



President's Message – Lauren Mate

Have you ever wondered why so many people are interested in raising camellias and why this interest has endured for so many years?

For me, there are so many wonderful reasons:

- The year-round beauty of the bush and its leaves
- The gorgeous blooms the plant produces
- The variety of its blooms (shape, color, and size)
- The long flowering season during the winter months when there are practically no other plants in bloom

I'm sure you can add on several more!

As many of us anticipate the blooming of our first japonicas, let's take a moment to reflect on just how much a part of the "family" our garden camellia bushes have become.

John and I grow many different seasonal flowers around our home in Gonzalez. However for us, and I believe for all the passionate camellia growers out there, these plants are merely something to provide color in our yard until our camellias bloom! While our other colorful flowers have to be replanted every year or two to maintain their beauty, the camellia keeps on giving back year after year with just a little tender loving care.

During every walk John and I take around our camellia gardens, I always pay attention to my favorite bushes with affection and wonder. With camellias, no two look exactly alike; each has its own "personality" in appearance and shape. What other flower in your garden can give so much joy when compared with the camellia?

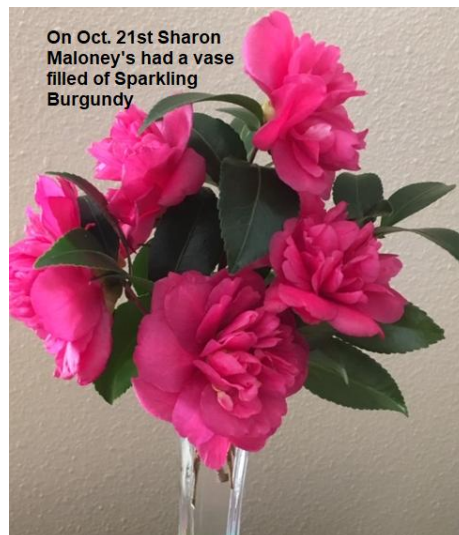
Sincerely,

Lauren Mate

From our members

The blooms are starting to show not just on sasanquas but the japonicas too.

Carolyn Pulford's Edna Bass and pink sasanquas blooms



Roger Vinson has a tray full of various camellias.



5 Reasons Why YOU Should Have Attended the GCCS Conference!

By Bette Hooton

The Gulf Coast Camellia Society is a club for fun, for friendship, and for talking the talk about camellias. There are no camellia shows, but GCCS is there to help any local club that needs assistance. The only event for the year is the GCCS Conference which alternates locations every October. It is the kickoff for the camellia season toasted with wine and scotch, lots of laughter, lots of hugs, and a few lies about how great one's blooms are this year. Size does matter! And so the reasons:

Number 1- This past October, the 2 day event was held in Brookhaven, MS. And Bill Perkins, Brookhaven's own Cecil B. DeMille, hosted this party. Dick and I arrived on Sunday afternoon (because we are in charge of the Silent and Plant Auctions), as did several other folks. Bill's schedule kept us all on the go for 2 solid days. Inn at Whitworth is a wonderful hotel, a restored bank building which still has its original walk-in vault, with a delicious breakfast and beautiful rooms.

Number 2- Oh, you did not come because you don't know anybody? Alan and Gloria McMillan —→ drove in on Monday (their first time), for Registration. Then Gloria helped me get the 35 items for the Silent Auction checked in while Alan helped with the plants to be auctioned. 4PM and Dear Bill said we were headed to his mama's for libations and food. Dinner at 6 and we were ready—by this time, the McMillan's had many new friends. (Atlantic Coast Conference in SC in September is another fun party with more nice people ready to accept and love all who love the camellia.)



Number 3- I have always believed that the attachments to people you meet in life are so important. Most everybody knows that I know zip about camellias, but I do love the friends I have made from Gulf Coast, from PCC, from Baton Rouge, Covington, NOLA. Such nice people and so good to Dick and myself. But you know, you have to want to come and meet new folks and enjoy what they have to offer.

Number 4- Each quirky town or area where we have this party has something to offer its visitors. GCCS was in Pensacola in 2018, then in Bay St Louis, Baton Rouge's perfect weather allowed us to explore LSU, and Brookhaven's quaintness and its shops (and Bakeries!) made my eyes light up.

And Number 5- A success? Yes—lots of money was made for GCCS and GCCS gave lots of money away. As we drove back to P'cola, I realized that I was exhausted, and I asked Dick, "Are you tired?"



He grinned and said, "Feels good, doesn't it!" And it did.



Friday Nov. 8th was a cool day but we were able to sell 15 camellia plants at the Garden Center's garage sale event. We were outside handing out Dec 14th Show information. The buyers asked about keeping the plant in the container till spring, which lead us to encourage them to join and attend our next club meeting which will cover that subject. We added 3 new members on the spot!

