

THE
Camellia
REVIEW

A Publication of the Southern California Camellia Society



**Vonnie Cave's beautiful garden
Wanganui, New Zealand**

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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DENISE DiSALVIA

61 Twynam Street
Narrandera
NSW 2700 AUSTRALIA
bandenis@iinet.au

BERNIE STEVENSON

15 Longmynd Drive
Shrewsbury Park
Katikati 306 NEW ZEALAND
bstevenson@xtra.co.nz

THE CAMELLIA REVIEW

Mel Belcher, Editor

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COVER PHOTO

Vonnie Cave's beautiful garden in New Zealand—a feast
for the eyes.

Photo by Mel Belcher

AN INVITATION TO JOIN THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

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ordered by sending a check payable to

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THOUGHTS FROM THE EDITOR

Having recently returned from the ICS Congress in Melbourne, Australia, my thoughts remain saturated with events and happenings from "Down Under." I'll list a few things I learned, or at least found interesting:

- Australia is a young country having her significant beginnings after our Gold Rush Days of the 1850's.

- Melbourne (pronounced "Mel bun") grew from a small village to a booming metropolis after gold was discovered in that region. It is now a beautiful city with world-renowned art, architecture and sports programs.

- It is obvious that Melbourne residents are proud of their country and accomplishment during these past 150 years, but what impressed me most was their hospitality, courteousness and willingness to help.

- It appears that black suits are the uniform of the day for men and women business and professionals. This looked somewhat strange to a Southern California retiree who has not worn a suit in several years.

- My image of Australia did not include "rainforest" but we visited several areas in Victoria where the flora was impressive. Closely related to rainforest and the reason they exist is that the Southern Ocean produces higher humidity along the southern and eastern boundaries. Camellias, rhododendrons, magnolias, etc. grow in abundance and without sun protection. To make it more unbelievable, Australia does not have petal blight.

- If you thought the giant monolith in the middle of Australia was its only mountain, you are in for a surprise. They don't have the Rocky Mountains, but the Blue Mountains north and west of Sidney are so formidable with deep escarpments, crevasses and craggy outcroppings that the westward movement was greatly impeded not unlike the westward movement in the United States that was hindered by the Rocky Mountains.

- The camellia show in Melbourne was similar to our shows in Southern California exhibiting familiar varieties, but there were differences. Mother nature is respected by avoiding variegating, gibbing and disbudding. Also, you might add "limited pruning." I asked one knowledgeable show person about the size of the blooms. He stated that most exhibitors displayed blooms from their garden. That I understood to mean landscape rather than "show garden." Many gardens were so large that excessive pruning and disbudding would be foreboding.

It was surprising to learn that camellias have made their way to Norway. Eli Margaret Stolvik gave a paper covering this subject and obviously is the spearhead for awakening the Norwegians to the beauty of camellias. She has written a book of poetry about camellias as a way of conveying the spirit within as it identifies with the beauty of the camellias. We regret not securing one of her books.

I was impressed with the hardiness of camellias as it bounced back from a disastrous fire that ravaged many acres of forest and camellia plants. You will want to read the experience that this fire had on Jim Powell's garden and the amazing survival emergence.

Bobbie and I had a great time in Australia and New Zealand. My "thoughts" were of necessity restricted to Australia. Similar comments will be made about New Zealand in a future issue. You will enjoy reading Bobbie's "documentary" in this issue of the Review.

Mel Belcher, Editor

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SOUTHERN CAMELLIA SHOW SCHEDULE FOR 2007

- January 6 Exhibitors and Judges Symposium Workshop
Hosted by Southern California Camellia Council
Descanso Gardens, La Canada
- January 13 and 14 Pacific Camellia Society
Descanso Gardens, La Canada
- January 20 and 21 Orange County Camellia Society
Roger's Gardens, Corona del Mar
- January 27 and 28 Southern California Camellia Society
Descanso Gardens, La Canada
- February 3 and 4 San Diego Camellia Society
Casa del Prado
Balboa Park, San Diego
- February 10 and 11 Southern California Camellia Society
Huntington Gardens, San Marino
- February 17 and 18 Pomona Valley Camellia Society
Community Center, La Verne
- February 24 and 25 Southern California Camellia Council
Descanso Gardens, La Canada
- March 3 and 4 Camellia Society of Kern County
Location to be announced later
- March 17 and 18 "Late Bloomers" Show
Descanso Gardens
Hosted by Pacific Camellia Society

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WINNERS OF 2006
Don Bergamini
Martinez, California

It is that time of year again, when I tally up the winners of the year for California. These winners either won their class or were runner-up in their class. I hope you find these results interesting.

'Miss Charleston Var.', 'Red Hots' and 'Island Sunset' were the big winners in the single category getting either 9 or 8 wins for the year. In the multiples category it was a big win for 'Nuccio's Carousel' with 11 followed by 'Frank Houser' with 10. These wins are not surprising as these are all great varieties

Some varieties to keep your eye open for are 'Black Gold Var.', 'Cabernet', 'Coral Bouquet', 'Lucky Star Var.', 'Phyllis Hunt', 'Red Devil', 'Paul Haskee Var.', and 'Tama Peacock'. These varieties have all started winning this past year.

I hope to see all of you on the camellia trail next year and have a great summer.

SINGLES

VERY LARGE / LARGE JAPONICAS

'Miss Charleston Variegated'	9
'Junior Prom'	5
'Royal Velvet'	5
'Royal Velvet Variegated'	5
'Lady Laura'	4
'Moonlight Bay'	4
'Dusty'	3
'Katie Variegated'	3
'Elegans Champagne'	2
'Elegans Splendor'	2
'Grand Slam'	2
'Showtime'	2
'Tata'	2
'Veiled Beauty'	2
22 others with 1 each	

MEDIUM JAPONICAS

'Firedance Variegated'	4
'Nuccio's Carousel'	4
'Nuccio's Jewel'	3
'Ace O' Hearts'	2
'Betty Foy Sanders'	2

'Chie Tarumoto'	2
'Feathery Touch'	2
'Jennie Mills'	2
'Mrs. George Bell'	2
24 others with 1 each	

SMALLS (ANY SPECIES)

'Red Hots'	9
'Spring Daze'	8
'Maroon and Gold'	6
'Jackpot'	4
'Black Gold Variegated'	3
'Paper Dolls'	3
'Cabernet'	2
12 others with 1 each	

MINIATURES (ANY SPECIES)

'Something Beautiful'	6
'Lemon Drop'	4
'Grace Albritton'	3
'Man Size'	3
'Sweet Jane'	3
'Fircone Variegated'	2
'Sue Kendall'	2
'Tammia'	2
'Tinsie'	2
'Trinket'	2
11 others with 1 each	

RETICULATAS AND RETICULATA HYBRIDS

'Frank Houser'	7
'Frank Houser Variegated'	6
'Sir Robert Muldoon'	6
'Arcadia'	4
'Harold L. Paige'	4
'Queen Bee'	4
'Emma Gaeta Variegated'	2
'John Hunt'	2
'Larry Piet'	2
'Nuccio's Ruby Variegated'	2
'Phyllis Hunt'	2
'Valentine Day'	2
'Valentine Day Variegated'	2
19 others with 1 each	

