HAH Happenings
May 2018

HAH Monthly Lecture - Sunday, May 6, 2018 - 2 pm

BOTANICAL ART: TRADITION AND REVIVAL

Botanical art is a fine art tradition that is experiencing a contemporary revival of truly global dimensions. Dr. Diane Bouchier will present the high points of this tradition, moving from herbals to humanism to the golden age of botanical illustration, and will present examples of some of the best work being done today.

While she was earning her certificate in botanical art and illustration from The New York Botanical Garden, Diane Bouchier founded the American Society of Botanical Artists (ASBA). This organization has emerged as the leading international organization, with over 1,500 members in over twenty different countries, and prestigious organizational members including the Missouri Botanic Garden and the Chelsea Physic Garden. Diane has exhibited widely, with her work included in the 8th International Exhibition of Botanical Art at Carnegie Mellon’s Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. She has taught botanical art and nature drawing for a number of different Long Island organizations. She lives in Stony Brook with her husband David.

THE HAH SEED EXCHANGE PROGRAM continues before our Sunday lectures this spring. If you bring donations of plant seed packets (preferably your own, labeled with variety), you will receive another package for free. If you do not have any of your own seeds to donate, you can purchase packages for $2.00 each. Information for starting seeds indoors and outdoors will be available.

2018 HAH GARDEN FAIR - FRIDAY, MAY 18 & SATURDAY, MAY 19
Please open to Pages 3-5 for all details!!! Our only Fund Raiser of the Year is a fantastic Plant Sale that you do not want to miss!
It is May and that can mean only one thing, the 32nd annual Preview Party and Plant Sale is upon us! I am so proud that HAH will be Honoring Jack Lenor Larsen for his contribution to horticulture, art and creativity on the East End. For new members and those who have not been able to attend the Preview Party, it is a terrifically fun evening. The curated plant collection of annuals, perennials, shrubs, small trees and roses is phenomenal and available for purchase. The BEST deal in proven plants on the East End is the “member digs” - plants donated by our membership from their own gardens. To get the best selection of both, purchase a Friends ticket to get in an hour early, at 5 pm! After you have made your plant purchases enjoy a bite to eat and a beverage while you peruse our silent auction. Professionals and creative amateurs donate planted containers that are auctioned off to the highest bidder. There can be some fierce competition, especially for the coveted John Benson gardening bench! I have the hardest time deciding which planter to bid on, I love them all. Last year I came up with the best solution, I bid on, and hopefully win, multiple planters to give to friends for birthdays or other occasions. I get to enjoy them until they are gifted and after they are gifted, I get to enjoy them at my friends' homes! Of course, I keep one or two for myself! If you would like to prolong the party, consider volunteering for set up on Friday or for clean-up after the plant sale on Saturday. This is the best way to meet and get to know our membership and for us to get to know you, just join in the fun, we all share a common language, the language of plants.

I hope to see you at the party!

Janet

The final ROUNDTABLE of the season will be held on May 5 at 10 am. Alejandro Saralegui, director of MADOO, will join us as our special guest and share his knowledge of gardening and plants.
Garden Fair Preview Party
Honoring
Jack Lenor Larsen, maker of LongHouse
Friday, May 18, 2018       6:00 - 8:00 pm
at the Bridgehampton Community House
Montauk Highway at School Street, Bridgehampton
$50 in advance - $60 at the door
Wine & Hors d’Oeuvres  Raffle
Silent Auction of Beautifully Planted Containers
First Choice of All Plants for Sale

A WARM THANK YOU
TO OUR GENEROUS COMMUNITY PARTNERS & SPECIAL FRIENDS

Underwriters
Phyllis B. Davis  Jeffrey Glick & Greg Wiseman, Lexington Medical Group
David Seeler and Ngaere Macray, The Bayberry  Susan Kennedy Zeller

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Preview Party and Garden Fair Committee
Co-Chairs
Lori Barnaby, Don Cirillo, Carole Campolo, Janet Donohoe Ollinger, Susan Kennedy Zeller
Sarah Alford, Bettina Benson, John Benson, Cornelia Bostwick, Erik Brockmeyer, Terry Coppola
Mike DeVito, Marie Di Monte, Jeffrey Glick, Pamela Harwood, Pat Matheson
Elaine Peterson, Erika Shank, Alicia Whitaker
The 2018 HAH GARDEN FAIR Plant Sale
continues on Saturday, May 19, 9 am - 1 pm
in the HAH Garden at the Bridgehampton Community House
free admission, open to all

IF YOU CAN VOLUNTEER to HELP at the Garden Fair
Sign up at the HAH office or email us at hahmember@optonline.net with the times when you are available to help either Friday or Saturday. There are many kinds of jobs at different times. Our volunteer coordinator, Jeffrey Glick, will be in touch to confirm when and where we need your help.
It’s fun and you meet lots of nice people who love plants as much as you do!

