



DELAWARE VALLEY HOSTA SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

INSIDE The Guymon Garden
Report from Dixie Regional
Report from AHS National
Chocolate Mousse

Volume 28, No. 3

www.delvalhosta.org

Summer, 2019

“WynEden”

Wayne Guymon, hosts

10 Lafayette Place, Chadds Ford, PA

Garden Tour, Auction, **Big** Leaf Contest

Saturday, August 3, 1:00–4:30 p.m.

1:00 p.m. Garden tour and brown bag lunch

2:30 p.m. **Big** Leaf Contest winners and any
other business

2:45 p.m. Auction

Don't forget to bring a chair

Directions to August 3 Meeting

WynEden is near Chadds Ford, about 30 minutes north of Wilmington, 35 minutes from King of Prussia, or 45 minutes from Philadelphia. If you need further help with directions, please email kwmille@mtco.com and I will be glad to assist.

Parking at WynEden: Lafayette Pl. is a sloping cul-de-sac, with parking on either side and WynEden at the bottom. Please do not pull into the driveway unless you need to drop off plants, chairs, etc.

From Wilmington: Take U.S. Rt. 202 north and cross U.S. Rt. 1, bearing to the left. Take the angled left at the 2nd light after Rt. 1 onto Oakland Rd. After 0.7 miles turn left onto Webb Rd. Continue for 0.7 miles. Lafayette Place is the first right.

From Kennett Square (Wilmington alt.): Take Rt. 1 north from Kennett Square or Rt. 100 north from Greenville to Chadds Ford. About 0.5 mi east of the Chadds Ford intersection, turn left onto Webb Rd. Go 1.2 miles to Lafayette Pl., which is the first left.

From King of Prussia or West Chester: Take 202 South from the PA Turnpike or from I-76 as needed. Continue about 18 miles from King of Prussia, about 3 miles past the West Chester/High St. interchange, and turn right on Brinton's Bridge Rd. (Dilworthtown Rd. and Giant on the left). Take the first left, at the 5-way intersection (good luck!), onto Oakland Rd. Take the first right, after 0.6 miles, onto Webb Rd. Continue for 0.7 miles. Lafayette Pl. is the first right.

From Philadelphia or New Jersey via Commodore Barry Bridge: Take I-95 south to U.S. Rt. 322 WEST (toward West Chester). Exit right, but bear to the left on the exit ramp. Follow Rt. 322 to Rt. 1. Turn left, bearing right. Turn right from Rt. 1 onto U.S Rt. 202/322. Bear left. See directions from Wilmington above, starting at Rt 1 intersection.



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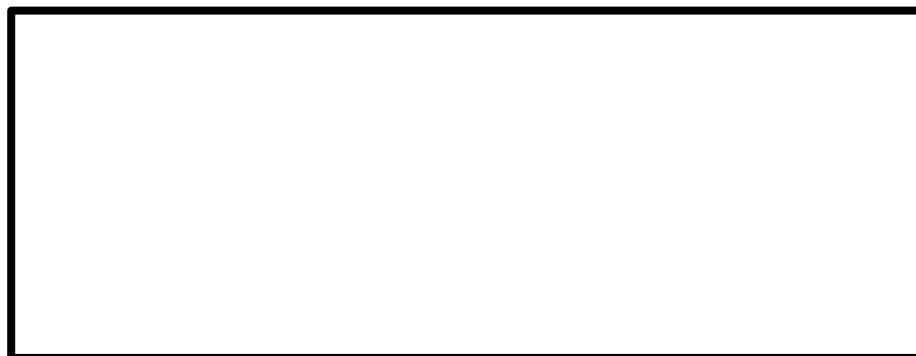
Barbara Tiffany, Point Pleasant, PA

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Rebecca Boylan



WynEden: The Guymon Garden

Taken from the 2018 AHS Convention Garden Tour Booklet.

Wayne and his late wife Doris came to this cul-de-sac in the Brandywine River Valley over twenty years ago. Wayne puttered in the garden for the first five years, but after retirement began turning it into their Eden (where Wyn = Wayne without the vowels). With the acquisition of bits of neighboring property, it now comprises nearly 10 acres. A small portion is left more or less wild, while about four acres are intensively gardened in natural way, reminiscent of nearby Winterthur.



In early spring the main hillside is flooded with flowering bulbs. Then the hostas push their way through to form incomparable waves of color. Planted by the previous owners, using just three cultivars, the 10, 000 plus clumps are easily the most extensive landscape planting of hostas in the country. This scene has been published in magazines and gardening books.

The hillside frames what is in essence an Asian-style bowl garden. The bottom of the bowl is the large pond, feeding in part the stream beyond. Two smaller streams and six smaller ponds enhance the setting and support the wildlife. Sun-loving perennials around the pond are used on a large scale, and hosta plantings here also feature larger groupings of cultivars.



