



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

**Please Read: Important changes**

Winston Churchill once said, "To improve is to change; to be perfect is to change often." Looking at many recent changes for TAG, I guess we're headed toward perfection!

To begin with, several of the programs listed in our newest Member and Program Directory have had to be changed. Beginning with this month, a planned trip for this Friday to the Palmetto Oaks Sculpture Garden has been cancelled in favor of a program right here at Spring Lake Pavilion. Our very own Horticulture chairperson, Jackie Emery, will present valuable information on *Amaryllis and other Spring Flowering Bulbs*. Jackie gives a slightly longer version of this talk at the Osher Lifelong Learning Center. This comes just in time for us to receive our amaryllis orders, so we look forward to her pearls of wisdom.

Next, in November, in another change, we have been invited by the Plantation Garden Club of Hilton Head to join them for a *Flower Arranging Demonstration and Holiday Boutique* at the Coligny Theater on November 13th from 10:00 til noon (**please note the date change from our regular meeting date**). The demonstration will be given by *Kirk Moore, a well-known garden and lifestyle correspondent* from Oakleaf Highlands, NC. Kirk has been featured on Good Morning America, and has been affiliated with Smith & Hawken and Saks 5th Avenue. Tickets for the event are \$20 and proceeds will support the Colonial Williamsburg Historic Savannah Foundation. They will be available at this Friday's meeting or directly from me. This is a great opportunity for TAG to support the efforts of a sister Garden Club here on the island.

Finally, a committee has been working to make some changes to our ByLaws. Among those will be a change in the dates of our fiscal year, to more closely align with the dues requirements of the State Garden Club, with whom we are chartered. You can expect to receive a copy of the newly updated ByLaws by email soon, as we are required to vote on those changes and hope to do so at our December Holiday Luncheon.

All in all, a lot to take in! Hoping these changes (and possibly more to come) bring us just a little closer to perfection for all of you. See you Friday!!



**Meeting: Friday, October 20**

**9:30 am  
Spring Lake Pavilion**

**Speaker: Jackie Emery  
Topic: Amaryllis Care and Holiday**



**Date: Monday, November 13**

**Time: 10:00—12:00**

**Speaker: Kirk Moore**

**Tickets may be purchased at TAG's October meeting or directly from Carol Sevelowitz**



## Garden Chores for October

### *Plant*

Fall is THE best time for planting in the South.

### Annuals

Plant winter annuals, such as: Snapdragons, Pansies & Violas, Dianthus, pink & white Ornamental Cabbage varieties, Kale, and bronze-leafed Mustard 'Miz America'.

### Perennials

Spring and summer blooming perennials can be planted now. Remember, whereas winter is the biggest challenge for plants in colder climates, heat and humidity are the biggest challenge for them in the South! Planting now allows the roots to grow and spread through the winter months, and gives plants a head start in the spring.

This is also the best time to divide perennials. Move that plant that got too much/ too little sun to a new location, or just divide perennials that have gotten too large.

### Deer, Rabbits & Squirrels

Make sure to protect your new plantings from deer. Fall and winter are times when they are more prone to 'sample' your new plantings. Squirrels will dig around your planting beds this time of year to hide acorns for a winter 'treat'. Repellex® systemic tablets will protect plantings from deer, rabbits & squirrels for an entire season as it gets incorporated into plant tissues. Liquid Fence® deer and rabbit repellent might also be helpful, as is the use of (transparent) 30 or 40 lb monofilament fishing line.

### Lawn

Now is the time to overseed your lawn, if you are interested in doing that. Personally I am a big fan. There is nothing cheerier for me in winter than a spring green lawn. It lifts my mood! Overseeding with the wrong variety can hurt warm-season grass because emerging blades will compete with the existing turf for nutrients, sunlight, and moisture. Annual Ryegrass however is easy to establish and

Continued on next page

Continued from page 3

thrives in both shade and sunshine. Just make sure the seed does not dry out. Watering for just 5 minutes, 3x a day ensures the seed stays moist. Depending on the temperature you should see results in about a week.

### *Prune*

Do only cosmetic pruning. You do not want to promote new growth that will not mature well before the cold weather. Don't prune spring flowering shrubs, as they have already set buds.

