



# Gainesville Camellia Society

Affiliated with the American Camellia Society

*Editor: Anna Langford*

*May 2022*

## *President's Message*



*Elegans Champagne*

Hi All,

Sunday's meeting marks the end of our GCS meetings until September. It has been a good year so far with signs that Covid can be successfully managed, and we can gather again with caution. The Zoom meetings of the past were enough to get us through but meeting live and in-person has the best effect.

Although we will not be meeting over the summer months, the care of our camellia plants continues daily. It has been a very dry May so far and keeping newly planted camellias watered is a must for their survival. June might be full of rain but who knows? Small flower buds should begin appearing on the ends of stems as June approaches. Still time to put on air layers. Heard from several members who are having armadillo problems. All of the nocturnal critters that regularly patrol our gardens are looking for water, particularly right now when it is so dry.

Our big event this month is our summer picnic held at Kanapaha in our usual meeting room. John Swanson and I will be bringing some main dishes, i.e., meats, and hopefully everyone else will bring their favorite covered dish or dessert. Anna is managing this event to some extent, and she can help with food and drink-related questions. Kanapaha has set up our meeting room with large round tables where we will eat, and long rectangular tables along the wall for food and drinks. It should be fun. We will have a short meeting but no program. If people bring things to sell, we will have an auction.

I am going to end right here. It has been another great year serving the GCS as President. I look forward to seeing everyone on Sunday the 15th and I look forward to our fall camellia season and our next camellia show. It should be fun. See you on Sunday.

Cheers,

***Jerry Hogsette, President***



*Henry Parrish, variegated*

## *Minutes for GCS Meeting April 10, 2022*

### **BUSINESS MEETING**

Jerry Hogsette, GCS President, started our meeting at 2:10 PM inside the main building at Kanapaha and welcomed everyone. Jerry told everyone that he has about 140 air layers on his plants that will be potted in the Fall. He recently demonstrated his air layering technique to a Levy County Extension agent at his home.

### **Old Business**

The minutes from the March 13, 2022 GCS meeting were voted on and approved. John Swanson reminded everyone that he will host an air layering event at his property on April 22, 2022 from 9:00 AM to Noon, followed by a pot luck lunch with meats provided. Send John your selections from his list sent out with the newsletter. All are welcome!



*Bunny Ears*



*Burgundy Rose*

John, Jerry and Irma Velez sold 118 Camellia plants at the Wilmot Gardens Spring Plant Sale. GCS will keep half of the proceeds and the remainder will go to Wilmot as part of our continuing support.

### **Treasurer's Report for April, 2022 by Merry Reid**

Checking Account Balance = \$21,652

Savings Account Balance = \$6,062

Total Funds Available = \$27,714

The Treasurer's report was voted on and approved.

Merry said we took in \$93 from the raffle at the Kanapaha Spring plant sale. Charles Simon reported that the raffle winner answered Sunday's message the following Friday and was extremely delighted to receive the Georgia Fire Camellia. Charles also said that foot traffic was brisk at the GCS booth this year with over 100 visitors. Many GCA member applications were handed out along with printed information on Camellia care.

The most frequent comment from GCS booth visitors went something like this:

“Ah jus moovd dun hyar frum Georguh and thar’s lots uh ca-millas in muh yard, an’sum ov m’s dayed! How cum?”

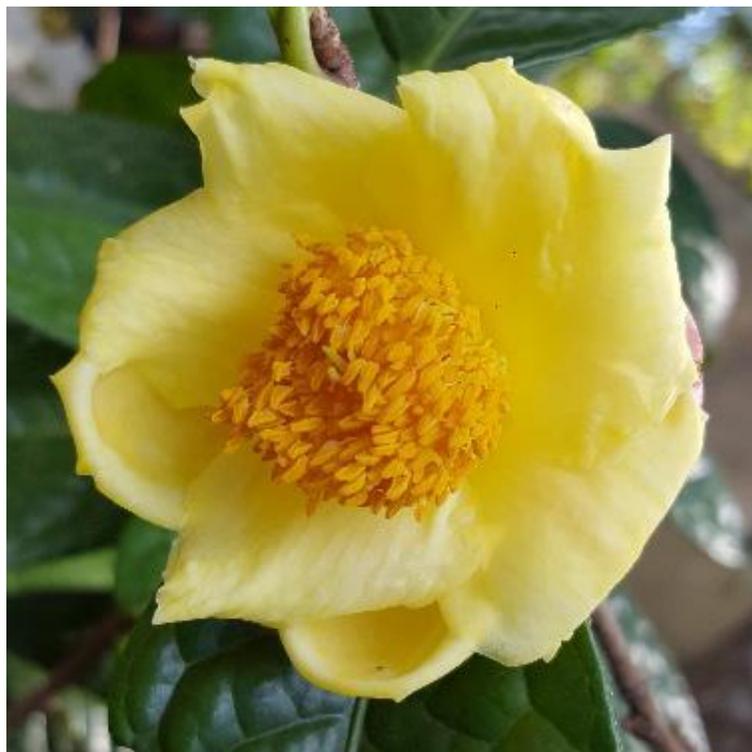
After a few questions we usually had one or more good guesses of potential causes for the plant loss, and handed out printed advice on Camellia care and plant-death avoidance. Booth-bunny volunteers had a great time getting to know one another, interacting with visitors and learning more about Camellias!

### **New Business**

Charles Simon reported that we are now out of mature air layers for the 2023 plant sale. We’ll have to buy nearly all of our sales stock from the nurseries, with only a limited number of first-year air layers for sale.



*Groggy*



*Nitidissima*

Jerry announced that our next meeting will be held on May 15, 2022. This will be our end-of year pot luck feast. Please bring a side dish and meats will be provided.

Anna Langford requested and received five volunteers for table settings for six.

The business meeting was concluded at 2:30 PM.

### **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM**

Due to the cancellation of the scheduled speaker, Jay Ellis introduced Dr. Jerry Hogsette as our educational speaker.

Jerry spoke about the various pest problems Camellias experience in our environment, including scale, spider mites, aphids and beetles. All of these problems are cosmetic in nature and have little, if any, effect on the blooms.

Jerry described effective treatments for each pest as leaves exhibiting each problem were passed around. Scale and aphids can be treated with 1% soap or 1% soap/1% oil spray in the evening to avoid sunburn. Be sure to wet the little buggers thoroughly. Scale lives on the underside of the leaves in a white web-like coating. Aphids feed on new growth with their ant-farmers, are easy to spot and can even be removed manually.

Spider mites live on the tops of the leaves and can also be treated with soap or oil/soap spray. They cause the leaves to turn copper colored and limit photosynthesis. They typically come out in August and September when it's hot and dry. Be sure to spray the leaves thoroughly in the evening to avoid sunburn.



*San Dimas, variegated*



*Dahlongega*

Beetles that feed on new growth and create “lace-leaves” can only be controlled with systemic pesticides. Products containing bifenthrin are affective, as is Bayer’s “Protect and Feed” product. These products are available at local garden supply outlets.

***Charles Simon, Secretary***

Photos of flowers are from the garden of John Swanson.

<i>Date and place of meeting</i>		<i>End of Year Party</i>
May 15, 2022	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Table hosts: Valerie Thompson Saundra Overstake Merry Reid Debbie & Jay Ellis Anna & Gerald Langford Liz Rawe (drinks)

***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](mailto: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, May 15, 2022, at 1pm for socializing, 2pm for eating  
***Place:*** Kanapaha Botanical Gardens  
***Program:*** End of Year Party

***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*

*April 2022*

## *President's Message*



*El Rojo*

Hi All,

Seems like we just had a meeting, but it has been a month. Seems like I said that last month, too! Ha! Time is moving on and Easter is almost upon us. This means many things for many people but to us outside plant growers it also means that maybe the weather will settle down a bit. The rain is fine (I got 1.32 inches April 2nd) but maybe no more really cold weather. March was a stellar month for rain. I recorded over 12 inches at the house and managed to get the fertilizer out in time for the rain to water it in. There are a lot of spring green leaves in the yard, and it was beautiful this morning in the morning sunlight.

Our meeting will be inside again. I hesitated to put us inside in March, but the cold temperatures quickly made the decision for all of us. For sure we will be inside for the May meeting because we will have our May party. But more about that later.

The big event last month was the Spring Festival at Kanapaha and many thanks to everyone who participated. Special thanks go to Charles Simon for managing the booth on both days from set up on Friday afternoon to take down Sunday afternoon! A photo made by Emily Owens, one of our new members, records the event and shows off our GCS booth. We passed out plenty of free information, both verbally and on the American Camellia Society educational fliers. We also passed out quite a few membership forms. We do need one with Merry's current email address. Charles has all of the details about the event and I'm sure he will give us a rousing recap at the meeting.



