



Gainesville Camellia Society

Affiliated with the American Camellia Society

Editor: Anna Langford

May 2023

President's Message



Cherie Shirah

Hi All,

May is finally here and almost gone. Sunday we will have our last meeting until the fall when the camellia season cranks up again. The weather is still a bit cool for this time of year and the rainfall is behind schedule. I had 1.60 inches of rain last Friday night (May 12) accompanied by a spectacular lightning show. The cats did not particularly like it, but they have fully recovered. The camellias are growing and the fertilizer I applied last month is finally being watered in. No beetle activity but there are very few young and tender leaves for them to eat.

Merry Reid was having trouble finding the systemic pesticide I recommended for beetle management. When I purchased it years ago it was sold under the name Orthene. Then a few years later it was combined with a fungicide and sold as Orthenex. Pesticides are sold under a variety of trade names, but the chemical names of actual ingredients must be shown on the label. The name of the systemic pesticide is Acephate (A-ce-fate). If you are purchasing online or calling or visiting a store about the product, ask for something containing Acephate.

Debbie and Jay Ellis have been working on the information needed to make some decisions about holding the 2024 ACS Convention in Gainesville in conjunction with our show next January. We have 8 months to plan, and for the number of people expected to attend, this should not be too much of a problem. We will ask Jay and Debbie to give us an update at the meeting.



Capricci



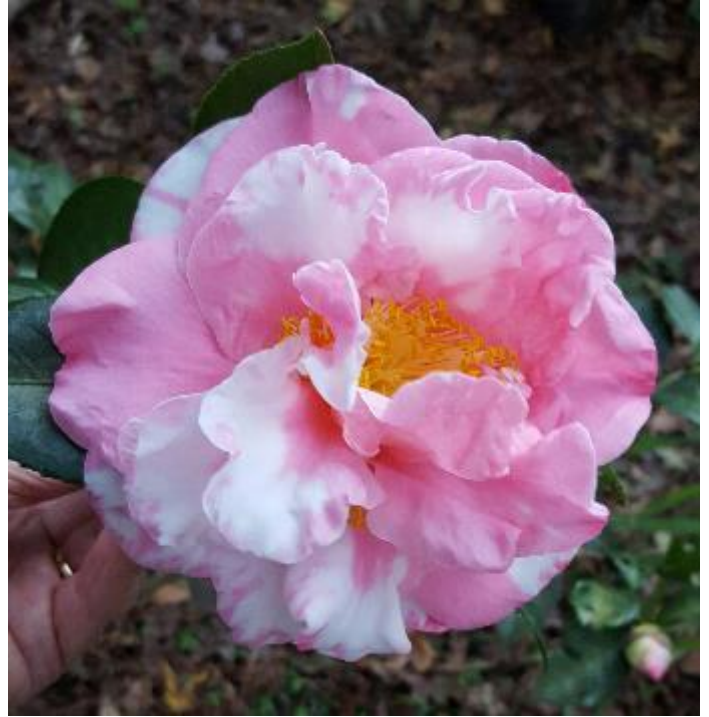
Delores Edwards

We have finally elected a new slate of Officers and Board Members after not having elections during the Covid years. Seems like a long time! Officers and Board Members will be officially installed at the May meeting.

May is when we have our late spring/early summer luncheon. Anna has taken the lead in organizing the food and getting the tables decorated. John Swanson and I will bring the meats, turkey and ham, respectively, and everyone is encouraged to bring their favorite veggies, salads, and desserts. I assume that someone will be bringing the drinks. We will have a brief meeting, installation of the officers, and undoubtedly some items to auction. Should be fun.

I have been the GCS President since the fall of 2020, I think. It is the longest time I have held this office. Some of it has been very frustrating, like trying to learn how to hold the meetings on Zoom, but most of the time it has been fun. It is great that we made it through the Covid period with no casualties. Covid is not gone but it IS under control for the most part. Let's hope for clear sailing for the foreseeable future. Seems I remember Anna saying that on Sunday we will begin the festivities at 1:00 and begin eating about 2:00. See you there.

Jerry Hogsette, President



Tiffany

Dues

The annual dues for Gainesville Camellia Society are due at this time. The amount is \$15 for an individual or \$20 for a couple. Please mail a check for your dues to the Treasurer:

Merry Reid
7631 Monongahela Avenue
Keystone Heights FL 32656
reidm729@gmail.com

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A plaque was presented to Bev and Chuck Ritter in appreciation for their many years of vision, guidance, leadership, and support of the Gainesville Camellia Society.



Minutes for GCS Meeting April 16, 2023

Business Meeting

Jerry Hogsette, GCS President, opened the business meeting at 2:10 PM and welcomed everyone, including two new members who each received a free Camellia plant.

Old Business

A motion was made and passed to accept the March meeting minutes and Treasurer's Report.

Treasurer's Report

Merry Reid presented this report:

Savings:	\$18,442
Checking:	\$6,786
Total:	\$25,228



Tomorrow, variegated



Tricolor Superba

Funds from the Kanapaha and Wilmot plant sales have not been deposited yet.

Charles Simon reported that we took in \$120 during the Kanapaha Spring plant sale for raffle tickets and new members. The raffle winner was Mrs. Julie Fuller of Alachua. She was very excited to receive the Camellia. She and her husband are farmers so the plant should do well!

Jerry reported that he and John Swanson sold ~100 Camellia plants at the Wilmot Gardens plant sale.

New Business

Charles reminded everyone that it cost ~\$17,000 to put on a show and plant sale, which leaves us ~\$8,000 for donations this year. After a brief discussion of past donations to UF, Kanapaha, Wilmot Gardens, the American Camellia Society (ACS) and others, a motion was made and passed to table the discussion until the summer Board meeting. The Board will present recommendations to GCS members at the September meeting for donation recipients and amounts. We will standardize the timing of these annual donations by making them in the October to December time frame each year.

John Swanson reminded everyone that he's hosting an air layering event and pot luck lunch at his house on Tuesday, April 18, 2023. There will be a short class and demonstration on air-layering at the beginning of the event. All are welcome.



Veiled Beauty



William Forrest Bray, variegated

John also reported that he received a call from Dennis Hart, President Elect of the ACS, with a request that GCS host the ACS National Convention next year.

The event occurs over three days and would coincide with our show and plant sale. Mark Crawford said there are usually about 100 people in attendance, and it may be possible to exchange show dates with the Ocala Camellia Society if needed to accommodate the National Convention. Jerry said that mid-January is a good time to host a group in Gainesville as there is very little other activity in the area.

There was an enthusiastic response from all, with suggestions for hotels, restaurants and activities. After we get the programs from the last two ACS National Conventions, we can start planning the event. Charlie Fulton, one of our new members, suggested that we get the local tourism council involved. Plans will be discussed at the summer Board meeting.

Mark Crawford spoke a few words promoting the Atlantic Coast Camellia Society annual meeting, which will be held in Savannah, Georgia this year.



