



TAG TALK

November 2021

President's Message.....Carol Sevelowitz

Like many families, our Thanksgiving tradition is to go around the dinner table so that each of us can say what they're thankful for. In keeping with the Garden Club theme, I'll go first:

I'm grateful to be living in a place surrounded by vast natural beauty...in a climate where I can garden year round with a wide variety of plants...

I'm grateful to have learned a lot about gardening in the South, and visiting so many beautiful gardens .

But most of all, I'm grateful for having participated in many fun and interesting events and having met so many wonderful, dedicated, creative and sincere members who I would never have known without being an "Avid Gardener!" I wish you all a happy and blessed Thanksgiving! 🍷

Your turn.....



**REMINDER:
PICK UP HOLIDAY SIGN DECORATIONS
WEDNESDAY
BETWEEN 10-12 AT THE PLANTATION HOUSE**

Field trip Friday to Wormsloe State Historic Site

Leaving 9 am sharp from
the Plantation House

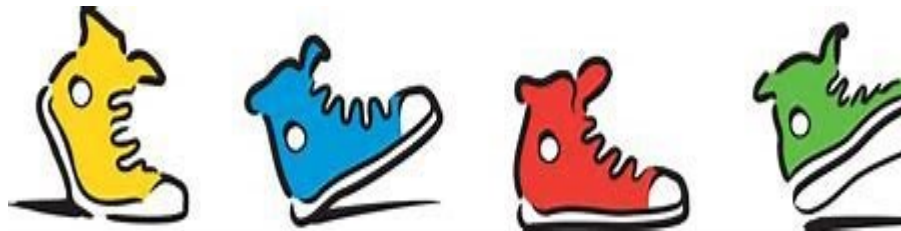
Wear walking shoes and dress warmly.

A few nearby restaurants:

Driftaway Café, 7400 Skidaway Rd

Sandfly BBQ, 8413 Ferguson Ave.

Rocky's of Savannah, 7360 Skidaway Rd.



Additions and Corrections to the Membership Directory

SUGGESTION: PRINT AND KEEP IN YOUR BOOKLET

NEW MEMBERS

Mary Collins
4 Reflection Cove
412-953-7473
judmar5@comcast.net

Fran Hughes
82 Deerfield Rd
202-459-8969
fran@jonandfran.plus.com

Karen Malecha
138 Headlands Dr South
219-510-7871
kjmalecha@gmail.com

Beverly Moorman
12 Oyster Rake Lane
503-707-5677
bamoorman27@gmail.com

Kate Stryker
37 Stonegate Drive
843-301-0399
cdstryker@gmail.com

(NOT IN BOOK)

Deborah Meeks
57 Santa Maria Dr
706-825-0454
debmeeks54@gmail.com

CORRECTIONS:

- ⇒ Ann Clayton: 18 Timber Lane, 843-540-7707, grananny43x@gmail.com
- ⇒ Helen Hinds: only 1 "l" in Helen hhihelen@gmail.com
- ⇒ Pat Rapp: missing "p" p hrapp@roadrunner.com
- ⇒ Rosemary Kratz: rosemaryaokratz@gmail.com
- ⇒ Olivia Ford: fordlarryolivia@hargray.com
- ⇒ Vicky McMillan: vicky.mcmillan@gmail.com
- ⇒ Nadine Korosi: nakorosi7@aol.com (Honorary member)

Birding.....Dick Phillips

Of all the various "bird groupings" that have been identified, the one most of us are primarily interested in are Garden Birds". These birds come in large varieties, and knowing a bit more about them will make watching them that much more fun and interesting. The best way to identify garden birds in our area is to use a "region specific" garden bird guide. For example, if you are living in Germany, use a Germany field guide, not a British bird field guide. If you live in the U.S., try the Reader's Digest "Book of North American Birds". This 500 page guide is exactly what a new (or experienced!) Birder needs in terms of a book full of pictures and information about those birds you will find in the U.S., as well as locations both north and south of the U.S.



The most common garden birds you will find are of the "passerine" group. Passerines are perching birds and song birds which have three toes pointing forward and one pointing back. Passerines that are commonly seen in gardens include sparrows, thrushes, mynahs, crows, wagtails, chaffinches, goldfinches, magpies, starlings, bulbuls, weavers and more. Weaver's nests are often easily spotted hanging from the outer branches of trees. It is fascinating to watch the male hard at work building his nest. Thrushes can often be seen darting around under bushes in search of insects. The bird guides also suggest we be aware of magpies as they are known as the kleptomaniacs of the avian world. Details on specific garden bird species can be found in a good field guide.

