

THE *Camellia*
REVIEW

A Publication of the Southern California Camellia Society



C. JAPONICA 'TAMA-NO-URA'
Courtesy Nuccio's Nurseries

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Southern California Camellia Society Inc.

An organization devoted to the advancement of the Camellia for the benefit of mankind — physically, mentally and inspirationally.

The Society holds open meetings on the Second Tuesday of every month, November to April, inclusive at the San Marino Women's Club House, 1800 Huntington Drive, San Marino. A cut-camellia blossom exhibit at 7:30 o'clock regularly precedes the program which starts at 8:00.

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THE COVER FLOWER

C. JAPONICA 'TAMA-NO-URA'

Courtesy Nuccio's Nurseries, Altadena, Calif.

The camellia cultivar *C. japonica* 'TAMA-NO-URA' blooms in the single form with a very distinct color of red petals trimmed on the edges with white. The stamens are thick and perfectly formed. The plant blooms middle to late in the season. Occasionally the late blooms will have very thin lines or no trimming at all on the petals. The leaves are medium sized, thin and oval shaped. They tend to curl inward slightly in a concave shape. The plant has a vigorous upright growth.

The original tree of 'TAMA-NO-URA' was a chance discovery of a Japanese charcoal dealer in 1947 on Chichiga-Dake Mountain near the town of Tamanoura. The town is located on the small island of Fukue Shima, in Nagasaki Prefecture in Southwestern Japan. When the camellia was discovered the tree was 6 meters tall and had a very dense growth. The tree was growing on a very steep, rocky slope.

After the first public exhibition of 'TAMA-NO-URA' in Nagasaki in February 1973 camellia experts became very interested in it because of its unusual variegation. Because of this variegation interest many camellia hobbyists visited remote Chichiga-Dake mountain and through their thoughtlessness destroyed the original plant of 'TAMA-NO-URA.' By cutting so many scions for their own selfish interests the ages old original tree of 'TAMA-NO-URA' died! When Julius and Bonnie Nuccio visited Japan in May 1977 they saw the cultivar and arranged to import it to the United States. 'TAMA-NO-URA' will be introduced by Nuccio's Nurseries in the Fall of 1979.



THOUGHTS

from the editor

It was just a year ago — in September, 1978 — that the idea to have a Special Issue of CAMELLIA REVIEW featuring the Gulf Coast Camellia Area came into my feeble brain. I had just finished reading an issue of the Official Bulletin of the Gulf Coast Camellia Society telling all about the Fish Fry and Shrimp Gumbo Feast which they put on down in Mobile each August. I thought to myself: “THESE PEOPLE CAN’T ALL BE REBELS! THEY MUST BE FROM THE SAME CUT OF CLOTH THAT WE ARE — WITH OUR CAMELLIA-RAMA! WHY NOT FIND OUT A LITTLE BIT MORE ABOUT THEM?”

So, I contacted our good friend Violet May (Mrs. Henry S.) Stone down in Baton Rouge, and told her what I had in mind. “Vi” took to the idea immediately and presented it to the Gulf Coast Camellia Society Board of Directors. They approved it and gave “Vi” carte blanche to proceed. Well, you all know what carte blanche means. It means — “give the cart to Blanche and let her pull it”! The only thing is that Blanche turned out to be Elizabeth Cooper over in Nashville. “Vi” Stone “bird-dogged” the authors to write the articles and they were sent to Elizabeth Cooper to collect and edit. Now I don’t know how many of you readers have had any experience as an editor. The usual “track record” for getting articles is about two months late. However, this is not the case with “Vi” Stone and Elizabeth Cooper. Would you believe it if I told you that I had all seven articles, in hand, typed and edited, on June 5th? I felt like I was in “Hog Heaven!”

And so, — there you have it. A Special Issue featuring seven articles on the Gulf Coast Area — its camellias and its people. I hope that you will read all of these articles. If you do, you will find out that these Gulf Coasters are just as zany a bunch of crazies as we are about camellias and camaraderie.

BILL DONNAN

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Southern California Camellia Society

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Fullerton, Ca 92631

PREFACE

By G. Ernest Harrison, Nashville, Tenn.

President Gulf Coast Camellia Society
Director-at-Large, American Camellia Society

"To bind in friendship and fellowship camellia growers of the South and to stimulate and extend camellia culture" reads the letterhead of the Gulf Coast Camellia Society, Inc. and the masthead of its official publication. This purpose was the motivating force that brought about the organizational meeting in the Roosevelt Hotel in New Orleans, La. on Aug. 5, 1962.

A published report of that meeting stated more than 250 applications for membership were received and nearly 100 camellia enthusiasts from five states attended the luncheon meeting where a board of directors and officers were elected (pictured as Four Young Men of the Year).

A lot of water has flowed through the bayous in those intervening years. How are we doing in 1979?

The first president and first show Chairman are still active growers of trophy-winning blooms. Of the 17 original board members, only three are still active as age and attrition have taken their toll. The membership stands at the 300 mark representing not only the five Gulf States but also others of the South from the Carolinas to Tennessee, Texas, Arkansas and Oklahoma. In addition to the usual officers, each state has a vice president on the executive board.

In American Camellia Society affairs, Gulf Coast members have provided excellent leadership on such committees as membership, publications, finance, charter and by-laws, fund-raising, etc. Of the nine living ACS presidents-emeriti the Gulf Coast claims four and includes the new president, Roy Stringfellow.

Gulf Coast members have come in for their share of ACS honors for

prize-winning blooms. On the silver salver at ACS Headquarters at Massee Lane four of the five growers of the Best Bloom of Australian Origin are GCCS members. In the four years of the presentation of the Armita Cawood trophy for the best japonica exhibited at the show connected with the annual ACS meeting, two GCCS members have received the award given by another member, Harold Cawood, in memory of his wife.

For many years it was said that the largest of all camellia shows was "Camellias Magnificent" held in the heart of the Gulf Coast territory where as many as 10,000 blooms crowded the large municipal auditorium of Birmingham, Ala. This, no doubt, does not hold true in recent years as adverse winter weather and the energy shortage have somewhat curtailed even greenhouse growing.

In the past it was said that within 150 miles of Mobile, Ala. there were more camellia nurseries and more amateur camellia growers than anywhere in the country. That day, too, may have passed for reasons of age, weather, energy and economics.

This last named, the current economic state, has for several years been exerting its influence on the annual shows staged by local societies. Many groups have bowed to financial necessity by accepting the offer of shopping malls for free-staging space. Exhibitors are feeling the pinch in getting to shows because of higher gasoline prices and the shortage of same and by ever-rising prices for food and lodging. Societies have had to cut down on their trophies and on their entertainment of guests. Where it will end and how it will affect future camellia shows, is anybody's guess.

The Gulf Coast no longer stages a show in its name but rather assists those local societies who need its help with shows. However, once a year GCCS members get together in late summer in Mobile for a two-day meeting. I firmly believe the strength of GCCS lies in its aid to local societies, in the fine programs at the summer meeting and in the quarterly news publication that keeps the membership well informed.

This past blooming season we saw laudable aims as expressed in the GCCS purpose come to life — wonderful hospitality with the opening of homes for entertainment; great fraternal spirit among local societies notably in helping to reactivate defunct societies and helping them stage a show; and members going great distances to provide blooms and Hospitality Room food and drink.

Interesting local society meetings showed innovative planning in a proposal to stage a show of gibbed unprotected blooms the last weekend in October to compensate for the loss of unprotected blooms due to adverse weather at the time of mid-winter shows; generous sharing where members brought several hundred scions spreading them over tables for free choice; and exceptionally good educational seminars as evidenced by notable improvement in the educational sector at the last two ACS annual meetings held in Gulf Coast territory.

The officers and members of the Gulf Coast Camellia Society sincerely thank Editor Bill Donnan for this opportunity to share our experiences in the world of camellia culture and shows. We trust this preface and articles that follow will reveal many joys we have in common in our efforts to make our purpose live.

THE HISTORY OF THE GULF COAST CAMELLIA SOCIETY

by **Dr. Alvin E. Johnson**
New Orleans, La.

The Gulf Coast Camellia Society was founded in 1962 by Jake Nowak as a result of an inspired brainstorm. Jake was, and still is, the Oil-E-Cide representative for the gulf coast states, and he travels from the tip of Florida to Brownsville, Texas, calling upon garden suppliers, wholesale nursery growers, retail nursery yards, and prominent private growers. As he came to know the camellia people in these places, he learned that they had all heard of each other, but did not know each other. Names were known, either from varieties named after people, or from originators of cultivars listed in the Nomenclature Book.

These names — existing sort of in vacuo — were legendary — Tom Clower (Olive Elizabeth), Dr.

Reeves Wells, Walter F. "Hody" Wilson, Jr., Bill Ruffin (Tomorrow's Dawn), Ernest Judice, Dr. Walter Hava (Aroma), Gus Menard, Dr. Robert E. Schwartz, etc. Growers in Orlando, Tallahassee, Houston, Dallas, and Jackson had heard these names, but probably had not met many of these people, if any.

When the idea hit Jake, he discussed it with his walking-distance neighbors, Charles and Jackie Nugent. With their affirmative nod, he was ready to issue a call to nurserymen and private growers throughout the gulf states. The first meeting was held in the Blue Room of the Roosevelt Hotel (now the Fairmont) in New Orleans in the summer of 1962. Dr. Reeves Wells, of Panama City, Fla., was elected president; Dr.

Hava, vice president; Herb Segner, secretary; Charles Nugent, treasurer. Jake declined office. It was decided that the new society would stage an annual camellia show, and that the first one would be in New Orleans. Sam Zerkowsky was appointed show chairman.

