



## TAG Talk

### May, 2025

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

This is my final President's Message, a bittersweet moment for me. After having served two terms (= 4 years) as TAG president, I am stepping down. It has been my privilege to do this job, and I thank you all for your confidence in me. Despite some major setbacks along the way, like a pandemic, and some significant personal health issues, I'd like to think it's been a productive term for TAG. We have three successful, award winning ongoing community projects - the hugely successful School Gardens (fondly called the Butterfly Bunch), a reinvigorated Plant It Pink garden, and a beautiful, newer raised bed container garden at Memory Matters. We've gained community recognition with a highly successful Holiday Home Tour, the holiday decorating magic at Dolphin Head, and we've attracted many new members. None of this could have happened without the hard work and support of a capable and dedicated Board and officers. Not quite ready to give up the gavel though, our ByLaws state that the outgoing President continues on the Board as the Parliamentarian, and I will continue to co-publish TAG Talk along with Christine Thumm., who also steps down as the steadfast and reliably knowledgeable and organized VP of Membership. I am happy to know that I will be succeeded by a team of two terrific co-Presidents; Sandy Stern brings her vast knowledge and experience, and Debby Meeks refreshing new energy and ideas. Liz Van Alstyne will bring her experience and tireless work ethic to replace Chris as Membership VP. Jane Johnson's Treasurer role comes to an end as well, leaving us with a dilemma. Although we had elected Christy Beltran to replace Jane, we just found out that she will be moving away from the area soon, and will not be able to accept the position. A last-minute search for a replacement is underway; I encourage you to contact Sandy to volunteer for the position. Most of the Board's committee Chairs will continue in their positions.

Yes, it is a season of change for TAG but as we know, change is good. I hope you all will continue to support all the new officers as you have us, and I know TAG will continue to thrive. Thank you again for your support and kind words. I couldn't have done it without all of you.

Carol



**MAY MEETING      5/16/25      9:30 AM      SPRING LAKE PAVILION**

**SPEAKERS: KRISTIN WILLIAMS & MELISSA ANDRIS    OPEN LAND TRUST**

We will learn about the organization that has protected land in seven SC counties since 1971 - the first and oldest land trust working to protect open spaces, natural habitats and rural communities as well as managing the Whooping Crane and Cypress Conservancies here in HHP. *See our website for more details.*

To be followed by the New officer installation and a tea party of refreshments.



**Coming in June. 6/6/25 5-8pm Dolphin Head Cluhouse**

Season ending potluck social. As we did last year, bring your significant other and a heavy hors d'oeuvre to share. The club will provide dessert, paper goods and soft drinks (you may bring wine or beer if desired). As an added bonus this year, we will have entertainment in the form of singer /guitarist, Peyton Dobbs.

Take advantage of this time to wish fellow gardeners a safe and happy summer!

## Jr. Garden Club

.....Sandy Stern



*Under the direction of The Avid Gardeners, the students created colorful garden art from recycled materials. They placed the bugs on display throughout the Butterfly Garden and the Vegetable Garden. Special thanks to Mary Long and her husband David for helping assemble the 20 creatures and to Melissa Olsen for planning and supervising the project.*



*The Avid Gardeners received First Place awards from the Garden Club of South Carolina and from the West Low Country District for the School Youth Gardens. In addition, several individual students who participated in the Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl poster contests received certificates for their submissions. See photo with Jane Johnson and Debbie Meeks posing with 2 fifth graders whose work has gone on to the South Atlantic Region for further consideration.*

*May ended our spring season working with this group of talented, energetic and curious students. Our teacher-assigned for the past two years has been Mr. Mark Sadler. He has decided to take another teaching position in Beaufort County and thus will be leaving the Hilton Head School for the Creative Arts this month. We all enjoyed and appreciated his knowledge of gardening and his contributions to the club. On behalf of all of The Avid Gardeners, we wish him good luck, his new position. We will miss him.*

*And finally, thanks to a great team of volunteers. You rock!*



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## *Horticulture notes for May.....Karen Heaney*

This month has brought us some much needed rainfall! Flowers are blooming throughout the plantation. If you were lucky to have planted Amaryllis and Easter Lilies they have been blooming. Be sure to plant your Easter lilies so next year they will bloom in your garden. Once the leaves of the plants go completely limp you should cut them and use a fertilizer that is low in nitrogen to promote new growth for next year. Rhododendrons are beginning to bloom in stunning shades of pink, lavender, blue and purple.

May is the month for Pruning and Weeding! Begin with flowering shrubs such as azaleas, forsythias, deutzia and spiraea. They will produce new flowers for next year this summer. You should dead head older perennials and cut back leggy plants; this will help your plants to become bushier and produce more blossoms. This is the time to divide them and is a budget friendly way to add more plants to your garden, or to share extras with friends. Perennials add so much color to your garden throughout the summer you may want to add new a new one...Echinacea, verbena, rudbeckia, coreopsis, or asters! Remember to fertilize your plants to promote new growth.

Prune back your herbs so they don't go to seed. Use the fresh herb cuttings in salads and your favorite dishes. Any extra dry them in the microwave (or vegetable dryer if you happen to own one) and store them in jars to use in your daily cooking recipes. (See below for Fresh herb salad dressing recipe).

Remember to fertilize your plants to promote new growth. They will repay you with continuous color throughout the spring and summer. Be sure to add a new layer of mulch to your flower beds and hopefully you will have fewer weeds popping up!

Be sure to check out the HHP Farm Market on Saturday mornings 9-11am for the freshest vegetables money can buy!

### ***Fresh Herb Pasta Salad Dressing***

1/2 cup fresh basil	1/4 cup red wine vinegar
1/3 cup fresh oregano	2/3 cup neutral oil
3/4 cup fresh parsley	1 tsp kosher salt
3 cloves garlic	1/2 tsp freshly ground black pepper
2 scallions (white parts only)	



In a blender container or large measuring cup, combine the herbs, garlic scallion, vinegar, oil, salt and pepper. Blend until combined. Pour over warm pasta and roasted veggies of your choice. Cover and chill for 2-4 hours. Before serving, top with roasted pine nuts and grated parmesan cheese.



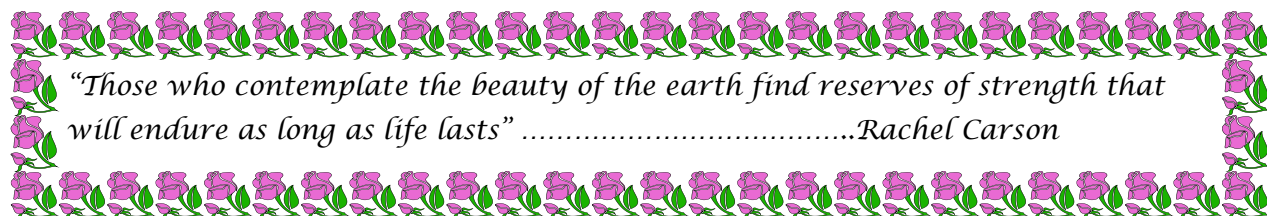
May and June Birthday wishes to:

Jane Alexander  
Rita Rivlin  
Melissa Olsen  
Joyce Prange

Diane Mills  
Christine Thumm  
Mary Ellen Phillips

Summer Birthday Wishes to:

Judy Cherry	Karen Heaney	Sharon Jaunsem
Rosemary Kratz	Jane Murphy	Mary Anne Sweet
Jean Smith	George Westerfield	



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