

THE
Camellia
REVIEW

A Publication of the Southern California Camellia Society



'W. P. Gilley Variegated'

Southern California Camellia Society, Inc.

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

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THE CAMELLIA REVIEW

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COVER PHOTO

'W. P. Gilley Variegated'

.Reticulata Hybrid. Bright pink, large semidouble with irregular petals.
Photo by Grady Perigan. Color separation courtesy of Nuccio's Nursery.

AN INVITATION TO JOIN

THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

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In a three-year period, a membership includes one revised edition of *Camellia Nomenclature* with over 150 pages describing more than 4,000 camellias at a cost of \$5.00 (\$7.00 foreign).

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THOUGHTS FROM THE EDITOR



As this issue goes to press we are approaching the Thanksgiving season. In our home we take time to recall and reflect on people, events and hopes for which we are thankful. The list is long—with the personal list being the most meaningful. However, as I think on the significance of items on my list, it is difficult to draw the line between personal/private and public, for much of our lives are lived in the open and our interaction with friends contribute to our private feelings and thankfulness. I must state that our many camellia friends contribute immeasurably to our well-being and for them I am thankful.

I cannot say with sincere honesty that I am thankful to be the Editor of the Review, but I am exceedingly thankful for all the positive strokes I receive from this effort. I greatly appreciate the support I've received from faithful contributors to the magazine. I could list names but, suffice it to say, "Thanks for all your support." It is you who continue to make the Review a readable success. I must name one person for the long hours she puts in this project. It's Bobbie, my ever-loving wife, who encourages me to be on schedule. She should be recognized for what she is—a co-editor.

One more thing that I am very thankful for is that we live during a time when technology has removed all pain from those knees of mine which have been "modified." It's good to be alive this camellia season. One "heads up" for my camellia friends—with these new knees I plan to be more competitive for Head Table accolades.

—Mel Belcher, Editor

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MY MEMORIES OF BILL DONNAN

Grady Perigan

My first memory of Bill is when he won his first Blue Ribbon at an early camellia show—probably in the 1960's. This encouraged him and he had a new hobby.

He ventured to a different aspect of the hobby than most hobbyists follow. He truly loved the camellia as a flower and was only mildly interested in competing in show. He began collecting any book he could find pertaining to the camellia. These were used in his research for the many excellent articles that he has written for many publications locally and overseas.

I distinctly remember his help to me when I was President of the Southern California Camellia Society about 1970. Bill enjoyed the flower so much that he volunteered to work in the gardens at the Huntington Gardens for many years along with me. He helped pick seeds many times which were sold by the Society each year.

His favorite flower was any formal double—so much so that Nuccio's named a new introduction 'Donnan's Dream' to honor Bill. Later the late Rudy More planted a large specimen in the Huntington Camellia Garden. I will always think of Bill when I see that plant when I'm working there. Later a "sport" was found by Art Gonos. As a nice gesture, the sport was named 'Jerry Donnan' in honor of Bill's deceased wife.

Bill became editor of *The Camellia Review* and kept the high standards already in effect. He served many years in that position.

On a lighter side, Bill joined our coffee get-togethers at Nuccio's each Tuesday at 6 a.m. He began taking color slides of Nuccio's new

introductions and started a library of slides. Many of his slides were used on the covers of *The Camellia Review*. The coffee drinkers at Nuccio's began a betting game for 25 cents per game on college football games which continued after Bill was unable to drive.

He began taking Nuccio's blooms to display at the various shows. He thoroughly enjoyed laying out the blooms on Nuccio's exhibit table.

Bill was a retired water engineer. I once took a picture of him watching Julius Nuccio watering the plants. I used the slide in many shows and explained that the reason Nuccio's plants are so well grown is that a water engineer was overseeing the watering.

After Jerry's death, Bill moved to a retirement home. He immediately began promoting camellias by planting camellia and azaleas in the garden there. I was asked on two occasions to show a camellia slide program at the home. During the bloom season he would pick several boxes of blooms at Nuccio's to take to the retirement home and further



promoted the enjoyment of camellias.

At the home Bill became acquainted with a lovely lady by the name of Janet Hall. I know how much this meant to him. They enjoyed many good times together. Later when his health began to fail and his driving was restricted, she would drive him to Nuccio's and wait in the car while Bill enjoyed the coffee get together and the settling of all bets.

I admired his bravery when his eyesight began to fail and cancer was discovered. Visits were made to Nuccio's whenever feasible and the

bets continued until the end. A cake was purchased with the remainder of the money in the football pool and a final tribute was paid to "Mr. Camellia."

I heard Bill say many times that he considered the people he met through his camellia hobby to be his finest friends. As a final gesture before his passing, he donated his fine collection of camellia books to the Huntington Gardens and was assured that they would be properly used.

Good-bye, Bill. We all will miss you.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The last issue of *The Camellia Review* paid tribute to those men who had a profound impact on the genesis of the Southern California Camellia Society. The February, 1954, issue of the Review highlighted some of those camellia patriots as they participated in the opening of the Southern California Camellia Society Garden unit of the Huntington Botanical Gardens together with the trustees of the Henry E. Huntington Library and Art Gallery on January 9, 1954.



At the opening, the camera caught the official party in the Camellia Garden. They are pictured left to right: Harold E. Dryden, President of S.C.C.S.; Lawrence Bryant and E. C. Tourje of the Garden Committee; Ronald Townsend, Superintendent; James R. Page of the Board of Trustees; Dr. John E. Pomfret, Director; and William Hertrich, Curator Emeritus—all of the Henry E. Huntington Library and Art Gallery; Dr. David McLean, Chairman, and Ralph Peer of the Garden Committee.

BILL DONNAN

Pat Greutert

Bill Donnan flew into heaven and knew he was expected: the way was lined with ever-blooming formal double camellias and the bag pipes confirmed that he was home. The Lord came to meet him carrying a beautiful lap top computer with an infallible speller. After an effusive greeting He introduced Bill to Mr. Palmer who gave him a golden handshake announcing, "Henceforth every letter you write will be completely legible."

The Lord, of course, had a special mission for Bill. "Bill, you delighted thousands of earthlings worldwide with your writings on camellias and your family with books on their history. You chronicled the doings at Morningside retirement home and gave a lift to all who read them. Now I want you to keep track of activities of the Garden of Eden."

About that time Bill's restored pink Cadillac, still sporting the blue Huntington volunteer sticker, drove up and wife Jerry jumped out. After an appropriate greeting, she smiled. "Oh, Bill, it was so great having a beautiful camellia named after me. I loved it."

And then, the car's back door swung open and there sat Bill Woodroof and Rudy Moore. "Welcome to Paradise; we've got it all," said Bill Woodroof.

"Yep," said Rudy. "I thought I had it good being Curator of Camellias at the Huntington Gardens, but this job beats it. No weeds, no bugs—just pruning, planting and hybridizing."

