



TAG TALK

April 2018

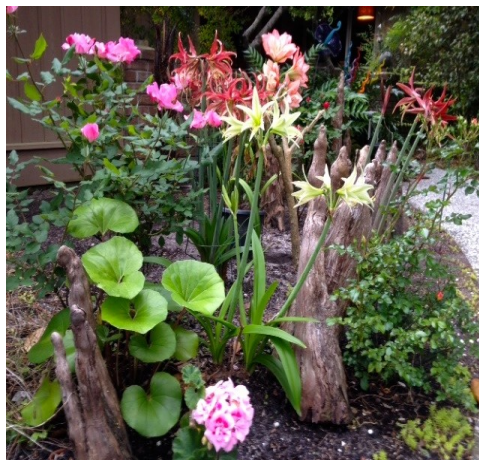
President's Message.....Caroline Alderman

Confession...I have done nothing in my gardens but look for signs of life after the BIG FREEZE. I have been working diligently in my studio, making art for the Art Mart show at Honey Horn at the end of the month. My studio is all glass, so I can see the sunshine and greenery from my work bench, but I'm not out there digging like the rest of you on these perfect gardening days. Instead, I will be out there digging in the heat that will be here before we know it...sigh!

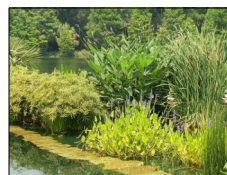
Some things are up and blooming their little hearts out without any intervention from me. These amaryllis are stunning...they are also a yearly reminder of all those Amaryllis TAG Fundraisers. This was a reliable fundraiser that the Board thought may have run its course, so this year we're trying something new...The very successful "Make It, Bake It, Sew It, Grow It" in November and several small fundraisers that are really adding up.

TAG members are hands on and generously volunteer. Besides getting the job done, volunteering to work in small groups is a great way to get to know other members. TAG has something for everyone...one shot deals (hostessing, workshops, plantation holiday decorations, and Spring Clean Ups at Plant It Pink and Reflections gardens) and ongoing commitments (TAG Officers and Board, Pattie's Weeding Warriors at Reflections and the maintenance crew watering Plant It Pink). Every time that I have asked...you've stepped up. "Many hands make light work" and I am so proud to lead the way!

Caroline



Coastal Georgia Botanical Garden Bus Tour
Meet 8:30 am
Friday, April 20
Plantation House
Bus leaves 9:00 am **sharp**



Horticulture.....Diane Middleton

April did us few favors this year except to bring us some good rain and a beautiful display of azaleas. Roses and larkspur are blooming beautifully at the farm. I am planning to scatter some larkspur seeds in one of my new gardens at home as well as Formosa lilies because deer do not favor them, and they are so easy to grow.



This is the time to really enjoy your garden as you finish planting and continue weeding in earnest. Cut back any frost damaged plants carefully as most will recover. Feed spring flowering bulbs with a balanced fertilizer to promote next year's blooms, and do not cut the leaves back until they turn brown. Take photos of them to note where you might want to plant more next fall.



Take your houseplants outside for the summer when the temperature is the same as it is indoors. Take orchids out when the nights stay in the fifties. Put them where they can get only morning sun and no rain. Remember to feed them with half strength orchid food once a week for optimal performance, and don't let them stand in any water. I put little pebbles under each pot in their saucers. Mulch up to three inches around shrubbery, but don't let it touch the stems. Pick off and discard any leaf galls on azaleas. Clean up fallen camellias and replace with new mulch. Magnolias appreciate this too.

Diane Middleton, Master Gardener
dcmgard@aol.com or 843-384-0794

Reminder: The Farm Market is opening May 5 from 9-11. Diane promises to have some beautiful flowers for sale

Birding.....George Westerfield

What bird species which breeds within Hilton Head Plantation advanced the political career of Richard Nixon? If you guessed the Prothonotary Warbler you are correct! And the first Avid Gardener to explain the connection to me will receive a floral gift from me (George Westerfield).

This gorgeous bird makes its breeding-season home right here and right now in our environs making it easily observed by curious bipeds on the Whooping Crane Conservancy boardwalk or the Cypress boardwalk. The male with a bright yellow torso and olive back chooses several holes in dead trees usually cypress or black gum near water level and flits between them to attract the attention of the more modestly attired females in the market for a mate. He puts a welcome mat of Spanish moss at the doorway of each hole and the mother-to-be within a week completes the nest inside with grasses, old leaves, and even tendrils of poison ivy. The parents prefer having the nest close to deeper water to avoid predators.

Both male and female Prothonotaries are very particular about their property and will noisily harass intruders who may wish to forage for spiders and other delectables near their nesting tree. Nesting success is sometimes compromised by Cowbirds which lay eggs in the warbler's nest forcing them to rear the alien hatchlings.

