

The *Camellia*
REVIEW



Front Cover: 'Spring Daze' *C. williamsii*
Photo Credit: Bradford King

Inside Cover: 'Ohkan' *C. japonica*
Photo Credit: Bradford King



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Bradford King, Editor bdk@usc.edu

Kristina Hooper, Production Editor khoop3r@gmail.com

Barbara Council, Membership

Southern California Camellia Society, PO Box 1312, La Canada, Ca., 91012

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An Invitation to Join

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BOARD OFFICERS

President	Bradford King	bdk@usc.edu
Vice-President	James Fitzpatrick	JJF4849@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Beth Stone	bethstone@earthlink.net
Recording Secretary	Carol Stickley	cstickley@gmail.com
Corresponding Secretary	Alexis Slafer	aslafer@ca.rr.com
Membership	Barbara Council	barbjaponica@outlook.com

DIRECTORS

Anne Dashiell	anne@dashiell.net
Joey Goldfarb	joeyhe@aol.com
David MacLaren	dmaclaren@huntington.com
Micheal Nealon	mikenealon@icloud.com
Susan Stull	susan.stull@icloud.com

Thoughts From The Editor Bradford King, Editor



When the summer temperatures exceed one hundred degrees with low humidity this stresses camellias and damages their foliage. This happened in Southern California the week of July fourth and continued off and on in July. Camellias were fried in Descanso, The Huntington, Nuccio's Nurseries, San Gabriel Nursery and many local gardens in the Los Angeles area. Will they survive? Some looked dead oth-

ers only had minor leaf burn. However, most had new growth by the second week of August. The strategy I used was to cut off the damaged burned leaves to encourage new growth. I expect that there will fewer flower buds, but the camellias survived and now look better.

Remember the water for the lawn and annuals is not adequate for camellias and trees. They need deep watering. Many of us have automatic water systems which need to be checked to insure they are working. In addition, most of us will need to water the camellias and trees at times with a hose to insure they survive.



Burn damaged leaves July 2018



New growth August 2018

In this issue we tapped the archives for a timely and informative article by Julius Nuccio, the cofounder of Nuccio's Nurseries, who answered questions about the fall blooming *C. sasanqua*. Don Bergamini reports the California camellia show results for the 2018 camellia season. It is a useful guide in helping select the most desirable camellias to add to your garden. The article "Upgrading Your Camellia Collection" highlights this issue too. The photos provided throughout this issue will help you pick which varieties are most appealing to you. While not show flowers, the camellia species article and "Higo Treasures from Japan" highlight *C. cuspidata* seedlings like 'Moonstruck' and 'Spring Festival' and the Higo 'Goshozakura' with its lovely pink single blooms, which have their charm.

If you like to travel and love gardens, especially camellias; the International Camellia Society Congress tours held every two years are well worth your attention. The recent congress in France is the focus of the article "Welcome to Brittany: The Land of The Camellia".

We are always looking for camellia articles and writers to publish. Deadlines for submitting articles to Editor Bradford King (bdk@usc.edu) are WINTER: December 1, 2018, SPRING: February 1, 2019. FALL: September 1, 2019.

Wayne Fredrick Walker Retires by Bradford King



Wayne Walker and C. reticulata 'Shot Silk'

Wayne Walker retired the end of May 2018 after eighteen years at Descanso Gardens. He was on the Boards of Southern California Camellia Society, Pacific Camellia Society and the Southern California Camellia Council. Wayne became a camellia expert as he cared for the Descanso Gardens camellia forest. He imparted his knowledge and skills to Descanso interns, staff and members of the camellia societies. He spent many weekends during the camellia season as a camellia show chairman and judge. “When someone asks Wayne for help, he always helps.”

Wayne and Valla have moved to Everett, Washington where she will continue her career as a psychologist. We will miss them and wish them well in this new chapter of their life.



Tim Thibaut, Wayne and Richard Schulhof



Left to right Bill Taylor, Beth Stone, Brad King, Wayne Walker, Karen Harrison, Jim Fitzpatrick, & George Harrison

Upgrading Your Camellia Collection

by Bradford King

Whether you are a novice, intermediate or long time camellia grower; these camellias should be on your bucket list. These selections will look good in the garden and can have show winning flowers. They are all available at Nuccio's Nurseries.

