



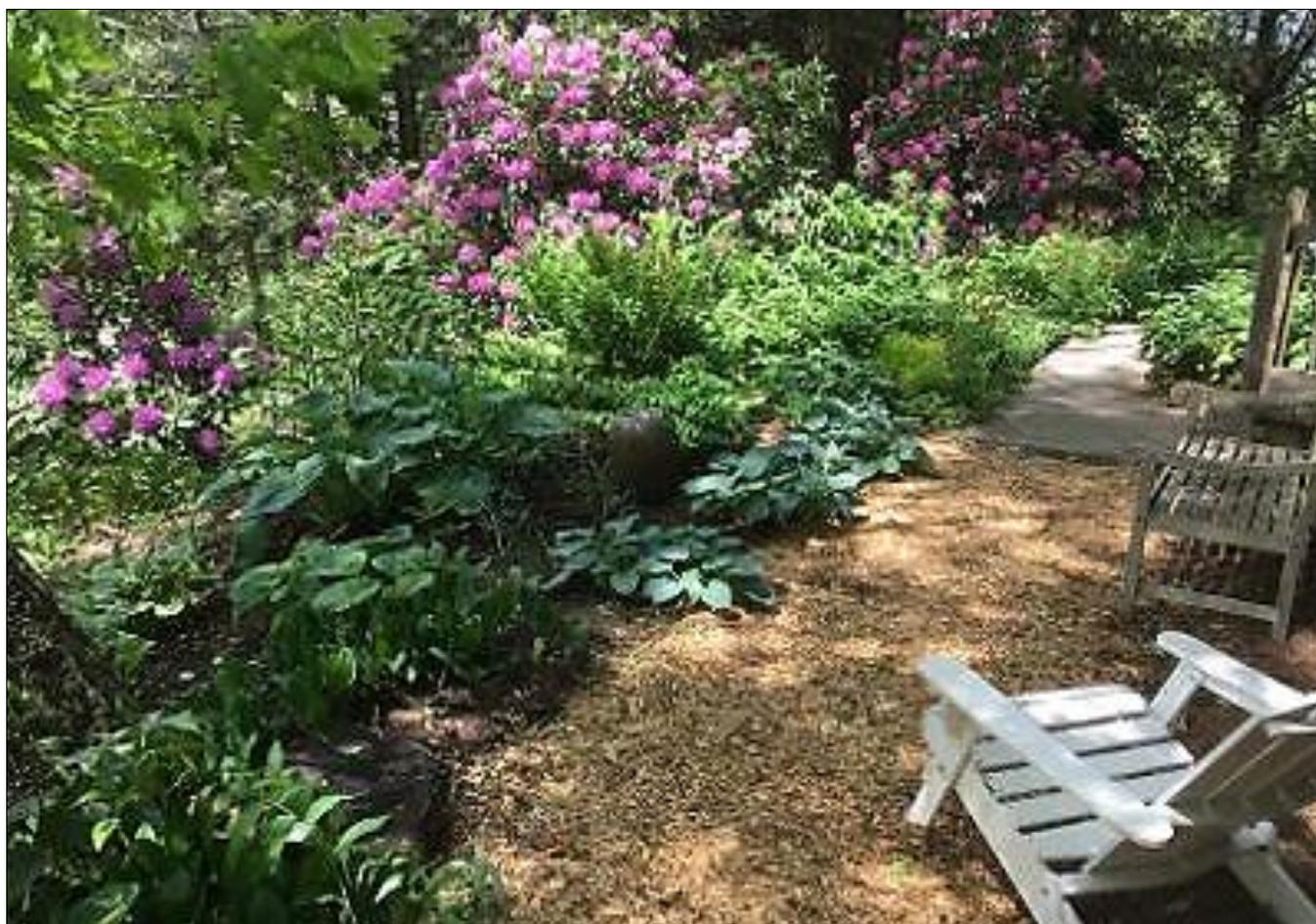
# Georgia Hosta Notes

A Publication of The Georgia Hosta Society

Volume 38

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No. 1



A spring scene from GHS member Dexter Henry's mountain retreat in North Carolina. Although it may now be the dead of winter, we know spring will soon be with us, bringing back our beloved hostas and a riot of spring color.

See more spring preview pictures of members' gardens on page 16.



## President's Message

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By Greg Ferguson

### Hello to our hosta family!

Here we are in the middle of winter. Georgia's weather is always so unpredictable! Where else can you go from short sleeves to a heavy coat within a couple of days? Nevertheless, our hostas are tucked away and enjoying their winter's rest, awaiting nature's signals to wake up and show off their exciting displays.

Some photos have been making the rounds on social media lately that you might have seen. The photos show a wide array of colors for hostas, including purple, red, lime green, magenta and others. For our hosta novices, we remind you: *caveat emptor* – let the buyer beware. Although there are expert hybridizers around who are continually discovering new colors, sizes, shapes, and textures, some of these “new finds” are utter fiction. Always trust your experienced, reliable hosta growers and vendors for your supply of hostas! And if you ever wonder if a hosta is real, ask one of your hosta family. You'll learn from the question, and you'll both get a good laugh.

