



# Hosta Happenings

**East Tennessee Hosta Society**

**March 2023**

## President's Message

By the time you read this message, Sandra & I and Mary Albrecht will have just returned from Piqua, OH after attending Hosta College. This will be their first in person college in three years. Both Mary & I will be delivering talks at this convention for the first time. Every attendee gets a gift Hosta plus there will be an auction and Hosta vendor opportunities so we will be adding to our Hosta collection for sure. This is always a fun weekend so you should try and plan to attend next year.

I always dread the month of March as this is the time when everything happens all together, and you have to try and cram eight weeks' worth of work into four weeks. To compound this, you have to deal with all the rain and freezing temperatures. By the time of our March meeting, I am hoping we don't have to scurry around and cover our Hostas for any frost

alerts. The Hostas have broken dormancy way too early because of a warm spell that we had and way too many Hostas to cover. My Hosta 'Kingsize' is already 15" tall and leafing out. This year I am using pine straw to cover any Hostas that have leafed out.

This month's meeting speaker will be talking on a subject that conflicts with most Hosta gardeners. I attended Brett Moya's talk about grasses and lawns some weeks ago and was enthralled and learnt so much, even though I only have a small lawn and gets looked after by a lawn service. Brett graduated from UT, is in the green industry, and is very knowledgeable about this subject. Don't miss this talk, I guarantee you will learn something. Bring along all your lawn and grass questions.

*(Continued on page 2)*

## In This Issue

Minutes of the February Meeting .....	3-4
ETHS Calendar .....	3
Before the March Cold Snap (Actually Freeze!).....	4-6
Dixie Regional Hosta Society Meeting Information.....	7-8

## 2023 Officers

President Fred Anderson  
 Vice President Beverly Smith  
 Treasurer Liz Etnier  
 Secretary Wanda Taylor  
 Communications Mary Albrecht  
 Contact ETHS at  
[easttennhostasociety@gmail.com](mailto:easttennhostasociety@gmail.com)

(Continued from page 1)

For those who haven't paid their membership fees yet, this will be the last newsletter that you will receive. Don't procrastinate - bring your \$15 along to the meeting on Sunday and become a financial member again.

In the next few weeks, the executive committee will be firming up the 2023 program of activities. One thing that has been confirmed is the annual Tailgate Plant Sale in conjunction with UT gardens. It will be on Mother's Day, May 14, so mark that in your calendar.

Looking forward to seeing you at the next meeting, March 26 @ 2:00 pm at the UT Gardens greenhouse classrooms.

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

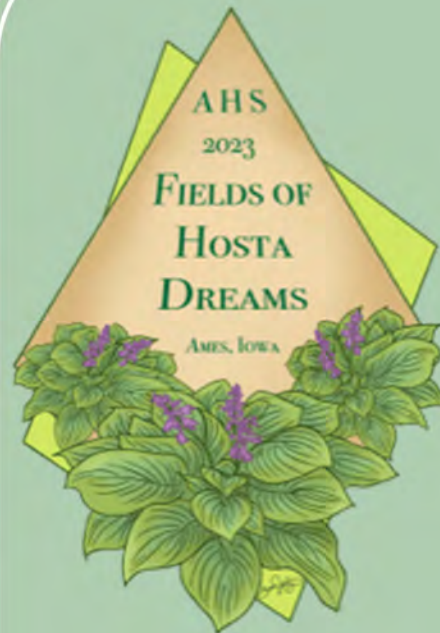
## Dues are Due

New rate: \$15 for one or two members in a household. Just give both names on form and both emails for each to receive the electronic newsletter. An abbreviated form is on page 7 of this newsletter! Or, look for it at <https://www.easttnhostasociety.net/join-eths.html> as either a pdf file or interactive pdf file.

## Welcome New Members

Please welcome our newest members:

Oops! No new members to report this month!



2023  
National  
Convention  
June 7-10,  
Ames IA

[Registration](#) is now open.

## 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

# Minutes of the February 25, 2023 Meeting

President Fred Anderson called the meeting to order at 2:08 p.m. Twenty two members were in attendance including new members Barb and Ron Pappenfus and Martha McMurry. President Anderson. welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the year.

Treasurer Liz Etnier did not present a report but stated that the club balance is \$1440.62. A check written in October to Racheff House and Gardens has not cleared. The garden does not receive mail at the physical address, having a P.O. Box. Liz will check with Gina to see where the check was mailed to. Thirty-one members have paid dues. Fred and Sandra Anderson

secured a table at the Dogwood Arts Home and Garden Show. Liz made a motion that the Hosta Society reimburse them \$50.00 for the fee to participate in the show. Janie Bitner seconded the motion. Members voted and the motion passed.

President Anderson reported on correspondence. A thank you card was received from U.T. Gardens, and GATOP for the donations made to those gardens.

