

*Cassina Garden Club*  
**NEWSLETTER**

*Cassinagardenclub.org*



October 2009

## October Meeting

**OPEN MEETING for all Members & Guests**

### Frederica Park...A Grand Vision

Russ Marane, President, St. Simons Land Trust will share the exciting details of the first new park on the Island in more than 50 years and Cassina's special contribution of the focal point of the Botanical Trail.



**Thursday, October 8, 2009 at Marsh's Edge**

**9:30 ~ Refreshments 10:00 ~ Meeting**

Hostesses: Connie Herndon, Rita Trudeau

### Field Trip to Coastal Georgia Historical Society

Janis Rodriguez has arranged a special visit to the Coastal Georgia Historical Society to give Cassina members an opportunity to take a "behind-the-scenes" tour. We will see the archives where the new Cassina Collection is housed, visit the new Eugenia Price exhibition and much more. Mark your calendar for Tuesday, October 13 at 11:00 am. The cost is \$3.00. Contact Janis for additional information at 638-9455 or janisemr@aol.com.

## New Members Introduced at September Meeting



Photo by Joanne Scott

(L-r seated) Jan Campbell, Jan Bone, Mary Lynch, Martha Mooney, Rose Ann Williams, Pamela Hamilton; (standing) Virginia Ellis, Beth Thrift, Deana Davis, Sallie Sasser, June Brown, Sheron Williams, Charlotte Dennis; not pictured: Judith-Eff O’Grady, Alice Keen

## 72 Attend Opening Meeting



Cassina’s September meeting was a festive event under the Big Red Tent set up by the banks of the Frederica River. Special thanks to our friends at Oglethorpe Bank for once again supplying the tent. The beautiful fall day set the tone for the opportunities that abound for members in the 2009-10 season. From speakers to workshops and demonstrations, there is something for everyone this year.

### Dates to Remember

- October 1**      **Board Meeting**  
10:00 am  
Cassina Cabins
- October 8**      **Cassina Meeting**  
9:30 am  
Marsh’s Edge
- October 13**    **Field Trip**  
11:00, Historical Society
- October 14**    **Elderhostel Tour**  
10:30 am  
Cassina Cabins
- October 15**    **District Meeting**  
Jesup, GA
- October 25**    **Halloween Happening**  
3:00 – 5:00 pm  
Cassina Cabins

## Halloween Happening

Join the fun on Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup> at the Cabins from 3:00- 5:00 pm as Lee Baxter and her team of Cassina volunteers present the third annual Halloween adventure for local pre-school and elementary school-age children. Sudy Leavy and Edward Armstrong will entertain with ghost stories, and children will have the opportunity to bob for apples, make s'mores, play "Ghost in the Graveyard" and enjoy refreshments.

Please bring your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews and friends' children! And while you're there, just volunteer for a few minutes! Please contact Lee Baxter to help out with this community project. Remember, the event is free and open to the public.

Pictured are Cassina "good witches" Rita Trudeau and Elizabeth Freyer at the 2008 event.



## Cabin Clean-Up

A workday was held on September 2<sup>nd</sup> to make the Cabins spic and span for the fall. The following members brought cleaning supplies, buckets, vacuum cleaners and a lot of elbow grease to get the job done:

Frances Allen, Sharon Flores, Barbara Murrah, Janis Rodriguez and Sara Taylor.

Join the fun at the next workday, scheduled for early December.



Frances Allen and Sara Taylor clean the Meeting Cabin.

## Community Outreach

Based on the record-breaking success of the 2008 Christmas Tour and the 2009 Garden Walk, the Community Outreach and Finance Committees recommended to the Board at the September meeting that Cassina make donations this year in the amount of \$26,400. Also, the committees recommended that \$20,000 be added to our Cabin self-insurance fund for a new total of \$50,000. The Board approved the recommendations, and Cassina is proud to make contributions to the following non-profit organizations that share our mission:

St. Simons Land Trust; Frederica Park (\$12,500)  
 Land Trust Live Oak Membership (\$1,000)  
 American Legion Post 166; Garden (\$7,000)  
 Audubon Historical Marker (\$2,500)  
 Coastal Georgia Historical Society (\$1,000)  
 Scholarship Program, GCG (\$1,000)  
 Oak Grove Cemetery (\$200)  
 Altamaha Riverkeepers (\$100)

Garden Therapy, GCG (\$100)  
 Hospice of the Golden Isles (\$100)  
 Humane Society of South Coastal GA (\$100)  
 LeConte-Woodmanston Foundation (\$100)  
 St. Simons Library League (\$100)  
 Signature Squares (\$100)  
 Southeastern Horticultural Society (\$100)  
 Wild Garden Project (\$100)

## Cassina Collection Presented to Historical Society

Eighty years of Cassina scrapbook history was officially presented to the Coastal Georgia Historical Society as part of the Cassina Garden Club Collection on September 1. Future installments will include club yearbooks, copies of documents, newsletters and other paper records, as well as copies of contemporary meeting minutes and reports. The efforts are being organized by current Club Historian Peggy Golden, Historic Preservation Chair Ruth Kolumber, and committee members Frances Allen, Wendy Reilly and Sharon Flores.



Rose Ann Williams (left) and Mary Lynch move scrapbooks from the Cabins to their new home at the Historical Society.



