



MARCH GENERAL MEETING CANCELLED

President's Message.....Olivia Ford

Dear TAG Members,

In the interest of everyone's health and safety, the board voted to cancel our Friday, March 20, 2020 meeting. It is not going to be rescheduled.

I want to thank all the members that took their time (and showed their interest in our club) to fill-out the survey. The results are tallied here in TAG Talk. We had 40 members out of 66 that participated. The board members will consider the results when making our future decisions.

Our March meeting was supposed to be our election of officers for next year. This will take place, hopefully, at our April meeting. The nominees are:

President: Olivia Ford

1st. Vice President: Sue Blake

2nd Vice President: Carol Sevelowitz

* New- Secretary: Nina Mc Glade

Treasurer: Lori Schmidt

The HHPPOA offered us the opportunity for a small fundraiser at the July 4th event. The board voted unanimously to have a table to sell homemade cookies for a few hours. We were told that they sell-out very quickly!! I will let you know more details at our April meeting.

From time to time, I will be sending out e-mail blasts to keep you informed concerning TAG affairs.

PLEASE, EVERYONE Keep safe!!!!

Your President, Olivia Ford

Birding.....Dick Phillips

One of my all-time favorite birds is the Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*). It is a member of the “Bombycilliae” family, or waxwing family of passerin birds. Passerine birds include over half of all bird species, and are known as perching birds or song-birds.



They are distinguished from other bird species by the arrangement of their toes, which allows the “perching” bird to get a better grip on the branch or whatever it is that they are perched on. It is a medium-sized, mostly brown, gray, and yellow bird named for its wax-like wing tips. It is a native of North and Central America, and often breeds in open wooded areas in southern Canada. It spends its winters in the southern half of the U.S. and Central America, and the far northwest of South America. Its diet includes cedar cones, fruit, and insects.

On HHI, we usually begin to see cedar waxwings in February, and one of their favorite foods are red berries from holly trees or Savannah holly trees. These berries show up in the fall after the holly tree has bloomed, so when the cedar waxwings show up, the berries are there waiting for them.

We have 6 Savannah holly trees along our driveway, 3 on each side, and this is where we typically begin to see the waxwings. Interestingly, in the past two Febru-arys, the cedar waxwings have appeared in our yard, but rather than going to the berry-laden Savannah hollies, they go to a loquat tree in the backyard, or one along our driveway. They apparently like the sweeter loquats, which are just turning a ripe golden right now, to the not-so-sweet holly berry.

The other interesting thing about cedar waxwings is you never see just one, but rather they are an extremely sociable bird so you see them in large clusters. I’ve counted as many as 25 in the loquat tree in the backyard. They are, indeed, a very beautiful bird, and a pleasure to find in your yard!

Next meeting April 17
Spring Lake Pavilion
9:30 am

The guest speaker will be Sean Dennis from Wild Birds Unlimited. He will talk about creating a bird friendly backyard through the use of native plants, bird feeders, water sources and nesting boxes.

Horticulture.....Ann Clayton

A Good Month to organize, learn about new plants and dream. Spring welcomes us into our gardens, and we re-connect with Nature. Look around your yard and make some decisions as to what did or did not work too well last year.

As we begin planning our gardens try to incorporate low-maintenance, native plants as well as the new drought-resistant varieties of perennials, trees and shrubs. Keep the number of plants in an area to a minimum. With fewer plants there will be more room for roots to develop, less competition for moisture. Most plants thrive on an 1" water a week. Air circulation will help prevent fungal diseases. Keep fertilization light at this stage. Plenty of organic matter at the start holds the moisture and helps the roots become established.

Remember: Before heading off to the Garden Center be sure to have a good idea which plants you are interested in. Planning beforehand will help you from overindulging. (But wait a minute where's the fun in that !!) Remember to read the labels. Just because they sell them in our area doesn't necessarily mean the plants will grow well here. We all have different micro environments and you could be successful with a plant your neighbor can't grow. Dig up, divide and replant established perennials that have become over-crowded, cut back dead branches. Water well and give them a boost of fertilizer.

