



# TAG TALK

May 2023



## Celebrating Our 35th year

### *President's Message.....Carol Sevelowitz*

May is such a spectacular month, what with all the flowers in bloom, the birds reproducing and, Nancy Renner tells us, the Farm is in overdrive with so many fruits and vegetables ripening. In fact, for our **June meeting**, on the 16<sup>th</sup>, we'll be having a tour of The Farm as well as of the Plant It Pink and the hospital's childrens gardens, followed by lunch together at Dockside restaurant (details to follow). In the meantime, you can sample some of the produce at the Farmers Market on Saturday mornings. After that, we'll all be off to our summer plans.

For now, though, some busy members are concentrating on preparations for our **May meeting**, this Friday, when we'll be having a lovely brunch followed by an Installation of Officers ceremony at Spring Lake Pavilion, beginning at 10am. If you haven't already done so, please let Liz or me know you'll be attending so we can account for food, etc. When you come, be sure to bring your dues renewal check for the coming year, for \$35 made payable to TAG. And, if you have any corrections for your Member Directory listing (name, address, phone, email), please either email or write them out and give to Lori Schmidt ASAP so she can work them into the Directory.

And when life  
became too frenzied  
**She came to her garden and  
whispered to the plants until**  
Her smile returned  
and her mind was calm



Also, a reminder: *The very popular All Saints Garden Tour is this Saturday and tickets are still available through Nancy Renner. Our members, Rob and Janina Cushman's garden is on the tour!*

## Meeting: Friday, May 19

10:00am

### Spring Lake Pavilion

Brunch and Installation of Officers

This is our regular monthly meeting date. In lieu of a restaurant luncheon, your fellow members will be preparing a lovely brunch, to be followed by an Installation ceremony for incoming officers for the 2023-2024 year.



Membership dues are due By May 31

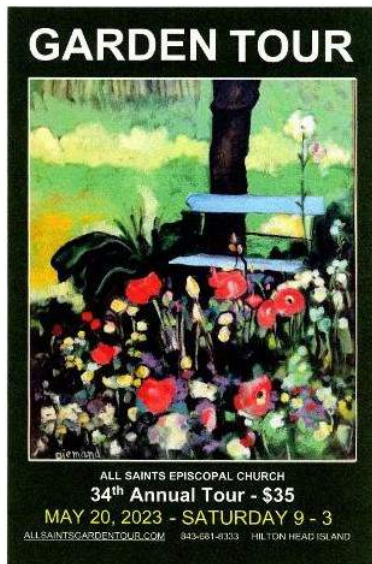
- ⇒ Bring your check to the May meeting
- OR
- ⇒ Mail it to the Membership Chair,  
Christine Thumm  
12 Whitetail Deer Lane
- OR
- ⇒ Drop your check off at the house

If dues are paid before May 31, your name will be entered in the drawing at the June meeting for a \$25 dollar gift certificate to the Greenery.

## Meeting, June 16

June's program will be a self-guided tour of The Seabrook Farms along with a visit to Plant-It-Pink and the Children's Memorial Garden after which we will meet at the Dockside Restaurant for lunch

More information soon



## All Saints Garden Tour Saturday May 20, 2023 9 am—3 pm

**We Invite You to Our Boutique, Bake Sale,  
Raffle and Garden Tour**

Held from 9 am – 3 pm in the fellowship hall at All Saints Episcopal Church, 3001 Meeting Street on Hilton Head, on May 20, 2023. The boutique features crafts by Karen Bittman, Jane DeFail, Tru Dee Bamberg, and others including Critters by Cate and Elizabeth Ludwig Jewelry.

- Come find purses, notecards, old perfume bottles, shell décor, tote bags, jewelry, bird feeders, wire flowers and much more. The bake sale, all home baked, includes breads, cookies, pies, cakes, and candies. The cost for the Garden Tour is \$35 per attendee, but coming to the Boutique is free, and there will be water if you need to quench your thirst.

Garden tour tickets are \$35 and raffle tickets are \$5 each \$20 for 5 raffle tickets, available by credit card online. If ordered by May 6, they will be mailed to you. Also Garden Tour tickets can be purchased at nurseries and local businesses in Hilton Head and Bluffton for cash or check through 10 am Friday, May 19. For tickets and updated information, please visit our website: [allsaintsgardentour.wordpress.com](http://allsaintsgardentour.wordpress.com) or call (843) 681-8333. *The proceeds from the Tour will support six local charities that support hunger, homelessness, literacy and/or aging.*

We are raffling "Along the Garden Path", an original pastel painting by Joyce Nagel, local artist. Framed dimensions are 30"(width) x 39"(height). The tickets are 1 ticket for \$5, or 5 tickets for \$20. They are on sale at All Saints Episcopal Church and at [allsaintsgardentour.wordpress.com](http://allsaintsgardentour.wordpress.com) now and will be on sale at the Boutique until 2:30 pm when the drawing for the raffle will occur. You do not need to be present at the drawing to win.

