

THE

Camellia Review



MATHOTIANA

Official Bulletin of the Southern California Camellia Society

Vol. 14

DECEMBER, 1952

No. 3

Southern California Camellia Society Inc.

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The Society holds open meetings on the Second Thursday of every month, No-
vember to April, inclusive, at the Jefferson School Auditorium, 1500 block, East
Villa Street in Pasadena. A cut-camellia blossom exhibit at 7:30 o'clock regularly
precedes the program which starts at 8:00.

Application for membership may be made by letter. Annual dues: \$5.00.

DIRECTORY OF AFFILIATED SOCIETIES

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Camellia Society of Kern County.....	Bakersfield, Calif.
Meeting Place: Fiesta Room, El Adobe Motel, Union Ave.	
Secretary-Treasurer: Miss Mildred Foley, 715 Niles St., Bakersfield	
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San Diego Camellia Society.....	San Diego, Calif.
Meeting Place: Floral Association Building, Balboa Park	
Secretary: Mrs. Donald V. (Mary) Scofield, 2621 32nd St., San Diego 4	
Date of meeting: 2nd Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m.	
Pomona Valley Camellia Society.....	Pomona, Calif.
Meeting Place: Ebell Club, Pomona	
Secretary: J. M. Hartke, 874 Paige Drive, Pomona	
Date of meeting: 1st Thursday of each month	
Temple City Camellia Society.....	Temple City, Calif.
Meeting Place: American Legion Hall, 127 N. Golden West, Temple City	
Secretary: June Manson Schroth, 432 N. Alabama St., San Gabriel	
Date of meeting: 1st Monday of each month	
Camellia Society of Orange County.....	Santa Ana, Calif.
Meeting Place: Girl Scout Headquarters, 1004 West 8th St., Santa Ana	
Secretary: Harold Larson, 212 S. Orange St., Orange	
Date of meeting: 3rd Thursday of the month	

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EDITOR'S CORNER

By LEONARD F. MURNANE

As Christmas time rolls around once again, bringing with it that heady aura of warmth, friendship and good fellowship which we all associate with the holiday season, I am reminded of the many, many blessings which are mine to enjoy.

Friends come first of all, of course. And this year my list will include many new friends whom I have come to know through the *Camellia Review*. Some of you I have met personally, and others I have met through correspondence. Still others I know by reputation.

In at least one respect you are all much alike. You're swell people—friendly, generous, tolerant. I wondered at first why your camellia gatherings should bring together a group of people so genuinely cordial in their relationships. Then it came to me: your groups represent a highly select cross-section of the population; you are camellia enthusiasts only because you possess those qualities of character which are necessary to produce outstanding camellias—or outstanding friendships.

Both require patience, perseverance, a willingness to help others and an eagerness to acquire, in turn, the help of others. Both respond to attention and affection.

OUR COVER

For the eye-catching color photo on the cover of this month's *Review* we are indebted once again to Mary Watt of the well known Armstrong Nurseries in Ontario, California, who provided us with plates for *Mathotiana*.

Yes, camellia fans, I have found you to be all of these things. And more. And I'm sincerely grateful for the opportunity I have enjoyed in meeting you, and I hope that the coming year will prove equally productive of new friendships.

So here's to the Merriest Christmas, and to the Happiest and Most Prosperous New Year ever, to each and every one of you, from the Murnanes—Louella, Johnnie, Mary Anne, *Jenny Jones*, and Leonard.

* * *

A holiday tip that might save a life comes from the National Safety Council which advises holiday hosts to make that last "one for the road" a cup of black coffee with plenty of sugar. Last year 951 persons died in traffic accidents during the holiday season. Let's all try to be a bit more careful this year.

(Continued on Page 20)

CAMELLIA SEED

The 1952 crop of camellia seed has been received from the Huntington Botanic Gardens and is ready for sale. Price to members of the society \$2.50 per hundred; to others \$5.00 per hundred. Transportation charges and tax paid when payment is received with order. Otherwise they are included in bill. Receipts from sales of this seed are used by the Garden Committee in procuring new and rare plants for the garden.

TOO MANY CAMELIAS

By VERNON JAMES

James Rare Plant Nursery

Of course the title of this article does not mean that there are too many camellia plants (heaven forbid) but it refers to the avalanche of new varieties that have been introduced over the past few years.

They have been poured out on the unsuspecting public like lava flowing down the side of an active volcano. They have engulfed our yards and lath houses with a MOST expensive collection of understock. Public faith in new camellia varieties is at an all time low, mainly because of the low standards we have set for new introductions.

Now I do not mean to imply that these camellia varieties are worthless—there is no such thing as a worthless camellia—but I do mean that only a few are worth naming and marketing as something outstanding, worth the premium you pay, and taking valuable space in your already over-crowded garden.

PRIDE JUSTIFIED

It seems that any one who has ever planted a camellia seed and has watched it grow to flowering size, must believe, after years of anxious waiting and tender care, that this camellia is something truly special, and he has a right to be proud of it. It is his own effort and no doubt will impress the wife's bridge club members with the fact he has the greenest of green thumbs.

