



Hosta 'Stitch in Time'

R. Mortko, 2004

Made in the Shade Introduction

President's Musings



Gregg Peterson
President, American Hosta Society

My musings will be quick and to the point this month, as there is already far too much written about myself in a later article. Let's just say it's embarrassing to read about your life story in print!!

I spent the first two days of the Minnesota State Fair at the end of August helping to staff a hosta information booth set up by the Shades of Green Hosta Society. The state horticultural society invites local plant societies to set up information displays highlighting their particular plant and to answer questions from fairgoers visiting the booth. The booth was set up with cut leaf displays of various cultivars, container grown hostas and troughs and containers arranged for effect, similar to what you might see in a hosta show. Varieties covered the full spectrum of sizes from miniatures to very large and included a representation of as many different characteristics as possible. It was fascinating to observe fair visitors as they approached the exhibit and realized it was displaying hostas. People were drawn to either the real large leaves on display or the real small miniatures or to a leaf or leaves exhibiting a unique characteristic, such as extensive corrugation, red petioles or undulating leaf margins. Once you approached them and asked the simple question, "Are you a hosta gardener?", people would open up and share their experiences in growing the "friendship" plant. After sharing some information with you, then the questions started coming! The questions covered the full gamut of topics, but visitors felt comfortable in asking even the most basic questions without feeling that they were going to be embarrassed. Towards the end of the exchange, they were provided with resources that could help them, such as the websites for a local hosta society in their area or the American Hosta Society website. While not everyone may have the opportunity to meet several thousand visitors like we did, you can do the same sort of display on a smaller scale at a county fair, a local garden or arboretum or even a local garden center. Gardeners are always interested in learning about something new.

We all are under the constraint of a schedule and it seems that getting something scheduled on our calendars is the only way to insure that we don't miss out on an activity or event and keep the date free from other things that can fill up that time. With that in mind, I invite you to visit the AHS website and save the dates, June 12-15, 2019 for the 2019 AHS National Hosta Convention in Green Bay, Wisconsin. Better yet, you can go ahead and send in your registration and even save some money with the early bird registration fee.

Check out the additional articles in this issue.
Enjoy the rest of your summer and fall in your gardens!!

Yours in the "friendship" plant.

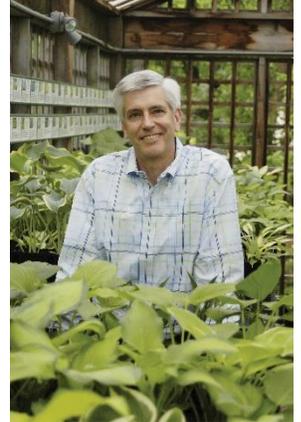
Gregg Peterson



FEATURED VENDOR



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Olathe, KS 66062
Phone: 913-206-6939



*Made in the Shade
Tissue Culture*

Specializing in Hostas

Rob Mortko and Made in the Shade have been operating since 2000 shortly after he introduced his first registered Hosta 'Heart and Soul'. He started as a local retail operation specializing solely in hostas serving the Kansas City market.

He added a website and mail order operation in 2005. That would slowly evolve into one of the larger collections of hostas in the country with over 500 cultivars featured each year. Rob retired in 2010 from his corporate career in the global engineering and construction business serving the oil and natural gas industry. His formal training as a chemical engineer had spurred a long-time interest in plant tissue culture (TC). Later in 2010 Rob started up his own TC lab, specifically to supply his own nursery operation with the older classic cultivars that would (by virtue of TC) also be virus and nematode free. With the recent demise of the two major American hosta TC labs (Shady Oaks and Q&Z), there proved to be a growing interest and ever-increasing demand on his lab from other growers. In January 2018 Rob sold the retail portion of Made in the Shade so he could focus solely on the TC lab. This year's TC liner catalog listed over 300 cultivars for other growers' consideration. Currently a large portion of the lab is devoted to contract tissue culture work where he propagates new, exclusive hostas for a specific grower or hybridizer.

Rob has served in a number of leadership positions on the AHS Board of Directors and the American Hosta Growers Association Board of Directors. He also volunteers his "spare" time with the Johnson County K-State Research and Extension Master Gardeners. Along with his

500+ strong group of EMG's, they hosted the Midwest Regional Hosta Society convention in the KC area last year. Aptly named, the convention featured "Hostas in the Land of Ahhhs". Rob is a frequent speaker at hosta gatherings across the country and can be found at most regional and national hosta conventions. He has also registered and introduced a number of hosta cultivars to the trade.

New and exclusive hosta TC liner listings for this year have included:



'Ahhhs' – a beautiful blue hosta that was featured at the recent KC convention.



'Gabriel's Wing' – from Don Rawson of Comstock, Michigan, a striking variegated sport of 'Empress Wu' with a vivid gold margin.



'Joan Altman' – from the late hybridizer Bob Kuk, a rare hosta with a subtle variegation that was named to honor his hosta friend.



'Louie Louie' – from Minnesota hybridizer Don Dean, an upright clump of spear-shaped, variegated foliage that will make you want to sing and dance.



'Scituate Sunrise' – from New England hybridizer Rick Goodenough, an upright, viridescent yellow with wavy edged leaves that come to a twisted point reminiscent of a solid gold 'Jade Cascade'.



'Wizard of Ahhhs' – from Iowa hybridizer Trudy Van Wyk, a cute little mini with narrow wavy foliage that is lemon gold later turning to chartreuse that was featured at the recent KC convention.

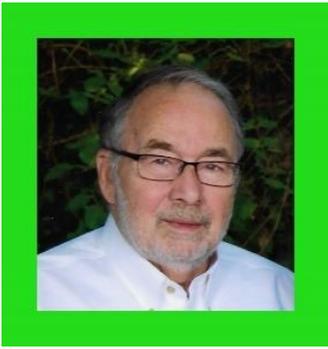


‘Wu Hoo’ – from Scott Smith and Mark Malaguerra of Atlanta, another striking variegated sport of ‘Empress Wu’.



