



Hosta 'Phoenix' flower
Dr. Ullrich Fischer, NR
Bali-Hai Nursery offering for 2018



President's Musings

Gregg Peterson
President, American Hosta Society

One strength of the American Hosta Society and local and regional hosta societies is a strong educational emphasis. We are familiar with educational programs that are a part of national and regional conventions as well as educational speakers invited to present at local hosta society meetings. The majority of these programs and talks are of educational value to our current membership, I would challenge you and your members to expand your hosta education efforts to incorporate community outreach as a component of your offerings. By reaching out to different groups with our programs, we bring our hosta knowledge and enthusiasm to a much larger audience.

The Upstate New York Hosta Society highlights a number of educational efforts that involve community outreach as a part of the program. Something as simple as a table top display at their hosta sale or hosta show is an easy way to reach out to a new audience. Holding their Hosta Show in the middle of a premier shopping mall is an excellent way to bring educational exposure about hostas to many gardeners and non-gardeners. Staffing the show with society members available to answer questions from visiting shoppers, many of whom came to the mall without any thought of hostas and they end up leaving with a new-found appreciation of the genus *Hosta*. They might also depart with the answer to a question they had about growing hostas. The decision by the society to hold local events and meetings in varied locations and venues means more people are exposed to the "friendship plant". Our challenge is to look for additional ways to combine community outreach efforts with educational programs to reach as many gardeners as possible.

One additional note about educational programs is the announcement of the educational forum and programs being planned for the 2018 AHS National Convention in June. Warren Pollock and other committee members from the Delaware Valley Hosta Society are putting together a great convention program for attendees. Read more about some of the programs later in the newsletter and also visit their convention website for a complete convention schedule. I invite you to join us for an exciting AHS convention as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the AHS this year.

Alex Summers, one of the founders of and the first President of the American Hosta Society offers this insight in the 1978 Hosta Journal Bulletin Volume 10. He writes "It appears to me that the future of garden hostas lies upon the shoulders of the hosta breeders who have just made a number of important breaks in the ranks of the older garden standbys. Some of these new plants in a great variety of sizes have foliage patterns in white or gold or both. Some foliage types are all blue or all gold. These are distinct advances in creating new plants for our gardens." When you look at the new plants pictured in the Bali-Hai Nursery article, as well as the wide variety of distinctive new hostas offered in the 2018 Online Auction, I think hosta hybridizers and breeders are up to the challenge set forth over 40 years ago.

As we move into March and I talk to members located across the country, I know that in the southern part of the country hostas are starting to emerge from their winter dormancy, while some northern regions in the Midwest just received close to a foot of new snow and are nowhere near spring emergence! I have also talked to a number of hosta gardeners from parts of the country who have experienced extreme weather conditions including tornadoes and heavy rains resulting in late winter flooding. I hope the wild late winter and early spring weather will settle down for all of us and our gardens will flourish and look their best this summer. If you or members in your society know of a fellow gardener who has had storm damage to their garden, see

what help you and/or other members might be able to provide to help get their gardens back in shape for the summer.

No pips 'til May in the frozen, snow-covered tundra and always yours in the "friendship" plant.

Gregg Peterson
President, American Hosta Society



Introducing Sandra Bussell, Athens, Georgia

Judges' Records Chair, AHS

On February 10, 2018, President Gregg Peterson sent an email to the Executive Board which stated, in part, "I am pleased to announce the appointment of Sandra Bussell to fill the open position of Judges' Records Chair. Sandra will be working with Mike Greanya and Joan Altman of the Judging and Exhibitions group in maintaining and updating our Judges listing for each region."

Sandra is a member of the Georgia Hosta Society, is a Master Judge and has served as Show Chair for their Hosta Show. She also has experience in working with Excel and databases and was strongly recommended by Claudia Walker, the Hosta Show Chair."

I asked Sandra to introduce herself, so our members who have not yet met her can associate a face and some background with her name.

Sandra writes, "I was born in London, England. My mother was German, my father was half English and half American - his mother was born in West Orange, NJ.

My late husband, Kelly, and I met in Kampala, Uganda in 1997. He was working for CDC as a Systems Analyst assisting a local AIDS program. I was giving a course of lectures to new coffee exporters on the international coffee business. We married, and I moved to Atlanta the following year.

We were encouraged by a neighbor to join the Georgia Hosta Society. We discovered that our corner of Northeastern Atlanta was inhabited by many well-known hosta dignitaries, including George Schmid and Tony Wright.

When Kelly retired from CDC in 2007 we moved 70 miles east to Athens, Georgia. Kelly picked up his trumpet again after a 30-year lull in playing. We had 10 happy years developing our one-acre garden which is heavily shaded by huge white oaks, hickories and other hardwoods.

Athens frequently appears on "Best Places to Retire" lists and rightly so!

I am looking forward keeping the judges' records and to meeting new people at the AHS convention in Philadelphia in June!"

Please welcome Sandra when you meet her in Philadelphia this summer.

