

Myself, plus the Officers and Board Members are grateful for our Pensacola Camellia Club member's support throughout the Camellia Season. We had many great opportunities for camaraderie at meeting and events throughout the season as we share a common interest in camellias as stated in our mission statement.

At the banquet, the T. Morris Scholarship was awarded to Casey McClaine, which also fulfills a mission statement; 'To promote the study of camellias.' She is an undergraduate student studying plant science at UF Milton campus. Our auction of 6 camellia plants that evening brought in over \$1,000 which is allocated for another scholarship. Again, another mission statement completed, 'To provide an 'Opportunity for Their Appreciation.'

We had a great turn out for air layering at John Davy's with 127 completed and at Skip Vogelsang's with another 120 completed. It was great to see new and experienced members working together to fulfill the mission statement of; 'Foster Interest and Camellia Culture'. This coming weekend, **April 6**<sup>th</sup> you have another chance to learn how to air layer at the UWF Camellia Garden. See you there at 9am.



It is Spring cleaning time in our yards and homes. You should begin with pruning the deadwood branches that need to be removed for the health of the plant. After that, remove any branch that is growing internal to allow for more air flow throughout the plant. If you have many plants divide the yard in quadrants and do a few every couple of days so the job does not feel overwhelming. Final step will be to use a time release fertilize around the dripline of each plant.

The club is also responsible for the care of the camellia plants at the Garden Center which are located in the southwest corner of the property. <u>Our last club meeting is April 16<sup>th</sup></u>, if you can come at <u>5:30pm we will do our spring cleaning there before our social at 6:30pm</u>. Bring your gloves, pruners and rake and will have yard waste bags for all the clippings to maintain these camellias.



- Greg Taylor / President

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#### What you missed at the Banquet - Louise Seitz

Here is your 2024-2025 Pensacola Camellia Club Officer's & Board Members who are willing to serve you. A Special thank you to Ellen Mio who took the photos that evening. Many more are on our website for you to view under About Us/ Photo Galleries.



Left to right; Debbie Brown, Regan Hoffman, John Davy – VP Programs, Carol Pulford, Becky Sherman -VP Membership, Greg Taylor President, Trumin Brown past president, Skip Vogelsang - Treasurer, Mack Thetford, Kristin DeReuil –Secretary, Jane Benson, Paul Bruno and Louise Seitz, missing tonight Christi Hankins – VP Show chairperson.



Speaking of scholarship, it is with great pleasure that we present a scholarship in honor of Thekla "T" Morris to a student attending the University of Florida's –Milton campus plant science undergraduate degree program in her name. Mack Thetford presented Casey McClaine with a certificate for the T. Morris Scholarship Award and check for \$1,000.

Ellen Vinson congratulated George Davis who outbid everyone at \$350 for the 'Judge Roger Vinson' camellia. George and his wife Jane went home that evening with Daddy Mac and Springhead Gem. In total the 6 plants auctioned brought in \$1,170, which will cover the next scholarship award.





Judge James Garnett not only did the honor of swearing in the officers and board but brought a photo to share with everyone. Last year he won the bidding on 'Col. Richard Hooton' and had to share with the members this special photo of the bloom. We all miss our marine, Col. Dick Hooton.





Pictured above are the auction items John Davy organized for tonight. He is posing with members, Ellen Edwards Milo, and Mary Kay Edwards Bell whose father was John Edwards, one of the original Pensacola Men's Club members of 1937. John Edwards was very important in guiding John and his partner Glen in their business that we know as Panhandle Growers. The Club has benefited from these and many more camellia family relationships over many years.

As I mentioned in the March newsletter, Leland Leonard is skilled in woodworking, he crafted the award for 'Person of the Year.' It was my pleasure to articulate Trumin's accomplishments to the club. From plant procurement, customer service, sales, weeding, fertilizing, inventory control, delivery of plants, raffle delivery, along with van maintenance and more that I missed.

**Thank You Trumin Brown!** 





**NEW Event** - Friday April 5<sup>th</sup> - We will be selling the last 100 camellia plants at the UF Milton campus Spring Festival of Flowers. (Their full ad is on page 5). Trumin will need a few helpers with sales that day, call him at 850-375-4541 if you can help.

