



Georgia Hosta Notes

A Publication of The Georgia Hosta Society

Volume 41

January 2025

No. 1



***Hosta* 'Abba Dabba Wow' (Van Horn Nurseries NR) was really putting on a show in Rick and Sheilla Goodenough's Stonewood Slope Garden in Marshfield, Massachusetts during the 2024 AHS National Convention this year. More scenes from Stonewood Slope and other gardens on last year's national convention garden tours can be found starting on Page 10.**



President's Message

By Mark Malaguerra

Happy New Year, fellow gardeners. As I write this and look out over my snow-covered garden, I am trying to remember the last time we had a real snowfall here in the Atlanta metro area. It's pretty to look at for those of us that don't have to get out in it, and we know that it won't stick around long. This is a perfect day to sit by the fireplace with a mug of hot tea and peruse the pile of plant and seed catalogues that have come in over the past few weeks. I have to remind myself that I must find a place for everything I order in my already packed garden spaces as I plan for the upcoming growing season. Gardeners are always looking ahead: what new plants we must have, what we are going to do differently in our gardens.

As I look forward to our 41st year as a society, there are some exciting new developments, as well as some challenges that we are facing. One of the most important new developments is that we will now be able to accept credit cards for purchases made at our meetings. That includes new memberships and membership renewals, 50-50 raffle tickets, and purchases made at our auctions and other sales at our meetings. Our website is being updated with a new look and a new web host. We have also agreed to co-host the Dixie Regional Hosta Society meeting which will coincide with our September 13th meeting. And once again, we will hold our annual Hosta Show and plant sale on May 10th at Tucker First Baptist Church.

The biggest challenge we are facing by far is the need for volunteers. The GHS has relied on the same small circle of volunteers for too long. We have some important positions to fill this coming year. First, Harold McDonell will be stepping down as Newsletter Editor at the end of this year. He has done an outstanding job, but after 10 years Harold is ready to pass the torch. We also have some board positions to be filled at the end of the year, including President, and at least 2 Director positions. We also need volunteers to help with the Hosta Show and plant sale. Please consider a gift of your time and talents to keep the GHS vibrant and thriving.

I hope to see you at our February 8th meeting for food, fellowship, and what promises to be a very informative program "Unleashing the Power of the Hosta Library." Please bring a friend and some food to share. We will also have a silent auction, so look in the garden shed or garage for unused pots, tools, or garden art that you may want to donate. Plants, including houseplants, are also good items for the auction. Stay safe and warm and best wishes for a healthy and prosperous 2025.



Next Meeting February 8, 2025 11:00 AM

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

Our Program for This Meeting:

“Unleashing the Power of the Hosta Library” – a study of the vast array of information available at the Hosta Library web site.

At our next meeting, GHS member and newsletter editor Harold McDonell will be discussing the web site www.hostalibrary.org and showing just what an exciting and informative site it is for hosta lovers. If you have not been to the Hosta Library site before or have not fully explored the site, you will be surprised at the huge amount of information available beyond just the library of pictures. Harold will also give a little history of the beginnings of the Hosta Library back in 1999 and its progression since then. The Hosta Library is a must site for all hosta lovers.

IN THE COUNTRY
Early Bird FREE Shipping
Ends December 31

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Mason Hollow Nursery

Land of the Giants
Hosta Farm

Botanophilia
For People Who Love Plants

HIGHLAND RIM
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HOSTA
LIBRARY
25th ANNIVERSARY

A B C D E F G H
I J K L M N O P
Q R S T U V W X
Y Z *species* created by Bob Axmeier

THANK YOU VENDORS --- HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL

NH HOSTAS
& COMPANION PLANTS

HOSTA
LIBRARY AUCTION

Pine Forest Gardens
grower of quality hostas

Food for the February 8th Meeting – “Anything Goes”



The food theme for our February meeting will again be “Anything Goes.” We hope you will be able to bring a meat, vegetable, appetizer, salad, bread, or anything else you would like. Oh yes, desserts are always in high demand. GHS members do have a sweet tooth! GHS will provide drinks, dining utensils and paper goods.

Silent Auction

We will again have a silent auction at our February meeting. Since many live plants are dormant now, we are looking for contributions of evergreen perennials or shrubs, house plants, garden art and containers, or other garden tools or accessories. Please consider contributing items for the silent auction.

Time to Pay Dues for 2025

Yes, it is that time again. Your 2025 membership fees are due. If you are coming to the February 8 meeting, that would be a good time to give our Membership Chair, Becky Paris, a check for your 2025 dues if you haven’t already done so, or you can mail your check to her at the address shown on the membership registration form on the last page of this newsletter. You may also pay directly online at the GHS website, <https://gahosta.org/> until early February when we migrate to another website platform. Annual dues are only \$15.00 per individual or \$25 for two or more persons living in the same household. See more information about a new way to pay your dues online on the next page.

Member Update

Betty Oglesby recently suffered a broken leg in a fall at her home and is presently in rehabilitation to recover full use of it. Please keep Betty in your thoughts and prayers as she faces this significant health challenge.

In Memoriam – Katie Lindquist



We are saddened to announce that Katie Lindquist passed away on January 7, 2025. Katie had been battling pancreatic cancer for some time.

Katie, along with her husband Fred, was a long-term dedicated member of the Georgia Hosta Society. She often served GHS out of the spotlight but was always there to volunteer as needed. She and Fred have been especially valuable workers at our hosta shows.

