

THE *Camellia*
REVIEW

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Southern California Camellia Society Inc.

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

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

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THE COVER FLOWER Species Japonica 'Tammia'

The cover flower picture is courtesy of the American Camellia Society. 'Tammia' is a white flower with pink center and border. It's a miniature, formal double with geometric petals and has medium, compact, upright growth.

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We are on our way—the ball is rolling—your response to our last editorial is producing great results and I thank you for your efforts. Please don't let up, there are many, many issues of the CAMELLIA REVIEW to come.

This is our third publication and we have another three to go to complete the one year as Interim Editor. I need someone to take over for next year and hopefully become full time Editor. The necessary experience is a good interest in journalism—the real work is in keeping the material coming in and putting it all together, and then the paste up for the printers.

It does take some time, what with proof reading the galleys and going back and forth to the printers. Once you do an issue or two everything seems to fall in place and runs quite smoothly and actually becomes an enjoyable task.

I have received many complementary comments for our first two issues and I'll let you in on a secret—my secretary, Mary Tunis, is actually doing all of the work and I'll now publicly thank her for this extra effort.

My big job has been the drop off and pick-up at the printers. As I've said before writing just isn't my thing. So if you have the background and interest for the Editor's job please get in touch with me.

Meyer Piet

SCHEDULE FOR FOREIGN VISITORS IN JANUARY

Willard F. Goertz

As previously announced in the November issue, we will be honored with a visit from forty five camellia fanciers from Australia and New Zealand, who will be very busy in the USA for twenty one days, and particularly for the three days scheduled for Southern California. The "Project Pensacola" Tour originates in Sydney Australia and includes San Francisco (arrival January 5) area, New Orleans, Pensacola (for the annual meeting of American Camellia Society), Fort Valley, Georgia, also camellia areas in the Carolinas and Virginia, Washington, D. C. and then to Southern California, arriving Los Angeles International Airport at 2 P.M. January 21st on United flight No. 059.

The Tour was planned and organized by Eric Craig, Vice President of the Australian Camellia Research Society, who also headed the 1973 International Camellia Society's Australian tour which was so successful. Eric and Rowena Craig are well known by many of our camellia folks as they have visited here on several occasions.

In the group from the Sydney area, besides the Craigs, will be: Peter and Barbara Campbell, Harry and Nancy Churchland, George and Mary Davis, John and Audrey Dettmann, Time and Lea Dettmann, Peter and Margaret Levick, Mrs. Lucy McConnell, Julien and Elizabeth Mitchell, John and Freddie Paton, Greg and Betty Smith, Miss Fran Blackwell, Mrs. Evelyn Geelan, David Mackay, Dr. Murray Moyes, Miss Lillian Ray, Mrs. Helen Simon, and Mrs. Yvonne Young.

From Melbourne come John and Barbara Alpen, and Len Hobbs. From Albury we will have Dr. Ross and Jenny Hayter, and Tom and Olive Savage. From Adelaide: Bill and Joy

Nielsen, Bill and Kath Pearce, Mrs. Maise Chettle, Mrs. Edith Curnow, and Max Schultz. New Zealand will be represented by Mrs. Peggy Lamb and Mrs. Bonnie Redpath, both from Christchurch. Looking after the tour details will be Traveland Escort: Enrique Martinez.

The group will have at it's disposal, for the entire three days in our area, their own private bus, which will take them Tuesday upon arrival, on a quick sightseeing trip through West Los Angeles, Beverly Hills, Farmer's Market, Wilshire Boulevard and downtown Los Angeles. Thence to Pasadena and the Huntington Sheraton Hotel which will be their home for three night. The first evening will provide an opportunity for shopping.

On Wednesday January 22nd the group will spend all day at Disneyland—with dinner at Knott's Berry Farm en route to their hotel. Early Thursday morning the bus will take them to Nuccio's Nurseries where Joe and Julius will show them where some of the great American camellias come from. After Nuccio's the tour goes to Descanso Gardens where Sup't. George Lewis will have specially guided walks and tram rides for our visitors, followed by a box lunch at the Hospitality House, courtesy of Southern California Camellia Society. (All local camellia buffs who wish to join our guests at this luncheon can do so by making arrangements with Bev Piet no later than January 15th). Most of the afternoon will be spent at the Huntington Gardens where Curator Myron Kinmach and Rudy Moore will show them the beauty spots.

That evening the Tour group will be hosted for dinner at The Poster Restaurant (formerly Pepper Mill) by Southern California Camellia people,

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NUCCIO'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY

Bill Donnan

"Nuccio's Nurseries, Growers of Rare Camellias and Azaleas Since 1935" that is what it says on the cover of the 1973-74 retail price list from Nuccio's Nurseries and that is what this article is all about. Nuccio's is celebrating 40 years in business and we think it's about time to tell you a little bit of the history and development of this remarkable institution. I call it an institution and as far as camellias go, in Southern California at least, it is just that. Webster's Dictionary says that an institution is an organization having a social, educational, charitable, or religious purpose, for the promotion of art, science or education in a given field. When it comes to camellias and azaleas, Nuccio's fits that definition pretty squarely.

Who runs Nuccio's Nurseries? How did it get started? What makes it tick? What does the future hold for it? These are some of the questions we asked and here are some of the answers. Nuccio's Nurseries is run by two brothers, Julius and Joe Nuccio. Their father, Julio Nuccio, had come to America from Northern Italy as a young man and had settled in the Los Angeles area. He ran the United States Bar and Tavern in downtown Los Angeles and also dabbled in real estate. His brother opened an Italian Restaurant which has survived to this day as the famous "Little Joe's" on North Broadway. Julio and his wife Kathrine lived in Alhambra and there is where Joe and Julius were born and raised.

All through high school Julius Nuccio worked for the Western Nursery in Alhambra. There he learned how to grow nursery stock and developed the fine arts of grafting and propagating. When he graduated from

high school in 1934 he decided that the only way to make a living in the depression ridden Los Angeles area was to go into the nursery business. He and Joe had a night-shift job at the Tyre Brothers Glass Factory, working from 3:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. During the day time they went into partnership and set up a nursery on Bushnell Street in Alhambra.

At the start all kinds of plants were offered for sale but the main push was to get into the camellia and azalea business. In those days there were not too many different varieties; 'Pink Perfection,' 'Covina,' 'Jordan's Pride,' 'Daikagura,' and a few others. The "parent plants" were planted in the ground on Bushnell Street and cuttings were made from these plants. By 1941 Julius and Joe had set up a thriving business. The nursery was mostly a wholesale enterprise and by this time they had converted almost exclusively to camellias and azaleas. They had about 80 "parent plants"—perhaps 20 different varieties and were turning out 5,000 one-gallon camellias a year, at \$1.00 per copy. Things looked rosey but then came Pearl Harbor!

Julius had a low draft number and was inducted almost at the outset of the War. Joe went into the shipyards in Long Beach. The nursery went out of business for the duration. Before closing up shop on Bushnell Street, the Nuccios purchased 40 wine barrels; sawed them in half to make 80 tubs; dug up the 80 "parent plants" and potted them in the tubs; and trucked the tubs to Joe's back yard in Santa Monica. These were to be the "foundation" for a new nursery, if and when. They also had about 5,000 one-gallon plants to sell and figured to get a good nest egg for the future

nursery. Alas! All the Japanese nursery owners in California and Arizona were being interned and they too were hoping to sell out at a profit. The result was that Joe and Julius got about 20¢ on the dollar for their plants.

Early in 1941 the Nuccios had looked at a 40 acre tract of "rocks, rills, rubbish, rabbit brush, and rabbits" north of Alta Loma Drive in Altadena, California. (Part of the tract was a local rubbish dump) The owner was asking \$6,000 for the tract but that sounded way to high at the time. Then, in 1944, Joe looked at the tract again and the asking price was \$13,000! After checking with Julius, who was over-seas, they decided to go into debt and they made an offer of \$12,500 and it was accepted. Julius got out of the Service about the same time that the ship-yards closed down and the two brothers started all over again on the 40-acre tract. They pushed and hauled the rocks and the rubbish into the gullies; they chopped and burned the brush; gradually they cleaned off a couple of acres and erected a lath house. Then they moved in the 80 tubs of camellias from Santa Monica and they were back in business.

