

THE PLANTATION POST

Owners gather for sea oat planting

Thousands of sea oat seedlings were dispersed and most planted over a 48-hour period recently. A feat in and of itself, volunteers said the greatest result was seeing the community come together as friends and neighbors for the common good of all owners.

Owners and volunteers planted 17,500 seedlings on nearly 50 beachfront properties and the Resort Village beach owned by The Plantation. Approximately 7,500 were installed at the RV property. More than 35 people – owners and others from outside the community – volunteered in this larger undertaking. Volunteers represented beach, bay and interior property owners.

The effort was spearheaded by lead volunteers Carl Adams, Greg Ohl and Scott Downing.

“It was a very positive activity and a blueprint for how we can work together as a community on common goals,” said Ohl. “Hopefully this is just a start!”

Adams said he met many new people and had great conversations with them.

“The common theme was that people want to find a solution to our current problem,” he said. “They also want more opportunities to work together. Several ideas sprang from this. One idea was to collect seaweed washed ashore after storms and place it around sea oats, as it serves as an excellent natural fertilizer that greatly supports their growth. Another suggestion was to recruit volunteers to trim dead palm fronds along Leisure Lane. The most important thing is to work together.”

As Helen Keller said, “Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.”



BOD President's Message

Buck Bolden



Neighbors and Friends,

I would like to extend a special thank you to three volunteers who coordinated the successful sea oats planting on the beaches of our Resort Village property and beachfront properties where owners requested help with planting. Our neighbors Carl Adams, Greg Ohl, and Scott Downing organized over 30 volunteers to plant approximately 17,000 sea oats in a couple of days. These sea oats will mature over the year and contribute additional seedlings as their seed heads develop and naturally spread seeds in the fall. I hope this will become an annual volunteer effort that strengthens storm resilience of our shared beaches.

This activity was a great example of neighbors working together towards a shared goal. We have a great community with fantastic neighbors. Let's keep up the good work because we can accomplish so much more by working together!

Turtle Season starts May 1, so please remember to use only turtle-friendly lighting on all light fixtures that are visible from the beach. This will minimize risk of mother turtles and hatchlings from disorientation. As we all know, if the hatchlings become disoriented and head inland rather than into the Gulf, they are at very high risk of death. This year you will also see new magnetic decals for vehicles of sea turtle volunteers while they look for sea turtle nests on our community beaches every day.

Thank you,

Buck



A new bench has been installed at the SGPOA airport, just outside the bathroom area. A big thanks to the maintenance team for all they do!



Mark your calendars for the return of our ArtSocial's very popular BINGO Night!

Beginning June 11, Bingo games will be held the second Thursday of every month through September. The Plantation Room doors open at 5:30 p.m., with games from 6-8 p.m. Each night between eight and nine games will be played.

Bingo cards are \$1 per card per game and must be purchased with cash. We encourage everyone to bring \$1 bills. Bingo is open to owners and visitors, but you must be 18 years old to play.

Popcorn will be available; we encourage players to BYOB and bring your favorite snacks.





Wednesday Wonders continues

A good crowd turned out in March for the Wednesday Wonders segment on The Shipwrecks of Dog Island. The speaker was Melanie Damour, a maritime archeologist. This week, 22 pre-registered owners will embark on a boat trip through the bay and up the Apalachicola River. The final lecture in the series is May 20. “Sea Turtles of SGI” begins at 2 p.m. in the Plantation Room. Come learn more about protecting these massive sea creatures who are native to the island. Owners and guests are invited. A big thank-you to members of the Recreation Committee who host and sponsor these monthly lectures.

Follow Us on Social Media

Owners and guests, we encourage you to follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

General information often goes out first via our social media accounts.



Our pages are [stgeorgeplantation](#) on Instagram and [St. George Plantation](#) on Facebook.



Fraud Alert:

A reminder to owners

This recently happened to one of our owners – a fraudulent attempt was made to transfer ownership of their property using a quitclaim deed. We believe it was caught before any permanent damage was done, but it serves as an important reminder for all of us.

Quitclaim deed fraud is a growing issue, especially in Florida, where property records are public and easily accessible and there are many second homes, not occupied year round. In these scams, someone files a fake deed to make it appear as though they own your property. They may then try to sell it, rent it, or take out a loan against it.