PLANT DONATIONS FOR THE FAIR
One of the most important contributions you can make is a donation of potted plant material from your own gardens, labeled correctly. Here are some easy guidelines:
Containers – clean clay or plastic, 1 qt. minimum
Potting – complete potting at least two weeks prior to sale so plants can acclimate. Make sure there is a strong root system to support the plant.
Label – make one label for each variety of plant you bring. We will make more labels on the day of the Fair if necessary. Include the botanical and common names along with the cultivar, growing conditions, mature plant size, and bloom time and color and if deer resistant.
Care – Protect your newly potted plants from sun and wind and be sure they do not dry out. Always ask yourself if you would buy these plants yourself or give them as gifts!
Please bring them to the Fair site on Thursday or Friday morning. THANK YOU!!

WHAT WILL YOU FIND AT THE FAIR?
A great assortment of plants at great prices,
carefully chosen from many fine local East End wholesale specialty growers
and plants dug from HAH members’ gardens.
• Annuals and Tropicals - wonderful choices grown by Beds and Borders and Landcraft Environments
• Perennials - select varieties grown by Glover Perennials, and many more grown by HAH members
• Groundcovers - perennial and annual selections
• Vines - including many varieties of Clematis
• Roses - lots of beautiful varieties from Eastland Farms
• Shrubs and Trees - an exciting array of choices from Schlecht, Glover and others
• Edibles - ready to plant seedlings grown by local organic farmers
• Natives - grown by Vicki Bustamante from seeds personally collected in the wild hereabouts!
• Deer Resistant, pollinator attractors, butterfly loved - HAH is eager to supply you with the best of these available at this time of the year. We are much concerned about the continuation of a healthy, natural habitat for all of our native species, as are you!
• Come and talk with our knowledgable volunteers to see what you can add to your garden for the health of our environment. Ask us questions. We are happy to help you make selections!
• Rare and unusual plants for the connoisseur - including succulents, woodland gems and miniatures grown and donated by passionate HAH members.
**Fair Plant Notes from HAH Members**

**Erika Shank** - Baptisia ‘Purple Smoke’ Wild Indigo…dusky purple lupine-like flowers over grey green unique clover-like foliage on charcoal stems…heavily blooming…from Glover Perennials, purchased in 2012 at HAH plant fair…I love it!

**Marie Di Monte** - for the 2018 Fair - Hummingbirds and our precious bees will relish Agastache ‘Tutti Frutti’ and ‘Kudos Coral’, Nicotiana ‘Chocolate Smoke, and a variety of Salivas. Add to the mix Cuphea purpurea ‘Firefly’ Calibrachoa, a lovely selection of Angelonias and Verbenas, Pentas to thwart deer and a very special Pelargonium sidoides. Your garden will blossom with happiness!

**Erik Brockmeyer** - Two years ago I purchased some Variegated Fragrant Solomon’s Seal (Polygonatum odoratum 'Variegatum') from the Member Digs table at the Plant Sale. A shade-loving perennial that grows 1.5 to 2 feet tall, it has arching stems with light green leaves edged in a creamy white. Small white (fragrant!) flowers hang below the leaves in late spring/early summer. The plants spread slowly via underground rhizomes (which means they fill-in nicely -- as opposed to thuggishly trying to take over the garden!). I have them planted with ferns and hostas at the foot of some rhododendron. They look great and I especially love the extra "light" the variegated leaves bring to this shady corner of the garden. Last year I added a few more plants to the original cluster and this year I plan to buy a few more to start a new cluster in another corner of the garden.

**Susan Brackett** - Abelia. It is more than 5' now, bought as a 4" sprig about 10 years ago. Flowers spring through fall. Bees love it. Deer must not like it, or I wouldn't still have it. Keeps some leaves through winter. Hellebores in April bought as single, 3" sprigs maybe 5 years ago. Digs plants have done so much better than any store-bought ones in my garden. They seem to start growing immediately.

**Jeffrey Glick** - Greg and I purchased this Japanese Maple Mikawa Yatsuba two years ago (2016) at the HAH Preview Party. It thrives in our shade garden. Two years later it's size seems to have doubled. Thank you HAH.

**Rick Bogusch** - I purchased Leucoseptrum stellipilum 4 or 5 years ago and this Japanese woodlander is still going strong. It is a member of the mint family, loves shade and blooms in late September and early October when few other plants are in bloom. Its dark pink, bottle brush-like flowers are beloved by bees. And it is deer-resistant!

**Janet Donohoe Ollinger** - This is my winter hazel purchased at the plant Fair in 2008. It is one of the first harbingers of spring and I adore it!

**Alicia Whitaker** - Plants from the pot designed by Tony that I bought at last years silent auction. And the Rex Begonia vine I have bought the last two years!

