

Camellia Times

camelliasocietyofsacramento.org


PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

President's Message	1
Executive Board	2
Advisory Board	2
Meeting Dates	3
Plant Raffle/ Special Raffle	3
This Month's Presentation	4
Upcoming Events/ Meeting Dates	4
Sweet Treat Recipe	5
Photo Contest	5
2025-2026 Show Dates	6
Membership Dues	6
Camellia History	7
Camellia Culture	7

Happy New Year Camella Friends!

We hope that your holidays were wonderful and that 2026 is even better! We have lots of fun things coming up this next meeting! LuAnn, Julie, and Don will be getting you ready for showing your blooms at our show, and hopefully other shows! We will review everything you need to do to enter your beautiful blooms in the upcoming shows. We hope you try this year, as once you have entered, you are hooked!! We have so much fun because camellia friends are the best!

I will be bringing lots of sign-up sheets for all the different jobs that we will need filled for our March show. It seems early still, but time will fly and our show will be here before we know it. Friday March 6th we will be setting up, and with many hands, it will get done quickly. Saturday, March 7th is **show time**. Entering your blooms, helping others enter their blooms, helping with the different tables/booths we will need manned after the doors are open and enjoying the fun of camellias!! We will have donuts and coffee available in the morning (donations the day of appreciated) and Panda Express lunch will be available for purchase to all who want to eat at the show without leaving the building.

A new element to this year's show - Sunday, March 8th we will have speakers from the Ikebana International Sacramento Chapter who will be demonstrating how to arrange flowers and we are working to secure gardening experts who will also do presentations throughout the day. Stayed tuned for more information on this exciting addition. The Camellia Coffee Roasters will again join us on Sunday morning with coffee, hot chocolate and pastries to purchase so all of us can be caffeinated and ready to go and the watercolorists, headed up by David Peterson, will be painting camellias.

So be sure to come to the January meeting to join us in preparing for the show. We are excited it is right around the corner and that we have so many members who are hopefully just as excited in entering blooms this year!!

We were hoping the Nuccio's would open our show, but Jim says they will still be open! I'll keep bugging him!

See you January 25th!

Julie



CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF SACRAMENTO 2025-2026 EXECUTIVE BOARD

President	Julie Vierra	916-371-2174
1st Vice President	LuAnn Lantsberger	916-729-9892
2nd Vice President	Bill Kitagawa	916-591-5654
Recording Secretary	Carol Schanz	916-296-2993
Corresponding Secretary	LuAnn Lantsberger	916-729-9892
Treasurer	Rosemary Cooper	559-779-1197
Historian	Joan Lesmeister	916-206-9104
NCCC Representative	Barbara Smith	916-642-2957

2025-2026 ADVISORY BOARD

Show Chairpersons	Julie Vierra (also Chair of Judges), Don Lesmeister & LuAnn Lantsberger
ACS/ICS Representative	Justin Bergamini/Carol Schanz
ACS Pacific Regional Vice President	Carol Schanz
Education, Research & Science	Don Lesmeister
Greeter	Darlene Fong
Hospitality	Linda Grant & Sydney Donnell Morris
Meeting Bloom Display	Julie Vierra
Membership	LuAnn Lantsberger
New Member Liaison	Tanis Toland
Nominating Committee Chair	Rosemary Cooper
Past President	Carol Schanz
Community Outreach/Culture Liaisons	Julie Vierra & LuAnn Lantsberger
Sunshine	Jackie Randall
Ways & Means	Julie Vierra, Rosemary Cooper, LuAnn Lantsberger, Joan Lesmeister, Carol Schanz
Website	Rosemary Cooper, LuAnn Lantsberger and Julie Vierra

General Meeting Dates for 2025/26

All meetings are on the following Sundays at 2 p.m.