Historical Society Director, Pat Morris, Curator, Jenny Herring and Cassina President, Sharon Flores celebrate the placement of the historic scrapbooks in the vault at the Society.

## Christmas Tour of Homes

Anne Aspinwall reports that to help celebrate Cassina's legacy, and the 25th year of the Christmas Tour of Homes, the committee decided to present a little island history to our visitors. In addition to viewing inspiring holiday decorations, our visitors will learn about who originally owned the land where each home is located. The plantations represented are West Point, Hamilton, Hampton, Rosemont (Black Banks), and an original land grant to Christ Church by General James Oglethorpe. The historic Tea Cabin will also be showcased with docent tours and holiday refreshments.

The special stop this year will be at Wesley United Methodist Church at Frederica. Visitors will view a collection of decorated trees and wreaths, enjoy refreshments and even hear Christmas music by the Church Choir. The 2009 Tour promises to be a treat for all who love history and are looking for new holiday decorating ideas.

## Birthday Winner

Happy Birthday to Neile Weis and other members celebrating birthdays in September. Neile was the lucky recipient of a beautiful lavender bromeliad. Again this year, a drawing will be held at each meeting to celebrate the birthdays of the month. Remember, you must be present to win!



## Address Change

Associate member Gloria Mitchell has requested that her address be changed in the Yearbook to: 1000 Mallery Street, #83, SSI, GA 31522; Phone: 638-7819

## Horticultural Highlights



This month the shorter days and cooler nights make being in the garden far more pleasant. Almost as much planting can be done now as in the spring. This is also a great time to collect seeds for planting next year and to collect dried grasses and flower heads for winter arrangements.

**Lawns:** If weeds were a problem last year, early October is the time to apply a pre-emergence herbicide. Do not use a pre-emergence herbicide if you plan to overseed the lawn with rye grass. As last month, watch for brown patch fungus disease and chinch bug damage.

**Trees and Shrubs:** Cooler fall weather is a perfect time to plant new shrubs and trees. This gives time for root growth that will support spring growth. Root prune any shrubs you plant to transplant this winter.

**Christmas Blooms:** To insure blooms on your Christmas cactus, the plants should receive no artificial light during October nights. This signals the plants to set buds. Some say the plant should be in the dark from 5 p.m. to 8 a.m.

**Annuals:** The end of October is the time to plant annuals for winter color. Pansies, petunias, calendula, snapdragons, sweet alyssum, and lobelia do well in our winters, as do some of the decorative cabbages and kales. If planted too early while the weather is still very warm, these plants will bolt and bloom too early.

**Perennials:** Perennials planted now will bloom more profusely in the spring. Biennial and perennial herbs such as parsley, thyme, sage, and rosemary should be planted now.

*Martha Martin*

## 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.*

Twenty-eight members attended the September Board meeting and approved the following items:

- Approved Disbursement of discretionary funds to community non-profit organizations (see Page 3)
- Approved additional \$20,000 for Cabin self-insurance fund (new total, \$50,000)
- Approved 2009-2010 Budget
- Approved Standing Rule change: Page 64, II. Committees;
  - A. Standing Committees; #2: *At the death of a club member, who has shown dedication to the Club's mission through service and effort, the Chairman shall plant either a Gerbing (white) or Taber (pink) azalea in the Memorial Garden in that member's memory.*
- Approved purchase of new energy efficient refrigerator for Tea Cabin (The small refrigerator "died" this summer.)
- Approved installation of two outside electrical outlets at cost of \$250. They will be located near existing electrical meters on both Cabins

### Cassina October Newsletter

Editor	Sharon Flores
Publisher	Kay Harrell
Distribution	Becky Stephenson
Photographers	Joanne Scott, Sharon Flores
Contributors	Anne Aspinwall, Lee Baxter, Peggy Golden, Martha Martin, Janis Rodriguez

## Garden Orientation

Garden Co-Chair Ruth Kolumber and Garden Liaisons Snookie Collins and Betty Young conducted a new member garden orientation on Saturday September 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. Sponsors and new members were introduced to the Cassina gardens and the responsibilities of the new members during their first year.



(L-r) M. J. Choate, Alice Keen, Beth Thrift, Rita Trudeau, Rose Ann Williams, Betty Young, Mary Lynch, Deana Davis, Ruth Kolumber

## Docent Training

The Meeting Cabin was filled on September 16<sup>th</sup> as Docent Chair Jennifer Kuja conducted the first training session of the year. Current and prospective Docents received notebooks filled with historical data about St. Simons Island and the area around Gascoigne Bluff. Pictured below are (L-r) June Brown, Alice Keen, Carole Ploeger, Beverly Nash, Libby Hogan, Leslie Carlton, Dottie Fielder, Deana Davis, Mary Lynch, Janis Rodriguez, Judith-Eff O'Grady, Jan Bone.



## Elderhostel Visit

Docent Beverly Nash shared Island and Cabin history with Elderhostel visitors on September 21. Assisting were Sharon Flores and new members, Judith-Eff O'Grady and Rose Ann Williams.



### Calling Cassina Members...

Mark your calendar for  
Thursday, October 15

### Important District Meeting in Jesup

10:00 a.m.

Please join fellow Cassina members  
for an entertaining and educational  
session.

See September Newsletter for details  
and contact Sharon Flores for more  
information.