

# Middle Georgia Camellia Society

## Calendar & Comments

Volume 5, Issue 3

Spring 2017-18



Centerpiece on the food table at the judges' reception on Friday night.



Scenes from our "Game Day" lunch on Saturday.



### *Having Fun with Flowers in November!*

November brought with it another opportunity for us to come together with our friends from Georgia, South Carolina and Florida for our second flower show of the season. On Friday evening, we gathered at the home of Sandee and William Khoury for a fun-filled evening at our Judges' Reception. Early Saturday morning, we met at the Byron Municipal Complex for our show.

Our lunch was especially fun.....GAME DAY was the theme. Some folks go to football games on Saturday in the fall, others go to camellia shows! We had 949 blooms in the show. Best Bloom Unprotected was 'Ray Gentry, var.' entered by Chuck & Bev Ritter of Melrose, FL and the Best Bloom Protected was 'Mary Fischer' entered by Jerry and Carol Selph, Quitman, GA. A complete show report can be found at [americancamellias.org](http://americancamellias.org).

### *A Cozy Christmas Celebration*



Middle Georgia Camellia Society welcomed in the holiday season with our annual holiday dinner. Donna Matthews catered a delicious meal.

All natural greenery accented with beautiful camellias and Christmas balls adorned the tables for a festive look.

Preston Phillips, accompanied by Tony Barrett, got us all in the Christmas spirit with several holiday music selections.



### *Welcome*

**Jackie Askew**

**Ann Howell**

**Linda Newberry**

**Nancy Trawick**

**Sammy & Jeanie Tyson**

**Huiyu Sylvia Chen-Black**

**James Eric Black**

**Karla Jensen**

**Tom & Jonanne Beckman**

**Stephen Hoy**

*Our Newest Members!*

## Message from our President

As camellia season comes to a close, I look back at all we did and can say “well done MGCS members”, Three Middle Georgia Camellia shows--October, November and February (which included our Judges’ Receptions), our January workshop with 120 attendees at Masee Lane and a trip in March to the Columbus Botanical Gardens to see the camellias still blooming at the Sam Wellborn Camellia Garden.

For those MGCS members who show blooms, almost every weekend from mid-January to mid-March included a camellia show. Brenda tells our non-camellia friends that showing camellias is like our “football season” with most of the games being “out of town”.

Congratulations to David and Sandra Williams on winning their first “Best Bloom in Show” award at the Atlanta show.

As I write this I can still see some of the last camellias of the year blooming in my yard. Now we need to think about pruning and fertilizing for next year.

In April, we will meet at Masee Lane to do our annual clean up at the Sun Trial Garden and then go to Warren and Cheryl’s to do some pruning. If you don’t know how or missed the pruning class by William and Grady at our March meeting, you can get on the job training in April at the Thompsons!

Then in May we have a fun afternoon at the MGCS picnic and auction to be held again at the Freshwater home—details to follow.

Finally, we are saddened by the death of Mary Moore and Wayne Goolsby and ask that you keep Mickey Moore and Leah Goolsby in your thoughts and prayers.

*Tommy*

## Joint Board Meeting

For  
Outgoing & Incoming  
Board Members

Sunday  
June 4, 2017

St Andrew’s Episcopal Church Parish House  
309 Central Avenue  
Fort Valley, GA



## WORKDAY



Scheduled for Saturday, April 15, 2017

9:00 a.m. until noon

**Our annual opportunity to be of service to ACS and support our friends at Masee Lane Gardens.**

**Meet at the Barn at 9:00 a.m. for coffee and donuts.**

**Work on pruning and mulching the Sun Trial Garden  
And other tasks as required.**

**Bring gloves and gardening tools.**

**For details call Tommy Alden at 478/825-1337**



## DINNER & AN AUCTION!

Saturday, May 20, 2017  
5:00 p.m.

At the Home of Connie & Frank Freshwater  
215 W. Church St, Fort Valley

**Members please bring a covered dish, prospective new members and items for the auction.**

Looking back at our.....

3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Middle Georgia Camellia Workshop  
January 28, 2017  
Massee Lane Gardens



We began our day with donuts and coffee. Some folks braved the cool air to catch a sneak preview of the Gardens.

