On Sunday, September 12, 2021 at 2:00 pm
please join us for a lecture via ZOOM
by Andy Brand

Spectacular Native Plants: Beauty and Biodiversity of the Northeast

Landscapes today are all too often composed of mostly exotic species from around the world. While such landscapes may be aesthetically pleasing, they typically do not support the diversity of species that is found in properties made up mostly of native species. The popularity of native plants has grown leaps and bounds recently and rightfully so. They’re tough and durable, demonstrate good resistance to drought, insects, and disease, provide food and habitat for wildlife, and they’re beautiful. Andy will present a selection of native plants describing their attributes, habitat needs and the important roles they play in increasing biodiversity in our yards.

For 27 years Andy Brand was employed at Broken Arrow Nursery in Hamden, CT where he was the nursery manager. In March 2018, Andy joined the staff at the Coastal Maine Botanical Garden as Curator of Living Collections. His responsibilities include plant selection, introducing new plants to the Garden’s collection and maintaining plant records and labels. In March 2021, Andy was named Interim Director of Horticulture. He is past President of the Connecticut Nursery and Landscape Association and is an avid naturalist. He is a cofounder and past President of the Connecticut Butterfly Association.

Andy has put his interest in native plants to use as a volunteer for the New England Plant Conservation Program where he has helped monitor historical sites of endangered native plants. He has spoken to groups throughout the northeast on a range of topics including native plants, new and unusual ornamentals, butterfly gardening, butterflies and their life histories, and increasing biodiversity in landscapes. Andy, along with his wife, Michelle, lives in Bristol, Maine. Andy also has a Facebook page, Seeing Nature: Observations from New England, a page dedicated to native flora and fauna.
Dear Friends,

September is a favorite month – still warm, bright blue skies, often ideal planting weather. There’s usually less traffic too! These facts are consoling me in view of the fact that we still aren’t able to gather together indoors as we would like. It’s been wonderful to see people on the garden tours that Pamela Harwood and her team have organized for us this summer, as well as the several plant sales in members’ driveways.

As you will see in the newsletter, we are back to using Zoom as our main program vehicle--actually, we never stopped using Zoom. We watch what’s happening with the virus in our communities and will be back together when it’s safe to do so.

Happy gardening,

Alicia

FOG – Friends of the Garden - The gardening dates for fall 2021 are Tuesdays at 10am (Rain Dates are Thursday of the same week) - September 21, October 19, and November 16.

HAH 2021

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 Donohoe Ollinger
Corresponding Secretary Joan DiMonda
Treasurer Bettina Benson

DIRECTORS: (a director serves for a 3 year term)
Erik Brockmeyer ’21
Elaine Peterson ’21
Sarah Alford ’22
Pamela Harwood ’22
Marie DiMonte ’23
Michael Longacre ’23
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 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 this month
Peter Feder, Elaine Peterson, Erika Shank, Alicia Whitaker

HAH Sunday Lectures for 2021- 2pm
September 12 - Andy Brand – Spectacular Natives, Beauty & Biodiversity of the Northeast
October 17 - Bill Cullina – What do you Mean I’m Not a Perennial?! Native Shrubs & Small Trees for Perennial Companionship
November 14 - Holger Winenga – New Plants at LongHouse Reserve
December 12 - Roxanne Zimmer – Celebrating Olmstead’s Parks for All

SAVE-THE-DATE
Plant Sale Benefit for HAH
At the home of Lydia Wallis, 22 Charla Drive, Southampton
Saturday, October 9th
10:00 am – 1:00 pm
Watch your email in late September for a list of plants available at the sale.
ZOOM Workshop Introducing Robert Bubka, Dahlia Lover and Grower Par Excellence

Saturday, September 18, 2021, at 1:00pm

ZOOM link will be e-mailed prior to the event.
No need to pre-register.

Robert will offer his expertise to de-mystify the care, cultivation and maintenance of Dahlias, advising proper techniques to plant, fertilize, prune and, most importantly, how to overwinter successfully. We’ll learn about disease and pest control that will insure big, beautiful blooms each year. There will be time for questions afterwards.