The first couple of years they grew 5,000 Tams a year to have something to sell while building up the stock of camellias and azaleas. Julius would "moonlight" grafting 5 or 6 thousand plants a year for other nurseries to make extra cash. Until about 1950 Nuccio's Nurseries was mostly a wholesale enterprise selling to Tuttle Brothers, Merricks, Diguard's and Domoto. However, instead of concentrating on a few easy-to-grow, stand-pat, varieties, the Nuccios were eager to develop new plants. In 1950 they came out with their first introduction. It was 'Kathrine Nuccio,' a red, formal, double, named after their mother.

Next came 'Primavera,' a white formal double. Thus began the proud tradition of developing and introducing new varieties. As of this writing, Nuccio's has developed 28 new varieties of Japonica and introduced 12 others; they have developed 4 new Sasanquas; 8 new Hybrids; and 10 new Azaleas varieties! If you own all of these plants you would have a corner-stone collection. The list can be found on the inside of the back cover of Nuccio's price list.

The Nuccios are collectors and sellers of a wide range of camellia and azalea species and varieties. They have *for sale* 432 *different* varieties of camellias and over 100 different varieties of azaleas! They have over 30 different species of camellias in their collection, most of which are for sale. They are propagating 30 or more different Kawari Ba or changed leaf forms. They have upwards of 50 different Higos and about the same number of different Rusticanas which they have imported from Japan. The Nursery has some 15,000 large camellias for sale plus 70,000 gallon size plants. They grow 30,000 seedlings a year; propagate 50,000 cuttings; and plant 50,000 seeds. As for azaleas, they have some 6,000 large plants and 50,000 gallon sized plants.

I asked Joe and Julius what their favorite was and they both agreed it was 'Guilio Nuccio'. The favorite for the future is 'Nuccio's Gem.' The largest selling camellia, and for that matter, the largest seller, by far, in the west is 'Yuletide,' a five petal Sasanqua developed by Nuccio's and released in 1967.

I asked Julius how many people they employ and he said that it took seven men to run the nursery. There are four young employees; plus young Joe, (Joe's son) and Young Tom (Julius' son); that makes six; and then Joe and Julius together

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CAMELLIAS, PHILOSOPHY, AND YOUTH

Burnell Yarick

Professor of Botany, Glendale Community College

Brilliant students are both fun and exciting. Every instructor looks forward to teaching his hobby subject to a small class of brilliant students. They are enthusiastic, vigorous, and have a zest for living; a cool eye. Good students have good health and take care of themselves. They learn easily and can gloss over poor teaching methods. Their many successes give a teacher a good name.

But what about the not-so-brilliant? Many are "intellectual cripples" from early training and cannot learn by reading. Or so nervous they cannot sit down without coffee, beer, smokes, pop, or friends. It is impossible for them to spend a quiet evening at home alone with books and thought. Far too many suffer from miserable health due to eating hang-ups and fads. Important too is physical exhaustion, living a pace at the point of collapse. Too much of everything, cars, trips, booze, hobbies, sports, jobs; walking zombies.

The real challenge in education lies in teaching the not-so-brilliant. Many cannot understand an explanation or even tie it to the problem. So we try another method, and another. Horticulture is a natural. The learning process starts by growing plants or a garden, the intellectual wedge. Pride of possession, observation, curiosity. Why are the edges brown? At this point teaching begins. And what is my role?

The hook has been baited and I wait. Much of the time I feel a bit helpless because I am not a psychologist, not do I discuss it. There are no rap sessions. So how does one try to thread 48 years of experience and training through the eye of a needle when the thread is rope and the eye is shut? We trim the rope and open

the eye. There are many failures, the ones that got away. There are many exciting things to compete for that little daily ounce of energy that can be devoted to learning.

My first goal is citizenship, for without it all is lost. It is very interesting to watch each new group of students gradually adjust to the different plant societies. Their terse comments run from boring to excellent. Many are completely surprised to find that adults can get together for a purpose, remain sober, and have fun. It is a pleasure to watch them participate in the flag salute or help with the refreshments or education.

Activities for my students this semester will include: attending meetings, helping with education, hiking in the mountains, teaching botany to the elementary schools, preparation of a float for a parade, hobby plants, gardens, and two all-day field trips. All this just to create the atmosphere for a botanical explanation, the hard way. But it is an exciting life.

And what might you do for us? Nothing, I think, more that should be done for your own membership that "sits on the edge," recognition, participation, *fun*, purpose, decency, dedication. Minimize the minutes and business. To interest youth will be an uphill job with camellias because the present trend is toward the vegetables and exotic plants. Suppose we emphasize and demonstrate a small, leafy type bush in a pretty pot rather than the lanky retics. Perhaps we could give five identical plants to five students in November to see who can get the best blooms. Let them discuss how it was done. A newly appointed gift secretary might keep a record of all gifts for follow up. A garden tour is great.

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"TRY IT, YOU'LL LIKE IT"

Helen Foss

This article is intended to encourage more wives of male camellia hobbyists to do flower arrangements, either for the home or for competition. When you become interested in arrangements you will be looking at the camellia flowers and the bushes through different eyes and with greater interest.

Good flower arranging is not something that only a skilled or trained person is able to do well. Anyone can learn a few basic guide lines and with a little daring and initiative can turn out something very pleasing. Most flower arranging programs can be a bit discouraging when the arranger uses the most extravagant, elegant accessories that most homes can not even store. However it is entirely possible to go to your own cupboards and pull out a bowl or dish or tray and have a good beginning.

Lets start with choosing a container. Did Grandpa have a cuspidor? Did you inherit a stemmed compote dish from Grandma? Have you got an ice bucket, or a small brass or copper tea kettle? Surely there is either a fancy or maybe a plain cut glass water pitcher around somewhere. A piece of stainless service is good; a flat bread tray or a footed bowl will do. A watering pot is great or a large snifter. Now surely when you take inventory with an arrangement in mind you will discover a real treasure among your commonly used things that can be put to an entirely different use. The only warning is be careful not to choose a container that is too brightly colored or intricate as it will detract from the arrangement's beauty.

Next we must have or buy an anchor. A needle holder called a Kenzan is the most common type. A sticky clay is a must. It is rolled into a small rope and placed around the underside

of the Kenzan and firmly pressed into the dish. Be sure all are very dry or it won't stick.

Now lets choose our materials to arrange. Your mate will be pleased to know that your new hobby will not rob him of his show blooms, most of which are far too large and far too heavy to work into an arrangement. You will also be of help because when you pick for arranging you will need a number of inches of stem and several flowers of various sizes on that one stem whenever possible. This will help in the pruning. It used to be thought that camellias should not be picked with a stem because it might damage the plant but now we know that severe pruning is a must and does no harm to the plant. It is good to have two other types of foliage; a straight leaf like an iris and a fluffy leaf like an iron fern. Groom and clean your material by rubbing the camellia leaves with your thumb to clean and shine them, wash or shake the other materials gently and pick off any brown or wilted materials. Choose the camellias with an eye to freshness and color selection, not size.

Now for a few basic rules that will guide you:

1. Keep in mind the number "three" rule. Group the flowers in three's or if you have four flowers, group three together and let one be apart; odd numbers prevail.
2. Have the foliage at three different heights, some tall, medium, and some low. The low should tend toward the horizontal or point out and down. Buds should be placed higher than open flowers.
3. A rule for proportion is; the height of the arrangement should be two times the diameter of the container plus the depth. This applies to the highest point.

