



Hosta 'Bam Bam Blue'
Ed Schulz, 2009
Homestead Perennials offering for 2018



President's Musings

Gregg Peterson
President, American Hosta Society

We have finally reached that time in the gardening calendar that I really enjoy, namely the spring emergence. Whether it is hostas, spring bulbs or other perennials, there is nothing more exciting and invigorating to a gardener than watching a bare garden bed literally explode with emerging foliage and color. This transformation takes place in a matter of a few days to a week. Make sure you take some time each day this spring to walk through your garden and enjoy the changes in your landscape.

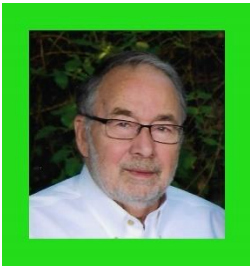
I'm always looking for new gardening tips and techniques and the "hat trick" idea by Larry Tucker is one that I will certainly put to good use. I especially like the idea of coverings for my pots that are easy to manage and store. Covering and uncovering pots of plants with sheets, blankets and tarps is tedious and cumbersome, not to mention they are not really attractive or attention grabbing as the hats are. I would only direct you and Larry to the photo at the end of the newsletter to show you an adaptation I had to make to the trick based on the weather we had this year!

The Hosta Society of North Alabama is the featured local society and I am impressed by their commitment to hold ten monthly meetings throughout the year. This represents a real interest in the genus *Hosta*, as well as a chance to meet fellow gardeners on a regular basis. Hosta sales, plant swaps, hosta shows and displays at local nurseries and greenhouses demonstrates that this local group is a vibrant and energetic club interested in getting others involved in growing the "friendship" plant. Kudos to the members of HSNA for a job well done!

I pride myself on trying to keep abreast of local nurseries and greenhouses located in my region, but I have to admit I did not know about Homestead Perennials, the featured vendor in this issue. The fact that they are located less than 40 miles from my house and have been in business since 1998 makes me even more embarrassed that I have not visited them. So, I know I have one road trip to make this spring and I invite you to search out and visit a new local greenhouse or nursery in your area. You never know what you might find.

In *The American Hosta Society Bulletin*, 1984 Vol. 15 (15th Anniversary Issue), Peter Ruh identifies 20 hosta species and varieties that he considers to be "Classic" hostas. Considering what was available at that time in the commercial trade, it is interesting to compare his list to the listing in this issue. His list contains many more species, but out of the 20 plants he identifies, 11 of them are still on the updated or current listing. The "Classic" hosta listing in this newsletter would be a great resource to give to a beginning hosta gardener to help them with a good start to a hosta collection.

Enjoy the spring and always yours in the "friendship" plant.



GO HOSTAS!

Warren I. Pollock
Glen Mills, Pennsylvania

***Sporting in Hostas: A Primer* — New Publication Available from AHS**

In the March and January editions of the *AHS eNewsletter*, I mentioned several of the Educational Sessions at the upcoming AHS National Convention in the Philadelphia area, June 20-23 (www.ahs2018philly.org). In this edition I'm citing the special Wednesday presentation that I am presenting—and I have great new news.

The session was originally scheduled to be in a tightly packed, classroom-style meeting room limited to just 70 attendees and to start at 8:30 p.m. The convention's registration form asked: Do you want to attend Warren Pollock's scientific presentation on Wednesday night?

At the end of January, when the early registration fee ended, more than 85 registrants chose to attend, and a waiting list was established. Later registrants then were informed they could chose to attend but only would be on the waiting list.

The news is that a different room and time have now been scheduled. **The Wednesday night Educational Session now will be in the hotel's large Ballroom and start at 7:30. All attendees can now attend—and are invited to attend.**

There is more new news. **This Educational Session's total presentation will be published as a booklet available from The American Hosta Society.** Title and authors are:

Sporting in Hostas: A Primer
Ben J. M. Zonneveld
Leiden, The Netherlands
&
Warren I. Pollock
Glen Mills, Pennsylvania USA

Ben J.M. Zonneveld was Professor of Genetics in the Institute of Biology at Leiden University, The Netherlands. Now retired, he is associated with the Naturalis Biodiversity Center in Leiden. Ben is the world's authority on sporting in the genus *Hosta*, extensively publishing on the subject. We have worked together on certain aspects of hosta sporting for over ten years.



