



Newsletter of
the North Coast
Hosta Society
Volume 5 Issue 1
February 2021



2021 CALENDAR

April 24 11:00 AM <i>Saturday</i>	Location and program TBA
May 22 <i>Saturday</i>	NCHS PLANT AUCTION <i>Location TBA</i>
June 26 <i>Saturday</i>	NCHS GARDEN TOURS* Volunteers for open gardens needed Meeting & Picnic at a public Garden*
July 24 <i>Saturday</i>	Hosta Swap and Picnic <i>Location TBA</i>
August 14 <i>Saturday</i>	Craft - <i>Location TBA</i>
September	No planned Activity
October 30 <i>Saturday</i>	Annual Meeting <i>Pot Luck Club House at Pine Lakes</i>
November	No Meeting
December	No Meeting

VERY Tentative Schedule based on health notices, venue availability, etc. Please watch your emails and newsletters and periodically check the website for news of activities of interest.

President's letter

Hello hosta friends.

At this time of year, a true gardener is anxiously awaiting a break in the temperature. A 40 degree day will find us outside picking up twigs from the last bout of 50 mile per hour winds, looking to see which bulbs we planted in the fall are coming up or checking if our Hellebores are blooming.



While you are out in the yard, check your hostas for frost heaving. With the mild start we had to this winter, freezing and thawing will sometimes push a hosta's crown right out of the ground, especially the miniature hostas. Check on the hostas you have in pots also. The best thing to do if you find frost heaving on your hosta is to moisten some potting soil and pack it around the exposed roots and crown to keep them from drying out. When the soil is able to be worked, plant the hosta back into the ground where it belongs!

Be sure to keep the plants that are in pots moist. If there is snow, you can put a heap on top of the pot and just let it melt naturally. If the plant has dried out already, water it first then put some snow on top.

If you are concerned too much water might cause crown rot, an option is to put a few ice cubes in the pot to melt naturally about the beginning of March.

(Cont'd on Page 2)

Good news for hosta enthusiasts, Hosta College will be returning on March 20 in a "virtual" format. You can visit www.hostacollege.com for all the information.

The National Convention will also be a "virtual" convention, it will be very interesting to see how this is accomplished. Best of luck to all who will work hard to make these events successful. I'm quite sure there will be a lot of interest since many club events everywhere were cancelled last year.

After you read this newsletter, check out the Hosta College website and flip through some seed catalogs. Hopefully that will get you through cabin fever until spring gets here! See you all soon.

Barb Rauckhorst, President NCHS



2021 AHS Convention Goes Virtual!



H. 'Silly String' - The AHS gift plant for the 2021 Virtual Convention.

Here are some notes regarding Hosta College that may be useful in making your decision to Participate

NOTE: This year's online format will feature only one lecture at a time in Zoom's Webinar format, therefore you do not have to login and logout throughout the day, but rather stay connected in one continuous zoom session. With Zoom's Webinar Format (versus a meeting format which many of you are familiar with) your camera is not shared and your microphone is automatically muted, and neither are needed to participate. All questions will be conducted through the chat feature with written questions submitted to the speaker. (See the website for technical help.)

February 13-27, 2021 Registration opens for Great Lakes Region Hosta Society Members

Feb 28 - March 13, 2021 Registration opens for other hosta society members outside the Great Lakes Region

March 14th, 2021 Registration closed for 2021

Visit www.hostacollege.com for all the information

REGISTRATON NOTE: THERE IS NO FEE

"Out of concern for the safety of attendees and after being contacted by several members expressing unease over attending a large gathering, the American Hosta Society and the 2021 convention committee in Kalamazoo, Michigan have come to the difficult decision to cancel the in-person convention in June.

While we're incredibly disappointed that we won't be able to enjoy the fellowship of friends and other hosta lovers in person, it creates a wonderful opportunity to put on the first-ever virtual AHS convention! The team in Kalamazoo is planning an exciting, action-packed virtual event!

What will participants receive access to?

- One convention gift Hosta 'Silly String' (*mailed to you*)
- Speakers, workshops, Q&A, awards shows, and judges clinics via Zoom
- On-demand, professionally recorded virtual garden tours
- Participating vendors
- Hosta leaf show photo contest (*unsanctioned*)
- Seedling photo competition

And more!

We'll send out an update with details and registration information to be released on the forthcoming convention website (AHS2021.org) in the next few weeks!

ABOUT THE AMERICAN HOSTA SOCIETY.....

While we are on the subject, there are many benefits to belonging to AHS. Conventions are fun—a bit expensive, but if close by, worthwhile for the chance to rub shoulders with the best hybridizers and most knowledgeable hostaphiles in the world. (And host cities make great vacation destinations.)

Find a Hosta

Let's say you were checking out a garden on Facebook or on a visit/tour and would like to know more about a hosta and where to get it. AHS has a way. We posted this before, but here is a reminder.

Go to the Hosta Library, click on Hosta Registrations which takes you to Hosta Treasury. Click on "Search". On the next page, type in the name and "Search" You can go to the Hosta Finder tab on the far right and get a list of sellers of that hosta. There is a bonus on this page. If you click on the Details tab, you will get the description that was presented when the hosta was registered. There is often more information here than on the Library page.

Publications and education

I copied the article below from the St. Louis Hosta Society Shady Notes of February 2021 which is a review of The AHS eNewsletter. This is a good example of what you can learn and be entertained.

AHS members receive three issues per year of the Hosta Journal, which includes color photographs of hostas, reports on national conventions, scientific information concerning current research pertaining to hostas and advertisements of interest to hosta families.

