

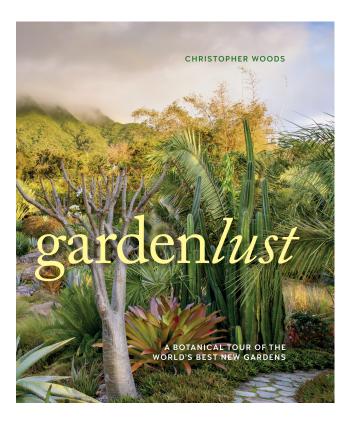
# HAH Happenings February 2020



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, February 9, 2020 - 2 pm



# Gardenlust: A Botanical Tour of the World's Best New Gardens

For three years, **Chris Woods** traveled the world seeking out contemporary gardens and found fifty of the best. With wit and humor, he describes the most arresting features in public parks in exotic locations like New Delhi and Dubai, mission-redefining botanic gardens in Chile and Australia, and the most enviable details of lavish private estates and gemlike city yards. Throughout, he reveals the fascinating people, plants, and stories that make these gardens so lust-worthy.

Chris Woods was born in London, England, but has lived in the United States since 1981. He has worked in the garden world as gardener, director and designer for 45 years. He is best-known for his work at Chanticleer, a "pleasure garden" in Wayne, PA, where he worked for 20 years.

After Chanticleer, he became vice president for horticulture at the Santa Barbara Botanical Garden. He was director of the VanDusen Botanical Garden in Vancouver, Canada, and executive director of the Mendocino Coast Botanical Garden. In 2012, he was lured back east by The

Pennsylvania Horticultural Society and appointed director of its private estate and garden, Meadowbrook Farm. He has been a consultant for Botanic Gardens Conservation International, the Garden Conservancy, and the Chicago Parks Department. He has served on a number of boards, notably the American Public Gardens Association and the Fairmount Park Conservancy. Being somewhat restless and increasingly unemployable, he decided to stop managing gardens and decided to travel the world looking at both constructed and wild landscapes. He currently lives in California and one or two other places.

In 2003, Chris was awarded the Professional Citation for significant achievements in public horticulture by the American Public Garden Association. In 2007, The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society awarded him its prestigious medal for Distinguished Achievement.

#### Books Published.

The Encyclopedia of Perennials, published in 1992 by Facts on File.

Contributor to 1001 Gardens to See Before You Die (Barron's Educational Series, 2012)

The Gardener's Garden (Phaidon Press, 2014).

<u>Gardenlust: A Botanical Tour of the World's Best New Gardens</u> (Timber Press, 2018) published in September, 2018.

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



#### Dear Friends,

Winter is not a favorite season for gardeners, but it does allow us to catch our breath and then look forward to the new season. We're already having glimpses of spring. Our bird feeders are busy, and we will be seeing the first migrants by the end of the month, as Red Winged Blackbirds come back to our marshes to claim their territories. We've also started working on our Garden Fair – the annuals and perennials have already been ordered. Snowdrops are blooming in many of our gardens.

Our book group, roundtables and workshops continue this month – see details in the newsletter. And we're asking you to save the date for our second annual Gardener's Film Festival, scheduled for Saturday, March 21. Next month we'll also be sharing the big ideas that emerge from our annual strategic planning meeting that's scheduled for late January.

Good garden dreaming,





#### **HAH 2020**

OFFICERS: (an officer serves for a 1 year term)
President Alicia Whitaker
First Vice President Erika Shank
Second Vice President Rick Bogusch
Recording Secretary Janet Ollinger
Corresponding Secretary Joan DiMonda
Treasurer Bettina Benson

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

Jeffrey Glick '20
Marie DiMonte '20
Elaine Peterson '21
Erik Brockmeyer '21
Sarah Alford '22
Pamela Harwood '22

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**

Rick Bogusch, Janet Ollinger, Elaine Peterson

## HAH CALENDAR OF EVENTS February 2020

Roundtable -

Saturday, February 1, 10 - 12 noon, HAH library, see p. 3.

Workshop -

**Saturday, February 8, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm,** From Plankton to Whales - Why Our Waters Are Worth Saving, in the HAH Library, see January Newsletter, p. 7 for details and registration form.