Almost all the seats were filled in the auditorium for the opening session of our camellia workshop.

Mark Crawford of Loch Laurel Nursery in Valdosta, Georgia, presented a program on "Basic Camellia Culture".

GRAFTING



The grafting sessions are always a big draw. Each participant gets to take home a camellia that they grafted themselves.



CAMELLIA BLOOM WAXING



JoAnn Dankel shows us how to wax blooms.

The finished product..... Beautiful blooms that will last up to two weeks.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Attendees were given free admission to the gardens so they enjoyed strolling through the gardens and visiting the Boehm porcelain galleries.
- Tickets were sold for a chance to win one of the treasures in our "box drawing", the highlight being a handmade quilt, made by our own, Cynthia Simpson. This activity generated \$672 to help offset some of the costs of the workshop.
- Sixteen educators from South Georgia attended the workshop and presented MGCS with a grant to offset the cost of the understock used for grafting.

## Care and Culture Corner.....

Prune plants that have now stopped blooming. Fertilize with 16-4-8. For a large plant (6 ft or higher) sprinkle 1 cup of fertilizer at the drip line. Water in the fertilizer after applying. If scale or insect problems are observed, spray plants with dormant oil.

## Potluck Favorites.....

**ASPARAGUS SANDWICHES** Loaf of white bread, trim the crust, and make flat with a rolling pin putting the slice of bread between wax paper. Roll very flat. Brush melted butter lightly on top side of bread. Put a dollop of pimento cheese in center and spread a little diagonally on bread. Put tender asparagus, fresh not canned from corner to corner on top of pimento cheese. Fold over the edge of the two corners of bread that do not have pimento cheese on them. Try to put two pieces of asparagus on each sandwich. When you fold over the edges, press on them gently. Brush more melted butter over entire sandwich. If you're not going to bake right away, then put a lightly damp paper towel over the sandwiches. Put wax paper on top of paper towel to keep it from drying out. You can layer sandwiches in a Tupperware until ready to bake. Bake on 400 until bread is lightly brown on the edges or longer if you want it crispier. I like the Palmetto brand of pimento cheese. (Thanks, Debbie Liipfert)



## Featured Bloom.....

### *c. Reticulata 'Holy Pure'*

Inner two whorls white lightly tinged pink, outer whorls slightly darker pink with light purple margins, sometimes frosted white with yellow anthers and white filaments. Large to very large, rose form double to semi-double. Vigorous, upright growth. M-L

*David and Sandra won Best in Show with this bloom at the Atlanta show.*



### POINT OF INTEREST

The Betty Sheffield Memorial Garden is a beautiful spot in Quitman, GA. You'll enjoy a visit to it and the Brooks County Museum.



David (far left) and Sandra Williams recently attended the International Camellia Society Conservation Working Group Annual Conference in Baton Rouge, LA.

### Executive Committee

Pres: Tommy Alden      VP: William Khoury  
Sec: Brenda Alden      Treas: John Gamble

### Board of Directors

#### Class of 2017

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

#### Class of 2018

Debbie Liipfert      Jo Creel      Lucy Jarrett  
Sande Khoury      Miriam Phillips

Board Member Emeritus: Warren Thompson

### Middle Georgia Camellia Society (MGCS):

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

Its purpose is to:

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

# Middle Georgia Camellia Society Calendar and Comments

News Editor Jo Creel

Photographer David Williams



Preston and Miriam Phillips, Warren Thompson, Brenda Alden, Celeste Richard, David and Sandra Williams, Sandee and William Khoury, Tommy Alden, and Dwight Pitcher

## Atlantic Coast Camellia Society

### Convention by Miriam Phillips

Several of us gathered together at the Atlantic Coast Camellia Society convention on September 16<sup>th</sup> through the 18<sup>th</sup> on Pawley's Island, South Carolina. We had a great time with some mighty fine folks. We enjoyed a delightful evening Friday night of cocktails and a BBQ with all the trimming as we were blessed to see the Harvest moon over the ocean. Just Gorgeous!

Saturday morning started off with mimosas, screwdrivers, or Bloody Mary's in preparation for the morning auction. Must have worked, over \$6,000 was raised for their group.

