

The Pensacola Camellia



December 2016 Newsletter of the Pensacola Camellia Club—established 1937

www.PensacolaCamelliaClub.com or like us on Face book.

President's Message – Christi Hankins

It is December. For the Pensacola Camellia Club, that means we are celebrating our 78th Annual Show on the 10th. The Show will be held at 1st United Methodist Church on Wright Street. We hold our membership meeting early on December 6th to train for the show. The volunteers of the Camellia Club make our Camellia Show a success every year. At the meeting, we will have sign-up sheets for volunteers to participate in set up on the 9th and for bloom placement, plant sales, refreshments, breakdown, rewards, and other volunteer positions on the 10th. T Morris needs your reservations before December 5th if you would like to attend the judge's luncheon on December 10th. Please contact T Morris to reserve your spot.

Congratulations to Ghee Von Eichel, our Camellian of the Month for November. Ghee volunteers with a cheerful spirit and volunteers on committees including refreshments, membership and awards. Thanks Ghee for being so willing to help.

If you have not checked out our Face book page lately, then you have been missing some beautiful blooms. Check out what has been coming out of Dick Hooton's yard. Hooton has been cleaning up at the camellia shows. Thanks for the hard work to all our club members that represent us at camellia shows.

Happy Holidays.

See you at the show.

Christi



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- Christi Hankins

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- Skip Vogelsang,

2nd VP & Program Chair

- Mack Thetford,

3rd VP & Membership

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Bill Lyford,

John Mate,

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F. Norman Vickers - publicity

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Membership

Meetings & Programs

Tuesday, Dec 6th

Garden Center 1850 N. Ninth Ave

Meeting starts at 7:00 pm with No refreshment so we can be fully prepared for our 78th Pensacola Camellia Club Show. Your help is needed and appreciated.

Program for the night;

- Skip Vogelsang : Show preparation and job assignments for volunteers
- T .Morris has procured copies of the 2017 Nomenclature Book that are available for sale for \$20.00

Membership Dues: We will email members that are scheduled to pay at the beginning of the New Year. Dues are still \$10.00 for the calendar year or \$100.00 for Lifetime membership. Bring your check to the Dec. 6th meeting for it to be used toward your charitable tax donations.

Please keep Lynn Manthei up-to-date with any changes to your contact information; address, phone or email at rosalindmanthei@gmail.com



Need a ride to our meetings? We are setting up car pools for members who need assistance. Please contact Lynn at 850-723-5175 for arrangements.

At our October meeting.....



Christi Hankins (right) presented Pensacola Camellia Club Certificate of Appreciation to Gee Von Eichel for all of her hard work she does for the club no matter what the task is at hand she can do it and with a smile.

Photos on this page by Norman Vickers

Skip Vogelsang provided a detailed presentation on *'How to prep your blooms for a show'*.

He shared his successful method of using the right size plastic container placing a cool pack at the bottom than a layer of soft downing pillow before placing the bloom inside. The goal is to keep the bloom from touching any sides of the container.

The best part was watching Skip misting the bloom with an aerosol can of mist sprayed into the air, as he waved the bloom through the mist.

Yes, he is a fanatic about Camellias and shows.



Dec 10th PCC 78th Annual Camellia Show and Plant Sale

“All I Need is a Little Help from my Friends” Beatles

It takes a lot of high quality volunteers to make our camellia show the best in the southeast USA. And I'm counting on a little help from my friends to make that happen. So please block out some time to help us host the best show of the year. Here is where we need your help.

- 1) **Friday Dec 9th from 3PM to 7PM** (especially from 5pm to 7pm): set up for the show at First United Methodist Church 18 East Wright St in downtown Pensacola. No super skills needed just organizing tables for the show.
- 2) **Saturday Dec 10th from 7am to 10 am:** we need lots of folks helping to place the blooms prior to the judging. It's easy --- everything is color coded in alpha order. Need at least 15 persons
- 3) **Then from 10:15 AM to 1 PM** we need 15 persons to be “clerks” during the judging process. Give ribbons to best blooms. No special skills needed
- 4) Plant sales begin at 9:00 am and will continue until 4:30 or until we are sold out. Dick Hooton will need assistance in moving and setting up these plants.
- 5) And last but not least we need 15 or 20 persons to help us **clean up after the show from 4:30 to 6 PM**. This is a great opportunity to rescue some beautiful blooms to take home, take to friends, or take to local nursing homes. Bring some flat shallow containers.