William Penn



Rena Swick, variegated

John Swanson then presented the slate of candidates for next season's Officers and Board members. Since all candidates were running unopposed, a motion was made to accept all with one blanket vote. The motion passed and the following people and positions were accepted:

President: Jay Ellis

1st Vice President & Show Chair: Debbie Ellis

2nd Vice President and Program Chair: open
(to be performed by committee)

Secretary: Charles Simon

Treasurer: Merry Reid

Newsletter Editor: Anna Langford

Board Members:

Jerry Hogsette (past President)

Bill Hayes Diane Simon

Ron Stevens Deborah Enquist

Larry Hice Sanford Porter

Irma Velez Carter Breneman

Konrad Hooper

Educational Program

Jay Ellis introduced Mark Crawford, owner of Loch Laurel Nursery. GCS purchases a third of its sale plants from Loch Laurel each year.

Mark's talk was entitled "New Trends in Camellias". He showed beautiful photographs of many new cultivars, selected from seedlings, of yellow blooms, fragrant blooms, white reticulatas, repeat bloomers, and early bloomers.

Yellow cultivars included Lemon Glow, Lemon Drop, Kagirohi, Kiho (Yellow Phoenix), Jury's Yellow, Senritsu Ko, Optical Illusion (yellow with pink overtones), and the small, deep yellow Chrysantha. Each of these blooms is uniquely beautiful. The cooler the climate, the deeper is the yellow color for these blossoms.



Rosea Superba



San Dimas, variegated

Mark showed examples of fragrant blooms including Cinnamon Cindy, Cinnamon Scentsation, Sweet Scentsation, and High Fragrance.

New white reticulata cultivars have been developed by John Wong and others. These include the unnamed JW-2016-11, Evening Glow Pearl, Lady Pamela (from New Zealand), Flawless Jade (white with green center), Fine Pure and Holy Pure.

Repeat bloomers are being developed from Camellia-azalea hybrids and can bloom year round. These plants prefer full sun and include Wendzalea and Summer's Wind and Hot Waves. Mark showed a short video from Southern China showcasing hundreds of large blossoms from floriferous camellia plants in August!

Early blooming Camellias include all Sasanquas, Debutante, Kiku Toji, Dragon Fireball, Early Autumn, Lilian Gordy, and Philip's Choice.

Mark showed photos of all the blooms listed and many others.

The Educational Program was followed by a nice meal, and a good time was had by all!

Charles Simon, Secretary



Sweet Emily Kate

Photos of flowers are from the gardens of John Swanson.

Officers

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Patrick Andrews
 Bill Hayes
 Bev Ritter
 Chuck Ritter
 Diane Simon
 John Swanson
 Irma Velez
 Carter Wittman

Monthly Meeting of the Gainesville Camellia Society

Date: Sunday, May 21, 2023, socializing at 1pm, meal at 2 pm
Place: Kanapaha Botanical Gardens
Program: "Camellia Bonsai Growing" by Josh Brown

The Gainesville Camellia Society meets at 2 pm on the third Sunday of each month from September through May at Kanapaha Botanical Gardens. Any changes to meeting dates, times, or venues are posted in this newsletter.



Gainesville Camellia Society

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Editor: Anna Langford

April 2023

President's Message



Henry Parrish variegated

Hi All,

Spring is finally here, I think. Easter and the week after might still have some cooler-than-expected mornings; however, the afternoons have begun to climb into the 80s. Rain is the critically needed component of the weather that has been absent since I fertilized several weeks ago after the Kanapaha Festival! Rain has been forecast, but let's hope it actually gets wet in our areas. The new growth has appeared on my camellias and so have signs of seed beetle activity. The seed beetle adults come out at night and riddle the tender new leaves. Orthene helps to control the beetles and one application lasts 2 to 3 weeks. After the leaves harden off the beetles are no longer interested, so a single application of Orthene is usually enough. Sometimes Orthene is mixed with a fungicide and sold as Orthenex.

Last month the Gainesville Camellia Society had its booth at the Kanapaha Spring Festival. The first day of the festival was nice until monsoon rains hit about noon. It was pure pandemonium for several hours as people rushed and struggled to get to their vehicles with all of their purchases. Many thanks to those who volunteered their time to man the booth. Charles Simon was there all day both days, organized the set up and take down, and he deserves a round of applause (clap-clap)! I'm sure Charles will have a report at the meeting about the outcome of the plant raffle and other items.



Nita McRae



Midnight variegated

Wilmot Gardens on the UF campus will hold its annual spring sale April 14-15 and many plants will be available for purchase. John Swanson and I (and maybe others) will be selling camellias. There will be many other companion plants for outside plantings and many house plants for sale in the green house. Check the Wilmot website for details.

Voting on new officers has long been delayed for several reasons, but at the April meeting we will ask John Swanson for a final (hopefully) slate of officers, and we will have a vote. Seems like there were still a few openings for Board Members.

At the May meeting we usually have our summer picnic. Seems like Anna has been handling the organization and details, but I could be wrong. But hopefully we can have a discussion and plan for a fun time at the May meeting.

That's about it for April. Hope we get some rain in the near future, but no floods! See everyone at the meeting on Sunday.

Cheers,

Jerry Hogsette, President



Robin Ann Cross

Minutes for GCS Meeting March 19, 2023

Business Meeting

Jerry Hogsette, GCS President, opened the business meeting at 2:05 PM and welcomed everyone.

Old Business

A motion was made and passed to accept the February meeting minutes.

Treasurer's Report

Merry Reid presented this report later in the meeting.

Savings: \$18,440
Checking: \$6,713
Total: \$25,153



Lucille Jernigan



Alcyone Ostberg

In 2022 GCS provided financial support for Wilmot Botanical Gardens, Kanapaha Botanical Gardens, The American Camellia Society (ACS), and the University of Florida (UF) Foundation for two scholarships for senior/graduate level UF horticulture students. The GCS Board will meet this summer to discuss recommendations for groups and levels of support for 2023. All members are welcome to attend the Board meeting. The Board will present its recommendations to our group for discussion and voting at the September, 2023 meeting.

Jerry reminded everyone to use vendor parking at the Kanapaha Spring Plant sale. The \$10 admission fee to Kanapaha will be reimbursed on request by GCS. This is a really fun event!

Charles Simon summarized our financial status. This year we spent \$10,000 on 600 nursery plants and had gross sales totaling about \$18,000-\$19,000. We had few GCS-propagated plants to sell this year as we sold everything that was ready last year. Next year we should have more GCS plants to sell.

It costs about \$7,000 to put on a Show. It costs up to \$10,000 to purchase plants for our sale. That means we need to keep about \$17,000 in reserve for the next show. Remaining funds will be used to support institutions and scholarships of our choosing.



April Remembered



Nuccio's Bella Rosa

He also told us that the ACCS has an excellent quarterly journal by J. D. Tommerson. Konrad Hooper said that the ACCS Journal was the best one he's found out of many, including ACS journals. Tommy encouraged everyone to join the ACCS and attend the annual meeting.

New Business

Dr. Tisher from Wilmot Botanical Gardens spoke to the group about the status of the Gardens and the upcoming plant sale at Wilmot on April 14-15, 2023, which provides much of their annual support. There are also on-line pre-sales.

Dr. Tisher told us that Wilmot receives no financial support from UF for operations. They need to raise their own operating funds. They welcome, and need volunteers, especially knowledgeable people. He reminded us that the Gardens are open to everyone every day and there is no fee.

