

THE *Camellia*
REVIEW

A Publication of the Southern California Camellia Society



C. JAPONICA—"SHOW TIME"
Courtesy, Nuccio's Nurseries, Altadena, California

Vol. 40

January - February

No. 3

One Dollar twenty-five cents

Southern California Camellia Society Inc.

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

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

Application for membership may be made by letter to the Secretary. Annual dues, \$12.00

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THE COVER FLOWER

C. JAPONICA—"SHOW TIME"

Courtesy, Nuccio's Nurseries, Altadena, California

'Show Time' is a chance C. Japonica seedling discovered in 1972 in the seedling field at Nuccio's Nurseries. The low number given to it—7213—indicates that this cultivar has a penchant for early blooming. The flower is a large to very large, light orchid pink. The form is irregular, semi-double. The plant grafts very well and also can be propagated from cuttings. It has a vigorous, upright growth. It was introduced in the Fall of 1978.

CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE

1978 EDITION

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12 and more copies	\$3.25 per copy

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Southern California Camellia Society

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Arcadia, Ca 91006



THOUGHTS

from the editor

About 18 months ago I wrote an Editorial deploring the "Civil Wars" within the Camellia Hobby. I think that since then, there have been more disagreements, more misunderstandings, more instances of a "falling out" among friends, more "Civil Wars" than ever before! What's going on here? This is supposed to be a HOBBY! This is supposed to be a fun thing—a time to relax and a time to be friendly. Instead of that, we are witnessing more vendettas than occur at a Sicilian funeral!

I have been trying to figure out why this should occur. We all have our likes and dislikes. Maybe it is the dislikes which have been predominating. I am reminded of the bumper sticker which reads—"Beauty is only skin deep—but ugly goes clear in to the bone." The likes we can tolerate but the dislikes seem to go clear into the bone! Why can't we be sensible about our own opinions and tolerate the opinions of others?

Let's take the Hall of Fame cultivars for example. Some folks are going "absolutely bananas" because their favorite camellia is not on the list! Shucks folks, if I was to make up my list, they would all be formal doubles! I have never heard so much vitriolic comment as there has been recently concerning the judges choices at several of the early shows. I have heard one fellow being castigated, written off, and utterly dismissed, because he prefers miniatures! How silly can we get? If some one has the temerity to write down his opinions in an article, and it is printed, he might even get sued!

Fellow Hobbists, I implore you—LET'S KEEP THE CAMELLIA HOBBY A FUN HOBBY. If you disagree with someone, or his ideas, or his choices, or the way he combs his hair—GREAT! Present your ideas, your choices, your way of combing your hair. They might be a big improvement over his ideas. They probably will be—if presented in a spirit of constructive comradery.

The next time you get all worked up over something you heard—something someone said,—something someone did,—something someone wrote,—get out your Bible and read Ecclesiastes 9-11. "I RETURNED AND SAW UNDER THE SUN, THAT THE RACE IS NOT ALWAYS TO THE SWIFT, NOR THE BATTLE TO THE STRONG, NEITHER YET BREAD TO THE WISE, NOR YET RICHES TO THE MEN OF UNDERSTANDING, NOR YET FAVOR TO THE MEN OF SKILL. BUT TIME AND CHANCE HAPPENETH TO THEM ALL."

BILL DONNAN

1978 CROP — CAMELLIA SEEDS

Japonica Seeds—\$3.75 per 100 (minimum order)

Sasanqua Seeds—\$1.50 per 100 (minimum order)

Reticulata Seeds—15c each

Southern California Camellia Society

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Arcadia, California 91006

NEW POLICY ON PUBLICATION OF CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE

The Southern California Camellia Society Board of Directors held a meeting on December 4, 1978 and voted to change its policy on publication of CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE from bi-annually to tri-annually. Thus, the 17th Edition is now scheduled to be published in December 1980 and released as the 1981 Edition. Prior to making this change in policy consultations were held with the American Camellia Society to obtain their concurrence.

The reasons for the change in policy and the decision to publish tri-annually are as follows:

(1) The number of additions recently in each bi-annual publication seldom exceeded 200 new listings.

(2) With the escalation of the costs of paper and printing, the reproduction every two years for this small number of additional listings does not appear to be warranted.

(3) The adoption of this new policy should alleviate the necessity for raising membership dues.

The Southern California Camellia Society and the American Camellia Society have agreed to establish a policy of printing the yearly list of new additions in their Spring issue of the CAMELLIA REVIEW and CAMELLIA JOURNAL. For example, since the publication of the 16th Edition of CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE, released in January 1978, there have been about 100 new additions of camellia cultivars. These will be listed, in substantially the same format as is carried in the NOMENCLATURE, and published in both CAMELLIA REVIEW and CAMELLIA JOURNAL in the spring of 1979. A second listing of about 100 new cultivars will be carried in the Spring 1980 issue of both magazines. Then, in December 1980, the 17th Edition of CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE will be published and it will be released as the 1981 volume. It will contain, in its comprehensive catalogue, all the new cultivars introduced since the 16th Edition was published.

PRINCIPAL NATIONAL SHOW RESULTS

LOWER HUTT, NEW ZEALAND—SEPTEMBER 15-16, 1978

Best Bloom in Show (Bethwaite Memorial Trophy)—Mr. and Mrs. O. G. Moore, Wanganui, 'Dixie Knight Supreme'

Best Japonica (McLisky Trophy)—Mr. and Mrs. O. G. Moore, Wanganui, 'Dixie Knight Supreme'

Best Hybrid with no Reticulata Parentage (Society Trophy)—Mr. and Mrs. O. G. Moore, Wanganui, 'Elsie Jury'

Best Reticulata or Reticulata Hybrid (Roland Young Memorial Trophy)—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Cave, Wanganui, 'Lisa Gael'

Best Seedling Bloom (Society Award)—Mr. O. Blumhardt, Wangarei.

Best Yunnan Reticulata (Durrant Trophy)—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Cave, Wanganui, 'Purple Gown'

Best White Bloom (Rayner Memorial Trophy)—Mrs. N. Turner, Feilding, 'Coronation'

Best Bloom of American Origin (American Camellia Societies Trophy)—Mrs. M. E. Fogarty, Blenheim, 'Elegans Splendor'

Best Bloom of New Zealand Origin (Society Award)—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Cave, Wanganui, 'Lisa Gael'

Best Miniature or Small Bloom (Clere Memorial Trophy)—Mr. and Mrs. J. Warsaw, Wanganui, 'Wilamina'

HONOURS TABLE BLOOMS

'Elegans Supreme' Mrs. M. E. Fogarty, Blenheim

'Tomorrow' Mrs. N. Turner, Feilding

'Swan Lake' Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Austin, New Plymouth

'Onetia Holland' Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Cave, Wanganui

SHOW RESULTS

WINTER "GIB" SHOW—DECEMBER 9-10, 1978

Best Treated Large Japonica—'Miss Charleston Var.' by Sergio Bracci
Runner-up—'Easter Morn' by Jack Woo
Best Treated Medium Japonica—'Midnight' by Sergio Bracci
Runner-up—'Ville de Nantes' by Fritz Kahen
Best Treated Small Japonica—'Demi-Tasse' by Harry Reich
Runner-up—'Splash of White' by Bob Jaacks
Best Treated Miniature Japonica—'Little Slam' by Al Taylor
Best Non-treated Large Japonica—'Kramer's Supreme' by D. T. Gray Family
Runner-up—'Marie Bracey' by Jack Woo
Best Non-treated Medium Japonica—'China Doll' by Frank Davis
Runner-up—'Wildfire' by Lee Gaeta
Best Non-treated Small Japonica—'Ava Maria' by Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Sullivan
Best Non-treated Miniature Japonica—'Fircone Var.' by Rudy Moore
Best Reticulata Hybrid—'Dr. Clifford Parks' by W. F. Goertz
Runner-up—'Waltz Time Var.' by Sergio Bracci
Best Species—'Bonanza' by Bill Donnan
Best Three Large Japonicas—'Gulio Nuccio' by H. S. Putnam
Runner-up—'R. L. Wheeler' by H. S. Putnam
Best Three Boutonniere Japonicas—'Tinker Bell' by H. S. Putnam
Best Three Retic Hybrids—'Francie L.' by Fritz Kahen
Best Three Sasanquas—'Yuletide' by Bill Donnan
Best Treated Seedling—'Grantham Cross' by Lee Gaeta
Best Non-treated Seedling—'Early Red' by Bill Donnan
Best Collector's Tray of Six—By Sergio Bracci
Best Novice Camellia—'Garden Glory' by Janet Lowe
Best Novice Tray of Three—'Mrs. Josephine Hearn' by Loraine Board
Award of Merit for Most Points—Sergio Bracci
Runner-up—Bill Donnan
Number of Blooms—346—Number of Exhibitors 28
Number of Winners 18—Attendance 925

REPORT FROM THE NORTHWEST

By MARY MARSHDALE

Growing unprotected camellias in the northwest can be a challenge, as this uprooted Southern Californian can attest after a few years experience, either is the main adversary.

