HAH Happenings
September 2019

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

at the Bridgehampton Community House

HAH Monthly Lecture - Sunday, September 8, 2019 - 2 pm

Twenty Heirloom Varieties, Their Stories and Why They Belong in Your Garden

Formerly the executive director of Seed Savers Exchange and co-editor of The Seed Garden, Lee Buttala, shares the stories of some of his favorite heirloom varieties and makes the case for why we should still be growing these time-honored vegetables and flowers in our gardens today. Recounting the tales of these varieties, many of which were headed for extinction before dedicated gardeners, seed savers, and farmers created a movement to rescue them, Lee shares ideas for creating a diverse garden that ensures the security of our food supply, while providing us with great tasting produce and beautiful plants that can inhabit our gardens for generations to come.

In his life as a gardener, nonprofit leader and writer, Lee has explored the world of gardening from many angles. As the Executive Director of Seed Savers Exchange, He helped create a seed bank dedicated to the sharing and saving of seeds that define America’s food and garden heritage, and the only non-governmental organization storing seed at the Svalbard Global Seed Vault. He was also the director of marketing communications for BBG and the Preservation Manager for the Garden Conservancy, and is also the Chair of the Historic Landscapes Committee of the APGA. He won an Emmy-Award as a garden television producer for Martha Stewart Living, and was the creator of PBS’s Cultivating Life. He is the author and editor of the books Cultivating Life: A Guide to Outdoor Living and The Seed Garden: The Art and Practice of Saving Seed. You can follow Lee on Instagram @leebuttala or online as The Self-Taught Gardener at theberkshireedge.com

THREE HAH LOCAL GARDEN TOURS IN SEPTEMBER!!!!

Monday, Sept. 9 - East Hampton
Saturday, Sept 14 - Sag Harbor
Monday, Sept. 16 - Bridgehampton

HAH KARISH PROGRAM
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6

Doug Tallamy on ‘A Chickadee’s Guide to Gardening’….Garden Tour, Lecture, Native Plant Sale and Reception

See full details for these events in this newsletter inserts!
Dear Fellow Gardeners,

September has always felt like “back to school” to me and you will feel that way too when you see the number of activities we’ve planned for this month. We can feel the change in the air – our Ospreys have departed and the days are getting shorter, but we have the golden light and warm days that characterize September on the East End. We are back to holding monthly lectures, there’s an amazing overnight trip planned to gardens in the Hudson Valley, and there are three local tours that should be inspiring.

In last year’s survey, you made it clear to us that seeing gardens is a priority for you. Finding local gardens that will accept visitors is an increasingly difficult thing to do; hence our email to all members asking for your help. It’s important to remember that all of our gardens are “in process” – and that it’s instructive to see what fellow gardeners are having in the way of clear successes and failures. Kudos to Pamela Harwood and Erik Brockmeyer for arranging for us to see gardens in East Hampton and Sag Harbor.

Our Karish Program promises to be inspiring and instructive, as speaker Doug Tallamy is an expert in wildlife ecology and entomology. Don’t worry – he doesn’t recommend that we rip out our beloved exotics – but he does make a compelling argument for how we can restore biodiversity by incorporating natives in our landscapes. We’ll see two splendid gardens that have been designed with biodiversity in mind and we will be able to buy native plants from Vicki Bustamante’s Provenance Natives after Doug’s lecture.

Lydia Wallis’ article about Peonies may inspire you to order peony roots now, for their ideal planting time. If you’ve dragged your feet like me, you may also want to finish your spring bulb orders — happy items on a gardener’s to do list.

Best, Alicia

HAH 2019
OFFICERS: (an officer serves for a 1 year term)
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First Vice President Bettina Benson
Second Vice President Susan Brackett
Recording Secretary Janet Donohoe 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
Marie DiMonte ’20
Elaine Peterson ’21
Erik Brockmeyer ’21
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
Pamela Harwood, Elaine Peterson, Dennis Schrader, Lydia Wallis, Alicia Whitaker

SAVE - THE - DATE
Saturday, November 30, 2019
HOLIDAY WORKSHOP
with Lydia Wallis
Watch for sign up next month!

Friends of the Garden (FOG)
Looking forward to seeing you in the HAH Marie Donnelly Garden. Anyone interested in helping us in the garden is welcome!

