

Cassina Garden Club

NEWSLETTER



November 2005

“Creation . . . Conservation . . . Celebration Cassina’s Legacy”

NOVEMBER MEETING: Meeting Date – Thursday, November 10 – 10 am

Meeting Place – Lord of Life Lutheran Church

Fellowship Hall, Frederica Rd. & Menendez St.

Program – “Thanksgiving Themes” by

Catherine Erickson of Viola’s Market

All members and guests are welcome to our pre-meeting social at 9:30 am. Our hostesses will be Mary Stivers, Chair, ably assisted by Claire Jorgensen and Emily Swift.

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BOARD MEETING – Thursday, November 3 at 9:30 am at the Meeting Cabin.

Standing Committee Chairs are requested to attend. Please advise Marie of attendance.
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CASSINA BOUQUETS TO: PEGGY GOLDEN for her delightful and informative October program on “The Language of Flowers”. You missed a treat if you did not attend. (On this note, ALWAYS SIGN IN with the Membership Committee at our meetings.)

...CASSINA MEMBERS who attended a birthday tea to honor **GLADYS FENDIG** who was Cassina President in 1935-1938. Gladys is the author of the small book we sell at the cabins entitled “Native Flora of the Golden Isles.”

...GINGER SIFFORD, Cabin Chair, her committee and her husband (Alex) for “sprucing” up the cabins for the October meeting.

...JANE RIVES and CLAUDIA BOFFARD for outstanding sales of “Pathways” Calendars. Only 12 are left - Jane will be at the November meeting to sell those!

...BETSY THWAITE, Garden Therapy Chair and ALL Cassina members who decorated stockings. They are incredibly well-done. Please bring your completed stockings or a monetary donation to the November meeting so Betsy can complete this project.

DOCENT PROJECT: BECKY STEPHENSON and MARY O’SULLIVAN conducted a Docent Leadership Training program. Seventeen members heard from Cindy Doehring, representing the Elderhostel program at Epworth-by-the-Sea, and from **CLAIRE JORGENSEN** and **BEVERLY NASH**. Anyone interested in becoming a Cabin Docent, please call Mary, 638-8003 or Becky, 634-9024. A training program will be scheduled.

ALTAMAHA RIVERKEEPER, Wendell Berryhill, could still use your vote to win \$50,000 to help clean up the river. Refer to the October Cassina Newsletter for details on how to do this or call Marie. We really need your help. Vote must be in before 12/1/05.

OLEANDER DISTRICT MEETING in Statesboro. Cassina dominated the Awards presentations at the District conference. **BETSY THWAITE** and Marie attended to represent Cassina. Recognition of our Club from the podium consisted of:

- Memorial tribute to deceased member, **HELEN THOMASON**,
- Certificates from the GCA President to **ANNE CASWELL**, **NATALIE CRANE**, **PEGGY GOLDEN**, and **THELMA MONTGOMERY** for participating in the Trees-A-Bloom program,
- **JANE RIVES** and **CLAUDIA BOFFARD** for selling more Calendars than any club in the district,
- **THE MARY HELEN RAY HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARD** to the Cassina Garden Club for its efforts on behalf of the Cassina Cabins and Gardens,
- **THE SARA LEWIS HORTICULTURAL AWARD** to **KAY HARRELL** for her accomplishments in horticulture (roses) and efforts for the Cassina Garden Club.

The *coup de grace* occurred when **PAMELA DAVIS** won the Raffle – a 3-day trip to Pidgeon Forge . . . and then, **MARIE**, won a door prize!

TEN trips to the podium became a bit embarrassing but we are **GOOD!**

The **FIELD TRIP TO SAPELO ISLAND** led by **JULIE SPIVEY**, is Tuesday, December 6.

Itinerary: Meet at Cabins to carpool at 6:45 am.

Drive to Darien to Route 99 to Sapelo Dock. Must arrive prior to 8 am - have a \$10 bill to pay the Ferry.

