

# THE *Camellia* REVIEW

A Publication of the Southern California Camellia Society



'Mike Witman'

*Courtesy American Camellia Society*

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March 1969

No. 5

# *Southern California Camellia Society Inc.*

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

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

Application for membership may be made by letter to the Secretary. Annual dues: \$6.00.

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## THE COVER FLOWER

### C. Japonica 'Mike Witman'

This month's cover flower is a controlled cross of 'Elizabeth Boardman' and 'Tomorrow' that was made by Mrs. M. J. (Lillette) Witman of Macon, Georgia, who named it in honor of her husband. Both Mr. and Mrs. Witman have been active in camellia circles for many years and have been prominent in American Camellia Society affairs. They have been frequent visitors to California where they have many friends. 'Mike Witman' has been released by Wheeler's Central Georgia Nurseries of Macon, Georgia.

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# THOUGHTS

*from the editor*

Bill Woodroof came up with an idea during a recent gabfest at his home on a Saturday morning that I think has merit. "Why not establish a new award in camellia shows", he said, "that would be based on the blooms that an exhibitor has on the Court of Honor? The true quality of the show is reflected in the Court of Honor blooms and an award based on these blooms, which might be called the Award of Excellence, would seem to be a good replacement for the Sweepstakes Award."

The more we talked about it, the better it sounded. I have just returned from the Pomona show, where I thought about the idea as I judged in that show. I do not remember now the names of all the exhibitors whose names showed up more than once on the Court of Honor. I think I am correct in stating, however, that none of them entered enough blooms to earn sufficient blue ribbons for a Sweepstakes Award had there been one. It was a good show with lots of close judging within the varieties and particularly for winners of Best. An Award of Excellence would have been a fitting Award in such a show.

It would take more than just saying "we'll do it" to get the idea in motion. Weights must be established for the different Divisions and Classes. This has been done, perhaps unconsciously, in selecting the trophies for the awards. Japonicas and reticulatas have always rated tops. At the other extreme, winners in the species Division have received smaller trophies. How about the hybrids, the seedlings, etc?

How much is Best Runner-up worth? Occasionally, but not often, it is a distant second place winner. More often than not, however, it is just a breath away from the Best.

Then there are what we call the Court of Honor Blooms. Certainly here is not a case for applying the "one body, one vote" idea. The weight here should be high enough to have significance, yet not so high that a person with several Court of Honor Blooms (and I have seen such) could outscore an exhibitor with say a Best and a Runner-up. Or maybe even a person with one Best. Also, in this connection, there is the matter of how many Court of Honor Blooms should be selected.

If the idea has merit, the matter of details should not be a deterrent to its adoption. Too many times the people who become immersed in details are inclined to say "that's too much work" to develop an equitable scoring system. The people who look broadly at a subject, however, go forward with full knowledge that changes might be necessary after experience has been gained. I believe that this idea is in this latter category.

*Harold E. Oyler*

# PRUNING CAMELLIA PLANTS

W. F. Goertz

San Marino, California

(Reprinted from March 1967 issue of CAMELLIA REVIEW)

Many articles have been written and much has been said about the proper pruning of camellias. Even though this is one of the important phases of good camellia culture, it is probably the most neglected. Some people have an abhorrence of using the shears for anything other than cutting off the blooms and with the shortest possible stems! There are numerous reasons for pruning and hobbyists should be as concerned about the well-groomed appearance of the plant as with the production of super blooms. Of course, one leads to the other and to produce show quality flowers it is quite necessary to keep the plant properly trimmed and thinned out.

The time to begin to develop a well shaped camellia plant is when it is small. Some varieties start out with rather erratic growth in various directions. Pinching off new growth which starts off in the wrong direction will force new growth elsewhere and perhaps accomplish the desired control. A few varieties will be found to grow symmetrically upright naturally and thus need little attention.

Older plants which have never been pruned (and we see many such plants around older homes whose owners often wonder why they do not get the large healthy blooms seen at the shows) appear as ragged shrubs full of dead or weak wood, a mass of long and knotty branches. Heavy feeding of such plants will serve little purpose unless the poor wood is cut out. The restoration of such old plants to fresh, vigorous health cannot be accomplished without severe pruning.

To promote a plant to a healthy and good looking specimen which is capable of producing good blooms, it is necessary also to eliminate cross-

ing branches and those growing too close to each other—leaving insufficient room for the blooms to develop freely. This, together with the controlling of the long “shoots” by constant pinching back will tend to give the plant an airy and graceful appearance. The first season after a very drastic pruning may not see a profusion of blooms, but with constant attention for a period of time in the form of nipping off new growth where not wanted, then proper disbudding, an old woody plant can be beautiful and productive.

Disbudding is another form of pruning and should be done from June to November, a constant activity during these months as many varieties will replace flower buds taken off earlier. One bud to each terminal branch is the maximum if you are striving for top quality blooms. Some varieties which are grown strictly for garden color need not be disbudded but pruning on these should not be neglected. Drastic pruning is never necessary if it is a continuing process throughout the season.

The best time to do the major portion of pruning is in late March and early April, after the blooming season and before the new spring growth begins. Cut off the low hanging branches as this gives you freer access for fertilizing and cleaning up spent blooms. Flowers which may grow on such low branches are usually worthless by being mud splattered. When cutting blooms or scions or cutting branches for purposes of shaping, be sure to cut just above a healthy lateral growth bud. When cutting branches near the trunk, or off of other branches, be sure to cut close to the stem and do not leave a stub which can die back. Any cut over one half inch in diameter should be



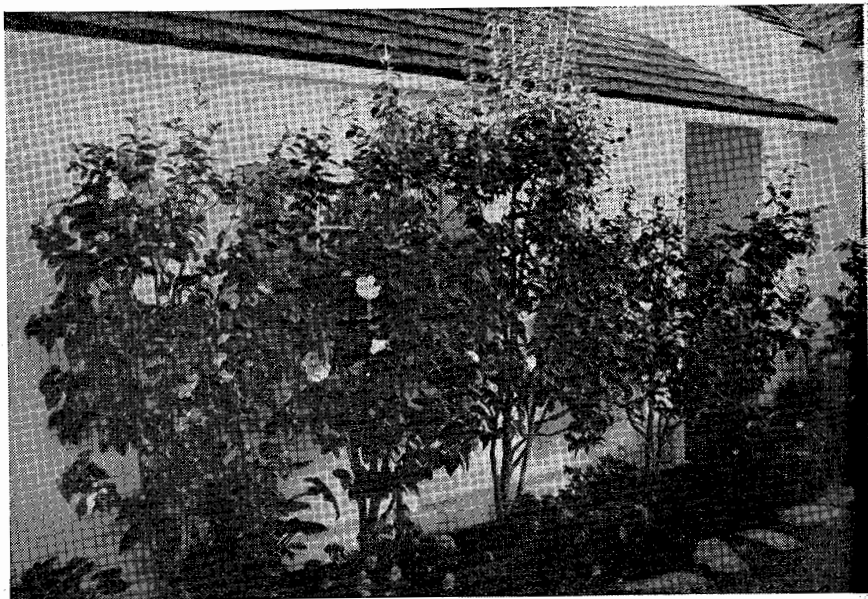
coated with a mastic such as "Tree Seal."

