



DELAWARE VALLEY HOSTA SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Volume 14, No.1

www.dvhosta.org

Winter 2005

WINTER MARCH 19, 2005 MEETING & HOSTA SALE

Brandywine High School - Audion (Directions on page 7)
1400 Foulk Road, Wilmington, Delaware 19803 302-476-1600
Please bring a dessert to pass, beverages will be provided.

12:30 pm Hosta Sale (See Insert) 2:00 pm Guest Speaker Charlie Seaver

“HOSTAS IN THE ATTIC”

Charlie Seaver will regale us with slides and stories of his famous mom’s hosta program. Mildred Seaver (aka Queen of Hostas) is one of the legends and characters of the hosta world. We expect her to be present at the meeting so expect some fireworks as she will put forth her own version of the history and heritage that Charlie presents. Charlie will also discuss his hybridizing program and what constitutes a good hybridizing program as well as a good new cultivar. He is very qualified on this subject having registered and introduced over 10 hosta hybrids including H. ‘Deep Blue Sea’ and H. ‘Starboard Light’. And, in case you didn’t know, he won the prestigious Paulene Banyai award for the Best Seedling or Sport in the cut-leaf show at the 2004 AHS National convention. See the picture of the leaves with those incredible undulated petioles. His mom, Mildred, won the same award in 1997 for H. ‘Queen of the Seas’. His talk will be multi-media, consist of both slides and digital computer images. Don’t miss it.

Charlie’s Best Seedling or Sport
in the 2004 AHS National Con-
vention Hosta Show



Charlie Seaver



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President's Message

Eva Jones

It is March! This time of year is especially precious to us as hosta lovers. The long awaited warmth of Spring is close. It is difficult to stay inside as we wait for our plants to emerge. The building excitement of our convention is adding to our feelings of anticipation, but it won't be long now. And today you can read your newsletter to help pass some of the time pleasantly. The club's schedule is packed with fun!

Our Spring meeting is March 19th. We are changing the location to the Brandywine High School, in their building called the Audion. This facility is quite nice. It has plenty of parking and a good location. Plus, you will love our speaker, the one and only Charlie Seaver. His hosta knowledge is extensive. He has a lifelong bird's eye view and is going to share some of his hosta world with us! Yes there will be pictures! To sweeten the day, we will start off with a plant sale. This year we have invited plantsman, Bob Solberg of Green Hill Farms, to supply some special hostas for us. Since his nursery is in warmer, North Carolina, these will be nicely flushed out plants. You will have 10 varieties to choose from. See the insert. Plus we will have our raffle with coffee and cookies. Wow!

Our schedules can be tough to juggle. So if there is no way that you can make this meeting and would still like to purchase plants, we are going to make them available to you. Look inside for the list and order form. You will need to mail a check payable to DVHS prior to March 18th to Conny Parsons. Then pick up the plants promptly from the Parsons' home in Glen Mills, PA. Please contact her to make arrangements (see first column).

The June meeting is to be held at the fabulous garden of Eve and Per Thyrum. We will start early at 9 am as we do when we are seeing two gardens, with our meal in the middle and our auction on the end. However, the second event is our local Hosta Show not another garden. I am hoping that many of you will search for the perfect leaf or two from your plants and bring them to display. This will be so much fun and you will learn things too! Master judge, Ali Pollock is our Judge Chair. She and the other judges will be sharing with you the reasons for their scores. So when our convention is happening next year, you will be ready to participate in it! Remember your troughs and containers featuring hostas can be entered as well. Jody Spaulding is our Show Chair. She has written the basic schedule inside. This is an American Hosta Society accredited Show. There are a couple of spots to fill so if you want to help, please contact me. Thank you Ali, Jody and members, Chris Dambro, Linda Kay Pressley, Lois Babbit and Bruce Banyai who have already volunteered. It's gonna be good!

The July meeting is to be held at the lovely garden of long time member, Grace Rose. When I first walked into her garden I was stuck by an overwhelming desire to stroll. A lovely lawn intermingles with several large plantings. Grace's collections include some magnificent conifers and of course many large specimen hostas.

November will bring us a treat as well! Karen Rexrode, nurserywoman, collector, gardener and photographer makes an unbeatable combination in creating an interesting presentation. Mark your calendar.

There is one more announcement to make. In August, DVHS will be participating in a market day to benefit our coffers. So as you are planting and dividing through the season, pot an extra one for the cause.

Thanks to all of our members for contributing their plants, time, effort and knowledge to the success of 2004. This year looks to be just as wonderful! I am looking forward to seeing all of you very soon.

