



President's Letter

Bob Iames, President

Hi gardening friends,

Can you believe it's April already! Things in my garden are starting to come to life. Crocus, snowdrops, aconites, early daffodils and even my first hosta. Yes, I said hosta. Hosta montana 'Aureomarginata' to be exact. It's the first up, first to be covered and uncovered to keep from freezing, first to get frosted and the first to give me a glance of what's to come. This hosta takes some pampering but so far it's worth it.

I know some of you may have been wondering where the yearbook has been. They were mailed March 29. It has been a year of challenges getting all the info together and getting people to commit to speaking. As you see, we still need a speaker for September and the Columbus group still doesn't have a speaker for the Tri club meeting. Everything will work out, just taking a little longer this year.

This is the last yearbook I will be putting together. Someone will need to step up to the challenge to continue our great publication. I will be more than willing to help get you started and guide you along the way.

Please note the new location for the north meetings this year. They will be held at the Historical Society of Vandalia, 336 E. Alkaline Springs Rd, Vandalia, OH not far from our old location. Thank you Linda Breidenbach for all your hard work securing our new meeting spot. The first meeting there will be April 9th and I can't wait to learn Gene Wogoman's secrets to his and Glenda's great hostas.

Start thinking now about what you want to donate to our auction on May 4th and all the people you want to invite. Normajean Roselius is working hard on it.

Be sure to mark your calendar and make plans for the overnight bus trip, May 31-June 1, to northwest Indiana. Gene Bashor has put together a good one, thanks Gene.

Looks to be a fun filled year!
Happy gardening,
Bob



Bob Iames and Normajean Roselius attended Wegerzyn Gardens' first annual Garden Fair March 23 promoting the Miami Valley Hosta Society. They spoke to many attendees about hostas and the benefits of joining our group.



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2019 Events Calendar

Date	Place	2019 Events
Apr 9, 7p	Historical Society of Vandalia, 336 E Alkaline Springs Rd, Vandalia (new location)	Meeting & Presentations "Tips and Tricks for Your Best Hostas Ever" by Gene Wogoman and "Hosta Companions: Usual and Unusual" by Bob liames. Open to the public.
May 4, 10a	West Carrollton Nazarene Church	MVHS Hosta Live Auction will offer hostas and other plants to delight the gardener. Open to the public. See page 3.
May 31-Jun 1	Overnight Bus Trip to Central & Northwest Indiana	Depart 7a Friday and return 9p Saturday. Garden visits and nurseries including hosta hybridizer Olga Petryszyn's garden. See yearbook for registration information.
Jun 11, 6-9p	Troy/Tipp City area	Member Garden Tours, open to members and guests
Jul 9, 5-9p	Southwest area	Member Garden Tours, open to members and guests
Aug 13, 7p	Miami Township Branch of Dayton Metro Library, 2718 Lyons Rd, Miamisburg	Meeting & Presentation "How to Have a Beautiful Garden Without Having an Ugly Shovel" by Pat Stidham. Open to the public.
Sep 10, 7p	Historical Society of Vandalia, 336 E Alkaline Springs Rd, Vandalia	Meeting and Speaker tba
Oct 8, 4p	Andy's Garden Center, 2310 W Market St, Troy	Carry-in Meeting and Presentation "Brighten up your Garden for Fall" by John Anderson, owner of Andy's Garden. Shop 4p; Eat 6p; Speaker 7p
Oct 19, 12-3p	Der Dutchman Restaurant	Tri-club Meeting & Presentation tba

December 13, 2018 Holiday Party

We had a great turn out for Karen Warner's annual Hosta Holiday Party. Karen treated us to great food, an amazing Christmas village, and warm hospitality. It was wonderful to see everyone during the "off season." Thank you Karen.



Great Lakes Region

2019 Hosta Tailgate June 21-23, 2019

North Coast Hosta Society hosts a weekend of garden tours and hosta friends at the Bay Community House, 303 Cahoon Rd, Bay Village, Ohio 44140. A block of rooms has been reserved at the Westlake Hampton Inn 29690 Detroit Rd, Westlake, Ohio 44145, (440)892-0333. Mention "Tailgate" for \$99 room rate. Visit www.ihostohio.org/glhc/ for all the latest.

