

Prairie Hosta Herald

March 2007 Volume 4 Number 2

Illinois Prairie Hosta Society

Promoting knowledge and interest in Hostas, fostering the development of new and improved Hosta varieties and encouraging cultivation and usefulness of Hostas in landscapes.

Saturday, March 24, 2007, 8:00 AM - U of I Extension Auditorium, 801 N. Country Fair Drive, Champaign

Speakers - Chris & Cynthia Wilhoite of Soules Garden

“Putting Species in their Place” and “Ariseamas, Arums & Aroids”

Cynthia (Miller) Wilhoite has been growing Hosta for 20 years. Her personal collection includes 800 different cultivars. She also collects Daylilies and maintains a collection of 2000 cultivars spread over 4 acres. Cynthia is Vice President Genus Hosta in the American Hosta Society and Secretary of the American Hosta Growers Association. She teaches classes at the Great Lakes Hosta College, and speaks to numerous groups.

Chris Wilhoite is an avid plant collector as well, with varied collections of aroids and arisaema from all over the world. He is both a Hosta and Daylily hybridizer. Chris contributes many photos to the American Hosta Society ‘Hosta Journal’. He is Vice President and Art Director for ‘The Saturday Evening Post’.

Cynthia and Chris of Indianapolis are both Master Judges for the American Hosta Society. They own Soules Garden, a nursery specializing in Hosta and Daylilies. See www.soulesgarden.com. Their display gardens will be featured during the 2007 American Hosta Society National Convention.

Cynthia will present “Putting Species in their Place”, a program that organizes hosta cultivars by species origin. One of the goals of this program is to provide gardeners with information that helps them choose the right growing conditions for their hosta.

Rick Schroeder will present a short program on the June bus trip to Ohio and the Midwest Regional Hosta Society Convention in Davenport, IA.

Officers for 2007

President - Barb Schroeder

1st Vice President - Programs - Deb Guardia

2nd Vice President - Membership - Rick Schroeder

Secretary - Ann Stout

Treasurer - Mary Slack

Board Member at Large - Ruth Walker

Board Member at Large - Sue Welke

*Membership - Single \$10, Family \$15 and
Commercial at \$25 per calendar year.*

For more information contact

Vice President - Membership:

*Rick Schroeder, 1819 Coventry Dr, Champaign, IL
61822*

Web Site - <http://www.prairienet.org/iph/>

Committee Chairs

Audit - Fritz Drasgow

Hospitality - Fran Smith & Vickie Morris

Newsletter- Rick and Barb Schroeder

Philanthropic - Marcia Jurgens

Plant Raffles - Karen Meyer & Cynthia Helms

Plant Sale - Mary Ann Metz

Publicity - Bev Cotter

Leaf Show - Mary Ann Metz & Barb Schroeder

Trips - Rick Schroeder

Ways & Means - Whit & Cathy Daily

*Please volunteer and help these chairpersons. Also,
please contact Deb if you wish to hold a meeting at
your garden next year, its fun and easy.*

Future Meetings

April 28, 2007 (Saturday)- 9:00 AM - Meeting at Mary Ann Metz, 1108 W. William St. in Champaign, Jim Schmidt from UIUC, Annuals and Containers with demonstrations.

May 12, 2007 (Saturday)- 9:00 AM - Lincoln Square Village, downtown Urbana, Plant Sale with CU Herb Society, Grand Prairie Friends and CU Professional Business Women.

May 20, 2007 (Sunday) 1:00 PM - Diann Thoma Garden in Champaign, M. Metz and B. Schroeder with a "mock" Hosta Leaf Show. Hosta Walk 2:30 - 5:00 PM to Broadbent, Grubb and Wong Gardens.

June 8-9, 2007 - Society Bus trip to Ft. Wayne, IN and Blue River Nursery; Mansfield, OH and Beilstein Garden and Bellville, OH and Wade and Gatton Nursery.

June 18, 2007 (Monday) 5:30 PM - Stout Garden in Champaign, Tom Micheletti, an AHS, MRHS and NIHS officer discusses "Why I like Hostas".

