



Gainesville Camellia Society

Affiliated with the American Camellia Society

Editor: Anna Langford

February 2018

President's Message

A month ago we were experiencing freezing and below-freezing temperatures but this weekend has certainly been our more familiar shorts-n-T-shirt weather. It couldn't happen soon enough for me.

The cold certainly affected the blooms on my plants and the outdoor blooms of other growers as well. After attending shows in Orlando, Ocala and Lakeland during the past 3 weekends, it has been interesting to see which blooms were being displayed and which ones were obviously absent. The cold weather damaged certain varieties and it shifted the blooming schedule by several weeks. For instance, Ruby Mathews is a commonly exhibited small seen in January shows in the Florida area. I cannot remember seeing any at the shows I attended. Mathotianas were scarce as were Betty Sheffields, among others.



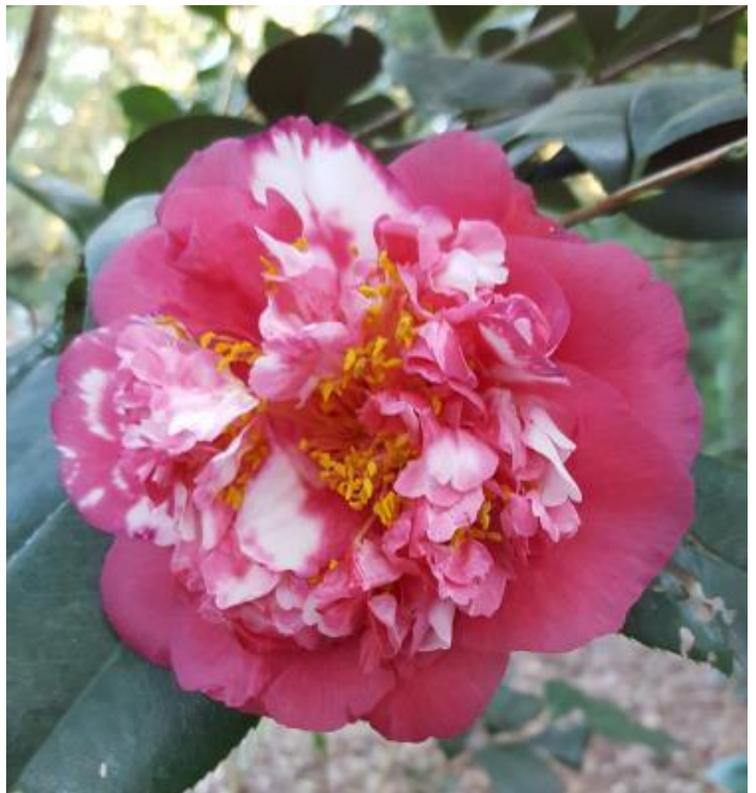
Kay Berridge



Leah Gay

The flowers I gibbed for our show all froze because they were in the last stages of opening when the freezing weather arrived. Tightly closed buds survived but many are now producing misshapen flowers because the cold temperatures damaged the water transport system on one side of the buds. Other buds are opening as if nothing bad had ever happened. This morning I cut two show-quality 5-inch Tiffany blooms that were at the top of an 8 to 10 foot high shrub under the open sky. Many dead buds remain attached to the bushes. These should be removed because they can cause the adjacent stems along with their growth buds to rot. This can limit the spring growth on your plants and young plants can be critically affected.

Those who made it to the residence and camellia garden of Jay and Debbie Ellis last month were rewarded with a fun meeting and a great program presented by Tom Johnson. Tom was formerly the horticulturist at the American Camellia Society Headquarters in Ft. Valley, GA, but for the past 11 years he has been the horticulturist at the Magnolia Plantation and Gardens in Charleston, SC. Tom is an easy-to-get-to-know guy with a dry central Georgia sense of humor and a head packed with loads of knowledge about camellias. The refreshments and drinks were wonderful and it was fun to walk around Jay's wonderful camellia jungle.



