



Gainesville Camellia Society

Affiliated with the American Camellia Society

Volume 10

Editor: Anna Langford

September 2012

President's Message

It's hard to believe that September is already here, and a new camellia season is about to begin. Actually, when I returned from vacation in mid-August I found my Bonanza in bloom, so it's started already. I hope everyone is ready to go, because I want this year to be as successful as last year.

To bring you up to date on what's been happening with the Kanapaha Camellia/Azalea garden since our May meeting: work continued until July 5th, when the heat, mosquitoes, and afternoon showers did us in. Several Master Gardeners worked through the month of June. A special thanks to Jerry Hogsette, who made it through July with me. The garden was looking great when we finally called it quits. I returned today expecting to find it overgrown with weeds, but - surprisingly - it still looks in good shape. The caladiums we planted are striking, the peacock ginger that finally showed up in May is in full bloom, and the Kanapaha staff has mulched the beds and planted begonias. Several sasanquas are blooming as well.

We still have work to do in the garden, because we want it to look great for our January show. The Master Gardeners will help with weeding and general garden cleanup, but I would like your help in preparing the camellias. Most of them are heavy with buds. As we don't have a speaker for the September meeting, I will give a disbudding demonstration, and then I'd like for all of us to spend 15 minutes disbudding the camellias (weather permitting). Wear comfortable clothes and shoes, and I'll see you on the 16th

Irma Velez
President

Minutes for GCS Meeting - May 19, 2012

Saturday, May 19th, was a beautiful day for the GCS annual picnic meeting, graciously hosted again by Bev and Chuck Ritter at their home in Melrose. Even though the camellia-blooming season was over, the Ritters' gardens are something to see (and to emulate if possible.)

Mark Crawford demonstrated a Chinese grafting technique that few of those present had witnessed before. That was a real learning experience! Mark stated that this type of grafting can be done in the spring and summer.

Next Bob Weidman and Patrick Andrews demonstrated their "very successful" technique for air-layering. They advised that this is the time of year when air-layering works best, as the bark is slipping on the camellia stems making the job easier. Many thanks, Mark, Bob and Patrick, for the demonstrations.

After an enjoyable social hour, dinner was served. In keeping with GCS tradition, the food was outstanding and truly appreciated by all. Special thanks to Dinh and John Swanson for the home-barbequed chicken and to Jerry Selph for the barbequed pork roast.

Following dinner, Irma Velez called the business meeting to order. She thanked Bev and Chuck for their hospitality. She introduced and welcomed a number of guests: Fred & Sandra Jones, Gene & Sandra Seago, Mark & Sherrida Crawford, Eileen & Bob Hart, and Mrs. Dunnam, who was with us for the first time. It was a pleasure to have all of

our guests with us. (I mentioned Eileen and Mark as they are "distant" members and we don't see them very often.)

The most important business then took place: introduction of GCS officers and Board members for the year 2012-2013. The slate of nominations was published in the March and April newsletters, and election of officers took place at the regular GCS meeting in April. Linda Leucking performed the brief installation ceremony.

Our new officers are: Irma Velez, President; Patrick Andrews, 1st VP & Show Chair; John Swanson, 2nd VP for Programs; Karen Peebles, Secretary; Nancy Collins, Treasurer. Anna Langford will continue as Newsletter Editor.

Members of the GCS Board for the coming year are: Bill Hayes, Harriet Hogsette, Jerry Hogsette, Clyde Leaphart, Bill Leucking, Ruth Milton, Roberta Parks, Chuck Ritter, Paul Warner, and Bob Weidman. The members of GCS certainly appreciate the great service the officers and Board members performed during the past year.

The May newsletter included the minutes for the March and April meetings. There being no suggested changes, Patrick Andrews moved, seconded by Bill Hayes, that we approve the minutes as printed. The motion carried.

At the April meeting, the membership voted to place a memorial brick at Kanapaha Botanical Gardens in memory

of Jack Janes. Nancy Collins, Treasurer, announced that the brick has now been paid for and should be in place by our September meeting.

The Treasurer's report:

<u>Savings account:</u>	\$6,460.46
<u>Checking account:</u>	\$1,645.25
<u>Total funds:</u>	\$8,105.71

Nancy is accepting dues for next year. Dues are \$15 for an individual and \$20 for a couple. Thank you, Nancy, for your tireless work as Treasurer.

Irma reported on GCS workdays at Kanapaha. A group of Master Gardeners is helping with this work, and the camellia and azalea garden looks much better. Work sessions will continue on Wednesdays from 1:30 PM to 4:30 PM through the month of June, after which workers will take a break until September. She urged all members to help with this project.

A large sasanqua in the garden has died, and we discussed plans to replace it. No

decision was reached, but we hope to put in a transplant in the fall. Irma invited everyone to tour the gardens and see what has been accomplished to date. She emphasized that she wants GCS to remain active in the work at Kanapaha. Perhaps some of the camellias can be gibbed in September and October so they will be ready at the time of our January show.

Patrick plans to attend the ACS business meeting soon. If you have suggestions for him to take to the meeting, please contact him. There was some discussion concerning ACS policies, the operation of Masee Lane Gardens, and the way things seem to be going at ACS.

Irma thanked everyone again for the work each member has contributed this year - the show, picnic, newsletter, Kanapaha Spring Festival, et al.

As there was no more old business, Bill Hayes moved to adjourn the meeting. This was seconded by Bob Weidman, and the meeting adjourned.

John Thrasher, III, Secretary

From the Treasurer

It's time to pay dues for the 2012-2013 year. Dues are \$15 for an individual and \$20 for a joint membership. You may pay your dues by cash or check at the September meeting, or mail your check to me at the address below. Make checks out to Gainesville Camellia Society. *Nancy Collins, Treasurer, 1721 SW 82nd Terrace, Gainesville FL 32607*

A Sad Announcement

Todd Warner, Paul and Dolly Warner's 50-year-old son, died on July 18th after a battle with cancer. He worked with the Native American community in Marquette, MI. Paul and Dolly are still in Michigan with family for a memorial service and to complete necessary tasks. All of us at GCS join in expressing our sincere condolences to the Warners.

Officers

President:	Irma Velez
1st Vice President & Show Chair:	Patrick Andrews
2nd Vice President & Program Chair:	John Swanson
Secretary:	Karen Peebles
Treasurer:	Nancy Collins

Board Members

Bill Hayes	Ruth Milton
Harriet Hogsette	Roberta Parks
Jerry Hogsette	Chuck Ritter
Clyde Leaphart	Paul Warner
Bill Luecking	Bob Weidman

Program: Saturday, May 19, 2012

John Swanson, Program Chairman

Topic: “Disbudding Camellias” followed by brief work session

Presenter: Irma Velez

Place: GRU Conference Room at Kanapaha Botanical Gardens

Time: 2 pm

Dolly Warner, Refreshment Chair

Refreshments providers Anna & Gerald Langford-Food; Jeanne & Charles Earnest- Beverages

Gainesville Camellia Society Meetings

Meetings are held at 2pm on the third Sunday of each month from September through May in the GRU Conference Room at Kanapaha Botanical Gardens (unless otherwise indicated in this newsletter).



Gainesville Camellia Society

Affiliated with the American Camellia Society

Volume 11

Editor: Anna Langford

October 2012

President's Message

Can you believe this weather? It's been so nice and cool recently that working outside has been great. I've noticed that some of my early Japonicas have started to bloom; to be specific: Little Slam and Early Autumn. I'm sure you are all enjoying your camellia gardens also, whether you have two plants or two hundred.

