

HAHappenings





The Horticultural Alliance of the Hamptons

631.537.2223 <u>hahgarden.org</u>

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

at the Bridgehampton Community House

HAH MONTHLY LECTURE - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2015 - 2 PM

Rock Garden Plants - At Their Homes and In The Garden



Anne Spiegel has been a member of the North American Rock Garden Society since 1984 and served twice on its Board of Directors. She was also the past President of the Berkshire Chapter of NARGS and has botanized extensively in American western mountains – the Rockies, Cascades, Uintahs, Wasatch, and Wallowas. In addition she has travelled to the Alps, the Dolomites and Patagonia.

Anne describes herself as a 'dirt gardener' – self-taught but blessed with some amazing mentors – among them Linc and Timmy Foster who established the Millstream Garden Award. She is the owner/designer/builder/planter/keeper of a large rock garden in Wappingers Falls, New York, which is built on a series of stepped ledges and cliff. The garden was started in 1980 and is still being expanded. The site has proven a challenge because it is not possible to water the garden due to an inadequate well. Her garden, winner of the Millstream Garden

Award in 2011, has been open for the Garden Conservancy starting with the first year of the Open Days program.

Her lecture will give us an overview of rock garden plants growing in their natural habitats — mountains, sub-alpine, high desert and meadows - and in rock gardens and troughs. There will be some cultural information and advice included, but the emphasis will be on showing the wealth of plant material available and growable in a small amount of space.

MORE UPCOMING HAH EVENTS

OCT. 17 - ROUNDTABLE - 10 AM - see p. 3

OCT. 20 - FRIENDS OF THE GARDEN - 10 AM

OCT. 24 - WORKSHOP ON FALL GARDEN CHORES -AT BRIDGE GARDENS - 2 PM - see p. 5

NOV. 7 - CAMELLIA GROUP - 10 AM

NOV. 21 - FRESH GREENS WORKSHOP 2-4 PM

- see p. 6 to register



FOG

Please join Friends of the Garden for its penultimate gathering on Tuesday, October 20, at 10:00 AM. We'll be pruning and weeding and celebrating the beauty and bounty of our glorious Summer. Refreshments will follow.

The rain date is Thursday, October 22. All are welcome and appreciated - hope to see you there.

Thanks, Cathie



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE





I will be heading inside this fall to sort through the wonderful photos taken on HAH trips, tours and seminar this summer, like the one at left from the Chihuly Museum in Seattle. Special thanks are due Bettina Benson, Pamela Harwood and Alicia Whitaker for making these excursions so easy for the rest of us who partook of these great opportunities to visit magnificent gardens near and far. And many thanks to the garden owners who so generously shared their efforts with us.

Thanks also go to Susan Zeller and the volunteers who helped with the September Books and Plants Sale which was a fantastic success!! And thanks to all who supported your HAH with your donations and purchases.

Now it's time to incorporate some new ideas learned from other gardens into our own gardens and get them ready for winter. Check out the Roundtable topics on p. 3 and Workshop on p. 5 for help with fall chores. And enjoy the mellow warmth of autumn.

Elaine

HAH 2015

OFFICERS

0 0 0	
President	Elaine Peterson
First Vice President	Janet Ollinger
Second Vice President	Marie DiMonte
Recording Secretary	Susan Brackett
Corresponding Secretary	Pat Wood
Treasurer	Bettina Benson
DIRECTORS	
Cathie Gottschalk	2015
Pamela Harwood	2015
Rick Bogusch	2016
Terry Coppola	2016
Greg Wiseman	2017
Alicia Whitaker	2017

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 HAH in the subject line.