NON-RETICULATA HYBRIDS

'Island Sunset'	8
'Lucky Star'	5
'Nicky Crisp'	4
'Waltz Time Variegated'	4

'Coral Bouquet'	3	'Pink Perfection'	6
'Elsie Jury'	3	'Hishi-Karaito'	4
'Pink Dahlia'	3	'Spring Festival'	4
'Tom Perkins'	3	'Buddy Variegated'	3
'Buttons N' Bows'	2	'Fircone Variegated'	3
17 others with 1 each		'Something Beautiful'	3
		'Spring Daze'	3
SPECIES		'Black Tie Variegated'	2
'Egao'	4	'Buddy'	2
'Kanjiro'	4	'Little Babe Variegated'	2
'Shibori Egao'	3	'Maroon and Gold'	2
'Botan Yuki'	2	17 others with 1 each	
3 others with 1 each			
		RETICULATAS AND RETICULATA HYBRIDS	
MULTIPLES		'Frank Houser'	10
		'Dr. Clifford Parks'	4
JAPONICAS		'Emma Gaeta Variegated'	3
'Nuccio's Carousel'	11	'LASCA Beauty'	3
'Royal Velvet'	7	'Arcadia'	2
'Margaret Davis'	5	'Bev Piet Variegated'	2
'Grand Slam'	4	'Phyllis Hunt'	2
'Jennie Mills'	4	17 others with 1 each	
'Katie Variegated'	4		
'Firedance Variegated'	3	NON-RETICULATA HYBRIDS	
'Glen 40'	3	'Lucky Star'	6
'Kramer's Supreme'	3	'Nicky Crisp'	6
'Miss Charleston Variegated'	3	'Buttons N' Bows'	5
'Black Magic.'	2	'Pink Dahlia'	5
'Elena Nobile'	2	'Coral Delight Variegated'	3
'Herme'	2	'Delores Edwards'	2
'Magnoliaeflora'	2	'Island Sunset'	2
'Ragland Supreme'	2	'Julie Varieegated'	2
30 others with 1 each		'Waltz Time Variegated'	2
		8 others with 1 each	
MINIATURES AND SMALLS (ANY SPECIES)		SPECIES	
'Red Hots'	7	6 with 1 each	
'Man Size'	6		

CAMELLIA STATIONERY

Our beautiful camellia notecards are still available in sets of eight for \$6.00 including tax and shipping. Folks who use them and re-order tell us how truly lovely they are. They make wonderful gifts for your fellow camellia lovers or those you are trying to get interested in this great hobby! You can even order them for your own use. They also look beautiful in frames. Cards can be ordered through Dorothy Grier, 13229 Pipeline Avenue, Chino, CA 91710 (909) 628-1380. Make your check payable to SCCS.

If any camellia society would like to use these cards as fund raisers, orders for 25 or more sets are priced at \$5.00 each, including tax and shipping.

MEMORIES OF DOWN UNDER 2006

**Bobbie Belcher
Murrieta, California**

Where to start—with impressions of very friendly, very helpful and polite people, or impressions of eclectic architecture or with the incredible planning of tours and events to show us what seemed to be “everything” that needed seeing in Australia and New Zealand. It was a wonderful and busy four weeks for our foursome – Mel and me and our sisters-in-law Yvonne and Phyllis. Four of us with the same last name stirred a little curiosity and Mel enjoyed introducing his harem! (FYI—Yvonne and Phyllis were married to Mel’s brothers.) What kept amazing me during our four weeks were huge camellia, azalea and rhododendron bushes covered with beautiful blooms right out in the open! That surely doesn’t happen where we live. I’m sorry we cannot print pictures of all those beautiful bushes.

Our first week was spent touring Victoria along the Great Ocean Road. Forty-six of us in a first class coach had a knowledgeable botanist as tour director and a driver with the same name as our son David but who pronounced his name “Divid.” (We never did figure out the vowel pronunciation in Australia.) The first night in Australia I popped the lens out of my glasses. This picture is my favorite of the whole trip—Greg Davis,, President of International Camellia Society, and Peter Levick, Vice president of ICS and President of his local camellia society



fixing the lens in my glasses. What dear men.

We visited beautiful gardens, a working sheep farm, the wool museum and enjoyed beautiful scenery along the way.

One morning there was a rainbow over our bus as we were leaving and we drove under it several times that day. We walked along the Otway Fly Tree Top where we could see down into areas where aborigines once lived. In the area where the Right Southern Whales come near the shore for calving we didn’t see them up close, but we saw some dark spots in the water that we thought might be whales. The scenery was gorgeous, though, so it didn’t matter. My favorite of the “private” gardens we visited on this tour was Crombie Garden where our owner/host had



gathered rusted farm stuff to use to decorate her garden. She described her garden as “quirky” and I thought it was great fun. At each garden we visited in Australia and in New Zealand there was the urn with hot water for tea and coffee and an assortment of biscuits (cookies). What a wonderful tradition—anticipated and enjoyed! Our group did a lot of eating together.

Headquarters for the Congress our second week was the luxurious Hyatt Hotel in Melbourne. My favorite presentation of the week was Eli Margrete Stolvik. (See page 11) I found her story about falling in love with camellias in England, discovering that they were already growing near her home in Norway and then being challenged to organize a camellia society in Norway exciting. Other speakers included Herb Short who presented Dr. Ackerman’s paper on growing camellias in cold climates and Ken Tate who shared the history of the Australia Camellia Society. Geof Sherrington talked about the Australians Breeding Camellias. In 1955

the Australian Camellia Research Society formulated rules for the official registration of camellias; since then 568 registrations have been accepted. Geof had a big hand in the preparation of the CD's with beautiful pictures and good information about these registrations that each Congress attendee received. Rodger and Gwen Elliot's presentation was about Australian plants that have survived under some of the worst climatic and soil conditions worldwide. Vonnie Cave shared pointers on capturing beautiful blooms with both digital and optical cameras. Jim Powell told how fire swept through his garden near Sydney proving the resilience of camellias. (See Jim's story on page 14) Stephen Ryan reported on his nursery in Mt. Macedon where since 1980 he has been collecting and selling rare plants including many that he has collected himself in the wild in places such as Peru or has imported from England, Ireland, China and North America. The group visited his garden later in the week.

The Melbourne camellia show was delightful. We enjoyed getting acquainted with some new varieties and the Devon tea – wow! Because Australia has not been plagued with petal blight, the importation of plants from other countries has been restricted. Their invitation to newcomers at what they called the “Go For it Table” made me laugh. Ann Marks had a big part



in the planning and execution of the Melbourne Congress as I had done at the 2001 Congress in Pasadena. We agreed that it had been a lot work but that we were survivors!

Tours during the Congress included a visit to Melbourne's Royal Botanical Garden, a trip to Healesville Sanctuary where injured and orphaned animals are

housed, fed and helped to heal, a long trip to the coast to see the tiny penguins that only come ashore at night, and a trip to Yarra Valley to tour Fergusson's Wineries and be fed a marvelous lunch. Next day we were off again to the Dandenong Ranges to view the temperate rainforest from the comfort of Puffing Billy, a working steam engine train serving locals and tourists. At the farewell dinner we met Andrew Raper the nurseryman who provided the



camellia plants that had beautified the hotel meeting areas. Andrew told us a fascinating story about his dad who

single-handedly stopped the killing of kangaroos as “varmints.” He housed several of them in the hen house. The local authorities told him they were coming to kill the animal; when they arrived the cameramen and reporters were waiting. Killing didn't take place that day or since. (Speaking of kangaroos, we learned that the reason the kangaroos and emu are featured on the money in Australia is that these animals can't go backwards – and we understood that Australia doesn't plan to go that way either!)

Next stop—four activity-packed and exciting days in Sydney included a cruise around the harbor the afternoon of our arrival and dinner later in a high-above-the-city restaurant that did a 360° rotation every hour. Next day a visit to enjoy Bob Fleming's beautiful garden he has named “Elegans.” A short drive away we visited Shane's Nursery where a Lavender Festival was going on. I loved the purple carts, the purple signs and even the purple uniforms.

