



Gainesville Camellia Society

Affiliated with American Camellia Society

Volume 2

Editor: Linda Luecking

October 2011

President's Message: Irma Velez

I'd like to thank everyone that took the time to comment on the September program. I'm glad that it was informative and beneficial for the members. The October meeting will also be informative and important as we move closer to our big event – our Show. There are three important items to keep in mind for our October meeting:

First: WE WILL BE MEETING AT WILMOT GARDENS for the October meeting. It will be mentioned several times in the newsletter, so hopefully everyone will notice the change. The time will remain the same, just the location will change and only for October.

Second: Patrick will give a show status report. As you listen to him, consider what

One correction was noted to include, "The question was raised concerning whether or not the judge's lunch could be catered (or any other meal - bag lunch) could be served at Kanapaha. Perhaps the judge's lunch could be catered and would not be overly expensive. Currently, most judges don't return from lunch to see the show." Motion by Nancy Collins to accept the minutes with the correction noted. The motion was seconded by Janett Verwey. Motion carried.

you would like to do to help. We have a diverse group of members with various skills that can be utilized to make this year's show a success. Come prepared to get involved.

Third: In keeping with our bylaws to "stimulate a knowledge of camellia culture", our program this month will be "What is needed for good plant health". The program will be a panel discussion with some of our most knowledgeable members taking part. If you have a question about camellias that needs to be answered, you will have an opportunity to ask it.

So, I hope to see you at the meeting at Wilmot Gardens.

Minutes for May 21 & BOD Minutes from August 31, 2011-Secretary: John Thrasher, III

President Irma Velez opened the meeting with a greeting to all present and especially the visitors and new members. New member, Lois Gorman, brought her sister Gwen along. New members Lea and Bob Kline were represented by Lea, but Bob could not attend at his time. Long time member Janice Clemmons was here too! It was nice to see Karen Peoples again.

The Minutes for the May and August Board meetings were published in the Newsletter. Treasurer's report by Nancy Collins: Savings

\$5,769.52; Checking \$1,664.48. Total holdings: \$7,434.04. Nancy has boxes of large and small plant name tags available for \$18 and \$14.

There were no Show or Program reports as Patrick Andrews and John Swanson were out of town.

Refreshments: Dolly Warner still needs a few volunteers to help provide refreshments for four meetings. She invited volunteers sign her note pad that was circulated during the meeting.

Irma has assumed the role of web administrator and will work at updating the web site. The GCS link is under the umbrella of the ACS web page. There is a link there to the GCS bylaws. It is important that our show dates are posted. Irma said that Patrick Andrews is taking care of that. That he also is working to assign committees and plan a "mock" show before the real January show. He is still searching for Lydia Sweatt's notes from last year's show. An effort is being made to contact Lydia who now lives out of state.

Old Business: There was no old business as that was pretty well discussed at the Board meeting in August.

New Business: Irma plans a new program to invite Master Gardeners to be "runners" and assist with placement at the show. The program which she prepared for today would be used to "educate" the Master Gardeners about camellias so they would have a better understanding of camellia Culture and just what goes on at a camellia show.

Tee shirts: (See the Board minutes for August.) Westside T-shirt has the logo that GCS designed several years ago. GCS owns the design. That company wants orders

placed by lots and we don't meet their minimum order.

The Master Gardeners use "Embroidered Designs by Sharon" for having their logos sewed on. Individuals can take their own shirt (any kind if shirt and that way you know it fits correctly) to Sharon to be sewed on for \$10.00. Linda Luecking volunteered to take and pick up any shirt you would like embroidered, to Sharon.

Another source of tee shirts is on the web through ACS which has golf shirts in various colors. The logo is not embroidered, but printed on the shirts.

A motion was made by Nancy Collins to authorize Irma to purchase the logo template from Westside T-shirt (\$75.00) for Sharon to use. Seconded by Eleanor Thrasher and the Motion carried. Irma will notify the members when this has been done and then shirts can be ordered from "Embroidered Designs by Sharon."

Bill Luecking kindly volunteered to act as Secretary for the October GCS meeting as John Thrasher will be away. Remember that the October GCS meeting will be held at the Wilmot Gardens. Irma promised that a map to locate the Wilmot Gardens will be included in the October Newsletter.

The topic of "membership" continues. Should the show be moved back to the mall where thousands of people come by the exhibit? How to secure new members? How to keep them? Having a mentor program is one of the best ways. Irma has agreed to mentor new member Lois Gorman.

Publicity for the show needs to be early. Would it be too costly to place ads in the papers? The cost of doing this should be analyzed. Someone pointed out that using

the word “educational” in advertizing makes a difference and that the Gainesville Sun Scene section is more apt to pick up and continue running such “educational” notices concerning the show. Other nearby papers might also run notices of “educational” shows such as ours. Remember, GCS bylaws say that the society is to promote the knowledge and education concerning camellias.

Holding a photo contest during the show has been suggested. It would be a creative and encourage participation. Patrick Andrews is looking into suggestion.

Thank you, Linda Luecking, for the loan of the laptop for use in the program today. The authorized the purchase of a laptop computer, but it has not yet been acquired.

Thank you Mary Reid and Bill Haynes for the wonderful refreshments you provided today.

Linda Luecking suggested that members place “ads” in the Newsletter. If you are looking for a particular variety , ask who has it! Who will allow an air-layer for it? Who will donate a scion for grafting?

Linda Luecking told the group of the many air-layers that she and Irma prepared at Mr. & Mrs. Jerome Ridaught’s home. Many of the new plants will be for the Wilmot Gardens and GCS. Let Linda know of a variety you are looking for and perhaps she will have one from this collection for you. Linda will soon have an inventory of the varieties from the Ridaught’s garden.

Bill Luecking is looking for donations of Village and model railroad items which he will use for the Ronald McDonald House.

Program: Irma presented an excellent program which she called, “Camellias 101.” She hopes to present it to the Master Gardeners before the show in January. It was a true learning experience for not only the new members present, but the old ones as well. The program centered on camellias (japonica, reticulata, hybrid non- reticulata, sasanqua & related species) and their forms as well as their use as landscape plants. She had examples of leaf forms to show and a cut-out which illustrated the different bloom sizes. Many thanks, Irma, for an outstanding program.

There being no further business, Eleanor Thrasher made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Bill Luecking. Meeting adjourned.