Ellen Daniel



Easter Morn

Another item for discussion at the February meeting is the upcoming Kanapaha Spring Festival in late March. Irma Velez has been and still is in charge of organizing our participation in this festival, and also the set up and take down of the booth. This is always a fun event and I encourage you to participate if you can. We provide camellia information to the public and get to see things going on at the festival. A sign-up sheet will be circulated at the February meeting so sign up to work with a seasoned member if possible or just wing it. There will be handouts to cover most things asked about camellias.

I will unfortunately be unable to attend the February meeting because of a trip to Boston. More cold weather! I have contacted people in the chain of command to find a substitute to be at the helm and run the program. One thing that needs to be done is to appoint a Nomination Committee Chair, who has to be a member of the Board. Feelers have been sent out and hopefully we will soon have someone to fill this position. The committee will contact incumbent Officers and Board members to see if they will serve another term. If not, new candidates must be found. A slate of Officers and Board members will be presented to the group at the March meeting. After asking for additional nominations from the floor, the final slate will be subjected to a vote.



Gustav Gerbing

GCCS Financial Statement

7/1/2016 to 6/30/2017

Mike Ruth, Treasurer

DEPOSITS	16,119
Transfer from Investments:	1,000
Dues:	1,544
Donations:	1,209
EXPENSES	
2016 Meeting Expenses	-8,338
2017 Meeting Expenses	-1,165
Camellian Expenses	-5,211
Meeting Refunds	-480
Misc. Mailing	-27
Checking Balance 6/30/2017	10,720
TRUST FUND	
Portfolio Balance 7/1/2016	89,827
Appreciation	15,530
Payments	-7,000
Portfolio Balance 6/30/2017	98,357
Total Net Worth 6/30/2017	\$109,077

At the last meeting I was asked to present the Financial Report of the Gulf Coast Camellia Society (as published in the Gulf Coast *Camellian*, Winter 2018, Vol. 44, page 7) showing their trust fund. The last time I sat in on one of their Board Meetings was probably 15 years ago and the trust at that time was valued at \$45,000. It has more than doubled since then and is used to fund Society events. I do not know how it is handled legally but it might be something for us to look into.

The next meeting will be at Wilmot Gardens on the University campus near the Shands Cancer Center just off of Archer Road. For those of you who have not visited these historic gardens, this will be a treat. There is a nice meeting room and the camellias should still full of flowers. Thanks to Irma Velez and many others, this garden was rescued from a serious state of disrepair and restored to the beautiful show place it once was.

Wish I could be there to enjoy the beauty but I will be flying back from the cold north. Enjoy your camellias while they are blooming, but get ready because new leaves will be appearing in the not-too-distant future. See you in March.

Cheers and best wishes,

Jerry Hogsette, President

Minutes for GCS Meeting - January 21, 2018

Frank Houser Variegated

Jerry Hogsette opened the meeting by thanking Debbie and Jay Ellis for opening their home for our meeting. Members were encouraged to walk through the gardens to view the blooms. He thanked Lucille Little, Margaret Wagener, & Laura Davis for providing refreshments for the meeting. Jerry welcomed Cathy Martin who joined GCS at the January show

- TREASURER'S REPORT – Merry Reid
- Savings Account - \$10,777.46
- Checking Account - \$4,605.74
- Total Funds: \$15,383.20



Frank Houser



Henry Parrish Variegated

January Show Report:

- We had 479 blooms entered in the show. Bad weather the week before the show reduced the number of show-quality blooms.
- Charles Simon reported that all but 12 plants had sold.
- Fourteen people joined GCS.
- Jerry Hogsette, on behalf of Bruce Cavey, who was unable to attend this meeting, thanked all the many volunteers who made this show a success.
- A complete show report appeared in the January newsletter.

Other show updates:

Tallahassee's show which was the week after ours had to be cancelled.

