

HAH Happenings September 2018



The Horticultural Alliance of the Hamptons P.O. Box 202, Bridgehampton, NY 11932-0202

631.537.2223 <u>hahgarden.org</u> at the Bridgehampton Community House

HAH Monthly Lecture - Sunday, September 9, 2018 - 2 pm

The Designer's Eye

Lynden B. Miller is a public garden designer in New York City who trained as a painter and studied horticulture at The New York Botanical Garden before beginning her public career. Based on her belief that good public open spaces can change city life, she has designed over 45 gardens, parks and open spaces in all five boroughs since 1982 and is the author of <u>Parks, Plants and People: Beautifying the Urban Landscape.</u> Her work includes landscape improvements to campuses at Columbia, Princeton and Stony Brook University.

In response to the events of 9/11, Mrs. Miller created the Daffodil Project which has now overseen the planting of 7 million daffodils in parks, schools and housing projects all over the city of New York.

"Based on the experiences I have had designing over 45 different public spaces in New York City and the challenges of 40 years in my own garden, I will talk about what I see when I look at a site and what I hope to achieve for the garden's visitors. Because I am originally a painter, I am lucky enough to be able to visualize what the space will look like and what plants are needed to achieve my goals. Garden Design is an art form and I approach it as such with the many tools of a painter/plantsman combined with other challenges found in the garden. The purpose of my public work is to give city dwellers beauty and pleasure with wonderful practical plants throughout all 4 seasons in a way that can be maintained for the future."



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2018

THE HAH ANNUAL KARISH SEMINAR

The Coastal Landscapes of Oehme van Sweden and Associates Eric D. Groft, Principal and Vice President Garden Tour, Lecture, Plant Sale and Reception See Full Details and Registration form on pages 6-7

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE





HAH 2018

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

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

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

Elaine Peterson 2018
Sarah Alford 2018
Rick Bogusch 2019
Erik Brockmeyer 2019
Jeffrey Glick 2020
Marie DiMonte 2020

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

LIBRARY CHAIR (serves on the board with a vote)

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, Pamela Harwood, Elaine Peterson

September is my favorite month! The light seems a little softer, the air is a little lighter, the vegetable garden is full of produce and the perennial garden is still in bloom, it is simply perfect. A huge thank you to Michael Longacre for being such a gracious host at our summer party. Also, thank you to everyone who brought such fabulous food and a special thanks to those who raised their hands and offered to help set-up and clean-up.

Onward to fall! I am looking forward to getting back into HAH mode and there is no better way to kick off our fall season than with the fantastic Karish Seminar! Our Karish Chair, Alicia Whitaker and her amazing committee of Erika Shank, Erik Brockmeyer and Sarah Alford are going all out to create the perfect day of tour, talk and plant sale along with some fabulous refreshments! Purchase your tickets soon, they are going quickly! GO directly to page 6! I'll see you in the amazing Oehme van Sweden garden,

Janet

FOG - Friends of the Garden

Our fall 2018 schedule is Tuesdays at 10 am, raindate on Thursdays of the same week.

September 18 October 16 November 13

All are welcome to help in the HAH garden! Thank you, Cornelia Bostwick

2019 Sunday Lecture Dates

Please note there are no lectures in July or August

January 13 – Matt Mattus – Plants of Yunnan & Tibet

February 10 – Michael Blakeney – Gardening Doesn't Have to Stop: The 12-Month Vegetable Garden

March 10 – Ed Bowen & Taylor Johnson – Reconsidering the Cutting Garden

April 7 – Margie Ruddick – Wild by Design: Promoting Life in the Designed Landscape

May 5 -Jerry Fritz - New & Exciting Perennials

June 9 - Karen Bussolini - Gardening with Kids: Opening Eyes & Doors

September 8 – Lee Buttala – Twenty Heirloom Varieties, Their Stories and Why they Belong in Your Garden

October 20 - Renee Marsh - Groundcover Plants - Beyond Pachysandra

November 10 – Ian Ross – The Essence of Flower Photography

December 8 - Annie Novak - Grow Up! Rooftop Farming

HAH Library Footnotes₁ - September 2018

By Susan Kennedy Zeller

YARD SALE: Yard and Book sale is October 20th between 9 am and noon (or whenever we run out!!)

