

Cassina Garden Club  
NEWSLETTER



December 2010

Calendar of Events

November 29, 2010, Cabin  
Clean-Up Day 10:00 a.m.

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December 2, 2010, Board  
Meeting at Cabins,  
10:00 a.m.

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December 4, 2010, Garden  
Spruce up day, Saturday  
9:00 a.m.

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December 11, 2010,  
Christmas Tour of Homes  
and Bake Sale.

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December 13, 2010,  
Planting Day for Golden  
Days Daffodils, 10 a.m.

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**26th Annual Christmas  
Tour of Homes and Bake Sale**  
*“Light Up Christmas”*  
**Saturday, December 11, 2010**  
**Tour Hours 10 am ~ 4 pm**  
**Bake Sale at the Cassina Cabins**  
**9 am ~ 2 pm**

## Christmas Tour of Homes



119 Colonial Drive



257 Abbott Lane



137 Merion



154 St. Andrews



183 Merion

**Tickets—SELL, SELL, SELL!!** You should have picked up your tickets at the Membership Meeting on November 11th. Be sure to get your ticket money to Pam Hamilton as soon as possible. Those not present at the meeting received their tickets by mail. Pam will also sign out extra tickets for you to sell to your friends, neighbors, bridge club, etc. Signed out tickets must be paid for or returned to Pam by Thursday, December 9, 2010. Please contact Pam if you need extra tickets. **Remember**, the member selling the most Tour tickets will receive a \$100 gift certificate to ACE Garden Center. The Second place winner will receive a \$50 gift certificate to ACE Garden Center. What a wonderful incentive! Let's get busy selling tickets.

## 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.*

Nineteen members attended the November Board meeting and approved the following items:

- Cabin scheduling contact person Liz DeMato
- Begin participation in Garden Club of Georgia Pull Tab Collection Project for Ronald McDonald House
- By-laws review to be undertaken
- Christmas Tour final detail review
- Website enhancements announced

**A big thank you goes to Karen Babson, owner of Island Pond and Landscape, 147 Gary L. Moore Court, St. Simons Island, for the lovely herb arrangement she sent to decorate our refreshment table at the November meeting. Also, thank you to our November Hostesses Liz DeMato and Rose Ann Williams for the delicious goodies.**

## Ronald McDonald House

Starting this month, Cassina will begin participating in the Garden Club of Georgia Project to collect aluminum pull tabs for the Ronald McDonald Houses throughout the state. Pull tabs from any aluminum can will be accepted. We want to encourage all members to start saving these for this very worthy cause. Susan Baltzell will be heading up this project for us and will be providing a collection box at each of our meetings. She will also be sending us reminders, so **START COLLECTING NOW.**

## Community Outreach Project

Once again this year Hospice of the Golden Isles has asked Cassina to provide some special encouragement for their patients during the year. For Thanksgiving and Valentine's Day, our Community Relations Committee will be providing appropriate tray favors for each person at Hospice. For Thanksgiving, Louise Ufer and Ladye Heisel are preparing small clay flower pots filled with festive fall colored flowers to go on each patient's tray. Twenty-two of these are being delivered on Tuesday of Thanksgiving week so that they could be enjoyed throughout the week. We hope these will in some small way provide special encouragement to both patients and their loved ones. Anyone who might wish to help with this or any other community focused activity should call Louise Ufer. What an easy and fun way to make a difference in our community!

## Head Hostess ~ Hostess Volunteers

Please remind everyone to be in place at least 15 minutes before their scheduled shift start time. Hostesses should carpool whenever possible to help with parking. If the weather is threatening, please bring extra umbrellas in case our guests need to wait to enter your home. Tour signs may be picked up from Beverly Nash's home from Wednesday December 8th thru Friday, December 10th. Signs should be returned at the end of the tour day on Saturday. Thanks to all of you for helping to make our guests feel a real Cassina welcome and for attending our Tour.

### Member Concerns

Jean Russell is in the hospital in Brunswick.

Ruth Kolumber's husband is at home after a stay in the hospital.

Sandy Storino's husband is awaiting a Mayo appointment.

Lella Kelso is at home.

Julia Buxton is now at Magnolia Manor. Dean Overall is at Marshes Edge, and Ruby Lee Nicholson is at Fairhaven.

Betty Thurston is now residing with her son in California. Her new address is c/o Woody Shackleton, 80 Logan Lane, Atherton, CA 94027

Sympathy goes to Beth Thrift and her family on the passing of her grandson.

## Christmas Greens



We still need your fresh Christmas greenery. If you can provide any fresh greens please contact Anne Aspinwall or Caroline Fleetwood. Greens can be brought to Beverly Nash's garage (in buckets if possible), or Anne and Caroline will be glad to pick up your greenery. If you have greens and need help cutting, they will also assist you with that as well.

These greens add so much to the decorations in each home and our homeowners are looking forward to us providing the fresh greenery for them. Be sure to label your buckets so Anne and Caroline can return them to you.

## Bake Sale

Every year one of the major highlights of our Tour is our Bake Sale. If you have not already signed up to bring something, please call Sue Chambless or Natalie Crane. Everyone is strongly encouraged to help by bringing something and there are so many possibilities. You can even start now with your baking or canning. **We need everyone to participate.** Remember to give your "goodies" a holiday look with wrapping or holiday trim, and always use clear plastic. The committee will be there early to price and your items need to be delivered to the cabins by 8 a.m. on Tour Day.