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GIBBERELLINS

Douglas & Marilyn Batt

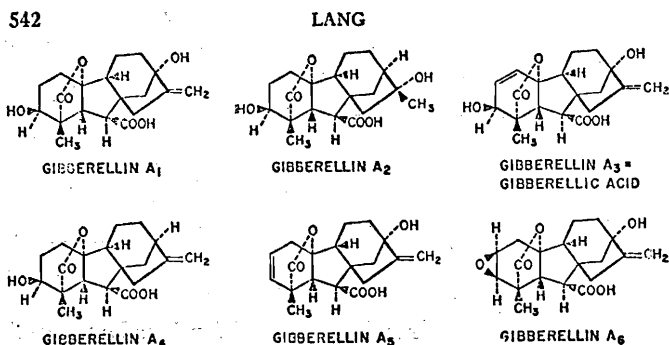
Since even after many years of the use of gib there seems to be an overwhelming controversy concerning the use of Gibberellic Acid. Since there are many people who actually know very little about what "Gib" is or how it works some basic information is in order. Hopefully this will help the people using it understand just what is happening and help those who do not use it understand why it is being used.

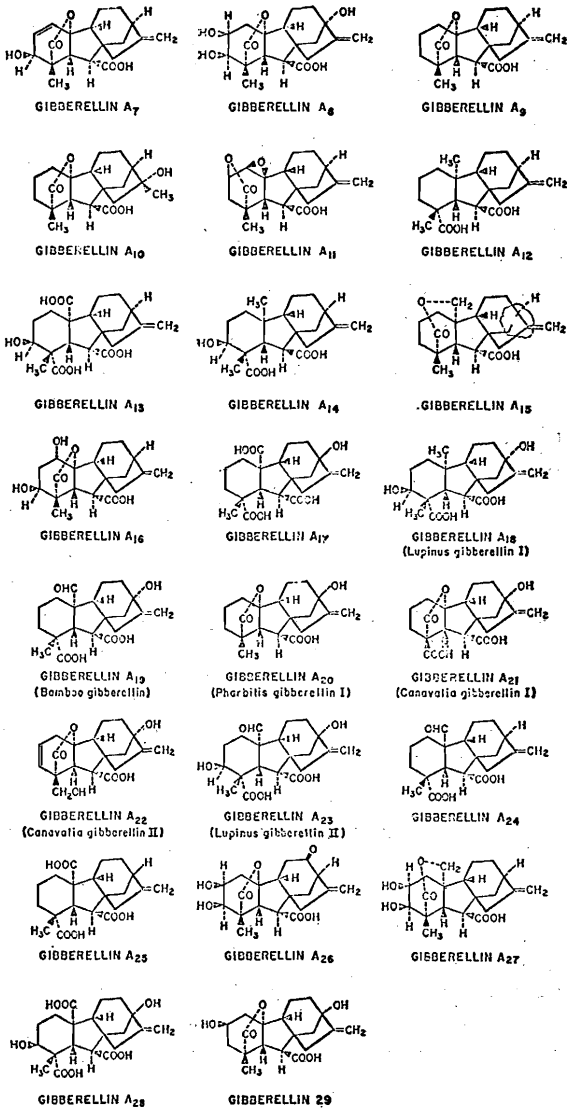
First what is a Gibberellin? It is defined as a naturally occurring plant hormone. It is found in some form and to some degree in most plant life. If it were not for Bakanae Disease, which devastated the rice crop of Japan, gibberellins might still be unknown today. In the early 1900's extensive research conducted by Japanese pathologists demonstrated a correlation between the fungus *Fusarium moniliforme* and Bakanae Disease. Bakanae disease caused the rice crop to continue vegetative growth without setting seed for harvest. It was postulated that the disease was caused by some secretion of the fungus. This was proven when sterile filtrate of the fungus was able to cause symptoms of the disease to appear on healthy rice seedlings. It was not until 1938 that researchers Yabuta and Sumiki isolated gibberellin.

Since that time gibberellins and gibberellin-like substances have been found in most higher plants. Three years ago when Marilyn was researching a similar article there were 9 known gibberellins. In the 1971 *Plant Physiology* Vol. 5—"Plant Hormones," 24 gibberellins were listed with a footnote that between the time of writing and that of proof reading, the number of known gibberellins had increased to 35. There are probably more by now. All of the gibberellins have similar activities. Many of the original gibberellins were isolated from the fungus *Fusarium moniliforme*. This is understandable because all of the gibberellins have the same basic structure with different chemical materials attached in similar or different places around the gibberane ring. The remaining gibberellins have been isolated from various seed embryos and apical tips.

GA₃ which is what we call Gibberellic acid and is the form of "gib" we use on our camellias is the most active of all of the gibberellins. It is prominently active in most plants. It seems as though the reason that GA₃ is the most active of the gibberellins is that most plants must convert the other gibberellins to GA₃ to use them effectively. GA₇ is the main exception, being the end product in some plants.

The simple chemical structure of a few of the gibberellins is as follows:





Now what are the activities and biological functions of gibberellic acid.

1. (In both vegetative and flower growth) They promote and increase cell elongation. The treatment with gibberellic acid causes the cell to start lengthening and in the long run the individual cell will be larger than normal.
2. Increased cell division is also caused by the application of gibberellins. This means that in tissue treated there will be more cells, with each cell being larger as indicated by the above function No. 1.
3. Cell plasticity is greatly increased, which is the ability of the cell wall to stretch as the interior of the cell develops to its full size.

4. Treatment with GA_3 causes increased development of Auxin. Increased auxin concentrations in some ways has also linked the above reaction of plants to GA_3 .

In an experiment with kidney beans, treatment with GA_3 increased extractable auxin concentration by 10 times. Gibberellins inhibit oxidative degradation (chemical destruction of one chemical by another) of Indo Acetic Acid, (IAA) and 4 (four) other auxins. This explains to some degree the increase of auxin in tissue treated with GA_3 .

5. Gibberellin treatment increases parthenocarpic fruit set. This is the ability of some plants to develop fruit and seed without fertilization (pollination) of the flower. (This is not to be confused with self pollination).
6. Genetic dwarfism is reversed with the addition of gibberellins. (As stated above and as those of you who have used "gib" know, gib application causes the stem tips to start growing). Application of gibberellins to dwarf plants cause the dwarf plants to grow as fast or greater than their normal untreated counterparts.
7. Lastly, gibberellins effect the flowering cycles. Work has been done with plants that bloom during long day periods and plants like our Camellias which bloom during short daylight hours. The bolting and breaking of different types of dormancy is not easily explained nor fully known. We do know that "gib" applied to our camellias in the early fall can cause blooming in as little as 30 days when that flower would not normally have bloomed for 3 or more months. There are some varieties which Marilyn and I have observed that were gibbed on 3 occasions, October, December and February and the bud did not bloom until April.

Gibberellins are formed in the youngest leaves, shoots, roots, tips, and in high amounts in germinating seed embryos. It has been shown by several researchers that GA_3 is non-polar (moves in both upward and downward directions) in movement, contrary to our mistaken popular belief that gib moves only up. Gib is transported in both xylem (upward) and phloem (downward) via ray cells; however, it has also been shown that gibberellins do not move great distances from their site of synthesis.

It has also been shown in several experiments that gibberellins can be leached from the leaves by rain or overhead watering. (This could account for the reason greenhouse grown plants, even ungibbed will produce consistently larger blooms).

What are some of the present commercial uses of gibberellic acid. Chemical application of gib on table grapes to promote parthenocarpic fruit set and berry enlargement (without girdling the vines) has been used for the past 20 years. The spray is applied to the whole plant at a rate of about 50—100 parts per million. I have seen vines treated in this manner for the past 20 years. which show no ill effects.

The use of gib is still spreading rapidly. We are now seeing gib used on apples, pears, and oranges to help fruit set and increase fruit size, yielding a bigger more marketable product.

I knew of an orange grower in California who had used gib on oranges for several years and has also sprayed his large camellia collection with the same mixture. He never gibbed camellias in the present sense of the word;

however, he had consistently better than average blooms and some of the healthiest plants.

