



The weather is changing and the cool mornings are the perfect time for yard work. Some species of camellias are showing multiple buds on the branches and those without will later on. Don't be too excited to see all of those branches with multiple buds. Why you ask? It's time to disbud; if you leave the buds on you are going to have low quality flowers of small sizes. As in the photo, you will want to remove the extra buds and leave only one bud on each branch. The remaining bud will produce a larger bloom because of the less competition as it is feeds from the plant. While you are disbudding, now is a good time to gib. The empty cup of one of the removed buds is where a drop of gib is applied. In 6 to 8 weeks the buds will begin to swell. This is a great way to have better quality flowers early in the season for show.



We had a short notice send out for a work day at UWF camellia garden on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Thank you to the members who came out to help incorporate additional camellias plants with their metal signage. Fall is a good time for planting for there to be time for them to get some rooting done before going dormant. I also shared a tip with members of how I place the root ball in a bucket of water prior to setting it in the hole for the root ball to be completely wet. Don't simply add water, after it is in the ground, because who knows when it will rain again at UWF.

There are many improvements that have been made at the Shade House property since most of you have been there, so come out the 15<sup>th</sup> of October and help with the potting of this year's air layers. It is always a busy day with demanding work involved but it is rewarding. Sale of these plants is the source of funding for the club events. A special shout out of 'Thanks' to Greg Taylor for all his efforts in getting a great crop of camellias air layered for our club's benefit again this year.

Trumin Brown / President





Trumin Brown was fighting tree roots, good thing William Paden came to the rescue with pick-axe to win the battle. Greg Taylor finally surrenders and used the pick-axe too. Skip found seed pods and LeAnna pruned off dead branches.



I found an early bloom on Kiku Toji, specie *Camellia Japonica* registered in 1895, blooming at UWF garden on Oct 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 that I had to share.





## Discovering Camellia Gardens at Pena Palace, Sintra Portugal by Lauren & John Mate



In May, we were able to fulfill a lifelong travel goal by visiting Portugal. We began our travel adventures in Lisbon (old town), then spent three days in Porto (port wine anyone?), followed by almost a week on the Algarve Coast via Nazare (surfs up), then back to Lisbon (newer part of the city) before returning to the Florida.

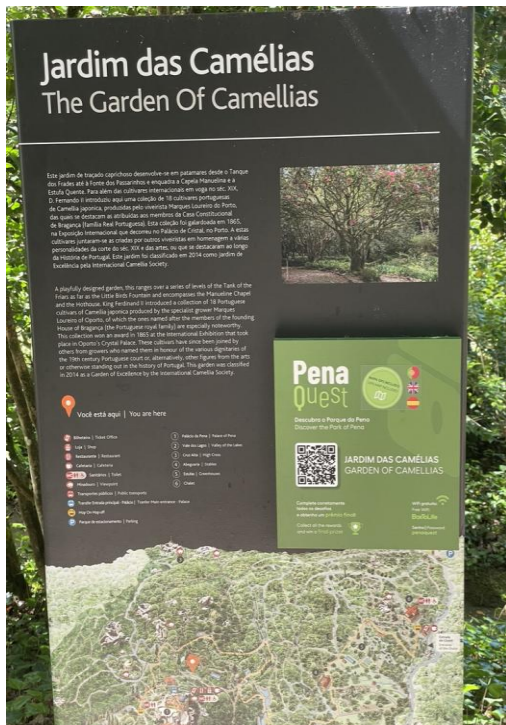


While in Lisbon, we took several day trips one of which was to Pena Palace (Portuguese: *Palácio da Pena*) in Sintra, about an hour train ride from Lisbon. Pena Palace is a romantic style castle on the Portuguese Riviera. The castle stands on the top of a hill in the Sintra mountains above the town of Sintra, and on a clear day it can be easily seen from Lisbon. Pena Palace is a national monument and constitutes one of the major expressions of 19<sup>th</sup>-century Romanticism in the world. The palace is also a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the Seven Wonders of Portugal.

