



**Newsletter of  
the North Coast  
Hosta Society  
Volume 2 Issue 4**



## 2019 CALENDAR

<b>January</b>	No Meeting
<b>February 23 Saturday</b>	<i>Parma Public Library Chili, Salad, and Bread Speaker to be determined</i>
<b>March March 15 &amp; 16 Friday &amp; Saturday</b>	<b>No Meeting</b> <i>GLR HOSTA COLLEGE, PIQUA, OHIO</i>
<b>April 13 Saturday</b>	<i>Parma Public Library Finger Foods Speaker to be determined</i>
<b>May 18 Saturday</b>	Preparation for HostaTailgating <i>Pizza</i>
<b>June 21, 22 &amp; 23 Friday, Saturday and Sunday</b>	<b>Hosta Tailgate Weekend</b> Hosted by North Coast Hosta Society Friday, Cahoon Park, Bay Village, OH Saturday and Sunday, Garden Tours
<b>July 13 Saturday</b>	<b>Hosta Swap and Picnic</b> <i>Hosted by Becky and Steve Salamon at their home in Valley City</i>
<b>August 10 Saturday</b>	<b>NCHS Plant Auction</b> <i>Club House at Pine Lakes Village in Strongsville</i>
<b>September</b>	No Meeting Scheduled
<b>October 26 Saturday</b>	<b>Hosta Halloween Party</b> <i>Pot Luck Come in Costume</i>
<b>November</b>	<b>No Meeting</b>
<b>December</b>	<b>No Meeting</b>



### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello everyone,

More than half of the leaves are already off the trees and have fallen on our hosta beds. I will clean mine off in the spring. The timing on this is tricky, if you remove them too soon, you risk freezing tender shoots if they have started emerging. If you wait too long, those tender leaves may be damaged trying to break through a layer of leaves. And if they do start breaking through, you have to be careful not to tear them when you remove the fallen leaves. The leaves are very good protection over the winter and good for the soil. On the other hand, they are a good place to harbor insects and their eggs. What to do? This is a matter of personal choice and depends on how vigilantly you want to watch the plants and the weather forecasts in the spring. Good luck.



Cont'd on Page 2



Thank you to everyone who attended our end of the year memorial meeting. Jim Spuhler ordered and passed out mugs with our club logo to each member in attendance in honor of our 20<sup>th</sup> year anniversary. \* We had a wonderful catered dinner. Thanks to Jim and Joyce Spuhler for arranging this, it takes a lot of planning and we all appreciate it.

Cindy Hughes was awarded the Member of the Year for 2018.

The club will be selling t-shirts and sweatshirts with our 2019 tailgating logo on them. We wanted to start selling them early as advertisement for the

tailgate. They will be able to be worn to hos-

ta college if you order now, orders can be picked up at the Feb. meeting. To order, go to the link that Cindy sent to every member in an e-mail. The link is <https://customink.com/fundraising/hosta-tailgate-2019> ORDER DEADLINE IS DECEMBER 17!

The tailgate committee is working hard to make this an epic event! Please contact Diane Morris to let her know how you will help! Even a small task or two can make a big difference. You don't have to be the head of a committee, that is pretty much taken care of, so, please give Diane a call or an e-mail to let her know you will help.

Our calendar is set for 2019. We have a much lighter schedule this year to have more time to work on the tailgate. Perhaps after the June 21<sup>st</sup> weekend is over, some of you will contact Mike Kovach to plan some "pop-up" garden tours. These are informal tours of your garden during the week, or on a weekend. They can be last minute, we will put the word out and see who shows up!

Have a great Thanksgiving everyone.

Barb

\*for those who missed the Annual Meeting, Anniversary Mugs will be available on a first-come, first-served basis at the next meeting.

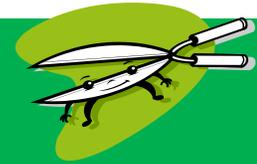


We were treated to colorful displays prepared by Sue Gold from pictures she has take over the years of club activities.



Upper Left:  
We hold a leaf show.  
  
Center:  
We host 2005 AHS  
Convention

# GARDEN GOSSIP: BY CINDY HUGHES



I have re-printed two articles from the WNYHS newsletter regarding the AHS Convention in June in Green Bay, Wisconsin (a close one for us) and for Hosta College. NCHS members are members of the Great Lakes Region and qualify for reduced registration fees. You need to register for the site and watch right after the first of the year for Hosta College info so keep checking the web address.

## SPECIAL NOTE:

I have also attached to the cover e-mail several pages from the Midwest Regional Hosta Society which provides detailed information on how to access the AHS Registry site that includes a free online resource that identifies the availability and pricing of hostas carried by member nurseries of the AHGA. It is being sent as an attachment rather than included in the newsletter so that no formatting is lost.

