On Sunday, December 13, 2022 at 2:00 pm
Please join us at the Bridgehampton Community House for a lecture by Stephen Scanniello on *The Rose Garden Chronicles*

Pre-eminent rosarian, author, lecturer, and gardener Stephen Scanniello is presently the Peggy Rockefeller Rose Garden Curator for the New York Botanical Garden and rosarian for the Helen S Kaman rose garden, the nation’s oldest public rose garden located in West Hartford, CT. He has been a judge for the rose trials of Bagatelle in Paris since 1986 and is president of the Heritage Rose Foundation. Stephen has worked tirelessly throughout his career to preserve heritage roses and in 2009 created the Heritage Rose District of New York City — a volunteer project that promotes heritage roses and gardening with the children of Harlem.

Stephen's serious approach to determining best practices in rose care has been recognized by numerous honors and awards including the Great Rosarian of the World Award in 2009, the 2013 Jane Righter Rose Medal from the Garden Club of America, of which he was made a lifetime member, and the American Horticultural Society's Annual Book Award in 1998 for his book “A Year of Roses.” He has authored and co-authored five books on roses. Stephen Scanniello lives for roses and describes each one as if he were describing a quirky, adored relative. Stephen was honored alongside Julie Andrews by the New York Botanical Garden in 2015, and by Bette Midler and her New York Restoration Project in 2019 for his ongoing work in rose preservation and education.

**HAH Upcoming Events**

**Saturday, December 3** - Roundtable - 10:30-Noon and again on January 7, February 4, March 4 and April 1

**Sunday, December 11** - Lecture followed by Holiday Party - 2 pm

**Saturday, December 17** - Book Review Group - 11:00 am and again on January 21, February 18, and March 18, 2023.
Dear fellow members,

As we race headlong toward the end of 2022, I’m very pleased to report that HAH finishes the year in a strong position.  (I don’t want to jinx it, but you’ve just about survived one year with me as President!) The membership has grown to over 400, the organization is financially secure, and we are fortunate to have a talented + hardworking Board as well as many committee chairs and volunteers whose energy, creativity, and dedication allow us to provide a tremendous amount of programming over the course of the year. Thank you all!

At the Annual Meeting in November we voted on the slate of officers and directors for 2023. Please join me in welcoming the four members who have stepped forward to join the Board next year: Valerie Hanley, Pat Matheson, Ruth Ann Stanley and Greg Wiseman. I look forward to working with them and to their future contributions to HAH!

Please also join me in thanking the members who will be stepping away from the Board – but not HAH! – at the end of this year: Bettina Benson, Janis Murphy, and Susan Kennedy Zeller. Their contributions to HAH are too numerous to list here but they are legion and HAH would not be what it is today without their passion and dedication over the years. I’m grateful for all they have done and I am counting on their continued active participation in the future.

Whether you celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, or Solstice this month, one thing all of these traditions recognize is the need to celebrate the light during the darkest (shortest) days of the year. I hope that your gardens, and this community of like-minded garden enthusiasts, are a source of light in your lives; they are in mine. It has been a privilege serving as your President this year and I’m looking forward to more great things for our organization in the New Year!

All my best,

Erik

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**HAH 2022**

**OFFICERS: (an officer serves for a 1 year term)**
President              Erik Brockmeyer
First Vice President   Erika Shank
Second Vice President  Rick Bogusch
Recording Secretary    Alicia Whitaker
Corresponding Secretary Joan DiMonda
Treasurer              Bettina Benson

**DIRECTORS: (a director serves for a 3 year term)**
Pamela Harwood         ’22
Marie DiMonte          ’23
Michael Longacre       ’23
Janis Murphy           ’24
Janet Ollinger         ’24

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**
**WEBSITE EDITOR - Michael Longacre**
**MAILING - John Benson**
**PHOTOS this month - Erik Brockmeyer, Joan DiMonda, Susan Harder, Pamela Harwood, Michael Longacre, Janis Murphy, Elaine Peterson**

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Michael Longacre       ’23
Erika Shank            ’24
Valerie Hanley         ’24
Pamela Harwood         ’25
Rick Bogusch           ’25

The Library Chairperson (who serves on the Board with a vote) will be: Joan DiMonda
HAH Library Notice

There are still good books left over from our Library book sale - duplicates and donations all very liberally priced. They are on the library table. Check them out at our next lecture, December 11, 2022. Otherwise, they will be donated to the Bridgehampton Book Bay.

