



# DELAWARE VALLEY HOSTA SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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Treasurer's Report

Volume 29, No. 1

[www.delvalhosta.org](http://www.delvalhosta.org)

Spring, 2020

Saturday, April 11, 2020

## Spring Meeting and Plant Sale

**CANCELED**

Due to concerns about the coronavirus, our Spring Meeting and Plant Sale has been canceled. We have some great plants chomping at the bit to get into your gardens, but unfortunately they will have to wait until later in the year. Those of you who attended our Fall Meeting were able to purchase some of these ahead of time. And, since then, we've added even more and David might be giving away some of his seedlings. So, sit back, relax and let us grow them up for you! See page four for more information.

As of now, our next event is the Hosta Show, scheduled for June 20<sup>th</sup> at Scott Arboretum. Since you probably have plenty of gardening time right now, it's not too soon to get ready.

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## 2020 HOSTA SHOW

June 20, 2020 Scott Arboretum Swarthmore, PA

Cut Leaves, Potted Hostas, Hosta Container Gardens

Open to anyone who wants to enter, public included

### Schedule of Events

Entries: 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Judging: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Open to Public: 12:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Clean-Up: 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The purpose of the show is to acquaint visitors to the arboretum with the wide variety of beautiful hostas that are available for their own gardens. Although there is an element of competition, that is not the primary focus of the show. Let's all enter and display our handsome plants proudly. A great way to celebrate the last day of Spring

Please watch your e-mail and our website for the latest updates.



## DVHS Officers

### President

David Teager  
1411 Deer Meadow Ln.  
Garnet Valley, PA  
(610) 485-4149  
dsteager@earthlink.net

### Vice President, Program

Marilyn Romenesko  
106 Hoiland Dr.  
Wilmington, DE 19803  
(302) 750-4525  
mromen9@gmail.com

### Vice President, Membership

Rebecca Boylan  
1200 Farmington Ave.  
Pottstown, PA 19464  
(610) 327-8217  
raboylan@comcast.net

### Treasurer

Stephen Fugate  
1411 Deer Meadow Ln.  
Garnet Valley, PA  
(610) 485-4149  
skfugate@earthlink.net

### Secretary

Missy Kashey  
460 Halteman Rd.  
Pottstown, PA 19465  
(610)-310-0096  
mjkashey@gmail.com

### Committee Chairs:

#### Publications

Kathy Miller  
Kennett Square, PA  
kwmille@mtco.com

#### Display Gardens

Marilyn Romenesko &  
Conny Parsons  
Glen Mills, PA  
connyparsons1@aol.com

#### Plant Sales & Auctions

Charlie Seaver  
Hockessin, DE  
seavercharlie@gmail.com

#### Hostatality

Irene Cassidy  
Clayton, NJ  
latte\_datte@yahoo.com

### Advisory Board

Conny Parsons, Glen Mills, PA  
Michael Flagg, Schwenksville, PA  
Ed MacFarland, Glenside, PA  
Warren Pollock, Glen Mills, PA  
Barbara Tiffany, Point Pleasant, PA

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"May you live in interesting times." This ironic curse, generally misattributed as a Chinese saying (it isn't), is not something we would wish on ourselves. Yet here we are. Truly, the world will be changed by the ongoing COVID-19 epidemic. Most certainly, the activities of the Delaware Valley Hosta Society will be changed, at least in the short term, as we will not be holding our spring meeting and plant sale on April 11, as planned. It may be mid-April before we are able to see even another four weeks into the future, to attempt to schedule something for May.

The executive board met late last month (prior to our current lockdown situation) to discuss this season and the contingencies we might need to investigate. We can do no more than be flexible: plan for a plant sale this spring (but buy fewer plants), plan for a hosta show (more on that later), keep calm, and carry on. We recognize the age demographic of our group, which means we must be especially cautious of this virus's effect on older people. While we gardeners all know that getting your hands in the dirt provides a boost to your immune system, the scientist in me knows that we should not take any chances with this.