Camellia pruning is a continuing operation—after main cutting in spring we must be on the constant lookout for growth and cut or pinch

it off immediately.

For many of us who never seem to have enough room in our gardens it is important to keep the plants within bounds. The height must be con-

*(Continued on page 22)*



**BELOW, immediately after pruning. ABOVE, 9 months after pruning.**

## **SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WILL HOST 1971 A. C. S. MEETING**

The Board of Directors of the Los Angeles Camellia Council voted at the Board's January 30, 1968 meeting to invite the American Camellia Society to hold its 1971 Annual Meeting in Southern California. The invitation was transmitted by telephone to the A. C. S. Board which was meeting during the 1969 Annual Meeting in Beloxi, Mississippi, with Caryll Pitkin meeting with the Board because of his holding the proxy of California State Director Dr. John H. Urabec. The A. C. S. promptly accepted the invitation.

President A. Wilkins Garner, President of the Los Angeles Camellia Council, will appoint a committee that will develop plans for the meeting and will administer the different functions that will be a part of the three day affair. The dates will be February 25, 26 and 27, 1971, timed to coincide with the Descanso Gardens Camellia Show which will be held on the week-end of February 27-28.

Pending the appointment and functioning of the committee, reservations have been confirmed with the Huntington-Sheraton Hotel in Pasadena that will make this Hotel the Headquarters for the Convention. These reservations include rooms for the visitors as well as banquet rooms for the Friday evening cocktail party and the Saturday evening dinner.

The 1971 Annual Meeting will be the third time that the Los Angeles Camellia Council has been host to members of the American Camellia Society. The first such meeting was in February 1956, the year in which the Los Angeles Camellia Council was formed primarily so that the camellia societies in the Los Angeles area could jointly be host to such a meeting. Headquarters for the A. C. S. meeting were at the Roosevelt Hotel in Hollywood. The camellia show in

conjunction with the meeting was the first of the Descanso Gardens shows that have proved to be so successful in the years following.

The second such occasion was in 1961, when the Headquarters and the camellia show in conjunction with the meeting were held in the Disneyland Hotel. This meeting was marred by one of Southern California's Santa Ana winds which not only made things uncomfortable for both visitors and natives but also had its effect on the quality of local blooms in the show.

The five-year intervals between A. C. S. visits to California was maintained with the 1966 Annual Meeting which was held in Sacramento. The 1971 Annual Meeting in Pasadena will thus serve to cement a tradition that the A. C. S. comes to California every five years.

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### **Correction Again—On February 1969 Cover**

The Editor announces with embarrassment that the flower on the cover of the February 1969 issue is not 'Cover Girl' as stated but is 'Show Girl'. The description of the flower on page 1, the "Table of Contents" page, is correct for 'Show Girl'.

As so many people have pointed out to the Editor since they received their copy of the February issue, 'Cover Girl' is a pink formal double C. japonica which was introduced in 1965 by Nuccio's Nurseries. It may interest some people to know that this variety is in the Editor's camellia collection. 'Show Girl', as stated in the flower's description, is a sasanqua-reticulata hybrid that was originated by Howard Asper and is being released this year by Monrovia Nursery Company of Azusa, California through their retail outlets.

# ACTIVITIES OF THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA RESEARCH COMMITTEE

David L. Feathers, Chairman

It must be fifteen years ago that the idea of bringing together a limited group of members of the Northern California Camellia Society having a serious interest in camellia science originated and culminated in the creation of what was then called the "Plant Experimentation Committee." This group functioned for a number of years under the chairmanship of Dr. Gordon W. Richmond. Following Dr. Richmond's departure for an extended assignment in the Middle East for his company, the activities of the Committee stagnated until revived about ten years ago by Harold L. Paige, who as Chairman, assisted by his wife Mary as Secretary, stimulated renewed interest in the affairs of the Committee. Upon their retirement two years ago, the writer assumed the chairmanship, ably assisted by Mrs. Harvey L. Morton as Secretary.

A set of By-Laws was adopted and membership in the group, the name of which was then changed to 'Camellia Research Committee', was limited to not more than fifteen persons, members of either the Northern California Camellia Society or the American Camellia Society. A roster of the present membership follows:

Howard E. Burnette, Castro Valley  
Dr. Robert K. Cutter, Berkeley  
Robert E. Ehrhart, Walnut Creek  
David L. Feathers, Lafayette (Chairman)  
Gordon H. Goff, Lafayette  
Kenneth C. Hallstone, Lafayette  
Woodford F. Harrison, Berkeley  
Jack Mandarich, Menlo Park  
Harvey L. Morton, Lafayette  
Catherine Morton (Secretary)  
Basil J. Neptune, Long Beach  
Jack Osegueda, Oakland  
Harold L. Paige, Lafayette  
Hugh Paterson, San Rafael  
Dr. Gordon W. Richmond, Lafayette  
C. A. Roberts, Alameda

\*John E. Rose, Gaithersburg, Md.

\*Carl W. Schroeder, Cherry Hill, N.J.

†Dr. Walter E. Lammerts, Freedom

†Dr. Clifford R. Parks, Chapel Hill, N.C.

\*Correspondent Member. †Consultant

Assisting the group as technical consultants are Drs. Walter E. Lammerts and Clifford R. Parks. Meetings are held five times annually in the members homes, embracing the entire camellia season.