*Jerry Hogsette & Charles Simon at the Spring Festival*



*Elaine*

Once again, the next plant-related event that involves the GCS is the Spring Plant Sale at Wilmot Botanical Gardens to be held on April 8-9 at the gardens on campus. This will be a Friday-Saturday sale and if you want camellias, come early. The sale officially starts about 11:00 AM Friday, but people began showing up about 9:00 AM at the last sale. There are no fences and gates to close off the sale until it is officially underway! If you are early enough, you just might find a parking spot on the west side of Gale Lemerand Drive at the public parking lot opposite Wilmot. The next option is the parking garage adjacent to the east end of the gardens. Wilmot personnel will give you a voucher to give to the garage attendant when you leave so your parking will be free. Check the Wilmot website for more information. There is no charge to enter Wilmot Botanical Gardens at any time.



*Georgia Fire*

Last month I mentioned that Richard and Ginny Mohr gave me a two volume set of beautiful camellia books entitled THE CAMELLIA, by Urquhart, which I donated to Wilmot in their names and the GCS name. Dr. Craig Tisher, Director of Wilmot Botanical Gardens, notified me last week that Wilmot will be purchasing a special glass case in which to display the books and make them available for people to look at. Drop by Wilmot sometime and ask to see their big, new camellia books. The color prints are beautiful, and they are accompanied by plenty of hard-to-find camellia-related information.

That's about it for this April Newsletter. Still time to fertilize and start air layering. I have not had much time to put on many air layers in March but will continue making more until early August. John Swanson has planned the annual Air Layer Extravaganza at his beautiful garden. I will ask John to give us the times and dates details at the meeting. It is always a fun event. Hope everyone is doing great and look forward to seeing you at the meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup>.

Cheers,

***Jerry Hogsette, President***



*Lucille Jenigan*

**Minutes for GCS Meeting March 13, 2022**

**BUSINESS MEETING**

Jerry Hogsette, GCS President, started our meeting at 2:05 PM and welcomed everyone. Due to cold weather, we met inside the main building at Kanapaha.

**Old Business**

The minutes from the February 13, 2022 GCS meeting were approved. Free Camellia plants for new members Emily, Josephine and Debbie were set aside for them to take home.

**Treasurer’s Report for March, 2022 by Merry Reid**

Checking Account Balance = \$21,652  
Savings Account Balance = \$4,976  
Total Funds Available = \$26,628



*Jim Smelley*



*Cile Mitchell*

Since the last report, GCS has reimbursed the Old Goat (Gerald Langford) ~\$3,200 for the two pallets (80 bags) of fertilizer sold to members, and donated \$2,500 to Kanapaha Botanical Gardens in appreciation for all they do for us.

When the Board meets this summer after securing an Employer Identification Number (EIN), additional sustained giving opportunities will be discussed and presented to the full Society next Fall.

**New Business**

Our next meeting will be held on April 10, 2022 since Easter Sunday falls on April 17.

The Kanapaha Spring Plant Sale and Festival will be held on March 19 and 20, 2022. The last Festival was in 2019. A sign-up sheet was passed around for the final time for members to serve shifts as booth bunnies. The GCS booth, number 99, location has been changed from inside the building to outside on the grounds in the educational section. Maps of the festival booth locations were handed out to members. GCS will have three bracelets for free admission. Any members that pay to get in will be reimbursed by the club.

We'll use the Old Goat's canopy for the booth this year. Charles Simon will bring the tables, chairs, educational handouts and poster boards.



*Holly Bright*



*Gordy's Superba*

Wilmot Botanical Gardens will have their Spring plant sale on April 8 and 9, 2022. Jerry Hogsette and John Swanson will have ~10 Camellia plants to sell. The plants sell out quickly so interested customers are urged to arrive before 9:00 AM on Friday, April 8. Proceeds from the sale are divided evenly between GCS and Wilmot Gardens. This is part of our support for the Gardens.

John Swanson announced that Grow Hub's Spring Pop-up sale was cancelled due to rain. They'll have two more sale days on the first Saturdays of April and May. They're located on the very eastern end of NE 8th Avenue. Go past Waldo Road and keep going to the end of the road. Grow Hub employs handicapped workers and sells plants to area businesses and individuals for landscape use. David Banes, a former New York Yankees baseball coach and longtime member of the Alachua County School Board, is the Director of Grow Hub. Interested people can find more information on Grow Hub online.

The business meeting was concluded at 2:45 PM.

### **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM**

Jay Ellis introduced Patrick Andrews, former GCS President and current American Camellia Society (ACS) President. Patrick presented an overview of current affairs at ACS and the Headquarters facilities at Masee Lane Gardens in Fort Valley, Georgia. The new Annex building is complete and has four educational Kiosks, one each for the History of ACS, Tea Cultivation and Use, Propagation of Camellias and Creating New Camellia Species. Patrick reminded us that the ACS started in Gainesville!

There will be 200 potted Camellia plants to move in and out of the building as they bloom. Creative displays of blossoms will also be a part of the experience.



*Royalty*



*Alice Creighton*

The ACS has an “Enhancement Fund” for the Masee Lane Gardens Headquarters that will be used to add a children’s playground, increase the size of the Rose Garden and add a Christmas display. There’s also a desire to establish a national directory of Camellia Society members and setup a free Zoom meeting program for members to contact one another.

There is currently a donor who will match donations by others to the ACS Enhancement Fund. Patrick told us that the Tallahassee Camellia Society donated \$10,000 to this fund, and the Ocala Camellia Society also made a donation.

Membership in the ACS includes reciprocal free or reduced admission fees to hundreds of horticultural gardens across the United States.

Patrick concluded his presentation with a disbudding demonstration. He showed us the proper twisting motion used to disbud, and explained the logic of which bud to leave on after considering its final use. For example, a blossom that will be left on the bush in the yard should be facing up or out, while a blossom that will be cut for display or show entry should be facing down for optimal development.

***Charles Simon, Secretary***



*Drama Girl*

Photos of flowers are from the garden of John Swanson.

### ***Air Layering Announcement***

On Friday, April 22nd, from 9AM to Noon the GCS annual air layering/pot luck lunch event will again be held at the Swanson residence at 2607 NW 25th Place, Gainesville 32605. Usually, participants select plants that they would like to air layer (clone) from the attached list showing plants and approximate number suitable for air layering. They then use the remaining time to air layer plants for the 2024 Plant Sale at Kanapaha for GCS funding. Please contact John Swanson (phone or text at 352 672 2644) to let him know that you are coming. Give him a list of plants you wish to air layer. Drinks and a meat dish will be provided, and you are encouraged to bring a side vegetable, salad or dessert dish to share. A separate list of materials useful for air layering is also attached. Hope you can make it.

<i>Date and place of meeting</i>		<i>Refreshments</i>
April 10, 2022	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Amy Puccio Bill Hayes
May 15, 2022	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Saundra Overstake Liz Rawe

***Dues***

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Chuck Ritter  
Diane Simon  
John Swanson  
Irma Velez  
Carter Wittman

***Monthly Meeting of the Gainesville Camellia Society***

***Date:*** Sunday, April 10, 2022 at 2pm  
***Place:*** Kanapaha Botanical Gardens  
***Program:*** “Camellia and Leaf Pests” by Jerry Hogsette

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# Gainesville Camellia Society

Affiliated with the American Camellia Society

*Editor: Anna Langford*

*March 2022*

## ***President's Message***



*Silver Chalice*

Hi All,

Seems like we just had a meeting, but it has been a month. We are meeting a week earlier than our usual monthly meeting date because the Kanapaha Spring Festival will be held the weekend of March 19-20. We passed around the signup sheet at the last meeting so people who can participate could sign up for a time slot to work at our booth on either day or both days. We have an almost complete group for Saturday but will hope to have a few more volunteers for Sunday. The Spring Festival is always fun, especially if the weather is good. We will be inside the Summer House so it might be in the 80s outside, but it will be much cooler inside. And remember, once you are inside the Summer House entrance, you can stay at the festival as long as you wish. If your time slot in our booth is at say 1:00 PM, you can come much earlier to look around and enjoy the festival. Then stay later if you wish. We will try to get you in without paying the admission price but, if you must pay GCS will reimburse you.

The next plant-related event that involves the GCS is the Spring Plant Sale at Wilmot Botanical Gardens April 8-9 at the gardens on campus. If you have never been to Wilmot, this will be a good opportunity to visit and support the plant sale. John Swanson and I were invited to participate and donate camellias for the sale. A portion of the sale of these plants will be donated by Wilmot to GCS. If you go, you might find a parking spot on the west side of Gale Lemerand Drive at the public parking lot. If you must park in the garage adjacent to the gardens, Wilmot personnel will give you a voucher to give to the garage attendant when you leave so your parking will be free. Check the Wilmot website for more information. There is no charge to enter Wilmot Botanical Gardens at any time.



