HAH Happenings
December 2018

The Horticultural Alliance of the Hamptons
P.O. Box 202, Bridgehampton, NY 11932-0202
631.537.2223 hahgarden.org

HAH Monthly Lecture - Sunday, December 9, 2018 - 2 pm

Chasing the Bloom in the Southern Appalachians

Donald W. Hyatt

The Southern Appalachians form one of the oldest mountain ranges on this earth. These mountains were as high as the Himalayas 200 million years ago but have eroded over time to become the gentle, tree covered ranges we admire today. This region is blessed with one of the richest and most diverse floras in the northern hemisphere.

For over two decades, Don Hyatt has been studying the many native azalea and rhododendron species that grow in the Appalachians. Interested in plants of all kinds since early childhood, he has also been studying the many native plant companions and wildflowers that complete this magnificent natural garden. In his multimedia presentation, Don will share not only his love of native plants during their season of bloom, but also an appreciation of the scenic places where they often grow. Expect many stunning photographs but don’t be surprised by the occasional humorous anecdote or Photoshop composite to lighten the mood. Don hopes his enthusiasm for native plants and wild places will encourage others to join with him in preserving this beauty for future generations.

In addition to teaching mathematics and computer science for 33 years in the Fairfax County Public Schools in Northern Virginia, Don has received a number of awards for his work with rhododendrons and azaleas. From the American Rhododendron Society, he received two Bronze Medals and then the Silver Medal in 2002 and the Gold Medal in 2012. He also received the Distinguished Service Award from the Azalea Society of America in 2009. Don has served on the national Boards of both organizations and has been a featured speaker at a number of horticultural conferences in the US and in Europe during the past 30 years. For more info about Don go to www.donaldhyatt.com

HAH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Roundtable - Saturday, December 1, 10 - 12 noon, HAH library, see p. 2
Walk - Saturday, December 8, 10 am - Montauk State Park with Vicki Bustamante and Seals! See p. 6.
Sunday Lecture - December 9, 2 pm, in the BH Community House, main hall, see above. HAH party to follow the lecture!!
Book Discussion Group - December 15 Saturday 11-12 noon, HAH library, see p. 3.
Workshop, Saturday, January 12, 1-3 pm, Natural Science Organics, HAH Library, see p. 7.

HOLIDAY PARTY

The Annual HAH Holiday Party immediately follows the monthly lecture Sunday, December 9, 2018. We ask that all members attending bring a dish of finger food - either sweet or savory. Please be sure it is covered and ready to serve. As always, wine, apple cider, coffee and tea will be provided. Please come and enjoy the company!!
How did it get so late so soon?  
It's night before it's afternoon  
December is here before it's June  
My goodness how the time has flown  
How did it get so late to soon?  
THEODOR GEISEL

I have had the most amazing three years being the President of the Horticultural Alliance of the Hamptons and I would like to extend a huge thank you to our membership, we could not do what we do without your support and participation. I have learned so much in these last three years and I hope I am leaving HAH a little better, I know it has made me better. I would also like to thank our incredible and very active Board and especially my wise mentors whom I could always rely on for counsel and feedback.

HAH is an ALL VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION; it is truly OUR organization, yours and mine. So, to everyone who offered to help in any way they could, THANK YOU.

Finally, I'd like to give special mention to my husband, Mark Ollinger, he is simply awesome!

I’ll see you in the garden,  
Janet

HAH 2018
OFFICERS: (an officer serves for a 1 year term)
President Janet Donohoe Ollinger
First Vice President Bettina Benson
Second Vice President Susan Brackett
Recording Secretary Alicia Whitaker
Corresponding Secretary Erika Shank
Treasurer Pamela Harwood

DIRECTORS: (a director serves for a 3 year term)
Elaine Peterson 2018
Sarah Alford 2018
Rick Bogusch 2019
Erik Brockmeyer 2019
Jeffrey Glick 2020
Marie DiMonte 2020

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

LIBRARY CHAIR (serves on the board with a vote)
Susan Kennedy Zeller

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
George Biercuk, Janet Ollinger, Elaine Peterson

HAH ROUNDTABLE SESSION
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2018
10 am - noon

TOPICS
How to Make Your Garden Look Wonderful During the Winter Months.
We’ll discuss a variety of evergreen and semi-evergreen trees, shrubs, perennials, and bulbs that provide structure, focal points, color, bright berries, colorful stems, and exfoliating bark, including design tips to maximize their effect.