The November 13, 2021 GHS meeting was in-person. Thanks to hospitality chair Julia Lyons, we had a great pot-luck style meal. Our silent auction was successful and brought in some welcomed funds. The new slate of officers was installed. Our programs included “Hosta ID” (Sandra Bussell), “How to Label Your Plants” (Scott Smith and Mark Malaguerra), and “Hosta Diseases and Challenges” (Harold McDonell).

Due to the resurgence of COVID, the Board has decided that the February 12, 2022 meeting will be held online via Zoom. Sandra Bussell and Mary Lepore will present “Hostas 101”, a summary of tips and tricks gleaned from our hosta growers. Sandra and Mary surveyed our hosta family to identify successful and unsuccessful hosta varieties, and to compile a list of recommendations to make hosta life easier. This will be very practical and appropriate for hosta growers at all levels of experience. By the way, having a February virtual meeting will take winter weather out of the equation, especially nice since Georgia winter weather is so unpredictable.

At this time, we are cautiously planning for other 2022 general meetings and our annual Leaf Show and Plant Sale to be in person but we don't have enough reliable information to make final decisions yet. So, stay tuned.

We are planning to have garden tours again this year. As we have said in previous messages: If you would be interested in having your garden, plants, or landscape as part of a garden tour, please contact me – for 2022 or for 2023. You do not have to be an expert or have a perfect garden to host. You do not have to be a GHS member to attend or to host.

Put February 12 on your calendar. Invite your friends to watch with you. Stay safe!

Thank you for your support of The Georgia Hosta Society!

Greg Ferguson

## **Next Meeting February 12, 2022 11:00 AM**

### **February 12, 2022 Meeting to Again Be Held Online via Zoom - 11:00 am**

We will once again meet via Zoom for our Saturday, February 12th meeting. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 Omicron pandemic, your Board decided the safest approach was to have this meeting virtually. We hope the rest of our meetings this year will be in-person events. Our experience with our previous general meetings using Zoom last year was good so we are hoping all will go well again for this meeting.

Scott Smith has arranged the Zoom meeting for us and has again made gaining access as easy as can be. All you have to do is download the Zoom app for your device if you haven't done so already, then sign in to the Zoom web site on the meeting date using Scott's instructions. Details about signing in are shown on the next page of this newsletter.

### **February 12th Program - "Hostas 101 - Growing Hostas in Georgia"**

Our February program will be presented by GHS members Sandra Bussell and Mary Lepore, called "Hostas 101 - Growing Hostas in Georgia." It will be a primer for growing hostas in our Zones 7b-8a gardens and will include identification of hostas recommended by GHS members as being particularly easy to grow in the south. This program should not only be a must for inexperienced hosta growers, it will also provide interesting information for growers at all experience levels.

### **Time to Pay 2022 Dues**

Our 2022 GHS membership dues are due by no later than February 15. You may use the form on the last sheet of the newsletter if you need your membership information updated. You may mail dues to Becky Paris, Membership Secretary, at the address shown on the form or pay your dues using the membership renewal feature on the GHS web site. If you are unsure of whether or not you have renewed for 2022, just contact Becky by email or phone and she will be happy to check your status.

### **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. Please plan now to take more pictures of your gardens this year, especially of hostas and hosta groupings, hosta flowers, and landscape scenes. Send them to our newsletter editor, Harold McDonell, at [haroldmcdonell@aol.com](mailto: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.

## Instructions for Joining the February 12th Zoom meeting

Below are the instructions for joining the February 12th Zoom meeting. If you have not already done so, you must download the Zoom app onto the device you are using to access the meeting. It is a free app. If you have any questions, please contact Scott Smith at 404 486-3471 or Greg Ferguson at 770 436-4846 for assistance.

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Scott Smith is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Georgia Hosta Society General Meeting

Time: Feb 12, 2022 11:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85215671603?pwd=WitpazUwMjVmQ1lVYjl5YnM3UnJnUT09>

Meeting ID: 852 1567 1603

Passcode: 290397

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,85215671603#,,,,\*290397# US (Chicago)

+19292056099,,85215671603#,,,,\*290397# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 852 1567 1603

Passcode: 290397

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85215671603?pwd=WitpazUwMjVmQ1lVYjl5YnM3UnJnUT09>



## 2022 Region Three Dixie Regional Meeting - June 2-4

### Hostas in the Smokies

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](http://www.easttnhostasociety.net), and on the Dixie Region web site, [www.dixiehosta.net](http://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 are available at [hostavision2022.com](http://hostavision2022.com).

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## Hosta of the Year 2022

With the increasing number of hosta cultivars introduced each year it is increasingly difficult for nursery owners and gardeners to choose just the right hostas for their sales areas and gardens. To this end the American Hosta Growers Association established the AHGA Hosta of the Year in 1996. Hostas of the Year are selected by a vote of AHGA members. Award winners are hostas that are good garden plants in all regions of the country, are widely available in sufficient supply, and retail for about \$15.00 in the year of selection.

The 2022 Hosta of the Year is *H. 'Island Breeze'*, a popular medium-sized cultivar that is registered as 12" tall and 28" wide. Its broadly ovate leaves have dark green margins with bright yellow centers in the early spring which become more chartreuse during the season if grown in heavier shade. The centers become lighter yellow when grown in more light. Showy petioles have intense red speckles which bleed up into the leaves. *H. 'Island Breeze'* has nice lavender flowers borne in mid-summer. Originated by Walters Gardens, it is a sport of 'Fire Island'.



