

THE
Camellia
REVIEW

A Publication of the Southern California Camellia Society



Japonica 'Show Time'

Vol. 60

January—February, 1999

No. 3

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COVER PHOTO

Japonica 'Show Time'. Clear light pink.

Very large, semidouble with fluted petals.

Photo by Bill Donnan. Color separation courtesy of Nuccio's Nurseries

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THOUGHTS FROM THE EDITOR



The old adage "Do as I say rather than what I do" was brought home to me this recent camellia season with a resounding thud. I am thoroughly convinced that the "Steps to the Head Table" are important even critical for the competitive exhibitor, and the omission of some of them will result in disappointment.

Bobbie and I spent August through early December last fall on our around-the-USA motor home trip. Steps 4, 5, 6, 8 and 9 were neglected for many plants and resulted in fewer Head Table blooms than in previous years. The greatest detriment was late and insufficient disbudding and essentially no blooming season fertilizer. My usual October pruning was only partially completed in mid-December and the watering schedule may have been compromised.

Any one of the "Steps" will diminish Head Table success, so I guess we were fortunate to win what we did considering the number of "Steps" we violated. I suppose we, as you, will have to weigh the merits of long vacations against Head Table success. To my competitors, I'll use another old adage—"Just wait until next year."

One more thought—I think you will enjoy the article written by Gao Jiyin telling of the immense interest in camellia shows in China. The number of people attending those shows is beyond my comprehension.

—Mel Belcher, Editor

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

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REMEMBERING BEN MACKALL

Benjamin L. Mackall, 82, retired principal of Kramer Bros. Nurseries, Rancho Cucamonga, California, died in his sleep on October 29, 1998. He had been ill for a number of years and his death, though sudden, was not unexpected. Kramer Bros. Nurseries was founded on Long Island, NY in 1896 by Otto and August Kramer who for 20 years grew potted plants and cut flowers. They moved their business to California and finally settled in Rancho Cucamonga in 1929. Ben joined the nursery when he married August's daughter Marie Louise in 1937. When Marie's father died, Ben and Marie assumed management of the nursery which by then had built its reputation on azaleas and camellias. The nursery was a charter member of the Inland Empire Chapter of the California Association of Nurserymen and Ben attended monthly meetings of chapters from San Diego to Santa Rosa and points in between on his sales trips for the nursery.

Kramer Bros. Nurseries was known for its quality azaleas, camellias and assorted gardenias. Ben and Marie traveled the state to participate in camellia shows and belonged to several camellia societies throughout California. Ben learned hybridizing from Otto and August and introduced 'Kramer's Supreme' in 1957. The nursery sold thousands of this variety before closing its doors in 1986.

In 1971 the Mackalls were honored guests in Sacramento during the city's Camellia Festival. Ben had developed the cultivars 'Pat Nixon' and 'Tricia' to honor members of President Nixon's family during his term in office. Pat Nixon was present

when "her" camellia was planted in Capitol Park in Sacramento. Thousands of people were in attendance as the event tied in with a Girl Scouts of American program for which Pat Nixon was national chairwoman. That event, according to friends, was one of Ben's proudest moments.

The land where Kramer Bros. Nurseries was located was sold to the San Antonio Community Hospital in 1986. After the sale the family established a Kramer Bros. Nurseries named award within the California Association of Nurserymen's Endowment for Research and Scholarship (CANERS). At the time the award was established, Ben and Marie's son Ben III noted: "While the nursery may not continue in operation, the name can be perpetuated beyond its 90 years to benefit others who would share as much interest in and love for horticulture as three generations of Kramers had."

Camellia hobbyists are thankful to the Kramer Bros. Nurseries because many of their introductions continue to appear on the winners' tables of the camellia shows.

Some of Kramer's Japonica introductions include:

'Carter's Sunburst Pink Variegated', 1962; 'Cucamonga', 1980; 'Ed Combatalade', 1977; 'In The Pink', 1971; 'In the Pink Variegated', 1977; 'In The Red', 1975; 'Julie Nixon', 1974; 'Kramer's Delight', 1980; 'Kramer's Supreme', 1957; 'Marie Mackall', 1980; 'Marilee Gray', 1989; 'Mary Fischer', 1980; 'Our Betty', 1980; 'Pat Nixon', 1969; 'Red Garnet', 1980; 'Red Garnet Variegated', 1983; 'Splash of Pink' 1977.

Among Kramer's Non-Reticulata Hybrid introductions, the following have remained favorites of camellia hobbyists:

'Angel Wings', 1970; Coral Delight', 1975; 'Coral Delight Variegated', 1975; 'First Blush', 1989; 'Kramer's Fluted Coral', 1983;

'Kramer's Fluted Coral Variegated', 1989; 'Miss Tinytot Princess', 1979; 'Pink Dahlia', 1980; 'Spring Daze', 1989; 'Tidbit', 1983; 'Utsukushi-Asaye', 1979.

Thanks, Ben, for leaving so many beautiful cultivars to the camellia world!

GRADY PERIGAN IS "BENCHED"

Grady is shown sitting on the bench that was recently set among the camellias at The Huntington. The bench, a joint recognition by The Huntington and Southern California Camellia Society, displays a brass plaque paying tribute to Grady for his more than three decades of service as a volunteer

extraordinaire at The Huntington. Marilyn Warren, Vice President for Financial Development at The Huntington, in thanking Southern Cal for its support in this effort, wrote that the gift recognizes Grady "for his outstanding contribution to one of The



Huntington's most important and beloved plant collections. Indeed, the Camellia Garden has blossomed under his care for over thirty years and I can think of no finer acknowledgment of those efforts than to grace this lovely area with a bench in his name."

Editor's note: "Way to go, Grady!"

CAMELLIA STATIONERY

Our beautiful camellia notecards (*back cover*) are still available in sets of eight for \$6.00 including tax and shipping. Folks who use them (and re-order) tell us how truly lovely they are. They make wonderful gifts for your fellow camellia lovers or those you are trying to get interested in this great hobby! You can even order them for your own use. They also look beautiful in frames.

Cards can be ordered through Dorothy Grier, 13229 Pipeline Ave., Chino, CA 91710 (909)628-1380, or through Southern California Camellia Society, 7475 Brydon Road, La Verne, CA 91750, (909)593-4894. In either case, make your check payable to SCCS.

If any camellia society would like to use these cards as "fund raisers," orders for 25 or more sets are priced at \$4.00 each, including tax and shipping.

THE PRESENT STATUS OF CAMELLIA DEVELOPMENT IN CHINA

Gao Jiyin

Subtropical Forestry Research Institute, Fuyang, Zhejiang, China 311400

Camellias are increasingly being paid attention to as ornamental plants in China. This article assesses the status of camellias in China at present.

Camellia resources and history

China is the richest country in camellia resources in the world. Of 360 species which have been named in the *Genus Camellia* about 95% originated in China. Most of the species are distributed in eastern, southern and southwest China. Chinese taxonomists confirmed that south of Nanling Mountain is the source of Section *Camellia* (which includes *C. Japonica*). The middle Jinshajiang Valley (contiguous between northwest Yunnan and southwest Sichuan) is the source of Section *Reticulata* and both Yunnan and Guizhou are the sources of Section *Thea*.

Camellia species in the above areas are very diversified owing to varied topography and climate so there are many different forms within a species with respect to flower color, leaf size, tree shape, bloom season, etc. Many new cultivars of *C. Reticulata* have been selected from wild *reticulata* forests of Tengchong county, Yunnan Province, since 1990.

Most of the active camellia species of China are useful not only as ornamentals but also as hybridizing parents. Valuable species are still undiscovered on remote, thickly-forested Chinese mountains.