Monthly dates for the season are
Sept 17, October 15 and November 5.
We always meet on Tuesday mornings at 10 am unless it rains. Rain Dates are Thursday of the same week.
Thank you, Cornelia Bostwick
**Holiday Amaryllis Planting Program**

The HAH is again sponsoring a Holiday Amaryllis Planting Program that is offered free of charge to all participants for up to 15 children per Library, grades K-3. The HAH provides bulbs, containers and soil. We then help the children plant the bulbs and send them home with after care instructions. It is lots of fun!! A few wonderful Volunteers to help out would be most welcome and appreciated. Please contact Marie DiMonte, (631) 728-0292 or email at osprey23@optonline.net if you would like to participate at a library near you or another. Thank you so much!

**Dates and times:**

- **10/29/19** 4:00pm Tuesday Montauk Library
- **11/4/19** 4:00pm Monday Rogers Memorial Library, Southampton
- **11/7/19** 4:00pm Thursday East Hampton Library
- **11/12/19** 4:30pm Tuesday Westhampton Library
- **11/12/19** 4:00pm Tuesday Bridgehampton Child Care Recreational Center
- **11/13/19** 4:30pm Wednesday John Jermaine Library, Sag Harbor
- **12/6/19** 4:30pm Friday Hampton Bays Library

**SAVE THE DATE - Camellia Group Fall Meeting**

We meet again on SATURDAY, November 23, AT 10 AM. Hoping the fall bloomers will not disappoint!

Regards, Bridget DeCandido

**HAH Library Footnotes1 September 2019**

By Susan Kennedy Zeller

**Book Donations**

It seems several members are downsizing and/or moving away and have offered book donations to the HAH Library. It is lovely to have us well thought of this way...thank you folks...BUT due to the spectacular activity schedule this fall (see our newsletter for Karish event, Sunday lectures, receptions, Roundtable discussions, workshops, winter book group and even more in the issues of HAH Happenings!!!!) …this year we find it difficult to find an appropriate time to have the Yard Sale and Book Sale so we must cancel it. Therefore we cannot really accept book donations as we have no pest free, clean, storage areas in which to store them. In order to have the major book and yard sale we need to be able to use all the available tables inside the Library space and leave the books out for a couple of weeks for your perusal. But we find this year the tables are already “booked”… (pun intended)… for these scheduled excellent events.

We certainly hope to be able to reschedule a yard and book sale for either late Winter 2019 or early Spring or Fall 2020. In the meantime, we do have a small selection of great books at unbelievable prices in the Library for your purchasing selection. We also offer free periodicals that are a few years old …but still having pertinent information.

Do read your newsletter closely and take advantage of all the other spectacular HAHappenings. As soon as we can find the appropriate time we shall offer book sales. Watch your newsletter for that notice and thanks for understanding.
Now Is the Time to Start Thinking About Peonies!

Lydia Wallis

Peonies can be documented as far back in history as Confucius (551–479 BC). They have been revered for centuries and immortalized on fabrics and in paintings. They are truly one of my favorite flowers with their entrancing beauty and alluring fragrance. Their magnificent blooms enhance border gardens but can also stand alone and still have a stunning impact. They are also effective grouped in mass plantings or in rows creating a low hedge. Peonies are unsurpassed in floral designs or as a single stem in a vase. Best of all, they exhibit a high degree of pest and disease resistance, including deer damage.

Peonies offer five distinct forms: Single, Semi-Double, Double, Japanese and Bomb. They prefer a sunny, well drained location. Sandy soils produce more foliage and fewer flowers. A clay soil produces slower growth but better flowers. Too much shade and plants become tall and leafy. Peonies should never be planted where a peony has been grown before unless the soil has been removed to a depth of 3’ and replaced.

Unless you have purchased your peony growing in a container, division and planting of bare root plants should be done only in the fall. Dig a hole large enough to accommodate the root system and mix compost a foot deep at the base. The peony eyes should be no more than 1”-2” below the surface of the soil with the eyes facing upward; the tubers will fall naturally into place. If planted too deeply, they won’t bloom. Space plants 3’-4’ apart. Water them in the hole, fill with soil and tamp lightly. Mulch them their first winter once the ground has frozen.

If your peonies wilt from lack of moisture, give them a good soaking. Once established, peonies are extremely drought tolerant. Deadhead as soon as the flowers fade. This prevents seed formation and allows the plant to put its energy back into the plant, rather than into producing seeds. First year flowers are often not typical; like many plants, it takes two to three years for the peony to become established.

