



CAMELLIA COLUMNS

August 2019

A publication of the Virginia Camellia Society
P.O.Box 15574 Chesapeake, Virginia
23328

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A Message from the Past President

Hello Camellia Friends,

It is transition time once again. It has been my honor and privilege to serve as your president for the last two years. I appreciate the support I have received and look forward to continuing to work with each of you as your Second Vice President for Membership. I would like to congratulate our newly elected President, Dale Shelley. I know Dale will do an outstanding job for this organization. I pledge him my full support and offer this gentle reminder to our members, this organization is not any one member. It is all of us working together and requires our cooperative and consistent efforts working as a team to move the Virginia Camellia Society forward.

We have a rich legacy upon which to build and a future filled with potential for growth and new accomplishments. Our upcoming American Camellia Society Convention is an excellent opportunity for members to step up and join us in the work that must be done to ensure our

guests from across the country have an enjoyable and memorable visit to Hampton Roads. My personal goal for the year ahead is to communicate regularly with our members so that we can all be aware of and engaged in upcoming social events, meetings, workshops, community outreach activities, and whatever else might come our way. In order to do this successfully, I need to be sure I have accurate contact information. Please feel free to reach out to me in the weeks ahead to confirm your email address, phone number, mailing address, etc. My email is malia.l.huddle@gmail.com I look forward to hearing from you and serving with you.

With warmest regards,

Malia Huddle
Immediate Past President

**Results of the 2019 VCS
Board Elections**

Congratulations to our newly elected officers. They are:

President - Dale Shelley

1st Vice President - Maria Stephenson

2nd Vice President - Malia Huddle

Secretary - Sandra Godwin

Treasurer - Fred McKenna

**VCS Welcomes Our
Newest Members**

Gary Baker
Norfolk, VA

Michelle Burt
Moyock, NC

VCS Newest Members (cont.)

Betsy Cromwell
Virginia Beach

Marty & Robin Cross
Midland, VA

Ramya Doraisamy
Midlothian, VA

Enie Fick
Virginia Beach

David Fowlkes
Burkeville, VA

Dr. Cheryl Lewis
Elizabeth City, NC

Joe McSweeney
Virginia Beach

Debora Mosher
Norfolk, VA

Christina Verderosa
Newport News, VA

Lynn Wajda
Cape Charles, VA

Cathy & Carlos Williams
Chesapeake, VA

Christina Verderosa
Newport News, VA

Virginia Everett
Norfolk, VA

Patsy Moss
Yorktown, VA

Thomas & Nancy Splan
Yorktown, VA

VCS Life Membership

Did you know? VCS offers a one-time membership fee of \$250. The process is the same as an annual fee. If you have any questions, contact Malia Huddle at (757) 717-6833 or via email: malia.l.huddle@gmail.com

American Camellia Society

The American Camellia Society is offering a new introductory ACS electronic membership for \$10. Please visit the ACS website: americancamellia.com for more information and registration.

In Memoriam

We are deeply saddened by the passing of Larry Barlow. Larry devoted many years of faithful service to VCS and to ACS. He was a Past President of VCS and served as Show Chair for several years. Larry was the current President of the ACS Trust. He leaves a rich legacy and will be missed by his camellia friends across the country.

Winston Gouldin has endowed a camellia show award to be given each year at the spring show to honor Larry's memory and numerous contributions to VCS and ACS. It will be a cash prize awarded for the first time at our 2020 ACS convention show. The award will be for the best tray of five. We greatly appreciate Winston's generosity in creating this award to honor our dear friend.

NBG Liaison Farewell

VCS would like to congratulate Renee Frith as she prepares to assume a new position with the Delaware Center for Horticulture as their Director of Greening Programs. Her primary focus in her new position will be growing new revenue streams (fee for service).

We wish you well in your new career adventure. We will certainly miss working with you. Thank you for all you have done with and for us over the last few years. We have enjoyed a wonderful working relationship during your time at NBG.

VCS Air Layer Harvest

Come to the Hofheimer Camellia Garden at the Norfolk Botanical Garden on Saturday, August 17, 2019 for the air layer harvest. Hours are 9am to 12pm. Volunteers may purchase a maximum of two air layers at that time for \$8.00 each. Purchase may be made by cash or check made payable to VCS.