*Ray Gentry, variegated*



*Royal Velvet*

During our plant sale at Kanapaha in January, Richard and Ginny Mohr, who are members of our group and the Camellia Society of the Potomac Valley, showed me a 2-volume set of beautiful camellia books entitled THE CAMELLIA, by Urquhart. These large, oversize books have valuable information about the origin of the camellias that are featured as well as color plates of the blooms. I suggested to the Mohrs that perhaps these books should be donated to the University and stored at Wilmot Botanical Gardens. The books were graciously accepted for the gardens by Dr. Craig Tisher, Director of Wilmot Botanical Gardens. Drop by Wilmot sometime and ask to see their big, new camellia books. They are stunning.



*Henry Parrish, variegated*

Right now, our meeting is scheduled to be held outside as we have done so far this year, however as of this morning the weather shows good chances for rain Thursday-Saturday with a low Sunday morning of 32° and a high of 58°! This of course can change as the days progress, hopefully towards the warmer side. If it gets much colder than 58°, we might want to consider meeting inside. But let's let a few days pass and see how the forecast changes.

That's about it for this newsletter. Time to fertilize and graft and start air layering. I put on 110 air layers the last 2 weekends in February. Hopefully they will be ready to sell at our next camellia show in January 2023. I will urge them on! Hope everyone is doing great and hope to see you at the meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup>.

Cheers,

***Jerry Hogsette, President***

### ***Minutes for GCS Meeting January 16, 2022***

#### **BUSINESS MEETING**

Jerry Hogsette, GCS President, started our meeting on the outside porch area of Kanapaha's main building at 2:09 PM and welcomed new members. He also announced that Jay and Debbie Ellis as well as Merry Reid have contracted Covid and will not be at this meeting.



*Whoopee*



*Coral Pink Lotus*

### Old Business

The minutes from the January 16, 2022 GCS meeting were approved. There was no Treasurer's Report due to the absence of Merry Reid.

Charles Simon brought a "Thank You" card for Chuck Ritter and asked everyone present to sign. Plants contributed by Chuck produced half of our 2022 plant sale margin. We've already approved a \$2500 donation to Kanapaha and other charitable donations will be considered at the next Board meeting and presented to the group. Jerry will contact Board members by email to set up a meeting.

The March meeting will be held on the second Sunday, March 13, due to the Kanapaha Spring Plant Sale, and the April meeting will also be held on the second Sunday, April 10, due to Easter.

There will be no election of Officers and Board members this year due to the cancellation of our annual show. All persons have agreed to retain their positions for another year, unless another member would like to serve in a particular position. If so, contact Jerry Hogsette and we'll hold a special election.

Treasurer's Report for **January**, 2022 (reprinted due to the absence of Merry Reid.)

Checking Account Balance = \$20,914

Savings Account Balance = \$11,672

Total Funds Available = \$32,586



*Midnight Magic, variegated*



*Marilyn Maphis*

John Swanson said that the American Camellia Society will not have a meeting but will have a show on February 26 and 27, 2022. The Lakeland Show was the last one in Florida. Camellia Societies up the Eastern Coast all the way to Maryland will now start having their Shows.

The Wilmot Spring Plant Sale will be held on April 8 and 9, 2022. GCS will provide about a hundred plants donated by Jon Swanson and Jerry Hogsette for the sale. GSCS will keep half of the proceeds. Jerry urged any buyers to show up early as Camellias to sell out quickly.

Gerald Langford, the Old Goat, still has 8 bags of fertilizer (out of 80!) for sale to members. They can be purchased after the meeting.

The business meeting ended at 2:27 PM and was followed by a plant auction.

### New Business

Jerry announced that the Kanpaha Spring Plant Sale and Festival will be held on March 19 and 20, 2022. The last Festival was in 2019. This is a great venue with loads of plant vendors of all kinds, live music, many food servers and a kids area with many fun activities. A sign-up sheet was passed for members to serve shifts as booth bunnies. GCS will have two bracelets for free admission. Any other members that pay to get in will be reimbursed by the club.

Our booth is in the educational area. We speak to interested people and provide handouts on Camellia propagation and care. We also have a raffle for a nice Camellia plant. New members serve with an experienced member, which provides a great learning experience



*Guest Star*



*Faith*

Photos of flowers are from the garden of John Swanson.

**EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM**

A detailed lecture and demonstration on Camellia grafting was presented by J.D. (Jasper Dewey) Thomerson. J.D. provided a 5-page handout with instructions and pictures of the process. His extensive experience with propagating Camellias by grafting was a tremendous benefit to members.

***Charles Simon, Secretary***

<b><i>Date and place of meeting</i></b>		<b><i>Refreshments</i></b>
March 13, 2022	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Debbie & Jay Ellis Mona Rippe
April 10, 2022	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Amy Puccio Bill Hayes
May 15, 2022	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Saundra Overstake Liz Rawe

***Dues***

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**Announcements**



A colorful poster for the 'Spring Pop-Up Series' by Grow Hub. The background is light yellow with a string of green and orange triangular bunting at the top. The central text reads 'Spring Pop-Up Series' in a red script font, followed by '2nd Saturdays' in a bold green font. Below this, the dates 'March 12th', 'April 9th', and 'May 14th' are listed in green, and the time '9 AM - 3 PM' is in red. The 'GROW HUB' logo, featuring a gear and a plant, is at the top center. Illustrations include a butterfly, a bee, a bird, and dandelions. Four red starburst callouts provide details: 'FREE & FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!' (top left), 'MUSIC, FOOD, & LOCAL VENDORS!' (top right), 'LOTS OF PLANTS, ART, SEEDS, & MORE!' (bottom left), and '9 AM - 3 PM' (bottom center).

**FREE & FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!**

**GROW HUB**

*Spring Pop-Up Series*

**MUSIC, FOOD, & LOCAL VENDORS!**

**2nd Saturdays**

**March 12th**  
**April 9th**  
**May 14th**

**LOTS OF PLANTS, ART, SEEDS, & MORE!**

**9 AM - 3 PM**

***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, March 13, 2022 at 2pm  
***Place:*** Kanapaha Botanical Gardens, back porch  
***Program:*** “The aims and benefits of being a member of ACS” by Patrick Andrews

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# Gainesville Camellia Society

Affiliated with the American Camellia Society

*Editor: Anna Langford*

*February 2022*

## *President's Message*



*Mark Chason, variegated*

Hi All,

Here it is February already, and we are meeting a week earlier than usual because Kanapaha has a conflicting obligation, and our space is tied up. We will be meeting on the porch once again and temps should be in the mid-60s. At least that is what is on today's 10-day forecast. If there is a change, I hope it is for slightly warmer temps and not too much colder as it is today (Feb 6).

The only business I can remember from the last meeting that I'm supposed to do is to ask the current Officers to once again remain in their current positions. We have not had a Board meeting in a while, and we cancelled our show. We all have served during the past year, but we did not have the full experience like in a pre-Covid year. Communicating with the Officers is in progress and I hope to have a final response before the meeting.

I attended the Ocala Show on January 29, along with John Swanson, and Richard and Ginny Mohr from GCS. It was a nice show and about 1,000 blooms were entered. The show was held at the Ocala Golf Club and most people were wearing masks. It was a cool and breezy morning, but it was forecast to be much colder the following morning. And it was. I thought for sure all of my blooms and many of the closed buds would be lost. And they were. We joked at the Ocala Show that many of us would be bringing bloom photos to the upcoming Lakeland show instead of real flowers!



*Empress*



*Little Slam*

As it turned out, despite the freezing temperatures some blooms opened during the week before the show as if there had never been temperatures in the low 20s! That was great. The Lakeland Show was on February 5, and it was a small show, but the flowers were nice. The estimate was about 700 blooms. It will be the last show for me until our show next January and it was fun.

Our next GCS event will be our participation in the Kanapaha Botanical Gardens Spring Festival (<https://kanapaha.org/spring-garden-festival#7eeb684a-1d86-4d25-bd89-f8d6a724dd9>) on March 19 and 20. We will have an Informational Booth and will be located inside the Summer House. We usually work the booth in teams and in shifts. We cannot sell anything because of our booth status, but we always have a plant raffle. We will have plenty of handouts providing interested visitors with information about all aspects of camellia culture. We encourage everyone to participate if you can. You do not need to be a camellia expert to participate. We try to link up newer members with more seasoned members. The festival is not set up to accommodate our members arriving all during the day to man the booth. You may have to pay to get in, but you will be reimbursed by GCS. Plus, once your shift is over, you can roam through the festival at will. A signup sheet will be passed around at the February and March meetings so you can pick a time and date to participate. It should be fun.



