

# THE CHATTANOOGA REGIONAL HOSTA SOCIETY

## THE HOSTA CONNECTION

**OCTOBER 6, 2012  
MEETING 1 P. M.  
PLANT AUCTION**

**EAST RIDGE COMMUNITY CENTER**



### *Notes from the Editor*

*Summer is winding down and I can't say I'm sorry to see it go this year. The cooler drier air of autumn is refreshing. I'm so behind in getting ready to put the garden to bed, I've enlarged some of the beds, still have lots of plants to plant, and I'm sure I'll buy more at the Auction. I'm glad we had rain last week, I received 5 inches, I shouldn't have to water except for the new transplants. Johnny is still trying to play catch up on his projects in the garden that put him behind when he had his cancer treatments. Johnny just put a delay on his projects again - to take down and put up a used gazebo frame that was given to us - it's black aluminum once had a canvas top. The canvas is rotten, we'll not replace it, I'll plant clematis and flowering annuals to grow up the sides to the arched top. Of course, this means more beds to be dug, enriched the soil, plants planted and mulched.*

*Craig Walker as usual gave a very informative program for the September meeting at the Barn Nursery, I know it was a weekend holiday - other plans had been made but you really missed a good meeting. The program was on all shade loving plants, Craig had plants on display that were blooming now, Yes, I purchased a*

*couple of everything that was blooming, I wasn't the only one buying there were some really neat plants. I'm not just a hostamaniac, but a plant- alcoholic, too.*

Carol and Therese volunteered to bring refreshments to the meeting but needed extra help, a few of the members volunteered to help them; I hope you remember who you are because I don't. I will bring cups, plates, serve ware and napkins.

## GARDEN SMARTER NOT HARDER

TRI-STATE TRIBUNE 2009

ISSUE 4

Here are some tips to have more fun and less fatigue in the garden:

Avoid doing the same task for more than 20 minutes. Take regular breaks to give your parts a rest. Sit in your fancy benches and enjoy the view.

Stretch before, during and after. Stand up straight, maintain good posture at all times as you work.

Lift objects by bending at the knees not bending your back. Hold items close to your body as you carry them from one place to another.

Avoid unnecessary twisting. Instead of shoveling soil or compost by digging and twisting to empty the shovel, move your feet instead. When raking, don't reach. Keep the center of gravity and movement close to your body. Move to the chore – Don't bring the chore to you.

Sometimes just finding the right tools makes gardening easier.

Purchase pruners that fit your hand. When pruner handles are expanded completely they shouldn't go past your first knuckle.

Use a hand truck or dolly to move heavy bags of soil, mulch or fertilizer.

Use a 'scoot seat' designed for garden use. Check them out first, some of them work better on concrete than they do in grass or mulch.

Use a cart with big wheels. Small wheels do not roll well in mulch or on uneven surfaces.

Reserve wheelbarrows for light-weight materials. Heavy items may shift in transit and cause you to twist your back.

***WHAT'S COMING UP!***

***NO MEETING IN NOVEMBER: NEXT MEETING IS DECEMBER 1 – CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON AT THE MCMASTERS HOME. JUST BRING A COVERED DISH, JOHNNY AND I WILL PROVIDE THE MEAT AND DRINKS. I'LL HAVE DIRECTIONS IN THE DECEMBER NEWSLETTER.***

**SHADE LOVING COMPANION PLANTS FOR HOSTA GARDENS**

BY FLOUNCE KRUER

All of the plants listed below grow in shade, unless part shade is indicated and they all like moist fertile soil with lots of humus.

Solomon's Seal, of the lily family, sports dainty bell-shaped white blooms which dangle along arching stems around May. It grows from 18 to 36" tall and its leaves are bright green edged with white. In October and November the leaves turn bright yellow, providing interest when other plants look spent. It has no serious pests and can be divided in early spring or fall. It tends to spread, so give it lots of room.

Begonia grandis (Hardy Begonia) has angel wing foliage which is red tinted with soft blue-green leaves. The airy sprays of pink flowers shoot up above the foliage and last from late summer until frost. It can reach a height of about 24". It can be moved anytime during the growing season.

Dicentra (Bleeding Heart) the King of Hearts variety bears rose pink heart shaped flowers on steel blue fern-like foliage. It reaches a height of 15" and likes part shade. This variety blooms all summer. There are other varieties that bloom in early spring only and grow s 24 to 36" tall, bearing either white or pink blooms.

Silver painted fern is available in a number of varieties. It grows about 18" tall and likes part shade. It looks just as it name indicates.

Autumn (Japanese shield) fern – in spring 18 to 24" fronds unfurl in bright copper. They green up in the summer and then turn russet- orange in the fall.

Ferns – There is a large variety of native ferns which go really well with hosta because of the extreme contrast in foliage.

Apigelia marilandica – The variety Indian Pink produces spikes of bright red flowers with yellow throats. It grows 2 to 2 ½ ' high and blooms June to August. This is a native wild flower and is a striking plant.

Anemone hybrid blooms in late August and September and is available in a variety of white and pink-toned blossoms. Each flower spike has a couple dozen blooms. It grows 24 to 36" tall and likes part shade, it is propagated from its long hairy roots which have tiny nodules and can be found along with bulbs in garden centers, However, we have had no

success with the bare roots. It is best to purchase a named potted plant.

Nandina domestica grows 3 to 6 ' tall and provides special interest in those bare beds during the winter months with its lush clusters of red berries and lacy colorful leaves. This plant is invasive! It grows from part sun to shade.

*NOW GO OUT - DIG SOME PLANTS UP - BRING THEM SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6, FOR OUR PLANT AUCTION. REMEMBER THE PLANTS DON'T HAVE TO BE HOSTAS - JUST MAKE SURE THEY ARE ALIVE - 'SOME OF MY MOST PRIZED PLANTS I BOUGHT AT THE AUCTION'.*

*REMEMBER TO LABEL THE PLANTS AND BRING LOTS OF THEM. FALL IS HERE AND IM READY TO PLANT. I HOPE TO SEE YOU SATURDAY - ONE O' CLOCK SHARP.*

*P.S. If you don't have any plant to bring that is OK - come and spend some money and I'll guarantee that there'll be a plant with your name on it.*