



# Georgia Hosta Notes

A Publication of The Georgia Hosta Society

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Photos by Mark Malaguerra

**Mark Malaguerra and Scott Smith's Beautiful Mountain Home in Waynesville, North Carolina**

See more photos from the Dixie Regional Convention and GHS summer garden tours starting on Page 16.



## President's Message

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By Greg Ferguson

### Hello to our hosta family!

Have you noticed how the popularity of hostas has increased? Let me share some observations.

First, the interest in hostas seems to be growing exponentially. Everywhere you look, you see hostas. On TV, outside your doctor's office, in neighborhood landscaping, on social media. Everywhere, it seems. This is a good thing. When you say "hosta" today, most people immediately know what you're talking about. It used to be that when you said "hosta," you got a blank stare or a puzzled look.

Second, hostas are able to cross over social, political, and financial backgrounds. Hostas unite us in a common interest that is healthy and positive. Most people can talk about hostas without getting angry and loud. At the mention of "hosta," I have had people start a conversation who have never spoken before. I know hosta friends who are on opposite ends of the political spectrum. I know hosta friends who have large fortunes, and I know hosta friends who are struggling to get by. We have a common denominator, the hosta.

Third, everybody seems to be talking about hosta pests nowadays – especially that four-letter word "deer"! Hosta friends talk about what works, what doesn't work, what they've heard that might work, what they're going to try next. In my case, a rabbit discovered my hostas recently and decimated dozens of plants. I'd like to send him back to Farmer McGregor's garden. Anybody need a rabbit?

Fourth, I apparently know more about hostas than I realized. I certainly don't know as much as some of our hosta family. I'm not so naïve as to believe that. But when people find out that I'm in The Georgia Hosta Society, I discover that I know more than I thought. I answer most of their questions, and if I don't, I can send them to one of our experts. That's a good feeling.

Fifth, I have observed that the addiction to buying hostas is contagious. The more hostas you have, the more you want to have. The insidious thing about this addiction is that you cannot have every variety – because more varieties are introduced every day. To paraphrase a friend of mine: You can never have every hosta; you just run out of room.

So this bonds us in a special camaraderie. It's not every hobby or obsession that is a win-win-win proposition, but the love and enjoyment of hostas is definitely one.

Well, let's talk about our upcoming events. We have two more general meetings in 2022: September 10 and November 5. Thankfully, we are back to in-person meetings, but with caution, of course. Please help us reboot our Society by attending and by participating. We will resume our Hosta Identification segment of our meetings in September. If you have that hosta (or hostas) that you can't identify, bring it with you or take several photos. I can't promise that we can give it an identity, but we'll put our best minds to the task. Recognizing that hostas will disappear for our November and February meetings, please take lots of photos so we can have Hosta Identification at those meetings.

You'll see the September meeting agenda elsewhere in the newsletter, but let me remind you that there will be food and beverages (even more if you'll bring it, and please do!), good fellowship, hostas for sale (from Steve McMurtry), Hosta ID, and a nationally known hosta grower and speaker Josh Spece. It will be well worth the trip! Bring someone or several "someones" with you.

We are in immediate need of volunteers for our various events, for our in-person meetings, for Board positions, for garden tours, etc. For example, we would like to resume a "Sunshine" function, with someone as the Society's point of contact in the event of deaths, illnesses, and other member needs. Also, we are looking for more judges for the May 2023 Leaf Show, so we are organizing a Judges' class to review materials and requirements. Any way you could participate will be welcome.

Your involvement enriches our Society. Thanks to each of you for making our Society a success. I look forward to seeing you at the General Meeting on Saturday, September 10, 2022, at 11 am.

## **Next Meeting    September 10, 2022    11:00 AM**

**Deen Day Sanders Garden House, 10777 Bell Road, Duluth, GA 30097**

### **Our Guest Speaker – Josh Spece** **“New Hostas for 2023 and Beyond”**

Want to know what super new hostas are on the horizon for us? Then join us at our next meeting on September 10th and find out. Our guest speaker will be Josh Spece. Josh’s program topic will be “New Hostas for 2023 and Beyond.” Josh should know better than most anyone else just what we have to look forward to since he brings us many of the best new hostas each year through his wildly popular hosta nursery, In The Country Garden & Gifts, located in Independence, Iowa. Josh will join us via Zoom for an interactive program which has become a preferred way of presenting programs to local societies since the COVID pandemic hit us.

In addition to running his nursery, Josh also speaks frequently on hostas, succulents, shade gardens, water gardening, and accessible gardening to garden and pond clubs, Master Gardener groups, and other gardening groups and events. Josh regularly contributes articles and photos to the American Hosta Society’s *The Hosta Journal*, and he was awarded the AHS Best New Author award in 2008. He currently serves on the Board of Directors for the American Hosta Society, and is a past board member of the American Hosta Growers Association.

