

Cassina Garden Club

NEWSLETTER



MARCH, 2007

“Our Heritage ”.....”Our Future”

Meeting Date – Thursday, March 8 – 10 am

Meeting Place – Lord of Life Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall

Program – Jane Sawtell (a professional florist for 20 years) of Hilton Head Island will demonstrate the use of spring plant materials.

*This is our last Open Meeting (not limited to members)
Please bring guests and prospective members.*

All are invited to our pre-meeting social at 9:30 am.
Hostesses are: Betsy Thwaite, Chairman; Phillis Harrell and Mary Carnathan.

BOARD MEETING

Thursday, March 1 at 9:30 am at Cassina's Meeting Cabin.

(If weather is too cold, we'll e-mail a change of venue.)

All Board Members and Standing Committee Chairs should attend.

Please advise Frances Allen, 634-1410 or tfin410@bellsouth.net if you cannot attend.

CASSINA BOUQUETS to 11 members and a prospective member who designed very special centerpieces for our 79th Annual Birthday Luncheon. The arrangements were judged by all attendees and cash prizes awarded: 1st - SUZANNE FREHSE; 2nd - BETSY THWAITE; and 3rd - ANNE ASPINWALL. Grateful thanks to all others who participated: JEAN ANGLIN, MARY CARNATHAN, PAT COLLINS, CECELIA HOLMAN, RUTH KOLUMBER, JOANNE SCOTT, DENISE TRETAWAY, MICHAELA WADDINGTON and BETTY WHITE. Check our website soon for luncheon and arrangement photos.

Special bouquets to all who helped in the details of our luncheon – KAY HARRELL, MARIE DODD, JOANNE SCOTT and, especially, ANN McCANN, who works with St. Williams to accommodate our event. More than 100 members and guests enjoyed our interesting speaker, Cappy Rearick.

A bouquet to PAT COLLINS, who created a magnificent arrangement for the grand re-opening of the St. Simons Library. All plant materials were natural and from our Cassina gardens! You can soon see this arrangement on the Cassina website. Remember, Cassina Garden Club founded this Library in 1937.

Bouquets to all who participated in HERITAGE DAYS at Oglethorpe Point Elementary School – NAN FULLER, chair, BETTY DAVIS, GINGER SIFFORD and LELLA KELSO. It was educational and informative for the young gardeners who participated. Ace Garden Center provided the plants and seedlings.

A bouquet of thanks to MICHAELA WADDINGTON and SALLY HAWIE who so graciously hosted the January and February Board meetings in their warm homes!

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORMS and a pre-addressed return envelope are included with this Newsletter. No e-mail newsletter will be sent this month. Please stamp and mail your renewal form ASAP.

SATURDAY, MARCH 3 – SPRING GARDEN SPRUCE-UP

It's time to prepare Cassina's gardens for spring! We'll assemble at 9 am and weed, trim and generally tidy the gardens to ready them for spring planting and our May 5-6 Garden Walk. It is very important that anyone who has accepted an assignment for work in the gardens attend. As a reminder, you are:

**Memorial Garden #1 – Trudeau, O'Sullivan
Memorial Garden #2 – Heisel, White, Bittinger
Day Lilies – Golden, Waddington
Roses – K. Harrell, Trethaway
Grape Arbor – Carnathan
Garden #1: Martin, Haley, Horne, Storino
Garden #2 - Kolumber, Criswell, Rives, Russell, Castrillo
Garden #3 – Dodd, Scott, P. Harrell, Taylor
Garden #4 – Stephenson, Sifford, Davis, Herndon, Nash**

Please, all other members are encouraged to come and help! Contact MARTHA MARTIN or RUTH KOLUMBER with questions/concerns.

CASSINA'S INAUGURAL TABBY AND TILLANDSIA GARDEN WALK

Lecture & Patrons' Party – May 4, 2007

Garden Walk - May 5-6, 2007

SHARON FLORES, Chair, and her Walk Committee of about 50 Cassina and non-Cassina members are planning a truly exciting and innovative event for our community. The Garden Walk will celebrate the beauty of our coastal area while offering an opportunity for visitors to explore and enjoy some of the Island's most inspiring private gardens. Every genre is represented from one end of the island to the other; the SEVEN Walk gardens offer inspiration and ideas for visitors of all ages with varying levels of gardening expertise.

Cassina's good friend, DAWN HART of ACE GARDEN CENTER is our Presenting Sponsor for the event. Cassina member ANN MCCANN has arranged for Sea Palms Realty, Inc. to be our Lecture Sponsor and each of the seven gardens is sponsored by a different local real estate company. Sponsors will be in April Newsletter.

RYAN GAINEY, internationally known gardener, poet, raconteur and muse will deliver the lecture late Friday afternoon. His presentation will be followed by the Patron's Party that will be held in the lovely Sea Island home of CAROLYN and BUD HEARN.

If you wish to volunteer to be a Garden Docent, please contact Sharon Flores, 638-2414.

Ticket information and other details will appear in the April Newsletter.

IT'S FUN TO BE A CASSINA GARDENER!

In conjunction with our good friends at G. J. Ford Bookshop, Cassina members are invited on Saturday, March 31st, 9:30 am to a coffee in the Bookshop to meet and hear from internationally-known landscape designers HUGH and MARY PALMER DARGAN. Their new book *Timeless Landscape Design: The Four-Part Master Plan* will detail the elements of flawless design.

This delightful couple has designed gardens the world over. They have appeared on CNN, HGTV and in all the major national garden publications.

Plan to come and meet them!

CASSINA CALENDAR 2007

- March 9:** Field Trip to Cummer Museum in JAX.
The British Museum exhibit of Egyptian Tombs and Artifacts will be most interesting. We'll carpool from the cabins, leaving by 9:30 am. Our docent led tour begins at 11 am. Lunch will be on an individual basis.
Deadline is March 1: Your check is your reservation to P. O. Box 20191, SSI.
- March 31:** Coffee at G. J. Ford Bookshop, 9:30 am.
Speakers are: Hugh and Mary Palmer Dargan.
- April 12:** April Monthly Meeting – “Native Gardening” by Holly McClure.
- April 20:** Field Trip - Savannah NOGS Tour. Tour the gardens North of Gaston Square plus a full afternoon tea. Must have 20 attendees to obtain group rate of \$25.
Deadline is March 8; your check is your reservation to P. O. Box 20191, SSI.
- May 10:** Annual Picnic & Installation of Officers

MARCH HORTICULTURAL TIPS

March is a wonderful month for gardeners! The average last frost date for the coastal area is March 15. As soon as that danger is past, you can begin to brighten the landscape with petunias, impatiens, lantana, begonias et al.

PRUNE: If shrubs have been badly damaged by the cold, be patient. When new growth begins to appear you will know how much of the plant actually needs to be cut. Even if the entire plant appears dead, wait to replace it. Many will grow back from the crowns. Delay pruning of azalea and spring blooming shrubs until after bloom.

FERTILIZE: It is not necessary to wait until after blooming to fertilize azaleas and other spring blooming plants. Water well to wash the fertilizer into the soil.