



ONTARIO HOSTA SOCIETY

JANUARY 2010
NEWSLETTER.

VOLUME 16 ISSUE 1

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DUES

Please note the date on your envelope. If it is 12/09, your subscription is due before March 31st, 2010.

PRESIDENTIAL MUSINGS

As my tenure as President of the OHS comes to an end at our meeting in January, and as this is my last "Musing", I would like to start by saying I have had a great time serving the OHS as President since Jan. 2006. It has been a true pleasure and the time has just flown by! The society is a strong force because of the amazing leadership we have within the Executive and the never tiring efforts of our volunteers. You all made this a very pleasant undertaking. I know that our Incoming President, Cindy Deutekom, will have much support from all, including our many "hands on" members, and that she will do a sensational job for us.

Well, here we are, that time of year when our gardens have been tucked away for another season. This is also the time when a lot of avid Hosta gardeners turn to growing Hosta from seed, indoors, under grow lights. It can really help to beat the winter blahs, as can planning for and researching any potential plant purchases you may want to make for the spring. All you need is computer access to the internet! There is enough info on Hosta to satisfy all gardeners from novice to seasoned collector. Enjoy the Hunt!

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We had another great and successful Hosta auction this year. Although I had to miss it due to scheduling conflicts, it proved once again that it just keeps getting better every year! Many thanks to all who supplied plants and to those who volunteered throughout the event. Without you all, we could not be the strong Society that we are and you are appreciated.

We have many wonderful events planned for 2010 including an amazing line up for our Ottawa area bus tour. Please see information on all events inside this newsletter

I look forward to seeing each one of you at our January meeting and wish you all a Safe, Healthy and Happy Holiday Season and many Wonderful Blessings for 2010.

Welcome to our New Members

Saba Akram	St. Catharines	Marie Johns	Jordaan
Jayne Dannerman	Port Elgin	Dominic Leroux	Toronto
Sandra Galea	Burlington	Carol Parnell	London
Diana Ingersoll	Keswick		

Ontario Hosta Society

Ontario Hosta Society Membership can be obtained by writing to (**new address**):

**Ontario Hosta Society
2301 5th Street Louth,
St. Catharine's, Ontario,
Canada L2R 6P7**

Annual Dues: \$15.00/YR \$40.00/3 YR

American: \$16.00/YR Foreign: \$17.00/YR

The membership year runs from January 1st to December 31st. Members joining after October 1st in any year are deemed to be paid-up until December 31st of the following year. **First-time members receive a bonus copy of "The Hosta Adventure –A Grower's Guide"**

American Hosta Society

Memberships can be obtained by writing to:

**Sandie Markland
AHS Membership Secretary
P.O. Box 7539
Kill Devil Hills,
NC 27948-7539 U.S.A.**

E-mail:

ahsmembershipsecretary@earthlink.net

Membership for Canadians
\$39.00 US per year or \$107.00 US for 3 years.
Money order or cheque drawn on a US bank.
Memberships can now also be paid by VISA
or Master Card online at the AHS website
www.hosta.org

2010 OHS Winter Lecture

Please join us for our 2010 Winter Lecture with Reggie Millette

Reggie is President and Founder of the Quebec Hosta and Hemerocallis Society and is the author of the first French book "Les Hostas". He is currently busy on his latest book on small and dwarf conifers.

Together with his own radio show and speaking engagements at approximately 50 events per year, Reggie is kept extremely busy!

When: Sunday, 24th January, 2010
Where: R.J. Murphy Auditorium
6435 Edward Blvd., Mississauga
Time: 12:30 - 4:00 p.m.

Refreshments and a light luncheon will be served.

Thank You

The Executive and Members of the Ontario Hosta Society would like to thank all the numerous corporate, individual and member sponsors of our 2009 Auction for their time and/or plant material.

Without your help, the Auction would not be possible.

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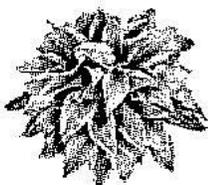
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2009 OHS Auction

by
Lynda Lou Gourlie

On Sunday Sept 20, 2009, over forty bidders attended the R.J. Murphy Auditorium at the Educators' Centre in Mississauga for our Auction.

You can bet that no one went away disappointed or empty-handed!

Pouncing on more than 17 tables loaded with 480 generous donations by members and hosta suppliers, were those circling their hosta favourites for some fantastic bargains from \$2 and up, well below retail prices. Our favourite auctioneer Bob Leask, ably assisted by Keith Tyndall, charmed the audience into an average of 12 purchases per person. Most entertaining were the business owners outbidding one another for the rare new 2009 finds—like 'Tongue-Tied'. 3 'H. Rhino Hide' hostas went for \$68 a piece! 'Embroidery' & 'Athena' tied for 2nd at \$60 each. The most popular find at the silent auction table went for a pretty sexy \$28. "Who wouldn't want 'Marilyn Munro' in their garden?"

The OHS Club Plant 'Butter Pat', a 4 year old medium cross between 'Spilt Milk' and supposedly 'Revolution' but actually 'Golden Warrior' went for \$10 each for memories golden all season long.