***Hosta 'Island Breeze'***  
**2022 AHGA Hosta of the Year**  
**Photo: Walters Gardens, Inc.**

## Our November 13th Meeting

Our general meeting last November 13 was special in a couple of ways. First, we installed our new officers for the 2022-2023 term and second, we once again practiced our potluck lunch tradition which had been on hold since COVID-19 struck in 2020. Everyone seemed in great spirits and we enjoyed the program presented by our own members. We also had what was probably our largest ever silent auction, and almost everything was sold. Here are a few pictures taken at the meeting by our club photographer, Mikky Lockwood. Thanks, Mikky, for some great pics of the meeting.



GHS members look through some of the many items available in the silent auction.

## More Pics from Our November 13th Meeting



Newly-Elected Officers for 2022-2023 Installed





## Editor's Message and Hosta Ramblings

by Harold McDonell

### Looking Forward to 2022

Yes, I am really looking forward to 2022. After the dismal 2020 and the not-so-great 2021, I am counting on 2022 being the breakthrough year when things finally start to return to normal. As I am writing this, Omicron has made its debut and is setting return-to-normalcy back a little on the pandemic front. However, I am confident that, with all the new tools we have on-line already or coming soon, we will be able to cope with it well. I certainly hope so.

I am excited for the future of hostas. Almost every day now, I get notifications of new cultivars reaching the market. So many of them are beyond what I could ever have imagined when I first became a hostaholic almost 40 years ago. AND, these stunning new plants are coming from so many sources, not just a few. It seems that hosta hybridizing has become a serious hobby for many more people now, and not just in the United States. Our fellow European hostaholics are producing knockdown gorgeous new hostas. There is also a ton of fantastic Japanese hostas just waiting for the opportunity to cross the Pacific and come our way.

I also see progress on the tissue culture (tc) bottleneck. As you probably know, we lost a couple of major tc labs just a few years ago and the result was our very own hosta supply chain problems. There just was not enough tc capacity to produce the number of plants needed to fill the demand. Other labs have now stepped in to help ease the shortages. That means we get the plants we want and we get them at reasonable prices, even for the newest cultivars. There also seems to be a revival of mass producing more of the old tried-and-true cultivars again. Many of these plants have been in short supply for years. The market is certainly there with all of our many new hostaholics clamoring to find the older cultivars such as *H.* 'Sun Power', 'Big Daddy', and 'Ann Kulpa' - to name a few. We just need the plants to be available.

Yes, I think the future is bright for the hosta world and I am looking forward to 2022 and the years beyond.



***Hosta* 'Hope Springs Eternal' (Hansen)**

**One of the exciting new hostas now available. Introduced in 2021 by Walters Gardens.**

## Last Hostas Standing

In early November, your editor asked GHS members to take pictures of hostas which were still holding on so late in the season. Several of you submitted pictures and some of the best are shown below. If you are looking for hostas that will continue to provide interest through very late fall, you may want to consider some of these cultivars.



***H. 'Vulcan'***  
Mary Lepore's Garden



***H. 'Hadspen Blue'***  
Betty Dworschak's Garden



***H. 'World Cup'***  
Harold McDonell's Garden



***H. 'Empress Wu'***  
Fred Gleaton's Garden



***H. 'June'***  
Betty Dworschak's Garden



***H. 'Monkey Business'***  
Harold McDonell's Garden



***H. 'Etched Glass'***  
Mary Lepore's Garden



***H. 'Frozen Margarita'* and *H. 'Ripple Effect'***  
Mary Lepore's Garden

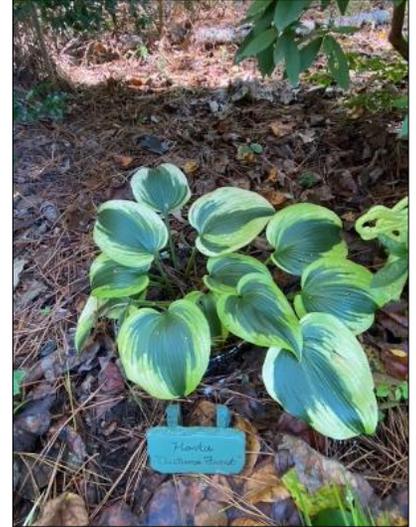
## Last Hostas Standing - (Continued)



***H.* 'El Nino'**  
Steve McMurtry's Garden



***H.* 'Venetian Blue'**  
Harold McDonell's Garden



***H.* 'Autumn Frost'**  
Betty Dworschak's Garden

## A Late Season Beauty - What's my Name?



Here is one more late season beauty, a magnificent little mini, obviously one of the newer members of the *H.* 'Blue Mouse Ears' family, whose picture was submitted by Betty Dworschak. Betty has misplaced the name of this baby. Do you know what it is? If you think you know its name, please let us know.

## There's a Hydrangea for That!

Time to update our ideas.  
Let's go beyond the Mopheads and Annabelles.

By Sandra Bussell, Athens, GA  
AHS Hardiness Zone 8a

A beautiful new hydrangea caught my eye recently and I started to think about just how useful and versatile hydrangeas can be. There are some interesting hydrangeas involving species and hybrids other than *Hydrangea macrophylla* and *H. arborescens* 'Annabelle' which offer variations in form, flower color, flowering season, habitat needs, and pollinator attractiveness including one which is just a Wow!



