



# The American Hosta Society

September 2020

*eNewsletter*



## ***H. 'Leapin' Lizard'***

**D. & M. Beilstein 2012**

*(Photo by Keith Frazier)*

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# President's Message

Andy Marlow, Hopkins, MN

As summer morphs into fall every gardener I know is evaluating the growing season that's almost done. What worked and what didn't? Which new planting succeeded, and which were not so great? What problems arose and how were they dealt with? How could the problems be dealt with better next year? What can be done over the winter, if anything, to improve the gardening experience? What can you look forward to next spring?

So, how did the metaphorical garden we all tend, the American Hosta Society, fare this growing season? We were all saddened to find that our featured plant, the AHS National Convention, succumbed to COVID-19. There was no way to safely hold a long-planned event that many of us look forward to every year. Along with it perished this 2020's major awards, which will be delayed until next year.

A few new plants sprung up and flourished. The annual Board of Directors meeting was held by Zoom thanks to yeoman work by AHS member Rob James. The first online "Hosta Talk" was a huge success. Executive Vice-President Tammy Borden, despite losing her mother just a few days before, gave a masterful illustrated talk on designing your garden with hostas in mind. Again, Tammy had excellent assistance from Rob James and more than 500 people joined in via Zoom.

Many of us share our plants with others. In this case, it's the Minnesota Hosta Society. They commissioned a virtual photo tour of gardens scheduled to be on the 2020 convention tour. Those gardeners had spent a year or more preparing their gardens for convention visitors and MHS President Rod Hillstrom was looking for a way to share those gardens with AHS members. Two of the three virtual tours are online now, with the third to follow in early September. To view the visit the Minnesota Hosta Society Youtube channel at: <https://tinyurl.com/y3vyzbvh>

So much for the season past. What's in store for the winter and next spring? First and foremost we fervently hope that this crisis will have eased and we'll be able to gather in Kalamazoo, Michigan, in June for the 2021 AHS National Convention. I have seen photos of the gardens that will be on tour and you won't want to miss them! By the way, you may want to send greetings to the Kalamazoo convention co-chair, Don Rawson, who is recovering from injuries suffered in a car accident.

Also, we want to continue the "Hosta Talk". Late fall or winter, gardeners are hungry for knowledge and seeing growing things. If you have an idea for a topic and/or a speaker, we want to hear about it. Just shoot an email to: [AmHostaSocietyPresident@gmail.com](mailto:AmHostaSocietyPresident@gmail.com).

I'm pleased to announce that Marie-Christine Roberge is the new Director for Region 7 (Eastern Canada). During her short stint as Vice-President of the Quebec Hosta Society she was initiated to some of the challenges facing today's groups. She is an enthusiastic hosta collector and is looking forward to liaising with the four Eastern Canada hosta societies and the AHS. She is a scientist working in biotech, but says she has no special talents in horticulture other than gardening for over 45 years. Being perfectly bilingual (French and English) will help her communicate with both the Quebec and Ontario groups.

Finally, a sincere apology to Kris Jurik and the crew she has recruited to host the 2023 AHS convention. I told you in the last AHS *eNewsletter* that the convention would be in Des Moines, Iowa. Right state, wrong city! The convention will be in Ames, Iowa, a beautiful midwestern city that is home to Iowa State University. My wife and I spent a delightful week there one year when our daughter was participating in the first Special Olympics national games. We greatly look forward to returning.

**Andy Marlow**  
AHS President





# Hostas and Associates

Glenn Herold, Cedarburg, WI

## Introduction: Hostas of the Year

This series is mainly for hosta neophytes, but for you "pros" it's worth noting that this is the 25th year that the Hosta of the Year has been selected. It began in 1996 when members of the American Hosta Growers Association decided to promote their trade by naming a hosta of the year. Criteria for selection include: 1) It must be readily available in sufficient supply, 2) It must cost no more than \$15 in the year selected, and 3) It must be a good performer throughout the hosta growing regions of the country. Association members nominate and vote for their selection.

Starting with this AHS *eNewsletter*, I will cover those 25 and tell you a little about each selection and their originator. If you already read my postings on the Midwest Regional Hosta Society Facebook page, keep reading, for I've added to and expanded the article. Your comments and experience with the plant are always welcome. You can contact me at [Glenn.Herold50@gmail.com](mailto:Glenn.Herold50@gmail.com)

## 'Patriot': 1997 Hosta of the Year

'Patriot,' registered by John Machen Jr. of Mobjack Nursery in Virginia in 1991, is the first hosta to be recognized as a tetraploid. It is now thought to be a ploidy chimera, meaning that some of the 'Patriot' tissue layers are normal while others are tetraploid. These extra chromosomes result in a darker green center and wider, more striking white margin than 'Francee,' from which it came. The margin often sends white streaks toward the center of the leaf.

'Patriot' is a medium sized hosta with glossy, thick leaves. Pale lavender flowers emerge in late June into August. The plant has excellent sun tolerance.



