

# Hosta Horizons

Newsletter of the

*Russ O'Hara Hosta Society*

October 2019

Fall Meeting

Sunday, October 13, 2019

Iowa Arboretum

Noon (Potluck) - 4pm

(More info p 5)

Speaker: Leah Worth

IA Arboretum Horticultural Project Manager

A Natural Perspective: Know Maintenance  
Approach to Landscaping



Access the ROHS website at  
[www.rohs.org](http://www.rohs.org)

The Russ O'Hara Hosta Society is an educational society open to all those interested in the genus Hosta. It's purpose is to promote the growing and enjoyment of Hostas. Including their use in landscape design, the cultivation and development of new cultivars. The goals of the society shall be in keeping with those of the American Hosta Society.

SAD NEWS of the passing of Deke Gliem was recently shared via e-mail to the ROHS membership. Deke and his spouse Marilyn (current ROHS Secretary) have been ROHS members since 1999. Deke was very generous in his support of ROHS with donations of various plants, purchases of auction items, donations of materials, etc. and regularly attended meetings and tours. Regretfully ROHS never toured his gardens which I understand are very interesting. He shared hosta and many other interesting plants (I have one of his paw paws, and have enjoyed his Texas Tiny Tears tomatoes).

Sympathies to the Gliem family and friends.

The summer August 2019 ROHS "Hosta Horizons" Newsletter described in considerable detail the challenges in developing the annual summer garden tour and auction. A very brief updating of my progress regarding two of those challenges. First, reconstruction of the flooded (May 30) Dettmann basement is essentially done, and 4 days of truck loads resulted in return of the salvaged belongings (739 boxes and wrapped items) as of Friday September 20. Not everything fit into the basement, so our 3 car garage is now re-purposed as a storage unit. Unpacking and moving (back-in for us) is not easy in most circumstances, and ours is compounded by not (yet) having the 12 book cases, storage units, and wardrobes not salvaged from the flood, trying to find and reorganize how they delivered items, locating various hardware to reassemble (and guessing how-we didn't take it apart) shelving units, etc., as well as a few casualties of items broken/dinged (last rites were given to several canned items, lamps, bulbs, etc.). Pictures are worth a 1000 cuss words is our new variation of a proverb for this summer misadventure. As for my pickle ball injury of a left calf tear on July 17, I'm no longer wearing a walking boot or using a cane. However, recovery has been not as good as expected, which resulted in an additional diagnosis of a partially torn achilles tendon, and an extended period of restricted activity. NFL teams needing a kicker will not be calling me this season. I have been able to dig holes for hosta planting during the past week, so I now can do the important things in life.

