



TAG TALK

November 2018

President's Message

Counting our Blessings

At times, we get so caught up in the little things that go wrong in our day, we forget to focus on everything that is right. Even when we experience tough times and things look bleak, there are still blessings to be counted. This simple exercise can alter our mood...it can help us find hope.

Thanksgiving is a national holiday where the focus is on giving thanks. Thanks for our family and friends...all the people we love. Thanks for our freedoms that we often take for granted, especially in these trying times. Thanks for the privilege of living on this beautiful island experiencing each day, wondrous gifts from nature. Thanks for the unexpected kindness of strangers...in traffic...in stores...when we least expect it.

Last month, I wrote about being thankful for the wonderful friends I've made through TAG...their kindness and generous spirits. I also mentioned Amiga/Amigo Plants that bloom away in my garden, a daily reminder of my friends who shared them. This month, I want to highlight the Mother of All Amiga Plants...a spectacular staghorn fern. It's a gift from my dear friend, Sharon Jaunsem. Her mature staghorns have always blown me away and when she decided to downsize, she gave one to me. Wow!

When you count your blessings, I hope that you too will count your friends in TAG.

Caroline Alderman

NOVEMBER MEETING***Make It, Bake It, Sew It, Grow It !!!***

Friday, Nov 16

9:30 am

Spring Lake Pavilion

HOW THE SILENT AUCTION WILL WORK**Time Schedule:**

- 9:30-10:15-Check-in and Refreshments *
- 10:15-11:15 Bidding begins
- 11:15- Bidding ends
- 11:15-11:30-Announcements
- 11:30-Pick-up your bid sheets and pay for all your Goodies!!

- *1. Check in at the front table. There will be 4 stations.
 - 2. Get a bid sheet for your item.
 - 3. Get an item number.
 - 4. Get a sticker with your item #.
- 5. Place your item and the bid sheet on the appropriate table.
- 6. Go have some refreshments and chat with your friends.

At 10:15 the bidding will begin!!! Now, go bid and have fun!**AT THE END OF THE AUCTION**

- 1. Go around and collect all the bid sheets that you have won.
- 2. Go to the check-out table to pay for your items.
- 3. After paying, go back and pick-up all your Goodies!

REMINDERS

- 1. Bring either cash or checks
- 2. Invite friends to come, and have them sign the Guest Log
- 3. If you plan to bring a very valuable item, contact Olivia Ford (843-785-7144) ahead of time
- 4. If you plan to be gone on the day of the event, bring your item to Olivia ahead of time.



From the Audubon Society's Carol Clemens...



Please join us for our December Christmas Bird Count meeting!

SPECIAL NIGHT AND TIME, SPECIAL PLACE!

**Thursday, December 6th at
First Presbyterian Church
540 William Hilton Parkway**

**7:00 PM refreshments
followed by program at 7:30PM**

**Program: The Christmas Bird Count Past and
Present
Presented by Bob Speare**

Bob Speare is chair of our Field Trip committee and an
excellent birder.

Join us as he presents a bit of history and covers some of the birds
seen during the Christmas Bird Count.

Cclemens318@gmail.com

Hilton Head Nature Website: <https://hiltonheadnature.shutterfly.com>



Celebrate
**ARBOR
DAY**

Arbor Day Ceremony

Friday, December 7th

1:00 PM

Hilton Head High School

**At the front east end of the
high school, go to the right.**

Please come out and support us!

HOLIDAY SIGN DECORATION

The schedule for the **Holiday Sign Decoration** has been emailed to every member. By now, you should have picked up your decoration bags. If you haven't already begun your sign, please note the following schedule reminder:

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

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.

Questions should be addressed to Barb Holmes.

Reflection Garden

One hundred iris , in five colors, have been planted at the Y intersection near the road, and we are hoping for a glorious Spring display

Patti Peacock



FUNDRAISING

The Fund Raising Committee will have their paper seed notecards and envelopes available for sale at the Make It, Bake It, Sew It, Grow It event at Friday's meeting. The cards would be great Holiday Gifts!

The notecard packs of 5 will be sold for \$10 each.



Our state bird, the Carolina Wren, is a year-round resident to the Low Country that loves to flitter about the shrubs and underbrush around our homes. The birds are easily identified. They are small but have round, chunky bodies. Their heads are round with a long, slender, and downcurved bill. Their backs are brown and above their eyes is a white eyebrow stripe. Below the bill is a white chin and throat.

The Carolina Wren flits through the underbrush looking for insects. They are real adventurers in choosing nest sites. Open garage doors are an invitation to construct domiciles on shelving intended for storage. The nests are constructed by both male and female with one bringing the building material and the other doing the assembly. Music is the matrimonial attraction that brings together the male and female to a life long relationship. The male's oratory is what attracts the female and the song, *teakettle, teakettle, teakettle*, is short lived, lasting but a few seconds. Males have a repertoire of about 15 songs. The females, apparently, are mute.

