



DELAWARE VALLEY HOSTA SOCIETY
NEWSLETTER

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The Plants!
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2018 Treasurer's Report
The Bus Trip!!!!

Volume 28, No. 1

www.delvalhosta.org

Spring, 2019

Spring 2019

Hosta Meeting and Plant Sale

Saturday, April 27, 2019

Jenkins Arboretum

631 Berwyn Baptist Road

Devon, PA 19333

Jim Geary

“Hosta Companions – Native Azaleas”

11:00 Board Meeting

1:00 Gathering for Hosta Hospitality
(Dessert/munchies)

1:30 Business Meeting and Feature Presentation

2:30 Plant Sale

3:30 Chat and Clean-up

Hosta-tality for April 27. Please bring some treats for our meeting. Beverages will be provided. Come early if you can help set up.

Directions to April 27 Meeting

The arboretum is between the Main Line (Route 30) and Route 202. Note that parking is limited to 48 spaces; carpool if you can.

From Philadelphia/North/Central NJ: Take I-76 or the PA Turnpike West to King of Prussia/Valley Forge. Follow the signs to Route 202 South. Take 202 South to the Devon exit (Route 252 N/ Valley Forge Rd), about 2.8 miles. Turn Left (headed south) at the end of the ramp onto Valley Forge Rd, crossing under the highway and crossing Swedesford Rd. Go about 0.6 miles, crossing the railroad bridge, and bear right onto Devon State Rd. Take the next right (only 0.1 miles) onto Berwyn Baptist Road. Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens is up the hill on the left. An iron gate and stone pillars mark the entrance.

From the South: Take I-95 North (from Delaware or US 322) to I-476 North to I-76 West, then follow directions above. Or use on-line directions or GPS to get to Devon State Rd via Route 30 West from I-476.

From the West or Southwest: Take I-76 East to King of Prussia/Valley Forge, then follow directions above. Or, take Route 202 North (e.g. from Route 1) to the Devon exit (Valley Forge Rd.). Turn right at the end of the ramp onto Valley Forge Rd (headed south), and follow directions above.



DVHS Officers

President

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

Christel Badey
533 Rosemary Cir.
Media, PA 19063
(610) 566-9421
Christelbadey1223@gmail.com

Secretary

Missy Kashey
460 Halteman Rd.
Pottstown, PA 19465
(610) 469-0096
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

Raffles/Special Events

Position open

Advisory Board

Conny Parsons, past president Glen Mills,
PA

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

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I'm not too different from other gardeners and suffer from the lack of green things to do during the long winter months. Finally, a warm day comes along, but then it rains. It's been a tough winter, one in which we're always threatening to sod over the gardens as it's so much work to clean them up before it's summer again.

Just going out and clearing away the debris and seeing the clean lines of the garden snaps me out of this madness. The Zen-like pruning of the Japanese maples forces me to look at nature and the interaction of the trees, shrubs, and perennials below. This is why we garden.

Of course, there's the shopping! How could I write this without mentioning shopping? Our son and his wife have just purchased a house in zone 7a, so I have a new place to garden! Starting with a shrub border to block the neighbors, but I have a feeling that there's a hidden gardener lurking in my daughter-in-law, waiting to come out.

I always mention my large plant shopping orders, but I haven't purchased any hostas yet. That's because we have a couple of great opportunities to get some premium hostas in the next few months in the area, starting with our April meeting plant sale. Details about all the plants are in this newsletter. Make sure your dues are paid as only current members can participate in the sale.

The Delmarva Hosta Society is hosting the Dixie Regional Hosta Convention the first weekend of May and will welcome a number of well-known hosta vendors. This is a short drive from the area in the resort town of Lewes, Delaware. We're also touring the amazing Russo garden the end of June, and who knows what other surprises we'll be adding?

Hope to see you soon!

Rebecca Boylan

DVHS Spring Plant Sale, 2019

Membership must be up to date.

All plants subject to availability.

