



**Newsletter of
the North Coast
Hosta Society
Volume 4 Issue 1**

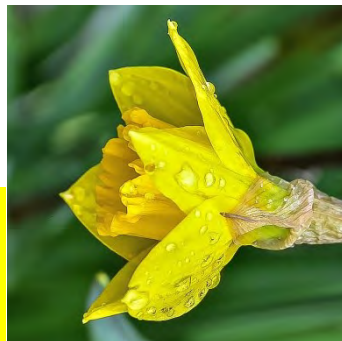


2020 CALENDAR

April 25 11:00 AM	Meeting cancelled
May 30 <i>Saturday</i>	NCHS PLANT AUCTION <i>Club House at Pine Lakes</i>
June 27 <i>Saturday</i> June 10-13	NCHS GARDEN TOURS* Volunteers for open gardens needed Meeting & Picnic at a public Garden* AHS Convention - Brooklyn Park, MN
July 25 <i>Saturday</i>	Hosta Swap and Picnic Dave and Beth Bowe
August 22 <i>Saturday</i>	Craft - Cast stepping stones <i>Emerald Forest Nursery</i> <i>Picnic and bon-fire</i>
September 18 & 19	Fall Hosta Forum - Edinboro, PA
October 26 <i>Saturday</i>	Annual Meeting <i>Pot Luck Club House at Pine Lakes</i>
November	No Meeting
December	No Meeting

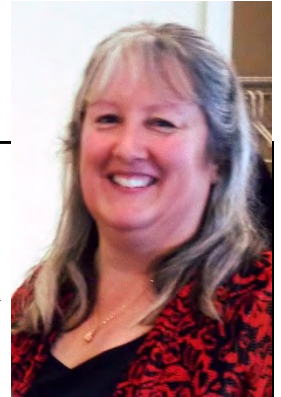


**Daffodils, Hyacinths
and raindrops...
Spring at last?**



President's letter

Barb Rauckhorst,



Hello hosta friends,

Such troubling times we are going through. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you. There are no words strong enough to thank all of the doctors and nurses and all of the other "essential" workers who put their own safety and health on the line for all of us. I hope this passes quickly with all our sacrifices and social distancing. Please, everyone, follow our governor's guidelines as closely as possible. In my opinion, Northeast Ohio has the most generous, roll up your sleeves and do what needs to be done type of people, dare I say in the world? When we are asked to step up, we not only do what is asked, but we go over and above, always. I'm proud of us!

Our April meeting is CANCELLED. Our May events will be decided at a later date depending on guidelines set by the governor and his medical experts. We will let you know nearer to the end of April. Enjoy your garden, it's about the only normalcy we have right now!

Barb Rauckhorst

We will strive to keep everyone informed ASAP so you can make plans. If you can, keep in mind plant swap and auction plants. You can keep them until we can get together again.

To Divide or Not to Divide

By Bob Solberg

Reprinted from the Georgia Hosta Notes, March 2020 issue. "The article appears on the Green Hill Hosta web site

One of the most often asked hosta questions is, "When do I divide my hostas". Traditionally the answer has been, "In the spring, just as they are coming out the ground".

Spring may be the easiest time to divide hostas with all their foliage out of the way. And spring is the time of year that we are all in the mood to clean up the garden and envision the way we want it to look in summer. It is only natural to want to dig those hosta clumps and spread them out all over the garden especially when we see how many more divisions there will be in each clump this year than last.



Honestly, spring is not a bad time to most hostas, especially those that multiply the fastest and are in the greatest need of being divided. But there are dangers. So what is the best time for the hosta? Let's look at how a hosta grows and see when it might like to be divided.

Hostas sleep all winter, they are dormant. They do not make new roots like other perennials do. In the spring their buds swell and the leaves emerge first. If the hosta was mature, these will be large mature leaves. If the hosta was grown in the sun, these will

be narrowed leaves adapted for sun. A hosta grown in deep shade will have larger more rounded leaves adapted for shade. These leaves will emerge, expand and harden off in about three or so weeks depending on whether the spring weather is cool or warm.

As the first leaves harden off and a second flush of leaves begins to appear, the hosta will be making new roots from the base of the new shoot. Thus, hostas do not make new roots until the first foliage hardens off or about three weeks after they emerge. Cool spring soil temperatures may slow or delay this root formation even longer.