The dock and small boat on the pond, while serving as wonderful photo opportunities, are there more for maintenance use than for visual enjoyment. A few Asian elements the Guymons collected during travels serve as minor focal points. Wayne continues the theme with carefully designed bridges and walkways, and an aggressively managed bamboo forest.

Staff Photos



Dixie Regional Hosta Convention

Marilyn Romenesko

Our group from DVHS comprised about a quarter of the attendees at the two day convention May 3 - 5 in Rehoboth Beach DE. The convention began on Friday with speakers, Bob Solberg and Mark Zilis. Bob started off with an ultra short business meeting. He then spoke about his past and recent hybridizing with hostas to obtain red color in the leaves. Then Mark Zilis discussed his trips to Japan, including his most recent one in which he wanted to verify that *H. sieboldii* was actually a species.

On Saturday there were five garden tours. Each was very interesting and reflected the characters of their owners. The tour of the Jim Henry/Herb Burgess garden was our first stop and it included a great collection of hostas many of which were set atop old tree stumps. Their flair for natural materials and woodworking was evident in Jim's lanterns which adorned many areas in the garden. There were also many displays framed with driftwood or containing unique driftwood and stones collected by Herb over the years. There was an amazing tree house, and mini pergolas provided shade.

I very much enjoyed the garden of Gayle and Terry August. A beautiful Carolina allspice, *Calycanthus floridus* 'Hartlage Wine', was welcoming us; its branches adorned with large red flowers. This was a garden full of whimsy, sporting a blue floating plaque of a human head, a red set of human legs, and a large sculpture of a wingless ostrich. There were an amazing number of hosta companion plants and one very large *H. 'Sum and Substance'*. Many lovely clematises and iris were in bloom for our enjoyment.



Interesting tree trunk? Photo: David Teager

Next we visited an amazing garden center called Pepper's. There was a nice selection of hostas and ferns at very reasonable prices. There was also a large selection of houseplants, annuals, perennials and woody plants as well as pots and garden paraphernalia.

Florence and George Kruger's garden was up next. It was loaded with blooming azaleas in many colors, fruit trees and numerous dogwood trees, both native and Asiatic. George had a couple of his own registered hybrids on

display in raised beds. These were *H. 'Pot Scrubber'* and *H. 'Blue Hen'*. As I encountered a snake while going in for a sniff of George's favorite rose, I decided to leave!

Our final stop was at the home of Jan and Craig Thompson where we were awed by the 20' high specimen of Longleaf pine, *Pinus palustris*. Craig said he planted the tree about 20 years ago. There were numerous hostas in the shady woods' edge and around the house, as well as daylilies in the open sunny area, and interesting garden sculptures made of found tools and hardware. Jan serves as the president of the DelMarVa Hosta Society which cosponsored the convention.

The convention concluded with a fun game of hosta riddles with our own David Teager winning the prize of a potted hosta. Master Riddler Jim Henry, of DelMarVa Hosta Society, was decked out in a green riddler outfit and did a masterful job of setting up the game. Next came an auction of hostas and garden tchotchkes. Our groups's purchases were numerous even though we were often bidding against one another. Overall, a good time was had by all. This was my first regional convention. I must say it was much more intimate than a national convention and I'd definitely do it again!



Jim and Sherry enjoy the Dixie Regional. Photo: David Teager

Big Leaf Contest

This year a little something different
Individual prizes in **4** categories!!!

Green

Blue

Yellow

Variegated

Wow!!! More chances to win really **Big!!!**

As always, leaf condition doesn't matter.
Dirty, torn, floppy and holey is just fine.
(Although we do take a picture)
It's length x width that counts.

American Hosta Society National Convention, Green Bay WI

Kathy Miller

The Green and Gold Hosta Society did a great job of putting on a beautiful convention. The weather was uncooperative, but in my experience that's par for the course at national conventions. In this case 50 degrees and rainy. One hostess wore earmuffs. Everyone had an umbrella and cameras were in pockets. Due to the weather I only got to six gardens. As always, each was intriguing in its own way. See the next page for some of my favorites.



The Hosta Show was spectacular. Over 500 cut leaves were entered. They ran out of entry tags!! All the rain in the weeks ahead produced huge leaves. The giants were unbelievable. The large were giant, and so on down the line. Instead of having three tables of minis (as was the case in Philadelphia), they had only half a table. Everyone wanted to show off the big ones.



DVHS members took home many honors. Marilyn Romanesko, Kathy Miller, Debby Bryan, and David Teager – all were Blue Ribbon Winners. The rosette for Best Seedling or Sport went to David Teager for a new hybridized mini with beautifully streaked leaves. Kathy Miller won the rosette for Best Trough/Container Garden. The rosette for Best Artistic Design went to Debby Bryan, who used blue hosta leaves to celebrate the Wisconsin paper industry. Yes, that is what you think it is.

