

Middle Georgia Camellia Society

Calendar and Comments

Volume 4 Issue 1

Summer 2015

WORKDAY AT MASSEE LANE



A lively group of members gathered on April 4th to work on several projects at Massee Lane Gardens.



Mary Gramling and Luwana Walton got their instructions before beginning work in the Sun Trial Garden.



Before



After

In her message found in the most recent issue of *The Camellia Journal*, Celeste Richard, ACS Executive Director, said "...I would like to take the time to express my personal thanks to the Middle Georgia Camellia Society for cleaning, repairing and purchasing an upgraded face plate for our large signage off Highway 49 where visitors and guests are directed onto our property. MGCS members scheduled a work day at Massee Lane to clean and repair the highway sign, educate local volunteers on proper pruning techniques, plus weeding, spraying and strawing the ongoing Sun Trial Test Camellia Garden."

Thanks, Celeste, for the kind words!

Save the Dates!

MGCS 2015-2016 Calendar of Events

Thursday, September 10	6:00 PM	Membership Meeting	Massee Lane, Fort Valley
<i>September 18-19</i>		<i>ACCS Convention</i>	<i>Litchfield Beach, SC</i>
Friday, October 16	6:00 PM	Low Country Boil	Rumph home
Saturday, October 17	7:00 AM	Entry begins	Georgia National Fair Show, Perry
	1-5 PM	Open to public	
Sunday, October 18	1-4 PM	Open to public	
<i>Sunday, November 1</i>	<i>2:00 PM</i>	<i>Board of Directors Meeting</i>	<i>Massee Lane, Fort Valley</i>
Friday, November 13	6:00 PM	Judges' Reception	Shingler home
Saturday, November 14	7:00 AM	Entry begins	Fall Show, Byron
	1-5 PM	Open to public	
Sunday, November 15	1-4 PM	Open to public	
Thurs, Dec 3	6:00 PM	Christmas Party	Massee Lane, Fort Valley
Saturday, January TBA	TBA	Workshop	Massee Lane, Fort Valley
<i>January 19-23</i>		<i>ACS Convention</i>	<i>Charleston, SC</i>
<i>Sunday, February 7</i>	<i>2:00 PM</i>	<i>Board of Directors Meeting</i>	<i>Massee Lane, Fort Valley</i>
Friday, February 26	6:00 PM	Judges' Reception	Liipfert home
Saturday, February 27	7:00 AM	Entry Begins	Flint Energies Show, Massee Lane
	1-5 PM	Open to Public	
Sunday, February 28	1-4 PM	Open to Public	
Thursday, March 24	6:00 PM	Annual Business Meeting	Massee Lane, Fort Valley
Saturday, April TBA	TBA	Service Project	
Saturday, May 21	5:00 PM	Picnic/Auction	Freshwater Home, Fort Valley
<i>Sunday, June 5</i>	<i>2:00 PM</i>	<i>Board of Directors Meeting</i>	<i>Massee Lane, Fort Valley</i>

Picnic/Auction



About 45 members and guests gathered at the home of Connie Rainey and Frank Freshwater for our annual picnic and auction which yielded in excess of \$1800. Not only was this a very fun evening, but quite profitable as well!

Message from the President....

Now that one camellia year has ended and planning for the next one has begun, I reflect on the year, and I think it was a really good one. We did a lot. We shared what we know. We held three shows. We recruited a lot of new members. We had some really good social time. We had members at the Atlantic Coast and the American Camellia Society Conventions. We worked at Massee Lane. And we had many members who supported other clubs' shows. We enjoyed having Massee Lane here at home, and we enjoyed the ACS staff's help with everything we did at Massee Lane. We have to be thankful for having such a wonderful facility and cooperative staff. Like I said, it was a good year.

With our 2015-2016 kick-off meeting scheduled for September 10th, it's not too soon to be thinking about potential new members you can invite to attend. The first meeting of the new season is the opportunity to get friends and potential new members involved. Details will be sent closer to the date. In addition to the September meeting, please put all the reminding dates listed in this newsletter on your calendar and begin to think of all the ways you can contribute to the success of a new year of shows, socials, learning, and service. I have no doubt we'll make it another great year.

Sandra Williams

Care and Culture.....