Bill beamed with that sunshine grin of his, climbed in the car and Jerry drove them to Eden. "I'll let you boys out and drive back to prepare a wine and cheese feast. We have a crowd of camellia growers assembling. See you later."

Bill Donnan held a special place in all our hearts. His gentle humor and massive camellia knowledge filled *The Camellia Review*, *The New Zealand Bulletin* and many other publications with articles to delight all. His huge horticultural library, his weekly Monday visits to Nuccio's and his correspondence with camellia growers everywhere kept his mind exploding with ideas he couldn't wait to get down on paper.

Bill had edited *The Camellia Review* for nine years, ecstatically turning the onerous, time-consuming job over to Glenn Smith so that he could devote time to his real love: writing.

When Glenn's health failed, I took over the editing job. Bill saw to it that articles were waiting for every issue. What a treat to open an envelope and find one of those gems Bill prepared for me. However, it took some doing to decipher them until he met lovely Janet Hall at Morningside where she took over the typing as Bill's sight deteriorated.

I learned about "The AIDS of the Camellia World" from Bill's article on virusing and was shocked to learn that we were bringing such havoc to camellias by the practice of deliberately virusing camellias to pockmark them with white spots leaving a virus to penetrate all the progeny of those flowers. His warning caused many growers to realize the danger in perpetuating disease, but others persist in the practice. Perhaps now Bill will whisper in their ears.

As long as he could drive, caring Bill motored up to Nuccio's before every show to pluck beautiful blossoms to label and display on a table at the show for all to enjoy and then he quietly went home. He's there now.

CAMELLIA-RAMA XXIV NOVEMBER, 1997

Mary Anne Ray

AND THE WINNERS ARE:

THE FLOWERS:

Best Reticulata	'Hulyn Smith'	Sergio & Elsie Bracci, San Gabriel
Best Non-reticulata Hybrid	'Julia'	Bob & Alice Jaacks, San Gabriel
Best Other Species	'Shishi Gashira'	Don & Mary Bergamini, Martinez
Best Boutonniere	'Ave Maria'	Jack & Anne Woo, Fresno
Best Medium Japonica	'Alta Gavin'	Jack & Anne Woo, Fresno
Best Large Japonica	'Mary Fisher'	Jack & Anne Woo, Fresno
Best of Show	'Mary Fisher'	Jack & Anne Woo, Fresno

THE COSTUMES:

Best Recycled:	"Wizard of Oz Group"	
	Jim & Jackie Randall, Al Biggs, Sacramento;	Mary Jo Pinheiro, Modesto
Runner-up Recycled:	"Gandhi"	Bob Ehrhart, Walnut Creek
Best Couple:	"Flapper and Hit Man"	Hal & Deane Burch, Citrus Heights
Runner-up Couple:	"Flapper and Hit Man"	Bill & Bev Allman, San Jose
Funniest or silliest:	"Three Clowns"	Sergio & Elsie Bracci, San Gabriel
Runner-up funniest/silliest:	"Pumpkin Heads"	Dick & Pat Pozdol, Fresno
Most colorful:	"Clowns"	Don & Dolores Martin, Fresno
Runner-up:	"Cows"	Edith Puckett, Clovis; Glenn Burroughs, Bakersfield
Never won before:	"Hawaiians"	Bob & Joanne Logan, Fremont
Runner-up never-won-before:	"Flapper"	Jean Pursell, Oakland

SPECIAL DRAWING

(Winner-need-not-be-present-to-win)

<u>Donor</u>	<u>Gift</u>	<u>Winner</u>
Bobbie Belcher	Christmas Vest	June Grant, Sonoma
David & Ruta Hagmann	Smokey Joe Barbecue	Gil & Jan Drake, Fresno
Virginia Rankin	Camellia napkins & coasters	Barbara Gobrecht, San Clemente
Betty Kellas	Sweat Shirt	Virginia Rankin, Modesto
Virginia Traxel	King size afghan	Jude Nuccio, Altadena
Jeanne Shoemaker	Pillow cases	Elsie Hughes, La Canada
Edith Pucket	Afghan	Bobbie Belcher, La Verne
Bill & Bev Allman	Camellia plate	Helen Nunes, Modesto
Jim & Jackie Randall	Gold camellia charm	Herb & Harriet Martin, Sacramento
Ann Brown	Five pounds of pecans	Edith Mazzei, Clayton
Jean Toland	Christmas bag	Gil & Jan Drake, Fresno
Al Biggs	Stained glass angel	Bob & Alice Jaacks, San Gabriel

CAMELLIA-RAMA XXIV will be November 6, 7 and 8, 1998.

The theme is "KITCHEN FANTASY."



(left)
Flappers and Hit Man

(below left)
*"Dorothy" Jim Randall
& Group on the Yellow
Brick Road*

(below)
Flapper Jean Purdel



Gandhi "Ehrhart"



"Three Clowns"

OUR GARDEN

Larry and Nancy Pitts

Thirty years ago if someone had told us that we would now be growing 360 camellia plants we would not have believed him.

Our garden, which is not very large by many standards, contains some of our most prized possessions. Because our growing area is not very large, we utilize the space on the sides of our house. The south side is an area of 15 x 32. The north side starts out at 8 feet wide and expands to 17 feet. The length is approximately 60 feet. Both areas are covered with shade cloth. We grow about 275 varieties, some of which are duplicates of our favorites, and a few seedlings.

To keep the plant population under control and yet allow space for some of the newer varieties, I graft on name varieties that do not perform as well for us. My goal is to keep our collection updated without increasing the number which, as you know, is not very easy to accomplish. It's surprising just how many I actually do sneak in there—you know that sometimes you just cannot wait too long for your young graftlings to grow up.

I prefer to water all the plants by hand because it keeps me alert to the

signs of poor draining and need for repotting. I spend many enjoyable hours just putting and doing what is required at the time.

Nancy and I love the hobby of growing and showing camellias together. It is the most gratifying of pastimes. It brings us together with some of the most beautiful people and



the most beautiful flowers in the world with the added zest of the highs and lows of competition. Because of our hobby we have made some very dear friends whom we consider to be part of our extended family.

Whether we are in competition at a show or enjoying one of our many social gatherings, it is wonderful to know that we have so many good times to share with our camellia friends. Our garden is more than the camellias we grow—it is also the friends and the time we spend with them.

CONTRIBUTIONS—THANK YOU!