### *Mulch*

Continue to spread a layer of mulch over your planting beds. Mulching is THE best way to add organic matter to your sandy soil and increase retention of water and nutrients. Use pin-straw or (uncolored) pine mini nuggets. Pine nuggets make a fine soil ammendment. They will decompose and provide organic material to our sandy soil. After several years you will have the deep, rich soil we are all striving for!

### *Spray*

With cool damp nights and warm days, watch out for mildew. This is usually a sign that you are providing more water than your plant can process during these cooler temperatures. Reduce watering amount and duration. Treat with fungicide as needed.

### *Watering*

Consider reducing your irrigation settings for your planting beds, in accordance with cooler temperatures to prevent mildew and rot (see above). It is better to selectively supplement with handwatering where and when needed.

## **Camelias**

Camelia Sasanqua (Autumn Camelias) are starting to bloom now. Consider visiting the following collections to select your favorite for your garden...

### ***Honey Horn, Hilton Head***

The Camellia Garden on Honey Horn is home to 131 varieties of camellia plants. All plants are identified with labels and photos of their blooms in a garden that was recently added to the American Camellia Society's Trail.

### ***Coastal Georgia Botanical Gardens, Savannah***

Located near Savannah and Interstate 95 Coastal Georgia Botanical Gardens' Camellia Trail comprises over 35 different camellia species and is reputed as being the most diverse collection outside of China. Over 1,000 camellia plants are nestled below pines and evergreen oaks .

### ***Magnolia Plantation & Gardens, Charleston***

Located near Charleston, Magnolia Plantations and Gardens has 20,000 camellias on display throughout the winter and spring, with a focus on "ancient" (pre-1900) varieties.

### *Happy Gardening!*

*Jacqueline*

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



## Jr. Garden Club

With a grant of \$500 from the Garden Club of South Carolina, The Avid Gardeners worked throughout the spring and summer to revitalize the Korosi Vegetable & Herb Garden and the Butterfly Garden in the courtyard at Hilton Head Island's School for the Creative Arts. Then on October 12, fifteen students in grades 3-5 met and formed their newly named Butterfly Bunch Jr. Garden Club. They will meet every Thursday from 2:45 - 4:15 pm along with six Avid Gardeners (Jane Johnson, Sandy Stern, Melissa Olsen, Ann Clayton, Karen Hardwick and Rosemary Kratz) and a teacher-assigned, Mr. Mark Sadler, to teach the youngsters all about vegetables, fruit trees, and flower gardening.

The children immediately got to work getting their hands in the dirt - actually they all received new gloves. They will have opportunities to learn all about gardening from planting and weeding, to pruning and composting, from harvesting and composting, to digging and raking! They will have many hands-on experiences while volunteers demonstrate the use of gardening tools. Students will also learn about the life cycle of butterflies and the flowers and plants that help them grow. In addition, they will get a chance to eat the fruits of their labor.

The Avid Gardeners have planned many activities, one of which is to have the students build their own birdhouses to attract local birds to a natural habitat. The mission of this after school club program is to have the children enjoy the beauty of nature and develop a love of gardening for a lifetime.

Submitted by Sandy Stern





## **FREE EVENT: All About Camellias!**

Saturday, October 28th at 10:30am  
The Greenery Garden Center's Camellia Garden



### **Learn All About Camellias from Wendy Dickes!**

Wendy Dickes, Manager of Horticulture at the Coastal Discovery Museum, will give a free talk about camellias, a southern staple in the Lowcountry! She will also share helpful tips to keep your camellias happy and healthy this winter. This event is free and open to the public. No reservation required. The presentation will take place outdoors in the Greenery Garden Center's Camellia Garden.

