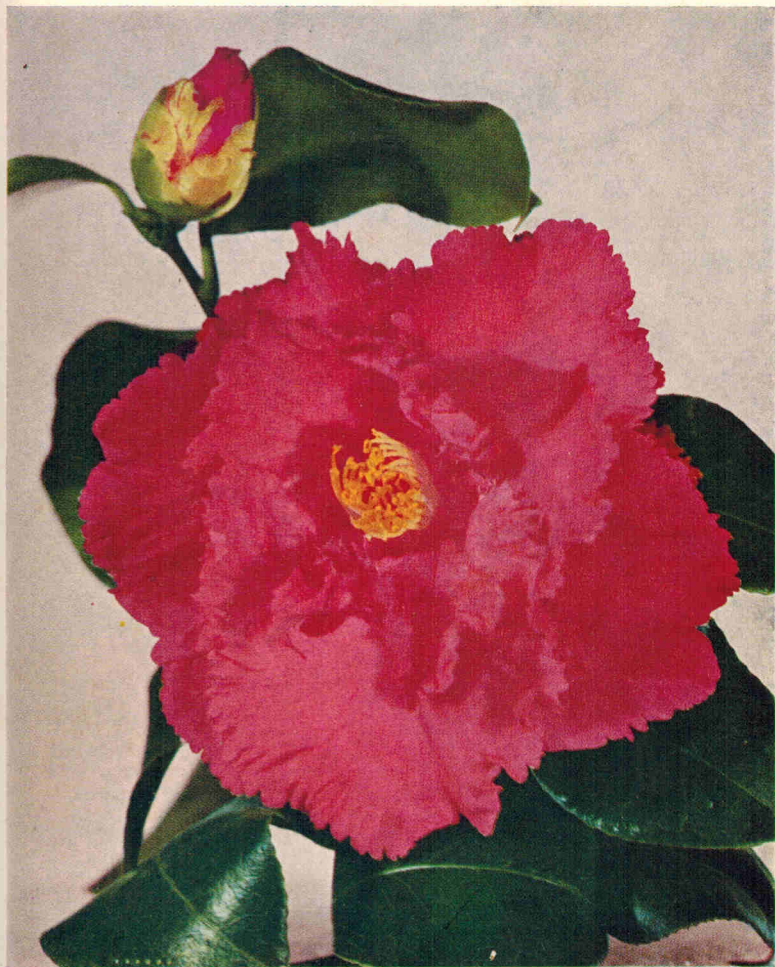


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Camellia Review



Camellia japonica 'FRED SANDER'
Courtesy Henry E. Huntington Library and Art Gallery

Official Bulletin of the Southern California Camellia Society

Vol. 16

March 1955

No. 6

Southern California Camellia Society Inc

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Table Arrangements
ELEANOR HAYWARD
Refreshments
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Awards
AUGUST F. KAPP
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Plant Procurement
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MEMBERSHIP AND RECEPTION

DR. HERBERT SHIRLEY
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BUDGET AND FINANCE

AUGUST F. KAPP
SYlvan 0-2636

SO. CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA GARDEN

E. C. TOURJE
ATlantic 4-0907

NOMENCLATURE

WM. WOODROOF

CAMELLIA REVIEW

DR. JOHN H. CLAIRMOOT
CItrus 3-4611

INTER SOCIETY RELATIONS

LAWRENCE R. BRYANT
CUmberland 3-5405

REGISTRATION COMMITTEE

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GROWERS RELATIONS

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

Application for membership may be made by letter. Annual dues: \$5.00.

DIRECTORY OF AFFILIATED SOCIETIES

Central California Camellia Society	Fresno, Calif.
Meeting Place: Elementary School Auditorium, Fresno State College	
Secretary: Frances F. Wheaton, 3695 Van Ness Blvd., Fresno	
Date of Meeting: 2nd Tuesday of the month	
Camellia Society of Kern County	Bakersfield, Calif.
Meeting Place: Fiesta Room, El Adobe Motel, Union Ave.	
Secretary: Mrs. Yale Langworthy, 2029 Esther Drive, Bakersfield	
Date of Meeting: 2nd Monday of the month, Oct. thru May	
San Diego Camellia Society	San Diego, Calif
Meeting Place: Floral Association Building, Balboa Park	
Secretary: Mrs. L. B. Goodall, 3036 Suncrest Dr., San Diego 16	
Date of Meeting: 2nd Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m.	
Pomona Valley Camellia Society	Pomona, Calif
Meeting Place: Claremont Women's Club, 345 W. 12th, Claremont	
Secretary: C. D. Cothran, 1105 San Dimas Ave., San Dimas	
Date of Meeting: 2nd Thursday of each month	
Temple City Camellia Society	Temple City, Calif.
Meeting Place: Women's Club Auditorium, Woodruff at Kauffman, Temple City	
Secretary: Gertrude S. Rose, 6025 North Muscatel, San Gabriel	
Date of Meeting: 2nd Monday of each month, Nov. thru March	
Camellia Society of Orange County	Santa Ana, Calif.
Meeting Place: YWCA Building, 1411 North Broadway, Santa Ana	
Secretary: Mrs. Geo. T. Butler, 1121 Orange Ave., Santa Ana	
4th Wednesday, Nov. to April	
Huntington Camellia Garden	San Marino, Calif.
Huntington Library and Art Gallery, Oxford Rd., San Marino	

CONTENTS

P. 16	MARCH, 1955	NO. 6
Camellia Reviewer, <i>Elizabeth Beebe</i>		2
Newer Camellias Hold Their Own Show		3
Report of the Kern County Camellia Society		4
Make Your Own Redwood Tubs, <i>Harry Davis</i>		10
Survey Short Discusses the Newer Varieties of Camellias		11
to the Ladies, <i>Charlotte Hoak</i>		13
Management, <i>L. W. Davis</i>		14
Camellia Champion		18
atments for Increasing the Life of Cut Camellia		
Flowers, <i>James Bonner and Shigeru Honda</i>		20
Annual Meeting of ACS, <i>Ralph Peer</i>		23

Camellia Reviewer

ELIZABETH BEEBE

A Moment Off

The big difference between a glamor gal posing in the midst of a million-bubble bath and your editor, is that we are not a glamor gal (plain but neat, though) and our bubbles have turned into a sea of Camellia blooms that are rising around us in flowery waves whose ripples are lost in the distance.

This is the blooming season in Southern California and our imagination is fired by the uncountable blossoms about us—the modest blooms on a neglected bush by a back door—the matchless blossoms in the nurseries—the serene and stately blooms on the old, proud camellia trees of the North Vista in the Huntington Gardens—the lovely, artistically arranged bloomers of Descanso—the bushes—the hedges—the C-a-m-e-l-l-i-a-s-.

Many Camellia shows are in the offing as we write, and it is very heartening to think of the thousands of people, poor and rich, professional and amateur, old and young who are engaged in growing, experimenting with, thinking or writing about or just admiring Camellias. We feel that such a force for Beauty cannot be lost and that perhaps universal meditation in front of Camellias might be more beneficial to mankind than scientists feverishly working on equations for bigger atomic bombs. Let's fly to another planet and start from scratch—taking along Camellias of course.

Southern Accent

Among visitors to the February meeting of the society none were more charming or more radiantly interested than Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Farmer of Macon, Georgia. The Farmers are members of our society

and also members of the Middle Georgia Camellia Society. They are on a combined business and camellia trip and starting around San Diego. They have been camellia-ing up the coast. Arriving in Pasadena they found to their great delight that the Society was holding its monthly meeting the very same evening.

The Farmers were very thrilled to see the masses of wonderful blooms displayed at the meeting. They themselves have about five acres of camellias—growing of course in the open with “always room for another.” Mr. Farmer says. Mrs. Farmer declared she became interested in camellias first from admiring the leaves and from that, of course it was an easy step to fall completely in love with the whole plant when she became acquainted with the blooms.

It was pleasant to have Mr. Farmer declare that she had never met a friendlier group than our society members. We mentioned that we had always heard especially of southern hospitality—“they are no friendlier than you are,” was the welcome reply.

