



# Growing Together Growing Together

**Daffodil & Hosta Society of Western Pennsylvania**

**FEBRUARY 2020**

Hi Folks,

Spring is fast approaching us. With that comes all of the opportunity for our gardens and club this year. With that means a large volume of hostas coming in to the hoop house. In March we will be getting out deliveries. We will be having a potting party and will be needing volunteers to help. We will send out notices on the dates as we find out their expected arrival.

We have a number of events coming up in the next few months.

We have our annual meeting coming up at the Cranberry Public Library on March 28th.

After that we have two daffodil events. The first is a breakfast and then going to view Matt Duddy's gardens, this is on April 18th. The second is a Non-Accredited daffodil show. We will be holding the event at Succop in Butler. Along with the show, staff from the Audubon society will be around with live birds of prey.

We will have more information coming to you on these events and our plans for the rest of the year.

Happy Valentine's Day!  
Megan Danik  
The Pres.

## Steering Committee

President  
Megan Danik

Vice-President Hosta  
Gary Gahagan

Vice-Presidents Daffodils  
Bonnie Plato

Treasurer  
Patty McGuire

Secretary  
Susan Gahagan

Co-Chair Daffodils  
Lenny Lehman

Co-Chair Hostas  
Keith Portka

Membership  
Bobbi Diller

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Education

Members At Large  
Matt Wilson  
Steve Plato

Newsletter Editor  
C. Alicia Pérez

E-Mail Editor to:  
[Pitvp@aol.com](mailto:Pitvp@aol.com)

**DHSWP 2020 BUS TRIP ITINERARY**  
**Monday, July 27—Wednesday, July 29**  
 Registration due date May 31, 2020      No refund after June 30, 2020

**Day 1: Four Star Greenhouse, Carleton Michigan** <https://pwfourstar.com/>

Four Star Greenhouse produces superb young plants and finished crops for the wholesale grower, retail grower, garden retailer and professional landscaper. It includes 16 acres of indoor growing area and four additional acres of outdoor growing space. We will tour their award-winning display gardens which will showcase new and popular varieties. Lunch will be provided at this location.

**Shopping at Horrocks Greenhouse and Farm Market, Kentwood, Michigan**

[http://horrocksmarket.com/garden\\_greenhouse.htm](http://horrocksmarket.com/garden_greenhouse.htm)

Here you will find lots of colors in flats, pots and hanging baskets. Selections include annuals, perennials, houseplants, seasonal favorites and heirloom varieties.

Dinner will be enjoyed at the *Double Tree by Hilton*, Grand Rapids, Michigan

<http://www.doubletreegrandrapids.com/> *Staying both nights here.*

**Day 2: Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park, Grand Rapids, Michigan**

<https://www.meijergardens.org/>

We will enjoy a one hour guided tram tour at one of the nation's premier horticultural display gardens and sculpture parks in Grand Rapids. It includes Michigan's largest tropical conservatory, indoor theme gardens, outdoor gardens, nature trails and boardwalk. A library, cafe and gift shop are located on the premises. Lunch will be on your own at the cafe.

**Mast Greenhouse Display Gardens, Grand Rapids, Michigan** <http://www.nealmastgreenhouses.com/>

Neal Mast Greenhouse is a wholesale grower of high-quality indoor and outdoor potted plants. The Mast Young Plant Division is home to the spectacular trial gardens. Visitors can gather new ideas on what varieties can be combined.

Their display garden is part of the Michigan Garden Tour and is open to the public.

**Walters Gardens, Zeeland, Michigan** <https://www.waltersgardens.com/>

This company has grown from a small farm of less than five acres to a multimillion dollar corporation with over 200 employees, 1,500 acres of land, and 500,000 square feet of greenhouse space. It is one of the largest perennial producers in the country.

Dinner will be enjoyed family style at the Beechwood Inn, Holland, Michigan.

**Day 3: Shopping at Chapman Garden Center, Battlecreek, Michigan**

<https://www.chapmangardencenter.com/index.html>

**Rakers Display Garden, Litchfield, Michigan** <http://www.raker.com/>

The Raker Trial Gardens display over 65,000 individual plants in comparison trial and landscape environments. The Gardens offer an unmatched experience to all levels of gardener. Here we will view the newest varieties, best performers, and most unique plants the horticulture industry has to offer. Lunch will be provided at this location.

On the way home we will stop at rest stops for lite eats, return to Cranberry approx. 8:00 p.m.

Registration Form below.