In memory of Bill Donnan

Sergio & Elsie Bracci • Ray & Pat Greutert • Tom & Elsie Hughes

OUR GARDEN—SUPPLEMENT

Larry Pitts

(Editor's note: This is a "reasonable" transcript of Larry's presentation at Camellia-Rama, 1997)

I live in Antioch—about 40 miles from San Francisco and 60 miles from Sacramento. We get the heat in Antioch, but not the real cold like Sacramento gets. I think our winters are a little more mild—probably in the 40's and 50's. Nancy and I have been growing camellias for about 30 years and that's not too long after I talked to Fred Hahn last night—he's been growing since 1953. We got started when Nancy was invited to some kind of a shower for her cousin. When I went to pick her up she invited me into the back yard to see her cousin's camellias—and that kind of lit the spark for us. We purchased a few plants and that's the way we got started. I still have those plants. I have just 3 or 4 plants in the ground, and that's all. One of the varieties I have planted is 'Mathotiana'. It won the "Old Timer's" award in Sacramento several years ago.

We added a little bit to our collection as we went from year to year, but we didn't attend too many shows because I worked on Saturday. I would go to the local show and the Delta show in Pittsburg. Finally I started getting Saturdays off and then we started to go to more shows. Every show we went to I always said I was going to win a trophy. Now I see people winning trophies right away—the first time they exhibit. I was a late bloomer—it took me seven years to win a trophy. It was the last show in Santa Rosa and it was with a 'Nuccio's Gem'. It was a runner-up.

When Art asked me to do this, I really didn't want to do it because I'm

not really much of a speaker. I told Art there was no way I was going to do this, but you know how Art is. I really don't have any credentials. Art asked me to talk on culture—the only thing I can tell you is what I do. I know that some of you grow everything in the ground. Well, out here, a lot of us grow everything in pots, so I don't know if this will be informative to you or not.

On the topic of camellia culture, before I start talking about my methods, in all fairness because of the conditions and circumstances in your garden area and mine some could probably do less with good results. For the most part, I think the results will be an accurate measure of the effort you put into this camellia hobby. I believe a key word to growing good camellias, at least for me anyway, is "consistency." I don't think there is any magic or any quick way to drastically improve your camellias. Find a good program and stick with it, and I think the results will show up.

My program usually starts the last week in March or the first week in April which is our last show. We have a little mini-show in Walnut Creek followed by a luncheon at Bob Ehrharts. This is when I start my fertilizing program. I use cotton seed. That's the only thing I've ever used for the last 25 years. While I read a lot in the Southern California Camellia Society Review and also in the ACS Journal and I see these people who use all different kinds of fertilizers—solids, liquids, chemicals, various months of the year. I don't know. Maybe I'm lazy, but I've never used anything other than cottonseed meal. I use cottonseed meal in April, June and usually by August, but sometimes it's

put off until September when it's probably too late to fertilize, but that's the way that I do. Along with this cottonseed mix, I use Vita-tone which is a stabilized iron which is in dry form. I mix the cottonseed—four parts of cottonseed and one part of the stabilized iron. I mix it in a five gallon bucket with a stick. I get it all mixed up and then go around to each plant and give it what I think the container will hold. My plants are in 20, 15, 5, 3, 2 gallon pots.

I bare-root everything that comes into my garden. I take the hose and I wash all the soil out of it and put the plant in my mix. This way I try to help control petal blight which I don't think I have very much of. I attribute this to good housekeeping and repotting each plant before I bring it with the other plants. I have a friend in Sacramento who couldn't believe how much fertilizer I used. He has more plants than I have and he was only using a 50 pound bag of cottonseed, but I learned that he was using other things when I read his article, and I didn't know that before. I usually go through 150 pounds of cottonseed each feeding. For a 20 gallon pot I use about 4 measuring cups; for a 15 gallon pot 2 1/2 cups; for 5 gallon pots 1 cup and for 3 gallon 1/2 cup, for 2 gallon pot 1/4 cup. The plants are watered before I fertilize and then watered again after. I don't know why. It's drudgery to do that—it seems to take all day, but if you are going to get results, I think you have to pay the price. That's very important, I think.

Speaking of water, throughout the summer I water every 5 days and normally I water every 7 days the rest of the year. During the really hot weather I will hose the plants off about three times a week. I don't have a watering system. I don't believe in watering systems and it takes me about

two hours to water. When I am hand watering I can keep an eye on the plants so I will know when a plant needs repotting. On the day I fertilize I'm probably looking at a couple of hours to water, a couple of hours to fertilize and a couple of hours to water. That's a full day!

During the blooming season I water rain or shine. I know some people looking over the fence and seeing me out there watering when it's raining, but that is what I attribute the extra size of my blooms to. I've been accused of extra gibbing or getting out there with an air pump to pump up the blooms, but the only thing I ever do is gib once. But I really believe that it's the watering—the blooms are 90% water, so...That's my theory, at least.

I do my heavy pruning during April but I prune any time during the year. I guess down South you are not that fortunate because of the die back situation. In my area you can prune anytime—and I do, but the heavy pruning is mostly done in April. I start disbudding as soon as you can tell which are buds and which aren't. I disbud all the time until the plants start blooming because some of those plants will continue to set buds and you have to stay on top of it. I hate to walk through my garden and see a double bud. The only plant I don't disbud is 'Tootsie' because it drops so many of its buds that I'm lucky to get one or two flowers on it.

In addition to the three plants we have in the ground, I have about 350 plants. They are all under shade cloth and range from 2 gallons to 20 gallons. I have 278 varieties and the rest are duplicates. I have a few seedlings that I grow for other people and that's all I have.

My soil consists of forest humus, a product that quite a few people have changed to in Northern California. I've

been using forest humus for quite some time. I first started growing camellias about the time 'El Dorado' came out. I thought it was a real nice plant and bought my wife one for her birthday. I went out in the back yard and dug up some of that nice rich soil, put that puppy right down in the hole and in about two weeks I killed it. So I went to a friend who gave me a mixture to use. The mixture he gave me was a kind of ground fir bark and pea bark and that is what I used. The stuff was expensive buying it by the bag, so I talked to my dad about getting some rice hulls from the plant where he was second in command. And it was free—that was the best thing! I started using rice hulls in my mixture. My mixture consists of 4 bags (3 cubic feet each) of forest humus, two bags of pea bark (2 cubic feet per bag) and rice hulls that now come in a compressed bag about 2 and 1/2 feet by 4 feet. I use about a half bag of rice hulls in my mix. I cut the bags open and dump them out in my driveway and get out there with a shovel and scoop and mix. That's what I use and what I don't use I put in garbage cans, so I've always got stuff ready to go any time I acquire something new. I don't have any soil/sand in my mix.

I start my gibbing program in December. I use the ACS gib and I use two ounces for 60 cc's of distilled water with it. I've used the Pro Gib and really can't tell any difference between the two. I did have better success when I used the Pro Gib by mixing 1/3 of water to 2/3 of the gib. So I call that my "1/3 Gib." I couldn't tell the difference even when I used it full strength.

