

# Camellia Times

www.camelliasocietyofsacramento.org



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## Meeting Date

To be announced

## Elks Lodge #6, Emblem Room

6446 Riverside Blvd  
Sacramento, CA 95831

## President's Message



Hello Camellia Friends!

Well, I thought 2021 would start out a little better. That storm we had in late January was tough on us. We were out of power Tuesday night to Friday afternoon. I guess we were luckier than some...we have a big fireplace, a gas range and a gas water heater.

Still, it was so cold. We had to go outside to get warm!! We went to our neighbors and checked on them to be sure our court neighbors were okay. So important to know your neighbors.

Hopefully, February will be better! I see camellias popping up all over my area! They are so pretty and a bright spot in these times. Feeling like a mole...not going out except to get groceries and maybe a sneak out to just get some fresh air and enjoy the outdoors. I hope you are all making sure your containers are well watered and blooms are picked up from below your camellias. Twist off any buds that are pointing up and keep one that is looking down. I've been taking pictures of my camellias and attaching them on Facebook and also bringing them in my house. I haven't had enough to bring a box to Raley's/Wells Fargo yet. Bring them to your hairdressers, nail person...we need to keep people interested in our favorite flower!

It is starting to look up. Some of our members have gotten their first COVID shots. My daughter and son-in-law both had COVID down in Sonora, but are fine now. They just felt like a mild flu for a few days. So maybe a light at the end of the tunnel? Sure hope so.

So, no shows this year. We will keep you posted if we hear anything from other societies. NorCal Society is having a competition of blooms that we are taking pictures of in our yards. They are posting them on their newsletter. You get to vote on your favorite ones. Gets you outside and in your yard! I sure do miss our meetings, traveling shows, friends and the competition! So keep those camellias healthy, keep *yourselves* well and see you soon! Hang in there!  
Julie

## Wellness Corner:

Jackie Randall, our longtime member and friend, has been diagnosed with breast cancer. I asked her if I could mention it in our newsletter and she said it would be okay. She'd love to hear from you. She loves getting cards and notes! Her address is:

1156 Rose Tree Way, Sacramento, CA 95831

Gary Schanz had knee replacement surgery on February 1. He is recovering.



## Northern California Camellia Council by Joan Lesmeister

The latest news to share came from Diana & John Mendoza that Santa Clara won't be having any meetings or shows until further notice. It really makes us all so sad!! San Francisco/Peninsula just had another ZOOM meeting for their monthly meeting! They're getting quite experienced at ZOOMING!  
Don & I are missing all of you and hoping and praying for everyone's good health! We get our 2nd COVID vaccine in a few weeks, and are actually looking forward to it - on our 57th Wedding Anniversary, a good way to celebrate all these years of wedded bliss!  
One bit of exciting news is that Don has been sharing his many years of camellia knowledge with a young new camellia friend..Nick Tchan! He lives near Nuccio's & on one of his visits, they suggested he chat with Don. Wonderful for Don as he has been able to spend so much time on the phone with Nick..the last few days the conversation has been centering on grafting. Brad King, Tom & Jim Nuccio & Don have really hooked Nick.....he's grafting this weekend!  
SO I'm thinking maybe all of us can find a new friend and share our camellia knowledge & by next year we will have doubled our meeting & show attendances...wouldn't that be fun to see! (continue page 3)

And, we are happy to announce that Nick Tchan is our newest Sacramento Camellia Society member! We are very happy to have you join us Nick, & looking forward to having you attend a meeting and our camellia show...soon...we hope!

Take care, be well, virtual hugs, Joan Lesmeister, NCCC Rep.

## **Camellia Culture by Don Lesmeister**

Boy, this virus thing has sure shaken up the Camellia world. Normally, the Southern states have had Camellia Shows each week, beginning the middle of October...thus far, there have only been two reporting ACS shows both in Florida. And, the prospect of any Camellia Shows in California are about the same. However, some Camellia Societies are considering local Society shows only. Hopefully we will be able to do the same. Because of this, most Camellia Societies in this region probably won't have many plants for sale. So watch for the few nurseries still existing for Camellia plant availability. The good news is that we still have our blooms to look forward to seeing. Camellia plants are currently dormant, so now until they have completed this cycle is a good time for transplanting to and from the ground.