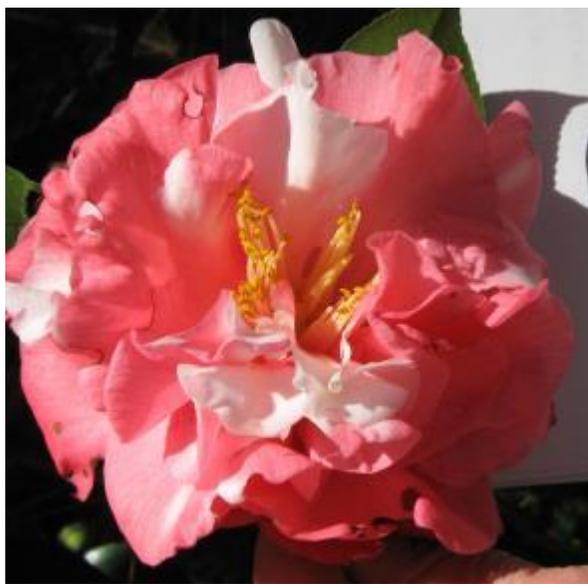
Ocala will be holding their show next weekend.

Lakeland will hold their show the week after that.

Jerry Hogsette noted that there has been a rule change concerning leaves that should be placed with blooms. Other shows have adopted the rule that there can be between 0-2 leaves included with each bloom, thus not requiring leaves be included with blooms. Jerry Hogsette moved that GCS adopt the guidelines that show blooms may contain between 0-2 leaves. Seconded by Charles Simon. Approved by members. Jerry Hogsette would direct the individual who prepares the program flyer to make this change for the 2019 show.



Erin Farmer



Betty Sheffield Pink Variegated

John Swanson attended the American Camellia Society convention in Louisiana as Florida's regional representative. He gave a report of the meeting and the gardens that he and Dinh visited. Weather there was not kind to camellia blooms either.

Hawser Pearce announced that February's meeting would be held at Wilmot Gardens near Shands Hospital. Directions will be in the February newsletter.

Our guest speaker was Tom Johnson, Executive Director for Magnolia Plantation in Charleston, South Carolina. He spoke about the history of Magnolia Plantation and the role the plantation played in camellias in America.

A plant auction followed. Meeting was adjourned.

Karen Peeples, Secretary

2017-2018 Meeting Schedule for the Gainesville Camellia Society

<i>Date and place of meeting</i>		<i>Refreshments</i>
Sunday, February 18	Wilmot Gardens, UF campus	John & Dinh Swanson Bill Hayes
Sunday, March 18	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Charles & Diane Simon
Sunday, April 15	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Tara Gill Nicki Whittaker
Sunday, May 20 End-of-year Party	Kanapaha Botanical Gardens	Table set-up: tba

Directions to Wilmot Gardens (GCS Meeting Sunday February 24, 2018)

Wilmot Gardens is located at the SE corner of Mowry Road and Gale Lemerand Drive on the University of Florida campus.

There are six parking spots and one official handicap spot right there. We are going to reserve one of those parking spots for the person bringing refreshments. Less abled body members can have the remaining spots. However, most people should plan on parking in the parking garages. One is just to the north and the other just east of Wilmot Gardens. It will be free since it's Sunday.

The meeting itself will be in the conference room right next to the Wilmot Gardens parking lot.

***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 the GCS Facebook page.



Officers

President: Jerry Hogsette
 1st VP & Show Chair: Bruce Cavey
 2nd VP & Program Chair: Hawser Pearce
 Secretary: Karen Peeples
 Treasurer: Merry Reid

Board Members

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

Monthly Meeting of the Gainesville Camellia Society

Program Chair: *Hawser Pearce*

Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018, at 2 pm

Place: *Wilmot Gardens - UF campus* (see directions above)

Program: Irma Velez - guided tour of Wilmot Gardens and Greenhouse

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.