That new hydrangea which I discovered recently weeps and cascades. *H.* 'Fairytrail Bride'(tm), marketed in the US by Proven Winners, has long trailing stems covered in white lace-cap flowers in spring, perfect for draping over a wall or cascading out of a large pot. A Japanese introduction, it is a vigorous hybrid, presumably partly *H. macrophylla* and perhaps partly *H. angustipetala*\*, and will definitely need protection from our hot afternoon sun. It won the Chelsea Flower Show Plant of the Year award in 2018. Thanks for the photo to Wilson Bros. where you may buy this plant, amongst other sources. It should be more widely available Spring 2022.

Growing up rather than down are the climbing Hydrangeas, such as *Hydrangea anomola petiolaris*. It will adhere itself to a tree or a wall and can climb vigorously once established. In a sense, it will cascade too if planted in a tall pot and allowed to spill over the edges. Flowers are usually white lace-caps. Variegated leaf forms are available. All have stunning yellow foliage in fall.



The ever-popular *Hydrangea macrophylla* cultivars, of which there are hundreds, come in shades ranging from white through pink and blue to deep purple. Apart from the white ones, most are affected by soil acidity – the lower the pH the bluer the flowers will be. Around here, these shrubs need protection from afternoon sun, need regular moisture and usually flower during Spring. (Editor's Note: the macrophyllas are also often damaged by our usual late frosts.) This Hydrangea kaleidoscope is not my topic at this time.

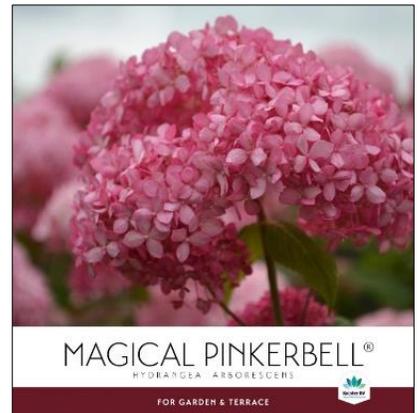
## There's a Hydrangea for That! - (Continued)



On the other hand, *Hydrangea involucrata* doesn't come into flower until very late summer or early fall. It has large, dark green, fuzzy leaves and can live in quite deep shade. The flowers are beautiful and so are the buds. They look like golf balls! The epithet 'involucrata' refers to the whorled bracts which encase the flower bud. A great advantage of this plant is that it flowers on old or new wood, so it can be chopped right down to the ground in early spring or simply left unpruned. This photo was taken on October 10th in my garden.

Summer-flowering, sun-loving hydrangeas need an article all to themselves!

Here I will just mention *Hydrangea* 'Magical Pinkerbell' which will have to work hard to live down that name, in my opinion. But it is an attractive pink *H. arborescens* cultivar. Pink flowers and yellow leaves are the characteristics breeders are looking for in this species, according to Dr Michael Dirr.\*\*



Interested in something other than boring green leaves on your hydrangeas? How about *Hydrangea* 'Plum Passion Improved'? This is a *H. aspera* variety introduced by Monrovia. Plant explorer Dan Hinkley brought its parent back from China. Asperas can get quite tall (6'). It would be interesting to see if the leaves would remain purple in our Southern heat and humidity

One Hydrangea which I know from personal experience has very healthy, glossy dark green foliage and does extremely well here is *Hydrangea* 'Fuji Waterfall', also known as *H.* 'Fuji-no-taki', 'Shooting Star' and other names. It is a *Hydrangea serrata* (Mountain hydrangea) with a lace-cap flower. The sterile florets (the larger flowers around the edges) are double!



## There's a Hydrangea for That! - (Continued)

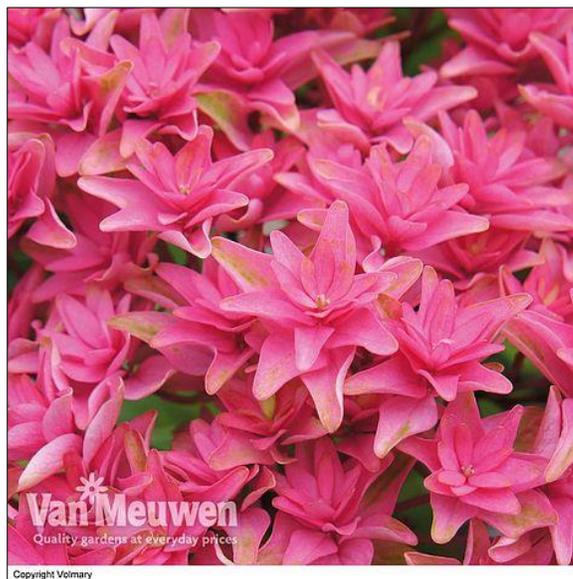
Ah yes, sterility and fertility: As you may already know, insects and other pollinators need fertile flowers to feed from and thus do their pollinating duty. The 'regular' Mophead-type *H. macrophylla* flower is made up almost entirely of large colorful but sterile florets or bracts and is therefore of no use to pollinators. To our eye, the fertile flowers are much less attractive, being very small and usually off-white in color. Here is a hydrangea which addresses that problem.