October 26th, 2025
November 16th, 2025*
December 14th, 2025*
January 25th, 2026

February 22nd, 2026
March 22nd, 2026

*(a week earlier because of holidays)

MEETING LOCATION: Eskaton Land Park
3225 Freeport Blvd, Sacramento

LUNCHEON: Sunday, April 26th (Sierra 2 - Curtis Hall)

THIS MONTH'S PLANT RAFFLE - Bill Kitagawa

- **Circus** - Japonica. Large/very large, pink with red stripes and large yellow stamens
- **Hulyn Smith** - Hybrid. Medium/large, soft pink
- **Mini Mint** - Hybrid. Small white, heavily striped



SPECIAL RAFFLE - Valentine's Day - Reticulata. Pink with center petals shaped like a rosebud.

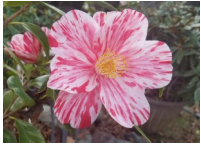
SPECIAL RAFFLE!! - only 40 tickets will be sold

We are excited to share a special raffle with our society. Bill Kitagawa has graciously donated a bottle of 2018 E. Guigal Cote Rotie La Mouline wine (valued at \$400) for a special raffle. This boutique and collectible French wine is 90% Syrah and 10% Viognier and one review states "the 2018 is a blockbuster of a wine, offering full-bodied aromas and flavors of black raspberries, cassis, spring flowers, espresso and violets. Coming from a steep, terraced warmer terrain, and fermented with 10% viognier, it is exotic, seamless as well as approachable".

Raffle tickets for this wine will be available at our January meeting. Tickets are \$10 each, with a limit of 40 tickets sold.

As with our regular plant raffle and silent auctions, funds from this raffle will be used to defer the cost of the room rental for our show.





January Presentation - Preparing for a Camellia Show

Whether you have a backyard full of camellias or just a few, this presentation will help kickstart everyone to be extra ready for this camellia season. From what to do a week prior to a show to what to bring to a show (in addition to your blooms).

This presentation will be filled with helpful information, as well as humor, to clarify how easy it really is to grow, cut, transport and enter blooms in a camellia show.



DATE	PROGRAM	SPEAKER
October 26, 2025	Winning Blooms of the 2025 Camellia Season	Justin Bergamini
November 16, 2025	Garden Myths and Q&A	Marlene Simon
December 14, 2025	Gift Exchange & Desserts!	Start show prep & Jackie will review Photo Contest rules
January 25, 2026	Preparing the for Show w/Q&A. From how to prepare blooms while still on the plant to transporting them to the show (and everything in between!!)	Julie Vierra, LuAnn Lantsberger & Don Lesmeister
February 22, 2026	Grafting	Justin Bergamini
March 22, 2026	End of year ice cream social and fancy desserts	Review of show
April 26, 2026	Luncheon, Installation of Officers, Silent Auction, Plant Raffle, Great Friends, Laughs	Fun for all!

Peanut Butter–Oat Energy Cups

Ingredients

- 1½ cups old-fashioned rolled oats
- ¾ cup crunchy natural peanut butter
- ½ cup unsweetened almond milk
- 3 tablespoons chia seeds
- 2 teaspoons honey
- 1½ teaspoons vanilla extract
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ½ cup dark chocolate chips (53% cacao)
- 1 tablespoon unrefined coconut oil
- ¾ teaspoon flaky sea salt

*A healthier snack
alternative for those
who made New Year's
resolutions!*



Directions

- Line the cups of a 24-cup mini muffin tin with silicone or paper liners.
- Combine 1½ cups oats, ¾ cup peanut butter, ½ cup almond milk, 3 tablespoons chia seeds, 2 teaspoons honey, 1½ teaspoons vanilla and ¼ teaspoon salt in a large bowl; stir to mix well. Divide the mixture among the prepared cups, about 1 heaping tablespoon each; firmly press the mixture into the cup bottoms.
- Combine ½ cup chocolate chips and 1 tablespoon coconut oil in a small microwave-safe bowl. Microwave on High until the oil is melted and the chocolate chips have softened, 45 to 60 seconds. Stir until the chocolate chips are completely melted and incorporated into the oil.
- Spoon a scant teaspoon of the melted chocolate mixture over the oat mixture in each cup, spreading to cover the entire surface. Refrigerate, uncovered, until the chocolate layer is beginning to set (the surface will begin to lose its shine and become dull), 10 to 15 minutes. Sprinkle with ¾ teaspoon flaky salt; refrigerate, uncovered, until chilled and the layers are fully set, about 1 hour.