C. japonica Cultivars

While 'Julius Nuccio' only became available September 2014, it had 10 wins in the large to very large camellia class in the 2015 show season in California and was the top winner in its class in 2016 with 6 best single awards and 4 wins in trays of matched blooms. It was the top winner in its class in the 2017. In 2018 it had seven wins coming in second to 'Carter's Sunburst'. However it won as a natural single bloom, in trays of three and as a treated flower. The treated 'Julius Nuccio' at the Southern California Camellia Council show in 2018 was magnificent. It was about 8 inches in diameter with upright dark red petals.



Treated 'Julius Nuccio'



'Julius Nuccio'

The plant grows vigorously in an upright manner and blooms mid to late season. The brilliant dark red irregular semidouble flower is large to very large. In addition, it has lovely dark green foliage and sets plenty of buds.

It is named for the co-founder of Nuccio's Nurseries. It will also be propagated and sold by Monrovia Nursery so it will be widely distributed. If you have room for only one more camellia, this is the one to add. In professional sports millions are handed out for the number one draft pick who may or may not live up to expectations. A three foot 'Julius Nuccio' can be purchased for \$37.50 and is a "can't miss" camellia star.



'Chris Bergamini'



'Tudor Baby Var.'

In 1999 Don and Mary Bergamini registered 'Chris Bergamini' named for their grandson. This miniature to small white anemone flower with stripes of pink and red in varying tones has continued to gain popularity. It won four times in California in 2015 tying its biggest rival 'Man Size' in the miniature class. In 2016 it continued its winning ways with four best singles as a miniature. In 2017 it placed second, 3 to 5 with its chief rival 'Mansize'.

Don Bergamini, American Camellia Society President 2013 -2015 and Mary live in Martinez California. He specializes in growing miniature and small camellia winning show flowers. He has introduced the following *japonica* cultivars: 'Mary A. Bergamini', 'Chris Bergamini', Joellen Christine', 'Baby Sis Blush', and 'Landon Waters'. Don also registered the lovely and aptly named *nonreticulata* hybrid 'Just Peachy'. This medium anemone peach pink to cream flower has yellow anthers and white filaments. To date 'Chris Bergamini' is his most widely grown camellia and well worth adding to your camellia collection.

In 2001 the late Hulyn Smith registered a dark red small formal double with black petal edges. Hulyn was a past President of the American Camellia Society and a prolific camellia grower. He loved large red camellias so he threw this seedling now named 'Tudor Baby' in the creek. It was saved by others and was named for his granddaughter. It is a very good camellia and becomes outstanding when variegated. A 'Tudor Baby Variegated' dark red flower with clear bright white flowers makes a great choice to add to your collection. The plant grows vigorously in an upright manner with dark green leaves and blooms mid to late season. The Nuccio's began offering it in 2015. It had two wins in the small class in 2015, 4 in 2016, and 2 in the 2017 season in California. It has been winning

in the southeast where it was introduced in Valdosta, Georgia for several years.

C. reticulata Cultivars

Nuccio's nurseries catalog first listed 'Jack Mandarich' and 'Barbara Goff' in 2015. 'Jack Mandarich' was registered in 1995 by Jack L. Mandarich an avid camellia hybridizer from Menlo Park, California. He was President of the American Camellia Society from 1983 to 1985. He specialized in breeding *reticulata* hybrids.

'Jack Mandarich' has a beautiful large deep pink formal double to rose form double with 45 or more undulating petals. It blooms early to late season on upright spreading plant with light green foliage. It makes a good garden plant and is capable of winning show points as a natural or treated bloom. It is one of Mandarich's introductions that is widely distributed and propagated by several camellia nurseries.



'Jack Mandarich'



'Barbara Goff' treated

The late Gordon Goff, Lafayette California named his beautiful soft pink very large semidouble to rose form double to formal double for his wife, Barbara. He registered it in 2009. In the 2015 season it became a big winner in California with five wins. She had the most in the *reticulata* class with 8 wins in 2016, 2017 and seven in 2018. It grows upright and blooms early to late season. It makes a handsome plant. My cultivar bloomed from January through April with the best natural blooms in February. It takes gib well and can be entered in early shows where it can win in the treated *reticulata* class. This is one of very best *reticulata* hybrids to come along since 'Ruta Haggmann' in 1992 and 'Frank Houser' in 1989. 'Barbara Goff' is a camellia that will give you years of enjoyment with its very large

complicated pink flower with yellow anthers and filaments. In addition, when at its best it is capable of beating both Ruta and Frank in camellia shows.