FEATURED LOCAL SOCIETY



Upstate New York Hosta Society

www.unyhs.org

*David L. Jennings, Communications Chair
The Hosta Cottage at Woodfield Estates
10 Woodfield Court
Mechanicville, NY 12118*

The Upstate New York Hosta Society was founded in September 1996 as a non-profit educational organization. Its goal is to promote knowledge and interest in growing Hostas. Our organization has approximately 75 members. While we serve mainly the New York Capital (Albany) area, many of our members travel from across New York and neighboring states to share their diverse gardening interests and varied botanical skills. We meet during the year to exchange ideas and experiences, to encourage beginners, and to support members as they venture into new areas of growing, propagating, and hybridizing Hostas.

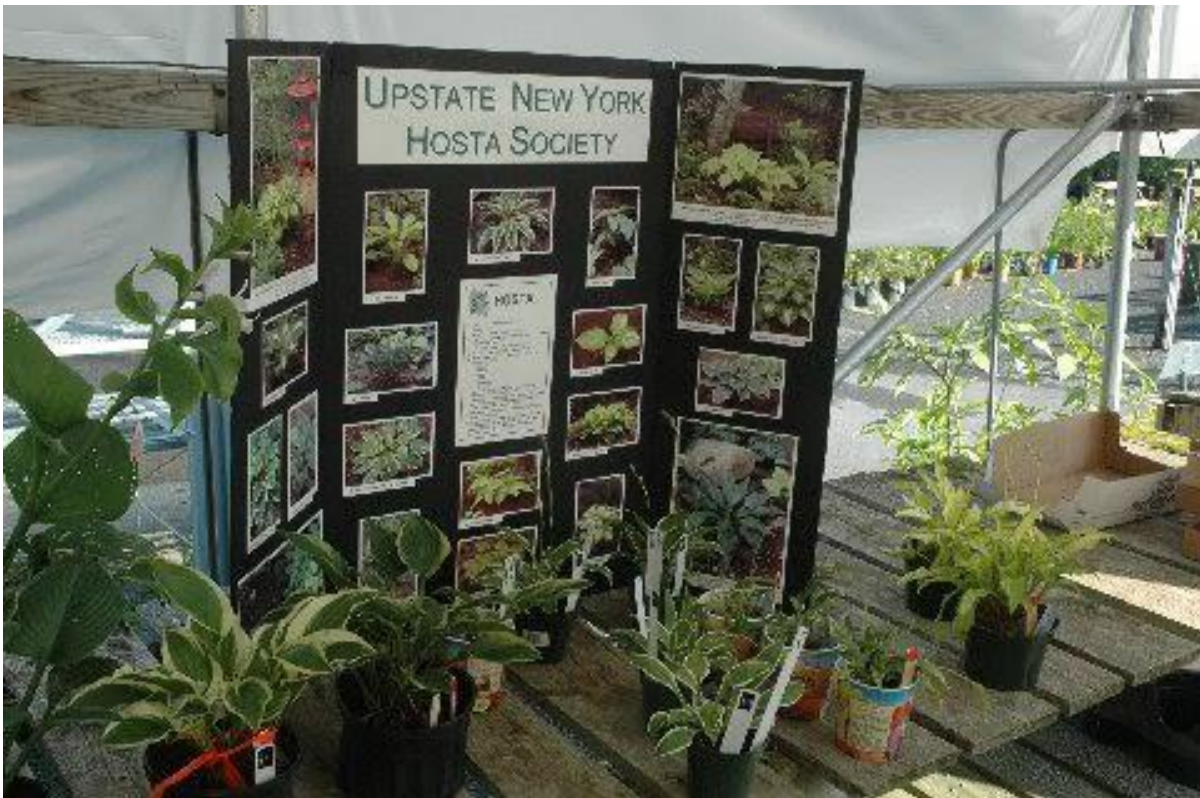
We hold meetings monthly, with a few exceptions. Average attendance at our meetings is about 50 members. We meet at various locations in upstate New York, including libraries, fellowship halls, member gardens, and other locations. Our yearly dues are \$10.00 per mailing address. We feature member garden tours each year, with members volunteering to open their gardens for meetings and tours. Membership benefits also include participation in members-only special plant sales, invitations to guest lectures, plant swaps, holiday gatherings, garden tours, an electronic subscription to the Society's periodic newsletter and special notices regarding upcoming events. New members also receive a copy of "The Hosta Adventure", a 32-page Hosta grower's guide published by the American Hosta Society, when they attend their first Upstate New York Hosta Society meeting.

UNYHS publishes a newsletter, *Shades of Green*, issued six to seven times per year. While ninety-eight percent are sent electronically, we do offer printed newsletters to those who do not use computers. The content of the newsletters comes from the AHS Newsletter exchange, other society websites, and occasionally from articles submitted by local members.

Members are active within the community, contributing to a variety of local causes throughout the year.