The challenge is that many owners don’t realize anything is wrong until much later – sometimes when they try to sell their property or stop receiving important mail.

What you can do (takes just a few minutes):

- Check your property record with the county property appraiser to confirm your name and mailing address are correct.
- Search your name in official county records for any unfamiliar documents.
- Make sure you are receiving your property tax and HOA mail.
- If you are away, ask a neighbor to keep an eye on your property.
- Occasionally search your address online to ensure it is not being listed for sale or rent.

Franklin County also offers a free Property Fraud Alert system that notifies you if a document is recorded in your name. We strongly encourage all owners to take advantage of this service. If something doesn’t look right, act quickly by contacting the **Clerk of Court at (850) 653-8861**, and a real estate attorney.

Staying informed and taking a few simple steps can help protect your property and provide peace of mind.

DO GOOD
WORK.

MEASURE
IT.

Talk about it.

March was a busy month which went by quickly. SGPOA staff have been working on a variety of projects, including:

- Completed 7 total boardwalks either replaced or repaired.
- All full-time and part-time officers have completed their FL State Certifications.
- 2025 Audit completed – The Audit Committee has met, reviewed, and accepted the results. The BODs are expected to approve the audit during the April 16 meeting.
- FrontSteps/Caliber - The upgrade is underway with a target completion date of June 15.
- The annual Reserve Study is being put together by Association Reserves Inc. with support from the General Manager and Facilities Manager.
- We have put together a greatly improved ARC support team.
- Security has undergone hospitality training with greatly improved results.
- Communications has put out three months of quality Plantation Post newsletters.
- AP/AR, payroll, insurance, all paid timely with zero late vendor payments.



Our common areas are about the only places in the Plantation that are “arranged.” Most of the development remains in its natural state, but from time to time, Mother Nature appreciates a little help sprucing things up. Above, the Maintenance team adds pine straw to the common areas.

Security officer Jonathan Jones greets guests with a smile at the guard gate. All security personnel have completed Class D Certification and training as well as hospitality training. The Plantation has open security positions and is currently hiring for officers. The notice can be found on Indeed.



Maintenance team members sorted sea oats for owners to pick up at the Magnolia Clubhouse.

Join us for a Plantation Derby experience

Come celebrate the "Run for the Roses" in style at the SGPOA Poolside Kentucky Derby Party on Saturday, May 2, from 5-8 p.m. at the Magnolia Clubhouse.

Tamara's food truck will be available for the purchase of food; the drinks (beer, wine and soft drinks) are on us! We'll have the television on in the Plantation Room and will announce the big race in time for you to make your way upstairs.

Please RSVP the number of guests. Owners and one guest attend free of charge. Additional invited guests are \$20 per person and include drink tickets. Everyone gets a mint julep upon arrival!

Wear what makes you feel comfortable. For those who want to get into the Derby spirit, there will be a best hat prize and best dressed award. Memorialize the event with a visit to our photo backdrop, where Mandi Singer will be taking pictures.

For ladies interested in a pre-Derby hat-making session, please email Donna Price (priceatl@me.com).

The RSVP deadline is Friday, April 17. The RSVP invite can be found on FrontSteps.

The ArtSocial Committee is looking for volunteers to help at the event. Email ArtSocial Chair Traci Clark at finaldesigns@yahoo.com.



POOLSIDE DERBY party

Saturday, May 2
Magnolia Clubhouse
5-8 p.m.

- Free to owners +1
- Guests \$20 each
- Tamara's food truck on hand

**RSVP
on FrontSteps
by Fri., April 17.**

St. George
PLANTATION



*Join us for a Kentucky Derby
Hat-Making event.*

*Wednesday, April 29, 1 p.m.
The Plantation Room*

Email priceatl@me.com to sign up.

