



Save the dates

January Member Meeting
Sunday 28 January 2018

Hosta Forum
Sunday 22 April 2018
➔ See flyer on page 13

Bus Tour
Sunday 10 June 2018
➔ See flyer on page 14

BBQ/Picnic
Sunday 22 July 2018

Annual General Meeting
Sunday 9 September 2018



Inside this Issue

Your mid-winter hosta fix	1
OHS 2018 Executive	2
2017 September AGM	3
2018 OHS Events	3
Meet Russ Talbot	4
2018 OHS January Meeting	4
Meet John Kee	4
Rabbit Damage	5
Location! Location! Location!	6
2018 Hosta Of The Year	9
World Cup	9
Heirloom Hostas	10
A Tale of Guacamole Rising	11
Hosta Forum 2018	13
Got Your Seat on the Bus ?	14
Phifty in Philly	15
AHS Convention Registration	16

Your mid-winter hosta fix

I don't know about you, but right around this time every year I really start to miss being able to go out to the garden to enjoy my hostas. All the stress and chores to prep the garden for winter are a distant memory, and now that my hostas are dormant under all that ice and snow, spring just can't get here soon enough for me. Until then, there are hosta photos, hosta articles, and hosta events...

OHS is delighted to report that at the September AGM Russ Talbot agreed to become our new President. Please join us in welcoming Russ (page 3). We also have a few photos of the AGM on page 3.

So right when we all need a hosta fix the most, the OHS has arranged to have John Kee, a founding member of the OHS, come talk to us at our January general meeting about what has changed and what has survived since the early days of the OHS. You can get the details on page 3. Don't miss this event! We've also got flyers for our 8th annual Hosta Forum (page 13) in April and for the 2018 bus tour (page 14) in June.

Although June may feel like a really long way off, now is the time to start making plans to attend the **50th annual AHS convention** in Philadelphia, PA, this year. This one promises to be spectacular— the lineup of **vendors**, **speakers** and especially the **display gardens** on

offer are breathtaking. AHS has provided a very nice article (page 15) about all that Philly has to offer. For your convenience, we've included the registration form on the last page, so you can just print it out and send it in.

In each issue we try to include an article about dealing with pests in the hosta garden. This issue we have one about rabbit damage (page 5).

Jayne Christiani has written another great article for this issue (page 6), this time about some of the lessons she's learned (and is still learning) about the importance of location for many hostas varieties.

The hosta selected by the American Hosta Growers Association as the **2018 Hosta of the Year** is World Cup. Details on page 9.

Speaking of exceptional hostas, we have a wonderful article on page 10 about heirloom hostas. How many of these old-timers do you have?

Guacamole is one of my personal favorites, so I am delighted to share an article featuring it on page 11).

I hope this newsletter gives you the hosta fix you need to keep you going for the next few months until they start coming up again.

Marta Ceppek

OHS Newsletter Editor

ONTARIO HOSTA SOCIETY



Visit our website:
ontariohostasociety.com

Mailing address:
 16 Sparrow Ln.
 Wasaga Beach, ON
 N0L 1A0

Membership



\$15.00 for 1 year
 \$40.00 for 3 years

<http://ontariohostasociety.com/index.php/membership>

The membership year runs from January 1st to December 31st. Members joining after October 1st are deemed to be paid-up until December 31st of the following year.

OHS Newsletter

Newsletters are published 3-4 times a year. PDF copies of past issues of the OHS newsletter are available in the Members section of the OHS website.

Article Submissions

We are always looking for hosta-related tips, articles, and photos. Do you have something to share? Send it to:

hostanews@gmail.com

Advertising

Hosta retailers: Business card-sized ads are only \$100 per publication year.

Welcome!

Our newest members

Audrey Ashbourne	Connie Pojasok
Roger Banderob	Liz Prociw
Cathy Boyko	Sandra Purves
Jennifer Cassista	Shelley Purves
Rosie Grosbein	Dr. Fred Stewart
Sandy Hutt	Dalia Tunaitis
Betty Ivanore	Lisa Wark
Jennifer Minogue	Sharon Wiese
Dan Ovens	Sandra Williamson

OHS 2018 Executive

President – **Russ Talbot**
rwtalbot@teksavvy.com

Vice-President – **VACANT**

Past President – **Glenn Wilson**

Treasurer – **Keith Skanes**
keithskanes@hotmail.com

Secretary – **Kelly Williams**
kelly@kellysgarage.ca

Membership – **Norm Limpert**
normlimpy@hotmail.com

Hosta Forum Coordinators –
Lynne Limpert lynnelimpert@hotmail.com
Donna Hussey husseyde@sympatico.ca

