



TAG TALK

October 2018

President's Message.....Caroline Alderman



There are many aspects of TAG that enrich my life. When I joined, I expected to make friends and learn about the mysteries of gardening in the Lowcountry, but the generous sharing of prized plants by TAG members has been a lovely surprise. I call these additions Amiga Plants because they come from friends. When they arrive, they are small starts. I find a spot and in a few months, I have a gorgeous plant that reminds me of that friend.

Two years ago, I lost my prized pagoda plant. When I bemoaned the loss, Patti Peacock heard me and surprised me with 3 small seedlings. I planted and nurtured them, but it was slow going and I needed to keep the faith. In the last couple of months, they took off and now...the first bloom! It delights me, but more important, it is a daily reminder of my friend Patti.

As I stroll through my gardens, there are so many Amiga Plants and a few Amigo Plants (thanks George) that add beauty to my surroundings. They are a daily reminder of the gift of friendship that I have found in TAG.

Meeting Friday, October 19, 2018
Spring Lake Pavilion 9:30 am

"FEED THE BIRDS"

We are honored to welcome the Garden Club of South Carolina President, Donna Donnelly, to speak to us about her President's Project and to give us an insight into how the State Garden Club uses our dues.

She will also bring along some beautiful birdhouses to be purchased.

Jane Hester, the President of our local Audubon Society, will also give us a power point presentation about our local birds.



Grant Writer

The Avid Gardeners do so much with community and school projects to beautify our surroundings and educate our community. Why not receive credit for these projects and be awarded some money along the way to benefit our club?

Therefore, we need a volunteer to apply for grants and awards offered by the National Garden Club and the Garden Club of SC. Local businesses may offer grants as well. The grant writer would research the resources on line from the national and state clubs to see if there are grants to support what we are already doing and to assess new incentives and projects offered. The websites for these clubs can be found in the back of your Avid Gardeners directory.

The job would include filling out an application and reporting the outcomes of the grants we choose to be involved in. Usually, there are just a few grants offered and applying and monitoring would not take up too much of your time.

Please let Caroline or any of the fund raising committee know if you are willing to step up and help our club achieve even more.

Submitted by,
Jane Alexander
Dodi Eschenbach
Sarah Jebo

Horticulture.....Diane Middleton

Unfortunately the rain missed us again, so remember to water generously, and do not let Hubby shut off the irrigation for the winter! You may begin to plant lettuce in pots at home. Give them afternoon shade and try dill again for home recipes. A patio tomato is also fun to grow.

My roses at the farm are blooming bountifully, and the Confederate Rose is gorgeous in my yard. Sasanqua camellias are coming out amid the beauty berries. Pinestraw is plentiful now, and is my favorite mulch, so stop taking it to the dump!

You will be excited to learn we have placed an order for 84 Louisiana Irises for the damp area in The Reflection Garden.



October is the month to clean up all spent plants. Apply compost to all shrubs, and save seeds from perennials. Make sure they are dry before storing them in plastic bags in the fridge. I have plenty of Shasta Daisies and willow leaved swamp sunflowers to share. Call me if interested at 843-384-0794.

Diane Middleton, master gardener dcmgard@aol.com



Holiday Party
Tuesday, December 4 5:30 - 9:30
The Country Club of Hilton Head
Invitations to follow
Watch your emails for more information
Save the Date

Birding.....George Westerfield



How would you like to belong to a family called the Goatsuckers? Well, that's the fate of the Chuck-Will's-Widow which lives right here in HHP. The Romans believed this small-beaked but big mouthed bird would sneak at night into a herd of goats and suck all the milk from the hanging udders of the nannies. Can you imagine? Even worse, when the sun came up, the nannies would be permanently blind! I guess by now you suspect the Romans were not known as formidable ornithologists.

The Chuck-Will's-Widow comes up from Central America after our winter to breed and bear young in the Southeast. They choose a site on the edge of woodlands adjacent to open areas. I have seen one nest, a small depression on the ground, in the Farm next to the POA. The female spreads her well-camouflaged wings over her eggs making her virtually impossible to see. After the eggs hatch she and her mate swoop about open areas catching insects to feed the young. The mouths of the adults are huge. Small birds and even bats are occasional prey.

Most of us must content ourselves not by seeing a Chuck-Will's-Widow but by hearing in the evening the mellifluous sound of the ardent male as he woos a potential partner in procreation. I hope you have or will soon enjoy this gift from the life of birds.

Junior Gardeners.....Sandy Stern

The *Jr. Garden Club* students have been busy planting vegetables such as broccoli, cauliflower, potatoes, lettuce, and radishes. They also planted a lemon tree and a fig tree to add to their grapefruit tree and blueberry bushes.

