

THE GULF COAST

Camellian

Summer 2016

Volume 42 No. 3



Camellia japonica 'Amy Doodle' Olsen 2013

A Publication of the Gulf Coast Camellia Society
Membership Roster Edition

The Gulf Coast Camellian

Volume 42 No. 3 Summer 2016

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From the Cover



Camellia japonica 'Amy Doodle'

This large, semidouble loose peony form japonica, cream white with light pink shading to dark pink/red at center was introduced by the late Gabriel C. "Ole" Olsen of Pensacola, FL in 2013. It was named for his granddaughter Amy Olsen.

President's Message

Jim Dwyer
Foley, Alabama



I found this past season to be great for the number and quality of camellia blooms. Lack of extremely cold weather might have something to do with the absence of petal blight on my blooms. The spring growth flush on my camellias reminds me of the need to do some drastic pruning on many of my plants. I am trying to get in as much work as possible on cleaning up my garden before the hot weather really sets in. I have almost a hundred sprouted camellia seeds that I need to move to larger pots. They probably won't produce any great blooms but at least I will have some rootstock in a few years and who knows, there could always be some mutation that produces a camellia unlike any current cultivar. That's how a multistemmed grass became corn about 10,000 years ago and how most of our food crops emerged from barely edible plants. I know that the chances of this happening are near zero, but if enough camellia people raise enough camellias from seed who knows what could develop. Reassortment of camellia genes can produce new camellia cultivars through selective breeding, but getting camellias with new genes is a matter of chance and numbers and I find this form of gambling more fun than playing the Powerball Lottery.

Our annual meeting will be on October 16 and 17, 2016 at the Hollywood Casino in Bay St. Louis MS. Steve Manis and the Mississippi Gulf Coast Camellia Society will host this year's meeting. Steve has contacted Kaye Kiberlein who

has agreed to do a camellia painting for our raffle. Dick Hooton has agreed to head up the plant auction and Betty Hooton has agreed to head up the silent auction. Please contact them at email bdhooton@cox.net or phone (850) 969-0001 with a list plants and other items you wish donate.



Hollywood Casino, Bay St. Louis, Mississippi. Site of the 2016 Annual Meeting of the Gulf Coast Camellia Society.

Speakers for the educational sessions and the banquet are being arranged and some great culinary experiences will be available.

Please share any ideas you might have for our meeting. I will pass them on to Steve and the board members. You can send them to jdwyer@gulftel.com. Please share any other comments, suggestions, and concerns that you have with our officers, board members and me. Any ideas about recruiting new members, educational programs, special projects, etc. be welcome.





From a Gardener's Journal

By Lynn Richardson
Brookhaven, Mississippi

THE LAZY DAYS OF SUMMER

Ah The lazy days of summer in the camellia garden. This time of year is not quite as busy as the rest of the year. There are things we need to do now, but it is more in the way of upkeep than getting blooms ready for shows. What is needed now is watering, mulching and clearing out dead bushes and planning for their replacements. Any pruning should have been done as soon as the blooming is done. Mulching is necessary all the time, but now is when we need to make sure that plants are as protected as can be from drought.

We were blessed several years ago when our REA power company was clearing their rights of way for hurricane season. Whenever they got through with certain areas on our property they asked if they could put the cuttings that were chipped up on our place. We will never need to buy mulch again and it has been so handy. The mulch is handy and out of the way and easy to load up in the truck and put in the yard. Our neighbor did the same thing and it has saved the power company a lot of time and us, too. Also money, since I always bought the good hardwood mulch.

We have been counting the casualties of deer and drought, there seem to be only two so far. I really think I should have waited 'til the plants were larger. I hate to see the plants fail to thrive, but that just means we can get some other

variety that will do better. We won't plant any more til the fall since that is the best time for us to plant. Hope to buy some good stuff at the shows.

I have been really lazy this year, did not even get geraniums to plant on the porch. Just did not get around to it. Usually I plant several flats in some old blue and white graniteware buckets. Still in their pots, of course. The buckets are pretty old. Some of them really don't have much in the way of bottoms.

We have lost one of our dear camellia friends recently. Mrs. Frank (Kay) Burns passed away last week. She was 91 years old. A truly lovely lady and much loved in the whole community. She had taught elementary school for many years and was always so gracious and kind. Mr. Frank is 96 and really trying to retire from the nursery. For a number of years he had given us a camellia to raffle off every month for a fundraiser for the club. One of our members bought all of his remaining camellias, just could not bear to see them go elsewhere.

