



Georgia Hosta Notes

A Publication of The Georgia Hosta Society

Volume 37

March 2021

No. 2



A scene from GHS member Kay Cook's garden in Lawrenceville, Georgia.
Find many more pictures of our members' garden art starting on page 10.



President's Message

By Greg Ferguson

Hello to our hosta family! We finally have good news to share, which is wonderful considering all the difficulties that we've had to work around during the past year. The Georgia Hosta Society is open for business!

We have scheduled both online and in-person general meetings in 2021. We will have a modified Hosta Show. We will have a Hosta Vendor's Day with in-person visits to our plant vendors. We will have garden tours. We are anxious to get going again.

General Meetings: Our second General Meeting for 2021 (April 10) will be a Zoom meeting like our February meeting was. In the fall, our general meetings will be in-person, observing social distancing and other precautions. We'll have our annual auction in September. So begin selecting your plants to bring! The plants will look different from how they look in April, but that's ok!

Hosta Show: Sandra Bussell is organizing an online Hosta Show. See details on page 8. Everyone will have the opportunity to exhibit his or her prized leaves and plants. Everyone will be able to judge and comment. Since our regular location is not available this year, the internet will provide the platform for this event. Sandra has some great ideas, and I think you'll really enjoy this unique Hosta Show.

Hosta Vendors' Day: Again, since we can't hold our Hosta Show Plant Sale at the regular location, we are planning a day for you to visit our hosta vendors in person. We are thinking that the Hosta Vendors' Day will happen in May – we are working out the exact date with our vendors. We will send out emails with the date and time, with maps and details. You'll get to see much wider plant selections and see how the vendors grow and maintain their plants. So, watch for announcements soon.

Garden Tours: We haven't held garden tours for the past several years, but we're happy to report that we WILL have one or more garden tours this year. Jack Driskell and Jane Law, who both live in Cobb County northwest of Atlanta, have graciously agreed to host a garden tour. The tour will be held on Saturday, June 5, 2021. Jack has a beautiful garden surrounding his home. Much of Jack's garden is in full to partial shade. He has been assembling his garden for more than 10 years. Jane's garden includes both shade and sun plants, and also surrounds her home. Her garden is accentuated with a beautiful pond. Jack and Jane are both knowledgeable, so you'll learn a lot from visiting. We will be joining with the Georgia Perennial Plant Association in visiting these gardens. Exact time schedule is being worked out, but please put June 5 on your calendar.

I am working on one or two more garden tours for 2021. I don't have details worked out yet, but you'll really enjoy visiting these gardens. I should have details finalized in the next few weeks.

Join with us in these events. I look forward to "seeing" you at our online General Meeting on April 10, 2021.

April 10, 2021 Meeting to Again Be Held Online via Zoom - 11:00 am

We will once again meet via Zoom for our Saturday, April 10 meeting. Our experience with our first general meeting using Zoom in February was a smooth success and a total of 32 members joined in for the meeting. Presentations by Mark Malaguerra and Scott Smith about companion plants, Dexter Henry about some great tools for the garden, and Sandra Bussell about growing hostas in containers in the ground were well received and enjoyed immensely by our members.

For our April 10 meeting, we will have presentations by Pat Brussack and Sandra Bussell on the April 17 Piedmont Gardeners Athens Garden Tour, Chuck Zdeb on daffodils, and Harold McDonell on hosta hybridizing. Please plan to join in the meeting and enjoy these presentations.

Scott Smith has arranged the Zoom meeting for us and has again made gaining access as easy as can be. All you have to do is download the Zoom app for your device if you haven't done so already, then sign in to the Zoom web site on the meeting date using Scott's instructions. Details about signing in are shown on Page 4 of this newsletter.

GHS Hosta Show Cancelled - Virtual Hosta Show Planned

Due to ongoing COVID-19 pandemic concerns, the cancellation of Tucker Day for 2021, and physical issues at the show facility, our hosta show and plant sale have been cancelled for this year.

Have you ever hear of a Virtual Hosta Show? This year's Show Chair, Sandra Bussell, has taken on the task of putting together such a show and she has already established dates and tentative rules. The show will be in the form of pictures taken by our members of hosta leaves and hosta containers. Once submitted, the various entries will be made available to all members who will then vote on their favorites. The tentative show information is printed on page 8. As Sandra firms up the procedures and rules, more information will be sent to members including details on how to stage the entries for photographs. So get those cameras and cell phone cameras ready to take pictures of our first ever Virtual Hosta Show.

September 11 Meeting is On - Our Annual Auction Scheduled for Then

Yeah! We will resume live meetings beginning with our September 11 meeting at Deen Day Sanders Garden House. At that meeting we will conduct our annual auction that we would normally have had at the April meeting. Start preparing now. Check around your garden for hostas and other plant material you might be able to donate to the auction. Since we did not have the auction last year or this Spring, this auction should be a biggie with lots of goodies to bid on.