My collection mostly consists of large and very large blooms. I grow some miniatures and medium size blooms, but the majority are large and very large. The reason, I suspect, is

that I always wanted to be competitive in the "12 Different" category. Not many show have this category. And I guess I like large flowers, too. I really don't have any problems. I already told you about petal blight. The problem I have is with spider mites. I spray two or three times a year for spider mites. Last year I thought I had it whipped and didn't spray—and I paid a price because everything turned a nice gray on the south side. What I have been using is Pen Tek and Sun Oil and this year a friend told me he would get some "Maverick" for me. I sprayed three times with Maverick and one time with Pen Tek and it has worked pretty well. I got up on the ladder on the south side of the house because there was some I needed to disbud up there on the top and it was gray up on the top. I think what I am going to do one day next week is mix the Sun Oil with the Maverick and spray and see if that does anything. What worries me about the Sun Oil is that I used it one time last year when I got behind in my spraying and the next day it turned pretty warm. The new growth was out and it dropped especially on my 'Royal Velvet'. I've done pretty well with that plant but I didn't have a bloom on it last year even though it's a big plant and I usually have lots of blooms from it. This year I'm going to do my spraying when it is cooler.

I do a little grafting—usually about 15 or 20 to keep up with the new varieties. I graft plants that I can't acquire. My take is not very good—usually about 40 - 60%. One of these days I'll find the secret. I don't know what I do wrong.

My space is limited so a lot of time when I'm grafting I'm putting the graft on a name variety that hasn't performed for me, so I try to keep my collection size under control. I can't

let it get away from me—I crowd them as it is.

When I first started growing camellias people told me the best flowers came out on young plants. It hasn't worked that way for me. I found that when I keep the plants pruned and well fed that my best blooms come on the older plants. Some of my plants are 27 years old and are still putting out tremendous blooms. I think that as long as you keep them well pruned they will not outgrow the pot they are in.

I believe in competition because I think it brings about a higher standard of camellia culture. I think it brings about better plants. One of my camellia friends I have a great deal of respect for once said to me, "Larry, I only grow varieties that might win me the 'Best of Show.'" He didn't say "First Place Ribbon" or "Court of

Honor" or even "Trophy." He said "Best of Show." He keeps me fired up. I see him at every show. So, if you really enjoy competition, you need to meet with your camellia cronies and talk about camellias and inspire one another.

Camellia-rama gets us all fired up. This is when I start getting fired up and hope that the work I have done throughout the year is of value at the next show when we finally have a show and I finally get some blooms.

For me there's not a real secret. I have my program and I stick with it and sometimes the results are good and sometimes they are not, but I stick with the program.

Editor's note: I think Larry's success with camellias proves what some wise man once said: "If you always do what you've always done, you'll always get what you've always got."

INTRODUCTIONS FOR 1997-98

- 'Buttermint' (*C. Kissi seedling*)
- 'Paper Doll' (Non-Reticulata hybrid)
- 'French Vanilla' (*C. Sasanqua*)
- 'Elaine's Betty' (*C. Japonica*)
- 'Takarazuka' (Non-Reticulata hybrid)

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1998 CAMELLIA SHOW SCHEDULE

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Mark your calendars with these dates and locations

January 10	Descanso Gardens Judges' and Exhibitors' Symposium
January 17 & 18	Descanso Gardens, La Canada-Flintridge Hosted by Pacific Camellia Society
January 24 & 25	South Coast Botanical Gardens, Palos Verdes Hosted by South Coast Camellia Society
Jan. 31 & Feb. 1	Descanso Gardens, La Canada-Flintridge Hosted by Southern California Camellia Society
February 7 & 8	Casa del Prado, Rm 101, Balboa Park, San Diego Hosted by San Diego Camellia Society
February 14 & 15	Huntington Gardens, San Marino Hosted by Southern California Camellia Society
February 21 & 22	Church of the Brethren, Bonita & "E," La Verne Hosted by Pomona Valley Camellia Society
Feb. 28 & March 1	Descanso Gardens, La Canada-Flintridge hosted by Southern California Camellia Council
March 7 & 8	First Christian Church, Bakersfield Hosted by Camellia Society of Kern County
March 14 & 15	First Armenian Congregational Church, 5673 N. First St., Fresno Hosted by Central California Camellia Society

CAMELLIA STATIONERY

The back cover shows a collection of eight of Paul Jones beautiful camellia paintings that are printed on note cards. These cards are available in sets of eight for \$6.00 including tax and shipping. Printed on quality stock with matching envelopes, they make wonderful stationery for sending your greetings to your camellia friends. They also make wonderful gifts for your fellow camellia lovers or

"stocking stuffers" for those you are trying to get involved in this wonderful hobby!

The cards may be ordered through Dorothy Grier, 13229 Pipeline Avenue, Chino, CA 91710 (909)628-1380 or through the Southern California Camellia Society, 7475 Brydon Road, La Verne, CA 91750. Send your check payable to "SCCS" to either of these addresses.

INTERNATIONAL VISITORS

Marilee Gray

“Seems all we need to have in common is an interest in camellias, and suddenly the world abounds with friends.” Such was the sentiment that prevailed during four days in early September when Mayda Reynolds, International Camellia Society President, and Jennifer Trehane, ICS vice-president in charge of European affairs, accepted an invitation to visit Southern California. In those few,



delightful, whirlwind days, the world was truly drawn smaller by a common interest in camellias.

What began as an inquiry to Dr. Klaus Peper, ICS Director for Germany, led to further correspondence with Mayda and Jennifer and their resultant visit to view prominent camellia gardens in Southern California. Both stopped here on their return trip to England after attending the biennial ICS Congress in Auckland, New Zealand. (Mayda actually lives on the Isle of Jersey and some of us had to admit that we did not know where Jersey was and that it was a separate country with its

(Above) Jennifer, Mayda and Jim Emmons at Park Hill

(Below) Lunch at Nuccio's

own currency and postage.)

Initially, contact with ICS was made to investigate the qualifications necessary for a camellia garden, particularly Descanso Gardens, to be designated as an International Camellia Garden. The scope of the program soon expanded to also consider the more formal camellia gardens at the near-by Huntington Botanical Gardens. Each of these gardens is of particular interest since their presentation of camellias is distinctively different. Mayda and

Jennifer had the task of reviewing the gardens in the light of their qualifications for international recognition.

Tim Thibault, camellia curator at Descanso, and Jerry Turney, camellia curator at Huntington, each arranged for an extensive riding tour of their diverse gardens. In significant camellia areas, however, we walked to better appreciate the plantings and their maintenance. In addition, consideration was given to the educational material and programs each had developed. Evaluation



Touring Descanso Gardens

discussions followed luncheons at each location.

Taking advantage of the opportunity to have a camellia program by an international traveler and speaker, Southern Cal and the Descanso Guild co-sponsored "An Evening with Jennifer Trehane." Her program "Camellia Hunting in China" featured slides from her month-long excursion there.