Cut Leaf winners included:

Giant: *H. 'Victory'*

Large: *H. Powderkeg*

Medium and Best of Show: *H. 'One Man's Treasure'*

Small: *H. 'Peedee Laughing River'*

Mini: *H. 'Miniskirt'*



(L.) *H. 'Powderkeg'*. (R.) *H. 'Peedee Laughing River'*





Hostas in tour gardens. Clockwise from upper left:
H. 'Tidewater', *H.* 'Foxfire Palm Sunday',
H. 'Linda Sue', *H.* 'The Queen',
H. 'Erotica', *H.* 'Pin Up'

Rebecca's Chocolate Mousse

(From "Cooks Illustrated". Served at the Parsons' garden)

PREMIUM DARK CHOCOLATE MOUSSE SERVES 6 TO 8 (MAKES 3 1/2 CUPS)

This recipe is designed to work with a boutique chocolate that contains a higher percentage of cacao than the Ghirardelli chocolate recommended in our Dark Chocolate Mousse. A handheld mixer can easily do the job of a standing mixer in this recipe, though mixing times may vary slightly.

INGREDIENTS

- 8 ounces bittersweet chocolate, 62 to 70 percent cacao, chopped fine
- 3 tablespoons granulated sugar
- 2 tablespoons cocoa powder, preferably Dutch-processed
- 1 teaspoon instant espresso powder
- 7 tablespoons water
- 1 tablespoon brandy
- 3 large eggs, separated
- 1/8 teaspoon table salt
- 1 cup heavy cream, plus 2 more tablespoons (chilled)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Melt chocolate, 2 tablespoons sugar, cocoa powder, espresso powder, water, and brandy in medium heatproof bowl set over saucepan filled with 1 inch of barely simmering water, stirring frequently until smooth. Remove from heat.
2. Whisk egg yolks, 1 1/2 teaspoons sugar, and salt in medium bowl until mixture lightens in color and thickens slightly, about 30 seconds. Pour melted chocolate into egg mixture and whisk until thoroughly combined. Let cool until slightly warmer than room temperature, 3 to 5 minutes.

August Auction

Please donate hostas and other herbaceous shade perennials.

First check for viruses and nematodes. We don't want to pass these on to someone else.

Would you like to be an Auctioneer?

Charlie and/or David will coach you.

It's fun!

3. In clean bowl of standing mixer fitted with whisk attachment, beat egg whites at medium-low speed until frothy, 1 to 2 minutes. Add remaining 1 1/2 teaspoons sugar, increase mixer speed to medium-high, and beat until soft peaks form when whisk is lifted, about 1 minute. Detach whisk and bowl from mixer and whisk last few strokes by hand, making sure to scrape any unbeaten whites from bottom of bowl. Using whisk, stir about one-quarter of beaten egg whites into chocolate mixture to lighten it; gently fold in remaining egg whites with rubber spatula until a few white streaks remain.
4. Whip heavy cream at medium speed until it begins to thicken, about 30 seconds. Increase speed to high and whip until soft peaks form when whisk is lifted, about 15 seconds longer. Using rubber spatula, gently fold whipped cream into mousse until no white streaks remain. Spoon mousse into 6 to 8 individual serving dishes or goblets. Cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate until set and firm, at least 2 hours. May be covered and refrigerated for up to 24 hours.

IT'S DUES TIME. Please check your mailing label. If you see a number less than 19, you owe DVHS dues for 2019. Current members' renewal fees are due by the April meeting; any back dues also need to be paid in order to remain current. **You must be a current member to purchase hostas at the special sales, and to receive the *Newsletter* by mail.** The dues pay for the publication of this newsletter and maintenance of the website, as well as for other activities.

Cut off and mail in, or bring to the meeting.

Delaware Valley Hosta Society Membership and Renewal Form

Dues (household membership) are \$10 per year.

Mail to: Rebecca Boylan, DVHS Membership

1200 Farmington Ave.

Pottstown, PA 19464

Please use this form also to update your records for address and e-mail, or to offer your garden for a potential meeting or tour. Thanks!

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Would you consider opening your garden for a members'tour? _____

Are you in the nursery trade? _____

Calendar of Events 2019 www.delvalhosta.org

Saturday, August 3, 2019. Late Summer Meeting.
Garden Walk, Auction and **Big** Leaf Contest.
Wayne Guymon Garden. Chadds Ford, PA.

Saturday, Oct/Nov, 2019. Date TBA. Fall Meeting.
Speaker and Business Meeting.
Location, TBA.

Friday and Saturday, September 14 & 15, 2019. Fall Hosta
and Garden Forum. Western New York Hosta
Society. Edinboro, PA. www.wnyhosta.com

June, 2020. AHS National Convention. Minneapolis, MN
June, 2021. AHS National Convention, Kalamazoo, MI

The American Hosta Society

www.americanhostasociety.org

Check out the benefits of membership.
Join other hosta lovers from around the world.

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