



# *ainesville Camellia Society*

Affiliated with the American Camellia Society

*Editor: Anna Langford*

*May 2019*

## *President's Message*



*Linda Brothers Blush*

Hello everyone,  
The last meeting of the spring 2019 season is already here! Hard to believe. But we will end the season with a great picnic, with food coming in from all of our great cooks. This will be a fun affair with the table decoration competition and a few other things. The major other thing is the inauguration of the new officers. The names of these brave individuals are shown below.

**NOMINATIONS FOR 2019-2020 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS:**

President – Bruce Cavey

1<sup>st</sup> (Show) Vice President – group effort

2<sup>nd</sup> (Program) Vice President – Hawser Pearce

Treasurer – Merry Reid

Secretary – Karen Peeples, Charles Simon, Debbie Ellis

**Board of Directors:**

Jerry Hogsette (as past president)      Patrick Andrews

Irma Velez                                      Carter Wittman

Bev Ritter                                        Diane Simon

Chuck Ritter                                  Jay Ellis

Steve (Ron) Stevens      Alan Hyde

Cathy Martin

Newsletter Editor – Anna Langford



*Nita McRae*

We now have two positions held by a group (or committee), which I think is unique. I know of no other camellia society where this has been done. I think it was a great idea right from the start. As for the Show Chairman Committee, no one has really discussed it yet. But I just assumed that Irma Velez, John Swanson, Bruce Cavey and I (did I miss anyone?) would put the 2020 show together. If anyone is interested in shadowing these efforts, this would be a good opportunity to see what's going on. When I first joined the Camellia Society in Panama City, Florida, the first show we had was a complete mystery to me. So many new things to learn. But after a while everything begins to sink in. Most of the time.

I must commend Hawser Pearce for remaining as the Program Chairman for yet another year. With this job as every meeting approaches, you get butterflies in your stomach and hope you do not receive a last-minute phone call from your speaker uttering the four words a Program Chairman fears the most – “I CAN’T MAKE IT!!!” We have had some great programs thanks to Hawser!



*Ruta Hagmann*



*Valley Knudsen*

Well as usual, I am late getting this to Anna, so I will stop here. Remember to be good to your camellias over the summer. It is time to apply the second dose of fertilizer. Still time to do some air layering, which reminds me, we had a great crew at the Ritters' garden last Saturday and lots of air layering was done! Many thanks, Chuck! Lots of novices became experts! Start looking for flower buds by the end of May. See you on Sunday!!!

***Jerry Hogsette, President***

### ***Minutes for GCS Meeting - April 28, 2019***

Jerry Hogsette welcomed members and thanked Charles and Diane Simon for providing our chili refreshments today and Alan Hyde for the beverages.

There were no additions or corrections to the March minutes as published in the newsletter. Charles Simon moved to accept the minutes as published in the newsletter; minutes approved.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT – Merry Reid**

- Savings Account - \$12,927.84
- Checking Account - \$3,066.56
- Total Funds: \$15,994.40



*Veiled Beauty*



*Cile Mitchell*

Irma Velez reported on the Gainesville Camellia Society booth at the recent Kanapaha Spring Festival. We signed up 3 new members and the plant raffle raised \$55. Anyone wishing reimbursement for the Kanapaha entrance fee should present their wristband to Merry Reid.

Bruce Cavey reported that he had given a lecture at the Fanning Springs Garden Club.

Jerry Hogsette noted that the Gainesville Camellia Society computer and projector were beginning to show their age and we should think about replacing them. Several members volunteered to research options and pricing and report at the next meeting.

John Swanson reported on his rainy, but successful, air layering project. About 15 people turned out and Hawser Pearce gave the tutorial for air layering camellias.

Chuck Ritter will be hosting an air layering opportunity on Saturday, May 11, at his gardens. Interested parties should contact Chuck for additional information and directions to his home.



*Les Marbury*





*Lauren Tudor morphing*

Our May meeting will be our annual potluck. Jerry Hogsette and John Swanson will obtain the meats for the meal. Members are to bring side dishes, desserts or beverages of choice. The festivities will begin at 1:00 pm followed by our regular meeting.

Our guest speaker was unable to attend today, but Hawser Pearce presented a series of videos he and John Swanson had created on the pruning of camellias.

***Karen Peeples, Co-Secretary***

Note: all photos in this newsletter are courtesy of John Swanson from flowers in his garden

<b><i>2018-2019 Meeting Schedule for the Gainesville Camellia Society</i></b>		
<b><i>Date and place of meeting</i></b>		<b><i>Refreshments</i></b>
May 19, 2019	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	End-of-year party - potluck

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

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



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President: Jerry Hogsette  
 1st VP & Show Chair: Bruce Cavey  
 2nd VP & Program Chair: Hawser Pearce  
 Treasurer: Merry Reid  
 Co-Secretaries: Karen Peeples,  
 Charles Simon,  
 Debbie Ellis

***Board Members***

Patrick Andrews     Charles Simon  
 Jay Ellis             John Swanson  
 Bill Hayes            Irma Velez  
 Bev Ritter             Ken Wagner  
 Chuck Ritter         Nicki Whittaker

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

***Program Chair:*** *Hawser Pearce*

***Date:*** Sunday, May 19, 2019, at 1 pm

***Place:*** Kanapaha Botanical Gardens

***Program:*** End of year party

***Refreshments Chair:*** *Anna Langford*

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



# Gainesville Camellia Society

Affiliated with the American Camellia Society

*Editor: Anna Langford*

*April 2019*

## *President's Message*



Our meeting is a little later in the month because of the Easter Holiday. Hope everyone had a nice day. It was beautiful and did not help my spring fever at all. The beautiful light green foliage associated with new growth is still prevalent on my camellias. So are the numerous holes made by the small beetles who coordinate their feeding periods with the appearance of new growth on many plants. The damage seems very heavy this year compares with last year, but thanks goodness it is only a cosmetic effect. We are still having some unseasonably cool evenings which should reduce beetle flight just a bit.



The flowers are gone (for a few months) but there is still plenty to do in the garden with your camellias. Air layering can be started at any time and as you probably know, the Swanson's are hosting an air layering event in their garden on Friday the 26th. Sounds like fun with lots of plants to choose from. For those of you who do not have experience with air layering, this is a great opportunity to learn how easy it is.



The photos are from an air layering clinic held at the Ritters' garden on March 18, 2007. The photo on page 1 shows some of the participants. Recognize anyone? In the photo on the above right you can see Chuck Ritter making an adjustment of some sort near the foil-wrapped air layer, and in the photo on the left, Bob Weidman is using a pocket knife to scrape the cambium layer from the branch he is going to air layer.



For those of you looking for sasanquas to plant, there was a good choice at Lowe's in Butler plaza, including some of the October Magic series. If you plant this time in the year it is best not to promote much growth by not providing heavy doses of nitrogen fertilizer. Instead use a super phosphate granular if you can find it, or a bloom fertilizer for bulbs or other flowers. Keep these newly planted camellias well-watered during the hot months to come and they should do well. For established plants, round two of the spring fertilizer application is approaching. Wait until the current new growth hardens off and apply a second dose, usually half of the first dose.

I hope everyone and their plants are doing well. I'm sure we will have an entertaining speaker on Sunday. Look forward to seeing you on Sunday.

Cheers,

***Jerry Hogsette, President***

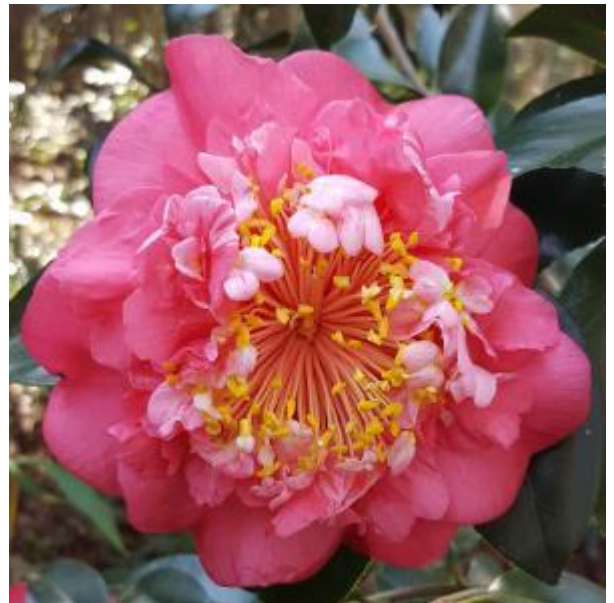
### ***Minutes for GCS Meeting - March 17, 2019***

Jerry Hogsette opened the regular meeting of the Gainesville Camellia Society by welcoming guests and new members, Julie Burton, Sandy Evans, Karen Harris and Conrad and Nancy Hooper.

There were no additions or corrections to the February minutes as published in the newsletter. Debbie Ellis moved to accept the minutes as published in the newsletter; seconded by Bill Hayes and approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Reported for Merry Reid by Karen Peebles

- Savings Account - \$12,927.51
- Checking Account - \$2,850.56
- Total Funds: \$15,778.07



*Elegans-Chandler*

NOMINATIONS FOR 2019-2020 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS:

John Swanson presented the following slate of officers and directors for 2019-2020:

President – Bruce Cavey (show) – by committee

(Program) Vice President – Hawser Pearce

Treasurer – Merry Reid

Secretary – Karen Peeples, Charles Simon, Debbie Ellis

Board of Directors:

Jerry Hogsette (as past president) Patrick Andrews

Irma Velez Carter Wittman

Bev Ritter Diane Simon

Chuck Ritter Jay Ellis

Steve (Ron) Stevens Alan Hyde

Cathy Martin

Newsletter Editor – Anna Langford



*Pink Perfection*

There were no nominations from the floor and Charles Simon moved to close nominations; seconded by John Thrasher. Charles Simon then moved to accept the slate of officers as presented; seconded by Debbie Ellis and approved unanimously.

Irma Velez reported that the booth for the annual Kanapaha Spring Festival in March was completely staffed. She will not know the booth location until the set-up day and will email volunteers with the location. Volunteers can turn in their wristband to be reimbursed for the cost of admission.

John Swanson announced the air layering opportunity at his home was on for April 26th at 9 a.m. He passed around a signup sheet for those interested along with a list of plants suitable for air layering and supplies needed. After working in the gardens, everyone is invited to join in a potluck lunch at the house. Meat and drinks will be provided.

