



Growing Together Growing Together

Daffodil & Hosta Society of Western Pennsylvania

MARCH 2016

Calling All Daffodils!

The Daffodil and Hosta Society of Western Pennsylvania (DHSWP) will hold its' annual Daffodil Show on Saturday, April 23, 2016, in conjunction with the Penn State Extension of Allegheny County Master Gardeners' Garden Marketplace and Garden & Landscape Symposium at the Shady Side Academy Ice Rink, 423 Fox Chapel Road, Pittsburgh PA 15238.



This Pittsburgh Show is one of only 39 nationally accredited shows sponsored by the American Daffodil Society, Inc. (ADS). The Symposium is a great opportunity to hear renowned speakers on relevant, interesting topics and can be paid for ahead of time. The Master Gardeners' Garden Marketplace, one of the cardinal gardening events of the year, boasts some of the regions' choice vendors with unusual plants and gardening related items. It is free and open to the public beginning at 8 a.m. Saturday and you don't want to miss it! Some especially desirable and limited plants sell out early!

The DHSWP invites everyone of every age and gardening experience to participate in the Daffodil Show by becoming an exhibitor. Simply bring in the best flowers you find in bloom in your garden, even if you don't know the names. Daffodil Society members will be on hand to help you identify, groom, and stage your flowers Friday evening, April 22 (3 to 10 p.m. or later if needed) and early Saturday morning (6 to 7:45 a.m.) before judging begins at 8 a.m.

If you purchased daffodil bulbs from DHSWP last fall, and they bloom at an appropriate time for the Show, please bring in some of those named daffodils to exhibit. We would love to see them! It's not difficult, and it is a lot of fun, besides being an exceptional learning experience. We highly recommend entering on Friday. The DHSWP will award ribbons to the best blooms entered.

The Show is free and will open to the public at the conclusion of judging at 10:30 a.m. Saturday. Please encourage your family, friends and neighbors to enter some blooms and to come experience the daffodils in their most exquisite forms!

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Pitvp@aol.com

Speaking of great learning experiences, the DHSWP will hold a Daffodil Grooming Clinic on Saturday, April 9, 2016, at 1 p.m. - led by Len Lehman, Mark Gresh and Stephen & Bonnie Plato at the Northland Public Library, 300 Cumberland Road, Pittsburgh (Wexford area) PA 15237.

All interested parties are encouraged to attend. This will be an excellent opportunity to learn how to enter daffodil blooms in a show. All steps will be covered in detail, with many expert tips included. At the clinic we will show an American Daffodil Society program, then have a daffodil grooming and staging demonstration, followed by hands-on practice.



Bonnie & Stephen Plato at the 2015 Daffodil Show

One of the things you will learn is that Daffodils can be groomed and staged, a few at a time at home, in the week or so before the Show. Then all you'll need to do is bring them in, re-check the flowers, and add the class (which Classification will give you) to your entry card. Please try to come.

Help make the 2016 Pittsburgh Daffodil Show a success by becoming a part of it, by entering flowers and by visiting the show. For more information, contact Bonnie Plato at bonnieplato@gmail.com or Stephen Plato at stephenplato@gmail.com.

Bonnie and Stephen Plato

DAFFODIL DIVISIONS

By Bonnie Plato

Knowing and understanding the daffodil divisions can enhance our appreciation and enjoyment of this favorite spring flower. The purpose of any system of classification is to allow comparison of like things to like things. Since there are so many variations, daffodils (common English name for narcissus) are divided into thirteen divisions for descriptive purposes according to their flower shape and heritage. The American Daffodil Society (ADS) follows the Royal Horticultural Society horticultural classification, the international registration authority for daffodils. The complete classification list can be found on the ADS website. In addition an extensive database called "Daffseek" will provide you with detailed information on thousands of different cultivars including photos of over 23,000 daffodils. You don't have to be a member to access the list or Daffseek.