Josh’s obsession with hostas began as a child, when his grandmother began buying hostas for her shady yard. His hosta collection soon out-numbered hers and eventually resulted in him and his mom, Sue, opening a nursery, In The Country Garden & Gifts, in 1998. In The Country specializes in innovative hostas, choice shade perennials, water plants, rock garden plants, dwarf conifers, and succulents. It ships plants to gardeners across the country.

Josh graduated in 2000 with an AAS degree in Horticulture. Being in a wheelchair creates obvious obstacles in the garden for him, but with a little creativity, a lot of determination, and much help and support from family and friends, physical limitations don’t get in the way.

Josh’s garden features hundreds of varieties of hostas, rock gardens, trough gardens, ornamental grasses, dwarf conifers, unusual trees and shrubs, succulents, and many uncommon sun and shade perennials. Josh hybridizes hostas on a small scale and has introduced three of his own plants to date, and works with a number of hybridizers across the country to bring their creations to the gardens of fellow hosta collectors. For more information about Josh and In The Country Garden & Gifts, see his website at [www.inthecountrygardenandgifts.com](http://www.inthecountrygardenandgifts.com).



## Food for September 10th Meeting – Anything Goes!



Yes, anything goes as far as what we want you to bring for our September 10<sup>th</sup> meeting luncheon. Meats, vegetables, salads, desserts, or breads. Your choice. It can be a light dish or something a little more hardy that hints of fall. Our general meeting lunches have been just great thanks to our members' contributions. Let's make this the best one yet. GHS will provide drinks.

## Hosta Sale Planned for September 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting

GHS has arranged with Steve McMurtry to sell the remaining hosta stock from his recently closed Rising Star Hosta Farm at our next meeting. Be prepared to purchase some very nice hostas at good prices while at the same time, helping Steve to dispose of the rest of his Rising Star hostas.

**Need the identification of a hosta? Maybe our members can help. Bring a leaf or two to the September 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.**

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### Remembering Ricky Cox



GHS members were saddened to learn of the death of prominent GHS member Ricky Cox on July 24, 2022. Ricky had been battling cancer for an extended period of time prior to his passing. He served on the GHS Board of Directors for several terms and was at almost every meeting to help with the various sales and auctions as well as anything else that needed to be done. He always had a smile and kind words for everyone around him. In recognition of his extensive service to GHS, he was presented the American Hosta Society Certificate of Appreciation in 2018. Along with his partner Steve McMurtry, he was the co-owner of Rising Star Hosta Farm, and he and Steve participated as vendors in most GHS sales. He and Steve also donated numerous hostas and other plants for GHS auctions. They opened their beautiful garden in Stone Mountain often for GHS tours. The loss of Ricky Cox will certainly leave a void in our GHS family. We express our condolences to Steve and Ricky's extended family.

### Remembering Jill Scott



We regret to announce that Jill Scott, wife of GHS member Mike Scott of Cartersville, Georgia passed away on May 17, 2022 after a long illness. Jill was 73 years old. Mike also lost his mother a few weeks later. Please keep Mike in your thoughts and prayers.

**(Mike and Jill at the 2018 AHS National Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)**

## WATER, WATER, WATER!

If you have been a member of the Georgia Hosta Society for awhile, you have heard these words many times over. Water, water, water! August, September, and October are critical months for hostas in Georgia. Why? Because these months are particularly dry ones in terms of rainfall in our state. At the same time, it is a time when hostas depend on having an ample water supply in order to build the reserves needed to carry them through the winter and emerge with vigor in the spring. That is why this message is repeated often.

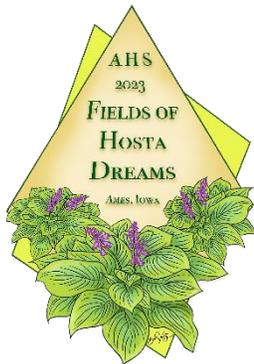
Many years ago, our founder and international hosta expert, George Schmid, penned an article for *The Hosta Journal* comparing rainfall patterns in Japan, where most of our hosta species originate, to rainfall patterns in the United States and especially in the Southeastern US. He pointed out that Japan's springs are relatively dry while the falls are quite wet, and that these are the conditions our hostas are accustomed to having. However, in the Southeastern US, the pattern is right the opposite with wet springs but spotty rainfall in the fall. If we don't provide the dependable moisture conditions that are critical for hostas during these months, they will suffer and not properly prepare themselves for winter dormancy. The result will be reduced size of our plants come spring – or worse.