Tommy Alden, our guest speaker from County Line Nursery, told us that the ACS had its annual meeting last week and everyone had a great time! A show of hands indicated that more than half of the approximately 30 GCS members present were also members of the ACS. Tommy encouraged everyone to join as it only costs about \$20 per year and there are many perks, like free and reduced admission to hundreds of Botanical Gardens across the country.

Tommy also mentioned the Atlantic Coast Camellia Society (ACCS), which has members mostly from Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. The ACCS annual meeting is in the fall and will be held this year on October 23-25 in Savannah, Georgia. The meeting days will be Monday and Tuesday to avoid conflicts and higher prices associated with local sporting events.



Mary Alice Cox



Betty Sheffield

Genetic analyses showed that there are 8+ viruses that infect Camellias and all are from citrus plants. There can be viral infections in the leaves only. There are frequently “sports” on viral-induced variegated Camellias, which are branches that have solid color blossoms like the un-variegated plant.

Tommy also showed examples of natural variegation expressed in flowers as candy stripes, white edges and color edges. He showed beautiful examples of “frosting”, a white sheen that adds extra beauty to the blossom, fimbriation or serrated petal edges, “rabbit ears” which are inner petals that stand straight up like the petaloids on anemones and peonies, and swirl patterns usually found on formal doubles and rose form doubles like Pink Perfection and Brother Rose, which are often winning blooms. He showed some “stacked bloom” examples of these swirled blossoms that were truly amazing!

Several upgrades to the Gardens are in progress that will upgrade the greens and landscaping and add gardens with walkways and benches. The Wilder family will add a therapeutic outdoor garden to augment the indoor therapeutic garden.

Educational Program

Jay Ellis introduced Tommy Alden, owner of County Line Nursery. GCS purchases the bulk of its sale plants from County Line each year.

Tommy’s lecture entitled “The Ins and Outs and Roundabouts of Camellias” took us on a visual journey of the major classes and types of Camellias. He showed outstanding photos of Camellia blooms with natural variegation like Ferris Wheel, and virus-induced variegation like Frank Houser var. We learned that virus infection travels from the bottom up on the plant and it may take 2-3 years to display in blooms.



Bob Hope variegated



Borrom's Gem

Tommy ended his lecture discussing the array of colors of Camellia blossoms, from white/pink/red varieties to yellow and blue/purple varieties.

The meeting ended at 3:50 PM and was followed by a plant auction and refreshments.

And a GOOD TIME was had by all!

Charles Simon, Secretary

Photos of flowers are from the gardens of John Swanson.

<i>Date and place of meeting</i>		<i>Refreshments</i>
April 16, 2023	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Charles & Diane Simon; John Swanson
May 21, 2023	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Pot luck Party; drinks-Charles & Diane Simon

Dues

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reidm729@gmail.com

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Monthly Meeting of the Gainesville Camellia Society

Date: Sunday, April 16, 2023, at 2pm
Place: Kanapaha Botanical Gardens
Program: “New trends in Camellias” by Mark Crawford

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March 2023

President's Message



Mrs Waters

Hi All,

The March meeting came around fast! I have been in Reno, Nevada, at a meeting and just returned the afternoon of the 4th. Lots of cold and snow and for me not too exciting. Nothing green! Ha! But as the plane inched towards Atlanta on the 4th the white began to change to green. Like it or not, the moisture from the excess of snow is desperately needed by those dry western states.

The Kanapaha Spring Festival will be held March 18-19 as was discussed at our last meeting. All available time periods for manning our booth were filled up with volunteers, however, some of those periods were signed up by only one person. One person can handle it, but more than one is more fun. So, if some of you are still interested in participating, I will bring the signup sheet to the meeting on Sunday just in case.

If John Swanson has completed his search for candidates to fill the open positions for the Officers' and Board positions, we will proceed with the nominations and the election. Elected candidates will be installed at the May meeting.



Laverne Norris



Francis Eugene Phillips

Hope everyone had a chance to fertilize their plants. (I did not.) Everything is starting to grow. Had 0.25 inches of rain on Friday the 4th at our house. Hope we can get some more without all of the tornadoes and high winds experienced by the unfortunate people further north of us. It is time to pick off any remaining flower buds (unless your plant is a super late bloomer) and trim out any dead twigs of branches.

Well, that is about it for March. Hope to see you at the meeting on the 12th. I'm sure that Jay has put together a good program for us.

Cheers,

Jerry Hogsette, President

Minutes for GCS Meeting February 19, 2023

Business Meeting

Jerry Hogsette, GCS President, opened the business meeting at 2:15 PM and welcomed everyone. He announced that the next GCS meeting will be held on March 12, 2023, due to the Kanapaha Spring Festival to be held on March 18-19, 2023.

Old Business

Jerry reminded everyone that we'll have an educational booth at the event and need booth-bunny volunteers for 2-hour shifts on Saturday and Sunday. Volunteers can learn a lot about Camellias and their care by listening to the answers to questions posed by event patrons.



Pirate's Gold



Royal Velvet Variegated

We'll setup our booth on Friday, March 17, 2023, at 3:00 PM, and GCS will have one plant to raffle at the event. We'll discuss this more at the March meeting. A sign-up sheet was passed around and nearly all time slots were filled.

A motion was made and passed to accept the January meeting minutes.

Treasurer's Report

Merry Reid reported the following sums:

Savings:	\$18,437
Checking:	\$6,636
Total:	\$25,073

Jerry reported that the University of Florida Foundation was happy to receive the GCS donation dedicated to horticulture students. This will allow them to publish and travel to present research articles while graduate students.

Jerry also reported that our 2023 Show received a good review from Kanapaha. The weekend paid attendance to the park was doubled from ~5,000 to ~10,000 patrons due to the show. GCS is “on the books” for our 2024 Show at Kanapaha!

Our Show suffered from the freeze this year. Most greenhouse growers could not cover their plants in time to avoid severe damage from recent freezes. We hope to have more greenhouse entries next year.

A reminder from the President: it’s time to fertilize! Remove all dead buds and flowers. It’s okay to fertilize with live buds, but it’s better to remove them.



Minato No Akebono



Katie Variegated

New Business

John Swanson is head of the nominating committee this year. He informed us that the slate of candidates for positions this year (2023-2024) includes:

President: Jay Ellis

First Vice president: Debbie Ellis

Second VP (Show Chair): OPEN

Treasurer: Merry Reid

Secretary: Charles Simon

Newsletter Editor: Anna Langford.

The GCS board consists of at least eight members. We currently have nine, and others can join. We’ll vote for board members and officers at the next meeting.

A big thank you went out to Konrad Hooper, who recently donated over 300 cuttings to GCS members for propagation into sellable plants! Konrad has been a staunch and continuing supporter of GCS for years. His substantial experience with propagating and growing Camellias, especially by grafting, has greatly benefited GCS and individual members.

Ginny and Richard Mohr announced that they'll be selling their Florida home and moving back to Maryland. They hope to rent a unit next winter and continue to participate in the GCS.

The Moore's donated several valuable historic books on Camellias that GCS will pass on to Wilmot Botanical Gardens for display and access. They also donated several dozen un-opened ethylene-absorption packets for keeping blooms (and fruit) fresh.



Georgia Fire



Dr Cy Echols

The trip to Masee Lane Gardens has been postponed until next year due to the extreme freezes this year. Masee Lane staff spoke to John Swanson and recommended a visit in late 2023. Masee Lane will hold its blossom show on March 24, 2023.