China has the longest history of camellia culture in the world. Ancient Chinese books attest that ornamental camellias were grown 1,300 years ago. More people today enjoy growing camellias. There are

magnificent poems and moving stories written by noted authors which sing the praises of camellias in China.

Roughly 950 ancient camellias are still alive at temples or in mountains in eastern and southern China.

Camellias now are recognized by the government as one of the ten most famous Chinese flowers—and over 13 cities have been honored with the title of “Camellia City” in recent years.

Distribution of camellia-growing regions

Camellias for edible vegetable oil are grown in an area of 9.74 million acres (3.9 million hectares, or 15,238 square miles). The oil camellias are mainly found in the 14 provinces south of the Yangtse River. The yearly oil yield is between 137 and 300 million kg. (151,000 to 331,000 tons) which constitutes the major edible oil for the inhabitants.

Camellias as ornamentals are found northward along the eastern part of Shandong Province including Qingdao and Yantai cities to Lianoning and Heilongjiang Provinces as well as in southern China. Additionally, camellias are found in homes and nurseries of mid-Hebei, south Henan and south Shanxi.

Camellias may be planted in the ground south of the Yangtse River because of the temperate climate and good soil. But in northern China camellias must be protected against winter cold.

There are now thousands of camellia enthusiasts and about 500 camellia nurseries throughout China. The highest nursery density is in Jinhua, Wenzhou and Hangzhou Province, Changsha of Hunan

Province, Fuan and Liancheng of Fujian Province, Shifang and Pixian of Sichuan Province and Dali, Yiliang, Baoshan, and Kuming of Yunnan Province. Nursery total area exceeds 200 acres (500 hectares) in the townships which have become substantial camellia markets. Camellia plants produced in high quality by the nurseries are sold to customers from other Chinese regions. Recently each township has been named "The Township of Camellias" by the Ministry of Agriculture. And, in some cities like Qingdao of Shandong Province, almost everyone grows camellias for their homes. Ten of thousands of camellia plants are now sold in Qingdao's market each year.

Liuzhou in Guangxi Province is also a city of camellia lovers. A large camellia forest of 125 acres (50 hectares) has been planted at the Folk Custom Holiday Village there as a garden for sightseeing. There are also many other cities in Yunnan, Sichuan, Chongqing, Guangdong and Fujian with numerous camellia enthusiasts.

Way and trends for camellia growing

Most residents of cities in China live in high buildings and there is not enough space in front of the buildings to plant camellias. Thus pot culture has been widely adopted by Chinese camellia hobbyists. Potted camellias are easily moved and are usually kept on the balcony of a room. Generally each family possesses 3 to 5 potted camellias but some have as many as 30 to 50.

The Chinese camellia hobbyists favor cultivars having flowers which are large, double and variegated. Camellia enthusiasts in cities often spontaneously meet at night to discuss their camellias and to judge their flowers. In China more young persons

than old, and more men than women, become hobbyists.

China's reformation of policies is quickening the tempo of construction both within and without cities and camellias are increasingly being planted in gardens. In southern China it used to be that only a few camellia plants would be planted and those primarily in school grounds, factories, parks and other public places. Now even farmers are becoming rich and selecting camellias to beautify their landscapes and turning their houses into villas.

Chinese Camellia Society and Style of Shows

The Chinese Camellia Society was founded March 26, 1987. There are branches throughout southern China. Membership is now over 5,000 but several millions of camellia lovers have not yet joined. The CCS has achieved great success as witnessed by:

- Held three national camellia exhibitions—Hangzhou in 1988, Kunming in 1991 and Yiwu in 1996. Total attendance was about 200 million.
- Sponsored three international camellia symposiums—Nanning in 1994, Kunming in 1996 and Hangzhou in 1998.
- Published 48 issues of "The Newsletter of Camellias in China," 5 issues of "The Observations from the Camellia World." 10 camellia books and about 96 articles published in other flower magazines.
- Conducted 20 training courses of camellias
- Hybridized several new cultivars.

However, CCS activities have been hampered because of the difficulty of obtaining funds from local governments.

Camellia shows in China differed

from Western shows because historically all entries are potted, blooming plants. In a national show there are about 5,000 potted camellias. Thus visitors see the whole plant as well as the flower. There are advantages to this kind of show such a longer run and a beautiful panorama. It has its drawbacks, however, such as the difficulty of transport and higher costs. Some local shows have begun to convert to the style of Western shows by putting just flowers on a table. This style is becoming favored by exhibitors.

Chinese response to imported cultivars

About 1,000 camellia cultivars have been imported from Japan, United States, New Zealand, Australia and some European countries since 1989. The exotic cultivars have all been given Chinese names while retaining their proper names. They have energized Chinese hobbyists. People who see them realize how wonderful the camellia world outside China is. Most of the imports have been embraced by Chinese hobbyists, especially 'Ballet Dancer', 'Carter's Sunburst', 'Clark Hubbs', 'Elegans Supreme', 'Dr. Clifford Parks', 'Margaret Davis', 'Royal Velvet', 'Ville de Nantes', 'Tiffany', 'Tomorrow', 'Valentine Day Variegated' and 'Nuccio's Gem'. Some characteristics of the imported cultivars are never found in native Chinese camellias such as serrated edges on petals, fragrance and extremely dark color.

People are joining the International Camellia Society in increasing numbers to obtain camellia information from outside China. There are nearly 100 members in ICS in China already and about 30 Chinese ICS members will attend the ICS Congress in Japan in March, 1999.

Advances in camellia propagation in China

Camellia nurserymen and hobbyists have made improvements in propagating camellias recently. Some of these improvements are:

a) Changing from open to closed cutting beds: The closed-bed method lowers the cost of production. About 800-1000 cuttings can be produced on 9 square feet of bed with 98% survival rate. In the closed beds the planting media must be kept moist, loose, drained and fertile. Cuttings are made 0.8-1.0 inch (2-2.5 cm) long with a leaf and a healthy vegetative bud. The base of the cuttings are dipped in a rooting agent such as 1,000 ppm IBA. The treated cuttings are inserted densely in the bed and the bed misted. The bed is closely covered with a transparent plastic and placed under 30-40% sunlight netting for three to four months. The cover is removed in the spring and the bed is weeded, fertilized and watered. The rooted cuttings are grown in the shade.

b) Using bud-seedling grafting method

A grafting method using as understock a new seedling which has not yet broken the soil surface and a semi-woody scion was described in *The Camellia Review*, Vol. 55 No. 3 (1994). This method has now been extensively used for propagation in China in mass production and for propagating cultivars that would otherwise be difficult to root as cuttings.

c) Tender-shoot grafting to produce multi-cultivar plants or larger ones

Widely accepted to produce larger camellias, or a plant with multiple cultivars, nurseries get a survival rate of 98%, quick callusing (20 days), quick crown formation (5-6 months)

and special plants. This method also makes rapid bonsais. The requirements for tender-shoot grafting are to select plants having trunks larger than 5/8 inches (1.5 cm) in diameter for understock. Cut off the trunk at a suitable height in springtime. When the cut trunks sprout in about 40 days, select and keep 3-5 strong shoots in spaced position and remove the rest. When the first leaves of the shoots are fully spread, cut the shoots at the leaf position and graft a scion on each shoot using the cleft method. Tightly bind the cleft with a thin thread wrapped 2-3 revolutions. Place the plants under plastic and keep moist for 20 days. Then remove the thread and keep under plastic for another 10 days. Remove the plant and grow under normal conditions.

d) Using thick-stem cutting to produce larger plants or understock*

This method has been successful in nurseries of Jinhua and Wenzhou in Zhejiang Province. An 80% survival rate is typical. The surviving thick-stem cuttings grow fast and full crowns can be reached in 1-2 years. Pruned branches are thus useful for propagation as cuttings. The requirements for thick-stem cuttings are: a stem thickness of 3/8 to 2 3/8 inches (1-6 cm) diameter. Cut the stems into 6-8 inch (15-20 cm) lengths in the spring and mark "top." Dip the bases into 1,000 ppm hormone solution for 1—5 minutes or into 50-500 ppm hormone solution for 24 hours. (Hormone solution: 75% IBA, 20% NAA, balance aspirin and vitamins C & B). Chinese nurserymen also use NARD or SBD as alternative hormones. Seal the tops of the cuttings over 1 1/4 in. (3 cm.) diameter with gummed tape or wax to reduce water evaporation. Insert the cuttings in a bed under both plastic

and shade. Keep moist for 2-3 months. Remove the cover when the cuttings have rooted and grow them in the shade.