The Camellia/Azalea garden was cleaned up before the recent Kanapaha Plant Sale weekend. At least we got all the paths weeded and cleared, allowing visitors to stroll through the garden without having to duck branches of palms and other trees. I hope some of you were able to make it there and that you found some shade-loving plants to enhance your camellia gardens.

Bill Hayes has been gibbing a few camellia buds each week, and these should start blooming soon - just in time for our meeting this Sunday. I hope to see you there, to enjoy the garden, and to hear Celeste Richard's update on the American Camellia Society. Expect an enjoyable afternoon!

Irma Velez
President

Minutes for GCS Meeting - September 16, 2012

The meeting was called to order by Irma Velez, President, at 2:10 pm.

The Board of Directors met earlier at 1 pm and toured the Camellia/Azalea Garden.

When members tour the Camellia Garden, we should keep an eye to new plantings in the space that has been cleared. The ACS has suggested planting camellias registered by GCS members. GCS will set a work day for planting the new camellias with the assistance of the Master Gardeners.

Eleanor Thrasher thanked members for signing up to provide refreshments and noted that there are still two openings that need to be filled. Refreshments today were provided by Anna and Gerald Langford and drinks were provided by Jeanne and Charles Earnest. Jeanne and Charles also brought several old camellia magazines for members to take.

MINUTES OF MAY MEETING

Anna Langford noted several corrections to the minutes published in the current newsletter: spelling corrections for Leucking and Peeples' names and a notation that the Warners were in Minnesota, not Michigan, attending a memorial for their son, Todd, who recently passed away.

Linda Leucking moved to approve the Minutes of the May meeting. The motion was seconded by Ruth Milton and was approved unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Nancy Collins

Nancy will order ACS 2013 calendars for GCS members who sign up and a few extra to sell at the January Camellia Show. Calendars are \$12.95, and the deadline to order is Oct. 15.

Savings Account	\$6,461.54
Checking Account	\$1,605.31
Total Funds	\$8,066.

Nancy is collecting membership dues for 2012-13. Dues are \$15 for an individual and \$20 for a joint membership. Pay by cash or check at the GCS meeting, or mail your check (made out to out to "Gainesville Camellia Society") to Nancy at 1721 SW 82nd Terrace, Gainesville FL 32607.

ACS NEWS

Since Patrick Andrews was unable to attend today's meeting, Irma gave his report.

The ACS Annual Membership Contest goes through April 30, 2013. The club with the largest increase in new members will receive a \$200 gift certificate to the ACS Gift Shop; the runner up club will receive a \$100 gift certificate.

The individual member who recruits the most new members will receive a \$200 gift certificate to Nuccio Nursery; with a \$100 gift certificate for the runner up.

The ACS is also offering a 50% membership fee discount for new members who join before December 31, 2012. (This does not apply to renewing members.) Irma suggested that any new GCS members who sign up show Jerry Hogsette's name as referring member, so that he might become eligible for the new member recruitment gift certificate.

OLD BUSINESS

1. GCS Workdays at Kanapaha Camellia/Azalea garden have begun again, every Wednesday from 1:30–4:30 pm. Master Gardeners will assist with garden maintenance activities.

GCS members will continue minor pruning until after the blooming season and will be paired with Master Gardeners in order to educate them in pruning techniques. The azaleas and camellias have been fertilized and the Sasanquas are beginning to bloom.

Irma praised the improvement in the looks of the garden due to the work of Master Gardeners and GCS members.

2. A symposium for new/renewing judges is still pending.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Dolly & Paul Warner are out of town attending a memorial service for their son, Todd, who recently passed away. Todd had recently been nominated Biologist of the Year by the environmental group he worked for in Marquette.

Jeanne Earnest moved that the GCS set up an ACS memoriam in Todd's name. The motion was seconded by Bill Hayes and unanimously approved.

2. Bill Leucking brought up the City of Gainesville's plan to narrow 8th Avenue to add bike lanes, larger sidewalks, and planters in the median. Bill asked whether GCS wants to recommend planting camellias. Members discussed the pros and cons of using camellias, including varieties, water, sun, and air turbulence.

Bill moved that GCS approach the City to recommend planting camellias in the reconfiguration of 8th Avenue and to offer GCS assistance in selecting appropriate plants. The motion was seconded by Jerry Hogsette and approved. Bill Leucking will be the designated GCS liaison with the City.

3. The annual Christmas meeting will be held this year on December 16th at Kanapaha Gardens. Irma will check with Kanapaha to confirm the date and time

availability, and logistics regarding food and drink.

GCS greatly appreciates the Ritter's hosting previous Christmas meetings. We hope they will enjoy being guests this year.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Bill Hayes advised that he has a supply of gibberellic acid that he will sell to members for \$1 an ounce. Anyone interested should contact Bill.

2. Jerry Hogsette auctioned four plants that had been provided by Patrick Andrews and Bob Weidman.

3. John Swanson announced the speakers for future meetings:

October - Celeste Richard, ACS Executive Director, will discuss future activities of ACS.

November - Gayle & Steve Lawrence, Tallahassee Camellia Society, will talk about getting camellias ready for show.

PROGRAM

The meeting adjourned to the Camellia/Azalea Garden, where Irma Velez demonstrated proper technique for disbudding camellias.

She explained that camellias usually produce many buds. To promote larger and healthier blooms, excess buds should be removed with a gentle twist, leaving only one bud on each stem.

Members practiced this technique for 15 minutes. As an incentive for helping in the disbudding process, Irma held a drawing for peacock ginger plants for the disbudders.

***Karen Peeples
Secretary***

Officers

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1st Vice President & Show Chair:	Patrick Andrews
2nd Vice President & Program Chair:	John Swanson
Secretary:	Karen Peeples
Treasurer:	Nancy Collins

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Bill Hayes	Ruth Milton
Harriet Hogsette	Roberta Parks
Jerry Hogsette	Chuck Ritter
Clyde Leaphart	Paul Warner
Bill Luecking	Bob Weidman

John Swanson, Program Chair***Date:*** Sunday October 21, 2012***Topic:*** “Future Activities of the American Camellia Society”***Presenter:*** Celeste Richard, ACS Executive Director***Place:*** GRU Conference Room at Kanapaha Botanical Gardens***Time:*** 2 pm***Dolly Warner, Refreshment Chair*****Refreshments providers:** Merry Reid, Food and Karen Peeples, Beverages**Gainesville Camellia Society Meetings** are held at 2pm on the third Sunday of each month from September through May, in the GRU Conference Room at Kanapaha Botanical Gardens (unless otherwise indicated in this newsletter).



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Volume 12

Editor: Anna Langford

November 2012

President's Message

After seeing the destruction in the Northeast caused by Hurricane Sandy, I walked through my camellias that have started to flower and thought about how beautiful the days have been here lately and how fortunate we are in not having been hit by a severe storm in the last several years.

Along with stories about damage from the storm, I've also seen stories of neighbors helping neighbors get through this terrible situation. I thought of the GCS and how our members are like friends, neighbors, and family to each other. And so, I want to send out a special invitation to you to attend the next meeting. Let's get together, discuss the business that needs attention, and then share some time with each other. I look forward to seeing you there.

Irma Velez, President

Treasurer's Message

1. Newsletter - After January 1, 2013, we will no longer mail the newsletter (by regular mail) to any member without email whose dues are not up-to-date.

2. Membership - We are still collecting dues for the 2012-2013 year. Dues are \$15 for single and \$20 for joint membership. Pay by cash or check (made out to Gainesville Camellia Society) at the November meeting or you may mail a check to:

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

3. Show Donations and Sponsorships - Planning for our annual show in January is underway. Each year many members support the club and the show by making a donation and/or sponsoring one of the awards, and these donations are always deeply appreciated.

