



# HAH Happenings

## June 2021



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



### On Sunday, June 13, 2021 at 2:00 pm please join us for a lecture via ZOOM with Dan Hinkley Windcliff: People, Places, Plants

Windcliff, a 6.5 acre garden on a high bluff overlooking Puget Sound, is the second garden of horticulturist Dan Hinkley and his partner, architect Robert L. Jones. With a due south facing aspect, and thirsty soils, Hinkley began to visualize the garden in 2000 while Jones set about designing their house. Both horticulture and architecture were meant to be inseparable. Using a wide palette of plants from western North America, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, Chile and China, many representing his own collections made by seed over the past 35 years, the reason and process of assembling them in a naturalistic style- along with the mistakes and miracles found along the way, will be the subject of this hour long presentation. Hinkley will welcome all questions from attendees at the end of his talk. **Please watch your email for Zoom link.**

### Mountain Laurel and Friends from the Heath and Heather Family Wednesday, June 9, 11:00am on Zoom

Join Broken Arrow Nursery's Horticulture and Container Production Manager Adam Wheeler for this informative Zoom lecture that explores the unique diversity and ornamental qualities of *Kalmia latifolia*, mountain laurel. In addition to mountain laurel, Adam will showcase a selection of other heath and heather family members worth considering for regional gardens. Broken Arrow's Founder Dr. Richard Jaynes dedicated his career to breeding mountain laurel and as a result Broken Arrow has amassed one of the largest collections in the world. This lecture promises to be an excellent chance to see the amazing diversity now available.

Adam Wheeler started work at Broken Arrow in 2004 after completing his BS degree in Urban Forestry and Landscape Horticulture at the University of Vermont. Adam manages plant propagation, container production, mail order and the acquisition and development of new plants. He is a past recipient of the Young Nursery Professional Award from the New England Nursery Association. He loves to share his passion for plants through photography and educational outreach. As a result, he lectures widely on a variety of subjects and is also an adjunct lecturer at Naugatuck Valley Community College and the Berkshire Botanical Garden. With his spare time he enjoys cultivating his eclectic collection of rare and unusual plants, rock climbing and competitive giant pumpkin growing. **Please watch your email for Zoom link.**





# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Friends,

Here we are in June, with fewer restrictions and more Light ahead of us. We are thrilled to see this improvement in our collective health, and are planning more outdoor activities for our membership this summer, beginning with the garden tours you'll learn about in this newsletter.

We are so grateful for the generosity you have shown in supporting our "non-event" event. We were truly astonished, not only by your financial contributions but also by your heartfelt expressions of support. Thank you!

It was wonderful to see old friends at Bettina Benson's plant sale and garden tour in May, and we're looking forward to Lydia Wallis' plant sale happening early this month. We will continue to publish articles about natives, pollinator plants and related issues that will help all of us to have a healthier environment. For most people, adding more natives can be done painlessly, as an addition, rather than as a wholesale replacement of plants that we've been nurturing for years. Be sure to see HAH's On and Off the Ground exhibit at LongHouse later this month – we are practicing what we preach by showcasing a beautiful native oak and native plantings at its feet.

Enjoy these beautiful days in the garden,

*Alicia*

**Save - the - Date**  
**The HAH 2021 Karish Program will be held on Saturday, August 28. Please watch for more details on this special event in upcoming newsletters and on the website.**

**HAH 2021**

**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 Donohoe Ollinger
Corresponding Secretary	Joan DiMonda
Treasurer	Bettina Benson

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

Erik Brockmeyer	'21
Elaine Peterson	'21
Sarah Alford	'22
Pamela Harwood	'22
Marie DiMonte	'23
Michael Longacre	'23

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.