Treasurer’s Report ***Treasurer: Nancy Collins***

Welcome to new members Lois Gorman and Bob and Lee Kline.

Membership Dues

We are still collecting dues for the 2010-2011 year. Dues are \$15 for a single membership and \$20 for a joint membership. You may bring your dues in cash or check to the October meeting or you may mail a check to the treasurer (address below). All checks should be made out to Gainesville Camellia Society.

Nancy Collins, Treasurer
1721 SW 82nd Terrace
Gainesville, FL 32607

Officers

President: Irma Velez
1st Vice President: Patrick Andrews
2nd Vice President: John Swanson
Secretary: John Thrasher, III
Treasurer: Nancy Collins

Board Members

Patrick Andrews	Jay Ellis
Bill Hayes	Harriet Hogsette
Jerry Hogsette	Clyde Leaphart
Bill Luecking	Ruth Milton
Roberta Parks	Chuck Ritter
Eleanor Thrasher	Bob Weidman

Program: Sunday, Octoberber 16, 2011

John Swanson: Program Chairman

Topic: "What is needed for good plant health"

Presenter: A panel discussion

Place: UF Wilmot Gardens Time: 2 p.m.

Dolly Warner, Refrestment Chairman

Refreshments provided as follows:Food: Nancy Collins

Beverages: Bill Hayes

Meetings: ***Oct. 16th meeting to be held at Wilmot Gardens***

The October 16th meeting will be held at Wilmot Gardens (map attached) at 2 p.m. due to the fact that Kanapaha will be holding their annual plant sale on that date. Wilmot's physical address was recently changed from 175 Mowry Road to 2023 Mowry Road. If you use a navigational system please try b0th or call Linda for directions at 352-284-5109 or Bill at 352-284-9999.



Gainesville Camellia Society

Affiliated with American Camellia Society

Volume 4

Editor: Linda Luecking

December 2011

President's Message: Irma Velez

Wow, I went to my first show of the season in Valdosta. I'm trying to finish with my Novice judging requirements this year, and this was my first of four shows. I'd forgotten how hectic the shows are, and also how helpful and nice fellow judges are. Although all my judging experiences have been good ones, I had the privilege of working with a very good judge. She put me on the spot several times to explain why I picked the flowers I did and I learned quite a bit in the several hours. It got me looking forward to our own show and I hope you are as excited as I am to see it come together.

But first, we will be enjoying each other's company at the Ritter's on the 17th. Especially for new members who haven't seen the Ritter Camellia Garden before, I hope that you will be able to make it to the December holiday meeting. We'll be eating great food and we'll have our last discussions and planning for the show at the business meeting, followed by an entertaining gift exchange. So, I hope to see everyone there.

For those of you that can't make the meeting, you will be missed, but have a happy and safe holiday season.

Minutes for October 16th 2011 Secretary: John Thrasher, III

President Irma Velez called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. She announced that the scheduled speaker for the day, Celeste Richard, was not able to come to the meeting as she had car trouble. Hopefully she will speak to us later in the year.

Irma thanked Ruth Milton and Bill Luecking for providing the refreshments today. (Observed later in the meeting: wonderful refreshments!)

All present received their Newsletter for November. Thanks, to Linda Luecking. Motion by Jerry Hogsette to approve the Minutes for October which were printed in the November Newsletter. Seconded by Paul Warner. Motion carried. (Thanks, Bill Luecking, for acting as Secretary for me last month.)

Treasurer's report: Nancy Collins gave the following report: At the present time:

Checking account	\$5,059.02
Savings account	2,261.63
Total	7,320.65

Some plants have been purchased for the show and the bill paid.

Nancy is accepting donations in support of the show, but needs the donations before Christmas time. You may pledge the donation if you are short on funds now!

The Show with Patrick Andrews:

- Two dollies are needed and Bill Luecking will rent them.
- It was decided that GCS needed 30 additional tables for the show this year. The rented tables will be expected by 2 PM on Friday. Set up can start then.
- David Mikolaitis will be contacted and he can deliver the GCS supplies that he stores anytime after 9 AM on Friday. Both rooms at Kanapaha are reserved for us.
- Jerry Hogsette has entry cards and they will be available at the Christmas party.

Patrick wishes to purchase chocolate gators for the judges to eat on their way home. That is OK if the price is reasonable.

Plants to sell at the show are being purchased from Mark Crawford's Loch Laurel Nursery in Valdosta, Georgia, and County Line Nursery in Byron, Georgia. Patrick will send out a list of the varieties and have copies at the Christmas party. GCS members may purchase them before the show opens. Let John Swanson, Bob Weidman or Patrick know if you wish to reserve any plants.

Programs are really needed only by those who are entering blooms in the show so only 25 or 30 copies will be printed. "Handouts" for camellia culture will be copied and available. There is a new ACS brochure that can be distributed.

- Jerry Hogsette has contacted the judges.
- Patrick was not able to arrange the suggested photo contest. Perhaps it can be held next year. It was suggested that GCS invite Susannah Peddie to show some of her photos that were used at the Harn.

- Irma Velez has nine Master Gardeners lined up to assist with the show. She will treat them to her "Camellia 101" class first. They will be at Kanapaha at 7 AM on Saturday morning.
- Dolly Warner will have the coffee, orange juice and snacks available on Saturday morning. She would appreciate contributions of snacks too at that time. It was decided not to have the refreshments on Sunday morning as so few people were at the show on Sunday morning last year.
- Clerks are needed. Irma will be sure the Master Gardeners understand the process. They should assist the more experienced clerks. Volunteer clerks are needed.
- Following set-up on Friday afternoon, there will be the annual pot luck dinner at Jerry's home. Jerry said to come on after the set up is finished around 4 -4:30 PM. We will eat about 6 PM.

Old Business:

Irma discussed obtaining the tee shirts from Westside T- Shirt Company. We can continue to order shirts and they are willing to apply the GCS logo cheaper than the other contact (See GCS Minutes for October 2011.) Price for applying the logo for GCS members is \$7.50. Shirt prices will vary depending on which shirt you purchase. They will accept group orders or orders from individuals. One may take their own shirt to Westside or purchase shirts from them.

