

## HAH Happenings March 2016



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, March 13, 2016 - 2 pm

## Galanthophilia, A Good Kind of Love

HAH member Ernest Cavallo will talk on his great passion for the wonderful harbinger of a thawing winter and upcoming spring - snowdrops.

In Ernie's own words: "Born and raised in New Jersey by non-gardening parents, I discovered the dirt as a young man in my twenties and have never had clean hands since. The month before I retired from a position in the NY State Court System in 2008, I read an article in The Garden about Colesbourne in the UK. I decided to treat to myself to a trip and fell in love with galanthus. Through my own research and information from the generous galanthus community in the UK, I have learned much which I am eager to share. I have gardened on Long Island for 35 years and hope to do so for another 35 years. "

Ernie is just back from an annual trip to the UK to view snowdrops where there are 100's of varieties to see in February each year. Don't miss this exciting talk!



### HAH CALENDAR

Saturday, March 5 - Book Group - 11 am - look right

Saturday, March 5 - Hypertufa Workshop 1 pm - page 5

Sunday, March 13 - Lecture - 2 pm upstairs hall - look above

Saturday, March 19 - Roundtable - 10 am - page 3

Saturday, March 19 - Winter Garden Tour in PM, if weather

permits - watch email alerts and website

Saturday, March 26 - 10 am - Workshop with Jean Coakley -'You and Your Garden...Aging Gracefully' Part II - page 3

Friday, April 1 - Pruning Workshop with Jackson Dodds - at

Bridge Gardens - page 3

Sunday, April 10 - Lecture - 2 pm upstairs hall

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

Saturday, May 7 - Camellia group - 10 am

FRIDAY, MAY 13 - HAH PREVIEW PARTY SATURDAY, MAY 14 - HAH GARDEN FAIR

## **BOOK GROUP - 11 AM SATURDAY, MARCH 5** in the HAH library

Elaine Peterson: The Inspired Landscape: Twenty-one Landscape Architects explore the Creative Process - Susan Cohen

Alicia Whitaker: The Art of Gardening: Design, Inspiration & Innovative Planting Techniques from Chanticleer - R. William Thomas

Pamela Harwood: Andy Goldsworthy: A Collaboration with Nature - Andy Goldsworthy



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE





I have just spent some time looking at the itinerary of the HAH April 12-14 Philadelphia trip. WOW! Scott Arboretum, private tour of Charles Cresson's garden with a wine reception, Mt. Cuba, Longwood Gardens, private tour of David Culp's garden, Chanticleer and Rare Find Nursery. This is an amazing trip! Estelle Rosen, super organizer extraordinaire, you have left me in awe!

What is your super power? Do you grow your own food and want to share your knowledge? Are you crafty and want to sew "sandbag" trunk

holders or make hypertufa globes for sale at the HAH Garden Fair? Are you having a good garden year and want to host a garden tour? Are you a computer wiz, master carpenter or willing to lug plants around? ALL HAH members have super powers, and ALL HAH members are super people! If there is something you would like to share, contribute or if you have an idea you would like to discuss, please reach out to me at (<u>HAHmember@gmail.com</u>) or our new super volunteer chair Greg Wiseman at (<u>GWiseman.hah@gmail.com</u>) ANY and ALL super powers are welcome!

Happy planting,

**Janet** 

## **HAH 2016**

### **OFFICERS**

President Janet Donohoe Ollinger
First Vice President Pamela Harwood
Second Vice President Marie DiMonte
Recording Secretary Susan Brackett
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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

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, Elaine Peterson, Erika Shank

## Friends of the Garden

"For lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; the flowers appear on the earth;

the time of the singing of birds is come,

and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land."

- Song of Solomon

And what a great time to be in the garden with friends. Although our 2016 gardening season has not yet commenced we anticipate it with eagerness and impatience. That is why we'd like to encourage you to mark your calendars for the Friends of the Garden gatherings this year.

