



# HAH Happenings

## October 2025



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



Photo: Oliver Collins

**On Sunday, October 19, 2025**  
**at 2:00 pm**

Please join us at the Bridgehampton Community House, Main Hall

for a talk by **Katherine H. Kerin** on  
**Innisfree: Lessons in Slow Gardening**

Explore Innisfree Garden, an iconic 185-acre public garden in New York's Hudson Valley, and the timeless design ideas and timely landscape management techniques—aligned with, but arguably still ahead of today's cutting-edge horticulture—that have been successfully used here for more than half a century.

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places for exceptional national significance, Innisfree is the life's work of modernist landscape architect Lester Collins (1914-1993). In 1960, he opened a former private estate as a public garden. Saddled with that estate's substantial debt, the only abundant resources were this polymath's intellectual capital, the site itself, and time. Collins spent more than three decades developing design and maintenance strategies that dramatically save labor and capital by creating just enough to be truly memorable and actively partnering with natural processes in an innovative, design-forward way. These widely applicable methods yield resilient, biodiverse, and widely engaging greenspaces. Innisfree is recognized as a world-class garden and singular work of art, but Lester Collins' greatest legacy may prove to be this remarkable approach to placemaking that is as poetic as it is pragmatic.

As landscape curator at Innisfree, Kate Kerin has been involved with all aspects of the garden's care, from hands-on horticulture to fundraising. She wrote Innisfree's award-winning National Register listing, developed its diverse public programming, and is leading the major preservation planning effort now underway. She has a master's in landscape architecture from Cornell, a B.A. from Wellesley, and completed the Stonecrop Gardens Internship. Some HAH members may know Kate from her time with Garden Conservancy Open Days, where she created the Digging Deeper series. She serves on boards and committees for various nonprofits, and occasionally still designs gardens.

### October Events at HAH

**Saturday, October 4, 10 am, Roundtable, HAH Library- see p. 4**

**Saturday, October 18, HAH Yard Sale, 9:30 am -12:30pm - see p. 3**

**Sunday, October 19, HAH Monthly Lecture, 2:00 pm,**

**Main Hall, Bridgehampton Community House - see above**

**Thursday, October 30, 1:00 pm, Workshop, HAH Library - see p. 3**



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Well, here we are, crisp days and nights, colorful leaves, harvest moons, “falling back” then a bit panicky when it’s dark at 4:30. For some of us, time to figure out where we packed away that light therapy device!

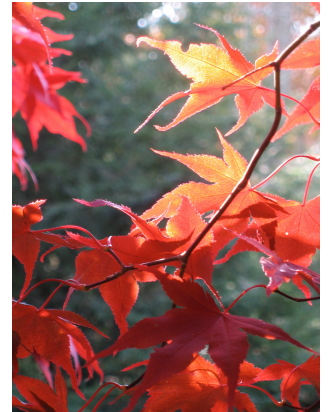
And a super important gardening season. Planning, planting, moving, pruning, deciding on how much to tidy now how much to leave for insect habitat, sleeping soundly after a long day of all of the above. First up this month for HAH is the beginning of a new Roundtable series on October 4th that will invite us to look back at what inspired us from HAH tours, and share thoughts from our own garden adventures.

Next will be a knockout weekend that starts with the always exciting HAH Yard Sale on October 18th—which will wrap up after the HAH Lecture on the 19th, “Innisfree: Lessons In Slow Gardening,” by Katherine H. Kerin—the lecture will be followed by coffee and cookies in the library and a second chance at second-hand treasures.

But wait, there’s more! You can join Friends of the Garden on October 23rd to keep the lovely garden in shape that HAH created in front of the office/LoGerfo Library. On the 30th the library will be the site of a HAH Workshop by our Librarian, Joan DiMonda, on “The Intersection of Gardening and Quilting.”

Settle in with this newsletter, your pumpkin beverage of choice (not required), and read all the details about the exciting October HAH has coming up!

