

Dave Jennings,
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The Newsletter for the
Upstate New York Hosta Society

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Greetings Dear Hosta lovers!

As New York State begins to open up to more group activities and with the safety of all in mind and in preparation to our Members Only Hosta Sale next month we have a lot to share with you.

Our Sale will take place on Sunday, July 12th at 11:00 am. There is no back-up Date (For another Heat Wave like we had this week or Rainstorm) so dress accordingly. If you have a large Umbrella, an "Easy Up" or some other type of Canopy you may want to bring it along "Just in Case"

Viktoria Serafin (our Vice President) is hosting the event at her farm at 142 Brooks Road in Fultonville.

The trip alone to Viktoria's is very enjoyable as the road meanders through rolling hills and Amish farmland.

She has worked extremely hard ordering, potting and caring for the 18 varieties of Hosta she ordered for us this year.

She needs help during the week of the sale (before Friday, July 10th) in order to set up benches, move the pots and tag the plants. Some heavy lifting will be needed for a couple of the volunteers. Please contact me (phone 518 393-1522 or email mhdegeneff@gmail.com) if you can help.

Masks should be worn during this time.

For the logistics of our July 12th gathering please see the informational article later in this newsletter

Enjoy this warm weather!

Maria (LENA) Degeneff - President



Mark Your Calendar

>> UPCOMING EVENTS

July 12th Sunday – Summer Picnic 11:00 am

.....YES...this is a new date!

Look for more details in this Newsletter!

August 8th Saturday– Fundraising Sale 7:00 am

at Faddegons Garden Center in Latham

We need someone to volunteer to Chair this event.

September 12th Saturday

We are planning a BUS TRIP to an exquisite Garden for late morning followed by a visit to an extensive Retail Nursery after lunch. Look for more details to follow.

October 10th or 17th Business Meeting/Guest Speaker

This will be our Fall Business Meeting to discuss and approve next year's Activities, followed by a Guest Speaker Look for details to follow.

November NO MEETING (Due to Thanksgiving Holiday)

December 12th Holiday Party

May be a joint celebration with HADS & UNYHS again.

Would you like to coordinate our Party this year???

UNYHS Scholarship Winner!

From Cindy Jennings, Scholarship Chair

Many "thanks" go out to the excellent committee members who chose a wonderful candidate for the 2020 UNYHS Scholarship. This year's student recipient, Samantha Bjorklun was a student from Schenendehowa High School who plans to attend college this fall majoring in Environmental Science at Syracuse Environmental School of Forestry.

While in high school she had excellent school achievement, was a member of the Science National Honor Society where she became an active participant in food sustainability by helping to implement composting bins throughout the school grounds. She presently is working outside the home to assist her family in making her dream to go to college possible.

Samantha wrote a "thank you" note to the membership expressing her appreciation for being chosen as this year's scholarship winner. She wrote of her concern as to the future with the COVID-19 virus and how colleges will handle enrollments, but is hopeful she will still be able to attend college in the fall.

UPSTATE NY HOSTA SOCIETY CLOTHING INFORMATION

CUSTOM EMBROIDERED HOODED SWEATSHIRTS, APRONS AND FLEECE JACKETS can still be ordered so pick up an order form at our next meeting or send an email to UNYHS@aol.com for more detailed information. **When we get several orders, we'll place another order.**



Join the American Hosta Society

DON'T MISS OUT - JOIN THE AMERICAN HOSTA SOCIETY (...if you aren't already a member)

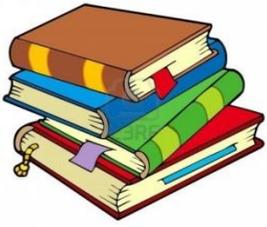
The American Hosta Society (AHS) is a non-profit educational and scientific organization. It promotes, encourages and fosters the development of the genus Hosta and public interest in Hosta.

Members of the AHS receive The Hosta Journal three times a year, access to display gardens throughout the country, many of which are only open to AHS members, and opportunity to develop friendships with people who share an interest in growing hostas.

Get Details at: www.AmericanHostaSociety.org

MEMBERSHIP PRICES:

1 yr – Individual \$30	Family \$34
3 yrs – Individual \$80	Family \$90
5 yrs – Individual \$129	Family \$146
Lifetime Individual \$900	(No Family Lifetime)



Our Lending Library

Our Librarian is Nancy Como. She has inventoried all of our current books in our collection which totals over 75 to date.

She will continue to bring a small sample to each meeting for people to borrow, read over and return at the next meeting.

PLEASE VOLUNTEER: The total list still needs to be typed up so if you would like to volunteer to do so, please send an email to UNYHS@aol.com

FADDEGON'S FUNDRAISING SALE INFO

We know that a few of our newest members don't know what our sale at Faddegon's still planned for Saturday, August 8th is all about so let me try to share with you in a few words what we do...