So what is the danger of dividing hostas in the spring? Timing. In the spring when the weather is cool and the soil is slow to warm, your newly divided hostas will have large mature leaves and no new roots for weeks. What we call beautiful spring days, those of bright sun, cool breezes and low humidity, are very stressful for new hosta leaves. On those days the desiccation rate is very high and the new hosta divisions with their reduced and possibly damaged root systems, dry out rapidly. If the weather turns suddenly hot for even a day or two, the hosta leaves will burn. While this damage may not prove permanent, the clumps will certainly be reduced in size.

So, if you must divide your hostas in the spring, do not over divide them. Split the clumps in half or at most quarters. Divide only fast-growing cultivars in spring that can recover quickly, avoid H. sieboldianas and 'Tokudamas'. Dig them with a fork not a shovel so as to damage their long roots as little as possible. Hosta roots only grow at the tip, if you cut the roots they rarely branch and will not get any longer. New roots will have to come to take their place.



H. 'Gray Cole' (Kuk's Nursery; AHS 1985)

When then do I prefer to divide my hostas? I like to do it in August or early September, at least 30 days before the first frost date. The conditions then are more favorable to rapid root growth. The soil is warm and the air is more humid than in the spring. While people prefer the cool, sunny days of spring, hostas grow well on 85-90 degree days with high humidity.

Also, hostas usually put on a little growth spurt in August. Frequently, they will throw up a small flush of leaves as the temperatures moderate from the heat of

July, especially if there has been rain. Many hostas at this time of year begin to actively grow again after their summer heat dormancy. Thus, hostas divided in late summer will make new roots quickly. Many fast growing hostas will have all new foliage before frost and hold it well into fall. Some may even bloom again.

The only danger in dividing hostas in August is excessive heat or extended drought. Keep newly divided hostas wet. Do not let them dry out for the first two weeks. Removing some of the older, larger leaves or cutting the foliage back at the time of dividing will reduce water loss. Any leaves that suffer burned edges will be taken by the frost in a few weeks anyway.

One other aesthetic point. I would rather have my hosta garden look "divided" as it goes into fall when hostas are usually past their peak anyway than to see it that way all season long. Hostas divided in August will come up next spring in their new homes with more divisions, better proportioned leaves and established root systems. They will look better, too. So save your heavy hosta dividing for those humid late summer days. It will be tougher on you, but your hostas will thank you in the spring.

Going Stir Crazy?

Got Cabin Fever?

Need Hosta Therapy?

Play around with the Hosta Library. Like me, check to make sure that hosta that was supposed to be 'Mama Mia' all these years was really 'Invincible'.

Read up on the Hosta Virus X, Nematodes and other fun stuff.

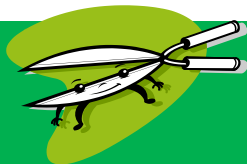
Check out the AHS Facebook page and find sooo many hostas to drool over.

Subscribe to the Gossip Jr., published twice a year, August and November from Bob Solberg. Follow other informative on-line nursery sites.

The nurseries and Garden Centers are open and are offering curbside service. Plus there is nothing like a basket of pansies, etc. to cheer you up.

Play the Hosta Mega Match Challenge enclosed. I will put the second half in the next newsletter and we will have the answers at our first get together.





GARDEN GOSSIP:

BY CINDY HUGHES

Thank you Barb Rauckhorst and Sue Gold for the interesting and informative slide presentation at the February meeting. Here are some of my random notes: Plantagineas can handle sun and heat. Ventricosas come true from the pod parent. 'Guacamole' likes sun. Hostas like a ph of 6.5 to 7.5 and one inch of water a week. Miracle Gro for Tomatoes is a good liquid fertilizer second w/o May as they are unfurled. Fertilize with a time release like Osmocote or 12-12-12. Mulch with leaf humus. Check the website for pictures.

Right now watch for heaving and slugs. Can use 20% ammonia/water solution for slugs. Nematodes can be killed with 124 degree hot water. Damage is mostly cosmetic, but control if you can and watch when you buy.

Several suggestions were made for deer control; Milorganite early, Spices, mint, and Feather Meal.

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, large and XL

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"
- * Member prices on deer repellant, gloves, markers, 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 .

And Much, much more!

2020 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

A Garden OF HOSTA RECIPES



NORTH COAST
HOSTA SOCIETY
OF OHIO



Hosta MegaMatch Challenge

By Don Rawson

Reprinted from the Michigan Hosta Society *Hosta Happenings*

Can you match all 100 hostas with the correct clue?

