

# HAH Happenings

## February 2016



The Horticultural Alliance of the Hamptons

631.537.2223 [hahgarden.org](http://hahgarden.org)

P.O. Box 202, Bridgehampton, NY 11932-0202

at the Bridgehampton Community House

### HAH MONTHLY LECTURE - SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2016 - 2 pm

#### Naturalistic Landscape Design: Breaking Rules on Principle

**Duncan Brine**, principal landscape designer at [GardenLarge](#) and the naturalistic landscape design instructor at the New York Botanical Garden, will speak on how naturalistic gardens are shaped in response to a property's particular characteristics. The design process involves extending or establishing plant communities while creating pleasing spaces. Rather than imitating a traditional style, a naturalistic garden explores a landscape's potential for beauty and habitat. Conventional horticultural and design rules are set aside while revealing natural beauty and supporting ecological function.

Brine's talk is accompanied by images of the 25 year-old, 6-acre, Brine Garden in New York's Hudson Valley. (In the Brine Garden, native plants are used extensively, but not exclusively.)

Anne Raver of the New York Times describes the Brine Garden as "a dreamlike landscape", in which, "...plants have been given unexpected roles, in unusual places, and the delight comes in seeing what they will do on this ever-changing stage." In Horticulture Magazine, Carleen Madigan writes, "Duncan's philosophy of 'gardening large' ...doesn't necessarily relate to size; it's the idea that an entire property, be it two acres or twenty should be seen and treated as one garden..."

Brine's work has been featured in several books, including [Gardens of the Hudson Valley](#), [Private Gardens of the Hudson Valley](#), and [Designer Plant Combinations](#). The Brine Garden is on the cover of [50 Beautiful Deer Resistant Plants](#).



#### WINTER CALENDAR AT HAH

Saturday, January 30 - 10 am

WORKSHOP/SOCIAL MEDIA 101 - see. p. 2

Saturday, February 6 - BOOK GROUP - 11 am

Sunday, February 7 - LECTURE - 2 pm upstairs hall

Saturday, February 20 - ROUNDTABLE - 10 am - see p. 3

Saturday, February 27 - WORKSHOP/CHICKENS FOR HOMEOWNERS - 11 am - see p. 6

Saturday, March 5 - BOOK GROUP - 11 am

Sunday, March 13 - LECTURE - 2 pm upstairs hall

Saturday, March 19 - ROUNDTABLE - 10 am

#### BOOK GROUP - 11 AM

#### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Charles Savage: [The Invention of Nature: Alexander Von Humboldt's New World](#) - Andrea Wulf

Lydia Wallis: [Seeing Central Park](#) - Sara Cedar Miller

Rick Bogusch: [The New Shade Garden: Creating a Lush Oasis in the Age of Climate Change](#) - Ken Druse



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



February is a month to think. Let's enjoy this down time. Physically, there's not much that can be done in the garden but spring isn't far away. Gardening catalogs and current magazines are arriving at the library, and reference books are beckoning from the shelves. The library is warm, the chairs are comfortable and it has that lovely smell of books. The library recently installed wifi, so feel free to bring your laptop or tablet.



Photo: Erika Shank

January was a very busy month with programs every weekend! Carolyn Gemake, thank you for another fabulous book group meeting with wonderful presentations. After Susan Kennedy Zeller's review, I am looking forward to the April lecture by Dan Snow. Thank you to Pam Harwood for moderating the Roundtable, Pam always comes up with the best topics. HAH has so many talented members willing to help us all.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend an extra-special thanks to Elaine Peterson for her many contributions to HAH. Elaine was the creator of the container auction for the Pre-view party which brought horticulture back to center stage, created a "buzz" and made a significant addition to our major fundraiser of the year. The fresh, professional design of the newsletter is the result of Elaine's editing and formatting. I look forward to it every month. Elaine, with the help of Erika Shank, also created an entirely new website for HAH. It is informative, beautifully presented, and the content is frequently updated. If you haven't seen it, please go to: [www.hahgarden.org](http://www.hahgarden.org). It's bookmarked on my computer to easily access programming dates, browse the library collection or to read the digital version of the newsletter.

We are continually trying to update, create and learn. I hope you will join us.