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
Kathie 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, Michael Longacre, Elaine Peterson, Alicia Whitaker

**FOG - Friends of the Garden meets on Thursday, October 23 at 10:00 am until 11:30 am. Volunteers welcome to help! Our final work meetup for 2025 will be Nov. 20.**



**The Camellia Group meets for its annual fall gathering at the HAH Library on Saturday, November 15, 2025 at 10:00 am. We invite anyone with an interest in Camellias to join us and bring their questions and, if possible, blossoms. Many of us are beginners, but we have experts too.**

**Julie Burmeister**





**SAVE THE DATE for our  
ANNUAL YARD SALE**  
**Saturday, October 18, 2025**  
**9:30 am - 12:30 pm**



## **GARDEN YARD SALE     READY! SET! GO!**

**READY:** Between today and October 16th search your garage, garden shed, attic, and basement for gardening items that you no longer need or use. (They could be treasures to other people.) Dust them off, sweep out the dirt and rinse away any spiderwebs. (No one likes to purchase dusty cobwebby things!)

**SET:** Bring your items to the HAH LoGerfo Library on a Tuesday or Saturday between now and October 16th, during the hours of 10am-12pm. (If necessary, text 516-528-8867 for a different drop-off time.) Pot up and label any plants you are offering for sale. Drop them off the day of the sale after 8:30 a.m.

**GO:** Mark your calendar with a big red circle on October 18th. There are many intriguing items for you to explore. We look forward to seeing you and a big thank you, ahead of time, for your support. All sales benefit the LoGerfo Library.

Interested in assisting at the sale? Please email us at [hahmember@gmail.com](mailto:hahmember@gmail.com)

Joan DiMonda, Library Chair

## **“The Intersection of Gardening and Quilting”**

**HAH Workshop**

**Thursday, October 30, 2025, 1:00 pm**

**Location: The John LoGerfo Library**



**You are cordially invited to an hour-long power point presentation**

**given by Joan DiMonda, our Library Chair, on “The Intersection of Gardening and Quilting”.**

**Joan, a Master Gardener and award-winning Quilter, will explore and explain the connection between gardening and quilting using a Venn Diagram, which is a visual tool that uses overlapping circles to show the relationship between different sets of information, highlighting similarities and differences.**

**The lecture will be defined by the commonality of color, shape and name stories. Various quilts will assist as visual aids and add a touch of beauty. Joan marvels and will explain how her two passions have intersected. There will be time for questions afterward.**

**There is no charge for this Workshop and registration is not necessary.**



# HAH Roundtable Program

New Season! In Person at the HAH Library

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

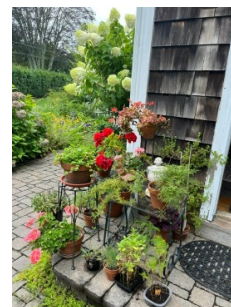
## Inspiration from our Garden Tours and a Look Back at our own Garden Season Sharing Ideas and Learning More

It's been another wonderful year for HAH local garden tours. We've visited 16 gardens so far this year, some on grand properties and others in smaller spaces. What they all have in common is the love and appreciation all our hosts display for creating and maintaining gardens -- choosing the design, the plants, and the hardscaping; caring for them as they grow and mature; creating and enjoying places for tranquility and entertaining; and helping the environment in the process. The other party to all this loveliness is we members (and new host members!) who participated in the tours this season, taking long walks, observing, and appreciating so much beauty and inventiveness.

In addition to touring the gardens of others, we also have spent time in our own gardens, with so much happening every season. We buy new plants, we edit out or lose others, we inherit what has self-sown, we observe the birds and other pollinators, sometimes we take on a new project. And we weed, weed, weed, and deal with the wildlife that's waiting in the wings to gobble up our bounty. In the end, we always say (or at least I do) "here's what I'm going to do next year!"

Our first Roundtable in Fall is the perfect time to share what we learned and enjoyed most about this year's tours, both as visitors and as hosts, and to ask questions about or share our experiences in our own gardens this past season.

