

THE *Camellia*
REVIEW

A Publication of the Southern California Camellia Society



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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 FLOWERS

The four new camellias pictured on the cover are miniature C. Japonica seedlings developed by Nuccio's Nurseries in Altadena and released this fall, 1981. At the top left is the cultivar 'Tinker Toy,' a white, speckled and striped rose red miniature anemone form. Next — top right is the cultivar 'Little Bo Peep.' This is a pale pink miniature formal double with huge green leaves. At the bottom right is the cultivar 'Lemon Drop,' a creamy white with a lemon yellow bud center. The form is rose form double. At the bottom left is the cultivar 'Lipstick,' a dark red with white petaloids bordered red. It has a miniature anemone form. The color separations for this picture are courtesy of Nuccio's Nurseries.

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THOUGHTS

from the editor

My youngest Grandson is five and he loves to climb up on my lap and have me read the "Mother Goose Book." The rhyme which comes to mind is-"Pussy Cat, Pussy Cat, Where have you been?-I've been to London to see the Queen." However, on Monday, August 24th the rhyme could have been-"I've been to Rancho Del Cielo (Sky Ranch) to see the First Lady!" Yes! We had the good fortune to have had an opportunity to visit the President's Western White House where Willard Goertz presented Mrs. Ronald Reagan with a 20 gallon specimen plant of the new cultivar "Nancy Reagan." You may recall that the September issue of CAMELLIA REVIEW carried the picture of this flower on the cover. Willard (Bill) Goertz, of San Marino, who developed the variety, had shipped a plant to the White House in Washington D.C. and it is now in the First Lady's Garden. Julius Nuccio suggested to Bill that Mrs. Reagan might like to have a few small plants to give to some of her friends. This suggestion was passed on to Mrs. Reagan with a resulting list of names and addresses. These have been delivered by Bill Goertz to the people here in Southern California. Then it occurred to Bill that it might be nice if the Reagans had one of the plants at their California ranch near Santa Barbara. Through correspondence with Mrs. Reagan's Secretary tentative arrangements were made to present the plant while the Reagans were in California during the month of August.

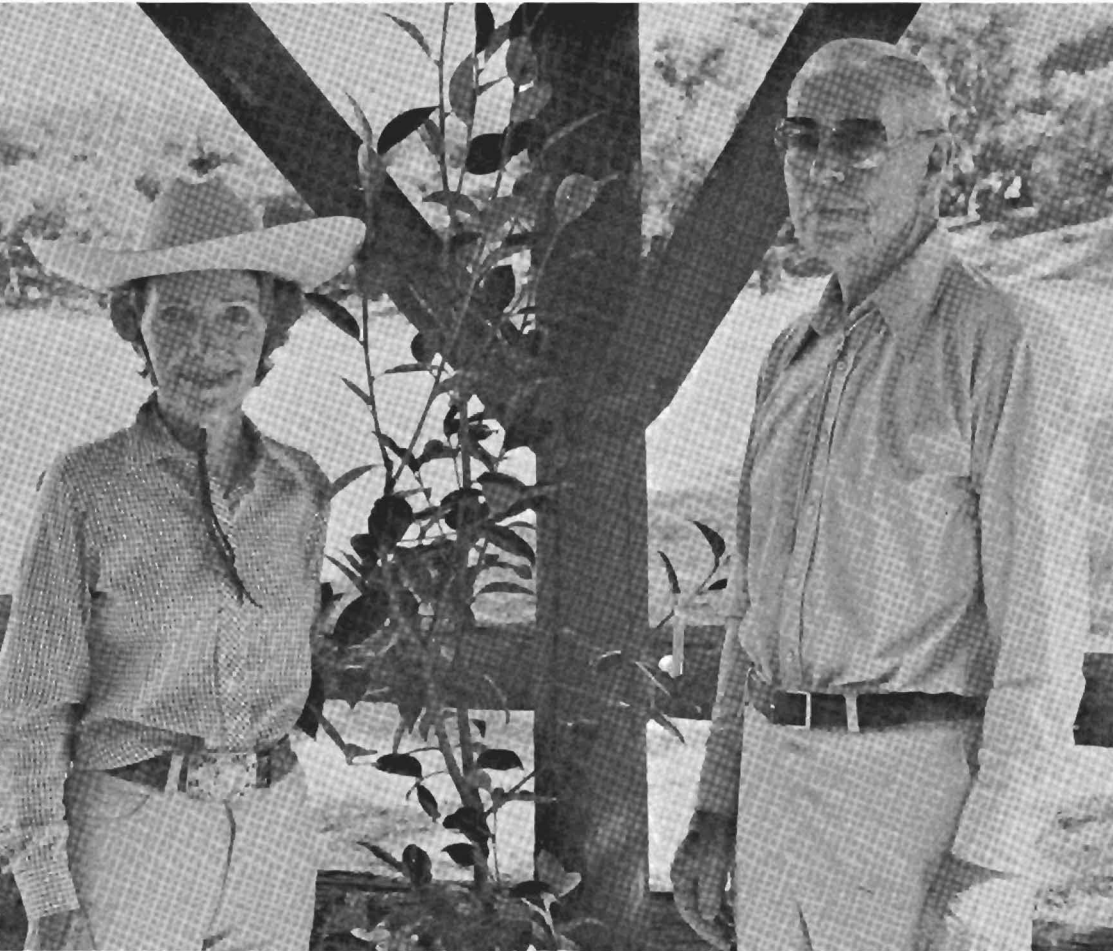
Bill had invited me to be "in" on this event for two reasons: (1) He wanted help to get the 20 gallon plant

to the Ranch; and (2) we both thought that it would be nice to take some photos of the event for an article in CAMELLIA REVIEW. We finally got word that everything was set for a presentation on Monday, August 24th at 4:00 PM. The plant, a 7-foot high, 6 year graft, in a 20 gallon tub, was at Nuccio's Nurseries where they are propagating the cultivar for release in 1982. We borrowed Nuccio's Ford van with the plant (Every leaf waxed and the tub shining green) loaded there-in and took off for Santa Barbara. At the Santa Barbara Sheraton we were joined by a Secret Service Agent and Mrs. Reagan's lady photographer. These two, in a phone-equip, government car, guided us 30 miles north on Highway #101 to Refugio Canyon. Here we turned off of the freeway and proceeded via a winding mountain road up toward the ranch. Just before reaching the top we came to a huge iron gate guarded by Secret Service people and Deputy Sheriffs from Santa Barbara County. Here the van was "gone over" with a "fine tooth comb" and we were finally waved on to the next iron barrier. This proved to be the locked gate to Rancho Del Cielo with more armed guards carrying their walkie-talkies. Again we were passed on and into the Ranch grounds. About a half mile further on is the Ranch House-with still a third locked gate and armed guards. (Actually I, for one, am kinda glad that the President is getting the kind of protection he apparently needs in this crazy mixed-up world of ours!). With the chains unlocked on the third gate we drove into the court yard of the ranch house and up to the

patio entrance. Here we unloaded the camellia plant and presently, Mrs. Reagan came out to greet us. Our First Lady impressed me as being one of the most pleasant, most gracious, most down-to-earth people I have ever met! She was very grateful for the gift and seemed to be most interested in how to care for it. It turns out that the Reagans are planning to make some additions to the ranch house and therefore it was decided to leave the plant in the tub for the present. In fact they could probably leave the plant in the tub since it fits nicely under the patio roof. After our 30 minute visit we

turned back down the mountain road toward Pasadena.

For myself, I would have to say that the event was a highlight. I think that we furthered the cause of camellias and we just may have enlisted a new recruit to the camellia hobby! We didn't get to meet the President, but we did meet a very gracious and very nice First Lady. Thanks should go to Bill Goertz for arranging the event and to Nuccio's Nurseries for their help in carrying out the logistics. The picture we are including with this article was taken by Mrs. Reagan's photographer and given us to use.



GROWING AZALEAS AND RHODODENDRONS

Ed. Note: Most of this material was taken from Home and Garden Bulletin No. 71 of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The information was furnished by the Crops Division and the Entomology Research Division.

Azaleas and rhododendrons are companion plants to camellias and they can be grown in the same gardens side by side. They complement camellias and anyone who considers himself as a camellia hobbyist should consider adding some azaleas and rhododendrons to his collection. Out here in Southern California azaleas are as easy to grow as camellias. Rhododendrons, on the other hand, have acquired a reputation for being very difficult to grow in the Southern California climate. However, there are some new varieties and cultivars which have been developed within the last few years which hold great promise for this area. With this factor in mind these notes might be of help to gardeners who plan to purchase some rhododendrons.