Likewise, other hosta organizations are facing the same issues. Hosta College, held each winter in Piqua, Ohio, was cancelled on short notice, and the organizers of the 2020 AHS National Convention are monitoring the situation closely, planning to reach a decision by early May.

At least we all have the benefit of an astoundingly early spring (global warming adds to our "interesting times"), allowing us to enjoy our gardens. Life will flourish. I have hosta seedlings growing in the basement, and the ever-early *H. montana* 'Aureomarginata' is already several inches out of the ground. Stephen and I have already managed to complete a few landscape projects, and general spring clean-up is weeks ahead of schedule. Now we just have to wait for the right time to start digging.

Also getting a jump on the spring plant-buying season, a number of us paid an early visit to Black Creek Greenhouses in Lancaster County. While they don't have as many new hostas as they carried a few years ago, there were still several interesting cultivars we purchased for our DVHS sale, supplementing hostas that we purchased for DVHS from the Scott Arboretum sale last fall. Our current plan is to schedule a "pop-up" sale, perhaps with an open garden visit, later in spring. Kathy will provide the details of the plants we have, so you can hold off on buying some during your regular spring shopping (if anything is "regular" this spring). We won't have as many individual plants as we usually sell, but I don't think anyone will be disappointed.

As the old British WWII posters proclaimed, "Keep Calm and Carry On."

David

## SOUP CONTEST

Eight delicious soups and a tasty array of salads and desserts graced the tables at the February meeting. Once again, we proved that DVHS cooks make the world's best soup – no, not an exaggeration!

The winner was 'Sum and Substance', a hearty chicken soup from Conny Parsons. Second place went to 'Spilt Milk', a light concoction of coconut milk and spices. The others included: 'Butternut Hill' (butternut squash), 'Squash Casserole' (also butternut squash), 'First Blush' (tomato bisque), 'Stir It Up' (vegetarian), 'Holy Mouse Ears' (pasta and veggies) and 'Chartreuse Squiggles' (a curried soup that failed to complete the journey from the car to the library).

Our feast was accompanied by a very engaging talk by Conny on "Garden Art". She presented categories of different types of art work in gardens that she had visited over the years. She showed us how arrangement and placement of art was important. The hushed audience was taking mental notes about new ideas for our own gardens.

## H. 'SUM AND SUBSTANCE'

Attributed to Florence Shaw and Paul Aden, the cultivar was registered with the AHS in 1980. For many years its origin was a mystery; now Kevin Vaughn believes it to be a hybrid of *H. 'Bengee'* (a yellow 'Tokudama') and *H. nigrescens* 'Eliator'. According to Mark Zilis, it is one of the most significant hostas ever developed. It has won many AHS awards and was the AHGA 2004 Hosta Of the Year.

It has produced more than 60 recognized sports and over 50 recognized progeny. Bright chartreuse with very thick substance, it is a must-have for any hosta garden. To maintain its size, however, plenty of light is necessary; don't use this hosta to brighten a dark corner because it will dwindle away.

*H. 'Sum and Substance'* has been the DVHS Big Leaf Contest winner year after year. In 2017 Missy Kashey presented a leaf that measured 18" x 18". The leaf pictured to the right was grown by Victoria Buckley and won the contest in 2013.



*H. 'Lodestar'* (sport of S&S). Photo: Jack Ward via The Hosta

## 'Sum and Substance'

(Buffalo Chicken Soup for the slow cooker)

### Ingredients:

- 1½ lb. boneless chicken breast
- 14.5 oz. can of Great Northern white beans, drained and rinsed
- 14.5 oz. can fire roasted diced tomatoes
- 2-3 14.5 oz. cans chicken broth
- ¼ to ½ cup buffalo wing sauce (Franks Red Hot®)
- 1 package ranch dressing mix (Hidden Valley®)
- ½ tsp. each of garlic powder, onion powder, celery salt and dried cilantro
- 2-3 large carrots, diced
- 1 cup frozen corn
- 8 oz cream cheese

### Preparation:

Cook chicken, beans, tomatoes, broth, hot sauce, ranch dressing, and spices for 4 hours on high or 8 hours on low.

Then, add carrots and fresh or frozen corn.