During the day there were several different sessions of interest related to camellias. We did have some free time too but our highlight was having our own Tommy Alden present a program after another wonderful dinner, 'A History of Producing New Camellias', with a very personal link to Middle Georgia Growers, which was quite informative and educational.

As you can guess, we had an awesome time. You might want to consider joining those festivities next year. Camellia Lovers seem to find the fun regardless of where they meet.

**MGCS September Meeting Camellia Season Kick-Off Event September 8th with Chicken Que and dishes from our members!**



#### Featured Bloom:

#### **Camellia Japonica, 'Georgia National Fair'**

Vigorous growth rate, Semi-double to peony form, Early to Late Bloom, Featured winner from Georgia National Fair Show. This gorgeous bloom was grown and entered by our own Tommy and Brenda Alden!

*Middle Georgia Camellia Society Newsletter, Calendar and Comments Summer/August 2016*

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\* For detailed Camellia show results and dates visit: \*  
\* <https://www.americancamellias.com> \*  
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## Message from the President

Two shows down and one to go! In October, MGCS kicked off the camellia season with the first camellia show in the country. Many of our members worked diligently in preparing for our low country boil judges' reception as well as the Georgia National Fair Show on Saturday. We had 18 exhibitors who entered 451 blooms. It was a wonderful weekend for all involved.

As I write this, I'm still recovering from our just completed Fall Show in Byron. The party on Friday at the Khoury home was so much fun. Everyone enjoyed the relaxed atmosphere and the opportunity to visit with camellia friends. Special thanks to William and Sandee for their hospitality. On Saturday, we had another great show with 949 blooms entered by 30 exhibitors.

I can't tell you how many of the judges complemented MGCS for such well run, fun shows. I can say it only works because we have such dedicated and willing members who contribute in so many ways—judges' receptions, show set-up and breakdown, hospitality, clerks and other show workers. Middle Georgia Camellia Society sets the bench mark in how a camellia show should be run. Thanks for all you do.

On a different note, this extended drought has been hard on our camellias. Camellia blooms are about 90% water, so when the plant is in drought stress, the blooms will be smaller and poorly formed. Water thoroughly several times a week so you will have quality blooms for our Flint Show. Gibb now for blooms in January and February.

A very special welcome to our new members, Joe and Kathy Thomas from Fort Valley, Laura Ferguson from Lizella and Anne & Doug Cole from Macon., Bernadette Meyers from Byron, and Kay McCrary from Perry. A big welcome back to all of our "old" members. We look forward to seeing all of you on December 8th at Masee Lane Gardens for our Christmas Dinner and meeting.

*Tommy Alden*

### Updates to Save the Dates

#### Christmas Meeting

Thursday, December 8th, 2017 \$25

#### Workshop

January 28th, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.

### Save the Dates...

Thurs, Dec 8	6:00 p.m.	Christmas Meeting	Masee Lane. Catered by Donna Matthews. \$TBD Entertainment-
Sat, Jan TBA	TBA	Workshop	Masee Lane Garden.
Sun, Feb 5	2:00 p.m.	Board of Directors	St Andrews Episcopal Church Parish Hall 309 Central Ave., Fort Valley, GA
Fri, Feb 24 Sat, Feb 25 Sun, Feb 26	6:00 p.m. 1-4 p.m. 1-4 p.m.	Judges Reception Open to Public Open to Public	Lüpfert home. Members bring heavy hors d'oeuvres. Flint Energies Show at Masee Lane
Thurs, Mar 23	6:00 p.m.	Meeting w/Program	Annual Business Meeting Masee Lane Gardens. Potluck (members bring a dish) Program: _____
Sat, Apr TBA	TBA	Service Project	Masee Lane
Sat, May 20	5:00 p.m.	Picnic & Auction	Freshwater home, Fort Valley. Members bring auction items and dish to share
Sun, June 4	2:00 p.m.	Joint Board Meeting	St Andrews Episcopal Church Parish Hall 309 Central Ave., Fort Valley, GA

### A Very Special Welcome to Our New Members

Laura Ferguson

Anne and Doug Cole

Joe and Kathy Thomas

Bernadette Meyers

Kay McCrary

### Middle Georgia Camellia Society Christmas Celebration

Annabelle Fetterman Building Masee Lane,

December 8th, 2016

6:00 p.m Social hour 7:00 pm Dinner

Enjoy a delicious catered meal prepared by Donna Matthews, \$25 per guest.