'Barbara Goff'

California's 2018 Winners

by Don Bergamini

The judges have spoken and the results are in. This was a crazy year for weather, hot days and cool nights, rainy days and freezing nights, etc. You know what it was like trying to preserve your blooms, but we did and the best cultivars have arrived at the trophy table. Remember these are the Best and Runner Up winners only.

Some of the same winners were again on the trophy table, such as 'Julius Nuccio', 'Carter's Sunburst', 'Elegans Splendor', 'Hishi-Karaito', 'Ave Maria', 'Tama Peacock', 'Man Size', 'Barbara Goff', 'Frank Houser', and 'Island Sunset'. These were winners in the singles categories. The ones that did well in these categories that did not do as well last year were 'Margaret Davis', 'Princess Masako', 'Spring Daze', 'Sweet Jane', 'Frank Houser Var', 'Coral Delight Var', and 'Nitidissima'. I guess there are some cultivars that do well no matter the weather.

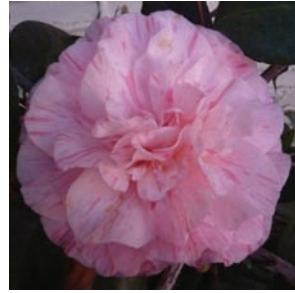
In the multiple classes, there were some winners that again were on the trophy table as they were last year, such as 'Nuccio's Carousel', 'Julius Nuccio', 'Ragland Supreme', 'Royal Velvet', 'Pink Perfection', 'Man Size', 'Red Devil', 'Frank Houser', 'Tulip Time' and 'Waltz Time Var'. Cultivars that did well this year and not so well last year are 'Astronaut', 'Cherries Jubilee', 'Red Hots', 'Hishi Karaito' and 'Dr. Clifford Parks'. What will next year bring? It is always fun to look at the list and see what you need for your collection and hopefully go to the Head Table with your new finds.



'Frank Houser'

Japonica Lg/Vlgs

Carter's Sunburst	8
Julius Nuccio	7
Elegans Splendor	5
Ferris Wheel	3
Lady Laura	3
Junior Prom	2
Katie Var.	2
Miss Charleston Var.	2
Royal Velvet	2
Royal Velvet Var.	2
Steve Blount Var.	2
5 others with 1 each	



'Carter's Sunburst'

Japonica Mediums

Margaret Davis	6
Princess Masako	4
Ragland Supreme	3
Cherries Jubilee	2
Chie Tarumoto	2
Cloisonne	2
Nuccio's Gem	2
18 others with 1 each	



'Margaret Davis'

Smalls (any species)

Spring Daze	5
Hishi Karaito	4
Ave Maria	3
Red Devil	3
Red Hots	3
Tama Peacock	3
Pink Perfection	2
Tama Vino	2
Tom Thumb	2
9 others with 1 each	



'Spring Daze' formal

Miniatures (any species)

Man Size	4
Something Beautiful	3
Sweet Jane	3
Grace Albritton	2
Kitty	2
Lemon Drop	2
Little Michael	2
Sue Kendall Var.	2
12 others with 1 each	



'Man Size'

Reticulata / Reticulata Hybrids

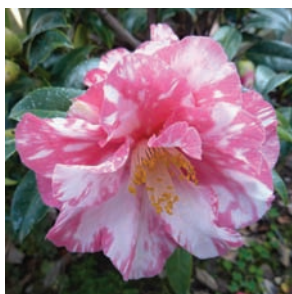
Barbara Goff	7
Frank Houser	7
Frank Houser Var	7
Phyllis Hunt	3
Ruta Hagmann	3
John Hunt	2
Kwan Yuen	2
Linda Lee Ehrhart	2
13 others with 1 each	



'Barbara Goff'