# "Exploring Michigan Gardens"

## Daffodil & Hosta Society of Western PA Bus Trip

### July 27 - 29, 2020

#### Bus Trip Registration Form

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

DHSWP invites you to join us as we explore Michigan on a three-day bus trip. We will depart from the Target store parking lot in Cranberry Twp. (Route 228) at 7:00 a.m. on Monday, July 27, 2020 and return on Wednesday, July 29, 2020 at approximately 8:00 p.m.

Price includes deluxe transportation, two-nights stay at the Double Tree by Hilton, Grand Rapids Airport, Michigan (with a hot breakfast both mornings), admission fees and meals, except lunch on Day 2 and rest stops will be on your own.

**Due date May 31, 2020      No refunds after June 30, 2020**

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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Cost per person based on room occupancy: (1) \$490 - (2) \$350 - (3) \$300 - (4) \$280

Please let me know who you are rooming with for room assignments.

If you do not have roommate, 1, 2, 3, 4 occupancy  
are you willing to share room? Yes No

Roommate(s): \_\_\_\_\_

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Make checks payable to:

**DHSWP**

c/o Karen Schmidt  
111 N Benbrook Rd  
Butler PA 16001

My email: [karensmg@aol.com](mailto:karensmg@aol.com)

My Cell: 724-679-3818

**Due date May 31, 2020**

**No refunds after June 30, 2020**

**UP COMING EVENTS**  
**WE HAVE MADE SOME CHANGES**  
**Take a look and plan to join us!**

**Saturday, March 28**

**Annual Meeting**

**12 Noon**

**NEW Location:**

Cranberry Public Library  
 2525 Rochester Rd  
 Cranberry Twp PA 16066

Besides the Chairs reports we will also have a speaker: Dick Barbee  
 Topic: Growing Hosta My Way  
 He will be giving us tips and advice on how to grow award winning hostas.



**Saturday, April 18**

**Breakfast & Matt Duddy's Open Garden**

**8:00 AM**

**Will meet at Brown's Country Kitchen for breakfast** (1149 W Portersville Rd, Portersville)

Then we will 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 is also shops in Volant to visit.

Please let me know if you are going. Thanks, Karen: My email: [karensmg@aol.com](mailto:karensmg@aol.com)

My Cell: 724-679-3818



**Saturday, April 25**

**Non Accredited Daffodil Show & Talk**

**NEW Location:**

Succop Nature Park's Barn  
 185 Airport Rd  
 Butler PA 16002

Program: Live Birds of Prey

This year we will not have a credited daffodil show but we still have a show! And if you have not participated in the show before you'll have an opportunity to show your best flowers. We will have judging, ribbons, prizes...this should be a fun time to show daffodils, discuss growing/showing daffodils and ask questions re: your daffodils. So get your flowers ready.

In addition to the show, Sucoop staff will come around with live Birds of Prey for us to see up close, ask questions, learn something new about these birds!

## DHSWP 101 – The First Five Years! A WALK DOWN MEMORY LANE

By Chuck Olescyski

To better acquaint newer members and to jog the memories of senior members a brief history of our club follows. How many of these events did you attend and do you remember some of the characters who steered our early attempts to educate our members about the genus *Hosta* and *Daffodils*?

### THE FIRST FIVE YEARS!!!

**Jan 1, 1992** – The Daffodil and Shady Garden Club held its first meeting. Twelve shady members attended and dues were set at \$5.00. The first program was 180 slides of hostas in famous gardens.

**March 7, 1993** – The club changed its name to The Daffodil and Hosta Society of Western Pennsylvania.

**April 17, 1993** -The first daffodil exhibit was held at the Northland Library with Dianne Mrak as chairperson.

**June 5, 1993** – The first *Hosta* exhibit was held at the Northland Library with Bette Comfrey as chairperson. Thanks to Clarence Rauch for making the display signs for both shows.

**July 7, 1993** – Tom Tindall (one of our founding fathers) hosted the first club picnic.

**September 19, 1993** – The club held its first daffodil sale & auction.

**October 24, 1993** – The first election of officers was held.

President – Walt Betzold  
VP – Steve Hampson  
Treasurer – Bette Comfrey  
Secretary – Janet Klages

**February 13, 1994** – Len Lehman (our in-house horticulturist) created the first special award for The Best *Cyclamineus* daffodil.

**March 13, 1994** – The club voted to affiliate with the Great Lakes Region of the AHS.

**July 1994** – First ‘road trip’ with 13 members driving to Van Wade’s and Bob Kuk’s.

**August 1994** – Club picnic held at Bette Comfrey’s Silvermist Gardens.

**October 1994** – Name tags were created to be worn at meetings.

(Do you know where your name tag is)???