'Patriot'  
(Photo by Glenn Herold)



'Francee'  
(Photo by Glenn Herold)



'Liberty'  
(Photo by Glenn Herold)

'Patriot' is often confused with 'Minuteman.' Both plants originated from the same group of 'Francee' clones that were treated to induce chromosome doubling. Part of 'Patriot' remained  $2n$  (normal chromosome numbers) while all parts of 'Minuteman' became  $4n$  (tetraploid). 'Minuteman' has a darker green center and a purer white margin than 'Patriot.' No doubt the fact that 'Patriot' is a ploidy chimera while 'Minuteman' is fully tetraploid accounts for some of this difference. Unfortunately, 'Minuteman' has a slower growth rate, which makes it less marketable.

When I was teaching horticulture at Illinois Central College, 'Francee' was the go-to hosta for landscape use. Registered by Minnie Klopping in 1986, it was a good grower, reliable, and readily available, not to mention a good-looking plant. Since the introduction of 'Patriot' though, you rarely see 'Francee' in garden centers or nurseries. 'Patriot' and its spin-offs have taken over. Currently there are 12 sports of 'Patriot' listed in the myHostas database. These include 'Loyalist,' which has the reverse variegation (white center and green margin,) and 'Fire and Ice,' which has a green margin and sends numerous streaks into the white center. Both of these are fully tetraploid. Others are 'Flash of Light,' 'Jade Patriot,' 'Let's Twist Again,' 'Little Patriot,' 'Mademoiselle,' 'Patriot's Fire,' 'Patriot's Green Pride,' 'Patriotic,' 'Paul Revere,' and 'Undercover.'

John Machen Jr. is credited with introducing just eight hostas, but they include the popular 'Grand Tiara,' co-registered with Ali Pollock in

1991, the award winning 'Liberty,' 'Minuteman,' and 'Night before Christmas.' His most recent introduction is 'Red Hot Flash,' a tetraploid sport of 'Peedee Gold Flash' which has a medium green edge surrounding a wide gold center.

Even after 24 years 'Patriot' remains a popular, highly recognizable plant. Be sure to include it, and several of its offspring, in your garden.



# ***GO HOSTAS!***

**Warren Pollock, Glen Mills, PA**

## ***GO HOSTAS!***

### ***Hosta* ‘EMPRESS WU’ in JOHN ASHWORTH’S GARDEN, BRITISH COLUMBIA**

The July 2019 and September 2019 *Go Hostas!* columns had an item titled “What is size of ‘Empress Wu’ in your garden?” Readers were invited to measure their clumps and leaves and report their sizes. Also asked were photos of the plants.

John Ashworth in North Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, was a responder, and I asked him to detail where he lives and his ‘Empress Wu’ that’s container growing. A composite of his several emails follows.

“*H.* ‘Empress Wu’,” he wrote, “lives in a coastal maritime climate in a semi-wooded area on the side of Grouse Mountain at the 900-foot level overlooking metropolitan Vancouver, British Columbia, harbour.

“The City and District of North Vancouver, B.C., are located on the North Shore of Burrard Inlet, an enclosed harbour of the Strait of Georgia, directly across from metro Vancouver. Two bridges and a Seabus provide personal and integrated public transportation access to the port and city of Vancouver from the North Shore.

“The District of North Vancouver, the residential home of ‘Empress Wu’, is a forested bedroom community. Population in 2016 was about 85,000. For comparison, population of metro Vancouver in 2016 was about 2.4 million.

“The average annual temperature in North Vancouver is **49 °F / 9.4 °C**. Average high in January is 43 °F; average low, 35 °F. In February it’s 47 °F high and 35 °F low, and in March it’s 52 °F and 38 °F. In April it’s 63 °F and 47 °F.

“In July and August average high is 73 °F. I am writing this on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> August 2020. A ridge of high pressure has been building over southern B.C. this weekend with temperatures peaking today and then gradually declining as the week progresses. Today will be the hottest day with maximum temperature reaching 82 °F.

“The District of North Vancouver extends like a crescent encompassing the area to the north of North Vancouver City. Since the District is a **hillside area**, straddling the North Shore mountains, orographic rainfall varies considerably throughout the District.



“Lady Wu—which is what I respectfully call her - grows **at an elevation of 900 feet**. Rainfall at this particular elevation is **about 72 inches yearly**, principally experienced between October and April. July and August are the driest months with relatively little rainfall.

“Rainfall during the past winter between October 2019 and April 2020 seemed to be incessant, if not particularly heavy. Some days were just drizzly; others had some substantial precipitation. I suspect we probably experienced our annual 72 inches of rainfall. There was hardly a day during this period when the surface of the ground or the driveway was dry. There was less frost during the past winter than usual, probably about seven days in total. Additionally, there was also less snow, five inches or less on two occasions. All in all, the winter of 2019-20 was comparatively mild.

