

Cassina Garden Club

NEWSLETTER



OCTOBER, 2006

“Our Heritage ”.....”Our Future”

Meeting Date – Thursday, October 12 – 10 am

Meeting Place – Cassina’s Cabins

Program – Jane Walker of McRae, Georgia, will discuss her books *Widow of Sighing Pines* and *The Dodge Land Troubles*. Her writings focus on the Dodge family and the timber mills on Gascoigne Bluff after the Civil War.

All ACTIVE members are welcome to our pre-meeting social at 9:30 am.

Hostesses are: Wil Kampschmidt, chairman; Natalie Crane, Janice Halderson, Betty McCartney and Eleanor Plumbo.

OUR OCTOBER SPEAKER IS SPECIAL! Please make note of the time so you won’t find yourself in the situation of having to leave early. Attendees need to remain for the entire program as the cabins are small and it is disruptive to leave prior to the end of a presentation. Your cooperation will be appreciated.

PLEASE bring your personal calendars to meetings so that you can note special events, changes, volunteer commitments, etc.

BOARD MEETING

Thursday, October 5 at 9:30 am at Cassina’s Meeting Cabin.

All Board Members and Standing Committee Chairs should attend. Please advise Frances Allen, 634-1410 or tfin410@bellsouth.net, if you cannot attend.

A CASSINA SALUTE to four members who attained Life Membership status. They are: SUSAN KEAGY, NELL MATHIS, GLORIA MITCHELL and THELMA MONTGOMERY. Our list of Life Members now has 17 distinguished ladies. CONGRATULATIONS! . . . and a special salute to DENISE TRETAWAY who hosted the St. Simons Garden Club Council for “Coffee in the Garden”. . . and another special salute to all the girls who dig in the dirt and prune and feed and tidy our beautiful gardens. They look wonderful!

A DRUM ROLL, KUDOS, & SALUTE to KAY and JIM HARRELL for the design and implementation of www.cassinagardenclub.org – our own website. Check it out! And, if that was not enough, our new Yearbook occupied Kay and Jim for the remainder of the summer! Our grateful thanks to both for their hard work and leadership to move Cassina forward.

THE GARDEN CLUB OF GEORGIA 2007 Calendar will be available at our October meeting from CAROLINE COVIN, Calendar Chair. They are very attractive and conveniently fit in most purses. The calendar makes an excellent gift and is only \$8.00.

We have purchased our required number from the Garden Club of Georgia so we do need to re-sell them to you for family and friends. Your purchase goes to the GCG Scholarship Fund thus eliminating another fund-raiser. Furthermore, your purchase is tax-deductible. Thanks for your support!

CHANGES TO YEARBOOK. Carefully review your listing in the 2007 Yearbook and communicate any corrections/changes to MICHAELA WADDINGTON and KAY HARRELL at waddington@adelphia.net or kay@fairmarsh.com.

Changes received to date are:

Active member, Ladye Heisel's cell phone is 404-759-5745

Active member, Betty Young's address is 121 Renegar, #201

Associate member, Andrea Altman's husband is not deceased, delete # by his name.

FIELD TRIPS have been planned for your enjoyment and learning experience by JULIE SPIVEY, our Field Trip Chairman. Here they are:

October 12 – Kayak Trip to Melon Bluff. This is the day of our regular October meeting so you will need to race home, change, lunch and be back at the cabins by 12:45 pm. We will car-pool, leaving at 1 pm, returning at 5 pm. We go with the tides to make the paddling easier! Cost is \$25 paid to Cassina Garden Club and delivered by Tuesday, Oct. 10 to P.O. Box 20191 or to Kay Harrell. **YOUR CHECK IS YOUR RESERVATION. HURRY! Only two places left!**

October 19 – A visit back in time is planned to Melon Bluff with a lovely catered lunch, a trip to Midway's Museum and Cemetery and if time permits, Sunbury's Cemetery and Fort Morris. Cost for lunch is \$18.50 payable to Cassina Garden Club. Also, please bring \$3.00 cash for admission to museum. The museum has a nice gift shop and remember, Christmas is coming. So additional cash, check or credit cards are suggested. Save a stamp and bring your check for \$18.50 to our regular Oct. 12 meeting so Julie can give them a tentative count later that day.

December 12 – Early warning! A trip to Sapelo Island is in the works. Details will be on our website as soon as available and in the November Newsletter.

OLEANDER DISTRICT MEETING

Because you are a member of Cassina Garden Club, you are also a member of the Garden Club of Georgia and we are in the Oleander District. The Fall District Meeting is scheduled for October 17 at the College Place United Methodist Church at 3890 Altama Avenue in Brunswick. (It is adjacent to the Coastal Georgia Community College campus.) The hosts are the mainland garden clubs of Glynn County. The schedule:

9-9:30 am Coffee

9-10 am Registration

10 am Program – Evelyn Edwards, author of "Contrived Flowers, Lasing Beauty" plus "Unique Method of Recycling Plant Materials.

Honored guest will be Dollie T. Harper, President, The Garden Club of Georgia

Registration: Mail check for \$20.00 payable to Glynn County Garden Club Council, to Carol Smith, 2079 GA Highway 99, Brunswick, GA 31523. Deadline is Oct. 10. Late fee \$5.00.

Frances Allen will be attending and hopes other members will join her. Give Frances a call and plan to meet at the cabins and carpool. It's fun and it will give you a broader experience in the importance of garden clubs to our State and Nation.

CASSINA CALENDAR 2006

November 9: "Arrangement Tips, Tricks and Secret Weapons"
Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall **Speaker:** Jim Harrell, American Rose Society Judge

December 9: Cassina's Christmas Tour of Homes

Frances Allen, President

GARDEN UPDATE by Ruth Kolumber & Martha Martin

KUDOs to the 18 Cassina gardeners who worked together on Saturday September 9 to do summer cleanup of spent plants and continue to pull dollar weed from our gardens. For the most part our gardens reflect a lot of wonderful care.

Our new Cassina members are proving to be true gardeners. Many are willingly to take responsibility for some of our undercared for garden areas. Some are teaming up with their sponsors in this effort.

We will continue to work a few hours each Saturday morning in the gardens. Stop by to check on the need for any TLC to the cabin landscaping. As we all know, gardening isn't a "whenever you feel like it" effort.

To prepare for the Fall and to dress up the gardens for the tour of homes, we will have another Saturday work day late in October, probably Oct. 28. This will give new plants time to settle in by our Dec. 9 tour date.

Horticulture Report: Take cuttings of impatiens and geraniums to carry over the winter. Geraniums should be cut at about 5-6" and allowed to dry a few days. Dip the cut end in rooting hormone and place in sand or peat. Keep in shade and keep moist. Collect and dry seeds of cassia, hosta, and herbs for planting next year. (We need to raise herbs to help the herb garden planned for Ft. Frederica next the spring.) Collect dried grasses and flower heads for winter arrangements. (Some great cattails along Hamilton Road on the left going to the cabins.)

BEAUTY BERRY, French Mulberry



One of our native plants that puts on a spectacular show in the fall is beauty berry (*Callicarpa americana*), a member of the verbena family. Although it blooms in the summer, it is the magenta color of the berries in the fall that call attention to the plant. The berries last well into the winter and are a favorite of cardinals, mockingbirds, and thrashers.

It is said that some Native Americans made a medicine for malaria and dysentery from this plant. (page 132 of *Native Flora of the Golden Isles*)

At our cabins, beauty berry is growing on the right side of the tea cabin and is now in full color.