Calling all elves!

Volunteers needed to set up for our annual holiday party on December 11 at 11:00 am. Also needed:
Holly, Rhododendron, and any other greens you may be able to cut - small and large branches welcome.
Silver ice buckets, or other silver vessels to LOAN for the display.
(Please put tape with your name on the bottom before bringing.)
These items may be dropped by the library at any time before 11am on Sunday, December 11.

Thank you!

WINTER BOOK GROUP BEGINS SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17TH AT 11AM VIA ZOOM

Put on the kettle and settle in by the fire for an hour of Horticulture and books. Three presenters, three books, one hour. Look for the email announcement with the ZOOM link. We’ll look forward to seeing you there!

**The Dry Garden** by Beth Chatto, presented (from Denver, Colorado) by Sue Brackett
**English Garden Eccentrics: Three Hundred Years of Extraordinary Groves, Burrowings, Mountains and Menageries** by Todd Longstaffe-Gowan, presented by Alejandro Saralegui

HOLIDAY PARTY

The Annual HAH Holiday Party immediately follows the monthly lecture Sunday, December 11, 2022

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!!
PEONIES (Paeonia)

On November 5, 2022 the HAH sponsored an in-person Roundtable program for the first time in over 2 years. Seventeen members attended. The topic was one of our favorite plants and, since one important requirement for successful growing is that they have a period of cold winter dormancy, we gardeners on the East End of Long Island are poised for success.

There are so many reasons to include Peonies in your garden, as they are deer resistant, wonderfully fragrant, have beautiful blooms, are generally pest free, and are incredibly long-lived. Once planted, you will enjoy them for many years to come. HAH member Susan Harder, who grows a significant variety of Peonies in her East Hampton garden, spoke to us about her collection, showed wonderful photographs of various types and cultivars, and offered many tips on growing them successfully. Here is some information we learned from the Roundtable as well as from the book that Susan donated to our library, “How Not to Kill a Peony.”

Varieties include herbaceous with single, semi-double, and double flowers; woody tree Peonies; and a hybrid of the two called Itoh.

Dividing, transplanting, and planting Peonies. October and November are the best months to do this work, as the cooler temperatures provide less stress on the plant while it is acclimating to its new location before the ground freezes during winter. Once planted properly, they can thrive for 30-40 years or longer. If you wish to divide them to increase your supply or because you need to move them to a sunnier location, break up the fleshy roots leaving each clump with 3-5 red eye buds. This will increase the likelihood that your divisions will bloom the next spring. If you plant just one or a few roots that you have purchased or your divisions include less than 3-5 eye buds, it may take 3 years for you to see blooms. Plant the roots at a depth of no more than 1-2” (with the red eye buds facing upwards just below the surface), plant in full sun (at least 6 hours) in rich but well-drained soil. Tree Peonies prefer afternoon shade. Space each clump at least 3 feet apart for good air circulation to prevent fungal diseases and because Peonies don’t like root competition.

Soil and soil amendments. Herbaceous Peonies like high-fertility soils with a neutral or slightly acidic PH of 7.0 to 6.5. Tree peonies like more alkaline conditions. Spread a light layer of compost and a small amount of low-nitrogen fertilizer around the plants each spring. Tree peonies benefit from a 5-10-5 fertilizer.

Staking. As many herbaceous Peony flowers are large and the stems may be weak, it is common for them to bend over or break, especially when they are wet during and after a rainfall. Various methods of staking are advised to provide support while they are blooming, and these supports should be put in place when the shoots and leaves start growing. Try metal Peony cages or wrapping tall plants with green garden twine.

Watering and mulching suggestions. Peonies benefit from regular watering. Mulch lightly so the soil stays moist and to reduce competition from weeds.