“Regular sustained rainfall in February and early March seems especially nourishing for Lady Wu and her other hosta friends, with the requisite precipitation being present just as annual renewal and growth starts to get underway.



*H. 'Empress Wu' (Lady Wu) now 9 years old, in her oak tub after 15 days of new growth on 9th April 2020.  
(Photo by Frieda Ashworth)*



“Lady Wu has taken care of herself, showering au naturel during the seasonal rainfall. To help out a bit, this year I gave the garden, including Lady Wu, a once yearly spraying of 20-20-20 fertilizer in early March just as new growth was underway. Since late June, I’ve watered the garden twice.

“With clouds forever hanging on the North Shore Mountains, there is actually some sunshine above the clouds during the winter but rarely a day beneath the clouds with a clear blue sky. So, Lady Wu, surrounded by a forested area of cedar, hemlock and fir trees, has little exposure to the shaded sun until July. Then she starts to ready herself for a seasonal retreat. By Halloween she is nowhere to be seen. Lady Wu might enjoy this bleak, dreary, dull existence of dark, dank winter, but it has an effect of psychological numbness on the rest of us.

“For six years ‘Empress Wu’ (Lady Wu) has been set apart and secluded, as royal protocol requires, in her half oak wine barrel. It measures 28 inches diameter at the top and 23 inches at the bottom; height is 18 inches. The tub is on a concrete slab 8 inches above the ground. This regal lifestyle seems not at all disagreeable and is certainly a defensive deterrent to any invasive nomadic sluggish groundlings. Eventually some slimming down of the mass of the maturing hosta will be required.



‘Empress Wu’ (Lady Wu) on 1st May 2020 after five weeks development.  
(Photo by Frieda Ashworth)



“Someday I’d like to probe any comparable weather conditions and landscape environments in areas of Japan and Korea, the home(s) of the ancestors of ‘Empress Wu’. Aside from terrestrial comparisons, the Japanese current moves eastwards across the north Pacific, thereby affecting the weather along coastal British Columbia. This ocean current is also complemented by the movement of a mass of air, also circulating eastwards from Japan to the B.C. coast.

“This circulation of air was particularly noticeable when I was young during World War II and the Imperial Japanese Military sent paper balloons aloft in the summer, loaded with incendiary devices, into coastal British Columbia in order to start forest fires. Not surprisingly, a few of the explosive munitions arrived here and really worked. *H. ‘Empress Wu’*, I suspect, was Chinese and had nothing to do with this. “I purchased *Lady Wu* from Gardens Plus in Peterborough, Ontario, on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2011 and planted it in North Vancouver on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2011. I transplanted it into the oak tub, raised on the concrete slab stand, on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2014. The earliest pips (eyes) of new growth have appeared between March 23<sup>rd</sup> and March 28<sup>th</sup> each year.”



A mature flowering ‘Empress Wu’ (Lady Wu), almost 4 months old on 14th July 2020.  
(Photo by Frieda Ashworth).





John Ashworth and 'Empress Wu' (Lady Wu), on 14th July 2020.  
*Hosta* 'Mighty Mouse' is in brown pot in center; *H.* 'Blue Mouse Ears' is to the right.  
(Photo by Frieda Ashworth)





*H. 'Empress Wu' (Lady Wu) clump 14th July 2020.*  
North-South diameter: 8 1/2 feet. Circumference 26.7 feet. Area: 56.7 feet  
East-West diameter: 9 feet. Circumference 28.27 feet. Area: 63.61 feet.  
*Hosta 'Liberty' is left of 'Empress Wu'.*  
*(Photo by Frieda Ashworth)*



*H. 'Empress Wu' (Lady Wu) Leaf measurement of: length 16 1/4 inches long and width 13 1/2 inches wide.  
(Photo by Frieda Ashworth)*





*H. 'Empress Wu' (Lady Wu). Leaf measurement of: length 17 inches long and 13 1/2 inches wide.  
(Photo by Frieda Ashworth)*



## **WATER, WATER, WATER—Yet More, More, More**

The inference from John Ashworth's account of his 'Empress Wu' (Lady Wu) is straight forward. Unless rainfall where you live is some 72 inches or more yearly, **you need to water, water, water your 'Empress Wu' in springtime for maximum growth.**

Almost assuredly Mother Nature is not going to supply adequate water when the hosta is emerging from dormancy and leaf growth is in abundance. As a general rule, you cannot overwater hostas during the growing season.

And don't forget to fertilize, too. *H.* 'Empress Wu' is a huge nitrogen (N) consumer. In addition, include some Epsom salts, magnesium sulfate (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), in the water—about an eighth teaspoon/gallon. You might see some improved leaf coloring.



## **CORONAVIRUS SOCIAL DISTANCING for HOSTA ENTHUSIASTS**

*Het Hostablad* [*The Hosta Leaf*] is the semi-annually published membership journal of Nederlander Hosta Vereniging [Dutch Hosta Society]. Each issue is 48 to 60 pages, 8¼ by 5¾ inches, with numerous outstanding color photos.