‘Tower of Power’ – a TC sport of ‘Continental Divide’, forms a giant, deeply veined, gracefully arching mound of green foliage with a rippled margin.

For 2018 Rob was quite pleased to reintroduce his own ‘Stitch in Time’ – one of the most distinctive hostas of all time (see photo on cover), and also one of the most challenging to tissue culture.



Warren I. Pollock
Glen Mills, Pennsylvania

GO HOSTAS!

Combatting Foliar Nematodes

HostaTalk was the title of the Saturday afternoon Educational Session at the 2018 AHS National Convention hosted by the Delaware Valley Hosta Society in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, June 20-23. It was an open forum for discussions on relevant issues and garden problems/solutions. Foliar nematode abatement was a hot topic.

Foliar Nematodes are microscopic worms that reside in the intercellular spaces in plants, feeding on the leaf tissue. Research has shown that juvenile and adult worms overwinter in the soil and below ground tissue of hosta crowns. These tiny pests move upward from winter sites via hosta petioles during high humidity of spring and summer. Once in foliage, nematodes feed and multiply rapidly between the veins of leaves about three months after hostas emerge in spring.



Foliar nematode-infected hosta leaves. (Photo from *THJ* archives.)

In the large AHS Foliar Nematode (FN) Research Program conducted by Prof. Parwinder S. Grewal and his team at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, in 2014-2015. NEMA STOP™ - then labeled NemaKill - was identified as an effective foliar nematicide.

The final report, authored by Grewal and Ruisheng An, was published in the Fall 2016 issue of *The Hosta Journal* (Volume 47, Number 2), pages 8-12. Dr. Grewal is now Executive Vice President for Research, Graduate Studies and New Program Development, at University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, Edinburg, Texas.

The chemicals in NEMA STOP are oils of clove, cinnamon and thyme. Accordingly, NEMA STOP is considered to be organic. PureGro™ is the marketing company. In the Spring 2018 issue of *The Hosta Journal*, PureGro had a full-page advertisement for NEMA STOP. And at the 2018 convention PureGro representatives vended NEMA STOP.

NEMA STOP is a contact nematicide. It kills foliar nematodes by direct contact. As such, it is not taken up into the plant tissue and therefore does not kill FN *in* the plant tissue. In addition, PureGro now claims NEMA STOP also has translaminar activity. The nematicide is redistributed from the upper, sprayed leaf surface to the lower, unsprayed surface. Furthermore, apparently NEMA STOP can move into the plant tissue for a short distance and kill FN in that region. Another recent claim by PureGro is NEMA STOP also acts through “inhalation activity.” (I assume “*inhalation* activity” is meant. *Concentrated* clove oil is a very powerful chemical; you don’t want to take deep sniffs of it.)

Current marketing of NEMA STOP seems to be more directed at gardeners and small nurseries. NEMA STOP now is available as a concentrate in a 16-oz bottle (\$50.00), and as a 24-oz RTU (ready-to-use) foliar spray (\$29.00). Instructions are:

For prevention – drench soil in spring at time of bud break. For control – foliar spray in the summer (especially on clumps that appear symptomatic).

Grewal-An’s report states: Treatment of dormant buds while the plant is in the ground with either boiling water or NEMA STOP solution in the spring can significantly reduce FN infection in the leaves in the subsequent and fall seasons.

However, no protocol - a defined, how-to procedure - for applying NEMA STOP was included. Recognizing this, a *suggested* protocol was developed and published in the Fall 2016 issue of the *Delaware Valley Hosta Society Newsletter* (Volume 24, No. 4), pages 5 and 6. This newsletter was forwarded to newsletter editors in other local hosta societies and many of them included the protocol in their newsletters. Although the protocol was never printed in any AHS publication, it seems to be fairly well known in the hosta community.

The *suggested* protocol states: Depending on the weather, in late WINTER or very early SPRING, before buds emerge from the crown, DRENCH CROWN and SOIL around the hosta with NEMA STOP solution. Also, thoroughly soak any pips [eyes].

It also states to DRENCH CROWN and SOIL TWO WEEKS LATER, and again to DRENCH CROWN and SOIL TWO WEEKS AFTERWARD.

Frequently asked questions were: Are the 2nd and 3rd applications overkill? Are they needed? (*Probably not if the initial application of NEMA STOP was a thorough soil drench and timely.*)

And, what are criteria for thorough drench?

Also, how does one know when hosta buds are breaking? (Photos would be helpful. Might the timing be something like “before forsythia begins to flower” or another springtime visual occurrence?)

What is cost to apply NEMA STOP? The math is straightforward: The dilution rate, according to PureGro, is 1/3 oz of concentrate per gallon of water. Thus, each 16-oz bottle makes 48 gallons of dilute solution.

Let’s assume—I repeat *assume*—that ½ gallon of dilute NEMA STOP is needed to drench the soil and spray the hosta petioles. Then each 16-oz bottle will treat 96 clumps of FN-infected hostas. Let’s say 100 clumps.

A 16-oz bottle of NEMA STOP concentrate costs \$50, so treating one clump costs about 50 cents.

If only 1/3 gallon of the diluted NEMA STOP is needed, then each bottle will treat about 150 hosta clumps. Cost then is about 35 cents a clump.

But if a gallon of NEMA STOP dilute solution is needed, then a 16-oz bottle will treat about 50 clumps. And cost is about a dollar per clump.



Hosta leaf with FN lesion. Missouri Botanical Garden website

At the convention's Educational Session, the report's findings and principle recommendation were highlighted. The suggested FN protocol was cited, and some attendees were familiar with it. A few stated they had applied NEMA STOP. There seemed to be agreement that it *can* reduce FN populations—but *assessments of effectiveness were not quantitative*. Others stated they have FN problems and are planning to use this product.

It was voiced that no official (or unofficial) American Hosta Society "unit" (ad hoc committee, task force, commission, comrades-in-arms, etc.) is tracking and collecting results from gardeners and nurseries who are and will be in the future treating with NEMA STOP. It would be helpful if there were an overseeing program that collected and disseminated FN abatement information, identified metrics for drenching and spraying with NEMA STOP, provided education on bud opening, and developed parameters for assessing treatment effectiveness.