While many established camellias in our area survived the hard freeze of December 1972, when the temperature dropped to minus 12 degrees, the camellia nurseries were wiped out. And today, six years later, I am unable to find a single nursery specializing in camellias in either Washington or Oregon. Our local nurseryman says that the freeze of 1972 was the worst in his 50 years of nursery business. Local nurseries carry a few camellias, mostly labeled "red," "white" or "pink." A serious hobbyist must send away for good stock.

I hoped to get my young camellias well established before another freeze of that magnitude. They were the first

plants in our new garden after the property was graded, and the fences, walks and sprinklers were in. By then it was late October. The gallon sized plants, which had come from Nuccio's in California, were jolted by a sudden temperature drop to 19 degrees. Almost all the flower buds promptly fell off.

Our soil is heavy clay, so I planted the more choice and tender varieties in a raised planter. They were: Nuccio's Ruby, Howard Asper, Francie L, Three Dreams, Fashionata, Kohinor, Lila Naff and John Taylor. The planter was filled with a mix of spent mushroom compost, river silt and ground fir bark. The mixture drained well and looked good. The bed was about two feet high and sheltered on the west by a fence and century old oaks in the next garden.

It wasn't many weeks, however,

when the camellias in that bed showed definite signs of distress. The leaves began turning white and spotted. Some had black edges. Many fell off. I don't know whether this was the delayed effect of the cold or possible excess salt in the mushroom compost (which is largely horse manure and straw).

I replanted the camellias in straight fir bark. They continued to decline, until by Spring I became so alarmed that I moved them to the east side of the house where the other camellias had been planted. There they had some protection from the frost by a roof overhang. These camellias, also, had dropped their buds and shown no activity, but at least they were green. They were Gigantea, Kramer's Supreme, Marie Bracey, Tiffany, Giulio Nuccio, Betty Sheffield Supreme, Nuccio's Gem, Adolph Audusson Varigated, Yuletide and Miyaku Haru.

By Fall of the second year all the camellia leaves had regained their color. All had set buds. I had fresh hope once more. Of course one is never sure the winter won't be beastly cold with frozen ground that dehydrates even well mulched plants. November nights are already in the teens and the first snow has fallen.

Some of my camellias have adjusted noticeably better than others. First prize goes to my only Higo 'Miyaku Haru.' I can't say enough for this brave little plant which took everything I could throw at her, including a long hot trip up in my car, subfreezing temperatures, heavy soil, rain, wind, snow— everything! Dear little "Higo" came through with a smiling face and even had two flowers when all the others lost their buds. Northwest camellia growers should really take a good look at this fine camellia. So far I haven't seen any other Higos in gardens here, and none were displayed at the Portland Camellia show—the only camellia show in the northwest. My Higo is a handsome sturdy plant with upright growth. The shiny

dark green leaves are pleasantly rounded. The buds are fat and round and so well placed that no disbudding is necessary.

The rate of camellia growth in the northwest is considerably slower than in Southern California, and plants don't need as much heavy pruning. I planted one large specimen camellia two years ago. It was balled and moved by truck into the garden. I had given it a hard pruning at that time partly to protect it from winter winds and to get its root system established. It still shows no need for further pruning, though it has grown well. It turned out to have small white flowers. I may graft some better variety on it when the season comes again.

Here in the northwest you quickly discover that the word "garden" means vegetable or food crops to most people. Guests show no interest in my out-of-bloom camellia plants and some of my other choice ornamentals. Instead they remark on such things as the grape vines, the blueberry plants and potted plants of patio tomatoes and green peppers.

There are bonuses for the new northwest gardener, however. Many fine plants flourish here than don't do well in the southwest. In my new garden are pink and white dogwood trees, and one variety of dogwood that has green and white variegated leaves that turn many shades of red in the Fall. Stewartia, and Franklinia (camellia's pretty cousins), do well here. Peonies, lilies of the valley, clematis, Japanese cut-leaf maple, lilacs, azaleas, rhododendron and many hardy bulbs flourish despite the cold. Rock gardens with ferns and hardy Alpine succulents are popular. Roses are spectacular here as long as you can keep on top of such things as rust, mildew and black spot. Extra rose care really pays off in abundance of bloom.

1978 was a cool wet summer. It encouraged mildew on the roses and slowed the bud growth of the camellias. It was the summer of the green

tomato, too. Then a few weeks of Indian summer warmed things up enough to send up false new growth on many plants that were nipped by the first frost. I was careful to not feed the camellias after July, but some of the buds thought it was spring and began to swell and show color by November.

Getting a northwest garden ready for winter involves some projects. The sprinkler system must be drained and all hose bibs covered with frost caps. The camellias are staked securely to protect them from wind damage and the ground beneath them is well mulched with hemlock bark dust.

The compost piles build quickly with the bounty of leaves from the ancient oaks in our area. I am the only one of my immediate neighbors that keep a compost pile, and they have generously added their lawn clippings and leaves to mine. Between the layers I sprinkle some "compost maker" and kitchen scraps. All is watered down and the pile is soon steaming. By spring there will be rich black mulch for the garden. My neighbors think I have a green thumb. It is really black, stained with compost.

Before the first frost, all the house plants, which have spent the summer

outside, are brought indoors. Fuchsia baskets and dahlia tubers are stored in the garage. The rest of the plants are settled for the winter under fluorescent lights or in a sunny bedroom.

The African violets live on a pole in front of a south facing sliding door the year around and bloom happily, even when there is snow outside.

This Fall I inadvertently brought in a tiny green frog. He is probably hidden in the bromeliads, but I simply can't find him. I can hear him croaking at night. (Perhaps he will turn into a handsome prince). At any rate, he doesn't sound unhappy.

Just when I thought the camellias were headed for their best year in my garden, I discovered that the roof drain which leads underground to the street, was blocked up and the water was gathering under the house. This can be a real problem in this wet climate. A deep trench was dug the whole length of the camellia bed, a few inches from their roots, and a new drain pipe was laid. I apologized to the camellias, but it will be Spring before I know if they will recover this new onslaught.

As I have said before, gardening in the northwest can be a challenge!

CAMELLIA GIANTS OF THE PAST— KOSAKU SAWADA

By CHARLES R. BUTLER

Ed. Note: This is a partial reprint of an article appearing in the October 1967 issue of Camellia Review.

Mr. Sawada was born in Osaka, Japan and his interest in horticulture came to him naturally as his father owned and operated an orange grove there. He graduated from Osaka Junior College where he studied horticulture. Following graduation, a family friend asked him and four other young Japanese to come to Houston, Texas to assist him in the operation of a rice farm.

About three months after their ar-

rival the friend was killed in an accident, leaving the five young men, none of whom could speak, read or write English, to operate the farm. This continued with difficulty for two years when young Mr. Sawada left to work for Mr. Arai, a Japanese nurseryman in Alvin, Texas, raising Cape Jasmine.

After two years Mr. Sawada realized that if he were to get anywhere in the United States, he would have to learn English. He therefore went back to Houston and attended a private school for two years to study the

language. He then returned to work for Mr. Arai in Alvin. Soon thereafter Mr. Arai decided to start an orange grove. Mr. Sawada sent back to Japan and obtained scions from his father which were grafted on local understock. Several years later a hard freeze came along and wiped out over a quarter million trees.

Mr. Arai then obtained a contract from Grand Bay Land Company, a company formed by a group of mid-westerners, to buy and develop land in south Mobile County, Alabama, to plant a 2500 acre grove of oranges. Because of his experience, Mr. Sawada was sent to Grand Bay to supervise this operation. Fortunately, when planting the oranges, it was decided to plant a pecan tree after every fourth orange tree. After several successful crops a freeze destroyed all the orange trees and again a second time after replanting, but the pecans survived.

In 1917 Mr. Sawada decided to go into business for himself and purchased the property on Moffett Road in Mobile where Overlook Nursery still continues. He started out by propagating and selling oranges and pecans and for his own enjoyment raised a few ornamentals. People around Mobile eventually gave up trying to raise citrus fruits and Overlook's bus-

iness gradually changed over to the sale of general nursery stock.

In 1916 when the first Mrs. Sawada came over from Japan to marry Mr. Sawada, she brought with her a number of camellia seeds. It was from the seedlings grown from these that the cultivars K. Sawada and Mrs. K. Sawada were produced and from which his love of camellias developed.