One of our Members checking out a Display of some of the newer Hosta Varieties we offered at the Annual Hosta Fundraising Sale held at one of our local premier Garden Centers.



An Educational Display put together by Members of the Upstate New York Hosta Society



Our juried Cut Leaf Show held in the Common area of one of our premier Shopping Centers



Potted Hostas at our last cut-leaf show



Best Hosta in Pot contest as entered by one of our members at First Look (Blue Ice on Steroids)



Best Hosta in Pot contest as entered by another one of our members at First Look (I Scream... You scream... We all scream for 'Ice Cream')



One of our more Veteran Members, Dave Jenkins, accepting the prestigious Frances Williams Award for his introduction of a Hosta Sport as chosen by the attendees at First Look in 2005



Staffing our Question and Answer Booth sponsored by the Upstate NY Hosta Society, the Hudson Adirondack Day Lily Society and the Iris Society at our local Spring Flower and Garden Show

Hostas and Associates

Glenn Herold, Cedarburg, WI



The Chinese Hostas, Part 1

The number of hosta species that exist has been debated for a long time. The International Plant Names Index, adhered to by the Hosta Library, lists 46 plus additional subspecies or varieties. Wikipedia lists as few as 24. The discussion will likely go on forever.

Hostas are native to just three countries - Japan, China, and Korea. Recently I wrote a series of four articles for the Hosta Journal which describes the eight-species found in Korea, their characteristics, and how they have been used in hybridizing. Specifically, they are *Hosta capitata*, *H. clausa*, *H. jonesii*, *H. laevigata*, *H. minor*, *H. tsushimensis*, *H. venusta*, and *H. yingeri*. In this article I will talk about *Hosta albofarinosa* and *H. ventricosa*, which are two of the four species found in China. In a future article I will discuss *H. plantaginea* and *H. clausa* var. *ensata*.

Hosta albofarinosa was discovered in the early 1980's in the Yellow Mountains, about 260 miles west of Nanking, China. It was found growing on steep slopes with thin soil layers. Despite this siting, it is not considered drought resistant. Since then other populations have been found, some of them occurring in open areas competing with aggressive grasses. It has yet to make its way to the West.

Hosta albofarinosa forms a clump about 6 to 8 inches tall and 8 to 12 inches wide, similar to *Hosta longipes* in Japan. The leaf blade is ovate to narrow, 5 to 12 inches long by about 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 inches wide. It is powdery white on both sides, but heaviest on the back of the leaves, the only Chinese hosta to exhibit this characteristic. Flowers of *H. albofarinosa* are white with purplish streaks, blooming in June. Flower morphology is similar to that of *H. sieboldii*.

As stated earlier, *H. albofarinosa* has not been imported in significant numbers to the US, or Europe for that matter. It does have some qualities that makes it desirable to hybridizers, however. The



H. albofarinosa

Photo by W. George Schmid

compact size and white coloration on the back side of the leaves are both advantageous characteristics. Its ability to compete with grasses is another trait that is worth looking into. Despite having many enviable characteristics, to my knowledge no hybrids or selections have been made from *Hosta albofarinosa*.



H. ventricosa, Photo by G. Herold

spread of 32 inches. Leaves are dark green, slightly rippled, and very glossy. Flowers are medium to dark purple, and bell shaped with distinctive striping. They are produced from mid to late July into September. Scapes may be over 40 inches long. It is a heavy seed producer, with virtually all the seedlings being identical to the parent. Since fertilization must take place for seed to form, however, an occasional variant is sometimes found. Examples of this which have been introduced into the trade are 'Holly's Honey' (G Holly, 1986), which has glossy green rippled foliage and dark purple flowers, and 'Lakeside Black Satin' (M Chastain, 1994) which boasts exceptionally dark green foliage.

Two variations of the species have been in collections for many years. 'Aureomaculata' has been cultivated in the Netherlands since 1856. It has gold-centered, green-margined foliage and is viridescent, meaning that it gradually changes to green through the summer. 'Aureomarginata,' another sport of *H. ventricosa*, is the opposite of 'Aureomaculata.' It has a green center with an irregular margin that changes from creamy yellow to creamy white during the summer. Both cultivars have produced sports and have been used in breeding. 'Fury of Flame,' an all-yellow seedling of 'Aureomaculata' introduced by Mark Zilis in 1985 is viridescent like its parent.

Hosta ventricosa is rarely used as a pollen parent because of its apomictic character but makes an excellent pollen parent. Two of the notable hybrids are 'Slick Willie' (J Hadrava, 1996), a cross with 'Invincible' that has shiny green foliage and lavender flowers, and 'Sunny Disposition' (F Nyikos, 2001.) This cross with 'Birchwood Parky's Gold' is lutescent gold, meaning that it changes from chartreuse to gold through the summer. Grow it in more sun than usual for best color.

Both *Hosta albofarinosa* and *Hosta ventricosa* have many desirable characteristics that should have hosta hybridizers salivating. Only *H. ventricosa* has made its presence felt in the industry, however, and maybe even it has fallen somewhat out of favor. It is time to look at it again and add *H. albofarinosa* to the mix as well.