At this writing these tasks are being further discussed.

Bacterial Leaf Streak

Also mentioned at the Educational Session was bacterial leaf streak (BLS). Affected leaves can look somewhat like foliar nematode-infected leaves. Bill Meyer, Woodbury, Connecticut, co-“librarian” of Hosta Library, has written about it in the Hosta Library.

Since leaves infected with bacterial leaf streak look a lot like leaves infected with foliar nematodes, Bill asks: How many FN problems might actually be BLS problems?

I plan to discuss BLS in the next *AHS eNewsletter*.



Bacterial Leaf Streak-Affected Hosta Leaf
(Photo by Chris Wilson, Hallson Gardens)

Tony Avent's Hosta YouTube Video

Likely all hosta fanciers know of Tony Avent and his Plant Delights Nursery (PDN) in Raleigh, North Carolina. It offers an interesting selection of hostas and unique, rare and native perennial plants. Many of the hostas are Tony's own introductions. A new hosta he's featuring this year is 'Time Traveler', a unique handsome sport of 'Stitch in Time', which has unusual ploidy (chromosome) characteristics.

Traditionally, PDN and its fabulous Juniper Level Botanic Garden are open the first weekend in spring. This year, at the Sunday May 6th Open Day, Tony lead a tour of a dozen or so visitors through the garden discussing hostas. It was taped and is on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pv5q9Cwj-IE>.

Tony, gray-haired now, is still as dynamic, entertaining and motivating as when I first met him some 25 years ago. He loves to talk hostas *and he's most knowledgeable*. He's very enjoyable to listen to.

In his characteristic Carolinian voice, Tony pointed out the hostas that were along a shaded path, citing history, science and practical aspects. He debunked some classic hosta myths and gave specific growing advice. He stressed the difficulty of growing blue hostas in the South and hybridizing for big blue cultivars suitable for the South's harsh climate. He demonstrated the Ross Propagation Method for stimulating buds to form at the base of a petiole from a knife cut. (Likely Tony used this method to propagate 'Time Traveler'.)

Two important adjustments are required. Tony stated:

“Variegated hostas are caused by mutations in leaf layers. All hostas have three layers. Every leaf has three layers: Layer 1, Layer 2 and Layer 3. *Mutations occur in Layer 2.*”

Actually, mutations can occur in any layer. If mutations occur very early in development, they may occur in all three layers at the same time. The L1 layer gives rise to the leaf margin. The L3 layer forms the leaf center. And the L2 layer gives rise to all egg cells and pollen, the gametes.

The L2 layer is not often seen in hosta leaf variegations. In *H. ‘Striptease’*, it snuck in as an occasional, very thin, white line between green margin and yellow center tissues *H. ‘Snake Eyes’* and several other sports of ‘Striptease’ have wider and showier white lines.

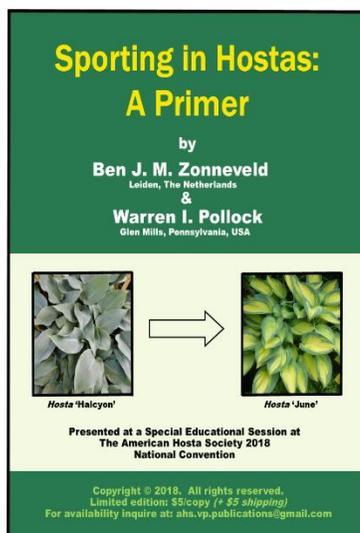
The other important adjustment is Tony’s statement:

“*H. ‘Blue Mouse Ears’ (BME)* is tetraploid, which explains its thick leaf substance.”

This is incorrect! BME is diploid (2-2-2): L1, L2 and L3 layers are each two sets of chromosomes. This was confirmed by flow cytometric measurement. Also studied were sports of BME (‘Green Mouse Ears’, ‘Frosted Mouse Ears’, ‘Mighty Mouse’ and ‘Snow Mouse’); they too measured diploid. Why leaves of BME and BME sports are thick substanced and small rounded remain indeterminate.

Tony’s video has a lot of interesting tidbits of helpful information that should be widely disseminated. I plan to collect many of these “gems” for a future *Go Hostas!* column. (This assumes the video is still online when I start to the task.)

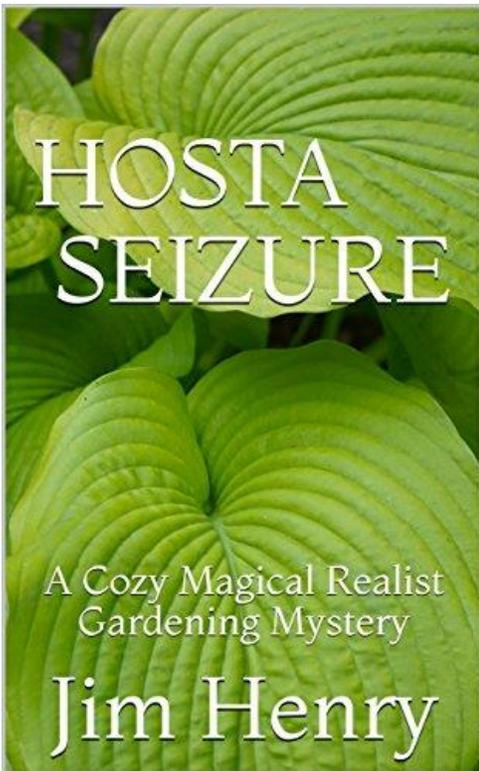
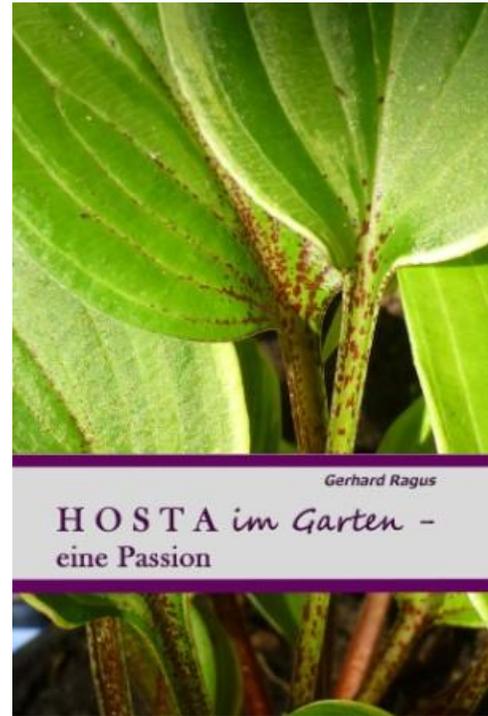
On the Publishing Front



