

THE *Camellia*  
REVIEW

A Publication of the Southern California Camellia Society



'PINK FROST'

*Courtesy Nuccio's Nurseries*

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No. 3

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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

### C. JAPONICA 'PINK FROST'

'Pink Frost' is a *C. japonica* sport of 'Pink Pagoda'. It was discovered by Mr. S. E. Foster of El Cajon, California in 1970 and it was propagated by Nuccio's Nurseries and released in 1975. The flower is a medium to large, formal double. The petals are silvery pink with a white border. The plant has a vigorous, upright, compact growth and it blooms in mid-season.

### CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE

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## THOUGHTS FROM THE EDITOR

I have often cogitated upon the remarkable affinity between camellias and wine. If any of you have ever had the privilege of visiting Nuccio's Nurseries on a Saturday morning, and sat on the "philosopher's bench" listening to the "experts," you will note that the conversation drifts from gibbing to grafting; to hybridizing; to the relative merits of UCLA versus SC. (and SC versus Notre Dame). But sooner or later the topic gravitates to wine; and more specifically to the best, the heaviest, the heartiest, the most perfect "Dago-Red" wine.

Well, this is as it should be. If you scratch a Camellia Hobbist with a sharp camellia twig he will probably bleed a form of Burgandy. Camellias and Wine go together. This is because they both thrive in the same salubrious, Mediterranean climate. For example, you wouldn't expect to find any camellias growing around an Eskimo igloo and an Eskimo doesn't drink wine. He needs a stronger kind of anti-freeze in his veins. I suspect that if someone climbed the slopes of the Himalaya Mountains to where the camellia plant originated he would find grape vines growing in the same area. Some of our best wine-grape areas in California also produce excellent camellias. There is something about the warm days and cool nights that makes the camellia plant thrive. The famous wine-grape areas of France and Italy also play host to the camellia plant. I don't know how the wines of Australia and New Zealand are, but I'll go way out on a limb and declare that since they have some of the finest camellias in the world, they must also produce a good quality wine!

With all this affinity between enology and camellias one would have thought that in the quest for new names for our seedlings and mutants, we would have used wine varietal names. Not so! Very few "wine oriented" names have been used. A quick review of CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE reveals only 6 cultivars with wine oriented names. They are: 'Sparkling Burgandy'; 'Dubonnet'; 'Champagne Music'; 'Elgans Champagne'; 'Pink Champagne'; and 'Burgandy Queen'. I can foresee the day when someone is going to name his new pink seedling 'Pink Chablis' and if someone gets a good, big, red, formal double it will be named "Hearty Burgandy" or 'Pinot Noir'.

Notwithstanding the fact that we have not utilized wine names for our new camellias we have never-the-less created a close association between camellias and wine. Therefore, what is more fitting than to schedule the 1977 Annual Convention of the American Camellia Society in one of the Wine Capitals of California, namely Modesto. Not only that, but the Show will be hosted in the World's largest winery, the Gallo Winery at Modesto. The Modesto Camellia Society has held its Annual Show at the Gallo Winery in the past, but this Show bids fair to be a landmark convention. It's not too early to begin to make plans to attend.

Actually, that is the real reason for writing this Editorial — to call your attention to the 1977 ACS Convention. Let's all get behind the Modesto Camellia Society to make the Convention a success. Let's all plan to attend. After all, where else can you see the World's most beautiful flowers whilst quaffing a glass of the World's finest wines?

*Bill Donnan*

# CUTTING PROPAGATION OF CAMELLIA SPECIES AND HYBRIDS

CLIFFORD R. PARKS<sup>1</sup>

Over a number of years and for a number of research purposes, we have propagated a large number of camellias by cuttings. While we have not rooted cuttings in a specific program to study propagation, and our propagation facilities are inferior to those used by many commercial nurseries, we have carefully recorded the number of cuttings successfully rooting in each attempt. Since there is little available information on cutting propagation of camellia hybrids, our propagation data are presented here and hopefully will be of value to those propagating hybrids. Since the rooting is a biproduct of other studies, the populations rooted for each species and hybrid combination are not uniform. Combinations, such as *Camellia* X *williamsii*, which have been studied extensively are represented by large experimental populations. On the other hand, we have scant data on the hybrids involving some of the small-flowered species, such as *C. cuspidata* and *C. fraterna*, which we do not use extensively. Generally, while conclusions based on small samples are less reliable; small samples can provide a suggestion of rooting behavior.

The results from attempts to root *Camellia* species are presented in Table 1. *Camellia sasanqua* and the species closely allied to it (members of Section Paracamellia of the Genus *Camellia*) are mostly rather easy to root. Note that *Camellia sasanqua*, *C. miyaggi*, and hybrids between the two show similar rooting behavior. From scant information, it appears that *Camellia tenuiflora* and *C. transnokoensis* also have similar rooting capacity. Unlike the Paracamellia species, those of the Section *Camellia* vary greatly in their propensity to strike roots. *Camellia japonica* roots readily, but the two related hexaploids, *C. reticulata* and *C. pitardii*, root only with great difficulty. *Camellia*

Table 1. A measure of the rooting capacity of *Camellia* species.

Species	Total number of cuttings	Percentage rooted
Section <i>Camellia</i>		
<i>C. japonica</i>	211	54
<i>C. pitardii</i> var. <i>pitardii</i>	84	2
<i>C. reticulata</i>	67	13
<i>C. saluenensis</i>	118	19
<i>C. wabisuke</i>	28	32
Section Paracamellia		
<i>C. sasanqua</i> (includes <i>C. hiemalis</i> )	369	55
<i>C. miyaggi</i> <sup>(1)</sup>	14	50
<i>C. sasanqua</i> x <i>C. miyaggi</i> <sup>(1)</sup>	410	53
<i>C. tenuiflora</i>	44	57
<i>C. transnokoensis</i>	not recorded	<sup>(2)</sup>
Species in other sections		
<i>C. cuspidata</i>	77	23
<i>C. fraterna</i>	29	21
<i>C. lutchuensis</i>	54	67
<i>C. salicifolia</i>	13	31

(1) *Camellia sasanqua* and *C. miyaggi* are considered to be the same species, *C. sasanqua*.

(2) The exact percentage is not available, but it seems to root as well as other Paracamellia species.



*saluenensis* is intermediate between *C. japonica* and the hexaploids in its capacity to root. The anomalous Wabasuke camellias root with some difficulty. The fine-textured species of Section Theopsis of the genus which we have propagated (such as *C. cuspidata*, *C. fraterna*, and *C. lutchuensis*) do not, with the exception of *C. lutchuensis*, root as easily as *C. sasanqua* or *C. japonica*.

Table 2. A measure of the rooting capacity of hybrids with *Camellia japonica* as one parent.

Hybrid	Total number of cuttings	Percentage rooted
<i>C. japonica</i> <sup>(1)</sup> x <i>C. cuspidata</i>	28	79
<i>C. japonica</i> x <i>C. granthamiana</i>	49	51
<i>C. japonica</i> x <i>C. hongkongensis</i>	57	30
<i>C. japonica</i> x <i>C. lutchuensis</i>	57	56
<i>C. japonica</i> x <i>C. pitardii</i> var. <i>pitardii</i>	243	30
<i>C. japonica</i> x <i>C. reticulata</i>	285	57
<i>C. japonica</i> x ( <i>C. reticulata</i> x <i>C. pitardii</i> )	82	40
<i>C. japonica</i> x <i>C. saluenensis</i> cv. 'Tourje Form'	62	40
<i>C. japonica</i> x <i>C. saluenensis</i> (English form)	1045	43
<i>C. japonica</i> x <i>sasanqua</i>	62	40
<i>C. japonica</i> x <i>C. Tsaii</i>	5	100
<i>C. japonica</i> x <i>C. X williamsii</i>	428	56

(1) Several different crosses may be represented in each hybrid category, and the species listed first is not necessarily the seed parent.

The rooting capacity of hybrids with *C. reticulata* or *C. pitardii* as one parent is presented in Table 3. Among these groups in general, the rooting percentage is rather low reflecting the poor rooting capacity of *C. pitardii* and *C. reticulata*. With *C. pitardii* var. *pitardii*, only hybrids with *C. sasanqua*, (*C. sasanqua* x *C. reticulata*), and *C. X williamsii* root moderately well. Also included in Table 3 are results for some complex hybrids with the *C. reticulata* x *C. pitardii* primary hybrid as one parent.

The results obtained with hybrids which have *C. japonica* as one parent are presented in Table 2. It is surprising to note that the ease of propagation of these hybrid groupings cannot be reliably predicted from the rooting behavior of their parent species. *Camellia japonica* x *C. pitardii* and *C. japonica* x *C. saluenensis* hybrids root a little better than the average of the parent species; however, *C. japonica* x *C. reticulata* hybrids generally root as easily as their *C. japonica* parent. Some hybrid combinations, such as *C. japonica* x *C. cuspidata*, root more readily than either parent while others, such as *C. japonica* x *C. lutchuensis*, root only about as well as the less easily rooted parent, *C. japonica*. The putative hybrids between *C. japonica* and *C. sasanqua* root less readily than either parent. (This is a very difficult hybrid to synthesize, and some of the seedlings in this group are doubtfully hybrid.)