**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 this month**  
Michael Longacre, Elaine Peterson, Scott Sottile

**Saturday, June 5th**  
**Member Plant Sale**  
at the home of Lydia Wallis  
22 Charla Drive, Southampton  
**Hours: 10am to 1pm.**  
**Cash & Checks appreciated, however, we will be able to take credit card info.**  
**Watch your email for a list of plants available.**  
**All proceeds benefit HAH.**

**FOG – Friends of the Garden**

The gardening dates for 2021 are Tuesdays at 10am (*Rain Dates are Thursday of the same week*)  
June 1, June 29, July 27, August 24, September 21, October 19, and November 16

If you'd like to garden and see some other people while gardening – we would be delighted to have you join us - anyone wanting to join is welcome – but until Covid-19 is behind us - please remember to wear a mask and social distance. Hope to see you some time this summer.

**Cornelia Bostwick**

## In the Shade of a Tree...a book review

### Can You Hear the Trees Talking? written by Peter Wohlleben

Come along with Peter the Forester on a journey through the forest and you will never look at a tree the same way again! In this book you will meet different size trees, brave ones and fearful ones, best friend trees and trees that like to be alone.

You may recognize the author's name as his adult groundbreaking book, The Hidden Life of Trees, was a New York Times Bestseller and published in numerous languages. This is his young reader's edition and it will captivate your child's imagination and sense of wonder. He discusses how trees feel and communicate using playful questions, fun quizzes and hands-on activities. Awesome photographs of insects, animals, land forms, plants and children learning add to the excitement.

Actress Amy Adams won the rights to a new book, Finding the Mother Tree. It is about the scientist who first discovered that trees communicate. The best part is that Amy will play the scientist!

reviewed by Joan DiMonda  
Suitable for 3rd-8th grade

## HERBAL HAND SCRUB

by Joan DiMonda

Nothing is more fun for a gardener than spending hours in his/her garden. There is always so much to do! After a day of gardening, an herbal scrub will exfoliate and pamper your hands. The scent will awaken your senses and all will seem right with the world. The following recipe is for a Lavender Mint Sugar Scrub.

### INGREDIENTS:

- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 1/2 cup coconut oil, melted and cooled slightly
- 2 Tbsp. dried lavender
- 2 Tbsp. dried mint
- 15-20 drops Lavender Essential Oil (found in Rite Aid, CVS, Health Food Stores)

### DIRECTIONS:

Mix the ingredients in a large bowl with a wooden spoon. Scoop into an airtight pint-size jar. Scrub will last 1-2 months.

### HOW TO USE:

Wet your hands with warm water. Scoop out a small amount of the scrub and rub it all over your hands. Rinse with warm water and pat dry. May be used on other body parts that are prone to dryness like elbows and feet. It is not recommended for use in the bathtub.

### HISTORY

Lavender comes from the Latin word "Lavare" which means to wash. It is associated with a clean, crisp scent and one that has a long lasting fragrance. Lavender sachets and potpourri are common ways to bring the scent into a room. Potpourri is a French word that translate to "rotten pot" or "rotten meat." In ancient times, to add a pleasant aroma to a room, flowers were cut up and placed in an open bowl covered with salt which acted as a preservative. In due time the flowers faded, softened and turned brown, looking like rotten meat, thus the name. Ancient Greeks and Romans used lavender in their baths. Lavender is thought to calm nerves and provide tranquility.

There are 600 varieties of mint. The Bible tells us the Pharisees elevated the value of mint by accepting it as tithe along with dill and cumin. Its restorative scent is highly prized. Hebrews laid it on synagogue floors and centuries later Catholic Churches did the same. It was thought to soothe digestive problems, provide relief from colds and flus and reduce nausea.

# HAH IN-PERSON, LOCAL GARDEN TOURS PROGRAM RESUMES

HAH is pleased to announce that this month our members will have the opportunity for In-person tours of several gardens in Sagaponack and Water Mill

**Saturday, June 26<sup>th</sup> beginning at 10am**

*(Please do not arrive earlier than 10am and no later than 11:30am)*

**(Rain Date Sunday, June 27<sup>th</sup>)**



**Our first stop will be the Private Garden of Ngaere Macray and David Seeler (Owner of the Bayberry Nursery) at 514 Sagaponack Road, Sagaponack**