Azaleas and rhododendrons are members of the same plant group and have the same cultural requirements. All instructions for planting and care of azaleas may be applied also to rhododendrons.

Azaleas and rhododendrons are at their best in climates that are fairly mild and humid. They grow well throughout the Appalachian Mountains and in the States along the Atlan-

tic and gulf coasts. They do well around Lake Erie, in the southern Mississippi Valley, and along the Pacific coast from Puget Sound to San Francisco Bay.

Soils or climate in the rest of the United States may be unfavorable for azaleas. Azaleas can be grown in unfavorable regions, but they need more attention than in favorable regions.

You can grow azaleas successfully if you follow these rules in planting and caring for them.

- Buy species and varieties that are adapted to your area.
- Get plants that are at least 2 years old and 8 to 16 inches tall.
- Plant them in well-drained, acid soil that is high in organic-matter content.
- Set plants no deeper than they were in the nursery.
- Maintain a mulch around them during the growing season.
- Guard against drought; be sure plants get the equivalent of 1 inch of rainfall every 10 days.
- Protect azaleas from insect attack.

Some kinds of azaleas will survive colder winter temperatures than other kinds. Some will withstand hotter sum-

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mer temperatures than others. Before you buy azalea plants, be sure they are adapted to your area.

You can ask a reputable nurseryman in your locality to recommend species or varieties; generally, the plants he has for sale are adapted to your area. You also can ask neighbors which kinds have done well for them. Or you can ask your county agricultural agent or your State agricultural experimental station for species and variety recommendations.

It might be of interest to note that Nuccio's Nurseries in Altadena, California carry an extensive selection of Rhododendrons which grow well in Southern California. Among their selection are the following cultivars: Blue Diamond, Anah Kruschke, Pink Pearl, Betty Wornald, Anna Rose Whitney, Cotton Candy, Dr. Arnold Endtz, Ruby Bowman, Goldworth Crimson, Loe, Lloyd Roberts, Markeeta's Flame, Unknown Warrior, Purple Splendor Sappho, and Emasculata. According to Nuccio's Nursery the finest, toughest rhododendron so far tested in Southern California is Anah Kruschke.

Buy plants that are sturdy and well branched. The best size for planting is 15 or 16 inches tall. Small plants are winterinjured easily. If you get plants less than 8 inches tall, grow them in a cold-frame for a year or two before you set them out. Plants more than 16 inches tall are satisfactory, but they are more expensive than 16-inch plants.

You can plant azaleas most successfully when they are dormant. In the North the best time to plant them is early spring, before new leaves start to grow. In the South they can be planted from fall to early spring, at any time the ground is unfrozen.

You also can plant or move azaleas while they are growing, though with more risk than while they are dormant. Many azaleas are sold in the spring while they are in bloom. These can be established successfully in the garden if they are protected carefully from drying after they are planted.

Azaleas do not grow well in dense shade; they become spindly and bloom only sparsely. They will grow satisfactorily, however, in full sunlight or in moderate shade.

They grow best where they have alternating sunshine and shade and are protected from the wind. A good place to plant azaleas is under tall, deep-rooted trees such as oaks and pines. There, the mixture of sunshine and shade is good.

Do not plant azaleas under shallow-rooted trees such as elms and maples, however. These trees will use water and plant food needed by the azaleas.

If you are planting azaleas around a building, they will do best on the north and east sides of the building where they are protected from the hot afternoon sun. You can plant them on other sides of the building, but you will have to give them more attention to protect them from drying.

Spacing of azalea and rhododendron plants depends on the variety you plant and the effect you want.

Mature rhododendrons spread to 6 or 8 feet in diameter. Mature azaleas need 4 to 6 feet of space per plant.

Spacing is no problem for single plants: plant them far enough from other plants or from buildings so they will not be crowded when mature.

If you want a mass of blooms, set plants close together while they are young, then transplant them as they become crowded.

A good plan is to place small azaleas 2 feet apart. After 3 or 4 years, when they start crowding each other, remove alternate plants and replant them in another location. This will give remaining plants room to develop.

Dig planting holes larger than the rootballs of the azalea plants. After you set each plant in a hole, cut the twine around the rootball. It is not necessary to remove the burlap; it rots quickly. If other materials are used as wrapping, remove them.

Press soil around the rootball. Pack it firmly under the plant. While you are doing this, set the plant so it is no

deeper than it was in the nursery. If the roots are planted too deeply, they will not get enough air, and the plant will die.

After you fill the hole, soak the soil thoroughly. This helps to bring the soil into close contact with the roots.

Prepare the planting site several weeks in advance of planting. Prepare beds to spade depth or dig individual holes at least 18 inches in diameter and 12 inches deep.

Azaleas need acid soil that holds moisture and is well drained. Adding organic matter of the right type — peat moss, 1- to 2-year-old oak leaves, or forest leafmold — increases soil acidity and improves waterholding capacity of sandy soils and drainage of clay soils.

If your soil is neutral or alkaline, organic matter may not add enough acidity. Then it is necessary to make the soil acid with chemicals or grow the plants in tubs or planters that contain suitable soil.

Azaleas grow well in pure peat or leafmold; use as much as you can afford.

If you are preparing planting beds, spread a layer of organic matter 4 or 5 inches deep over the surface of the spaded bed. Mix the organic matter with the upper 6 inches of soil.

If you are preparing separate planting holes, mix the soil from the hole

with an equal volume of organic matter.

After you have added organic matter to the soil, the surface of the bed or planting hole will be higher than the surrounding soil. If the soil is heavy and your area has frequent hard rains, leave the surface mounded; it will help drain away excess water and keep the beds from getting waterlogged. Under normal conditions, level the beds or planting holes.

As soon as you have the plants set, mulch the soil around them with oak leaves, peat moss, pine needles, or leafmold.

Use at least 2 inches of peat moss or pine needles or 2 to 5 inches of leaves or leafmold. Spread the mulch so all the soil is covered beneath the branches.

If the plants are not sheltered by nearby buildings, shrubs, or trees, remove the mulch at the onset of cold weather. If they are growing in sheltered locations, the mulch can remain in place.

Add new mulching material every spring.

Be sure the plants get enough water. They should have the equivalent of 1 inch of rain every 10 days. You can be safe in applying about 2 gallons of water to each plant every 10 days from spring to late fall. Omit watering for 10

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days after heavy or prolonged rains.

Watering is essential during the first 2 years after planting. After azaleas become well established, they usually will survive with normal rainfall.

If you plant azaleas under overhanging eaves or where rain does not reach them, you will have to supply all their water. If this is the case, continue watering through the winter, whenever the ground is not frozen.

Azaleas may need light fertilizing soon after planting. Apply fertilizer in early spring.

After the first season, organic matter usually furnishes enough nutrients to the plants. If the plants need fertilizer, their leaves begin to turn light green.

Garden stores sell fertilizer formulated especially for azaleas. Apply it according to the directions on the package.

Do not apply fertilizer after July 1.

Do not use special lawn fertilizers on azaleas. These fertilizers often are alkaline.

Azaleas grow well without pruning. You may want to prune them, however, to remove dead or injured branches, to shape the plants, or to reduce their size.

If you want your plants to be bushier, cut growing twigs halfway back when they are 4 or 5 inches long.

Plants that have grown too tall or are crowded can be pruned back severely to the size and shape you want. The plants will not have many flowers the next season after pruning, but in following years the flowers will be more abundant.

A heavy mulch prevents weeds from growing readily around plants. Hand pull those weeds that do manage to grow. Do not cultivate with a hoe or other garden implements. Azalea roots grow close to the surface and will be injured if the soil is disturbed.

If your azaleas or rhododendrons are damaged by insects or related pests (for example, spider mites), determine the kind of pest responsible for the damage, then apply an appropriate insecticide. Without protection against

insects, the plants will not thrive.

The azalea lacebug and spider mites are particularly troublesome. The insecticides recommended for controlling them are available at garden-supply stores.

For information about other pests that attack azaleas and rhododendrons, see Agriculture Information Bulletin 237, "Controlling Insects on Flowers," available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 20402, at 40 cents a copy.

NOVEMBER MEETING OF S.C.C.S.

Mark your calendars for the night of Tuesday, November 9, 1981. That is the date of the first meeting of the Southern California Camellia Society to be held at 7:30 P.M. at the San Marino Women's Club, Huntington Drive, San Marino. The camellias are blooming early this year and there should be a fine display of both "gibbed" and natural flowers. Bring your blooms and enter the annual point contest.