The other group of garden birds are the non-passerines. These are non-perching birds. Non-passerines that may be spotted in the garden are pigeons, doves, woodpeckers, parrot species, swifts, owls, cuckoos, lapwings, various smaller birds of prey and so on. For most of us, the size of our property will determine the types of garden birds that will be seen. Doves and pigeons may be the most likely species of non-passerine that you will see as they often frequent garden bird feeders.

Garden birds can be enticed to your garden by a ready supply of food, bearing in mind that different species have different preferences. That's where the Bird Guides info will come in handy. Likewise, many bird feeders are available at places like Walmart, Lowes and Home Depot to attract various types of birds, and a bird bath is always a welcome addition to a garden. Most birds love being able to splash around in a bird bath, and by providing such accessories you will open up delightful opportunities to view and identify birds in your own garden. More than any other kind of wildlife, birds have an almost magical hold on the human imagination. Birds are beautiful, vibrantly alive, and everywhere to be seen!

Horticulture.....Ann Clayton

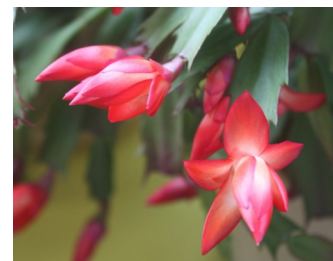
Plenty of things to do to keep us more than busy both inside and outside. As the weather begins to cool down we need to take a long look at the garden and make decisions as to what we want to keep healthy for next year and what did not work out that well.

Move pots of tender (tropical and sub/tropical) plants either under cover or bring inside. Remember to give the plants a good spray (especially under the leaves and stems) , use a mix of Ivory dishwashing soap and water or Safer soap, to eliminate any mites or aphids. Prune before bringing them inside. If the soil seems to have settled below the pot rim, the roots may be compacted. Tap the root ball out and shake off the loose soil. Gently wash away as much soil as possible. Add enough fresh potting soil to the bottom of the pot to raise the surface of the roots within an inch of the rim. Water faithfully and resume the fertilization of foliage plants again in the Spring. When bringing in the pots be sure to scrub them clean and remove any mildew from the outside. Large potted plants, such as hibiscus can be stored in the garage, along with potted roses, bougainvillea or mandevilla and other tender -plants. Depending on how mild a winter we get, you could take a chance and leave outside and mulch (no more than 3") . Brugmansia (April Trumpets) will often come back from their roots if mulched well. If we do get a frost warning, water plants well to prevent damage. Plants brought inside will need bright light to avoid shock, turning regularly for even growth. To obtain maximum success keeping up the humidity around the plant, a light spray with a water bottle regularly will do the trick.

POINSETTIAS - EUPHORBIA PULCHERRIMA. For those of you who like to buy your Poinsettias early (before the crowds descend.) make sure that the plants have adequate drainage. Punch holes in the foil around the plants - don't allow water to collect in the foil causing root rot. Don't fertilize Poinsettia when in bloom. This plant is sensitive to cold and drafty areas - keep away from heater vents. Give bright, indirect light. The sap of these plants can cause nausea and vomiting, use gloves when handling. Just watch your pets !!!



CHRISTMAS CACTUS -SCHLUMBERGERA A small genus of cacti with 6 - 9 species found in the coastal mountains of Brazil. These plants have many 3 inch long tubular pink, white or rosy purplish red flowers at Christmas time. The ones that bloom at Thanksgiving have slightly different leaf segments. This plant likes slightly moist soil when it's actively growing and blooming, and slightly dry soil when it's not. Make sure it has good drainage.



HAPPY GARDENING !!!

PLEASE READ THE MINUTES OF LAST MONTH'S MEETING SO THAT WE CAN VOTE TO ACCEPT THEM BEFORE OUR FIELD TRIP. CORRECTIONS SHOULD BE SENT TO CAROL SEVELOWITZ

**The Avid Gardeners
General Meeting
October 15, 2021**

Meeting began at 9:55 am

Board Members present:

Nancy Renner, Nina McGlade, Helen Rizzo, Chris Thumm, Dick Phillips, Carol Sevelowitz
Liz Van Alstyne, Peg McCann, Pat Rapp, Dede Bethke, Ann Clayton

Board members not present:

Jane Johnson, Olivia Ford, Lori Schmidt

President- Carol Sevelowitz

Carol welcomed guests and new members. Introduction of new members: Mary Collins, Fran Hughes and Bev Moorman. Carol apologized for her absence at last month's meeting and thanked VP Nancy Renner for presenting the meeting. Carol also thanked Helen Rizzo and her helpers (Sally Price and Mary Phillips) for organizing and providing refreshments.

Treasurer's report by Carol (Jane Johnson absent)

New balance in the club's account after subtracting for speaker's fees and adding in new member's dues was \$12,273.38.

2nd Vice President-Membership reported by Chris Thumm

We have 59 members currently. Name tags are available and encouraged. Chris asked for the birthdates (no year) of the members.