The September Sigh Of Relief

By Irwin T. Levy

August. I've always felt August is the most overrated month of the year. In the northeast, we gardeners often get through the winter by anticipating Spring, and get through summer by anticipating the Fall. Think about all our hard work in Spring: the clean up, the cutting back, the pruning, the weeding, the planting, the mulching. Upon completion, the anticipation, and the promise of things to come. The reward comes in early Summer, late June, early July. Lush, green lawns. Endlessly long days filled with hydrangea, iris, hemerocallis, nepeta. Undemanding plants that give us so much. It's not just the flora that are happy, it's the fauna... read us.

How lucky are we, living amidst such splendor in our special corner of the world. But then August arrives. Green lawns turn brown. Plants wilt in drought and heat. Our gardens seem spent, and look tired. Dare I say this, but could our gardens simply be as weary as we are? Thankfully overrated August gives way to arguably the best month of the year, particularly on the East End: September. While "Tumbleweed Tuesday" is our reality no longer, I've always marveled that post Labor Day still feels overtaken by calm, and is summer in name only.

In my mind, I hear the singer-songwriter Joseph Arthur’s lyrics to his song September Baby: "I can see September sun, fading in the Autumn sky". He is speaking those words to my garden, to all our gardens. The sedum ‘Autumn Joy’ is bright red, the asters deep blue, and the goldenrods, yellow and orange, mimic the sun everywhere I look. And the Grasses, swaying in the wind, you can almost hear the rustling, no longer competing with the background hum of hustle and bustle. Weary no longer, our September gardens give us a second reward beyond physical beauty. A chance for us as gardeners to catch our collective breath, to reflect, and celebrate our good fortune to be connected in this way, with this extraordinary place.
The Pandora Sphinx Moth and Virginia Creeper

Janis L. Murphy (and Alfred Hostek)

When a gorgeous large moth landed on my shed on a recent afternoon, I was very excited! It obliged me by staying motionless for a photograph and for me to identify it via Google Lens: *Eumorpha pandorus*, the *Pandora sphinx moth*. Only now do I realize that this moth was pictured in the HAH June 2021 Newsletter. Apparently this moth is widespread in much of North America. In the larval stage, the caterpillar lives mostly on *Vitis*, grape and *Parthenocissus quinquefolia* - *Virginia creeper* which is in the grape family, *Vitaceae*. Virginia creeper is everywhere; it grows with abandon in my garden, horizontally and vertically. I like Alfred Hostek’s description in his 1976 book “Native and Near Native:"

“Porch sitters of Victorian days were screened and shaded by natural Venetian blinds of Virginia Creeper which climbed on heavy wires or trellises. Andrew Jackson Downing (1815 - 1851), internationally known horticulturist of the Hudson River Valley, was one of our country’s greatest advocates of native plants in the home landscape. He used a dead or near dead Red Cedar to make a tall support for the climbing Virginia Creeper. This use of the vine added interest and variety to the landscape. A cedar support will quickly become festooned with a living green curtain of foliage during the summer, turning to flaming red in early fall; an advance warning of the frost to come.”
Sweet Bay Magnolia     Magnolia virginiana

Sweet bay magnolia is native to the southeast, but grows naturally along the coast up to New York. At the southern end of its range, it is a large, pyramidal tree, growing up to sixty feet tall, though thirty-five feet is more common. Here on Long Island, sweet bay will reach fifteen to twenty feet and is usually multi-stemmed, like a large shrub with a rounded, spreading crown. Achieving its best growth in moist, acidic soils, rich in organic matter, salt-tolerant sweet bay will also grow in very wet soils. In zones five and six, protection from winter winds and sun is advisable.

Not surprisingly, the most ornamental feature of this tree is its flowers, creamy white, sweetly fragrant and cup-shaped flowers. Appearing in mid-spring and sporadically throughout the growing season, they are two to three inches in diameter and have many wax-like petals. Leaves are also attractive, narrowly oval, about five inches long, shiny green above and silvery beneath. In warm climates, sweet bays are evergreen, but here they are semi-evergreen and often deciduous. Cone-like fruits with red seeds are a colorful feature from autumn into early winter.