**Hydrangea 'Golden Crane'** is a *Hydrangea angustipetala* which Dan Hinkley developed from seed he brought back from Southern China. Not only are the fertile florets yellow and relatively showy, it also offers jagged edged white sterile florets and is even fragrant – a rarity in this Genus. It flowers early and then for an extended period as it flowers on both old and new wood.

Monrovia introduced this plant, but for some reason, no longer offers it. I would love to grow it.

Finally, the promised 'Wow'. **Hydrangea 'Princess Diana - Wow Time'** is another new product of the hybridizers. It is likely a cross between *H. macrophylla* and *H. paniculata*. This time, the result has deep pink, double or triple flowers.



These are just a few beautiful and versatile hydrangeas to whet your appetite. There are so many more. I wish I could grow them all.

\*<https://www.nurserymag.com/article/dirr-hydrangea-angustipetala/>

\*\* Dirr's new book ***The Hydrangea Book, The Authoritative Guide*** published 2021

## Hosta Color Changes

(This article originated at the Walters Gardens, Inc. web site and is reprinted from other local hosta society newsletters.)

### **Hostas go through three main types of color changes:**

**Viridescent color change** — The root word of viridescent means green, so a viridescent hosta becomes greener as the season progresses. It may start off yellow, chartreuse, whitish-green, and then darkens to green.

(Editor's Note: Some examples of viridescent hostas are 'Appletini', 'Dancing Queen', 'Dawn's Early Light', 'Fire Island', 'Guardian Angel', 'Lemon Lime', 'Sea Fire', 'War Paint', and 'Whirlwind'.)

**Lutescent color change** — Hostas that are lutescent lighten as the season progresses. This may mean a shift from chartreuse to yellow or a shift from dark to light green.

(Editor's Note: Some examples of lutescent hostas are 'Abiqua Recluse', 'Choo Choo Train', 'Coast to Coast', 'Glory', 'Gold Standard', 'Golden Sculpture', 'Great Lakes Gold', 'Journey's End', 'Maui Buttercups', 'Midas Touch', 'Paul's Glory', 'Sun Power', and 'Zounds'.)

**Albescent color change** — The word alba means white, and hostas that whiten from yellow or chartreuse to white are called albescent.

(Editor's Note: Some examples of albescent hostas are 'Bob Olsen', 'Cat's Eye', 'Curly Fries', 'Pineapple Upsidedown Cake', and 'Remember Me'.)

**Blue hosta color** is different because even though it looks blue, it is not actually blue. It is the waxy coating on the leaf surface which causes light to be reflected in such a way that the leaves appear blue. Depending on the amount of chlorophyll in the actual leaf, some blues can be very light and some can be much darker. Most blue-leafed hostas become green at some time during the growing season when their waxy surface is not as reflective as it once was. The wax seems to almost melt off with exposure to hot sun, harsh watering, or some pesticide sprays. Once the wax is gone, the same leaves will not regain their blue hue that year. To achieve the best blue leaf color in a hosta, select newer and improved blue varieties that have excellent waxy leaves. Plant them where they will receive ample indirect or lightly filtered light. Early morning sun is best in most regions, but it is most important to remember to keep the leaves protected from the sun during the hottest parts of the day. Take care not to rub the wax off the leaves by avoiding high pressure irrigation and petroleum-based pesticides.

To help you understand how hostas experience color changes, let's look at some examples of a few popular varieties. *Hosta montana* 'Aureomarginata' is an older variety that uses Latin in its name to describe its variegation. "Aureo" comes from the Latin word aureus meaning golden while "marginata" means margin. This would lead one to believe that this is a green hosta with a gold margin. Though it does exhibit a yellowish margin for a couple weeks in early spring, it quickly turns creamy white when the leaves completely unfurl. Often the margin lightens even further to white in summer. Thus, you can see how the name 'Aureomarginata' could be deceiving.

Another springtime favorite is Hosta 'Sea Fire'. As its name implies, this hosta is ablaze with color in the springtime. Just when the daffodils are blooming, 'Sea Fire' has emerged with nearly the same light yellow coloring. Few plants can rival its excitement as it emerges from a long winter sleep. However, as the warmer weather of summer approaches, its leaves turn from yellow to lush tropical green.

People familiar with the archetypal variegated Hosta 'Gold Standard' recognize the characteristic parchment gold center of its leaves. Amazingly though, its early spring color would not remind you of a plant named 'Gold Standard', for there is no gold to it at all when the leaves first emerge. Rather, the young leaves are green or chartreuse with a deep green margin. The golden color is not achieved until later in the season.

Another classic, *Hosta* 'Undulata Mediopicta', is described as having attractive green leaves with white centers. However, the heat of summer often causes the white center to darken, initially producing a green frosting or fogging and eventually darkening to all-green.

*Hosta* 'Remember Me' really requires two photographs to tell its whole story. When the plant emerges in spring, its leaves are bright gold surrounded by blue-green borders. By midsummer, however, the center of the leaves brighten to ivory or near white. The change is so drastic that many people would not even recognize the plant if they were familiar with it only in one season.

Though not all hostas are chameleons, changing their leaf colors during the season, most are. Perhaps the only hostas that do not exhibit any kind of color change are those that are solid green. Perhaps this is one of the things that makes them so unique and explains why the thousands of hosta varieties are so fascinating and popular with today's gardeners and collectors.