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

Please join us for our first meeting in April as we celebrate the coming of Spring and the return of color and light. We meet on the above Tuesdays in the Marie Donnelly Garden located just outside of HAH headquarters from 10:00 to 12:00 am. No experience necessary. Just bring your favorite tools and your passion for plants. Refreshments will follow. Rain dates will be the Thursday of the same week.

"Daffodils,

That come before the swallow dares, and take The winds of March with beauty."

- William Shakespeare

Please feel free to contact Cathie Gottschalk (gershwingal@optonline.net; 998-4250) if you would like to participate or have any questions. Hope to see you in the Garden. Thank you.

Cathie Gottschalk, Friends of the the Garden chair



# HAH LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES 59



## THE HAH 2016 ROUNDTABLE PROGRAM CONTINUES ON MARCH 19TH

The Horticultural Alliance of the Hamptons (HAH) will be having its next Roundtable discussion on **Saturday morning, March 19th**, from **10am-noon** moderated by Pamela Harwood. The Topic will be **VERTICAL GARDENING.** Whether your garden area is "space-challenged," or you have a lot of ground to cover and wish to add vertical elements to "heighten" visual interest, "planting up" is a topic all its own, and one that is being increasingly discussed. One technique is "the living wall," somehow (and we'll discuss that somehow) adding soil or moss to an indoor or outdoor wall and inserting plants into these mediums to grow from bottom to top. We'll also discuss the many other ways of accomplishing your design and decorative goals with plants like vines and roses growing up arbors, arches, fences, pergolas, trellises and walls; as well as espaliered trees, tall or pillar-shaped shrubs and trees, and tall garden ornaments. We hope to see you then! 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.

## YOU AND YOUR GARDEN .... AGING GRACEFULLY



PART II



Master Gardener and Lecturer, Jean Coakley

Saturday, March 26th 10AM in the HAH LoGerfo Library

As our garden matures, we may take pride in its design as we wend our way in for a break or add another chore to our "to do list'. Jean will share her ideas for graceful changes which help us maintain the love affair with a garden which has become "a thing of beauty and a job forever'.

This is free to premium members, \$5 for regular membership and \$10 for non-members.



# Pruning Do's and Don'ts with Jackson Dodds Friday, April 1, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.



Bridge Gardens, 36 Mitchell Lane, Bridgehampton

Meet Jackson Dodds, Certified ISA Arborist and current President of the L.I. Arborist Association, and learn the basic steps to spring pruning of your deciduous and evergreen trees and shrubs. Jackson will present detailed information and lead a guided walk with our Garden Manager, Rick Bogusch, to identify and explain proper techniques, timing of pruning for various plants, and general tree and shrub management. Bring your questions for discussion.

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

## **Musings & Ramblings**

#### George Biercuk

Winter storm Jonas. It's a name with, interestingly, diametrically opposite meanings. Derived from the ancient Greek word for Ionian it meant "dove" when incorporated into Hebrew. Later meanings are most interesting because on one hand it means "peaceful being" and on the other "destroyer" and "he who oppresses". Well, based on storm Jonas' effect on our garden he lived up to "destroyer" and certainly did "opPRESS" many of our plants. The fourteen or so inches of heavy snow coupled with very strong winds resulted in some large snapped tree limbs and many small ones also. I thought that with all the high wind storms that we had through this past autumn the dead wood had been mostly shaken out. Not so.

The sizable branch that fell into the plantings off the deck fortunately wove itself through everything without damaging anything. A large somewhat awkward clerodendrum branch which fate we were debating was settled by Jonas. It is no more. A ten foot pieris transplanted this past autumn was pulled over as was an eighteen year old twelve foot rhododendron that appears to have had its roots eaten. A high bush blueberry, a hydrangea quercifolia and two lilacs had snapped branches which will have to be cleaned out come this spring. Many low shrubs were squished to the ground and taller ones splayed into unusual shapes. Everything seemed to rebound until the VERY heavy wet snow on February 5th. It would appear that all the groundhogs who DIDN'T see their shadows on a crystal clear sunny February 2nd this year have gotten it wrong again. Ironically last year's groundhog day was snowy and the groundhogs SAW their shadows. Well, we know how that turned out.

