



Newsletter of  
the North Coast  
Hosta Society  
Volume 5 Issue 5  
Winter 2021



## 2022 CALENDAR

February 26 <i>Saturday</i>	Club House at Pine Lakes Program TBA
March 19	Virtual Hosta College
April 23	Location and program TBA
May 28	TBA
June 8-11	AHS Convention Minnesota
June 18 <i>Saturday</i>	NCHS PLANT AUCTION Club House at Pine Lakes
July 23	TBA
August 27	TBA
September 24	TBA
October 22 <i>Saturday</i>	Annual Meeting <i>Pot Luck Club House at Pine Lakes</i>
November	No Meeting
December	No Meeting

Tentative Schedule based on venue availability, etc. Please watch your emails and newsletters and periodically check the website that Mary Bibby works hard to keep up-to-date for all of us.

Happy Holidays to all.

This is the final newsletter of 2021. While we were able to get together more in 2021 than we did in 2020, our activities were still somewhat diminished. Several of our members lost loved ones during the year and our hearts go out to them during the holidays.

We did enjoy a few member gardens during the summer and David Bibby presented a drone's eye view of some at the Annual Meeting. Thanks to all who opened their gardens to us and thanks David for your program.

Becky Salamon arranged for a special fundraising project for us for the holidays. As of early December she reported the club had earned \$163.

The Board has not met yet to set up a complete calendar for the year, but Jim Spuhler was able to lock in key dates for us with the Club House at Pine Lakes. President Barb Rauckhorst and VP Mike Kovach have been considering programming ideas to inform and entertain.

This newsletter has information on the Virtual Hosta College in March and the AHS National Convention to be held in Minnesota in June.

Cindy Hughes, Newsletter Editor



## Hosta events scheduled for 2022



### HOSTA COLLEGE

March 19, 2022

will again be virtual!

Free to all who register for this event. Stay tuned for updates.

As of December 23, the only address I have [www.hostacollege.com](http://www.hostacollege.com)



### American Hosta Society

National Convention

June 8 - 11, 2022

Minneapolis Marriott NW

[www.HostaVision2022.com](http://www.HostaVision2022.com)

In 2018 the AHS celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the annual convention held in Philadelphia, PA. In 2022 the Minnesota Hosta Society is hosting the annual convention for the third time. Convention chair Amy Peterson says “The MHS is proud to once again host the convention. Our membership is excited to join in fellowship with other hosta gardening enthusiasts, often termed “hostaholics”. Our theme “**Hosta Vision 2022**” reflects the ever expanding use of the genius *Hosta* in the garden as one of the top perennials of choice due to their versatility in use and form in the landscape. Plus they are very hardy in Minnesota’s Zone 4 climate! A major part of the convention is participating in area garden tours by motor coach bus or a self-driving tour over the span of two days, with many gardens displaying well over 500 hosta varieties. The accredited Hosta Leaf Show creates an opportunity for membership and the general public to see the plethora of variety in form and color the genius *Hosta* provides as a landscape plant. Also as part of the 2022 convention a philanthropic element is included and in alignment with our theme, attendees and community attendees are requested to bring used eyeglasses for donation to LIONS INTERNATIONAL.”

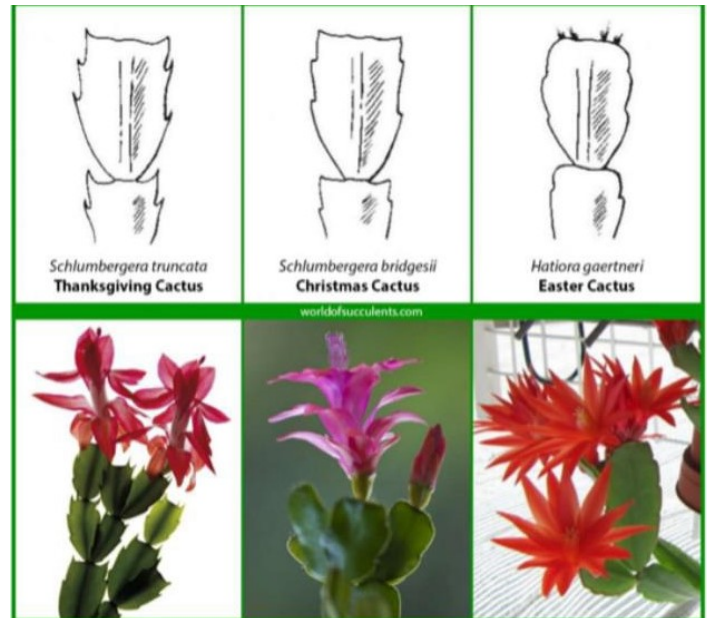
# HOLIDAY CACTUS



I am not a big fan of the gray days of winter. It is important for me to have color and something blooming in the house every day during the winter. While I was still in college, my mother gave me a start of a Christmas Cactus *Schlumbergera bridgesii* (see above). It grew large until one day my Cocker Spaniel knocked it over and broke most of it. Later, in 1994 when I moved to Kentucky in the dead of winter, I brought the plant with me. I still have the plant all these years later. About this time every year, or at least the years that a virus did not keep me from entering a store, about October I have seen “Christmas Cactuses” for sale in stores from the big box stores to grocery stores to gardening cata-logs. Sadly, again the horticultural industry is doing the public a disservice. Usually, the plants that you will be seeing are Thanksgiving cactus *Schlumbergera truncate*. Both of these plants require similar care. Around Easter you may see Easter cactus *Hatiora gaertneri*, which in my experience is fussier, too much so to be addressed here. The following chart will help you identify the three types of holiday cactus.