Happy Hosta Day Mildred

**Mildred Seaver celebrated her 92nd growing season in January.
Happy Birthday to the Queen of the Seas!**

DVHS Membership Cards: A new membership card is available as a handout to promote and join DVHS. The front of the card has membership information and the back has the DVHS calendar and information about the 2006 AHS National Convention. If you are a member of another plant organization or garden club, a nursery who sells hostas, a gardener who hosts garden tours, or a person who loves hostas and wants to spread the word, contact Chris Dambro for information and cards: (610)388-7743 ChrisDambro@aol.com

UGLY SLUGLY By Walter Cullerton

Kids love to play with them. The French eat them. So do ducks and toads, but for us, the home gardener, these slimy little creatures are disgusting and destructive to our favorite (and not so favorite) annuals and perennials. Who are these guys, really, and how do we get rid of them? Well friend, read on and I'll tell you how to control if not rid your garden of these slimy little creatures.

First and foremost understand that the slug, or Phylum Mollusca as botanists like to call them, are spineless little creatures related to the snail. In fact they're homeless snails. No shell, so instead they hide under a stone, a board, a brick, some mulch, just any place where there's some shade and a little moisture. Now, slugs are hermaphrodites meaning they have both male and female sex organs...but let's not go there today. They crawl on their bellies exuding this mucous like stuff and have been known to go over glass and up six-foot stone walls. All trying to get to your prized plant for dinner. Creative and persistent little buggers. Oops, I mean slugs.

There are many products on the market to help you get rid of slugs, but most have toxic chemicals such as metaldehyde. One that doesn't is a product called Sluggo. It may be environmentally friendly but it'll slime your pocketbook. So why not keep the environment safe from potentially harmful chemicals and hang on to your money as well. I'm going to recommend several methods to control slugs, all quite effective, and at no cost or inexpensive. I realize that you may prefer one to the other and that's okay; they all work.

Beer. Yup, good old-fashioned beer. I love it. Slugs love it even more. I place a clean empty tuna can (or anything similar) with the top at ground level close by my (and the slugs) favorite plant. Fill it about halfway with beer. The next day, if you had a slug in the neighborhood, you'll find him/her drowned in the beer pool along with a bunch of friends. Just bear in mind that they died happy. Empty the can and start over again.

Coffee grounds. This method is cool. Drink coffee, save the grounds and let them dry a bit. I was told to spread them on a sheet of newspaper to dry out but I've skipped this step and there are no problems. I spread the

grounds in a circle around the plant(s) I want to protect. Perhaps ½ inch wide and ¼ inch high. Do it without the ruler, just get the feel. The PH of the soil is not affected, as the grounds are PH neutral. The grounds are a form of mulch and provide a barrier I've never seen a slug cross. How about that? Some of my friends have gone to Starbucks and other coffee palaces to pick up grounds several times a week. Recently, our Starbucks has packaged their coffee grounds in a ten-pound bag labeled, "FREE COFFEE GROUNDS FOR YOUR GARDEN," along with a PH comment and directions for use. They're obviously quite happy to have you cart them off. You're happy, the coffee palace is happy and the slugs are not. That's a victory in my book!

Ammonia. The plain old household kind and it's no doubt, in your laundry room now, so you won't need to go out and buy it. Pay attention, as this is not only effective but also a lot of fun. Get a spray bottle or two or three. A 22 or 32-ounce size, it really doesn't matter. Usually some household product like Windex or Lysol comes in such a bottle. One can even buy them, empty, in the supermarket. I have three strategically placed around the garden. Fill the bottle with one part ammonia and five parts water. That's it. When you see a slug, one spray and the slimy little creature is a goner. Any excess that drifts onto a plant is no problem since it is a very weak fertilizer. I suppose that could even be a benefit, but I've never looked at it that way. A "slug safari" is what Max Levy calls it. Max told DVHS members about this method some years ago. He had one of those toy super-slusher guns and a miners hat with a light on top and he would go out hunting at nighttime. Joy in slaying Ugly Slugly

Diatomaceous earth. This stuff is the fossilized/microscopic skeletal remains of a diatom. I must admit I have never tried it but folks who have are believers. The problem is you have to "buy it". Heck, why do that when the other methods are free. There are two grinds of this stuff. One is essentially a powder, the other a slightly larger grind and this is the one you want. Put it around your plant and it supposedly cuts to shreds the underbelly of the slug as he/she tries to cross over it. Too painful for me to even think about.

Well, friends, now you know to control if not rid your garden of these slimy little creatures. Have fun.

