



# DELAWARE VALLEY HOSTA SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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Convention Schedule  
July Garden  
'Awesome' Recipe

Volume 27, No. 2

[www.delvalhosta.org](http://www.delvalhosta.org)

Spring and Summer, 2018

June 20-23  
*Phifty in Philly* AHS convention  
**No DVHS June Meeting**

Summer Meeting Saturday, July 21

## Northview Gardens

1650 East Butler Pike, Ambler PA 19002

12:00 p.m. Garden Tour and Potluck Lunch

2:00 p.m. Auction

**BIG** Leaf Contest

### Hosta-tality for July 21st Potluck

Beverages and plates, etc., will be provided. Come early if you can help set up.  
For a balanced meal, we suggest you contribute according to the first letter of your lastname:  
**A–F** bring a main dish. **G–N** bring a salad. **O–Z** bring a dessert.

**Directions to the July 21 Meeting.** From turnpike – Fort Washington Exit – take 309 North to second exit, Susquehanna Road. Down the ramp – turn left to first light at Butler Pike – turn right. Go about 1 mile.

As you travel along East Butler you will pass the light at Meetinghouse Road and the signs to Temple Ambler. As you get close you will see Atkinson Drive on the right then turn right into the **Twin Spring Farm Day Camp** driveway. If you get to Norristown Road you have gone too far. Our house is third on the left but basically more straight left – not round to the right as if you were going to the camp. Look for Northview sign and The Careys sign.

**Parking.** Either along that lane that shows up on some maps as East Orchard Drive – (if I can get permission from the camp) – or on the grass behind the house – if it is dry. We will put up parking signs.

If people can **car pool** that would be great!

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**Raffles/Special Events**

Position open

**Advisory Board**

Conny Parsons, past president Glen Mills,  
PA

Michael Flagg, Schwenksville, PA

Ed MacFarland, Glenside, PA

Warren Pollock, Glen Mills, PA

Barbara Tiffany, Point Pleasant, PA

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Four years ago, DVHS board members sat in comfortable lounge chairs discussing the feasibility of hosting the 50th anniversary AHS national convention. “It all started here” some argued, “so logically, we should be celebrating the golden anniversary.” Well, after countless meetings, additions, deletions, friendly arguments, and yards and yards of mulch, the day is finally here!

If you haven’t registered for the convention, there are still many ways that you can take part. Contact Christel Badey to see where you can volunteer during the convention. Friendly, local faces are needed everywhere. Shopping opportunities are available to the public on Friday and Saturday; conventions are the place to get the unusual hostas you see at plant auctions and garden tours.

Take your camera along when you’re touring the gardens! Wayne Guymon will be putting together a collage of convention pictures for our February meeting and needs 8-10 of your best sent to him. Details will be in the convention booklet.

Be prepared to celebrate at our July meeting! This was hard work, and we need to congratulate ourselves. Member Jenny Rose Carey has offered her lovely garden for our July meeting where we can wander through all of the different rooms while basking in a job well done. Bring those plants you’ve dug up for our auction, maybe something that you’re replacing with a new purchase from the convention?

Thank you all again for the team effort, and I’ll see you at Phifty in Philly!

*Rebecca Boylan*

## BIG LEAF CONTEST

Bring your largest hosta leaf and see if you’re the winner.

Length x width is all that matters.  
Condition doesn’t count.

## NORTHVIEW GARDENS

In April we were privileged to hear Jenny Rose Carey speak about shade gardening. Great ideas about function, design and suitable plants. Great pictures of her own garden, Northview. Now we have the opportunity to see this garden in person!

The 4 ½ acre site was originally part of Wilmer and Anna Atkinson's 1887 100-acre Victorian Model Farm.

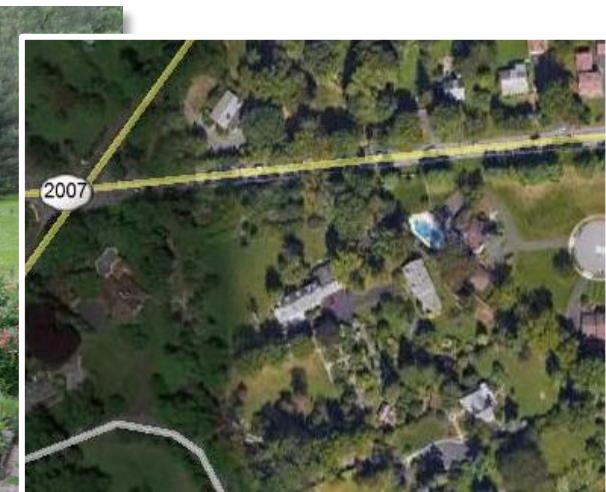


Photo left: Jenny Rose Carey

Photo above: Google Earth

## METAL GARDEN HOSE RATINGS

taken from [www.gardenhoseadvisor.com](http://www.gardenhoseadvisor.com)