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**Joining us at the Fair this year to help you plan your garden needs!**

**Perfect Earth Project**, based in East Hampton, NY, promotes PRFCT (toxin-free) lawns and landscapes for the health of people, their pets, and the planet. Perfect Earth Project raises consciousness about the dangers of synthetic landscape chemicals and educates homeowners, landscapers, and businesses in nature-based alternatives that achieve beautiful results at no extra cost.

[www.perfectearthproject.org](http://www.perfectearthproject.org)
Musings & Ramblings        April snow Garden slow        George Biercuk

Was Mars (March) ever bellicose to the bitter end. His grip on the garden, which showed signs that fissuring was beginning upon our early March departure, belied the fact that his grip, this year, wasn’t going to be relinquished without a serious fight, and that fight found our garden, in some instances, on the wrong side. When we left for St. Maarten we had been on the rain-side of two Nor’easters. Daphne odora aureomarginata was looking poised to burst into bloom. Snowdrops were in their full glory. Daffodils, having been showing emerging tips of flower stalks, were anticipated to be in bloom upon our return in late March. NOT! Mahonia flowers were exuding their lemony fragrance from the bottommost opening flowers. The garden overall was in slow motion at that point but given the weather from late January through February we anticipated a warmish, early colorful greeting upon our arrival. NOT!!! Even early April, which saw in our garden eight inches of snow (April Fools’), couldn’t escape his cold grasp.

With two later March significant Nor’easter wet snowfalls the garden was in stasis and, thankfully, didn’t sustain any outward physical damage though what was going on inside shrubs was yet to be revealed. Firstly, the “hardy” gardenias were toasted. There appeared to be some green on the bottom with the finger nail scratch test but it was much lower than when we left. They’ll be easy to yank if they’re beyond salvation. Similar to Rhododendron ‘Percy Wiseman’ which, for us, declines after first being planted and then grows on into its own if left alone, perhaps the root stock will persevere. We’re not averse to giving a plant some time to prove its mettle.

D. odora aureomarginata was a bit more ambiguous. The flower buds, which looked viable when we left, were unchanged upon our return. A one day fleeting taste of spring coaxed a few buds toward expansion. Were more viable? What further damage might the post April Fools’ Day snow event cause? And the subsequent one forecast five days later? Gaia was not happy. That’s for sure.

Camellia ‘April Remembered’ was showing more color as her buds were expanding. The long range forecast was showing that we weren’t poised to endure subfreezing temps so, hopefully, we would be able to enjoy her floral display. Our others, what buds they had, remained tight. Were they slow or dead? Only time would tell.

I took advantage of the warm last Saturday of March to assess the state of the garden and prune. Clerodendrum trichotosum seedlings that have been allowed to grow in strategic spots were pruned upward to elevate their eventual mature canopy. Likewise, the locust planted in the southwest corner (formerly shaded by neighboring trees) to provide dappled shade was similarly up-pruned. Why allow growth energy to be wasted on limbs that, ultimately, will be removed? Better to plan ahead for what you desire so that, later, the tree/shrub isn’t brutally tortured into some bazar caricature of itself.

The gentle breezes also allowed for, yet again, leaf clean-up along the driveway and the roadside bed which had been grazed by deer. Since some snow was forecast I spread Milorganite as fertilizer and deterrent. Given how delayed was the garden’s progression, the daffodils, peonies and daylilies were fertilized with slow release 10-6-4. The youngsters among the hellebore colonies, in which I removed the foliage before we left, produced a paucity of flowers, though the root stock was pushing-up considerably wider expanses of leaf buds. I decided to experiment and fertilized, for the first time, all our hellebores. I’m hoping for interesting progeny resulting from the various flower colors, shapes and forms as well as foliage differences among the parents.

Growing up a giant poolside white oak, a schizophragma, which began declining last year, was finally given the “saw at the root” pruning. As I’ve written in the past, when in its early adolescence, it’s a wonderful addition to verticality in the woodland garden, growing up into our oak canopy and producing large lacecap flowers in late June. Unfortunately there’s no mention of the aggressiveness of its mature root system. Three being planted around our pool, the falling flowers did make a bit of a mess in the pool for a couple weeks. The filter bags placed in the skimmers reduced any overtaxing of the filter. I’ve been extolling the benefits of these bags for years. They really work. That being said, the schizophragma growing up the giant white oak had become a thug at the root level, sucking dry an area tens of feet in diameter around the tree's base. Roots were ripped out as far as possible without damaging the ensnared surrounding plantings. Hopefully the extremities will gracefully reincorporate themselves into the soil and we will be able to reinvigorate plantings in this area for the upcoming season without too much trouble.