The results with *C. sasanqua* and *C. saluenensis* hybrids are presented in Table 4. With *C. saluenensis*, only hybrids with *C. granthamiana* and *C. lutchuensis* root readily. Excepting the combination with *C. oleifera*, *C. sasanqua* hybrids are easily rooted. Some small samples from hybrids involving *C. cuspidata*, *C. fraterna*, and *C. X williamsii* are also included in this last table.

Table 3. A measure of the rooting capacity of hybrids with *Camellia pitardii* or *C. reticulata* as one parent.

Hybrid	Total number of cuttings	Percentage rooted
<i>C. pitardii</i> var. <i>pitardii</i> <sup>(1)</sup> x <i>C. fraterna</i>	18	22
<i>C. pitardii</i> var. <i>pitardii</i> x <i>C. granthamiana</i>	4	25
<i>C. pitardii</i> var. <i>pitardii</i> x <i>C. lutchuensis</i>	94	49
<i>C. pitardii</i> var. <i>pitardii</i> x <i>C. sasanqua</i>	84	18
<i>C. pitardii</i> var. <i>pitardii</i> x <i>C. X williamsii</i>	16	25
<i>C. reticulata</i> x <i>C. fraterna</i>	35	34
<i>C. reticulata</i> x <i>C. granthamiana</i>	31	48
<i>C. reticulata</i> x <i>C. pitardii</i> varieties	300	27
<i>C. reticulata</i> x <i>C. saluenensis</i>	13	8
<i>C. reticulata</i> x <i>C. sasanqua</i>	137	53
<i>C. reticulata</i> x ( <i>C. reticulata</i> x <i>C. sasanqua</i> )	7	43
<i>C. reticulata</i> x <i>C. williamsii</i>	37	54
( <i>C. reticulata</i> x <i>C. pitardii</i> var. <i>pitardii</i> ) x <i>C. pitardii</i> varieties	423	23
( <i>C. reticulata</i> x <i>C. pitardii</i> var. <i>pitardii</i> ) x <i>C. reticulata</i>	166	14
( <i>C. reticulata</i> x <i>C. pitardii</i> var. <i>pitardii</i> ) x <i>C. williamsii</i>	32	38

(1) See footnote (1) in Table 2.

Table 4. A measure of the rooting capacity of hybrids with *Camellia saluenensis*, *C. sasanqua*, *C. cuspidata*, and *C. fraterna*.

Hybrid	Total number of cuttings	Percentage rooted
<i>C. saluenensis</i> x <i>C. cuspidata</i> <sup>(1)</sup>	69	13
<i>C. saluenensis</i> x <i>C. granthamiana</i>	24	54
<i>C. saluenensis</i> x <i>C. lutchuensis</i>	65	52
<i>C. saluenensis</i> x <i>C. sasanqua</i>	22	27
<i>C. sasanqua</i> x <i>C. granthamiana</i>	109	67
<i>C. sasanqua</i> x <i>C. oleifera</i>	69	42
<i>C. sasanqua</i> x ( <i>C. sasanqua</i> x <i>C. reticulata</i> )	132	63
<i>C. sasanqua</i> x <i>C. tenuiflora</i>	33	64
<i>C. sasanqua</i> x <i>C. X williamsii</i>	234	50
<i>C. cuspidata</i> x <i>C. lutchuensis</i>	50	38
<i>C. fraterna</i> x <i>C. lutchuensis</i>	12	42
<i>C. fraterna</i> x <i>C. salicifolia</i>	10	20
<i>C. fraterna</i> x <i>C. sasanqua</i>	10	100
<i>C. X williamsii</i> x <i>C. lutchuensis</i>	41	59

(1) See footnote (1) in Table 2.

Can any general pattern for the rooting capacity of hybrids be gleaned from the information presented in these tables? To determine if a pattern does exist, the hybrids are classed below with their rooting capacity compared to that of their parent species.

Hybrid combinations which root more readily than either parent species .....	6
Hybrid combinations which root as well as the more easily rooted parent species .....	9
Hybrid combinations which are intermediate in their rooting capacity between their parent species .....	9
Hybrid combinations which root about as well as the parent species which is more difficult to root .....	3
Hybrid combinations which root less readily than the parent species which is more difficult to root .....	3

As might be expected, there is no clear cut pattern; *however, more often than not*, hybrids root as well as, or better than, the average rooting capacity of the species involved in their parentage. These results are generally encouraging for the grower who must propagate hybrids for distribution. Certain individual hybrids are difficult to root, and this can be a limitation on the introduction of otherwise fine camellias. Clonal variation in the capacity to root in *C. japonica* is well known to all propagators of camellias. Many growers can name the varieties which root readily or with difficulty. It is to be expected that hybrids would show as much, or even greater, variation.

## THE KAWARI-BA CAMELLIAS

### VIOLET STONE

*Editor's Note: Mrs. Stone has an extensive collection of "changed leaf" camellias. She is the lady who provided leaves for our display at the 1974 Arboretum Show.*

Perhaps my interest began twenty years ago when I first worked as a novice judge for five years. I feel that all credit is due my very good friends, Mrs. W. H. Gates and Mrs. T. K. McKnight. It was they who taught me to believe that the best means of identification was by foliage and plant growth habit. With this thought in mind I have been keenly aware of and alert to these differences.

My first experience with Kawari-ba Camellias was at the Kerume Experimental station in Japan. As I rounded a walkway and came upon a head high plant with foliage unlike any I had ever seen, I questioned Dr. Kunishige, and discovered it was "Kujaku" or better known as Peacock Camellia. Later I found there were two forms of this variety, and also solid red and variegated ones.

My interest was piqued when we visited the home of Dr. and Mrs. Ueda in Aichi-Ken. Their collection is quite respectable, as is that of Mr. T. Nagata. After I returned home,

both Dr. Ueda and Mr. Nagata were kind enough to supply me with scions, among them being several Kingyo (fishtail leaf plants). Dr. Ueda took the trouble to make a short list, in Japanese with English translations of the various Kawari-ba. This list is framed and hangs over my desk as a constant reminder of a bond of friendship formed from a mutual love of Camellias.

During my correspondence and exchange of scions, my interest in these unusual foliage plants became well known to these men, along with Dr. Hagiya and Mr. Andoh, and Mr. Sekeguchi and Mr. Fuzii of Niigata.

From my experience in the past four and a half years, I have found the variegated forms very difficult to grow here in Baton Rouge, especially the Rusticana (Snow) Camellias.

When Dr. and Mrs. Ueda visited in our home three years ago they brought a beautiful book, authored by Mr. T. Andoh. My attention was soon drawn to a double page of Kawari-ba Camellia leaves. I immedi-



ately wrote Mr. Andoh asking for a listing in English, if possible. To my great joy he took the trouble to get this done; but alas, to my dismay I learned that of the 80 odd pictured, too few are available. The picture was from a book printed in 1829, and many have apparently fallen into oblivion.

Somehow, through these past five years, my interest in the unusual foliage has spread, and I have been fortunate enough to have quite a few of the American ones sent to me.

These are apparently sports of some of our well known varieties.

As it is felt in Japan, when unusual foliage appears one feels that the Gods have visited one's garden.

If one is collecting for flower size alone, then forget Kawari-ba. As far as I am concerned I would have them in my garden just for foliage, if they never had a bloom. Among the many distorted forms are Lily Leaf, Benten, Saki-cup Leaf, Goldfish (Kingyo), Peacock and Sakura-ba (cherry leaf) and lastly the Unryu and Nokogiri-ba.

## UPDATING THE NEW MINIATURE CAMELLIAS

by ERNIE PIERI

In the 1973 American Camellia Yearbook, I wrote an article entitled, "The World of Miniatures." In it I attempted to catalog the miniature camellia blooms with regard to color and form. Since that time there have been quite a few new miniature introductions which I would like to add to that list. It is an effort, on my part, to aid the individual who would like to grow miniature camellia blooms. Only a few varieties of miniatures are seen at any one time at the various shows. However, my 1973 article listed 88 cultivars. Herewith are 12 more to add to the list. We are listing the new varieties by color and by form.

- PINK** —'Fawn'; 'Petite Rosine'; 'Little Poppy'; 'Trinket';  
'Chinese Lanterns'
- RED** —'Jane Eagleson'; 'Lela Laurents'; 'Rosebud'; 'Zing'
- VARIEGATED**—'Ellen Daniel' (pink with red stripes)  
'Lela Laurents' Var.' (red splotched white)  
'Raspberry Parfait' (red with white)  
'William C. Noell' (pink with white center)
- FORM**
- Semi-double—'Fawn'
- Anemone —'Little Poppy'  
'Trinket'
- Peony —'Rosebud'
- Rose Double—'Chinese Lanterns'
- Formal Double—'Ellen Daniell' 'Jane Eagleson' 'Lela Laurents'  
'Lela Laurents Variegated' 'Petite Rosene'  
'Raspberry Parfait' 'Zing'  
'William C. Noel'

This information with the previous article written for the Yearbook should help both the beginner and the oldtimer in identifying those plants where the tag has been lost.