Ensuing snow events sorely tested the garden's mettle. The HEAVY, WET snow on February 5th toppled trees, ripped down branches helter-skelter and overwhelmed all manner of flora. Adding insult to injury another out of nowhere event was poised to dump on us again with more on its heels, again with borderline temps and the threat of "HEAVINESS".

This spring the pruners and pruning saws are going to get a good workout. The level of shade for us is going to be altered considerably in some instances, especially under the now essential clerodendrum trichotomum which are crucial to the developing hellebore/shade garden located in the area where two seventy plus foot oaks were lost a few years ago. The clerodendrum appear to be splitting and may be at the end of their life cycle. Their shade and late summer intoxicating fragrance would be sorely missed if we were to lose them. It would take many years for seedlings to achieve the stature of these beauties.



#### **Helleborus foetidus**

A mid-January trip to meet my newborn grandniece in San Antonio, Texas offered up some interesting horticultural observations. During our stay the temperatures ranged from a high of 76° to a low of 33°. Public spaces at this time of year were planted out with lots and lots of cyclamen and pansies because from May into November it's way too hot and water too scarce to sustain any kind of displays. I was interested in the use of rosemary as a landscaping mainstay on some properties. It forms wonderful hedges and creates architectural focal points in the xeriscapes necessitated by the climate. There was one big disappointment with the rosemary though. I picked some, from a bush overhanging the sidewalk, so I could season the steaks I was cooking for dinner. Not much in the way of flavor was imparted to the meat. Maybe because stems were stocky and thick they lacked the flavorful oils found in younger growth.

The underlying local stone is the same as found on St. Maarten (I allowed my mind to wander to our home away from home - they even have some palm trees in San Antonio which is not the warm Caribbean). The flora, though, is distinctly different between the two locals. Very unCaribbean was mahonia. Ironically our plants in Wainscott had been tricked into full bloom five months early due to an unseasonably warm late autumn/early winter while the plants in San Antonio, despite wide swings in their winter temperature, were on schedule for the area and hadn't yet begun to open. Apparently mahonia is a lot more heat tolerant than I thought, surviving long stretches of triple digit temperatures unscathed.

Quercus virginiana (live oak) survived the bulldozers on some properties near my niece. I've read about them many times but this was my first encounter with them. What wonderful and majestic trees they were. Their trunks/branches undulated sensually, projecting an earthy sexiness. If only there were a decent depth of soil and a reliable and sustainable source of water what stunning gardens could be created under their embrace. Again, the reality – THE RIGHT PLANT IN THE RIGHT PLACE IN THE RIGHT CLIMATE (which unfortunately is in a state of flux).

Nandina domestica was planted sparingly. Its bright red berry clusters were a welcome relief from the sameness of the parched landscape. What roses people were attempting to grow looked as though they would be grateful for a shovel pruning. The vellow rose of Texas, famous of song, was nowhere to be found, at least in San Antonio.

The garden will endure though its components will eventually/inevitably change. Spring, according to the groundhogs, is about to spring.

## **HAH Workshop** Make it Yourself Hypertufa Garden Globes



## Saturday, March 5, 2016 Time: 1pm - 3pm



Workshop limited to 15 people - Materials Included

Join us again for a fun workshop creating your own Hypertufa Garden Globes – this time around we will be using glass globes as the molds – two different sizes. The Hypertufa mixture is lighter than using traditional cement which will make it easier for you to pick up and move around your garden.

