



HAHappenings



June 2015



The Horticultural Alliance of the Hamptons

631.537.2223 hahgarden.org

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

at the Bridgehampton Community House

HAH MONTHLY LECTURE SUNDAY, June 14, 2015 - 2 pm



Andrew Brand - Year Round Appeal - Plants with Pizzazz All Year Long

For the past 25 years Andy has been employed at **Broken Arrow Nursery** in Hamden, CT where he is currently the **nursery manager**. He is also past President of the Connecticut Nursery and Landscape Association. Andy works hard to protect Hamden's open space and natural resources as a member of the Hamden Land Conservation Trust and the Town's Tree Commission.

Andy is an avid naturalist. He is a cofounder and past President of the Connecticut Butterfly Association as well as a long standing member of the New Haven Bird Club. He has put his interest in native plants to use as a volunteer for the New England Plant

Conservation Program where he helps monitor historical sites of endangered native plants. He recently completed the Master Wildlife Conservationist Program conducted by the Connecticut Dept. of Energy and Environmental Protection. Andy has spoken to groups throughout the northeast on a range of topics including native plants, new and unusual ornamentals, butterfly gardening, and butterflies of Connecticut and their life histories. In January Andy started the Facebook page, *Seeing Nature: Observations from New England*, a page dedicated to native flora and fauna.

HAH June Events

Tuesday, June 2 - Trip to NY Botanical Garden (see website to register)

Thursday, June 4, 10 am - Friends of the Garden

Monday, June 8 - Photography Workshop at Bridge Gardens with Erika Shank (see website to register)

Sunday, June 14, 2 pm - HAH Monthly lecture - see above

Thursday, June 25, 5 pm - HAH Private Tour of Madoo - see page 7

Tuesday, June 30, 10 am - Friends of the Garden



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Eucomis 'Aloha Lily Leia'



HAH 2015

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Elaine Peterson
hahmember@optonline.net

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

MAILING

John Benson

PHOTOS

Elaine Peterson, Erika Shank

A huge THANK YOU to everyone who came to the 2015 HAH Garden Fair and especially to those who volunteered their time to help orchestrate it. The Preview Party on Friday night was magical with perfect weather, a lovely tent and fabulous plants and planters. Saturday's rain didn't dampen spirits or buying too much and with a clearance sale the following week we did very well indeed with our benefit! THANK YOU ALL!

Andy Brand's lecture on June 14th promises to be an exciting one full of ideas for year round garden delight. Visits to NYBG, MADOO and Bridge Gardens (with camera) round out our events for the spring season this month. Please keep alert to further email updates re: local garden tours and workshops this summer as well as in the newsletter and on our website.

HAH will participate in the 'Planters ON & OFF The Ground VII' Exhibit at LongHouse from June 20 - July 25. Stop by and see our creation as you stroll through this wondrous garden.

Elaine

MEMBER NEWS

We are very sorry to report that Joy Cordery passed away on May 23rd. A memorial for her is being planned for late June.



25th Annual HAH Garden Fair



Our Container workshop was rained out on Saturday morning of the Fair, but read the next pages for help with making your own. June is the perfect month for exploring your creativity with plants and pots!

CONTAINEROLOGY: CONTAINERS 101

Alicia Whitaker

BASIC PRINCIPLES

Pot Size, Composition

Bigger is often better, depending on where the pot will be located and how often you are available to water it! Virtually anything can be used as a container – just make sure it has drainage holes. It becomes an aesthetic choice and there are no rules other than “use what you like.” Containers are now available in a myriad of colors and materials. Unglazed pottery tends to dry out quickly but also provides great air circulation for the roots. Fiberglass pots are sturdy yet light – great for large plantings that you may need to move around your patio or garden paths. All have advantages and disadvantages.

Light

One of the biggest issues for successful container plants is the amount of light where you need to use the containers. It's critical to supply the right amount of light based on the plants' needs. Follow the individualized requirements found on plant labels and don't mix plants with different light needs. It's obvious, but keep containers planted with sun-lovers in a location that gets at least 6 hours of direct sun a day. Many flowering annuals are sun lovers. Some can take some shade. Shade lovers will need to be in partial to deep shade – it depends on the plants you're using. Generally speaking, don't mix shade and sun lovers in the same pot.