The next meeting was in Ferol and Sam Zerkowsky's greenhouse (Tammia Nursery) in November 1962. It was attended by about 150 enthusiastic growers from Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Texas. My wife (Eckie) and I attended this meeting and all subsequent meetings except two (August 1970, November 1971) frequently traveling with the Oscar Elmers and the Gus Menards. Those present read like a "Who's Who in the Camellia World, South." The atmosphere was of joy and enthusiasm. People were meeting other people who had before just been names, and new friends were made. Everyone had a good time. There was a lot of talk about future plans, especially about having the show each year in a different city. It was announced that Dr. Reeves Wells had resigned as president, due to health. The presidency was offered to Jake Nowak,

but he declined. Finally he accepted the post of "general manager" until next election.

The first show was held at the Roosevelt Hotel in New Orleans in January 1963, and was the culmination of a two-day meeting. It was a very large and successful show and featured categories by size as well as outside and protected divisions.

A one-day spring meeting was held in April 1963 at Schilling's Nursery, Loranger, La., and was well attended.

A summer meeting in early August 1963 was very well attended in Mobile, Ala.

This became the format for the society's activities during the 1960's: A two-day summer meeting in Mobile to initiate the year and elect officers, a one-day fall meeting at Tammia Nursery, the winter two day meeting and show at the Roosevelt in New Orleans, and an optional spring meeting — different places — no business transacted.

After serving as "general manager" the first year, Jake Nowak was elected president in 1963. Subsequent presidents during the 60's each serving one year, were Ferol Zerkowsky, Charles Nugent, George

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Morgan of Beaumont, Texas, Sam Zerkowsky, C.C. Crutcher of Mobile, and myself.

The membership rose in the first two years to over 200, and reached 300 in the third year. There was still an undercurrent of desire for the show to move to other locations, and on one occasion the Gulf Coast Camellia Society combined its show with that of the Men's Camellia Society of Pensacola, at the Pensacola Municipal Auditorium. Subsequent shows were held at the Whitney Bank in New Orleans.

In 1971 a major change in policy was enacted at the Mobile August meeting. The society decided to eliminate its show, and, instead, resolved to aid and assist local clubs in giving their shows and in other ways. Bob Sansing of Pensacola was elected president and served two terms. He did a remarkable job of rebuilding the membership from its lowest point ever to its highest point ever (at that time). Under his leadership, and with continued excellent leadership by succeeding presidents, the late Graydon Ausmus of Tuscaloosa, Ala., Dr. H. L. Berridge of Fort Walton Beach, Fla., Violet Stone of Baton Rouge, and Ernest Harrison of Nashville, Tenn., the society has grown, prospered, and has been of great value and service to many other clubs. One of our proud achievements is the reactivation of a camellia club and reestablishment of a show in Greenville, Ala. Our own New Orleans Club and the recent ACS convention in New Orleans were greatly helped by the GCCS. The membership is now at an all time high in numbers as well as in enthusiasm. Our meetings are at Mobile in August, featuring a seafood bash at Belle Fontaine Nursery, and at the fall and winter conventions of ACS, plus any other designated shows which we are supporting either by manpower, money, or with flowers. The GCCS always was

a fun organization, and besides doing good work, we are all having a great time.

GULF COAST FAVORITES*

Ann Blair Brown, Fort Valley, Ga.

**In the context of this article "Gulf Coast" includes the Carolinas and Georgia since there are many ACS members in these states of the ACS Atlantic Coast Territory who are active in the Gulf Coast Camellia Society both as members and officers.*

Camellias came down to the South and Gulf Coast soon after their first entry into the United States in Hoboken, N. J., of all places. For a concise, complete, and true history of camellias in this country you will want to read Chapter 1, "History" in *The Camellia, Its History, Culture, Genetics And a Look Into Its Future Development*, Editor David L. Feathers and Associate Editor Milton H. Brown. The famous botanist, A. P. Wilder wrote in 1835 that in July 1800 "a plant of the Double White (later named 'Alba Plena')" was brought to Hoboken by Michael Floy for John Stevens, Esq., "who had two or three years earlier imported the 'Single Red,'" probably a seedling. 'Alba Plena' today is still one of the Gulf Coast favorites. There are few small towns, or large plantation gardens, that do not still grow this early and very pretty white formal double. Though it shatters badly, it blooms too early for camellia petal blight to bother it.

'Ville de Nantes,' despite its origins in 1897 by Jean Heurtin in Nantes, France, is still a top favorite of Gulf Coasters. It is virtually the trademark of the ACS with some 20 large plants at Masee Lane; it continues to win many camellia shows or to place on the Honor Court — with 15 such wins this year. This number of wins for the 1978-79 season tied another Gulf Coast favorite,

and certainly one of my real favorites, 'Betty Sheffield Supreme,' for second place nationally. The 'Tomorrow' family, and especially the 'Tomorrow Park Hill,' continues to "stare at you" at each camellia show in this area.

The initial awards of the ACS National Camellia Hall of Fame listed 20 *C. japonicas*. You will see some of all of these at shows along the Gulf Coast, but more important is the fact that as you travel throughout the area you will see some of each of these varieties in small gardens or yards, public plantings and in large camellia "collections." These are: 'Adolphe Audusson' solid and var., 'Alba Plena,' 'Betty Sheffield' and family, 'Carter's Sunburst' and family, 'Debutante,' 'Donckelarii' 'Magnoliaeflora,' 'Mathotiana,' 'Pink Perfection,' 'R. L. Wheeler' and var., 'Drama Girl,' 'Elegans (Chandler)' and family, 'Guilio Nuccio' solid and var., 'Lady Clare' and var., 'Reg Ragland' and var., 'Sawada's Dream,' 'Snowman,' 'Tiffany,' 'Tomorrow' and family, and 'Ville de Nantes.' Our out-of-door growers will also "grow and show" 'Anticipation,' 'Charlean' and var., 'Donation,' 'Francie L,' and 'Valentine Day,' which are among the 10 hybrids also selected initially for the National Hall of Fame. Greenhouse growers are certainly growing and showing the others on that list as well. However, the *C. reticulatas* as well as Japonicas and their hybrids do not grow in most of our Gulf Coast area. This may soon change as Hulyn Smith, ACS Director for Georgia, is growing all of these that "he can get his hands on" and is doing smashingly well with them.

Among the smaller flowers you will find us having favorites of 'Tam-mia,' 'Grace Albritton,' 'Man Size,' 'Pink Perfection,' 'Dave Strother's 'Mini Pink' and 'Thirty Drops.' There may well be others, but these

run to the fore each year. And, who can look at 'Helen Bower,' solid or variegated, that doesn't list this among his favorites? Remember in 1955 when there was almost a track worn into the highway to Davis' Nursery in Seffner, Fla. to buy that new seedling of 'Elizabeth Boardman' — the new one being 'Mrs. D. W. Davis?' Ardent Gulf Coasters paid the "cool sum" of \$100.00 for a plant of this the first year! Later "Mrs. D. W. Davis Descanso" came to be held in the same regard.

'Professor Charles S. Sargent' is a camellia well-loved by the folks of the South. Actually, many people pick it and use it for Christmas decorations; some even refer to it as "the Christmas carnation"! 'Debutante' camellias also come into their lovely glory in time for the annual Debutante Season in most of the Southern cities. Perhaps it was just such a ball in that historic gem of a city, Charleston, that prompted the naming of another popular camellia in this area, 'Miss Charleston;' its variegated form has been a show stopper for over 15 years. Now, what can be more beautiful than a Southern belle at her Debut with her bouquet of 'Debutante' camellias interspersed with fragrant white stephanotis?

Camellias and "The Old South" are usually thought of as integral parts of gracious living. It is true today, but the emphasis is not on large, expensive plantation gardens. People's favorites are grown alongside small tenant houses, in small in-town gardens and in front and backyards from Virginia to Texas, along the Gulf Coast." You can really say, "All camellias are Gulf Coast Favorites!" You must remember that any selection of favorites is of necessity somewhat biased. This short list nowhere nearly is, or can be, complete. Also, I have not been able to "snoop" into everyone's greenhouse, front or back yard or garden.

GARDENS AND NURSERIES IN THE GULF COAST AREA

by Bea and Neal Rogers, Theodore, Ala.

The Gulf Coast area is fortunate to have a large group of nurseries, mostly commercial, and a number of beautiful and outstanding gardens both large and small. Let us take a quick trip through those states bordering the Gulf of Mexico with a peek at the camellias to be found along the way.

In researching the state of Texas we came upon an article in "The Camellia Journal" of the early '60's in which John D. Marr of Houston wrote of the public plantings of camellias in that city and of the Vance Burk Camellia Test Garden in Tyler. The latter is a five acre tract with extensive camellia plantings in conjunction with the Tyler Rose Test Garden. At the time of the article there were 150 japonicas and 50 sanquas. Many more have been added in the intervening years under the aegis of Louis Squyres and other Tyler camellia growers.

The Luther Stark Garden in Orange was reported in the early '40's to have a "Woodville Red" with an authentic history back to 1822 with some other plants said to date from 1815, long before Texas was Texas.

In the Beaumont area, the late Irwin Feray brought in camellias in 1905. Although these plants cannot be located today, there are many who remember the beautiful camellias and orchids which he grew during his lifetime. There are many large and small private plantings of our camellia friends in this and other Texas cities.

It is our understanding that Houston held the first camellia show in Texas in 1938. Records show that it was discontinued later because it became so large that it could not be held in the space available. That's Texas for you! However, Houston

now has an annual winter show as do a number of other Texas cities including Dallas, etc.

