



CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL JUNIOR HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

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Convention Theme: “Ready, Set...Grow”!

NATIONAL JUNIOR HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION CONVENTION

October 6 – 9, 2017

Indianapolis, Indiana

CONVENTION INFORMATION

The following pages give information about this year’s convention. Included are:

- General Information
- Convention Registration Form. Also available on web site www.njha.org
- Contest registration forms are available on web site www.njha.org

NOTE: Registration deadline for convention is September 25, 2017.

Registration deadline for contests is September 15, 2017.

REGISTRATIONS NEED TO BE IN TO THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY IN A TIMELY MATTER.

PLEASE READ THIS LETTER CAREFULLY.

CONVENTION HOTEL

The 2017 convention hotel is the Wyndham West at the Indianapolis Airport – 2544 Executive Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46241. The hotel offers free parking, free wi-fi, free airport shuttle, outdoor pool, 2 restaurants, a 24/7 Café, fitness center, and excellent meeting facilities. Room rate for up to 4 in room is \$99 (2 queen beds unless you request a king) State and local taxes 17%. Total per room \$116.

RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY Monday, September 25, 2017 TO RECEIVE THE GROUP RATE. RESERVATIONS MUST BE GUARANTEED AT TIME OF BOOKING. CHECK IN TIME IS 3:00 P. M.

Phone number for hotel reservations is (317)248-2481 or toll free (877)361-4511. Identify yourself as with the National Junior Horticultural Association.

CONVENTION REGISTRATION

Registration is \$275 for single, \$265 ea. for 2 members of same family, \$255 for 3 or more members of same family.

FULL REGISTRATION INCLUDES ALL MEALS FROM FRIDAY BANQUET THROUGH MONDAY BANQUET EXCEPT SATURDAY LUNCH. Also includes all admission charges on Sunday and Monday including transportation Sunday and Monday. Registration information is also on the web site. Fees are payable by check or credit card. *(We would prefer a check as there are credit card charges.)*

We encourage attendance and participation in entire convention activities but individual meals may be purchased by family members accompanying youth delegates.

Part-time fees: Dinner available on Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday - \$45 each; all day Sunday - \$130 (B, L, D, and tours); all day Monday - \$115 (B, L, D, and tours.); Saturday contest only - \$75 for each contest entered.

NOTE: ANY YOUTH UNDER 15 YEARS OLD MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A PARENT OR RESPONSIBLE ADULT CHAPERONE. REGISTRATIONS SHOULD BE POSTMARKED BY Monday SEPTEMBER 25, 2017. Payment should be included with registration either by check or online.

We would appreciate receiving registration money by check along with registration form if you can as we have to pay credit card charges of approximately 4% on all online payments and also many expenses have to be paid before convention.

Late registration fees after September 25, 2017 are \$285, \$275, \$265 respectively, unless Carole has been notified the registration will be coming by October 1st. Registration refunds will be made up to October 3rd less \$25 each by notifying Carole.

CONTEST REGISTRATION

If you are a student coming to convention to participate in contests, you need to pre-register for the contest online at www.njha.org. This can be done electronically. Please register by September 15, 2017. These forms will automatically go to the project chair in charge of that contest. These forms A to and including Form I can be found under the link "Contests, Projects and Activities".

Form A – Horticulture Identification and Judging

Form B – Demonstrations in Horticulture

Form C – Speaking in Horticulture
Form D – Horticultural Connections
Form E – Writing in Horticulture
Form F – NJHA’s Next Top Chef
Form G – Sprouting in Horticulture
Form H – Floral Arranging
Form I – Promotion in Horticulture

- 1. If you are entering as a team (i.e. demonstration or Hort ID), only one person should submit the information (names, addresses and birthdates). Only one 4-H team per state is allowed.**
- 2. Make sure you type all the information that is requested.**
- 3. Give the name of your coach or advisor.**
- 4. Entries are due by September 15.**
- 5. All demonstration and speech contests are conducted on Saturday morning. The specific time the delegate is scheduled for will be posted by the contest chairperson.**
- 6. The horticulture judging and identification contest is held on Saturday afternoon. A horticulture identification study session will be held on Friday night after the banquet.**
- 7. If you need more information about the contests (rules, divisions, etc.), please go to the web site (www.njha.org) and/or contact the contest chairperson.**
- 8. Open flames are prohibited for any part of your demonstration.**
- 9. ALL AREAS ON FORMS MUST BE FILLED IN.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

IF ANYONE HAS ANY QUESTIONS ON THEIR CONTESTS, YOU CAN SEND AN EMAIL DIRECTLY TO THE PROJECT CHAIR. AT THE END OF EACH CONTEST, THERE IS A BLOCK WHEN ONE CAN SUBMIT AN EMAIL DIRECTLY.

ALUMNI AUCTION

Don’t forget to support the alumni auction this year. If you are thinking of something that you could bring for the auction, think about a gift card. They are great for the delegates as many are flying and do not have room for things in their suitcases. A gift card is great.