Jerry Hogsette also noted that because of the good weather we had this year, the plants are expected to produce an abundance of seeds, so be on the lookout for seed pods on your own plants.



*Nuccio's Bella Rosa*



*Cile Mitchell*

Chuck and Bev Ritter are opening their gardens for an opportunity to air layer Kanjiro and Egao plants which provide quality rooting stock to graft improved varieties of camellias. The Ritters have over 100 plants from which to take air layers. The date for this opportunity is tentatively scheduled for May 11th. Interested persons should make a note on the signup sheets being distributed for John Swanson's air layering.

Charles Simon advised members who were doing air layers from their personal plants for sale at the camellia show, focus should be on some of the older varieties. He will provide a list of possibilities in the newsletter.



Irma Velez introduced Dr. Craig Tisher, retired Dean of the University Of Florida College Of Medicine. First Dr. Tisher thanked the Gainesville Camellia Society for their financial support of Wilmot Gardens. He is now the director of Wilmot Gardens and presented members with an overview of the gardens and the project to replant camellias from the Gordy Estate camellia gardens to Wilmot Gardens and the University.

The family of Clarence and Lillian Gordy offered the University of Florida the opportunity to acquire approximately one half of the plants from their gardens. Wilmot purchased approximately 680 plants for the purpose of planting in Wilmot Gardens and around the University campus.



*Tudor Baby*



*Tudor Baby Variegated*

Thus far 340 have been dug up and all but 15 have been transplanted at the IFAS landscape facility on 23rd Terrace. Some of the plants were so large it required a tree spade for removal. Dr. Tisher explained the process of moving and replanting the first group of plants. All the plants have been catalogued and photographed for record keeping. One hundred of the plants have been planted at Wilmot Gardens on in an area to be designated the Gordy Camellia Garden. It appears 99 of the 100 plants are doing well after the transplant. Thirty-five plants have been placed at the Dasburg House, the residence of the University President. All plants will have identification to reference the Gordy collection.

Dr. Tisher thanked Irma Velez for her many efforts on behalf of Wilmot Gardens.

With that in mind, Irma said that she would be at Wilmot on Tuesday to do some pruning of the camellias and extended an invitation to join her. She would be there at 8:30 a.m. and parking would be by voucher in the adjacent parking garage.

Jay Ellis brought a tray of blooms from his gardens for display and Anna and Gerald Langford brought grapefruit from their home for members to enjoy. Refreshments were provided by Mona Rippe and drinks by Anna and Gerald Langford.

Mark Crawford of Loch Laurel Nursery, along with his wife, Sherrida, gave a slide presentation of their trip to Nantes, France for the 2018 International Camellia Society Congress. Because Mark is a commercial grower, he gave a unique perspective to camellia gardens in Europe.



*Dusty*

***Karen Peeples, Co-Secretary***

Note: all photos in this newsletter are courtesy of John Swanson from flowers in his garden

X

<b><i>2018-2019 Meeting Schedule for the Gainesville Camellia Society</i></b>		
<b><i>Date and place of meeting</i></b>		<b><i>Refreshments</i></b>
April 28, 2019	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Diane & Charles Simon Linda & Alan Hyde
May 19, 2019	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	End-of-year party - potluck Volunteers needed for table setup

### ***Air Layering Notices***

On Friday, April 26, from about 9 till noon, The Swansons are hosting an Air-Layering Day. First, a demonstration will be given to see one expert's method for air layering. Then attendees will be able to choose from a plant list to determine which they would like to air-layer. Following the air layering a noon pot luck lunch will be shared. The Swansons will provide meats and drinks, and attendees are asked to bring a side dish, salad, or dessert. The address is 2607 NW 25th Place, Gainesville, 32605, and phone is (352) 672-2644. See attached lists of what is needed to air layer, and plants list for this event.

On Saturday, May 11, from 8 a.m. onward, Chuck and Bev Ritter will host an opportunity to air layer selected camellias from their outstanding collection. A number are planned to be harvested late this Fall for ultimate donation to the GCS plant sale in 2021. Caretakers for the plants after harvest are being sought. The address is 202 Mason Road, Melrose, 32666, and phone number is (352) 475-3341. See attached impressive list of plants which also includes a couple of outstanding varieties of rootstocks used for grafting. Bring your necessary tools, but some supplies like moss, foil, and plastic wrap will be provided. Bring drinks and snacks as needed.

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

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Patrick Andrews	Charles Simon
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Bev Ritter	Ken Wagner
Chuck Ritter	Nicki Whittaker

***Monthly Meeting of the Gainesville Camellia Society******Program Chair:*** *Hawser Pearce****Date:*** Sunday, April 28, 2019, at 2 pm***Place:*** Kanapaha Botanical Gardens***Program:*** "Don't Kill Your Camellias" by Tim Payne***Refreshments Chair:*** *Anna Langford*

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# Gainesville Camellia Society

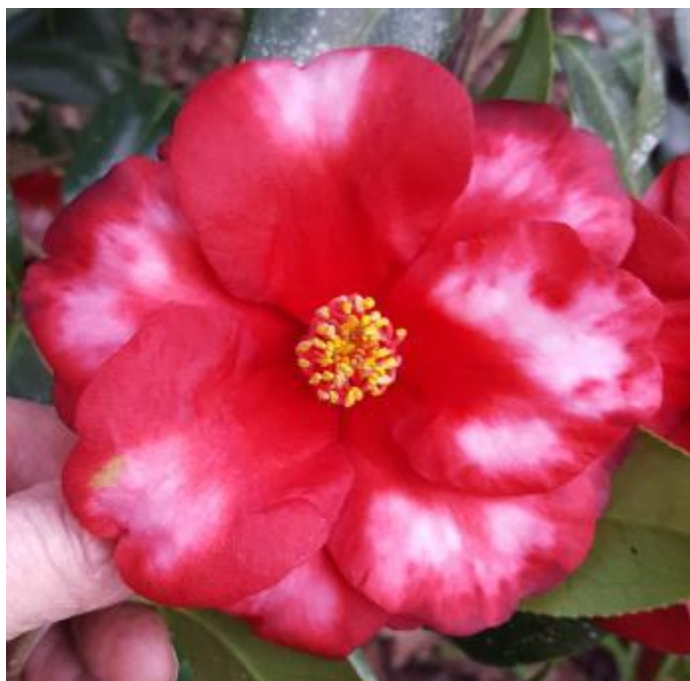
Affiliated with the American Camellia Society

*Editor: Anna Langford*

*March 2019*

## *President's Message*

What a short time period between last month's meeting and the March meeting! But things are still happening in the camellia world. Last weekend I put out 100 lbs of fertilizer with a bit more to go next weekend. Some plants are already growing! Others are thinking about it and their growth buds are swelling. The time for spring grafting is about passed, but now the time for air layering is approaching. I think John Swanson will have an announcement about that.



*Royal Velvet variegated*



*Lee Roy Smith*

John Swanson graciously volunteered to be the head of the Nominations Committee and he is just about to have a full slate of candidates ready to present to the group at the meeting. We will ask for additional nominations from the floor, then close the nominations and vote to accept the candidates as the officers for 2019-2020. As stated in the February President's Message, new Officers and Board members will be installed at the May meeting.

Another important thing to finish at the March meeting is the arrangements for the Kanapaha Spring Festival. We passed around the sign-up sheet at the last meeting and there are only a few open slots left. There will be one more opportunity to sign up on Sunday. Don't miss it if you can! It WILL be fun. I'm sure that Irma will have some words of encouragement about this.



*Cherries Jubilee*





*Ellen Daniel*

That's about it for this month. The weather is improving and hopefully there will be ample rains to wash in the fertilizer. So, the camellia cycle begins again. By June many camellia plants will have visible flower buds that will be ready for opening in the fall. Hard to believe! Must run. Look forward to seeing you at the meeting on Sunday! I'm sure that Hawser will have another great speaker for us! See you then.

Cheers,

***Jerry Hogsette, President***

***Minutes for GCS Meeting - February 17, 2019****Georgia Fire*

The meeting at Kanapaha Gardens was called to order by our President, Jerry Hogsette, at 2:05 pm. We had two new members present, Allen Chamber and Benita Moore, as well as two visitors from Jacksonville, Charley and Karen Valentine.

The minutes from the January meeting as published in the February newsletter were accepted without comment.

**Treasurers Report by Merry Reid**

After all expenses were paid, the 2019 show made a profit of \$3,635. The total cost of the show was \$9,870, including \$1,200 in prizes and \$6,500 for plants.

Our current ledger balances are:  
Savings Account = \$12,927  
Checking Account = \$2,093  
Total Funds = \$15,020

*Lover Boy*



*Punkin variegated*

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

A memorial donation to the American Camellia Society for Clyde Leaphart was passed unanimously.

John Swanson spoke about the regional Camellia Societies that are available for us to join. The American Camellia Society, the Atlantic Coast Camellia Society and the Gulf Coast Camellia Society are all groups that have annual meetings in interesting places and venues. Members get regular bulletins with times and places for each meeting. There's also a West Coast Camellia Society and a Southern California Camellia Society for those who are interested in travelling to meetings in the Western US. The International Camellia Society is another group that meets every two years. The next meeting is in Japan in two years, in Northern Italy two years after that, and in the Southeast US two years later.



*Tom Knudsen*





*Adolphe Audosson*

John Swanson invited everyone to participate in his annual air layering event on Friday, April 12, 2019, at his house. We will air layer plants from 9 am until noon, and then have a pot-luck lunch. John will provide a list of his plants that are available for air layering in the next newsletter.

New members were reminded that they are entitled to a free camellia plant. Contact John Swanson if you have not received your free plant.

Jerry Hogsette asked for volunteers to head up the nomination Committee this year. There being no immediate volunteer, he will email current Board members to ask again. We need nominations for president, 1st vice president, 2nd vice president, secretary, treasurer, program chair, and board members. We will have open nominations from the floor as well. Many people remain in their positions when asked, and new members are encouraged to join as board members.

The Kanapaha Spring Festival and plant sale is coming up. This is one of two events where GCS members interact with the public. It's a great opportunity for current and new members to spend a few hours together teaching and learning about camellias. A signup sheet was passed around. The entrance fee will be reimbursed by GCS.



*April Tryst*



*Black Magic*

Our guest speaker, Dave Forrestel, is the owner of a house and property in Gainesville that feature a “Camellia Jungle”. Dave took us on a pictorial tour of one of the oldest and most spectacular camellia gardens in town. He invited everyone to visit and see what nature does to camellias without human intervention. The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 pm.

