

THE *Camellia*
REVIEW

A Publication of the Southern California Camellia Society



'Cheryll Lynn'

Courtesy Nuccio's Nurseries and Sweeney, Krist & Dimm

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One Dollar

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: \$6.00.

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THE CAMELLIA REVIEW

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THE COVER FLOWER

'Cheryll Lynn' is a product of California's San Joaquin Valley. In 1965 Howard C. Collier of Chowchilla, California took a light pink formal japonica to the Descanso Gardens camellia show and entered it in the Seedlings Division. It won Runner-up to Best Japonica Seedling. Mr. Collier thought so much of his seedling that he named it after his granddaughter Cheryll Lynn and turned it over to Nuccio's Nurseries to propagate. He entered five of the blooms in the Class for 5 Japonicas in the 1966 Descanso Gardens show and won the award for Best. It runs from 4" to 4½" in size, just about right for a light pink formal flower. Nuccio put 'Cheryll Lynn' on the market last October.



The Directors of the Los Angeles Camellia Council took action at their January 10th meeting which, in my judgment, should encourage participation by more camellia growers in the Descanso Gardens Camellia Show on March 4th. The full action taken is reported on page 3 of this issue of CAMELLIA REVIEW. I have here in mind particularly the abolition of the Sweepstakes Awards and the setting up of four "Best Japonica" awards according to the four recognized size classifications — Large and Very Large, Medium, Small, and Miniature. I believe that these two changes will complement each other in encouragement to the camellia amateurs with moderate and small collections to enter their good blooms in the show.

I believe that entirely too much emphasis has been placed on quantity of blue ribbons in the impression that has been created that the big prize has been the Sweepstakes Award. This may not have been intentional; nevertheless, the actions of the Show Committees have been in this direction. Winners of Sweepstakes Awards have always been good camellia growers. The Awards, however, have been more closely related to the number of blooms entered than to success as growers and equally good growers have not won because of not having large enough collections to produce the required number of blue ribbons.

Under the new rules, every camellia grower has an opportunity to win the top prize, the Best Flower of the Show in its size classification. Regardless of the lure of the large flower, now being aggravated, I fear, by the results of the use of gibberellic acid, there is just as much honor in producing the Best of the 'Spring Sonnets' as there is in having the best of the 'Guilio Nuccio' group. I remember that a few years back a friend won a Best Flower award with a single entry. The new rules will be an equalizer between the larger collectors and what some of the smaller growers call themselves — the "amateur" amateurs.

This is as it should be. There were 134 exhibitors in the 1966 Descanso Gardens Show, who entered a total of 2533 japonica blooms in the single bloom Classes. The exhibitors came from as far south as San Diego, about 125 miles, and as far north as Fresno, about 250 miles. 134 entries is a small percentage of the number of members of the nine camellia societies in the area between Fresno and San Diego. I hope that the knowledge that the entry of a single bloom may win one of the top awards in what we think as the top show of camellia shows, may induce many more of these members to participate.

Harold E. Gaylor

NEW RULES AND SCHEDULES FOR DESCANSO GARDENS CAMELLIA SHOW ON MARCH 4 and 5, 1967

The Board of Directors of the Los Angeles Camellia Council took action at its January 10th meeting to change some of the Schedules and Rules for the 1967 Descanso Gardens Camellia Show that will be held in the Gardens on March 4th and 5th. The changes are as follows:

1. Sweepstakes Awards will be discontinued. Formerly there have been two Sweepstakes Awards: (1) To the exhibitor having the greatest number of blue ribbon awards in the Division for Japonica, Reticulata, Hybrids, Species other than Japonica, and Reticulata, and in the Class for Small Japonica in the Boutonnieres Division; (2) The Miniature Sweepstake Award to the exhibitor having the greatest number of blue ribbon awards in the Miniature Class of the Boutonnieres Division.

The Rules provided that for Sweepstakes competition only those blue ribbons, or red ribbons in case of a tie in the number of blue ribbons, where there were three or more entries of a variety in competition would be considered. With the discontinuance of the Sweepstakes Awards this rule is no longer necessary and will be removed from the Schedules.

It was the consensus of the Directors that the Sweepstakes Award probably has contributed more than any other factor of show competition to unpleasant incidents and unhappiness among exhibitors; furthermore, in most cases the winning of the Award has been related at least equally to quantity of blooms entered as to quality of the blooms. There was no dissent among the Directors that the discontinuance of the Sweepstakes Awards would work for the betterment of camellia shows.

2. The Awards for Best Japonica

and Best Japonica Runner-up will be discontinued and in their place there will be four Best Japonica and four Best Japonica Runner-up Awards as follows:

Best Japonica—Large (including Very Large)

Best Japonica—Medium

Best Japonica—Small

Best Japonica—Miniature

This change in effect adds two Best Japonica Awards since former Schedules have provided for a Best Miniature Award as well as Best Japonica.

Both the Large and Medium blooms will be placed in Division I as in the past, in alphabetical order by variety. It will be the responsibility of the Judges to have both sets of trophies in mind as they judge and to send candidates for Awards in both groups to the head table for voting.

The Small and Miniature blooms will be placed in Division III, Boutonnieres, as in former shows, with Miniature blooms going to Class 1 and Small blooms to Class 2. Classification as to Small or Miniature will be in accordance with the 1966 Edition of CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE. If an entry is not listed in CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE, decision of the Placement Committee will be final in its classification.

3. There will be two Classes in Division IV, Hybrids, as follows:

Class 1. Hybrids with Reticulata parentage

Class 2. Hybrids without Reticulata parentage

The parentage of most of the Hybrids listed in CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE is indicated. The Placement Committee should be consulted regarding the parentage of an entry in Division IV that is not listed in

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DAVE STROTHER AND HIS MAGNIFICENT GIFT TO THE CAMELLIA WORLD

Joseph H. Pyron

Executive Secretary-Editor, American Camellia Society
Tifton, Georgia

Recently announcement was made of the gift of Masee Lane, one of the world's great Camellia gardens, as the site of the permanent headquarters of the American Camellia Society. This generous gift includes not only the seven acre garden, but also a twenty acre pecan grove, one hundred acres of highly productive farm land and \$25,000 toward its endowment. Few gifts are made without certain restrictions; however Mr. Dave C. Strother has already deeded his valuable garden and property to ACS without any strings attached. At its annual meeting in Sacramento last March, the ACS Governing Board unanimously accepted the gift.

With the acceptance of this beautiful garden our dreams are near realization for a permanent home. However, since the maintenance of such a garden cannot be financed from current membership dues of only \$6.00, President Emeritus Charles Butler suggested the establishment of an Endowment Fund and the solicitation of donations in order to perpetuate the gardens, build a fireproof headquarters and greenhouses and expand ACS services to its members and to the camellia growers throughout the world regardless of membership. It is planned to use only the income from the investment of these funds, hence a considerable amount of money is needed. Considerable progress has been made in receiving donations which are tax deductible according to a ruling by the U. S. Internal Revenue Service. Sufficient funds are now in hand to proceed with construction of the headquarters building and of two greenhouses this year. It is hoped that each member and each Camellia organization will contribute and assist in this important

endeavor. The garden will, as in the past, be open to the public without charge.

ACS has perhaps the finest Camellia library in existence, the use of which will be available to everyone. This library now includes the extensive Rubel library which Mr. and Mrs. William P. Kemp are donating to ACS. Coordination, standardization and assistance with camellia shows is an important function of ACS. So is registration of new varieties without cost, whether or not the registrant is an ACS member. Research and dissemination of information on camellia culture will be expanded with ACS headquarters serving as a clearing house.

The history of Masee Lane is interesting.

Thirty years ago a windstorm destroyed a peach crop, a packing shed and blew over a large pecan tree on a farm between Fort Valley and Marshallville, Georgia. This was considered a great disaster at the time, but it started a man on a fascinating hobby which has touched and enriched the lives of thousands of people. Mr. Dave Strother replaced the tree in front of his overseer's house with a red Camellia such as he had admired in the quaint old town of Marshallville nearby, which has long been a center of Camellia culture.

From this chance beginning, Mr. Strother soon became interested in planting other varieties. By degrees the garden expanded into seven acres! It didn't just grow; from the beginning it had a definite plan. There are no expanses of lawn or lakes, but mostly Camellias. Over the years he has acquired probably the finest collection of Camellias any-

(Continued on Page 6)



Mr. Dave C. Strother at Masee Lane Camellia Garden. There are thirty-five old millstones in the garden such as the one shown here which were collected from abandoned water powered grist mills in Middle Georgia. The two millstones shown are from the Old Wire Road which ran from Washington, D. C. to New Orleans, passing through South Carolina near where Mc. Strother was born and also a few miles from Masee Lane. Originally an old coach road, one of the first telegraph wires was strung along this important road, hence its name.

where. Each is carefully labelled with its correct name. A poor performer is soon discarded, whereas an outstanding variety may be represented by several plants. 'Ville de Nantes' is one of his favorites so rates a dozen or more plants. He rarely brings in a plant, preferring to graft on an established understock, thus avoiding bringing in soil infested with the Flower Blight fungus.

Little was known about Camellia culture thirty years ago. Pruning was considered heresy, commercial fertilizers were rarely used, disease and insect pest control were not understood, planting was often too deep and varieties were sold under a number of different names. Prices of plants were high if available and only professionals dared to attempt grafting or other propagation. No one has done more to disseminate Camellia know-how than Mr. Strother. It occurred to Mr. Strother and others interested in Camellias that some kind of national organization was needed to exchange information, meet other growers, to find sources of varieties and straighten out the very confused nomenclature. Thus the American Camellia Society was organized by this group in 1945.

Mr. Strother has travelled thousands of miles each year in search of new varieties, to visit shows and meet Camellia people. Now in his mid 80's he still travels thousands of miles from coast to coast. During WWII when travel was restricted, he tells the story of travelling to Louisiana in search of plants in an old pickup truck because gas was rationed to passenger automobiles. All of this has been done as a hobby for he has never sold a plant, scion or flower. He gives freely of his time and advice to all who seek information, yet he rarely speaks in public nor writes articles. He is an interesting conversationalist and is never too busy to show visitors

through the garden, giving scions of unrestricted varieties and often cutting a Camellia for a lady to wear.