I am sure that there will be many new miniature varieties that will be described in the 1976 NOMENCLATURE published by the Southern California Camellia Society. These cultivars will be reviewed in a later issue of CAMELLIA REVIEW.

# EDDIE AND HIS CAMELLIAS

by JIM McCLUNG

The Editor of *The Camellia Review* has asked me to write an article on how my thirteen-year-old son, Eddie, became a camellia bug. It would take reams of paper and years of writing to tell the whole tale.

Eddie has always helped me in my horticultural endeavors. Since I have been disabled for the past six years much more of the responsibility for the jungle has fallen on his shoulders.

We had tried camellias when we first bought our house. Absolute failure! We found the secret in containers and raised beds. Eddie had most of the work to do in planting the beginnings of our now growing collections. He learned much about the care, history, hybridization, grafting, and culture of this aristocrat of flowers.

Last year the good Nerve Cutter allowed me, finally, to attend our Pomona Society meetings. Of a necessity, Eddie went along. After seeing the fantastic arrangement of perfect blooms he fell in love with all camellias. He also fell in love with Mr. and Mrs. Harold Rowe, Mr. Clark Thomas, the McWilliams (Jr. and Sr.), Mr. and Mrs. Walt Harmson, and the plant drawings at the end of the meeting. This last made him decide that he should have his own collection and show his own flowers. His collection was started with plants

that were won at the meetings and he now has more than 50 prize winning varieties.

A further influence on him was taking third place in his junior high science fair with a demonstration of camellia grafting. His father taught him how to graft. Eddie's all lived. His father's all died. Another plus factor.

Last spring Eddie began working on this year's science fair project. He will demonstrate the effect of colchicine on camellias. He worked with his collection as I worked with mine.

The gift of a number of species has him eager to try to make his own crosses. Mr. and Mrs. Rowe gave him a number of plants that give promise of making good hybrids. He has learned the chromosome count of each species in both our collections and has figured which crosses are most likely to take.

How did Eddie become interested in camellias? It is really difficult to pin down an answer. One important part is working together to develop a common interest. Perhaps the most important part is letting him have his own collection, and allowing him to choose the varieties that he wants.

I'll bet he gets on the honor table before his father does.

## INTRODUCING IN 1975 - 76

PINK FROST

LILETTE WITMAN

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# CAMELLIA CLIPPINGS

BERNICE GUNN

Play It Again Sam: *Sept. 1st*—"Going to be an early season, buds are much larger than usual for this time of year." *Dec. 1st*—"I started gibbing too early, am going to be bloomed out before the early show." *Early Feb.*—"I'm not going to have anything to take to San Diego." *Placement Time*—"I've got six boxes of blooms to put down, but none are any good." *Pre-judging*—"I sure don't understand why they picked that team to judge miniatures." *Post-judging*—"I don't know why my 'Fire Chief' didn't get up there." *Blahs Time*—"No wonder I haven't won any trophies, the bees and hummingbirds are ruining all of my blooms." *End of Season*—"I think the overall judging this year has been the worst ever."

## CAMELLIA ALPHABET (Cont.)

### L is for LATH HOUSE

A substitute for the natural forest conditions in which camellias originated. Camellias need partial shade and protection from cold winds. A good lath house provides both.

### M is for MULCHING

Mulch with pine needles, fir-bark, oak leaves, redwood chips, straw, tar paper, pea gravel, etc. to keep roots cool and moist; saves water too.

### N is for NOMENCLATURE

Early day Camellias often acquired local names as they "migrated" from place to place over the world. Camellia people owe a considerable debt to William E. Woodroof, editor, and Southern California Camellia Society, publisher, for their persistent effort to clear up the resulting confusion in names. CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE is the official nomenclature book of the American Camellia Society.

### O is for OLD RELIABLES

Henry Middleton, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, imported camellias from Europe for his gardens in Charleston soon after the Revolution; and some of the original plants are still growing there. New York and Massachusetts' nurseries listed them in the early 19th century, and some of the 49ers brought camellias with them to California. Here are some old-timers that are still hard to beat:

Adolphe Audusson (1877)	Finlandia (1910)
Debutante (early 1890s)	Flame (1917)
Donckelari (1834)	Gigantea (1840s)
Elegans Chandleri (1831)	Grandiflora Rosea (1890)
Emperor of Russia (1856)	Lady Clare (1887)

While leafing through a magazine the other eve, I came across this tid-bit that aptly describes a Camellia garden — When I lead someone "down the garden path," it's not to lead them astray. There are so many things in my garden that I can show. There are so many memories planted in the ground and stories to tell, that no one can find without me.

A friend is someone who dislikes the same people you do.

Over The Back Fence: "No wonder he has such great blooms, he's retired and has more time to dis-bud." . . . "I have a feeling Joe is getting gib to the flower without breaking the growth bud." . . . "Do you think he is using dusting powder to cover up blemishes on his white blooms?" . . . "What hospitality! Wasn't it great that SCCS members reached into their own wallets and sponsored dinner for the visiting Australians and New Zealanders last January."

# "LOOK! WHAT HAPPENED TO SEEDLING NO. 13!"

ANONYMOUS

A "Camellia-nut" is a mixture of many traits. Perhaps their biggest "hang-ups" are generosity and the desire to possess the latest, hottest new Camellia. That certain bloom — the one — that sets you apart from all other Camellia people. You don't speak out loud about it — only whisper in secret of this magnificent bloom! Now, we cannot deny that sharing with your fellow men is a most admirable trait but let's face it — it's raising havoc with many ardent camellia lovers and especially with our (camellia) commercial nurseryman!

Everywhere the Camellia hybridizer is busy. Working like a "bee" waiting and hoping for *that Camellia*, you know, the one the world has been waiting for. Never admitting defeat each year the hybridizer keeps at his work until one day Seedling #13 (or whatever number) bursts into bloom. What a sight! Most unusual! Enthusiasm is uncontrolled — this wonderful development has to be shared! So off to the phone with invitations going out to the buddies to come and see this "new seedling bloom." This is great, too, as everyone needs approval and the exchange of ideas, but does it stop there? No! Before these friends leave each clutches a scion in his "hot grafting hand" and he feels like a C.I.A. agent on a secret mission.

From that time on sharing the "Seedling #13" increases. Every camellia grower whose "in" has a scion and the "graft" has started. West to South, South to West scions of #13 are passed. Even in far off lands "up there" and "down under" the #13 is flourishing through Camellia lovers SHARING. Not yet though is #13 registered with The American Camellia Society or has it been propagated and on the market by our com-

mercial nurseryman but all of the "big collectors" proudly possess #13.

Is this fair to the nurseryman or to the thousands of camellia growers? i.e. those not in the "sharing" group. Every year the camellia nurseryman spends hundreds of dollars and an endless amount of time in propagating camellias for everyone's enjoyment. Only HE can introduce these new varieties in quantity with availability to the public. He, too, is working diligently on new varieties for all to enjoy. This is his love and his livelihood. His interest in our hobby is for all not a favored few. Why then, "Mr. Hybridizer," do you pass out scions of your new seedlings so promiscuously? If Camellias and Camellia Societies are to continue the introduction of new varieties, it must be done through a commercial (camellia) nurseryman. He is our friend and deserves our cooperation.

Through our nurseryman your lucky new seedling can "go places." All that's required is (1) contact your Camellia nurseryman (one who propagates camellias) regarding your new seedlings (2) say NO, emphatically to all the "seedling scion" collectors. Tell them it is being propagated by a nursery and will be available through him and his colleagues. This is the only way to go!

Every hybridizer owes this respect and cooperation to the commercial nurseryman and to the Camellia world. Nurseries specializing in Camellias are very few and all need the opportunity to introduce and sell the outstanding new varieties. Let's all support Camellias and Camellia nurserymen everywhere.

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Extremism in the pursuit of better blooms is no crime! Actually it is a professional attribute. A crime only occurs when there is cheating.

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# THE CAMELLIA AND ITS NAME

Margaret Macdonald

Writers disagree about George Joseph Kamel, a Jesuit missionary for whom the camellia is named.

Some say he spent years in the Orient acquiring a fund of botanical knowledge of that area. Others give him credit for bringing the first camellia to Europe. Most agree that he was born in Brünn, Moravia, in 1661. All agree that he died in the Philippines, but disagree on the date. It is certain that Linnaeus, father of botany, honored Kamel by naming the camellia for him.