The afternoon was spent at “Eryldene,” home of E. G. Waterhouse. Lunch was served by the local camellia society whose volunteers maintain the garden. The azaleas at Eryldene were truly beautiful and vigorous. We were surprised to learn that the camellia named after Dr.

Waterhouse 'E. G. Waterhouse' has not thrived in the Professor's garden even after



numerous attempts to grow it there.

Next day a long drive rewarded the group with a visit to Bob Cherry's nursery, "Paradise Garden." What a treat—amazing camellias, rhododendrons, magnolias and lots of primulas! Bob was a super host and gave the group a guided tour around his garden. Dr. Wang had worked closely with Bob to acquire some of the reticulatas in the garden and it was good to see Bob honor him. Bob has produced and is producing his 'Paradise' collection based on careful selection from a large number of chance crosses whose seed parent is often known. Therefore, he has formed conclusions to guide other breeders as to which parent plants are most hopeful. He selects for many desirable properties like long flowering period and toughness because his plants are usually quite mature before he considers registration and he has many hundreds to choose from. He has also made a number of controlled crosses. Most of his registered work has been with *C. sasanqua* and similar species like *C. hiemalis*. He has 29 Australian registrations to date.

I enjoyed our visit to "Winterwood" the garden Don Schofield envisioned and ambitiously executed. After visiting Don's garden we went to the Mt. Tomah Botanic Garden for lunch and another tour.

Thirteen of the original 46 tourists continued on to Auckland. After a three-hour flight and a quick deposit of bags at the hotel we were back on the bus for a

tour of "Eden Garden." This enchanting, aptly-named garden was built in a rock quarry which, in 1964, was donated by Sir Frank and Lady Mappin Cave and transformed by a visionary and enthusiastic group into today's Eden. Following a view of Auckland from the top of the volcanic cone which formed Mt. Eden, the group visited to Peter Brady's garden. Peter has done some interesting things with succulents and a variety of artifacts.

Traveling south through some of New Zealand's prime farmland with Barry our driver/tour director (and "yes" those white dots on all those miles of green hills and valleys were sheep!) we went to the Waitomo Glowworm Caves. Then off to New Plymouth. When we arrived at the hotel I was relieved to see one of the local camellia members in the hotel holding three of the 2006 Camellia Nomenclatures I had mailed several weeks earlier. Whew! (The ones I had mailed to Australia at the same time had not arrived when we were



"Controlled" hybridizing

there.) We thoroughly enjoyed the national show in New Plymouth and were excited to see 'Nuccio's Carousel' win "Best of Show." (Jim Nuccio was pretty excited to hear that, too, when we called after we got home.) The National Show is a big event in

New Zealand—the mayor of New Plymouth, the President of the New Zealand Camellia and the President of the local camellia society participated in the opening of the show. We were able to visit a number of the local private gardens and were thoroughly impressed with what people had been able to do—sometimes in what seemed like a very short time. A high light was a visit to the Jury Garden. Some of us developed rather envious attitudes about the gorgeous soil we saw in all the gardens. It looked good enough to eat!

Next day's event included a trip to Egmont National Park which is dominated by a dormant volcano. High rainfall and a mild climate has resulted in lush rain-

forest covering the foothills and changes to subalpine and alpine shrub lands at higher elevations. I delighted in the snow on Mount Egmont—particularly after leaving 100°+ weather at home not that many days earlier. Then onto Rosedale Garden—two acres of rhododendrons, camellias and magnolias and New Zealand's only epiphyllum nursery.

Next day we were off to Wanganui and visited the Basin Botanic Garden on our way to Vonnie Cave's garden. The botanic garden is a four-year-old garden project in which Vonnie and her fellow camellia society members have been very much involved. The garden is already beautiful and will be awesome in a few years! We spent several hours in Vonnie's garden oohing over her camellias, her amazing succulent collection and other vigorous specimens. Vonnie's books on camellias and succulents uses her own garden plants for her stunning photographs.

Up early next morning we were off to Rotorua and visited a Maori Village for dinner and a program that evening. Next day we visited the local Thermal Village where our Maori hostess seemed to delight in showing us how cooking meat and vegetables is done by steam from the hot water pools. We even found two quite nice camellias growing in what seemed "unusual" conditions with all the steam and the sulphur in the air. At nearby Rainbow Springs we saw pools of trout (even blue trout) and native New Zealand forest plants grew along the pathways. Then off we went to the Agrodome to watch the 19 varieties of New Zealand sheep and well-trained sheep dogs perform.

Next morning we were off to Takanini to visit Camellia Haven, New Zealand's premier camellia nursery founded and operated until recently by Neville Haydon. I loved seeing Neville's 25 year old seedling 'Baby Bear' growing in a pot by the office door. Neville has retained a part of the nursery for his hybridizing projects—and camellia enthusiasts are happy to know that his work is still continuing.

After visiting Camellia Haven, we were off to Ayrilies Garden, a 12 acre country

garden with four waterfalls and three large ponds planted with water lilies, irises, bog plants and primulas. We were told the husband in the family "gave" his wife land to "play with" to keep her occupied while he was away on business. Later that already packed day, we continued on to Carolyn Chitty's home and garden in Whitford in time for a garden visit before dark. At the Chittys' stud farm we all admired the beautiful stallions when they were paraded around the show ring. Carolyn's camellias were beautiful as well



Neville at Camellia Haven

and planted hither and yon all over the farm. We wondered how she remembered where they were and "who" they were. I didn't see name tags on her plants and some of them were planted in what seemed less than accessible places. At the farewell dinner at the Chittys', the owner of Ayrilies Garden came to joint us. She apologized for not being at her home to welcome us when we were there. The farewell dinner was wonderful with super food and good fellowship. By this time our band of 48 had dwindled to 14 and Carolyn felt she could handle this size group.

Then back to Auckland for a good night's rest and packing in preparation for the going home trip the next morning.

It was a wonderful, activity-packed four weeks – and these four Belchers thank our friends Down Under.



Yvonne, Bobbie, Mel and Phyllis

The Camellia Moves North

Eli-Margrete S. Stolvik
Stavanger, Norway

First I will briefly give some background on why I started the project "The Camellia Moves North." Second, I will give an overview of what has been done at the professional level and among hobby gardeners to encourage camellias to set roots in Norway. Third, I will present special challenges we are facing, and share with you what we have done so far to get positive results in this project. Finally, throughout the presentation, I will read some of my poems to emphasize my poetic approach to the camellia.

The first time I saw a camellia in full bloom it woke up a part within me that I did not know was there. I have tried to capture this situation in the poem "Encounter."

As a gardener in Norway, my encounter with the camellia took me into a lonely hobby. In my part of the world, the camellia has been known as an indoor plant, difficult to grow even indoors. Most often nurseries and garden centers have sold camellias as indoor plants, sometimes under the name *C. japonica* or *C. williamsii*, but most often just the name Kamelia, with a K, the Scandinavian way of spelling the name. I decided for myself that I would enjoy camellias when traveling abroad and I made myself comfortable with this decision. Despite this fact, somehow the camellia did not want to let me go. Over and over again coincidences put me get back into contact with this plant in one way or another. The poem "The Name" describes some of my feelings in this period.

While living and working in

Iceland, as far from the camellia world as possible, I wrote the poem "Camellia." At the same time I wrote this poem, I met the American photographer Fred Shermer. These two happenings turned out to be the starting point for my dream of experiencing red camellias blooming in the snow in Norway. I started searching for hobby gardeners in my

hometown of Stavanger who might have planted a camellia outdoors in spite of the advice from the nurseries. A total of 17 gardeners already mysteriously growing camellias outdoors in my neighborhood responded to an article by me in the local paper.