Port Arthur is the home of Tom Eagleson, who has represented the Texas ACS membership for a number of terms as state director. A nurseryman and avid grower of camellias and orchids, he has produced a goodly number of camellia cultivars. There are many, many small and large beautiful gardens in Texas but it would be as impossible to cover them all in one article as it would to cover Texas in a day.

Louisiana is a real camellia area from one end to the other. It would be hard to drive down a street in New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Slidell or just the countryside and not find camellias. Recently on a trip through a small town in Louisiana we were searching for a home in a new subdivision. We stopped and looked around noting that every new home with the exception of one was planted with camellias. That evening we were with a camellia group and were startled to learn that they had closed their membership having already 361. When we looked around the gathering, those attending to a large extent were young folk. HALLELUJAH!

At Abita Springs there is Casadaban's Nurseries. The last trip there was to have Rene show us large plants in the field full of gorgeous big (not gibbed) Tiffany blooms. It was a sight we shall never forget nor the truckload we drove away with.

In Slidell you will visit Tammia Nursery of Ferol and Sam Zerkowsky, widely known growers. They have outstanding displays in shows throughout the South and have released a large group of fine cultivars.

A visit to Baton Rouge with the group of camellia folk, seeing their lovely gardens and talking with Vi and Hank Stone and others makes one wish for a longer stay. But on to Shreveport where we find greenhouse and outdoor growers. This city boasts a very active camellia club and stages both a fall and spring show. Akin Nursery has long been a place to find good camellias and there are many beautiful large and small private gardens.

Traveling from Louisiana into Mississippi we come to the coast cities of Bay St. Louis, Biloxi and Gulfport. The entire area is still recovering from a devastating hurricane by which some homes and gardens were only slightly damaged while those leveled are being rebuilt. The Tom Clowers, long-time camellia growers and delightful hosts, have rebuilt their home and their garden is fast returning to normal. The Jim Smelleys at Moss Point have a beautiful greenhouse and garden to which the gate is always open.

Turning northward we come to Brookhaven for a visit in the gardens of the F. F. Beckers and Tom Perkins. The large collection of each has many overseas varieties and are always neat as the proverbial pin. We will be able to see some of the lovely Jackson greenhouse-grown blooms next January when the American Camellia Society holds its 35th annual meeting there.

Journeying into Alabama Tuscaloosa is our first stop. This is greenhouse territory for a very active group of growers. They stage a beautiful mid-winter show which usually includes parties at the homes of the Robert Alexanders and Dee and Dr. Jack Davis.

Birmingham with its very large show each year draws most of the best growers in the South. Strictly a men's organization, it has a very large and active membership of greenhouse growers. In Dothan you

will find Marguerite and Mark Cannon, the originator of the scion business. They are usually on the judging teams at most southeastern shows.

At Semmes, Ala. there is quite a large group of commercial nurseries growing mostly general nursery stock but always ready to lend a hand at local shows. Mobile has Flowerwood Nurseries, a tremendous camellia-growing establishment but strictly wholesale. At the Mobile show they always have a beautiful, large table display with several hundred "Betty Sheffield Supreme" in silver epergnes and like containers. Giant camellias and azaleas grow all over Mobile and the large camellia club stages a beautiful show each January of both indoor and outdoor grown blooms.

Theodore has the world famous Bellingrath Gardens and Home with a large display of Boehm porcelain. Truly a garden for all seasons, there is always something in bloom for its many visitors in addition to the extensive plantings of camellias. Further enhancing the Mobile show each year is an entrance garden arranged by the Bellingrath staff featuring blooming camellias as a background for various colorful spring flowers.

Some two miles east of Bellingrath on Dauphin Island Parkway you will find our home and greenhouses, Belle Fontaine Nursery. The welcome mat is always out.

Fifty miles eastward over in the Florida Panhandle the Men's Camellia Club of Pensacola refer to themselves as the oldest American camellia organization. This large group grows in the open as well as in greenhouses and at their annual January show you will find most any variety from the very old to those not yet released.

Fort Walton is another active group of inside and outside growers. The yards of homes do not seem to

be planted as heavily with camellias as one might expect but those we saw were really trees. At Panama City, that quiet and lovely city on the Gulf, there is another active group of indoor and outdoor camellia growers, who stage an annual show the first weekend in January.

Tallahassee is the home of the Payne Midyettes and others who grow in the open but there are a few greenhouses especially after the last several winters. Up over the line in Georgia at Moultrie it is a must to

stop by the nursery of Nell and Josh Wilkes for a good cup of coffee and a visit to their neat greenhouses with an abundance of excellent plants.

We hope your camellia tour of the Gulf States has been enjoyable. Space precludes other places and other folk. As we write we get itchy feet and if gasoline does not cease to be, we just may retrace our steps, for there is nothing we would rather do than walk through a garden or a greenhouse with a camellia friend.

SOME CAMELLIA GREATS OF THE GULF COAST AREA

by Violet May (Mrs. Henry S.) Stone, Baton Rouge, La.

Where does one begin when she wishes to speak of the camellia "Greats" of the Gulf Coast area? Suppose we begin with the ones who have been my guide and inspiration.

Our dear and beloved friend "Miss Ed" (Mrs. T. K. McKnight) was and still is my guide. She and Theo (Mrs. W. H. Gates), both of Baton Rouge, dragged me to camellia shows all over Louisiana back in the years when shows were just getting started in the state. They began judging in the early '40's so knew personally many of the founders of ACS.

It was my privilege to serve as a novice judge with Dr. Ira Nelson of the University of South Louisiana at Lafayette and W. F. "Hody" Wilson. The word "gentle"-man truly fitted Dr. Nelson and the esteem in which he was held was attested by the dedication to his memory of the arboretum in Lafayette this past March. This was during the 25th anniversary meeting of the Louisiana Society for Horticultural Research. It was our pleasure to attend and pay tribute to this man.

What can I tell anyone in the camellia world that he doesn't already know about "Hody"? To count him as a friend is a great blessing. For

many years I have said that I was going to write a book entitled "Hody Says."

How I look forward to the meetings and shows to chat with Mr. and Mrs. Tom Clower of Gulfport, Miss. Such delightful people who, though octogenarians, when their gulf-side home and gardens were destroyed by a hurricane, started over rebuilding the house in which Mrs. Clower was born and restoring their garden.

For too short a time I knew "Aunt Tillie" and "Uncle David" Wirth of New Orleans (that is what everyone around Louisiana called them). Today their daughter Margie (Mrs. P. J.) Marice of Mobile carries on their great tradition.

In more recent years since our retirement, we have met those two great camellia men from Birmingham, Lee Poe and Holden Naff. What fun it is to work with them at shows and what beautiful blooms they bring including some of their introductions such as "Evelyn Poe" and "Lila Naff" named for their late wives. Back in the days when Gordon Moughon and Dr. Lee Turlington were with us, this Birmingham quartet was referred to in camellia circles as "The Four Horsemen."

MY GARDEN FRIENDS — THE HIGOS

by **Thomas H. Perkins III**,
Brookhaven, Miss.

In Florida, Payne Midyette and his lovely wife, Charlotte, are still going strong. It was my pleasure to see them again at shows this past season.

I was most fortunate in having met Dr. Harold Hume some years ago (I have autographed copies of his books). What a pioneer he was in the camellia world as was Frank Griffin of Columbia, S.C. I truly prize his autographed book too. I refer to all these many times when in doubt.

Who in the camellia world does not know of that most generous man, Dave Strother, who gave Masee Lane to us all to enjoy? What a heritage it is for the camellia world!

A year ago when we visited Magnolia Gardens near Charleston, S.C. it was my rare privilege to meet Drayton Hastie and spend several hours walking in the old camellia gardens and the hallowed ground of his ancestors who without their foresight we probably would never have known the joys of camellias in this area of the world.

Last, but far from least, I mention Walter Morse Bellingrath, the originator of Bellingrath Gardens near Mobile, without whom I probably never would have had my keen interest in camellias. When I was only one month old, my father moved his little family out to what most Baton Rouge people considered to be a "wilderness." As a gift for their new home Mr. Bellingrath sent two "Sarah Frost" camellias and two "Formosa" azalea plants.

When I was a small child, they touched the roof of the house and I could climb from the porch high enough to reach the blooms — and today I am still reaching for that height.

There are and were many, many more distinguished camellia people of the Gulf Coast area whom I have failed to mention. I have only spoken of the ones who have touched my life and made it more beautiful.

As the title indicates, the Higos are truly my good friends. They almost seem to talk to me with their open-faced blooms always facing toward me. I have a great number of them planted on both sides of my back drive and every day in the blooming season I go by them and see their exquisite little faces uplifted toward me.

My first notice of the Higo was in its native habitat, Kymamoto in southern Japan and in private gardens in and around central Japan. I was one of the group with Jack Craig's Camellia Explorer trip to Japan in 1970. Ferd Becker, also of Brookhaven, was with me and we both shared the experience with a great bunch of Japanese friends. Thus came about a subsequent collection of Higos, Wabisukes, Rusticanas and strange-leaved cultivars.

That fabulous trip introduced us to the Higo first as a bonsai plant and then as a garden subject. We were told all about the special historical nurturing of this type camellia by the Japanese warrior class back 600 years ago and on up to the present. Also on this trip we learned many things about the sub-species — the Wabisukes and the Rusticanas (snow camellias) — and were surprised to learn that this magnificent flower was the result of crossing the more common japonica with the rusticana or snow camellia. They selected seedlings with flowers of a single form (5 to 9 petals) and with grand flared stamens about one-half the size of the bloom — rather like a plum blossom. I think that everyone on the trip was stunned and impressed by the blooms on both the bonsai and garden plants.

