

November 2024

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Be sure to attend our November 16th Meeting

- You will be entertained by our own Lena Degeneff and Dave & Cindy Jennings sharing their experiences attending the most recent American Hosta Society Convention in the Boston area this past June in the form of a mesmerizing power point presentation.
- You will hear from Lena what it was like as a first-time attendee as well what it was like for Dave & Cindy who have attended over a dozen of these Annual Meetings over the last 25 years.
- They will share their experience with the Cut Leaf and Floral Designing Show, the numerous Gardens they visited, the great speakers they heard, the excitement of a Hosta Auction that went on for hours on end, the wonderful Hosta varieties they bought from the Vendors and of course all the comradery of seeing old friends and making new ones throughout the Conference. **See photos on page 8.**

After our October meeting the daylily display garden at 24 Martin Road was tidied up ...thanks to Don, Kathryn, Cindi, Lena and Pat.



UNYHS Leadership Message

Greeting dear Hosta lovers...

As the leaves and temperatures drop it's time to say farewell to our green friends.

The season was challenging with long stretches of high temperatures and drought but we have had a great Autumn so far.



Our October meeting didn't disappoint us. The speaker, Judith Fetterley, was a wealth of information and suggestions to turn our ordinary gardens into extra-ordinary ones. I wanted to hire her on the spot to advise me with my landscaping.

On November 16th we'll take a memory trip back to June as

Dave & Cindy Jennings and I will share our thoughts on the American Hosta Society convention and show great pictures of wonderful gardens in New England.

Planning for our Holiday Gathering on December 14th is on the way. Thanks for Kathryn Mohr and Michelle Young for taking the lead. Please consider volunteering. More information coming later.

If you would like to order the special Hosta "Bob Olsen" being offered by the AHS please let us know soon.

We are still accepting nominations for a free membership to the AHS to be given to a young Hosta aficionado.

Hope to see many of you on November 16th.

Now get out and enjoy the beautiful Fall colors!

Lena Degeneff, UNYHS Interim President

UNYHS MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please return this Form to:

Penny Salemme, Membership Chair, 11 Woodhall Lane, Clifton Park, NY 12065

(This information is used to send you our newsletter, periodic emails and include you in our membership directory)

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

(Required to receive Newsletters)

Enclosed are my/our \$10.00 annual dues.

Please send dues for 3 years if possible, to help keep administrative time to a minimum.

Amount Paid _____ Check # _____ Please make checks payable to UNYHS

I would like to volunteer to help serve on the following committees:

- ☐ Revising By-Laws
- ☐ Assisting with Hospitality
- ☐ Maintaining our Library
- ☐ Recruiting Membership
- ☐ Writing Newsletter Articles
- ☐ Plant Acquisition

- ☐ Recruiting Guest Speakers
- ☐ Organizing Summer Tours
- ☐ Serve as an Officer
- ☐ Send out Emails & Eblasts
- ☐ Other (Indicate below)

Garden Alliance Minutes

CHIS

CHIS is exploring hosting the Regional Iris Show Medals. They are thinking about using the Bethlehem Library and holding it around Memorial Day. They are looking for volunteers to help plan/execute the show. If you are interested in helping, please contact Kathryn Mohr at kemohrke@aol.com

The 2025 AIS National Convention is June 2-7 in Billings, MT. If you have ever thought about going, it is a fun time with educational talk sessions and gardens to see.

UNYHS

If you are interested in the special regional Hosta plant, they can only be ordered through the society, you cannot order them as an individual. Orders are due soon. If you are interested, please contact Lena Degenoff at mhdegenoff@gmail.com or Dave Jennings at davejenningsny@aol.com.

2025 American Hosta Society Convention is at the Para-A-Dice Hotel, E. Peoria, IL on June 19-21, 2025. More details as it gets closer. **If we have a young person who is interested in Hostas, they should apply for a free membership to AHS.**

All GROUPS

Holiday gathering - Kathryn Mohr and Michelle Young volunteered to chair together. Cindi Jones volunteered to help too, and Cindi and Lena Degenoff will organize the decoration for the event. We will explore catered vs. potluck.

Cindi Jones proposed a \$300 budget to start for the event, seconded by Don S. Motion Passed.



Bob Ireland

Special Guest

Bob Ireland was the President of the national organization - **Club of Albany (now known as the Garden Club of the Capital District)** as well as the local organization the Men's Garden Club of Albany (now known as the Gardeners of the Capital District).

