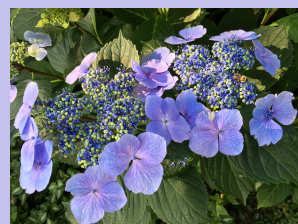




HAH Happenings

July/August 2017



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 ANNUAL SUMMER PARTY (for HAH members only)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12 at 1:00 pm

at the home of Linda and Vincent Sclafani, 168 Ocean Road, BH

Please bring sweet or savory dishes that can be eaten as finger-food. Wine, lemonade and water will also be served. As always, please keep in mind that no refrigeration can be provided and please complete preparation and assembly at home.



Watch your email for details of HAH GARDEN TOURS in Watermill on Friday, JULY 14 and Saturday, AUGUST 19th and others this summer.

ON SATURDAY, JULY 22, AT THE HAH LO GERFO LIBRARY AT 10:00 AM THE JIM JEFFREY CAMELLIA GROUP WILL HAVE A CAMELLIA CUTTING MEETING. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING, YOU MUST REGISTER WITH BRIDGET DE CANDIDO AT BDIA@OPTONLINE.NET IN ORDER TO OBTAIN INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE NECESSARY EQUIPMENT THAT IS REQUIRED.

THE PARRISH ART MUSEUM IS OFFERING A TOUR TO ENGLAND, SEPTEMBER 11-15

With its director, Terrie Sultan, visit private gardens in Somerset and the Cotswolds highlighting contemporary art, architecture, garden design and farm-to-table cuisine. For more info go to <http://www.caplanrose.com/sept-11-15-contemporary-art-gardens>

The **GARDEN CONSERVANCY OPEN DAYS** Program continues **Saturday, July 8th** on the North Fork and **Sunday, July 30th** in Southampton, Bridgehampton and East Hampton. Go to opendaysprogram.org for details

SEE OUR BACK PAGE CALENDAR FOR MORE LOCAL GARDEN EVENTS

If **you** know of more events, please let us know. Thanks.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



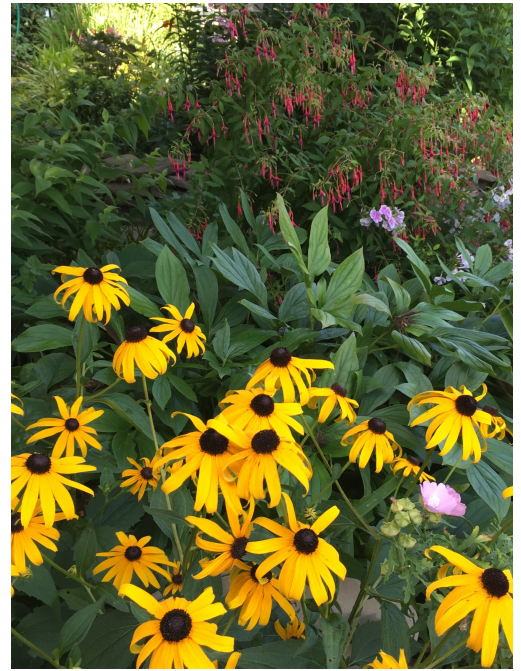
'Summertime, and the livin' is easy'

D. Hayward, G. Gershwin, I. Gershwin

I'm wishing everyone a fabulous summer filled with friends, family, food and flowers! HAH never truly slows down, we just change gears. We will be having summer garden tours to inspire us and a summer garden party to nourish us and to connect with our friends and fellow gardeners. With a huge thank you to our library volunteers, Charles Savage, Susan Brackett, Pamela Harwood and Susan Kennedy Zeller we will have summer library hours on Tuesdays and most Saturdays. Please watch for e-mails announcing dates and times for all of these events!

I'll see you in the garden,

Janet



HAH 2017

OFFICERS: (an officer serves for a 1 year term)

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

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

Alicia Whitaker	2017
Jeffrey Glick	2017
Elaine Peterson	2018
Mary Maran	2018
Rick Bogusch	2019
Lydia Wallis	2019

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

Bettina Benson, George Biercuk, Janet Donohoe Ollinger, Elaine Peterson

SUMMER HAH LIBRARY

Good News! The Library will remain open July and August each Tuesday and most Saturdays from 10 am to noon so you can stop in to take out summer reading, look up a plant reference or browse the latest articles in the wide choice of current magazines!

