

THE *Camellia*
REVIEW

A Publication of the Southern California Camellia Society



'Kohinor'
Courtesy Monique Peer

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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 to the Secretary. Annual dues: \$6.50.

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CONTENTS

VOL. 34

OCTOBER 1972

NO. 1

A. C. S. Awards for 1972	9
A. C. S. President Sherrill Halbert Honored <i>Helen Augis</i>	12
Best Flowers in 1972 California Shows	10
California Introductions for 1972	15
Camellia Council Officers.....	21
Camellia Happening, A <i>Howard Burnette</i>	22
Camellia Personalities—Maynard and Erma Munger <i>Milo E. Rowell</i> <i>and William B. Johnston</i>	8
Camellia Pot-pourri <i>Howard E. Burnette</i>	13
Camellia Reminiscences <i>Carey and Amelia Bliss</i>	3
Camellias at "Park Hill" <i>Harold E. Dryden</i>	6
'Elegans' Family, The <i>Harold E. Dryden</i>	23
End of the Trail—The Santa Rosa Show <i>Ernie Pieri</i>	16
Huntington Camellia Show—January 13-14, 1973	11
Late Disbudding	10
New Address for S. C. C. S. Secretary	12
New Books for Camellia People	19
Note on Seedling Registration, A <i>W. F. (Hody) Wilson</i>	18
Outstanding Camellias According to Bill Woodroof	20
Thoughts From the Editor	2

THE COVER FLOWER

C. RETICULATA HYBRID 'KOHINOR'

This month's cover flower is one of the "Park Hill" seedlings that are mentioned in the article Camellias at "Park Hill" on page 6 of this issue of CAMELLIA REVIEW.

1972 CROP — CAMELLIA SEEDS

JAPONICA SEEDS

Mixed seeds, including a small percentage of seeds from seedling trees in the Huntington Botanical Gardens

\$3.75 per 100 (minimum order)

SASANQUA SEEDS

Sasanquas are excellent for grafting understock. They grow faster and have good roots. **\$1.50** per 100 (minimum order)

No Reticulata and Hybrid Seeds

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THOUGHTS

from the editor

One of the rewards that Bernice Gunn and I receive from our work with Southern California Camellia Society is the letters we receive from far places. I mention Bernice because she writes to many new members, in foreign countries particularly, and she has let me read some of the letters she has received. When I wonder every year, as I do, whether I should carry on for another year as Editor of CAMELLIA REVIEW, these letters encourage me to believe that we collectively who do this little publication are in more than a small way helping people who are new in this delightful hobby.

From Japan to Bernice: "CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE" is a wonderful book, I think. Having read the book, I was quite surprised of so many varieties of camellias. It's only several years since I have begun cultivating the camellias in my garden. So, I have only a little experience. In other words, I am a beginner. I have never read the English books written about camellias. And I am not familiar with the peculiar expression for camellia culture, too. I should like to become a good friend to you by increasing experience and knowledge in camellia culture."

From England to Bernice: "We have been having the most dreary, cold, sunless and windy weather for months. I have never known anything like it before and it has played havoc with the garden. I am taking the advice of some of your contributors in the Reviews, thinning and pruning to make open shapely plants with the idea of getting fewer but better blooms."

From Massachusetts to me: "I joined the Southern California Camellia Society last Spring and am ever so grateful to you for sending all six issues of the CAMELLIA REVIEW for the year. They are so well written and informative that I am delighted to have become a member."

So we shall continue in my thirteenth year as Editor to think of those who are young at camellia growing and are seeking guidance. We shall not purposely neglect the old timers but would point out that it becomes increasingly difficult to have something new for the sophisticated.

Carey and Amelia Bliss will write for all issues on camellia culture, continuing the good work that Larry and Vi Shuey did last year. Carey is Curator of rare books at the Huntington Library. He and Amelia are good camellia growers who started recently enough that as they write they will be conscious of what the new growers want to know. They have won enough show awards in recent years to cause the more experienced growers to heed them.

May your camellias be pleasing to you in the season just getting under way!

Harold E. Oyler

CAMELLIA REMINISCENCES

Carey and Amelia Bliss

When the editor asked us to do some articles for the CAMELLIA REVIEW, he suggested that we write about culture and growing problems for the beginning fancier. We have taken his suggestion broadly, and rather than simply list do's and don't's we have tried to explain how we began our camellia collection, the various perils and pitfalls we encountered, and, hopefully, will help others avoid some of the difficulties we encountered.

It is not surprising that we became interested in camellias. I (Carey) had been exposed to the Huntington camellia gardens for some time. When we moved from Pasadena, we bought a house in Temple City which had recently adopted the camellia as its symbol and which called itself the "Camellia City". Small wonder that, as we began to organize our garden, we should turn to camellias.

Vince's Camellia Gardens was then in Temple City only a few blocks from our home, and it soon became a weekend haunt for us. From Vince and his partner we learned much about the care and feeding of camellias. Inspired by seeing camellias propagated from slips at Vince's Nursery, we tried it ourselves and were completely unsuccessful. We did not have bottom heat for the flats or a greenhouse in which to house the slips. We did raise some seedlings, sprouting them in glass jars filled with damp sponge rock or vermiculite placed near the water heater on the service porch. Some rather unsuccessful attempts at grafting were also tried and, as I remember, the only one to survive was a 'Finlandia Variegated' which we still have. We were successful in air-layering one branch of a large 'Chandler Elegans',

¹Also making it high enough for the plants as they will be several years hence.—Ed.

getting it to root, separating it from the parent plant, and planting it triumphantly in another part of the garden.

As our camellia collection grew, the bushes and nondescript plants in our small yard disappeared. Only the roses remained since they were planted in full sun and were not challenged by the encroaching camellias. The potted camellia collection was also beginning to grow and, to provide some protection and filtered sunlight, we built a lath house. We thought it was large when we built it, but after two years it turned out to be very small indeed. This was our first mistake, and we would strongly recommend to anyone building his first lath house to make it at least twice as big as he thinks he will need.¹ We made other errors, too. We did place the lath roof correctly so that the sun passing overhead made changing patterns of light and shade. Running the lath parallel to the sun's passage would have made unchanging patterns of sun and shade, subjecting some areas to solid sunlight and others to complete shade. Score one for the Blissesses—but when it came to nailing on the side lath, we goofed. Of course, when the rains came, the water collected and dripped from one to another, the lath warped and occasionally split, and we were continually re-nailing and replacing lath. Running them vertically, the water would have channeled quickly and smoothly down the sides of the lath and into the ground, allowing them to dry promptly thus delaying or preventing warping. We also tried to use one end of the lath house as a potting shed. That, too, would not be recommended now. Besides taking up room for growing plants, the two operations just don't

(Continued on next page)

mix. Continuous use of the area as a potting shed can lead to damage to the plants through breaking of branches, etc. Then the watering of the lath house is not especially beneficial to the tools and materials used in a potting shed. We soon found it much easier and safer to divorce the two operations.

We attended our first camellia show as spectators about 1955 and were impressed but not overawed by the blooms on display. I casually told Howard Asper one day at the Library that I thought we had some blooms as good as those on exhibit. He promptly told me to "put up or shut up," though in much kinder tones of course. So we followed his advice and entered a few blooms in the next year's Temple City show and were gratified and thrilled to come home with three third place ribbons. After that, of course, we were camellia captives.

The Huntington Botanical Gardens were well supplied with camellia experts when we first started getting serious about them. Besides Howard Asper, we could ask advice from Harvey Short and Bill Wylam, to say nothing of William Hertrich who, though retired, was always very much in evidence. We were extremely proud when we first made the Court of Honor at Descanso in 1964 with a tray of three Crimson Robes, that Mr. Hertrich was one of the first persons to have noticed them and to congratulate us. He was evidently very pleased that members of the Library staff should share his enthusiasm in growing camellias.

Even with the Huntington experts to guide us, we continued to make mistakes. One of these occurred when Vince told us he had sold his nursery property and was moving east to Ontario. He invited us to dig up and take home some of the large plants that were in the ground. We did so happily, but in our ignorance we took one or two plants that had been

pruned for years for good wood for slips and scions. Consequently they had been so heavily cut back that they never put out strong new growth for us and we eventually had to dispose of them.