Avoiding and dealing with fungal diseases. Peonies are susceptible to fungal diseases. With the cold, wet springs and hot, humid summers that prevail on the East End our Peonies are almost certainly going to be prone to these diseases. As shoots and leaves emerge in the spring, one or more preventative sprays with a rose fungicide might help avoid or reduce this problem. It is also best to water the soil rather than the leaves by using a soaker hose or a drip irrigation system. If you only have an overhead irrigation system, water in the early morning so that water on the leaves will evaporate quickly. If you do spot leaves with fungal issues, prune them off as soon as possible and dispose in the garbage, not on your compost pile. Between each pruning cut, clean your tools with bleach or alcohol.

Happy growing, Pamela Harwood, Moderator

Photographs: Susan Harder
THE HAH ROUNDTABLE PROGRAM RETURNS
IN PERSON THIS MONTH

Saturday, December 3, 2022 at 10:30am – Noon

We will meet in person again at the HAH Library and begin our discussion at 10:30am to give everyone a bit more time to arrive. Our topic this month is one that we try to have annually, as our members always have new information and experience to share.

PUTTING YOUR GARDEN TO BED FOR THE WINTER

- Which tasks and cleanup should I do now and what should I leave until spring?
- Fall pruning
- Dividing and transplanting
- Labeling and Marking Your Plants so you know what’s in that Bare Space in spring!
- Saving and storing tender perennials and tropical
- Fallen leaves: how to put them to work in your garden
- Composting
- Collecting, Sowing, and Saving Seeds
- Protecting Evergreens
- Winter Care for Roses
- Winterizing Garden Equipment and Decorative Accessories
- Mulching and Fertilizing
- Protecting Plants from Deer and other Animals

So please join us in person on Saturday, December 3rd at 10:30am and, if you have experiences of your own to share, or any other gardening questions, we very much welcome your input.

Pamela Harwood, Moderator

DECEMBER LOCAL EVENTS

Friday, December 2, 9:30 am to 12:00 pm. Living Holiday Wreaths. Landcraft Garden Foundation, 4342 Grand Avenue, Mattituck, NY 11952. $108 for members, $120 for non-members. For more info and to register: https://www.landcraftgardenfoundation.org/event/living-holiday-wreathes/

Saturday, December 3, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Merry Madoo Holiday Market. Madoo Conservancy, 618 Sagg Main Street, Sagaponack, NY 11962. FREE. For more info: madoo.org

Saturday, December 3, 11:00 am to 12:00 pm. The Trees of Bridge Gardens: A Winter Identification Walk. Led by Tom Volk of Summerhill Landscapes. Bridge Gardens, 36 Mitchell Lane, Bridgehampton, NY 11932. $5/person; free to Bridge Gardens members. For more info and to register: https://peconiclandtrust.org/get-involved/events/the-trees-of-bridge-garden-a-winter-identification-walk

Sundays, December 4 and 11. Marders Wreath Making Workshops. Morning session from 10:00 am to 11:00 am or afternoon session from 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm. $125 for adults, $85 for children between 10-12 (no children under 10); all materials provided. Prepaid reservations required and space is limited. 120 Snake Hollow Road, Bridgehampton, NY 11932. More info: https://www.marders.com/events. To register, call (631) 537-3700 or email: info@marders.com

Ongoing through Sunday, December 18. A Celebration of Trees. Southampton Arts Center, 25 Jobs Lane, Southampton, NY 11968. For up-to-date info on the many exhibition programs: https://www.southamptonartscenter.org/celebration-of-trees
In the Shade of a Tree….a book review

Trees A Rooted History
Piotr Socha and Wojciech Grajkowski

Last year while browsing the children’s corner at Marder’s Nursery in Bridgehampton, I discovered an absolutely marvelous, magnificent, and magical book about trees. Part botany, part history, part cultural anthropology, Trees A Rooted History is not your typical tree book. It goes way beyond the basics and shares knowledge, much more than you might ever want to know!