Each year for as long as I can remember, the Management at Faddegon's Garden Center in Latham graciously allows us to use one of their Greenhouses to conduct a Fund-Raising Sale of Hostas the second Saturday in August that are donated from our members. In order to prepare for Faddegon's Sale we must have information on the number of plants we have to offer this year. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE let us know how many potted divisions you have for our sale (If you have NOT already done so) and their names by sending an email to: UNYHS@aol.com

Faddegon's benefit from the increase in customers that come for our sale and we usually realize over a thousand dollars in profits each year.

We will need everyone to mark your calendars now and plan to help out for a few hours the day of the sale beginning at 7:00 am.

We took a pro-active stance again this year to help prevent the spread of Insect and Disease problems at our Annual Fund-Raising Sale at Faddegon's Garden Center. Your Board discussed in detail this concern again at their planning meeting this Spring and mandated that all plants being donated this year must be grown in new unused pots and sterile growing media.

UNYHS 2020 Members Sale and Picnic (NOTE NEW DATE)

Our Members-only Sale and Business Meeting will be on Sunday, July 12th (Rain or Shine) at the home of one of our former presidents, Viktoria Serafin beginning at 11:00 AM

In previous years we required everyone to be current with their membership dues to buy at the members-only sale but due to COVID-19 we have suspended the dues for this year and everyone currently paid for this year, will automatically have their membership extended for one year.

Our prime event will be our much anticipated "Members-Only" Hosta Sale. Please bring your own mask (required to be worn to attend), appetites, you own picnic lunch, your own lawn chairs and of course your checkbook. Drinks will be provided by the club. The sale will be after our short business meeting. Viktoria has ordered some wonderful plants from great wholesalers for this sale so be sure to decide which are your favorites from the list below before you come to our meeting. You should go to: <http://www.hostalibrary.org/> website to see more great photos of the plants we will be offering for sale this year. Many of the plants will not be showing their true colors yet so you will need to check them out on this website to really appreciate what we have to offer this year.

On the day of the sale:

- Wear masks (except when sitting for lunch), bring your own chairs (she has no extra chairs) and practice smart social distancing by sitting/standing at least 6' apart.
- Bring your own bagged lunch, plates, napkins and eating utensils to minimize cross contamination (water and other drinks will be provided),
- Take your own trash home (like you would at a park).
- A Bathroom facility is available and there will be disinfecting wipes outside and inside the bathroom.

I hope this covers all concerns of contamination. If you can think of anything else we should do please send me an email to let me know.

As always you should maintain your own health and safety as your #1 priority.

We would love to see you all there, but we understand if you choose not to attend.

Thanks, Lena Degeneff

Directions to Viktoria Serafin's Glenbrook Farm (142 Brooks Road, Fultonville, NY)

90 W to Exit 27, Amsterdam

Turn left onto NY 30 S – drive 2 miles

Continue straight onto NY 161 W Mill Point - drive 7 miles

Slight left onto NY-30A - drive 1.2 miles

Turn right onto Reed Hill Rd. - drive 1.5 miles

Turn right onto Hyney Hill Dr. – drive 476 ft

Turn left at the first cross street onto Brooks Rd – drive .2 miles

This is the list of the Varieties we have for our Sale:

See separate Attachment for pictures of what Viktoria has ordered for this years Sale!!

'Ain't Misbehavin' M

From former members Meg and Jim Dalton comes this gorgeous hybrid of 'Candy Dish' and 'Ringtail' ; the latter of these is also from a former member, Kent Terpening.

'Amalia' PBR47238 M

Variegated sport of 'Dancing Queen', another Kent Terpening introduction.

'Blueberry Waffles' VL

My choice for the best blue ever!

'Bounty' S

Tetraploid form of 'Lonesome Dove' with incredibly thick leaf substance.

'Funny Bones' S

The Daltons crossed 'Candy Dish' and 'Summer Dress' to produce this low-growing hosta that has wonderfully rippled leaf edges.

'Glen Luminaria' VL

A hosta for a sunny location, this one emerges a frosty aqua blue, turning golden when temperatures rise. Viktoria Serafin's introduction.

'Leather and Lace' S

Unique in this size category, this Don Dean introduction is highly textured and wonderfully ruffled.

'Marshmallow Sky' M

A white-centered sport from 'Orange Marmalade'.

'Midnight Oil' M

Dark, dark green, shiny leaves and purple flowers. Currently Dave's favorite DARK Green Hosta.

'Minke' L

Resembles 'Sagae' and 'Leading Lady' but has a finely drawn, creamy edge.

'Paisley Border' M

Reverse sport of 'Lakeside Paisley Print'.

'Sharp Dressed Man' M

Sharply pointed, white centered leaves make an eye-catching specimen.

'Silver Shadow' S

Sport of 'Devon Green' with leaves narrowly edged with white.