We also built what we fondly imagined would be a small greenhouse adjacent to the lath house. We constructed a two foot base of hollow cement bricks with a 2"x2" wood frame above. Some of the uprights were cemented into the hollow bricks and the whole structure was covered with heavy transparent plastic. Low slat benches and a loose gravel floor completed the structure. Disaster quickly followed. The clear plastic gathered in the sun's rays on hot days and also the cold air on low temperature nights. Water seeping down around the wood uprights caused them to swell and crack the cement bricks. The plastic soon began to crack and split, letting in more cold air or heat. What few seedlings and grafts managed to survive were moved back to the lath house where some of them recovered. We decided that we would forego any more greenhouse experiments and wait until we could afford a proper glass greenhouse with temperature and humidity controls to use for sprouting seeds, new grafts, and the propagation of cuttings.

Those early years of camellia growing were both rewarding and frustrating. Happily, the rewards far exceeded the frustrations. One experience we have always remembered with pleasure and gratitude was a grafting clinic sponsored by the Temple City Camellia Society. It was held at Marshall's Nursery and a number of camellia experts guided a group of novices, including ourselves, into proper grafting techniques. This was no platform demonstration—we did the actual grafting under the watchful eyes of the experts. Looking back on it now, we can remember being especially grate-

ful for the guidance of Al Dekker, Al Parker, Frank Reed, and Al Gunn. Seedling understock was supplied by Les Marshall at a reasonable charge and the experienced members supplied the scions. Could more such demonstrations be arranged for our new members and beginning grafters?

By the mid 1960's, we had a fairly well established camellia garden surrounding our Temple City home. By a bit of judicious planning and taking advantage of all partially shaded areas, we had camellias on all four sides of the house. One or two plants close to the west side of the house had to be moved when the hot summer sun hit them. They were moved away from the house and its reflected heat to a cooler area still on the west side. Altogether, about 75 named varieties surrounded the house. A 'Crimson Robe', which reached the eaves, dominated the southeast corner of the house. At the front of the house, which faced north, a number of tall camellias were near the front wall with smaller ones in front. Some of those near the house were, frankly, too close. One must always remember that camellias like growing room and they should be planted well out from a house or wall to allow them to develop on all sides. We kept planting camellias farther and farther out into the lawn at the front of the house until we were warned by sun-burned leaves on the latest plantings that we had reached the limit of their sun tolerance. Our front yard then had its quota of camellias and further introductions were put elsewhere or kept in boxes or other containers.

By the mid sixties, we had just about as many camellias in the ground as our small yard could safely take without putting up more shade structures. The small lath house was full and cans of groups of seedlings and new grafts were crowded into every available space. At this same time, some friends in San Gabriel had decided to build a new home.

Would we like to buy their San Gabriel house? With our son away at college, we had no school ties in Temple City. San Gabriel was closer to the Huntington Library but Temple City had been our home for many years—we had many friends there and we had a yard full of beautiful camellias. The new house was nicer than the old one, the yard a little larger and it would present us with an interesting challenge. The decision was hard to reach but the answer, finally, was yes.

We were lucky that our friends were a long way from moving, which gave us time to sell our own house and to plan what we should do about our camellias. First of all, we surveyed the whole collection. Naturally, everything in containers would go with us, but what about the plants in the ground? Once a house is put on the market, you are not supposed to dig up any plants for removal. Therefore, before we put the house up for sale, we checked each plant with two questions in mind. Did we really want to have that variety in our collection? Was it too large to dig up and place in a container for eventual removal? Small plants which we wanted were immediately dug up and placed in containers. We made grafts on good sized understock of the larger plants we wanted and yet could not move. For example, the large 'Crimson Robe' mentioned earlier could not possibly have been moved, but a graft which we made has at this writing given us a plant almost the size of the parent plant. When this was done, the house was put on the market and eventually sold. Actually, the yard looked better after some of the plants had been removed. It is often a fault with camellia fanciers that they tend to overplant in their enthusiasm for building up a collection—a fact which non-enthusiasts might not appreciate.

(Continued on page 7)

CAMELLIAS AT "PARK HILL"

Harold E. Dryden

Ralph and Monique Peer acquired their home "Park Hill" in 1946. It is situated at the edge of the abrupt rise of the Hollywood Hills that gives them a commanding view of Hollywood and Los Angeles below, a beautiful sight on a clear night to see the twinkling lights that extend some twenty miles to the ocean at Long Beach and San Pedro.

Ralph's doctor had recommended that Ralph become interested in some phase of horticulture. He selected camellias and in true Ralph Peer style jumped in with both feet. He studied the subject, historically and for the present. His music publishing business took him and Monique to all parts of the world and he studied camellias and became acquainted with camellia people in the camellia growing countries that he visited. He became intrigued with the possibilities of bringing out of the Orient varieties and species of camellias that were unknown to the western world. Not knowing that Walter Lammerts of the then Descanso Gardens (not to be confused with the present gardens which are a part of the Los Angeles County parks system) was arranging to import *reticulatas* from China, Ralph took independent action to acquire a set of *reticulatas* from a source that he had developed. The surviving members of his importations and those of the Lammert importations formed the basis of the set of *reticulatas* that were introduced to western camellia growers in the late 1940's.

He was certain that there is a yellow camellia in Indochina and was using all possible sources to locate it when war made the area off bounds. I remember his telling about his being at the Saigon airport ready to take off for the interior, and the arrival of wounded soldiers on incom-

ing planes telling them that their hoped-for destination was no place for them.

Ralph decided that the camellias to be planted at "Park Hill" would be representative of camellias over the world and his visits to all continents enabled him to acquire new species and varieties not known in the United States. He also undertook some hybridizing among species but produced nothing of significance from this work.

The present era of camellias at "Park Hill" started after the arrival there of James ("Jimmy") Tuliano in 1957 and Ralph's death in 1960. With Monique's encouragement, Jimmy carried on the program that Ralph had started. The large camellia tree of the japonica 'California' was moved in 1959 to "Park Hill" from its home some twenty miles distant. The bees were helping to produce a large supply of camellia seeds, a fertile source of interesting new camellias because of the japonicas, *reticulatas* and other species being placed indiscriminately together. In 1962 Jimmy started what he calls his seed program, which consisted of planting all his seeds and waiting and watching for new flowers of interest.

His first discovery was not a seedling but was a sport on 'Tomorrow'. He thought it was a flower of 'Tomorrow's Dawn'. Deciding there was a difference, he grafted the scion which developed into the beautiful 'Tomorrow Park Hill', one of the popular show flowers wherever camellias are grown. It was registered in 1964, has since won the A. C. S. Sewal Mutant Award (1967) and the Southern California Society William Hertrich Award for Mutants (1968).

Jimmy's seedling program began in 1968 to produce results in the form of a *reticulata* hybrid and a japonica.

'Kohinor' is a chance seedling of 'Buddha'. It is the cover flower of this issue of CAMELLIA REVIEW. The flower is pretty in the garden on a compact growing plant and is a good show flower. Some people have difficulty in propagating it but Jimmy cannot understand this because he regularly makes grafts that he gives to friends and to camellia societies for their raffles.

The other 1968 product was 'Granada', a chance seedling of 'Reg Ragland'. It is a large to very large, vivid red, semi-double to full peony form flower. It is only beginning to show up well on show tables. Some people look for it to become one of the popular red japonicas.

High hopes are held for 'Chittagong' and 'Three Dreams', both registered in 1970, and 'Dolores Hope', registered in 1971. The former two are now on the market and 'Dolores Hope' will probably be introduced in 1973. All three are chance seedlings from *reticulata* seeds. These varieties have not had the test of show competition or of growing in gardens. The

flowers that bloom at "Park Hill" cause people who see them to want them in their collections.

"Park Hill" is one of the camellia landmarks of Southern California and a source of delight to people who visit it. It is also a source of delight to Monique Peer who carries on the tradition that she and Ralph started in 1946. And Jimmy will continue to plant seeds with hopes that the bees will produce another winner for him.

REMINISCENCES

(Continued)

Moving time finally came in November, 1966 and with the help of a neighbor and his half-ton truck, all the container plants, 238 of them from seedlings to large boxes, were carefully moved several days before the movers came. Carried fairly dry to their new location in order to save weight, they were well watered on arrival. The move was made with no loss or damage to any of them.



The tree of *C. japonica* 'California' is one of the features of "Park Hill". Lifting the tree up the side of the hill from Hollywood Blvd. below was an engineering feat.

CAMELLIA PERSONALITIES MAYNARD AND ERMA MUNGER

Milo E. Rowell and William B. Johnston
Fresno, California

Most camellia growers on the Pacific Coast, and many others on the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts, are acquainted with Maynard and Erma Munger from Fresno, California.

Maynard and Erma are long time growers of camellias and Maynard has introduced Lady Erma, a delightfully beautiful medium delicate pink formal double.