Should he decide that this new seedling has its destiny in the camellia world, he should compare it first to other named varieties for similarity of flower. Then carefully, with the help of someone who knows camellias and is well qualified as an impartial judge, he should consider its qualifications as an outstanding variety.

Just what are the requirements of an outstanding camellia? Is it a large showy flower, good color or perhaps a new shade, an exceptionally fine foliage, a compact, full, handsome bush, a free bloomer, or perhaps a novelty type bloom? No—it is not one of these things. A new outstanding camellia must be, as nearly as possible, ALL of these requirements rolled into one plant.

Now you ask why isn't something being done about this and I am happy to say there is something being done. Something to restore public faith in new introductions and to see that they get their money's worth.

You are beginning to hear of the AACs. The All-American Camellia Selections Inc. under the able leadership of Herbert Swim, is now a fact. It was designed to protect you the consumer and you the developer of a new variety. To get under way its membership was kept to eight Pacific Coast and eight Southeastern growers of camellias. This membership by no means includes all the fine men and women engaged in the growing of quality camellias, but it is my sincere hope that by the time the first All American Camellia is ready for introduction, that the membership will include these leading growers whose vital interest is improving camellias.

Testing grounds have been set up, strategically located throughout the camellia belt, and all new varieties will be scored over a three-year period under all types of weather conditions.

They will be judged by men well qualified for their jobs. Everyone is urged to enter for trial any new variety from seed or sport that he seriously considers to be worthwhile.

(Continued on Page 16)

Camellia MAIL BAG

He Wants Answers

Answering some of your questions regarding what this reader would like to see in the Review—I will say that I like it pretty much as it is. I do not think it is too technical. I would like to see a question-and-answer column.

Character sketches of leading camellia growers I have my doubts about unless they give us the inside dope on how they became successful.

During the two years that I have been receiving the Review I have not been able to attend one of your open meetings in the Pasadena City College Auditorium (Editor's Note: New meeting place is Jefferson School Auditorium, 1500 block, East Villa Street in Pasadena). Those who do attend, I understand, can ask questions. I would like to ask a question that perhaps the Review can answer.

On page 13 of the 1951 "The Camellia, Its Culture and Nomenclature," paragraph 7 says "If the average root formation is $\frac{2}{3}$ or better . . ." Now, what is meant by $\frac{2}{3}$? I have a number of cuttings with one or two roots from $\frac{1}{2}$ inch to two

inches long and I really would like to know which cuttings are ready to pot.

A. W. Hess, Jr.
San Jose, California

(If $\frac{2}{3}$ of seedlings in the flat are rooted . . . Ed.)

* * *

Information Please

I am interested in treating camellia seed or plants with Colchicum and I believe that some work has been done on this in California.

I would appreciate any information on this subject, or perhaps a word as to where I could get such information.

Rudolph Siegling
Charleston, South Carolina

* * *

Suggestion Offered

Here is a suggestion that I believe will please your readers as well as the nurserymen—give a list of nurseries that publish a free camellia catalogue. I believe your members would appreciate such a list and, of course, the nurserymen will be only too glad to send them.

V. R. James
Campbell, California

Again we approach the season of the year when we commemorate the birth of the King of Kings.

Your board of directors extends to each of you best wishes for a merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

JOHN H. CLAIRMONT,
PRESIDENT

GOOD COMPANION FOR CAMELIAS

By MIRANDY

There are many good companions for our camellias in addition to the azaleas, begonias, fuchsias and ferns generally thought of as ingredients of an interesting shade garden.

To confine this collection strictly to the classification of shrubs or small trees and to list them more or less alphabetically, let us start with the gracious and adaptable abelia. Either variety—grandiflora with its fragrant white blossoms lasting over a long period in summer time and its growth to six feet, or the somewhat lower schumanii, with pink blossoms and less fragrance.

The small foliage and drooping habit of abelias make them a nice foil for the camellia, and in the opposite direction—the aralias are likewise interesting. They vary from aralia papyrifera, the so-called rice paper plant which grows to 10 feet with its feather duster type head on a slim and graceful trunk, to the most useful and interesting aralia fatsia or fatsia japonica, with its large, glossy leaves, so good for background—especially fine for filling in a corner, and quite frost hardy despite its lush, tropical appearance.

THIS PLANT ADAPTABLE

Then we have fattedera, that rare hybrid—cross between the fatsia and English ivy. This is one of our most adaptable plants. It makes a delightfully bold vine to outline porch or lath-house if given support and not allowed to branch. On the other hand, if the center is pinched and branches encouraged, it is a most interesting and useful espalier for fence or wall.

Next, the large family of abutilons, or flowering maples, blossoming almost the year round, with their wide range of color and all happy in light shade.

Also acuba japonica, either varie-

gated or plain. This shrub will tolerate complete shade and the variegated form, sometimes called gold dust plant, lights up a dark corner amazingly.