My first inclination was to try to imagine the effect that the prevalent use of gibberlic acid in our area would have on the size and form of this flower. I think the whole group left Japan with the thought of using "gib" to blow up this flower for Head Table contention in America. We were told that the snow camellia was a shrubby type of plant with many stems from the rootstock and with a fairly weak structure. Keeping in mind this nature of one of its parents, I personally had misgivings as to the type of plants we were importing.

Since the Higo was such a fresh new flower form, we went ahead and imported a number of cultivars. Of course, we were guided by the selections of Jack Craig, Dr. Ueda and others in Japan. Part of my feelings for the Higos comes from the personal selections of these friends and my associations with them. I might add that Nuccio's Nursery on the West Coast have some of the same cultivars sent to them by our friends and they are now offering for sale about 15 cultivars. I personally do not know how popular this offering by Nuccio's has been.

I would like to give my experience in growing the Higos, "gibbing"

them and showing them on the camellia show circuit of my area. I found that "gibbing" Higos did not produce appreciably larger blooms and to my dismay those entered in shows did not make much impression or receive awards even though I thought that they were of very good quality. Upon reflection I guess that these Higos make their most startling impression as a garden specimen. The plant itself has been without exception a vigorous grower. It does not grow into the many stemmed bush form such as exhibited by one of its parents — the snow camellia.

Ferd Becker, Vi Stone and I have shared all of our cultivars with all who wanted them. On the recent visit with us in Brookhaven many of the group from Australia and New Zealand seemed to admire the Higos greatly and many asked for and received scions of their choice.

Here is a list of a few of the cultivars with comments on them.
FUJI — best, large white, heavy flared stamens and petal texture, vigorous plant.
SHIRO YUKI — medium, white with more uniform shaped flower, perfect spray of stamens, vigorous plant.

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ASAGAO — best, large light pink, golden flared stamens and slightly creped petals, vigorous plant.

CHOJU RAKU — medium, light pink, perfect but smaller flared stamens, not quite so vigorous a plant.

OSARAKU — medium, light pink, perfect but smaller version of Asagao but paler, vigorous plant.

TAIHEIRAKU — large, deeper pink, heavy textured petals and stamens, heavy vigorous plant.

SAKURA GARI — medium, with shaded medium pink color, beautiful mass bloomer with weather-resistant flowers, tall vigorous plant.

HAGAROMO — best, large red, vivid contrast with golden flared stamens, heavy vigorous plant.

HIMO MARU — medium, red, more uniform shape of flared stamens and petals, very beautiful crimson flower, slow compact plant form.

KUMAGAI NAGOYA — large, medium red color, flared stamens with solid crown of striped spade-like petaloids — everyone who has ever seen this has asked for scions — they have been sent all over the world — my pride and joy.

MANZAI RAKU — large, rose pink moired flower, thick stamens sometimes with a ring of petaloids, heavy vigorous plant.

JITSU SETSU-SEI — medium, red

with white splotches, heavy flared stamens, upright medium growth plant.

YAMATO NISHIKI — medium, white striped pink, heaviest flared stamens, open upright plant.

SHIN TSUKASA NISHIKI — large, pink with rose to red stripes, classic flared stamens match stripes perfectly, full upright plant.

TAUCHO — medium, mostly white with deep red stripes, very vivid, vigorous plant.

NIOFUBAKI — medium, white with rose stripes, stamens not quite so flared, very fragrant, sports all sorts of variegations and solids, sometimes with petaloids, a fascinating vigorous plant.

NANA KOMACHI — medium, wavy shaded pink, heavy textured flower and stamens, a good upright plant.

There are many other cultivars which I have not had particularly good success in growing but that I know are very worthwhile plants. As I mentioned before we had and I am sure Nuccio's Nursery and others had a great deal of help in securing introduction of these many cultivars by the hand of Jack Craig. I personally think the Nomenclature should give him credit for these introductions.

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Southern California Camellia Society

1104 East Wilshire

Fullerton, CA 92631

FORMAT OF CAMELLIA SHOWS IN THE GULF COAST AREA

by Elizabeth (Mrs. A. B.) Cooper, Nashville, Tenn.
Editor "Gulf Coast Camellias"

Having attended a few camellia shows outside the Gulf Coast area, I find that all shows are conducted along the same lines. This is entirely proper as the American Camellia Society does not lay down hard and fast rules leaving such organization up to local societies.

All shows are held on weekends, most both Saturday and Sunday with a few one day only, as some societies are strictly for men who allow the ladies only to fix food and do other chores. Fortunately most societies give equal rights to the sexes.

The show scene varies from municipal auditoriums to schools to botanical gardens to shopping malls and is made ready on Friday either by the membership or at an evening set-up party in which all attending pitch in to help. Exhibitors from long distances usually arrive on Friday which necessitates protection for their blooms against freezing or getting too warm. Headquarters motels usually provide facilities for this. Often there are Friday evening parties either in a home, at the headquarters or at the show site to entertain the visitors and to get into the spirit of the occasion.

On the morning of the show workers are on hand early to receive blooms usually from 7 to 11. Ample space is provided exhibitors to place their blooms in glass or plastic individual containers of several sizes already filled with water and on trays. One tray with five or six blooms arranged by the exhibitor is carried to the classification table by him or by a runner. After being classified, the blooms then are turned over to the placement workers with no one else being allowed in the display area. With a few exceptions standard ACS

entry cards are used providing uniformity and ease of getting ready ahead with green denoting greenhouse, white outdoors, blue and yellow for hybrids and retics and pink seedlings.

Entries close at 11 o'clock which gives local workers time to straighten up the tables before judging begins. Some societies begin judging at 11:30 in order to open the show early and give lunch to their judges afterwards. Other groups feed the judges early and start judging around noon. The chairman of judges instructs them either at a called session around 11 or at the noontime meal previous to their gathering at the show site. The same is true for clerks of which there are usually two to a team of three judges, one for punching and the other for applying ribbons. Special runners take the selected blooms to the final voting tables. Where these blooms in contention are placed by size on as many tables as possible makes for less confusion, better view of the flowers, less loss of time in judging and better final selection. One weak spot at many shows is the seedling table which often is put off to the side and overlooked in the general commotion. This is a serious fault as from the seedlings come the new varieties.

The Head Table and Court of Honor always occupy the most prominent spot in the display area and rightly so with the silver trophies and their prize-winning blooms placed alongside each other and often marked by colorful ribbon rosettes.

There must be an ACS booth for an ACS accredited show to entice new members. Depending on the persons in charge this often is very

attractive and in a prominent place. Sometime this is not so which is a shame as seeing a multitude of gorgeous camellias grown by amateurs is the ideal time to snare new ACS and local members.

Often shows are dedicated to some tireless local worker or to some deceased member with appropriate ceremony. Several societies place at the entrance of their show a table of white blooms designated IN MEMORIAM with the names of those members who have died during the year. There are shows that are opened by local dignitaries, such as governor or mayor, and a ribbon-cutting ceremony. At other shows there are camellia queens, court and escorts bedecked in ante-bellum costumes or formal attire. The latter is indeed a drawing card for relatives and friends of the favored young people. At one show in the Deep South the presentation of the camellia court is equivalent to a debutante ball. Don't think these ceremonies don't help. They bring in people who don't know a camellia from a petunia and care less.

In conjunction with many shows is the arrangement class conducted by garden club members and judged according to their rules. The winning arrangement most often graces the trophy table making it even more beautiful. Table settings also add to the attractiveness of some shows and catch the eye of those interested in such. One show held in a high school combines student art and music into a mid-winter festival thereby attracting great crowds.

Some clubs in close proximity plan no further entertainment for their guests as exhibitors can drive in Saturday morning and return home as soon as the show opens. However, many groups entertain their visiting judges and exhibitors at a Saturday night buffet or banquet. This is a most convivial occasion but alas, one that is having to bow to economic pressures.

As soon as possible after the show, trophies are mailed or given to those successful exhibitors and the top parts of their entry cards sent them. Some groups write a nice letter thanking exhibitors for coming and often list statistics on the show such as number of blooms, number of exhibitors, names of winning blooms and their growers, etc. A very, very graceful and thoughtful gesture as are most of the events connected with camellia shows in the Gulf Coast area.

In addition to the wonderful get-togethers during the show season, camellia folk all over the South manage to have fun and fellowship at other times of the year. The majority of clubs do not meet during the summer months and use their May meetings as picnic time — the men only clubs even invite the ladies.

Then there are state societies as in the Carolinas, Texas and Tennessee. The Carolinians usually have their state meeting in conjunction with some area show during the fall months but often meet again in the spring. The Texas Society, as one would imagine, has a large membership and they get together usually in late April at some interesting or historical spot. In the fall there is an all-Texas show in one of the major cities.

In Tennessee there is the Volunteer State Camellia Society composed of the some 100 greenhouse camellia growers to be found in the cities of Memphis, Chattanooga and Nashville. This group is loosely organized and meets once a year just before Labor Day mostly for fellowship. A Saturday afternoon program meeting and supper at the charming Tennessee Botanical Gardens in Nashville (in the center of the state) is followed on Sunday noon with a picnic under the trees in the author's and spouse's backyard.