Newsletter – **Marta Cepek**
hostanews@gmail.com

Webmaster – **Cindy Deutekom**
cindydeutekom@gmail.com

Photographer – **Trish Symons**
symonstrish@gmail.com

Bus Tour Organizer – **Sandra Shrieve-Mahoney**
sandrasherbalife@aol.com

Directors at Large –
Robert Leask rleask@hotmail.com

SW OHS President – **Kim Bennet**
president@swohs.org

Eastern OHS President – **Annic Lavertu**
president@easternohs.com

2018 OHS Events

Check the EVENTS page of our website:

<https://ontariohostasociety.com/index.php/events>

January Member Meeting

When: Sunday 28 January ➔ **Details on page 4**

OHS Hosta Forum

When: Sunday 22 April 2018 ➔ **Details on page 13**

OHS Bus Tour

When: Sunday 10 June 2018 ➔ **Details on page 14**

OHS BBQ/Picnic

When: Sunday 22 July 2018

Where: Garden of Kelly Williams
9248 County Road 1, Hockley, ON

Note: Most GPS have trouble finding this address.

Try: <https://goo.gl/maps/n2NmpiCdAXu>

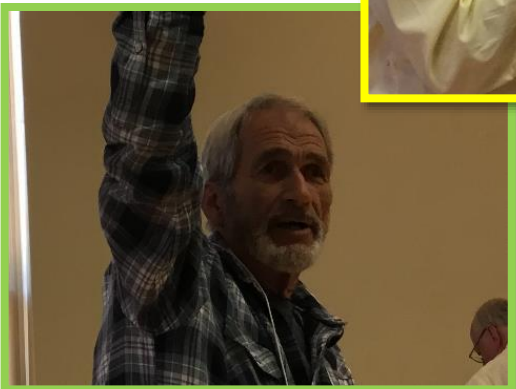
Annual General Meeting & Auction

When: Sunday 9 September

Where: Nassagaweya Community Centre,
Brookville Hall

2017 September AGM

Photos by Trish Symons



Meet Russ Talbot

Our new OHS President



Retirement 11 years ago eventually brought my wife Maureen and I to Wasaga Beach to live. During this time, I have served as President of the Stayner Garden club, Ontario Horticultural Association District 16 Director and just finished my term as President of the Wasaga Beach PROBUS Club.

My hobbies are photography, woodworking and being out on Georgian Bay on my sailboat. Gardening for me is sitting in the shade on our patio with a glass of wine, watching my wife putter away with her plants. I can say this as she does not allow me in her gardens, fearful that I will mistake her flowers for weeds.

I am pleased to be your new President and working with the executive look forward to continuing the goals and success of the Ontario Hosta Society.

2018 OHS January Meeting

When: Sunday 28 January 2018, 12:30 – 3:30 pm

Where: Nassagaweya Community Centre
Brookville Hall
2005 Cameron Drive,
Campbellville, Ontario

- A great way to spend a Winter afternoon dreaming about Hostas with fellow gardeners
- Pizza and Caesar salad lunch with beverages/dessert will be provided
- Find out what's happening at the OHS in 2018!
- Great speaker – **John Kee** – A Founding Member of the OHS – an informative presentation on “What has Changed” and what has survived with Hostas since the early days of the OHS

DON'T MISS THIS EVENT!

Please RSVP to lynnelimpert@hotmail.com or call 905-878-3366 by January 20, 2018 (so we know how much food to provide)

Meet John Kee

Our speaker for the January OHS meeting!



In his work as a landscaper and as an avid gardener, John became interested in hostas to the point where he was chasing them across north America and into Europe. As he eagerly sought new sources, and considering this was pre TC and the internet, he developed many contacts and associations which helped him increase his knowledge and develop his collection.

His passion led him to seek out other like-minded individuals in Canada and, along with interested nurseries, developed the origins of the Ontario Hosta Society with members from across Canada and the US and even from England.

Come and renew old friendships with John and listen to the stories of the early years of the OHS as it grew into one of the largest. Find out the history of local nurseries that supported us and how the advent of TC and the internet changed us. What else has changed and what has survived as we carry on? What is still valued about our favourite plant that drives things today. John always has an opinion.