Spring Events

Annual Hosta Auction Saturday, May 4

You won't want to miss this year's auction. We are working hard to make this the best auction yet! In the past few years, we have had close to 200 auction items and we anticipate a similar level of donations this year. The very knowledgeable and engaging, Bob liames, has agreed to be our auctioneer again this year. This is our only fundraiser of the year and it is **open to the public**. So, bring your friends, grab your wallets (cash, check, credit card), and come to the:

West Carrollton Nazarene Church

550 South Elm Street, West Carrollton, OH 45449

DIRECTIONS: I-75 Exit 47 to E. Central Ave. to Elm Street

Auction preview 10:00am Auction begins at 10:30am

DONATIONS: All members are encouraged to donate Hostas, other plants or garden related items. No item is too small and any quantity of items will be gratefully accepted. Contact Joan Stoppleman at tomstop@woh.rr.com by Monday April 29 with a list of your donated items. If at all possible, please email Joan to get a copy of the spreadsheet to list your items; this will save time and be more accurate. Bring in donated items from 8:30-9:00 the morning of the auction. If you are not able to attend the auction but wish to donate items, please contact Normajeane Roselius at roselius@woh.rr.com and she can arrange for you to drop the items off at an earlier date to a club member.

	Item Name	Description	Plant Size	Donor	Member
1	Eastern Arborvitae	Little Filly' sm round globe	2'	Dannaher Landscaping	Gene & Marcia Bashor
2	H. 'Sagae'	Large upright mound; wavy yellow-margined foliage	31" x 70"	Bob liames	Bob liames
3					

SNEAK PREVIEW: The Paw Paw Everlast Label Company has donated a nice set of heavy duty metal garden labels (plates and wires). New this year, Mason Hollow Nursery, Longfield Gardens, Walters Gardens, and Sunshine Engraving have all committed to donating hostas or other items.

VOLUNTEER: If you would like to volunteer, Contact Normajeane Roselius, auction chairperson, at roselius@woh.rr.com or (937) 609-4627

FOOD AND DRINK: There will be a break for lunch. Food and drink will be available at the auction.



2019 Hosta College



March 15 and 16 brought much green to Piqua Ohio and it wasn't the luck of the Irish. 320 gardeners attended the 26th annual Hosta College held at the Upper Valley Career Center. They enjoyed a fabulous vendor area pictured above, a garden book store, non-plant shopping area, gift hostas 'Wiggles and Squiggles' or 'Diamonds are Forever', an auction led by our own Bob Iames, great classes, and a banquet with speaker Bob Iames.

Bob's talk was "Rantings of a Plantaholic" a humorous look at things that bug him. Deer, grass, native plant eco-Nazis, his love/hate relationship with garden tours, and the constant need to change botanical names of plants all received a rant.

MVHS volunteers were Gene and Glenda Wogoman, Greg and Bette Rau, Gene and Marcia Bashor, Carlton Addison, Pat Langen, Normajean Roselius, Bob Iames, Amanda Duritsch, and our Great Lakes Region Delegates, Steve and Tina Duritsch. Thank you for making the event so special.

Put March 20-21, 2020 in your calendars for next year's Hosta College.



(Left) Amanda and her mom, Tina. Amanda is going to take Steve's place next year for Hosta College.

(Right) Linda picking up some treasures at Friday night's vendor area.



2019 Hosta College continued

Heard at Hosta College...

This was my first time going to Hosta College and I thoroughly enjoyed it. I participated in everything, beginning to end, including helping with setting up for breakfast and dinner. I picked up a few nice Hostas from Bob Solberg, including 'First Blush' and 'Holar Purple Flash.' Can't wait until these are large enough to share with others. What was my favorite part of Hosta College – the entire experience! The only problem I had was that I was exposed to so many other Hosta-holics earlier than usual in the growing season that I came home and had to order some hostas online. If this keeps up I'll be broke by fall! Normajeau Roselius

Joan Stoppelman attended a class on “cool tools and accessories for the gardener.” *I saw and learned about 21 different tools and left the class with the spear headed spade and the Nisaku NJP105 4.5” Blade Kubinagakama Stainless Steel Garden Hoe + Weeder.*

