

THE HORTICULTURAL ALLIANCE

HAH

OF THE HAMPTONS

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



# HAH Happenings

May 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

## COME CELEBRATE 30 YEARS OF HAH AT OUR ANNUAL GARDEN FAIR

PREVIEW

PARTY

FRIDAY

MAY 13

6-8 PM

SEE

DETAILS

pages 4-5



ON THE

GROUNDS

OF THE

BRIDGE-

HAMPTON

MUSEUM

CORWITH AVENUE

AND

MAIN STREET

SATURDAY MAY 14 9 AM - 1 PM

## HAH MONTHLY LECTURE - Sunday, May 1, 2016 - 2 pm

### Bark: Get to Know Your Trees

As a freelance naturalist, writer, photographer, illustrator and educator **Michael Wojtech** strives to share the science and beauty of natural history in an accessible and compelling fashion. "I write and teach about the fascinating structure, function, and ecology of trees—including their bark, buds, leaves, roots, and wood—for audiences at all levels of experience, and explore how knowing the natural history of the places we live and love fosters connection and the feeling of home."

The traits typically used to describe trees—leaves, twigs, and buds—are often hard to see or seasonally absent. Join Michael for an exploration of bark, which is always visible, in any season. Through a presentation and participatory activities you will gain a deeper perception of bark's textural beauty, practice species identification, and discover why such a variety of bark characteristics exist. Why do some species have smooth bark, while on others it is thick and broken? Why does bark peel?

Michael will be available to sign copies of his book, [Bark: A Field Guide to Trees of the Northeast](#).

For more information visit: [www.knowyourtrees.com](http://www.knowyourtrees.com)





## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Our Preview Party and Garden Fair, celebrating 30 years of HAH, is just around the corner on May 13th and 14th. I cannot wait to see what horticultural delights await! Plants, planted containers and garden ornaments are just some of what will be available.

Every dollar acquired at this fund raiser is spent on HAH programing and our library. HAH is an ALL VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION and what is created with your dollar is impressive! An amazing newsletter and website, 10 monthly lectures, workshops, local garden tours, distant garden tours, roundtables, camellia groups, a beautiful public garden, programs with our community partners and a grand library of horticultural books and current periodicals.

Of course our most precious resource is our members who care about horticulture, the East End and each other. I would encourage all members to become more involved, the more you put into an organization and a community, the more you will receive. I have met people who are creative, knowledgeable, caring and above all, generous with their time and their skills. You are a member of the Horticultural Alliance of the Hamptons, please become a participant, the rewards are abundant.

See you at the party!

*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, Erika Shank, Elaine Peterson, Alicia Whitaker

### REMINDER!!!

Send in your **order for the pre-sale Annual plants** offered in the April issue of the Newsletter. The deadline for ordering is May 3rd. If you have lost your copy of the April NL, it is online and you can view and copy it there. **OR** go to the HAH Library where you will find hard copy forms to fill out and leave there for Susan Zeller. These are great plants at great prices. **HURRY!!**

### FRIENDS OF THE GARDEN

"Long stormy spring-time, wet contentious April, winter chilling the lap of very May; but at length the season of summer does come." Thomas Carlyle

So he says. After getting off to a slow start in the garden in April we expect to have a glorious May. Please join us on **May 3 at 10 am** to continue the garden's clean-up and discover what new plants have emerged. It's a great time of year to spend with friends and fellow gardeners while getting the winter kinks out of the body. And it's bonus month! The meeting following **May 3** will be **May 31** - we'll have double the fun in May. Hope to see you there.

Cathie Gottschalk

# MAY GARDEN TOURS

## HAH MEMBER GARDEN TOURS PROGRAM RESUMES ON SATURDAY, MAY 21

THE 2016 SEASON WILL BEGIN ON SATURDAY, MAY 21ST, WHEN WE WILL VISIT TWO FABULOUS GARDENS, ONE IN NORTH SEA AND THE OTHER IN WATER MILL. DUE TO LIMITED PARKING AT ONE OF OUR STOPS, WE WILL ALL MEET AT THE HAH LIBRARY AND THEN CAR POOL FROM THERE.