Sweet bays are wonderful small specimen trees and look good in foundation plantings and sited near a doorway or patio. They are also great in the background behind shrub borders, along woodland edges, pond edges and streams. They are reported to be deer resistant.

Other near-native magnolias to consider are umbrella magnolia (M. tripetala), tropical in appearance with leaves up to two feet long and six to ten inch flowers; hardy varieties of southern magnolia like ‘Edith Bogue’ and ‘Bracken’s Brown Beauty;’ bigleaf magnolia (M. macrophylla) with leaves over two feet long and large flowers, best used as a specimen tree surrounded by lawn on large properties and lastly, shrubby Ashe magnolia (M. ashei), which rarely exceeds ten feet in height.

Rick Bogusch, Director, Bridge Gardens

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Holiday Amaryllis Planting Program

The HAH is again sponsoring a Holiday Amaryllis Planting Program that is offered free of charge to our local Libraries with participants for up to 15 children per Library, grades K-3rd. The HAH provides bulbs, containers and soil and we then help the children plant 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. At this time, it is anticipated that programs will be in-house at the Libraries.

Please contact Marie DiMonte, (631) 728-0292 or email at osprey23@optonline.net if you would like to participate. Thank you.

Dates are as follows:

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HAH was fortunate to be able to offer tours in August to several remarkable gardens. Thank you to their most generous owners for welcoming our members!

Photos: Erika Shank
SOME LATE SUMMER FLOWERS OF NOTE WORTH GROWING

above: Anemone ‘Wild Swan’, Angelica gigas

below: Solidago ‘Fireworks’ Rudbeckia ‘Little Henry’ Lycoris radiata
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 7, 14, 21 & 28. 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm - Paul Wagner Lawn Care Advice. FREE.

Saturday, September 11, 10:00 am to 11:30 am. WATERWASH Narrow River -- A Rain Garden Walk. 1455 Narrow River Road, Orient, NY 11957. $5. A garden walk with ecological artist Lillian Ball through a uniquely natural 15 acre landscape surrounding this "house on stilts". Rain or shine. Space is limited, reservations required. For more info and to purchase tickets: https://peconiclandtrust.org/get-involved/events/waterwash-narrow-river-a-rain-garden-walk-2

Saturday, September 11, 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. An Outsider’s View 2021: South Main Stroll. Garden & Architecture Tour. Tickets from $150. Stroll down South Main Street to Gin Lane. Refreshments will be served at the Thomas Halsey Homestead on South Main Street during the tour, and a champagne reception will follow on the grounds of the Rogers Mansion on Meeting House Lane. For more info and to purchase tickets: https://www.southamptonhistory.org/event-details/an-outsiders-view-2021-south-main-stroll

Saturday, September 11 & Sunday, September 12. Parrish Art Museum Landscape Pleasures 2021. Self-guided tours of four North Fork gardens on Saturday from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Saturday evening Cocktail Party for Sponsor level ticket holders and above. Sunday symposium from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm. Tickets start at $200 for members, $250 for non-members. For more info and to purchase tickets: https://parrishart.org/event/landscape-pleasures-2021/2021-09-11/


Saturday, September 25, 10:00 am to 11:30 am. The Cultural Landscape Foundation Garden Dialogues 2021: The Hamptons, NY. $150. Join HAH members Edwina von Gal and Abby Clough Lawless for a walking tour of a garden in the Georgica section of Wainscott (address provided upon registration). Space is limited and reservations are required. For more info and to purchase tickets: https://tclf.org/garden-dialogues-2021-hamptons-ny

Saturday, September 25, 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm. The Cultural Landscape Foundation Garden Dialogues 2021: Sagaponack, NY. $150. A walking tour of a Sagaponack "Farmhouse Revived" led by Melissa Reavis of Hollander Design Landscape Architects. Space is limited and reservations are required. For more info and to purchase tickets: https://tclf.org/garden-dialogue-2021-sagaponack-ny