One might well ask what we do. Basically, we meet as a forum in which those of us with special camellia interests exchange views and experiences, as well as plant material. Primarily, the group is interested in camellia hybridization. However, the interests and activities of our members where camellias are concerned is rather universal, having to do with the progressive development of the genus, its culture including cultural problems and even such matters as judging and camellia shows. To be more specific, like many others we are seriously engaged in the development of fragrance, cold hardiness and new colors (not only yellows and blues but brighter reds, whiter whites and the salmon shades). We are also experimenting with the development of better rootstock, fungicides including the prevention of root-rot, flower preservation, miniaturization, prevention of bull-heading, effects of gibberellin on seed set and germination, checking pollen fertility, more sun tolerant types, etc.

Extensive records are kept and it is possible to make projections from them as to germination of seed and the likelihood of success with certain hybridization attempts. A study and tabulation of the better seed parent is also maintained.

In the early summer of 1967, it was brought to the attention of our committee that a large number of camellia hybrids, most of which had not yet bloomed, were threatened with

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## DAVID L. FEATHERS IS ACS FELLOW

David L. Feathers of Lafayette, California was honored by the Board of Directors of the American Camellia Society at the Society's Annual Meeting of February 1969 in Biloxi, Mississippi by being named an ACS Fellow. This is a distinctive honor and a tribute to Mr. Feathers. It can be granted not more frequently than once every two years, and not necessarily then. The nomination is made by a Committee that includes all ACS Past Presidents and requires a unanimous vote by this group. Finally, the nomination must be accepted by the ACS Board of Directors.

Mr. Feathers is one of the founding members of the Northern California Camellia Society and was the Society's first President. He edited the Society's publication *THE CAMELLIA BULLETIN* from the time of its inception until his retirement in 1966, at which time the publication was discontinued because of the Society's inability to obtain a successor. He is most famous for his work in camellia hybridizing,

which he started enough years ago that he is now growing third and fourth generation hybrids that are well worthwhile and which the public will see in increasing numbers. He is now Chairman of the Research Committee of the Northern California Camellia Society.

He becomes the fifth Californian among the eleven present ACS Fellows, the others being James Bonner of the CalTech faculty, Walter E. Lammerts, famous rose hybridizer who has also contributed greatly to knowledge of camellia hybridizing, William E. Woodroof, Editor of *CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE*, and Ebon Carl Tourje, Editor of the Southern California Camellia Society publication *CAMELLIA CULTURE*. California might claim a sixth Fellow on a technicality because Austin Griffiths, Jr. is a member of the Los Angeles County Arboretum staff; he was a resident of Georgia, however, when the honor was given to him and the work which earned the honor was done there.



David L. Feathers

### New 'C. M. Wilson' Sport

Clark Thomas of San Dimas, long time member of the Pomona Valley Camellia Society, entered in the February 15-16 Pomona show a 'C. M. Wilson' sport that he has named 'C. M. Wilson Splendor'. He discovered the flower on a tiny stem just above the graft on an old 'C. M. Wilson' plant in the ground at the Paul Gaines Nursery in San Dimas where he is the propagator. There were just two tiny leaves and a half-inch stem, but the graft took.

This is a true mutation, with dark green heavily serrated leaves, making it easy to correct if a branch reverts. The sport is very similar to 'Elegans Supreme' except that it has the 'C. M. Wilson' color. Nuccio's Nursery will grow the new variety for the trade.

# "RETICS OR RETIC HYBRIDS — I LIKE 'EM BIG!"

Howard E. Burnette  
Castro Valley, California

*(Extracts from talk to members of Temple City Camellia Society  
at the Society's February 1969 meeting).*

Camellias have been a "fun-thing" with us for quite a number of years, but the *Reticulata* specie has held our center of interest most of this time, so it is quite natural that we like 'em big.

As we read and research all available articles about *Reticulatas*, we find that much intrigue unfolded prior to the introduction of the Yunnan *Reticulatas*. This outstanding horticultural feat unfolded enough intrigue of its own. We recall that the 1947 edition of the *CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE* took all of one sentence to describe *C. Reticulata*. This of course was the variety *CAPT. RAWES*; and having arrived here by way of England, some collectors with influence had also acquired the large flowering wild specie. Another garden variety named *ROBERT FORTUNE* had also been established over here. The current nomenclature book now has this variety listed as *PAGODA*.

George Forrest of England had made many trips to southern China in search of rare plants for the splendid English gardens; yet, the Kunming or Yunnan *Retics* escaped his detection. These trips covered a span of some 28 years (1904 to 1932). In fact, in 1924, he had traveled extensively throughout Yunnan Province, even making Kunming his headquarters. The crafty Chinese had grown these jewels for some 400 years, reserving them for the wealthy feudal lords and priests, using them to decorate their private gardens and temples.

During World War II, while the Burma road was being constructed, hundreds of our American soldiers had passed through or had been stationed in Kunming, and the amazing *Retics* again escaped detection.

More intrigue has developed through the efforts of Col. Tom Durrant of New Zealand, wherein he has established proof that we indeed have duplications in the varieties which were imported by Dr. Walter Lammerts and the late Ralph Peer. So, within a few years we will have the true *NOBLE PEARL*, the true *CHANG'S TEMPLE*, and the varieties *EARLY PEONY* and *THE DWARF* which had been lost in the original importations. We may even get the true *LION HEAD* some day. Since our "*CORNELIAN* complex" is what Dr. T. T. Yu had referred to as *LARGE CORNELIAN*, *RED CORNELIAN* and *WHITE CORNELIAN*, even if we combine them under the label *CORNELIAN*, from the competitive show standpoint, we are faced with the same confusion caused by the unstable variegation in *C. Japonica ADOLPHE AUDUSSON VAR.* It is quite common to have solid red flowers as well as several degrees of variegated flowers on the same plant of *CORNELIAN*. We don't know whether to pity the Show Placement Committee, the Exhibitor or the Nurseryman who has to supply the varieties which the public sees in the shows.

It goes without saying that most of the *Retics* leave much to be desired from an ornamental shrub standpoint; however, when the plants put on their display of color, one finds it difficult to keep from becoming addicted. With leggy, lanky growth habits and having mostly terminal flower buds, we find it a challenge to keep the plants within reasonable bounds. We first watch for triple growth buds and twist out the center bud. When picking our blooms we like to take wood, but we do not take

wood if there are no live growth buds farther down on the flowering branch. In most cases such as this, die-back will set in so you may as well take the whole branch if you sever the growth bud. We remove all twiggies inside branches and disinfect our pruning shears after each cut when removing branches affected by die-back. Since we strive for large blooms we disbud heavily when required to let the blooms fully open. This means that any buds setting on short branches which would not permit a fully open flower are removed.