{Editor's Note - We have not included pictures with this article. Indeed, the subject is so far-ranging, it would take many pictures to show all the seasonal color changes that hostas can display. We recommend that you go to the Hosta Library at [www.hostalibrary.org](http://www.hostalibrary.org) and scroll through various pictures of individual cultivars that often show how our hosta chameleons can change their colors as the season progresses. Also at the Hosta Library site are the Rawson's Lists, a number of lists compiled by Don Rawson of hostas with particular characteristics, including seasonal color changes. Note that Mr. Rawson expands the color-change categories to include Azurescent hostas (hostas which become bluer during the growing season) and Flip-Flop hostas (hostas such as 'Yellow Polka Dot Bikini' in which the variegated colors reverse during the growing season.)}

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### **Red Hosta Flowers? YES!**

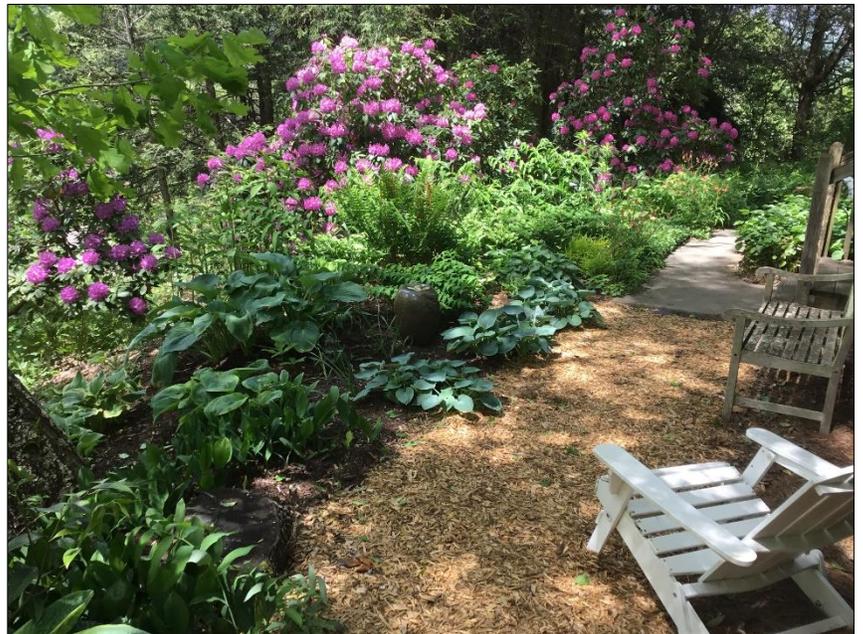
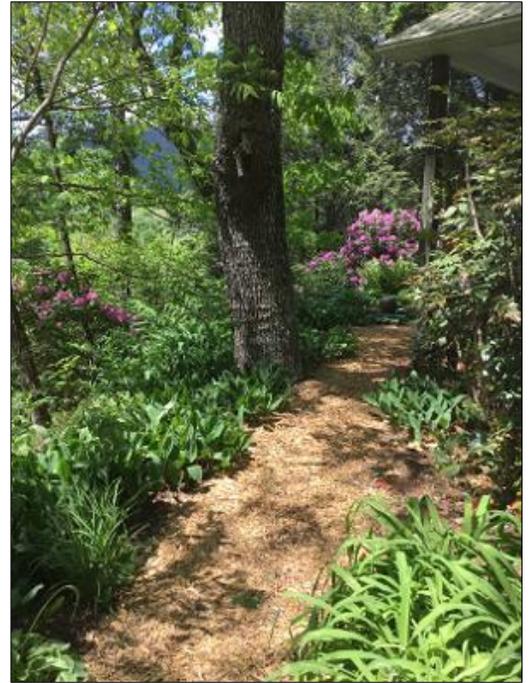
Mr. Hiroshi Abe, a noted plant authority and dedicated plant enthusiast from Japan, posts wonderful pictures on Facebook of many plant species, including hostas. He obviously loves hosta flowers and never fails to include many unusual and spectacular hosta flower pictures among his posts. Many of his hosta flower pics were displayed in an article in the *Georgia Hosta Notes* - Volume 36, Number 4, November 2020 issue.

This picture is an example of the strides being made in producing hostas with true red flowers. Notice also how red the scape and buds are. Isn't it spectacular?

## Spring is Coming - Eventually!

The cover picture for this issue provides a sneak preview of that glorious time in the South - spring. Right now in the middle of winter, it may be somewhat difficult to be thinking of spring but it will come. We promise! Last spring, GHS members Dexter Henry and Judy Groover provided pictures of spring gardens filled with an explosion of color. Unfortunately, they were submitted too late to make the April 2021 newsletter so we are providing them now for your pleasure and as a reminder that spring really is just around the corner.

### **Scenes from Dexter Henry's Mountain Retreat in North Carolina and Home in Fayetteville, Georgia**



Scenes from Judy Groover's wonderful spring garden in Leeds, Alabama



**THE GEORGIA HOSTA SOCIETY  
MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING  
November 13, 2021**

The business meeting was called to order at 11:31 am by President Greg Ferguson.

Minutes of the September 11, 2021 general meeting were published in the October issue of the *Georgia Hosta Notes* newsletter. Chuck Zdeb moved that the minutes be accepted as printed; Kendra Spadoni seconded the motion and it was approved.