Upcoming Events in November & December

Tuesday Nov. 19th –

Tonight's program presenter Roger Vinson, **"Growing Camellias in Containers"**.

Location: [Garden Center](#), 6:30pm for social, 7:00 pm program begins.

For members attending the November meeting:



Other camellia club's shows distribute crystal or cash prizes to their show winners. These exhibitors over the years have collected enough crystal that they decline or "pass" on prizes that the clubs purchase. Our show falls on the second Saturday in December every year which is why we collect **Toys for Tots** in place of prizes for our winners. It is rewarding for our members who generously purchase new toys for the Marines

to give to the needy children of Escambia County. These toys can be costly, which exceeds the cash or prizes we have given in previous years. A new bike cost around \$100.00 and board games, dolls and other toys start at \$20- \$25. Your last chance to contribute will be the Nov. 19th meeting, please bring your unwrapped toy donation or if you prefer to donate cash we will shop for you. Christi Hankins has the energy to collect your toy donations, stores them in plastic bins, and delivers them to the show to arrange these donations for display on the eve of the show. Here is a shopping tip, you get more bang for your buck shopping at Ollie's Bargain Outlet on 9 Mile Road east of Chemstrand Road.

Monday Nov. 18th & 25th PENSACOLA CAMELLIA JUDGING SCHOOL: Our Pensacola Camellia Club is conducting an ACS certified camellia judging school (Novice Class & Re-Accreditation Symposium) this month. It is only one of four scheduled for this year in the United States (two of the others are in California and the third is in Texas). This school is required for an application to become a Novice Camellia Judge, but it is also an opportunity to learn a lot about camellias (even if you have no desire to become a camellia judge). We only conduct a judging school every few years, which means that there will probably not be another chance to attend in Pensacola anytime soon.

WHERE: Downtown **Library, 239 Spring Street**, Pensacola Florida

WHEN: Mondays, **Nov 18 & Nov 25** (Must attend both sessions)

TIME: **5:30 to 7:45 pm** (Light snacks will be provided)

COST: **\$10** (bring to 1st session) (includes the Rules & Regulations booklet)

CONTACT TO REGISTER: Roger Vinson (roger_vinson@flnd.uscourts.gov)

On Friday December 13th at 5:30pm we will be setting up for the Camellia Show at the UWF Conference Center. At this time our exhibitors and judges will be dropping off their containers of blooms, and we will be setting up our Toys for Tots Collection. We will have carts to move everything into the building for everyone.

We would like you to spend the evening with us setting up, but also celebrating this coming together of camellia friends that makes our show successful. Our club members and guests are asked to stay for a casual dinner, in our work clothes (nothing fancy about BBQ). We will have 6:30pm social time of wine, beer and iced tea, followed by 7:00pm dinner of Sonny's BBQ. Yes, Dick ordered banana pudding, something a true Southerner loves.

A University of West Florida map is at the end of the newsletter for those that need directions.

Show Helpers Needed

In our October newsletter we explained the various areas of the show where your help is greatly needed. Many members that attended the meeting did sign up, but we do have many openings for additional helpers. For those of you that missed the meeting please read through the tasks, contact the lead person by email or reply to this email with where you will assist or call 850-780-0410. The signup sheets will be available at the November meeting.

Outside

Plant sales - Trumin Brown will be the lead person for plant sales and can be reached at trumin.brown@att.net . All plants will be labeled with bloom photos, descriptions and price to make work easy. This is an outdoor, under protection work area; we are requesting help with coverage in 2 shifts from 9-4pm and need 4 helpers.

9:00am – 1:00pm shift	Trumin, Vanderpool, Elebash (we could use one more)
1:00 pm to closing	Tingley (we need 3 more helpers)

Garden tours - Louise Seitz lseitz@panhandle.rr.com will be the morning lead person and Greg Taylor irrigatorpcc@hotmail.com will be the afternoon lead person for garden tours. We will have golf carts to transport visitors to and from the conference center, but will need drivers. At the garden you will welcome visitors, hand out brochures and speak to the guest about the garden's development. The am shift may have few visitors but the goal is to keep them occupied while judging is taking place and the show is not open. It would be ideal to have 1 hr shifts with 5 people.

Noon -1:00 pm shift	Melinda Taylor (we need 4 more helpers)
1:00 pm- 2:00pm shift	Greg Taylor (we need 4 more helpers)
2:00 pm – 3:00pm shift	(we need 5 helpers)
3:00 pm – 4:00pm shift	(we need 5 helpers)

First Floor

Membership -Debbie Brown dmarie.brown@att.net will be the lead person for Membership to Pensacola Camellia Club and American Camellia Society during show hours 1-4pm. She would like 1 person to assist her each hour with membership.

