HAH Monthly Lecture - Sunday, March 8, 2020 - 2 pm

Stephen F. Byrns

Untermyer: A Garden for the World

Stephen F. Byrns founded the Untermyer Gardens Conservancy in 2011 and is its president. A graduate of Princeton and Columbia Universities, Byrns was a founding partner of BKSK Architects, a successful architectural firm in New York City that was established in 1985.

Byrns was appointed by Mayor Bloomberg to serve as a Landmarks Preservation Commissioner on the NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission from 2004-10. He served on the Board of Wave Hill from 2000-2010.

Byrns lived in Yonkers in the 1990’s, when he discovered Untermyer Park and Gardens. He revisited it in 2010 when told that the fountains had been turned on after decades of disuse. The more he learned about Samuel Untermyer’s garden, the more he was convinced that a conservancy should be established to work with the City of Yonkers to make it once again one of the greatest gardens in America.

A Board of Directors was established, and Marco Polo Stufano, the retired founding Director of Horticulture at Wave Hill, was engaged to be the Conservancy’s horticultural advisor. Sufficient funds were raised to hire Timothy Tilghman to be its first horticulturist in 2011 and there is currently a staff of 8 horticulturists at the garden. Byrns started full-time work at the Conservancy in early 2016.

Recognition of the Conservancy’s efforts has been swift and widespread, with significant coverage from the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Martha Stewart Living, Elle Decor and other publications. National awards have been presented, including the Garden Club of America, Institute for Classical Architecture and Art and the Victorian Society of America. The gardens are once again a showplace and are attracting people from near and far.

Its website is www.untermyergardens.org.

HAH March Events

Saturday, March 7, 10:00 am, HAH Roundtable, in the HAH Library, see page 3 for details.
Sunday, March 8, 2:00 pm, HAH Lecture, in the big hall at the Community House, Bridgehampton, see above for details.
Saturday, March 21, 11:00 am, HAH Book Group, in the HAH Library, see page 3 for details.
Saturday, March 21, 1:00 pm, HAH Film Screening at Guild Hall, see page 4-5 for details.
Dear Gardening Friends,

After this warm winter, I’m wondering what’s in store for us this month. We should be starting to see daffodils as well as minor spring bulbs emerging, but we often get snow in March so who knows what we will see. *Flexibility in all things* is the motto for those of us who garden.

We are inspired by the decisions we made at our annual strategic planning meeting earlier this winter. The big news is that we have committed to a multi-year initiative regarding trees – the anchors for what Doug Tallamy calls the “Homegrown National Park” that creates living landscapes that are supportive of wildlife. Doing this well will require lots of effort to raise awareness as well as to provide native trees to the broader community of homeowners on the East End. We are at early stages of planning, but we’ve already started raising awareness about native trees. We also have Doug’s new book – *Nature’s Best Hope – An Approach to Conservation that Starts in Your Yard* – in our library.

We’re also excited about our second annual Gardener’s Film Festival, this year featuring films about Frank Cabot and a bee keeper in Northern Macedonia. See the newsletter for details of what will be an exciting film program on March 21 with the screening at Guild Hall.

Here’s to spring dreams,

Alicia

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**HAH 2020**

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

- President: Alicia Whitaker
- First Vice President: Erika Shank
- Second Vice President: Rick Bogusch
- Recording Secretary: Janet Ollinger
- Corresponding Secretary: Joan DiMonda
- Treasurer: Bettina Benson

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

- Jeffrey Glick, ’20
- Marie DiMonte, ’20
- Elaine Peterson, ’21
- Erik Brockmeyer, ’21
- Sarah Alford, ’22
- Pamela Harwood, ’22

The Library Chairperson (who serves on the Board with a vote) is currently: Susan Kennedy Zeller