Don't let the chaos around you get to you

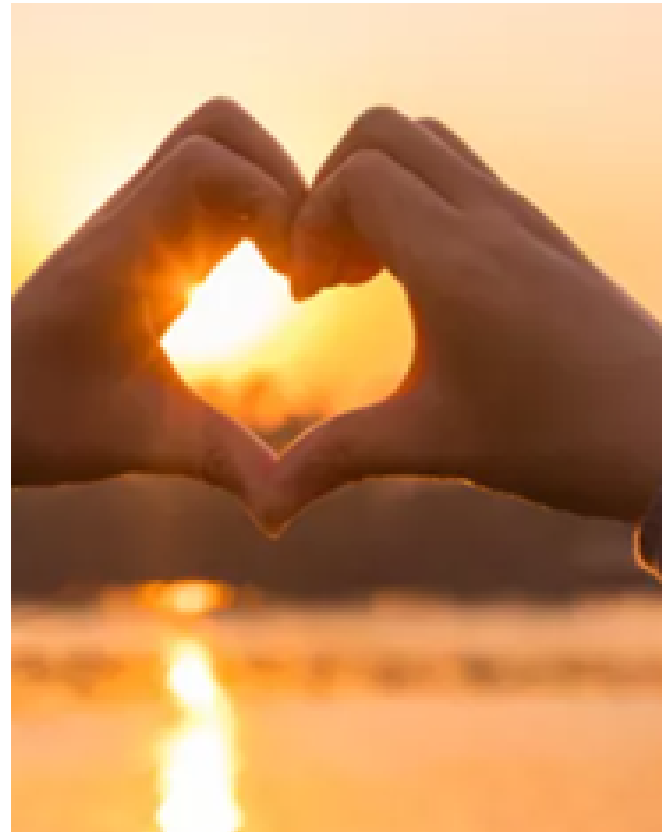
Finding peace in a chaotic world involves cultivating internal stillness through mindfulness, setting boundaries, and focusing on what you can control. Key strategies include deep breathing, limiting media consumption, connecting with nature, and accepting reality rather than fighting it.

Prioritize self-care and maintain perspective to protect your mental well-being.

Actionable Strategies for Inner Peace:

- **Practice Mindfulness & Breathing:** Spend a few minutes daily focusing on your breath to ground yourself in the present moment.
- **Set Boundaries:** Learn to say "no" to protect your time and energy, and step away from stressful situations.
- **Limit Media Intake:** Reduce consumption of news and social media to avoid constant exposure to chaos.
- **Accept What You Cannot Control:** Focus your energy only on what you can influence, accepting that not everything is within your control.
- **Connect with Nature:** Spend time outdoors to reduce stress hormones and improve mood.
- **Cultivate Gratitude:** Focus on what is going right in your life rather than solely on negative events.
- **Organize Your Mind:** Declutter your thoughts by journaling or letting go of the need for perfection.

– Source: Centerstone magazine



Guests are coming in

During this busy Spring Break season we'd like to issue a few reminders.

Owners, especially those who rent your homes, please be sure and filled out the Registry which was emailed Dec. 9 via FrontSteps. [Click here](#) to complete it or contact the office. The registry allows staff to contact you in case of an emergency at your property.

Also, owners, please enter your rental guests on Dwelling Live. If you need assistance locating this, please contact the office.

And finally, with all the visitors, we have seen an uptick of children. Please exercise extreme caution as you drive, obeying the speed limits and keeping an eye out for bicycles. Let's have a safe season!

Mailroom boxes are available

Plantation owners, if you are interested in getting your mail on the island, consider renting a post office box here.

There is a one-time \$50 fee plus a \$15 annual rent. If you are interested in a box, please see Tara in the office. Only small boxes are currently available.

As a reminder, large packages are left at the Eastpoint Post Office. Their hours are Mon – Fri: 10 a.m.– 4 p.m. & Saturday 10 a.m.– Noon.