Maynard was one of the founders of the Central California Camellia Society, whose headquarters are in Fresno. He helped found this Society in 1948 and has long been an active member. He and Erma have also been members of the American Camellia Society for many years, with Maynard serving as Director at Large from the Pacific Coast for six years.

A visit to their spacious garden is always a pleasure because it is well landscaped and has many choice specimens of plant material as well as a large, very well grown, selection of fine camellias. The camellias are attractively displayed in tubs on the covered patio, under lath on one side of the house, and under lath and the shade of olive trees on the other side. As a result of his contact with many members of the American Camellia Society, he has received many scions of the newer varieties and, with Erma's grafting expertise, their garden has become a collector's dream. Their enthusiasm and generosity with scions have helped spread many of his finer clones throughout the Fresno area.

They have both been most generous with their time and willingness to help in judging at shows away from Fresno, and have each year been active in staging the local show of the Central California Camellia Society.

Maynard and Erma have a strong

commitment to God and humanity. In addition to being good providers for their family, including two fine young men, (Maynard Jr. and Edward) and enjoying the society of their many friends, they have found time to devote their talents to their Church and community far beyond that of most of us.

Both, as devout Presbyterians, have been most active in Church affairs at their local Church. Maynard has served on almost every committee in the Church, as well as on Synod and Presbytery committees, and Erma has served on the building committee twice.

While Maynard was in the wholesale produce business, he was President of Hobbs-Parsons Company, and he was honored by his business associates by being elected President of Merchandising Institute of America and President of the Wholesale Association of United Grocers. For his civic endeavors he has served as President of Fresno City and County Chamber of Commerce, and on many of its committees, also as President of the Fresno Downtown Rotary Club, Fresno Convention and Fresno Y.M.C.A., and served as Director of the United Givers, and Trustee and Director of the Mount Hermon Association. He has served for 21 years as Trustee of Fresno Community Hospital, and as Vice-President. He also has served on the Finance Committee of the Fresno Community Hospital, and acted as Chairman of the construction program in rebuilding the hospital, and of the drive to build the recent addition of the Rehabilitation Unit of the Community Hospital. In August of this year, three new flag poles and the monument holding them in front of the hospital were dedi-

cated in honor of Maynard's long service to the hospital.

For her part, Erma has spent thousands of hours working for the Women's Service Alliance at the Fresno Community Hospital. She is a charter member and has served as Chairman of many of its committees and as its President.

Maynard's interest in hunting and fishing has taken him on many trips into the Sierra Nevada Mountains East of Fresno, and to British Columbia, and he has been an active and enthusiastic member of the Sierra Club.

In recognition of his outstanding leadership, participation and accomplishments for his community, in 1969 Governor Reagan appointed Maynard as the San Joaquin Valley Representative on the California Highway Commission and he has spent much of his time since then in

the work of the Commission. In 1971 he was elected Chairman of the Commission for the 1971-72 term and this work has occupied most of his time during this term.

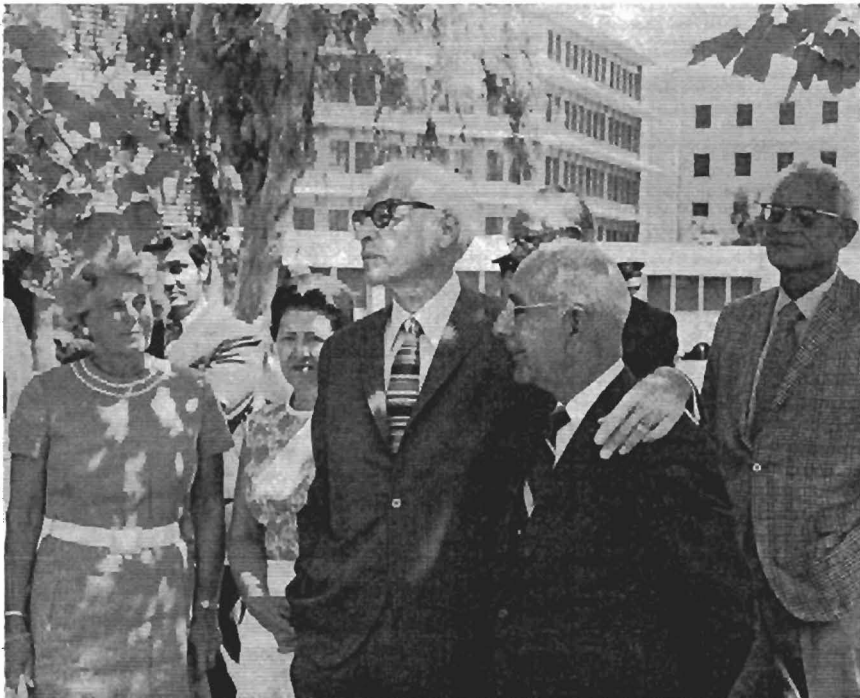
The Camellia world has been much enhanced by the presence of this fine couple.

A. C. S. Awards—1972

The American Camellia Society made the following Awards for the 1971-1972 season:

John Illges Medal, awarded annually to seedlings of *C. japonica*, when merited, to *C. japonica* 'Julia France'.

Aubrey Harris Hybrid Award, given annually to hybrid seedlings, to 'Valentine Day'.



Picture taken at dedication of flag pavilion at Fresno Community Hospital. From left to right in front row: Erma Munger, Mrs. Leon Peters, Maynard Munger, Leon Peters, President of Fresno Community Hospital, and Milo Rowell.

BEST FLOWERS IN 1972 CALIFORNIA SHOWS

As in former years, CAMELLIA REVIEW lists herewith the varietal winners of Best Flowers of the japonica, reticulata and hybrid Divisions in the 13 California camellia shows of the past camellia season. Because there is usually such a fine difference between the Best and the Best Runner-up, both are included in the compilation of the list. The 1972 show season started in San Diego in early February and ended in Santa Rosa, some 500 miles to the north, in late March. Schedules were not uniform with regard to Divisions of entry or to the awarding of Runner-up trophies. The list is interesting for what it is—a tabulation of the varieties that were the winners of Best and Best Runner-up under the schedules of the different shows.

JAPONICA, VERY LARGE TO MEDIUM

Nuccio's Gem	5
Elegans Splendor (C. M.)	
Wilson Splendor)	3
China Doll	2
Clark Hubbs	2
Elegans Supreme	2
Grand Slam	2
Margaret Davis	2
Midnight	2
Tiffany	2
Tomorrow Park Hill	2
Ville de Nantes	2

The following won once. Alta Gavin, Atomic Red, Ballet Dancer, Betty Sheffield Blush Supreme, Betty Sheffield Supreme, Easter Morn, Extravaganza, Fashionata, Grand Prix, Laura Walker, Mamie, Mathotiana Supreme, Mike Witman, Mrs. D. W. Davis Peony, Premier, Silver Chalice, Tom Knudsen, Twilight.

JAPONICAS, SMALL and MINIATURE

Kitty	5
Ave Marie	3
Hopkins Pink	3
Little Man	3
Angel's Blush	2
Apricot Dawn	2

Demi-Tasse	2
Fircone Var	2
Pink Smoke	2

The following won once: Alison Leigh Woodroof, Bon Bon, Little Lavender, Memento, Sugar Babe, Tinsie, Wilamina.

RETICULATAS and HYBRIDS WITH RETICULATA PARENTAGE

Howard Asper	5
Francie L	4
Mouchang	2
Purple Gown	2
Tali Queen	2
Valentine Day	2
Valley Knudsen	2

The following won once: Arch of Triumph, Bernadette Karsten, Butterfly Wings, Mandalay Queen, Otto Hopfer, Pink Sparkle, William Hertrich.

HYBRIDS WITH OTHER THAN RETICULATA PARENTAGE

Elsie Jury	4
Water Lily	4
Angel Wings	2
Charlean	2
Julia Hamiter	2
Rose Parade	2

The following won once: Anticipation, E. G. Waterhouse, Freedom Bell, Grand Jury.

LATE DISBUDDING

The need for disbudding has not ceased when the buds on the first cycle of growth have been pinched off. The second cycle will produce its own buds and will require the same attention that was given to the first cycle during July, August and September. Also, what appeared to be smaller buds that were left on for later blooms may have grown to a size that calls for their removal. October is an important month, therefore, for the final touch of disbudding.

HUNTINGTON CAMELLIA SHOW

JANUARY 13-14, 1973

A new show has been added to the California camellia show schedule for 1973. A show sponsored by the Southern California Camellia Society will be held at the Huntington Botanical Gardens on Saturday and Sunday, January 13th and 14th. The display tables will be placed in the loggia at the entrance to the Art Gallery, under cover to protect the flowers from the sun. This space will accommodate about 1200 single entry blooms. The Southern California Camellia Society cooperated with the Huntington, then represented by William Hertrich, in the original camellia plantings, actually supplying the plants for several years. The intent was to use the Huntington area as a test garden for camellias in Southern California. The camellia gardens at the Huntington were opened to the public in 1954.

