

# "OLD TABBY"

The newsletter for members of Ashantilly Center

## Quilt Raffle



A beautiful quilt, hand-made and donated by Ms. Nancy Eckstrum, is being raffled by Ashantilly to raise funds for the needed roof repair. The winning ticket will be drawn on February 22, at the final "Books and Authors" gathering featuring Patricia Barefoot.

## Scotch Whisky Tasting

On April 18, prior to the Ceilidh, Darrin McCollough will highlight the differences in the single malts of all six regions of Scotland. Guests will sample an example of each region's single malt.



**Local Authors Series Sunday Afternoons at Ashantilly: Books and Authors**, a series of programming with local authors, began on Feb. 1 with Maggie Toussaint. Rick Hutto (Feb. 8) and Patricia Barefoot (Feb. 22) will complete this first series. An informal discussion with the authors was followed by a wine reception with delicious hors d'oeuvres.

## Dr. Porter Rescheduled for Mar. 21!



**500 Years of Antiquarian Books on Corals and Coral Reefs**  
Dr. James Porter, Meigs Professor of Ecology at the University of Georgia, is a coral reef scientist and will bring his extensive collection to display to guests.

## Booth at Nature Festival!

Ashantilly Center was on hand for the Jekyll Island Birding and Nature Festival with a table at the Rookery. Demonstrations of the small hand printing press and materials about the Center were presented, as well as information regarding Mr. Bill Haynes' efforts to preserve our natural environment. Visitors to the booth printed a small card using an original wood block hand-carved by Mr. Haynes.

## Rathkeltair to Play at 2009 Ceilidh

The Celtic rock band, Rathkeltair, will perform at the 2009 Ceilidh on April 18. The band has commanded quite a following, and we look forward to their performance at Ashantilly.



# Christmas at Ashantilly!

## Desserts and Dessert Wines

A festive and enchanting evening!

Many volunteers and board members spent two days decorating "Old Tabby" with native greens and colorful ribbons. Wreaths were hung and the tree was trimmed, and mantels were laden with fruit. Wonderful wines were paired with savory desserts, topped off with coffee and a wine-based irish creme. Guests were enthusiastic and enjoyed the festive atmosphere. Many commented that the house had never looked lovelier. The wines, selected by Darien's own Waterfront Wines, were presented at five stations, each with their matching desserts. Guests were invited to try each one, leaving the coffee and irish creme as the finish. The menu included: Prosciutto - Wrapped Melon Balls served with a Ca de Medici Sparkling Red Lambrusco (Italy), Almond Apricot Pear Torts complemented by a

Robertson Gewurztraminer (South Africa), Chocolate - Glazed Triple Layer Cheesecake with Montoya Cabernet Sauvignon (California), Pecan Caramel Bites with Jonesy Rare Aged Port (South Australia), and the finale, Carol's Spice Cake and Lemon Pound Cake served with Maloney's Irish Cream,



(Ireland) and coffee. Mouth - watering and delightful!

As part of the celebration, Mr. Bill Haynes' recently published World War II Journal was presented to the public. Sponsors of this first publication were introduced and thanked for their part in this outstanding endeavor. This unique volume is illustrated with Mr. Haynes' watercolors and written in his calligraphy. The original was digitally scanned, and reproduced in both soft and hard cover. The

book's popularity has demanded a second printing, now in progress.

# Special Thanks!

Ashantilly would like to extend our thanks to our outstanding Board of Directors, Members, and Volunteers for the beautiful decorating and the wonderful food. Your time and talent made this an incredible event, and it could not have happened without your tireless support! Kudos to Waterfront Wines and Gourmet for their skilled selections of the wines served to and enjoyed by our guests.



# Annual Darien Fall Fest

On November 8th, Ashantilly again participated in the Darien Fall Festival. Buddy Sullivan gave a brief lecture about Thomas Spalding and William Haynes, Jr., the first and last owners of "Old Tabby". The annual lime burn amazed guests with its fury. New this year was a lecture and tour of St. Andrews Cemetery, led by Buddy. The historic burial grounds is on land donated by Thomas Spalding, and is the site of his family plot.