H. Harold Hume, in his book *Camellias in America* states: "Through camellia literature runs the statement that Kamel brought the camellia to Europe in 1739, but this was not possible because he died in Manila in 1706, the year before Linnaeus was born. As George Graves pointed out, he (Kamel) probably never saw a garden camellia. Camellias were not adapted to Manila gardens, and it is not recorded that Kamel visited areas where they grew, nor did he return to Europe after going out to the Laddrones and Manila. Linnaeus in "Critica Botanica" page 92, 1737, indicated that he had named the genus for Kamel — a posthumous honor."

The camellia belongs to the botanical family known as Ternstroemiaceae. The tea plant is also a member of this family. In North America, only two species of this genus are known, "Gordonia" and "Stuartia"—trees and shrubs of the southern states.

The home of the camellia is Eastern Asia. As far back as 500 A.D. camellias were cultivated in China, Korea and Japan. Trading ships from Europe and England, as early as 1516 reached China. By 1600 large trading groups known as "East India Companies" were formed. Doctors traveled with these ships to guard the health of sailors, and since medicines were largely made of plant material in

those days, doctors were botanists first, and medical men second. From doctors' reports come the early accounts of plants from the Orient.

Again we quote from Mr. Hume's book, "At Amoy, China, about 1676, the English East India Company established a factory, and James Cunningham, a physician employed by the company was stationed there in the latter part of the seventeenth century. Through this physician, the camellia first became known in England."

This is well before the time Kamel was given the credit for introducing the camellia to Europe.

Since Linnaeus named our flower for Kamel, we might well wonder where we came up with "Camellia," especially its pronunciation. A clue to that comes from *The Illustrated Dictionary of Gardening* 4: 347-348, 1884. ". . . Who thinks of Father Kamel, the Moravian Jesuit traveller of the seventeenth century, when he pins a camellia into his buttonhole? No one, surely, or we shouldn't almost always call it a camee-lya. It will be observed that the plant-name is not Kamelia, although it is called after Kamel. The reason for this is that the generic names are taken in many cases from a Latinised or Graecised form of these names, which was commonly used at a time when Latin was the ordinary language for almost all scientific and theological works . . . Kamel becomes Caemllus, and is remembered (or, according to Mr. Britten, forgotten) in the Camellia."

The camellia might well have been named "Cunninghameia" after the ship's doctor. Today, we can pronounce it "Cam-el-li-a" or "cam-ee-li-a" without offending anyone. At any rate, it is easy to spell. Just be grateful it wasn't called by its family name of Ternstroemiaceae!

# THE AMERICAN CAMELLIA SOCIETY — WHY! WHEN! WHERE! HOW! MILTON H. BROWN/A.C.S.

At the 1932 camellia show of the Macon Camellia Society, (Macon, Georgia), camellia enthusiasts throughout the South decided to organize a national society—The Azalea and Camellia Society of America. Its first President was T. J. Stewart of Macon. One of the main goals of this new society was “to clear up” the nomenclature problem.

It was during a camellia show held on February 10, 1945 by the Men's Camellia Club of Savannah, Georgia that nomenclature again came up in discussions. At a dinner at the Oglethorpe Hotel, Judge Arthur Solomon called on Dr. H. Harold Hume to sum up the problem and a committee was appointed to work out plans for an organization “with the purpose of standardizing nomenclature.” Thanks to the papers that Mrs. A. E. Morrison of Sacramento, California donated to the ACS Library we have the original letter sent to Mr. Morrison (and to many notable camellia enthusiasts throughout the U.S. (Letter sent September 19, 1945) by Mr. T. J. Smith, McRae, Georgia. The letter in part says:

“Dr. Hume stressed the importance and necessity of camellia lovers throughout the country promptly taking steps to clear up some of the confusion that exists with reference to names of camellias, many different names being often applied to a single variety and a single name being used for three or four different varieties. As camellia interest is greatly increasing and many new seedlings are being developed, much greater confusion may result.”

On September 29, 1945 with David Coleman Strother (“Mr. Camellia”) in the chair, the group formed The American Camellia Society which was later incorporated under the laws of Florida on October 24, 1945. Dr. Hume was elected the first President; T. J. Smith was the first Treasurer (which he continued until his death

in 1966. Marguerite—Mrs. T. J.—Smith is still our Treasurer; R. J. Wilmot was elected the first Secretary; A. E. Morrison became California's first officer being elected Vice President for the Pacific Coast and soon thereafter as a Director-at-Large as well; California's first State Director elected there in 1945 was Dr. David McLean. Dues were set at \$3.00 a year. On March 29, 1946, the assets and membership list of The Azalea and Camellia Society of America were turned over by H. T. Conner, Secretary; and that Society officially merged with The American Camellia Society.

This initially small “band of camelliaphiles” really got on the ball and published *Newsletter Number One* on April 1, 1946 and the internationally-known and well-respected *The Camellia Yearbook* was published later that year. It has been published each year since that time. *The Newsletter* gave way to *The American Camellia Quarterly* in January 1950 and to *The Camellia Journal* in January 1960. It has been published continually since that time under Joseph H. Pyron until January 1974 and under the author since that time.

The 1946 *Yearbook* contained the first work of the Classification and Varieties Committee; 50 varieties were properly classified, ranging from ‘ALBA PLENA’ to ‘TRICOLOR (SIEBOLD)’. In the 1947 *Yearbook*, the committee with both Mr. Morrison and Dr. McLean as members, added many more *C. japonicas*, its first list of *C. sasanquas*, the *C. maliflora* ‘BETTY McCASKILL’, a *C. oleifera* and a *C. saluenensis*. Each year for a number of years this practice of an annual article in the *Yearbook* prevailed. Soon thereafter the ACS published a brochure entitled “Ameri-



can Camellia Society, Nomenclature Cross-Reference List." It listed the accepted names of 250 of the most popular and generally encountered varieties of camellias along with the then-known synonyms. It was stated the publication was "for the convenience of camellia show registration, classification and placement committees." In 1947 The Southern California Camellia Society issued its first edition of *The Camellia; Its Culture and Nomenclature*, later to become *Camellia Nomenclature*. The latter publication has become "Adopted As the Official Nomenclature Book of The American Camellia Society."

This action came as a result of a vote of the ACS Governing Board. At its meeting on November 21, 1963, ACS President Aubrey Harris "gave the results of a mail vote on the Nomenclature - Registration Agreement with the Southern California Camellia Society, in which ACS is to assume all registration duties and continues to recognize the Southern California Nomenclature as the official authority in this field." To this day there is some misunderstanding about camellia registration. As stated in the original agreement ACS is "to assume the registration duties." To date 1382 varieties have been properly registered with the ACS; publication in other publications does not constitute a properly ACS registered camellia. Registration No. 1 was 'KATHARIN STANTON'; No. 1382, registered on August 10, 1975 is 'JANETTE HABAS'. Actually, the ACS has turned down registrations in the past as not meeting the criteria established in *The Newsletter*, January 1949, which states clearly that one of the primary rules of horticulture nomenclature is that a new variety to be named must be *superior to or different from current varieties*. (NOTE: If we would still stick to what our "founding fathers" suggested we would not have a need

for articles like "The Look-Alike — Please Fold, Spindle and Mutilate" by J. Carroll Reiners in *The American Camellia Yearbook - 1974*.) Registration and nomenclature was a problem—and is a problem now.

Camellia shows were a recognized important part of spreading information on camellias and camellia culture from the very beginning. Such shows had been going on for a long time prior to the founding of the ACS—in Boston continuously from 1839; Sacramento from 1924; and in Georgia since 1931. As early as January 1947 the ACS printed a list of Accredited Judges. Californians on the list were: Dr. George J. Hall and A. E. Morrison of Sacramento; Dr. David McLean, San Marino; Charles S. Jones, Flintridge; Mrs. Carlo E. Galli and Vern O. McCaskill, Pasadena; Toichi Domoto of Hayward. ACS announced in early 1948 that there would be an Arrangement Contest; the Secretary reported in April 1948 that "Most of the shows held in the country were held in cooperation with the Society (i.e. ACS) in order that arrangement exhibitors might be eligible." Photographs of winning arrangements, judged from photographs, appeared for the first time in the 1948 *Yearbook*; they have played a key role in each edition since that time.

The ACS, formed only in September 1945, had 638 members at the time of the First Annual Meeting, held in Savannah, Georgia on February 9, 1946. By December of that year there were 1749 members. Membership has risen as high as 7200 but has fluctuated over the years and, as with most organizations, membership dropped after World War II. There was a net gain of memberships to 6035 in 1974—the first net gain since 1966. There are now more than 6200 members for 1975. The cost of membership has risen only a small amount from

\$3.00 in 1946 to \$7.50 in 1975. Members still receive four issues of *The Camellia Journal* and the hard-back *The American Camellia Year-book* for that small amount.

At the outset, the ACS was housed in a room of a small building at the University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla. Soon after Joseph H. Pyron became Executive Secretary / Editor, the Headquarters were moved to Tifton, Georgia at the Georgia Coastal Plains Experimental Station in the summer of 1960. This was not the last monumental move for Joe. In 1968, under his guidance ACS was moved into the new colonial-style building at Masee Lane, between Fort Valley and Marshallville, Georgia. These lovely gardens and considerable cash was made available to ACS by the man who chaired the first organizational meeting back in 1945—David Coleman Strother.