Another of our lost friends was Oley Olesen. He was a true war hero and the epitome of the saying, "keep on keeping on." He will be missed, also.

Hope all of you have a good summer.
and plenty of rain.





CAMELLIA TRIVIA

Fourth in the “Did You Know” Series
“Camellias on Stamps”
By Ruby G. Campbell

Did you know . . . ?

That camellias have appeared on official postage stamps of nations worldwide? The first adhesive postage stamp, the “Penny Black” was issued by Great Britain in 1840 and pictured a young Queen Victoria in profile. It was printed without perforations and consequently had to be cut from the sheet with scissors in order to be used and lacked much in the way of color.



Almost as soon as stamps began to be issued, people (young and old alike) began to collect stamps and by 1860 thousands of collectors and stamp dealers were appearing around the world. As the number of subjects depicted on the stamps increased, ranging from ships, horses, birds, kings, queens and presidents, stamp collectors began to be selective in their collections. Certainly a collection of flower stamps would be a most interesting one and would certainly include some of these camellia stamps.

USA Camellia Stamps. The first camellia stamp produced in the USA was placed on sale on 2 August 1969 at Huntsville, Alabama, the state’s first temporary seat of government, commemorating the 150th anniversary of Alabama statehood. The 6-cent stamp shows the camellia, the state flower, and the yellowhammer, the state bird. Bernice Kochan of Cleveland, Ohio, produced the winning design in a contest held in Alabama.



1969 and 1982 Alabama Statehood Commemoratives



A second set was issued in 1982, this time as a 20-cent stamp. Again the stamp featured the state bird and flower, designed this time by the father and son team of Arthur and Alan Singer. Arthur created the birds, while son Alan painted the flowers.

On 23 April 1981, the US Postal Service issued four 18-cent flower stamps as a block of four: a rose, a dahlia, a lily, and a camellia - the “Betty Sheffield Supreme.” This set of Flower Commemorative stamps were the direct result of a request from then President



1981 Flower Stamps with Betty Sheffield Supreme Camellia

Jimmy Carter to the postal service the previous December. The American Camellia Society, from President Carter's home state of Georgia, had made many earlier requests for such a stamp, but each had repeatedly been turned down by the Postmaster General's Citizen Stamp Advisory Committee. First day ceremonies were held in Fort Valley, Georgia, headquarters of the ACS.

The Franklin tree or lost camellia (*Franklinia alatamaha*), once native only to Georgia, was discovered along the banks of the Altamaha River in the mid-eighteenth century and was last recorded in the wild by a nurseryman and plant collector in 1803. All known specimens today are in cultivation. John Bartram and his son William discovered the Franklin tree growing along the banks of Georgia's Altamaha River near Darien, in McIntosh County, in 1765. They named the tree in honor of their friend Benjamin Franklin and the river beside which they had found it (the species name, *alatamaha*, reflects the Bartrams' variant spelling of Altamaha). Its most striking feature is its showy two- to three-inch snow-white flowers, with clusters of golden yellow stamens in the centers. The tree flowers from late summer until frost.

This 6-cent stamp was issued 23 August 1969, in Seattle, Washington, as part of a set of four stamps showing famous plants associated with the four regions of the country. *Franklinia alatamaha* was chosen to represent the South.



In 1999 another stamp featuring the Franklinia was issued to honor John and William Bartram, American Botanists.



Foreign camellia stamps. The drabness of New Zealand's late winter garden is often relieved by a brilliant burst of camellia color. Beautiful shades of pink, white, red and occasionally yellow flowers make a spectacular sight and can signal that the worst of winter is over. Thus it is little wonder that camellias are among the most popular plants to be found in New Zealand gardens. On 2 July 1992, a series of six camellia stamps were released in New Zealand.



“Grand Finale,” a 45-cent stamp features this very large, semi-double white flower with irregular fan-shaped petals fluted at the edges and an attractive spread of crimped golden stamens radiating from the center. The variety was raised in the United States where it was first registered in 1957.

“Showa No Sakae,” an early blooming Japanese species camellia distinctive for its bright pink color and very similar to the sasanqua is featured on a 50-cent stamp.

“Sugar Dream,” an early flowering hybrid from (*Camellia reticulata* “Dream Girl” x *Camellia oleifera* “Jaune”), bred by New Zealand grower, O Blumhardt of Whangarei in 1984 is on an 80-cent stamp. This soft bloom is medium in size and features a cream center surrounded by pink petals. The plant has open upright growth.

