

Wiregrass Camellia

Society



April 2017

Meeting Date: April 30, Sunday

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Place: Brooks County Museum and Cultural Center

Address: 121 N Culpepper St

Quitman, Ga. 31643

Program: Growing up with Hulyn Smith

Speaker: Mandy Smith White

Bring: A covered dish and a friend

the world a better and more wonderful place. She is of course one of the most excellent ones know as "The Little Old Ladies in Tennis Shoes". She is of course a member of the group of Ladies that have worked so hard for years on most of the civic improvent projects in Quitman and Brooks County. I will always remember her cheerful, bubbly personality and readiness to jump in and get the job done. We miss you and will always remember you.

We are priviledged to have Mrs. Mandy Smith White as our speaker this month. She is the youngest of the three Smith Sisters. She grew up with her two sisters in the home of Hulyn and Janet Smith. You are in for a treat as she reminisces of a childhood, adolescence and young adulthood with these two wonderful people as parents and a cast of Camellia Luminaries of their generation that were in her life. Be prepared for a lot of hearty laughs (her family is composed of a lot of very funny people), a lot of amazing stories and even a few tears. There will be a chance for a number of people assembled to share memories and stories of these people that so we so dearly love! Jerry

President's Message

Jerry Selph

I am with a very heavy heart as I write this message for you. If you don't know as of yet I must inform you of the passing of one of our most wonderful members. On Thursday of last week Ms. Charlotte Jones left us to go to do her gardening in Heaven. She is to be rememberd as one of the stalwards of the people who wish to make

New Officers and Board Members for 2017-2018.

The following slate of officers and board members of Officers for 2017-2018 were voted into office by the Wiregrass members in March.

President - Carol Selph

Vice-President in charge of Programs – Sandra Jones

Secretary – Patty Niewoehner

Treasurer – Terry Terlep

Social Committee – Bob Gaines and Myra Jordan

2017-18 Board Members: Susan Bodine, Harley Bodine, Susannah Borg, Myra Jordan, Bob Gaines, Sandra Jones, Fred Jones, Nancibeth Shealy, Jerry Selph, Carol Selph, Marilyn Terlep, Terry Terlep, Patti Niewoehner, Andrea DeSantiago, and Susan Smith Yonge.

Scenes from Our March Meeting









Jerry's Camellia Tips

April Camellia Activity

April is here and the wonders of nature once again express it'self. The ugly highly pruned remains of our camellias are covered in bright green new flushes of growth! The promise of beautiful flowers in the fall and winter is assured. This is the time to be vigilant for aphids, grasshoppers, and stink bugs. All of which attack the tender young flushes of growth. If you think that you need to spray Orthene or Image is the ticket!

This is also a great time to remove a large part of the flushes if you wish to obtain the "Cat thrown through" look! You also could remove selected flushes to obtain a better and balanced appearance. At any rate enjoy the look of fresh new leaves as they turn dark green. Camellias go from the worst to the best (short of flowering) they can possibly look. See you at the meeting Jerry Selph

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March 2017

Meeting Date: March 19, Sunday

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Place: Brooks County Museum and Cultural Center

**Address: 121 N Culpepper St
Quitman, GA 31643**

Program: Camellia Care

Speaker: Jerry Selph

Bring: A covered dish and a friend

in May at our annual PICNIC! There will also be discussion on our shows for next year. Be sure to be at this meeting so that you can express any input that you wish to be heard.

Now is the time to begin thinking about pruning. This and your spring fertilization are at hand. Remember that all of these subjects will be discussed along with a spray program at this months' meeting.

President's Message

Jerry Selph

We are moving rapidly through our meeting year. This month we had our Spring Board Meeting. We formulated our slate of

Officers for the 2017-2018 meeting year. The nominated offices are located later in this Newsletter.