We open for both Saturday and Tuesday hours in September andsave those excess plants and gardening tools! We shall have our fall YARD SALE September 16. It is a chance to donate your used (but still good) garden implements, excess plants and other garden accoutrements! These items can be dropped off in the Library at the beginning of September.

Happy Summer reading!

FOG

Please join the HAH Friends of the Garden

All are welcome to help tend the HAH Garden at the Bridgehampton Community House! Our scheduled dates for the season will be **Tuesdays at 10:00 AM.**

May 30 June 27 July 25 August 22
September 19 October 17 November 7

Rain dates are Thursdays of the same week.
Cornelia Bostwick cb8487@gmail.com

HAH WORKSHOP ATTENDEES

KNOW WHAT FUN IT IS TO MAKE THINGS FOR THEIR GARDENS!
IF YOU HAVE AN IDEA FOR A WORKSHOP, PLEASE LET US KNOW!



Musings & Ramblings

George Biercuk

You often hear people expressing the wish to be able to live in an “eternal spring” environment. Well, we certainly came close to making that thought a reality temperature-wise this spring on the eastern end of Long Island though what developed was not quite what one could hope for. Early April and early June had similar weather conditions - cloudy, cool and damp/rainy. It was as though seasonal weather progression had stalled from the day we returned from St. Martin and, yes, the environment continued to awaken, nonetheless, due to unseasonably cold temperatures we psychologically remained stuck in “early April” without the benefit of sunshine. A three day heat wave blip in mid-May created a chaotic horticultural environment. Also the rain. The unrelenting rain. Mud. Sticky, shovel/trowel clinging mud. Squishy, water logged soil totally unworkable. Planting continually delayed. Rot setting in. Plant material continually moved in and out of the garage. A medical deadline driving everything. An almost perfect agita causing confluence.

Now looking back, the AGITA agents begin to recede in importance. The old quip about being in the swamp in order to drain it while it's full of alligators held its relevance. As we become overwhelmed, long range perspective becomes very clouded. Deep breaths, naps on rain soaked days, accepting reality the only sane decision, eventually things worked out. Mucking it out in the somewhat “dryish” episodes, we were able to get material into the ground.

Despite all these travails what a spring evolved. Ever so painstakingly slow the garden awoke. That gradual resurgence was a seductive tease. When will “this” finally bloom? Will it coincide with its neighbors? How will this play out in the overall landscape? Will the garden survive temperate rainforest conditions to which it has historically been spared? Nonetheless it was magnificent. Stress. Well we create it when things don't go according to our script. Gaia runs to her own “drummer”. And boy did she do her thing!

The benign past winter, coupled with a cool, wet early spring and a protracted spring's emergence, resulted, surprisingly, in an exuberance that we had not enjoyed in many years. It was a benevolent “perfect storm” so to speak. The coolness, I believe, played the major role. The cloudy/misty/rainy weather fostered prolonged blooming. In spite of the lack of sunshine, the potential flowering, set last year, came into fruition spectacularly. And what a display we got.

For example, Rhododendron “Percy Weisman” has a stunning floral display. He can be, let's say, “trying” to establish in the garden. You see him in full peacock glory in discerning nurseries and covet him. Trundled home he's given his new home. Come next year he's not so spectacular but he's now living in new conditions. Okay. Adaption time. The next year or two, if you haven't shovel pruned because of perceived lackluster performance the reward of patience is, to me, almost indescribable.

“Percy”, like most of the rhodos in our garden, has a complex flowering composition. As his buds begin their expansion, they are cherry hued, medium toward dark red. As they elongate the red lightens and just as they are about to open they lighten even more. The just visible insides are a light chiffon with strawberry infused streaking. Fully open there are plays upon the resultant coloration. Adjoining flowers could have interiors either vanilla with a lemony center or strawberry infused upon light lemon. The trusses usually express all the developmental and coloration stages over a prolonged time. The other aspect, thankful for having waited another year, is that I'm in awe of Gaia's and man's artistry. On this plant the complexity of color blending is superb. For almost three weeks this spring our senses feasted upon this gift of eye candy.