“Sporting in Hostas – A Primer,” the softcover booklet, published in limited edition in June and being marketed by The American Hosta Society, is about half sold out. (All proceeds go to AHS.) The Dutch Hosta Society, Nederlandse Hosta Vereniging (NHV), purchased 50 copies. NHV also asked to translate the text into Dutch. (Yes, the booklet’s senior author is a Dutch native resident.) Arrangements are underway.

NHV has an interesting English blog: thedutchhostasocietyblogspot.com. It's topical and easy and quick to scan: Take a look. The July 28, 2018 issue stated: Warmest July 25th on record! A heat wave! Even *Hosta plantaginea* 'Grandiflora' is in bloom! The July 17th issue displayed the front cover of the Spring 2018 *The Hosta Journal*.

This year Gerhard Ragus, Ganderkesee, Germany, published a hardcover 204-page book titled "Hosta im Garten – eine Passion." (Yes, it's in German.) It has over 300 photographs. His wife, Renate, took many of the pictures. Cost is 29,95 €. For further information: www.hosta-gaertchen.de. I am trying to have some sections translated into English for inclusion in AHS publications. In 2016, Gerhard Ragus published "Hostas: Schattenpflanzen – die botanische Bereicherung für den stilvollen Garten" (Hostas: Shade plants – The Botanical Enrichment for the Stylish Garden), an introductory 48-page softcover book.



Jim Henry's 350-page book "Hosta Seizure: A Cozy Magical Realist Gardening Mystery" is available on Kindle. Cost is \$3.99! (I won't give away the plot, other than (1) it involves a hosta gardener named Herman Funk [likely derived from funkia] who lives in Lewes, Delaware. And (2) hostas communicate with each other: they "emph.") Jim, AHS Vice-President Genus *Hosta*, lives in Lewes, Del. He recently retired from university English teaching. This is Book 1 of his "Hosta Takeover Gardening Mysteries." Will Book 2 be forthcoming soon?

GO HOSTAS!

HOSTA REGISTRY WEBSITE UPDATE

Those of you who attended the AHS Convention in June are aware of the changes coming to the American Hosta Society's Hosta Registry Website. Changes and additions were initially discussed by the executive committee of the AHS Board several years ago. Both Doug Beilstein and Don Dean, during their terms as president pursued adding some features to the Registry Website. As most of you likely know, the Hosta Registry Website is a service provided to you by the American Hosta Society (AHS) in its capacity as the International Cultivar Registration Authority for the Genus *Hosta*. The current Registrar is Gayle Hartley Alley. Hosta enthusiasts, growers, hybridizers, nurserymen, and horticulturists find this growing resource an invaluable tool.

Gayle Alley, Josh Spece, Barb and Rick Schroeder, Rob Mortko, and others have been working diligently on this project for over two years. Currently, over 10,000 photos have been scanned and added to the website by Barb and Rick Schroeder.

When available, the original photographs that were submitted to the registrar at the time of registration of a cultivar are going to be displayed as a part of the registration detail page. The new registry site will include the original registration photos and, in many cases, will also include additional photos of the clump, leaf, and flower, and when applicable, any seasonal variations in the plant.

In addition to adding plant photos to the registry site, there is also a new feature that has been funded by the American Hosta Growers Association (AHGA). The AHGA has obtained permission from Steve Greene to use the name **Hosta Finder** to provide to all a free online resource that identifies the availability and pricing of hostas carried by member nurseries of the AHGA.

The screenshot shows the website interface for the registration of 'First Blush - 2016'. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, Search, Published Lists, Registration, and Show Classification. The main heading is 'First Blush - 2016' with a 'REGISTERED' status and originator information: 'Originator, Nominant, Introducer, Registrant: R. Solberg'. Below this, there are several photographs: a large 'Registered Clump' photo, and three smaller 'Additional' photos: 'Additional Flower', 'First-Blush-L-R-Schroeder-06-2018 Additional Leaf', and 'First-Blush-F-D-Beilstein-2018 Additional Flower'. At the bottom, there is a 'Registration Details' table with tabs for 'Show Classification' and 'Hosta Finder'. The table has two columns: 'Clump Description' and 'Notable Characteristics'. The 'Clump Description' column contains 'Growth Rate' (moderate) and 'Plant Width' (28.00). The 'Notable Characteristics' column contains 'Emerges with blood red petioles and red margins. First leaves "blush" red when the second flush of leaves appear.' and 'Plant Width (cm)' (71.12).

Clump Description	Notable Characteristics
Growth Rate moderate	Emerges with blood red petioles and red margins. First leaves "blush" red when the second flush of leaves appear.
Plant Width 28.00	Plant Width (cm) 71.12

When a cultivar is searched for on the Registry site, three tabs appear on the search results page. The first tab is **Registration Details**, which includes all of the photos of the cultivar, along with all of the details about the plant, leaf size, flower color, etc. The second tab is **Show Classification**, which will list the section and class for the cultivar for leaf show entry. This feature will not be active until a review of all of the existing cultivars is completed, a project that is currently underway. For the present time, the **Show Classification** tab will provide links to print the simplified and full classification lists. The third tab is **Hosta Finder**. The **Hosta Finder** will display the AHGA member nurseries that are selling the chosen cultivar, listed in order by price, lowest to highest, with an average price also calculated. Each nursery listed has a link to their website, so the interested person can jump directly to the website to make a purchase, if desired.