Bob and his Dad (Charles Ireland) were very active and spent years setting up and manning booths for the NYS Fair as well as local fairs. They were very active in the club's activities and did so much to support gardening. They were always supporting youth and they would insure that 4H kids in three counties would get Big Pumpkin, Spirit Pumpkin, Giant Sunflower seeds, flower seeds and getting them started with a tomato plant. The kids would return in October for judging and receive their nice big ribbons and cash.

Charles Ireland was also a great carpenter and I remember sitting with Charles on a bench he made for the Schaghticoke Fair that had built in flower boxes on each side. Bob Ireland and Charles Ireland became Accredited Judges that were well respected and

in demand at the NYS Fair as well as local fairs.



Judith Fetterley

Presentation

Judith Fetterley presented "**Design Your Garden: Tips and Tools**", with a handout.

Two sample gardens she mentioned:

- National Trust Property – Sissinghurst Castle Garden in Kent, England, UK
- National Trust Property – Hidcote English Garden in Gloucestershire, England, UK

Gardening Hotline: 518-765-3514, albanymg@cornell.edu



CHIS Leadership Message

Kathryn Mohr,
President Capital-Hudson Iris Society

Iris News

At the October 26 AIS Region 2 General Membership meeting Debi Chowdhury was elected to be Assistant RVP. Congratulations, Debi!

Join the American Iris Society!

From [irises.org](https://www.irises.org) <https://www.irises.org/members/>

As an AIS member you will be able to learn about and to participate in a wide range of activities and programs:

- AIS judges Training Program
- AIS Youth Program
- Regional and local affiliated club activities.

The society is divided into 22 geographic regions each of which has a Regional Vice President and affiliated member clubs. AIS members are automatically members in their local AIS Region. Regional membership brings members current local information via the regional publications.

- Special interest Sections – Dwarf, Historic, Median, Japanese, Pacific Coast Native, Reblooming, Siberian, Species, and Spuria – these specialty iris groups offer many additional opportunities to increase your iris IQ.
- AIS internet services provide members access to cultivar information and other uniquely internet activities that cater to computer literate iris enthusiasts.
- New AIS members receive a copy of the AIS publication Basic Iris Culture, an informative booklet that provides useful guidelines for successfully growing irises.
- AIS members also receive a quarterly publication, IRISES The Bulletin of the American Iris Society. Each issue of IRISES provides approximately 65 pages of fresh information on iris culture, an array of color photographs of both old and new irises, and an advertising directory of commercial iris growers located throughout the United States

Founding of the Capital-Hudson Iris Society (CHIS)

** From CHIS meeting notes, Bob Keup 2011 comments, CHIS and ESIS newsletters*

Did you know that six HADS members founded CHIS? HADS was the closest daylily club for Helen Schueler of Syracuse, who was active at the regional level of the American Iris Society (AIS). Members Bob and Ann Keup, Don and Pat Salhoff and Kathryn Mohr discovered a mutual interest in iris and Helen encouraged us to start a club.

Our organizational meeting was Nov. 20, 1993 in Scotia. Helen, acting as a representative for the Region 2, led the meeting. AIS members from the Capital Region and Hudson Valley were invited. Helen presented a slide show of irises. Kathryn was selected as chair of CHIS and Steve McCarthy of Port Jervis became chair for the lower Hudson Valley (eventually Hudson Valley Iris and Daylily Society)

CHIS was formally recognized by the AIS Board of Directors Nov. 7-8, 1994.

Bob Keup suggested participation in the 1994 Capital District Flower and Garden Show. Our iris talk was well-attended, which was key to the club's early growth.



Bob and Ann Keup

Our first fundraiser was a \$1-a-pot tailgate perennial sale in May 1994 at Bethlehem Library, which netted \$50.

We had a garden tour in June 1994, traveling to the Keups', Euthemia Matsoukas', Salhoffs' and Mirca Slater's gardens.

Our first rhizome sale was July 1995, at Parkside YMCA. We netted \$1141.25

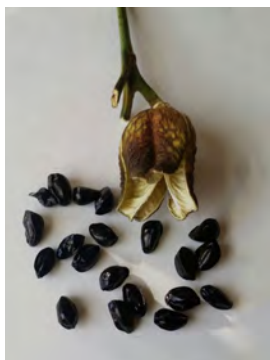
Our first iris exhibit was June 1995, informally "judged" by David Nitka of Connecticut.