If the ground has been properly enriched at planting time, fertilizer will not be necessary. If it is needed, rose food and a light application of bone meal are especially ideal. Apply in the spring when the foliage is 6”-8” tall. If manure is used it should be well rotted and kept from getting over the crown of the plant. The same goes for fertilizers. Note that over fertilization may also reduce flowering.

Peonies seldom require division; some live as long as 100 years in the same location! However, if you want to share your plant with friends, or donate divisions to the HAH Garden Fair in May, dig up the clump in September or October and carefully remove all soil without breaking the tubers. They are quite brittle. Wash the tubers so that the eyes (growth buds) are clearly visible. Trim away any rotten tubers. Herbaceous peonies have eyes in the crown, where the tubers join together. Slice through the clump, from crown downward, to divide the plant into several pieces, each with several tubers and eyes. Plant immediately. If you are donating them to the HAH May Garden Fair, plant them in pots and winter the pots over in a cold frame or sink them in your vegetable garden or in your compost pile.

Botrytis is the most common disease problem and is most prevalent during wet seasons. Careful sanitation and regular inspection of the plants with removal of any infected leaves, stems or buds are the best controls. Look for young shoots that have rotted off at the base, foliage and stems that have turned black or developed a dense gray mold and blasted buds or blooms. In September, herbaceous peony foliage should be cut back to the ground. All foliage, diseased and healthy, should be burned. This will prevent carry over of any disease spores that might be present. Please do not place any peony foliage on your compost pile.

When selecting peonies, be sure to purchase them from a reputable dealer or nursery. Any bargain will be just that: probably a single tuber with one eye that will take longer to become established. There was a time when peonies were either white, pink or rose colored. Today we have a choice of gorgeous colors including corals, yellows, green, red and even some stripes!

If you haven’t tried one of the Itoh’s, Intersectional peonies, I urge you to do so. Itoh’s are a cross between a tree peony and an herbaceous peony, first created by a Japanese horticulturist, Dr. Toichi Itoh. They have large, long lasting blooms that do not require staking, with foliage that grows dense and healthy in full sun. You will not be disappointed.

2020 HAH Sunday Lecture Dates

January 12 – Julie Moir Messervy
*The Designer's Way: Creating Gardens (and Lives) of Beauty and Meaning*

February 9 – Chris Woods
*Gardenlust: A Botanical Tour of the World's Best New Gardens*

March 8 - Stephen F. Byrns
*Untermyer: A Garden for the World*

April 5 – Tony Avent
*My Favorite 100… Perennials I Wouldn’t Garden Without*

May 3 - Lois Sheinfeld
*Outstanding Trees for the Home Garden*

June 14 – Bill Cullina
*What do you Mean I’m Not a Perennial?! Native Shrubs & Small Trees for Perennial Companionship*

September 13 – Lori Chips
*Troughs: Gardening in the Smallest Landscape*

October 18 – Judith Tankard
*Gardens of the Arts & Crafts Movement*

November 8 – Margery Daughtery
*Battling Diseases in the Garden*

December 13 – David Culp
*A Bountiful Year: Six Seasons of Beauty from Brandywine Cottage*
Create a Myrtle Topiary  
Workshop - Saturday, October 19, 2019

Time: 10am – 12pm

Location: ‘The Greenhouse’ at Landcraft Environments  
1160 East Mill Road, Mattituck, N.Y. 11952

Please join us for this very special “Make and Take” event led by Dennis Schrader, plantsman par excellence. Under Dennis’ guidance, we will be re-potting, staking and trimming a 5” Myrtle topiary.

You’ll need to bring your own very sharp scissors.

This workshop will be limited to 20 people, so sign up early as this event will fill up quickly.

Directions from Southampton:
Take 27 East to 24 heading through Flanders to 105 North. Take 105 North to Northville Tpk. (Rte. 43) Turn right on Rt. 43 and go to the end (about 1/8 of a mile). Make a right at the end onto Sound Ave; travel east approximately 7 miles (Sound Ave. will become a 4 lane road when you get into Mattituck.) Make a left at Wickham Ave. Stay left at the fork and Wickham will become Grand Ave. Proceed north on Grand to the intersection of Grand and East Mill Rd. Make a left on East Mill Rd., go approximately 2000 feet to # 1160 (# on mailbox.) on left. Drive up to the top of the hill and park along the greenhouses.

Registration Form:
Please sign me up for the Saturday, October 19, 2019 Myrtle Topiary Workshop.

