



# Hosta Happenings

The Newsletter of the Northern Illinois Hosta Society

ISSUE 87B SPECIAL EDITION

NOVEMBER 2014

## 2014/2015 CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

- **December Holiday Party, Dec 7 at the home of Faith & Andy Campbell**
- **January 17, 2015, Winter Scientific Meeting, Naperville**
- **April 26, 2015 Plant Pickup & Meeting, Cantigny, Winfield**
- **June 18 - 20, 2015 American Hosta Society Convention, Raleigh, NC, hosted by Bob & Nancy Solberg**
- **June 27, 2015 Hosta Garden Walk, Lake Forest**
- **July 9-11, 2015, Midwest Region Hosta Society Convention, Dubuque, IA**
- **July 19, 2015, Hosta Garden Walk, Batavia**



*Andy & Faith Campbell's Fall garden with the Limelight hydrangeas.*

## President's Letter

The exciting news this fall is that the AHS National Hosta Display Garden we are creating at Cantigny Park in Wheaton is underway. As described in June Vandervest's accompanying story and photos, we planted 77 hostas and several companion plants during work sessions on October 6, 7 and 10. Eleven hardworking NIHS volunteers got the project off to a great start: John Stancik, Lou Horton,



Sandhya Matthews, Sherrie Hughes, Tony Kwiatowski, Bea McGovern, Mark Rekoske, Mike  
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## Holiday Party - Food & Fun Sunday Dec 7

Faith and Andy Campbell will host this year's Holiday Party in Elgin, on December 7 from 1:00 to 4:00. This is a great opportunity to enjoy great food, greet hosta friends, old and new.

Please bring a dish to pass - an appetizer, salad, side dish or dessert. Also to help plan for the party, please RSVP to Faith by Monday December 1 at (847) 695-0021 or [andycamp@flash.net](mailto:andycamp@flash.net)

Directions: The Campbell's home is at 235 Brookside Drive, Elgin. It is located on the west side of Elgin near the intersection of Lake St. (US 20) and Randall Rd.

From the North/NW, take I-90 west to the Randall RD exit and go left 3.3 mi to Foothill Rd and turn left. If coming west on US 20, exit at Randall Rd and go

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## President's Letter continued

Kraus, Jim King, Pete Postlewaite, and June. I was there to help as needed. Many, many, many thanks to all who contributed—YOU ARE THE BEST!

Thanks to Floyd and Betsy Rogers, who donated about 20 mature hostas that several members helped dig up from their garden in late September. In addition to several of those named above, Bob Carlson and Ron Asselborn provided much help removing the Rogers' plants, which are now in the ground at Cantigny.

We also owe a great big **THANK YOU!!** to Craig Kruckenberg, the project designer and Horticulture Manager for Cantigny, and Corny Myroup, his assistant, who were with us every step of the way. They prepared the site, laid out paths, identified and moved hostas from the Cantigny hosta collection to add to our garden, and helped out any way they could. We can all be very happy about the excellent working relationship that has been established to create a garden we can all be proud of.

With Lou Horton taking the lead, we have developed a list of hostas to be acquired and added to the site in the spring. By the end of next summer we should have 200 hostas in the ground as well as many companion plants. We wish to add to our volunteer roster to help address this task, so watch for an announcement of the spring training session in the March 2015 newsletter.

The NIHS Board is in the process of finalizing the 2015 calendar. When it's ready, we will post it on our website and in the first newsletter (March) next year. This year's final event will be our Holiday Party on December 7 at the home of Faith and Andy Campbell in Elgin. Thank you, Faith and Andy, for being our hosts. Hope to see many of you there.

Let me conclude with my very best wishes to all of you for a very happy holiday season, beginning with a wonderful Thanksgiving with your families and for a happy, healthy and prosperous 2015. Barbara

## Holiday Party continued

straight ahead, crossing Randall onto Foothill.

From the South, take Randall Rd. just north of US 20 to Foothill and turn right.

On Foothill go 0.3 mi. to Brookside and turn left. Continue on Brookside, staying left at the Y, (no outlet) to the last cul-de-sac on the right. The Campbell's are the last house straight ahead. Parking is limited in the cul-de-sac, but more available on the straight sections of Brookside.

