



HAH Happenings

November 2018



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

631.537.2223 hahgarden.org
at the Bridgehampton Community House

HAH Monthly Lecture - Sunday, November 11, 2018 - 2 pm

A Sense of Place

An inside look at a wide variety of private gardens in Connecticut and the Hudson Valley

A rare glimpse into an unusual range of private retreats both in Connecticut and along the majestic landscape that borders New York State's Hudson River. Some of these gardens are grand in scale, others more modest, but all have been created, cared for, and tended with love. None of them happened overnight and many have taken years to come to fruition. Whether formal or naturalistic, contemporary or traditional, these are personal and private creations that reflect their owners' individual tastes and sensibilities, and exhibit a remarkable sense of place.



Photo: Philip Howard

Jane Garmey is the author of *City Green: Public Gardens of New York*, *Private Gardens of the Hudson Valley*, *Private Gardens of Connecticut*, *The Writer in the Garden*, *Great British Cooking: A Well-Kept Secret* and *Great New British Cooking*. She has written about gardens and interior design for *AD*, the *New York Times*, the *Wall Street Journal*, *House and Garden*, and *Elle Décor*. She is a frequent contributor to *Introspective*, the on-line magazine of First Dibs, and for many years was the garden correspondent of *Town & Country*. Jane has also worked in public television, and her company, Designs for Learning, created and produced the award-winning PBS series about the arts for children, *Behind the Scenes*. She has also created and produced many audio

productions, including the acclaimed *Voice of the Poet* series, produced in conjunction with Random House. Born in England, Jane lives in New York and in Cornwall, Connecticut, where her garden is part of The Garden Conservancy's 'Open Days' program.

HAH FALL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Roundtable - November 3, December 1

Saturdays, 10 - 12 noon, HAH library

Camellia Group Meeting - November 10

Saturday, 10 am, HAH library

Sunday Lecture - November 11, 2 pm, in the BH

Community House, main hall, see above

Workshop - Make a Fall/Thanksgiving Centerpiece,

November 17, Saturday, 11:00 am, HAH Library
with Lydia Wallis, see p. 7

Book Discussion Group - December 15

Saturday 11-12 noon, HAH library

HAH ROUNDTABLE PROGRAM

**Our next session will take place on
Saturday, November 3rd, 10am - Noon.**

Our topics will be:

***Container Gardening**

***Storing and Saving Tropicals over the Winter**

Moderated by Pamela Harwood





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

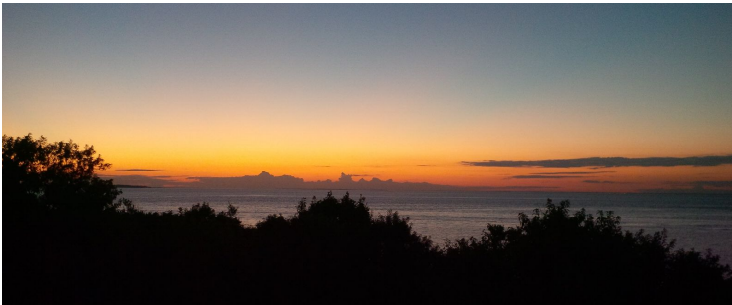


It was November....the month of crimson sunsets, parting birds, deep, sad hymns of the sea, passionate wind-songs in the pines.
L.M. Montgomery, Anne of Green Gables

As we wind down the year, HAH continues to gear up! Our Amaryllis program will be in full swing, so if you can spare an hour to have a lot of fun with our local youngsters, please contact Marie DiMonte. The always popular Roundtables had a fantastic surprise last month with a visit to the beautiful garden of George Biercuk and Robert Luckey; a huge thank you to our two hosts and to Pamela Harwood who put together such a terrific program. You'll have to attend the next Roundtable on November 3rd to see what new topics and surprises Pamela comes up with! On November 17th I'll look forward to the return of creative HAH member Lydia Wallis with her always fun "Centerpiece Making Class". Very important, November 11th is our annual meeting, so please make an effort to attend. I will recap the year and you will have an opportunity to vote for the new Board of Directors. I hope everyone has a lovely Thanksgiving and that you all have a lot to be thankful for, I know I do!