All of us who raise camellias have read Mr. Sawada's many erudite articles on camellia propagation and culture which have appeared in many publications. He probably has developed more lovely seedlings than anyone in the business: Mrs. K. Sawada, K. Sawada, Imura, Frizzle White, Lurie's Favorite, Queen Bessie, Rising Sun, Sara-sa, Tricolor Superba, White Pine Cone, Blush Hibiscus, Liberty Bell, Red Hibiscus, Robert Norton, Rose Mallow, Royal White, Shiro-Botan, Smiling Beauty, Victory Maid, Victory White, White Empress, White Giant, White Hibiscus, White King, White Queen, the beautiful Sawada's Dream and Tiny Princess, the first successful cross between camellia fraterna and camellia japonica. Also sasanquas: Dawn, Cleopatra, Brilliancy, Autumn Beauty, Floribunda, Gulf Glory, Lavender Queen, Papaver, Rosy Mist, Slenderlee, Snowflake, Splendor, Velvety, Versicolor, Willowleaf, Frank Persons and Gulf Breeze.

A NEW GUIDE TO BOTANICAL RESOURCES

By PAMELA BROWN

Ed. Note: Reprinted from the November-December 1978 issue of Golden Gardens.

One of the most helpful and informative books that I have used recently is *A Guide to Botanical Resources of Southern California* by Janice R. Bartel and Sage Culpepper Belt. As the authors state in their introduction, there are "... an extraordinary number of institutions concerned with plants." This new book, listing the available resources, is their "... way of thanking those respon-

sible for these resources and telling the public where they may be found."

The most valuable feature of the book lies in the great variety of resources that it covers such as nature centers and parks, museums, and botanical gardens all of which are listed alphabetically by county. A brief description of each resource is given along with additional information including the address, telephone number, and times when the facility is open or if an admission fee is charged. In many cases, explicit directions

are included to assist the general reader or traveler in locating the botanical resource.

Information is also given on the University of California Natural Land and Water Reserves System. The authors offer two addresses where inquiries may be sent and include a list of the reserves in Southern California showing their size, habitat, and location.

The Nature Conservancy is mentioned with a brief description of its goals and achievements. A local address and phone number are included for the reader's benefit.

Other valuable features of the book include a calendar of garden events (flower shows and garden tours), a list of specialty plant nurseries, and a list of various plant societies. Although most of the plant societies are in the Los Angeles County area, a small list of out-of-state or foreign plant societies (with addresses) is also included.

A particularly useful section offers a list of botanical and environmental associations with their addresses.

Since many of these groups are located outside of California, this book provides invaluable information, not readily found elsewhere, at a glance.

The book also offers a list of publications of botanical interest (with addresses) and concludes with a short glossary of terms used in the text. Attractive black and white photographs of various arboreta in the Los Angeles area as well as ink illustrations by Francis Runyan enrich the book. The specimens and habitats drawn by Mr. Runyan are carefully identified by page number at the end of the guide.

This modestly priced paperback would make an excellent Christmas gift for a friend or for oneself. It contains so much information on such a large variety of botanical resources that it is definitely one of the finest guidebooks available. Reading thru it even briefly alerts one to the many botanical treasures in the Southern California area. Those who purchase it, or who are fortunate enough to receive it as a gift, will find it to be one of the most useful, and well-used books in their library for years to come.

POMONA VALLEY INITIATES NEW AWARD

The Board of Directors of the Pomona Valley Camellia Society, seeing the unique growing conditions peculiar to their area, have initiated a new camellia award honoring veteran camellia man Clark Thomas.

The Clark Thomas Award may be given annually to the originator of a camellia that performs well in the drier inland areas of Southern California. The area covered ranges from Kellogg Hill, between Pomona and Covina, eastward to Hemet; and from the football communities south to Riverside and Chino.

Each year the Society President appoints a committee to consider possible recipients. The camellia must have proven itself to be a consistently good performer in the region. It must have

been commercially available at least two years and no more than ten, a rule that cannot be waived.

The membership of the Society is then polled as to its favorites from the list compiled by the awards committee, but the committee has the final word in awarding the Silver Revere bowl that goes to the originator of the winning camellia.

It is hoped that the new Clark Thomas Camellia Award will draw attention to cultivars that will perform well in those marginal areas that have a dry climate and/or a problem with salty water.

The first winner, in 1978, was Nuccio's Nursery for its outstanding white formal Camellia japonica, 'Nuccio's Gem.'

AN OPINION REGARDING NEW VARIETIES

By WILLIAM E. WOODROOF

Ed. Note: Three years ago, Bill Woodroof discontinued his former practice of growing and testing most all of the new camellia cultivars sent to him. However, he still grows many of the newer varieties in his garden and lath house and he avails himself of an opportunity to observe the blooming and growth habits of a wide variety of camellias with twice-weekly visits to Nuccio's Nurseries. Thus we have prevailed upon him to give us his critique of new cultivars.

I hereinafter set forth varieties of camellias introduced in the Los Angeles area in the last few years which I have observed, and my appraisal of such varieties under normal outdoor growing conditions. This appraisal is, of course, my own opinion and results may be different in other areas. The varieties hereinafter set forth are rated on the following basis:

A—Excellent—should have in collection.

B—Good—worth having.

C—Too similar to existing equal or better variety.

D—Garden shrub.

E—Fair to of little value.

The following list is in alphabetical order.

'Betty Ridley'—Large pink, formal double, retic. hybrid—B.

'Dr. Clifford Parks' — Very large, red with orange cast, veriform, retic. hybrid—A.

'Debut'—Very large, china rose, loose peony form, hybrid—A.

'Ed Combatalade'—Medium, red, formal double, japonica—B.

'Elegans Champagne'—White with cream center petaloids, sport of 'Elegans Splendor'—A.

'Garden Glory'—Medium, orchid pink, rose form double, salunensis hybrid—D.

'Gee Homeyer' — Medium, pink veined dark red, formal double, japonica—C.

'Han-Ling Raspberry' — Raspberry on white sport of 'Carter's Sunburst'—C.

(Question whether substantial difference from 'Carter's Sunburst Var.')

'Han-Ling Snow'—Pure white sport of 'Chow's Han-Ling'—C.

(Question whether substantial difference from parent which produces many pure white blooms)

'Harold Paige'—Very large, bright red, rose form, double to peony form retic hybrid—B.

'In the Red'—Rose red sport of 'In the Pink'—C.

'Jean Pursel' — Very large, light purplish pink, full peony form, retic hybrid—B.

'Lasca Beauty' — Very large, soft pink, semi-double, retic hybrid—B.

'Lois Shinalt'—Very large, orchid pink, irregular semi-double, retic hybrid—C.

'Lucy Stewart'—Large white, loose to full peony form, japonica—B.

'Maui' — Large white, anemone form, sport of 'Kona'—B.

'Miss Tulare'—Large to very large, bright red rose form double to full peony form, retic hybrid—A.

'Nuccio's Jewel' — Medium, sweet pea colors, full peony form japonica—B.

'Nuccio's Pearl' — Medium, sweet pet colors, formal double, japonica—A.

'Nuccio's Ruby' — Large to very large, very dark red, irregular, semi-double retic hybrid—A.

'Pink Frost' — Silvery pink with white border, sport of 'Pink Pagoda'—B.

'San Marino' — Large, dark red, semi-double, retic hybrid—B.

'Show Time'—Large to very large, light orchid pink, irregular semi-double japonica—B.

'Spring Festival'—Miniature, medium pink fading to light pink in cen-

ter, rose form double, cuspidata seedling—D.

'Terrel Weaver' — Large flame red to dark red, semi-double, retic hybrid—B.

'Tulip Time'—Light orchid marked deeper on outer petals, small tulip shaped single, williamsii hybrid—D.

'White Retic' — Large white with blush pink under petals, semi-double retic seedling—E.
(Hybridizing value only).

GRAFTING—HISTORICAL

By **HODY WILSON**

Grafting in general is the art of joining parts of plants together in such a manner as they will unite and continue their growth as one plant. These parts are commonly called scion or cion and stock, root-stock or under stock. It has been suggested that the plant of the combination be called or referred to as stion. This term has never been a practice and is not in common usage.

In the literature there were so many interesting references that I felt that some of you might enjoy some of the things that were of much interest and pleasure to me. Actually in the camellia publications over the years there has been someone that offered so-called new techniques. A look at the history of grafting reveals that this has been occurring for many years and

that so-called new things are merely innovations of very old techniques adopted by the individual to Camellias.

It was not until the 17th century that detailed information on the propagation of plants by means of layers and cuttings was available.

This is not true of grafting which has been intriguing from ancient to modern times, not only to the novice but top professional gardeners. I think most Camellia growers know that giving a plant to a prospective grower helps to build his interest but that showing him how to graft a plant and have it bloom for him will make a convert more often than anything you can do.

