

Cassina Garden Club

NEWSLETTER



February 2011

Calendar of Events

January 31, 2011,
Photography Contest
Deadline.

February 3, 2011, Board
Meeting at home of Lee
Baxter 10 a.m.

February 3, 2011, Luncheon
reservation payment
deadline.

February 4, 2011, Heritage
Day at Oglethorpe
Elementary School.

February 9, 2011, Tour
Group at Cabins 10:30 a.m.

February 10, 2011, Annual
Cassina Luncheon at
Epworth 11 a.m.

February 12, 2011, Black
History Month Event at
Cabins 10 a.m. - Noon.

February 21, 2011, Field
Trip to Glynn Art 10 a.m.

February 23, 2011, Tour
Group at Cabins 10:30 a.m.

Annual February Luncheon Open to Members and Guests

Table Arrangement Competition
Speaker: Patricia Collins
Director of Gardens for Callaway Gardens



February 10 ~ Epworth by the Sea
11:00 a.m.

M.J. Choate, Chair

Reservations must be received by February 3

Annual February Luncheon

What a great treat we have in store for our up-coming annual luncheon on February 10th at 11:00 a.m.! Our theme this year is "Down by the Riverside." We can look forward to a delightful new venue for lunch at Epworth this year where we will truly be "Down by the Riverside." Patricia Collins, the Director of Gardens for Callaway Gardens will be our guest speaker. Her years of experience at this true Georgia treasure promise to be informative and hopefully inspirational to us as gardeners. An exciting special menu has been selected for us by MJ Choate and her luncheon committee. Our table arrangement competition will also be a highlight of the luncheon on this year.

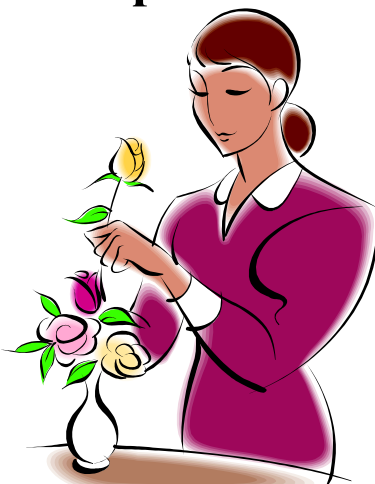
Remember - your payment of \$28 per person is your reservation and must be received no later than February 3rd. No reservations can be accepted after that date.

Floral Arrangement Competition

The following are the instructions for the floral arrangement competition held at the February Luncheon:

- * Arrangements are due at Epworth around 9:30 a.m. on luncheon date.
- * Arrangements should be centered around the luncheon theme — "Down by the Riverside".
- * All arrangements should be suitable for round tables to seat 10.
- * Height of the arrangement should be no more than 15 inches.
- * Materials should be natural. Use real flowers and greenery. Dried materials and moss are acceptable.
- * Some theme suggestions include shells, driftwood, fern, birds, frogs, fish, and boats.

The possibilities abound. Have fun, be creative. Thanks to all those who signed up. Anyone else interested in doing an arrangement or with questions should call Anne Caswell.



Board Notes



To keep the membership better informed about Board actions, a report from the most recent Board meeting is included in the monthly newsletter.

Twenty-seven members attended the January Board meeting and approved the following items:

- Christmas Tour results were reported
- Membership Committee report of member participation requested
- Increased emphasis on publicity was discussed
- Details of February luncheon reported
- Major portion of meeting was a planning session to assess our efforts in accomplishing the MISSION OF CASSINA

Heritage Day

On February 4th Cassina members will again be participating with teachers and students at Oglethorpe Elementary School for Heritage Day. Club members will assist the students in a project to introduce them to a love of gardening and growing plants. Working with the classes, volunteers will teach students how to plant and care for plants. Each pupil will have the opportunity to prepare and carry home their own plant and watch it grow. Thank you to our volunteers who will assist in Heritage Day.



Save your pull tabs and bring them to each meeting throughout the year!

Garden Club of Georgia News

The Garden Club of Georgia's 83rd State Convention will be held April 26 - 28 in Athens. Recalling Athens as the birthplace of all garden clubs in the U.S., the theme this year is "The Beginning Was Here". The keynote speaker will be Allan Armitage. See your winter Garden Gateways for other details and registration information.