***Charles Simon, Co-Secretary***

Note: all photos in this newsletter are courtesy of John Swanson from flowers in his garden

X

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March 17, 2019	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Mona Rippe Anna & Gerald Langford
April 28, 2019	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Diane & Charles Simon Linda & Alan Hyde
May 19, 2019	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	End-of-year party - potluck

### ***Air Layering Notices***

The air layering workshop and practice at the Swansons' has been rescheduled for Friday, April 26th. A conflict arose for April 12, and sorry if this causes inconvenience for anyone. Specifics will be posted with the April Newsletter.

An opportunity to air layer Kanjiro and Egao plants for the purpose of having quality rooting stock on which to graft improved varieties is offered by Chuck and Bev Ritter. We will be welcome to place at least 100 air layers from the plants the Ritters have available. We will discuss this at the meeting and coordinate to set a date to take advantage of this great opportunity.

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Chuck Ritter	Nicki Whittaker

***Monthly Meeting of the Gainesville Camellia Society******Program Chair:*** Hawser Pearce***Date:*** Sunday, March 17, 2019, at 2 pm***Place:*** Kanapaha Botanical Gardens***Program:*** "My International Camellia Society trip to France"  
by Mark Crawford of Valdosta GA***Refreshments Chair:*** Anna Langford

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# Gainesville Camellia Society

Affiliated with the American Camellia Society

*Editor: Anna Langford*

*February 2019*

## *President's Message*

February is more than half gone already and the 2019 camellia show season is drawing to a close, at least in Florida and nearby locations. When our last meeting convened there had been three January camellia shows in Florida: Gainesville, Tallahassee, and Orlando. Since then there have been two more: Ocala and Lakeland. Unless you head north, the show season is over for us.

The summer of 2018 was wet and warm and produced excellent flowers. The so-called winter has been cool but relatively mild, which also produced excellent blooms. It has been a great camellia season and it looks like the blooms could continue into March, if not later. It will soon be time to fertilize and new flower buds will begin to appear in late May and early June!



*Minato No Akebono*

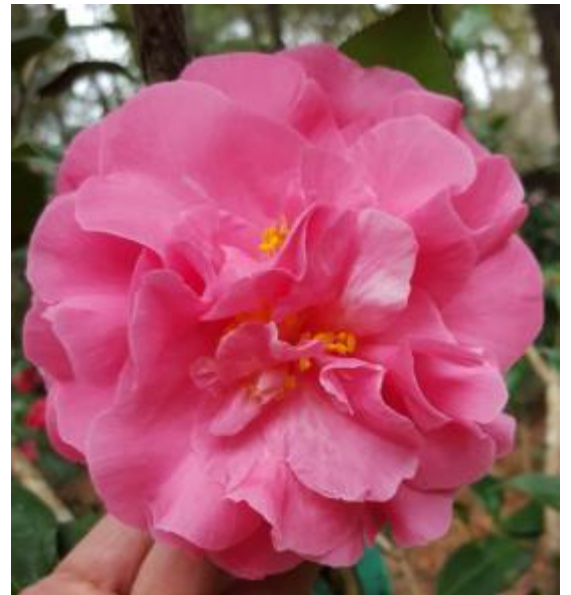


*Wendy*

We were fortunate enough to sign up several new members at our show and at the last meeting it seemed that all of them showed up. This was terrific, and we hope they will continue to come. We are in the business of helping new members learn about camellias and enabling them to get as many plants as they want and even more plants than they want. We will soon be talking about making more plants by air layering mature plants, growing cuttings taken from large plants, and planting seeds produced by camellia flowers. This is a fun hobby and we will help everyone get as fully immersed as they wish to be.

The time between our February and March meetings is when a Nominating Committee will assemble a slate of candidates for Officers and the Board Members to be presented to the attendees of the March meeting. A request for additional nominations will be made after which the nominations will be closed. Then we will vote on the candidates who will take office at the end of the May meeting.

We should all thank our Program Chairman once again for using a very unusual technique to locate a fantastic speaker with a very different topic – painting camellia flowers. The videos made by the artist showed us how the paintings were assembled, which to me was quite fascinating. Over the years I have seen many camellia paintings at shows and other camellia-related events, but the paintings we saw at our last meeting were, by far, the ones that were the most professionally done.



*Grace Ward*



*Ville de Nantes*

There is one thing that we do sell, however, and that is tickets for chances to win the plant that will be raffled off at the close of the festival. I'm sure that Irma will be passing around the sign-up sheet at the February meeting. You get free admission to Kanapaha (pay at the door but get reimbursed later) but can stay as long as you'd like before or after your two-hour shift. Plus, you will learn lots about camellias just by listening and participating in the discussions. If you want to have a fun time, put your name on the sign-up sheet.

At the January meeting Irma talked about the Kanapaha Spring Festival, which takes place in March. It is a fun event and because we have a booth, we have yet another opportunity to meet with the public in an informal atmosphere. We operate an information booth and cannot sell anything or else we would be classified as a vendor and required to pay a fee to rent the site for our booth. But we do have information in the form of handouts supplied by the American Camellia Society.



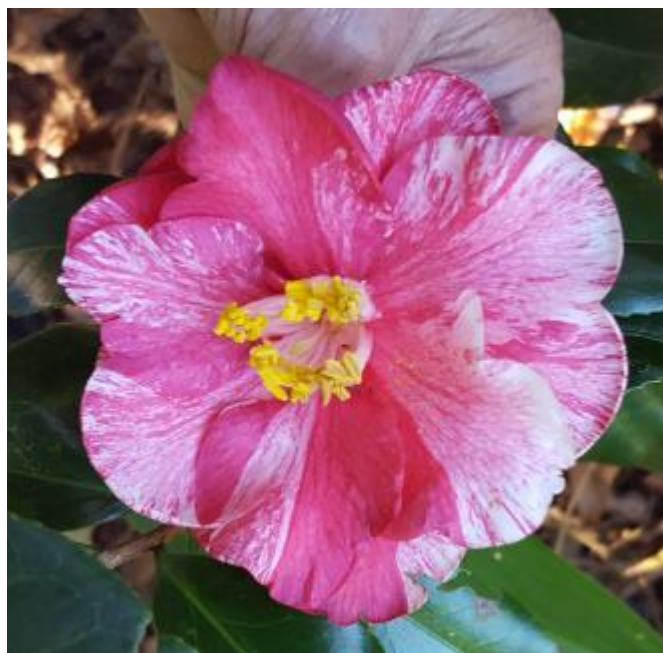
*Betty Sheffield Supreme*



Must run. Trust everyone has had a fun month so far. Time is flying by. Look forward to seeing you at the meeting on Sunday!

Cheers,

***Jerry Hogsette, President***



*Lady Vansittart*

***Minutes for GCS Meeting - January 20, 2018***



*Shikibu*

Jerry Hogsette opened the meeting by congratulating the club on a very successful camellia show. We had ten new members join GCS at the show and one membership was just received in the mail.

Jerry welcomed Michelle Gorday, Dari Smith and Sergio Quintana our newest members who were here today. He also welcomed our regular visitors from Jacksonville, Richard and Ginny Mohr.

There were no additions or corrections to the December minutes as published in the newsletter. Charles Simon moved to accept the minutes as published; seconded by Irma Velez and approved.

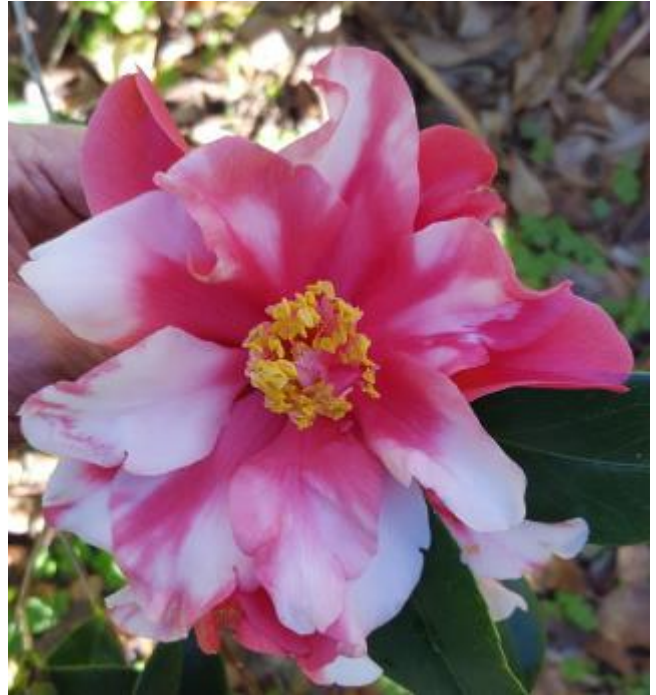


## TREASURER'S REPORT – Merry Reid

- Savings Account - \$12,937.96
- Checking Account - \$5,235.94
- Total Funds: \$18,173.90
- All show expenses have been paid except the prize monies.
- We had over \$13,000 in plant sales and the raffle brought in \$124.

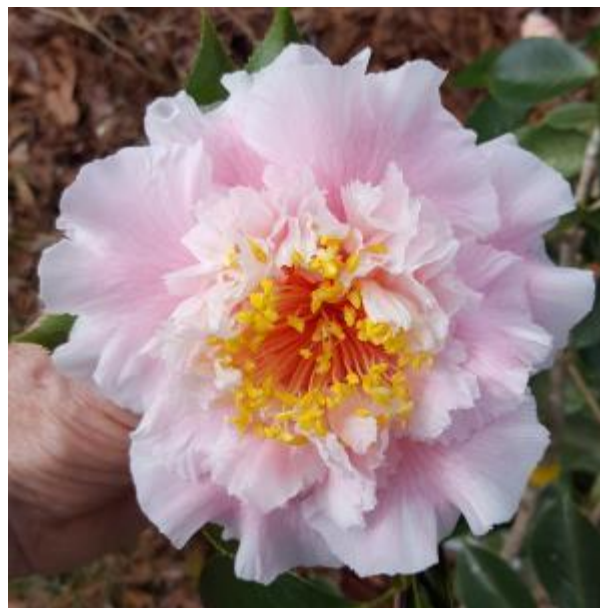
## SHOW REPORT:

- Bruce Cavey thanked everyone who helped make this year's show a success. The weather was perfect (compliments of John Swanson) and attendance was excellent. He received many positive comments about the show.