No one has attempted to count the number of plants or varieties in the 7-acre garden, but there are many thousands. He makes no attempt to have every variety represented, only the cream of the crop. Hybrids from various breeders and countries are being tested here. Several species are grown here but *Camellia japonica*s predominate. During the height of the flowering season the Camellias are a sight to behold, long to be remembered. Many people make at least an annual pilgrimage to Masee Lane. All parts of the garden are easily accessible by neat box bordered brick walks. Slash pines provide needed filtered sunlight. The plant areas are heavily mulched with peanut hulls which are more or less fireproof. Flammable pine straw is removed.

This is primarily a Camellia garden although other ornamental shrubs and bulbs complement the Camellias. LADY BANKSIA roses are trained up the pine trunks and the yellow flowers cascade down during the spring. A 200 car parking lot often overflows during the height of the season. Cars from many states are to be seen. The garden is near Perry which is on Interstate 75, the main traffic artery from Chicago, New York and other major cities to Florida points. Excellent accommodations are available at Perry for garden visitors. The garden is open every day of the year from sunrise to sunset free of charge.

This headquarters and garden are to be not merely a local beauty spot but rather a national, even international camellia shrine for the benefit and enjoyment of all lovers of the beautiful. As such it will, along with the American Rose Society, be one of the few plant specialty organizations having its own permanent home.

CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SHOW SCHEDULE

Date	Sponsor	Location
Feb. 11-12, 1967	San Diego Camellia Society	Conference Bldg., Balboa Park, San Diego
Feb. 18-19, 1967	Pomona Valley Camellia Society	Pomona First Federal Savings & Loan Assn. 399 N. Garey Ave., Pomona
Feb. 18-19, 1967	Peninsula Camellia Society	Veterans' Memorial Bldg., Redwood City
Feb. 25-26, 1967	Temple City Camellia Society	L. A. County Arboretum Lecture Hall, Arcadia
Feb. 25-26, 1967	Delta Camellia Society	Cafeteria, Pittsburg High School, Pittsburg
Mar. 4-5, 1967	L. A. Camellia Council	Descanso Gardens, La Canada
Mar. 4-5, 1967	Camellia Society of Sacramento	Memorial Auditorium, 15th & J Sts., Sacramento
Mar. 5, 1967	Central California Camellia Society	McLane High School, 2727 N. Cedar Ave., Fresno
Mar. 11-12, 1967	Camellia Society of Kern County	Bakersfield High School Cafeteria, Bakersfield
Mar. 11-12, 1967	Northern California Camellia Society	Diablo Valley College, Pleasant Hills, Concord
Mar. 18-19, 1967	Camellia Society of Modesto	Student Center of Modesto Junior College, Modesto
Mar. 25-26, 1967	Visiting Nursing Service for Sonoma County	Memorial Auditorium, Sebastopol

MARSHALL'S CAMELLIA NURSERY

(AT THE SIGN OF THE CAMELLIA)

FIRST RELEASE

ELSIE RUTH MARSHALL

Large double Light Pink

Camellias -- Azaleas -- Rhododendrons

6747 NORTH ROSEMEAD BLVD.

SAN GABRIEL, CALIF. 91775

TEAHOUSE IN DESCANSO GARDENS

New to most of the 25,000 people who will attend the annual camellia show in Descanso Gardens on the week-end of March 4-5, 1967 will be the Teahouse, which has been built and presented to the Gardens and Los Angeles County by Descanso Gardens Guild, Inc. The Teahouse has been the Guild's primary project since 1960. During these six years the \$50,000 cost of the Teahouse has been raised by public contributions and by projects of the Guild such as music festivals in the Gardens and miscellaneous sales of items such as post cards, transparencies, film and books at the Garden gate house. Dedication exercises were held June 3, 1966 at which time the Teahouse was presented by the Guild to Warren M. Dorn, Los Angeles County Supervisor from the supervisorial district in

which the Gardens are located.

Because camellias originated in the Orient, it is fitting that a building such as a teahouse should be Oriental in concept and that it should be surrounded by a Japanese garden setting. The Japanese American Society has contributed the landscaping at a cost to them of \$35,000. The work of designing was done by the Japanese landscaping designer Mr. Eijiro Nunokawa & Son, who also supervised the construction work in collaboration with the County.

The Teahouse is open daily except Monday from 11 A.M. to 4 P.M. Tea and cookies for a nominal charge are served by pretty Japanese girls in kimono.

The Descanso Gardens Teahouse is an example of what can be done in
(Continued on Page 24)



Tea and cookies from 11 A.M. to 4 P.M.

WHAT TO DO NOW

Excerpts from Former Issues of CAMELLIA REVIEW

This is "fun time" and the month when the results of what we have been working on will "Show" up — because this is also "Show Time". For those of you who have just recently started the camellia hobby, if you are timid about entering your blooms in any or all of the shows coming up in the next six weeks, *don't* be! You may not win Sweepstakes the first time or two but *any one* can win Best of Show — it takes just one good flower. One very interesting activity which affords a condensed course where you learn about camellia shows is to volunteer for a job on the Show Committee.

Start now, and with your pruning shears and a pocket full of wooden clothespins, survey your "crop" every day or so. Cut away interfering leaves or branches where they are superfluous and pin back the leaves of the swelling buds so that the bloom, as it opens, will be entirely free from touching anything. I have tried paper clips, bobby pins and other devices but there's nothing as effective as wooden clamp type clothespins.

If you have a good bloom ready a few days before the show, cut it with one or two leaves (preferably) and

put it in a box on wet toweling or shredded paper, fog lightly, cover the box completely with a plastic bag and put it in the refrigerator. Never cut any blooms in the warm part of the day, because they tend to be soft and stay that way. If you have lights and don't mind getting up early, the choicest blooms usually are cut the morning of the show. For a good fogger, use an old Windex bottle.

Good boxes for carrying blooms can be obtained at any print shop — they purchase their paper stock in boxes. Line the bottom and sides of the box with waterproof paper or aluminum foil, put in one or two inches of shredded white paper. Just before packing the blooms, thoroughly soak a piece of sheeting or paper toweling the size of the box and lay it on top of the shredded paper. The blooms carefully placed on this, not too close together, then lightly fogged, should stay fresh for quite a while.

Continue with your grafting this month. If you have any large plants in the ground with which you are not happy, this is the time to saw them off and graft on some scions of proven varieties. In two or three years your plant will be almost back to original size with the variety of blooms you like best. Large plants are easy to graft. Cut them off 12" to 18" above the ground, according to how the main branches start spreading from the bottom. Plastic bags work fine on this large understock — be sure to tie on a couple of sticks to support the bag to prevent its resting on the scion. Pound a few stakes alongside to protect the graft for at least a year. Don't forget to cover all the bare wood with rooting powder.

—W. F. GOERTZ

February 1964 CAMELLIA
REVIEW, "What to Do"

(Continued on next page)

We instituted in the November 1963 issue of CAMELLIA REVIEW a series of articles on camellia culture that was essentially a "what to do this month", designed primarily for people relatively new in camellia growing but applicable also to people who know but like to be reminded. W. F. Goertz wrote the articles for Volume 25 under the title "What to Do", Alvin L. Gunn for Volume 26 under the title "What's Behind the Green Thumb" and Melvin L. Gum for Volume 27 under the title "Sharing Experiences". Since the duties of camellia culture to be performed year after year are basically the same and to avoid asking someone to accept a responsibility of meeting monthly dead-lines for a new series, I have decided for Volume 28 to rerun excerpts of these articles of corresponding former months under the title "What To Do Now". —Ep.

The early varieties have been in bloom for a few weeks, and watching the buds swell and bloom, particularly on new varieties, is one of the real pleasures of this hobby. When the camellia bug first hits you, there is a tendency to see a good bloom at one of the meetings or shows which is a must. The flowers on the head table are unfortunately not always the most satisfactory plants to rush out and buy for a beginning collection. Before you rush out and buy a number of plants, visit some of the camellia hobbyist homes and get their advice on varieties. Visit the nurseries which specialize in camellias and get their views on the varieties which have good growth habits, that bloom without bull-nosing or shattering when they fall. Select some varieties which will give flowers for the full season. There are many of the older varieties which have excellent habits, and are still top notch show flowers. Many of the highly touted new varieties have their heads chopped off after a couple of years.

The growing of seedlings or cuttings is a fascinating phase of the camellia hobby. The area taken up and the time and effort to build a cold frame will be repaid many times in starting seed and cuttings. There are many materials a frame can be made with — redwood, brick, cement blocks, etc. I have found cement blocks excellent for a number of reasons. Their permanence goes without saying. They hold both heat and moisture. You can walk on them, or rest heavy flats without fear of breaking the walls. They are easy to form into the size required. Decide on the approximate size, get a lid for the frame, then build the frame to fit the top. Flat or corrugated sheet plastic of a light color or surplus window frames white washed are excellent. Pour a cement footing four inches deep and two inches wider than the block. If you buy the blocks, the 4" X 4" X 12" are easy to work with

and plenty sturdy for this purpose. The corners on every other course will need 10" and 14" blocks or the difference can be made up with thick mortar joints. The number of courses high will depend on your use of the frame. If grafts will be put in, it should be high enough to put an egg can with a jar on top. The dirt inside should be cut 6" below the footing so the frame can be flooded weekly in the summer to keep the humidity high. The top does not have to fit air tight. If you want to go deluxe, get a lead cable heater with a thermostat control. The cables are placed in the bottom, with an inch of sand on top of them. Bottom heat will start cuttings, seed and grafts in much less time.

Don't neglect the picking of old flowers, off of the bushes and from the ground. This is the season for flower blight. The rotting flowers on the ground will start it, and it is heck to control. In picking the flowers from the bush, lift them off carefully instead of twisting them off if you want to save any seed which may have started to form.

Don't overlook the watering. We shall have some warm dry days in Southern California. Eliminate any foliage sprinkling of plants in bloom as the water will spot the flowers.