During the hot, dry summer months, be sure to water camellias thoroughly at least once a week if rain does not occur. A heavy layer of mulch (pine straw) around each plant will help conserve moisture.

Also, don't forget in late August it will be time to begin apply gibb to flower buds in order to have blooms for the early shows. **If you need gibberellic acid, it is available from MGCS. Contact Tommy Alden at 478/825-1337.**

Potluck Favorites..... **Mini Greek Pizza Muffins**

Submitted by Mary Gramling. Mary brought these delicious treats to the Picnic/Auction in May.

INGREDIENTS

2 T. extra-virgin olive oil
2/3 c. finely chopped onion
2/3 c. finely chopped red bell pepper
1/3 c. whole-wheat pastry flour
1/3 c. all-purpose flour
2 t. baking powder
1 ½ t. chopped fresh oregano, or ½ tsp. dried
1 t. sugar
¼ t. garlic powder
¼ t. salt
1/3 c. lowfat milk
1/3 crumbled feta cheese
1 large egg, well beaten
2 T. tomato paste
2 T. chopped Kalamata olives

PREPARATION

Heat oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Add onion and bell pepper; cook, stirring often, until the onion is tender, about 5 min. Transfer to a large bowl and let cool for 10 min. Meanwhile, preheat oven to 400°. Coat a mini-muffin pan with cooking spray. Whisk dry ingredients in a medium bowl. Stir milk, feta, egg, tomato paste and olives in the onion mixture. Make a well in the dry ingredients; add the wet ingredients and stir until just combined. Fill the prepared muffin cups 2/3's full. Bake the muffins until lightly browned, 13-15 minutes. Cool in the pan for 5 min. before turning out onto a wire rack. Serve warm or at room temperature.

MGCS Wins ACS Membership Recruitment Contest Once Again

For the second year in a row, the Middle Georgia Camellia Society is the 1st place winner in the clubs category of the annual ACS membership contest. We were successful in generating 18 new memberships for the American Camellia Society. This success is largely due to our January workshop. In addition, volunteers work at recruiting memberships at each of our three camellia shows.

Our club will receive a \$200 gift certificate to the newly renovated gift shop at Massee Lane Gardens. Last year we purchased a set of reference books.

Featured Bloom.....

C. Reticulata 'Bill Fickling'

Medium pink with gold anthers and white filaments. This medium sized semi-double flower blooms mid to late in the season. It has a vigorous, upright growth habit. The bloom was hybridized by Hulyn Smith of Valdosta, Georgia.



MGCS Members Participate in Naming Ceremony

Several MGCS members gathered with friends and family at the naming ceremony of the 'Bill Fickling' camellia on Wednesday, May 6th, at Massee Lane. This bloom is named in honor of William Arthur Fickling, Jr. and in memory of his late father William Arthur Fickling, Sr. for their "generous philanthropy and dedication to Middle Georgia".

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Not pictured-John Gamble, Liane Trieman,
David Williams

Executive Committee

President: Sandra Williams
Vice-President: Tommy Alden
Secretary: Brenda Alden
Treasurer: John Gamble

Board of Directors Class of 2016

William Khoury
Debbie Liipfert
Tommy Martin
Warren Thompson
Liane Trieman

Class of 2017

Tommy Couch
Connie Rainey-Freshwater
David Williams
Preston Phillips
Grady Stokes
Bonnie Wirsing

Atlantic Coast Camellia Society

Annual Convention
September 18 & 19, 2015
Litchfield Beach, SC

Details available at
atlanticcoastcamelliasociety.org

Convention registration \$90

American Camellia Society National Convention

January 19-23, 2016
Charleston, SC

For information contact:
Miles Beach
milesbeach@comcast.net
843-345-3453

See you There!

Middle Georgia Camellia Society (MGCS):

The MGCS is a non-profit, education organization, chartered on January 10, 1948, primarily to stimulate and promote interest in the camellia.

Its purpose is to:

- Stimulate and extend the appreciation of camellias and to promote the science of camellia culture in Middle Georgia and to encourage private and public planting of camellias.
- Bring together in friendship and fellowship camellia growers and those interested in camellias in Middle Georgia.
- Organize and conduct camellia shows within the area.
- Assist local growers through discussions and dissemination of information on the general culture of camellias.