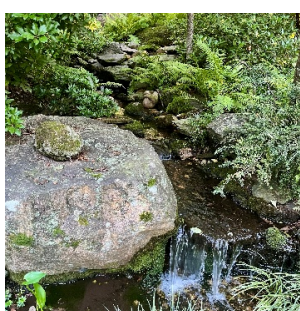
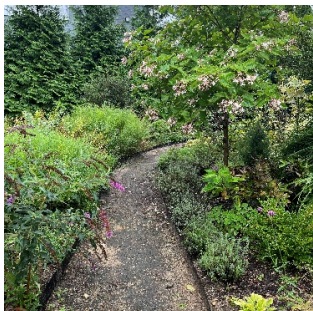
For those who did not have the opportunity to attend some or all of these tours as well as those that would like to see a selection of the scenes again, we will present a slide show of some highlights. And if you'd like to show a photograph of your own garden, bring your phone or other device.



### Here are just a few of the topics we'd love our members to share:

- Did you see any plants you'd never seen before? Would you like to know more about them?
- Are there plants that thrive in these gardens but not in yours? Would you like to know how to care for and position them?
- We saw some wonderful design elements, including hardscaping and garden ornaments. Are there ideas that you particularly admired?
- What successes and challenges did you experience in your garden? What would you do again and what do you plan on doing differently next year?

At the end of the program, if there are attendees who have gardening questions about other topics, you'll have the opportunity to raise them, or please feel free to stay a while longer and talk to one of our knowledgeable members. I hope to see you on October 4! -- **Moderated and with photos by Pamela Harwood**





## MORE GARDEN EVENTS IN OCTOBER 2025

**Events at Bridge Gardens**, 36 Mitchell Lane, Bridgehampton, NY 11932.

**Saturday, October 4, 1 pm to 3 pm. Dividing and Planting Perennials.** \$10/person suggested donation, free to Bridge Gardens members. Space is limited, reservations required. Rain cancels. More info: <https://www.peconiclandtrust.org/get-involved/events/event/dividing-and-planting-perennials>

**Saturday, October 18, 12 pm to 3 pm. Bridge Gardens Autumn Open House.** FREE but donations are appreciated. Reservations requested. Rain or shine. More info: <https://www.peconiclandtrust.org/get-involved/events/event/autumn-open-house>

**Garden Conservancy Virtual Programs**, \$5 for Garden Conservancy Members, \$15 non-members.

**Thursday, October 2, 2 pm to 3 pm. Fall Episode: Sleepy Cat Farm, Part III - A Horticultural Perspective.** For more info and to register: <https://www.gardenconservancy.org/events/web25-sleepy-cat-farm-part-iii-10-2-2025>

**Tuesday, October 7, 2 pm to 3 pm. The Contemporary Garden.** For more info and to register: <https://www.gardenconservancy.org/events/web25-contemporary-garden-10-7-2025>

**Tuesday, October 21, 2 pm to 3 pm. The New Beautiful: Innovative Spaces and the Changing Face of Gardens.** For more info and to register: <https://www.gardenconservancy.org/events/web25-new-beautiful-10-21-2025>

**Thursday, October 30, 2 pm to 3 pm. The White House Rose Garden: Renovation of an Iconic Space.** For more info and to register: <https://www.gardenconservancy.org/events/web25-white-house-rose-garden-10-30-2025>

**Marders Garden Lecture Series.** All lectures start at 10:00 am. FREE. 120 Snake Hollow Road, Bridgehampton, NY 11932. More info: <https://www.marders.com/events>

**Sunday, October 5: Putting the Garden to Bed, Fall Pruning**

**Sunday, October 12: How to Overwinter Dahlia Tubers**

**Landcraft Garden Foundation Programs**, 4342 Grand Avenue, Mattituck, NY 11952. For more info and to register: <https://www.landcraftgardenfoundation.org/upcoming-lectures/>

**Saturday, October 11, 12:00 pm. 'The Enchanted Earth: How Nature Heals Through Our Stories' with Maureen Calamia.** Admission to the garden is \$20 for adults; \$17 for seniors & students; \$5 for kids under 12. Free to Landcraft members & kids under 2. Reservations not necessary.