We find that our plants get a little temperamental when they are pot bound. Particular attention is also paid to our feeding and watering practices. All newly acquired plants are transplanted into our mixture so that there is less chance for water molds to set in.

When you admire the large, perfect blooms in the shows a day after a heavy storm, you probably think that undue protection has been given the blooms. This is not always true. We have produced much evidence to back up this statement, but it requires much time, patience and hard work. Since most storms are brought on by heavy winds, it is necessary to support branches and pin back leaves to keep the buds and flowers from being damaged. An attempt is usually made to have the blooms facing down. Some exhibitors provide individual rain covers for their blooms. So you

see, when you view the trophy winners, they did not just happen. Much practical experience has been made available by the weather man this year. We not only had our natural frost pattern and more than ample rainfall, but a series of cold, hard rains which brought some hail. An exhibitor doesn't go very far with undersize **BUDDHAS** and flat **CRIMSON ROBES**. Not to forget cold weather **TALI QUEENS** which look more like the flat **CRIMSON ROBES**. We would have a series of warm rains, followed by one of those misdirected, cold Alaska storms, and then another winter warm spell which upset our blooming sequence. While we noted bud drop on **PURPLE GOWN** for the first time, **TALI QUEEN** and **CONFUCIUS** plants were a profusion of bloom. As our winter season ebbs, the daytime temperatures slowly rise, and the evening ambients show close proximity to our daytime temperatures, our camellias size up and put on a show which erases all memory of our deep concern.

Fortunate indeed are those of us on the Pacific Coast who are able to grow Retics under normal conditions. As the interest in Retics increases, it is only a matter of time until many Retic seedlings begin to appear on the scene. Prominent controlled crosses such as **HOWARD ASPER**, **FRANCIE L.**, **CHINA LADY** and **MILO ROW-**

*(Continued on next page)*

**STRONG**

**VIGOROUS**

**SEEDLING**

**UNDERSTOCK**

**SASANQUA and JAPONICA**

**McCASKILL GARDENS**

**25 SOUTH MICHILLINDA AVENUE**

**PASADENA, CALIFORNIA**

ELL will appear to be crowded for limelight prominence, but the controlled cross circuit has barely been scratched. Although you can't expect every bloom to be an HOWARD ASPER, it is certainly a high enough goal to set for oneself. Take, for instance, FIRE CHIEF; if you have admired this hybrid, you will go clear out of your gourd when you watch a FIRE CHIEF VARIEGATED unfold. This is one flower which does not lose its color depth when the color is broken.

Since we do not know the background of our Reticulatas, and many of the Retic open pollinated seedlings show as much or more hybridity than some of the controlled crosses, for purposes of our discussion this evening, we would like to consider them as one group. Since we have said, "We like 'em BIG", perhaps we should list our best performers of the Yunnan Retics before we embark upon what has happened since their introduction. We consider BUDDHA, CONFUCIUS, CRIMSON ROBE, PURPLE GOWN, BUTTERFLY WINGS, WILLOW WAND, CORNELIAN, MOUTANCHA and TALI QUEEN to be outstanding. SHOT SILK and PAGODA are a half step back. The following Retic seedlings have moved into prominence: WILLIAM HERTRICH (deep cherry red), MOUCHANG (salmon pink), LILA NAFF (silver pink) and a real

whopper, MANDALAY QUEEN (rose pink). From Australia we have the rosy crimson ELLIE RUBENSOHN; while from New Zealand comes the deep carmine CRAIG CLARK. We should not overlook the very fine WILD FORM seedling TOM DURRANT (crimson). Analyzing these varieties closely, we find that our original CAPT. RAWES, when at its best, doesn't take a back seat to any of them.

Once we add the Reticulata Hybrids to all the aforementioned varieties, we have quite a complex. The array starts with HOWARD ASPER, FRANCIE L. and FIRE CHIEF (S & V) and soon we will have more general distribution on Frank Maitland's JOHN TAYLOR, BERNADETTE KARSTEN, TEMPLE MIST, PINK SPARKLE and SILVER MIST; CHINA LADY from Nucio's; SATAN'S ROBE by Dave Feathers; followed by Howard Asper's MILO ROWELL, FORTYNINER and VALENTINE'S DAY. A considerable number of open pollinated seedlings are either being evaluated or being propagated for introduction. The die is cast and the standard is high, so we hope that any new introductions will measure up to the standard which has been set.

Without being trite, upon going to our last reward, if we were allowed to take just one variety with us, it would be HOWARD ASPER.

## **REDWOOD EMPIRE CAMELLIAS, INC.**

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## CAMELLIA TEST GARDEN TO BE SPONSORED BY CAMELLIA COUNCIL

One of the problems with regard to the growing in Southern California of new camellia varieties that originate outside California is the frequency with which the blooms of these varieties do not agree with the descriptions supplied by the originators. It has been generally accepted that firm conclusions should not be reached regarding the merits of a new variety until it has bloomed in California. Such testing has been done by Southern California camellia nurseries, by Bill Woodroof as a part of his camellia hobby, and by a few of the amateur growers who receive scions from people outside the State. Some people have felt that this has placed an unfair burden particularly on the nurserymen.

The Los Angeles Camellia Council has now acted to sponsor a Test Garden which will accomplish the testing of new varieties. It will be located in Descanso Gardens, with the Council providing the financial support and the Gardens staff doing the cultural maintenance work. All the work of obtaining the varieties to be tested and making the grafts will be done by the Test Gardens Committee of the Los Angeles Camellia Council. President Wilkins Garner of the Council has appointed the following Committee: Tom Hughes (Chairman), William E. Woodroof, and Harold E. Dryden, Mark Anthony, Superintendent of Descanso Gardens, is ex-officio a member of the Committee. The Committee plans to get the Test Garden actively under way in early 1969.

The Committee has adopted the following tentative rules of operation for the Test Garden, subject to final approval of the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles Camellia Council at its May 1968 meeting. People who have seedlings that they desire to

have tested should communicate with one of the three Council committee members. As the rules state, the committee will be the sole judge in the selection of what varieties will be planted. It will observe high standards in reaching its decisions.