—ALVIN L. GUNN
February 1965 CAMELLIA
REVIEW, "What's Behind
the Green Thumb"

February and March are the months in which I transplant my larger plants and trim the roots back. Camellias, as few flowering shrubs can, thrive happily for years with their roots cramped into a tub. They seem, if anything, happier for this discomfort than not. Therefore, it is the wise gardener (and I hope it is you) who chooses a durable container for his camellia, figuring that he won't have to move it up to a larger size for a long time. There are even re-

ports that 100 year old camellias are still thriving in two foot square planters. However, to get large blooms I find it wise every two or three years to trim some of the roots. This is easily done if you have the right kind of a container. My tubs being square, all have removable bottoms and some of them have removable sides. All I have to do is remove two pins, and the sides are easily removed from the root ball.

First, let me touch on the soil mix. I have been using "Forest Humus" nearly four years. Some gardeners prefer to call it red wood. The soil mix that I use is a sandy loam with about 20% coarse sand added. I take one part of this soil mix and two parts of Forest Humus, mix well and make sure it is damp. Sometimes I dampen the Forest Humus a day ahead and then mix it with the soil. This gives a very light weight soil mix that will drain well. With this kind of soil my root trimming is very easily done.

I set my tub on top a 4" X 4" or large cement block, take a hammer and tap gently around all sides of the tub so the root ball will slide down easily. I prefer to use a large sharp scissors. Never trim a plant when dry. For example, in a 16" tub I trim an inch or two from all sides of the roots, then take a screwdriver handle, or your fingers if you prefer, and loosen the roots if they are compact. Next, hose with a very light spray and wash real well. Bring the tub back up into position and pack the regular soil mix around, making sure it fills in around the roots. Now trim the top of the plant in accordance to the roots.

There have been times when I have found root systems so tight that I could scarcely work with them. When this is the condition, I place the plant in a tub of water with a few drops of vitamin B added, and let it remain at least thirty minutes or until it is soaked thoroughly. With this type of root system, I prefer to do the

root trimming job in stages of a six month interval to prevent heavy shock. Within a year you will never know that the plant was once root bound.

I am very fortunate as the soil here is sand approximately twenty feet down. I still mix Forest Humus with the soil about half and half for my plants in the ground. Forest Humus builds up the holding power of dry sandy soil. Moisture and fertilizer that would normally drain through will stay near the surface. It also supplies vital organic matter usually lacking in sandy soil. I also use it as a mulch. To those of you who have a hard soil, I suggest you use Forest Humus. It helps to keep soil open so that air and moisture can penetrate to the root area. Its porosity holds fertilizers and moisture around roots and natural acidity combats harsh alkaline conditions so common in hard soils.

—MELVIN L. GUM

February 1966 CAMELLIA
REVIEW, "Sharing Experiences"

Bakersfield Show At New Location

After 17 years at the same location, the March 11-12, 1967 Bakersfield show will be moved to a new spot—the Bakersfield High School Cafeteria. Directions to the Bakersfield High School for people coming from both north and south are as follows: Take the California off ramp from Highway 99. Drive east (right for people from the south, left for people from the north) on California Avenue for one-half mile to "F" Street. Turn left on "F" Street and you will be at the High School. The address is 1351 F. Street.

The doors will be open to exhibitors at 7:30 A.M. There is ample parking space.

NEW SOUTH ATLANTIC INTRODUCTIONS

Dr. John L. Clare
Danville, Virginia

Jimmy Durante used to say that everyone was trying to get into the act. Camelliawise, that isn't quite true, but it is true that more and more people are planting camellia seeds and more new introductions are coming out every year. Not all new seedlings are worth introducing, certainly. Each grower should be critical of his flowers, registering only those that add something worthwhile — new color or form, cold hardiness, fragrance, striking plant form or foliage. It's true that some mediocre flowers are being introduced, but it's equally true that some good flowers, and a few really fine ones are coming out each year. Thank goodness, those growers are trying to get into the act.

In evaluating new varieties in a given section it isn't fair to rely on the judgment of one man alone. What appeals to one may be a bust to the other man; a new seedling that looks good in one show may have a poorer flower in the next. And there are good years and poor years, years when one variety will put its heart into its flowers, and years when it doesn't seem to try. I honestly feel that no new variety should be judged until it has been observed for a minimum of three years, and even then with much reservation.

With the above thoughts in mind I contacted several accredited judges of long experience, good camellia growers in the South Atlantic states, and the following is a composite list of the newer and decidedly better introductions from this area in the past three or four years, varieties that can be purchased at the better camellia nurseries.

BETTY SHEFFIELD CORAL — a coral pink sport of the old favorite. Occasionally flecked with darker pink. From Georgia.

BILL ARANT — a bright pink full peony with several petaloids. Large. Some tendency to bullnose. South Carolina.

CHARLEAN — a wonderful three-quarter hybrid from Georgia. Very large clean bright pink semidouble without lavender cast. Holds well.

CHATHAM — a very large deep red semidouble. Monstrous with Gib. From Georgia.

DR. BURNSIDE — a large to very large dark red semidouble to peony form. Bright contrasting yellow anthers. Looks like velvet. South Carolina.

ERIN FARMER — probably the best Ashby introduction. Large light orchid pink, semidouble to loose peony, with heavy texture. South Carolina.

ELIZABETH HICKLIN — large to very large bright pink, color of 'Tiffany'. Loose peony to roseform with few petaloids. South Carolina.

GLADYS PINKERTON — very large semidouble to peony, dark red with a velvety sheen, bright gold anthers. South Carolina.

GLENWOOD — a bright red medium to large tight peony with center petaloids mostly white. Most unusual and attractive. South Carolina.

GEORGIA BELLE — a lovely Carl Wheeler introduction. Dark pink large loose peony. Especially lovely when variegated. Georgia.

JEAN SMITH — large bright pink loose peony. Falls whole. South Carolina.

KATHRYN SNOW — a Les Marbury introduction. Large creamy white semidouble to peony form with small dark pink dots and splashes, occasional pink or light red stripes. Lovely. North Carolina.

(Continued on Page 30)

SOCIETA' ITALIANA DELLA CAMELLIA

Dott. Ing. Antonio Sevesi, President
Milano, Italy

Assenting to the proposal of Mr. H. E. Dryden of Southern California Camellia Society, I am very pleased to give to the friends of the above membership some news on "Società Italiana della Camellia" (Italian Camellia Society), formed in August 1965.

I had been visiting the gardens of Lake Maggiore for many years and noticed many imposing and interesting specimens of camellia plants, now completely neglected and all covered in such a way that their characteristics were quite spoilt. In 1962 I started asking news in England where I made some journeys and visited important nurseries, realizing that actually the camellia was a flower worth rehabilitating. Besides, climatic and soil characteristics in some Italian areas are particularly favorable to the good development of this plant.

Incidentally I must apologize for my writing in first person. Unfortunately, in those days I was quite alone and the few nurserymen I spoke to, with their scepticism, certainly did not encourage me.

Applying to the Royal Horticultural Society and the International Camellia Society, I have succeeded in getting the idea of what is done abroad in this special field, and decided to organize for 1965 the first Camellia Show at Cannero Riviera. This spot was chosen because it is in a central position in respect to other zones of Lake Maggiore where the camellia can be cultivated.

First of all I tried to put together a kind of committee. I came in touch with the Cannero Mayor and at last the show date was decided for 10th and 11th April 1965. The more the opening date was approaching, the more all kind of difficulties and probabilities of a failure were increasing.

When we were a few days from

the opening, with the help of two or three volunteers full of good will, working day and night, putting together chance tables, going to collect flowers in the gardens since the owners did not care to, the show was ready punctually and opened to the public in the afternoon of 10th April.

Among the few exhibitors of good will, the surprise was great. Nobody could fancy that such great quantities of varieties existed. The news that the show was interesting quickly spread and the numbers of visitors was really remarkable on that Sunday. Also the Cannero Mayor, given the success of the show, decided that each exhibitor should receive a medal with the Cannero coat of arms in memory of the event.

Of course the second show for 1966 was immediately planned. Now it was necessary to create something which could develop the germ thrown by the show and try to avoid the dreadful gaps in the field of nomenclature of the different varieties.

On the 29th August 1965 the "Società Italiana della Camellia" was formed. I wish to point out that we have had a remarkable moral help, abroad, from Mr. Charles Puddle of the International Camellia Society. When the formation of our membership was announced, many foreigners asked to become members and this was a great pleasure for all of us.

Now our society has about 150 members and publishes a quarterly Bulletin, very modest indeed either for the typographic shape or for contents as the contributors have not the experience of their fellow camellians of the United States, Australia, New Zealand and England. Besides the different cultivation and reproduction methods, our Bulletin is now trying to collect data for a "History

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THE HYBRID STORY

L. R. Shuey

Temple City, California

Part 2

From the foregoing we are able, in some small measure, to learn of the early pioneer work done by hybridists in foreign lands. Much of their work has proven to be the inspiration for men and women in our country who have been motivated to follow in their footsteps. Mr. J. Howard Asper, one of America's outstanding hybridists, stated in 1961, "It is most gratifying to observe the rapidly mounting interest in camellia hybridizing. This interest denotes recognition of need for camellias possessing new form and colors, fragrance, and other properties either absent or present to very limited extent only in the popular japonica, sasanqua and reticulata varieties now found in our gardens. It denotes also recognition of the limitations imposed by Nature on the many hundreds of new camellia varieties produced by chance in the form of seedlings or mutations during and prior to the last twenty-five years of camellia history."

His interest in hybridization seems to have had its stimulus in the many worthwhile new camellia species imported to our shores during the past fifteen years. These new species have excited speculation among camellia hybridizers, both professional and amateur, as to what might result from crossing these new species with our

presently popular japonica and sasanqua species.

Desirable characteristics not possessed by either the japonicas or the sasanquas are readily detected in the new species. The question confronting us is whether these desirable characteristics, as well as those of the ever popular japonica and sasanqua species can be retained in the progeny when the new and the old species are crossed through pollination. We all admire, for instance, many of the reticulata varieties for the unusual form and great size and beauty of their flowers. We also recognize their unsatisfactory growth habits. The question is can we, through scientific breeding methods, correct the unsatisfactory features without destroying the desirable characteristics.