Lecture -

**Sunday, February 9, 2 pm,** in the BH Community House, main hall, see page 1.

**Book Review Group - Saturday, February 15, 11:00 am,** HAH library, see p. 3.

Tree Trail Walk in Montauk - Saturday, February 22, 10am, with Vicki Bustamante, see page 7 for details.

PLEASE RENEW NOW FOR 2020 -It is easy to do at <a href="https://squareup.com/store/horticultural-alliance-of-the-hamptons">https://squareup.com/store/horticultural-alliance-of-the-hamptons</a> THANK YOU!

#### HAH ROUNDTABLE

#### SATURDAY, February 1 10 am -12 noon in the HAH LoGerfo Library

**TOPIC: Transplanting and dividing!** 

This is a great time to begin thinking about which plants in your garden you can multiply and rejuvenate by dividing and transplanting, which plants might need to be transplanted to thrive better in another location in your garden, and which plants would simply look better in another spot in your garden. The question is, when is a good time to transplant and/or divide the particular plants you have in mind? And how does dividing and transplanting help your garden flourish? It's also the way that members can donate plants to the HAH Plant Fair's "Member Digs" offerings.

Please come to the Roundtable and share your questions and experiences.

Moderated by Pamela Harwood

Saturdays 🌿 February 1 🜿 March 7 🌿 April 4 🌿 October 3 🜿 November 7 🬿 December 5

## BOOK REVIEW GROUP SATURDAY, February 15, 2020

in the HAH LoGerfo Library 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

This month our reviewers, their books and authors are as follows. Please join us and hear reviewers report on what they read and thought about it. Ursula Thomas will moderate our discussion.

Sarah Alford: Wilding, Returning Nature to Our Farm, Isabella Tree

Erik Brockmeyer: The Education of a Gardener, Russell Page

Elaine Peterson: Painted Gardens: English watercolours, 1850-1914,

**Penelope Hobhouse and Christopher Wood** 

Book Group meets 😉 February 15 🌳 March 21 🌴 2020





## **Library Footnotes for February**

Susan Kennedy Zeller, HAH Librarian

Winter is the time for planning and dreaming for our gardens and we in the Library are here to dream with you. Take a look at the center table and the Library desk. We have copies of our speaker, Chris Woods,' wonderful book **Gardenlust**. And he will be available after his talk for conversation and signing. The photographs in the book are AMAZINGLY WONDERFUL. And what he says about each garden (as you will hear only part of it in his talk) will make you want to reach for your passport and head for the airport! And we will offer a discount on book sales to all after the lecture.

Remember to stop into the Library for our next Library Book Reading February 15 at 11 AM where you do not have to read the book. Other HAH members do the reading for you and then present their opinions, favorable or not! We have super presentations and discussions on each book.

And one last reminder for whiling away these winter days with some inspiration. We DO have DVD's about gardening that all members are welcome to check out and take home for relaxed viewing at home! Take a look next to our exit door that goes up to the auditorium. Happy reading everyone from all your HAH Librarians. Drop in and see us!

## Save the Date! March 21st at Guild Hall

Mark your calendars for the

## **Second Annual HAH Gardeners Film Festival**

**Honeyland**, winner of three Sundance Film awards including the Grand Jury Prize and two Oscar nominations.

**The Gardener**, a breathtaking film about Les Quatres Vents, the gardens of Francis Cabot, founder of The Garden Conservancy.

Tickets and additional information available at HAHgarden.org and in the library. More details to follow in our March newsletter.

## Roundtable Discussion Report for January 4, 2020: Starting Seeds

#### **General Tips:**

- Plan ahead! Read planting instructions on each seed packet, to ensure sufficient time for seed conditioning and germination.
- Press soil firmly into pots so that planting depth is accurately measured, and so that tender burgeoning roots do not dry out.
- Water consistently: don't let soil dry out or become waterlogged.
- Avoid starting seeds in drafty locations as inconsistent temperatures may impede germination. Most seeds require warmth and/or sunlight to germinate.

