



Oregon Camellia Society

March/April 2026 Newsletter

President's Message

Greetings and Salutations

It's been a windy winter here near Washougal. We had an event this winter that I have often feared might happen at a critical time. The wind took down a pine tree causing it to fall across our driveway. Fortunately, we were not in need of getting out to some event, so only half of my fear did not happen. Also fortunately, my young and strong son was able to make quick work of clearing the driveway for us.

As many of you know, we are in a very windy locale and have spent time and effort to locate our camellia trees in wind protected areas. Collier says he spent five minutes cutting a tray of flowers to bring to the February meeting. It would take me at least five minutes to get to our wind protected trees, far more than five minutes to navigate the forest floor to pick some blooms, and at least another five minutes to get back to the house. Whereas, Collier steps out the back door and, viola, camellias in abundance.

In April, we will get a chance to help him control their growth with Christie's talk on pruning large camellia trees at Collier's place.

Farewells and Valedictions

Garland

March Meeting Announcement

March 21, Holgate Library, 11 am to 1 pm

The program for the meeting will be the 2nd annual camellia identification test. As last year, there will be different test blanks for accredited judges, novice judges, and membership at large. This year the test will feature more blooms that can be expected to be seen at our annual ACS accredited flower show at the Newberg Camellia Festival.

Last year the test featured blooms from Kathy Lintault's garden as it was expected we would be seeing more and more of those blooms at upcoming shows. Unfortunately, the test was planned and made before Kathy announced that she was selling the property and moving to California. Hopefully we will get to see those blooms in future shows as last fall three of us went to her former garden with the blessing and help from the new owner and gathered about 150 cuttings mostly from plants that were not known to be in circulation amongst our membership. The new owner of Kathy's old garden is June Wolff and her husband Eric (who we did not get to meet). Since our visit to the garden they have joined OCS and hopefully we will get to see them in the coming months, especially since the camellia festival is coming up in April.

If time allows, after the test, we can have a "name that Tama" exercise. I can show pictures of offspring from Tama-no-ura, and the group can see if they can identify the various cultivars.

From Last Year's Test



Camellia Festival and OCS Flower Show

April 11, Chehalem Cultural Center 415 E Sheridan St. Newberg, OR

For OCS, plant sale begins at 8:30 a.m., flower entry 8 a.m. to 11 a.m., judging from 11 a.m. to noon, show information provision 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. After which we tear down the show.



**Ruth
Tinkle**



**Best Bloom
2011 Show**

**Ruth
Tinkle**



April Meeting Announcement

April 18, Collier's Garden 4115 SE 33rd Pl. Portland, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Christie Dooley will be presenting the program. Her topic is "Pruning camellias for aesthetic and space requirements."

As our primary sales person at our sale at the Camellia Festival she has often had queries about how to prune the plants. Now she will have a chance to share her knowledge with the group. Since she and Denis have a significantly large property, they have been able to grow larger specimens that can use some chainsaw pruning. One issue she has dealt with is winter damage. Another is trimming up branches so mowing and weeding under them can take place. She has resorted to opening up the plants so they won't hold as much snow and not be as crushed. Finally a more precise pruning with clippers can improve their aesthetics.

Different Habitat, Different Growth, saluenensis Apple Blossom



January Meeting Report

We had good attendance at the Camellia Judging Class/Symposium. This event enabled Denis to renew his judging accreditation and Susan took the test enabling her to apply for a Novice Judgeship.

February Meeting Report

We had a light turn out at the hybridization and raising seedling program. Christie informed us about polyploidy and using it to make good selections for crossing cultivars. She also talked about how to get resulting seeds to germinate and grow.

In the business meeting, it was reported that we have over \$5000 in the treasury, but that most of this is dedicated to pay propagation costs. The minutes appearing in the newsletter were approved. Due to more art shows in the art gallery of the Chehalem Cultural Center it is likely that we will be showing our flowers in the 2nd floor hallway like last year. Having learned from last year, the layout for the show has been modified. Among other things, the trophy table will be moved to a more prominent position. Garland is to contact Bryan about putting up signage to direct patrons to the show. We have put in our application to be a vendor in the Camas Plant and Garden Fair on May 9th. We are still waiting to hear whether we have been approved. Martha has old treasurer's documents she is looking to get rid of. Garland volunteered to scan them so that the paper documents can be gotten rid of.

Remaining 2025-2026 Meeting Schedule

March 21 – 2nd Annual Camellia Test – Garland Bayley

April 11 – 18th Annual Camellia Festival and OCS flower show

April 18 – Pruning camellias with emphasis on large camellias – Christie Dooley at Collier's garden

May 9 – Plant Sale at Camas Plant and Garden Fair cwplantfair.org

May 16 – Garden Visit – Leach Garden

July picnic – TBA