Katie served on the GHS Board of Directors for several years and was a Director at the time of her passing. We will miss her wise counsel, her gentle guidance, and her beautiful smile.

Our thoughts and prayers go to Fred and their family.

Dixie Regional Hosta Society



2025 Regional Meeting to be Held in Atlanta in September!

The GHS Board of Directors has agreed to host the 2025 annual Dixie Regional meeting this year in Atlanta. The format will consist of a day of seminars presented by prominent AHS members from around the country. There will also be a luncheon as well as the annual Dixie Region business meeting. Of course, we can also expect a spirited hosta auction and possibly some hosta vending activities. Although everything is still in the planning stage, at this time we think the meeting will be held at a hotel in the Johns Creek area and this meeting will be presented in lieu of our normal GHS meeting on September 13. **The GHS Board has also decided to cover the registration fee for all GHS members in order to encourage our members to attend.** We will have more information for you at our February 8th meeting. Meanwhile, plan now for a fun day of “hosta things” on September 13.

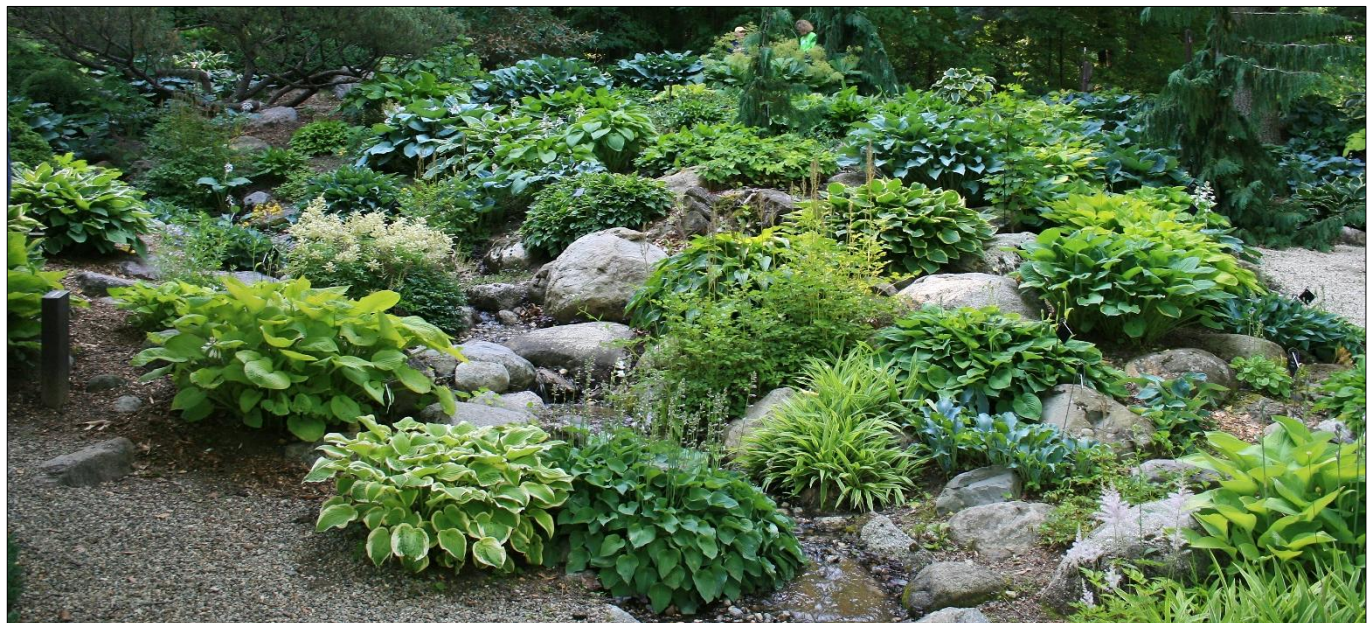
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Another Way to Pay Dues for 2025



As noted on page 4 in the Time-to-Pay Dues segment, GHS is in the process of migrating its website from the present Wild Apricot platform to the GoDaddy platform. Once the migration is complete, the site will have new instructions on the dues paying process, including links to join or renew membership. A new benefit is the addition of a QR (Quick Response) code that allows you to use your camera app on your smart phone to access our membership renewal page to pay dues. **This QR code is available for use now.** All you have to do is open the camera app on your smartphone and point it at the QR code shown here. A prompt will appear on your screen as you point the camera at the QR code. Click on the prompt and you will be

taken right to the online form for GHS membership. Note that the form also includes a donation section. This is a donation to the service provider, not GHS, and is optional. However, any little donation you might make does help the society eliminate credit card processing fees.



The November 2024 Meeting

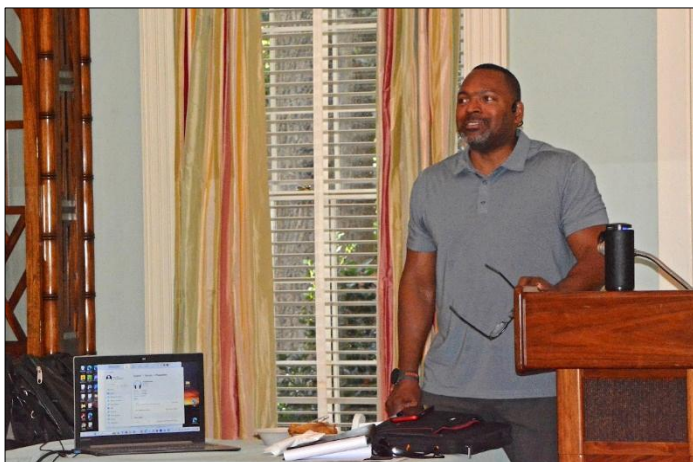
The November 9th meeting was another fun one. After the business meeting, it was time for lunch. As usual, our members really came through again with delicious food dishes prepared with loving care. I don't know how but somehow, the mix of salads, meats, veggies, and desserts always seems to be perfect. The theme for this luncheon was "Anything Goes." Based on its success, we will again set "Anything Goes" as our theme for our February meeting!