“Night Rider” is also the product of O Blumhardt of Whangarei from 1985 and appears on a \$1.00 stamp. This unusual hybrid, from “Ruby Bells” x *Camellia japonica* “Kuro Tsubaki,” features a distinctive black-red semi-double bloom. Its foliage is also distinctive, being a dark reddish color.

“E G Waterhouse” is an Australian species camellia hybrid from *Camellia saluenensis* x *Camellia japonica*, registered in 1954. The medium sized formal double in light pink graces the \$1.50 stamp.

“Dr Clifford Parks,” a hybrid from *Camellia reticulata* “Crimson Robe” x *Camellia japonica* “Kramer's Supreme,” was registered in the USA in 1971. This large and variable semi-double to peony or anemone form camellia appears on the New Zealand \$1.80 stamp.

Neighboring Australia also has their camellia stamps like this one depicting “Hari



Withers,” a *saluenensis* seedling introduced in 1985.

When the International Camellia Society held its biennial congress in the Bailiwick of Jersey in the English Channel during March and April of 1995, Jersey issued a set of five stamps illustrating camellias grown on the island to mark the occasion. The 18 pence shows the “Captain Rawes” camellia; the 23 pence depicts “Brigadoon;” the 30 pence shows “Elsie Jury;” the 35 pence portrays “Augusto L'Gouveia Pinto;” while the 41 pence features the “Bella Romana” camellia. Stamp collectors often collect first day covers commemorating the



introduction of new stamps such as this.

Japan has produced a number of camellia stamps such as these two showing a *Camellia japonica* and a *Camellia sasanqua*.



One of the most recent issue of stamps depicting camellias is that of the Marshall Islands Postal Service which issued eight



new stamps featuring the Camellias of Yunnan, a province in southwestern China, on 22 February 2013.

China and several Southeast Asia countries have issued camellia stamps like the following examples.



China and Malaysia issued similar stamps featuring the species *c. nitidissima*.



Hong Kong pictures the species *c. granthamiana*.



North Korea simply identifies their flower as 'Camellia Japonica.'

Continental European countries such as Albania, Italy, Monaco, Poland, Portugal and Spain have also have issued camellia stamps.



Monaco's stamp shows *c. japonica* "Double Rose" which originated in England in 1987.

Poland's camellia stamp has the ever popular "Elegans" which came from England in 1831.

Perhaps you would prefer to design your own personal stamp. Zazzle.com/stamps will print your chosen image, add your photo, or include your favorite camellia as this person did, to add a special touch to your letters or invitations.



Oh, and that original "Penny Black" mentioned at the top of this article recently sold for 5 million US dollars! Stamp collecting can be a lucrative hobby, indeed.



In Memorium

BOB CHRISTIAN

Bob Leonard Christian, 83, a resident of Baton Rouge and native of Harrison, Arkansas, passed away February 2, 2016, at Our Lady of the Lake Hospital after a brief illness.

Upon graduation from Alpena High School, Bob served in the United States Coast Guard and was stationed in Alaska during the Korean Conflict. After two years patrolling the Alaskan coastline, he finished his tour of duty in New Orleans where he began his college studies at Tulane University. He later transferred to Louisiana State University and received his degree in Electrical Engineering in 1961. He was a pioneer in the Audio-Visual industry working first for N B Traylor and Associates and later Interstate School Supply, where he served as sales manager and Vice President of the AV division. He retired from Interstate Electronic Systems in 2009.

Bob was a parishioner at St. Aloysius Catholic Church for many years. He was an avid boater and member of the Lake Pontchartrain Sail & Power Squadron for which he served as an officer and member of the board.

Bob was also involved in the Baton Rouge Camellia Society and with his wife, Rebecca, worked as co-chair for the club's publicity. He enjoyed the "Wednesday Work Group" learning to graft, grow and care for the BRCS camellias grown at the LSU Burden AgCenter. He was also a member of the American Camellia Society and Gulf Coast Camellia Society.

Bob is survived by his loving wife of 37 years, Rebecca Stephens Christian; son, Kevin Christian; daughters, Cindy Clegg, Julie Christian, and Kathy Smith and husband Ronald and 15 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren. . Bob was preceded

in death by his parents, Conley and Elva Christian; sister, Sue Grisham; and brothers, Joe, Kenneth and Blake Christian. Mass of Christian Burial was held at St. Aloysius Catholic Church, Baton Rouge. Interment was at Springville Cemetery in Coushatta,

"OLE" OLSEN

Gabriel C. Olsen, 90, of Pensacola, Florida, left this earth peacefully in his sleep from heart failure on May 13, 2016 at Solaris Healthcare of Pensacola.