The new show will differ in several respects from the usual run of camellia shows. Only single blooms of japonicas, reticulatas and hybrids (both reticulata and non-reticulata parentage) will be entered. Because the dates precede the normal blooming time for many of the popular varieties, the show will be open; that is, both gibbed and non-gibbed blooms will be entered in the same competition. The show will be oriented to the public and the single-entry blooms will be displayed alphabetically by varietal name in a single alphabetical group with all species and hybrids interspersed as their names fall alphabetically.

There will be awards but the prizes will be fewer in number and more modest than in the usual show. The Awards will be as follows: Best and Best Runner-up for Divisions of
Japonicas, large and very large
Japonicas, medium
Japonicas, small and miniature
Reticulatas and Hybrids with re-

ticulata parentage

Hybrids with other than reticulata parentage

Selection of the Honor Table flowers will also be different. A team of judges will select the contending flowers for the different categories from the show tables, in contrast with the usual method of having these contenders selected by the judging teams that pick blue ribbon winners. The judges will then choose the Award winners in the usual manner.

There will be two other differences: First, more attention will be given to the decor of the show, with particular attention to flower arrangements to make the area attractive. Second, particular attention will be given to educational features for the public. Myron Kinnach, Curator of the Huntington Gardens, emphasized to the Show Committee that the Huntington's justification for having a flower show on its grounds is not only in giving the public viewing pleasure but also in public education for guidance in their own gardens. The tables will be clearly marked, explanatory statements will be displayed on easels (such as regarding gibberellic acid), there will be hosts and hostesses to help the public, and information tables will be located at convenient spots.

There will be ample time for all camellia exhibitors to give flowers for the show after this announcement of the show is read. The Show Committee hopes that the show will be so successful that the Huntington authorities will invite the Southern California Camellia Society to repeat the show in succeeding years. Mel Gum and Meyer Piet are co-chairmen of the show.

**EARLY SHOW—DEC. 9-10
AT L.A. COUNTY ARBORETUM**

A. C. S. PRESIDENT SHERRILL HALBERT HONORED

Helen Augis

San Jose, California

Secretary, Camellia Society of Santa Clara County

Usually in the month of April, after all the shows are over, Northern California camellia exhibitors experience a "real let down" feeling, but not this year! Tuesday, April 11th, the camellia societies of Santa Clara County and Peninsula were co-hosts to a social hour and dinner at Ming's in Palo Alto, honoring A. C. S. President Sherrill Halbert and Mrs. Halbert. Societies attending in addition to the host societies were Sonoma County, Northern California, Sacramento and Modesto. All societies were well represented and from all reports everyone had a delightful time.

Master of Ceremonies John Augis, President of Santa Clara County Society, welcomed those attending and introduced the honored guests. President Halbert gave thanks for the honor bestowed upon him and also told of the enjoyable A. C. S. meetings he had attended. He also urged everyone who is not a member of A. C. S. to join.

John then called on many well known and prominent camellia people who in turn paid tribute to President Halbert. These included A. C. S. Director Robert Ehrhart of the North-

ern California Society; Jack Mandarich of the Peninsula Society, also President of the Northern California Camellia Council; Dave Feathers, nationally and internationally known hybridizer and culturist; representing President Halbert's Sacramento Society, outgoing President Richard Ray and newly elected President Herb Martin; Mrs. Vera Parker of Sonoma County, prominent in Southern California and Northern California camellia affairs; Tony Pinheiro, "miniature king", of the Modesto Society; and Dr. Fred Heitman, well known exhibitor of the Northern California Society.

President John Nichols of the Peninsula Society expressed his appreciation and gave thanks to those attending, particularly to those who came from some distance.

We in Northern California are most proud to have the A. C. S. President from our area. The dinner was a small way to pay tribute to such an outstanding camellia lover as President Sherrill Halbert. It was an evening we shall long remember. What better way is there to spend your time than with camellia friends!



VERNA AND SHERRILL HALBERT

New Address for S. C. C. S. Secretary

The Southern California Camellia Society secretary has a new address as follows: 8421 California Ave., Whittier, California 90605. Bernice Gunn's telephone number is 693-5967 (Area code 213).

CAMELLIA POT-POURRI

Howard E. Burnette
Castro Valley, California

Reflecting back upon the time of our intense interest in camellia show competition, when every fallen leaf was picked up and each and every fallen bloom and petal had to be picked up and destroyed, the plant feeding was done by the calendar and of courses, the tedious chores of pruning, disbudding, staking and tying of branches were performed somewhat automatically, we couldn't help but wonder "is this a hobby or an avocation?". We realize that we are a bit (?) older now and that we should be somewhat wiser also, but are we?

We must be! Due to an unidentified toxic condition, preventive medicine requires that we eliminate the use of strong sprays, yet we see no greater insect damage than before when a regular spraying schedule was followed. Perhaps the biodegradable sprays are more effective than we believe possible. On the other hand, perhaps we were ignoring shelf-life factors of the stronger, longer-lasting compounds which would only be effective when chunks would hit the insects! We still rely on Cygon to control scale on the larger plants, and since it is applied by brush to a foot or so of the tree trunk, we obviously

must be getting good systemic action which reacts on all chewing and sucking insects.

When it comes to watering we realize that we are a bit older. Previously we used this as a time for relaxation, meditation or just plain unwinding. Now we have to develop the patience to force ourselves to perform this very necessary chore. At one time we did most of our disbudding while watering, making mental notes of those plants which needed a touch of pruning here or there, but no more! Now we do our disbudding as a separate sequence, and any touch up pruning requires that we shut off the hose and tend to it at once or it doesn't get done. Something has affected our memory bank. This must be the age where you are capable of chasing girls but once you catch them you forget what you were chasing them for.

Our next area of confusion concerns seedlings. Although we no longer plant several hundred seedlings each year, our curiosity is always aroused when we come across seed whether it be a few or a considerable number. Whereas we had al-

(Continued on next page)

RELEASED THIS YEAR

DREAM CASTLE
WILBER FOSS

K. O. HESTER
ELSIE DRYDEN

RELEASED LAST YEAR

ELEGANS SPLENDOR
(C. M. WILSON SPLENDOR)

MRS. D. W. DAVIS DESCANSO

**NUCCIO'S
NURSERIES**

3555 CHANEY TRAIL
ALTADENA, CALIFORNIA 91002
Phone - - - - - 794-3383

(Closed Wednesdays and Thursdays)

ways tried to follow the successful growing patterns which have been outlined by many active seedling growers, 1972 seems to be the year of exception. We had stored quite a few seeds in the refrigerator crisper for more months than we care to mention. One evening we planned on planting them, we found quite a few more seeds that had not been properly stored whereon we were distracted and the seeds didn't get planted until a few weeks later. Some of the refrigerator seeds were lost due to mold formation in the plastic bottles. We didn't test them for floaters, we just planted them. Surprisingly enough the germination percentages are running fairly high (both indoors and out) and now we will be faced with the construction of a cold frame to protect several hundred seedlings from our winter weather. We mention this only to portray the importance of one's trying to do things in the manner which suits him best. You won't always be right but it will surprise you as to the amount of practical experience which you acquire in the process. Many of these seeds were open pollinated from unknown parents while some were o. p. with the seed parent being known. Remember that many of our best varieties are from unknown parentage.

How did you fare with your grafts this past year? For some reason we seemed to have had a healthy batting average. Was it the careful setting of the scions? . . . healthy condition of the grafting stock? . . . after grafting care? . . . or just pure luck? It really doesn't matter since the point is that we enjoy the end result of another facet of a very interesting hobby. Will that sport of SUNSET OAKS hold and bloom true? We have noted successful grafts of several recently introduced varieties which we purchased last year. It is interesting to note the strong union and growth when retic hybrid scions are placed on similar grafting stocks. Of course,

some scion scrounging from those who attended the ACS meeting in Birmingham will provide varieties which we have not seen in bloom in our own garden. A friend in San Jose gave us two grafts of SUZY WONG which had healed and we now have two more plants to add to our collection. We mustn't forget that no matter how much enjoyment we get from acquiring plants in this manner, we must not forget to patronize the commercial nurserymen who specialize in camellias if we hope for them to continue propagating these collectors' varieties.