Boat leaves at 8:30 am and returns at 3 pm.

For \$20, you get lunch and wine at the Reynolds Mansion (decorated for the holidays). A beach walk to “walk off” the lunch will end the day!

A check for \$20 must be in Kay Harrell’s hands by December 1st. Guests are welcome as space permits. Call **JULIE**, 634-5928, or **CAROLINE FLEETWOOD** with your questions.

Sapelo Island is yet another very important barrier island in the Golden Isles and the trip promises to be a memorable one.

The **SOUTHEASTERN FLOWER SHOW** in Atlanta, February 8-12, 2006, is themed “*Inspiration, Education, Entertainment . . .The Italian Experience*”. This show is the premier juried gardening and horticultural event for Atlanta and the Southeast. The beneficiary is the Atlanta Botanical Garden. Ryan Gainey is the Artistic Director, show is at the Georgia World Congress Center and there are special arrangements for garden club members who wish to attend. See Marie if you plan to go.

HOLIDAY TOUR OF HOMES UPDATE from DENISE & SALLY

Everything is coming together to produce a spectacular tour! Five terrific private homes and a fabulous Showcase House on the marsh in Dunbar Creek. The Showcase House team of **RUTH KOLUMBER**, **MARY JANE BARGER**, **BECKY STEPHENSON** AND **MICHAELA WADDINGTON** are working closely with top local designers and merchants who are planning splendid rooms and vignettes. We need every member’s active participation to make this our best Tour ever!

SHOWCASE HOUSE TREE - Cassina members who would like to help decorate the tree in the Showcase House are asked to call **RUTH KOLUMBER**, 634-1272. Some members have already dried hydrangeas and roses for this purpose. More are needed. Small bouquets tied with raffia will be placed on the tree. Other ideas for natural materials that would add creative interest to our Cassina tree are certainly welcome.

FOUR-AND-TWENTY CAR PARKERS are needed by **WIL KAMPSCHMIDT** and **FRANCES ALLEN**. Every able-bodied man is needed to direct traffic at the Tour home sites. They don't really "park" cars, they direct traffic. Please volunteer your husbands, your sons, your significant others to help. Call Frances, 634-1410, with names.

The **BEST BAKE SALE** in the Southeast occurs on Tour Day, December 10, at the Cabins. It begins at noon, though buyers will be lined up much earlier! **SUE CHAMBLESS** and **KAREN BELL** need you to bake more than one fabulous item! They'll have a sign-up sheet at the November meeting and will call you if you don't sign up! Save them a call!!

This year, our cabin decorations will be an inspiration to all! **ANNE CASWELL** and **PAMELA DAVIS** met with **GLADYS FENDIG** to research authentic decorations. You will be surprised and delighted!

Speaking of the Cabins, **CONNIE HERNDON** and **BEVERLY NASH** need assistance for **CABIN HOSPITALITY** the day of the Tour. Many will be working as hostesses in the private homes and in the Showcase House, but if you can give them an hour, let them know. Showcase House hostesses on the Friday or Sunday shifts, please volunteer.

Tickets will be mailed to members in mid-November. Once again, there are separate tickets for the Tour and the Showcase House. **EVERY MEMBER** must buy or sell more than the required 2 tickets to insure a successful Tour. Again, there will be a \$50 prize for the member who sells the most tickets above the requirement. Thelma Montgomery won last year and welcomes your competition this year!! Note that our members sell more tickets than our two retail outlets, Pat's Hallmark and St. Simons Drugs. We are grateful to these retailers for their assistance and grateful to you for your dedicated help.