The organization is in excellent financial standing. The plant auction in September raised \$761. We may begin paying 2022 dues at this time. Dues may be paid directly from the GHS website or checks may be mailed to Becky Paris, Membership Chair. Scott Smith, Communications Coordinator, demonstrated how to access and use that function of the website.

Greg asked that anyone who did not receive the October newsletter see Scott to confirm that we have a correct email or postal address.

In the interest of brevity, reports from other officers were dispensed with but may be accessed in the minutes of the board meeting published in the October newsletter.

There being no further business, Claudia Walker moved that the business meeting be adjourned and Scott Smith seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 11:36 am.

Following the business meeting, officers for the 2022-2023 term were installed.

They are: President – Greg Ferguson; 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Programs – Steve McMurtry; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Membership – Becky Paris; 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President, Publications – Harold McDonell; Secretary – Judy Beeler; Treasurer – Dexter Henry; Parliamentarian – Mark Malaguerra; Ex-Officio and Communications Director – Scott Smith; Directors – Sandra Bussell, Katie Lindquist, Chuck Zdeb, Greg Barner, Mary Lepore and Richard Jolly.

Our program consisted of presentations by Scott Smith on plant labeling, by Sandra Bussell on hosta identification, and by Harold McDonell on plant diseases and challenges. Members also brought in plants and gardening paraphernalia for a Silent Auction, held throughout the general meeting. Gardening books from George Schmid's private library were offered as part of the Silent Auction.

Judy Beeler, Secretary



**THE GEORGIA HOSTA SOCIETY**  
**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING**  
**January 8, 2022    Via Zoom**

The Zoom meeting was called to order by President Greg Ferguson at 9:38 a.m. Participating were: Greg Barner, Judy Beeler, Sandra Bussell, Dexter Henry, Richard Jolly, Mary Lepore, Katie Lindquist, Mark Malaguerra, Harold McDonell, Steve McMurtry, Becky Paris, Scott Smith and Chuck Zdeb.

Minutes of the October 16, 2021 board meeting were published in the October 2021 issue of *Georgia Hosta Notes*. Chuck moved and Mark seconded that the minutes be accepted as published. The motion was approved.

The treasurer's report was distributed to board members electronically earlier. Dexter said that our 2021 income/expense difference was about \$429 less than expected. Factors affecting the deficit include: the absence of a spring plant sale in 2021, a moratorium on collecting membership dues, and expenses for a vendor-provided lunch for one general meeting. There have also been increases in costs for website maintenance and the Zoom subscription.

Dexter pointed out that our largest expense continues to be rental of the off-site storage facility that contains supplies for the annual hosta leaf show and sale. Plans were made to survey the contents of the rented space prior to the next show to determine if we can reduce the size of the needed space and, thus, reduce the rental cost.

We discussed tapping in to the Certificate of Deposit owned by the organization, but we determined that no such action is needed at this time. The silent auction held at the November general meeting netted an all-time high of \$713.00.

Harold moved that the 2022 budget as submitted by Dexter be approved; Scott seconded the motion and it was approved.

The required annual audit of the 2021 financial records will be conducted by Greg, Steve, and Chuck following the February general meeting and the results reported to the Board.

Hospitality Chair Julia Lyons was not in attendance but reported to Greg that general meeting dates for all of 2022 have been confirmed with the Dean Day Sanders Garden House. The food theme for the February meeting will be "Heart-Warming Foods." Julia asked that, when possible, we members help with facility cleanup following our meetings. Often, she and husband George are left with the entire housekeeping responsibility.

Steve McMurtry reported that it is unlikely that we will have any nationally-recognized speakers for our 2022 meetings. Most hosta experts are unwilling to travel long distances and none thus far have agreed to holding Zoom presentations. Steve is still hoping that some Zoom lectures may be arranged. The positive part of this is that the organization will save money on travel and accommodation costs.

The program for our February general meeting will be "Hostas 101" and will be presented by members Mary Lepore and Sandra Bussell. They will discuss specific hosta species that are known to grow successfully in our climate. Members have been encouraged to submit recommendations to Sandra. Once the lists are finalized, Scott will add the "good" list to our website.

## MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

January 8, 2022 - continued

Part of this program will be presented by Power Point and will require access to Wi-Fi. Greg will ask Julia to contact the Garden House to determine if Wi-Fi is available.

The February meeting will also include another silent auction of garden-related objects.

Membership Chair Becky Paris said that some members appear to be confused about when club dues are payable. Several people have made duplicate payments for the same year. When she determines that this has happened, she returns the second check. If the payment was made on-line, Becky extends their membership through the next year. We agreed that in the future, dues payments will be stressed beginning no earlier than November, thus hoping to avoid confusion.

The general membership has not been provided a current membership list in quite sometime. When the next newsletter is distributed, Scott will attach a PDF format listing of current members.

At this point, we are proceeding with plans for the annual hosta show and sale in May 2022. Dexter will contact the First Baptist Church of Tucker by the end of January to determine if that venue will be available to us. If it should be unavailable, we do not intend to seek another location. Without a proper physical setup for our plant vendors, the show and sale would not be feasible. We might consider alternatives, such as holding an unsanctioned leaf competition just for members or having a virtual leaf competition as we did in 2021. At the next board meeting (March 12), we will decide the future of the 2022 show and sale.

