



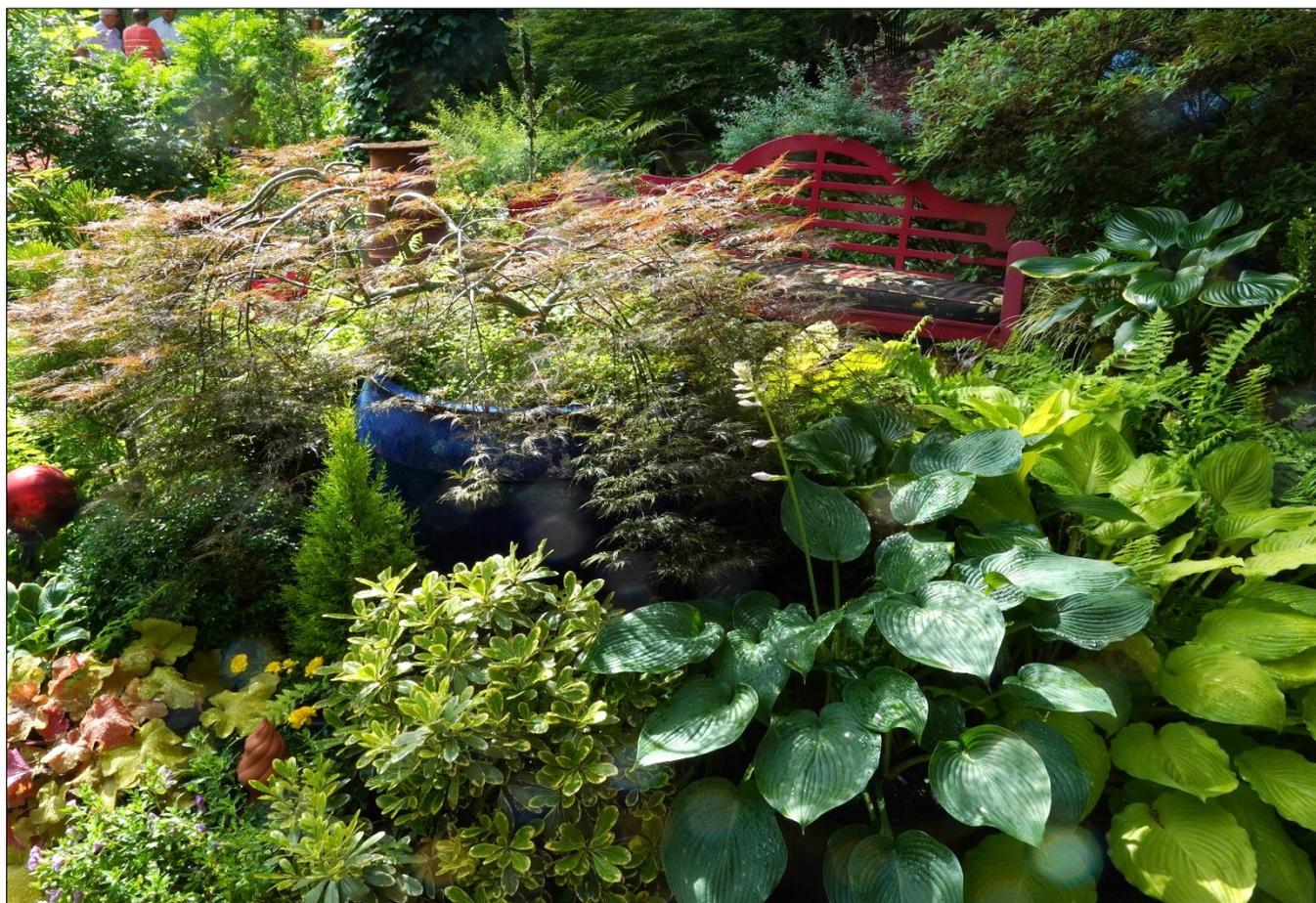
Georgia Hosta Notes

A Publication of The Georgia Hosta Society

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No. 3



A scene from GHS member Jane Law's beautiful garden in Powder Springs, Georgia. To see more pictures of Jane's garden as well as Jack Diskell's garden, see GHS Garden Tours on Page 10.



President's Message

By Greg Ferguson

Greetings to our hosta family!

I hope this message finds you in good health. We're all still trying to sort out what we can do and what we can't do, given the uncertainties of this pandemic. Rest assured that the Board has discussed our options for staying in touch with you, and that we've balanced the risks of COVID with the needs and opportunities to restart our meetings and events. You'll read about our plans elsewhere in this newsletter. We hope that you'll participate as much as you can.

Having to cancel the annual Leaf Show and Plant Sale for the second consecutive year was painful. I know how much you enjoy the big day. Nevertheless, we creatively dealt with it and held two events to tide us over until 2022. Sandra Bussell, show chairperson, organized a virtual leaf show to showcase our personal hosta plants. I hope you were able to participate. It was a very successful show, making use of the internet in a creative and effective way. In lieu of the Plant Sale, I organized Hosta Vendors' Day, where four of our faithful hosta vendors opened up their facilities for customers to visit and to purchase plants. I have heard reports that lots of lonely hostas were adopted into good homes. That always gives me a warm feeling. Let us know if you'd like to do these again in 2022, even though we're planning for our normal in-person Leaf Show and Plant Sale.

We revived our Garden Tours this year. Two of our friends showcased their home landscaping on June 5 – Jack Driskell and Jane Law. Our greatest thanks to Jack and Jane! This event was more successful than we ever envisioned. I coordinated with Patrick Ardoff, President of Georgia Perennial Plant Association, to hold this event jointly. We had an amazing turnout – on a warm but beautiful Saturday. We are already planning for our 2022 tours. If you would like to volunteer your garden or volunteer personally as a planner/organizer, let me know. We hope to have this each year, going forward, hopefully on more than one date, with multiple locations.

In 2021, your Board has met online three times, and we've had two online general meetings as well. We have been able to accomplish a lot this way. In some ways, it has been even more effective. One way is that we have welcomed new faces to our Board. We are always excited about seeing more involvement from the Membership. Being able to attend Board meetings virtually takes the obstacles of distance and time out of the equation.