After creating your globes it will need one week to dry and set. Storage will be at the Community House and you will be able to pick it up the following Saturday.

| Date:                       | Saturday, March 5, 2016 at 1pm   |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Location:                   | John LoGerfo Library, Bridgehampton Community House, School Street Entrance  |
| Materials:                  | All materials needed are included in the cost of the workshop<br>Please bring your own plastic gloves and an apron           |
| Cost:                       | \$25 Premium Members: \$35 Members; \$45 Non-members  Payment must be made by March 3, 2016                                  |
|                             | me up for the Hypertufa Workshop on Saturday, March 5, 2016  |
| Name(s)                     |  |
| Phone (cell p               | preferred)   |
| E-Mail                      |  |
| \$25 Premiun<br>\$35 Member |  |
| \$45 Non-me                 | mber Total Amount included   |
| 11932 <b>no la</b> t        | e checks payable to HAH and mail to HAH, P.O. Box 202, Bridgehampton, New York, ser than March 3, 2016. Attention: Workshops |



917.834.0228, email at bbettina@optonline.net

## **Library Footnotes** March 2016

By Susan Kennedy Zeller

Need great ideas for containers because you are donating to HAH Benefit OR.....? Want to seize the opportunity to bid on the perfect container for your own space at our May Plant Fair? Brush up your knowledge by perusing these books in our Library. All have been placed on the Library desk for easy finding! And don't forget that we have a complete selection of the best Gardening Magazines to browse as well.

<u>The Container Garden</u>, by Nigel Colburn - How to concerning in and outside the house as well as balcony containers.

<u>The Contained Garden</u>, by Kenneth Beckett, David Carr and David Stevens - Guide to growing plants, flowers, fruits and vegetables outside in pot. In addition to types of pots this has listings of plants and how to use them.

<u>The New Terrarium</u>, by Tovah Martin with photos by Kindra Clineff - by one of our HAH speakers. Smaller, intimate plants in unusual artistic ways for inside glass and other containers as terrariums.

<u>Colorful Containers - Flowers for patios, balconies, and terraces,</u> by Friedrich & Dagmar Strauss - Uses great old fashioned plants and wonderful ideas for balcony flower boxes on railings and very small spaces.

<u>Gardening with Containers</u>, by George Carter with photography by Marianne Majerus. A step by step project workbook with great ideas and 'how to' information in a straightforward way.

<u>The Vegetable Gardener's Container Bible</u>, by Edward C. Smith - So.... not everyone wants plants you cannot eat! This is how to reap big harvests in small spaces, pots, containers.

<u>Pots in the Garden (expert design and planting techniques)</u>, by Ray Rogers with photographs by Richard Hartlage - details the characteristics of each type of pot material such as terracotta, glass, ceramic and how each behaves when used as a container. Also provides numerous ideas about how to combine and characteristics of plants that could be useful.

<u>The Encyclopedia of Container Plants</u>, by Ray Rogers with photography by Rob Cardillo - Just what it titles - alphabetical listing with color photos of plants useful for containers.

<u>Gardens to Go, Creating and Designing a Container Garden</u>, by Sydney Eddison with photographs by Steve Silk. Inspirational ideas from a popular HAH speaker on how to design using containers for outdoor spaces.

**Library hours**: whenever you are here for a Workshop, Roundtable or Lecture. Saturday mornings from 10-12. And most Tuesdays from 10-12. If you need to visit another time please call us at 631-537-2223.

## **Member News**

## Jay Hunt writes:

Good Shepherd Farm is located on an acre of farmland behind Queen of Most Holy Rosary Church in Bridgehampton. We are a community farm run by the members who grow mostly organic vegetables, flowers and herbs for the members with some going to the church and the food pantry in Sag Harbor. We may have openings for a few new members this spring. It's three days a week 9-10:30 Mon, Wed, Sat. We share the work equally and the bounty. Contact me if interested... <a href="mailto:jayhunt125@yahoo.com">jayhunt125@yahoo.com</a>

We also are looking for donations of straw, leaves and starter flats of vegetables. THANKS.