We will accept books anytime you wish to bring them and we are open. Gardening paraphernalia such as beautiful, clean pots, tools, plant seeds, bulb divisions, garden ornaments, etc. may be brought into the Library on the following dates:

October 6 - Saturday (when you come for the Roundtable!) 10 AM to noon

October 9 - Tuesday between 10 AM and noon

October 13 - Saturday between 10 AM and noon

October 14 - Sunday deliver to the Library after the 2pm HAH lecture

October 16- Tuesday between 10 AM and noon

PLANT DELIVERY: October 19- Friday 10 AM to noon... Saturday October 20 8AM.

PLEASE...label all plants /bulbs with their correct name and color for all garden buyers ...and if you choose put your own name.

We will be placing orders for new books soon so if you have any to recommend please let us know!

We reorganized notes from the popular Roundtable discussions into an indexed notebook and have placed it on our information table. Members are welcome to copy any of the information using our copier machine.

HAH FALL 2018 - WINTER 2019 CALENDAR

In addition to our monthly lecture program, HAH offers its members several other opportunities to explore the extensive world of horticulture. A monthly **Roundtable** meets in the HAH Library from October to April on the first Saturday of each month at 10 am. Pamela Harwood leads these meetings on a particular topic that is announced in advance. Open to the general public, these discussions are very popular and many ideas are brought forth from a collective local experience of gardening. **Come join in on October 6, November 3, December 1, 2018, January 5, February 2, March 2, April 6, 2019.**

In the winter months, HAH holds a **Book Discussion Group** on the third Saturday of the month at 11am in the HAH Library. Carolyn Gemake leads these meetings where each of three HAH members will review a book recently read that is of horticultural interest. Attendees need not read the books themselves to attend, but you may, or may not, be eager to read it after the meeting! These are informative reviews and follow-up discussions amongst a small group of avid readers of writing on horticulture. Join any of the meetings or all, they are a very pleasant way to spend a winter morning! **December 15, 2018, January 19, February16 and March 16, 2019.** Books and their titles will be listed as they become available here in the Newsletter and on our website. If you would like to participate as a reviewer yourself, please email us at hahmember@optonline.net

Watch the Newsletter and your email for announcements of **Workshops, Trips, Garden Tours and other special events** we offer throughout the year. And if you have suggestions for these, please email them to us! We welcome volunteers to assist or to help plan these programs.

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER ARE GREAT MONTHS TO SAVE SEEDS FROM YOUR GARDEN

Pamela Harwood

After the flowers from your herbs, perennials and annuals fade, and if you do not cut off or "deadhead" the spent blooms, seeds will develop and ripen in their place. All or some of these seeds can be harvested so you can propagate your own new plants, but you can also help HAH by donating them to our seed exchange and sale program and still leave some for the birds!

WHY COLLECT AND SAVE SEEDS INSTEAD OF BUYING PACKETS IN THE STORE?

- It's free!
- Diversity: a plant in your garden may no longer be available either in local nurseries or from seeds being sold
- Collecting seeds from healthy plants in your garden will produce plants that have proven to work in your garden and in other Hamptons gardens
- The seeds from many hybrid plants are sterile, so therefore will not germinate. Others will reproduce, but not true to the hybrid. But you may end up liking the new plant!

COLLECTING SEEDS

- Many flower seeds develop in pods. When the seeds are ripe and look dry, the pod opens, and
 without intervention, the seeds fall to the ground. Therefore, you must collect the seeds before that
 time. Examples are Aquilegia (columbine), Helleborus (Lenten rose), and Asclepias (milkweed). The
 seeds of the latter are attached to cottony material.
- Many seeds are embedded in fruit and ripen when the fruit is fully ripe.
- Others develop in the seed heads left behind after the flowers fade. You can rub them between your fingers to release the seeds or gently pull them from the stem. Examples: dill, rudbeckia, echinacea
- I like to collect the pods and seeds in a clean bowl first, doing one plant variety at a time, so I don't mix them up.