*Tomorrow's Dawn**Ray Gentry*

- He advised we had over 1400 blooms, 30 exhibitors and 1,066 paid attendance. Show statistics and winners are posted on the Atlantic Coast Camellia Society website, [www.atlanticcoastcamelliasociety.org](http://www.atlanticcoastcamelliasociety.org).
- Charles Simon reported that all the plants had been sold except for two plants that were held for the Kanapaha Spring Festival drawing.
- He thanked Jerry Hogsette and John Swanson for the 150 plants that they had contributed to the sale. These air layered plants contributed 30-40 percent of the profit from the plant sales. He encouraged members to consider air layering plants for sale at future shows.

- Mona Rippe created a list of what plants people specifically asked for so that these plants could be included in our order next year. Favorites included Professor Sargent and any yellow variety. If members have suggestions for next year's plants, send them to Anna Langford and she will pass the suggestions on to the plant purchasing committee.
- Buyers loved the bloom photos and descriptions that were in the GCS photo book.
- Bruce Cavey thanked Bill Hayes and Charles Simon for housing the plants prior to the sale and a standing ovation for the "plant crew" for the moving and placement of plants. Charles gave a "Shout Out" to Alan for his strong back in moving all these plants.



*Elegans Supreme*



*Eleanor Martin*

Richard and Ginny Mohr, members of the North Florida Camellia Society of Jacksonville which is inactive, wanted to give 30 trays used during their shows to GCS. The trays were given to Charles Simon to store.

Jerry opened the floor for member input regarding next year's show. Comments ranged from the bloom holders, the flower names, payment options and Facebook/publicity promotions. There was confusion over when plant sales would begin. Some buyers did not realize sales began at 9 a.m. both days and came at 1 p.m. on Saturday (when the show opened to the public) and many plants were already sold. Some of that problem occurs because of the way social media requires data input.



Jerry Hogsette noted that a longtime GCS member, Clyde Leaphart, had passed away recently. John Thrasher moved that GCS make a \$50 donation to the American Camellia Society in honor of Mr. Leaphart. Seconded by John Swanson and approved by members.

The next Gainesville Camellia Society event will be the Kanapaha Gardens Spring Festival which is held the third weekend in March. GCS has an educational booth and members are asked to volunteer to spend two hours at the booth talking to people about camellias and answering questions visitors might have about raising camellias. Irma Velez is the GCS rep in charge of the event and will have sign-up sheets at the next meeting. She has submitted the necessary paperwork to Kanapaha Gardens and will advise members once a space has been assigned for our tent.



*Frank Houser Variegated*



*Fine Pure*

Watch the GCS newsletter for dates of the Spring Festival as well as dates for our regular GCS March meeting should there be a conflict with the Festival.

Charles Simon noted that the projector that GCS has used during meetings is in need of replacement. Jerry Hogsette advised we will take this matter up at the next Board of Directors' meeting.

Members were reminded of Patrick Andrews and Bob Weidman's annual camellia gardens open house. Anna Langford had sent their announcement flyer to members via email. Anna Banana is not spam. It was noted that if you received an email from Anna Banana, don't delete it! That's Anna Langford, the GCS newsletter editor.

Merry Reid met a gentleman at the show, Tom Wood, who has been collecting tea camellias from all over the world and raises camellia sinensis in Archer, Florida. He will be hosting a tea tasting on February 16th. Merry has Mr. Wood's email address and phone number if anyone would like further information about his gardens.

Jerry Hogsette adjourned the meeting and Hawser Pearce introduced our guest speaker, artist Barry Graves, who gave a presentation on different painting techniques in painting camellias.

***Karen Peeples, Secretary***



*William Forrest Bray*

Note: all photos in this newsletter are courtesy of John Swanson from flowers in his garden

X

<b><i>2018-2019 Meeting Schedule for the Gainesville Camellia Society</i></b>		
<b><i>Date and place of meeting</i></b>		<b><i>Refreshments</i></b>
February 24, 2019	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Merry Reid Debbie & Jay Ellis
March 17, 2019	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Mona Rippe Anna & Gerald Langford
April 14 or 28, 2019	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Diane & Charles Simon Linda & Alan Hyde
May 19, 2019	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	End-of-year party - potluck



### ***Things to do in February:***

February is a busy month as the blooming season is gradually winding down and preparations for the next season are gearing up. It is the time to prune, fertilize and graft to upgrade plants.

Pruning is done to help shape, control plant height, and increase access of light to leaves and improve air flow through the plants. Pruning of low-lying branches also helps reduce the chance for scale insect infestations.

Fertilize with slow release fertilizer to boost growth as those growth buds begin elongating and forming "candles" of new buds and leaves. Place the fertilizer around the drip line of plants and make sure it is watered in if there is no rainfall.

Now is the time to graft camellias to upgrade quality and introduce virus variegation, if desired.

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

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



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President: Jerry Hogsette  
 1st VP & Show Chair: Bruce Cavey  
 2nd VP & Program Chair: Hawser Pearce  
 Treasurer: Merry Reid  
 Co-Secretaries: Karen Peeples,  
 Charles Simon,  
 Debbie Ellis

**Board Members**

Patrick Andrews	Charles Simon
Jay Ellis	John Swanson
Bill Hayes	Irma Velez
Bev Ritter	Ken Wagner
Chuck Ritter	Nicki Whittaker

**Monthly Meeting of the Gainesville Camellia Society**

**Program Chair:** *Hawser Pearce*

**Date:** Sunday, February 24, 2019, at 2 pm

**Place:** Kanapaha Botanical Gardens

**Program:** "My life in a camellia forest" by Artist Dave Forrestel

**Refreshments Chair:** *Anna Langford*

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



# Gainesville Camellia Society

Affiliated with the American Camellia Society

*Editor: Anna Langford*

*January 2019*

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

Seems like I just wrote the President's Message for December and here it is January 2019 already. The show was a huge success because of:

1. everyone who participated
  2. the wonderful growing weather during the week preceding the show
  3. the beautiful blooms exhibited at the show.
- Total blooms: 1493! And they were fantastic blooms!

The show report can be seen at the Atlantic Coast Camellia Society web site or follow the link:  
<http://www.atlanticcoastcamelliasociety.org/2018-2019/Gainesville%20Show%20Results%20-%20010519-Gainesville.html>



*Esther Smith*



*Terru Gilley variegated*

I would like to thank everyone who participated in the show in some way, shape or form. For first timers, it must have seemed a bit confusing. And it was, as would be expected. Shows are always carefully planned, but once the first exhibitor arrives, it is always go with the flow and try to get things done as close as possible to the plans. The final judging took an extended period this year because of so many superb flowers. Organizing the Head Table blooms for judging must be done properly and carefully to facilitate judging, and the Head Table team did a spectacular job of doing just that.

Congratulations are in order for our Show Chairman, Bruce Cavey. This is Bruce's second turn at the helm and he did a great job. I'm sure that things seemed a bit clearer this year than they did last year. Thinking of every detail needed to put on a show takes some time to learn. And of course Bruce had plenty of help from our team of seasoned veterans who made sure he covered all of the bases. Many thanks, Bruce!!!

John Swanson was in charge of bloom placement and when John takes on this task he brings the Swanson family team - wife, son, daughter! Dinh did many different things, many of them involving food! Great job well done. Irma organized the placement runners who are in the Master Gardeners Program. These are the people who actually place the blooms on the display tables in the order set up by the Swanson family team. Many thanks to these volunteers.

What about the plant sales?!? Dr. Charles and his crew sold about 600 camellia plants, about 500 on Saturday and the remainder by early Sunday afternoon! Arrangements for purchasing plants from the two Georgia nurseries are made months before show time.



*Cile Mitchell*





*Midnight variegated*

I have only mentioned a few of the efforts of our members to help make the show a success. There were many others, some of which I was aware of and many that just happened spontaneously. Thanks to everyone. It was a great show.

Interested in going to other nearby shows? You can enter flowers at these shows, plus you can see how they organize their shows. Saturday, January 19, there is a show at Mead Gardens in Orlando. Too far to drive? The following weekend there will be a show in Ocala. The first weekend in February there will be a show in Lakeland, which is a bit of a drive but well worth it. Check the Atlantic Coast Camellia Society site for more show info.

In the late fall the plants are delivered to the homes of Bill Hayes and the Simons, who keep them in good shape until show time. Thursday before the show a team of rugged GCS guys loaded the plants onto a trailer and then unloaded them at Kanapaha. From about 1:00 PM Thursday and for much of Friday, Dr. Charles and his able and dedicated crew organized the plants and made sure they were ready for sale. Quite a job and quite a successful effort.



*Valerie*



*Edna Bass variegated*

Well, time to end this first President's message of 2019. Our next meeting will be at Kanapaha and I hope everyone can attend. See you there.

Cheers,

***Jerry Hogsette, President***

### ***A Few Notes From the Show***

From Dinh Swanson: Thanks much to all who helped in the Hospitality area of the Show with special thanks to Cathy Martin, Linda Hyde, Anna Langford and Megan Swanson. Irma Velez organized and prepared the Judges' goody bags in addition to all her other services to GCS. THANKS MUCH.

From John Swanson: Plant sales were highly successful and there was a lot of participation to see that it got done. Bill Hayes and The Simons (Charles and Diane) were caretakers of the plants for an extended period of time and also helped move and sell plants. Many helpers loaded and unloaded plants as they were transferred to Kanapaha and sorted them into organized positions.



Thanks to all, including Gerald Langford, Alan Hyde, Dan South, Bart Maris, Larry Hice, Steve Swanson, and Jerry Hogsette. Thanks to Mona Rippie for serving as cashier for the sale. The placement of blooms was greatly assisted by the Master Gardeners and led by Irma Velez. John Thrasher once again assisted. A BIG THANKS to all who assisted and apologies to anyone omitted.