Prominently on the outside back cover of the Spring 2020 issue, #63, is this recommendation to use hosta plants for practicing six-feet safe social distancing:

### **Social Distancing Guide For Hosta People**

**One** *Hosta* 'Empress Wu'

**Five** *Hosta* 'June'

**Twelve** *Hosta* 'Tiny Tears'

**Wensen u en uw dierbare een goede gezondheid.**

[Wish you and your loved one good health.]

At top and bottom of the cover page is a white-margined green hosta leaf identified as **Hosta Vereniging de Lage Landen** [Hosta Society of the Low Countries].





## SPORTS of *H.* 'NIAGARA FALLS'

The Spring 2020 *Het Hostablad* has a comprehensive article by Jannes van Rossum, Jonkersvaart, the Netherlands, on sports of *H.* 'Niagara Falls', registered by Bill Brincka and Olga Petryszyn in 1991. This large green-leaf hybrid, a cross of *H. montana* f. *macrophylla* and *H.* 'Sea Drift' (Seaver - 78), is noted for its handsome arching leaves with attractive piccrust edge.

Detailed, with excellent photographs, are these variegated sports:

*H.* 'War Paint' (NR) introduced by Naylor Creek Nursery in 2005. Attractive green margin and greenish white center. Leaves are viridescent becoming all green in mid spring—in my opinion much too early in the total growing season to be worth the needed large space, especially in small - and medium-size gardens.



*H.* 'Bridal Falls'  
(Photo by Walters Gardens)

*H.* 'Bridal Falls' (van den Top - 2012). PP25, 594. Wide yellow-becoming-white margin, green center. Distinctive. Good grower. Popular. The cultivar name is from Bridal Veil Falls, one of the three waterfalls that make up Niagara Falls.

*H.* 'Angel Falls' (Walters Gardens - NR). PP28, 785. Un-induced reverse variegation of 'Bridal Falls'. Dark green margin, pale green-becoming-white center. Lighter green where margins and centers overlap. Distinctive. Good grower.



*H.* 'Angel Falls'  
(Photo by Walters Gardens)

*H.* 'Kabigan Falls' (van den Top - NR). Feathered green margin, white center. Kabigan (Pagsanjan) Falls is a waterfall with a spectacular narrow vertical drop of over 1000 feet in the Philippines. I understand Jan van den Top vacationed in this island country.

*H.* 'Lightning Ridge' (Gary Trucks - NR). Green center, white margin.

*H.* 'Mist Maiden' (Walters Gardens - NR) Green, light green and cream streaks. Found and named by Amy Bergeron, former Walters Garden employee. Cultivar name is from "Mist of the Maiden," the boat that takes tourists to see Niagara Falls close up.



## W. GEORGE SCHMID, *HOSTA* NOMENCLATURE AUTHORITY, PASSED AWAY



W. George Schmid, Tucker, Georgia, author of the 1991 ground-breaking monograph *The Genus Hosta - Gibōshi Zoku*, died on June 17, 2020, age 89. He had been seriously ill for several years, residing in a special nursing facility in his last months.

W. George Schmid was *Mr. Hosta Taxonomy*. He wrote extensively on the subject—as well as on hosta culture. His technical legacy is long and impressive.

An “In Memoriam” will be in the upcoming Fall 2020 issue of *The Hosta Journal* (Volume 51, Number 2) with tributes from his colleagues and friends.



### ORTHO® Bug Geta® SNAIL & SLUG KILLER<sub>2</sub>?



This is the Miracle-Gro® company’s product being widely marketed as a snail and slug killer containing **1% elemental sulfur (S)** and can be used around pets and wildlife. You can identify it by the prominent trade name “Bug Geta” and subscript <sub>2</sub> after *Killer*. It is sold in 6 lb. plastic pouch with screw-cap opening that allows the pellets to be dispensed in small amounts on the ground around plants.

If you have used these fairly new pellets in your garden or nursery, I’d greatly appreciate hearing from you about their performance. Please contact me at [giboshiwip@aol.com](mailto:giboshiwip@aol.com). I’m planning an experience article in a *Go Hostas!* column next year. Thank you.

Also, if you know of technical literature **citing sulfur as a molluscicide**, I’d greatly appreciate being informed. I cannot find any. Thank you, again.





## MORE LOOK-ALIKE HOSTAS?

The Spring 2020 issue of *The Hosta Journal* (Volume 51, Number 1, pages 65-73) has a comprehensive article titled "Doppelgänger Hostas: Fancy Names for Look-alike Hostas."

Look-alikes (doppelgängers) are hostas that resemble each other. The article has two full pages listing look-alike hostas. There are some 77 groups listing more than 175 cultivar names. *Nevertheless, most likely there are look-alikes in gardens and commerce not cited in the article.* A follow up item is planned. Your help is needed.