Our California climate is quite moderate yet it is variable. Last year we received less than fifty percent of our average rainfall. This presented problems to the container growers who found it difficult to provide adequate moisture levels for specimen blooms. Those who do their grafting outside also probably noticed the need to protect their grafts from becoming too dry. When we have prolonged spells of low evening temperatures the grafts do not move. An inexpensive cold frame will off-set your cold evenings and provide the means for a moist blanket on which the grafts can set. We made several early grafts indoors this year and kept them on a moist blanket under Gro-Lux lights with a room temperature of 65 degrees (F) and had outstanding success. The grafts healed and the buds elongated and they were moved outside as our evening temperatures started to rise, permitting them to be uncovered before our dry season was upon us.

In conclusion, another camellia season is approaching and some will wonder what was neglected to keep that favorite variety off the head table. Proper attention to watering, feeding, pruning, disbudding, etc. may not have been enough. Strict discipline includes transplanting and re-

(Continued on page 18)

CALIFORNIA INTRODUCTIONS FOR 1972

The number of new varieties of camellias being introduced in California in 1972 is smaller than it has been for several years. Nuccio's Nurseries in Altadena, for example, is releasing only five new ones and they are all hybrids with *reticulata* parentage, in contrast to former years when their releases have included good *japonica* seedlings and sports. The answer is probably in two parts: first, that the law of averages reduces the probability of having new *japonica* seedlings that are distinctive and different from existing varieties and second, the increasing number of *reticulata* seeds available for planting has increased the number of seedlings with *reticulata* parentage. Selective hybridizing also adds to the good *reticulata* parentage seedlings.

Nuccio's have announced five releases in their catalog. '*K. O. Hester*' is a chance seedling with *reticulata* '*Tali Queen*' the seed parent. It is a large to very large rich pink semi-double, developed by and named for K. O. Hester who donated the camellia plants for the camellia garden in Mikke Grove Park near Lodi, California. Mr. Hester also donated plants for a section of Descanso Gardens in La Canada.

'*Dream Castle*' is a cross of *reticulata* '*Crimson Robe*' X *japonica* '*Coronation*'. The flower is deep pink with a good sheen and with attractive stamens, is large to very large. It is a good grower and develops into an attractive shrub.

'*Four Winds*' is a cross of '*Crimson Robe*' X *japonica* '*Tiffany*'. The flower is very large, is orchid pink in color. It was developed by Howard Asper.

'*Wilber Foss*' is a Les Jury (New Zealand) product, a cross of *saluenensis* X *japonica* '*Beau Harp*'. The flower is a vivid pinkish red, large, peony in form. The form distinguishes it from other *reticulata* hybrids, which

are generally semi-doubles. Mr. Foss, former President of the Southern California Camellia Society, saw the flower in Mr. Jury's garden, praised it so highly that Mr. Jury named it for him.

'*Elsie Dryden*', a chance seedling with *reticulata* '*Confuscius*' seed parentage. The flower is delicate light pink with a lavender cast, is large in size, high semi-double in form.

Alton and Vera Parker in Sebastopol, California (Redwood Empire Camellias) and Wilkes Nursery in Moultrie, Georgia are jointly releasing '*Massee Lane*', a seedling of the hybrid '*Phyl Doak*' that was developed in the garden of Milo Rowell of Fresno, California. Al Parker describes the flower as rich pink, semi-double to peony in form. He says it will reach 5½ inches normal and will gib to 6½ inches. Royalties from the sale of plants will be donated by both nurseries to the A. C. S. Endowment Fund.

Monrovia Nursery Company of Monrovia, California released '*Aztec*' during last season and will actively push it this year. The information submitted to the patent office for patenting indicates it is '*Lotus*' pollen on '*Crimson Robe*', the flower is 6 inches to 7 inches across and 3¼ to 3½ inches deep, is semi-double with numerous stamens, and that the color is rose madder with the bloom usually having three shades of this color. This flower was the Cover Flower of the January 1972 issue of CAMELLIA REVIEW.

Not new but not well known considering its quality is '*Swan Lake*', released two or three years ago by Monrovia Nurseries. It is a large, heavy textured peony flower, pure white in color.

Kramer Bros. Nurseries of Upland, California are releasing two varieties, both of which have been displayed as
(Continued on page 22)

END OF THE TRAIL—THE SANTA ROSA SHOW

Ernie Pieri

For the past several years we have been hearing tall tales about the wonderful time that the people of Northern California put on in conjunction with the last of the California Camellia Shows, the Santa Rosa Show sponsored by the Sonoma County Camellia Society. We, John and Barbara Movich and Dorothy and I decided that we wanted some of that party time and that we would drive up there to see for ourselves if these tales were valid. We really had three objectives in mind; (1) Was the section of Highway 5 as bad as we had heard?, (2) John had promised us a fish dinner on the Fisherman's Wharf in San Francisco if we got there before night-fall; and (3) how long would it take us to get to Santa Rosa?

We got answers to all of our questions; (1) The section of Highway 5 from the Grapevine to Los Banos was a real "diller", almost a straight line, with few service stations and nothing but flat country to look at; (2) we arrived in San Francisco before night-fall and the fish dinner was marvelous. Then after confirming our reservations at the Los Robles Lodge in Santa Rosa, from San Francisco, we drove on to Santa Rosa and arrived at our motel about 10:00 p.m. Whom do you suppose greeted us at the motel office? It was none other than our congenial salesman from Kramer Bros., in Upland, Ben Mackal. He certainly made us feel right at home. Of course it didn't take us long, after locating our rooms, to find out who the other out-of-towners were, and there were plenty. Seemed like most of the exhibitors along the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Valleys had made the trek to the show.

Saturday morning a breakfast had been planned for all the judges and their wives as well as for those who

were to help with the clerking and other duties pertaining to the Show. At that time we really saw many of our camellia friends whom we had seen at the Fresno show, in addition to others who had driven up from the Southern California area. Those from Southern California included, in addition to our car load, Bill and Ruth Goertz, Caryll Pitkin and Fred and Ethel Hamilton.

Of course there were many from the Peninsula Area including Jack, Nancy and Mark Mandarich, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Bernhardt and Mr. and Mrs. John Augis. Those from Modesto included Mr. and Mrs. Peter Grosso, Mr. and Mrs. Tony Pinheiro, Barbara Butler and her daughter. From Lafayette came Dave Feathers and his wife, Harvey Morton and Dr. and Mrs. Heitman. From Sacramento way came the Newton Pratts, the Rambaths and many others too numerous to mention.

After a delicious breakfast, Chairman of Judges Vera Parker gave what I think was one of the finest discussions for the judges' instructions. She had all of the necessary information at her fingertips, including references from the new rules for judging as printed in the 1972 American Camellia Year Book. After these instruction we all left from the motel for a short ride to the Doyle Student Center on the Santa Rosa City College Campus. It was an ideal place for displaying blooms.

Upon entering the building we were met with more coffee and goodies. Those who were entering blooms in the show registered their blooms before being permitted to place them on the display tables. The areas for displaying the blooms were well organized which made the judging of the blooms an easier task. One of the interesting displays was the

Honors Table, a table where all of the blooms that were brought to the head table for trophy awards, but had not been awarded a trophy, were placed with a special ribbon and not returned to their places on the display tables. Though the number of blooms entered were not as numerous as in previous years, the blooms that were selected for the trophy table were outstanding.

After the judging was completed and all had an opportunity to look at the blooms on the display tables, the trophy winners, blue ribbons and all the rest of the displays, most of the folks returned to the motel, not for lunch, but for the afternoon real party, the poolside cocktail party. It has been traditional that the cocktail party be held around the pool at the motel. Most of the folks who had been to the Santa Rosa Camellia Show had made reservations for rooms on the ground floor facing the pool area.

I guess one could say that the party started with a round of cocktails in two or three of these motel rooms. Then the real party got into swing. It was quite evident that it was going to be a "whing-ding". First, tables were placed in one area and then the chairs were placed around the tables. Then the food appeared. I guess, by previous arrangements, all of the various societies in Northern California brought different items for the menu. One or two societies brought the salad, others the meats and others the dips and crackers. Individuals who wished could donate a bottle or bottles of liquid refreshment. There were several kinds of sausages, but to me Tony Pinheiro brought the best of all, a family style well cured Italian salami.