When it comes to buying new plants from the Garden Center - bigger isn't always better - choose the branched plant that is well proportioned not the old one that has become rootbound. A few good perennials to look for are Echinacea' (purple or pink coneflowers), Rudbeckia otherwise known as Black Eyed Suzies, Coreopsis, and Salvia Indigo Spires.

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After the threat of freezing (deadline for the Low Country is March 15th), Dahlia, lilies, gladioli, crocosmia and elephant ears bulbs can be planted, add bone meal. Avoid planting caladiums too early, because they can rot. Plant the tubers shallowly, only an inch or two deep, knobby side up.



Cut back dormant foliage on your ornamental grasses. Time to prune bushes. Delay Azaleas till they have finished blooming. Tidy up and remove dead leaves, excess pine straw and oak leaves. Gardenias love acidic soil and a warm and sunny spot, humidity and evenly moist soil. They are a little fussy but pamper them and you will enjoy their wonderful beauty and fragrance. To prevent bud drop, keep these plants in the same area once planted.

What a wonderful time to be gardening. We have seen a wonderful display of Camellia Japonica blossoms this season. Be sure to pick up or rake the spent blossoms to prevent petal blight. A disease that causes petals to turn brown. DO NOT put these into the compost pile. Enjoy the Spring Season..... Happy Gardening.




Ann C

Junior Gardeners.....Sandy Stern

Jr Gardeners were treated to a cooking lesson demonstration by chef, Shawn Ross. He made sweet potato pancakes, and the youngsters loved them. YUMMY! Now they can't wait to plant, grow, and harvest sweet potatoes in the school garden to get a chance to make their own pancakes.





Our Officers Installation Luncheon will be held at noon on Friday, May 15 at Frankie Bones restaurant.

They have offered us a special menu for a pre-paid price of \$22.00 which includes your choice of Prime Steak Burger; Grilled Salmon; Southwest Chicken Salad; Eggplant or Chicken Parmesan Sandwich; or Caesar Salad with Grilled Shrimp. Also included are bread and butter, soft drink or iced tea, and a dessert. You do not need to pick your menu choice ahead of time; the waiter will take your order.

We will be seated in their private “Boardroom” so attendance is limited to the first 40 people who register. Make your check payable to TAG and send it to Sue Blake, 1 Birkdale Ct. 29926. She’ll also have a shoe box by her front door if you prefer to drop it off. Your reservation is not confirmed until you’ve paid.

There will be a Member’s Garden Tour that morning. More details to follow.

The Coastal Discovery [Museum](#) has cancelled their Native Plant Sale that was scheduled for March 21st

Note

HOWEVER,

There is one scheduled for Spring Island. Please check their website (see below) before heading out.



Native Plant Sale

AT THE SPRING ISLAND BOATYARD

SATURDAY APRIL 18 FROM 9AM—11:30AM
-NO PURCHASES BEFORE 9AM-

CASH OR CHECKS ONLY
 PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE SPRING ISLAND TRUST

TO VIEW A CATALOG OF PLANTS FOR SALE AND FOR DIRECTIONS, GO TO:
NPP.SPRINGISLANDTRUST.ORG

SHRUBS • FERNS • GROUNDCOVER & VINES • WILD FLOWERS • GRASSES

TAG SURVEY RESULTS
40 Members responded to the TAG survey sent out by Olivia. The results are on the next page.

TAG SURVEY (40 out of 66)

There are several topics on which I would like your opinions.

Holiday Party: Due to the declining attendance and so that we have a party that all members would attend and enjoy, please check mark your most preferred choice in each category.

1. Food Service

- 20 Buffet
10 Brought by members
16 Catered
4 Served at tables

2. Seating

- 21 Random (open seating)
12 Reserved seats (assigned by request)

3. Location

- 10 Hilton Head Country Club
9 Dolphin Head Golf Club
12 Spring Lake Plantation
5 Other _____

4. Entertainment

- 6 Live Band
15 DJ
10 No entertainment

5. Cost per person (meal & entertainment)

- 13 \$36 - \$40
12 \$41 - \$45
1 \$46 - \$49

6. Time of year for Party (mark no more than 3)

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <u>13</u> Christmas season (Dec) | <u>11</u> Spring Fling (Apr) |
| <u>6</u> New Years (Jan) | <u>7</u> May Day Delight (May) |
| <u>7</u> Valentines (Feb) | <u>11</u> June Picnic (Jun) |
| <u>1</u> St. Patrick's (Mar) | <u>1</u> Marti Gras |