Our first officially recognized AIS iris show was 1996. Laura Salhoff won Best of Show with MTB Bumblebee Deelite. Laura was competing as a youth member. Bob Keup's entry was runner-up.

HADS Leadership Message

Greetings from the Garden...

After the wonderful warm fall we've had, it finally got cold and windy these past few days. I know it's inevitable, but I don't have to like it. And it's not even really cold yet, so I guess I'm just in denial. It's time to finish cleaning up the gardens and move to the indoor garden for the winter. Houseplants, orchids, leftovers from summer like the three huge porch ferns that there just is not room for but that I can't bear to throw away. One thing we can look forward to is starting seeds for the next growing season - we'll be getting those seed catalogs soon. I have already gotten a tree and shrub list from FEDCO in Maine, I'm sure others are soon to follow.



Daylily seeds

They can be planted directly in the garden in good soil, in a sunny spot, and let nature take its course and see what comes up in the spring. We all know that this works, from the occasional volunteer seedlings we find. But that doesn't help the desire to see little baby plants growing up close and personal during the cold season.

Others describe how to plant the seeds in pots or trays in a good potting mix, keep them damp and warm, and in a sunny window or under grow lights on a shelf. If the indoor method is preferred, more complete germination is attained by pre-chilling them in the 'fridge for at least 3 to 5 weeks. This is called stratification, mimicking the cold damp conditions they would have outdoors over the winter. It's not strictly necessary but can be helpful to have them germinate closer together in time rather than over weeks or even months.



Cold storage

But on my kitchen counter are a number of seed pods and dark seeds from daylilies rescued from my garden, on little pieces of paper labeled with mostly just the pod parent. Before they get scattered on the floor and totally mixed together, **I need to DO SOMETHING with them.** I looked up some information on how to best grow them out, and found a few opinions on the internet.

So putting the seeds in damp paper towels in small plastic bags (labeled of course), and storing them in the crisper of your refrigerator should do the trick. And as soon as the Christmas dinner dishes are washed and put away, they can be taken out and planted

shallowly in the trays you've prepared, and misted or watered lightly. A little bottom heat should also help speed germination, and a plastic dome or plastic wrap on top will keep the planting mix from drying out too quickly. As soon as they start to grow, the covering needs to come off to avoid molds or damping off. If you have the room, a big-box store shelf unit with a couple of shop lights and timers will work just fine to keep them growing until they can be hardened off in the spring. You can spend a lot on specialized grow light setups, but simple components will work just as well. I feel that there is more control over temperature and the number of hours of light they get on such a shelf rather than on a possibly colder windowsill in the dead of winter. And I there is less chance of the cats knocking the whole tray off the windowsill and dumping everything on the rug if they are safe on a shelf in the basement.



When they get large enough to handle, they can be potted up separately in small cells trays or pots, and grown on until the warmer weather arrives. Wait until the weather is reliably warm, after the last frost, to plant them out, and then it's just keeping them watered and weeded like any other seedlings. Again, labels are important, they will all look the same at that stage - kind of like small grass.

The last component of this process is patience. The new babies probably will not bloom the first year, especially up here in the northeast. Possibly in the second year and most certainly in the third, you will get to see the unique and special faces unfold when midsummer rolls around. Then I understand the hard part is deciding which ones to keep and which ones go to the compost pile. But of course they all will be special to you, and all beautiful in their own way. The stuff of garden dreams on those long cold winter evenings...

Cindi Jones, HADS President





The result



We welcome you to Join us!

HUDSON ADIRONDACK DAYLILY SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please return to: Michelle Young, 3 Staffords Xing, Slingerlands, NY 12159
michelle.young@socialscience.net

We are currently charging a \$5.00 fee per year for membership dues.

(This information will be used in our membership roster unless you specifically request we omit certain segments.)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Enclosed are my/our \$5.00 annual subscription. Please make check payable to HADS.

I would like to volunteer to serve on the following committees:

☐ Hospitality ☐ Newsletter ☐ Programs ☐ Summer Tours ☐ Plant Sales ☐ Other

Plans and Preparation for our Faddegon's Sale on August 9th

as shared by Dave Jennings, Communications Chair

We know that a few of our newest members don't know what our sale next summer at Faddegon's on Saturday August 9th (Hosta & Iris on the 9th - DayLily on the 16th) will be 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 grown by and/or donated from our members. They benefit from the increase in customers that come for our sale and we usually realize over a thousand dollars in profits each year. We have taken a Hiatus the past two years but we are back again for next year!