Wild Things
PLANT FARM

Choice Selection
Well-Grown Hostas * Virus Indexed

36-acre Nursery in the Woods * Display Gardens
PERENNIALS VINES GRASSES SHRUBS TREES
<http://www.wild-things.ca> 1-877-538-3228
Hwy 89, 7 km west of Mount Forest

Rabbit Damage

By Dave Robson, reprinted from the July 2017 issue of *Hosta Happenings*, newsletter of the Northern Illinois Hosta Society

Peter Rabbit looks so innocent with his little fluffy tail wiggling back and forth. Not to mention Flopsy, Mopsy and Cottontail. But there is garden evil imbedded in his DNA.

Rabbits are gnawers, loving to eat branches and bark (during the winter) and tender plants during the spring and summer. They'll munch grass down to the crowns, eat developing peony shoots, vegetable transplants, and some bulbous plants like lilies and tulips. They'll occasionally munch on hostas, but most severe hosta damage is usually from deer, which will devour the blade and leave the leaf petiole. Angular cuts or chewing is an indicator of rabbit damage. When feeding on woody twigs close to the ground, their angled cuts looks similar to those made by pruners.



Fruit plants are fair game during winter months, as are most shrubs including barberries, which goes to show the plant's barbs don't really protect the plant from hungry rabbits. Thin barked young trees are also fair game. Rabbits will feed close to the soil surface, and proceed higher on the plant by standing on their hind legs, reaching for the tenderer and less "barkier" limbs and buds. Rabbits have the ability to stand on snow, which wasn't a problem in winter 2016-2017 but has been in previous years. Damage usually appears as stripped bark or gnawing on the woody tissue. Bark damage can kill the plant; damage from eating the stems from multi-stemmed shrubs tends to be minimal.

A rabbit may breed up to 5 times per year depending on the environment, with the typical litter consisting of 3 to 6

little ones. If the food source is plentiful, the population explodes.

Exclusion is the best control. A good fence, with at least 6" buried below ground to prevent the rabbit from digging or crawling under, is recommended. Chicken wire or hardware cloth cylinders can be erected around desired plants, again making sure to bury 6". Leave several inches between the wire and the trunk of any tree to prevent the rabbit's teeth from reaching the wood.

Repellents such predator urines, capsaicin (pepper) extracts or castor oil will provide some relief, but you must continue to reapply after rains.

Illinois law prohibits trapping or hunting rabbits out-of-season without permission from the IL Department of Natural Resources.

Display gardens in front – Greenhouses/sales area in back

Website is all set for pre-ordering all your Hosta & other easy-care perennials for shipping/pick-up **EARLY BONUS TIME IS NOW**

www.gardensplus.ca • 705-742-5918

136 County Rd 4, Donwood / Peterborough, ON

Gardens & greenhouses will open for season 21 – May 11th –Wed-Sun
Stay in touch by following us on Facebook / sign up for our newsletter

Plants and People, Together We Grow!

Belgian NURSERY

2615 Victoria St. N. Breslau Ontario, Canada Phone: 519-648-2608

Open Year Round

www.belgian-nursery.com



GLENN WILSON

4897 Irish Drive
RR#4 Appin, ON N0L 1A0
Phone 519.289.5471

info@hostachoicegardens.ca
www.HostaChoiceGardens.com

Specializing in growing
quality hosta since 1998

Open Mother's Day weekend till
August 31st yearly

Location! Location! Location!

(My Lesson for the Year)

In my quest to add to my growing list of hostas, I was fortunate enough this past summer to visit a garden with a large, outstandingly beautiful pond. The hostas were ginormous. There were hostas there that I know the owner and I had purchased at the same time, and while mine look okay after three years, theirs were huge. It had me scratching my head in confusion. Soil? Fertilizer? I am supposed to be a professional gardener. What's going on?

To anyone that will listen, I always say that if you are planting hostas beside a large body of water, whether it be a lake or a pond, you can disregard the hosta size on the