A sample page from the **Hosta Finder** for First Blush^{PP28920} follows:

The screenshot shows the American Hosta Registry website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, Search, Published Lists, Registration, and Show Classification. The main heading is "First Blush - 2016" with "REGISTERED" and "Originator, Nominant, Introducer, Registrant: R. Solberg" below it. There are three tabs: "Registration Details", "Show Classification", and "Hosta Finder". The "Hosta Finder" tab is active, displaying a message: "The AHGA Hosta Finder is scheduled to debut in 2019, in time for the spring order season." Below this is a logo for the American Hosta Growers Association and a message: "The American Hosta Growers Association is proud to honor the legacy of AHGA member Steve Green." with the website "www.hostagrowers.org". To the right is a table of nurseries:

Vendor	Price
Wade & Gatton Nurseries 1288 Gatton Rocks Rd. Bellville, OH 44813 419-883-3191 - www.wadeandgattonnurseries.com	\$25.00
Green Hill Farm, Inc. P.O. Box 773 Franklinton, NC 27525 919-309-0649 - www.HostaHosta.com	\$35.00
Mason Hollow Nursery 47 Scripps Lane Mason, NH 03048 603-878-4347 - www.masonhollow.com	\$35.00
Naylor Creek Nursery P.O. Box 309 Chimaquam, WA 98325 360-732-4983 - www.naylorcreek.com	\$35.00
New Hampshire Hostas 73 Exeter Road South Hampton, NH 03827 603-879-0085 - www.nhostas.com	\$36.00
Hornbaker Gardens 22937 1140 N. Ave. Princeton, IL 61356 815-659-3282 - www.hornbakergardens.com	\$40.00
In the Country Garden and Gifts 2587 Quasqueton Diag. Blvd. Independence, IA 50644 319-934-3620 - www.inthecountrygardenandgifts.com	\$40.00
Average Price: \$35.14	

Look for more details regarding the launch of the updated Hosta Registry Website in future eNewsletters.

Barry Ankney, Editor



The Japanese Hostas, Part 2

Hosta nakaiana (Kanzashi Giboshi)

In the last issue of the Hosta eNewsletter, I began a series on the Japanese hostas, talking about *Hosta alismifolia*. Continuing the series, this article will discuss *H. nakaiana* (Kanzashi Giboshi,) the Ornamental Hairpin Hosta.

Populations of *Hosta nakaiana* are found in various sites throughout Japan. Speculation is that it evolved from displaced specimens of *H. capitata*, but it may also have developed from interspecific crosses with other Japanese hostas. At one time it was included with the species *H. capitata*, but the two differ in several significant features. The underside leaf veins of *H. capitata* are papillose (covered with tiny protruding cells), whereas those of *H. nakaiana* are smooth. *H. capitata* has scapes that are 22 to 32 inches long, whereas those of *H. nakaiana* are 15 to 23 inches. *H. nakaiana* has 10 to 22 flowers per scape, *H. capitata* only 5 to 10. In addition, the two are quite different genetically.



H. nakaiana forms a dense mound, up to 12 inches tall and 32 inches wide, though usually smaller. The leaf is somewhat heart-shaped, medium to dark green above and lighter green below. The underside of the leaf is shiny. Flowers are pale purple-violet with white markings. Flower scapes are exceedingly abundant. Because of the good fertility that this species exhibits, many hybrids have been produced. During the 1970's it was one of the favorite species of hybridizers, especially Eunice Fisher and Robert Savory.

Among the cultivars derived from *H. nakaiana* is 'Golden Tiara,' a classic hosta and matriarch of the "Tiara" family. No less than 34 hosta cultivars are in the hosta database with 'Tiara' listed as part of its origin, and 29 have 'Tiara' as part of its name (though at least one of these, 'Royal Tiara', has a different derivation.) Among the most popular are 'Diamond Tiara'

and 'Grand Tiara', as well as 'Jade Scepter', 'Emerald Scepter', and 'Golden Scepter'. In addition, 'Teaspoon', one of my favorites, is a cross between 'Birchwood Parky's Gold' and 'Golden Tiara.'

Many other excellent hostas are derived from *H. nakaiana*, either as sports or hybrid crosses. 'Warwick Curtsey', a gold-margined small hosta, is the product of a cross with the well-known streaked parent 'Dorothy Benedict'. 'Candy Hearts', perhaps the most widely grown of *H. nakaiana* seedlings, and 'Lemon Lime', which forms a greenish-gold mound, are both sports of *H. nakaiana* hybrids. 'Pearl Lake' is a dense, medium-sized hosta with heart-shaped leaves. 'Allan P. McConnell', a *H. nakaiana* seedling, has dark green leaves with a white edge. 'Birchwood Parky's Gold', a cross between *H. nakaiana* and 'Sunlight', has chartreuse to golden yellow foliage. These are only a few of the many crosses and mutations that have *H. nakaiana* in their lineage.

The small, dense form of *H. nakaiana* makes it, and many of its progeny, an excellent edging plant. When in full bloom, a bed edged with *H. nakaiana* grabs the eye. Though it has now fallen somewhat out of favor with hybridizers and hosta enthusiasts, perhaps it deserves a second look.



Photos by Glenn Herold

FEATURED LOCAL SOCIETY

DelMarVa Hosta Society



Jan Thompson, President

P.O. Box 116

Dagsboro, DE 19939

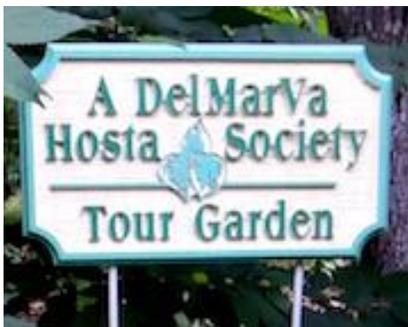
302-732-3216

gathompson71@verizon.net

Website: www.DelMarVAHostaSociety.org

The DelMarVa Hosta Society was formed in 1995. Today, the club includes over seventy members, hailing from Delaware, Maryland, and Pennsylvania, united by our enthusiasm for hostas and hosta gardening. Some of us hybridize, some of us photograph, some of us write, and ALL of us delight in the beauty of hostas. For those of you not familiar with the area, the DelMarVa Hosta society takes its name from the Delmarva Peninsula, a large peninsula between the Chesapeake Bay and the Atlantic Ocean, occupied by much of Delaware, the eastern shore of Maryland, and the eastern shore of Virginia.