### RULES FOR OPERATION OF

#### "REG RAGLAND CAMELLIA TEST GARDEN"

1. The purpose of the Reg Ragland Camellia Test Garden will be to test varieties of camellias that are new to Southern California, under Southern California growing conditions. These will include new California varieties and varieties from other states and foreign countries that have proved to be worthy of growing in such areas but have not been grown in California and, therefore, have not proved themselves to be satisfactory for Southern California growing conditions.
2. The Test Garden will be administered and supervised by a Committee consisting of three people appointed by the President of the Los Angeles Camellia Council, and the Superintendent of Descanso Gardens.
3. The Test Garden will be located in Descanso Gardens. The area will be surrounded by an eight foot wire fence with a gate that will be kept locked. The key to the gate will be held in the custody of the Superintendent of Descanso Gardens.
4. The Committee will be the sole judge of what varieties will be planted in the Test Garden.
5. Nobody will be allowed in the Test Garden unless he is escorted by a member of the Committee.
6. Plants will remain in the Test Garden until such time that the Committee decides that an adequate test has been made.
7. At the completion of the test, plants will be disposed of as follows:
  - a. If the variety has been released, it will be planted in Descanso Gardens if the Superintendent of the Gardens so desires; otherwise, the plant will be destroyed.
  - b. If the variety has not been released, disposition of the plant will be in accordance with the desires of the originator.
8. No scions from the plants in the Test Garden will be given to anybody, including members of the Committee.

# Show Results

## SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY

San Diego, California, February 8-9, 1969

- Sweepstakes — Mr. and Mrs. Paul McClelland, Orange  
Best Japonica of the Show — 'Guilio Nuccio Var', Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Goertz, San Marino  
Best Very Large Japonica — 'Drama Girl', Mr. and Mrs. John Movich, La Verne  
Best Large Japonica — 'Guilio Nuccio Var', Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Goertz, San Marino  
Best Medium Japonica — 'Ville de Nantes', W. V. Lytle, Glendale  
Best Boutonniere Japonica — 'Maroon and Gold', Mr. and Mrs. B. M. Pace, Upland  
Best Miniature Japonica — 'Ginger', Mr. and Mrs. Ernest E. Pieri, San Gabriel  
Japonica Blooms on Court of Honor —  
    'Adolphe Audusson Special', Gertrude and Slane Stump; 'Dixie Knight', Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Harmsen; 'Elegans Supreme', Harry Novich; 'Guilio Nuccio', Ellis F. Wormington; 'Mercury Var', Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Goertz; 'Spring Sonnet', Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Goertz; 'Tiffany', Dr. and Mrs. John Urabec; 'Tomorrow Park Hill', Clyde Higgins; 'White Nun', Fred Hamilton; 'Wildfire', Mr. and Mrs. B. M. Pace  
Best Group of 3 Japonicas — 'Finlandia Var', Mr. and Mrs. Martin Watters, Ramona  
Best Group of 5 Japonicas — 'Guilio Nuccio Var', Caryll W. Pitkin, San Marino  
Best Treated Japonica — 'Guilio Nuccio Var', Melvin L. Gum, Long Beach  
Best Reticulata — 'Cornelian', A. L. Gunn, Lynwood  
Best Group of 3 Reticulatas — 'Crimson Robe', Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Shuey, Temple City  
Best Treated Reticulata — 'Noble Pearl', Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Goertz, San Marino  
Best Hybrid with Reticulata Parentage — 'Milo Rowell', Mr. and Mrs. Robert McNeil, San Diego  
Best Hybrid with Other Than Reticulata Parentage — 'Elsie Jury', Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Krumm, Altadena  
Best Other Species — Rosae flora, Norman Krueger, Alhambra  
Best New Seedling — Unnamed, Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Shuey, Temple City  
Best New Sport — Sport of 'Mamie Lou', Mr. and Mrs. Harold L. Rowe, Upland  
Best Group of 20 Different Varieties — Harvey Short, La Mesa

## POMONA VALLEY CAMELLIA SOCIETY

Pomona, California      February 15-16, 1969

- Best Large Japonica — 'Coronation', Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Summerson, Glendale  
Best Large Japonica, Runner-up — 'Grand Slam', Melvin Canfield, Bakersfield  
Best Medium Japonica — 'Sawada's Dream', Melvin Canfield, Bakersfield  
Best Medium Japonica, Runner-up — 'Spring Sonnet', Mr. and Mrs. George Kalin, La Mesa  
Best Small Japonica — 'Tom Thumb', Mr. and Mrs. Roger Treischel, Glendale  
Best Small Japonica, Runner-up — 'Maroon and Gold', Mr. and Mrs. Paul McClelland, Orange



- Best Miniature Japonica — 'Fircone', Mr. and Mrs. Carey Bliss, San Marino
- Best Miniature Japonica, Runner-up — 'Bon Bon', Edwards H. Metcalf, San Marino
- Best Treated Japonica — 'Tomorrow Park Hill', Dr. Leland Chow, Bakersfield
- Best Treated Japonica, Runner-up — 'Betty Sheffield Blush', Dr. Leland Chow, Bakersfield
- Japonica Blooms on Court of Honor —  
 'Alison Lee Woodroof', Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Pieri; 'Ann Miller', Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Pieri; 'Eleanor Martin Supreme', Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Goertz; 'Elegans Supreme', Melvin L. Gum; 'Fircone', A. L. Gunn; 'Fortune Teller', Mr. and Mrs. Paul McClelland; 'J. J. Whitfield, Var', Rudy Moore; 'Kramer's Supreme', Mr. and Mrs. George Kalin; 'Mark Alan', Melvin Canfield; 'Moonlight Sonata', Dr. Leland Chow; 'Mrs. Freeman Weiss', Caryll W. Pitkin; 'Premier', Harvey Short; 'Tomorrow Park Hill', Mr. and Mrs. Pat Novak; 'Tomorrow Var', Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Shuey; 'Winifred Womack', Lytle Warringer
- Best Group of 3 Japonicas — 'Adolphe Audusson Special', Dr. and Mrs. John Uraebc, La Canada
- Best Group of 3 Japonicas, Runner-up — 'Midnight', Melvin Canfield, Bakersfield
- Best Group of 3 Boutonniere Japonics — 'Starlet', Dr. Leland Chow, Bakersfield
- Best Group of 3 Boutonniere Japonicas, Runner-up — 'Cameo', Dr. Leland Chow, Bakersfield
- Groups of 3 Japonicas on Court of Honor —  
 'Disneyland', Mr. and Mrs. Harold Rowe; 'Guilio Nuccio Var', Caryll Pitkin; 'Pink Parfait', M. V. Lytle
- Best Reticulata\* — 'Tali Queen', Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Goertz, San Marino
- Best Reticulata, Runner-up — 'Milo Rowell', Mr. and Mrs. Roger Treischel, Glendale
- Reticulata Blooms on Court of Honor\* —  
 'Buddha', Tom Hughes; 'Francie L', Frank Reed; 'Noble Pearl', Caryll Pitkin; 'William Hertrich', Tom Hughes
- Best Group of 3 Reticulatas — 'Buddha', Peter Folino, Arcadia
- Best Group of 3 Reticulatas, Runner-up — 'Crimson Robe', Peter Folino,
- Group of 3 Reticulatas on Court of Honor —  
 'Noble Pearl', Caryll Pitkin
- Best Hybrid with Other Than Reticulata Parentage — 'Elsie Jury', Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Shuey, Temple City
- Best Hybrid with Other Than Reticulata Parentage, Runner-up — 'Charlean', Mr. and Mrs. John Movich, La Verne
- Best Group of 3 Hybrids\* — 'Freedom Bell', Grady Perigan, Arcadia
- Best Group of 3 Hybrids, Runner-up\* — 'El Dorado', Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Shuey, Temple City
- Best Other Species — Interlude, Basil Neptune, Long Beach
- Best Other Species, Runner-up — Sukiya, Monique Peer, Los Angeles
- Best New Seedling — A-1 of Frank Maitland, entered by A. L. Gunn, Lynwood
- Best New Seedling, Runner-up — Unnamed, Walter Harmsen, Claremont
- Best New Sport — 'C. M. Wilson Splendor', sport of 'C. M. Wilson', Clark Thomas, San Dimas
- Best New Sport, Runner-up — Sport of 'Richard Nixon', Kramer Bros., Upland
- \*Hybrids with reticulata parentage were entered in the Division for reticulata blooms.