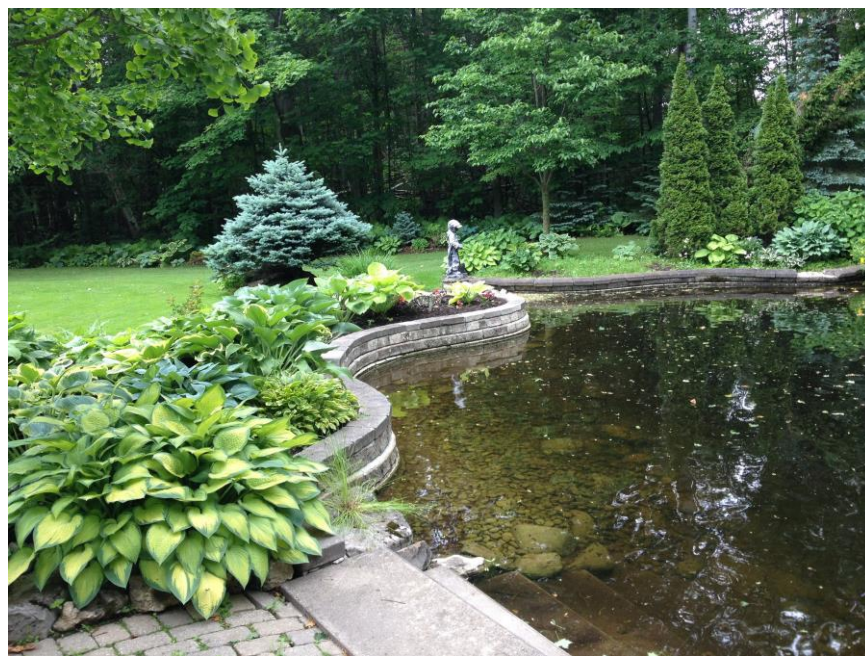
tags that came with your plants. They will exceed that. There is something about that moist air that hostas suck up and as a result, reward their owners with a tremendous display that will have neighbours green with envy.

I have always known, on some level, that

weather and atmosphere plays a huge role in the growth of plants... all plants. I almost never plant anything in July, and urge others in my area not to do so either. We usually have little to no rain, and the dryness coupled with extreme heat is a struggle for most plants just to stay alive during these arid conditions. In the last couple of years, we have gone through a couple of very mild winters by Central Ontario standards, as well as seeing drought conditions one summer, followed by heavy rain conditions and cool temperatures the next. El Nino was something we saw every 15 years or so, not year after year. And then mid-September 2017 brought

the heat wave that we didn't receive all summer. I have never, ever, had to water the gardens that late in the year, but there I was early in the mornings, hose in one hand watering hostas and of all things, swatting at mosquitos with the other hand. Having said that, climate change is certainly playing havoc with standard rules that gardeners have lived by. How do we deal with this now? And can we expect these conditions to continue in the foreseeable future?

But my true lesson came with my ah-ha moment, followed by *DUH!*



My hosta beds are out in the middle of nowhere, so to speak. They are not protected by a house or a wall or near any water. The bulk of them are under a stand of Honeylocust trees that look lovely in the Spring and Summer, but are bare in the Winter. The hostas have

shade protection when necessary, but there is nothing to stop the almost continuous driving winds from racing through my gardens.

I should have learned this lesson last year when I paid a whoppin' \$135 for an originating stock single eye hosta. Normally my rule is \$40 max for a hosta and it has to be pretty incredible for me to pay that. I'll stretch that to \$50, but again, how badly do I want it. (As an aside, if it's the middle of winter, I tend to go a little mental with my spending since I am craving greenery at that time of year. Most house plants don't cut it for me.)

Anyway, I owned my "American Masterpiece" for maybe a month, and it was only planted for less than a week before the one beautiful leaf broke off in the wind. Then the other. I prayed and prayed that the roots were strong enough to send up another eye this past Spring, but it was not meant to be. So, "location, location, location" has been hovering around in my little brain, and I think it was this visit to the house with the pond that finally formed a concrete thought in my brain and stuck. I have always known this rule, and yet, somehow have disregarded it. It has hovered there for years.

I have a "four times" rule. I will plant the same variety of hosta over the course of a few years, but will only do so four times. I buy it, I plant it, it dies. I buy it, I replant it in a different spot. It dies. And again and again.

Case in point is "Thunderbolt". I have finally learned that "Thunderbolt" needs some sort of protection. Again, my gardens in the middle of nowhere don't cut it. We

went to visit friends last year and the wife had a hosta up against the foundation of her house. This size of this "Thunderbolt" that she owned was incredible; so much so that I didn't even believe that it was "Thunderbolt". I assumed that it was at least eight years old, but when she told me it was only three years old, I thought she was pulling my leg. But as I looked at it and realized it was protected by the house, "location, location, location" started coming together for me.

"Snake Eyes" would be another such hosta. I have had many people tell me that they have had difficulty in growing it. I planted two several years ago close together. The following spring, only one came back, the one tucked up beside a tree. The other was

about a foot away, but didn't have the windbreak provided by the tree trunk. If this is a difficult hosta for you, you may want to reconsider your location.