H. 'Halcyon'
AHS eNewsletter



H. 'June'
Spring - May 2018

Sporting in Hostas: A Primer is the result of our voluminous email correspondence for the last nine months. It's just about all that keen hosta gardeners, nursery people and horticulturists might want to know about this intriguing subject in a relatively few pages.



H. 'Sagae'



H. 'Liberty'

Section 1 is a two-page discussion of basic genetic and other principles: three cell layers in the meristem, chromosomes, chimera, aneuploidy, chloroplasts and other science. (Frankly, some of this section may be pretty advanced and complex for some readers. I suggest a slow careful reading when you have ample relaxed time with no disturbances. Also, a couple of thorough readings may be needed. If some items are puzzlement, *forget them and go on*. They likely are not essential for your appreciating Sections 2 and 3 and the other information in the booklet.)

Section 2 is 8 pages detailing the 11 Sporting Rules (the 11th was added just late last year) with extensive explanations. Each rule has several examples of well-known cultivars, such as:

Sporting Rule #1: Sports caused by a Mutation

H. 'Halcyon' → H. 'June'

Sporting Rule #4: Sports caused by Sorting Out of Steaked Plants

H. 'Ice Age Trail' → H. 'Sugar Daddy'

Sporting Rule #11: Sports resulting in Wider or Narrower Margins

H. 'Climax' → H. 'Afterglow'



H. 'Blue Cadet'



H. 'Blue Mouse Ears'

Section 3 (13 pages) has examples of some unusual sporting. They have *color photos* (lots of them) of parents and their sports with considerable explanations of the sporting. I'll cite a couple:

H. 'Blue Cadet' → H. 'Blue Mouse Ears'—which has much mystery attached to it,

H. 'Flamenco Mouse' → H. 'Field Rat'—also with some mystery,

H. 'Gold Standard' → H. 'Striptease' and other sports such as *H. 'Snake Eyes'*—with L2 layer now visible,

H. 'Loyalist' → H. 'Revolution' → H. 'Independence' → H. 'Nougat'—remember 'Nougat'? Can anyone grow it?

H. 'Krossa Regal' → H. 'Bullfrog'—with very complex variegation,

H. 'Stitch in Time' (SiT) → H. 'Time Traveler'—now available in the trade and likely an aneuploidy chimera like SiT.

As part of the Wednesday night Educational Session, I will have a 20-minute PowerPoint presentation illustrating some of the sporting rules. It's full of photos and graphics (which I'm hoping will keep the audience awake and alert). Some interesting sporting will be specially highlighted.

I selected a large handful of these slides and they are included as a 5-page appendix in the booklet: another 25 or so color images to pique your hosta sporting interests.

There are two other appendices in the booklet: sporting statistics from Hugo Philips' popular online search source *MyHostas* and Further Reading.

Page size of *Sporting in Hostas: A Primer* is large: 8 ½ x 11 inches. There are 28 pages on high-quality glossy paper plus front and back covers. Further, font sizes and photos are fairly large. (You won't have to squint to read the text or appreciate the images in this users' manual.)

Most important, I need to point out that *Sporting in Hostas: A Primer* will be published in a LIMITED EDITION. **Cost per copy will be \$5.00.** (Frankly, at that price I won't be surprised if it's a quick sell out!)

Also, *Sporting in Hosta: A Primer* will not be available until the convention. The American Hosta Society will market it there. All profit goes to AHS. After the convention it will be available from AHS also, but cost will be \$5.00/copy + \$5 SHIPPING & HANDLING. To order, contact AHS at ahs.vp.publications@gmail.com.

