

2011 EVENTS

Feb 12

NWIHS Meeting
'It's Chili in February'
Speaker: George Brenn
'HOW PLANTS RESPOND TO PRUNING'

Mar 16 & 17 Hosta College

Apr 15

NWIHS Meeting
Speaker: Rob Mortko,
AHS VP for the Genus Hosta
Topic: **'TISSUE CULTURE FOR DUMMIES LIKE ME!'**

Apr 27 Setup Pond Expo

April 28 & 29

Illiana Garden & Pond Expo-
Club Booth

April 30 thru May 5

NWIHS Member's Event
10% Discount Week
Sunrise Greenhouse

May 12

Trillium Woods Plant Pickup

May 12, 19 & 26

Open Days at Trillium Woods

May 19 Annual NWIHS Plant
Sale & Hosta Auction

Jun 13 thru 16

AHS National Convention-
Nashville, TN

Jun 22 & 23 Great Lakes

Region Hosta Society-
Hosta Tailgate
Grand Rapids, MI area

Jul 7 NWIHS Leaf Display at
Gardens on the Prairie

Jul 12 thru 14

Midwest Regional Hosta
Society Convention -
Rochester, MN

Aug 12 NWIHS Annual
Picnic/Potluck

Sep 9 NWIHS Meeting &
Annual Photo Contest
Speaker: TBA

Nov 11 NWIHS Meeting &
Elections
Speaker: TBA

FEB/MAR 2012



NORTHWEST INDIANA HOSTA SOCIETY

If you attended the Winter Scientific Meeting on January 21st or the Winter Gardening Expo in Valparaiso on the same day, or even LOOKED at a 2012 plant catalog, you have already been bitten by the gardening bug. The teasingly warm temperatures are also at fault. Although, the occasional snow storm does try to bring us back to the reality that it is still Winter.

Our meeting on Sunday, February 12th, will be a timely one. George Brenn is the owner/general manager/President of Four Seasons Landscaping Nursery on US 6 in Valparaiso. (This also happens to be where our member Bev Stegeman works.)

George's talk will be 'Pruning 101' where he will explain the decision making process when pruning. He says that understanding the plant's response to the cuts you make will de-mystify pruning and help cure "PRUNIFOBIA"!

We will gather at 1:30p with our speaker at 2:00p, and after an intermission to enjoy some "CHILI" hospitality, a business meeting will follow.

In 2012, we will continue to meet at the Brookstone Condominiums' Clubhouse located at 7507 Taft St., (HWY 55) Merrillville, IN., which is about 3/4 mile north of US 30 on the east side of the street. The clubhouse is at the entrance to the condos on the right.

Just as a reminder, the following have volunteered to bring raffle items: Lisa Ohanis, Sally Mijares, Bob Fox, Rosie Flitter, Kay Schenck, Mary Jo Weaver, Nancy Beadles & Mary Kay Remschneider.

On the hospitality list:
Chili: Lisa Ohanis, Linda Fox, Shannon Crepeau & Sally Mijares
A case of water: Bob Fox & myself
Bowls: Kathy Misch
Bread: Nancy Beadles & the Stegemans:
Crackers: Mary Kay Remschneider
Dessert: Rosie Flitter, Ginny Feyes, Kim White and Pei-Fung Hurst

Bring a friend-and an appetite!



DATE CHANGE FOR TRILLIUM WOODS PLANT PICK-UP

Since our annual plant sale and hosta auction was moved to Saturday, May 19th, Dan Coffman of Trillium Woods has moved up his first day for club member plant pick up to Saturday, May 12th. He will also be open to the public on Saturdays May 19th and 26th, when you can also pick up plants. His list is included in this newsletter and can be turned in at the February 12th meeting or mailed to Dan by the end of February.