Dixie Region Convention Postponed Until Spring 2022

The directors and members of the planning committee for the Dixie Region regional meeting in Knoxville, Tennessee have determined that, in light of the national convention going virtual and with the current pandemic situation still being quite unsettled, hosting the regional convention should be postponed from this spring until 2022. The final dates have not yet been selected for the convention in 2022. We will keep you posted as more information is available.

April 10 Zoom Meeting - Information and Instructions

Scott Smith is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: GHS April General Body Meeting

Time: Apr 10, 2021 11:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

To Join Zoom Meeting:

For a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone, or Android device, go to:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81330734295?pwd=SVU3aGd6N2lOdXROVWNxZGo5Q1FkQT09>

Enter the meeting ID and passcode which are shown in bold below.

Meeting ID: 813 3073 4295

Passcode: 068703

For iPhone One-tap mobile

+1 301 715-8592,, 81330734295#,,,, *068703# US (Option #1)

+1 312 626-6799,, 81330734295#,,,, *068703# US (Option #2)

Dial by your location

+1 301 715-8592,, 81330734295#,,,, *068703# US (Option #1)

+1 312 626-6799,, 81330734295#,,,, *068703# US (Option #2)

Meeting ID: 813 3073 4295

Passcode: 068703

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kc8O2VpyNi>

Invites to the April meeting will also be sent from the GHS website. When the invite arrives, please register so that we can get a feel for the number of attendees before the meeting starts. If you don't get an invite at least 2 weeks before the meeting, please e-mail scottingsbari@aol.com to get added manually. Save the invitation and Click on the Join prompt to automatically join the meeting without having to input the web site.

(This will let us check the effectiveness of the website and we can use it for future events and meetings, including the garden tours.)

If you experience any trouble accessing the meeting, call Scott Smith at 404 486-3471.

Attention GHS Members. Take pictures of your garden this year!

The pictures you provided of your gardens for the newsletter the last few issues have been very popular with your fellow members. Please plan now to take more this year, especially of hostas and hosta groupings. Please try to provide names with the pictures if possible.

GHS Members' Swap and Freebie Corner

From time to time, our members ask if there is a way to let other members know they have certain garden-related items that they would like to trade with other members or which they would like to offer for free. This is our first Swap and Freebie Corner. If you have items you would like to have listed in future newsletters, please provide a detailed list to our editor, Harold McDonell, at Haroldmcdonell@aol.com. No items for sale, please. You will have to buy an advertisement for that!

From Chuck Zdeb:

Items offered free

- 39 - 14 inch plastic pots**
- approx 240 - 10 inch plastic pots**
- approx 3000 - 3 or 4 inch plastic pots**
- Daylilies, most without name tags**
- Ray Stephens daylily "Red Tree"**



E mail me at sczdeb@bellsouth.net to arrange pick up or delivery.

+++++

Remembering BJ McNiff

It is with great sadness that we report the death of member BJ (Elizabeth Jane) McNiff on January 15, 2021. BJ was the love of husband Bill McNiff's life and the girl of his dreams, and we know he misses her tremendously. We will miss her wonderful smile and her ever-pleasant nature. Rest in peace, BJ.

Remembering Eric Eggen

We are also sad to announce the recent death of GHS member Eric Eggen, on January 29, 2021. Eric and his wife Julie lived in Hiawassee, Georgia. Eric loved GHS Hosta shows and often brought great entries for the show. Please keep Eric's family in your prayers.

Planned Spring and Summer Garden Tours

Many of our activities have been curtailed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, this year there will be several garden tours arranged for our members' enjoyment. First up is the Piedmont Gardeners Athens Annual Tour in Athens that features wonderful gardens of GHS members Sandra Bussell and Pat Brussack. Details are shown below. The next is on June 5 and features the gardens of GHS members Jane Law and Jack Driskell. Details of this tour are on the next page. There may also be another tour later in the summer, possibly August. Stay tuned for more information later.

Piedmont Gardeners Athens Annual Garden Tour - April 17, 2021

The Athens Annual Garden Tour is sponsored by Piedmont Gardeners and is in Athens, Georgia. It features four gardens, including those of GHS members Sandra Bussell and Pat Brussack. These two gardens alone would be worth the price of admission which is \$20 per person. The gardens on tour are open from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm.

This will be a self-guided tour. Details and a garden location map may be found at the Piedmont Gardeners web site at <https://www.piedmontgardeners.org/>. While you are in Athens, please take the time to visit the Georgia State Botanical Garden. It is a wonderful garden and includes trial gardens for new plants to determine how well they will grow in our climate. Recently opened on the grounds of the garden is the magnificent Porcelain and Decorative Arts Museum which houses the Deen Day Sanders porcelain and decorative art collection. For more information about the museum, go to its web site at <https://botgarden.uga.edu/porcelain-and-decorative-arts-museum-timed-access-now-available/>.



A scene from GHS member Pat Brussack's garden. Here you will find many beautiful hostas grown to perfection. You will also find a wide variety of companion perennials including a superb collection of epimediums. You can also see many beautiful hostas and a host of companion plants in member Sandra Bussell's garden.