Or Mail a check payable to The American Hosta Society for \$10.00 to:

Barry Ankney, VP Publications
Sporting in Hostas
330 S Michigan Ave, #1902
Chicago, IL 60604-4352

(Yes, you can order the booklet from the AHS prior to the convention, \$5 + \$5 S&H, but it won't be mailed until after the convention.)



H. 'Patriot'



H. 'Loyalist'

Photo credits: *Halcyon* - M Giampa, *June* - B Ankney, *Sage* - M Vertz, *Liberty* - M Vertz, *Blue Cadet* - S Zolock, *Blue Mouse Ears* - J Deckert, *Patriot* - M Giampa, *Loyalist*, C Falstad.

Hosta Library: Photos, Photos and More Photos

The above item mentions photos in the new *Sporting in Hostas: A Primer* booklet. Not surprisingly, several photos in it are from the Hosta Library (with acknowledgement of the photographers, of course). This superb reference source is very popular because of its easy to use format with a simple click of a letter. If you're not familiar with it, I recommend you take a look at www.hostalibrary.org. You'll be amazed at its contents.

Bob Axmear of Waukon, Iowa, created the Hosta Library in 1999. Bob passed away unexpectedly in January 2017. Unknown probably to most people, he had transferred ownership and stewardship of the Hosta Library a few months before to Bill Meyer and Carol Brashear who reside in Woodbury, Connecticut. When they took over in late October 2016, 16,323 hosta photos were posted on the Hosta Library. Today there are about 22,000 representing some 6,700 varieties, both registered and unregistered. They still have a lot of photos to include, and soon expect there will be over 24,000 photos representing some 7,000 hosta varieties.

On becoming the stewards, their first order of business was to update the Hosta Library's look with new backgrounds on each letter page and to include the 1,000 photos Bob had not yet added because of illness. Next came some gentle urging of folks who were sharing hosta photos on social media for permission to add them to the Hosta Library. "To a person," Carol said, "no one declined our request." Now people from all over the world send photos of their hostas to the Hosta Library without requests.

There are other great features on the Hosta Library. My favorite is the quick-click on the page for each cultivar that directly links to the data for that cultivar on Hugo Philips' popular, online research source *MyHostas*. And now Steve Greene's last edition of his popular *Hosta Finder*, year 2016, is on the Hosta Library minus prices which would be out of date. A great addition. Very useful.

More on OS

In the March *AHS eNewsletter*, I have an item on OS citing its definition as:

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

I received an email with this query: I purchased a hosta with the designation OS, planted it in my garden and the following spring it came up with a different variegation. Is the hosta that came up still OS?

My response was: NO! Your hosta sported. It is now not true to type of the original plant. The label on the plant should no longer have the designation OS *nor should it have the cultivar name of the original plant*. If you think the new hosta is unusual, you might want to give it a special new name.

Sporting of OS hostas is common. Hostas are not necessarily more stable because they are OS.

GO HOSTAS!

*There is still time to register for 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.**

Registration form on the next page, or register online at

www.ahs2018philly.org



2018 AHS Convention Registration Form v1.3
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) _____ First AHS convention? Yes No

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: Gift Bag & Hosta, 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 *only* Wednesday Vendor Gala, Thursday/Friday/Saturday breakfasts, and Saturday Dinner Banquet.

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| Early Full Registration (pay by CHECK ONLY before Jan 31) | \$ 299 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full Registration (pay by credit card or check) | \$ 315 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Partial "Hosta Widow(er)" Registration | \$ 150 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Late Registration Penalty (after May 1) | \$ 35 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Longwood Gardens supplement (worth every penny!) | \$ 38 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Judge's handbook (see Judges' Clinics below) | \$ 10 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday Optional Barnes/Philly bus trip <u>WAITLIST ONLY</u> | <u>\$ 35</u> |
| Total of checked boxes | \$ _____ |

- Paid by:**
- Check to Delaware Valley Hosta Society
- Credit card # _____
- Exp date _____ Security code _____
- Name on card _____
- Visa MasterCard AmEx Discover
- Note: Multiple registrations, mailed together, may be combined on a single charge if desired.