Holiday Decorations You Can Make Using Materials from your own Garden.
We’ll even show a video.

General Garden Questions: Bring Them Along and Hopefully We’ll Have Answers!
Moderated by Pamela Harwood

HAH Approved 2019 Officers and Board of Directors

The following slate of officers for 2019 and two directors (who will serve through 2021) was approved by membership vote at the annual meeting on November 11, 2018.

OFFICERS: (an officer serves for a 1 year term)
President Alicia Whitaker
First Vice President Bettina Benson
Second Vice President Susan Brackett
Recording Secretary Janet Ollinger
Corresponding Secretary Erika Shank
Treasurer Pamela Harwood

DIRECTORS: (a director serves for a 3 year term)
Sarah Alford ‘19
Rick Bogusch ‘19
Jeffrey Glick ‘20
Maria DiMonte ‘20
Elaine Peterson ‘21
Erik Brockmeyer ‘21

Library Chair (who serves on the Board with a vote)
Susan Kennedy Zeller

On occasion the board may appoint someone to fill an unexpired term if necessary.
HAH Library Footnotes¹ December 2018
Susan Kennedy Zeller

Brrrr. If we do not have snow we undoubtedly will have cold weather. Time to snuggle down and catch up on reading and garden planning! And the HAH Library has undoubtedly just the sources to tempt you. Yes you can stop in Tuesday or Saturday or after any HAH event in the Library, BUT here is how you can see if we have a particular book before you come. You can look up from your home computer by author, title or subject matter. Easy to do, just follow these steps.

- Go to our website on your computer www.HAHgarden.org and click these steps.
- at top of page you have choices – click on Library
- click on : http://opac.libraryworld.com/opac/signin? libraryname=HAH

Boxes appear giving you choices to fill in your request by any of the following
  - All words
  - Title
  - Author
  - Subject

After filling in the boxes click ? Mark in the solid blue box.

Listings will appear if we have anything that matches your request! You can noodle around as much as you like. You can print it out or jot it down by reference number, call us to save for you or just stop in. Having trouble? Give us a call and we will help you look up a book. Unless we have a snowstorm we shall be here. Tuesday and Saturday mornings and after any HAH event. 631-537-2223.

Do not forget we have the Book Reviews starting up in December as well as on the third Saturday of each winter month. If you have not been before we do them a unique way. You are NOT expected to have read any of the books being reviewed. Instead each presenter does the reading for you and recommends...or not! A nice, easy way to make discoveries and chat during the winter. See you there. Cheers, Susan

BOOK REVIEW GROUP
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2018
in the HAH LoGerfo Library
11:00 am

Scott Sottile - The Backyard Parables by Margaret Roach
Alicia Whitaker - The Gardens of Bunny Mellon by Linda Jane Holden

Donna Murray from the Hampton Library will speak to us about the library and its programs. Carolyn Gemake will lead us. Open to all! Next meeting will be on January 19.

BRIDGE GARDENS INTERNSHIP
(Peconic Land Trust)

Located on the east end of Long Island in Bridgehampton, NY, Bridge Gardens is a stewardship project of the Peconic Land Trust. Its mission is to serve as an outdoor classroom and demonstration garden, where visitors may learn about what they can do at the individual level to practice responsible and sustainable gardening and landscape management. It is open to the public and offers educational programs and tours throughout the year. BG is a 5-acre property that has four main gardens and garden areas, the Herb Garden, the Rose Garden, the Vegetable and Community Gardens, and the Mixed Borders.

The Bridge Gardens internship offers a hands-on work experience at a public garden to someone aspiring to a career in horticulture and landscape design. The intern will gain practical work experience in a public garden, including knowledge of environmentally responsible horticulture, integrated pest management and sustainable gardening, by working alongside garden staff. Duties include all conceivable outdoor gardening activities. After working with staff, the intern will rotate through the gardens and be in charge of each garden for a 2-3 week period. During the season, the intern will accompany staff on guided tours, interact with visitors, and develop a public tour to be given at the end of the internship.

We need someone who is committed to working hard, rain or shine, in a hands-on position that requires some strength and endurance. Applicants should be enrolled in an accredited horticultural program at a college or university and have horticultural, gardening and landscaping experience.