All the "lower classifications," divisions 1 through 3, have one flower to a stem with the major differences being the cup size or shape. Trumpet Daffodils have a corona (trumpet) as long or longer than the petals (perianth segments) and wide, half to one inch, gray-

green foliage. The showy Large Cup Daffodils (Division 2) have cups less than the petal length and these are the ones most often seen and grown. They're good for perennializing, picking and forcing. The Small Cup Daffodils' (Division 3) corona is not more than one-third the length of the petals. These are long-term perennializers, bloom late, and often have a spicy fragrance. In Division 4 are the Double Daffodils which are very showy and single or multiple blooms per stem.

The "upper classifications," divisions 5 through 10, each show characteristics of their respective ancestors. Division 5, Triandrus Daffodils usually have two or more pendent flowers with reflexed petals making them look like fuchsia flowers. They often have a fruity fragrance and do well in containers. The Cyclamineus Daffodils, Division 6, have one flower to a stem with petal segments significantly reflexed so they look like they are standing in front of a fan! These perform well in pots, bloom early and are good for forcing. In general they are more tolerant of partial shade and moisture. Division

7 is the Jonquilla and Apodanthus Daffodils that can have one to five flowers to a stem with the petals spreading or reflexed. Foliage is often reed like or very narrow and dark green. Most like a hot baking summer sun and do well in pots. They have a sweet fragrance that can act as a natural air freshener.



Mark Gresh at the 2015 Daffodil Show

The next division is the Tazetta Daffodils, Division 8, which sport three to twenty flowers on a stout stem! These have broad leaves and spreading, not reflexed, petals. They are excellent perennializers with a musky sweet fragrance. The Poeticus Daffodils, Division 9, usually have one flower to a stem, are excellent perennials with a spicy fragrance

and dogwood like flowers blooming very late. The petals are white and the disc-shaped cup has a green or yellow center and a red rim, but it can also be a single color. Bulbocodium Daffodils are the short “hoop-petticoat” daffodils that look like little horns or trumpets producing many flowering stems, one flower per stem. The petals are insignificant compared with the corona (cup).

Division 11 are the Spilt Corona Daffodils which have a cup split into segments, spreading back against the petals, smooth or frilly. These “butterfly” daffodils are either 11A—Collar Daffodils or 11B—Papillon Daffodils.

The next Division 12, is for Other Daffodils which are cultivars not fitting into the definition of any other division. An example is N. ‘Tete-a-Tete,’ those little yellow daffodil in pots at the grocery store.

The last, Division 13 is for Daffodils distinguished solely by Botanical Name which are the ones referred to as species, wild daffodils, most of which are heirloom daffodils.

Daffodils are a sign spring is finally here and understanding their divisions can help us design next season’s flower beds.

Send me your nominations Today!

Note: This award is from the national society. This is in addition to our local pin award. We are also requesting nominations for this award. Thanks.

The President and Board of the American Hosta Society would again like to honor members of local hosta societies who have given of their time, skills, energy and enthusiasm over the years. 2016 will be the 5th time the AHS has honored such people and many hosta society clubs have taken the opportunity to nominate members. The nominating society receives a signed certificate for each nominated recipient for local presentation. In addition the recipient names are inscribed on the ‘President’s Wall of Honor’, that is now part of the AHS website at www.Hosta.org.

The AHS is asking each local hosta society to nominate a maximum of two members (per year) to be honored. The nominated person does not have