This Means You

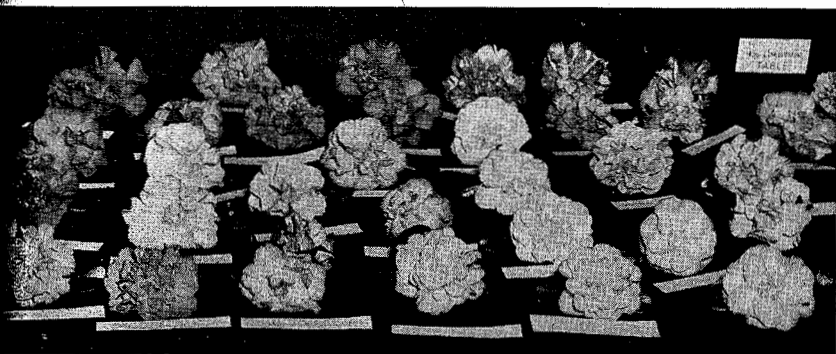
To find out Who's Who in the Camellia World we suggest you note especially the April issue of the REVIEW for we are going to publish the entire list of members of the Southern California Camellia Society in that number. If you have neglected sending in your renewal, or if you have not yet become a member, we urge that you clip the membership form from page 17 and send it *immediately* so that you can be included in the list.

A Somber Camellia

To the Charlotte North Carolina Camellia Society which was forced to cancel its Annual Show because of lack of blooms. Mother Nature no respecter of her own nature

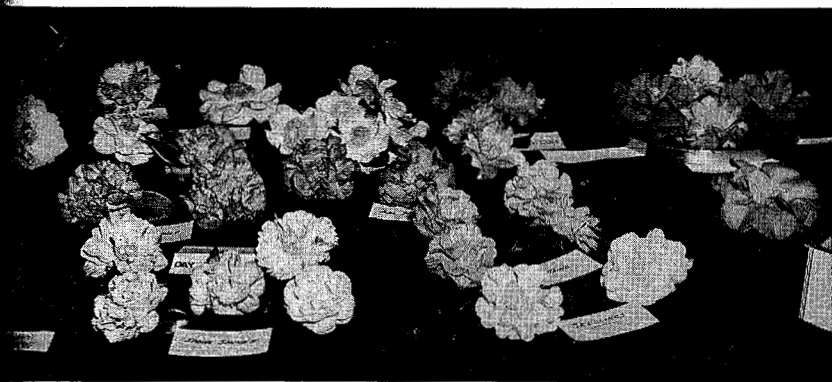
(Continued on Page 28)

The Newer Camellias Hold Their Own Show



partial list of the blooms follows, reading the rows vertically from left to right commencing bottom left. First row, Thelma Dale, Crusader, with a reticulata Crimson on left rear corner. Second row, Ethel Davis, Betty Sheffield, Lady Sadie, Dr. G. Mealing and R. L. Wheeler. Third row, Francis McLanahan, Yours Truly and Martha Bryce. Fourth row, Nina Avery, Mrs. Lyman Clark, Sweetie Vera, Marion Schell, Gigantea. Fifth row, Spring Sonnet, Vigin's Blush, Tallahassee Girl, Martha. Sixth row, Dr. Tinsley, Herme, Ville de Nantes, Finlandia var.

These blooms were bright illustrations at the February S C C S meeting for Harvey Short's discussion. See page 11.



For the most part, these blooms are as follows: Lower left, the flower partly shown Scented Treasure. The white beauty above is a Bride's Bouquet while a tantalizing vision of a Masterpiece is above. Behind the Spring Sonnet you may see a Mattie Kelly and a group of white singles, the Charlie Hoak. Quaintance lies behind the seedlings along with Ada Pieper and both a clear and a variegated Casilda. The large bloom on the right is the new Reg Ragland while the tray contains Princess Irene, John D. Bell variegated and the reticulatas Tali Queen and Crimson Robe.

The Camellia Review

Presents a Report of

THE KERN COUNTY CAMELLIA SOCIETY

The fifth in a series featuring our affiliated societies

CAMELLIAS IN KERN COUNTY

By EMILY SCHWEITZER

Since the formation of the Camellia Society of Kern County eight years ago, the increase in the interest in camellias in Bakersfield has been almost unbelievable. As one drives through the city one sees two or more bushes almost every garden. Like all California communities, Bakersfield is growing by great strides, with thousands of new homes as well as many fine office buildings being constructed. In a majority of cases camellias will be found in the planting of these places. Some bushes are in large planters while others are in planned gardens and patios. And in the older homes the use of camellia is becoming widespread.

Beginnings

The Kern Society was founded nine years ago with 14 charter members. Mrs. Roderick Ogden was the first president. The organization met and overcame the problems all similar young organizations do. Growth has been steady. There have been no highly-publicized membership drives but acquisition of new enrollees has always depended upon the work of individual members. The Society now has adopted the plan whereby each member bringing in five new members would be given a plant by the Society. The Society now has more than 150 members.

Meetings always have been informal with almost a family air about them. Members enjoy getting together, not only for discussions about camellia problems but also about their daily affairs. All meetings start with a "dinner treat" dinner. Then members shift to the serious side and go into regular sessions—but all are in the spirit of good comradeship and neighborliness.

From the first the Society adopted the policy of inviting top-flight camellia experts to address the meetings and give members valuable tips on camellia culture. And now the Society opens its season with a round-table discussion of camellia problems by a panel of Bakersfield's leading nurserymen.

Six years ago the Society sponsored its first Camellia Show. This year's show will be put on as a benefit for the Bakersfield Memorial Hospital Association and more than 15,000 persons are expected.

The site of the show always has been donated—first by the Schweitzer Motor Company and now by the San Joaquin Tractor Company. Blossoms and volunteer work not only come from members but from a wide range of civic-minded Bakersfield residents.

These shows and the wide participation in them have increased the interest in camellias in Bakersfield to such an extent the city now has a large number of attractive gardens.

(Continued on Next Page)

mens

Mr. Juliet Thorne has one of the most suitable as well as most attractive garden areas in Bakersfield. She has a lovely lath house at one end of her garden, opened to the garden at the north end. All her plants are in tubs and are splendid. Pebbled paths run through the plantings. Three sides of the garden are built up with brick to the height of 3½ feet. In this she has planted several dozen azaleas in pure peat moss.

Henry Mack has one of the few older gardens which is exceptionally beautiful. The grounds are large and well planned. This garden is an ideal spot for camellias as it has several dozen very large pecan trees which give a perfect filtered sunlight. Many of the camellia plants are ten to twelve feet high and each season make a beautiful picture.

The garden of W. B. Camp is well known in Bakersfield for its beauty and charm. This garden is also one of the older ones and has many large trees and shrubs. The setting here is ideal for camellias with filtered sunlight and a green background. It is pleasing to see well-planned plantings of camellias interspersed with azaleas and rhododendrons.

My own garden is a landscape architect's nightmare. The garden is small. I have more camellias so I have them north, south, east and west of the house. I have camellias, period. The west and south side are planted with large trees. Mr. and Mrs. Elmer McFaddin have their camellia garden so placed that it can be seen and enjoyed the year 'round from their lovely lanai.

Mrs. Lowell Saunders' garden has an individual grace and beauty all its own. The home is of French Normandy architecture. The grounds are beautiful.

(Continued on Next Page)



1955 Camellia Show planners hold a conference. From left to right, Harry Davis, President of the Kern County Camellia Society and Show Chairman; Mrs. Pearl Mundy, Show Designer; Mrs. C. F. Mundy, Chairman of Doctors' Wives, and Yoneo Mundy, Show Designer.

tifully landscaped and have a number of olive trees. Planted around the base are camellias—and all are doing fine. The whole north side of the house is landscaped with camellias predominating and growing with plants of similar requirements.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wickersham are great lovers of camellias and have a very extensive collection. This collection has been well planned with a long period of bloom in mind. The Wickershams are very generous with the blooms and have provided thousands for various organizations.

Various varieties of camellias grow well in Bakersfield. *Rosea Grandiflora* grows like a weed and blooms from November until April. Mrs. Adolph Hansen has a plant about 18 feet tall and 12 feet across. She purchased it from a Bakersfield nursery about 16 years ago. This is truly a fine specimen and all our professional arrangers are delighted with the fine blooms, not to speak of the two-foot stems she cuts.

Favorite Varieties

The Brower estate presented to the City of Bakersfield in 1950 a very fine *Alba Plena* that is about fourteen feet tall and more than twelve feet across. The bush was planted in Bakersfield more than thirty years ago and upon Mrs. Celusus Brower's death it was presented to the city.

Joshua Youtz seems very compatible to our hot summers as well as *Dan Kagura* and *High Hat*. These early ones are indeed a pleasure. *White Express*, *Frizzle White*, *Alba Plena* and *Pax* do very well. *Mathotiana* does exceptionally well and as a whole retains its beautiful closed bud center and rarely shows its stamens. *Debutante*, *General Patton* and good old *Perfection* are happy in Bakersfield.