Nominations will be taken from the floor in our meeting this month with the election to take place in April. Officers will be installed



Important Dates

- April 30th Meeting at **Museum** Speaker: Mandy White

Board's Slate of Officers

The Wiregrass Board of Director's meet recently and recommended the following slate of Officers for 2017-2018:

President - Carol Selph

Vice-President in charge of Programs – Sandra Jones

Secretary – Patty Niewoehner

Treasurer – Terry Terlep

Social Committee – Bob Gaines and Myra Jordan

2017-18 Board Members: Susan Bodine, Harley Bodine, Susannah Borg, Myra Jordan, Bob Gaines, Sandra Jones, Fred Jones, Nancibeth Shealy, Jerry Selph, Marilyn Terlep, Terry Terlep, Patti Niewoehner, Andrea DeSantiago, and Susan Smith.

Scenes from the Wiregrass Thomasville Camellia Show







The Thomasville Show was a great success. Congratulations to Annelle Lauder and Jerry Selph, co-chairmen.

More kudos to Jerry Selph, Chairman of the Judges and Tommy Alden, Head Judge.

Total Number of Blooms Exhibited: 1,530

Total Number of Attendees: 332

Total Number of Exhibitors: 65

Number of ACS Memberships Sold: 0

Scenes From the Last Meeting



Jerry's Camellia Tips

March and April Camellia Activity

March is when most of your camellias have finished blooming. This is when you are advised to do some pruning. Plants (especially camellias) will grow too large and too thick (too much foliage) if left un-attended. So now is the time to give them a good haircut! Pruning improves plant vigor by more closely matching a plants ability to gather water and mineral nutrients with it's needs. Pruning also maintains a state of juvenility (balanced growth). This deminishes the probabily of decline and even untimely death.

The rules of pruning are really quite simple. Lower the shrubs height to a manageable height (this sometimes takes several years to be safe), remove all crossing branches, remove all branches that are within 1 ft of the ground (this helps with scale problems), and remove excess interior branches and twigs to obtain air movement, and in the case of intrepid exhibitors prune to ge long exterior twigs to display buds and then blooms on. **REMEMBER! A CAMELLIA IS NOT A BOXWOOD! DON' T TRIMIT IT AS SUCH!** Jerry Selph

Wiregrass Camellia

Society



January 2017

**Meeting Date: January 8,
Sunday**

Time: 4:00 p.m.

**Place: Brooks County
Museum and Cultural
Center**

**Address: 121 N Culpepper
St Quitman, GA 31643**

**Program: Entering Blooms
in a Camellia Show (BRING
BLOOMS to enter in our
show)**

**Bring: A covered dish and
a friend**

President's Remarks

Jerry Selph

Hurrah! January is here and it's SHOWETIME! We are going to have a club show this month for our program. So be sure to join in on the fun. Bring a bloom or two to our meeting at the Brooks County Museum and Cultural Center in Quitman. We will be going through the steps necessary to enter a flower in a ACS Sanctioned show. We will prep the flowers, fill out entry cards, place the flowers. Then we will form judging teams and then judge the flowers. This should be great fun!

So show up at 4:00 pm for the meet and greet followed by the program. Bring some blooms, your covered dish, a friend, your check book (dues are now due), and join in on the fun. Jerry>

Important Dates

Jan. 7th Gainesville (FLA) Camellia Show

Feb. 4th and 5th Quitman Camellia Show

Jan. 8th Wiregrass Camellia meeting at
Brooks County Museum and Cultural Center

Feb. 11th and 12th Thomasville Camellia
Show

Jan. 14th Tallahassee Camellia Show

Feb. 19th Wiregrass Camellia Meeting

January Program

Let's have some fun showing camellias. You will enjoy this program much more if you bring blooms to show!! We will have demonstrations on how to best display your blooms. We will help you fill out the required placement card and furnish the card. Your bloom should be in the best condition and should be open (not a bud).

We will have three categories: Large, Medium, and Small.