Middle Georgia Camellia Society

Calendar & Comments

Volume 3 Issue 3

February/March 2015

SHOW & GROW WORKSHOP

The Middle Georgia Camellia Society hosted a "Show and Grow Camellias Workshop" at Massee Lane Gardens on January 10, 2015. Nearly seventy people attended the workshop to learn how to prepare blooms for show entry, how to fill out show entry cards, how to place blooms and how to clerk. After a complimentary lunch, participants learned how to graft, air-layer, fertilize and prune camellias. Several Society members assisted with the class.



Celebrate The Festival Of Camellias At Massee Lane Gardens February 1 – March 1, 2015

February 1-March 1, 2015

Open Monday through Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Open Sunday 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
• Free Scavenger Hunt for Children with Prizes
• Video & Self Guided Tours
• Gift Shop and Retail Nursery with wide selection of live camellia plants, gardening supplies, home décor, books and souvenirs.
• Professionally guided tours available by appointment for groups of ten or more with full garden admission.
• Box Lunches available by appointment for groups of ten or more.
• Admission: \$5 Adults, \$4 Seniors, Free for Members, Children under 12 and Tour Bus Drivers.

February 7, 2015

Free Admission Day 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Opening Ceremony 10:30 a.m.
Gift Shop Ribbon Cutting 10:50 a.m.
Tea Service 11:00 a.m.
Guided Tour 11:30 a.m.

February 21, 2015

Ikebana Flower Arranging Class 10:15 a.m.
Instructor: Kuko Hancock
(Reservations Required)
Cost: \$25 for materials + Garden Admission
Bring: Shears and Gardening Gloves
Photography Workshop 1:00 p.m.
Instructor: King Davis
(Reservations Required. Free with Garden Admission)

February 21, 2015

February 28, 2015

Middle Georgia Camellia Society Camellia Show
Sponsored by Flint Energies
Bloom Entry (no cost) 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
Open to Public 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Middle Georgia Camellia Society Camellia Show
Open to Public 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

March 1, 2015



American Camellia Society
Massee Lane Gardens
100 Massee Lane
Fort Valley, Georgia 31030
(877) 422-6355 ask@americancamellias.org
www.americancamellias.org



FESTIVAL OF CAMELLIAS FLOWER SHOW

February 28-March 1

Fetterman Gallery at Massee Lane

Flint *energies*
Your TrueSource Energy Company

MEMBERS—WEAR YOUR NAME BADGES!

To the Members of the Middle Georgia Camellia Society,

I really appreciate you dedicating the 25th Georgia National Camellia Show to me. I was involved with all 25 Georgia National Camellia Shows and was chairman of most of them. This particular flower show has always been my favorite and has always had a special place in my heart.

This honor you have bestowed on me was a real surprise and I would like you to know how much I appreciate it.

Sincerely,

Warren Thompson

Message from the President.....

MGCS Members,

With our next camellia show just around the corner, February 28 and March 1 to be exact, I want to ask you to volunteer. If you have a camellia in your yard, please bring at least one bloom to enter in the show. If you have neighbors and friends with camellias, encourage them to bring blooms, also. In addition to adding blooms to the beauty of the show, there are numerous opportunities to volunteer during the show. Jenneane Gamble needs members to clerk and John Gamble will be looking for members to assist in several other areas of the show. Just ask one of them. A volunteer opportunity that is sometimes lacking is one that is especially rewarding. It happens after the judging is over – that is meeting and greeting guests who come to the show on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. Recruiting new members for Middle Georgia Camellia Society and the American Camellia Society is an important part of each show. A number of members are needed each afternoon to meet, greet, and recruit. When the show ends on Sunday, you guessed it, members are needed to take down and put away tables and supplies. Show weekends are busy ones that involve lots of work, fun, delicious food, and great friends. There are many opportunities for involvement during a show weekend and you are needed. John and Jenneane would be glad to hear that you can help. Their contact information is: (478) 825-3749, jsgamble@earthlink.net.

You will not want to miss the judges' reception that will be held at the home of Jimbo and Debbie Liipfert on Friday night, February 27. Debbie and the hospitality committee have planned a fabulous evening to kick-off the show weekend.

I'll hope to see you at the reception and show.