*Terry Gilley, variegated*

As a reminder, our March and April meeting dates will not be on the 3rd Sundays of their respective months. The meeting in March will be on the 13<sup>th</sup> so as not to conflict with the Spring Festival the following weekend. The meeting in April will be on the 10<sup>th</sup> so we will not conflict with Easter on the 17<sup>th</sup>. Meeting dates are conveniently located on one of the last pages of every Newsletter thanks to Anna.

That's about all the news I have. We can chat some more at the meeting. We will have plants for sale so please bring your check books or cold cash. Now is the time to purchase and plant camellias. Hope everyone is doing great and staying well. See you on Sunday.

***Jerry Hogsette, President***

## *Minutes for GCS Meeting January 16, 2022*

### **BUSINESS MEETING**

Jerry Hogsette, GCS President, started our meeting on the outside porch area of Kanapaha's main building at 2:10 PM and welcomed new members Emily Owens from Aiken, SC whose father was a Camellia grower, and Allen from Syracuse, New York whose former gardening passion was roses and now has encompassed Camellias! Each new member was warmly welcomed and given a Camellia plant to start their collection

### **Old Business**

There was no GCS meeting in December 2022, so there were no minutes.



*Bobbie Fain, variegated*



*Mary Fischer*

### **Treasurer's Report for January, 2022**

Merry Reid informed us that all 2022 sale plant invoices have been paid, except for a \$3,513 bill for eighty 50-pound bags of fertilizer. There are still ~25 bags for sale by GCS.

All proceeds from sales to date have been collected. There are still ~40 plants for sale and/or auction. Over 580 plants out of ~630 were sold this year. Any remaining plants will be included in next season's GCS auctions and next year's annual plant sale.

A payment of \$592 for show-table rentals will be held over as a credit for next year's rentals.

GCS still has ~8,000 Amekron metal plant tags for sale to GCS members and others at \$20/100 for the smaller tags, and \$25/100 for the larger tags.

Merry reported our current ledger balances for January 2022 as follows:

Checking Account Balance = \$20,914

Savings Account Balance = \$11,672

Total Funds Available = \$32,586

A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made and seconded. The motion passed.



*Tar Baby, variegated*



*Kirsti Leigh*

### **New Business**

Jay Ellis congratulated Charles Simon and the Plant Sale team for a job well done. Charles said that most of the ~\$17,000 in proceeds came from member-donated plants. These included over 100 plants each from Jerry Hogsette and John Swanson, 36 large plants from Jay Ellis, and nearly 200 mature plants from Chuck Ritter! Members were encouraged to air layer plants and donate them to the annual sale.

Charles Simon moved that we again keep the current GCS officers and board members in place due to another year of covid restrictions. The motion was seconded and passed.

Jerry announced that the Ocala Camellia Show would be held in two weekends (Jan 29-30) at the Golf Club on Highway 40 starting at 1:00 pm on Saturday.

The GCS Camellia Show was cancelled due to the peak of covid-19 Omicron at over 200 new case per day in the Gainesville area. Jerry said we would have a show next year even if it has to be outside.

Gerald Langford (the Old Goat) brought for auction 4 healthy air layered Camellias out of 9 plants that Konrad Hooper donated last week.



*Esther Smith*



*Amanda Ann*

The Kanapaha Spring Plant Sale on March 19-20, 2022 will feature an informational booth sponsored by GCS as in years past, except this year the informational booths will be inside the main building. There will be a sign up for GCS booth-bunnies at our next meeting, and we'll have a raffle for a nice Camellia plant at the Spring Sale!

After a brief discussion of the value in meeting room rental waivers that Kanapaha provides GCS every year, Charles Simon moved that we provide a one-time donation of \$2500 to Kanapaha Gardens. The motion was seconded by Jerry Hogsette and passed unanimously.

John Swanson reminded members that Patrick Andrews and Bob Weidman are having their annual open house at their expansive Camellia Garden in Citra next weekend on January 23, 2022. There will be good food, good company and Camellias in full splendor!

Graham Anthony asked if Patrick Andrews was still active with the GCS. Jerry responded that Patrick still participates as a GCS Board member and is currently the President of the American Camellia Society (ACS), as well as a prominent member arranging the 2024 International Camellia Society (ICS) visit to the United States. Patrick is also a past president of the GCS and the Atlantic Coast Camellia Society (ACCS).



*Tama Americana*



*Ben George*

### **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM**

Jay Ellis introduced this month's educational program on air-layering Camellias presented by Jerry Hogsette. Jerry stepped through the simple process of air layering with a live demonstration on a tall "Little Slam" plant, which was subsequently auctioned as two plants for the price of one!

***Charles Simon, Secretary***

Photos of flowers are from the garden of John Swanson.

### **Camellia Shows**

Date	Society	Location
February 19-20, 2022	North Georgia Camellia Society	Atlanta GA
February 26-27, 2022	Middle Georgia Camellia Society	Fort Valley GA
March 5-6, 2022	Chattahoochee Valley Camellia Society	Columbus GA

### **Announcements**

So far, we have sold 70 bags of slow release fertilizer, and there are 10 bags left. Old Goat Langford will bring these to the February 13<sup>th</sup> meeting. You can purchase a 50 lb bag for \$41. Cash or check made out to GCS.

We have an updated membership list with contact information. If you would like a copy, please email Anna Langford <anna@langfordmail.com> and she will send it to you.

### **Date and place of meeting**

### **Refreshments**

February 13, 2022	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Jay & Debbie Ellis John Swanson
March 13, 2022	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Charles & Diane Simon Mona Rippe
April 10, 2022	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Amy Puccio Bill Hayes
May 15, 2022	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Saundra Overstake Liz Rawe

### **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](mailto:reidm729@gmail.com)

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***GCS Members Judging at the 2022 Lakeland Camellia Show***

Judges Pat Shirah and Sandra Wyche, GCS member, with others





GCS member  
Bob Weidman  
and Louis Raska  
judging

Ben George, Pat  
Shirah, GCS  
member Sandra  
Wyche, ACS  
President Patrick  
Andrews, and  
others judging  
Head Table  
Blooms



***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, February 13, 2022 at 2pm  
***Place:*** Kanapaha Botanical Gardens, back porch  
***Program:*** “A Demonstration on Grafting” by JT Tomerson

***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*

*January 2022*

## *President's Message*



*Hawaii*

Hi All,

Happy New Year! And we will be halfway through the month of January by the day of our next meeting – January 16. Too bad the show had to be cancelled at the last minute but many of our members agreed that it was the right thing to do. Cases of the Omicron variant really began to explode after New Year's Day, and it seemed like the prudent thing to do. Last week Gainesville was reporting 200 new cases a day. We are already planning the 2023 Show and we will have it outside on the porch of the Summer House if necessary. The variants will not stop but hopefully the defenses will continue to improve as time goes on. Science has learned a lot from Covid over the past two years, but it has come with a tremendous and tragic loss of life.

Despite having to cancel our show, we still had our scheduled plant sale. Charles Simon was the mastermind for this event, and he did a splendid job. New details are added annually which make the operation run smoother than ever! D-Day was Thursday, December 6, when all of the plants from various locations were collected and brought to Kanapaha Gardens. Besides the plants that were in several Gainesville locations, trips were also made to Melrose and Keystone Heights. About 600 plants arrived in Kanapaha, were unloaded, and GCS Members were out of the gates before closing time.



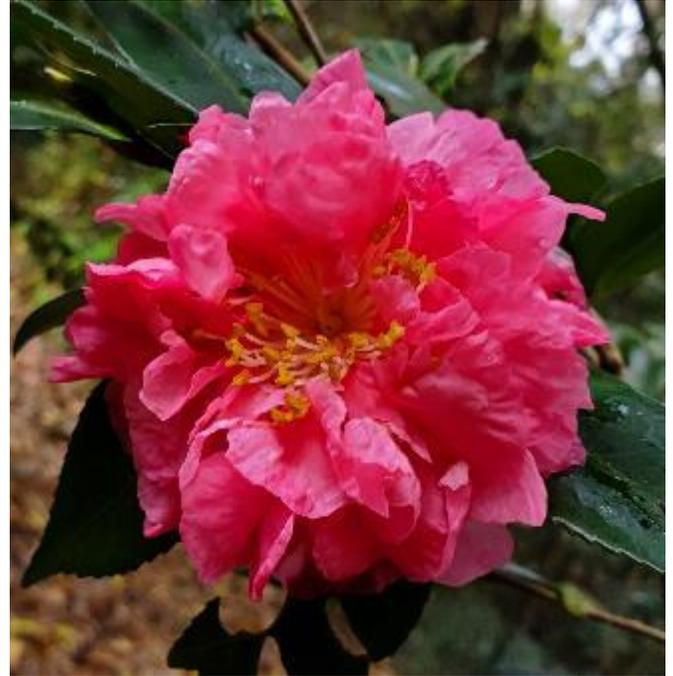
*Marie Bracey*



*Nancy Lynn*

On Friday the site plan was laid out on the ground and plants were alphabetized according to the plan. Then plants at each alphabetical letter or group of letters were alphabetized. Sheets of paper with photos of most if not all of the flowers and some basic information were laminated and posted near the corresponding plants. Although the sale was not scheduled to begin officially until Saturday, Kanapaha visitors asked to buy plants during the afternoon and about 40 or 50 plants were sold on Friday.