**December 1994** – Club purchases liability insurance.

**January 1, 1995** – Both shows were held at the North Hills Village Mall.

**September 10, 1995** – The club held a referendum ballot on the issue of creating 2 clubs or staying together as one.

**November 12, 1995** – By a close vote the members decided to remain as one club. New officers included:

President Steve Hampson  
VP Ed Easter,  
Treasurer Toby Exter  
Secretary Janet Klages.

By-Laws were created by a committee consisting of Bill Cadman, John Dittmer, Len Lehman, and Dianne Mrak.

**March 10, 1996** – By-Laws were enacted. The shows moved to Phipps Conservatory.

**April 1996** – First daffodil open garden at Dianne Mrak.

**June 1996** – First *hosta* open garden at Barbara & John Dittmer’s.

**August 1996** – Club picnic (one of many) held at Zolocks botanical gardens.

**October 13, 1996** – Election of officers held under the new By-Laws.

President – Steve Hampson  
VP Daffodils - Dianne Mrak  
VP Hostas - Len Lehman  
Treasurer – Toby Exter  
Secretary – Janet Klages.

Club agrees to participate in the *hosta* newsletter exchange and to raise dues to \$8.00 annually. (Hmmm...much to be learned and shared by exchanging newsletters)...Do we still do this???

**November 1996** – First club banquet. (Does anyone recall the location of this banquet)?

To Be Continued...Years 2007 - 2011

NOTE\* The information in this biographical sketch was taken in part from the DHSWP Timeline with editorial comments made by the writer.

Thank you for listening!

**Great Lakes Region Hosta College**  
**March 20-21, 2020**  
**On-Line registration at <http://ihostohio.org/portal/glhc>**  
**IS NOW OPEN!**

Time to kick off the 2020 gardening season by registering for Hosta College and making your hotel registrations. Be sure to check the accommodations page for Piqua, Ohio area hotels.

And this year you are not going to receive the traditional Green Card, repeat: you are not going to receive the traditional Green Card so this is it. This is your new Green Card!

Registration dates are as follows:

**JAN 25—TEACHERS & GLR BOARD**

**FEB 1—MEMBERS OF GLRHS**

**FEB 8—NON-MEMBERS**

**FEB 29—REGISTRATION CLOSES**

And for DHSWP members the registration starts February 8, 2020 as we are no longer a member of GLR Hosta Society. But since many of you are

members in other societies, you may still qualify for the discount & the earlier registration.

There will be absolutely NO CLASS CHANGES or REFUNDS after registration closes.

If you have any problems, call Kay (the registrar) at 1-616-796-8510 for help.

Remember that friends do not have to be a member of a hosta society to attend and there are many, many other class topics and hands on projects other than hosta themed classes. Master Gardeners are welcome to share the attached info with their organization.

The last date to register is February 29, but log in quickly to get first choice class choices.

See attach flyer with more information

**Renew your membership or give the gift of a membership to your friend!**

The DHSWP offers a great opportunity to learn about America's biggest selling perennials. We're talking hostas and daffodils. Please consider joining the DHSWP or giving a membership gift to a current member or a friend that you feel needs an early spring pick-up. You will find our group to be friendly, educated, and willing to learn and have fun.

For a fee of only \$10.00 annually or \$15 for two years you can derive benefits and enjoy the following:

Regular Scheduled/Informative meetings  
 Propagating/Growing Hostas/Daffodils  
 Newsletters  
 Advice on Shade Gardening  
 Guest Speakers  
 Teaching/Learning about Hostas/Daffodils  
 Hosta and Daffodil sales  
 Socializing with Friends - Breakfasts  
 Hosta and Daffodil auctions

Hosta/Daffodil Exhibits  
 Tours/Bus Trips/Day Trips  
 Raffles  
 Open Garden visits to members  
 Snacks at Meetings  
 National, Regional, and Local Shows  
 Treating Hosta Diseases  
 Discounts on Hosta and Daffodil purchases  
 ...and many, many more benefits!

Contact the membership chair for information on how to join or give the gift of membership.