If you are aware of look-alike hostas not mentioned in the *THJ* 51.1 article, please inform me at [giboshiwip@aol.com](mailto:giboshiwip@aol.com). Thank you.

Here are some well-known look-alikes:

*H.* 'Autumn Frost', *H.* 'Ben Vernooji' and *H.* 'Permafrost'  
*H.* 'Blue Ivory', *H.* 'Great Escape' and *H.* 'Firn Line'  
*H.* 'El Niño', *H.* 'First Frost', *H.* FROSTY RIBBONS aka *H.* 'Mona Lisa',  
*H.* 'Sleeping Beauty', *H.* 'Valley's Glacier' and *H.* 'Sleeping Star'  
*H.* 'Frances Williams', *H.* 'Aurora Borealis' and *H.* 'Olive Bailey Langdon'  
*H.* 'Hanky Panky' and *H.* 'Yellow Polka Dot Bikini'  
*H.* 'Liberty', *H.* 'Majesty' and *H.* 'Ivory Coast'  
*H.* 'Pure Heart', *H.* 'Holy Mouse Ears', *H.* 'Snow Mouse', *H.* 'Mighty Mouse'  
and *H.* 'Mouse Trap'  
*H.* 'Loyalist', *H.* 'Fire and Ice' and *H.* 'Paul Revere'  
*H.* 'Mighty Mouse', *H.* 'Frosted Mouse Ears', *H.* 'Lucky Mouse', *H.* 'One Iota',  
*H.* 'Moonshine Mouse Ears' and *H.* 'Mouse Madness'  
*H.* 'Patriot', *H.* 'Minuteman' and *H.* 'Trailblazer'  
*H.* 'Touch of Class', *H.* 'Grand Marquee' and *H.* 'High Society'  
*H.* 'Wu-La-La', *H.* 'Royal Empress', *H.* 'Wu Hoo' and *H.* 'Wunderbar'

## PHOTO in MASTHEAD

The coronavirus lockdown resulted in my hair not being sheared for some three months. I was beginning to look like Sasquatch. The photo in the masthead was taken in June in a hair salon. I thought my countenance should mirror what I look like in public these days. (I'm smiling. 😊 Can you tell?)

# GO HOSTAS!





# Book Notice

Clyde Crockett, Carmel, IN

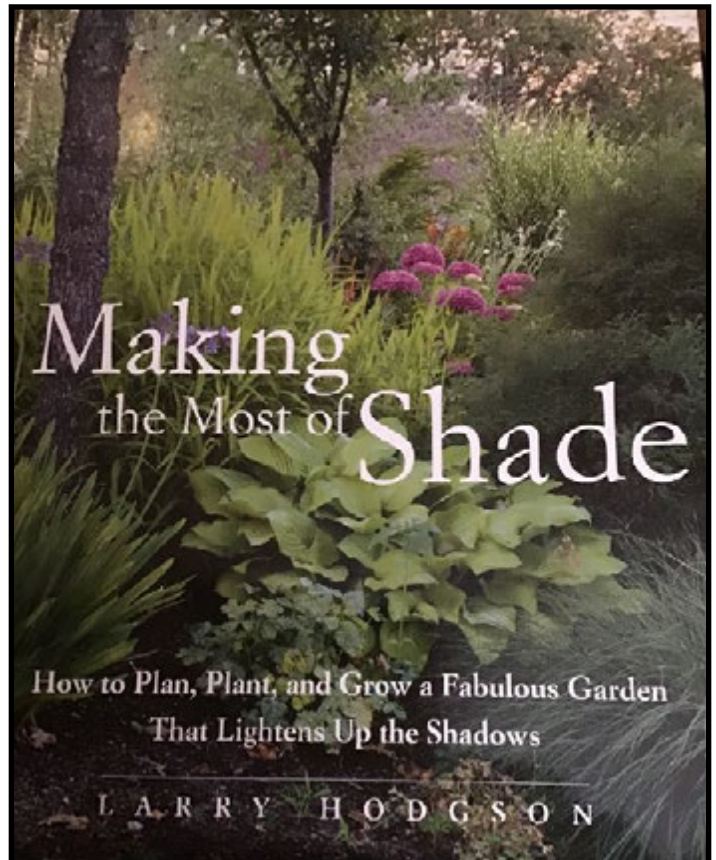
## Making the Most of Shade

By Larry Hodgson (Rodale 2005)

You know the feeling - you pick up a book you've never heard of, read a few paragraphs and are immediately hooked. So it was for me with our noticed work by the prolific Canadian author whose fluency in French may be one contributing factor in his delightful conversational style in which he discusses incorporating in shade gardens what we hosta people call all other plants - companions.

In my first effort as editor of *The Hosta Journal* we included an article, "Hostaphile Landscaping," by Elke Knechtel in which she observes: "After seeing ... photos of the gardens visited by my husband at the Indianapolis convention, I have noticed that the gardens look to me rather dull. Not that hostas are dull plants, but gardens completely made up of hostas are a little monotonous."