If you want to donate, send the Treasurer a check made out to the Gainesville Camellia Society, or bring check or cash to the next meeting. Note on the check that it's for the flower show and indicate if sponsoring a particular award. Donations and sponsorships are noted in the show program, so we need this information before the program is printed.

4. Camellia Calendars - The 2013 ACS Camellia Calendars are here and I will have them at the November meeting. Several people preordered copies. There are some extras available that will be sold first-come-first served. Calendars are \$12.50 each.

5. Help Wanted - ACS member John Grimm is looking for cuttings of *Crazy Sue* and *Dakota Var*, which were registered by Dr. Howard Smith of Gainesville. John and his wife, Stephanie, own Camellia Heaven in Bush, LA. Their work is devoted to preserving camellias not being commercially propagated that are in danger of being lost, including ancient varieties as well as orphan varieties (those that never made it to the commercial market). Please see the Sept-Nov 2009 ACS Camellia Journal for an interesting article about the Grimms and their garden. If you can help John in his search for cuttings, please contact him directly at camelliasaver@multi-questinl.com phone 800-540-7655.

Nancy Collins, Treasurer

REPORT ON AUDIT OF GCS TREASURER'S RECORDS

On September 17, 2012, I audited the Treasurer's records for Gainesville Camellia Society and found them accurate and well organized. I think Nancy does a great job.

Bill Hayes

Minutes for GCS Meeting - October 21, 2012

Irma Velez called the meeting to order at 2 pm. She thanked Bob Weidman, Patrick Andrews, and Jerry Hogsette for donating camellias for today's auction.

Paul Warner thanked the GCS for our support this summer and particularly for the donation to the ACS in memory of their son.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Nancy Collins

Savings Account	\$6,461.85
Checking Account	\$1,950.32
Total Funds	\$8,412.17

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER MEETING

There were no additions or corrections to the minutes. Chuck Ritter moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Jerry Hogsette, and approved by members.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Kanapaha Camellia/Azalea Garden Irma updated us on garden cleanup. Workdays with

the Master Gardeners will continue on Wednesdays, 1:30-4:30pm. The central garden has been cleaned up, with work extending now to the fringes. Kanapaha will allow us to remove ground cover that has become invasive.

The area for new camellias is clear, and planting will begin in late November/early December with Master Gardeners doing the actual planting. Email Irma with suggestions as to plant placement.

Irma is inventorying the garden's camellias and has asked for identification help once blooming begins. (If you wear your GCS shirt, Kanapaha will waive the admission fee.) If labels are missing or incorrect, send Irma an email and Kanapaha will correct this.

Thanks to Bill Hayes for the gibbing he has been doing for the past few weeks.

The Master Gardeners' Director was here last week for the orchid show and, along with the Kanapaha Director, visited the camellia garden and commented that the garden looks the best it's looked in years.

Congratulations and thanks to all who have worked hard to improve the camellia garden!

2. December Meeting/Christmas Party The regular meeting room at Kanapaha is reserved on Sunday, December 16th for our annual Christmas party and meeting. Kanapaha will set up and take down tables and chairs. If anyone has suggestions or comments regarding the meeting, email Irma.

3. Judges' Class Patrick Andrews talked about conducting the judges' class. Four GCS people are up for recertification this year, and Patrick recommended that anyone coming up for recertification next year should consider taking the class this year. It is a two-hour class with no test. Judges are required to review the rules every five years to maintain their status. Several members of the Ocala Camellia Society want to take the class also, and perhaps both groups can meet together.

NEW BUSINESS

1. January Show Patrick reiterated that he will not be here for the GCS show in January but will help insure that preparations are complete. He called for volunteers for various show jobs:

Hostess/Hospitality - Paul & Dolly Warner will handle this again.

Judges' Lunch - Jerry Hogsette will call Olive Garden to make reservations.

Finance - Nancy Collins is accepting donations for show expenses.

Publicity - Patrick, Irma and Karen Peeples will work on promoting the show. Suggestions included a flyer at Kanapaha and announcements in local newspapers.

Plant Purchase - Linda and Bill Leucking will find, purchase, and transport sale plants.

Patrick noted that Mark Crawford in Valdosta seems to have a good selection of plants this year. County Line Nursery is also very cooperative in working with GCS on plant procurement.

Jerry Hogsette has 20 judges lined up, including several from Tallahassee. He will also handle the entry cards. There will be a new "greenhouse" class this year. Jerry and Harriett Hogsette will host the Friday night dinner.

We will have a short meeting at the December GCS meeting to discuss show preparations.

2. NFRMC Camellia Garden Jerry Hogsette noted that North Florida Regional has a long-forgotten camellia garden that was started by GCS. A plaque there was in place before Jerry became a GCS member. The hospital waters the plants, and GCS would only have to be responsible for "maintenance" if we resume care.

Most of the plants are labeled. There are quite a few with scale that would benefit from treatment with soap. People can park and walk to the garden from a service drive just east of the duck pond. Lee Kline volunteered to head up the NFRMC Camellia Garden project.

PROGRAM

Patrick Andrews introduced Celeste Richard, Executive Director of the American Camellia Society. She is a graduate of LSU who began her career at ACS as Operations Manager and was very quickly promoted to Executive Director when the board recognized her capabilities. Ms. Richard described exciting changes - past, present and future - happening with the ACS and Masee Lane Gardens.

Karen Peeples, Secretary

Officers

President:	Irma Velez
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2nd VP & Program Chair:	John Swanson
Secretary:	Karen Peeples
Treasurer:	Nancy Collins

Board Members

Bill Hayes	Ruth Milton
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Jerry Hogsette	Chuck Ritter
Clyde Leaphart	Paul Warner
Bill Luecking	Bob Weidman

John Swanson, Program Chair***Date:*** Sunday November 18, 2012***Topic:*** "Getting Camellias Ready for Show"***Presenters:*** Gayle & Steve Lawrence, Tallahassee Camellia Society***Place:*** GRU Conference Room at Kanapaha Botanical Gardens***Time:*** 2 pm***Dolly Warner, Refreshment Chair*****Refreshments providers:** Lee Kline, Food; Bill Hayes, Beverages

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Gainesville Camellia Society

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Volume 13

Editor: Anna Langford

December 2012

President's Message

Our meeting in December will be our annual holiday get-together. This year's party will be at Kanapaha Botanical Gardens, and we'll meet on Sunday instead of Saturday. We'll get started at 1pm with a social hour and plan to sit down to eat at 2pm. The meal will be followed by a short business meeting, as this will be our last meeting before the show. After the meeting we'll have our traditional gift exchange. I hope that you are making plans to attend and to bring your favorite dish. I look forward to seeing you there, as we take this opportunity to enjoy each other's company and to admire the camellia garden at Kanapaha.

Irma Velez, President

Treasurer's Message

Show Donations

A big thank you to all of you who have already contributed to the upcoming show. If you plan to contribute but have not yet done so, let treasurer Nancy Collins know so that she can be sure that your names are included in the program. You can send Nancy an email at harlequin45@cox.net or call her at 352-505-3637. All checks should be made out to Gainesville Camellia Society.

Christmas Shopping

Still need some Christmas gifts for friends or family? The Camellia Society is selling 2013 Camellia calendars (\$12.50 each) and camellia tree ornaments (\$16.00 each). We also have a new supply of metal tags – standard size (\$14.00 a box) and large (\$18.00 a box). These items will be available at the Christmas party on December 16th.

