

THE BEST \$10 GARDENING INVESTMENT YOU CAN MAKE

by: SWMOgardens.com

Ten bucks doesn't go very far in the garden. You could buy a cheap shovel, 3 bags of mulch, or maybe a little shrub. But \$10 goes a long way when you join the Greater Ozarks Hosta Society. Don't have a garden full of gorgeous hostas? That's O.K., most of our members don't either. The majority of our membership consists of folks who like spending their free time out in their garden, or they really love hostas and want to grow the prettiest, healthiest plants possible, or **they just love to have a good time hanging out with some really nice, friendly folks**. Here's an example of what a \$10 membership in GOHS will give you.

GARDEN PARTIES. Each year we have an "Evening in the Garden". Members and friends meet around 6 p.m. to tour a gorgeous garden. We have a full dinner followed by wonderful desserts, fellowship, and lots of laughs until dark.

PLAYING IN THE GARDEN. The GOHS designed, built, and maintains the hosta garden at the Springfield Botanical Gardens. We have the privilege to keep this garden looking beautiful. Our garden is one of the most popular spots in Springfield for weddings, family get-togethers, and family photos. It is a tranquil, peaceful place to sit, or stroll, and view hundreds of lovely hostas.

SPRING PICNIC. Each spring we have an old-time, traditional picnic in our hosta garden. The GOHS provides the main course and members bring side dishes and desserts. We sit and chat, and enjoy the beauty we have created.

GARDEN TOURS. In 2012 we took a motor coach to the Missouri Botanical Gardens in St. Louis. Every year we drive out to Hilltop Farms. They have one of the largest collections of hostas in the state and a fantastic nursery full of healthy perennials and annuals at great prices. Our members love Hilltop Farms.

SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS. "All About Hostas" is a seminar given annually at the Lawn and Garden Show. We also have a large display of hostas brought out of dormancy early, just for the show. Another workshop, held at the Springfield Botanical Center, is our "Hosta Dividing Seminar". The public (and members) participate in a hands-on class to learn the easiest ways to divide hostas in order to create lush, full gardens. We also sell nice hostas dirt cheap.

KICK-OFF PARTY. We start the year with a bang! All the hostas from our Lawn and Garden Show booth are auctioned off to members. We have door prizes and LOTS OF ICE CREAM!

BBQ PICNIC. We visit another one of our member's large hosta garden and have the smokers and grills going for a BBQ feast.

BUTTERFLY FESTIVAL. If you love kids, this is the place to be. We have a booth with a cute display of hostas and some gardening toys for the kids. Fun for the whole family...don't miss the Butterfly Festival.

HOSTA PLANT AUCTION AND SWEETS TABLE. A good time is had by all. Hilltop Farms and Peggy's Flowers bring dozens of assorted hostas and perennials. We sell them in a very lively auction, with Lee Coates as our auctioneer. While buying, satisfy your sweet tooth at our ENORMOUS sweets table. Door prizes, too!

So, if you want to become a better gardener, make new friends, enjoy good times and great food, join the Greater Ozarks Hosta Society! Go to GOHS.org for full details or call Tom at 417-860-4959. It will be the best \$10 gardening investment you will ever make.