- (Irma e-mailed the address later: Westside T-shirt, 4445 SW 35th Terrace, Suite 410, Gainesville, Florida 32608. 352-375-4263; Fax 352-372-9977)

New business:

Jerry Hogsette showed a new publication that is available: "Sun Camellias." (Sasanquas) Price \$10.00. Nancy Collins will order a copy for you if you want one so please let her know. The annual

Christmas party and GCS meeting for December will be at the Chuck and Bev Ritter's home on December 17th. Dinner will be around 1 PM. Come enjoy the garden and fellowship after 10 AM. GCS will pay for the meat dish. Please bring other food dishes and drinks to share. There will be the usual silly gift exchange for those who wish to take part.

Irma and Patrick toured the Kanapaha camellia garden with Alexis Goodman and discussed the upcoming show. GCS plant sales will be in the center of the driveway circle this year, not off to the side as last year. Alexis would like to have GCS support the maintenance of the camellia garden just as some other organizations help with the support of the other various gardens. Some GCS members are willing to do volunteer work in the garden. Members can demonstrate how to care for the plants. Master Gardeners get "points" for their volunteer work and need GCS expertise. They just need to know what, how and when to perform basic maintenance tasks.

- GCS members planted the garden in 1990-91.
- Motion by Patrick to approve GCS's support for the maintenance of the garden, seconded by Jeanne Earnest. Motion carried. A committee is needed to work with Alexis and will at present be Patrick Andrews, Irma Velez, Jay Ellis, Jerry Hogsette, Chuck Ritter and Roberta Parks. They will develop a camellia maintenance schedule calendar for the year which will be a guide for those working in the garden.
- There are vacant spots in the garden where "newer" varieties can be planted. Some tags are missing on the existing plants so those plants need to be identified during this blooming season. Jerry suggested that some buds be gibbed now in preparation for the January show.
- Jerry informed/reminded members about the Hume Camellia Garden on the grounds of the North Florida

Program:

Patrick graciously filled in for Celeste Richard and presented a power-point program prepared by and about the AMC headquarters and gardens at Masee Lane. Masee Lane is located between Marshallville and Fort Valley, Georgia. The best time to visit Masee Lane is in February when their blooms are at their best. Call ahead and perhaps you may be able to get in one of their tours of the gardens and facilities.

Many thanks, Patrick!

Jerry Hogsette conducted the auction for both donated plants and a few held over from last year's show. Special thanks to Bob Weidman, Patrick Andrews, Jerry Hogsette and Jack Janes for the donated plants for today's sale. The varieties sold and available today were: High Fragrance, Gus Menard, Cotton Candy, Deloris Edwards, Doris Ellis, Professor Charles S. Sargent, Showa-No-Sakae, Man Size and Saluenensis.

Treasurer's Report
Treasurer: Nancy Collins

If you pledged a donation to help defray the cost of our annual show and have not yet paid your money, you may give it to me at the Christmas party or you may mail it to me at Nancy Collins, 1721 SW 82nd Terrace, Gainesville, FL 32607. All checks should be made out to Gainesville Camellia Society.

I have ordered and received ten copies of the Sun Camellias book. They are \$10 each and I will have them at the Christmas party. If there is any other merchandize that you wish to purchase (such as Christmas ornaments or metal tags – regular or large size), please email in advance at harlequin45@cox.net or call me at 505-3637.

Regional Hospital: It too needs care.

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Jerry Hogsette Clyde Leaphart
Bill Luecking Ruth Milton
Roberta Parks Chuck Ritter
Eleanor Thrasher Bob Weidman

Program: Saturday, December 17, 2011

John Swanson, GCS Annual Christmas party

Fellowship: After 10 a.m.

Lunch: 2 p.m.

Place: Bev & Chuck Ritter's (see details below) Chinese gag gift exchange to follow lunch.

Dolly Warner, Refrestment Chairman

Dinner will be provided at the home of Bev & Chuck Ritter, **202 Mason Road, Melrose, FL**

Monthly Meetings

The annual Christmas party and GCS meeting for December will be at the Chuck and Bev Ritter's home on Sat., Dec. 17th. Dinner will be around 1 PM. Come enjoy the garden and fellowship after 10 AM. GCS will pay for the meat dish. Please bring other food dishes and drinks to share. There will be the usual silly gift exchange for those who wish to take part. Link to a map quest map: <http://mapq.st/iQ5TPb>



Gainesville Camellia Society

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Volume 5

Editor: Linda Luecking

January 2012

President's Message: Irma Velez

As usual, the January meeting will be held at the Bob and Patrick's home for a little celebrating. We'll have a short review of the show, and get on to new business. Although the year seems like it just got started, it's time to put together the nominating committee of three members to come up with the slate of officers for next year. I will hopefully be able to announce the chair of the committee by the meeting.

So, I hope to see many of you at the January meeting.

Minutes for October 16th 2011 Secretary: John Thrasher, III

It was another wonderful gathering at the Ritter's for the annual Christmas dinner, silly gift exchange, fun visiting with others and a chance to view the magnificent Chuck Ritter Camellia Gardens! There has never been a better day than this one for viewing the camellias. I guess there was probably not a

better day either for the delicious food. A great time was had by all!

It was a pleasure to have several guests with us today and they added greatly to the fun time we all spent together. (Sorry, I don't remember all of the names.) We hope they can be with us again!

A note too about the food: I believe that Betty Leaphart probably cooked the turkey, although it's always said, "Clyde cooked the turkey. To the cook: It was great! Jerry Selph's smoked pork was outstanding too and I don't believe that Carol actually did prepare that. Thanks, Jerry. Bev did a wonderful ham! A thank you to all who provided the wonderful meal.

Certainly no one should have more praise and thanks than Bev and Chuck. They have been so gracious for years in allowing us to dirty their floors, drop stuff on their carpets, fill up their trash and garbage cans, dirty all of their dishes and silver ware, and in general wreak havoc on their home, all because they love Camellias and the folks who do also. From the Camellia Society members, a sincere thank you!

President Irma Velez opened the business meeting by first thanking Bev and Chuck for their hospitality. She welcomed the several

guests who were with us today and thanked the cooks for the delicious food.

The Minutes for November were in the Newsletter. The motion by Patrick Andrews to approve them was seconded by Jack Janes. Motion passed.