I'll see you in the garden,

Janet



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

Proposed HAH 2019 Officers and Board of Directors

The following slate of officers for 2019 and two directors (who will serve through 2021) will be presented for the membership's vote at the annual meeting on November 11, 2018.

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

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

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

Sarah Alford	'19
Rick Bogusch	'19
Jeffrey Glick	'20
Marie DiMonte	'20
Elaine Peterson	'21
Erik Brockmeyer	'21

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.

FOG - Friends of the Garden

Our last fall 2018 date is Tuesday November 13 at 10 am, raindate on Thursday of the same week. Many thanks to all who helped make the HAH garden so beautiful this year!

Cornelia Bostwick

HAH Library Footnotes¹ November 2018

Susan Kennedy Zeller

“Why Libraries Still Matter”

That was the tantalizing headline to an article in the Sunday NYTimes 9/9/2018 written by Eric Klingenberg. Of course I avidly read it being one of our HAH Librarians and a confessed bookaholic and he makes some wonderful points.

“Libraries are the kinds of places where people of different backgrounds, passions, and interests can take part in a living democratic culture.”

The word “liber” the latin root of the word Library means both “book” and “free.”...“Libraries stand for and exemplify something that needs defending: the public institution that ... even in the age of automization, polarization and inequality - serve as the bedrock of civil society.” Libraries are places of culture and company, through book clubs, etc. “classes...current events...a place to interact with people of different generations.”

This is so true of our HAH Library. Now you may be thinking... no, we are only about horticulture but just think about what horticulture means : Roget’s International Thesaurus has a whole page describing it including such tantalizing words as : agronomy, landscape gardening, truck gardening, floriculture, viniculture, arboriculture, forestry, farm, soil, fertilizer, pick, pluck, herbalizer, rural, rustic, crop, harvest.. the list covers two pages in tiny type. So in other words... all of us living on the earth are to some extent horticulturalists. It is just that HAH members like to pay more attention to the earth than many and it is the library providing knowledge along with our many programs..primary lectures and the more discrete library workshops.. that can make learning and joy happen.

So the next time you come over, drop in, browse the magazines and book sources. Take out a book of interest! Exercise the rare privilege that we HAH members have. Bring along a friend and even if they do not join they may use our resources! When the Roundtable chooses a topic, browse our shelves and periodicals for who might have written about it and contribute that author’s voice to the discussion. Come along to the Book Talks that will begin in December and bring a friend, so they may also discover our HAH informational accessibility.

Winter is coming...yes, it is ...so what are you going to read as you curl up next to your fireplace or in a sunny spot with a favorite glass of wine! Me.... I have my stack of horticulture books ready.

On a cheerful note, a heartfelt thank you to all who contributed to the HAH LIBRARY YARD sale in October through your donations or purchases, and help in selling. Every contribution helps keep our Library a vibrant source for our community of earth lovers!

A reminder that we will be placing orders for new books soon so if you have a recommendation please let us know now! Library hours for fall shall be every Tuesday and Saturday 10-12, and after any meeting or workshop held in the Library. All HAH Members may sign out books. Not yet members may use the Library facilities.

LOOKING AHEAD

Membership Renewals Mailed

As a calendar year organization, we mail renewal forms in late October for the year 2019. Included in this mailing you will find a comprehensive listing of the HAH Benefits of Membership. We're always updating this form, therefore, be sure to review carefully.

Look for your renewal form and mail back early in order to continue receiving our comprehensive monthly Newsletter and also be advised of coming events. You can also provide us with your email address so that you can receive timely reminders of the dates/times of lectures, workshops, roundtables and special events.

