



# Georgia Hosta Notes

A Publication of The Georgia Hosta Society

2024 Special Show Edition

The Georgia Hosta Society

Celebrating our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2024

Presents

## Ruby Anniversary

**Hosta Show & Plant Sale**

**Saturday, May 11th 2024**

**Show Set-up Friday, May 10 12:00 noon to 3:00pm**

Tucker First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall,

2367 Main Street, Tucker, GA 30084

**Hosta Show 10:00am to 2:00pm**

**Plant Sale 8:30am to 2:00pm**

**Including hostas and many other interesting plants**



## Location information:

The First Baptist Church of Tucker's address is on LaVista Road. However the Fellowship Hall is located at 2367 Main Street.

Access to the drop-off area for show entries is in the rear of the Fellowship Hall off Lynburn Avenue, between 4<sup>th</sup> Street and Main Street. Some off-street parking is accessible from Lynburn Avenue.

For more information  
please see our website [www.gahosta.org](http://www.gahosta.org)  
or visit Georgia Hosta Society on Facebook

## It's Show Time

Yes, it is indeed show time again and we hope to see all of you at The Georgia Hosta Society's 33rd annual Hosta Show and Plant Sale on Saturday, May 11. This year, the show will NOT be on the same day as Tucker Day so parking will be much easier on both Friday and Saturday. Along with this Special Show Edition of Georgia Hosta Notes, we are also transmitting a copy of this year's show schedule and a copy of the Individual Tally Sheet that you will need to record the entries you bring to the show.

Show activities actually begin on Friday, the day before the show. That is when we set up for the show. This year, the show is again at the Fellowship Hall of First Baptist Church of Tucker. We will begin set-up at 12:00 noon and will need to be ready to accept entries by 3:00 pm. We need all hands on-board to make that happen. If you can help with moving the show and plant sale materials from our storage unit to the show location by providing trucks or by just being there to help, please contact Show Co-chairs Sandra Bussell (404 636-5920) or Dexter Henry (770 460-0983).

We will be accepting entries for the show from 3:00 pm until 6:00 pm on Friday. Most of our members find it more convenient to bring their entries on Friday, and receiving most entries on Friday makes it much easier for the show committee to get all entries into place prior to judging starting at 10:00 am on Saturday. However, if you can't bring your entries on Friday, we will also be accepting entries Saturday morning from 8:00 am to 9:30 am. Any entries received after that time will have to be placed in the non-competitive exhibit area, so be sure to get your entries in early.

Saturday morning will be a busy time also. There will be a Judges Clinic III starting at 9:00 am. If you are a judge, you will want to attend this refresher course to learn what is new with judging. Along with people assigned to help you with your entries, there will be people on hand to check the classification of each hosta entry. We will also need people to help with placement of the entries in their proper places on the tables. When judging starts, we will need clerks to assist judges. This is a favorite job of many people because you get to hear what the judges take into consideration in judging exhibits and you learn a lot about how a show is conducted. If you want to be a clerk, please contact this year's Clerks Chair, Steven Blair (770) 908-8689, to offer your services.

Show awards will be presented to the winners upon conclusion of judging. Based on past shows, this should be around 1:00 pm.

While the show is going on inside the Fellowship Hall, the Plant Sale will be in progress outside in the parking lot. Plant Sale Chair Greg Ferguson has lined up another stellar group of vendors for the 2024 plant sale, ensuring once again that we will have a huge number of quality plants and garden-related items available for us to purchase. You will not want to miss out on any of those special plants that you want, so shop early and shop often! Plant sales start at 8:30 am this year and end at 2:00 pm.

At about 2:00 pm, it will all come to an end. At that time, we will again need all hands on-board again in order to quickly take down the show and get our show materials back to the storage unit. It will have been a busy two days and we will all be tired. However, we will also have that sense of accomplishment that comes with another show brought to a successful conclusion.

We hope you will be able to be a part of GHS's 32nd annual Hosta Show and Plant Sale. We promise you will have a great time.

The basic purpose of a hosta show is to educate the public about hostas, and this is the perfect opportunity for us to promote them. Right outside Fellowship Hall, Tucker Day will be in full swing so we can expect lots of non-hosta-growing visitors to attend our show. Certainly, we want to impress them. To do that, we hope every member can enter at least a few leaves or more. The more entries we have, the better the show. The better the show, the more the public will learn about our favorite plant.