While apprising the rhodo flowering this spring, after almost two years of changed conditions both on our property and beyond our borders, I was enthralled by the colors toward which I gravitated as we were developing our garden. The red spectrum was HEAVILY represented, more toward blue side since that was what I was drawn toward within the availability at the time. I looked, carefully, at our mature choices and enjoyed the flash back. Memories. Some good. Some not so good. But the good ones were GOOD. I can say that, though color selections at the time didn't include cold hardy selections in the warmer color range that I find most comforting, the collection is most satisfying today.

A big surprise was in what we refer to the wood chip/clerodendrum bed. Almost twenty years ago when we still were having somewhat old fashion winters I focused on the Helsinki series of rhodos which were concentrated in this area, the one that lost the two seventy foot oaks and the twenty five foot understory clerodendrums. Two years after the final loss a whole different visage emerged. To my dismay I can't recollect the names though I remember that they came from Roslyn Nursery so I'm hunting through my collection of old catalogues. Nonetheless, the colors, similar to R. “Percy Weisman's”, faded down through the red spectrum toward white. The shrubs, almost entombed in flowers, bent under the weight of constantly moisture laden flowers.

The fact that these plants reacted so dramatically to the increase in direct sunlight makes me wonder whether point of origin plays a role. Finland, so close to the Arctic Circle, as we know, experiences dramatic swings in the duration of sunlight between the winter and summer solstices. Perhaps along with extreme cold tolerance their breeding imparted a need for a lot of sunlight. In the face of global warming this series of rhododendron cultivars might soon be doomed to an early extinction because cold tolerance does not mean that a plant can thrive if it doesn't get the cooling period it requires. Heat tolerance is another thing altogether. In this country those living in southern climes CANNOT grow spring bulbs, such as daffodils and tulips, without having them pre-chilled either by the grower prior to shipping or in their refrigerators, if purchased unchilled, for at least six weeks prior to planting. We face dramatic changes in our gardens and gardening practices.

The exuberant emergent new growth this year well illustrates this fact. The robustness and extent of new growth is exceeding anything we have seen on our tenure of this property. Years ago on another property, when, I'll say I knew no better, I fertilized my rhodos to encourage robust growth. MISTAKE!!!! Like any plant that grows fast, down the road the early steroid growth proved to be the fatal clay feet. As their growth progressed, became denser and added weight to the extremities, winter snows began to take a toll. The internal structure of the stems couldn't support the weight of the overhead foliage. Consequently, breakage and collapse. For years, on our current property, after having dug innumerable tons of organic matter (compost, horse manure, leaf mold) to create the soil we now have prior to any planting, we now only have to occasionally top dress with composted year old ground-up leaves. Nonetheless this spring's exuberant growth is quite surprising. I'm already anticipating next spring as we're just exiting this year's. I'm looking for tell-tale signs of next year's to-be flower buds. Gardeners, if nothing else, are optimists. We have to be given the looming environmental changes.

There are early signs emerging. Our subterranean critters had a hiatus from winter hunkering – down this past winter and are our gardens suffering the consequences. Voles have and are still visiting every plant in certain sections of the garden. A few weeks ago when planting in one particular space I must have disturbed a nest of them. Mama ran off with Jake in hot pursuit. The spawn that were unearthed were quickly dispatched. NO APOLOGIES!!! Between all the subterraneans (mice, moles, voles), there has been a voluminous displacement of soil. Where, I want to know, "Is it?" There are holes into which I can insert a hose running at a good stream and there is absolutely no regurgitation of water. What have they done with the soil we so laboriously built? The ground level is shrinking. Are they living in Russia? Maybe that explains the prolonged stay of winter this year. The chill is emanating from these covert tunnels.

The upside of the chill is that bloom times have been dramatically protracted. What joy in being able to visit with a most agreeable garden companion for a pleasantly extended stay though the second heat surge in early/mid June pushed things along just like the first one in mid-May when, for example, the pool temperature rose from the upper fifties to the low seventies within two days. That's a lot of energy. Shade is going to be the friend of gardeners in the future, both the flora and fauna. Ozone depletion exacerbates the harmful effects of solar radiation. What will be our garden foliage in the not to near future? Will we even be able to garden outdoors?