July 21, 2007 (Saturday) - Kleiss Nursery and 5 Acre Farm Nursery, south of Tolono/Philo, IL

August 25, 2007 (Saturday) - Cynthia Helms Garden - Metz and Helms present "Garden Design and Makeover".

September 22, 2007 (Saturday) - Location to be announced, Peggy Balbach will be the speaker.

October 21, 2007 (Sunday) 12:00 to 5:00 PM - Hawthorn Suites, Champaign - Annual Banquet and Fall Business Meeting with Karen Platt of England as speaker.

Special

The C-U Master Gardeners will be going to Dennis Ricketts Avalon Acres on Wednesday, May 23, at 9:00 AM. If interested, contact Ann at DermGood@aol.com to see if they have room for non MG gardeners.

New Members

We welcome the following to the IPHS:

Ann Lamkey, 674 N Co Rd 1475E, Tuscola, IL
Steve Hartman, 700 W. Grand Ave, St. Joseph, IL

Rick

IPHS Bus Trip

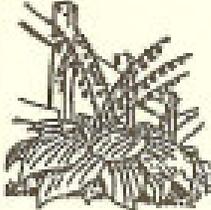
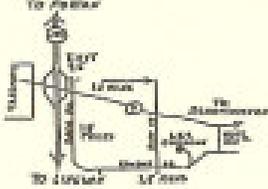
Remember, June 8-9, 2007 is our two-day bus trip to Ft. Wayne, IN to visit Blue River Nursery and then to Mansfield, OH to visit the Beilstein Garden, That evening we will stay in Bellville, OH and on Saturday morning we visit the Wade and Gatton Nursery. As of the publication date of this newsletter we have 31 signed up for the trip, and remember, there are only 46 spaces on the bus. If you are interested in going on an outstanding trip this summer be sure to get your reservation into Mary Slack and contact the hotel for your reservation. Reservation forms will be available at the meeting and we will E-mail another notice in April.

March Meeting Raffle

We are seeking donations for the IPHS March raffle. Do you have garden items in good condition that no longer hold your interest, and/or plants you want to share? IPHS wants to benefit from your fickle heart! Donate your garden tools, books, ornaments, flower posts and vases in good usable condition; of course plant donations are welcome too. Contact Cynthia Helms at 384-5872 or chelms@soltec.net if you have items to donate.

LEE GARDENS

Hours:
Mon. - Sat.
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

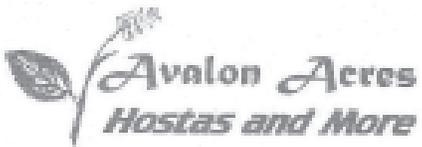



Hostas • Daylilies
Wildflowers • Perennials
3988 Sander Rd.
P.O. Box 9
Tremont, IL 61568
(309) 825-5262
Fax: (309) 825-5018

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!
www.lee-gardens.com

DIRECTIONS TO TREMONT NURSERY
From the junction of Highway routes 8 & 155, go east 1.8 miles on 155 - turn right, go south 1 mile - turn left, go east .3 miles - turn left on lane, garden and nursery at end of lane.

5 Acre Farm Daylilies
Rod Kroemer and Jim Wuersch
1578 County Rd 300 North
Tolono, Illinois 217-621-8474



Denny Ricketts
Web Site - ashostas.com

11125 E. 1129th Ave
Effingham, IL 62401 (317) 536-9443
ashostas@effingham.net



HOSTAS - IRISES - DAYLILIES - GRASSES
PERENNIALS - TREES & SHUBS

April 10 to October 10
8 am to 5 pm, Monday - Saturday
www.hornbakergardens.com
Princeton, IL (815) 659-3282

Growing Hostas from Seed

by Rob Mortko

Everyone seems to have their own technique for planting hosta seed, and yet there is general agreement on a number of key points.

Start the seeds in flats with a clear plastic dome (or similar high humidity setup). Wash the flats and use a sterile soilless mix to minimize fungal problems. Cover the seed lightly to a 1/8" to 1/4" depth. Germination typically occurs in 12 to 15 days. Target an air temperature of about 75 deg F. Heating mats can be useful when working in cooler basement settings. And don't forget to label if you are planting various hybrid crosses!