On Saturday morning the fun began in earnest. The Kanapaha gates swung open about 8:40 or so and our members who would be working the sale plus many would-be purchasers raced into the sale area. I arrived closer to 9:00 AM and the sale area looked like the scene of a BOGO sale at a discount store! Fantastic! Plants were being sold and hauled away in record numbers which was very satisfying since we did not know how successful the sale would be since the show had been cancelled. When the dust finally settled in the late afternoon, only about 150 plants were left unsold. Our GCS members/workers left for home by 5:30 to recharge.



*Hallstone Spicy*



*Tama Electra*

Sunday was much more placid, but sales were steady right up until closing about 4:00 PM. The sale was dismantled by about 5:00 and everyone was out of the Kanapaha gates by the 5:30 closing time. Less than 50 plants remained unsold. The sale was a tremendous success and Charles will have the details at the meeting. Thanks to everyone who had time to help out. It was a fun time. Almost forgot to mention that we also sold a pallet and a half of slow-release fertilizer!

There are few things we need to discuss about the sale and the show but that can be done during the meeting. Hope everyone can come on the 16<sup>th</sup>. We will once again meet on the porch outside. It might be a bit cooler than the last few times, but there should not be many mosquitoes. Ha! Hope to see everyone there!

Cheers,

***Jerry Hogsette, President***

**Minutes for GCS Meeting**



*Ben George*

There are no minutes, as the December meeting was cancelled.

***Charles Simon, Secretary***

Photos of flowers are from the garden of John Swanson.

<b><i>Camellia Shows</i></b>		
Date	Society	Location
January 29-30, 2022	Ocala Camellia Society	Ocala FL
February 5, 2022	Lakeland Camellia Society	Lakeland FL
February 5-6, 2022	Wiregrass Camellia Society	Quitman GA
February 19-20, 2022	North Georgia Camellia Society	Atlanta GA
February 26-27, 2022	Middle Georgia Camellia Society	Fort Valley GA
March 5-6, 2022	Chattahoochee Valley Camellia Society	Columbus GA

**Announcements**

Several people picked up slow release fertilizer at the Plant Sale. Old Goat Langford will bring more bags to the January 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. You can purchase a 50 lb bag for \$41. Cash or check made out to GCS.

We have an updated membership list with contact information. If you would like a copy, please email Anna Langford <anna@langfordmail.com> and she will send it to you.

<b>Date and place of meeting</b>		<b>Refreshments</b>
January 16, 2022	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Anna & Gerald Langford
February 13, 2022	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Jay & Debbie Ellis John Swanson
March 13, 2022	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Charles & Diane Simon Mona Rippe
April 10, 2022	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Amy Puccio Bill Hayes
May 15, 2022	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Saundra Overstake

**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](mailto:reidm729@gmail.com)

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***Plant Sale January 2022***



Charles and Gerald hard at work setting up for the sale.

All set up for the plant sale.



Mona and Donna manning the checkout table.

***Officers***

President: Jerry Hogsette  
1st VP & Show Chair: Debbie Ellis  
2nd VP & Program Chair: Jay Ellis  
Treasurer: Merry Reid  
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***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, January 16, 2022 at 2pm  
***Place:*** Kanapaha Botanical Gardens, back porch  
***Program:*** Air Layering and Other Topics of Interest by Jerry Hogsette

***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 2021*

## *President's Message*



*Dragon Fireball*

Hi All,

December is here and the days are passing quickly. Our show is less than a month away and plans are being finalized. Our show details have been posted on the American Camellia Society (ACS) site. To view, go to the ACS site (<https://www.americancamellias.com/>), then click on Camellia Shows at the center top of the page, then click on the top left photo with the caption: Upcoming Camellia Shows – 2021-2022 Season. A pink dropdown box will appear with the list of shows. Ours will be the first one under January 2022. You can look at the show program, which ACS calls the show schedule, to see the bloom categories and the show rules.

For you first timers, who we are very happy to have, if you cut a flower from one of your plants and it is a Japonica, the most common species, it should be entered in Class A1 and you will need to fill out a white entry card. If you have never won a major prize at a show and have a second flower of the same or a different variety, you can also enter this one in Class K Novice for a second chance to win.

Show preparation continues and Debbie Ellis has been very pro-active to be sure we have everything that we need. Our last show was two years ago; we put away all of the things that were used for the show; and people took them home. Which people and which home is the question! Ha! At each of the last three meetings more show-related things have surfaced!



*Tom Knudsen, variegated*



*Dahlohnega*

This month's meeting is our pot luck Christmas/Holiday Party which is always lots of fun. Plan to come and enjoy. Bring a side dish or dessert and wine if you wish. We will also have a short meeting, since the next event will be the show.

Show events begin Friday, January 7, when the tables needed for the show are delivered to Kanapaha. At that time, people will be needed to put on tablecloths, fill bloom containers with water and other related tasks. Please come to Kanapaha and help get things done. Then on Saturday morning the bloom entry begins at 6:30, and that is when people are needed for bloom placement, and then for clerking about 10:00. Debbie will give us some details at the meeting.

Dues reminder. If you still have not paid your dues, please bring your check books or cash to the November meeting or mail a check to Merry Reid at her address in every newsletter. We will once again have an auction of camellias or other plants and horticultural items, so come prepared to look and buy. It is a good time to buy and plant camellias.

That's about all for December. Hope to see you Sunday for a fun and safe meeting. Remember, dues, plant auction, and show. Look forward to seeing everyone.

Cheers,

***Jerry Hogsette, President***



*Rosea Superba*

### ***Minutes for GCS Meeting – November 21, 2021***



*Wendy*

#### **BUSINESS MEETING**

Jerry Hogsette, GCS President, started our meeting on the outside porch area of Kanapaha's main building at 2:07 PM and announced that there will be a meeting in January, contrary to the schedule in the November GCS newsletter. The tentative date is January 16, 2022. He will check with Kanapaha and announce the firm date at the next meeting.

#### **Old Business**

The October 2022 minutes were accepted with two corrections: (1) Dr. Swanson's title was not "Ambassador". He was a "Development Specialist"; (2) Jerry Hogsette had leaves analyzed for nutrients along with the other members listed, not John Swanson.

Treasurer's Report for November, 2021

Merry Reid informed us that all 2022 sale plant invoices have been paid, and \$2100 was spent on 5,000 of the standard size and 5,000 of the large size Amekron aluminum plant tags. These expenses are reflected in the current account balance.

Checking Account Balance = \$4,486

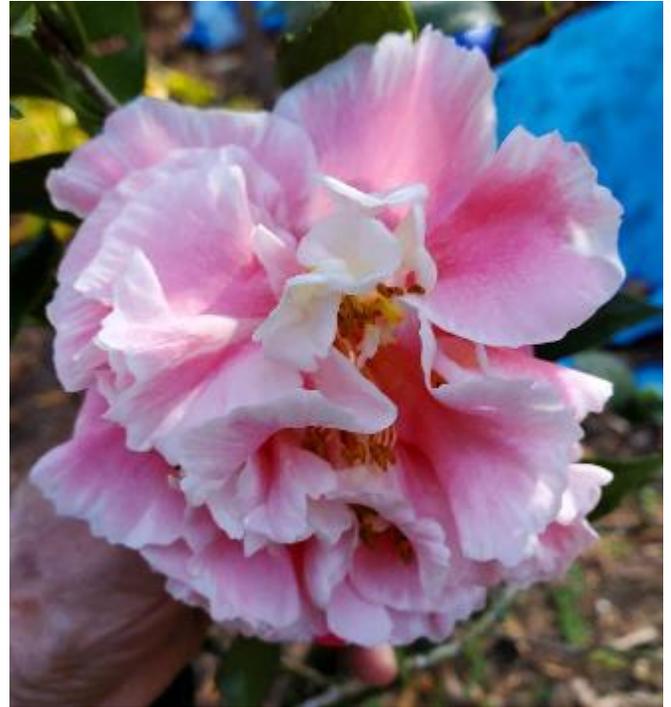
Savings Account Balance = \$12,203

Total Funds Available = \$16,988

The Amekron plant tags will be sold to GCS members at any time and to the public during the 2022 Show, and will be provided to GCS growers at no cost. The next report will include funds turned in from plant pre-sales, which were omitted in this report.



*Grand Marshall, variegated*



*Francis Eugene Phillips*

Hawser Pearce moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted. Debbie Ellis seconded the motion and it passed.