This week they will be learning about birds of the Lowcountry from Audubon member, Carol Clemens, as they prepare to work on birdhouses to place in the school's courtyard area.

HOLIDAY SIGN DECORATION

Here's the schedule for the Holiday Sign Decoration tasks performed by all TAG members.

Nov. 14, 2018 - Wednesday 1pm - 3pm - Plantation House -
TAG members pick up decorations for their assigned signs.
NOTE NEW TIME!

Nov. 15 - 21, 2018 - Thursday to Wednesday:
TAG members decorate their signs.

Jan. 1-3, 2019 - Tuesday to Thursday:
TAG members take down sign decorations from their signs.

Jan 4, 2019 - Friday - 10am - noon:
TAG members return their sign decorations to Plantation House.

Barb Holmes

Council of Garden Clubs of Greater Charleston
Fall Flower Show
"A New Beginning"
Two NGC Standard Flower Shows

October 24 - November 5 at the Coastal Carolina Fair, Ladson, SC

Visit their website for more information:

www.coastalcarolinafair.org/events/2018/flower-show

FUNDRAISING

Jane and Dodi will have notecards available for purchase at the October meeting. These are the small paper seed-embedded notecards with colored butterfly, ladybug, heart and flower emblems.

The pack of 5 notecards and envelopes will be sold for \$10. Cash or checks only, please.



The South Carolina Legislature has designated the third week in October as Native Plant Week. Using native plants can benefit the environment by reducing the need for extra fertilizers, pesticides and irrigation. There are added advantages in using plants that not only look beautiful, but also provide ecological services. Native plants provide oxygen, carbon sequestering, habitat, food, and shelter to songbirds, pollinators, and other wildlife. One of the most important food sources for birds and insects, indigenous plants and insects have co-evolved and share spatial and culinary relationships as hosts for larvae, fruit, nectar, and seeds; reproductive services like pollination or seed dispersal.

Visit the SC native plant society website at www.scnps.org

*Can anyone recommend a young person with a strong back,
who wants to make some extra money by helping me in the garden?*

Please call Carol 843-715-2248 or text at 914-438-3454

*Healthy Recipes.....Anna Broecker***POTS DE CRÈME**

- 1 6 oz package semisweet chocolate chips
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- pinch of salt
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 3/4 cup whole milk

Put chocolate chips, sugar and salt in a blender

Heat milk just to boiling and pour over chocolate chips, sugar and salt

Cover and blend for 30 to 40 seconds, then add egg and vanilla and blend again for 1/2 to 1 minute (depending on type of blender).

Pour immediately into serving dishes and chill. Makes 4 to 6 small servings

Serve with whipped cream

Recipe Makeover**Pots De Creme (Healthy Whole Foods Plant Based Version)**

- 6 ounces Chocolate chips, 70% cacao, dairy free (available at Whole Foods and Harris Teeter)
- 3/4 cup plant-based milk
- 1 pinch salt
- 1 tablespoon ground flax seed dissolved in 3 tablespoons of water (egg substitute)
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

Heat milk in microwave (1 to 1 1/2 min)

Place chocolate chips in blender, pour heated milk over, add pinch of salt and blend briefly (20 to 30 seconds)