***Participants will receive a 10% discount on ALL  
Garden Center items after Wendy's talk!***

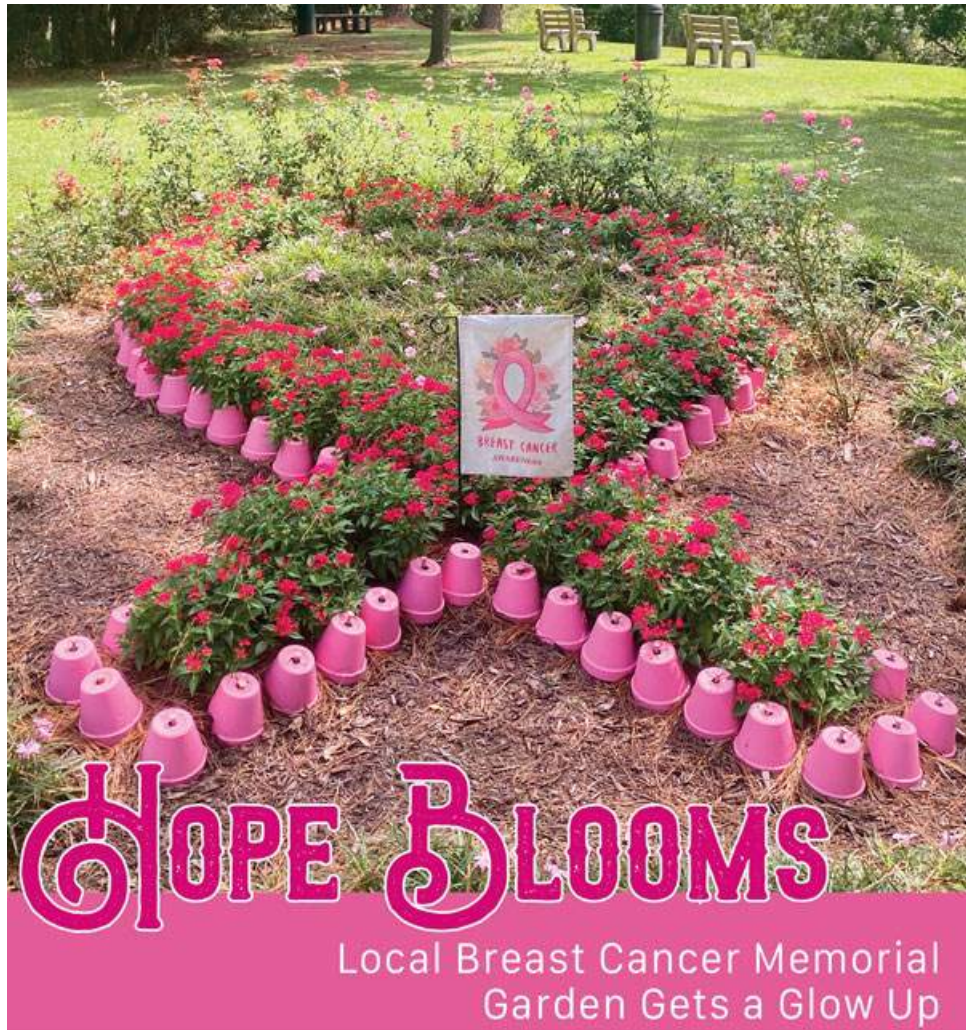


Photo by Elizabeth Skenes Millen

The Avid Gardeners' *Plant-It-Pink Garden* is featured in October's issue of "Pink Magazine". Be sure to pick up a copy. There will be some available at our next meeting.



**MEMBERS CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS  
THIS MONTH**

**7.....Patti Peacock**

**13.....Lynn Tax**

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





**SAVE THE DATE**  
**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6**  
**HOLIDAY LUNCHEON**  
**HEWITT OAKS, BLUFFTON**  
**11:30 – 1:30**

**Deadline is November 6 to make your reservation.**  
**Cost is \$35. Checks payable to TAG. Guests are welcome.**

**Contact Liz VanAlstyne, [elizzy1106@aol.com](mailto:elizzy1106@aol.com), 315-342-1246**  
**17 Sentry Oak Lane**

Program and Member Directory: Corrections, Additions, Omissions

- Pat Rapp  
 99 Birdsong Way D306  
 843-415-1737  
 Committee Chair  
 Publicity: Carolyn Schmidt

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

Christine Thumm  
[thumms@aol.com](mailto:thumms@aol.com)  
 843-415-6809



Carol Sevelowitz  
[sevelcss@gmail.com](mailto:sevelcss@gmail.com)  
 843-715-2248