This then brings us down to the present problem faced by many camellia growers. There are articles written by admitted amateurs, who have not taken the time to do any research on the subject they are writing about. I feel I must answer some of the charges made against gib in a recent article by Mr. Bill Donnan in March, 1973 "*Camellia Review*." Unfortunately his remarks were directed exclusively toward Southern California and the scope of Camellia growing is so much wider.

His claims are that

- A. Gib ruins blooms.
- B. It turns people away from growing camellias.
- C. Gib is a danger to shows.
- D. Gib is a real danger to the camellia hobby.
- E. Gib harms plants.

A. Admittedly gib can distort a few miniatures and several blue toned families such as the Mathiotiana's but these comprise less than 1% of all the camellia varieties listed in nomenclature. He sites the exception rather than the rule. With the vast majority of blooms, gib treatment improves quality tremendously. They are larger, the texture is heavier, the blooms last longer, and the majority of the time, the color and form remains unchanged.

B. It turns people away from growing Camellias. It does not turn people away from growing camellias; instead, it makes it possible for many people in the East and South East to grow beautiful camellias and enjoy them before they are ruined by freeze. Since the availability of gib the interest in the camellia hobby has grown, people can grow beautiful blooms that they previously lost almost every year to freeze.

C. Gib is a danger to shows. Gib is not a danger to shows, since a show is competition, everyone competing should be attempting to grow the best flower possible. If by proper use of water, fertilizer, disbudding, and use or disuse of gibberellic acid, a natural plant hormone, a superior flower can be produced, more power to that grower.

Since freeze damages many of the outdoor blooms in the East and Southeast, gib by its causing flowers to bloom earlier enables them to hold many of their shows in the late fall before severe freezes hit. What Mr. Donnan perhaps doesn't comprehend is the amount of camellia growers gib helps keep interested. The Southern California camellia growers do not have the freeze problem that the rest of the thousands of camellia growers in the country do. The importance of shows to them are just as great as to growers in Southern California.

D. Gib is a real danger to the camellia hobby. Gib will never be a danger to the camellia hobby. The majority of growers are in the Southeast and gib is clearly an advantage to them. As for the so called "Duffers" of Mr. Donnan's article, they are merely making excuses for not winning trophies without raising trophy quality blooms. Any good grower by:

1. Growing plants in the ground.
2. Excessive disbudding can push blooms equal to any gibbed blooms. The plant concentrates the natural gibberellin contained in the plant to a few points, yielding larger blooms.

But let's never consider the gibbed bloom a freak to be separated, but rather an improvement in the beauty of most flowers. Why shouldn't the so

called "duffers" attempt to grow the best blooms possible, whether by use of gib or just superior cultural activities. We may get much criticism for this but in the language of today, Mr. Donnan's article was a cop-out, it was a complaint because people who were growing better flowers than he was, were winning the trophies, and I hope it remains that way.

E. And finally the last and greatest point of controversy is that the use of gib can harm the plants. Why? There are several very good reasons.

First and most important, the gibberellin being used to gib camellias whether in agricultural form (gib tablets, or emulsifiable concentrate) or the crystalline acid form, is used at a strength of 10,000 to 20,000 ppm or more and is concentrated on a single bud.

This can be applied in several different ways

- A. Breaking out the growth bud and applying a drop of gib in the bud's base.
- B. At the time of disbudding by breaking out excess floral buds and putting a drop of gib in the base left by the flower bud.
- C. By injection into the stem below the flower you want to gib with a hypodermic needle or thread soaked in gib.

If enough gib is applied through method A, unless the plant is healthy it is not going to like having 50% or more of its growth buds removed several years in a row and may turn up its heels and die in protest. However, some experts have gibbed every bud found on a mature bush in the ground for several years in a row with absolutely no damage.

Agriculturists use gibberellin at low concentrations and treat the whole plant to somewhat raise the concentration of gibberellin normally found in the plant, thus getting desired results without harming the plant. For example: There is a cut flower nursery in Southern California that has some very large old camellias on the grounds, these plants are sprayed each August-September with agricultural gib at a rate of 75-100ppm. As a result they have a high crop of flowers all a little larger size than standard for the variety with a heavier petal texture and excellent shipping qualities. The plants grow a little better than if not gibbed as it increases cell elongation in stems and leaves and since natural auxins also increase, the growth is better and stronger.

The type of gib used can make a great deal of difference to the plant even at the same concentrations. The emulsifiable concentrate is the worst, it is oil based and is completely absorbed immediately by the plant and tends to cause very extreme burning of the plants tissue (which can be as much from the oil as the gib). The gib tablets, a carbonate salt of the acid works more slowly than the other forms, but seems to do a great deal less damage to the plant. Possibly it is absorbed more slowly, or it may have to be altered in form before it can be used by the plant. The acid form of gibberellin falls somewhere in between the two, the buds develop more rapidly but it may cause tissue damage to the plant in these high concentrations.

We have a long way to go before finding the ideal solution, gib in a spray as used by the nursery was very beneficial to the plant, it can stop bullnosing and incomplete opening and give better texture to the flower. Over gibbing under certain circumstances (small container plants) can be detrimental, each person must use common sense and weigh the facts. But under no circumstances should we consider the abolition of gib, it has done too much for encouraging the camellia hobby for too many people.

(Continued on page 24)

Show Results

Los Angeles County Arvoretum—December 14-15, 1974

Award of Honor—Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Goertz, San Marino.

Best Treated Large Japonica—"Easter Morn", The Harlan Smith Family, Modesto.

Runner-up—"Elegans Splendor," Mel Gum, San Gabriel.

Best Treated Medium Japonica—"Margaret Davis," Caryll W. Pitkin, San Marino.

Runner-up—"Pink Pagoda," Franklin R. Moore, West Covina.

Best Non-treated Large Japonica—"Tiffany," Harry and Florence Humphrey, San Diego.

Runner-up—"Mark Alan," Fred V. Hamilton, Santa Maria.

Best Non-treated Medium Japonica—"Flame," Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Goertz, San Marino.

Runner-up—"Ballet Dancer," Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Goertz, San Marino.

Best Treated Miniature Japonica—"Johnny's Folly," Mr. and Mrs. I. John Movich, LaVerne.

Runner-up—"Angels Blush," Mr. and Mrs. Pat Novak, Van Nuys.

Best Treated Small Japonica—"Alison Leigh Woodroof," Mr. and Mrs. Sergio Bracci, San Gabriel.

Runner-up—"Kitty," Fred V. Hamilton, Santa Maria.

Best Non-treated Small Japonica—"Ava Maria," Carey and Amelia Bliss, San Gabriel.

Runner-up—"Puritan Lass," Mr. and Mrs. Harry Novick, Woodland Hills.

Best Treated Miniature—"Pearl's Pet," Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Harmsen, Claremont.

Runner-up—"Fircone Var," Mr. and Mrs. Grady Perigan, Arcadia.

Best Retic Hybrid—"Arch of Triumph," C. O. Peterson, Van Nuys.

Runner-up—"Valentine Day," Caryll W. Pitkin.

Best Non-Retic Hybrid—"Anticipation," Doug and Marilyn Batt, Windsor.

Runner-up—"Gay Time," A. Wilkins Garner, Glendale.

Best Sasanqua, Hiemalis or Vernalis—"Star Above Star," R. Jaacks, San Gabriel.

Runner-up—"Bonanza," I. John Movich, La Verne.

Best 3 Treated Japonicas—"Clark Hubbs," Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Goertz, San Marino.

Runner-up—"Tom Knudsen," Mel Gum, San Gabriel.

Best 3 Non-treated Japonicas—"Tiffany," Harry and Florence Humphrey, San Diego.

Runner-up—"Royal Trumpeteer," Carey and Amelia Bliss, San Gabriel.

Best 3 Boutonniere Japonicas—"Kitty," Fred V. Hamilton, Santa Maria.

Runner-up—"Pink Perfection," Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Schmidt, Arcadia.

Best 3 Retic Hybrids—"Valley Knudsen," Mr. and Mrs. Dan Bracci, San Gabriel.