We gardeners tend to neglect our gardens this time of the year as the temperatures rise to very uncomfortable levels for us and as most plants, including our hostas, begin to show the wear and tear of time. However, we can not neglect to water our hostas regularly in these late summer and autumn months, even in the cooler periods of late September and October. If we water, water, water in August, September and October, we will be rewarded with much healthier hostas next spring.

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## 2023 National Convention, Ames, Iowa – June 7-10, 2023

### “Fields of Hosta Dreams”



The 2023 American Hosta Society National Convention, hosted by the Russ O’Harra Hosta Society, will be held on June 7-10 in Ames, Iowa. More detailed information on events, speakers, hosta show, auction, and garden tours will be available in September 2022 on the American Hosta Society website at [americanhostasociety.org/activities/conventions](http://americanhostasociety.org/activities/conventions). You will be as excited when you see what is in store for you. In the meantime, don’t strike out! Batter up and get registered now. Registration form can be accessed at the above website.

## 2023 Dixie Region Regional Meeting - Raleigh, North Carolina

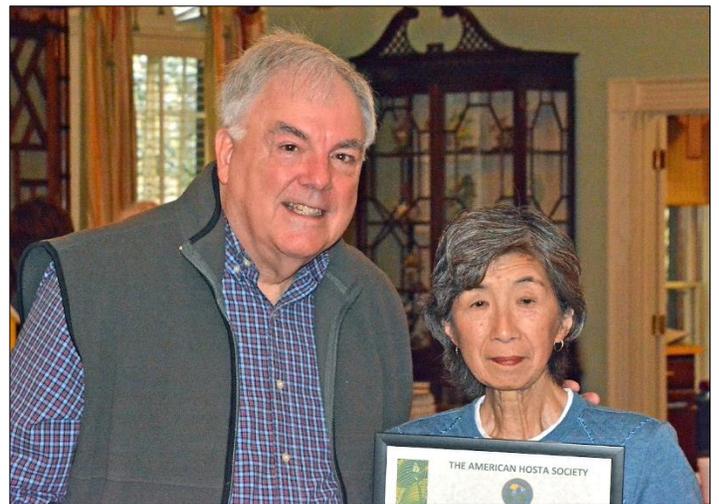
The Dixie Region (Region Three) regional meeting will be held next year in Raleigh, North Carolina. Dates have not yet been confirmed. Stay tuned for more information.

## A Look Back at the April 9, 2022 Meeting

Our April 9<sup>th</sup> meeting was well attended as our members eagerly looked forward to GHS resuming its annual spring auction. We were not disappointed. After a short business meeting and lunch, the auction began. Hundreds of hostas and shade companion plants were available, and they were eagerly snatched up by excited bidders. GHS would like to thank all of you who donated plants for the auction as well as all of you who participated in the spirited bidding.

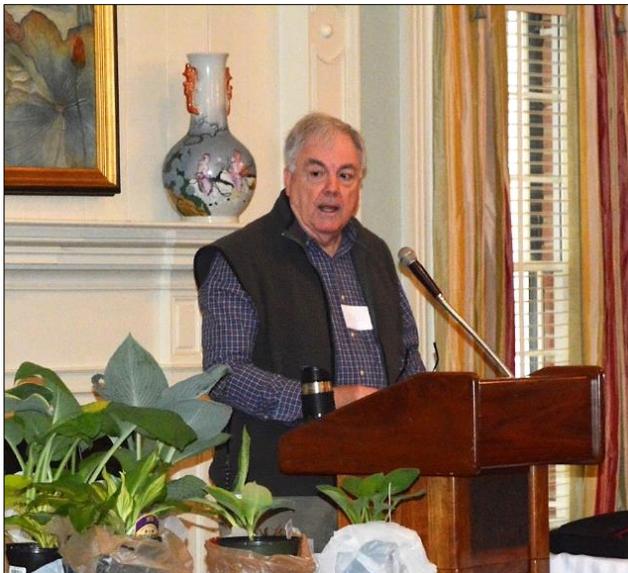
We were also proud to see four of our members presented American Hosta Society Certificates of Appreciation for their contributions to the Georgia Hosta Society. All four have worked diligently over many years to make GHS a success and we owe them much for their efforts. Normally, AHS allows for only one or two such awards to be given per year. However, awards were put on hold due to the pandemic so AHS allowed nominations for both 2021 and 2022 this year. We are pleased to announce that GHS members Chuck Zdeb, Mark Malaguerra, Scott Smith, and Mikky Lockwood are our recipients. Congratulations to each of them.