Secretary minutes

Carol stated copies of the last general meeting were available on the table in the back of the room. No corrections were brought up and a motion to accept the minutes was brought up by Barb Holmes and seconded by Mary Ellen Phillips. The vote was unanimous.

1st Vice President- Programs- Nancy Renner

Nancy reported on the details for next month's field trip to Wormsloe Plantation. She requested payment for trip be as soon as possible. If not able to pay today, she would provide a box outside her home for drop off of payment. She would like to collect money ahead of time. A sign-up sheet was being passed around to provide a list of those attending as well as those who could drive and those that needed a ride. She stated an information sheet was available

that provided details of the tour and lunch possibilities. Carol asked what the plan was in case of rain to which Nancy stated she was not sure.

Carol reminded members that TAG Talk newsletter is sent out the week of the general meetings each month and contains information about the club. She encouraged everyone to read it. Carol and Chris take turns writing it up. Anyone who does not receive the newsletter in their e mail should let Carol or Chris know.

Fundraiser/ Holiday Events- Liz Van Alstyne

Liz reviewed the plans to provide a table with either Halloween themed cookies or dog treats for sale at the Halloween Pet Parade. Carol described the dog treat she made and the response of her dog and a neighbor's dog. Liz requested that the cookies should be 4 cookies/bag and dropped off between 3:30-4:30 October 29th. A discussion followed regarding of size and amount per bag for the dog treats. 6 dog treats/bag if small in size was the final decision. In addition, a discussion regarding nuts and peanut butter resulted in the decision to place a sticker on the dog treats with peanut butter and no nuts in the cookies. Liz requested help to man the table for the sale and Chris Thumm, Carol Sevelowitz and Nina McGlade volunteered. Dede will provide the table cloth and baskets.

Liz reviewed decision to cancel the fundraiser of Tour of Homes and reported on the decision to have a holiday member only luncheon at Dede's house starting at noon on Dec 10th. She stated the food will be finger sandwiches and salads. Members can bring a holiday dessert. The cost has not been decided upon and an email blast will provide more information as it is finalized.

Carol reported on the amaryllis sale. The bulbs are usually ordered in October and then are delivered to members in November. Louise Gorny has handled this in the past but does need help with picking up the bulbs. Carol had a sample of the order form but will send out to members in an email blast. She noted that the orders will need to be in by next week (October 21st). Chris stated that there is information about the sale on the website.

Old/new business

Dede asked if anyone was interested in going out to lunch after the meeting was over. 2 members raised their hands showing interest.

The general meeting was finished at 10:35 am

Nancy introduced Margie Fox as our speaker. Margie is the owner of Garden Gate boutique nursery. She presented a talk on Holiday decorations and transitioning between holidays.

Nature's Kaleidoscope



Date of the Show-April 29,30, May1,2022
Please put these dates on your calendar NOW!!

In the past shows, we have had all members participating in some way. This is our big event for our community!

- * Horticulture-Very Important Rule!! Thinking Ahead! If you plan on entering a container plant or a cut specimen, that has been growing in your yard, it must have been in your possession for 90 days before the show. (Date- Jan 29,2022)
- * Design-We will be having 7 classes of Designs with 4 Designs in each class=28 total designers needed. All 7 Design types will have been displayed or demonstrated before the show

So, now is the time to start thinking about how you want to participate!!

- enter a design
- enter a horticulture specimen or a potted plant
- be on a committee
- be a committee chairman
- Or staging, horticulture entries, classifications, placements, clerks, awards, publicity, hospitality,etc.

We need everyone's helping hand!!!

Olivia Ford

Healthy Eating.....Anna Broecker

GREEK SEVEN LAYER DIP

- 2 8oz tubs of whipped cream cheese - I mixed in some chives from my garden for a little extra flavor
- 1 container of the Original hummus from Trader Joe's (I used Sabra Classic)
- 3 Roma tomatoes, seeded and chopped
- 1 bunch of green onions, chopped
- 1 cucumber, seeded and chopped
- 1 package of feta cheese, crumbled



Spread the cream cheese on the bottom, then the hummus on top of that.

Chop the Romas, onions and cucumber and mix them together in a bowl,
then layer on top of the hummus.

Top with the feta cheese. I sometimes include chopped kalamata olives as well.

Serve with Pita Chips



PET PARADE FUNDRAISER



**MEMBERS CELEBRATING
BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH**

Liz Van Alstyne Nov 6

Lori Schmidt Nov 9

Carol Vivona Nov 25

December Birthdays

Marlene Brush Dec 27



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

Christine Thumm
thumms@aol.com
843-415-6809



Carol Sevelowitz
sevelcss@gmail.com
843-715-2248

“Gardening is a way of showing that you believe in tomorrow” (unknown)