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

Friday/Saturday boxed lunches: Vegetarian Meat options—sandwich assortment (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. Now taking names for waiting list only!

Do you wish to attend Warren Pollock's scientific presentation? Yes (You will be placed on a waiting list)

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 Either 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 (paid to Delaware Valley Hosta Society), 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 convention registrar at convention@ahs2018philly.org.
 By doing so, you authorize us to charge your credit card for the total amount above.

Refund policy

Please notify the registrar at convention@ahs2018philly.org 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.

To foil frost, you'll score with this 'hat trick'

Larry Tucker
Memphis, TN



Slumbering hostas have an innate sense about when to toss off their covers, jump out of bed and march in the spring parade of fine foliage. Unfortunately, though they proceed with caution, hostas are unable to forecast when Jack Frost might pay a surprise visit to your garden. That's when hostaphiles must intervene with myriad measures to protect early emerging leaves.

Blankets, sheets, shade cloth and other lightweight covers can be used effectively at a moment's notice. Plastic bags can be pressed into service, but they should be removed when temperatures rise above 32 degrees F. Non-porous plastic "tents" trap heat from sunlight and tend to roast tender leaves.

Some U.S. regions, particularly northern and eastern areas, experienced severe cold and snow in recent months and haven't had to worry about early emergence of hostas. Frost can appear from late February to early May, depending upon where you live. I've experienced both extremes. I grew up in Minnesota and currently reside in Tennessee. The last spring in my native land, a hard frost struck our garden on Mother's Day. After moving to Kansas, our new garden was hit with frost on Labor Day. Since then, I've learned a few new tricks to protect gardens in Memphis and the Mid-South (Zones 7/8), where the last frost date is April 15.



Bucket hat protects 'Spartacus'

When weathermen warn gardeners of impending frost, I score "hat tricks." Not the threesomes in cricket or hockey, rather three varieties of caps and hats that I place over unfurled foliage in patio pots. Ubiquitous ball caps or bill caps (sometimes called "gimmes") go over leaves in the smaller containers. Straw hats cover foliage in medium-size pots. And bucket hats or fishermen's hats (known a century ago as pork-pie hats) hover over hostas in larger vessels.



Ball cap becomes a 'Martini' lid

Never have I lost a leaf to a cold snap with this protective scheme. So, remember, when you're scrambling for something to foil frost in your hosta garden, "**Put a lid on it!**"



Straw hat covers 'Royal Wedding'

FEATURED LOCAL SOCIETY



Hosta Society of North Alabama

Mary Terrell, President
Hosta Society of North Alabama
2101 Scott Street
Guntersville, AL 35976

<https://www.facebook.com/HostaSocietyOfNorthAlabama/>

The Hosta Society of North Alabama was founded in 2006. Currently, there are approximately 40 active members. Annual dues are \$15 for individuals, and \$20 for families. Meetings are held monthly, except for November and December. Attendance at meetings is normally more than half of the total membership.

The Hosta Society of North Alabama serves members from a five-county area surrounding Huntsville, Alabama. We usually meet the fourth Monday of each month (except November & December) at 6:00 pm at Brahan Springs Recreation Center, 3770 Ivy Avenue, Huntsville, AL, just north of the Senior Center. Meetings during the summer months are sometimes held at member gardens.





HSNA publishes a newsletter 3 times per year. Most are distributed electronically, but a few are printed. Most of the articles are submitted by members of the society. The society does not have a website, but they do maintain a Facebook page at the above noted address.



In 2018, our 12th year as a Society, we have interesting speakers for your enjoyment and education. We are planning our 11th annual Hosta Sale on Saturday, May 19 in the Grisham Pavilion, Huntsville Botanical Garden from 9 am to 2 pm. For more information contact Susan Webb: susan.webb2069@att.net.

The hosta sale is the main fundraising event for the society. The society also holds an annual plant swap in April each year.



Hosta 'Rocket City'
Randy Goodwin, 2014



The society sets up informational displays at a variety of venues throughout the year, such as the one pictured at left, at Easy Touch Nursery.