After lunch and our 50/50 drawing, we settled down for our program and, boy, was it a good one. Our old friend, Rob Mortko, presented a program featuring the best-of-the-best new hostas just coming on line as well as a look into the future with pictures of fantastic hosta cultivars slated to be on the market in the next couple of years. Our wonderful hybridizers from both the US and Europe continue to surprise us with ever more exciting new plants displaying new forms, new and better colors, more exciting flowers, and intriguing new patterns. Yes, it is definitely a great time to be hooked on hostas!

Below are a few pictures taken at the meeting by our dedicated club photographer, Mikky Lockwood. Enjoy.



Items being assembled for our first ever rummage sale.



Communications Coordinator Scott Smith prepares for our guest speaker's Zoom presentation.



Food Time!

The November 2024 Meeting



Plants and Freezing Temperatures

by Mary Lewnes Albrecht, Professor Emeritus

(Editors Note: This article is courtesy of the author and editor of the East Tennessee Hosta Society's newsletter, Hosta Happenings, January 2024. It helps to explain how different plants react differently to cold temperatures. It also explains why sometimes our plants tolerate extreme cold without damage yet end up with significant damage at other times. It is tailored to Zone 6-7 and East Tennessee, but the information is equally applicable to us in Zones 7b and 8. Accompanying pictures are provided by the editor.)

The short explanation is “Don’t worry! Plants have had this handled for millennia.” But there is a longer explanation that can involve plant physiology. Here’s an explanation in terms everyone should understand.

Different plant species handle freezing temperatures differently based upon where they originated. If the plant originally came from the tropics, it didn't evolve freeze survival mechanisms. This is why it's always useful to know where plants came from. Think about it this way, would you leave a peace lily (*Spathiphyllum* species and hybrids) out in the wintertime in East Tennessee? No! Of course not. It's a tropical plant coming from places like Mexico, Tropical America, Malesia, and the Western Pacific. Most sources list its hardiness zone as 11a through 12b.

Even with the recent revision of the USDA Hardiness Zone Map, East Tennessee is not that tropical. On the other hand, hardiness zones 3 through 9 are commonly listed for *Hosta*. They can survive freezes in East Tennessee (Zones 6 and 7 depending upon elevation) when they have already gone dormant. That's the key – they go dormant!

So, if its January or February and we have freezing temperatures, herbaceous perennials that are dormant will not suffer freeze damage. Woody plant material will behave differently. During the fall, woody plant materials (trees and shrubs) respond to the shortening daylengths and cooler temperatures to prepare for winter. Leaves go dormant and fall off of deciduous plant species. This reduces the surface area exposed to lower humidity that could result in moisture loss from the foliage.

Also during this period of shorter days and cooler nights, plants increase the amount of sugar, salt or other compounds mixed in the water in their cells – plant antifreeze. Having these chemicals in the cells of tree and shrub branches helps to lower the freezing point of cell sap. They can withstand much colder temperatures. Some plants will also reduce the amount of water in the cells by translocating it into the roots. Dormancy also means plants just aren't growing – they are not doing the things that are needed for growth because they are not producing the carbohydrates in their leaves needed to produce more plant cells. Pretty amazing when you think about it.

So at this time of the year, when plants are dormant, they tend to be much less susceptible to freeze damage.



Japanese Maple leaves going dormant in preparation for winter.

Now, if we are pushing hardiness zones, that's a different story. In my garden, I'm pushing hardiness zones. I have cast-iron plant (*Aspidistra* 'Okame' and 'Lennon's Song', both rated for Zones 7b – 10b), two unknown amaryllis varieties (*Hippeastrum* Zones 8 – 10), and Thai Giant elephant ears (*Colocasia gigantea*, Zones 8 – 10).

***Aspidistra elatior* (right) (Editor's note: Tender perennials such as this *aspidistra*, amaryllis, and some gingers may not be reliably hardy in our time zones 7b and 8 but often can survive short spells of unusually cold weather.)**



Yes, we are now Zone 7b in the reclassification. Obviously, I'm pushing my luck with these plants. How do I handle it? Cover them with copious amounts of fallen leaves. The elephant ears and amaryllis are under about a foot of leaves. The cast-iron plants don't receive anything special other than some more mulch around the crowns since they are evergreen.

Camellias are another example of pushing the envelope with hardiness zones. *Camellia japonica* and *C. sasanqua* are listed as Zones 7 to 9. So, we are in the northern area of their hardiness zone. Typically, with hard freezes at this time of the year, those winter flowering varieties will experience damage to the flowers because they are actively growing and expanding the flower parts. Flower parts do not undergo the described process of developing dormancy.