Although the Prothonotary Warblers are fairly common in good habitat, their population has decreased 42% in the last 50 years. Habitat conservation is crucial to their well-being. Hilton Head Plantation with its protected freshwater wetlands provides these feathered jewels the essentials for survival.



PROGRAMS:

1. **TAG Bus Trip** Friday, April 20, 2018

There is still room on the bus for more people to come. You can ask your friends and neighbors. Call Olivia Ford at 843-785-7144 to make your reservations. They can bring the check for \$25.00 the day of the tour.

REMINDER: Remember to pack a sandwich. Everything else is furnished.



BUS SCHEDULE: 1. Leave the Plantation House promptly at 9:00 AM, BE EARLY!!!

2. Guided tour from 10:30 to Noon approximately.

3. Bag lunch from 12:00 noon-1:00 PM

4. Gift shop or pick strawberries from 1:00-1:30 PM

5. Leave and arrive back at the Plantation by 2:30-3:00 PM

2. **Luncheon and Installation of Officers** May 18, 2018

Our luncheon will be held at the Country Club of HH at noon.

Send your reservation checks to Olivia Ford, 6 Ribaut Drive(843-785-7144) for \$26.00 now.

3. **Garden Tour before the Luncheon**

Diane Middleton has been kind enough to conduct a Farmer's Club Tour.

Meet at her plot #36 (front row) at 10:30 AM before the luncheon. She says that the plots look "better than ever this year".

Come see all the varieties of flowers and produce that these gardeners produce.

Olivia Ford, Programs

YEARBOOK PHOTOS



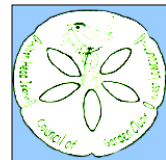
The next issue of The Program & Member Directory (Yearbook) will be updated by Carol Sevelowitz with new pictures of all members

Photos will be taken of members during the May and June luncheons. Sandy Stern has graciously accepted the task.

Note: Date change

The date of the June meeting has been changed to Friday, June 22. The rain date is June 23. This is an evening event at the home of Steven Katz. Details to follow.

Council News.....Christine Thumm



The West Low Country District Meeting, held on March 21 was a well-attended, well-received event and done well within the allotted budget. Many rightfully deserved, favorable comments were received by the program's coordinators, Ann Clayton and Sarah Jebo. In addition, The Avid Gardeners received district awards as listed below. The Council received second place for the President's Report and third place for the Yearbook award.

TAG's WLC District 2018 Awards

Sarah Ann Parlor Special Events...3rd place – Member's Garden Tour in May 2017

Youth...2nd place - for School Vegetable Garden

Best Program...Honorable Mention for Olivia's Program
"Creative Designs from the Yard"

President's Report...First Place

Christmas Beautification...2nd place for decorating Memory Matters

Horticulture...First Place...\$25 for Plant it Pink Garden

Publication...2nd place for TAG Talk

Christine Thumm,
Council Rep

Website: www.hhicgc.org

Minutes of March General Meeting

The Avid Gardeners
General Meeting
March 16, 2018

Attendance:

Guests: 2

President Caroline Alderman called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM.

2nd Vice President Corliss Zampino reported we are at 75 members. We welcomed 2 guests.

Secretary Marcia Sullivan asked that the minutes to be accepted as emailed.

Motion to accept minutes: Sandy Stern Second: Sharon Jaunsem Voted: Unanimous

Treasurer's report: Caroline Alderman reported balance \$9879.50, Income \$486.00, Expenses: \$0 Current Balance: \$9556.05

Motion to accept the Treasurer's report: Sharon Jaunsem Second: Pat Rapp
Vote: Unanimous

1st Vice President Olivia Ford announced that April 6 is the deadline for reservations for our field trip on April 20 to the Georgia Botanical Gardens. Checks in the amount of \$25 should be made payable to TAG and sent to Olivia. The June Picnic will be held at new member Steven Katz's home. He will discuss water features for the residential garden.

Board Members Reports:

Community Projects: Sharon Jaunsem reported that Lowe's has donated pots and paint to restore the Plant it Pink Garden. 20 Volunteers are needed to pick-up paint and pots at Sharon's home Tuesday, March 20 and return Friday, March 23. Planting date will be determined by weather and volunteers will be needed at that time.

School Gardens: Sandy Stern reported that the children have planted spring vegetables

Fundraiser: Caroline reported that 19 people attended the workshop to make the boutique Items for the West Low Country Garden Meeting.

Horticulture: Diane Middleton reported her report is in TAG talk

Library: Caroline reported that we will continue putting library books for members to take and leave a donation on the table at the meeting. Any articles which members wish to submit for the virtual library are to be sent to Liz Van Alstyne.

Mentor and Sunshine: Dede reported that all new members have been introduced to their mentors. Sunshine: Nothing to report.