Rules:

1. Show will be conducted according to ACS Rules and Regulations, as revised.
2. Entries will be received Sunday at 4:30.
3. Only three blooms of any one variety may be entered.
4. Any grower may exhibit; exhibitor does not have to be a member of a camellia society or garden club.
5. Classification as to size will be specified in the current edition of Camellia Nomenclature. Where a bloom is classified to include 2 sizes, the smaller size shall be used for awards, except miniatures. Exhibitors are requested to circle the size of bloom.
6. Containers will be furnished. Chemically treated blooms will not be separated from untreated blooms.
7. Unnamed blooms will be identified if possible. If not, they will not be judged.
8. Blooms should have stems no more than 2 inches long, with no more than 2 leaves, and one bloom to a stem. **You will cut the stems and place you leaves while you prep your blooms.**
9. **All blooms entered must be grown on your on property, and must have been purchased at least 30 days prior to the show. Just bring some blooms that you know the name of the variety. If you don't know the name we will try to identify it.**
10. Outstanding blooms in each division will be selected by a majority of judges by 'weighted averages' ballot.
11. Ribbons will be given in all classes: First Place - Blue, Second Place - Red, and Third Place - Yellow.

Scenes from Waxing Camellias at the December 2016 Meeting



A big thank you to Susannah Schmoe for hosting our January Meeting at Blackwater Plantation. We all had a blast waxing the camellias we brought, dining, and socializing. Our special treat was provided by Mrs. Dewese Blair who used our waxed camellias in a table decoration. She magically transformed an empty container into a beautiful masterpiece.







Wiregrass Camellia

Society



November 2016

Meeting Date: Nov. 20, Sunday

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Place: Camzalea

**Program: A Special Presentation for
Camellia Club Members --Tommy
Alden**

Bring: A covered dish and a friend

Camellia Society and its donors held a marvelous ACS Judged Camellia Show in Boston, Georgia on November 5th. It was a huge success. We had a total of 1118 blooms shown and hundreds of visitors to our show afterward. The judges came from as far west as Pensacola Florida, and as far North and East as Santee, South Carolina. We also had a Judge from the Gainesville, Florida area present. BRAVO WCS Members. This month we are going to have an entertaining presentation about fun things to do at Camellia Society Meetings. Please reply to me about your plant orders by Nov. 14th.

Please also keep in mind that there is a significant number of plants in 3,5,6,7 gal containers donated to WCS by Nedra Mathis for us to sell in order to increase our treasury. She and her late husband Clayton, were big in their belief in our newly formed Camellia Society.

So show up at Camzalea with a covered dish, a friend, a smile, and the expectation of having an enjoyable evening. Jerry

President's Message

Jerry Selph

Dear Camellia Friends,

We are all flying high these first few days in November. The Wiregrass

Our Guest Speaker



We have very good friends from Byron, Georgia. They own County Line Nursery and are always will to bring our special ordered plants when they come to speak at our meeting. This photo of Tommy Alden is from last year at the Bodine's home. He instructed us on the correct method of planting a camellia. He and his wife Brenda are joining us at our meeting. We look forward to his powerpoint presentation which we know will be entertaining! Make sure you get your plant orders in by November so you are able to pick them up at the meeting.

Skillet Festival Scenes





Photos from the October Meeting

A special thank you to the Brooks County Museum and Cultural Center. It was the perfect location for our last meeting. We were very fortunate to have Mrs. Margaret McDaniel and her husband, the Honorable Brian McDaniel as our speakers. The dynamic couple told us about the Brice and Bracey connection to the Wiregrass area and the history of the Marie Bracey camellia variety. We were royally entertained, and the McDaniels could take this presentation on the road. Kudos to Margaret and Brian and also to Jean Logan and Charlotte Jones for being our hostesses.





The Wiregrass Camellia Camellia Show in Boston



Jerry's Camellia Tips

November Camellia Activity

The November time of year usually involves cool nights, lower than normal humidities, warm afternoons, and breezy afternoons and nights. All are exceptionally good growing conditions for spider mites. Be on the lookout for red-purple spider mites. Spider mites grow huge populations in very short order. Spray oil can still be safely used to control them.