Knowingly or not, my neighbors had taken advantage of local

microclimates suitable for the plant. The Norwegian coastline is close to the end of the Gulf Stream, producing a number of microclimates among sheltered places along the fjords – some not unlike places in the Mid-Atlantic States. The oldest plant I found, now 17 years old and 4 meters (13 feet) tall, is a camellia japonica hybrid which blooms every year in profusion.

All this evidence of plants and people pushing frontiers gave me the support I needed to start searching for professionals who could start a research project in cold hardiness. In this period Fred Shermer was of tremendous help as he motivated me to learn more and traveled with me to see camellias in bloom. One day he invited me to Dr. Ackerman's presentation "Growing Camellias in Cold Climates". I jumped on a flight to Washington D.C. for his presentation on April 2, 2005. This meeting with



Dr. Ackerman turned out to be a new "Encounter."

After I first met with Dr. William L. Ackerman, I knew that my dream of experiencing red camellias blooming in the snow in Norway could come true. At that time I did not see exactly how to structure the process, but I decided to be open for coincidences along my way and see what would happen.

I was now convinced that starting a pioneer-project to have camellias tested in my home country Norway could be worth working on, and I named the project "The Camellia Moves North" to make sure it turned out to be important in my life. At this point I was really in love with the camellia as an ornamental plant, and I loved how it crystallized in my writings.

In early July 2005, Dr. Ackerman got in contact with Pat and Herb Short from the International Camellia Society (ICS) when they were planning to visit Norway. Meeting with the Shorts in Bergen was a wonderful event. They brought four small plants in their hand luggage, the very first fall-blooming cold-hardy camellias in the country. The plants were handed over to two arboretums, Rogaland Arboret in Stavanger and Det Norske Arboret (the Norwegian Arboretum) in Bergen. They were all in bloom in 2005.

In late July 2005, Dr. Ackerman sent cuttings from his cold-hardy *C. oleifera* hybrids. A total of 92 cuttings from 23 different hybrids were taken care of at Det Norske Arboret in Bergen. The feedback from the arboretum is that 85% have set roots, and do look healthy. The new plants will be shared between the Stavanger Botanic Garden in Stavanger, the Ringve Botanic Garden in Trondheim and the Norske Arboret in Bergen.

In November 2005, Dr. Ackerman provided me with a huge number of seeds. In my search for potential seedling growers, I found still more gardeners with camellias planted

outdoors (although somewhat recently), some as far north as Ålesund. During November and December the seeds were shared between eager gardeners and professors working for public gardens throughout the southern part of Norway, from Kristiansand to Trondheim.

On 3rd April 2006 the Rogaland Arboret decided to start testing camellias in the Stavanger Botanic Garden. This is an important step forward in professional testing and documentation. Professor Finn Ervik in Stavanger and Professor Per Salvesen in Bergen are now growing camellias for research, using the cuttings and seeds sent by Dr. Ackerman. The professors have committed time and resources to take the project forward.

When I started planning for this project, I foresaw a challenging process. The challenge can be seen on different levels, both personal and professional. I will list some of the challenges I have identified so far, and I am sure even more will pop up as the project develops.

—The need for changing attitudes might prove the biggest challenge.

—Most people, including Norwegians, hold tight to the assumption that Norway is so far north that it will be too cold to even think of growing camellias. This alleged fact still makes nurseries and garden centers bring in the cheapest plants without asking about their cold hardiness.

—Our extreme variation in summer temperature and differences in sunlight might affect the blooming and growing patterns.

—We are now curious about how the variation in summer temperatures will affect the plants' ability to develop buds, and how the extreme differences in sunlight throughout the year will affect the growing and blooming patterns. During the long summer days, with up to 20 hours of daylight, the plant may need

protection from direct sunlight. The perfect shaded place during the summertime, however, might not be the best place for the spring or fall, when the sun is low and may burn or dry out the leaves from a slanting direction. Further, our short winter days, with no more than 4 to 5 hours of daylight, may put too much stress on the late fall and winter blooming hybrids, and thereby prevent them from opening their buds. The coastal winds will present yet a different challenge, especially during the spring.

—My personal challenge will be to accept more people taking part in managing the process.

Having had this project as my own “baby” has been a very nice hobby for several years. As the project takes more time I will need to bring in more people and start team-working. This will be a big challenge in itself, since I am used to deciding matters for myself without even thinking of asking others if they find it in line with their values, needs and wants.

I have written a couple articles for the Norwegian Garden Society’s magazine and yearbook 2005. The magazine and yearbook have been sent to all members and will be followed up with another article this fall.

I have given eleven camellia presentations in local garden society meetings, sharing my joy and knowledge about cold-hardy camellias and the project so far. I will give five presentations this fall, and have been asked to tour along the coast from Bergen to Trondheim in 2007.

One nursery in Stavanger finally managed to bring in sixteen different camellias regarded as cold-hardy from a company in the Netherlands. The only Ackerman-hybrid available was ‘Snow Flurry’. The nursery is now looking for new places to buy more of the Ackerman hybrids for 2007..

In addition to the camellia gardens as part of the Stavanger Botanic Garden and the Norske Arboret we are

now discussing the possibility of establishing more exposed test beds. We are hoping to find a budget to pay for one research fellow who can take care of these more exposed test beds.

As the project has developed, there are now a number of eager camellia lovers and growers convinced that camellias can survive Norway’s winters along the coast. During the early spring I found that it was time to bring more people into the project. The interim board had its first meeting on the 25. April 2006.

All the risk factors mentioned in this presentation can be arguments to convince people that camellias cannot survive in Norway. Nevertheless, the camellias actually growing and blooming in sheltered places along the fjords do not seem to need convincing. Of special concern, however, is the fact that we can have some hard frosts in April, after having had temperatures up to 15C (59F) in March, highlighting the importance of selecting the right microclimate.

We have evidence that the change in temperature will affect the blooming time. In 2005 the spring was mild and the big C. japonica hybrid in Stavanger was in full bloom in mid-April. In 2006, however, the spring was relatively cold. The same plant in mid-April still showed no sign of opening its buds in the near future.

It still remains to be seen how Dr. Ackerman’s hybrids will develop in Norway. Until now we have recommended that people start out with early fall-blooming and late spring-blooming types, to make sure that the plants and flowers will not be harmed by the lack of daylight and frost. As the project develops the next couple years, I know that hobby gardeners (myself included) will try out winter-blooming types.

Meeting with international camellia lovers has opened a new camellia “world” for me, a world that has directly inspired my poetry writings and my effort to take the

(Continued on page 23)

THE HARDINESS OF CAMELLIAS

Jim Powell, Diploma Horticulture
Helensburgh, New South Wales

Editor's note: The following article is from a personal experience where the fire storm that devastated the area Christmas Day 2001 caused the loss of over 600 camellias on Jim's property.

Jim and many others fought for 11 days to contain the fire that destroyed 11 homes and 4 factories as well as thousands of hectares of bushland but, thankfully, with no loss of life.

It was to Jim's credit and his Helensburgh team that this "once in a lifetime catastrophic event" saved many properties and assisted in the evacuation of overseas visitors from the Stanwell Tops Christian Conference Centre that was partially destroyed in the holocaust.