Entertainment by talented MGCS club members.

### POTLUCK FAVORITES...

#### Larry's Sopapilla Cheesecake

This dish was a huge hit at the Low Country Boil dinner, thank you, Larry Dobbs and Jo Ann Dankel for sharing the recipe!

#### Ingredients:

2 (8 ounce) pkg. cream cheese, softened in microwave

2 (8 ounce) pkg. refrigerated crescent dinner rolls

1 cup sugar

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

¾ cup butter, melted and divided

¾ cup cinnamon sugar, divided (Use cinnamon to your taste—more or less.)

#### Directions:

1. Using a 9 x 13 (3 qt.) baking pan, unroll one pkg. of refrigerated crescent rolls and line the bottom of greased pan.

2. Flatten

3. Mix together the cup of sugar, cream cheese, and vanilla

4. Spread over the crescent rolls.

5. Pour ½ cup of the melted butter over top and sprinkle with about ½ cup of the cinnamon sugar.

6. Unroll the other can of crescent rolls and place on top of cream cheese mixture. (You may unroll the rectangle of rolls onto a piece of waxed paper, place another sheet over top and flatten to size if you wish.) Place on top of the mixture in the pan.

7. Pour ¼ cup of the melted butter over top and sprinkle with rest of cinnamon sugar. (You may use a little more cinnamon sugar if you wish.)

8. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes until nicely brown.

Note: If you need a large cheese cake, use 2 large (12 ounce) refrigerated crescent rolls; 3 pkg. cream cheese; 1 ½ c. sugar; 1 1/3 cinnamon sugar, divided; 1 ½ tsp. vanilla; ¾ cup melted butter (over first layer of rolls) and ½ cup melted butter (for top); sprinkle top with the remaining cinnamon sugar mixture. Bake in a 4.8 qt. (10.5 inch by 15 inch) glass pan for about 40 minutes until nicely brown.

## MGCS Does It Again

By David Williams

Human achievement holds a fascination for me, on all scales. I recently finished a book by that very title by Charles Murray, one of the more thoughtful authors I've read. He addresses achievement on a rather grand scale, but I equally admire somewhat more routine things, such as the performance of Auburn's last batter in the last inning of the women's college world series, 23 year old Maya DiRado winning gold in a 200 meter swim in Rio with a most inspiring final effort, and my daughter, Christina, advancing her third grade students at an unprecedented level. These are personal achievements, but I also admire organizational achievements, i.e. those vast accomplishments achieved by the close coordination of the effort of many folks - on my list are: putting a man on the moon, the growth and expansion of Mercer University, Clemson going 12 - 0 during the regular season last year, and our low country boil. I'll be very impressed if Clemson can repeat a perfect season again this year, because it's the repeating of high performance that really thins the crowd at the top (see Lotka's law), yet we've hit a homer every year with the low county boil. If we've hit homers in the past, we knocked it out of the park this year: The effort, coordination, and quality were most impressive. I'm pleased by my contribution; delighted to have witnessed the fine contributions of so many of our members; and, quite frankly, mighty proud of the outcome. I still marvel at how the final can be greater than the sum of the parts: Maybe it's not all visible.

It's hard to be specific about what I found so pleasing, but here are a few thoughts. I like things that are done well, so it's a real treat working with so many quality-minded folks. From the location, to the spices, to the table decorations, to the perfect meal, to the human warmth - all were just right because folks made it so, and wouldn't think of it being otherwise. It's great fun being among so many of my camellia friends - we had a hundred and twenty or so folks there: It was festive. I think it's for that that my son Matthew and his wife, Kate, like New Orleans so much. I could not help but be moved by the flowering of enthusiasm of our members. I, too, think one should give his best to his friends. Even Deming would be proud of such a long history of continually raising the bar.

What a grand achievement. I'm looking forward to next year.



