



# HAH Happenings

## January 2025



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

631.537.2223 [hahgarden.org](http://hahgarden.org)  
at the Bridgehampton Community House

**On Sunday, January 12, 2025**

**at 2:00 pm**

Please join us on Zoom for  
**A Conversation with Merlin Sheldrake,**  
**Author of *Entangled Life***



Merlin Sheldrake is a biologist, writer, and speaker with a background in plant sciences, microbiology, ecology, and the history and philosophy of science. He received a Ph.D. in tropical ecology from Cambridge University for his work on underground fungal networks in tropical forests in Panama, where he was a predoctoral research fellow of the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute. He is an honorary research associate of the University of Oxford, a research associate of the Vrije University Amsterdam, and works with the Society for the Protection of Underground Networks (SPUN) and the Fungi Foundation.

His book, *Entangled Life: How Fungi Make Our Worlds, Change Our Minds, and Shape Our Futures*, is a New York Times and Sunday Times bestseller, won the Royal Society Book Prize and the Wainwright Prize, and was nominated for a number of other prizes, including the British Book Awards and the Rathbones Folio Prize. It has been translated into thirty-two languages. Merlin is the presenter of *Fungi: Web of Life*, a giant screen documentary narrated by Björk.

### HAH Winter Book Group

**Saturday January 18<sup>th</sup> at 11am**

**On ZOOM - Look for our email with the Zoom link**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR MY BIBLIOPHILE FRIENDS! We begin this year with a fabulous line-up of 3 presenters, 3 books and one hour. Grab a tea and join our wonderful group!**

- 1. *Resilient Garden: Sustainable Gardening for a Changing Climate***  
by Tom Massey, presented by Pat Garrity
- 2. *The Garden Against Time: In Search of a Common Paradise***  
by Olivia Laing, presented by Alejandro Saralegui
- 3. *Where the Old Roses Grow: Vita Sackville-West and the Battle for Beauty during Wartime***  
by Janelle McCulloch, presented by Alicia Whitaker



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



"There's no telling what the weather will be like when you read these words but one thing I know for certain is that the days are already getting longer—a cheering thought when spring still feels far away! Another thing we can count on is that HAH remains active with great programming to look forward to as we start the new year," was the intro in January 2022 to Erik Brockmeyer's first President's message and is just as true as he moves from President to HAH board member for 2025. He went on to discuss plans for 2022 to transition from pandemic all-Zoom formats to resuming in-person programming and the return of the HAH Garden Fair. Three years of stellar leadership later, that feels very distant—Erik has been very much the President HAH needed moving to new times.

We're welcoming two brand-new Board of Directors members this month, Laurie Gibbs, and Olivia Motch, and are thrilled that Bettina Benson is rejoining the board as Second Vice President. The full board roster was in the December newsletter and is on the website, [www.HAHGarden.org](http://www.HAHGarden.org).

Finally, a salute to long-time board members Erika Shank and Alicia Whitaker. Erika has been part of HAH literally forever; she's not going anywhere, just lightening her load. Alicia also has a long history with HAH, including leading as President in 2020 and 2021 with an almost instant pivot to Zoom—an amazing feat accomplished with Bettina Benson finding engrossing programming that was a sanity-saver during dark times (video recordings of many HAH Zoom lectures are available on the HAH website). Alicia is the new President of the Westhampton Garden Club, we're excited for her!

Michael Longacre

### HAH 2025 Officers and Board of Directors

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

President	Michael Longacre
First Vice President	Greg Wiseman
Second Vice President	Bettina Benson
Recording Secretary	Janet Donohoe Ollinger
Corresponding Secretary	Marie DiMonte
Treasurer	Patricia Matheson

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

Pamela Harwood	'25
Erik Brockmeyer	'25
Kathy McGinty	'26
Alex Sipkes	'26
Laurie Gibbs	'27
Olivia Motch	'27

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, Janis Murphy, Elaine Peterson, Erika Shank and others. Thank you all.

### Welcome our new President! Michael

**Longacre** was born in Houston and reared in Austin, where he received a BFA from the University of Texas, majoring in painting with a minor in art history. He is also an alum of the Skowhegan School of Painting & Sculpture. He made a beeline to NYC after graduation to pursue art and ended up working as an illustrator, designer, writer, creative director, managing editor at such publications as The SoHo Weekly News, The Village Voice, Home Video Magazine, Details, PC Magazine and ultimately co-creating Microsoft Systems Journal and Microsoft Internet Developer, which he combined into MSDN Magazine as a Microsoft Senior Marketing Director in 2000 shortly before retiring in 2001 to garden and paint in Sagaponack. Joining HAH in about 1999 started a long relationship, including joining the board of directors in 2021.