### Club Co-Op Supplies

As in previous years, we are again offering our members Co-Op items. We have the following items available:

**Liquid Fence**

**Plant Markers**

**Garden Gloves in small, medium and large**

**Handbook on Troughs**

**Please call Carl Schmid at 330-264-8815 to pre-order these items to be brought to the next meeting. No individual deliveries.**

### Membership in NCHS gives the following benefits:

- \* Members Only prices on Club "special purchase hosta"
- \* Great prices on our "Hoop House" plants.
- \* Member prices on slug bait, fertilizer, deer repellent, etc.
- \* Preferential registration and reduced registration fee for Hosta College
- \* The club provides meat and beverages at all of our "Potluck" picnics and meetings.
- \* The opportunity to learn and share information about hosta culture.
- \* Developing friendships with other people who love hostas .

## 2019 North Coast Hosta Society Membership

Family Membership \$10.00 for one year - Calendar year Jan 1 - Dec 31

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

STREET \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

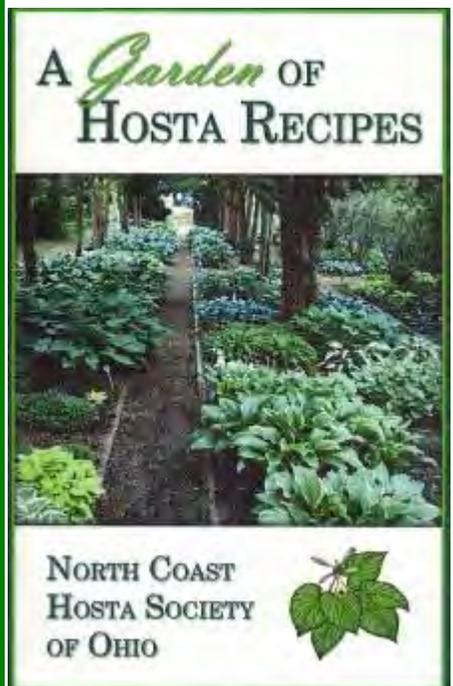
E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_ ( )Renewal ( )New ( )1 year ( )2 year

Please list names as you wish on your card: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send your check made payable to: NORTH COAST HOSTA SOCIETY  
Attn: Jim Spuhler  
13586 Bridgecreek Circle  
Strongsville, OH 44136

*NOTE: this form is also available on our website*



## What's New at the 2019 Hosta College?

By Marcia Sully (President of Great Lakes Hosta Society)

This year, for the very first time, the Great Lakes Region Hosta Society, with an eye toward encouraging gardening with the younger generation, is offering the opportunity for youth, ages 10 to 16, to participate in Hosta College. 'Hosta College for Kids' will officially debut as part the 2019 registration. As parents or grandparents attending Hosta College, you may register your child/grandchild following the directions on the Hosta College page of the website. A separate classroom setting and lunch period, as well as classes designed for just these students will be provided. Ohio certified classroom teachers, along with other volunteer teachers and master gardeners, will help facilitate the endeavor. There will be lots of hands-on projects, as well as instruction appropriate for the ages of the group. There is a maximum class size limit, so register early so your child/grandchild will not be disappointed.

***For those who are attending Hosta College for the first time, let me explain the treat you can anticipate with this experience.***

First, you will be able to look over class offerings ([www.ihostohio.org](http://www.ihostohio.org)), beginning January 12th. Last year we were able to offer 52 choices! Five periods of classes, with their descriptions, will be posted on the Hosta College web site. Early registration is highly recommended, since classes fill quickly. As you make your selections, be sure to have a second choice for each period in mind, just in case that class fills to capacity and is closed when you are registering. On-line registration opens January 26th. Remember, if you are a dues-paying member of *your local society*, (**edited for clarity for NCHS**) then you are automatically a member of the Great Lakes Region Hosta Society. This offers you a reduced registration fee. Follow the computer directions to register.

Then, begin to shed the winter blues by heading to Piqua, Ohio, March 15th and 16th to begin a fantastic hosta adventure! Hosta College is held in the Upper Valley Career Center in Piqua, not too far from Dayton. Doors open Friday evening at 6:00, when you pick up your registration packet, name badge, and free gift plant. (Watch the web site to find out what hosta will be given out.) Then, before the highly-anticipated plant auction begins, you will have time to enjoy our 'Hostality Table', filled with tempting treats and beverages, while visiting with

hosta friends. If you'd rather be shopping, then it's off to peruse the wares. There is a well stocked bookstore, where I hear there will be an incredible book sale table this year! You will also find a great selection of A.M. Leonard tools and gloves for sale. If you need to smell green plants in March, then the vending room is for you! Along with plant sellers, there will be hardscape and soft goods for sale, as well. Then migrate to the auditorium for a fastpaced, exciting auction, listing some unusual and sought after hostas. Throw in a bid or two- you may end up with a real treasure! Following the auction, head back to your hotel and just maybe you will discover a hostality room with more socializing!

Early Saturday morning you will find a lovely continental breakfast and time to socialize or shop again! Next begins the busy five period class schedule where you can absorb a raft of valuable information from knowledgeable instructors. Fortified by a delicious on-site lunch, which is included in the price of your registration, door prizes will be presented, along with a hosta raffle, and probably time to do just a bit more shopping!