Janet

## HAH 2016

### OFFICERS

President	Janet Donohoe Ollinger
First Vice President	Pamela Harwood
Second Vice President	Marie DiMonte
Recording Secretary	Susan Brackett
Corresponding Secretary	Patricia Wood
Treasurer	Bettina Benson

### DIRECTORS

Terry Coppola	2016
Rick Bogusch	2016
Alicia Whitaker	2017
Greg Wiseman	2017
Elaine Peterson	2018
Mary Maran	2018

### LIBRARY CHAIR

Susan Kennedy Zeller

### NEWSLETTER/WEBSITE EDITOR

Elaine Peterson  
[hahmember@optonline.net](mailto:hahmember@optonline.net)

Submissions must be received by the 10th of the month prior to publication. Please include NL in the subject line.

### MAILING

John Benson

### PHOTOS

George Biercuk, Terry Coppola, Elaine Peterson, Erika Shank

## SOCIAL MEDIA 101!

Social Media is important and we need to know more about it so we can represent HAH effectively and have another fun way to waste time on the Internet! Seriously, there's great gardening information out there. Please join Alicia Whitaker and Janet Donohoe Ollinger for a morning of exploring Facebook, Instagram and other interesting blogs, podcasts and apps. This is a basic 101 course. Bring your fully charged I-pad, I-phone or Android device to fully participate or feel free to just sit in and listen to the jargon. We'll be sharing ideas about interesting people and organizations to "follow" as well as learning how to upload our own photos and comments.

When: Saturday January 30th at 10:00 am

(Check the phone recording at the office if the weather is miserable or dangerous.)

Where: The LoGerfo Library

## HAH Library Footnotes

February 2016- Susan Kennedy Zeller

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We would love to have some volunteers to help cover the Library on Saturday mornings. We have so many special events happening then that you may be attending...would you be willing to volunteer to help out anyone who uses the facilities while you are there? Just send me an email letting me know when you are available. It isn't hard work! Just assisting anyone who is looking for extra gardening material. It is easy for us to show you how to find books and magazines.

Email [SKZeller@aol.com](mailto:SKZeller@aol.com) and put HAH library in the heading please. I would be happy to show you our simple process.

**Library Opening Hours: Winter.** Every Saturday from 10 AM to noon and after our Sunday Lectures. As an extra convenience we are also open most Tuesdays 10-12! If you need a special time just give us a call at 631- 537-2223.

## FRIENDS OF THE GARDEN 2016

### WORK DATES - Tuesdays - 10 am

April 5	June 28	September 20
May 3	July 26	October 18
May 31	August 23	November 15

## HAH SAVE-THE-DATES

**Saturday, March 19 - Winter Garden Tour if weather permits to view snowdrops**

**Saturday, March 26 - 10 am - Jean Coakley - 'Low Maintenance Gardening' Workshop**

**Friday, April 1 - Jackson Dodds - 'Pruning' Workshop**

**Saturday, April 30 - Vicki Bustamante - 'Birds and Botany of Big Reed Pond' Field Trip**

**Saturday, May 7 - Camellia Group - 10 am**

## THE HAH 2016 ROUNDTABLE PROGRAM CONTINUES ON FEBRUARY 20TH

The Horticultural Alliance of the Hamptons (HAH) will be having its next Roundtable discussion on Saturday morning, February 20th, from 10am-noon, moderated by Pamela Harwood. Building on January's discussion of plant choices for shade gardens, our main topic in February will be **"CREATING A GARDEN SETTING FOR TRANQUILITY AND A COOL RETREAT."** Our discussion will go beyond statues of Buddha and include USING SHADE, SEATING AREAS, WATER FEATURES, FURNISHINGS, CONTAINERS, DECORATIVE ORNAMENTS, AND HARDSCAPING. For those who wish to start plants from seeds this winter, we will also discuss methods of doing so as well as opening the floor to general gardening questions. This session is free and open to the public and will take place at the HAH Lo Gerfo Library and meeting room on the lower level of the Bridgehampton Community House. Enter at the parking lot on the west side of School Street and go to the door to the right of the Book Bay.

## NOTICE

**A very thorough report of the December 19th ROUNDTABLE meeting on the topic of "Creating a Winter Garden" has been written up by Pamela Harwood, and includes her research on plants to use. It is too long to include in this newsletter, but you will find it on our website, [hahgarden.org](http://hahgarden.org), under the tab: Plant Info. where you may copy and print it.**



## A NEW BENEFIT TO HAH MEMBERS IS NOW AVAILABLE !

ACC Distribution, a division of Antique Collector's Club, is a distributor of high quality books in a wide range of subjects. They are offering our membership a special discount of 50% off the retail price on any book currently on their web site. Log on to [accdistribution.com/us](http://accdistribution.com/us) to view the many categories of books available for purchase. You can browse the site by category, key word, title, subject or publisher. Shipping charges are \$5 for the first book and \$1 for each additional book ordered. Books are shipped from their fulfillment center in PA. There is no sales tax since orders are processed thru their UK offices. Payments are with Visa or Master Card only. At checkout, members need to enter the PROMO CODE: HAH to receive the 50% discount. This is a very special new benefit for our members - so take a look & Enjoy!



