



Growing Together Growing Together

Daffodil & Hosta Society of Western Pennsylvania

MARCH 2021

Hello to Everyone,

The year 2020 was a year of canceled events, isolation, face masks and social distancing. We all struggled through, dealing with a virus that is potentially deadly to some and is easily transmitted to all. COVID led to the cancellation of all of the club's major events for that year with the exception of the picnic at DJ's.

Unfortunately, while progress is being made dealing with the pandemic, we are not out of the woods nor back to normal. Therefore, the steering committee regrettably agreed to again cancel the Hosta Show for 2021.

It was not an easy decision to make because we all enjoy the show for the social interaction with our fellow gardeners and sharing common interests in growing Hostas.

The show always provides an opportunity to see what members are growing and it also provides an educational opportunity for the public. No matter if you chose to enter leaves or you chose to volunteer for show activities, it is always a learning experience.

The club has sponsored shows for 27 consecutive years, so it is very disappointing to not have a show 2 years in a row. The show is more than a competition; it is a social and educational experience.

The steering committee is already thinking on how to get back to normal in 2022!

Best wishes for your gardening success this year and hopefully we will be back as close as normal for 2022.

Jim Kalka
Hosta Show Chair

Steering Committee

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Gary Gahagan

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HOSTA COLLEGE 2021 Saturday, March 20th, 2021

Although Hosta College will be more abbreviated in nature this year, they are sure this will be a rewarding experience for all as they utilize the Zoom Video Conferencing Platform.

They are hosting five wonderful teachers who have prepared educational and interesting virtual presentations.

There is no charge for this event but you have to register!

Open registration began February 28. Registration closes on March 14 and there is a limit of 500 'students.' www.hostacollege.com for more information and registration.

Schedule

All times are Eastern Standard Time Zone

9:00am	Welcome
9:00 - 9:55am	New Perennials <i>with Broch Martindale</i>
10:00 - 10:55am	The Bigger, the Better: Humongous Hostas <i>with Don Rawson</i>
11:00 - 11:55am	Where do all of Those Hot New Hostas Come From? <i>with Rob Mortko</i>
12:00 - 12:30pm	Lunch
12:30 - 1:25pm	Hostas and Their Shady Friends <i>with Bob Iames</i>
1:30 - 2:25pm	Underappreciated Hostas <i>with Bob Solberg</i>
2:30 pm	Closing and Thank You

National Convention



AMERICAN HOSTA SOCIETY NATIONAL CONVENTION
KALAMAZOO, MI

Visit the convention website at www.ahs2021.org to register for the event being held July 15-17.

You'll also learn more about all the great activities and opportunities, like:

- The convention gift Hosta 'Silly String' (mailed to each registrant)
- Schedule for speakers, workshops, judges clinics, and more
- On-demand, professionally recorded virtual garden tours
- Seedling photo competition
- And much more!

As a reminder, **registration is \$49 per household.** More details about other activities are coming soon, so keep checking the website for updates. Don't hesitate to reserve your spot now!

Looking forward to Spring
Tammy Borden
AHS Executive V.P.

Hello!
The 2021 American Hosta Society national convention is going virtual, and we're excited to let you know...

Registration is now open!

MAY 7, 2021 (FRIDAY) DHSWP DAY CAR POOL TRIP

We will be meeting at 7 a.m. in the Giant Eagle parking lot behind Wendy's on Route 19 (easier to get on the turnpike that way). We will do a short stop at a rest area on the turnpike then head to our first stop at Kridler's Garden. I talked to Barry, the owner of Kridler's and he has over 100 varieties of hosta this year and many new hostas from Bob Solberg.

Many of the places we have been before, but I have added a new place I just discovered last year: Quailcrest Farms. They have a wide variety of perennials and annuals (many unusual).

We will stop after Petitti's and have lunch, I am allowing 45 minutes. I will be stopping at Raising Cane (fried chicken tenders only) which is about 1/4 mile from Petitti's, there is a grocery store Fresh Thyme Market in the same parking lot. If you do not like chicken, then you can go in there and get something (they have hot soup and pizza) or go to another fast food nearby. Regardless we will be eating in our cars and will all meet up at Rohr's.

Due to COVID, we will be driving separate or in groups, totally depends on you. I will provide each driver a list of places with addresses and an estimated time table. We should be back around 7 p.m.