The meeting ended at 2:45 PM and was followed by a plant auction and air layer demonstration by John Swanson and Charles Simon.

Charles demonstrated the method of using pliers to remove the bark and cambium layer from ~1.5 inches of the trunk or upright branch. If the branch is angled, use a tie to another branch or a stake to position it upright. Charles placed dry powdered rooting compound on the upper edge of the cut followed by a fist-sized lump of moist moss and then wrapped the site with a double layer of heavy duty aluminum foil twisted tight at the top and a little bit loose at the bottom, shiny side facing inward.

John demonstrated the method of using a small knife to remove the bark and cambium layer from ~1.5 inches of the trunk or upright branch. Again, if the branch is angled, use a tie to another branch or a stake to position it upright. John applied a water based solution of rooting hormone to the upper edge of the cut followed by a fist-sized lump of moist moss. He then wrapped the site with a double layer of heavy duty aluminum foil twisted tight at the top and a little bit loose at the bottom, shiny side facing inward.

Charles Simon, Secretary



David Gerbing

Photos of flowers are from the gardens of John Swanson.

Date and place of meeting		Refreshments
March 12, 2023	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Valerie Malkemes; Debbie & Jay Ellis
April 16, 2023	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Charles & Diane Simon; John Swanson
May 21, 2023	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Pot luck Party; drinks-Charles & Diane Simon

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Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023, at 2pm
Place: Kanapaha Botanical Gardens
Program: “The Ins and Outs Around and About Camellias” by Tommy Alden of County Line Nursery in Byron, GA

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February 2023

President's Message



Taylor's Perfection

Hi All,

Meeting time again! The weather is still not as stable as I would like it to be, but it is definitely warming up. And according to the camellia leaf buds, which are starting to grow, it is almost spring. It is time to get the fertilizer out so the new leaves can benefit. After the freezes at Christmas, it is time to start again and hope for no 20-degree nights during the next camellia season. If you haven't yet done so, pick off as many dead buds as you can. The dead ones can cause the end of the stems to die back.

Next month our meeting will be moved up a week to March 12 because the Kanapaha Spring Festival will be held on the following weekend, March 18-19. We will again have a booth and will need volunteers to man the booth. It is always fun so please plan to participate if you can. More details at the meeting on Sunday and a sign-up sheet will be circulated so you can choose your time and date.

I might have already mentioned that the folks at Kanapaha were very pleased with our show, based especially on the significantly increased attendance at the gardens during the two show days. The weather was great on show day, and everyone seemed to have a good time.



Spring Daze



Francie L

There were camellia shows held in Orlando and Lakeland since our last meeting and the Gainesville Camellia Society was well represented by members who entered blooms and won prizes. To find out who won what, go to the American Camellia Society website and choose the 'show results' tab.

That's about it for this newsletter. Hope everyone is well and hope to see you at the meeting on Sunday.

Cheers,

Jerry Hogsette, President

Minutes for GCS Meeting January 15, 2023

Business Meeting

Debbie Ellis, Vice President, acting for Jerry Hogsette, President, opened the meeting at 2:10 pm. Several new members introduced themselves and were reminded that they should pick up a plant at the end of the meeting.

Old Business

The minutes which appeared in the newsletter were approved.

Show report

Raffle: The prize plant, donated by Konrad Hooper, will be taken to the winner in Orlando. On Saturday we sold \$107 in tickets, and on Sunday about \$30-\$35.

Bloom count: 533

Number of visitors: 1083. Kanapaha said this is about twice their usual weekend.



Harold Paige



Punkin Variegated

Proceeds from plant sale: \$16,691. This does not include fertilizer sales and sales to members before the show. There were over 550 plants, all of which sold except eight.

After a question from a member, Jay Ellis talked about where our money goes. The expenses for the show come from plant sales. In addition, we make substantial donations to Kanapaha, Wilmot, the ACS, and fund two scholarships for horticultural students at UF. Jay thanked all the volunteers who worked at the show and plant sale.

Massee Lane Gardens trip

The possible trip in February was discussed. We had talked about going on February 25, but John Swanson said that coincides with the national convention being held in Macon and at Massee Lane from February 23rd to the 28th. He suggested that we would be better off not going at that time and suggested that we go on Saturday, February 18. Anna Langford relayed from Charles Simon that we can rent a bus if more than 15 people go. The cost would be \$20 per person. If there are not enough people for a bus, we can carpool. In addition, there will be a charge for lunch and an admission charge to Massee Lane unless you are an ACS member. Jay Ellis spoke about the benefits of joining ACS, which would avoid the admission fee.



Dahlongega

Educational Program

Jay Ellis introduced our speaker, Hawser Pearce, who spoke on an advanced grafting technique, Saw Kerf Grafting.

Hawser began by reviewing the Cleft Graft method, which we learned about from a previous speaker. The root stock plant is cut to leave a stump about six inches tall. You cut a slit on one side and put the scion into the slit, lining up the cambium layers of the scion and the root stock stump. He passed around an example. He said this method doesn't work very well on root stock with a large diameter.

Hawser then discussed the Saw Kerf method of grafting, suitable for larger root stock. An advantage of this method is that you can put several grafts around the periphery of the same stump, either multiples of the same scion for insurance or scions from several different camellias for more variety. Also, the Saw Kerf method heals much better than the Cleft Graft method.



Hot Shot

Make up a solution of Captan fungicide, using 1 tbs per gallon of water in a bucket. Dip all tools frequently into this solution.

The first step is to cut off excess branches and then saw the stump to about six inches high, using a Corona saw, which can be purchased at Lowe's. The cut should be made as horizontally as possible. Using a sharp pocket knife or a box cutter, clean up the cut. Using a scrubbing pad dipped in Captan, scrub all over the cut stump.

Make a pilot cut on one edge of the stump using a smaller saw and cutting straight up and down. Then use the Corona saw to make the kerf, the cut that the scion will fit into. Scrub with fungicide again.



Helen Beach



Mrs. Bertha A Harms

Prepping the scion: cut a branch tip about three inches long with about 3-4 leaves and 1-2 leaf buds, not from tender new growth or from an older woody stem. Cut off half of each leaf crosswise. Using a sharp knife, scrape off the bark evenly from two opposite sides of the stem so that the scion will fit tight within the kerf. Dip the scion in Captan.

Place the scion in at a slight angle, leaves toward the center of the stump, so that the two cambiums contact somewhere in the middle of the scion. Wrap the whole thing with electrical tape around a few times.

Put a layer of sand four inches thick around the root stock stump. Put a bucket upside down over the graft and push it down into the sand. Place a brick on top. Ideally, use an orange Home Depot bucket, which allows infrared light in.

After six weeks, peek to see if the scion is still green and healing. When it is ready for exposure, you must harden it off. Put a lawn chair over the setup to provide shade and protection. The first day, tilt the bucket edge and prop up on a stick. The second day, leave the bucket off a few hours. The third day, leave the bucket off for half a day. If the scion starts to wilt, put the bucket back on. When the bucket and chair are removed, put a wire cage around your graft to keep deer, cats, etc. from disturbing it. Pull the tape off after about three months.

All grafting should be done while the plants are dormant and finished by Valentine's Day.



Rose Bouquet



Mary Edna Curlee

All grafting should be done while the plants are dormant and finished by Valentine's Day.