Other visits to places that contribute substantially to Southern California's prominence in camellias were to

Nuccio's Nurseries in Altadena, Ralph Peer's Park Hill Estate in Los Angeles, and the L.A. County Arboretum in Arcadia.

The private gardens of Tom and Dody Gilfoy, Sergio and Elsie Bracci, Bob and Alice Jaacks, Lynn and Brad King, and Mel and Bobbie Belcher were also toured. Of great interest were the extensive pruning and maintenance of camellias that produce show quality blooms in the U.S. as compared to other countries.

Each event, brunch, luncheon, or dinner afforded social times as well as

opportunities for serious discussions. The trip to the airport provided one last opportunity for traveling conversation. Most sincere appreciation was expressed to Mel and Bobbie with whom Jennifer had stayed. They had been there for every event and discussion, and Mel had been the ever-ready

chauffeur.

We, on the other hand, had developed an equally sincere appreciation for our international guests whose company we thoroughly enjoyed and with whom we could talk openly and frankly. We discovered quite soon that both Mayda and Jennifer are masters of diplomacy, true facilitators of negotiation. We bid them bon voyage with some regrets, but we knew that the world would be forever smaller because of the friendships formed during those September days.

HAVE YOU BEEN TO DESCANSO GARDENS...LATELY?

Tim Thibault

The "Year of the Camellia Forest" has brought great progress and renewed community support for restoration of E. Manchester Boddy's legendary camellia garden. Boddy began planting what was to become Descanso Gardens in 1937. Initially a plantation for the boutonnière market.

Descanso Gardens features 35 acres of densely planted camellias. The gardens opened to the public in 1954 after Boddy sold the acreage to Los Angeles County. During the several decades of county management dwindling resources led to marginal care for the camellia forest, creating the need for the yearlong campaign to rejuvenate the gardens.

Unfortunately, the "Year of the Camellia Forest" also saw the day of the catastrophic windstorm. Winds clocked faster than a Nolan Ryan pitch toppled 36 large canopy shade trees and the camellias that had the misfortune of growing underneath them. This included seven of the historic *Camellia reticulatas* imported in 1948. Needless to say, much of the first part of the year was spent on oak and camellia triage.

Although the windstorm losses were disheartening, most of our majestic specimens remained intact. The assessment process underscored the value of these mature plants, leading to a renewed commitment to preserve them.

Pruning and soil fertility were the most pressing needs. A large portion of the camellias were pruned this spring and summer with the intent of



scaling down, opening up, and cleaning the main part of the collection. At the same time, areas were designated to retain the natural forest feeling that has become the signature of Descanso Gardens.

Pruning goals for these areas were adjusted accordingly. A fertilization program

was initiated to accommodate our plant density, with benefits already showing in the foliage and flowers.

Another method of accommodating the plant density of our forest is through removal of invasive plants. Truckloads of ash, privet, Carolina cherry, and fig trees have been removed from the garden—and returned as mulch. Roguing these plants is also providing space for new plantings.

Prior to the planting of the many new specimens planned for the forest, accessioning and labeling systems had to be in place. A computer with BG-Base now tracks the progress of our collection. We are staying current on labeling, and reducing our curatorial backlog through a long-term program to identify plants and inventory the gardens.

Another important piece of preparation for new plantings is a collection policy that will guide how plants fit in the landscape. This will create collections that hold together and are valuable for everyone including the casual visitor and the professional horticulturist or botanist. The five main goals for the collection are as follows:

1. Descanso Gardens should be the place to see *Camellia reticulata* in the Western Hemisphere based on our history with the importation of Yunnan retics.
2. Our species collection needs to be strengthened to represent the diversity of the genus *Camellia*.
3. The collection needs general updating with new plant material that represents breeding efforts for fragrance, flower color, bloom season, foliage characteristics, and landscape suitability for southern California.
4. The cultural history and great events represented in the landscape should be preserved and celebrated.
5. The species and cultivars no longer commercially available should be conserved, as should material with an historic link to Descanso Gardens.

In addition to adding plants, we are also adding educational programs to reach out to the gardening public about camellias. We recently co-sponsored, along with Southern California Camellia Society, a lecture by Jennifer Trehane of the International Camellia Society. We have a full line up of camellia events through the bloom season building to a celebration of the anniversary of the importation of the Yunnan retics.

The three camellia shows scheduled at Descanso this year are an important building block as well. A garden tour will be conducted at each show for visitors to connect the bloom on the table with the plant in the landscape. We also are participating in the Southern California Camellia

Society Research Committee. Descanso Gardens has designated 1600 square feet of the grounds as a research site. Descanso staff and Southern California Camellia Society volunteers work together to design and implement research benefiting the camellia hobbyist. Early projects include experiments with growing media, grafting, fertilizers, and mycorrhizae.

The research committee is just one example of the cooperation and support we have received from the society and other interested individuals over the course of the year. As the support grows we are able to do more and accomplish it more quickly.

One important form of support has been the donation of plants to add to our collection. The two primary additions of plants so far this year have been acquisition of the materials to reconstruct the Yunnan *reticulata* collection and to add to the mass planting of *boutonière* camellias with award winning miniatures. Plants have also been acquired for other ventures including building up the species, *reticulata*, *saluenensis* hybrid, and large flowered *japonica* collections. An important source for this material will be the Kunming Botanical Institute, as we work to revitalize our historic ties to China.

With the foundation work in place, the future truly looks bright for the camellia forest at Descanso Gardens. As bright as the red of 'Harold L. Paige' as bright as the yellow of *Camellia impressinervis*.

MANY THANKS!

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NEW PRODUCTS

Hulyn Smith

Editor's note: The following are excerpts from Hulyn Smith's presentation at the 1997 Camellia-Rama, Fresno. Hopefully it represents fairly his comments.



I've heard about Camellia-rama and I've always wanted to come and I'm happy to be here. I'm also happy to have in Valdosta the Griffin

Corporation, one of the largest agriculture chemical companies in the world. They make more copper fungicide than any other company. Back in 1990 I was able to get a few of their tins they had treated with a new product called "Spin Out." Spin Out is copper hydroxide in white latex paint. The cans are painted inside with it and, when plants are put in there, you get a root control product. The roots instead of going around and around the can and having 80% of their roots in the outside two inches of the can the roots go out and when they hit the copper the plants stop growing and sends out new roots and new roots and new roots. When you take it out of the can and put it in the ground all those roots release and go to growing. Or, if you step it up to the next size can, the same thing happens. We also believe that people who are growing in the large containers will be able to keep them in those large containers for a considerably longer time than they can in an untreated can. Now the corporation has come out recently with a new fiber can. These

fiber cans have the Spin Out in the material. They are cooler cans and plants put in them should grow faster and do very well. I have not tried these yet, but I have two or three sleeves of them at home and intend to give them a whirl.