Treasurer's report: Nancy Collins reported that GCS had \$4,459.26 in the Savings account, \$2,593.67 in the Checking account with a total in holdings of \$7,052.93. The bills for purchased plants have been paid. Nancy is still accepting donations to support the show. She has both large and small metal tags for sale (\$18 & \$14.) Show Chairman Patrick Andrews discussed the upcoming show:

Placement can begin immediately. There are eight Master Gardeners who expect to be present to assist with placement. Out regular volunteers should be at Kanapaha by 7:00 AM.

Seven of the Master Gardeners will clerk. More clerks will be needed.

The plant sales will be outside within the traffic circle. Melinda and Larry Sturdivant will assist there too. Linda Luecking may be able to print photos of the blooms/plants for sale. Bring identifying photos (book collections) to help out. Bob Weidman has a list of the plants which were purchased from County Line Nursery in Byron, Georgia. John Swanson has a list of those plants purchased from Loch Laurel Nursery in Valdosta, Georgia. These lists are available by e-mail from Bob and John.

Jay Ellis is in charge of the Judge's lunch. That will probably be held at Cracker Barrel.

Take down will begin at 4:00 PM on Sunday.

Volunteers are needed at all times during the show to answer questions and discuss camellias with show patrons.

Set up can begin about 2:00 PM. The tables should be there by then. The table cloths must be put in place.

David Mikolaitis will be contacted and hopefully he will have arrived before 2:00 PM with the supplies/items he has stored for GCS.

Bring plastic water jugs to use in filling the glass jars.

(Following set up, you are invited to take part in a pot luck supper at Jerry Hogsette's home. We will eat about 6:00 PM.)

The gate to Kanapaha is supposed to be opened by 6:30 AM on Saturday morning.

The Show Program is now on micro soft and can be changed when needed. (A new design?) Patrick will e-mail the program too all members and Bev Ritter will mail a copy to those who do not have e-mail.

A change was made in rule #16: Not all blooms must be listed in the Nomenclature, but would have to be listed in the International Registry. Such a bloom would have to be accompanied by documentation to be entered in a show.

Old Business:

GCS committed to assisting with the maintenance of the old camellia garden at Kanapaha. The committee will tackle this topic after the show.

Linda Luecking will not be able to continue as Newsletter editor next year. Any volunteers? Anna Langford, a new member, volunteered to take on this important task. Many thanks, Anna! Patrick volunteered to assist if needed and all members are asked to contribute items for the Newsletter.

New Business:

The next meeting of GCS will be on the third Sunday in January, the 15th, at 2:00 PM and be held in Patrick Andrews' and Bob Weidman's Camellia garden. Please feel free to assist with the snacks!

John E. Thrasher III, Secretary

Invitation & Directions to our January meeting

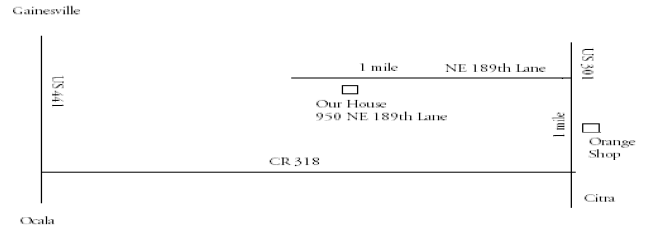
Please join us on Sunday, January 16, 2011, at 1:00 p.m., for the ninth annual tour of our Camellia and other gardens -- rain or shine! We added even more gardens this past year, including one that features flowers developed by local camellia gardeners. We will be hosting the Ocala Camellia Society, the Gainesville Camellia Society (meeting at 2 p.m.), and other gardening friends. Delicious refreshments will be served.

Our address is 950 NE 189th Lane, Citra, FL.

From Gainesville: Go south on US 441, go east on CR318, and then left on NE 10th Avenue. Follow the paved road around (it changes name three times in a few short blocks) until the pavement ends. Take a sharp right onto NE 189th Lane (dirt road), and our house is the third on the right (you will pass a tall Red Cedar hedge).

From Ocala: Go north on US 301 to intersection with CR 318 in Citra, go west on CR 318 about a mile, and then right on NE 10th Avenue. Follow the paved road around (it changes name three times in a few short blocks) until the pavement ends. Take a sharp right onto NE 189th Lane (dirt road), and our house is the third on the right (you will pass a tall Red Cedar hedge).

The house is white with dark green trim. Be sure to wear comfortable clothes and walking shoes. We hope to see you! Bob Weidman and Patrick Andrews. 352-595-3365



Officers

President: Irma Velez
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2nd Vice President: John Swanson
Secretary: John Thrasher, III
Treasurer: Nancy Collins

Board Members

Patrick Andrews	Jay Ellis
Bill Hayes	Harriet Hogsette
Jerry Hogsette	Clyde Leaphart
Bill Luecking	Ruth Milton
Roberta Parks	Chuck Ritter
Eleanor Thrasher	Bob Weidman

Program: Sunday, January 15, 2012

John Swanson, Camellias by Patrick and Bob

Time: Our meeting will begin at 2 p.m. but please feel free to come early & explore.

Location: Patrick Andrews & Bob Weidman, 950 NE 189th Lane, Citra, FL (map pg. 3)

Dolly Warner, Refrestment Chairman

Patrick and Bob always provide and elaborate and bountiful fare.

Monthly Meetings

Monthly meetings are on the 3rd Sunday Kanapaha Botanical Gardens in the GRU Conference Room, 2 p.m. However, the January meeting will be held at the home of Patrick Andrews and Bob Weidman. Please see the map and instructions on page 3 of this newsletter



Gainesville Camellia Society

Affiliated with the American Camellia Society

Volume 6

Editor: Anna Langford

February 2012

President's Message

Those of you who were at the January meeting heard that we had a VERY successful show. I think this is the first time we've been in the black for the show in quite a few years. Kudos to all who helped with the show!

We also had quite a few new members join, and we welcome you to the Gainesville Camellia Society.

Now, on to what we need to discuss at the next meeting:

- I asked for suggestions for improvements we can make for next year's show. That will be an old business item.
- Jerry Hogsette will present the slate of officers for next year. We will discuss the slate, so it's important to have a good showing at the meeting.
- We will discuss the plan to maintain the Camellia Garden at Kanapaha.
- We need to start planning for the Kanapaha Spring Festival. I will bring in the sign-up sheet and ask for volunteers.
- Anyone with suggestions on how to improve our presence there, please feel free to bring up some suggestions.

As you can see, we have a full agenda for the February meeting, so I hope to see you there.