RESULTS of the Summer Tour: THANKS again to the garden hosts (Gary Garles & Nancy Wells, John Schmacker), Gary for help in organizing routing, locating the Schmacker garden, identifying lunch caterer, & serving as auctioneer; auction plant/item donors and buyers, folks who helped with lunch and auction processes, and people who attended the event on Sunday August 11. We planned to have great weather, and great weather we had...if you were a duck. Umbrellas and rain gear were appreciated, and thanks to a great suggestion from Ellen Glasgow, Hy-Vee's catered lunch was enjoyed in the dry confines of their Altoona store's Clubhouse. After lunch and the rain stopped, we shuffled back outside to the Altoona Enabling Gardens, and many helping hosta hands quickly set up the auction. A total of 35 auction items were donated by Janann Meyer (20 items salvaged from her former home in Ogden), Nancy & Bob Kroll, Gary Garles, John Schmacker, Connie Dingeman, Jean Belzer, Frank & Ellen Glasgow, David & Peg Moody, and David & Betsy Dettmann; THANKS! Auctioneer Gary Garles found 12 bidders from the 21 attendees as winners and resulted in \$606 raised for ROHS, before expenses. THANKS to these bidders (John Schmacker-\$165, Jerrie Pegg-\$156, David & Betsy Dettmann-\$51, Gary Garles-\$45, Mary Van Berkum-\$35, Anne & Bob Kroll-\$34, Anne Lynam-\$33, Connie Dingeman-\$25, Ellen & Frank Glasgow-\$21, Jean Belzer-\$16, Kathy Robinson-\$15, and Sue Slater-\$10) for their support of ROHS. The highest price (\$50) was for 'Golden Meadows' won by Jerrie Pegg after John Schmacker relented in a spirited bidding battle. The rest of the auction field: \$31 ('Guardian Angel'), \$30 ('Carnival,' 'O'Harra,') \$25 ('Dandy Lion,' 'Lakeside Legal Tender,' 'Oreo Cream,' 'Stand By Me,' not 'Boyz Toys'-but ?, HOSTA sign), \$21 ('Lakeside Scamp,' 'Pocketful of Sunshine') \$20 ('Atomic Elvis,' 'Peppermint Ice,' 'Diddly Squat,' 'Yellow Polka Dot Bikini') \$15 ('Crumb Cakes,' 'Eye Catcher,' 'Hideout,' Ligularia, Elephant Ears-5 bulbs), \$12 ('Tic Toc,' 'Whirlwind') \$10 ('Pooh Bear,' 'Tears of Joy,' 'First Frost'), \$9 ('Deep Pockets,' Tequila Sunrise,' 'Blue Hawaii'), \$8 ('Dark Shadows'), \$7 (Hardy Hibiscus), \$6 ('Pineapple Upside Down Cake,' Hardy Hibiscus), and \$5 ('Big Daddy,' Victorian Lady Fern). Expenses for un-reimbursed lunches (lunches were complementary for garden hosts, and reimbursed to plant donors/buyers over \$12), auction supplies, and auction site shelter rental totaled \$357.81, so the net result from the auction gross result and paid lunches was \$354.19 benefitting the ROHS treasury. It wasn't our largest tour auction in attendance, donated items, money raised, and not even the wettest, but I'm guessing it was the latest in the calendar year.

THANKS again to all who participated and supported ROHS!

## Reminder about changes to Member Dues

\$10.00 yearly

\$25.00 for three years

Year on mailing label or email is year dues are paid through.

# ROHS Officers

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## OFFICER ELECTIONS!

It is that time in the ROHS calendar of operations to elect officers for President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, and Hospitality Host(s).

Election will be held at the Fall Meeting. David Dettmann has volunteered/agreed to run as the incumbent treasurer, the Vice President is currently a vacant position, and the rest of the officer slate is unknown at this time.

### PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE

consider volunteering to serve in one of the officer roles! You will get much appreciation and help. For example, there is a well-developed President's Manual (thanks to past Presidents Marlys Anderson and Eve Vanden Broek), and David Dettmann will help guide the Vice President's function of organizing summer tours (and 2020 may already be partially developed!). Officer positions are two-year terms, don't require release of your tax returns, there are no vetting investigations, and the only party affiliation expected is hosta partying. You can be a member of the Red, Green, Blue, Chartreuse, Variegated, White, or Yellow Party-we don't care. Heck, we don't care if you are a known stalker! And it is likely you could run a very low expense campaign as there usually aren't contested races. Get the picture? ROHS is dependent upon having people volunteer for these roles.

THANKS for any self-nominations and nominating others!

2020 NATIONAL AHS Convention "Hosta Vision 2020" will be held in Minneapolis/Brooklyn Park, MN June 10-13. See [hostavision2020.com](http://hostavision2020.com) for details, registration forms, etc.

2020 MRHS EVENTS: Midwest Regional Hosta Society will have their "Hostas Chicago Style" convention July 16-19, 2020 in Lisle, IL.

Can't wait until those dates for hosta action and socializing fun? The 2020 Midwest Regional Hosta Society "Winter Hosta Symposium" on Saturday February 1, 2020 in Brookfield/Milwaukee, WI will get your 2020 hosta year started with great information and networking. Please see [midwesthostasociety.org](http://midwesthostasociety.org) for details on those great events!

ROHS April 28, 2019 meeting

Meeting was held at the Neil Smith Wildlife Refuge, Prairie City, IA. 26 members were present. Noon potluck was held.

Gary Garles spoke on "Garden Design: Beds, Berms, Lawns and Paths". Gary has a degree in horticulture from ISU. He is now part time for DeVries. He worked for Bob Lenc during high school to 1985, came back in 2004 to the end of the company. Most customers know what they want. Break it down into goals you can work with.