Built in 1984, the house and its formal garden are tucked into the Northwest corner of a 40-acre farm field between the Red Schoolhouse on Sagg Main Street and the Nature Conservancy Reserve off Sagaponack Road. One side of the house connects to a formal

English garden of 4 outdoor garden rooms, each separated by Rose and Clematis arbors. The roses will be at their peak display. These are surrounded by Yew and Beech hedges that create the walls to provide shelter from winds. They now also help keep out the deer! The rooms surround the swimming pool and outdoor dining area. Dominant plants in the formal garden are weeping Japanese Maple, White Quince, Dwarf Lilac, Deutzia, and Hydrangea. Korean Boxwoods are clipped into cloud forms to soften the transitions from the stone terrace to the sunken lawn.

**Directions from points west:** from Montauk Highway in Bridgehampton turn right on Ocean Road (at the War Monument). At the Stop sign turn left onto Sagaponack Road - in 1 mile see 514 on the left.

**Directions from points east:** From Montauk Highway in Sagaponack, make a left turn onto Sagg Main Street.

Make a right turn when you reach Sagaponack Road (at the schoolhouse) and continue to #514.

**Upon entering, you will be instructed as to where you may park on the property. Please do not park along Sagaponack Road.**

**\*When you arrive at the garden entry, you will be given directions to the next gardens. Premium members may bring guests according to your level of your membership. HAH members must accompany their guest(s).**

See you there! – Pamela Harwood and Erik Brockmeyer



**Wednesday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10am on Zoom**

## **New Food for the Soil with Deborah Aller of Cornell Cooperative Extension**

Soil amendments are added to the soil to improve its functioning, which supports healthier plants. This presentation will discuss a variety of soil amendments including newer products such as biochar and mycorrhizal fungi products. What are these? How do they work? How do I choose the right one for my garden/landscape? These and other questions around soil amendments will be addressed in this presentation.

Deborah Aller is a soil scientist who currently serves as the agricultural stewardship specialist for Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County. She oversees the coordination and implementation of the Agricultural Stewardship Program, which works directly with the commercial horticultural and agricultural industries to reduce nutrient and pesticide loading from agricultural lands to the ground and surface waters of Long Island. She conducts applied research, leads on-farm demonstration projects, and coordinates field days and other outreach events to educate farmers about current technologies and agricultural best management practices including soil health. She holds an MSc in Environmental Science and International Development from the University of Edinburgh and PhD in Soil Science from Iowa State University. Her expertise is in the areas of biochar and soil management for improved soil health on farms and across the landscape.

**Please watch your email for the Zoom link.**

### **The 800 lb Gorilla in the Garden by Irwin T. Levy**

I took my dedicated tweezers out to remove a tick from my leg yesterday. Sigh... I love my garden, being outdoors, communing with nature. So spiritual. Very zen. Such therapy, both physical and mental. Yet I often think about how dangerous a hobby gardening has become. I've been contemplating a less risky pursuit, skydiving perhaps, or lion training. But those worthy endeavors just don't have the same cache.

Allow me to list my current precaution protocols, over the top though they may be:

- 1- Daminex Tick Tubes in place.
- 2- Hat on.
- 3- Pants tucked into socks, into boots treated with Deet.
- 4- Long sleeve shirt, disposable gloves tucked into extra long gloves treated with deet.
- 5- A disposable Tyvek suit when going deep within the garden.
- 6- Upon completion, all clothes into dryer on hot for 20 minutes.
- 7- Outdoor Shower.
- 8- A full in depth body inspection with mirror that if witnessed by the FBI, could lead to possible incarceration.

While this diatribe was written with levity for (possible) entertainment value, the message itself is all too serious. Ticks are essentially an unsolvable problem; managed perhaps, but never eliminated. Ticks may have taken away some of our joy, but we gardeners are a hardy bunch. So yes, ladies and gentlemen of the HAH, I will continue to wear my suit of armor, and enter the war zone known as my garden. I will forego all fears I may have of this formidable enemy, who's microscopic size remains its greatest asset. I will weed, I will prune, I will plant, I will mulch. When finished, I will complete steps 6 to 8 listed above. Then Happy Hour, then dinner, then bedtime. And tomorrow, to quote the singer-songwriter Jackson Browne: "When the morning light, comes streaming in, I'll get up and do it again. " Amen.