'Stand by Me' S-M

A smaller sport of 'June' with a narrow, golden center. Unusual.

'Sunlight Child' mini

A delightful, golden mini from Herb Benedict.

'Wildest Dreams' M

Very new and virtually unavailable, but Viktoria managed to snag a few for us.

'Yellow Polka Dot Bikini' S

Arguably one of the most attractive sports of 'Striptease'.

'You're So Vein' S

Lutescent, with round, thick leaves. Emerges looking a lot like 'Blue Mouse Ears' but when the leaves turn yellow, grey-green veins stand out for a unique look. From Tony Avent of Plant Delights Nursery.

Why would anyone pay \$1,000 (or more) for just one Hosta??

By David L. Jennings, Upstate New York Hosta Society Newsletter Editor & Communications Chair

In simple terms...It's all about supply and demand!! I've been to many a Hosta Conference where someone donated a really rare or unique new Hosta that got everyone excited and talking. Maybe it was the largest Hosta ever grown to date or one that had really unique foliage characteristics like Humpback Whale or Gunther's Prize (Sport of 'Sum and Substance'). Maybe it was a really awesome sport of montana Aureomarginata like 'Montana Moonshine' that is so slow and difficult to propagate with its somewhat controversial heritage but there are so many things that can drive up the price of a Hosta! The latest craze is everyone trying to get the best streaked Hosta or one with red leaves or at least one even more spectacular than 'First Blush' that is able to maintain its red coloration all throughout the growing season by using it in their breeding program.



montana Moonshine (Photo by Viktoria Serafin)

Humpback Whale (Photo by Carol Brashear)

From the late "Queen of Hostas" herself, Mildred Seaver's spectacular 'Humpback Whale' is without doubt...one awesome Hosta. For many years, it could only be appreciated by the select few that saw it firsthand in Mildred's Garden. Many people had heard tales of its existence, but Mildred cherished it always and chose not to release it to anyone! Mildred's son, Charlie Seaver showed up at the 2006 AHS National Convention with a huge multi-pip division of it. He and Mildred donated it to the live auction that year and it created quite a stir among all the HOSTAholics present. When the dust

finally settled, one enthusiastic bidder paid \$3,500 for the first division ever to leave Mildred's garden. To this day, I still think it is a great plant and I'm pleased to have won a division at the Southern Maine Daylily and Hosta Society's annual Lobstah' Classic a few years ago that is growing quite fondly in our own "Half Acre Woods" at our new home.



Gunther's Prize (Photo by Rick Goodenough)



White Feather (Photo by Viktoria Serafin)

White Feather was discovered as a Sport from an exceedingly popular old Undulata Hosta in Holland some ten years ago. When the leaves first emerge, they are pure white appearing totally bleached looking. This magnificent coloration (or better yet, lack thereof) only lasts a short time though in the Spring and the plant slowly begins to green up which allows it to flourish since it needs the chlorophyll in the green coloration to do so. There are many other all white variations of Hosta out there, but White Feather has consistently proven itself to be a survivor.



Lady in Red (Photo by Bert Malkus)



Yet to be named Sport of 'Lady in Red' (All 3 Photos by Arie Blom)

The picture above of the green edged mostly white Hosta with the red veins was shared on the American Hosta Society Facebook page by Luc Klinkhamer. It is a photo of his friend's Spectacular Hosta Sport out of 'Lady in Red'. This is Arie Blom's fantastic Hosta being grown on in his shaded greenhouse in Holland for observation and potential propagation once it sizes up a bit more.

It is a sport he discovered a few years ago that didn't develop a full rosette of leaves until last year. Before that, it was simply a partial mutated rosette with awesome characteristics worthy of growing on to see what it would do. Usually when you see something like this as a sport on one of your plants it just turns into heart break for you when you try to separate it from the Mother plant, and it doesn't survive. I once had an all gold shoot of Sagae that I grew on for several years leaving it attached to the main clump that had all the size and ruffles of Sagae and I was convinced it would be a much sought after plant in the future but alas...it never survived once cut off and we attempted to get it to grow on its own!

Of course, to give this new sport strength, Arie had to keep the 'Lady in Red' mother plant attached since discovering it back in 2014. Time will tell how it does once separated from the original plant and put into propagation. For now, he plans to keep a little bit of the original green Hosta with red petioles attached to give it vigor. It hasn't flowered yet so he can't use it in his breeding program but I'm pretty sure he is hopeful this coloration can be brought out in some crosses in the future.



This new Sport has the distinct advantage of turning almost all green later in the growing season (Picture above on right) which should help it survive. As of now, the posting of this new Hosta on Facebook has received over ONE THOUSAND "likes" with it generating over 150 Comments that have created quite a stir on social media. If it were stable and the first division was donated to the next American Hosta Society Auction, in my opinion it could easily set a record for the largest amount ever paid for a Hosta. That could easily make it well worth whatever amount it fetched at auction!