

# For Garden Sakes



*Ann Reinhard camellia*

Dear Everyone,

Now that Spring is upon us, our Rose Garden is getting back into shape and we look forward to seeing it bloom in the coming months ahead! Thank you to Harry Howard, Tony Hejka, Larry Ward, Ardsley Park Chatham Crescent Garden Club for their hard work and others who made this possible through generous donations.

Thank you for donations to our House Repair and Friends of the Garden. Because of you, our 1840's Reinhard Farmhouse and 1992, when it first began, Botanical Garden can be maintained beautifully for all to enjoy! Larry Ward thank you for maintaining our house. Pat Ryan, Larry Ward and Barbara Stahl, thank you for all your hard work in the garden. Harry Howard thank you for your many years of continuous dedicated work in our Rose Garden. A special thank you to Garden Center Director Betty Ward for all the many hours spent in and out of her office arranging weddings, other events and so much more for us!

Welcome, Hemorcallis Society for joining our Botanical Garden. We look forward to lovely Day Lilies in our garden! We are happy to add you to our Associated Clubs: Camellia Club, Coastal Georgia Master Gardeners, Rose Society. Thank you all Associated Clubs!

Our Annual Rose Festival will take place on May 4, 2019. Thank you to Co-Chairman Pat Ryan and Larry Ward and Publicity Chairman Pam Allen. Please come and support your SACGC! 2019-2021 slate of officers will be installed - thank you Nominating Committee Co-Chairman Charlotte Stephens and Jeanne Elder. It has been an honor and a pleasure to be SACGC President for 2016-2019! This President had a wonderful Executive Board: Vice-President Louisa Sigman continuous support, Recording Secretary Heidi Gilligan great minutes, Corresponding Secretary, Past Council President, Advisor Shirley Lewis correspondence and advice, Treasurers Wincy Harden (and Parliamentarian) and Larry Ward handling money well and wonderful Standing Committees: Newsletter & Communication Claire Sherman keeping us informed, Friends of the Garden Eileen Galley collecting donations, Librarian and Ask a Master Gardener Barbara Stahl keeping our books in order, answering plant questions and soil samples, Brick Project Herb Garden Betty Ward filling orders, ByLaws/Policies/Liaison and Endowment Trust Liz Sills advisor, Trustee Harry Howard advisor, Trustee Judy Whitaker advisor and White Memorial Rose Garden Trustees: Larry Ward, Jane Pressly, Ge-Juan Wilkes - 12 Council Garden Clubs happy to add Wymberly Garden Club all 12 clubs make us whole - and many people outside of SACGC thank you so much! This President enjoyed hosting the Oleander District Annual Meeting last October with the experience of Co-Chairman Dyanna Byers, with Co-Chairman Betty Ann King and with the support of the Council!

Our Newsletter continues to be a wonderful form of communication. Thank you Claire Sherman for all your work putting together a most informative and attractive newsletter four times a year! Thank you all for your support for the past three years!

Irene Michaels

SACGC President

## Larry Ward

### **Your Spring Gardening Guide: 9 ways to enjoy what's blooming now**

1. Skim the soil with a hoe or a Cobra-head weeder to cut the foliage off of fine rooted weeds and grasses.
2. Don't fall for the promise of weed cloth or landscape fabric. These products do not stop weeds. Instead, they destroy the soil and the beneficial microbes that live there.
3. Monitor the soil moisture with your fingers. As long as it is damp at least two knuckles down, there is no need to water,
4. Peaches, apples and other deciduous fruit trees are blooming now. Fertilize with a granular organic fruit fertilizer, Keep the trees well mulched.
5. Start summer vegetables from seed: basil, eggplant, tomatoes, cucumbers and more. In 6 to 8 weeks, the soil will be ready for planting, and the veggies will be large enough to transplant.
6. Start seeds for summer flowers like sunflowers, marigolds, zinnias and Calendula.
7. Starting seeds is tricky business, and cleanliness is essential to success. Disinfect pots ahead of time in a vinegar solution Always use fresh, new seed starting mix.
8. Prepare your garden beds for spring. Compost dead plants; top off beds with new soil, incorporating organic vegetable fertilizer in the soil.
9. Troubleshoot irrigation