The club was co-founded by Alex Summers, and several of the original members remain active in the club. The DelMarVa organized carpools to this summer's AHS Convention in Philadelphia, as a means of insuring participation with their nearest local society to the north. Additionally, many members of the DelMarVa society were active volunteers in helping with the Philadelphia convention.

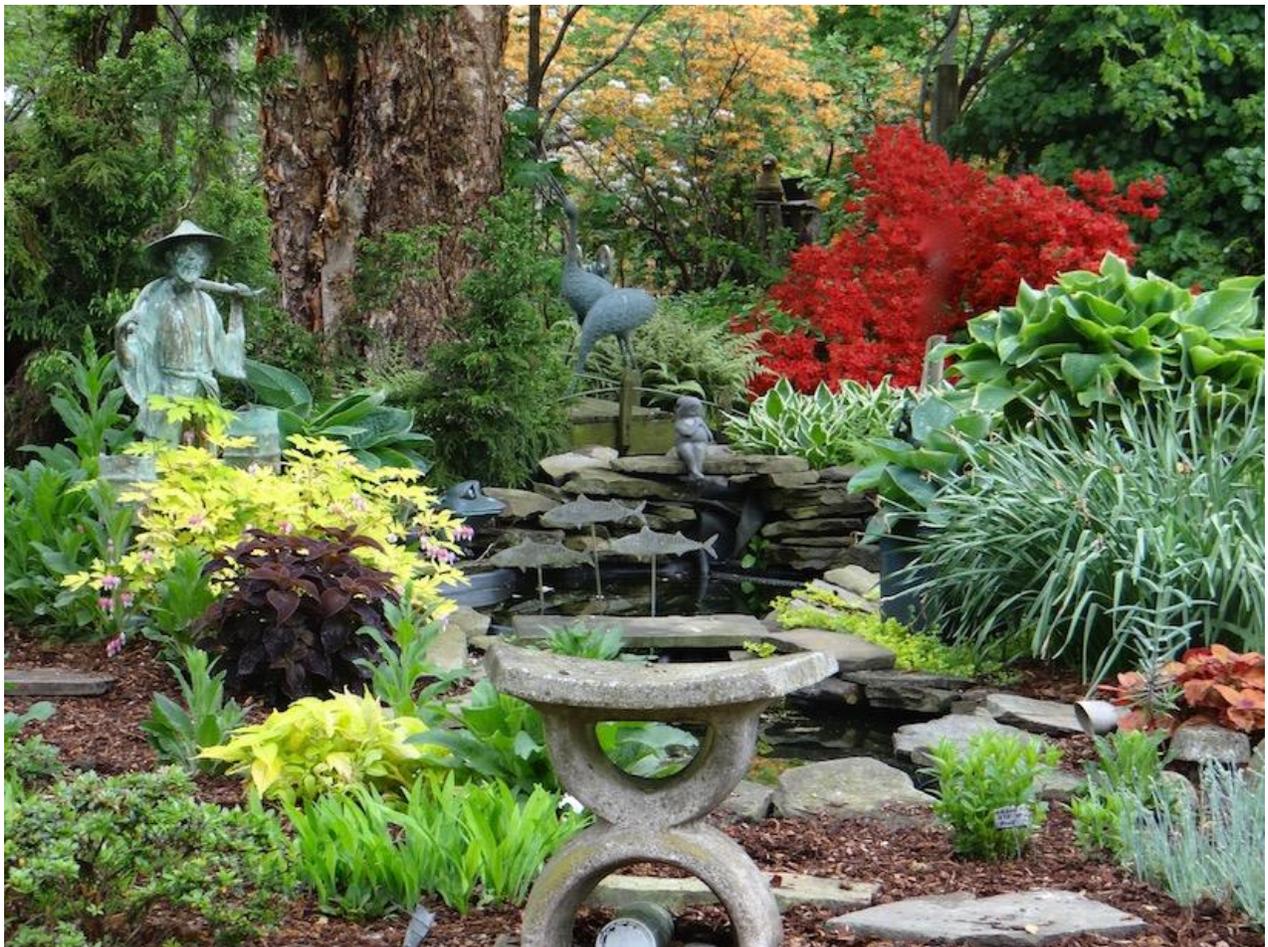


The DelMarVa Hosta society, comprised of 70 members, meet four times per year at member gardens. Dues are \$8.00 per year. Average attendance at meetings is 20 to 30 people. Their newsletter is published 4 times per year and is distributed electronically. Articles come from the AHS newsletter exchange and other gardening publications.

The two fundraising events held annually are a plant sale, in conjunction with the Lewes, Delaware Garden Tour, and an auction, held after the plant sale. For the plant sale, the club buys small plants or liners. They grow the liners on for one to three years, and then offer them for sale at the annual plant sale. The club also holds a plant swap every July.