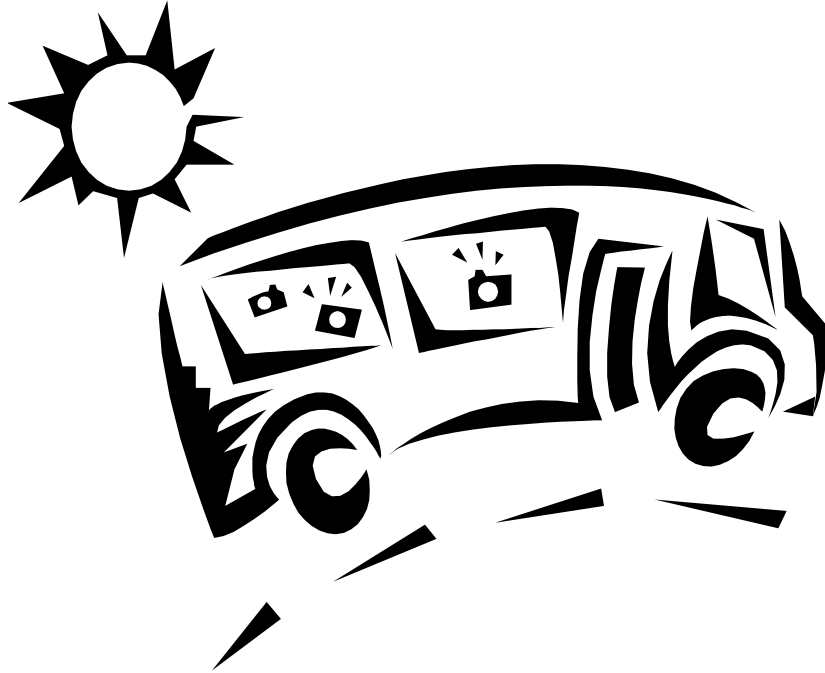
to be a member of the AHS and no nomination submitted by the local Society will be rejected.

Last year (2015) was the first time the DHSWP was asked to submit a nomination & the Steering Committee nominated Bob Danik. You can see his “brick” on the wall at the AHS website www.Hosta.org. This year (and for future years) we are requesting nominations from the membership.

So please submit 2 members who you think “have given of their time, skills, energy and enthusiasm over the years.” The nominees can include past or deceased members.

Send me an e-mail to: Pitvp@aol.com with your nominations. Nominations will be accepted until Monday, March 28.

Mark your Calendar!
We are going on a TWO DAY
Bus Trip to Michigan & Toledo area!
Saturday, June 11 – Sunday, June 12, 2016



Visiting 5 gardens & 2 nurseries including:
AHS Display Garden
Benedict Hosta Hillside at Hidden Lake Gardens &
Hallson Gardens nursery

TOTAL cost per person is \$200
(Includes bus, room, admission and meals.)

We'll stay at the Holiday Inn Express, Toledo, double occupancy.

If you need a separate room it is \$60 additional dollars.

Each member is allowed one guest, extra or non-members please add \$20.

Please let me know who you are rooming with,
so that we can figure out the rooms.

Deadline is March 31, 2016 — Seating is limited

Registration Form & more info on the following pages.

Brief Descriptions of the gardens & nurseries we will visit

Benedict Hosta Hillside at Hidden Lake Gardens – Tipton, MI

The Hosta Hillside features a significant collection of hosta donated by the Michigan Hosta Society. This is also an **Official American Hosta Society Display Garden**, so designated in 1995. More than 800 different cultivars are attractively arranged on a shaded hillside next to the lake. The Hosta Hybridizers area was added in 2005, showcasing the introductions of Michigan Hosta Hybridizers and dedicated as the Ralph and Dorothy Benedict Hosta Hillside.

http://hiddenlakegardens.msu.edu/garden_highlights/benedict_hosta_collection



Photo Credit: Jim Munson of Hosta Hillside at Hidden Lake Gardens

Hallson Gardens – Cement City, MI

Hallson Gardens was founded in 1995 by Chris Wilson and Brian Hall. In 2001 we were voted one of the best online hosta resources by Garden Web users and soon our focus shifted to mail order production. At the end of that year we started our online forum which has become a favorite spot for hosta and plant lovers around the globe.

In 2003 we purchased a second piece of property and started growing even more plants at the new location. Over the next 2 years we created a whole new nursery from the ground up, including a building where we moved our home. We opened our new location in 2005 and completed moving all of the plants by the end of that summer.