As a companion, try that most common of shrubs, the yellow—or brassy leaved—privet. In shade it produces leaves of an interesting chartreuse color, pleasant in the garden and useful for flower arrangement.

REACHES EIGHT FEET

For fine background material in the shade garden, cocculus is hard to beat. Growing to eight feet, its big, leathery leaves form an evergreen screen—the branches like to arch, so allow plenty of room.

One of our most delightful blossoming shrubs for the shade garden—and one of the most neglected—is carpenteria. This California native is much admired in other parts of the globe, and too seldom planted in California. It produces fragrant, waxy white blossoms in late spring that look like single camellia flowers—except that they are borne in bunches—and the large shrub is not unsightly at any time of the year.

DOGWOOD FANS NOTE

If you are so fortunate as to have high trees forming the shade in your garden, and if you come from a part of the country where the dogwood, or cornus Florida, has meant a great deal to you, you may plant either the white or pink variety, with the probability of a pleasant return from your investment.

Daphne lies in the same classification of plants—not entirely at home in our Southland but so loved for its small blossoms of heavenly fragrance—and often so well grown as to encourage other sentimental gardeners

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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA GARDEN COMMITTEE

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E. O. Tourje
Secretary

*Report to the Board of Directors, Southern California Camellia Society.
Season 1951 - 1952.*

The most noteworthy achievement of the season just closed was the opening of the Southern California Camellia Garden to the public on February 9, 1952, as reported to the society members in the March issue of *Camellia Review*.

A very considerable amount of work was done and effort expended by the management and staff of Huntington Botanic Gardens in preparation for this event. This was especially the case in the matter of landscaping; the extension and re-location of approaches and trails; the widening of trails; the construction of handrails along trails throughout the garden; and construction of retaining walls. Much more and equally important work is being planned for the interim between the close of 1951-1952 season and the re-opening date of the 1952-53.

INTEREST EVIDENT

Public attendance during the remainder of the season following the opening on February 9 was most encouraging, and we are assured by Superintendent Ronald B. Townsend and Curator Emeritis William Hertich that the trustees of Henry E. Huntington Library and Art Gallery are thoroughly intent on making and maintaining the Camellia Garden as one of the outstanding features of that world famous organization.

Much has been done to enhance the interest and enjoyment of those who visit the garden during the forthcoming season. Uniformed attendants, employees of the Huntington

Library and Art Gallery, will be stationed throughout the garden for the guidance of visitors and to prevent possible depredation.

NEW PLANTS SHOWN

As an added feature enhancing the general interest, your committee has, at considerable expense, obtained and planted at the garden entrances large matched specimen camellia plants of fine and popular varieties. The committee believes that these will add greatly to the dignity and beauty of the approaches.

During the past season the committee has furnished and the staff of the Huntington Botanic Garden has grafted on sizable understocks, scions of 172 japonica varieties, other species and hybrids not previously found in the garden.

These added to the 800 japonica varieties species and hybrids in the garden at the start of the 1951-52 season brings the total number of japonica varieties, species and hybrids to approximately one thousand named varieties. Of these, 800 varieties are of blooming size.

MANY DUPLICATES

There are many duplicates of named varieties so that the total number of plants in the garden is something in excess of 1600. Of these more than 1400 are of blooming size. A complete breakdown of the number of plants and varieties, species and hybrids, as well as the time of acquisition is appended to this report.

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TEMPLE CITY FOUND THE ANSWER

By R. M. LEEPER

About five years ago I became interested in displays at Temple City's first camellia show. We now have in our yard 35 camellia bushes, including several we ordered at camellia shows.

My interest in camellia shows grew to such an extent that I have helped to obtain exhibits for the 1951 and 1952 shows in Temple City.

As president of the Temple City Camellia Society, I helped to plan the show in 1952.

WORK STARTED EARLY

We chose our location early. Our working committees and chairman of the show were chosen well in advance of the show date, so that our schedules and entry blanks were available when needed for exhibitors.

Ribbons for each class were ready and for the first time we offered cups for certain exhibits not previously displayed at our show. The cups brought out some interesting exhibits.

The lady in charge of blossoms and arrangement and her committee, having made a detailed outline of space available for our floral exhibits, went into high gear getting applications signed.

GLAD TO HELP

I was glad when the chairman of the show invited me to assist him in obtaining the necessary landscaped exhibits from the nurseries of this and adjacent committees. Many of our skilled workers came from adjoining committees.

It was a pleasure indeed to call on these professional growers, most of whom were very cooperative in signing entry blanks covering plants in condition to show.

We want to emphasize that no rib-

bons were provided for landscaped exhibits.

To the professional growers the show meant long hours of toil and the expense of preparation, transportation, etc. Much of the work had to be done at night. Yet, these people were cheerfully taking on this extra work and expense to help make the show a success.

FRIENDLINESS IMPRESSIVE

We were greatly impressed by their friendliness and generosity. Camellia plants were donated on several occasions.