#### 02020202020202020202020202

## Jack deLashmet, Garden Designer

We are saddened to hear of the passing of Jack, a renowned landscape architect and garden designer whose sense of humor and courtly Southern manner charmed friends and clients. His firm completed notable landscape projects and historic garden restorations and he was a big supporter of environmentally conscious gardening. His work was featured in numerous publications and books and his own bestselling book, "Hamptons Gardens" was published by Assouline in 2011. The East End gardening community has lost a very talented and imaginative man and he will be greatly missed.

6

## **PLANT-O-RAMA**

#### Alicia Whitaker

I recently had the opportunity to attend Plant-O-Rama, an annual event organized by Metro Hort and held at the Brooklyn Botanical Garden in late January. This is an educational event and trade fair for people who are involved in the business of gardens, gardening and related activities and it comes at a time when everyone is sick of winter and longing for spring.

One of the major features is a trade fair, with vendors who have products and services for the horticultural community. It's a great place to get a sense of what the hot plants may be for the spring.

Jim Glover of *Glover Perennial Growers* was there with a beautiful selection of plants that will be offered this year. He's expanded his selection of succulents and sempervivums, has a number of variegated plants and was showcasing a particularly attractive Euphorbia. Jim and his wife Joanne are now headquartered in Cutchogue on a 23 acre farm where they grow unusual plants using practices that result in exceptionally healthy plants. See the photograph of Euphorbia 'Silver Swan', a plant that we'll try to source for our plant fair.



Euphorbia 'Silver Swan'





Cryptanthus 'Elaine'



Helleborus 'Merlin'

Dennis Schrader of *Landcraft Environments* had a wonderful display of annuals, tropicals, succulents and a new Hellebore, H. 'Merlin'. Landcraft is now also selling perennials in addition their mainstay of unusual annuals. The photos here include the new Hellebore and the gorgeous pink-margined Cryptanthus 'Elaine', an unusual type of Bromeliad that grows in soil.

Beds and Borders, another valued and long-term supplier of annuals for our Plant Fair, was also there with beautiful displays of succulent dishes. This is another business that was at the leading edge of horticulture twenty years ago at a time when the range of annuals available was very limited. They opened our eyes to the possibilities, continue to innovate, and continue to be a supplier for our plant fair.

Recent HAH lecturer, Thomas Rainer and Claudia West, co-authors of the book <u>Planting in a Post-Wild World:</u> <u>Designing Plant Communities for Resilient Landscapes</u>, were the education session speakers.





## **Poppies**

## Rick Bogusch

Papaver somniferum is an easily grown, hardy annual, also known as opium poppy. At Bridge Gardens, we collect seeds every year in July and sow them in late winter or very early spring. Scatter the seeds on the ground (or even on the snow) where you want them to grow and then wait for germination when the soil warms up in April. Germination is prolific. If you're a heavy-handed seeder, you may have to thin seedlings, so they're about 10-inches apart. Poppy's serrated, bluegreen leaves are easily spotted.

At Bridge Gardens, we call June "poppy time," because that's when the scarlet, purple and pink flowers are in peak bloom in the herb garden's medicinal, culinary and ornamental beds. They are quickly followed by attractive green seed pods that soon turn brown and are full of the tiny black seeds found on bagels and in baked goods or saved for sowing back into the garden the following year. If you don't have any saved seeds, you may buy them from catalogs like Select Seeds or at HAH lectures.

## The Art of Gardening, reviewed by Alicia Whitaker

Bill Thomas and the wizard horticulturists at Chanticleer have written The Art of Gardening for us – dirt gardeners. Plant geeks. People who are weak-kneed in the presence of beautiful plants and a compelling landscape. The subtitle is "Design, Inspiration and Innovative Planting Techniques from Chanticleer", and the book delivers all of that.