The club sponsors an annual AHS sanctioned leaf show. This year, our Annual Leaf Show will be Saturday, June 9th at The Anderson classroom at The Butterfly House, Huntsville Botanical Garden. Open to public at 12 noon. For information on this event contact Steve Cunningham: mortucky@comcast.net.

The Hosta Society of North Alabama hosted the Dixie Regional Hosta Society Convention in 2016. This year, the Dixie Regional will be hosted by the Middle Tennessee Hosta Society in Clarksville, TN on May 31 through June 2. A full convention schedule can be found at www.dixiehosta.net.

Hostas and Associates

Glenn Herold, Cedarburg, WI



The Chinese Hostas, Part 2

Hostas are native to just three countries - Japan, China, and Korea. In my last article I discussed two of the four species native to China - *Hosta albofarinosa* and *H. ventricosa*. Though *Hosta albofarinosa* is rare in the nursery trade, *Hosta ventricosa* is readily available. One of the first hostas to come out of its native Asia, it is most known for being the only hosta which comes genetically true from seed propagation, a phenomenon called apomixis. It is easy to grow and tolerates a wide range of environmental conditions. In this article, I will discuss the other two species native to China - *Hosta plantaginea* and *H. clausa* var. *ensata*.



Hosta clausa var. *ensata*
Photo by George Schmid

Hosta clausa var. *ensata*, like *H. albofarinosa*, is rarely seen in cultivation. It forms a small mound, about 10 inches tall and wide. It spreads by means of rhizomes, but not as vigorously as other *Hosta clausa* varieties. Scapes rise to a height of 12 to 22 inches and are slightly purplish at the base. The flowers are purple, blooming in August and September. Unlike the form usually found in American gardens, *Hosta clausa* var. *clausa*, the flowers are open and fertile.

Hosta clausa var. *ensata* has an upright form with sword-shaped leaves, usually narrower than other *clausas*. It is found in Northeast China along the Yalu River and in Korea. Originally published as *Hosta ensata*, it is now considered a variant of *Hosta clausa*. It is similar in appearance to *Hosta* 'Lancifolia' but is smaller and has more substance to the leaves.

While *Hosta clausa* var. *ensata* has not been used in hybridization, its Korean counterpart, *Hosta clausa* var. *normalis*, has been used, most notably by Bob Solberg to isolate and enhance the purple coloration of the petioles and move it up into the leaves.

Seeds of *Hosta plantaginea*, sometimes commonly called the August Lily, made their way to Europe as early as 1784, the earliest of any hosta. Live plants soon followed in 1790 and were brought to the United States before 1839. Plant size is medium, with an average height of about 18 inches and spread of 24 inches. Leaves of *Hosta plantaginea* are a glossy light green to yellow green. They are deeply lobed at the base.



Hosta plantaginea
Photo by Glenn Herold



Flowers of *Hosta plantaginea*
Photo by Glenn Herold

Hosta plantaginea has the largest flowers of any hosta, up to 6 inches long. They are pure white and fragrant, the only species to have this characteristic. Scapes reach a height of 18 to 34 inches. Flowers open in late afternoon, usually in the months of August and September. To flower and set seed, the plant requires moisture, extended warm summers, and more sun than most hostas. Even under the best of conditions, though, it is not a good seed producer.

Sports of *Hosta plantaginea* include 'Aphrodite', a double flowered form. This popular plant is the only garden sport of the species; all other sports originated in tissue culture. These include 'Fragrant Flame', with yellow streaks, 'Heaven Scent', with a yellow margin and streaked center, 'Ming Treasure' and 'White Shoulders', which have a green center and white margins, 'Marbled Bouquet', which is streaked, and 'Doubled up', a tetraploid.