1pm	Need 1
2pm	Carolyn Pulford
3:00 pm	Need 1
	Need 1

Greeters- Louise Seitz lseitz@panhandle.rr.com will be the lead person in need of 4 greeters to cover 2 hour shifts to welcome our guest, handout show brochures and provide directional information to make our guest aware of the multiple activities at the show. We will ask guests to enter an attendance **raffle** prize for a camellia plant by completing the form that includes name, email, and cell phone. Drawing will start at 1:30pm and every ½ hour winners will be notified by their cell phone.

12:45 -2:00pm	Need 2
2:00 - 4:00pm	Need 2

Second Floor

Camellia Bloom Prep, Show & Awards - Skip Vogelsang lbv3rd@gmail.com is the Show Chairman in charge taking all questions prior to the show.

At our December 10th meeting Skip will demonstrate the job of **Bloom Placement** based on division for unprotected and protected with sub categories for the various classes that he will explain in detail at the meeting. The exhibitors will arrive at 7:00am to prepare their blooms in the prep area. When the exhibitors have their blooms & entry card ready you will carry trays of blooms to the conference room where Dick Hooton, aka' the gate keeper' will review every entry card for correct information. Dick will tell you to proceed in placing the bloom at the correct division, class table or if there is an error to return the bloom to the exhibitor. This work starts at 7:30 and must be completed by 10:00am. If we have 10 helpers this will go quickly but it must be done correctly.

Christine Frazier	James Frazier
Brenda Elebash	Lauren Mate
Melinda Taylor	Carolyn Pulford
We need 4 more helpers.	

Judges- Roger Vinson roger_vinson@flnd.uscourts.gov is the lead person for ACS certified judges and novice judges. He will recruit most of the judges from out of town about 25-30 judges along with some novice judges. They are grouped in teams of three and will need a clerk and runner for each team starting at 10:30.

Greg Talyor	Need 25 -30
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Clerks and runners- Bill Lyford wtlyford@bellsouth.net will be the lead person for clerks and runners. He will need a clerk and a runner for each team of judges, 20 volunteers should cover the task. Your job is to remain silent while the judges make the decisions, clerks place color stickers on entry cards based on their award level or place 'head table' cards for blooms that move on in the competition. The runner will use a tray to carry the bloom with its entry card to the 'head table' where John Mate or Allen McMillan will review the entry information against the Camellia Nomenclature book for Bloom Verification. Note that 'head table' and 'contention table' are the same thing and you will hear both words use throughout the judging.

Christian Fraizer	James Fraizer
Brenda Elebash	Dave Sandstrom
Michele Kobiellwik	Need 20

All of the head table blooms will be examined by the judges for the second time in this contention and scored. Clerks **and runners will be needed at this stage to add up scores for each bloom that determine our winners for the various prizes.** Once the winners are finalized they will need to be photograph then placed on the award table. Dick Hooton and Christi Hankins will be directing you to place the winner of each category to its designated spot on the award table.

Photographer helpers- Lauren Mate pcolasun58@gmail.com will be the lead person to assist the photographer Michael Spooneybarger who will take individual photos of each winning bloom. We will need 10 helpers to move the bloom from the award table to the photographer camera area than back to the correct spot on the award table. All of this needs to be completed before 1:00pm when the show opens to the public.

Bettie Lee Sundstrom	Norman Vickers
Need 8 helpers	

Now it's **lunch time**, T. Morris will be ordering lunches for the judges and helpers. If you will like a lunch we will have a signup sheet for you to order and pay T. Morris. It will be a box lunch of a sandwich, fruit and chips that will be served in the prep room for the cost of \$10.00.

Lauren Mate	John Mate
Carolyn Pulford	

Refreshments - Christi Hankins todwbw1@gmail.com will lead refreshments which will be available throughout the morning for our exhibitors and members to enjoy. She will need a team of 2 helpers per hour to have drinks and food items replenished from 7:00 -2:00pm. Please assist with keeping the area clean and disposing your used plates and cups.

7:00 -8am	Need 2
800 -9am	Need 2
9:00 -10am	Sharon Maloney & Carolyn Pulford
10:00 -11am	Need 2
11- noon	Claire McCormack
12 -1pm	Need 2

Clean Up – The show ends at 4:00pm and you may take blooms that you would like to enjoy and share with friends, or deliver to nursing homes, otherwise they will all go in the trash. Every bloom cup will be emptied, stacked and boxed, refreshment area cleaned, toys for tots loaded for the marines, plants that did not sell back in the van, signage throughout the campus picked up. Cleaning and packing up at the end of the day is easy with many hands.

Lauren Mate	John Mate
Louise Seitz	Need 7

If you read through all of this you know we will need **many hands and smiling faces** for a day filled with camellias. PLEASE Help throughout the day were you can. **A short break to our outdoor plant and tour volunteers would be appreciated so they can have lunch and view the show.** Let's take care of each other on this special day that we all contributed to in many different ways.