The ACS Endowment Fund was established in 1966. This fund has tax-exempt status and is operative exclusively for charitable, scientific and educational purposes. The Trust Agreement further states that the funds are to be used for the establishment and maintenance of a headquarters and garden for the ACS. No part of the ACS annual dues is used for this purpose.

Shortly before Mr. Strother's death in 1970, Mrs. William Parks Stevens of nearby Macon offered to donate her outstanding collection of Boehm porcelain sculptures to the ACS. She also generously offered to build the present building; a beautiful brick structure also in colonial style, which was completed in 1972. Mrs. Edward Marshall Boehm has visited the gallery and was most complimentary of the manner in which this priceless collection is housed.

To round out the colonial "village," a residence was built under Joe Pyron's leadership for the home of his successor as Executive Secre-

tary/Editor. This was made possible in large part by a generous donation of \$10,000 from The Marshallville Foundation, founded by the late Claud Frederick and John Donald Wade of that nearby example of the ante-bellum South. One officer of the Society donated \$5,000.00 and the remainder came from donations ranging from \$1.00 to \$1,000.00. There has also been established at Masee Lane a lovely greenhouse built in memory of T. J. ("Jeff") Smith, our first Charter Life Member and Treasurer until his death.

The purposes of the ACS remain today as they were established at the historic meeting in 1945: "The purposes of this Society shall be to promote interest in the Genus *Camellia* L., scientific research in its culture, standardization of its varietal names, certification of new varieties, dissemination of information concerning the above, the creation of a foundation to further these purposes, and to promote the organization of local *Camellia* Societies in the United States."

This article should really be entitled "Abridged History of the ACS" because in so short a space all names of devoted and generous supporters of the ACS cannot be written—if, indeed, such could be done in many volumes. Also, the history of the ACS is not by any means over. We hope to improve and expand the gardens and all phases of cooperation at the local and international, as well as the national, levels. You can help make history for the ACS; join that Society, as well as your local or regional one, and play an active role in the operation of each one. Call on your State Director, Directors-at-Large, and territorial Vice President to assist you with any problems within your local societies, to put on programs for your groups, to put you into line with where any of your questions can be answered or solved. All of us on The Governing Board are "workers" for you; call on us!

## SECOND ANNUAL CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA-RAMA "A TREMENDOUS SUCCESS!"

by MARY ANN RAY

These words are quoted from letters and comments to the Central California Camellia Society who hosted the 3-day gathering on those beautiful autumn days, November 7, 8 and 9. Camellia enthusiasts from all of California—North, South and Central—joined together in Fresno, at the Smuggler's Inn, for a very educational and most enjoyable affair. As participants arrived Friday, they were invited to our "Camellia Room." Hospitality and "getting-to-know-you" were first and foremost on this day.

Early morning registering and entering of blooms—for possibly "The Earliest California Camellia Show" ever—started a Saturday of continuing excitement and innovations. Art Gonos (Fresno), Symposium Moderator, welcomed all on our behalf and immediately drew the first door prize ticket. (Several were awarded throughout the day.)

The speakers held a captured audience. They were told of developments to expect within the next five years that were undreamed of in this length of time. *Julius Nuccio* (Nuccio's Nursery, Altadena) saw in his crystal ball

1. Typical Retic style flowers on Japonica shrubs.
2. Good Japonica flowers with *Lutchuensis* fragrances.
3. A color break—blue or yellow—possibly both.
4. Small mass blooming camellias—sprays that can be cut.
5. Higos that sell to people because of mass bloom, good color and can be picked.
6. Things hoped for: A *good* red formal double

A *Sasanqua* that can be cut

A WHITE 'Shishi-gashira.

Ken Hallstone (Lafayette) and Frank Pursel (Oakland) of the NCC Research Committee told of rapid advances in fragrances in camellias and in large-to very large heavy textured blooms. Both emphasized the importance of back-crossing, re-crossing and I had the feeling they were about to add "double-crossing". The Fragrance List is increasing and increasing. Frank's first rule is to be sure to use the Retic as the seed parent. Second and most important—select a japonica which is a triploid or suspected triploid for the pollen parent. There is a plus factor here—cold hardiness and some resistance to dieback are bred into the seedling. At the very first blooms start the cross-backs at once and make reverse crosses. These are the ones that produce the excellent blooms of good texture, with new forms and colors which do not resemble any of the parents. A note of special interest—one of these seedlings was so outstanding and unique that it has been registered and will be introduced in the '76-77 season. The weight of this bloom is over ¼ pound and will be named 'Jean Pursel' (Frank's wife).

These are obviously happy family affairs, for Kay Hallstone (Ken's wife) works hand-in-hand, or rather pollen-on-stigma, nylon-over-seed, etc. with Ken. To aid and abet Mother Nature, they have opened "Hanky-Panky Fragrant Patch" for Bees in a special area along their creek bank.

Many hybridizers are now using "Gib" on both the pollen flower and the seed flower to aid in setting seed. Meyer Piet (Arcadia) told us of hybridizing for substance, color and form. (Meyer works together with Mel Gum of San Gabriel.) They have developed their own system of "Color-coding" and have done extensive studies concerning leaf patterns. Variety here

seems to be unlimited and most interesting. One of the parents used in their crosses is 'Goertz' Hybrid #3 Red' now named 'San Marino'. (Bill Goertz is the originator and also a very serious hybridizer.) Meyer is betting on a yellow camellia before a blue.

Caryl Pitkin (San Marino) and a Show Chairman of long standing reviewed some responsibilities of such chairmen and suggested several innovations that might be used depending upon space and manpower available to each show. Caryl encouraged us in so many words to "keep a-movin'." Change for the better whenever and wherever possible. Always remember the show is for the public to enjoy. Do not do anything to alienate the exhibitor—he makes the show—for without him you don't even need judges. Always emphasize culture and be ready to answer questions. Try to have only competent judges. In the event of a new judge with less experience try to team him with two who are competent.

Judging as covered—past, present and future—by Milo Rowell (Fresno) and Bill Woodroof (Sherman Oaks). Milo reminded us that ACS Show Rules were formulated, not to dominate or direct shows, but to give guidelines to aid all concerned and hopefully to eliminate controversy. At one time they were quite simple; but, because of rapid progress in the camellia world they have become somewhat more complex. A visual comparison of the 1st Nomenclature (1947 of 65 pages, single columns, large type and 20 pages devoted to culture with that of 1974 Edition of 180 pages, double column, small print, etc. left little room for doubt of the tremendous advances made in 27 years.

The ACS is strict about one thing: "We presume the exhibitor to be honest and we presume the judges to be honest, and we presume the local society to be honest." Secondly, "The Judges decision in final." Read the rules! You can't expect exhibitors to follow rules if your show committee doesn't even know them.

It is requested that all seedlings to be judged be placed in the very best natural light available. Sports and mutants would also have a similar place in the show. Seedlings now will be judged primarily for "Distinctiveness."

Judges should also be helpful to societies by suggesting possible improvements for easier judging and should help exhibitors when necessary to reclassify a misplaced or misnamed flower. Judges can help both show committees and exhibitors.

Bill Woodroof reminded us that "Judging is a serious matter—not a social event." Judges have two main obligations: 1—to the Exhibitors and 2—to the Public. Qualifications for a good judge are:

1. Extensive experience in growing many varieties of camellias.
2. Continuous observation of varieties from all possible sources with particular attention to new varieties.
3. Great flexibility with your fellow judges but not to the extent of giving in to less expertise.
4. Good judgment.

A good judge does not give a new variety preference over an old variety. Guidelines were reviewed for judging seedlings and for good general judging procedures.

At the close of the meeting conventioners dashed back to their rooms to catch the TV coverage on the local news of themselves and the show blooms. An evening of fun and genuine camellia fellowship began with the Cocktail Hour followed by the banquet. Guests were shown slides of the Best of California Shows and Al Parker (Redwood Empire, Sebastopol) was our Master

of Ceremonies. The 125 raffle prizes provided by CCCS members and friends were dispersed in record time by Al with his usual quick wit and fast-paced banter.

- Show trophies provided by Smuggler's Inn and CCCS were awarded to:
- |                             |                                   |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Mr. & Mrs. Maurie Abramson, | — 'MISS CHARLESTON VARIEGATED'    |
| Tulare (CCCS)               | BEST OF SHOW & Best L-VL Japonica |
| Mr. & Mrs. Maurie Abramson, | — 'NUCCIO'S GEM'                  |
|                             | Best Medium Japonica              |
| Mr. & Mrs. Robert McNeil,   | — 'DEMI-TASSE'                    |
| San Diego                   | Best Boutonniere                  |
| Mr. & Mrs. Bill Goertz,     | — 'DOLORES HOPE'                  |
| San Marino (SCCS)           | Best Reticulata                   |
| Mr. & Mrs. Jack Stubbs,     | — 'ELSIE JURY'                    |
| Sanger (CCCS)               | Best Hybrid                       |
| Mel Gum,                    | — 'STAR ABOVE STAR'               |
| San Gabriel (SCCS)          | Best Species (Vernalis)           |

Show Chairman, Wilbur Ray, reported there were 185 blooms entered in the Open Show.