The work schedule is 8 hours per day, including lunch and a break, 5 days per week. The intern will be required to work 1-2 weekends per month (mid-late May-August) and some holidays.

Apply by: April 15, 2018
Duration: May-August (flexible - will accommodate your college schedule)
Hours: 40 hours per week
Salary: $12 per hour
Housing: Housing is included
Qualifications: Enrolled in B.S. program in horticulture, floriculture or landscape design. (Recent grads of such programs will also be considered.)

To apply: Applicants should send a resume and cover letter to Robin Harris at rharris@peconiclandtrust.org

¹ AHA Library Footnotes is a column for members of the Society and is published monthly. It is intended for members of the society who have an interest in garden history and to promote participation in the society and in garden history. It is to be read as a matter of opinion and not as a matter of fact.
A huge thank you to the following volunteers who participated in the November Amaryllis Bulb Planting Workshop for children at our local Libraries and at the Bridgehampton Child Care Center. Rick Bogusch, Susan Brackett, Eric Brockmeyer, Terry Coppola, Ann Duggan, Harriet Edwards, Susan Edwards, Norma Giorgetti, Dee LaDuke, Elizabeth Lear, Diana Pillsworth, Erika Shank, Alicia Whitaker, Linda Whitaker. It is members such as yourselves who give so freely of your time that make the HAH so special! It was my pleasure working with you!

A very special thank you also to Lydia Wallis for conducting our Fall Centerpiece Workshop on November 17, 2018. Lydia was so gracious and knowledgeable in sharing her considerable expertise with us and sending us home with spectacular masterpieces to grace our Thanksgiving tables. We had so much fun!

Sincerely, Marie DiMonte

AND A BIG THANK YOU TO MARIE FOR ORGANIZING IT ALL!!!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS EVERYONE
Musings & Ramblings
George Biercuk

It was a radical transitional demarcation in mid-October from late summer to late autumn within a day. Gaia fortified Arctic cold funneling southward through continental U.S. How was it that the upper midwest states experienced the same temperatures as the southwest U.S./Mexican border states (New Mexico/Texas) despite the region between them being warmer than both. There were quite a few winter weather forecasts floating around at the time. It will be interesting to see what winter weather will eventually prove to be.

The late October surge of Arctic cold into our area, almost overnight, transitioned the tree's foliage from summer green to their myriad autumnal colors. The importance of cold nights for vivid coloration, despite how pleasurable the prolonged warmth was for people, was plain to see. The super abundant autumn rainfall primed the flora for winterization and just needed that cold nip to initiate the landscape's autumnal pallet. And what a mischievous job Gaia performed. The coloration was intense, though somewhat brief due to very high wind weather events which not only stripped leaves from trees but also continued to wind prune the canopy. How much more can be shaken out of these trees I don't know. We've removed probably a pickup truck bed of twigs, branchlets and branches and they kept coming down. And looking up there's a lot more poised to fall. And it's evident throughout the area. Perhaps it's the somewhat uniform age of the trees resulting from the fire that swept through the area over one hundred years ago that are now showing signs of decline yet they still grew and foliated at such a stupendous rate that I'll probably finish leaf clean-up/composting by next summer.

Of much younger flora there was an inevitable demise. One of the Clerodendrum trichotomum that had defied death despite previous canopy deception, a split trunk and strange solidified ooze along the crack finally succumbed to one of the wind events and snapped leaving a tallish stump still striving to live. The other one is still hanging on. Thankfully we're able to continue this experiment unobtrusively. The saplings planted in this area to hopefully recreate the canopy are showing the same leaf disfiguration that caused the death of branches of the parents, leading to their current state. Curiously the replacement for the deceased member of the original trio planted across the garden, also planted in close proximity to an original, showed the telltale signs while others further removed didn't.

We're at what was the northernmost edge of their range until global warming nudged a bit to our north. Perhaps there are pathogens, bugs or diseases that are indigenous locally to which the advancing clerodendrum are susceptible. When I first noticed this condition years ago I took a sample to the Cooperative Extension in Riverhead and they had absolutely no clue as to what the cause was, probably because the plant wasn't well established and widely planted locally at that time.