Gardening Renovation Book

Why is it that plants, unlike people, seem to grow more vigorously as they age? Ruby Weinberg, a 77 year old New Jersey gardener, pondered this question. She knows many “do-it-yourself” gardeners, like herself, who felt overwhelmed by messy, weedy or overgrown areas of their landscaping. In its 30th year, parts of Ruby’s heavily cultivated country garden needed more than a quick fix and she plotted how to repair and restore it during the long, cold days of winter. Renovations followed during several years. Her notes resulted in “The Garden Reborn,” a series of essays for homeowners on both small and large properties who are preparing to improve their aging gardens. The 170 pages of text plus 68 color photos help uncover the potential of every garden and explain how to turn it into a paradise. Available from Green Valley Press, 908-832-6609, for \$24.95 plus \$3 shipping.

From Horticulture Email Newsletter Editor:

Last month we asked, *What do you do to organize and plan your spring planting?* Thanks for all the terrific e-mails. Here are a few of our favorites. I think you’ll find them helpful, and that they’ll make you even more hopeful for spring!

Like most horti-holics, I spend the winter months pouring over catalogs and Web sites looking for those must-have plants for next season. However, when all those orders land on the doorstep within a few weeks of one another, with tiny plants that seldom resemble the lush catalog or Web site photos, I sometimes have a problem remembering why I ordered them. So now, each time I order a plant, I also click on the Web site photo and copy it to a folder for that vendor, along with the catalog number. This way when the plants arrive, I can quickly re-familiarize myself with the plants appearance when mature. Later in the year, as I enter the plant info into my database, I also attach the photos.

This may seem like overkill for the average gardener, but anyone who specializes in a particular type of plants such as hostas or daylillies will readily understand the benefit of having a photo to match each entry. Also, with some 2,500 cultivars in my garden, I find the photos very helpful when I am trying to refresh my memory before a garden tour group arrives. I wish I had started this process years ago.

Wayne Guymon Chadds Ford, Penn.

Wayne’s garden and his writeup will be featured in the March issue of PHS *The Green Scene*. Many DVHS members enjoyed his garden last summer at the July tour, auction and meeting.

DVHS LOCAL HOSTA SHOW

DATE: JUNE 4, 2005

TIME: 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

LOCATION: EVE and PER THYRUM GARDEN

19 CRESTFIELD RD

WILMINGTON, DE. 19810

In anticipation of our 2006 National Convention in the Philadelphia area, we will be having our very own DVHS Hosta Show, previously called Cut-Leaf Show, at our June meeting.

Anyone that grows hosta may enter, and we encourage each of you to enter hosta leaves from your garden. It will not only be a great learning experience for those who have never participated in a Hosta Show, but a great time as well.

We also encourage you to bring your young gardeners. A new Youth Division has been added for ages 18 and under. It’s a great way to have and keep the pre-teens and teens interested and involved in hostas. As we’ve heard said before, “They are our future.”

You will be able to register Friday night from 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM or Saturday morning from 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM. A complete schedule will be available at our meeting in March. If you would like more information about what judges look for and the Divisions of a Hosta Show, please visit the AHS Web site, www.hosta.org, looking under “Member Services,” judging section. We will provide tips for prepping leaves and other valuable information in our next newsletter.

While judging is taking place, we will be touring Eve and Per’s wonderful garden and then having lunch. As usual, lunch is pot-luck so please bring your “dish.” Also, remember those auction plants!

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Show Chair Jody Spaulding at jodyspaulding@comcast.net, or Show Co-Chair Eva Jones at azaleapatchmd@hotmail.com.

Russells Gardens Wholesale Catalog

Allan Russell has put the American Hosta Society 2006 National Convention on the cover of his 2005 Catalog for Russell Gardens Wholesale, 600 New Road, Churchville, PA 18966.

This catalog is something to behold, with 100 pages full of plant information distributed to thousands. What great support for the AHS and the Convention. Russell Gardens is a convention tour garden and lunch stop.

THE 2006 AHS NATIONAL CONVENTION TOUR GARDENS

Selecting and scheduling tour gardens is one of the most challenging parts of planning a national convention. The selections are made by a committee of individuals all of whom have previously attended other AHS conventions across the country. Logistics, distance to the hotel and proximity to other possible gardens are major factors in the selections as well as safe bus access and good pedestrian flow through the garden. However, the most critical considerations are the number of hosta cultivars and how they are used in the landscape.

Another important factor is the willingness of the gardener to say “yes.” I have always felt that it is not one or two gardens that make a convention tour a success; it is the combination of all the gardens that balance one another to make an exciting experience as a whole. This combination of gardens for the 2006 AHS National Convention creates just such a magical event.

