



Hosta Happenings

East Tennessee Hosta Society

May 2023

President's Message

I hope you were busy last month going to plant sales and visiting open gardens - April is one of those months where it can become overwhelming - especially in your own garden getting it ready for the season.

It always amazes me how quick the trees leaf out. One minute you can see your neighbor's house and the next minute you can't. It is always a challenge when growing Hostas as the shade and sun coverage sometimes changes each year. Luckily, Hostas are easy to transplant so you can easily edit your garden to give your Hostas the ideal light conditions.

We have just completed our annual Hosta sale in conjunction with UT gardens. The weather

wasn't perfect but at least we could shelter from the sun and rain. The attendance was not as good as last year so maybe we have to rethink having it on Mother's Day in the future. However, it was still a very profitable day, and we were able to enjoy the comradeship of our fellow members. It is certainly hats off to Brian White for organizing this and supplying the Hostas with no risk to the club. He deserves a medal. I was so humbled by the support from club members - you made my day. A huge thank you to Cindy, Sandra, Elin, Beverly, Deedee, Kathie, Maria, Mary, Liz, Bob and of course Brian.

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New Member

Please welcome new member Pierce Story of Knoxville.

2023 Officers

- President Fred Anderson
- Vice President Beverly Smith
- Treasurer Liz Etnier
- Secretary Wanda Taylor
- Communications Mary Albrecht
- Contact ETHS at easttennhostasociety@gmail.com



This month we are having two events to experience Hostas approaching their peak. Our next activity is being hosted by Mary & Chris Albrecht and this is one garden visit that you do not want to miss. Over 250 Hosta varieties grown by a horticulturalist in a beautifully designed garden with all the Hostas labelled. Sunday the 21st at 2:00 pm and the weather is forecast to be beautiful. Look for more information in this newsletter.

Our regular garden visits are not only an opportunity to see delightful gardens but also an opportunity to socialize with garden friends.

The second event this month will be on the 27th at Fred & Sandra's garden starting at 10:00 am.

Here you can roam over four acres of gardens and view over 500 Hosta varieties set in a woodland setting. More information will be distributed a little closer to the event.

Hopefully, you have are ahead of the weeds and enjoying your masterpiece of a garden that you created. Looking forward to catching up with you in the garden.

Warm Regards,
Fred Anderson
President 2023,
865-607-9240, braker01@att.net
<http://www.easttnhostasociety.net>

Dixie Regional Hosta Society Meeting Wrap-up

Members Fred and Sandra Anderson and Chris and Mary Albrecht made the trek over to Cary, North Carolina to attend the DRHS spring meeting. This year's meeting was less structured than past years. Attendees had the option to visit various public gardens and commercial operations - you could see as many as you wanted. There was a panel discussion on Friday evening and the business meeting and silent auction on Saturday evening.

Friday evening's panel was Harold McDonell (Georgia), Doug Beilstein, and David Chopko. A few of the take-away's from their discussion:

1. Deer are attracted to fragrance. The thick-leaved hostas are less desirable to deer and they have no fragrance. Good luck controlling deer!
2. When you spot a sport on one of your plants, divide out the eye - get into the crown and if you don't have any roots with it, you can always place in water to encourage root growth (think like many houseplants) or use

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rooting powder and stick in a pot with growing mix.

3. Tree roots are a big problem. If you have to deal with tree roots, growing hostas in pots is a common solution. The tree roots can grow into the pots through the drainage holes. You can put a piece of welded wire mesh over the holes. Can also use a pot-in-pot system by simply nesting two nursery containers so you can easily lift one out of the other: a.) dig a hole large enough to accommodate a large nursery container and place it into the hole; b.) place of layer of marbles into this pot; c.) insert the nursery container with the hosta planted into it. The marbles in the base pot will allow you to easily twist the nested pot (the one with the hosta) in order to break any roots trying to enter the pot. Or, use grow bags to minimize tree root invasion.
4. Why go to the American Hosta Society annual convention? See friends and see what's new and different in different parts of the country. Learn how people have developed their gardens; bring back ideas. Bring back a plant that will grow in your area and will remind you of the visit. The 2024 convention will be in Marlboro, Massachusetts. They are planning all sorts of wonderful opportunities including Wednesday: bus tours to Plymouth or Boston (your choice), Thursday: private garden tours, a "clambake" dinner with your choice of lobster, chicken or steak (not sure where the clams come in!), Friday: nursery and garden tours (including Rick Goodenough); and Saturday: small gardens in Massachusetts and into New Hampshire. If you've not been to the northeastern United States, here's your chance to visit one of the Original 13 colonies. There's much to see in do in the area.