Our much loved PCC member, "Ole," will be greatly missed by all of us. One of Ole's many contributions to the camellia world was the camellia that he named 'Amy Doodle.'

Gabriel is survived by his son Carl and his daughter Arlene Olsen, his grandchildren Amy Olsen, Amber Joyner, Seth Joyner and nieces and nephews. Gabriel was a great father, husband, grandfather and friend to all. He will join his wife Blanche at Barrancas after nine long years to be together again with her.

Gabriel was born in Mobile, Alabama and enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in 1943 during WWII. After the war he went to and graduated from Auburn University in Engineering. In 1950, he entered the US Air Force, was a pilot in the Korean War, and spent two years straight as a pilot in the Vietnam War. He loved fishing and playing golf, and working with his Camellias, caught a lot of fish and hit a lot of golf balls !

Funeral services for Gabriel were held at the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection May 20, 2016. Gabriel was laid to rest at the Barrancas National Cemetery located on Pensacola Naval Air Station, Pensacola,



What's your Secret?

By **LeAnna Brennan**
Pensacola Camellia Club



Have you been asked this question about your prize winning camellia?

Usually it is no secret, just doing the things that you know are successful. You caught that didn't you? The "doing" part. Personally I love air layering. It's easy and doesn't require mastering a technique like grafting and the steps required for the graft to "take."

However, when it comes to successful air layering, there may be a secret or two to boost your success rate. Let's look at three secrets from the Pensacola Camellia Club who last year harvested 173 air layers to nurture and eventually sell.



LeAnna shows the roots of a successful air-layer.

Secret number one.

Use a proven technique.

The American Camellia Society has thorough directions on the website.

<https://www.americancamellias.com/care-culture-resources/propagation/air-layering>

Are you curious why the plant grows roots at the cut? Basically, it thinks you are trying to kill it, so it goes into survival mode. Survival means roots to sustain life. Air layering may be more difficult in a greenhouse because the environment is ideal and therefore harder to stress the plant into producing roots.

A couple of pointers, keep the height at 24 inches or shorter and be sure to completely scrape the green cambium layer off the exposed area. If the cambium is not removed the branch will heal instead of grow roots.



Completely remove bark and cambium layer from branch to be layered.



Treat scraped area with rooting hormone, apply a ball of unmilld sphagnum moss, seal with plastic wrap, and cover with heavy duty aluminum foil.



The finished air-layer.

Oh, and be sure to cut below the root ball when you harvest. It seems that every year someone gets ahead of themselves and cuts above the root ball.

Secret number two.

Plant the newly harvested air layers in a light potting mix.

Approximately six months after the air layer was started (and completely left alone) it will have formed so many roots that the mass feels very firm. Now is the time to harvest and pot the air layers. You can remove the foil to check the root development. They should be clearly visible in and around the sphagnum moss. If the roots are not abundant, gently check to be sure that the branch has not healed over. If it has, remove the materials and start again next year. If the roots are simply growing slowly, wrap a new piece of foil around the moss and recheck in a few more months.

Mack Thetford of the University of Florida Milton Campus recommends a coarse potting mix with a high proportion of small pine bark. This allows the tender roots to spread and grow throughout the mix without drowning.

The adage “plant it high never die, plant it low never grow” applies to the air layer also. Generally, you want about ½ inch of the root mass above the soil level.

Secret number three.

Provide a nurturing environment for your baby camellias.

The Pensacola Camellia Club houses the potted air layers for one year in a shade house before selling. The shade cloth is rated 50%-60% reduction in the amount of light penetrating the cloth. In addition to a shade house that provides protection from our hot southern sun and cold winter winds, Col. (Retired) Dick Hooton recommends consistent watering with a timed irrigation system. A rain sensor will keep you from overwatering. PCC’s system is set to irrigate every other day.



The PCC shade house has automatic watering system.

Skip Vogelsang noted that two additional practices really boost the club’s success.

1. Fertilize twice a year with a ratio of 17-11-5.
2. Spray with “All Seasons Horticultural Oil” in the fall.

“That’s all well and good but I don’t have a shade house in my back yard.” Neither do I. I do have several shady areas that serve the same function. In the winter I place a light cover over the plants for protection as needed from wind and low temperatures.

After a year of special care, your camellia will need to be gradually acclimated to its permanent location. Remember that sasanquas tend to do better in a sunnier location than japonicas.

These aren’t really secrets but rather details that may increase the success of your air layering endeavors.