In spite of the fact that my garden was on tour at that convention, I'm going to try and be objective. Actually, I agree wholeheartedly, Mea culpa. To relieve what you might detect as monotony and if you want to eliminate such, I recommend *Making the Most of Shade*, equally wholeheartedly.



After some useful lists of top shade trees and shade shrubs and defining the degrees of shade, the perennial problem faced by us shade gardeners is tackled: What do you do about tree root competition? As one who has a couple of Norway maples, any advice is certainly welcome. Mr. Hodgson provides some excellent suggestions including the use of growing in containers and submerging them below ground. As proof that this works, Exhibit A would be the former world-class Delaware garden of Hosta expert Dr. Warren I. Pollock.

Following chapters on Making Shade, Gardening in Shade, and Problem Solving, we reach my second favorite part in Chapter 5: Making It Work: "Designing for Shade." Enticing design concepts with illustrations include Voluptuous Variegates, Color-Coded Leaves, and 5 Designs For Shade



with illustrations include Voluptuous Variegates, Color-Coded Leaves, and 5 Designs For Shade Gardens. How about a Victorian shade garden, a Japanese garden, a native plant section, or a space for textured shade? All of these various forms are accompanied by detailed commentary on how best to achieve the form you desire.

My favorite part and the bulk of the book is titled “The Best of the Best for Shade.” Chapter 6, Perennials for Shade, comprises some 150 pages , from Acanthus through Waldsteinia. So many of the plants, thoroughly discussed and nicely illustrated, I had never heard of but now included on my wish list.

Chapter 7 , Annuals for Shade, introduced to me a great number of exciting additions beyond my usual addition of one, or at most two varieties, such as begonias and impatiens. Other chapters in this section include bulbs, ferns, grasses, and climbing plants.

Making the Most of Shade is available from many sources. I think you will find it very useful and a good read! It lives up to its subtitle: *How to Plan, Plant, and Grow a Fabulous Garden That Lightens Up the Shadows.*

Happy Gardening!

Clyde



Choosing disease and pest resistance plants is the best way of avoiding problems. These hostas (*Hosta spp.*), are resistant to slugs and snails.



# And In Other Hosta News . . .

## AHS Membership Directory - Now Online!

The AHS is pleased to announce that our AHS Membership Directory is now available in the Members' Only section of the website. You no longer have to keep track of a paper copy (unless you want to print one out for yourself) and the Directory can be updated often, not just every other year.

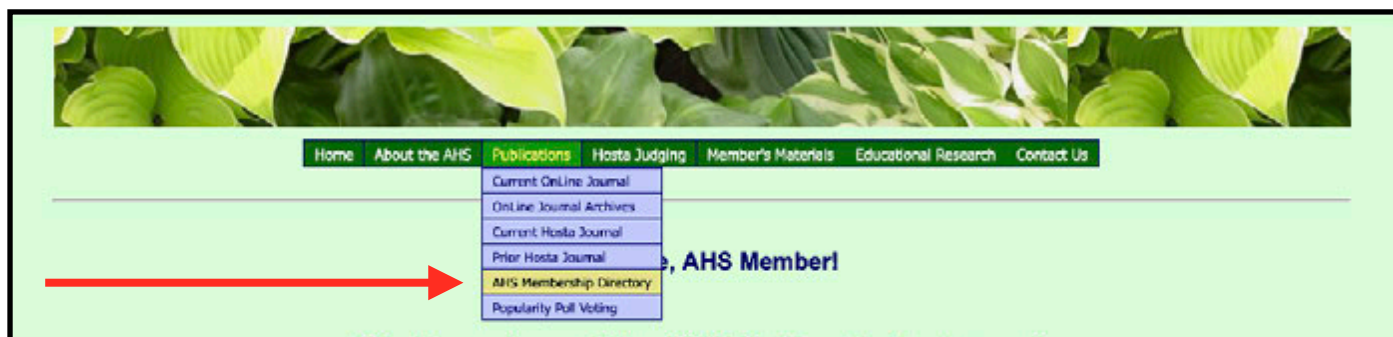
Searching the online Directory is easy! It is in a user friendly format which allows you to search by last name when looking for a specific individual and you can also bring up a list of all AHS members in any state. As mentioned above, you can print out the entire Directory if you prefer a paper reference.

It is not possible for individual members to update or alter entries in the Directory, so it is still important to advise the Membership Secretary of any changes in your contact information. Just email the corrected information to [AHSMembershipSecretary@charter.net](mailto:AHSMembershipSecretary@charter.net) and those corrections will be made as quickly as possible!

Now is a great time to visit the AHS website at [hosta.org](http://hosta.org) and take a look at the new AHS Membership Directory firsthand! Click on the "Members Only" tab at the top right, enter the current password for the site (which can be found on the inside front cover of the last Journal) and select "AHS Membership Directory" under the Publications tab. Search for your entry and verify that your information is correct. If so, great! If not, let me know and I will make it right!