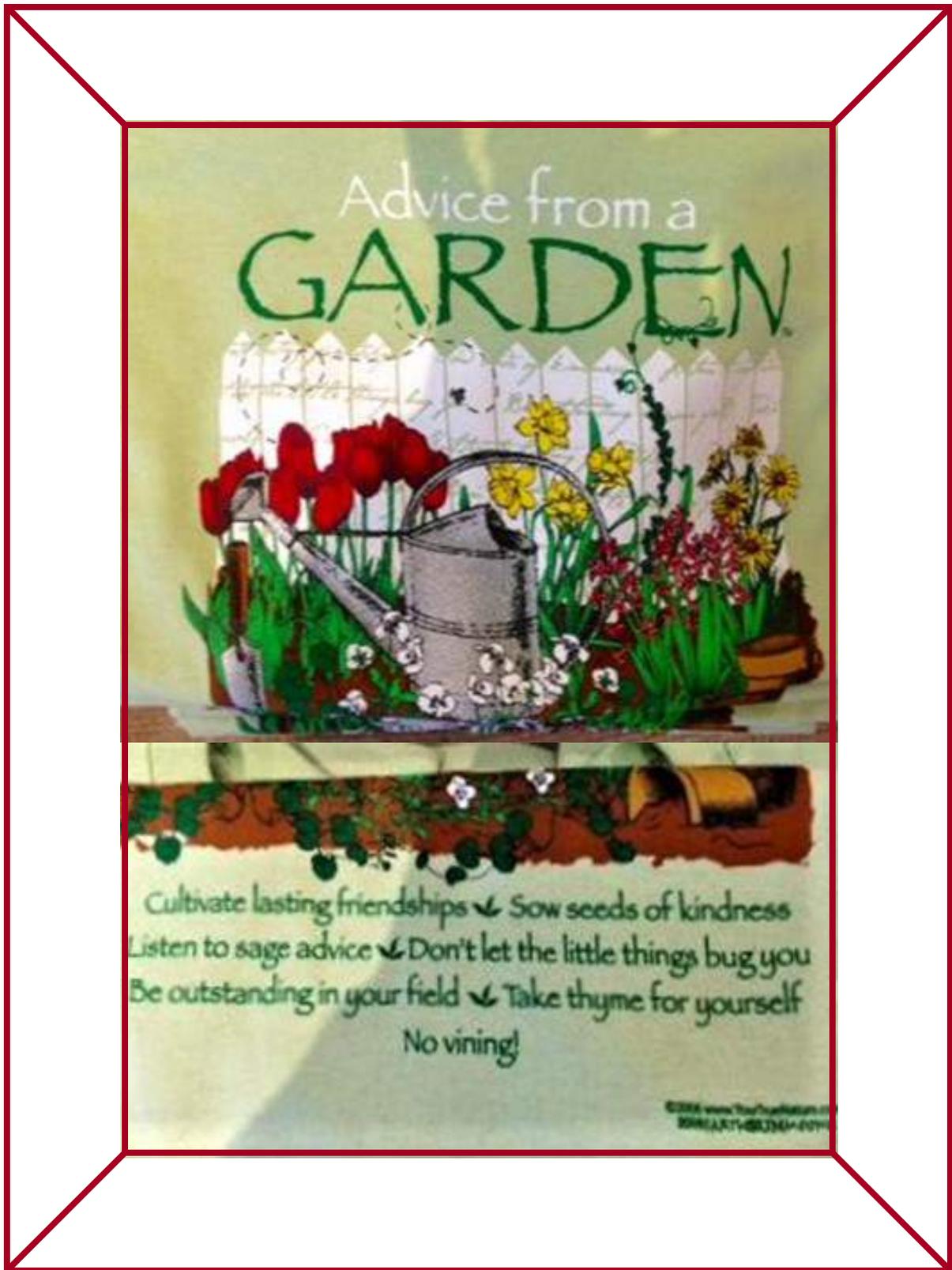
Add flax seed and water mixture and vanilla. Blend again until smooth (around 30 to 40 seconds--depends on type of blender)

Pour/divide evenly between 4 to 6 small cups/containers (around 4 oz) or special Pots De Creme cups with lids)

Cover and chill for a few hours

Makes an elegant very tasty healthy dessert!





Deadline Tuesday, October 23

The Avid Gardeners

2018

AMARYLLIS FUNDRAISER

Large High Quality Bulbs Delivered in Time for the Holidays

Gift Boxes - \$20/each

Each box contains one 30/32 cm bulb, a green plastic pot, lid, saucer, potting medium & instructions.



White/Red Striped Gift Box



Double White Gift Box



Red Gift Box

Individual Bulbs - \$15/each



Candy Floss

Rose-pink w/darker striations, green throat, around 12" tall.



Cocktail

Rich, signal-red, greenish-white starburst on tall stems up to 20".



Inferno

Deep red double, w/variable white highlights. 26 cm, 14" to 16" tall.



Zombie

Salmon/pink w/white striations 24 cm, 14-16" tall.



Miniature Papilio

Cream/burgundy & bronze w/dark green foliage, bulb size 24 cm.



Trumpet Misty

Pinkish/white w/raspberry striations, bulb size 20 cm.

Order Form 2018

Name & Address: _____
 Phone & Email: _____

<u>Variety</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Variety</u>	<u>Quantity</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Send orders with checks (made out to TAG) to:
 The Avid Gardeners, 5 Hermit Crab Ct., HHI 29926
 Questions: Call Louise Gorny 843-681-5187
 Email: gorny.louise@gmail.com

Order By: October 23
Delivery By: November 12

Website features.....Christine Thumm

If you haven't looked at our website lately, here's what you've been missing:

- **Gallery** section contains pictures from previous meetings and field trips
- **Library** section has the list of shade plants suggested by the Greenery at our last meeting
- **Fundraiser** section has the amaryllis order form that you can print to order your amaryllis.
- **Members Only** section has the latest Membership Directory, the new revised bylaws and the current budget.

go to www.theavidgardeners.org

Members only password is on the last page of your new Membership Directory or contact me at thumms@aol.com or call/text 843 415-6809

Coming in November
 MAKE IT, BAKE, SEW IT, GROW IT
 November 16
Details to follow



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

Christine Thumm
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 843-415-6809



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 sevelcss@gmail.com
 843-715-2248