The list from which we were working included professional growers, the semi-professional, sometimes called "Professional Amateurs," and a few "Connoisseurs" who specialize in rare, expensive plants and who do not compete with other exhibitors in shows.

AMATEUR ENTRIES GOOD

Some of the best entries were obtained from amateurs and "Professional Amateurs," most of whom said "Exhibit these blossoms in any class you see fit. I am entering them to help the show." They contributed a great deal to our show.

UNDERSTOCK

Seedlings
Sarah Frost
3-5 years old

ANDRES SURINA

4808 KESTER AVE.
SHERMAN OAKS
ST. 4-3953

THIS CAMELLIA LOVES SUN

By ELIZABETH COUNCILMAN

The first reticulata was secured from Canton, China, and taken in his East India merchantman around the Cape of Good Hope to England by Captain Richard Rawes, an English sea captain, in 1820.

Captain Rawes took this plant, which was part of a collection of camellias, to the home of his sister and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Carey Palmer, Bromley, Kent, England where they grew it in their conservatory. It first bloomed in 1826.

This was the first known reticulata to come from China, its native land, and the variety *Captain Rawes*, of the specie reticulata, genus camellia, was thus named. It migrated from England to America where we know it in our gardens today.

Today, over 130 years later, I do not think that you could call the *Captain Rawes* variety of reticulata a common camellia, and perhaps this is due to the facts that it is a triploid type plant and has never been known to produce seed, and also that it can be propagated only by means of grafting. It has not been known ever to have been propagated by cuttings.

Because the *Captain Rawes* variety of reticulata is one of my pets here at Councilman Camellia Acres in El Monte, I have spent a good deal of study and time experimenting with grafting it and with its general culture; I thought you might find some of my results of interest to you.

UNDERSTOCK IMPORTANT

In grafting this variety I have had the best results when I have used hardy seedling understock. I did make one graft of *Captain Rawes* on a three-year gallon (five year old plant) *March. of Exeter* as understock and it was successful. The fact that I was out of available seedling understock was the real reason for doing this. I have had the best success in grafting this plant between February first and March fifteenth. It seems to do better if it has sufficient time to build a heavy callous before the growth cycle begins.

THRIVES IN SUN

One of the most interesting things that I have found is that the *Captain Rawes* does better in full sun than it does in partial shade. It responds also to a heavy mulch of peat moss and likes its roots kept fairly moist. If your reticulata is rather sparse in leaves, water the trunk and branches in the early evening after the sun has left the plant. You will find it will, in time, put out new shoots all along those bare branches.

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"I'M JUST A NOVICE, BUT . . ."

By J. O. HENRY

Ramona, California

How does a novice look at his camellia ventures?

Well here at the Lazy Daisy Ranch we have a number of live oaks on the place, and we naturally planted shade-loving shrubs along our pathways.

With the lot we acquired a *Pink Perfection* (every beginner I know started with a formal for some unknown reason) and we were so impressed by the ease with which camellias could be grown that we expanded our interest until now we have quite a few varieties.

EARLY BLOOMS WELCOME

Luckily we included a number of early-blooming sasanquas with our first plantings and we keep adding varieties, singles and doubles. Every one is beautiful and the sasanquas furnish a multitude of blossoms long before the japonicas start their blooming cycle.

Incidentally, the sasanquas seem to thrive in the shade, part shade, or full sun. They adapt themselves beautifully in the most graceful manner wherever you plant them, and they deserve a place in every nice garden.

Pests? Yes, we have them. Enemy Number One is the oak caterpillar which hatches in the spring. I am looking for an easy way to exterminate these hungry varmints—an insecticide that has some respect for human life. Enemy Number Two—rodents—gophers, moles, ground squirrels and wood rats. All are elusive, but the mole seems to be the most difficult to capture.

IRON IN WATER HELPS

Doc Tellam declares that we have unusually fine foliage, and he attributes it to the iron in our water. I think "quantity" as well as "quality"

of the water, plus ideal drainage, keeps our camellias in good condition.

Thus far we certainly haven't applied much "brain power" to our limited camellia project. But we do enjoy our camellias 365 days a year.

Then too, we especially like our camellia friends we have come to know in the San Diego Camellia Society—a fine, unselfish group who enjoy helping their fellow members and neighbors to produce finer flowers and wider varieties.

For this wealth of camellia pleasure, we feel especially indebted to our camellia nurserymen, and to one in particular who has until recently conducted a nursery in the Ramona area. Without him our "Lazy Dazy" would have been just plain "Dazy."

Harvey F. Short's

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To The Ladies!

BY DOROTHY LEITZ

The Christmas season is a wonderful time to make use of our early blooming camellias both as decorations for our homes and as lovely and unusual gifts. Also it is a nice idea to "dress up" some of your holiday packages by the addition of a camellia or two. In this event, I believe it is best to wrap with a plain colored paper or one with a simple pattern, rather than a "busy" figure.