A Garden Club of Georgia Flower Show School Course III will be held in Millen, Georgia March 1 - 3. Registrations are due by February 25th. If interested, details may be obtained from pincejohnson@bellsouth.net. Remember the State Ronald McDonald Project for collecting your aluminum pull tabs. Save all you can each month and bring to each meeting. Let's all "PULL TOGETHER" for this very worthwhile cause.

January Speaker

In spite of the frigid temperatures outside, Cassina members were inspired to plan for color in their gardens when Norman Winter, syndicated horticultural columnist in newspapers and magazines, showed the Club slides of beautiful color combinations. He described the effects of monochromatic, analogous, and complementary color schemes



with multiple examples of each triadic harmony with three colors of flowers. Norman recommended Sweet Potato Vines, the new Cora Vinca, Sweet Alyssum, Diamond Frost Euphorbia, and Sun Patiens as strong candidates for the Georgia garden. He suggested that flowers paired with grasses make a bold statement.

The complete list of flower combinations in the slides is available from Dottie Fielder and has been shared with Dawn Hart of ACE Garden Center. Anyone who is interested in receiving the Brewton-Parker electronic newsletter, *Baron Banner*, is encouraged to email news@bpc.edu.

Membership Requirements Update

Every January the Membership Committee reviews the participation of all Active Members per Article II in our By-Laws. To maintain Active standing, members are required to attend meetings regularly, participate on a committee and financially support the Christmas House Tour. There are many opportunities to get involved before the end of the year: meetings, assisting the docents when groups visit our cabins, gardening on Saturday, and, of course, the Garden Walk.

We ask that you review your own participation and encourage you to take part in some of the remaining events. If you have questions or concerns about your membership, please call Anne Aspinwall or June Brown.

Member Concerns

Frances Allen is in rehab at Marsh's Edge.

Jean Russell is with her daughter in Florida. Her address is c/o Kay Trainor, 5414 Osprey Court, Sanibel, Fla. 33957.

Our sympathy to the families and friend of Associate member Lella Kelso, and Life member Susan Keagy. Lella died on January 24th and Susan died on January 21st.

Please contact either Nan Fuller or Emily Swift on any member concerns.

Turtle Center Field Trip



Elizabeth Freyer, Leslie Carlton, Martha Martin, Nan Fuller, Pam Hamilton, Wil Kampschmidt, Liz DeMato, Sally Hawie, Becky Stephenson, Jane Rives, and Janis Rodriguez on a "behind the scenes" tour of the Jekyll Island Turtle Center

Our January Cassina field trip to the Jekyll Island Sea Turtle Center closed out the local field trips for the year. The group enjoyed a special "behind the scenes" tour. They learned about various treatments, diagnostic procedures and surgeries performed there. The tour of the exhibit gallery and rehabilitation pavilion was very informative. A special treat was seeing Sea Oats, a "washback hatchling" which was rescued on Sea Island.

Our final field trip of the year will be to Callaway Gardens on March 31st.

Valentine's Day at Hospice

Valentine's Day is one of the holidays this year when Hospice of the Golden Isles has asked Cassina to help bring some encouragement to their patients. Cassina members are preparing special tray favors to show some special love to each of the hospice patients appropriate for this holiday. Sandy Storino and her committee are designing these favors to be delivered to Hospice in time for sharing on Valentine's Day

Pull Tabs Reminder

Don't forget Ronald McDonald!! Cassina is now participating in the Garden Club of Georgia Project to collect aluminum pull tabs to donate to Ronald McDonald House Charities. Please start saving any pull tabs and remember to bring them with you to each meeting throughout the year. We will have a collection box set up for you. If you have any questions, contact Susan Baltzell.



Celebrate President's Day!!

On February 21st Cassina members will have an opportunity to get down and get dirty....a little bit! The "make your own pot" workshop will be 10 a.m. to Noon at Glynn Art in the Village. Cost is \$25. You will be given gloves and aprons, clay and molds. All you need to bring is your creativity. This will definitely be a fun morning, beginning with a brief "how to" lesson. Then everyone will be free to create their masterpiece. Glynn Art will glaze and fire your pot to YOUR specifications. Space is limited so don't wait to sign up. Contact Janice Lamattina for information or to sign up for this workshop.

Don't forget to check out the award winning Cassina Website. The website is now full of many new features and information to keep you up to date and in the know.