So please let me know when you can help us put on a great show. You can email me at lbv3rd@gmail.com or sign up at our Dec 6th club meeting. Or just show up and we will get you started.

Thanks in advance for your help.

Skip Vogalsang / 1st VP & Show Chair

Mark your Calendar....

December 3rd Work Day at the Shade House 8:30 to Noon.

John Mate needs your help with the building of 3 raised camellia beds. Anyone that would like to help is welcome and appreciated. You will not need any prior knowledge about building raised beds but you will gain some knowledge in the process of helping along with some fresh air and mild exercise. All materials and tools will be provided but please bring gloves and water to drink.

I would like to have your name and phone number to contact you in the event of bad weather forced a change in plans so please contact me at 850-255-6912 if you know you are coming. Thank you, John Mate

December 9th Set up evening for December 10th Show and Plant Sales –
see Skip note above.

February 18th Pensacola Camellia Club Workshop and Plant Sale

Located at YMCA at 3215 Langley Avenue from 9:00 am to noon.

There will be demonstration of propagation of camellias by air-layering and grafting. There will be a variety of camellia plants for sale to meet your landscape needs.

February 25th Community Camellia Show and Plant Sale

Located at Downtown West Florida Public Library
239 N. Spring Street, Pensacola

This camellia show is for the “average camellia gardener” to learn how to show and what judges look for in blooms.

Pensacola Camellia Club (PCC) Statement of Purpose

To Foster And Maintain An Interest In Camellias And Their Culture

To Promote The Study Of Camellias

To Provide An Opportunity For Their Exhibition And Appreciation

To Aid And Assist In The Standardization Of Camellia Nomenclature

To Provide An Opportunity For Camaraderie Among Those Sharing A Common Interest in Camellias.

John Davy, Camellia Enthusiast, Honored

Written by Norman Vickers

Photos by Tony Giberson, Pensacola News-Journal

The families of John Davy and Glen Strange were honored in October as **2016 Outstanding Farm Families of the Year, Santa Rosa County, Florida.** John and Glen are business owners of Panhandle Growers, Inc. and have been in business for thirty years in Allentown community near Pensacola.



Left Janet & Glen Strange, County Rep, John & Sarah Davy

Santa Rosa County honors a farm family each year during their annual farm tour. Davy reported that their business was on the scheduled tour this year and that the award came as a surprise to him and Glen.

Panhandle Growers, Inc. (PGI) now comprises 350 acres. Some of their specialties include trees for landscaping purposes, camellia japonicas, sasanquas, hybrids and Japanese maples. Davy says that most of their wholesale products are sold within one hundred miles with the

majority of our product delivered directly to commercial job sites. “We also sell to local garden centers and institutions such as universities and municipalities. Their transport company is named Coldwater Transport. Much of our material is still tolerant and used in coastal developments,” says Davy.

John reports that he also owns a small plant breeding company called Panhandle Select Botanicals LLC.

“The current focus of my breeding/selection program is on the development of small understory trees for coastal plain. I am using numerous camellia species in the program, many from Drs. Ackerman and Parks. The species from Dr. Parks were provided by ACS/Masse Lane. I have registered numerous japonicas including Lori Clevenger, Sporting Class, Daddy Mac, Pop’s Perfection and Ruth C. McNair.

“I have many more to register, I just need to slow down long enough to take the dang pictures with a rule in it and fill out the forms.”

Davy says that he has many sasanquas and hybrids in the works, some at

Plant Development Services (PDSI- Flowerwood.) And many are on trial here at his own company; Panhandle Growers, Inc. John also develops some crape myrtle varieties.



John says many tree varieties at PGI are selected varieties from seedling production. Varieties introduced to the trade include Wax Myrtle 'Escarosa', "Red Maple,' 'Gulf Ember,' junipers 'Ascension'; and 'Silver Screen.' Other cultivars include crape myrtle 'New Lavender,' Ilex dahoon 'Berryhill, and ' magnolia 'Seagrove.' He reports, "The days of growing seedlings in production are passed. Today's commercial landscapes require uniform plant material that can only be produced through cutting propagation or grafting. We are currently growing some camellia

understock/rootstock for grafting purposes."

Asked how he became interested in camellias, Davy replied that his father grew up on a farm in North Dakota, served a career in the Navy and retired in the Pensacola area. He grew fruit trees with the theory that it was no use if one couldn't eat the produce. His father also had a few camellias on the property as well.

Davy reports that he did some teaching while working in food & beverage industry here. He says that his teaching experience was helpful in training his workers at the nursery.