Along this theme of plants dying, at the Camellia Group meeting a question was raised about “sudden death” of a seemingly healthy plant. Voles didn't appear to be the problem it was said because the plant was firmly anchored into the ground despite being planted in a bed of pachysandra. The immediate group consensus was voles nonetheless. Accepting an invite to view the collection it was clear that voles were not the problem. How wrong our snap on-site judgement. All the other camellias were absolutely gorgeous healthy specimens. We have a spot where plants are doing the same thing. First a well established azalea quite quickly died branch by branch. Upon digging it out in mid-spring the rootball was extensive and intact. Two branches that had rooted beyond the mother plant continued to thrive. In late September I noticed that prized rhododendron “Phyllis Korn”, planted behind the azalea, was looking a bit sad, more than a bit sad really. Circumstances kept me from roaming the garden as usual and when I saw her at the end of October I was heartbroken. She had literally disappeared from the garden. Her foliage was gone yet her roots were seemingly well entrenched.

Yes, there were voles in the garden but they are inevitable. As I slogged through the leaf clean-up I became aware of the garden's fortitude. Helleborus foetidus were showing the first signs of their late winter/early spring floral display, a bit early for comfort. Should they push too early they risk being “nipped in the bud”. Our other hellebore cultivars/seedlings bulked-up incredibly with both crowns and enormous leaves, hopefully poised for a spectacular spring display. Mahonias were also showing early signs of flower bud expansion at the bottom of the cluster.

In the long roadside planting I finally managed to extend the Digitalis purpurea's range further along the road. By early November their bulk was considerable. I had to be most careful not to smother them with the roadside's ground-up leaves which I use to top dress the soil to improve moisture retention and soil fertility. Too deep and they will rot.

The incessant autumn rains saturated the soil, infusing the aquifer with problematic stuff. The plants, though, will enter winter well hydrated. Depending upon how myriad global ecological forces come to play, so lies the impact on our gardens this winter. Spring, nonetheless, will spring.

Merry Happy Healthy
A Winter Walk in the Woods  
Saturday, December 8, 2018, 10:00 am.

Join us for a guided walk led by  
Naturalist and native plant expert, Vicki Bustamante.  
Hike through Montauk State Park to the area where seals haul-out to rest.

Montauk State Park comprises 1,100 acres of pristine lands. On this walk, we will learn how to identify some of our native trees in winter such as Sassafras, red, black and white oaks, hickories, shad, black birch, witch hazel, spicebush, and American beech. We will take time to observe any birds and other interesting plants as we meander through an oak-hickory forest, crossing a few babbling brooks along the way. We will end up on Block Island Sound where we will hopefully be rewarded with sightings of our wintering seal visitors.

Directions: Heading East on Route 27/Montauk Highway, make a right onto Camp Hero Road. We will meet at the intersection of Camp Hero Road and Madison Hill Drive (which will be on your left almost immediately). Park your car on the right shoulder. (If you come to the Lighthouse, you went too far!!). Wear Sturdy hiking boots or muck boots and take tick prevention precautions. Bring Binoculars!  
GPS coordinates are:  41.06673, – 071.87897

Cost: $5 Members $10 Non-Members  
Payment must be made by December 6. All proceeds will benefit Third House Nature Center.

Registration Form:  
Please sign me up for the Winter Walk in the Woods on December 8, 2018 at 10am

Name(s)__________________________________________________________

Cell phone________________________________________________________

Email___________________________________________________________

I would like to purchase tickets at:  
$5 Member ________________  
$10 Non-member _____________  
Total amount included ___________

Please make checks payable to HAH and mail to: 
HAH, P.O. Box 202, Bridgehampton, NY 11932 Attention: Workshops no later than December 4, 2018.  
Questions: Call Marie DiMonte at 631.728.0292 or Email: osprey23@optonline.net

Late Season Rose Care Workshop rescheduled!  
Saturday, December 1 - 10 am  
Bridge Gardens, 36 Mitchell Lane, Bridgehampton  
Winterizing your roses properly is an important step in keeping your roses healthy and productive during the growing season. Please join us for a presentation on techniques that will benefit your roses as the colder weather sets in, including mulching and pruning for the dormant season - led by Garden Manager Rick Bogusch and Paul Wagner, owner of Greener Pastures Organics. Workshop is in partnership with Perfect Earth Project.  
Reserve with Peconic Land Trust at www.peconiclandtrust.org 631-283-3195
HAH Workshop
Introducing Steve Storch
Founder of Natural Science Organics
Saturday, January 12, 2019
1:00pm – 3:00pm

This workshop will be held in the HAH John LoGerfo Library at the Bridgehampton Community House, entrance is on the School Street side of the building just off the parking lot.