### Sandie Markland

AHS Membership Secretary





# *future AHS Conventions*

2021 - Kalamazoo, Michigan

2022 - Minneapolis, Minnesota

2023 - Ames, Iowa

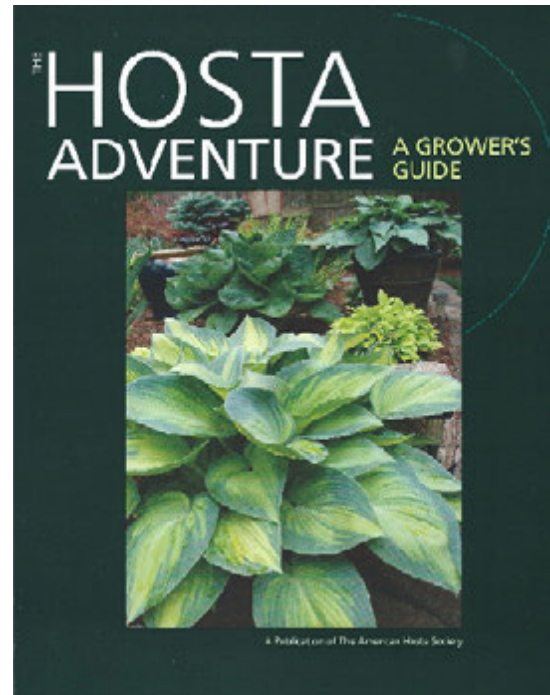
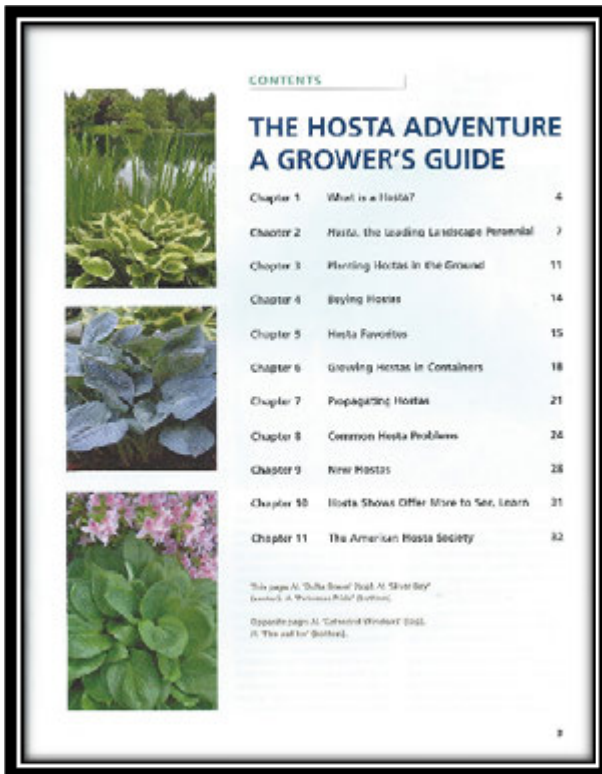
2024 - TBD



## From AHS Publications

*The Hosta Adventure, Third Edition*, contains a wealth of information about growing hostas. First published in 2001, the *Hosta Adventure* was intended as a guide for novices, but it appealed to all levels of hosta gardeners. The first two editions were popular additions to the libraries of new and seasoned gardeners. Now a new *Adventure* beckons.

This new edition of *The Hosta Adventure* is updated with the latest information including buying, planting, and growing hostas.



There is a chapter on growing hostas in containers. Common problems encountered in hosta culture with solutions to these common problems is included. For those interested in propagation, information on division of plants, bud cutting, and the Ross method is included.

If you are new to hostas, a chapter on hosta favorites gives you an idea of hostas to acquire that are viewed as good plants by other hosta growers. A chapter on new hostas, including sports and seedlings is informative.

A list of popular hosta books that you may want to add to your library is given, as is information on hosta shows, and information on how to link up with fellow hosta growers by joining The American Hosta Society.

This publication should be part of every hosta grower's library.

Order *The Hosta Adventure—A Grower's Guide - 3rd Edition*

*\$4.00 + \$2.50 postage for members or \$5.50 + \$2.50 postage for non-members*





The *Hosta Adventure* is filled with stunning photos of hostas and hosta gardens.