In 1961, Mr. David L. Feathers of Lafayette, California, now considered one of America's foremost hybridists, stated, "The introduction into the United States more than a decade ago of the outstanding *C. Williamsii* hybrids from England, followed thereafter by the Waterhouse group from Australia having the same specific background, had the effect of directing the attention of American camellia breeders, both amateur and professional, to the tremendous potentialities of the hybrid camellia for the first time. It was about this same period that such accomplished amateurs as the late Dr. Walker M. Wells and Ralph S. Peer, and the very eminent California geneticist, Dr. Walter E. Lammerts, and others, began to bring into this country the raw material (species and their cultivars), for experimental breeding along the pathways followed by such pioneers as J. C. Williams, Colonel Stephenson Clarke and Francis Hanger had suggested."

Editor's Note: This is the second part of Mr. Shuey's "The Hybrid Story", the first part of which appeared in last month's issue of CAMELLIA REVIEW. I asked Mr. Shuey to research and write this story because of the belief that while it has been told in various articles in camellia publications, it has not been written as a cohesive whole. Because he has been so thorough in carrying out my request to him, the article will appear in three parts instead of two as originally intended. It might be helpful in the interest of continuity to reread Part I in the January issue before proceeding with Part 2.

The demonstrated success of these pioneer hybridists and the tremendous stimulus of interest in camellias generally and hybrids, particularly, which arose from the first flowering of the sensational *reticulata* hybrids from China in California in 1949, encouraged a number of persons to undertake purposeful and wide experimentation in the then almost completely uncharted field of camellia hybridization. In this effort, the time factor necessarily played an important role. The years devoted to the preliminary work of acquiring and growing to seed-bearing size the present material, plus the usual requirement of three blooming seasons to establish permanence of form in flowers of the first generation offspring, explains why the real potentialities of the camellia hybrid are only now beginning to be fully appreciated.

The camellia genus is composed of approximately 90 identified species, of which about one third have been imported into the United States. The balance are still behind the Bamboo Curtain of communist China and the borders of her far east communist allies. Since all of these camellia species are not available to us, our hybridists must, of necessity, work with the tools that have been given to them. Considering the relatively short time which has elapsed since the commencement of their work, tremendous strides have been made since the introduction into this country of the first *Williamsii* hybrids.

Many of our foremost hybridizers are on the threshold of blooming second, third and fourth generation crosses. These new hybrids may revolutionize all that has gone before and further prove the way to the wonder flowers of tomorrow.

Who are these outstanding hybridists to whom we all owe so much for the floral introductions which they have given to the world. They are many, but much credit must be given to Dr. Walter E. Lammerts, Dave

Feathers, Vernon James, J. Howard Asper, Dr. Hilsman, Dave Stryker, K. Sawada, Vern McCaskill, Dr. W. M. Wells, R. Carr, Edwards H. Metcalf and Mary Johnson. These men and women have, by no means, accomplished all that has been done, but are probably better known because of their introductions to the trade and because their hybrids have been registered and appear in *CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE*.

Sparked by the experimental crosses of *Camellia saluenensis* and *Camellia japonica* in England, amateur and technically trained professionals in the United States, Australia and New Zealand are now carrying on the work of the early pioneers. Every conceivable cross between available species is being made. Crosses that were deemed impossible or considered a challenge ten years ago have now succeeded.

Experimentation in this country has demonstrated that the species *saluenensis* has a special hybrid avidity, its seed is viable and it appears to join readily with any of the common species, except only *sasanquas*. We previously learned from the Chinese that *Camellia reticulata* and *pitardii* would combine easily. This knowledge has been applied at the Huntington Gardens in San Marino, California, with startling successful results. One such combination was the introduction of the beautiful hybrid 'Carl Tourje', named in honor of California's famous camellia amateur who has done so much for the camellia world. This hybrid queen is a large, semi-double, soft pink with shadings of deeper pink and with wavy petals. Its parents are *pitardii* x *reticulata* 'Chang's Temple'.

Whenever hybridizing is discussed or presented through the media of written reports or documentaries, the word chromosome is constantly mentioned. What then does the word mean. Mr. E. C. Tourje defines

(Continued on next page)

chromosomes as being small bodies existing in the cells of all higher forms of plant life, including camellias. Cytologists whose business it is to study cells tells us that most forms of plant life have a basic number of chromosomes running through most of the species of an entire genus. Thus it is that with the genus *camellieae* the basic number is 15, and all the cells in all known camellia species contain chromosomes of the number of 15 or some multiple thereof. Chromosomes may be seen and counted under a powerful microscope. Obviously, the greater the number, the greater the difficulty encountered in counting them, especially when we consider the cells which contain them are spherical.

The chromosomes are the parts of the cells which contain the minute, and as yet unseeable particles known as genes, and the genes are the units in living things which determine, develop and transmit such inheritable characters in camellias as color, size, form and texture of blooms and the growth character of the plants that produce them. The genes of the camellia are governed by the same rules of nature expressed in Mendel's Law as determines the facial expressions in humans, and the color of the hair and eyes, and pigment of the skin.

What then is the importance of the chromosome in hybridizing? A knowledge of chromosome numbers is of substantial aid to the hybridizer in determining what camellia species and the varieties thereof are most likely to have sexual affinity for the other. In other words, his knowledge of chromosomes enables the hybridizer to choose the prospective parents of his proposed hybrids with greater likelihood of successful crosses.

It may be safely stated that as a general rule camellia species and species varieties which possess identical chromosome numbers have for each other a higher degree of sexual compatibility than is the case when

the chromosome numbers differ. There are exceptions to this rule, but it is, nevertheless, a rule. In spite of the exceptions to the rule, the fact remains that the hybridizers acquaintance with chromosome numbers of the different camellia species gives him a valuable key which aids him to unlock more of Nature's mysteries than he who does not possess such knowledge.

If a hybridist crosses a variety of *japonica* having a chromosome number of 30 with a *saluenensis* having, as it does also, a chromosome number of 30, it makes no difference which is the seed or pollen parent. In either case, the hybrid progeny will have a chromosome number identical with both parents, or 30.

If, on the other hand, *japonica* or *saluenensis* is used as one of the parents and a *reticulata* (except 'Capt. Rawes') having as all known varieties do, a chromosome number of 90, as the other parent, the chromosome number of the progeny, if there be a true union between the assumed parents, will not be the chromosome number of either parent alone, but, instead, a blend of the parents. In short, if there be a true hybrid, its chromosome number will be exactly one-half the total chromosome count of both parents, or $30 + 90 \div 2 = 60$.

Thus it is that Cytology plays a very important role in the daily effort of the hybridizer, and is an invaluable aid to him in choosing the selections for his hybridizing efforts, and in determining the authenticity of his results. We are indebted to Mr. Tourje for this simple and understandable explanation of a complex problem.

Most of us have read and have been fascinated with the story of the now famous Kunming (Yunnan) *reticulata* which were imported into this country from China in 1948. It was generally understood that these plants were a collection of garden varieties of *C. reticulata*. Subsequent investi-

gation, however, indicates that this is not true. Many of the varieties are interspecific hybrids of *reticulata*, but to prove this or to ascertain the exact parentage is beyond the scope of our present abilities. According to Mr. T. T. Yu, the noted Chinese botanist who was born in Kunming, most of the *reticulata* varieties which he assembled and eventually shipped to California were, in his opinion, hybrids of *reticulata* x *pitardii*.

There is little doubt that in modern times crosses between *reticulata* and other species, particularly *pitardii*, have been made by amateur gardeners in Kunming. Some of these interspecific crosses are sterile and must be propagated by grafting.

While *C. 'Kuro-Tsubake'* is listed in CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE as a *japonica*, strong evidence points to the fact that it is, in reality, a hybrid, and most experts now consider it as such. This *camellia* is being widely used by hybridizers throughout the world because of its dark maroon coloring.

About fifteen years ago, Dr. Walker Wells, now deceased, imported a small lot of *saluenensis* seedlings from England. Among the lot he found what appeared to be a cross of *saluenensis* x *cuspidata*, which was eventually named 'Sylvia May'. Dr. Wells, at that time, lived in Berkeley, California, and this variety will be familiar to most people who evidence an interest in hybrids. In subsequent years, 'Sylvia May' has apparently combined with *japonica* to produce a whole new series of hybrids, many of which have been named. It is presumed that the components of these 'Sylvia May' hybrids are *saluenensis* x *cuspidata* x *japonica*, but we have no scientific and specific knowledge as to what actually has happened.

In Japan, exact information about interspecific hybrids is not available. The two principal species growing wild in that country, *japonica* and *सानाना*, have so little affinity for

each other that no crosses are known to exist. Furthermore, their blooming seasons do not coincide. *C. vernalis*, which was known to Japanese horticulturists for at least two hundred years, was formerly thought to be a hybrid. Again, however, there is no certainty and the exact position of the several varieties listed as being members of the species *vernalis* is indeed quite doubtful.

Still another group of five or six varieties having similar botanical characteristics, which has been known in Japan for at least four hundred years, is grouped under the name *C. wabisuke*. Here again it appears likely that we are dealing with a group of interspecific hybrids, but their actual origin remains a mystery.

In recent years, scions have arrived in America from New Zealand of two Japanese varieties, *C. 'Purpurea'* (single) and *C. 'Purpurea'* (double) with a request for identification. They are separate and distinct varieties seemingly related in some manner, as the color of the blossoms is an extraordinary deep red — almost black. Upon comparison with *C. 'Kuro Tsubaki'*, which we presently classify as *japonica*, we find an obvious relationship. Again the suspicion arises that we may be dealing with a cross between *japonica* and some other unidentified species.

Since the birth of modern hybrids by Mr. J. C. Williams about four decades ago, the imagination of a great many hybridists has been fired and stimulated to produce flowers and plants that never existed in Nature. Many of these men and women have become members of such very worthwhile organizations as the "Camellia Research Advisory Committee" and, in so doing, have pooled their ideas, their talents and have set definite aims, objectives and goals for the future.