The winning blooms were selected by a "Blue Ribbon Team of Judges" under the Chairman, Bill Johnston. They were Dave Feathers, Julius Nuccio, Al Parker, Bill Woodroof and Milo Rowell.

The Best of Show bloom was decided by a majority ballot vote of all persons registered at the Camellia-Rama.

Sunday, Milo and Aggie Rowell provided the frosting on the cake. "Round Robin" tours of the extensive gardens were given by Milo and of the house by Aggie. These began at 9 a.m. and continued until well after noon. The Rowells have one of the finest botanical collections anywhere in the world. And, Aggie's water-color paintings of camellias gave no end of delight to the viewers.

The Central California Camellia Society wishes to express sincere appreciation to all who helped in so many ways to insure a successful Camellia-Rama and, especially, the Area Co-Chairmen, John Augis, Jack Mandarich, Bill Johnston, Mel Gum and Judy Simmons, as well as, the Modesto Camellia Society who hosted the first of the modern statewide conventions, for their cooperation and encouragement. We were greatly aided by the fine publicity given us in the SCCS Camellia Review. Thank you, Editor Bill Donnan. Of course, the final ingredient necessary for our success was each of you from far and near—and so—THANK YOU, ONE AND ALL!

*(Editor's Note: The CAMELLIA-RAMA Committee held a short meeting on Saturday night, Nov. 8th and voted to hold another CAMELLIA-RAMA in 1976—at Fresno. Watch the CAMELLIA REVIEW for future news about this event.)*

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# THE MT. WOODSON CAMELLIA SANCTUARY

by V. S. ARONOVICI

The Mt. Woodson Nursery is neatly nestled between the exfoliated granite boulder piles of Mt. Woodson and Iron Mountain. Here lies a little camellia paradise at the very edge of a precipitous canyon that drops down 900 feet onto the Poway Plain. Here concentrated in a small area shaded by native live oaks we find Mrs. Gladys Crause' camellia garden.

This delightful camellia sanctuary is reached from San Diego by State Highway 67 or from the north via U.S. 15 to the Poway off ramp (H.W. S4) and east to State 67. Turn left and climb the spectacular grade to the first level area or about 3 miles from the intersection of S4 and 67. Turn left on Woodson Road and there you are.

When I arrived at the nursery entrance I was met by David Lee, 14, and Michel Lesley, 10, who were busy with the many chores. They led me to their grandmother. Grandmother, it was hard to believe. Whatever preconceived notions I had of this Amazon who had almost single handed developed this nursery were dashed.

I was cordially greeted by this "Southern Bell" who had first come to love camellias in Chatanooga, Tennessee more than 20 years ago. Gladys and her husband and family came to California in 1953. Her black Irish eyes sparkled as she enthusiastically told the story of her nursery.

About 40 years ago a home was built on these grounds. Mr. Harvey Short, still active in the San Diego Camellia Society, at that time had a nursery in Ramona. He was asked to help in landscaping the grounds. His camellias were the first to be planted in the garden. Owen Henry, another old timer among the Camellia Society, purchased the property and added many more camillias to the garden. The property was then

sold to other camellia enthusiasts, Dotty and Marty Walters. They added still more camellias to the grounds. Just a few of the original plantings included Mrs. Charles Cobb, Finlandia Variegated, Colonel Firey, Sunset Glory, Margaret Hertrich, Chandleri Elegans, Margaret Short, Villa de Nantes and Pink Perfection.

Gladys still remembered the beauty of camellias and azalias. After her husband, David, retired from the navy some eight years ago, the two of them began to search for that ideal spot to grow camellias. They combed southern California for that camellia Shan-gri-la. Finally they came upon the Mt. Woodson place. After six visits, David and Gladys decided to buy the property. The house and grounds were run down but she could see the potential. They bought the property in 1972. Gladys said that her husband was a little skeptical about the enterprise. He had a full time job as a water well expert. If they bought the property there would be some tight restrictions. First, it would be on a cash basis and second, he would help whenever he could but the development and maintenance was strictly her project. With these limitations, Gladys rolled up her sleeves, got out the pick and shovel, cement mixer and went to work. Artistically designed cement and rock lined paths, delightful masonry pools with cascades fit well into the granite bouldered hillside. All provide a natural setting for the camellia plants. Many plants are 20 to 25 feet high. This staggering amount of work was designed and executed by Gladys, her two young grandchildren and husband when he had the time.

Many new plantings have been made, a propagation greenhouse constructed, the old octagon house remodeled, a guest house constructed and the garage converted into a sup-



ply and sales room. The dream almost had come true. A serious automobile accident on February 12, 1975 almost put an end to Gladys' dream but in true form she fought back. Still under a doctor's care she is continuing to improve and develop the nursery.

A primary requirement for successful camellia propagation is good quality water. Mr. Crouse improved and deepened an old well beyond the surface alluvial into the fractured granite. Here they found an abundant supply of salt-free water. David and Gladys truly selected an ideal environment for propagating camellias. The 1,800 foot elevation provides a moderate climate with freezing nights in the winter, occasional light snow and an ample rainfall of more than 20 inches. The soil derived from decomposed granite is naturally acid. Oak root fungus-free live oak trees have supplied both shade and organic matter to the land. There is NO smog! What more should a camellia plant ask for to do its best?

The plants and blooms have responded to the environment. Mrs. Crouse won first place in 1974 and second place in 1973 for the best commercial exhibit at the San Diego Camellia Show. Due to her accident she did not exhibit in 1975. She won Court of Honor with a Mrs. Charles Cobb in 1972. She has received recognition in Sunset Magazine and numerous press releases have attested to unique enterprise taken by a charming lady.

I asked Gladys what the most popular camellias were. She answered by saying that the old reliables were still the best sellers.

"Do you have a Pink Perfection?" I asked; "I'd sure like one for old time's sake in my garden."

"Sure do," she replied, "and they are still a good seller."

I peeked into one of the propa-

gating sheds and found that Gladys is branching out in growing azalias, ferns and succulents.

I shall return again and again to this peaceful spot. I will guarantee that a trip to Woodson Nursery will be very rewarding. The spectacular scenery, the fresh upland air, camellias growing in their natural setting are enough to excite any camellia fancier. But above all, the real joy is to catch the enthusiasm of the radiant, cordial Gladys, whose dream is coming true.

## **CAMELLIAS FOR SUNSET MAGAZINE**

In September the Sunset Magazine sent out an S.O.S. for some camellia blooms. They had planned to have an article in the December issue on Camellias in Christmas Decorations—but could not find any camellia blooms to use in the pictures for the illustrations. The Southern California Camellia Society came to the rescue. A task force of Bill Goertz, Harry Reich and Bill Donnan managed to dredge up about 40 gibbed blooms on October 15th. (Harry Reich contributed about 20 from his own garden.) We packed them in boxes and shipped them airmail to Menlo Park where they arrived in good shape and were used by Sunset Magazine for their article.

## **JANUARY PROGRAM FOR SCCS**

Leone Summerson, our Program Chairperson, has informed us that the January Program will feature a talk by Mr. Kenneth Hallstone of Lafayette, California. Mr. Hallstone is a well known Northern California Hybridizer who is working on the development of fragrant camellias. Unlike some of the hybridizing programs which are of little interest to many Camellia hobbyists, Mr. Hallstone presents a varied and interesting discussion.

## "CHOOSING THE BEST FLOWER OF SHOW"

by WALTER HARMSEN

Times have changed! We are reminded of this every day. Our newspapers, the radio and television, the markets and many other things make this a certainty. Our camellia shows have changed in the past five years, 10 years, more in the last 15 or 20 years. Our failure to recognize the amount of change is excusable because we are caught up in our interest and enthusiasm for the wonderful new varieties and the better flowers displayed in the shows.

In our early shows trophies were awarded to five or six outstanding entries. These included "Best Japonica," "Best Reticulata," "Best Group of Some Number," "Best Seedling," "Best Graft," "Best Arrangement," and sometimes "Best Blooming Plant." The most important trophy was awarded to the winner of the "Sweepstakes" award. This was determined by counting the blue ribbons won by the entrant. These shows were judged by from three to seven very capable judges. The shows were beautiful. There were arrangements that enhanced the tables and the large group entries made an interesting exhibit.

Most of our shows have eliminated the "Sweepstakes" award. This has changed the gardens of most exhibitors. They no longer bring a truck load of flowers in their effort to win the "Sweepstakes" award. They now grow only those varieties which certainly do well in their area, those which are most beautiful and the new introductions which have promise of beauty and character. Now our shows are filled with flowers that are physically outstanding in almost every variety. We could say that more than half of the flowers entered could be considered for "Best" awards.