Mrs. Howard Asper is a great favorite in the city for its beauty as well as its excellent performance. The Aspers, by the way, are very popular, personally, in Bakersfield.

Thelma Dale has won much acclaim at our shows because of its beauty and crisp loveliness.

Glenn 40 is much in demand, especially for plantings in small areas because of its slow growth habits and compactness. *Joseph Pfingstl* is at the top of the list. The blooms hold up well as they are heavy textured—like the foliage. *Edwin Folk* causes almost as much comment at the shows as the new *reticulatas*. The blossoms are splendid and so is the plant here in Bakersfield.

The *reticulatas* are doing very well and the blooms certainly are holding up. These seem to take more sun than the Japonicas.

Sasanquas do well and are becoming popular.

ADVENTURES OF A PRESIDENT

By ARAM C. ADAMS

Past President, Camellia Society of Kern County

I guess it all started because I don't know how to say "No." Sometimes this weakness has given me a headache and at other times it has brought me a great deal of enjoyment.

It was about seven that fateful evening that I answered the telephone. On the other end of the line was Emily Schweitzer. She informed me the nominating committee of the Camellia Society of Kern County had recommended

the placing of my name in nomination for the Society's presidency for the coming year.

I tried to say "No," realizing that I hardly knew the difference between gardenia and a camellia. But who, I ask you, who, can say no to Emily? When I told my wife, Diane, what had happened, she became horrified, knowing the "extent" of my knowledge about camellias. And by then I, too, was horrified.

My good friend Elmer McFaddin suggested I gain distinction as incoming president by developing a fragrance in the various varieties of camellias. Will Habermel thought it would be an accomplishment if I learned to distinguish a camellia from a geranium.

To start with, I took Will's advice and followed my wife around the garden. I memorized the names of our six plants. In fact, I got so "good" I could even recognize those varieties in someone else's garden! Then I branched out and visited nurseries—especially those of Alberta Ogden and Maud Ely.

Soon our garden expanded to forty camellias. We had to remove other shrubs to make room for these camellias. Today we have twice that many, counting what we have in pots, and I like them all.

Presiding over my first meeting was not only an enjoyment but was easy. There was Mildred Foley selling tickets to our drawing, collecting dues and taking care of our books. Emily Schweitzer not only had seen to it her committee had telephoned every member to urge them to attend but also came in with a dozen new members. Dr. C. F. Mundy had filled his car with plants, so generously given by Bakersfield nurseries, and brought them for our drawing. Charlotte Johnson had arranged for an outstanding speaker, whom, I believe, was either Claude Chidamian or Joe Littlefield.

Then there was Fannie Tracy of

Buttonwillow to tell us how she lost a large number of sheep on her ranch and, not to have the carcasses go to waste, strategically planted them and over each planted a camellia—plants which have shown tremendous growth and bear an abundance of blooms.

Soon neighbors and friends were asking me about the care of camellias. Secretly I would relay their questions to my wife and then I would relay the answer to them!

Each monthly meeting seemed to be easier for me and more interesting



A C. japonica 'Julia Drayton' as they grow 'em in Bakersfield. Looking at the prize flower with admiration is Emily Schweitzer. Two show-stopping variegated Adolphe Audussons adorn her hat.

than the previous one. Then I was faced with the problem of our annual Camellia Show.

Sam Tobias and Louis Agnetti gave us the use of their showroom. Earl Cook took the responsibility of procuring display tables. Harry Davis, Paul Taylor, Yale Langsworthy, George Priest, Charles Yahns, Walter Stiern, Dr. L. Almkov and a good many others volunteered to set

(Continued on Next Page)

up the tables and decorate the show-room. Jane Salisbury laid out the floor plans. Georgia Harkness prepared the ribbons for our corsages. Louise Williams and Mrs. Adolph Hanson lined up a committee to make and sell corsages. Emily Schweitzer procured the blooms, as well as solicited merchants for financial support towards the cost of the show's publicity. Charlotte Johnson had a new story with pictures for the newspaper and radio almost every day.

Thanks to Walter Kane, publisher of the Bakersfield Californian, the evening before our show the front page of the newspaper carried in a light red overprint a large camellia, scented with a rich perfume, reminding its readers to attend the Camellia Show. At last I felt that I had fulfilled Elmer McFaddin's wish to produce a camellia with a strong fragrance, albeit only in a newspaper.

More than 10,000 persons attended our free show and between the sale of corsages and our silver offering table, which was graced by such beautiful women as Mrs. Walter Kane, Mrs. Clinton Fowler, Mrs. Louis Agnetti and Mrs. Keith McKee, we netted more than \$1,000.

Today we have a few thousand dollars in our treasury and we plan to use this money to plant a public camellia garden in the landscaping of our new and beautiful city hall, which is being built to replace the one demolished by our devastating earth-

quakes. Here in the desert will rise again a civic center adorned with the most beautiful flower ever grown. This is being accomplished by the co-operation of every member of our Society plus the whole-hearted support of the community.

With a Camellia Society such as ours, it was fun to be president.

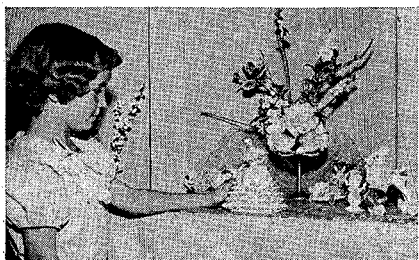
THE CAMELLIA BALL

More than 600 varieties of camellias were incorporated into the striking decorations for Community League of Kern County's second annual Camellia Ball, held Jan. 22 at Bakersfield Country Club. The formal dinner dance, one of the county's smartest social affairs of the year, raised more than \$3,100 for the purchase of pediatric equipment for Bakersfield Memorial Hospital.

When the Community League planned its first charity ball a Camellia theme was selected because the League felt that the name Camellia Ball suggested a gala and elegant affair. The idea met with such instantaneous acceptance in the community that the League voted to make it an annual affair and it is now a much anticipated function.

GROWERS' HINT

Having trouble keeping peat moss around the roots of your camellia bushes? Here's how Harry Davis, president of the Camellia Society of Kern County solves the difficulty. Using 1x4 scrap redwood he built a "fake box" around his plant. Not only does this keep the peat moss around the roots but it also gives the plant the appearance of being planted in a box, thus harmonizing with the many bushes the Davis' have in redwood tubs.



Carol Ann Johnson (seven year old daughter of Charlotte Johnson), happily regards her prize winner—"Best Children's Arrangement."

ARRANGING PROGRAMS

By CHARLOTTE JOHNSON

Many people shy away from the position of program chairman for their camellia societies or other organizations, thinking the work will be difficult, uninteresting and unrewarding. Because of that, a large number of otherwise good program chairmen never are appointed.

Before obtaining speakers for the year's program, one must take into consideration such things as subjects that would interest the majority of the membership, date of the annual show, correct season for graft demonstrations and times when blossoms are the most plentiful (for talks on and demonstrations of arrangements).

A sincere, hand-written letter to a prospective speaker has always brought me a quick reply. Time could be saved if your first letter will indicate the amount of money your group can pay, and the exact place, date and time of the meeting. Person-to-person telephone calls are excellent in contacting the busy speaker.

In your communication, give an idea of the subject most interesting to your group to give the speaker a suggestion for a topic of his talk and the theme of the meeting.

We try to make our speakers feel part of our group by honoring them at a dinner preceding our meeting. Any member is welcome to attend and each pays for his own meal. The speaker and his wife are the guests of the society and thus are not required to pay for their meals.

I am including a list of a few of the many fine speakers we have enjoyed. In a great measure they are responsible for the strength of our organization and the happiness enjoyed by our small group in the San Joaquin Valley.

Flower Arrangers: Marjorie Rantin, Mary Pullian, Alean Miller, Mrs.

William Roth, Ruth Allen.

Camellia Authorities: Claude Chidamian, Howard Asper, Frank Williams, Julius Nuccio, J. J. Littlefield, William Wylam, Richard Palmer, George Farnham, Peggy Sullivan, Dan Sullivan, Roy Thompson, Dr. G. J. Hall, Ralph Peer.

SURPRISE GIFT

By HARRY DAVIS

On the evening of November 8, 1954, as I prepared to dress for a meeting of the Camellia Society of Kern County, I found a gift laid out with my clothes.

The card read: "To the President . . . from his family."

