

# Hosta Happenings

Special Year-end Edition

The Newsletter of the Northern Illinois Hosta Society

ISSUE 96

NOVEMBER 2016

## 2016/2017 CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

- Dec 4, Holiday Party, Kildeer
- Jan 21, 2017, MRHS Winter Conference, Naperville
- Mar, Spring Pot Luck & Garden Tool Swap, date & loc TBD
- Late April/May, Spring Symposium & Plant Pickup, date & loc TBD
- June 3 & 4, Hosta Leaf Display & Plant Sale, Chicago Botanic Garden
- June 7-10, American Hosta Society Convention, Indianapolis, IN
- June 18, Hosta Garden Walk #1, McHenry
- June 22 -25, 2017 MRHS 2017 Convention, Kansas City
- July 9, Hosta Garden Walk #2, Deerfield
- July 15, Annual Bus Tour to Southern Wisconsin
- July 16, Hosta Garden Walk #3, Kirkland
- Aug 6, Hosta Garden Walk #4, Schaumburg
- Aug 13, Hosta Auction/ Fund Raiser, Hinsdale Community House

## President's Letter

With the holiday season rapidly approaching, I find myself in a reflective frame of mind. Bea McGovern has left us, and Jim and I have lost two dear friends to cancer in the last 6 months. A long-time friend who is 93 has begun to fail and has entered a nursing home. These occurrences are not uncommon at our point in life, but they have made me more aware than ever of how important friends are to us, and of the need to appreciate and enjoy them while we have them.

Though mourning those who are gone, I rejoice in those that remain. I rejoice, too, that my role in NIHS has given me the opportunity to meet many wonderful people who are warm, caring, honest, hard working, and eager to help with the task at hand. I hope that after next year, when I step down from this job that I've loved, the relationships that have been established will continue.

Getting back to the holidays, I'm looking forward to seeing many of you at the NIHS holiday party at the Fulkerson home in Kildeer on December 4. Our hosts Penny and Carl are gracious and welcoming, the food is always delicious, and a festive mood always prevails. Check out the details on



## In this Issue:

2017 Partial Calendar of Activities	1
President's Letter	1
MRHS Winter Conference	2
In Memoriam	2
Holiday Party	3
Officers & Directors	4

page 3.

Thank you for your friendship and support. My best wishes for a very happy holiday season and much health and happiness in 2017.

*Barbara*

## MRHS Winter Conference

**When:** Saturday January 21, 2017

Registration & Continental Breakfast at 7:30 A.M.

Program from 8:30 A.M. until 4:30 P.M.

**Where:** Northern Illinois University Conference Center,  
Naperville, Illinois

1120 East Diehl Road, Naperville, IL

The 2017 MRHS Winter Conference (formerly the Winter Scientific Meeting) will continue to offer both hosta related



topics and general gardening subjects designed to appeal to experienced hosta growers and new gardeners as well.

A hospitality suite on Friday and Saturday will be provided at the host hotel Hampton Inn so attendees can visit with hosta folks

from around the region. A total of six speakers and topics will be presented including as of this writing:

- **Bob Solberg presenting “My Love Affair with Gold Hostas”**
- **Glenn Herold with “What is New & Exciting in Heucheras”**
- **Mark Zilis on “A Look Back at the Contributions of Hosta Pioneer Peter Ruh”**
- **Jill Sellinger discusses “Bulbs for Shade”**
- **Trish Beckford o “Native Plants as Companions in the Shade Garden”**

We also plan to add a new program/presenter on hosta hybridizing. For more information and to register go to the MRHS website:

<http://midwesthostasociety.org/events.shtml>

## In Memoriam Bea McGovern

We shall miss Bea McGovern, a lovely lady and much respected NIHS member since 1993, who lost her long battle with cancer in early November. Bea loved NIHS, participated in many of



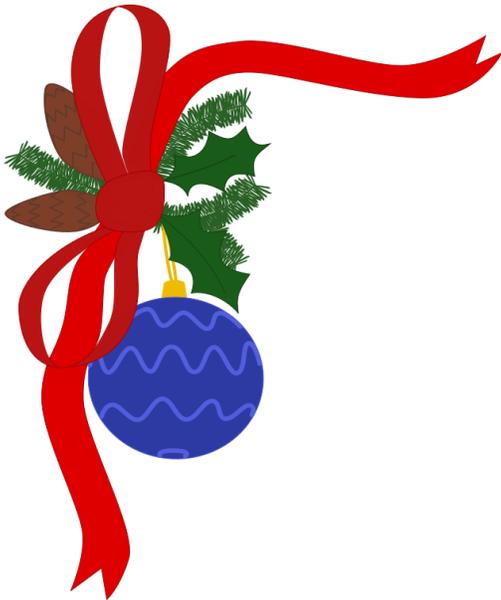
our activities until early this year, and most recently enjoyed working in the NIHS garden at Cantigny.