*See *International Camellia Journal*, 1996 at pages 72-75.

e) Grafting large camellias in the wild

Large camellias are increasingly in demand in China for various plantings. However, to grow such plants to large size takes possibly 20 years. China has many very large camellias in the wild which can be used as understock to get a large plant in a short time—2 to 3 years. An added feature is that the plant looks "ancient" because of the trunk of the rootstock. The requirements are: saw off the main branches of a large camellias or the trunk in May or June making the cut surface clean and smooth. Vertically raise the bark 1 inch (2-2.5 cm.) long with a razor blade on the cut branch or trunk in three different locations and carefully insert a wedge-like sharpened scion into each raised flap of bark. Tightly bind each flap with plastic tape and cover each scion with a plastic bag. Then shade with a newspaper cover. After 6 to 7 weeks the trunk will sprout indicating the grafts are ready to be uncovered. Take off the covers and all the understock sprouts. After two years dig up the trees and move them to their final positions.

China lags other countries with respect to hybridization. However, there are still many valuable wild species in China deserving of research. Although camellia development throughout China is uneven, China is developing rapidly and the camellia market is vast.

I am confident that Chinese camellia propagation and Chinese collaboration with other countries will accelerate rapidly.

COLOR FROM SEPTEMBER TO MAY

Jerry Turney

Jerry Turney, Biologist and Plant Pathologist at Los Angeles County Arboretum, with assistance from the “pros” at Nuccio’s Nurseries, has revised the list which the Arboretum had previously distributed to those who were interested in color in their camellia gardens over a long period of time. For those of you who enjoy color as well as winning blooms in your camellia garden, consider planting some of these.

SEPTEMBER

Camellia sasanqua:

‘Jean May’ Shell pink, medium, rose form double; ‘Narumi-Gata’ White edged with pink, medium to large, single; ‘Cleopatra’ Rose pink, medium, semi-double; ‘Showa-No-Sakae’ Soft clear pink, medium, semi-double to peony; ‘Setsugekka’ White, ruffled petals, medium to large, semi-double.

Camellia japonica:

‘Kickoff’ Pale pink marked deep pink, large to very large, loose peony.

OCTOBER & NOVEMBER

Camellia japonica:

‘High Hat’ Light pink, medium to large, peony; ‘Nuccio’s Gem’ White, medium to large, formal double; ‘Daikagura’ Bright rose pink splotched white, medium to large, peony; ‘Alba Plena’ White, medium, formal double; ‘Marie Bracey’ Coral rose, large, semi-double to loose peony; ‘Debutante’ Pink, medium, full peony.

DECEMBER

Camellia japonica:

‘Nuccio’s Cameo’ Coral pink, medium to large, rose form to formal double; ‘Grand Slam’ Brilliant dark red, large to very large, semi-double to anemone; ‘Carter’s Sunburst’ Pale pink striped deeper pink, large to very large, semi-double; ‘Berenice Boddy’ Light pink

with deep pink under petals, medium, semi-double; ‘Show Time’ Clear light pink, very large, semi-double with fluted petals; ‘Kramer’s Supreme’ Turkey red, large to very large, full peony; ‘Gigantea’ Red marbled white, large to very large, semi-double to anemone.

JANUARY AND FEBRUARY

Camellia japonica:

‘Guilio Nuccio’ Coral rose pink, large to very large, semi-double; ‘Katie’ Salmon Rose pink, very large, semi-double; ‘Mable Bryan’ White spotted or striped red, large, semi-double to formal double; ‘Bob Hope’ Black red, large, semi-double; ‘Nuccio’s Pearl’ White shaded orchid pink, medium, formal double; ‘Magnoliaeflora’ Blush pink, medium, semi-double; ‘Herme’ Pink streaked deep pink with white border, medium, semi-double.

MARCH AND APRIL

Camellia reticulata:

‘William Hertrich’ Deep cherry red, very large, semi-double; ‘Lion Head’ Deep turkey red, large to very large, peony.

Camellia japonica:

‘Te Deum’ Dark red, large, semi-double to formal double; ‘Purity’ White, medium, rose form double to formal double; ‘Blood of China’ Deep salmon red, medium, semi-double to loose peony; ‘Elena Nobile’ Flame red, medium, rose form double.

MAY

Camellia japonica:

‘Eleanor Hagood’ Pale pink, medium, formal double; ‘Spring formal’ Deep pink, medium, formal double.

Editor’s note: Thanks, Jerry and you fellows at Nuccio’s for another reminder that camellias can be enjoyed much of the year—not just at show time!

GETTING TO THE HEAD TABLE: STEP 10

When to Cut Blooms—Mel Belcher

This article will be very brief because excellent material has been presented previously. I want to refer readers to Marilee Gray's article "Cutting Blooms for Shows" published in the last *Camellia Review* (Vol. 60, No. #2, page 16) as well as Jack Greenberg's article in this issue of the *Review*.

I will simply state that the best time to cut blooms, in my opinion, is the morning of the show. This is possible only if the show is a short

distance from home and only a small number of blooms are to be cut. Since many exhibitors take 100-200 blooms, it is necessary that blooms be picked one to several days prior to the show. I do not use a refrigerator to keep blooms cool, so I cut most blooms Friday morning and keep them in as cool an environment as possible. Since the subject of bloom cutting has been adequately addressed, I'll reduce redundancy by recommending the above mentioned articles.

WHAT THE CAMELLIA MEANS TO ME

Margaret W. Lee

You happen on a flower show,
So you stop to see "what's new."
You see rows of beautiful camellias
All calling out to you.

These beauties say, "I'll grow for you
If you give us loving care.
Just put us in a shady spot
We grow most anywhere."

So I hurry off to a nursery
With my credit card in hand.
I buy at least a dozen plants,
Plus perlite, bark and sand.

I gave the plants tender care
And how they rewarded me.
They produced the best flowers
You'd ever want to see.

This all started some years ago
When I was just 38.

My collection grew from 122 plants
To a wonderful 375, to date.

But now the time has come
I can't give them their proper care.
So I must let them go;
Let others their beauty share.

The camellia brought us beauty,
But I've always had this thought—
The friends we've met along the way
Are the real blooms in our heart.

Within our hearts a bouquet lives.
It's made of memories, friends and love.
If you could only see inside
"You'd know it's all of you we're
thinking of."

*Thanks to all of you, the memories and
friendships will live in our hearts
forever.*

EXTENDING THE LIFE OF CUT BLOOMS

Jack Greenberg, Dallas, Texas

First of all I must tell you that I am not a scientist nor engineer. I'm a mere pedestrian and I've been trying for the past 40 years to discover how to keep a bloom longer than a few days for a show. I won't go through the hundreds of things that I've tried including some of the more remote like "Adolphe's Meat Tenderizer."