Sandra Williams



JUDGES' RECEPTION

Friday, February 27th

The Liipfert Home

500 W. Main Street

Marshallville, GA

Members please bring

heavy hors d'orveres

with a Cajun Flair

6:00 p.m.

(Don't forget to wear your name badge!)

Welcome New Members!

Mary Gramling	Americus, GA
Ed & Sue Humphreys	Fort Valley, GA
Billy & Ginny Martin	Oglethorpe, GA
Patricia Perles	Americus, GA
Cullen Richardson	Albany, GA
Linda Shingler	Byron, GA
Henry Teaford	Americus, GA
Lane & Daiquiri Tyson	Americus, GA

Dates to Remember

Jan 28-31	ACS Convention-Tallahassee
Feb 1-Mar. 1	Festival of Camellias
Feb 8	Board of Directors Meeting
Feb 27	Judges Reception
Feb 28-Mar 1	Massee Lane Camellia Show
Mar 19	Membership Meeting
April	Service Project
May 16	Picnic/Auction
June 8	Joint Board Meeting

January Meeting at Golden Corral

Approximately 30 members came out to the Golden Corral on Thursday, January 15th for our monthly membership meeting. After a delicious meal, we had a brief business session. After our business, John Gamble presented a delightful program on "The History of Massee Lane Gardens".



Heartfelt sympathies are extended to the family of Margaret Jamison. Margaret and her husband, Frank, were life members of MGCS and were very active in our club when they were able! A contribution has been made in her memory to the American Camellia Society.

ACS TAKES TALLAHASSEE.....Several MGCS members leave this week to attend the ACS Convention. See our next issue for a full report and pictures and our folks taking in the sights!

PICTURE PAGE!

FROM OUR CHRISTMAS PARTY



Our hospitality committee decorated the tables for our dinner. The centerpieces were gorgeous! Michelle Allen of Marshallville catered a delicious meal. Most impressive was the dessert display. Following our meal, our very own Joel Barfield entertained with holiday favorites as well as other selections.

FROM OUR “SHOW & GROW” WORKSHOP



Grady Stokes demonstrates proper use of nomenclature book for bloom identification. Tommy Martin and William Khoury give instructions on air-layering. Ron Wolfe, our friend and guest from Albany demonstrates how to graft.

Care and Culture Corner.....

FEBRUARY—Now is the time to be grafting and air-layering. Continue pickup up those dead blooms. Also a good time to capture your blooms with a photo!

MARCH—Begin pruning plants that have stopped blooming.

Potluck Favorites.....Pecan Pie Bars

1 can crescent rolls	1/2 cup (or more) chopped pecans
1/2 cup sugar	1/2 cup light corn syrup
2 tablespoon melted butter	1 teaspoon vanilla
1 beaten egg	

Line bottom and press crescent rolls 1/2 inch up sides of 9 X 13 glass pan. Bake 8 minutes. Mix above and pour on baked crust. Bake at 350° for 18-22 minutes. (Luwana Walton's personal note, "I roasted my pecans in the oven with butter and salt before adding to mixture." Served at Collins home in November. Thanks Luwana. So yummy!)

Featured Bloom...Edna Bass, variegated



Deep red and white. Very large, semi-double to peony form. Average, open, upright plant growth. Developed by Dr. Walter Homeyer of Macon, GA.

According to the ACCS website, this bloom is #2 in first place wins for the Very Large Japonica category this year with 33 blue ribbons.

Mark your calendar now for our **ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING** to be held **THURSDAY, MARCH 19TH** at **6:00 P.M.** in the **FETTERMAN GALLERY** at **MASSEE LANE** in Marshallville. We will have a **CATERED MEAL**. Details will be sent at a later date.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH AT 2:00 P.M.
FETTERMAN GALLERY AT MASSEE LANE
(Note: this is a change from original calendar)

Executive Committee

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Vice-President: Tommy Alden
Secretary: Brenda Alden
Treasurer: John Gamble

Board of Directors

Class of 2015

Tommy Couch
Connie Rainey-Freshwater
David Williams
Preston Phillips
Grady Stokes
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Class of 2016

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C. Japonica 'Middle Georgia'

Middle Georgia Camellia Society

Volume 3 Issue 2

October/November 2014

The Atlantic Coast Camellia Society Recognizes Warren and Cheryl Thompson

The 2014 Award of Merit was presented to Warren and Cheryl Thompson at the ACCS Annual Convention at Litchfield Beach in September. Jim Dickson, ACCS President, noted that they were being recognized for their many years of dedicated volunteer service and support of the ACS, the ACCS, Massee Lane Gardens, and the Middle Georgia Camellia Society. Jim also stated that Warren served on the board of both the ACS and the ACCS.

