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THE COVER FLOWER

Leslie Marshall of Marshall's Camellia Nursery in San Gabriel, California thought so highly of this month's cover flower 'Elsie Ruth Marshall' that he named it for his wife who has been his working partner during their years in the camellia nursery business. The flower is a high large light pink japonica (actually a better pink than the cover shows) that he first exhibited in 1965 in San Diego, after having tested it adequately on plants growing in his nursery. It won an A. C. S. Provisional Highly Commended Certificate at that show. The flower varies from rose form to light peony. The plant growth is vigorous, compact and upright. He is releasing it this year with less than adequate stock in anticipation of early retirement from the nursery business, because he wanted the pleasure of its introduction while he is still active in the business.