For further information about the DHSWP check our website: [dhswp.com](http://dhswp.com)

## Heard it through the great Internet...Chuck O.

The following information is from the E-Newsletter from the Horticulture Update in Mahoning County, OH.  
You may also want to visit the Penn State Extension at <https://extension.psu.edu/>

### QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Q – I heard we can grow new vegetable plants from our scraps from the kitchen this winter. Is this possible? What are the details? – Shelly from Austintown

A – Yes, these kitchen scraps can be recycled into new plants! We all know that food scrapes are great for our compost pile, but they are so much more! What a great way to get the kids and grandkids interested in growing things during winter. In the dead of winter when all gardeners are longing to see something green, I call growing kitchen scraps horticultural therapy! Most of the vegetables will send out roots or leaves quickly. Here are some ideas to try:

**Green Onions:** Save the bottom 3” of a green onion/shallot. Use a clean vase or Mason jar, with ~4” of water. Place on sunny windowsill. Change the water every day or so. You’ll see growth in a few days.

**Garlic:** So easy. Just place a clove in a pot of soil. Keep in in a sunny place, water when dry.

**Celery:** Cut the bottom off, place in a bowl with warm water in direct sunlight. You’ll see new leaves in a week or so.

**Pineapple:** Cut off the top, insert a few toothpicks to hold above a container filled with water. Place in sunlight. Change water every day or so. Keep water just below base. You should see roots in a week or so. Transplant into soil.

Other ideas: Save some orange seeds, dry them and plant in soil. You’ll have an orange tree! Although

you don’t have the perfect conditions and won’t produce an exceptional plant in all cases, it is a fun way to enjoy the winter months. And yes - some things can be transplanted outside when warmer weather arrives!

Plan your winter scrap growing at:

<http://go.osu.edu/scraps> and  
<http://go.osu.edu/morescraps>

### WEEKLY GARDEN TIPS

**EVALUATING THE OLD GARDEN...**Figuring out the best and easiest way to get the garden you want in 2019 starts with looking back on 2018. What worked? What did I like, but it didn’t like my garden? Start your plan by visiting:

<http://go.osu.edu/gardenevaluation>

**SUCCULENTS...**They are all the rage again this year, with several colors of greens and blues available for a windowsill near you. But, can you take them outside? How much water do they need? Download a tip sheet at:

<http://go.osu.edu/succulents>

**GARDENS FOR EVERY ABILITY...**Check out this interactive website that gives everyone an opportunity to garden. From trellis gardens to containers and tool ideas to safety, everyone can join in on gardening fun. Learn more at:

<http://go.osu.edu/everbody>

**EASY CARE HOUSEPLANTS...**Houseplants aren’t the easiest things to grow. Even the green thumbs have challenges growing things inside. Check out these easy-care houseplants to green up the winter!

<http://go.osu.edu/easyhouseplants>

## Hours for the 2020 Gardening Season at 2020 DJ’s Greenhouse & Gardens

### APRIL-- Opening Day 15th

Monday-Saturday—9-5  
Sunday—11-4

### MAY-- Memorial Day 9-4

Monday-Saturday—9-8  
Sunday—10-5

### JUNE

1-14th—Monday-Friday—9-8  
Saturday—9-6  
Sunday—10-5

15-30th—Monday-Friday—9-7  
Saturday—9-5  
Sunday—11-4

### JULY-- Closed on the 4th

Monday-Saturday—9-5  
Sunday—11-4

### AUGUST-SEPTEMBER

Monday-Saturday—9-5  
Closed Sundays and Labor Day!

### OCTOBER-- Closed Sundays

Monday-Friday— 9-5  
Saturdays-Call for Hours

## 2020 DJ's Greenhouse & Gardens Schedule of Events

1004 East Lake Rd, Transfer, PA 16154

724-962-1230

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

### APRIL

- 7th Succulent Garden Class**  
\$35..... Materials Included  
6:30..... Reservations Required
- 9th Salad Bowl Class**  
\$16..... Materials Included  
6:30..... Reservations Required
- 15th OPENING DAY**  
9-5 Refreshments and Snacks!
- 21st Vegetable Gardening Class**  
6:30.... What can we Plant Now?
- 28th New Plants Talk\*\***  
6:30..... *New time and Day!!*  
Join us as we walk thru the Greenhouse discussing new Plants for the 2020 season.

### MAY

- 12th Gardening to attract Hummingbirds**  
6:30
- 14th Gardening to attract Butterflies**  
6:30
- 20th Vegetable Gardening Class**  
6:30..... Lets Get Planting!!
- 28th Container Class**  
\$27..... Materials Included  
6:30..... Reservations Required  
Lets Be Creative!!