Irma Velez
President

Minutes for January 15, 2012 GCS Meeting

The January meeting of the GCS was called to order by President Irma Velez in the beautiful gardens developed by Bob Weidman and Patrick Andrews. Irma thanked Patrick and Bob for their hospitality and for the great refreshments which were to come.

A number of new members of GCS were present today and were introduced. They are surely welcome! Nancy Collins, Treasurer, reported that GCS gained six new members at the show and one new member today. There were also four new members for ACS, with two more joining today.

The December Minutes were printed in the Newsletter. After a brief discussion about one error, a motion was made by Paul Warner to approve the minutes, seconded by Jack Janes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report:

Checking Account Balance, \$2,393.55
Savings Account Balance, \$6,459.47
Total Balance, \$8,853.02

Thanks, Nancy.

Show report: Patrick Andrews felt that the show was a good, smooth show. There were 902 blooms entered. The number of visitors was not truly determined, but estimates varied between about 800 (GCS count) and 365 (Kanapaha Gardens' count.) The show results are available on the ACS web site. Raffle donations totaled \$138.00. All camellia plants were sold. The plant sales cleared over \$1,400.00 and GCS ended up "in the black" for the show with \$945.49!

Irma requested suggestions as to how GCS can improve its show. Much more emphasis has to be put on advertising. Someone will have to write an article for the newspaper, as the current Gainesville Sun does not have a Garden Editor any longer. The show was listed on the Master Gardener's web site. There was "something" in the Gainesville Sun and an announcement on Channel 20's news. A goal is to try to increase Kanapaha's attendance (and GCS did that this time!) A sign is needed next year for the Winner's Circle at the show. Any and all suggestions are welcome. Please send them to Irma. Suggestions will be discussed at the February meeting.

Old Business: GCS voted last month to form a committee to create a plan of action to assist in maintaining the camellia area within the Kanapaha Gardens. Patrick Andrews, Jerry Hogsette, and Jack Janes have already volunteered to work with Irma. More involvement is needed. Some Master Gardeners will help with the regular care of the plants. GCS assistance is especially needed for guidance as to how to fertilize, prune, mulch, fight diseases and insects, and when to perform these activities. The committee will develop a plan covering a year's time which can be used as a model by Kanapaha.

It is to GCS's advantage to assist Kanapaha Gardens. Patrick moved that "GCS donate \$500.00 to Kanapaha Gardens, with the request that the funds be tied to carrying out the maintenance plan that is being developed by GCS."

The motion was seconded by Jerry Hogsette. Motion carried.

Jerry Selph stated that he and Carol will donate five plants for the garden when it is determined which varieties are needed. There are some empty places where there were once camellias. Michael McCaffrey has several species plants housed at Jack Janes' and suggested using some species plants as that would give more variety to the garden. Patrick suggested that the species plants in his garden could be viewed with the idea of seeing how they stand the winters.

Janet Verwey reminded the group that the Hume Camellia Garden also needs attention. That will be discussed at the February meeting.

Irma appointed Jerry Hogsette to be head of the nominating committee for next year. He will contact others for the committee and have a slate of officers ready for the February meeting.

Nancy Collins reminded us that the Kanapaha Spring Festival will be in March, only two months away. This will also be discussed in February. Irma wants to be sure that GCS makes its presence known there, with GCS tee shirts, flyers with GCS' show

date for next year, and anything else that might be a good idea.

Nancy Collins showed her tee shirt with the GCS logo that she recently obtained. The cost to have the logo embroidered was \$7.00, with a week's wait for completion. Information about obtaining GCS tee shirts was included in the November GCS Newsletter.

There being no more business to discuss, a motion was made by Jerry Hogsette to adjourn, seconded by Paul Warner. Meeting adjourned.

John Thrasher, III
Secretary

Treasurer's Report

We are pleased to welcome seven new members: Hubert and Beverly Brewer, Randy Fearing, Judy Jubien, Kay Kielhofer, Lois McNamara, Jamie Reyes and Marco Martinez, William Ritz, and Denis and Nicki Whittaker.

An updated membership list is attached. If you are unable to open it or print it, some hard copies will be available at the February meeting.

Nancy Collins
Treasurer

Officers

President: Irma Velez
 1st Vice President: Patrick Andrews
 2nd Vice President: John Swanson
 Secretary: John Thrasher, III
 Treasurer: Nancy Collins

Board Members

Patrick Andrews Jay Ellis
 Bill Hayes Harriet Hogsette
 Jerry Hogsette Clyde Leaphart
 Bill Luecking Ruth Milton
 Roberta Parks Chuck Ritter
 Eleanor Thrasher Bob Weidman

Program: Sunday, February 19, 2012

John Swanson, Program Chairman

Topic: "The camellia care calendar - what to do now for healthy, insect-free plants and a good bud set this year"

Presenters: Irma Velez and Patrick Andrews

Place: The GRU Conference Room at Kanapaha Botanical Gardens

Time: 2 pm

Dolly Warner, Refreshment Chairman

Refreshments provided by: Food - Debbie Griffin Beverages - Karen Peebles

Monthly Meetings

Monthly meetings are held on the third Sunday of each month at Kanapaha Botanical Gardens in the GRU Conference Room at 2 p.m.



Gainesville Camellia Society

Affiliated with the American Camellia Society

Volume 7

Editor: Anna Langford

March 2012

President's Message

If your camellias are behaving like mine, they have pretty much stopped blooming. However, I'm still keeping busy planting the camellias I bought this year, as well as last year's air-layers. I've also started pruning and fertilizing, and soon I'll start air-layering. I'm sure you are all as busy as I am, but we have some things to accomplish in the month of March, and I need your help to get them done.

On the 12th of March we will have our cleanup work day at the Kanapaha Camellia/Azalea Garden. Eight Master Gardeners have volunteered so far to help at this event, as well as five GCS members.

At our March meeting, we will be making final arrangements for the Kanapaha Spring Festival. I still need a couple of people to sign to man our booth on Saturday, March 24th. The two time slots we still need to cover are 11AM to 1PM and 3PM to 5PM. We will also discuss the slate of officers at the March meeting, followed by voting.

As you can see, we have a full agenda for our meeting on March 18th at 2PM in the GRU Conference Room at Kanapaha Botanical Gardens, and I hope to see you there.