CLEANING AND DRYING

- I sit down at an outdoor table and separate the seeds from the pods or the stems, then toss what is
 called the "chaff," like the pods and stems, onto the compost. Keep the seeds on a flat surface for
 about 10-14 days to dry before storing.
- Seeds from fleshy fruits (and that would include pumpkin, zucchini, other types of squash, tomatoes, etc.) should be separated from the pulp before drying, as the pulp will delay germination (in nature, when birds and other animals eat berries, for instance, they digest the pulp, and so the seeds they drop are already pulp-free).

STORING SEEDS

- The dry seeds can be stored in envelopes (you can buy what they call "coin envelopes" at Staples or other stationery stores), in jars, or sealed plastic bags. Label them, including the date they were collected.
- Refrigerate
 – there are two reasons to do this: 1) seeds that are kept cold will last a great deal longer,
 5-10 years, than ones at room temperature and 2) many seeds need to be "stratified" or endure a cold period.





Seed heads

Far left: Asclepias

Left: Echinops

Right: Eryngium



Un Verano Extremadamente Tropical *

George Biercuk

Sun. Heat. Humidity. Daily rainfall-missing. Growth rampant. Inland mist/fog. Clear at immediate coastline. Juxtaposition of the temperate rainforest conditions of June as regards to heat and frequency of rain. The results in the garden were quite extraordinary, most notably with the tropicals.

The most compelling factor was the absence of night time cooling. With minimal variation between daytime highs and night time lows what was to be the impact on our more traditional local flora? With daylight hours diminishing daily how would the flora respond to this signal to begin their winterizing processes? The tropicals, however, were luxuriating in the warmth akin to their native tropical origins. The caladium languished even despite the early July heat wave. I was close to dumping all the pots and replanting the few that had showed some signs of life. Thankfully for procrastination the pots had an overabundance of foliage like we have never seen before. I'm amazed at the number of leaves each corm has produced.

The five dollar end of season purchase, a few years ago, of a gardenia standard, thanks to the tropical weather, finally produced an abundance of large fragrant flowers. Overwintering in the house she would produce buds that enlarged to a point then just dried up and fell off. Lack of humidity indoors in the winter is a factor and we certainly had plenty of it this summer outdoors. It's interesting to see how differently the gardenia responded to her outdoor summering this year.

Canna. What a summer they're having. The c.x'Pretoria', when we picked them up from the grower nicely filled the pot, unlike previous years when it was obvious that the growers struggled to get them started. Despite March and April's lack of sunshine they were robust. When planted they grew sideways rather than vertically. They expanded exponentially from the roots without gaining any stature. In one planting I liked the result but in others where I was depending on their imposing presence there were gaping voids. Come mid/late July there was a radical change. The leaves, even the first ones, began to enlarge and enlarge until most were twenty-four inches long, larger than any previous year. The canna must have experienced delayed puberty because they, almost overnight, shot up. Their underground expansion also continued unabated. Approaching mid-August they appeared having a successful campaign of garden domination. There are certainly going to be a lot roots to store this upcoming winter if we so choose. If conditions are right I'll leave some to overwinter in the ground since they're supposedly hardy to zone 7. Owing to the vole overpopulation they won't be mulched.

Our twenty something year old double red hibiscus, from a cutting from a plant on St. Martin, was looking dreadful come late spring- leafless. It was repotted upon outdooring for the summer in early June and the scratch test showed green wood. It sat that way through June, we surmised, because of the weather. July's heat wave did nothing. At the very end of July this seemingly dead plant was displaying some leaf bud swelling. A few days later, still essentially leafless, a single flower strutted his stuff. A little over a week later, still leafless, at least a dozen flowers in full bloom and a lot of buds poised to bloom. A couple days on and leaves were becoming more evident. At the appropriate time I'll take cuttings to root using new techniques I learned at the camellia cutting/rooting workshop.