Camellia bloom damaged by 26 degree weather. Note that leaves are undamaged

Freeze damage will be less obvious at this time of the year. We've had cold weather, plants are dormant. **Freeze damage occurs with freakish, early freezes when there is an extreme drop in temperatures.** Or, it may occur in the late winter when temperatures start to warm up and plants are coming out of dormancy. Plants have started the processes to begin growth and they become more susceptible to freeze damage.

So, the bottom line is don't worry about doing anything very special for garden plants now! They're dormant. Start paying attention in March as plants are coming out of their dormancy then. The vernal equinox is March 19, 2024 (it will be March 20, 2025. – the editor); days and nights are now equal length. Plants will know this and will be on their way out of dormancy. And, we have had springs when weather began to warm up in late February and into early March and then lo and behold, freezing temperatures for several nights occur in March. That's when damage can occur. But not now while the plants are dormant.

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2025 Hosta of the Year – 'Skywriter'

The American Hosta Growers Association's 2025 Hosta of the Year is 'Skywriter' (Wols NR). This beautiful medium-sized hosta has ruffled soft blue leaves with white backs and purple petioles. Its parentage is *H.* 'Marilyn Monroe' x (*H.* 'Neptune' x *H.* 'Smoke Signals'). With those genes, you know it has to be good! It has proven to be a good grower all over the country, including here in the south. Attractive lavender flowers occur in late summer.



***Hosta* 'Skywriter'**
Photo: Noah Schwartz

The 2024 American Hosta Society

National Convention, Marlboro, Massachusetts

The annual American Hosta Society Convention was again held in Marlboro, Massachusetts. Building on the success of the previous national convention held in Marlboro in 2011, convention co-chairs Paula Lehtola and Kathie Sisson presented attendees with a great program including interesting guest speakers, many committee meetings to attend, the annual business meeting, a super hosta show, a seedling competition, an ice cream social, and a wonderful wrap-up banquet. Of course, there were garden tours of eleven gardens, each displaying its owner's own personal touches.

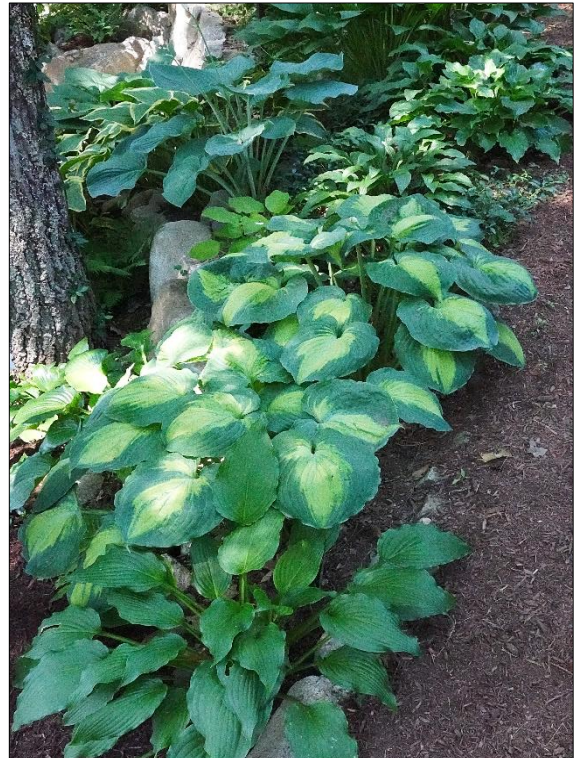
The October 2024 issue of *Georgia Hosta Notes* featured the meetings, show, and seedling competition. This issue will cover half of the tour gardens featured at the convention. The remaining gardens will be featured in the March 2025 issue. Please note that many of the gardens did not have readily visible plant ID markers, so some of the pictures will not include the hostas' names. While the lack of clearly visible plant markers might drive a photographer and this editor up the wall, I must say the practice of hiding markers does make for a more aesthetically pleasing garden.

The 2024 American Hosta Society

National Convention, Marlboro, Massachusetts

Deb and Stan Ames' SJR&P Garden Railway, Chelmsford, Massachusetts

This unique garden is actually a fully operational model railroad extending throughout the garden which contains over 700 hostas as well as numerous other perennials, shrubs and trees. Along every garden path, one will find railroad tracks, crossings, bridges, overpasses, tunnels and water features built to harmonize with the garden. While we were there, several trains were running throughout the garden. What a treat!