Irma Velez
President

Minutes for February 19, 2012 GCS Meeting

President Irma Velez opened the meeting with a welcome to all present. It was a special pleasure to have long time members Richard and Ginny Mohr from Orange Park attending (their first time meeting with us), as well as Irma's mother-in-law and a number of newer GCS members.

Irma thanked Howard and Debbie Griffin and Karen Peeples for providing refreshments for today's meeting.

The February issue of the GCS Newsletter was the first to be prepared by our new editor, Anna Langford. Thanks, Anna, great job!

The Minutes for January 2012 were printed in the Newsletter. No additions or corrections were noted, and a motion by Patrick Andrews to approve the Minutes was seconded by Bill Hayes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report from Nancy Collins:

Savings account: \$6,459.68

Checking account: \$2,479.58

Total GCS funds: \$\$8,939.26

Thank you, Nancy.

Nancy said that some camellia annuals and magazines donated by Jeanne and Charles Earnest were available for members to enjoy. Thank you, Jeanne and Charles, for your thoughtful donation.

Old Business:

Report from Patrick Andrews on the January GCS Camellia show: it's OVER, Patrick said! He also stated that the cooperation he received as show chairman was great. The rooms at Kanapaha have been reserved for next year.

Irma had asked previously for suggestions as to how to improve next year's show. Although advertising was better this year, it still needs improvement. If you have any constructive suggestions to offer, please e-mail Irma at jdvelez@directv.net.

Jerry Hogsette, Nominating Committee Chairman, presented a tentative slate of officers for 2012-2013: President, Irma Velez; First Vice President and Show Chairman, Patrick Andrews; Second Vice President for Programs, John Swanson; Secretary, Karen Peeples (our thanks to Karen for jumping right in to help out!); Treasurer, Nancy Collins; Newsletter Editor, Anna Langford.

GCS Board members nominated were: Jay Ellis, Bill Hayes, Harriet Hogsette, Jerry Hogsette, Clyde Leaphart, Bill Luecking, Ruth Milton, Roberta Parks, Chuck Ritter and Bob Weidman.

New Business:

The Kanapaha Spring Festival will be on Saturday and Sunday, March 24th and 25th. Each year GCS has a booth manned by members to dispense information, answer questions, and have a good time. We will have a raffle, with the winner taking home a camellia plant. Volunteers are needed to serve as docents in the booth for blocks of time, usually two hours, and Irma has a signup sheet for that.

If you do not sign up today, the next GCS meeting will be before the festival, and you can sign up at that time. Two volunteers are needed between 3 and 4 PM on Friday afternoon to set up the tent and tables.

The last docents on Sunday will help take down the tent and load materials into Irma's car. Entrance passes should be available for docents.

If possible, new members will be paired with experienced members. When talking to the public during the festival, docents should mention the location of Kanapaha's Camellia Garden and suggest that it is worth viewing.

As GCS is "in the black", Bob Weidman proposed that GCS send a donation to ACS. After discussion, the motion was revised to propose that GCS send \$500 to ACS for the Endowment Fund. The motion was seconded by Jeanne Earnest. Motion carried.

Jack Janes proposed sending a memorial donation to ACS in memory of Frankie Stevens. This has already been done.

Jack Janes suggested that we use a speaker system for meetings and programs or that people speak louder!

Program:

Irma presented the program today. She discussed the "Camellia Care Schedule for Kanapaha Botanical Gardens. She distributed the printed schedule that she prepared. She will be working with several Master Gardeners who have volunteered to assist with the care and maintenance of the Kanapaha Camellia Garden.

This is pruning time, and a pruning day has been scheduled. Irma would appreciate receiving suggestions about the Camellia Care Schedule, so please e-mail her at idvelez@directv.net with your ideas. Her committee members are Jerry Hogsette, Jack Janes and Patrick Andrews.

We had a good discussion about fertilizers: what kind and when to apply.

Recommendations: buy regular camellia/azalea fertilizer from Lowe's; use Milorganite for long term feeding; try a blueberry special; or have your own mixture milled. It was suggested that we have a program about using worm castings for fertilizer, as there is someone nearby who produces and sells the castings.

There being no further business, Bill Hayes moved that the business portion of the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Patrick Andrews. Motion passed, and the business meeting was adjourned

Next was the "business" of the plant auction. Thanks to Jerry Hogsette and Patrick Andrews for donating the plants for today's auction. *Man Size, Herme, Julia,* and *Magic City* plants were purchased by Howard and Debbie Griffin, Karen Peebles and Judy Jubien.

John Thrasher, III
Secretary

Treasurer's Report - Nancy Collins

An updated membership list is attached. If you are unable to open it or print it, some hard copies will be available at the March meeting.

Officers

President: Irma Velez
 1st Vice President: Patrick Andrews
 2nd Vice President: John Swanson
 Secretary: John Thrasher, III
 Treasurer: Nancy Collins

Board Members

Patrick Andrews Jay Ellis
 Bill Hayes Harriet Hogsette
 Jerry Hogsette Clyde Leaphart
 Bill Luecking Ruth Milton
 Roberta Parks Chuck Ritter
 Eleanor Thrasher Bob Weidman

Program: Sunday, March 18, 2012

John Swanson, Program Chairman

Topic: "Current Issues of Interest"

Presenter: Eileen Hart, Florida's representative on the ACS Board

Place: The GRU Conference Room at Kanapaha Botanical Gardens

Time: 2 pm

Dolly Warner, Refreshment Chairman

Refreshments provided by: Merry Reid - Food Lee Kline - Beverages

Monthly Meetings

Monthly meetings are held at 2PM on the third Sunday of each month at Kanapaha Botanical Gardens in the GRU Conference Room.



Gainesville Camellia

Affiliated with the American Camellia Society

Volume 8

Editor: Anna Langford

April 2012

President's Message

For the first time this spring I haven't had any specific camellia tasks to do, but I've been staying busy with general yard cleanup and flowerbed maintenance.

I want to thank Jerry Hogsette, Roberta Parks, Howard Griffin, Bill Hayes, Jeanne & Charles Earnest, David Dishong, Judy Jubien, Nyi Nyi Henne, Karen Peeples, Anna & Gerald Langford, and Mary Reid for their work at the Kanapaha Spring Festival. Although we didn't have any new members apply, we had plenty of camellia questions to answer. I had a great time meeting people and came home with a tea olive and six ginger plants.