Notwithstanding the advances which have been realized over a very short
(Continued on next page)

span of years, there is much complaint that the average hybrid camellia does not measure up to the best of the old and the new japonica introductions. Mr. J. Carroll Reiners of Sacramento, California, has commented that the hybrid blooms seen in our shows bear testimony to lack of uniform programming for goals of achievement. During the past four years the number of blooms entered in the hybrid classes in the Sacramento show has been static and not too encouraging. Total flowers for each year from 1961 through 1965 has never been greater than 78 or less than 72. This might seem discouraging when one considers that this show displays between eight and nine thousand flowers. The hybrid has received enthusiastic publicity, but only moderate acceptance.

Perhaps too much happened too quickly. The means for hybridizing were complicated by unclear camellia genealogy, scrambled in the gardens of oriental antiquity. Many imported species, first thought to be purely aboriginal, have indicated possible previous hybridity. This, when added to the added inheritance traits of C. japonica, left the hybridizers with unpredictable result possibilities.

The fault of many of the hybrids of today are flowers of poor substance, little lasting quality, darkening of stamens, poor color saturation, limited color ranges and, too, frequently, poor bush characteristics.

There have been few exhibition flowers to decorate our show tables. Due to many of these bad characteristics, the public has not been willing to accept them in lieu of ever-popular japonica varieties as foundation plants in their gardens.

Most of these hybrids have, however, been first generation crosses from which the geneticist does not seek too much. The true hybridist is not discouraged, he uses these new plants as stepping stones to his dream flowers of the future. He will back-cross many times in order to realize the attainment of his objectives. This necessitates the passage of years. If he cannot accomplish this in a life time, others will carry the baton and follow through on the program which he began.

Mr. Shuey's "The Hybrid Story" will be concluded in the next issue of CAMELLIA REVIEW.

Peninsula Leads Off In No. Calif. Shows

The Peninsula Camellia Society leads off in the show schedule for Northern California with its February 18-19 show to be held in the Veterans' Memorial Building, 1455 Madison Avenue, Redwood City. Requests for schedules and other information should be directed to Warren O. Addicott, Show Chairman, 405 Cervantes Road, Portola Valley, California 94026.

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MOON SIGN DATES FOR GRAFTING

Reprinted from Winter 1967 issue of CAROLINA CAMELLIAS

Whether to graft by the moon or not is the question. On this question people are divided into three groups.

The first group believes in the moon signs and will hold scions in the refrigerator until the sign is right. They have often proved this to their own satisfaction.

The second group does not believe in any such tommyrot and say the time to graft is when you have a scion.

The third group is made up of people who either don't know or they are waiting to be shown.

There are many beliefs with reference to the effect of the moon on land, sea, man and vegetable life. It is not contended that a scion grafted on the wrong sign will not take but results by many who graft on the right sign lead to the conclusion that when scions are grafted on the right sign the number of takes will be larger, the callous better and the growth more vigorous.

Why not try the moon signs this season and decide for yourself.

Date Best Sign Good Sign

February

10	after 1:21 a.m.	
11	all day	
12	until 1:18 p.m.	
15		after 1:19 a.m.
16		all day
17		all day

19	after 10:42 p.m.
20	all day
21	all day
22	until 3:02 a.m.

March

10	after 11:30 a.m.	
11	until 7:54 p.m.	
14		after 8:24 a.m.
15		all day
16		until 9:18 p.m.
19	after 7:11 a.m.	
20	all day	
21	until 1:00 p.m.	
25		2:50 p.m. to 10:21 p.m.

April

10		after 2:56 p.m.
11		all day
12		all day
13		until 3:15 a.m.
15	after 1:34 p.m.	
16	all day	
17	until 8:50 p.m.	
22		after 1:40 a.m.
23		all day
24		until 1:19 a.m.

The dates and times listed are Eastern Standard. Add one hour each time zone east and subtract one hour for each zone west.

There is still time to plant camellia seeds. We have japonica and sasanqua seeds.

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IF I HAD MY LIFE TO LIVE OVER

C. W. Lattin
Lauderdale, Mississippi

How many times have you heard someone say, "Oh, if I could just roll back the years and live my life over—I would do things so differently." If you had the chance, what would you do differently and just what changes would you make?

I am living my life over, not actually, but camellia-wise and it has presented many problems that I did not face before. Some of these I know how to handle or know what to do but others I find the answer to be elusive. Many problems that I had previously are not problems now and things that were no problem at times seem unsurmountable.

Three years ago, when we retired from the business world, my wife and I thought it expedient to move from California to Mississippi. This move entailed selling property in California as well as presenting the big problem of what to do with 1243 camellia varieties and about 7500 plants. Our collection consisted of what we considered all of the better varieties of Japonica, Reticulata, Sasanqua, Species and Hybrids. With few exceptions, all were container grown. They were in an 18,000 square foot lath-house which was located in the Santa Cruz Mountains at an elevation of about 2,000 feet. We had chosen this spot to grow our camellias some years before and at one time intended to retire there, settle down and grow camellias in earnest.

In the years to follow before retiring and moving to our "camellia heaven" we could only go to our ranch on the weekends and holidays because we were tied down to our jobs in San Francisco. It was during these periods that we built the lath-house (set every post, constructed the framing, placed the lath and drove each nail by ourselves), put in a complete coverage automatic sprinkling

system, made our potting mix, did the repotting, grafting and all of the other necessary work connected with a collection of this size. Because of the great amount of work involved, and not trusting it to anyone else, we found that we had time for little else. We were deeply interested in exhibiting our flowers in show competition so we arranged our varieties numerically and created an alphabetical cross index system which permitted us to locate even a single variety or plant immediately. By this system we were able to pick, pack and take our flowers to shows alphabetically ready to put on the tables with no confusion. We could put out over 400 blossoms in 2 hours and were successful in taking sweepstakes at least once in every major camellia show in California.

Retirement is supposed to be a period of leisure, a time to enjoy all of the things that one could not do while employed, so my wife and I had almost come to the conclusion that we had "a lion by the tail and could not let go" when by the merest chance of fate we visited Mississippi rather than taking a contemplated trip to the Hawaiian Islands.

While on our visit in Mississippi we were exposed to that well known Southern hospitality as well as the rolling green hills and valleys covered with large pines, hickory, oak, dogwood trees and almost boundless bodies of water. One place in particular, Dalewood Lake located about 16 miles out of Meridian, attracted our attention. We thought so much of this place that we purchased a small acreage on the shore of the lake purely as an investment, with no intentions of ever moving to and/or retiring there. Why should we ever want to leave California, our ranch and all of our camellias? But, the more we thought about our new acquisition,

the more we realized that we had really stumbled onto the retirement haven we had been looking for all along. In a short period of time we decided to sell our property in California, get out of all the crowded conditions and smog, and move our camellias to Mississippi where we would build a home on our newly acquired property.

This is the time that we started to live our lives over.

We found, much to our dismay, that our camellias could not be moved in their containers for at least three reasons. The first was State agricultural regulations, second, that if permitted the freight rates would be prohibitive and third it would be impossible to bare root them because of the work involved and the possible loss in freight transit. Our best judgment told us that if we ever grew camellias again we should select our better varieties, place them with trusted friends and hope that we could obtain scions of them when we became established in Mississippi. This we did, and after approximately 225 varieties had been selected and placed with our friends we disposed of nearly all of the balance before leaving California.

You can believe me when I say that we had many misgivings and pangs around the heart while giving up about 30 years of collecting but I can truthfully say that we have not regretted it. It gave us a much needed

opportunity to re-examine our thinking camellia collection-wise and also to realize that it was not necessary to have every variety in the Nomenclature Book. During our collecting we had obtained many varieties that were not up to modern day standards and a number of Hybrids that were proving to be worthless and should have been used for understock.

After we completed our new home, which is situated about 100 feet away from Dalewood Lake on a slight knoll covered by big white dogwoods (some 30-40 feet high) we decided that we should hold a "council of war" to evaluate our eventual aim. Should we grow camellias again and if we did—why? Should we grow them for garden subjects and our own pleasure or should we, as we did in California, try to grow exhibition blossoms and compete in the many Southern camellia shows?

Our competitive blood ruled our thinking and we decided to grow camellia flowers for exhibition. Once the camellia bug has bitten you its "poison" is residual and you can never get it out of your blood. So to those of you who know us, it was a foregone conclusion that the Lattins would be in the "camellia show business" again.

This decision led us to the conclusion that we, in starting our life over again, should get as much first hand knowledge as we could from

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local and nearby successful growers as well as the camellia nurseries and try to determine what approach and methods we should take in building a new collection.

We knew that one of the first things that would be necessary was understock and set about obtaining stock plants so that we could graft the following winter. To the average grower in the Southeast who does his own grafting we found that obtaining a quantity of good understock is a problem and a very costly one. Most understock is field grown and it receives a tremendous shock as most of the roots are cut off when dug and potted up. Mortality is very high. To counteract this future expense I immediately set about getting 2000 *Sasanqua* cuttings and started to root them. Within a few years I will have all of the understock that I will ever need.

As you know, raising camellias in California presents only a few of the major problems and essentials, such as, water, fertilization, location, a little insect spraying and other general care. The problems we found here in Mississippi, in addition to those above, are the extreme changes in weather, humidity and the ever present insects and allied pests that infest camellias. These pests include about 30 species of scale insects, several kinds of aphids, beetles, caterpillars, ants, grasshoppers, thrips, red spiders, mites, slugs, pill bugs and others to say nothing of the ever present danger of petal blight. There seems to be one ray of hope however. I have seen less evidence of petal blight at the many shows that we have attended here than I did in California. The States here have put in rigid controls for disposing of all show flowers and there are many programs being carried on with the hope of eradicating this scourge. Recent discoveries appear most encouraging.

While all of this was going on we found that one of the other things that we would absolutely need was a

greenhouse. We had our greenhouse constructed by a contractor, rather than doing the work by ourselves as we did with the lathhouse in California. It is a small greenhouse, 24 x 48 feet, equipped with automatic heat, ventilating and watering systems. A greenhouse is necessary, we were told, because of the extreme changes in temperature which will vary as much as 45 degrees between day and night. Since we have been here we have had days of over 100 degrees in the summer and nights down to zero in the winter.