My favorite part of Hosta College is seeing old friends after a long cold winter and making new friends along the way. There is always something new to learn. Phyllis Bashor

Book Review

Hosta Seizure: A Cozy Magical Realist Gardening Mystery by Jim Henry (2018) is a novel that was originally serialized in the 2012-13 Online Journal of the American Hosta Society (AHS). The novel follows several home and professional gardeners in Lewes, DE whose lives are intertwined by the plant we all love and a mysterious disappearance. While not a hosta how-to book, *Hosta Seizure* has plenty of hosta tips and information about the genus that new and experienced gardeners might appreciate. I found it to be a quirky love letter to Hosta-holics, but also a book filled with a good mystery, lovable characters, hostas that communicate with each other, and interesting discussions of immigration, environmental concerns, and our connection to mother earth. Jim Henry is the current AHS Vice President Genus Hosta and *Hosta Seizure* is available at Amazon Kindle and in paperback on Hosta-seizure.com. Review by Robin Mann

Date	Place	Other Gardening Events
Aug 31	Bob liames' home	Bob's Garden Fair. Contact gardenbob222@aol.com for info.
Sep 12, 9a-3p	Walnut Grove Country Club	OSUE Master Gardener Volunteers Montgomery County present Brie Arthur speaking on “Food Revolution.” For registration and fee information, contact infomastergardeners@gmail.com .

2019 National Convention June 12-15 Green Bay, Wisconsin

The Green and Gold Hosta Society of Northeastern Wisconsin welcomes you to beautiful and picturesque Northeast Wisconsin where you'll tour iconic gardens, hear world-renowned speakers, shop a variety of vendors, participate in friendly competitions and a live auction, eat great food and, most importantly, enjoy the company of fellow gardeners and friends, both new and old. Registration is due April 30 and spots are filling up fast.

Hotel: Radisson Hotel & Conference Center in Green Bay, WI
 For more information visit www.ahs2019event.org.



Combating Nematodes: The Latest Scoop

Editor's Note: The Hosta is a wonderfully easy plant to grow and for the most part has few issues that require pesticides or other intervention by the home gardener. In this article we look at one of the problems that does plague Hostas, Foliar Nematodes, and what can be done to combat an infestation. The American Hosta Society (AHS) initiated the "AHS Foliar Nematode Research Project" conducted by Professor Partwinder S. Grewal then at University of Tennessee. In 2016 *The Hosta Journal (THJ)* published Grewal and Ruisheng An's report in the Fall issue. With the generous assistance of Rob Mortko and Warren Pollock, two plantsmen who have written on this topic and are considered experts on nematode issues in hostas, I have provided excerpts from recent relevant articles. If you are looking for additional information, please contact me and I will direct your inquiry. Robin Mann

Excerpt from the AHS website: [If you suspect foliar nematodes are present based on the appearance of the leaves (see photo),] the best way to confirm their presence is to break or cut open the leaves showing symptoms (necrosis and/ or chlorosis between the veins). Put some water on a piece of clear glass or a clear glass dinner plate (or Petri dish). Let the cut edges of the leaves stay in contact with the water for 10- 30 minutes. Then back light it (hold the glass over a lamp so the light shines through the water and leaves). You will see the very tiny nematode snaking and swimming out of the leaf tissue. If you have a dissecting scope, focus on the bottom of the water because the nematodes will "settle out". A good pair of reading glasses or a magnifying lens will help if you can't quite make them out with the light alone.

These worms are spread from plant to plant by rain and irrigation, thus over head watering spreads them faster and farther than drip irrigation. They have been found to be present in every area of the country and probably world where hostas are grown and are not killed by winter's cold unless the plant is killed. Hostas are not their only host as they are found on many shade perennials, ferns, bulbs and even some woody plants.

If you have a large collection of hostas you probably have some infected plants. In the garden, the symptomatic brown area of dead tissue between the leaf veins occurs after the worms have reached the leaf surface and have probably been carried by water to the hosta next door. The brown color is actually a secondary fungus infection. Symptoms begin to appear in mid to late June in the Southeast US (about 3 months after emergence) in August in the Midwest and maybe as late as September in Michigan and Minnesota. If you stress your hostas in the summer, you will stress the worms and their population will be reduced and symptoms may not appear. If your hostas are all fed and watered throughout the summer and are actively producing new foliage then the nematode population will also increase at a high rate all summer.