'A Many-splendored Thing'	'Deep Pockets'	'Little Sunspot'
'After Midnight'	'Dewed Steel'	'Love Pat'
'Aksarben'	'Dixie Chickadee'	'Midnight Oil'
'Alligator Shoes'	'El Niño'	'Mighty Mouse'
'Allan P. McConnell'	'Fantasy Island'	'Mississippi Delta'
'Almost'	'Fat Cat'	'Neat and Tidy'
'American Eagle'	'First Frost'	'Niagara Falls'
'Andrew'	'Formal Attire'	'Night before Christmas'
'Arctic Blast' 'Atlantis'	'Galaxy'	'Northern Lights'
'Autumn Frost'	'Glory Hallelujah'	'Paradigm'
'Big Daddy'	'Gold Drop'	'Pilgrim'
'Bizarre'	'Gold Standard'	'Riptide'
'Blackjack'	'Golden Sculpture'	'Skylight'
'Blizzard'	'Grand Prize'	'Slick Willie'
'Blue Angel'	'Grand Slam'	'Snake Eyes'
'Blue Jay'	'Great Expectations'	'Snow Cap'
'Blue Moon'	'Ground Sulfur'	'Snowden'
'Bright Lights'	'Guacamole'	'Spilt Milk'
'Bulletproof'	'Hacksaw'	'Stetson'
'Cadillac'	'High Society'	'Sugar and Cream'
'Camelot'	'Hoosier Daddy'	'Sum It Up'
'Candy Dish'	'Ice Age Trail'	'Sun Kissed'
'Cathedral Windows'	'Ice Cream'	'Sun Power'
'Cerveza'	'Ivory Coast'	'Super Bowl'
'Cherish'	Jade Cascade'	'T Rex'
'Chopsticks'	'Joseph'	'Tattoo'
'Cold Heart'	'June'	'Teaspoon'
'Continental Divide'	'Justice'	'Tiny Tears'
'Corkscrew'	Key West'	'Uncle Albert'
'Cross Stitch'	'King Tut'	'Victory'
'Curly Fries'	'Komodo Dragon'	'War Paint'
'Cutting Edge'	'Labyrinth'	'Whirlwind'
'Deep Blue Sea'	'Lemon Lime'	'World Cup'

1. Overweight feline _____
2. Elijah's transport to heaven _____
3. High beams _____
4. Football's final playoff _____
5. Roof window _____
6. Hand tool for cutting metal _____
7. Aurora Borealis _____
8. Dark areas on the surface of the sun

9. Cold air from the north _____
10. Resort residence of the writer Ernest Hemingway

11. Card game known as 21 _____
12. Ancient pathway made during an extended period
of cold _____
13. Descriptive term for an igloo _____
14. Worshipped by the Israelites in Exodus 32

15. U.S. Navy flight squadron _____
16. A precious metal, during a bad day on Wall Street

17. Add vowels- Frst Frst _____
18. Rhymes with "stewed eel" _____
19. Used in embroidery, XXXXXXXXXX

20. Nickname for Bill Clinton _____
21. Brother of Apostle Peter _____
22. To love dearly _____
23. Small southern bird _____
24. GM's luxury line _____
25. Solar energy _____
26. Menu item at Dairy Queen _____
27. The lost city _____
28. Hosta name with four sets of double consonants

29. The mouth of North America's largest river

30. West African country _____
31. Most popular worldwide athletic tournament, ex-
ceeding even the Olympics

32. Cowboy hat _____
33. Canadian baseball team _____
34. Large dinosaur _____
35. Not warmhearted _____
36. Winter hat _____
37. Christmas Eve _____
38. Fond fondle _____
39. "Beer", in Spanish _____
40. Large lizard, often weighing 150-200 lbs.

41. What we all scream for _____
42. The aristocracy _____
43. Menu item at Denny's _____
44. "The boy", in Spanish _____
45. An udder mistake _____
46. Opposite of before noon _____
47. Separates the watersheds that drain into the Pacif-
ic and Atlantic _____
48. Novel by Dickens _____
49. State of the art _____
50. Container for confectioneries _____

Invite Other Plant Lovers to Join the Club

**Check out our Website (northcoasthostasociety.weebly.com)
and Facebook page (North Coast Hosta Society).**

**Invite
a
Friend**



**Stay
Safe**

FIRST CLASS



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