**President Greg Ferguson presents AHS Certificates of Appreciation to (clockwise from top left)  
Chuck Zdeb, Mark Malaguerra, Mikky Lockwood and Scott Smith.**



**Meeting Photos by Mikky Lockwood**

## A Look Back at the April 9, 2022 Meeting



## A Look Back at the April 9, 2022 Meeting



## A Look Back at the April 9, 2022 Meeting



## No garden space? Living in an apartment?

### Think container gardens.

Many of our members, as they age, make the decision to give up their home and garden and move into condominiums or apartments. If this is you, you can still garden and grow hostas. Pictured below is a magnificent creation by GHS member, Cozart Smith. It is a complete garden featuring a conifer and several miniature hostas. This shows what you can do when you only have a deck, patio, porch or other limited space in which to garden. Your patio garden need not be this elaborate. It can be as simple as growing a miniature hosta or two in a small pot. Most hostas, even the very large ones, adapt very well to container culture. So, if you find yourself with limited garden space, give hosta container gardening a try.



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### In the Next Issues of *Georgia Hosta Notes*

After suffering through a couple of COVID years of being confronted with a dearth of material for the *Georgia Hosta Notes*, your editor now finds himself in the enviable position of having more content than can fit into a single issue. In this issue, you will find coverage of our 2022 hosta show and plant sale as well as the two summer garden tours of GHS member gardens in the mountains of North Carolina. The next issue will feature this summer's Cartersville garden tours as well as the Region 3 Dixie Regional meeting in Knoxville, Tennessee. In the January, 2023 issue, we will have coverage of the 2022 AHS National Convention in the Minneapolis, Minnesota area. Stay tuned. The best is yet to come!

## 2022 GHS Hosta Show Results

### *On The Road Again!*

After two years without conducting a hosta show due to the COVID pandemic, 2022 proved to be the comeback year for the Georgia Hosta Society and GHS got right back into the groove with a great show. The theme was appropriately titled *On The Road Again!* Under the guidance of Show Co-Chairs Sandra Bussell and Dexter Henry, everything went smoothly and our GHS members could finally come together again for a fun day of friendly competition as well as purchase many great new hostas and companion plants provided at the show plant sale. This year, Best of Show was won by a mouse, *Hosta* 'Mini Skirt', exhibited by Linwood and Dorothy Keith. Congratulations, Linwood and Dorothy.

The results of the 2022 show are listed below:

### Best of Show

*Hosta* 'Mini Skirt'

**Best of Division I, Section V – Miniature Leaf**

Exhibited by Dorothy and Linwood Keith



### Best Container Grown Hosta

*Hosta* 'Gravity Rocks'

Exhibited by Cozart Smith



### Best Trough/Container Garden

Exhibited by Cozart Smith



# 2022 GHS Hosta Show Results

## Other Winners - Division I



Section I - Giant Leaf

*H. 'Ulysses S. Grant'*

Exhibitor – Kay Cook



Section II - Large Leaf

*H. sieboldiana*

Exhibitor – Linda Karr



Section III - Medium Leaf

*H. 'Scheherazade'*

Exhibitor – Harold McDonell



Section IV - Small Leaf

*H. 'Leapin' Lizard'*

Exhibitor – Harold  
McDonell

### Sweepstakes Winner

Steven Blair  
17 Blue Ribbons



Show Co-Chair Sandra Bussell presents  
Steven Blair with the 2022 GHS Hosta  
Show Sweepstakes Award.

### 2022 Show Results

#### **Number of Entries:**

- Division I - Horticulture - 221
- Division II - Container Grown  
Hostas - 6
- Division III - Trough/Container  
Gardens Arranged for  
Effect - 4
- Division IV - Educational  
Displays - 1
- Division V - Non-Competitive  
Exhibits - 2