My wife had had a tie bar and stud set made for me. The feature of the set is a Colonel Firey carved in a block of plastic for each piece.

The friend who made it does this work for a hobby. In order to get a perfect camellia, he had to carve about 40. Each piece is carved free-hand. When the carving is completed he colors the blossoms and leaves and then laminates a background of color on the underneath side.

He now is in the process of carving a set for Frank Williams—a gift from the Kern Society. Later he will make a pin and earring set for Mrs. Davis.

It's News

Tribute is given to the Bakersfield Californian which cooperates with the Society and makes possible the big attendance at their annual Camellia Shows through the lavish publicity. Charlotte Johnson says that one of the Californian's writers, Mr. Everett Feay is "our man Friday" and that "he can take down a story about Camellias about as fast as I can talk, which is awful fast."

MAKE YOUR OWN REDWOOD TUBS

By HARRY DAVIS

Camellia growers long have known their bushes will do well when planted in containers. And many have used them. But, for some reason, not many have looked into the matter of making their own containers. Most of the camellias in our yard and lath house are planted in redwood tubs—and I've made all of them.

I make my own boxes out of 1x12 and 1x4 redwood of the cheaper grades that can be found in most lumber yards. The twelve-inch boxes cost about forty cents and the sixteen-inch ones about sixty cents. With the price of these boxes so small the original ones can be sacrificed when transplanting camellias to larger containers.

So far I've built my boxes square at the top—12 or 16 inches square—and then tapered to the bottom. The 12-inch square box tapers to about 10½ inches at the bottom. I cut the boards with an inch-and-a-half taper and nail them together with cement-covered nails, overlapping the boards at the joints. Scrap pieces are used for the bottom. I no longer attempt to fit the bottoms inside the boxes but nail them on flush with the sides of the tubs.

So far I have made only 12 and 16-inch boxes but as far as I can see the shape and size need be limited only by the imagination and ability. Decorative affects may be obtained by such simple steps as adding a 1x1 strip around the top.

I use redwood stain and oil on the outsides of the boxes only. Since these boxes stand around in the yard and get splattered during rains and waterings, they need to be refinished once a year.

In the past three years I have cut out some 150 to 175 boxes in a garage (on my table saw) for myself and my neighbors. Either a table saw or hand saw may be used in cutting the boards and once cut, the boards can be quickly and easily assembled into a redwood tub. Cutting and assembling these boxes is such an easy and pleasant task I recommend more camellia growers to make their own redwood containers.

FROM BAKERSFIELD

The Younger Generation

"German peat lasts longer than Canadian" declares one of our younger camellia growers. Ronald Langworthy writes that he is planning to make a study of camellia cutting the subject for his thesis at Cal Poly in reference to growth regulation, temperature, rooting media, etc."

To The Point

"From a single camellia plant to a camellia nursery it is only a hop, skip and a jump" writes Mrs. Roderick Ogden. The jump was the natural result of her long determination that some day she would own some of the magnificent plants she kept hearing about.

NEWS NOTES AND NOTICES

Temple City Camellia Society

At the March 14th meeting, J. Howard Asper will speak on the performance of the Chinese Reticulatas in the Huntington Library Gardens.

Plant sale drawings will be from Boorman's Camellia Gardens, together with a 14-in. redwood tub and a pair of curved blade snips.

South Carolina

The new president of the South Carolina Camellia Society is Mr. L. Gaston Wannamaker of Cheraw, S. C.

HARVEY SHORT DISCUSSES THE NEWER VARIETIES OF CAMELLIAS ✓ - 22

In checking new varieties of Camellias, they become a fascinating study as we all know, from the time you acquire the first scion to the period it begins to produce its first bloom. You are first interested in its vigor as it pushes its structural branches, you then analyze the texture and coloring and size of the leaf. Then the thrill or disappointment following its first performance in our garden.

We find we have a wide variation of tastes and opinions of Camellias, so it is fortunate that we have such a wide range of colors and styles to choose from. Indeed this is one reason for the Camellia's great popularity. We well know that the novice as a rule is much more interested in the formal imbricated style of flower but usually as his interest mounts, he finds himself admiring form or color that he did not enjoy earlier.

I would like to emphasize the point that the novice and professional alike are alive for two things in successful Camellia growing. One—patience. Camellias are not fast growers and we quickly condemn the first bloom or early behavior of a plant. When given time to form its true character, it may be a real treasure. I am thinking here of the reticulatas and many of the large flowered types. They cannot be bushy and compact immediately. The second point is imagination. Other than just another shrub in the garden, why not study the individuality of the plant? It may be truly oriental in pattern. Place it so it adds design to its settings. Large blooms well spaced and lingering on the branches lend much more charm than masses of large flowers crowded on a bushy shrub. Here is where the small flower shines, cozily tucked in the closely branched bush radiating a rich splash of color.

I am grouping the newer varieties into three classes for discussion—as follows: Group One, the notables that have been emerging possibly back to many years ago and just now are being definitely evaluated.

These include Blush Finlandia, Edith Folk, Crusader, Thelma Dale, Big Duty, Elizabeth Le Bey, Mrs. Ber-

tha A. Harms, Frizzle White, White Empress, Dr. Tinsley, Pearl Maxwell, Simeon, Morning Glow, Peter Nyce and "sleepers" Marion Mitchell, Sweetie Vera, ~~Pink~~ Paeonacolora and Gigantea Alba. Rosen
Caul. Rose

Group two is made up of entries of the past two seasons that are giving us a first preview:

From the west: Melody Lane, Ann Miller, Masquerade, Mattie O'Reilly, Spring Sonnet, Shiro-Chan, Drama Girl, Frank Williams, Jr., and Thomas D. Pitts.

From the east: St. Andre, Capt. Ike Davis, Gov. William Bradford, Lena Jackson, Mrs. Lyman Clark, Letitia Schrader, Dr. John Bell, R. L. Wheeler, Dr. H. G. Mealing, French Emperor, Nina Avery, Princess Irene, ~~Variety~~ Mme. Marguerite Calusaut, Kelerec, Wildwood, Mathotiana Supreme, Eclatante, Hazel Herrin, Betty Sheffield, Ethel Davis and Ann Flo Lee. D. D. ?

Group Three includes some of the so-called "hot" numbers that are probably getting into the grafting lots this season:

They are Reg Ragland, Island Echo, J. J. Whitfield, Indian Summer, Jack McCaskill, Arlene Marshall, Trumpeter, Margaret Noonan, Pink Champagne, Monique Peer, Mrs. D. W. Davis, Dr. J. V. Knapp, Tomorrow, Miriam Stevenson, Frances McLanahan, ~~Marguerite~~ Tourje, Rosemary Kinzer and Charlie Hoak.

FEBRUARY MEETING OF THE S C C S

It seems this 1954-55 season that each of the society meetings has surpassed the one preceding and the February meeting certainly could not have been topped by any other so far. The large number of friendly members and their friends to say nothing of many out of town visitors—the masses of magnificent “show” blooms and the excellent program united to make this meeting truly outstanding.

President Harold Dryden gave some pertinent data about the Society's Camellia Show and William Hert-rich spoke briefly on how to prepare blooms for the show. Col. Gale, Secretary-Treasurer of the society gave some cold facts and figures on the financial angles.

Highlight of the evening was the talk by Harvey Short on the newer Camellia varieties, most beautifully illustrated by wonderful specimens which had been donated by the McCaskill Gardens, Nuccio Nursery, Frank Williams, Carl Tourje and the Coolidge Gardens. Some varieties which Mr. Short had not been able to procure he showed on the screen, and his own kodachromes were supplemented by some furnished by Lee Shepp and the McCaskills.

As space does not permit the printed descriptions of all these varieties, readers are invited to write to the Editor of the REVIEW who will be happy to furnish descriptions, further information and as far as possible, addresses of available sources.

The pleasant evening ended as usual with a number of persons happily carrying home new plants from the sale and the following winning honors for the best blooms exhibited: Mrs. H. E. Milliken's Mrs. Charlotte Bradford took first, with second and third won by C. W. Pitkin for 'Ma-thotiana' and 'Flame.'

'Elegans' and 'Gigantea' were the flowers of the month and Mrs. Paul

Our Cover Flower

The delightful *Camellia japonica* 'Fred Sander' which graces our cover this month is an old, well established camellia which rightly deserves its popularity. This particular photograph is from one of the dozen or so plants in the Southern California Camellia Garden of the Huntington Botanical Gardens.