PORTER COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS 9TH ANNUAL GARDENING SHOW

Brenda Molden, our events coordinator, would like to thank the following people for braving the snow and staffing our booth at the Porter County Master Gardener's show: 'Indiana' Bob Balite-wicz, Peggy Sierzputowski, Rosie Flitter, Bob Strimbu, Mary Simon & Ginny Feyes

The group enjoyed educating the public about hostas, sold a few calendars, attended some of the seminars, signed up people for our annual sale and even acquired a new member!

Brenda still needs members to staff our booth at the Illiana Garden & Pond Expo on April 28 & 29th. She will have the sign up sheet at the meeting or you may contact her-see CONTACTS on last page of this newsletter. Entrance to this event is free for members that sign up to work.

MIDWEST REGION HOSTA SOCIETY WINTER SCIENTIFIC MEETING

I don't know how it happens, especially with all the great un-winter-like weather we have had, but the Winter Scientific Meeting occurs on either the coldest or the snowiest weekend of the season. This year it was SNOW. Sandy Klausman and I went up on Friday to make our annual trek to Ikea where we again ran into our members from western Illinois & eastern Iowa-Carolyn Hamilton, Sally Stewart and Liz Jansen-making their annual stop. (continued on page 2)

There were a few empty seats on Saturday, but most braved the weather for some interesting and informative talks.

Bob Solberg spoke on developing hostas for public sale with the ultimate goal of being in the Hosta Finder. His comment: "Several hostas are introduced each year. I wouldn't mind if they were all good!". He stated that Hybridizers look to the future since they have an idea of the traits they want. Sport Fisherman (people that looks for sports on hostas) look back to where the plant came from to see where the plant may go.

Eight years is the quick road for him to get a hosta from seed to sell, with twelve years being the norm. Being in the hosta business, he makes many decisions on which plant to keep and develop depending on the marketability of the plant, not necessarily whether it is just a good plant. He also stated that sports are just as unique as seedlings and DNA testing proves it.

He asked "Are you hybridizing for yourself and your friends, producing perfectly good hostas or do you want to be in the Hosta Finder?"

Second up was C.H. Falstad of Walters wholesale nursery. C.H. led an audience interactive talk on nematodes. Following is some of the information we learned.

Nematodes travel on a film of water. Damage is noticed along the veins of the leaves. The hot, humid days that come in July and August help them spread.

They are attracted to carbon dioxide which plants give off late in the day, so that is the time to apply a spray making sure you hit the underside of the leaf. There was lots of discussion on which treatment worked from using Di-Syston (a restricted use pesticide) to digging the root ball and immersing it or the whole plant in bleach or very hot water to using Grubex. I am not going to include details here because for every treatment, it seemed that there was a downside-meaning sometimes the hosta died!

If you do use a spray, it must be reapplied every two weeks to cover the 21-22 day life cycle of a nematode. And if conditions are not right for them to reproduce, they will go into a dormancy-called the Daer Stage-where they can survive until the time is right. One of the safest methods of killing them in the soil was solarizing which involved covering the soil with black plastic and letting it bake in the sun for a few weeks. Since most of our gardens don't get direct sun, it was suggested that the soil be placed in black garbage bags and left on an asphalt driveway.

Sound like a lot of work? The consensus was that blue hostas don't seem to be bothered by nematodes. How to check to see if you have nematodes? Find a leaf with damage along the veins. Tear the leaf into small pieces and soak in water for one hour. Place the leaves on black paper or fabric. Look at it with a 10x or 40x magnifying glass. If you see little wiggly strings-you have nematodes!

Next were the breakout sessions. I listened to Glenn Herold, formerly of central Illinois now returning to Wisconsin, speak on the great native trees to use in the hosta garden. Some of the things to remember about trees are that the roots extend out well beyond the drip line with most of the roots being quite shallow. Roots do not seek water-they do not have a GPS! Roots will grow the best where water and oxygen are available and don't grow

where it is not.

For the less than 25' group he suggested planting the hardier *Acer japonicum*, *Acer triflorum* and *Acer nikoense* over the *Acer palmatum*. These are understory plants which causes them to have deeper roots. He also added American Hornbeam and Blue Beech to this list. Suggesting we go into planting zone denial, he said Sweet Bay Magnolia has a wonderful fragrance.