Because of the lack of some of the ingredients that I used in my potting mix in California (mainly redwood leaf mold) we found that a change in our potting mixture would be necessary. Also, the soil is chemically different and it will vary greatly from one place to another. After considerable testing we found a mixture that we considered acceptable and we are now using it on all of our plants. In addition to the soil mixture, we had to have the lake water, as well as our deep well water, tested in order to determine what reaction it would have, if any, on our plants.

In starting a new camellia collection, I believe that one should consider other things in addition to proper growing techniques such as maintaining your collection within your financial limits and purchase only varieties that are *tried and true and that have proven themselves in the area in which they are to be grown* rather than just a name which sounds good or a plant that is supposed to be a "hot" variety. Our new collection will not exceed 500 varieties. When it does, some will be planted out or replaced by newer and better varieties. Also, consideration must be given to space limitations. Greenhouses that are properly constructed and adequately equipped are expensive and inasmuch as all prized plants must be placed in them during the winter, space is definitely a

problem.

One thing in addition, I have never found anyone yet that will work exactly like I work and do exactly as I like them to. They either over pot or under pot, they fail to water or fertilize regularly and generally take the attitude of "Oh, what's the use—it's just another camellia". I am a firm believer in doing my own work and if something goes wrong I kick myself rather than blaming someone else. This question of work invariably leads to the age old controversy of pot culture versus a planted collection. If you take the route of the pot culture, as I have, you must realize that your work will be multiplied many times over but I believe that your results will more than compensate you. Strict attention must be given to all cultural needs of the plant such as watering, fertilization, spraying and repotting when necessary.

In order to have an easily available and visual record of when all these things were done I have constructed what I call my Job Board. It is a piece of framed heavy cardboard, 18 x 33, on which I ruled 1 inch squares for months and days. The months down the left side and the days across the top. I then purchased 10 different colors of map pins. Each color represents a different type of job such as blue for water, yellow for Malathion, red for Cygon, light green for one type of fertilizer, dark green for another, and so on. When the job is completed, the proper pin is stuck into the chart on the month and day. All I have to do is to look at the chart on the greenhouse wall and I have a year's record of all jobs completed. There is no guessing when I did this or that. Believe me it's a great help.

Also one must be very careful, as it has been written hundreds of times before, of his potting mix so that it has the right amount of humus and acidity. Another chore connected with potted camellias and the hope of "Best of Show" is that you must move them

into the greenhouse during the winter and out in the summer or take the chances of disastrous results of sudden changes of temperature and/or freezing.

Over the years I have found that growing camellias is much more than just planting "another camellia". Your camellia is a living thing that will cooperate with you and will repay you many fold for your share of the mutual enterprise. To get the most out of your camellia plants you must become their constant companion. You must do your part — for they cannot be neglected if you want a beautiful plant and/or flowers. A well grown camellia is a beautiful sight to behold.

Whatever your years, there is down deep in everyone's heart the love of beauty, expectancy, wonder, the undaunted challenge of events for what's next and the joy of the game of life. Camellias give you this. You are as young as your faith, as old as your doubt, as young as your confidence, as old as your fear and as young as your hope for the next season.

In closing this article, I would like to give you my Ten Commandments for raising blue ribbon camellia flowers.

- I. Thou shall not have any other plants before you.
- II. Thou shall not waste your time, money and energy on poor varieties and shall acquire only good varieties whose flowers might take "Best of Show".
- III. Thou shall not curse your luck and lose hope or enthusiasm just because your flower does not win or one or more of your varieties turns out to be a "dog".
- IV. Remember the Sabbath Day. It may be the only day you have to work with your plants and strive to obtain your camellia objective.
- V. Honor and respect the views

(Continued on next page)

of others even though you don't practice what they preach — they could be right.

- VI. Thou shall not kill your plant by neglect. Care for it, feed it and water it by all means, just don't let it die.
- VII. Thou shall buy your plants from good reliable nurseries. Don't purchase cheap package sale deals. Acquire only varieties that will grow and bloom well where they are to be grown.
- VIII. Thou shall not steal plants or scions. Don't be smug or miserly — trade with your camellia friends. Always remember "it is better to give than to receive".
- IX. Thou shall not "run down" any plant or flowers of others. Give other camellia lovers the value of your experience and you will indeed harvest a rich reward — friends.
- X. Thou shall not covet your camellia friends' or competitors' success. Just try all the harder next year and that Silver or Blue Ribbon may be yours.

NEW RULES (*Continued*)

CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE or, if listed, the parentage is not given.

It was suggested during the discussion preceding action on Division IV that the establishment of two Classes based on Reticulata parentage might suggest the desirability of taking the same action for Hybrid Seedlings (Division VIII, Class 4). It was the consensus that this step should be deferred.

It was suggested that the discontinuance of the Sweepstakes Awards might be reason for amending the limitation of number of entries that an exhibitor might make — a total of 60 single bloom Large, Medium and Small Japonica entries and a total of 4 multiple bloom Japonica entries.

Discussion brought out that these limitations have existed for two reasons: to neutralize to a degree the advantages of the large collector in Sweepstakes competition and to hold the number of entries to the limits of space in the area of Descanso Gardens where the show is held. While the discontinuance of the Sweepstakes Awards removes the former reason, the question of space remains significant. It was agreed that the subject of amending the Rule should be abeyanced until next year when the Council will have data for the 1967 Show.

TEAHOUSE (*Continued*)

the development of public facilities through a private organization that has an objective and a determination to work toward that objective. The Descanso Gardens Guild, Inc. was formed in 1958 at the time there was a considerable amount of agitation that Los Angeles County should sell for private residential subdivision the "over \$1,000,000 lemon" it had purchased from Manchester Boddy. A group of public spirited people in the La Canada-Flintridge area led by Mrs. Judge Smith believed strongly that the County should retain the land as a public garden, and after organizing themselves as Descanso Gardens Guild went to work to convince the Board of Supervisors of Los Angeles County of the correctness of their views. They asked that consideration of sale of the property be held in abeyance and that the admission price of 50 cents be removed so that real public interest in a public park such as Descanso Gardens could be determined. The Board of Supervisors acquiesced in these requests and transferred administration of the Gardens from the County's Department of Parks and Recreation to the Department of Arboreta and Botanic Gardens. Attendance at the Gardens in 1966 was 430,000 compared with 287,000 in 1960.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Caryll and Mildred Pitkin

BERNICE BEAUTY

One of 'Bernice Beauty's' commendable traits is a negative one — it does not set buds in clusters. Rather it buds all up and down the branch. It is hoped, because of its parent 'Bernice Boddy', it will have another negative characteristic — it will not be susceptible to cold. On the affirmative side the leaves are a good dark green and the plant is spright and vigorous. It starts blooming with 'Debutante' and lasts throughout the season. The clear pink multi-centered semi-double flower will average 4½ to 5 inches. Nuccio Nurseries introduced it last year and further acquaintance will add to its acceptance as a good flower.

BLAZE OF GLORY

A blaze of color, a glorious brilliant red. The McCaskill Nursery has been watching this flower for seven years and has decided it is glorious. A seedling of 'Lindsey Neill', it was released last fall. McCaskills describe it as anemone form and say it starts blooming in November. They are certain it is one headed for the honor table and its brilliant color may catch the eye of enough judges to make it best of show.

CLARENCE HEARN

Growing in full sun, the plant which we saw was a good seven feet high, about four feet wide, compact and upright. It was well budded and in early January just starting to bloom. The flowers generally were 4½ inches across, a dark rose red anemone. In spite of the sun they showed no fading. Mr. Hearn, a very early grower now mostly retired, said the flowers always opened properly and fell in one piece. 'Clarence Hearn' is not a likely candidate for many honor tables but it is most certainly a fine garden variety. It has never been gibbed. That could change the description.

REGAL SPLENDOR

Lou Strohmeyer, originator of 'Geisha Girl', has this new seedling which he has called 'Regal Splendor'. Peony in form and dark pink it will grow over two inches deep and may reach five inches in width. Its growing habits are good and it blooms from November on.

S.C.C.S. members whose dues are not received by February 28 will be removed from membership list.

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FERTILIZING CAMELLIAS -- A SYMPOSIUM

Melvin Canfield, Bakersfield, California

I have fertilized three times during the year, in March, May and first of July, using cottonseed meal or three parts cottonseed meal and one part "Milorganite" (processed sewage sludge) with about 1/8 part "Vim" for trace elements. I put a heaping tablespoonful on an established one gallon plant, two tablespoonfuls on a two gallon plant, 5 to 8 tablespoonfuls on an egg can plant, etc. For a recently transplanted gallon, I put on about one teaspoonful for the first two times. For plants in U. C. mix, use about 1 1/2 times as much.

In addition to the dry fertilizer, I supplement with liquid when active growth starts, using ammonium nitrate at one-half to one teaspoon per gallon of water applied with a hose siphon every 2nd watering. I have stopped the liquid about the 1st of July because I was afraid of pushing out new growth and losing flower buds. Several times I add potash (1/4 teaspoon per gallon) to the solution, which is very mild and will not burn the foliage so it does not have to be washed off.

Hose siphons vary in the amount of concentrate they pick up so you should check it if you use one. Mine makes 16 gallons of fertilizer for each gallon of concentrate so I put a heaping 1/3 cup in 2 gallons of water for my concentrate.

Almost any liquid fertilizer can be substituted for the ammonium nitrate but the ammonium nitrate is a very inexpensive form of nitrogen. Ureas

Editor's Note: It has been well said that there is no single best cultivating method for camellias. This is proved by equally fine flowers grown by people who use different methods. On this basis six California growers, all of whom have proved themselves as camellia growers by their camellia show awards, have been asked to tell how they fertilize their camellias. The comments are arranged alphabetically by name of grower.

can be used in dry or liquid form but be very careful that the label states that it is biruet free or you may damage your plants.

Over the last two years I have learned that I was under fertilizing and even now still wonder. This year I shall begin earlier, about the middle of February, and add a feeding in August; or instead of the dry fertilizer in August will begin with liquid for 4 to 6 weeks and add phosphorus to it.