We had our first regularly scheduled Camellia/Azalea Garden clean-up workday at Kanapaha on Wednesday from 1:30 to 4:30pm. Four Master Gardener volunteers and three GCS members participated, and we got another small area of the garden weeded and a few more camellias pruned. Thanks to Bill Hayes, Linda Luecking, and Lois Gorman for their help. Workdays are on Wednesdays from 1:30 to 4:30pm.

Although I don't have any specific agenda items for the next meeting, I hope to see you there.

Irma Velez
President

Other Reports

The GCS Treasurer, Nancy Collins, has no news to report at this time.

Since the minutes of our March meeting are not available, we may send out an addendum to the newsletter later in the week; however, we thought it important to remind members of the upcoming meeting (details on page 2) by way of this abbreviated newsletter.

Officers

President: Irma Velez
 1st Vice President: Patrick Andrews
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 Treasurer: Nancy Collins

Board Members

Patrick Andrews Jay Ellis
 Bill Hayes Harriet Hogsette
 Jerry Hogsette Clyde Leaphart
 Bill Luecking Ruth Milton
 Roberta Parks Chuck Ritter
 Eleanor Thrasher Bob Weidman

Program: Sunday, April 15, 2012

John Swanson, Program Chairman

Topic: "Contributions of Hulyn Smith to the Camellia World"

Presenters: John Swanson

Place: The GRU Conference Room at Kanapaha Botanical Gardens

Dolly Warner, Refreshment Chairman

Refreshments provided by: Food - Irma Velez Beverages - Janet Verwey

Monthly Meetings

Monthly meetings are held on the third Sunday of each month at Kanapaha Botanical Gardens in the GRU Conference Room at 2 p.m.



Gainesville Camellia Society

Affiliated with the American Camellia Society

Volume 9

Editor: Anna Langford

May 2012

President's Message

It's hard to believe that we're at the end of another meeting year. I'd like to take the opportunity to thank all the members for the work that you've done this year. The GCS Show in January was a success, as was the Kanapaha Festival in March.

If you haven't made it to Kanapaha recently, take the opportunity to go by the Camellia/Azalea Garden and see the improvements. I think you'll be pleased with what we've accomplished. There's more that needs to be done, so if you have some time, we will be holding workdays from 1:30 to 4:30 pm every Wednesday until the end of June.

Our agenda for this meeting will include the installation of officers. If you have any items we need to discuss before we take a break for the summer, please let me know. And don't forget the air-layering and grafting demos. I hope to see you at the Ritter's for a great picnic.

Irma Velez
President

Minutes for GCS Meeting - March 18, 2012

President Irma Velez called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

The Minutes for February were published in the March GCS Newsletter. No additions or corrections were suggested. A motion to approve the Minutes was made by Bill Leucking and seconded by Paul Warner. Motion carried.

Since the Treasurer, Nancy Collins, was absent, no Treasurer's report was given.

Old Business

The Kanapaha Spring Festival is next weekend. Irma asked for volunteers to man the GCS booth for two unfilled time slots. She had several parking passes, but not enough for all docents. If you pay the entrance fee, GCS will give you a refund. There will be a raffle for a camellia plant, for which docents will sell tickets. The docent schedule will be in the cash box. Membership forms for ACS and GCS will be available, along with the usual information handouts GCS provides for the public.

Last Monday Bill Hayes and Jerry Hogsette conducted the first work day in the Kanapaha Camellia Garden. Master Gardeners are helping out but need guidance. Pruning is important now and they need to be shown proper techniques. The ACS handout on pruning is a good reference. Regular work sessions will be held on Wednesdays from 1:30 PM to 4:30 PM through June 27th.

Jerry Hogsette announced the proposed slate of officers for 2012-2013. The slate is not complete as he has not heard from Clyde Leaphart. At present proposed officers are: President, Irma Velez; 1st VP /Show Chairman, Patrick Andrews; 2nd VP for Programs, John Swanson; Treasurer, Nancy Collins; and Secretary, Karen Peebles. Anna Langford will continue as Newsletter editor.

The proposed Board: Harriet Hogsette, Jerry Hogsette, Clyde Leaphart (yet to confirm), Bill Leucking, Ruth Milton, Roberta Parks, Chuck Ritter, Bob Weidman, and Bill Hayes. There is still one place that can be filled on the Board, and John Thrasher nominated Paul Warner. A motion made by Jeanne Earnest to accept the slate of nominees as presented was seconded by Ruth Milton. Motion carried. Voting for the proposed slate of officers and board members will take place at the April GCS meeting, with installation of officers at the May meeting.

Patrick will organize the 2013 GCS Camellia Show, but will be away after December 25th. Jerry will fill in for him at the show in January.

Jerry said that Garden Gate Nursery still has camellias, and one variety they have is Pink Perfection. Chuck said that Patrick plans to air-layer in his garden from April to June and has lots of Pink Perfections that can be air-layered. If you would like to help and learn, contact Patrick.

Paul asked about our former policy of giving a plant to each new member. The two members who had donated the plants for this purpose are no longer here. The air layers that Patrick (et al) will be preparing won't be ready for quite some time. Perhaps GCS could give an IOU for the plant? We will discuss this again at the April meeting.

Program

Our speaker today, Eileen Hart, needed no introduction for most GCS members. Eileen is a member of GCS and has made many fine presentations to us. She is always here for the GCS Camellia Show as a grower and judge and makes us feel that she actually lives just down the street, so that she is available to help with any camellia problems. She is the ACS Director for Peninsular Florida.

Eileen discussed the move to have all camellia organizations in Florida develop a camellia garden which would include camellias named for and registered by persons in the area. The garden at Kanapaha, sponsored by GCS, can serve that purpose.

She talked about the physical reorganization of ACS and then discussed companion plants for camellia gardens, giving many helpful hints and information for members to use in improving their own gardens. Eileen went on to demonstrate her air-layering technique. (It seems that everyone has their own favorite way to

air-layer!) Many thanks, Eileen, for a super program.

Following Eileen's presentation, Chuck Carlson offered to give various plants, including ornamental nectarines and camellia seedlings, to anyone who is interested. Call 352-373-3135 for directions to his home in Gainesville and to arrange a time to drop by.

A special thanks to Merry Reid and Lee Fine for the delicious refreshments they served today.