Warren and Cheryl support the three MGCS shows each season; Warren as judges' chairman and Cheryl as clerks' chairman. They served the ACCS as Historian, taking numerous pictures at meetings and annual conventions, as well as being keepers of the scrapbook. Warren received the prestigious Joseph H. Pyron Award in 2009 for outstanding service to ACS.

Warren was postmaster in Fort Valley when the United States 18 cent stamp, honoring the Camellia Japonica Betty Sheffield Supreme was issued. The First Day of Issue Ceremonies were held on April 23, 1981 in Fort Valley and at the American Camellia Society headquarters. Milton Brown was Executive Director of the ACS at the time and leaned heavily on Warren to have a reception at his house. Warren was expecting approximately 25 people, but 70 came. That's when Warren's interest in Camellias caught fire.

On behalf of the ACCS, Jim expressed great appreciation to Warren and Cheryl.



The MGCS delegation attending the ACCS Convention

CAMELLIAS A to Z

Our club has purchased a supply of these beautiful calendars again this year to sell to our members. Contact Sandee Khoury at 478/320-5551 today to reserve yours; quantities are limited!



American Camellia Society National Convention And ACS National Camellia Show



Convention: January 28-31, 2015
National Show: January 31 & February 1
Early Bird Registration by Nov. 30: \$225
Registration Nov. 30 - Jan. 15: \$250



John Wang:
Buddy Lee:
Tours:

Camellia hybridization innovations with Reticulatas & Japonicas
Southern Living Plant Expert & Originator of the 'Encore' Azalea
Loch Laurel Nursery, Hulyn Smith memorial garden, Betty Sheffield Memorial Garden, Jerry & Carol Selph's Camellia Garden, Howard Rhodes Greenhouses, Randolph Maphis Greenhouses

Plant Auction:

30 Plants plus one unregistered camellia to be named by the highest bidder

DON'T FORGET TO WEAR YOUR NAME BADGE TO ALL FUNCTIONS!

Middle Georgia Camellia Society

Georgia National Fair Camellia Show Dedicated to Warren Thompson

By Camille Bielby

The Middle Georgia Camellia Society dedicated the 25th Georgia National Fair Camellia Show to Warren Thompson of Ft. Valley, Georgia. Thompson was instrumental in hosting the first one and served as show chairman for many years.

The Georgia National Fair Camellia Show is the first show of the camellia season in the United States, and one of only two remaining competitive flower shows held at the Fair.

Thompson was surprised when the show dedication was announced. "I didn't know anything about it. I really appreciate what they did because I am probably close to the end of my time."

He recalled, "The Fair was going to be built in either Macon or Perry and the best location was Perry." Lora Aldrige, Director of the fine arts program for the Fair contacted Marvin Jernigan, the American Camellia Society's horticulturist for Massee Lane Gardens, and asked about the possibility of including a camellia show in the State-sponsored event.

"At that time, the first camellia show in this area was the second weekend in November. That was early. We had trouble trying to get enough blooms."

Camellias bloom in the cool months, peaking in late January and early February. Although many early season varieties begin blooming in late September, most camellias hold off making an appearance until cool weather sets in. Cool weather does not always arrive in central Georgia until the calendar is well into fall.

He said the Society decided to try to participate in the fair in spite of early October date. "Actually, for the first show, we invited everybody that we knew everywhere that might have camellias. Parker Conner from Edisto Island, South Carolina brought 100 blooms. Clarence Gordy from Ocala, Florida brought a load of blooms. We had over 300 blooms. No other place had shows that early. Even California has them later than that."

A successful show depends on having plenty of blooms. At last week's 25th Georgia National Fair Show, 24 exhibitors entered 634 blooms and over 1,500 people attended the show. The show also features a special award for the best 'Georgia National Fair' bloom, which was originated and registered in honor of the establishment of the show.