News from the Gardens

To accommodate "Father Winter" we have a new temporary Saturday morning garden schedule. We will not work on January 29th, but will resume our gardening at 9:30 a.m. on February 5th to clean the walkways and pick up small branches and moss in preparation for our first 2011 Cabin Tour on Wednesday February 9th. On February 12th we will meet at 9 a.m. (note time change) to clean the gardens and walkways for our Black History Month event that begins at 10 a.m. We will resume our regular schedule on February 19th, at 9:30 a.m.

Due to the continued cold temperatures we are unable to begin our serious pruning. New members be sure to let Betty Young know if you work in the gardens on another day so she can give you credit.



Special February Event

On February 12th our Tabby Slave Cabins will be open to visitors for a special event. February is designated as Black History month, and our Historic Tabby Slave Cabins are a very prominent part of our island’s black history. We will be cooperating on this day with the Friends of Harrington School not only as part of black history emphasis but to also help aid them in raising awareness of this group’s efforts to restore the only remaining black school house on our island. The cabins will be open in the morning from 10 a.m. until 12 noon. There will be an African American singing group performing at the cabins at 10:30 a.m. and docents will be present to share the history of our cabins and showcase our artifact exhibits. Afternoon activities will be at the Harrington School House grounds with their volunteers present and a performance at 2 p.m. by the Brunswick Shouters group. Plan to come by the cabins in the morning or the school in the afternoon to help us showcase our cabins and support these additional preservation efforts on our island.



Cabin Tours

Finally!! We are going to be busy with tours once again. Our cabin tours will be in full swing starting in February. We already have quite an extensive list of groups lined up to visit the cabins from February thru June. Jennifer Kuja has sent out the complete list of tour dates that we have so far. Get these on your calendars and sign up with Jennifer for the dates you are available to help out. If you are a new member, this is your chance to fulfill those two observation requirements and get a “refresher course” of the history of the club and the cabins. If you have a prospective member, please encourage them to visit our cabins during this time to see the cabins and introduce them to the history. Dates for this month are:

- February 9th, 10:30 a.m., Tour Group
- February 12th, 10 a.m. - Noon, Black History Month Event with Harrington School
- February 23rd, 10:30 a.m., Tour Group

Birthday Winner



Helen Castrillo birthday winner

Every month a drawing is held at the membership meeting to celebrate the birthdays for the month. (*Remember, you must be present to win!*) January’s birthday winner was Helen Castrillo. Happy Birthday to Helen and all the members with a January birthday.

Cassina Newsletter

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February Gardening



We're on the web!

www.cassinagardenclub.org

2010-2011 Officers

President:

Beverly Nash

First Vice President:

MJ Choate

Second Vice President

Dottie Fielder

Recording Secretary

Ann Worthington

Corresponding Secretary

Beth Thrift

Treasurer

Kay Harrell

Assistant Treasurer

Pam Hamilton

Pruning

Make spring's pruning chores easy on your hands and on your plants by sharpening dull blades now. There is a special metal file you can buy if you want to try to do this yourself. If you have especially good tools, you may want to take them to have them sharpened professionally. Blades do need to be re-sharpened often.



Heavy pruning for size and shape may be accomplished this month on all but spring flowering shrubs and trees. Prune out all dead, injured and diseased branches. Remove unsightly shoots and suckers at the base. Prune out long branches deep within the body of the plant to obtain a natural look. A popular method of pruning badly overgrown shrubs is to cut all branches back to within a foot of the ground. This may require a heavy saw. Vigorous new growth must then be lightly pruned and reshaped in June. February is also rose pruning month. February 14th is a key pruning day for rose growers.

Planting

February is a great month for planting both trees and shrubs. Roses may also be planted now and the garden centers should have bare rooted ones at this time. Also, rapidly maturing cool season vegetables such as lettuce, garden peas, radishes, carrots, spinach and plants of cabbage, cauliflower, and onions can be put out if done early in the month to allow for produce before the hot summer weather arrives.

Remember to fertilize your shade trees and flowering trees this month. Scatter a balanced fertilizer beneath and slightly beyond the spread of the branches. Be sure to water well.

Special Tip

Our Cassina friend James Holland, former Altamaha Riverkeeper, passes along this information. He suggests that we may want to rethink using Cypress chips for mulching. To produce these chips, vast areas of Cypress swamps must be cut. Cypress is a very slow growing tree and without them the swamps are in trouble. These trees help control flooding and also provide shade for breeding fish. You may want to consider buying pine products instead. Pines are fast growing and are produced mainly for cutting and selling.

Happy Valentine's Day