Nancy Collins, Treasurer

Minutes for GCS Meeting - November 18, 2012

Irma Velez called the meeting to order at 2pm. Patrick Andrews moved to approve the Minutes of the October meeting, with a second from Lee Kline. The Minutes were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Nancy Collins
Nancy said that the ACS 2013 calendars had arrived and could be picked up at the end of the meeting. She had a few extras for sale; first come first served. These cost \$12.50.

She also had small and large metal plant tags available for purchase, priced at \$14 per box for small tags and \$18 per box for large tags.

She advised that the GCS financials had been audited for the past two years and no discrepancies were found – they “passed”.

Financials:

Savings Account	\$6,462.07
Checking Account	\$2,323.33
Total Funds	\$8,785.40

Nancy is still accepting dues for this year as well as contributions for the January show.

JANUARY GCS CAMELLIA SHOW

Patrick Andrews reported on preparations for our upcoming show. The Publicity Committee will notify local papers, TV and radio stations.

We will have flyers at the next meeting for members to distribute to local nurseries or businesses to display establishments. Irma will provide flyers to Garden Gate Nursery. She said that Kanapaha will allow GCS to leave flyers announcing the show at the garden entrance.

Bill Leucking had a list of plants he will order for GCS to sell at the show and said that members could request plants for their own purchase. Members will pay \$25 per

plant, the same price that will be charged at the show. Reticulatas will be \$35.

Patrick was asked about the colors for the show. We will be status quo as last year. This information is on the Atlantic Coast website, and will be sent it to all the judges who will be there.

OLD BUSINESS

Camellia Gardens

Irma Velez thanked Bill Hayes for his continued hard work gibbing flowers in Kanapaha's camellia garden. Blooming has been continuous, and the display should be very nice by the time of our show.

Master Gardeners have cleaned out most of the invasive undergrowth. Some camellias with missing tags are blooming now. Jerry Hogsette and Irma Velez will walk through the garden today to look for areas that need attention.

Lee Kline advised she had visited the camellia garden at NFRMC.

ANNUAL GCS CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Christmas party will be Sunday, December 16th, at Kanapaha. Social hour begins at 1pm and we will eat at 2pm. There will be a brief business meeting after lunch.

Irma Velez said that everything is in good order for the party. A refrigerator, sink, and an area for food preparation are available for our use. The meeting room will be set up in round tables seating eight.

Jerry Hogsette and John Swanson will provide the meat for the party, and members will bring side dishes. Chuck Ritter said that he will bring sausage dressing.

Dolly Warner will have paper products, utensils, and coffee. Irma will bring other beverages. Members can bring adult beverages.

As usual, we will have a gift exchange. Anyone who wishes to participate should bring a wrapped gag gift to exchange. The sillier the gift the better, and “re-gifting” is acceptable. Gifts should cost \$10 or less. We will have a camellia “Christmas tree” to put the presents around.

NEW BUSINESS

John Swanson and Gerald Langford gave a short presentation on the value of liming camellias in November and gave everyone an information sheet about fertilization and soil pH.

Gerald said it's a myth that camellias are acid-loving plants. They will *survive* in acid soil, but they won't flourish. Camellias thrive best in soil with a pH of 6-6.5. The typical pH of soil in the Gainesville area is around 5.5.

Plants take up nutrients maximally at a pH of 6-6.5. Lime raises soil pH. Plants need a source of calcium and magnesium (which the lime provides), because photosynthesis cannot occur without these minerals. Much of the calcium and magnesium gets leached out of the soil due to rainfall.

John and Gerald stated that camellias respond better to February fertilization if the soil pH has been adjusted with lime in November. Dolomite lime is relatively inexpensive and can be purchased at Lowe's or Home Depot. Liming should take place 60-90 days before fertilizing, at a rate of about 3 lbs of lime for every 10x10 space.

Jerry Hogsette noted that he limes his plants twice a year and said that liming should not hurt the flower blooms if applied in November. John and Gerald have a pH meter with which GCS members can test the

pH of their soil for optimum growth. Contact John Swanson to borrow the meter. At a later date (probably in February) John and Gerald will present a program on fertilization in general.

PROGRAM

Irma Velez introduced Gail and Stephen Lawrence from the Tallahassee Camellia Society, who spoke on “Preparing Blooms for Show”. They have been growing and showing camellias for 18 years. Gail distributed a handout entitled “Steps from Cutting to Entering Camellia Blooms”.

Steve's recommended that anyone wanting to learn about showing camellias go to camellia shows and ask participants what they do to prepare for a show. He stated that good “show-ers” are good growers, but good growers are not necessarily good show-ers.

Using slides, Steve talked about various methods he and Gail use to prepare their flowers for transportation to a show, beginning with “pinning” the leaves near a camellia bud to prevent bloom damage.

They brought samples of the materials they use when they take blooms to a show and displayed a large camellia bloom they had packed with polyester fiberfill to maintain the shape of the petals.

Following the program, members enjoyed the refreshments Lee Kline brought for today's meeting and the beverages Bill Hayes provided.

The meeting concluded with an auction of camellia plants contributed by Patrick Andrews, Bob Weidman, and Jerry Hogsette

Karen Peeples, Secretary

Officers

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Bill Luecking	Bob Weidman

John Swanson, Program Chair

Date: Sunday December 16, 2012

Topic: Annual Christmas party

GCS will pay for the meat dish. Please bring other foods and drinks to share.

We'll have the usual silly gift exchange for those who wish to take part.

Place: GRU Conference Room at Kanapaha Botanical Gardens

Dolly Warner, Refreshment Chair

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Volume 14

Editor: Anna Langford

January 2013

President's Message

Well, another GCS Camellia Show has come and gone. I would like to thank our members for working together to make this one of the most successful shows we have ever had. GCS, with some assistance from Kanapaha, did a wonderful job of letting people in the area know about our show. The advertising was the best that we have had, and the post-show attendance was great. I want to welcome our new members who joined during the show weekend and invite them to our January meeting at the home of Patrick Andrews and Bob Weidman, where we can get together and enjoy ourselves. I hope to see everyone there.

Irma Velez, President

Gainesville Camellia Society Annual Show

January 5 & 6, 2013

Kanapaha Botanical Gardens

Raffled Plants: Sea Foam & Frank Houser

Number of Blooms Exhibited: 1050

Number of Exhibitors: 34

Number of Attendees: 300

BEST BLOOM IN SHOW

Hall's Pride Var.

Howard & Mary Rhodes

SWEEPSTAKES

WINNER

Gold Certificate (unprotected)	107 Blue Ribbons	Jerry & Carol Selph
Silver Certificate (unprotected)	91 Blue Ribbons	Chuck & Bev Ritter
Gold Certificate (protected)	39 Blue Ribbons	Howard & Mary Rhodes
Silver Certificate (protected)	36 Blue Ribbons	Steve & Gayle Lawrence

GCS MEMBER AWARD - SWEEPSTAKES

Gold Certificate		Chuck & Bev Ritter
Founder's Trophy: best unprotected bloom	Frank Houser	Chuck & Bev Ritter