The history of *Hosta ventricosa* goes back to at least 1790. At that time, it was brought to England, one of the first hostas to make its way to Europe. Unlike any other hosta it is a naturally occurring tetraploid and will produce clonal seed, a trait called pseudogamous apomixis. In its native China, it is found in forests, grassy slopes, and hillsides. It is one of the easiest hosta species to grow and will adapt to most environmental conditions, including full sun.

Hosta ventricosa is a medium to large plant with an expected height of 20 inches and

FEATURED VENDOR



Business name: Bali-Hai Nursery

Contact: Mrs. M. E. Scroggy and Ian W. Scroggy

Website: www.mailorderplants4me.com

E-mail: balihainursery@btinternet.com

Mailing address: Bali-Hai Mail Order Nursery
42 Largy Road
Carnlough, Ballymena
Co. Antrim, Northern Ireland, BT44 0EZ, UK

Phone: Tel: 044 2828885289 Mobile 07708257164



**BALI-HAI
NURSERY**

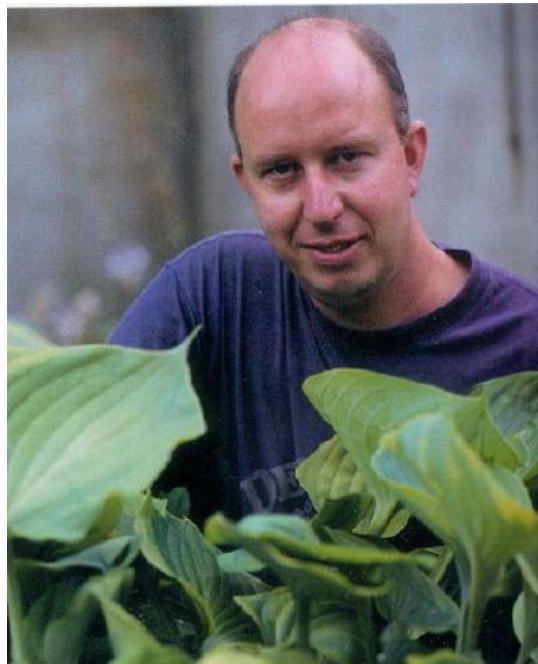
is situated in Carnlough, Co. Antrim, Northern Ireland. The main advantage of having a nursery here is the climate, being so close to the sea and situated in an enclosed bay surrounded by mountains, we find that our nursery is usually three degrees warmer than the rest of the North coast of Ireland. As we are a small firm more personal attention is given to the plants and how they are looked after. Visits to our nursery by the public is generally by appointment only, thus we do not have many casual callers which means we have more time to concentrate on growing plants.

Originally started in 1986 as a wholesale nursery, in 2001 we started Mail Order Nursery as well. The first mail order catalogues became available in 1986 from England, UK. Bowdens Hostas, Goldbrook, and Park Green were offering Hostas from mail order catalogs. At that time there was no supplier in Ireland or Northern Ireland, so this is what got us into Hostas. We had always grown Hostas in our garden but at that time there was only 5 different varieties available to buy. Today we have a National reference collection of Hostas with some 2500+ varieties. We sell both wholesale and retail all year round by mail order. We send Hostas to UK, Europe, USA, Japan, and other countries via plant import permits

Unique with us is that we sell all year round. Hardy grown Hostas all are grown outside in full sun with no protection to get the best root and crown development which leads to much better plants for the customer. Our plants are not stretched or thin leafed like you would find in nurseries growing Hostas in polytunnels or glasshouses. We try where possible to grow from original stock plants and only buy from breeders and Nurseries we know have virus free stock. The majority of our Hostas are by manual division or from tissue culture. We do not use any chemicals on our plants, only natural products like garlic for slug and pest control, cinnamon powder as a fungicide, and seaweed to boost Hosta plants immune system.



Mrs. M. E. Scroggy



Ian W. Scroggy

We have a few Hostas that are only available from our nursery, namely Hosta 'Bali-Hai', 'Reverend Mac' and some of the older varieties no longer available from other nurseries like Hosta 'St. John', 'Drake's Tail', 'Phoenix', many of the Devon Hostas and Goldbrook varieties.



Hosta 'Bali-Hai'
I. Scroggy, 2009



Hosta 'Reverend Mac'
D. Van Echaute, 2011

Hosta 'Reverend Mac' is a new Hosta to celebrate the birthday of Rev. W. McMillan MBE from Northern Ireland. Alongside his Church duties, the Reverend Mac is a renowned flower designer, plantsman, author and keen gardener of worldwide acclaim. In addition to an MBE for his services to charity, The Albert Schweitzer Award for promoting religious freedom and an Associate of Honor of the National Association of Flower Arrangement Societies of Great Britain, the Garden Clubs of America have conferred Honorary Member status on Reverend Mac. This is their highest award, granted to only four people outside of USA. Hosta 'Reverend Mac' is a Sport of *H. 'Well Shaked'* with lovely broad ovate blue-green leaves. Very good garden plant with light lavender flowers. Medium mound size at maturity.