## Need Entry Tags?

If you need entry tags and you would like to have them prior to the show, please contact Chuck Zdeb ( 770 593-0895 - sczdeb@bellsouth.net) and he will mail them to you. It is usually much easier for you to prepare your tags ahead of time than at the show when everything is so hectic. Of course, entry tags will be available at the show.

## Selecting Leaves for the Show

Before you begin selecting your leaves for the show, go to the Point Scales for Judging section of the show schedule and note what attributes the judges will be looking for when they judge a particular exhibit. For more information about each of the attributes, go to the AHS Judges Handbook which you can access at the AHS website, [www.americanhostasociety.org](http://www.americanhostasociety.org). After accessing the home page, click on the Hosta Judging button at the top of the page and select and click on the Show Judging drop-down tab. Scroll down to the Judges Handbook and go to Section III – Judging. Each attribute is defined in detail in Section III-E-2. You might also find pictures of your cultivar on the Hosta Library website, [www.hostalibrary.org](http://www.hostalibrary.org), and on the Hosta Treasury website, [www.hostaregistrar.org](http://www.hostaregistrar.org).

In selecting your leaves, look for the most mature leaves on the clump with the truest color and most even pattern. **You should try to choose the best typical leaf, not the one that might be the most interesting.** This is especially true with variegated leaves. In most cases, that means looking for the most even (symmetrical) pattern you can find.

At the same time, look for leaves with the least amount of imperfections such as holes, tears, sun scald, or insect damage. You also need to watch out for any color disparities caused when one part of a leaf gets significantly less or more light than other parts of the leaf as the result of being partially shaded out by other leaves. It may be subtle but you can see the difference in color between the two portions of the leaf. The judges will see it, too, and deduct points for it. Be sure to look on the front AND back of the leaves. Judges always look at the back sides of entries as well as the front.

Finally, look at the surface dirt on the leaves. Many of the smoothly textured varieties have leaves that are easily cleaned but some of the heavily puckered leaves and all of the blue leaves can be very difficult to clean without damaging the leaf surface. You should pass on leaves that are so dirty as to be difficult to groom.

## Cutting and Grooming Leaves

Leaves are best cut early in the morning or late in the afternoon. Evaluate your leaves as best you can a few days prior to the show and tentatively select the ones you would like to bring to the show. Leaves may be cut several days prior to the show but the later you cut them, the fresher they will be. The petiole (leaf stem) should be cut as long as possible. You can remove excess length later during preparation of the exhibit for show. A sharp knife should be used to make a clean cut. After cutting, hold the leaf up to the light to further inspect for major holes, damage or other large flaws that you may have missed. If significant flaws are found, you may want to select another leaf.

After cutting the leaves, place them in cool water in a cool place out of strong sunlight and drafts. This will help to keep your leaves fresh for the show.

Specimen cleanliness is the first attribute that a judge observes. Take care to properly clean leaves of all exhibits prior to entering them in the show. An entry should have no dirt or other debris, insects, or insect webs anywhere on the leaf surface or on the petiole. Pay particular attention to the point where the leaf meets the petiole where trash often becomes lodged. Again, don't forget to check the back sides of the leaves. That is a particularly popular place for spiders to leave webs.

Carefully wash the leaf in cool water but do not scrub. A very mild dish detergent may be used to help dislodge dirt from the leaf surfaces. Often on smooth-surfaced leaves, you only have to gently swish the leaf in the water and the dirt falls off. On leaves with quilted surfaces, you may have to use a moistened Q-Tip, small soft artist's paint brush, or a cotton ball to remove dirt from the valleys and creases. Be very gentle and careful not to damage the leaf surface in any way. Be sure to rinse leaves if detergents are used to clean them.

Blue leaves are especially hard to clean and prepare for show because the delicate glaucous coating on the leaves is easily damaged. Be very careful when cleaning those blue leaves. On blue leaves with very rough surfaces, it is almost impossible to remove all the dirt without causing damage. The judges would prefer a little dirt over damaged surfaces in this particular case. They know how difficult blues are to clean and they take that into account.