We are planning our first in-person general meeting in September. We are taking many precautions, as you will note elsewhere in this newsletter. Please attend if you are able. By the way, please send your dues so the Society can continue its healthy fiscal condition. Even though the deadline for dues is December 31, please push this forward. We hope you enjoyed the one year hiatus for dues.

We have had a significant growth in membership. I will recognize our new members at the September meeting.

I am excited about a new feature of our general meetings. Beginning with the September meeting, I have proposed that we have a Hosta ID segment for each meeting. How many times have you heard these comments – "I just moved to this house, and these hostas were already here." "My Aunt Bertha gave me this hosta, and she has no idea what it is. And I don't either." And the biggie: "I lost my tag!!" Each person attending the meeting may bring one hosta per meeting for identification. In addition (or alternatively), you may email a photograph (or two or three) of your hosta prior to the meeting so we can show it on the screen. I think this will be fun. Whether you are new to hostas or have been growing them for years, you will have an equal opportunity for ID. We will all learn

from this, and you don't have to be bashful! Again, I plan for this to be a part of every meeting – February, April, September, and November.

Well, we have a lot going on, and a lot in store for you. So put everything on your calendar. And invite your friends to join with you. I look forward to seeing you in September.

Greg Ferguson

Next Meeting September 11, 2021 11:00 AM

Deen Day Sanders Garden House, 10777 Bell Road, Duluth, GA 30097

Yeah! We will resume live meetings beginning with our September 11 meeting at Deen Day Sanders Garden House. Please note that the start time for the business meeting will be earlier, 11:00 AM, due to the time needed to elect our new officers for the 2022-2023 term prior to lunch. We are also allowing time for a short Hosta ID period. If you have a hosta whose name has been lost, bring your plant or some leaves to the meeting. After lunch we will have our auction.

For everyone's safety, we ask that you wear masks at the meeting. We also hope that you will be vaccinated for COVID-19 or be tested before the meeting. There will be only 4 chairs per table to help insure proper distancing. Let's plan to have fun but be safe at the same time! Also, don't forget to bring your name tags. If you do not have one, please contact Pat Brussack to have one made.

Annual Blowout Auction



Yes, it is time for our biggest fundraiser of the year, our spring auction. Only this year it will be in the fall. For over 30 years we have depended on our members to bring many wonderful plants and garden-related items to make this auction a success and every year you have come through. Let's make this the best one ever. Look around now to see what you can share with fellow GHS members. It does not have to be a hosta although hostas are always the hot items. It can be other perennials such as hellebores, epimediums, cyclamens, blood root, or woodland poppies. You may have a Japanese maple seedling or other special tree you can donate, or some special bulbs you can share. How about camellias, azaleas, or other shrubs? Or maybe you have tools, ornaments, or other garden-related items. Bring them. There is sure to be someone at the meeting wanting just that item.

Of course, auctions require buyers as well as donations for success, so bring your pocket book brimming with cash. Our treasurer stands ready and quite willing to help separate your money from you. Remember, this is our most important fundraising event, so come prepared to bid often and bid high!

Food for September 11 Meeting



After our business meeting, we will serve box lunches from *Chick-fil-A*. The box lunches are being provided by GHS to our members free of charge. Of course, if you would like to donate \$10 to cover the cost, please do. Drinks will also be provided. The email invitation for the meeting will include an RSVP. It is important that you respond no later than Wednesday before the meeting or advise Scott Smith that you will be attending so that we can have a good head count for the number of meals we will need to order.

Hosta ID Assistance at the September 11 and November 13 Meetings

Need help identifying any of your hostas with unknown names? If so, you can bring a few leaves to the September 11 meeting or if you are unable to do that, please take pictures of your anonymous hostas now and send them to Sandra Bussell by November 1. She will be preparing a PowerPoint presentation of the submitted pictures and it will be shown to the membership at the November 13 meeting. Hopefully, our members can assist in identifying some of their names. Sandra's email address is scmatlanta@gmail.com. You may submit more than one picture of each if you like such as leaf close-ups or flowers which could help in the identification process.

GHS Members' Swap and Freebie Corner

From time to time, our members have certain garden-related items which they would like to trade with other members or which they would like to offer for free. We will conduct our next swap in the upcoming October newsletter. If you have items you would like to have listed to trade or to give away, please provide a detailed list to our editor, Harold McDonell, at haroldmcdonell@aol.com by October 1. No items for sale, please. You will have to buy an advertisement for that!

Attention GHS Members. Keep taking pictures of your gardens!

The pictures you have provided of your gardens for the newsletter the past few issues have been very popular with your fellow members. We still have some left over from this year and we will try to run them in the next newsletter. Please plan now to take more pictures of your gardens next year, especially of hostas and hosta groupings. Send them to our newsletter editor, Harold McDonell, at haroldmcdonell@aol.com. Send the pictures at the highest resolution possible. Thumbnail size is not acceptable since the resolution is not high enough to depict the picture well in the newsletter. Please try to provide names with the pictures if possible.

2022 Region Three Dixie Regional Meeting - June 2-4

The Dixie Regional Meeting will be held in Knoxville on June 2-4. More details will soon be posted on the East Tennessee Hosta Society web site, www.easttnhostasociety.net, and on the Dixie Region web site, www.dixiehosta.net. This meeting was originally scheduled in 2020 but had to be postponed until 2022 due to the pandemic. The Knoxville folks are raring to go to provide us a great experience with interesting programs and beautiful gardens. Let's reconnect with our Dixie Region friends and support the East Tennessee Hosta Society with our presence at the meeting.

2022 AHS National Convention - June 8-11

The AHS National Convention is on for 2022 and will be held in Brooklyn Park (Minneapolis), Minnesota. Complete details and registration form will be available in September on the AHS web site, www.americanhostasociety.org.

Proposed Changes to the GHS Constitution and By-laws

The initiation of proposed changes to the GHS Constitution and By-Laws was approved by the Board in its meeting of August 14, 2021. Per procedures set forth in Article VII of the Constitution and Article XII of the By-laws, this is to provide notice that these proposed changes will be submitted for approval by the membership at the upcoming September 11, 2021 General Meeting. Changes are shown in red.