A Nomenclature Puzzle

By Kenn Campbell

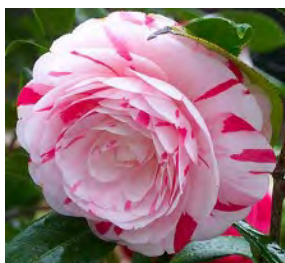
C. japonica 'La Peppermint' is a very popular, widely grown plant in the Gulf Coast Region. The Baton Rouge Camellia Society propagates 25 or more each year and never seems to have enough.

Recently I was trying to find its year of introduction so I proceeded to *Camellia Nomenclature 2014*. I didn't find it. It seems at some point the nomenclature committee had eliminated it and relegated it to the Camellia Nomenclature Supplement

'Bella Romano' and Eureka Variegated.' Sport: 'Brilliant' (South). Synonym: 'Brilliant Variegated.' Originated in the USA." Still no date of origin except that it was before 1934.

A Google search only turned up a short blurb on TV personality P. Allen Smith's website that it was "an 18th century French variety." Pretty vague.

I then called Florence Crowder to find out if she had any information on La



Three forms of 'La Peppermint' occur on the same plant. White with pink and carmine stripes is most common; Pink with Carmine stripes and solid Carmine ['Brilliant' (South)] are often found.

as "no longer in 'substantial commercial distribution.'" Shoot, at least 90% of the camellias in the Nomenclature are no longer in substantial commercial distribution. It is used primarily by judges, people entering flowers in camellia shows and private growers to help identify their plants, not as a catalog. Even in the Supplement, I found no information on its date or place of origin.

Even the International Camellia Register, which has about all that is known about a camellia, had very little about it. "*La Peppermint. (C.japonica), Rubel, 1934, Camellias, Winter Flowering Novelties for Florists. Price List No. 69, p. 3: White striped carmine to pale pink, striped carmine. Medium size. Rose form double. Bushy upright growth. Flowers early to mid-season. In America the name has been erroneously applied to 'Angela Cocchi,'*

Peppermint. She said that she had heard that it was the same as 'Mrs Abby Wilder' and gave me some e-mails of inquiries she had made about it. They are as follows:

From Florence to Janet Evans, Library Manager, McLean Library, The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society.

"Janet, The question has come up regarding whether the camellia 'Mrs. Abby Wilder' was renamed 'La Peppermint.' Do you have any info on that subject?"

From Janet Evans to Florence Crowder:

"Hello Florence, how are you? I asked Elinor to research your query. Pls see her email below."

From Elinor Goff, Senior Manager of Archives of Penn. Hort. Soc.

"According to the article 'The Florida Agricultural Experiment Station's Camellia Varietal Classification Project' by R. J.

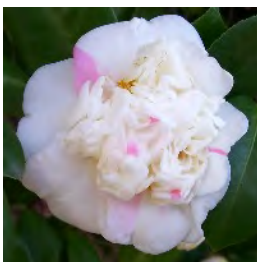
Wilmot in the American Camellia Yearbook 1946 (p. 26), ‘A variety known as Mrs. Abby Wilder current on the Gulf Coast was totally different from the original description, but one nursery seemed to have the true variety. This past season the variety La Peppermint from Louisiana was found to be the same as this Mrs. Abby Wilder.’

“The 1949 American Camellia Catalog, 220 East Bay S. Savannah, Georgia lists ‘La Peppermint’ as a synonym for ‘Mrs. Abby Wilder.’

“I have not discovered who decided the name ‘La Peppermint’ would be used now, instead of ‘Mrs. Abby Wilder.’ Hope this helps, Elinor”

So back to the Nomenclature to look up ‘Mrs. Abby Wilder.’ Yep, there were two in the Supplement: “*Mrs Abby Wilder I - Blush Ivory white with occasional stripe of light Rose, Large, formal double. Vigorous upright growth. M [midseason]. (For another form of this Cultivar, see ‘Reine des Beantes’). (U.S. 1846 - M. P. Wilder, Boston, MA).*” Well, La Peppermint is not blush ivory white, it is pure white or pink. It does not have an occasional light rose stripe, it has a bunch of carmine and pink stripes. It is not Large, it is Medium. It is not a Midseason bloomer, it is Early. So how could this possibly be confused with La Peppermint?

Let’s try ‘Mrs. Abby Wilder II’ “- *white flecked pink, medium, anemone form. Average compact upright growth. M. (U.S.)” Anemone form lets this one out.*



‘Mrs. Abby Wilder II’

If, as stated above, La Peppermint is a Louisiana variety, it is quite likely it was among the many that E. A. McIlhenny imported from Europe which were not identified. In at least one case all the labels were removed from one shipment by a

workman who was told “be sure and keep all the labels intact.” So he removed them all and put them in a box for safe keeping.