The lecture and demonstration was followed by a Question and Answer period.

The meeting adjourned at 3:20.

***Anna Langford for
Charles Simon, Secretary***

Photos of flowers are from the gardens of John Swanson.

<i>Date and place of meeting</i>		<i>Refreshments</i>
March 12, 2023	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Valerie Malkemes; Debbie & Jay Ellis
April 16, 2023	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	JoAnne Theodore; John Swanson
May 21, 2023	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Pot luck Party; drinks-Charles & Diane Simon

Dues

The annual dues for Gainesville Camellia Society are due at this time. The amount is \$15 for an individual or \$20 for a couple. Please mail a check for your dues to the Treasurer:

Merry Reid
 7631 Monongahela Avenue
 Keystone Heights FL 32656
reidm729@gmail.com

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 has joined social media!***

Search “Gainesville Camellia Society” to find our Facebook page. There you will find photos, tips on growing camellias, special activities, announcements of future meetings and guest speakers. “LIKE” us on Facebook to receive GSC updates, and tell your friends about our Facebook page.



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1st VP & Show Chair: Debbie Ellis
2nd VP & Program Chair: Jay Ellis
Treasurer: Merry Reid
Secretary: Charles Simon

Board Members

Patrick Andrews
Bill Hayes
Bev Ritter
Chuck Ritter
Diane Simon
John Swanson
Irma Velez
Carter Wittman

Monthly Meeting of the Gainesville Camellia Society

Date: Sunday, February 19, 2023, at 2pm
Place: Kanapaha Botanical Gardens
Program: “Hands on Air Layering” presented by Charles Simon & John Swanson

The Gainesville Camellia Society meets at 2 pm on the third Sunday of each month from September through May at Kanapaha Botanical Gardens. Any changes to meeting dates, times, or venues are posted in this newsletter.



Gainesville Camellia Society

Affiliated with the American Camellia Society

Editor: Anna Langford

December 2022

President's Message



Mark Chason variegated

Hi All,

This will be our fourth and final meeting of the fall/winter of 2022. It is also time for our Holiday party and a final get-together before the show in January. I'm sure we will have a bit of information from Debbie Ellis, our Show Chairman, about things we need to do for the show set up and for putting the show together on the morning of Saturday the 7th. For some of you who have not experienced the fun and confusion of a show, many of the questions you might have about a show will be answered on show day. It will be fun. The party at our meeting on Sunday will also be fun. Please bring your favorite dish to share. Any questions, please contact Anna who assembles our beautiful Newsletter before every meeting.

Now for a summary of some of the activities that have happened since our last meeting. I have had several meetings with the representative of the University of Florida Foundation about the donation of funds for scholarships in the Horticulture Department. I circulated the information to our Board members and they agreed that we should proceed. We will fund two scholarships for \$1,500 each. The scholarships will be available for a number of things and will be awarded by the Chairman of the Horticulture Department based on the qualifications set by the department, which I would assume would include things like grade point average.



Henry Huntington



White Empress

Students receiving the scholarships will be asked to join us for one of our meetings. Because of our interest in renewing the scholarships annually I set us up in a 5-year plan. This is definitely not a binding agreement and if we choose to discontinue scholarship donations for one year or completely, it can be done at any time. It merely allows the UF Foundation to reuse our stored information on an annual basis without creating new paperwork. I hope Merry will bring her check book and can write out a check for \$3,000 made out to the University of Florida Foundation.

I was contacted recently by Donna Berardo with the Master Gardeners of Gainesville. She has been in touch with Debbie Ellis about providing some of her Master Gardeners to work at our show. She said some of her people who worked at previous shows did not understand how a show works and felt like they were only there to move flowers to the tables. I explained to her that the number one important thing that needs to be done before 10:30 AM on show day is to get the flowers on the tables in an organized fashion ready to be judged. She asked if I could have a meeting with some of her people at my house and further explain things. So, Saturday, December 10, I entertained 17 Master Gardeners in my backyard. It was a beautiful morning, and we had a great time. I explained briefly how a show works, and yes, they are supposed to put flowers on the tables. Ha! We also discussed camellia culture. They are waiting to hear from Debbie so they can arrange for their members to come and assist us.



Raspberry Ripple Picotee



Fircone variegated

I recently received an application to participate in the next Kanapaha Spring Garden Festival to be held on March 18 and 19, 2023. Sunday, March 19, 2023, is a date proposed for our March meeting. Kanapaha asked if we could move our date to March 12 and speaking for the group, I told them yes. But if we need to discuss this, let's do it at the meeting. Having the meeting the week before the festival will give us a last opportunity to discuss our plans to participate. If you remember from past years, our members are asked to volunteer to man our both for 3-hour shifts and discuss camellias with passersby. We have a plant raffle, but we cannot sell anything. Kanapaha asks for donations for an Informational Booth, as ours will be classified, and we usually give the \$100. We can act on this at Sunday's meeting.

. I sometimes wear a Kanapaha Festival t-shirt and several of our members have asked about how they can get one. On the Festival application there is a section where t-shirts can be purchased. They must be ordered when the application is submitted to Kanapaha (deadline March 6, 2023) with the size and payment of \$20.00 each. Usually, the design and color of the shirts is not determined until very close to the festival date! So the shirts will be a surprise! Anyone who would like a shirt please let me know ASAP. I need a size (S, M, L) and a check made out to Kanapaha Botanical Gardens for the total number of shirts you wish to order @ \$20 each.



Edna Bass variegated



John Rumbach

That's about it for this month. Plants look good and many varieties are blooming ready or not. Hope to see everyone at the meeting on Sunday. Remember to pay your dues and purchase plant ID tags if you need them! Bring your favorite covered dish for the party!

Cheers,

Jerry Hogsette, President

Minutes for GCS Meeting November 18, 2022

Jerry Hogsette, GCS President, started our meeting at 2:05 PM and welcomed everyone. There were 26 members present. Jerry turned the meeting over to our Educational Program Director, Jay Ellis, who was back after recovering from a fall.

Educational Program

Jay introduced leading Camellia expert Randolph Maphis from the Tallahassee Camellia Society who delivered an amazing lecture entitled “They are some really nice ones!” Randolph started by showing us the best tools for Camellia care that he’s used over five decades of cultivation.



Destiny

The [ARS HP-130DX 7-Inch Ideal Light Pruner](#) available from Amazon for \$22 is the very best small pruner he’s used. He can prune for hours and not get hand-fatigue or blisters using this tool. He highly recommends it for everyone.



Another useful item is the 9 mil thick plastic gloves available from Harbor Freight, Amazon and other vendors. With these gloves he can pull weeds in the garden all day and have clean hands after work. There’s no need to clean his fingernails afterward!

Adenna DLG679 Dark Light 9 mil Nitrile Powder Free Exam Disposable Gloves (Black, XX-Large) Count of 90 Pack. \$20.54(\$0.23/Count)



He also recommended the Pikasola Electric Pruning Shears (\$268), Cordless Pruner with (1.6 Inch) Diameter, Electric Pruner Includes Finger Protection Function, Battery Pruner for Tree Branch, Garden.