## And Welcome to our new 2025 Board Members

**Bettina Benson** returns to the HAH Board in 2025. She previously served in numerous positions including President, First Vice President, Secretary, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer. Bettina spent her career at Pfizer in various positions in the field of taxation, retiring in 2001. Soon after, Bettina and John purchased their second home in Hampton Bays and relocated permanently from Manhattan. This year she retired from the Board of Friends of the Children, New York after serving for 23 years. Gardening on the East End since 1978, she presently manages our HAH membership roster and has been scheduling our Program Lectures since 2012.



### Olivia Motch

I grew up in the country, overlooking the Ohio River, surrounded by gardens created by my parents and their very knowledgeable friends. Early years of weeding, picking purple beans and armloads of daffodils led me to my professional work and interests in art, architecture and design, and the environment. And to New York City and then Long Island. After some 40 years of puttering around in my own garden in Water Mill and local nurseries, I discovered HAH - a true Garden of Delights, filled with brilliant gardeners, shared wisdom and much laughter.



**Laurie Gibbs** has been spending her summers in Sag Harbor for over 65 years. In the spring of 2024, she realized her lifelong dream of living by the sea, when she retired to her home in Sag Harbor. Having spent 30 years in the San Francisco Bay Area, where she embraced native plants after years toiling in her steep hillside garden battling deer, drought, banana slug, clay soil, mud slides and moles, she looks forward to a whole new gardening experience. She is an avid hiker, beach bum, textile collector and intrepid traveler. Laurie holds a BA in economics from Columbia University and an MBA in finance and real estate from The Wharton School.



**THANK YOU to Lydia Wallis** who led our well organized Amaryllis Bulb Planting Holiday Workshop on November 23. Our participants carefully planted their treasures and had much to look forward to as the plants emerged over the holiday season. And **THANKS to Lori Barnaby** and volunteers for once again decking the Hall so beautifully for our HAH Holiday party!







# HAH Roundtable Program

In Person at the HAH Library

Saturday, January 4, 2025 at 10:00am – Noon

## Enjoying a Beautiful Winter Garden

### Outdoors and Indoors

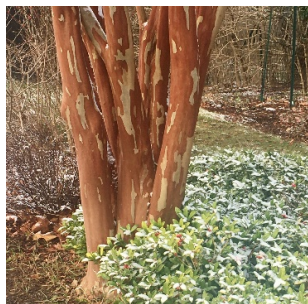


It's January, so it may seem counterintuitive, but let's talk about the wonderful gardens we can all achieve and enjoy to give us pleasure during the winter months. This includes plants that flower, that feature colorful branches and bark, evergreen leaves, tree canopies that wow, and feature berries, seedheads, and cones so we can nourish and watch our bird friends all season long. It's so doable once we learn about all that's available, including for our indoor spaces, and exchange some ideas. So join us to share, or to learn, or both!

**Here are some topics we'll discuss, including suggestions of native plants, and we invite you to bring cuttings of your own favorites for show and tell:**

- Evergreen and semi-evergreens trees and shrubs that provide the impressive structure that create the "bones" of a garden, especially in winter, including the extra bonus of variegated leaves
- Winter-flowering plants including Hellebore, Skimmia, Heath, Cyclamen, Hamamelis, Galanthus
- Deciduous trees with outstanding canopies
- Trees and shrubs with Beautiful Exfoliating Bark (Japanese Stewartia is just one of several trees, but you'll be surprised by some shrubs that also sport this feature when not hidden by their leaves!)
- Colorful branches (think particular varieties of Dogwoods and Maples)
- Deciduous trees and shrubs whose dense branches can also create structure for hedges and garden rooms (Hornbeam, for example)
- Perennials, Shrubs, and Trees that retain beautiful dried flower and seed heads, and cones
- List of deer-resistant plants for the winter garden
- Landscape Lighting that is Dark Skies-compliant
- Hardscaping
- Focal Points
- Garden Ornaments and planted containers that are winter hardy
- Heated Bird Baths
- Outdoor Container displays that look good all winter
- Indoor plants like Christmas Cactus, Amaryllis, etc.