With the appearance of all the food came the camellia folks who were staying at the motel and others who had driven to Santa Rosa for the day. The din around the tables was terrific. It was hard to tell whether

it was a result of the eating or crunching of food or just pleasant conversation. But it wasn't long before the folks settled down, either on a chair or on the cement deck, with a huge plate of various kinds of food in front of them and a glass of some sort of beverage in hand. The recovery factor of the disappearing food was incredible. It seemed that the folks who had held back some of the snacks knew just when to appear and replenish the empty dishes. Of course, there was a swimming pool nearby, but only a few brave souls dared the cold water. The rest of us were too busy on the deck level of the pool. After about two hours of this social activity, all of the conversation regarding camellias in general seemed to have been taken care of, the food disappeared as rapidly as it appeared, the tables and chairs were returned to their original places and the folks all went back to their respective rooms for some rest before getting ready for the banquet to be held later in the evening.

At 7:00 p.m. that evening the trek began toward the dining room where the banquet was to be held. There was to be a cocktail time before dinner, with refreshments furnished by several of the guests including an absent guest, Gallo Winery of Modesto. Most of the ladies made this a gala affair, as evening dresses and cocktail gowns were very evident. For the men, it was a sort of formal informal evening attire event. After the cocktail time, a delicious dinner was served and then after dinner, our mistress of ceremonies, the very effervescent, bubbly Vera Parker, thanked everyone for coming and announced the trophy winners of the Show. Of course others had to get in on the thanking program, but it was still lots of fun. The impromptu evening program soon ran out and folks began to gather into small groups talking about camellias, or else wanting to

(Continued on page 24)

A NOTE ON SEEDLING REGISTRATION

W. F. (Hody) Wilson

The procedures for the showing of camellia seedlings and their registration have been given much attention by the Exhibition and Awards Committee and the Registration Committee of the American Camellia Society over the years. Since most of our new varieties are derived from the growing of seedlings, they are a very important group of plants. The evaluation and description of any seedling is very important.

I would like to call attention to a common practice in showing seedlings and registering them of which some notation should be made in order that all the growers would be aware of the true condition under which the seedling was shown or registered. Several years ago I called attention to this with an article in the Quarterly discussing the relative merits of the true seedling and the variegated form.

It is a well-known fact among the people that have grown large numbers of seedlings and the people that have worked with virus in camellias that, so far as is known, it is transmitted only by grafting and that it is not transmitted through the seed. Several years ago a very good variety of camellia was registered as being pink splotched, dotted, and moired white. We know that this had to be a flower from a grafted plant and that the true solid pink seedling was either lost or ignored.

Recently we have had such registrations. There is nothing wrong with such a registration; but it would be well, I think, that some cognizance of this be taken and in the registration a notation regarding it being the variegated form. This, of course has no application to the genetically variegated forms such as Betty Sheffields, Lady Van Sittart, Tricolor, and so forth.

I am not so sure that in judging seedlings an awareness of this has been kept in mind by the judges. In saying this, I can best illustrate what I mean by the following examples. Certainly the valuable seedlings Ville de Nantes and Tomorrow are fine flowers, but I seriously doubt that the true seedling of these, when shown at the same time as a good variegated flower of either, would have a chance of winning. Yet, the true solid form is the seedling and the valuable variety, and the winner in such a case would only be this particular seedling in which a virus had been incorporated by grafting. This is not a characteristic of the true seedling as it was added by a cultural practice.

Again, there is nothing wrong with this practice; but I think it is only fitting and proper that we keep in mind or take some heed of this factor in registering and judging seedlings.

POT-POURRI (*Continued*)

potting when necessary. Don't forget the need to protect buds and blooms from being damaged by the wind and weather. No matter how liberal the show judges' instructions may be, an outstanding, unmarked bloom will always travel farther than one that is damaged. We just returned from watering and were surprised to find two odd, pear-shaped seed pods on our KONA plant. We have also noticed that the blue jays have taken their toll this year . . . five seed pods of CORONATION x HOWARD ASPER have been pilfered. The open pollinated seed set is on the light side this year so I'll have fewer seeds to forget about planting. Have a good camellia year and we'll look forward to seeing you at the coming shows and/or meetings.

NEW BOOKS FOR CAMELLIA PEOPLE

The Secretary of the Southern California Camellia Society has received for review two new books that will be of interest to Society members.

LIVING FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS

This book is for flower arrangers. Margaret Davis of Australia wrote *Living Flower Arrangements* because, to quote her in the Introduction to her book, "It has always seemed to me a little sad that a flower arrangement is so transient a thing." So she wrote this book to tell in words and pictures, and from her own experience, how living and lasting flower arrangements may be created. She tells how exquisite moss gardens may be made in containers to serve as settings for both growing plants and cut flowers; how the ancient Japanese art of Bonsai may be applied to flowering shrubs and trees, how garden favorites such as camellias, azaleas and fuchsias may be shaped for indoor enjoyment. There are chapters on such subjects as "Combining Cut Flowers and Growing Plants", "Wonderful Stones", "Variations on a Driftwood Theme", "Camellia Arrangements". *Living Flower Arrangements* will be an inspiration and delight to anyone who has regretted that a beautiful flower arrangement should die so soon, and to anyone whose gardening instinct is frustrated by the restrictions of life in apartments.

The author is known to camellia people in the United States because of the 'Aspasia' sport 'Margaret Davis' that was discovered in her garden and named for her. In her own country she has been well known as a lecturer, broadcaster and writer of articles on many aspects of gardening, indoor plants, flower arrangements and conservation.

*Mr. Andoy is a member of S. C. C. S.
—Ed.

The 124 page book is illustrated with 81 color pictures, most of which were taken by her husband Arthur Davis. The printing and color reproductions are excellent. There is a convenient index at the back of the book. The publishers are Henry Regnery Company, 114 West Illinois Street, Chicago, Illinois 60610. The publication date was September 8, 1972. The price is \$8.95.

INTRODUCTION TO CELEBRATED FLOWERS AND TO CULTIVATION

This book by Mr. Yoshiaki Andoy* of Nadaku, Kobe, Japan is of interest to camellia people who are interested in camellias in countries outside the United States. The Japanese title is *Tsubaki, Meika no Shokai to Saibai*. It is published by Hoikusha Co. Ltd. of Osaka, Japan. The price is 4,500 yen plus postage and packing, 450 yen. The following review is by Professor E. G. Waterhouse of Australia and is taken verbatim from the December issue of CAMELLIA NEWS, the publication of the Australian Camellia Research Society.

This is an *edition de lux*, consisting of 220 pages, 232 superb color plates and more than 150 black and white illustrations. Eight pages of introduction in English trace in broad outline the history of camellias in Japan from the time when the first single white camellia was presented to the Emperor in the seventh century down to the present day. All publications of botanists and horticulturists are mentioned and provide invaluable points of reference for the serious student. The admirable color illustrations cover the whole range of the classic camellias of Japan. The names are given in Roman as well as in Japanese characters. The superb pictures of the Higo camellias I find tremendously stimulating. In fact the

(Continued on page 21)

OUTSTANDING CAMELLIAS ACCORDING TO BILL WOODROOF

Bill Woodroff bases his views regarding outstanding camellias largely on his own growing experiences at his home in Sherman Oaks in the San Fernando Valley of Southern California. He is also a regular visitor to Nuccio's Nursery in Altadena, every Saturday morning before most people have had breakfast unless absence prevents it, and these visits and observations of the flowers blooming there contribute to his evaluation of varieties. He talked to the Southern California Camellia Society at their March 1972 meeting and to the Los Angeles Camellia Society at their April meeting and named the varieties that he thinks are the best of recent varieties, say in the last ten or twelve years. He talked to the Southern California Society about the varieties that were originated outside the Pacific Coast and to the Los Angeles Society about the varieties that were originated on the Pacific Coast.

He emphasized that the varieties that he named as outstanding are his own personal views and that these varieties have all been observed by him on mature plants for sufficient time to determine their value. He also emphasized that his appraisal of all the varieties is based on observation of flowers grown under normal outdoor conditions in the Southern California area. He strives to be objective in these evaluations but stated that personal preference cannot be eliminated. The varieties that he named have been grouped in the following list according to White, Pink, Red, Variegated and Sweet Pea. The name of the state of origin is also shown.

WHITE

Charlie Bettes (Fla.)
John Ilges Medal 1971
Ecclefield (Cal.)

First Lady (Fla.)
Gus Menard (La.)
Lenore Novick (Cal.)
Lulu Belle (Cal.)
Nuccio's Gem (Cal.)
Margarete Hertrich Award 1972
Silver Chalice (Cal.)
Silver Waves (Cal.)
Swan Lake (Cal.)
White Nun (Cal.)