For our opening meeting our Program Chairman, Warren Dickson has promised an interesting discussion. Sergio Bracci will be chairman of a panel along with Bill Goertz and Rudy Moore. The subject will be CAMELLIA CULTURE FOR BEGINNERS AND FOR EXPERTS. Emphasis will be on growing rather than showing camellia blooms. All phases of culture will be touched on and it is hoped that there will be many questions from the floor. The panel urges you to bring a leaf from those plants which you are having problems with. The panel will attempt to diagnose the cause of your culture problem from the condition of the leaf and advise you regarding fertilizing and or watering problems.

We will have the usual fine half-time refreshments and a "block-buster" raffle of camellia plants and other companion plants. Why not bring a guest and introduce him to your friends and to the wonderful hobby of camellias?

CAMELLIA HAVEN'S TWENTY BEST SELLING CAMELLIAS

by Neville Haydon

Howick, New Zealand

Camellia Haven is a fairly new nursery, starting six years ago when I took a sudden change of occupations. After an initial four years of wholesaling it is now a completely specialist retail camellia nursery cataloguing about 300 varieties.

The justification for its existence is that while New Zealand cities and towns are extremely well provided for with garden centres, these garden centres are so diversified they can carry only a fraction of the range of worthwhile camellias known to us enthusiasts. Thus my nursery sends all over New Zealand reticulatas and other plants not readily available elsewhere as well as trying to serve the greater Auckland area of 800,000 people.

In this area we are particularly fortunate in having a long flowering season for japonicas and their hybrids. This has to affect my list of best sellers, as those with nice flowers on display for a long time must win. Rainfall is kind at about 45 inches per year, and our only major problem to my mind is wind. New Zealand is basically two long narrowish islands roughly north and south, and those winds do blow across us, so the top sellers have to be wind hardy.

Surprisingly, and I get as surprised as anyone, the top seller from my nursery by a wide margin is a one centimetre single flower on a bush growing only a couple of feet high. This is BABY BEAR, a rosaeflora x tsaii seedling which I raised some years ago. It has the advantage of complete novelty, and also that one can be popped in somewhere in the most crowded garden — and many gardens here are just that. But for the Descanso Show, forget it.

The japonica and hybrid list is

BRUSHFIELDS YELLOW/GWEN-NETH MOREY • DESIRE • DOROTHY JAMES • E. G. WATERHOUSE • ELEGANS SPLENDOR • ELEGANS SUPREME • DONATION • GRAND SLAM • GUEST OF HONOR • GUILIO NUCCIO • MARGARET DAVIS • MARK ALAN • TIFFANY • TOM KNUDSEN • TWILIGHT • WATER LILY • WILDFIRE

Margaret Davis is clearly the number two seller — so different and long flowering. All the Aspasia MacArthur family do very well here. Some people arrive thinking of a Betty Sheffield Supreme but leave with a Margaret Davis after hearing my sad stories of the reversion problems we have with BETTY SHEFFIELD SUPREME.

Brushfields Yellow and/or Gweneth Morey are also very popular and presage things to come when everyone has the chance to cross crysanthra into it or them. They appear identical to me. Mark Alan is right near the top through its distinctive form and colour and an exceptionally long flowering period in this area. Like Donation the flowers are not long lasting, but a great garden plant. Elegans Splendor and Supreme are great examples of that extra quality we now look for.

What I call the Three Guys, after a local supermarket chain, Grand Slam, Guilio Nuccio and Guest of Honor, often go out together to people wanting hardy, dependable but showy varieties to plant up as a screen on part of their section boundary.

Dorothy James gets there because so often I am asked for a slow or small growing plant with a pretty flower for a container and it is my automatic answer until I get Snippet under way to go with it.

Tiffany is the only variety which cannot be called a good garden plant, with the flowers hanging down largely out of sight. But what a producer of huge undamaged flowers it is to compensate.

The notable newcomer is Desire, a

Dave Feathers seedling first released by the Camellia Lodge in Melbourne. It is the only japonica on my list which is currently sold in grafted plants, that is, twice the price of cutting grown, but nobody asks the price when they see Desire, which is nearly all season as it flowers here from May to September, equivalent to November to March for you. The plant is also excellent, making it the perfect replacement for Sawadas Dream, which I have never listed because of variable and often disappointing garden performance.

I now list about one hundred reticulatas and retic. hybrids and while there is some demand for them all, only three would reach the best seller list. DR. CLIFFORD PARKS and VALENTINE DAY produce such consistently good flowers that people pick them out very quickly, and no concern about which form of Dr. Clifford it is, or whether the bud centre on Valentine Day has unfurled or not. The reputation and Nomenclature photograph of MISS TULARE had preceded her from the USA and all the enthusiasts wanted one when it was released last year. It is already showing the consistency of plant and flower which should keep it in the list.

Notably these retics are all very full-petalled flowers, and I find that this is what people mainly want. The only semidouble retics strongly in demand have been the dark reds, with Jack Clark's pair Eden Queen and Margaret Hilford keeping pace with your fine Americans, Nuccios Ruby, San Marino and Terrell Weaver. More formal doubles please, Mr. Piet and friends and Mr. Pursel, and if they are on compact bushes your names will be thrice blessed.

If I am allowed a prediction or two to finish with, Elegans Champagne will certainly join the list as we can produce the plants and it becomes better known. Purple Gown will if I can ever produce enough good sized plants, and Harold L. Paige will if only the flowers will come a month earlier. We get an even better form than your

published photographs. Another I am building up stocks of since finding that it sells out as soon as a flower goes on display is a very old Australian small formal double called Zambo. Its particular attraction is the colour, usually the nearest thing to blue I have yet seen in a camellia. I also try hard for one of my own favourites, Premier. Oddly no other nursery has ever grown this fine variety here.

The Tomorrow family are not popular here because of the plant habit, and the fine hybrids of Les Jury and Brian Doak are absent probably because they have been so heavily produced by the wholesale nurseries over the last fifteen years.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

by Bill Donnan

Did you ever wonder how a camellia variety gets its name? With over 5,000 named varieties of camellia in the 1981 CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE it is becoming more and more difficult to come up with an appropriate name for the flood of new cultivars. (The late Harvey Short was a "past master" at thinking up appropriate names.) If you are thinking of naming a camellia the first thing you must do is to read the Introduction to a copy of CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE. Here you will find all of the rules and regulations governing the naming of a new cultivar.

Recently Nuccio's Nurseries wanted to introduce four new miniature cultivars. In fact, they are the ones which are pictured on the cover of this issue. These plants had been tested for several years. While they all had numbers, two of them, namely 'Lemon Drop' and 'Lipstick' had been referred to as such for the past two years. 'Lemon Drop' has a lemon colored bud center and 'Lipstick' has guard petals which look like lipstick. After making sure that these names had not been used and were not registered they were chosen. Then the name of 'Tiddlywinks' was chosen for the pink

anemone with the red striped guard petals. Here again there was much discussion whether it should be spelled tiddlywinks; tiddlie winks; or tiddle-de-winks. The first spelling was chosen. Finally, the name 'Little Miss Muffett' was chosen for the beautiful formal double with the huge leaves. Registration forms were filled out and an advertisement was prepared for the fall issue of *CAMELLIA REVIEW*. About that time Fred Heitman visited the nursery and when he was told about the new cultivars he claimed that there already was a cultivar named "Little Miss Muffett" and that he, himself had one. A careful review of *CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE* indicated that such a named cultivar had never been registered. Then it was discovered that there was a cultivar named 'Miss Muffett' which had been registered in 1962 by Mrs. B. Lindsley of San Diego. Thus, to avoid confusion, the Nuccio's decided to name their cultivar 'Little Bo Peep.' A few days later Ernie Pieri was at the nursery. When he was told about the new introductions he exclaimed that there had already been a cultivar named 'Bo Peep!' However, it was not listed in the *NOMENCLATURE* and had not been registered, so, 'Little Bo Peep' retained its name. The registration forms for the four cultivars were all prepared and were about to be mailed in to the American Camellia Society when Bill Woodroof, the Editor of *CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE*, received a registration through A.C.S. from Mr. James Lynch of Franklington, Louisiana, dated July 28, 1981 for a new cultivar named "Tiddlywinks!" Since Lynch's registration takes priority — according to the rules of *CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE* — Nuccio's Nurseries was obliged to withdraw its proposed name. This occurred after having sold several specimens and after the advertisement had appeared in *CAMELLIA REVIEW*. The new name chosen for the cultivar advertised as 'Tiddlywinks' has been changed to 'Tinker Toy' and that is the

way it has been registered and will be sold.