### Garden Center Update

The Garden Center is starting to look like Spring. The camellias we a joy to behold this year. Did you come and see our Ann Reinhard camellia? She even made the newspaper! We have been trying to get everything ready for our wedding season. We have replaced the air conditioner upstairs in the Farmhouse. We are still trying to raise funds to repair the outside of the house. Many thanks to all who have donated. We are almost completely booked on the weekends this spring for our weddings and the Farmhouse has become a very popular wedding and baby shower venue. The school tours are starting.

Remember the Rose Festival is May 4th. Happy Spring!

Betty Ward

Garden Center Chairman  
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[www.facebook.com/sacgc.inc.botanicalgarden](http://www.facebook.com/sacgc.inc.botanicalgarden)

**The Wilmington Island Garden Club** meeting held in February has traditionally been our “Make and Take” Meeting. Our presenter for the meeting was Caroline Holder. Caroline discussed with us and taught us the Japanese Ikebana style of arranging flowers. We each brought containers, greenery as well as blooming cuttings such as camellias from our yards. Caroline supplied some greenery as well as “focal point flowers” to be used in our arrangements. After Caroline’s demonstration she encouraged us to see things in a different perspective, to use common things from our yards and to create a visually balanced and pleasing arrangement. Caroline walked around to give assistance or feedback as we worked. As members participated and made their arrangements there was a lively banter. Everyone enjoyed the meeting and each was surprised and pleased with their creations.





We were joined by three guests June Thomas, Oleander District Director, Mary Ogden, Oleander Co-Director, and Sharon Herrin, Oleander District Calendar Chairperson. Our guests joined us in our project and then spoke to us briefly about the Oleander District.

Our next meeting is a field trip to Oelschig Nursery, 2705 Gregory Street (912-234-0015) on Thursday, March 14th. The tour starts at 10.00am.

If you would like to carpool, please meet at the parking lot across from the Publix Wilmington Island on Johnny Mercer (next to the CVS drug store) at 9:25am. For those with mobility issues (canes, walkers, wheelchairs), most of the tour is on cement pads.



The Garden Club of Pooler met in February and SACGC President Irene Michaels installed Louise Schindler as the new Vice-President with the other officers remaining in their positions. The program followed with Jennie Koch of Smart Seniors Program from Candler/Saint Josephs Hospital. The hospital will have a location soon in Pooler. Many members brought lovely camellias to share with the club. Before the meeting ended, some of the members filled the vases from the club's exhibit cabinet with flowers and returned them for others to enjoy!



Pooler Garden Club celebrated our 86 birthday at our Jan meeting. To honor our founding members many of us dressed in 1930 outfits. It was great fun. A visit from June Thomas on our special day just added to the celebration. In February Jenny Kosch from St Joseph's Candler gave a presentation on their Smart Senior program. Artificial flowers were arranged in the vases and placed in the Display Case in City Hall. The current display demonstrated the many types of vases available for flowers and the principles of Thrill, Fill, and Spill. Louise Schindler



The February SACGC Quarterly meeting included the voting in of 2019-2021 slate of officers. We still need a President. After three years, Irene Michaels is ready to turn it over to someone else and we need a new Recording Secretary since Heidi Gilligan is moving away! Hopefully, these two positions will be filled before this goes into press! After more business was taken care of, delicious refreshments with a Valentine theme were served by the Garden Club of Pooler.