Planned Spring and Summer Garden Tours

Garden Walk Featuring the Gardens of Jane Law and Jack Driskell - June 5

The tour of Jane and Jack's Powder Springs gardens was in the works for last year before COVID-19 came along and blew up everything. Fortunately, Jane and Jack have again agreed to open their gardens for us this year on June 5. In making the arrangements for this tour, we found out that the Georgia Perennial Plants Association had already tentatively set a date of June 5 to tour these same gardens. With GPPA's agreement, we are invited to tour these wonderful GHS member gardens on the same day. Not only will we see two super gardens, we will also get a chance to visit with old friends from GPPA. There is no charge for this tour. Details on times, parking, etc. are still being worked out and we will send out more information to you, including maps, as we receive it.



Jane Law's Beautiful and Exciting Powder Springs Shade Garden

A Scene from Jack Driskell's Garden with Special Plants for Sun and Shade



Hosta Hopping Vendors' Day Garden Tours and Sales in the Works - May 8

Since we are unable to have our Hosta Show Plant Sale this year, President Ferguson is working with our GHS member vendors on setting up a special sales date at their hosta nurseries. The date will probably be May 8, the original date of our now cancelled show. Nurseries showing interest are Richard Jolly's Pine Forest Gardens in Tyrone, Steve McMurtry and Ricky Cox's Rising Star Hosta Farm in Stone Mountain, and Natalie and Bill Silvers' Silvers-Elbert Nursery operation located at the State Farmer's Market in Forest Park. Details to follow later.

Georgia Hosta Society

First Ever Photographic Hosta Show

May 1 – 15, 2021

Show not accredited by the American Hosta Society
Show judged by members of the Georgia Hosta Society

Categories

A: One cut leaf from:

1. Giant Leaved Registered Cultivar or Species
2. Large Leaved Registered Cultivar or Species
3. Medium Leaved Registered Cultivar or Species
4. Small Leaved Registered Cultivar or Species
5. Miniature Leaved Registered Cultivar or Species
6. Unregistered Cultivar– any size

B: Two leaves cut from one seedling or sport - any size, any color.

C: A pot containing one cultivar or species, any size

D: A pot containing various species or cultivars plus other decorative items



Rules:

Submissions of one photograph taken this season of each leaf or pot only. Entrants may submit only one photograph per sub-category or category – i.e. - nine is the maximum number of entries permitted per person or household. Please write the name of the hosta on the photo. DO NOT add your name to the photo.

Submissions must be made between May 1st 2021 and May 15th 2021. Please submit the highest resolution photos you can, at least 1 mb in size. Send them, one photo per email to scmatlanta@gmail.com. You will be assigned an entry number.

Please place your hosta leaf on a flat piece of white paper and photograph it from above. Please include something in the photograph to indicate dimensions of leaf. A ruler along the side would be easiest. A pot should be photographed from the side showing all contents. Lighting should be as near to daylight as possible, in order to avoid distorting or misrepresenting the color and texture of the leaf. No filters, no re-touching. Write hosta name and category on the paper.

Photos will be presented to our membership on May 23rd in the form of a PowerPoint Presentation link sent to everyone with an email address or via our website. Entrants' names will not be visible. Entries will be numbered.

Voting will take place between May 23rd and May 30th. Each member will be able to vote for one Best in each Section 1-6 in Category A, one Best in Category B, one Best in Category C and one Best in Category D. Best in Show will be awarded to the leaf (or leaves if there is a tie) in Sections 1 through 6 with the most votes. All members of the Georgia Hosta Society in good standing are entitled to vote, once.

Kudos will be the only reward!



Editor's Message and Hosta Ramblings

by Harold McDonell

American Hosta Society Virtual National Convention A Grand Opportunity for Only \$49.00

Recently, the American Hosta Society made the tough decision that a physical national convention could not be safely held this year. It was the only decision that could be made, given the ongoing situation with the COVID pandemic. I felt sorry for the members of the Southwest Michigan Hosta Society and the West Michigan Hosta Society who had partnered to host the event in Kalamazoo, Michigan this year. Years of planning and garden preparation seemed to be for naught with the decision to cancel.

However, the two societies decided that they would not allow all their work and efforts to be wasted, and would instead host the first ever Virtual AHS National Convention. The original dates were moved to July 15-17 in order to allow time for professional filming of virtual tours of each of the gardens originally scheduled to be on tour. Then the convention committee went to work revamping the various meetings and presentations so that they could proceed in the form of a virtual meeting via Zoom. The result will be superb online garden tours, the usual interesting lineup of speakers, committee meetings, and the annual business meeting. There will even be a hosta show photo contest and a virtual seedling competition. AND there will be a free convention plant which will be mailed to each participant. The convention hosta this year is *H. 'Silly String'*, an exciting small and extremely ruffled *H. 'Curly Fries'* seedling created by Hans Hanson and provided by Walters Gardens.



