

Cassina Garden Club

NEWSLETTER



January 2011

Calendar of Events

January 6, 2011, Board Meeting at Historical Society Heritage Center, 10:00 a.m.

January 10, 2011, St. Simons Council Garden Club Meeting.

January 13, 2011, Monthly Meeting, Open to Members and Guests, Coastal Georgia Historical Society, 9:30 a.m. Hospitality, 10:00 a.m. Meeting and Program.

January 18, 2011, Field Trip, Georgia Sea Turtle Center. Depart Cabins 9:15 a.m.

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

February 10, 2011, Annual Luncheon Meeting.

January Meeting

Open to Members and Guests

“Hot New Plants & Ideas for Your Landscape”

Norman Winter will offer ideas of new plants and landscaping tips suited for our South Georgia coastal area



**January 13 ~ Coastal Georgia Historical Society
Heritage Center**

9:30 ~ Refreshments 10:00 ~ Meeting

Hostesses: Betty Young, Julie Spivey

January Board Meeting

The January Board meeting is an important planning meeting for Cassina. All Officers and Chairmen of Standing Committees as well as Special Committees are strongly encouraged to make a special effort to be at the meeting. Also, if you are a co-chair or serving on one of these committees, please plan to attend. The meeting will be held at 10 a.m. on January 6th at the Coastal Georgia Historical Society Heritage Center. Please reply to Beverly Nash to let her know you will be there.

February Luncheon

Plans are underway for our February Luncheon Meeting. This major yearly event will have a new look this year. Our luncheon will be held at Epworth and our theme is "Down by the Riverside". An exciting new menu is being selected. Our guest speaker, Patricia Collins, will give us a glimpse of the beauty of Callaway Gardens and share her many years of work experience there. This will give a great introduction for those who will be going on our March field trip. Once again we will be having our Table Floral Decoration competition, so be getting your ideas together. A sign-up sheet will be available at our January meeting. Other Luncheon details and invitations will be sent soon.

Golden Days

Our Golden Days project is now well underway. Golden Days is a National Garden Club project which recognizes some of our past garden club officers and members who, due to circumstances, are no longer able to enjoy gardening as they once did. On Monday following our Tour, Caroline Fleetwood and her crew of gardeners including Rita Trudeau, Phillis Harrell, Gee Gee Adams, Ann Worthington, Janis Rodriguez and Barbara Murrah met at Barbara's house. Together they braved the cold and had fun planting 27 pots of Daffodil bulbs. Once these are ready to bloom other Cassina members have volunteered to deliver them. A list of recipients is being compiled by Frances Allen and Betty Young. A big thanks to all these volunteers for braving one of our coldest days and to Barbara for allowing us to use her place again this year to participate in this program.

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.

Fifteen members attended the December Board meeting and approved the following items:

- Final details wrap-up for Christmas Tour
- All awards submitted for club by December 1st deadline
- Callaway Garden Field Trip is full
- Thanksgiving favors distributed to Hospice patients
- Cassina/Harrington School joint project for February Black History Month Event



L-r: Barbara, Ann, Gee Gee, Caroline, Phillis, Rita

Field Trip to Signatures Squares



On November 19th twenty Cassina members enjoyed a visit around Brunswick's Signature Squares. Director of Signature Squares, Julie Hunter Martin, guided our group presenting the history of Brunswick and the efforts of the Signature Squares Preservation Project. Our members finally saw the Oak Grove Cemetery Chapel we have been a part of restoring. Cassina was once again happy to show their support for the Signature Squares Preservation Project by presenting Julie a check for \$250.

Christmas Tour of Homes

The 26th annual Cassina Christmas Tour of Homes was a great success. We were able to show our local friends and out of town guests five outstanding island homes. All were decorated beautifully for the holidays with abundant fresh greenery furnished by Cassina members. The Coastal Georgia Heritage Center was a wonderful special interest stop. Their decorations were beautiful, and from all reports the gift shop was a big hit with our guests. We are so grateful to the homeowners who allowed us to show their homes. If you know these folks, please be sure to let them know how very much we appreciated them being a part of our tour this year.