MAILING

John Benson

PHOTOS

George Biercuk, Bill Nicolai, Elaine Peterson, Tucker Roth, Alicia Whitaker

REPORT OF THE 2015 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

It is with great pleasure that the Nominating Committee proposes the following slate of officers for 2016 for the membership's vote at the annual meeting in November:

OFFICERS: (an officer serves for a 1 year term)
President......Janet Ollinger
First Vice President....Pamela Harwood
Second Vice President....Marie DiMonte
Recording Secretary....Susan Brackett
Corresponding Secretary....Patricia Wood
Treasurer....Bettina Benson

DIRECTORS: (a director serves for a 3 year term)

Terry Coppola.....'16 Rick Bogusch.....'16 Alicia Whitaker....'17 Greg Wiseman.....'17 Elaine Peterson....'18 Mary Maran......'18

The Library Chairperson (who serves on the Board with a vote) is currently: Susan Kennedy Zeller

On occasion the board may appoint someone to fill an unexpired term if necessary.

At the general meeting of the membership in October, further nominations will be taken from the floor by the Nominating Committee. Nominations from the floor must be accompanied by a verbal or written consent of the nominee.

Respectfully submitted by the Nominating Committee,

Bettina Benson, Chair Susan Edwards Pam Harwood Pat Matheson Janet Ollinger

HAH AMARYLLIS WORKSHOPS 2015

Plans for providing our communities with free workshops on amaryllis bulb planting are underway. The workshops, for children in grades K - 3, will be held in local libraries with HAH providing all the materials needed: bulbs, soil, pots, and planting directions as well as instruction sheets with growing tips for the participants to bring home with their bulbs.

DAY	DATE	LIBRARY LOCATION	TIME
Wednesday	September 30	East Hampton Quogue	4:00 pm
Thursday	October 8		3:45 pm
Wednesday	October 14	Bridgehampton Child Care Center	4:00 pm
Thursday	October 22	Amagansett Sag Harbor Montauk	4:00 pm
Thursday	November 5		4:00 pm
Thursday	November 12		3:30 pm

If you are able to assist at any of these programs, please contact Terry Coppola 668-3022 or e-mail montaukdaisy668@aol.com Each program lasts approximately 45 minutes.

REMINDER: HAH SEED -SHARING PROGRAM

Pamela Harwood

About a year ago, the HAH began a seed-sharing / selling program. Members donate properly ripe and dried seeds from plants in their gardens that are placed in labeled envelope or other container and, prior to each monthly lecture at the Community House, you can either trade your package(s) for another member's donations or, if you have no seeds to donate and trade, you can purchase seeds that others have donated. All proceeds benefit the HAH's educational programs.

If you miss attending a lecture, you can also trade/donate/ purchase seed packets at the monthly Roundtables.

Each package of seeds is sold for \$2.00, typically contains many more seeds than commercial packets, and the money goes to a good cause!

At the October 17th Roundtable we will be discussing how to harvest and save seeds from your own garden plants.

HAH ROUNDTABLE PROGRAM RESUMES SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17TH AT 10 AM - NOON

Pamela Harwood

After our summer break, during which we worked in and enjoyed our gardens alone or with family and friends, I'm looking forward to gathering at our HAH meeting room and library, or what I call HQ, for our forthcoming season of Roundtable discussions. I so enjoy our sharing of ideas, experiences, and the passing along of accumulated knowledge that getting together with other garden enthusiasts brings.

October and November are busy months in the garden, so we will touch on a few important and evergreen topics:

- LOOKING BACK: SOME OF OUR PLANTINGS DIDN'T THRIVE THIS SEASON. DOES ANYONE KNOW WHY?
- FALL CLEAN-UP: WHAT CAN BE CUT BACK; WHAT CAN BE LEFT FOR WINTER INTEREST; AND WHAT SHOULD BE REMOVED NOW. HOW TO USE FALLEN LEAVES TO IMPROVE OUR GARDENS.
- SAVING SEEDS: HOW TO HARVEST AND STORE SEEDS FROM YOUR OWN GARDEN PLANTS AND THE BEST TIME AND METHOD FOR SOWING THE SEEDS. THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT MANY CAN BE SOWN DIRECTLY OUTDOORS IN FALL AND WINTER.
- DIVIDING PLANTS TO INCREASE THEIR NUMBERS AND/OR TO REVITALIZE PLANTS THAT HAVE FEWER BLOOMS: HOW IS THIS DONE AND WHICH PLANTS CAN WE DIVIDE NOW?