Hosta plantaginea 'Doubled Up'
Photo by Glenn Herold

Because of the fragrant flowers and sun tolerance, *Hosta plantaginea* has been used widely in hybridization work. Progeny include 'Big Bloomers' (a cross with 'Blue Umbrellas),

'Curly Top' (with 'Ginko Craig'), 'Emily Dickinson' (with 'Neat Splash'), 'Honeybells' (with *H. sieboldii*), 'Iron Gate Supreme' (with 'Tokudama Aureonebulosa'), 'Raleigh Remembrance' (with 'Sum and Substance'), 'Suzy Q' (with *H. pycnophylla*), 'Sweet Susan' (with *H. sieboldii*), and 'Royal Standard' (with *H. sieboldiana*). I found an abundance of 'Royal Standard' growing in my yard when I moved to Cedarburg in 2011. Though I have eliminated many of them, I left a large planting that graces one side of my patio. The fragrance there in late summer is outstanding!



A bed of *Hosta* 'Royal Standard' next to my patio
Photo by Glenn Herold

Though there are only four hosta species originating in China, two of them, *H. ventricosa* and *H. plantaginea*, are widely found in Western gardens. Perhaps the other two species will find use by hybridizers as well.



Flowers of *H.* 'Royal Standard'
Photo by Glenn Herold

FEATURED VENDOR



Business name: Homestead Perennials
Contact: Andrea Mabry
Website: www.homesteadperennials.com
E-mail: homesteadperennials@gmail.com
Mailing address: 39245 Homestead Ave.
North Branch, MN 55056
Phone: 651-757-0997
Hours: Monday – Saturday 9am – 5pm
Sunday – by chance or appointment

If traveling a distance, best to call first to confirm that we are there.



Homestead Perennials is a family owned and operated greenhouse located approximately 45 miles north of the Twin Cities in North Branch, MN. We have been serving the North Branch and surrounding area since 1998. Andrea is a former University of Minnesota/Chisago County Master Gardener. She completed the Greenhouse Technician Course at Century Technical College. Andrea comes from a family of nurserymen, truck farmers and gardeners and has been working in the industry for nearly 25 years. Dennis and Marshall have the muscle and work on the 'honey do list'.

We are a retail nursery that began when Andrea completed her schooling and had a desire to stay at home and raise their son Marshall. At the beginning we had one 60-foot covered greenhouse and our focus was on flowering perennials. About 10 years ago we realized that we wanted to focus on hostas and northern hardy shade plants. Since the beginning, we have transformed our 2-acre property to now include our 1 covered greenhouse, over 2500 sq. feet

of shade houses and multiple gardens with hundreds of varieties of hostas and other perennials. Over the years we have enjoyed the many wonderful people who have come for a visit and love personally helping them with their garden needs.



Dennis, Andrea and Marshall Mabry

In 2017 we began offering our hostas on-line and shipping them around the country. This has been an exciting new direction for us and look forward to expanding that in 2018. The only disadvantage to this though is not being able to personally meet these customers, but the internet and social media make it easy to communicate well.

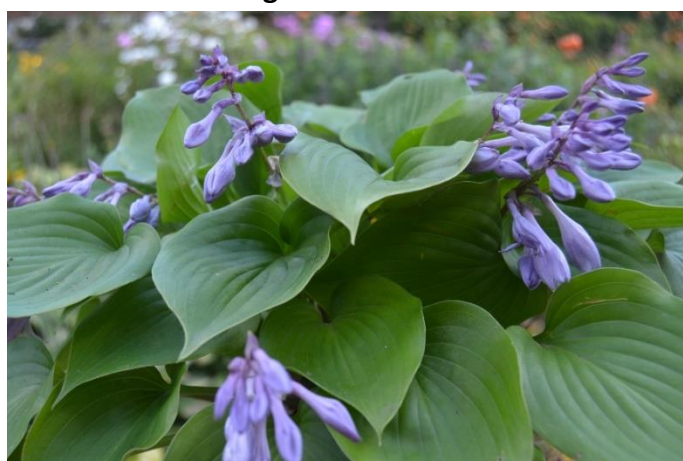


2018 marks our 20th anniversary. We are very excited about sharing our success with our customers and gardener friends. We will be celebrating with events and many hosta specials over the season. We will be offering more than 400 varieties of hostas with nearly 80 new varieties. We all enjoy what we do, and it is truly a labor of love. Come check out our selection, quality and competitive prices in our quiet country setting. If you live too far away, check our website.