Our hosts-Mary, Lewis & Burt Rumph



Bonnie Wirsing, John Gamble, and Fred Jones worked at sizing at the GA National Fair Show



The Perfect Meal



Ed Wasson, Frank Freshwater, Grady Stokes, Tim Gerard, and Mark Collier ~ some of the Perfect Meal Chefs



The Location



Elizabeth Scheibert and Luwanna Walton worked as clerks at the Georgia National Fair Show

**Camellia Care and Culture....**

Fall and winter is an excellent time to replenish your existing mulch in the camellia garden. The frequency of replenishing the mulch will depend on the material selected and the actual environmental conditions of the garden. For example, pine straw may provide sufficient mulch for the garden for several years in a shady location, but the same material may need to be replenished every year if it is in a sunny location that has lots of moisture.

Mulching should be applied in a sufficient layer to achieve the utility functions of the mulch, but care should also be given to not install "too much" mulch.

Generally a three to four inch layer of most organic mulches would be considered appropriate in our area. Mulch that is too thick can reduce the oxygen level to the roots, keep the root system from drying out in some instances, and prevent adequate moisture from reaching the roots in other instances. As valuable as mulch is to our camellia gardens, it is equally important not to overdo the mulch installation.

Inorganic mulches are becoming more readily available. Certain inorganic mulches such as recycled rubber type products are being manufactured in different colors that can have pleasing aesthetic values to certain parts of our gardens. These materials will usually last longer than organic mulches, but consideration should be made to the fact that these materials do not add organic material to the existing soil. Too much inorganic mulch may not be a wise choice.

Our camellia gardens are a valuable part of our lives by providing us with countless hours of enjoyment all year, and especially during the winter blooming season. Providing an adequate functional mulch will insure healthy plants that will continually reward us with beautiful floral displays in the future years.

*Excerpt from:* <https://www.americancamellias.com/care-cultureresources/general-culture-requirements>

**Middle Georgia Camellia Society  
Executive Committee 2016 - 2017**

- President** Tommy Alden
- Immediate Past President** Sandra Williams
- President-Elect** William Khoury
- Board Member Emeritus** Warren Thompson
- Secretary** Brenda Alden
- Treasurer** John Gamble

**Board of Directors**

**Class of 2017**

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

**Class of 2018**

- Debbie Liipfert
- Jo Creel
- Lucy Jarrett
- Sandee Khoury
- Miriam Phillips

**Dear MGCS Members,**

In February and March, Massee Lane Gardens is at its finest, with lots of tour groups coming through. Unfortunately, the staff is limited and local volunteer help is needed.

This is an opportunity for MGCS to give back and help Massee Lane. Volunteers are needed to greet guests, stage box lunches, show a video of Massee Lane history in the auditorium, work in the plant sales greenhouse and lead tour groups on a trip through the gardens and the Boehm Porcelain Galleries. You can choose the area in which you feel most comfortable working. William will have training classes and "cheat sheets" to help you along.

I am going to be available at least one day a week in February to lead garden tours. I hope you will join other members of MGCS to help Massee Lane during the peak season. I think you will find it enjoyable and it will be a great learning experience for you as well.

If you are interested, give William Khoury a call so he can add you to his volunteer training session list. His number is 877/422-6355 or email him ([wkhoury@americancamellias.org](mailto:wkhoury@americancamellias.org))

Regards,

*Tommy Alden*

President

**NOW RECRUITING VOLUNTEERS  
AT MASSEE LANE GARDENS**



Earn Master Gardener Credits  
Learn About Camellia Care  
Learn to Conduct Guided Tours  
Many projects are available in the gardens, greenhouses, and visitor hospitality.