## Moving SALE for the Gardener!



A great selection of  
plants, pots,  
potted plants,



yard art, pavers, and garden tools

Saturday & Sunday

March 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>

From 9am – 2pm



18 Gordonston Ave

*(across the street from a neighborhood park)*



**No early birds !**



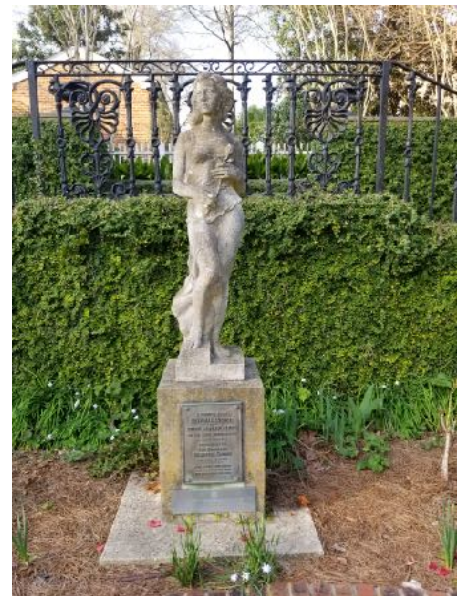


Participants enjoyed a day of games, door prizes, entertainment, a luncheon and snacks at the successful Parkersburg Garden Club Cards & Games Luncheon on March 2 on Isle of Hope. The funds raised will support the Parkersburg Garden Club Scholarship which is awarded annually to a GSU-Armstrong student involved in the study or promotion of horticulture.

2018 Scholarship Winner,  
Danielle Childers,  
military wife and mother of four









# ACCENT

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## HEALTH MATTERS

Submit your event at [savannahnow.com/calendar](http://savannahnow.com/calendar). Events printed in chronological order as space allows. Info: 912-652-0365

**Tanger Outlets Savannah blood drive:** 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Feb. 27; Tanger Outlets Savannah, Suite 589, across from Old Navy. Make appointment at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) with sponsor code Tanger. Donors receive free Tanger Outlets SWAG Bag.

**Free enrollment for health care coverage for children:** 4-6:30 p.m. the following dates and locations: March 4, Islands Library Branch, 50 Johnny Mercer Blvd.; March 12, Bull Street Library Branch, 2002 Bull St.; March 16, Rincon Library Branch, 17th Street & Hwy 21, Rincon; March 18, Oglethorpe Mall Library Branch, 7 Mall Annex; Tamara Solomon at 912-661-1272; Enrollment and renewal assistance for Medicaid and PeachCare for Kids, Pregnancy Medicaid and other public benefits (SNAP & CAPS).

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Submit your event at [savannahnow.com/calendar](http://savannahnow.com/calendar). Events printed in chronological order as space allows. Info: 912-652-0365.

**FEB. 26 District 5 town hall meeting:** 6:30-8 p.m. Feb. 26; Mosaic Church, 7 Canebrake Road; Savannah Alderwoman Estella Shabazz. For Gateway Village, Teal Lake, Bradley Point South, The Villages of Vallambrosa residents

**Red Velvet Bake Off:** 5:30-7 p.m. Feb. 26; Savannah Classic Cars Dealer and Museum, 249 East Lathrop Ave.; \$10 cash donation. Benefits Savannah/Chatham Court Appointed Special Advocates.

**Footprints of Savannah Walking Tour:** 4 p.m. Feb. 26; start at Massie Heritage Center; \$20. Presented by Vaughnette Goode-Walker. Part of Massie's Black Heritage Month series.

**FEB. 27 District 5 town hall meeting:** 6:30-8 p.m. Feb. 27; Liberty City Center, 1401 Mills B Lane Blvd.; Savannah Alderwoman Estella Shabazz.

**"Black is the Body" by Emily Bernard talk, book signing:** 6-8 p.m. Feb. 27; Ships of the Sea

## LOOKING FOR PEARLS

# Camellias in the mist



In the morning fog, Ron and Belinda Jacob pose with the sole specimen of the Ann Reinhard camellia at the Savannah Botanical Gardens. [PHOTOS BY BEN GOGGINS/FOR SAVANNAH MORNING NEWS]



Ben Goggins

## A beautiful discovery at Savannah Botanical Gardens

Early on a cool, damp morning last week, I met Ron and Belinda Jacob at the Savannah Botanical Gardens on Eisenhower Avenue. The fog had crept in on little camellia feet.

We were alone there, whispering in the quiet mist, with only the clear call of a tufted titmouse echoing from the bare trees. The Jacobs were leading me to see the Ann Reinhard, a camellia that grows only in the Savannah Botanical Gardens. Against its dark green leaves, its red blossoms seemed to cascade like a haunting flurry of poppies on Armistice Day.