Sal B. Davi, Pittsburg, California

In the twenty odd years that I have been growing camellias, I have yet to see two growers with the same feeding program get the same results. This is a fact!

As to my fertilizing methods, I will not under any circumstances fertilize a camellia whose foliage is a good green, those that have vigorous growth, and those that have given good bud sets, also those that have produced good blooms. I feel color of blooms comes from sunlight and heat exposure, size of the blooms from drastic disbudding and heavy pruning.

The plants that I feel need leaf color and induced growth, I feed as soon as growth bud activates, from February to March. I use 10-5-5 liquid organic or inorganic (4 oz. to 2 gallons water); the reason for the use of liquid is that I get the full realization of the results sooner. On others that are doing fairly well and don't want too much growth I use 5-3-2. I try to do this before my first flush of growth so I can more or less see the results.

Since most of my plants are not shaded or under cover I find that trace elements give good results; zinc and iron, 3 oz. to 2 gallons of water, help to keep leaves fairly green. Manganese does wonders!

I start disbudding as soon as I can distinguish the growth bud from the flower bud. I give them 0-5-5 two or three times after I have finished disbudding all the plants till blooms appear (6-7 oz. per 2 gallons of water, a pint to 1/2 gallon per plant according to its age).

I have approximately 250 blooming plants in redwood containers, from 30 year old 'Prince Eugene Napoleon' to a one year old graft. The mixture is the same. The difference is the Prince gets a bucket full, the year old graft gets a shot from a whiskey glass.

I have tried them all from manure to fishheads and this has been my program for the past four or five years. I feel the results have been fairly good.



Melvin L. Gum, Long Beach, California

To each his own, let us begin with the first of March. I feed with a water soluble 6-10-8 formula, fortified with chelated iron and zinc, and rich fish concentrate that contains no chloride or salts. This helps to give the plant a quick take off. I use one tablespoon per gallon of water. I also spray the foliage well. Within thirty days I feed heavily with cotton seed meal. I prefer to cake it on. By this I mean, after applying it, I take a fog nozzle or fine spray and dampen it enough to cake. This makes what I call a cotton seed cake. I water as usual. In 30 to 45 days after apply-

ing the cotton seed meal, I revert back to my 6-10-8 liquid, preferring to stay on a 30 to 45 day schedule until September.

In the latter part of September, I again feed with cotton seed meal, about half the quantity that I used in March. After the cotton seed has disappeared or just a trace remains visible, I then start with a 2-10-10 liquid formula. Note: this contains very little nitrogen, more phosphoric acid, potash and other trace elements. I continue this all through the blooming season. I find this fertilizing program works very well for me along with the soil mix that I am using.

I am also happy to report that the second growth has been very small the past two years.



Fred Hamilton, Santa Maria, California

Since the water in Santa Maria is somewhat alkaline, I use an acid food — cotton seed meal — largely in feeding camellias. (Your water department will provide you with an analysis of the water in your region.)

The first feeding about the last of March consists of 6 parts cotton seed meal, 1 part hoof and horn, and 1 part sulphur.

The next feeding, about the first of June, is the same as the first, only substituting blood meal for the sulphur.

(Continued on next page)

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In early August, cotton seed meal only is used and probably a small amount of blood meal would be desirable — possibly 1 part blood to 10 or 12 cotton seed meal.

Around the first of October, I feed lightly — 1 part cotton seed meal, 2 parts SULPHATE (be sure not muriatic) of potash and 2 parts phosphate. The next year eliminate the phosphate as there is a good carry-over of phosphate.

I never actually measure the amount per plant — pure guess work.



Stanley W. Miller, El Cajon, California

The following information regarding our fertilization practice with camellias will of necessity be somewhat indefinite as that is the basis on which we function. We vary not only the fertilizer we use but the timing of applications periodically, usually on a one to four year basis depending on how much we feel like making a change.

At present we are fertilizing with straight cottonseed meal. However, in two of the last few years we have fertilized with the commercial camellia mix which is sold by Nuccio Nursery. At least half of the time for many years, however, we have fertilized with a mixture which we make ourselves by combining a full size sack of cottonseed meal with one of bone meal and one of hoof and horn and a large size bag of humusite. The latter is somewhat difficult to obtain now and we have had to substitute on occasion but it is our preference.

Because our soil is somewhat alkaline and deficient in certain minerals and because we are using straight Colorado River water which is extremely alkaline, we supplement our fertilizer at different times with iron, zinc, magnesium, sulphur and aluminum sulphate with the idea of replacing deficient minerals and maintaining some semblance of acidity in the soil.

From the fertilizers that we have used as indicated above you will notice that they are all to a certain extent slow acting, long lasting material. We feel that by changing our fertilizer from year to year we will have some variation in source of materials and content which will supply some trace elements necessary and keep the plants from getting too used to a definite type of material from a definite source.

Should the above fertilizer mix which we use quite frequently sound as though we use a tremendous amount, this is true. Our plants are almost all in the ground and must compete with large oak and pine trees as well as many other types of shrubs, ferns and whatnot. If the camellias are to have any nourishment it is therefore necessary to give adequate for all of the other vegetation that is getting sustenance from the same soil. This also makes it difficult to say the exact amount of fertilizer which is given to any given sized camellia as it usually is just thrown in by the shovel full and scattered over the ground and well watered in.

Our practice of timing our fertilization is as variable as the fertilizer used. Some years I follow the standard practice of three applications starting at about the time growth starts and ending in early summer. Other years I have fertilized only once at about the time the growth starts. For a few years I tried fertilizing throughout the year usually on the basis of once about every 30 to 60 days. In view of the amount of garden we take care of, the fertilization is usually done on the basis of the time available rather than on the basis of what we feel would be the absolute best for the plants. Our observation has been, however, that in view of the long lasting fertilizer which we have used much of the time, the variation in any one given year is of very little importance and makes no noticeable difference in the growth

of plants or the production of flowers.

On occasion we have endeavored to determine as to whether we could decrease the amount of bud set on the plants by fertilization and as yet do not feel that we have any specific correlation between frequency or type of fertilizer and the set of the buds.



George A. Stewart, Sacramento, California

The following mixture was used to fertilize my camellias after blooming season. Percentages are based on dry weight of material.

85.9%	Cottonseed meal
3.4%	Zinc sulphate
1.1%	Copper sulphate
3.2%	Manganese sulphate
3.2%	Iron chelate
3.2%	Potash

The amount of mixtures applied to each plant varied as to size of plant. In general 2 tablespoons was applied to a gallon can and larger amounts (up to one cup) to larger plants not container grown. I use 4 tablespoons of the fertilizer mix for egg can size containers. This is done around March 15th.

A second feeding around May 15th consists of pure cottonseed meal. I use 2 tablespoons for 1 gallon size cans and 4 heaping tablespoons for the egg can size.

A third feeding about July 15th consists of Atlas Fish Emulsion fertilizer, non-burning and de-odorized. I repeat this around September 1st.

Some growers do not feed or water reticulatas and hybrids as much as they do japonicas. I do not alter my feeding or watering. I start pruning my reticulatas and hybrids when they are very small and almost all of my retics are as compact as the japonicas.

I personally think that the planting mix is as important as the fertilizing; for example, I am using a very light mix. I use 3 parts fine ground fir bark, 2 parts oak leaf mold, 1 part

Canadian peat moss, 1 part coarse sand, 1 part sandy loam. This gives me a loose mix that will drain well and there is not much danger of over watering. I have been using about the same mix for about 7 years and have had my best results with this mix.

I must not forget to mention that my wife Marian is greatly responsible for our success with her faithful watering and feeding. We always get two nice growths per year and foliage is beautiful with this feeding and soil mix.

Corrections in January "Boutonnieres" Article

Warren O. Addicott of Portola Valley, California, who wrote the article "Boutonniere Camellias" in the January issue of CAMELLIA REVIEW, has confessed to lapses in the article that might hurt the sensibilities of some of the people who have strong attachment to the Miniature and Small varieties.

The data in the tables that accompanied the article did not include the results of the 1965 Early Show. Had they been included, the following changes would have occurred.

1. In the table of rating of exhibitors on page 31, John Robinson's rating would have been 6 Bests and 12 Points, thus placing him ahead of Edwards Metcalf in total points.
2. In the table of Best Boutonniere Camellias on page 28, 'Pink Smoke' would jump from 10th place and 7 points to 7th place and 13 points.

He includes 'Little Man', in the second paragraph of the article, among varieties that have been reclassified from Miniature to Small. 'Little Man' has not previously been classified as Miniature.

San Gabriel Valley Camellia Show

The Temple City Camellia Society will sponsor the "San Gabriel Valley Camellia Show" in the Lecture Hall of the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum, 301 North Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia, on February 25 and 26, 1967.

Entries will be received beginning at 7:00 A.M. and will close promptly at 10:00 A.M. on Saturday, February 25, 1967. The show will open to the public at 1:00 P.M., pending completion of judging. Show hours are as follows:

Saturday, February 25th —
1:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, February 26th —
10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

Mr. Ernest Pieri is Registration Chairman. Registration cards and show rules and regulations can be procured from him at the following address:

601 East Elm Street
San Gabriel, California 91775
Telephone: 287-5977

Mr. Arthur E. Krumm, Show Chairman, advises an innovation of the show will be a special display table for camellias which are scented or carry fragrance. Such camellias are good possibilities as parents under any hybridizing program whose major objective is the introduction of a fragrant camellia. All exhibitors are requested to bring whatever blooms they have that are fragrant. These blooms will be of especial interest to the public. No awards will be made, however, for these blooms.

Due to the exceptionally early blooming of camellias in many parts of the Los Angeles Basin, exhibitors are urged to enter the maximum number of blooms permitted under show rules and regulations.

Any camellia grower is eligible to enter the show, regardless of whether he is a member of any camellia society.

Temple City Camellia Society

The February meeting of the Society will be held on Thursday evening, February 23, 1967, in the Lecture Hall of the Los Angeles County Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia at 8:00 P.M. Mr. David L. Feathers of Lafayette, California, whose topic will be "Camellias—Another Look at Them," will be the guest speaker.