### JUNE

- 6th Breakfast with DJ**  
9:00..... Reservations Required  
What to do and When to do it!
- 11th Herbs: Preparation, Planting & Cooking**  
6:30..... Guest Speaker: Laurie Bush
- 16th Succulent Garden Class**  
\$35..... Materials Included  
6:30..... Reservations Required
- 18th Hydrangea Class:  
Healthy-Happy-Blooming Plants.**  
6:30..... Yes you can!
- 23rd Fairy Gardens for KIDS only!**  
6:30..... Material Included A smaller container for the young!  
\$20..... Reservations Required
- 25th Tea Time!**  
6:30  
\$20..... Reservations Required  
Immerse yourself in the history and beauty of a tea garden! Enjoy teas and Pastries and take home a small tea herb garden.
- 30th Vegetable Gardening Class**  
6:30..... What can I still Plant?

### JULY

- 7th Create Your Own Fairy Garden**  
\$35..... Materials Included  
6:30..... Reservations Required

- 9th Terrarium Workshop**  
\$35 .....Materials Included  
6:30 .....Reservations Required
- 11th Breakfast with DJ**  
9:00 .....Reservations Required  
Fertilizer? When? How Often?
- 17th Evening in The Garden**  
\$30 .....Garden Party for a Cause!  
6-9 .....Reservations Required!  
Webb Winery will be available for samples and to purchase wine. \$5 for each person attending will be Donated to the Mercer County Community Food Warehouse! We are also asking for a non-perishable Donation.

### AUGUST

- 1st Breakfast with DJ**  
9:00 .....Reservations Required  
Keeping the Garden Alive!
- 12th Vegetable Gardening Class**  
6:30 .....Planting the Fall Garden!
- 15th Customer Appreciation Day**  
9-5 .....Refreshments and Great Plant Specials!!!
- 19th Personal Sachet Workshop**  
\$20 .....All Materials Included  
6:30 .....Reservations Required  
Guest Instructor: Laurie Bush

### SEPTEMBER

- 5th Breakfast with DJ**  
9:00 .....Reservations Required  
Keeping your Plants Looking Good!
- 10th Herbs: Harvesting, Storing & Canning**  
6:30 .....Guest Speaker: Laurie Bush
- 15th Hydrangea Workshop**  
6:30 .....How and When to Prune!
- 26th Fall Garden Walk**  
1:00 .....*New Time*  
What to Prune and How to get our Plants ready for Winter!

### OCTOBER

- 6th Fall Harvest Wreath Workshop**  
\$35 .....All Materials Included  
6:30 .....Reservations Required
- 10th A Final look at the Gardens**  
10:00 ...Reservations Appreciated  
Enjoy Hot Spiced Cider and Donuts

### NOVEMBER

- 8th Winter Container Workshop!**  
2:00 .....*New Class and Time*  
\$30 .....Bring your own Container (12-14") for this class. We will provide all Materials and help you create a beautiful winter arrangement. We will be working with material that will need trimmed so please bring pruners and gloves for this class. Reservations Required



## DHSWP 2020 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

When	Time	What	Where	Speaker, Topic, Other
March 12-15		National Daffodil Convention	Dallas Texas	
March 20-21		Hosta College	Piqua Ohio	
March 28	12:00	Annual Meeting	Cranberry Township Building 2525 Rochester Rd Cranberry Twp PA 16066	Dick Barbee, "Growing Hosta My Way" He will be giving us tips and advice on how to grow award winning hostas
April 4	1:00	SC Meeting	Northland Public Library	
April 18	<b>8:00 AM</b>	Breakfast & Matt Duddy's	Brown's Country Kitchen and Open Garden	
April 25	12:30-5:00	Daffodil Event	Succop Nature Park's Barn 185 Airport Rd Butler, PA 16002	Live Birds of Prey
May 15-16		Indiana Garden Club Sale		
May 16th		Armstrong County Master Gardener sale		
June 6		Hosta Show	Soergel's Orchards	
June 10-13		Hosta National Convention	Brooklyn Park, MN	
July 18	11:00	Picnic	DJ's Greenhouse & Gardens	
July 27-29		Bus Trip	Michigan	
August ?		Meeting	Hoop House	
September 18-19		Fall Hosta Forum	Edinboro University, Edinboro PA	
October 17	1:00	Regular meeting	Northland Public Library	
November 7	12:00	End of Season Banquet	Luciano's Brick Oven	Tim Choltco
November 14	1:00	SC meeting	Northland Public Library	
December 12	1:00	Regular meeting	Northland Public Library	