Timing on starting seed is a variable with some starting in October or November while others wait until February

Lighting is critical when gardening indoors (although not relevant to seed germination). Use supplemental lighting (cool-white fluorescent tubes) to give 16-24 hours of daily lighting. Maintain the lights about 2" above the dome or (later) 2" above the plants.

Never let the seedlings dry out. Keep the soil moist but not soggy. Grow until the tops of the plants touch the dome. Then transplant (typically at the 2 or 3 leaf stage) and begin using a water soluble fertilizer. How much water soluble fertilizer you use will depend on how much you want to push the process.

Culling can be a painful process but most seedlings will be rather plain looking. Unfortunately many characteristics (other than color) take time to develop. Balance your culling habits with the number of seedlings you are managing.

Before moving seedlings to the spring garden, don't forget to harden them off - just like a tomato plant that was started inside.

Seed is available from a number of commercial sources. Seed can be stored in plastic photo film canisters and placed in the freezer until ready for planting.

Ed: It is not too late to plant, however, the middle of January to the first of February is the best time. This allows you to get the plants out and growing outside before winter. To find seeds check out E-Bay.

Hosta and Garden Web Sites

Hosta Library - <http://www.hostalibrary.org/>

Hosta Forum – questions/answers - <http://forums.gardenweb.com/forums/hosta/>

Wade & Gatton Nursery – a must visit - <http://www.pal-metto.com/hosta/wade/wade.html>

Country Arbors Nursery - membership gets you a 10% discount on Hostas - <http://countryarbors.com>

Green Hill Farms, Bob Solberg - www.HostaHosta.com

We need your Pots!

No, we are not planning on cooking for you.

You will note in the program schedule we are planning a plant sale in May. The hostas will be arriving soon and we will be potting them up for the sale. Mary Ann has a greenhouse setup to get them ready and we need about 150 of the 6-8” pots. We know you have a collection in the potting shed, so bring a bunch of your extras to the March and April meetings.

Membership

American Hosta Society

Contact Sandie Markland, 8702 Pinnacle Rock Ct., Lorton, VA 22079-3029. Individual membership is \$25 per year, \$29 for family - join now - <http://www.hosta.org/>

Midwest Regional Hosta Society

Contact Pete Postlewaite, 21172 Andover Rd, Kildeer, IL 60047. Individual membership is \$20 for 2 years - join now - <http://www.MidwestHostaSociety.org>

We urge you to join both societies and we have copies of the AHS Hosta Journal for \$5 each which includes the membership application. This is an outstanding, volunteer, hosta publication.

Future Conventions & Events

American Hosta Society, 2007 Convention will be in Indianapolis, Indiana on June 20-23, put it on your calendar now.

Midwest Region Hosta Society will be in Davenport, Iowa, July 12-14, 2007.

The Hosta College in Piqua, Ohio will be March, 16 & 17, 2007, check out <http://ihostohio.org/Portal/glhc>.

Midwest Region Hosta Society meeting - Champaign/Urbana, Summer 2009

Go to the American Hosta Society web site and check out the conventions.

AHS National Convention Gift Plant List

Please help us to compile this list of AHS National convention gift plants the gift plant for any given year, please contact us. Our goal is to acquire and have them potted and on display at the 2008 national convention in then be auctioned off to benefit the AHS.

Year, Convention City, Plant Name
2006 - Philadelphia, PA- Designer Genes
2005 - Cleveland, OH - Miki
2004 - Des Moines, IA - Shady Affair
2003 - Falls Church, VA - Fallen Angel
2002 - Spokane, WA - Northwest Textures
2001 - Raleigh, NC - Carolina Sunshine
2000 - Minnesota - Blue
1999 - Ann Arbor, MI - Encore
1998 - Peoria, IL - Prairieland Memories
1997 - Indianapolis, IN - Hoosier Homecoming
1996 - Portland, OR
1995 - Falls Church, VA - Potomac Pride
1994
1993
1992
1991

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Hello all,

I am working on a special project for the American Hosta Society national convention to be held in St. Louis in 2008. At the convention, we would like to acknowledge and celebrate the 40th anniversary of the American Hosta Society.

