



President's Message

Olivia Ford

Happy Autumn! Hope this finds you all safe and well.

*October's the month
When the smallest of breeze
Gives us a shower of Autumn leaves.
Bonfires and pumpkins,
Leaves falling down,
October is red,
And golden and brown!!*

~ Author unknown ~

For those of you that were not in attendance at our September meeting, we had our social distancing, wore our masks, installed our officers, brought our own drinks, and enjoyed our Program, presented by The Garden Gate Living on Pumpkin Floral Designs. And, very thankfully, were all safe!!

For this Month, we will continue to sit apart, wear our masks, and bring our own drinks. Please arrive by 9:45 AM entering the Spring Lake building by the front door when coming to the meeting. This is where the name tags and sign-in will be set-up.

Just so you can plan ahead, the board voted not to have any December activities. We will have a November meeting in place of the field trip. It will be an introduction to the April, 2021 Flower Show.

Looking forward to seeing y'all all Friday.

Olivia

October Meeting Friday, 10/16/20 9:45am Spring Lake Pavilion

For the October meeting, our previous speaker needed to cancel due to a health issue. We were fortunate to engage Jim Cubie (referred by George Westerfield) who will talk about building a bird-friendly backyard. While Jim will make his presentation via Zoom, which will be projected on the big screen, we will all still meet at the Spring Lake Pavilion at 9:45 a.m. to watch him.





Time to mulch tender shrubs and trees. Keep everything well watered if the Fall is dry. Perennials, however, will rot if mulched deeply. A timed -release fertilizer is suggested as it does not hurt the garden if we have a cold snap. Just let everything go dormant and have a good winter's nap !!! Try to incorporate Native plants into your landscape. Not only do they offer food for the butterflies and hummingbirds in the Summer they also protect your Fall plants from destructive insects. As mentioned last month, try Joe Pye Weed, also goldenrod and Butterfly Weed. Butterfly Gardening with Native Plants by Christopher Kine provides a good introduction to the subject. Both new members and long- time residents of the Lowcountry will enjoy. It can be found on Amazon. The GCSC will receive a 5% donation with each purchase.

SUGGESTION OF THE MONTH

JAPANESE MAPLES (*Acer palmatum*) ignite the landscape. Their delicate green foliage turns intense shades of orange, red and yellow; they glow as if on fire and thrive in our Southern climate. These small stylish trees prefer well-drained fertile soils that are acidic or neutral. They also need ample moisture, so use mulch around the base to keep their shallow root systems from drying out. Newly planted trees should be watered frequently. Partial shade is better for Japanese maples in the Lower and Coastal South, however, as intense summer heat may burn the foliage or turn red summer foliage to green. Try to plant in locations that avoid the hot sun.

With outdoor gardening slowing down it's time to think about the benefits of interior plantscaping. As we all spend more of our time at home these days seems like a good plan !!! Various studies have shown the positive psychological and emotional effects of plants in the home and public spaces. A NASA study conducted years ago has concluded that virtually every tropical plant may possess special air cleaning abilities to remove harmful toxic substances from indoor environments. The study suggests that house plants help enhance indoor air quality. Some of the most efficient air cleaning plants include varieties of palms, rubber plants, English ivy, ficus and Boston ferns. The areca palm was highly rated for removing a wide variety of indoor toxins. Lady palms, dracena, philodendron and parlor palm all scored highly. Spider plants, golden pothos, bamboo palm and Mother-in-law's tongue are powerful removers of indoor air pollutants. Remember to check for pests, before bringing in tropicals for the winter. A solution of liquid Ivory dishwashing soap and water works well. Do this several times before bringing the plants indoors. Be sure to spray foliage or add moisture to the air with a humidifier.

HAPPY GARDENING



PROGRAM NOTES.....

Sue Blake

To reconfirm, the November bus trip to Columbia has been cancelled. We will meet on our regularly scheduled meeting date which is Friday, November 20th, 9:45am, at Spring Lake Pavilion. Our topic will be "What is a Flower Show?" Ann Clayton will offer a PowerPoint presentation on the horticultural aspects of the Show and Olivia will provide important information as we start planning for this very special April event. Don't forget your mask!

Because of Covid restrictions, holiday party or  there will be no December meeting this year .

Membership.....Carol Sevelowitz

Due to an oversight, Helen Hinds was inadvertently omitted from the Membership booklet. Her info can be found in last year's book. Linda Hatch was added in September (14 Field Sparrow Lane, lhatchall@comcast.net, 617-428-8217). Please add them to your current Member Directory. This brings our count to 52 members.

