

Cassina Garden Club
NEWSLETTER

Cassinagardenclub.org



February 2010

82nd Annual Anniversary Luncheon

“A Taste of Southern Hospitality”

Members & Guests

Thursday, February 11, 2010

St. William's Catholic Church Parish Hall

11:00 a.m.

Guest Speaker

Patricia “Sister Schubert” Barnes

Founder of Sister Schubert's Homemade Rolls



Cookbook Signing Following the Luncheon

***** *Reservations must be received by February 5, 2010* *****
\$37.50 per person

January Meeting Highlights

Members and guests were furiously taking notes during the enlightening presentation by herbalist, Theresa Waters from Jacksonville. From propagation techniques to in-ground and container gardening, Theresa shared important information about growing herbs in our area. She listed the best year-round herbs as bay, chives, garlic, lavender, oregano, rosemary, sage and thyme. An all purpose fertilizer, 5-5-5 provides all of the nutrients that herbs need for healthy growth. Theresa said that no herbs are truly salt tolerant, but under the right conditions, the following will do well: bay, foxglove, lemon grass, mint, rosemary, St. Johns Wort, wormwood and yarrow.



Left to right, Elizabeth Freyer, Program Chair, and Speaker, Theresa Waters

December & January Birthday Celebrations

Congratulations to our December birthday winner, Lee Baxter, who took home a gorgeous bright red Cyclamen persicum, and to January winner, Kay Harrell who received an unusual pale pink Anthurium andraeanum. The drawing for the floral Birthday gifts was held at the end of the January meeting. Remember, you must be present to win.



Cooking With Herbs A Delicious Success

Chef Dave Snyder of Halyards hosted an interesting and educational program at his restaurant on Thursday, January 21st. Twenty-eight members learned great new tips about cooking with herbs. Dave suggested that a good way to preserve garden herbs is to make compound butter by bringing butter to room temperature and folding in finely chopped herbs. Refrigerate and use for several weeks. His recipe for *fines herbes* calls for 50% parsley, 20% chives, 20% tarragon and 10% chervil. Dave recommended using flat leaf parsley rather than curly for better flavor. A delicious lunch was served following Chef Dave's presentation.



Left to right, Susan Baltzell and Marie Dodd



Chef Dave serves (l-r) Jennifer Kuja, Deana Davis and Rita Trudeau.

Dates to Remember

February 4-6	Southeastern Flower Show, Atlanta
February 5	DEADLINE for February Luncheon reservations
February 5	Heritage Day Oglethorpe Elementary
February 10	Elderhostel Tour 10:30 am
February 11	Anniversary Luncheon 11:00 am
February 18	Workshop The Vine, Redfern 10:30 am
February 19	Arbor Day in Georgia
February 24	Elderhostel Tour 10:30 am

Succulent Workshop at The Vine



Bryce Vann Frazier and Kelly Revels, the very talented ladies at The Vine in Redfern Village will be working with members to pot containers with a variety of succulents at 10:30 am on Thursday, February

18. Bring your own container or purchase one from The Vine's unique collection. The costs are based on your choice of materials. For reservations, please contact Janis Rodriguez at 638-9455 or janisemr@aol.com.

Board Notes



The January Board meeting with 29 attendees featured group discussions focused on fundraising, programs and new member assimilation. A summary of ideas includes the following:

FUNDRAISING

Christmas Tour

- Continue support for homeowners with foliage
- Expand marketing to church groups
- Overall theme was good strategy
- Wesley United Methodist at Frederica was a great addition
- Cabins were beautifully and appropriately decorated

Bake Sale

- Request members donate 2 items
- Invite area chefs to donate baked goods
- Offer wider variety with jams, vinegars, pickles, "reindeer food"
- Items were beautifully packaged; continue this presentation in future

Cabin Sales

- Items should be appropriately wrapped and displayed
- Package as gifts

MEETINGS

- Consensus by all groups – Remain at Marsh's Edge
- Consensus by all groups – 2008-09 programs have been excellent with good variety

Suggestions:

- Request program ideas from members
- Spotlight members' skills

NEW MEMBER ASSIMILATION

- Consensus by all groups, Orientation well organized and helpful
- Sponsor involvement needs to improve
- Consider developing a Mentoring program to:

- encourage participation but not pressure
- promote networking to identify areas of interest
- encourage peer recruitment

White Oak Plantation and Conservation Center Field Trip in March

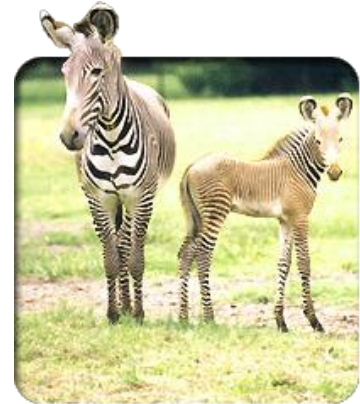
Make your plans now to participate in one of Cassina's most exciting field trips on **Tuesday, March 16th**. Join fellow members and spend the day at White Oak Plantation and Conservation Center in Florida.

White Oak Plantation is an extraordinary site consisting of 7,400 acres of pristine woodlands on the banks of the St. Mary's River, 30 miles north of Jacksonville. The White Oak Conservation Center is



one of the world's premier breeding, research and training facilities and covers 600 acres. Established in 1982, the Center conserves threatened and endangered species of wildlife by maintaining scientifically managed captive populations that provide opportunities for research, training, reintroduction and involvement in field conservation programs.

Members and guests will carpool, and the total cost of the trip, which includes lunch, is \$115. Contact Field Trip Chair Janis Rodriguez to make your reservation, (638-9455 or janisemr@aol.com).



February Horticultural Highlights

February may bring more cold weather but hopefully nothing to equal our week of freezes. It is the month to begin many fertilization programs and to prune shrubs and trees that are not spring flowering. Even though everyone wants to rush out and cut back those sad-looking, cold-damaged plants, most authorities recommend leaving the damaged growth until there is no danger of additional cold damage. Enough about cold ... on St. Simons Island, the last weeks of February are the beginning of spring. So now is the time to prepare flowerbeds, herb gardens, or new planting areas. Create the perfect space for those wonderful spring blooms.

Trees & Shrubs: Plant new trees and shrubs now. Finish any transplanting early in the month if you have not already done so. Make sure these plants receive adequate water. Heavy pruning for size and shape may be done this month on all but spring blooming trees and shrubs. Citrus is best pruned just prior to blooming.

Lawns: Apply pre-emergence herbicides to control sandspurs and other annual weeds. These applications should coincide with the blooming of dogwoods and azaleas. Exact timing depends on soil temperature...usually mid February to early March. Herbicides should not be applied unless a serious weed problem is present. Maintaining a healthy lawn is the best weed control program.

Annuals: Annuals that can be planted this month are baby's breath, calendulas, carnations, dusty miller and Marguerite daisies.

Vegetables: Plant beets, broccoli, carrots, cabbage, cauliflower, celery, collards, lettuce, onions, parsley, English peas, potatoes, radishes and turnips.



Martha Martin