AT 9AM THAT MORNING, OUR 50% OFF SALE OF UNSOLD PLANTS FROM THE GARDEN FAIR WILL BEGIN AT THE HAH LIBRARY. FOLLOWING THE SALE, WE WILL CARPOOL TO THE TWO GARDEN TOURS AT APPROXIMATELY 10AM.

## Friday, May 6 National Public Gardens Day

- 10:30 am: Bridge Gardens, 36 Mitchell Lane, Bridgehampton
- 1:00 pm: Madoo Conservancy, 618 Sagg Lake Lane off Sagg Main, Sagaponack
- 3:00 pm: LongHouse Reserve, 133 Hands Creek Road, East Hampton

A day of free tours at the 3 public gardens on the South Fork. Learn more about the important role botanical gardens and arboreta play in promoting environmental stewardship, water conservation and gardening-based education. All Tours and Entrance to the Gardens is Free. Space is limited, reservations required. For reservations, call 631.283.3195 or email to [Events@PeconicLandTrust.org](mailto:Events@PeconicLandTrust.org)

Special: After touring, The Living Room Restaurant at c/o The Maidstone is offering a special prix fixe dinner for tour participants. For more information visit [www.themairstone.com/restaurant](http://www.themairstone.com/restaurant) for prices

## THE GARDEN CONSERVANCY OPEN DAYS - SATURDAY, MAY 7

Glade Garden - 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM • 44 GLADE ROAD. EAST HAMPTON

The Garden of Dianne B. - 12:00 PM- 4:00 PM • 86 DAVIDS LANE. EAST HAMPTON

Garden of Marshall Watson - 10:00 AM- 5:00 PM • 253 KINGS POINT ROAD. EAST HAMPTON

Edwina von Gal - 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM • 962 SPRINGS FIREPLACE ROAD. EAST HAMPTON

Biercuk & Luckey Garden - 10:00 AM- 4:00 PM • 18 SAYRES PATH. WAINSCOTT

Admission to each garden is \$7. Don't forget to buy discounted admission tickets in advance. They never expire and can be used at most Open Days to make garden visiting easier. [www.gardenconservancy.org](http://www.gardenconservancy.org)



# THE HAH ANNUAL PLANT FAIR PREVIEW PARTY

FRIDAY NIGHT, MAY 13 6 - 8 PM

*Come buy Annuals, Perennials, Shrubs,  
Trees, Roses, Natives, Containers*



*Rain or Shine*

ON THE GROUNDS OF THE BRIDGEHAMPTON MUSEUM

*enter at Corwith Avenue, parking behind the barns*

*\$50 in advance, \$60 at the gate*

*Wine, Hors d'Oeuvres, 50/50 Raffle*

*Silent Auction of Beautiful, Original and Highly Creative*

## *Planters*



## PLANT DONATIONS FOR THE FAIR

One of the most important contributions you can make is a donation of potted plant material from your own gardens, labeled correctly. Here are some easy guidelines:

**Containers** – clean clay or plastic, 1 qt. minimum

**Potting** – complete potting at least two weeks prior to sale so plants can acclimate. Make sure there is a strong root system to support the plant.

**Label** – make one label for each variety of plant you bring. We will make more labels on the day of the Fair if necessary. Include the botanical and common names along with the cultivar, growing conditions, mature plant size, and bloom time and color and if deer resistant.

**Care** – Protect your newly potted plants from sun and wind and be sure they do not dry out. Always ask yourself if you would buy these plants yourself or give them as gifts!

