

# Cassina Garden Club

## NEWSLETTER



January 2012

### Calendar of Events

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January 5, 2012; Board Meeting at Cabins, 10:00 a.m.

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January 10, 2012; Field Trip to Little St. Simons Island, 10:30 a.m.

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January 12, 2012; Monthly Meeting, Coastal Georgia Historical Society, 9:30 a.m. Hospitality, 10:00 a.m. Meeting and Program.

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January 22, 2012; Coastal Georgia Historical Society Lecture by Peter Hatch, 3:00 p.m.

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February 2, 2012; Board Meeting at Cabins, 10:00 a.m.

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February 9, 2012; Cassina's Annual Luncheon.

## January Meeting

### Open to Members and Guests

### “Growing Roses on St. Simons Island”

Jim Harrell will use a power point presentation to educate us about growing roses in our area.



**January 12, 2012**  
**Coastal Georgia Historical Society**  
**Heritage Center**

**9:30 Hospitality ~ 10:00 Meeting and Program**  
**Hostesses: Snookie Collins, Liz DeMato, Phillis Harrell**

## Christmas Tour of Homes



Bake Sale Committee unpacking all the goodies for the bake sale

### Thank You!

The 27th Annual Christmas Home Tour and Bake Sale, "Trimmings & Treats," is now a sweet memory. The homes and cabins were festively trimmed with outstanding decorations and lush greenery. The Bake Sale offered numerous temptations and necessities for Foodies and Dieters alike. Even the rain and chill did not dampen the spirits of the seriously merry attendees and workers. A special thanks go out to our homeowners and dedicated club members who worked to

make this year's Tour another memorable one in our long holiday tradition and a true Christmas treat! A special thank you goes to **Mary Lynch** and **Lee Dillard** for the outstanding job chairing this year's Christmas Tour of Homes.

### Looking Forward

The final tally of funds raised from the Tour is yet to come and will be announced to the membership when finalized. In January, Tour committees will be having wrap-up meetings to discuss the Tour's successes, challenges, possible improvements and goals for the future. Please make time to think about these issues and share your ideas with other members and chairmen of the Tour committees.

## January Meeting



**Jim Harrell**, husband of member **Kay Harrell**, will present a program at our January meeting on the caring and growing of roses. Jim grows many varieties and has about 200 roses in his garden. He has been a Consulting Rosarian for many years and became a Master Rosarian in 2010. Jim received the Silver Honor Medal Award for distinguished service the same year. He also judges national, district and local shows. His power point presentation will be "Growing roses on St. Simons Island."

Don't forget the meeting is an **open meeting**. Invite your friends or prospective members to join us at the Coastal Georgia Historical Society Heritage Center for our January 12th meeting.

## 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.*

The Board did not meet in December. The following were December Committee Reports:

- Beverly Nash will Chair the Nominating Committee
- Membership Committee will submit a revision to the standing rules regarding prospective member application requirements. Revision must be approved by the Cassina Board.
- Members must read their newsletter to enter the special prize drawing. Continue reading to learn the details to enter the January drawing.

## GCG Meetings

Mark your calendar for the following State and Local Garden Club events in January 2012:

\*January 9, 2012; St. Simons Island Council Meeting, Neptune is Host Club and the topic will be Nominating Committee.

\*January 18, 2012; Native Plant Symposium in Athens.



**Bring your pull tabs to the January meeting**

## Membership

Don't forget that January is our next open meeting for prospective members. If you are sponsoring a prospective member for next year, they may need to attend the January or April meeting to complete their requirements for application for membership. If you have not already begun the process of sponsoring a prospective member and want to, then January can be her first open meeting and she can begin the process at that time.

Please feel free to contact one of the membership committee members if you have any questions about sponsorship. Also all of this year's new members need to make sure they are fulfilling their obligations for first-year membership. Docent at the cabins and working in the gardens are important parts of that process. Please contact your sponsor if you have any questions about where you are with your first year requirements. Sponsors can contact **Dottie Fielder** to check on their new members' participation record. We will begin reviewing membership participation early in February. As you know Cassina is an active garden club, so it is important to keep up with your obligations for active and new membership status.