TAG Talk: Chris Thumm reported the deadline is the Sunday before the General Meeting

Website: Chris Thumm reported there will be a link to connect to the library

Hospitality: Cheryl Hocesvar thanked the hostesses Nadine Korosi, Helen Hinds,

Old Business:

Parliamentarian Janet Hicks presented the proposed changes to the by-laws to the members. The proposed changes will be emailed to all members prior to the April General Meeting. A vote to approve will then be taken.

Garden Club of South Carolina District Meeting: Ann Clayton announced that 108 reservations have been made to date.

New Business:

Nominating Committee: Caroline announced that new member Joyce Pratt will serve as Secretary and Carol Sevelowitz will become 2nd Vice President in charge of membership.

Dues Increase: \$30 for 2018-19 due to the increase imposed by the Garden Clubs of South Carolina increased dues.

Caroline asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: to adjourn Deb Pepe Second: Sharon Jaunsem

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 AM.

Healthy Eating.....Anna Broecker

VEGETABLE SOUP, HEALTHY AND SUPER EASY

4 cups water

4 teaspoons Better Than Bouillon Chicken Base

1 12 oz package Soup Mix Veggies, frozen (Harris Teeter brand, includes carrots, potatoes, corn, green beans, okra, lima beans, green peas, celery and onions)

1 3 oz bag Minute multi-grain medley (brown rice, red rice, wild rice and quinoa, 1 box contains 4 3.0 oz bags)

Bring 4 cups of water to a boil and add frozen veggies.

Bring to a boil again and add 4 tsp bouillon and 3 oz packet of Multi-Grain Medley

Reduce heat, cover and simmer for 10 minutes

(Note, if you want to make vegetarian or vegan use Better Than Bouillon No Chicken Base available at Whole Foods)



Fundraising.....Jane Alexander and Dodi Eschenbach

There are some fundraiser items still available for sale. Look for them at upcoming meetings or contact one of the chairmen.

Jane: diamondsun50@hotmail.com
Dodi: dhesch1999@aol.com

(Photos by Jane Alexander and Dodi Eschenbach)



PROPOSED REVISIONS OF THE TAG BY-LAWS.

A complete edition of TAG bylaws can be found on the website in the Members Only section. The vote on these proposals will take place at the next meeting at which there is a quorum present.

ARTICLE III-Membership

Section 1: This club will be limited to seventy-five (75) Active members and no more than five (5) Associate members.

PROPOSED CHANGE: Change the word Associate to Honorary members.

Section 2: Associate members (inactive) are those who are unable to fulfill the normal attendance requirements.

PROPOSED CHANGE: All reference to Associate members in Article III changed to Honorary members.

Section 5: Honorary membership will be conferred by a majority of the members upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee.

PROPOSED CHANGE: The board to vote on unlimited Honorary membership. Honorary membership defined as use of time, knowledge and effort to the benefit of the Avid Gardeners.

ARTICLE 4: Officers and Organization

Section 1: The term of office will be ONE (1) year for all the offices of President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

PROPOSED CHANGE: The term of office will be two (2) years for all officers. No officer will serve more than TWO(2) years in the same office.

Section 4: *Standing Committees (M) Parliamentary*

PROPOSED CHANGE: The duty of the Parliamentary would be that of the past President. If past President is unable to serve, the Parliamentary would be appointed by the President.

Section 4: *Telephone Committee (Q)*

PROPOSED CHANGE: Omit the telephone committee.

ARTICLE IX-Amendments

Section 1: Any proposed changes to the by-laws may be offered at any regular meeting of the club. Such changes will not be acted upon until a copy has been given to each member with a notice of the meeting at which the same is to be acted upon. This notice must be given at least 2 weeks in advance.

PROPOSED CHANGE: Any proposed changes to the by-laws may be offered at any regular meeting of the club. Such changes will not be acted upon until the membership has received a copy by way of e-mail **or** through the club's newsletter, Tag Talk. This notice must be given at least two weeks in advance.



Native Plant Sale at Coastal Discovery Museum

If you missed the native plant sale this past Saturday on Spring Island, you have another chance to purchase these plants. The Coastal Discovery Museum is having their annual native plant sale this coming Saturday, April 21 from 10 to 2. There are over 75 different plants on the list for sale so I'm sure you'll find just the right plant for just the right place.

Coming in May

Luncheon and Installation of Officers *Tour of the Farmers Plots at Seabrook Farms*

May 18, 2018

Our luncheon will be held at the Country Club of HH at noon.
Send your reservation checks for \$26 to
Olivia Ford, 6 Ribaut Drive (843-785-7144)

Dues for the upcoming year have been increased to \$30.
Please renew your membership before June 1.

Christine Thumm
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Car-



ol Sevelowitz
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843-715-2248

Deadline for submitting articles for this newsletter is the Sunday before the General Meeting.