All of this served to remind us how lucky we are to have a *CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE*. Without its listings; without its rules and regulations; and without its integrity the camellia world would be in the same shambles as the azalea and the rhododendron world is faced with. For example, the latest edition of the Rhododendron Nomenclature was published in 1965! Since then, upwards of 1,000 new rhododendron hybrids and seedlings have been introduced. No one knows how many "Same-name" cultivars have been given duplicate names and sold to an unsuspecting public. So rejoice you camellia hobbyists, you have a "camellia bible" which you can refer to. Whether you are buying a camellia, naming a camellia, or hybridizing, you have a reliable guide at your finger-tips.

MULTIPLES CALIFORNIA SHOW WINNERS . . 1981

by Art Gonos

Multiple show entries have always been special to me as they require consistency and uniformness. Starting with 1978, this is the fourth annual report of multiple entry winners that I have compiled. Almost all of the shows beginning with the December 1980 Southern California Gib Show and ending with the 1981 Santa Rosa show are included. Shows that do not report their results to the *CAMELLIA REVIEW* unfortunately are not included unless I personally attend the show and write down the winners. I would like to encourage the show chairmen of all shows to send in their show results to Bill Donnan (editor of the *Camillia Review*) so that our analysis will be complete. Each year one or two shows have been missing from the compilation and it is different shows each year. Please send the results within thirty days of your show. Many thanks.

The 1982 report next year will also

include a total 5 year compilation as well as the annual 1982 report. It may be interesting in the future to compare five year reports in order to determine changing trends in multiples that win. If anyone of you reading this report has any thoughts along these lines please express them to Bill Donnan or myself. As usual any multiple entry of the same cultivar that wins a best or a runner-up best is included. Normally, this means three or five of a kind. The size classification used is the size listed in the 1981 edition of *Camellia Nomenclature*. This is necessitated by different show formats. Some of the shows allow different sizes to compete against each other while others use *Camellia Nomenclature*, or the ruler. I have made two changes since the 1980 report. First, I have separated variegated and non-variegated forms of the same cultivar. Secondly, I have included hybrids with the smalls and miniatures. These smaller size categories used to be limited to Japonicas but more and more shows are changing their small and miniature categories to a Boutonniere class and are open to any species that qualify in size.

There are two major features of the 1981 compilation. To start with, we have a new record for most "bests" in one season. In the hybrid class ELSIE JURY had eight bests. The old record was seven. At the same time, most of the 1980 champs either went to the bottom of their respective lists or went off the list altogether. I should also point out that the four year cumulative champion is FRANCIE L with 22 bests.

In the large Japonicas GRAND SLAM was the top winner with 5 bests. GRAND SLAM was tied with GRAND PRIX and KRAMERS SUPREME for first in 1980. KRAMERS SUPREME did not have a single best in 1981. The old favorite WILDFIRE was on top of the medium list in 1981 after being tied for first or second in 1979 and 1980. However, NUCCIO'S GEM after having been tied for first in each of the previous three years could

only manage one best in 1981.

The Boutonnieres also provided their share of surprises. In the smalls KITTY, like NUCCIO'S GEM, had won or tied for first in each of the previous three years with a total of 11 bests. KITTY did not even have one best or one runner-up in 1981 . . . it is tantamount to Babe Ruth not getting one home run during the entire season. BLACK TIE, HISHI KARAITO, and the nineteenth century queen PINK PERFECTION were the best among the smalls with 2 "wins" each. Who says the old timers cannot win ? ? ? I have felt for some time that MANSIZE and LITTLE SLAM held the most potential for winning as multiple entries in the miniature boutonniere class. LITTLE SLAM has always done well and added three bests in 1981. MANSIZE blooms which usually look as if they were all punched out of the same cookie press only managed one best in my first three reports combined. All of that changed in 1981 as MANSIZE finally came through as prince of the miniatures with 5 bests. In second place with 4 bests was a delightful (relatively new) pink formal or rose form double hybrid called SPRING FESTIVAL. FRANCIS COUNCIL, the 1980 champ suffered the same fate of most of the other 1980 winners as this cultivar also failed to win a single best.

FRANCIE L mentioned above as the four year frontrunner among multiples seems to be in a class by itself. This cultivar has been first among the Retic and Retic Hybrids for three of the four years of this report and in 1980 when it finished second it was only one best behind the champ VAL-ENTINE DAY. The latter suffered the 1980 champions' jinx and fell to a tie for sixth place with 2 wins. CORNELIAN which appears to be the most consistent among the pure retics was second this last year with 4 "wins".

ELSIE JURY, the aforementioned new single year record holder with eight "bests," equalled a previous three year cumulative total for this

cultivar. FREEDOM BELL the toughest competitor of all small size camellias has been second or tied for second for four years in a row. It should be remembered that in the hybrid class FREEDOM BELL has to always compete against its medium and large size cousins. As usual the 1980 champ E.G. WATERHOUSE slipped off of the winners list with only one win. If nothing else, the winning multiples list demonstrates that there are few "automatic" winning cultivars and while many of the winners also win as single entries, the "match-em" requirement of the multiples produces many winning cultivars that do not have as great a chance of winning when they are entered as single blooms.

LIST OF MULTIPLE WINNERS

(and number of wins)

JAPONICAS (LARGE—VERY LARGE)	
GRAND SLAM	5
ELEGANS CHAMPAGNE	4
ELEGANS SUPREME	3
TOMORROW PARK HILL	3
ELEGANS SPLENDOR	2
GRAND PRIX	2
13 others with 1 each	
JAPONICAS (MEDIUM)	
WILDFIRE	3
IN THE PINK	2
IN THE RED	2
JENNIE MILLS	2
MAGNOLIAFLORA	2

MIDNIGHT	2
MRS. R.L. WHEELER	2
RAGLAND SUPREME	2
12 others with 1 each	

JAPONICAS & HYBRIDS (SMALL)

BLACK TIE	2
HISHI KARAITO	2
PINK PERFECTION	2
ALLISON LEIGH WOODROOF	1
AVE MARIA	1
FREEDOM BELL	1

JAPONICAS/HYBRIDS (MINIATURE)

MANSIZE	5
SPRING FESTIVAL	4
LITTLE SLAM	3
BABY SIS PINK	1
BOB'S TINSIE	1
ELLEN DANIEL	1
PINK SMOKE	1

RETIC & RETIC HYBRIDS

FRANCIE L	6
CORNELIAN	4
DR. CLIFFORD PARKS	3
FRANCIE L. VAR	3
LASCA BEAUTY	3
MILO ROWELL	2
MOUCHANG	2
VALENTINE DAY	2
10 others with 1 each	

NON-RETIC HYBRIDS

ELSIE JURY	8
FREEDOM BELL	5
CORAL DELIGHT VAR.	3
SOUTH SEAS	3
ANGEL WINGS	2
DEBBIE	2
4 others with 1 each	

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Southern California Camellia Society
1076 Via La Paz San Pedro, CA 90732

OREGON CAMELLIA SHOW REPORT:

Ed Lewis, Chairman of Judging. Portland, Oregon. Jantzen Beach Center, April 4 and 5, 1981.

President's Trophy for: Most Outstanding Bloom in Show:

Dixie Knight Supreme won by Larry Landauer

C. japonica In Open:

Kramer's Supreme won by Margaret Macdonald

Runner-up:

Betty Sheffield Supreme, Rus Gainer

C. japonica Under Glass:

Dixie Knight Supreme won by Larry Landauer

Runner-up:

Fred Sanders, Larry Landauer

C. hybrid other than reticulata In Open:

Creation won by Oscar Tinkle

Runner-up:

Donation, Andy Sears

C. reticulata and hybrids:

Lila Naff won by Margaret Macdonald

Runner-up:

Lasca Beauty, Oscar Tinkle

C. japonica, Small or Min. in show:
Kitty won by Ed Lewis

Runner-up:

Tinsie, Ed Lewis

C. japonica, Plate of Three in show:

Herme won by Larry Landauer

C. reticulata, Plate of Three:

Three Dreams won by Margaret Macdonald

ACS Gold Certificates for most blue ribbons (46) in Protected Division won by Larry Landauer and (17) in Unprotected Division, won by Oscar Tinkle. ACS Silver Certificates for Runner-up were awarded to Oscar with 16 firsts in the Protected Division and to Andrew Sears with 9 firsts in the Unprotected Division.

There were 224 winning entries with 163 firsts, 47 seconds and 14 thirds. There were some 250 blooms displayed in the show viewed by over 1000 people.

THE YEAR THAT 'DR. TINSLEY' GOT THE MESSAGE

James H. McCoy, Fayetteville, NC

1981, with its awfully cold January, turned out just fine camellia-wise. Right up until February 15, when some of the easterners left for the convention in San Mateo, the weather was bitter cold. We never saw another cold day.