## Get Started Early for Christmas 2012



Did you get caught at the last minute before Christmas and wished you had started earlier to shop for gifts? Well, get ahead of the curve for 2012. We have just the right birthday gift or stocking suffer that will bring smiles to the faces of your loved ones for years to come!

Cassina still has about 20 of the certificates given to us last spring by **David Miller** of Miller Photography for sale. For \$125 David will do a private photography session at the location of your choice: beach, marsh, home....you name it.

Capture the grandchildren or the whole family (pets, too) when your loved ones make a visit to the island. The cost includes an 11" x 14" color or black and white portrait, or you can apply that amount toward a larger photo. The best thing about this deal is that Cassina Garden club gets to keep the entire \$125 for its philanthropic efforts!

Don't miss this opportunity! Call **Dottie Fielder** at 634-5728 or email her at [sqroot2@comcast.net](mailto:sqroot2@comcast.net) to request the certificate. You should make the check to Cassina Garden Club.

Good for you. You have continued to read your newsletter. Keep up the good work and you will get directions on how to enter the special prize drawing held at the January meeting.

### Member Concerns

**Sandy Storino's** husband fell and broke his ankle and is now in rehab.

**Judith-Eff O'Grady** is recovering from knee replacement surgery.

**Rita Trudeau** continues in rehab in Brunswick.

Please contact **Sue Chambless** regarding member concerns.

### Field Trip

For the lucky members that made the list to attend the field trip to **Little St. Simons** we will depart from the Hampton River Club Marina at 10:30 a.m. on January 10th. After a day of exploring the island's natural beauty we will return by 4:30 p.m.

Contact **Becky Yelverton** with your questions.

## Cabin Maintenance



Sara, Rose Ann and Mary clean cabins for Tour of Homes

Sara Taylor and Barbara Murrah thank all the members that helped to clean the cabins for the Christmas Tour of Homes. With so much help the job was finished in no time. Keep your dust cloths ready. There will be another big cleaning in

the spring for the Garden Walk!

## Luncheon

February 9, 2012

Epworth-by-the-Sea

Speaker ~ Lee Dunn

Chair of GCG Historic Preservation of Gardens and Sites

Mark your calendar to attend our annual luncheon. Plan to enter the floral arrangement contest. *Details in February newsletter.*

Theme: "Cottage Garden Party"~ all things you love in a garden

Invitations will be given out at January meeting.

## News from the Garden

The Cassina gardens looked wonderful for the Christmas Tour of Homes. Our Cassina gardeners worked hard to put the finishing touches on the gardens before the Tour. Now when you visit the gardens you will see our winter garden. They are beautiful cottage gardens just as they are intended to be. Everyone should 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.

## Cassina Newsletter

If you have an article to submit for the newsletter please send them to **Janis Rodriguez** by the 10th of January for the February newsletter. If you need a photo taken of a special event, or to go with your article, please let Janis know so she can schedule to be there or have the photo taken. Events after January 20th will be published in the March newsletter.

Don't forget to read your newsletter each month for details on upcoming events, field trips and Garden Club activities.

## Frederica Academy Visit to the Cabins



Frederica Academy first graders visit our cabins with teachers Charlotte Floyd and Jody McCollum

Two days before Thanksgiving, Pilgrims and Indians visited the Cassina tabby cabins. The sixteen first graders from **Frederica Academy** enjoyed listening to **Martha Armstrong** tell them about the history of the cabins and Hamilton Plantation. The highlight of the visit was digging peanuts in the gardens with **Ladye Heisel, Dottie Fielder** and **Leslie Carlton**.

Each child left with a goodie bag made by **Sue Chambless**. A big thank you to **Lee Baxter, Frances Allen** and **Janis Rodriguez** who also helped with the visit.

## “Golden Days” Time Again



Once again this year we will be participating in the **National Garden Club “Golden Days Project.”** This project honors our members who are no longer able to participate actively in gardening activities but who have served our garden club faithfully in the past.

Previously we have prepared potted Daffodils and presented them to past presidents and many members and associates who are no longer able to garden with us. This year we have decided to take a little different approach. We will be planting daffodils on our newly leased grounds at our cabins. These will be bulbs that are appropriated to our area and that will come back year after year. When the bulbs are in bloom, a picture will be sent to designated members with an invitation to come by and view the daffodils planted in their honor.