President Anderson started the meeting by asking members to talk about 'What's flowering in your yard right now that is not a daffodil'. Members reported Grecian Wind Flower, Anemone blanda, Asarum, Lung Wort, Snowdrops, Bloodroot, Edgeworthia, Forsythia, Pussy Willow, and Azaleas.

## ETHS 2023 Calendar

**March 26**, Classroom meeting in South Greenhouse on UT Ag Campus

April 1 - UT Gardens, Knoxville, Spring Plant Sale

April 15 and 16, Dogwood Arts Festival and [Spring Open Gardens](#) (scroll down the page to see the list of spring gardens)

May 4 - 7, 2023, Dixie Regional Meeting , Cary, NC (early registration deadline is April 1 - no kidding! See program information and registration form at the end of this newsletter)

**May 14** - ETHS Tailgate Plant Sale at the UT Gardens Parking Lot - bring mom and help her pick out a hosta or two or three or ...

**May 21** - Garden Tour and Social

**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:



Mary Albrecht presented a program on "The Great Holiday Freeze of 2022" noting that December 23, 2022, had a high of 44 degrees and a low of 4 degrees following temps in the 60's. She mentioned the stress of drought during the summer months, wind, and extreme weather. Types of damage include bark and branches splitting or cracking. We may see die-back all the way to the ground. She suggested to not panic, don't prune, and try the scratch test to see if the limb is still alive. Also, learn the hardiness zones for your plants. Knox County is now 7A.

Following Mary's program, Fred asked members to talk about the problems experienced in their

gardens last year. Mentioned were watering, voles, moles, deer, rabbits, sun, etc.

Brian White displayed three new Hostas that he will have available at his greenhouse.

Fred had several door prizes including a Flowering Maple, Pussy Willow, and several bags of Zinnia seeds.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:22 p.m. by President Anderson.

*Wanda Taylor*

Wanda Taylor  
Recording Secretary

## Before the March Cold Snap (Actually Freeze!)

As if the December freeze wasn't bad enough February and early March were unseasonably warm. Trees were breaking bud and shedding pollen. Bulbs were up and flowering. Perennials were emerging and leafing out. And then, we had freezing temperatures in March! Nature is setting us up for a very unusual spring!

Right: Forecast as seen on March 15!

Below: *Hosta* 'Wolverine', March 11



Date	Weather	High	Low	Precip
Wed 3/15	Mostly Sunny	53°	28°	0%
Thu 3/16	Mostly Sunny	64°	49°	0%
Fri 3/17	Showers	59°	31°	90%
Sat 3/18	Mostly Sunny	49°	25°	0%
Sun 3/19	Sunny	46°	26°	0%
Mon 3/20	Mostly Sunny	53°	32°	0%
Tue 3/21	Scattered Showers	51°	40°	40%
Wed 3/22	Showers	55°	44°	60%
Thu 3/23	AM Showers	64°	49°	50%
Fri 3/24	Sct T-Storms	71°	50°	55%



Right: *Bletilla striata*, ground orchid  
Above: Hosta 'Spartacus'; both March 11

# 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!**

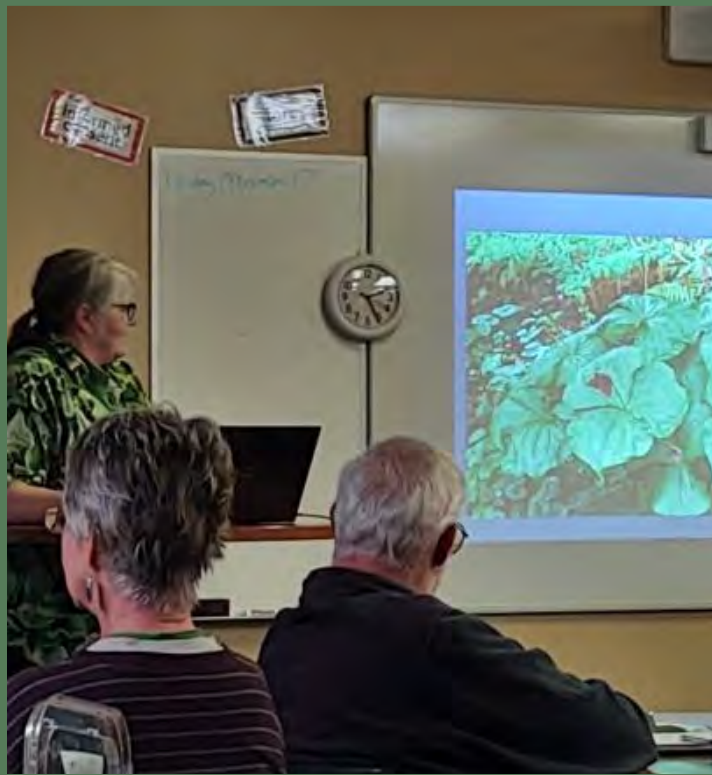


From Fred Anderson; yes, this winter (hate to call it spring!)