Hosting a show is much more complicated than it looks to a spectator. Thompson said, "We don't use our local judges. We use out of town judges. They bring the blooms and they judge." He quickly reminded that judges step back and let the rest of the team evaluate the blooms that were entered.

The Fair Show Weekend



Middle Georgia Camellia Society

Message from the President.....

Thank you, Middle Georgia Camellia Society members.

We started the 2014-2015 camellia season with two fantastic shows, thanks to our great membership: You worked to make them huge successes. To set the stage for the shows, Wilbur and Mary Rumph, and Larry and Charlotte Collins hosted at their homes, wonderful Friday night events for our judges and membership. Grady Stokes made his annual trip to the Georgia coast to purchase shrimp and Debbie Liipfert and the hospitality committee worked tirelessly to provide decorations, delicious food, and fabulous fellowship opportunities at both events.

Members helped with set up and preparation for the shows, receiving and placing of blooms, clerking, sizing, and greeting guests and recruiting new members when the shows were open to the public. A committee, headed by Tommy Martin, secured and prepared gorgeous thank you gifts for the judges. And, on Sunday afternoon, when it was time for take down and clean up, you were there, too.

Thanks to each of you who brought blooms, cooked, cleaned, and in many other ways helped with the show weekend events. You are the best.

Just know that you are appreciated for what you are doing for the Middle Georgia Camellia Society!

Sandra Williams

Camellia Show Training and Workshops **Saturday - January 10, 2015**

at
Massee Lane Gardens
Fetterman Building
100 Massee Lane
Fort Valley, GA

The Camellia Show Training and Workshops will include a mini-show for the experience of preparing blooms for a show; and sessions on planning and operating a camellia show, and camellia care and culture.

Mark your calendar, hold the date, and look for additional details closer to the date (starting time, lunch plans, specific workshop topics, etc.).

WARM WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS!

**Bill & Brenda Campbell.....Mark & Marsha
Closson.....Steve & Machele Evans..... Tim & Linda
Gerard..... William & Loraine Khoury.....Tomy' &
Frances Mixon.....Gene & Doreen Moore**

FALL SHOW IN BYRON



Best Bloom in Show, Unprotected
'Miss Tulare'
Sam Wellborn



Best Bloom in Show, Protected
'Edna Bass, Var.'
Buck & Tyler Mizzell

**COMPLETE SHOW RESULTS FOR BOTH
THE FAIR SHOW AND THE FALL SHOW
CAN BE FOUND ON BOTH THE ACS &
THE ACCS WEBSITES**

(americancamellias.org or atlanticcoastcamelliasociety.org)

Middle Georgia Camellia Society **HOLIDAY DINNER**

Thursday, December 4th
6:00 p.m. Social – 7 p.m. Dinner
Catered by Michelle Allen - \$25 per person
Annabelle Fetterman Bldg. @ Massee Lane Gardens
100 Massee Lane, Fort Valley, GA

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED--NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 26TH
(Please declare entrée choice when making reservations)

MENU

Festive Green Salad
Filet Mignon w/ Mushroom Sauce or Flavorful Chicken w/ Warm Pecan
Sauce
Twice Baked Potatoes Roasted Green Beans
Yeast Rolls
Cake Bar
Iced Tea/ Lemon Water/ Coffee Bar

R.S.V.P. by Nov. 26th to Brenda at brendabalden@gmail.com or
call (478) 825-1406.

DON'T FORGET TO WEAR YOUR NAME BADGE!

Middle Georgia Camellia Society

Care and Culture Corner.....

Continue to Gibb for blooms to show in upcoming events. Be sure to pick up and dispose of old blooms to prevent the spread of disease. Take off Air-Layers if you have not done so. A good time to spray for scale and insects if problems are observed. Most of all - **ENJOY YOUR CAMELLIAS FOR THE HOLIDAYS - OFTEN CALLED THE WINTER ROSE!**

Dates to Remember

Dec. 4	Christmas Party
Jan. 10	Camellia Show Training/Workshops
Jan. 15	Membership Meeting
Feb. 9	Board Meeting
Feb. 27	Judges Reception
Feb. 28-3/1	Flint Show
Mar. 19	Membership Meeting
April	Workshop/Svc Project
May 16	Picnic/Auction
June 8	Joint Board Meeting



Potluck Favorites.....