We now have from 25 to 30 competent judges who have the responsibility of selecting the 'best' from more

than two thousand high quality entries. To help solve this problem we have now divided our Japonica awards into Large, Medium, Small and Miniature. The Reticulata and Reticulata Hybrids into Very Large, Large and Smaller. We have eliminated the "Best of Show" to do away with a selection that would often be considered to be a "Subjective" decision. All of the flowers that are considered for awards deserve the most recognition we can give. We now make Best and Runner-up awards in all Divisions and a "Second Runner-up" in several and 24 Court of Honor awards. This only totals 60 awards in our show. While that may sound like a lot, it really only amounts to a little over 1% of the blooms entered. We truly believe that there are an equal number of exceptional flowers that are still on the tables and a large number of entries that would make it to the top at some show.

This has brought us to the task of selecting the "Best of Class." Each team of judges is asked to send to the Head table all of the outstanding flowers from their area. At the head table the screening judges retain the most outstanding entries. These flowers are identified by variety and assigned a number. Depending upon the Division, we have from five to 15 entries that might score 100 points each by most every judge. It has now come down to "Distinctiveness" of the entry and we should all admit to "Personal Preference." A determining factor is the "Impact" a flower has made on the judge. Using the chart "A" we ask a panel of about half of the judges to rank the best entries in the Division. Then counting the points in inverse order we get a consensus of the panel of judges. There are times when the winner is obvious but most often it

is very close but decisive. We have always had some votés for every flower on a table. It has made the judging more decisive and takes

much less time. It also eliminates much of the confusion and renders a decision that is most fair.

### CHART "A"

This chart is intended to be a guide which may be altered if conditions merit. The important part is that the number of entries ranked is a minimum to give an accurate concensus.

Awards to be made	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	12	14
Entries considered	4	4	5	7	8	9	10	12	12	15	18
No. of entries ranked	2	3	4	4	4	5	5	6	6	6	7

## HYBRIDIZING PROGRESS IN 1975

by MEYER PIET

All of the grafted plants (120—seeds picked 1973) have been out of the greenhouse for several months. They are under the 50-50 shade saran cloth and approximately 60 to 80 are budding up to bloom this year. The plants are anywhere from 2 feet to 6 feet tall, skinny ones and bushy ones. Leaf patterns—you name it and we have it. Big and fat, narrow, small, round, etc. The basic leaf shape can be identified with its respective parents. Mouchang crosses seem to carry the Mouchang leaf shape. Japonica parent x retic ('Ragland x Mouchang) have round japonica type leaves with serrations similar to the retics, 'Lady in Red' and Nuccio's 'Ruby' (Japonica x retic-japonica) have very light serrations. The leaves that really surprised Mel and I are the 'Flower Girl' crosses. The baby leaves were *all* obviously retic. The pollination had taken place in the greenhouse, and all the seed pods were warted with a single or very few seeds. We know the cross was good. When we saw the obvious large retic baby leaves we figured we had it made. But low and behold all the big retic leaves are no more and in their place are bushy plants with small leaves exactly like the sasanqua parent. It looks like it's going to take more crosses into the retic blood line to really get the big flowers we are

after. It is going to be interesting to see the flowers on the various plants (11). This season we should cross them with each other and also cross additional large retic pollen into them for some new combinations.

Of the entire 120 grafted (picked 1973) seeds we did have two flowers. The first was a 'Maitland'-7017 cross, the flower was about four inches in diameter with a good medium red color and lots of texture. I took the pollen and back crossed it into 7017 (Nuccio's 'Ruby') of about 15 different pollen type zaps, this was the only pollen that set and we are germinating five large seeds. This combination should be a good one. If the iridescent (Pink Sparkle) petals show up in the dark red of 7017, it would be an excellent new flower. The other flower to bloom was a 'Mouchang' x 7017 seedling that was 5½ inches in diameter and a nice pink. The flowers of these two known crosses are much better than any of several hundred chance seedlings I have seen bloom during the past few years.

Our 1974 season was poor compared to 1973. In 1974 we only obtained 23 good crosses (both parents known) that were grafted and are now 2 feet tall. We do have an additional several hundred, one and both parents known, mostly retic seedlings.

These we will put up and let grow in a normal manner. If any of the leaves look interesting or unusual we will graft them, on good understock in December or January.

In 1974 our best seedling was a cross of 'Tali-Queen' and 'Angel Wings' with a color code of "light Olive." We hope to get a larger, darker version of the pollen parent 'Angel Wings'. We have three plants going of 'Tinsie'-'Tiffany'. I don't really know what to expect here. Hopefully a good unusual miniature or medium hybrid flower since I don't believe 'Tinsie' is a japonica and 'Tiffany' is obviously an excellent japonica for hybridizing purposes.

Several of the other interesting crosses were a New Zealand seedling x 'Dream Castle' with very unusual leaves and saluenensis x 'Kramer's Supreme'. The remaining crosses are various retic hybrids with the PIC, which is a very large 7 $\frac{7}{8}$ " diameter flower. So we basically went for large size in 1974 and pink in the color spectrum. It's amazing how the new leaf color of these seedlings almost all seem to be on the medium green band—denoting a pink or very light pink flower.

On the seeds we are picking (1975) we have some good crosses using large whites and some of the saluenensis parentage. Our best crosses are 'Mouchang' x 'Dr. Pollizzi', 'Royalty' x 'Gay Time', 'Mouchang' x 'Mark Allen', 'Francie L' x 'Kohinor', etc. The 'Francie L' x 'Kohinor' seedling was interesting because I originally had four good different seed pods on 'Francie L'. The year before I had a seed pod on 'Francie L' only to have it dry out. This season as the new growth started three 'Francie L' pods dried out and dropped. I then proceeded to cut back and prune out the new growth on the plant with the single 'Kohinor' pod. To my surprise it remained healthy and I did obtain

two normal seeds from it. This coming hybridizing season I expect to hit the 'Francie L' plants for a big seed set. Keeping in mind that as the seed pods develop I will pinch off new growth and force strength of the mother plant into supporting the seeds.

On some of our new seeds (picked 1975) that we just harvested we do have some good whites (japonicas) crossed into 'Flower Girl' and should continue these strains toward the white or pink parentage for the light color, large flower, bushy plant. There is still two years before we will see these flowers. Here we hope the 'Narumi-Gata' (white shaded pink, large, single) color toward the white or light pink prevails in our cross.

My good friend, Hybridizer Lee Gaeta, gave me some scions of his sasanqua 'Crimson King' (mahogany red, medium single) and retic 'Crimson Robe' (carmine red, very large, semi-double). The grafts will bloom this year and I hope to cross some of the very dark red flowers we will have in our new 60+ flowers into this combination to continue the sasanqua blood line toward all dark-red.

We finally do have two seeds of the 'Flower Girl' x 7017 cross. They look healthy and should be great for slanting the 'Narumi-Gata' color toward the dark reds. Back crossing both of these F<sub>1</sub> sasanquas with very dark reds should give us the dark red flower we are after. Obviously 7017 is going to be a good F<sub>2</sub> parent for this combination.

I'd like to go over the 1975 (picked) seedlings we are now germinating.

1. 'Flower Girl'
  - A. 'Flower Girl' - 7017
  - B. 'Flower Girl' - 'Lady in Red'
  - C. 'Flower Girl' - 'Leonora Novick'
2. Saluenensis
  - A. Saluenensis x 'Shiro-Kingo-Tsubacki' (Jap)  
Saluenensis x Retic-Hyb (sobec)  
Saluenensis x Novick (Leonora)

3. Retic or Retic Hybrid—Japonica
  - A. 'Mouchang' - 'Mark Allen'
  - B. 'Crimson Robe' - 'Margaret Davis'
  - C. 'Pink Sparkle' - 'Silver Chalice'
  - D. 'Pink Sparkle' - 'China Doll'
  - E. 'Cornelian' - 'White Kona'
  - F. 'Crimson Robe' - 'Charlie Betts'
  - G. 'Crimson Robe' - 'Jonathan'
4. Retic x Retic Hybrid
  - A. 7017 x 'Pink Sparkle' x 7017 (7501)
  - B. 'Milo Rowell' - PIG
  - C. Retic Hybrid Sobec - 'Mouchang' x 7017 (7502)
  - D. 'Lila Naff' - Retic Hybrid Sobec
  - E. 'Cornelian' - 'Kohinor'
  - F. 'Three Dreams' - 'Dr. Clifford Parks'
  - G. Retic Sobec - 'Three Dreams'
  - H. Retic Sobec - 'Kohinor'
  - I. 'Crimson Robe' - 'Butterfly Wings'
  - J. 'Crimson Robe' - 'Kohinor'
  - K. 'Crimson Robe' - 'Chang's Temple'
  - L. 'Crimson Robe' - Retic Hybrid Sobec
  - M. 'Cornelian' - PIG
  - N. 'Cornelian' - Retic Hybrid Sobec
  - O. 'Cornelian' - 'Chang's Temple'
  - P. 'William Hertrich' - Retic Hybrid Sobec
5. Retic x Saluenensis Hybrid
  - A. 'Mouchang' - 'Dr. Pollizzi'
  - B. 'Mouchang' - 'Gay Time'
  - C. 'Mouchang' - 'Elsie Jury'
  - D. 'Royalty' - 'Elsie Jury'
  - E. 'Royalty' - 'Gay Time'
  - F. 'Crimson Robe' - 'Anticipation'
  - G. 'Francie L' - 'Kohinor'
6. Japonica x Retic Hybrid
  - A. 'Midnite Serenade' x 7017 (?)
  - B. 'Lady in Red' - 'Dr. Clifford Parks'
  - C. 'Bernice Boddy' - 'Kohinor'
7. Fragrance
  - A. 'Sylvia May' - AKI (very fragrant white japonica)
  - B. 'William Hertrich' - AKI (very fragrant white seed)
  - C. 'Cornelian' - AKI (very fragrant white seed)

You can study the above combinations and in most cases you can easily tell what we are striving for. Perhaps the list will be helpful in making up your own parents for hybridizing this coming season.