In the process of selecting the gardens, we realized that how the gardeners “choose to use” hostas in the landscape design became as important as the number of cultivars. The theme of the convention “Hostas by Design” came about because of this.

In keeping with the theme, each of the selected tour gardens features art or garden design in ways that should intrigue convention attendees. All are large gardens, the smallest being over two and a half acres. Several are sited in exceptionally beautiful natural environments.

We are also offering an optional tour on Wednesday to Longwood Gardens, the premier display garden in the United States, featuring 11,000 types of plants on 1050 acres of meticulously maintained conservatory displays, formal gardens, and woodlands. Lavish displays, breathtaking collections of exotic plants, intimate teaching gardens — there’s something here for everyone.

In the next five newsletters, we will feature both convention tour gardens and Wednesday open gardens. In this issue, we highlight two of the tour gardens: **Inta and Skip Krombolz’s garden and Elizabeth and Michael Drummond’s garden.** See white insert! If you would like to take a visual tour of the gardens go on line to www.HOSTA2006.org after March 1st.

The Heritage Walk:

One of the highlights of a national convention is that it brings people together in a unique location where there is a sense of history in people and their plants. The Delaware Valley Hosta Society is nearly twenty-five years old. The **Heritage Walk** honors several members and supporters who have made significant contributions to the wealth of hostas through horticulture and education in the region.

The **Heritage Walk** assembles in one garden examples of individual contributors. It is a special garden planted within **Tallwood**, the garden of Michael and Elizabeth Drummond, which is a schedule convention tour garden. The hostas are along a well-constructed wide path of wood and crushed red stone under a high canopy of tall trees.

One section of this garden is dedicated to the first president of the AHS, Alex Summers. In addition to being one of the original founders of the AHS (the founding meeting was at Swarthmore College, Pa.), Alex was an active contributor to the plant auctions of the Delaware Valley, Delmarva and Tri-State Hosta Societies. The Heritage Walk contains many of the hostas he introduced as well as his name sake, *H. ‘Alex Summers’*, a green-bordered sport of ‘Gold Regal’.

Another section of the Heritage Walk is devoted to Mildred Seaver and her son, Charlie. Here, one will find many examples of Mildred Seaver’s line of ‘Sea’ hostas such as ‘Sea Fire’, ‘Sea Beacon’ and ‘Sea Gold’. Included in this collection are some plants introduced by Mildred, as well as a few of the newer introductions by her son, Charlie. This section shows how a love of hostas and hybridizing became a family affair. Affectionately known as the Queen of Hostas, Mildred was a founding member of the New England Hosta Society and well known for giving the very best hybrids to the AHS for auction. After Charlie settled down in Wilmington DE, he caught the hosta hybridizing bug and Mildred’s plants, experience, and generosity followed. For many years now, Charlie has generously shared the Seaver plant lineage with others in this area.

In the early ‘80s, Bruce Banyai moved his mother’s garden from her home in Michigan to his home in Delaware. For years afterwards, he contributed plants to others in the Delaware Valley. More importantly, he told us many stories about these hostas. For example, after four boys, his mother, Pauline, decided to name one of her introductions ‘Ballerina’ only to find the name taken. Thus her choice of ‘Banyai’s Dancing Girl’. Wishful thinking perhaps, but it does tell a nice “What’s in a Hosta Name?” story.

This is a small sampling of the people and plants represented in the **Heritage Walk**. Also included are plants hybridized by Kevin Walek, Arthur Wrede, Maria Plater-Zybeck. To help put these plants and their hybridizers in perspective, a special keepsake booklet will be provided as a gift to the 2006 convention attendees. A section of this booklet will also highlight the contributions of DVHS co-founder Warren Pollock. As a frequent contributor to the AHS’s *Journal*, Warren has been a driving force in spreading the word and educating people about *Hosta*, the “Friendship Plant.”

Conny Parsons



HOSTAS  DESIGN

June 14-17

**American Hosta Society National Convention
Hosted by the Delaware Valley Hosta Society**

Our hotel is round.
Our bell is cracked.
Our gardens are fabulous.
Our schedule is packed.

The Hosta Show of leaves:
Perfection that amazes.
Leaves anywhere and everywhere --
In containers, troughs, and vases.

First course is FIRST LOOK,
See the newest of the year:
The whole plant on show.
Get your Phil-a-Hostas here!

Great are our expectations!
Information to explore --
Visit www.HOSTA2006.org
'Garden Treasures' galore!