Is the metal garden hose really the world toughest garden hose? Garden hoses can be expensive to replace and it's important to care for your garden hose if you want it to last a long time. The metal garden hoses are much harder to damage or puncture.

There are some things you don't want to do with the metal garden hose and most of these are common sense. It's a good idea to still hang up your hose when you're not using it to extend its life. In general, you want to stay away from fires because as the metal heats up it causes the interior rubber to expand. This will lead to the permanent expansion of the hose and may make it unusable. (*ed. note:* Metal also cools off faster, so be careful about freezing. And conducts electricity better, so careful about nearby wires and plugs.)



One of the biggest issues with metal garden hoses is the distance. They are only 50 feet or less and while this may be perfect for some people, many people like a longer hose. You can purchase garden hose fittings to extend the length. If you need more than 25 – 50 feet of garden hose they do make it easy to extend your hose. Using these connectors you can purchase two 50 foot garden hoses and then connect them to create 100 feet of hose.

Other than the length of the hose, the biggest complaint has been the diameter of the hose being too small. These hoses are very thin and don't allow a lot of water to flow out. If you need a higher flow rate you will want an expandable hose to do the job. The other issue is tangling. While the hose doesn't kink, it may tangle sometimes.

Best Rated Hoses in order:

- #1 – Metal Garden Hose By QSP
- #2 – The Bionic Steel Hose
- #3 – The Original Metal Garden Hose
- #4 – Beaulife Steel Metal Garden Hose
- #5 – Hercules Stainless Steel Garden Hose

Visit the website for additional details.

## THE BUCKWALTER GARDEN

A big "Thanks" to Beverly Oehlert for sending us pictures taken last July at Steve Buckwalter's garden. Clockwise from upper left. A shady treehouse. *H. 'Liberty'*. Grouping with birdbath. Hungry members dig in. *H. 'Bridal Falls'* perfection. Beautiful assortment of hostas. And, another "Thanks" to Steve for all his hard work preparing the garden.



# ARTISTIC (FLORAL) DESIGN IS FOR YOU!

Kathy Miller

We hope to wow hosta folk with “Philly-Style” artistic floral design at the up-coming convention. Please help us out. If you enjoy arranging flowers in your home or as part of your local garden club activity, we need you.

Think about entering Division VI of the hosta show. Public entries (no need to be a conventioneer) are accepted June 20 and 21. Judging is June 21, with the entire hosta show open for public viewing through the afternoon of June 23.

With continuing inspiration from our beloved annual Philadelphia Flower Show, I know we in the Delaware Valley can do this! Below are the guidelines:

## Division VI – Artistic Design Rules

Hosta leaves must be the predominant foliage in the design. Some dried and/or treated plant materials and hosta blooms are permitted. No artificial flowers, fruit, or foliage may be used. “Contrived” flowers made from hosta leaves are permitted. An exhibitor may enter one entry per class. Plant material need not be grown by the exhibitor but the design work must be the work of the exhibitor.

### **Class I: A Shady Afternoon in Rittenhouse Square.**

Designated as Southwest Square in William Penn’s original design, the park was renamed in honor of David Rittenhouse, the first director of the United States Mint. Surrounded by luxury high-rises and some of the best alfresco dining in Philly, it is one the city’s liveliest and loveliest places. Create a design featuring GREEN hosta leaves. Accessories are permitted. Design not to exceed 44” tall x 28” wide.

**Class II: Marine Life at Adventure Aquarium.** Located just minutes away from Philly in Camden NJ, this two million gallon facility is home to over 8,500 aquatic species. The only aquarium in the world to exhibit hippos.

## HOW TO “CONTRIVE” A FLOWER USING HOSTA LEAVES



See instructions on next page.

Create an underwater design featuring BLUE hosta leaves. Accessories are permitted. Design not to exceed 44” tall x 28” wide.