OUTSTANDING BLOOM CERTIFICATES	BLOOM SIZE	VARIETY	WINNER
Camellia japonica unprotected, untreated	Lg/VLg	Scarlet Glory	Jerry & Carol Selph
	Md	Elaine's Betty	Donna & Charles Nichols
	Sm	Les Marbury	Chuck & Bev Ritter
Camellia japonica unprotected, treated	Lg/VLg	Georgia National Fair	Bob & Gail Reese
	Md	Dixie Knight Supreme	Jerry & Carol Selph
	Sm	Les Marbury	Chuck & Bev Ritter
Camellia japonica protected	Lg/VLg	Lady Laura	Steve & Gayle Lawrence
	Sm/Md	Black Magic	Steve & Gayle Lawrence
Camellia reticulata (incl. hybrids w/retic parent) unprotected, untreated	BB	Tango	Cheng Lee
Camellia reticulata (inc. hybrids w/retic parent) unprotected, treated	Lg/VLg	Frank Hauser	Chuck & Bev Ritter
	Sm/Md	Mary O'Donnell	Cheng Lee
Camellia reticulata (inc. hybrids w/retic parent), protected	Lg/VLg	Linda Carol	Howard & Mary Rhodes
	Sm/Md	Lady Ruth Ritter	Jerry & Carol Selph
Camellia hybrid (w/no retic parent) unprotected, untreated:	BB	First Blush	Chuck & Bev Ritter
Camellia hybrid (w/no retic parent) unprotected, treated	Lg/VLg	Phil Piet	Chuck & Bev Ritter
	Sm/Md	Punkin	Eileen Hart
Camellia hybrid (w/no retic parent) protected	Lg/VLg	Mona Jury Var.	Steve & Gayle Lawrence
	Sm/Md	Spring Daze	Steve & Gayle Lawrence
Miniature unprotected, any species	BB	Just Darling	Chuck & Bev Ritter
Miniature protected, any species	BB	Fircone	Howard & Mary Rhodes
Best Seedling or Sport, any species, protected or unprotected, treated or untreated		CR-55	Chuck & Bev Ritter
Best Sasanqua or other species, not w/ Japonica or Reticulata parentage		Star Above Star	Annabelle Fetterman
Best Novice Bloom - any species, treated or untreated		Nuccio's Jewel	Anna & Gerald Langford

MULTIPLE BLOOMS		
Tray of Three-same variety, unprotected	Raspberry Flambe	Chuck & Bev Ritter
Tray of Five-same variety, unprotected		Cheng Lee
Tray of Three-same variety, protected	Freedom Bell	Annabelle Fetterman
Tray of Five-different varieties protected		Howard & Mary Rhodes

Additional information about the show is available on the ACS website.

Minutes for GCS Meeting - December 18, 2012

Irma Velez welcomed members and guests to the annual holiday luncheon. She thanked everyone for providing food and thanked Paul and Dolly Warner, who did all the setup preparation.

Bill Hayes moved to approve the minutes of the November meeting after correcting the spelling of Gayle Lawrence's name. This was seconded by Patrick Andrews and approved by the membership.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Irma Velez gave the report for Nancy Collins who was unable to attend today.

Dolly Warner will collect receipts from anyone needing reimbursement for items purchased for the holiday lunch. Nancy Collins will mail reimbursement checks.

Dolly will also take donations for January's camellia show or membership dues.

Financials:

Savings Account	\$6,462.36
Checking Account	\$3,155.37
Total Funds	\$9,617.73

JANUARY GCS CAMELLIA SHOW

Patrick Andrews gave an update on preparations for our upcoming show. He had a sign-up sheet for individuals who want to sponsor an award. He plans to call members who traditionally sponsor special awards to ask whether they want to sponsor awards again this year.

Patrick discussed the award limit. He noted that the Ocala Camellia Society has dropped its limit to \$15. After discussion, GCS members decided to keep our award limit at \$20 as in prior years.

Because Patrick will be out of the country when the show occurs, he has designated Irma Velez, John Swanson, and Jerry Hogsette to oversee management of the show. Karen Peebles agreed to prepare the show report.

There are sign-up sheets for membership, education, placement, clerking, set up, tear down, and other responsibilities during the show.

Patrick mentioned that Party Time Rentals gives the Ocala Camellia Society a \$100 discount on their table rentals because they have an account with Party Time. Patrick has asked Party Time to extend the same discount to GCS, and Nancy Collins will fill out the application for an account.

Bill and Linda Leucking have scheduled the plant pick-ups. Additional help may be needed in the sales area during the show.

They have ordered over 100 plants from the two nurseries. A Frank Houser and a Sea Foam have been ordered for the show raffle.

Irma will coordinate with Kanapaha to have the gate and building open in time for exhibitor arrivals that begin at 7 am. She will ask that the building be kept cool to maintain the integrity of the blooms.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

1. Irma advised that for 2013, Kanapaha has increased its- room rental charge for our monthly meetings and for the show. The rate for 2012 was \$360 for the regular meetings and \$235 for the show, for a total of \$595. The 2013 rate will be \$660 for the meeting room and \$250 for the show, plus tax.

Points of discussion were:

This amount is less than GCS was paying at the mall, which is still a good deal.

This is the first rate increase since GCS moved to Kanapaha, and GCS is being given a 50% discount from the amount charged to the general public.

Wilmot Gardens charges \$200 per meeting for a half-day, and Linda Leucking noted that it was the "cheapest place around."

The Rose Society is also in the process of negotiating its rate increase with Kanapaha Gardens.

In addition to paying the facility rental charges, GCS regularly contributes money and services to Kanapaha Gardens. In 2012 GCS gave the Gardens \$500.

The room rate includes setup at no additional charge. For the holiday party, the kitchen had been reserved for GCS, and included use of the refrigerator, ice maker, and all the tables we needed.

Notification of the rate increase came too late for any action by GCS prior to the January show. Kanapaha Gardens apologized for not notifying GCS about the rate increase in a more timely fashion.

Publicity for the January show has already been better this year than last. The announcements heard on NPR were a result of Kanapaha’s promotion. They want to increase show attendance to offset discounting the room rental for the show.

Irma Velez will talk with Kanapaha to find out what their normal attendance would be over a non-show weekend so that GCS can assess the value to Kanapaha of hosting the annual show.

It was suggested that GCS might consider refunding the Kanapaha admission charge for anyone who joins GCS at the show.

After some discussion, members decided to accept the rate increase for 2013 and consider further action for 2014. Patrick Andrews moved to accept the Kanapaha Gardens rate increase for 2013, seconded by Bev Ritter, and the motion passed.

2. In February a slate of officers will be presented to the membership for election. This year only the President and the two Vice-President positions are up for election. Irma Velez requested a volunteer to head up the nominating committee, and Linda Leucking volunteered for this position.

The meeting adjourned at 3:18 pm.

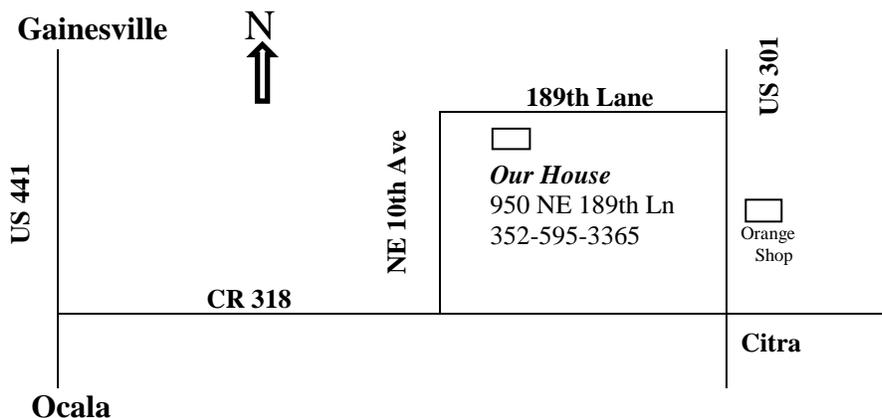
Karen Peebles, Secretary

January 20, 2013 – Garden Tour & Social Hour 1 pm – GCS Meeting 2 pm

Please join Bob Weidman and Patrick Andrews on Sunday, January 20, 2013, at 1 pm, for the 11th annual tour of our camellia and other gardens—rain or shine! We are constantly planting new cultivars and other species of plants, so there are plenty of new plants and flowers to see. Wear comfortable clothes and walking shoes. We will also be hosting the Ocala Camellia Society and other gardening friends. The Gainesville Camellia Society will meet at 2 pm. Delicious refreshments will be served.