We will need everyone to mark your calendars now and plan to help out for a few hours the day of the sale. We also need you to go out to your garden at this time as your Hostas are going to sleep and decide which of your favorite clumps

can be dug and cut in half next Spring as the new pips are emerging so you can put the first half of the clump back in your garden and then you can divide the other half up to put in pots to grow on for our sale on August 9th.

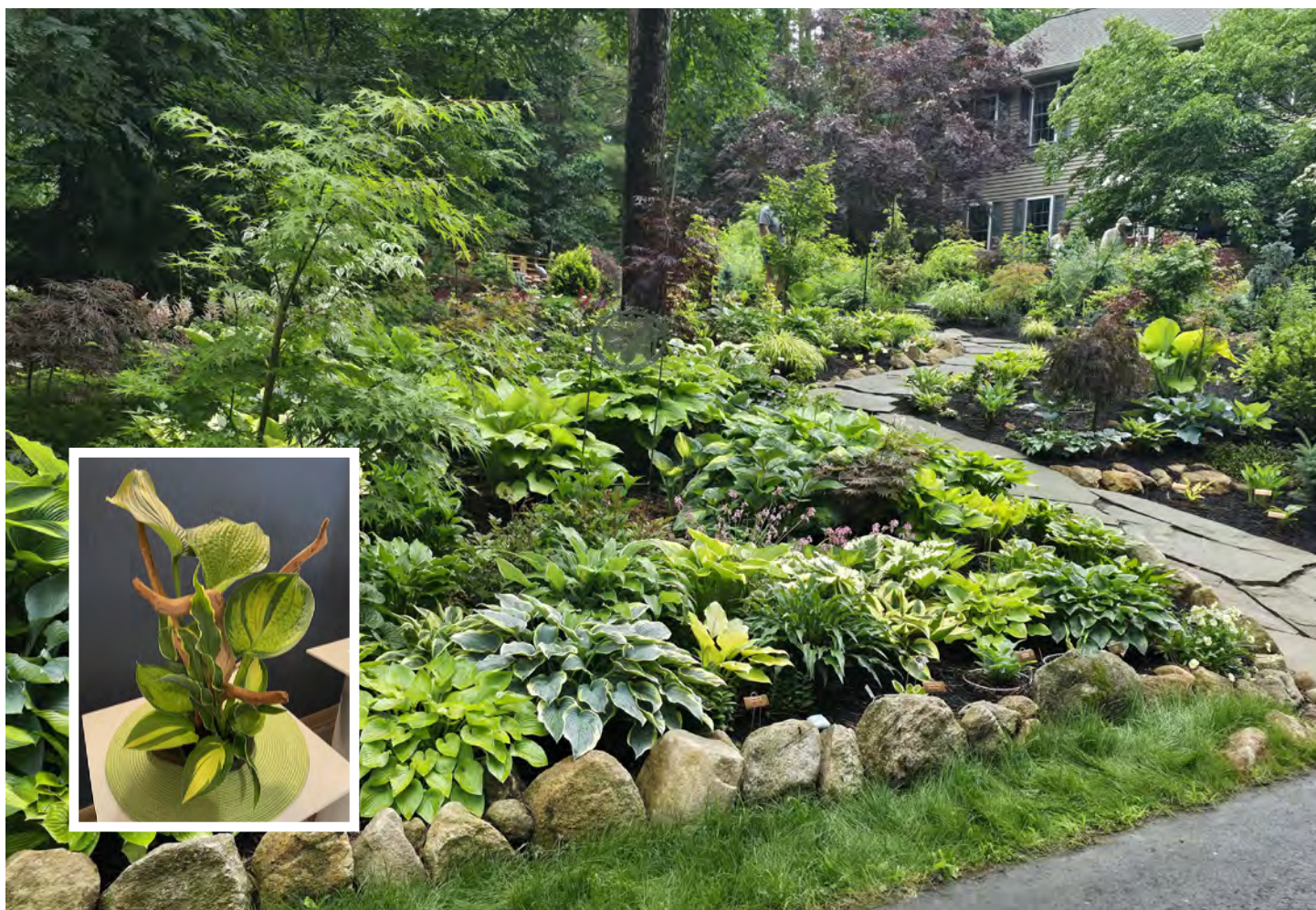
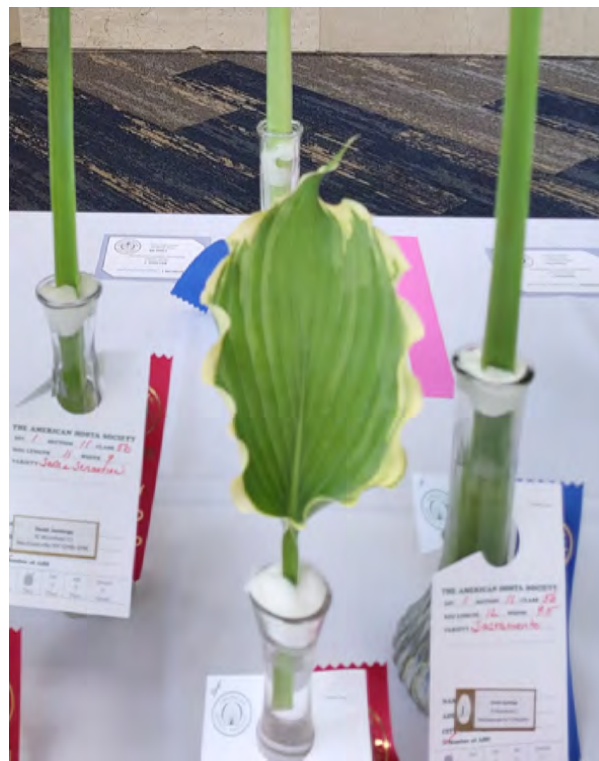
As we shared with you in the past, we are taking a pro-active stance to help prevent the spread of Insect and Disease problems at our Annual Fund-Raising Sale at Faddegon's Garden Center in August. Your Board discussed in detail this concern at previous planning meetings and has mandated that all plants being donated for next year must be grown in new unused pots and sterile growing media. We always need several hundred pots from our members to meet the demand for our sale as well as the Bareroot Hostas we are buying wholesale to pot up on Saturday May 3rd at Kathryn Mohr's so please plan to help us out for both of these.