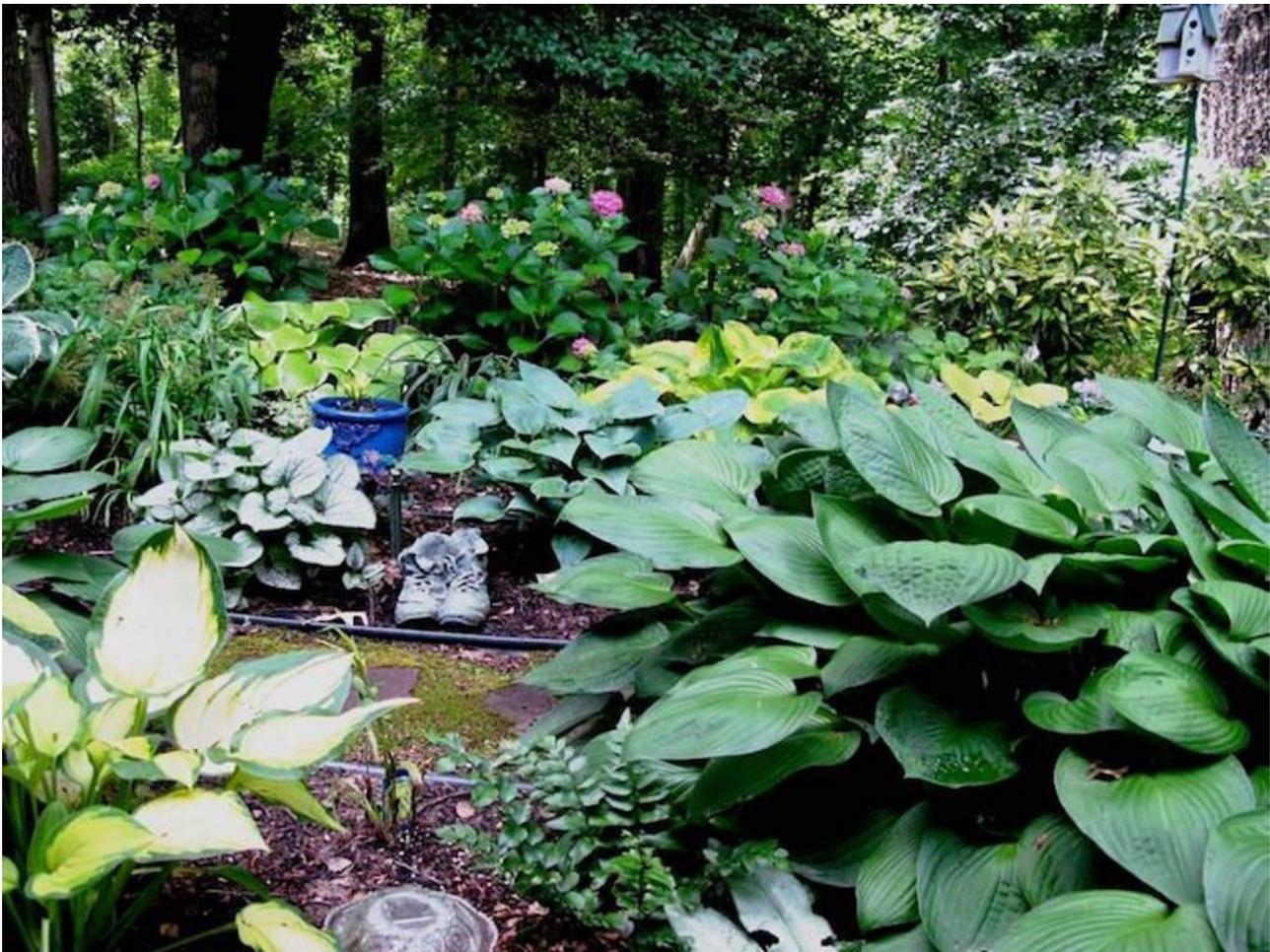
Garden of Jim Henry and Herb Burgess



Garden of George and Florence Kruer



Left and below – Garden of Diana Griffith.



Garden of Lissa Scott

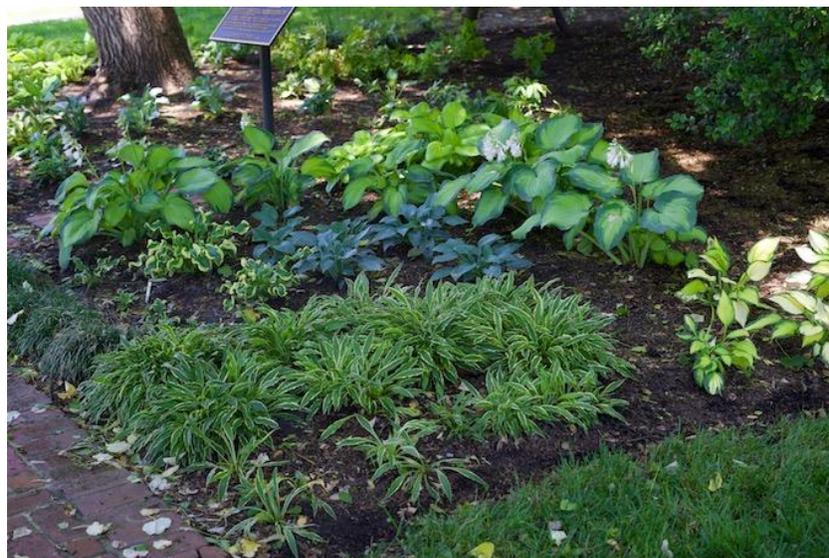
The club has had nationally recognized speakers in the past address their members but have not had any speakers recently. There are no formal educational activities, but the club does contribute to the local newspaper's Spring Gardening insert. We have reached out to the local community by providing information at our sale about AHS and our local society, as well as a one-page handout on hosta cultivation. We have also provided speakers to local garden clubs, upon request, and participated in a Saturday morning talk radio program from a local garden center.

In 2018 we teamed with Lou Papp, Commissioner on the City of Lewes Parks and Recreation Commission, to dedicate and plant a hosta bed in Zwaandael Park in downtown Lewes. Some photos from that project follow.



At left, George plants while Greg, Larry, and Florence admire his work. :)

Above, Margaret uses a handy hand rake to prepare the bed.



The finished bed awaits visitors!

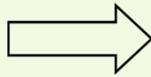
New from AHS Publishing!

Sporting in Hostas: A Primer

by
Ben J. M. Zonneveld
Leiden, The Netherlands
&
Warren I. Pollock
Glen Mills, Pennsylvania, USA



Hosta 'Halcyon'



Hosta 'June'

Presented at a Special Educational Session at
The American Hosta Society 2018
National Convention

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Limited edition: \$5/copy (+ \$5 shipping)
For availability inquire at: ahs.vp.publications@gmail.com

This informative educational booklet explains the process of sporting in hostas.