After the nestlings have fledged, the entire family of parents and fledglings forage together mostly on the ground looking for insects. With their downcurved beaks they flip over leaf litter looking for food and hammer and shake beetles to reduce them to appropriate dining morsels.

As a population Carolina Wrens are in fairly good shape with an estimated global population of 14 million. Almost 90% of the population live in the U.S. Over the past century these birds have extended northward in their range. This may be due to rising average winter temperatures.

A closing tidbit of state bird lore. In 1990, when a new SC Vehicle license plate was introduced, bird lovers statewide were incensed to see the Carolina Wren's tail sticking straight back and not cocked up at 90 degrees as is the bird's customary pose. Much anguish was felt by the purists, but the State prevailed and left the tail as it was. Sigh.....



The Louisiana Iris from Savannah have been planted in The Reflection Garden, and look happy with the recent rain. Sasanqua camellias are gorgeous!

The farm is again holding sales on Saturday mornings through December featuring citrus, greens and delicious kumquat marmalade. Local honey may also be available.

Clean and bring in all houseplants for the winter. Finish planting trees and shrubs so they can establish healthy roots before cold weather. Mulch all tender plants and continue to water as needed. Dig caladium bulbs and some of your glads for staggered planting in the Spring. Plant amaryllis in pots of peaty soil for Christmas bloom. Plant bulbs at the end of the month. Rake and save pinestraw as it is the best mulch.



November's HEALTHY RECIPES from Anna Broecker



SEEDED CRUNCH BARS

1/4 cup chia seeds
 1/4 cup hemp seeds
 12 ounces milk chocolate chips (2 cups)
 12 ounces semisweet chocolate chips (2 cups)
 1 1/2 cups puffed rice cereal
 1 teaspoon flaky sea salt



Line an 8 inch square baking dish with parchment paper. Mix chia and hemp seeds in a small bowl. Set aside 2 tbsp seed mixture for topping.

Microwave chocolate chips on high until melted, about 90 seconds, stopping to stir every 30 seconds. Let cool slightly. Gradually add seed mixture and cereal to melted chocolate, stirring until combined.

Spread mixture into prepared baking dish and smooth the top. Tap bottom of dish firmly on a surface a few times to release any air bubbles.

Top with salt and reserved 2 tbsp reserved seed mixture

Refrigerate until set, about 30 minutes. Let stand at room temperature for 10 minutes before slicing into 24 bars (about 2 1/2 by 1 inch each). Store tightly covered in the refrigerator for up to 2 weeks. Bring to room temperature before serving

***This is the original recipe from "Real Simple".

I changed the recipe to make even healthier. I used 24 ounces of dairy free chocolate chips instead of the above (Enjoy Life chocolate morsels available at Harris Teeter). Also I cut into smaller pieces, yield 48 pieces.

Makes a delicious healthy snack!



Jr. Gardeners

Sandy Stern

The Jr Garden Club students at HHI School for the Creative Arts are working on a Bird Project this year. Last month they created hanging pine cones with peanut butter and bird seed and placed them on trees throughout the courtyard garden.



Last week the HHI Audubon Society donated \$200 to the club to support the bird project. Bird house kits, hummingbird feeders, bird seed, and shepherd poles will be purchased with these funds.

Carol Clemens of the HHI Audubon presented a Bird Identification Power Point program for the children and invited them to participate in the Christmas Bird Count in December.



Membership Notes.....

If you have not yet picked up your Program and Member Directories for this year, they will be available at Friday's meeting.

We currently have 68 paid and active members and 7 Honorary members.

Questions? Contact Membership chair, Carol Sevelowitz (843-715-2248),
(sevelcss@gmail.com)

There are still some bulbs left for sale. Contact Louise Gorny (details below).

TAG AMARYLLIS SALE – EXTRAS

(First come, first served – when they’re gone, they’re gone!!)
CALL or EMAIL Louise Gorny ASAP for Delivery 11/16/18

Individual Bulbs - \$15/each



Candy Floss

1 AVAILABLE

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



Inferno

1 AVAILABLE

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



Zombie

2 AVAILABLE

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



Miniature Papilio

2 AVAILABLE

Cream/burgundy & bronze w/dark green foliage, bulb size 24 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: NOW
Delivery By: November 16



Looking ahead.....

Holiday Party
Tuesday, December 4 5:30 - 9:30
The Country Club of Hilton Head
Check your email for your official invitation!



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

<p>Christine Thumm thumms@aol.com 843-415-6809</p>		<p>Carol Sevelowitz sevelcss@gmail.com 843-715-2248</p>
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