The 2024 American Hosta Society

National Convention, Marlboro, Massachusetts

Deb and Stan Ames' SJR&P Garden Railway, Chelmsford, Massachusetts



National Convention, Marlboro, Massachusetts

Mary Arnberg's Bridgewater, Massachusetts Garden



Mary's Magnificent Multi-trunk Silver Maple



National Convention, Marlboro, Massachusetts

Robin Murray's Bridgewater, Massachusetts Garden

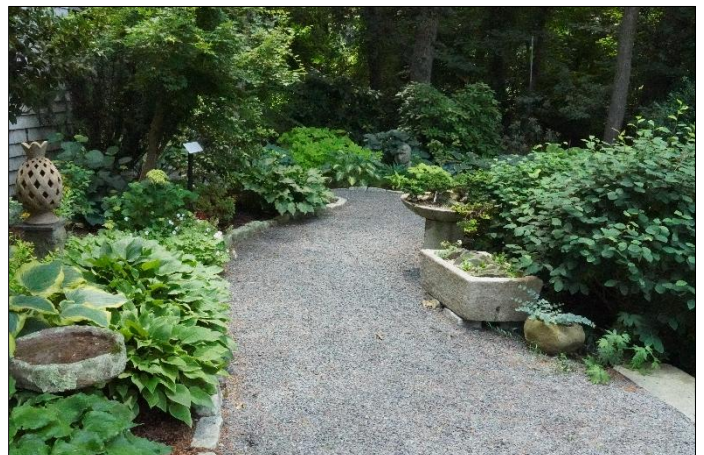
All convention attendees assembled on Thursday afternoon at Robin Murray's home for a special treat, a New England clambake and BBQ that also included boiled New England lobsters. Although an unusually oppressive heat wave presented us with temperatures in the high 90's, a strong breeze kept us relatively comfortable as we tackled our lobsters and clams. Of interest to me was that Robin's beautiful garden is almost completely without shade, showing that one can grow nice hostas in nearly full sun, IF you live up north in New England!



National Convention, Marlboro, Massachusetts

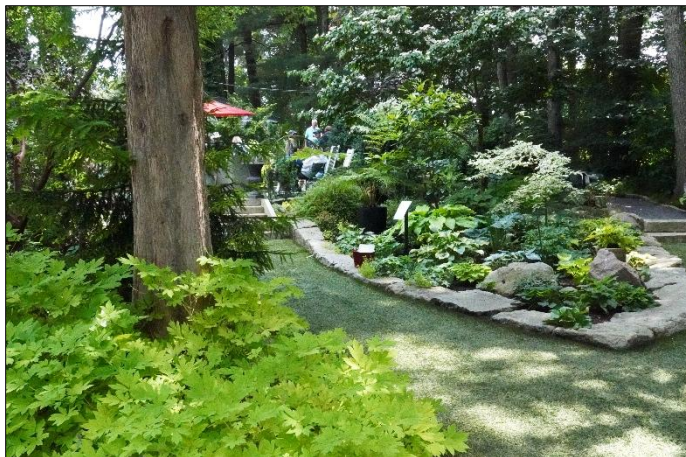
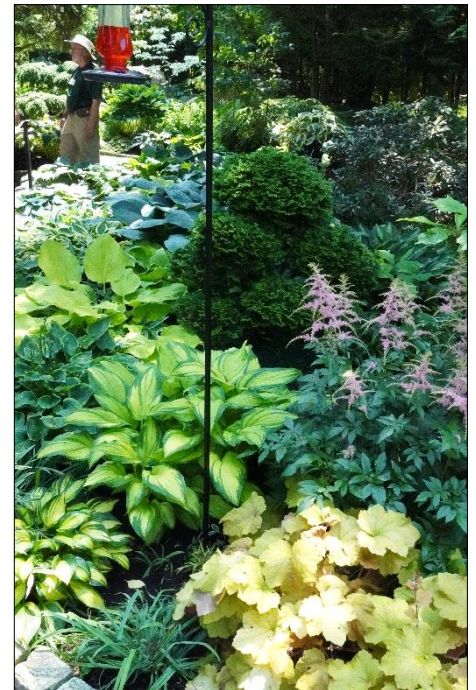
Sue DuBrava and Chuck Doughty's Cochato Nursery in Holbrook, Massachusetts

Cochato Nursery was a popular stop, not only for the extensive display gardens of perfectly grown hostas, but also because there were thousands of hostas and other exciting perennials for sale. It seemed everyone had a little red wagon (or two) full of plants to purchase. The plants were beautifully grown, the prices were reasonable and the sales were brisk! Now how do we find space for all those goodies on the bus for the trip back to the hotel?



National Convention, Marlboro, Massachusetts

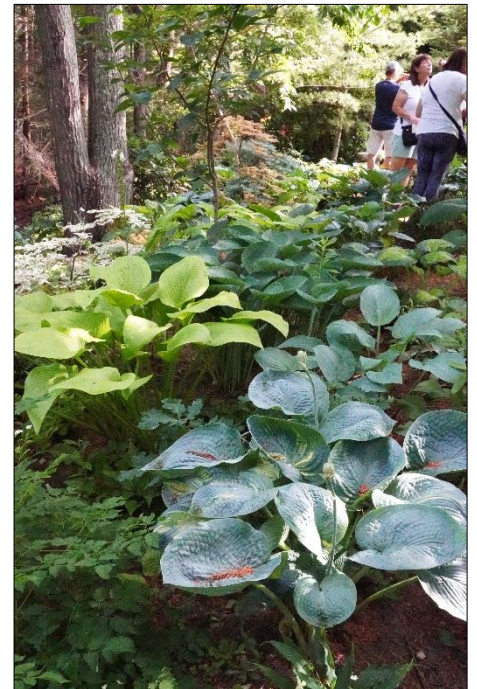
Sue DuBrava and Chuck Doughty's Cochato Nursery in Holbrook, Massachusetts



National Convention, Marlboro, Massachusetts

Rick and Sheila Goodenough's Stonewood Slope Garden in Marshfield, Massachusetts

I had heard many great things about Rick and Sheila Goodenough's wonderful garden for years but this was my first visit. Oh my, what a treat! Tucked into a steep hill that sloped away from rear of the house, numerous winding paths took visitors from the top to the bottom. Everywhere we went, there were exciting new hostas to be seen as well as Rick's stunning seedlings. They grew among an array of most unusual ornamental trees, shrubs, and other perennials. The martagon lilies were at their peak bloom, adding dazzling color to the garden. The garden was an artistic masterpiece and it was immaculately maintained. No one wanted to leave when the bus whistle began to sound! Rick buries his plant ID tags so that they do not detract from the garden's overall appearance. However, he knew what every plant was and happily provided names for visitors eager to know what this and that were.