TONY'S FANTASTIC PIMENTO CHEESE

Combine 6 oz. mayonnaise with 4 oz. well strained pimento peppers. Mix well. Add 1 teaspoon freshly grated onion. Mix. Add 1 teaspoon lemon juice, plus 2-3 extra drops. Mix. Add 1 teaspoon Worcestershire Sauce, plus 2-3 extra drops. Mix. Add one quarter teaspoon ground red pepper. Mix. Grate by hand 1 pound block of sharp cheddar cheese. Mix all ingredients with spoon, then by hand, to insure every blade of cheese gets coated with the mixture. Refrigerate overnight. I like a drier mixture, so I use only the bare minimum of mayo, and I really strain those pimentos, discarding their juice. Personally, I avoid plastic bowls for mixing and for storage. Use glass. I hope you enjoy it. Thanks, Tony Barrett

Featured Bloom...Mona Jury, var.



Non-Retic Hybrid. Apricot Pink and White. Large peony form. Average, open growth. E-L

This bloom, entered by Tommy & Brenda Alden, was the People's Choice Winner at the Georgia National Fair Show

Executive Committee

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Calendar & Comments

Volume 3 Issue 1

August/September 2014

Ending our Year on a Fun Note!

Middle Georgia Camellia Society wrapped up its 2013-14 season with our Annual Auction and Picnic held at the home of Frank Freshwater and Connie Rainey. Club members always enjoy the “Serengeti” atmosphere of Frank and Connie’s home! As always, the highlight of the evening was our auction. Landscape plants, indoor plants, books, pictures, hand-crafted items and much more round out the list of items for bid.



Warm Welcome to Our Newest Members!

Jim & Lizzie Caldwell
Deborah Jones
Tommy & Brenda Rackley
Wayne & Luwana Walton

Society Members Get a Hands-on Opportunity to Disbud and Gibb

MGCS Vice President, Tommy Alden conducted a MGCS sponsored class on “Disbudding and Gibbing Camellias, held on August 16th, at County Line Nursery. The class was held to introduce new Camellia enthusiasts to the secret world of earlier and larger blooms. Club members attending were Wayne Goolsby, Jo Creel, Rick Wallace, Billy Dick, Sandra Williams, John Gamble, Barbara Davidson, Camille Bielby, Preston Phillips and Brenda Alden.

(Gibb is available from MGCS for a \$5 donation.)



Don't Forget—

Renew Your Membership Today!

Our new camellia year began on September 1st. Dues for the 2014-15 season are due by October 15th. Dues are still \$10 per person or couple and flower show sponsorships are available in increments of \$25. To renew your membership for this year, please complete a renewal form and bring it, along with your check to our next meeting or mail it to Sandra Williams at PO Box 67, Roberta, GA 31078.

Low Country Boil & Georgia National Fair Show



The event of the season is here! Friday, October 10th, MGCS is hosting its annual Low Country Boil at the home of Wilbur and Mary Rumph in Marshallville. Volunteers will gather Friday morning to make preparations for the event. Men are needed to help move and set up tables and chairs while the ladies will work on food preparation. Please plan to come and help if you are available. The more the merrier!



The Middle Georgia Camellia Society kicks off its 2014-15 Camellia season with its first show, to be held Saturday and Sunday, October 11th & 12th. In conjunction with MGCS, the Georgia National Fair is sponsoring this event and it will be held in the Miller-Murphy-Howard Building. Blooms will be received as early as 7:30 a.m. and volunteers are needed. Sandra Williams is chair for this show. She can be contacted at 836-4249 if you have questions or wish to volunteer.

FALL FLOWER SHOW §



NOVEMBER 7, 8 & 9



Featured Bloom... *C. Sansanqua* 'Sparkling Burgundy'



Ruby Rose overlaid with sheen of Lavender. Small to medium, peony form with intermingled stamens and petaloids. It is one of the first Camellias to bloom, sometimes are early as late August.

NOTE: Great bloom. To make it into a hedge will require pruning & training but when in full bloom it will make all the effort worthwhile.

Care and Culture Corner.....