Our tropical begonias continue to amaze us. B. boliviensis is down to two pots and the corms are now huge. Each had only one stalk which has bloomed for months. I want to know how long they can live so I will overwinter them again. The angel wings had wonderful growth but again they held back on flowering. The cuttings from a few years ago are approaching their parent's stature. B. grandis, our hardy begonia, emerged early this year and had reached impressive stature by early August. There's a similarity between the latter two in flower form and seed casing. A specialty begonia whose name is lost to us died. The pot was put outside in an out of the way place to be dumped into the compost. It was overlooked and when noticed in early August it had sprouted again. I guess what appears to be dead isn't necessarily dead.

The tropical mystique - heat and humidity; oversized, lush dense foliage; exotic flowers in brilliant colors and intriguing forms, and fragrance. Ah fragrance. It has the power to transport us wherever, via memories real or longed for, or heighten our experiencing of the moment. For us in our garden in August we are sensorially enveloped in Clerodendrum trichotomum's fragrance. It wafts through the air as we approach from the road. They are planted strategically throughout the garden so that the prevailing summer breezes from the southwest move the fragrance toward where we spend the most time in the

garden. Many of the young trees now three years old are flowering. Two parents, despite serious dieback, continue on, putting out voluminous and vigorous new growth this year that was loaded with flowers. Earlier the Casablanca lilies perfumed their respective areas but don't have the projective power of the clerodendrum.

Rain, much needed, finally came, though a bit torrential, washing the garden's foliage clean, providing atmospheric nutrients not found in ground water.

Tend wisely the ground in your care.

A summer extraordinarily tropical



HAH KARISH SEMINAR 2018

Our 2018 Karish Seminar will feature **Eric Groft, Principal, Oehme van Sweden and Associates, discussing Design on the Water: The Coastal Landscapes of Oehme van Sweden**. This significant annual event, held in honor of former founding HAH member Paul Karish, will enable us to learn about how the 2nd generation OvS has continued to evolve after the deaths of founders Wolfgang Oehme and James van Sweden.

Oehme van Sweden is an internationally recognized firm that played a critical role in the development of the "New American Garden" style, featuring the mass planting of grasses, perennials, bulbs and other plants that are beautiful throughout the year and that reflect the natural landscape. Composed of native grasses and perennial plantings in tapestry-like drifts, this style celebrates the seasonal splendor of the American meadow while promoting its inherent ecological and sustainable values. This style of



Photo © Jason Dewey

planting reflected a significant departure from the conventional style of landscape architecture at the time the firm was founded in 1975.

OvS taught us about generosity in planting: "You have to think big," Mr. van Sweden told The Washington Post in 1998. "Think huge leaves, enormous grasses and flowers big as dinner plates. The worst thing you can do is be ditsy.... don't put in three, put in 300,"

The Federal Reserve Gardens (1977) is considered their breakthrough project, introducing their signature New American Garden style to a wider audience. Their portfolio consists of a large number of residential projects, including many in the Hamptons, as well the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C., the Gardens of the Great Basin at the Chicago Botanic Garden, and the United States Embassy site in Kabul, Afghanistan. Recent work has included the development of the gardens at the American Museum in Bath, England.

Eric Groft is one of three principals who carry out the OvS legacy and shepherd the evolution of the New American Garden Style. Eric is renowned for his diversity in residential, commercial and institutional work. He prides himself in his sense of regionalism, attention to the vernacular, and work with cultural landscapes. He has a passion for horticulture and is widely recognized as an industry leader in ecological sensitivity, environmental/wetland restoration, and shoreline stabilization/revetment. He is a Fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architects, a member of the Board of The Cultural Landscape Foundation and a board member of the Hammond Harwood House in Annapolis, MD. Mr. Groft holds a Master of Landscape Architecture degree from the University of Virginia and a Bachelor of Arts degree with majors in geography/environmental science from Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania.