We also usually have our first killing freeze around November 15. Be prepared to cover any tender vegetation and prepare your camellias in advance with a good deep watering prior to the frost-freeze event. Speaking of watering, remember that a camellia flower is over 90% water. The more water available (within reason) the larger the flower will be. So water deeply at least twice weekly if you wish to present large beautiful flowers at the Quitman and Thomasville show.

Wiregrass Camellia

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October 2016

Meeting Date: October 16, Sunday

Time: 4 p.m.

Speaker: Margaret McDaniel

Topic: All about Marie Bracey

Place: Brooks County Museum and Cultural Center

Bring: A covered dish and a friend

camellia 'Marie Bracey'. One of Brooks County's very best varieties for sure. We will also be doing follow-up planning for our Boston, GA show that is to take place November 5. Hopefully you have made plans to show some blooms, if not we hope that you will go to the show and see what the judges have brought for us to enjoy. Help with the show would also be much appreciated. We still have a sizeable number of plants that were donated to Wiregrass Camellia Society by Clayton Mathis' widow, Nedra. We have a good selection in 7, 5, 4, and 3 gal. pots. All are priced at less than 1/2 of retail. Come and get some bargains and help Wiregrass at the same time. Hope to see you at the meeting being held at one of my personal favorite places for a meeting, the Brooks County Museum and Cultural Center. So make plans to come and enjoy the fellowship of your fellow camellia enthusiasts. Thanks! Jerry>...

President's Message

Jerry Selph

Well we finally had just a slight taste of our loooooong awaited fall season. We are now approaching bloom season. People that have been jibbing for a while are enjoying the fruits of the past summers toil. Jibbing lengthens the blooms season by at least 2 months. If you aren't jibbing you are selling yourself short. This month's program is on the

Tentative Future Meeting Dates

November 20

February 19

December 11

March 19

January 8

April 16

Disbudding: Why Bother

To disbud or not to disbud, that is the question. If one is to participate in showing bloom, not only do you want to gib but you also want to disbud. One will have bigger, showier blooms. But even if you don't wish to put your best blooms in a show, there are still reasons to disbud. One reason is you can control the number of blooms you have and where they bloom on your plant. You may have a beautiful bloom right smack in the middle of the plant amidst foliage and stems that has been destroyed and bruised. The number one reason to disbud is to control disease and the attractiveness of your garden. For every bud you eliminate is one less time you will be bending over to clean up the spent blooms after it's glory. Why does the Betty Sheffield Memorial garden always look so neat? Because Jean and Charlotte disbud and then pick up all spent blooms!

Since many would agree it's a good procedure to disbud, how do you get started? First, you have pruned in the spring so you have less buds. You look at each stem. One should take off every bud on the stem except one on the very end of the stem. And which bud does one leave at the end? A round solid, healthy appearing bud pointing downward is the best. Not all varieties have rounded buds (ex.: 'Lady Vansittart'). Hulyn always wanted the varieties he registered to have rounded buds for he saw them as favorable traits.



Leave the bud that is pointed downward if possible. The rain or sun will do less damage to the bloom. Then remove the leaf below so the flower will not be touching the leaf to eliminate bruising.



The hardest to disbud are when there is a cluster of buds at the end of the stem and sometimes lower on the stem as well. Choose the best one and carefully remove the others along leaving the smaller growth bud.



As you disbud you will notice the pattern of the displacement of the buds is the same for a variety and could be different with another variety. The similarities will speed up your task. Also, visualize your bloom fully open to see if it will fit in the space you have.



When does one disbud? Now is the perfect time. If the buds are not very large then wait to disbud until they get larger. Bring your questions about disbudding to the meeting. Disbudding now means prettier blooms and less clean-up later.

Scenes from the September 2016 Meeting



Our speaker Nancibeth Shealy



Thank you to the Bodines for hosting our September meeting. If you missed it, you missed a big treat. Their hospitality is lavishly endowed. One always leaves their home with a spoiled and pampered feeling. Susan outdid herself with the dessert and she willingly shared her recipe with her special changes. It is included in this email as a separate document.