At left, *Hosta* 'Drake's Tail' (OS), from Gwen Black, UK with large blue-green rounded leaves. White flowers that have a long flower tube like a tail. Medium mound size at maturity.



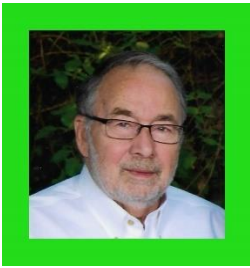
Above, *Hosta* 'St. John' (OS), lovely dark green shiny leaves set off by deep purple flowers. Medium to large mound size at maturity.



Hosta 'Phoenix' (OS), above, is a large upright mound of grey-green leaves with lavender flowers from Dr. Ullrich Fischer of Germany. Large mound size at maturity.

Ian W. Scroggy obtained Higher National Diploma in Horticulture in 1994 at the Scottish Agricultural College at distinction.

Bali-Hai Nursery is the holder of two National reference collections, Hostas and Agapanthus.



Warren I. Pollock
Glen Mills, Pennsylvania

GO HOSTAS!

2018 National Convention: Saturday Educational Forum

In *AHS eNewsletter January 2018* I mentioned the Educational Sessions at the upcoming AHS National Convention in the Philadelphia area, June 20-23 (www.ahs2018philly.org). On Saturday afternoon there will be an Open Forum and I cited some suggested topics. An attendee contacted me saying she has a vole problem and doesn't want to grow her hostas in wire baskets (cages) because she doesn't like the looks of gardens with the top inch or more of the cages often glaringly and unattractively exposed.

I responded that Mike and Kathy Shadrack, who live near Buffalo, New York, use wire cages differently to deter voles, and I'm asking them to bring photos and discuss their experiences. I expect other attendees will be discussing their vole deterrent methods, too.

I suspect the two major topics will be combating foliar nematodes and HVX. Please bring your experiences to the forum. In particular, if you are using "NemaKill," what is your program and what have been the results?

If you will be presenting information on flash (thumb) drive, it would be helpful if you let me know (giboshiwip@aol.com) before the convention. A computer, projector and screen will be available. There also will be a Dry-Erase board with supplies.

2018 Online Auction: Highest Bid Hostas



The 2018 AHS Online Auction, January 13-27, had winning bids totaling \$12,032, *a new record*. Donated were 55 hostas, 19 seed packets and 13 other items. The auction results—item names, winning bids, alias names and donors—can be found on the AHS website:

<http://americanhostasociety.org/Activities/ahsresults18.htm>.

A hardy thanks to all the donors and bidders, and especially to hardworking Don Dean, auction facilitator, and Josh Spece, webmaster.

I followed the hosta part of the auction pretty closely from start to end and was amazed at some of the intense bidding. I'm going to mention only two hostas, the highest and second highest bid winners, and give my thoughts on perhaps why they were so outstanding.

The highest bid hosta was 'Entranced', unregistered, hybridized by Dan Wols. It sold for \$1,000. Dan donated a "multi-eyed" division.

The original seed came from one of Doug Bielstein's Fall Hosta Works' seed offerings. Parentage is ((*H.* 'Galaxy' × *H.* 'Finlandia') × OP). *H.* 'Galaxy', registered in 1987, is from the intensive breeding program of William and Eleanor Lachman. *H.* 'Finlandia' is a hybrid of species *H. kikutii* registered by Ainie Busse and Alex Summers in 1997.

H. 'Entranced' is a big streaked plant. For the most part, streaked hostas are not stable: they usually sort out into marginal or medial variegation, or a single leaf color. But 'Entranced' has superior stability. The clump in the photos is 10 years old in Dan's Illinois garden.

Bidding for 'Entranced' started on Thursday, Jan. 25, at \$100 and climbed to \$500 on Saturday afternoon. Soon afterward the \$500 bidder jumped in one bid to \$1,000, and—not surprisingly—this ended further bidding and was the winning bid Saturday night.

At this price point 'Entranced' is considered a "Trophy Hosta." There have been other "Trophy Hostas" at some previous AHS auctions—but none I recall in recent years.

I'm told the winner is not a hosta hybridizer. He/she then must be a hosta collector's collector, not just a hosta fancier but a hosta connoisseur who likely has an extensive garden with extensive showy hostas.

H. 'Entranced' is colorful; it's a kaleidoscope of bright and varying colors. There is a lot of attractive yellow streaking that catches the eye. Simply, this hosta makes a big statement. Visitors to the garden it's growing in will notice it. They will note it. And they will remember it.

Furthermore, it has a great name: 'Entranced'. Most fitting. Well chosen. It nicely reflects the character of the plant. You're entranced when you see it. Recall the maxims: Great hostas deserve great names. Great hostas *have* great names.