From Gainesville: go south on US 441, turn east on CR318, and then left on NE 10th Ave. 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). Our house (white with dark green trim) is the third on the right, just past a tall red cedar hedge.

We hope to see you!



Officers

President:	Irma Velez
1st VP & Show Chair:	Patrick Andrews
2nd VP & Program Chair:	John Swanson
Secretary:	Karen Peeples
Treasurer:	Nancy Collins

Board Members

Bill Hayes	Ruth Milton
Harriet Hogsette	Roberta Parks
Jerry Hogsette	Chuck Ritter
Clyde Leaphart	Paul Warner
Bill Luecking	Bob Weidman

John Swanson, Program Chair**Date:** Sunday January 20, 2013**Topic:** Annual Open House & Garden Tour**Place:** Patrick Andrews and Bob Weidman's House, Citra (see p. 4 for map & directions)**Time:** Garden Tour & Social Hour begins at 1pm; GCS meeting at 2 pm***Dolly Warner, Refreshment Chair***

Lunch will be provided by Bob Weidman and Patrick Andrews.

The Camellia Society meets at 2 pm on the third Sunday of each month from September through May. We meet in the GRU Conference Room at Kanapaha Botanical Gardens (unless otherwise indicated in this newsletter). At the end of each meeting, we serve refreshments and auction a few camellia plants.



Gainesville Camellia Society

Affiliated with the American Camellia Society

Volume 15

Editor: Anna Langford

February 2013

Minutes for GCS Meeting - January 20, 2013

OPENING

Irma Velez opened the meeting and thanked Patrick Andrews and Bob Weidman for hosting our meeting at their home and inviting us to enjoy their camellia garden and refreshments.

Irma introduced four new couples who joined the GCS at the January Camellia show: Bob and Michelle Thompson, Robert and Andrea Ahrens, Al Rogers and Carter Wittman, and Will Vash and Meghan Meyer. The new members were to meet with Irma and Patrick after the meeting to pick up their camellia plants given to new GCS members.

MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 2012 MEETING

There were no additions or corrections to the December minutes. Patrick Andrews moved to accept the minutes as recorded. The motion was seconded and the minutes approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Financials:

Savings Account	\$8,021.12
Checking Account	\$1,899.58
Total Funds	\$9,920.70

Profit from the January camellia show was \$1,660.28. Donations were very similar to those received last year and expenses for 2013 were comparable to 2012; however, plant sales exceeded expectations and resulted in the exceptional profit.

2013 CAMELLIA SHOW

Although Patrick was out of the country during the show, he gave a report on our very successful show. Plant sales were profitable, ten new members joined, and the flowers were fantastic.

By mid-afternoon Saturday, plants were sold out. Many people who came on Sunday expressed disappointment that there were no plants available to buy. Bill Leucking said

that he is in negotiations with the vendors who provided plants this year to have more plants available for the 2014 show. He wants to work out arrangements whereby the nursery would buy back and pick up any unsold plants. Limiting the plant sale to only one day was discussed, but Bill noted that he had many complaints on Sunday because there were no plants for sale. Bill thanked the people who made three trips north to nurseries to pick up plants for the show.

Attendance for the show was way up, probably because of the good publicity and the beautiful day. Advertising and publicity were excellent this year. The gardens were beautiful, and many people commented on how impressive the camellia gardens at Kanapaha are.

Irma's "Camellia 101" talks in the Camellia and Azalea Gardens on both afternoons were well received. People commented on how much they learned from her presentation. On Saturday about ten people and on Sunday almost thirty people attended her session. Irma suggested that we promote this as a formal educational presentation next year.

The judges pointed out several areas that need improvement at future shows. Judging was still going on two and a half hours late. There were errors in placement of flowers in several categories. Lunch after the judging was a problem for the judges.

Patrick recommended that we put together a guide so that whoever serves as Show Chairman will have information at their fingertips to insure that things are done correctly for future shows. Members were asked to give their input to Irma Velez, Jerry Hogsette, or Patrick Andrews so that they can prepare this show manual.

One of our new members mentioned that she had never heard of the Gainesville Camellia Society and was very interested in attending

the show, but found it difficult to find information about GCS on the internet. She found it difficult to link to the Gainesville group. She found a website that gives information on how to bring blooms and participate in the show but nothing as to public viewing of blooms, presentations, or schedule of activities.

John Swanson expressed his appreciation to all the people who helped with clerking at the show.

OLD BUSINESS - none

NEW BUSINESS

Kanapaha Botanical Gardens will hold their Spring Festival in mid-March, and the GCS always has a booth for the two days of the show, with informational materials and volunteers to answer questions about growing camellias and recruit new members for the society. Irma will bring a sign-up sheet to the February meeting, and we will make plans for GCS participation at the festival.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. On a sad note, Irma announced the passing last week of Janet Verwey, one of our longtime GCS members. Patrick also noted the passing of Jerry Conrad of Erinon Nursery in Apopka and Elaine Smelley of Moss Point. Both were very active in the Florida camellia community. A moment of silence was held in remembrance of these three camellia leaders who passed away last week.

Nancy Collins moved that the GCS donate \$25 to the American Camellia Society in remembrance of Janet Verwey. Patrick moved to amend the motion to include memorial contributions for Jerry Conrad and Elaine Smelley as well. The motion was seconded and approved. Patrick mentioned that individuals can make donations to the ACS through their website. When we send a

memorial donation to the ACS, the family is sent a remembrance card and recognition appears in the ACS quarterly magazine.

2. John Swanson announced that the program for February's meeting will be on

the nutrition and fertilization of camellias. It will be presented by a panel of some of Gainesville Camellia Society's most knowledgeable camellia experts.

The meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Karen Peebles, Secretary

<p><i>TREASURER'S REPORT</i></p>

Please welcome our new members: Robert and Andrea Ahrens, Tonya Becker, Carmen Marris, Janalyn and Jerry Peppel, Gerry Reid, Carter Wittman, Al Rogers, Diane and Charles Simon, Dave Snell, Bob and Michelle Thompson Will Vash, and Meghan Meyer.

An updated membership list is attached.

Revised Camellia Show Financial Report: Two of our award winners from the show have returned their award checks uncashed as show donations, which increases our profit for the 2013 Show to \$1,720.28.

Nancy Collins, Treasurer

Officers

President:	Irma Velez
1st VP & Show Chair:	Patrick Andrews
2nd VP & Program Chair:	John Swanson
Secretary:	Karen Peeples
Treasurer:	Nancy Collins

Board Members

Bill Hayes	Ruth Milton
Harriet Hogsette	Roberta Parks
Jerry Hogsette	Chuck Ritter
Clyde Leaphart	Paul Warner
Bill Luecking	Bob Weidman

John Swanson, Program Chair***Date:*** Sunday February 17, 2013***Topic:*** Best Practices for Fertilizing Camellias - Panel of GCS Experts***Place:*** GRU Conference Room at Kanapaha Botanical Gardens***Time:*** 2 pm***Dolly Warner, Refreshment Chair*****Refreshments providers:** Dinh & John Swanson, Food; Eleanor & John Thrasher, Beverages

The Camellia Society meets at 2 pm on the third Sunday of each month from September through May. We meet in the GRU Conference Room at Kanapaha Botanical Gardens (unless otherwise indicated in this newsletter). At the end of each meeting, we serve refreshments and auction a few camellia plants.