Non-Reticulata Hybrids

Coral Delight Var	6
Island Sunset	3
Lucky Star	3
Dreamboat	2
Honeymoon	2
Hot Stuff	2
Julie Var.	2
Pink Dahlia	2
Senritsu Ko	2
8 others with 1 each	



'Coral Delight Var'

Species

Nitidissima	5
Shishi-Gashira	3
Shibori Egao Corkscrew	2
4 others with 1 each	



'Nitidissima'

MULTIPLES

Japonicas

Astronaut	5
Fire Dance Var.	5
Cherries Jubilee	4
Julius Nuccio	4
Magnoliaeflora	4
Nuccio's Carousel	4
Ragland Supreme	4
Royal Velvet	4
Mathotiana	3
Prima Ballerina	3
Tomorrow's Dawn	3
Carter's Sunburst	2
Elegans	2
Ferris Wheel	2
Pearl Maxwell	2
Spring Sonnet	2
Tomorrow	2
22 others with 1 each	

Boutonnieres (any species)

Red Hots	7
Hishi-Karaito	6
Pink Perfection	6
Mansize	5
Red Devil	5
Cupcake	4
Freedom Bell	4
Night Rider	4
Tama Peacock	4
Maroon and Gold	2
Spring Daze	2
9 others with 1 each	

Reticulata / Reticulata Hybrids

Frank Houser	10
Dr. Clifford Parks	5
Barbara Goff	4
Frank Houser Var.	4
9 others with 1 each	

Non-Reticulata Hybrids

Tulip Time	4
Waltz Time Var.	3
Buttons n' Bows	2
Demure	2
Lucky Star	2
Lucky Star Var.	2
9 others with 1 each	

Species Multiples

2 others with 1 each

Welcome to Brittany: The Land of The Camellia

by Bradford King



Les Jardins de Kedalo

When traveling in Brittany, France for the International Camellia Congress held March 2018, we visited camellia nurseries and gardens, two of which were International Camellia Gardens of Excellence. We saw hundreds and hundreds of camellias, more than half of which we had never seen before. We discovered the people in Brittany love their camellias. Many have mature bushy camellia trees in their gardens, some dwarfing the house.

In general, camellias grow twice as fast in Brittany as in America due to the abundance of rain, cool climate and fertile soil. The foliage is larger and twice as thick as our leaves. It had snowed several days prior to our arrival followed by several days of intermittent cold rain; consequently, many blooms had damage and thousands of buds had yet to open. We were impressed at the abundance of bud set on the camellias outside as well as on the protected potted plants in the nurseries. The snow and cold rain had no negative impact on the camellia plants.

Jacques Saignon and Rene Mahuas, who we met, wrote a book in French and English for the occasion --*1001 Camellias in Nantes and Throughout Brittany*. Besides a couple of bottles of wine consumed in France, this was my only purchase. I was like a child getting Jacques to autograph the book and having a photo taken with Rene in his camellia garden.



Bradford King and Rene Mahuas



Harvesting camellia trees

All our French hosts were magnificent, providing food and drinks which was greatly appreciated but not needed when you get a three-course lunch and a bottle of wine followed by “supper” also with three courses and local wine at 9 PM finishing two to three hours later. Exhausted but enthused, we were up at around 6 :30 AM for a buffet breakfast. I love my coffee, but French coffee was so strong I gave it up for tea. French breads are outstanding for breakfast and at all meals, usually served first with no plate or butter. Who cares; they were clearly freshly baked and delicious. I loved toasted dark bread in the morning with local honey that was in one of the four gift bags provided by our local hosts.



'Freedom Bell' plants in bloom



'Tulip Time' espalier

We found to our delight that Nuccio's Nurseries cultivars were well known and grown in local nurseries. Potted 'Nuccio's Cameo', 'Carousel', 'Jewel', 'Gem', 'Pearl'



'Arch de Triumph' with Barbara Carroll and Jim Fitzpatrick

was well represented by several of his introductions. A 'Tulip Time' espalier covered a wall of the garden house. They prune it yearly after it blooms. It is 20 feet tall and thirty feet at its base. An awesome display! One of Feather's iconic *C. reticulata* hybrids, 'Arch de Triumph,' was a fifteen-foot-tall tree in full bloom in the nurseries "retired" section. I have looked for it in The Huntington and Descanso and never seen it in bloom. What a sight! It served as a great backdrop for a photo of Jim Fitzpatrick and Barbara Carroll holding 'Jury's Yellow'.