Its prominence in the garden, along with its well-suited name, are, in my opinion, half of why 'Entranced' received its "Trophy Hosta" bid.

The other half is its exclusiveness. *H.* 'Entranced' had never left Dan Wols's garden. The winning bidder received a generous division—and no one else other than Dan will have this hosta in their garden. There will be only two clumps of 'Entranced' in all of hostadom (at this time)!

The other hosta I'll mention is 'Apple Pucker', an unregistered introduction of Matt Bendig, a Wisconsin resident described in the auction as "one of our newer rising stars in the hosta breeding area." It sold for \$625.00. It started out at \$100.00 on Thursday, Jan. 18, reaching its winning bid after mostly \$25 and \$50 increment bids.





H. 'Apple Pucker' is a seedling from a cross of *H. 'Pin Stripe Sister'* and OP. The maternal parent is the famous hybrid of Kevin Vaughn that Dick Ward named and was registered in 2009. *H. 'Pin Stripe Sister'* is in the parentage of many outstanding hostas introduced by Dick and Jane Ward, Columbus, Ohio.

H. 'Apple Pucker' is a medium size hosta. For its leaf color, think Granny Smith apple. For its leaf puckering, think Granny Smith's tartness. Each leaf develops interesting patterns in the puckering "as if sculpted out of yellow marble stone." Leaves are attractively dome- and cup-shaped. The cultivar name 'Apple Pucker' is indeed fitting. I'm told the winning bidder also is

not a breeder. So why the high bid?

This hosta also makes a big statement. Visitors to one's garden will notice it, note it and remember it. This, along with a great name, in my opinion are half of the reason why it received its high winning bid.

The other half reason again is exclusiveness. *H. 'Apple Pucker'* is reserved to be offered to the AHS Online Auction and other hosta fundraiser events. It is not available anywhere else for it is not in production and doubtfully will be in the foreseeable future. Further, the successful bidder must agree not to propagate, sell or share the plant without permission. Simply, the double division the winning bidder received is rare and will continue to be rare for quite some time.

The conclusion I've drawn is *unusual big* hostas that are *showy, attention getters* in the garden and *have considerable exclusiveness* are the principle, big money draws these days.

Your opinions, comments, etc. are most welcome. Please contact me at giboshiwip@aol.com.

OS?

I am taking this opportunity to correct an item in "Go Hostas!" in *AHS eNewsletter January 2018* and also in my "This and That: 2017" column in *AHS Online Hosta Journal 2017*. I stated OS means "Original Stock." Correctly, OS is the abbreviation for "Originator Stock," sometimes written as "Originator's Stock."

I also want to mention that the "This and That; 2017" column proposed an updated, simpler and more generally accepted definition of "Originator Stock (OS)" to replace the current definition in the AHS Directory on the AHS website. The proposed definition is:

ORIGINATOR STOCK - (aka OS) - plant not propagated by tissue culture
and true to type of original plant.

At this writing no action has been taken.

GO HOSTAS!

***Make plans now to attend the 50th Anniversary
AHS Convention in Philadelphia***

1968-2018



Philadelphia

The 2018 Convention will be held at the
DoubleTree by Hilton, Valley Forge Hotel on **June 20-23, 2018.**

Make your plans now to attend this celebration of the **50th Anniversary** of the **American Hosta Society**. More information will be coming soon. Save the date!

www.ahs2018philly.org



2018 AHS Convention Registration Form
June 20-23, hosted by Delaware Valley Hosta Society
DoubleTree by Hilton Philadelphia - Valley Forge
www.AHS2018Philly.org



Instructions: in Word, type in or check shaded boxes, then print or save file for emailing. Or print blank form (PDF or Word document) and complete by hand.
Each registrant must complete a separate form!

Registrant information

Name (as you wish it to appear on badge) _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail address: _____

Phone: _____ Home Work Mobile* (Check one)

** If possible provide one smartphone number per travel group, capable of receiving texts, email, etc. We will keep phone and email information private.*

AHS member? Yes No Local society member? Yes No Society: _____

Registration fees: see www.ahs2018philly.org/register for detailed description of categories.

Check one **Registration category (bold)**, plus any *additional items (italics)*. Then calculate and pay the total.

Full Registration includes: Wednesday Vendor Gala; Thursday Breakfast, Lunch; Friday Breakfast, Box Lunch and Tour Garden Buses, Dinner; Saturday Breakfast, Box Lunch and Tour Garden Buses, and Dinner Banquet. To receive early registration rate: payment by *check only*.

Partial "Hosta Widow(er)" Registration includes Wednesday Vendor Gala, Thursday/Friday/Saturday breakfasts, and Saturday Dinner Banquet.