Please let me know if you are interested in going. Also let me know if you are driving by yourself or are willing to have passengers. Karen Schmidt karensmq@aol.com 724-679-3818

Kridler's Gardens (annuals, perennials, shrubs, HOSTAS)

4809 Homeworth Road, Homeworth, OH <https://kridlergardens.com/Nursery>

Dehoff Greenhouse (annuals, perennials, shrubs, water plants)

3517 Beechwood Ave., Alliance, OH <http://dehoffs.com>

Petitti Garden Center (annuals, perennials, shrubs, gift shop)

5656 Dressler Road, NW, North Canton, OH <https://www.petittigardencenter.com/locations/canton/>

Rohr's Nursery (annuals, perennials, shrubs, water plants, gift shop)

7211 Portage Street NW, Massillon, OH <https://rohrynursery.com/>

Quailcrest Farm (annuals, perennials, shrubs, some unusual plants)

2810 Armstrong Road, Wooster, OH <http://www.quailcrest.com/>

Dayton Nurseries (annuals, perennials, shrubs)

3459 S Cleveland Massillon Road, Norton, OH <http://www.daytonnursery.com/>

Daffodowndilly

*She wore her yellow sun-bonnet,
She wore her greenest gown;
She turned to the south wind
And curtsied up and down.
She turned to the sunlight
And shook her yellow head,
And whispered to her neighbor:
“Winter is dead.”*

—A.A. Milne, *When We Were Very Young*



Why are daffodils beloved by so many people?

In many ways, they are a simple flower with leafless stems. Colors are limited almost exclusively to combinations of white and two primary colors of red and yellow. I am among the majority of people who smile at the sight of a freshly bloomed daffodil. While I love the stillness of winter and the snow, the daffodil is among the first flowers to shout, “winter is dead!”. Indeed, life goes on. And that message has never been more poignant than it is during the Spring of 2021.

Many of us have settled into the “new normal”. (Oh, how I hate that expression!) Life has slowed down and we've newfound pleasures in the simple things like the chirping of a bird, the scent of a rose, the sprouting of a flower. The pandemic has robbed us of many things but it has forced us to accept and appreciate the gift of Time and Solitude.

Avid gardeners have stepped up their game since March, 2020 and many people have reignited the passionate flame of gardening much like a snowed-in couple does during a power outage. I spent years working in OB/Gyn and it was no secret that we expected mini baby booms following regional power outages.

People need their time to be meaningful. Gardeners feel joy in much the same way as do new parents. “Look what I grew! I DID THIS!” They beam with pride of the beauty they brought into the world.

Perhaps daffodils represent that feeling better than any other plant. Planting them in Autumn is an act of

faith. The first signs of spring appear as the little green leaves push up through the soil. It is like a father feeling the kick of his child for the first time. Both tell us good things are coming. The anticipation is palpable.

As nesting parents prepare for the birth of their child by preparing the nursery with everything their baby will need, it is now that daffodillians should also prepare for the arrival of their little yellow and white and orange “babies”.

Fertilize daffodils when the first begin to break thru the soil. Liquid or water soluble fertilizer is best. Many time-released fertilizers do not activate until the soil temperature rises. A fertilizer low in nitrogen is preferred. Bone meal. Potash. All promote flowering.

Nitrogen sources like fish emulsion are good after the bloom, when the leaves are providing energy to the bulb for next year's bloom. (Which is why you should not cut the leaves down.)

It is good to mulch before the buds appear because it is easier. You don't want your bulb competing with weeds for moisture. Daffodil bulbs like moisture, but good drainage. (Don't let your babies sit in wet diapers. They will rot.)

As your bulbs bloom, don't be afraid to cut some and bring them inside where you can enjoy them close up. Take pictures and share them as every proud parent does. In fact, we'd love to see them on our Facebook page!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/209078313691707>

Susan Gahagan

DHSWP 2021 TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

When	What	Where	Time	Website of location
Sat, March 6	Jim Kalka/Margie Elliott's 2020 Garden	Zoom	1:00 PM	
Sat, March 27	Trilliums with Tim Choltco	Zoom	1:00 PM	
Sat, April	Breakfast & Matt Duddy's Open Daffodil Garden	Volant, PA	8:00 AM	
Mon, April	Visit Daffodil Gardens and Shopping	OH & DJ's	TBD	
Friday, May 7	Shopping Trip	Car Pool	7:00 AM	
May 21-22	Indiana County May Mart	CANCEL		Indiana Garden Club
Sat, June 5	Hosta Show	CANCEL		Soergels
Sat, June 5	Live Birds of Prey	Succop Nature Park's Barn	1:00 PM	Succop
June	Trough Workshop	Hoop House		
Sat, July 17	Picnic	DJ's	11:00 AM	DJ's Greenhouse
August	Planting event	Hoop House		
Sat, Nov 6	End of season banquet	Lucianos	12 Noon	Lucianos

Saturday, March 6 – 1:00 PM Zoom Meeting

Program: Jim Kalka and Margie Elliott's 2020 Garden

Presenters: Jim Kalka and Margie Elliott (DHSWP long time members).

