



HAH Happenings

November 2023



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

631.537.2223 hahgarden.org
at the Bridgehampton Community House



On Sunday, November 12, 2023 at 2:00 pm

Please join us at the Bridgehampton Community House
for a talk by **Uli Lorimer** on
**The Northeast Native Plant Primer:
235 Plants for an Earth-Friendly Garden**

Uli Lorimer is the author of The Northeast Native Plant Primer: 235 Plants for an Earth-Friendly Garden, published by Native Plant Trust and Timber Press in May 2022. This essential handbook provides a guide to selecting native trees, shrubs, wildflowers and groundcovers that will increase the ecological value of your garden by creating a habitat for wildlife and supporting at-risk pollinators and other beneficial insects.

Uli is the Director of Horticulture for Native Plant Trust. He oversees the facilities and operations at Garden in the Woods and at Nasami Farm. Uli brings 20 years of experience working with native plants in public gardens with previous positions at Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Wave Hill Garden and the US National Arboretum. He is a tireless advocate for the use of native plants in designed spaces through his public speaking, writing, lectures and media appearances. Uli feels most grounded with his hands in the soil.

SAVE THE DATES

HAH WINTER BOOK GROUP via ZOOM

11AM-Noon

The Third Saturday of the month December through March

December 16th January 20th

February 17th March 16th

The premise is simple:

From the HAH Library or their personal library,
3 Readers will present a book of their choice
("Broadly" related to horticulture)

15-ish minutes a piece with discussion in between
for a total of 1 hour.

Moderated by Janet Ollinger

Organized with Erik Brockmeyer

Made special because of EVERYONE'S participation!

Camellia Group Fall Meeting

Saturday, November 18, 2023

10 AM

in the HAH Library

**And remember to bring some of
your own camellia blossoms in to
share with us all and add to the
discussion.**



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The thankful receiver bears a plentiful harvest... William Blake

Dear fellow members,

This month we'll turn the clocks back an hour and race to finish garden tasks that need to be completed before the cold of winter sets in: tender perennials stored someplace safe and warm, spring bulbs planted, irrigation systems drained. In the middle of all the bustle, the Thanksgiving holiday calls us to focus on gratitude. Among the many, many things I have to be grateful for are the dedicated, hardworking Board members and volunteers who help keep this organization going and to all of you, the HAH community, for your engagement and participation. I'll be thinking of all of you this Thanksgiving.

All my best,
Erik

FOG – Friends of the Garden - The last fall gardening date for 2023 is Tuesday, November 14 at about 10 AM. Looking forward to seeing you there! Cornelia Bostwick

HAH 2023

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

President	Erik Brockmeyer
First Vice President	Greg Wiseman
Second Vice President	Janet Ollinger
Recording Secretary	Alicia Whitaker
Corresponding Secretary	Ruth Ann Stanley
Treasurer	Patricia Matheson

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

Marie DiMonte	'23
Michael Longacre	'23
Erika Shank	'24
Valerie Hanley	'24
Pamela Harwood	'25
Rick Bogusch	'25

The Library Chairperson (who serves on the Board with a vote) is: Joan DiMonda

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

NEWSLETTER EDITOR - Elaine Peterson

WEBSITE EDITOR - Michael Longacre

MEMBERSHIP & MAILING - Bettina and John Benson

PHOTOS this month - Pamela Harwood, Elaine Peterson, Erika Shank, Alicia Whitaker

Proposed HAH 2024 Officers and Board of Directors

The following slate of officers for 2024 and two directors (who will serve through 2026) will be presented for the membership's vote at the annual meeting on Sunday, November 12, 2023 at 2:00 pm.

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Erika Shank	'24
Pamela Harwood	'25
Michael Longacre	'25
Kathie McGinty	'26
Alex Sipkes	'26

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HAH YARD SALE



A NOTE of THANKS...



It rained during our May Plant Sale and we managed to survive and do well, now in October, it rained during our Garden Yard Sale and we managed to survive and do well!

Maybe there is something about rain that we should embrace!

Many thanks to all who donated items for the sale. It would not have been possible without the generosity of so many people who emptied your sheds, garages and basements and left us with an exciting array of interesting and unusual items. The dark clouds and dreary rain did not hamper the smiles, laughter and quizzical exclamations of "What is this?" "Which is the top?" and "How does this work?" Our community spirit is alive and well.

To everyone who purchased their "must have items," we thank you for supporting our sale. We got caught up in your enthusiasm and enjoyed seeing your happiness. A win-win for everyone.

The preparation for the sale is a team effort and with great appreciation I thank Michael Longacre, Kathie McGinty, Janis Murphy, Charlie Savage, Lydia Wallis and Joan Wilson.