**Here is a great way to reward new members of your local club. Give them a copy of this American Hosta Society publication.**

For local societies and nurseries, the best price per copy is in bulk:

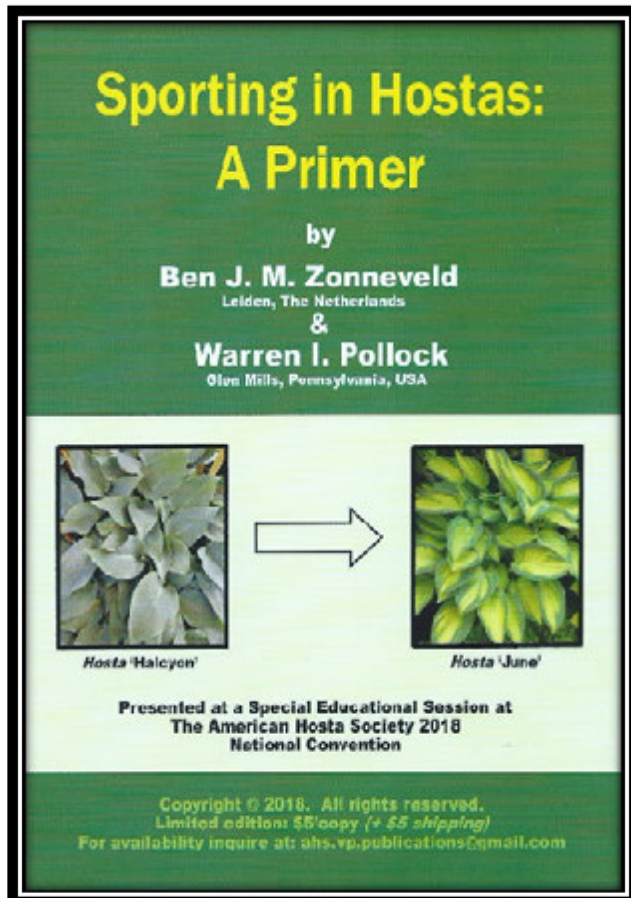
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## From AHS Publications



Ben J. M. Zonneveld and Warren I. Pollock have researched and written a booklet about sporting in hostas. Based on nearly ten years of research, this 28-page booklet describes the process of sporting.

*Sporting in Hostas: A Primer*, was compiled by Dr. Pollock. He gave a presentation at the American Hosta Society (AHS) National Convention held in Philadelphia in 2018, highlighting the major points contained in this publication.

Hosta enthusiasts interested in how and why hostas mutate, or sport, have found this source book of great value. Dr. Pollock, along with the late Gregg Peterson, Past President of the American Hosta Society, and one other donor funded the printing of this booklet and

generously donated these booklets to the AHS. All proceeds from the sale of *Sporting in Hostas* go to the general fund of the AHS, to further its educational goals.

This booklet outlines the basic principles of sporting, explaining the three layers of cells that are contained in the meristem or apical dome in the shoot of the hosta plant. He explains the chromosomal makeup of hostas, and the concept of ploidy, or the number of sets of chromosomes in the cell nucleus. The difference between sports and hybrids is covered.

The eleven (11) sporting rules in hostas are presented, including examples of each. Also, examples of unusual sporting with photos of many of the examples are presented. An appendix contains selective slides from Warren's presentation at the National Convention.



A second appendix provides some hosta sporting statistics compiled by Hugo Phillips, founder and custodian of the “MyHostas” website. For those inclined to study this process further, a final appendix lists resources for additional reading.

## **CONTENTS**

**Page 1 Basic Principles**

**Page 3 Sporting rules in hostas #1 - #11**

**Page 9 Examples of unusual sporting**

**Page 22 Appendix A: PowerPoint™ slides**

**Page 27 Appendix B: Hosta sporting statistics**

**Page 28 Appendix C Further reading**

While some elements are rather technical, Warren walks the reader through this fascinating process of change in hostas with plenty of photos and practical examples. The reader will come away with new knowledge of how hostas change to produce new and interesting plants.

This valuable resource is available only from the American Hosta Society.

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, AHS VP Publications**

**Sporting in Hostas**

**2001 S Meyers Road #300**

**Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181-5271**

# 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 numerous benefits for the members that result from these efforts, both social and in nursery trade. All AHS members receive several publications a year, including two colorful issues of *The Hosta Journal* (mailed), six *eNewsletters* (emailed), along with *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 hostas 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 Membership Application form on the next page, or to join online, go to: <http://www.americanhostasociety.org/Membership/Membership.htm>**



# AHS Membership Application

<b>Name:</b>			
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Please Circle	Membership Type	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	Life
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<b>Canada</b>	<i>Individual</i>	\$39	\$107	\$168	\$1,170
	<i>Family</i>	\$43	\$117	\$185	
<b>Europe</b>	<i>Individual</i>	\$51	\$142	\$219	\$1,530
	<i>Family</i>	\$55	\$152	\$236	
<b>Pacific Rim</b>	<i>Individual</i>	\$59	\$165	\$254	\$1,770
	<i>Family</i>	\$62	\$175	\$267	
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Sandie Markland  
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PO Box 7539  
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Or pay by credit card or PayPal at:  
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**Type of membership:**  
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*(please circle one)*

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*Plant Tag (which nursery?)*

*Facebook*

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