The camellia was discovered growing in the Savannah Botanical Gardens some 20 years ago, but until it flowered, no one knew what variety it might be. Last February it bloomed, and local camellia expert Gene Phillips determined it was a hitherto unknown variety.

It is what is called a "chance seedling," a plant that has come from a natural pollination, a seed formed by serendipity. On some past warm winter day, the right encounter of a bee carrying pollen from the anther of one flower to



Foggy dewdrops bead up on the petals of the Ann Reinhard camellia.

## If you go

**What:** Savannah Botanical Gardens  
**Where:** 1388 Eisenhower Drive  
**When:** 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Saturday; 8 a.m.-8:45 p.m. Sunday  
**Cost:** Free  
**Info:** [savannahbotanical.org](http://savannahbotanical.org)  
**Contact:** 912-355-3883, [sacgc1388@botanical.com-castbiz.net](mailto:sacgc1388@botanical.com-castbiz.net)

**On the web:** See more photos with this column at [savannahnow.com/accent/columnists](http://savannahnow.com/accent/columnists).

the pistil of another started the Ann Reinhard life cycle.

The Jacobs and the staff of the Savannah Botanical Gardens began the process of submitting the previously unnamed camellia for inclusion in the national Camellia Registry. They cast about



A bloom of the Tama-no-ura camellia seems to float in Belinda Jacob's palm.

for an appropriate name, when everyone seemed to have the same thought at once to name it in honor of Ann Reinhard.

The beautiful circa-1840 German-vernacular building that sits on the edge of the 10-acre Savannah Botanical Gardens is named the Reinhard House. It

first stood on the Reinhard Farm near Wheaton Street downtown. Indeed, eight acres of the farm were purchased in 1853 to become the Catholic Cemetery.

The house was slated for demolition to make way for the Truman Parkway.

See GOGGINS, B7



Admired by Belinda and Ron Jacob, the Charlean camellia is named for its Savannah originator's granddaughter. (BEN GOGGINS/FOR SAVANNAH MORNING NEWS)

## GOGGINS

From Page B6

It was saved and moved in 1992 by the Savannah Area Council of Garden Clubs. It now serves as the SACGC headquarters and as the information center for the Gardens.

A year ago, I saw the Ann Reinhard at the Jacobs' invitation. She had only a few blooms then, but she is covered with flowers now. Ron said the bitter winter of 2018 seems to have caused Savannah's camellias to rebound mightily this year.

He was captivated from the beginning with the simplicity and elegance of the Ann Reinhard's single (one row of petals) blossoms. Camellias originated in Japan, where simplicity is valued aesthetically. Indeed a small, red, single camellia can be seen at Magnolia Gardens in Charleston, where it was imported from Japan in the 1700s.

The Savannah Botanical Gardens have 67 varieties of camellias, all but one identified. The Jacobs took me on a magical tour of singles, doubles, anemone forms, peony forms, rose forms, formal doubles — an enchanted walk, close to nature, next to Hospice House.

We visited the Tama-no-ura variety, a red-and-white single, similar to the



A Crimson Candles camellia blossom is as light as a ballerina's tutu.

Ann Reinhard. It was found in the wild on an island of the Nagasaki Prefecture in 1947 by a charcoal burner. With its white edging and golden stamen tops, one bloom seemed to float above the palm of Belinda's hand.

The fluffy rose-pink blooms of the R.L. Wheeler variety hovered over a lush stand of azaleas. The Jacobs knew it originated in Macon in 1949. They showed me the reticulata hybrid Crimson Candles, its dew-covered rose-pink petals resembling a music-box ballerina.

I was struck by the Charlean, with large, pink-orchid petals and airy pinkish filaments. Ron pointed out that there is a story behind every camellia, and Belinda said they had met the flower's namesake. The woman Charlean is the granddaughter of the originator, William Stewart of Savannah.

Ron showed me the Betty Sheffield with its loose peony form. It is

whitish with blotches of red and pink and is noted for "sporting," where different colors appear on the same plant. Like the Ann Reinhard, it was a chance seedling from Quitman found in 1949.