By the end of the program, if there are attendees who have unanswered gardening questions about these or any other topics, please feel free to stay a while longer and talk to one of our knowledgeable members. See you on January 4th! -- Moderated and with photos by Pamela Harwood



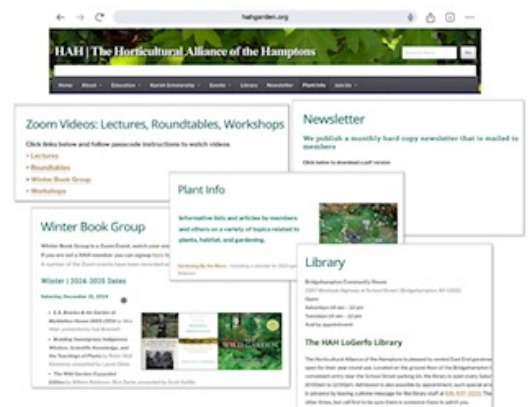
## Digging into the HAH Website

The Horticultural Alliance of the Hamptons website has many useful features for HAH members. Here's a brief roundup of a number of ways it's informative and useful.

- The homepage content lists upcoming HAH programming that's available to members and the public organized as a monthly calendar (members-only events are shared exclusively by email and in this newsletter.) In addition, it features a link to the lecture list for the entire year and a link to the current month's newsletter in pdf format.
- The top navigation bar contains dropdown menus to find a treasure trove of content and information:
  - The Education menu has links to:
    - Lecture Series - Listing lectures by month, speaker, topic, going back to 2016
    - Roundtables - Listing of Roundtable topics going back to 2019
    - Winter Book Group - Listing of monthly books presented going back to 2018
    - Workshops - Listing of past workshop events
    - Zoom Videos: Lectures, Roundtables, Workshops - Over 50 video recordings going back to 2020
  - The Library choice takes you to a page with interesting information about the library and its history that has a link to a search page for books by name in the over 3,000 titles in the HAH LoGerfo Library, which is the most comprehensive horticultural library accessible to the public on Long Island this side of Brooklyn.
  - The Newsletter choice takes you to a page with links to pdfs of every month back to 2015.
  - The Plant Info choice has informative lists and articles by members and others on a variety of topics related to plants, habitat, and gardening that includes a calendar for "Gardening by the Moon."
- The Join Us dropdown has pages with detailed descriptions of member benefits at every level, forms that can be downloaded for printing and mailing, and direct links for joining that can be used to renew and to give memberships.

See you soon at a HAH event or program, in the mean time you can keep up with all things HAH at [www.HAHGarden.org](http://www.HAHGarden.org).

Michael Longacre



### A Tip on Winter Gardening from HAH Member Donna Dorian:

Planting seeds in plastic milk jugs - to winter outdoors - is a great alternative to growing seeds indoors, erasing the water, light and temperature issues of sowing seeds under grow lights or on a window sill. It can be made even easier and more productive by trading in milk jugs for reusable plastic storage boxes. They make room for many more seeds, and drilling holes into the top and bottom of the boxes for water and drainage is more manageable than drilling into the malleable milk jugs. Be sure to plant seeds in potting mix rather than soilless mix - and after securely taping the boxes shut, place them outside in January in a secure and sunny location. (For more information see 'wintering over seeds with milk jugs' online.)



## A Fruit Tree Pruning Workshop

**Saturday, January 11, 2025, 1pm – 3pm**

**Location: Bridge Gardens, 36 Mitchell Lane, Bridgehampton**

**(Rain Date: Saturday, February 8, 2025, 1pm – 3pm)**

Rick Bogusch, Garden Manager of Bridge Gardens, and Jackson Dodds, Certified ISA Arborist and owner of Jackson Dodds & Company, Inc., will instruct and demonstrate the proper techniques, timing and fine art of correctly pruning various fruit trees to ensure not only their longevity but that they will also produce the maximum amount of fruit for you far into the future.



Bring your questions for discussion.

There is no charge for this Workshop.

However, please register at

[hahgarden.org/tickets](http://hahgarden.org/tickets)



## A Willow Weaving Workshop

**Saturday, February 22, 2025, 10am**

**Location: The John LoGerfo Library at HAH**

**(Snow/Blizzard Date Thursday, March 6, 2025, 10am)**



Katrina Vanderlip will again host a Willow Weaving Workshop at our HAH Office in the John LoGerfo Library.

We will create a lovely Willow-bound Bamboo Support that you will be able to use for your climbing plants or whatever you choose.

This Workshop will be limited to 10 persons.

Attendees should bring clippers, wire cutters, and gloves.

HAH will provide bamboo, willow, floral wire and thick string/hemp. There will be a \$10.00 fee for this Workshop to help defray cost of materials.