Cook 2 more hours.

Take out chicken with slotted spoon and shred; return to slow cooker.

Stir in the cream cheese.



Photo: Kathy Miller



*H. 'Winter Snow'* (sport of S&S) in the Parsons' garden. Photo:



## 2020 SALE HOSTAS --AVAILABILITY LIMITED

### WATCH YOUR E-MAIL AND OUR WEBSITE FOR MEETING DATE



*H. 'Autumn Frost'*  
Walters Gardens 2009  
PP23224

Medium sport of  
*H. 'First Frost'*  
Wider, more yellow  
margins

Photo: Walters  
Gardens

*H. 'Hudson Bay'*  
Walters Gardens 2012  
PP23598

Medium sport of  
*H. 'Eskimo Pie'*  
Vigorous grower

Photo: Ken Ziarek



*H. 'Brother Stephan'*  
Olga Petryszyn 1998

Medium Large  
Hosta of the Year for  
2017

Photo: Kent  
Terpening

*H. 'Paradigm'*  
Walden West/Chuck  
Purtymun 1999

Hosta of the Year for  
2007

Large sport of  
*H. 'Abiqua Recluse'*

Photo: Mario Wick



*H. 'Dream Weaver'*  
Bonnie  
Ruetenik/Kevin  
Walek 1996

Large sport of  
*H. 'Great Expectations'*

Photo: Mario Wick

*H. 'Prairie Sky'*  
Hans Hansen 2005  
PP17309

Medium hybrid of  
*H. 'Blue Jay'*

Photo: Dan Wols



*H. 'Lakeside Little Tuft'*  
Mary Chastain 1997

Small  
Hybrid of two  
seedlings

Rapidly forms green  
and gold tuft

Photo: Vanessa  
Chaborek

*H. 'Wheee!'*  
NR  
Bill Meyer and  
Carol Brashear  
PP23565

Medium

First Look Award  
Winner

Photo: Carol Brashear







*H. 'Happy Dayz'*  
2014  
Naylor Creek

Medium  
sport of  
*H. 'Orange Marmalade'*

Photo: Walters Gardens

*H. 'Wiggles and Squiggles'*  
2019  
Hans Hansen and  
Walters Gardens

Small  
hybrid of  
*H. 'Atom Smasher'* x  
*H. 'Joy Ride'*

Photo: Walters Gardens



## MILL FLEURS:

### THE GARDEN OF BARBARA AND TIFF TIFFANY

Site of DVHS July Meeting and Potluck

About the garden: The front lawn was originally an ash forest on violently steep slopes. Renovation began with bulldozers in "the garden" to remove wall-to-wall bamboo, multi-flora rose and poison ivy. After removing most ash trees, the Tiffanys began adding trees, placing particular emphasis on those with interesting bark. There are also more than a few extremely rare variegated trees, notably an extraordinary collection of elms. At any level in the garden there are reasons to look up, out, and down.

As it runs along the creek valley, the garden itself is a long out-and-back with five parallel routes. The clay hill which formed the mill race has been terraced into two formal hosta parterres. Hostas are grouped by color into formal triangles; the intersecting triangles are comprised of seasonal ground covers punctuated by allées of different dogwood cultivars in the lower bed and three different *Koelreuteria sp.* in the upper bed.

(*excerpts from 2018 AHS Convention Schedule*)