One of the characteristics of this plant is that the buds show the color of the future flower long before they start to open, and another interesting phase of it is that some of the flowers may not show any fringe.

The flower was named for the son of one of the most prominent Horticulturists in England who started a large establishment in England many years ago which is still flourishing under the Sander name.

Mr. William Hertrich first saw the 'Fred Sander' in England in 1936 and was much impressed by it then. His own description of this flower denotes it as a crimson semi-double with slightly creped petals which are sometimes heavily fringed, sometimes nearly smooth, or entirely so. The flower has an erect collar of stamens in the center. The leaves are of variable shapes, tending to twist or curl. The whole plant is upright, fairly compact, slow growing and flowers from mid-season to late.

A. Dearborn's bloom won first, Mrs. H. E. Milliken won second and Pearl M. Woodruff was third.

TO THE LADIES

By CHARLOTTE HOAK

The rose and the lily both compete for the honor of being the "Queen of flowers" but undisputed, the Camellia expresses the principle of the "Eternal feminine." Men and women alike fall for the compelling charm of this incomparable flower; and here in the west, there are devotees by the thousands from San Diego to Seattle. After a long interregnum, this regal flower has returned to favor, and from now on will occupy a place unique among our flowering evergreen shrubs. Poor is the garden, indeed, which cannot boast of its well grown, favorite camellias. Believe it or not, I am of the opinion that the wandering feet of husbands could be stayed by the timely bestowal of an aristocratic camellia to lure him into that absorbing cult of growing prize-winning camellias and many a woman has learned the essential charm of true womanhood from her cherished camellias. In a land of sunshine, fruit and flowers, we cannot go far wrong when we focus our thoughts on creating fine flowers instead of atom bombs.

If you would learn discrimination, grow camellias. The best of them are aristocrats and you will soon develop the ability to pick the thoroughbreds. As a rule you find them in families in which the unmistakable lineage is very evident. Take the Chandleri's, one of the first of the anemoniform camellias much beloved for more than a century: it has a solid pink form called Francine. There is a new pale sport (mutant) called C. M. Wilson or Grace Burkhard, (depends upon whom you bought it). I call it Grace Burkhard for I got it from one of our pioneer growers, H. Carter who went up and down California searching out the fine old growers whose names had been forgotten.

There is the Daikagura family, one of the finest foliaged varieties, with large double peony blooms, bright rose-red prominently spotted with white, no two ever alike. There is a solid red one called Shangri-La and a lovely pale pink sport called High Hat. I never realized its exquisite charm until I saw Mary Hazel Drummond's clever fingers fashion it

in a lovely corsage. There is a new claimant to an honored place in this Daik family, the pure white Joshua E. Youtz with its synonym, White Daikagura.

During the last twenty or thirty years, we have turned to plant breeding. It has proven quite as exciting as breeding livestock, and the racing for awards, cups and medals is quite as exciting. Both men and women have entered this field where the same principles of genetics apply. You cannot breed aristocrats from scrubs the livestock breeder will tell you. Neither can you create superior flowers from indifferent and scrubby stock, particularly camellias. You select your parent plants with care if you are growing seedlings and you are eternally on the qui vive if you are seeking new mutants. A fine one from the McCaskills, the Jack McCaskill won the coveted silver bowl of the William Hertrich Award for the finest mutation of the year. It takes the woman's sixth sense to discover mutants. You should listen to Billie McCaskill's dramatic story of how she found and nearly lost the tiny sport which developed after many years into the award-winning Jack McCaskill.

I found a treasure this last season, the J. C. Williams C. saluenensis X C. japonica. It commenced blooming early in the season and is still adorned with shapely pink single

(Continued on Page 27)

SOIL MANAGEMENT

By L. W. DAVIS

Director Growers Advisory Service, Swift and Company

The soil is the very foundation of your garden. In preparing a garden this foundation should receive just as much attention as the foundation for a building because a garden, like a building, will endure only as long as its foundation offers adequate support.

Your garden soil serves not only as a medium of physical support for plants but it also must supply, in available form, twelve of the fifteen essential plant food elements necessary for normal plant growth and development. Since plants take up these nutrients in solution, the soil must also be capable of holding sufficient moisture to enable plants to absorb these nutrients through their root system.

These soil conditions should be easy to maintain, yet we find that gardeners using essentially the same cultural practices, obtain varying degrees of success with their garden plants. Why do some gardeners fail when others have outstanding success? Is there such a thing as a "green thumb"? I think not. In most cases the so-called "green thumb" gardener has "Know How". He understands the chemical and physical properties of his soil. He also knows the requirements of his plants and is able to adjust his soil conditions to meet these requirements.

Some gardeners have been misled to believe that each type of plant requires individual and different soil conditions. This is usually the beginning of much of their troubles. In attempting to create special conditions for different plants, they will apply everything to their soil from ashes to miracles, in the form of foul smelling organics, mysterious microorganism cultures and even worms.

Actually most of our garden plants will thrive on similar soil conditions. Some plants are more tolerant of unfavorable soil conditions, like excessive acidity or alkalinity but

with few exceptions most all plants will grow best on soils that are only slightly acid or neutral in reaction.

Our Southwestern Soils vary widely in physical and chemical properties. Maintenance of good soil structure is a major problem, especially on heavy clay or very sandy soils. The structure of these soils can be improved considerably by mixing generous amounts of bulky, organic materials into them. Slowly decomposable organics, like peatmoss, are preferred over manures which decompose rapidly. The acid nature and freedom from soluble salts are also desirable features of peat moss.

Structural improvement of clays occurs as the organic matter separates the fine clay particles. Humus, a gummy decomposition product of organic matter also tends to gather and hold clay particles into small, irregular shaped groups or aggregates thus making the soil more porous and crumbly which allows better aeration and water penetration and also makes cultivation easier.

In very sandy soils organic matter fills the large spaces between soil particles and holds it together. This gives the soil more body, increases its water-holding capacity and retards the leaching action of water.

Soil organic matter serves also as a storehouse for plant nutrients and water. The spongy nature of organic matter and the exchange capacity of humus compounds act as storehouses for available nutrients and water. Decomposing organic matter creates a slight acid residue in the soil which

helps to keep plant foods available to plants in our alkaline soils.

Unfavorable alkaline soil reaction is a common problem in Southland gardens. Some of our garden plants are tolerant of moderately alkaline soils but most of them prefer soils that are neutral or slightly acid in reaction. The growth of many plants is retarded in excessively alkaline soils because alkalinity reduces the availability of several plant food elements in the soil.

Most plants take up their nitrogen in the nitrate form. Therefore, protein or ammonia forms of nitrogen must be converted to the nitrate form of soil organisms by a process called nitrofication before being absorbed by plants. Nitrofication processes are retarded by excessive alkalinity. Slightly acid soil reaction at pH 6.5 is most favorable for nitrofication.

The availability of phosphorus is reduced in alkaline soils which contain large quantities of calcium. Phosphorus combines with this calcium to form insoluble compounds which are unavailable to plants. Extreme soil acidity may also reduce phosphorus availability even more than in moderately alkaline soils by fixation with iron and aluminum in the clay fraction of soil.

Trace elements are also rendered insoluble in alkaline soils, causing the induced chlorosis or loss of green color from leaves. Iron, Zinc and Manganese deficiencies are most common. Slightly acid soil reaction at pH 6.0 to 6.5 increases the availability of these elements.

The term alkaline is often confused with alkali. Alkaline soils are those having reaction above 7.0 as measured on the pH scale. They are not necessarily alkali soils. True, alkali soils contain excessive amounts of either sodium or soluble salts or both. They are usually, but not always, alkaline in reaction.

Correction of alkaline soil reaction is best accomplished with Soil Sul-

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phur. The amount of sulphur required to make soils slightly acid will depend upon the degree of alkalinity present and the soil's buffering capacity. Moderately alkaline soils will usually require about $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 pounds Soil Sulphur per 100 square feet. Sulphur should be broadcast evenly and worked into the soil lightly not to exceed a depth of 2 inches. Keep the soil reasonably moist to hasten decomposition. Repeat applications may be necessary on clay or buffered soils containing free lime. You should check the soil's reaction before making repeat applications of Soil Sulphur to prevent making your soil too acid.

High soil fertility levels must be maintained for optimum growth of ornamental plants. Select a proper plant food recommended by your nurseryman that will release soil nutrients slowly and steadily from small applications.