Some Homestead Perennials offerings for 2018



H. 'Blarney Stone'
R. Goodenough. NR
 AHS eNewsletter



Hosta 'Appletini'
M. Zilis, 2009



Hosta 'Cathedral Windows' PP17295
H. Hansen, 2005



Hosta 'Irish Luck'
LaLonde, 2007



Hosta 'Wolverine'
J. and J. Wilkins, 1995



Hosta 'Dance with Me'
H. Hansen, 2002



Hosta 'Dawn's Early Light'
O. Petryszyn, 1998



Hosta 'Ambrosia' PPAF
R. Solberg, 2016
(Photo by R. Solberg)



You are invited to attend the 2018 Regional Hosta Convention at the Par-A-Dice Hotel in East Peoria, July 12, 13, and 14, 2018.

Full Registration includes two banquets, one with a guest speaker, four educational seminars, a convention Hosta plant, and program booklet. Also included are a live and silent auction, vending featuring the latest Hosta and companion plants, Hosta Leaf Show, Seed Growers Show and two days of fabulous garden tours.

Registration form available at
<http://www.midwesthostasociety.org/RegistrationForm.pdf>

The Silent Auction, Live Auction, vending, Leaf Show, and Seed Growers Show are open and free to the public.

Questions? Call 309-678-4119



2018 Dixie Regional Hosta Society Convention

May 31- June 2, 2018

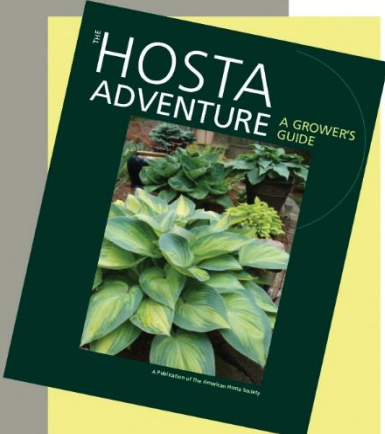
The 2018 Dixie Regional Hosta Society Convention, hosted by the Middle Tennessee Hosta Society and will be held in [Clarksville, TN](#). Speakers include [Jeff Poppen “The Barefoot Farmer”](#), [Troy Marden](#) host of [NPT’s Volunteer Gardner](#), [Rita Venable](#) author of [Butterflies of Tennessee: Field and Garden](#), Dr. Chris Cooper host of PBS gardening television show [The Family Plot](#), and Adam Chapman, plant expert from award-winning [Bates Nursery](#) in Nashville. Activities include garden tours, plant sales, live auction, silent auction, banquet, and door prizes.

Hotel Information: [Quality Inn Exit 4, 3095 Wilma Rudolph Blvd., Clarksville, TN, 37040](#). Mention the 2018 Dixie Regional Convention to receive the room rate of \$75 per night (plus taxes and fees). Complimentary breakfast buffet is included with your stay.

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!

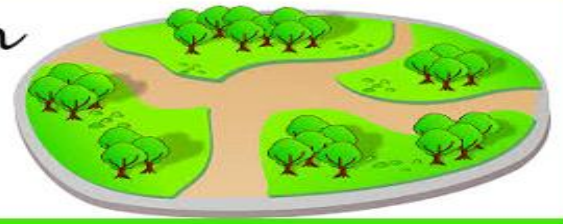
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\$4.00 + \$2.50 U.S. postage
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Inquire about quantity discounts.

Down the Garden Path

Hosta Gardening 101



Some hostas to consider for your new collection.

In the March 2018 issue of this eNewsletter, we looked at some classic hostas that a beginning collector might want to include on their wish list, and some ways to find these hostas for a relatively low cost. This time, we will look at what some of the experts consider essential hostas for your garden.