Old 'Dr. Tinsley,' in its choice spot under the pine tree, had just sat there year after year. No blooms that were worth cutting. After about 10 years of patient watching and waiting, we decided to get rid of it. I had already decided what varieties I would graft on its many limbs. It was going to be a camellia collection, all by itself. March came and it started opening blooms, a few at the bottom first. Then as the days passed, more and more, until around the last week in March, it was covered with blooms. Most of them were perfect. From the back patio it

made a spectacular sight. I changed my plans. No camellia as beautiful as that was going to get the axe.

Blooming up closer to the house was 'Pink Perfection,' also making the loveliest show it has ever done. And beside it, in interesting contrast, was a 'Ville.' Never does 'Ville' fail, but this year it seemed to outdo itself, as if it couldn't stand the idea of being outdone by any ordinary camellia like 'Pink Perfection.' 'T.K. Variegated,' blooming along with 'Gunsmoke,' 'Gigantea,' and 'Kumasaka' made a spectacle of itself. Neighbors couldn't stay away from the fence where they marvelled at its floriferous behavior. They couldn't understand how a camellia that produced variegated blooms could produce solid red ones on a few limbs.

My old dependable 'Lady Clare'

also got into the spirit of the thing and bloomed and bloomed and bloomed. For about a month, we picked up a bucket full of blooms every day underneath it. Here are a few others that brought indescribable beauty to my yard: 'Elegans,' 'Shiro Botan,' 'Glen 40,' 'Duchess of Sutherland,' 'R. L. Wheeler,' and 'Flame.' Still to open its first bloom this 5th day of April is 'Blood of China.'

Mine is not the only yard with more beautiful than ever camellias this year. Kitty Stewman called me last night for some advice on spraying for scale. She told me that her namesake, 'Kitty,' had just bloomed its head off this year. She also mentioned 'Bernice Boddy' as performing especially well and 'Dear Jenny.' She said that she had never, never seen a camellia plant as lovely as her 'Dear Jenny' this year. She convinced me. I'm now looking for a 'Dear Jenny.'

I visited a camellia garden on the outskirts of Fayetteville the last week in March to see an especially good seedling. I was mightily impressed with the blooms on all the plants. Especially noteworthy were 'Spring Sonnett,' 'Dr. Tinsley,' 'Bernice Boddy,' and 'Drama Girl.'

When camellias bloom like they did in 1981, the interest of many people turns to camellias. Our camellia club has picked up 9 new members this year. I have been asked repeatedly, "Where can I buy camellias like those you have?" Maybe the weather we had this winter is a harbinger of the weather for the coming winters. If so, old 'Dr. Tinsley' doesn't have to worry, nor any other variety of camellia.

CAMELLIA STAMP DAY — APRIL 23

by Milton H. Brown

The sun rose early on the morning of April 23 with seasonal cool weather and a gorgeous clear sky. Even the pesty Middle Georgia gnats decided to let us alone that day.

By mid-morning, to the strains of music by the Peach County Trojan Band, under the leadership of Randolph Lindsey, people from all over the country filled the 2,004-seat modern auditorium to standing room only. Promptly at 11:00 o'clock during a stirring drum roll, the Honor Guard of Robins Air Force Base marched down the aisle and up to the platform to present our National Colors. Our National Anthem never sounded better as L. Ellis Brown of Fort Valley, accompanied by the Band, sang "The Star Spangled Banner". The patriotic atmosphere was further enhanced by the arrangement of "America The Beautiful" sung by the Ensemble.

The Master of Ceremonies, C. Warren Thompson, the Postmaster of Fort Valley, introduced the Executive Secretary of the American Camellia Society who welcomed the large crowd to a truly Georgian day noting that it was the birthday of William Shakespeare who loved and wrote so much about flowers. The President of the American Camellia Society, Thomas C. Evans of Aiken, SC, briefly gave the history and up-to-date facts concerning the Society, the only national horticultural organization located in our state of Georgia. Rosalynn Carter, our First Lady of Georgia and also our First Lady of America, gave a few remarks about how pleased she was that a camellia stamp was approved during her husband's tenure as President. There was a long standing ovation.

Among the other honored guests were Roselle Bell, the Past-President of the Garden Club of Georgia; Marguerite Smith, Treasurer of the ACS; Mrs. Robert Wise, daughter of Mrs. Greene Alday, the originator of the camellia 'Betty Sheffield Supreme'; Dr. Daniel E. Nathan, Director-at-Large of the ACS; B.J. McClendon, Principal of Peach County High School; Lowell B. Nesbitt, the New York artist who designed these beautiful stamps; Congressman Jack Brinkley, and the Mayors of Fort Valley, Marshallville, Byron as well as State legislators.

The motorcade, then, went to Massee Lane, headquarters of the ACS, where a truly Georgian chicken barbecue dinner was served to some 500 guests including Mrs. Carter and her mother, Mrs. Allie Smith.

We are sorry that many of you missed this great day for Georgia, a great day for camellias, and especially a great day for the camellia 'Betty Sheffield Supreme' originated by Mrs. Greene Alday of Thomasville from the very popular camellia 'Betty Sheffield' which was originated many years ago by that delightful person, Mrs. Betty Sheffield of Quitman. Original Official First Day Covers with stamps affixed and cancelled in Fort Valley, GA are still available for \$2.00. Please send a #10 Self-addressed stamped envelope when ordering from ACS Headquarters.

CAMELLIA HOBBYISTS — I LOVE THEM!

by Margaret Macdonald

The best part of growing camellias is meeting the people that grow them. I have belonged to four camellia societies and have yet to meet a member I didn't like.

I really missed my camellia friends in Southern California when I moved to Salem, Oregon four years ago. I joined the Oregon Camellia Society, but was unable to attend their meetings, held in the evening in Portland, a round trip of over 100 miles — and too long an interval to leave my invalid husband.

Widowed a year ago, after 42 years of marriage, I became something of a recluse, too timid to venture out alone after dark. I put double locks on my doors and garden gates.

While Salem, Oregon's capital, is a beautiful town, it is also the location of many of the state prisons and mental institutions. Hardly a week goes by without someone escaping. When a Federal judge released over 700 prisoners from Salem's overcrowded jails

recently, I became even more security minded. My door remained closed to strangers.

One day a tall man rang my doorbell. I peered out the window. He called through the closed door to say he was a member of the Oregon Camellia Society. Camellia! That was the magic word that opened my door.

How good it was to talk about camellias once more. I learned that he and his wife are longtime residents of Salem and have a well established garden. Some of their camellias are grown as trees, with a single trunk ten or twelve feet high, and are 35 years old. Chandleri Elegans grown this way is spectacular.

I was invited to go along to the evening meetings. I even found courage to take some of my camellias to the Oregon Camellia Society's 40th annual show, held in April in Portland. (This is the first year that my camellias have bloomed well since being planted from gallon cans four years ago.) I collected some blue ribbons — a real thrill for a first-time exhibitor.

If it hadn't been for the kindness of a camellia hobbyist, I might still be sitting alone behind my locked doors. You can imagine my gratitude.

This fall I plan to visit New Zealand where I hope to meet more camellia growers. I already know what they will be like. Aren't camellia hobbyists the nicest people on earth?

WHY WORRY?

Why Worry? There are only two things to worry about. Are you going to be sick or well? If you are well you don't have anything to worry about. If you are sick, you only have two things to worry about. Will you live or die? If you live, you don't have anything to worry about. If you die, you only have two things to worry about. Will you go to Heaven or to Hell? If you go to Heaven, you don't have anything to worry about. If you go to Hell there will be so many camellia friends there to shake hands with that you won't have time to worry!

THE RETICULATA HYBRID REVOLUTON

by William E. Woodroof

There has been a revolution in the development of reticulata hybrid cultivars. In fact, one could call it an explosion and whether it marks a future trend in the camellia hobby remains to be seen. My statistics are all based on the 1981 CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE. The ratings which I have given to these hybrids at the end of this article are strictly my own opinion.

First let us trace the historical development of the reticulata hybrids. As everyone knows, the Yunnan reticulata camellias were imported into the United States from China in March 1948 and in March 1949. However, prior to that time, successful crosses of the cultivar 'Captain Rawes' with other species had been accomplished. The first retic-hybrid recorded in the CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE was 'Salutation', a cross between *Saluenensis* and 'Captain Rawes'. This cultivar was introduced in 1936 by Colonel R.S. Clarke of Sussex, England. Then came 'Inamorata', a *Saluenensis* x 'Wild Form' retic cross made by Francis Hanger, at Wisley Gardens, England in 1950. These were followed by successful crosses made in New Zealand, England and the United States in the 1950s. Dave Feathers released 'Fairy Wings' in 1955. This was one of the first Japonica x Reticulata ('Crimson Robe') crosses. At that time Howard Asper was the curator of camellias at the Huntington Gardens. His successful crosses, namely 'Valley Knudsen' in 1958; 'Felice Harris' in 1960 and, finally, 'Howard Asper' in 1963 provided the inspiration for many other hybridizers. In fact, the variety 'Howard Asper', in the opinion of many camellia hobbyists, started the deluge of Japonica x Reticulata crosses. Again in 1965 Asper succeeded in crossing the *Sasanqua* species into the Reticulata to produce 'Flower Girl'; 'Dream Girl' and 'Show Girl'. The late 1960s

witnessed a remarkable number of new introductions and this carried on into the 1970s with ever increasing numbers.