Hosta 'Silly String'

As most of you know, in-person national conventions can be pricey affairs. There is the cost of travel, and lodging costs that can range up to or even more than \$200 per day. Then there is the convention registration cost which is also significant for an in-person convention. Figure in incidental expenses such as meals not provided and plants obtained at sales and you can see the costs mounting. Quite frankly, the overall cost of attending a national convention is more than most of our AHS members can afford to pay.

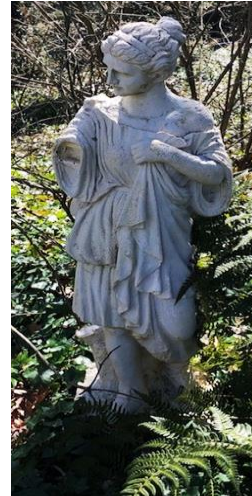
This year, however, we have a grand opportunity as a result of the convention going virtual, a chance to attend a national convention for the registration fee of only \$49.00. Now that is much more reasonable than the cost of a normal in-person convention, and I hope all of you will strongly consider signing up and attending this first ever (and I hope only) Virtual American Hosta Society National Convention. Think about it - no transportation costs, no costs for buses and meals, no expenses for lodging and no other charges for use of hotel facilities. The only downside I see financially is that I will not be able to drop a load of bucks in the vendor sales area!

Let's reward the fine people from the West Michigan Hosta Society and the Southwest Michigan Hosta Society for their efforts on our behalf with our support of this year's virtual national convention. Sign up to participate now. For only \$49.00, it is a can't-lose grand opportunity for all hostaphiles. The theme of this year's convention is "Hosta Smitten in the Mitten." You can find all the information you need at the convention website, www.hosta2021.org.

Dressing Up Our Gardens - The Joy of Art in the Garden

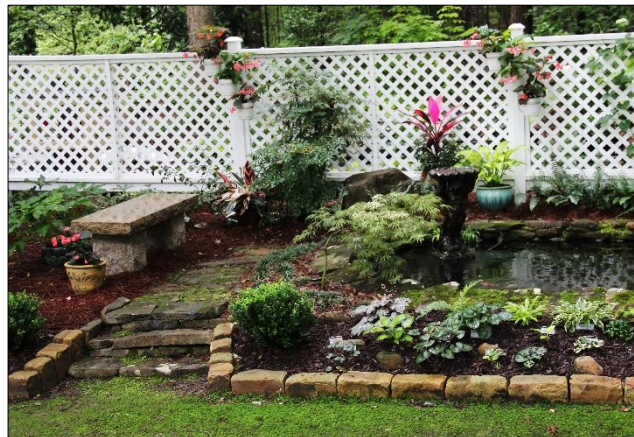
For this issue of *Georgia Hosta Notes*, I asked our members to provide pictures of your favorite garden art, either from your garden or observed in other gardens. As usual, you came through with some wonderful pictures. The addition of objects of art to a garden not only dresses up a garden but also makes it more interesting. It also reflects the garden owner's creativity and tastes. I hope you enjoy these interesting examples of garden art provided by our members.