We will start this year with one section of our grounds. Next year we will hope to add another section. Eventually, perhaps we can have most of our grounds abloom each spring with these beautiful flowers. These will certainly beautify our grounds and not only will they be enjoyed by our members, but also by our whole community.

When our bulbs arrive, we will set up a planting day for those of you who may wish to participate and help us with the planting. With each person planting a few, this should not take us long and will be lots of fun as well. Please look for a sign-up sheet at our January meeting.

## Birthday Winner



Every month a drawing is held at the membership meeting to celebrate the birthday for the month. (*Remember, you must be present to win!*) The December birthday winner will be drawn at the January meeting along with the January birthday winner.

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

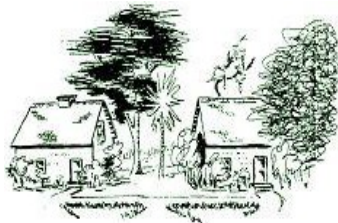
## Cassina Newsletter

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## Pull Tabs Reminder

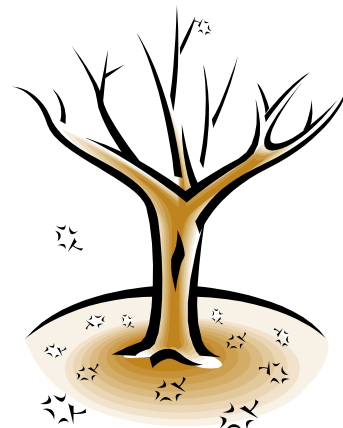
Don't forget Ronald McDonald!! Cassina participates in the Garden Club of Georgia Project to collect aluminum pull tabs to donate to Ronald McDonald House Charities. Please save your pull tabs and bring them to each meeting throughout the year.

# January Gardening



January gives us time to prepare our garden for spring, or when it is too cold, to look through all the seed and plant catalogs to plan new looks for the garden and yard.

**Lawns:** January is often a dry month, so water every two to three weeks if we don't have rain. If a freeze is forecast, water 24 to 48 hours before the freeze, but be sure the irrigation system is off during the freeze. If you have St. Augustine grass and we have a hard freeze, avoid walking on the grass until the temperatures are above freezing.



**Trees and Shrubs:** Now is the time to transplant dormant plants that were root pruned earlier this year; also, plant bare root, ball-and-burlap plants, and deciduous fruit trees this month. Planting now will give roots time to develop before spring. To control scale on citrus, shrubs, camellias, and deciduous fruit trees, apply horticultural oil while plants are dormant.

**Pruning:** The University of Florida IFAS Extension gives this advice on pruning for our area. Prune non-spring-flowering shrubs and trees this month to improve form. Do not do any major pruning because this might cause the plant to come out of dormancy. While crepe myrtles do not require pruning, removing seed pods, crossed branches, and small twiggy growth improves the appearance and form of the plant.

Apples, pears, persimmon, blueberries and grapes may be pruned this month but do not remove more than one third of last season's growth. Wait until peaches, nectarines and plums begin to bloom before pruning. Cutting now might cause early flowering.

**Bulbs:** Crinum lily, agapanthus, amaryllis, Aztec lily, clivia, walking iris, spider lily, and zephyr lily can be planted now. Provide a layer of mulch for protection from cold temperatures, Spring-flowering bulbs—tulips, daffodils and hyacinths—should be planted around January 1.

**Vegetables:** Cool season vegetables such as broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, carrots, peas, radishes, and turnips can be planted now. Start pepper and tomato seeds inside this month to have seedlings ready for the garden in early March.

**Flower beds;** Now is the ideal time to prepare beds for vegetables and annuals by adding organic matter and tilling the soil 4 to 6 inches deep. You did it! You read your newsletter, now email Janis and say "Happy New Year" and she will put your name in the prize drawing.

**We're on the web!**  
[www.cassinagardenclub.org](http://www.cassinagardenclub.org)

## 2011-2012 Officers

- President:**  
Anne Aspinwall
- VP/President Elect:**  
Janis Rodriguez
- Secretary**  
Ann Worthington
- Treasurer**  
Kay Harrell
- Assistant Treasurer**  
Pam Hamilton

Happy New Year!