Dues for one year are \$39 for an individual and \$34 per family. Membership checks should be made out to "AHS" and mailed to:

Sandie Markland, AHS Membership Secretary
P. O. Bo 7539

Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948

Website: <http://www.americanhostasociety.org>

AHS eNewsletter – check it out

In the January edition, Glenn Herold gives the back story on *H. 'Paul's Glory'* and its offspring. Hosta guru Warren Pollock asks "what is the best hosta name ever". He explains why he suggests 'Blue Mouse Ears'. Other gardeners voted in favor of 'Spilt Milk' and 'Wheee'. What's your favorite? St. Louis was lucky last year not to have had to endure the bizarre weather that hit the Northeast. An interesting article by Gail Russo of New Jersey tells how her hostas survived last year's killer frosts. Hopefully we will not experience Gail's tribulations this spring. This issue's "Book Notice" column gives a review of Mark Zilis' hefty tome **The Hostapedia An Encyclopedia of Hostas**. This is a classic that you might want to add to your library.

The best part of this publication is that it is FREE – you do not need to be a member of AHS to receive a copy. To subscribe to the American Hosta Society eNewsletter, go to: <http://www.americanhostasociety.org>, click on the Publications tab, then on the E-Newsletter tab. Enter your name and email address in the spaces provided. You will be sent an email confirmation. You must respond to that email to be placed on the email distribution list. You will then automatically receive all future AHS eNewsletters. You may unsubscribe at any time by going to the same above link.

To view the AHS eNewsletter archive, open hyperlink:

http://www.americanhostasociety.org/Publications/enews_archive.htm

2021 Hosta of The Year

'Rainbow's End

The American Hosta Growers Association has selected Hosta 'Rainbow's End' as the 2021 Hosta of the Year. To be selected as the Hosta of the Year, the cultivar must be a proven good garden plant in all regions of the country and must be readily available to the public at reasonable prices.

Reprinted below is an article about H. 'Rainbow's End' from Georgia Hosta Notes - Volume 34, No. 2, 2018.

'Rainbow's End' - Better Than a Pot of Gold! One of the most storied myths we learned as children was that there is a pot of gold at the end of every rainbow. Not only that, but that the pot of gold is guarded by a tricky little leprechaun. In our wonderful world of hostas, however, it turns out that in lieu of a pot of gold, there is an exciting little hosta at the end of our rainbow named 'Rainbow's End'.

H. 'Rainbow's End' was discovered as a sport in a tissue culture run of H. 'Obsession' by that big master hosta leprechaun, Hans Hanson, who couldn't help but notice the dazzling mix of colors - clear dark green leaves with very streaky bright cream-to yellow centers. It would be a challenge to find any two leaves exactly alike due to the wildly variable streaking.

Registered in 2005, H. 'Rainbow's End's clump size is listed as 11" high and 21" wide. Like its sport parent, it has 16"-19" showy burgundy scapes sporting lavender flowers to further dress up this already dressed-to-the-hilt hosta. The elliptic-shaped leaves are registered as 6" long by 4" wide. H. 'Rainbow's End' is a somewhat slow growing hosta but it is well worth the wait to get it to full size. It grows quite well in containers and makes a beautiful little specimen plant, whether in a container or in the ground. For us hopelessly addicted hosta addicts, H. 'Rainbow's End' is better than that fabled pot of gold!



One of the Hosta Societies came up with a fun idea of a **Favorite Hosta Challenge**. The challenge is to send me a picture of your favorite hosta, describe it and tell why it is your favorite. You can have more than one. I think this would be a great way to learn more about different hostas and learn something about each other in the process. Please send me your pictures and stories by April 1 (I know, it's April Fool's Day) so I can put them in the next newsletter.

I find my favorite hosta is the one I saw that day looking its very best and saying, "look at me". I tend to go toward the blues and greens with interesting leaves: twists, corrugation, shine, even "unruly". And then, there are the ones that just shout out to me. One of those is 'Extasy' which looks so great from a second story window. It is a perky, small plant, creamy white, medio with a blue-green edge.

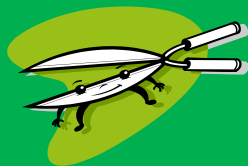


However, one of my oldest favorites, is 'Lakeside Looking Glass' with leaves so shiny they are like a mirror. It has rich dark green ruffled leaves with spidery lavender flowers. Sorry to say, mine, as shown, is not in its prime; it was recently repotted. Check it out on the Library. Can't say enough good about Lakeside plants. They seem to be at home in our wooded garden a mile from Lake Erie.



Cindy Hughes, Newsletter Editor

GARDEN GOSSIP:



BY CINDY HUGHES

The Plant Sale Committee **THANKS** all of the NCHS members who took part in the Solberg 2021 Hosta Club list plant sale to make it a success.

And thanks to those who stepped up to work on this project for the benefit of our members.

Our Condolences to the members of the Bowe and Kovach families who each lost a parent this past year. Stan Bowe was a member of NCHS, as are David Bowe and his wife, Beth. While Virginia Kovach was not a member, Mike Kovach and Ann Marie Micenmacher are active members of NCHS.

We pray that all of our members and their families stay safe and well until we meet again.

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:

- * Member prices on deer repellant, 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!

2021 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

For members of record in 2020, dues payments have been rolled over to 2021.

FOR SALE GOOD EATS

A Garden OF HOSTA RECIPES



NORTH COAST
HOSTA SOCIETY
OF OHIO



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



H 'Frosty Morn'



H. 'Ice Follies'



H. Winter Lightening"



H. 'Ice Palace'



H 'Snow Squall'



H 'Polar Night'

FIRST CLASS



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