**Class III: Sunset at Boathouse Row.** Home to several major rowing regattas, there is always a crew practicing along the Schuylkill. As the sun sets, glittering lights outline these historic buildings. Create an illuminary design utilizing battery powered lights. Featuring YELLOW or GOLD hosta leaves. Accessories are permitted. Design not to exceed 44” tall x 28” wide.

### **Class IV: Fun and Games at the Please Touch**

**Museum.** Among the many activities for children in Philly, is the Please Touch Museum. Created in the 1970’s, it teaches young children through the use of interactive exhibits. See a replica of the arm and torch from the Statue of Liberty, created from discarded toys! Ride the original 1908 Woodside Park Carousel! Create a design no larger than 8” by 8” featuring MINIATURE hostas. Accessories are permitted. These designs will be displayed in lighted niches for better viewing.

**Class V: Mummer’s Parade.** Harkening back to medieval times in England and Ireland, this riotous celebration occurs on New Year’s Day in downtown Philly. Thousands of people from a myriad nationalities come together to perform in elaborate costumes. Create a design of fancy hosta leaves, including streaked, splashed, edged or variegated. Accessories are permitted. Design not to exceed 44” tall x 28” wide.

Please contact Floral Design Judge Tammy Feuer to answer your questions and to pre-register your design. [tfeur@outlook.com](mailto:tfeur@outlook.com)

First, choose the leaves that you will use and allow them a few hours to wilt and become more flexible. Then select the leaf that will form the flower center and bend it in half vertically. Roll the leaf to form a flower center. Wrap an additional folded leaf around the center to form petals. While keeping hold of the flower base, continue to wrap additional folded leaves around the center. The leaves in the photo are a little too tightly wrapped. A little looser would produce a better flower. After the flower reaches the desired size, secure all leaves together with a rubber band. Add unfolded leaves around the base, tying with raffia. Keep the stems long enough to place in wet oasis or water. These contrived flowers will last quite a long time.



## 'Awesome' Cream of Mushroom Soup

courtesy Betty Bradford

- 1 pound fresh mushrooms (about 4 cups)
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1/4 cup butter
- 2 cloves garlic, chopped
- 1/4 cup flour
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/4 tsp. pepper
- 1 1/2 cups milk (half and half is better)
- 1 can (14 1/2 oz.) chicken broth

- 1 tsp. chicken bouillon granules
- 1 cup sour cream
- minced parsley

In a large saucepan, sauté mushrooms, onion and garlic in butter until tender. Sprinkle with flour, salt and pepper. Mix well. Gradually stir in the milk, chicken broth and bouillon. Bring to a boil. Cook and stir for 2 minutes. Reduce heat. Stir in sour cream. Heat thoroughly, but do not boil. Garnish with parsley. Makes 4 – 6 servings.

# Thank You!!

**IT'S DUES TIME.** Please check your mailing label. If you see a number less than 18, you owe DVHS dues for 2018. Current members' renewal fees are due by the April meeting; any back dues also need to be paid in order to remain current. **You must be a current member to purchase hostas at the special sales, and to receive the *Newsletter* by mail.** The dues pay for the publication of this newsletter and maintenance of the website, as well as for other activities. -----  
Cut off and mail in, or bring to the meeting.

### Delaware Valley Hosta Society Membership and Renewal Form

Dues (household membership) are \$10 per year.

Mail to: Rebecca Boylan, DVHS Membership

1200 Farmington Ave.

Pottstown, PA 19464

Please use this form also to update your records for address and e-mail, or to offer your garden for a potential meeting or tour. Thanks!

Kudos to **Alan Russell**  
and **Russell Gardens**

for growing up our convention gift plants.

**Russell Gardens, Richboro, PA 18954**  
**215-322-4799**

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Would you consider opening your garden for a  
members' tour? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you in the nursery trade? \_\_\_\_\_



# Phifty in Philly Schedule

(Always check the website for the latest version.)

Even if you have not registered for the convention,  
the Hosta Show and the Vendors  
are open to you.

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20

8:00 am // Registration (until 7 pm)  
9:00 am // Hosta show setup  
10:00 am // Vendor setup  
10:00 am // Philly gardens optional tour departs  
1:00 pm // Judges' Clinic I (until 5 pm)  
1:00 pm // Hosta show prep/entry (until 10 pm)  
2:30 pm // AHS Board meeting (until 5 pm)  
5:00 pm // Newcomers' Welcome (until 6 pm)  
6:15 pm // Meet & Greet party, Vendors open  
7:30 pm // Technical session: Warren Pollock

Note: snacks served during Meet & Greet; dinner on your own as needed. Lunch on your own.