Convention Update: Plans are progressing at a quick pace as we approach the 15 month countdown to the 2006 Convention. June 14th offers open gardens and optional tours, registration in the afternoon followed by a full evening which includes a Judging Clinic 3 and at 8:00PM, a super special speaker.

Our warmest thanks to those stalwarts who have stepped up to the plate to make this Convention the most fun, most action-packed Convention ever!

Bill Meyer has worked many hours and successfully built a colorful, informative convention website: www.HOSTA2006.org This was a big job which will be appreciated by anyone who explores on line.

Jody Spaulding is chairing both the Convention and the DVHS Hosta Show!

The photographs for the website were taken by **Wayne Guymon** who will continue to photograph the gardens this summer and do periodic updates. Wayne has also agreed to chair Advertising and Promotion for the convention. He welcomes your ideas and participation: Please contact him at 610-459-0477, wbguymo@aol.com.

Rick and Maria Kirijan are chairing the optional tours to Longwood Gardens and historic Philadelphia which will take place on Wednesday the 14th.

Jay Stantan is our Vendor Chair. He will organize the sale and be our main communicator with all the hosta/plant vendors. The Vendors sale is one of the most popular parts of any convention. Shoppers look for the newest and most interesting hostas and take home the ones who say: "Must have, Buy Me!" Vending opens bright and early on Thursday June 15th and continues at set times throughout the convention.

Michael Flagg is our Volunteer Chair. He is such a nice man, we would really hate for him to be lonely. So start thinking of where and when you would like to volunteer please contact him at 215-257-1120 mfolker@comcast.net Join the Team!

**Hostas by Design Photo Show
November 5th DVHS Meeting**

Speaker: Karen Rexrode,
nurserywoman, collector, gar-
dener and photographer

Camera broken? Need a new
one? Now is the time to invest!
Soon it will be time to get out in
the garden to photograph all
those hosta moments.

**5 TIPS To Avoid Injury While
Gardening**

Spring is just around the corner and we are all anxious to get outside and start on the many garden chores. All too frequently we push ourselves, resulting in injuries. Here are some helpful tips I found on www.delawaretoday.com.

- o When lifting, bend at your hips and knees. Keep your back straight!
- o Stretch you back every 15-20 minutes by placing your hands below the small of your back and gently bend backwards. Repeat several times.
- o Take frequent breaks.
- o If lifting anything heavy, get help.
- o Wear knee pads for kneeling and use a wagon or cart to move tools around the garden/yard.

Warren I. Pollock

Guest Plants for the Heritage Walk:

The Heritage Walk is growing beautifully, however there is still room for more plants. If you have any special plants of Alex Summers or Maria Plater-Zybeck and would like to display them as a guest plant (containerize, in or out of the ground) please contact:

Conny Parsons, 610-558-6196
Connyparsons1@aol.com.

Please bring a dessert to share, the beverages will be provided by DVHS

From I-95 going SOUTH

- o After Exit 1 in Pa. be in RIGHT lane. In Delaware, I-95 forks into I-495 SOUTH (right lane) and I-95. Take I-495 SOUTH, labeled Exit 11. Stay in RIGHT lane on I-495.
- o *VERY SOON* on I-495 is Exit 6 for Naamans Road, Rte. 92. Take Naamans Road exit. At end of exit ramp, take RIGHT fork for Naamans Road WEST, Rte. 92 WEST.
- o Continue on Naamans Road WEST for about 2.5 miles, going through 8 traffic signals, to Foulk Road, Rte. 261. (Landmark at this corner is an Acme on the LEFT.)
- o Turn LEFT at intersection onto Foulk Road SOUTH, Rte. 261 SOUTH.
- o Continue on Foulk Road SOUTH for about 2.1 miles through 3 traffic signals. 4th light is the Brandywine High School on LEFT

From I-95 going NORTH

- o After downtown Wilmington, take Exit 8 for U.S. 202/Concord Pike. Once on exit ramp be in LEFT lane for Concord Pike NORTH.
- o On Concord Pike NORTH stay in RIGHT lane. RIGHT lane merges into Foulk Road.
- o Merge RIGHT onto Foulk Road NORTH. Continue straight on Foulk Rd. for about 2 miles. You'll cross two major traffic lights; one intersection has a Wawa and Exxon on RIGHT corners, other is Shipley Rd. (Landmark for Shipley Rd. is Talley garage just beyond far LEFT corner.)
- o Turn RIGHT (Past the library and right after St.Pauls Church)

From U.S. 202 going SOUTH

- o In Delaware, look for sign for Rte. 92, Naamans Road. (Landmarks for U.S. 202/Naamans Rd. intersection are Levitz and Exxon at near LEFT corner.)
- o Turn LEFT onto Naamans Road EAST, Rte. 92 EAST. Go about 2.4 miles to Foulk Road. Turn RIGHT onto Foulk Road SOUTH. (Note, Safeway on left, Acme on right) Then follow directions "From I-95 SOUTH" above.