The poet Virgil, in the first century before Christ listed in verse many types of grafts. Pliny in the next century described many techniques of grafting used at that time—many of which were beyond the realm of conjecture.

Topworking was so well known over 1900 years ago the Apostle Paul used it as a metaphor in his epistle to the Romans. (Romans 11:16-24).

The gentile Romans were compared to twigs that had been grafted on the olive tree of Judea Christian faith thus replacing the natural branches—the jews who had been blighted by unbelief.

In 1672 the literature showed

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grafting, as an art, had progressed rapidly in western Europe. Shortly thereafter the development of this art was indicated throughout many countries.

This fascinating art became so widespread that as with many practices used in growing plants much criticism developed.

L. H. Bailey, probably our greatest, horticulturist in an address to a large group of horticulturists defended the practice of grafting due to the misconception that grafting is in principle and essence opposed to nature and fundamentally wrong. It seems that I have heard similar statements in recent years in regard to "intriguing practice which has come along. Actually grafting became so widely used that the misconception regarding it led to much debate.

Criticism was typified by an article in the American Journal "The Gardener," January 26, 1889 which said "it is probably the greatest nuisance in the practice of gardening. The art of grafting is clever and interesting

but will be no great loss if abolished altogether. In nine out of ten cases it is for the convenience of the nurserymen and in all cases it is not only needless but harmful."

Today we have a number of good reasons for the practice of which are listed below:

1. Perpetuation of clones.
2. To change varieties.
3. Hasten the growth of seedlings and sometimes longevity and vigor.
4. For the study of viruses-indexing and color breaking in certain blooming plants.
5. To gain the benefits of certain root stocks, for example, vigor, dwarfing, size, nematode resistance, etc.
6. Repair plant damage — bridge grafting and inarching..
7. For pollination.
8. Use of intermediate stocks.
 - A. Scion not compatible to desired root stock.
 - B. Growth habit maybe molded between the two-resistant trunk below and tree above.
 - C. Dwarfing.

1977-1978 CALIFORNIA SHOW WINNERS

By BILL DONNAN

Since Bill Woodroof is no longer testing and reporting on the relative merits of the new camellia cultivars, the compilation of the top California Show Award camellias becomes something more than just an interesting re-cap. New camellia hobbyists are forever asking for a list of the most popular or most wanted camellias. In addition, a re-cap of show winners helps to focus in on those camellia cultivars which should be considered for one of the Society Awards. If, year after year, a camellia continues to win awards at the California shows it, eventually, becomes eligible for consideration for the Camellia Hall of Fame.

This article is meant to be a companion article to one written by Art Gonos. The Gonos article is a compil-

ation of winners of multiple awards; i.e., trays of three, five, or seven blooms. In this article an attempt has been made to catalogue the top show winners for single bloom entries. The various categories are: Large to Very Large Japonicas; Medium Japonicas; Small Japonicas; Miniature Japonicas; Reticulata Hybrids; and Non-reticulata Hybrids.

There were 16 shows here in California during the 1977-1978 season. Not all of the shows carried the same number of divisions. Some of the shows gave separate awards for both the Very Large and the Large Japonicas. In this compilation the Very Large and Large Japonica Awards were lumped together so that there were actually 21 awards made for the 16 shows in this category. Herewith

are the results of this compilation:

In the Large and Very Large Division there were a total of 19 different camellia cultivars which won a Best Bloom Award. This, by far, the greatest spread of the top honors recorded for the past ten years. However, 'Grand Prix' and 'Lady In Red' tied for the designation as the top winner for the season. They each earned the award of Best Large Japonica in two different shows and each also earned a Runner-up Best Award in a third show.

In the Medium Japonica Division 'Nuccio's Pearl' was chosen Best Bloom at five of the California Shows. There were 11 different one-time winners out of the 16 shows. Thus 'Nuccio's Pearl' was far and away the top Medium Japonica of last season. This cultivar is a newcomer to the shows having been introduced in September, 1977. Second place in the Medium Japonica Division goes to 'Eleanor Martin Supreme' which won one Best and two Runner-up Best Awards.

The Small Japonica Division was dominated by 'Ave Maria' with six Best Bloom Awards. 'Maroon And Gold' came in second with two Best Bloom Awards. Eight other Small Japonica cultivars each won one Best Bloom Award during 1977-1978.

In the Miniature Japonica Division 'Fircone Var.' won four Best Bloom Awards to take the lead over 'Little

Slam' and 'Man Size' which tied for second place with two Best Bloom Awards during the past year.

In the Reticulata Hybrid Division 'Dr. Clifford Parks' with two Best Bloom Awards and three Runner-up Best Bloom Awards beat out 'Valley Knudsen' which also had two Best Bloom Awards but only one Runner-up Award. The cultivars 'Miss Tulare,' 'Arch Of Triumph' and 'Howard Asper' all had one Best and one Runner-up Award.

In the Non-Reticulata Hybrid Division 'Elsie Jury,' the perennial winner, came through once more with five Best Bloom Awards and three Runner-up Awards. A relative newcomer, 'Taylors Perfection' came in second in the compilation with two Best Bloom Awards.

Four of the California Shows gave an Outstanding Flower of the Show Award. The following four cultivars each won one of these awards: 'Miss Tulare,' 'Moutancha,' 'Miss Charleston Var.' and 'Howard Asper.'

Now, what does all this mean as a guide for the camellia hobbyist? If one is trying to assemble a collection of the top camellias or wants to get into the Show end of the hobby, he should consider the following lists of cultivars. (1) The Camellia Hall of Fame plants. (2) The Society Award plants. (3) The recent Show Award Winners.

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MULTIPLES—WINNING VARIETIES (1978)

By ART GONOS

Bill Donnan and I discussed the feasibility of compiling a list of camellias that win as multiple entries during each show season. We agreed that it is a worthwhile idea, and this compilation will be the first of what we hope will become an annual compilation of multiple winners. We hope that this will complement the annual list of single entry best blooms that Bill Goertz has been doing for a number of years.

This list represents the best *and* runner-up best winners of multiples (threes and/or fives or sixes) during the 1978 season, and it encompasses all of the California shows starting with the Southern California Early Show on December 3, 1977 and ending with the Santa Rosa show on April 1, 1978. Some shows are open and some are not. There is no attempt to distinguish between them. This is simply a list of all winners—gibbed or ungibbed.

California camellia shows have a wide variety of formats for entry, e.g., some shows use a ruler to determine size while others use *Camellia Nomenclature*. To simplify matters for the purpose of this list of winners, *Camellia Nomenclature* was used as the reference for the size groupings. Furthermore, the winning threes and fives (sixes) are all grouped together.

The biggest winner of the year was 'Francie L' with five bests. Closely following with four bests were 'Grand Prix,' 'Kitty' and 'Valley Knudsen.' A number of rather interesting items should also be mentioned. At Modesto, 'Grand Prix' won best three, best five and also best single large japonica (the single, of course, was not counted in the list below), and these three bests were entered by three different exhibitors. The 'Kitty' that won best five japonicas at Santa Rosa competed against all sizes (including very large), and 'Freedom Bell,' which is

also a "small" in size, earned two bests against much larger competition in the non-retic hybrid category.

JAPONICAS — (Large and Very Large)

Grand Prix 4; Tomorrow Park Hill 3; Elegans Splendor 2; Fashionata 2; Grand Slam 2; White Nun 2; 16 others 1 ea.

JAPONICAS—(Medium)

In the Pink 2; Margaret Davis 2; Nuccio's Gem 2; Sawada's Dream 2; 13 others 1 ea.

JAPONICAS—(Small)

Kitty 4; Allison Lee Woodroof 2; Maroon and Gold 2; Pink Perfection 2; 3 others 1 ea.

JAPONICAS—(Miniature)

Fircone Var. 2; 6 others 1 ea.

RETIC & HETIC HYBRIDS

Francie L 5; Valley Knudsen 4; Harold Paige 2; 18 others 1 ea.

NON-RETIC HYBRIDS

E. G. Waterhouse 3; Elsie Jury 3; Julia Hamiter 3; Anticipation 2; Freedom Bell 2; 7 others 1 ea.

NEW CAMELLIA SHOW IN ATWATER

The Atwater, California Chamber of Commerce will sponsor a new camellia show to be held on Sunday, February 24, 1979, at the Atwater Memorial Building, Fifth Street, Atwater, California.

This is the first show in the valley between Fresno and Modesto. The purpose of the show is to attract interest in Camellia Hobby and to engender support for a Camellia Society in that area.

It's hard for a fellow to keep a chip on his shoulder if you allow him to take a bow.