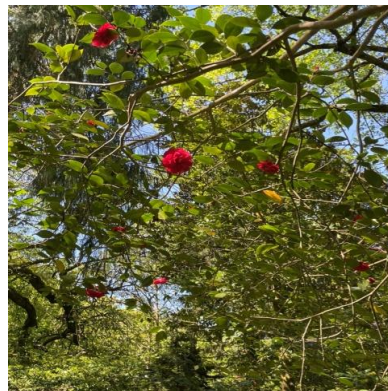




This beautiful castle brought John and I many surprises, not the least were the camellia gardens. After we toured Pena Palace, we found a small camellia garden on the grounds with some plants in bloom. Since the day was still young, we chose next to explore Pena Park, a short walk away.



Pena Park is a vast forested area completely surrounding Pena Palace, spreading over about 500 acres of uneven terrain. The park was created by King Ferdinand II at the same time as the palace. The same exotic taste of the Romanticism was applied to the park as it was to the palace.



King Ferdinand ordered trees from diverse, distant lands to be planted there. Those included North American Sequoia, Lawson's cypress, Magnolia and Western Red Cedar, Japanese Cryptomeria and Camellia, and a wide variety of ferns and trees from Australia and New Zealand.

John and I walked the well marked system of paths and narrow roads connecting the palace to the many points of interest throughout the park. One of those points that immediately captured our attention was the Garden of Camellias. Though the camellia season was pretty much over, we did find a few in blooms.

We hope you enjoy the photos and it inspires you to travel to Europe and discover the many beautiful camellia gardens overseas.

We love to hear your camellia story and / or photos about what you enjoy about camellias or PCC's events. Please submit to Louise Seitz at [pensacolacamellia@gmail.com](mailto:pensacolacamellia@gmail.com) by the 1st of the month for it to be included in the newsletter.



## October's Upcoming Events

**Saturday Oct. 15th** – **It's time again to pot our new crop of air layers!** This is when everyone is needed to help pot the 300+ air layers that Greg Taylor designated last April. Join us at the Shade House 3279 Pine Forest, Cantonment, starting at 9am. The work that day will include potting our air layers, spraying, fertilizing, and general clean up. Please bring your pruners, gloves and water bottles.



While we were planting at UWF we had to remove a few dead branches due to plant tag strangulation. Let's make sure all air-layers have tags, they are loose and located at the top for easy identification.

Come check out the Shade House property improvements and bring your **check book** or **credit card** to purchase from our new selections of camellia plants.

**Before**, our unkempt over grown Azaleas



**After**, no more Azaleas, large boulders in the corner



**Before**, large pile of dirt/weeds in the background.



**After**, The dirt/weed pile has been spread throughout.



**Tuesday Oct 18th – General Meeting** program, ‘Why We Gib’. You will need to ‘gib’ 7 weeks prior to our show date (1<sup>st</sup> application Oct.22<sup>nd</sup>) to have your camellias ready to product blooms for our December 10<sup>th</sup> show. We will have ‘gib’ available for members that night.

Under our By-Laws, the Officers will present changes to members at our meeting, and then the following meeting, November, members will vote on these changes. The following text from the By-laws with the strikethrough is what would be removed and the bold is the suggested change for you to review.

**ARTICLE II  
MEMBERSHIP, DUES, VOTING, AND SUSPENSION/EXPULSION**

**Section 2: Dues**

If a member has not paid the requisite dues by April 1 of the year during which dues are applicable, upon Board review, that person’s membership shall be ~~terminated~~ **inactive** until such time as the dues are paid.

**ARTICLE IV  
OFFICERS**

**Section 8:** The Treasurer shall be the custodian of the operating funds of the Club; shall maintain the Club’s checking account; ~~shall collect all dues~~ **shall share the responsibility of collecting membership dues with the Third Vice President** and financial contributions to the Club; shall disburse the funds of the Club in accordance with the Club’s budget or as directed by the Board of Directors; shall report monthly on the Club’s finances and submit a financial statement at any time upon request of the Board of Directors, and shall perform such other duties as are customarily assigned that office. The Treasurer may be bonded at the direction of the Board of Directors.