To make the discussions on these last three topics even more valuable, we will have the privilege of visiting Bridge Gardens, our community partner, the very next Saturday, October 24, at 2 pm, to see how these tasks are done in their gardens! Rick Bogusch, the Garden Manager, will be on hand for demonstrations. But first, see you on the 17!

LIBRARY FOOTNOTES

Susan Kennedy Zeller

LIBRARY BOOK SALE

Many thanks to all who donated books, yard sale items and plants for the LIBRARY BOOK and YARD SALE in September, as well as everyone who came and purchased. Your support helps us keep our selection of books up to date and boosts what we can do for all the Membership.

BOOK DONATIONS: As before, since we have no room to store books for future sales events we ask that any future donations be held until we notify you in the newsletter when we can accept them!

As we roll into fall don't forget that when you come to the Library for any event, Roundtables, workshops, after our monthly meetings or when you are just passing by on a



A large Ficus and 2 asparagus ferns fit into Judith Garson's Mini at the HAH Sale!

Tuesday or Saturday morning, stop in and browse our magazines and books! You will find the latest answers to so many gardening questions.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We could use some additional volunteers to help man the Library. No prior knowledge is needed. The position entails covering the occasional Saturday morning or after a Lecture, assisting in cataloguing and arranging books, giving your valuable ideas for acquiring new books, improving the Library, assisting on the few sales events we run, answering questions for the members who come into the library and ..perhaps the most fun...touring potential new members around the Library and explaining the benefits of joining! If you can, please join our team. Contact: SKZeller@aol.com and put HAH Library in the subject heading, please. Thanks in advance for offering to help.

HAH Paul Karish Scholarship Program 2015-16

The Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2015-16 Paul Karish Scholarships.

Madison Aldrich is a 2015 graduate of East Hampton High School and will be attending SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry in Syracuse, New York. She interned at the Third House Nature Center in Montauk studying various aspects of the Big Reed Pond ecosystem, gathering data and identifying the flora and fauna that thrive and survive in this fragile environment. Madison is also a member of the Environmental Awareness Club and performs service opportunities at the Food Pantry Farm.

Lara Fayyaz is a 2015 graduate of Southampton High School and will be attending the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell University in the fall. She has served as a garden camp counselor at Hayground School and volunteered with Slow Food East End and local school gardens. Lara is interested in studying hydroponics, nutritional science and/or international agriculture and rural development in order to find a workable solution for issues related to sustainable food systems and nutritional education. You can find her original recipe for "Massaged Kale Salad" in the Delicious Nutritious FoodBook.

Christine Hagan combines full-time employment with the pursuit of a college degree from Farmingdale State College in the Ornamental Horticulture Bachelor of Technology program. She spent this summer as a research assistant at the Cornell Horticultural Research and Extension Center in Riverhead, and the summer of 2014 as an intern at the Sustainable Garden of Farmingdale State College. After graduation, Christine hopes to join the Peace Corps in a crop/agriculture position in Africa.

Best wishes to all our awardees!!

Susan Edwards, Chair



Date - Saturday, Oct. 24th - 2 pm

Location - Bridge Gardens, 36 Mitchell Lane, Bridgehampton

A FALL WORKSHOP

WITH RICK BOGUSCH

AT BRIDGE GARDENS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24TH, 2 - 4 PM

WORKSHOP LIMITED TO 25 PEOPLE

RICK HAS VOLUNTEERED TO LEAD A 'HANDS ON' WORKSHOP AT BRIDGE GARDENS AND WILL DEMONSTRATE MANY FALL GARDENING TECHNIQUES. WE WILL BE LEARNING THE CORRECT TIME AND WAY TO DIVIDE PLANTS, THE RIGHT TIME TO CUT BACK PERENNIALS AND SHRUBS AND HOW TO PREPARE THE GARDEN FOR WINTER. RICK WILL ALSO TALK ABOUT EXTENDING THE SEASON IN YOUR VEGETABLE GARDEN.

THIS WILL BE A FOLLOW-UP OF DISCUSSIONS AT THE ROUNDTABLE (OCT. 17TH).