Any camellia enthusiast knows and appreciates the beauty of camellias; some also know the ease with which camellias grow. But how many really know how tough and resilient camellias can be? We know by the areas in which they grow that they tolerate a range of conditions depending on the species. For example the species *rusticana* is known as the "Snow Camellia" because in its natural habitat it grows above the snow line in the mountains of Japan and China. We also know that species *reticulata* grows well in climates from sub-tropical its natural habitat in the temperate rainforest areas of Southern China. Its large leaf with drip tip is a giveaway to its liking of water and moist air. There are also camellia species such as *C. nitidissima*,

(one of the yellow camellias), and *C. sinensis*, the Tea Camellia, which are natural tropical species. So we have a vast range of climatic conditions to suit the 200 odd known species from South East Asia. It is obvious that the majority grown in the western world have derived from the colder climate-loving species because of where they were first introduced to the western

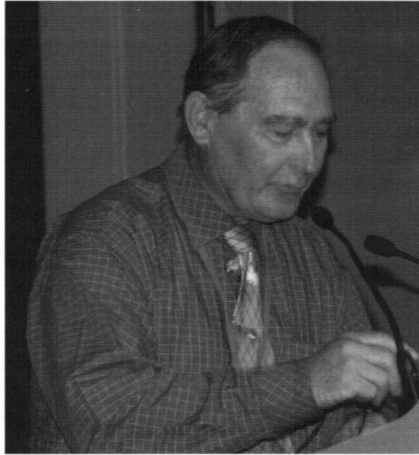
world, i.e., Europe and England. It may have been that other species were brought to the colder climates but did not survive. A giveaway to this cold-loving specie *C.*

japonica is the waxy epidermal cortex covering of the leaves. As you know, wax is a good protector from cold and moisture which is one of the reasons we use wax-coated boxes for plants. The boxes

don't become soggy from the water in the pots. But wax is not a good protector against strong heat. As any person who has had the misfortune to drop hot wax from a candle onto their skin knows only too well, when it becomes hot, wax melts and burns. Therefore these *C. japonica* suffer when our summer heat gets over the 32 Celsius mark. It is not uncommon for severe leaf scorch to occur in these cold-loving camellias.

So, knowing this, what chance of survival would you expect for cold-loving camellias in the event of a fire-storm many times hotter—closer to 1000 degrees Celsius? I would have thought "no chance at all!" But my personal experience proved otherwise.

On Christmas Day, 2001, my garden of 1000 different cultivars was



ravaged by a bushfire so large and intense on a 20 kilometre front that it left nothing in its wake but many black stumps and white ash. In my front west-facing garden, the direction from which the fire travelled through a gully, every single plant in its path burned. The fire stopped virtually at my front door step. Only the camellias in the back yard were saved from the devastation, mainly due to the solid brick two-story houses.

As a fire-fighter myself, there was very little I could do for my plants until I was released from fire fighting duties 10 days after the fires. I expected very few if any of my plants to survive due to the sheer intensity of the fire. Knowing the climates from which the majority of my camellias came, I had no such fear about my Australian native plants—fires are something they face on a regular basis except in the rainforest and wet areas.

Many of the camellias in large pots had the plastic either burnt away or melted into their root system so deeply I could not remove all the plastic. I held out little hope for their survival because of the time of the year. In late December the majority of them had already put on and completed their annual growth cycle of new stem and foliage. I know it is possible particularly for *C. sasanqua* to produce two and sometimes three new growth circles during spring to late summer if damage occurs to them. I was not so sure how this would affect japonicas.

When I had the chance to do something about the damage I proceeded to treat the pot specimens first because of their root exposure to summer temperatures. I repotted as many as possible into new potting mix and pots. I fed them at fortnightly intervals with "Seasol" to see if I could encourage any root or stem growth at all. It was "hope" rather than "expectation." For the camellias in the ground all I could do was just water "Seasol" at the same fortnightly intervals for six weeks around the

areas where I thought roots may be

To my amazement after natural rains a month after the fire the first signs of green life started to reappear in my garden, but these were not my camellias. These were, as expected, native species, such as wattles, hakeas and ferns. The first sign of life to my camellias occurred in mid-March. Surprisingly these were japonica and japonica hybrids that bore dark red small flowers, such as 'Black Opal', 'Night Rider', 'Kuro-Tsubaki' and 'Fuyajo'. My only explanation is that perhaps the growth cycle for these particular cultivars is later than other varieties. These had all been in large pots; some had the plastic pots burnt off them. One in a large metal pot was still intact. These plants were all close together in the same area with many other cultivars. Almost simultaneously within five days, tiny dark red leaves started to appear on the charred burnt stems and branches. As a horticulturist I was always led to believe that new growth came from cambium tissue, the green layer of tissue underneath the bark, but in the case of these plants most of that would have been impossible because they had been so badly burnt. Could it be possible, since there is life in the root system, that live tissue can be produced through old tubular dead wooded material closer to the core of the trunks themselves. Perhaps like many Australian native plants they contain survival mechanisms in lignotubers in little lumps on stem trunks, crowns and roots. That I cannot tell, but it may be worth some laboratory investigations to challenge a budding natural scientist. Whatever the case, slowly over the next two years, like Phoenix rising from the ashes, two thirds of my camellias have various stages of new growth on them. Sadly many were grafted camellias and that new growth is of the understock. To my surprise, however, particularly with the *reticulata* hybrids, the plants actually produced new growth above the graft. Slowly,

new wood encased the old burnt wood, a process which is still going on. As late as March this year, new growth on some varieties showed up for the first time since the fire.

The puzzling question is, why in certain sections of the garden did many plants regenerate and other plants not far away showed no signs of life at all? Some of the plants were very close to a Colour-bond fence which buckled under the extreme heat. This is the area which bore the most severe onslaught of the fire. Yet out of 42 camellias in one garden all but 5 regenerated. Some were understock from grafted plants. Another garden approximately 5 meters away, was more protected than the previous garden by plants further down the hill. In this garden of approximately 35 plants only 4 survived. My theory is the camellias against the Colour-bond fence were damaged by a quick searing heat which may have only lasted 3-4 minutes at the most. Just like cooking steak on a very hot plate—you sear the outside of the meat, but it is still tender and juicy on the inside. Because of a very thick mulch, over the garden surface, the other garden was not so much damaged by a quick searing heat but by a slow roasting process rather like cooking a leg of lamb. Because I was not on hand initially to dampen this mulch after the fire passed through, this mulch was allowed to slowly burn with a deepening heat over a 48 hour period. The majority of the root system was killed off by the heat of the slow burning mulch whereas the other garden bed, although looking badly damaged, still had some life left in the crown and root systems of the plants. Another thing about fires is that they actually vortex out like fingers on a hand and swirl like the waves of an ocean. So, just as it is possible for a large fire like the Canberra fire to completely miss some streets and some houses and not totally destroy everything in its path, on a smaller scale it can do the same

to certain plants on a block of land. Rocks may protect some, larger tree trunks may protect some, certain types of containers may be better than others, and pockets of moisture around the roots of plants in gardens and pots can vary also. Therefore, even though pots may be all the same size and construction one may have been re-potted recently and, therefore, not a lot of roots were close to the outside of the pot. Another pot may have been due for re-potting in the coming late winter season and have many roots at the outside. This pot generally would tend to be drier and the greater number of roots would suck away any available water. All these factors have some bearing as to why some camellias survived while others did not.

As an overall picture, of my some 690 camellias, approximately 2/3rds have shown signs of recovery, some as late as April this year. It is possible that some whose root systems are deeper in the ground may still have life there. However, because of our drought situation in Sydney, I think that hope is rather forlorn.