**Saturday Apr. 6th – Air layering** at <u>UWF Camellia Garden</u> starting at 9:00am to Noon. Greg Taylor will bring the supplies needed for air layering; you should bring your pliers wrench, and sharp knife for air layering. If you prefer to help with **Clean Up** of the garden's, spent blooms and branches please come with yard waste bags for the maintenance of this special place.

**Saturday Apr. 13th – Air layering** at Vinson's home, 1905 E. Strong St. at 9am. Greg Taylor will bring the supplies needed for air layering, as mentioned above bring your air layering tool and come and learn.

**Tuesday Apr. 16th – General Meeting** – Dr. Mack Thetford – "Spring Care for Camellias," is focusing on leaf gall and aphids. Location: <u>Garden Center</u>, 1850 N. 9<sup>th</sup> Ave, Pensacola, 6:30pm for social, 7:00 pm program. As Greg mentioned, first we will <u>prune</u> <u>camellias at 5:30pm</u> then visit with each other at 6:30 with a

#### **Tonight's raffle camellias**





Man Size Species: Japonica Color: White With Yellow Stamens Form: Anemone Form Size: Miniature To Small

Miss Cinny Pensacola Variety Species: Sasanqua Color: pink Form: semi-double Size: medium

Tudor Baby Variegated Species: Japonica

Species: Japonica Color: Dark Red Blotched White Form: Formal Double Size: Small

celebratory cake for all of our hard work.

**Saturday Apr. 20<sup>th</sup>- Work Day** at <u>UWF Camellia Garden</u> starting at 9am. If you have wondered how to reduce large camellia plants, John Davy will lead a plant reduction demonstration. We will have members on hand to explain inside pruning of plants before we all get to work at the garden. Come watch and learn so you can improve your own yard with these methods.

**NEW Event** Saturday Apr. 27<sup>th</sup> – Work Day at <u>Shade House</u> starting at 9am. We have 3 raised beds that need weeding, along with recording our October potted air layers for inventory and other projects at the shade house that need your help.



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UF IFAS



### UF/IFAS and Pensacola State College Milton Campus invite you to join them for one of the largest festivals of the season.

This is a popular event that draws plant enthusiast from near and far. This festival features plant nurseries, UF student club plant sale, arts & crafts, great food, and educational opportunities.

The goal of the event is to raise money for scholarships, student field trips, and other student needs.

#### **RAIN OR SHINE!**

Festival is outdoors, FREE to the public and handicap accessible

Want to be a vendor? Contact Robin Vickers at 850-393-7334 or rvickers@ufl.edu

Fast Cash ATM On-Site.

An Equal Opportunity Institution

#### Location

UF/IFAS and Pensacola State College Milton Campus

5988 Highway 90, Milton, FL

# Dates and Times

Friday, April 5, 2024 9AM - 5PM

Saturday, April 6, 2024 9<sub>AM</sub> – 4<sub>PM</sub>

Sunday, April 7, 2024 9<sub>AM</sub> – 4<sub>PM</sub>

#### Planning ahead:

Officers and Board Members will meet on June 1<sup>st</sup> to plan the following season of events. Please let us know what you would like to learn or share with members.

- Please reply to <u>Pensacolacamellia@gmail.come</u> if you would be interested in becoming a Judge for shows?
- Welcome back indoor social on **Tuesday August 20**<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm at the Garden Center. More information will come over the summer.
- Pensacola Camellia Club will host the Gulf Coast Camellia Society Conference on October 18 to 20<sup>th</sup>, set against the stunning backdrop of Pensacola Beach at the Holiday Inn Beach Resort. As a premier kickoff event for the camellia season, our conference promises an enriching experience for enthusiasts and novices alike. Nestled by the gentle waves of the Gulf Coast, this gathering offers the perfect blend of learning and leisure.

## With Gratitude - Trumin Brown

At the recent Banquet I received the "Camellia Person of the Year" I was pleasantly surprised. I am humbled to have received this designation and honored to be placed on the list with so many distinguished people.

It has always amazed me the turnout of people at our workdays. Our club could not be the organization it is today without the participation of so many of you. We have had a very successful year with plant sales. This does not happen by accident and without so many members pitching in to help.

I appreciate all of you, and what you did. Leland Leonard turned a beautiful bloom display vase for this occasion. When I look at it my memories of you and what you did are very vivid to me. I am grateful and say, THANK YOU.