Another thought that has been playing around in my brain is the weather factor, and what I can do to combat the difficulties. Some hostas this year have just thrived with all the rain we received. Others, not so much. But then I have to ask myself, is it all the rain that has caused some hostas reverted back to being little kids, or is this a result of the drought the year before? The jury is still out here... hopefully 2018 will result in a verdict.

I have owned a tremendous specimen of "Great Expectations" for years. Most gardeners lament the ownership of this hosta, because it can be picky. It needs the right amount of moisture and light to thrive. Anyway, the drought last year killed it. Or so I thought. I couldn't believe my eyes this year when I see a little baby coming up in mid-July. It's still a little baby, but at least it's there.



H. Great Expectations (photo Trish Symons)

But there are two hostas that have me truly giving serious thought to weather and location and all the factors required in growing spectacular hostas. One is "Monsoon" and the other is "Cool Waters". A few years ago, I started two new gardens and brought in six yards of triple mix cut with six yards of top soil. I had purchased this mixture the year before and was thrilled with the results.

The new gardens were in a sunny location, but I planted seven new trees to offer some shade. Not only did the trees not grow fast enough for a hosta's liking, but the soil mixture I had brought in early in April turned out to be primarily peat moss. At that time of year, I didn't know the difference because it was so wet. I lost more than half of the hostas I had

planted there. Circumstances had the remaining hostas out in those gardens for two summers (one of those summers was the drought of 2016), before I was able to dig them all up and pot them. They remained in those pots over the winter and of the 40 or so pots, 27 hostas came back the following Spring. Some were still only single or double eyed plants, but both "Monsoon" and "Cool Waters" had at least 10 eyes each and going strong. Heat, sun, drought, crappy soil, potted over the winter with little protection: every bad thing you can do to a hosta, and yet here were these stunning beauties. What the severe weather conditions has taught me is what hostas work well in this area and are almost indestructible.

There are 8,000+/- registered hostas. You can find a listing for each and every registered hosta at hostaregistrar.org. If you search for a specific hosta, you will get a general description of that hosta. If you click on the name again, you will get a more detailed report. Sometimes (unfortunately not always) you will get the growth rate. This is something that I like to check. Some hostas are pokey-slow. I have to really love the look of a particular hosta if I am to purchase a slow growing hosta, and be prepared to wait five, six, ten years, before it shows any signs of glory. "Beach Boy" and "Lakeside Paisley Print" are incredibly slow, but I had to have them. I've had my "L. Paisley Print" for 4 years now and it's still a single eye and small. To be honest, I don't know anyone that has a good-sized specimen. "Beach Boy" has fared somewhat better. It, too, is 4 years old, and this year, I gotta say, the leaves looked spectacular.



H. Lakeside Paisley Print

Still one eye, possibly two, but the leaves were pretty much mature size. Maybe next year it will send out a couple of eyes.

And I know that I've mentioned this before, but when I'm checking into registered hostas, I look to see where the plants originated. I've always know that hostas that do well in the southern States don't necessarily work well here. So now I have to pose the question: is it "location, location, location", or is it a fast/slow growing hosta, or is it the weather challenges we are facing? It's all a puzzle, and piece by piece I'm putting it together in my brain and hopefully, some day, I'll have a

completed mental picture and be oh, so smart when it comes to hostas that do well in Ontario.

In the meantime, I'm enjoying the challenge, and know that I'm not alone in wanting to have spectacular gardens. Every bit of info helps!

Jayne Christiani
Hosta Vista, Baby!

Hosta Vista, Baby!
1841 Buckhorn Rd, Lakefield, ON
jayneandmarkchristiani@gmail.com
for price list
400+ Varieties Available to Purchase
700+ Hostas in our Display Gardens

2018 Hosta Of The Year

Reprinted from Hosta Happenings—a monthly publication of the Wichita Hosta Society courtesy of the AHS Newsletter Exchange

30" Tall x 48" Wide

Pale purple flowers in summer

**Parent - 'Komodo Dragon' x 'Super Bowl'
(D Beilstein/M Zilis 2006)**



Deeply cupped gold leaves reach up to the sky. Corrugated, cupped leaves have nice white backsides that stand out due to the upright habit. Mark Zilis chose this seedling out of Doug Beilstein's seedling patch after winning an auction with the right to choose 20 seedlings - Mark chose wisely!

How is a hosta chosen to be "Hosta of the Year" each year? With the increasing number of hosta cultivars being introduced each year it is more and more difficult for nursery owners and gardeners to choose just the right hostas for their sales areas and gardens. To this end the American Hosta Growers Association established the AHGA Hosta of the Year in 1996. It is selected by a vote of AHGA members. Award winners are hostas that are good garden plants in all regions of the country, are widely available in sufficient supply, and retail for about \$15.00 in the year of selection. How many Hosta of the Year specimens do you have in your garden?