NOMINEES FOR OFFICERS OF GULF COAST CAMELLIA SOCIETY

PRESIDENT — G. Ernest Harrison, Nashville, Tenn.
 VICE-PRESIDENT — Col. Edwin L. Atkins, Shalimar, Fla.
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 SOUTH CAROLINA — William C. Robertson, Aiken
 TENNESSEE — Joe Brinkerhoff, Memphis
 TEXAS — Alphus Johnson, Houston

SHOW DATES GULF COAST CAMELLIA SOCIETIES

Oct. 26-27 — Columbia, S.C. at State Fair.
 Nov. 3-4 — Savannah, Georgia.
 Nov. 10-11 — Middle Georgia at Massee Lane.
 Nov. 17-18 — Southern Society at New Orleans; Valdosta, Ga. and Port Arthur, Texas.
 Nov. 24-25 — Brookhaven, Mississippi.
 Dec. 1-2 — Gainesville, Florida with ACS fall meeting.
 Dec. 8-9 — Slidell, La., Pineville, La., Jacksonville, Fla. and Moss Point, Mississippi.
 Jan. 5-6 — Baton Rouge, Louisiana.
 Jan. 12-13 — Pensacola, Florida and Ruston, Louisiana.
 Jan. 19-20 — Mobile, Alabama.
 Jan. 26-27 — Jackson, Mississippi with ACS annual meeting.
 Feb. 2-3 — Tuscaloosa, Alabama, New Orleans, La., Fort Walton, Florida and Savannah, Georgia.
 Feb. 9-10 — Birmingham, Ala., at Eastwood Mall. (new)
 Feb. 16-17 — Augusta and Atlanta, Georgia.
 Feb. 23-24 — Chattanooga, Tenn. and Beaufort, S.C.
 March 1-2 — Nashville, Tennessee.

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Back Copies of the A.C.S. Yearbook **\$3.50 each**
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If Interested Contact Editor of *CAMELLIA REVIEW*

CAMELLIA-RAMA 1978

“CAMELLIA FUN AND CULTURE”

By Mary Ann Ray

ACT I Scene I - CCCS Camellia Hospitality Room, Friday

“CAMELLIA FUN AND CULTURE” again prevailed at the Fourth Annual California Camellia-Rama held November 4, 1978 at Smuggler's Inn, Fresno, California. As always, Central California Camellia Society members welcomed Camellia-Lovers from near and far on Friday, the 3rd, in the Camellia Hospitality Room. The theme — International Mardi Gras — was apparent as guests were served a great variety of delicacies prepared by the CCCS members. Choices included Swedish, Italian, Greek, Hawaiian, Mediteranean, French, Japanese, Chinese and, of course, “United Statesese.”

Joining us from “Out-of-State” and from “Down Under” were ACS Executive Secretary and Camellia Journal Editor, Milton “Brownie” Brown (Fort Valley, GA), International Camellia Society President, Tom Savige (New South Wales, Australia), Editor of Camellia News, ACRS, Maise Chettle (Aldgate, So Australia), Immediate Past President ACRS, Dr. John Peddler and wife Joycelyn (Gilberton, So Australia), Dr. Bob Withers and wife Hari (Victoria, Australia), Marian Roberts (Kidman Park, So Australia) and Joyce Lambshed (Crafers, So Australia)...the Fres-Per Party...all on their way to the joint ACS-ICS meeting in Perry, GA.

ACT II Scene 1 Symposium Room (Saturday AM)

Registrants were again greeted by Chris Gonos. They received their tickets for lunch, dinner and the special door prizes. Each registered person was automatically eligible for the many door prizes given throughout the day. Blooms were entered in the

Early Mini-show which had been set up by Show Chairman Dick Pozdol and Frank Serpa. The multitude of evening raffle prizes were viewed and luscious coffeecake and coffee were enjoyed until 10AM.

General Chairman Art Gonos welcomed everyone and the first door prize was immediately awarded. The symposium was under way. After a quick review of the program and speakers Art introduced the American Camellia Society President, Bill Johnston (Fresno) who reviewed the new ACS Rules for Judging and invited all to become members.

The second speaker(s) Julius Nuccio aided and abetted by big brother Joe who had special lists of “Bad” and “Worse” (neither of which one would like his name to appear upon) invited all “to feel free to ask questions — BUT, only those I can answer!”

In any case, after Julius had everyone right where he wanted them, he told of some new varieties they were developing and some camellias they had brought in from Japan to use for special hybridizing.

The first included #7630 — a Cuspidate Japonica, shaped like ‘Yuletide’ a good white with pink throat and nice yellow stamens. (The “young blood” at the nursery — young Julius (“Jude”) and Tom like the name ‘Candlelight’);

#7830 nicknamed ‘Pink Silver Waves’ is a very large, semi-double, wavy japonica with a good cluster of stamens;

#7609 a beautiful light pink formal double formed like ‘Nuccio’s Gem’ and blooms early to mid-season;

‘VERY CHERRY’ an unusually very, very dark red loose anemone with dark foliage developed by Wal-

ter and Margaret Harmsen (Claremont); 'UTSUKUSHI ASAYE' a lovely coral-orange shaped like 'Coral Delight' a product of Ben Mackall, Kramer Bros. Nursery. (Named for a very dear friend of Marie Mackall.)

The second group included several bordered camellias.

'TAMA-NO-URA' — Japan import, a single red with very wide white border;

'KAKURE-ISO' — a seedling, wine red with white border;

'TSU-TSU-SUGASA' — like 'Betty Sheffield Supreme' but Semi-double.

Grady Perigan (Arcadia) presented a slide show entitled "AND THE RAINS CAME..." (and came...and came...and came!) In California, the 77-78 camellia season was plagued with unbelievable rains, causing slides and washouts along our highways. As a result many of us missed annual shows along the camellia trail.

ACT II Scene 2 Lunch and Mini-show

There were 147 varieties and from these the winners were: 'TOMORROW'S DAWN' — Al and Lois Taylor (Fresno), 'SHOW TIME' — Wilbur and Mary Anne Ray (Fresno), 'LITTLE SLAM' — Bill and Harriett Harris (Fresno), 'MISS TULARE' — Maurie and Elaine Abramson (Tulare), 'ELSIE JURY' — Rudy Moore (West Covina) and 'STAR ABOVE STAR' — Wilbur and Mary Anne Ray (Fresno). After lunch, 'MISS TULARE' was chosen Best of Show by popular vote of all registered.

ACT II Scene 3 (Same as ACT II Scene 1 — Afternoon)

First speaker of the afternoon was Dr. Martin Stoner (PhD), Plant Pathologist, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. The topic — "Living With Your Diseases."

Diseases are a part of life and can affect any living thing at any time.

Often we can be treated with a shot (antibiotics, that is) and a cure effected through our blood. Camellias, however, do not have a circulatory system such as ours and a shot given to a camellia would simply remain in the area where originally given.

"Attention Class! Can you all see the map?" So began Maise Chettle as she taught everyone "a thing or two" about Australia and SOUTH Australia. Her slides were graphically pictorial and historically educational.

"Brownie" (aka Milton Brown) presented the goals and hopes of the American Camellia Society. He displayed the first edition of "THE CAMELLIA, Its History, Culture, Genetics And a Look into its Future Development" which he co-authored with Dave Feathers. (This book has proved to be a must in everyone's library collection.) He also showed the new camellia prints and camellia crystal now available through ACS. (We were honored to have had "Brownie" fly out to join us at Camellia-Rama IV especially since the date was immediately prior to the ACS-ICS joint meeting.)

The International Camellia Society President, Tom Savige, gave a brief history of that society which began in 1952, and emphasized that its main purpose is to promote world wide friendship and to foster the love of the camellia in every way.

Walter Harmsen, photographer par excellence, entertained everyone with slides of "Camellia-People and Camellia-Happenings" of the last year.

THIS WAS CULTURE . . . AND FUN!

ACT III Scene 1 — Camellia Rama-Hospitality Room, 6:30 P.M. Champagne Hour

Costumed and well dressed, they arrived — some 160 registrants — many of whom had gone ALL-OUT

in their Mardi Gras costumes. (Could these be the same serious camellia hobbyists of the afternoon sessions?) For an hour the champagne bubbled and flowed. Hearty laughter and genuine fun were unlimited. (Ed. Note. Would that we had the space to include the descriptions of all the outstanding costumes which were in evidence!)

ACT III Scene 2 — The Banquet Room

(The centers of round tables were decorated with a great variety of fruits and nuts by Harriett Harris and her committee. The table decorations were given to everyone after dinner, the BEST dressed at each table having first choice.)

The atmosphere relaxed and after the traditional prime rib dinner, the Fresno Greek dancing group performed several spirited numbers. Then, pulled from the audience, were some very select personages to be "indoctrinated." Included were Maise Chettle and Hari Withers. Hari, in Greek costume loaned by Chris Gonos (Ah, the GREEKS DO HAVE A WAY!) was right at home both dance-wise and theme-wise...Of Greek descent, born in Egypt, educated in a Scottish college, speaking beautiful Italian and living in Australia.

Ed Streit and Wilbur climaxed the evening with the raffle of hundreds of prizes — camellias and azaleas from Nuccio's Nursery, Kramer Bros. Nursery, Henderson gardens, highly varnished oak barrel halves, house plants, ferns, a variety of craftwork, garden equipment, gift certificates, succulent avocados, yams, raisins, premium varietal wines and champagnes (Strange how the Nuccio's all won the special Spumonte), and many more donated by CCCS members and their friends.

We of Central California Camellia Society extend our sincere thanks to all who came and/or participated in any way. Thank you for our success.

And since I'm a bit Irish and since our theme was International — "May ye catch a leprechaun and hold him in your palm so that he bring you all the good luck in the world; and may the Good Lord take a likin' to ye and your camellias."

1979 — CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA-RAMA V

"Thar's CAMELLIAS in them thar hills 'n valleys!" . . . And, it's "Wagon-n-n-s Ho-o-o-o! CAMELLIA-RAMA V 'er Bust!"