**Call William Khoury at  
(877) 422-6355**

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

**Camellia Japonica, 'Middle Georgia'**



**Coming soon in the Winter 2016-2017 Issue**

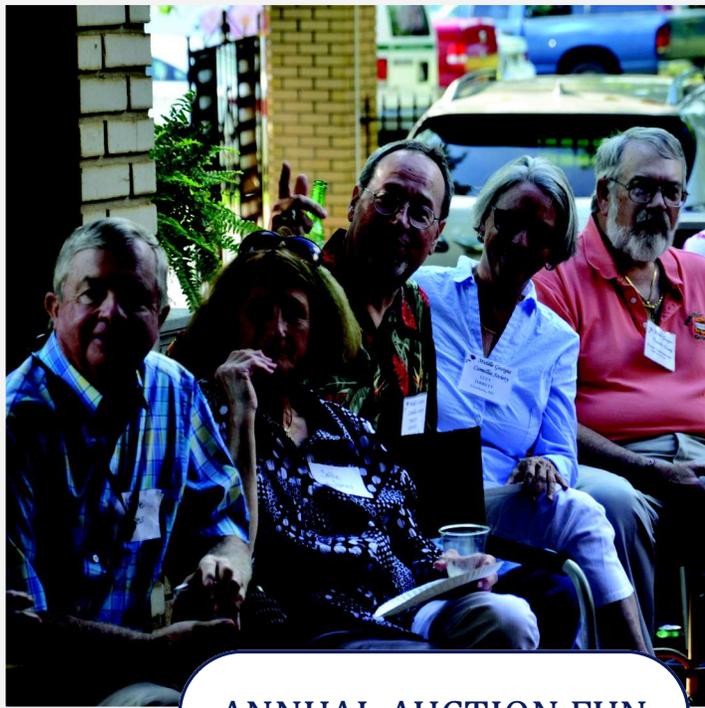
Highlights from the Byron fall show, December meeting, and more....

For submissions please contact Jo Creel at 229-815-5620 or email at [mgsnews@gmail.com](mailto:mgsnews@gmail.com)

# Middle Georgia Camellia Society Calendar and Comments

News Editor *Jo Creel*

Photographer *David Williams*



## ANNUAL AUCTION FUN

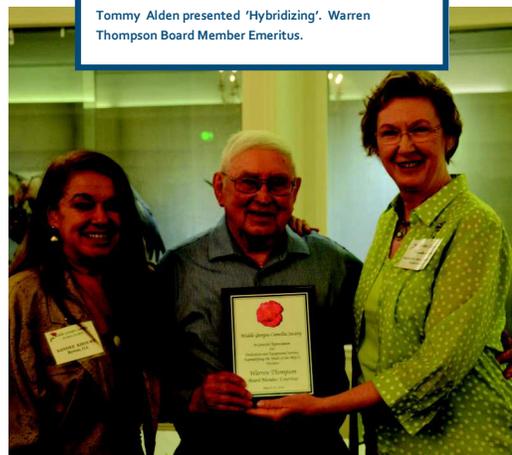
MGCS members and friends gathered at the home of Frank Freshwater and Connie Rainey in Fort Valley, Georgia for the annual auction. It was a huge success and helps lead to the success of our annual shows.



MGCS members gathered for the annual work day. Some members worked cleaning the Fetterman Gallery while some worked in the Sun Trial Garden

### March Meeting Memories

Tommy Alden presented 'Hybridizing'. Warren Thompson Board Member Emeritus.



## Message from the President

The new officers of MGCS took office on July 1st, so as we begin a new camellia year, I would like to once again thank Past President Sandra Williams on the outstanding leadership role she did for MGCS. Of course, no one person can be a success in an organization such as MGCS without a lot of good help and support from the many members of our Society.

Although camellia bloom season is over, the work of your MGCS Board is on-going. At recent board meetings we agreed to fund the purchase of a new lap top computer for ACS which has already been put to good use and to help fund the purchase of a fence to deter wild hogs from digging up the gardens at Masee Lane. I am heading up the fence project and I believe we are very close to procuring all the funding necessary.

The summer heat and drought is upon us. Be sure to apply additional water to your camellia plants. This is critical for new plantings up to about three years old. Also, in order to have blooms for our October and November shows, you will need to begin applying Gibb about mid-August. If you need Gibb, I have some available at County Line Nursery.

Have a good summer and I hope to see everyone at our first meeting of the year on September 8th.