PINK

Barbara Colbert (Fla.)
Betty Sheffield Coral (Ga.)
Cara Mia (Cal.)
Carnival Princess (Cal.)
Carter's Sunburst Pink (Cal.)
Sewell Mutant Award 1968
China Lady—retic hybrid (Cal.)
Disneyland (Cal.)
Easter Morn (Cal.)
Margarete Hertrich Award 1971
Elegans Supreme (Fla.)
Sewell Mutant Award 1966,
William Hertrich Award 1967
Elsie Jury—hybrid (N. Z.)
Aubrey Harris Award 1967
Edwards H. Metcalf Award 1968,
Francie L.—hybrid (Cal.)
Edwards H. Metcalf Award 1967,
Aubrey Harris Award 1969
Fashionata (Ala.)
High Wide 'n Handsome (Cal.)
Howard Asper—retic hybrid (Cal.)
Edwards H. Metcalf Award and
Aubrey Harris Award 1963
Jonathan (Ga.)
Julia Wilson (Ga.)
Lila Naff—hybrid (La.)
Frank L. Storment Award 1969
Mandalay Queen—retic hybrid (Cal.)
Frank L. Storment Award 1970
Mary Agnes Patin (La.)
Milo Rowell—retic hybrid (Cal.)
Moonlight Sonata (Cal.)
Mouchang—retic (Cal.)
Frank L. Storment Award 1968
One Alone (S. C.)
Pink Sparkle—retic hybrid (Cal.)
Edwards H. Metcalf Award 1971

Rena Swick (La.)
Rose Parade—hybrid (Cal.)
Royalty—retic hybrid (Cal.)
Sunninghill—retic hybrid (N. Z.)
Three Dreams—retic hybrid (Cal.)
Tiffany (Cal.)

Margarete Hertrich Award 1964,
John Ilges Medal 1966
Tomorrow Park Hill (Cal.)
Sewal Mutant Award 1967,
William Hertrich Award 1968

Tomorrow's Dawn (Miss.)
William Hertrich Award and
Sewell Mutant Award 1964
Valley Knudsen—retic hybrid (Cal.)
Aubrey Harris Award 1971,
Frank L. Storment Award 1972
Vernon Mayo (La.)

RED

Arch of Triumph—retic hybrid (Cal.)
Blaze of Glory (Cal.)
Chatham (Ga.)

Chittagong—retic hybrid (Cal.)
Craig Clark—retic hybrid (N. Z.)
Frank L. Storment Award 1971

Descanso Mist—retic hybrid (Cal.)
Granada (Cal.)
Grand Prix (Cal.)

Margarete Hertrich Award 1969
Helen Bower (Fla.)

Sewell Mutant Award 1971
John Taylor—retic hybrid (Cal.)
Judge W. T. Ragland (Cal.)
Marc Eleven (Cal.)

Martha Norwood (Ga.)
Miss Charleston (S. C.)
Otto Hopfer—retic hybrid (Cal.)
Premier (Cal.)

VARIEGATED

Betty Sheffield Blush Supreme (Ga.)
Betty Sheffield Supreme (Ga.)

Sewell Mutant Award 1963
Carnival Queen (Cal.)
Elegans Splendor (Cal.)
Name changed from C. M. Wilson
Splendor.

William Hertrich Award 1972
Fire Chief Var—retic hybrid (Cal.)
Jean Clere (N. Z.)
Margaret Davis (Aus.)

William Hertrich Award 1969
Tick Tock Speckled (Ga.)
Tomorrow Crown Jewel (Ga.)

Additionally, variegated forms of
varieties previously mentioned

SWEET PEA

Amabel Lansdell (Ga.)
Angel Wings—hybrid (Cal.)
Ballet Dancer (Cal.)
China Doll (Ga.)
Commander Mulroy (La.)
Dr. Louis Pollizzi—hybrid (La.)
Erin Farmer (S. C.)

Camellia Council Officers

Officers of the Northern California
Camellia Council for the year 1972-
1973 are as follows: President, John
Augis of the Santa Clara County
Society; Vice-President, William D.
Stewart of the Sacramento Society;
Secretary, Miss Joy Monteleone of the
Sonoma County Society.

Officers of the Southern California
Council are: President, Thomas E.
Hughes of the Pacific and Los Angeles
Camellia Societies; Vice-President,
Arthur E. Krumm of the Temple City
Society; Secretary, Ernest Pieri of
the Southern California Society;
Treasurer, A. Wilkins Garner of the
Pacific Society.

NEW BOOKS (Continued)

whole range of color plates in this
book is most exciting. The more you
study them, the more you admire the
taste and selectiveness with which
they are presented. This work has
been a great labor of love. Through
these plates Mr. Andoy communicates
to others what he himself feels about
these flowers.

Bill Goertz says he can't help won-
dering whether his grandchildren will
be suitably impressed with "all the
camellia show trophies that I'm likely
to leave them".

A CAMELLIA HAPPENING

By Chief 'Big Legend Teller' Burnette
Castro Valley, California

Northern California was witness to a gathering of camellia braves and squaws on the tail end of unseasonably hot weather. The occasion was a Tribal feast which followed a 'Whoop-de-doo' at Squaw Donna Page's reservation in Atherton, where some sixty camellia fanciers enjoyed themselves at this first attempt at having a communal summer activity.

It was on Saturday, July 15, 1972, when representatives from Sacramento, Modesto, Santa Clara, Northern California and the Peninsula Camellia Societies joined in the fire-water rite which was followed by a delicious outdoor buffet dinner. Any obvious discussion on the subject of camellias either escaped this reporter's ears or perhaps it was the distraction of seeing Alton 'Gotta Have-it' Parker and Dr. Fred 'I've Got-IT' Heitman parading around in curly, blonde wigs. In either case it was remindful of the gay-lib front seen on TV at the Democratic Convention. Very beautiful background piano music was an added attraction.

Chief Marge O'Malley (Peninsula) and Little Chief Helen Augis (Santa Clara) performed an outstanding job of organization which assured that all would have an enjoyable time. Appropriate name cards were pinned on all those in attendance. Best dressed Indian prizes were awarded to Mr. and Mrs. Honest Ken Hallstone (Northern). We will eliminate any mention of the 'Fattest Indian' award as we promised Harvey Morton (Northern) that we would. The Herb (Bird-Dog) Segners (Sacramento) attended as somewhat of a farewell activity as it was announced that they were returning to their native You-All-abama. Camellia growers' promised land?

Activities such as this during the

off-season should help to keep our Northern California Camellia Council afloat. Although no formal business was transacted it did provide an opportunity for camellia friends to rap and break up that long dry spell between the closing of one season and the start of the next.

Our area had been experiencing elevated temperatures which didn't prompt much interest in camellias; however, the beautiful garden and patio setting among the pines, redwoods and fruit trees of Atherton provided a perfect locale for this enjoyable get together.

CALIF. INTRODUCTIONS

seedlings in Southern California shows. 'Angel Wings' is a saluenensis X 'Dr. Tinsley' cross. It is white shaded orchid pink, semi-double with narrow upright petals, medium in size. It has won several Best Awards in the Division for Hybrids with other than Reticulata Parentage.

'In The Pink' is a chance japonica seedling. It is a formal to rose form double, rose pink in color, medium in size.

Both Monrovia and Kramer Bros. are wholesale nurseries and their releases are through retail nurseries.

The Queen Bee is a busy soul,
She hasn't time for birth control.
That is why in times like these
There are so many Sons of Bees.

Reprint from *The California Farmer*
by Mrs. Elenaor Priest

Mel Gum wouldn't reveal his age at his recent birthday party, but he did admit to living through three revivals of the wide necktie.

THE 'ELEGANS' FAMILY

Harold E. Dryden

I have said that if I should return home after several days absence and find on one of my seedling plants a flower that would match the elegance of 'Elegans', I would bow in thanks to Allah. Despite its popularity among the run-of-the-mill gardeners who plant camellias for over-all effect and not for show flowers, 'Elegans' does not rate in the high group among camellia collectors. It is seldom seen on the Court of Honor of California camellia shows. It is thought of principally as the granddaddy (or is it the grandmother) of the family of japonica camellias that has produced some of the finest camellias seen on present day show tables.

One reason why 'Elegans', or to be proper in nomenclature, 'Elegans (Chandler)' may be taken for granted is that it has been with us for so many years. Like apple pie; boysenberry pie is more attractive because it is newer and the taste is a little sharper. 'Elegans (Chandler)' came to the United States from England in 1831, over 140 years ago. We knew it for years as 'Chandleri Elegans Pink' and 'Francine'. My plant carried the latter tag until a few years ago when I changed it to conform with proper nomenclature. A nurseryman friend of mine still carries it in his catalog by the old name, despite his sure knowledge that in the day of reckoning he will meet Bill Woodroof at the gate and be required to explain his transgression.