National Convention, Marlboro, Massachusetts

Rick and Sheila Goodenough's Stonewood Slope Garden in Marshfield, Massachusetts



H. 'Pebble Creek Imagine That'



H. 'Silly String'

Want to be a member of the American Hosta Society but find the \$30 full membership (individual) price a challenge? Consider becoming an eMember! See information on joining below:

**A reminder that the cost of eMembership
has been reduced!**

Previously \$20

Join as an eMember now for one year for only \$12.

eMembership in the American Hosta Society unlocks the following benefits:

- Full-color issue of *The Hosta Journal* available to read online twice each year
- Unique digital edition of *The Hosta Journal* emailed once each year
- Access to “Members Only” section of the website
- Eligibility to purchase a member-only hosta every year
- Exclusive invitation to exhibit hostas and compete for recognition in AHS-sanctioned Hosta Shows
- Updates on speaker programs, events, awards, plant auctions, news, and more!

To join the American Hosta Society or to rejoin AHS as an eMember, please go to the AHS Website.

[Visit our website to get more information.](#)

Or call 309-678-4119 to speak with the Membership Secretary.

See answers to frequently asked questions about eMembership on the next page.



Answers to Questions about AHS eMembership

The most frequent question is: **Does this mean that the American Hosta Society is not going to have a print edition of *The Hosta Journal*?**

The American Hosta Society plans to continue to publish the print edition of *The Hosta Journal* for many, many more years.

The second most frequent question is: **What is the difference between a regular membership and an eMembership?**

The only difference between a regular membership and an eMembership is whether or not you receive the mailed, print edition of *The Hosta Journal*.

With a regular membership, *The Hosta Journal* is mailed to you twice a year.

With an eMembership, you do not receive the mailed print *Hosta Journal*, rather, you can read the *Hosta Journal* online.

All other benefits of membership are the same for both regular Members and eMembers as listed below.

We are able to offer a significant savings for eMembers because the cost of printing and mailing *The Hosta Journal* is quite high. As a matter of fact, membership dues alone do not cover the cost of producing and mailing the print journal. We rely on income from conventions and auctions to supplement the cost of publishing the journal. By you not receiving the print edition but instead reading the journal online, we save money and can pass that savings on to you, the eMember.



American Hosta Society 2025 National Convention

“Hosta Double Feature”

Jointly sponsored by the American
Hosta Society
and the Midwest Regional Hosta Society
Hosted by the Central Illinois Hosta
Society

SAVE THE DATE

Par-A-Dice Hotel – June 19-21, 2025 –
East Peoria, IL
Garden Tours – Accredited Hosta Show
-Vendors – Live and Silent Auctions
– Educational Speakers
Hosta Seed Growers Seedling
Competition
Gift Hosta is *Hosta* ‘Prairieland
Memories’
Optional Thursday evening at
Hornbaker Gardens
Garden Center – Arboretum – Botanic
Garden
Classic Midwest Hosta-tality



Sponsored by AHS and MRHS
Hosted by Central Illinois Hosta Society



**For more information and to register, go to
HostaConvention.org and complete the registration form.
See the registration form on the next page.**

BECOME A MEMBER!

- Receive *The Hosta Journal*, mailed to you
- Gain access to members-only online materials
- Participate in exciting events and auctions
- Further your love of hostas and gardening

HOSTA.org

REGISTRATION FORM – Hosta Double Feature

2025 AHS NATIONAL / MRHS REGIONAL CONVENTION

HOSTED BY THE CENTRAL ILLINOIS HOSTA SOCIETY

June 19-21, 2025 – East Peoria, Illinois

Par-A-Dice Hotel, 21 Blackjack Blvd, East Peoria, IL 61611

Make hotel reservations by using the link at the AHS convention website:

hostaconvention.org beginning June 30, 2024.



REGISTRATION DETAILS *(Please print clearly - one attendee per form)*

Name:	Preferred Name on Badge:
Address:	City, State, Zip Code:
Phone:	Email:

*Please see cancellation policy at hostaconvention.org

EARLY REGISTRATION if received by 2/15/25	\$170	➔	<input type="text"/>
STANDARD REGISTRATION if received by 5/31/25	\$185	➔	<input type="text"/>
LATE REGISTRATION received after 5/31/25	\$200	➔	<input type="text"/>
MEALS ONLY (companion/vendors) - Friday breakfast/lunch/dinner, Sat Breakfast/dinner	\$100	➔	<input type="text"/>
SATURDAY GARDEN TOURS - VAN TRANSPORTATION (OPTIONAL) (Limited to 28 attendees - Includes boxed lunch)	\$30	➔	<input type="text"/>

Optional Thursday night welcome event – Hornbaker Gardens (Optional Van transportation to Hornbaker Gardens) (Or indicate need for free ride sharing below right)	\$ 20	➔	<input type="text"/>
	\$ 15	➔	<input type="text"/>

Friday Banquet Meal Choice: ___ Chicken Florentine ___ Salmon Filet ___ Eggplant Parmesan (veg)	Saturday Banquet Meal Choice: ___ Stuffed Chicken Breast ___ Blackened Pork Chop ___ Pasta Primavera (veg)	Total Due ->	<input type="text"/>
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Check Payable to: 2025 AHS/MRHS Convention
Or call 309-678-4119 with a Credit Card.