**Number of Exhibitors - 21**

**Show Attendance – 100+**

## Scenes from the 2022 GHS Hosta Show



**Congratulations to Show Co-chairs Dexter Henry and Sandra Bussell for a super successful show!**

**Hosta Show and Plant Sale Photos by Mikky Lockwood, Harold McDonnell, and Ed Thaubald**



## Scenes from the 2022 GHS Hosta Show Plant Sale



# Scenes from the 2022 GHS Hosta Show & Sale

## Our Hosta Sale Vendors



**Natalie Silvers – Silvers Elbert Nursery**



**Ed Thaubald and Nancy Deal  
Bentley Gardens**



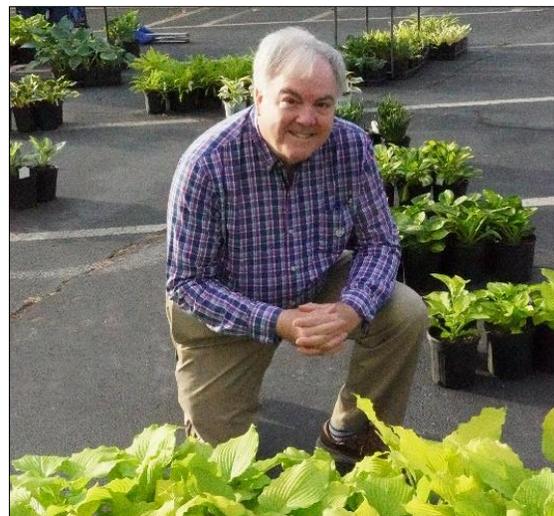
**Richard Jolly – Pine Forest Gardens**



**Sue Stein – Sassy Succulents, Etc.**



**Lisa Eckart – Lisa's Littles**



**Show Sale Chairman – Greg Ferguson**

## Hostas in the Smokies

### Tours of GHS Members' Gardens in the North Carolina Mountains

Taking advantage of the Dixie Region Meeting in nearby Knoxville, Tennessee, the Georgia Hosta Society arranged bookend tours of the North Carolina gardens of GHS members Mark Malaguerra and Scott Smith in Waynesville, and Dexter Henry and John Green in Sylva. Both gardens are located in the heart of the Smoky Mountains of western North Carolina, an area of unsurpassed beauty. We started with Dexter and John's garden which we visited on Thursday before the regional meeting. Sylva is a quaint little town nestled in a valley between mountains. It is a popular tourist destination for those vacationing in the North Carolina Smokies. From the front porch of Dexter and John's home, we enjoyed a great view of the mountains across the valley on the other side of Sylva. Although Dexter has been concentrating on native plants and naturalist plantings around both his home and John's next-door art studio, he has also included hostas in the gardens. We spent several hours enjoying the gardens and John's art work as well as the companionship of our fellow GHS members. After a light lunch provided by Dexter, it was on to Knoxville for the Dixie Regional Meeting.

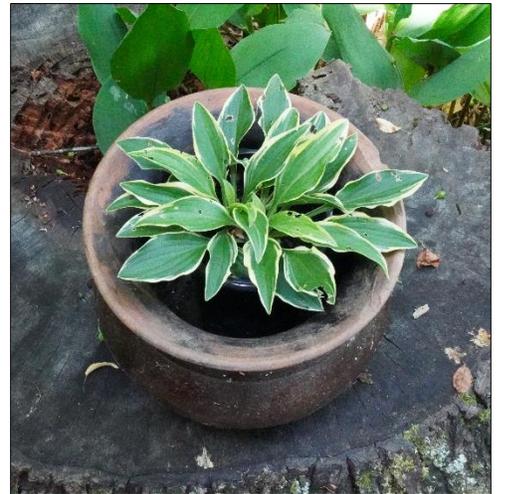
On Sunday after the regional meeting, we made our way to the mountain cabin hideaway of Mark and Scott. Their spacious cabin is nestled into the side of a tall mountain at an elevation of over 4,300 feet. The first thing noticed as we exited our vehicles is the significant drop in temperature due to the high elevation. The next thing we noticed was a view to die for. What a little piece of Heaven this cabin is. The cabin and garden, which are only about 5 years old, look like they have been there for the ages. The garden was a riot of color when we toured. The woods surrounding the cabin were absolutely loaded with just about every wildflower imaginable, many of them in bloom including numerous native deciduous azaleas. Around the cabin, Mark and Scott have filled the alpine-like garden with more native azaleas, rhododendrons, delphiniums, lupines, ice plant, and numerous other blooming perennials. And oh yes, there were quite a few hostas growing huge and happily in the cool mountain air. The only downer about visiting this fantastic garden was having to eventually leave!

Our thanks to Mark and Scott, and Dexter and John for sharing their mountain homes and gardens with our GHS members. For those members who were not able to attend these garden tours, we are including some pictures of each garden for your pleasure. Enjoy.

### Dexter Henry and John Green's Garden



## Dexter Henry and John Green's Garden



## Scott Smith and Mark Malaguerra's Garden



Photos by Mikky Lockwood and Harold  
McDonell



# Scott Smith and Mark Malaguerra's Garden



## Scott Smith and Mark Malaguerra's Garden



Judy Beeler and Mikky Lockwood enjoy a light lunch and the view with Scott and Mark.