World Cup

Bob Leask, OHS Director at Large

It was a hushed audience at the AHS Convention in Cleveland in 2005 when two giants in the hosta industry were involved in a bidding war to win the opportunity to select 20 seedlings from the trial gardens of Doug Beilstein. Both Mark Zilis and C.H. Falstad were intense to the point where Doug interjected and generously awarded the same opportunity to both bidders. Considering what was being offered from both sides, it was a winner for all because all the plants were still in the trial stages. It had been rumoured that another purchaser had already gone through and selected several others.

Such was the quality of Doug's program.

From the eventual selections made by Mark Zilis was one eventually named World Cup and put into production at Q&Z Nurseries. This giant gold hosta is listed as being 28T x 40W but may even grow a bit larger in the right conditions. It has deeply cupped, corrugated leaves 14 x 10 with a white backside standing in an upright habit. The parentage is Komodo Dragon x Super Bowl and produces pale purple flowers during summer on 24-36 inch scapes.

Some reports have indicated it tolerates sun well and shows its best colours there. Just don't forget to water. A glowing giant.

Heirloom Hostas

By Bob Solberg

This is an edited version of an article first printed in the fall 2014 issue of 'The Greenhill Gossip'. Reprinted courtesy of the AHS Newsletter Exchange.

Nancy and I are into vegetable gardening. Being hosta collectors we have taken a similar approach to our vegetable garden. So as collectors we have found that most of the diversity in vegetables comes not from hundreds of new cultivars introduced every year, like hostas, but the reintroduction of heirloom varieties. All this got me thinking about heirloom hostas. Most of us "serious" hosta folks always want to know what's new. For me that is unnamed seedlings in a hybridizer's garden.

For long time collectors it is the plants we are offering in the nursery this year; but for folks new to hostas almost any hosta is new to them except the one that came with their new house. As with vegetables, to them old hostas may be just as interesting as the newest introductions. In my search for heirloom hostas, I went back to our old hosta lists from the 1980's, almost 30 years ago, believe it or not. I chose 20 hostas that would have been found in any good hosta collection at that time, were reasonably inexpensive, and were rugged performers in the garden. There were blue ones, gold ones, green ones and variegated ones. There were all sizes from large to minis. It's a pretty good diversity. Some of these plants have not been surpassed, although most hosta snobs like me do look down our noses at them. In any case they would still make a good beginning for a collection, after all it was how we long time hosta growers all fell in love with hostas in the first place. So, here is the annotated list.

Most heirloom vegetables have some flaws and that is why we generally grow the new hybrids. While these hostas may each have flaws, they are all still worthy of a place in your gardens.

'Allan P. McConnell' This small flat hosta make a perfect border, if you border your beds.

'Antioch' A large hosta with a showy white margin. Best early in the season.



H. Antioch

'August Moon' Large hosta with bright color and attractive flowers. Best of the early gold hostas.



H. August Moon

'Blue Cadet' Good substance with pretty heart-shaped leaves in neat clumps. Fast multiplier.

'Chartreuse Wiggles' A cute little hosta with very narrow chartreuse leaves that are highly ruffled especially if grown in some sun. It was a mini before minis were the rage.

'Elegans' Large round cupped and puckered leaves, blue-green in color.

'Francee' Pure white margins on the deep green leaves.

'Frances William' 'Elgans' with a broad gold margin. Once a "must have" variety.

'Gold Edger' Chartreuse color early. Perfect match for 'Blue Cadet'.

'Gold Standard' Yellow centered plant that once was also a "must have".



H. Gold Standard

'Gold Tiara' Small gold edged hosta. Fast grower. Was a breakthrough in it's day.

'Kabitan' Delicated arched form and purple flowers makes it a great border plant.

'Krossa Regal' Large upright with a vase shaped. Soft blue grey leaves.

'Halycon' First in a line of smaller blue plants. Not fussy about where you plant it.

'Lemon Lime' Small yellow (lemon) hosta that turns green (lime) in summer.

H. montana **'Aureo-marginata'** Showy vase shaped plant with green and gold leaves.

'Royal Standard' Upright form with a pretty shade of green. Good substance.

'Undulata Albomarginata' One of the most sun tolerant variegated hostas. Probably free for the asking.