Name(s) ______________________________________________________________________
Phone (cell preferred) ____________________________________________________________
Email_________________________________________________________________________
I would like to purchase tickets:
HAH Member $30: $__________  Non- Member $40: $__________
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 October 1, 2019.

Questions: Call Marie DiMonte: 631-782-0292 or email her at: osprey23@optonline.net
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 - MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2019

Innifree Gardens - innisfreegarden.org - is recognized as one of the 10 best gardens of mid 20th century design. Over 50 years in the making, it is the work of landscape architect Lester Collins in collaboration with his clients, Walter and Marion Beck. The result is a distinctly American stroll garden — a sublime composition of rock, water, wood, and sky achieved with remarkable economy and grace. Do read the history and description of the garden online and be prepared to experience the garden thrill of a lifetime with sturdy walking shoes. While extensive in scope the garden may also be enjoyed without walking all the way through it. There are select viewing spots from which to enjoy its magnificent beauty.

We will visit four additional private gardens that have been recognized by the Garden Conservancy for being exceptional works of art and beauty and are included in their Open Days Program. You may find out more about them at their website gardenconservancy.org/open-days

1. Clove Brook Farm - Christopher Spitzmiller, Millbrook, NY (see Sept. 21 entry)
2. Helen Bodian - Millerton, NY (see Sept. 21 entry)
3. Hyland/Wente Garden - Millerton, NY (see July 27 entry)

Cost: $400.00 per person double occupancy. $450.00 per person single room

Departure: Bridgehampton at 7:00 a.m. and Hampton Bays, 7:20 a.m. on Sunday, Sept. 22, 2019.
Return: to the Hamptons approximately 5:30 - 6:00 pm. on Monday, Sept 23.

Overnight arrangements: The Hampton Inn and Suites / A Hilton Hotel, Poughkeepsie, NY

Included on the tour are:
Free Breakfast at hotel - 2 Boxed Lunches - Dinner at an upscale restaurant in Poughkeepsie
Admission to all the gardens - Round trip luxury transportation on the Hampton Jitney
All taxes and gratuities - Beverages on the bus

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Registration form. Please sign me up for the Dutchess County tour.

Name(s):__________________________________________________________________
Email: ____________________________________________________________________
Cell phone ________________________________________________________________
I would like a double room at the rate of $400 per person_____________________
Rooming with: _____________________________________________________________
I would like a single room at the rate of $450 per person _______________________

Please make check payable to HAH, PO. Box 202, Bridgehampton, N.Y. 11932. We will try to match people up in a double room if possible. Or pay online at https://squareup.com/store/horticultural-alliance-of-the-hamptons

Please contact Estelle Rosen at 917-846-4160 or estellerosen@gmail.com for info.
HAH 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!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 8</td>
<td>Lee Buttala</td>
<td>Twenty Heirloom Varieties, Their Stories and Why They Belong in Your Garden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 20</td>
<td>Renee Marsh</td>
<td>Groundcover Plants – Beyond Pachysandra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 10</td>
<td>Ian Ross</td>
<td>The Essence of Flower Photography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 8</td>
<td>Annie Novak</td>
<td>Grow Up! Rooftop Farming</td>
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MORE LOCAL GARDEN EVENTS  SEPTEMBER 2019

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

Tuesdays, September 3, 10, 17, & 24, 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm - Paul Wagner Lawn Care Advice. FREE.

Saturday, September 21, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm - LongHouse Landscape Awards. Honorees: Lynden Miller, Amy Goldman, Thomas Woltz and Charles & Kathleen Marder. Short lecture by award recipients from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm in Hoie Hall at St. Luke's Church, 18 James Lane, East Hampton, NY 11937. Luncheon and award ceremony from 12:00pm to 2:00 pm at LongHouse Reserve, 133 Hands Creek Road, East Hampton, NY 11937. For more information and to purchase tickets: call (631) 329-3568 or email events@longhouse.org

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

Sunday, September 8: Fire Cider: Calming Colds with Herbs (Sarah Shepherd)
Saturday, September 14, 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm: Five Seasons of Piet Oudolf Movie Screening and Talk by Director Tom Piper
Sunday, September 15: Organic, Low-Maintenance, Sustainable Gardens (Paige Patterson)
Sunday, September 22: Putting the Garden to Bed and Fall Pruning (Paige Patterson)
Sunday, September 29: Fall Garden Color (Paige Patterson)