Last fall they came out with a new type trays. The Lerico Corporation in Valdosta started marketing them. They are very flimsy and thin. They were developed for camellias and other woody ornamentals. There are two designs—one is a 24-cell unit and the other has 40 cells which fit into plastic trays. You just put your camellia medium in there, put in your cuttings root them just like you would anything else. I brought some samples along and would be glad for you to come up and take one of these when you leave. I also have a few needles here for gib acid if any of you would like to have one. Somebody here on the West Coast needs to be checking with your California Departments because the communicable disease centers use them. They are useful for gibbing.

There is another product that is available now that you can buy through Grayco Corporation. Their telephone number is 1-800-343-5620 and you can find out the price from them. These circular sheets are immersed in Spin Out and are sized to fit the tops of standard size pots. They lay down in your cans flattened down to cover the tops of the pots. Petal blight will not grow through this sheet; neither will weeds. These will completely de-weed your plants. These will last about three years. You won't have to use any herbicides—just use these little units right here. I have some flyers on them and a few samples.

Now if there is anything in the

Lerico line you are interested in, there's a book here that shows everything that they make. I think just about everything they make can also be ordered with the Spin Out treatment. Their number is 1-800-457-8112. That is their headquarters number in Mobile, Alabama, but they also have marketing organizations in California. Griffin products can only be purchased from Griffin Corporation and their number is 1-800-237-1854.

Another product I'm going to show you today is so new that nobody is marketing it at this time. The latest product to hit the market is called "Cell-U-Wett." Cell-U-Wett is a carboxy methyl cellulose-based product. The reason we have that product is because Griffin, being the large copper fungicide company, found out that copper fungicide was washing off with the first rain after it was put on. It was not staying on well. So they came up with the product that, when added to the fungicide, would take four rains before it washes off. The head of Griffin's Research and Development Department is a very good friend of mine. He and I worked together and do a lot of crazy things. He came out one day and said he wanted me to try Cell-U-Wett as a rooting agent with what I was using. I used it with Cemone K plus (5 parts of Cell-U-Wett with 1 part of Cemone K plus). Cemone K plus is 1% IBA and .5% NAA and is not a registered product. My friend got it on the market and then there was trouble with the federal government. Griffin Corporation tells you about Dip-N-Grow—to use it 4 parts of Cell-U-Wett to 1 part Dip-N-Grow. I don't particularly care for any of the alcohol-based chemicals we have whether gib acid or the rooting compounds. I like Cemone K Plus because it's 7.0 pH and does not have alcohol in it. We got some of this product late in the season

and I made a few cuttings. I want to show you what it did for me. When I was on the School Board back home for about 8 years, a seasoned politician told me to never ask a question that I didn't know what the answer was going to be. I can't look into these cups and tell you what's there. I cut these cups off a tray before I left Valdosta. I'm going to wash them and pass them around and let you see them if they have done what I think they are going to do... "Thank you, Jesus." These cuttings were made in August and rooted with Cell-U-Wett and Cemond K plus. I want to pass these around so you all can see them. I think you will be impressed with the root system. These are 'Kanjiro' cuttings. I rooted about 10 or 12 trays and I only lost one cutting. (*Editor's note: Indeed the roots, to Hulyn's satisfaction, were symmetrically spaced around a central root and had the appearance of a bottle brush.*)

I have been trying for the last 5 or 6 years to find something I can put into gib acid to thicken it. I've tried several things, even glycerin, and I have not come up with anything that pleased me. Mark and I got together and we mixed up some gib and put it in Cell-U-Wett solution. I have sent some to Sergio and Art, Fred Hahn and several other people to see how they like it and whether they were pleased with the results. (These folks reported they were very pleased with it because the gib acid stayed in the "cup" of the camellia when it was injected.) Put 2 tablespoons of Cell-U-Wett in a quart of water and you beat it in a blender. You won't get it into solution if you just try to shake it or stir it. If you've got one of those hand blenders in your kitchen, it works fine. At the Griffin lab, that's the way we mixed it for our situation. That is the same material we used in the rooting material. I used Pro Gib plus 2X, which is a powder made by Abbott.

It is a powder that you can dissolve in water—you don't have to put anything else in except distilled water and it will come into solution. Then you strain it through a coffee filter. I mix it like this: 1 tablespoon of gib acid into 50 ml of water. I shake that up and when I get through with it I strain it to get the potassium crystals out of it. Then I take that solution and I put 50ml of the Cell-U-Wett solution in it and I have the gib acid that I sent Sergio and Art. I've used it and at that mixture, it's about 20,000 parts per million. I believe that it would do the same thing for me at a lesser strength. I think this material is fabulous and I am excited about the way it sticks and the way it stays. If you mix it in the blender as I said, it won't be "ropy" and will go through the needle just fine.

Has anyone out here done any "pot in pot" planting using two pots. For example, a 7 gallon potted plant would be put into another empty 7 gallon pot which has been put into the ground. Abraham Baldwin Agriculture College in Tipton, Georgia, started this procedure. One of the Georgia nurseries has started using this procedure exclusively. They can grow the plants and keep the black plastic pots in the field and keep the temperature down on the roots in the summer time and keep them warm in the winter time. When they get ready to market them, they just snatch them out of that sleeve and put them on the trailer and ship them out. A nursery in Gainesville, Florida, is also doing that. I have 7 plants in my greenhouse planted this way now. I'm trying it and I will go to drip irrigation once I get the procedure changed over—if it works. I've got to see it first. I'm going one step further than they are going. I take Spin-Out treated non-woven cloth and I'll wrap the bottom third of the can so all the holes are covered with that cloth. I don't

want any outside tree roots getting into my containers. But the beautiful thing about this is that you are keeping the roots in the container and you are keeping the roots from outside from coming in to the container. You are also trapping all your fertilizer because your roots become a very fibrous root system inside your container.

We touched on oil earlier this morning. I use Ultra Fine oil. I don't know if any of you have trouble with red spiders or not, but I have the red spider under control in my yard. I don't think anybody ever whips them, but I think they would be less than truthful if they tell you they have whipped them. I spray all year long and if any of you are interested in my schedule I would be happy to pass it along to you.

When asked about his potting soil, Hulyn said he uses 80% pine bark and 20% sand with, as Colonel Sanders would say, a few "herbs" added to it. For rooting he takes his potting soil and adds about 40% perlite. He roots under a "fogger/mist" system; trays are off the ground and they root "mighty easy." Neville Haydon, New Zealand, told Hulyn a number of years ago that we were crazy up here because we were spending too much time and too much money grafting camellias when we ought to be rooting them. Hulyn says, "This old story about you can't root retics—you can root retics. I rooted a bunch of them this year and I found out that you can root them. They will root just like those two 'Kanjiro' cuttings I passed around. The thing that amazes me about this rooting system is that roots come out from every direction from that cutting. One thing I didn't tell you earlier about preparing those cuttings. I take a knife and scrape about 1 1/2 inches on one side—I wound the cutting really bad. Then when I dip it and put it right in the soil. Cuttings and grafts start callusing in 5 to 7 days.