The board position of Chair of Ways and Means is currently vacant. We identified one of our current members who would be an asset to the board; Greg will contact her to determine her interest in the position.

Plans for spring garden tours should be finalized by March. Several members' gardens as well as some commercial gardens in the area are under consideration.

There will be a special called board meeting on January 22 to finalize plans for the February general meeting.

There being no further business, Chuck moved that the meeting be adjourned; Sandra seconded and we adjourned at 11:17 a.m.

Judy Beeler, Secretary



**THE GEORGIA HOSTA SOCIETY**  
**MINUTES OF Called BOARD MEETING**  
**January 22, 2022 Via Zoom**

The special Zoom meeting was called to order by President Greg Ferguson at 9:36 a.m. Participating were: Greg Barner, Judy Beeler, Sandra Bussell, Dexter Henry, Richard Jolly, Mary Lepore, Katie Lindquist, Julia Lyons, Mark Malaguerra, Harold McDonell, Steve McMurtry, Becky Paris, Scott Smith and Chuck Zdeb.

Julia has attempted to determine if the Dean Day Sanders meeting facility has Wi-Fi capability that can be used for our general meetings, including the upcoming Power Point presentation, "Hostas 101." Her contact at the Garden House has not been available.

Because of the on-going COVID threat, there was much discussion about whether the February general meeting should be held virtually or in-person. Ultimately, Scott presented and Sandra seconded a motion that the meeting be held remotely, using the Zoom platform to transmit the program to the membership. With a vote of 11 approvals and 3 opposed, the motion was passed.

We plan to have the next general meeting (April 9) in-person. This will be our spring auction of plants and other garden-related items.

The planned audit of the 2021 financial records will be conducted following the April meeting.

Steve has secured Josh Spece, owner of In the Country Garden and Gifts in Independence, Iowa, as the speaker for our September general meeting. Josh's presentation will be virtual. The gardens and ponds operated by Josh and his family offer over 900 varieties of hostas, as well as rock gardens, trough gardens, ornamental grasses, dwarf conifers, unusual trees and shrubs, and many uncommon sun and shade perennials.

The First Baptist Church of Tucker has advised Dexter that the facility will be available for our leaf show and sale in May. Dexter expects to receive an agreement/contract from them within a week. At the next board meeting (March 12), we will evaluate the COVID situation and make show plans accordingly.

The board position of Chair of Ways and Means is still unfilled. Members are encouraged to contact Dexter or Greg Ferguson if interested in volunteering.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:41 a.m.

Judy Beeler, Secretary



# THE GEORGIA HOSTA SOCIETY

## 2022-2023 OFFICERS AND BOARD

President: Greg Ferguson	770 436-4846 C 770 789-9057
1 <sup>st</sup> VP Programs: Steve McMurtry	404 323-4406
2 <sup>nd</sup> VP Membership: Becky Paris	770 508-8651
3 <sup>rd</sup> VP Publications/Newsletter Editor:	
Harold McDonell	770 461-8882
Secretary: Judy Beeler	404 808-7222
Treasurer: Dexter Henry	770 460-0983
Parliamentarian: Mark Malaguerra	404 752-6423 C 404 808-2866
Ex Officio: Scott Smith	404 752-6423
& Communications Coordinator	C 404 486-3471

## DIRECTORS

### Term

3 <sup>nd</sup>	Sandra Bussell	404 636-5920 C 404 808-2866
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Katie Lindquist	404 237-0546 C 404 863-6425
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Chuck Zdeb	770 593-0895
1 <sup>st</sup>	Greg Barner	404 644-9483
1 <sup>st</sup>	Mary Lepore	678 635-5796
1 <sup>st</sup>	Richard Jolly	770 487-5036

## STANDING COMMITTEES

Historian: Claudia Walker	770 722-3147
Hospitality: Julia Lyons	706 265-3328 C 770 315-3328
Hosta Leaf Show Co-Chairs - 2022:	
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



**Established 1984**

## Georgia Hosta Society Members Holding American Hosta Society Positions:

**Chuck Zdeb:** AHS National Show Chair  
**Sandra Bussell:** AHS Judges Records Chair  
**Harold McDonell:** Gifts and Memorials Chair

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## 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 306 Carney Lane, Ball Ground, Ga 30107. For further information, go to [www.gahosta.org](http://www.gahosta.org).

## The American Hosta Society

The American Hosta Society membership offers participation in all national AHS 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 per year (US). For additional information, go to [www.americanhostasociety.org](http://www.americanhostasociety.org) or Contact Barry Ankney, Membership Secretary - AHS, 1104 Oxford Court, Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois 60181-5249. .

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## 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](http://www.dixiehosta.net).

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## Hosta Cultivar Registration

For all questions about registering hosta cultivars, contact Gayle Hartley Alley, ICRA for Hosta, at the Hosta Treasury - [www.hostaregistrar.org](http://www.hostaregistrar.org).

## 2022 Calendar of Events

February 12, 2022 - General Meeting - Zoom

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 - Setup May 13 - Tucker First Baptist Church, Tucker, Georgia

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 - 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, 306 Carney Lane, Ball Ground, Georgia 30107**

## **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. We will assist with formatting if you desire.

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