

Cassina Garden Club
NEWSLETTER



July 2013

Calendar of Events

Cabins are open every
Wednesday morning
10:00 a.m. to 12 noon
(July and August)

August 13, 2013:
Oleander District Board
Meeting in Waycross.

September 5, 2013:
Cassina Board Meeting
at Cabins 10:00 a.m.

September 12, 2013:
Cassina Garden Club
Meeting, **Members
Only:** Coastal Georgia
Historical Society
Heritage Center;
Hospitality 9:30 a.m.,
Meeting 10:00 a.m.

October 22, 2013:
Oleander District Fall
Meeting, on Jekyll.

December 7, 2013:
29th Annual Christmas
Tour of Homes. "A Sea
Island Christmas—
Holiday Traditions."

Summer Newsletter



*Hazy Days
of Summer
at Our Cabins*

Committee Chairmen at Work

Many Cassina members have been very busy this summer. Field trips have been planned and booked for the coming year. Programs and speakers have been set for our Membership Meetings. The Newsletter and Yearbook are being published, and the Christmas Tour of Homes and Garden Walk committees have been busy selecting houses and gardens.

In the meantime the Cassina Gardeners have continued to maintain the gardens at the cabins and the garden at the entrance to Hospice of the Golden Isles. The Cabins have been open each Wednesday and our Docents have also helped with special tours. Thank you to all that have worked so hard this summer getting Cassina organized for another year.

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.

Eighteen members attended the May Board meeting and approved the following items:

- Report on the Garden Walk.
- Report on Awards.

There were no Board Meetings in June, July, or August.

Tidewater Preservation Survey Complete

The Tidewater Preservation, Inc. was contracted by the Cassina Garden Club to perform a thorough assessment of the two historic cabins under our stewardship. Greg Jacobs, Project Manager of Tidewater Preservation, Inc. completed the detailed assessment and he now has recommendations for us as we continue to preserve our cabins.

This survey was approved by the Board, and voted on by the Membership. Now that the first phase is complete, Greg Jacobs has agreed to come to our September Membership Meeting and present Tidewater's recommendations to the members of Cassina. Please plan to attend this very important meeting. The complete assessment and recommendations will be discussed and Greg will be available to answer any questions. After his presentation the membership will have the opportunity to vote on this restoration project. The restoration can be done in phases as we obtain the funds. Cassina will apply for any grants available to help with the funding of this project. Don't miss this important meeting in September.



New Members

The New Members' Coffee was held May 16th on the cabin grounds. We welcomed seven new members to our Cassina Garden Club for the 2013–2014 year including our first male member!

Each of our new members bring gifts and talents that will enrich our club in the years to come.

Pictured new members; l to r: Jennifer Wilcoxon, Mary Griffiths, Neil Henry, Joan Neely, Sandy Anderson, Erin Hirschhorn and Nancy Krabill.

Christmas Tour of Homes



Many families celebrate Christmas with festive decorations, gaily wrapped packages piled under a sparkling tree, a quiet Christmas Eve followed by an exciting Christmas morning, favorite feasts, desserts, desserts and more desserts.

But each family has its own traditions that make the holiday special and memorable. It may be grandma's shortbread, or the oft-repeated story of "why we do not use tinsel," or who gets to play Santa on Christmas morning. Perhaps it's a favorite ornament from long ago and far away that is carefully and lovingly unwrapped from its tissue with wonderment at the history it represents. Perhaps it's a Christmas punch and the stories of "remember when Dad had too much!"

This year, Cassina's Tour of Homes—a tradition in itself!—will be celebrating the traditions that make the holiday so special. Mark your calendars for "**A Sea Island Christmas – Holiday Traditions**" on **Saturday, December 7, 2013** from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The tour will showcase five beautiful Sea Island homes and The Cloister, each with festive decorations including a seasonal arrangement designed by a Cassina member using local greenery. These artistic arrangements, located in different rooms throughout the homes, will again be raffled to a number of lucky winners! In each home, visitors will share or experience a special holiday tradition of its owners. Visitors stopping by the beautifully decorated Spanish Lounge at The Cloister will experience tradition as only Sea Island can do it!

Cassina's own traditions will be an important focus. Our cookbook, now nearly 80 years old, will be packaged with holiday trimmings and sold at two tour stops and The Cloister. Yummy treats from the cookbook will be available for tour visitors to sample.

Our famous Bake Sale - with new, expanded hours until 5 p.m. - will again offer breads, cakes, cookies and more. Many of our visitors come specifically for special items, telling us that taking home a Christmas cake is part of their tour tradition. This year's items will be carefully tagged to be personalized and the story behind the recipe noted, e.g. "Dale's grandmother's lemon cake...1933."