0:39

Randolph then showed us pictures of many of the “Camellia Greats” including Hulyn Smith, Clayton Mathis, Eileen Hart, Jim Shelly, Dr. Clifford Parks, Patrick Andrews, Adrienne Boueres, Lillian Gordy, Colonel Dick Hooton and John Wang, among others. These pics were followed by a stream of eye-popping Camellia blossom photos that included Terrell Weaver, Magic City, Tudor Baby, Ray Gentry, Halls Pride, Valentine Day, Dr. Clifford Parks and so many others! He described some of the different Camellia species like the fimbriated Lady Kay and Ville de Nantes, and the Camellia/Azalea hybrids that bloom all year long.

Randolph finished by reminding us that seedlings are a great source of new Camellias. He showed us a picture of Ms. Pat Johnson, a leading Camellia seedling grower, who has over 15,000 seedlings planted and another 1500 ready to plant! She’s the originator of many newly named cultivars.

Old Business

A motion was made and passed to accept the October meeting minutes as published.

Treasurer’s Report

Merry Reid reported our current total for both checking and savings accounts is \$19,774.



Grand Marshal variegated



Grape Soda

Charles Simon announced that the nursery plants for the 2023 sale are in hand and all GCS members are invited to select pre-sale plants from the list that Anna Langford e-mailed everyone. Charles also requested help with spraying the Wilmot Camellias with fungicide sometime after our Show. He'll e-mail the request for volunteers to help Dr. Tisher with this task.

John Swanson reported that he has ~200 air layered plants in pots that will be ready for sale at the 2024 show. Jerry said that he has ~160 potted air layers, some of which can be sold at the 2023 show for \$15 each.



Mrs. Jimmy Davis

New Business

Jerry welcomed returning GCS members David and Susan Mikolaitus and new members Judy and Jim Burch. Retuning new member Sam Kerbo was awarded his free Camellia plant for joining GCS. Sam also brought another horticulture student, Darien Octave, who joined the GCS and will receive a free Camellia plant at his next meeting attendance. Both of these young men volunteered to help with plant sales at this season's show.

Jerry announced that the \$3000 donation to Horticulture students at UF can easily be accomplished through the University's Foundation. He'll email the Board on how best to proceed with defining the usage terms for the funds.



Ray Gentry variegated

Jerry reminded us that he and John sold over 200 Camellia plants at the Wilmot Spring sale last season, so any plants we may have left from our sale will go to that sale this season.

There was a motion to purchase another pallet of slow-release fertilizer from Helena Chemicals to sell at the plant sale like we did last year. The motion passed and the Old Goat (Gerald Langford) will arrange for delivery of the fertilizer to the sale lot on January 6, 2023.

Debbie Ellis requested that everyone bring 1-gallon water jugs to the Show for use in filling display cups.

Anna Langford passed a sign-up sheet for five table sponsors for our December Christmas party and reminded everyone to bring a gag gift.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 PM and was followed by a plant auction and snacks.

And a good time was had by all!

Charles Simon, Secretary



Tama Americana

Photos of flowers are from the gardens of John Swanson and Jay and Debbie Ellis.

Date and place of meeting		Refreshments
December 18, 2022	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Pot luck Party; drinks–Steve Stevens
January 15, 2023	Home of Chuck & Bev Ritter	Charles & Diane Simon; Steve Stevens
February 19, 2023	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Amy & Phil Puccio & Carter Wittman
March 19, 2023	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Valerie Malkemes; Debbie & Jay Ellis
April 16, 2023	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	JoAnne Theodore; John Swanson
May 21, 2023	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Pot luck Party; drinks-Charles & Diane Simon

It's Party time!

We're having our annual Christmas gathering for this month's meeting. We'll gather at 1 pm to socialize and have a glass of good cheer. Bring wine if you like. Steve Stevens will provide the usual tea and soft drinks. Then we'll sit down to eat at 2 pm. Jerry Hogsette and John Swanson are bringing ham and turkey respectively, and the rest of us are to bring a side dish, salad, or dessert.

After the meal, we'll have a short business meeting to finalize plans for the January show and sale. This will be followed by the gag gift exchange that is always so much fun. Items are usually inexpensive, odd, humorous, or even related to camellia gardening. FUN. And the givers remain anonymous.

*Some Photos From Our
Last Camellia Show
January 2020*



Prepping blooms for entry – note glasses of water



Display tables ready for blooms



Placing blooms



Judges and clerks working in teams



More judging of blooms

Upcoming Camellia Shows		
January 7-8, 2023	Gainesville Camellia Society	Gainesville, FL
January 14-15, 2023	Tallahassee Camellia Society	Tallahassee, FL
January 21, 2023	Camellia Society of Central Florida	Winter Park, FL
January 28-29, 2023	Ocala Camellia Society	Ocala, FL

Dues

The annual dues for Gainesville Camellia Society are due at this time. The amount is \$15 for an individual or \$20 for a couple. Please mail a check for your dues to the Treasurer:

Merry Reid
7631 Monongahela Avenue
Keystone Heights FL 32656
reidm729@gmail.com

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Cathy Martin
Bev Ritter
Chuck Ritter
Diane Simon
John Swanson
Irma Velez
Carter Wittman

Monthly Meeting of the Gainesville Camellia Society

Date: Sunday, December 18, 2022, at 2pm
Place: Kanapaha Botanical Gardens
Program: Christmas Party and Gag Gift Exchange

The Gainesville Camellia Society meets at 2 pm on the third Sunday of each month from September through May at Kanapaha Botanical Gardens. Any changes to meeting dates, times, or venues are posted in this newsletter.



Gainesville Camellia Society

Affiliated with the American Camellia Society

Editor: Anna Langford

October 2022

President's Message



Pink Perfection

Meeting time again! This time last month I was still in Germany on vacation and noticing more and more camellia plants around the town of Bernkastel. We ate at a local Thai restaurant and there on either side of the front door were potted camellias about 3 feet tall. The climate there is warming, just like here, and the plants are taking advantage of it.

The local member news at the top of the list is about Jay Ellis who had a fall a week or so ago and fractured the head of his femur. He was in Shands originally (where they screwed him back together to paraphrase Jay) and then was transferred to Shands Rehab Unit on Archer Road. I have talked with Jay a couple of times by phone, and he is in good spirits. I am sure Debbie can give us an update at the meeting.

John Swanson has scheduled an air layer potting event for Friday, October 28, 9am-12 noon, followed by a potluck lunch. Will ask John to give us a reminder and update at the meeting. I cut off and potted the last of my air layers yesterday. Current count is about 160.

Wilmot Gardens on the UF campus will be having their Fall Plant Sale November 4-5. John Swanson and I will be there to sell camellias. Various plants will be sold at the greenhouse as well. There is an on-line system for selecting plants before the sale and having them available for pick-up on sale day. Visit the Wilmot website for details.



Helen Bower



William Forrest Bray, variegated

The biggest thing on the calendar is our show in January. We have missed having two shows and it is time to get back in the groove. Hopefully Covid cases will continue to drop but it is important for everyone to remain vigilant. We were fully prepared for a show when we cancelled last January so it should not be too difficult to pull everything out of storage for the 2023 show. Plants have been purchased for our sale and maybe Charles can comment about that. It is amazing how many plants we can sell. Seems like there might be a camellia saturation point in the Gainesville area, but as of last January, based on the number of plants sold, that point had not yet been reached! Maybe Debbie Ellis can say a few words about the show.