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## Attention Members: Hosta Show Judges Needed

The Georgia Hosta Society and Region 3 have been blessed over the years to have ample numbers of active show judges to judge our shows. However, the ranks have depleted recently and we now need for more of our members to step up and become hosta show judges. The first step in doing that is to attend Hosta Show Judging Clinics I and II. GHS member Chuck Zdeb, who is also the AHS National Show Chair, is planning to conduct both clinics, probably on the same day. We hope to present this opportunity later this year or in the spring of next year if we have enough interest from our members. If you are interested in becoming a show judge or if you are presently a show judge and need a refresher course to improve your skills, please contact Chuck via email at [sczdeb@bellsouth.net](mailto:sczdeb@bellsouth.net) or contact him by phone at 777 593-0895. Of course, Chuck will also need the assistance of some of our existing judges in conducting the clinics.

## Hosta Speakers Needed

GHS continues to receive requests from local garden clubs and Master Gardener groups for speakers on the subject of hostas. These are great educational opportunities but we need more volunteers to make presentations to these groups. GHS is exploring developing one or two general PowerPoint hosta presentations for our speakers to use. Would you be interested in being a speaker and presenting a program? If you are, please let Greg Ferguson know.

# Fairy Rings in Hostas

## Have Fairies Danced in Your Garden?

by Joan Poos

(Reprinted from St. Louis Hosta Society Newsletter, February 2022.)

The hosta's circle of life is amazing. In a single year, the plant emerges from the ground, unfurls leaves which in a matter of weeks rapidly expand, flowers, then returns to dormancy. Year after year the cycle continues with the plants gaining in size. A large clump forms. Hostas can remain for decades and decades, undisturbed, ever growing larger.

However, you may notice in the spring that your once beautiful clump now has a hole in the middle. It is not unusual for large clumps to begin to decline over time. This phenomenon is called centering-out, clump decline, center dieback, or the more picturesque name 'fairy ring'. This whimsical name was given because the problem was said to result from fairies dancing in the middle of the plant. This ring effect is not usually an indication of disease.

In the beginning, you planted a single division which each year added new buds on the outer edge of the crown. Over time, these new divisions increase the diameter of the clump. Each new division adds more new buds. The oldest part of the clump is now at the center. Eventually the middle eyes get crowded out and begin to die. Overlapping leaves may keep water and fertilizer from reaching the center of the clump exacerbating the decline.

In the spring the ring might be unsightly. But, by the time the leaves have fully expanded, the ring is no longer visible. Nothing really needs to be done. However, this could be the time to rejuvenate your plant.

Some people use a shovel or sharp knife to cut out the dead center area. They then fill the hole with fresh soil and depending on the size of the hole may cut a section from the ring and place it in the center. In a year or two this part of the clump will fill in. Others like to dig up the entire clump, remove the dead center part, cut the ring into smaller divisions and replant. Loosen the roots of each division before replanting and water thoroughly. Any extra divisions can be given to friends or donated to a hosta society for their plant sale or auction. Hint.



Examples of the 'Fairy Ring' Phenomenon in Three Clumps of Hostas

**THE GEORGIA HOSTA SOCIETY**  
**MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING**  
**Deen Day Sanders Garden House, Duluth, Georgia**  
**April 9, 2022**

President Greg Ferguson opened the business meeting at 11:31 am by welcoming visitors and making announcements. The minutes of the February 12, 2022 general meeting and the March 12, 2022 board meeting were published in the March 2022 edition of *Georgia Hosta Notes*. Chuck Zdeb moved that the minutes be accepted as published; Fred Lindquist seconded the motion and it carried.

Dexter Henry, Treasurer, reported that our checking account balance is a bit more than \$2,200 and that we have had no unexpected expenses.

Chuck brought up that the club has had a Certificate of Deposit for nearly 25 years and that the value is now substantial. He suggested that some of the funds be used to promote the genus hosta through local technical or agriculture schools. Scott Smith moved that an ad hoc committee be established to explore opportunities for using the funds. Sandra Bussell seconded the motion. Chuck Zdeb and Cherie Felton were named as the committee and will report their recommendations to the Board.

Newsletter Editor Harold McDonell asked that members continue to send him photographs of their hosta plants and gardens.

Steve McMurtry, Program Chair, reminded us that the September meeting will include a video presentation by Josh Spece of In The Country Garden & Gifts. The November program has not yet been finalized.

There being no further business, Chuck moved that the meeting be closed; Steve seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 11:55 am.

Sandra Bussell then provided final details of the up-coming hosta show and sale, our first since 2019. She distributed the Show Schedule and Newsletter. Chuck and Claudia Walker gave tips on selecting and preparing hosta leaves for the competition.

Steve announced that Rising Star Hosta Farm that he and Rickie Cox have operated for several years will not be vending at this year's show and, in fact, will be closing.