Jim and Margie will discuss their garden through the year featuring how well their Hostas and Dahlias performed through the year.

After the presentation we will have the always anticipated Garden Question & Answer session.

Please jot down some questions to ask the others.

Saturday, March 27 – 1:00 PM Zoom Meeting

Program: Trillium

The *Trillium* presentation briefly discusses culture and cultivation. It also is a short survey of some of the species from eastern North America. These include some of the more widely grown as well as a few of the rarest.

Presenter: Tim Choltco

Tim has always been a plant geek. He is a grower and collector of *Amorphophallus* (Corpse Flowers), *Cryptanthus* (Earth Star Bromeliads), *Hemerocallis* (Daylily), *Hosta*, *Trillium*, as well as orchids. "I have been a member of the Orchid Society of Western Pennsylvania and growing orchids for 38 years. I received a BS in Botany / Plant Science at Penn State University. While at PSU, in my spare time, I published 10-12 new orchid species."

Saturday, April TBD

Breakfast and Visit Daffodil Gardens

Breakfast & Matt Duddy's Open Daffodil Garden

We will meet at Brown's Country Kitchen at 8 a.m. for breakfast (1149 W Portersville Rd, Portersville). Then travel to Volant to Matt Duddy's (daffodil speaker we had in August 2019) open garden to see his daffodil collection. Take your time visiting the garden and then you can visit places in the area at your leisure, if you want. I will provide you with a list of Amish greenhouses and a place to get Amish donuts. There are also shops in Volant to visit and the outlets/restaurants are nearby. **Please let me know if you are going. Thanks, Karen: My email: karensmg@aol.com My Cell: 724-679-3818**

Monday, April TBD Visit Daffodil Gardens and Shopping

We will visit the following gardens:

Kridler's Garden, Homeworth, OH

Fellows Riverside Garden, Youngstown, OH

Perennial Post, Middlefield, OH

DJ's Greenhouse, Transfer, PA

This trip will be dependent on the weather. We will end up at DJ's, where we will be having a takeout dinner. I will send you a menu ahead of time and we will place an order for takeout from a nearby restaurant. We will then eat at the picnic shelter or in the new classroom building.

Please let me know if you are going and I will send you the details and get your dinner order.

Thanks, Karen: My email: karensmg@aol.com My Cell: 724-679-3818



Saturday, June 5 – 1:00 PM In-Person Meeting at Succop Nature Park

Program: Live Birds of Prey

These birds have been hurt and rehabilitated to become educational birds. The staff will come around with the birds so they can be seen up close and they will tell us some interesting facts about the birds. We will learn about many of the unique features and habits that make these magnificent creatures such good hunters and why they are so important to the health of the ecosystem. The meeting will take place in a large barn, so there will be plenty of room to social distance. Hope to see you there.

Location: Succop Nature Park's Barn

185 Airport Rd
Butler PA 16002

Trivia Fun: Why is there Daylight Saving Time?

Here's the short history of this phenomenon...

Credit for Daylight Saving Time is often attributed to Benjamin Franklin, who suggested the idea in 1784 as a joke. British-born New Zealander George Hudson proposed the concept in 1885 but was ridiculed. The idea was revived in 1907, when William Willett, an Englishman, proposed a system in the pamphlet *The Waste of Daylight*.

The Germans were the first to officially adopt the light-extending system in 1915 as a fuel-saving measure during World War I. The British switched one year later, and the United States followed in

1918, when Congress passed the Standard Time Act, which established our time zones. This experiment lasted only until 1920, when the law was repealed due to opposition from dairy farmers (cows don't pay attention to clocks).

During World War II, Daylight Saving Time was imposed once again (this time year-round) to save fuel. Since then, Daylight Saving Time has been used on and off, with different start and end dates.

Currently, Daylight Saving Time begins at 2:00 A.M. on the second Sunday of March and ends at 2:00 A.M. on the first Sunday in November.