Constitution:

Article V - Change to read "The Officers of this Society shall be the President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Third Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Parliamentarian, **Communications Coordinator**, Immediate Past President, and six Directors, and shall be elected as set forth in the By-Laws. These officers shall constitute the Board."

By-laws:

Article VI, Section A - Change to read "The slate of officers of the Society shall consist of a President, First Vice-President (Programs), Second Vice-President (Membership), Third Vice-President (Newsletter Editor), Secretary, Treasurer, Parliamentarian, **Communications Coordinator**, Immediate Past President (ex-officio), and six Directors."

Article VI, Section D - Change to read "Each term of office shall be two years. The President shall hold the office for no more than (2) two full consecutive terms. First Vice-President, Second Vice-President and Directors shall be limited to no more than (3) three full consecutive terms in those offices. The Treasurer, Secretary, Third Vice-President, Parliamentarian, **and Communications Coordinator** may be re-elected to office by the active membership without regard to the number of terms previously served. After an interval of one term, any member serving in a term-limited office may again serve in that office."

Present Article VII, Section I - Change designation to **Article VII, Section J**.

Present Article VII, Section H - Change designation to **Article VII, Section I**.

Article VII, Section H -Change to read "**The Communications Coordinator shall be responsible for maintaining the Georgia Hosta Society's website and Facebook pages, as well as for distributing newsletters and other communications authorized by the President and/or the Board to Society members.**"

Rationale for this change: The present duties of Scott Smith, which include all of the duties listed in the description of the Communications Coordinator in the proposed By-laws Article VII, Section H have become increasingly important to the conduct of the society and thus justify being assigned to a person who is a voting member of the Board of Directors.



Editor's Message and Hosta Ramblings

by Harold McDonell

The Advantages of Buying From Our Local Hosta Vendors

We hosta collectors think nothing of going all over the country to find and purchase the hostas we want. Some have even imported that must-have hosta from European sellers. For the most part, that is fine. We are fortunate to have quite a few very reputable mail-order hosta nurseries that provide quality disease-free plants at reasonable prices.

This summer, the Georgia Hosta Society sponsored a tour of several of our local hosta vendors' gardens in lieu of our annual Hosta Show Sale which had to be cancelled. We were able to tour Richard Jolly's Pine Forest Gardens nursery, Natalie Silvers' Silvers-Elbert Nursery, Steve McMurtry and Ricky Cox's Rising Star Farm and Diane and Marlie Turner's Catalina Gardens nursery. I was like a kid in a candy store as I managed to get to three of the four gardens, and beautiful hostas from each of those nurseries followed me home. As I was finding decorative containers for my new babies, it struck me what great plants I had scored. All were multiple division plants of excellent size - much larger plants than anything I might have received had I mail-ordered them. AND, they were purchased at the same prices or at lower prices than I would have paid through mail order. Below is a picture of my tour day haul.

Several of the new hostas were large enough to have an immediate impact in my shade garden. Also, since none of the hostas purchased locally had to undergo the shock of traveling around the country for days (or weeks sometimes) in a bare-root state, they immediately took off and they have grown like crazy since they were repotted into larger containers. All are now already making a show in my garden. On the other hand, my mail-order plants received this spring have required most of the summer to recover and grow to a decent size in the holding bed.

The moral of this story? For your very best value, **BUY LOCALLY FROM OUR LOYAL HOSTA VENDORS!**



First Ever Photographic Hosta Show Results

GHS held its first ever virtual hosta show in May of this year. Due to the COVID epidemic, we were unable to have an in-person real show again this year but we wanted to have some type of competition. Members shared their photographs in each of the categories and the show was judged by members of the Georgia Hosta Society who voted by email. Thanks to Show Chair Sandra Bussell, who developed the show rules and procedures, and then took charge of conducting the show, all went well. We also express our thanks to all who submitted entries and to all who voted. Below are the winners in the various categories in the show.

Best of Show: Tie - 'Dahlongega' and 'Spartacus' - both entered by Harold McDonell



H. 'Dahlongega'



H. 'Spartacus'

Category A - One leaf.

- A-1: Giant Leaved Registered Cultivar or Species - Harold McDonell for *H. 'Dahlongega'*
- A-2: Large Leaved Registered Cultivar or Species - Harold McDonell for *H. 'Spartacus'*
- A-3: Medium Leaved Registered Cultivar or Species - J. Linwood Keith for *H. 'Patriot'*
- A-4: Small Leaved Registered Cultivar or Species - Cozart Smith for *H. 'Gravity Rocks'*
- A-5: Miniature Small Leaved Registered Cultivar or Species - Cozart Smith for *H. 'Pandora's Box'*
- A-6: Unregistered Cultivar Any Size - Cozart Smith for Variant Leaf of *H. 'School Mouse'*

Category B - Two leaves from one seedling or sport - any size, any color.

Harold McDonell for Seedling 2018-41

Category C - A pot containing one cultivar or species, any size.

Cozart Smith for *H. 'First Blush'*

Category D - A pot containing various species or cultivars plus other decorative items.

Cozart Smith for a container planted with Hostas 'Praying Hands', 'Munchkin Fire', 'Shining Tot', 'Blue Mouse Ears' and 'Little Wonder'

First Ever Photographic Hosta Show Results



H. 'Patriot' - J. Linwood Keith



H. 'Gravity Rocks' -
Cozart Smith



H. 'Pandora's Box' -
Cozart Smith



Variant Leaf of *H.* 'School
Mouse' - Cozart Smith



Seedling 2018-41 -
Harold McDonell



H. 'First Blush' - Cozart Smith



Clockwise from rear -
Hostas 'Praying Hands', 'Little Wonder',
'Blue Mouse Ears', 'Shining Tot', and
'Munchkin Fire'
- Cozart Smith

Hosta-Hopping Vendors' Day Garden Tours and Sales - May 8

Our members were surely missing the opportunity to purchase new plants from our wonderful local hosta nurseries at our annual hosta show plant sales. The plant sales have been cancelled along with our show for the past two years due to the pandemic. President Greg Ferguson decided that, if the nurseries could not come to us, we could go to them. He organized a tour of several of our vendors' nurseries on May 8. On tour were Richard Jolly's Pine Forest Gardens in Tyrone, Steve McMurtry and Ricky Cox's Rising Star Hosta Farm in Stone Mountain, Natalie and Bill Silvers' Silvers-Elbert Nursery operation located at the State Farmer's Market in Forest Park and Marlie and Diane Turner's Catalina Gardens in Powder Springs, Georgia.