Steve McMurtry and Ricky Cox's Stone Mountain, Georgia Garden



Dressing Up Our Gardens - The Joy of Art in the Garden

Harold McDonnell's Fayetteville, Georgia Garden

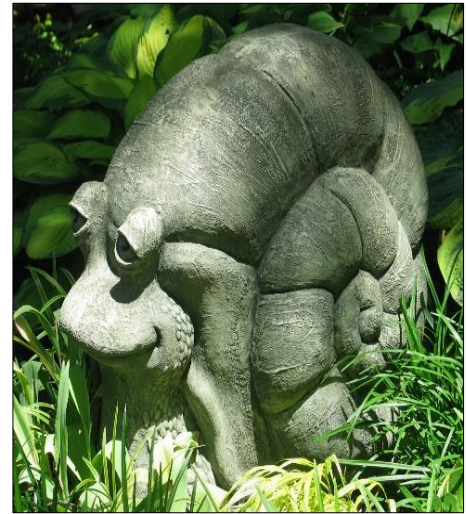


Dressing Up Our Gardens - The Joy of Art in the Garden

Beverly Barbour's Waynesville, North Carolina Garden



Garden Art Pictures From Others' Gardens Provided by Chuck Zdeb

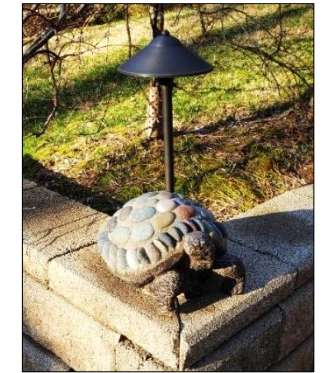


Judy Beeler's Atlanta, Georgia Garden



Dressing Up Our Gardens - The Joy of Art in the Garden

Becky Paris and Doug Crabtree's Marietta, Georgia Garden

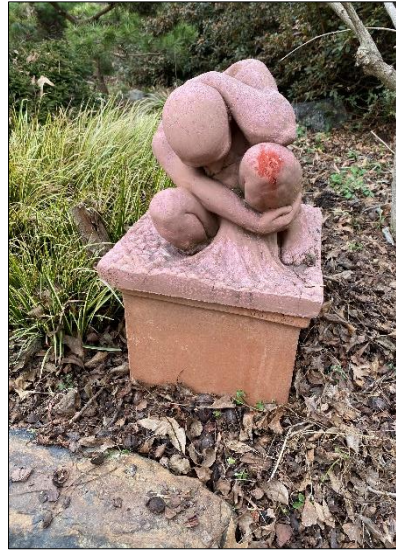


Jack Driskell's Powder Springs, Georgia Garden



Dressing Up Our Gardens - The Joy of Art in the Garden

Mark Malaguerra and Scott Smith's
Atlanta, Georgia Garden



Dexter Henry's
Fayetteville Garden



Sandra Bussell's Athens, Georgia Garden



Judy McHan's
Dahlonega
Garden

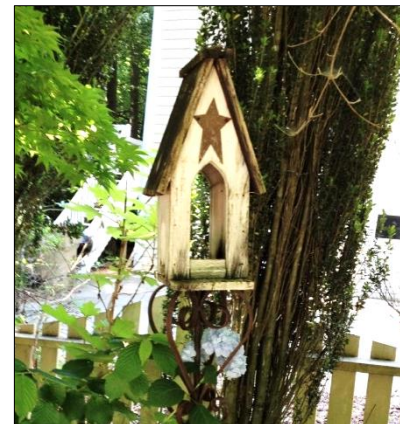


Dressing Up Our Gardens - The Joy of Art in the Garden

Ginny Wolf's Atlanta, Georgia Garden



Claudia Walker's Alpharetta, Georgia Garden



WE'RE GOING
Virtual!

Join us!
JULY 15–17, 2021

AHS2021.org



AMERICAN HOSTA SOCIETY NATIONAL CONVENTION
KALAMAZOO, MI

The American Hosta Society is having its first ever virtual National Convention! Cost will be \$49.00 per household and participants will receive access to:

- One convention gift *Hosta* 'Silly String' (mailed to you)
- Speakers, workshops, Q&A, awards, shows, and judges clinics via Zoom
- On-demand, professionally recorded virtual garden tours
- Participating vendors
- Hosta leaf show photo contest (unsanctioned)
- Seedling photo competition
- And more!

The date, a month later than usual, will allow for the awesome Kalamazoo Convention Team to record and produce video of the gardens.

Details and registration information are now posted on the convention website.

Visit www.ahs2021.org



From Our Members' Gardens - Looking Forward to Spring

In the last two issues of *Georgia Hosta Notes*, we have featured garden scenes from our members' gardens. Here are a few more pictures just to remind us that Spring and the awakening of our gardens will soon be here again. Your Editor again thanks all of you who have helped to fill the blank spaces in *Georgia Hosta Notes* resulting from the dearth of hosta activities last year which normally provided much of our content.

Dot and Linwood Keith's Decatur, Georgia Garden



'Paul's Glory'



Judy Burns' Montevallo, Alabama Garden



Hosta plantaginea



'Blue Mouse Ears' and
'Crowned Imperial'



Hosta 'Regal Splendor'

From Our Members' Gardens - Looking Forward to Spring

Steve Blair's Atlanta, Georgia Garden



Kay Cook's Lawrenceville, Georgia Garden

Not all garden changes are good as we well know from experience. Kay Cook's beautiful garden was partially wrecked by falling trees from a neighbor's yard. Never fear. We all know Kay will build it all back to great again!



Kay's Garden Before the Trees Fell



Kay's Garden Afterwards

It's that time of year. Put in the work up front. It's slug control time!

(This article is reprinted from *Shady Notes*, Volume 22, Issue 2 - March 2021. *Shady Notes* is the newsletter of the St. Louis Hosta Society.)

In like a lion, out like a lamb, that's the age-old promise of the month of March. The long ugly winter of confinement is about to end. March gives the first rays of hope. Starting in the middle of the month, begin watching the junky shrubs and weeds that grow along our highways and back roads. One day they seem brown, barren and depressing, the next there is a green tinge. Just maybe. Quickly that hint becomes reality. Watch Mother Earth come alive again.

We avid gardeners have been waiting for months for this moment. But we are not the only ones waiting. Slugs! All those overwintering slug eggs are now hatching and any slugs that have survived the winter are beginning to feed regularly and lay even more eggs. It is still chilly outside, maybe even downright cold, but don't procrastinate. Now is the time to attack.



Slug Devouring a Hosta Leaf

There are a number of natural controls that can be used against slugs such as egg shells, coffee grounds, garlic spray, hair, spun wool, diatomaceous earth, ammonia solutions and beer. Slugs do not like crawling over sharp surfaces. Like many of their human predators, they are attracted to beer and will crawl into a container and drown. The effectiveness of all these methods depends upon your conscious and continuous efforts.