Joan DiMonda, Library Chair

MORE LOCAL EVENTS IN NOVEMBER

Wednesday, November 8, Doors open at 10:30 am, Program at 11:30 am. The Olde Towne Garden Club Annual Luncheon. The Vineyards in Aquebogue. \$60/person. For more info or to register, contact Cornelia at (631) 283-1015 or cb8487@gmail.com

Sunday, November 19, 10:00 am to 11:00 am. Wreath Making Workshop. Marders, 120 Snake Hollow Road, Bridgehampton, NY 11932. \$125 for adults, \$85 for children; all materials provided. Prepaid reservations required and space is limited. For more info and to register: <https://www.marders.com/events>

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS MAILED

As a calendar year organization, we mail renewal forms in late October for the year 2024. Included in this mailing you will find a comprehensive listing of the HAH Benefits of Membership. We are always updating this form, therefore, be sure to review carefully.

Look for your renewal form and mail back early to continue receiving our monthly Newsletter and to be advised of upcoming events. You can also provide us with your email address so that you will be sure to receive timely reminders of the dates/times of lectures, workshops, roundtables and special events. We will also need your email so that we can forward timely ZOOM links for virtual programs utilizing Constant Contact.

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



HAH Roundtable Program

In Person at the HAH Library

Saturday, November 4, 2023 at 10:00am – Noon

November in the Garden

**What to Do (and maybe not do) this Month to Prepare for Winter
Including Great Tools to Make Garden Work Easier!**

Moderated and with Photos by Pamela Harwood

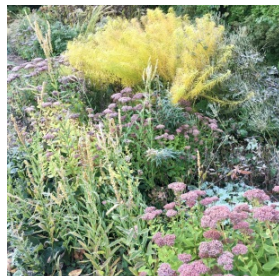
November is among the busiest and most important months of the year for garden work. It's also the time of year when it can seem as though we read conflicting advice as to what we should do or not do in our gardens to prepare for the winter months. So let's get together, both newbies and experienced gardeners, to share ideas about the pros and cons of various approaches.

- Should we leave everything in place to **provide shelter for pollinators?**
- Should we clean up to avoid harboring **voles, moles, other rodents, and fungal diseases?**
- Is there a middle ground, and if so,
 - **What to selectively cut back now and why**
 - **What to leave in place until spring and why**
 - **What to bring inside for overwintering**
- **Pruning:** we'll describe the various tasks that fall under this umbrella term, what to do now, and what should or might wait until spring
- **Dividing and Transplanting**
- Which plants should I leave for **winter interest?**
- **Fallen leaves:** how to put them to work in your garden instead of throwing them away
- **Composting:** the ultimate garden recycler and what to add or not add
- **Collecting and saving seeds:** a how-to primer
- **Protecting Evergreens and some woody shrubs**
- **Winterizing garden hoses, irrigation, birdbaths, planters, furniture, and ornamental features**
- **Fertilizing and mulching**
- **Great tools that make it all easier**

Sometimes the answers are clear - such as what not to prune now so you don't lose spring blooms, and which plants should be removed so they don't rampantly self-seed - and other times the answers are not so clear, according to one's own aesthetics and goals. We welcome all samples for show and tell.

By the end of the program, if there are attendees who have additional gardening questions about these or any other topics, please feel free to stay a while longer and talk to one of our knowledgeable members.

Looking forward to seeing you on November 4th, Pamela Harwood



Create a Holiday Mantlepiece

Saturday, November 25, 2023

10:00 a.m.

John LoGerfo Library



Please join us for this fun workshop and learn how to make a long arrangement suitable for the mantle or sideboard. You will need to bring greens (in water) from your garden to use and to share. A mix of needle evergreens and broad leaf evergreens will make a more interesting design. And please don't forget clippers, gloves and a Lazy Susan if you have one.

HAH will supply containers, Oasis, flowers, decorations and ribbons.

Please make your check out to: HAH and mail to: HAH Holiday Workshop,
P. O. Box 202, Bridgehampton, NY 11932-0202

\$20 members, \$30 non-members - the workshop is limited to 15 participants

To register please email:

Lydia Wallis: lydiapbw@optonline.net

cc Marie DiMonte: osprey23@optonline.net

by November 15th

Leave (Some Of) the Leaves

Alicia Whitaker

We are heading into that time again, when the leaves will be falling and homeowners and landscape crews will be busy clearing them. We have some choices to make if we live on a property with leaves, and even a small property can be managed to make a difference for wildlife and our ecosystems. If you are planting more natives, reducing the size of your lawn and not using pesticides, this is the next step to take.

Many of us are aware of the enormous decline in the number of birds and insects, and we are urged to be good stewards of the earth by “leaving the leaves.” Why? They provide habitat – food, shelter, and nesting materials --for native insects and wildlife that overwinter in the leaves, including fireflies, bees, butterflies, moths and frogs. Fallen leaves are also a resource for our gardens – they hold nutrients that the trees and other plants need the following year. “Leaving the leaves” is not an all or nothing matter – small actions can make a difference.