It is a very interesting procedure watching the slow recovery of the charred remains that were camellias and observing how quickly or slowly they respond depending on the severity of the damage and on what part of the plant system the damage had taken place. For example, those that recovered the quickest, produced epycormic growth off the trunks of the plants and were back to normal and flowering within 12 months. Most of these were in pots which were not damaged—only the stem tissue and foliage were seared by the scorching flames. These were the ones close to the house itself. The next to recover were also pot specimens, but the pots had been totally or almost totally melted. After re-potting these plants rather quickly produced new long water shoot type stems from the crown. The next lot of camellias to show signs of life were those in the

garden that had been protected by large tree trunks or rocks. One particular *C. japonica* 'Lady in Red' was protected by a slanting rock face. The fire burnt 2/3rds off the top of the plant but the two lowest branches against the rock stayed green and alive. The plant re-grew from that point and is now is a low-spreading rather than an upright camelliat. Other camellias in the garden have slowly come to life from the root system, some more quickly than others, depending on many factors. The most common of which is the depth and size of the root system below the soil. Other factors include the quicker growing native plants, such as *Hardenbergia*, which form a dense ground cover if not controlled. Numerous wattles and hakeas have come up from seed after the fire and have either slowed down or completely stop the re-growth of the camellias whose roots are below these surface-rooting ground cover or the roots from the seed of the native shrubs.

By removing as much of these native seeds from around the old roots of the camellias it may be possible for some still to regenerate, but the longer it takes, the less likely the proposition.

In the spring of 2005-2006 slowly, with some tender loving care (TLC), all the camellias mentioned have continued to grow well and produce good quality blooms. Nothing much was happening in the centre of the main front garden which was heavily infested with weeds and dead trees. In spring 2005 I had the front block cleared carefully so as not to damage any plants including camellias that had shown signs of rebirth. After removing all the weeds either by poisoning or digging out, the whole area was mulched with left over woodchips, sawdust and leaf mulch, and then "Blood & Bone" was spread over the whole area.

Amazingly, not only did the camellias and other exotic plants that had been struggling kick on quite

significantly, but new little camellias started sprouting up and out of the ground like little mushrooms, a total of 38 in all during the spring of 2005, 3 1/2 years after the fire.

I am now in the process during the cooler months of 2006 of digging up and potting up a lot of these camellias to give them a better chance of survival and growth accelerant. So, even to this day amazing things are still happening to these "Houdinis" of the plant world.

I have always regarded camellias as a hardy type of plant that, grown in the right conditions, had little problems with pest and diseases. I was well aware of their hardiness, once established, to cold, snow and frost. However, I have been completely surprised by their resistance to extreme heat. Any problems I have had with camellias in the past were due to stress from high temperatures and dryness, particularly to those *williamsii* hybrids such as, 'Waterlily' and 'E.G. Waterhouse'. Surprisingly both of these regenerated from the fire. With this factor in mind, the difference between the rebirthing of camellias after devastation from fires, etc., must come from a different process line than the slow-death from die-back in hot dry weather. It is obvious from this experience that camellias are extremely hardy plants under many different conditions and can hold their place with native plants through bushfires. Camellias have an added advantage with their thick moist leaves which act as a good fire protection barrier. I have no doubt, had it not been for the number of large camellias between my home and the fire front, the house, too, could have been badly damaged or completely lost.

In gratitude for what they have done in helping save my property, and because I now know they are as tough as any other plant that likes acid soils, including natives, I am slowly replacing as many of the camellias as possible.

SAN FRANCISCO PENINSULA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

45th Annual Show
Redwood City, March 2006

Best Flower of Show	'Phyllis Hunt'	Larry & Nancy Pitts
Sweepstakes—most blue ribbons		Don & Mary Bergamini
Runner-up Sweepstakes		Bob & Linda Ehrhart
Japonica—Very Large		
Best Single	'Mrs. D. W. Davis, Decanso'	Larry & Nancy Pitts
Runner-up Single	'Dusty'	Bob & Linda Ehrhart
Japonica—Large		
Best Single	'Elegans Champagne'	Art & Chris Gonos
Runner-up Single	'Veiled Beauty'	Gordon & Barbara Goff
Japonica—Large/Very Large		
Best Tray of 3	'Black Magic'	Larry & Nancy Pitts
Best Tray of 5	'In The Pink'	Bob & Linda Ehrhart
Japonica—Medium		
Best Single	'Firedance Var.'	Bob & Linda Ehrhart
Runner-up Single	'Black Gold Var.'	Don & Mary Bergamini
Best Tray of 3	'Lil Schaeffer'	Don & Mary Bergamini
Best Tray of 5	'Nuccio's Carousel'	Don & Joan Lesmeister
Small/Miniature—Any Variety		
Best Single Small	'Little Slam Var.'	Don & Joan Lesmeister
Runner-up Single Small	'Tammia'	Don & Mary Bergamini
Best Single Miniature	'Paper Doll'	Bob & Linda Ehrhart
Runner-up Single Miniature	'Snow Flake'	Jim & Jean Toland
Best Tray of 3	'Buddy'	Bob & Joanne Logan
Best Tray of 5	'Little Michael'	Hal & Deane Burch
Reticulata and Reticulata Hybrid		
Best Very Large	'Phyllis Hunt'	Larry & Nancy Pitts
Runner-up Very Large	'Frank Houser Var.'	Don & Joan Lesmeister
Best Medium/Large	'Valentine Day Var.'	Bob & Linda Ehrhart
Runner-up Medium/Large	'Janine'	Bob & Linda Ehrhart
Best Tray of 3	'Jack Mandarin'	Bob & Linda Ehrhart
Best Tray of 5	'Phyllis Hunt'	Larry & Nancy Pitts
Non-Reticulata Hybrid		
Best Single	'Mona Jury'	Elmer & Bernice Achterberg
Runner-up Single	'Orchid Beauty'	Hal & Deane Burch
Best Tray of 3	'Island Sunset'	Don & Joan Lesmeister
Best Tray of 5	'Nicky Crisp'	Don & Joan Lesmeister
Best Tray of 3 Mixed Varieties		Larry & Nancy Pitts
Best Tray of 9 Mixed Varieties		Larry & Nancy Pitts
Best Japonica Seedling		Tony & Natalia Miranda
Best Hybrid Seedling		John Wang
Best Fragrant Bloom	'High Fragrance'	Bill & Bev Allman

Best Yellow Camellia	'Dahlohnega'	Bob & Linda Ehrhart
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Novice

Best Japonica	'Flame'	Caroline Beveerstock
Best Retic/Non-Retic	'Valentine Day'	Lauren Oliver
Best Tray of 3 Same Variety	'Yosemite'	Mr. & Mrs. Milani
Best Tray of 3 Different Varieties		Rachel Croft



CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF SACRAMENTO

March 2006

Best of Show	'Tom Perkins'	Ron & Pat Hardman
Sweepstakes winner		Robert & Linda Ehrhart
Runner-up Sweepstakes		Don & Mary Bergamini

Japonica—Very Large

Best Single	'Fashionata'	Hal & Deane Burch
Runner-up Single	'La Belle France'	Bob & Linda Ehrhart
Best Tray of 3	'Katie Variegated'	Don & Joan Lesmeister
Best Tray of 5	'Fashionata'	Hal & Deane Burch

Japonica—Large

Best Single	'Junior Prom'	Tony & Natalie Miranda
Runner-up Single	'Carter's Sunburst Blush'	Tony & Natalie Miranda
Best Tray of 3	'Nuccio's Gem'	Leone & Helmuth Wildemann

Japonica—Medium

Best Single	'Nuccio's Jewel'	Don & Mary Bergamini
Runner-up Single	'Nuccio's Bella Rossa Var.'	Bob & Linda Ehrhart
Best Tray of 3	'Red Hots'	Bob & Nancy Steele
Best Tray of 5	'Ragland Supreme'	Tony & Natalie Miranda