Sheet Pan Shrimp & Asparagus

Source:
Simply Recipes



For the garlic butter sauce

- 4 Tbs. butter
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1 Tbs. fresh parsley, minced
- 1 tsp. fresh lemon zest
- 1 Tbs. lemon juice

For the sheet pan shrimp & asparagus

- 1 bunch asparagus, trimmed
- 2 Tbs. olive oil, divided
- 1 tsp. kosher salt, divided
- 1/2 tsp. black pepper, divided
- 1 pound large (28-30 count) shrimp, peeled & deveined
- 1/2 tsp. chili powder

For serving

- Thin spaghetti or rice, for serving
- Parsley, for garnish

Cooking

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees.
2. Make the garlic butter sauce. In a small pan over low heat mix butter & garlic, 3-4 minutes. Do not let the butter brown. Remove from heat and stir in other ingredients. Set aside.
3. Spread asparagus out over entire baking sheet. Drizzle with 1 T. olive oil, 1/2 t. salt, 1/4 t. pepper. Roast for 7 minutes.
4. Toss the shrimp with remaining ingredients. Move asparagus to one side of the sheet pan and add shrimp to the second half in a single layer. Roast for another 7 minutes. Shrimp is done when it is light pink and firm in texture. Asparagus should be browned on the edges and fork tender.

Chop asparagus into 3-4 pieces; return to baking sheet and drizzle everything with half of the garlic butter. Serve over spaghetti or rice with remaining garlic butter and fresh parsley.



Makes 4 servings

427 Calories

21 g Fat

27 g Carbs

3 g Protein

Upcoming BOD Meetings

Held in the Plantation Room on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 5 p.m. unless otherwise stated.**

April 16, 5 p.m.

May 21, 5 p.m.

June 18, 5 p.m.

July 16, 5 p.m.

Upcoming Committee Meetings

FinCom

April 23, 1 p.m.
Cypress Room

Infrastructure

May 6, 10 a.m.
Cypress Room

Recreation

May 7, 11 a.m.
Cypress Room

ArtSocial

May 7, 1 p.m.
Cypress Room

ARC

May 14, 1 p.m.
Plantation Room

All owners are encouraged to attend in person or via Zoom. Zoom links are located on agendas posted on FrontSteps.

**Special meetings may be called with notification sent via FRONTSTEPS.

Turtle season starts May 1

Sea turtle season is almost here on St. George Island; the nesting season runs from May 1 through October 31.

Each year, three species of sea turtles come ashore here for nesting: the Loggerhead, the Green, and the Leatherback. The majority of turtles on the island are loggerheads. Under the cover of night, these turtles lay their eggs in the sand, continuing a cycle that has existed for thousands of years.

During turtle season, we all play a role in protecting them. Simple actions like keeping beaches dark at night, filling in holes, removing obstacles, and giving nesting turtles plenty of space, can help ensure hatchlings have the best chance of reaching the Gulf safely.

During this special time when our beaches become nesting grounds for these incredible marine visitors, there are several precautions we should all take for their protection. Light restrictions are most important during these months.

We encourage all owners and guests to adhere to the following:

- Lights must not be visible from the beach.
- Use “turtle-friendly” lighting as recommended by FWC, mounted low and with low wattage.
- Close blinds and curtains at night.
- Avoid flashlights and flash photography at night.

LEAVE NO TRACE: Keep beaches clean and unobstructed. County ordinances require that beach gear (chairs, umbrellas, tents) be removed at night. Turtle volunteers will tag items left on the beach, which are removed by Security after 24 hours. Items are relocated to under the nearest boardwalk.

In addition, all holes and sandcastles must be filled in to reduce physical obstacles for turtles.

To report a stranded or disoriented turtle, call the FWC hotline at 888-404-3922.



As you make your way along our beaches, look for the Turtle Patrol volunteers. Their vehicles have signage indicating they are part of the volunteer patrol.

Thank you to our owners & other volunteers on the turtle patrol:

- Scott & Tanya Downing
- Cindy Holloway
- Janet Nash
- Brooke Hunter
- Renee Black
- Doreen Chassie
- Dianne Macut
- Jan Bowers
- Subs: Sharon Hutchinson, Greg Bowers, and Paul & Brenda Colonna

These dedicated volunteers walk 1.25-mile sectors daily at sunrise for six months. We thank these volunteers for helping keep The Plantation a safe and welcoming place for sea turtles!



Instagram:
[@stgeorgeplantation](https://www.instagram.com/stgeorgeplantation)



Facebook.com/
[StGeorgePlantation](https://www.facebook.com/StGeorgePlantation)



LinkedIn.com/
[StGeorgePlantation](https://www.linkedin.com/company/stgeorgeplantation)

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The Plantation is our Special Place.