If you can't leave all of the leaves, consider ways you can leave many or some of the leaves. If you have areas of lawn, it's best to rake the leaves off of the lawn, as turf grass can be smothered by leaves, unless your plan is to eliminate lawn areas to make more flower beds. Use them as mulch around perennials and shrubs. Better still, pile them around trees where they can decompose over time to provide natural fertilizer for the trees and serve as a soft landing for caterpillars and other developing insects. If you already have a compost pile, you can use them as a brown layer, alternating with green layers, to create compost. You can also rake them into a pile in a wire corral so they can decompose to provide rich, valuable leaf mold for your garden. Many of us have places in our yards – perhaps behind a planting bed or near a fence – where we could keep a brush pile and leaf pile that would be relatively inconspicuous yet valuable for wildlife. Any of these strategies will help to keep leaves where they best belong – in your yard.

If you still have too many leaves to tuck around your property, use biodegradable paper bags, not heavy plastic contractors' bags, to collect them for composting by the Towns of Southampton and East Hampton. Properly bagged, they will not go into the landfill – they will be used to create compost that you can later source for your garden. This year's leaf pick-up for Southampton town will begin on Monday, December 4; for East Hampton leaf pick up will run from Friday, October 9 through Friday, December 8. Check each town's website for more details. You can also self-haul your leaves for no charge at any of the town's transfer stations, with the exception of Sag Harbor.



Another thing we can do to enhance our quality of life and that of our neighbors is to use rakes, not blowers, to gather leaves. The noise pollution created by gas blowers as well as the disruption of insects that have already sought shelter in the leaves are strong reasons to rake, not blow.

Each one of us can make a difference in the quality of our ecosystems and our lives. Take the opportunity this fall to “leave the leaves.” Learn more about wildlife-friendly ways to prepare your garden for the winter at the November Round Table, scheduled for November 4. See more details in this newsletter.



Agapanthus africanus or Lily of the Nile

Some of you purchased the lovely dwarf Agapanthus 'Peter Pan' at HAH's summer party in August. 'Peter Pan's' flowers are a very pretty light blue with foliage that is narrower than taller varieties. During the sale, Erik and I thought it might be helpful to write up some general information about growing Agapanthus. Hopefully, you will find it informative.

Agapanthus is a beautiful rhizomatous perennial with large umbels of 2" trumpet shaped flowers that resemble lilies. The umbels rise on a straight stem from a dense clump of long, arching, strap like leaves, similar to hemerocallis leaves. Colors range from blue to lavender to white. Newer cultivars are particularly attractive offering more intense coloration, fragrance and variegated leaves. Agapanthus is suitable for growing in the garden, in containers and as houseplants. The flowers can be cut and last up to seven days in a vase. The dried seed heads are very effective in fall arrangements.

Grow plants in well-drained soil consisting of two parts loam, one part leaf mold and one part well decayed manure. When planting bare root in your garden, plant the rhizomes an inch deep and space them 18"-24" apart. When planting them in a container, plant a single rhizome in a 12" pot and three rhizomes in a 20" pot. While in active growth, fertilize weekly as they are heavy feeders. Fertilizing and watering will increase bloom. They prefer an open sunny position and moderate humidity.

In the fall, dry off gradually and store in a cool location over the winter. I place mine at the back of our garage, nearest the house. I do not water during the winter but begin to water in late April, a few weeks before bringing them outside to begin hardening off for the summer.

Simple propagation is by division. The best time is when the plants have become root-bound, approximately every 4-5 years. However, plants will continue to increase and flower despite root bound conditions. To divide, cut the rhizomes with a knife in the spring so each section has a few roots. The plants may take a year or so to become established before blooming to their full capacity.

Seeds are an alternative method of propagation and can also be sown in the spring, however this method won't produce bloom until the third year.

Lydia Wallis



HAH Sunday Lecture Program 2023 - 2 pm
At the Bridgehampton Community House, Main Hall
2357 Montauk Highway, Bridgehampton, NY

November 12 – Ulrich (Uli) Lorimer - *The Northeast Native Plant Primer: 235 Plants for an Earth-Friendly Garden*

December 10 – Scott Chaskey – *Soil & Spirit, Cultivation and Kinship in the Web of Life*

HAH Lectures 2024

January 14 – Deborah Chud - *New Perennials: A Love Story* - ZOOM

February 11 – Dan Benarcik – *Design Principles of the Pros that can be Applied to the Home Landscape*

March 10 – Dan Jaffe Wilder – *Kill Your Lawn*

April 14 – Susan Barton – *Sustainable Landscaping*

May 5 – Abra Lee – *Conquer the Soil*

June 9 – Jenny Bakshi – *Botanical Latin*

September 8 – Darrel Morrison – *Beauty of the Wild*

October 13 – Jeff Epping – *Gravel Gardens – Gardens that Rock*

November 10 – Michael Hagen – *Native Plants for the Rock Garden*

December 8 – April Gonzales – *The American Chestnut*



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 **100% Recycled**

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