It turned out to be a beautiful day for tours and all who could attend had a delightful time. We are so fortunate to have our vendors who have supported GHS for many years. We offer our thanks to them for opening their gardens for us. Below are some pictures from Vendors' Day.

Below: Richard Jolly answers questions at his Pine Forest Gardens Nursery in Tyrone, Georgia.



Above: Ed Thaubald and Natalie Silvers talk hostas at Silvers-Elbert Nursery at the Georgia State Farmers Market in Forest Park, Georgia.



Steve McMurtry and Marianne Tucker admire Japanese maples.



9 Beautiful front porch garden at Steve McMurtry and Ricky Cox's Rising Star Hosta Farm in Stone Mountain

A Look Back at the Summer Garden Tours

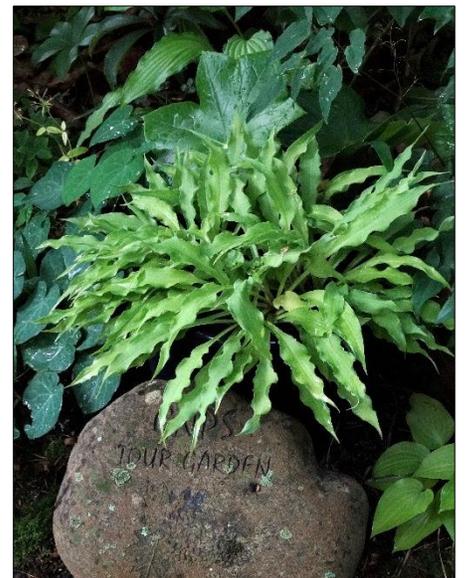
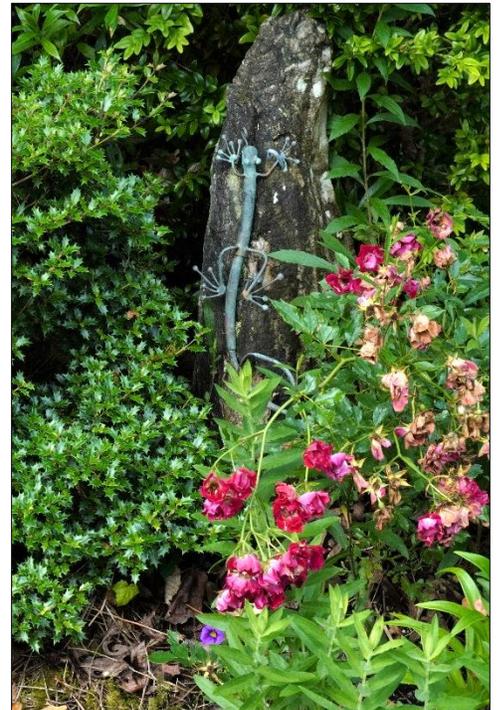
Garden Walk Featuring the Gardens of Jane Law and Jack Driskell - June 5

June 5th was a great day for the Georgia Hosta Society because it was the day of the first in-person activity sponsored by GHS in over a year. It was a wonderful day with the gardens of GHS members Jane Law and Jack Driskell open to our members to tour. These gardens were scheduled to be toured in 2020 but the COVID-19 pandemic forced cancellation of the event. We had to wait an extra year to see these two super gardens. The wait was well worth it. Below are a few pictures taken in the gardens on tour day. Enjoy.

Sheer Beauty in Jane Law's Garden



Jane welcomes visitors.



Hosta 'Curly Fries'