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

**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**

Elaine Peterson, Alicia Whitaker

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**MARCH 2020 NYC LECTURES**

**Tuesday, March 24, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm, Madoo in Manhattan -- Stephen Scanniello: The Rose Whisperer.** Takes place at a private club in Manhattan, address provided to ticket holders. $100 for members, $125 for non-members. Reservations required. For more information: [https://www.madoo.org/calendar-event/madoo-in-manhattan-2/](https://www.madoo.org/calendar-event/madoo-in-manhattan-2/)

**Wednesday, March 25, 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm. Chance Encounters of a Young Gardener: A Horticultural Lecture by Uziel Crescenzi.** New York School of Interior Design, 170 East 70th Street, New York, NY 10021. $27 for Wave Hill members, $30 non-members. For more information and to purchase tickets: [https://www.wavehill.org/events/categories/horticultural-lectures/](https://www.wavehill.org/events/categories/horticultural-lectures/)

**Thursday, March 26, 10:00 am to 11:30 am. Sean Hogan: Rancho Cistus, Sauvie Island (part of The New York Botanical Garden’s 20th Annual Winter Lecture Series: The Garden Came First).** Ross Lecture Hall on the NYBG campus. $32 for members, $35 for non-members. For more info and to register: [https://www.nybg.org/event/2020-winter-lecture-series/](https://www.nybg.org/event/2020-winter-lecture-series/)
Thank you to all who worked on the HAH Garden in 2019 especially Antone Hugel, Bettina Benson, John Benson, Don Cirillo, Joan DiMonda, Marie DiMonte, & Ruth Richards.

Looking forward to seeing you all this Spring. Any and all interested in joining are welcome.

Our first meeting will be Tuesday April 7 at 10AM

Monthly dates after that are: May 5, June 2, June 30, July 28, August 25, Sept 22, October 20, and November 17.

We always meet on Tuesday mornings at 10 am unless it rains. Rain Dates are Thursday of the same week.

Thank you, Cornelia Bostwick

HAH ROUNDTABLE
SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 10am - Noon
in the HAH LoGerfo Library

TOPICS: Favorite Trees and Pruning Techniques for Shrubs and Trees! Late-winter and early spring are great times to plant new trees and to do maintenance pruning of existing shrubs and trees. A favorite maxim is, "right plant in the right location." The questions are, which trees flourish in East End conditions, and what is the right location to plant my dream trees, both standard and dwarf sized, on my property? To keep your trees and shrubs looking their best we'll discuss pruning techniques and timing, an "evergreen" topic. Several varieties can be pruned to stay shrubs or to grow tree size, including our favorite Crape Myrtles.

Please come to the Roundtable and share your questions and experiences.
Moderated by Pamela Harwood

HAH BOOK REVIEW GROUP
Saturday, March 21, 11:00 am
HAH LoGerfo Library

The reviewers this month and the books they will review are as follows:

Carolyn Gemake - Chasing Eden: Design Inspiration from the Gardens at Hortulus Farm by Jack Staub and Renny Reynolds

Wendy Serkin - The Nature of Life and Death/Everybody Leaves a Trace by Patricia Wiltshire

Ursula Thomas - The Water Garden by Anthony Paul and Yvonne Rees

All are welcome to attend! This will be our last meeting until autumn. Thanks to all who participated!

Diana Pillsworth

Our long time HAH member Diana Pillsworth died on January 22. Diana was an enthusiastic volunteer, garden tour attendee and overall supporter. She was always up for a new adventure and introduced many people to our organization. She maintained a positive outlook and a focus on others throughout her illness. We will miss her lovely spirit and friendship.

Condolence notes can be sent to her children: Valerie Hanley, 228 Water Mill Towd Rd., Water Mill, NY 11976 and Andrew Pillsworth, P. O. Box 1131 Water Mill Towd Rd., Water Mill, NY 11976
Gardeners Film Festival

HAH is thrilled to host our second annual Gardeners Film Festival, to enjoy cinema about horticulture, in the off-season. This year we’ll screen two films, and we hope you’ll join us for one or both of them. March - when the weather can be teasingly warm before we’re hit with yet another blast of inclement weather - is a perfect time to indulge in armchair gardening. I’m excited about the film selections, as the films are quite different from each other yet both offer insightful examinations of our relationship to the natural world.