In the 25' to 40' range were hophornbeam (with fruits that look like the hops they use in beer making), Korean Mountain Ash, and *magnolia* 'Butterflies'.

For tall trees over 40' were hickory, beech, ginko (males varieties since the fruit of females smells like rotting meat!), Kentucky Coffee Tree, American Sweet Gum (in spite of the prickly seed balls), Tulip Tree (our state tree), cucumber magnolia, white oak, red oak, bur oak, chinquapin oak and a shumard red oak called 'Morton Glossy' named for the Morton Arboretum.

The next break out session I attended was on water gardens. Although you could install one of these on your own, it looked best left to the professionals. They did a start to finish slide show from pondless waterfalls to full scale ponds. All you need is a little spot and some electricity! Full instructions are available on their website: auqascapeinc.com.

After lunch, Roy Klehm of Song Sparrow Farm and Nursery in Avalon, WI., spoke. He covered the evolution of the nursery and his association with Paul Aden from whom he received hostas to bring to market. He stated they were expanding their hosta line. They passed out their beautiful annual perennial catalog which always causes plant envy. If you would like a copy, you can request one from their website: songsparrow.com. One note I did make was he said if you want to move snowdrops, do so right after flowering-before the disappear.

Our final speaker was Mark Zilis of Q & Z Nursery speaking on the tissue culture process. His images took us from the construction of the sterile areas needed to perform tissue culture to showing the plants in various stages. He explained how the hosta is basically stripped down to its most basic part-the meristem-which consist of undifferentiated, growing, actively dividing cells that can be used to reproduce the plant. He also talked about finding sports of plants when that division goes just a little off and how some plants are harder to reproduce from tissue culture than others which increases their market price.

This picture is of some of our members at the WSM. Left to right-1st row: Mary Bardens, Olga Petryszyn, Sally Stewart, Jean Owens & Carolyn Hamilton. 2nd row: Sandy Klausman, Dave Stegeman, and Bill Owens. Tall guy in the back is Dan Wols. Two that missed the photo session were Bev Stegeman and Liz Jansen.

Mary A. Bardens, Editor



**NORTHWEST INDIANA HOSTA SOCIETY
MEMBERS ONLY
SPRING 2012 BULK PLANT SALE**

Item	Retail Price	Your Cost	Quantity
Hosta Aomori Gold Star	\$37.00	\$8.00	_____
Hosta Awakening Angel	\$18.00	\$5.00	_____
Hosta Blaze of Glory	\$15.00	\$4.00	_____
Hosta Gothic Charm	\$16.00	\$4.00	_____
Hosta Interstate 71	\$20.00	\$5.00	_____
Hosta Key West	\$16.00	\$4.00	_____
Hosta Lemontini	\$17.00	\$4.00	_____
Hosta Tropical Storm	\$18.00	\$6.00	_____
Hosta Vulcan	\$18.00	\$4.00	_____

NOTE – Limit for any item of 2 per household. Plants are subject to availability and obtaining a minimum 20 orders. Payment due upon receipt of plants in May. Please do not send money with your order.

NAME: _____ **PHONE:** _____

EMAIL: _____

If mailing, send to: Trillium Woods
Dan Coffman
1310 Lake Dr.
Chesterton, IN 46304

NORTHWEST INDIANA HOSTA SOCIETY

MEMBERS ONLY

SPRING 2012 BULK PLANT SALE

Plant Descriptions



Hosta Aomori Gold Star (Muroya 2009) A striking gold-centered form of the species *Hosta rectifolia*. Purple flowers on long scapes.



Hosta Awakening Angel (Nyikos 2005) A medium hosta featuring blue-green blade shaped leaves. Pale purple and white flowers occur in dense clusters.



Hosta Blaze of Glory (Eislager 1999) A large hosta with very vivid bright gold leaves. White flowers.



Hosta Gothic Charm (Beilstein 2009) A large hosta with dark green oval leaves that have amazing substance. Lavender flowers.