Special thanks to Mary Lynch for her willingness to chair this year's tour and to Anne Aspinwall who gave her so much valuable assistance. Also, we cannot say enough about the effort put forth by all the tour committees, their chairpersons and all who helped them. Thank you to each Cassina member who helped with the tour. All of your contributions, whatever they were, are what make it possible for the tour to be a success. Many thanks to all of you for a job well done. Anne Caswell was the winner of tickets sales. She will receive a gift certificate for \$100 from ACE Garden Center for selling 7 tickets. Congratulations to Anne.

Bake Sale

This year's sale promises to be our biggest and best ever. We had record numbers of items to sell and everyone did a beautiful job in decorating their items for the holidays. It is no wonder our proceeds this year are more than they have been in any past year. Thank you especially to Sue Chambless and to all of her crew of workers. A big thank you to all you wonderful Cassina Bakers....A GREAT JOB WAS DONE BY ALL!



Members delivering their bake goods

Pecan Breakfast Bread

Many members requested the recipe for the Pecan Breakfast Bread that Liz DeMato brought to our November meeting. Here is the recipe with our thanks to Liz..

Separate 2 cans Pillsbury Crescent Roll dough into 16 triangles. Spread triangles with 2 Tbsp softened butter. Combine 1/2 cup sugar, 1/4 cup chopped pecans, and 1 to 2 tsp cinnamon; sprinkle over the triangles. Roll up each triangle starting at wide end and rolling to opposite point. Place rolls, point side down in greased 9 x 5 inch loaf pan forming 2 layers of 8 rolls each. Bake at 375 degrees for 35-40 minutes until center is done. Remove from pan at once; place right side up and drizzle with Topping.

Topping: In saucepan, combine 1/4 cup confectioners' sugar, 2 Tbsp Butter, 2 Tbsp. honey, and 1 tsp vanilla. Bring to a boil, stirring constantly. Stir in 1/4 cup pecan halves. Cool slightly before drizzling over baked loaf.

Member Concerns

Frances Allen is in the hospital due to a fall on Christmas Day.

Jean Russell is back at Magnolia Manor following hospitalization.

Janis Rodriguez's mother is in rehab at Magnolia Manor.

Judith Eff O'Grady is recovering from surgery.

Dottie Fielder's husband is at home recovering from back surgery.

Ruth Kolumber's husband is at home after having surgery.

Lella Kelso is recovering at home.

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

Field Trips

On January 18, 2011, we will have a behind the scenes tour of the Georgia Sea Turtle Center on Jekyll Island. Everyone that signed up for this tour please meet at the cabins at 9:15 a.m.

POT! Not the herb, but something you can plant your herbs in! Yes, it is time to sign up for the February workshop: **Make Your Own Pot!** The workshop is set for Monday, February 21, 2011, from 10:00 a.m. to noon. In this small class, Debbie Craig at Glynn Art in the Village will give you all the instructions and materials you need to make your very own masterpiece. Then Debbie will glaze and fire it for you. This class is limited to only 15 people so be sure to sign up and bring your check for \$25 at the January meeting.

The Callaway trip is now full. However, if you would like to be on the back-up list in case of a cancellation, please contact Janice Lamattina.

Community Outreach Project



Louise Ufer and Ladye Heisel with flowers for Thanksgiving trays at Hospice of Golden Isle

Louise Ufer and Ladye Heisel delivered twenty two flower pots for the Thanksgiving trays at Hospice.

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.



Heritage Day

Cassina has been asked to once again participate in Heritage Day at Oglethorpe Elementary School. This year's date is February 4, 2011. We need helpers who will meet with the children and help introduce them to the joy of gardening and growing things. This is a fun time and all who have participated in the past have thoroughly enjoyed themselves. If you are interested and can help out, please contact Louise Ufer to get more details.

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

The tabby gardens looked wonderful for the Christmas Tour of Homes. New and seasoned gardeners worked hard to put the finishing touches on the gardens before the Tour. What you see now when you visit the gardens is our winter gardens. They are beautiful cottage gardens, just as they are intended to be. We have been preparing the gardens for winter with 23 bags of mulch and 6 bales of pine straw in anticipation of some frosty temperatures. We hope you will take the time to visit the cabins and admire the gardens.

New members please let Betty Young know if you work in the garden on days other than the scheduled Saturday mornings. Remember you are responsible for two work mornings a month.