John Thrasher, III, Secretary

Minutes for GCS Meeting - April 15, 2012

President Irma Velez opened the meeting with a reference to the Minutes for the March 18 meeting, which were missing from the GCS Newsletter. (John forgot to send them to Anna - sorry.) John read the Minutes to members who were present, and Anna will include them in the May newsletter. The Minutes were accepted as read.

Treasurer's Report from Nancy Collins:

Checking account: \$6,460.19
Savings account, \$1,605.62
Total funds: \$8,065.81.

Nancy reported that membership renewals have begun to arrive. Income from the plant raffle at Kanapaha was \$37. GCS has sent a \$25 donation to the ACS in memory of our member and friend, Jack Janes.

Chuck Ritter asked if all present had read Jack Janes' obituary. He will have a copy at the picnic for you to read if you did not see it.

Old Business

Irma reported on the Kanapaha Festival and thanked those who served as docents at the GCS booth, which was in a new location this year. Irma asked for creative ideas as to how we can best represent camellias, our GCS and the ACS at future shows, as well as ideas for recruiting new members. She said that people stopped by the GCS booth with good questions. We need earlier publicity for next year's show.

We discussed once again giving each new member a plant when they join GCS, which has required about ten plants each year. Chuck Ritter, Patrick Andrews, Bob Weidman, Jerry Hogsette, and Linda Leucking have graciously volunteered to supply plants for next year. We appreciate these folks' generosity.

Gene Dunham suggested that we give some seedlings to stir up interest, as one never knows just what a seedling will produce (or when.)

We will resume giving a plant to new members next year, with the understanding that the plant must be picked up at a GCS meeting.

Chuck suggested that perhaps GCS could give two plants if someone joined both the GCS and ACS, but Jeanne Earnest said she thought there should be a "breather" period between a member joining GCS and being asked to join ACS as well.

Although GCS bylaws provide for a Membership Committee, there has been no active committee for several years. Linda Leucking volunteered to head this committee. The Treasurer is automatically a member. A motion by Anna Langford to appoint Linda as head of the Membership Committee was seconded by Jeanne Earnest. Motion carried.

The first two workdays at Kanapaha have been held, and the Camellia Garden looks better already. Everyone is invited to help out on Wednesdays at 1:30 pm.

Election of Officers for 2012 - 2013: Clyde Leaphart agreed to serve on the GCS Board. With that unfinished business completed, the election of new officers took place. The proposed slate of officers was published in the March Newsletter and read aloud at the beginning of today's meeting. All present voted to approve the slate of officers for 2012-2013 as presented today.

New Business

Patrick Andrews donated a laptop computer to GCS. It has Windows 7 and the ability to download power point programs. GCS will need to purchase a charger (at a cost of about \$73). John Swanson suggested that we download programs from the ACS website so that these can be used when and if needed. Our sincere appreciation to Patrick.

The annual May picnic meeting will be held at the Ritter's in Melrose on Saturday, May 19th. Come when you wish and walk around the garden, even though there will be no camellia blooms this late in the year. The Swansons will purchase the meat for GCS and bring it with them. Everyone else, please bring food and drink. We will eat at about 2 pm. Mark Crawford will demonstrate a Chinese grafting technique, and Patrick will demonstrate his own air-layering method. These demonstrations will begin at 12:00 noon.

Patrick will not be at the GCS show in January, but will organize it. Jerry Hogsette will cover for him at the show. In the past, the 2nd VP moved up to become 1st VP/Show Chairman for the following year. Patrick asked whether we wish to reinstate that tradition. If John Swanson, our current 2nd VP is willing, Patrick will work with him in preparation for the following year.

Nancy Collins asked about an audit of the financial records. She was not audited last year, although the GCS bylaws call for regular audits. Janet Verwey stated that she was the last Treasurer whose records were audited. Janet agreed to audit the records after the end of June and will have a report for the September meeting.

Patrick gave an update on the Norfolk, Virginia, camellia meeting that he attended a couple of weeks ago, along with John, and Dinh Swanson. "What's going on in China?" was a major topic presented there.

Nancy suggested that a memorial gift to Kanapaha in Jack Janes' name would be appropriate, as Jack was quite involved with activities there, including the festival and the camellia garden. Irma suggested we donate a memorial brick for the walkway. The brick would have Jack's name and some bit of information imprinted on it. Kris Janes would be consulted as to the inscription. These bricks cost \$100 each.

A motion by Patrick to "Donate a \$100 brick to the gardens in Jack's name" was seconded by Bill Hayes. Motion carried.

Jeanne Earnest inquired about a Judges Training Class. Patrick plans to conduct a class again this summer, as several members are interested in participating. Linda Leucking offered the room at the Wilmot Gardens as a place for the class to meet. Perhaps an extra two hours could be added for Novice training.

Program

John Swanson presented photos of many of the camellia varieties developed/originated by Hulyn Smith. Many of Hulyn's camellias are named for people involved in growing and showing camellias or their family members and friends, many of whom are well known to GCS members

John also walked us through the ACS site map. Thanks, John, for a very interesting and beautiful program.

Following John's presentation, an auction was held for three camellia plants donated by Patrick and for about a dozen items donated by Jerry that Nancy had brought. Thanks, Patrick and Jerry.

Many thanks to Dolly Warner for being the refreshment chair this year and to Janet Verwey and Irma for the great refreshments they provided today.

The meeting was adjourned for visiting and refreshments.

Note: Bill Hayes' new telephone number is 352-222-4110.

John Thrasher, III, Secretary

Officers

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 Bill Luecking Ruth Milton
 Roberta Parks Chuck Ritter
 Eleanor Thrasher Bob Weidman

Program: Saturday, May 19, 2012

John Swanson, Program Chairman

Topic: “Techniques of Chinese Grafting and of Air-Layering”

Presenters: Mark Crawford and Patrick Andrews

Place: Chuck and Bev Ritter’s Home, 202 Mason Road, Melrose, FL

(Link to a mapquest map: <http://mapq.st/iQ5TPb>)

Time: 12 noon (Program); 2 pm (Picnic and Business Meeting)

Picnic Fare:

John & Dinh Swanson will bring BBQ chicken (provided by GCS); everyone else, please bring other food dishes and drinks to share.

Monthly Meetings

Monthly meetings are held at 2pm on the third Sunday of each month at Kanapaha Gardens in the GRU Conference Room (unless otherwise indicated in this newsletter).