Every double page spread is chock-full of vivid colors, stylized shapes and eye catching art. The text is confined to one vertical margin per spread and is full of interesting facts that are easy to understand. The usual topics are covered like leaves, roots, tree eaters, seed dispensers, and tree dwellers, but then there is a spread on lumberjacks, family ties, clever camouflagers, sacred trees, wooden transportation and endemic trees.

Piotr, the illustrator, hails from Poland where he attended the Academy of Fine Art in Warsaw. Wojciech has a PhD in biology and writes children’s books and biology textbooks. He resides in Poland. The book was printed in Poland by Abrams Press. This is a company whose mission is to publish first rate narrative non-fiction on a broad range of topics. It searches for unique voices, develops original projects, publishes carefully crafted, handsomely designed and produced books that entertains readers and illuminates the world. It certainly lives up to its mission!

Recommended for Ages 6-16
Reviewed by Joan DiMonda

Tool Tip

Needle Nose Pliers for Weed Removal in Potted Plants

Potted plants that go outside in warm months often sprout outdoor weeds. Oxalis can be especially challenging when it’s made a long tap root. Needle nose pliers can slip below the surface to get the full root even between tightly packed stems and spare brittle plants like succulents from having their leaves snapped off.

- From Michael Longacre
**HAH OAK TREE DONATION**

In the early morning of October 19th, Joan and Ed DiMonda drove to Long Island Natives in Eastport to pick up a Quercus rubra and delivered it to the Good Shepherd Farm in Bridgehampton, where many farmers had gathered to plant the tree with a prepared hole, compost and water at the ready.

There was genuine excitement as the tree was lowered from the truck, the cover removed and the tree placed in the ground. It was easy to think about the lowly acorn that started the process that created this tree that was standing before us. Aristotle (384-320 BCE) wisely stated that “just as the human being is bred with a unique set of potentials that yearn to be fulfilled, so the acorn yearns to become the mighty oak within it.”

The farmers were extremely grateful to HAH for this donation. They know it will be appreciated year after year. A famous Chinese proverb captured the sentiment of the group, “the best time to plant a tree was twenty years ago. The second best time is now.” Many of the farmers will not see this tree to maturity but they know future generations will have a fabulous shade tree under which to wipe their brows and rest their feet.

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**Spiny Oakworm Moth - *Anisota stigma***

This pair of Spiny Oakworm moths were spotted mating on a red maple tree in Shinnecock Hills in early July. Oak trees are the primary host of the larval stage of this species and the aggressive caterpillar will consume everything except the stubs of mid-ribs and veins of leaves. The caterpillar has harmless spines running down its back, hence its name. It also has a pair of horns. The moth has a wingspan of 1.5” - 2.7” and its upper side is reddish orange with scattered black specks and a small white spot on each forewing. Females are larger than males and not as deeply pigmented.

The Spiny Oakworm is found in parts of the Eastern US as well as some Southern and Central states. According to the New York Natural Heritage Program, Spiny Oakworm moths have declined in the Northeast. They are threatened by loss of habitat, suppression of fires which are needed to maintain open woodland with pitch pine and scrub oak. In addition they are threatened by the defoliation of oak trees by the spongy moth.
HAH Sunday Lecture Program 2022 - 2 pm

December 11 – Stephen Scanniello – *The Rose Garden Chronicles*

HAH Sunday Lecture Program 2023 - 2 pm

January 15 – Frances Palmer – *Life in the Studio*
February 12 – Catie Marron – *Becoming A Gardener: What Reading and Digging Taught Me About Living*
March 12 – Sara Cedar Miller - *Before Central Park*
April 16 – Fred Landman – *Sleepy Cat Farm: A Gardener’s Journey*
May 7 – James Golden – *The View from Federal Twist: A New Way of Thinking About Gardens, Nature and Ourselves*

*June 11 – Karl Gercens – 365 Days of Flowers*

*No lectures in July or August*

September 10 – Bridget Wosczyna – *Introduction to the Plants You Should be Growing: Hardy and Tropical Aroids for Northeast Gardens*
October 15 – Rebecca McMackin – *Brooklyn Bridge Park: Lessons in Constructed Ecology*

December 10 – Scott Chaskey – *Soil & Spirit, Cultivation and Kinship in the Web of Life*