All 79er-Californians-for-Camellias are cordially invited to get together for "Camellia Fun and Culture" on November 3rd 1979, in Fresno, at Smuggler's Inn (3737 N. Blackstone) where luxurious accommodations await them. The Central California Camellia Society will again host the statewide affair; and, as always, it will actually begin on Friday, the 2nd, in the Camellia Hospitality Room where the members will provide delectable liquids and solids in abundance. **THIS WILL BE FUN!**

Saturday, the 3rd, will feature an early Mini-Show and outstanding speakers and programs from north, south and central California including: Dr. Robert Raabe, Berkeley; Rudy Moore, West Covina; Bob and Ruth Marcy, San Jose; Art Gonos, Fresno; Julius Nuccio, Altadena; Dave Feathers, Lafayette; Walt Harmsen, Claremont; Carey and Amelia Bliss, San Gabriel.

The camellia topics are wide and varied. Something for everyone.

The MINI-Show: From 8 am to 10 am and from 12 noon to 12:30 pm blooms may be entered in the show. There is no limit to the number of entries in any category . . . Bring all you have. Trophies, provided by Smuggler's Inn and CCS members will be awarded to the: Best Large Japonica, Best Medium Japonica, Best Boutonniere, Best Retic or Re-

tic Hybrid, Best Non-Retic Hybrid, Best Species.

At approximately 1:30 pm (before the afternoon session begins) the Best of Show will be chosen from these six winners by ballot vote of the Camellia-Rama registrants.

9 - 10 am: Registration in the lobby of meeting room.

10 - 12 noon: Camellia Symposium Session.

12 - 2 pm: A buffet luncheon will be served at 12:30 pm. During this time judging of blooms will take place.

2 - 5 pm: Camellia Symposium Session.

5 - 5:30 pm: Announcements may be made concerning events, shows and items of general camellia interest.

THIS WILL BE *FUN AND CULTURE!*

5:30 - 6:30 pm: All '79ers change to '49ers.

6:30 - 7:30 pm: The traditional "Champagne Hour" will be hosted

by the CCCS members in the Camellia Hospitality Room.

7:30 - 9:00 pm: Head north, by-pass Japonica Lake, turn at Sasanqua Corner, cross Reticulata Road and enter the CAMELLIA-RAMA V Dining Room. Stake your claim!

There will be the traditional Prime Rib Dinner, the "super raffle" (camellias and other fine things) the "proper 'n fittin' entertainment." Of course, as always, *dress is optional*. However, "'49er dressin' up er down" WILL CERTAINLY ADD TO THE FUN. There are *no* restrictions. There will be a "Gold Poke" waiting for everyone - "dressed" er "undressed."

THIS WILL BE *FUN!*

Wilbur Ray, General Chairman
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ROOM RESERVATIONS: (Smuggler's Inn) — Single \$30 — Double \$36 (\$3 per additional person)

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Special Instructions _____

Note: Please DO NOT send any money for the Motel Reservations. You may pay the motel upon check-out. Your reservations will be held without deposit.

CAMELLIA-RAMA V REGISTRATION FORM:

1. Registration only () at \$2.00 @ \$ _____

2. Camellia-Rama V Luncheon () at \$5.00 @ \$ _____

3. Camellia-Rama Dinner () at \$10.50 @ \$ _____

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Send BOTH motel room and Camellia-Rama V reservations to: CHRIS GONOS, 5643 N. COLLEGE, FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93704 (209) 439-2228.

Please make checks payable to "CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA-RAMA" for registration, lunch and dinner reservations only. Thank you.

(Early reservations greatly facilitate lunch and dinner arrangements.)

CALIFORNIA CAPERS.

26 February to 18 March, 1979

by Dorothy & Jim Hansen.

Any account of our short visit to California must start with a sincere tribute to the helpfulness and friendliness of all the grand folk we met. Due to the help of a large number of new camellia friends, we were able to see everything we had hoped to see, plus a good deal more.

Starting with our arrival at the Huntington Sheraton Hotel, Pasadena, it was all "GO" with everything well organized by that gracious couple Ruth & Bill Goertz, who had arranged a visit to Nuccio's Nursery as an excellent start to our "tour." We had the pleasure of meeting Julius, Joseph & Tommy Nuccio and spent a very pleasant morning looking over the nursery and having a quick look at the new camellias still being evaluated.

After lunch Ruth & Bill took us for a drive to see something of the homes in the San Marino area, including their own, and also those of Caryll Pitkin and Helen Foss. And what a beautiful area it is, with tree lined streets, lovely gardens and, of course, lots of camellias.

The next day we were off to Descanso Gardens with Tom Hughes as our guide. Spent the morning strolling through the gardens and had the pleasure of meeting and chatting with the man in charge, Mr. George Lewis.

This was followed by a quick visit to Tom's home to meet his charming wife, and to inspect his lovely camellias, then to a country club for lunch where we met Lucy & Burnell Yarrick.

Later in the day we went to Huntington Gardens with Ruth & Bill and found these gardens as good as we had been told they were, and could have spent much more time there than we had available. However, we did see a good deal in a short

time and hope to get back again before too long to see the areas we missed this time!

After the gardens closed Ruth & Bill took us back to their home for a very pleasant relaxing meal — grand finish to a grand day.

Thursday morning turned out to be very wet — the only wet weather we experienced the whole time we were away. However, the rain cleared in the afternoon and Bill Donnan drove us out to Monrovia Nursery at Azusa.

We had expected Monrovia to be a large nursery but were surprised at just how vast it is, containing literally millions of potted plants, mainly conifers, but also a large number of camellias & azaleas. The manager, Mr. Bob Moore, drove us through the nursery in his car for two hours, which gave us some idea of the size of the organization.

That evening, after an excellent meal at "Churchill's" in Glendale (in excellent company), we attended a meeting of the Pacific Camellia Society where I had the pleasure of talking to a very friendly (and very august) group.

Friday was devoted to that delightful area, Disneyland, where we saw a surprising amount for one day, thanks to some expert guiding by Helen Foss. Sorry we managed to lose your Mercedes for a while, Helen! The parking area is rather large, isn't it!

Saturday we were away at 8am for the Southern California Camellia Show. What a magnificent setting it is at Descanso with the tables arranged outside among the camellia bushes and California Oaks. The weather was kind with sunshine and not a breath of wind.

Ruth & Dorothy went shopping while I helped Bill bench his blooms,

then watched the judges at work, finally having a hand in voting for the top blooms. Altogether an excellent show with very lovely blooms; and a fitting climax to a wonderful visit to the Los Angeles area.

Saturday night we flew to Sacramento and found Jocelyn & Maurice Vervalle waiting for us at the airport, wearing and holding camellias so that we would recognize them! They saw us safely installed at the Mansion Inn for the night, returning on Sunday morning to take us to the Sacramento Camellia Show. This is a very big show indeed (8000 to 10000 blooms) held in the Sacramento Community Centre. We saw lots of beautiful blooms at this show and met and spoke with a number of very friendly people, including the Camellia Queen & her Maids of Honour.

Jocelyn & Maurice continued to look after us in grand style, taking us to meet Carroll Reiners and to see his neat, "disciplined" garden; beautifully landscaped with well pruned camellia bushes and lovely blooms.

Edith Mazzei met us at the show late in the afternoon and we were off again heading for Edith's home in Concord, taking the river route; a most interesting drive (perhaps taking a little longer than intended! Lost? Never!) However, we arrived safely at Edith's early evening & even managed a quick look at her camellias under lights before calling it a day.

After a relaxing morning at Edith's, we visited Jean & Frank Pursel and naturally inspected the camellias, including, of course, the beautiful Jean Pursel.

After dinner with Jean & Frank, on to the Northern California Camellia Society meeting at Oakland, where we met more camellia folk, many of whom we knew by reputation. It was a thrill to meet them all and we had a very enjoyable evening.

The next two days saw us "doing" the sights of San Francisco and shop-

ping at Concord — two interesting days.

Thursday was a gala day for us, starting with a visit to Lauretta & Dave Feathers and a stroll through their extensive garden, followed by a visit to Kay & Ken Hallstones' for lunch and inspection of their garden.

To finish the day off we returned to Edith's for a lovely dinner with the Feathers, Hallstones, Pursels and Kilsbys; a most enjoyable evening to close a wonderful day.

Friday and Saturday saw us at the Willows Shopping Mall — the Friday helping to set up for the Northern California Show, and the Saturday for the first day of the show.

The shopping centre provided a great setting for the show and once again we saw lots of beautiful blooms. I had the thrill of being asked to judge and found it most interesting. Once again we met lots of friendly people including a number of folk we had met at Descanso, Sacramento & the two meetings we had attended.

Late in the afternoon a party of us adjourned to the Feathers' home for a short visit, then on to Jacks Mountain House for a very pleasant dinner.

Sunday saw another early start with Edith driving us down to Fresno to see the Central California Camellia Show. Once again we met more camellia folk and saw many beautiful blooms including many miniatures.

Evelyn & Bill Johnston were our hosts at Fresno and Bill took us through to Yosemite National Park on the Monday. Bill made sure we saw as much as possible in the short time we had available, the weather was good and we had a wonderful day in the mountains.

That night Evelyn & Bill entertained us and we enjoyed a Mexican dinner at a Mexican restaurant.

Tuesday morning Bill picked us up and took us to see the Johnston garden then on the Woos' home

where Jack Woo escorted us 'round his well groomed and orderly garden. Finally we paid a short visit to the late Milo Rowell's home where we met Mr. Masutsugu Yukimoto who showed us over the wonderful garden — and then it was time to leave as we had a train to catch.

Evelyn was at the station and we said our farewells to the friendly Johnstons and boarded the Amtrak for our trip back to Martinez, where Edith Mazzei met us and took us back to Concord for our last night in California.

Wednesday morning we finished packing and then Edith took us to San Francisco airport and waited to see us off to Honolulu. We didn't realize how sorry we would be to say

goodbye to California and more particularly to Edith who had become such a warm friend to us.