All of our By-Laws can be founded on the website or click here, [By-Laws](#) to view.

Location: [Garden Center](#) 6:30pm social, 7:00 pm program. Last month members asked if they could bring refreshments to share. Yes, please feel free to bring what you like pre-cut into serving size and take home what was not eaten.

At the meeting, we like to **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS** by asking them to wear the **Red outlined name tag** so our members know to greet you and introduce themselves. A new member is anyone that joined in Dec. 2021 – Nov. of 2022.

New members, by attending the meeting your name will be included in a ‘**New Members ONLY Raffle**’ for a camellia plant. This is for only new members, be sure to attend to increase your collection of camellias for your yard.

We also have a camellia plants raffle for everyone to participate, raffle tickets are sold at a price of **\$1.00 per chance or \$5.00 for 6 chances**. See Lee Vanderpool to purchase your raffle tickets, the proceeds support our club meetings.

*Our show will include toy donations for the Marines “**Toys for Tots**” program. You can bring in unwrapped toys that you have purchased tonight. If you prefer you can make a monetary donation tonight or mail in your donation to; PCC, PO Box 707, Pensacola FL 32591 and we will do the shopping for you. We greatly appreciate your support.*

## 2022- 2023 Gibbing Schedule for Camellia Shows near Pensacola

This schedule is an approximation based upon an average time between the application of the gibberellic acid and blooming of about 6 weeks, bracketed with applications a week earlier or later. Thus, there are three application dates for each show. For example, if you gib 2 blooms on each plant at each application, you would have gibbed a total of 6 blooms on that plant --- and with luck maybe 1 of them will open in time for that show. The estimated time is for an average japonica plant in moderate shade and under normal Pensacola weather conditions.

	Show Date	1 <sup>st</sup> Application 7 weeks before	2 <sup>nd</sup> Application 6 weeks before	3 <sup>rd</sup> Application 5 weeks before
Slidell, LA	12/03/22	10/15/22	10/22/22	10/22/22
<b>Pensacola, FL</b>	<b>12/10/22</b>	<b>10/22/22</b>	<b>10/29/22</b>	<b>11/05/22</b>
Tallahassee, FL	1/07/23	11/19/22	11/26/22	12/03/22
Mobile, AL	1/21/23	12/03/22	12/10/22	12/17/22
New Orleans, LA	1/28/23	12/10/22	12/17/22	12/24/22
Massee Lane, GA	2/25/23	No info at the time of this newsletter		
Gulfport, MS				
Baton Rouge, LA				
Brookhaven, MS				

There is no fixed time for the gib to take effect, and many factors will affect the time. Early blooming varieties usually bloom more quickly and late blooming varieties usually take longer; some take much longer. More mature buds will bloom sooner than less mature ones. Reticulatas normally average a longer time to bloom than do japonicas. Plants in full sun may also bloom sooner. Of course, abnormally warm weather will accelerate blooming, while heavy freezes and colder conditions will delay blooming. Go to the [American Camellia Society](#) website for a video demonstrating gibbing.



To apply, select a well-developed flower bud with an upward- facing leaf bud, and remove the leaf bud with a twisting action. Place one drop of acid in the cup left where leaf bud was removed.





## ***Camellia Prayer***

*Dear God, let me live like the  
camellia,  
Green leaves speaking of life eternal  
Blossoms resplendent in beauty.  
And, dear God, please let me die  
Like the camellias, not cling,  
Not grow sour with age,  
Or leave this beautiful world  
Tortured by guilt or pain.  
Let me drop silently like the camellia  
knowing that I will bloom again  
In the garden of eternity*



*C. M. Wilson propagated by Mrs. A. E. Wilson in 1993*

*By Edna Mae Anderson, Chica, CA  
Printed in Guidepost Magazine  
Sent to Mary Ellen Edwards by a friend my moons ago.*