He says that in 1974 late horticulturalist and Pensacola Camellia Club member, Dr. Bill Bennett asked him to help with the educational booth at PCC's annual camellia show. Bennett also gave him a membership in ACS and PCC. Also late horticulturalist Dr. T. E. Lundy gave him a plant of his new seedling Lady Laura.

Davy was 29 years old when he first served as PCC President in 1982. He served as president again in 1986 and in 2012. Whereas, there have been a number of PCC members who served two terms, some consecutively and some on separate occasions, Davy is

unique in that he has served as president 3 times over a span of 30 years.

Longtime PCC member Dick Hooton said about Davy, "Although we purchase some products from John's company, his labor is free. He provides the following for our use at our camellia shade house: amended soil, fertilizer and weed control products. Recently, with Davy's assistance, we obtained 19 cubic yards of crushed limestone for the floor of the shade house. When we were spreading pine bark nuggets for the UWF Camellia Garden, John's front-end loader saved us countless hours. He donates plants throughout the year to give to new members and, besides that, is a frequent speaker at our meetings.

Federal Judge Roger Vinson, former president of both PCC and American Camellia Society said, "John's knowledge of camellia culture extends back to what he learned as a young man from our club's best camellia growers of the 1970s and '80s as well as his own decades of experience as a nurseryman. I count on him as my

most reliable source of good camellia advice. He's also an invaluable resource to our Pensacola Camellia Club as we rely on him generously to help us with camellia plants and hard-to-find gardening supplies."



Left Sarah & John Davy, Glen & Janet Strange

John's business partner, Glen Strange and wife Janet have three children Ali, Nicole and Thomas. Glen also serves as director of Farm Credit of Northwest Florida. The Strange family belongs to First Baptist Church, Pensacola.

John and his wife Sarah have two children. Elizabeth is a 2015 graduate of Auburn University and Emmett is a junior at Pace High School. John brags on son Emmett's computer skills, Sarah is a pharmacist who is employed part-time. Her other discretionary time is filled with volunteer and church work. The Davy family are members of Olive Baptist Church, Pensacola.

Below are John's registered japonicas mentioned above and found on ACS website.



Lori Clevenger

Bloom Color: Dark pink with streaks of dark coral pink with light yellow anthers and yellow filaments

Bloom Type: peony

Bloom Size: small

<http://camellia.unipv.it/camelliadb2/dbwin.php?pippo=12192>



Daddy Mac

Bloom Color; White with flecks and streaks of dark red, coral pink and light red to medium pink mixed in an irregular pattern throughout the bloom with light yellow anthers and yellow filaments.

Bloom Type: Peony to anemone form

Bloom Size: Large

<http://camellia.unipv.it/camelliadb2/dbwin.php?pippo=4263>



Pop's Perfection

Bloom Color: Medium pink with flecks and streaks of darker burgundy to deep coral pink at the center of petals- the petals are tipped with white or blush

Bloom Type: formal double

Bloom Size: small

<http://camellia.unipv.it/camelliadb2/dbwin.php?pippo=16247>



Ruth C McNair

Bloom Color; White with bright yellow stamens and white filaments; slight fragrance, heavy petal texture
Bloom Type: peony with 3-4 layers of large broad petals and many central petaloids
Bloom Size: large

<http://camellia.unipv.it/camelliadb2/dbwin.php?pippo=17540>



Sporting Class

Bloom Color; White with flecks, streaks and petals of dark coral pink, medium pink and light pink; mixed throughout in an irregular pattern
Bloom Type: peony
Bloom size: Medium

<http://camellia.unipv.it/camelliadb2/dbwin.php?pippo=19343>

These are the lovely new sasanqua hybrid varieties under evaluation that are in production at his Panhandle Growers.



Pensacola Camellia Club Foundation, Inc.

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: Jack O'Donnell Richard Hooton Chuck Fosha Skip Vogelsang,

Mailing Address: PO Box 707, Pensacola, FL 32591 / Email:

www.camellia@pensacolacamellioclub.com

From the PCC webmaster, Bill Lyford:

Why should PCC members go to the website? There are ideas for camellia care, photographs of PCC activities and history of the organization beginning in 1937. Besides, one can access previous newsletters and see photos of Pensacola varieties. Most members know that there have been over 100 varieties originating from this club. Also, there are direct links to the American Camellia Society website. If ACS has done it better, then we link to their website rather than try to duplicate the effort. For those who receive the newsletter by e-mail, click [here](#) to go to PCC website. Click [here](#) to go to ACS website or like us on our Face book page.