

Minutes Pensacola Camellia Club Meeting
Garden Center Tuesday September 16, 2014

6:30 p.m. Social Time: Club members signed in and got name tags. There were UWF Garden pamphlets for hand outs and raffle tickets to purchase. A large crowd enjoyed refreshments at a separate table, thanks to Jerri Smith. She needs volunteer assistants for the refreshment committee. Please call Jerri at 850-932-2889 to lend a hand.

7:00 p.m. Meeting: Call to order by President Bruno. He welcomed members to the beginning of a new camellia season. His stated focus will be on enlarging our membership.

News:

--The August 19 picnic/social was a wonderful. A note of thanks to all, and particularly to Alan McMillan, the host, and Jerri Smith, coordinator of the repast. 8 or 9 new members joined PCC at the picnic.

-- Resignations - James West, 2nd VP/Program Chair and Karin Wiseman, Board. Dick Sloan has agreed to take over James' position for the remainder of the term. Alan McMillan has accepted to fill in Karin's Board term. A hardy welcome to both.

--The PCC has had wonderful press during the summer/early fall (PNJ/Bella and Home and Garden magazines). A big thank you to Dr. Vickers.

Planning and Upcoming Events:

--*General membership meetings* - third Tuesday of the month. Next meetings:

~Oct 21, Program: Jim Campbell will talk about the heritage camellia garden at McIhenry Plantation, Avery Island

~Oct 27, UWF Garden Workday: bring gloves and a garden rake

~Nov 18 Program: James Martin, PCC member and landscaper, will describe landscape design with camellias at the Levin Conference Center on Tanglewood Drive

~Dec 9 (the second Tuesday) brief meeting prior to annual camellia show, Dec 13

--*Gib*; purchase from Dante Kahn - Judge Vinson will develop gib schedule

--*The League of Women Voters*: Betty Vickers reminded members about the upcoming, Nov 4 elections and handed out copies of the Nonpartisan Voter Guide. If you need further nonpartisan information about the election, please go to www.BeReadytoVote.org

Program:

--President Bruno asked LeAnna Brennan to show members what to look for by way of root development on air layers. Harvest/Work Day for these air layers will be Saturday, Oct 25, 9-11 a.m. at the Shade House.

--President Bruno introduced PCC's own Dr. Mack Thetford, who is an associate professor of Environmental Horticulture at the U of FL's W FL Research and Education Center, Milton. The topic of the program was on how to propagate camellias from cuttings. As usual, Mack's talk was exciting and packed with useful information and methods. Enough humidity and the correct amount of the right, rooting hormones are the keys. Hopefully, we will hear more on this topic. Thanks, Mack

Business Meeting:

By Laws/Proposed changes: President Bruno asked Christi Hankins to read proposed changes to PCC by laws articles/sections. These changes would mean that the nomination and election of PCC officers/board would be held later in the season. These changes will help avoid conflicts with the activities of the camellia shows. The revised term of office would be March to March, with nominations occurring in January, election in February and installation in March, instead of December, January and February. Voting on proposed revisions will be held at the next members meeting, Oct 21. The board recommends that members vote for these changes.

Brief Reports

- Membership:** Hankins and the club welcome six new members, Hank Bell, Harry Bruno, Marguerite Burr, Gene Elebash, Bradley Proctor and Susan Smart.
- Treasurer's report:** T Morris and Bill Lyford state a bank balance of \$6080.03, as of Sept 16, 2014, with some checks still outstanding.
- Program:** We are grateful to James West for the exciting new programs he has planned, and appreciate Dick Sloan stepping in for the rest of James' term.
- Foundation/ACS:** Paul Bruno spoke in Judge Vinson's absence. The foundation has made modest gains. PCC came in second place in ACS Members' Drive. The \$100 winnings will be used to purchase ACS 2015 calendars, which will be sold at our meetings and events.
- Newsletter:** Paul Bruno notified members that J.D.Thomerson's Valdosta camellia material will be used as content in our PCC news. The addition of these timely and informative articles will greatly enhance our newsletter. Thanks to Mr. Thomerson for their use and to our own Skip Vogelsang for arrangement of shared material.
- Website:** Bill Lyford ~ On the PCC site there is now a link to Randolph Maphis' photos of some of the newest and best camellias. A great resource to be used by everyone.
- Plant Sales and Shade House:** Dick Hooton stated that spring floods did much damage to the Shade House. He reminds members of the Oct 25 workday. New inventory will be available around the first of Nov. Contact him if you have specific requests.
- Camellia Van:** Paul Bruno praised Joan Blanchard for her efforts in soliciting donations for the camellia van fund drive. Over the summer, a heavy duty van was purchased. Although it has many miles, the vehicle passed Hooton's and Bruno's tests. At the cost of \$3500, it seems like a good investment for the club. There is still a shortage of funds to cover the van. Please consider a notation to your club to pay for this important acquisition. Contact either Paul Bruno or Judge Vinson to help.

No new business:

There was a raffle which included plants and donated older ACS Journals.

Meeting ended at 8:20 p.m.

/s/Winkie Rhea, PCC Secretary