




**NOTE: DATE CHANGE**  
JUNE'S MEETING DATE IS **JUNE 7**  
**SEE PAGE 2**

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

As temperatures are rising into the 90s and the sun is setting later in the day, thoughts of summer and vacations can't be far behind. But before you head off to your summer adventures, I hope you will join us in winding down the Avid Gardeners calendar year.

This coming Friday we'll enjoy our final speaker for the year. Lisa D. Watson, an artist and gardener, will speak on The 7 Common Blunders of Gardening in the Lowcountry. Hopefully she'll save us from making potential mistakes in our summer gardening. Additionally, we'll be officially installing Melissa Olsen in her Board position as Secretary for the coming year.

Then in June, for our final meeting and kick off to summer we'll have our Potluck Social on June 7 (not on the 21st as listed in the Directory), at the new Dolphin Head Pavilion from 5:30 to 8:00. Bring your spouse or significant other, the beverage of your choice, and an app or dessert to share. TAG will supply soft drinks, paper goods, a sandwich platter and dessert. Kick back and enjoy the view and the opportunity to socialize.

Hope to see you all soon... 



Friday, May 17  
Spring Lake Pavilion 9:30 am  
Speaker: Lisa D. Watson  
Topic: Seven Plant Blunders of Our Coast

Installation of Officers



Pot Luck Social  
**June 7** 5:30 pm  
Dolphin Head Pavilion

Tag Members and Families invited  
Details to follow

# May



## Garden Chores for May

### ❖ *Summer Bulbs for Southern Gardens*

- ❖ I often get asked what the best perennials are for full sun in Southern gardens. The answer is simple: Plants that have **bulbs** or **rhizomes**; energy storage organs that help them survive our hot humid summers. Two of them are blooming right now: Easter lilies and Amaryllis. That's right! Hope you did not throw out your Amaryllis after Christmas, nor your Easter lilies after Easter, but planted them in your garden. See some recommended Amaryllis varieties that do great in the garden below.
- ❖ More about Summer blooming bulbs and rhizomes in my upcoming presentation (October): "**SOME LIKE IT HOT**. Flowers that thrive in hot, humid weather".

### ❖ *Fertilize*

- ❖ Note the **N-P-K ratio** listed on every fertilizer:
  - ❖ **N** stands for Nitrogen, which promotes leafy growth.
  - ❖ **P** stands for Phosphorus, which stimulates fruit, root, and flower production.
  - ❖ **K** stands for Potassium, which improves drought tolerance, disease resistance & durability.
- ❖ **Nitrogen** fertilizer is best applied as a slow-release fertilizer, or as a spray. Applying too much can burn a plant.
- ❖ Amaryllis and Easter lilies will come back year-after-year if you understand them and treat them right. Amaryllis bulbs are pregnant (yes, you read that right). Inside every bulb are buds, which will turn into flower stalks. Whether your bulb is going to have a single 'child' (stalk), or 'twins', or even 'triplets', is determined by the size of the bulb when you buy them. Just like women have a larger girth when they are having twins, bulbs do too. Who knew?
- ❖ Once a bulb has 'given birth' (i.e. flowered), it has exhausted all of its energy. Like a car that has run out of gas, it needs to be recharged. To re-charge it and make sure it will bloom again, you need to feed it (Remind you of the old saying 'eating for two?'). Summer blooming bulbs crave fertilizers that are low in nitrogen (don't use "all-purpose fertilizers). Use 'bloom booster' fertilizer or Schreiner's Iris fertilizer.



- ❖ When should you fertilize? The easiest to remember is on the two days that celebrate women: Valentine's Day and Mother's Day. Once they start blooming, and if you have sandy soil, you can also the liquid formulation of Miracle Grow bloom booster which attaches to a hose, which makes fertilizing even easier. This will recharge the bulb for next year.
- ❖ Do not cut off the leaves but leave them on the plant until they go limp. Happy Amaryllising!

### ❖ *Irrigation*

- ❖ If you have not done so already, it is time to turn on your irrigation system. For lawns it should be set for 1" for 1<sup>1/2</sup> to 2 hours. Water early in the morning. Deep infrequent watering promotes a healthier lawn. In hot weather it might be necessary to water twice a week. Be aware of the HHP permitted watering days (depends on your house number –even or odd–). Measure the amount with a wide mouth rain gauge. Adjust your mower higher. (Do you have a battery-operated lawn mower yet? A DREAM!
- ❖ Adequate moisture is essential for the growth of perennials. Most perennials require at least 1 to 1½ inches of water per week from rain or irrigation.
- ❖ Water early in the morning to reduce evaporation and prevent disease.
- ❖ Mulch! When you mulch, decide **why** you mulch and select your mulch accordingly: Both pine straw and bark mini nuggets are great for suppressing weeds and conserving moisture. However, bark mini nuggets decompose faster and make for a better soil enhancer.

### ❖ *Blooming in May*

- ❖ Amaryllis are blooming now too...