Field Trip:

1. If we go on a field trip (more than 25 miles, minimum \$40) are you willing to pay for a bus?

30 Yes 7 No

2. Would you participate in an overnight trip to the Biltmore House and Gardens in May or June?

14 Yes 11 No

End of TAG Year:

When checking with other clubs in our area, they end their club year in May. Would you prefer to end our club year in May, or keep our June meeting? End our year in 20 May 9 June.

Fund-raiser vs Donations:

In place of a fund-raiser, would you prefer to donate \$30 in October each year? 13 Yes 9 No

Ideas:Please give us any ideas on the subjects below. **Member Name** _____

Speakers _____

Meetings _____

Field trips _____

Fund-raisers _____

Healthy Eating.....Anna Broecker

PSEUDO SATAY CELERY STICKS

The peanutty satay sauces of Southeast Asia inspired the sweet and spicy filling for this delicious appetizer or snack

- ½ cup natural creamy peanut butter**
- 1 ½ Tbs. toasted sesame oil**
- 2 Tbs. lime juice**
- 4 tsp. sweet chili sauce, such as Mae Ploy, plus more for serving**
- 2 tsp. low sodium soy sauce**
- 10 large celery stalks, each cut on the diagonal into 3 sticks**
- 3 large carrots finely grated (1 cup)**
- ¼ cup black sesame seeds**



- 1. Stir together peanut butter, lime juice, sesame oil, chili sauce, and soy sauce in bowl until smooth**
- 2. Spread 1 tsp. peanut butter mixture inside each celery stick**
- 3. Stir together carrots and sesame seeds in small shallow dish. Dip celery sticks in carrot mixture, filling side down, to coat filling with carrots and sesame seeds. Serve with small bowl of chili sauce.**

(I de-thread the celery with a vegetable peeler and cut into smaller pieces than designated above)



Fellow members,

The Plant it Pink garden needs a volunteer on Monday's to help water, weed and eventually deadhead the flowers.

Please call Sharon Jaunsem at 843.338.2305 if you can help.

HERE'S THIS YEAR'S SCHEDULE FROM THE LOW COUNTRY MASTER GARDENERS. OPEN TO ALL.

LUNCH AND LEARN 2020

The Gazebo at the Farmer's Market, Heritage Park, Port Royal
Saturday Classes begin at 12:00 noon and are free... just bring a folding chair.

Date	Program	Speaker	Description
April 4	Open Season	Jay Weidner	Jay is your answer man. Ask him anything!!
April 11	Oh, Those Wonderful Irises	Kathleen Grewenig	A rainbow in your garden.
April 18	Xeriscaping	Laura Lee Rose	It's not just cactus! It's low water usage gardening
April 25	Camellias	George Cannon	You can't call your garden southern without camellias.
May 2	The New Terrerium	Victoria Bergesen	Think beyond a potted plant. Bring your gardens inside.
May 9	Designing with Perennials	Wendy Hilty	The new garden movement. You can having something in bloom all year
May 16	Worms...Garderners Unpaid Helpers	Dorothy Williamson	Some lucky people will go home with the start of a worm farm
May 23	Citrus	Ned Rahn	Everything you need to know about growing citrus in your back yard
May 30	Lasagna Gardening	Laura Lee Rose	You don't need pasta. You don't even need to prepare the soil. The no weeding, no till garden!
June 6	Unusual Containers	Sandra Educate	Think outside the pot! We'll make some unique containers from the strangest things!! And we'll give them away.
June 13	Fragrance in the Garden	Sandra Educate	Often overlooked, but essential for the complete gardening experience.
June 20	Climate Wise Plants	Victoria Bergesen	Meeting the challenge of climate change in our gardens.
June 27	Keeping it Growing	Amanda McNulty	Our signature season-end class. Join Amanda and a great panel to answer your gardening questions. And don't forget to wear an imaginative hat



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

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