(Continued on next page)

## TEMPLE CITY CAMELLIA SOCIETY

Los Angeles County Arboretum, Arcadia, California February 22-23, 1969

- Best Large Japonica — 'White Nun', Melvin Canfield, Bakersfield  
Best Large Japonica Runner-up — 'Reg Ragland Var', Melvin Canfield  
Best Medium Japonica — 'Coed', Frank Anderson, Bakersfield  
Best Medium Japonica Runner-up — 'Pink Pagoda', Mr. and Mrs. Lee Gaeta, El Monte  
Best Boutonniere Japonica — 'Maroon and Gold', Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Meyer, Glendora  
Best Boutonniere Japonica Runner-up — 'Alison Leigh Woodroof', Ernest Pieri, San Gabriel  
Japonica Blooms on Court of Honor—  
'Adolphe Audusson Var', R. P. Treischel; 'Belle of Orange', Doug Nowlin; 'Ben Parker', Dr. Leland Chow; 'Betty Sheffield Supreme', W. F. Goertz; 'Carter's Sunburst', Estelle Lindsley; 'Clarise Carleton', Dr. Leland Chow; 'Covina', E. J. Hogeboom; 'Dixie Knight Var', W. V. Lytle; 'Flame Var', E. P. Wormington; 'Grand Slam', W. F. Goertz; 'Kramer's Supreme', E. F. Wormington; 'Mathotiana', F. Kaltman; 'Midnight', Melvin Canfield; 'Mrs. Lyman Clark', Paul McClelland; 'Red Wine', Dr. Leland Chow; 'Royal Trumpeter', Carey Bliss; 'Snow Chan', Janet Meyers; 'Spring Sonnet', W. F. Goertz; 'Ted Kohl Var', W. F. Goertz; 'Ville de Nantes', A. L. Summerson.  
Best Group of 3 Large Japonicas — 'Grand Slam', Melvin Canfield, Bakersfield  
Best Group of 3 Medium Japonicas — 'Frances Butler', Mr. and Mrs. B. M. Pace, Upland  
Group of 3 Japonicas on Court of Honor — 'Julia France', Dr. Leland Chow,  
Best Reticulata — 'Lila Naff', A. L. Gunn, Lynwood  
Best Reticulata Runner-up — 'Tali Queen', Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Goertz, San Marino  
Bent Group of 3 Reticulatas — 'Cornelian', Carey S. Bliss, San Gabriel  
Best Group of 3 Reticulatas Runner-up — 'Tali Queen', Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Goertz, San Marino  
Best Treated Japonica — 'Tomorrow Park Hill', Dr. Leland Chow, Bakersfield  
Best Treated Japonica Runner-up — 'Mathotiana Supreme', Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Goertz, San Marino  
Best Species Bloom — 'Dawn', Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Shuey, Temple City  
Best Hybrid with Reticulata Parentage — 'John Taylor', Mr. and Mrs. Pat Novak  
Best Hybrid with Other Than Reticulata Parentage — 'Elsie Jury', Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Shuey, Temple City  
Best New Japonica Introduction — 'C. M. Wilson Splendor' (sport), Clark Thomas, San Dimas  
Best New Reticulata Introduction — 'L. W.', Edwards H. Metcalf, San Marino  
Best New Hybrid Introduction — No. 53, Harold Dryden, San Marino

## PENINSULA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

Redwood City, California February 15-16, 1969

- Sweepstakes — Sal B. Davi, Pittsburg  
Sweepstakes Runner-up — Harvey L. Morton, Lafayette  
Best Very Large Japonica — 'Guilio Nuccio Var', Kai Freitag, Woodside