From U.S. 1 going NORTH (actually it mostly goes EAST in Pa.)

- o At U.S. 202, turn RIGHT (SOUTH) and follow directions "From U.S. 202 SOUTH." From U.S. 1 going SOUTH (**actually it mostly goes WEST in Pa.**) At U.S. 202, turn LEFT (SOUTH) and follow directions "From U.S. SOUTH."

From New Jersey

- o Take U.S. 322 WEST to Barry Bridge, cross bridge and merge onto I-95 SOUTH. Then follow "From I-95 SOUTH" above.

Use the front/main entrance of the high school. Go straight through the cafeteria, turn right. At the next hall intersection turn left. Go to the end of the hall and make a right. You will see the entrance to the AUDION.

2005 Calendar

March 12____ Hosta College, Ohio
March 19____ DVHS Winter Meeting-Hosta Sale
June 4____ DVHS HOSTA SHOW
 Tour Garden: Eve & Per Thyrum
 Meeting, Auction
June 16-18____ 2005 AHS National Convention
 Cleavland, Ohio
July 9____ FIRST LOOK 5,
 Burlington, Vermont
July 23____ DVHS Meeting, Auction, Tour
 Garden: Grace & Norman Rose
August TBA____ Market Plant Sale
November 5____ DVHS Speaker and Meeting

Check out the 2006 AHS National Convention
website www.HOSTA2006.org (after March 1st).

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DO YOU OWE 2005 DUES? Check your mailing label. If the label shows "XX" or "04" you owe dues; if the label shows "05" you are currently in good standing for year 2005. Dues: \$10.00 annually (family) Checks to DVHS. Send to : Mike Ewald 49 Marlton Rd. Woodstown, NJ 08098

DVHS NEWSLETTER
Delaware Valley Hosta Society
1206 Holly Lane
Glen Mills, PA 19342



FEATURING CONVENTION TOUR GARDENS FOR THE 2006 AHS NATIONAL CONVENTION

Tallwood



Betty and Michael Drummond Garden: Sequestered on sixteen acres of wet woodland, **Tallwood** combines both lush natural forested areas with sensitively planted estate lawns and garden beds. Here we will present our “Heritage Walk”—a garden designed to honor and to tell the stories of the many people in our area who have contributed to the amazing variety of hosta. Read about the Heritage Walk on page 5.

Guests enter the property through a hand-crafted iron gate with brick gateposts bordered with large plantings of sun loving hostas. The circular drive curves around a hillside garden offering year-round interest with large evergreens, spring bulbs, perennials and of course hosta. Here is a very large stand of *H.* ‘Spilt Milk’. Under the flag, *H.* ‘Betty’, *H.* ‘Beatrice’ and *H.* ‘Barbara’ grow together in harmony – a family gathering of hostas bearing the first names of Mrs. Drummond and her two sisters.

Behind the Georgian house, designed by the Drummonds, are colorful terraced gardens comprised of roses, herbs and annuals. From here visitors look out over the main sweep of the lawn and gardens. Michael Drummond has built rock walls to create large island beds of hosta and other shade loving ornamentals. In one of these beds is a collection of cultivars of very large blue hosta, a favorite seen throughout the property. A brick path winds through gardens to a brick Garden House with a fountain and some rocking chairs, a lovely place to view back at the sunny, colorful terraced gardens by the house. A Red Bud (*C. Canadensis* ‘Forest Pansy’) next to the garden house is home to a collection of unusual hosta cultivars, *H.* ‘Mr. Blue’, ‘Miss Grace’, ‘Miss Linda Smith’ and ‘Smokey’.

From the garden house, a well-constructed wide path of wood and crushed red stone leads through beds of shady hosta, perennials and shrubs under a tall canopy of trees. Along the path are unusual benches and stone garden ornaments. Within one of the gardens, a stone Celtic cross marks the site of the household cat’s grave. Elsewhere a huge snail stalks the hostas. A bridge is constructed over a dry river bed and the path continues into a wooded area leading to a pond. Where the path turns towards the pond lies the Monster Garden, dedicated to the couple’s grandchildren. Here the mighty *H.* ‘Komodo Dragon’ unfurls its broad green leaves against *H.* ‘T Rex’ (Tyrannosaurus Rex) while *H.* ‘Bigfoot’, ‘Chinese Dragon’ and ‘Woolly Mammoth’ lurk ominously in the dappled shade.