Soil

Use potting soil, not garden soil. It has to be light enough to enable air to reach the roots and substantial enough to hold water effectively. Mix in some compost if you have it. Many flowering annuals will do well in a peat-based soil; succulents and other plants that require fast draining soil and relatively dry conditions will be happy in cactus soil mixes. A widely available potting soil mix contains organic ingredients, Osmocote fertilizer and a wetting agent to retain moisture. Keep about two inches of space between the soil and the top rim of the container, for watering.

Fertilizer

Annuals are heavy feeders and have a need for fertilizer in view of the heavy watering that is often required. It's a bit counter intuitive – we typically don't fertilize plants that are in the ground to the extent required by container plants. Mix some organic fertilizer into the top 5-6 inches of the soil once in the pot or use Osmocote. Plan to water with half-strength liquid fertilizer every other week. It makes a huge difference in reblooming and the overall health of the plants. The exception is succulents and cactus, which don't require extensive watering or fertilizer.

Watering

This is probably the most important element for maintaining beautiful container plantings. The heat of the summer sun, the reflection off of decks and patio surfaces and the wind often dry out container plantings very quickly. Plan to water deeply and frequently, pushing a finger through the soil to see if it's dry down to a few inches. If so, water so that the water runs out the bottom of the pot. In truly hot weather, don't be dismayed if you have to water every day. Be sure that the pot can drain – you don't want to drown the plants. They need to be well soaked then dry out before their next watering.

If you're away all week, returning on the weekend, water deeply the last thing Sunday evening and consider moving the pot into a slightly shaded location. Many potting soils now have absorbent crystals that capture and release water when needed. You can also mulch the soil of the pot – it will help the pot to retain moisture. Even better if a friend or helper can water for you in the middle of the week. You will learn which plants can survive and thrive given your availability to take care of them.

Good Neighbors

If you are doing a mixed planting in a pot, it's important to group plants that have similar requirements for light and watering. It's an obvious point but one that people sometimes overlook. Many flowering annuals are sun lovers and plant breeders are now developing plants that can do well in sun and shade – read the tags. Coleus used to be shade plants only, but now there are many that do well in full sun.

Grooming

Deadhead spent flowers and prune trailing plants as needed. Many annuals such as Petunias are now “self cleansing” – they drop their dead flowers by themselves. But not all do, so inspect your pots and have your clippers handy every week or so to neaten things up. This minor pruning will also help to create more blooms. If part of a plant has dried out or died, cut down the offending part and water the surviving plant well. You may have new growth.

Save or Photograph the Plant Tags

Save the tags if you need a reminder of the cultural requirements of the plants or if you love the varieties you've used. A smart phone or camera also comes in handy – take some photos. You'll be happy when you go to look for the same plants next year.

Plants Sometimes Die: No Stress

It's important to know that not all plants will be successful, even if they have the same light and watering requirements as their "neighbors" in the container. If they die, yank them out and replace them, or add more soil and give the remaining plants more room to grow. The best gardeners in the world experience mysterious plant deaths: move on.

DESIGNING BEAUTIFUL CONTAINERS

This is the issue that often perplexes new gardeners. Keeping in mind the issues of light, watering and plants that are "good neighbors", the other issues are aesthetic and there are few rules, although there are some well-proven choices that help to create "interest." What's important is that your container plantings reflect what you love, what will inspire you, and what will keep you motivated to care for the plants.

Color: Anything goes, but many people group plants that are "hot" or "cool" colors. You can go with a relatively monochromatic palette, using plants in the same color family, or use a number of colors that may be contrasting. The textures, flowers and varying colors of the flowers and foliage can tell an interesting story. Walk around the nursery with the plants you're considering to see how they look together. Use the colors that appeal to you – it's your container – but take some risks to keep life interesting.

Varied Heights: Many designers use the "formula" of a thriller, filler and spiller:

- **Thriller:** These are typically tall plants with an interesting form or foliage. They provide height. They can be positioned in the center of the container or on a side. Your choice depending on where and how you'll site the container.
- **Filler:** These are medium-height plants that provide much of the volume for the container and cover much of the surface of the soil.
- **Spiller:** These are plants that can be planted near the edge of the pot that trail over the edge.