Camellia MAIL BAG

From Beaumont, Texas

Mrs. W. M. Bills writes:

In the January issue of The Review, under the article "Our Seeds Travel Far," you most kindly gave my friend Ed Fox a nice write-up concerning his interest in Camellia seeds. Thank you—he deserves the re-print for Ed is indeed a true lover of our favorite flower and is most generous with his time, seeds, plants and blossoms. But—one line in the article needs correcting. The first sentence, "Orders for seeds have come from many localities where Camellia growing is a bit out of the ordinary." "Texas, large as it is and boasts, does not have the camellia population of many other states." The last half of the quote is true mostly due to the alkaline soil and aridity. However, there is a most active Camellia Society in Dallas where a small show is held each year, and the sasanqua flourishes in the gardens there.

Here in Beaumont, the Camellia is our number one flower, shrub and pride and is generally included in most plantings by landscape and nurserymen for a companion to our azaleas. We have a tremendous interest in these plants in every garden club, some sixteen affiliated with our Council of Garden Clubs. The oldest club, "Magnolia G.C." holds their own Camellia Show but the Camellia Show of Greater Beaumont is sponsored by the Men's Garden Club and is open to all individuals and club members. This show, January 29th and 30th this year, is held in the Harvest Club, a building easily and beautifully staged and last year some four thousand blossoms were exhibited to 10,000 visitors without charge. I believe it is now considered three-fifths the size of the Lafayette, Louisiana Show which takes in most of southern Louisiana and is the show

of interest in the Gulf Coast area.

Also, in relation to Beaumont, Mr. Lutch Stark of Orange, Texas, only thirty miles away is considered one of the largest private collectors of Camellias in America. I have four friends who are accredited judges and there are more in this area. So you see Beaumont is definitely in the Camellia belt.

My husband and I are rank amateurs in gardening but we have over 75 varieties. We live, breathe and "put near" eat Camellias the year 'round. So—long life to the Camellias and to the "Review"—we love 'em both here in Beaumont.

Well, pardon us if we can't help feeling that being an Editor has its mighty good moments. We believe that Camellias take a high place among tokens of good will between states and people—blessed be the Camellia tie that binds.

* * *

From South Carolina

Frank Brownlee, Chairman of the Clemson Test Garden, writes:

It is a pleasure for me to tell you about our Clemson Test Garden.

This is a different kind of test garden. It has to be for Clemson, our State Agriculture and Mechanical College, is located in the western part of South Carolina in a region unlike the coastal plain of the eastern section of the state where Camellias have been grown for more than a hundred years.

The altitude in this part of South Carolina averages a thousand feet above sea level. The land is rolling and hilly and the soil is mostly heavy clay. The humidity is usually low due to the altitude, and cold winds coming down from the mountains push the thermometer down quickly and often. We are in sight of the high peaks of the Blue Ridge and the Smokies.

With all these disadvantages we have some old and beautiful camellias

(Continued on Next Page)

MAIL BAG from Page 16

ushes nearby. Some enthusiasts even have large and very beautiful gardens. But the average grower tends to blame all his troubles on the cold. If a plant is neglected or is planted too deep or even if it gets a case of die back, that person will invariably say, "The cold did it."

Now of course, the cold does "do" sometimes, particularly with the tender, slow opening varieties but those who have succeeded in growing Camellias for years here will tell you that the cold is blamed far too often.

Well, what can we do to raise Camellias here in the foothills of South Carolina? That is what we are trying to find out in our Test Garden at Clemson. How must we adjust the soil? How should they be planted here in our heavy clay? What can we do to temper the cold in our home gardens? How can we compensate for our low humidity and our high altitude? What varieties do best here? That is what we must be able to tell

the new comer to Camellias and the average gardener. We can't say yet because our garden is just beginning its third year. But, we can say our plants (we now have about three hundred) are doing well and have lost very few buds in spite of a sudden drop in temperature to 17° early in November 1954 and a cold December where over half the time the temperature fell below freezing and went below 19° twice. Yes, we even have a fair amount of bloom early in January, 1955.

Ed. note: Thanks so much for your interesting letter Mr. Brownlee. Do give us a chance to publicize some of the answers to your questions when you work them out to your satisfaction. And don't forget to tell us about your best varieties too.

(Continued on Page 25)

Don't forget to send in your renewal or new subscription immediately so we may include your name in our membership list in April.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY,
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CAMELLIA CHAMPION

The following are some of the highlights of an article about E. W. "Doc" Miller which was written by Beth Teters and appeared in the Riverside Daily Press.

E. W. Miller, known to his associates as "Doc" is more than a man with a hobby—he's a man with a ruling passion and it's for Camellias. According to him, there's entirely too much nonsense thought and talked about Camellias. He should know. His interest in the beautiful shrub dates back to 1938 when he raised his first camellias in Coronado. At that time he recalls, you could count camellia varieties on both hands with maybe a thumb to spare. Today he claims there are 3,500.

His theory of misconceptions about the camellia is undoubtedly right. Even Webster describes it as an "ornamental hothouse shrub." Nothing, according to Miller could be further from the truth. The Camellia is a native of Southern Asia where it grew on barren mountain slopes, taking its feeding only from the mulch of leaves which dropped from the trees around it.

That of course is why the Camellia is a surface feeder and must be kept wet on top. It is also why more Camellias are killed by overzealous feeding than by any other cause, probably, and it is also why they can stand far greater extremes of temperature

than most folks think. They can stand very warm weather, if they are not directly in the sun and kept damp, even to spraying the leaves. And as for cold weather—well, some chill winds have been known to blow on the slopes of the mountains of Southern Asia. Miller has seen Camellias live through a drop down to 22° "That's not to say you won't suffer frost damage. You will" he says. "But a reasonably careful grower can weather almost any climate Southern California can come up with."

The crux of the matter is in the beginning, Miller asserts. You've got to put a Camellia where it gets plenty of light but not direct sun—on the east or north side of your house. And you've got to provide good drainage. The Camellia's surface roots hate to get their feet wet. And you've got to select good stock.

Camellias, says Miller, are like people. They're individualists. They can't be forced. Too often people buy a little potted plant which has been forced, whose antecedents are a bit less than top drawer and then protest when they can't produce top blossoms.

Mr. Miller has produced at least two outstanding seedlings at his gardens in Wildbrook Canyon near Fallbrook. One, Melody Lane, won the 1951 Margarete Hertrich award. The other, Drama Girl is a popular Camellia being marketed by an Altadena nursery.

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Camelliana

Texas Show

Making an unexpected advent to our desk was a charming little booklet of the Seventh Annual Camellia Show sponsored by the Men's Garden Club of Greater Beaumont, Texas, and held January 29th and 30th. The beautiful cover showed a luscious bush heavily laden with pink japonica 'Lallarook'.

The Show was dedicated to—quote Mrs. Eloise Milam and Her Melody Maids in recognition of their outstanding contribution to the pleasure and entertainment of the Citizens of Beaumont and the U.S. Armed Forces both at home and abroad.”

Mr. R. A. Black is President of the Club. The Show was held at the Harvest Club, South Texas Fair Grounds and was officially opened by the former mayor of Beaumont, Mr. Otho Plummer. The theme was “Her Majesty, Camellia,” and Mrs. Eloise Milam was crowned Queen. Judges for the Show were accredited by the American Camellia Society.

Of interest too was the fact that on the last page of the booklet the poem “My Camellia” was reprinted from the REVIEW. It was attributed to Ralph Peer in error but this will not result in any serious consequences.

From The Deep South

Through the courtesy of R. K. Womack, President of the Louisiana Camellia Society we have been finding interesting items in the column “Around the Camellia Bush” in the Shreveport Journal. The annual Camellia show was held in connection with the Acadian Bicentennial Celebration complete with historic pageant. The beautiful Queen of the Camellias was crowned with camellias—her Maid of Honor carrying Alba Plena show-blooms. Quoting from the report—“The Woodville Reds grow well here—great ruffled balls of color. The old favorite Purple Dawn or Mathotiana was perhaps the best represented variety in the show. As for rare camellias, we saw the new white called “Frosty Morn,” somewhat resembling the gorgeous White Empress. Ethel Davis, the new large ruffled pink, was represented by a number of entries. Some we had never seen before included Strawberry Blonde, which is a large pink with streaks of deeper color resembling a dish of melting strawberry ice cream; Black Magic, a small dark red, where the points of the petals turn up and are darker colored, almost black. This is a most unusual looking flower. Also Frank Gibson which is white with a large central mass of golden-tipped petaloids, which is gorgeous, and the nearest

(Continued on Page 28)

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TREATMENTS FOR INCREASING THE LIFE OF CUT CAMELLIA FLOWERS ✓

By JAMES BONNER AND SHIGERU HONDA

The preservation of the camellia flower after it has been removed from the plant is a matter of great interest and some importance to the camellia grower. In ordinary practice, camellia flowers are displayed at room temperature by floating them on water; alternatively they may be placed on a moist surface. Under these conditions the symptoms of degeneration of the camellia flower include discoloration of the flower petals close to the floral axis. This is followed by wilting of the petals. Secondly the petals become discolored at the tips and edges. Camellia flowers which are not kept floating on water or on a moist surface wilt rapidly and show this particular symptom even earlier than flowers kept under moist conditions. A treatment for extension of the life of the cut camellia flower to be successful must then prevent discoloration of the petals and prevent wilting or loss of turgor in the flower. It is well known that life of the cut flower can be extended by low temperature treatments. Although low temperatures are used for the preservation of cut camellia flowers in storage by commercial growers, this method is not well-adapted to the individual camellia fancier and is not well-adapted to the display of camellia flowers.