**Saturday, October 18, 9:30 am to 2:00 pm. iPhone Photography with Anthony Graziano.** \$100 for members, \$110 non-members.

**Wednesday, October 22, 7:30 am to 4:15 pm. Living Landscapes Conference.** \$85/person. Planting Fields Arboretum, 1395 Planting Fields Road, Oyster Bay, New York 11771. For more info and to register: <https://ccesuffolk.org/events/2023/08/14/living-landscapes-conference>

**Saturday, October 25, 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. Bringing the Woodland Home: Shade Gardening with Native Plants, presented by Kimberly Simmen, CNLP.** Third House Nature Center, 1929 Montauk Highway, Montauk, NY 11954. For more info: <https://www.thirdhousenaturecenter.org/calendar>

**Saturday, October 25, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. The Art & Science of Pruning with Jenna Zier.** \$65/person. Bayard Cutting Arboretum, 440 Montauk Highway, Great River, NY 11739. For more info and to register: <https://bayardcuttingarboretum.com/event/art-and-science-of-pruning-workshop/>



## Mad for Tulips and Their Friends

### Alicia Whitaker

We are still enjoying the beautiful weather of our long and typically balmy autumns, but it's time to finalize our plans for bulb planting and forcing in the garden and in containers. The grey days of winter will be here too soon, and one of the things that gets me through my least favorite season is the prospect of bringing flowering bulbs into the house. Believe it or not, we need to get some growing in pots so they can have twelve weeks of cold, beginning now in the middle to end of October.

I am a fool for tulips and buy too many for my cutting garden and for planting throughout my small mixed border. Nothing makes me happier is to see them emerging in March and in full flower in April, always earlier than I think. They are an indulgence, especially if you don't try to perennialize them, but nothing says spring like tulips. I mainly grow them in the ground, but also have had good luck planting containers that stay outdoors through the winter. Here are a few things I've learned about success with tulips and other spring bulbs.

### Protection Against Critters

All bulbs, with the exception of daffodils, can easily be eaten by voles and mice. I plant them in the cutting garden by November at the latest, and have found that putting chicken wire on top of the bed seems to be a deterrent. You can also spread a vole repellent on the beds, but I've had good luck with a "hardware" solution. Same is true for pots left outdoors--- I plant them up, water them well, and cover the top of the pot with a chicken wire cover. You can spread grit or small sharp stones on the top of the soil, but I've had critters push that away to reach their bulb prize. Experiment and see what works for you.

### Watered, but Not Waterlogged

Containers with tulips and other bulbs designed to be left outside during the winter do better if they're not continuously soaked by rain and snow. If they're too wet, the freeze / thaw cycle that is inevitable can damage them. The bulbs can rot in soil that is too wet. I place mine in a sheltered spot near a fence or building – if I had an unheated garage, that would be better. Check on the soil from time to time and if they're bone dry, water them. Otherwise they are better not being waterlogged. Give them a good drink when you first plant them and be sure that the water drains.

### Forcing for Display in the House in January / February

If you have a sheltered place to stow some smaller containers to force, plant them up soon and be sure to give them protection from voles and mice. I use a cold frame, adding row covers or other insulating fabric, when we have the odd day below 10 degrees. An unheated garage or bulkhead going into the cellar would also be good. You don't want smaller pots that you're forcing to freeze. But they will need a minimum of twelve weeks of cold. Keep an eye on them and when you see foliage or buds emerging, bring them into a cold room in the house and let them warm up and start growing. Put them in a sunny, warm location to encourage the flowers to emerge.



### Hyacinths are Almost Foolproof

I've found that hyacinths are the easiest bulbs to force, and they emerge from their cold treatment a bit sooner than other bulbs. I plant them "shoulder to shoulder" in wide but shallow bulb pans, and get a wonderful, fragrant display by January. After they bloom, you can stick the pots out of the way somewhere, keep the foliage going, and plant them in the garden. I'm also shocked to see how well they do in subsequent years once they're planted in the ground.