Gainesville Camellia Society

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Volume 16

Editor: Anna Langford

March 2013

President's Message

Hopefully spring is finally here. I still have some camellias and azaleas blooming, even after the last freeze. Our next meeting is *very* important. We have two items on the agenda: the election of officers for next year and final plans for our participation at the Kanapaha Gardens Spring Festival. There is still one time slot with only one person, from 3pm to 5pm on Saturday. If you can make it to the festival on Saturday afternoon and help with the GCS booth, please let me know at the meeting. Hope to see you Sunday at 2pm.

Irma Velez, President

Minutes for GCS Meeting - February 17, 2013

OPENING

Irma Velez welcomed everyone to the February meeting. She introduced several guests: Pat Fouts from Florahome, Barbara & Herb Boothroyd from Haile Plantation, Richard & Karen Moors from Jacksonville, Debbie Griffin, and Dave Shell.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JANUARY MEETING

There were no corrections to the minutes of the January meeting. Linda Luecking moved

to approve the minutes; seconded by Jerry Hogsette. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Financials:

Savings Account	\$8,021.38
Checking Account	\$1,974.60
Total Funds	\$9,995.98

OLD BUSINESS

The Kanapaha Spring Festival will be held March 23rd and 24th. Irma passed around a sign-up sheet for manning the GCS booth. We will finalize plans at our March meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

The election of officers and members of the governing board of Gainesville Camellia Society will take place at our next meeting in March.

Nominees presented by Linda Luecking's committee were:

President - Roberta Parks

1stVP - John Swanson

2nd VP - Bill Luecking

Secretary - Karen Peeples

Treasurer - Merry Reid

Lee Kline will fill the one vacant board position. Upon the election of Bill Leucking and Roberta Parks (who are current board members but cannot serve as officer and board member concurrently), two new Board members must be selected.

From the floor, John Swanson nominated Patrick Andrews for President.

Jerry Hogsette moved that nominations be closed; seconded by Bill Hayes. Motion carried.

PROGRAM

Following the business portion of the meeting, our Program Topic for the afternoon was a panel discussion and open forum on "Best Practices for Fertilizing and Other Factors Affecting Camellias".

Panel members were: Richard Moor, Jerry Hogsette, John Thrasher, Gerald Langford, and moderator, John Swanson. Several informative handouts were distributed.

Each panelist discussed the fertilizing practices he has developed over the years and his results. Differences in schedules and fertilizer types were evident, but there was a general consensus that using a slow-release fertilizer is important. Leaf analysis and soil pH testing can provide information about the camellia plant's needs, including possible supplementation with trace elements or lime. A lively discussion ensued, with many questions for the panel.

John announced that the speaker for the March meeting will be Carol Selph of Quitman, GA, who will talk about "The Camellia Lady" - Betty Sheffield - and her contributions to camellias based on their personal interactions.

After the program, members enjoyed the snacks that Dinh and John Swanson brought for today's meeting and the beverages John and Eleanor Thrasher provided.

The meeting concluded with an auction of camellia plants that were contributed by John Swanson and Jerry Hogsette.

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Karen Peeples, Secretary

Officers

President:	Irma Velez
1st VP & Show Chair:	Patrick Andrews
2nd VP & Program Chair:	John Swanson
Secretary:	Karen Peeples
Treasurer:	Nancy Collins

Board Members

Bill Hayes	Ruth Milton
Harriet Hogsette	Roberta Parks
Jerry Hogsette	Chuck Ritter
Clyde Leaphart	Paul Warner
Bill Luecking	Bob Weidman

John Swanson, Program Chair***Date:*** Sunday March, 2013***Topic:*** Carol Selph will talk about Betty Sheffield, "The Camellia Lady"***Place:*** GRU Conference Room at Kanapaha Botanical Gardens***Time:*** 2 pm***Dolly Warner, Refreshment Chair***Refreshments providers: Judy Jubien, Food; Roberta Parks, Beverages

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Gainesville Camellia Society

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Volume 17

Editor: Anna Langford

April 2013

President's Message

Based on the feedback I've gotten from members who helped at the Kanapaha Spring Festival, all went well in our new location. It was dry inside, and quite a few people came to see us during the many showers. I'd like to thank the members who brought the flowers. They were so beautiful and many people stopped by to admire them. I personally thought it worked out favorably. The Orchid Society was in the same room with us, so I took the opportunity to get help with my orchids. I bought three yellow native azaleas to match the ones I bought two years ago. Several items regarding the festival will be on the agenda for our meeting, as will our May "picnic". So, hope to see you on Sunday.

Irma Velez, President

Minutes for GCS Meeting - March 17, 2013

OPENING

Irma Velez welcomed our guest speakers, Carol and Jerry Selph, and also welcomed Marian Altman from Maryland, a guest of the Collinses.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

Al Collins moved to approve the minutes of the February meeting. Seconded by Bill Hayes; minutes approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Nancy Collins

Financials:

Savings Account	\$ 8,021.71
Checking Account	\$ 2,067.62
Total Funds	\$10,089.33

OLD BUSINESS1. Election of Officers

Roberta Parks withdrew her nomination for President. The nominations are:

President - **Patrick Andrews**

First VP - **John Swanson**

Second VP and Program Chairman -

Bill Leucking

(Bill asked that his name be withdrawn, but upon recommendation by the members, he agreed to serve as Program Chairman & Second VP. Upon his election as an officer, Bill is no longer eligible to serve on the board. Bruce Cavey volunteered to fill this vacancy.)

Secretary - **Karen Peeples**

Treasurer - **Merry Reid**

Board of Directors -

Bill Hayes, Harriet Hogsette, Jerry Hogsette, Lee Kline, Clyde Leaphart, Ruth Milton, Chuck Ritter, Paul Warner

Jerry Hogsette moved to approve the slate of officers and board of directors; seconded by John Swanson. Officers and Directors were approved by members.

2. Kanapaha Spring Festival

Plans and booth staffing were finalized by Irma Velez.

Due to the large number of vendors, the education /information booths will move inside the Summer House.

Participants will be issued wristbands for entry to Kanapaha during the festival. Jerry Hogsette will have these for the first booth staffers on Saturday and Lee Kline will have them for Sunday morning staffers. When the time for shift change

approaches, staffers should watch for the next group and meet them outside to exchange wristbands.

Kanapaha offered GCS the opportunity to purchase four additional wristband passes for half price. Members approved their purchase to enable booth staffers to walk through the festival before or after their participation at the booth.

Irma asked that the people who staff the booth give her feedback as to whether visibility for the GCS booth appears to be less because of our being in the Summer House rather out in the gardens with the regular vendors, and whether the GCS should consider paying a rental fee to be outside.

The camellia plant purchased for the plant raffle, a *Camille*, was not in bloom, but Irma advised we will have a picture of the flower for people to see what the bloom is like. It is a beautiful plant.

3. Wednesday Workdays at Kanapaha Camellia/Azalea Garden

This Wednesday Jerry Hogsette will give a pruning demonstration for the Master Gardeners so that they can begin the pruning process for this year. They will be working in the garden from 1:30-4:30 pm. GCS members are invited to watch the demonstration and assist the Master Gardeners as they prune.

Kanapaha wants the camellias to grow to their natural height, so pruning will be done to the interior of the plants to open them up and to improve their shape, but not to reduce their size. These are specimen plants and Kanapaha wants them to grow to their full potential.

NEW BUSINESS

John Swanson announced that we have a distinguished guest. Charles Earnest received the French Legion of Honor Award recently for his military service during World War II. Congratulations to Sir Charles and Lady Jeanne.