Best 3 Non-Retic Hybrids—"Freedom Bell," Mr. and Mrs. Sergio Bracci, San Gabriel.

Best 3 Sasanqua, Hiemalis or Vernalis—"Shishi-Gashira," I. John Movich, La Verne.

(Continued on page 24)

CAMELLIA CLIPPINGS

Bill Donnan

By far, the most important words in this column are as follows:

The five most important—"We know you can contribute."

The four most important—"Will you help us?"

The three most important—"What's your opinion?"

The two most important—"Thank you."

The most important—"We."

Comments, ideas, and criticism are all welcome. For example, Bill Goertz sent me a clipping from Dear Abby and I'd like to include it.

"Dear Abby: I know this will sound dumb, but I have read that plants have feelings and I believe they do. I've also read that if you 'talk' to plants they will grow big and strong. I would like to talk to my plants but I don't know what to say to them!

Signed—Plant Lover"

"Dear Lover: It is my understanding that plants react to sound and what is said is less important than the tone one uses. In response to gentle, soothing, melodious sounds, plants are reported to grow nicely; but if assaulted by harsh, caustic, sharp sounds they will react negatively and die!"

Abby.

Well, my spies at the University tell me that plants do respond to sounds! The wave length of audible noises somehow titilates the stomata or pore openings on the leaves and there is a definite reaction. I'm not prepared to say that if you pipe Muzak into your lath house you will produce prize winning blooms. I can testify however, to the fact that I have cussed out the weeds in my flower beds in a caustic language and they still grow like crazy!

There are quite a few graduate

students in the various fields of Plant Science but, perhaps only one or two are directing their studies toward Camellias. One of these is Mr. Katsuhiko Kondo. He spent 3 days in Southern California during the later part of August. Mr. Kondo is a native of Japan. For the last five years he has been working on his Ph.D. Degree at North Carolina University under Dr. Parks. His doctoral problem deals with a genetic study of camellias.

Early to bed and early to rise—and you will miss a lot of fun!

An old friend of mine, "Ronnie" Aronovici, has sent me a discussion about die-back in his camellias at Rancho Bernardo. The article is too long to include in this column but the Editor has agreed to include it in this issue of the CAMELLIA REVIEW. The article is entitled "Death Watch."

Sooner or later a man reaches his "B" period of life: Baldness, Bridge-work, Bifocals and Bulge!

NEWS FROM INTERNATIONAL CAMELLIA SOCIETY

Houghton S. Hall, 66 Fawn Drive, San Anselmo, California 94960, has been appointed Membership Representative for USA for the International Camellia Society. Dues for 1975 should be sent to him—\$US 3.50 per year. New members who join for the year commencing April 1, 1975 will receive a copy of the November 1974 issue of the ICS Journal, existing members will receive theirs shortly.

The Journal will announce that Professor E. Waterhouse and David Trehane (Cornwall) have been elected unopposed for President and Vice President with respect to the year commencing April 1, 1975. There will be a voting form for the election of 15 Directors from 18 nominations.

THE NUCCIO INTRODUCTIONS

William E. Woodroof

Resume of talk to members of Southern California Camellia Society at the Society's May 1974 meeting

I first met Julius Nuccio around 1940 in his back yard nursery in Alhambra, where the brothers Joe and Julius started their nursery. Both brothers entered the military service in World War II and they moved their camellia plants to Joe's lath house at Joe's Santa Monica home. They returned from military service in 1945 and resumed the development of their present nursery. I believe that I have watched the development of all their camellia introductions during these years.

In my opinion, the success of the Nuccio introductions and their public acceptance over the years can be attributed to two principles to which they have adhered. First, they have not been in a hurry to release a new variety which looked promising in the beginning, but have tested it thoroughly before deciding to release it. Second their outlook has been for the long time and not for immediate sales of new introductions. They have abandoned dozens of seedlings which would have passed the test of many other camellia growers.

All the Nuccio japonica seedlings have been open pollinated, their own hybridizing having been limited to some work with hybrids. Their volume of sales calls for the planting of thousands of seeds every year to furnish understock for their grafting, which of course gives them a wide base for selection of promising chance seedlings for testing.

Since their first seedling introduction in 1950, 63 Nuccio seedlings have been put on the market. They are as follows by years, with the japonicas, reticulata hybrids, non-re-

ticulata hybrids and sasanquas shown separately.

JAPONICAS

1950

KATHERINE NUCCIO, rose red, medium, formal to rose form double that was named for their mother.

PRIMAVERA, white, medium formal double

1953

MASQUERADE, white striped pink large semi-double to anemone form.

1954

THOMAS D. PITTS, white, medium formal double that was named for a nurseryman in Los Angeles.

1955

MARGUERITE TOURJE, pink marginal white sport of MASQUERADE that was named for the wife of Carl Tourje, Editor of the Southern California Camellia Society publication CAMELLIA CULTURE.

MEI-LING, deep red, large semi-double to loose peony form.

1956

GUILIO NUCCIO, coral rose pink, large irregular semi-double. This has won the Southern California Camellia Society Margarete Hertrich Award and the American Camellia Society John Ilges Award.

JUDGE SOLOMAN, rose pink, medium to large, full peony form, named for an early President of the American Camellia Society.

SPRING DEB, medium pink, medium size, full peony form.

1957

MISS FRANKIE, soft pink, medium to large peony form.

SNOW CHAN, pure white sport of SHIRO CHAN.

VIRGINIA ROBINSON, orchid

pink, large semi-double.

1958

TINKER BELL, white striped pink and red, small, anemone form.

1959

BLAZE, red, medium single. CONQUISTADOR, coral rose, large, irregular semi-double. JINGLE BELLS, red sport of TINKER BELL. MAY INGRAM, orchid pink, medium formal double.

1960

CARA MIA, pink, medium to large semi-double. DISNEYLAND, rose pink, very large, semi-double to anemone form. SILVER ANNIVERSARY, white, large irregular semi-double. WARRIOR, red, medium to large, semi-double to full peony form.

1961

ALEXIS SMITH, blush pink, large, semi-double to loose peony form. HIT PARADE, pink, large irregular semi-double. MAROON AND GOLD, maroon, small to medium, loose peony form.

1962

COED, blush pink, medium to large, formal to rose form double. GRAND SLAM, dark red, large to very large, semi-double to anemone form. Has won both the Margarete Hertrich and John Ilges Awards. KICK OFF, pink marked deep pink, large to very large loose peony form. TOUCHDOWN, deep rose pink sport of KICK OFF.

1963

ACE OF HEARTS, red, medium to large semi-double. CANDY CANE, white striped red, medium formal double. CORAL QUEEN, coral pink, medium to large irregular semi-double. GRAUDEUR, coral rose, large to very large irregular semi-double. MIDNIGHT, black red, medium, irregular semi-double. SILVER CHALICE, white, medium to large full peony form. WILDFIRE, orange red, medium semi-double.

1964

TWILIGHT, blush pink, medium to large formal double

1965

BERENICE BEAUTY, pale pink, medium to large, semi-double to loose peony form. BERENICE PERFECTION, pale pink margined deeper pink, medium formal double. COVER GIRL, pink, medium formal double. CHEERLEADER, variegated form of TOUCHDOWN. SILVER RUFFLES, white, large to very large irregular semi-double.

1967

MATADOR, dark red, large, semi-double to loose peony form. SCENTATION, silver pink, medium to large peony form. Fragrant. SPRING FEVER, rose pink, very large, full peony form.

1968

GRAND PRIX, red, very large irregular semi-double. Has won Margarete Hertrich Award.

1969

CARNIVAL QUEEN, white striped rose red, large to very large, semi-double to peony form.

LITTLE SLAM, red, miniature, full peony form. Has won the William E. Wylam Miniature Award of the Southern California Camellia Society. SILVER WAVES, white, large to very large, irregular semi-double.

1970

NUCCIO'S GEM, white, medium to large formal double. Has won Margarete Hertrich Award.

1971

CARNIVAL PRINCE, deep pink sport of CARNIVAL QUEEN. CARNIVAL PRINCESS, light pink edged white, sport of CARNIVAL QUEEN.