Our camellia journey took us to the majestic white Sea Foam, which originated in Fernandina Beach, the fluffy High Society from Albany, the luxurious Royal Velvet from California.

The Jacobs knew the names of every camellia we passed. They knew the legacy carried in those names. They knew the ethereal beauty. They themselves helped name the Ann Reinhard, who passed away in the 1800s. I saw on Phillips' website a just-introduced pink lavender camellia, the Jennifer Ross, who has been in heaven since 2005.

*Ben Goggins, a retired marine biologist, lives on Tybee Island. He can be reached at 912-786-0181 or bengoggins9@gmail.com.*

## CALENDAR

From Page B6

**A. Mendonsa Hearing Room, 112 E. State St.; 912-651-1466.**

**Komen race teams kickoff party:** 6 p.m. Feb. 27; B&D Burgers, City Market; 912-232-2535 or coordinator@komencoastalgeorgia.org. Register, meet team captains, learn how to fundraise for the cure. Susan G. Komen Coastal Georgia event.

**FEB. 28**  
**The Royal Flush Casino Night:** 7 p.m. Feb. 28; Savannah Station, 601 Cohen St.; \$55 each, \$85 couple at rotosavannah.com/royal-flush-casino-night. All proceeds to benefit families at the Ronald McDonald House of the Coastal Empire. Heavy hors-d'oeuvres, open bar, live music, dancing, complimentary casino.

**Bowl Turning Fundamentals demonstration:** 6 p.m. Feb. 28; Georgia State Railroad Museum, 655 Louisville Road; free, park in gravel parking lot; lowcountryturners.com.

**Amelia Earhart reception:** 5:30 p.m. Feb. 28;

**Museum of the Mighty Eighth Air Force, 175 Borne Ave., Pooler; \$20, 912-344-6542 or jocarol.martin@zontasavannah.org for reservations. Honoring Zonta 2019 Woman in Aviation Awardee 1st Lt. Molly Durdon, of the Beaufort Marine Corps Air Station. Hosts are Zonta Clubs of Savannah, Beaufort, Bluffton and Hilton Head.**

**City of Savannah meetings on alcoholic beverages ordinance:** noon and 6 p.m. Feb. 28; Savannah Civic Center, O'Connor Room, 301 W. Oglethorpe Ave.; savannahga.gov/alcohol. Discuss proposed revisions to the Alcoholic Beverages Ordinance and Alcohol Density Overlay District Ordinance.

**FEB. 28-MARCH 1 Autism Conference:** Feb. 28-March 1; Savannah Convention Center, 1 International Drive; \$135 general admission, \$75 students and self advocate; 2019autismconference.com. Keynote speaker is autism activist and author Temple Grandin, one of the most accomplished and widely known autistic adults in the world. Event by the Matthew Reardon Center for Autism.

**FEB. 28-MARCH 2**

**Savannah Antiques and Architecture weekend:** Feb. 28-March 2; various events, locations and prices; savantiquesweekend.com/events-2019/. Focus on the architecture, style and music of the Jazz Era in Savannah. Benefits the Andrew Low and Green-Meldrim Historic Houses.

**MARCH 1 House of Prom donation collection:** donations of gently used formal gowns and evening dresses through March 1; Shopper Services, Suite 400, near the Lighthouse at Tanger Outlet Center Savannah; receive gift card and coupon book for donations. House of Prom event 10 a.m.-5 p.m. March 2 at Suite 589 across from Old Navy with proceeds to Rape Crisis Center of the Coastal Empire.

**"Kung Fu Night":** 6 p.m. March 1; Savannah Arts Academy auditorium, 500 Washington Ave.; \$8 at seatyourself.biz/saa or \$10 at door. Screening Stephen Chow's "Shaolin Soccer" and Jackie Chan's "Legend of Drunken Master." Both films are PG, and with teachers and a resource officer on site, parents are welcome to drop off their teenagers, or to bring the whole family. Concessions sold onsite.