Garden Club Member Elected To State Office

Sharon Flores, Immediate Past President of Cassina Garden Club was elected to the position of District Director of the Oleander District for the Garden Club of Georgia. The announcement was made at the annual District meeting in Savannah. She joins the State Board of Directors for a two-year term. There are seven districts in the State, and the Oleander District represents twenty seven counties and seventy five garden clubs. The responsibilities of the District Director include supervision of all clubs in the district, encouraging the formation of new clubs and promoting National and State conservation, preservation and civic beautification projects. In addition, she will be responsible for working with local clubs to organize the annual District meeting. The 2011 Oleander District Meeting will be held on St. Simons Island in October.



L-r; Winette Almon, current Oleander District Director; Betty Grimes, Garden Club of Georgia President; Sharon Flores, Oleander District Director-Elect.

First Graders Visit Cabins

On November 23, 2011, the first graders of Frederica Academy visited our tabby cabins. This is a wonderful event where the students come dressed in their Pilgrim and Indian costumes. The “Pilgrims and Indians” learned about the history of our cabins, and enjoyed digging for peanuts in our gardens.

Also a big thank you to Anne Caswell, Pat Collins, and Phillis Harrell for the beautiful decorations at the cabins for the Christmas Tour of Homes. Docents, Jennifer Kuja, Deana Davis, Janis Rodriguez, and Phillis Harrell met our guests during the Tour.



Birthday Winner



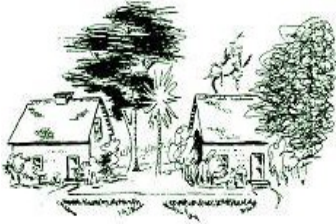
Elizabeth Freyer birthday winner

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

Cassina Newsletter

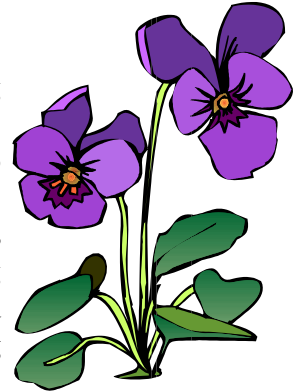
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Winter Gardening Care



Clean-up

Now is the time to clean up your garden debris. If left, it may be harboring insects or other diseases that may just be wintering there waiting for spring. Pull any small seedlings that may be sprouting while they are easy to see and get to. This might also be a good time to add any organic matter to your beds depending on your soil make-up. Remember your Camellias and Azaleas need lime. If acid is needed, the old trick of saving your coffee grinds and placing them around plants will add acid to the soil. New Azaleas and Camellias can be planted during this time of year as well.



Division

Separating some of your plants at this time of the year can bring you added bonuses come spring. This is the easiest way to propagate many perennials, grasses, bulbs, and shrubs. Dividing the plant involves digging them up and separating them into several rooted, self supporting plants. The process may seem somewhat brutal while you are doing it, but it really is not. This works great for Liriope, Mondo Grass, Daylilies, Society Garlic and also many shrubs as well. Replant the plants and keep well watered. Not only will you have more plants in spring, but older plants will be rejuvenated and have improved blooming and overall appearance.

Winter Blooms

Here is a winter perennial you may want to investigate—The Lenten Rose. Lenten Roses begin in the winter and go until springtime surrounding the Lenten Season thus the name. They have lovely blooms of pink, purple, and green and many shades in-between. The Lenten Rose is a hellebore and is not really a rose. It is a shade loving plant requiring low watering and little fertilizer. These do well planted in clusters and under trees. They are appropriate for our area and can add some color to your yard during the winter months.

Colder Temperatures

We still have a good way to go with our winter weather and freezing temperatures. Here is a good tip for some of our winter annuals. Try using Spanish moss to cover Pansies, Violas, and other tender plants that might be affected by this cold. When the weather warms up, it's easy to remove. If you need some Spanish moss, come to the Cassina Gardens on Saturday mornings with your rake. We will help you gather all you need from our trees. It is free and we have plenty!

We're on the web!

www.cassinagardenclub.org

2010-2011 Officers

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Beverly Nash

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MJ Choate

Second Vice President

Dottie Fielder

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Ann Worthington

Corresponding Secretary

Beth Thrift

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Kay Harrell

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Pam Hamilton

Happy New Year!