Because the flower looks like a peppermint candy, it is quite possible that in this French speaking area of Louisiana it would be called La Peppermint as a descriptive term which stayed with it when its real identity could not be proved. A couple of possibilities for its origin are ‘Boromiana,’ Italy 1859 and ‘Lavinia Maggi,’ Italy c. 1862.



C. jap. ‘Boromiana’ Italy 1859



C. japonica ‘Lavinia Maggi’ Italy c. 1862.

I do not believe that ‘La Peppermint’ is the same as ‘Mrs. Abby Wilder I’ (for which I have been unable to find a picture) and doubt that its true identity will ever be found. If that is the case, let’s keep calling it ‘La Peppermint’ which is very descriptive of the flower and which everyone seems to know. And let’s put this beautiful widely grown camellia back in the Nomenclature book.





Photo Norman Vickers

President Christi Hankins mans the ACS membership table at the Pensacola Annual Camellia Show in December.



PCC Certificate of Appreciation to Roxanne and Bill Walter for their active participation in all the Club's activities.



From left Lauren Mate and LeAnna Brennan

The rains stopped for our Saturday morning cleanup crew to pick up, prune, sweep and relocate a few of the plants for our future improvements to the UWF Camellia Garden.

AROUND THE

Photos from Pensacola Community



Photo Norman Vickers



Black Magic exhibited by Peggy Delaney almost disappears on black background.



*Baton Rouge Camellia Society contributes to The American Camellia Trust Fund
Lynn Vicknair, treasurer of the BRCS presents a check for \$2000 to ACS President Jim Campbell to further projects of the ACS, as members of the Society look on.*

REGION



*From left Ann Ferretti, Betty Allen, Norman Vickers and Jim Smith
Eighty-four Pensacola Camellia Club (PCC) members and guests enjoyed a banquet at V. Paul's Restaurant on Tuesday March 15 by celebrating the 79th year of the club and raising \$36,500 toward improvements of the UWF Camellia Garden.*

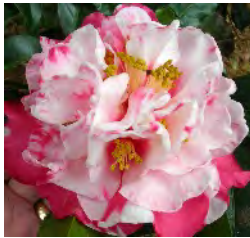
Camellia Show Feb 27th





Joe Holmes of St. Francisville, LA snapped this bloom on a plant that was mis-labeled. It appears to be La Peppermint, which occasionally blooms half and half.

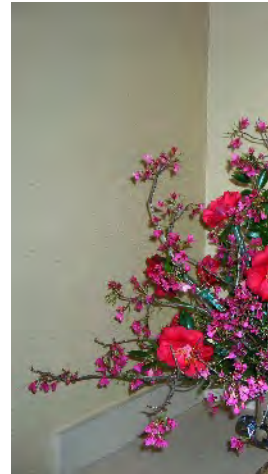
Dr. Trent James welcomes visitors to the American Camellia Society table at the Baton Rouge Show.



AROUND THE



Baton Rouge Camellia Society grafters move into the equipment barn at Burden Center to avoid the cold and rain.





Member Arlin Dease welcomes BRCs members to the annual social at his Hemingbough Conference Center.



Historical Camellia Varieties exhibited at the Baton Rouge Show are (l to r) La Peppermint,

REGION



Wayne Hiter bearing gifts for outgoing president Gerald Phares and his wife Sharen in appreciation for his sixteen years dedication and service as President of the Baton Rouge Camellia Society.

GCCS MEMBERSHIP ROSTER 2016

- American Camellia Society**, 100 Masee Lane, Fort Valley, GA 31030-9100
478-967-2358 ask@americancamellias.org
- Atlantic Coast Camellia Soc.**, P.O. Box 1087, Clinton, NC 28329-1087
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504-231-7191, ronbenko@gmail.com
- Bennett**, Paula, 2 Begonia Dr., Covington, LA 70433 985-893-7740
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- Blanchard**, Joan I., 2020 W. Romana St., Pensacola, FL 32502
850-432-4216, jblanc6000@aol.com
- Boudreaux**, Dudley & Lois, P.O. Box 146, Port Neches, TX 77651-0146
409-722-4994, dboudreaux@gt.rr.com
- Brackin**, David & Tammy, 24400 Gean Rd, Summerdale, AL 36580
251-550-9675, davidandtammybrackin@gmail.com,
- Bradley**, Susan & Allen, 123 Imperial Woods DR., Harahan, LA 70123
504-667-3026, suebrad@bellsouth.net
- Breeland**, Alfred & Renae, 154 Edgewater Dr., Biloxi, MS 39531-4709
228-388-5199, tobyfatcat@bellsouth.net
- Bright**, Fay, 907 S. Chestnut St., Hammond, LA 70403
985-542-9477, fsbright@bellsouth.net
- Broders**, Jr., Leo E., 543 Seyburn Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70808-5562
225-766-3972, leoerj@bellsouth.net
- Brodie**, Rose Anne, 145 Crape Myrtle Rd., Covington, LA, 70433 985-892-6246
- Brown**, Leo, 8600 Tutwiler Ln., Mobile, AL 36619
251-633-7279, lbro40@aol.com
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www.americancamellias.org