Bea’s garden was featured as a 2008 MRHS Convention tour garden. More recently Bea hosted NIHS members at a Hosta Garden Walk in June 2013. Bea’s garden was a gorgeous collection of hostas and Fairy vignettes.

Her dear friend Dee Brown recalls they first met on an NIHS Bus tour in 1993. They became best friends and participated in nearly all the regional and national conventions until last year. Dee helped Bea develop Bea’s garden by loading her pickup truck with garden mulch using her Bobcat, then spreading the mulch over Bea’s garden. Dee remembers Bea as a lovely person, a terrific friend, a hosta-lover and outstanding gardener.

A note of condolence has gone to Bea’s family.

## Holiday Party Food & Fun Sunday Dec 4



Be sure to put Sunday, December 4 on your calendar for the annual NIHS Holiday Party. Festivities will begin at **1:00 pm** at the home of Penny and Carl Fulkerson in Kildeer. Do plan to come and enjoy the company of NIHS friends and a wonderful meal in the beautiful surroundings of the Fulkerson home.

Excellent NIHS cooks always contribute remarkable food that never disappoints. Everyone who comes should bring either an appetizer, salad, side dish or dessert. The main dish and tableware will be provided. Please contact Penny at 847-540-8212 or [pennycarl@yahoo.com](mailto:pennycarl@yahoo.com) to let her know that you are coming and which dish you will bring.

This year, instead of the toys or food pantry donations we usually bring, let's *bring a monetary donation to the American Cancer Society* in memory of longtime NIHS member Bea McGovern, whom we lost to cancer in early November.

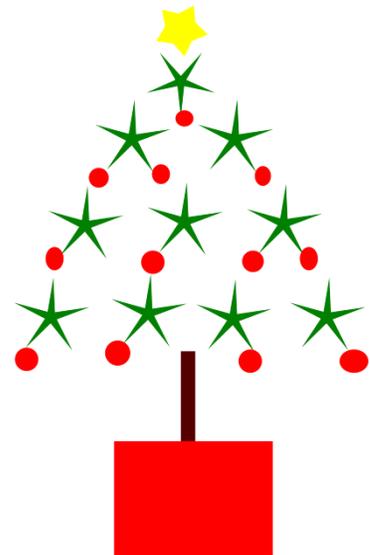
### **HOW TO GET THERE: The Fulkersons' home is at 21076 Oak Knoll Court, Kildeer**

Take I-355/I-290/Route 53 north to the WEST exit at Lake-Cook Road where the expressway ends. Go 0.2 miles to IL-53 north and turn right. Travel 1.1 miles and turn left onto Long Grove Road. After 1 mile, turn right onto Valley Road, then the first left onto Oak Knoll Court.

Please park "nose in" on one side only of Oak Knoll Court. If necessary, you may park on one side of Valley Road also.

From the intersection of Rand Road (Route 12) and Route 22, proceed southeast on Rand 3.4 miles to Long Grove Road. Turn left, and travel to Valley Road where you will turn left again, then left onto Oak Knoll Court. See parking instructions above.

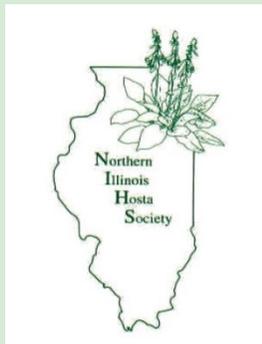
Hope to see you there!



NIHS Membership Secretary

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The Northern Illinois Hosta Society is dedicated to educating the public and promoting the use of hosta in the landscape. NIHS serves the people of Northern Illinois and surrounding areas.



*Hosta "Candy Cane"*



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*Hosta "Christmas Tree"*