As the highlight of the meeting, Greg announced the recipients of the President's Wall awards. Awardees for 2021 are Mikky Lockwood and Chuck Zdeb. For 2022 the winners are Mark Malaguerra and Scott Smith. Congratulations to all awardees for this much-deserved recognition.

Following lunch, we enjoyed a lively auction of hostas, other plants and garden accessories donated by club members.

Judy Beeler, Secretary

**THE GEORGIA HOSTA SOCIETY  
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING  
August 13, 2022 Via Zoom**

The meeting was called to order by President Greg Ferguson at 9:42 a.m. Participating were: Judy Beeler, Sandra Bussell, Dexter Henry, Richard Jolly, Mary Lepore, Katie Lindquist, Julia Lyons, Harold McDonell, Mark Malaguerra, Scott Smith and Chuck Zdeb.

Greg said that we are all thankful that our September meeting will again be in-person rather than virtual.

Greg expressed condolences to board member Steve McMurtry for the recent passing of long-time member Ricky Cox. A memorial contribution has been made to the American Hosta Society in memory of Ricky.

The Dixie Regional Hosta Society convention held in Knoxville in June was successful and Greg reviewed the highlights. GHS was asked to host the event in 2024 but the board declined to take on this responsibility at this time. For such an event to be successful, we must encourage new members to become more active, to agree to open their gardens for tours and to volunteer in the planning and execution of the event. A "simplified" convention is planned for 2023 in Raleigh, NC and, after reviewing that prototype, we will consider hosting a future Dixie Regional.

Thanks to Dexter, Mark and Scott for inviting us to tour their beautiful mountain gardens on our way to and from Knoxville.

With the increased visibility of GHS on Facebook and the internet, local garden groups have approached Greg about providing speakers and programs for their members. We should consider developing a 45- to 55- minute program of basic hosta information and a list of club members who would be willing to speak to interested groups. Possibly, one person could develop the electronic program (e.g., PowerPoint) and another person could do the actual presentation. Scott will research options for storing a file of photographs and presentations on Dropbox or Google Drive.

Minutes of the March 12, 2022 board meeting were published in the March *Georgia Hosta Notes* newsletter. Harold moved and Mark seconded that the minutes be accepted as published. The motion carried.

Dexter presented the Treasurer's report and confirmed that we are in good financial standing. The spring auction brought in \$1,807 and the vendor show sales resulted in a bit more than \$1,000 in revenue. We can anticipate significant increases in the rent for our off-site storage as well as the fee for our webhosting.

Harold asked that we continue to provide suggestions and photographs for the newsletter.

Chuck discussed the need for offering Judges' Clinics so that additional judges can be certified and Master Judges can renew their certifications. The recent cancelation of so many accredited local shows has jeopardized the participation requirements. Even if one does not intend to become a judge, the clinics are an ideal way to learn leaf preparation and how to spot specific characteristics. Ideally, we should locate a facility that would allow us to hold Clinic I in the morning and Clinic II in the afternoon. All of Dixie Region would be invited.

The program for the September general meeting will be a Zoom presentation by Josh Spece of In the Country Gardens & Gifts. Steve McMurtry will offer the remaining inventory from his recently-closed Rising Star Farm for direct sale to our members. A Hosta Identification period will also be conducted.

Our November meeting program is still undecided. Harold will use his AHS contacts to determine if any national speakers might be available who would be willing to present a program by Zoom.

GHS currently holds a substantial Certificate of Deposit that has not been touched for many years. At the March board meeting, we voted to research ways in which some of those funds might be used to promote the genus *Hosta*. Chuck has conferred with Heather Barber, Horticulture Program Director at Lanier Technical College in Cumming, GA. After discussion, Chuck moved that GHS award two \$500 scholarships to deserving horticulture students at Lanier Tech. Sandra seconded the motion and it was approved. Chuck was appointed as the “scholarship chair” to coordinate with Ms. Barber on the awarding of the grants.

Greg encouraged us to continue to publicize our general meetings by informing interested gardeners and groups.

Julia's food theme for the September meeting is “Anything Goes.” After checking with our speaker, Scott will inform Julia of the timing of food service. Please continue to offer assistance to Julia and George with meal set-up and clean-up.

Becky Paris and Doug Crabtree, Membership Chairs, recently provided an updated membership roster to board members. Recipients who do not have Excel capabilities on their home computers were unable to print the roster. Greg will contact Doug and request that future lists be converted to a PDF format for easy of printing.