## Musings & Rambling - Early Winter Light

George Biercuk

The dramatic change in light conditions we're experiencing in our garden this winter for the first time, which change is the result two adjoining properties to our south clearcutting their land and the loss of two sixty plus foot tall pines toward the rear of our property on the same border, coupled with the unprecedented December "heat wave" (six consecutive high temp records broken at one point) had resulted in almost altered states as to both sense of time and perception in the garden. No longer does the broad shadow cast by the pines inexorably march through the garden as the sun completes its narrowed and lowered arc through the winter sky nor is the light from the southern exposure any longer filtered through the bare branches of the now gone tall oak canopy. The absence of the shadow is the biggest element missing from our winter garden. When we built the house in 1997 I guesstimate that the pines were twelve feet shorter (assuming eight inches of new growth each year) than they were when they had to be removed this past summer due to pine bark beetle infestation. The shorter stature when the garden was in its infancy meant that more sun reached the house which was built to be passive solar. Eventually the shadow blocked the mid-day winter sun, most notably at the winter solstice. The upside of the loss is that in the house we now bask in sunlight all day long while those areas of the garden once shielded from the sun's warming rays are no longer spared the effects of daily temperature fluctuations.

The aforementioned altered states were induced in part by the aqueous light which resulted from unseasonably warm air capable of holding copious amounts of moisture. The overhead sky was a misty blue fading to light grey toward the horizon, conditions more closely associated with steamy, humid summer weather. Absent the sharp blue of a sky expected to be seen above a garden pared down to its winter essence combined with unseasonable warmth which readily drew one outdoors without need of bundling up and some early spring bloomers blooming, one could be forgiven for forgetting that in late December we experience the longest night of the year in the northern hemisphere and this can have profound psychological repercussions for many people. The freedom to actively engage with the great outdoors, to do some work in the garden, to play a round of golf, to romp with the dog, kids and/or grandkids on the beach, to even take a dip in the ocean since it was also unseasonably warm helped to ameliorate the psychological effects of the advance of increasing darkness through December. As we turned the page to a new calendar year and the sky cleared to horizon-to-horizon blue I was struck by the fact the previous record for the warmest December 25th locally was set last year, 2014! What a wild ride we had after that.

Now that at year's end we had reached the point where we hit the ricocheting point of Earth's angled transverse around Sol, the hold of dark would begin to diminish each and every day, until the opposing point will be reached, and we could begin to anticipate the garden's and broader landscape's resurgence. Well that resurgence came quite a bit early! Late autumn/early winter stalwarts trooped along. The leaves of *Hydrangea quercifolia* clung to their mother plant in all their mahogany glory. *Hamamelis* "Orange Peel" and "Robert" were in full bloom. Never have we had *Camellia* "Jean May" and *Encore Azalea* "Autumn Rouge" blooming into early January. *Mahonia* perfumed the garden with its lemony/citrus fragrance. One day I had let Jake out and found him standing with paws up on the perimeter deck bench staring out. I discerned a faint buzzing from where his gaze was fixated. As I walked toward the source I realized there was a hive's worth of bees collecting nectar with a frenzied vengeance, their volume never heard before in the garden. I had to put Jake in the house because he thought the bees were "playthings" despite having been stung in the mouth earlier in the year at a client's, resulting in a grotesquely swollen snout for about a day.

With *Helleborus foetidus* in its full glory, chartreuse sentinels punctuating the garden, *H. niger* in full bloom and *H. x orientalis* and *Daphne odora* "aureomarginata" close behind one could be forgiven for thinking that April had arrived despite the low angled sun traversing the sky. That the unprecedented warmth encouraged people to experience the world outside when they would ordinarily be cooped up inside arid, dim interior spaces should have been cause for celebration. The unfortunate downside is that there will be a diminution of floral displays in the upcoming growing seasons.