**New Business**

Anna Langford called for volunteers to prepare table settings for the GCS Christmas party on December 19, 2021. We need a total of four settings for the large round tables that will be inside, and there will be a competition for the best setting. We'll also continue our tradition of exchanging gag gifts, always fun! Meat will be provided along with everyone's pot-luck dishes. The gathering will start at 1:00 PM.

Debbie Ellis, this year's Show Chair, will cut the show table rental order by 1/3 due to the conflict with the Tallahassee show. Jerry Hogsette will bring the table cloths and entry cards as well as the finalized program. Charles Simon will bring the trays used to transport the blossoms entries to the show tables. Charles needs garden carts on January 6 to move plants on the sales lot, and to transport blossom entries on January 8-9. Megan Swanson will be the Head Clerk, and the Master Gardeners will help out where needed.

GCS members are encouraged to bring blossoms. Judges will also bring blossoms from Tampa, Jacksonville, Deland, Orlando and other locales. There is always a "Novice" class, so even inexperienced growers can enter blossoms and win awards. Entry time is 7:00 AM to 10:00 AM on January 8, 2022.



*Herme*



*Yushienensis*

Award values have been increased this year. We will award a total of ~\$1700-\$1800 for all categories. There will be a "Best Gainesville" to encourage local entries.

We have an electronic flyer contributed by Larry Hice that can be emailed to others. Charles Simon and Anna Langford have contacted all of the media outlets we used in previous years. Jerry will contact Alexis about early access to Kanapaha on January 6-9, 2022.

Merry Reid read a thank you note from Chuck Carlson's wife expressing her gratitude for our remembrance of Chuck with a gift to the American Camellia Society.

### EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

Jay Ellis showed us several large “gibbed” blossoms and described the process of applying a drop of gibberellic acid solution to the flower buds. This treatment results in large blossoms a few weeks after application. Blossoms should be cut below the second leaf and then placed in water pics with a preservative solution and stored at ~40°F until the show. He usually starts harvesting and preserving blossoms for a Saturday show no earlier than Tuesday. There is no way to retard the blossom opening.

For this year’s show, Reticulatas should be gibbed right after Thanksgiving and Japonicas should be gibbed around December 1. Jay will provide small bottles of gibberellic acid solution to members at the next meeting.



*Jack Glenn*



*Grace Bunton*

Jay also demonstrated the application of a spray-on flower preservative that lengthens the time of fresh appearance. He uses a product called “Clear Life” which sells for \$5-\$12 per spray can, and will treat dozens of blossoms.

After a brief plant auction, members were invited to participate in “gibbing” exercise in the Kanapaha Camellia Garden led by John Swanson, Jerry Hogsette and Jay Ellis. That concluded the meeting.

***Charles Simon, Secretary***

Photos of flowers are from the garden of John Swanson.

<b>Camellia Shows</b>		
Date	Society	Location
January 8-9, 2022	Gainesville Camellia Society	Gainesville FL
January 8-9, 2022	Tallahassee Camellia Society	Tallahassee FL
January 15, 2022	Camellia Society of Central Florida	Winter Park FL
January 29-30, 2022	Ocala Camellia Society	Ocala FL
February 5, 2022	Lakeland Camellia Society	Lakeland FL
February 5-6, 2022	Wiregrass Camellia Society	Quitman GA
February 19-20, 2022	North Georgia Camellia Society	Atlanta GA
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<b>Announcements</b>
We have an updated membership list with contact information. If you would like a copy, please email Anna Langford <anna@langfordmail.com> and she will send it to you.

<b>Date and place of meeting</b>		<b>Refreshments</b>
December 19, 2021	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Potluck – Annual Christmas Party Drinks – Liz Rawe
January 16, 2022	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Volunteers needed
February 13, 2022	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Jay & Debbie Ellis John Swanson
March 13, 2022	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Charles & Diane Simon Mona Rippe
April 10, 2022	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Amy Puccio Bill Hayes
May 15, 2022	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Sandra Overstake

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Merry Reid  
7631 Monongahela Avenue  
Keystone Heights FL 32656  
[reidm729@gmail.com](mailto:reidm729@gmail.com)

If you have purchased any plants, please send a check for your purchases to Merry also.

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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 19, 2021, at 1pm for socializing/2pm for eating  
***Place:*** Kanapaha Botanical Gardens, Conference Room  
***Program:*** Annual Holiday Party

***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 2021*

## *President's Message*



*Kiku-toji*

Hi All,

It was so nice to be together live and in person at Kanapaha last month. Thank goodness for the nice wrap-around porch and fans at the Summer House. We made good use of it all. We will do the same at the next meeting on Sunday, October 17<sup>th</sup>. We are losing our long days but not yet the heat. And typical of October, the rains have slowed down significantly. Some of my sasanquas and other similar-in-size species have been blooming since the last meeting. Alabama Beauty started a couple of weeks ago, along with Sparkling Burgundy, October Magic, Daydream, Apple Blossom, and several unnamed seedlings. I have not gibbed any other species but suspect we might see some gibbed japonicas at the October meeting.

At the last meeting the topic of monetary values for the various show awards was briefly discussed, then tabled until the October meeting. I cannot remember how much the current values are and cannot find these values anywhere. Does anyone have this information handy? If so, please send it to me or bring it to the meeting. We were talking about increasing the award values, but it would be nice to know what the current values are.

It was mentioned at the last meeting that Karen Peeples will no longer be able to serve as the Publicity Chairman. This is a very important position that most of us do not know exists.



*April Remembered*



*Satsuma Kurenai*

The real objective of the job is to let the public become aware of the existence of the GCS and the times and dates of upcoming GCS shows and events, e.g., the presence of GCS at the Kanapaha Spring Garden Festival. Karen sent me a Word document containing several suggested texts for publicity releases and an Excel document listing the usual resources we have used for publicity, along with any notes regarding contact people or special timing issues. If you have ever had friends tell you they saw an announcement on TV about the camellia show, the current Publicity Chairman made that happen. We need a new Publicity Chairman. Anyone who might be even remotely interested please contact me and I'm sure it would be ok to contact Karen to get the details. It would be great to have someone on board before the upcoming show.

We are planning for our camellia show in January. The show will be a small one because our show date coincides with Tallahassee's show date. We will not have any greenhouse growers and several of our judges who bring hundreds of camellias will be in Tallahassee. All is not lost!!! We have judges coming from Jacksonville, and from there to points south down as far as the Deland, Orlando, Tampa, and Lakeland areas. In many ways this will increase the chances of coming away with a cash prize. And speaking of shows, we all remember the tragic and completely unexpected passing of John Swanson's lovely wife Dinh. With John's permission I would like to suggest that the 45<sup>th</sup> Gainesville Camellia Society Show be dedicated to Dinh. Dinh and her contagious enthusiasm and caring will be greatly missed. We can further discuss this at the meeting and all I will need is a motion from the floor to get things started.



*Dautel's Supreme*



*Ave Maria*

The list of Show committees and the people who were in charge of those committees is shown on the front page of the 2020 Show Program. The current list of the Officers and Board Members is printed on the last page of every Newsletter. However, the people on some of the other Show Committees might want to continue serving, or if not, a replacement must be selected. This is a job included in the position of our Show Chairman, so I will leave the details to Debbie Ellis. But John Swanson is listed as head of (Bloom) Placement; Head Clerk was Bruce Cavey, who is no longer with GCS; Plants (Sales) belongs to Charles Simon; Hospitality was Dinh Swanson; Recording was Anna Langford; Chairman of Judges was Jerry Hogsette.

I do not know exactly what Dinh Swanson did during her stint as head of the Hospitality committee. In the past, the Hospitality committee had pots of coffee and other refreshments, and sweet rolls and such available for people arriving early at the show to enjoy. Lunches had been catered for several years, but I cannot remember if the lunch at the 2020 show was catered or how it was done. But arranging for breakfast 'light' and lunch will be an important task for the Show Chairman.



*Lillian Gordy*



*Sparkling Burgundy*

We will once again have an auction of camellias or other plants and horticultural items at our meeting, so come prepared to look and buy. It is a good time to buy and plant camellias. Many people also give their camellias a very small application of fertilizer this time of year to help hold them over until the regular size spring application. It was an extremely wet summer and many elements in the fertilizers have likely washed away. That's about it. Hope to see you Sunday for a fun and safe meeting. Remember, dues, plant auction and....Publicity Chairman.