My goals are two-fold:

First, we would like to compile a list of the Gift Plants that were given out each year at past national conventions. For example, in Spokane in 2002, the gift hosta was "H. Northwest Textures". Perhaps this list already exists; if so, does anyone know where I can obtain it?

Second, we would like to obtain one (or two) of each of these gift plants so we can set up a display of the complete plant series in pots in the convention hotel in 2008. After the convention, the plants will auctioned off to benefit the society. If you know what plant was given at any or all of the conventions, please let me know. If you have a plant to donate, please let me know. We would like to collect at least two of each variety to have a backup plant. We would like to receive the plants as soon as possible to grow them out from now until the convention. If you can spare a piece of a convention gift hosta, we would love to hear from you.

We will compile the list on our new website at www.stlouishosta.org and will show our progress in accomplishing these goals. If you would like your name noted on the website as the donator, let me know. The link to the gift plant page is: www.stlouishosta.org/gift_plant.htm .

Thank you for your help!

Jeff Hall

Vice-President, St Louis Hosta Society

skyridgegarden@earthlink.net

314-845-1551

Editor: If you attended one of these conventions and have one of these plants you can share contact Jeff and help them out. This is a great way to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the AHS.

President's Message

Happy Spring~

Spring is on its way. The weather today is in the 50's and we all hope it does not get cold again. I have had enough cold and snow, how about you?

We have a lot to talk about at our March meeting. We will bring you up to date on the convention plans, it is moving along nicely. We also have some good news about our Hosta Garden at Allerton.

We will be taking orders for IPHS shirts, hats, and/or jackets at this meeting. We have a few to sell but most will have to be ordered.

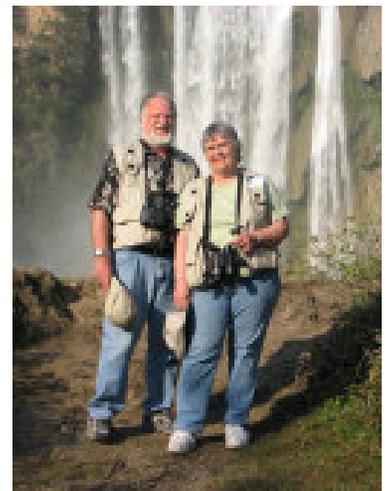
This year I have created a couple of new committees. I have added Ways and Means with the Daily's chairing this committee. They will handle things like the shirt orders. We changed special projects to Leaf Show and Mary Ann Metz is chairperson. If you are interested in helping with ANY of the committees please contact the chairperson. I am sure they would love to hear from you.

Don't forget to bring good condition garden items for the raffle in March. We have several

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The Hoffman's in Mexico

Margaret and I have been enjoying our birding etc. down here in the Rio Grande Valley. We have recently returned from an exciting birding experience in Mexico where we saw about 80 new birds not found in the U.S. We still haven't figured out if we will be available to take the club trip to Ohio, but will try to make up our minds soon. Here we have Larry and Margaret in Mexico in front of a waterfall. They must have also been looking for Hostas!



Fertilize Hosta?

When to fertilize, what kind of fertilizer and how much fertilizer do Hostas need? These are commonly asked questions. For an accurate record of what nutrient needs are deficient in your soil, a soil test should be performed. This can be accomplished through your county extension office, or through a private testing lab. There will be a nominal fee for this service, and complete instructions accompany each test. Caring for the soil by initial preparation, and regular applications of organic matter goes a long way to the health of any plant. More than any fertilizer can accomplish by itself.

The first application of fertilizer should be early spring, just as the Hostas are emerging from their winter dormancy. At this time they require larger amounts of nitrogen as their foliage is expanding. A 20-20-20, or 20-10-10 formula is best early in the spring. After the foliage has fully opened, they will begin to put out root growth, and thus use more potassium. Another application of fertilizer in early summer, lower in nitrogen, such as a 10-20-20 will benefit. Applying fertilizer after the foliage has emerged should be done carefully as fertilizer contacting Hosta leaves may burn small holes from contact with the full strength fertilizer. Any additional applications of fertilizer should terminate by early August, so as not to stimulate new growth late into the season. At the Hosta Patch I don't like to apply fertilizer after the temperatures get too high, but this is just my preference.