Nancy Renner

*Birding.....Beth Hommes*

## Osprey

The osprey is a cool bird that migrates to and from our area. They are a type of hawk who generally live fifteen to twenty years. They may fly up to 8000 miles per year to migrate. Much of the mortality within osprey populations occurs during migration.

They usually mate for life. Pairs of osprey return to the same areas yearly. They build their nests of sticks on high platforms. They will use duck blinds, channel markers, and other manmade structures as bases. There is one platform on Squire Pope Road near the parking lot for Hudsons and another in the field at the Coastal Discovery Museum. Both of these have had ospreys return to them in recent weeks.



Coastal Discovery built another platform for them nearer the marsh but no birds ever used it. The museum later found out that osprey will not nest unless they have 360 degree visibility around the nest so that they can protect hatched chicks. The museum platform did not have enough clearance to provide this.

Ospreys are larger than a red-tailed hawk but smaller than a bald eagle. They are dark brown on top and mainly white on the bottom.



Ospreys live near water—saltwater marshes, estuaries, rivers, and ponds. They eat fish. They circle shallow water looking for food. They have superior vision for seeing underwater from the air. They are great divers and may catch a fish on between 25 and 70 percent of their dives. Barbs on the soles of their feet help them to grasp their prey and be able to fly while holding it. They can close their nostrils when they dive and their dense, oily feathers don't get waterlogged.

Ospreys lay a clutch of two to four eggs which they incubate for five to six weeks. Unlike many other birds, these eggs do not all hatch at the same time. Eggs hatch over five days. The first to hatch becomes the dominant chick and if food is scarce the younger birds may starve. The juveniles will leave the nest in about eight to 10 weeks.

Osprey numbers used to be low but since the prohibitions on DDT and other pesticides, their populations have grown dramatically. They are now considered of least concern by conservationists.



*School Garden Program.....Sandy Stern*

A team of eight TAG volunteers has been working at the HHI School for the Creative Arts in the courtyard gardens over the past few months to re-establish the Butterfly Garden and the Korosi Vegetable Garden.

Fruit trees have been planted, trees and shrubs have been pruned, 4 vegetable raised beds were weeded and covered in tarp in preparation of plantings in the fall semester. Mulch was placed in the butterfly garden along with flowering plants and a new bird bath.

We're making progress, but there's lots more to do, so we plan to work over the summer months to get things ready for the startup of the after-school JR. GARDEN CLUB in September.

Thanks to: Jane Johnson, Melissa Olsen, Karen Hardwick, Rosemary Kratz, Ann Clayton, Lynn Tax, Trudee Bamberg, and yours truly, Sandy Stern. Kudos to Jane Johnson for also winning a \$500 grant from the GCSC to bring these gardens back to life.



**GCSC and West Lowcountry District 2022 Awards  
Submitted by Sandy Stern - TAG Awards Chair May 2023**

**Garden Club Of South Carolina**

Award # 16 - Club Public Program Award (Holiday Home Tour) - 2nd Place

Award # 24 - Horticulture Award (Plant-it-Pink Garden) - 2nd Place

Award #28 - Publication Award (TAG Talk newsletters) - 1st Place + \$25.00

Award #30 - Social Media/Website Award - (Website) - 2nd Place

Award # 39 - Yearbook Award - 3rd Place

YOUTH GARDEN GRANT \$500.00

**West Lowcountry District Awards**

Award # 4 - Horticulture Award (Plant-it-Pink) - 3rd Place

Award #10 - Special Events (Holiday Home Tour) - 1st Place + \$25.00

Award #14 - Publication (TAG Talk newsletter) - 2nd Place

- Yearbook - 1st Place





**MEMBERS CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS**

**THIS MONTH / May**

19.....Jane Alexander

27.....Chris Thumm

13.....Rita Rivlin

**AND LAST MONTH / APRIL**

22.....Dick Phillips

If you would like to have your birthdate listed in TAG Talk, please send us the date.



If you're looking for an outlet for your creative abilities, consider writing The Avid Gardener column in *Plantation Living*.

Space is limited so you'll have to curb your enthusiasm but the challenge will be most rewarding.

Contact Carol Sevelowitz to volunteer for this position  
[sevelcss@gmail.com](mailto:sevelcss@gmail.com) or 843-715-2248

**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

*"A garden is a thing of beauty and a job forever"*  
(Richard Briers)