



**Newsletter of the
North Coast Hosta
Society
Volume 8 Issue 2
April 2024**



2024 CALENDAR

April 27 11:00 AM <i>Saturday</i>	Parma- Powers Blvd Branch Library Finger Foods "Success with Succulents"
May 25 <i>Saturday</i> 1:00PM	Willoway Nursery Display Garden Tour 4334Center Rd (Rt 83) Avon, OH 44011
June 15 11:00 AM <i>Saturday</i>	PLANT AUCTION Distribute Solberg Plants Club House Pine Lakes Village NCHS provides pulled pork sandwiches Members sides and desserts
June 18-22	AHS National Convention Marlborough, MA
June 29 9:30 AM Saturday	Garden Tour and Picnic Wooster - Hosted by Carl and Marilyn Schmid, Eric and Karla Schmid, Matt and Sally Call
July 13 11:00 AM <i>Saturday</i>	Hosta Swap and Picnic Hosted by Anne and Greg Takacs Medina, OH
August 17 11:00AM <i>Saturday</i>	Railroad Garden Tour Hosted by Alan and Ruth Nickels North Royalton, OH
14-Sep	NCHS Board Meeting
October 26 11:00 AM <i>Saturday</i>	Annual Jon Soucek and Bob Kuk Annual Meeting Clubhouse at Pine Lakes Village
November	No Meeting
December	No Meeting

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Hello fellow gardeners.

As I write this message, I think of the old adage: "March comes in like a lion and out like a lamb". Now that March is over, let's hope that the weather soon becomes more lamblike! Our thoughts and prayers go out to those in Southern Ohio affected by the recent tornados especially those who lost loved ones.



Because of the very mild temperatures this winter, we are, by my educated estimates, 2-3 weeks ahead of schedule as far as plant growth and blooming are concerned. I learned in the rose society I belong to, that the easiest way to estimate when to prune your roses is to prune them when the forsythia is in bloom, around tax time, April 15. We are way ahead of that. All we can do is keep an eye on the weather and cover as many plants as we can if the forecast is predicting a frost. Just remember, when covering your plants to protect them from frost damage, always use some kind of cloth, never plastic.

Our April 27 meeting will be at the Parma library at 6996 Powers Blvd. across from UH Parma Hospital. Bring finger foods to share. I am excited to see you all there.

Barb Rauckhorst, NCHS President

Success with Succulents

Presentation By Sue Gold

Saturday, April 27 11:00 AM

North Coast Hosta Society member and Master Gardener, Sue Gold, will let us in on the secrets for growing succulents. If you, like me, made some of the succulent planters in 2022, you should find her talk very helpful. From proper light, to soil, to water, I find them mysterious and never seem to treat them correctly for success. In addition to her garden skills, Sue is an excellent photographer, which will make for a special presentation.



Great Lakes Hosta College Review

This year's college was very successful with robust various instructors. Attendees were generous in the plant auction, silent auction, and raffle. The raffle brought in \$776.00 which, according to preliminary reports, was a strong showing.



There were 15 items total in the raffle with 4 hosta plants (Captain Kirk, Vulcan, Wolverine and Royal Wedding). We also had 6 (2 packs) of hybrid seedlings for raffle. Plants were the strongest pull for tickets.

The baskets were second. I was able to construct 4 baskets from the donations including one with Crate & Barrel donations.



Also providing a strong showing was the all-natural goat soap donation. Everyone received a North Coast Hosta Society Cook Book and some were also sold.

I was also able to procure (2) Dancing with Dragons hostas that I will bring to NCHS auction this year.



"I love Hostas" (www.ihearthostas.com) is an outside company that donated hosta related items such as tote bags, hosta t-shirts and hosta coffee mugs. Please visit this site for your hosta gift consideration.

I would like to personally thank all of you who donated items to the College. I will be in touch with our group in the fall as I plan for the 2025 raffle.

Yours in Hosta
Noreen Molek, NCHS GLHS Representative

American Hosta Society President's Wall of Honor

“Each year, individuals from around the country make incredible contributions to their local societies. We thank them for their service and for helping their local organizations thrive. “

Chuck and Bonnie Erickson were named by Barb Rauckhorst to the 2023 American Hosta Society “Wall of Honor” for their contributions to NCHS.

CONGRATULATIONS!



Hosta ‘Ruby Earrings’ was one of the most popular of Bob Solberg’s Green Hill Hostas Club offerings this year. We ended up with a nice order that was sent March 1. The bare root plants are to ship from North Carolina the 10th of June and will be distributed at the June 15 Auction at the Clubhouse.

As these are bare root, I suggest you collect the smaller nursery pots you get with your spring annuals and perennials. These will be helpful for starting these smaller plants.

PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND THIS MEETING OR MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR SOMEONE TO PICK UP PLANTS FOR YOU. No deliveries.

Resources Available to Hosta Lovers

- ◆ American Hosta Society—join and receive the Hosta Journal and E-journals.
- ◆ Hosta Library
- ◆ Bob Solberg’s “The Green Hill Gossip Jr.” at hostaguru.com by paid subscription
- ◆ Delaware Valley Hosta Society—delvalhosta.org. This site is full of links to all things hosta. There is also a compendium of their previous newsletters that you can browse.
- ◆ hostalists.org/hosta_list_sph.php Great for looking up categories of hostas (sun, shade, names, etc.)
- ◆ Several AHS Facebook pages dedicate to ID, diseases, etc.
- ◆ NCHS Meetings!

Did You Want Lemon with That?

By Kathy Miller reprinted with permission from Delaware Valley Hosta Society Newsletter Spring 2023

Naming a brand-new hosta cultivar is fun. Names come from pets, emotions, music, family members, just to name a few sources of inspiration. Many hosta names are registered with The American Hosta Society. Once registered, the name cannot be used again. Citrus fruits have been the inspiration for many names, primarily due to their color.

Now, a little about citrus. Citrus plants appeared millions of years ago in southeast Asia. For thousands of years, peoples of Asia and the Pacific islands used citrus for food and medicine. Over time, three major and distinct forms of ancestral citrus developed: the bitter mandarin, the pomelo and the citron. The bitter mandarin is similar to our present-day mandarin orange, thin-skinned and grown for the pulp, but not very tasty as the name implies. The pomelo is large and seedy. Grown primarily for the thick rind, it is sweet, but has very little pulp. Still sold at many groceries, it's a mystery who buys it. The citron is grown mostly for its rind, which is usually pickled or candied. Pictures of the citron were discovered on walls of a 3500-year-old Egyptian temple. It is thought to be the first citrus fruit transported to the western world. Fruitcake lovers among us give thanks for the flavorful citron.

Present day citrus varieties are the results of crossing and backcrossing the three ancestral sources. Generally speaking, the grapefruit comes from crosses involving the bitter mandarin and the pomelo. The sweet orange comes from crosses involving the grapefruit and the bitter mandarin. The common lemon and the common lime result from crosses of the bitter mandarin and the citron. The tangerine comes from crossing varieties of the bitter mandarin, while the tangelo is the result of crossing the tangerine with the pomelo.

Perusing the AHS Hosta Registry together with the Hosta Library, the following numbers of citrus inspired hosta names were found: Lemon 43, Lime 32, Orange 6, Tangerine 2, and Citron 1.

Nothing for kumquat, grapefruit or pomelo (but check out 'Pomp and Circumstance' in the Hosta Library. Wowie Zowie!). Lemon was the winner by far. Not really a surprise. Gardeners are always looking to brighten up a shady spot. So here is the "lemon list.

A Dash of Lemon

Academy Lemon Knoll

Frensham Lemon Crepes

Gypsy Lemon

Iced Lemon

Lemon Candy

Lemon Chiffon

Lemon Crust

Lemon Delight

Lemon Frost

Lemon Honey

Lemon Ice



Hosta 'Lemon Delight'
and Hosta 'Lemon Zest'

- Lemon Jello
- Lemon Kiss
- Lemon Leaf
- Lemon Lime (“Lime List” as well!)
- Lemon Love Note
- Lemon Meringue
- Lemon Slice
- Lemon Snap
- Lemon Sorbet
- Lemon Tuffy
- Lemon Twist
- Lemon Zest
- Lemon Zinger
- Miracle Lemony
- Valley’s Lemon Butterfly
- Valley’s Lemon Ice
- Valley’s Lemon Limbo
- Valley’s Lemon Squash
- Valley’s Limoncello
- Valley’s Gin Lemon

H. ‘Lemon Frost’



H. “Lime-tini”

‘Citric Star’, the only cultivar named for the citron, is the very first introduction from the Belgian hybridizer Louis Vissers. It is a small plant with narrow, wavy leaves that end in a long, drawn-out point. The foliage is very smooth and glossy, with thick, leathery substance—harkening back to the citron rind! It remains golden-yellow all season. It’s available for about \$30 from a number of the big mail-order hosta growers.

Hosta ‘Citric Star’ photo from
In The Country Garden & Gifts,
Independence, IA.