### Preparing Entry Tags and Classifying Your Hosta Leaves Correctly

Once you have your leaves selected and groomed, it is time to prepare the entry tags. **When you prepare your tags, please remember to add your name, address, and other required information on both the top and bottom portions of the entry tags.** A sample show tag is illustrated on page 8. You may use name/address labels in lieu of writing your name and address on both portions of the tag. The bottom portion is removed after the leaf is judged and is used by the tabulator to record show results. That is why it is so important to fully complete both top **and** bottom portions of the tag. While you may wait to prepare your entry tags until you are in the prep area at the show, you will find it is best to do this step **before** you come to the show.

You will note in the schedule that hosta leaves entered in Division I (cut-leaves) must be classified by both **section** (size) and **class** (color and pattern). This information is placed on the entry tag when you enter your hostas in a show. Many people feel intimidated in trying to determine just which section and class their hosta leaves belong in. However, it is easy.

The American Hosta Society provides a **Hosta Show Classification List** which is updated each year. The list provides the correct classification data for all **named and registered** hosta cultivars. This list is available on the American Hosta Society website, [www.americanhostasociety.org](http://www.americanhostasociety.org). After accessing the home page, click on the Hosta Judging button at the top of the page and select and click on the Show Judging drop-down tab. Then scroll down to Classification Lists and select the Full Classification List. The list provides not only the show classification data for all named registered hostas, it also provides the registered leaf length and width data for each.

#### **The Classification List is updated yearly. You MUST use the current year's list.**

**The length/width information is now required information on the entry tags.** This information helps the judges in their evaluation of leaves and it can also help you to determine if your leaf is mature size-wise. Remember, though, that hosta leaves usually grow a little smaller down here in the South than in the northern areas of the country where most hostas are registered. Use the registered sizes to *help* you choose the best leaf, but do not simply dismiss a leaf because it might be a bit undersized.

If you do not find your named hosta on the list, that hosta probably is not registered. In that case, you would exhibit it in the non-registered hosta section, Section XII, and the class would simply be the first letter of the hosta name.

Copies of the Classification Lists will be available at the show prep area but you will save a lot of time and some anxiety by looking up your hosta entries' data and filling out the show tags prior to coming to the show.

Once you have your tags filled out, go ahead and prepare an **Individual Tally Sheet** showing the division and variety name for each of your entries. (See last page for a copy.) You will turn this in at the show after you have entered your leaves. The Tabulation Chair would love to have the entries **listed in alphabetical order** although that is not a requirement. It just makes her job easier. You may also prepare this ahead of time using the attached copy.

## Preparing Leaves for Entry into the Show

When you arrive at the exhibit preparation area, first sign the Exhibitor Registration Form and **secure an exhibitor number**. This number should be placed in the appropriate place on each entry tag. There are different sized containers available. Select the container that makes your leaf look its best (no tiny leaf in a big container, etc.). Stage your leaf in the container, cutting the petiole to an appropriate height that makes the leaf look its best. Use cotton balls to position the leaf at the best viewing angle in the vase. Then attach the entry tag to the container using rubber bands provided if the tags you have require rubber bands. The newer tags have a cut-out and do not require rubber bands. You may have either or both types.

At the show, there will be members to help guide you through the entry and final grooming activities should you need assistance. Supplies such as cotton balls to stage leaves in the containers and rubber bands to affix the tags to the containers will be available in the preparation area. Once you have an exhibit ready, just take it to the classification table where other members will be on hand to check your entry's tag data for accuracy before placing it in the show. Do not fold up the bottom section of the tag at this time. The Classification Committee will do that after the entry's data is checked. After you have prepared and submitted all your entries, check your Individual Tally Sheet one more time to be sure all your entries are shown on it. If you prepared it ahead of time and then decided not to enter a particular leaf, just line through it on the sheet. Be sure to add your Exhibitor Number on the sheet. Then turn it in to Exhibitor Assistance Chair.

## Enter in Divisions other than the Cut-Leaf - Division I)

If you have some nice container grown hostas or container gardens, you should consider bringing one or more of them to enter in Division II - Container Grown Hostas, or Division III – Trough/Container Gardens Arranged for Effect. The rules are spelled out clearly for each of these divisions in Rule #12 and Rule #13 of the show schedule. Be sure to remove dirt and debris that may be on the containers prior to entering them. Be especially careful to clean the underside of the containers so that they do not soil the table cloths.