## Bur Oak

### *Quercus macrocarpa*

Bur oak is a tree of majestic proportions. Over decades, it can slowly grow 100 feet tall and wide and its dark green, leathery, fiddle-shaped leaves can be 12 inches long and half again as wide, with deep, rounded sinuses. Acorns are also plus-sized, up to 1½ inches long and deeply encased in a cap distinctively fringed along the edge. This fringe gives bur oak its other common name, mossy cup oak.

Even though its flowers are insignificant, like those of all oaks, and fall color is an undistinguished yellow-green, bur oak's impressive size and stature make it a perfect specimen for large properties and spaces. If given full sun, it can also be used for naturalizing or planted along a south-facing woodland edge.

Found in uplands and lowlands throughout eastern and central North America, bur oak achieves best growth in moist, well-drained loams, but it is also very drought-tolerant and adapts easily to a wide range of soils, from clay to sandy. Because of its drought-tolerance, bur oak may be a good tree to plant where periodic dry spells are common or becoming more frequent.

As with all oaks, bur oak is a great tree for wildlife, is often harvested for lumber and firewood and is difficult to transplant in large sizes. It is one of the white oaks, whose acorns germinate soon after falling from the tree. Taproots emerge from the nut and burrow into the ground in fall, with stems and leaves appearing the next spring.

Bur oaks are rare on Long Island, but if you'd like to see one, check out the HAH entry in LongHouse Reserve's On+Off the Ground planter exhibition. HAH volunteers Lori Barnaby and her crew have expertly created a native plant display that features a young bur oak with understory plantings. The exhibition runs from June 19 through July 31st.

Rick Bogusch

### *Zizia aurea* 'Golden Alexander'

*Zizia*, named for Johann Baptist Ziz (1779-1829), a German botanist, is native to much of the continental United States, including Long Island. A member of the carrot family (*Apiaceae*), it's usually found in moist areas, although when established will tolerate fairly dry conditions. It enjoys a sunny spot but does well in part shade.

Blooming on the East End from mid-spring to early summer on 18-24" stalks, it adds color for a lengthy period, including robust green mounds of foliage that appear as early as the beginning of April. If deadheaded (also recommended to discourage seeding) it will rebloom modestly through the summer.

It is a primary host for Black Swallowtail and Ozark Swallowtail butterfly larvae and beneficial to native bees—the females of one species, *Andrena ziziae*, eat its pollen exclusively, thus the name. It is reported that indigenous people used the root as a pain medicine—interestingly, the "Alexander" is thought to be a reference to a Mediterranean pain medicine named after Alexandria and also from a member of the carrot family.

As a cut flower it has an herby scent reminiscent of parsley. Apparently this is unpleasant to deer, rabbits, and voles (or could the pain-killing compound make it bitter?). I have many of each critter, and other than occasional deer nibbling of flower buds, it's avoided by all.

Michael Longacre



## Plant Milkweed wisely!

Janis L Murphy

***Asclepias*** is a genus of herbaceous, perennial, flowering plants known as **milkweeds**, named for their latex, a milky substance containing cardenolides which are toxic to humans and other mammals. This toxicity makes them **deer and rabbit proof**.

Milkweed attracts many different butterflies and bees, but most importantly it has a specialized relationship with the **monarch butterfly** (*Danaus plexippus*.) The larval stage of the monarch butterfly, the caterpillar only eats milkweed, thus ***Asclepias*** is its **sole host** and provides an **essential link in its life cycle**.