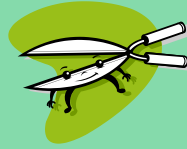
Bibliography: “Citrus”. Wikipedia
Annals of Botany 11:563-583



NOTE: While we are focused on the eclipse, don’t forget April is Ohio Native Plant month. For information on sources of native plants, check out **OHIONATIVEGROWERS.ORG**



GARDEN GOSSIP



By Cindy Hughes, Editor



Story of Hosta 'Pandora's Box' in My Garden

This captivating mini forms a cute mound of thick, dark gray-green leaves with creamy-white irregular margins and chartreuse streaks jetting toward the middle. I have always wanted "her" in my garden. I kept trying, have lost two over the years and decided last July to give her one more chance! Potted up she did well over the summer and fall when she went into storage in the garage. We were surprised on February 10 when we discovered she had popped up about two inches! Residing on the front porch with frost cloth for emergencies, she is doing great. Maybe she knows she's on thin ice?

Club Co-Op Supplies

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

Liquid Fence **Once our current supply is gone, we will no longer handle this product**

Plant Markers

Garden Gloves in small, medium, large and XL
Handbook on Troughs

Please contact Sue Gold (216-382-9848) to pre-order any items to be brought to the next meeting.

Note: NCHS could use one other person to help Sue with the Co-op Supplies. Please volunteer!

Membership in NCHS gives the following benefits:

- * Member prices on supplies, 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!

2024 North Coast Hosta Society Membership

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

NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

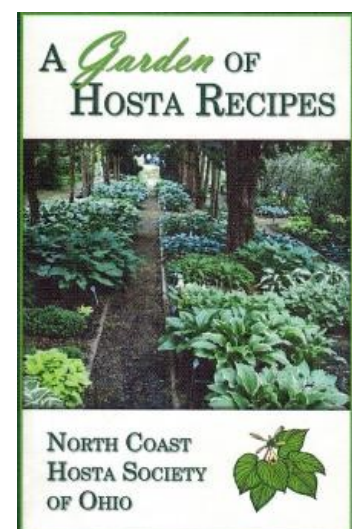
E-MAIL _____

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 DO
YOU HAVE YOURS?
MAKES A GREAT GIFT**



2024 AHS National Convention

June 18-22

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!



Region One is very excited to be the location of the 2024 AHS National Convention. Join us June 18-22 in Marlborough, Massachusetts at the Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel for "A Whale of a Time!" Convention activities will include several fabulous garden tours, a New England Clambake & BBQ, a fully accredited Hosta Show, lots of vending and shopping opportunities, four informative speakers, fun contests, a Friday night buffet dinner followed by the much-anticipated AHS auction, Saturday AHS Awards Banquet, plenty of Hosta-tality and the first ever New England Seedling & Sport Competition (modeled after the beloved First Look competition).

The convention activities will kick off Tuesday afternoon/evening with a Judges Bootcamp open to anyone who would like to sign up to attend judging clinics, a hosta show job fair and a workshop on how to prepare and enter leaves in the hosta show.

Two optional tours will be available on Wednesday (additional fee, pre-registration required) and those who sign up can experience Boston by going on a Whale Watch or seeing the sights by land and by water on a famous Duck Boat tour. After some time on your own, the bus will then stop at Sam Adams Brewery for a tour and a tasting.

More information, registration forms and t-shirt order forms can be found at <http://www.hostaconvention.org>.

Cometh by Land! Cometh by Air! Just be sure to Cometh!

HOWDY, BUCKAROOS

GOOD NEWS. Registration for this year's FALL HOSTA FORUM is open!

For the new folk.... the Fall Hosta Forum is a symposium co-sponsored by our club and a club in Pittsburgh, PA. It takes place at the half-way point; Edinboro, PA (near Erie). The formula is that we have four speakers.... two hosta speakers and two on other topics. We have a lunch, a live auction and a silent auction. We have vendors (and if you register for Friday night, you are able to preview the vendors PLUS you receive a \$5 voucher to spend - good only on Friday). We generally have 100 to 120 registrants. Some people come on Friday afternoon and visit a local nursery (Scotland Yard - voucher in your packet and have a lunch at one of the local restaurants. It is a casual, but very fun day and I hope you'll join us!



THE WILD WEST

DATE: September 21st, 2024 - with a "Preview Night" on Friday, September 20th

WHERE: Frank G. Pogue Student Center, Edinboro University

WHAT: Our theme this year is THE WILD WEST!

Please register as soon as you can so that we can plan. **If you are coming on Friday, you should book your hotel room INSTANTLY. THEY ARE ALMOST SOLD OUT.** We will have "hostatality" in the hotel breakfast room like we did last time. Refreshments provided, but some folks like to BYO snacks and drinks.

EDITOR NOTE: I have the program outline, details and registration forms. Please contact Cindy at hughece3537@sbcglobal.net for Program materials and forms.

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. 'Pandora's Box'

FIRST CLASS



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