Because of Covid precautions, ID tags will be disposable stick-ons which you can fill in at the sign-in table located at the Main Entrance. Please remember to sign in at meetings.



Our **Plant It Pnk** garden at the hospital is looking beautiful thanks to the tireless work of our volunteers. However, we do still need one more volunteer waterer for either Mondays or Tuesdays. Contact Sharon Jaunsem (843-338-2305) or Sandy Stern (843-342-4834) to pitch in.





CROCK-POT PIZZA POTATOES

(Serves: 6-8)

4 cups potatoes, thinly sliced (use a mandolin for best results)

2-3 cups pizza toppings**

2 15 ounce cans fat-free pizza sauce or marinara sauce

1/4 cup water

3 Tbsp ketchup

1 Tbsp soy sauce

3 shots tabasco (optional)

Mix the water into the sauce along with the ketchup, soy sauce and tabasco and set aside.

Place 2 cups of the potatoes in the bottom of the crockpot. Layer all of the toppings that you choose to include over the potatoes and cover with half of the sauce.. Layer on the remaining 2 cups of potatoes and finish with the sauce.

Cover and cook on low for 6 to 8 hours.

***Toppings might include sliced onion, sliced mushrooms, sliced bell peppers, sliced tomatoes sliced water-packed artichoke hearts, sliced black olives, fresh spinach.*

Birding Dick Phillips

Bird Migration - Why do some birds migrate, and why is migration important?

This is a question everyone, everywhere eventually asks. Basically, birds migrate from an area that has decreasing or low resources to an area that has abundant or high resources. The two primary reasons that make birds migrate are nesting locations and food supply. Finding better food sources, avoiding predators and seeking safer habitats are all migration behaviors designed to ensure breeding success. A good migration allows birds to survive for another generation, and importantly, allows birders the pleasure of witnessing another year's migration.

Risk of Migration – For a bird, traveling hundreds or even thousands of miles between its breeding and non-breeding areas is, as you would expect, a difficult, dangerous journey – one that not all birds survive. So why do birds migrate? What reasons could send millions of birds into the risky skies every spring and fall? Basically, it all comes down to survival, not just for each individual bird, but also for the families they hope to raise. Without a reason to migrate, birds would have even more challenging lives than making these exceedingly difficult journeys. If no birds migrated, birds would have an even more difficult time finding food as their resources would be quickly depleted during the nesting season, which would result in starvation for both the chicks and the adults. Competition for nesting sites would be very fierce, and predators would be attracted to the high concentration of breeding birds and easy meals from vulnerable nestlings. If birds did not migrate, food supplies would be rapidly depleted. It is for these two reasons, food and breeding, that many birds migrate, but those reasons are far more complicated than they seem. For all birds, one of the principal driving forces behind migration is food scarcity. If all birds were to stay in the same rich, tropical areas year-round, food would become scarce and breeding would be less successful, with undernourished parents and hungry hatchlings. But as food sources regenerate in northern regions each spring, millions of birds migrate to those areas to take advantage of the abundance. As food supplies then dwindle in the fall, birds return to tropical regions that have replenished in the meantime.

Migrating for Family - Over millennia, birds have evolved different migration patterns, timing and destination to disperse around the world to breed. This helps birds take advantage of a wide variety of suitable conditions to raise their young, increasing the chances of healthy, viable offspring. The best breeding conditions can vary for every bird species and may involve many factors. Specific food sources, habitats that provide adequate shelter, and breeding colonies that offer greater protection than a single pair of bird parents are all important for breeding dispersal. Many of those same bird parents quickly abandon their young as they mature, leaving the immature, inexperienced birds to make their dangerous migration without adult guidance. It is exactly because the birds have raised their chicks in a relatively rich, safe environment, however, that gives young birds the advantage of being prepared to make that journey. An interesting fact: the Arctic Tern travels 49,700 miles in a year between their arctic breeding grounds and the Antarctic coast. Their annual journey is the longest bird migration in the world. In the end, the reasons why birds migrate all come down to survival: not just the survival of the migrating birds themselves, but also the survival of the chicks they will raise. Finding richer food sources, seeking safer habitats, and avoiding predators are all migration behaviors designed to ensure breeding success. Good migration allows birds to survive for another generation and allows birders the pleasure of witnessing another year's migration.



Coming up.....

November meeting

Friday 11/20/2020 9:45am Spring Lake Pavilion

WHAT IS A FLOWER SHOW???

Speakers: Ann Clayton, Olivia Ford



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