We spent two pleasant days in Honolulu and finally arrived home in Waikanae Sunday evening, 18 March, New Zealand time.

We would close by saying how grateful we are to all the friendly people who helped us so much and were so kind to us. Both of us agree that the best part of the trip was meeting such wonderful people.

We trust that we will see some of you in New Zealand soon — perhaps at the International Show at the end of August — and we may be able to repay some of the kindness shown us in California.



CAMELLIAS OF GARDEN MERIT

ED. NOTE: Reprinted from the March 1979 issue of *The New Zealand Camellia Bulletin*

The Award of Garden Merit Committee of the Society met recently to consider what additional awards should be made since the last review four years ago.

The criteria for approving garden merit varieties are:

- (1) They should be good garden plants when grown under average conditions.
- (2) They should flower freely and reliably and not be subject to undue weather damage.
- (3) They should be sufficiently well distributed to enable reports to be obtained over a wide geographical area.

The Committee made a comprehensive review of the whole position and considered the relative merits of some of the newer cultivars and others previously passed by, in relation to those of the awards made in previous years. For this reason the additional awards now made include some older varieties, and some species, as well as newer cultivars.

Additional awards have been.

C. Japonica

Bob's Tinsie
Emperor of Russia, var.
Grand Prix
Mark Alan
Tom Knudsen
Wildfire

C. Reticulata [and *Reticulata*

Hybrids]
Chang's Temple
Descanso Mist
Dream Girl
Flower Girl
Red China
Wild Silk

C. Hybrids [excluding those with *reticulata* parentage]

Prudence
Snippet
Tiny Princess
Wynne Rayner

C. Sasanqua

Yuletide

Other Species

C. rosaeflora
C. tsaii

The Committee also considered a number of promising cultivars which merit further watch in the future, but which either because of newness or else more localised distribution cannot qualify for an award at present. The ones the Committee placed in this category are:

C. Japonica

Hopkin's Pink
Leonora Novick
Maroon and Gold
Pirate's Gold
San Dimas

C. Reticulata [and *reticulata* hybrids]

Dr. Clifford Parks
Fire Chief
Ilam Mist
Lisa Gael
Mayhills
Sandy Clark
Tom Durrant

C. Hybrids [excluding those with *reticulata* parentage]

Dream Boat
Mary Phoebe Taylor

C. Sasanqua

Bonanza

cient seaport of Niigata. Two house-to-house peddlers from Echigo were travelling together hawking their wares, when they decided one warm afternoon to lie down in the soft grass alongside the roadway and rest. The older peddler fell right off to sleep while his younger companion, not yet tired, watched him in his sleep and was startled suddenly when he saw a big black horsefly buzz out from the sleeping man's nose and fly away to the offshore island of Sado, returning in a little while and disappearing again into the old man's nostril.

When the old man awakened he shared with his companion a strange dream that he had experienced during his afternoon nap. He dreamed he was in a very rich man's garden on Sado Island where beautiful camellias were blooming. From the base of a particularly beautiful white camellia tree a big black horsefly flew out of the ground and told him to dig there for great wealth. When he did he uncovered an earthen jar filled with gold coins.

The younger man, having heard the dream and realizing its worth, asked to buy the dream from the old man who willingly sold it for almost nothing. Then they proceeded on their way to their separate homes.

The young man who had purchased the strange dream didn't waste any time in quietly slipping off to Sado Island to seek the dream's elegant villa and gardens of the richest man on the island. Having found it he asked to be taken on as a gardener and proceeded to be the special caretaker of the camellias. In his gardening duties he was ever watchful for the blossoming of white camellias, but when the blossoming season came, although there were many beautiful hues of pink and red and variegations, there was not a single white one (sort of like the search for a yellow camellia). So, for another year and another year he con-

PATIENCE REWARDED

By Carl Quanstrom

Raising camellias takes a lot of time and a lot of patience, especially if one is searching for a special new and different blossom. Even the grafting and cutting propagation shortcuts can take from two to four years until a blossom is obtained and if one starts with seeds and nurtures them through plantlet eventually to blossom it may take as long as five or six years, a very long time. Hopefully, the camellia blossom reward will be worth the patience and care of the grower.

A camellia grower's patience and the ultimate reward for such patience is characterized in the following old Japanese folk tale* from the Echigo Province on the Inland Sea of Japan in the vicinity of the great an-

tinued in his work of gardening and caring for the camellia grove and lo — at last his patience was rewarded for one of the camellia trees was covered with white blossoms.

In the night he went to the white camellia bush and dug under it. As was predicted in the old man's dream, a big jar full of gold coins was found beneath the camellia tree. Being a very wary man as well as patient, the young man hid the jar with its enclosed treasure for six months and then asked his wealthy master for release to return to his home. He was let go and he returned to Echigo to live a rich and happy life as reward for his patience in his long wait and search for the right blossom.

The *Camellia Nomenclature* (page 179) lists a *Camellia Sasanqua* named "Echigo" that is a large yellowish white single. Although this flower may not be a link in the search for the yellow camellia, it may be from the original "jar of gold" tree, a cutting that the patient young man may have taken in remembrance of his good fortune. "All good comes to him who waits."

*Source: Mock Joya's *Things Japanese*, Tokyo News Svc, Ltd. 1968, p. 272

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Bill:

From far away New Zealand I write to join you as a "FORMAL DOUBLE FREAK"! How about that? So now we know there are two of us! What a pity that 8,000 miles of Pacific Ocean separates us. We could form a break-away association and have regular meetings in a telephone booth.

Thinking back to the first camellia show I visited, I have never forgotten a glorious 4 foot specimen of 'K. Sawada' in a large container. Although only a relative baby as far as years of serious interest in camellias, I am crystallizing my ideas of late and in

many ways they run counter to the overall picture. I am less than starry eyed over all those dinner plate sized monsters. If I had to make a choice of say, five I would probably choose, in order of preference: 'Sawada's Dream,' 'Nuccio's Gem,' 'Ave Maria,' 'C. M. Hovey,' and 'Fimbriata.' However, having said that it would be difficult to live without 'Twilight,' particularly because it is such a fantastic keeper. For that matter, so is 'Alice Wood.' I could become rapturous about the perfect form and glorious color of 'E. G. Waterhouse.' I have a 10 foot high plant of it growing right alongside the shady part of the house and the sight of all those blooms leave visitors gaping, open mouthed. What a pity it shatters so badly and does not last.

In addition to the list of first rate blooms you have named I could add 'Betty Ridley,' 'Fircone Var.,' 'Mary Paige,' and 'Mrs. Tingley.' About 3 years ago, I noticed what appeared to be a sport — yes, one more — on one of my plants of 'Tomorrow Park Hill.' It is a very lovely formal of the same colour but without the familiar speckled variegation. There are two other blooms of recent origin that are not formals and about which I have only the highest regard. They are 'Dr. Clifford Parks' and 'Miss Tulare.'

You may be interested to know that last year I put on a "one man show" in which I displayed about 70 of my best blooms. I asked the very large number of visitors to list their top ten favorites and guess what? The favorite — by a wide margin — was 'Sawada's Dream,' followed by 'Waterlily.'

I have been hybridizing on a modest scale for about three years and my aim is for neat foliage, long flower life, long flowering season, long lasting, bright pollen and clear, well defined colours. In spite of some comments by John Gallagher, I am working with seven of Les Jury's "su-

per breeder" plants. Using his 'Bright Bouy' as a seed bearer, I notice its marked influence for neat foliage when pollinated with some of the rampant growing reticulatas and hybrids. None have yet bloomed. In closing I should like to mention that I paid extra to have the CAMELLIA REVIEW sent by airmail but it is still coming by surface mail — much too long to wait!

From one formal nut to another,
Very sincerely,
John Lesnie —
Auckland, New Zealand



Poisonous Plants

ED. NOTE: The following compilation is taken, in part, from the brochure, "Poisonous Plants Of Southern California" a publication of the County of Los Angeles Department of Arboreta and Botanical Gardens, Arcadia, California.

Many plant species common to our gardens contain toxic substances, which, if eaten may cause illness to both man and animal. The following list of plants or parts of plants may be harmful to your health.

Common Name	Toxic Parts
Angel's Trumpet	Entire plant
Apples	Seeds
Apricots	Seeds and leaves
Autumn Crocus	Entire plant
Azaleas	Entire plant
Baneberry	Entire plant
Belledonna	Entire plant
Bird of Paradise	Fruit and seeds
Black Locust	Seeds, young leaves & bark
Bleeding Hearts	Entire plant
Boxwoods	Leaves
Bushman's Poison	Entire plant
Caladiums	Entire plant
Carolina Jasmine	Entire plant
Castor Bean	Entire plant
Cherries	Seeds and leaves
Chinaberry tree	Berry, flower & leaves
Coral Plant	Entire plant
Crown-of-thorns	Entire plant
Daffodils	Bulbs
Daphnes	Berry, flower & leaves
Death Camas	Entire plant
Delphiniums	Entire plant
Dumbeanes	Entire plant

Elder Berry	Unripe berry & leaves
Elephant's Ear	Entire plant
English Laurel	Seeds & leaves
False Hellbores	Entire plant
Horse Bean	Seeds
Four-O'clock	Seeds
Fox Glove	Entire plant
Glory Lily	Entire plant
Hollis	Berry
Horse Chestnuts	Seeds, flowers & leaves
Hyacinths	Bulbs
Hydrangea	Entire plant
Ivies	Berry & leaves
Jerusalem Cherry	Berry
Jimson Weed	Entire plant
Lantana	Berry
Lily-of-the-valley	Entire plant
Marijuana	Entire plant
Mescal Bean	Seeds
Milk Bush	Entire plant
Mistletoe	Berry
Monkshood	Entire plant
Naked Lady	Bulbs
Nightblooming Jasmine	Berry & leaves
Nutmeg	Seeds
Oaks	Acorns
Oleander	Entire plant
Opium Poppy	Unripe seeds
Peach	Seeds & leaves
Peyote	Entire plant
Philodendrons	Entire plant
Plum	Seeds & leaves
Poinsettia	Entire plant
Poison Hemlock	Entire plant
Phoeweed	Entire plant
Privet	Berry & leaves
Rattlebox	Seeds
Rhododendrons	Entire plant
Rhubarb	Leaf blades
Rosary Pea	Seeds
Skyflower	Berry
Sweet Pea	Seeds
Tobacco	Entire plant
Virginia Creeper	Berry
Water Hemlock	Entire plant
Wisteria	Seeds
Yellow Oleander	Entire plant
Yew	Leaves, twigs & seeds



Bobby's father came home to find a sign in front of the house that read "Dog for sale — five cents." He told his son to think in bigger terms; "Five cents is too low a price for a dog."