We saw Feather's 'Desire' in floral arrangements, gardens and nurseries. We were impressed by a floral exhibit of several hundred entries at Château de Trévaréz (the red castle). Each entry was placed in the same sized container and artfully arranged.

and 'Ruby' were in bloom as well as hybrids 'Button's 'n Bows' and 'Freedom Bell'. One nursery grew cultivars in the ground, each five-foot-tall. that sold for several hundred Euros each. When purchased, they were dug up and wrapped in netting with the root ball in burlap. Rows and rows of hundreds of plants made an impressive sight. The mass of flowers on a long row of Nuccio's 'Freedom Bell' was spectacular.

David Feathers, a noted northern California hybridizer in the 1950s into the 80s,



'Ville de Nantes' fimbriated



'Lady De Nantes'

The iconic French camellia is ‘Ville de Nantes’ which is popular throughout the camellia world. In France the petals are highly serrated. Most of the flowers seen in the states are not serrated which led to numerous discussions and speculations that we are propagating its mother and not the “real” Ville. ‘Ville de Nantes’ is a sport of *C. japonica* ‘Dockelari’ registered in 1910 by Heurtin, France. Both have virus variegation. There is also a red mutation ‘Ville de Nantes Red’ which is much less popular.



Château de Trévarez Flower exhibit Photo Credit Mark Crawford



Château de Trévarez Flower exhibit “Pink Section”

In Brittany there is a tradition of inviting guests to a camellia baptism. We attended the baptism of the camellia 'Lady de Nantes' by the mayor of Nantes. The ceremony, while not religious, is a social political ceremony with speeches in French and in this case also an English translation. The plant was baptized with warm tea then planted in the Nantes Botanical Garden.

There is an interesting practice in Brittany of naming a camellia in remembrance of someone who has died. The person's name is preceded by "Souvenir" which is Old French to recall and Latin to come to mind. We saw several examples, many with very long names. This is illustrated by 'Souvenir de Pl Kerambrun' which has 21 letters and a very beautiful flower. It was planted in the collection of camellia cultivars of Britany in Chateauneuf du Faou.



'Desire' floral display



'Souvenir de Pl Kerambrun'

After viewing hundreds of wonderful camellias and taking photos, I was impressed with the diversity and quality of the camellias grown in Brittany. Two cultivars stood out from the all the rest. These are the cultivars many of us would love to have. The most distinctive is a foliage sport of 'Nuccio's Cameo'. 'Kerguelen' has a medium to large formal double light pink flower with variegated silvery white to yellow leaves. The story I was told is that this genetic mutation was discovered by Monrovia Nursery in America. However, all were destroyed by the Agriculture inspectors when they discovered their camellias suffering from *Phytophthora cinnamomi* which is a soil borne fungus that destroys the roots of infected plants. Somehow cuttings were alive and disease-free in Brittany where it is being propagated by several nurseries.



'Kerguelen' plant with flowers



Potted cuttings of 'Kerguelen'

The sharp contrasts of white stripes on the red 'Park Leo' petals make it to my bucket list. This *Camellia japonica* was introduced in 2004 by Andre Gloaguen, France. The medium formal double flower is a bright dark red with a vertical white stripe in the middle of each petal. The white stripe is genetic.



'Kerguelen'



'Park Leo'

If you love camellias and travel, consider attending an International Camellia Society congress and tours. The next one is 2020 in Goto City, Japan.

What's New in the Southern California Camellia World

by Bradford King

The Huntington

Many landscape and street trees are being lost due to the exceptionally dry climate and significant heat waves in Southern California which makes trees less resistant to disease and insect damage. The staff of The Huntington, especially Tim Thibault are working with other experts in collecting data on the destructive beetle polyphagous short hole borer in ways to deal with this threat to trees. This tiny beetle has many host plants including camellias.



Dead Birch Tree

Trees need more water than what is provided to keep the lawn alive. Therefore, if you depend on an automatic system, supplement with deep watering with a hose around trees especially vulnerable birch trees. For three years I told my neighbor that this birch tree was dying due to lack of water and the lawn sprinklers were inadequate. Baseball rules-- three strikes and you are out!