[One option for combating a limited infestation is to] dispose of all plants which show symptoms. Also, remove their next door neighbors up to a 6 foot radius away since they are probably infected especially if they were touching the infected plant.



This image courtesy of the AHS website shows the characteristic discoloration between veins of the hosta leaves in four stages of infection: A - Initial signs to D - dead (necrotic) tissue.

Warren I. Pollock, Excerpt from Fall 2016 Delaware Valley Hosta Society Newsletter

For most gardeners, probably the most important findings of the studies are the following:

- Foliar nematodes (FN) (*Aphelenchoides fragariae*), microscopic worm-like animals, overwinter as juveniles and adults in the soil, dry leaves and on dormant buds (crowns) of a hosta. They do not overwinter in the crown or roots, nor do they overwinter as eggs. As the soil warms in spring, under humid/wet conditions, overwintering nematodes move upward in thin films of water on the outer surfaces of petioles and leaves, eventually invading leaves. Once inside leaves, they feed on tissue, resulting in first yellow, then brown and finally black lesions (scars) between veins. They can exit the leaf at ruptured scar tissue and spread to other plants nearby by rain/overhead watering.

- Treatment of dormant hosta buds while the plant is in the ground with either boiling water or NEMAKILL [now called NEMA STOP] solution in the spring can significantly reduce foliar nematode infection in the leaves in the subsequent and fall seasons. Hot water has been a recommended treatment for many years. Several THJ articles in the past discussed submerging an entire infected hosta clump—roots, crown and leaves—in 120°F water for 15-20 minutes. Unless done exactly and with extreme care, the live plant can be badly damaged, even killed. NEMA STOP is an organic liquid containing 32% cinnamon oil, 8% clove oil, 15% thyme oil and 45% inert ingredients such as fatty acid salts, i.e., horticultural soaps, and water. It is not a systemic nematicide. That is NEMA STOP is not appreciably absorbed by the plant and therefore does not kill nematodes inside the leaves. So, if you apply NEMA STOP to hosta leaves already containing foliar nematodes, these nematodes will not be killed because the nematicide is not in contact with them. Effective treatment with NEMA STOP occurs when the hosta is dormant and nematodes on the dormant buds are exposed to the nematicide.

For treatment of hostas, a dilute solution of NEMA STOP is applied. Instructions on the container are: 1 tablespoon (0.5 fluid

Combating Nematodes: The Latest Scoop continued

ounce) per 1 gallon water. However, this makes a solution slightly less than 5% (v/v)—which is the concentration Grewal and An used in their studies. To make a 5% solution, mix 4 teaspoons NEMA STOP per 1 gallon water. The 2016 THJ articles do not describe a comprehensive protocol for applying NEMA STOP. Based on discussions with Delaware Valley Hosta Society (DVHS) President David Teager, a member of the project's scientific committee, and DVHS member Eve Thyrum, who is test treating a severely infected hosta, the following is suggested. (Note the procedure requires repeated applications during the year and treatment for several consecutive years.)