Cheers,

***Jerry Hogsette, President***

## *Minutes for GCS Meeting – September 19, 2021*

### **BUSINESS MEETING**

Jerry Hogsette, GCS President, started our first in-person meeting of the season at 2:07 pm and welcomed all of us back. There were 22+ members present including several new members. We met on the outside porch area of Kanapaha's main building and all members wore masks;

### **Old Business**

#### Treasurer's Report for September, 2021

Merry Reid presented the updated report:

Checking Account Balance = \$4,471

Savings Account Balance = \$15,203

Total Funds Available = \$19,674



*Winter's Fancy*



*Sandra Williams*

Debbie Ellis moved that we accept the current Treasurers Report. Bill Hayes seconded the motion and it passed. A motion was made by Bill Hayes and seconded by Debbie Ellis to accept last May's minutes. The motion passed.

Jerry Hogsette welcomed three new members to their first GCS meeting, including Ms. Amy Puccio from Alachua County School District "Grow Hub". Ms. Puccio participated in the air-layering event at John Swanson's last spring and set 14 air layers for the Grow Hub with Bill Hayes' guidance.

### New Business

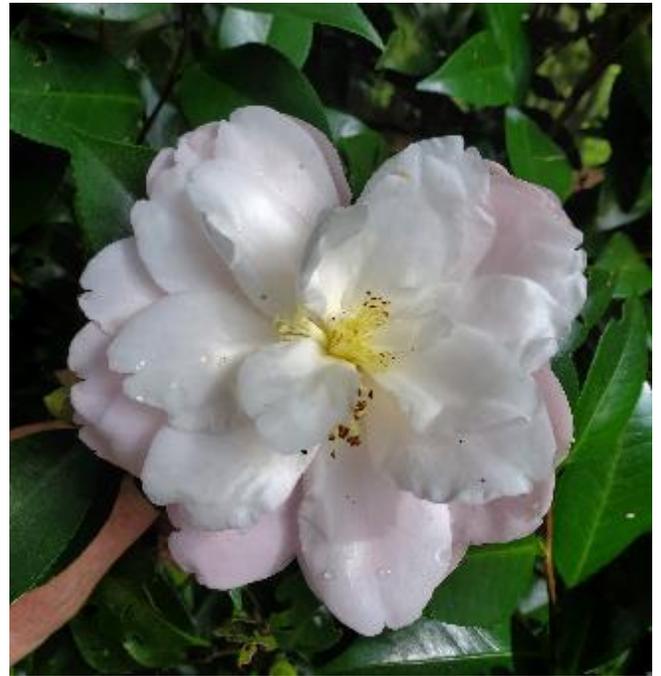
Jay Ellis is the new GCS Program Director and will present a talk on planting Camellia seeds after the business meeting. Jay reminded us that ~95% of new Camellia varieties are from seeds.

Several members remarked that they would like the meetings to stay outside. John Thrasher commented that we should stay outside as long as the weather is good.

Jerry offered kudos to Anna Langford for her outstanding work and devotion in publishing the GCS Newsletter. He also thanked her and Gerald along with Bill Hayes and John Thrasher for providing snacks and drinks for today's meeting. Anna passed around a sign-up sheet for these responsibilities for future meetings this season.



*Mini-Pink*



*Harriet Bisbee*

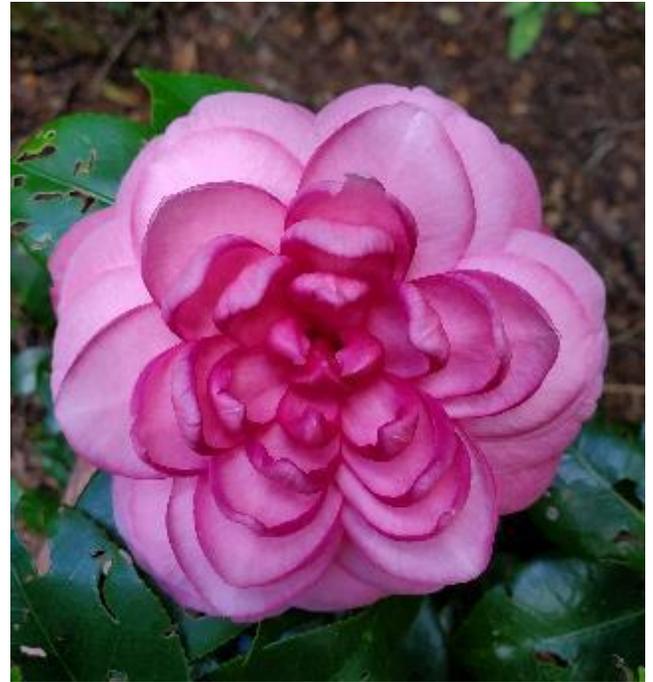
John Swanson reported that the Atlantic Coast Camelia Society annual meeting had attendees Maryland to Florida as well as the Gulf Coast area. The Gulf Coast Camellia Society annual meeting is scheduled for October 26-27, 2021. The American Camellia Society meeting for this year will be held in Masee Lane instead of Ocala on February 26-27, 2022.

John also reported that the plant order for Reticulatas from County Line Nursery must be placed by Tuesday, September 21, 2021. The order for plants from Loch Laurel Nursery has to be placed in early October. Members can contact John to place pre-sale orders for specific plants.

Wilmot Botanical Gardens will have a Camellia sale on November 18-19, 2021 with plants supplied by Loch Laurel Nursery. Wilmot will also have their general plant sale in the spring of 2022 and GCS will supply air layered Camellias for sale.

John will announce the time to harvest air layers from last spring's event at our October meeting. It will be sometime in late October or early November. Mona Rippe asked if members who did not set air layers could participate in the harvesting. John said all are welcome and it should only take about two hours to complete potting all the air layers.

Members discussed the recent loss of Eileen Hart at the age of 78 to a heart attack. Eileen was a powerhouse in the Camellia world, and in all aspects of her life. She had presented several educational talks to the GCS and was prominent at shows. She will be sorely missed. Debbie Ellis made a motion to make a donation to the ACS in Eileen's name. Charles Simon seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Charles made a motion to send a donation of \$200. Jay Ellis seconded the motion and it also passed unanimously.



*Purple Swirl*



*San Dimas, Variegated*

Charles Simon then addressed the group on the 2022 plant sale, and the current uncertainty on the venue. He said we should be prepared to support an on-site sale at Kanapaha, but to limit our nursery purchases in case we can only do on-line orders and have a pick-up sale, and also because we have a lot of member-grown air layers. Bill Hayes said we could still have a plant sale, live or pick-up, even if we don't have a show. Charles made a motion to limit the total number of plants for this sale to 600, including air layers. Debbie Ellis seconded the motion and it passed.

Jerry reported that the Tallahassee Camellia show is scheduled for the same date as the GCS show, January 8-9, 2022. We could move our show to later in January, but will keep the current schedule for now. The Ocala show will be in February and will compete with the Lakeland show.

Jay Ellis suggested that we increase the prize money for all categories. There was some discussion and Mona Rippe suggested that we table this issue until later when we had more time. There was general agreement.

Jerry announced that the GCS Publicity Chair is open. We need someone to fill this position for the 2022 show. Duties include contacting radio, TV, newspaper, etc. sources to promote the show and plant sale. Anyone interested should contact Jerry.

### **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM**

Jerry Hogsette introduced our new Program Director, Jay Ellis, who presented a talk on how to plant Camellia seeds.

Jay started by passing around a container of Camellia seeds harvested from a few of his plants. Camellia seed pods are ½” to 2” in diameter and contain 1-6 seeds. They should be harvested as soon as a crack shows, even if still green, or else the squirrels will get them! Each seed can be a different plant, even from the same pod. For example, Lauren Tudor and Ben George are from seeds out of the same pod.

Plant the seeds in March to early August in 60:40 potting soil and Perlite. You can put several in a quart pot. Plant them ~1” down and allow 2-6 months for germination. Water the small pots two to three times per week. Use 12-4-8 or 16-4-8 slow release fertilizer. Cut off the long tap root on the seedlings when transplanting to individual pots to promote root hair growth. Allow the plant to get nearly root bound before transplanting into a larger pot.

Jerry commented that has kept seeds refrigerated in plastic bags for months and had ~80% germination. This concluded the Educational Program.

After the lecture by Jay Ellis, we had an auction of seven camellia plants, two historic ACS yearbooks, and three Camellia-decorated porcelain plates. Debra Ellis made a motion that we end the meeting. John Thrasher seconded the motion and it passed. Jerry closed the meeting at 3:10 pm.

***Charles Simon, Secretary***

Photos of flowers are from the garden of John Swanson.

### ***Announcements***

We have an updated membership list with contact information. If you would like a copy, please email Anna Langford <anna@langfordmail.com> and she will send it to you.

<b><i>Date and place of meeting</i></b>		<b><i>Refreshments</i></b>
October 17, 2021	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Valerie Mackemes Jay & Debbie Ellis
November 21, 2021	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Cathy Martin Tom & Brenda Boss
December 19, 2021	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Merry Reid Liz Rawe
January 2022	No meeting scheduled	
February 13, 2022	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Jay & Debbie Ellis John Swanson
March 13, 2022	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Charles & Diane Simon Mona Rippe
April 10, 2022	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Amy Riccio Bill Hayes
May 15, 2022	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Volunteers needed

### ***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

merryreid@outlook.com

If you have purchased any plants, please send a check for your purchases to Merry also.