Prior Registration is Required.

Please register at [hahgarden.org/tickets](http://hahgarden.org/tickets)

**SAVE THE DATE - SUNDAY, MARCH 23  
FOR A 'SEE THE SEALS' SAIL WITH HAH  
LED BY "THE FISH GUY", CHRIS PAPARO!**

## OTHER GARDEN EVENTS - JANUARY 2025

**Fridays January 3, 10 and Saturdays January 4, 11, 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm. LongHouse Illuminated.** LongHouse Reserve, 133 Hands Creek Road, East Hampton, NY 11937. \$35 for members, \$45 non-members. For more info and to register: [longhouse.org/products/longhouse-illuminated](https://longhouse.org/products/longhouse-illuminated)

**Saturday, January 11, 11 am to 12:30 pm Sustainable Gardens in a Changing Climate (online).** \$25. For more info and to register: <https://mtcubacenter.org/event/sustainable-gardens-in-a-changing-climate-online/>

**Thursday, January 23, 11 am to 12 pm. Life in the Garden: Bunny Williams.** NYBG, Ross Lecture Hall, 2900 Southern Boulevard, Bronx, NY 10458. \$35 for NYBG members, \$39 non-members. For more info and to register: <https://www.nybg.org/event/25th-winter-lecture-series/>

**Tuesday, January 28, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Plant-O-Rama 2025.** Speakers include Edwina von Gal. Trade Show, Jobs Fair, Breakout Sessions. In-person at Brooklyn Botanic Garden. Recording of all keynote and panel discussions also available for those who cannot attend in person. Tickets from \$30. For more info and to register: <https://www.metrohort.org/calendar/plant-o-rama>

**Wednesday, January 29, 6 pm to 7:30 pm. Unraveling Botanical Names (online).** \$25. For more info and to register: <https://mtcubacenter.org/event/unraveling-botanical-names-online/>

## HAH LoGerfo Library - Magazines

From the corner of my eye, I caught a glimpse of something on my desk that was pink...a soft appealing pink. Upon further exploration I discovered it was the cover of an issue of *Gardens Illustrated* from the United Kingdom, September 2024.

Always eager to browse new magazines, I turned to the Contents Page which was divided into PLACES, PEOPLE, PLANTS, DESIGN and REGULARS. The "September Plants" article seemed a perfect place to commence my reading. Who doesn't want to expand the colorful riot of flowers through September? Ten plants were featured to keep the show going in the autumn garden, many familiar but not all.

"Planting Memories" was about the emotional impact of your plants, finding deeper meanings that add to the pleasure of your garden. Some plant memories are joyful, others might make you laugh and still other may remind you of the giver who has passed on. Evoking fond, touching memories brings an extra layer of significance to your garden.

"Field of Dreams", which covered ten pages, took my heart! The photography was amazing, the colors, the crispness, the sensuality, all so beautiful! The naturalist, Hans Gieszen has created this gem near Utrecht, in the Netherlands. He planted 60% grasses and 40% perennials. It was pure joy to read and reread these ten pages.

As part of the HAH membership, members are entitled to sign out periodicals for one month. Only the latest issue must remain in the library. As you can imagine there is a wealth of knowledge in our collection. Come avail yourself of this fabulous resource every Tuesday or Saturday 10:00a.m.-12:00p.m.

Joan DiMonda, Library Chairperson



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

2025

January 12	Merlin Sheldrake - <i>A Conversation with the author of 'Entangled Life' On Zoom</i>
February 9	Carolyn Summers - <i>Native Plants: From the Wild to the Garden</i>
March 9	Heather Holm - <i>Native Predatory Wasps - Their Role as Pollinators and Beneficial Insects</i>
April 13	Sam Hoadley - <i>Knockout Natives</i>
May 4	Beronda Montgomery – <i>Lessons from Plants on Human Thriving</i>
June 8	Noel Kingsbury – <i>Planting Wild Style Gardens – What We Need to Know</i>
September 7	Nick McCullough – <i>American Roots</i>
October 19	Katherine H. Kerin – <i>Innisfree: Lessons in Slow Gardening</i>
November 9	Signe Nielsen – <i>Little Island: More than Meets the Eye</i>
December 14	Stephen Searl - <i>Sylvester Manor: Past, Present and Future</i>

First quarter Moon 🌒 January 6 afternoon

Last Quarter Moon 🌓 January 21 afternoon

Full Moon 🌕 January 13 afternoon

New Moon 🌑 January 29 morning



100% Recycled

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