Bud of the Corpse Flower



Harvesting Pollen (2014)

In July, The Huntington announced that the Corpse Plant (*Amorphophallus titanum*) would bloom. However, by August 8, it was determined this one nicknamed "The Little Stinker" was unable to open. They have 50 corpse plants in

different stages of development. The Huntington's have bloomed four times, the most recently 2014. The foul smell attracts curious human visitors to the garden to view the largest known flower. In its native Sumatra pollinators are also attracted to the pungent odor. These flies are not here in California so the botanist at the Huntington collects pollen by cutting it open and harvesting pollen to use later.

Descanso Gardens

Descanso Gardens was awarded a grant to plan a “Camellia Pathway”. The Descanso staff, board members and several local camellia people have met to plan and develop this pathway. There will be eight areas: an entry garden to the pathway, a Japanese camellia section which builds on the current collection; a Chinese section with both *Camellia reticulata* from Yunnan and new *C. reticulata* hybrids like ‘Queen Bee’; Camellia Displays and special hybrids like yellow, fragrant and cluster flowering cultivars; History of Descanso gardens section highlighting Descanso introductions like ‘Mrs. D. W. Davis Descanso’ and ‘Bernice Boddy’; a section for new introductions and a trial garden featuring Nuccio introductions and other Southern Camellia breeders introductions; a section with Species and finally Historic Vistas and the Boddy Plantation camellias. There will be appropriate signage and a focus on educating the public to the ornamental and economic uses of the camellia.



‘Queen Bee’



‘Mrs. D. W. Davis Descanso’

The Southern California Botanical Artists Guild have an exhibit in the Boddy house. The blending of botanical accurate details with creative selection of flower form is what makes them worth viewing. Beth Stone’s “Flowering Cherry” illus-

trates this creativity. Beth is a treasure to the Southern California Camellia Society. Akiko Enokido entered her award-winning water color of 'Kuro tsubaki' which is the only camellia painting in the exhibit.



Beth Stone's "Flowering Cherry"

Nuccio's Nurseries

Nuccio's plans to introduce three new camellias this year. One is a small loose pink cluster blooming *C. grijsii* seedling to be name 'Party Popper'. One of the goals of current camellia hybridizers is to develop more cluster blooming camellias. This cultivar fits this goal. They will be selling a striped camellia yet-to-be named. Tom Nuccio reported that the flower is somewhat like the old favorite from Japan 'Haru-no-utena' but not as dramatic as 'Ferris Wheel'. Stripped camellias are uncommon so we will look forward to seeing this one in bloom.

They will be adding another beautiful 'Tama-no ura' seedling which has a medium to large dark red semidouble flower with a clear white border. The color is like 'Royal Velvet'. We have seen this flower on the Nuccio's table at several camellias shows the last two years where it was greatly admired.

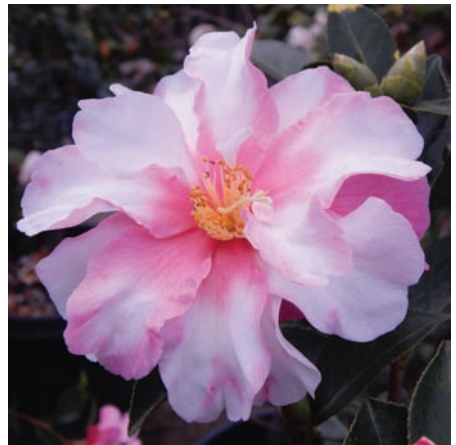


'Tama Velvet'

We can hardly wait for the variegated 'Lucky Star' to be available. 'Lucky Star' was registered in 1995 and became a popular garden and show winning camellia. The flower is a medium rich pink semidouble that blooms mid to late season. Gary Schanz from Sacramento, used 'Shibori Egao' rootstock to produce a beautiful 'Lucky Star Variegated' which he shared with Nuccio's Nurseries. It is another beauty that Nuccio's is propagating for future distribution. It is strikingly beautiful and one to add to your bucket list.



'Lucky Star'



'Lucky Star Var.'