List any special dietary restrictions/allergies: _____

MAIL THIS FORM AND PAYMENT TO: American Hosta Society, Registrar, P O Box 7407, Villa Park, IL 60181-7407

Hosta Show: Please check if you wish to
 Judge Clerk
 Plan # _____ entries in the Hosta Leaf Show
Seedling Competition:
 Plan # _____ entries in Seedling Competition
 Rules & Regulations available at
hostaconvention.org

Friday night auction
 I plan to donate _____ items for the auction.

Thursday event and Saturday Gardens tour - ride sharing transportation:
 I can provide transport for _____ person(s).
 I will need transport for _____ person(s).

Hosta Judges Clinics: I will attend ___ Clinic I ___ Clinic II ___ Clinic III | Need Judges Handbook _____
 (\$10 payable at Clinic)

Photography and filming activities may be conducted during American Hosta Society events, and attendees or personal property may appear in resulting photographic pictures or video and may be used in printed or digital publications, social media, advertising, or other AHS activities. Participation in the AHS convention constitutes permission and consent for the American Hosta Society to use the resulting photographs and video for any purpose without payment or acknowledgement. Additionally, persons who participate in an AHS convention assume all risk of personal injury and loss or damage to property.

Registration is limited to 330 participants. **Questions? – call 309-678-4119**

September 2024

A Message to the Georgia Hosta Society from AHS



*Barry Ankney
1104 Oxford Court
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181-5249*

*Mary Schwartzbauer
17190 Neill Path
Hastings, MN 55033-8729*

The American Hosta Society is proud to offer a tribute plant dedicated to the memory of our dear friend Dr. Robert Olson. As you know, Bob Olson passed away in 2022. Bob served the American Hosta Society (AHS) and both the Minnesota and Midwest Regional Hosta societies in many different roles over the years. He was past president of the AHS and served for many years as the editor of *The Hosta Journal*.

Bob wanted to encourage the next generation of hosta lovers to become active members in AHS. As one way of doing that, AHS is offering *Hosta* 'Bob Olson' for sale to members of all hosta societies. The proceeds from the sale of this plant will fund memberships in AHS for our next generation of hosta aficionados.



Hosta 'Bob Olson' was registered by Herb and Dorothy Benedict in 1995. It is a selfed cross of *H.* 'Yellow Splash', hybridized by Herb Benedict. It has a registered mature size of 12 inches in height and 36 inches in width. Specimens have been noted to grow somewhat larger than this, with a height of 15+ inches. It has dark green leaves with a slightly rippled, creamy white margin that fades to white as the season progresses. *H.* 'Bob Olson' has very limited commercial availability.

We are offering this plant to members of your local society. The plant is currently being grown out to a three-year-old plant for delivery in Spring 2025. The cost of the plant will be \$20.00, with all proceeds going to fund memberships in the American Hosta Society. You may preorder this plant for members of your society for delivery in the spring of 2025. Our most efficient way of delivering the plants to your local club will be to ship bare root to you for your distribution to your members. In this way we can save your members significant shipping costs. You can let us know how many plants your society wants this year. We will reserve them for you and will require payment in early 2025.

We also invite you to nominate younger members of your society to be recipients of a gifted membership in the American Hosta Society. Your candidates for membership should be members of your local society who are not current AHS members. You may nominate more than one of your members to receive this gifted membership.

If you have questions, please contact one of us.

Thanks,

Barry Ankney
Membership Secretary, AHS
AHS.MEMBERSHIPS@GMAIL.COM

Mary Schwartzbauer
Executive VP - Conventions, AHS
MARYSCH@ICLOUD.COM

THE GEORGIA HOSTA SOCIETY
Minutes of General Meeting – November 9, 2024

The general body meeting was called to order by GHS President, Mark Malaguerra, at 11:28a on Saturday, November 9, 2024 in the Garden House at the Deen Day Sanders Estate.

Old Business:

1. Approval of minutes from last Board Meeting as published in the newsletter and was seconded by Dexter Henry.
 - a. The motion was carried with unanimous consent.
2. Treasurer's report
 - a. Dexter Henry provided a brief overview of the current state of the GHS finances and asked for members to provide him with any receipts requiring reimbursement.
 - b. Mark Malaguerra informed the general body that a donation to the Manna Community Food Bank in the amount of \$1,000 has been authorized by the GHS board. This non-profit agency is currently working to help people in Western NC who were affected by Hurricane Helene.
3. Proposed Bylaws Change
 - a. Harold McDonell reviewed the proposed bylaws change that was published in the most recent newsletter. This change would clarify the number of terms that board members and officers may serve.
 - b. A motion was made by Chuck Zdeb to approve the change in bylaws as published in the newsletter. This was seconded by Harold McDonnell and approved by unanimous consent.
4. Newsletter
 - a. Mark Malaguerra advised that Harold McDonnell will be stepping down as the editor of the GHS newsletter at the end of 2025 and asked for volunteers to take over the newsletter. This could be a single individual or a group.