Today we remain committed to offering the best hosta and perennial plants you can buy. Our field grown plants are high quality, generous sized, freshly dug (during the growing season) and are well acclimated to northern gardens. At the nursery we offer a unique shopping experience where you can browse the nursery as well as the field rows and shop from both potted and field grown plants.

<http://www.perennialnursery.com/hosta-plants/>

Tom Schmid Gardens & Nursery Jackson, MI

We have been in the nursery and landscaping business for over twenty years, we offer over a thousand varieties of hosta as well as a large collection of rare and unusual dwarf and standard-size conifers, shrubs, ornamental and flowering trees, perennial plants and grasses, as well as Japanese maples. The owner is Tom Schmid, a long-time plant enthusiast and highly experienced landscaper.



The majority of our plants are ground-grown, ensuring that they have benefited from the very best growing conditions. Tom personally digs them for you and prepares them for transporting and planting so that you may be sure of having a plant with a

healthy, undamaged root system. In addition, we have well-organized areas of potted stock, making it quick and convenient to shop for selected popular hostas and other perennial flowers, grasses and shrubs.

We encourage you to visit our nursery location. We are situated on the bank of the Grand River in Jackson, Michigan, in a picturesque setting where you may stroll along shady walking paths while viewing the hostas and other plant stock. Feel free to wander through our groves of trees, seeing the plants in a natural setting.

<http://www.schmidgardens.com/catalog.html>

Jim & Sandy Wilkins private garden Napoleon, MI

The Wilkins home is a 3 1/2 acre shade garden located several miles east of Jackson, MI. The large shade garden has been developing since 1997 when Jim and Sandy brought their plants together to create this new space. We have tried to garden smartly with drifts and ground covers, but our love of plants has also created a menagerie of many different varieties of many different species, so it has been a challenge to harness a collection into a pleasing landscape! We feel a love and a peace in the garden that we hope to share with you: our goal is to reflect the beauty of the earth, the joy of the world we live in, and give glory to the Creator that lets us tend it.

Toledo Botanical Garden – Toledo, OH

A museum for plants, Toledo Botanical Garden offers visitors the opportunity to share, discover and enjoy nature's beauty. With over sixty acres of display gardens and relevant plant collections, TBG is full of beauty, tranquility and opportunities for exploration and reflection. **(AHS Display Garden)**

Green thumbs come to the Garden to learn more about the varieties of annuals and perennials nestled within the various beds and look for ways to

incorporate new ideas into their home landscapes. Art lovers are inspired by original sculptures located throughout the Garden and our annual Crosby Festival of the Arts. Music enthusiasts groove to the smooth sounds of local jazz performers during our summer concert series. And children become engaged in our natural world through educational, hands-on plant exploration and pioneer living activities.

There's truly something for everyone at Toledo Botanical Garden. People of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities are welcome to come explore and enjoy.

<http://www.toledogarden.org/about-us/>

Simpson Park – Bowling Green, OH

There are several theme gardens; the Hosta Glen located within the park offers a collection of over 300 registered hosta with many informational signs about the history, use and care of hostas. This is an American Hosta Society display garden with several hundred hostas. **(AHS Display Garden)**

<http://www.bgohio.org/departments/parks-and-recreation/parks/simpson-garden-park/>

Charlie Harper private garden Bowling Green, OH

Charlie and Carol Harper's garden highlights two primary plant types: Hostas and Daylilies. There are over 500 plants of each type, presenting just about every variation in leaf and flower form. In the 12 years since moving into the house, the typical, minimal landscaping has gradually been altered so that flower beds cover about 80% of the yard. Island beds have been used to maximize flower bed space, while maintaining an interesting landscape design. The garden is an **Official American Daylily Society Display Garden**.