Questions regarding Membership can be directed to Bettina Benson at bbettina@optonline.net

The New York Botanical Garden will host their 19th Annual Winter Lecture Series: 'The Education of a Gardener' over three Thursdays in the new year.

All lectures are from 10 am to 11:30 am at Ross Lecture Hall on the NYBG campus.

Attend individual lectures (\$32 for members, \$35 for non-members) or the whole series (\$85 for members, \$95 for non-members). For more info and to register: <https://www.nybg.org/event/2019-winter-lecture-series/>

Thursday, January 31 - Martha Stewart: A Life in Gardening

Thursday, February 28 - Jinny Blom: The Thoughtful Gardener

Thursday, March 28 - Margaret Roach: A Way to Garden

HAH WORKSHOP DATE

Saturday, January 12, 2019, with
Steve Storch of the Green Thumb

HAH ROUNDTABLE

Saturdays at 10 am

December 1, January 5

February 2, March 2, April 6

HAH BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Saturdays at 11 am

December 15, January 19

February 16, March 16

HAH 2019 GARDEN FAIR

MAY 17-18

2019 HAH Sunday Lecture Dates - 2pm

January 13 - Matt Mattus - *Botanizing in the Land of the Blue Poppy – Yunnan & Western China*

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*

Please note there are no lectures in July or August

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*

Musings & Ramblings

George Biercuk

It was early October and “strangeness” pervaded not only our garden but the entirety of our geographical surroundings. For example our SHADED pool/pond continued to retain enough warmth (approx. 70*) to be comfortably swimmable. NEVER has this happened since its instillation over a decade ago. Reblooming and prolonged blooming continued on phlox paniculata and clerodendrum trichotomum. Also by then there should have been initial signs of overall autumnal foliage coloration. The usual news network forecasts about the best “leaf peeping” regions were noticeably absent since high nighttime temps impeded the process. The ocean was retaining heat. Nothing more be said. The solar astronomical calendar was indicating the onset of autumn while the local earthside conditions indicated something very different. Heat was not succumbing to embarrassingly emasculated polar cold. Not a mention of El Nino in the Pacific Ocean and its influence locally and the Pacific’s western rim (intense typhoons).

The tropicals were loving the high nighttime temperatures. Canna continued to flourish, bulking-up in expanding circles of lush foliage. Flower stalks took on Jack-in-the-beanstalk proportions (wispy wands disembodied from the bulk of the plant) and were cut back to a prominent leaf, greatly enhancing the plant’s presence in the garden. Tropical hibiscus reveled in the warmth, humidity and rainfall, continuing to produce flower buds. Temps below sixty degrees shock them into a hibernation mode but that wasn’t happening this year. Caladium (C. Candidum) pots were a mixed bag. Most pots retained their lushness, though they began to tinge green. A few suddenly began to collapse. Location didn’t appear to a factor.

Stromanthe sanguinea’s tricolored foliage (green, white and red) transitioned easily into the autumn light. New plants form on the tips of the flower stalks and I guess that when they bend to the ground they root. In years past the stalks mostly collapsed early and were cut off. This year they remained rigidly upright and had lush crowns of wanting-to-be new plants. October’s weather was suiting them fine. These are mature plants that will be dug as late as possible to save for next season, though historical timing was definitely late this year.

Unfortunately there was something happening right on time - ACORNS. A massive masting event. It was inevitable, I guess, given the prodigious volume of tassels and pollen produced this past spring, coating the entirety of the landscape a mustardy yellow. It became dangerous to sit around the pool because the acorns fell from such a sufficient height that the force upon impact was quite painful. When they hit the water with a kerpop the ripples generated were strong enough to spread to the edges.