There are two primary types of chemical slug bait, those with metaldehyde or with iron phosphate as the primary ingredient. Both types also contain additives such as yeast to lure the slugs and snails to the bait. Either works well and neither, when used as directed, constitutes significant danger to humans, pets and wildlife. A commonly used brand is SLUGGO and recently introduced SLUGGO PLUS. SLUGGO PLUS contains an added substance called spinosad. This is a substance derived from a bacterium found in the soil and is effective in killing sow bugs, cutworms, thrips and other insects.

Spinosad is an ingredient in many sprays used by farmers and in orchards to control crop pests such as thrips and fruit flies. Numerous studies have been done to test the toxicity of spinosad to bees. According to several internet articles on the subject, the collective evidence from these studies indicates that once spinosad residues have dried on plant foliage, generally three hours or less, the risk to honeybees is negligible. The majority of studies conducted have indicated that spinosad does not adversely affect honeybee behavior, brood or queen. When used according to the approved product label recommendations, it would be safe to foraging worker bees, queen and brood. Note that SLUGGO PLUS is not a spray, but a granular substance that is scattered on the ground.

For metaldehyde and iron phosphate baits, all that is necessary is to evenly apply the bait over the infested area at the rate recommended on the product label. More is not better. In about two or three weeks, apply the bait again. This will take out many of the slugs hatched from eggs after the first application. Applied properly, more treatments will probably not be necessary until late fall when a final application should be applied to knock down the slug population prior to onset of winter. This must be done each year.

Whether you use slug baits or organic controls, the key is to get started early, just as the pips are emerging from the soil. Waiting until holes appear is much too late – many generations of slugs are already thriving in your garden.

Memories of Fall - Part 2

In response to the editor's request, many of our members sent in pictures taken in their Fall gardens. Some of the pictures were featured in the last newsletter. As promised, more are featured here. Can you tell that we like Japanese maples in our Georgia gardens? Thanks to everyone who shared memories from your fall gardens.

Steve McMurtry and Ricky Cox's Fall Garden



Cozart Smith's Fall Garden



Jane Law's Fall Garden



**Another Scene from
Jane Law's Fall Garden**



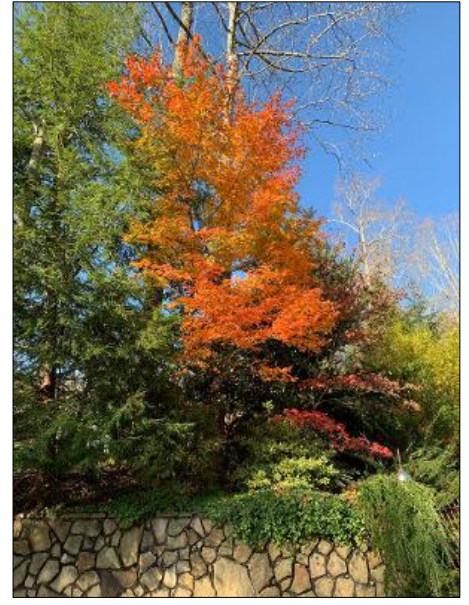
Memories of Fall - Part 2



Japanese Maple in Julia and George Lyon's Garden



Camellia 'Snow Flurry' in Jack Driskell's Garden



Magnificent Japanese Maple In Jack Driskell's Garden

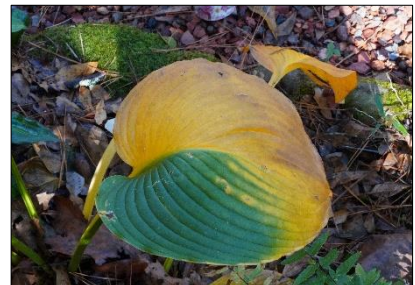
Harold McDonell's Fall Garden



Soapwort Gentian



Cyclamen coum



**THE GEORGIA HOSTA SOCIETY
MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING
February 13, 2021 Via Zoom**

Due to the continuing Covid pandemic, the February meeting was held via Zoom.

The meeting was called to order at 11:07 am by President Greg Ferguson. Approximately 35 members participated.

Minutes of the most recent general meeting (February 8, 2020) were published in the March 2020 *Georgia Hosta Notes* Newsletter. Chuck Zdeb moved that the minutes be accepted as published and Mark Malaguerra seconded the motion, which was approved by the members participating.

Treasurer Dexter Henry reported that our income declined in 2020 because we had no fundraising events. However, we have a “rainy day fund” and are still in good financial standing.

Newsletter Editor Harold McDonell thanked members for sending him pictures of their home gardens. He asked that members forward to him pictures of their garden art to be used in the next newsletter.

