



# Hosta Happenings

**East Tennessee Hosta Society**

**July 2022**

## President's Message

We usually don't do a garden tour in July as it is too hot and the Hostas are past their peak. It is also hard to get someone to put their hand up to host a garden tour in July. However this year we were in for a treat. Imagine a garden that is 47 years in the making by a master gardener overlooking the Cumberland Mountains. Hats off to member Hella Peterson for providing such a glorious Saturday morning for us to enjoy. Apart from Hostas and other exotic plants, Hella has one of the largest collections of Conifers in Knoxville. The weather threatened to rain on our parade but umbrellas weren't necessary.

So far I haven't lost any plants to Southern Blight but the voles this year more than make up for it. Currently I am trialing a product called Volex that is a nonpoisonous bait that is inserted into the vole holes. There is an attractant in the bait to entice them to eat it and then hopefully they will die and leave my Hostas alone. The jury is still out but I think it is working. Like all pest deterrent products –

it is not cheap. After the season is over I will also be applying a lot of small sharp gravel to the badly affected areas.

Our next activity will be towards the end of August where we will be visited by our regional president to educate us, entertain us and will also allow an opportunity to buy some really cool Hostas that you will not find at your local garden center. We will confirm more details when the time gets closer but pencil in the 20th or 27th.

One of our most valued members is Cornelia Holland who lives in Franklin, TN near Nashville. Sandra and I will be catching up with Cornelia at the end of this month. While we are in Middle TN we will take the opportunity to visit with some members of the Middle TN Hosta Society who were at our convention. We will

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## 2022 Officers

- President Fred Anderson
- Vice President Bob Goeltz
- Treasurer Gina Buffum
- Secretary Wanda Taylor
- Communications Mary Albrecht
- Contact ETHS at [easttenhostasociety@gmail.com](mailto:easttenhostasociety@gmail.com)

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# July Meeting at the Home of Hella and Pete Peterson

Mary L. Albrecht, Newsletter Editor

While the weather kept many members away, those who attended were wowed by a delightful garden 47 years in the making. The Petersons not only have hosta, but are collectors of conifers and we saw so many wonderful specimens. Enjoy the photos.

The only lawn to maintain is in the front yard.



Above: Members listening to Hella Peterson as she explains the history of the garden.

Below: A tree-form *Edgeworthia chrysantha*, oriental paper bush or Japanese paper bush.



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spend the weekend in the area to visit some gardens and catch up with friends. This is just a heads up in case you wanted us to pick something up or take something to middle TN. This will be on the weekend of the 30-31st.

Keep watering those Hostas and keep cool.

Warm Regards

Fred Anderson  
East Tennessee Hosta Society  
2022 President  
865-607-9240  
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## Local Garden Events

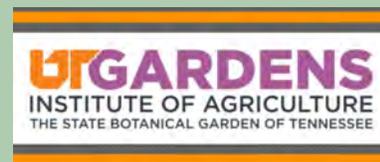
August – Educational Talk and plant sale by Bob Solberg. Stay tuned for date and time!