***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, October 17, 2021, at 2pm  
***Place:*** Kanapaha Botanical Gardens, back porch of the Summer House  
***Program:*** “*Prepping the soil for Camellias and fertilizing*”  
 by John Swanson & Gerald Langford

***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*

*September 2021*

## *President's Message*



*Camellia in Bernkastel, Germany*

Hi All,

It is that time again! It is camellia season, and the first sasanqua bloom is opening in the front yard! We just returned from 3 weeks in Germany, where I saw at least 2 large potted camellias about 3 feet tall (see photos) and the one large camellia in the ground that I have been watching for about 10 years. All are full of buds which will open in the spring. But the winters in that part of Germany are getting warmer and warmer, so bloom times might gradually change. Weather is definitely affecting the production of wine grapes.

It is also time to resume our meetings. Last year Covid prevented live and in person meetings and Covid is still with us. But hopefully most people have been vaccinated and are not at the same risk level as we all were last year. So with that in mind, we will have a face-to-face meeting on Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM. The chairs will be set up on the back porch of the Summer House and we will be outside with some degree of spacing not too different than being at a restaurant. We might still need to wear masks (Kanapaha rules) but wearing masks is perfectly ok. We can discuss how we want to continue, either outside or inside, and make changes as the Covid situation changes.

It is also time to pay your dues for the upcoming year. Bring your check books, but cash is also accepted! Ha!



*Camellia in Zeltingen, Germany*



*Early Autumn*

Jay Ellis volunteered to be the next Program Chair if no one accepted the position over the summer. No one volunteered, so Jay has accepted the position. He will present the first program and will talk about camellia seeds, growing, storing and so on. Curious about camellia seeds? Don't miss this program. The major way to get new camellia varieties is through seeds.

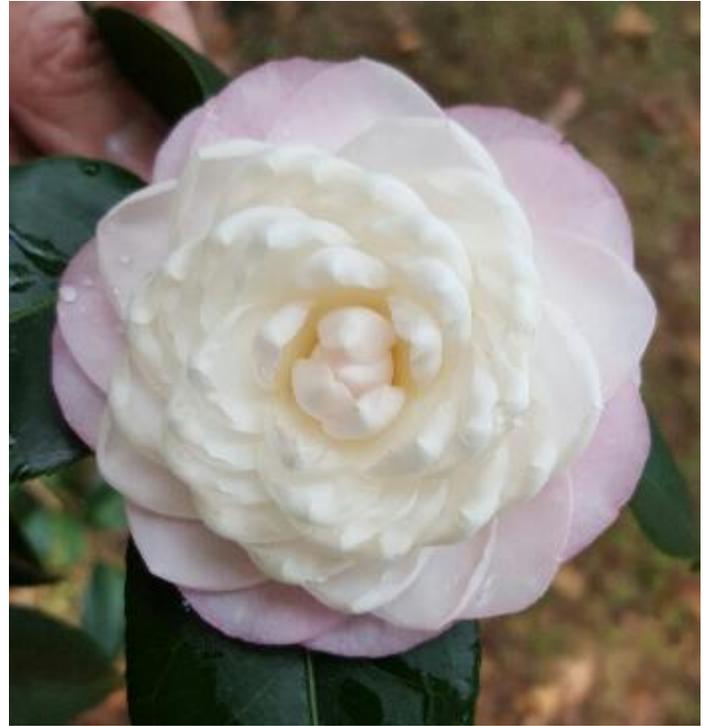
Anna (our Newsletter Guru) and husband Gerald have graciously offered to bring the refreshments and seek volunteers to do the same for upcoming meetings. Please volunteer if you can take a turn. Keep in mind that with Covid still on the horizon the foods should be packaged or wrapped to minimize the effects of individuals touching the foods when taking a serving.

We will have a plant auction so come prepared to look and buy. It is a good time to buy and plant camellias.

We are planning to have a show in January. We will plan up to the last minute and then commit or cancel depending on the Covid situation. This and other things can be discussed at the meeting. That's about it. Hope to see you Sunday for a fun and safe meeting.

Cheers,

***Jerry Hogsette, President***



*Doris Ellis*

### ***Minutes for GCS Meeting – May 16, 2021***

#### **BUSINESS MEETING**

Jerry Hogsette, GCS President, started our final ZOOM business meeting of the season at 2:07 pm. There were 16 members digitally present.

Jerry informed the group that Kanapaha was OK with us meeting in person in September. For our security, we'll be masked and spaced six feet apart. We may meet outdoors.

#### **Old Business**

##### **Treasurer's Report for May 2021**

Merry Reid sent this updated Treasurer's report to Jerry Hogsette:

Checking Account Balance = \$3,977  
Savings Account Balance = \$15,202  
Total Funds Available = \$19,179



*Lillian Gordy*



*Sandra Williams*

### **New Business**

Jerry Hogsette reminded us that beetles are still very active. John reported that his treatment with a systemic control in fertilizer worked well for potted plants but was not cost-effective for larger plants in the ground.

Patrick Andrews announced that The American Camelia Society (ACS) will have its annual meeting on June 25, 2021 at Massey Lane Gardens, Georgia. The Atlantic Coast Camelia Society (ACCS) will hold its annual meeting and two day party on September 15-17, 2021 in Litchfield Beach, South Carolina. The Gulf Coast Camelia Society (GCCS) will also hold an annual meeting that is too far away for Patrick to attend, but John Swanson may go. Patrick reminded us that ACS dues for electronic membership are only \$10/year.

Charles Simon moved that we accept the April 2021 Treasurers Report. John Swanson seconded the motion and it passed. A motion was made by Carter Wittman and seconded by John Swanson to accept last month's minutes. The motion passed.

John Swanson reported that the air-layering event at his house went very well. More than a dozen members helped to set air layers on John's Plants. Bill Hayes helped our guest, Ms. Amy Puccio from the Alachua County School District "Grow Hub", to set 14 air-layers. John will set more air layers for GCS. The air layers will be ready to harvest in the Fall.



*Purple Swirl*



*Mark Chason*

Patrick mentioned that he would not be holding another “Judges” class this year. He did a class earlier by ZOOM in 2.5 hours with an on-line test and instant results.

The GCS Camellia Show scheduled for January 6-7, 2022 conflicts with the Tallahassee show. We will keep this in mind when planning.

It is OK to apply another round of slow-release Camellia fertilizer. Jay Ellis recommends a 3-6-9 mix applied three times per year.

Remember to contact John Swanson or Chuck Ritter if you want to set air layers.

Jerry told everyone that the regional meetings are a lot of fun with many shared good times including plant auctions and feasting! Carter Wittman asked where the members stay near Massey Lane. John said he stays in Byron, Warner Robbins, or Perry, Georgia.

Patrick suggested that the GCS help other local Camellia Societies to get re-started after the pause caused by the covid-19 pandemic. There was general agreement by the members.

Chuck Ritter has opened up his best plants for air layering by experienced GCS members. Chuck has many prize winning plants and this is a very generous opportunity for the GCS. Interested members can contact John Swanson.

Members should contact Anna Langford for the latest GCS membership directory, which includes phone numbers and email addresses.



*Mark Chason, variegated*

*Edna Bass*

### **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM**

Jerry Hogsette introduced our three-year Program Director, Hawser Pearce, with much-deserved accolades! Hawser presented his “Swan Song” for our final program under his tutelage.

Hawser subjected the GCS oldsters to some radical U2 recordings including the 1982 “Gloria” which was way-jammin’, the 1985 “Live Aid” rock-out, and the 1987 “Joshua Tree” (oh myyyy)!! What a surprise and special treat for all. Hawser kept it comin’ to the very last. Congratulations and many thanks for a job well-done, Hawser!

Jerry said that all video and audio issues would work out eventually. Hawser gained a lot of experience with the formatting that would be helpful to the next Program Director, who has not been selected to date. Diane Simon is also still looking for two Board Members. Bill Hayes volunteered to fill one membership and was accepted.

Jerry closed the meeting by saying we all look forward to live meetings starting in September. The meeting was adjourned at 3:17 pm and A *GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL!*

***Charles Simon, Secretary***

*Autumn Sunrise*

Photos of flowers are from the garden of John Swanson.

### ***Announcements***

We are in need of volunteers to provide refreshments for the coming meeting. If you are interested, please see Anna Langford at the meeting or email her.

We have an updated membership list with contact information. If you would like a copy, please email Anna Langford <anna@langfordmail.com> and she will send it to you.

<b><i>Date and place of meeting</i></b>	
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***Program:*** “*Camellia Seeds*” by Jay Ellis

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