Probably more popular than 'Elegans', or 'Chandleri Elegans Pink' if you prefer, has been 'Chandleri Elegans', the variegated form of 'Elegans (Chandler)' now called 'Elegans (Chandler) Variegated'.

It is proper that the first progeny of the family should have been 'C. M. Wilson' which was registered in 1949 by Mrs. A. E. Wilson of Pensacola,

Florida, because this offspring has in turn produced some of the important members of the family. I remember the controversy in the late 1940's and early 1950's between Carter's Camellia Gardens of Monterey Park, California ('Carter's Sunburst') and camellia nomenclature people over whether this light pink sport of 'Elegans (Chandler) Var' should be named 'Grace Burkhart' or 'C. M. Wilson', Carter claiming that the former name should be used because of alleged priority of discovery. Certainly this camellia is among the favorites of women such as the "girls" in my wife's circle of garden club associates.

'Elegans Supreme' is probably the present reigning king of the family from the standpoint of show competition. It is a sport of 'Elegans (Chandler)' that was registered in 1960 by W. F. Bray of Pensacola, Florida. (Pensacola seems to have something that induces sports). It won the Sewell Mutant Award of the American Camellia Society in 1966 and the William Hertrich Award for Mutants of the Southern California Camellia Society in 1967. It won Best Flower in the Division for Large and Very Large Japonicas in 3 California shows in 1971 and in 2 shows in 1972.

'Hawaii', a sport of 'C. M. Wilson', was discovered at the Hamilton and Clark Nursery in Upland, California and was registered by them in 1961. Here is a case of the little boy who when good is very, very good and when bad is horrid. It does very well in the dryer area of Southern California where it was discovered but is not so popular in the Los Angeles coastal area. When it is good, the pale pink fimbriated flower is a candidate for show honors.

(Continued on next page)

Hamilton and Clark also discovered a sport on 'Hawaii' which they named 'Kona' and registered in 1969. It is a medium to large white flower that shades to an unusual greenish white. It is not attractive in the bud stage but is quite attractive when it opens. It has not generally made its appearance on California show tables.

'Shiro Chan' was spotted in Toichi Domoto's nursery in Hayward, California in the San Francisco Bay Area, was registered in 1953. It is a sport of 'C. M. Wilson', white with light basal pink when first opening and generally with pink stripes. The pink stripe has been a cause of dissatisfaction among some people. In 1957 Nuccio's Nursery of Altadena, California registered a pure white sport of 'Shiro Chan' which they named 'Snow Chan'. This flower is large to very large.

In 1957 Bill Woodroff registered 'Barbara Woodroff', a sport of 'Elegans (Chandler) Variegated' that he named in honor of his wife Barbara. The flower is medium to large, with light orchid pink outer petals and cream white center petaloids with an occasional rose pink petaloid.

The latest arrival in the 'Elegans' family is 'Elegans Splendor'. Clark Thomas of the Paul Gaines Nursery in San Dimas, California discovered this flower on a small twig down low on a plant of 'C. M. Wilson'. He says that the twig was barely large enough to graft, but the graft took and reproduced the flower he had seen on the C. M. Wilson' plant. It was turned over to Nuccio's Nursery to propagate and was registered in 1969 as 'C. M. Wilson Splendor'. It was released in the Fall of 1971 and won 3 Best Flower Awards in 1972 California camellia shows. The flower is large to very large, light pink edged white with deep petal serrations. After the shows were under way, the view was expressed that from a nomenclature standpoint the flower would be better tied to 'Elegans' than to

'C. M. Wilson'. It was decided with the concurrence of the originator, Nuccio's the propagator, and the Editor of *Camellia Nomenclature* to rename the variety 'Elegans Splendor' and it will be thus named in the 1974 Edition of *Camellia Nomenclature*.

'Elegans (Chandler)' started a family line that can properly be placed among the leading monarchies of the camellia world. There is no reason to believe that we are at the end of the line. A friend of mine told me in February 1971 that she had a white flower on her 'C. M. Wilson'. I grafted the twig, recognizing that I would probably get a 'Shiro Chan'. Maybe not, though. Experiences to date lend encouragement for future mutations. And from here out, I am remembering that Clark Thomas found 'Elegans Splendor' on a twig down low on his 'C. M. Wilson'.

END OF TRAIL

(Continued on page 7)

know what else there was to do. Several of the group enjoyed the evening by dancing. There was an excellent combo and dance floor in the motel.

Sunday morning was for breakfast and goodbyes. I would venture to say that nearly everyone made at least two trips to the restaurant to wish everyone a fond goodbye and a safe journey home as well as happy times during the summer with their camellias and a "We'll see you next year!" Many fine friendships have been made at these camellia shows and they have lasted though the years.

This Show was a fitting end to the Camellia Show season for California. Of course, we in the South would be unable to take many blooms, if any, to this late show, but both Dorothy and I felt that every camellia enthusiast should try to make this Show at least once. We were well rewarded for our trip and felt that all of the tall tales were valid indeed.

Directory of California Camellia Societies

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

***CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF KERN COUNTY**

President: Bob Krause; Secretary: Lemuel Freeman, 209 S. Garnsey Ave., Bakersfield 93309
Meetings: 2nd Monday Oct. through Apr. at Franklin School, Truxton and A St., Bakersfield

***CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF ORANGE COUNTY**

President: Thomas Scanlin; Secretary: Mrs. George T. Butler, 1813 Windsor Lane, Santa Ana 97205

Meetings: 1st Thursday Oct. through April at Great Western S/L cor. 15th St. and N. Main, Santa Ana

CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF SACRAMENTO

President: Herbert Martin; Secretary: Mrs. Frank P. Mack, 2222 G. St., Sacramento 95816
Meetings: 4th Wednesday, Oct. through April in Garden & Art Center, McKinley Park, Sacramento

***CENTRAL CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

President: Donald Martin; Secretary: Mrs. Jack Evans, P.O. Box 108, Ivanhoe 93235

Meetings: Nov. 15, Dec. 13, Jan. 17, Feb. 21 at Mayfair School, Mar. 21 at Fresno State College

DELTA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Donald R. Bergamini; Secretary: Mary A. Bergamini, 451 Dale Rd., Martinez 94553

JOAQUIN CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Karn Hoertling; Secretary: Mrs. Ethel S. Willits, 502 N. Pleasant Ave., Lodi 95240
Meetings: 1st Tuesday October through April in Micke Grove Memorial Bldg., Lodi

LOS ANGELES CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Thomas Hughes; Secretary, Mrs. Haidee Steward, 130 S. Citrus, L.A. 90036

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

MODESTO CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Harlan Smith; Secretary: Dale Nagel, 3005 Deanna Way, Modesto 95350

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

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Edward A. Hays; Secretary: Ralph E. Bernhardt, 1112 Blandford Blvd., Redwood City 94062

Meetings: 1st Mon. Nov. through May in Claremont Jr. High School, 5750 College Ave., Oakland

PACIFIC CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Dr. John Urabec; Secretary: Mrs. A. L. Summerson, 1370 San Luis Rey Dr.,

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

PENINSULA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Mrs. Charles F. O'Malley; Secretary: Mrs. Rex W. Peterson, 27 Walnut Ave., Atherton 94025

Meetings: 4th Tuesday September through April in First Federal Savings & Loan Bldg., 700 El Camino Real, Redwood City, Calif. 94061

***POMONA VALLEY CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

President: Frank Burris; Secretary: Walter Harmsen, 3016 N. Mountain Ave., Claremont 91711

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

***SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

President: Harry Humphrey; Secretary: Mrs. Mabel Higgins, 2152 Clematis St., San Diego 92105

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

SANTA CLARA COUNTY CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: John M. Augis; Secretary: Mrs. Helen Augis, 2254 Fairvalley Court, San Jose 95215

Meetings: 2nd Thursday Sept. through April in Hospitality Room, American Savings, 1285 Lincoln Ave., San Jose

SONOMA COUNTY CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Mrs. Alton B. Parker; Secretary: Mrs. Marylin Batt, 10047 Old Redwood Hwy., Windsor 95492

Meetings: 4th Thurs. Nov. through April, except Nov. and Dec. in Multipurpose room, Steel Lane School, Santa Rosa

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

See inside front cover of this issue of CAMELLIA REVIEW

***TEMPLE CITY CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

President: Milt Schmidt; Secretary: Mrs. Elsie Bracci, 5567 N. Burton, San Gabriel 91776

Meetings: Nov. 14 (Fri.), Dec. 17 (Fri.), Jan. through Apr. is 4th Thurs. in Lecture Hall of Los Angeles County Arboretum

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