*Asclepias* can be propagated from seeds which develop inside interesting looking pods on mature plants in the fall. To collect the seeds or to stop self-seeding, tie a blossom bag over the seed pod when it begins to open in mid-October. Plant seeds promptly or stratify over winter in a cold place or refrigerator. Milkweeds have long taproots and **do not like to be transplanted!**

### Three milkweeds, native to Long Island:



***Asclepias syriaca*, common milkweed.** White to pink or lavender flowers bloom on tall, individual stems. It grows by highways in sunny locations and tolerates drought well. Most gardeners consider it a nuisance, invasive weed. I once planted a common milkweed plant, nothing happened for a couple of years then suddenly shoots appeared throughout my “best” flowerbed and lawn. A sort of “Whac-A-Mole” - as fast as I could remove the shoots new ones popped up elsewhere! This plant is wonderful for Monarch butterflies, but be warned about its invasive habits!

Photo: Alan Cressler

***Asclepias tuberosa*, butterfly weed** is a beautiful well-behaved clump forming plant with orange, flat-topped flowers, well suited to the front or middle of the border. It does well in a sunny location in average or poor sandy soil with an acidic to neutral pH. The soil can be slightly moist or dry and it will tolerate drought.

***Asclepias incarnata*, swamp milkweed** is also a clump forming milkweed with deep red to pink, long-lasting flowers, with a pleasant vanilla fragrance, clustered at the top of tall stems. Plant in a moist spot or a rain garden.

Milkweed can be bothered by aphids but is more likely to be covered in fairly harmless orange and black milkweed bugs (*Oncopeltus fasciatus*).



## HAH Sunday Lectures for 2021- 2pm

June 13 - Dan Hinkley – *Windcliff: Peopl, Places, Plants*

No lectures in July/August

September 12 - Andy Brand – *Spectacular Natives, Beauty & Biodiversity of the Northeast*

October 17 - Bill Cullina – *What do you Mean I'm Not a Perennial?! Native Shrubs & Small Trees for Perennial Companionship*

November 14 - Holger Winenga – *New Plants at LongHouse Reserve*

December 12 - Roxanne Zimmer – *igarden – New Tools for a Bountiful Garden*

### OTHER JUNE EVENTS

#### Virtual

**Tuesday, June 15, 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. Nature's Best Hope: A Conversation with Doug Tallamy.** FREE on Zoom. For more info and to register: <https://peconiclandtrust.org/get-involved/events/natures-best-hope-a-conversation-with-doug-tallamy>

#### In Person

**Saturday, June 12. Rose Day** (presented by the Southampton Rose Society). Morris Room at Rogers Memorial Library. For more info: <https://southamptonrose.org/2021-events-calendar/>

**Saturday, June 12. Garden Conservancy Open Day.** Five gardens located in Bridgehampton and East Hampton (addresses provided upon registration). NEW FOR 2021: Pre-registration is required for each garden. Capacity is limited and no walk-ins will be allowed. No paper tickets or cash payments will be accepted on-site. For more info and to register: <https://www.gardenconservancy.org/open-days/open-days-schedule/suffolk-county-ny-open-day-14>

**Saturday, June 19, 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. Sag Harbor Historical Society Garden Tour.** Visit six gardens in a range of styles located in Sag Harbor. \$60 in advance, \$65 day of. For more info and to purchase tickets: <https://sagharborhistorical.org/events.php>

**Saturday, June 26, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. Guild Hall: Garden as Art 2021.** A self-guided tour of five gardens belonging to local and world-renown artists with a virtual lecture beforehand. Tickets start at \$150 for virtual lecture and self-guided tour. With the purchase of a \$500 Benefactor-level ticket, you will be invited to attend the live lecture and a limited-capacity cocktail party. For more info and to purchase tickets: <https://www.guildhall.org/events/garden-as-art-2021/>

**Tuesday, June 29, 3-4:30 pm. Bridge Gardens. Going Organic-Roses in your Garden.** \$5/person. Space is limited, reservations required. Heavy rain cancels. To register contact: 631-283-3195, [events@peconiclandtrust.org](mailto:events@peconiclandtrust.org),

<https://peconiclandtrust.org/get-involved/events/going-organic-roses-in-your-garden>

100% Recycled  
June 2021  
HAH Happenings



Feony 'Duchesse de Nemours'



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)