Hosta Interstate 71 (Beilstein 2009) Round puckered blue-green leaves characterize this uncommon hosta. Pale lavender flowers.



Hosta Key West (Petryszyn 1999) Intense gold heart-shaped leaves adorn this very large hosta. Lavender flowers.



Hosta Lemontini (Zilis 2009) The leaves of this dwarf hosta emerge chartreuse and turn lemon yellow. Purple flowers.



Hosta Tropical Storm (Bergeron 2007) This small hosta is a reversed sport of Rainforest Sunrise with yellow edged green leaves. White flowers,



Hosta Vulcan (Hanson 2007) This medium sized sport of Captain Kirk has green leaves with crisp white centers. Light lavender flowers.



Winter Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 1522

Crown Point, IN 46308

219-690-0911

Find more information at: www.facebook.com/gardensontheprairie

www.gardensontheprairie.com

The Landscape Design Planning & Plants Event...

For the Home Gardener

Saturday, February 25, 2012

9:30 am – 2:00 pm at St. Mary's Orthodox Center

8600 Grand Boulevard Merrillville, IN 46410

Landscape Design Basics & Applications: Solutions & Inspirations

Presented By: Greg Pierceall, Purdue Emeritus Professor

Basic landscape design principles & useful concepts for home gardeners.

Good, Better, Best...Plants for 2012

Presented By: Wayne A. Gruber, Gardens on the Prairie

Comparisons & combinations of plants, recommended cultivars, ideas from

Gardens on the Prairie landscape projects & Wayne's travel adventures

Garden Book Sale, Refreshments & Door Prizes!

Registration for the Landscape Design Event is only \$40.00 per person when purchased by February 17, 2012 (Fee includes lunch & event materials). After February 17 or at the door, tickets are \$45.00 per person.

Register for the Event by mailing the form below or phone (219) 690-0911.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

I would like to purchase _____ tickets @ \$40.00 each for a total of \$ _____

Prairie Garden Club Member _____ tickets @ \$36.00 each for a total of \$ _____

Registrations received by February 20th will be confirmed by e-mail.

Please make checks payable to Gardens on the Prairie, P.O. Box 1522, Crown Point, IN 46308



Joliet Garden Club and Joliet Park District
proudly present ...

GARDEN DAY 2012

Saturday, March 24, 2012

9:00 am - 2:00 pm - Registration and vendor shopping will begin at 8:00 am!

\$40 includes 3 speakers, lunch (*turkey, ham or veggie*) & vendors.

Ginna Jones & Holly Scordo present *"You Too Can Have a 'Junque-ee' Garden"*

Liz Homburg of Lizzie's Gardens presents: *"Shrubs for an Inviting Landscape"*

Wayne Gruber of Gardens on the Prairie presents: *"Landscape Plant Combinations"*

Barber & Oberwortmann Horticulture Center
227 N. Gougar Road
Joliet IL

Call to reserve your ticket soon!

Seating is limited and ticket sales are already strong!

815-741-7278 (ext 5) ask for Kevin Eberhard

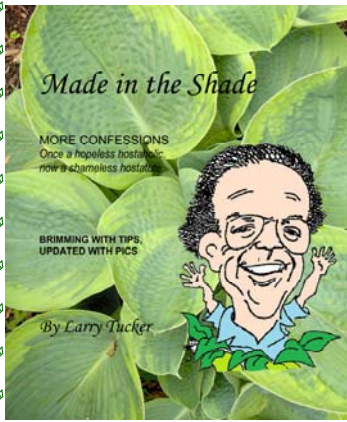
Note: Please advise your lunch selection when ordering your tickets.



QUOTE

First a howling blizzard woke us,
Then the rain came down to soak us,
And now before the eye can focus -
Crocus.

~Lilja Rogers



Larry Tucker's ***Made in the Shade*** book is back by popular demand!