Two general approaches have been used in the present work. In the first method, camellia flowers were floated on water at a temperature of 26° F. The water was then supplemented with various substances in an effort to find materials which might act effectively in prolonging the life of the flower. A second general approach consisted in placing flowers in an atmosphere saturated with water vapor. Other treatments were then superimposed upon this basic treatment. In both types of experiments the flowers were examined from time to time and evaluation of the results of treatment made in comparison with the standard treatment in which flowers were merely floated on water.

Results

The most significant results from the standpoint of extension of effec-

tive life of the cut flower were obtained when flowers were stored in a saturated water atmosphere. Under these conditions, flowers maintained a fresh appearance for as long as 20 days. Table 1 gives a summary of certain of the treatments in which a saturated water atmosphere was used. In the first two treatments of Table 1 the freshly cut flowers were placed upon a support in a closed container in such a way that the flowers were not resting in liquid water, but were maintained in a saturated atmosphere. In the first treatment, the excised flower alone was used, while in the second treatment the flower was excised so as to include one leaf. This was done because it was thought possible that the leaf might contribute to the extension of the life of the flower. In both treatments the flower maintained a wholly turgid and fresh appearance up to approximately two weeks, or approximately double the life of similar flowers floated on water in the standard way. If the flowers were floated on water and also enclosed in a saturated water atmosphere, the life of the flower was almost as long, but after a period of two weeks small amounts of discoloration appeared at the base of the petals about the floral axis. Still further increases in the life of the cut flower under saturated atmosphere

TABLE I

The storage of Camellia Flowers in an Atmosphere saturated with Water Vapor. All trials recorded in this Table carried out with Var. Pink Perfection. Flowers floated on Water in an open Atmosphere (not saturated) lasted less than 6 days in all instances.

Type of Material	Treatment	Number of days of fresh healthy appearance	Final appearance Comments
Flower alone	Saturated Atm., Flower not in Contact with Liquid Water	13	Fresh Turgid
Flower + 1 leaf	Saturated Atm., Flower not in Contact with Liquid Water	13	Fresh Turgid
Flower alone	Saturated Atm., Flower Floating on Water Surface	14	Turgid but slightly discolored
Flower alone	Saturated Atm., 1 mg. NAA Applied to Center of Flower	28	Fresh Turgid
Flower + 1 leaf	Saturated Atm., 1 mg. NAA Applied to Center of Flower	28	Fresh Turgid

Conditions were apparently obtained by treating the flowers with naphthaleneacetic acid, a substance known to prevent abscission or separation of petals and leaves from the floral axis. In these experiments, naphthaleneacetic acid was dissolved in acetone and a small volume of acetone applied to the center of the flower. The application of 0.1 cc of naphthaleneacetic acid, 10 mg./cc., appeared to increase the life of the cut flowers substantially.

The addition of certain substances to the water on which camellia flowers were floated exerted measurable effects prolonging the life of such flowers. No treatment, however, resulted in prolonging the life as much as did a saturated water atmosphere. Increased life as a result of treatments in solution was at most only 1 to 2 days; an increase of roughly one fourth as compared with doubling or quadrupling storage life in the saturated atmosphere treatments. After 7 days of treatment the flowers were examined and the treatments evaluated as compared to the controls, flowers on water alone. At

this time the control flowers were invariably wilted and discolored. Table II gives the results of these experiments.

Inorganic phosphate and naphthaleneacetic acid (NAA) give consistently increased life over the control flowers. The combination of sodium fluoride KH_2PO_4 , NAA and succinate also seemed to give prolonged life. It was originally suspected that a part of the deterioration of the cut flower might be due to microorganisms attacking the petals close to the submerged floral axis. Sulfanilamide was used in an effort to decrease such bacterial growth but no encouraging results were obtained.

Summary

1. Camellia flowers when stored in a saturated water atmosphere, the flowers themselves not touching water, retained their freshness and turgidity up to two weeks. Application of naphthaleneacetic acid, NAA, dissolved in acetone near the floral axis, increased the life span of these flowers up to 28 days.

2. Camellia flowers stored floating
(Continued on Next Page)

CUT CAMELLIA FLOWERS

from Page 21

in water deteriorated within 7 days.

Addition to the water of inorganic

phosphate, NAA, and combinations

the same increased the life span

not more than 2 days. Other treat-

ments were even less successful.

TABLE II

Effect of Various Chemical Treatments on the Storage Life of Cut Camellia Flowers. All Flowers Floated on Water or on Water Solutions, Maintained in Dark at 25° C.

Treatment	Concentration	No. of Experiments	Appearance Relative to Control (Water alone) after 7 Days
KH ₂ PO ₄	30-10,000 mg/l	13	++
NAA	1-100 mg/l	28	++
Naphthalene acetamide	10-100 mg/l	3	+
NaF	10-1000 mg/l	17	—
Dinitrophenol	1-10 mg/l	7	—
Malonate	1-10 mg/l	2	0
Succinate	10-10,000 mg/l	8	0
2, 4D	10-1000 mg/l	7	+
Adenylic Acid	10-100 mg/l	3	0
Adenylic Acid	100 mg/l	3	0
Sulfanilamide	10-1000 mg/l	3	+
Sulfanilamide	10-200 mg/l	8	0
Sucrose	1-4%	4	—
Arginine	100 mg/l	1	0
Glutamic Acid	100 mg/l	1	0

¹Symbols. ++ = much better than control. + = better than control. 0 = same as control. — = worse than control.

Reprinted from "Camellia Research" published by the Southern California Camellia Society.

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JACK McCASKILL

William Hertrich Award—1954

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ANNUAL MEETING OF AMERICAN CAMELLIA SOCIETY IN BIRMINGHAM

By RALPH PEER

The Tenth Annual Meeting of A. C. S. was originally scheduled to be held in Macon, Georgia, where the Society was founded ten years ago. Unusually cold weather, however, killed most Camellia buds in the Southeastern States and it was felt that there would be very few blossoms for the Show of the Middle Georgia Camellia Society scheduled to be held at the same time.

Because of this emergency, arrangements were hurriedly made to transfer the Meeting to Birmingham, Alabama. In this area Camellias are grown quite extensively, in glass houses, thus insuring an excellent local supply of blooms.

The Men's Camellia Society of Birmingham and the Jefferson County Men's Camellia Society combined forces to provide traditional Southern hospitality. The program was as follows:

FRIDAY, JANUARY 28

- 9:00 a.m.—Greenhouse Tour for Visitors.
10:00 a.m.—Meeting of Board of Directors of ACS at Tutwiler Hotel.

- 2:30 p.m.—Annual Meeting of A. C. S.
Address by Mr. Ralph Peer "What We Might Expect of Camellias During the Next Ten Years."

Doctor Danzell L. Gill, "Camellia Flowers' Blight."

Mr. K. Sawada, "Cross Pollination of Camellia Flowers."

Panel Discussion with Judge Arthur W. Solomon as Moderator.

- 5:30 p.m.—Social Hour, Dinkler Room of Tutwiler Hotel.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 29

- 9:00 a.m.—Bus Tour of Birmingham for Visitors.

- 2:30 p.m.—Camellia Show at Municipal Auditorium, sponsored by Combined Societies.

7:00 p.m.—Annual Banquet of Combined Societies with A. C. S. Officers, Directors, and Members as Guests.

Speaker: Mr. John Temple Graves.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 30

- 1:00 p.m.—Camellia Show, Municipal Auditorium.