Contents from Gardener’s information, Photos Wayne Guymon

FEATURING CONVENTION TOUR GARDENS FOR THE 2006 AHS NATIONAL CONVENTION

Inta and Skip Krombolz Garden: Fox Hollow is a lavishly planted stroll garden which combines a strong flare for the dramatic with original wrought-iron garden sculptures created by the owner. Ribbons of hosta wind through the many beds of both familiar and exotic plants. Variegated plants in all combinations abound and each turn in the garden presents intriguing vistas – a thoroughly delightful garden chock full of fascinating plants and plant combinations.

There are numerous rare trees such as *Cornus contraversa* 'Variegata', *Cornus alternifolia* 'Variegata', *Cornus mas* 'Variegata' and many, many more. The hostas in this garden are used to enhance the design of the garden. There is an enormous sweep of *H. 'Kabitan'* edging a large island garden as well as eye catching specimen hosta. Inta has also placed throughout the garden extremely old plant material of *H. 'Montana'* originally from her mother. Hostas are integrated in the garden to play up color schemes and for textural diversity.

The garden has a charming garden house where Inta works on her iron sculptures that dot her landscape and that of many other gardens. There is also an antique potting shed to store extra tools.

The city garden is a special new area in front of the house that features miniature and small hostas and equally miniature companion plants. This garden is framed by a hand crafted short, rusty iron fence creating an intimate space in an interesting spot. Inta recently created a large raised container from a metal feed trough showcasing a miniature landscape with mini hostas as a focus.

The deck on the back of the house has ample space for unusual container gardens, a Koi pond and a pavilion with comfortable rockers that beckon the homeowners and visitors.

The Krombolz garden has been featured in the *Fine Gardens Magazine* and the book *Creating Beds and Borders*, a fine Gardening Design Guide. It has also been featured in *The Green Scene*, The Pennsylvania Horticulture Society magazine.

Fox Hollow



March order form for Hostas.

Limit of one of each variety per member who can not attend March 19th meeting.

Green Hill Farms is presenting us the following choices:

Potted in 2 1/4"	
H. 'Avocado' - from H. 'Guacamole', dark gr. with narrow gold center (L).....	\$25.00
H. 'Diva' - from H. 'n.Elatior' lg. glowing sun tolerant gold (L).....	\$20.00
H. 'Great River Sonata' - from H. 'Moonlight Sonata' lg. bl-gr., ruffled, 1/2' cr.wh. mgn.....	\$20.00
H. 'Wintergreen' - from H. 'Sea Prize' rich green with bright white mgn (M).....	\$20.00
H. 'Wooly mammoth' - from H. 'Blue Mammoth' lg. blue rounded lvs., yl .mgn (L).....	\$20.00
Potted in 3"	
H. 'Little Miss Magic' -from H. 'Estralita' x 'Tardiflora' rapid grower early bright yl (S).....	\$35.00
H. 'Sun Kissed' - from H. 'Sweet Sunshine' sun tol., fragrant wh flws and wh. mgn.(M).....	\$25.00
H. 'Yin' -from H. 'Maize and Blue' heavy substance, blue with white margin (M).....	\$35.00
H. 'Wiskey Sour' -H. 'Ogon Tsushima' x H. yingeri, early bright yellow, red petiole(M).....	\$20.00
H. 'Grey Ghost' -from H. 'Blue Angel' sport begins whitish goes yl. then blue (L).....	\$25.00
Total	

Checks payable to Delaware Valley Hosta Society; mail with order form to Conny Parsons. These are exceptional hostas that are leafed out. Descriptions are on the front side. No orders will be accepted after March 18, 2005. Pickup is between March 20-23, 2005 at the following address:

Conny Parsons

1206 Holly Lane

Glen Mills, PA 19342

Please call or email : 610-558-6196

ConnyParsons1@aol.com

THE 2006 AHS CONVENTION SHIRT

High Quality, 100 % Cotton,

Polo/Golf shirts by Outer Banks: \$25.00

Women: Sizes S, M, L, and XL

Violet and White

Men: Sizes: S, M, L, XL and 2XL

Emerald Green and White



Contact : Conny Parsons at 610-558-6196

Delaware Valley Hosta Society Membership Application/ Renewal

Please return form to:

Mike Ewald
49 Marlton Rd.
Woodstown, NJ 08098

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

Telephone (____) _____ E-mail Address: _____

Please circle or highlight any information above that needs to be changed in the DVHS Membership Directory/Mailing List.

