

# THE CHATTANOOGA REGIONAL HOSTA SOCIETY

THE HOSTA CONNECTION

**THERE WILL NOT BE  
A MAY MEETING**

**NEXT MEETING IS  
12 PM, SATURDAY, JUNE 6<sup>th</sup>  
PICNIC AT THE  
McMASTERS GARDEN**



*Notes from the Editor*

***DUE TO A SCHEDULING CONFLICT THERE WILL BE NO MEETING IN MAY***

*JOHNNY, CAROL AND I WANT TO THANK ALL THE MEMBERS  
A "BIG THANK YOU!" FOR HELPING AT THE GARDEN EXPO.*

*We didn't make a lot of money but we didn't loose any either. We have a banner to use in the future, some hostas left that we didn't sale. The hostas will still be at our home in June for the Picnic - members can buy the hostas or we can auction the hostas in October. Dennis has offered to keep the hostas at his home, if we auction them in October, or for another sale at a later date.*

*I've been trying to work in our garden, it's too wet - I know. I've very gently planted the plants that I bought at the Barn Nursery at our April meeting.*

*The hostas in our garden that are in pots are beautiful – Johnny and I added one inch of 'our' compost to each pot. We added compost to some the of hostas in the ground, it seemed to make a difference on the healthy hostas from last year, the unhealthy hostas are still struggling. When it gets dry enough I'll pot some of these up to see if it makes a difference, to the ones I leave in the ground.*

*Most of you know that I'm a Master Gardener. I'm now the proud wife and sister, to Johnny and Carol who are now Master Gardeners. They have finished taking the 15 week course, have completed the 40 volunteer hours and 8 additional education hours. Several of our Hosta Society members are Master Gardeners, there are a few members who are interested in taking the course.*

## **HOSTA OF THE YEAR 2015**

**'VICTORY'** A beautiful, very shiny, vigorous, huge mound of margined foliage. The wide margin emerges chartreuse, changing to creamy white by early summer. H. 'Victory' has thick substance making it slug resistant. Near white flowers on tall scapes from mid-July into early August. This is a sport of H. 'Elatior.' which is known for its beautiful, upright, vase-like form - and a favorite in our display garden. Victory is outstanding as a specimen or background plant.

*Bob Solberg sent me a picture of his new Hosta, 'FIRST BLUSH', here is his description:*

**'First Blush'** (12" X 24") not only has green leaves with red petioles that extend into the leaf blade but also a thin red margin around the leaf, similar but much more dramatic than its parent 'Beet Salad'. However, the most exciting thing about 'First Blush' is that in spring the leaf between the veins will start to "blush" red from the tip of the leaf down toward the base. The leaves remain red here until temperatures surpass 92 degrees, usually into June. The color should persist longer in Northern gardens.

*Johnny and I plan on attending the AHS Convention, here is some information if your interested.*

## ***Welcome to the 2015 AHS Convention***

### **Invitation**

Nancy and Bob Solberg would like to invite you to come visit beautiful North Carolina next June and have nothing but fun at the 2015 American Hosta Society National Convention. It will be held in Raleigh, NC, June 18-20 at the Hilton North Raleigh/Midtown.

Our **theme is "Back to the Future"**. We plan to combine the friendliness and simplicity of the conventions in the 90's while focusing on the future of hostas and hosta gardening. The Scientific Session will be a view of the best unnamed seedlings from hybridizers all over the world. There will be a containerized competition for seedlings and sports in the Hosta Show. The tour gardens will demonstrate the latest in hosta container gardening which is taking the South by storm.

## Schedule

2015 AHS Convention dates are Thursday- Saturday, June 18-20, 2015 with optional tours on your own on Wednesday, June 17.

## Registration

Registration for the Convention is \$230. The deadline for registration is May 1, 2015. For details on how to register for the 2015 AHS Convention go to their web site.

## Hotel

Hilton North Raleigh North/Midtown, 3415 Wake Forest Road, Raleigh, NC 27609, 919-872-2323. Special Double Room Rate \$105.00. go to the hotel website to make reservations

## Tour Gardens

On Thursday evening we will visit Tony Avent's [Plant Delights Nursery](#) and *Juniper Level Botanical Gardens*.

On Friday, we will visit 5 local residential gardens including [David Spain's nationally known moss garden](#). On Friday our lunch stop will be at the North Carolina State Farmers Market in Raleigh where there are many interesting plants for sale. You will enjoy a gourmet box lunch and then snack your way around the market testing the free samples.

On Saturday morning, the buses will take you to [Green Hill Farm](#) in Franklinton, owned by Nancy and Bob Solberg, which is one of the leading sources of new hostas.

## Scientific Session

We plan to have an old fashion [Scientific Session](#), Thursday afternoon, rather than a series of lectures. The topic will be the "Future of Hostas" and hosta hybridizers everywhere are invited to send a photo of their three best unnamed seedlings along with a description, parentage, etc. They will then be presented in a PowerPoint presentation as a group.

## Speakers

We plan to have a surprise guest speaker, maybe two. Stay tuned.

## Hosta Show

As is the custom we will put on the Hosta Leaf Show. Not only will we have the display of leaves and the artistic division but also a containerized seedling and sport contest.

## Vending

We plan to have a good number of hosta vendors at the convention. We will have other plants available also as well as other items to decorate your garden or home. Vending is open to the general public

## Auction

Saturday afternoon we will have our annual auction open to the public. It usually features new hostas, rare hostas, and large hosta clumps as well as other hosta related items.

Finally, there will be the usual meetings, judging clinics and an Awards Banquet on Saturday night. We will also provide a list of public gardens and nurseries that you can visit before or after the convention on your own.