Chanticleer is the large former private estate, now a public garden with the goal of continuing to be a "pleasure garden". HAH members visited Chanticleer in September and we will go back this coming April. Executive Director Bill Thomas provided the guiding hand for the book but also included the diverse voices of Chanticleer's talented horticulturists in the text. In his daily role, he acts as the "owner's representative as well as the head gardener, coach, overseer, and benevolent dictator." It's this division of labor and support of individual artistic vision in an orchestrated whole that make Chanticleer such a unique and spectacular garden, with contemporary design in a historic space with traditional architecture. The striking photographs are the work of Rob Cardillo.

The premise of the book is that much of what is done at Chanticleer is easily transferred to the home garden, with ideas about plants as well as design for different types of topography, soil conditions and microclimates. Gardens range from the low maintenance of the Parking Lot and Gravel Gardens, each requiring little water, to the high maintenance of the terrace gardens, lushly planted with tropicals requiring daily watering and grooming. This is a large property so there are woodland gardens, meadows, ponds, a cutting garden, extensive perennial borders, a ruin and majestic trees. The creativity of the container plantings is worthy of a separate book, but this book provides many examples, with unexpected plants and ideas for seasonal plantings.

"Plants make Chanticleer the garden it is, and it's easy to see we are crazed about plants." There are over 5,000 taxa or different plants currently grown in the garden. They order from over seventy nurseries each year and are given plants, cuttings and seeds from fellow plant nuts around the world. Plants that don't thrive or don't serve the design well are unsentimentally yanked or relocated. There's always another great plant to try – an important lesson for those of us who try to shoehorn an admired plant into a less than ideal setting. "By working with our site rather than fighting it, we treat these microclimates as opportunities rather than problems."

The book closes with a manifesto that encourages each of us who garden to garden to please ourselves, and to trust our instincts so that the garden becomes our personal expression. "Gardening is what we do because we must... You cannot serve two masters, nor can your garden. It needs vision and a strong leader to be good."

The Art of Gardening: Design Inspiration and Innovative Planting Techniques from Chanticleer by R. William Thomas, Timber Press, 2015

#### HAH ROUNDTABLE PROGRAM

### **JANUARY 16, 2016**

### PLANTS FOR SHADY AREAS

## By Pamela Harwood

Having a mostly sunny property, visitors to my garden have said, "I could never grow all these plants, as I have too much shade." I therefore decided that the subject of plants that thrive in shady areas would be of interest to many of our members. It is also true that as my - and my neighbors' - trees and shrubs have grown, my garden has more shade than it used to have. So when I began research for this Roundtable, in my naïveté I was truly amazed to learn of the huge variety of plants that thrive in shade, especially as there are numerous definitions of shade. Depending on the number of hours of shade per day, your garden might have full shade, part shade, light shade, half-day shade, and dappled or filtered shade.

My experience is that many plant labels describe many plants to be in shade, but that most flower better when given some sun. This is part of the reason there are so many choices for shade: you might think that a tree, shrub, or perennial requires part or half sun, but it equally can be described as enjoying part or half shade.

To complicate things further, the soil in shady areas can be different. Dry soil can result when there is competition from tree roots or when an overhead tree canopy prevents rain reaching the ground. Or the soil can remain moist when shade keeps out the sun. Further, each book I read from our HAH library, each article from our "vertical files" or on the internet described more and more plants I could have added to what had already become a 4-page handout. So as the day of the Roundtable drew near I simply stopped adding to the list, knowing that I could rely on our attendees to add more selections.

And they did. Thank you so much to everyone who joined us, with a special thanks to Paige Patterson of Marder's Nursery who, with hundreds of clients as well as her own extensive garden (which will also be on our summer 2016 garden tour - just a subtle reminder, Paige!), added so much to our knowledge that day. Also in attendance besides myself were Carolyn Gemake, Susan Brackett, Carole Campolo, Mike DeVito, Jay Hunt, Peter Feder, Marie Di Monte, Janet Ollinger, Bettina Benson, and new members Lesley Gray, Alita Buzel, and Bob Bernstein. Being a psychologist, Alita described a plant's stress after being moved as "transplant anxiety." Everyone brings a new point of view!