From Karen Peeples: I thought it might be of interest to know where our exhibitors call home. I was surprised how far some growers drove to participate in our show. Here's the list of exhibitors' home towns:

- Citra, Clermont, Crystal River, Deland, Fort White, Gainesville, Jacksonville, Keystone Heights, Lakeland, Melrose, Moultrie GA, Ocala, Orange Park, Quitman GA, Suwannee, GA, Tallahassee



*Some of our Master Gardeners*



*More Master Gardeners*

***Upcoming Camellia Shows***

Date	Sponsor	Location
January 19, 2019	Camellia Society of Central Florida	Winter Park FL
January 26-27, 2019	Ocala Camellia Society	Ocala FL
February 2, 2019	Lakeland Camellia Society	Lakeland FL
February 2, 2019	Suburban Garden Club & Aiken Camellia Society	Augusta GA
February 2-3, 2019	Quitman Garden Club	Quitman GA
February 16-17, 2019	North Georgia Camellia Society	Atlanta GA
February 23, 2019	Middle Georgia Camellia Society	Fort Valley GA
March 2-3, 2019	Chattahoochee Valley Camellia Society	Columbus GA



## Minutes for GCS Meeting - December 16, 2018



*Kanjiro variegated*

The annual potluck luncheon began at 1:00 p.m. with a social hour featuring appetizers and drinks. We had several visitors and new members, Brenda and Dan South. The Souths had joined GCS online and this was their first meeting. Everyone then enjoyed sumptuous food and fellowship.

Lunch was followed by a short business meeting chaired by Vice President, Bruce Cavey. There were no corrections to the minutes as published in the newsletter.

- TREASURER'S REPORT – Merry Reid
  - Savings Account - \$10,173.46
  - Checking Account - \$2,544.60
  - Total Funds: \$12,718.06

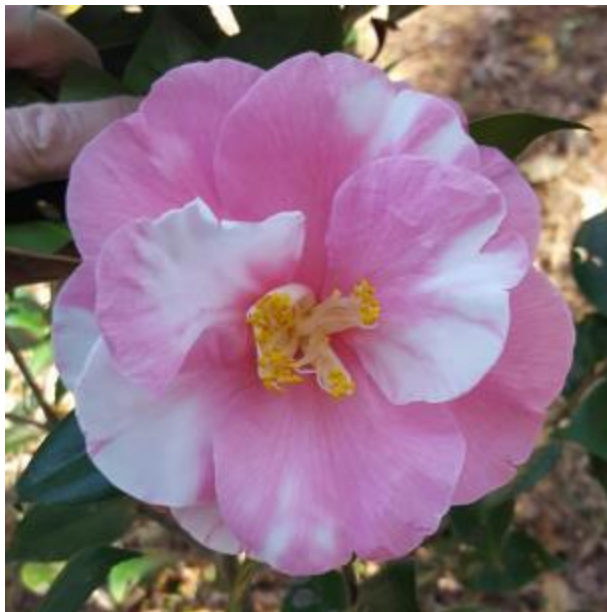
### Show status:

- Plant staging will begin Thursday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>. Volunteers should meet at Bill Hayes' residence at 10:00 a.m. After delivering plants to Kanapaha, volunteers will pick up the remaining plants at Charles Simon's home and bring them to Kanapaha.
- Show setup begins Friday at 2:00 p.m. Tables have been requested for early that day. Trays and glasses will be brought from storage. Plastic milk jugs are needed for water for the blooms.
- Jerry Hogsette will host a judges dinner at his home Friday evening after completion of the show setup.
- Signage for the show is ready for placement.



*Grace Bunton*





*Waltztime variegated*

- Merry Reid could use additional volunteers for the Information Desk.
- Dinh Swanson is handling hospitality and asked for volunteers to contact her to help providing food and snacks for volunteers.

Bruce Cavey said that he had given talks to several gardening clubs in the area.

John Swanson reminded everyone of the American Camellia Society Annual Meeting in Mobile, Alabama, with a special focus on the anniversary of the camellia as the Alabama state flower. If interested, go to the American Camellia Society website for more information.

- Be My Guest cards are available to invite guests to the regular meeting and show. It does not waive admission to Kanapaha on the day of the show, only to GCS regular meetings. Publicity notices have all been sent out. The Gainesville Sun Scene Magazine ad has been ordered.
- Gates will be opened at 6:00 a.m. on Saturday and entrants will begin arriving around 6:30 a.m.
- Between 20-30 judges will be on hand. Chocolate alligators have been ordered as judge gifts. Judging begins at 10:15 a.m. Lunch for the judges will be from McAlister's Deli and will be served once judging is complete.
- Master Gardeners will help with clerking and arrive around 7:00 a.m. If anyone else wants to help with clerking, see Bruce Cavey.



*R.L Wheeler variegated*



*Sawada's Dream*

Bruce Cavey adjourned the business portion of our meeting.

Vincent Lipsio and Charles Simon joined forces in the Gag Gift Exchange and everyone went home with something they will bring back for next year's Gag Gift Exchange ☺.

*Happy New Year Everyone,*

***Karen Peeples, Secretary***

Note: all photos in this newsletter are courtesy of John Swanson from flowers in his garden

**X**

### ***2018-2019 Meeting Schedule for the Gainesville Camellia Society***

<b><i>Date and place of meeting</i></b>		<b><i>Refreshments</i></b>
January 20, 2019	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	John & Dinh Swanson Bill Hayes
February 24, 2019	Home of Chuck & Bev Ritter, Melrose FL	Merry Reid Debbie & Jay Ellis
March 17, 2019	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Mona Rippe Nicki Whittaker
April 14 or 28, 2019	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Diane & Charles Simon Linda & Alan Hyde
May 19, 2019	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	End-of-year party - potluck

***Things to do in January:***

In January you may want to start pruning and shaping your plants, although you should wait until blooming is finished for each plant. This is a time that most of us fertilize, and fertilizer should be a slow release type, preferably, like Hollytone, Osmocote, or Harrell's. To prevent the spread of the blossom rot organism, pick up all spent blooms and put into the garbage, not into a compost pile.

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

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



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Charles Simon,  
Debbie Ellis

***Board Members***

Patrick Andrews	Charles Simon
Jay Ellis	John Swanson
Bill Hayes	Irma Velez
Bev Ritter	Ken Wagner
Chuck Ritter	Nicki Whittaker

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

***Program Chair:*** Hawser Pearce

***Date:*** Sunday, January 20, 2019, at 2 pm

***Place:*** Kanapaha Botanical Gardens

***Program:*** "Mathotiana, the painting of a classic" by artist Barry Graves

***Refreshments Chair:*** Anna Langford

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





# Gainesville Camellia Society

Affiliated with the American Camellia Society

*Editor: Anna Langford*

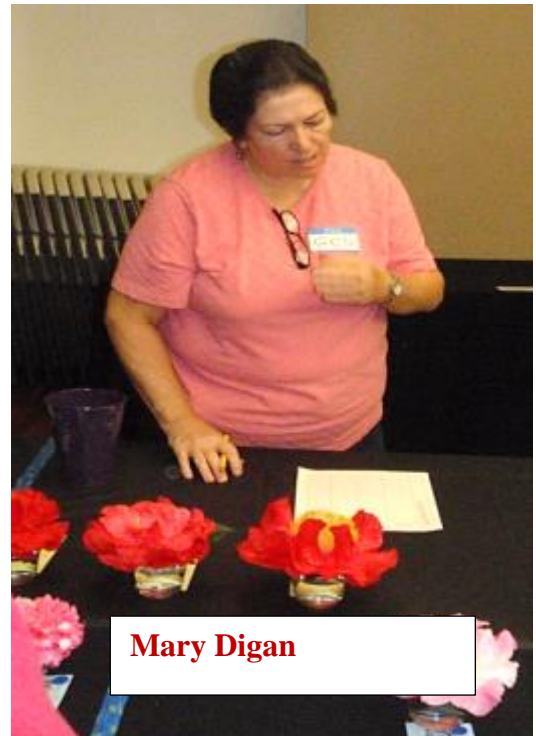
*December 2018*

## *President's Message*

Well here we are in December again. Comes around so fast. A little cold weather already but hopefully not much more. We do not need any severe freezes preceding our 2019 show. Flowers are opening in my yard and hopefully the same is happening for you.

Speaking of fast, our show date is quickly approaching. I know Bruce and others have been hard at work getting committees and other aspects of the show lined up. We still have not heard back from many judges, but I am sure we will have enough. Usually MORE than enough show up, which is an uncertain luxury!

I just heard recently that one of our long-term judges, Mary Digan, passed away. I do not know the details, but I know Mary has had some health issues over the past few years. Mary was a tireless worker and usually helped with placement and worked at the Head Table. For those of you who knew Mary, you will remember her knowledge of camellias and her great sense of humor. She will be missed.



**Mary Digan**



*Carol Humphrey*

Another wonderful benefit of the show is the unbelievable selection of camellia plants for sale. The varieties for sale can only be found in nurseries as close as southern Georgia, so this is a savings in time and distance. A few nurseries in town will have a good choice of camellias, but not many. Come early (10:00 AM) for the plants. They are sold quickly as many people show up exclusively to buy plants. All plants are identified with photos so you can see what you are getting. Plus, there will be an expert sales staff to help you make a good decision.

For those of you who Bruce has contacted about working at the show, I hope you have said yes when possible. This is the premier function of the Gainesville Camellia Society. There is always a tremendous showing of beautiful blooms, even when the weather has been miserable. Plus, we have the great opportunity to interact with the public. So even if you have not agreed to work at a specific job, please come and see what is going on. The show days are great fun.



*Bobby Fain Var.*

Don't forget the Christmas Party. This is a fun affair with plenty of good food and fellowship. Unfortunately I will not be in town, again, but I will be thinking of everyone and the celebration. Anna is handling the party details, so contact her if you have any questions.

Also the late afternoon and evening before the show (Friday, January 4, 2019), we will meet at my house for a covered dish supper. Please plan to come and bring your favorite dish. I will supply the meat and refreshments. More details later. That's about it for now. Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to everyone! Ho ho ho! And Happy New Year!

***Jerry Hogsette, President***

## *Minutes for GCS Meeting - November 18, 2018*



*Grand Marshal Var.*

Also, the location of show plants was incorrect. Charles Simon will be holding plants from the Loch Laurel Nursery and County Line Nursery plants will be at Bill Hayes' residence. The minutes were then approved with these changes.

Bruce Cavey gave an update on show plans. Master Gardeners will be helping to clerk during the show. He will be purchasing 4-6 new signs for display along Archer Road on show days. It was suggested he also put out signs the week before to announce the show. He found the show banner which can be attached to the fence. Bruce will be contacting Lee Kline about providing floral displays for the finalist display room. If you would like to help with the show (experience not required), contact Bruce.

The meeting was called to order by Jerry Hogsette.

