

WELCOME TO THE
Cassina Garden Club

The Cassina Garden Club was established in 1928 as the first garden club in Glynn County. We are one of the few garden clubs in Georgia that owns and maintains property - our tabby slave cabins at Gascoigne Bluff, which are on the National Register of Historic Places. As a working garden club, all members must participate in both club and fundraising work so that our mission of both civic and historic preservation can be achieved. Membership responsibilities are reviewed annually by the Membership Chairman to be sure each member has fulfilled her obligations.

As a new member:

Your sponsor will be your mentor. However, it is your responsibility to read the *Annual Yearbook* and familiarize yourself with the by-laws and activities of the club. If you have a question, please ask. We want you to be an informed and active member.

Annual dues for Active Members are \$30.00. Dues must be paid each year prior to the April meeting.

The **Executive Board**, which meets the first Thursday of every month, is comprised of the officers and the chairmen of all the standing committees. See the enclosed list.

Meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday each month, September through May except for December when we have the Tour of Homes. New members are expected to attend at least five meetings during their first year. Remember to sign in and pick up your name badge as it will help everyone get to know you. All current members will be wearing badges. Return the badge to the membership committee at the close of each meeting.

Monthly meetings begin promptly at 10 a.m. with the social fellowship at 9:30 a.m. Meetings include a business session and a guest speaker. Speakers and topics are listed in the *Yearbook*.

The meetings usually adjourn at 11:30 a.m.

Due to space limitations, you may invite a guest to a meeting only if it is not held at the cabins and only if it is announced as an “open” meeting. Meeting locations are listed in the *Yearbook*. Prospective members may enjoy being your guest!

Look for the **monthly Newsletter** in the mail or sign up for e-copy (preferred). Be sure to read it carefully! Announcements and reminders are published here.

All members are expected to participate in at least one ongoing club function. *All new members* are expected to serve on at least one major Club Committee. Familiarize yourself with the Standing Committees (see the Yearbook for complete list and descriptions) and select

one or more that best suits your interests. In addition, *all new members* are expected to act as a hostess or fill another role for the *Christmas Tour of Homes*, one of our annual fundraisers. Each active member will receive two tickets for the Tour that she is expected to sell or, in any event, pay for. All members are encouraged to sell additional tickets.

Our second annual fundraiser is *The Tabby & Tillandsia Garden Walk* held the first weekend in May. All member participation is voluntary, although we strongly encourage you to become involved.

The **historic slave cabins** on Gascoigne Bluff are a vital part of Cassina. New members are expected to familiarize themselves with the history of the cabins and attend two docent opportunities during their first year. Hopefully, several new members will become active docents. This involves being a hostess for the Elderhostel groups, other tour groups and the summer schedule of 10 a.m. to 12 Noon every Wednesday, June through August. The Docent Chairman will provide details.

Cassina has published *The Coastal Cookery Cookbook* since 1937. Proceeds from the cookbook help maintain the slave cabins. Without these funds, along with our tour fundraiser, it would be impossible to preserve these historic treasures. Encourage friends and cabin guests to purchase these books. They make great gifts too!

Each member is part of the **Garden Committee**, which beautifies our historic site. *All new members* are assigned to specific garden areas which will be your responsibility for the year. You will receive your garden assignment at the Cabins Orientation. We also have garden “work days” throughout the year. Dates will be announced. Believe it or not, we can make weeding and cleaning fun!

Cassina has the “**Best Bake Sale** in the Southeast” during the Saturday morning of the annual *Christmas Tour of Homes*. Plan to bake early, freeze and donate! Be sure to “package” your donation in an eye-catching way. Some of us even buy our Holiday party desserts here!

Our **Annual Luncheon** in February features a unique speaker and a table decoration contest among our members. Stay tuned for further information!

Cassina is a working garden club and membership is reviewed yearly. Active membership involves individual contributions in as many areas as possible, regular attendance at meetings, satisfaction of financial obligations, and participation in at least one club and one tour job. Simply put—we need your participation and welcome your ideas!

We are always looking for new program ideas, civic projects, and ways to better our organization. You are a vital part of the strength of Cassina and we look forward to your contributions and friendship.