Sometimes looking back at our roots can remind us where we have been and that the good old days really were pretty good.



undulata Albomarginata

A Tale of Guacamole Rising

by Mary Lepore

Georgia Hosta Notes, Volume 33 January 2017 No. 1

Reprinted courtesy of the AHS Newsletter Exchange

The unusually above-average rains of fall and early winter of 2015 are now a distant memory. However, I will not forget the great havoc they foisted on my shade garden. The heavy rains, combined with the adjoining property owner removing the woodland behind my garden, caused never-before experienced flooding issues. On numerous occasions, I gazed out my window with dismay to see my garden under several inches of water. Even though most of my hostas are grown in pots, I do have a few in the ground along with hydrangea, camellia, pieris and several other filler plants used to camouflage the pots. At times, I seriously doubted that anything would survive and return in the spring.

My husband, who is a retired landscape contractor, formulated a plan to correct the water problem. Starting in late January of last year, he commenced with digging trenches to lay drain tile to divert water. In addition, the plan was to expand the garden area to include a berm. Of course, knowing my husband, I knew this would be no ordinary berm. His plan of attack was to lay out a footer upon which a low cinder block wall reinforced with rebar and cement was installed. The wall would be buried under filler dirt, top soil and, finally, mulch.

This configuration required that I temporally remove



several plants until his project was completed. Pots were relocated and I proceeded to dig and replot everything that I could manage on my own. However, I had one particularly large clump of Hosta 'Guacamole' that I knew would not be easily transplanted. I have had this hosta for at least 12 years. When it had been relocated from my Lawrenceville garden to Monroe 4 years ago, it was a tremendous clump. I knew that I could not manage this removal myself. However, I never imagined that it was so large that even with the combined forces of

my husband and me, we found ourselves defeated in our attempt to dig and remove it. I was able to salvage a portion of the clump and decided to abandon the main plant which was situated in an area that would be buried under 12 – 15 inches of fill and top soil.

The project neared completion and I started planning on how to use my new garden configuration. As far as I was concerned, my original Hosta 'Guacamole' was gone, buried over a foot deep. I replanted the garden and waited to see how everything would fare. I was amazed that despite the multiple times the garden had flooded, I did not lose a single item. Spring progressed into a summer filled with almost constant 90 degree days and a drought. Watering became a dreaded necessity, not the pleasure it had been in previous years. I noticed that an H. 'Garden Treasure' which had not done much of anything since being moved from my old garden finally seemed to be doing well. In early July, I noticed additional new shoots starting to emerge near 'Garden Treasure'. I watched with great anticipation thinking that I had finally found a spot in the garden to its liking.

Towards the end of July, it was apparent that what had come up late and unfurled was not the H. 'Garden Treasure' that I had replanted in that area. I had two different, distinct hostas growing close together. Turning to my trusty Hostapedia, I searched to see if my hosta was reverting. 'Garden Treasure' is a sport of 'Treasure' and my odd plant did not look like 'Treasure'. 'Garden Treasure' also has a sport which is 'Spinach Soufflé' but it was not that plant either. Finally, it dawned on me. Where this new hosta was coming up was the very spot where my original clump of 'Guacamole' had been buried under many, many inches of fill. Sure enough, it was indeed 'Guacamole' emerging. It was severely diminished in size but what was growing was healthy.

I guess you cannot keep a good hosta down. A well grown plant with good genes will overcome many obstacles to break ground and come out of dormancy. The moral of this tale is to be patient. Do not be too quick in the spring to dismiss a hosta that is among the missing. A hosta that you think may be lost may still surprise you and suddenly appear a little later than expected.



RIDEAU WOODLAND
RAMBLE
DISPLAY GARDENS AND CENTRE

open mid-April to November 7 days a week 9am-5pm

7210 Burritt's Rapids Road, PO Box 348

Merrickville, Ontario, Canada, K0G 1N0

613-258-3797 - info@rideauwoodlandramble.com

www.rideauwoodlandramble.com



Allan & Shirley Koch

43846 C-Line Road, RR #2 Wroxeter, ON

519-335-6175 • shirley@riverbedgardens.net

www.riverbendgardens.net

Hostas - over 1000 varieties / Daylilies - over 1000 varieties

Open May 7 2018 to Labour day or by appointment;

Closed Sundays

American Hosta Society



Membership for Canadians

\$39 US/year / \$107 US/3 years.

NEW! eMembership \$20 US/year

<http://www.americanhostasociety.org>

Hosta Forum 2018

Got Your Seat on the Bus ?