Camellia Species: *C. cuspidata*

By Bradford King

C. cuspidata grows in the woodlands of Southern China. It is fast growing, cold tolerant and widely distributed. It may not thrive in hot climates. It has been cultivated for many years and has been used in camellia breeding for cold tolerance and cluster blooming hybrids. The white flower is fragrant sometimes with pink markings on the outer petals. The leaves are pointed and narrow. It grows into a tall shrub.



C. cuspidata

Two attractive *C. cuspidata* hybrids are 'Moonstruck' and 'Spring Festival'. 'Moonstruck' has nice red buds opening to single, medium, blush flowers with pink tones in the centers and on the petal edges. Each bloom looks like a full moon that was splashed with pink. It was registered by Nuccio's Nurseries in 1996.

'Spring Festival' is a miniature rose form double that puts out masses of pink to light pink flowers that bloom mid to late season. New growth is an attractive reddish brown. The plant growth is upright and narrow. This cultivar is very sun tolerant. It was introduced in 1975 by Toichi Domoto.



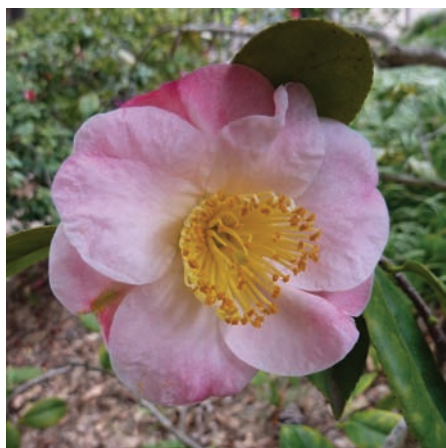
'Moonstruck'



'Spring Festival'

The Higo Treasures from Japan: ‘Gshozakura’

By Bradford King



‘Gshozakura’

This Higo flower is a very lovely shade of light cherry pink. It has a medium circular single bloom with pale yellow stamens. The petals may fade to white at their base and softly fold back as the bloom ages. There are 120 to 130 pale yellow stamens arranged in a ring. Most higo flowers are single, flat, irregular and roughly triangular shaped. ‘Gshozakura’ is one that is an exception as the single flower is round and not flat with a mass of yellow circular stamens. The small green leaves are oval to elliptical shaped.

Higo is a special type of *C. japonica* that originated in the Province of Higo which is now Kumanoto, Japan. ‘Gshozakura’ dates back almost two centuries in Japan but was not officially registered until 1912. The name means “Imperial Palace Cherry.” In American we frequently hyphenate the words for ease of reading and pronunciation to ‘Gsho-zakura’.

While touring Brittany, France, March 2018, we had the good fortune to see a camellia floral exhibit at Domaine De Trevarez, an International Camellia Garden of Excellence in Brittany, France where this arrangement of ‘Gshozakura’ stood out.



‘Gshozakura’ arrangement

From the Archives: *Sasanquas* - Questions and Answers
By Julius Nuccio Photos by Bradford King



'Shishi Gashira'

(Editor's note: This timely article about fall blooming C. sasanqua camellias is reprinted from the October 1965 Camellia Review. The author, Julius Nuccio, the co-founder of Nuccio's Nurseries was an expert in identifying, propagating and growing camellias).

Q. Julius, I have been told that *sasanquas* are a wonderful addition to the garden; please explain the essential differences between *C. sasanqua* and *C. japonica*.

A. *Sasanquas* have no limit as to how they can be used—specimen, espalier, trained on fences and ground covers. They also have no limitations as to exposure, shade, semi shade or full sun. Their increased popularity is due to their early blooming period (October, November and December) when the average garden is very much in need of color.

Q. What in your opinion is the greatest argument for growing *sasanquas*?

A. The profusion and early bloom of flowers as well as their versatility in growth habit including sun exposure.

Q. How shall I begin my *sasanqua* collection? What varieties would you recommend for an amateur grower like me? Which varieties are fast growers?

A. First consider how *sasanquas* and other flowering shrubs fit in your home landscaping. For fast and open growth, I recommend ‘Yae Arare’, ‘Narumigata’, ‘Hugh Evans’, and ‘Hana Jiman’. For compact upright growth— ‘Cleopatra’, ‘Hiryu’, ‘Jean May’, ‘Setsugekka’, ‘Yuletide’, ‘Interlude’ and ‘Dazzler’. For bushy spreading growth: --‘Showa-No-Sakae’, ‘Shishi-Gashira’ and ‘Tanya’.