I have counted the numbers of varieties of reticulata hybrids introduced by decades, as listed in the 1981 CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE. This compilation reveals the following statistics: Prior to 1950 — 1; 1950 to 1959 — 10; 1960 to 1969 — 59; 1970 to 1979 — 179; and, so far, 1980 to June 1980 — 35 new hybrids registered. If this trend were to continue we can expect that 400 or 500 reticulata hybrids will be introduced in the 1980s! One may well ask these questions. Are they all worth introducing? Do many of them offer anything new for the amateur hobbyist? Are they just new names for, seemingly, similar varieties? If a number of these new introductions, particularly the semi-doubles, were placed side by side in a group on a show bench, it is doubtful that even the best informed and most knowledgeable camellia expert could identify many of them.

I have made a study of the "parentage" of the Reticulata Hybrids and I find that the largest group are stated as Reticulata seedlings with the "mother" Reticulata plant sometimes listed. In other words, someone has planted a Reticulata seed and the resulting seedling plant has been given a name and introduced as a new variety. The next largest group are Japonica crosses with most of these originating in the United States. The preponderance of *Saluenensis* crosses were made in New Zealand, Australia and England.

Where will it all end? We can not, under the present Camellia Nomenclature Committee structure, restrict registration and/or the introduction and naming of new cultivars. Furthermore, we would not want to do this! Our only recourse is to prevail upon everyone to police himself in this mat-

ter. After all, it is in the interest of everyone in the camellia hobby to weigh the matter of registration very carefully and only name and introduce something which is truly new and different.

Now, in conclusion, I would like to give my own personal rating to some of the better known Reticulata Hybrids.

The cultivars listed are the ones most often found on the show benches at our Southern California camellia shows. My ratings are based on my observations of container grown plants in Southern California with normal outdoor culture. The flower and the plant are rated under one of three adjectives: Fair, Good or Excellent.

RATINGS OF RETICULATA HYBRIDS

VARIETY	FLOWER	PLANT
'Al Gunn'	Good	Fair
'Applause'	Good	Good
'Arbutus Gum'	Good	Good
'Arcadia'	Good to Excellent	Good
'Arch Of Triumph'	Good	Good
'Betty Ridley'	Good	Good
'Black Lace'	Good	Good
'China Lady'	Good	Fair
'Chittagong'	Good	Good
'Curtain Call'	Excellent	Fair
'Debut'	Good	Excellent
'Dolores Hope'	Good	Good
'Dr. Clifford Parks'	Good to Excellent	Good
'Dr. Louis-Pollizzi'	Good	Good to Excellent
'Elsie Dryden'	Good	Good
'Emma Geata'	Good to Excellent	Good
'Fire Chief'	Good	Good
'Francie L'	Good	Good
'Harold L. Paige'	Excellent	Good
'Hody Wilson'	Excellent	Good
'Howard Asper'	Excellent	Fair
'Jean Purcel'	Fair	Good
'John Taylor'	Good	Good
'K.O. Hester'	Excellent	Good
'Lasca Beauty'	Good	Good
'Lila Naff'	Good	Good to Excellent
'Lillette Witman'	Good	Good
'Mandalay Queen'	Fair to Good	Good
'Mildred Pitkin'	Good	Fair to Good
'Milo Rowell'	Good	Good to Excellent
'Miss Tulare'	Excellent	Excellent
'Mouchang'	Excellent	Fair
'Nuccio's Ruby'	Good to Excellent	Good
'Otto Hopfer'	Good	Excellent
'Peking'	Good	Good
'Pharoah'	Excellent	Good to Excellent
'Pink Sparkle'	Good to Excellent	Good
'Red Emperor'	Good	Fair
'Royalty'	Good	Fair to Good
'San Marino'	Good	Fair
'Sunset'	Good	Good
'Terrell Weaver'	Excellent	Fair
'Three Dreams'	Good	Good
'Valentine Day'	Good to Excellent	Fair to Good
'Valley Knudsen'	Good	Excellent
'William Hertrich'	Good	Good

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA COUNCIL NEWS

Usually at this time of the year the San Joaquin Valley is hot, very hot! The beautiful Tokay grapes hang heavy from the vines. In the Vineyards near Lodi, in a ten mile radius is the only area these tasty grapes are grown. It is a diversified valley, the San Joaquin stretching southward for hundred of miles. It is at this time of the year the Northern California Camellia Council hosts their Annual Summer Picnic. Vacations are over and most everyone is ready "to get on" with their routine and camellia activities.

At Micki Grove, near Lodi the Northern California, Delta, Sonoma, Santa Clara County, Sacramento, Modesto and Central California Camellia Societies were represented as well as guests from Southern California

A social hour with "spirits" preceded the barbeque. Tables were laden with the delectable "specialties" of each gourmet cook. What a feast for a hungry group!

Genial Bob Erhart (who can coax money out of the tightest fisted) was the auctioneer for the plant sale. Plants are donated by the members with the proceeds going to the Council.

In their usual friendly way Bob and Betty Kellas conducted the raffle. Many happy faces as the lucky winner received a bottle of Gallo wine furnished by Pete Grosso, our own little wine-maker.

Jim Randall, Committee Chairman for the Camellia Person of the Year Award announced the Council was awarding two plaques this year. With only one of the recipients attending, Jim presented John Augis with the Camellia Person of the Year Award in appreciation for the years of devotion, interest and endeavors in promoting Camellias in California. Noting, too, that John served in many capacities: 8 years as President of Santa Clara County Camellia Society; President and one of the founders of the North-

ern California Camellia Council as well as a founder of the annual fall Camelliarama; an ACS State Director; ACS Chairman of the Board plus serving on many committees locally and nationally.

In response, John thanked the Council for their recognition and for the distinguished Award. He stated that whatever had been accomplished was achieved by the deep affection and enjoyment he has for camellia people. Knowing them and associating with them over the years has given him much pleasure and fond memories.

Again, Northern California salutes another of its illustrious leaders. Thank you, John for all you've done. Others receiving this meritorious award in the past years have been Mr. Camellia, David L. Feather; T. Ronald Kellogg; and Arthur Gonos.

It was announced much to the regret of those present that the Delta Society would not hold their Fall Barbeque in October.

The air was charged with excitement as the Camelliarama Raffle Tickets were put on sale. November 7th and 8th is the EVENT of the YEAR for CALIFORNIANS! That much talked about and large attendance of Camellia growers and fun lovers is CAMELLIARAMA. Nothing compares with this get together of Northern California friends. The technical meeting and lectures are unsurpassed anywhere. A wealth of camellia knowledge of the highest type is available to all attending. The social activities start with a Cocktail party Friday night; a theme dinner with a raffle and entertainment (even the audience gets in it) on Saturday night and to top off a perfect weekend a super delicious Brunch Sunday at the home of Jack and Ann Woo.

November is Camelliarama time. Be there!

GROWING STREET TREES IN CONTAINERS

by William Flemer III

The practice of growing small street trees in containers is a steadily growing form of city beautification. It was, of course, an ancient practice in Europe and the Middle East. Wall paintings on Egyptian tombs dating back to 1400 BC show spice trees being transplanted and cared for in baskets or clay containers; the trees used in the hanging gardens of Babylon were container grown, and myrtles and other ornamentals in large pots graced the patios of every well-appointed Roman villa.

Trees grow best when planted in the ground, but under many city conditions, they must be planted in containers if they are grown at all. The reason is that the area beneath many city sidewalks is so full of water mains, utility conduits, sewer pipes and other structures that little soil is left to support root growth.

In some cases, sidewalks are constructed over tunnels or subways, and no soil remains at all.

The growing popularity of planting on raised terraces or balconies for both commercial and residential structures is also greatly increasing the amount of trees set in containers or larger soil beds. For these reasons, it is important to review the prerequisites for successful container culture of hardy woody plants.

SOIL MIX

Trees will not live forever in containers, but, if the containers are large enough, a decade or more of successful growth can be obtained. To support such a relatively long tree life, the soil mix must have certain properties, because it is all that the roots have access to. They cannot grow down into the underlying pavement and have nowhere else to go.