Ouestions: Call Pat Wood at 631.537.0296 or email patricia.wood@dilect.us

HAH WORKSHOP



Make a Beautiful Fresh Greens Tabletop Tree Saturday, November 21st

Time: 2pm - 4pm

Workshop limited to 20 people - materials included

Create a lovely centerpiece to adorn the holiday dinner table. This 14 to 16 inch tree, using FRESH EVERGREENS, will last for months in moist foam. Learn techniques of shaping for desired look. Finish by decorating your creation with many assorted dried flowers, berries, cones, and natural items harvested from the end of season garden. Participants can choose a theme such as color, texture, woodland, holiday, seasonal, seashore, etc.

Come enjoy the satisfaction of making your own arrangement. Be inspired by the passion Diana Conklin, Dried Floral Designer, loves to share

Date & Time: Saturday, November 21st at 2 pm

Location: John LoGerfo Library, Bridgehampton Community House,

Enter the Library on the School Street side of building

Materials: All materials needed are included in the cost of the workshop

\$30 HAH Members; \$40 Non-members Cost:

bbettina@optonline.net

Payment must be made by November 1, 2015.
Registration Form:
Please sign me up for the Dried Flower Arrangement Workshop on Saturday, November 21st at 2pm
Name(s)
Phone: (cell preferred)
Email:
I would like to purchase tickets at: \$30 Member; \$40 Non-Member; Total
Please make checks payable to HAH and Mail to HAH, P. O. Box 202, Bridgehampton, NY 11932. Attention Workshops. Please mail your check no later than November 1.
Questions: Call Pat Wood at 631.537.0296, email patricia.wood@dilect.us or Bettina at 631.728.1981, email

MUSINGS AND RAMBLINGS

George Biercuk

verge of opening.

September. Sweet September. Counterpoint to March. Machiavellian March. How they each held on to the worst of the waning season in their opening weeks. March cold and snowy. September hot and dry. Spring cold, late, protracted. Autumn opening like high summer, its story yet to unfold. Hints of floral confusion beginning to emerge.

First year Digitalis purpurea seedlings coming into bloom, albeit quite diminutive. Sporadic foliar bud break evident on a few small leaf rhodos. Drought stressed trees and shrubs dumping foliage that they were no longer able to support, attempting to conserve resources for next spring. Caladium gushing forth new leaves with wild abandon, when in years prior, by early September, they began to show the onset of signs of stress induced by night temps that dipped below 60*. Our unheated shady pool, uncharacteristically, maintaining a temperature hovering around 80* because the night time temps remained much higher than in past years, GREATLY influenced by unusually high ocean temps that were also hovering close to 80*. Flower buds on many rhodos and azaleas unusually plump as if on the

Then came Gaia's sweet, cool libation that helped, however slightly, to slake the garden's thirst. The dusty coating that encased tree tops and other unirrigated foliage was returned to the soil. Even as it rained the foliage was exhibiting a lustrous sheen though it would be days before unirrigated areas showed a positive response. The ground even issued a grateful "aaahhh" (distant thunder but one can imagine otherwise). Nonetheless the effects of our locally severe drought were manifesting themselves.

Beyond early leaf drop there was the oddest occurrence of death on shrubbery. Absent any rhyme or reason branches suddenly died randomly. A shrub would appear to be perfectly healthy and then almost overnight there would be a branch looking to be under stress, ultimately dead within a few days. I've never before encountered this phenomena on such a wide spread scale. Even more disturbing is the seemingly overnight death of young sassafrass trees/sprouts on neighboring properties. Though the areas are unirrigated sassafrass is the only casualty so far. Why is the question. Yes the oaks are dropping leaves early but nothing like last year. Though there was a super abundant dropping of oak pollen tassles this past spring the aborted acorn drop was not significant. If this turns out to be a poor productive year then the deer will be overly aggressive in looking for food this winter.