PROGRAM

Program Topic: “Betty Sheffield: The Lady and the Flower”

Speakers: Carol & Jerry Selph

John Swanson introduced Carol & Jerry, who have a nursery in Quitman, Georgia, the home of the late Betty Sheffield and the Betty Sheffield Camellia and its many mutations.

As a young girl, Carol knew Ms. Sheffield and added a personal touch to the history of the Betty Sheffield Camellia and the remarkable woman whose name it bears. Slides illustrated the talk.

After the program, members enjoyed refreshments that were provided by Dolly Warner for today’s meeting.

PLANT AUCTION

The meeting concluded with an auction of camellia plants that were contributed by Patrick Andrews and Bob Weidman.

The meeting adjourned at 4:10 pm.

Karen Peebles, Secretary

Officers

President:	Irma Velez
1st VP & Show Chair:	Patrick Andrews
2nd VP & Program Chair:	John Swanson
Secretary:	Karen Peeples
Treasurer:	Nancy Collins

Board Members

Bill Hayes	Ruth Milton
Harriet Hogsette	Roberta Parks
Jerry Hogsette	Chuck Ritter
Clyde Leaphart	Paul Warner
Bill Luecking	Bob Weidman

John Swanson, Program Chair***Date:*** Sunday April 21, 2013***Topic:*** "Air-layering Camellias" presented by a panel of GCS members.***Place:*** GRU Conference Room at Kanapaha Botanical Gardens***Time:*** 2 pm***Dolly Warner, Refreshment Chair***Refreshments providers: Linda Luecking, Food; Lois Gorman, Beverages

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Gainesville Camellia Society

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Volume 18

Editor: Anna Langford

May 2013

President's Message

Well, it's that time of the year when we get together for our "summer break" picnic. We will install a new slate of officers at the meeting. Since this is the last President's Message that I will be submitting, I would like to thank you for all the support I have received during the last two years. I hope you've had as much fun as I have. Our picnic will be on Sunday, May 19th, at 1:30 pm, in our usual meeting room at Kanapaha Botanical Gardens. This will be a potluck feast, so please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Jerry Hogsette will bring the meat, and I'll bring soft drinks. I look forward to seeing you then.

Irma Velez, President

Minutes for GCS Meeting - April 21, 2013

OPENING

Irma Velez welcomed members.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

Irma Velez wanted to clarify the March meeting minutes to indicate that the slate of officers presented were elected by the members present. After this clarification, Jerry Hogsette moved to approve the minutes; seconded and approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Nancy Collins

Financials:

Savings Account	\$ 8,021.71
Checking Account	\$2,354.64
Total Funds	\$10,376.60

OLD BUSINESS**1. Final Status Report, Kanapaha Botanical Gardens Spring Festival**

Irma Velez thanked everyone who participated in manning the table at the festival. She polled those who served at our table, and the consensus was that moving our table into the Summer House did not detract from the GCS presence at the festival (especially during the rain showers!) In fact, Irma felt that being in the same area as the Orchid Society, Master Gardeners, and Conservancy Group encouraged others to stop by our table.

Nancy noted that we raised \$86 from our plant raffle at the show.

Irma has received the paperwork for the 2014 festival, which will be held on March 22-23, 2014.

Our options for the festival are either to be in the Summer House again (at no charge), or to pay \$150 for a space out in the gardens as in previous years. There will be ten tables available in the Summer House.

After discussion, Patrick Andrews moved that GCS secure a place inside the Summer House for the 2014 Kanapaha Spring Festival. John Swanson seconded the motion, which was approved by members present.

Irma Velez will complete the application and list Merry Reid, the incoming treasurer, as the contact person for GCS.

NEW BUSINESS

1. At the January show, Irma noticed that the GCS banners are in poor condition; one has actually disintegrated. Bill Leucking said that he has the second banner, which is not in the best condition either. Irma would like us to get a banner that will fit over the six foot tables provided for Festival participants.

She asked for a volunteer to research pricing for new banner(s). Patrick Andrews suggested that instead of the traditional "banner" we look at something that can be draped across the table, preferably weather-resistant for the plant sales, with the Gainesville Camellia Society name and camellia logo. Bill Hayes volunteered to look into options for new banners and pricing and will report back to members.

2. Jerry Hogsette advised that he was approached by the coordinator of the Stetson Kennedy Folk Life & Floridiana Festival, asking whether GCS would like to rent a booth for \$25. We could raffle/sell plants and promote GCS. The festival will be held on May 11th in White Springs. Jerry gave the coordinator's card to Irma for contact. After discussion, it was decided that GCS cannot put anything together on such short notice.

3. The May GCS meeting is traditionally our "picnic" meeting and is held the third Sunday of May (May 19th). Past picnics have been at the home of Chuck and Bev Ritter in Melrose.

Irma will check with the Ritters to see whether they want to host the meeting this year. If not, we will meet at Kanapaha for a potluck affair. Irma will e-mail members as soon as she is able to speak with the Ritters.

4. Patrick Andrews announced the recent passing of long-time camellia patriarch and GCS member, Clarence Gordy, and requested that GCS send a contribution to the ACS in his memory. Members voted to send a \$25 memorial to ACS.

5. The question was raised as to whether to continue to hold the annual GCS Camellia Show at Kanapaha Botanical Gardens. Irma said that as far as she knows, the show will be at Kanapaha, but she will leave the final decision to the incoming president.

We received a \$50 refund from Kanapaha for the 2013 show. Our space at Kanapaha is reserved for 2014, but we do not yet know the final cost.

Discussion followed on a) options for other locations, b) recognition by attendees when held at Kanapaha, and the excellent promotion by Kanapaha provided for the 2013 show.

The GCS show has been held at Kanapaha for only three years, and our 2013 show was the most successful thus far. Even though the room rental fees may be increased, GCS made \$1,700 at the 2013 show, mostly from plant sales. Jerry Hogsette moved to keep the 2014 annual GCS Camellia Show at Kanapaha; seconded and approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. John Swanson advised that he has loaded photos from the 2013 GCS Annual Show onto the computer that Patrick Andrews donated to GCS, and these can be used for publicity for the 2014 show.

2. John brought some blue ginger and large leafed Tibouchina and made these available to members at no charge.

3. John also had a list of camellias that he has air layered and is offering to GCS members.

4. In addition to our regular plant auction, Jerry Hogsette donated three ACS yearbooks (a 1964 and two from 1966) for auction.

5. Food was provided by David Dishong and beverages by Lois Gorman.

PROGRAM

Irma Velez will give an air layering demonstration in the Camellia Garden for interested members.

Karen Peeples, Secretary

Officers

President:	Irma Velez
1st VP & Show Chair:	Patrick Andrews
2nd VP & Program Chair:	John Swanson
Secretary:	Karen Peeples
Treasurer:	Nancy Collins

Board Members

Bill Hayes	Ruth Milton
Harriet Hogsette	Roberta Parks
Jerry Hogsette	Chuck Ritter
Clyde Leaphart	Paul Warner
Bill Luecking	Bob Weidman

John Swanson, Program Chair***Date:*** Sunday May 19, 2013***Topic:*** "Slides from the January 2013 GCS Camellia Show" - presented by John Swanson***Place:*** GRU Conference Room at Kanapaha Botanical Gardens***Time:*** 1:30pm (Please note the time for this meeting.)

The Gainesville Camellia Society meets at 2 pm on the third Sunday of each month from September through May. We meet in the GRU Conference Room at Kanapaha Botanical Gardens (unless otherwise indicated in this newsletter). At the end of each meeting, we serve refreshments and auction a few camellia plants.