- TREASURER'S REPORT – Merry Reid
  - Savings Account - \$10,773.20
  - Checking Account - \$1,507.60
  - Total Funds: \$12,280.80

The Treasurer's report was approved as presented.

There were two corrections to the minutes as written in the newsletter. Refreshments for the October meeting were provided by Bruce and Annette Cavey.



*Captain Martin's Favorite*



Jerry Hogsette said he had emailed 40 judges and has 10 confirmed judges. He will be getting the placement cards for growers. Jerry noted there was a change in the rule as to requiring a leaf with each bloom, but it must be stipulated in the show schedule. The program should contain the wording as it appears in the rules.

Jerry also noted that he and Irma Velez had attended a judge's refresher course held by Brian Dick in Lakeland, Florida.

Merry Reid asked volunteers for the Information Desk to contact her to schedule times.



*Satsuma Kurenai*



*Drama Girl Var.*

Karen Peeples advised there were Be My Guest cards with the current show dates available. Kanapaha Gardens has been actively promoting the camellia show. There was a half-page ad in the recent edition of Our Town Magazine and promotions have appeared on Kanapaha Gardens' FaceBook page. A show flyer has been sent via email to members so they could print flyers for distribution.

County Line Nursery will be delivering over 300 plants after Thanksgiving and John Swanson asked volunteers to contact him to help with the unloading and tagging of plants. Members wishing to pre-purchase plants should contact Charles Simon to arrange for payment and pickup.



Wilmot Gardens will be having their plant sale November 30 – December 1 and Irma Velez is in charge of staffing and asked if GCS members wanted to help out. She has a sign-up sheet and details of the sale. There will be a variety of plants for sale, including camellias.

John Swanson thanked those who had come to his home to harvest air layers. Over 190 air layers were put into pots. Half of the plants would be ready for the 2020 show and the remaining plants for 2021.



*Rosea Superba*



*Fred Sander Var.*

John Swanson also reminded members of the February 2019 American Camellia Society National Convention to be held in Mobile, Alabama. This is the 60th anniversary of the camellia as Alabama's state flower and John felt this celebration would be a highlight of the convention.

Anna Langford reminded members of the December Potluck Meeting. John and Dinh Swanson would be bringing one meat course and Anna asked for anyone who would be able to bring a second meat to contact her. GCS reimburses the cost of the meats. Attendees bring potluck 'sides' – salads, appetizers, veggies, desserts and libations, if desired.

The potluck will begin at 1:00 p.m. with appetizers and drinks. Lunch will be served at 2:00 p.m. Anna asked for volunteers to host a table, which involves providing plates, utensils, glasses, napkins and table decorations. After the meal there will be a Gag Gift Exchange. Bring a wrapped gag gift and get to participate in this fun activity.

Before introducing our guest speaker, Hawser Pearce showed examples of sasanqua blooms which he brought from the Camellia Garden outside at Kanapaha.



*Doris Ellis Pink*

Then Hawser introduced our guest speaker James Orrock, UF doctoral candidate in plant pathology. Mr. Orrock's study involves the feasibility of growing tea plants in Florida to replace the declining citrus industry. He gave us a history of tea growing worldwide and then presented the work that is being done at the University of Florida. He even brought samples of tea that had been prepared from tea leaves grown at UF.

After the program, a plant auction was held. Charles Simon also donated seedling boxes for members to take home.

Refreshments were provided by Debbie & Jay Ellis and drinks by Cathy Martin

***Karen Peeples, Co-Secretary***

Note: all photos in this newsletter are courtesy of John Swanson from flowers in his garden



### ***A Work Day***

Here are some pics of the crew that helped unload, place, and catalog the plants we received from CountyLine Nursery..

Thanks much to: Bill Hayes, Larry Hice, Vince Lipsios, Charles Simon, Konrad Hooper, Bart Maris, Ken Wagner, and Dinh and John Swanson. It was great to have such good participation to help out.

Of course Bill Hayes gets additional thanks for hosting and caring for the plants until show week.

Some pics of the volunteers are shown here. credits for pics to Bill Hayes, too.



**2018-2019 Meeting Schedule for the Gainesville Camellia Society**

<i>Date and place of meeting</i>		<i>Refreshments</i>
December 16, 2018	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Christmas party - potluck Table Hosts: Linda & Alan Hyde Lucille Little & Margaret Wagener Merry Reid Dinh & John Swanson Irma Velez Eileen & Ken Wagner
January 20, 2019	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	John & Dinh Swanson Bill Hayes
February 24, 2019	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Merry Reid Debbie & Jay Ellis
March 17, 2019	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Mona Rippe Nicki Whittaker
April 14 or 28, 2019	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Diane & Charles Simon Linda & Alan Hyde
May 19, 2019	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	End-of-year party - potluck

**Upcoming Camellia Shows**

Date	Sponsor	Location
January 5-6, 2019	Gainesville Camellia Society	Gainesville FL
January 12-13, 2019	Grand Strand Camellia Society	Murrells Inlet SC
January 19, 2019	Aiken Camellia Society	Aiken SC
January 19, 2019	Camellia Society of Central Florida	Winter Park FL
January 26-27, 2019	Ocala Camellia Society	Ocala FL
February 2, 2019	Suburban Garden Club & Aiken Camellia Society	Augusta GA
February 9, 2019	Mid-Carolina Camellia Society	Columbia SC



***Things to do in December:***

Fall and Winter are the best times to plant camellias. You might think that because the visible part of the plant is dormant the whole plant is dormant. However, the dormant period is when roots grow and pull in nutrients to get ready for the first big growth flush that usually comes in February or March. So if you have been waiting, get your plants into the ground soon, and remember to plant them high.

Another item to consider is that we often get a freeze, sometimes a hard one, in December or early January. Best preparations include keeping plants well-watered, which helps the plants withstand the cold. It is also still the time to treat plants for spider mites and tea scale.

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

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

***Program Chair:*** *Hawser Pearce*

***Date:*** Sunday, December 16, 2018, at 2 pm

***Place:*** Kanapaha Botanical Gardens

***Program*** Christmas Party

***Refreshments Chair:*** *Anna Langford*

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



# Gainesville Camellia Society

Affiliated with the American Camellia Society

*Editor: Anna Langford*

*November 2018*

## *President's Message*

Today I am writing from beautiful but chilly Vancouver, Canada, where I am attending a large entomological meeting. There are more than 6,000 'bug' people here in town! I found out from a colleague who works in Vancouver in landscaping that there are camellias here, but I do not know if they are inside or outside. This area is such a bubble of relative warmth compared with the area just a few miles east where temperatures are much colder.



*Alabama Beauty*

*Sultana*

Show time is getting closer and will soon be here. I invited the judges on October 31 but have had little response. This is typical in the age of e-mail but not too different from when judges sent their judging invitation replies by regular mail. I'm sure that Bruce Cavey has been getting his committees together and the plant sales folks have been actively making arrangements for procuring our sale plants. Let's hope the weather will be a bit more agreeable than it was for our last show! Hopefully everyone who is available on January 4, 5, and 6 will join the fun and assist with the show set up and take down. It can be hectic at times, but it is fun, and the blooms are always beautiful. Don't forget to bring some blooms from your own yard. No matter how bad they might appear at home, they will always look better once they arrive at the show!

Irma Velez and I attended a Judges' School and Refresher Course at the home of Brian Dick in Lakeland, starting at 9:00 AM on Saturday morning, November 3. It was quite a race to arrive by 9:00, but we made it. Accredited judges are required to update their credentials every 5 years, so we did that. The remainder of the group were newly minted Novice Judges. Novice Judges must serve 2 years in that capacity before they can become Accredited Judges, and this is a learning period. Of course, we never stop learning.



*Kanjiro*





*Northern Lights*

I made an appearance at the Palatka Garden Club Monday morning, November 5, at the their Ravine Gardens Club House, and Bruce Cavey has two presentations lined up for the near future. These presentations take time, but they are beneficial to the groups who requested them, and sometimes we see some of these people at our show or the Spring Garden Festival.

The November meeting will be the last one before our Christmas party in December. Hope you can attend and help plan, hear show updates, see who Hawser has lined up for us this month and participate in the plant auction. Hope to see you there.

***Jerry Hogsette, President***

### ***Things to do in November:***

Fall and Winter are the best times to plant camellias. You might think that because the visible part of the plant is dormant the whole plant is dormant. However, the dormant period is when roots grow and pull in nutrients to get ready for the first big growth flush that usually comes in February or March. So if you have been waiting, get your plants into the ground soon, and remember to plant them high.

## *Minutes for GCS Meeting - October 21, 2018*



*Sparkling Burgundy*

The Gainesville Camellia Society meeting began with Hawser Pearce introducing our guest speaker, resident artist at Wilmot Gardens Peg Richardson. She spoke about “Camellias and the Many Lives of a Color We Call RED.” While giving us a background on how we see colors, she challenged attendees to visualize the many varieties of reds that appear in nature and camellia flowers.

After Ms. Richardson’s presentation, Bruce Cavey, Vice President, called the regular meeting to order. There were no additions or corrections to the minutes as published in the newsletter. Jay Ellis moved to accept the minutes as published; seconded by Bill Hayes and approved by members

### TREASURER’S REPORT – Merry Reid

- Savings Account - \$10,772.92
- Checking Account - \$3,247.60
- Total Funds: \$14,020.52

Bruce Cavey advised plans for the annual show were on schedule. Individuals who would like to help should contact him. Later this year there will be sign-up sheets for the various committees and he will be sending an email blast notifying members.



*Kickoff*

Karen Peeples said several publicity notices had already been sent to local magazines that had a long lead time for publication. Other community calendar and radio notices would be distributed beginning the end of November. Karen requested approval for placement of a print ad in the Gainesville Sun The Scene Magazine, which was granted by members. Charles Simon recommended including a reference in print notices to the number of varieties of camellias for sale.

It was requested that we update the Be My Guest cards to show the 2019 show dates. It was also requested that the show flyer be made available for those who wanted to place them in commercial establishments.



*Yuletide*



*Winter's Fancy*

John Swanson and “crew” will be going to Loch Laurel Nursery in Valdosta on to pick up our order of approximately 300 show camellias. They will be stored at Bill Hayes’ residence and anyone who has pre-ordered plants can pick them up there. Charles Simon will house 140 plants from County Line Nursery and pre-orders can be picked up there.

