



Hosta Happenings

East Tennessee Hosta Society

December 2023

Minutes from the Annual Business Meeting and Social

November 19, 2023

\$500.00

GATOP \$500.00

Ivan Racheff House and Gardens \$500.00

Following a time of socialization and delightful treats, President Fred Anderson called the meeting to order at 3:23 p.m. President Anderson welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.

Three items were on the agenda for the meeting:

1. The Hosta Society has surplus funds which should be dispersed. It was suggested that the area public gardens that do not require an entrance fee should receive donations. The current bank balance is \$2,728.68. Last year, the following disbursements were given:

U T State Botanical Gardens, Knoxville
\$1000.00

Knoxville Botanical Gardens and Arboretum

2. If the Society kept the same amounts to be donated in 2023, that would leave a bank Balance of \$228.68. Mary Albrecht also mentioned that 2024 dues would be collected soon. Janie Bitner moved that the Society keep the same donations for 2023. Maria Gall seconded the motion. Members voted and the motion passed.
3. Nominations of 2024 officers was the next agenda item. Fred will be leaving the USA for Australia mid-year and offered to continue until then. However, if no one offers to become president, the club will be without leadership. He asked for members to

(Continued on page 2)

In This Issue

Minutes from the Annual Business Meeting and Social1-3

A Visit from St. Nicholas (The Hosta Version)..... 3-4

ETHS 2023 Calendar 5

ETHS Membership Application; 2024 Dues are Now Payable 5

2023 Officers

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

(Continued from page 1)

consider taking this role and emphasized that the main duty was writing a column for the newsletter each month. The new term begins January 1, 2024.

Moving on, Beverly Smith agreed to continue as Vice President for 2024. Liz Etnier agreed to continue as Treasurer. And Vanassa Workman will be the new Recording Secretary.

President Anderson recognized two members for exceptional work for the ETHS.

First, Mary Albrecht for her role as newsletter editor, website developer and correspondence liaison for members. He presented her with an American Hosta Society Wall of Honor Certificate.

Secondly, he recognized someone who assisted with every meeting and knew all the behind-scenes information. He was grateful for his wife Sandra Anderson and also presented her with the AHS Wall of Honor Certificate.

Brian White suggested that the Society send James Newburn congratulations on being named the Managing Director of UT Gardens. Mary will send a card on the club's behalf.

Janie Bitner thanked Fred and Sandra for everything they have done to contribute to the success of the ETHS. Everyone clapped. President Anderson adjourned the meeting at 3:46 pm.

Wanda Taylor

Wanda Taylor
Recording Secretary



Good food, good weather, good friends at the annual business meeting.



A good birthday and good conversations!

A Visit from St. Nicholas (The Hosta Version)

With apologies to Clement Moore

'Twas the **'Night before Christmas'**, when all through the house
Not a creature was stirring, not even a **'Blue Mouse'**;
The stockings were hung by the **'Chimney Rock'** with care,
In hopes that **'St. Nicholas'** soon would be there;
The children were nestled all snug in their beds;
While visions of **'Sugar-Plum's'** danced in their heads;
And mamma in her 'kerchief, and I in my cap,
Had just settled our brains for a long **'Winter Snow'** nap,
When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,
I sprang from my bed to see what was the matter.
Away to the window I flew like a **'Lightning Flash'**,
Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash.
The **'Big Blue Moon'** on the breast of the new-fallen snow,
Gave a lustre of midday to objects below,
When what to my wondering **'Blue Eyes'** did appear,
But a miniature sleigh and eight tiny rein-deer,
With a little old driver so lively and quick,

I knew in a moment he must be St. Nick.
More rapid than eagles his coursers they came,
And he whistled, and shouted, and called them by name:
"Now, *Dasher!* now, *'Sky Dancer!'* Now *'Ice Prancer'* and *Vixen!*
On, *'Frosted Comet!'* on, *'Cupid's Dart!'* on, *Donner* and *Blitzen!*
To the top of the porch! to the top of the wall!
Now dash away! dash away! dash away all!"
As leaves that before the wild *'Eye of the Hurricane'* fly,
When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the *'Big Sky'*:
So up to the housetop the coursers they flew
With the sleigh full of toys, and *'St. Nicholas'* too—
And then, in a *'Twinkl(s)ing,* I heard on the roof
The prancing and pawing of each little hoof.
As I drew in my head, and was turning around,
Down the chimney *'St. Nicholas'* came with a bound.
He was dressed all in fur, from his head to his foot,
And his clothes were all *'Tarnished'* with ashes and soot;
A bundle of toys he had flung on his back,
And he looked like a peddler just opening his pack.
His eyes—how they twinkled! his *'Frosted Dimples'*, how merry!
His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a *'Cherry Berry!'*
His droll little mouth was drawn up like a *'Cupid's Bow'*,
And the beard on his chin was as white as the *'Ivory Snow'*:
The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth,
And the *'Elfin Smoke'*, it encircled his head like a wreath;
He had a broad face and a little round belly
That shook when he laughed, like a bowl full of *'Peanut Butter and Jelly'*.
He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old *'Emerald Elf'*,
And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself;
A wink of his eye and a *'Tiny Twist'*er of his head
Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread;
He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,
And filled all the *'Christmas Stockings'*; then turned with a jerk,
And laying his *'Fairy Fingers'* aside of his nose,
And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose;
He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle,
And away they all flew like the down of a thistle.
But I heard him exclaim, ere he drove out of sight—
"Happy 'Christmas Eve' to all, and to all a good night!"

ETHS 2023 Calendar

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



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

ETHS Membership

2024 Membership Dues are Now Payable.

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!