Recently I have been able to keep a bloom in excellent condition for as long as three weeks while refrigerated and then in the open for another 5 days. The bloom was 'Dolores Edwards'. My recipe is as follows: I cut the bloom and spray the back with "Clearset" or anything that does the same thing. I put the bloom in a 5 quart ice cream plastic container with the appropriate angel hair and cotton. The stem is inserted into an ounce container of distilled water, "Floralife" and sugar. In addition, I also put a 1/4 to 1/2 tsp. of potassium permanganate in an ounce container in the 5 quart container. It works! The potassium permanganate absorbs ethylene gas which tends to destroy the blooms. You remember potassium permanganate—it's the stuff that turned purple in high school chemistry class. I've warned you. Don't sue me if your fingers turn purple and the only time you feel normal is around Easter.

On the other hand, there are a few confusing problems that I have not been able to solve. First of all, 45 to 50° refrigeration seems to be the optimum temperature, but I don't know for sure. It also seems that sometimes the color on a red, wine or bright pink bloom fades even with the PP. However, the potassium permanganate does seem to keep the stamens yellow longer than normal. I

began writing this article on February 1. It is now February 14 and a day after our last show in Fort Worth. Since the weather has been extremely warm in Dallas (80°) for this time of year, I had to throw away all the blooms that I've been keeping since January 20. I just don't have the facilities to keep more than 50 blooms cold. Years ago in our old house I had a florist's refrigerator which held over 300 blooms. But since we've moved, there are only three shows within 500 miles from where I live that are still in existence—Dallas, Ft. Worth and Conroe. So, it would be stupid for me to invest in another refrigerator. I've been waiting for the results of this, our final show of the year, before writing you all. I had all three of the best Large/Very Large in the show. I cut them January 31, February 2 and February 10. I also had the best Non-Reticulata Hybrid and runner-up which I had cut on February 12 and February 4. I also had the runner-up Reticulata which I had cut on February 2. (In my humble opinion as a judge, my retic should have been first; however, not all judges are as astute as I am!) Actually I had a few other blooms that I had cut from January 24 to the 31 that kept fine, but I didn't think they were "Show bloom quality" even when I cut them.

I've spent this entire Sunday cleaning my containers and saving "whatever" for next year. I must say that I had to throw out all of those 1 oz. containers that held the potassium permanganate. And at the Dallas Symphony Concert last night I was the only one there with purple fingers.

IT'S EASIER DONE THAN YOU THINK

Don Kendall, Modesto, California

I was first introduced to camellias as I landscaped our garden many years ago. I had the perfect exposure for them to do well. I like the year-round look of the plants and most definitely enjoyed the blooming season. I experimented with the seeds in milk cartons, keeping them warm near a floor furnace and had the pleasure of watching them grow. We have some quite large camellia plants that have adorned our front door area for more than forty years as a result of my experimenting with the seeds. We have always enjoyed our camellia plants as our main landscaping.

About eight years ago my interest in camellias, for more than landscaping, surfaced once again by attending our local show. I had some seedlings and blooms that looked especially good to me and I decided to join our local Camellia Society.

I started attending shows in my surrounding areas and met many long-time growers and grafters. As time went on and I had opportunities to spent time with these new friends, I soon realized that they had lots of knowledge and expertise I needed. I became a good listener and tried to grasp any knowledge I could on their successes and failures in camellia culture.

My first love of camellias in the beginning were the smaller flowers. After a couple of show seasons, I realized that I was becoming more interested in other types of plants and flowers and also became aware of the fact that many plants that I wanted were no longer readily available and I began to think about the possibility of "grafting." Consequently, this is how I first attempted to try grafting.

I was born and raised in an

agriculture area and had some exposure to grafting of fruit and nut trees. As a result of this, I basically knew the fundamentals of grafting which is simply making part of a plant grow on roots of another plant.

As my interest grew in grafting I began to try and get as much information as possible on the subject, researched through some old Camellia Journals and I always kept an open ear to other growers.

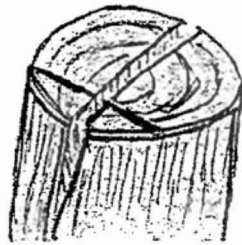
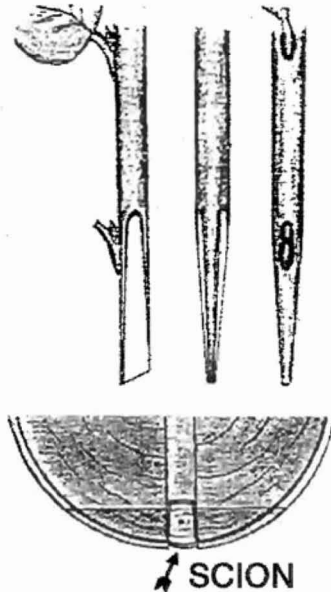


Figure 1. Understock cut off, smoothed and split.



I would like to share the five or six steps that I have found to be successful for me. I use the cleft procedure in my grafting and have found December through the middle of March to be the best time in this area. Sometimes the weather is warm enough to cause the growth buds to start putting out before the latter part of March. I choose understock with vigorous growth and good root systems, although excellent results can be attained from any good camellia plant that is vigorous and healthy. I use Sasanqua and Japonica understock. Two good varieties are Sasanqua 'Apple Blossom' and Japonica 'Debutante'.

I first cut the understock about 2 inches above ground being very careful not to tear the bark away from the understock with a sharp knife, making a clean cut, being careful not to press too hard with the blade of the knife.

Use a scion from a healthy plant. I prefer to use the wood from the last cycle of growth after it has hardened. The scion should be shaped like a wedge starting at the leaf eye (see Figure #2). Trim each side of the leaf eye using a very sharp knife. I have found an easier way to cut this wedge is to use a small piece of wood and place the scion on it rather than attempting to cut freehand. It gives you more control of your cut. If the scion is prepared so that a leaf eye is left on the outside of the wedge at the top of the bevel (see Figure #2), make sure the leaf eye is trimmed on each outer side. This is where I start my bevel. Place a small wedge such as a small screw driver in the cut and carefully insert the scion in the cut at the top of the understock. (See Figure #3) Remove the wedge carefully so you don't move the scion from its position in the cut. Now I tie

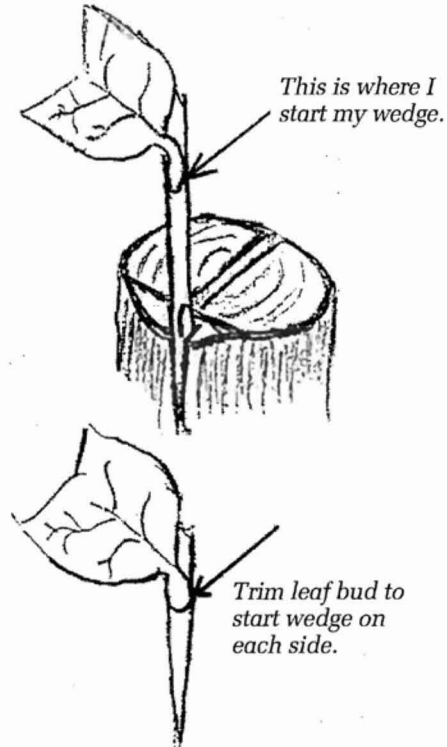


Figure 2. Wedge should start at the center of the leaf eye.

the cleft graft securely with a heat treated rubber band made especially for this purpose. I now sprinkle a small amount of Orthocide (Captan) on the completed graft. I feel that by placing the leaf eye at the top of the understock the chances for a successful union will be much greater. This is due to the fact that there is much more growing tissue at the eye bud than another part of the cambium layer. This promotes faster growth of the callus.