# 🌸 HAH ANNUAL GARDEN FAIR 🌸

SATURDAY, MAY 14 - 9 AM - 1 PM

free admission 🌸 rain or shine 🌸 Bridgehampton Museum grounds

## Plants for Sale

- 🌸 *Annuals* - Our 30th Anniversary is so very special and to celebrate we have a wonderful selection of annuals not only to grace your garden, but guaranteed to attract the beneficial butterflies and bees so critically important to our fragile environment. Some of the tempting selections are Agastache, Salvia, Nicotiana, chocolate scented Cosmos 'Coca Mocha' and Gomphrena 'Cosmic Flare' that has glowing chartreuse foliage and bright pink blooms. Our volunteers will be on hand to assist in your selections. We look forward to seeing you.
- 🌸 *Perennials* - Hardy plants grown locally, many natives as well as unusual hybrids are offered, including an emphasis on deer resistant plants and pollinator attractors. Look for unusual clematis, peonies, groundcovers, ferns and much more.
- 🌸 *Trees and Shrubs* - Exotics and natives including evergreens, rhododendrons, boxwood, ilex, Japanese maples, bayberry and so much more!
- 🌸 *Roses* - always a great selection of many types and colors!
- 🌸 *Vegetables & herbs* - A selection of starts, from farmers Jen & Jim Pike of Sagaponack, ready to go into your own garden.
- 🌸 *Connoisseur's Table* - Unusual exotics, woodland plants and seldom seen varieties of perennials. Many come from HAH member collections.
- 🌸 *Digs* - An extensive collection of plants of all kinds dug from members' gardens. Many are familiar plants but there are always surprises to seek out. And all are at low, low prices!
- 🌸 *Containers* - We will have a group of unusual succulents already planted in attractive containers and ready to set out on patios and porches. We are having fun with these so come see what we have put together using aloes, agaves, echeverias, dyckia, sedums and more!
- 🌸 *Garden ornaments* - wonderful spheres made by HAH members!

### Beesia deltophylla

Coveted by many of us who participated in HAH's garden tour to Seattle, this groundcover for woodland and shade gardens has shiny, heart shaped leaves and tall spikes of tiny white flowers. It prefers a moist soil and grows well in part-shade to deep shade. It is an Asian native introduced to US gardeners by Dan Hinkley.



We were thrilled to learn that Glover Perennials is offering this plant this year and we'll have it at our plant fair.



above - Aloe 'Delta Lights'

left- Clematis 'Mrs. Cholmondeley'



## HAH TRIP TO PA GARDENS

A grand time was had by all visiting the great gardens of eastern Pennsylvania in April. Many thanks to the warm reception HAH was given by all the garden owners and caretakers including these creative and accomplished plantsmen!



**Charles Cresson**



**David Culp**



**Bill Thomas**



**Chanticleer**



## Musings & Ramblings

George Biercuk

What a difference this year from winter's exit last year. In late March 2015 when we returned to Wainscott we were greeted by a landscape still under the heavy hand of Old Man Winter. The entrenched remnants of winter snow, though by then diminished, were augmented by an end of the month snowfall, much to our dismay. The garden held very little promise that there would be very much of interest for the early May Garden Conservancy tour. The GARDEN though held its own.

This year was a trial of nerves. Chuck the book on historical precedents. As an aside, the historical Caribbean dry season of January well into May is no longer the norm- it RAINS. This correlates to our altered weather. El Nino threw a humongous question mark into the Northeast's potential climatic outcome. Luckily we came out on the benign side temperature wise, though the effects of wind were a different story. When will the trees ever stop shedding branches and twigs?

What delights we encountered upon our return. The HELLEBORES! Despite the flowers of H. X orientalis seedlings, et al. emerging in December and several of the stalks having been irrevocably bent by snow and falling branches, they were glorious. Several hours were spent pruning out the old foliage to showcase the flowers and it was worth it. Though in two distinct areas, the original planting consisting of "purple cultivars" has a seedling of pure white. The other area has a conglomeration of light purple, white, yellow and speckled multi-hued flowers and a double. One can only imagine the floral possibilities coming forth from the seedlings of that mix. H. foetidus continued to pepper the garden with his chartreuse punctuations though there were inevitable casualties. The progeny will hopefully surprise us where they feel it's appropriate.

Daphne odora aureomarginata. She gave us pause when she seemed to shrink from the "benignness" of the past winter. Her flower buds, which began to open in late December, seemed to be frozen in place when we left. We expected withered remnants when we returned. What sensual delights greeted us when we got home. She was intensely studded with flowers that have a most beguiling fragrance. Her foliage, though, was slightly tinged with negligibly browned edges which in no way diminished her starring performance, a highlight off the deck. As she has matured she has shrugged off the extremely divergent vacillations of Old Man Winter's vacillating moods over the years. Early in her life she was coddled but has proven to be a tough one as she has matured.