Here are the rules for the day:

- Please bring a small plastic lined box, basket or bag to put your purchases in.
- Pick a number from the hosta bucket at the membership table (entrance door).
- Plant sales will run on a lottery rotation (based on your lucky number), giving everyone a chance to pick two plants with each rotation. After a few rotations, remaining hostas left will be up for sale to anyone still buying!
- Check out will be at the membership table at the end of the meeting. Bring your hostas to the table.

Exploring for Native Azaleas in the Southern Appalachian Mountains

Guest Speaker: Jim Gears

Come and travel with Jim as he searches for native azaleas in the Southern Appalachian Mountains. Learn about native azaleas and where they can be found. Our native azaleas are a national treasure and are worthy additions to our gardens. Starting in early spring with *R. vaseyi* and ending with *R. prunifolium* in late summer, native azaleas bloom in many colors. Several species are very fragrant.



Above. *Rhododendron vaseyi*. Photo: Wikimedia Commons
Right. *Rhododendron prunifolium*. Photo: University of Delaware

Native azaleas can be found along the roadside, in the forest, or on mountain balds. From the isolated plant along the country road to the magnificent display on Gregory Bald, the search continues for that special native azalea.

Jim has been a member of the American Rhododendron Society and the Azalea Society for over 30 years and a nurseryman for over 25 years. His small specialty nursery, Pennsbury Gardens, grows native azaleas, wildflowers for shade, Rhododendrons, and evergreen azaleas.



The *Ericaceae* Collection at Jenkins Arboretum

taken from the Jenkins Arboretum Website

Since opening the garden gates in 1976, Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens has built a remarkable collection of plants in the *Ericaceae* (heath) family.... The Jenkins *Kalmia* (mountain laurel) and *Rhododendron* collections have garnered national accreditation by the American Public Gardens Association in partnership with the USDA in their Plant Collections Network. These two groups of plants are part of a continent-wide strategy to protect and preserve germplasm for taxonomic study, research, and breeding. Through this program, Jenkins collaborates with other participating institutions to identify gaps and duplications in these collections with an aim to provide a robust bank of germplasm (genetic material). This accreditation has established Jenkins as the institution with the most extensive *Rhododendron* and *Kalmia* collections in North America.

With nearly 5,000 individual plants representing 1,500 taxa, the *Ericaceae* collection includes hybrids, cultivars, and species of *Rhododendron* and *Kalmia*, some of which cannot be found anywhere else on the continent. Among these is an expanding collection of native azaleas that includes all the eastern native species and dozens of selections and hybrids of those species, with the exception of *R. canadense* which does not thrive in Philadelphia's hot and humid summers. Furthermore, Jenkins features complete, or nearly complete collections from the lifework of several regional rhododendron hybridizers. This vast collection of diverse plants is a safeguard against extinction for species, a living library of hybrids, and an unspeakably rich palette of genetic material for future hybrids and crosses.

Azaleas at
Jenkins
Arboretum.

Photo: Karl
Gercens





H. 'Blue Elf'
Mini
NR

Hans Hanson/Walters
Gardens
At last, truly blue leaves
for the trough garden.
PPAF



H. 'Bright Star'
Medium
NR

Jan van den Top
Tetraploid of
H. 'Dark Star'.
Thick leaves with wide,
creamy margins.
PP25231



H. 'Diamond Lake'
Medium-Large
Registered by Hans
Hanson/Walters Gardens
in 2018.

Thick, heavily
corrugated leaves.
PPAF CPBRAAF



H. 'Etched Glass'
Large
Registered by
Walters Gardens
in 2018.
Sport of
H. 'Stained Glass'.



H. 'Fantabulous'
Medium
Registered by
E. Elslager in 1999.
Hybrid of
H. 'Fascinator'
Shiny attention-getter.

H. 'First Dance'
Medium
NR
Walters Gardens
Reverse of
H. 'One Last Dance'.
Both are sports of
H. 'Dancing Queen'.



H. 'Justine'
Medium
NR

Jan van den Top
Tetraploid of
H. 'June Fever'
PP21624
'June' squared!



H. 'Minke'
Huge
NR
Molter

A whale of a hosta!
Win the Big Leaf Contest
with this one.