### **Pre-planting Conditioning and Strategies:**

Inoculant: legumes require a rhizobium inoculum to facilitate nitrogen fixing.

**Scarification**: some seeds need to have their surface nicked to germinate.

**Stratification**: certain seeds require a period of cold exposure in order to germinate. Seed packet will indicate if this is necessary, and how long to condition the seeds. (i.e. coreopsis, monarda)

**Warm water soak**: some seeds will germinate faster if soaked in warm water for a short period of time just before planting. (i.e. legumes)

## **Planting Conditions and Considerations:**

**Direct planting**: some seedlings don't recover from shock if transplanted, and should be planted directly in the location where you intend them to grow. Potting soil isn't necessary, but prepare the spot by removing large twigs and leaves that will impede root growth or access to sunlight.

**Potting soil:** always start seeds in new potting soil, to avoid contaminants or disease that burgeoning seeds will be especially susceptible to, and to provide nutrients to support seed germination and growth.

**Hardening off**: after babying young seedlings in a warm and sunny location inside, they'll need to acclimate slowly to outside temperatures. As the outside temperature increases and as you get closer to planting time, place plants in warm midday sun and take inside before the evening temperature becomes chilly. This will prevent shock to the seedlings when they are planted. Gradually increase the amount of time the seedlings remain outside, to toughen them before planting.

By Sarah Alford

## Eastern Redcedar - Juniperus virginiana

This local native is beautiful, interesting and very useful as a landscape tree, especially here on the east end of Long Island. To many, it is surprising that, botanically speaking, this small conifer is actually a species of juniper. It is also surprising that this species is variable in so many ways. Size is variable, from thirty feet tall up to sixty-five, but many redcedars grow like shrubs, three to four feet tall by eight feet wide. Shape varies, too, from narrowly conical explanation points to classically conical small evergreens with horizontal branching. Plants can also grow much wider than tall. Foliage color ranges from medium green in summer to a brown-green in winter. Often needles are coated with a waxy substance, giving them a frosted appearance and bluish cast.

All redcedars have beautiful gray-brown bark that exfoliates in shreds. Trunks are fluted and muscle-y. There are male and female trees. Females often bear so many small, waxy, blue-green cones, they become a noticeable feature and weigh down the branches.

Eastern redcedar has a vast range, possible accounting for all its variability as a species. It can be found anywhere east of the Rockies from southern Canada to southeastern United States. It is an aggressive pioneer species, the first to colonize and take over open fields. Though it prefers moist, well-drained loam in full sun, it grows well in adverse conditions like gravelly soils, eroded soils, acid soils and those with high pH. It is the most drought-resistant native conifer. Though seedlings often colonize shady areas, young trees soon grow spindly, lose their needles and slowly die.

Easily transplanted, redcedar can be used as a specimen or in a group. It tolerates close spacing, as well as shearing, so it is often used for topiaries. More often, it is seen in shelter belts and hedgerows. Many varieties, mostly shrub-like, can be found in nurseries and garden centers. My favorite is 'Grey Owl.' With silver green needles and abundant fruit, its branches layer themselves to a height of three to four feet and spread eight to ten feet wide.

Besides being useful for landscaping, redcedar also has some interesting commercial uses. The tree's light brown heartwood is rot-resistant and durable, so it is often used for fences and fence posts and because it is resinous and aromatic, the wood is also used for cedar chests and closets, wooden ware and novelties, as well as pencils and bows. Cedar wood is also distilled to yield cedar oil, used as a moth, tick, flea and general bug repellent, deodorant and scent for soaps, polishes and perfumes.

Redcedars are important trees for overwintering birds, providing both food (the numerous cones) and shelter. They are also an important food source for birds returning in late winter and early spring. Trees are often covered with flocks of robins, waxwings and many others.

If spring is warm and wet, redcedar trees are often hung with bright orange gelatinous masses, which are the spore-bearing structures of cedar apple rust, a fungus disease common to redcedars and apple trees. After the orange masses dry and disperse to nearby members of the rose family, they turn brown and stay on the tree cone-like, for a year or two. Removing these cones by pruning is a common control measure. Cedar apple rust is a more serious disease of apples than junipers, but there are resistant apple varieties that permit co-existence.