To our long ago forbearers this was a mystical time in their cycle of life. As the sun reversed its descent into the unknown beyond the horizon, again beginning the rebirth and continuance of their world, and also began to broaden the breath of its points of appearance and disappearance they had hope that they had once again won the favor of their gods. Though we today know the celestial dynamics that drive Gaia's seasons we are still bound to her and her vacillations which are now in a state of flux.

We have now passed our celestial solar low point and the anticipation of renewal buoys us. Though we have, so to speak, turned the daylight clock the cold has begun to tighten its grip. As the duration of daylight and inclination of the sun increases Sol will prevail as light and warmth once again dominate.

The garden awakens.



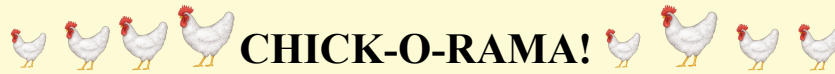
Mahonia 1/8/2016



The HAH Amaryllis planting program was once again a big hit with our local libraries and the children who participated. Many thanks to Terry Coppola for her hard work organizing them throughout the busy autumn months and to her wonderful team of helpers. As you can see in the photos, a fun time was had by all!









## Chickens for Homeowners

February 27, 2016

11AM - in the HAH  LoGerfo Library

Dr. Mark Bridgen, Professor, Cornell University

Dr. Mark Bridgen, a Professor at Cornell University and Director of Cornell's Long Island Horticultural Research & Extension Center in Riverhead, will be our guide through the hen house of raising our favorite egg laying, feathered friends, the domestic chicken. Dr. Bridgen has been raising chickens for more than 25 years and is an authority on the care and management of chickens in the backyard setting. If you want to learn about producing fresh, chemical-free eggs at home this is the seminar for you. Dr. Bridgen's colorful presentation will discuss the different kinds of chickens that are available, how to begin raising chickens, where to obtain baby chicks and chickens, what to do with new chickens when they arrive, options for hen houses, and much, much more. This is free for HAH members, for non-members it is \$5.00 or join HAH and get out of your winter shell   and enjoy this program and many other programs at HAH!



## COMMUNITY GARDENING OPPORTUNITIES



Community Gardens provide more than just rich soil for individuals and families to grow their own food, herbs, and flowers - they also build social connections and provide a way to stay active and improve your health. The Peconic Land Trust is celebrating 7 wonderful years with its community gardeners in Southold, and is thrilled to expand the number of planting beds at Bridge Gardens this year. **Why not join today?** Both locations offer plenty of gardening space, rich soil, irrigation, and expert help. Memberships vary depending on plot size. Sign up today, and then attend **one of two orientations:**

**In Bridgehampton at Bridge Gardens, 36 Mitchell Lane: Saturday April 9, 9:00 a.m.**

**In Southold at our Ag Center, 3005 Youngs Avenue: Saturday, April 30, 10:00 a.m. including an open house.**

Come choose your plot, take a tour to get the "lay of the land," learn the guidelines, share resource information and get all your questions answered. Space fills up fast, so contact the Trust for an application today! For more information, please contact Denise Markut at [DMarkut@PeconicLandTrust.org](mailto:DMarkut@PeconicLandTrust.org) or call her at 631.734.5630 prior to the orientations.



VISIT CHANTICLEER———SEE THE NEXT PAGE!!



# Springtime in Bloom

## A Tour of Public & Private Gardens in the Philadelphia Area

### Tuesday, April 12 – 14, 2016

#### Three Days/Two Nights - \$550 per person Double/\$700 per person Single



Springtime is a glorious time of year to visit gardens.  
On this extraordinary tour we will visit **Mt. Cuba Center, Chanticleer, the Scott Arboretum, Longwood Gardens**, private gardens including the garden of **Charles Cresson** and **Rare Find Nursery** in New Jersey.

#### Tuesday, April 12, 2016

At 8:00 a.m., our luxury motor coach will pick up the group in Bridgehampton and Hampton Bays and take us to the Radnor Hotel ([www.radnorhotel.com](http://www.radnorhotel.com)) a lovely, full service hotel conveniently located in the heart of Main Line of Philadelphia. We will enjoy a delightful lunch at the hotel upon arrival. In the afternoon, we will visit the Scott Arboretum on the campus of Swarthmore College. At this season, we will enjoy the cherry collection with over 65 displays of cherry trees. We conclude our afternoon at the garden of Charles Cresson, noted horticulturalist and HAH lecturer, who will show us his wonderful collection of Camellias and host a wine reception in the garden. Dinner will follow at a restaurant.