We also had visuals. I set up a photo slide show on the Library computer of some of the shade plants in my garden, as well as one I had taken at Dr. Vincent Covello's moss garden during one of our garden tours last summer. Janet Ollinger brought her iPad, so we were able to see other photos as well.

One of the topics we discussed are the challenges and opportunities when choosing plants for shady areas, such as carving out garden spaces in a woodland; choosing plants for the shade under a north-facing building wall or fence; and designing a "layered" garden with canopy trees, understory trees, shrubs, and ground-level plants. You may also wish to create a shade garden where now there is only sun. In any event, there are many choices. Do you prefer an all-green palette? If so, your choices can include various shades of green as well as heightening interest with different leaf sizes, shapes, and textures. Or do you wish to brighten up your shady area with color? This can be accomplished by including flowering shade plants.

Shady areas should be well mulched. In my opinion, the best thing to do is rake fallen leaves, put them in a leaf shredder or go over them with a mower attachment, and then return the shredded leaves to your garden beds. They will create a protective barrier layer in winter, help to retain moisture in the summer, and break down faster than wood mulch to provide nutrients and structure to your soil.

To assist our discussion, I distributed the aforementioned 4-page handout of plants for shady areas, suitable to East End conditions. Unfortunately, the list, which now also includes most of the additional plants suggested by our attendees, is too long to fit the space constraints of this newsletter. So if you would like the

complete listing, which indicates those that are deer resistant (in most East-End neighborhoods!), please email me at: pamharwood@aol.com. There also will be some copies at the HAH library and hopefully on our website on some point.

I also wish to draw your attention to HAH member Lois Sheinfeld's blog, <a href="www.floragloria.com">www.floragloria.com</a> and her posts dated February, 2013 on "Skimmia japonica: Shade Plant Sublime," and April, 2014, "Spring 2014: Snow White Extravaganza," which discusses several forms of Pieris.

Another welcome part of all the Roundtables is off-topic questions and suggestions from attendees. At this session, it was pointed out that some of our members would welcome help in their gardens, as they might not be able to do all the work they used to be able to do. Perhaps our organization can find a way to create a list of local laborers who, with guidance from the experienced member, can help with such tasks as weeding, planting, and light pruning and deadheading. This suggestion ties in with a subject being discussed at recent HAH Board and strategy meetings: that is, how can we enhance our member benefits and our community outreach? I think it's a great idea to pursue.

And what HAH Roundtable would be complete without a digression onto the subject of deer, including which area has the most voracious deer, which plants they have recently added to their menus, which plants they eat in winter rather than in summer, what height of fencing is necessary, what materials should it be made of, do they jump over the fence or prefer to go under. Answers: 1) According to a recent email from Elaine Peterson, "her" deer in Montauk are now devouring (not just nibbling) Leyland Cypress. Since landscapers are creating a monoculture of Leyland Cypress hedging, this doesn't bode well. 2) My Bridgehampton, north-of-the-highway deer have recently added forsythia, mums, rudbeckia (black-eyed Susan), echinacea (purple coneflower), aconitum (monkshood), newly planted ferns (yes!), arisaeum ringens (cobra lily), and spirea to their selections. 3) The winter-only menu includes rhododendron, kalmia latifolia (mountain laurel), ilex (all hollies), and Eastern Red Cedar. 4) Six feet height will suffice as long as you have taller poles they can see and shrubbery they can't see behind. 5) Fencing should be made of a sturdy, non-stretchable material like wood or metal rather than plastic. 6) I have found them to be lazy and would much prefer to find a weakness at the bottom of fencing so that they can crawl under it.

I once read that deer families usually browse within only a square mile of where they are born. So different herds have developed different tastes, depending on what's available in their area. This might account for why gardeners have different experiences with what is eaten by "their" deer. One attendee thought it strange that they will eat newly planted varieties that they usually don't prefer. Paige suggested that if, while strolling on their usual route, they see or smell something new, they will try it out. It is therefore advised that you spray deer repellent on all new plantings.