What kind of fertilizer depends on whether you use synthetic fertilizers, or strictly organic types. To a Hosta, nitrogen is nitrogen, regardless of what form it is in, and the same goes for phosphorus and potassium, the major nutrients plants need to remain healthy. The 20-20-20 formula mentioned above would be for synthetic blends. Much has been written in the gardening press about what each number in the formula means, and explanations accompany each bag. The brand of fertilizer is not critical as stated above, nitrogen is nitrogen, etc.

There are controlled release fertilizer blends that slowly release nutrients over a 3, 6, or 9 month period. One application in spring is all that is needed. For northern Illinois, a 3, or 6 month blend work best. These fertilizers are encapsulated, and the coating breaks down releasing the right amount of

fertilizer depending on temperature and moisture. They are also more expensive than ordinary fertilizers, but considering only one application is necessary, the expense may not be as great.

Organic fertilizers are numerous, and come in many forms. All are derived from natural sources, manures, compost, fish emulsion, sea weed, alfalfa, cottonseed, and blood meals. Formulas and application rates depend on the type of fertilizer. All of them have the benefit of adding organic matter to the soil, something that will greatly enhance any soil type. Most of these are higher in nitrogen, but the nitrogen is released slowly over a period of time. Manures should be composted to avoid over application of nitrogen. Organic fertilizers have the added benefits of increasing the biological activity and health of the soil. As these organic compounds decompose they add humic acids to the soil increasing its microbial activity and helping the nutrient uptake of plants.

The amount of fertilizer applied should be in accordance with the instructions on the package. With compost, or composted manure, a couple of inches applied to the surface of the soil annually is beneficial. Just don't apply manures directly over the base of the plant, try to stay an inch or so away. Also scratching any fertilizer into the top inch of soil will work it down into the root zone sooner, as will watering it into the soil after application. Liquid fertilizers can be applied as a foliar spray, however the benefits are not as long lasting, and must be applied every week or two.

Knowing the proper fertilizer, application rates, and times will enhance the growth of your Hostas, and keep them looking their best all season long.

From the Hosta Patch - Tom Micheletti



H 'Dance with Me', one of the hostas that will be available this year at our plant sale at Lincoln Square Village.

A way for Members to share information

A yahoo group has been started for our IPHS members. It is called IllinoisPrairieHostaSociety. This will be a way for members to correspond with the other members in the group and share information. It is open and restricted to all members of the Illinois Prairie Hosta Society.

You can join by going to <http://www.yahogroups.com> and doing the following:

How do I join a group? Join via the group page: Locate a group to join. (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/IllinoisPrairieHostaSociety/>). On the front page of Yahoo! Groups, you can browse the Groups directory or search for a group by topic or type IllinoisPrairieHostaSociety in find a group. Click on the Join This Group button on front page of any group. If you are not signed in, you will be asked to enter your Yahoo! ID. If you do not have a Yahoo! ID, you can click on the link New to Yahoo! Sign up now. Set your membership preferences. When you join, you can choose a profile you'd like to display to the group, select the email address at which you'd like to receive group messages, choose how you receive group messages, and more. Join the mailing list only: We highly recommend you join a group via the group page (above). However, if you are familiar with mailing lists, you may join only the mailing list for the group. If you choose this method, you will not have access to all of the group's web features (Photos, Files, Links, Polls, Calendar.) In addition you will not have access to the My Groups page, where you can easily manage all of your memberships and email messages. To subscribe to a group's mailing list via email, send a blank email to: groupname-subscribe@yahogroups.com

Make sure to replace "groupname" with the actual name of the group (e.g., pastry_chefs-subscribe@yahogroups.com). You will receive a confirmation message. Just reply to this message and your subscription will be complete. **Respond to an invitation to join**: If someone sent you an email invitation to join a group, click on the link provided to join via the Yahoo! Groups web site.