This will be a very special tour year that offers many ways for everyone to help and participate. Let this Cassina tradition be one of YOUR Christmas traditions. There will be sign-up sheets for hostesses, bake sale, poster distribution and greenery collection. And yes, the member who sells the most tickets will win a special gift from Sea Island!

Membership

We will be introducing our new members at our September meeting. If you are a sponsor of one of our new members, please plan to tell us about that new member at the meeting so that we all can get to know them better. Just a few words of introduction will be perfect. Thanks to all of the new members who have already been working at the gardens and helping at the cabins this summer.

If you have someone you would like to sponsor for membership this year, please let someone on the membership committee know so that the process for membership can begin. Our first open meeting this year is in October. All prospective members for the next year should try to attend.

Docent Committee



Starting on June 1st, the cabins have been open every Wednesday morning and we had a special opening for a Summer Reading Group.

On Tuesday, July 16th, the cabins were open for a group of children from the local library's summer reading program. Each child was given a piece of cotton and a treat.

Docents who served were Martha Armstrong, Libby Hogan, Janis Rodriguez, Mary Ellen Parkins, Lee Dillard, and June Brown.

Pictured at left

L-r: Visiting family and docents Mary Ellen Parkins, Martha Armstrong and Libby Hogan.

Member Concerns

Our sympathy to the family of Barbara Murrah who passed away on July 18th.

Snookie Collins' husband is now recovering from a broken hip.

Please contact **Beth Thrift** for any member concerns at beth_thrift@bellsouth.net



Garden Club of Georgia 2014 Calendars

The September Membership Meeting will be the **last** date to purchase the 2014 Garden Club of Georgia calendar. The calendars are desk size (5 ½ inches x 8 ½ inches). The calendar plus GA sales tax is \$8.56 each. Please make your check out to the **Garden Club of Georgia** and mail it to Becky Stephenson, 143 Rosemont Street, St. Simons Island, GA 31522, or purchase your calendar at the September meeting. The proceeds from this state fund raiser will go to the State Scholarship Fund.

These calendars make wonderful gifts so make sure you get your order to Becky before the September deadline. All calendars purchased will be available in November in time for Christmas giving. For more information, please contact Becky Stephenson.

Have a Safe and Wonderful Summer!

Officers and Committee Chairs 2013-2014

Officers

President	Janis Rodriguez
Vice President/President Elect	Dottie Fielder
Secretary	Susan Oakey
Treasurer	Kay Harrell
Assistant Treasurer	Leslie Carlton

Standing Committees

Awards	Janis Rodriguez, Dottie Fielder
Cabin Maintenance	Sara Taylor
Cassina Gardens	Martha Martin, Jennifer Kuja
Cassina Product Sales	Jennifer Broadus
Chaplain	Anne Brown

Community Projects: Beverly Nash

Golden Days: Neil Henry

Penny Pines: Sally Sasser

Heritage Day: Jennifer Kuja, Deanna Davis, Mary Ellen Parkins

Hospice Garden: Elayne Zecock

Ronald McDonald pull-tabs: Joan Wilson

Docent Program	Martha Armstrong, Leslie Carlton
Field Trips/workshops	Becky Yelverton, Sibby Gruber, Susie Salvatore
Finance Committee	Kay Harrell, Anne Aspinwall, Sue Cansler, Leslie Carlton Pamela Hamilton, Janis Rodriguez
Garden Club Council	Janis Rodriguez, Dottie Fielder, Ruth Kolumber
Historian	Deana Davis, Phillis Harrell
Hospitality	Tootsie Murray, Dale Anderson, Lee Dillard
Member Concerns	Beth Thrift
Membership	June Brown, Brenda Davis, Charlotte Dennis, Mary Ellen Parkins
Newsletter	Pam Hamilton, editor. Leslie Carlton, Kay Harrell, Janis Rodriguez
Parliamentarian	Marie Dodd
Photography	Joanne Scott, Pam Hamilton, Mary Lynch,, Nancy Muldowney, Janis Rodriguez, Sara Taylor
Preservation & Outreach Program	Anne Aspinwall, Kay Harrell, TBA
Publicity	Libby Hogan, Rose Ann Williams
Website	Ann Worthington, Nancy Muldowney, Mary Starr Kay Harrell

Special Committees

Cabin Restoration	Janis Rodriguez, Frances Allen, Dottie Fielder, Kay Harrell, Ruth Kolumber, Beverly Nash
Calendars	Becky Stephenson
Capital Campaign	Jennifer Broadus, Marie Dodd, Janis Rodriguez, TBA
Christmas House Tour	Janice Lamattina
Garden Walk	Pamela Hamilton
Grants	Janis Rodriguez, Charlotte Dennis, Ruth Kolumber, Julie Spivey
Historic Preservation & Acquisitions	Francis Allen, Janis Rodriguez
Nominating Committee	Anne Aspinwall, June Brown, TBA
Yearbook	June Brown, Leslie Carlton