Jerry's Camellia Tips

October Camellia Activity

Be on the lookout for chewing insects attacking your developing buds as well as sucking insects such as leaf footed plant bugs. They will build rapidly and destroy many buds this fall! Control them with Orthene per label directions. You should have most if not all of your camellia seed collected and planted as per the wonderful program presented by J.D. Thomerson last September's meeting. You should finish up dis-budding your early and early to mid-blooming varieties. Get started early in the month dis-budding the mid-season blooming varieties. Continue gibbing buds on you mid-season varieties for early blooms to enjoy and share. Remember others who would love to enjoy these wonderful gifts of God.> Jerry Selph

Myra's Minutes by Bob

Clerks - Susannah
SET-UP - Freddy - SANDRA
Judges Reception - Ag Pro - PATTY
SAT. LUNCHEON - Boston Cafe
Breakfast: Bob - ~~Baptist Church~~
MERCHANTS

- ~~THOMASVILLE SHOW~~
- THOMASVILLE SHOW 4/11
WIREGRASS CLUB HAS A 3yr
commitment to sponsor the show.
Jerry is CHAIRMAN.

BUSINESS - TREASURY REPORT
\$ 192.00

Dues = \$15 per person.

Discussions:

- 1- RECRUITMENT of new members
- 2- POSSIBLE Jan SHOW
- 3- TAX EXEMPT STATUS:
Harle - ARTHUR ^{\$500} COST
- 4- NANCIBETH - put shows
on calendar

Planning Session

MEETING DATES:

Sept. 8 Harle/Susan
Oct. 16 Brooks Co. Quiltman
Cultural - Museum
Quiltman

NOV 20

Dec 11 waxing blooms -
\$5 white Elephant Gift

JAN 8

Feb 19 - CRITIQUE Quiltman
SHOW

MAR. 19

APRIL 16: JOINT WITH Valdosta
Club

AT J.D THOMASON, Valdosta

MAY - maybe?

- BOSTON CAMELLIA SHOW - 11/5
- BOSTON BAPTIST CHURCH

Committees:

Judges - Jerry

HOSPITALITY - Marilyn - SUSAN
Baline

OLD BUSINESS

- FINANCE: FREDDY - PATTY.
\$ 1000. NOW
500. COMMITTED
NEED \$ 500.
- SET-UP. SANDRA - FREDDY, NANCIBETH
 - tables ordered: 50 -
 - plastic - Jerry
 - signs - SANDRA
 - cup & jug & placement CARDS
 - TRAYS - CRO GRAD.
- MEMORIALS + very careful +
NOT in fringe on ~~OLLMAN~~ ^{SHOW.}
- FRI NIGHT RECEPTION: ^{SHOW.}
SUSAN, Patty = Ag Pro -
10-14 ~~PRO~~ judges.
- FAWKS - BAGS: Myra - Emily.
CLIP WITH MERCHANTS
- placement - NEED 10 volunteers.
- clerks - SUSANAH - 12-15
- ACS - TABLE = NANCIBETH SANDRA
NEED 1-4 to man
- Awards - Discussion:
- PARKING = METHODIST Church.

SEPT. 8 - SUSAN - HARVE'S HM
13 PRESENT

NANCIBETH - PROGRAM -

FINDING Information of Camellias
on Google, etc. (APS)

- (1) THE ATLANTIC COAST Camellia Society
CATALOGUE of Blooms -
Library: search engine.
check. Education Site.
- (2) American Camellia Society
- (3) Individual states:
- (4) Jim's Camellia (JIM STEPHENS)
- (5) Gene PHILLIPS

BUSINESS

- TREASURE Report - \$752.53 Bal.
- new membership = Am. Camellia Society
- BOSTON SHOW - 200-1,000 Blooms
- POSSIBLE NEW SHOWS: Moultrie, Savannah
- Jerry - Carol = 3-5-7 gal plants from
Clayton MATHIS'S NURSERY
- MINUTES - ACCEPTED
- Lifetime membership for
MATHIS
- SKILLET FESTIVAL - table - NEED ^{VOLUNTEER}