There is a dark side to a masting. In a more usual non-masting year the fauna - mice, deer, voles and squirrels - pack on some weight that sustains them into early winter before the supply is depleted and then they struggle to find food, which struggle helps keep their populations in check. During a masting, without snow covered ground, they continue to gorge and fatten up even more, thus allowing their respective populations to thrive and surge. it’s scary to realize that voles, which produce large litters, reach sexual maturity in TWENTY-ONE days. Don’t do the math. You’ll never want to garden again.

Deer, you’ve probably become very aware of locally, increasingly give birth to twins due to access to the delicious smorgasbord gardens we provide for them. Add to that a super abundance of highly nutritious calorie laden acorns in a masting year and out the window goes nature’s natural culling. I’d also seen some very young fawns in early September which suggested that they might also be altering their historical mating season. If we have the brutally cold, snowy winter predicted by the Farmers Almanac, then they are in trouble. People have to get over Walt Disney’s Bambi. Deer are voracious herbivores that were kept in check by natural predators that have been exterminated from the landscape.

When you clean-up the acorns remove them from your property. Don’t even put them in your compost bins. Remember, you don’t want one-pile-feeds-all to encourage communal dining for the neighborhood. Also removing them now eliminates the tedious task of weeding myriad seedlings the following spring by which time they have sunk a tenaciously long taproot.

In September I noticed two gall-like growths on Camellia ‘April Remembered’. Bob and I had no idea what they were or if they were something to be worried about. Distracted by other matters I very occasionally looked at them. Then in early October I searched the plant and finally found an exploded, what turned out to be, seed pod. Now I knew what it was but I wish I could have harvested the seed. If only. Maybe.....

Time for final garden bedding-down. Still time to plant bulbs. Then physical rest. Mental busting about next year’s renewal begins.



HAH Roundtable Report

Moderated by Pamela Harwood

“Water Features in the Garden”

Varieties, Installation, Maintenance, and the Plants that Complement Them

On Saturday, October 6th, we held our first Roundtable discussion session of the 2018 fall season. To start, A brief overview was presented, using photographs as examples on the library’s computer, of the many kinds of water features that are popular and doable whether you have a small or large garden area. They include rills, fountains, ponds, streams, waterfalls, pools, water walls, wall fountains, troughs, and birdbaths. In each of these categories design possibilities are endless and the materials used are incredibly varied, from the very traditional to ultra-modern. Photographs of many examples were shown on our library’s computer. Water features provide a sense of serenity, sound, and movement, they attract wildlife, and are an important design focal point.

Our first presenters were Carole Campolo and Don Cirillo of Springs, East Hampton, who have a really lovely down-sloping stream and waterfall, which leads to a fishpond. Don had this installed for Carol’s birthday, while she was away for three days! As with most moving water features, it is powered by an underground recirculating electric pump. Abutting the fishpond is a shady stone patio, where Carol and Don and guests can sit and enjoy the serene view, the sound of the moving water, and the wildlife it attracts. Don described the kinds of contractors he used and how the system was installed and is maintained. The power capability of the pump determines the power of the water flow or spray. Don pointed out that in the Town of East Hampton, if a water feature is a maximum of 24” deep a pool fence is not required.

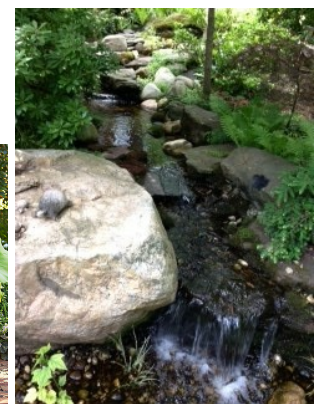
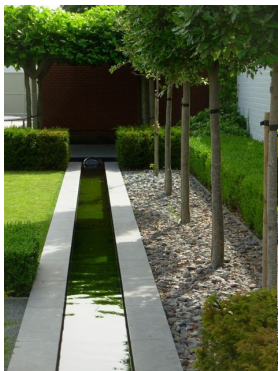
George Biercuk and Bob Luckey described their combination waterfall and swimming pool in their Wainscott garden. Like Carole and Don’s stream, large boulders were brought in to create a naturalistic-looking waterfall, which empties into an irregularly shaped pool made to look like a pond. Instead of a bottom that looks like the “tidy bowl blue” of many pools, they used gray gunite. The duck decoys that decorate the boulders add a touch of whimsy.