And what about the bugs? Southern pine beetles are already decimating areas on Long Island. Gypsy moths, thankfully held in check this year by the cold, wet weather, still managed to inflict a great deal of defoliation in some areas. Inch worms weren't too bad. Diseases are another issue. *Viburnum macrocephalum* (Chinese snowball) has huge flower balls (clusters) that can be as much as eight inches across. At a client's, close to the ocean, the shrub was poised to produce the most spectacular floral display it has ever done. Blooming a bit later than ours due the cooling effect of the ocean I was anticipating wowness. The flowers began opening the started browning and eventually the heads just shriveled up. After consulting my viburnum book (I didn't find a definitive answer regarding *V. macrocephalum*) I came upon AN EXTREMELY WORRISOME PIECE OF INFORMATION. *Phytophthora ramorum*, which causes sudden oak death, can infect some viburnums but acts mainly as a host and transfer agent. ESPECIALLY PRONE TO INFECTION ARE MEMBERS OF THE ERICACEAE FAMILY – PIERIS AND RHODODENDRON. Heed warnings and do not prune oaks from now until winter.

The planet's orbit is now bringing us shortening daylight hours though the heat continues to build. Enjoy the unfolding summer season.



HAH WORKSHOP

Trees Under Attack: Threats Facing Three Iconic Trees Life Without Oak, Beech and Elm

Michael S. Gaines, President of CW Arborists
Saturday, September 9th, 2017 (Rain Date September 30th)
10AM - 12:30 PM
A Bus Tour of Three Sites in Bridgehampton & Sagaponack

Let's take a broad and sober look at the real threats and discuss strategies for prevention, protection and recovery. This workshop will be a walk amongst the trees to talk about some of the worst pests threatening our trees and landscapes. CW Arborists, Ltd. Owner, Michael S. Gaines, ISA Board Certified Master Arborist, NY-5314BT, will describe the threat in real terms and give practical guidance on how to keep these trees healthy and robust. He will provide strategies for prevention, protection and recovery. There will be ample time for a lively Q&A.

About CW Arborists: *We specialize in the health of your trees and shrubs. We diagnose and treat for insects and disease as well as nutritional and environmental conditions. Our focused and knowledgeable service guarantees the finest health care for your valuable trees and shrubs.*

Saturday, September 9th, 2017

10am: Orientation

Meet at the HAH John LoGerfo Library located in the Bridgehampton Community House
(Enter on the School Street side of the building)

10:30: Board the bus to the first of three locations

12:30: Wrap up and return to the HAH John LoGerfo Library

Cost: Free for HAH Members: \$10 Non-members

Payment must be made by August 15, 2017

Registration Form:

Please sign me up for the CW Arborists Workshop on Saturday, September 9, 2017

Name(s) _____

Phone (cell preferred) _____

E-Mail _____

I would like to purchase tickets at:

Free for HAH Member _____

\$10 Non-member _____ Total Amount included _____

Please make checks payable to HAH and mail to HAH, P.O. Box 202, Bridgehampton, New York, 11932 **no later than August 15, 2017**. Attention: Workshops

Questions: Call Marie DiMonte at 631.728.0292, e-mail osprey23@optonline.net

HAH Tour to the New York Botanical Garden & Arthur Avenue

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Cost: \$90.00 per person including luxury bus transportation, admission, gratuity
Lunch on your own

The New York Botanical Garden is an iconic living museum and, since its founding in 1891, has served as an oasis in this busy metropolis. As a National Historic Landmark, this 250 acre site's verdant landscape supports over one million living plants in extensive collections.

The main attraction for our visit this year is the breathtaking works of art by world-renowned artist **Dale Chihuly** which will be on view at NYBG in his first major garden exhibition in more than ten years in New York. **Chihuly** will showcase approximately 20 monumental installations and rare drawings and early works that reveal the evolution and development of his artistic process during his celebrated career. Set within NYBG's landmark landscape and buildings, this groundbreaking exhibition will be a must-see throughout the changing seasons from spring through fall.