PRESIDENT'S REQUEST (Not Remarks):

As you know, the Tour is the only fund-raising activity of Cassina; it provides the funds to run our Club and maintain our historic property. Last year, the Tour netted an all-time high of over \$12,000, which included a hugely successful Bake Sale of \$1,300. This year, our goal is to **EXCEED** last year's net by at least 15% to \$14,000! We can do this with your help! Can the Bake Sale do \$1,500? **YES** if each of you bake at least **TWO** products! **TICKET SALES** are all-important! If each Cassina member will buy or sell 4 tickets (over her 2 ticket requirement), we'll be well on our way to our 2005 goal!

– as Nike says: **LET'S JUST DO IT!**

GARDEN UPDATE from **FRANCES ALLEN**, Chief Weed. Cherokee Roses have been planted. Butterflies are flitting away. Beds are being prepared for fall flowers. Planting of the flowers will take place during early November to give them a chance to settle in before the Tour. Call Frances at 634-1410 to check on the planting time for your assigned bed. In the meantime, thanks; and **WEED, WEED, WEED** your assigned area!

TIPS for YOUR HORTICULTURAL ACTIVITIES:

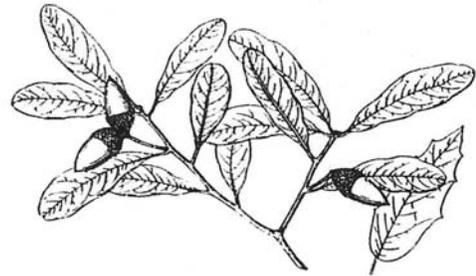
1. The cold snap tells us to ready your plants for moving inside.
2. Buy spring bulbs and refrigerate for 8 weeks. Chilling is needed for spring blooms.
3. Watch for brown patch fungus disease in lawns. It attacks when the weather is cool and wet. Grass dies in circular designs that may be 5-6 ft. in diameter. In St. Augustine grass, the leaf blades rot where they attach to runners.
4. Plan now for protection of your lawn and landscape from cold temps.
5. If you planted winter rye grass and did not fertilize, apply now for a lush lawn.
6. Mole crickets can damage lawns. Best solution is to have a commercial pest control company apply *Triumph*.

Do You Know Your Oak Tree?

We hear much about our Live Oaks, Water Oaks and Laurel Oaks,
but can you tell them apart?
Here are the basic characteristics.

LIVE OAK (*Quercus virginiana* Mill.)

Leaves - evergreen (falling in the spring), 2-5" long, thick, leathery, oblong and rounded, dark green, smooth and shiny on the upper surface, pale and hairy below, margins slightly rolled. Fruit - an oblong acorn about $\frac{3}{4}$ " long, enclosed in a cup for $\frac{1}{3}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ its length. Bark - dark brown tinged with red, slightly furrowed. Tree - 40-50' high with a trunk 3-4' in diameter.



LIVE OAK

(*Quercus virginiana* Mill.)

WATER OAK (*Quercus nigra* L.)

Leaves - deciduous in winter, usually about 2½" long and 1½" wide, narrowed at the base, broader at the rounded, often 3-lobed, tip; dull bluish green and smooth above. Fruit - an almost spherical acorn with a flat base, enclosed only at the base in a thin saucer-shaped cup. Bark - gray-black, close; often with irregular patches, on older trunks with rough, wide scaly ridges. Tree - 70-80 feet' with a trunk 2-3' in diameter.



WATER OAK

(*Quercus nigra* L.)

LAUREL OAK (*Quercus laurifolia* Michx.)

Leaves - deciduous in early spring, usually 3-4" long, about $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide, elliptic, narrowed at both ends, margins smooth, green, shiny and smooth above, light green, less shiny and smooth below. Fruit - an egg shaped or sometimes hemispherical dark brown to nearly black acorn about $\frac{1}{2}$ " long, $\frac{1}{4}$ or less enclosed in a thin, saucer-shaped cup. Bark - dark brown, older trunks becoming black, divided by deep furrows into broad, flattened ridges. Tree - occasionally 100' high with a trunk 3-4' in diameter.



LAUREL OAK

(*Quercus laurifolia* Michx.)