Atlantic Coast Camellia Society

www.atlanticcoastcamelliasociety.org

Baton Rouge Camellia Society

www.facebook.com/brcamellias

Birmingham Camellia Society

www.birminghamcamellias.com

Brookhaven Camellia Society

www.homerrichardson.com/camellia

Camellia Society of North Florida

www.atlanticcoastcamelliasociety.com/Camellia_Society_North_Fla.html

Coushatta Camellia Society, Conroe, TX

www.coushattacamelliasociety.org

Fort Walton Beach Camellia Society

www.facebook.com/FWBCamelliaSociety

Gainesville (Florida) Camellia Society

www.afn.org/-camellia/

Gulf Coast Camellia Society

www.gulfcoastcamellias.org

Mississippi Gulf Coast Camellia Society

www.facebook.com/Mississippi_Gulf_Coast_Camellia_Society

Mobile Camellia Society

www.mobilecamellia.org

Northshore Camellia Society

www.northshorecamelliasociety.org

Pensacola Camellia Club

www.pensacolacamelliaclub.com

Valdosta Camellia Society

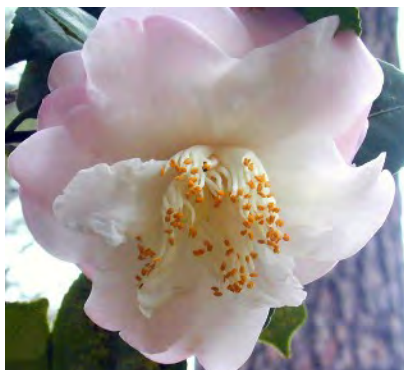
www.atlanticcoastcamelliasociety.org/assets/pdf/Valdosta%20Newsletters%20-%202013-2014.pdf (Awe heck - just google it)

(The Impossible) Camellia Quiz

Many camellia varieties seem to look the same. Can you name these look-alikes?

If you get three right you win the job of editor of the Camellia Quiz.

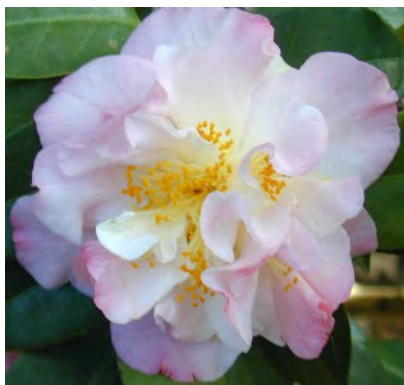
Answers on page 29.



#1



#2



#3



#4



#5



#6

In the Summer Garden

By Art Landry, Baton Rouge, LA



The summer months of growing camellias may not be as exciting or as much fun as the fall, winter and early spring when they are blooming, but care of the plants during the summer is equally important. Normally the biggest concern is that the plants get enough water during dry periods. The plants need one inch (1") of water each week that it does not rain to thrive and container plants need their water several times a week.

Spot spraying for pests and diseases can be done as required during the summer months. Don't spray with oil emulsion at full concentration during the heat of summer as damage to the foliage could occur. Use about half normal mixing ratio. Sprays other than oil should be safe to use. Neem oil is effective in preventing pests and should be used carefully as other oil sprays. Neem Oil is now the active ingredient in "Triple Action" as well as several rose sprays.

Be careful not to over-fertilize camellia plants, especially in late summer. Wait until newly planted camellias are established for a year before fertilizing using a time release formula with trace elements like Growers Supreme or Nursery Special. After plants are established and 3-4 feet tall, you can reduce the fertilizer or eliminate altogether if the plants are kept well mulched each year. The decaying mulch will provide enough nutrients for the plant to thrive, especially if the plant is pruned every year. Plants grown in containers need fertilizer each month or so, since the nutrients will leach from the container with each watering. Use a time release formula with trace elements to reduce the frequency and

work involved as well as provide a more constant feeding.