**Their enemy, once they emerge, are deer, who will happily devour the emerging flowers. (True of all flowering bulbs with the exception of daffodils.)**

### Minor Bulbs for Forcing

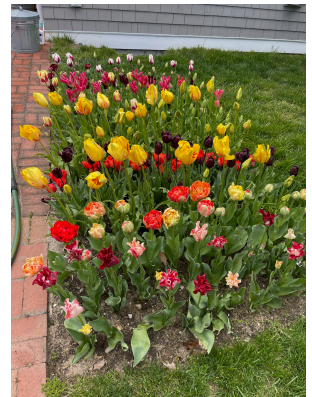
Minor bulbs – crocus, chionodoxia, scilla, iris reticulata, snowdrops – can also be forced for the house using the same technique. Plant them soon and give them enough depth in the pots for their roots to grow well. Water them well after you plant them. Keep an eye on them and pull inside the house when you see top growth. Some people recommend burying pots for forcing in leaves to provide good insulation. I would worry about mice having a field day under those leaves. Best to store them where you can keep an eye on them. Small pots can be stored in a plastic bin with a cover to keep out the rodents, but be sure that there's enough ventilation in the bin or they'll rot.

### Lasagna Pots

Many growers are now recommending the use of "lasagna pots" – layers of bulbs, beginning at the bottom with daffodils, then a layer of tulips, then a layer or two of minor bulbs. This is best done in large containers left outside in the winter rather than in pots meant for forcing. I had good success with this technique last year, and it was fun to see the successive layers emerge. Do a search on "lasagna pots" and you'll see lots of examples of specific bulbs used to great effect. Sarah Raven's website has particularly inspiring photos and information about this style of planting.

### Sources for Bulbs

I have used inexpensive bulbs, purchased from grocery and big box stores, for planting in containers because of the higher risk of losing them. The results have been just as lovely as what emerges in the border and cutting garden. I indulge my tulip obsession in the cutting garden by seeking out my favorite named varieties at sources such as Brent & Becky's Bulbs and Van Engelen, as well as the generous selections you can find at Fowler's and Marder's. Bulbs, like life, are fleeting pleasures. Enjoy them!



## Preparing for 2026 Spring Digs and Plant Donations

Lydia Wallis, Digs Chair

Plants can be divided now and potted up and wintered over for the Garden Fair. Water well and sink them into your vegetable garden, compost heap, or place them up against your house, pool house, studio or garage. Cover with a heavy layer of leaves. Or, place them in a cold frame.

If you don't already have a cold frame, here's how to make an informal one inexpensively: Outline an area four feet square and frame it in extra bricks (or pieces of wood). Stack bricks four high and line the base with chicken wire (vole proofing). Place your potted and labeled plants tightly inside and cover with leaves or if you have old windows, lay them across the bricks. Plants will winter over beautifully.



We will need pots for the spring Digs. If you have an excess of pots, after emptying out all the soil and removing labels, please consider saving some for us (while they offer workable sizes, *Moravia* or *Proven Winner* pots cannot be reused.) We'll be announcing a program for drop-off timing at the library for spring digs, please wait until that plan is announced in the newsletter and email before dropping off any pots.

**2025 HAH Sunday Lecture Program - 2 pm**  
**At the Bridgehampton Community House, Main Hall**

**October 19** Katherine H. Kerin – *Innisfree: Lessons in Slow Gardening*  
**November 9** Signe Nielsen – *Little Island: More than Meets the Eye*  
**December 14** Stephen Searl - *Sylvester Manor: Past, Present and Future*

**Full Moon** 🌕 **October 6/7 midnight EDT**

**Last Quarter Moon** 🌘 **October 13 afternoon EDT**

**New Moon** 🌑 **October 21 morning EDT**

**First quarter Moon** 🌒 **October 29 noon EDT**



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100% Recycled 

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the Hamptons  
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