On Sunday, September 16, we will:

- Visit a new garden with Eric designed by OvS in Amagansett between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.
- Grab some lunch on your own between 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. (not included)
- Hear Eric's lecture about the firm's work at the Bridgehampton Community House at 2:00 p.m.
- Hold a plant sale and wine and cheese reception from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- We'll use OvS's plant list to source selected grasses and perennials from Glover Perennials. The good news is that our long growing season will provide plenty of time to help our new plants settle in before the winter.

Directions to the garden will be sent to attendees who pre-register for the Karish Seminar by email or mail. The fee is **\$125**; we use the proceeds from this annual fund raiser to support HAH's educational activities, including our Scholarship Fund. Use the form on this page to register. **Deadline for registration is September 7.**



Photo © Marion Brenner



Photo © Rob Cardillo

Karish Seminar Date: Sunday, September 16, 2018 Registration Form:

Name(s):		
Email:		
Phone:		
Cost \$125 payable to HAH: Number in Party	Amount Enclosed	

Send to: HAH, P. O. Box 202, Bridgehampton, NY 11932. Attention: Karish Seminar OR go to this link to pay online: https://squareup.com/store/horticultural-alliance-of-the-hamptons Call us at 631.537.2223 for questions. Visit our website at www.hahgarden.org for information on all HAH events.

HAH 2018 SUNDAY MONTHLY LECTURES - 2 PM - BH Community House

All lectures are free to members, \$10 for not-yet-members.
Memberships start at \$45. Please join us!
There are no lectures in July & August
September 9 – Lynden Miller – The Designer's Eye
October 14 – Anne Haines - Fragrant Plants

November 11 – Jane Garmey – A Sense of Place – An inside Look at a Wide Variety of Private Gardens in Connecticut & the Hudson Valley December 9 – Donald W. Hyatt – Chasing the Bloom in the Southern Appalachians

MORE EAST END GARDEN EVENTS September 2018

Wednesday, September 12, 6:00 pm - A Place of Repose: Preserving America's Garden Furniture History. Reception and lecture by John Danzer of Munder-Skiles. Museum of Arts & Design, 2 Columbus Circle, New York, NY 10019. \$30 for Garden Conservancy members, \$35 non-members. For more information and to register: https://www.gardenconservancy.org/education/education-events/preserving-garden-furniture-history

ALL Peconic Land Trust Events below, including those at Bridge Gardens, register at: (631) 283-3195 or events@peconiclandtrust.org. More info: peconiclandtrust.org

Saturday, September 8, at 10:00 am and 1:30 pm - Waterwash Narrow River - A Rain Garden Walk. 1455 Narrow River Road, Orient, NY 11957. Space is limited, reservations required. \$5/person. Rain or shine.

Events at Bridge Gardens, 36 Mitchell Lane, Bridgehampton, NY 11932.

Tuesdays, September 4, 11, 18 & 25, 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm - Paul Wagner Lawn Care Advice. FREE.

Saturday, September 8, 10:00 am to 11:30 am - Adding Fruiting Shrubs to Your Edible Landscape. Free for BG members, \$5 non-members. Rain or shine.

Saturday, September 22, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm - Winterizing the Hive. Space is limited, reservations required. \$5 for BG members, \$10 non-members. Rain or shine.

Marders Garden Lecture Series. All lectures start at 10:00 am. FREE. 120 Snake Hollow Road, Bridgehampton, NY 11932.

More info: marders.com (No Lecture, Sunday, September 2)

Sunday, September 9: Home Grown Beauty

Sunday, September 16: Fall Lawn Care, Fall Pruning & Putting Your Garden To Bed

Sunday, September 23: Who Doesn't Love A Sale? Sunday, September 30: Fall Garden Color



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