- ❖ Some Amaryllis planted in the garden started blooming back in April, others have started blooming now, in May. Recommended varieties for your garden are: 'Apple Blossom', 'Gervase', 'Christmas Gift' & 'Sweet Nymph'. They are all gorgeous, are easy-care, and bloom profusely.
- ❖ Blooming now also are: Easter Lilies!, African Iris (Dietes), Iris Regina, Vinca, Dipladenia, Oleander, Summer Sweet (Clethra).
- ❖ **Still** blooming: Large (perennial) Calla Lily (*Zantedeschia aethiopica*), Snap Dragons, Dianthus, Stock flowers (*Matthiola incana*), Strelitzia Regina, Small Calla Lilies.

### ❖ *Visit*

- ❖ Sumter, SC: Japanese Iris Festival, annually on Memorial Day

*Happy Gardening!*

*Jacqueline*

*More from Jacqueline....*

Need some new *Garden Inspiration?*

Before there was a **PIP Garden** there was a **BLUE GARDEN**.

Here at home, and Internationally, some of the most famous gardens are gardens that employ just one color!

Read on about the fun of creating a **monochromatic garden design** and read about the history and present day of **Newport, Rhode Island's Blue Garden**.

Click on this link: <https://thebluegarden.org> or copy and paste into your browser



TAG received three awards from the Garden Club of SC

- ◆ 1st Place: Publication (for TAG Talk) +\$25
- ◆ 1st Place: Club Sponsored Youth Conservation and Natural Resources Award (for Jr Gardeners Club at HHISCA). + \$25
- ◆ 2nd Place: Social Media/ Website Award



*Explore the Historic Cowcountry  
Gardens of Charleston with  
Louisa Pringle Cameron*

*First time speaking in Beaufort!*

**Friday, June 7, 2024  
2 pm**

**Parish Church of Saint Helena  
507 Newcastle Str, Beaufort, SC**



*Brought to you by  
Lady's Island Garden Club  
Celebrating Our 50th Anniversary  
during National Garden Week*

**\$30**

**Seating is limited  
Lecture, Q & A, Refreshments**

**You may purchase tickets online  
[EVENTBRITE.com/ louisa-pringle-cameron](https://www.eventbrite.com/louisa-pringle-cameron)**

Tickets by check - will call  
Send check made payable to LIGC to:  
LIGC, c/o K. Pitman, P.O. Box 1258, Beaufort, SC 29901  
Questions: [ladysislandgardenclub.com](http://ladysislandgardenclub.com)

Tour lovely private gardens at  
The Beaufort Garden Club's  
**GARDEN A DAY**  
*June 3-7, 2024*



*by Sandra Baggette*

*Monday thru Friday 9 am - 12 Noon Rain or Shine*  
***It's FREE!***

**Monday, June 3**  
Jane & Michael Frederick  
38 Meridian Road  
Lady's Island

**Tuesday, June 4**  
Kit & Louis Bruce  
906 9th Street  
Port Royal

**Wednesday, June 5**  
Linda Peters  
1 Blythewood Road  
Lady's Island

**Thursday, June 6**  
Susan Harden  
121 Sunset Blvd  
Lady's Island

**Friday, June 7**  
Lowcountry Montessori School  
749 Broad River Drive  
Beaufort

***beaufortgardenclub.com***





# All Saints Garden Tour

## May 18, 2024

The 35th All Saints Episcopal Church Garden Tour will be held Saturday, May 18, 2024 from 9am-4pm. We will have:

Six lovely gardens in Hilton Head and Bluffton.  
A time change, now 9-4 (previously 10-4),

A price of \$45, the first price increase in 9 years. Lunch will be available at The Seabrook of Hilton Head, one of the gardens on the tour. The cost will be available later.

Tickets are available to purchase **on line** from now until May 16. **Tickets purchased online between May 12 and Thursday, May 16th must be picked up at the church.**

**Artisans Market and bake sale**, a new and enhanced version of the Boutique – At All saints Episcopal Church, 3001 Meeting Street, Hilton Head Island, same date as Garden Tour, May 18, 9-2 (note that the Boutique ends at 2)

After Monday, April 15, 2024 tickets may be purchased at the following local nurseries and businesses:

### **In Hilton Head**

- All Saints Church Episcopal Church (3001 Meeting Street)
- BRUNO Landscape and Nursery (109 Dillon Road)
- Burke's Main Street Pharmacy (1101 Main Street)
- the greenery, inc. (960 William Hilton Parkway)
- the green thumb home and garden (25 Dillon Road)
- Hilton Head Wine & Spirits (50 Shelter Cove Plaza, Suite K)

You may pick up tickets (with proof of purchase on your smart phone or in hard-copy) or purchase them with cash or check at All Saints Episcopal Church beginning Monday April 15, Monday-Thursday from 10-3:30, on Friday, May 17 from 10-12, or **on the day of the tour if tickets are still available, at the church from 8:30 til noon**. Tickets picked up at the church on the day of the tour must be picked up by noon or they are forfeited.





**MEMBERS CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS**

*May*

13.....Rita Rivlin

14.....Diane Mills

19.....Jane Alexander

27.....Chris Thumm

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

We will once again be selling cookies at the Plantation's July 4th event. This is not a fundraiser, just a community participation and a show of support to the event planners. Proceeds to be used in establishing and maintaining community service projects such as Plant It Pink, Junior Gardeners and others.

If you would be interested in baking about 3 dozen chocolate chip cookies, please email Liz at [elizzy1106@aol.com](mailto:elizzy1106@aol.com)

Date: July 4th  
Details to follow

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

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“A rose by any other name would still attract aphids”