If you have questions, don't hesitate to send an email to UNYHS@aol.com



John Boyd Thacher State Park October 19, 2024

The photos below are just a tease of what will be presented at our November 16th Meeting showcasing the 2024 American Hosta Society Conference in New England



Upcoming Garden Alliance Meetings and Events:

November 16th, 2024

10am, 24 Martin Rd, Voorheesville, NY

AHS Convention Triple Header review:

David Jennings, Cindy Jennings, Lena Degeneff

December 14th, 2024-Holiday Gathering:

10am, 24 Martin Rd, Voorheesville, NY

More details to come...

Hosta & Iris Plant Sale Saturday,

Saturday, August, 9th 2025

Day Lily Plant Sale

Saturday, August, 16th 2025

~~~ SAVE THE DATES for 2025 ~~~

**Plant Sale at Faddegon's - Saturday August 9th and 16th, 2025**

Garden Alliance Meetings usually run from 10:00 am to about 1:30 pm and are held at the Cornell Cooperative Extension Albany County Office at 24 Martin Road in Voorheesville, NY.

You are encouraged to bring a gardening friend that might be interested in becoming a member.

We need a few people to arrive at 9:45 am to help us set up tables and set out chairs as well as stay a few minutes after to help us put them away. Our brief Business Meeting starts at 10:15 am with our guest speaker's presentation beginning at 11:00 am and lasting for about an hour.

**Our infamous "Dish to Pass" luncheon to be served at 12:00 noon.** This truly is a "Pot Luck" meal so we encourage you to bring whatever moves you such as main entrees, appetizers, salads, fruits, vegetables or your favorite desserts. We supply the beverages and place settings. You are also encouraged to bring a garden themed Door Prize to donate to make our meeting more fun!

## Local Societies, Groups, Organizations:

**Capital Hudson Iris Society (CHIS)**

[https://www.aisregion2.org/region2\\_007.htm](https://www.aisregion2.org/region2_007.htm)

**Central Park Rose Garden, Schenectady**

To Volunteer: <https://schenectadyrose.org/>

**Cornell Cooperative Extension Albany County NY**

Gardening page: <https://albany.cce.cornell.edu/gardening>

**Cornell Cooperative Extension Rensselaer County NY**

Horticulture page:

<https://rensselaer.cce.cornell.edu/horticulture>

**Cornell Cooperative Extension Saratoga County NY**

Gardening and Landscape page:

<https://ccesaratoga.org/gardening-landscape>

**Cornell Cooperative Extension Schenectady County NY**

Gardening page:

<https://schenectady.cce.cornell.edu/gardening>

**Friends of the Central Park Greenhouse**

Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/CentralParkGreenhouses/>

**Friends of the Woodlawn Preserve**

Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/FWPSchenectady/>

**Hudson Adirondack Daylily Society (HADS)**

<http://hudsonadirondackdaylilysociety.org/>

**Upstate New York Hosta Society (UNYHS)**

Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/168265013509911>

**Wild Ones Capital Region NY Chapter**

<https://capitalregionny.wildones.org/>





### Capital-Hudson Iris Society (CHIS) Hudson Adirondack Daylily Society (HADS) Upstate New York Hosta Society (UNYHS) Garden Club of the Capital District

#### The Plant Societies meet as a group at:

Cornell Cooperative Extension  
Albany County Offices  
24 Martin Rd, Voorheesville, NY 12186

Meetings are at 10 am unless noted otherwise and usually include a Guest Speaker and a "Dish-to-Pass" luncheon (dates subject to change). All meetings are open free to the general public ... *why not join us and consider becoming a member.*