- | | | |
|---|--------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Early Full Registration (pay by CHECK ONLY before Jan 31) | \$ 299 | Paid by:
<input type="checkbox"/> Check to Delaware Valley Hosta Society
<input type="checkbox"/> Credit card # _____
Exp date _____ Security code _____
Name on card _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/> AmEx <input type="checkbox"/> Discover |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full Registration (pay by credit card* or check) | \$ 315 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Partial "Hosta Widow(er)" Registration | \$ 150 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Late Registration Penalty (after May 1)</i> | \$ 35 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Longwood Gardens supplement (worth every penny!)</i> | \$ 38 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Judge's handbook (see Judges' Clinics below)</i> | \$ 10 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Wednesday Optional Barnes/Philly bus trip</i> | \$ 30 | |

Total of checked boxes \$ _____ Note: Multiple registrations, mailed together, may be combined on a single charge if desired.

** You may pay by credit card prior to January 31 at this price, covering the cost of electronic transactions.*

Meals: see www.ahs2018philly.org/meals for menus.

Friday/Saturday boxed lunches: Vegetarian Meat options (Check one)

Saturday banquet: Short ribs Salmon Crab cake Vegetarian Will not attend (Check one)

Please note if you have any particular dietary restrictions: _____

Please contact the hotel if you have significant concerns about meeting any restrictions.

Scientific presentation, Wednesday evening: space is limited to 70 attendees.

Do you wish to attend Warren Pollock's scientific presentation? Yes No

Hosta Show and Judges' Clinics

Are you an AHS Judge? Provisional Senior Master (Check no more than one)

Are you willing to serve as: Judge Clerk Elther Helper (Classification, placement, show docent, etc.)

I plan to attend: Clinic I Clinic II Clinic III Clinic I *first-timer* (must purchase Judge's handbook)

(Tentative schedule: Clinic I is Wednesday evening, Clinic II is Friday afternoon, Clinic III is Thursday morning)

Hotel information: You MUST make reservations DIRECTLY with the hotel to receive convention rates.

Visit www.ahs2018philly.org/venue or call the hotel at 610-337-1200 and reserve under code AHS-2018 0619 ("Hosta Convention").

Convention room rate valid for bookings until May 29 or until the group block is sold out, whichever comes first.

Submission information

For payment by check, mail to: Convention Registration, 1411 Deer Meadow Ln, Gamet Valley, PA 19060.

For payment by credit card, send form by mail as above or email the electronic form to the registrar at skfugate@earthlink.net.

By doing so, you authorize us to charge your credit card for the total amount above.

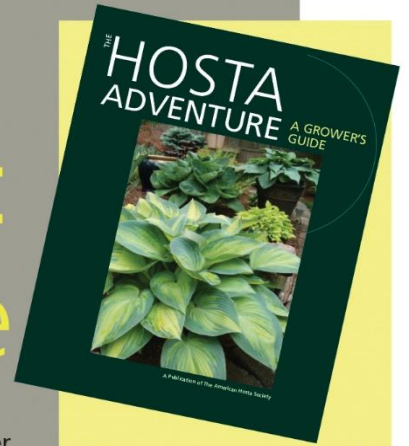
Refund policy

Please notify the registrar at skfugate@earthlink.net if you must cancel. Full refund offered before April 30. 50% refund between May 1 and June 9. NO REFUNDS after June 9. Registrations may be transferred without charge up to June 9; please contact the registrar.

3rd
—
edition

The American Hosta Society's

Hosta Adventure: A Grower's Guide



Beautifully revised... the third edition of this popular hosta primer. It has been updated with new pictures of popular cultivars and information regarding the latest research on hosta culture and pest control. The 32-page guide, illustrated with dozens of colorful photos, features valuable advice from experts, who provide tips on how best to purchase, plant and propagate hostas. Chapters also address landscaping with hostas, container gardening and growing minis. *The Hosta Adventure* is popular with garden clubs, plant societies and collectors. If you love the "Friendship Plant," you will want to order this updated essential AHS guide.

Get your copy!

Order from Barry Ankney
330 S. Michigan Ave, Apt. 1902
Chicago IL 60604-4352
Email:
ahs.vp.publications@gmail.com

\$4.00 + \$2.50 U.S. postage
\$5.50 + \$2.50 postage for non-members

Inquire about quantity discounts.



Order back issues of *The Hosta Journal*.

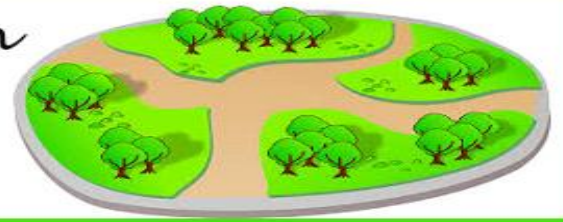
In celebration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of
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Down the Garden Path

Hosta Gardening 101



When you are just getting started with growing hostas, the number of cultivars available must seem overwhelming. There are currently over 8,000 cultivars registered with the American Hosta Society Registrar. There are nearly as many cultivars that are not registered. With the thousands of different hostas available, where does one start? Just as important, where does one start without breaking the budget?