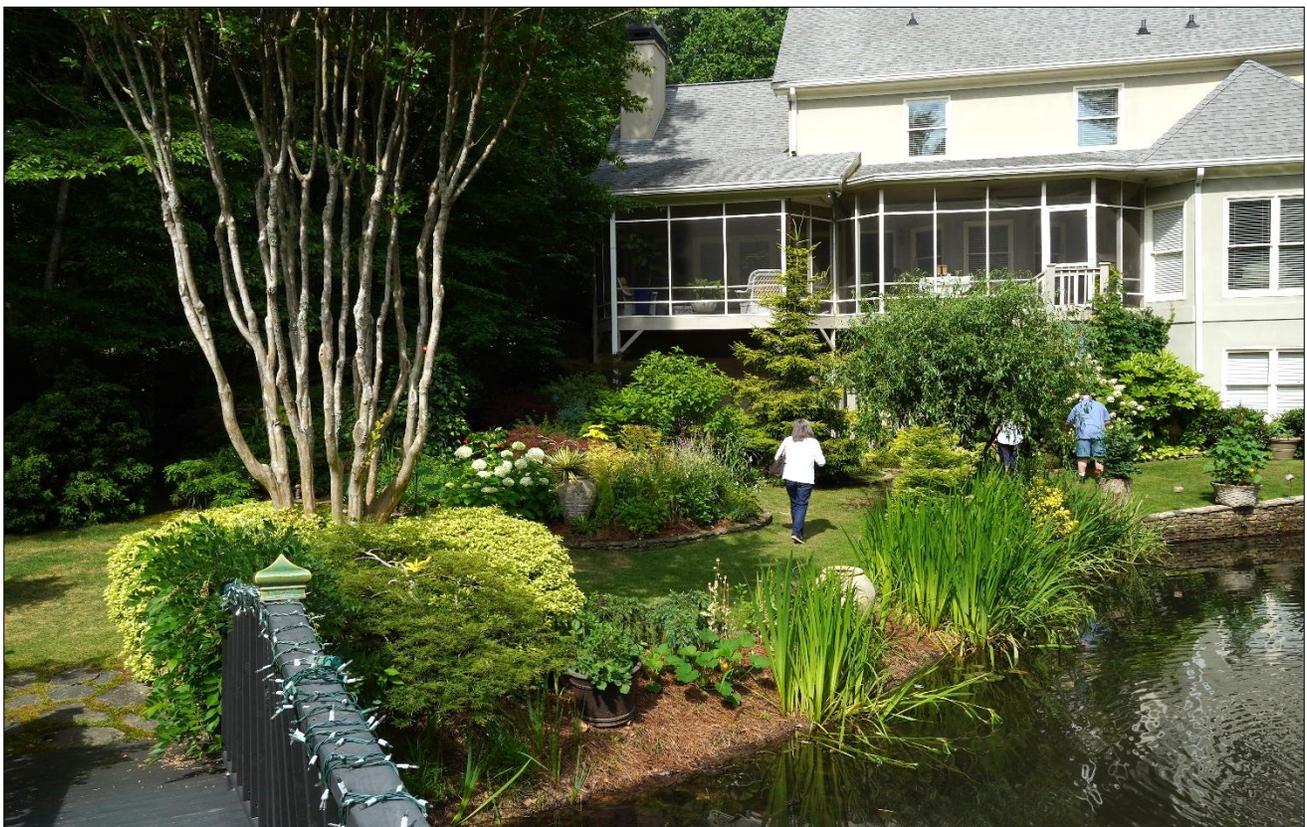
More Pictures of Jane Law's Garden



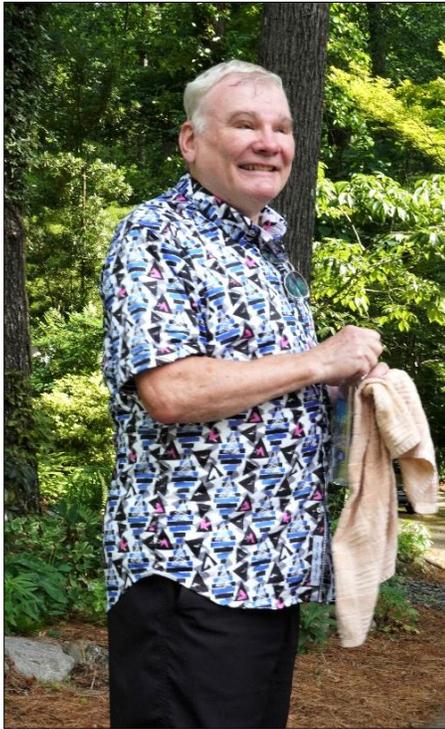
Hosta 'Lady Isobel Barnett'



H. 'Neptune'



Total Excitement in Jack Driskell's Garden



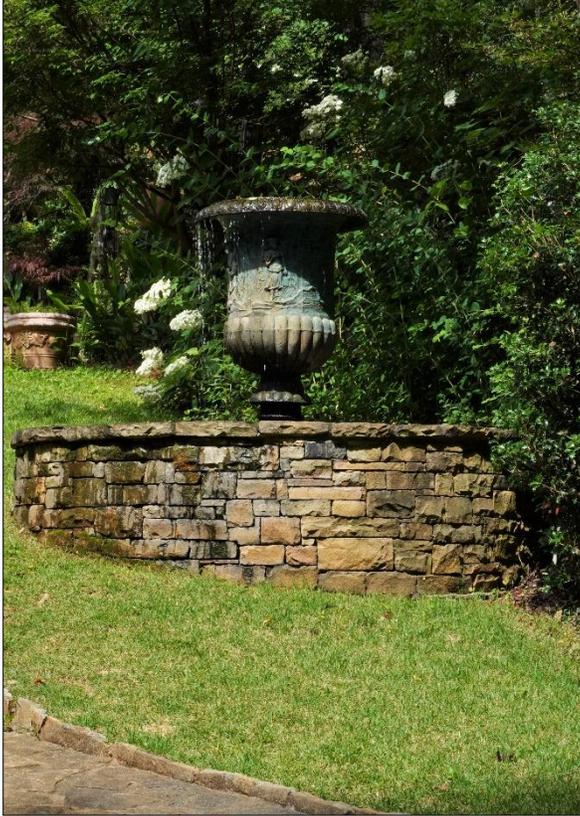
Jack is happy to have visitors again.



Hosta 'Liberty' anchors a shady bed.



More Pictures of Jack Driskell's Garden



Hosta 'Squash Casserole'



Garden Life

By Mary Lepore

Time marches on! Never has there been a truer phrase. As each year passes, the garden tasks take longer and I seem to acquire more aches and pains. I had a lot of time last year to contemplate my garden and what is required to give it care and maintenance. It was quite evident that an inordinate amount of time was spent on weeding. Finding a way to reduce this maintenance chore became my mission!

Weed control, either by using products (Preen does not prevent weeds in my garden), or by physical removal is a never-ending task and one that is cyclical for gardeners. Landscape weed prevention fabric never worked for me in Georgia. Seems the southern weeds are strong, hardy and easily breach the fabric. A new approach was needed. Fortunately, my husband (aka - my garden helper) found a poly-based weed barrier product. An area of weeds was cleared and then the black 4 mil plastic sheeting was put down. In the garden beds, the poly was laid around existing plants and pine straw covered the sheeting. The majority of my hostas in the shade garden are in pots. The pots were moved so the black poly would cover the area and then the pots were returned to their original location. Again, pine straw camouflaged the black sheeting. Pathways were also protected with the black poly and then covered with river pebbles. It was a long ongoing project with much manual labor involved but there was ample time in 2020 to execute the plan. The true test would be during the 2021 garden season.

I am very pleased with the results this year. So much weeding time eliminated and the plants are thriving without the weed competition. It has certainly been worth the effort for the results achieved. It is a joy to gaze upon the weedless beds this year and appreciate the beauty.

Contemplation also led me to wonder how gardening time would be spent in the future. Somewhere down the road, there may be a point in time when downsizing becomes a consideration. I will always have a need to have a garden life, albeit perhaps, a more simplified one. You can downsize not only your home and also your garden. Bring the garden closer and use a deck, patio or a covered porch for your favorite plants. With minimal effort you can surround yourself with nature. Previously, I shared information on my walkway garden and the shade garden, aka "The Pen". However, I also garden on the screened porch. During the fall and winter, the porch is home to all my Hostas in ceramic pots. They are transported to the porch using a hand truck. I take the cautious approach and do not want the pots exposed to our winter's freeze/thaw cycle. The plastic and composite pots remain outside and seem to fare well. I like to have some large containers that have evergreen plants on the porch and the patios. Fatsia Japonica & Camellia Sasanqua do well for me in this environment. I generally use the porch, even on mild winter days, to enjoy my first cup of morning coffee. It is nice to sit among the camellias in bloom. Come April, many of the ceramic pots leave the porch for their outside home. However, a few remain to keep me company. Currently, there are 80 containers on the screened porch, mostly filled with hostas.

