



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

PETAL PUSHERS NEWSLETTER

May 2024

Inspirational Thought: *"Don't ever be ashamed of loving the strange things that make your weird little heart happy."* ~Elizabeth Gilbert

CALENDAR FOR YEAR 2023-24

May 4 - DeVino's 2PM **SATURDAY**

July 6- Christmas in July **SATURDAY**

NCCS AND ACS DUES FOR 2024

NCCS + ACS - \$10 + \$30 = \$40 1 Year

NCCS + ACS - \$20 + \$58 = \$78 2 Years

NCCS + ACS - \$30 + \$80 = \$110 3 Years

NCCS ONLY - \$10

Send to NCCS
c/o Jay Humiston
754 Palm Ave
Martinez, CA 94553



MEETING FOR THIS MONTH:

Our end of season luncheon will be on Saturday, May 4th at 2PM at Devino's.

DeVino's Location: 2221 Morello Ave, Pleasant Hill, CA

WHAT TO DO THIS MONTH:

Hydrate those plants at least once a week. Remember fertilizing is 3 times a year-April, July and September.



MEETING MINUTES FROM March 2024:

A HUGE **thank you** to Virginia Keen for her amazing bonsai presentation. Fabulous job!



Voted to change our NCCS show date for 2025 to the weekend of March 21-23rd. Discussed topics of discussion/presentations for next year's meetings. Suggestions were a field trip to a nearby garden, a how-to prepare for a show for our new comers, and Don Lesmeister volunteered to do a grafting lecture. We made \$36 on the raffle. Raffle winners were Nancy Samelson and Julie Vierra.

Events in the Area:

Fort Bragg: John Druecker Memorial Rhododendron Show and Plant Sale May 6-7, 2023
18220 N. Highway 1, Fort Bragg, CA

Vallejo: Bay Area Butterfly Festival Sunday, May 19, 2024 10-5pm. Vallejo People's Garden 1055 Azuar Drive, Vallejo, CA

FUN MAY FACTS:

Blue jeans were invented in May of 1873

In any given year, no month ever begins or ends on the same day of the week as May does.

Empire State Building opened in May 1931.

Star Wars Day..."May the Fourth Be With You."



Have a Bee-u-tiful Week!