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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



Doug Beilstein, Harold McDonell, and Dave Chopka (seated, left to right) with Bob Solberg (standing) serving as moderator.

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Saturday night's business meeting was short and to the point. The Dixie Region is on very healthy financial footing. No site has been selected yet for 2024. Bob Solberg suggested Chattanooga since it is easily accessible to those in Georgia, Alabama, Middle Tennessee, and East Tennessee. Since the treasury is healthy, they are trying to keep registration fees low. He was thinking of featuring speakers next year as opposed to on-your-own garden and commercial visits.

A lively auction followed the brief business meeting.



The J. C. Raulston Arboretum on the North Carolina State University campus was a delight to visit. So many different trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants to see. Artwork was also incorporated into the beds. (Editor's note: I want, make that need, this one for my garden!)

Bob Solberg running the auction of various donated plants including some companion plants, hostas, and maples.



Several water features and mature specimens abound. The beautiful crape myrtle demonstrates how magnificent these trees are if given space to grow and judiciously pruned to maintain a beautifully graceful canopy (read that as no crape murder!).

ETHS 2023 Calendar

May 21, 2:00 to 4:00 pm, visit the garden of Chris and Mary Albrecht, [REDACTED], just south of Farragut in the [REDACTED]. They are celebrating their 20th year in the house come June and developed the gardens from a blank slate.

May 27, 10:00 am; visit the garden of Fred and Sandra Anderson; 2723 Small wood Drive off Alcoa Highway not far from Sevier Baptist Church.

June 17 - Garden Tour and Social

July (Date TBD) - Garden Tour and Social

August 27, 11:00 am - Potluck and visit from Bob Solberg

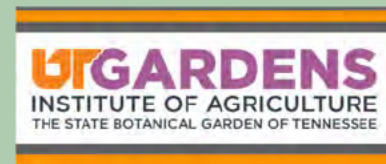
September (TBD) Garden Tour and Social

(need to work around UT football schedule)

October (TBD) Garden Tour and Social (need to work around UT football schedule)

November 19 - Annual General Meeting and Holiday Celebration

Keep an eye out for events at the Greater Knoxville area public gardens:





Plant Delights Nursery was just that - a delight to visit. They have an extensive crevice garden showcasing succulents and other plants that survive those conditions. And, then there was this mature specimen of *Hosta* 'Wheee'; yes, your editor needs one of these, too!





North Carolina Botanical Gardens focused on native plants of the Coastal Plain, Piedmont, and Mountains of North Carolina. They also had a fantastic collection of carnivorous plants.



ETHS Membership

Name(s) (please print) _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Preferred Phone (Include Area Code) _____

1st Email Address _____

2nd Email Address _____

Are you a Hosta Beginner

Hosta Addict

Somewhere in-between

Approximately how many different Hostas do you have:

Fewer than 10

10-50

Over 50

Would you like your garden to be considered for an open garden tour by ETHS?

Yes

No

Maybe

Would you like to volunteer for an activity in our club?

Yes

No

Maybe

Annual dues for individual membership is \$12 and \$18 for a family. Membership is based on a calendar year.

Mail application and check payable to **East Tennessee Hosta Society** to:

Liz Etnier

Treasurer, ETHS

1405 Whitower Drive

Knoxville, TN 37919

Invite a friend to join!



The Sarah P. Duke Gardens on the campus of Duke University was a delight to behold. There were different areas dedicated to native plants, Asian-inspired gardens, and historic areas of gardens. The above medallion is in the Mary Duke Biddle Rose Garden. The redbud collection, shown below, were along the path as you left the rose garden and headed back to the visitor center and gift shop.





The W.L. Culberson Asiatic Arboretum was a delight for young and old, alike. The large pond featured turtles, heron, wood ducks, Mallard ducks, and more. The paths wound their way around the pond giving different vistas.



And, there were plenty of commercial operations to visit while in the Greater Raleigh area: Campbell Road Nursery, Logan's Garden Center, Garden Supply Company, Big Bloomers Flower Farm, Jernigans Nursery, Broadwell's Nursery, Garden Treasures Nursery, Green Hill Farm, Camellia Forest Nursery, For Garden's Sake, Deep Root Natives, Durham Garden Center Macon Gardens, Gunter's Greenhouse, Homewood Nursery & Garden Center, NC Farmers Market and a couple of private gardens.

In fact, too much for the time we had!

Just a few photos as a tease to get you excited to see

“The Ravine”, the gardens of Chris and Mary Albrecht.

12659 Bayview Dr., Mallard Bay Subdivision off Harvey Rd. south of Farragut in far west Knox County. Plug in the address to your GPS and it will get you there!