One of my favorite combinations consists of pink camellias on a fairly dark brown paper tied with turquoise ribbon. If you make corsages, bear in mind the suggestion of Vern Jackson to fashion the flowers into a corsage and attach it to your package for a decoration which can also be worn by the recipient. This will surely "glamorize" your gift in a quite impressive way.

CORSAGES POPULAR

On the subject of corsages, I should like to encourage the custom of wearing them at this time of year. It adds such a cheerful note to one's costume when shopping or paying friendly calls.

For a change from camellia foliage, you might use sprigs of fir or other evergreen with a red or red-and-white camellia and add two or three tiny bells. Such a corsage would make a thoughtful gift in itself.

There are innumerable ideas for Christmas decorations using camellias. To recall some which Mr. Jackson demonstrated in his talks to the society—do you remember the beautiful little Christmas tree which was sprayed a light blue and trimmed with *Pink Perfections* tied with ribbon bows near the tips of the

branches? Or the dramatic manzanita boughs or driftwood accented with camellias wired in place?

One of the loveliest was a good sized bell shaped from small chicken wire and gilded; satin ribbon streamers were used for the "clapper" and it was fastened up with a bow of the same ribbon, then small camellias were wired here and there on the bell and one tied to the clapper. The effect was really charming. Can you visualize such a bell with leaf-green ribbon and red camellias or red ribbon with white ones? Any of these suggestions would be excellent for a special holiday party.

For the more conventional decoration, why not take a large plain wreath of some traditional Christmas evergreen and crisscross rather narrow red ribbon around it to form a diamond pattern; then at either top or bottom of the circle place a grouping of several red camellias or perhaps only two or three if the flowers are large such as *Gigantea*.

The stems could be placed in small vials of water buried in the wreath to increase keeping qualities, but the flowers should be wired in place. Such a wreath would be handsome on your front door, in an entrance hall or above the fireplace.

TABLE SUGGESTION

As a suggestion for a Christmas centerpiece for your dinner table, try using white tapers of various heights in a shallow container interspersing them with graceful sprays of green and white ivy, carrying out a horizontal line, and grouping several red or white camellias low in the arrangement. Have the ivy or any other foliage clean and glossy.

Margaret Carrick offers a good solution for the problem of fastening candles to pin holders. She wraps a strip of hardware cloth (wire) around

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INTRODUCTION TO SASANQUAS

By ZITA MARKS

Today I met a bevy of beautiful ladies. Some were bold, some were demure and some just flaunted their skirts in a swirl of colors. They were sasanquas!

I had stopped in Pasadena to chat with Mrs. Vern McCaskill, and as I was leaving I asked her what kind of a vine she had climbing up the front of her house. It is up to the roof and climbing fast. The foliage is a fine dark green and has masses of deep live pink blossoms, making a very striking effect. I had never seen this kind of a plant before. "Why," she said, "that is a sasanqua named *Cleopatra*."

And it thrives in the sun with no protection.

COMPARISON NOT VALID

I think the general public, like myself, has been trying to compare the sasanqua with the japonica. They are related—yes—but so are the orange, lemon and grapefruit of the citrus family related. A japonica does not act or look like a tea plant, so a sasanqua doesn't look or act like a japonica. Sasanquas will climb like a rose, weep like a willow, crawl on the ground like ivy. They can be used as a low-growing border, a high hedge, as a specimen shrub and in numerous other ways. Here is a plant to fit your imagination. I have seen it doing all of these things, so now I am a brand new convert.

GOOD GROUND COVER

Why not dig up your ivy lawn and plant *Tanya* or *Autumn Snow* as a ground cover. Your snail problem would be solved immediately and from September until January you would have masses of beautiful blooms.

For a low growing border around your other flowers, or to outline your garden paths, plant a *Showa-no-Sa-*

kae. Around a pool plant a *Charmer*. It has a lacy, weeping, graceful fern-like quality that is simply beautiful. The blossom on this beauty looks like the Albert and Elizabeth azalea. Against your hot cement walls train *Briar Rose*, *Cleopatra* or *Ryomen-Beni* and let them run rampant.

FOLIAGE UNUSUAL

There is one called *Okina-Goroma* that simply fascinated me. Its leaves are two-toned. The edges are grey-green and the center of the leaf is a beautiful dark green. The flower is a blush pink with a mauve pink edge. Beautiful! The combination of unusual foliage and the gorgeous blooms make a startling flower arrangement.

Another unusual one is named *Hidoshi*. The blossom looks like red and white silk moire, believe it or not.

All these, and many more, Mrs. McCaskill has growing in her garden. After pestering her for three hours I felt I had to know more about this unusual plant.

BASKETS HIS HOBBY

Next I called on Sam Keller at Keller's Nursery in San Gabriel. His hobby is making odd and unusual baskets, boxes and tubs of redwood. His plantings are always original. In a boatshaped redwood container with an iron handle, like a market basket, he has planted azaleas and sasanquas. You can pick them up and place them anywhere your fancy dictates.

He has some very unusual round baskets, suspended by a heavy iron chain, from which the sasanquas cascade in a profusion of blossoms. On posts he has other odd-shaped boxes planted with sasanquas.

