



Hello Fellow Camellia enthusiast!

What a great turn-out for our August meeting. I want to thank all of you for your enthusiasm and participation. Especially those members who arrived an hour early to help set up the room so we all could socialize and reconnect. That same spirit of cooperation and participation was also present when it was time to leave as the entire facility was reset and cleaned after most had left. This is the spirit that led me to have a volunteer card for each of the projects, programs, or committees that make our organization thrive and grow. I was able to share the names of those members wishing to participate in something new or renew their commitments to their favorite projects at our last board meeting. It is never too late to volunteer, and we are eager to welcome you!



Our September board meeting began with an announcement of the resignation of a long-time board member, Carolyn Pulford. Carolyn has been an integral part of the leadership for our organization for some time, serving as our secretary and as a board member. Carolyn is stepping down to focus on her health and we look forward to seeing her at our meetings and events. Please be sure to thank Carolyn for her valuable service to this organization when you see her.

With Carolyn's resignation comes an opportunity for the Board of Directors to find a club member willing to serve the organization at a higher level. I was immediately contacted by several board members with a recommendation to fill Carolyn's vacancy. All the recommendations were for the same individual! This speaks volumes about the nominee. I am happy to report that Dave McAferty was nominated and received a unanimous vote to join the Pensacola Camellia Club board of directors.



Most of you know Dave because of his involvement in the T. Morris Shade House and his assistance in the activities at that location.

Dave has worked alongside Truman Brown for quite some time, and we are very grateful for his commitment to our organization along with his wife Kelsey.



I look forward to seeing you this month and hope you can attend for a great program and an opportunity to socialize and plan for a great Camellia season.

Mack Thetford / PCC President

Picnic photos are on the website for you to view. Thank you members for bringing your sides and desserts items to the picnic for everyone to enjoy.

Here is Paul Bruno welcoming Brenda Elebash and our youngest club member, granddaughter Perrin.



Below, Tina Tuttle, President of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. presented #6 Medal for Individual Achievement in Horticulture Award to John Davy from District I.



The Club awarded its first inaugural scholarship to Pensacola State College student, Eve Dalio. This \$1000 award is unrestricted and Eve can use it on tuition, books or supplies. She is currently seeking her AA in Agriculture and plans on matriculating to the University of Florida in Milton, FL. This award is named after beloved member, T. Morris. Picutred are Mike Johnston, Christi Hankins, Mack Thetford, Eve's finance, Vanderbilt and Eve Dalio. Congratulations Eve and Welcome to the Club!

Don't miss our September 16th meeting. Coming from Valdosta, Georgia our guest speaker Mark Crawford owner of Loch Laurel Nursery will present 'Camellia Blooms for All Four Seasons.'

The following information is from Loch Laurel Nursery website,
<http://www.lochlaurelnursery.com/aboutus.asp>.

Loch Laurel Nursery is a relatively new nursery that specializes in new and hard-to-find camellias. Living in Valdosta, Georgia for the past 30 years, I became good friends with Hulyn Smith. It was great to see the flowers at camellia shows, but plants that would grow those flowers were rarely available. So in the late 1990's, I decided to grow a few plants. With the help of Hulyn and other good camellia growers, I started the nursery. Each year I try a few new varieties and discontinue those that do not thrive under local conditions.



My fascination with plants started as a child and led to my obtaining a degree in Plant Science and a Masters in Plant Pathology. With my extensive knowledge of plants, I decided to try growing camellias a little different than other growers. Being a plant pathologist, I focused on ways to reduce the incidence of dieback in year-old plants.

All our plants are grown on their own roots from cuttings from private collections. This practice results in plants that are not found at local garden centers. We are also world innovators in [root](#)

[enhancement techniques](#) that result in plants that have stronger, more well-developed root structures that will transplant with ease.

Another innovation at Loch Laurel Nursery is to grow camellias under red shade cloth. Using shade cloth other than black is called Spectrum Management. By changing the quality of light on the young camellia plants the red shade cloth improves growth and branching. Loch Laurel Nursery also practices root-pruning techniques to improve the root system of camellias from cuttings. These and other growth promoting techniques have been developed and successfully adopted by other camellia growers.



This year the nursery offers over 200 varieties of camellias and a few other winter-blooming plants, primarily for USDA Zone 8. These plants are excellent garden companions for camellias, adding interest to the winter landscape.



Tuesday Sept. 16th – General Meeting – Program: Guest speaker, Mark Crawford, owner of Loch Laurel Nursery will present to us ‘Camellias Blooms for All Four Seasons.’ There will be gib available for members. Location: [Garden Center](#), 6:30pm for social, 7:00 pm program. *Please bring in your toy donation for “Toys for Tots” or make a donation and we will shop for you, [donate here](#). The toys donations are in place of show prizes for our December Camellia Show winners.*



Saturday Sept. 27th – UWF Camellia Garden Work Day starting at 9:00am. We will need your help with cleaning up of the garden and gibbing. This year it is important to gib the garden so there will be blooms for our guest that attend the December show. Please bring your gloves, rakes, knee pads and water bottles we will provide the gib.

Saturday Oct. 18th – It’s Potting Day! ALL HANDS NEEDED! We will be at the [Shade House](#) (3279 Pine Forest Rd, Cantonment) starting at 9:00am for potting our harvested air layers, spraying camellias, fertilizing, and general clean up. There are over 600 air layers that will need to be unwrapped and trimmed before they can be potted. Please bring your chair, gloves, pruners, carts and water bottles.

Tuesday Oct. 21st – Club meeting – Program: Paul Bruno will cover ‘Basic Camellia Culture.’ You will need to ‘gib’ 7 weeks prior to our show date (1st application Oct 25th) to have your camellias ready to produce blooms for our *December 13th show*. Location: [Garden Center](#), 6:30pm for social, 7:00 pm program. *Please bring in your toy donation for “Toys for Tots” or make a donation and we will shop for you, [donate here](#). The toys donations are in place of show prizes for our December Camellia Show winners.*



The Club recently received this plaque from the United States Marine Corps, Marine Aviation Training Support Group 42 at Naval Air Station Pensacola, Fl.

Members your generosity, compassion, and dedication have brought joy and hope this holiday season to the children in our community.

Thank you for your unwavering commitment to our mission.

Semper Fidelis