I HOPE TO SEE MANY OF YOU AT OUR NEXT HAH ROUNDTABLE ON SATURDAY, MARCH 19TH, 2016 FROM 10AM - NOON. The topic will be VERTICAL GARDENING. See page 3 of this issue for more information on it.



## MADOO TALKS

The winter doldrums will once again be alleviated by the much anticipated Madoo Talks/Winter Lectures, presented on three **Sundays in March** at noon. This long-time tradition takes place in the historic summer studio, bringing leading lights of the garden world to Madoo. The presentation is followed by a reception in the red living room. The series leads off on:

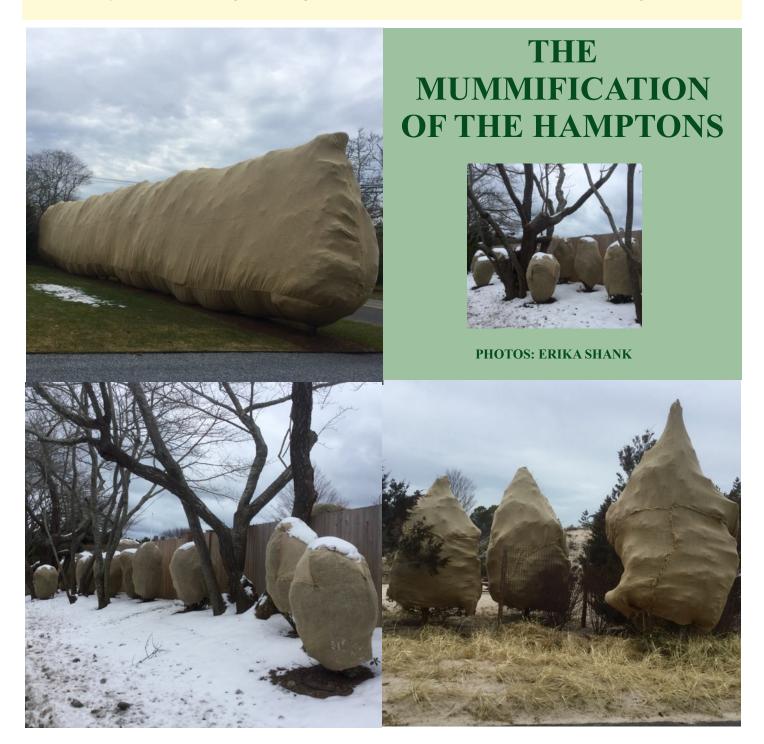
March 6 with fragrance industry leader Paul Austin speaking on 'From Seed to Scent'

**March 13** design writer and novelist Caroline Seebohm discusses her new book: <u>Rescuing Eden: Preserving America's Historic Gardens</u>

**March 20** is by landscape architect Susan Cohen who addresses imagination and invention as described in her new book, <u>The Inspired Landscape: Twenty-one leading landscape architects explore the creative process</u>

Tickets: \$25 members, \$30 non-members. All lectures will begin at 12pm in the Summer House Studio located at Madoo Conservancy, 618 Sagg Main Street, Sagaponack, NY 11962. A reception will follow.

RSVP directly to Madoo at: info@madoo.org or 631.537.0082 or on their web site: www.madoo.org



### HAH 2016 SUNDAY MONTHLY LECTURES - 2 PM

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 - March/April 2016

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.

Saturday, April 9, 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

From Cleanup to First Sowings, Getting the Vegetable Garden Started

Bridge Gardens, 36 Mitchell Lane, Bridgehampton \$5/person, free to Bridge Gardens and our Community Garden members. Reservations requested. Rain or shine

Snowdrop - Galanthus 'George Elwes'





HAHappenings March 2016

The Horticultural Alliance of the Hamptons Bridgehampton Community House P. O. Box 202
Bridgehampton, NY 11932-0202
(631) 537-2223