In some large redwood tubs he has placed a trellis arrangement at the

(Continued on Page 17)

NOTES, NOTICES and NEWS

FAMED GARDEN REOPENS

The Southern California Camellia Garden will reopen December 16, Superintendent Ronald B. Townsend of the famed Huntington Botanic Gardens announced recently.

More than 1400 blooming camellia plants will be on display, and will include some 800 varieties of blooming size.

Many of the early blooming plants will be in their glory for the holiday season, including not only japonicas but the newer and very popular sasanquas.

RESERVATIONS ADVISED

Reservations may be made by writing to the Henry E. Huntington Library, Art Gallery and Botanic Gardens, San Marino 9, California, or by telephoning SYcamore 2-6141.

The finest camellia garden in America will be open daily except Mondays, 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., during the camellia season.

Entrance to the garden is located at Stratford and Oxford Road in San Marino. Visitors arriving by way of Pasadena are advised to drive south on Allen Avenue to Orlando Road, then east to Oxford Road and south on Oxford to Stratford Road.

FIRST FALL MEET

Opening Fall meeting of the Southern California Camellia Society took place November 13 in the group's new meeting place, the Jefferson School Auditorium, 1500 block on East Villa Street in Pasadena.

Mrs. A. H. Dekker directed a cut-blossom exhibit which preceded the meeting and a program arranged by Harold E. Dryden.

Guest speaker William Wylam chose as his subject "Camellia Sasanqua," and a discussion of exhibit blossoms was led by William Woodroof and Plant Chairman Dan Sullivan.

This month's meeting of the society

is set for December 11.

Seedlings and mutants aimed at garnering the coveted Hertrich Awards now are being registered and entered by hopeful growers.

EXPERIMENT PLANNED

A bulletin from the South Carolina Camellia Society reveals that the recently opened Clemson Test Garden will be the site of an experiment next year in which 80 own-root *Lady Clare* (*Empress*) plants of 3-4 years will serve as identical subjects for tests of various fertilizing methods. The tests will attempt to answer the recurrent questions involving fertilizers: when, where, what, and how much?

The bulletin also carries the information from Norman Hastie of Magnolia Gardens that the *Lindsay Neill*, a big success in South Carolina, failed to live up to its promises in California where growers were cutting the plants down and using them for root stock. On the other hand, he pointed out, South Carolina blooms of *Debutante* and *Mrs. K. Sawada* are far surpassed by California blooms of these same varieties. Hastie also pointed out that for reasons unknown flowers which were delicate shades of pink in South Carolina were several shades darker in California while the southern rose-colored and red camellias were two to three shades lighter on the west coast.

BEETLE HARMLESS

And for those readers concerned about inroads of the white-fringed beetle, this insect according to Hastie is in no way harmful to camellias.

Western varieties recommended by Hastie for South Carolina growers were *Spring Sonnet* and *Anita's Blush*.

Newly elected president of the Temple City Camellia Society is Lawrence Bryant, 409 Coolidge Drive, San Gabriel.

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GOOD COMPANIONS

from page 5

to plant it.

Just a word about gardenias—they are *not* for the shade garden. They like only light shade, must have warmth and protection from drafts. The same is true in some degree of the gingers—they need warmth and some sun in order to flower; but will make handsome foliage in deeper shade. I am particularly fond of the dwarf variety which grows to about two feet and combines with ferns so delightfully and produces splendid cut material:

GOOD SHADE PROSPECT

The hydrangeas are among our finest subjects for summer bloom in the shade garden. I would skip the common old macrophylla variety

which takes so much room, in favor of the lower-growing hybrids with their wide color range and long blossoming season.

And do not forget the deciduous types—oakleaf, peegee and others. They are less known in Southern California but worth planting if you have the room.

Now the hollies—very fine for shade—useful and beautiful in their various types. Mahonia, or Oregon grape, ditto. Pittosporums also.

Podocarpus deserves a paragraph to itself. This beautiful small tree, sometimes called fern pine, makes a beautiful background for camellias. Its tracery of dark green foliage is particularly handsome against a stucco wall. Extremely graceful when supported or trimmed to fit its position, it is sturdy and adaptable to many

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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locations. Less formal and faster growing than the incomparable Irish yew, it may often be used to frame a doorway or entrance.

"A PERFECT FOIL"

Nandina domestica, sometimes called heavenly bamboo, although it is a barberry and not a bamboo, is worthy of special mention. Hardy and enduring, *nandina*, with its upright growth form and handsomely fine-cut foliage, is a perfect foil for the camellia. Tolerant to the same conditions, beautiful throughout the year, it has a small blossom head which later produces red berries, but the glory of the shrub is its foliage. I would never plant less than three.

Pleroma, or *tichouchina*, is a must for the shade garden—although it likes heat and will stand a good bit of sun. Its spectacular summer flowers of royal purple lend beauty during the camellia off-season.

Sarcococca, on the other hand, gives fragrance during the blooming season of the camellia, and provides attractive small leathery leaves the year round.