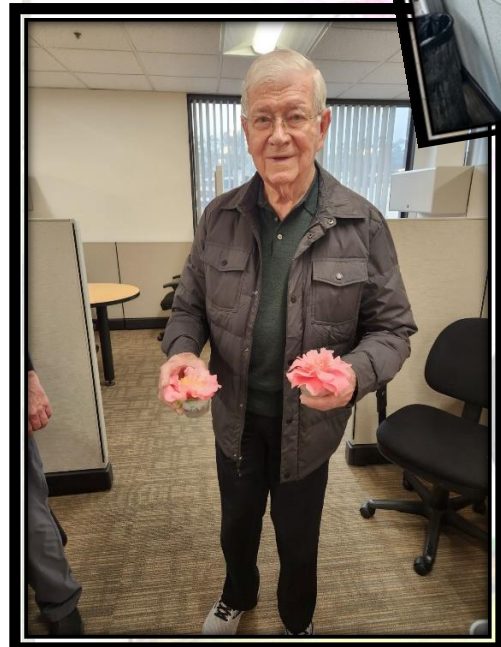
ZingerBug.com

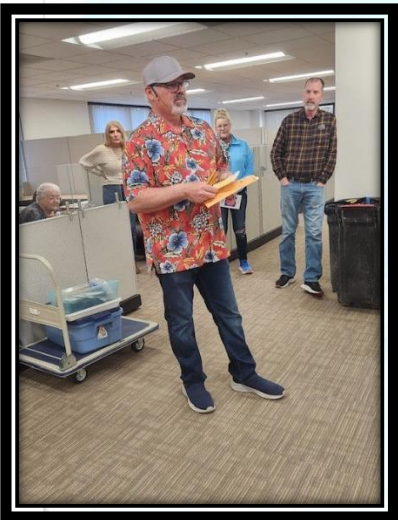


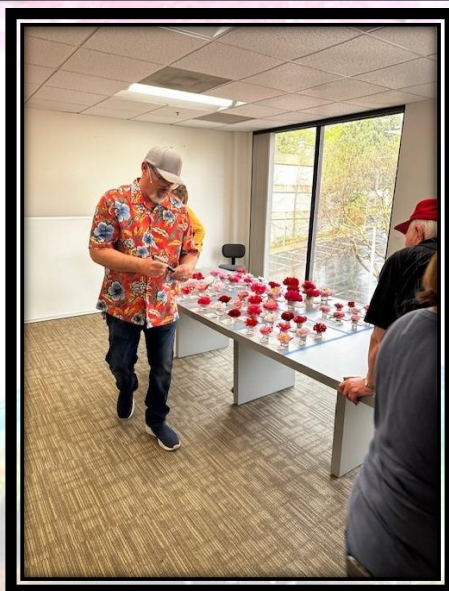
SHARING PHOTOS AND NEWS:

Want to share news or photos with the camellia society? Feel free to send us a picture or share news with us and we will put it in the newsletter. You're your information or photo to Joellen Bergamini at peanut_71@yahoo.com.

MINI SHOW MARCH 23, 2024







BEST OF SHOW:

Congratulations to LuAnn Lantsberger for winning her first Best of Show award. Winning bloom was Lilette Witman, beautiful bloom.



RECIPES FOR THE MONTH:

Strawberry Pound Cake

- Baking spray with flour
- 1/2 cup (4 oz.) unsalted butter, softened
- 4 oz. cream cheese, at room temperature
- 1 1/2 cups granulated sugar
- 3 large eggs
- 1 1/2 cups (about 6 3/8 oz.) all-purpose flour, sifted
- 3/4 tsp. kosher salt
- 1/2 tsp. baking powder
- 3/4 cup mashed fresh strawberries (about 8 oz.), divided
- 1 Tbsp. grated lemon zest (from 2 lemons)
- 1 1/2 cups powdered sugar
- Fresh strawberries, for garnish



Prepare pan and oven:

Preheat oven to 325°F. Grease a 9- x 5-inch loaf pan with baking spray with flour. Line pan with Cream butter, cream cheese, and sugar:

Beat butter in a stand mixer fitted with a paddle attachment on medium-high speed until smooth, about 1 minute. Add cream cheese, and beat on medium-high speed until smooth, about 1 minute, stopping to scrape sides of bowl as needed. Add sugar, and beat on medium-high speed until fluffy, 3 to 4 minutes, stopping to scrape sides of bowl as needed. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition.

Use parchment paper; coat parchment with baking spray with flour.

Stir together sifted flour, salt, and baking powder in a medium bowl.

With mixer on low speed, gradually add flour mixture alternately with 1/2 cup of the mashed strawberries, beginning and ending with flour mixture. Stir in lemon zest. Pour batter into prepared pan.

Bake in preheated oven until a wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean, 65 to 75 minutes. Let cool in pan 10 minutes. Remove cake from pan, and cool completely on a wire rack, about 1 hour.

Drizzle over cooled cake. Mix together powdered sugar and remaining 1/4 cup mashed strawberries until smooth. Garnish with fresh strawberries.

CHECK OUT THESE WEBSITES:

www.nucciosnurseries.com

www.americancamellias.org

www.ruthbancroftgarden.org

OUR WEBSITE: www.northerncaliforniacamelliasociety.com

Don't forget to check out our website and encourage the curious to do the same.

Camellia Nomenclature



2024

2024 Nomenclature Book is Available

You can Purchase the hard copy or the digital with photos at Amazon by clicking on one of the links below:

[2024 SCCS Camellia Nomenclature](#)

[2024 SCCS E-Nomenclature](#)



Your Board of Directors:

President: Justin Bergamini

Vice President: Beverly Heathorn

Secretary: Joellen Humiston

Treasurer: Jay Humiston

MEMORIAL DAY

**REMEMBER OUR
FALLEN**



The Board: Mary Bergamini, Nancy Samelson, Don Lesmeister, Joan Lesmeister, Julie Vierra, Barbara Gilmartin and Sarah Lytle