We discussed the advisability of planning a 2021 Hosta Show and Sale. The First Baptist Church of Tucker (our preferred venue) is not at this time renting its facility for any events. The City of Tucker is not scheduling any events, including annual Tucker Day normally held on the same day as our show and sale. Claudia Walker, American Hosta Society National Show Chair, reported that she has received no requests from local hosta societies to schedule shows for this year.

Consideration was given to having a virtual leaf show sometime in May and, perhaps, a plant sale at some other venue. We determined to table the discussion and allow the Board of Directors to pursue various options at the March 6th board meeting.

The April 10th general meeting will again be held virtually. The Board will determine the procedures for future meetings and will keep the membership advised.

We discussed ordering a club plant from vendor Bob Solberg but no decision was made.

Club members Jane Law and Jack Driskell have agreed to open their gardens for tours this spring. Greg will finalize the dates for these on-site tours which will observe proper social distancing.

There being no further business, Steve moved that the meeting be adjourned; Mark seconded the motion and it was approved. The meeting adjourned at 11:41 am

The meeting was followed by presentations on “Multiple Approaches to Gardening” (Dexter Henry), “Growing Hostas in Pots Buried in the Ground” (Sandra Bussell), and “Shade Companion Plants” (Mark Malaguerra).

Judy Beeler, Secretary

**THE GEORGIA HOSTA SOCIETY
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
March 6, 2021 Via Zoom**

The Zoom meeting was called to order by President Greg Ferguson at 9:40 a.m. Participating were: Dexter Henry, Harold McDonell, Katie Lindquist, Pat Brussack, Scott Smith, Mark Malaguerra, Chuck Zdeb, Sandra Bussell, Mikky Lockwood, Becky Paris and Judy Beeler.

Minutes of the January 16 board meeting were published in the January 2021 issue of *Georgia Hosta Notes*. Scott moved and Pat seconded that the minutes be accepted as published. The motion was approved.

Becky reported that membership is approximately 130. New members join almost weekly through the website. Harold sends a "Welcome" letter and a copy of the most recent newsletter to each new member. In accordance with the by-laws, the quarterly update of the membership roster is provided to board members. Scott will prepare a PDF version of the roster to be included with the March newsletter and distributed to all members.

Greg suggested that we begin collecting 2022 dues at the fall meeting and attempt to have all dues paid by the end of this year to improve our financial standing.

Harold needs to receive all information for the March newsletter by mid-week (March 10). This includes details of the upcoming garden tours, the program for our April meeting, and the virtual leaf competition in May.

Dexter presented the treasurer's report. The fall plant sale should make up our current shortfall of funds. We are in good financial standing.

Because of continued concerns about the Covid-19 pandemic, the April 10 general meeting will be conducted by Zoom. (Our initial Zoom event held in February was successful and well-received.) The program will consist of a video invitation to the Athens, GA Garden Tour on April 17 which will include Pat's and Sandra's gardens; a virtual tour of Chuck's daffodil planting; and a Power Point presentation by Harold on hybridizing hostas.

We plan to conduct the final two general meetings of the year (September 11 and November 13) in person at our usual meeting venue. The September meeting will be devoted to the plant auction. We hope to invite a noted speaker for the November meeting. We will follow CDC guidelines in effect at that time on how to include refreshments (possibly delivery from outside vendor). Scott will investigate if we could do live coverage of the meetings by either Zoom or Facebook Live.

Unfortunately, conducting our annual leaf show and sale this spring is not feasible. As an alternative, Sandra has developed plans for a cut leaf photography contest viewed and judged by membership through the website. Details will be included in the March newsletter.

We considered planning trips to the sales gardens of our three member vendors (Rising Star Hosta Farm, Pine Forest Gardens and Silvers-Elbert Nursery). Greg will discuss with the vendors and will advise the board. Scott will contact these same vendors to determine if they would want to provide liner-size plants of some not-widely-available hostas to be sold directly to members at our September meeting.

In preparation for electing officers and board members for 2022-2023, a nominating committee will be solicited and named at the September general meeting. The March newsletter will include a list of the positions which will be open as of the end of 2021. Members are encouraged to volunteer for positions if interested.

Scott asked that we inform him of any needed changes we notice on either the website or the Facebook page. He will update both with all planned activity for the remainder of 2021.

Chuck offered to share some unneeded garden pots with anyone who can use them. If interested, contact Chuck directly (see membership roster) to arrange pickup.

There being no further business, Sandra moved that the meeting be closed; Chuck seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 11:24 a.m.