It was an easy early winter this past season. Unfortunately that caught our gardens, and us, off guard. While we can retreat indoors, the garden has to fend for itself. As the garden struggles to awaken, below normal temperatures, coupled with repeated April snow, left the garden vulnerable to killing cold. The early awakeners, notably Hydrangeas macrophylla and lacecap, were most at danger for failed flowering this year.

As a sentiment I recently read said, “It’s not the cards you are dealt, it’s how you play them”. As gardeners we’ll have to play them well. Psychologically the light was totally out of sync with garden reality. Though I wanted to take a pre-dinner nap as I did after winter solstice sunset, it was now occurring almost two hours later. Confusion confusion. Transitions are interesting times. Enjoy.

Sunday, May 6 - Two Grey Acharis. 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. 88 Old Field Road, Old Field, NY 11733. More info: https://www.gardenconservancy.org/open-days/open-days-schedule/suffolk-county-ny-open-day-7

Saturday, May 12 - Biercuk and Luckey Garden. 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. 18 Sayres Path, East Hampton, NY 11975. The Garden of Dianne B. 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. 86 Davids Lane, East Hampton, NY 11937. Glade Garden -- Abby Jane Brody. 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. 44 Glade Road, East Hampton, NY 11937. Levy-Barnett Garden. 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. 31 Woodbine Drive, East Hampton, NY 11937. More info: https://www.gardenconservancy.org/open-days/open-days-schedule/suffolk-county-ny-open-day-8

Digging Deeper: An Evocative Vision - The Designers’ Country Place. 10:00 am. Hertenhof, 17 Terry’s Trail, East Hampton, NY 11937. Registration required and space is limited. $30 for Garden Conservancy Members, $35 for non-members. More info: https://www.gardenconservancy.org/open-days/open-days-schedule/digging-deeper-an-evocative-vision-the-designers-country-place

Saturday, May 26 - Chip Rae and Chuck Schwarz Garden. 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. 16 Greenway Drive, East Hampton, NY 11937. Edwina von Gal - Marsh House. 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. 962 Springs Fireplace Road, East Hampton, NY 11937. Additional 'Digging Deeper' programming at this location -- see online for more info. Previti/Gumpel Garden. 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. 230 Old Stone Highway, East Hampton, NY 11937. More info: https://www.gardenconservancy.org/open-days/open-days-schedule/suffolk-county-ny-open-day-9

REMINDER
Sign up for these great HAH events!

Saturday, June 2, 10 am
Tour of The Watermill Center
see p. 7 in April newsletter
register by May 28

Saturday, June 16, 10 am
A Walk in the Woods guided by naturalist Vicki Bustamante at Montauk’s Point Woods during peak Mt. Laurel bloom time
see p. 8 in April newsletter
register by June 9
HAH 2018 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!

May 6 – Diane Bouchier – Botanical Art: Tradition and Revival
June 10 – Ken Greene – The Wonder of Seeds

There are no lectures in July & August

September 9 – Lynden Miller – The Designer’s Eye
October 14 – Anne Haines - Fragrant Plants
November 11 – Jane Garmey – A Sense of Place – An inside Look at a Wide Variety of Private Gardens in Connecticut & the Hudson Valley
December 9 – Donald W. Hyatt – Chasing the Bloom in the Southern Appalachians

MORE EAST END GARDEN EVENTS

Friday, May 11 - National Public Gardens Day. FREE admission at local garden treasures: Bridge Gardens, 36 Mitchell Lane, Bridgehampton; Longhouse Reserve, 133 Hands Creek Road, East Hampton; Madoo Conservancy, 618 Sagg Main Street, Sagaponack. For more information, call the Peconic Land Trust at (631) 283-3195 or go to peconiclandtrust.org

Saturday, May 12, 11:00 am to 2:00 pm - Family Day at Longhouse Reserve. FREE. More info: longhouse.org

Saturday, May 19, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm - Ikebana Presentation with Julie Jensen at Longhouse Reserve. $30 for Longhouse members, $45 non-members. For more info or to register: call (631) 329-3568 or visit longhouse.org

Saturday, May 26, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm - Salon on the Lawn at Longhouse Reserve. $35 for Longhouse members, $50 non-members. Complimentary admission for first-time members who join in 2018. For more info or to register: call (631) 329-3568 or visit longhouse.org

Marders Garden Lecture Series. All lectures start at 10:00 am. FREE. 120 Snake Hollow Road, Bridgehampton, NY 11932. More info: marders.com

Sunday, May 6: Rose Lovers Unite
Sunday, May 13: Flowering Shrubs and Trees
Sunday, May 20: Dahlias, Peonies, and the Cutting Garden

See Page 7 for a list of this month’s GARDEN CONSERVANCY OPEN DAYS local gardens on tour.

SEE A COMPLETE LIST OF SPRING EVENTS AT HAH ON PAGE 2