Michelle Simpson described the small waterfall that decorates a corner of her garden, the Ipe wood chairs she and her husband built to sit and enjoy their water feature, and the decorative elements she created for an added sense of serenity.

The conversation then turned to the kinds of plants that thrive in wet conditions. The first category is called “floating plants,” meaning that they are placed directly in the water. These include water lilies, canna lilies, and lotus. Pond- or stream-edge plants include typha (cattail), pontederia (blue pickerel weed), juncus (rush), lobelia, acorus (sweet flag), caltha palustris (marsh marigold), flag iris, and hardy hibiscus. Your choices depend on whether you have sun or shade.

Many ponds are stocked with varieties of carp, especially goldfish and koi. Don pointed out that they emit an enzyme that limits their growth to the size of the water area. Erik Brockmeyer asked if fish are instrumental in keeping the pond clean, and Don suggested that all water movement and oxygenation help to cleanse water. After Carole saw a “prehistoric-looking,” huge heron swoop down to eat the fish, they protected the pond with fishing line.

Following the Roundtable, everyone was invited to the Wainscott garden of George and Bob to view their water feature.



Create a Fall Centerpiece



Saturday, November 17, 2018
11:00 a.m.
John LoGerfo Library

Please bring greens from your garden to use and to share. A mix of needle evergreens and broad leaf evergreens will make a more interesting design. You will need clippers, gloves and a Lazy Susan if you have one.

Create a Fall Centerpiece
\$20 members, \$30 non-members

Name _____ email _____

Please make checks payable to HAH and mail to: HAH, attn. Workshops,
P.O. BOX 202, Bridgehampton, NY 11932-0202

Deadline: Wednesday, November 8th
Questions: Lydia Wallis lydiapbw@optonline.net

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!

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 LOCAL AND NYC GARDEN EVENTS

November 2018

Friday, November 2, 6:00 pm - Andrew Raftery: The Autobiography of a Garden. Reception and illustrated talk. 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/the-autobiography-of-a-garden-with-andrew-raftery>

Monday, November 5, 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm. Thomas Woltz: At the Interface of Ecology and Culture (part of New York Botanical Garden 20th Annual Landscape Design Portfolio Lecture Series). Scandinavia House, 58 Park Avenue (38th Street), New York, NY 10016. \$23 for NYBG members, \$26 non-members. For more information and to register: <https://www.nybg.org/event/landscape-design-portfolios-lecture-series-time-place-story>

Thursday November 8, The Olde Towne Garden Club Annual Luncheon is to be held on at The Vineyards in Aquebogue. Floral Design Program by Christine Saroka, Bayport Flowers. Doors open at 10:30 am for Chinese Auction. Program starts at 11:30 am. Tickets are \$45. To purchase either call Cornelia 631 283-1015 or send check to Olde Towne Garden Club, POB 2812, Southampton, NY 11969

Events at Bridge Gardens, 36 Mitchell Lane, Bridgehampton, NY 11932. Register at: (631) 283-3195 or events@peconiclandtrust.org. More info: peconiclandtrust.org

Saturday, November 3, 10:00 am to 11:30 am - Late Season Rose Care. Space is limited, reservations required. Free for BG members, \$5 non-members. Rain or shine.

Saturday, November 10, 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm - Autumn Open House. Reservations requested. Free, however donations appreciated. Rain or shine.

Marders Annual Open House Events. Wednesday, November 21, 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm - Cocktail Preview Party. Friday, November 23 - Sunday, November 25, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm - Open House. FREE. 120 Snake Hollow Road, Bridgehampton, NY 11932. More info: marders.com



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HAH happenings

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