Above left: Yoshino Cherry

Right: Scarlet Storm Quince

Below: Two of the talks Mary Albrecht attended at the Hosta College, 2023, on Saturday, March 18 in Piqua, OH: Lisa Quiggle (left) speaking about *Heronswood: A Resurrection of a Plant Collector's Garden* and Don Rawson (right) speaking on *What's New in the World of Hostas 2023*.



# 2023 Dixie Regional Hosta Meeting

## *Choose Your Own Adventure*

### Cary, NC — May 4-7, 2023

It will not be long before spring is here and the hostas are jumping out of the ground. This year the Dixie Regional will try to take advantage of the excitement of early May to have our annual meeting. It will be hosted by Bob Solberg, Regional Director and Beth Barnes, Regional Treasurer centered in Cary, NC. The dates are May 4-7 at the Comfort Suites Regency Park, 350 Asheville Avenue, Cary, NC 27518.

The meeting will have a new and fun format. It will be a "Choose Your Own Adventure". Attendees will choose from a too long list of world class botanical gardens, excellent nurseries, and local gardens to visit in their own vehicles on Friday and Saturday. Of course, we suggest carpooling, so you make new hosta friends or catchup with old ones. Suggested lists will be provided for both days, emailed to all registrants before they arrive so they can start to plot their adventure ahead of the meeting.

There will be hospitality at the hotel on Thursday and Friday nights with an educational presentation Friday night after dinner on your own. Saturday night we will have our Annual Meeting, pizza party, and fun auction

after we return from touring.

Some of the attractions include the J. C Raulston Arboretum, Sarah P. Duke Gardens, WRAL Azalea Gardens, and the NC Farmers Market. Plant Delights will be open that weekend as well as Green Hill Farm on Saturday as well as many, many local nurseries. There will also be some private gardens to visit featuring hostas and a variety of gardening styles. Check the schedule for suggested days to visit each of these.

Registration is easy and very affordable, just \$35.00. Please copy and mail the registration form (attached to email) to Beth Barnes with your check. You can register for the hotel online at this link: <https://www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/SW24E8> or call the Hotel (919) 852-4318 and mention the Group is the Dixie Regional Hosta Society and the code is SW24E8. The rate is \$124.00 for King or Double Room plus State and local tax.

We hope we can be part of your hosta adventure this spring and you will choose to come and see us in May. Questions? Contact Bob Solberg, HostaBob@gmail.com.

## Schedule

### **Thursday, May 4th**

Arrive at Comfort Suites Regency Park, 350 Asheville Avenue, Cary, NC 27518

**8:00 PM** Hospitality at the Hotel

### **Friday, May 5th**

Complimentary Hot Breakfast in the Hotel

**8:00 am** Meet in Hotel Lobby

**8:30 am** Depart Hotel for garden tours on your own: Plant Delights, WRAL Gardens, N C Farmers Market, J C Raulston Arboretum, Big Bloomers, Private Garden

Lunch and Dinner on your own

**8:30 pm** Hospitality, presentation at the Hotel

### **Saturday, May 6**

Complimentary Hot Breakfast in the Hotel

**8:00 am** Depart Hotel for garden tours on your own: Private Gardens, Green Hill Farm, Sarah P. Duke Gardens

Lunch on your own

**7:00 pm** Pizza Party at the Hotel

**8:00-8:15 pm** DRHS Annual Meeting

**8:15-9:30 pm** Live Auction (free to the public)

### **Sunday, May 7**

Complimentary Hot Breakfast in the Hotel

# 2023 Dixie Regional Hosta Meeting

"Choose Your Own Adventure!" May 4-7, 2023

Comfort Suites Regency Park

350 Ashville Avenue, Cary, NC 27518

## Registration Form

Please print:

Name: (as it will appear on your convention name tag) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip

Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Attendees:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Registration: (includes Thursday and Friday Hospitality, Friday and Saturday Garden Tours on your own, Saturday Pizza Party, and Auction) Cost per person \$35.00

Number of attendees @ \$35 \_\_\_\_\_

Late Registration Fee: If your form is postmarked after **April 1, 2023** please add \$20 per person late fee. Late Fee @ \$20 per person \_\_\_\_\_

Total included \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail checks only with this form to

Beth Barnes, 2628 Freestone Lane, Raleigh, NC 27603

Make checks payable to: Dixie Regional Hosta Society

*Hotel Reservations: Comfort Suites Regency Park*

350 Asheville Avenue, Cary, NC 918-852-4318

Rate: \$124 King or Double Room plus State and Local Tax

Reservation link: <https://www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/SW24E8>

Group: Dixie Regional Hosta Society SW24E8

*Includes free hot breakfast. Rate cutoff date: April 20, 2023*

**Please remember to bring plants, garden art, or a fun item for the Saturday Auction. Thanks.**