* * *

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GROWING CAMELLIAS IN HEMET

By GARDNER EIKENBERY

800 San Luis Drive., Hemet, CA 92343

Ed. Note: This material was gleaned from a letter Eikenbery wrote to Nuccio's Nursery dated Oct. 21, 1978. If any of you "experts" can help Eikenbery why not write him?

This letter is about some of the problems I have encountered in trying to raise camellias in Hemet during the past five years. I would appreciate your comments regarding them—especially, how I can solve some of them!

The following camellias did not do well in Hemet—they all died. Either from:

1. Alkaline burn — most of the leaves had brown around the edges—then leaves all dropped off, or

2. Leaves were normal green, but along a branch would drop off one by one. (Dieback?) Then limb would be pruned back. This condition would continue until nothing left but main stalk. Finally, all leaves would drop. I have had only a few plants recover—once either of the above symptoms appeared. These were:

Debutante, Arch of Triumph, Alba Plena, Swan Lake, Rainbow, Chansonnette.

Camellias that died:

Anticipation, Finlandia Var., Monte Carlo, Zing, Pearl's Pet, Brigadoon, Carter's Sunburst, Setsugekka, Miss Charleston, Fire Chief, Sunset Oaks, Demi Tasse, Midnight Serenade, Fir Cone, Little Lavender, Gulio Nuccio, Ballet Dancer, General Patton, Bali Hai Dawn, Kona, Spring Festival, Sweeti Vera, Touchdown, Reg Ragland.

Second mystery — Why mature plants do not set flower buds? These appear to me as healthy, normal looking plants. In my lath house—top covered by Saran cloth—also West side—there are 64 plants in containers. Thirty-four presently *do not have flower buds!* Examples—

Carter's Sunburst Pink, Nuccio's Gem 8-10 years old, Nuccio's Gem 5-6 years old, Herme (2 plants), Tinker Bell, Conrad Hilton, Adolph Aud., Kick Off, Purity, Sweetheart, Kramer's Supreme, Tiffany, Chow's Han Ling, Bob's Tinsie, Lady Kay, Daikagura, White Nun, Tomorrow Park Hill, Pink Clouds, Fimbriata, Hawaii, Glen No. 40, Lady-in-Red, Little Slam.

The following have set flower buds in a normal manner—

In-the-Pink, Shiro Chan, Silver Waves, Laurel Leaf, Silver Chalice, Rosemary Kinser, E. G. Waterhouse, Scentsation, Premier, Francine, Arch of Triumph, Twilight, C. M. Wilson, Chandleri Elegans, Ville de Nantes, Drama Girl.

Plants located in other areas—on the north and east side of house—show same results. Some of these are under Saran cloth—others not.

Those without buds—

Lasca Beauty, Elegans Champagne, Ragland Supreme, Berenice Beauty, Wild Fire, Pink Perfection, Debutante, Rainbow, Nuccio's Ruby, Berenice Boddy, Yuletide, Fred Sander.,

Those with buds—

Hopkins Pink, Midnight, Chansonette, Fashionata, Three Dreams, Cotton Tail, Pink Frost, Jean Clere, Red Dandy, Kitty, Finlandia, Tiki.

Since I use Metropolitan water — I leach plants quarterly. The mix I use—I have changed again.

3 Scoops San Jacinto Wash (sand), 3 Perlite (fine), 5 compost (sifted—sawdust, manure, pine needles, leaves, table scraps.), 1 commercial red wood compost, 1 peat moss, 1 handfull bone meal, 1 handfull nitro humus, 1 handfull aged manure.

I use moisture meter to determine when to water plants. Have reduced water to plants a great deal. Collect and use rain water when available.

Have not been able to raise many cuttings. Have used sand mixed with sifted peat. Dipped cuttings in hormone. Placed under plastic domes in large clay pots. Most cuttings fell to dampoff? 2 years running lost all of them! This year—used above mixture—but placed upper inch in Perlite. So far, this has been best year—only one or two have dropped out—others look green and healthy. Cuttings taken — 4th of July.

One of the best plants is Fragrant Pink. This fall will be 3rd season. It has grown shoulder high and I had to cut it back—it has set buds and should bloom this fall for first time.

Weather in Hemet very hot in summer. I can expect 6-8 weeks of 105-115 degrees in a row. The average day—when not in this streak will vary between 95-103 degrees. Winter temperature will go as low as 22 degrees. I usually get cold temperatures at night for about 6 weeks. Temperatures during this time vary from 29-34 degrees.

Fertilizer—I start in April, liquid fish and cottonseed meal.

May, 2-10-10-liquid; June, liquid iron with trace elements; July, liquid fish, cottonseed meal; August, liquid 2-10-10; September, 0-1010 and liquid iron; October, 0-10-10 dry.

I had a siege with caterpillars in spring—not bothered much by anything else. Have placed overhead mist sprays. These I run for one minute, between 5 and 6 a.m. and again at sundown on the hottest days. I allow no litter of any kind on ground and keep dead wood trimmed from all plants. I keep a card on each plant and change mix in container every 2-4 years depending on growth of plant.

I enjoy this hobby very much and would like to get better results from my efforts. To my mind, there is nothing so beautiful as a healthy camellia plant and a perfectly formed flower! I wish to take this opportunity to thank you and your family for your advice.

POTENTIAL PEN PALS

From time to time, the Editor of CAMELLIA REVIEW gets letters asking questions or wanting to obtain information on camellia culture. We have decided to include excerpts from these letters—including the name and address of the senders. If any of you readers has the answer to any of these inquiries—why not write to your fellow hobbyist. In this way you may be able to help someone and, at the same time, you may find a Pen Pal.

(1) M. S. Edwards, 5603 Darlow Ave., Jacksonville, Florida 32211 wants to know what is the best under stock to use in grafting 'Elegans Supreme' and 'Elegans Splendor'? He is having trouble producing a decent, thriving plant. He has used both 'Halifolia' and 'Daydream' under stock with poor success.

(2) Martin Bernstein, 98 Van Cortlandt Park South, Bronx, New York 10463 is anxious to correspond with anyone who has developed cold hardy cultivars. Also, if any of you have good suggestions on how to get camellia plants through the winter without loss of buds (in rigorous Northern U.S. climates) please write to Bernstein.

(3) Manuel Baptiste, 10154 Shoemaker Ave., Modesto, California 95351 has a problem with small white worms in the peat moss bed of his camellias. They eat up his seedlings. Has anyone else had this problem? How can the worms be killed? Diazinon does not seem to phase them!

(4) Ernest Pieri, 601 Elm Et., San Gabriel, California 91775 is still trying to track down some of the newly developed miniature camellias. If you have any new miniature cultivars and want to have one of them growing in the famous Garden of Miniature Camellias at the Descanso Gardens you should contact Pieri and arrange to send him a scion.

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Display cards will be available at the registration desk. Blooms may be placed on Saturday from 7:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. There will be Divisions for both treated and non-treated blooms. There will be a Novice Division with ample assistance in placement. Over \$400 in awards to be made.

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Mr. Milt Schmidt, 1521 Highland Oaks Dr., Arcadia, Cal. 91006
(Show Chairman)

NUCCIO'S CAMELLIA COMPANIONS

By JIM McCLUNG

In Southern California when one thinks "camellia" one automatically thinks "Nuccio." That unique family of nurserymen has been unceasingly active in searching out and testing companion plants for our camellia collections. Their continuing work in hybridizing new and superior plants makes a tour of their back lath house like a trip through toyland.

Nuccio's latest offering is that most beautiful of trees, *Cornus florida*, the flowering dogwood of the eastern United States. They have discovered a clone, 'Welch Junior Miss,' that does not require the winter chill of the species. It will grow and flower beautifully throughout the camellia belt of Southern California. Add the fact that 'Welch Junior Miss' is a rare shaded pink in color and we add a new dimension to our gardens. There are promises of even more to come.

The Nuccios have also been busy testing large numbers of rhododendrons for the drier Southern California climate. A visit with Julius Nuccio produced a list of dependable performers. These named hybrids are not all highly rated by the American Rhododendron Society but they will get high marks from the gardeners who grow them. According to Julius 'Anah Kruschke' is the best lavender while 'Blue Ensign' is the best of the blue-violet hybrids. 'Goldworth's Crimson' is the outstanding red but 'Leo,' 'Markeeta's Flame,' 'Bibiana,' 'Unknown Warrior,' and 'Lord Roberts' are all very good reds. 'Ruby Bowman' is the ranking pink, followed by 'Pink Pearl,' 'Cotton Candy,' 'Antoon van Welie,' 'Anna Rose Whitney,' 'Betty Wormold,' and 'Countess of Derby' (sold as 'Eureka Maid').