H. 'Saint Elmo's Fire'
Small
Registered by
Bob Solberg
in 1995.
Sport of *H. 'Sea fire'*.
Very bright yellow.



H. 'White Linen'
Medium
Registered by Marlys
Anderson in 2008.
Elegant sport of
H. 'Red October'.
Deep red petioles and
powdery white back.



Hosta Soup and Hosta Chat

Kathy Miller

Our February meeting was a great success. Nine different and delicious soups arrived just in time for us hungry hostaphiles. While we were chatting, sampling and voting, we watched the AHS 2018 Convention video, which David Teager had set up to play on the screen. He compiled it from photos that had been sent to him by many of the convention attendees. Watching the people and gardens scroll by was a great way to remember all our hard work.

After the soup, we headed to the dessert table (a wonderful array of sweets) and filled our plates. Then grabbed a cup of coffee or tea and settled down to a very interesting presentation by Gail Russo. She took us through the development of their garden in the New Jersey pinelands. Through the years she had been documenting changes with her fine photography. It was an engaging story. We learned that most of the 3000+ hostas had been chosen and acquired by Dave. See more information about our bus trip to Gail and Dave's garden on page 6.

Now, the most important announcement!!! The winning soup!!! Congratulations to Marilyn Romenesko!!! See page 7 for the yummy recipe for *H. 'Pot Of Gold'*.

The plant *H. 'Pot Of Gold'* was originated by Shady Oaks Nursery/Hans Hansen. It is an unregistered sport of *H. 'Rainbow's End'*?



H. 'Pot of Gold'

Photo: Gayle Hartley Alley via The Hosta Library



H. 'Rainbow's End'

Photo: Sue Tucker via The Hosta Library

H. 'Sharon Stone'

Warren Pollock

*Ed. note. It's always great to hear from Warren Pollock, a DVHS veteran and one of its founders. For those of you who are not members of AHS, it's important to know that Warren has been writing an on-going column for the Hosta Journal entitled "What's in a Hosta Name?". He is the authority on this topic. This is his follow-up to the article on *H. 'Marilyn Monroe'*, which appeared in the last DVHS Newsletter.*

Not surprisingly, 'Marilyn Monroe' sported. Tissue-culture propagates a large number of hostas and you'll probably find a sport or two among them. Jan van der Top, the hosta nurseryman in the Netherlands, discovered 'Sharon Stone' and 'Jessica Alba'. The former has blue-green, ruffle-edged leaves with silver grey streaks, and the latter has yellow ruffle-edged leaves.

Likely, much of the appeal of *H. 'Marilyn Monroe'* is its being named for the popular sex symbol of the 1950's. Recall the famous scene in the movie "The Seven Year Itch" where MM is standing over a hot air grate in New York City and her skirt is being blow upward revealing its white lining. It was featured on numerous posters. 'Marilyn Monroe' has heavily rippled, green leaves with attractive white underside. Pete and Jean Ruh of Chesterland, Ohio, registered it in 2005. (Jim Hawes, who was the originator, and Pete and Jean have all passed away.)



H. 'Sharon Stone'. Photo: Jan van den Top.

When Jan discovered these two sports of 'Marilyn Monroe', he thought they too should have movie sex symbol cultivar names. Sharon Stone's role in the 1992 thriller movie "Basic Instinct" is classic. Jessica Alba must have sex symbol fame also, but I'm not aware of it. (*ed. note: star of TV series "Dark Angel" and movie series "The Fantastic Four."*)

'Marilyn Monroe' is registered, but 'Sharon Stone' and 'Jessica Alba' are not. The *International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants* requires that if a living person's name is to be a registered cultivar name, permission of the person is to be obtained. In 2005, when the Ruhs registered 'Marilyn Monroe', MM had passed. She died in August 1962 at age 36. Sharon Stone and Jessica Alba are alive. Jan would need their permissions to register 'Sharon Stone' and 'Jessica Alba'. This would be a huge undertaking -- though I'm sure Jan would greatly like to know personally either or both.