The porch is also used as a recovery area for any hosta that has started to diminish in size. I replot the hosta into a smaller container and put it in a protected area. It stays there for the current growing season. I have had good success doing this and can usually return the hosta to its original home the following year. I also keep new acquisitions on the porch to monitor before finding them their permanent home. I still treat the porch hostas the same as the outside ones in many respects. NEMAKILL™ treatment in the early spring, and both foliar and granular feedings during the growing season. I do however, limit watering over the winter. I have found that less water is better than more with my hostas on the porch.

This year I have expanded my "easy care" garden onto the patio outside of the porch. This is my go-to morning spot spring, summer and fall mornings. I have a 'Wine & Roses' weigelia in a large container flanked by two 'Hot Head' dwarf arborvitae behind the rocking chairs. There is also a whiskey barrel planter which gets changed out as impulse hits me – this year tulips bloomed among the lavender and dusty miller. Several other containers surround the whiskey barrel. A 'Chicago Hearty' fig tree, my version of an ice bucket (*Hosta* 'Fire & Ice' in a galvanized pot), annuals and much more greet me each morning. Since everything on the patio is in pots, there is no weeding time required. I look upon the porch & patio as a good way to make my gardening life easier. Give it a try if you have not done so already.

Some Pictures from Mary's Porch and Patio



Hosta ID: Why We Care About Vein Pairs

By Judith Artley, NEHS Editor

Reprinted from the New England Hosta Society *Leaf Letters* Newsletter Vol. 11, No. 3, July 2021

(Editors Note: We often hear people referring to vein pairs in hosta publications and on Facebook, especially with regard to identifying a hosta's name. This excellent and informative article should answer all of one's questions about what vein pairs references and how you count them.)

Veins are the circulatory system of the leaf, carrying water and nutrients between the roots and leaves. In hostas, veins run from the base of the leaf to the tip and are parallel (the veins do not cross), Veins may divide, terminate or merge. There are more complex veining patterns not covered here. The midrib is the vein in the center of the leaf. Most hosta have matched sets (pairs) of veins on either side of the midrib. Counting the number of these vein pairs (VP) is helpful in identifying a hosta cultivar. The leaves of some varieties emerge with a finite number vein pairs and other varieties develop more pairs as they mature.

George Schmid wrote in *The Genus Hosta* about the variability in VP: a cultivar “displays some variability in the number of veins, and so the count given in the descriptions is the average maximum number of principal veins normally seen in that cultivar. Occasionally, this number may be exceeded by one or two, while the younger summer leaves may produce fewer veins. It is best to make a count on several mature vernal leaves and then take the average.” He continues, “One significant point must be made: The outermost vein or veins are often abbreviated and do not extend to the leaf tip but usually terminate at the leaf margin between a third- and halfway up from the petiole intersection. Although these veins end at the margin and are thus incomplete, they must be counted.” (Vein 9 in Figure 3 is an abbreviated vein, as well as being partially hidden by the curliness of the leaf.)

To count VP, choose a mature leaf. Veins are more prominent on the back of the leaf, so flip the leaf over. Count from the center toward the edge (do not count the midrib) as shown in Figure 3. Repeat on the other half of the leaf. Count the veins on a few other leaves and take the average. Examples of stating the vein pair count are “VP is 10”, “average VP is 10,” “VP is 10-11” and “average VP is 10-12.”

The photographs are of my H. ‘Red October’, a variety registered with 11 VP. I counted 9 VP on multiple leaves. I think the low VP is due to my cultural practice of not fertilizing or watering.



1. Upper leaf, H. ‘Red October’
Photos by Judith Artley



2. Lower leaf, H. ‘Red October’



3. Counting Vein Pairs (The curl of the leaf hides part of Vein 9)

Read the complete registration data for H. 'Red October' here:

<https://hostatransaction.org/detail.php?id=4251>.

References:

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Schmid, W. George. The Genus HOSTA Giboshi zoku, page 25. Portland, Oregon: Timber Press, Inc, 1991



Remembering Hugh Walker



Hugh Walker, charter member of the Georgia Hosta Society and husband of GHS member Claudia Walker, passed away on March 21, 2021 after an extended period of illness. Hugh was a very active member of GHS and AHS until his health began to fail a few years ago. He served in a number of capacities, including that of president, and contributed much to the success of GHS. We will miss his smile and his delightful sense of humor.

Remembering Donna Ferguson



We regret to announce that Donna Ferguson, GHS member and wife of GHS President Greg Ferguson, passed away peacefully on June 17, 2021 after a long illness. Donna was the light of Greg's life and she will be greatly missed by him and the rest of her family as well as by her many friends.

Remembering Harry L. Abel, Jr.

We regret to announce that Harry Abel passed away in July, 2021. Harry was a charter member of GHS but had not been active for several years. He was well known for his application of bonsai techniques to container hostas.



**THE GEORGIA HOSTA SOCIETY
MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING
April 10, 2021 Via Zoom**

The Zoom meeting was called to order at 11:15 am by President Greg Ferguson. Approximately 25 members participated.

Some 16 new members have joined recently, mostly through the website. Greg recognized these by name but unfortunately none were participating in today's meeting. We look forward to welcoming all new members at our September in-person general meeting.

Greg announced the recent passing of members BJ McNiff, Eric Eggen, Hugh Walker and Bob Lockwood, the husband of member Mikky Lockwood. Our condolences to the families in their losses.

Local hosta vendors who would normally participate in our hosta show and sale in May have invited us to visit their retail locations for a special "Hosta Vendor Day" on May 8. Participating nurseries are: Rising Star Hosta Farm (Stone Mountain), Silvers Elbert Nursery (State Farmers' Market), Pine Forest Gardens (Tyrone) and Catalina Gardens (Powder Springs). Special hours are 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. Other visiting hours may be arranged by contacting the nursery directly.