On the camellia plant scene, the rainy summer was great for plant health, both new and old. The rain has been turned off for the month of October, but that is consistent with past years. I purchased the slow-release fertilizer at the January plant sale and have applied it quarterly. The plants look great, and I plan to do that again. Do not know if Goat plans to have fertilizer at the next plant sale. It was a great idea but a tremendous (and much appreciated) undertaking on his part. I began potting air layers in early July and between the slow-release fertilizer and the rain, they have done quite well. Rains have also helped my invasive weeds grow even faster and try to outcompete each other while taking over my yard.



Mark Chason



Northern Lights

Bud set has been good on most camellias. Never too late to do some dis-budding. Leave only one bud at the end of each branch and do not leave a series of buds if they develop down the branches. I have noticed some plants with multiple bud clusters at the ends of the branches. Sometimes 4 to 6 buds are together. If left alone they will produce flowers of marginal quality. Carefully remove all but one bud for good show quality and yard color as well.

That's about it for this month. We were very lucky that Hurricane Ian missed us. Hope to see everyone at the meeting on Sunday. If you haven't paid your dues, please bring your check books with you!

Cheers,

Jerry Hogsette, President

Minutes for GCS Meeting September 18, 2022

Debbie Ellis, GCS Vice President, started our meeting at 2:10 PM and welcomed everyone. Carter Wittman was accompanied by two new GCS members, Sam and Winter. Both are Santa Fe College students. Sam is a Horticulture major and Winter is in Engineering.

The May 2022 minute meetings were accepted without any changes. There was one correction to the September Newsletter. The Tallahassee show will be on January 14-15, 2023 and will not conflict with our show

Anna Langford passed a signup sheet for snacks and drinks for this season's meetings and all slots were filled.



Alabama Beauty



Early Autumn

Educational Program

Jay Ellis introduced speakers Jacky Host and Sandy Rogers, two horticulture experts, to tell us about some of the thousands of edible native plants in Florida, including Spanish Needle, Dollar Weed, Dandelions, acorns of all types and Beauty Berries among many others. Their PowerPoint presentation was very informative and there were many questions from members that the women answered from their wealth of knowledge. They stressed the healthy choice of consuming "weed salads".

Old Business

Debbie reminded everyone of our recent donations to Kanapaha Botanical Gardens, Wilmot Botanical Gardens, the American Camellia Society and the formation of two scholarships for UF Horticulture majors in their third or fourth years.

Treasurer's Report

Merry Reid reported our current account totals after all donations except for the two \$1500 scholarships:

Savings: \$21,653

Checking: \$819.43

Total: \$22,473

The group thanked Charles Simon for his efforts with our plants sales that increased our revenues enough to allow GCS to make meaningful donations to support our local gardens and students.



October Affair



Sultana

New Business

Charles reminded everyone that our good financial standing was the result of selling nearly 500 member-provided air-layered Camellias during the last sale. He said this year we'll be purchasing about 650 plants from three nurseries at a cost of nearly \$10,000. After all plants sell, we should realize a gross income of about \$20,000 which will allow GCS to sustain its giving.

Debbie Ellis said she hopes to have all of this season's Show and Plant Sale volunteers selected by the close of the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 PM.

Charles Simon, Secretary

Photos of flowers are from the gardens of Jerry Hogsette and John Swanson.

<i>Date and place of meeting</i>		<i>Refreshments</i>
October 16, 2022	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Jay & Debbie Ellis & Steve Stevens
November 20, 2022	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Mary Reid & Mona Rippe
December 18, 2022	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Pot luck Party; drinks – volunteer needed
January 15, 2023	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Charles & Diane Simon; drinks – volunteer needed
February 19, 2023	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Amy & Phil Puccio & Carter Wittman
March 19, 2023	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Valerie Malkemes; drinks – volunteer needed
April 16, 2023	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	JoAnne Theodore; drinks – volunteer needed
May 21, 2023	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Pot luck Party; drinks – volunteer needed

<i>Upcoming Camellia Shows</i>		
October 15-16, 2022	Middle Georgia Camellia Society	Perry, GA
December 10, 2022	Pensacola Camellia Club	Pensacola, FL
January 7-8, 2023	Gainesville Camellia Society	Gainesville, FL
January 14-15, 2023	Tallahassee Camellia Society	Tallahassee, FL
January 21, 2023	Camellia Society of Central Florida	Winter Park, FL
January 28-29, 2023	Ocala Camellia Society	Ocala, FL

<i>Dues</i>
<p>The annual dues for Gainesville Camellia Society are due at this time. The amount is \$15 for an individual or \$20 for a couple. Please mail a check for your dues to the Treasurer:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Merry Reid 7631 Monongahela Avenue Keystone Heights FL 32656 reidm729@gmail.com</p>

Request for assistance from the Master Gardeners

This request came to me on the GCS website, to share with GCS members that might be able to loan wheelbarrows on Saturday, October 29. Master Gardeners will distribute mulch at Coffrin Memorial Park. They will do the work, but are in need of six wheelbarrows to facilitate the task. I promised mine, and if there are other members that could also loan their wheelbarrow, just for the day, it would be appreciated.

Coffrin Park is located on NW 8th Avenue and is a garden setting that seeks to prevent suicides. I am willing to pick up, and deliver back to owners any wheelbarrows that GCS members can spare. Call John Swanson at 352-672-2644 if you can help.

Air Layering Event

The air layers at Swansons are ready to be potted. Friday, October 20th will be the day from 9-noon followed by a pot luck lunch. Meat and drinks will be provided. Bring a side or salad or dessert if possible.

Pots and soil will be ready. Hope you can make it.

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John Swanson
Irma Velez
Carter Wittman

Monthly Meeting of the Gainesville Camellia Society

Date: Sunday, October 16, 2022, at 2pm
Place: Kanapaha Botanical Gardens
Program: “The History and Journey of Camellias” by Matthew Israel

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Gainesville Camellia Society

Affiliated with the American Camellia Society

Editor: Anna Langford

September 2022

President's Message



Brother Rose

Hard to believe the summer has passed already. We have been getting some good rain during the past few weeks and that is good for the camellias. I planted a few new camellias in the spring and the rains have been helpful for them to get a good start.

The Board met over the summer at Wilmot Gardens, and we thank Wilmot for letting use their conference room. Attendance was good and many things were accomplished. Charles Simon has presented an excellent summary of the meeting in this Newsletter so I will not make comments here.

The judges were invited to our 2023 show last July but I have had little feedback from them. Will send out a reminder in a month or so. We may not have a greenhouse class again next year depending on the dates of the Tallahassee show. The selection and purchasing of plants for our plant sale at the show are underway and John Swanson might have some comments at the meeting.

Don't forget to pay your dues at the September meeting. Checks and cash are accepted as usual. And remember that plant name tags are available for purchase as well.



Carol Humphrey, variegated



Frank Houser, variegated

That's about all I can think to write about. The meeting will be a Kanapaha Gardens on Sunday, September 18 at 2:00 PM. I am writing this from Bernkastel, Germany, since I am on vacation. I return to the States on September the 11th, but have a work-related meeting to attend on the 18th. The meeting will be conducted by one of the other officers. Hope everyone can attend. See you in October.