## FRIDAY, JUNE 22

6:00 am // Breakfast buffet  
7:30 am // Buses begin departure for gardens (4)  
Boxed lunch provided off-site  
1:00 pm // Hosta show, vendors open  
2:30 pm // Judges' Clinic II  
2:30 pm // Hosta Symposium continued: Hogarth  
2:30 pm // Local/Regional leadership meeting  
4:30 pm // Auction plant preview, cash bar  
5:00 pm // Auction Part I  
6:30 pm // Dinner and awards (Fisher Award)  
8:00 pm // Auction Part II  
9:30 pm // 50th Birthday party & Hostatality

Wear your favorite convention apparel for the party!

## THURSDAY, JUNE 21

7:00 am // Breakfast buffet  
7:30 am // Hosta show prep/entry(until 10 am)  
8:00 am // Registration (until noon)  
9:00 am // Vendors open  
9:00 am // Judges' Clinic III (until 10 am)  
8:45 am // Pollock International Hosta Symposium  
(three speakers: Zilis, Colley, Philips)  
10:40 am // Judges' Instructions, Show Judging  
12:30 pm // Lunch in Grand Ballroom  
1:30 pm // Keynote Speaker: Bob Olson  
2:30 pm // Dessert break. Hosta show open  
2:45 pm // Longwood Preview: Sam Hoadley  
3:45 pm // Longwood buses begin departure  
Dinner (on your own) at Longwood

## SATURDAY, JUNE 23

6:00 am // Breakfast buffet  
7:00 am // Buses begin departure for gardens (3)  
Boxed lunch provided off-site  
10:00 am // Hosta show open to public  
12:00 pm // Vendors open to public  
3:00 pm // Educational session: panel discussion  
4:00 pm // Hosta show, vendors break-down  
5:00 pm // Cocktail reception, cash bar  
6:00 pm // Banquet dinner, awards (Summers)  
50th Anniversary party!  
9:30 pm // Post-convention leadership meeting  
9:30 pm // Final night hostatality!

Wear your Phinest for Phifty in Philly!

### The Vendors

Lynne Puhalla Studios \*\*\* Benedict's Nursery \*\*\* Garden Vision Epimediums  
Green Hill Farm \*\*\* Jack's Hostas \*\*\* Land of the Giants Hosta Farm  
Made in the Shade \*\*\* Mason Hollow Nursery \*\*\* O'Brien Nurserymen  
The Papercrete Potter \*\*\* Silvers-Elbert Nursery \*\*\* Windswept Creations

## Calendar of Events 2018 [www.delvalhosta.org](http://www.delvalhosta.org)

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Wednesday thru Saturday, June 20-23, 2018.

*Phifty in Philly.* The American Hosta Society National Convention. DoubleTree Hotel, Valley Forge, PA.

No June Meeting for 2018. Enjoy the convention.

Saturday, July 14, 2018. Tri-State Hosta Leaf Show.

Frelinghuysen Arboretum, Morristown, NJ.  
[www.tristatehosta.org](http://www.tristatehosta.org)

Saturday, July 21, 2018. Summer Meeting. Garden walk, auction and potluck. Northview Gardens, Ambler, PA.

Saturday, September 15, 2018. The 21st Annual Fall Hosta Forum. Edinboro, PA.

<http://www.wnyhosta.com/fall-hosta-forum>

Saturday, October 6, 2018. Speakers: Dan and Rebecca Boylan, "The Benefits of Bees." Tredyffrin Library.

Saturday, October 27, 2018. Tri-State Hosta Society 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. 12:00 p.m. Frelinghuysen Arboretum, Morristown, NJ.  
[www.tristatehosta.org](http://www.tristatehosta.org)

June, 2019. AHS National Convention. Green Bay, WI.

June, 2020. AHS National Convention. Minneapolis, MN.

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The Delaware Valley Hosta Society has been growing and would like to welcome the following new members who have recently joined our group:

Donna Dorsey, Wilmington, DE	Christopher Gussman, Raritan, NJ
Susan Moedinger, Lancaster, PA	Brendon Mostert, Abington, PA
Patricia O'Brien, Califon, NJ	Nina Schneider, Philadelphia, PA
Cami Sharding, Claymont, DE	Mary Ann Thomas, Wyndmoor, PA

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