Two good white rhododendrons are on the Nuccio list. The best is 'Sapho.' 'White Swan' runs a close second. Few yellows have yet proven worthwhile. The light yellow azalea/

rhododendron hybrid, 'Broughtonii aureum,' is probably the best for the area. Rhododendron hybrid 'Unique' is good but its yellow is flushed with peach.

What is in the future with rhododendrons? The beautiful malesians, tropical epiphytes from the southwest Pacific, may prove to be the Southern California flower of the future. Most of them react badly to our dry inland valleys but *R. burmanicum* is doing well at Nuccio's Altadena nursery. As the various tropical species are hybridized their range is being extended. Watch for them.

How about azaleas? The second generation Nuccio's, Jude and Tom, are the resident azalea hybridizers. Each year they present us with a new and stunning array of this beautiful section of the genus rhododendron. They are also working toward a yellow evergreen azalea, as elusive a flower as the yellow camellia. In the meantime there are whites that show a great deal of cream, such as 'Nuccio's Limelight,' apricot, near orange, and a whole array of distinctive colors.

A visit to the nursery almost demands a look at the new Nuccio 'Carnival' series of azaleas. Using the dark 'Red Poppy' as seed parent Jude and Tom have produced a vast array of sun-tolerant azaleas in beautiful colors. The flowers are large, single to semi-double, and run from soft fuchsia to blinding orange red. This series is not listed in Nuccio's latest catalogue but search out the outstanding 'Carnival,' 'Carnival Queen,' 'Carnival Music,' and 'Carnival Firecracker.'

A recent trip to Japan has produced an exceptional selection of Satsuki hybrid azaleas. These, added to the exciting ones already offered, will make one of the most complete collections in the country. More are coming and the new ones will soon be on the market.

FRESNO'S UNIQUE UNDERGROUND GARDEN

Ed. Note: Reprinted from P G & E Progress, Vol. 55, No. 7, July 1978. Published by Pacific Gas and Electric Company.

Above, there's a parking lot amid ordinary commercial buildings and plain open fields. Below lies a castle, as intricately and delicately spun as a spider's web. This is the Forestiere Undergardens in Fresno.

Here in a unique tourist attraction, underground passageways gently curve to connect courts, patios, grottos and living quarters, all of this the home of Baldasare Forestiere for nearly three decades until his death in 1946.

Forestiere, an Italian immigrant with little formal education, developed nearly seven acres underground, of which about five are open to the public. Each room is different, but in most there are fruit trees which rise to open skylights. That's why it's called "underground gardens."

"Everyone asks me how many rooms are here, but who can say? Maybe 40, maybe 50 or more. The rooms are not defined," says Lorraine Forestiere. She's the wife of Forestiere's nephew, Rick Forestiere, who manages the gardens and operates the tours.

"Baldasare started working on the gardens after he decided he couldn't adapt to our summer heat. At that time he had a home above ground which he called his 'little sweat house.'

"But before coming to Fresno he worked as a tunneler for the New York subway. He remembered how cool it was underground, and decided to build a home underground."

(Forestiere was right: The gardens are cool, with only about a 10° temperature variation year around, says Mrs. Forestiere.)

Using primarily a pick, shovel and wheelbarrow, Forestiere began to dig, often through several feet of tough

hardpan. "His only assistant was a horse and a small scraper that he used to move large bulks of rock and earth," says Mrs. Forestiere.

"Most of the gardens are at a level of 10 feet below the surface. A lower level descends to 22 feet and yet a third to 25 feet. To support this great weight, he used the arch, column and dome, the strongest forms of support known.

"His friends used to tease, 'Baldasare, have you been drinking so much vino, you can't dig a straight line?' And he would answer, 'Anyone can dig a straight line. All you need is two pegs and a string. But to make them crooked and make them beautiful, that's where the work lies.'

"People from all over the world come to see the gardens, which are now on the National Register of Historical Places and are a California Landmark. One woman from France said it's too bad the gardens couldn't be moved to a museum for all the world to see."

In 1923, a reporter from the *Fresno Bee* visited Forestiere and wrote: "Variety and originality of design are the predominating impressions left in the mind of the sightseer. In no two of the reception rooms is an idea repeated. In no place does the working out of the idea of the builder reach the monotonous. A fertile mind filled with ideas is expressed in every turn of the twisting tunnels.

"Generally (Forestiere) has evolved a comprehensive scheme that will connect up into one of the most involved and yet delightful labyrinths of modern ages."

Little can be added today, except to say that the scheme *does* connect up into a delightful labyrinth.

Says Mrs. Forestiere, "I guess that one of the people's fascinations is the amount of work that was done, the perfection of it. And that no one will ever do it again."

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

By ERNEST PIERI

The spring of 1978 was one that we will not soon forget as the Southern California Camellia Society lost one of its great pioneers in the field of camellia culture. The name of Colonel Frank Reed, retired military officer will linger long in the memories of all of the Camellia World. Gone will be his enthusiastic smile, sparkling eyes and familiar guffaw when he was either talking or giving an illustrated lecture on his favorite subject, "The use of Gibberellic Acid on plant growth."

Frank was a purist, his analytical mind always at work trying to discover the secret for early camellia blooms, and for blooming camellias after their regular blooming season. He often made the statement that he could bloom camellias ten to twelve months of the year and often succeeded in this endeavor. His bible was the works of Bonner and Honda, as compiled in the "Camellia Research," a program sponsored by the Horticultural Research Committee of the Southern California Camellia Society and published in 1950. He, also, in addition to these articles often conferred with Dr. Chandler North, of the UC LA Botany Department.

Frank's blooms were the cause of much discussion and comment among camellia people. No matter where he exhibited his blooms, whether at the Society monthly meetings, or as entries in a Camellia Show competition, he was always most gracious to all who sought information from him regarding the use of "gib." Many of our present enthusiastic "gibbers" can lay claim to their fame from the information they got from Frank.

Frank was always eager to show a visitor to his camellia garden to show him how he gibbed his blooms. He met you at the garden all decked out with his implements for gibbing, from the punch, hung around his neck, sus-

ended by a shoestring, which he used to punch the leaves where the growth bud had been removed to indicate when he had gibbed that particular node, to the bottle of gibbed he carried in his shirt pocket, the pig-sticker, for applying the gib, and book to record the name of the flower and the date the gib was applied to that cup from the removed growth bud. He then proceeded to illustrate how to hold the pig sticker, how to remove the growth bud and how to hold the leaf when placing the punch on the leaf, of course most important to hold the branch steady so that the gib could be applied with the pig sticker. His main caution was patience, don't do anything to dislodge the gib from the bud cup.

Not only will the camellia people feel his loss, but also others who knew or came in contact with him during their daily work, for instance; the girls in the offices of the building where he had his office as a military consultant and advisor. Each Monday morning they received several large gibbed blooms, from Frank, to add beauty to their office or desk. He also often brought blooms to the waitresses at the Brookside Country Club Dining Room. Each Thursday Frank would go to the Club for lunch. He always appeared with a box full of camellias, cut with long stems to give to each of the waitresses as a corsage. Of course he always received a big hug and a kiss from each girl as she received her flower. When anyone had a need for camellia blooms, for either a luncheon or dinner, the first name to be called on the phone was a request to Frank. If he had some camellia blooms, he would appear at the home from where the request was made, with one or two full boxes of blooms.

Another part of Frank's interest in Camellia blooms was in trying to pro-

long the beauty of the cut bloom as long as possible. This was especially true for those blooms he cut early in the week and wanted them to hold their fresh appearance for a camellia meeting or for a camellia show that might be given on the week-end. For much of the information, he used as a reference, articles that had been written by either Bonner or Honda, the reference being the booklet, "Camellia Research." One of the articles was a study made by Bonner in the use of "Naphthaline Acedic Acid," as the preservative.

Frank was fortunate in that he had a large house with a big back porch on then orth side of the house and a larger basement under the house. In both places the temperature was usually quite cool. Upon entering the back porch it was not an uncommon sight to see trays setting along the screen ledges filled with aluminum or waxed milk bottle caps. Each cap was filled with a piece of cotton that had been saturated in the naphthalene acidic acid and the cut flower stem placed on the cotton. Frank did prove that the use of this acid did prolong the life of a camellia bloom. He not only mailed boxes of camellia blooms to camellia shows held in Massachusetts and Maryland, but also shipped blooms to the big flower shows held in London, England. His camellia blooms exhibited in London received a certificate of excellence. He also won many ribbon awards for the blooms he sent to be exhibited in the east coast camellia shows.

Frank used plastic sweater boxes to ship his blooms. He placed a layer of shredded paper on the bottom of the box, then made small holes in the shredded paper where he placed the milk bottle caps filled with saturated cotton. He then placed the blooms in these cups, and before sealing the top and bottom of the box, he sprayed more naphthalene acidic acid to the top of the box. He then sealed the top to the bottom of the box with masking

tape, making the box airtight.