New Business

1. President's Wall
 - a. Chuck Zdeb asked about the timeline for nominations for the President's Wall. Mark Malaguerra asked for recommendations from the general body and will take the input of the society into consideration prior to submitting his recommendation to AHS.
2. Chuck Zdeb mentioned that there have been several members who have gone through hosta show judge's training and that are now provisional judges or pending approval upon completion of other requirements. As such, those individuals were reminded to make sure to take whatever actions are needed for them to serve as a judge in the 2025 GHS Annual Cut Leaf Show.
3. The meeting adjourned at 11:43 after a motion by Chuck Zdeb which was seconded by Harold McDonnell and approved by unanimous consent.

Submitted by Scott Smith for the Secretary

THE GEORGIA HOSTA SOCIETY
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
January 6, 2025 Via Zoom

President Mark Malaguerra called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. In attendance in addition to Mark were Scott Smith, Harold McDonell, Chuck Zdeb, Becky Paris, Steven Blair, Dexter Henry, Claudia Walker, Greg Ferguson, Ida Beth Barner, Richard Jolly, Judith Burns, Greg Barner, and Cozart Smith.

The minutes of the previous board meeting were published in the November 2024 newsletter. Judy Burns moved that they be approved as published. The motion was seconded by Scott Smith and approved by the board.

Dexter Henry presented the Treasurer's report. He also presented the proposed budget for 2025. After discussion, Judy Burns moved to approve the budget as proposed. The motion was seconded by Greg Ferguson and approved unanimously. Judy Burns moved that GHS pay the registration fee for all GHS members who attend the Dixie Region annual meeting on September 13. Scott Smith seconded the motion and it was approved by the board.

Membership VP Becky Paris provided an update on membership renewals so far for 2025.

Newsletter Editor Harold McDonell has distributed the preliminary copy of the January newsletter to the board. The board discussed plans for the newsletter after Harold retires as editor.

Mark affirmed that the date of the 2025 hosta show will be May 10. The date of Tucker Day has not yet been announced so we are unsure if it will fall on the show date this year. Committee chairs are needed for the show. Dexter Henry suggested the theme be "Sky's the Limit."

Old Business:

Communications Coordinator Scott Smith updated the board on the status of migrating the GHS website from Wild Apricot to GoDaddy

New Business:

Mark appointed Harold McDonell, Chuck Zdeb, Cozart Smith and Greg Ferguson to the 2025 Audit Committee. The committee is to report its findings to the GHS members at the February meeting.

The board discussed the requirements for electing the Nominating Committee to secure officers for the 2026-2027 term. The committee must be constituted at the next general meeting in February per the Bylaws.

Before calling for a motion to adjourn, Mark reminded everyone of the board meeting dates for the rest of 2025. There being no further business, Mark called for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Scott Smith, seconded by Chuck Zdeb and approved by the members present.

Ida Beth Barner
Secretary

THE GEORGIA HOSTA SOCIETY

2024-25 OFFICERS AND BOARD

President: Mark Malaguerra	404 808-2866
1 st VP Programs: Cozart Smith	404 273-9562
2 nd VP Membership: Becky Paris	770 508-8651
3 rd VP Publications/Newsletter Editor:	
Harold McDonell	770 461-8882
Secretary: Ida Beth Barner	404 643-9483
Treasurer: Dexter Henry	770 460-0983
Parliamentarian: Judy Burns	681 203-0288
Communications Coordinator:	
Scott Smith	404 486-3471
Ex Officio: Greg Ferguson	770 789 9057

DIRECTORS

Term

1 st	Judy Beeler	404 808-7222
1 st	Steven Blair	770 908-8689
2 nd	Richard Jolly	770 487-5036
2 nd	Greg Barner	404 644-9483
3 rd	Chuck Zdeb	770 593-0895
3 rd	Katie Lindquist	404 237-0546
		C 404 863-6425

STANDING COMMITTEES

Advertising/Publicity/Communications:	Vacant
Historian: Claudia Walker	770 722-3147
Hospitality: Julia Lyons	706 265-3328
	C 770 315-3328
Hosta Leaf Show Chair - 2025:	
Kendra Spadoni	256 777-4762
Newsletter Production and Publishing:	
Mark Malaguerra	404 808-2866
Scott Smith	404 486-3471
Sunshine Chair: Claudia Walker	770 722-3147
Vendor Liaison: Greg Ferguson	770 789 9057
Ways and Means: Kendra Spadoni	256 777-4762
Web Master: Scott Smith	404 486-3471



Established 1984

Georgia Hosta Society Members Holding American Hosta Society Positions:

Sandra Bussell: AHS Judges Records Chair
Harold McDonell: AHS Gifts and Memorials Chair

The Georgia Hosta Society

The Georgia Hosta Society offers an annual 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.

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 or Contact Barry Ankney, Membership Secretary - AHS, 1104 Oxford Court, Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois 60181-5249.

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 the Hosta Treasury website – www.hostaregistrar.org.

2025 Calendar of Events

January 6 – Board Meeting 7:00 PM Zoom
February 8 – General Meeting – Deen Day Sanders Garden House 11:00 AM
March 10 – Board Meeting 7:00 PM Zoom
April 12 – General Meeting & Annual Auction– Deen Day Sanders Garden House 11:00 AM
May 10 – Hosta Show and Plant Sale (show setup May 9, 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM)
June 19-21 – AHS National Convention, Peoria, Illinois
August 11 – Board Meeting 7:00 PM Zoom
September 13 – Dixie Regional Meeting (location to be determined)
October 6 – Board Meeting 7:00 PM Zoom
November 8 – General Meeting – Deen Day Sanders Garden House 11:00 AM

GHS Membership Registration – 2025

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