Mark Your Calendar!—Upcoming Events

Mar 18 – 19..... Fri - Sat..... Hosta College, Piqua, OH

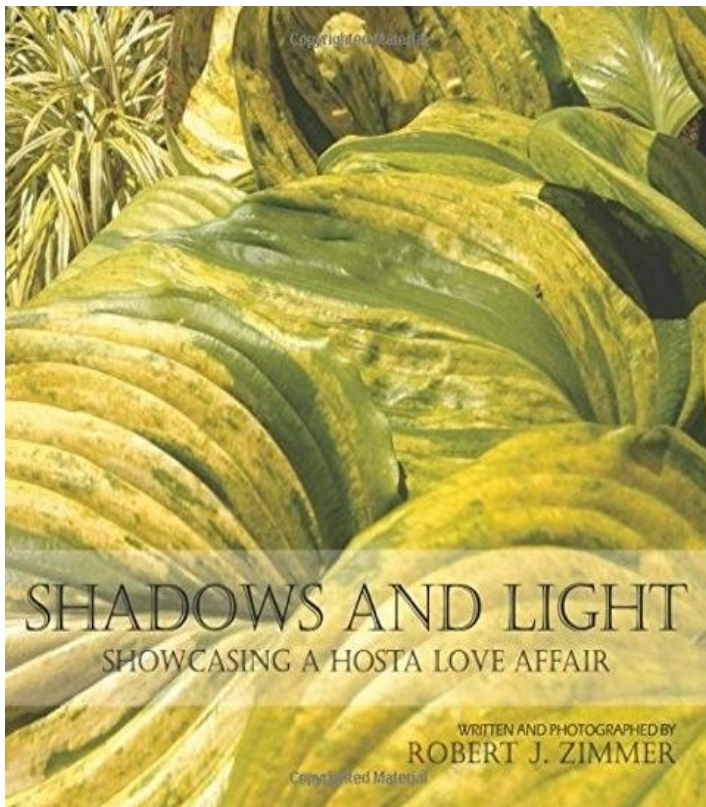
Apr 6 – 10..... Wed - Sun..... WORLD's Daffodil Convention, St Louis, MO

April, 9..... Saturday..... **Daffodil Grooming Clinic**—Platos & Lenny, Northland Library

April 23..... Saturday..... **Daffodil Show**, joint with the Penn State Master Gardener's Symposium & Marketplace. Ice Rink at Shady Side Academy, Fox Chapel

May 1..... Sunday..... **Hosta Grooming Clinic** with Jim, joint with Rock Garden Society Show & sale at Soergels

May 14..... Saturday..... **DAFFODIL Meeting with Brent Heath from Brent and Becky's** bulbs, Northland Library



More than a hosta encyclopedia, my aim is to showcase the features of many of my favorite hostas and express my undying love for these incredible beauties in a way never seen before. I hope you enjoy this collection of beautiful plants and information as I showcase a love affair with hostas.

SHADOWS AND LIGHT

"Showcasing a Hosta Love Affair"

WRITTEN AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY: Robert J. Zimmer

The MUST-HAVE hosta book of the year!

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Michigan & Toledo, Ohio Area Bus Trip June 11 - 12, 2016

Bus Trip Registration Form:

Space is limited; please send your check to hold your seat.

\$200 per person per double occupancy.

Includes bus, room, admission and meals.

If you need a separate room it is \$60 dollars additional.

Each member is allowed one guest, extra or non-members please add \$20.

Please let me know who you are rooming with, so that we can figure out the rooms.

Please fill out a separate form for each person.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____

Email Address (so that we can give additional information): _____

Single or double occupancy: _____

Roommate: _____

If you do not have roommate,
are you willing to share room? Yes No

No refunds after April 30, 2016

Checks are to be made out to DHSWP

_____	\$200	\$200 each Member or first guest
_____		Add \$20 for non members
_____		Add \$60 for single occupancy
=====		Total

Please send checks to:

Karen Schmidt

My email: karensmg@aol.com

111 N Benbrook Road

My Cell: 724-679-3818

Butler PA 16001

Sub (pick one) _____ Ham _____ Turkey _____ Veggie

Pizza # slices _____ Cheese _____ Pepperoni _____ Loaded