You might also consider preparing an educational exhibit about hostas. These exhibits may contain posters, plants, photos, or anything you deem necessary to support the theme of your exhibit. Educational exhibits (Division IV) are always popular with our members and are especially popular with visitors.

If you have something hosta-related that you want to share with everyone but which does not fit into any of the other divisions outlined in the show schedule, you may put it in Division V – Non-Competitive Exhibits. This would be a perfect place to display a leaf of a prized seedling that you only have one leaf to share (two leaves required for seedlings in Division I). Or maybe you have a beautiful leaf of a hosta whose name has been lost. Just place it in the non-competitive exhibits with a "What's My Name?" note on the tag. Someone might be able to identify its name for you. You might have a leaf with an unusual characteristic not normal for that particular hosta that you want to share with members.

## Have Fun!

We look forward to seeing all of you at the show. Please come, bring a few leaves, bring a friend if you can, volunteer to help in one of the many activities, and above all – Have Fun!

## 2024 GHS Plant Sale

The following nurseries will be vendors at the **May 11, 2024**, GHS Plant Sale. They will be selling exciting hostas as well as other plants on show day from 8:30 am to 2:00 pm. Don't miss this great opportunity to score some great plants. Come to the Hosta Show and Plant Sale on May 6th.



**Pine Forest Gardens** specializes in hostas. They grow hundreds of hosta varieties, ranging from miniatures to giants. Location: 556 Ellison Road, Tyrone, Ga. 30290. Open weekends and by appointment. Website: [www.pineforestgardens.com](http://www.pineforestgardens.com) Facebook: Pine Forest Gardens. Contact Richard Jolly at [pineforest1@hotmail.com](mailto:pineforest1@hotmail.com) or call (770) 487-5036 or (770) 365-7030.



**Bentley Gardens** is a perennial nursery specializing in hostas and daylilies. Bentley Gardens sells hosta liners and more, with nationwide shipping. Location: 1900 Peeksville Road, Locust Grove, Ga. 30248. Website: [www.bentleygardens.com](http://www.bentleygardens.com) . Facebook: Bentley Gardens. Contact Ed Thaubald at [bentleygardens@aol.com](mailto:bentleygardens@aol.com) or call 678-779-9709.

### *Silvers Elbert Nursery*

**Silvers Elbert Nursery** specializes in hostas and native azaleas. Silvers-Elbert Nursery has been in business for over 30 years and is responsible for introducing many new hosta varieties. Website: [www.hostashadeplants.com](http://www.hostashadeplants.com). Facebook: Silvers Elbert Nursery. Contact: Natalie Silvers at (770) 722-2009 or [nat6984@yahoo.com](mailto:nat6984@yahoo.com) .

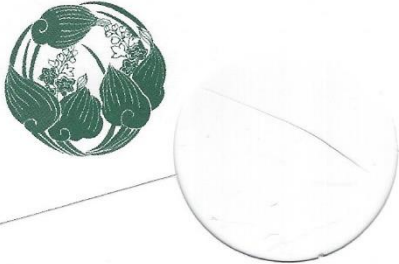
### *Private Iris*

**Cecile Buls** is a private gardener in Athens, Ga. At this year's GHS Plant Sale, she will be offering perennials, ground covers, and shrubs which make excellent companions for hostas, and which are not widely available. Most plants will be offered in pint containers, making them easy to plant and establish. Contact Cecile Buls at [cecilebuls14@gmail.com](mailto:cecilebuls14@gmail.com) or call (706) 255-4690.

All our vendors have a strong internet and social media presence. Beyond the Georgia Hosta Society Plant Sale, contact our vendors through Facebook, their websites, email, and their phone numbers. Especially during the busy seasons, contact our vendors first to confirm their locations and available times, before driving to their locations.