He had an interesting experience with his first shipment to the east coast. He took several boxes, with blooms enclosed, sealed them and tied them together with a leather strap, indicating, by a notice, which side was supposed to be placed up. The next day, after the arrival of the blooms to their destination, Frank made a call to see in what condition the blooms had arrived. The person to whom the blooms were sent stated that they had arrived in very poor condition, most of the blooms had been severely damaged. Frank wondered what he had done wrong and decided he would oversee the placement of his boxes of blooms on the next shipment. He had been very careful in indicating that these boxes of blooms should be handled with care, indicating that the top side of the tier of six boxes should be placed up. He had sent the previous shipment of blooms by air express. To check the next shipment of blooms, he personally took the box of blooms to the air express office, and then followed them to the plane that was to carry the blooms east. To his consternation, he saw the first employee disregard the notice as to how the boxes were to be handled, and tossed the boxes to another employee, who was in the cargo area in the plane, who in turn paid very little attention to the instructions as to how to place the boxes of blooms in the plane. Frank lost no time in getting to the office of the air freight company and explained the handling of his boxes of blooms. If you knew Frank, he was very emphatic about the proper way that his boxes of blooms should be handled, and minced no words about their care when he talked to the office manager of the freight company. Needless to say, Frank's boxes of blooms were given the V.I.P. treatment, when he shipped blooms by air freight after that incident. As an added precaution, Frank called the person, to whom the blooms were be-

ing shipped, and told him what flight number and time that the plane would arrive with his boxes of blooms, so that he could be at the air freight office and pick up shipment immediately after their arrival. With all of these precautions there were never any more damaged blooms to reach their destination.

Frank wrote many articles on the care, gibbing of camellia blooms, and transportation of blooms, which will be discussed in part II of this article.

Frank, wherever you are, we salute you for a job well done. During the time when we had the pleasure of knowing you and listening to your words of wisdom about the use of gibberilum, and seeing the results of your experimentation with gibberellic acid, we thank you. You were always most gracious to discuss the results of your experiments to anyone who wanted information about your program.

If and when the Floral Building in the Descanso Gardens is completed, and the Southern California Camellia Society, as well as the members of the Southern California Camellia Council, can come up with a "Camellia Hall of Fame," to honor Californians who have made an important contribution toward the growing of camellias in California, certainly the name of Col. Frank Reed, retired Army officer should appear on the list of Camellia personalities that have made an important contribution to the growing of beautiful camellias. The list of honor should include such

names as Ralph Peer, Sr., Harvey Short, Verne McCaskill, William Woodroof, Dave Feathers and Milo Rowell. I am sure that these are but a few that should be included in such a "Camellia Hall of Fame."

Adios Amigo.

PACIFIC CAMELLIA SOCIETY

"AWARD OF EXCELLENCE"

The Pacific Camellia Society is making an offer of "Award of Excellence" for camellia blooms, which will be awarded annually to an individual having the most points for the camellia season. The season starts with the "Gib" Show at the Arboretum in December and includes all other shows in Southern California, from San Diego to and including Fresno.

There will be a summation of points for the following awards:

Best of Show	5 points
Best of Division	4 points
Runner-up	3 points
Court of Honor	2 points
Award for Gold Ribbon.....	1 point

Each chairman for the specific show should send a copy of the awards to the secretary of Pacific Camellia Society:

Mrs. Alice Neely
4637 Collis Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 9032

The award will be given at our annual banquet, April 5th, at Pike's Verdugo, Glendale, California.

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THE USE OF EMBRYO CULTURE IN GERMINATION OF CAMELLIA SEEDS

By W. E. LAMMERTS

Ed. Note: This article may be of assistance to hybridizers who are having trouble getting hybrid seeds to germinate. It was published in Camellia Research, a publication of the Horticultural Research Committee, Southern California Camellia Society, 1950.

For most intervarietal crosses in the genus *camellia* the moist peat method of seed germination described by E. C. Tourje is entirely adequate. The only possible advantage of embryo culture would be the more rapid germination obtained. Seedlings usually are large enough to transplant in 3-4 weeks after culturing.

When interspecific crosses are made however, seeds with defective embryos are frequently obtained. Particularly is this true when species differing in chromosome numbers are involved. Thus *C. japonica* is diploid with 15 pairs of chromosomes, in most varieties which set seed. *C. reticulata* is, however, according to Patterson² hexaploid, that is, has 45 pairs of chromosomes. In general when species differing so greatly in chromosome numbers are crossed, the resulting embryos rarely develop completely normal seeds. Though the new *C. reticulata* varieties have not as yet been studied cytologically, their almost complete pollen fertility leads me to suspect that they, like the species type examined by Patterson, are also hexaploids.

In any event when varieties of *C. japonica* are crossed with the new *C. reticulata* varieties used as pollen parents, relatively few seeds with even fairly normal embryos are obtained. Most of the seeds are merely empty seed coats or have almost completely shriveled embryos. The relatively few embryos obtained are so badly shriveled it is very doubtful if they would ever respond to normal seed culture

methods. However, when both the outer and inner seed coats are carefully removed and the embryos placed on nutrient agar, they soon absorb water and nutrient salts, swell up to almost normal size, and germinate about as rapidly as normal intervarietal embryos. Good results have also been obtained with embryos from other interspecific crosses such as *C. japonica* x *C. cuspidata*, and *C. japonica* x *C. saluenensis*.

In order to embryo culture *camellia* seeds, the seed coats should be removed from the embryo. This may readily be done with a sharp knife cutting the end of the seed carefully at first so as to find out the size and the location of the embryo. In a normal *C. japonica* seed it, of course, fills almost the entire space within the outer seed coat. In the interspecific crosses, however, often only one-fifth to one-third of the space is filled by the badly shriveled embryo. The embryos should then be soaked overnight in water, as a result of which they often swell up greatly and then the inner soft membranous seed coat may be readily removed. The embryos are then soaked for about one hour in fresh water and then thoroughly washed for about 5 minutes by placing cheesecloth over the petri-dish container and setting it under the water tap.

The nutrient solution formula recommended by H. B. Tukey³ of the Geneva Experiment Station, New York, was tried in comparison with other more complicated formulas and has been found just as satisfactory. Tukey's formula is as follows:

SALT MIXTURE

KCl	10 grams
CaSO ₄	2½ grams
MgSO ₄	2½ grams
Ca ₃ (PO ₄) ₂	2½ grams
FePO ₄	2½ grams

KNO_3 2 grams
 Total 22 grams
 one and one-half grams of this salt mixture, 9 grams Bacto Difco Agar and 5 grams of sucrose are used to 1 liter of distilled water. About 10 grams of nutrient solution are placed in 1 oz. message bottles and autoclaved at 15 lbs. pressure for 20 minutes.

A sterilizing solution is made by using 10 grams of dry chloride of lime to 140 cc. of warm distilled water. Stir and shake the mixture thoroughly and then filter off the solution which should be a clear straw color.

The embryos are sterilized by placing them in this solution heated to 110° or 115° F. for about 5 minutes. Thorough but gentle shaking of the disinfectant and embryos in the petri dish while holding it over the Bunsen burner is helpful in eliminating any air bubbles which may hinder complete sterilization. Ten per cent Vatsol O.T.C. powder used at the rate of 1 gram per liter of sterilizing solution is helpful, though not necessary, in that it reduces surface tension and so aids in sterilizing any embryos which may be badly infected. For most ordinary culture work the addition of a surface tension reducer is unnecessary, however.