GPS (Latitude: 42.039945, Longitude: -88.336453)



## Winter Scientific Meeting Update

**When:** January 17, 2015

Continental Breakfast at 7:30 A.M. Conclusion at 4:30 P.M.

**Where:** Northern Illinois University Conference Center, 1120 East Deihl Road, Naperville

[Directions Facility](#)

**Hotel Accommodations:**

Hilton Hotel, Lisle, IL [Hotel Website](#)

Room Rate - \$79 per night for Friday, January 16 and Saturday, January 17, 2015

Reservation Deadline - December 26, 2014

**Registration Form:** [click here](#)

**WSM Topics:**

Glenn Herold - *Sedges and Grasses for the Shade*

Rod Kuenster - *Hybridizer's Perspective*

Tom Micheletti - *Hostas on the Small Side*

Jeff Miller - *When is Enough Enough?*

Bob Solberg - *The State of the State in Hostas*

Mark Zilis - *Hostas of the Year and their Originations*

The hotel will provide a hospitality suite on Friday and Saturday evening for attendees to socialize. A silent auction of hosta seeds will also be held at the WSM to raise funds to help offset the program costs. Successful bidders will receive seeds from some of the region's outstanding hybridizers.

**More information:** Mark Rekoske [Email](#)

# AHS DISPLAY GARDEN AT CANTIGNY IS UNDERWAY!

By June Vandervest

All of us who volunteered to work at the new AHS Display Garden at Cantigny were excited and ready to get busy on Monday, October 6. We had been waiting to start planting hostas in the new garden since September, when all NIHS volunteers had attended a two-hour program given by Cantigny's Volunteer Trainer Liz Omura, submitted information for a background check and posed for a photo ID.

Then the real fun began! We were able to sit down with Craig Kruckenberg, their landscape designer, and go over his plans for the garden. We started the first workday by loading up a truck with the large specimen hostas donated by Floyd and Betsy Rogers and other contributors. Only a



*Above - Planting Day 1 begins by laying out the plants per the design and planting begins. Below - marking the paths and filling with wood chips.*



*Above - Corney Myroup lays the wood chip path with help from Lou Horton & Jim King. Below - looking south - boulders will create a raised bed here for the mini hostas.*



few of us had been cleared to volunteer that first day. So Barbara and Jim King, Pete Postlewaite and I joined Craig at about 8 am to begin working. We unloaded the Hostas at the site where Craig had already outlined three intersecting paths with spray paint. These culminated at a large Sycamore tree as the paths' main focal point.

Then we began the job of arranging and then planting the Hostas and companion plants according to Craig's plan. Some of us also dug up hostas from the original garden on the east side of the brick walk, so they could be joined with the new plants. As the Hostas were being planted, Cantigny staffer Corney Myroup began working his magic spreading woodchips on the path that Craig had laid out. Amazingly, we were able to get all of this done by about 1 pm. *Photos by June Vandervest*

## AHS DISPLAY GARDEN AT CANTIGNY IS UNDERWAY!



My second day working was still very hands on, but this time with ten other NIHS members who had at last received their clearance. Craig had already delivered and placed boulders that helped mark several locations. A special raised



*Raised bed for mini hostas installed by (l to r) Barbara King, Sandhya Matthews, Craig Kruckenberg, John Stancik, & Mike Kraus*

area was created to house mini Hostas. Lots more Cantigny plants were brought in and a fourth area was created. When all of the planting was done, Barbara King and I took on the task of recording



*Above - Mike Kraus relocating Cantigny plants.*

the Hosta names (there were 77 of them!) and locating the new plantings on a landscape plan.

What a great feeling it is to have seen this project move from some names on paper to an almost finished garden. I can hardly wait to see what we have waiting for us next spring!



*Above - Happy volunteers - (l to r) June Vandervest, Sherrie Hughes, Bea McGovern, Tony Kwiatowski, Betsy Rogers, Barbara King, Floyd Rogers, Shandhya Matthews, Mark Rekoske. Not pictured - John Stancik & Mike Kraus.*



*Photos left & Right display the finished plantings for 2014.*

*Much more to do next year!*

*Photos by June Vandervest*