This second edition of his adventures and advice, wit and wisdom will help you nurture plants, recognize yourself and maintain your sanity. It's brimming with 24 more chapters, hosta tips, color covers and pictures. Revenue again is destined for the Memphis Botanic Garden's Hosta Trail, an American Hosta Society National Display Garden. Here's what a few of your hosta friends are saying:

"Good garden writers have a special talent, often combining rich vocabulary with wit and solid information. Larry shows he knows hostas and gardening, has a passion for life and a great marriage. Read this smorgasbord one bite at a time or swallow it whole — after the gardening is done!"

—Mary Arnberg, Bridgewater, MA, New England Hosta Society

"It doesn't matter if you have never seen a farm or you were raised in Florida, Larry's verbal picture of life with hostas and Shari (his wife of two score and more) comes alive in humorous anecdotes. Grab a cup of coffee or a martini, ease back in your La-Z-Boy and prepare for his hilarious second-edition Made in the Shade."

—Doug Beilstein, Mansfield, OH, American Hosta Society President

"Larry has proven once again that you can't "mistake 'tuckered out' for dormancy," that he is "rarely at a loss for words — or weeds" and "in tough times, seniors are survivors." This is a book to be savored and enjoyed!"

—Roberta Chopko, Boonton, NJ, Tri-State Hosta Society

"What a great read! It would be fun to be a fly on the wall at Camp Granada because Larry and Shari are delightfully nuts. Larry has distilled many years of happy marriage and gardening into his book. It's like popping in on the Tuckers and having a good chat."

—Oscar Cross, Ash Grove, MO, Hilltop Farm nurseryman

"Made in the Shade could be titled Made You Smile. It is a must-have book for addicted hosta collectors, though it will appeal to anyone who gardens or has a passion for plants. Filled with anecdotes and Tuckerisms, Made in the Shade is a great companion for a rainy day when you need a smile."

—Jan Everson, Troy, MI, Michigan Hosta Society

"Larry's book is as entertaining as it is educational. His confessions about life's lessons in the hosta garden generate many a laugh for readers. Our club was fortunate to buy the last copies of his first edition. I highly recommend this second edition."

—Ray Rodgers, Hanna City, IL, Central Illinois Hosta Society

"These stories make me smile and chuckle because I can relate all too well to Larry's colorful antics. He weaves good horticultural advice into his tales so seamlessly that you don't realize you're learning something while you laugh."

—Mary Schwartzbauer, Hastings, MN, former AHS president

"Larry is a real storyteller! It's a treat to read his adventures with Shari, which always have a humorous twist. Whether about hostas, fertilizer or garden art, these essays are enough to make you laugh or cry. We have all been there!"

—Claudia Walker, Alpharetta, GA, former Dixie Region director

Larry's book can be purchased at Mid-South Hosta Society activities for \$15 or by mail for \$18. Make checks payable to Mid-South Hosta Society (with notation *Made in the Shade*) and send orders to **Larry Tucker, 2927 Geoffrey Drive, Southaven, MS 38672**. Hosta la vista!

UPCOMING EVENTS

AMERICAN HOSTA SOCIETY NATIONAL CONVENTIONS

2012 Middle Tennessee Hosta Society Nashville, TN Jun 13-16



'HOSTAS, FRIENDS & MUSIC'

Nashville Airport Marriott

www.mths-hosta.com/AHS_National_Convention_2012/

2013 Milwaukee, Wisconsin

MIDWEST REGIONAL HOSTA SOCIETY CONVENTIONS

2012 Shades of Green HS of SE MINN Rochester, MN Jul 12-13

"OPERATION HOSTA"