When: Sunday June 10, 2018

Time: 8:00 a.m. sharp from
Landscape Ontario in Milton

Cost: We have managed to
keep the price at \$40.00 again
this year!

**DON'T FORGET YOUR
LUNCH!**

We will have pop, juice, and
water with us on the bus.



Itinerary

Lidia Pezzi in Brampton

There are over 130 different varieties of hosta here in a Peel Village property. Some of the hosta are more than 15 years old.

Joseph Cavello also in Brampton

Joseph has more than 200 hosta on this 239 foot deep lot in Brampton. He uses lots of hosta at the front of his borders which he says keeps them neat and tidy all season long.

Sandra Leah in Mono Township

Sandra's gardens sit on approximately 3 acres of land with a large pond. She has 400 different varieties and 70 different mini and dwarf conifers. Sandra has graciously opened up her gardens for our lunch spot for the day.

Anna and Bill Barger in Neustadt

Anna and Bill have over 750 hosta and have had some registered last year.

Riverbend Gardens in Wroxeter

We will finish up our tour with a stop at Shirley and Allan Koch's **Riverbend Gardens** to fill our need to feed the Hostaholic in us and to break up back to Landscape Ontario, we will stop in at **Doug Starret's** lovely gardens for a quick walk about.

To reserve your seat please contact Sandra at sandrasherbalife@aol.com
or telephone her toll free at **1-866-742-7155**

Please get your seat on board by June 1st everyone.

SEE YOU ON THE BUS !

1968-2018 *Philadelphia—*
 the City of Brotherly Love
Philadelphia—
 the site of the first American Hosta Society convention in 1968
Philadelphia—
 the city throwing the party to celebrate our 50th Anniversary!

The Delaware Valley Hosta Society invites you to Philadelphia not only of a convention that's full from start to finish, but also for all that the Philadelphia area has to offer.



Take some time to savor the *history* in Philadelphia, with its important place in our nation's history, and its important place in the history of the AHS! We'll visit gardens on historic properties, and you can take advantage of the optional Wednesday special tour to visit Old City (or take a few extra days at our hotel's great rate, with easy access to downtown).

Philadelphia's *arts* culture may call you to visit one of the great museums. The optional Wednesday tour will include a drop-off at the Barnes Collection, where you can see treasures of impressionist art. And you'll be impressed by the hosta arts as well in the Hosta Show, where a special division will recognize hostas of historic importance.

If campus-hopping is your thing, take a stroll past one of the area's great *educational* institutions, several of which have important associated arboreta. Or save your leanings towards learning for the convention, where we'll present a full curriculum of hosta-focused presentations and discussions, and tour seven spectacular private gardens that feature not only the best in hosta cultivars but also the best in unusual companion plants.

We've stuffed our vendors' space full of the coolest shady sales folk, so shopping should be in your plans. For pants, not plants, just down the road is the incredible King of Prussia shopping complex. An innovative Friday

schedule for the AHS auction should also keep your charge cards active.

We can't neglect the most august events of each and every AHS convention: recognition of the recipients of the three big awards: the Alex J. Summers service award, the Eunice Fisher hybridizer's

award, and the Benedict garden performance award. After all, the AHS is a *society*—of people!

All this is served up with a heaping help of Philly *food* and *fun*. Check out the online meals page to see how much food is included! We'll make sure you have a good time. We're making every day, and every night, special.

And as a very special treat, we're inviting everyone to join us for a visit to the incomparable Longwood Gardens (for only a \$38 supplement). You'll have plenty of time to visit the garden from late afternoon through nightfall, when you'll see the incredible \$100 million renovated Main Fountain Gardens in a spectacle of sight and sound.



You'll definitely want to stay at the DoubleTree (Philadelphia-Valley Forge) so you don't miss a minute of the fun! Visit our website to link to the hotel's reservation system, which ensures that we get credit for your stay.

On the next page you'll find an all-in-one registration form, or go to the website to submit your registration electronically. Invite a friend, either for the full experience or for our half-price "Hosta Widow(er)" rate. As a special incentive, the AHS is holding a sweepstakes, rewarding two early-bird registrants with full reimbursement of the base registration price! See the website for details, and sign up today!

Join us, for...

Phifty in Philly!

www.ahs2018philly.org

AHS Convention Registration

Replace this page with the registration page!!!



LotsaHostas
Glenda Bargeman
15 Orkney Rd.
Copetown, ON
519-647-2815
www.lotsahostas.com



Canadale
Ontario's Favourite Garden Centre
269 Sunset Drive, St. Thomas, Ontario
519-631-7264
www.canadale.com