Two club members will open their Powder Springs home gardens to us and the American Perennial Plant Association on June 5. Jane Law (5271 Hermitage Drive) and Jack Driskell (101 Dawson Drive) invite us between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm. We last visited these gardens in 2009 when Georgia Hosta Society hosted the Dixie Regional Hosta Society annual convention.

Additional information on the virtual hosta leaf show to be held in May will be issued to all membership by email. Rules for taking and submitting photographs will also be posted to the club website by Scott Smith, Webmaster.

Minutes of the February 13, 2021 general meeting were published in the March 2021 *Georgia Hosta Notes (GHN)* Newsletter. Harold McDonell moved that the minutes be accepted as published and Fred Lindquist seconded the motion, which was approved by the members participating.

Treasurer Dexter Henry reported that we are still in good financial standing. We anticipate an exceptional response to our plant auction to be held at our first in-person meeting in September. A memorial contribution has been made to the American Hosta Society (AHS) in remembrance of Hugh Walker.

Newsletter Editor Harold McDonell thanked members for sending him pictures of their home gardens and asked that we continue to provide those much-appreciated pictures for future newsletters.

Harold also asked that we provide copies of any early GHN editions that are still existing for an historical record that he is developing.

Volunteers were solicited for the nominating committee for 2022-2023 officers and board members. Harold, Claudia Walker and Judy Beeler volunteered. The committee will be announced at the September general meeting and additional members may be added.

Recommendations for the President's Wall award are due to AHS in May. Greg will send an email to membership requesting recommendations.

Earlier, we had discussed working with Bob Solberg at Green Hill Farms Nursery to secure a “club hosta.” We determined that a better plan would be to have the “Hosta Vendor Day” to support our local growers.

There being no further business, Fred Lindquist moved that the meeting be adjourned; Chuck Zdeb seconded the motion and it was approved. The meeting adjourned at 11:42 am.

The meeting was followed by presentations by Harold on hosta hybridizing, by Chuck on daffodil planting, and by Scott on the upcoming Athens, GA garden tour.

Judy Beeler, Secretary

**THE GEORGIA HOSTA SOCIETY
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
August 14, 2021 Via Zoom**

The Zoom meeting was called to order by President Greg Ferguson at 9:50 a.m. Participating were: Dexter Henry, Harold McDonell, Katie Lindquist, Pat Brussack, Scott Smith, Mark Malaguerra, Chuck Zdeb, Sandra Bussell, Steve McMurtry and Judy Beeler. Also attending were presumptive board members Greg Barner, Richard Jolly and Mary Lepore.

Greg expressed condolences for the recent deaths of Donna Ferguson, Hugh Walker, Harry Abel and Bob Lockwood. Also, Ricky Cox, Becky Paris, Doug Crabtree and Sandra Bussell have recently been ill or injured.

Minutes of the March 6, 2021 board meeting were published in the March 2021 issue of *Georgia Hosta Notes*. Harold moved and Katie seconded that the minutes be accepted as published. The motion was approved.

The treasurer's report was distributed to the board electronically earlier and Dexter said that we continue to be in good standing. On-line membership has increased; the upcoming plant auction should make up any budget shortages.

With the increase in membership, the telephone committee has been expanded; Claudia Walker, Becky Paris, Dexter, Judy and Katie will call members to encourage attendance at the September general meeting. Dexter will divide the membership list and advise the committee of the respective assignments.

Harold will send a “welcome” letter to new members as a reminder of dues.

Pat will continue to produce name tags for new members as she is advised of names. At the upcoming meeting, we will collect names of the new members requesting name tags.

Julia Lyons has confirmed our use of the Deen Day Sanders Garden House for our 2022 general meetings. The dates are: February 12, April 9 (annual plant auction), September 10 and November 5. Future board meetings will be conducted by Zoom and are scheduled for January 8, March 12, August 13 and October 8.

At this time, the City of Tucker has not announced if Tucker Day will be observed in the Spring of 2022. However, we will continue to plan for the annual Hosta Show and Sale to be held on May 14. Dexter is communicating with the First Baptist Church of Tucker to determine if that facility will be available for our use. If not, another area church (Oak Grove Methodist) may be an alternative.

Certain vendors (Pine Forest Gardens and Silvers Elbert Nursery) have already committed to participating in 2022 and several others are considering.

COVID-19 has caused some alterations in the conduct of our September general meeting. Attendees are encouraged to be fully vaccinated and to wear masks. Weather permitting, room doors will be open to provide air circulation. Tables will be spaced further apart and seating will be limited to four persons per table. Rather than the pot-luck buffet that is always much-anticipated, GHS will provide a catered lunch (*Chick-fil-A* chicken sandwich box lunch) and beverages. Notify Scott Smith by Wednesday, September 8 if planning to participate in the meal.

Harold proposed creating a new board position of Communications Coordinator. The duties of this position would include maintaining the Society's Facebook and website pages and other electronic communications. Chuck seconded Harold's motion and it was approved by the board. This will require a change to the Constitution and By-Laws; it will be presented to the membership at the September 11 meeting.

The nominating committee will present its proposed slate of officers for 2022-2023 at the September meeting. The nominees are: President – Greg Ferguson; 1st Vice President, Programs – Steve McMurtry; 2nd Vice President, Membership – Becky Paris; 3rd Vice President, Publications – Harold McDonell; Secretary – Judy Beeler; Treasurer – Dexter Henry; Parliamentarian – Mark Malaguerra; Ex-Officio – Scott Smith; Directors – Sandra Bussell, Katie Lindquist, Chuck Zdeb, Greg Barner, Mary Lepore and Richard Jolly. Other nominations will be accepted from the floor.

Two standing committee chair positions are currently vacant: Advertising/Publicity/Communications and Ways and Means. Greg will consider if changes are needed for these positions.

Greg requested that board members provide him within the week suggestions for nominees for the President's Wall of Honor. We hope that these awards can be presented at the November meeting.

At Greg's suggestion, we will implement a "Hosta ID" segment at each general meeting. We may each bring one hosta (or photo of plant, if out-of-season) for help from other members in determining identification. This should benefit us all in preparation for next year's hosta show.