With the grafting procedure completed, we are now ready to cover. I make "u" shape frames from metal coat hangers placing two of them in a cross position over the graft and cover them with a plastic grocery bag. I have found using a white bag gives me

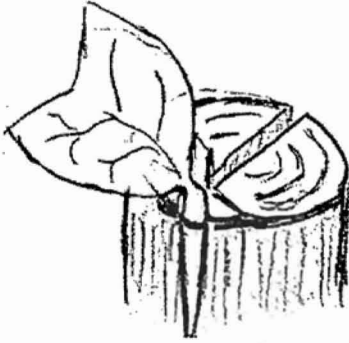


Figure 3. Insert scion at the top of the understock.

better light exposure. I secure the bag with a rubber band and wooden clothes pin. The plants are now placed in a plexi-glass shed with water barrels for humidity as there is no added heat. The temperature is approximately 10 to 15 degrees warmer than the outside. (This holds true between December and March.)

At about five to six weeks, maybe two weeks more if the weather is colder, I check each plant by holding it up to the light and as soon as I see a feathering of the leaf, I remove the clothes pin and rubber band to allow air to circulate leaving the plastic bag over the plant three or four more days. I check the plant again and if the leaf

has wilted, I recover and close the pot the original way—and hope for the best!! If the plant looks good, I raise the plastic cover about four more inches and leave it another four to five days. I keep a very close watch on the grafts during this period of time as I don't want the leaf to come into contact with the plastic bag. This will burn your new leaves immediately. When I see two or three leaves per plant, I remove the plastic bag completely and place the plants in a wind-protected area, still in the plexi-glass shed, for another seven to ten days. At this time the plants are moved outside under a shaded area and watered normally.

This is the procedure that I use in my grafting and have found it to be quite successful. It is very rewarding to me to watch my plants grow, especially ones that I have grafted. Next, I await the first blooms. I have found grafting to be lots of fun and appreciate my fellow growers being so generous with scions.

If you haven't tried grafting before, I challenge you to give it a try.

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POMONA VALLEY CAMELLIA SOCIETY'S MINI-SHOW

JoAnn Brewer

Sunday afternoon, February 28, the Pomona society sponsored its fourteenth annual mini-show. These shows have been unique because emphasis is placed on training. Beginning camellia enthusiasts ask when, why and how certain procedures are followed—and answers are learned through observation and guided participation. Throughout the afternoon the importance of disbudding and pruning to gain size for the blooms was stressed.



Above: Chris demonstrating grafting

Above right: David points out petal blights to Scotty and Carmen

Right: The winners — Carmen Wailes, Jac & Kathryn Fagundo, Bill Gruber and Scottie Illes

Grafting to get desirable varieties which are not readily available was demonstrated by Julius Christinson. David Trujillo pruned and did some air-layering. David is seen in the picture helping Carmen Wailes and Scottie Illes identify blight which has become a concern for all camellia exhibitors. Those hands in the grafting pictures belong to "Chris." Dale Mittag helped with staging blooms as well as clerking and recording the day

on film. Judges Mary Kay Mittag and David Trujillo voiced their analysis of each entry and helped remove the "mystery" of judging for the participants. Dorothy Grier arranged informational handouts in such a way that people stopped, looked and, in some cases, joined our Society. Dorothy Christinson easily



accomplished the awesome task of registering participants and recording judging results.

What a group of workers! Each task seemed to be met with joy as all of the apparent needs of the novice exhibitors were satisfied by a smiling helper. Our participants expressed appreciation for what they had learned—the afternoon ended with everyone having shared an enjoyable experience!



Let the shows begin!

PACIFIC CAMELLIA SHOW

Descanso Gardens—January 16-17, 1999

Japonica - Large

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Best Single | 'Han-Ling Snow' | Les & Joann Brewer |
| Runner-up Single | 'Mathotiana' | Brad & Lynn King |
| Special Culture - Best Single | 'Lady Laura' | Sergio & Elsie Bracci |
| Special Culture - Runner-up | 'Elizabeth Weaver' | Sergio & Elsie Bracci |

Japonica - Medium

| | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Best Single | 'Firedance Variegated' | Dale & Mary Kay Mittag |
| Runner-up Single | 'Nuccio's Cameo' | Bob & Alice Jaacks |
| Special Culture - Best Single | 'Firedance Variegated' | Sergio & Elsie Bracci |
| Special Culture - Runner-up | 'In the Red' | D. T. Gray Family |

Japonica - Boutonniere

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Best Single | 'Little Babe Variegated' | Sergio & Elsie Bracci |
| Runner-up Single | 'Red Hots' | Mel & Bobbie Belcher |
| Special Culture - Best Single | 'Hishi-Karaito' | Sergio & Elsie Bracci |
| Special Culture - Runner-up | 'Red Hots' | Sergio & Elsie Bracci |

OPEN CATEGORIES

Japonica

| | | |
|------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Best 3 Large/Very Large | 'Grand Slam' | Sergio & Elsie Bracci |
| Runner-up 3 Large/Very Large | 'Frank Houser' | D. T. Gray Family |
| Best 3 Medium | 'Margaret Davis' | Bob & Alice Jaacks |
| Runner-up 3 Medium | 'Nuccio's Cameo' | Sergio & Elsie Bracci |
| Best 3 Boutonnières | 'Hishi-Karaito' | Sergio & Elsie Bracci |
| Runner-up 3 Boutonnières | 'Red Hots' | Mel & Bobbie Belcher |

Reticulata or Reticulata Hybrid

| | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Best Single | 'Larry Piet' | Sergio & Elsie Bracci |
| Runner-up Single | 'Frank Houser' | D. T. Gray Family |
| Best Tray of 3 | 'Francie L.' | Sergio & Elsie Bracci |
| Runner-up Tray of 3 | 'Dr. Clifford Parks' | Bob & Alice Jaacks |

Non-Reticulata Hybrid

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Best Single | 'Spring Daze' | Sergio & Elsie Bracci |
| Runner-up Single | 'Pink Dahlia' | Sergio & Elsie Bracci |
| Best Tray of 3 | 'Kramer's Fluted Coral' | Sergio & Elsie Bracci |
| Runner-up Tray of 3 | 'Freedom Bell' | Sergio & Elsie Bracci |

Species

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Best Single | 'Egao' | Mel & Bobbie Belcher |
| Runner-up Single | 'Star Above Star' | Brad & Lynn King |
| Best Tray of 3 | 'Shibori-Egao' | Sergio & Elsie Bracci |
| Runner-up Tray of 3 | 'Egao' | Mel & Bobbie Belcher |

Mixed Varieties

| | | |
|---------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Best Tray of 3 | 'Emma Gaeta Variegated', 'Firedance Variegated', 'Little Slam Variegated' | Bob & Alice Jaacks |
| Runner-up Tray of 3 | 'Lady Laura', 'In the Pink', 'Thumbelina' | Sergio & Elsie Bracci |

Collector's Tray - 6 Blooms

| | | |
|----------------|---|-----------------------|
| Best Tray | 'Emma Gaeta Variegated', 'Miss Charleston Variegated', 'Dr. Clifford Parks', 'Larry Piet', 'Harold L. Paige', 'Valentine Day' | Sergio & Elsie Bracci |
| Runner-up Tray | 'Rudy's Magnoliaeflora' | Les & JoAnn Brewer |

Best Seedling/Sport

| | |
|----------------|------------------|
| White Seedling | Dave & Alma Wood |
|----------------|------------------|

Novice

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------------|------------|
| Best bloom - 4" or more | 'Silver Waves' | Dr. Baccus |
| Best bloom - less than 4" | 'Debutante' | Dr. Baccus |