If you email me at bschroeder@insightbb.com I will send you an invitation to join and then you click the link provided to join via the Yahoo! Groups web site.

It is easy and will provide members a place to share information and photos. If you need help in joining just email or phone me at 359-2868 and I will be glad to help you.

Barb Schroeder

President's Remarks - continued from Page 5

gently used garden books that we are donating. Contact Cynthia Helms if you have items to donate.

Now, what other great and wonderful things do we have going on? Oh yes, we have a bus trip in June. It will be a two-day to Fort Wayne, IN., and Mansfield, OH. and Wade and Gatton Nurseries in Belleville, OH. So if you are at all interested in going be sure you sign up at the March meeting. If we put you on a waiting list you do not have to pay until we have an opening for you. So come join us for LOTS of fun and of course some great purchases. Rick will be telling you more at the March meeting.

We are also moving along with a plant sale to the public in May. We will need volunteers to help man the tables, as they say. We have also been contacted to have a table at Allerton. We were not prepared for this year so we are on the list for next year. So the fourth Saturday in April next year we will do a plant sale and probably work session and meeting at Allerton. We will see what our Program VP decides.

And to top the year off right we will have a speaker from England talk to us at our annual dinner. Deb will keep you posted on this event.

So much to do and so little time. Please save a little of your time to spend with us and have fun. See you at the meeting - *Barb Schroeder*



H 'Paradise Sunset', a mini to small green with gold edge hosta, another one that will be available at the May plant sale.

ILLINOIS PRAIRIE HOSTA SOCIETY

Statement of Income and Expense for the Year Ended December 31, 2006 (Audited)

Mary Slack, Treasurer

BALANCE January 1, 2006	\$3,414.98
Membership	887.00
Plant Auction & Raffle	453.04
General Purchase	(51.34)
Hospitality	(16.88)
Newsletter	(234.87)
Programs	
Allerton Box Lunch	21.50
Amish Lunch	0.00
Annual Dinner	71.45
Bus Trip	240.57
Meeting Expense	(7.80)
Plant Sale	2,383.36
Speaker Expense	(1,166.21)
Visit by the Experts	117.50
Publicity	0.00
BALANCE December 31, 2006	\$6,112.30

Water

by Bob Solberg

Editor's Note: Reprinted from Tri-State Tribune, the newsletter of the Tri-State Hosta Society of NY, NJ, & CT, Fall 2003 as printed in Green Hill Gossip, August 2002. It is reprinted here with Bob's permission.)

As we all know, hostas need light, water, nutrients, and air to grow. Of these, water is probably the greatest of them all. A season of excessive spring rains in the Midwest and a yearlong East Coast drought have taught us many new lessons. And those of us who ventured across the Rockies now know how well hostas can grow in an arid climate.

So how much should I water, and when during the growing season do I stop? As your hostas poke through the ground in the spring, think of them as living balloons. In fact, most of what the process of emergence consists of is filling up predetermined leaves with water, like blowing up a balloon. The more water they get the more they expand, the more

they stretch in height and leaf size. So if you want whopper hostas, keep the soil wet during the spring. Irrigate especially on those spring days with bright sun, a cool breeze and low humidity.

Conversely, if it doesn't rain much all winter and spring, our hosta balloons will only partially inflate. Our soil moisture levels got so low in spots that our hostas expanded to only half their normal size and then just sat there. Hand watering the very dry soil really only kept the plants alive. Lack of water in spring will stunt your hostas for the whole year, at least in hot climates.

Ironically, as much as hostas love water in the spring and summer, they would rather be dry in the winter. Water plays a role in the dormancy process. The usual lack of it in the fall helps bring on dormancy and the usual abundance of it in the spring helps end it. We stop irrigating our containerized hostas in October to encourage dormancy. If we do not get the usual weekly rains associated with the passage of cold fronts, then we may have to simulate that rain and water heavily for one or two days. The trick is to have our hostas full of water when the first freeze comes. If they are desiccated going into winter then they may rot. We watered into December last year because of extended drought conditions.