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

## Bird Sanctuary Sign

Did you know that in 1995 the Cassina Garden Club, along with the Glynn County Board of Commissioners, was responsible for having our entire island officially declared a bird sanctuary?



Well, it's true! And on October 12th of that year, our garden club, along with the commissioners and a representative from the local Audubon Society, erected a Bird Sanctuary sign at the entrance to our island to celebrate that fact with both residents and our many visitors. Unfortunately, when construction of our new roundabout began, the sign had to be removed. But once again, two members of our group have been instrumental in having the sign restored and replaced at our island's gateway, reminding us all that a sanctuary has been established here for many marvelous species of birds. Thank you Janis Rodriguez and Frances Allen for your efforts!

## Christmas Shopping Reminder

For Christmas gift ideas don't forget the Cassina Cookbook, our Christmas ornament, stationery, and other items for sale. These items will be available on Tour day, or you may make arrangements to purchase them at other times by contacting Frances Allen or Martha Mooney. These make wonderful gifts and help our cause as well.



## Prospective Member Orientation

Prospective Member Orientation will be held on Tuesday, November 30, 2010, at 10:30 a.m., or January 10, 2011, at 11:00 a.m. All meetings are held at the cabins. Please RSVP to Anne Aspinwall or June Brown if you plan to attend. The next Open Meeting for prospective members is Thursday, January 13, 2011.

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

On Tuesday, November 9th, new members Becky Yelverton and Susan Holloway met with Sallie Sasser, Libby Hogan, Martha Martin, Beverly Nash and photographer Janis Rodriguez at ACE Garden Center to shop for fall plants for the cabin gardens. Wendy Owens from ACE gave us a walk-thru making suggestions for our fall selections and supplying planting tips. He also answered our questions concerning our personal garden woes.

The big planting day was held Saturday, November 13th, at 9 a.m. Cassina gardeners came to help plant the newly purchased plants and get the gardens ready for the Christmas Tour of Homes.

New Members please report to Betty Young if you work in the garden on days other than our scheduled Saturday mornings. Remember you are responsible for two work mornings a month.



## Meetings at the Cassina Cabins

Attention..... Need to schedule a Cassina meeting at our cabins? If so, Liz DeMato is your contact. Liz will now be maintaining a calendar for this purpose. Please call her to check on cabin availability prior to scheduling your meeting. We want to use our cabins as much as possible and this should help avoid any meeting conflicts. Any non-Cassina meetings at the cabins should be cleared with Beverly Nash before scheduling.

## November Meeting Highlights

I know everyone enjoyed our November meeting. What a privilege to hear Sandy Turbidy and to see highlights from her television show "Landscape Central". We saw clips from the Southeastern Flower Show, and visited Oakland Cemetery and the Atlanta History Center where the Swan House is located. In addition we sat in on an interview with Ryan Gainey, author and garden designer. And of real interest for our area was the tip for container gardeners. Use a heavier potting soil on the top of your container to hold in moisture. Don't you love to learn something that is simple, easy, and so helpful at the same time?! Sandy gave us pointers about growing challenging plants in our Zone 9 area, and I surely hope someone in our group lets us know how to find Espoma Organic Solutions for safely guaranteeing blue hydrangeas!

The Christmas Tour is almost upon us and all the committee reports were positive. Don't forget two things—ticket sales and bake, bake, bake! And finally, don't forget Cassina will be participating this year in a new project with the Oleander District. Save your tab tops from cans. Monies received from this project go directly to the Ronald McDonald House.



Sandy Turbidy

## Birthday Winner



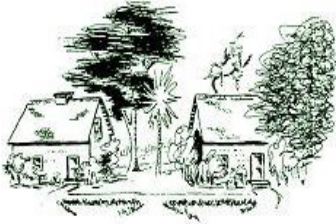
Julie Spivey birthday winner

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

## Cassina Newsletter

Editor	Janis Rodriguez
Publisher	Kay Harrell
Distribution	Beth Thrift
Photographers	Janis Rodriguez, Joanne Scott
Contributors	Beverly Nash, Libby Hogan, Julie Spivey, Liz DeMato Anne Aspinwall, Janis Rodriguez, Leslie Carlton, Alice Keen

## December Gardening



If you purchase new Poinsettias for the holidays they should be placed in good light and well watered. The foil wrap should be removed and the plant placed in a decorative pot or saucer. The color may last for months with this care. And Poinsettia can also be used as a cut flower. The leaves should be stripped and the cut stem placed in hot water for conditioning. Finally the plant may be later planted outside on the sunny south side.



Your purchased Christmas tree will last longer if a fresh cut is made off the trunk before placing it in water. For a smaller Christmas tree decoration consider purchasing a rosemary plant, Norfolk pine, or small shaped holly. Just remember to keep it well watered or it will not make it to your outside spring garden.

Remember to keep watering weekly. If a freeze is forecast, water well to prevent damage. Susceptible plants must be covered with plastic or heavily mulched. If in doubt and the plant is expensive, cover it.

Now is the time to be happy you planted nandina. The shrubs should have lots of red berries for holiday decorations. If you don't have one, consider planting some nandina shrubs now for next year.

We're on the web!

[www.cassinagardenclub.org](http://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

### Field Trips

**Don't miss out on the Callaway Garden field trip! Reservations and money are due by December 15, 2010. Only 1 space is left! You don't want to be left out! Contact Janice Lamattina for reservation information.**

**On January 18, 2011, Cassina members have an opportunity to go behind the scenes at the Jekyll Island Turtle Center. Space is limited. Your \$20 should be sent to Janice Lamattina.**

Best wishes for the Holidays