Since the trees are large and semi-permanent, the soil cannot be removed and improved annually as in containers which are newly planted each

year with spring bulbs or annual flowers. A porosity which permits the ready entrance of life-giving air and water and which drains well enough to prevent stagnation is essential.

At the same time, the mix should retain a maximum of moisture without becoming waterlogged, so that irrigation can be kept to a minimum and the soil nutrients will not be leached out quickly. Humus, in the form of peat or similar organic materials, is the traditional element used to provide these essential properties in a soil mix for the open ground. However, where trees or long-lived shrubs are to be grown in containers, a high proportion of humus in the mix is undesirable, because it is soon removed by soil bacteria and fungi. When it disappears finally as carbon dioxide, the soil subsides and compacts.

The final result can be seen in old container plants which have grown in peat and sand or bark and sand mixes. After a couple of years of culture, the growing mix and roots shrink down so that only half or less of the can volume is occupied.

HUMUS SUBSTITUTE

In relatively permanent containers, porous inorganic materials, such as perlite or calcined clay particles, which perform many of the same functions as humus, must substitute for a high humus content. They add the necessary porosity and retain water effectively, but, being entirely inorganic, they do not decay and disappear. Some humus content is essential to promote root growth after the tree has been planted, but it should not exceed 10 percent by volume.

One successful mix which has been widely tested is 45 percent (by volume) sandy loam (sassafras loam or a similar type), 10 percent sphagnum peat (coarse grade), 25 percent horticultural-grade perlite and 20 percent calcined clay particles (Turface or similar product). To this are added enough ground dolomitic limestone to bring the pH to 6.0 if the soil is acid, superphosphate at a rate of two pounds per

cubic yard and a small amount of fritted trace elements.

There are other possible variations of this formula, especially if only a silt loam or clay loam is available as the soil component. Heavy soil can be lightened by the addition and thorough incorporation of fine sand, or the inorganic lighteners can be increased and the soil proportion decreased. If the available soil is strongly alkaline, the pH should be reduced to about 6.0 by the addition of aluminum sulfate.

PLANTING METHODS

Because there is little margin for changes in root position in planters or large containers, it is essential that the root ball of a tree or large shrub remain at its original level at planting time and not subside to an unhealthful depth by the decay and disappearance of humus or by gradual soil compaction. Therefore, the earth ball of trees planted in large containers should be supported at the proper level by bricks or cement blocks.

The depth of the container and of the earth ball should be carefully measured. Then, the supports can be bricked up to the proper level, and soil mix can be filled in around them. The ball is then positioned on the supports, and the rest of the planting mix is filled in to the final level.

When extra-large planters are used, it is often advisable to provide watering wells like those used in urban tree pits. These wells are easily installed by filling cardboard or wire cylinders with coarse gravel and placing them around the ball while the planting mix is filled in. They permit penetration of both irrigation water and air into the root area.

It is essential to provide proper bracing and cable support for large trees in planters, especially if they are to be located on windswept terraces or roof gardens. If trees become canted or bent over in planters, it is a costly and difficult operation to straighten them up again. It is much more effective to brace them properly in the beginning.

CONTAINER SIZE

A frequently encountered mistake in container planting is the choice of too small a planter for reasonable longevity and development of the planted tree. Containers are often too narrow and are usually too shallow to overwinter trees successfully. Cold penetrates from the edges inward, frozen earth dries out with surprising thoroughness, and a too-narrow or too-shallow container will cause a tree to die from simple winter desiccation.

Shallow, bowl-shaped containers are aesthetically pleasing and are well adapted for the culture of shallow-rooted flowering annuals. But in climates with freezing winter temperatures, they are lethal to trees or conifers.

For tree planting, containers should be no less than five feet in diameter, and six or eight feet is much better. They should be at least two feet deep.

Where planters are to be a part of new construction, an unsightly height can be avoided by locating part of the container below the floor or pavement level.

WATERING

Even in areas with a very high annual precipitation, supplemental watering is necessary during dry spells. Furthermore, throughout most of the US, rainfall is irregular during the summer, when the moisture requirements of trees are highest.

In parks and along most streets, established trees do not need supplemental watering for survival, because their roots can draw on a large soil mass with adequate reserves of moisture. In containers, of course, the only possible moisture source is the growing mix itself, and its volume is strictly limited.

Covering the surface of the soil mix with two inches of coarse mulch limits water loss almost completely to that which is transpired through the leaves and thin-barked twigs of the trees themselves, in exactly the same manner as a good mulch will prevent water loss from the open ground.

Organic mulches, like coarse bark or wood chips, do release some valuable minerals and growth elements as they decay, but, unfortunately, they are inflammable when they are thoroughly dry. Since container trees in public areas are usually located where there are plenty of pedestrians, there is always the danger, in dry weather, that an organic mulch may be ignited by discarded cigarettes and smolder until the trunk of the tree or shrub is scorched and killed. For this reason, inorganic mulches, such as large pebbles or crushed rock particles approximately one inch in diameter, are preferable for public areas. Larger stones are undesirable because they make good ammunition for destructive children, and fine grades pack too tightly.

In commercial container culture, as in florists' pot plant production, success lies in proper watering. Irrigation cannot be fully automated, because evaporation is highly variable, depending upon the temperature and wind velocity, and water requirements depend not only upon the size of the container but also upon the kind and size of the plant growing in it.

A one-gallon can with a newly planted rooted juniper cutting requires 1/10 of the water needed by a one-gallon can containing a densely branched 12 to 15-inch plant. So it is with trees in containers — the older and more fully headed the tree, the more frequent must be the watering. In hot, windy periods or climates, mature trees which have entirely filled the soil mass with roots require daily watering. Experience must be the judge in determining the frequency of less than daily watering, and, without actual local experience, it is no easier to say how often it should be done than to say how long is a piece of string.

The alkalinity of the water supply has an effect on the kinds of trees chosen for container planting. Where strongly alkaline water must be used, trees or shrubs that are tolerant of alkaline soil are essential, as the soil pH

gradually rises, even if acid soil was originally placed in the containers.

Thus, trees like Modesto ash, green ash and its varieties, honey locust and elm are good choices for areas with alkaline water, and pin oaks, red oaks, tupelo (nyssa) and sorrel tree (oxydendrum) are doomed to failure.

DRAINAGE

Good drainage is just as important as proper watering in successful container culture. As noted above, the soil mix must be porous and friable.

Where the tree planters can be allowed to drain out freely upon pavement providing drainage is a simple matter. The container should have sufficient drainage holes, and its bottom should be covered with a layer of coarse-crushed stone or gravel. It is an increasing practice to separate this layer from the soil mix with a sheet of fiber glass mulching matting. This permits the free passage of water but prevents the soil from working down into the drainage layer and clogging it.

Where drainage out onto the floor or pavement is not permissible, as in the case of interior plantings in airport terminals or commercial buildings, providing adequate drainage is a greater problem. One solution lies in having a well-trained horticulturist supervise the watering so that only enough is applied to moisten the soil adequately without waterlogging it.

This is particularly easy in interior plantings, because, within a building (in contrast to outdoors), the evaporation rate is constant. For containers in interior landscaping, an extra-deep drainage layer (a fourth of the depth of the soil mass) provides a margin of safety. In the case of outdoor containers which cannot be permitted to drain on the pavement, a tile, or pipe, well that extends from the soil surface to the bottom of the drainage layer permits excess water to be siphoned off or bailed out in the event of overwatering or a natural deluge of rain.

OVERWINTERING

The enormous growth of nursery container production in the frost-free

areas of the South and the West Coast is mute testimony to the fact that maintaining container plants is easy where the ground never freezes and progressively harder in areas with successively colder and longer winters.

The farther north trees in containers are desired, the larger must be the container size if the trees are to survive the winter without special protection.

One solution in the North is employed in the city of Montreal, Ont., Canada, which has an extensive successful container program. When cold weather comes, the containers are taken up and assembled in a central, well-protected yard. They are placed container to container, thoroughly watered and then covered with a thick layer of straw mulch, which prevents freezing and drying.

When warm weather returns, they are replaced on the city streets.

Another solution, for a few big and architecturally important container trees too costly to move, is to install electric heating cables in the soil around the inside surface of the planter. The thermostats controlling the heat are set at 34 to 36 degrees, and just enough heat is applied to prevent the soil mass from freezing.

Such heated containers require some watering during mild spells in winter to prevent desiccation — perhaps once a month or once every three weeks — depending upon the rate of evaporation. Evergreen trees require careful watching, but the water loss from leafless deciduous trees is very slow.