Next morning the sign read "Dog for sale — \$10,000."

When dad got home that night the sign was gone. "Did you sell your \$10,000 dog?" he asked. "Sure did," said Bobby. "I got two \$5,000 cats for him."

THE MEMBER WHO NEVER RETURNED

"It amuses me to think that your organization spends so much time looking for new members — when I was there all the time. Do you remember me?"

"I'm the fellow who was asked to join. I paid my dues and then I was asked to be a loyal and faithful member."

"I'm the fellow who came to every meeting but nobody paid any attention to me. I tried several times to be friendly but everyone seemed to have his own friends to talk and sit with. I sat down with some unfamiliar faces several times, but they didn't pay much attention to me."

"The only time I am recognized is when it is time to raise funds for a project— of which, of course, I will probably not benefit by."

"I have taken my wife to a couple of your dinners and dances but always ended up by ourselves because no one knew us."

"You have a monthly publication but, the pictures that appear will be the same ones over and over and it will never be me, no matter how hard I try."

"Finally, because of illness, I missed a meeting. The next meeting no one asked where I had been. I guess it didn't matter very much whether I was there or not. On the next meeting date I decided to stay home and watch a good television program. When I attended the next meeting no one asked me where I was."

"You might say that I'm a good guy, a good family man, that I hold a responsible job and love my community."

"You know who else I am? I'm the member who never came back."

I REPEAT, LET US NOT BE GUILTY!

Orien Aldrich

*Men's hair has three basic styles:
Parted, unparted and departed.*

INTER-SOCIETY NEWS

The Central California Camellia Society will hold its Annual Camellia Show in a new location next Spring. Instead of holding the Show at Fresno State College, they have arranged to hold the Show at the Fashion Fair Mall — First and Shaw — Fresno.



Dave Feathers, one of the founders of the Northern California Camellia Society, former Editor of NCCS's CAMELLIA BULLETIN, and one of the foremost camellia hobbyists in California, in the USA, and in the World, was given a signal honor by the American Camellia Society at its 1978 Annual Convention in New Orleans. Paraphrasing from an article in the February, 1979 issue of the A.C.S. JOURNAL — quote — "The Governing Board (ACS) at its annual banquet, presented a Resolution to David L. Feathers for his many years of support of camellias culminating by his just published book, THE CAMELLIA. The Resolution was hand printed in beautiful calligraphy by one of Dave's many good friends, Ken Hallstone of Lafayette, California."



The Santa Clara County Camellia Society will be holding its monthly meetings in a new location in the 1979-80 season. The new meeting place is at the All State Savings and Loan Association Building, 1304 Saratoga Ave., San Jose. This year the meetings will be held on the third Wednesday of each month — September through April.



"What model is your car?" asked the insurance agent, filling out an application.

"It's not a model," said the applicant. "It's a horrible example."

— The Dealer

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SOCIETY'S MEETING PROGRAMS

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE \$300 TOWARD YOUR FAVORITE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY? You will save the Society that much money, if you will pin this calendar up on your bulletin board — or mark your calendar with these dates. Your Society is trying to save the cost of printing six separate Bulletins — plus the cost of postage — (About \$60 per issue) by mailing out just one Bulletin this year.

Take a minute to read the list of ALL-STAR speakers for this year's Meeting Programs. Nuccio — Pitkin



NOVEMBER - 1979

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Tue. November 13th 7:30 P.M.
Julius Nuccio - Chelsea Show and English Gardens

FEBRUARY - 1980

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	

Tue. February 12th - 7:30 P.M.
Carl Quanstrom - Japanese Camellias and Gardens.

DECEMBER - 1979

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Tue. December 11th - 7:30 P.M.
Caryll Pitkin - International Camellia Convention - New Zealand

MARCH - 1980

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Tue. March 11th - 7:30 P.M.
Meyer Piet - "Creating the Bionic Camellia."

JANUARY - 1980

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Tue. January 8th - 7:30 P.M.
Sergio Bracci - "So You want to enter A Camellia Show"

APRIL - 1980

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Tue. April 8th - 7:30 P.M.
Grady Perigan - "The 1979-80 Camellia Trail"

Directory of Other California Camellia Societies

Societies with asterisk () are Affiliates of Southern California Camellia Society*

*CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF KERN COUNTY—President, Marvin Belcher; Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Fred R. Dukes, Jr., 733 Delmar Drive, Bakersfield 93307. Meetings: 2nd Monday, October through April, at Franklin School, Truxton and A St., Bakersfield.

*CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF ORANGE COUNTY—President, Fritz Kahen; Secretary, Mrs. Frances L. Butler, 1831 Windsor Lane, Santa Ana 92705. Meetings: 3rd Thursday, November through April, Santa Ana Fed. S & L Bldg., 1802 N. Main, Santa Ana.

CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF SACRAMENTO—President, L. J. Vervalle; Secretary, Mrs. Robert C. Adrian, 7555 Baldwin Dam Rd., Folsom, 95630. Meetings: 4th Wednesday each month, October through April, Shepard Garden & Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd.

*CENTRAL CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY—President, Bob Kellas; Secretary, Mary Ann Ray 5024 E. Laurel Ave., Fresno 93727. Meetings: 3rd Wednesday, November through February in Smuggler's Inn Motel.

DELTA CAMELLIA SOCIETY—President, Larry Pitts; Secretary, Jack Lewis, 3824 Beechwood Dr., Concord, Ca 94520. Meetings: 4th Tuesday, November through March, Lafayette Fed. Savings & Loan, 1406 N. Broadway, Walnut Creek.

LOS ANGELES CAMELLIA SOCIETY—President, Ernie Pieri; Secretary, Mrs. Happy Stillman, 8159 Hollywood Blvd. 90069. Meetings: 1st Tuesday, December through April, Hollywood Women's Club, 1749 N. La Brea, Hollywood.

MODESTO CAMELLIA SOCIETY—President, Pete Grosso; Secretary, Mrs. Walter Ragland, 709 Leytonstone Dr., Modesto, Ca 95355. Meetings: second Tuesday, October through May, Downey High School, Coffee Road, Modesto.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY—President, David Hagmann; Secretary, Judith Toomajian, 18 Diablo Circle, Lafayette Ca. 94549. Meetings: first Monday, November through May. Chabot School 6686, Chabot Rd., Oakland.

PACIFIC CAMELLIA SOCIETY—President, Bob Neely; Secretary, Alice Neely, 4637 Collis Ave., Los Angeles 90032. Meetings: 1st Thursday, November through April, Central Bank of Glendale, 411 N. Central Ave., Glendale.

PENINSULA CAMELLIA SOCIETY—President, Joseph J. Hill; Secretary, Robert Marcy, 1898 Kirkmont Dr., San Jose 95124. Meetings: 4th Tuesday, September through April, AMPEX Cafeteria, 401 Broadway Redwood City.

*POMONA VALLEY CAMELLIA SOCIETY—President, Julius Christinson; Secretary, Dorothy Christinson, 3751 Hoover St., Riverside 92504. Meetings: 2nd Thursday, November through April, Pomona First Fed. S & L Bldg., 399 N. Gary, Pomona.

*SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY—President, Eugene Snooks; Secretary, Palmer Groenewald, 1139 Madison Ave., San Diego 92116. Meetings: 3rd Wednesday, October through April, Casa Del Prado Bldg., Balboa Park, San Diego.

SANTA CLARA COUNTY CAMELLIA SOCIETY—President, Robt. Marcy; Secretary, Donna Hardy, 349 London Ct., Santa Clara 95050. Meetings: 3rd Wednesday, September through April, Allstate Savings 1304 Saratoga Ave., San Jose.

SONOMA COUNTY CAMELLIA SOCIETY—President, Douglas Batt; Secretary, Mrs. Nona Passinetti, 296 Bloomfield Rd., Sebastopol 95472. Meetings: 4th Thursday, October through May, Piner Grade School, Santa Rosa.

*SOUTH COAST CAMELLIA SOCIETY—President, Wallace Jones; Secretary, Mrs. Martha Ann Walter, 671 Calle Miramar, Redondo Beach 90277. Meetings: 3rd Tuesday, September through May, South Coast Botanical Gardens, 26300 Crenshaw, Palos Verdes.

*TEMPLE CITY CAMELLIA SOCIETY—President, Mrs. Elsie Bracci; Secretary, Mrs. Alice Jaacks, 5554 N. Burton Ave., San Gabriel, Ca 91776. Meetings: Friday, Nov. 16; Fri. Dec. 14, Thurs., Jan. 24; Thur., Feb. 28; Wed., Mar. 26; Thur., April 24. At Lecture Hall Arboretum, Arcadia.

**S O U T H E R N
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