- I would be interested in hosting a future DVHS garden tour & meeting
 I am in a nursery business

Individual or family membership is \$10.00 annually. Check your mailing label. If the label shows "04" or "XX" you owe dues. If the label shows "05," you are currently in good standing for the year 2005. Make checks payable to DVHS.

2006 The AHS National Convention: Philadelphia

The Delaware Valley Hosta Society is hosting the American Hosta Society National Convention - June 14th - 17th, 2006.

Look for convention updates in every issue of the Newsletter or get on line and read all about it at www.HOSTA2006.org (after March 1st). This is a great opportunity to greet hosta enthusiasts from across the country, to volunteer an afternoon or morning at the hotel or to cruise the gardens as a bus captain.

Check the items for which you would like to volunteer and the information will be forwarded to Mike Flagg, the volunteer coordinator.

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Hotel:

- June 14 Afternoon
June 15 (Thurs.)
Morning
Afternoon
Evening
June 16 (Fri.) Afternoon
June 17 (Sat.) Afternoon

Bus Captains:

- June 16 (Fri.)
June 17 (Sat.)

Garden Tour Helpers:

- June 16 (Fri.)
June 17 (Sat.)

MARCH PLANT SALE: 12:30 PM _____ MARCH 19, 2005 SATURDAY

They will be flushed out and potted in 2 1/4 or 3" pots. There are only 12 plants of each of the 10 cultivars.

Green Hill Farms is presenting us the following choices:

2 1/4" pots:

'Avocado' (J. and B. Diesen - 1998) - (Sport of 'Guacamole') - A very interesting wide dark green-margined, narrow gold-centered sport of our own 'Guacamole'. The plant appears somewhat blacker in color and seems to have more substance. Makes a large clump with white lavender fragrant flowers in August. (\$25.00)

'Diva' (R. O'Harra/Russ O'Harra Hosta Society - 1999) - (*H. nigrescens* 'Elatior' seedling) - Wonderful, glowing, large sun tolerant gold hosta with good substance. Lavender flowers in July. Worth a try! (\$20.00)

'Great River Sonata' (M. Zilis- 2004) - ('Moonlight Sonata' sport) - Large blue-green ruffled leaves with a 1/2" creamy white margin. Fast growing with lavender fragrant flowers in July to August. Good substance. (\$20.00)

'Wintergreen' (Dishon - 1994) - ('Sea Prize' seedling) - Distinctive rich green- centered, bright white-margined leaves make a striking medium mound perfect as a container plant. Purple flowers in July. Great color contrast. (\$20.00)

'Woolly Mammoth' (Zilis 2004) - ('Blue Mammoth' sport) - Large blue rounded leaves with a yellow gold margin. Thick substance but slow growth rate. Near-white flowers in June. (\$20.00)

3" pots:

'Little Miss Magic' (Solberg - 2004) - ('Estralita' x 'Tardiflora'). Its cascading long pointed leaves emerge bright yellow in the spring and rapidly make a small sturdy clump that dances in the breeze. It does become chartreuse later but sends out multiple sets of bright yellow leaves throughout the summer. Rich lavender flowers follow in August. Named for my daughter, Jenny. (\$35.00)

'Sun Kissed' (Solberg - 2003) - (Sport of 'Sweet Sunshine') - A pure white-margined sport of our sun tolerant 'Sweet Sunshine'. Give this one plenty of morning sun to enhance its color and puckering. White fragrant flowers too, in June and July. Best of our many 'Sweet Sunshine' sports. (\$25.00)

'Yin' (S. and J. Wilkins 2002) - (Sports of 'Maize and Blue') - 'Yin' is the white-margined form of 'Maize and Blue', for you Wolverine fans. Slow but beautiful, very heavily-substanced blue plant. but grows well. Lavender flowers in July and August. (\$35.00)

'Whiskey Sour' (Solberg 2002) - ('Ogon Tsushima' X *H. yingeri*) - Here's a bright one to draw you out into garden in early spring. Medium clump of undulating, oval leaves that emerge very bright yellow with red petioles and some red on the leaf tip and remain gold throughout the season. Nice lavender flowers on straight scapes in July and August. A different look. (\$20.00)

'Grey Ghost' (Solberg 2000) - (Sport of 'Blue Angel') - Uniquely captivating in the spring. Large mound of large pointed leaves that emerge a pale ghostly translucent white in spring then turns yellow and finally blue. Near-white flowers in June. (\$25.00)

March Order Form on Back for members who can not attend the March 19th meeting.

Must pre-pay and pick-up!