Japonica—Small and Miniature

Best Single Small	'Man Size'	Don & Joan Lesmeister
Runner-up Small	'Spring Daze'	Leone & Helmuth Wildemann
Best Single Miniature	'Sweet Jane'	Gary & Carol Schanz
Runner-up Miniature	'Kitty'	Don & Joan Lesmeister
Best Tray of 3 Small	'Pink Perfection'	Art & Chris Gonos
Best Tray of 3 Miniatures	'Fircone'	Bob & Linda Ehrhart
Best Tray of 5	'Spring Daze'	Art & Chris Gonos
Best Tray of 11 Japonicas	'Grand Slam'	Hal & Deane Burch

Reticulata/Reticulata Hybrid

Best Very Large	'Frank Houser Var.'	Jackie Randall
Runner-up	'Sir Robert Muldoon'	Don & Joan Lesmeister
Best Large	Jack Mandarich'	Larry & Nancy Pitts
Runner-up Large	'Valentine Day'	Don & Joan Lesmeister
Best Tray of 3	'Sir Robert Muldoon'	Don & Joan Lesmeister
Best Tray of 5	'Pharoah'	Larry & Nancy Pitts

Non-Reticulata hybrid

Best Single Large	'Tom Perkins'	Ron & Pat Hardman
Runner-up Single Large	'Elsie Jury'	Larry & Nancy Pitts
Best Single Medium	'First Blush'	Jackie Randall
Runner-up Single Medium	'Island Sunset'	Don & Joan Lesmeister
Best Non-Reticulata	'Nicky Crisp'	Don & Joan Lesmeister
Best Tray of 11 Non-Reticulata	'Pink Dahlia'	Don & Joan Lesmeister

Best Tray of 9 Different Miniature/Small

Art & Chris Gonos

Best Tray of 9 Different Blooms

Art & Chris Gonos

Best Tray of 3 Different Blooms

Don & Joan Lesmeister

Seedling

Best		Larry & Nancy Pitts
1st Runner-up		Bob & Linda Ehrhart
2nd Runner-up		Mrs. Zuriligen

Special Culture

Best Japonica	'Junior Prom'	Don & Joan Lesmeister
Best Reticulata	'Queen Bee'	Gary & Carol Schanz

Best Spray or Stem

'Spring Festival' Leone & Helmuth Wildemann

Best Fragrant Bloom

'High Fragrance' Don & Joan Lemeister

Best Yellow/Cream Bloom

'Dahlohnega' Art & Chris Gonos

Best Old Timer Bloom

'Magnoliaeflora' Bob & Nancy Steele

Best White Japonica

'Tata' Tony & Natalie Miranda

Best Member bloom

'Royal Velvet' Leone & Helmuth Wildemann

Youth

Best Japonica over 4"	'R. L. Wheeler Var.'	Zac Warren
Best miniature	'Governor Earl Warren'	Zac Warren
Best Miniature	'Sweet Jane'	Zac Warren
Best Hybrid	'Nicky Crisp'	Ashley Enwta
Best Flower Arrangement		Cynthia Chuang

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

March 2006

Best Bloom	'Katie Variegated'	Don Fretz
Best Sweepstakes		Roberet & Linda Ehrhart
Runner-up Sweepstakes		Don & Mary Bergamini
Award of Excellence		Don & JJoan Lesmeister
Challenge Award		Don & Joan Lesmeister
Japonica—Very Large		
Best Single	'Katie Variegated'	Don Fretz
Runner-up Siingle	'Dusty'	Robedrt & Linda Ehrhart
Best Tray of 3	'Tata'	Tony & Natalia Miranda
Best Tray of 5	'Grand Slam'	Jackie Randall
Japonica—Large		
Best Single	'Lady Laura'	Art & Chris Gonos
Runner-up Siingle	'Adolophe Audusson Var.'	Eric Hansen
Best Tray of 3	'Magoliaeflora'	Bob & Nancy Steele

Japonica—Medium

Best Single	'Lil Shaeffer;	Bob & Nancy Steele
Runner-up Single	'In The Pink'	Larry & Nancy Pitts
Best Tray of 3	'Jennie Mills'	Art & Chris Gonos
Best Tray of 5	'Magnoliaeflora'	Bob & Nancy Steele

Japonica—Small

Best Single	'Spring Daze'	Lsarry & Nancy Pitts
Runner-up Ssingle	'Peggy's Blush'	Don & Joan Lesmeister
Best Tray of 3	'Man Size'	Don & Joan Lesmeister
Best Tray of 5	'Pink Perfection'	Julie Vierra

Miniature—Any variety

Best Single	'Paper Dolls'	Robert & Linda Ehrhart
Runner-up Single	'Little Bit'	Don & Mary Bergamini
Best Tray of 3	'Cabernet'	Don & Mary Bergamini
Best Tray of 5	'Fircone Variegated'	Harlan Smith

Reticulata Larger than 5 1/2"

Best Single l	'Queen Bee'	Art & Chris Gonos
Runner-up Single l	'Frank Houser Var.'	Don & Joan Lesmeister
Best Tray of 3 l	'Frank Houser'	Larry & Nancy Pitts
Best Tray of 5	'Hargaret Hilford'	Don & Mary Bergamini

Reticulata Less than 5 1/2"

Best Single	'Valentine Day'	Cynthia Chang
Runner-up Single	'Edith Mazzei'	Gordon & Barbara Goff
Best Tray of 3	'Van Nina'	Robert & Linda Ehrhart
Best Tray of 5	'Ruth Jernigan'	Don & Mary Bergamini

Non-Reticulata

Best Single	'Waltz Time Variegated'	Don & Joan Lesmeister
Runner-up Single	'Fair Jury'	Robert & Linda Ehrhart
Best Tray of 3	'Pink Dahlia'	Don & Joan Lesmeister
Best Tray of 5	'Pink Dahlia'	Don & Joan Lesmeister

Best Tray of 9 Different Small/Miniature

Art & Chris Gonos

Best Tray of 9 Different Blooms

Larry & Nancy Pitts

Best Tray of 3 Different Size Blooms

Larry & Nancy Pitts

Best Tray of 5 Different Japonicas

Art & Chris Gonos

Seedling

Best Large/Very Large		Don & Joan Lesmeister
Best Medium		Gordon & Barbara Goff
Best Miniature/Smalll		Jim & Jean Toland

Youth

Best Japonica	'Maroon & Gold'	Bryanna Waters
Best Other than Japonica	'Water Lily'	Chris Bergamini

Best NCCS Member

'Ruta Hagmann'	Robert & Linda Ehrhart
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Novice (Any Variety)