- Very Large Japonicas on Court of Honor —  
 'Coronation', Jack Lewis; 'Disneyland', W. O. Addicott; 'Drama Girl Var', M. R. Bergamini; 'Grand Prix', H. E. Burnette; 'Lady in Red', Fred V. Hamilton; 'White Nun', Jack D. Hansen, Sr.
- Best Large Japonica — 'Elegans Supreme', Geo. A. Stewart, Sacramento
- Best Large Japonicas on Court of Honor —  
 'Angel', Geo. A. Stewart; 'C. M. Wilson', Harold R. Studt; 'Indian Summer', S. B. Davi; 'Lady Kay', Jack Lewis; 'Lellah Callison', Robt. E. Ehrhart; 'Reg Ragland', B. B. Cook; 'Tomorrow', A. E. Buchholz
- Best Medium Japonica — 'Twilight', Harvey L. Morton, Lafayette
- Medium Japonicas on Court of Honor —  
 'Ava Maria', Robt. E. Ehrhart; 'China Doll', S. B. Davi; 'Dr. John D. Bell', Geo. A. Stewart; 'Helen K', Pete Grosso; 'Magnoliaeflora', Jack D. Hansen, Sr.; 'Silver Chalice', S. B. Davi; 'Sunset Oaks', Harold R. Studt
- Best Small Japonica — 'Demi-Tasse', Eugene Busse, Lafayette
- Small Japonica on Court of Honor — 'Kitty', S. B. Davi
- Best Miniature Japonica — 'Wilamina', Anthony Pinheiro, Modesto
- Miniature Japonicas on Court of Honor —  
 'Pink Smoke', H. C. Hallstone; 'Tinsie', Wm. A. Rusher
- Best Group of 3 Japonicas — 'Lady Kay', Jack Lewis, Concord
- Groups of 3 Japonicas on Court of Honor —  
 'Lallarook', Jean Balzarini; 'Ville de Nantes', S. B. Davi; 'Mathotiana', F. L. Rankin
- Best Group of 5 Japonicas — 'Carter's Sunburst', Harold R. Studt, Sacramento
- Groups of 5 Japonicas on Court of Honor —  
 'Lady Kay', Jack Lewis; 'Lallarook', Jean Balzarini
- Best Reticulata — 'Mouchang', F. L. Rankin, Modesto
- Reticulatas on Court of Honor —  
 'Confucius', H. E. Burnette; 'Lila Naff', Geo. A. Stewart; 'Mandalay Queen', R. W. Peterson
- Best Group of 3 Reticulatas — 'Cornelian', Jack L. Mandarich, Menlo Park
- Groups of 3 Reticulatas on Court of Honor —  
 'Chrysanthemum Petal', Joe Ures; 'William Hertrich', Jack L. Mandarich
- Best Group of 3 Different Reticulatas — 'Buddha', 'Crimson Robe' and 'Tali Queen', H. E. Burnette, Castro Valley
- Best Large Hybrid — 'Howard Asper', Jack L. Mandarich, Menlo Park
- Large Hybrids on Court of Honor —  
 'Fire Chief', Harvey L. Morton; 'Francie L', Harvey L. Morton
- Best Medium Hybrid — 'E. G. Waterhouse', O. E. Tomlinson, San Jose
- Medium Hybrid on Court of Honor — 'Dorothy James', Richard F. Roggia
- Best Member's Bloom — 'Grand Prix', H. E. Burnette, Castro Valley
- Member's Bloom on Court of Honor — 'Snow Chan', C. F. O'Malley
- Best Group of 12 Blooms — Geo. A. Stewart, Sacramento
- Best Seedling — Reticulata WF-R9, David L. Feathers, Lafayette
- Seedlings on Court of Honor —  
 Hybrid, H. L. Paige; Japonica, Jack L. Mandarich
- Best Treated Bloom — 'Atomic Red', A. W. Reinhold, Sacramento
- Treated Blooms on Court of Honor —  
 'Julia France', John Augis; 'Moonlight Sonata', Pete Grosso; 'Mrs. Freeman Weiss', Pete Grosso

(Continued on next page)

**LOS ANGELES CAMELLIA COUNCIL**  
**La Canada, California      March 1-2, 1969**

- Best Large Japonica — 'Grand Slam', Melvin Canfield, Bakersfield
- Best Japonica Runner-up — 'Guilia Nuccio', Gertrude and Slane Stump, Vista
- Best Medium Japonica — 'Helen K', Dr. Leland Chow, Bakersfield
- Best Medium Japonica Runner-up — 'Nellie McGrath', Frank Anderson, Bakersfield
- Best Small Japonica — 'Mickey Sans', Edwards H. Metcalf, San Marino
- Best Small Japonica Runner-up — 'Wilamina', George Kalin, La Mesa
- Best Miniature Japonica — 'Fairy Garden', Ernie Pieri, San Gabriel
- Best Miniature Japonica Runner-up — 'Pearl's Pet', Edwards H. Metcalf, San Marino
- Best Group of 3 Large Japonicas — 'Disneyland', Mr. and Mrs. Harold Rowe, Upland
- Best Group of 3 Large Japonicas Runner-up — 'R. L. Wheeler', Fred Hamilton, Santa Maria
- Best Group of 3 Medium Japonicas — 'Pope John XXIII', Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Summerson, Glendale
- Best Group of 3 Medium Japonicas Runner-up — 'Jennie Mills', Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Goertz
- Best Group of 5 Large Japonicas — 'Carter's Sunburst', Frank Anderson, Bakersfield
- Best Group of 5 Large Japonicas Runner-up — 'Tiffany', Mr. and Mrs. B. M. Pace, Upland
- Best Group of 5 Medium Japonicas — 'Billie McCaskill', Melvin Canfield, Bakersfield
- Best Group of 5 Medium Japonicas Runner-up — 'Jennie Mills', Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Goertz, San Marino
- Best Reticulata — 'Mandalay Queen', Fred Hamilton, Santa Maria
- Best Reticulata Runner-up — 'Purple Gown', L. H. Shinault, Northridge
- Best Group of 3 Reticulatas — 'Cornelian', Mr. and Mrs. Carey Bliss, San Gabriel
- Best Group of 3 Reticulatas Runner-up — 'Crimson Robe', Edwards H. Metcalf, San Marino
- Best Group of 5 Reticulatas — 'Tali Queen', Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Goertz, San Marino
- Best Group of 5 Reticulatas Runner-up — 'Buddha', Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Krumm, Altadena
- Best Hybrid With Reticulata Parentage — 'Howard Aspen', Fred Hamilton, Santa Maria
- Best Hybrid With Reticulata Parentage Runner-up — 'Fire Chief', Tom Hughes, La Crescenta
- Best Hybrid With Non-Reticulata Parentage — 'Waltz Time', Frank Reed, Pasadena
- Best Hybrid With Non-Reticulata Parentage Runner-up — 'Dorothy James', Mr. and Mrs. John Movich, Pomona
- Best Species — 'Vernalis', Monique L. Peer, Los Angeles
- Best Treated Japonica — 'Adolphe Audusson Var', Dr. Leland Chow, Bakersfield
- Best Treated Japonica Runner-up — 'Miss Charleston', Melvin Canfield, Bakersfield

(Continued on page 19)

## CAMELLIAS — A DISTINCTIVE HOBBY

Harold E. Dryden

I believe that every man should have an important interest in life in addition to his immediate occupation. During his working years, it provides a vehicle for taking his mind off his work in the hours that are intended for relaxation, so important for both physical and mental well-being. After the working years have passed, it means the difference between an alert older life and mental if not physical stagnation. It is difficult to generate such an interest as though it were an after-thought when a man finds himself faced with hours to fill with nothing positive to do.