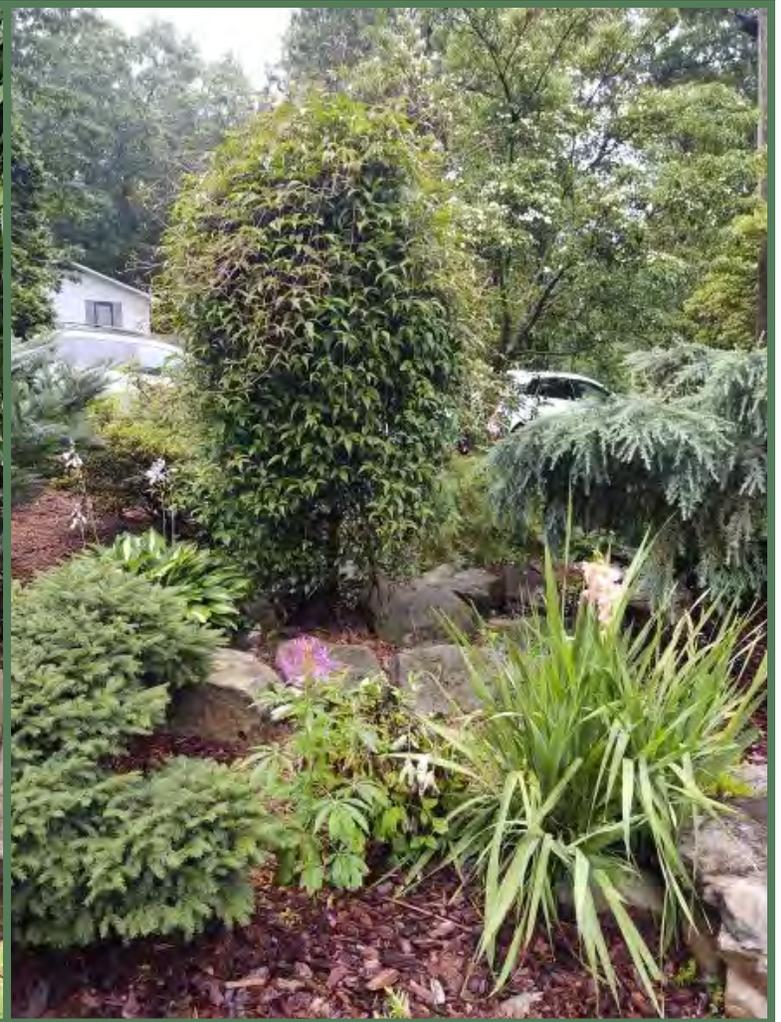
September 25 - Garden tour of Caesar Stairs' Garden, 2:00 pm

October 23rd – Fall Garden tour of GATOP Gardens, 2:00 pm

November 20 – Annual General Meeting and end of year social, 2:00 pm

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





Above left: One of many hostas tucked into the beds. Above right: A clematis vining up the remains of an old tree. The tree was topped and branches cut back to provide supports for a vine.

Below left: Pete Peterson and Brian White in deep conversation! Below right: An excellent example of a major stand of *Epimedium*, barrenwort, along with a delightful statue of a garden sprite.





Above left: One of several weeping conifers in the gardens. Above right: Members discussing the plantings. Faye Beck was able to identify most of the plants for us.

Below left: Another weeping conifer, this one is a spruce. Love the “feet”. Below right: Small hosta tucked in between the stepping stones.





A view from the back deck and our hosts, Pete and Hella Peterson. This was truly a delightful garden to tour.

## How do you take out a very large Hackberry? Very Carefully!

The hackberry was on the order of 60 to 80 feet tall and probably about 50 to 60 years old. No, I haven't counted the rings. You have seen it when you visited the gardens of Chris and Mary Albrecht back in May. It had decay in several





areas with large bracket fungi emerging every spring on one cut from years ago. We knew it's days were numbered. So we wanted to take it out before it came down in a storm. Mencer's Tree Service brought in a bucket truck and crane. Huge pieces were strapped onto the hook on the crane, sawed off the tree and swung out over the house to the



chipper in the street. Once we saw the first piece go over the house, we decided to watch the entire process from outside just in case the strap on the crane gave way. The workers did an excellent job and none of the plants in the bed were damaged. We've had a little bit of scorch damage show up since the tree was removed, But, considering what the weather's been like...

During clean-up, the guy on the blower found the Fitbit that I lost.

And, yes, we wanted them to leave a large



# ETHS Membership

Name(s) (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Phone (Include Area Code)  
\_\_\_\_\_

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:

Gina Buffum  
Treasurer, ETHS  
7334 Wheatfield Place  
Knoxville, TN 37919

**Invite a friend to join!**

## Welcome New Member

This is blank! Know a fellow gardener who could benefit from joining us? Pass along this newsletter with the membership application!

stump as garden art. We haven't yet figured out what we will do. And, I haven't gotten a ladder out to get to the top to count the rings. Stay tuned!

Mary Albrecht, Communications Director

## Gardening Humor



*(Contributions are always welcomed!)*