Church, 67th and Roe, Prairie Village, KS.

Coffee, light snacks, check-in and chatting with friends will begin at 9:30AM. After a brief 10:00AM meeting, we are excited to welcome Jeff Miller, Land of the Giants, Milton, WI who will present "Hostalicious".

The club will provide meat, drinks and table service for a potluck lunch at noon, with the rest of us bringing a favorite dish to share. After our lunch, we're delighted that Phil Alley has agreed to share his entertaining talk, "Evolution of a Garden".

Those of you who have shared your emails will have received a sneak preview of some of the plants available at the May 9th Plant Sale! Save the date!! You will love the variety and quality offered this year.

Perhaps this is the year you can attend one of the Conventions of your extended hosta organization. The AHS Convention will be held in Raleigh, NC on June 16-20. Closer to home is the Region 5 Convention in Dubuque, IA on July 9-11.

Either would be a great experience of lectures, magnificent tour gardens, vendors with new and unusual offerings and friendly hostaholics. Do consider one of these opportunities.

Enjoy your Spring garden – we look forward to seeing all of you on March 21st. Please note that we have two speakers!!

*Gwen*

## Heartland Hosta & Shade Plant Society Spring Meeting Saturday, March 21, 2015

Faith Lutheran Church, 67th & Roe, Prairie Village, KS.

Hospitality: 9:30AM

Meeting: 10:00AM

The Club will provide barbecue for a potluck at noon, you may bring your favorite dish to share. Everyone is welcome! Come join a fun day with fellow hostaholics! There will be great food, many door prizes and best of all, two great speakers!! See you there!

For information call Gwen at 816-213-0598

## Heartland Hosta & Shade Plant Society Spring Meeting



**Featured Speaker: Jeff Miller**  
**Topic: “Hostalicious”**

Jeff and wife, Penny own and operate “Land of the Giants Hosta Farm”. The shade garden started with around 25 different hosta varieties and are now pushing over 2700 varieties and over 340,000 hostas planted in the garden. Many which are rare and unique hostas not found at local nurseries, but eagerly sought after by devoted shade lovers nationwide. Jeff also loves studying the plants, and hybridizes every year to create new garden worthy plants, with a few coming out on the market soon.

### **Bonus Speaker after Lunch: Phil Alley**

Our own club member, Phil Alley, will provide an encore presentation of “**Evolution of a Garden**” that was warmly received at the “First Annual Garden Faire” held at Loose Park. This is lively and entertaining peek into the history behind Phil & Gayle Alley’s garden in the woods.

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## *Safety in the Garden*

*The Montrose Herald*

Enthusiasm for getting out into the garden and getting our hands dirty sometimes leads people to forget caution and do things that are unsafe or downright dangerous. Make this a safe gardening season by remembering the following tips from Mary Roduner, SDSU Extension Consumer Horticulture Field Specialist.

**Chemicals:** Most of us have chemicals in the garage, storage shed, or basement. How old are these chemicals and have they been exposed to freezing? As insecticides and herbicides age they not only lose effectiveness, but degrade into compounds that can be more dangerous than the original one. “By allowing chemicals to freeze over the winter your are speeding up the process. Using old or degraded products will either do no good, leading to over use to get the desired effect, or damage plants,” Roduner said. Always take old chemicals to a hazardous waste drop off point where they will be disposed of safely. Dumping old chemicals down the drain is not only illegal, but damaging to waste water system.

Where are your chemicals stored? Are they out of the reach of small children? Any chemicals and the sprayers used should be stored in a locked cabinet or closet.

## ~ 2015 ~ Calendar of Events

March 21st  
Spring Meeting  
Faith Lutheran  
Church

May 9th  
Plant Sale  
Faith Lutheran  
Church

June 6th  
Garden Party  
Jim and Melinda  
Jones

September 12th  
Fall Meeting  
Faith Lutheran  
Church

Midwest  
Region  
Convention  
Dubuque, Iowa  
July 9-11, 2015

June  
18th - 20th  
AHS National  
Convention  
Raleigh, NC



*Safety in the Garden cont.*

“Children are curious and will taste and play with anything that looks interesting. This includes any other chemical you keep in your house, including cleaning supplies,” Roduner said. “Keeping chemicals out of sight will reduce the chances your child or grandchild will check them out. You don’t want to live with a lifetime of regret when a child is seriously injured or dies after eating or drinking a chemical that wasn’t properly stored.”

Keep the poison control number next to your landline phone, in the contact list for your cell phone and on your refrigerator in plain sight. Having fast access to this number can be what saves a child’s life. When calling the poison control number, be sure to have the container with you so that you can give the nurse the exact information. Different chemicals have different treatments and doing the wrong thing can mean additional injury. **The national poison control number is: 1-800-222-1222.** When you call this number they will connect you with your state poison control center.

Garden tools: We all remember the funny Three Stooges episodes where one of them walks on the rake or shovel left on the lawn and then gets whacked in the head. “It’s funny on TV, but in real life serious injuries are caused by tools,” Roduner said. Proper tool care and storage will prevent injuries. Pruning saws and hand pruners are very sharp and in a child’s hand or carelessly used by an adult, will cause serious injuries. Pruners should be stored out of the reach of small children. Kids imitate adults and a good bypass pruner can take a finger off very easily.

Taking a minute or two to put tools away will prevent injuries. Never leave tools lying around as you are working or after you are finished. Most tools seem to wind up with tines or sharp edges in the upward position. Any one walking in the grass barefoot could step on the tines of a rake or three-prong hand cultivator with the tines going through the foot causing a serious injury. Getting hit on the head or shoulders by a rake or shovel handle can make you lose your balance, fall and possibly break a bone.

First Aid Kit: Even when you are careful injuries will happen. Have a well outfitted first aid kit available. Your kit should contain adhesive bandages, stretch bandages and gauze. Antibiotic ointment should be monitored closely and replaced when expired. Individually packaged wipes will help clean scrapes and small cuts. If a cut is deep and heavily bleeding, wrap firmly and get checked out by an urgent care facility or doctor. Deep cuts may need stitches or debris removed and this is best determined by a professional.

Remember to use care in the garden and you will have a safe and fun summer. For more information, visit [iGrow.org](http://iGrow.org).

May 9th  
Annual Spring Hosta &  
Shade Plant Sale

June 6th  
Garden Party,  
Jim and Melinda Jones

***Are your dues up to date?***

Be sure to check your mailing label for your expiration date.





Heartland Hosta & Shade Plant Society  
Stephanie Hamil  
9630 State Line  
Leawood, KS 66206

## Heartland Hosta & Shade Plant Society Membership and Renewal Form

*Check at the up-coming meeting if your dues are paid in full.*

*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 Am. Hosta Society?  YES /  NO

Would you like to volunteer?  Hospitality /  Plant Sale /  Other

Is your garden open to visitors?  YES /  NO

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

Stephanie Hamil • 9630 State Line • Leawood, KS 66206