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## Camellias in the Mist

### A Beautiful Discovery at the Botanical Gardens

Camellia 1. The Ann Reinhard camellia, a chance seedling discovered at the SACGC Botanical Gardens, was registered and accepted into the Camellia Nomenclature in 2018. (Photo credit Belinda Jacob)

Camellia 2: In the morning fog Ron and Belinda Jacob with the sole specimen of the Ann Reinhard camellia.

Camellia 3: A vision in the mist, the Ann Reinhard's red flowers are things of beauty.

Camellia 4: Foggy dewdrops bead up on the petals of the Ann Reinhard camellia.

Camellia 5: A bloom of the Tama-no-ura camellia seems to float in Belinda Jacob's palm.

Camellia 6: A Crimson Candles camellia blossom is as light as a ballerina's tutu.

Camellia 7: The Charlean camellia is named for its Savannah originator's granddaughter.

Camellia 8: The white Betty Sheffield camellia, blotched with pink and red is known for "sporting."

Camellia 9: The white Sea Foam camellia has chrysanthemum perfection.

Camellia 10: The High Society camellia is one of the 67 varieties growing at the SACGC Botanical Gardens.









I would like you to know of a special, urgent project the Ardsley Park Garden Club is tackling! Recently, the Rose Garden at the Savannah Botanical Garden lost 60 rose bushes when the irrigation system overwatered the area. We are now scrambling to fund the purchase of these 60 bushes prior to the Rose Festival.

The APCCGC is accepting donations to sponsor a Rose Bush in honor of a loved one or in Memory of someone. I will attach the order form to this email. Could you please send this information on to all of the Council Garden Clubs?

I inquired of Barbara Borque at the Garden Club of Georgia if a donation to Savannah Botanical Garden or The White Memorial Rose Garden would give club Presidents credit for the State donation. She said that is absolutely approved. You may already know that. I thought it would be great to donate to the causes locally that are near and dear to our hearts. Please make sure that all of the other Council Presidents know that their club can donate to a Botanical Garden of their choice!

Thanks!

Facts for new Rose bushes:

The Purchase of a rose bush for the White Memorial Rose Garden is \$30.00 for one bush.

Name of person purchasing the Rose Bush:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Name of person to whom you are remembering or honoring:

Please circle which applies:

In Memory of or in Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Acknowledgement sent to :

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please write a check to:

The Ardsley Park Garden Club ; on the bottom line for The White Memorial Rose Garden

Mail to: Debra Coon, 20 Chatuachee Crossing, Sav., Ga. 31411

Please reply as soon as possible

February 5, 2019

## Volunteer Days at the SACGC Botanical Garden

Please join us to weed the garden and clean up winter debris. We will work from 10am to 11am. A Master Gardener will be available to answer questions and soil sample bags with directions will be available. Days scheduled are:

**Saturday, March 9**

**Tuesday, March 12**

**Saturday, March 23**

**Tuesday, March 25**

*Our first Volunteer Day was a success! We had a total of 4 volunteers and a visitor said she would join us on the next event. A thank you to Irene, Rebecca, and Pam. It was fun!*





East Georgia Judges Council met, February 18, at Savannah Area Council of Garden Clubs, Inc (SACGC) Botanical Garden Reinhard farm house, Savannah. Gene of Gene's Nursery presented an informative "Camellia" history. A delicious buffet luncheon was provided by Wynette and Betty. Lovely Camellias, from Wynette's garden, adorned the tables. Members toured the 10 acre Botanical Garden and were briefed on history of 1840 circa farm house.

Pictured, left to right: Barbara Horner, President (Evans), Betty Waller, Secretary (Springfield) , Wynette Almon (Townsend), Brenda Griner (Brunswick), Sherle Beck (Blythe Island), and Shirley Lewis (Savannah)

Photo courtesy: Irene Michaels, President , SACGC





*A huge thanks to Larry Ward, Ross Dersch and the community service workers for the new privacy fence by the pavilion and the new fenced in storage area around the shed. We also have been blessed with Barb Stahl and her volunteers who are pulling weeds. Yahoo!!*

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Garden Director: Betty Ward - 912-898-3504  
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