Hosta Registry Website

From the St. Louis Hosta Society November Newsletter

The Hosta Registry Website is a service provided by the American Hosta Society (AHS) in its capacity as the International Cultivar Registration Authority for the Genus *Hosta*. For over two years, various AHS members have been working to upgrade this valuable resource.

Over 10,000 photos have been scanned and added to the website by Barb and Rick Schroeder. When available, the original photographs that were submitted to the registrar at the time of registration of a cultivar are displayed as a part of the registration detail page. In many cases, additional photos of the clump, leaf, and flower, and when applicable, any seasonal variations in the plant are also shown.

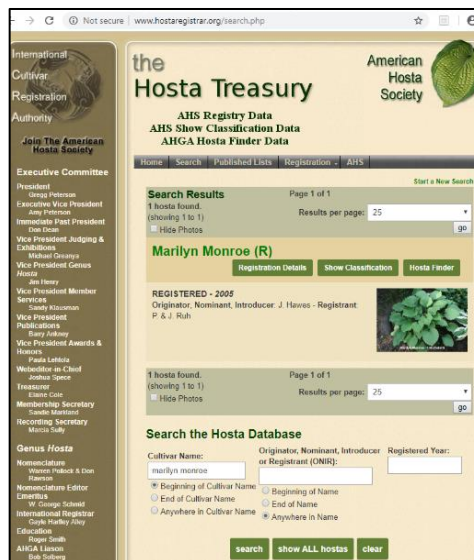
A new feature was funded by the American Hosta Growers Association (AHGA). The AHGA obtained permission from Steve Greene to use the name Hosta Finder to provide a free online resource that identifies the availability and pricing of hostas carried by member nurseries of the AHGA.

You do not have to be a member of AHS to access this data site. Access the Hosta Registry, through the home page of the American Hosta Society (www.hosta.org) by clicking on the tab at the top labeled 'Registering Hostas'. Follow the resulting links to the AHS Hosta Registry or use the address directly www.hostaregistrar.org/. Click on the Search tab at the top of the page.

When a cultivar is searched for on the Registry site, three tabs appear on the search results page. They are green tabs to the right of the name of the hosta. The first tab is Registration Details, which includes all the photos of the cultivar, along with all of the details about the plant, leaf size, flower color, etc. The second tab is Show Classification, which lists the section and class for the cultivar for leaf show entry. The third tab is the Hosta Finder. If you click on the Registration Details tab, photos and registration information displays. You may enlarge the photos simply by clicking on any one of the photos. You can scroll through the

larger sized photos by clicking on the right side of the photo to advance to the next photo or clicking on the left side of the photo to go back to the previous photo. To go back to the registration details page, just click the X at the lower right of the photo or click anywhere outside of the photo.

From the Registration Details page, you can jump to the Show Classification page by clicking the Show Classification tab, just under the photos, at the center of the page. Doing so will bring up the Show Classification page. This lists the Section Class, Leaf Length, Leaf Width, and Leaf Color for judging classification.



To go to the Hosta Finder section, simply click on the Hosta Finder tab. This displays the AHGA member nurseries that are selling the cultivar, listed in order by price, lowest to highest, with an average price also calculated. Each nursery listed has a link to their website, so you can jump directly to the website to make a purchase, if desired. The current pricing shown is for the 2018 year. Early next year, pricing for the 2019 season will be posted. If no AHGA Vendor is offering a particular cultivar, the Hosta Finder page will have no listings of vendors. Both registered and non-registered hostas are included in the Hosta Finder listings.

RUSSO BUS TRIP - June 29 - CEDARVILLE NJ

Gail and Dave Russo have amassed a HUGE collection of rarely seen hostas and they may have some plants for sale. Planned departure points are from the DoubleTree by Hilton (the site of the 2018 national convention) in King of Prussia, PA with a second stop near I-95 at Marsh Road in Wilmington, DE.