Court of Honor

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| 'Black Tie' | Sergio & Elsie Bracci |
| 'Night Rider' | Bob & Alice Jaacks |
| 'Rudolph Variegated' | Sergio & Elsie Bracci |
| 'Snow Chan' | Sergio & Elsie Bracci |
| 'Star Above Star' | Bob & Alice Jaacks |
| 'Emma Gaeta Variegated' | Sergio & Elsie Bracci |
| 'Spring Fling' | Mel & Bobbie Belcher |
| 'Ave Maria Variegated' | D. T. Gray Family |
| 'Yuki-Komachi' | Dave & Alma Wood |
| 'Elegans Chandleri' | Les & JoAnn Brewer |
| 'Pink Perfection' | Dale & Mary Kay Mittag |
| 'Dr. Clifford Parks' | Sergio & Elsie Bracci |
| 'Firedance Variegated' | Dale & Mary Kay Mittag |
| 'Elegans Splendor' | Sergio & Elsie Bracci |
| 'Fashionata', 'Nuccio's Pearl', 'Kitty' | Sergio & Elsie Bracci |
| 'Tomorrow Park Hill', 'Queen Bee', 'Francie L.', 'Francie L. Variegated', 'Larry Piet' | |
| 'Dr. Clifford Parks Variegated' | Sergio & Elsie Bracci |

SOUTH COAST CAMELLIA SOCIETY SHOW

South Coast Botanical Gardens, January 23-24, 1999

Japonica - Large/ Very Large

| | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Best Single | 'Silver Cloud' | Bob & Alice Jaacks |
| Runner-up Single | 'Carter's Sunburst' | Dale & Mary Kay Mittag |
| Best Tray of 3 | 'Tata' | David & Susan Trujillo |
| Runner-up Tray of 3 | 'Katie Variegated' | Walter Hoffman |

Special Culture—

| | | |
|---------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Best Single | 'Katie Variegated' | D. T. Gray Family |
| Runner-up Single | 'Elizabeth Weaver' | D. T. Gray Family |
| Best Tray of 3 | 'Miss Charleston Variegated' | D. T. Gray Family |
| Runner-up Tray of 3 | 'Tomorrow Park Hill' | D. T. Gray Family |

Japonica - Medium

| | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Best Single | 'Firedance Variegated' | Dale & Mary Kay Mittag |
| Runner-up Single | 'Wildfire' | Mel & Bobbie Belcher |
| Best Tray of 3 | 'Firedance Variegated' | Dale & Mary Kay Mittag |
| Runner-up Tray of 3 | 'Nuccio's Cameo' | D. T. Gray Family |

Special Culture—

| | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Best Single | 'Firedance Variegated' | D. T. Gray Family |
| Runner-up Single | 'Magnoliaeflora' | D. T. Gray Family |
| Best Tray of 3 | 'Midnight Variegated' | D. T. Gray Family |
| Runner-up Tray of 3 | 'Nuccio's Pearl' | D. T. Gray Family |

Japonica - Boutonniere

| | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| Best Single | 'Little Slam Variegated' | Julius & Dorothy Christinson |
| Runner-up Single | 'Red Hots' | David & Susan Trujillo |
| Best Tray of 3 | 'Red Hots' | Mel & Bobbie Belcher |
| Runner-up Tray of 3 | 'Lemon Drop' | Mel & Bobbie Belcher |

Special Culture—

| | | |
|---------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Best Single | 'Little Michael' | D. T. Gray Family |
| Runner-up Single | 'Tom Thumb' | Bob & Alice Jaacks |
| Best Tray of 3 | 'Little Michael' | D. T. Gray Family |
| Runner-up Tray of 3 | 'Lemon Drop' | Bob & Alice Jaacks |

Reticulata or Reticulata Hybrid

| | | |
|------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Best Single | 'Valentine Day Variegated' | Bob & Alice Jaacks |
| Runner-up Single | 'LASCA Beauty' | Mel & Bobbie Belcher |

Special Culture—

| | | |
|------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Best Single | 'Harold L. Paige' | D. T. Gray Family |
| Runner-up Single | 'Valentine Day Variegated' | Bob & Alice Jaacks |

Non-Reticulata Hybrid

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Best Single | 'Super Star' | David & Susan Trujillo |
| Runner-up Single | 'Lucky Star' | Chuck & Rosamond Gerlach |
| Best Tray of 3 | 'Freedom Bell' | David & Susan Trujillo |
| Runner-up Tray of 3 | 'Buttons 'N Bows' | Mel & Bobbie Belcher |

Special Culture—

| | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Best Single | 'Angel Wings' | D. T. Gray Family |
| Runner-up Single | 'Coral Delight' | D. T. Gray Family |
| Best Tray of 3 | 'Nicky Crisp' | D. T. Gray Family |
| Runner-up Tray of 3 | 'Pink Dahlia' | Bob & Alice Jaacks |

Species

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Best Single | 'Star Above Star' | D. T. Gray Family |
| Runner-up Single | 'Egao' | Mel & Bobbie Belcher |

Collector's Tray of 3 Mixed Varieties

| | | |
|-----------|--|------------------------|
| Best | 'Pink Perfection', 'Debutante', 'Carter's Sunburst' | Dale & Mary Kay Mittag |
| Runner-up | 'Marchioness of Salisbury', 'Firedance Variegated', 'Carter's Sunburst' | Dale & Mary Kay Mittag |

Best Seedling

| | |
|----------|-------------|
| Sasanqua | Leland Chow |
|----------|-------------|

Best Fragrant

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| 'Koto-No-Kaori' | Jerry & Delores Withers |
|-----------------|-------------------------|

Novice

| | | |
|-------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| Best Single | 'Silver Tower' | Victor & Linda Rodriquez |
|-------------|----------------|--------------------------|

South Coast Members Only

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Best Large Japonica | 'Moonlight Bay' | Tom & Elsie Hughes |
| Runner-up Large Japonica | 'Junior Prom' | Tom & Elsie Hughes |
| Best Medium Japonica | 'Tama Glitters' | Jerry & Delores Withers |
| Best Boutonniere Japonica | 'Covina' | Alexis Slafer |
| Best Reticulata | 'Dolores Hope' | Tom & Elsie Hughes |
| Best Non-Reticulata | 'Buttons 'N Bows' | Tom & Elsie Hughes |
| Best 3 Blooms | 'Coral Delight Variegated' | Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Qirhwea |
| Runner-up 3 Blooms | 'Little Slam Variegated' | Helen Gates |

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SO. CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY CAMELLIA SHOW

Descanso Gardens January 30-31, 1999

Japonica - Large/Very Large

| | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Best Single | ‘Elegans Splendor’ | Tom & Elsie Hughes |
| Runner-up Single | ‘Elegans Chandleri’ | D. T. Gray Family |
| Best Tray of 3 | ‘Tiffany’ | Bob & Alice Jaacks |
| Runner-up Tray of 3 | ‘Mrs. D. W. Davis Descanso’ | Bob & Alice Jaacks |

Special Culture—

| | | |
|---------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Best Single | ‘Tomorrow Park Hill’ | D. T. Gray Family |
| Runner-up Single | ‘Royal Velvet’ | D. T. Gray Family |
| Best Tray of 3 | ‘Miss Charleston Variegated’ | D. T. Gray Family |
| Runner-up Tray of 3 | ‘Elegans Splendor’ | D. T. Gray Family |

Japonica - Medium

| | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Best Single | ‘Margaret Davis’ | Dale & Mary Kay Mittag |
| Runner-up Single | ‘Betty Foy Sanders’ | Mel & Bobbie Belcher |
| Best Tray of 3 | ‘Ville De Nantes Red’ | Dale & Mary Kay Mittag |
| Runner-up Tray of 3 | ‘Rudolph Variegated’ | Bob & Alice Jaacks |

Special Culture—

| | | |
|------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Best Single | ‘Firedance Variegated’ | D. T. Gray Family |
| Runner-up Single | ‘In The Pink’ | D. T. Gray Family |

Japonica - Small

| | | |
|------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| Best Single | ‘Dahlohnega’ | David & Susan Trujillo |
| Runner-up Single | ‘Splash-O-White’ | Chuck & Rosamond Gerlach |

Special Culture—

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Best Single | ‘Maroon and Gold’ | Chuck & Rosamond Gerlach |
| Runner-up Single | ‘Tama Electra’ | Bob & Alice Jaacks |

Japonica - Miniature

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Best Single | ‘Kewpie Doll’ | D. T. Gray Family |
| Runner-up Single | ‘Grace Albritton’ | Mel & Bobbie Belcher |

Special Culture—

| | | |
|-------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Best Single | ‘Kristy Piet’ | Bob & Alice Jaacks |
|-------------|---------------|--------------------|

Japonica - Boutonniere

| | | |
|---------------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| Best Tray of 3 | ‘Tinker Bell’ | Marvin & Virginia Belcher |
| Runner-up Tray of 3 | ‘Lemon Drop’ | Mel & Bobbie Belcher |

Reticulata or Reticulata Hybrid

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Best Single | ‘Frank Houser’ | David & Alma Wood |
| Runner-up Single | ‘Valley Knudsen’ | Les & JoAnn Brewer |
| Best Tray of 3 | ‘Emma Gaeta Variegated’ | Bob & Alice Jaacks |
| Runner-up Tray of 3 | ‘Fiesta Grande’ | Rudy Blanco |

Special Culture—

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Best Single | ‘Emma Gaeta Variegated’ | Bob & Alice Jaacks |
| Runner-up Single | ‘Larry Piet’ | Bob & Alice Jaacks |

Non-Reticulata Hybrid

| | | |
|-------------|---------|--------------------|
| Best Single | ‘Julia’ | Bob & Alice Jaacks |
|-------------|---------|--------------------|

| | | |
|--|---|------------------------------|
| Runner-up Single | 'South Seas' | Bob & Alice Jaacks |
| Best Tray of 3 | 'Freedom Bell' | Chuck & Rosamond Gerlach |
| Runner-up Tray of 3 | 'Tidbit' | Bob & Alice Jaacks |
| Special Culture— | | |
| Best Single | 'Anticipation' | Bob & Alice Jaacks |
| Runner-up Single | 'Pink Dahlia' | Bob & Alice Jaacks |
| Best Tray of 3 | 'Nicky Crisp' | D. T. Gray Family |
| Runner-up Tray of 3 | 'Anticipation' | Bob & Alice Jaacks |
| Collector's Tray of 3 Mixed Varieties | | |
| Best Tray | 'Moonlight Bay', 'Raspberry Ice', 'Freedom Bell' | D. T. Gray Family |
| Species | | |
| Best Single | 'Egao' | Marvin & Virginia Belcher |
| Runner-up Single | 'Botan Yuki' | David & Susan Trujillo |
| Best Tray of 3 | 'Egao' | Marvin & Virginia Belcher |
| Runner-up Tray of 3 | 'Star Above Star' | Brad & Lynn King |
| Best Seedling | | Rudy Blanco |
| Novice | | |
| Best Large/Very Large | 'C. M. Wilson' | Deniece Douglass |
| Runner-up Large/Very Large | 'Royal Velvet' | Deniece Douglass |
| Best Medium/Boutonniere | 'Debutante' | Deniece Douglass |
| Runner-up Medium/Boutonniere | 'Buttons 'N Bows' | Deniece Douglass |
| Court of Honor | | |
| 'Frank Houser Variegated' | | Bob & Alice Jaacks |
| 'Elizabeth Weaver' | | D. T. Gray Family |
| 'Coral Delight' | | D. T. Gray Family |
| 'Super Star' | | David & Susan Trujillo |
| 'Shibori-Egao' | | Tom & Elsie Hughes |
| 'Little Michael' | | Les & JoAnn Brewer |
| 'Queen Bee' | | David & Alma Wood |
| 'Debutante' | | Julius & Dorothy Christinson |
| 'Margaret Davis' | | Bob & Alice Jaacks |
| 'Red Hots' | | Mel & Bobbie Belcher |
| 'Julia' | | Bob & Alice Jaacks |
| 'Kewpie Doll' | | D. T. Gray Family |
| 'Wildfire' | | Bob & Alice Jaacks |

MANY THANKS!

THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS FRIENDS FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION
TO OUR PUBLICATION COSTS:

In memory of Herman Belcher

Tom and Elsie Hughes
Mel and Bobbie Belcher

SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY

52ND ANNUAL CAMELLIA SHOW

February 6 and 7, 1999

Japonica - Large/Very Large

| | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Best Single | 'Swan Lake' | D. T. Gray Family |
| Runner-up Single | 'Katie Variegated' | David & Alma Wood |
| Court of Honor Single | 'Tata' | David & Susan Trujillo |
| Court of Honor Single | 'Show Time' | Mel & Bobbie Belcher |
| Best Tray of 3 | 'Royal Velvet' | Bob & Alice Jaacks |
| Runner-up Tray of 3 | 'Show Time' | Mel & Bobbie Belcher |
| Court of Honor Tray of 3 | 'Guilio Nuccio Variegated' | Dean Turney |

Japonica - Medium

| | | |
|------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Best Single | 'Firedance Variegated' | Mel & Bobbie Belcher |
| Runner-up Single | 'Grand Marshal' | D. T. Gray Family |

Japonica - Boutonniere

| | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Best Single | 'Lemon Drop' | David & Susan Trujillo |
| Runner-up Single | 'Maroon and Gold' | Chuck & Rosamond Gerlach |
| Court of Honor Single | 'Alison Leigh Woodroof' | David & Susan Trujillo |
| Court of Honor Single | 'Ave Maria' | D. T. Gray Family |

Japonica - Tray of 3 Medium, Small or Miniature

| | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Best Tray of 3 | 'Red Hots' | David & Susan Trujillo |
| Runner-up Tray of 3 | 'Firedance Variegated' | Dale & Mary Kay Mittag |
| Court of Honor Tray of 3 | 'Man Size' | David & Susan Trujillo |

Reticulata or Reticulata Hybrid

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Best Single | 'Frank Houser' | David & Alma Wood |
| Runner-up Single | 'Emma Gaeta Variegated' | Bob & Alice Jaacks |
| Court of Honor Single | 'Valentine Day' | Bob & Alice Jaacks |
| Best Tray of 3 | 'Emma Gaeta Variegated' | Bob & Alice Jaacks |
| Runner-up Tray of 3 | 'Royalty' | Dean Turney |
| Court of Honor Tray of 3 | 'Dolores Hope' | Tom & Elsie Hughes |

Non-Reticulata Hybrid

| | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Best Single | 'Buttons 'N Bows' | Dale & Mary Kay Mittag |
| Runner-up Single | 'Hot Pink' | David & Susan Trujillo |
| Court of Honor Single | 'Debbie' | David & Susan Trujillo |
| Best Tray of 3 | 'Paper Dolls' | Marvin & Virginia Belcher |
| Runner-up Tray of 3 | 'Coral Delight Variegated' | David & Susan Trujillo |
| Court of Honor Tray of 3 | 'Super Star' | David & Susan Trujillo |

Best Species

'Shibori Egao' David & Susan Trujillo

Best Graft

'Souza's Pavlova' Nicolas & Lori Kane

Collector's Tray of Three Mixed Varieties

Best Tray 'Moonlight Bay', 'Sweet Dreams',
'Kewpie Doll' D. T. Gray Family

Runner-up Tray 'Easter Morn', 'Debutante',
'Little Michael' Chuck & Rosamond Gerlach

Court of Honor Tray 'Henry Huntington', 'Waltz Time
Variegated', 'Buttons 'N Bows' Dale & Mary Kay Mittag

Best One/Two Year Old Graft 'Ivory Tower' E. C. Snooks

Best Blooming**Camellia Plant**

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| ‘Frank Houser Variegated’ | Les & Edna Baskerville |
|---------------------------|------------------------|

Best Flower Grown in San Diego County—Any Species

| | | |
|-----------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Best | ‘Terrell Weaver’ | E. C. Snooks |
| Runner-up | ‘Prima Ballerina’ | Mr. & Mrs. Roy Tess |

Special Culture

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Best Japonica | ‘Miss Charleston Varietgated’ | D. T. Gray Family |
| Runner-up Japonica | ‘Nuccio’s Pearl’ | D. T. Gray Family |
| Court of Honor Japonica | ‘Tomorrow Park Hill’ | D. T. Gray Family |
| Best Reticulata | ‘Queen Bee’ | D. T. Gray Family |
| Runner-up Reticulata | ‘Emma Gaeta Variegated’ | Bob & Alice Jaacks |
| Court of Honor Reticulata | ‘Valentine Day’ | Bob & Alice Jaacks |
| Best Non-Reticulata | ‘Pink Dahlia Variegated’ | Bob & Alice Jaacks |
| Runner-up Non-Reticulata | ‘South Seas’ | Bob & Alice Jaacks |
| Court of Honor Non-Reticulata’ | ‘Elsie Jury’ | Bob & Alice Jaacks |

Novice

| | | |
|-----------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Best | ‘Grand Prix’ | Nicolas & Lori Kane |
| Runner-up | ‘Tama Glitters’ | Margaret Bardwich |

Intermediate

| | | |
|-----------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Best | ‘Silver Tower’ | Victor & Linda Rodriguez |
| Runner-up | ‘Valentine Day’ | Earl Gray |

INTRODUCTIONS FOR 1998-99

‘Bunny Ears’—Nuccio’s own chance seedling hybrid. To quote Tom Nuccio, “We believe it to be a roseaflorea hybrid. The color is medium pink. Form is semi-double. Good “rabbit ears” and miniature to small in size. The plant is vigorous, upright and bushy and is a profuse bloomer. Mid-late season.

‘Frank Houser’—retic hybrid. Very large, rose-red, semi-double to loose peony, good rabbit ears. Typical retic growth. Vigorous, open and upright. Mid-season bloom.

‘Sweet Emily Kate’—This is a fragrant Lutchuensis hybrid. Blush pink shading to pale pink in center. Small-medium, irregular loose peony. Slow pendulus growth. Mid-late season.

‘Sweet Jane’—(Japonica x Transnokoensis). Pale pink at center shading to deeper pink on the outer petals. Miniature size, peony form. Vigorous upright, mid-season.

‘Snow Drop Cascade’—A ‘Snow Drop’ seedling which is a Fraterna hybrid. White or almost white shading to soft pink near the edge. Miniature to small, single to semi-double. Spreading growth. Early to mid-season.

Write for a free catalog

NUCCIO’S NURSERIES

3555 Chaney Trail,
P. O. Box 6160, Altadena, CA 91001
(818) 794-3383

Closed Wednesday and Thursday and on Sundays, June through December

DESCANSO'S CAMELLIA FESTIVAL



Top left: The Braccis always have a good time!

Top right: Dave Wood, Julius Nuccio and Mel Belcher



Right: Tom Hughes, Alice Jaacks, Les Brewer and Dave Trujillo toast the "kick-off" to Descanso's Camellia Festival



Bottom left: Southern Cal's president Brad King, Pacific president Tom Gilfoy, Diane Chino and Lynn King.

Bottom right: Tim can never resist sharing his enthusiasm for camellias!



The Annual Camellia Festival at Descanso Gardens was opened with a combined meeting of the Pacific and Southern California Camellia Societies. After those assembled enjoyed the wine and cheese fellowship time which had been provided by Descanso Gardens, Julius

Nuccio was the featured speaker and told the audience some of the history of Nuccio's Nurseries. "Oohs" and "aahs" were heard as he showed blooms from the cultivars Nuccio's plans to introduce later this year. What a wonderful evening!

DIRECTORY OF CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETIES

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY: President—Don Martin; Secretary—Joan Hill, 37341 Ave 17 1/2, Madera, 93638. Meetings: 3rd Wednesday, November-February, 7:30 p.m. Sheraton Smuggler's Inn, 3737 N. Blackstone, Fresno.

DELTA CAMELLIA SOCIETY: President—Larry Pitts; Secretary—Edith Mazzei, 1486 Yosemite Circle, Clayton 94517. Meetings: 2nd Tuesday, November-March, 7:30 p.m., City of Pittsburg Environmental Center, 2581 Harbor St., Pittsburg.

KERN COUNTY, CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF: President—Helen Maas; Secretary—Charlene McAllister, 2018 Kingston Place, Bakersfield 93306. For meeting dates and times, call Helen Maas (805)872-2188.

MODESTO, CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF: President—Mary Jo Pinheiro; Secretary—Sue Kendall, 1505 Gary Lane. Modesto, 95355. Meetings: 1st Sunday, October-April, 1:00 p.m., 220-A Standiford Avenue, Modesto.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY: President—Don Bergamini; Secretary—Eric Hansen. Meetings: 1st Monday, November-April, 7:30 p.m., Oak Grove School, 2050 Minert Road, Concord. Final meeting in May is a dinner meeting.

ORANGE COUNTY CAMELLIA SOCIETY: President—Leonard Re; Secretary—Elaine Re, 9144 Helm Avenue, Fountain Valley 92708. Meetings: 1st Monday, October-April, 7:00 p.m. For meeting locations call Theresa Piech (714) 962-3380.

PACIFIC CAMELLIA SOCIETY: President—Sergio Bracci; Secretary—Kathryn Korin, 1241 E. Calaveras St., Altadena 91001. Meetings: 1st Thursday, November-April, 7:30 p.m., Descanso Gardens, 1418 Descanso Drive, La Canada.

PENINSULA CAMELLIA SOCIETY: President—Ed Tooker; Secretary—Nicky Farmer, 360 Santa Margarita Avenue, Menlo Park 94025. Meetings: 4th Tuesday, October-March, Veterans' Building, 1455 Madison Avenue, Redwood City.

POMONA VALLEY CAMELLIA SOCIETY: President—David Trujillo; Secretary—Dorothy Christinson, 3751 Hoover St., Riverside 95204. Meetings: 2nd Monday, November-April, 7:30 p.m., Church of the Brethren, Corner "E" & Bonita, La Verne.

SACRAMENTO, CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF: President—Jackie Randall; Secretary—Mary Louise Jones, 4454 Marley Drive, Sacramento 95521. Meetings: 4th Wednesday, October-April, 7:30 p.m., Studio Theater, 1028 "R" Street, Sacramento

SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY: President—Jay Vermilya; Secretary—Lew Gary, 11419 Cabela Place, San Diego 92127. Meetings: 3rd Wednesday, November-April, 7:30 p.m., Room 101 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego.

SANTA CLARA COUNTY, INC., CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF: President—Walt Dabel. Meetings: 3rd Wednesday, October-April, 7:30 p.m., Lick Mill Park, 4750 Lick Mill Boulevard, Santa Clara.

SOUTH COAST CAMELLIA SOCIETY: President—Helen Gates; Secretary—Melita Johnson, 1251 10th Street, San Pedro 90731. Meetings: 3rd Tuesday, September-July, 7:30 p.m., South Coast Botanic Garden, 26300 Crenshaw Boulevard, Palos Verdes Peninsula.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY: President—Brad King; Secretary—Bobbie Belcher, 7475 Brydon Road, La Verne 91750. Meetings: 7:30 p.m., Ayres Hall, Los Angeles County Arboretum, 301 Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia, on October 29, November 19, January 28, February 25, March 25, April 22. Note: No December meeting.



Your friends will enjoy receiving your greetings on these new camellia note cards. They also make great gifts for your fellow camellia lovers or for those you are trying to get involved in this wonderful hobby! Cards and matching envelopes are packaged in sets of 8.



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