

# **LOOKING FORWARD, LOOKING BACK**

## WINTER SYMPOSIUM & 50<sup>th</sup> CVNLA SHORT COURSE

### **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13**

All programs subject to change.

CEUS for LACES and CBLP are listed per session

CVNLA, VNLA and Master Gardeners can self-report 5 contact hours

#### **8:30 am**

**Doors open, registration, continental breakfast**

#### **9 am**

**Welcome, introductions**

#### **9:05 am**

**Nigel Dunnett, Professor of Planting Design, Urban Horticulture and Vegetation Technology in the Department of Landscape, University of Sheffield, United Kingdom**

*Planting for People: Dramatic and Dynamic Perennial Planting at the Human Scale*

Nigel is inspired by the wild, by the experience of nature. It's a strong emotional response. In this presentation he describes how he works with perennials in design contexts to create dramatic, very long-season "low input-high impact" landscapes and gardens that recreate the positive uplifting immersive emotions of being surrounded by beautiful and breathtaking flowering nature. 1 LACES, HSW. 1 CBLP

Nigel Dunnett integrates ecology, horticulture, and design in the built environment. He uses plants in innovative ways in both private and public spaces. Nigel has authored key books on naturalistic planting design, rain gardens, water-sensitive design, and green roofs. He was principal planting design and horticultural consultant for the 2012 London Olympic Park.

#### **10:05 am**

**Paul Westervelt, Saunders Brothers Nursery**

*Are They Better or Just New?*

With so many new perennials released every year, it can be difficult to distinguish legitimately better cultivars from those that are simply marketable. Through production trials, garden visits, vendor visits, and conversations with other growers, Paul works to select the true winners for our region (and throws some of the losers squarely in front of oncoming traffic). 1 LACES, HSW.

Paul Westervelt grew up in Winchester, Virginia across from a multi-acre Oehme van Sweden garden. He earned his B.S. and M.S. in Horticulture from Virginia Polytechnic Institute. He has been the Annual and Perennial Production Manager for Saunders Brothers, Inc. since 2004, where he grows over 800 varieties across 13 different programs.

#### **11:05 am Break**

**11:15 am**

**Heather Venhaus, Regenerative Environmental Design, Austin, TX**

*Water + Sustainable Landscapes*

Water supports our environment and sustains our lives. It is a key landscape element whose management is central to the concept of sustainability. Heather Venhaus discusses conservation strategies and how to utilize stormwater and other non-potable water sources to create a beautiful landscape. 1 LACES, HSW. 1 CBLP

As the daughter of a West Texas dryland farmer and a community health nurse, the concepts of sustainability shaped Heather Venhaus's childhood. Regular conversations around the dinner table included the longevity of the Ogallala aquifer, public health issues, the carrying capacity of the land and most importantly, how all of those things could be improved for the betterment of our community. These casual discussions shaped Heather's mission to be a catalyst for positive change - an ideal she has carried through in her professional and personal life.

She has experience with teams of scientists, designers, and educators on projects emphasizing sustainable design, landscape restoration, and environmental education. After completing the Sustainable Sites Initiative (SITES) Guidelines and Performance Benchmarks in 2009, she left the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center to see what the world had to offer. When not exploring Austin's greenbelts or checking out parks, she works on projects that give her a better life perspective.

**12:15 pm**

**Lunch, book signings**

**1:30 pm**

**Frank Hyman, Durham, NC**

*Liberated Gardener: It's Easier to Enjoy Your Garden*

*If You're Not Feeling Enslaved by It*

Would you like to spend less time weeding, bagging leaves and watering? Do you want to make great compost that doesn't need turning? Would you rather spend more time enjoying your garden than feeling enslaved by it? Frank Hyman helps you learn how to save your time, your back, your wallet and your planet. 1 LACES

Few garden designers have Frank's breadth of education or experience. He earned a BS in horticulture and design from NCSU while studying under Dr. J.C. Raulston. He has owned an award-winning garden design/plant/build business in Durham, NC since 1992. His writing appears in *Fine Gardening*, *Organic Gardening*, *Modern Farmer*, *Hobby Farmer*, *Horticulture*, *American Gardener* and *The New York Times*. His first book, *Hentopia: Create Hassle-Free Habitat for Happy Chickens*, came out in 2018. He gardens with his wife, Chris Crochetiere, at Bayleaf Cottage, their home in Durham. Learn more about him at [www.frankhyman.com](http://www.frankhyman.com).

**2:30 pm**

**Break**

**2:45 pm**

**Heather Venhaus**

*Healthy Landscapes - Healthy People*

Sustainable landscaping not only improves our surrounding environment, but also provides many human health and well-being benefits. Heather Venhaus discusses how our landscapes can improve our productivity, reduce stress, and improve our overall quality of life. Sustainable landscape design, construction, and maintenance practices are discussed in detail along with potential wellness benefits. 1 LACES, HSW. 1 CBLP

**3:45 pm**

**Group discussion with speakers**

**4:15 pm**

**Adjourn**

**Contact hours: 5**

Continuing Education credits approved for:

**LACES / Landscape Architect Continuing Education System**

**CVNLA / Central Virginia Nursery and Landscape Association**

**VNLA / Virginia Nursery and Landscape Association**

**CBLP /Chesapeake Bay Landscape Professional**

**Hours are applicable to Master Gardener continuing education**