Mr. Feathers is one of America's leading hybridists. He is the originator of 'Diamond Head', 'Fluted Orchid', 'Monticello' and 'Royal Robe'. In 1965 he introduced 'Innovation', a large peony, wine red hybrid with lavender overtones, a cross between 'William Lavender' x *reticulata* 'Crimson Robe'. Mr. Feathers has written many articles for CAMELLIA REVIEW, THE CAMELLIA BULLETIN and the American Camellia Society YEARBOOK on his favorite subject, hybrids. He was for many years editor of THE CAMELLIA BULLETIN. He does not often travel to the Southern California area; therefore, all camellia society members are urged to be present at this meeting.

NEW S. ATLANTIC (*Continued*)

MARY ALICE COX — large to very large white formal. Holds well and does not shatter. South Carolina.

PAT LAMOTT JONES — a huge bright pink full peony. South Carolina.

SNOWMAN — very large semidouble to loose peony form, porcelain white. One of the best. Georgia.

TOOEY — another Ashby seedling. Large loose peony of bright pink. With Gib reaches 6". Holds well. South Carolina.

WILL SOMERSET — a large to very large soft pink semidouble. Variegated flower is especially lovely. South Carolina.

MORE CAMELLIAS IN YOUR GARDENS

Louis W. Le Valley

Instructor in Ornamental Horticulture
Fresno State College
Fresno, California

This article grew out of a talk given to the Central California Camellia Society in Fresno, California. It was given, even as this article is written, to encourage a wider use of the camellia by extending its use to the general landscaping of the home grounds, public buildings, industrial sites, parks, and other places. This is not to discourage the use of the plant, with its many genuses, species, varieties and forms, as a producer of exotic blooms which have graced our homes and shows for these many years. Yet as wide spread as the use of the camellia is many people still do not think of them in terms of general landscape. Too few people give any thought to the qualities that make camellias a desirable plant for many places in our landscape.

As a shrub the camellia has a lot of excellent qualifications. It is ever-green and the handsome foliage is tough and of medium to coarse texture. The color is black green to medium green depending upon specie and variety. It may also vary with cultural conditions, soil, and climate.

Today we have many forms among our camellias. These occur between different species and varieties. The plants vary from prostrate or trailing to sturdy upright often tree like forms, many becoming trees attaining heights of twenty to thirty feet. Many species have a limber, flexible growth habit rendering them valuable subjects for ground covers, espaliers on trellises, and as lianas or trailers for use in wall beds and hanging baskets. Smaller varieties with upright habit of growth are often used in pots or tubs in the portable garden. Here many of the miniatures do well. Sasanquas and other limber species

are excellent for these uses.

Among other forms available are low spreading forms, those with vase like shapes, multibranched forms and tree forms, some with a pyramidal habit of growth.

Most people think that camellias require rather heavy shade. It is now known that where the soil reaction (pH) is properly adjusted, good drainage but adequate moisture is maintained, and the plant is well supplied with nutrients, many varieties will tolerate more light, many doing well in full sun even in the interior valleys. More work needs to be done in this area. There is considerable variation in light tolerance and a little experience will soon point out those varieties which can be successfully grown in full sun. Camellias also will offer solutions to problem areas due to too much shade. Dense shade should be avoided but for many shaded areas the camellia can do a yeoman's job.

Another myth associated with camellias is that they "must not be pruned", that pruning "per se" is bad. This has come about because of the naturally slow rates of growth of many varieties. Further impetus to this myth is given because camellias develop their flowers terminally on last year's growth on the branches. When severe pruning is done the total year's growth is removed and the flowers with it. However, pruning is not injurious to the plant and not only should but must be done for the sake of the plant and to increase blooming. Dead, broken, diseased, or infested wood should be removed. Interfering and crossing branches should be cut out. Those branches

(Continued on next page)

which protrude beyond the area in which you wish the camellia to be confined should be shortened to a bud which will redirect the direction of growth. Also we should thin out the wood to allow light and air into the center of the plant. This will discourage the establishment of diseases and pests. It will also encourage blooming in the interior of the plant increasing total bloom and adding to the beauty of the plant. Pruning may be done early in the growing season by pinching out terminal buds. It is difficult to get buds to break on old wood.

The camellia is host to several pest and diseases. Many of these can become serious if neglected. Good cultural practices and a strict sanitation program are essential and will minimize the occurrence and severity of any infestations or infections. Again camellias are tolerant of most of the pesticides and fungicides used in the control of diseases and pests which attack them.

Camellias as a plant offer many possibilities for use in your garden. As specimen plants, in the portable garden, in shaded areas, as foundation planting, along fences in both background (taller varieties) and foreground, as ground cover, in baskets, pots, tubs, and for accent, you should consider camellias. Also camellias give an added dividend to the landscape. They offer a varied array of flower forms and colors. Best of all this display comes at the time of year when flowers are scarce.

SOCIETA ITALIANA (*Cont'd.*)

of Camellia in Italy" which should be one of the ways for re-discovering old Italian camellias and giving them a name.

It is quite easy to find in old Italian gardens plants which are 150 years old and even more. Till now these

camellia plants were not at all appreciated and very often were hewn down. They say that in the garden of the relatives of the late Count Onofrio Maggi, originator of the camellias 'Paolina Maggi' and 'Lavinia Maggi', one can find camellias planted before 1840. Our society will examine them and try to identify the varieties.

I know that the old Italian camellias are less appreciated than the new varieties obtained in the United States and Australia. Yet before starting with a large diffusion of the new American and Australian varieties I think it is better to put some order in the nomenclature, cultivation and propagation of our old Italian camellias.

The interest we are trying to stir up in Italy is now spreading also in the rest of Europe and we do hope that other camellia societies can be formed and bring their cooperation to the diffusion of these flowers.

1968 Descanso Gardens Show Date Set

March 2 and 3, 1968 dates for the 1968 camellia show in Descanso Gardens were set by the Los Angeles Camellia Council at its January 10, 1967 meeting. The dates are announced now because some of the other camellia shows in California are related to the Descanso Gardens show dates and an early announcement will facilitate action by these societies in making reservations for their 1968 shows.

It is the Council's policy that the shows in Descanso Gardens will be on the weekend closest to March 1st, except that when the 1st is on a Wednesday the show will be on the following weekend. Under this policy the show dates will be the last weekend of February or the first weekend of March depending on where the first of March falls.

Directory of California Camellia Societies

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

***CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF KERN COUNTY**

President: Dr. Leland Chow; Secretary, Melvin Canfield, 2709 Scott Pl., Bakersfield 93306

Meetings: 2nd Monday October through April in Police Bldg., 1620 Truxton Ave., Bakersfield

***CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF ORANGE COUNTY**

President: Douglas Nowlin; Secretary, Mrs. George T. Butler, 1813 Windsor Lane,

Santa Ana 92705

Meetings: 1st Thursday October through April in Orange County Farm Bldg., 1916 W. Chapman, Orange

CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF SACRAMENTO

President: Dr. Roy O'Neal; Secretary: Mrs. Dorothy Hansen, 4361 Ashton Dr., Sacramento

Meetings: 4th Wednesday October through April in Garden & Art Center, McKinley Park, Sacramento

***CENTRAL CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

President: Kenneth E. Thompson; Secretary, Mrs. Glenn S. Wise, 5493 E. Liberty Ave., Fresno 93702

Meetings: Nov. 16, Dec. 14, Jan. 25, Feb. 15, Mar. 22 in Mayfair School, Fresno

DELTA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Frank C. Hopper; Secretary: Dorothy Hopper, 1016 Tiffin Dr., Concord 94521

Meetings: 4th Tuesday October through April in School Services Bldg., 6th & G Sts., Antioch

JOAQUIN CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Joseph Baker; Secretary: Mrs. Eugene Chesi, 801 S. Pleasant St., Lodi 95240

Meetings: 1st Tuesday November through April in Micke Grove Memorial Bldg., Lodi

LOS ANGELES CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Karl M. Anderson; Secretary: Mrs. Joe L. Vendracek, 13176 Fenton, Sylmar

Meetings: 1st Tues., Dec. through April, Hollywood Women's Club, 1749 N. La Brea, Hollywood

MODESTO CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: James Grassmidt; Secretary: Mrs. Barbara Butler, 1016 Sycamore, Modesto 95350

Meetings: 2nd Monday October through May in "Ag" Bldg. of Modesto Junior College

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Robert E. Ehrhart; Secretary: Carl W. Schroeder, 41 Van Ripper Lane, Orinda 94563

Meetings: 1st Monday November through May in Claremont Junior High School, 5750 College Ave., Oakland

PACIFIC CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Robert J. Briggs; Secretary: Mrs. A. L. Summerson, 1370 San Luis Rey Dr., Glendale 91208

Meetings 1st Thursday November through April in Tuesday Afternoon Club House, 400 N. Central Ave., Glendale

PENINSULA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Jack L. Mandarich; Secretary: Mrs. Pauline Moore, 80 Wheeler Ave., Redwood City 94061

Meetings: 4th Tuesday September through April in Hospitality Room, First Federal Savings Bldg., 700 El Camino Real, Redwood City

***POMONA VALLEY CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

President: Nelson R. Gatov; Secretary: Nancy McCormick, 568 E. Francis, Ontario 91728

Meetings: 2nd Thursday October through April in First Federal Savings & Loan Bldg., 399 N. Garey Ave., Pomona

***SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

President: Samuel E. Foster; Secretary: Lewis Greenleaf, 4389 Copeland Ave., San Diego 92105

Meetings: 2nd Friday (except February which is 1st Friday) November through May in Floral Assn. Bldg., Balboa Park, San Diego

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

See inside front cover of this issue of CAMELLIA REVIEW

***TEMPLE CITY CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

President: Basil J. Neptune; Secretary: Mrs. Violet Shuey, 5813 N. Golden West Ave., Temple City 91780

Meetings: 3rd Friday of November and December and 4th Thursday of January through March in Lecture Hall of Los Angeles County Arboretum, Arcadia

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CAMELLIA

Society, Inc.

**820 WINSTON AVENUE
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