**Saturday, March 21**

1:00pm Honeyland
2:50pm The Gardener
Followed by a discussion with the Garden Conservancy and a reception

Location: Guild Hall
158 Main Street, East Hampton

**Tickets:** $15 for 1 film; $20 for both

To purchase tickets, visit HAHgarden.org or use the mail-in form on the next page

**Honeyland** tells the story of a traditional wild beekeeper whose livelihood is threatened when a nomadic family moves next door and disrupts Honeyland’s natural balance. This visually captivating documentary about the delicate balance between nature and humanity won three Sundance Film Festival awards including the Grand Jury Prize and it received two Oscar nominations.

**The Gardener** is a breathtaking film about Les Quatres Vents, the gardens of Francis Cabot, plantsman and founder of The Garden Conservancy. It includes interviews with Francis Cabot, as he reflects on his ambitious and inspiring gardens spanning twenty acres on the scenic hills of Charlevoix County in Quebec. The film shares his insight into why gardening imprints our senses and lives.

The Garden Conservancy will offer an introduction to The Gardener, with remarks about its founder Francis Cabot. Refreshments will be offered between the films as well as after, providing an engaging afternoon with fellow gardeners on the East End.
To purchase film tickets: use the online link at HAHgarden.org to pay via credit card, or use this mail-in registration form to pay by check. Pre-paid tickets will be held at the door.

**Mail-in Registration Form**

HAH Gardeners Film Festival  
March 21, 2020  
At Guild Hall  
158 Main Street, East Hampton

Name(s) ________________________________________________

Phone (cell preferred) ________________________________

E-mail ________________________________________________

Honeyland at 1:00pm  $15 per ticket  ___________

The Gardener at 2:50pm  $15 per ticket  ___________

Both films and reception  $20 per ticket  ___________

Total  ___________

If paying by check, please mail no later than March 14th.  
Tickets may be purchased at the event, if available.

Make checks payable to HAH and mail to:  
The Horticultural Alliance of the Hamptons  
P.O. Box 202, Bridgehampton, NY 11932  
Attention: Film

Questions? Call HAH: 631.537.2223 or email HAHmember@optonline.net

“Emotions and sensuality are what a garden is all about. We should be transported from our regular preoccupations. With an open heart and soul we can be receptive to the images, scents, sounds, spaces and views that surround us, as well as to the touch of the wind and the rain, to the peace everlasting of the ‘genius of the place.’ Ideally, all the nobler emotions should be exercised so that we sense fulfillment and satisfaction and an inner peace when we have finished, a sense of communion with those who are no longer with us and those whom we love.”

- Francis Cabot from his book *The Greater Perfection: The Story of the Gardens at Les Quatres Vents*
Nyssa sylvatica  🍂 Tupelo

Whether it is called tupelo, black tupelo, black gum, sour gum or pepperidge, Nyssa sylvatica is one of our most beautiful, yet little-known native trees. Growing from Maine west to Michigan and Ontario and south to Florida, this tree can be found in the forests of the southeast, on the rolling hills of the Midwest and around Cape Cod’s freshwater ponds.

You may have walked by a tupelo and not given it a second glance. Flowers are small and inconspicuous, but full of nectar and abuzz with bees in May and June. Some are male, some female, some both. The oval, dark blue fruits are also small and easily overlooked, though not by the many birds and mammals that devour them.

What makes tupelo so beautiful is its foliage. Leaves are oval in shape, lustrous dark green on top and slightly waxy beneath. In October, they consistently turn fluorescent orange, red, purple and yellow, making tupelo one of the best trees, native or not, for fall color.