The cumulative consequences of drought, extreme heat and/or cold, extraordinary weather events, etc. leave the garden vulnerable. Camellia "Jean May", for example, suffered a bit from the drought in 2014. We thought we had sufficiently hydrated her that autumn. Apparently not so. This past spring the plant, understandably, looked a bit bedraggled so I let her be considering what she had been through. Very shortly I sensed something about the weakened plant was wrong. Examining her, I discovered that an outbreak of scale had successfully colonized the weakened plant. It took several applications of dormant oil to eradicate them yet they were able to extract their toll. The leaf drop was heavy. This year autumn flowering will be compromised. She will be fed late this autumn and again in early spring when she will pruned radically.

Aconite (ours are seedlings so the cultivar is uncertain) grow beautifully until September when stems suddenly die. This has been happening for years so this year's drought and heat are not to blame. Since they are tucked in amongst other plants the losses aren't that noticeable. The deep blue flowers are striking on their own but make a stunning combination with our Fuchsia Gardenmeister standards.

Photinia parvifolia (hardy to zone 6) rebounded poorly from last winter's wrath and this year's drought unlike Clerodendrum trichotomum (hardy to zone 7). The photinia had major dieback throughout the plant: sometimes whole branches but mainly branch tips. I waited until late summer, by which time I knew pretty well what was dead, to clean them up. The clerodendrum, with similar exposure, had minimal loss of limb despite having a reputation of unreliable hardiness in this area and flowered profusely, perfuming the garden all the way to the street.

Begonia boliviensisis is in many ways analogous to B. grandis, our hardy begonia. Both grow from corms but B. grandis also seeds. Our B. bolivensis, having been in pots for four years now, are pot bound. Keeping up with watering during the drought was a challenge. Several pots lost stalks to either accidents or, surprisingly, rot. I was amazed to see, after a couple weeks, that the corms had resprouted. Hopefully I haven't disrupted their dormant cycle of winter rest in our basement. I've looked at the seed pods but haven't seen anything that resembles viable seed. B. grandis, which I was told that "once you have it you will always have it", is no longer as prolific as it once was. It has migrated across the garden from left to right abandoning its original homestead but not gaining a solid foothold on the right except for a short path between the pool and central axis path. We'll have to see what the new light conditions will do to the garden.

Salvia 'Amistad' was raved about this spring. In Europe it was said to form a substantial subshrub with abundant deep purple flowers. I trialed the plant in three gardens, mine included. There's no question that the flower is gorgeous. The plant itself did not attain subshrub size anywhere. Having been bred in Europe, could it be that differing light conditions and temperatures affect how it performs for us. We only have to look at ornamental grasses that were bred in Germany where growing conditions are different enough that some of their introductions are now considered to be invasive pests here due to how they flower and seed. Our heat and drought may have slanted the plant's performance. I will give the plant another try next year, the color is that striking.

With the death of the two seventy foot pines at the rear south corner there's going to a dramatic change in how the winter light impacts the garden and house. The shade used to keep the east/ southeast side of the garden colder than the rest, preserving snow cover thus insulating the soil while the house lost midday solar gain, unfortunate. Now with the tables turned hopefully, the loss of these trees will be offset by the increased warmth in the house. The loss of a tree(s) can have varying degrees of impact on a garden. As gardeners we have to adapt to our new reality. New opportunities present themselves and while we may mourn the loss of perhaps long time companions we can begin new relationships with hope.

Though autumn is for us the season of harvest, it is also the season of renewal since the seeds of rebirth have been planted. It's a time to reflect on what we accomplished, sometimes despite difficult circumstances. Garden on!

The Summer of Endless Watering

Alicia Whitaker

Even though summer doesn't officially end until the final days of September, I am thinking about what was happening before our Big Rain episode. I spent too much yet too little time hauling hoses around the garden and playing triage with the areas of the garden that would get some versus no water. My plants and I were both stressed and I am thinking about an irrigation system after resisting it for years.

HAH had many splendid trips this summer and I was thrilled to visit gardens in Seattle, the Landcraft gardens and finally, Scott Arboretum and Chanticleer. Master gardeners on both coasts were talking about and worrying about the watering issue, and some new ideas emerged that I'd like to share.