Please tell your family, friends, and neighbors to come to see the beautiful blooms!

Club Promotional Information.

Some of you have mentioned that you are sharing information about the club and our upcoming show with friends and co-workers. If you were at the August picnic or September's meeting we distributed 'business cards' to hand out with our upcoming event dates. Others are speaking at clubs and requested a brochure to hand out, please click on the link below to download our brochure to print at home to share at your events. Thank you for supporting the club in this method and please continue to let the board know your ideas for advertising our events.

https://pensacolacamelliclub.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/PCC_Brochure_2019_show_n_events.pdf



The Pensacola Camellia Club Foundation provided financial support for the activities of the Pensacola Camellia Club. In years past, our club members had to solicit funds for the Show from local businesses and financial supporters. That was difficult, time consuming, and distasteful to most of our members. Now, thanks in large part to the Foundation's financial support, we no longer have to worry about financing our annual show and can devote our full attention to the show itself. Our Club greatly benefits from having our Foundation.

The Foundation always needs and welcomes your donations and memorial gifts. It is both exempt from federal income taxation, as a 501(c) (3) organization, and qualified to receive charitable contributions and bequests which are tax deductible for federal income, estate, and gift tax purposes.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT ONE OF THE FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBERS.

Chair: Roger Vinson

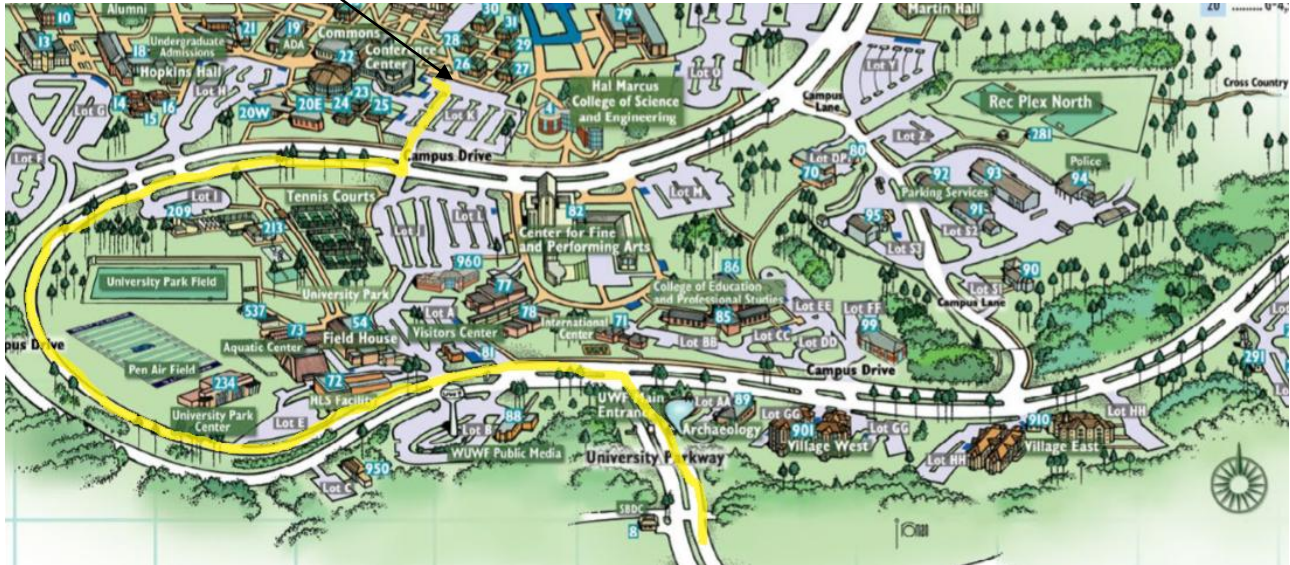
Trustees: Trumin Brown, Richard Hooton, Alan McMillan, Skip Vogelsang,

Mailing Address: PO Box 707, Pensacola, FL 32591

Email: pensacolacamellia@gmail.com

Directions to UWF Conference Center for our Annual Show.

If heading east on 9 Mile Road you will turn North/left at University Pkwy. Turn left as indicated by the **yellow line** on the map below. Stay in the left hand side of the road, after you pass the tennis courts on the right hand side, take the next left into the **parking lot 'K'**. If you missed it, at the next stop light is Campus Lane where you can make a 'U turn' to go west and park in lot 'K' for the Conference Center.



The pink line above is if you entered from Davis Highway, follow Campus Drive, turn right at the light onto Campus Lane then West/left at the next light onto Campus Drive to **parking lot 'K'** at the Conference Center.