2026 Photography Contest - March 7th, 2026

Just a reminder to take pictures of those blooming camellias for this year's photography contest. The categories are:

- 3 Camellias of the same kind
- Camellia(s) with children
- Camellia(s) with pets
- Camellia(s) in a patriotic setting
- Camellia(s) with food



**UPCOMING SHOW DATES—
2026 NORTHERN CALIFORNIA SHOW SCHEDULE**

February 21st	Mini-Show Desco Plaza III 3675 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Lafayette Contact: Justin Bergamini, 707-637-7051
March 7th & 8th	Camellia Society of Sacramento Show Scottish Rite Temple 6151 H Street, Sacramento Contact: Don Lesmeister, 916-742-3443 or Julie Vierra, 916-371-2174, 916-812-3202
March 14th & 15th	Northern California Camellia Society Show St. Andrews Celebration Center, 1601 Mary Drive, Pleasant Hill Contact: Justin Bergamini, 707-637-7051
March 21st	Camellia Society of Modesto Show Location Modesto Junior College Contact: Cindy Cook, 209-484-1369

Just a reminder that membership dues for 2025/26 are now past due. If you have not yet paid your 25/26 dues, please send your check to: LuAnn Lantsberger, 2960 Brenda Way, West Sacramento, CA 95691 or see her at the January meeting.

- \$25 - Regular Membership
- \$30 - Sustaining Membership
- An additional \$5 will be required if you request the newsletter be sent via U.S. mail to cover the cost of printing and postage.



Thank you for supporting our society!

CAMELLIA HISTORY - Joan Lesmeister

I was wondering what our Camellia Society was looking forward to 10 years ago. I found a January 2016 newsletter and like this year, we were preparing for our March camellia show! We already had Will C Wood students volunteering. I remember them . . . so young, energetic, and very fun. 10 years later, no students, but we're still signing up volunteers who are energetic, some young, and some young at heart and very fun!

Let's volunteer to help, have some fun, and have a really great show in 2026. We all have some beautiful blooms and it's wonderful to share with others, and maybe win a ribbon or a trophy?



CAMELLIA CULTURE - Don Lesmeister

The Camellia Show season will begin in Southern California later this month. However, in Northern California, except for species plants like sasanquas, most camellias currently are still in their dormant status and not blooming, so this is an excellent time to move your containerized plants to another size. It is suggested, that unless your plant is getting over crowded, (pot bound) you can move them up in stages, 1 gallon to 2 gallon, 2 to 5 gallon, 5 to 15 gallon, every 3 or 4 years. If your plants are in the ground, and around 4-5 foot tall or less, you can still move them. If your plant is in the ground, and is an older plant, 10 foot tall, it is best to wait until next Fall. If you have no choice, be very careful with the top roots (feeder roots).

It is getting a little late to do any fertilizing such as 0-10-10 or 2-10-10. And same with gibbing. You can still disbud if necessary and you can prune your plants if needed. Now is an excellent time to move your containerized plants to a more covered location if needed and possible. PLEASE pick up any spent blooms and put them in the garbage cans (not green waste cans) to avoid petal blight.

The nurseries will be getting their new camellia stock, so watch their advertisements. It is difficult finding some plants that have show flowers, but your local camellia societies should have some available.



Camellia Society of Sacramento
C/O LuAnn Lantsberger
2960 Brenda Way
West Sacramento, CA 95691