VARIOUS TYPES OFFERED

Raphiolepis is a handsome shade shrub that may be procured in various types—*ovata* is useful for foreground planting as it will grow wider than high; but *indica* gives greater quantity of handsome white flowers in late winter—you should see it in La Jolla!

I am fond of *spirea*—variety Anthony Waterer, with its fine-cut leaves and charming raspberry pink flowers that are interesting even as they dry. The *viburnum* family is so large and so useful for shade planting that it should have an article all to itself; but do not forget variety *opulus*, our old-fashioned snow ball, which—although deciduous—produces such interesting flowers in spring, and such

spectacular leaf color in fall as to be quite important in our California gardens.

PLANT HAS MANY USES

Trachelospermum, or star jasmine, is a subject important enough to bring this article to a close. As they say of the football heroes, this plant is a *triple threat*. Beautiful as a vine, fine for ground cover, or allowed to mound upon itself gracefully, it gives us dark, waxy evergreen foliage and white blossoms of the most delicate fragrance over almost the entire summer.

I have listed only a few of the good companions for camellias—sorry if I left out your favorite—but in Southern California where flourishes beautiful plant material from all over the world, we must become selective or we quickly outgrow our garden space.

CAMELLIA TRAIL

A new book by Professor E. G. Waterhouse, published in Australia. Edition limited to 1,000 numbered copies. Ready for delivery about December 30. Books will be mailed direct from Sydney by the printer.

This work contains on 80 pages the results of many years of research into the origin and nomenclature of camellia varieties, carried on by the author in Australia, New Zealand and Europe.

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TOO MANY CAMELLIAS

from page 3

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FAVORITES EMERGE

For a measuring stick to guide you, let us look at a few varieties that have, for over a hundred years in some cases, become our most loved. Among these we find *Alba Plena*, *Chandleri Elegans*, *Daikagura*, *Kumasaka*, *Emperor of Russia*, *Donckerari*, *Lady Clare*, *Monjishu* and a few others. The afore-mentioned varieties all have a different type flower, some small flowered, some large flowered but all have two things in common—good growth habits and a profusion of bloom. Therefore we must accept the fact that these two factors are the most important to look for in a new variety.

It takes time to evaluate a new outstanding camellia and for this reason alone I will not attempt to judge the very latest. Keeping in mind the known fact that one variety is good in central California but a "stinker" in Georgia, I will give you a few varieties among the newer group that I feel sure are here to stay.

Lady Kay, *Joshua Youtz* and *C. M. Wilson* are sports from our most loved old timers. *Lady Kay*, indirectly,

comes from *Donckelari* and there is certainly nothing like it; cherry red blotched white, incomplete double to full peony type flower that has thirty to thirty-three deeply serrated petals.

C. M. Wilson is a sport from *Chandleri* and in the shell pink flower we will find it will become the most popular in this color range.

Joshua Youtz is our best early white in its class. *Eugene Lize*, *Glen 40*, *Lady Charlotte*, *Lawrence Walker*, *Louise McClay*, *Martha Brice*, *Mme. Hahn*, *Mrs. Nellie Eastman*, *Pax*, *Robert E. Lee*, *Rosea Plena*, *Senator Fletcher*, *Triphosa*, and *Victory* are some of the newer varieties that are sure to climb into the exalted spot.

TRULY THE "QUEEN"

Some of the newest varieties which I know to have very fine flowers but know very little about their habits are *Paulette Goddard*, *Lena Jackson*, *Dr. Tinsley*, *Big Beauty*, *Pearl Maxwell*, *Sweet Sixteen*, *Thelma Dale*, *Virgins Blush*.

In spite of the lack of discretion in the introduction of new varieties, the camellia has become one of our most wanted plants. It has become, in a unique way, a family heirloom to be moved with the furniture and not left behind, but through it all it has held its head high and has truly earned the title and crown "Queen of the Aristocrats."

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SASANQUAS

from page 11

back and planted two sasanquas of contrasting colors and trained them all over the diamond shaped trellis. On extra large boxes he has placed the trellis in the center and planted a sasanqua on either side. Sam has more unusual ideas for planting them in containers than I have seen thus far.

CLIMBER RECOMMENDED

Then I called at Mr. A. H. Stephens' home on Camino Real in West Arcadia. His nursery has a lot of very tall trees on the property and he recommends the *White Dove* for climbing in the trees. He says that though they will never take the place of japonicas, you can do some very interesting things with sasanquas to complement your camellias. Mr. Stephens likes them best as covering for a fence.

I saw one called *Choji Guruma*. It is a deep rose red and is the most unusual one I have seen. A pincushion center surrounded by flat guard petals. It is a beautiful climber espalier.

POOL OUTLINED

In Arcadia I saw a swimming pool outlined with a sasanqua called *Charmer*. Tree-like plants wept masses of blossoms down to the side of the pool. They have long graceful fern-like branches, kept pruned up to about seven feet, the top branches allowed to swirl down to the ground.