# Sample Show Tag



**THE AMERICAN HOSTA SOCIETY**  
 DIV I SECTION IV CLASS 6A  
 REG LENGTH 6 WIDTH 3.5  
 VARIETY June

---

NAME Atta Girl  
 ADDRESS 100 Hosta Lane  
 CITY/STATE Atlanta, GA.

|       |       |       |       |       |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1st   | 2nd   | 3rd   | 4th   | Spec  |
| 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| Award | Award | Award | Award | Award |

---

|       |       |       |       |       |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1st   | 2nd   | 3rd   | 4th   | Spec  |
| 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| Award | Award | Award | Award | Award |

EXHIBITOR NO. 3  
 DIV I SECTION IV CLASS 6A  
 VARIETY JUNE  
 NAME ATTA GIRL  
 ADDRESS ATLANTA, GA.

Classification data for registered cultivars can be found in the AHS Show Classification List. The list provides the correct classification data for all **named and registered** hosta cultivars. This list is available on the American Hosta Society Web Site, [www.americanhostasociety.org](http://www.americanhostasociety.org). After accessing the home page, click on the Hosta Judging button at the top of the page and select and click on the Show Judging drop-down tab. Then scroll down to Classification Lists and select the Full Classification List. Non-registered hostas do not appear on the classification list. All non-registered hosta cut-leaf entries are placed in Section XII in Division I.

Place name and address here. Using pre-printed address labels is acceptable and can save time in preparing show tags.

Tag bottom folds up here to hide name of exhibitor during judging.

Sign the Exhibitor Registration Form located in the entry preparation area at the show and place assigned exhibitor number here.

Repeat classification data here.

Repeat Name and address here.



Updated May 2012  
 II-I-c.

## AHS HOSTA SHOW INDIVIDUAL TALLY SHEET

Record all of your entries placed in the show on this sheet - division and variety. If possible, record entries in alphabetical order by division. Place completed sheet in the tally sheet collection box in the preparation area.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Exhibitor Number \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

|        | Div | Variety | 1 <sup>st</sup><br>B | 2 <sup>nd</sup><br>R | 3 <sup>rd</sup><br>Y | 4 <sup>th</sup><br>W | BOC<br>G | BOS<br>P | Special |  |
|--------|-----|---------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------|----------|---------|--|
| 1.     |     |         |                      |                      |                      |                      |          |          |         |  |
| 2.     |     |         |                      |                      |                      |                      |          |          |         |  |
| 3.     |     |         |                      |                      |                      |                      |          |          |         |  |
| 4.     |     |         |                      |                      |                      |                      |          |          |         |  |
| 5.     |     |         |                      |                      |                      |                      |          |          |         |  |
| 6.     |     |         |                      |                      |                      |                      |          |          |         |  |
| 7.     |     |         |                      |                      |                      |                      |          |          |         |  |
| 8.     |     |         |                      |                      |                      |                      |          |          |         |  |
| 9.     |     |         |                      |                      |                      |                      |          |          |         |  |
| 10.    |     |         |                      |                      |                      |                      |          |          |         |  |
| 11.    |     |         |                      |                      |                      |                      |          |          |         |  |
| 12.    |     |         |                      |                      |                      |                      |          |          |         |  |
| 13.    |     |         |                      |                      |                      |                      |          |          |         |  |
| 14.    |     |         |                      |                      |                      |                      |          |          |         |  |
| 15.    |     |         |                      |                      |                      |                      |          |          |         |  |
| 16.    |     |         |                      |                      |                      |                      |          |          |         |  |
| 17.    |     |         |                      |                      |                      |                      |          |          |         |  |
| 18.    |     |         |                      |                      |                      |                      |          |          |         |  |
| 19.    |     |         |                      |                      |                      |                      |          |          |         |  |
| 20.    |     |         |                      |                      |                      |                      |          |          |         |  |
| 21.    |     |         |                      |                      |                      |                      |          |          |         |  |
| 22.    |     |         |                      |                      |                      |                      |          |          |         |  |
| 23.    |     |         |                      |                      |                      |                      |          |          |         |  |
| 24.    |     |         |                      |                      |                      |                      |          |          |         |  |
| 25.    |     |         |                      |                      |                      |                      |          |          |         |  |
| TOTALS |     |         |                      |                      |                      |                      |          |          |         |  |

**Special Awards: Circle those applicable**

Best of Show (Div I, Sec I-V & XI)      Best Seedling/Sport (Div I, Sec VI-X)

Best Container Grown (Div II)      Best Container/Trough (Div III)      Best Educational (Div IV)

Sweepstakes