High praise must be given to the Officers, Directors, and General Membership of the two local Societies—and their wives. General Chairman Doctor Gilbert E. Fisher, Judge Whit Windham, Mr. H. B. Kinsley, Mr. Norman Lefkovits, Doctor Lee F. Turlington, and Mr. Turner Rice headed the group handling local arrangements.

Mr. Calder W. Seibels was re-elected President of the American Camellia Society. Mr. S. L. Marbury of Wilmington, North Carolina, was named Vice President.

An outstanding event was the special display at the Show of two blossoms of the new japonica 'MRS. D. W. DAVIS.' The huge blush-pink flowers consistently have a diameter of more than six inches. At the Banquet Mr. Wm. T. Wood announced on behalf of A. C. S. that the coveted ILLGES MEDAL had been awarded this year to this new variety.

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Pleasure Ahead

March 8th should be firmly marked on all calendars for the Society meeting as announced will certainly be a "must" for all Camellia growers anywhere in Southern California. The problem of petal blight will be covered that evening by not only a Clinic made up of Camellia experts, but also threshed out by Dr. C. A. Hanson. Dr. Hanson has been making some sensational experiments with a new fungicide called "Captan" which some claim is the real solution to petal blight. His talk promises to be a real highlight.

On the program also will be Howard Asper who will straighten out the difficulties of reticulata labeling—so that you can be sure that if you buy an 'Osmanthus Leaf' it will develop as such and not turn into 'Butterfly Wings' or something else equally surprising. And of course Mr. Asper will illustrate his talk with the extravagant reticulata blossoms for which he is famous.

And don't forget to bring your best blooms for the exhibit—the silver bowl goal looms nearer and nearer.

FOR SALE

The Secretary of the Society has the following books for sale:

Our own book, "The Camellia, Its Culture and Nomenclature," a 1952 revision \$1.25 or \$.75 each in lots of not less than 12.

"Camellias in the Huntington Gardens," by William Hertrich. \$10.00

"The Yunnan Reticulatas," 50¢.

"Camellias and Common Sense" by Claude Chidamian, \$4.00.

"Old Camellia Varieties," a list with brief descriptions compiled at the request of the Council of the Royal Horticultural Society of the R.H.S. and the British Museum, by A. I. Ellis. A 374 page, 9x11 book reprinted by permission by Mr. Ralph Peer. \$5.00.

"Two Cats and Forty Camellias" a 136 page story form about the growing of Camellias mixed up with cats and cooking by our own member Elizabeth Councilman of Councilman Acres. \$3.00.

"Flower Arrangements of the Ohara School" the 1952 edition. Printed in English in Japan in folder form the book has six pages of descriptive matter and twenty-four colored prints in the Japanese manner. \$4.60, from \$10.00 to \$12.00 in bookstores.

Will your name be in the list of members in the April issue? Send your subscription immediately.

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MAIL BAG from Page 17

from Columbia, S.C.

Frank Griffin, Editor of the *Camellian* writes:

Camellia interest in the south and southeast is at a low ebb now due to the tremendous bud damage and the lack of blooms. Almost all shows have been cancelled except those where there are a large number of glass houses. Some blooms are now evident but the weather man predicts temperatures below 20 degrees tonight and that will finish the open blooms.

I am delighted that the variety 'Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II' that I selected to be named after Her Majesty in January 1954 won the top ACS seedling award both at Birmingham, Alabama and at New Orleans. It really is a magnificent flower. Another one that I selected to be named

'Mynelle Hayward' last November also won a ribbon at the Birmingham Show.

I have been invited by the Jean Berke Travel Agency of New York to conduct a tour of gardens in Britain during the early spring of 1956. It is to be a two-weeks' tour via British Overseas Airways Corporation. The party is to be promoted from camellia lovers throughout the United States and it is hoped to have forty or fifty persons in the group. The tour will be made so that the members may visit the Chelsea Flower Show and the leading gardens throughout England and North Wales. In all probability Mrs. Griffin and I will accompany the tour. I hope that some of my friends in California will decide to make the tour with us. It should prove very interesting.

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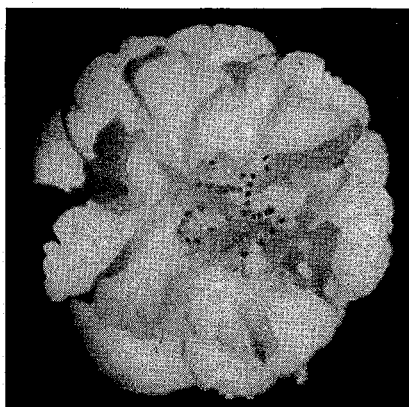
The New Reticulatas: Frosty Morn, Drama Girl, Masquerade, Pink Shadows, Thomas D. Pitts and many others.

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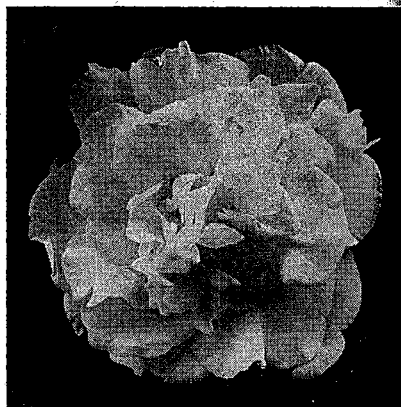
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TO THE LADIES *from Page 13*
flowers. The faded flowers drop clean. This English hybrid, so they tell me, was bred especially to save clipping dead blooms when gardeners are no longer available to do such fussy work.

It is fun to read the recent catalogs and pause before the word "New." You have already seen the Carolyn Tuttle, one of 800 seedlings. Look for Domoto's name—that veteran Japanese grower who is eternally in quest of the best. His Shiro Chan is destined, so they predict, to become America's favorite white Anemone Camellia. It is a white sport of C. M. Wilson. Hold your breath—a 12 inch one will cost you \$12.50.

It's far more fun to scan catalogs than to read the abridged novels now being sent around.

**PATRONIZE
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INDEX TO ADVERTISERS

Bamico Gardens	27	Golden Gardens	25
Boorman's	18	Marshall's Camellia Nursery	
Coast Fertilizer	28	Back Cover	
Coolidge Rare Plant		McCaskill Gardens	22
Gardens, Inc.	15	Membership Application	17
Councilman Camellia Acres	24	Miller's Camellias	26
Destruxol	26	Nuccio's Nursery	25
		Patio Wood Products	Back Cover
		Tuttle Bros. Nursery	19

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CAMELLIANA *from Page 19*

thing to a yellow camellia we have ever seen.

As for the most outstanding specimen of the show, well this time the judges chose a wonderful Mollie Moore Davis grown at Jefferson Island. The variegated form is known as Big Beauty, also outstanding. Memorable among other fine varieties at the show were Agnes of the Oaks, Glen 40, General George Patton, Lindsay Neill, Mrs. Freeman Weiss, Emmett Pfingstl, Otome, R. L. Wheeler, Diddy Mealing and Beau Harp."

The author ends his interesting account with a description of visiting various camellia nurseries. At one of them he saw acres of Mathotianas and Alba Plenas. Blooms from these are snipped in wholesale lots and shipped everywhere for corsage making though the author "wondered how the workers were able to get between the plants to cut the flowers."

CAMELLIA REVIEWER *from P. 2*

times it seems—we sincerely hope that she takes better care of that territory in '56.

Why—O Why?

We were on the sidelines of a conversation recently where two camellia growers were comparing notes about the success of their neglect of some sasanquas. They just hadn't had time to do a thing about the plants and suddenly one day in their respective gardens they each saw the sasanqua blooming their pretty heads off. We shall not mention names but—Gosh how inferior they made us feel. We wouldn't dare neglect our camellias for like horses with skittish riders they know just how far they can go with us. But our friends now who are Old Masters at cultivation can go on and the camellias break their stems to carry on. There's just no justice.

We Reach Farther Out

In a recent breakdown of our membership, we became aware that no less than seventy of our members are Texans. Somehow this state has seemed to us somewhat outside of the general "Camellia-belt" and fortunately (yes that's the right word), we made a statement to that effect which incited a Texan to rise to the defense. We are very glad this occurred because we feel that another chain of Camellias is being established. Don't fail to read Mrs. Bills' letter in our Mail Bag. We hope that her letter is merely the first of many from Texas.

Just in Case

You might have received an imperfect copy of the *Review*, please contact the Secretary.

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said Gertrude Stein, but a Camellia is pretty near everything
says

Liz

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