From all of the good people I mentioned I learned that sasanquas are fast growers; love lots of sun; are almost pest-free; make very beautiful Japanese flower arrangements. In short, very unusual plants.

And may I make a suggestion—that you go to a nursery which makes a specialty of sasanquas and see, as I did, all the unusual things which can be done with them.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

from page 6

The committee wishes to emphasize the fact that the cordiality of relationship between the society and the Huntington institution—always excellent—seems now to be at an all time high. The committee envisions and looks forward to many years of cooperative and constructive effort.

SEEDS BRING REVENUE

The committee further reports that one of the principal sources of revenue to the committee is the net income derived annually from the sale of camellia seeds turned over to the committee by the Huntington Garden and sold by the society to its members and to the general public. The net derived from this source during the past season amounted to \$417.91. Stimulated interest in seeding generally indicates that this figure will be exceeded during the forthcoming season.

As of July 1, 1952, the committee had to its credit in the treasury of the society the net unexpended sum of \$1624.06. This should be increased during the ensuing season, subject only to withdrawals for various purposes now under consideration by the committee. These purposes will be reported to the board from time to time.

SCREENING A PROBLEM

In the past one of the chief functions of the committee has been to furnish the garden with new and additional varieties. Now that the garden has become one of the outstanding, if not the greatest camellia garden in the world, one of the chief functions of the committee has become one of screening out the less desirable of the new varieties being introduced to the public.

It is a commendable fact that most of the originators of new camellias make their originations available to

(Continued on Page 20)

TO THE LADIES . . .

from page 10

the base of each candle so it will stand in the holder.

If you are the fortunate possessor of one or two large hurricane globes or of a Victorian glass bell you could make an arrangement to fit inside the glass, probably combining camellias with some other flowers and foliage for height. *Bouvardia* would be lovely if available. This type of arrangement is distinguished looking on mantle, buffet or a console table.

GLAZED PAPER HANDY

When making gifts of camellia plants in cans a good easy wrapping for the containers is glazed shelf paper which comes in various colors and also in very colorful plaid patterns that have a nice Christmas feeling.

Then there are many more expensive coverings such as woven mats and match-stick bamboo mats. Any of these look well plain or with harmonizing ribbons. Of course it goes without saying that the plant and container should be clean and groomed.

Nice gifts to fellow camellia growers are plants of other flowering shrubs which bloom at the same time and combine well with camellias in

arrangements. Geraldton wax flower is an excellent choice; also the leptospermums in various colors, especially the jewel-like richness of *L. Ruby Glow*.

Flowering fruit trees are also extremely good. I like those which have graceful branches and rather small flowers in preference to a heavier, bunched type of bloom. *Prunus Pissardi* is very nice with camellias and its dark bronze foliage produces an interesting contrast.

GIFT IDEA

Incidentally, why not make yourself a present of some of these plants for your own use? They all like a sunny location in the garden.

While on the subject of flowers to combine with camellias, consider bulbs of blue and white Roman hyacinths, lilly-of-the-valley, snow drops, grape hyacinths and watsonias to mention a few. Other dainty small flowers which come to mind are *ageratum*, forget-me-nots and *campanula*. More will occur to you I am sure.

By observing good flower arrangements in shows and illustrations we can find many ideas for out of the ordinary, but appropriate, plant materials to cultivate in our own gardens and thus increase the pleasure of living with our camellias.

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Interim Report by Garden Committee To Board of Directors, Southern California Camellia Society

	June, 1952		
	Prior to 1951-52	During 1951-52	Total
Japonica varieties listed in 1951 nomenclature book	669	106	775
Japonica varieties not listed in 1951 nomenclature book	74	28	102
	743	134	877
Sansanqua varieties	42	23	65
Reticulata varieties	7	10	17
Misc. hybrids		5	6
Other species	5		5
Total	797	172	969

There are many duplicates of the above species and varieties, thus bringing the total number of plants of named varieties as follows:

Japonica varieties	1521
Sasanqua varieties	95
Reticulata varieties	38
Hybrids	8
Other species	5

Total 1667

COMMITTEE REPORT

from page 18

the garden. They do this with complete assurance that their originations will be designated only by number until they are of blooming size, and protected against vandalism. The committee takes especial pride in the confidence which the integrity of the garden management and the committee has inspired among the camellia growers.

The committee views the approach of the opening of the garden for the 1952-53 season with utmost confidence that the showing will reflect to the credit of both the Huntington Botanic Gardens and the Southern California Camellia Society, and that the exhibition will be both interesting and inspirational to all who visit the garden.

EDITOR'S CORNER

from page 2

Another of those fascinating little nooks of the world that we hope one day to see is the J. O. Henry "Lazy Dazy" ranch at Ramona. Henry, a contributor to this issue of the Review, dropped us a letter to say: "When you are down this way please drop by. We acquired this little 3-acre plot during the war to use as a week-end hide-away. When I retired from business 2½ years ago we decided to make the place our permanent residence.

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