The Thanksgiving and Christmas cactuses are epiphyte, meaning they grow on the surface of another plant and derive their moisture and nutrients from the air, rain, water, and debris accumulating around them. For that reason, when I plant my Thanksgiving or Christmas cactus, I use a mixture of succulent soil and orchid pine bark fines. I use a ratio of about 25% of the fines. I have always grown all of my holiday cactus in terra cotta pots. I have read that many gardeners grow theirs in plastic pots to keep the plants from drying out. Terra cotta dries much faster. I prefer a faster drying pot, and I just keep an eye on the moisture in the soil. Once the temperatures start to stay no lower than 45 degrees, I put my holiday cactuses on a south facing front porch on the east side. They receive morning light and afternoon shade. I leave my plants out until the temperature dips to 45 degrees in the fall. The shortening of the day is what causes the plants to bloom. Some people swear by putting their plants in complete darkness for most of the day, and bringing them out for a few hours. I don't have time for that nonsense. I have always had wonderful abundant bloom by just leaving them out until the night temperatures drop to 45 degrees. In the summer I use a teaspoon of Epsom salt in a gallon of water and use this to water my

plants every other watering. The other watering, I use a diluted solution of bloom-boosting fertilizer. We use a brand called Peters. I also mix up a spray bottle of kelp and spray any plant that does not move while they are outside. That's about it. I bought my two named varieties from Logee's in Connecticut. They are a wonderful place to buy plants. The other no-named plants I grow came from Aldi's and Costco. I always keep some starts growing around to give as gifts at the holidays



From World of Succulents: Is it a Thanksgiving, Christmas, or Easter Cactus? <https://worldofsucculents.com/thanksgiving-christmas-easter-cactus/>

By Jane Wilson, reprinted from the November 2020 issue Hosta Addiction, Newsletter of Hostas of Kentuckiana

Editor note: I wondered why my plants were dropping their buds. Here is the answer:

The reasons for [Christmas cactus](#) dropping its flower buds are **drought stress, fluctuating temperatures, over-watering and too much artificial light at night**. Christmas cactus require evenly moist soil, higher humidity and more hours of darkness then light for 6 weeks from September to form buds.

*Better keep it off the kitchen counter! LOL*

# GARDEN GOSSIP:



BY CINDY HUGHES

## PLEASE NOTE: Dues are being collected for 2022

With the limited meetings held over the last two years, all members who paid dues for 2020 were rolled over to 2021.

Please send your dues for 2022. They remain \$10.00 per family per calendar year. See form below.

### 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 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 .

And Much, much more!

## 2022 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 SALE GOOD EATS

## A Garden OF HOSTA RECIPES



NORTH COAST  
HOSTA SOCIETY  
OF OHIO





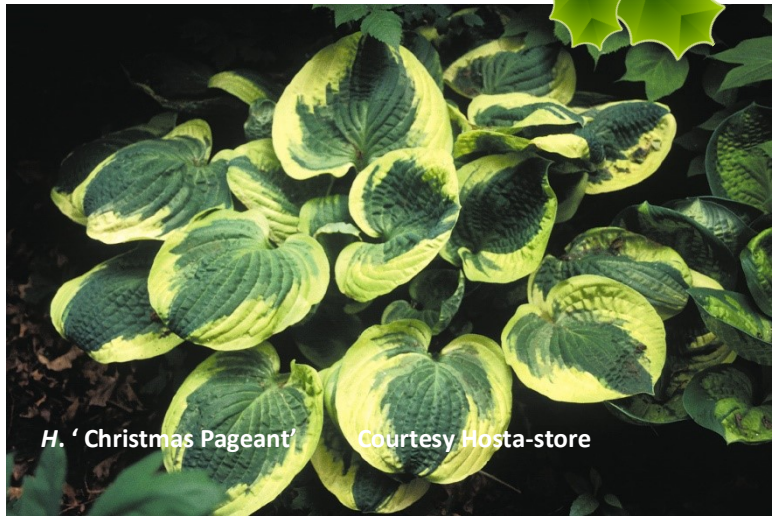
H. 'Night Before Christmas'  
Courtesy Walters Gardens



H. 'Christmas Candy'  
Courtesy Walters Gardens



H. 'White Christmas'  
Courtesy Walters Gardens



H. 'Christmas Pageant'  
Courtesy Hosta-store



H. 'Christmas Tree'  
Courtesy Monrovia



H. 'Christmas Tree Gala'  
Courtesy Land of Giants

Invite Other Plant Lovers to Join the Club

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

## INVITE A FRIEND

The Officers and Board of Directors  
Wish you the very best for the New year



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FIRST CLASS