The number one insect pest of camellias is tea scale. Tea scale is usually found on the underside of camellia leaves. It is a tiny sucking insect that appears to be covered in a white shell, sometimes it can be so severe as to form a cottony mass around the scale. In heavy infestations the top side of the camellia leaf will appear splotchy yellow. FALL is the best time to spray for scale. The preferred treatment is with ornamental oil. Direct sprays to the underside of leaves using a high pressure sprayer to blast through the foliage canopy. To be effective, tea scale must be covered with oil which smothers the insect. In severe cases, a follow-up treatment may be required in the Spring.



Because few homeowners have the proper spray equipment to do a satisfactory job on scale, Travis Alden has built a compact, high pressure, 25 gallon sprayer with a 100 foot hose that can be transported in a pick-up truck. This sprayer (and the ornamental oil) is available for use by MGCS members for a small fee. Contact Travis at County Line Nursery, 825-1337.



Potluck Favorites.....Spinach Dip

- 1 10-oz box chopped frozen spinach
- 1 packet Knorr vegetable soup mix
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1 cup mayonnaise
- ½ cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 4 cups finely shredded mozzarella cheese

Cook spinach in microwave for 3 minutes and drain well. Mix next four ingredients together with spinach.

Add two cups shredded mozzarella cheese—mix well. If needed you may add a little more sour cream and mayonnaise (maybe ¼ cup each). Place in baking dish, top with remaining mozzarella cheese. Bake at 350° until bubbly and melted. Serve with Fritos, tostados or crackers.

*May add plain finely chopped artichokes if desired, but you may need extra mayonnaise and sour cream. Enjoy!

This is Miriam Phillips' recipe. She has brought it a few times to MGCS events. It is sooooo good!

REMEMBER---It is now your responsibility to keep up with your name badge. Please wear it to all MGCS functions. We have lots of new folks who will benefit from our badges. Thank You!

HELP!

Your input is always welcome for upcoming newsletters~guest articles, personals, your favorite recipes, pictures and Camellia thoughts. Please share!

Dates to Remember

Oct. 10	Low Country Boil
Oct. 11-12	Fair Show
Oct. 15	Deadline for Oct/Nov Newsletter
Nov. 7	Judges Reception
Nov. 8-9	Fall Show
Dec. 4	Christmas Party
Dec. 15	Deadline for Dec/Jan Newsletter
Jan. 15	Membership Meeting
Feb. 9	Board Meeting
Feb. 27	Judges Reception
Feb. 28-3/1	Flint Show
Mar. 19	Membership Meeting
April	Workshop/Svc Project
May 16	Picnic/Auction
June 8	Joint Board Meeting



C. Japonica 'Middle Georgia'

Message from the President.....

With the beginning of a new camellia year, comes many opportunities for involvement in the Middle Georgia Camellia Society. Our first meeting, hosted by Debbie and Jimbo Liipfert in Marshallville, is a time to visit with friends we haven't seen all summer, enjoy a delicious meal, learn from several educational stations, greet guests, and recruit new members. Thanks to the Liipferts for hosting the meeting that kicks-off the new year.

From helping at one of our three camellia shows, to working in the sun trial gardens, to just enjoying the newsletter from the comfort of your easy chair, there's a place in the camellia society for everyone: I'm so glad you're a member.

Be watching for our newsletters, meeting and special event notices, and be as active as you can. It's a fun and rewarding experience.

Sandra

Executive Committee

President: Sandra Williams
Vice-President: Tommy Alden
Secretary: Brenda Alden
Treasurer: John Gamble

Board of Directors

Class of 2015

Tommy Couch
Connie Rainey-Freshwater

David Williams

Preston Phillips

Grady Stokes

Bonnie Wirsing

Class of 2016

*William Khoury**

Debbie Liipfert

*Tommy Martin**

*Warren Thompson**

Liane Trieman

Middle Georgia Camellia Society (MGCS):

The MGCS is a non-profit, education organization, chartered on January 10, 1948, primarily to stimulate and promote interest in the camellia.

Its purpose is to:

- Stimulate and extend the appreciation of camellias and to promote the science of camellia culture in Middle Georgia and to encourage private and public planting of camellias.
- Bring together in friendship and fellowship camellia growers and those interested in camellias in Middle Georgia.

Assist local growers through discussions and dissemination of information on the general culture of camellias.