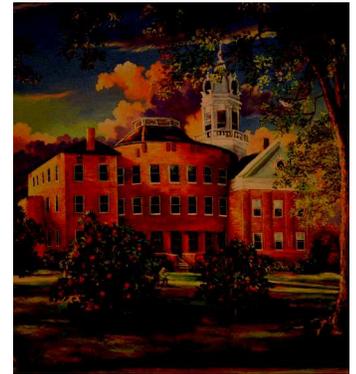
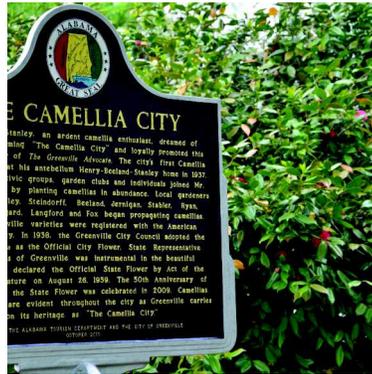
*Tommy Alden*

**Welcome to our newest Middle Georgia Member, Dawn Kinsey from Butler, Georgia!**

**Annual Membership Renewal Reminder...**

**September 2016 through August 2017 \$10.00**

**Lifetime Membership Dues \$100**



## A TRIPP TO MONROEVILLE

*Submitted by David Williams*

On April 15, Sandra and I finally started a long discussed outing: We headed to Monroeville, Alabama, home of Harper Lee, to see a live production of *To Kill a Mockingbird*. The way was common to our route to visit our son, Matthew and his wife, Kate, in New Orleans, as far as Greenville, Al, where we had often stopped in our destination driving mode, i.e. the mindset of there can be nothing of interest we cannot see from the top of the exit ramp. This time we were in our exploring, schedule free, mode, so we crossed the interstate and headed to downtown, and a most neat one did we find. The mile or so was filled with pleasant scenes - wide well-kept lawns with grand trees in just the right spot leading to houses well off the street- and interest - a courthouse in a circle -, but the day was made with the discovery of an historical marker. From that marker we learned that Greenville is Alabama's camellia city, their first camellia show was held in 1937, and that a local state representative was instrumental in the camellia being declared the Alabama state flower in 1959. Apparently in Alabama, Greenville is camellia central. Seeing that was quite the treat, but, as they say in Louisiana, we also enjoyed a lagniappe, i.e. a little something extra: a large camellia blooming behind the marker. We had to get a picture. So I did. Sandra got one of me getting the picture.

We were equally pleasantly surprised when we found camellias at the front steps of our lodging, the Mary Elizabeth Stallworth Bed and Breakfast in Beatrice, but floored

when we found the Monroeville courthouse grounds full of camellias in bloom. There's more - a camellia connection to *To Kill a Mocking Bird* - Jem cut the tops from every camellia bush in Mrs. Dubose's yard. And more - We found Jem and Dill, listening to Scout reading in a quiet camellia nook of the courthouse garden. Sandra joined them. Right behind them was a camellia in bloom. Inside is a painting of the courthouse and gardens with camellias in bloom everywhere. Apparently camellias are popular in more than one place in Alabama.

The play was excellent, the trip was leisurely and therapeutic, but it was the surprises and connections that made me think it pays to get out, and even more to get off the beaten path.



## My Friend Clayton Mathis *submitted by Tommy Alden*



I don't recall the first time I met Clayton Mathis, but I am sure it must have been at a camellia show. On May 7<sup>th</sup> of this year, the whole camellia family of friends was left in a state of shock on hearing of Clayton's death. At his funeral there were over fifty camellia folks there to honor him.

Clayton had three great loves in his life—first was his wife of nearly fifty years, Nedra Ann, and their daughter, Elizabeth. The other two were Coffee County athletics and Camellias. Clayton was a teacher and baseball coach and later principal of Coffee County High School. One could see the

principal come out when Clayton was serving as a head judge. He would speak with authority in giving instructions to the clerks and judges, but he spoke in a low voice which forced everyone to quieten down and concentrate on what he was saying. Clayton served as our Head Judge last year at the Georgia National Fair Show and again in February at the Flint Energies Show at Masee Lane.

Clayton loved to root camellias, grow them out and give them away to anyone who expressed a little interest. He and I frequently traded out pots and fertilizer for 1-gallon camellias he had rooted. Clayton gave away so many camellias he could rightly be called the "Johnny Appleseed" of camellias! I distinctly recall the most recent one he gave me last year. It was 'Al Ewan'.