Wilmot Gardens received a complaint regarding emails that had been sent to GCS members. If any GCS member prefers to not receive emails from Wilmot Gardens, please let them know and they will be glad to remove them.



The American Camellia Society is offering a \$10 introductory membership for new participants. Their annual meeting will be held February 15-18, 2019, in Mobile, Alabama.

The Wagners and the Swansons attended the Gulf Coast Camellia Society's annual meeting.

Annette Cavey has agreed to assume responsibility for GCS Facebook social media. Contact her at [annettecavey@gmail.com](mailto:annettecavey@gmail.com) with meeting information or other news to be placed on our Facebook page.



*Shishigashira*



*Adolphe Audusson*

John Swanson advised the air layers of plants in the Swanson's gardens that were done in the Spring were ready to be harvested this Friday, October 26th. Cutting and planting of the air layers would be between 9:00 a.m. and noon, concluding in a pot luck lunch.

Jay Ellis brought a supply of gib to share with members who might want to gib their plants.

Anna Langford circulated a sign-up sheet to provide refreshments for future meetings. Diane and Charles Simon provided food and root beer floats for today's meeting, and Bruce Cavey provided drinks.

***Karen Peeples, Co-Secretary***

Note: all photos in this newsletter are courtesy of John Swanson from flowers in his garden



### **2018-2019 Meeting Schedule for the Gainesville Camellia Society**

<i>Date and place of meeting</i>		<i>Refreshments</i>
November 18, 2018	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Debbie & Jay Ellis Cathy Martin
December 16, 2018	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Christmas party - potluck
January 20, 2019	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	John & Dinh Swanson Bill Hayes
February 24, 2019	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Merry Reid Debbie & Jay Ellis
March 17, 2019	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Mona Rippe Nicki Whittaker
April 14 or 28, 2019	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Diane & Charles Simon Linda Hyde
May 19, 2019	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	End-of-year party - potluck

### **Upcoming Camellia Shows**

Date	Sponsor	Location
November 3-4, 2018	Wiregrass Camellia Society	Boston GA
November 10, 2018	Middle Georgia Camellia Society	Byron GA
December 1, 2018	Ozone Camellia Club	Slidell LA
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***Officers***

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 1st VP & Show Chair: Bruce Cavey  
 2nd VP & Program Chair: Hawser Pearce  
 Treasurer: Merry Reid  
 Co-Secretaries: Karen Peeples,  
 Charles Simon,  
 Debbie Ellis

***Board Members***

Patrick Andrews	Charles Simon
Jay Ellis	John Swanson
Bill Hayes	Irma Velez
Bev Ritter	Ken Wagner
Chuck Ritter	Nicki Whittaker

***Monthly Meeting of the Gainesville Camellia Society******Program Chair:*** *Hawser Pearce****Date:*** Sunday, October 21, 2018, at 2 pm***Place:*** Kanapaha Botanical Gardens***Program*** “*Camellia sinensis* aka tea”

.by James Orrock, artisan tea grower and UF doctoral candidate

***Refreshments Chair:*** *Anna Langford*

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



# Gainesville Camellia Society

Affiliated with the American Camellia Society

*Editor: Anna Langford*

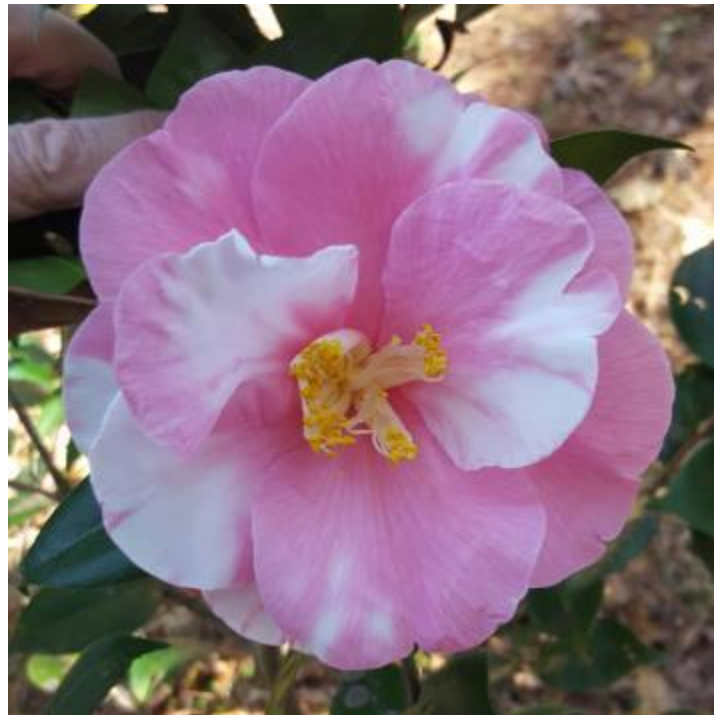
*October 2018*

## *President's Message*

Once again it is a pleasure and an honor to serve as President of the Gainesville Camellia Society (GCS).

From August 25 through September 9, Harriet and I were in Germany for our annual vacation where we tried, again unsuccessfully, to help the Germans get rid of their extra Riesling wines. We will try again next year. The two camellias I know of in the Bernkastel-Kues where we vacation were taller and full of buds, much like the ones in my yard.

The annual summer Board meeting has not yet occurred because of my schedule over the summer. I will do a virtual meeting this week and will soon send out emails to all Board members. I know of no burning issues, but others may have things that need to be discussed.



*Waltz Time variegated*



*Sultana*

Air layers removed from the parent plants in the fall of 2017 have really grown under the rainy conditions and are ready for sale at the 2019 show. Many recently-planted seedlings are showing buds for the first time. The fall seed crop was also tremendous, and several seed pods have already opened, and their seeds planted. I somehow managed to put on nearly 100 air layers sometime between late July and late August.

As I write this, yet another hurricane is intensifying and heading for the Atlantic coast. Last year it was Hurricane Irma and this year it is Florence. It looks like Gainesville will escape this one. I am writing this from Washington, DC, and hope I will be able to get home for the meeting on Sunday the 16th. Look forward to seeing you there.

It was a great summer for growing camellias with all of the rain. The rain did not affect the beetles that make cuts in the new growth, but it kept away mites and to some extent scales. The rain helped any newly planted camellias become established over what is usually a hot, dry summer.

The amount of growth and bud set, at least in my yard, has been terrific. If you did not use a good organic (slow release) nitrogen fertilizer earlier in the year, it might be a good idea to give your plants about a fourth the amount of fertilizer that you normally give them just to help them perform better over the fall and winter months. Do not apply too much or you might stimulate growth.



*White King*

***Jerry Hogsette, President***



## Minutes for GCS Meeting - September 15, 2018



*Aztec Warrior*

The meeting at Kanapaha Gardens was called to order by our President, Jerry Hogsette at 2:13 pm. One new member, John Stegman, was introduced to the group. John is from Orlando and is anxious to grow camellias in the colder climate in Gainesville. He has several plants in pots that he's moving to Gainesville.

### Treasurer's Report - Merry Reid

Savings:	\$10,772.66
Checking:	3,045.60
Total:	13,778.26

The minutes from the May meeting as published in the September newsletter were accepted without comment.

The president noted that we need to move the April 2019 meeting due to a conflict with the Easter holidays. Will discuss and decide later.

Jerry also commented on the excellent growing season we've had this year with plenty of rain, low insects, few spider mites, and a late cold snap that yielded lots of seeds. He said it would be a good idea to apply a small amount of slow release fertilizer to plants this Fall since the heavy rains have likely washed away earlier applications.

### OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.



*Nuccio's Gem*

### NEW BUSINESS

Patrick Andrews addressed the group on New Business concerning the Atlantic Coast and American Camellia Societies.

There was no Atlantic Coast Camellia Society (ACCS) meeting this year due to Hurricane Florence.

At the June American Camellia Society (ACS) meeting six new committees were formed in order to accomplish more tasks. The Garden Committee is busy getting ready for the 2024 International Camellia Society Meeting to be held at ACS Headquarters at Massey Lane.



*Mathotiana Supreme*



*Nuccio's Cameo*

The ACS trust has funded the building of the “Silver Structure” with a generous donation of five million dollars from the Silvers. The structure will have a massive display center and large greenhouse. It will be located in the field behind the current parking lot.

John Swanson said both plant orders are in but we haven't heard back from either nursery as to the actual plants they can supply. We hope to have their responses before the next meeting so we can let members select plants during our pre-sale time.

John and Dinh Swanson are having an air layer harvest at their house and property on Friday, October 26 from 9:00 am to noon followed by a pot-luck lunch.

Irma Valdez informed the group that Wilmot Gardens is acquiring some of the Gordy plants. The plants will be moved in November and Irma asked for help with trimming and cleaning debris and moss from the plants before the movers use a large spade to remove them. No heavy work is involved. She'd like to get this done in late October to early November.

Thank you to Anna and Old Goat Langford for providing sumptuous repast and libations. A sign-up sheet for the remaining meetings is on the serving table. (The food was really good!)



*Sandra Williams*



*Early Autumn*

### GUEST SPEAKER

Hawser Pearce, our Program Chairman, introduced our guest speaker, Ms. Ilene Hart, a highly experienced grower who has registered four Camellia cultivars, to speak to us about propagating Camellias from seeds.

Ms. Hart urged us all to join the ACS and have free access to over 200 botanical gardens across the US! She brought in seeds from a number of identified seed-parents to give to members after her talk. She spoke about recent advances in DNA testing that can be used to narrow identification and differences among cultivars. For example, there is only one species *Camellia Japonica*. It's a red single, small and not very impressive. All the remaining hundreds of named *Japonica* Camellias are cultivars of the original.



Seeds are easy to grow but you have to be patient. It can take 5-12 years to see the first bloom from a seedling. Some people graft them to get an earlier look at the bloom. Eight or nine out of ten seeds will yield the original cultivar in red, pink and occasionally white.

She noted that few Japonica cultivars have listed parents whereas all reticulatas are required to list both parents. She would like to see the same requirements for Japonicas. Most Japonica cultivars have parents listed as “chance seedling”. The seed parent is known but not the pollen parent.

Pick seeds when pods turn brown, usually from August to September. Remove the seeds from the pod and use a small hammer to ‘crack’ the epidural layer just slightly. Place in a glass of water overnight. Plant sinkers and discard floaters.