After 7 days you can pull them out and take a magnifying glass and you can see the callusing has started.”

When asked about using the treated trays for seeds, Hulyn told about putting sasanqua seeds in two 60-unit Spin-Out treated trays which had been developed for pine tree seeds. He reported that the camellia seeds had done well. He felt that a good thing about using the treated units is that when the tap root hits the side of the

unit, you don't have to worry about breaking off the seed.

When asked how many hours he spends with his camellias he responded with “Every one that I can.” He said he had six granddaughters and every hour they don't take he spends in the flowers.

Editor's note:

Thanks, Hulyn, for a very enlightening and humorous presentation.

CAMELLIA REGISTRATION

Jennifer Trehane

One of the things which one notices about California, in the world of Camellias at least, is how many talented breeders it has produced. If you visit a camellia show anywhere in the world the chances are that the majority of blooms on the winners list will be California bred. Go round gardens in Australia, New Zealand, the UK, or anywhere else, and what do you find? Why, California bred camellias of course! You do, of course, have two advantages—your marvelous climate and the Nuccio family. California has produced many other talented breeders, too, and I found tremendous enthusiasm for our favourite genus when I stayed with Mel and Bobbie Belcher in September and, through their wonderful hospitality and the unbelievable efficient organising skills of Marilee Gray, met a fair number of Southern Cal. folk and learned a bit about how to grow camellias for Show, and a lot about fun, warmth and friendliness in just a few days. (I'm returning in February to pick up some more tips!)



How does the rest of the world learn

about all these desirable camellia varieties? Word of mouth, Nuccio's catalogue, and people with a general international interest in camellias, who join the Southern California Camellia Society, the American Camellia Society or other national societies round the world, provide some of the answers. We obtain some plants, but

want to know more about them. Where and by whom were they bred? How big are the flowers supposed to be? Then we want more plants, or need some further information while visiting a show where we see a bloom which attracts us. Maybe we are landscaping gardens and want to know about possible dimensions, leaf type and size, flowering season, and so on. Going a stage further, there are people like me to who talk and write about camellias for a living and need reference books all the time. There are even people who have an academic interest in the historical background of camellias, just for the fun of it.

We have two reliable reference works to use, each invaluable and each complimentary to the other. One is the Southern Cal. *Nomenclature* and the

other is the *International Camellia Register*. The former is the book for carrying around and for use from day to day like a small dictionary; the latter comes in two big volumes and is invaluable as a main reference work to keep on the study shelf as one does a full dictionary or encyclopaedia. We all love and use the *Nomenclature* regularly, but some of us need the greater detail which the *Register* supplies.

For the past seventeen years Tom Savige of Australia has been the Registrar appointed by the International Camellia Society which is the body officially responsible under the International Code for Plant Nomenclature for the genus *Camellia*, for checking and recording all published camellia names and the descriptions of these species and cultivars. He, like most of the plant registrars, has worked as an unpaid volunteer and, such has been his dedication to the job that he even taught himself to read and write in oriental script in order to be able to sort out the transliteration of names and the translation of data from oriental sources. The 32,000 name Register, published in 1993, is the main outcome of all his work with a supplement due out shortly. It has been a massive task, especially when one realises that the information gleaned has not always been easily obtained and considerable correspondence has been undertaken at times in order to get it from all the countries where camellias are produced. The most demanding of the Registrar's time and money are the nurserymen/women who publish new varieties in their catalogues but somehow never find the time or inclination to register their new goodies. (I have been guilty of that in the past and feel quite bad about it now!)

Much of the information has been obtained from journals where varieties

registered with national bodies are publicised, but each has its own style and each has its own emphases on certain points while omitting others. Each national Registration body has its own form to fill in and its own system for dealing with them. Some stipulate payment and lay down criteria for acceptance, others do not. It's all very haphazard when looked at from the point of view of the official Registrar. Tom Savige has never complained; he has just got his head down and done the job.

Now Tom is in his eighties and in poor health, so he has decided to retire as from the end of December 1997. His replacement, Malcolm Perry of Sydney, Australia, has been appointed to take over the reins and the computer. He will have to deal the changes required by the recently published International Nomenclature Code. There is a newly approved International Registration Form which asks all the questions now required by the Code and I feel that now is the time for us all to start using it. It should not be too much of a problem. If the new form is used by all registration bodies they can extract the information they require for their own publications then post the bundle of forms and transparencies of to Australia once or twice a year. At the moment there is no charge for ICS registration, but individual societies may have good reason to continue their existing systems of selection and charging; they would be, after all, the gatherers and sifters of information, which does take time and cost money.

I should dearly like to see the officers responsible for registering varieties within the various Societies working closely with the ICS Registrar. What better way is there to epitomise international friendship and co-operation than through our favourite flower. Let's make a start in 1998.

GETTING TO THE HEAD TABLE: STEP 5

Soil Amendments (Fertilizers)

Mel Belcher

If you refer to Vol. 58, Issue 2 of *The Camellia Review*, you will find a rather comprehensive article about fertilizers written by Marilee Gray. I highly recommend it to you. I may be presumptive in attempting to add to her article, but fertilizers is one of the twelve steps to the Head Table that I've committed to write about; so bear with me. There might be something of additional value.

The new camellia hobbyist can easily become confused by listening to recommended fertilizing schedules followed by long-time growers. This confusion is created because fertilization programs vary widely by the "experts." Some exhibitors use what I'll call the "norm," i.e., three applications of cottonseed meal with iron during the growing season followed by monthly applications of Flower Power (2-10-10) during the dormant season. Now that I've stated the "norm" how do we account for the outstanding success at the Head Table by Larry Pitts who uses only cottonseed meal and iron or Jack Woo who uses only fish emulsion. A dozen other exceptions can be reported from applying nothing to applying everything. After all, "If a little helps a little, applying a lot helps a lot." Many of us have lost plants because we've been seduced by that enticing false adage. The amount and type of fertilizer we appropriately use depends primarily on the soil our camellias are planted in. Good soil does not require much in the way of amendments to produce prize-winning blooms; however, poor soil needs help.

Let us take a look at what constitutes soil and what elements are essential in order to produce healthy

plants. Soils are a combination of mineral and organic components and nutrients are available in and from this combination. The mineral component is continually breaking down due to weather, environmental effects and time. Additionally, living soil organisms or bacteria break down the organic material thus releasing nutrients. The quality of the soil is a function of the type and quantity of organic material and the availability of essential chemical elements found in the soil.