Early spring fragrance in the garden was off kilter. Mahonia, historically an early April bloomer, was finished. It is doubtful that there will be any fruit this season since the blooming was so early and the pollinators were not inclined to pollinate that far removed from their normal cycle. Pieris, on the other hand, though just a tad early, wafted its distinctive fragrance in its respective areas. Smells are evocative of memories and I remember how in early April during my childhood their fragrance embraced



the suburban 60 X 140 foot plot around my parent's home. I don't know how the then neighbors engaged with this sensory gift, nonetheless it continues to liberate a trove of childhood memories.

On April 1st I spotted the first flower on the most diminutive Lunaria (money plant) that I thought could possibly sustain flowers. Perhaps the driveway's poor soil resulted in this extreme miniaturization while others in the area which approached normal size still were far from flowering. Though far from "being in bloom" the flower buds on a number of plants were greatly expanded. Viburnums macrocephalum, carlesii and pragense were greatly ahead of usual development while V. bodnantense, the first to bloom for us, showed nary a sign of a flower bud. Camellia "April Rain" was showing extensive bud color indicating now exposed flowers which could be destroyed by the impending cold snap and snow. Likewise hydrangea macrophylla had broken bud and were now in a most precarious state. It would be heartbreaking to lose the flowers two years in a row especially since the past winter was such a non-winter. Surprisingly sibling rhododendrons "Taurus" and "Grace Seabrook", which bloomed as early as March 4th in a previous non-winter, showed no activity. The male skimmia japonicas remained on the cusp of opening as though they sensed the impending cold. Their flowers were quivering on the verge of eruption as though anticipating the spewing of their intoxicating scent through the garden would best be delayed until the air warmed a bit.

Since many aspects of the garden are awakening so early this year, it appears that spring pruning will also be advanced. While the summer/autumn bloomers should have been pruned- NOT SHEARED- before they broke bud to promote maximum new growth and thus flower production, the spring bloomers should be pruned as soon as possible after flowering to promote maximum flower production, which forms on this year's new growth, for next year. Remember pruning is NOT MEATBALLING a plant but enhancing its natural form in order to display its best qualities, but to be effective it must be the appropriate sized plant in the appropriate place.

We embark on another season. Happy gardening.

## HAH 2016 SUNDAY MONTHLY LECTURES - 2 PM

*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*

## HAH EVENTS CALENDAR - MAY 2016

*Saturday, April 30 - Field Trip with Vicki Bustamante, Birds and Botany of Big Reed Pond - see April newsletter for details*

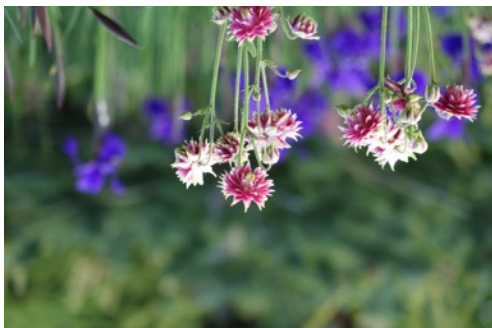
*Sunday May 1 - Lecture - 2 pm, upstairs hall Bark: Get to Know Your Trees - see page 1*

*Saturday, May 7 - Camellia Group - 10 am - in the HAH Library*

*Saturday, May 21 - REMAINDER Plants SALE at HAH Library 9 am*

*Saturday, May 21 - HAH Garden Tour - 10 am start at HAH Library - see p. 3*

## East End Garden Events - May 2016 - See page 3



100% Recycled

HAH Happenings  
May 2016

The Horticultural Alliance of the Hamptons  
Bridgehampton Community House  
P. O. Box 202  
Bridgehampton, NY 11932-0202  
(631) 537-2223  
[www.hahgarden.org](http://www.hahgarden.org)