Foliage as well as Flowers: Foliage colors and patterns can add texture and interest to a pot that is largely composed of flowering plants. Foliage can be plain or variegated; in addition to the many shades of green, consider chartreuse / yellow, burgundy, and grey foliage. There are also lovely container plantings that consist of foliage plants only – no or little flowering required. This is especially true of succulent plantings. A variety of leaf shapes and sizes can be more appealing than uniform foliage.

Rule of Odd Numbers: Gardeners typically use 1, 3 or 5 of a similar plant in a garden design. The same principle can be useful in pot plantings; for example, having 3 "filler" plants can work well. But it can be jarring to plant a pot with one specimen of a number of different plants – it ends up looking like polka dots rather than a coherent planting. Use this principle for grouping a number of pots too.

Quantity of Plants: The number you will use depends on the size of the container. Generally speaking, we plant containers much more "tightly" than what we would do in the garden – they look generous, abundant, and full instantly, with little soil being visible between the plants. You may also want to feature one specimen plant – such as a lemon tree, rosemary standard or dwarf conifer – by itself, with no competition or distractions.

Annuals and Tender Perennials: There's a reason that these one-season plants are recommended for containers: they bloom their heads off! Most flowering perennials have a "moment" and may bloom for a few weeks. The amazing thing about annuals and tender perennials is that they can often be in bloom from May through early November. If you love them, you can collect seed, take cuttings or take photos so you will be able to find them again next year. Some plants can be dug up and brought into the house for the winter. But don't stress if you need to toss them after the first killing frost – they've earned their keep in your garden!

Surprise -- Plants Grow: This is obvious but needs to be considered when you first plant your container. Most plants will become taller and wider, with more abundant bloom – a good thing. Allow enough room for growth or plant to prune or remove plants that may get out of hand. Many people like to "overplant" so that there's an abundant planting from day one. Just know that you may need to make some adjustments in the future. Most plant tags will give you an idea of the ultimate size of the plant.

Harmony with the Container: This is a matter of aesthetics – there are no clear rules. But don't use tiny plants in an oversize container and vice versa. Also think about whether or not the plant palette you want to use looks good with the color of the container.

HAH Tour

The Scott Arboretum, The Scott Associates' Plant Sale & a Visit to Chanticleer Garden

Friday, September 11 & Saturday, September 12, 2015

Cost: \$315PPDouble/\$365PPSingle including luxury bus transportation, admissions, hotel accommodation including breakfast & lunch and a box lunch on our trip home.

On **Friday**, our luxury motor coach will pick up the group in Bridgehampton or Hampton Bays and take us to the **Radnor Hotel** (www.radnorhotel.com), an elegant full service hotel conveniently located in the heart of Philadelphia's stylish Main Line neighborhood. Of particular interest to all is their award-winning formal gardens where you can relax and rejuvenate after the long ride from the East End.

After lunch at the hotel, we will meet and head for the **Scott Arboretum** where you will have an opportunity to explore the gardens and then attend the **Scott Associates' 2015 Plant Sale** (www.scottarboretum.org/plantsale). Their preview party is held from **4pm to 8pm** and includes festive food and drink. You will have an opportunity to shop for great plants including this year's featured favorite, clematis. If the hearty hors d'oeuvres don't satisfy you for dinner, you can enjoy dinner at the Radnor in their full service restaurant. We last visited Swarthmore two years ago and it was such a popular tour we are repeating this event!

On **Saturday morning** breakfast will be at the hotel after which we will visit **Chanticleer** (www.chanticleergarden.org) which has been called the most romantic, imaginative and exciting public garden in America. The garden is a study of textures and forms, where foliage trumps flowers, the gardeners lead the design, and even the drinking fountains are sculptural. It is a garden of pleasure and learning, relaxing yet filled with ideas to take home. The Chanticleer Foundation has 35 acres open to the public including terraces, a pond, woodlands, and vegetable gardens.