You can also do some re-containerizing (formally known as re-potting), pruning and other activities...I re-containerizing, I use a loose mix, about 1 part of Perlite, 2 parts pathway bark, 2 parts small bark, and 4 parts fir potting soil, try to stay away from redwood or pine in the main mix. When you move your plants to a larger container, try to keep the new planter about 3-4 inches maximum larger. For example, a gallon plant to a 2 gallon sized container, a 2 gallon container to a 5 gallon container, etc. If you move a 1 gallon container plant into something like an 18" Redwood container, you may not have any blooms for 1-2 years. I usually have a tag to identify what year the plant has been re-containerized so the plant does not have to be inspected yearly. For example, you can use a different color tag for 2021, 2022, etc. Generally, a plant needs to be re-containerized every 4 years or so. This identification can save you a lot of time and effort. Now is also a good time to thin out the dead branches and do some minor pruning. Lastly, February is the prime month to do your grafting.

The Culture Guy, DON

## **American Camellia Society (ACS) News by Carol Schanz**

Massie Lane in Georgia, is a magnificent camellia garden and home of American Camellia Society, (ACS), Check out their website. There is a library of all registered camellias with pictures and descriptions. It is a wonderful resource. Bits of News: The ACS has over 2,283 members in the United States and 57 members in 6 other countries.

The ACS website has many valuable resources containing culture information, diseases, pruning, grafting, growing from seed to name a few.

[www.americancamellias.com](http://www.americancamellias.com)

*2021 Camellia Button Contest*

*We had four entrants this year. All wonderful artists! Our winner is Tatiana Lopatin. She lives in Arkansas. She is the sister of Tamara Lopatin, who won our contest back in 2010.*

*Tatiana is a recent college graduate and a newlywed! Art wasn't her major, but it is her passion. She has been drawing since she was three years old. She also loves to hike, hang with friends and family, and read. Congratulations to our 2021 winner! She can't wait to enter next year!*



**BEAUTIFUL BLOOMS**

We will be featuring blooms from member's gardens each month.



Nuccio's Bella Rosa Var. grown by Gary Schanz

## **EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS 2020-2021**

President	Julie Vierra	916 371 2174
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Don Lesmeister	916 967 8420
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Bill Kitagawa	916 481 5654
Recording Secretary	Irene Moore	916 455 7629
Corresponding Secretary	Carol Schanz	916 447 1969
Treasurer	Rosemary Spasovich	1 559 779 1197
Historian	Lana Paulhamus	916 372 5117
NCCC Rep.	Joan Lesmeister	916 967 8420

*These are provisional positions because of no meetings, the membership has not been able to vote or have these officers officially installed.*

## **Advisory Board 2020-2021**

ACS/ICS Representative	Don Bergamini
Education, Research & Science	Don Lesmeister
Hospitality	Rosemary Spasovich
Membership	LuAnn Lantsberger
Nominating Committee Chair	Rosemary Spasovich
ACS Pacific Regional Vice President	Carol Schanz
Past President	Carol Schanz
Show Chairmen	Don Lesmeister & Julie Vierra
Sunshine	Jackie Randall
Ways & Means	Julie Vierra, Joan Lesmeister, Carol Schanz
Website	Julie Vierra & Carol Schanz