Judy Beeler, Secretary

THE GEORGIA HOSTA SOCIETY

2020-2021 OFFICERS AND BOARD

| | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| President: Greg Ferguson | 770 436-4846 C 770 789-9057 |
| 1 st VP Programs: Steve McMurtry | 404 323-4406 |
| 2 nd VP Membership: Becky Paris | 770 508-8651 |
| 3 rd VP Publications/Newsletter Editor: | |
| Harold McDonell | 770 461-8882 |
| Secretary: Judy Beeler | 404 808-7222 |
| Treasurer: Dexter Henry | 770 460-0983 |
| Parliamentarian: Scott Smith | 404 752-6423 |
| Ex Officio: Scott Smith | 404 752-6423 C 404 486-3471 |

DIRECTORS

Term

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| 3 rd | Mark Malaguerra | 404 752-6423 C 404 808-2866 |
| 3 rd | Mikky Lockwood | 470 238-6066 C 609 529-8372 |
| 2 nd | Pat Brussack | 706 202-3222 |
| 2 nd | Sandra Bussell | 404 636-5920 |
| 1 st | Katie Lindquist | 404 237-0546 C 404 863-6425 |
| 1 st | Chuck Zdeb | 770 593-0895 |

STANDING COMMITTEES

| | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Historian: Claudia Walker | 770 722-3147 |
| Hospitality: Julia Lyons | 706 265-3328 C 770 315-3328 |
| Hosta Leaf Show Co-Chairs - 2021: | |
| Sandra Bussell | 404 636-5920 |
| Judy Beeler | 404 808-7222 |
| Dexter Henry | 770 460-0983 |
| Newsletter Production and Publishing: | |
| Mark Malaguerra | 404 752-6423 |
| Scott Smith | 404 752-6423 |
| Advertising/Publicity/Communications: Vacant | |
| Vendor Liaison: Greg Ferguson | 770 436-4846 |
| Ways and Means: Vacant | |
| Web Master: Scott Smith | 404 752-6423 |
| GHS History Committee: | |
| Harold McDonell | 770 461-8882 |



Established 1984

Georgia Hosta Society Members Holding American Hosta Society Positions:

Claudia Walker: AHS National Show Chair
Sandra Bussell: AHS Judges Records Chair
Harold McDonell: Gifts and Memorials Chair

The Georgia Hosta Society

The Georgia Hosta Society offers a yearly hosta show, four **Georgia Hosta Notes** newsletters and four general meetings, garden tours and workshops, an annual plant sale, and many other benefits. Annual membership dues are \$15 per Individual, \$25 for a family membership. Send membership inquiries and dues to Becky Paris – VP Membership, 4980 Exodus Court, Marietta, GA 30062. For further information, go to www.gahosta.org.

The American Hosta Society

The American Hosta Society offers participation in all national activities, including a national convention; two issues annually of **The Hosta Journal**, each with nearly 100 pages, many interesting and informative articles, and dozens of color and black and white pictures; and one annual **Online Hosta Journal**. ENewsletters are also published periodically to keep members informed. Membership dues are \$30 individual and \$34 family membership per year (US). Contact Sandie Markland - Membership Secretary, PO Box 7539, Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948 or go to AHSMembershipSecretary@Charter.net. For additional information, go to www.americanhostasociety.org.

Dixie Region (AHS Region 3)

All members of GHS and AHS are automatically members of the Dixie Region. The region offers annual meetings, garden tours, judging clinics and other activities. For information, go to the Dixie Region Website: www.dixiehosta.net.

Hosta Cultivar Registration

For all questions about registering hosta cultivars, contact Gayle Hartley Alley, ICRA for Hosta at www.hostaregistrar.org.

2021 Calendar of Events

April 10, 2021 - General Meeting - Via Zoom

April 17, 2021 - Piedmont Gardeners Annual Garden Tour, Athens, Georgia

May 1 - 15, 2021 - Photographic Hosta Show Entries Accepted May 23 - 30 - Members Vote on Show Entries

May 8 - Vendors' Day Sales - Date Tentative

June 5, 2021 - Local Garden Tour - Jane Law and Jack Driskell Gardens

July 15 - 17, 2021 - AHS Virtual National Convention - Visit www.AHS2021.org for more information.

August 14, 2021 - Board Meeting

September 11, 2021 - General Meeting - Deen Day Sanders Garden House - Annual Auction

October 16, 2021 - Board Meeting

November 13, 2021 - General Meeting - Deen Day Sanders Garden House - Speaker TBA

GHS Membership Registration– 2021

Please note: 2021 Membership Dues Waived for 2020 Members

Name:

Address:

Home Phone:

Cell Phone:

Email:

Georgia Hosta Notes newsletters will be sent to members via email to save production and mailing expenses unless you specify that you prefer a paper copy. Please check here if you want a paper copy ____.

Annual Dues are \$15 for individuals or \$25 for a family (two or more persons living in the same household).

Please make check payable to The Georgia Hosta Society.

Send completed form and payment to:

Becky Paris – VP Membership, 4980 Exodus Court, Marietta, GA 30062

Advertising Rates for *Georgia Hosta Notes*

Georgia Hosta Notes welcomes advertisements. To place an ad, send formatted ad along with payment made to The Georgia Hosta Society to Harold McDonell - Editor, 110 Dawn Drive, Fayetteville, Ga. 30215 (haroldmcdonell@aol.com) at least one month prior to meeting date.

Full Page - \$50 Half Page - \$30 Quarter Page - \$20 One Eighth Page - \$10