Transfer to the culture bottle is done rapidly by the usual bacteriological technique in order to avoid as much as possible infection of the embryo from the air. A long 6-inch forceps is most useful, flaming it in a low burning Bunsen burner each time a new embryo is transferred. Avoid air motion as much as possible and, of course, make certain that the desk where work is done is thoroughly cleaned with an antiseptic solution

before beginning this phase of the work. The 1-ounce message bottles should be held in the left hand, if right handed, and cap only opened about one-eighth inch, just long enough to allow insertion of embryo removed from calcium hypochlorite solution by the previously flamed forceps held in the right hand. With sufficient practice the cap of the 1-ounce message bottle may be unscrewed, lifted, and rescrewed on the bottle by the fingers of the left hand while the bottle is being held in the palm of the left hand. The embryos in the culture bottles should be placed in weak north light or Wardian cases at temperatures of 70-80° F. The cotyledons will often open up in 3-4 days and by the end of 15-20 days the main root will be well grown and stem or epicotyl development will be quite evident. Usually the young plant will be ready to transplant to moist peat in 2-inch pots at the end of four weeks and about 100 per cent humidity and a temperature of 75-80° F should be maintained at this most critical stage. The little seedlings should be fed weekly with a nutrient solution such as the one reported by the John Innes Horticultural Institute of Merton, England. This solution is made from a salt mixture⁴ consisting of 25 per cent nitrogen, 19 per cent of which is organic, i.e., derived from urea, 7 per cent phosphorus and 7 per cent potash. In addition 1 per cent sulphur, 1 per cent calcium, one-half per cent iron and smaller percentages of magnesium, manganese and other minor elements are present to satisfy any minor element deficiencies. A dilution rate of 420 ppm. of nitrogen, 150 ppm. of phosphorus and 120 ppm. of potash is used. This rate is ob-

IN MEMORIAM

MARK ANTHONY NOVEMBER 1978
 HARVEY SHORT DECEMBER 1978

tained by using 2 level teaspoonfuls of above mixture to 1 gallon of water. By sprinkling this solution on leaves as well as filling the pots some absorption of nitrogen is obtained directly through the leaves. As mentioned in another article, growing under continuous light results in very rapid growth, hybrids often flowering in one and one-half years from the time of embryos culture.

¹Descanso Gardens, La Conada, California.

²Patterson, Earl B. 1950. Two More Hexaploid Camellia Species. Southern California Camellia Society Bulletin 11:5 p. 19.

³Tukey, H. B. 1934. Artificial Culture Methods for Isolated Embryos of Deciduous Fruits; American Society for Horticultural Science 32: p. 303-322.

PACIFIC CAMELLIA SOCIETY PICNIC

Beautiful Descanso Gardens was the setting for the annual picnic barbeque on July 22 with approximately eighty camellia buffs and friends in attendance. Hamburgers, beans, cole slaw, ice cream, coffee and soft drinks were served by the board members.

The occasion was also the awarding of trophies for the most points won during the past season at the monthly meeting displays.

Trophies were awarded as follows:

First place, Pat Novak; Second place, Chuck Gerlach; Third place, Frank Davis; Fourth place, tied—Caryll Pitkin and John Movich.

CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SHOW SCHEDULE

Nov. 3, 4, 1978—Camellia-Rama, Smuggler's Inn, Fresno

Dec. 9, 10, 1978—(Gib Show) So. Cal Camellia Council, Los Angeles County Arboretum, Arcadia

Jan. 13, 14, 1979—Southern California Camellia Society, Huntington Gardens, San Marino

Jan. 27, 28, 1979—South Coast Camellia Society, South Coast Botanical Gardens, Palos Verdes.

Feb. 10, 11, 1979—Peninsula Camellia Society, Vet. Mem. Bldg., Redwood City

Feb. 10, 11, 1979—San Diego Camellia Society, Balboa Park, San Diego

Feb. 17, 18, 1979—Temple-City Camellia Society, Los Angeles County Arboretum, Arcadia

Feb. 17, 18, 1979—Santa Clara Camellia Society, Student Union, San Jose City College

Feb. 24, 25, 1979—Delta Camellia Society, Campolindo High School, Moraga

Feb. 24, 25, 1979—Pomona Valley Camellia Society, Pomona First Fed. S. & L., 99 N. Gary, Pomona

Mar. 3, 4, 1979—Southern California Camellia Council, Descanso Gardens, La Canada

Mar. 3, 4, 1979—Camellia Society of Sacramento, Convention Center, Sacramento

Mar. 10, 11, 1979—Northern California Camellia Society, Willows Shopping Center, Concord

Mar. 10, 11, 1979—Camellia Society of Kern County, Aram Adams Memorial Gardens, Bakersfield

Mar. 11, 1979—Central California Camellia Society, Fresno City College, Fresno

Mar. 17, 18, 1979—Camellia Society of Modesto, Gallo Administration Bldg., Modesto

Mar. 24, 25, 1979—Sonoma County Camellia Society, Coddington Mall, Santa Rosa

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Southern California Camellia Society

Directory of Other California Camellia Societies

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

***CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF KERN COUNTY**—President, Richard Stiern; Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Fred R. Dukes, Jr., 733 Delmar Drive, Bakersfield 93307. Meetings: 2nd Monday, October through April, at Franklin School, Truxton and A St., Bakersfield.

***CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF ORANGE COUNTY**—President, Roy Zembower; Secretary, Mrs. Frances L. Butler, 1831 Windsor Lane, Santa Ana 92705. Meetings: 3rd Thursday, November through April, Santa Ana Fed. S & L Bldg., 1802 N. Main, Santa Ana.

CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF SACRAMENTO—President, L. J. Vervalle; Secretary, Mrs. Robert C. Adrian, 7555 Baldwin Dam Rd., Folsom, 95630. Meetings: 4th Wednesday each month, October through April, Shepard Garden & Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd.

***CENTRAL CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY**—President, Wilbur Ray; Secretary, Mary Ann Ray 5024 E. Laurel Ave., Fresno 93727. Meetings: 3rd Wednesday, November through February in Smuggler's Inn Motel.

DELTA CAMELLIA SOCIETY—President, Mary Bergamini; Secretary, Al Maggiora, 2907 Euclid Ave., Concord, Ca 94520. Meetings: 4th Tuesday, November through March, Lafayette Fed. Savings & Loan, 1406 N. Broadway, Walnut Creek.

JOAQUIN CAMELLIA SOCIETY—President, Donald W. Hurst; Secretary, Mrs. Lewis Singer, 409 W. Pine St., Lodi 95240. Meetings: 4th Wednesday, October thru May, United Methodist Church, Lodi.

LOS ANGELES CAMELLIA SOCIETY—President, Ernie Pieri; Secretary, Mrs. Happy Stillman, 8159 Hollywood Blvd. 90069. Meetings: st Tuesday, December through April, Hollywood Women's Club, 1749 N. La Brea, Hollywood.

MODESTO CAMELLIA SOCIETY—President, Pete Grosso; Secretary, Mrs. Walter Ragland, 709 Leytonstone Dr., Modesto, Ca 95355. Meetings: second Tuesday, October through May, Downey High School, Coffee Road, Modesto.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY—President, David Hagmann; Secretary, Judith Toomajian, 18 Diablo Circle, Lafayette Ca. 94549. Meetings: first Monday, November through May. Chabot School 6686, Chabot Rd., Oakland.

PACIFIC CAMELLIA SOCIETY—President, Bob Neely; Secretary, Alice Neely, 4637 Collis Ave., Los Angeles 90032. Meetings: 1st Thursday, November through April, Central Bank of Glendale, 411 N. Central Ave., Glendale.

PENINSULA CAMELLIA SOCIETY—President, August Meier; Secretary, Margaret Tupitza, Municipal Service Building, Redwood City 94064. Meetings: 4th Tuesday, September through April, Municipal Services Center, 1400 Broadway, Redwood City.

***POMONA VALLEY CAMELLIA SOCIETY**—President, Mr. Lloyd Hawes; Secretary, Mrs. Janice Hawes, 12625 Kellogg Ave., Chino 91710. Meetings: 2nd Thursday, November through April, Pomona First Fed. S & L Bldg., 399 N. Gary, Pomona.

***SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY**—President, Les Baskerville; Secretary, Palmer Groenewald, 1131 Madison Ave., San Diego 92116. Meetings: 3rd Wednesday, October through April, Casa Del Prado Bldg., Balboa Park, San Diego.

SANTA CLARA COUNTY CAMELLIA SOCIETY—President, Robt. Marcy; Secretary, Donna Hardy, 5854 Allen Ave., San Jose 95123. Meetings: 3rd Tuesday, September through April, Great Western Savings Bldg., 2100 El Camino Real, Santa Clara.

SONOMA COUNTY CAMELLIA SOCIETY—President, Joy Monteleone; Secretary, Ms. Vera Parker, 7949 Lynch Rd., Sebastopol, 95472. Meetings: 4th Thursday, October through May, Steele Lane School, Santa Rosa.

***SOUTH COAST CAMELLIA SOCIETY**—President, Ms. Maize Jeane George; Secretary, Mrs. Martha Ann Walter, 671 Calle Miramar, Redondo Beach 90277. Meetings: 3rd Tuesday, September through May. South Coast Botanical Gardens, 26300 Crenshaw, Palos Verdes.

***TEMPLE CITY CAMELLIA SOCIETY**—President, Mrs. Elsie Bracci; Secretary, Mrs. Alice Jaacks, 5554 N. Burton Ave., San Gabriel, Ca 91776. Meetings: Friday, Nov. 17; Fri. Dec. 15; Thurs., Jan. 25; Thur., Feb. 22; Thur., Mar. 22; Thur., April 26. At Lecture Hall Arboretum, Arcadia.



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