Start disbudding as soon as the flower buds are easily discernable from the growth buds. Carefully pinch off all but one flower bud on each stem to help get better and larger blooms. While disbudding, bring along your clippers and trim off any weak or dead branches as you go along. Minor pruning to adjust the shape of the plant can also be done. Try to keep your clippers as clean as you can to avoid spreading dieback, which always seems to be around. Pruning paint, available in a convenient spray can, can be sprayed on the larger wounds for protection against fungal infections.

Pick seedpods before they crack completely open (usually August) to avoid losing seed or having them dry out. Generally, the seedpods turn a lighter green and show signs of the pod preparing to split some time before they actually split. Once picked the pods will split open in a couple of days and the seed may be planted at that time.

The summer months of July and August are good for air-layering and rooting cuttings of camellias. See separate air layering articles this issue.

A simple method for a few cuttings. Fill a 1 or 2 gal pot with the rooting medium and insert cuttings into medium. Water thoroughly and after draining place the pot with cuttings into a large plastic bag such as a dry cleaning wrapper and tie tightly. Make sure it has no holes. Place in a shady spot until cuttings are rooted, then pot into 6" pots.



Editor's Notes

By Kenn Campbell, Baton Rouge, LA
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My camellias are looking good so far this year. We have had plenty of rain up through May. But that may change any day now so be sure your hoses, sprinklers and drip systems are in good working order. Repair or replace any hoses that have holes or bad fittings. I have found that the plastic clamps that come with repair fittings just don't work very well. I found a bag of stainless steel hose clamps at Harbor Freight at a good price and use them now when making repairs.



Plastic hose repair clamp -NO



Stainless steel hose clamp - YES



This 'Grace Albritton Starfire' has been growing in the ground about four years and you can see the roots. Yet it seems to be thriving. I usually keep the roots covered with mulch, but the robins keep scratching the mulch away looking for worms.

Many people have mentioned to me that they worry about not planting their camellias deep enough when we advise them to plant them 6 inches or more above the native soil line. I remind them of a couple of sayings that the old timers around here used to reply. "Plant them low and they won't grow. Plant them high and they won't die." The other was, "If you can see the roots the plants are happy." The following picture seems to bear them out.



Grace Albritton Starfire

Camellia Quiz Answers

1. 'Allie Blue' 1964 Dr. J. M. Habel, Suffolk, VA
2. 'China Doll' 1958 Shackelford, Albany, GA
3. 'Erin Farmer' 1962 Mr./Mrs. H. E. Ashby, Charleston, SC
4. 'Omega' 1965 Hodie Wilson, Hammond, LA
5. 'Scentuous' 1981 J. Finlay, New Zealand
6. 'Nina Avery' 1949 McIlhenny, Avery Island, LA

Gulf Coast Camellia Society

Invitation to Join



C. japonica "Adam Grant" 2010, by Marion Grant Hall, Dothan, AL



C. reticulata "Adrienne Boueres" 2013, by Howard and Mary Rhodes, Tallahassee, FL



C. japonica "Man Size" 1961, by Hodie Wilson, Hammond, LA



C. japonica "Charlotte Bradford" 1950, by Bradford Nursery, Ocean Springs, MS

The Gulf Coast Camellia Society was organized in 1962 for the purpose of extending appreciation and enjoyment of camellias. The Society strives to provide information to its members about all aspects of the care and culture of camellia plants as well as the exhibiting and showing of camellia blooms. The Society also serves as a forum for members to share and exchange information and experiences with other members.

Annual dues for membership in the Gulf Coast Camellia Society are \$10.00 for individuals and \$12.00 for couples. Membership runs from October through September each year. Life Membership is available at \$200 for individual and \$240 for couples. Included with membership are four issues of *The Gulf Coast Camellian* which contains articles on all aspects of camellia culture as well as serving as an exchange of news and information between and for members. *The Camellian* also contains reports of the Society's operations, minutes of meetings, financial reports, show news, and other subjects of interest to our members.

To join, send your name, address, phone number, and e-mail address, along with your payment to ***Gulf Coast Camellia Society, in care of Michael Ruth, 726 High Plains Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70810***

Name: _____

Address: _____

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Camellia japonica 'Variegata' painting by Chandler 1831. One of the first double Camellias that was brought from China to England. It was imported, along with 'Alba Plena,' in 1792 by Captain Conner, of the Carnatic, East Indiaman, for John Slater of India House.