In The Heat of the Summer for Camellias

Camellias can handle the summers, but not the dryness; and not the jump from 75 degrees to 109 degrees in one day. In these circumstances, diligence is required. Camellias in containers should be checked twice a day as they dry out much faster than shrubs planted in the ground. Water the container plant deeply whenever the top 2" to 4" (5-10cm) of potting mix feels dry to the touch, then allow the pot to drain. Never allow the container to stand in water. For planted camellias, you may need to water twice in a day. Here are some other tips for the dog days of summer: water in the evening, hold off on pruning any burnt leaves as they are protecting the underlying leaves from the sun, and do not fertilize until the weather cools.

*Courtesy of GardeningKnowHow
Courtesy of Rachel Young of Descanso Gardens*

VCS Fall Camellia Show 2019

The 2019 Fall Camellia Show will be held on November 2, 2019. Mark your calendar!

To see all the Camellia show results for the 2018-2019 season across the Atlantic Coast and Gulf Conferences:

https://camellia5.azureedge.net/assets/VCS%20Showresults%203_9_19%20for%20ACS%20tmckenna.pdf

ACS 2020 Convention Update March 13-17, 2020

To take advantage of the discounted early registration fee of \$275 sign up before 12/15/19. This discounted fee is for the full convention. A great gift idea!

The full convention schedule is as follows:

Friday: Welcome Reception/Dinner,
Saturday: Tours and Dinner Cruise,
Sunday: Camellia Show, lunch, banquet
and auction,
Monday: Tours and box lunch,
Tuesday: Tours.

Registration after 12/15/19 is \$300.00.
Single day options are available at \$125.

We will providing further information and on-line links as they come available.

Monthly Care Reminders For Your Camellias

August

Water during long dry spells. Ground should be moist, not wet! A reliable indicator is if your Azalea leaves are beginning to droop, you need to water.

September

Begin Gibbing early in the month. DO NOT gib more than 4 or 5 bloom buds per plant at a time. Repeat every other week through November. Begin debudding, leaving 1 bud on the terminal end of a branch.

October

Continue Gibbing. Check Air-Layers. They can usually be taken off of the mother plant by now. Put them in pots with an appropriate growing medium and leave them in pots for 1 year. Fertilize your landscape plants with 0-0-22.

Materials used in this article courtesy of the Atlantic Coast Camellia Society

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VIRGINIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2019

Watch for future updates, cancellations, etc. on our Virginia Camellia Society FACEBOOK page and website.

**VCS AIR LAYER HARVEST
SATURDAY, **AUGUST 17, 2019**
9:00 AM - NOON**

**Hofheimer Camellia Garden
Norfolk Botanical Garden**

**VCS BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, **SEPTEMBER 19, 2019**
6:00 PM**

**Admin Building, NGB
All VCS members are welcome to attend**

**VCS AIR LAYER AND PLANT SWAP
SATURDAY, **OCTOBER 12, 2019**
Location and time TBA**

**SET-UP FOR FALL SHOW
& PLANT SALE
FRIDAY, **NOVEMBER 1, 2019**
1:00 P.M.
Admin Building, NGB**

**VCS FALL CAMELLIA SHOW AND PLANT
SALE
SATURDAY, **NOVEMBER 2, 2019**
10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
Norfolk Botanical Garden**

**VCS CHRISTMAS PARTY
FRIDAY, **DECEMBER 6, 2019**
6:00PM
Fred Heutte Center**

VCS OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, & COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

President – Dale Shelley
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Treasurer – Fred McKenna
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2020 – Winston Gouldin

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2022 - Pixie Kilebrew

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2022 - Mike Chelednik

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2023 - Stephanie McSweeney

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2023 - vacant

2023- vacant

EX OFFICIO BOARD MEMBER:

Past President – Malia Huddle

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VACANT

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The VCS MISSION STATEMENT

The Purpose/Mission of the Virginia Camellia Society is to learn and to promote the growth and propagation of the beautiful camellia through meetings, workshops, and through the presentation and sponsorships of annual camellia shows. (VCS 2004)