



September is here and it's time to start getting into Camellia mode. This is the mode where you start to wonder if you used enough or too much fertilize. If you recall at our last meeting back in April, Mack Thetford explained that all you need is a teaspoon of fertilizer twice a year. I have been checking regularly to see if my plants have started budding. I hope you see buds!

The goal for each and every one of us is to have a winning bloom in the December 14th show. On some plants I have already started "disbudding" and gibbing. The benefit of disbudding is to reduce the stress on the plant resources, while gibbing creates a larger bloom. My goal is to have blooms to attend the show in Perry, Georgia on October 12<sup>th</sup>. Attend our September 17<sup>th</sup> meeting, will have gib available for members.

We are hosting the Gulf Coast Camellia Society's conference this October 18th-19<sup>th</sup> at the Holiday Inn Resort located at 14 Via De Luna Drive. Last year's conference was in Covington, Louisiana. Last year I purchased 'Ferris Wheel' at the auction. A bloom from this plant won "Best in Show" at Gulfport, Mississippi; this was my first "Best in Show."



Our speakers this year are; Jane Benson covering "The History of Pensacola Camellias at UWF Camellia Garden" and Randolph Maphis on "John Wang's Contribution to the Camellia World." If you have not registered click [here](#) to continue to the online registration for the conference.

#### MISSION STATEMENT

**To Foster and Maintain an Interest in Camellias And Their C**

**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**



- Greg Taylor / President

## Sharing .... The Mission of Pensacola Camellia Club By John Davy

The purpose of the Pensacola Camellia Club is to encourage others to learn the culture of camellias.

As I sit here cleaning harvested seed form a seedling of 'Showa Nishiki's# 06-10 (not named and may never be named) I reflect back to the source of the seedlings parent plant and how it relates to the purpose of the club.

Vi Stone of Baton Rouge smuggled the cutting of 'Showa Nishiki' from the Emperial Gardens of Japan in the early 1970's. (there's a story here) Vernon Howell of Mississippi propaged the cuttings and later shared the cuttings with me.



Seed harvest season will include camellia sasanqua # 07-14. A red Yuletide seedling, here is yesterday's seed pod harvest. The seed pods will split open in the next 24 hours, the seed will be extracted, bagged in zip lock bags with enough water to wet the seeds, labeled and refrigerated until sowing in community flats next week. We are growing #07-14 as a Yuletide replacement. It has greater vigor than the seed parent and greater resistance to camellia dieback. The bloom season on 07-14 is late October-December Photo taken last year on plants in product at PGI.

Here is another example of seed pod harvest. Photos from last fall of 'L.A. Lady' original seedling planted at the main office at Panhandle Growers, Inc. The majority will be grown as rootstock for grafting.





We are off to a great start with over 90 members attending our kickoff of the season with our Welcome Back Picnic on Aug 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Members did a great job of showing off their cooking skills with a large selection of side dishes and desserts. There were enough beautiful sweet

desserts of all kinds that made it hard to choose. We appreciate the many members who came at 5pm

to set up, and for those that stayed to clean up. Our team work is what builds this Club to form new friendships and grow the Club. Our photographer for the evening was Ellen Milo, all of her pictures are now on the website for you to enjoy.

<https://pensacolacamelliiaclub.com/photo-galleries/>



Continuing with Kick Off of the Season... here are some football themed camellias. See if you can match the name of the camellia to the following statements:

- 1.) Was an American college football coach. He was the head coach of the Georgia Bulldogs from 1964 to 1988, as well as the University of Georgia's athletic director from 1979 to 2004. During his 25-year head coaching career, compiled a 201–77–10 record. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2.) This is a sport of Japonica 'Kick Off', registered in 1963 by Nuccio's Nurseries. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3.) Named after a former state senator and Auburn halfback form 1892. In 1896, when Auburn would win the score was announce on telegraph ticker tape which was throw over power lines. Now we do it with toilet paper. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4.) This Camellia comes from Tallahassee Nurseries, which bloom every year during football season just in time to impress guests as they watch the big games. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5.) Named for a missed Alabama field goal resulted in an Auburn securing a spot in SEC Championship \_\_\_\_\_ ?





## Organized Chaos.

The temperature for Saturday August 24th was surprisingly comfortable at the Shade House for the task at hand, which was to organize last year's potted air-layers for upcoming sales. There were 17 members on hand throughout the morning to assist before it became too warm to complete all of the work. This included the removal of any weeds or damaged branches, attaching sales tags with photos to each plant and placing plants in the alphabetical rows. Trumin has double checked what we moved into placement to his inventory file to provide accurate information on our website. He has set **Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at 5pm for 'Member's Only Sales Day'** at the Shade House, 3279 Pine Forest in Cantonment. The goal is to give you first choice of what we have before we sell to the public. Please click [Inventory file](#) to review what is on our website under, Camellias For Sale. At this sale we would prefer payment by check or cash if possible.