Based on over ten years of study, Drs. Zonneveld and Pollock have produced the most definitive work on this subject to date. The serious hosta enthusiast will want to add this booklet to their hosta library. This booklet is filled with photographs and illustrations that supplement and enhance the scientific information.

You may order your copy from AHS Publications by mailing a check payable to The American Hosta Society in the amount of \$10.00 (postage paid) to:

Barry Ankney, V.P. Publications
Sporting in Hostas
330 South Michigan Ave, #1902
Chicago, IL 60604-4352





Profiles

Barry Ankney, Chicago, IL

Editor's Note: Beginning with this issue, we will be profiling a member of the AHS Executive Board. Many of you may know the faces of our team of volunteer board members from attending conventions, but you may not know much about them personally. We will introduce your officers and board of directors here.

Gregg Peterson
President, American Hosta Society
Oakdale, MN

Gregg was asked to share a little about his background. He said, "I had over 22 years in Customized Training for a local Technical College, both in teaching classes on-site at companies and in setting up and coordinating courses to be taught either on-site or at one of our campuses for company personnel.

I taught courses in both quality management and energy management and coordinated setting up courses in a wide variety of areas.

After leaving the technical college system, I worked seven+ years at a local nursery in the Perennials area and I was the go to resource for all things Hosta. When we moved out to Washington state, I worked in a large nursing home complex as a Horticultural Therapist, helping to bring various horticulture programs to the residents, including those in the Memory Care unit. This was probably the most rewarding work, as I was able to bring several gardening activities back into their lives.

Both my wife, Amy, and I are retired (she has over 30 years in the medical device industry), although Amy still has one consulting job with a small start-up company."



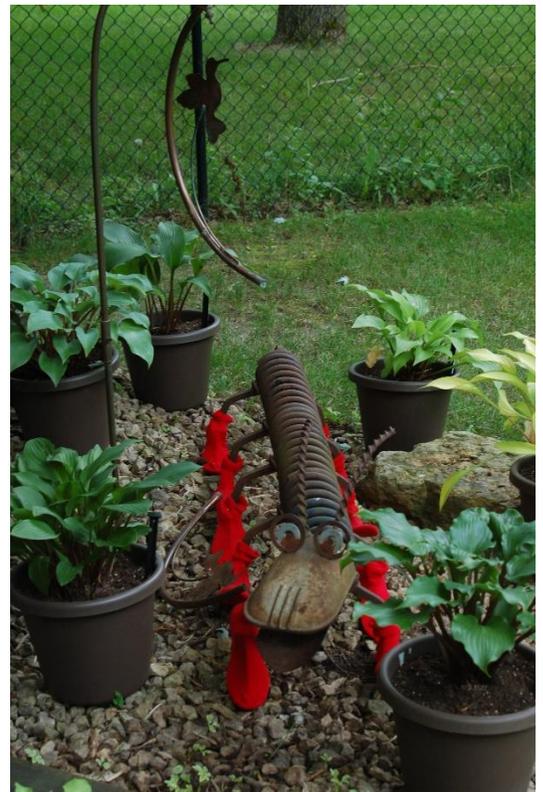
Now that they are both retired, they are travelling more using what they have dubbed the Rolling Snail and Big Green Toad. These vehicles, a motor home and their easily spotted Jeep were evident at the convention in the Philadelphia suburb this summer. These vehicles allow them to travel with their troupe of miniature dachshunds.

The Peterson Gardens

Referred to by one neighbor of the Peterson's as the house with the "golden glow", you are greeted by gardens in the front and side containing over 200 different varieties of gold and yellow hosta. The backyard turns to "cobalt blue" as its theme with multiple planters and yard decorations picking up that color. Unique metal yard art "critters", "insects" and "plants" are tucked in and among the garden beds.



Miniature Hosta Teacup Party



Metal Ten-legged Caterpillar with Red Socks Hostas

Many of the 800+ hosta varieties in the yard have moved twice across the country in the past ten years and are finally reaching their mature sizes. You will also see a number of hosta varieties that aren't common in many gardens. Stop by for a look at the following collections:

- Hosta of the Year (1996 – 2018)
- Hostas of Distinction – Mark Zilis (2000 – 2013) – Named each year at the Midwest Regional Winter Scientific meeting
- Sports of *H.* 'Blue Mouse Ears' (34 sports)
- Sports of *H.* 'Striptease' (32 sports)
- Great Lakes Hosta

Additionally, other shade perennials and woodland flowers are found mixed in and among the various hosta beds.



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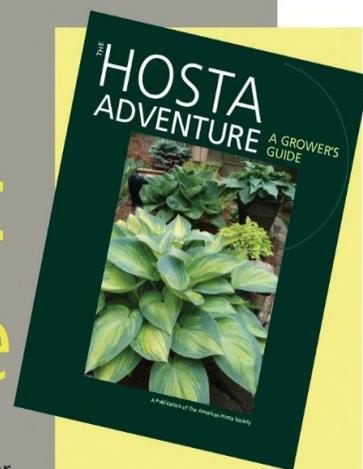
To choose The American Hosta Society as your charity, go to <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/41-6118369>

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.



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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

Name		
Street		
City	State	Zip
Country	Phone Number	
Email Address		

Make check payable to:
The American Hosta Society

Mail application to:
Sandie Markland
AHS Membership Secretary
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Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948
AHSmembershipSecretary@charter.net
Pay by credit card at: www.Hosta.org

How did you find us? Please Circle

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Other _____	

All memberships payable in U.S. funds drawn on a U.S. Bank.

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	Family	\$43	\$117	\$185	
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E-membership		\$20	Receive everything electronically		

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Editor: Barry Ankney
Featured Columnists: Glenn Herold
Warren Pollock



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Gregg Peterson, AHS President
Jan Thompson, DelMarVa Hosta Society
Rob Mortko, Made in the Shade TC

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