#### Wednesday, April 13, 2016

After breakfast, we will visit Mt. Cuba Center, ([www.mt.cuba.org](http://www.mt.cuba.org)) which was built in 1935 as the home of the Lamont DuPont Copeland family, and has been a public garden since 2005. Over the years, this private garden was developed to include woodland and wildflower gardens with native plants and woodland paths. The mission of the center is to inspire an appreciation for the beauty and value of native plants and to protect the environment where they exist.

We will then visit Longwood Gardens, ([www.longwoodgardens.org](http://www.longwoodgardens.org)) where the new exhibit entitled "Spring Blooms" will highlight over 240,000 tulips in a rainbow of color. We will see extraordinary displays of other bulbs and many flowering trees and marvel at the ephemeral wildflowers along the Meadow Garden. Lunch will be on your own at the cafe. We end the day with a special visit to a private garden. Return to hotel. Dinner on your own.

#### Thursday, April 14, 2016

After breakfast, we will check out of the Radnor Hotel. In the morning, we will take a tour of Chanticleer ([www.chanticleergarden.org](http://www.chanticleergarden.org)), one of the great gardens in the region. It is one of the most beautiful, imaginative and exciting gardens in America. Especially in April, this garden will dazzle the visitor with its vibrancy and bold colors. After Chanticleer, we will visit gardens in Swarthmore, part of the Swarthmore Horticultural Society project which funds private gardens with donations from residents of the town. Lunch on your own in downtown Swarthmore. We end our tour with a visit to Rare Find Nursery in New Jersey, one of the great destinations for unusual plants and flowers.

Date: Tuesday, April 12 to Thursday, April 14, 2016  
Pickup: Bridgehampton Community House, School Street side: 8 am  
Pickup: Hampton Bays at LIRR Station opposite 7-Eleven: 8:20 am  
Cost: \$550PP Double/\$700PP Single including transportation, admissions, 1 Lunch, 1 Dinner  
\$200 Deposit Payment must be made by February 10, 2016, no refunds after March 1  
Final Payment due March 5, 2016

#### Registration Form:

Please sign me up for the tour to the Philadelphia Area leaving Tuesday, April 12 and returning Thursday, April 14, 2016.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (cell preferred) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to purchase \_\_\_\_\_ tickets at \$550Double/\$700Single. Amount included \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to HAH and mail to HAH, P.O. Box 202, Bridgehampton, New York, 11932  
no later than February 10, 2016. Attention: Travel

Pick up in Bridgehampton: 8:00 a.m. \_\_\_\_\_

Pick up in Hampton Bays: 8:20 a.m. \_\_\_\_\_

Call Estelle Rosen 917.846.4160 or email at [estellerosen@gmail.com](mailto:estellerosen@gmail.com) for questions.

## HAH 2016 SUNDAY MONTHLY LECTURES - 2 PM

*February 7 - Duncan Brine - Naturalistic Landscape Design: Breaking Rules on Principle*

*March 13 - Ernest Cavallo - Galanthophilia, A Good Kind of Love*

*April 10 - Dan Snow - Listening to Stone*

*May 1 - Michael Wojtech - Bark: Get to Know Your Trees*

*June 12 - Stephen Orr - The New American Herbal*

*No lectures in July & August*

*September 11 - Scott Howe - Geology, Natural History and Art: The Parrish Museum's Landscape*

*October 16 - Marta McDowell - All the Presidents' Gardens*

*November 13 - Bruce Crawford - Small Trees for the Home Landscape*

*December 11 - Dennis Schrader - Tropical Immersion: The Costa Rica Garden Designed by Dennis Schrader*

## East End Garden Events - February 2016

**Local Public Gardens are all resting now. Visit HAH where there are lots of activities this winter. See page 1.** In NYC you can attend Metro Hort Group talks for a \$15 fee if you are not a member. Go to [www.metrohort.org](http://www.metrohort.org)

**Saturday, March 12, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Carnivorous Plants with Matt Kaelin**, Bridge Gardens, 36 Mitchell Lane, Bridgehampton, \$10/ person, free to BG members

**Friday, April 1, 1:00 - 3:00 pm, Pruning Do's and Don'ts with Jackson Dodds**

Bridge Gardens, 36 Mitchell Lane, Bridgehampton. \$5/person, free to Bridge Gardens and Horticultural Alliance of the Hamptons members. Rain cancels.

Erica carnea 'Springwood White'



100% Recycled

February 2016

HAHappening

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