1973

BOB HOPE, dark red, large, irregular semi-double. MIDNIGHT SERENADE, dark red, medium to large single. SILVER TRIUMPH, white, large irregular semi-double.

(Continued on page 22)

CAMELLIAS FEATURED

Camellias were featured in the Shade Garden Display at the Los Angeles County Fair by Pomona Valley Camellia Society. The Los Angeles County Fair, largest in America, had an attendance of over one million people during its 17 day exhibition in September. The Camellias in this display were selected for growth characteristics best suited to the design and for the buds that would be treated with gibberelic acid to bloom at this very early time. All buds were treated in early August and many flowered during the fair run. The display attracted a great amount of interest and admiration. Attendants reported to the Society that more photographs were made of the display than any other in the flower building. This measure of appeal is most meaningful to those who have camellia interest.

The Pomona Valley Camellia Society has entered this competition for the last 5 years. The prize money is used to support the objectives of the Society. Programs include Camellia culture, Bloom displays to demonstrate the beauty of the camellia and an annual Camellia show which is co-sponsored with Pomona First Federal Savings & Loan Association.



DEATH WATCH

V. S. Aronovici

There is nothing more tragic to a camellia fancier than to watch the slow death of their favorite camellia. I consider myself a reasonably experienced camellia grower. I had several hundred healthy plants in Claremont, California. Some are still growing tall in the old garden and a few potted plants are honored in the collection of the "Camellia Clippings" editor. After many years absence from California, we settled in Rancho Bernardo, just across from an avid collector, Dr. Fred Mawrey. I caught the bug and began a limited collection, limited only because of restricted favorable exposure. My collection consists of some old standards and some new varieties.

All went well for the first two years, then without warning I noticed excessive leaf drop on a few camellia plants. As a soil scientist, I am familiar with the rudimentary hazards of over and under watering, over and under fertilizing and possible salinity buildup when using Colorado River water. Next the leaf tips began to turn brown and spread inward and drop. The death watch was on. In the struggle to survive, some new leaves appeared but showed chlorotic symptoms. Buds turned brown and dropped. This called for emergency treatment. I chelated all my plants and the severe ones were leached with ionized distilled water. Stems and branches now turned brown and I declared the plants officially dead. First it was a 'Mathotiana' followed by my 'Adolphe Audusson,' 'Mrs. Tingley' and finally a large 'Tropic Daun' is looking very poorly.

Postmortems revealed no waterlogging and no severe root lesions. However, the roots did not look healthy.

(Continued on page 24)

HOW WE DO IT AT THE TEMPLE CITY, CALIFORNIA SHOW

Arthur Krumm, Show Chairman

Most of the show procedures I am about to comment on are probably well known to exhibitors in the Southern California area. I would like to tell other areas of the country how we try to make a show run as smooth as possible. (Some of the ideas may even help show chairman in this area).

I have never been able to attend shows in other areas, so bear with me, maybe only one little bit of show procedure will help some show, somewhere.

Our show is held in the Lecture Hall of the Los Angeles County Arboretum, in Arcadia, California. This hall measures 40 feet by 90 feet. It is our belief that the main feature of any show is the display of individual blooms. Because of lack of space we limit multiple entries to one tray of three japonicas and one tray of three hybrids per exhibitor, otherwise we would run out of space, and the show would become a jammed up mess, instead of an orderly neat layout with plenty of room for blooms that are exhibited. I have seen shows where you can't tell where one bloom ends and the next begins. In other words, fit your show schedule to the space available, thereby achieving a harmonious display of blooms that is pleasing to the public that will view it.

I'll skip all about naming committees and preparing a show schedule and get on to the little jobs that can be done before and during the show that we have found make for a smoother running show for the Committee, and a pleasure for an exhibitor to bring his blooms to.

We have on hand a bloom count by variety taken in prior years. We have a very complete set of varietal name cards of most varieties that have been exhibited in the past ten years.

A month or so prior to the show we go through the file cards and remove those that will be placed on the tables, based on the record of prior years, and record in pencil on the back how many spaces will be given to each variety, but not to exceed the number of spaces available for any particular class. Anticipate what varieties will be shown and you will have less trouble in straightening out your display tables before judging.

Our show schedule includes an extra sheet that is a rough sketch of where each division or class is located in the hall.

I have developed a Trophy Award Card which I make up in duplicate before the show with the name of the award put on by me with the use of a stencil I have. (Card is 4" x 6-3/4") (The two Donor lines are cut off for our show).

Exhibit A—Trophy Award Card

RUNNER-UP

3 Japonicas

Variety

Won by

Donor

We also have a small card that is made up before the show with "Court of Honor" put on with my stencil that is used to identify blooms that did not win Best or Runner-up in their classes, but were in contention. (The words "Variety" and "Won By" and the lines on both award cards are done by a print shop). (Card is 2" x 4").

COURT OF HONOR

Variety

Won by

During the preparation of the show schedule it is decided in what classes individual judging teams will pick the trophy winners. For these classes I prepare a set of self-adhesive gummed labels cut to fit the back of the entry cards, labeled in different colors of felt pens as to what awards are to be given, i.e., Best, Runner-Up, Court of Honor, etc. Also prepared before the show are self-adhesive gummed labels for use at the Court of Honor where voting by several teams of judges pick the awards in all classes other than those mentioned above.

Exhibit C—Self Adhesive Stickers

BEST
SMALL
JAPONICA

RUN-UP
SMALL
JAPONICA

COURT
OF
HONOR

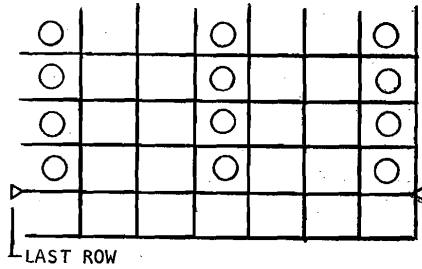
Now comes the day or evening when the show is set up. Temple City is lucky enough to have all day Friday before a Saturday show to set up. (We do it in four hours!)

The 30 inch wide tables are covered with a thin 36 inch wide black plastic.

We have developed a wooden jig that locates seven rows of cups at six inches and four deep, and then is

moved along the table. In the Large-Medium japonica section we omit two rows of cups at the end of each eight foot table which allows for any expansion that may be needed. We have another jig that is used for hybrids and treated blooms that locates cups eight inches apart and three deep. This procedure goes very fast and lines the cups up in neat rows.

Exhibit D—Cup Jig



We have four sizes of containers we use. We try to fit the container to the class of bloom that is going to be displayed in it, thereby eliminating the situation where the bloom is either too large or too small for the container. (I have seen this in shows in this area).

1. Tiny ($\frac{3}{4}$ oz) plastic cup (jelly cup) with a cardboard base attached that is used for miniatures and species.
2. Medium sized plastic coated paper cups (3 oz) that is used for large and medium japonicas.
3. Large plastic cup (5 oz) used for hybrids and treated blooms.
4. Small plastic cup (1- $\frac{1}{2}$ oz) used for small japonicas.

We then place the varietal name cards that have previously been removed from the files according to the spaces marked on the back. With two people working together this operation goes very fast.

The self-adhesive gummed labels mentioned above are placed at the appropriate class tables.

We have a couple of plastic buckets with a rubber tubing attached near the bottom that are placed on a platform fitted to the top of a shopping cart above the table level from which the cups are filled by gravity with water. We also use a Hudson Garden Sprayer that fills cups through the wand.

We use TV trays painted black in which cups are placed for trays of three. (We don't have room for trays of five, etc.)

During the time the display tables are being prepared the trophy committee has finished setting up the trophy table.

We use 50 eight foot tables throughout the hall and can accommodate up to 1,800 blooms, and still maintain six foot aisles for easy access and viewing of the blooms.

This whole staging job takes about four hours with a crew of 12, and EVERYTHING is ready to receive blooms on Saturday morning. This means the show committee will have time to see to their blooms and not have a lot of work left over to do on Saturday morning. (I have been to a number of shows where the trophies are not ready when judging starts).