If you have pre-registered for the banquet, return to the cafeteria area one last time for the evening banquet. This year's lively dinner speaker, Bob Liames, will be the final highlight of the weekend. WNYHS has always had members attend, to renew old friendships and make new ones, while gleaning useful, new gardening tips. It is our hope that a few more folks from our club will attend this coming year, along with some grandchildren! Let's make our 'Hosta College for Kids' a real success!



**HOSTA COLLEGE 2019**  
**MARCH 15 - 16**



FRIENDS • FOLIAGE • FOREVER

## A Hosta Lover's Dream

### 2019 Convention coming to Green Bay By Tammy Borden

When I bought my first home, it had one variety of hosta that bordered the foundation of the house. I didn't even know what variety it was back then, and later discovered it was 'Ventricosa.'

With a shady backyard, I eventually began adding garden beds containing other kinds of hosta. When I reached 50 different varieties, I realized my hobby had evolved into a collection. Fast forward, and I now have nearly 600 varieties surrounding my yard. Needless to say, my collection has evolved into an obsession.

In those early days, I just knew I liked hostas with their diverse foliage, towering blooms, and a variety of colors, shapes and sizes. I never imagined there was such a thing as the American Hosta Society (AHS) — a dedicated group of other hosta enthusiasts from around the country who hold an annual convention. When I discovered the group, my eyes were opened to new aspects about the genus, such as cross-breeding, sun tolerance, tissue cultures, diseases, plant habits, and more.

When I attended my first AHS convention in Indianapolis, I got to meet others who shared a love of what many call the "friendship plant." Appropriately, I've formed many new friendships as a result. I also got to meet several hybridizers who bred many of the plants in my gardens — some of them pioneers in the hosta industry such as Dick and Jane Ward. I have the hosta named 'Dick Ward,' and now I think of him each time I walk by.

Other hybridizers include Olga Petryszyn who is known for her large introductions and originated such beauties as 'Niagara Falls,' 'Key West,' and hosta of the year for 2017, 'Brother Stefan' — named after her brother for his 50th birthday. I also met Doug

Beilstein who strives to breed standout varieties with unusual leaf characteristics such as 'Cup of Grace,' 'Leapin Lizard,' and 2018 hosta of the year, 'World Cup.' Now, when I walk around my garden, I feel an even greater connection to many plants because I've personally gotten to know those who introduced them into the market... and I feel like I have a connection to them, too, even though I only get to see them once a year.

The AHS national convention is held in a different city around the country each year. It was in Philadelphia in June 2018 to celebrate its 50th anniversary. In 2019, it's coming to Green Bay, Wisconsin! If you're a hosta enthusiast like me, or if you're just starting to gain an interest, I invite you to join me and several hundred others from across the country and around the world who come each year. Here are some details:

### American Hosta Society National Convention

June 12–15, 2019



Radisson Hotel & Convention Center, Green Bay, WI

Registration Information:  
[www.ahs2019event.org](http://www.ahs2019event.org)

#### Featuring:

11 Stunning Garden Tours  
Vendors  
Leaf Show  
Seedling Competition  
Live auction

Speakers: Rick Goodenough, Don Dean, Olga Petryszyn,  
And much more!

The theme for the 2019 convention is Hostaffinity, a reflection of the relationship that we as gardeners share with each other and our beloved plants. Check out the website and plan to join us June 12–15 — where friends and foliage meet.

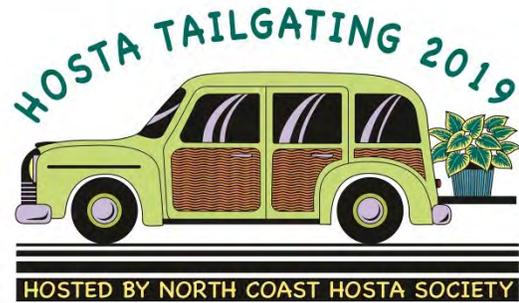
Note: There is an active Facebook page: AHS Hosta Convention 2019 Early registration discount until January 31st.

Invite Other Plant Lovers to Join the  
North Coast Hosta Society

Check out our Website ([northcoasthostasociety.weebly.com](http://northcoasthostasociety.weebly.com))  
and Facebook page (North Coast Hosta Society).

Sign up for the tailgate  
committee

Order your Hosta  
Tailgate shirts by  
December 17



FIRST CLASS



Officers:  
President: Barb Rauckhorst  
phone: 440-237-6709  
Vice President: Mike Kovach  
email: mark2@cox.net  
phone: 216-642-7895  
Treasurer: Jim Spunier  
email: jjsj@att.net  
phone: 440-846-2634  
Secretary: Bonnie Erickson  
email: bcerckson@att.net  
phone: 440-835-0726  
Newsletter Editor: Cindy Hughes  
email: hughcece337@sbcglobal.net  
phone: 440-257-2443  
Directors:  
Sue Gold  
email: SueGold@aol.com  
phone: 216-382-9848  
Carl Schmidt  
email: marschmid@embarqmail.com  
phone: 330-264-8815  
Denise Mullins  
email: denisemullins@neo.rr.com  
phone: 516-376-4150