For this trip, we ask that you bring a brown bag lunch or you can pick up a prepared lunch item from a WaWa near the garden site. The Society will provide beverages. Please bring your own sunscreen and insect repellent. This trip and tour will be lots of fun, and we'll meet up with the folks from the DelMarva Hosta Society who will join us at the Russo's. Times for the trip are yet to be determined, but will likely be 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

To reserve your seats on the bus, please sign up on the form below. Then send this in to Marilyn Romenesko, 106 Hoiland Drive, Wilmington, DE 19803 with your payment of \$20 per person by April 27, 2019. Better yet, bring these to the meeting on April 27, 2019. Make out your check to DVHS. Hope to see you at all our great summer events! Marilyn Romenesko

Name(s) _____

Phone Number _____

Total Payment _____



'Pot of Gold' Soup

Ingredients

- 3 – 3 ½ lbs. butternut squash, seeded and quartered
- 2 tsp. salt
- ½ tsp. white pepper
- 3 c. vegetable broth
- ¼ c. honey
- 1 tsp. minced fresh ginger
- ¼ tsp. nutmeg
- ¼ c. sugar free maple syrup or ½ tsp. maple flavoring
- ½ c. heavy cream

Preparation

Place the quartered squash onto a sheet pan sprayed with PAM. Roast for 30-35 min. or until squash is soft and tender.

Scoop the squash from the skin and place in a 6 quart pot. Add the broth, honey and ginger. Place over medium heat and bring to a simmer for 7-8 minutes. Remove from heat and let mixture cool 5-10 minutes.

Using a stick blender, purée the mixture until smooth. Stir in the heavy cream and return to a low simmer. Add salt, pepper, nutmeg and maple flavoring.

Total Time: 50 minutes Prep Time: 10 minutes
 Cook Time: 40 minutes Yield: 6 - 8 servings
 WW points: 3-4

DVHS Financial Report for 2018

Regular DVHS 2018 Business

Income:

Dues	\$ 990.00
Plant Sales/Aucts.	1,662.00
Raffles	215.00
Miscell.	45.00

Total: \$ 2,912.00

Expenses:

Hospitality	\$ -87.85
Supplies	-16.22
Newsletter	-505.81
Speakers	-250.00
Plants	-663.44
Rental	-150.00
Gifts	-182.59
Website	-68.55
Raffle	-35.15

Total: -\$ 1,959.61

Net: +\$ 952.39

Submitted on Feb. 28, 2019
 by Christel Badey

**2019 Dixie Regional Hosta Society Convention
 May 3 – 5, 2019, Rehoboth Beach DE**

Speakers Friday from 2-5:00 PM, including Mark Zilis.
 Welcome Social sponsored by the DelMarva Hosta Society Friday night with vending.
 Five great gardens will on tour Saturday on your own.

Visit www.delmarhostasociety.org
 for all the details.

Fairfield Inn and Suites
 19113 Coastal Highway, Rehoboth Beach, DE 19913 302-645-7766

Rate: \$169.00 Standard room plus 8% State and Local Tax
 Please mention the Dixie Regional Hosta Society when making reservations.

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, April 27, 2019. Spring Meeting. Plant Sale.
Speaker: Jim Gears, "Hosta Companions – Native
Azaleas."
Jenkins Arboretum, Devon, PA.

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, May 3 – 5, 2019. Dixie Regional
Hosta Convention. Rehoboth Beach DE.
info@delmarvahostasociety.org.

Saturday, June 1, 2019. Early Summer Meeting.
Garden Walk, Picnic and Auction.
Conny and Jim Parsons Garden. Glen Mills, PA.

Saturday, June 29, 2019. Bus Trip.
Gail and Dave Russo Garden., Cedarville, NJ.

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

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

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

June, 12-15, 2019. AHS National Convention,
"Hostaffinity". Green Bay, WI.

June, 2020. AHS National Convention. Minneapolis MN

The Delaware Valley Hosta Society has been growing and would like to welcome the
following new members who have recently joined our group:

Lisa Haun, Glenside, PA

Carolyn Walker & Torben Jenk, Malvern, PA

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1200 Farmington Ave.
Pottstown, PA 19464-1826
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED