

THE

Camellia Review



C. japonica 'Guilio Nuccio'
Courtesy Nuccio Nurseries

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Southern California Camellia Society Inc.

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

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

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

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 President: Dr. Lynn Fawns; Secretary: Mrs. Maynard Munger, 5140 N. Fruit, Fresno
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 Arlington, Virginia
 Meetings held 1st Monday of month, October through April, alternating between
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Camellia Reviewer

ELIZABETH BEEBE

Merry Christmas!

After all there is nothing that expresses all one wants to express at the holiday season better than the good old "Merry Christmas." It has come to mean with real sincerity the best that the season can offer; — to the child the thrill of presents, to the adult the joys of family relationships and to camellia folk the kinship from the camellia bond. Yes, camellias are one of the "fixin's" that go along with the presents, the carols, the turkey and the feeling that life, indeed has been good to us.

Incredible!

We were quite dashed to note in the November Bulletin of the Oregon Camellia Society that members were looking for camellia seeds. How come they don't read the Review and know that our Society is sending seeds by the thousands all over the country to say nothing of those going to foreign shores? Just goes to show you if you don't read the Review you are going to miss something.

It's An Idea

A bright thought was advanced to us by a favorite camellia person and that was that instead of always looking for experts to make up Panels, it might be well to include a couple of amateurs. The amateurs would most likely come up with questions that individuals in the audience should ask but usually don't, as well as probably being responsible for more comments from experts in the audience, who perhaps would be more willing to give good advice from the floor than to be a part of a Panel. Anyhow it would be an interesting experiment.

Sasanquas Salvos

We hereby offer one of the first and prettiest *sasanquas* of the season to the Pacific Comellia Society for the issuance of their 1956-57 Directory.

In particular may we congratulate the few who did the actual work of putting out the attractive little brochure with its lively green and red on the cover. As well as the complete list of members' names with addresses and telephone numbers, the first two pages are devoted to pertinent information: data of meetings, time, place and even advance subject material, announcement of the 1957 Camellia Show and finally a condensed history of the Society. This is a brochure which will be well-thumbed by a lot of camelliaphiles. And we expect to find inspiration among its names, some of which we are looking forward to having appear in the Review.

Food For Thought

In the column "Around the Camellia Bush" which appears regularly in a Shreveport, Louisiana paper there lies a very intriguing suggestion. Suppose one member of your family says, "What good are camellias," and begrudges space they take up? Without trying to reply to such a non-answerable question, why not yield to solid practicality and put in (or have the non-camellia person put in), some quick growing, shady type vegetables to blend the edible with the cultural? This is what the man said in his newspaper column, quote—"Until some fast growing trees are large enough to provide adequate shade on southern and eastern exposures, you can grow castor beans or other annuals as 'Mother' plants during the summer. The other day we heard of one camellia lover in Lake Charles who grows common garden okra for summer shade- he not only protects his plants but besides, has this fine Southern delicacy for his table." End quote. Well, how about it? How about a bit of a snack as we stroll admiringly among the camellias? The man has something there- something that might be quite appealing to those mundane souls who

(Continued on Page 28)



May You All Have
 Bright Camellias
 Spattered Everywhere
 To Love and Be Loved By
 This Merry Christmas



Is the holiday wish
 of your
 Camellia Review
 Committee

Elizabeth Beebe
 John H. Clairmont
 Billie Mc Caskey
 Ralph Peer



LISTEN, CAMELLIAS !!

Plans are already far advanced for a mammoth combined Camellia Show to be held at the Descanso Gardens, in La Canada the first week-end of March, 1957. It would be more accurate to say the first two week-ends in March, because it is planned to have a Cut Flower Camellia Show the first week-end and a special Camellia Arrangement Show the following Saturday and Sunday.

This extended showing of Camellia flowers, enhanced by the thousands of blooms on the Camellia plantings at Descanso Gardens, will be the joint production of the Los Angeles Camellia Council, of which the Southern California, the Pacific, the Temple City, and the Los Angeles Camellia Societies are members, and Los Angeles County through the Descanso Gardens.

While it is still too early to announce actual details of this show, tentative plans call for it all to be under canvas. Some five tents are planned to be placed in clearings under oak trees among the Camellia plantings, with canvas canopies over the trails which connect the tents. With favorable weather, the sides of these tents may be raised to provide an uninterrupted view of the gardens. Along the trails, between the tents and in one of the larger tents, our Camellia Growers will present their displays. These are always one of the highlights of any successful Camellia Show. For the Amateurs there will be a large tent for single blooms, a smaller one for multiple blooms, one for Reticulatas and still another for the trophy winners. The trail will run right through the center of the trophy tent with displays on either side.

Also tentative, but in the works, are plans to have all Amateur growers both large and small enter their blooms in competition for the numerous ribbons and trophies which will be awarded. Plans call for single blooms to be entered variety against variety. One bloom of a variety may qualify for a blue ribbon, if the judges so decide, and it may compete for Best Flower of the Show, but there must be five blooms of that variety entered before it may compete for the Sweepstakes award.

Another plan is to allow two leaves to be displayed with single blooms. This is optional and the leaves will not be considered by the judges. While this is a new departure for this area, it is common practice throughout the South and should improve the attractiveness of the displays to the general public which will visit the show.

An attractive booklet and program is planned for the Show. It will serve to acquaint the general public with the Camellia and how to grow it, the four Camellia Societies which comprise the Los Angeles Camellia Council and how to join them, as well as the program for the two week-ends of the Show.

Perhaps, before these words appear in print, many of you will be asked to serve on one of the many committees which are necessary for any venture of this kind. May we thank you for saying yes with a smile, which is the only thing a real Camellia lover can do. By all working together, we can make this Camellia Show, 1957 version, an event which will long be remembered.

In Memoriam

Lawrence Bryant-Nov. 22, 1956

As an active worker in the Camellia world he will be sorely missed.

What he contributed to the advancement of Camellia beauty to all the world will be a living memorial, never to fade: a flame of loveliness that can never be extinguished.

