

Cassina Garden Club
NEWSLETTER

Cassinagardenclub.org



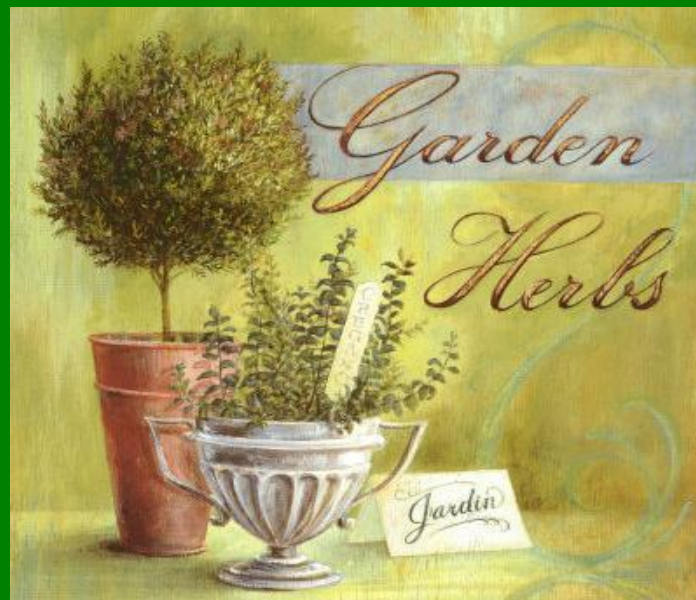
January 2010

January Meeting
All Members & Guests
Thursday, January 14, 2010 at Marsh's Edge

9:30 ~ Refreshments 10:00 ~ Meeting

Hostesses: Susan Baltzell, Anne Caswell

“All About Herbs”



Theresa Waters, an herbalist from Jacksonville, will tell us about herbs – from propagation to harvesting – and offer tips on their creative uses.

Birthday Drawing will be held for December & January birthdays.

February Luncheon Centerpiece Competition

Centerpiece Competition Chair Anne Caswell is announcing the theme for the annual table arrangement competition for our February 11th Luncheon - "*A Taste of Southern Hospitality.*" Guidelines include:

- Containers should be tea pots, julep cups, china or silver bowls, candle sticks, etc.
- Completed arrangements should be no taller than 15 inches
- Fresh material only

Please contact Anne at 638-0478 to sign up to prepare a floral arrangement for one of the 15 Luncheon tables. The centerpieces are voted on by all attendees, and the winner receives a special prize.

Study of Herbs Continues ... Cooking Demo at Halyards



To extend our January lessons on herbs, Chef David Snyder of Halyards will host a "Cooking with Herbs" demonstration for members on Thursday, January 21 at his restaurant. The demonstration, which begins at Noon, will be followed by a delicious Halyards lunch. The cost is \$18 per person and reservations are limited to 30 members. Sign up now by contacting Janis Rodriguez at 638-9455.

Dates to Remember

January 7	Board Meeting 10:00 am
January 14	Cassina Meeting 9:30 am Marsh's Edge
January 21	Cooking Demonstration Halyards 12 Noon
February 4-6	Southeastern Flower Show, Atlanta
February 5	DEADLINE for February Luncheon reservations
February 5	Heritage Day Oglethorpe Elementary

Board Notes



The following items were discussed and/or approved at the December Board meeting:

- Participate in Heritage Day at Oglethorpe Elementary again this year
- 37 pots of daffodils were planted for Golden Days project lead by Barbara Murrah
- 98 Cabin visitors in November
- New refrigerator purchased for Tea Cabin
- New door mats purchased for both Cabins
- Betty Davis sold 43 GCG calendars
- 24 Cookbooks sold from September – November
- Award materials submitted to State and District for 4 major awards
- Ruth Kolumber distributed donated garden tools to students at St. Simons Elementary for Spanish Garden project.

Special Appreciation ...

To Alice, Betsy, Catherine, Mary and Phillis for sharing their beautiful homes for our Anniversary Christmas Tour. Such a generous and memorable gift to all of us!

25th Annual Christmas Tour A Huge Success

Chair, Anne Aspinwall reports that the 25th Anniversary Tour was very well received in spite of the rainy weather. We are pleased to announce that we hosted more than 450 visitors. The five beautifully decorated members' homes were filled with fresh greens and unique decorations. At the Wesley United Methodist Church, church members provided five beautifully decorated trees, several nativity scenes and delicious refreshments. More than 110 volunteers served as hostesses, and 22 men assisted as parking directors.



Sue Chambless and Natalie Crane (below) with the help of 75 bakers raised over \$1,600 at the "best bake sale in the southeast."



Anne gives special thanks to Becky Stephenson for recruiting hostesses, Kay and Jim Harrell for the fabulous website, Denise Trethaway for the great publicity and Leslie Carlton for keeping our numbers on track. Every member of Cassina had some part in making this tour such a great success. The ticket sales contest was won by Susan Haley with 6 tickets, and Anne Caswell with 5 tickets! They both received gift certificates to the Georgia Sea Grill.



Chair Anne Aspinwall and Tour Treasurer, Leslie Carlton



Cabin Docents, l-r, Barbara Bruce, Janis Rodriguez, Deana Davis, Jennifer Kuja



Bake Sale volunteers, l-r, Caroline Fleetwood and Suzanne Frehse

Pre-Thanksgiving Visit by Frederica Academy First Grade



Jennifer Kuja (left) and Libby Hogan (right) host the Frederica Academy first graders on their annual visit to the Cabins and gardens. The young “Pilgrims and Indians” learned about the history of the Cassina site and our gardens. Libby reported that our peanut crop was abundant this year.



Photos by Joanne Scott

Horticultural Highlights

January gives us time to prepare our garden for spring...or when it is too cold...to look through all the seed and plant catalogs to plan new looks for the garden and yard. January is often a dry month, so water every two to three weeks if we don't have rain. If a freeze is forecast, water 24 to 48 hours before the freeze but be sure that the irrigation system is off during the freeze. If you have St. Augustine grass and we have a hard freeze, avoid walking on the grass until the temperatures are above freezing.

Trees and Shrubs: Now is the time to transplant dormant plants that were root pruned earlier this year. Also, plant bare root, ball-and-burlap plants, and deciduous fruit trees this month. Planting now will give roots time to develop before spring. To control scale on citrus, shrubs, camellias, and deciduous fruit trees, apply horticultural oil while plants are dormant.

Pruning: The University of Florida IFAS Extension gives this advice on pruning for our area. Prune non-spring-flowering shrubs and trees this month to improve form. Do not do any major pruning because this might cause the plant to come out of dormancy. While crepe myrtles do not require pruning, removing seed pods, crossed branches, and small twiggy growth improves the appearance and form of the plant. Apples, pears, persimmon, blueberries and grapes may be pruned this month but do not remove more than one third of last season's growth. Wait until peaches, nectarines and plums begin to bloom before pruning. Cutting now might cause early flowering.

Bulbs: Crinum lily, agapanthus, amaryllis, Aztec lily, clivia, walking iris, spider lily, and zephyr lily can be planted now. Provide a layer of mulch for protection from cold temperatures, Spring-flowering bulbs including tulips, daffodils, and hyacinths should be planted around the first of January.

Vegetables: Cool season vegetables such as broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, carrots, peas, radishes, and turnips can be planted now. Start pepper and tomato seeds inside this month to have seedlings ready for the garden in early March.



Martha Martin