Lunch at the Radnor on Friday; Dinner will be on your own

Box Lunch will be provided on Saturday on our bus ride home

Our bus will depart from Chanticleer at approximately 1pm with an **approximate** time of arrival back in the Hamptons at 5pm.

Date: Friday, September 11 and Saturday, September 12, 2015
Pickup: Bridgehampton Community House, School Street side: **8 am**
Pickup: Hampton Bays at LIRR Station opposite 7-Eleven: **8:20 am**
Cost: \$315PP Double/\$365PP Single including transportation, admissions, 1 breakfast & 2 lunches
Payment must be made by July 1, 2015

Registration Form:

Please sign me up for the tour to Swarthmore and Chanticleer on Friday, September 11 and Saturday, September 12, 2015.

Name(s) _____

Phone (cell preferred) _____

Email _____

I would like to purchase _____ tickets at \$315 Double/\$365 Single.
Amount included _____

Please make checks **payable to HAH** and mail to HAH, P.O. Box 202, Bridgehampton, New York, 11932 **no later than July 1, 2015**. Attention: Travel

Pick up in Bridgehampton: 8:00 a.m. _____

Pick up in Hampton Bays: 8:20 a.m. _____

Call Bettina at 631.728.1981 or 917.834.0228 or email at bbettina@optonline.net for questions.



HAH Exclusive Event Private Tour of MADOO Conservancy

Thursday, June 25th, 2015
Time: 5 pm

Join Director Alejandro Saralegui for a private tour of the Madoo Gardens. Madoo, originally conceived by writer/artist/gardener Robert Dash, is an encyclopedia of garden design including a Chinese bridge, magnolia bosque, rose rill, hornbeam bower and Renaissance knot garden. The structures on the property date to the mid-eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The tour of the gardens will include a visit of the summer house and an exhibition of Dash's paintings in his former studio. Refreshments will be served.

Date & Time: Thursday, June 25, 2015, 5 pm

Location: Madoo Conservancy, 618 Sagg Main Street, Sagaponack NY

Cost: Free to HAH & Madoo Members, \$10 Non-Members

Registration Form:

Yes, Sign me up for the June 25th Madoo Conservancy Tour

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Tickets: Free for HAH & Madoo Members_____. \$10 Fee for Non-Members_____

Send form & check where applicable to:

HAH, P. O. Box 202, Bridgehampton, NY 11932 Attn: Workshops

Or email your sign up information to hahmember@optonline.net

Or visit our website at hahgarden.org for information on all HAH events and how to become a member.

HAH 2015 SUNDAY MONTHLY LECTURES - 2 PM

June 14 - Andy Brand - Year Round Appeal - Plants with Pizzazz All Year Long

No lectures in July or August

September 13 - Roxanne Zimmer - The High Line: Lessons for Our Gardens

October 18 - Anne Spiegel - Rock Garden Plants - At Their Homes and at Yours

November 8 - Catie Marron - City Parks: Public Places, Private Thoughts

December 13 - John Lonsdale, Phd. - Unusual Geophytes and Cyclamen

East End Garden Events - June 2015

LANDSCAPE PLEASURES/ Parrish Museum - www.parrishart.org

Saturday & Sunday, June 13 & 14 - symposium & tour

MADOO CONSERVANCY - Fridays and Saturdays 12-4 pm - info@madoo.org

Friday/Saturday - June 19 & 20 -MUCH ADO ABOUT MADOO: A Secret in the Garden - 5th Annual Party with music, garden market and author talks.

LONGHOUSE RESERVE, Wednesdays & Saturdays, 2-5 pm - www.longhouse.org

Saturday, June 20, 4:30-7 pm - Planters ON & OFF the Ground VII

BRIDGE GARDENS -Wednesday - Saturday 10 - 5 , Sundays 12 - 5

www.peconiclandtrust.org

ARF GARDEN TOUR - www.arfhamptons.org Saturday, June 20, 11-5 pm

THE GARDEN CONSERVANCY OPEN DAYS - www.gardenconservancy.org

Sunday, June 21, 10 am - many gardens open in East Hampton & Mt. Sinai



100% Recycled

June 2015

HAH Happenings

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