SPECIAL NOTICE REGARDING ONLINE PAYMENT

Registrations can be sent electronically using credit cards only. Those cards accepted are Visa, Master Card and AMEX. This is a completely secure and safe online system to use. Visit our web site www.njha.org. We also welcome your check mailed with registration form. Contest forms should be filled out online and submitted electronically.

Workshop Information

Please visit our Facebook page for confirmation and news about specific workshops. Currently we expect topics to include “pollinators – from a habitat perspective”. We also are working with possible presenters for a workshop on hydroponics or vertical gardening. The organization Seed Your Future is preparing a workshop exploring educational paths and new career opportunities in horticulture (i.e.: precision agriculture). There is a potential for digital photography as well, and the always overbooked floral arranging workshop.

Like us on Facebook for all of the breaking news!



TOURS

Excellent interesting and educational tours on Sunday afternoon and Monday.

Sunday afternoon--will visit the Indianapolis Museum of Art and tour its world renowned gardens and greenhouse. They have orchid varieties from around the world and many tropical plants.

Sunday evening at White River Gardens with fountains, walking paths, beautiful sculptures. This includes Hilbert Conservatory which contains 5,000 square feet of tropical greenery. Will enjoy a sit down dinner and a short program.

Monday - will have a choice of two options:

1. Visit to Heartland Growers, a full-service whole greenhouse operation and Dow AgroSciences Global Headquarters, where you will tour the Research and Development building and may see an experimental greenhouse, a seeding lab and growth chambers. This facility will also serve as our luncheon stop which will then continue on to the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Museum and the opportunity to take a lap around the 2.5 mile oval track.
2. Visit to POET Biorefining where corn is converted to ethanol and other biorefined products and on to Hilltop Orchids, where you can view a selection of high quality, unique orchid plants. Following a lunch stop, this tour will also end up at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Museum.

Check web site www.njha.org for additional tour information.

SPECIAL NOTICE FOR STATE FLAGS* YOU DO NOT NEED TO BRING YOUR STATE FLAG FOR THE FLAG CEREMONY.** Smaller flags will be furnished by NJHA. This will help everyone who brings flags and bases and checking them in at the airports. Flag practice is at 5:30 PM on Friday and Monday. The person carrying the flag should come to the practices dressed for the banquet.

STATE EXHIBITS – States are encouraged to bring a display that showcases their state. Give-away items are strongly encouraged. Exhibits may be set up in the hospitality area after 2:00 PM on Friday and must be properly maintained during the convention. Exhibits are judged for their educational value. Exhibits should be removed after the awards banquet on Monday night. Tables will be covered and skirted.

DRESS CODE – As a delegate representing your state at a national convention, you are encouraged to dress appropriately during the convention. While jeans are not frowned upon, they should not be ripped, torn or shabby. Youth participating in speeches and demonstrations generally dress up for their presentation. Likewise, everyone is encouraged to wear business attire (shirt/tie, skirt/pantsuit) for the banquets. The weather can be variable. Plan on bringing a sweater and/or light jacket along with comfortable walking shoes. (ALL TOURS REQUIRE CLOSED TOE SHOES, NO HEELS ALLOWED.) Average day temps are 68°F and nights are 46°F.

CONDUCT – State Leaders/chaperones/advisors/coaches/parents are responsible for insuring that the behavior of the delegates does not have a negative reputation at the hotel. There will be other guests in the hotel the same time as we are, so it is imperative to maintain proper conduct

1. Delegates will not run, yell, or hang out in the halls
2. Delegates must be out of the halls and quiet 30 minutes after the last activity is completed.
3. Violators will be sent home at family expense.

CONVENTION DIRECTORY –If you want a copy, please call Carole Carney (724)479-3254 or e mail carole@njha.org and one will be sent out after convention. Board members will receive a directory after convention via e mail.

EXCHANGE ITEMS – Bring pins to exchange with other delegates.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

CONTEST FORMS FOR YOUTH ARE DUE FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2017.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2017 REGISTRATION FORMS AND PAYMENT ARE DUE FOR YOUTH AND ADULTS.

PLEASE SEND ALL ITEMS TO:

**CAROLE S. CARNEY
15 RAILROAD AVENUE
HOMER CITY, PA. 15748**

HOTEL RESERVATIONS DUE, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2017 by 4 PM (to receive convention rate).

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2017 at 5:00 PM LAST DAY TO REQUEST REGISTRATION REFUND (LESS \$25 EACH).

NO REFUNDS AFTER OCTOBER 3, 2017

CALL, WRITE, OR E MAIL CAROLE CARNEY,

**15 RAILROAD AVENUE
HOMER CITY, PA. 15748**

carole@njha.org PHONE 724 479-3254

SPECIAL NOTICE

Medical forms are no longer required by NJHA, therefore chaperones, leaders, coaches, advisors, and adults, etc. will be responsible to carry forms on them at all times.

Do not send registrations via express mail or certified mail because your executive secretary is not home during the daytime hours to sign for them.

Thank you.

Look for NJHA officers' excellent articles about the convention in Going and Growing newsletter on the web site (www.njha.org).