If very hardy tree species are planted in extra-large containers, they can take freezing and still survive. With such a big soil volume to draw on, the trees have a situation in winter no more precarious than that of wild trees growing in the thin soil on top of exposed rocky hilltops.

A heavy watering in the late fall, at the time when soil normally begins to freeze, will help to carry them successfully through the winter. Such trees in Canada have lived through long spells

of weather with temperatures to 18 degrees below zero.

VARIETY SELECTION

A familiarity with plant ecology is essential for best results in selecting plant species for above-ground planters. As a general rule, those species which are ecological pioneers are the most likely choices. These pioneer plants, which are the early ones to invade cleared areas of soil, are far better adapted by nature to container life than those which are late or climax species in plant succession.

Thus, Scotch or Austrian pines are preferable to hemlocks. The superior budded clones of honey locusts are much better than beeches. Amur maples are better than striped maples. Hawthorns and crab apples thrive where *stewartias* and Japanese maples would languish.

Among deciduous trees, amur cork tree (*Phellodendron amurense*), amur maple (*Acer ginnala*), honey locust (*Gleditsia triacanthos inermis*), Siberian crab (*Malus baccata*), green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica lanceolata*), Greenspire linden (*Tilia cordata* 'Greenspire') and pyramidal Simon poplar (*Populus simoni* 'Fastigata') are all hardy species which can also stand wind and sun exposure.

In the deep South, broad-leaved evergreen trees are excellent for planters, with live oak (*Quercus virginiana*), southern magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*) and American holly (*Ilex opaca*) giving good results.

In California, the olive (*Olea europaea*), Chile mayten tree (*Maytenus boaria*), cajeput tree (*Melaleuca leucadendron*) and California laurel (*Umbellularia californica*) are excellent.

Palms grow surprisingly well in large containers, and clump-forming species, like *Phoenix reclinata*, *Chamaerops humilis* and *Ptychosperma macarthuri*, make decorative specimens. They require adequate quantities of trace elements and magnesium as well as regular fertilization to look their best in the confined conditions in planters.

1980-1981 CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SHOW SCHEDULE

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
Nov. 7 - 1981	<i>California Camellia-Rama</i>	Smuggler's Inn, Fresno
Dec. 12 & 13 - 1981	<i>So. Cal. Camellia Council "Gib" Show</i>	Arboretum, Arcadia
Jan 9 & 10, 1982	<i>So. Cal. Camellia Society</i>	Huntington Gardens, San Marino
Jan. 30 & 31, 1982	<i>South Coast Camellia Society</i>	So. Coast Bot. Gardens, Palos Verdes
Feb. 6 & 7, 1982	<i>San Diego Camellia Society</i>	Balboa Park, San Diego
Feb. 13 & 14, 1982	<i>Temple City Camellia Society</i>	Arboretum, Arcadia
Feb 20 & 21, 1982	<i>Santa Clara Camellia Society</i>	Santa Clara Comm. San Mateo
Feb. 20 & 21, 1982	<i>Peninsula Camellia Society</i>	Vet. Mem. Bldg., Redwood City
Feb. 20 & 21, 1982	<i>Pomona Valley Camellia Society</i>	Pomona Frst.
Feb 27 & Feb. 28, 1982	<i>Southern Cal Camellia Council</i>	Fed. S&L, Claremont Descanso Gardens, La Canada
Feb. 27 & Feb. 28, 1982	<i>Delta Camellia Society</i>	Campolindo Hi-school, Moraga
Mar. 6 & Mar. 7, 1982	<i>Sacramento Camellia Society</i>	Convention Center, Sacramento
Mar. 6 & Mar. 7, 1982	<i>Kern County Camellia Society</i>	Aram Adams Mem. Gardens, Bakersfield
Mar. 6 & Mar 7, 1982	<i>Northern Calif. Camellia Society</i>	Willows Shopping Mall, Concord
Mar. 7, 1982	<i>Central Calif. Camellia Society</i>	Fashion Fair Mall, Fresno
Mar. 14 & 15, 1982	<i>Modesto Camellia Cavalcade</i>	Gallo Admin. Bldg., Modesto
Mar. 28 & 29, 1982	<i>Sonoma County Camellia Society</i>	Santa Rosa Jr. College, Santa Rosa

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The drive for contributions to the CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE ENDOWMENT FUND has been started. All contributions are tax deductible. The following list contains the names of contributors to the Fund since July 15, 1981.

Mr. K. O. Hester Contribution in memory of Carl Tourji
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ENGLISH AS SHE IS SPOKE

Ed. Note: Reprinted from the Episcopal Review Vol. 31, No. 7 July-August 1980

For our language I share your concern.
 Proper usage too many do spurn.
 I am totally bored
 When the rules are ignored.
 The King's English is what one should learn.
 Although I'm a septuagenarian
 I am also a purist grammarian.
 So when folks say "you know"
 The tantrums I throw
 Make me seem like an utter barbarian.
 When they tell me "you know what I mean"
 I utter expressions obscene,
 But under my breath,
 For they bore me to death,
 And I . . . uh . . . well . . . you know
 what I mean.
 An infinitive casually split
 Always gives me a terrible fit.

Modifiers misplaced
 Are in very poor taste.
 These are boners that one can't permit.
 A proposition that's used at the end
 Of a sentence is sure to offend.
 A grammatical buff
 Who is hot on that stuff
 The transgressor will soon vilipend.
 Other people will double a negative
 As if it's their special prerogative.
 This I have to confess
 Causes me great distress.
 'Tis an error that's hard to forgive.
 One mistake never fails to appall.
 For me it's the worst one of all.
 Not for me is the man
 Who says "different than."
 It drives me right straight up the wall.
 Some don't know the right from the
 wrong tense.
 Their speech is just so much nonsense.
 But if you and I slip
 Twixt the thought and the lip
 We can always claim a poet's license.
Karl Oldberg
 Santa Monica

Directory of Other California Camellia Societies

CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF KERN COUNTY—President, Leland Chow; Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Fred R. Dukes, Jr., 733 Delmar Drive, Bakersfield 93307. Meetings: To be announced.

CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF ORANGE COUNTY—President, Marsha Zembower; 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, Ann McKee; Secretary, Evalena Smith, 3330 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento, 95816. Meetings: 4th Wednesday each month, October through April, Shepard Garden & Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd.

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

DELTA CAMELLIA SOCIETY—President, Edith Mazzie; Secretary, Evelyn Kilsby, 11 Tiffin Ct., Clayton, CA 94517. Meetings: 2nd Wednesday, November through March, Central Contra Costa Sanitary Dist. Treatment Plant, (Imhoff Drive) Martinez.

LOS ANGELES CAMELLIA SOCIETY—President, Warren Dickson; 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, Ron Kellogg; Secretary, Mrs. Helen Caputi, 800 E. Morris Ave., Modesto, Ca 95351. 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, Alice Neely; Secretary, Marcie Alltizer, 1253 Bruce Ave., Glendale, 91202. Meetings: 1st Thursday, November through April, Glendale Federal S&L, 401 N. Brand Blvd., Glendale.

PENINSULA CAMELLIA SOCIETY—President, Mrs. Chas. O'Malley; Secretary, Ali Henley, 1006 Sonoma Ave., Menlo Park, CA 94025. Meetings: 4th Tuesday, September through April, AMPEX Cafeteria, 401 Broadway Redwood City.

POMONA VALLEY CAMELLIA SOCIETY—President, Ronald Braid; 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, Ben Woodward; Secretary, Mildred Murray, 467 E. Fulvia St., Encinitas, 92024. 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 Condon Ct., Santa Clara 95050. Meetings: 3rd Wednesday, September through April, Allstate Savings 1304 Saratoga Ave., San Jose.

SONOMA COUNTY CAMELLIA SOCIETY—President, Woody Passinetti; Secretary, Mrs. Nona Passinetti, 295 Bloomfield Rd., Sebastopol 95472. Meetings: 4th Thursday, October through May, Piner Grade School, Santa Rosa.

SOUTH COAST CAMELLIA SOCIETY—President, Mazie George; Secretary, Mrs. Margaret Hanson, 3731 Linden Ave., Long Beach 90807. Meetings: 3rd Tuesday, September through May, South Coast Botanical Gardens, 26300 Crenshaw, Palos Verdes.

TEMPLE CITY CAMELLIA SOCIETY—President, Sergio Bracci; Secretary, Mrs. Alice Jaacks, 5554 N. Burton Ave., San Gabriel, Ca 91776. Meetings: Friday, Nov. 20; Fri. Dec. 18, Thurs., Jan. 28; Thur., Feb. 25; Wed., Mar. 25; Thur., April 22. At Lecture Hall Arboretum, Arcadia.

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