Here is a short list of Classic Hostas that are included in many of the expert's lists of must have hostas for your collection*. There are certainly many more that could be added to the listing, but this list includes what many consider the essential plants that represent a foundation of hostas for your new collection. Most of these hostas are registered hostas. That is, they are registered with the International Registrar for the Genus *Hosta*, currently Gayle Hartley Alley. You may check out the hosta registry by going to <http://www.hostaregistrar.org/>. There you can search for information about all registered hostas. Soon, photographs of most registered hostas will also be included on the registry site.

Here is the list: *Hosta* 'Allan P. McConnell', *H.* 'Antioch', *H.* 'August Moon', *H.* 'Big Daddy', *H.* 'Big Mama', *H.* 'Blue Angel', *H.* 'Blue Betty Lou', *H.* 'Blue Cadet', *H.* 'Blue Mouse Ears', *H.* 'Bold Ribbons', *H.* 'Elegans', *H.* 'First Frost', *H.* 'Fortunei Aureomarginata', *H.* 'Fragrant Bouquet', *H.* 'Francee', *H.* 'Frances Williams', *H.* 'Frosted Jade', *H.* 'Gold Regal', *H.* 'Gold Standard', *H.* 'Golden Tiara', *H.* 'Great Expectations', *H.* 'Guacamole', *H.* 'Hadspen Blue', *H.* 'Halcyon', *H.* 'Honeybells', *H.* 'Journey's End', *H.* 'June', *H.* 'Krossa Regal', *H.* 'lancifolia', *H.* 'Little Aurora', *H.* 'Love Pat', *H.* montana 'Aureomarginata', *H.* 'Moon Glow', *H.* 'Moonlight', *H.* 'Neat Splash', *H.* 'Niagara Falls', *H.* 'Night Before Christmas', *H.* nigrescens, *H.* 'Paradigm', *H.* 'Pandora's Box', *H.* 'Patriot', *H.* 'Piedmont Gold', *H.* plantaginea, *H.* 'Praying Hands', *H.* 'Rainforest Sunrise', *H.* 'Regal Splendor', *H.* 'Royal Standard', *H.* 'Sagee', *H.* 'Sharp Dressed Man', *H.* 'SILVER STAR', *H.* 'Stained Glass', *H.* 'Sum and Substance', *H.* 'Sun Power', *H.* ventricosa 'Aureomarginata', *H.* venusta, *H.* 'Victory', *H.* 'Undulata Albomarginata', *H.* 'Zager's White Edge', and *H.* 'Zounds'.

No doubt you noticed that nine of the hostas mentioned in the March eNewsletter are also included in this listing.

On the next few pages, some of these listed classics are pictured. For those of you who are attending the Midwest Regional Hosta Society's convention this summer in Peoria, Illinois, "Hostas Play in Peoria", these hostas can be viewed in the AHS National Display Garden located at Illinois Central College in East Peoria Illinois, one of the featured tour gardens at the convention. Most are in the Classic Hosta Collection area of the garden.

*Glenn Herold, *Classic Hosta Collection* – Mark Zilis, *The Beginner's Collection* - Mark Zilis, *Hooked on Hostas Collection*



H. 'Allan P. McConnell'



H. 'Blue Angel'



H. 'Francee'



H. 'Guacamole'



H. 'Halcyon'



H. 'June'



H. 'Krossa Regal'



H. 'Love Pat'



H. montana 'Aureomarginata'



H. 'Niagara Falls'



H. nigrescens



H. 'Patriot'



H. 'Praying Hands'



H. 'Royal Standard'



H. 'Sageae'



H. 'Sum and Substance'



H. 'Zounds'

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> .

American Hosta Society Membership Application

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Make check payable to:
The American Hosta Society

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Sandie Markland
AHS Membership Secretary
P.O. Box 7539
Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948
AHSmembershipSecretary@charter.net
Pay by credit card at: www.Hosta.org

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***Share this eNewsletter with anyone who is interested in
Hostas and shade companion plants!***



Frost Protection Hat Trick – Frozen Tundra Adaptation

Photo by Gregg Peterson