*William Forrest Bray*



*Sweetie Pie*

Put 6-8 seeds in a community pot and cover with one quarter to one half inch of dirt made from two parts peat and one part Perlite. It can take 3-6 months for the seeds to germinate.

After the plants have two or three sets of new leaves, discard any weak plants and cut the remaining plants out of the community pot in plugs. At this point cut off the bottom half of the tap root to encourage the outward growth of the remaining roots, and transplant the plug into its own one-gallon pot.



### ADJOURNMENT AND AUCTION

The meeting was adjourned, and over a dozen plants, including six 2-year air-layered camellias (*Tama Electra*, *Yuletide*, *Mathotiana*, and others), supplied by John Swanson were presented for auction. Chuck Ritter donated a healthy 3-year air-layered *Bev Ritter*, winner of the 2017 “Best Mutant” award, for auction. All plants sold.

***Charles Simon, Co-Secretary***



*Mary Alice Cox*

### ***2018-2019 Meeting Schedule for the Gainesville Camellia Society***

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April 14 or 28, 2019	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Diane & Charles Simon Volunteer needed for drinks. Please sign up with Anna Langford.
May 19, 2019	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	End-of-year party - potluck

***Air Layer Harvest and Potluck Lunch  
October 26 at the Swanson's Place***

On Friday, October 26th, it will be time to harvest the air layers that were prepared back at the end of April.

We will go over how to prepare and pot up the air layers with a chance to help pot up over 100 air layers that will eventually end up in future GCS plant sales or auctions. If you air layered some of the Swanson collection you will cut the air layers and take them home for potting up. If you did not have a chance to air layer, but want to learn the potting up process and to help the GCS you are also welcome to participate. Your participation can result in your taking home a couple of air layers for your collection.

A short program on procedures will begin at about 9 a.m. That will be followed by hands on potting up of the GCS designated air layers.

Between Noon and 12:30 a pot luck lunch will be shared. Hosts will provide some meat selections, and drinks. Please bring a favorite dish or dessert to complement the meal.

Come and enjoy the morning.

John and Dinh Swanson

2607 NW 25th Place, Gainesville. 32605  
(352) 672-2644

***Upcoming Camellia Shows***

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October 19-20, 2018	Mid-Carolina Camellia Society	Columbia SC
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### *A Mentor Worthy of Mention*



For us it all began at the 2008 GCS Show held at Oaks Mall. We saw the publicity announcing the show, but this was our first exposure to the event. On arriving at the show site we were overwhelmed by the number and diversity of blooms displayed. As we stared at the magnitude of blooms all glassy eyed, a gentleman approached us and offered to answer any questions we might have. The person was John E. Thrasher III, pictured above.

John lives southeast of Micanopy, and he and his late wife Eleanor became our first Camellia Mentors and soon thereafter our very good friends. An invitation to dinner including the tour of their over 200 camellia varieties was followed by subsequent visits for air layering of several varieties from the Thrasher camellia collection. A link to Guatemala and their gracious hospitality cemented the friendship.

John has been active in the GCS for about 30 years and has served as President and a host of other offices and board positions. He continues to assist with our shows, usually helping with placement, and assisting with set up and take down which goes well when the number of volunteers is large. We are grateful to have John as our friend and encourage you to introduce yourselves to him if you do not yet know him. Thank you for your service and your friendship.

John and Dinh Swanson

Note: all photos in this newsletter are courtesy of John Swanson from flowers in his garden.

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 Treasurer: Merry Reid  
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 Charles Simon,  
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**Board Members**

Patrick Andrews     Charles Simon  
 Jay Ellis             John Swanson  
 Bill Hayes            Irma Velez  
 Bev Ritter             Ken Wagner  
 Chuck Ritter          Nicki Whittaker

**Monthly Meeting of the Gainesville Camellia Society**

**Program Chair:** *Hawser Pearce*

**Date:** Sunday, Octoberber 21, 2018, at 2 pm

**Place:** Kanapaha Botanical Gardens

**Program:** "Camellias and the many lives of a color we call RED"  
 by artist Peg Richardson

**Refreshments Chair:** *Anna Langford*

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





# Gainesville Camellia Society

Affiliated with the American Camellia Society

*Editor: Anna Langford*

*September 2018*

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

Once again it is a pleasure and an honor to serve as President of the Gainesville Camellia Society (GCS). From August 25 through September 9, Harriet and I were in Germany for our annual vacation where we tried, again unsuccessfully, to help the Germans get rid of their extra Riesling wines. We will try again next year. The two camellias I know of in the Bernkastel-Kues where we vacationed were taller and full of buds, much like the ones in my yard.

The annual summer Board meeting has not yet occurred because of my schedule over the summer. I will do a virtual meeting this week and will soon send out emails to all Board members. I know of no burning issues, but others may have things that need to be discussed.



*Doris Ellis Pink*



*Sawada's Mahogany*

It was a great summer for growing camellias with all of the rain. The rain did not affect the beetles that make cuts in the new growth, but it kept away mites and to some extent scales. The rain helped any newly planted camellias become established over what is usually a hot, dry summer. The amount of growth and bud set, at least in my yard, has been terrific. If you did not use a good organic (slow release) nitrogen fertilizer earlier in the year, it might be a good idea to give your plants about a fourth the amount of fertilizer that you normally give them just to help them perform better over the fall and winter months. Do not apply too much or you might stimulate growth.

Air layers removed from the parent plants in the fall of 2017 have really grown under the rainy conditions and are ready for sale at the 2019 show. Many recently-planted seedlings are showing buds for the first time. The fall seed crop was also tremendous, and several seed pods have already opened, and their seeds planted. I somehow managed to put on nearly 100 air layers sometime between late July and late August. As I write this, yet another hurricane is intensifying and heading for the Atlantic coast. Last year it was Hurricane Irma and this year it is Florence. It looks like Gainesville will escape this one. I am writing this from Washington, DC, and hope I will be able to get home for the meeting on Sunday the 16th. Look forward to seeing you there.

***Jerry Hogsette, President***



*Sweetie Pie*

**Minutes for GCS Meeting - May 20, 2018**



*Les Marbury*

The meeting was called to order by President Jerry Hogsette at 3 pm. Jerry thanked everyone who had brought good things to eat and drink and those who had set up the beautiful tables.

Treasurer's Report:

checking	\$ 2,898.60
savings	<u>10,771.57</u>
total	\$13,670.17

The minutes and the Treasurer's Report were accepted.

Jerry asked for Old Business, of which there was none. He then called for New Business.

Merry Reid, Treasurer, sent a message reminding us of the year end donations we have given in the past, \$500 each to ACS and Kanapaha and \$200 to Wilmot Gardens.



Irma Velez moved, seconded by John Swanson, that we donate these amounts again this year. After some discussion, the motion was withdrawn. Charles Simon motioned, seconded by John Swanson, that we donate \$500 to Kanapaha and \$400 each to ACS and Wilmot. A discussion followed, in which it was noted that the money to Kanapaha is used to support the Camellia-Azalea Garden and that the money to Wilmot is for day to day operations, rather than for specific projects. This motion passed unanimously. During the discussion, it was noted that UF is getting several hundred plants from the Gordy Garden which will be used to reestablish the historic camellia gardens at Wilmot and elsewhere on campus.



*Early Autumn*



*Jean Clere*

Bruce Cavey moved that we send a donation to ACS in memory of Eleanor Thrasher. The motion was tabled until we check to see whether we have already made such a donation. Bruce then moved that we donate a camellia, variety to be chosen by John Thrasher, to Kanapaha in memory of Eleanor Thrasher. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

John Swanson discussed the ACS Camellia Trail. In order to add Kanapaha and Wilmot Gardens an inventory and a map are needed. Irma said she has an inventory for Kanapaha. John said the Maris brothers have software that will enable them to prepare maps of the two gardens.

John suggested that as a long term goal for the Kanapaha Camellia-Azalea Garden we obtain all locally developed varieties of camellias and label them as such. Irma said that an area at Kanapaha has been designated for that purpose.



Officers and directors for the coming year were inaugurated: Jerry Hogsette, President; Bruce Cavey, 1st Vice-President and Show Chair; Hawser Pearce, 2nd Vice-President and Program Chair; Merry Reid, Treasurer; Co-secretaries Karen Peeples, Charles Simon, and Debbie Ellis; Anna Langford, Newsletter Editor. Directors are: Patrick Andrews, Jay Ellis, Bill Hayes, Bev Ritter, Chuck Ritter, Charles Simon, John Swanson, Irma Velez, Ken Wagner, and Nicki Whittaker. Jerry said that he would announce a board meeting sometime in August.

The meeting adjourned at 3:20, followed by an auction of plants provided by John Swanson and two yearbooks from 1969 and 1972 donated by Jerry Hogsette.



*Ave Maria*

***Anna Langford for  
Karen Peeples, Secretary***

<b><i>2018-2019 Meeting Schedule for the Gainesville Camellia Society</i></b>		
<b><i>Date and place of meeting</i></b>		<b><i>Refreshments</i></b>
October 21, 2018 November 18, 2018 December 16, 2018 January 20, 2019 February 24, 2019 March 17, 2019 April 14 or 28, 2019 May 19, 2019	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Volunteers are needed to bring refreshments to all our meetings.  Please sign up with Anna Langford.

### ***Things to do in September***

This has been a good summer for camellia growth. If you are seeing damage from spider mites, you can spray with miticides, horticulture oil spray, or Neem oil, but there may be some sunburn if you spray when temperatures are above 90°. Spray on both the top and underside of leaves and this will take care of tea scale as well as mites.

It's time to begin disbudding. Most double buds should be reduced to just one. Some varieties heavily set multiple buds and require a lot of work if you want to stay ahead of them. If you are growing for show, disbudding is important to get good sized blooms.

If, however, you are just disbudding for your own enjoyment, one strategy is to disbud leaving one large, one medium, and perhaps a third smaller one, so that when the first one is finished blooming, the second won't be far behind, and that one followed by the third. Disbud by gently grasping the bud you wish to retain, and then gently twisting off the extra flower bud(s).

Now is also the time to start gibbing if you plan to show blooms at the fall shows, the first of which is in conjunction with the Georgia National Fair in October.

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

***Program Chair:*** *Hawser Pearce*

***Date:*** Sunday, September 16, 2018, at 2 pm

***Place:*** Kanapaha Botanical Gardens

***Program:*** “Propagating Camellias from Seed” by Eileen Hart

***Refreshments Chair:*** *Anna Langford*

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