APPLICATION PROTOCOL

1. LATE SUMMER. If foliage has unsightly nematode scarring, remove and carefully dispose of all infected leaves as well as surrounding mulch. Do not use for compost; discard as trash. Thoroughly clean hands and tools with hot water and soap. Then DRENCH CROWN and SOIL around it with NEMA STOP solution.
2. FALL. Thoroughly clear the ground of all dried-up foliage, plant debris and any mulch. Do not use for compost; discard as trash. Keep the ground clean throughout winter and early spring. After clean-up, DRENCH DORMANT CROWN and SOIL around it with NEMA STOP solution.
3. NEXT YEAR. Depending on the weather, in late WINTER or very early SPRING, before buds emerge from the crown, DRENCH DORMANT CROWN and SOIL around it with NEMA STOP solution. Also, thoroughly soak any pips.
4. TWO WEEKS LATER. Depending on the weather, DRENCH CROWN and SOIL again with NEMA STOP solution. Also, thoroughly soak pips and any petioles and leaves.
5. TWO WEEKS AFTERWARD. DRENCH CROWN and SOIL again with NEMA STOP solution. Also, thoroughly dose pips, petioles and leaves.
6. LATE SUMMER and FALL. Repeat steps 1 and 2.
7. NEXT YEAR. Starting in late WINTER or very early SPRING: Repeat steps.
8. FOLLOWING YEAR. Repeat steps. HANDLING NEMA STOP The manufacturer's instructions recommend applying NEMA STOP early in the morning or in late afternoon. The dormant crown and surrounding soil must be thoroughly soaked with NEMA STOP solution. This means saturating the ground to perhaps one-inch depth. This may require 1/3 gallon or more of NEMA STOP solution for each hosta. If the plant is in a container, pour NEMA STOP solution on soil until it runs out the drainage hole. Repeat after 10-15 minutes. Or submerge the container in a vessel containing NEMA STOP solution for one minute.

The label on the container says NEMA STOP is "slightly toxic." Frankly, I don't know what this means. I recommend NEMA STOP be considered a potentially harmful chemical. Proper safety goggles—better yet full face shield—and thick nitrile/rubber gloves—preferably with long sleeves— should be used. Avoid contact with skin, eyes and clothing. Contaminated clothing should be washed before reuse. Unless wearing special boots, avoid stepping or standing on soil or pavement wet with NEMA STOP.

EFFECTS OF NEMA STOP It is important to note what Grewal and An claimed: NEMA STOP can significantly reduce nematode infection. They do not claim that NEMA STOP can 100% eliminate foliar nematodes in hostas growing in the ground or in containers. In other words, though nematode infection in a hosta can be significantly reduced with NEMA STOP treatment, remaining nematodes in the plant may still result in leaf scarring. Nematodes reproduce extremely rapidly. Several treatments of the dormant crown may be needed to significantly reduce the infection so there is no noticeable leaf damage that year. Even so, there still may be nematodes that overwinter. So in the next year and year after, without treatment there may be leaf scarring again. That is why the protocol requires treatment for several years. If your hosta foliage criterion is aesthetics, that is, no visible foliage damage, this probably is attainable, but likely requires repeated NEMA STOP treatments. But, if your criterion is a nematode-free hosta (or perhaps even "nearly" nematode free)—and the plant previously was heavily infected and leaf scarring, the bar may be too high for a contact nematicide.

Warren I. Pollock AHS eNewsletter January 2019

NEMA STOP is marketed by PureGro USA, an American manufacturer of organic products. For information about NEMA STOP, visit www.puregrousa.com. A number of AHS members have used NEMA STOP. To move forward in FN abatement, PureGro asks that users provide feedback to them. PureGro will gather information and display an aggregation (no specific names) on its website—either via a FAQ section or through a blog post that will be shared with AHS. It will also serve to help develop a more detailed hosta application process. There are two places on their website to provide feedback: **Customer Review** and **Customer Feedback**. PureGro would like the following format for feedback:

- Name and location? Do not provide name if you prefer anonymous feedback.
- What did you do with the product? How much was used? How much was sprayed and where? How much did you soak the soil if soil drenching? How often did you apply and when?
- What were your findings? How did you observe the results? Did you see existing lesions cease to expand? Did new leaves appear free of lesions? Provide any other observations. Provide pictures.

PLEASE SUPPLY FEEDBACK. This is essential to move forward in our knowledge of FN abatement.

Thank You Vendors!

The following vendors donated plants or other goods to the 2018 MVHS Auction. A successful auction would not have been possible without their generous support. Thank you.

