



President's Message *Caroline Alderman*

A Good Time Was Had by All

Last month TAG traveled to Coastal Georgia Botanical Gardens in Savannah. It was a perfect day...great weather and incredible gardens! The tour was informal, so I found myself chatting with many friends (clusters forming and reforming) as we strolled through the themed gardens. Most spectacular for me was the river of iris...thousands of glorious iris, in full bloom. As beautiful as the flowers were, my favorite memory was getting to know people better, conversing about our mutual interest...gardening. I still smile thinking about that wonderful day.

If you missed it, you have two more mostly social opportunities as our year winds down. Friday is our annual luncheon at the Country Club of Hilton Head, preceded by a tour of garden plots at The Farm...always a fun event! On June 22nd, we have been invited to a Twilight Garden Tour at the home of new member Steve Katz. He has been working with Olivia and the hospitality committee to plan a magical evening in his spectacularly lit gardens. We will stroll through his gardens before sunset and then watch them transformed as darkness falls, by his creative lighting. Be sure to RSVP with Olivia early, as space is limited.





TAG Spring Luncheon

Friday, May 18th, 12 Noon
Country Club of Hilton Head

\$26

Checks to Olivia
(ASAP reservations need to be made)

Hope to see you there!

There is still time to sign up ! Contact Olivia by Wednesday morning.

MENU
Grilled Chicken Salad
Rolls/Butter
Crème Brulee



The magnolias and the hydrangeas throughout the plantation have been twice as thick as usual. Aren't they gorgeous?

We enjoyed our bus trip to the Coastal Savannah Botanical Garden last month. I was very impressed with what they've accomplished in the past few years, and weren't the irises spectacular!



Your annuals are fabulous, and your perennials are dear old friends. Both are available at the farm market sales throughout May, June and the first two weeks of July from 9 to 11.

Encourage birds to hang out in your garden as they eat hundreds of mosquitoes and caterpillars daily. Zinnia seeds and gladiolus may still be planted. Finish pruning azaleas and start going after the aggressive pyracanthus.

Have a great summer!



Plant It Pink !

Sharon Jaunsem



The **Plant it Pink** garden, on the grounds of the Hilton Head Hospital, has undergone a rejuvenation. The garden was dedicated to support the awareness of breast cancer in 2010, to honor the survivors and those that have lost their battle to breast cancer. After Hurricane Matthew, then Irma and the hard freeze of last winter, our garden was in need a major overhaul. Lowe's very kindly donated 2 gallons of pink paint and paint brushes for our project. Volunteers were needed to repaint the flower pots. TAG pot repainters were: TruDee Bamberg, Marge Gallagher, Louise Gorny, Barb Holmes, Sharon Jaunsem, Sarah Jebo, Rosemary Kratz, Diane Middleton, Hannah Obstler, Deb Pepe, Mary Ellen Phillips, Sally Price, Joyce Prange, Nancy Ridgeway, Sandy Stern and Chris Thumm. The pots than had to be replaced in the garden, unfortunately no list is available of these volunteers, but know you are thanked.

Bruno's Nursery sold us 34 1-gallon pots of pink pentas at a cost of \$100; this is comparable to a donation, knowing the cost of gallon size pentas. Thanks to some TAG donors, the price was kept within our budget of \$55.00. Volunteers were again needed to plant the pentas. TAG penta planters were: Eva Duchardt, Joanna Fuller, Louise Gorny, Marge Gallagher, Sharon Jaunsem, Mary Ann Snyder and Liz Van Alstyne.

The newly planted pentas need to be watered daily and these volunteers are: Joanna Fuller, Louise Gorny, Marge Gallagher, Sharon Jaunsem, Joyce Prange, Sally Price and Sandy Stern. These ladies are the backbone of the garden, without them the **Plant it Pink** garden could not continue to flourish.

A big pink thank you to all our volunteers !



CONSERVATION NOTE: Common Purslane

Now that warm, sunny weather has arrived, you may have noticed seedlings of this wild plant popping up in your yard. It's common purslane (*Portulaca oleracea*), a relative of some of the cultivated purslanes (portulaca or "moss rose") sold at local nurseries.

Common purslane is a low-growing, mat-like plant with small yellow flowers and succulent stems and leaves. It thrives in gardens, but it can also exploit seemingly impossible growing conditions. You'll find it along the edges of paths and driveways, and even in pavement cracks.

Gardeners tend to think of common purslane as a weed, and it's true that it can spread rapidly via seeds and detached stems. It's also not as showy as its cultivated cousins. But I find its bright flowers attractive, and its sprawling mats can fill in those hot, parched, sunny patches where other plants can't grow.

Common purslane has a long history of culinary use around the world. It's also interesting to biologists because of its amazing tolerance of drought.

-- Vicky McMillan



TAG's own Dodi Eschenbach !!!



Big Honor for Dodi

Mayor Bennett presented the Honored Islander Award to our Dodi in recognition of her significant sacrifice of time and talent to better the community.

We already knew how generous and hard working Dodi is, but it's always nice when the community notices too.

Congratulations Dodi!





**MAY'S
HEALTHY RECIPES
from Anna Broecker**

HIDDEN VALLEY RANCH PINWHEELS

- 2 pkgs cream cheese softened -- (8 oz pkgs)
 - 1 pkg Hidden Valley Ranch Milk Recipe Original Ranch (dry mix)
 - 2 green onions minced
 - 3 10" flour tortillas
 - 1/2 cup diced red bell pepper
 - 1/2 cup diced celery
 - 1 can sliced black olives (2.25 Oz) drained
1. Mix first three ingredients
Spread on tortillas
 2. Sprinkle on remaining ingredients
Then roll and wrap tightly
 3. Chill two hours at least or overnight. Cut off roll ends
Cut rolls into 1-inch slices or smaller



GCSC & S.A.R. Awards
Received by The Avid Gardeners 2018

South Atlantic Region of the National Garden Clubs Inc. Awards

Certificate of Award (Blue Ribbon) for #9 iii Club Newsletter
Certificate of Recognition (blue) for 29 iii Youth Activities

Garden Club of South Carolina Awards

First Place: Plant It Pink Garden + \$25 check
First Place: Publication (TAG Talk) + \$25 check
First Place: Club Youth Award + \$25 check
Second Place: Club Program Award
Second Place: Bird & Butterfly Award



"In the Spring, at the end of the day, you should smell like dirt"
Margaret Atwood

UPCOMING JUNE MEETING.....

"Twilight Home Tour"

June 22 at 8:00 PM

New member, Steve Katz and his wife, Jacqui have invited us to an evening tour of their garden. Steve is an expert in Lighting and Water-scapes. Since space is limited, the following guidelines will apply:

The first 40 members to respond will be able to attend. Call or e-mail Olivia Ford at 843-785-7144 or fordlarryolivia@hargray.com by June 8th.

After June 8, if space is available, you will be able to call again to reserve a spot for your spouse.

Parking is limited, so we will meet at the Plantation House parking lot at 7:30 PM to car pool.

4. We will be serving delectable desserts and punch.



Board Members, please note:

In a slight departure from years past, there **WILL BE** a Board meeting in June, on June 8, at the Spring Lake Pavilion. The purpose of this meeting will be to wrap up 2017-18 and to make preliminary plans for the coming year. It is an important meeting, so please mark your calendars.

Deadline for submitting articles for this newsletter is the second Sunday of each month.

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