Use compost to make large containers more water retentive. Many of us plant large containers with annuals and tropicals for summer beauty. I have been creating false bottoms in large containers in a misguided attempt to make the pots lighter and save on potting soil. Silly me! The gardeners at Chanticleer have splendid pot plantings and this is one of their secrets: they use rough compost for the bottom 2/3 of the pot and normal potting soil for the top third. They use compost from their vast compost piles, but one could use packaged compost too. The young roots of annuals grow easily into the lighter potting soil, even the "moisture control" variety – but ultimately send strong roots into the rich compost growing below them. The heavier soil of the compost retains moisture much better than potting soil, so the plants literally have something to grab onto during the blazing sun days of August. Everything can be tossed onto the compost pile at the end of the season, so there's no waste.



Long, slow and deep watering for shrub borders with a large garbage can with small holes in the bottom. This tip came from a fellow gardener I met at the Scott Arboretum Plant Sale, who uses old plastic or galvanized trash cans with small holes drilled in the bottom. She moves them next to shrubs and trees that need a long, heavy drink and fills them to the brim with water from the hose. Depending on the number of holes you make in the bottom, the water drips through in an hour or two and thoroughly soaks the root zone of the shrubs. It's not pretty but the empty cans can easily be hidden at the back of the border or removed.

Right plant for the right place. We all know this – plant sun loving plants that tolerate some drought into the parts of the garden that bake the most. Plant the water hogs in semi-shade or in the parts of our gardens that are wet. But many of us walk on the edge and plant things where they shouldn't be with a promise to provide supplementary water. But that water often isn't delivered and plants are stressed as a result. The good news is that there are splendid plants available that thrive under these conditions, so some editing of our borders might be considered for the cooler days of early autumn when we have more motivation to work in the garden and more opportunities for transplants to take root in the still warm soil of our gardens. We saw gorgeous full sun borders and planting areas in Dennis Schrader and Bill Smith's gardens that thrive with minimal water. Dan Hinkley has them too, directly in front of his house.

Here's to a fall with periods of heavy rain, a mild winter but enough snow cover to make a difference, and a splendid spring and summer in 2016 with more rain, but not too much. A gardener's dream...or fantasy.

HAH VISIT TO PENNSYLVANIA - SEPTEMBER 2015

THE SCOTT ARBORETUM AT SWARTHMORE COLLEGE





CHANTICLEER











HAH 2015-2016 SUNDAY MONTHLY LECTURES - 2 PM

October 18 - Anne Spiegel - Rock Garden Plants - At Their Homes and in the Garden

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

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

January 10 - Deborah Nevins - Landscape Thoughts and Current Work 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 Woitech - Bark: Get to Know Your Trees

June 12 - Stephen Orr - The New American Herbal

East End Garden Events - Fall 2015

MADOO CONSERVANCY - open Fridays and Saturdays 12-4 pm - <u>info@madoo.org</u> BRIDGE GARDENS - open Wednesday - Saturday 10 - 5, Sundays 12 - 5 <u>www.peconiclandtrust.org</u>

Wednesdays, 2-5 pm - Free Lawn & Landscape Advice with arborist Paul Wagner of Treewise Organics Saturday, October 17, 10 - 11:30 am - Bay-Scaping: Protecting our Bays, \$10 pp, BG members free, reservations requested. Rain or shine.

Sunday, December 6, 2 - 4 pm - Annual Holiday Wreath Workshop, \$30 pp, reservations required. Rain or shine. MARDERS - 120 Snake Hollow Road, Bridgehampton, 631-537-3700 info@marders.com

Sunday, October 18th, 11 am - in the Gallery at Marders, call to reserve a seat

Join world renowned philosopher, ecofeminist, activist and author **Vandana Shiva** for an important discussion about GMOs, the future of our food system and how we can all fight for the freedom of our food and our planet.

Friday, November 17th, 4 pm - in the Gallery at Marders, call to reserve a seat

A talk by **Arne Maynard** about his new book, The Gardens of Arne Maynard

Photo: Bill Nicolai





HAHappenings October 2015

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