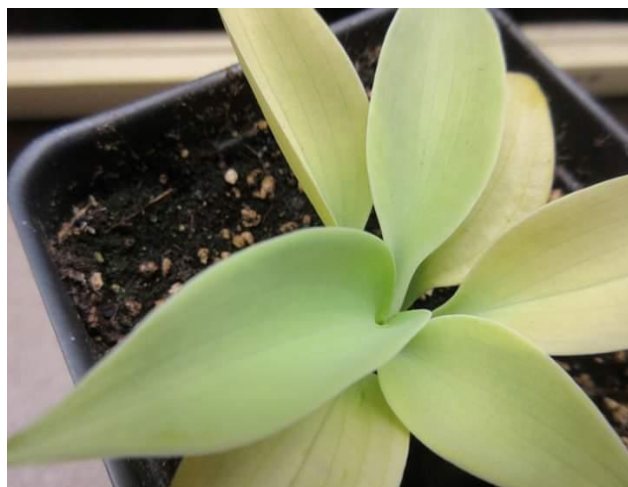
*Hosta 'Yoshinogawa'*



## HYBRIDIZER SEEDLINGS

Jeff Moore, a hosta hybridizer from Wisconsin agreed to share pictures of some of his seedlings. Jeff is the administrator of The Hosta Underground Group on Facebook. Most of these plants will never get to market, but they are a pleasure to look at.

Clockwise from upper left: *H.* 'Cleopatra's Eye', which is a hybrid of *H.* 'Fickle Blue Genes' x *H.* 'Blueberry Muffins'. An unnamed hybrid of *H.* 'Misted Mandy' x *H.* 'Maize Maze'. An unnamed hybrid of *H.* 'Blue Arch Duke' x *H.* 'Painted Desert'. An unnamed hybrid of *H.* 'Scream' (*H.* 'Holar Rainbow Spearhead' x OP) x *H.* 'Charles Mound' (*H.* 'Potomac Splash' x *H.* 'Skylight'). An unnamed hybrid of *H.* 'Wisconsin Blue' x *H.* 'Key West'. An unnamed hybrid of *H.* 'Painted Desert' x *H.* 'Jack Berry'.



# !!!WARNING!!!

Use Caution Before Proceeding

## Puns For Gardeners

You can't plant flowers if you haven't botany.

My fear of roses is a thorny issue.  
I'm not sure what it stems from, but it seems likely I'll be stuck with it.

What do you call a cute plant?  
An Aww-totrop.

What position does a baby plant serve in the army?  
Infant tree.

The garden club visited the nursery and found themselves in a hosta environment.

I saw something similar to moss the other day, but I didn't know what to lichen it to.

What did one plant say to another?  
What's stomata?

Did Gregor Mendel ever win the Nobel Peas Prize?

I can't find my rutabaga. I hope it will turnip.

## Delaware Valley Hosta Society Treasurer's Report 01/01/2019 to 12/31/2019

**BEGINNING BALANCE** \$20,814.33

### INCOME

Membership	\$1,090.00
Plant Sales	\$1,615.00
Plant Auctions	\$2,097.00
Raffles	\$350.00
Events	\$500.00
Merchandise/Sales/	\$554.76
Misc/ Unknown	

**TOTAL INCOME** \$6,206.76

### EXPENSES

Meetings	\$1,182.88
Plants to Sell	\$1,130.88
Raffle Items	\$53.07
Merchandize to Sell	\$970.95
Newsletter	\$1,117.64
Events	\$925.00
Website	\$344.41
Misc	\$214.06
AHS	\$968.42

**TOTAL EXPENSES** \$6,907.31

**NET SURPLUS/(LOSS)** (\$700.55)

**ENDING BALANCE** \$20,113.78

Stephen Fugate, DVHS Treasurer

**DVHS MEMBERSHIP DUES.** Please check your mailing label. If you see a number less than 20, you owe DVHS dues for 2020. Current members' renewal fees are due by the April meeting. **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.

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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 2020- 2021 [www.delvalhosta.org](http://www.delvalhosta.org)

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June 10 – 13, 2020. AHS National Convention.  
"2020 Hosta Vision".  
Brooklyn Park, MN.

Saturday, June 20, 2020. DVHS Hosta Show.  
Scott Arboretum. Swarthmore, PA.

Saturday, July 11, 2020. Summer  
Meeting. Potluck. Tour of the Tiffany  
garden, Mill Fleurs.  
Point Pleasant, PA.

June 2021. AHS National Convention,  
Kalamazoo, MI.

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The Delaware Valley Hosta Society has been growing and would like to welcome the latest new member:

Pat Nastasiak, Radnor, PA

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**Spring is the time for Foliar Nematode Treatment.**

Check the archived issues of the DVHS *Newsletter* on our website.

See Issue 25.4 Summer 2016