Tupelo’s bark is also distinctive. Its dark gray, deeply furrowed ridges, sometimes divided into an alligator-like pattern, can help identify large, forest-grown trees.

Though larger trees can be found, tupelos usually grow 30-50 feet tall and 20-30 feet wide. Pyramidal in youth with dense, horizontal and slightly pendulous branches, older trees, grown in groups or with other trees, become irregular in shape with rounded or flat-topped crowns. When grown as a specimen, with plenty of room, they indeed become a stately tree.

Tupelos are little-known in the nursery trade and by gardeners because they are considered to be difficult to transplant. Though their long taproots make them difficult to move in large sizes, container-grown plants and balled-and-burlaped trees, 6-8 feet tall, usually establish well, especially if given ample water and a little fertilizer for the first 1-3 years.

Plant tupelos in full sun or part shade. Though they prefer sites with moist, acidic soils that are sheltered from strong winds, they tolerate poorly drained lowlands as well as dry, drought-prone hills and ridges. Generally free from damage by insects and diseases, these elegant, graceful trees are useful in naturalized settings and woodland gardens.

Locally, you can see tupelos on the wooded slopes of the Shinnecock Hills or in Montauk County Park off East Lake Drive. They’ll be easy to spot in October and November. Also, there are two on the west side of the Bridge Gardens driveway, right where it meets Mitchell Lane, and one at Peconic Land Trust’s North Fork Stewardship Center in Cutchogue.

Rick Bogusch
HAH Workshop

“The Care and Maintenance of Succulents”
Introducing Catherine Warren, Broadview Gardens

Saturday, April 4, 2020
1:00pm – 3:00pm

Location: Broadview Gardens, 651 Sagg Main Street, Sagaponack, New York

Catherine will lecture on the care and maintenance of succulents, offer her expertise on how to artfully arrange them in a container and guide us on a tour of Broadview Gardens. You will also be given an opportunity to purchase some superb specimens today.

Tour will be limited to 15 persons.

Cathy has been in the industry 27 years and Broadview Gardens was established 17 years ago. She has a lot of experience in the plant world and is known for the rare and unusual, not the everyday. She loves her faithful dog, Sweetie, who she rescued a few years ago.

There will be no charge for this wonderful opportunity but pre-registration is required.

Registration Form:
Please sign me up for the April 4, 2020 “Care and Maintenance of Succulents” Workshop at Broadview Gardens by March 28, 2020.

Name(s) ____________________________________________________________

Phone (cell preferred) _________________________________________________

E-Mail__________________________________________________________________


HAH 2020 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!

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

There are no lectures in July or August

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

MORE LOCAL GARDEN EVENTS  March 2020

Madoo Winter Lecture Series: Singular Gardens. Sunday, March 1, Kate Kerin, Innisfree. Sunday, March 8, Louis Bauer, Wave Hill. Sunday, March 15, Toshi Yano, Wethersfield. All lectures from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm. Individual lectures are $20 for members, $25 non-members. All three lectures are $50 for members, $65 non-members. Madoo Conservancy, 618 Sagg Main Street, Sagaponack. For more information and to reserve a space: https://www.madoo.org or email info@madoo.org or call (631) 537-8200.

Friday, March 13, 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm, Greening Your Garden: Pollinator Gardens and Going Green in Landscape Design (a Sag Harbor Express Session). The American Hotel, 45 Main Street Sag Harbor. $35 (includes lunch). For more information and to register: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/greening-your-garden-pollinator-gardens-going-green-in-landscape-design-tickets-90703212751

Saturday, March 21, 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm. Joyous Daffodils Walk. Longhouse Reserve, 133 Hands Creek Road, East Hampton. For more information and to register: (631) 329-3568 or longhouse.org.

Saturday, April 25, All day Gardening School, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County. 8am-4pm, Riverhead Middle School. For more info and to register go to ccesuffolk.org/events/2020/04/25/spring-gardening-school-2020