Janann called the meeting to order at 2:45.

Treasurer report:

1. Expenses since September 2018 newsletter report:

- a. Anne Lynam \$188.50 for July & September 2018 newsletters production/distribution.
- b. Jim Hartmann \$100.00 speaker fee/gas mileage costs to/from Minneapolis for fall meeting.
- c. Auto Owners Insurance Co. \$267.00 for annual liability coverage policy for 2019.
- d. In the Country Gardens & Gifts (Josh Speece) \$220.00 for 2019 web hosting & maintenance.
- e. 25th Anniversary Gala Expenses: Total of \$4,015.71. (Iowa Machine Shed Catering for 45 people = \$1,276.60 "Party for 4"; Music = \$100.00, Glenn Herold Speaker & travel fee = \$500.00 & 2 nights lodging at Hotel Pattee = \$311.36, projector rental = \$64.20, Snus Hill Winery facility rental = \$225.00, Invitation & Name Tag (120 invitations sent) expenses for printing, postage, envelopes, paper, etc. = \$131.57,

Gift Trowels (60 from Wilcox Tool) = \$787.27 + Pella Engraving services = \$461.00 + Gift wrapping = \$33.63, Decoration expenses = \$103.58.

2. Deposits since September 2018 newsletter report:

- a. Interest earned in 2018 for the Community 1st Credit Union checking account: \$22.91
- b. Deposits from memberships (4 @ \$25.00) = \$100.00

3. Balance on 4/28/19: \$9,314.55

4. Future 2019 expenses: \$250.00 for annual contribution to Ted E. Davidson Scholarship at DMACC, spring meeting expenses (\$100 for room rental donation & possible hospitality costs), newsletters (TBD) annual organizational membership to Iowa Arboretum (\$75), AHS Convention Artistic Award (approximately \$68), fall meeting expenses (TBD), possible summer tour/auction (TBD), insurance liability coverage for 2020

(approximately \$275.00). Also possible printing & distribution expenses for revised/current membership brochure (TBD).

May 3 & 4 is Iowa Arboretum spring plant sale. May 3 rd is the auction and silent auction. \$50 includes the meal.

American Peony Society May 15 - 19. Ames at Reiman Gardens.

American Hosta Convention is June 12 - 15 Green Bay, WI. Meeting is sold out, will put names on waiting list. Combined event with Mid-west Hosta.

Josh Speece is having an event July 27 th near Independence. Bob Solberg will be the guest speaker.

Old Business: Still need a Vice President.

June 9 th is a conifer tour. Gary's house is on the tour.

Fall meeting will be election of officers. Lea Worth speaker. New Horticultural designs started at Iowa Arboretum.

Dorothy Lewis moved to adjourn the meeting and David Dettmann was 2nd . Meeting adjourned at 3:35.

## 2019 Fall Meeting

October 13, 2019

Iowa Arboretum, Madrid, IA

### Agenda

Noon: Social Gathering & Potluck Set-Up

12:15–1 pm Potluck Lunch

1 to 1:15 Potluck Lunch Clean-up

1:15–2: Invited Speaker Leah Worth, Iowa Arboretum Horticulturist Project Manager “A Natural Perspective: Know Maintenance Approach to Landscaping.

2 pm: Business Meeting: President’s Comments & Reflections, Introductions of New Members and Guest present. Secretary Report, Treasurer Report, Membership Report, Summer Tour & Auction Summary, Old Business (planning for Auction), New Business (Officer Elections, anything else to come before the membership?), General Discussion and Announcements of 2020 Hosta Events, Door Prize Drawings, Socializing.

4 pm: Adjournment

### Special Notes:

1. Officer Elections! Please consider helping the Russ O’Hara Hosta Society by serving a two-year term as an Officer. Positions are President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer/Membership, Newsletter Editor, and Hospitality Hosts/Co-Hosts. David Dettmann has agreed to run for the Treasurer/Membership position as the incumbent. The Vice President has been a Vacant position for over three years.
2. 25th Anniversary ROHS Garden Trowels will be available and presented to current members who have not yet received this special memento.