Q. Should I graft, plant seed or buy plants? What is the best time of year to start?

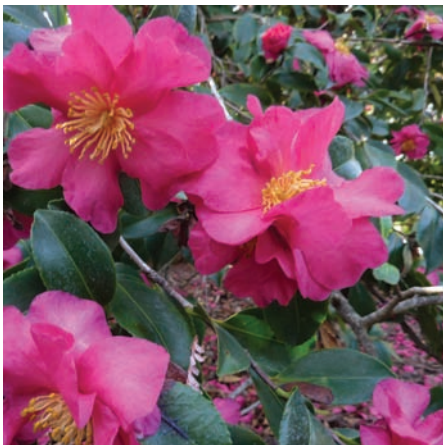
A. Grafting or seed culture would be the same as for the *japonica*. With seedlings one would have the same guessing game. However, *sasanqua* seedlings are always good landscape material. Buying plants, of course, would be the best method of being certain to get proven varieties, they can be planted any time of the year. The best time to choose them is when they are in bloom.

Q. How will the culture of *sasanquas* differ from my *japonicas*: type of soil, watering and fertilizing?

A. It has been said that *sasanquas* tolerate a poorer drainage situation and require less care than *japonicas*, but we have always given them the same soil, water, and fertilizer as applied to *japonicas*. We see no reason to purposely abuse them.

Q. Why don't more people grow *sasanquas*?

A. Most camellia hobbyists grow camellias for the cut blossoms, in camellia shows, in the house or on the plants. Let's face it, *sasanquas* generally do not cut well—for shows or the house. Likewise, they don't hang on the plants. There are some exceptions such as ‘Yuletide’, ‘Interlude’ and ‘Shishi Gashira’. In my opinion, camellia people let this fault outweigh the great landscape value of the *sasanqua*.



‘Dazzler’



‘Hugh Evans’

Parting Shot: E. G. Waterhouse
Story and Photos by Bradford King

Eben Gowrie Waterhouse (1881- 1977) was a professor of German and comparative literature as well as camellia expert. In 1912 he was appointed senior lecturer in modern languages at Teachers' College in Sydney Australia. He was noted for innovative and effective language teaching. He married Janet Frew Kellie in Scotland where they had met while she was a student. When they were married they commissioned a house named Eryldene after her home in Scotland. The extensive and beautiful gardens highlighted camellias and azaleas.

In 1939 he established Camellia Grove Nursery. When he retired he learned Japanese and studied the origins of Australian camellias. He examined records of the plants imported by Sir William Macarthur of Camden Park. He investigated the surviving specimens and collected catalogues from camellia nurseries in North America, Europe and Australia. Waterhouse demonstrated that the camellia known as *Aspasia* in Australia was a Macarthur seedling quite different from the European *Aspasia*. He wrote two camellia books, *Camellia Quest* (1947) and *Camellia Trail* (1952), which were illustrated by Paul Jones. He helped to found the State branch of the Australian Camellia Research Society (1954) and the International Camellia Society (1962) serving as the first President.



'E.G. Waterhouse'



'E.G. Waterhouse Variegated'

E. G. Waterhouse bred a number of camellia cultivars. The one he named 'E.G. Waterhouse' is his very best. The flower is a light pink formal double hybrid. The variegated form is even more popular as the soft pink with white markings makes

a lovely flower. 'Janet Waterhouse' is a *C. japonica* seedling with a pure white semidouble flower with a crown of golden central stamens which he named for his wife in 1955. The floral arrangement is interesting as it shows the flower in various stages of opening.



'Janet Waterhouse'



'Margaret Waterhouse'

A widely grown *Williamsii* hybrid introduced by E.G. Waterhouse is 'Margaret Waterhouse' named for his daughter in law. It has a amaranth rose (a reddish rose like the flower color of the amaranth plant) medium flower.

The E. G. Waterhouse National Camellia Garden contains a collection of 600 camellias with over 450 different cultivars and species. It is an International Camellia of Garden of Excellence.



C. japonica 'Maroon and Gold' Photo by Bradford King