



Hosta Happenings

East Tennessee Hosta Society

July 2023

President's Message

Summer is certainly in full swing but at least the heat is being offset with the occasional rain. My area seems to be in a rain shadow but for June, I received 10.83" and so far in July, I have received 3.3" of rain. This has been a blessing as it has saved me so much time with watering. I have been so busy this year that I never got around to doing any foliar fertilizing, but all the Hostas are looking good except for Jurassic Park. Last year this hosta suffered from Southern Blight but came good after drenching it with Physan 20. There is obviously a fungus in the soil around this hosta for it to come back again this year.

You are in for a treat for this month's activity - you will be visiting the garden of new member Martha McMurry off Westland. Martha was up for the challenge of gardening on a sloping

terrain with extensive stairs and board walks which backs up to native woodlands. For those with mobility issues, there is a huge patio area overlooking the main garden area where we can congregate and socialize. She has some unusual plants and everything looks so healthy. This will be on Saturday morning at 10:00 am on the July 29.

Racheff Gardens in conjunction with Knox County Master Gardeners are revitalizing the Hosta garden there. Mary Albrecht & I have donated lots of Hostas towards this project as well as being on the project team. If you have any Hostas that you would like to donate or be involved with this project, please talk to Mary or me.

In the past weeks there was lots of discussion about submitting Hosta leaves for a Hosta leaf

(Continued on page 2)

In This Issue

ETHS Calendar.....	2
June Garden Visit: Photos.....	3-4
Hosta Garden Visit in Central Ohio.....	5-7
Patience Pays Off.....	7
July-August Hosta Diseases.....	8
ETHS Membership Application.....	8

2023 Officers

- President Fred Anderson
- Vice President Beverly Smith
- Treasurer Liz Etnier
- Secretary Wanda Taylor
- Communications Mary Albrecht
- Contact ETHS at

easttennhostasociety@gmail.com

show at the Tennessee Valley Fair this year. The pros for this that it would be a good promotion and PR exercise for our club to recruit some more new members but the cons were that Hosta leaves won't look good in September. I haven't been involved with a leaf show before but if you have any interest in this, talk to me to discuss.

Next month will be the annual visit by the regional president Bob Solberg. I believe that the date is Sunday, August 27, but need to confirm this. It will take place at my place and will include a potluck lunch. Bob will update us on the all the things happening in the Hosta world and will have some unique plants for sale.

Next year's Regional convention will be in our backyard in Chattanooga. Let me know if you have any gardening contacts in the area as at this stage Chattanooga does not have a Hosta club to host it. Chattanooga is a real hot spot

for gardening with some amazing gardens and nurseries to visit so should be a lot of fun.

This week we had a rare incident of a deer grazing on my Azaleas in our driveway. Hopefully, she was just passing through and not eyeing the Hostas. 😊

Enjoy your Hostas and keep gardening in the shade.

Warm Regards,

Fred Anderson
President 2023,

865-607-9240, braker01@att.net

<http://www.easttnhostasociety.net>

ETHS 2023 Calendar

July 29, 10:00 am - July started on a Saturday and has 5 Saturdays, so we put off the visit to later in the month. Visit the home of member Martha McMurry, [REDACTED] on Westland Dr. and just east of Pellissippi Parkway

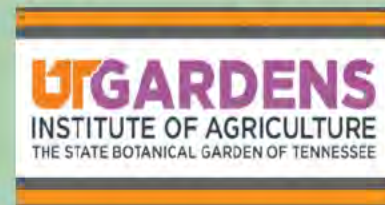
August 27, 11:00 am - Potluck at the home of Fred and Sandra Anderson, with a visit from Bob Solberg. Always a good time!

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:



June Garden Visit: JR Hemmerlein, Louisville, TN

If you didn't make it to this visit, you missed a great garden with a great view and lake access! Those who were there we delighted with the development of a garden on a steep bank. Much effort went into developing the paths and creating garden spaces. Enjoy the photos taken by Vanassa Pyles Workman.





Members enjoyed the views, the gardens, the koi pond, indoor aquaria, JR's woodcarving shop, and watermelon and cookies!



Hosta Garden Visit in Central Ohio

By Mary L. Albrecht, Professor Emerita, Dept. of Plant Sciences, UTIA

Chris and I made a recent trip to Central Ohio (USDA Hardiness Zone 6a) to visit family. My sister-in-law, Heidi Sorin, has the hosta bug, too! In fact, when she's been in Knoxville, I had to take her up to Maynardville to visit Brian White's Nursery. Yeah, she bought some plants from him. She restarted her garden four years ago when they moved to a new home. There's a fantastic tree-line along the back of the property (it's a small suburban lot; see photo on next page) that provides the necessary shade. The first step was cleaning up the tree line of weedy plants, including poison ivy and Virginia creeper vines, lots of honeysuckle, multiflora rose, and assorted brambles. She had potted up a number of hosta from her previous garden and set about trying to get them established in her new garden bed. Big problem was the heavily compacted and dry clay soil. Lots of labor of mixing topsoil with peat to try to improve each planting hole, or as she describes it "each bathtub." Over the past four years, she has also learned that chipmunks, rabbits, coyote (she has seen a pack of four coyotes), and deer frequent the property (no fences allowed by the HOA). Very disappointed that the coyotes' presence hasn't deterred the deer—so much for using coyote urine as a deterrent. She's finding that many of the hostas that worked well in the ground in her old yard have had to be planted into pots. Some have begun to thrive in those pots. Here's a few photos from her backyard.



Hosta 'First Blush' on May 23, 2023 (left) and July 7, 2023 (right).



The garden with the cleaned up tree line and hostas in various stages of establishment. Below left from front to back: 'Hans' (from Brian White's Nursery), 'Brother Stefan', and 'Etched Glass'. Below right 'Rhapsody'.





'Designer Genes' in a little too much sun!
She knows to move it!



Compare on previous page to 'Hans'. This is one in my yard. Both plants, the one in Central Ohio and mine, were purchased at the same time, same vendor.

Patience Pays Off



Camellia sasanqua
'Moonshadow'
finally sprouts after severe dieback from the Great Holiday Freeze of 2022. It is not grafted.



July-August Hosta Diseases

This is the time of year to keep an eye out for southern blight and fungal and bacterial leaf diseases. Southern blight is caused by the fungus *Sclerotium rolfsii*, and causes the petiole to collapse. The most common fungal disease is *Botrytis*, and then there's bacterial leaf streak. It's a bacteria and fungicides don't work. You need to use a bactericide. Believe it or not, streptomycin is labeled for plant use and is available from online retailers.

Online resources include:

Hosta Library's hosta pest and disease problems page - <https://www.hostalibrary.org/Disease/Pest2.htm>

Iowa State, NC State, NC A&T, Clemson, and Georgia Extension jointly authored a publication available as a pdf at <https://store.extension.iastate.edu/product/6625>

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

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 household membership (maximum of 2 members) are \$15. 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!