Abundant along roads and highways, eastern redcedars can be seen just about everywhere. We have two mature groves at Bridge Gardens, both underplanted with shrubs and shade perennials, and nearby, a fine specimen of 'Grey Owl.'



Rick Bogusch

## Making Hupertufa Garden Troughs at HAH in January!

A huge "Thank You" to Bettina Benson, our in-house Trough expert, who led our workshop and to John Benson who helped us lug supplies and was there helping every step of the way. It was messy and a lot of fun. We all slung cement with smiles on our faces.









# A Winter Walk on the Tree Trail in Montauk County Park

Saturday, February 22, 2020, 10 am (Rain/Snow date February 29, 2020, 10 am)



Join us for a guided walk led by naturalist and native plant expert, Vicki Bustamante.

We will follow the developing Tree Trail, highlight native trees and learn how to identify them in winter. Walk is less than 1 mile. Please dress warmly as this is a walk not a hike and we may be standing while listening. There should not be tick issues in February but use your discretion as to tick protection.

The meeting place is Montauk County Park, Big Reed Parking lot on East Lake Drive.

Directions: Take 27 East toward the Lighthouse, turn left (north) onto East Lake Drive.

Follow 2 miles, just **PAST** Big Reed Path.

Turn right onto the dirt drive to the parking lot. There will be a sign.

(If you come to the airport, you went too far.)

Cost: \$5 Members - \$10 Non-members Payment must be made by February 17. All proceeds will benefit Third House Nature Center.
Registration Form: Please sign me up for the Winter Walk on the Tree Trail on February 22, 2020 at 10am.
Name(s)
Phone (cell preferred)
E-Mail
would like to purchase tickets at:  \$5 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 February 17<sup>th</sup>.** Attention: Workshops

Questions: Call Marie DiMonte at 631.728.0292 or Email osprey23@optonline.net

#### HAH 2020 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!

**February 9 – Chris Woods** – Gardenlust: A Botanical Tour of the World's Best New Gardens

March 8 – Stephen F. Byrns – Untermyer: A Garden for the World

**April 5 – Tony Avent –** My Favorite 100... Perennials I Wouldn't Garden Without

*May 3 – Lois Sheinfeld – Outstanding Trees for the Home Garden* 

June 14 – Bill Cullina – What do you Mean I'm Not a Perennial?! Native Shrubs & Small Trees for Perennial Companionship

There are no lectures in July or August

**September 13 – Lori Chips –** Troughs: Gardening in the Smallest Landscape

**October 18 – Judith Tankard** – Gardens of the Arts & Crafts Movement

**November 8 – Margery Daughtery** – Battling Diseases in the Garden

**December 13 – David Culp** – A Bountiful Year: Six Seasons of Beauty from Brandywine Cottage

#### MORE LOCAL AND NYC GARDEN EVENTS February 2020

Wednesday, February 19, 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm. Wave Hill Lecture Series. To Look at Things in Bloom—Photographing Gardens: A Horticultural Lecture by Ngoc Minh Ngo. New York School of Interior Design, 170 East 70th Street, New York, NY 10021. \$27 for Wave Hill members, \$30 non-members. For more information and to purchase tickets: www.wavehill.org/events/look-things-bloomphotographing-gardens-horticultural-lecture-ngoc-minh-ngo/
Thursday, February 27, 10:00 am to 11:30 am. Isabel Bannerman: Trematon Castle, Cornwall (part of The New York Botanical Garden's 20th Annual Winter Lecture Series: The Garden Came First). Ross Lecture Hall on the NYBG campus. \$32 for members, \$35 for non-members. For more info and to register: www.nybg.org/event/2020-winter-lecture-series/ Saturday, February 29, Hampton Jitney One-Day Tour: Philadelphia Flower Show - Riviera Holiday. Departs from the Omni in Southampton at 7:00 am. \$99. For more info and to register: https://www.hamptonjitney.com Saturday, February 29, 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm. Winter Blooms Walk at LongHouse. Longhouse Reserve, 133 Hands Creek Road, East Hampton. For more information and to register: (631) 329-3568 or visit longhouse.org.





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