Now comes the day of the show. We open the hall to exhibitors at 7:30 a.m., and entries close at 10:00 a.m. Exhibitors are allowed to place their own blooms, or seek help from the placement committee. From ten to eleven we clear the tables of any unused cups, straighten up any areas of blooms that may be jammed up, and generally clean up the area in readiness for the start of judging at eleven or sooner if possible.

We have a separate room outside the exhibition hall with tables and chairs with an adjoining kitchen where coffee and rolls are served to one and all. This room is used for the meeting of the judges for instructions from the chairman.

I make it a point to take a few minutes away from my other duties to introduce myself to the judges, and thank them for their time and effort.

The individual judging teams that are to pick certain class winners by themselves have been given a written list of the awards that are to be selected. They are instructed to peel off the self-adhesive gummed labels that are located at each class table and attach them to the back of the entry cards of the winning blooms, thus practically eliminating errors in identifying what bloom is to receive what trophy. Judges that vote at the court of honor on blooms from certain classes are given packets of ballots at the briefing, thus eliminating the confusion of passing out ballots over the court of honor tables. Our judges vote for four blooms in the Large and Medium Japonica classes, which has worked to eliminate ties.

A new procedure initiated last year by my chairman of judges, Mel Gum, was used to eliminate the crowding of judges around the Court of Honor all trying to see the blooms at the same time, and making their selections. Judge teams pass one at a time

How We Do It (Cont)

by the tables of blooms in single file, in the order that the chairman calls them, making their selections, casting their votes and moving out of the way to let the next team proceed. (Credit is due to some show Mr. Gum attended in the South).

Situated behind the Court of Honor voting tables and immediately in front of the trophy table are the people that conduct the voting for the Court of Honor blooms in certain classes. Immediately to the side of the trophy table are the Trophy Award Cards (see Exhibits A and B), writers who early in the judging receive blooms and entry cards that have been awarded trophies in classes where a single judging team selects the winners. The variety and winner is first recorded on a pre-prepared listing of trophies. The entry card which has a gummed sticker on the back indicating the award is then passed to the card writer who fills in the variety and winner's name on the corresponding Trophy Card or Court of Honor Card. Then entry card, and bloom are given to the trophy committee for placement by the corresponding trophy, replacing a temporary award card that had been put there when the trophies had been arranged on the tables.

After Court of Honor voting is completed self-adhesive gummed stickers are applied to the back of the entry cards for Best, Runner-Up and Court of Honor and then they are processed through the card writer to the trophy tables as outlined above, except that blooms that were in contention for the Court of Honor and did not make it are given a Special Award Ribbon and placed on a table apart from the trophies. This whole area around the trophies is blocked off with tables so that nobody, and I mean NOBODY, other than those assigned there, is al-

lowed behind the tables until every winning bloom is processed and placed on the trophy table. A sort of production line operation.

With an average of about 1,500 blooms displayed we are able to start the judging at 11:00 a.m. and have the show ready to open to the public before, and never later than 1:00 p.m. None of this hanging around until 3 or 4:00 p.m. to find out what blooms won what trophies.

We are very proud of the smooth manner in which our show is conducted and have had many compliments on our procedures. This is a good time for me to extend my thanks to the many people who have helped us earn this reputation.

My motto is: "Do everything that can be done before the day of the show, BEFORE the day of the show."

P.S. To any of you camellia people in the Southern California area who want to see a smooth job of staging, drop by on Friday morning before the show. We can use your help too.

Schedule For Foreign (Cont)

beginning at six o'clock. The Poster is located on Walnut Street at Oak Knoll Avenue. Many of our people have already signed up for this event with Bev Piet; others wishing to do so should call her at once. After dinner everyone is invited to attend the Temple City Camellia Society meeting at the Arboretum, which will be programmed for getting acquainted, visiting and establishing friendships — with short talks by several of our visitors and also by our own hobbyists.

It is hoped that when our guests leave on Friday morning for Hawaii and home, that they will not be too weary and that they will take with them many pleasant memories of their visit to America.

Nuccio's 40th (Cont)

makes *one more man!* At ages 58 and 60, Julius and Joe are beginning to ease off from the one-hundred hour week to something less than that!

Back in the late 1950s, when it didn't cost an arm and a leg to include a color plate and when you didn't have to mortgage the house to have a slick-paper catalogue printed, Nuccio's put out one of the finest, 32-page catalogues in the business. These catalogues often had as many as 50 color plates in them together with 5 or 6 pages devoted to information on how to plant, grow, and care for camellias. Much of this information was later included in the *Sunset Book On Camellias*. These old catalogues are a valuable asset to any library of camellias and azaleas.

What does the future hold? The Nuccios, like everyone else are looking for a new color. A yellow; an orange or a blue would be nice. Maybe a brilliant red 'Nuccio's Gem' or a white 'Fred Sanders' azalea will come along. However, if you are ever lucky enough to walk through the New Propagation lath house during the blooming season you will gaze on camellias and azaleas that are *out of this world!* Furthermore, the second generation of Nuccios—young Joe and young Tom hold forth the promise that Nuccio's Nurseries will be around when your grandchildren start planting!

The nursery has sold and shipped plants to nearly every state in the Union and to England, France, Italy, Portugal, Mexico, Costa Rico, Japan, Phillipines, Taiwan, Australia, and New Zealand. As Julius and Joe exclaim, "The best thing about this business is the friends we have made through-out the camellia world."

And so Dear Reader, If you have a yen to visit a Camellia Institution, or to buy a camellia, or see how they

grow, or talk about how to grow them, or talk about good red wine, or just sit on the bench and listen to Bill Woodruff and Mel Gum argue about whether Julius should name his latest introduction, Dago Red, or Fertile Myrtle, or Hearty Burgandy—get into your car and drive over to Chaney Trail. I promise you that you won't be wasting your time!

The Nuccio Intro (Cont)

HYBRIDS WITH RETICULATA— 1964

FRANCIE L, rose pink, very large irregular semi-double. Has won the Edwards H. Metcalf Hybrid Award of the Southern California Camellia Society and the Aubrey Harris Hybrid Award of the American Camellia Society.

1968

CHINA LADY, orchid pink, very large irregular semi-double.

1971

DREAM CASTLE, deep silver pink, very large irregular semi-double.

HYBRIDS WITH OTHER THAN RETICULATA PARENTAGE

1965

FREEDOM BELL, red, small semi-double.

1969

ROSE PARADE, rose pink, medium formal double.

SASANQUAS

DAZZLER, large red semi-double.

LITTLE PEARL, pink buds opening pure white. Medium irregular semi-double. SHOWA SUPREME, soft pink, large, peony form.

YULETIDE, orange red, small, single, compact upright growth.

I believe that Nuccios have established a good record since their first introduction in 1940 in having won the Margarete Hertrich Award four

A REPORT FOR THE CAMELLIA SOCIETY ON MONROVIA NURSERY

Darcie Garrison

Botany Student, Glendale Community College

As a student of Professor Yarick's Botany class in the Spring of 1974, I was able to attend a Camellia Society outing at the Monrovia Nursery in May.

The field trip to the nursery was very informative. Since the nursery is one of the largest in the United States, it carries on a vast amount of responsibilities to private nurseries here in California and to many distributors outside the state.

The time at the Monrovia Nursery was mainly spent on a well-informed, guided tour through most of its 350 or so acres. Our first stop took us through the propagation houses. An interesting point brought up at this time was that most of the plants at the nursery are propagated here instead of grown by seed.

The tour guide also showed us a few green houses where the propagated plants are taken. The plants are watered by a mist from the top of the house and also watered underneath. A box filled with soil is used as a temperature control box. The temperature of the room is regulated by the temperature of the soil in the control box. The guide also showed an experimental green house where the nursery is experimenting with recycling all the water being used in the house. This I felt is a profitable concern to the community and to the nursery, since the nursery's water supply is dependent mostly on their own well, and with each irrigation they use one million gallons of water.