Andy's Garden andysgarden.com
2310 West State Route 55, Troy, OH 45373
(937)335-5550

Dannaher Landscaping & Nursery
dannaherlandscaping.com
12200 Vans Valley Rd, Galena, OH 43021
(740)965-3789

Glenda's Garden
Email: ggwogoman@gmail.com
7620 Halderman Rd, West Alexandria, OH 45381
(937)839-4044

Grandma's Gardens grandmasgardencenter.com
8107 North State Route 48, Waynesville, OH 45068
(937)885-2740

Greenleaf Gardens charliebunton@gmail.com
4726 U.S. Route 68 North, Yellow Springs, OH 45387
(937)767-1997

Groovy Plants Ranch groovyplantsranch.com
4140 Co. Rd 15, Marengo, OH 43334
(740)675-2681

Joan's Backyard Treasures
6215 Cavalcade Dr, Hamilton, OH 45011
(513)868-3512

Knollwood Garden Center & Landscaping
Knollwoodgardens.com
3766 Dayton Xenia Rd, Beavercreek, OH 45432
(937)426-0861

Meadow View Growers meadowview.com
755 North Dayton-Lakeview Rd (St Rte 235 North)
New Carlisle, OH 45344
(937)845-0093

Natorp's Nursery Natorp.com
8601 Snider Rd
Cincinnati, OH 45040
(513)398-4769

The Secret Garden
secretgardenwaynesville.com
4107 E State Route 73, Waynesville, OH 45068
(513)897-5505

Seely's Landscape Nursery seelyslandscape.com
3265 Walcutt Rd, Hillard, OH 43026
(614)771-0011

Stockslagers Greenhouse & Garden Center
Stockslagers.com
14037 Dayton Eaton Pike, New Lebanon, OH 45345
(937)687-2722

Wade & Gatton Nurseries
wadeandgattonnurseries.com
1288 Gatton Rocks Rd, Bellville, OH 44813
(419)883-3191

Wengerlawn Nursery Co. wengerlawnnursery.com
6450 Wengerlawn Rd, Brookville, OH 45309
(937)884-7692

Thank You Vendors!

The following vendors have donated or have committed to donate plants or other goods to the 2019 MVHS Auction. Thank you vendors.



**Mason Hollow
Nursery**

47 Scripps Lane, Mason, NH 03048

www.masonhollow.com

Sue & Chuck Andersen
603-878-4347

In addition, new donors **Longfield Gardens**, **Walters Gardens**, and **Sunshine Engraving** have all committed to donating hostas or other items.

Durable, affordable, & made in the USA!
• Now with rounded corners •



PAW PAW
EVERLAST
LABEL COMPANY

INTRODUCTORY OFFER
Sample pack of 8 styles plus a marking pencil

www.EverlastLabel.com **JUST \$6**

July Garden Tour

Look for the article featuring highlights from BJ Ney's Garden Golf in the Early Spring 2019 edition of *Country Gardens Magazine*. The entire Garden will be open for a tour on July 9, 2019 at 2865 Zehring Road, Farmersville, Ohio. BJ's Garden Golf is the perfect mixture of fantasy and fun. At first glance it looks like a backyard with interesting clusters of beautiful flowers and trees but as you take one step into the Garden Golf Game the challenge begins. Each themed putt-putt golf hole leads you around the yard, thru fairy gardens and intricate displays of floral arrangements. BJ's unique artistic and whimsical flair provides the visitor with an unforgettable experience to treasure.

American Hosta Society

Join AHS and receive *The Hosta Journal* mailed twice a year and have access to a third issue online in the *Members Only* section of the AHS website. This publication offers the latest information on care, feeding, and hybridizing; pictures of new cultivars; and news of upcoming meetings and conventions. Members have the privilege of visiting display gardens throughout the country, many of which are only open to AHS members. Also, members are invited to exhibit their favorite hostas and compete for recognition in various AHS national and regional cut-leaf shows. Visit americanhostasociety.org for more information.

Editor's Corner

I was particularly interested in learning more about defeating the evil little worms known as nematodes as I have lost a handful of hostas to their insatiable appetites. My current method to combat the problem is to move the infected plants into the woods, down by the river where the deer munch on them. I'm so happy to learn that there are better options available. Have you tried boiling water or NEMA STOP? I found NEMA STOP in a 16 oz concentrate for \$57 at puregrousa.com. Considering the price of some hostas, that's not too bad. Let us know if you've tried it.

As always, if you have photos, topics of interest, or any other feedback, please contact me at rmann1993@yahoo.com. Robin Mann, Editor





“Stimulating the knowledge and love of hostas”

Dayton Ohio and Miami Valley Region



H. 'May'

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