One way to ease into hosta gardening is to join a local hosta society and learn from others who have been growing hostas for a few years. An added benefit might be that those veteran hosta growers are likely to be happy to share with newer members divisions of some of the older and more common cultivars. There are many cultivars that have been around for a long time that serious collectors may want to share. Hostas are, after all, the friendship plant. Do not be afraid to ask if veteran hosta growers have some of these older varieties that they would be willing to share. Think of it as you are doing them a favor. No, seriously, I have often heard from hosta aficionados that they are running out of room for new varieties and can only add the newest desired plant by making space in their garden. You ask for a freebee, they make space for their newest must have plant. It's a win – win situation!

So, what are some plants you can ask for that the “old-timers” might part with? Our featured Local Society from the last eNewsletter put together a brochure based on research by several of their members. You can view the entire brochure online at <http://www.soghs.org/Old Standards Soghs.pdf>. The Shades of Green Hosta Society's Susy Olsen and Jean Meyer compiled the brochure and based some of their information on a newsletter article that appeared in the Delaware Valley Hosta Society Newsletter.

Starting with Fragrant Green Hostas, look for *H. plantaginea*, the fragrant flowered species hosta that is native to China (pictured at right). Another fragrant green is *H. 'Royal Standard'*, a hybrid of *H. plantaginea* and *H. sieboldiana*. The third common fragrant green hosta is *H. 'Honeybells'*. These three fragrant hostas can tolerate a lot of sun, so keep that in mind when choosing a spot in your garden.



Next, you might ask for a white edged hosta. Two older varieties that you might be able to procure from your new hosta club members are *H. 'Undulata Albomarginata'* and *H. 'Francee'* (pictured at left).

For a white centered hosta that should be easy to get, ask for *H. 'Undulata'* (shown at right). While it starts out with large white centers, don't be surprised if the centers turn greener as the growing season progresses.



You must have some green hostas in your garden. If every hosta is variegated, our eyes will never be able to settle on anything in your hosta bed. The solid color hostas are the glue that binds together the overall effect in your display. Your new friends will, I'm sure, be happy to part with a division of *H. 'Lancifolia'*, the lance shaped green hosta that grows in a fountain like form. *Lancifolia* will tolerate a lot of sun and grows very rapidly. Another great green hosta is *H. ventricosa*, another species hosta. This one (pictured at left) has stunning

purple flowers from mid to late July.

Next, ask for the one with the yellow edge, *H. 'Fortunei Aureomarginata'*, shown at right. This one is a good grower with nice form and slight corrugation at maturity.



My very favorite hosta of all time is *H. 'Halcyon'* (below). This one has been around for a long time. It was bred by Eric Smith from England and is one of his original Tardiana hostas. This is one of the nicest older blue hostas out there. It holds its blue coloring well throughout the growing season, unless you give it too much direct sun. Flowers are held just above the foliage on short sturdy scapes.



Some big blue hostas that you may be able to wrangle from a friend include *H. 'Blue Angel'*, 'Blue Umbrellas', Blue Mammoth', and a blue-gray one, 'Krossa Regal'. 'Blue Angel' is a massive hosta with near white flowers. In my experience it is a little slow to get growing, but once established, is a great grower that needs space, often growing six feet across or larger, with a height of a little over 30 inches. It has produced many sports that are different variegated forms, but the original cultivar is still a stunning specimen. I personally love 'Krossa Regal'. It has a vase shaped form that makes a wonderful focus point in the garden. The blue-gray leaves retain their good coloration in a partially shaded setting throughout the growing season.

In the next issue, we'll talk about some other must have hostas for the beginning hosta collector.

AHS Membership



The American Hosta Society (AHS) is a society dedicated to the study and improvement of the genus *Hosta* and the dissemination of general and scientific knowledge about hostas. There are many benefits for the members that result from these efforts, both social and in nursery trade. AHS members receive several publications a year, including two colorful issues of *The Hosta Journal* (mailed), four eNewsletters (emailed), and *The Online Hosta Journal* (posted on the web for members only). These Journals include articles on cultivation tips, propagation techniques, landscape uses, new cultivars and old species, pioneers and personalities, scientific advances, convention awards, gardens, and news about the AHS.

Membership provides an opportunity to attend national meetings and conventions which offer educational and scientific presentations, garden tours, judge's clinics, and a chance to see the latest and best hosta in the hosta show.

Other membership benefits:

A Biennial AHS Membership Directory.

The privilege of visiting display gardens throughout the country, many of which are only open to AHS members.

An invitation to exhibit your favorite hostas and compete for recognition in various AHS national and regional hosta shows.

Developing friendships with people who share an interest in growing hostas.

Access to Members Only section of the AHS website.

Another benefit of becoming a new member is you receive a voucher from the AHS Membership Secretary good for \$15.00 towards any purchase at sponsoring nurseries.

For information about this program, go to

<http://www.americanhostasociety.org/Membership/AHSVoucherProgram.htm>

Print and mail the application form on the next page, or to join online, go to

<http://www.americanhostasociety.org/Membership/Membership.htm> .



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