The mission of Natural Science Organics is to bring the most advanced and practical methods of earth healing technologies to the fields of agriculture, horticulture and composting.

Steve, owner of the Green Thumb in Water Mill, developed the “Vortex Brewer,” a ‘Total Compost Tea Brewing System’ in 1998. He will explain the development and benefits of using compost teas in our personal gardens and the origins of agriculture, fertilizers, restoring lands and ecosystems biologically, stewarding your gardens and so much more.

As a prelude to our Workshop, you might want to check out two very interesting websites: www.naturalscienceorganics.com and www.vortexbrewer.com.

This Workshop is being offered free of charge to both members and non-members.

Registration Form:
Please sign me up for the Natural Science Organics Workshop on Saturday, January 12, 2019, at the John LoGerfo Library.

Name(s) ___________________________________________________________
Phone (cell preferred) ____________________________
E-Mail ____________________________

Questions: Call Marie DiMonte at 631-728-0292 or Email osprey23@optonline.net
Registration form may be sent to HAH, PO Box 202, Bridgehampton, NY 11932 or via email to Marie.

Please follow the NY State updates on invasive species activity at these sites:
www.agriculture.ny.gov all sorts of info on agriculture all over NY State
http://ccesuffolk.org/agriculture Cornell Cooperative Extension/ Suffolk County
http://ccecolumniagreene.org/natural-resources/invasive-nuisance-species/invasive-pests/spotted-lanternfly
Spotted lantern fly is of great concern and there are now quarantines to prevent its spread. Please read and watch your gardens for signs of them.
HAH 2018-2019 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!

December 9  Donald W. Hyatt – Chasing the Bloom in the Southern Appalachians - see p. 1
January 13  Matt Mattus - Botanizing in the Land of the Blue Poppy – Yunnan & Western China
February 10  Michael Blakeney – Gardening Doesn’t Have to Stop: The 12-Month Vegetable Garden
March 10  Ed Bowen & Taylor Johnson – Reconsidering the Cutting Garden?
April 7  Margie Ruddick – Wild by Design: Promoting Life in the Designed Landscape
May 5  Jerry Fritz – New & Exciting Perennials
June 9  Karen Bussolini – Gardening with Kids: Opening Eyes & Doors

Please note there are no lectures in July or August

September 8  Lee Buttala – Twenty Heirloom Varieties, Their Stories and Why they Belong in Your Garden
October 20  Renee Marsh – Groundcover Plants – Beyond Pachysandra
November 10  Ian Ross – The Essence of Flower Photography
December 8  Annie Novak – Grow Up! Rooftop Farming

MORE LOCAL AND NYC GARDEN EVENTS  December 2018

Events at Bridge Gardens, 36 Mitchell Lane, Bridgehampton, NY 11932. Register at: (631) 283-3195 or events@peconiclandtrust.org. More info: peconiclandtrust.org

Saturday, December 1, 10:00 am to 11:30 am - Late Season Rose Care. Space is limited, reservations required. Free for BG members, $5 non-members. Rain or shine

Sunday, December 2, 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm - Holiday Wreath Making Workshop with Diana Conklin. $35 per person, which includes materials and light refreshments. Prepaid reservations required and space is limited. Rain or shine.

Marders Wreath Making Workshops Two Sundays, December 2 and December 9 from 10:00 am to 11:00 am. $65 for adults, $55 for children; all materials provided. Prepaid reservations required and space is limited. 120 Snake Hollow Road, Bridgehampton, NY 11932. More info: marders.com. To register, call (631) 537-3700 or email: info@marders.com

Thursday, December 13, 6:00 pm - Jorge Sanchez: The Making of Three Gardens. Reception and illustrated talk. New York School of Interior Design, 170 East 70th Street, New York, NY 10021. $30 for Garden Conservancy members, $35 non-members. For more information and to register: https://www.gardenconservancy.org

December 2018

HAPPENINGS

www.hahgarden.org
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Bridgehampton Community House
The Horticultural Alliance of the Hamptons