Sandra and Dexter have agreed to co-chair the 2023 Hosta Show and Sale. In early January, Dexter will contact First Baptist Church of Tucker to confirm the venue. We will continue to coordinate with Tucker Day. Hiring young workers to help with set-up and tear-down worked well this past spring and will be continued next year. Pine Forest Gardens, Bentley Gardens, and Silvers Elbert Nursery have already committed to vending. We still hope to secure a Japanese Maple seller, encouraging him/her to concentrate on bringing one- and two-gallon-size containers. As always, our most pressing need is to publicize the event area-wide.

We all agreed that we should continue the “hosta identification” segment at all future general meetings. Consideration is being given to purchasing Hosta Virus X test strips in bulk and re-selling individual strips to members as needed.

Scott will update the club's website and include bio information about Josh Spece, speaker for the September program. He will also replace the existing photo on the homepage with a photo of a more mature hosta.

As we learn of illness, death or emergencies among our members, please notify Scott so that he can advise the entire group. At the September general meeting, we will discuss reinstating the “Sunshine Committee” from past years.

The next board meeting will be on October 8, conducted via Zoom.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:41 a.m.

Judy Beeler, Secretary

# THE GEORGIA HOSTA SOCIETY

## 2022-2023 OFFICERS AND BOARD

President: Greg Ferguson 770 436-4846  
C 770 789-9057  
1<sup>st</sup> VP Programs: Steve McMurtry 404 323-4406  
2<sup>nd</sup> VP Membership: Becky Paris 770 508-8651  
3<sup>rd</sup> VP Publications/Newsletter Editor:  
Harold McDonell 770 461-8882  
Secretary: Judy Beeler 404 808-7222  
Treasurer: Dexter Henry 770 460-0983  
Parliamentarian: Mark Malaguerra 404 752-6423  
C 404 808-2866  
Ex Officio: Scott Smith 404 752-6423  
& Communications Coordinator C 404 486-3471

## DIRECTORS

Term		
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Sandra Bussell	404 636-5920 C 404 808-2866
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Katie Lindquist	404 237-0546 C 404 863-6425
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Chuck Zdeb	770 593-0895
1 <sup>st</sup>	Greg Barner	404 644-9483
1 <sup>st</sup>	Mary Lepore	678 635-5796
1 <sup>st</sup>	Richard Jolly	770 487-5036

## STANDING COMMITTEES

Historian: Claudia Walker 770 722-3147  
Hospitality: Julia Lyons 706 265-3328  
C 770 315-3328  
Hosta Leaf Show Co-Chairs - 2022:  
Sandra Bussell 404 636-5920  
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: Kendra Spadoni 256 777-4762  
Web Master: Scott Smith 404 752-6423



**Established 1984**

## Georgia Hosta Society Members Holding American Hosta Society Positions:

**Chuck Zdeb:** AHS National Show Chair  
**Sandra Bussell:** AHS Judges Records Chair  
**Harold McDonell:** Gifts and Memorials Chair

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## The Georgia Hosta Society

The Georgia Hosta Society offers an annual 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 306 Carney Lane, Ball Ground, Ga 30107. For further information, go to [www.gahosta.org](http://www.gahosta.org).

## The American Hosta Society

The American Hosta Society membership offers participation in all national AHS 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 per year (US). For additional information, go to [www.americanhostasociety.org](http://www.americanhostasociety.org) or Contact Barry Ankney, Membership Secretary - AHS, 1104 Oxford Court, Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois 60181-5249.

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## 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](http://www.dixiehosta.net).

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## Hosta Cultivar Registration

For all questions about registering hosta cultivars, contact Gayle Hartley Alley, ICRA for Hosta, at the Hosta Treasury website - [www.hostaregistrar.org](http://www.hostaregistrar.org).

## 2022-2023 Calendar of Events

September 10, 2022 - General Meeting - Deen Day Sanders Garden House  
October 8, 2022 - Board Meeting  
November 5, 2022 - General Meeting - Deen Day Sanders Garden House  
January 14, 2023 – Board Meeting  
February 11, 2023 – General Meeting – Deen Day Sanders Garden House  
March 18, 2023 – Board Meeting  
April 15, 2023 – General Meeting – Deen Day Sanders Garden House  
May 13 - Hosta Show and Sale (Setup - May 12 - 12:30 PM to 6:00 PM) Tentative  
August 19, 2023 – Board Meeting  
September 16, 2023 – General Meeting – Deen Day Sanders Garden House  
October 7, 2023 – Board Meeting  
November 4, 2023 – General Meeting – Deen Day Sanders Garden House

## GHS Membership Registration– 2022

**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, 306 Carney Lane, Ball Ground, Georgia 30107**

## **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. We will assist with formatting if you desire.

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