Clayton and I shared a love of 'Ville de Nantes' and he and I would evaluate the 'Ville' entries in whatever show we were at to see how badly the judges would judge this variety. Often rabbit ears and fimbriation seemed too little part in the judges' decision when we felt they were the most important features. Too many times Clayton would shake his head and walk away following judging.

I think of my friend, Clayton, often and I will always recall his words when, after a visit to the nursery, he would get into his white pickup truck and say "*see you on down the road*".

## Camellia Culture and Care Gibbing Camellias from the American

Camellia Society Fact sheets 5, page 2

The time when to first apply gib differs geographically. It is usually the end of August or the first of September before the flower buds are well-formed enough. It is best to gib weekly or at other intervals rather than in one session. This will ensure that you have flowers over a longer period of time.

Camellias set flower buds only once a year, so an autumn gibbed bud will not be replaced for spring. The larger the bush, the more buds you can treat. Most people like to leave about 80% untreated.

Apply gibb very sparingly to a young plant. The terminal vegetative buds on treated stems usually fail to make normal growth in spring. Therefore, it is usually best to cut treated flowers or to prune the stems back. One gram of Gibberellic acid will treat a few hundred flower buds.

Gibbing camellia flower buds is easy. Select a well developed flower bud, remove vegetative bud beside the flower bud and place one drop of acid in the cup left where the vegetative bud was removed.

### Featured Bloom....

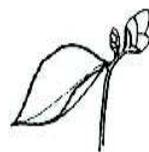
Camellia Japonica 'Ville de Nantes'

Dark Red Blotched White. Medium to Large, semi double with upright, fimbriated petals.



*See ad on next page on where to find Gibb...*

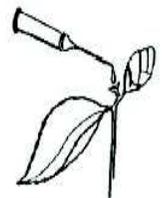
### Illustration of how to apply Gibb



1. Vegetative bud is small and pointed bud on left. Flower bud is fat and round bud on right.



2. Twist off vegetative bud



3. Apply one drop of gib to cup left after removing bud.

*Gibb for Fall*  
 Gibb for a \$5.00 donation

To Middle Georgia Camellia Society

Contact Tommy Alden  
 Telephone 478-825-1337

**Save the Dates...**

- Thursday, September 8th 6:00 pm Membership meeting at Masee Lane BBQ chicken prepared by Tommy and Billy Martin \$10.00 per member Guests/ potential members (no charge)
- Friday, October 7th 6:00 pm Low Country Boil and Judges Reception \$25.00 per person
- Saturday, October 8th Georgia National Fair show
- Sunday, October 9th, Georgia National Fair show open to public
- Sunday, September 25th 2:00 pm Board of Directors Meeting at Masee Lane
- Friday, November 11th Judges Reception for Byron Fall Show
- Saturday, November 12th, Fall Show in Byron, Georgia
- Sunday, November 13th, Byron Show Open to Public
- Thursday, December 8th, 6:00 pm Christmas Meeting

**The Middle Georgia Camellia Society (MGCS):**

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

It's purpose is to:

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

**Camellia Japonica, 'Middle Georgia'**



*Additional Dates to add to your calendar...*

*September 16-17, 2016 Atlantic Coast Camellia Society Conference Litchfield Beach, SC*

*October 17-18, 2016 Gulf Coast Camellia Society Convention, Hollywood Casino Bay, St. Louis, MS*

*April 5-8, 2017 American Camellia Society National Convention, Newberg, Oregon*

**Middle Georgia Camellia Society Officers and Board Members**

**Officers**

**President** Tommy Alden  
**President-Elect** William Khoury  
**Secretary** Brenda Alden  
**Treasurer** John Gamble  
**Past President** Sandra Williams

**Board Members Class of 2016**

Tommy Couch  
 Debbie Liipfert  
 Preston Phillips  
 Connie Rainey  
 Gray Stokes  
 David Williams  
 Bonnie Wirsing

**Board Members Class of 2017**

Lucy Jarrett  
 Sandee Khoury  
 Miriam Phillips  
 Jo Creel