We will arrive at the garden at approximately 10:30 a.m. and have time to explore the garden until 4pm (lunch will be on your own at the café right in the garden). Departure time for those not visiting Arthur Avenue will be 4pm.

For those wishing to visit Arthur Avenue, the bus will take you over at 2pm and will pick you up approximately 4:15pm at which time we will depart for home. Approximate time of arrival back in the Hamptons will be about 6:30 p.m.

Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2017
Pickup: Bridgehampton Community House, School Street side: **8 a.m.**
Pickup: Hampton Bays at LIRR Station opposite 7-Eleven: **8:20 a.m.**
Cost: \$90 PP including transportation, admission & gratuity – Lunch on your own
Payment must be made by August 1, 2017

Registration Form:

Please sign me up for The New York Botanical Garden/Arthur Avenue tour on Tuesday, September 12, 2017.

Name(s) _____

Phone (cell preferred) _____

E-Mail _____

I would like to purchase _____ tickets at \$90.00 each.

Total Amount included _____

Please make checks **payable to HAH** and mail to HAH, P.O. Box 202, Bridgehampton, New York, 11932 **no later than August 1, 2017**. Attention: Travel

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

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

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



HAH 2017 SUNDAY MONTHLY LECTURES - 2 PM - BH Community House

no lectures in July & August

September 10 - Daryl Beyers - *Fabulous Fall & Winter Containers*

October 15 - Panel Discussion – *Putting Your Garden to Bed for Winter* - Elizabeth Lear, Peter Bertrand, R.B. Boyle, Paul Wagner

November 12 – Ellen Ecker Ogden – *The Complete Kitchen Garden*

December 10 – Jan Johnsen – *Serenity by Design*

All lectures are free to members, \$10 for not-yet-members. Memberships start at \$45.

LOCAL GARDEN EVENTS

Summer 2017

BRIDGE GARDENS, 36 Mitchell Lane, Bridgehampton , 631.283.3195 ext 19 or peconiclandtrust.org

Tuesdays, 2:30 - 5 - Lawn Care Expert Advice, Paul Wagner of Greener Pastures Organics

Friday, July 28 and Friday, August 25, 4-5:30, Fridays at Four, Wine Tasting and Garden Tour, \$20 pp, \$10 members of BG, please reserve at listing above.

Saturday, August 12, 11-12pm, Pollinators and the Plants They Love, \$5 pp, free to BG members. Reserve above.

LONGHOUSE RESERVE, 133 Hands Creek Road, East Hampton, NY 11937 (631) 329-3568 longhouse.org

Open Wed - Sat, 2-5 pm.

MADDOO Conservancy, 618 Sagg Main St, Sagaponack. www.madoo.org 631-537-0082, Open Fridays and Saturdays 12 - 4

MARDERS, 120 Snake Hollow Rd., Bridgehampton, www.marders.com, 631-537-3700

FREE Sunday Garden lectures at 10:00 am: July 9 / Birds, Butterflies and Lady Bugs, Oh My!

July 16 / Low Maintenance, Native & Sustainable Gardens July 23 / Deer Oh Deer July 30 / Hydrangeas

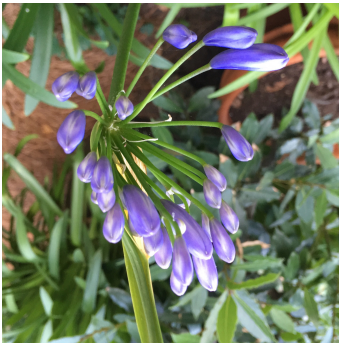
August 6 / Caring for Cactus and Succulents August 13 / Organic Gardening August 20 / Cooking from the Garden

August 27 / Vole, Vole Go Away

PECONIC LAND TRUST has many garden related events around the East End, see their calendar at peconiclandtrust.org

SOUTHAMPTON ROSE SOCIETY, Annual Benefit, August 12, tickets and info at southamptonrose.org

WESTHAMPTON GARDEN CLUB, Flower Show, “Bastille Day ‘La Belle Epoque’ “, Saturday, July 15, 10 - 3 pm, Free.
St. Mark’s Church, Parish Hall, 40 Main St. Westhampton.



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July/August 2017

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