After viewing the green houses, our group was driven up to the more recently opened part of the nursery. This part was under-developed and they were still working on the con-

struction of water pipes in that area. From where we were, on top of a hill, we were able to see most of the nursery and the differences in the ground levels. Our guide pointed out that the varying ground levels have different temperatures according to their location. This is an excellent way to position plants according to their tolerance of temperature and sun exposure. Also, our guide pointed out that by creating different levels of ground, the nursery acquires a large amount of soil which they use for planting.

The nursery gave each of us on the tour an information sheet which provided some interesting details about the nursery. The nursery grows about 1400 different types of plants and are experimenting with about 300 of them. They have an automatic fertilizing system that injects a certain amount of fertilizer every 24 hours. As for weed control, they use about 150 different types of herbicides, but (methyl) bromide is used the most in the soil mixtures.

I felt the time spent at the Monrovia Nursery was very profitable. I would like to extend my gratitude to the members of the Camellia Society whom I met on the trip. Their warm hospitality and friendliness made the trip not only profitable, but also exceptionally pleasant.

The Nuccio Intro (Cont)

times, the John Ilges Award two times, the Edwards H. Metcalf Hybrid Award one time, The Aubrey Harris Hybrid Award one time and the William E. Wylam Miniature Award one time.

DEATH WATCH (Cont.)

Each camellia lost was one of the old varieties with relatively small and light leaves. I have had no symptoms develop on my 'Drama Girl,' 'Guilio Nuccio,' 'D. W. Davis' and others, all were grown in the same environment and treatment.

The problem is not confined to my small collection. Neighbors have come to me asking why their camellias are dying. About half of the new plantings in our community center are showing the same symptoms. With the variety of planting conditions, exposure, irrigation, fertilizer and camellia variety, one can only surmise that a disease is at the root of the trouble. Does anyone have any suggestions?

Camellias, Philosophy (Cont)

Perhaps I have not answered your question directly, but this is my procedure. It is not easy, especially among my faculty friends, to employ

these procedures with 80 students where the time honored tradition is academic, lecture and test. They consider that perhaps I am trying to buy them off. Perhaps these procedures are accepted here in Glendale because these students are the greatest.

Try It. You'll Like It. (Cont)

4. Try to hide the mechanics of your arrangements so that the whole looks natural. Use small stones or moss around the needle holder. If wire is necessary, be clever and keep it hidden.

5. Last but not least and really the hardest to remember is **DO NOT USE TOO MUCH OR TOO MANY THINGS.** You are not a florist selling flowers but an arranger of beauty within a given space.

Simple beauty is the most effective, so don't be discouraged. It's fun, try it, you'll like it.

GIBBERELLINS (Cont)

So you ultra conservatives, criticizing gib without knowing the facts or having ever used it, give it a fair try, if for no other reason than to have a beautiful camellia bouquet for the Thanksgiving table. We in northern California get our most exquisite blooms in late October and November, by gibbing of course, usually starting the first week of September. We do this not for competition, for there are no shows in California until the first week of December, but for sheer enjoyment of our Camellia blooms.

"Annual Review of Plant Physiology," Vol 16, 1965 & Vol. 21, 1970.

STEWART, Mr. F. C., 'Plant Physiology,' Vol. VI b, "The Hormones" by Academic Press, New York, 1971.

Show Results (Cont)

Best Non-Treated Seedling—Retic Hybrid No. 461, Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Shinnault, Northridge.

Best Treated Seedling—Retic, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Bracci, San Gabriel.
Collectors Tray—Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Goertz, San Marino.

Runner-up—Mr. and Mrs. Sergio Bracci, San Gabriel.
Twenty Court of Honor Awards.

Directory of California Camellia Societies

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

*CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF KERN COUNTY

President: Lemuel Freeman; Secretary-Treasurer Mrs. Fred R. Dukes, Jr. 733 Del Mar Drive Bakersfield 93307

Meetings: 2nd Monday Oct. through Apr. (Except 3rd Monday in Nov.) at Franklin School, Truxton and A St., Bakersfield

*CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF ORANGE COUNTY

President: Charles Mc F. Reed; Secretary: Mrs. George T. Butler, 1831 Windsor Lane, Santa Ana 92705

Meetings: 3rd Thursday Nov. through Apr. at Great Western Savings & Loan Bldg., 1418 No. Main St., Santa Ana

CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF SACRAMENTO

President: James M. Randall; Secretary: Mrs. Frank P. Mack, 2222 G St., Sacramento 95816

Meetings: 4th Wednesday Oct. through Apr. in Shepard Garden & Art Center, 3300 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento

*CENTRAL CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Arthur Gonos; Secretary: Mrs. Wilbur V. Ray, 5024 E. Laurel Ave., Fresno 93727

Meetings: 3rd Wednesday Nov. through February in All-purpose Room Mayfair School, 3305 E. Home, Fresno, Oct. 12 Kickoff Breakfast 8:30 A.M. at Jack Woo residence, 1327 East Ashlan Ave., Fresno, Mar. 19 Annual Barbeque 6:10 P.M. at Calif. State University at Fresno in the Horticultural Bldg.

DELTA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Jack Lewis; Secretary: Mrs. James E. Scott, 4285 Inverness Dr., Pittsburg 94565

Meetings: 2nd Wednesday Nov. through March at Sunitomo Bank, Contra Costa Blvd., Pleasant Hill

JOAQUIN CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Donald W. Hurst; Secretary: Mrs. Ethel S. Willits, 502 N. Pleasant Ave., Lodi 95240

Meetings: 3rd Wed Oct. through Apr. at 1st Federal Savings & Loan Community Room, Lodi

LOS ANGELES CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: James Tuliano; Secretary: Mrs. Haidee Steward, 130 S. Citrus, Los Angeles 90036

Meetings: 1st Tuesday Dec. through Apr. at Hollywood Women's Club, 1749 N. La Brea, Hollywood

MODESTO CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Ronald Kellogg; Secretary: Mrs. Helen Caputi, 1605 Victoria Dr., Modesto 95351

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

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Edward A. Hays; Secretary: Wm. Lockwood, 3226 Primrose Ln., Walnut Creek 94598

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

PACIFIC CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Melvin L. Gum; Sec Mrs. A. L. Summerson, 1370 San Luis Rey Dr., Glendale 91208

Meetings: 1st Thurs Nov.—Apr. Tuesday Aft. Club House, 400 N. Central Ave., Glendale

PENINSULA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Harlow P. Rothert; Secretary: Andrew R. Johnson, Jr., 28 Lloyd Dr., Atherton 94025

Meetings 4th Tuesday Sept. through Apr. in Hospitality Room, West Coast Federal Savings Bldg. 700 El Camino Real, Redwood City, Calif. 94061

*POMONA VALLEY CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Ronald D. Braid; Secretary: Mrs. Janice Hawes, 12625 Kellogg Ave., Chino 91710

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

*SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Benjamin H. Berry; Secretary: Harry Humphrey, 4659 Winona Ave., San Diego 92115

Meetings: 3rd Wed Nov—Apr Rm 101, Casa Del Prado Bldg., Balboa Pk San Diego at 7:30 P.M.

SANTA CLARA COUNTY CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: John M. Augis; Secretary: Mrs. Helen Augis, 2254 Fair Valley Court, San Jose 95125

Meetings: 2nd Thursday Sept. through April

SONOMA COUNTY CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Alton B. Parker; Secretary: Joy Monteleone 505 Olive St., Santa Rosa 95401

Meetings: 4th Thursday Nov. through Apr. (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: Franklin R. Moore, Sec: Mrs. Elsie Bracci, 5567 N. Burton Av., San Gabriel 91776

Meetings: Friday Nov. 15, Friday Dec. 20, Thursday Jan. 23, Thursday Feb. 27, Thursday Mar. 27 and Thursday Apr. 24 at the Los Angeles County Arboretum Seminar Room in Arcadia

**SOUTHERN
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