www.soghs.org/2012_Midwest_Convention/

FIRST LOOK 11

2012 Hosted by the Delaware Valley Hosta Society

DIXIE REGIONAL

2012 Will be held during the 2012 AHS Convention in Nashville, TN

2013 WINTER SCIENTIFIC MEETING

HOSTA COLLEGE

2012 Great Lakes Region Hosta Society Piqua, OH Mar 16-17

Registration for Hosta College Jan 13th to Feb 1st

<http://ihostohio.org/Portal/glhc/default.asp>

Great Lake Region Hosta Society-Hosta Tailgating Party

2012 Michigan Hosta Society Grand Rapids, Michigan area Jun 22-24

2013 NW Indiana Hosta Society

2014 Miami Valley Hosta Society Dayton, Ohio area

16th ANNUAL JOINT FALL HOSTA FORUM

2012 W. Penn Hosta & Daylily Society & W. NY Hosta Society

Riverside Inn Cambridge Springs, PA

Info at www.wnyhosta.com

More info for all hosta society events at www.americanhostasociety.org

2011/2012 CLUB CONTACTS

President:

Bob Fox (219)696-0286
moonislandbob@yahoo.com

V.P. & Programs/Club Trip

Bill Owens (815) 466-0302
Deerpath344@dishmail.net

Secretary:

Mary Simon (219) 462-5081
mudpuppy@grassgardens.net

Treasurer:

Tony Costello (219) 923-7227
tcostello@comhs.org

Newsletter Editor

Mary Bardens (219) 696-2832
bardensmary@sbcglobal.net

Membership:

Cindy Brito (219) 923-7227
cmbrito@msn.com

Hospitality:

Sally Mijares (219) 669-9146 **No Email**

Auction & Annual Plant Sale Chair,

1st Great Lakes Region Rep:

Rosie Flitter (574) 586-2221
rosiesgarden@msm.com

2nd Great Lakes Region Rep:

Peggy Sierzputowski (219) 696-2803
sierzpj@yahoo.com

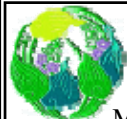
Club Plant Sales:

Bev Stegeman (219) 926-4373
stegemandb@comcast.net

Events Coordinator:

Brenda Molden (269-369-3263)
bugjuicebj@hotmail.com

Our New Facebook page:
www.facebook.com/groups/217513338298663/



JOIN

The American Hosta Society

Make Check Payable to: **The American Hosta Society**

Mail to: Sandie Markland, AHS Membership Secretary

P.O. Box 7539

Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948

or payment via the website: www.americanhostasociety.org

Membership Type:	1 yr	2 yr	3 yr	Life
USA Individual	\$30	\$57	\$80	\$900
Family	\$34	\$62	\$90	

IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM THE AMERICAN HOSTA SOCIETY TO CURRENT MEMBERS

The American Hosta Society has requested that all members contact the AHS Membership Secretary, Sandie Markland, @ AHSMembershipSecretary@charter.net and give her your current email address. More and more information is sent via email and this will help the AHS keep in touch with you. Thank You.

Northwest Indiana Hosta Society

\$20 for single or household Jan 1 to Dec 31

New or previous members may join anytime. This entitles you to the newsletter, club plants, member-only offers and events plus free membership in the Great Lakes Region Hosta Society. Make check payable to **NWIHS** and mail to membership chair: **Cindy Brito 8938 Liable Rd. Highland, IN 46322**



Make Your Reservation **NOW!!!**

JUNE 13 to 16, 2012

THE AMERICAN
HOSTA SOCIETY
NATIONAL
CONVENTION

Hosted by the
Middle Tennessee
Hosta Society
NASHVILLE, TN

[www.mths-hosta.com/
AHS_National_Convention_2012/](http://www.mths-hosta.com/AHS_National_Convention_2012/)

for more information

A lot to see, a lot to do and
Southern Hospitality thrown in!

Watch the u-tube video invitation
and preview the gardens.

[http://www.hosta2012.com/
Video_Invitation/](http://www.hosta2012.com/Video_Invitation/)

MRHS 2012



Operation
HOSTA

Plan to attend the
2012

**Midwest Hosta Society
Convention in
Rochester, MN
July 12, 13 and 14**

Visit our website:

[www.soghs.org/2012
Midwest_Convention/](http://www.soghs.org/2012_Midwest_Convention/)
to see our promotional
video, convention hosta,
tentative schedule, tour
gardens, and much