#### Balance of 2024 Meeting Schedule

**November 16, 2024**

**December 14, 2024  
~ Holiday Gathering ~**

#### 2025 Garden Alliance Plant Sale at Faddegon's

**Hosta & Iris Plant Sale Saturday,  
Saturday, August, 9th 2025**

**Daylily Plant Sale  
Saturday August 16, 2025**

**Faddegon's Nursery**  
1140 Troy-Schenectady Rd (Rt. 7)  
Latham, NY 12110  
Sorry: CASH OR CHECK ONLY!



#### Capital-Hudson Iris Society (CHIS)

The focus of the group is education and sharing of information about various types of Iris. Point your phone camera at the QR code above to go to the website: [aisregion2.org](http://aisregion2.org)



#### Hudson Adirondack Daylily Society (HADS)

The focus of this group is education and sharing of information about daylilies. For questions or to request a Membership Form, Email: [h.a.daylilsociety@gmail.com](mailto:h.a.daylilsociety@gmail.com). Point your phone camera at the QR code above to go to Website: [hudsonadirondackdaylilsociety.org](http://hudsonadirondackdaylilsociety.org)  
Annual Dues currently only \$5



#### Garden Club of the Capital District

(formerly Men's Garden Club of Albany)  
We promote civic projects, gardening education and environmental improvement. Our Horticultural Therapy Program "Gardening from the Heart" in cooperation with the Center for Disability Services in Albany, is one activity we are most proud of sponsoring. Our interests extend to all types of gardening including lawns, vegetables, flowers, shrubbery, trees, water and exotic plants. Point your phone camera at the QR code above to go to the Website: [mensgardenclubofalbany.org](http://mensgardenclubofalbany.org)



#### Upstate New York Hosta Society (UNYHS)

The focus of the group is education and sharing of information about hostas. For questions or to request a Membership Form, Email: [UNYHS@aol.com](mailto:UNYHS@aol.com)  
Point your phone camera at the QR code above to go to the facebook page: Upstate New York Hosta Society  
Annual Dues currently only \$10



Enjoy the carefree beauty of this shade-tolerant perennial

**Sign Up!**  
New members join for \$40/yr and receive a free hosta, *The Hosta Journal* and a \$15 voucher towards hosta purchases from participating vendors.

**HOSTA.ORG**

or call to join 309-678-4119

#### **ADDITIONAL BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE AMERICAN HOSTA SOCIETY**

- Receive two print issues per year of our popular publication, *The Hosta Journal*. This 84-page publication is filled with color photos and current information regarding Hostas.
- Receive a copy of *The Hosta Adventure, Third Edition – A Growers Guide* and the *Hosta of the Year* booklet, both filled with color photographs and a wealth of information.
- Receive access to the members-only section of the website to read our *Online Hosta Journal* and access other publications and our member directory.
- Attend national and regional meetings where specialty vendors offer the most recently introduced *Hostas* and companion plants and where a live auction offers rare and distinctive *Hostas* and other garden items.
- Enjoy garden tours open only to AHS members.
- Exhibit your favorite *Hostas* and compete for recognition in various AHS national and regional cut-leaf shows.
- Vote on the most popular *Hostas* with our popularity poll.
- Enjoy the camaraderie of fellow *Hosta* enthusiasts.

***For more information or to join go to [hosta.org](http://hosta.org) or call 309-678-4119.***