Dave Barham offered his tropical plant orphans free to new homes, 3 fig trees, mini pomegranate and a palm tree, if interested contact him and take them home.

The biggest novelty bid was a huge 14" pot of "Pink Lady Slipper" with pink flowers, usually retailing in a 4" pot for \$43. Best buy! Dave's lucky wife.

Jim Anderson offered his 35 & 25 year old jade trees with 4 ½" trunks in 14" pots free to suitable homes. These delicate white star flowering beasts need full sun in a front window all year, suiting a solarium.

John Kee, founder of the OHS, grew the society from 30 to 300+ members. He has an extensive exotic garden collection, some from Germany and other European imports. John is undergoing renovations and generously offered the OHS some of his plants. Bob was more than happy to collect them for the auction together with hostas Bob found through the internet and other "secret sources".

Cindy reminded us of the 2010 Eastern (at Kevin & Olga's) & Western picnics. Unique will be the Ottawa Bus Tour on June 26, 2010, (see pg. 7) visiting 3 member gardens, Budd's Private Garden for shopping and on the way, Bonnie Brae Daylilies in Bloomfield is recommended.

The Adoption program has changed focus. The OHS executives are working out details to plant hosta beds in a public garden. No one was contacted to return a portion of their hosta this year, however, next year a large portion of the adopted hostas that are still being grown will be brought back next September for planting in a public garden, perhaps by a group of member volunteers on a planting day.

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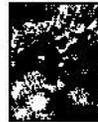
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Our Goal

One of the most often asked questions of the OHS Executive by members, particularly new ones, is

“What do I get for my money, and where does the rest of it go?”

The Ontario Hosta Society is a “not for profit” organization.

For your \$15 membership fee you get newsletters, usually 4 per year, with articles on hostas, and a list of society events. You get a free booklet called “A Grower’s Guide”, and as of 2008 each member will get an Iowa State University publication dealing with pests and diseases which attack hostas. You get access to knowledgeable speakers and members as a part of your membership fee, and access to unusual hosta varieties at the annual hosta auction. The locations for our events and any refreshments that may be served there are also paid for out of member dues.

The plant auction is our main source of income, so we hope you will come and buy some unusual hostas, meet some of your fellow hostaphiles and swap some hosta success stories. We hope to negotiate a discount on hostas purchased from some of the suppliers on our ‘suppliers list’ for 2008 and onwards.

There is a bus tour each year which takes you to experts’ gardens and nurseries: this pays for itself with your bus trip payment. We give a bursary to a student of Niagara College to encourage students, and we pay for hostas to be planted at such places as the Royal Botanical Gardens in Hamilton.

All in all we think that you get great value for money with your subscription, and encourage you to ask any more questions you may have of your executive, who are all volunteers. If any of you would like to volunteer along side of us as our society grows, it would be much appreciated. We have a lot of fun doing it and our volunteers are the glue that holds us together.



2010 OHS Bus Tour—Ottawa Area Saturday, 26th June

Join us for an exciting first – a bus tour in the Ottawa area.

We are still working on a “must-see” list in the area, but we will be visiting Whitehouse Perennials in Almonte, Budd’s Gardens in the hamlet of Blackburn and Rideau Woodland Ramble in Merrickville.

We will see gardens of 3 OHS members, one of which is several acres where we will stop for lunch and will enjoy an evening BBQ at our last stop. We will let you know of gardens to see on your way to and from Ottawa.

Details will be available at our Winter meeting regarding hotels, prices and the deposit required to reserve a seat on the bus. Please see our next newsletter and website for more details and contact information.

Please mark your calendars.



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Upcoming Events 2010

Winter Talk with Reggie Millette

When: Sunday, 24th January
Where: R.J. Murphy Auditorium
6435 Edward Blvd., Mississauga
Time: 12:30 - 4:00 p.m.

Summer Picnic

When: Sunday, August 8th
Where: Doug & Marlit Young
Addr: xxxx
Time: 11:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Ottawa Area Bus Tour

When: Saturday, 26th June
Where: T.B.A.
Time: T.B.A.

Auction

When: T.B.A.
Where: R.J. Murphy Auditorium
6435 Edward Blvd. Mississauga.
Time: 12:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Summer Picnic

When: Sunday, July 11th
Where: Kevin & Olga Elchuk
Giboshihill Hostas
Addr: 3631 Kennedy Rd, Camborne
R.R. # 4, Cobourg
Time: 11:00 - 3:00 p.m.



The OHS Executive hope all its members have enjoyed a Happy Holiday Season and wish them Health and Happiness in 2010.

Future OHS Club Plants

We are looking for new hosta plants with the potential to be future Club Plants, and they should preferably be at least 3 years old.

If you know of such a plant or plants and would be willing to share this information with us, please e-mail the Editor

hostaed@rogers.com

YOUR OPINION MATTERS

We listen to our membership - if you have any thoughts, suggestions or ideas of what you would like the Society to do, speakers you would like to hear, places to visit, or what you would like to see in the newsletters, please do not hesitate to contact one of the Executive.

We are always on the look-out for articles, tidbits etc. for the newsletter, no matter how good (or bad) so please send us your articles and we will do our best to publish them



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