**Camellia Plants for Sale**

Alba Plena	White. Medium, formal double. E-M
Barbara Goff	Pink. Very large. Semi-double, rose-form. Medium upright. E-L Reticulata
Bonanza	Deep Red. Large, semi-peony form. Medium, low growth. E. Sasanqua
Cabernet	Small formal. Rich burgundy red. Medium, bushy, upright growth. L.
Carter's Sunburst	Pale pink striped or marked deeper pink. Large to very large, semi-double to peony form to formal double. E-L.
Chris Bergamini	Anemone form miniature to small bloom that is white with varying shades of red and pink stripes. M
Debutante	Light pink. Medium, full peony form. E-M
Dr Clifford Parks (2)	Red with orange cast. Very large, semidouble to anemone form loose or full peonyform. Vigorous growth. M
E.G. Waterhouse	Light pink. Medium, formal double. M-L
Ferris Wheel	White, aspect red striped. Large. Semidouble, peony form. Upright. E-L
Francie L (2)	Rose pink. Very large. Semidouble with irregular, upright, wavy petals. M-L
Frank Houser Var	The varigated form of Frank Houser. Rose red mottled white. M
Frank Houser	Very large. Deep glowing pink to red with darker veins; white anthers and filaments. Vigorous, upright growth; dark green foliage. E-M
Freedom Bell	Bright red. Small to medium, bell shaped semidouble. E-M Hybrid
Grand Prix	Very large, brilliant red, irregular semi-double. Excellent texture. Vigorous, upright growth. M.
High Fragrance (2)	Pale ivory pink with deeper pink shades at edge. Medium, peony form. Vigorous, open growth. M-L Fragrant
Holly Bright	Glossy salmon red. Petals creped. Large semi-double. Compact, upright and bushy with unique crinkled holly-like foliage. M
Julius Nuccio	Large whorls of intense crimson red petals surrounding yellow centers form semi-double
Katie Var(3)	Salmon rose pink blotched white. Very Large semidouble. E-M

Lucky Star	Rich orchid pink, semi-double. Medium. Unusual shape due to offset rows of narrow, upward curved petals. Bushy, upright growth. M-L.
Moonlight Bay	Pale orchid pink. Very large semi-double, somewhat tubular in form. Extremely strong, upright and full growth. Long blooming season. E-L
Night Rider (2)	Small, very dark black red. Semi-double. Very attractive plant with new growth deep maroon. Upright, somewhat loose growth. M.
Nuccio's Bella Rossa-var (2)	Variegated red mottled white form of Nuccio's Bella Rossa.
Nuccio's Carousel	Large semi-double tubular form. Soft pink toned deeper at edge. Medium upright growth. E-L.
Nuccio's Jewel	White shaded to coral pink on edges. Medium, loose to full peony. Slow, bushy growth. M-L
Red Hots	Medium, tubular, brilliant red semi-double. Pointed petals. Dark green foliage. Medium, compact, upright, somewhat columnar growth. E-M
Rudy's Magnoliaeflora	Brilliant rose pink. Sport of Magnoliaeflora. Medium. Semi-double. Compact, bushy growth. Has all of the fine qualities of its parent. M
Ruta Hagmann (2)	Very light coral pink loose peony. Very large. M
Senritsu Ko	Small to medium formal to rose form. Beautiful light-yellow toned peach pink near edges. moderately fast, upright open growth. M Hybrid
ShockWave	Medium very brilliant deep bluish pink with white filaments and yellow anthers. Upright, open growth. M-L
Sue Kendall Var	Miniature pink with white blotched rose-form double. Sport of Sue Kendall. Vigorous upright growth. E-L
Swan Lake	Large white, formal double to full peony. Medium, upright growth. M-L

Contact Bill Kitagawa, 916 591-5654, for more information.(leave a message)

## DUES NEWS

Because of increased operating expenses for the Camellia Society of Sacramento, it is necessary to increase our dues. Annual Regular membership, \$20; Membership with USPS newsletter, \$25; and Sustaining membership, \$30.

**Send dues to: LuAnn Lantsberger, 2960 Brenda Way, West Sac, CA, 95691**

## Newsletter Information

Thanks to all who have contributed articles to this newsletter. Remember, you can see previous newsletters on our website, [www.camelliasocietyofsacramento.org](http://www.camelliasocietyofsacramento.org)



**Articles for the Camellia Times** are due by the board meeting date, the first Tuesday of every month. If you have questions or ideas, please call or email me. Carol Schanz, 916 447-1969 or [carolschanz@sbcglobal.net](mailto:carolschanz@sbcglobal.net)

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