Present day scientific methods identify no less than 16 elements that are essential for plant growth. They can be categorized in four groups as follows:

Atmosphere and water: Carbon (C), Hydrogen (H), Oxygen (O)

Macro nutrients: Nitrogen (N), Phosphorus (P), Potassium (K)

Secondary nutrients: Calcium (Ca), Magnesium (Mg), Sulfur (S)

Micro nutrients: Boron (B), Chlorine (Cl), Copper (Cu), Iron (Fe), Manganese (Mn), Molybdenum (Mo), Zinc (Zn)

The first three elements—carbon, hydrogen and oxygen—are supplied above ground by water and air whereas the remaining elements are supplied or absorbed through the roots. From this information it is obvious that, if the soil does not contain an adequate supply of these essential elements, amendments of compensating fertilizers must be applied if Head Table quality blooms are to be realized.

The macro nutrients are the primary elements needed for plant growth. Even though the micro nutrients are important, the home gardener and camellia hobbyist can get good results by paying close attention only to the

nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium. The chemical symbols of these elements are N-P-K and their percentage numbers are found on all fertilizers. In fact, a fertilizer is considered complete if it contains these three elements.

Books written on the subject of fertilizers give detailed information on the characteristics of each element, so my closing comments will deal with general observations. These observations are somewhat marginalized by the fact that such a varied approach is taken by successful exhibitors, but it is essential that we apply nutrients beyond what is normally found in most soils. This premise is supported by the experience of a close friend who had exceptional success at the Head Table one year but failed to use any fertilizers the following year because his plants looked healthy with lots of new growth. He was disappointed the following show season when his blooms were absent from the

Head Table. I learned, as he did, that most soils need added nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium in order to compete for Head Table accolades.

Marilee Gray's article on fertilizers, referred to above, used a broad brush to describe what camellia hobbyists use regularly and experimentally to promote plant growth and quality blooms. For me and my garden, I've used successfully the "norm" as the way to get to the Head Table. I apply 5-parts of cotton seed with one part iron on March 15, May 1 and June 15. I then start the 2-10-10 on a monthly schedule the first week of September. I also add some iron with each application.

Since I've barely scratched the surface about fertilizers, I recommend as a reference [All About Fertilizers, Soils and Water](#), published by Ortho Books. This can be purchased at many garden centers at a reasonable price. It is very readable and packed with a lot of information.

SUNDAY'S FLOWER

Margaret Lee

All my lovely Camellia Blossoms
Standing in a row
Beckoning me to pick them
And take them to a show.

I look them over
very carefully,
I want the very best
for the judges to see.

Saturday morning I take my lovely
beauties
and head for the flower show.
Once there each flower is staged just
right.
They're all winners—This I know!

Here comes the judges to gaze upon
my flower.
I just know that this
will be my shining hour.

But wait! What's this?
They've passed by flower by.
I simply do not understand
WHY?

Now it's Sunday morning and
I'm still a little blue.
I go out to look at my beauties—
I have quite a few.

Suddenly I see a flower.
It wasn't there yesterday—
the Most Beautiful and
Perfect Camellia in every way.

Now, you'll never see this beauty in a
show,
I'm sorry to say,
Because my "Lovely Sunday Bloom"
is always a day away.

DIRECTORY OF CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETIES

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY: President—Don Martin; Secretary—Christine Gonos, 5643 North College Avenue, Fresno 93704. Meetings: 3rd Wednesday, November-February, 7:30 p.m. Sheraton Smuggler's Inn, 3737 N. Blackstone, Fresno.

DELTA CAMELLIA SOCIETY: President—Larry Pitts; Secretary—Evelyn Kilsby, 11 Tiffin Court, Clayton 94517. Meetings: 2nd Tuesday, November-March, 7:30 p.m. City of Pittsburg Environmental Center, 2581 Harbor St., Pittsburg.

KERN COUNTY, CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF: President—Helen Maas; Secretary—Charlene McCallister, 2018 Kingston Place, Bakersfield, CA 93306. For meeting dates and times, call Helen Maas (805)872-2188.

MODESTO, CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF: President—Don Kendall; Secretary—Sue Kendall, 1505 Gary Lane, Modesto 95355. Meetings: 2nd Tuesday September-May, 7:00 p.m. Enslen School, 515 Coldwell Avenue, Modesto.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY: President—Larry Pitts; Secretary—Eric Hansen. Meetings: 1st Monday, November-April, 7:30 p.m., Oak Grove School, 2050 Minert Road, Concord. Final meeting in May is a dinner meeting.

PACIFIC CAMELLIA SOCIETY: President—Sergio Bracci; Secretary—Kathryn Korin, 1241 East Calaveras Street, Altadena 91001. Meetings 1st Thursday, November-April, 7:30 p.m., Descanso Gardens, 1418 Descanso Drive, La Canada.

PENINSULA CAMELLIA SOCIETY: President—Edwin Tooker; Secretary—Nicky Farmer, 360 Santa Margarita Avenue, Menlo Park 94025. Meetings: 4th Tuesday, October-March, Veterans' Building Annex, 771 Nevada Street (upstairs) Redwood City.

POMONA VALLEY CAMELLIA SOCIETY: President—David Trujillo; Secretary—Dorothy Christinson, 3751 Hoover Street, Riverside 95204. Meetings: 2nd Monday, November-April, 7:30 p.m., Church of the Brethren, Bonita & "E" Streets, La Verne.

SACRAMENTO, CAMELLIA SOCIETY: President—Gary Schanz; Secretary—Mary Louise Jones, 4454 Marley Drive, Sacramento 95521. Meetings: 4th Wednesday, October-April, 7:30 p.m., Garden and Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Boulevard, Sacramento.

SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY: President—Jay Vermilya; Secretary—Lew Gary, 11419 Carbela Place, San Diego 92127. Meetings: 3rd Wednesday, November-April, 7:30 p.m. Room 101 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego.

SANTA CLARA COUNTY, INC., CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF: President—Bev Allman. Meetings: 3rd Wednesday, October-April, 7:00 p.m. Lick Mill Park, 4750 Lick Mill Boulevard, Santa Clara.

SOUTH COAST CAMELLIA SOCIETY: President—Helen Gates; Secretary—Rosemary Walters, 620 Beryl St. #3, Redondo Beach, CA 90277. Meetings: 3rd Tuesday, September-July, 7:30 p.m. South Coast Botanic Garden, 26300 Crenshaw Boulevard, Palos Verdes Peninsula.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY: President—Marilee Gray; Secretary—Bobbie Belcher, 7475 Brydon Road, La Verne, CA 91750. Meetings 7:30 p.m., Los Angeles County Arboretum, 301 Baldin Avenue, Arcadia on January 22 and February 26—Lecture Rms. A & B; March 26 and April 23—Ayres Hall. Note: No December meeting.



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