THANK YOU HELPERS!





# Upcoming Events

## Tuesday Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>

### – General Meeting

John Davy presents, “All Things Propagation,” to include cuttings, seeds, modified grafting. For our newer members, a demo of potting air-layers, disbudding and gibbing. There will be gib available for members.

Location: [Garden Center](#), 1850 N. 9<sup>th</sup> Ave, Pensacola, 6:30pm for social, 7:00 pm program.

### Tonight's raffle camellias

	<p><b>Lady Laura</b> <span style="color: green;">Pensacola Variety</span></p> <p>Species: Japonica          Color: Pink Variegated Rose With Yellow Anthers And Cream Filaments          Form: Peony Form To Rose Form          Double To Formal Double          Size: Medium To Large</p>		<p><b>Royal Velvet</b></p> <p>Species: Japonica          Color: Dark Velvet Red          Form: Semidouble          Size: Large</p>
	<p><b>Taylor's Perfection</b></p> <p>Species: Non-reticulata Hybrid - C x Williamsii          Color: Light Pink          Form: Semidouble With Occasional Petaloids          Size: Large</p>		<p><b>Tiffany</b></p> <p>Species: Japonica          Color: Light Orchid Pink To Deeper Pink At Edge          Form: Loose Peony Form To Anemone Form          Size: Large To Very Large</p>

**Saturday Sept 28<sup>th</sup> - Work Day** at [UWF Camellia Garden](#) starting at 9am. It's time to clean up the garden of branches, remove shoots, weeds and dead camellias. Please help us clean up the garden, come with your gloves, knee pad, pruners, shovel, and bug spray for some general clean up of the garden.



## **NEW EVENT**

**Saturday October 12<sup>th</sup>** – Sales at the Shade House (3279 Pine Forest, Cantonment, FL) hours 9-3pm. Our neighbor to the north of us, Pine Forest Assembly Church, is having their 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Arts & Crafts Festival that day. We will open the Shade House gate and hope for passersby to stop in to make a camellia purchase. If you can help for a few hours Trumin would appreciate any assistance.

**Tuesday Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> – General meeting**– Program: Peggy DeArmon presents, ‘Japanese Maples Make Great Companion Plants for Camellias.’ Here is another chance to pick up ‘gib’ if you missed last month. You will need to ‘gib’ 7 weeks prior to our show date (1<sup>st</sup> application Oct 26<sup>th</sup>) to have your camellias ready to produce blooms for our *December 14<sup>th</sup> show*. Location: [Garden Center](#), 6:30pm for social, 7:00 pm program.



**Friday Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> & Saturday 19<sup>th</sup>** – We are excited to host the **Gulf Coast Camellia Society Conference** against the stunning backdrop of Pensacola Beach at the Holiday Inn Beach Resort. This kickoff event for the camellia season, promises the perfect blend of learning and leisure with fellow camellia lovers from the various Gulf Coast States.

**Friday at 1:30 there is a Novice Class & Judges Re-accreditation Symposium, taught by Jim Campbell in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Nevis Meeting Room. To register for the class send an email message to Jim at [rivercamellia@bellsouth.net](mailto:rivercamellia@bellsouth.net). Please provide your name, phone number, local club name, and whether you are attending to become a novice or to maintain certification as an accredited show judge. Novice Fee of \$10 is required and payable to ACS once the class and exam have been completed.**

GCCS Board meeting, Meet and Greet Social followed by dinner and Camellia Plant Auction.

Saturday starts with a GCCS Business meeting for all members, followed by Jane Benson’s presentation on the History of Pensacola Camellias at UWF Camellia Garden, Camellia Plant Auction, Tour at Fort Pickens and Ferry Ride, Meet & Greet Happy Hour, Dinner and Keynote Speaker, Randolph Maphis on John Wang’s Contribution to the Camellia World.

**Friday Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>** – If you can come at 1pm we will fill the PCC van with the UWF air layers that will be transported to Panhandle Growers location. Bring your gloves and loppers. If you have time, stay and do some gibbing on our camellias at UWF garden.

**Saturday Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> – **POTTING OF AIR-LAYERS**** will take place at PANHANDLE GROWERS, INC 5507 Southridge Road in Milton (Allentown, FL 32570) starting at 8am or when you get there. Pull into the property, make a right turn and drive to the south toward the grass parking area just west of the soil mix area. Bring pruners, gloves, anything you want to eat or drink, chair and a good attitude!