Too much water over the winter is a bad thing. If the ground stays frozen then the water is tied up in a solid state and the hostas stay relatively dry. If the winter is very rainy or there is a lot of freezing and thawing, some hostas, especially *H. sieboldiana* and 'Tokudama' types will rot from the top of the crown down. We actually grow our nursery stock under plastic in the winter to keep it dry! Water sometimes can be too much of a good thing.

One other caution: too much water in the spring, either rain or irrigation, will stretch your hostas figuratively, to the bursting point. If they are not given sufficient water through the summer then they might crash. Don't water heavily in the spring and then go to the beach for a month!

So what is the best strategy? It somewhat depends on your climate, but probably more on your personality and your expectations from your hostas. If you are someone who actively gardens all year round, or are at least willing to drag hoses all summer, then keep your soil moisture levels high throughout the spring and as long as realistic in the summer.

If extended dry weather occurs, continue to irrigate but at a lower maintenance level, just trying to keep the hostas from drying out. Sometimes even this is impossible and some of your hosta friends may lose their color and go dormant in August, especially the early flowering cultivars.

In fall, continue to water through the first three hard frosts if necessary, but weekly, not every day.

Thus water heavily in the spring as your hostas are filling with water. Then decrease over time the watering amounts as the plant stops expanding and then begins to contract in the fall. Just like an old balloon, hostas will sag and shrink into dormancy, only to be re-inflated to a larger size next spring.

Hosta Registry

As a service provided by the American Hosta Society, Kevin Walek and Bobby Baxter have developed a searchable, online database of the official registry records for the genus hosta. Currently you can search by Cultivar name, Hybridizer, Leaf Color, Leaf Characteristics and Parentage. More features will be added as time and funds allow, including historical registration photos/drawings, the ability to complete hosta registrations online, leaf show classification information, pictures of mature hosta clumps and individual leaves. Check out this invaluable online resource at

<http://HostaRegistrar.org>

Make room for these tempting new hostas

With spring around the corner, it's time to whet your appetite with hosta introductions. Here's a taste of what's coming to market:

'Banana Puddin' (Avent) This miniature, a cross of 'Peter Pan' and 'Sun Power', makes a dense clump of round, butter-yellow leaves which hold their color. Lavender flowers.

'Cherry Tart' (Scheer) A small hosta with crisp, upright, bright-yellow leaves on deep lipstick-red petioles. Foliage seems to glow and the color won't fade in the heat.

'Country Mouse' (Hansen) Vigorous mini is a sport of 'Bill's Dress Blues'. Its beautiful round blue-green leaves are accented with a narrow white edge. Lavender flowers.

'Hanky Panky' (Hansen) A stunning sport of 'Striptease'. Leaves have reverse coloration - lime-green margin, dark-green center and narrow white line separating the greens.

'Lakeside Scamp' (Chastain) Another tiny treasure. It boasts wavy, heart-shaped, blue-green leaves edged in creamy yellow. Foliage has great substance, makes a tight clump.

'Sharp Dressed Man' (Solberg) 'Francee' seedling. Medium. Thick, heat-resistant ovate leaves taper to a point. Dark-green edges with light green streaking into white centers.

'Stitch in Time' (Mortko) Small sport of 'Last Dance'. Broad golden leaves have small dark-green pattern stitched into leaf's center. Hard to propagate - like 'Embroidery'.

'Sugar and Spice' (Zilis) This sport of 'Invincible' has very shiny dark-green leaves with white margins. And like its parent, pale lavender flowers have a fragrant scent.

'Woolly Mammoth' (Zilis) A statement plant! Large mound of thick, wavy, somewhat corrugated leaves. Ovate leaves are powdery blue with gold margins. White flowers.

from Hosta Hotline March 2007

2007 Dues & Last Newsletter

Final renewal notices for 2007 IPHS dues are being sent via E-mail, or via snail mail, at the same time this issue is sent. If you receive a dues notice this will also be your last issue of the newsletter. Dues must be received by the end of March to be included in the 2007 Year Book that will be published in April. The April issue will be mailed along with the membership card and the Year Book.