This coming season (1976) Mel and I are going to gib heavy and try to set a big seed crop like we did in 1973 when we also used gib as a seed setting stimulant. There will be plenty of good combinations to work with in both the large whites, the saluenensis hybrids, 'Flower Girl' F<sub>2</sub> crosses, etc. We expect to do a

lot of pollen dabbing with 'Elsie Jury', 'Angel Wings', 'Dr. Pollizzi', 7017. I will have several fragrant varieties to cross, with other fragrant japonica/retics for size. Some of these should be excellent since there is a lot of aroma present. We will try to get some granthamiana crosses. These seem to be difficult even though there are plenty of F<sub>1</sub> hybrid plants available. None of the first generation flowers seem to be outstanding, but they should all be great for additional crosses.

The reason for using saluenensis crosses such as 'Elsie Jury' is to continue F<sub>2</sub>, etc. crosses to seek additional beautiful flowers of this type or combination. This should be a good way toward peony, anemone and formal retic-saluenensis hybrids. I don't think you can go wrong on these combinations.

I plan to try some more 'Berenice Boddy' crosses—since many of the 'Berenice Boddy' seedlings are formals (some with bull nosing tendencies) it would be interesting to see what the retics or saluenensis hybrids do when used as a pollen parent.

Another possible good pollen parent would be the 'Elegans' family such as 'Kona' or 'Hawaii' into the retic hybrids. It would be interesting to see if any of the greenish white shades carry over to the seedlings.

Keep in mind in hybridizing that many, many crosses have been done in the past—try something different if possible. Do obtain some good F<sub>1</sub> crosses that are available to use in your work. It is not necessary to cross retic into granthamiana—the F<sub>1</sub> are around. Get some plants or scions and graft your own. Then do your work. You will save years of effort this way and can have the pleasure of seeing excellent F<sub>2</sub> hybrids sooner.

We are definitely getting to a position where there are several chance seedling plants around that have some yellow present—a few are 'Leo-

nora Novick', 'Brushfield Yellow', 'Jaune', 'Gus Menard', 'Botan-Yoki', and a Japanese Higo seedling 'Ki-Karako'. Nuccio's new 'Elegans Champagne' has quite a bit of yellow in it. I have noticed several times now that 'Brushfield Yellow' and 'Gus Menard' which are very similar, often produce early flowers with a pink center instead of the pale yellow. This may be an indication the yellow will come from a pink flower rather than a neutral white. There are also several seedlings around that are cream color that could be used for hybridizing. Yellow is a long shot.

It's true that we can use more good, unusual, miniatures, medium, large, fragrant, early flowers and bushy plants. There's plenty of room

for an introduction that's really good and different. What we don't need, in my opinion, is the same old flower and stringy bush, just because it happens to be a cross between two or more odd species. Now if we make that odd cross and get an average flower and then use it for additional crosses to build up the early bloom characteristic of say—granthamiana with its beautiful leaf veining this is progress and it would be fine to distribute these unusual scions to hybridizers for additional work, but don't name it when there is already a similar  $F_1$  cross named Aunt Matilda. Let's be a little patient and not introduce the new flower until it's really ready and hopefully really different.

## FORTHCOMING CAMELLIA EVENTS

The International Camellia Society has made plans for its next Congress to be held at FALMOUTH, in Cornwall, United Kingdom. The dates for the Cornwall Congress have been set for April 3 to 9, 1976. Vice-President David Tréhané is in charge of arrangement for garden tours and Regional Director Dr. Jimmy Smart is organizing the Congress talks. Early April is a most wonderful time to visit England and particularly Cornwall. Combining a trip to the British Isles with attendance at the ICS Congress in Cornwall would offer a real treat. Anyone interested in getting more information on this Camellia event should contact Bill Goertz, our Regional Director.

The International Camellia Society has also given its approval for the 1977 Conference to be held at NANTES, France. The Conference will be hosted by the Camellia Section of the Societe d'Horticulture de France. They will organize the International Camellia Conference in association with Les Florales Internationales de Nantes. The Florales Internationales will be open from May

13 to May 23, 1977 and the International Camellia Congress will take place from Monday, May 16 to Wednesday, May 18, 1977. Nantes is the location of the famous Botanical Gardens of Nantes and the largest Camellia Nursery in Europe. This Congress should be in the back of every Camellia Hobbyist's mind when he plans a trip to Europe for 1977.

## THE HUNTINGTON SHOW

The Huntington Gardens Camellia Show will be held on January 10th and 11th, 1976. The Show will be staged in the covered foyer of the Art Gallery of the Huntington Botanical Gardens in San Marino, California. It is sponsored by the Southern California Camellia Society and will be produced in cooperation with the Staff of the Huntington Gardens. As has been the custom in the three previous Huntington Shows, both gibbed and ungibbed blooms will be in open competition in the various divisions. The Show will also feature a number of educational exhibits and demonstrations for visitors.



# 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, October through April (except 3rd Monday in November), at Franklin School, Truxton and A St., Bakersfield

## \*CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF ORANGE COUNTY

President: Robert Eastman; Sec., Mrs. George T. Butler, 1831 Windsor Ln, Santa Ana 92705

Meetings: 3rd Thursday, November through April, 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, October through April in Shepard Garden & Art Center, 3300 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento

## \*CENTRAL CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Bill Harris; Secretary, Mary Anne Ray, 5024 E. Laurel Ave., Fresno 93727

Meetings: 3rd Wednesday, November through February, in All-purpose Room, Del Mar School, 4122 N. Del Mar, Fresno

## DELTA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

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

Meetings: 2nd Tuesday, November through March at various society member's homes, Oct. 25 3rd Annual BBQ Dinner 5:00 p.m. immediately following the Fall Meeting of the Northern California Camellia Council.

## JOAQUIN CAMELLIA SOCIETY

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

Meetings: 4th Wednesday, October through May, United Methodist Church, Lodi

## LOS ANGELES CAMELLIA SOCIETY

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

Meetings: 1st Tuesday, December through April, 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: Second Tuesday October through May, at Guarantee Savings Bldg., 2929 McHenry Ave., Modesto

## NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Bill E. Lockwood; Secretary, Peter W. Eberle, 133 Moraga Way, Orinda 94453

Meetings: 1st Monday, November through May, Claremont JHS, 5750 College Ave., Oakland

## PACIFIC CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Judy Simmons; Secretary, Leone Summerson, 1370 San Luis Rey Dr., Glen. 91208

Meetings: 1st Thursday, November through April, Central Bank of Glendale, 411 N. Central Ave., Glendale 91203

## PENINSULA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Ralph E. Bernhardt; Sec., Andrew R. Johnson, Jr., 28 Lloyd Dr., Atherton 94025

Meetings: 4th Tuesday, September through April, Municipal Services Center, 1400 Broadway, Redwood City.

## \*POMONA VALLEY CAMELLIA SOCIETY

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

Meetings: 2nd Thursday, November through April, 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., November-April, Rm. 101, Casa Del Prado Bldg., Balboa Pk., San Diego, 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: 3rd Tuesday September through April, at Great Western Savings Bldg., 2100 El Camino Real, Santa Clara

## SONOMA COUNTY CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Marilyn Batt; Secretary, C. O. McCorkle, 340 Belhaven Pl., Santa Rosa 95405

Meetings: Nov. 13, Dec. 11, 1975, January through May 1976 on the 4th Thursday of the month, 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; Secretary, Mrs. Elsie Bracci, 5567 N. Burton Ave., San Gabriel 91776

Meetings: Friday, Nov. 14; Friday, Dec. 19; Thursday, Jan. 22; Thursday, Feb. 26; Thursday, March 25; and Thursday, April 22 at the Los Angeles County Arboretum Lecture Hall in Arcadia



**SOUTHERN  
CALIFORNIA**

**CAMELLIA**

*Society, Inc.*

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