Best	'Finlandia'	Primo Fachini
Runner-up	'Elegans Champagne'	Trudie Johnson

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

March 25-26, 2006

Fresno, California

Best of Show	'Royal Velvet Variegated'	Jackie Randall
Japonica—Very Large		
Best Single	'Royal Velvet'	Larry & Nancy Pitts
Runner-up Single	'Paul Haskee'	Bob & Joanne Logan
Japonica—Large		
Best Single	'Royal Velvet Variegated'	Jackie Randall
Runner-up Single	'Dusty'	Bob Ehrhart
Japonica—Large/Very Large		
Best Tray of 3	'Royal Velvet'	Ron & Pat Hardman
Runner-up Tray of 3	'Royal Velvet Variegated'	Bob Ehrhart
Best Tray of 5	'Grand Prix'	Art & Chris Gonos
Runner-up Tray of 5	'Lady Laura'	Harlan Smith
Japonica—Medium		
Best Single	'Jennie Mills'	Bob & Joanne Logan
Runner-up Single	'Chie Tarumoto'	Ron & Pat Hardman
Best Tray of 3	'Jennie Mills'	Bob & Joanne Logan
Runner-up Tray of 3	'Nuccio's Carousel'	Jackie Randall
Best Tray of 5	'Jennie Mills'	Bob & Joanne Logan
Runner-up Tray of 5	'Nuccio's Carousel'	Don & Joan Lesmeister
Small/Miniature —any variety		
Best Single Small	'Amazing Grace'	Larry & Nancy Pitts
Runner-up Single Small	'Spring Daze'	Don & Joan Lesmeister
Best Single Miniature	'Grace Albritton'	Larry & Nancy Pitts
Runner-up Single Miniature	'Tammia'	Don & Mary Bergamini
Best 3 Small	'Spring Daze'	Don & Mary Bergamini
Runner-up 3 Small	'Black Tie Var.'	Don & Joan Lesmeister
Best 3 Miniatures	'Night Rider'	Bob Ehrhart
Runner-up 3 Miniatures	'Drama Baby'	Don & Mary Bergamini
Reticulata/Reticulata Hybrid		
Best Single	'Sir Robert Muldoon'	Don & Joan Lesmeister
Runner-up Single	'Queen Bee'	Art & Chris Gonos
Best Tray of 3	'Linda Carol'	Bob Ehrhart
Runner-up Tray of 3	'Black Lace'	Don & Joan Lesmeister
Best Tray of 5 Miniature/Small	'Spring Daze'	Art & Chris Gonos
Runner-up Tray of 5	'Black Tie Var.'	Don & Joan Lesmeister
Best 3 Different Size Blooms		Don & Joan Lesmeister
Best 5 Different Medium Blooms		Art & Chris Gonos
Best 9 Different Size Blooms		Art & Chris Gonos
Best 9 Different Miniature/Small		Art & Chris Gonos
Best Old Timers Bloom	'Mathotiana'	Art & Chris Gonos
Best White Bloom'	'Elrige'	Bob Ehrhart
Best Fragrant Bloom	'High Fragrance'	Tony & Natalie Miranda
Best Yellow Bloom	'Brushfield's Yellow'	Bob Ehrhart

Best Specie
Best Seedling

Best Spray

Best Church Member Bloom

Runner-up Church Member Bloom

'Splash of White'

Bob Ehrhart
Tony & Natalie Miranda
Art & Chris Gonoc
Pastor Ara
Harry Sadoian

(Continued from page 11)
project "The Camellia Moves North"
forward. Within a few years we may
welcome you to enjoy red camellias
blooming in the snow in Norway, or at
least to enjoy our camellia gardens
during other seasons. Hopefully we
will also have significant test results to
share in the
future.

*Editor's note: Eli is the founder
and president of The Norwegian*

*Camellia Society and is the author of
the poems in "Camellia—Through
Dream Windows". She has a
profound interest in the human
response to the different stages of
change, as well as interpersonal and
internal communication. She is the
chairman and general manager of two
companies—WoLF-Weavers of
Learning & Facilitating and WoLF
Regnskap AS.*



The ICS Congress Attendees from the United States



Back row: Ronald Wolfe, Mel Belcher, Greg Davis, Lew Fetterman
Middle row: Elizabeth Wolfe, Bobbie Belcher, Bob Ehrhart, Howard Rhodes,
Fred Shermer
Front row: Yvonne Belcher, Annabelle Fetterman,
Mary Rhodes, Phyllis Belcher

MORE 2006 “MEMORIES”

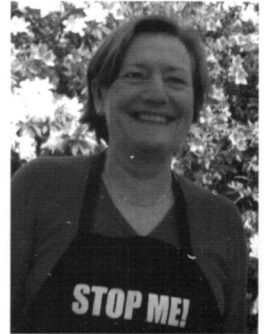


When Bob Ehrhart isn't winning at camellia shows, he's petting a wallaby "down under."



Bob Cherry and Dr. Wang

One of the volunteers at Eryldene wore this apron as she served lunch. The rest of the saying— "before I volunteer again."



Good advice?

The stalwart 13—together from the "beginning" and still friends



Back row: Bobbie and Mel Belcher, Robert Conway, Mary & Howard Rhodes, Hans-Juergen Lieschke, John Fildew
 Front row: Phyllis Belcher, Wolfgang Bruenings., Yvonne Belcher, Ann Marks, Lucian Gonsior, Sigrid Lieschke

DIRECTORY OF CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETIES

ATWATER GARDEN CLUB & CAMELLIA SOCIETY; President—Sherry Miller; Secretary—Pam Jambor, PO Box 918, Atwater, CA 95301, Meetings 3rd Tuesday, September-June, 6:30 p.m. St. Nicholas Episcopal Church, 1635 Shaffer Road, Atwater.

KERN COUNTY, CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF: President—Helen Maas; Secretary—Robin Cole, 829 Oleander Ave., Bakersfield, CA 93304. For meeting dates and times, call Helen Maas (661)872-2188.

MODESTO, CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF: President—Don Kendall; Secretary—Sue Kendall, 1505 Gary Lane. Modesto, 95355. Meetings: 1st Sunday, October-April, 1:00 p.m., 220-A Standiford Avenue, Modesto.

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

ORANGE COUNTY CAMELLIA SOCIETY: President—Steve Mefford; Secretary—Bob Sheriff, 27333 Paseo Laguna, San Juan Capistrano 92675. Meetings: 1st Monday, October-April, 7:00 p.m. Tustin Senior Center, 200 S. "C" Street, Tustin.

PACIFIC CAMELLIA SOCIETY: President—George Harrison. Secretary—Dorothy McQuiston, 6212 Los Angeles 90028.. Meetings: 1st Thursday, November-April, 7:00 p.m., Descanso Gardens, 1418 Descanso Drive, La Canada.

POMONA VALLEY CAMELLIA SOCIETY: President—David Trujillo; Secretary—Dorothy Christinson, 3751 Hoover St., Riverside 95204. Meetings: 2nd Thursday, November-April, 7:00 p.m., La Verne Community Center, "D" Street, La Verne.

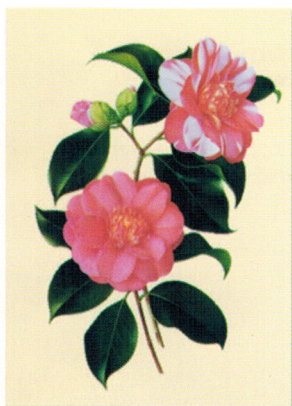
SACRAMENTO, CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF: President—Jackie Randall; Secretary—Gary Schanz, 1177 Cavanaugh Way, Sacramento 95822. Meetings: 4th Tuesday, October-April, 7:30 p.m., Studio Theater, 1028 "R" Street, Sacramento

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

SAN FRANCISCO PENINSULA CAMELLIA SOCIETY: President—Denise Kuppeerman.; Secretary—Christina Isenberg, 240 Polhemus, Atherton, CA 94027 Meetings: 4th Monday, October-March, Veterans' Building Annex, 711 Nevada St., Rm. 20, Redwood City (formerly Peninsula Camellia Society)

SANTA CLARA COUNTY, INC., CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF: President—Kathleen Hall.. Meetings: 3rd Wednesday, October-April, 7:30 p.m., Lick Mill Park, 4750 Lick Mill Boulevard, Santa Clara.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY: President—Brad King; Secretary—Bobbie Belcher 40641 Via Amapola, Murrieta, CA 92562 Meetings: 7:00 p.m., Ayres Hall, Los Angeles County Arboretum, 301 Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia. Call Marilee Gray for meeting dates (909) 624-4107.



Your friends will enjoy receiving your greetings on these camellia note cards. They also make great gifts for your fellow camellia lovers or for those you are trying to get involved in this wonderful hobby! Cards and matching envelopes are packaged in sets of 8.

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