Cheers,

Jerry Hogsette, President

Minutes for GCS Meeting May 15, 2022

After our end of the year party, President Jerry Hogsette opened the meeting at 3:05 pm.

With deep appreciation we thanked Anna Langford for her longtime and ongoing commitment to creating our beautiful newsletter. It is a lot of work, and she does an amazing job.

Educational Program

Our educational speaker, Jay Ellis, gave a great lecture on germinating camellia seeds and propagating camellias from stem cuttings. For both seed germination and rooting stem cuttings, Jay prefers a mix of 60% potting soil and 40% perlite by volume. Camellia seeds should be planted as soon as they turn brown and mature in the fall. They can also be stored in the refrigerator until spring.



Laura Walker variegated



Apollo 14

Stem cuttings are best made in mid-June in Gainesville, FL. Make an 8 -12 inch cutting from a new growth branch with half hard wood. Remove most of the leaves leaving a few at the top. Scrape the bottom of the stem about $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch around removing the bark and exposing the cambium layer. Dip the exposed area of the cutting in water, then dip it in Rootone. Fill a pot with rooting medium. Make a nail hole in the potting medium (this helps keep the Rootone in place). Insert the cutting in the nail hole in rooting medium. Water and keep moist up to six months. By then the cutting should be well rooted and ready to pot up.

For up potting, Jay uses 80% bark in one inch pieces, 7% Canadian peat, and 8% sand. The remainder is perlite with a little fertilizer. Provide afternoon shade until well rooted. Enjoy your new plants and share some with a friend!

Our demonstration was followed by an auction supporting GCS. This was followed by end of the year business.

BUSINESS MEETING

Jerry Hogsette said “We will have a show this year!” There was a little discussion and plans for the show are moving forward.

Treasurer’s Report

Merry Reid’s end of the year treasurer’s report was given. We have \$21,652.74 in savings and \$5,715.78 in checking.

There was discussion about donating to the American Camellia Society new building fund and Wilmot Garden.



Gigantea



April Remembered

Jay Ellis moved we donate \$2,000 to the ACS new building fund. Emily Owens seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

Debbie Ellis moved we donate \$1,000 to Wilmot Garden. The motion was seconded by Alex Theodore. The motion was carried.

Alex Theodore discussed donating camellias to Kanapaha Garden. There was discussion about expanding the camellia garden at North Florida Medical Center. Joanne Theodore discussed donating camellias to the Haven Hospice Garden. Those discussions will continue next year. The meeting was closed. We meet again in September. Hope you had a great summer.

***Diane Simon for Charles Simon,
Secretary***

Minutes for GCS Board Meeting June 10, 2022

Jerry Hogsette, GCS President, started our meeting at 2:25 PM and welcomed everyone.

Board members present were: Patrick Andrews, Bill Hayes, Cathy Martin, John Swanson, Irma Velez, Carter Wittman.

Officers present were: Jerry Hogsette, President; Debbie Ellis, First VP and Show Chair; Jay Ellis, Second VP and Program Chair; Charles Simon, Secretary.

This group constituted a quorum.



Dixie Knight Supreme



Bobby Fain, variegated

Jerry reported that judges for the 2023 GCS Camellia Show have been contacted and there have been a few responses. Brian Deck will be the Head judge. We need 4+ teams and Jerry will re-contact the eligible judges.

Patrick Andrews suggested that we let Tommy at County Line Nursery pick the plants for the 2023 sale after GCS members choose from the list. Charles Simon said that we are targeting 600 plants to put on the lot for the 2-day sale. [Secretary's note: as of September 9, 2022 all plants for the 2023 sale have been ordered from three suppliers: County Line (400), Loch Laurel (150) and Jay Ellis (100) for a total of 650, of which ~50 are pre-sold.]

Jay Ellis said he needs speakers for this season's meetings. Patrick mentioned that the Ocala Society gives speakers a \$100 honorarium to cover some expenses. GCS has done this in the past for speakers travelling distances to get to Gainesville. We will continue this practice and expand it to local speakers also.

Many sources for speakers were mentioned. Patrick will send Jay the list of OCS speakers for the last 2 years. John Swanson will also send Jay a list of prospective speakers. It was suggested that he check with the UF/IFAS County Extension office, the Gainesville Garden Club and the Bonsai Club for prospective speakers. In addition to Camellia topics, flower arranging and landscaping are popular topics.



Cherries Jubilee



Tom Knudsen

John Swanson suggested that the GCS Newsletter list the prospective dates for all Camellia Society local (GCS and OCS), Regional and National meetings and Shows in each letter, with updates as necessary. Charles will ask Anna Langford to do this as the information becomes available. Patrick reported that the OCS no longer has a "protected" category at its Show. GCS will wait to see how many greenhouse growers apply for entry before deciding to eliminate the category for the 2023 Show.

Patrick also reported that the ACS has changed the card colors for blossom categories. Miniatures will have a gold color card and protected will have a green, purple, etc. Members can check the ACS website for a list of all colors.

Carter Wittman presented the group with a visual gift just before the close of the meeting by pointing out the display case of porcelain Camelia blossoms she donated to Wilnot after her mother's passing. They are truly spectacular!

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 PM.

Charles Simon, Secretary



Wendy

Photos of flowers are from the garden of John Swanson.

Date and place of meeting		Refreshments
September 18, 2022	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Anna & Gerald Langford Volunteers needed for future meetings
October 16, 2022	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	
November 20, 2022	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	
December 18, 2022	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	
Meeting dates for 2023 will be announced in the next newsletter.		

Upcoming Camellia Shows		
October 15-16, 2022	Middle Georgia Camellia Society	Perry, GA
December 10, 2022	Pensacola Camellia Club	Pensacola, FL
January 7-8, 2023	Gainesville Camellia Society	Gainesville, FL
January 8-9, 2023	Tallahassee Camellia Society	Tallahassee, FL
January 21, 2023	Camellia Society of Central Florida	Winter Park, FL
January 28-29, 2023	Ocala Camellia Society	Ocala, FL

Dues

The annual dues for Gainesville Camellia Society are due at this time. The amount is \$15 for an individual or \$20 for a couple. Please mail a check for your dues to the Treasurer:

Merry Reid
7631 Monongahela Avenue
Keystone Heights FL 32656
reidm729@gmail.com

***Gainesville Camellia Society
has joined social media!***

Search “Gainesville Camellia Society” to find our Facebook page. There you will find photos, tips on growing camellias, special activities, announcements of future meetings and guest speakers. “LIKE” us on Facebook to receive GSC updates, and tell your friends about our Facebook page.



Officers

President: Jerry Hogsette
1st VP & Show Chair: Debbie Ellis
2nd VP & Program Chair: Jay Ellis
Treasurer: Merry Reid
Secretary: Charles Simon

Board Members

Patrick Andrews
Bill Hayes
Cathy Martin
Bev Ritter
Chuck Ritter
Diane Simon
John Swanson
Irma Velez
Carter Wittman

Monthly Meeting of the Gainesville Camellia Society

Date: Sunday, September 18, 2022, at 2pm
Place: Kanapaha Botanical Gardens
Program: “Edible Weeds” given by Jackie Host

The Gainesville Camellia Society meets at 2 pm on the third Sunday of each month from September through May at Kanapaha Botanical Gardens. Any changes to meeting dates, times, or venues are posted in this newsletter.