Our November general meeting program will consist of presentations by Harold on hosta diseases, and by Scott and Mark on plant labeling options. We will also install new officers and have a silent auction fund raiser. Among auction items offered will be numerous books from the personal library of the late George Schmid.

Claudia, Steve and Greg will develop a program for the February general meeting. It will include promotion of the leaf show and, possibly, another silent auction.

We hope to repeat our Vendors' Day tour of local nurseries in late May or early June.

The Dixie Regional Hosta Society convention ("Hostas in the Smokies") is planned for June 2 – 4, 2022 in Knoxville, TN.

There being no further business, Chuck moved that the meeting be closed and Katie seconded; the meeting was adjourned at 11:42 a.m.

Judy Beeler, Secretary

THE GEORGIA HOSTA SOCIETY

2020-2021 OFFICERS AND BOARD

President: Greg Ferguson	770 436-4846 C 770 789-9057
1 st VP Programs: Steve McMurtry	404 323-4406
2 nd VP Membership: Becky Paris	770 508-8651
3 rd VP Publications/Newsletter Editor:	
Harold McDonell	770 461-8882
Secretary: Judy Beeler	404 808-7222
Treasurer: Dexter Henry	770 460-0983
Parliamentarian: Scott Smith	404 752-6423
Ex Officio: Scott Smith	404 752-6423 C 404 486-3471

DIRECTORS

Term

3 rd	Mark Malaguerra	404 752-6423 C 404 808-2866
3 rd	Mikky Lockwood	470 238-6066 C 609 529-8372
2 nd	Pat Brussack	706 202-3222
2 nd	Sandra Bussell	404 636-5920
1 st	Katie Lindquist	404 237-0546 C 404 863-6425
1 st	Chuck Zdeb	770 593-0895

STANDING COMMITTEES

Historian: Claudia Walker	770 722-3147
Hospitality: Julia Lyons	706 265-3328 C 770 315-3328
Hosta Leaf Show Co-Chairs - 2021:	
Sandra Bussell	404 636-5920
Judy Beeler	404 808-7222
Dexter Henry	770 460-0983
Newsletter Production and Publishing:	
Mark Malaguerra	404 752-6423
Scott Smith	404 752-6423
Advertising/Publicity/Communications:	Vacant
Vendor Liaison: Greg Ferguson	770 436-4846
Ways and Means:	Vacant
Web Master: Scott Smith	404 752-6423
GHS History Committee:	
Harold McDonell	770 461-8882



Established 1984

Georgia Hosta Society Members Holding American Hosta Society Positions:

Claudia Walker: AHS National Show Chair
Sandra Bussell: AHS Judges Records Chair
Harold McDonell: Gifts and Memorials Chair

The Georgia Hosta Society

The Georgia Hosta Society offers a yearly hosta show, four **Georgia Hosta Notes** newsletters and four general meetings, garden tours and workshops, an annual plant sale, and many other benefits. Annual membership dues are \$15 per Individual, \$25 for a family membership. Send membership inquiries and dues to Becky Paris – VP Membership, 4980 Exodus Court, Marietta, GA 30062. For further information, go to www.gahosta.org.

The American Hosta Society

The American Hosta Society offers participation in all national activities, including a national convention; two issues annually of **The Hosta Journal**, each with nearly 100 pages, many interesting and informative articles, and dozens of color and black and white pictures; and one annual **Online Hosta Journal**. ENewsletters are also published periodically to keep members informed. Membership dues are \$30 individual and \$34 family membership per year (US). Contact Sandie Markland - Membership Secretary, PO Box 7539, Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948 or go to AHSMembershipSecretary@Charter.net. For additional information, go to www.americanhostasociety.org.

Dixie Region (AHS Region 3)

All members of GHS and AHS are automatically members of the Dixie Region. The region offers annual meetings, garden tours, judging clinics and other activities. For information, go to the Dixie Region Website: www.dixiehosta.net.

Hosta Cultivar Registration

For all questions about registering hosta cultivars, contact Gayle Hartley Alley, ICRA for Hosta at HostaRegistry@gmail.com.

2021 Calendar of Events

September 11, 2021 - General Meeting - Deen Day Sanders Garden House - Annual Auction
October 16, 2021 - Board Meeting
November 13, 2021 - General Meeting - Deen Day Sanders Garden House - Speaker TBA
Jan 8, 2022 - Board Meeting
February 12, 2022 - General Meeting - Deen Day Sanders Garden House
March 12, 2022 - Board Meeting
April 9, 2022 - General Meeting - Deen Day Sanders Garden House - Annual Spring Auction
May 14, 2022 - Hosta Show and Plant Sale - Location to be determined.
May/June - Garden Tours - Additional details to be announced later.
June 2-4, 2022 - Dixie Region Meeting - Knoxville, Tennessee
June 8-12, 2022 - American Hosta Society National Convention - Brooklyn Park (Minneapolis), Minnesota
August 13, 2022 - Board Meeting
September 10, 2022, 2022 - General Meeting - Deen Day Sanders Garden House
October 8, 2022 - Board Meeting
November 5, 2022 - General Meeting - Deen Day Sanders Garden House

GHS Membership Registration– 2022

Name:

Address:

Home Phone:

Cell Phone:

Email:

Georgia Hosta Notes newsletters will be sent to members via email to save production and mailing expenses unless you specify that you prefer a paper copy. Please check here if you want a paper copy ____.

Annual Dues are \$15 for individuals or \$25 for a family (two or more persons living in the same household).

Please make check payable to The Georgia Hosta Society.

**Send completed form and payment to:
Becky Paris – VP Membership, 4980 Exodus Court, Marietta, GA 30062**

Advertising Rates for *Georgia Hosta Notes*

Georgia Hosta Notes welcomes advertisements. To place an ad, send formatted ad along with payment made to The Georgia Hosta Society to Harold McDonell - Editor, 110 Dawn Drive, Fayetteville, Ga. 30215 (haroldmcdonell@aol.com) at least one month prior to meeting date.

Full Page - \$50 Half Page - \$30 Quarter Page - \$20 One Eighth Page - \$10