It doesn't make a lot of difference what this interest is, provided it fits a man's personal likes and dislikes and that he has a reasonable expectation of being able physically to carry on with it. It can be golf, but here a man is in a bad way if he has put all his interest in the game and faces a physical impairment. It can be reading, unless his eyes are such that he knows he can read less and less as years go by. It can be public service. If he likes to grow things in the garden, it can be in some phase, or phases, of horticulture—roses, orchids, iris, camellias—phases that require something more than planting, watering, a little fertilizing, to produce results.

We have in our garden most of the plants that are usually found in gardens of people who want continuity of greenery and color and to be able to pick something for the house whenever desired. We have roses, cymbidium orchids, azaleas (an important adjunct to arrangements of camellias) and the usual annuals for the summer. I should say that my wife is the manager of these "departments". I do most of the work. My own "important interest" is camellias and this is written to tell why. It really should be written for other than camellia people because it can do little more than summarize views already held by people

who grow camellias for a hobby.

To my way of thinking, a person must actively participate in a hobby for it to be effective. Particularly for men in retirement, it must not be too taxing physically. Camellias meet this test for me. Now any activity can be made to be physically taxing—too long hours worked in a day, lifting weights that should not be lifted, etc. These are all within a man's control, however. The heavy things can be done by others without in any way taking the man away from the essential features of the hobby. As long as my health holds out, I know of no reason why I should not grow camellias, in all aspects of the hobby, for many years. And as my health fades, I can pass on the physical part as necessary.

Camellia growing is a year around activity that culminates in a blooming period of four or five months, longer if one uses gib. There is no month in the year that something need not be done. And the period of enjoyment, to me at least, goes beyond the blooming time, because I sometimes think that the new growth is as pretty as the flowers are. This factor rates high with me in evaluating an "important interest" in a person's day to day life. I have been told that this factor detracts because one cannot take a trip whenever he likes. I like to travel and have done a reasonable amount of it. I can't suddenly decide to go away for a week, because camellias must be watered. I have been able to work in short trips to meet my camellia schedule. Longer trips are no problem because one can always make plans for care of the garden during a trip of some duration.

Since the growth characteristics of the camellia are essentially simple and it is hard to harm them if the grower uses common sense, there is endless

(Continued on next page)

opportunity for a person to use his own creative genius in the development of his camellia cultural program. Cecil Blumenthal of Sydney, Australia stated it cleverly in his article "Pest Control For Camellias" in the January 1969 issue of CAMELLIA REVIEW (Vol. 30, No. 3) when he wrote: "The New South Wales Branch of the Australian Camellia Research Society has about 400 members in Sydney who practice a similar number of differing systems of cultivation, *all of them the best.*" I like a hobby in which I can develop my own plans and ideas with a confidence that I can do little or no real harm, even though I may do no real good. This goes for soil mix and fertilizing certainly, and to other aspects as one desires. A person likes to think that his creativity is contributing to the success of his undertaking, even though he knows in his heart that his end result would be the same if he would follow a few basic principles that were established before he got into the game.

More than with any other species of plant with which I am familiar, we can participate in bringing what we call something new into being. I refer, of course, to new camellia varieties. Due to the work of our friends the bees, we have those wonderful camellia seeds that permit us as individuals to compete with the grab bag in producing the unexpected. And

with so little effort on our part. We germinate the seeds, plant them out, keep them watered, and sit back patiently in anticipation. We know that most, maybe all of the seedling flowers will be duds. But we are similar to the race track bettor who regularly places his money on the daily double, with the hope that some day his hopes will materialize. We tell ourselves that Bill Woodroof produced 'Reg Ragland', John and Margaret Urabec gave us 'Tiffany' and that 'Clark Hubbs' is a product of Milo Rowell's initiative. Where else can we get so much for so little effort? And if we really have initiative we can out-wit the bees, as Dave Feathers, Harold Paige and others are doing by hand pollinating, and really produce our own new varieties. Only in camellias do the amateurs, those who do it for fun, come forth with a significant number of new varieties year after year. Every camellia amateur can say to himself, "Maybe I can be one of the lucky ones".

Growing camellias is a relatively inexpensive hobby. Sure, some of us will pay high prices for something new. That isn't necessary, however, if we exercise a little patience and don't think we must have immediately every good new variety that hits the market. Some of these, of course, don't prove to be as good in reality as they seemed to be in anticipation. Due to the ease of propagation by

## RELEASING

'Grand Prix' (Japonica)

'China Lady' ('Buddha' X  
Granthamiana Hybrid)

'Milo Rowell' (Crimson Robe  
X Tiffany Hybrid)

'Easter Morn' (Japonica)

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grafting and rooting cuttings, it is possible for a person with moderate income to acquire and maintain a collection of the best camellias. By tying this to the "seedling project", the cost of understock is held to a minimum amount. The only real cost of acquiring one's collection is that of buying some of the new varieties every year so as to be able to exchange scions with one's friends. And that isn't really necessary. I have never heard of a camellia grower saying "Sure you can have scions; now what have you to give in return".

In growing camellias, one is always working toward a future objective, not just tomorrow or day after tomorrow but next week or next month or next year. I think this is important in one's philosophy of life. I shall always remember a letter that I received from one of our S. C. C. S. members in the South, in which he wrote "I hope that you do not live to see the blooms of your last seedlings." He meant, of course, that he hoped I would continue to look forward and not concentrate my attention on the immediate. This is the essence of the camellia hobby. The results of pruning show up months

later. We wait two years to see the bloom on a graft of a variety we have never seen. We wait for years to see the bloom on a new seedling. We wait and wait, and before we know it the time of waiting for the particular event has passed and we are in a new waiting period. Time does not drag when one grows camellias.

Finally there are the friendly associations, both indoors and outdoors — at camellia society meetings, setting up shows, placing blooms on the show-tables along with the other exhibitors, week-end trips to out-of-town shows, looking things over after the judging has been completed. As Doug Thompson has stated in his article "Equation of Satisfaction" in the February issue of CAMELLIA REVIEW when he talks about attendance at camellia society meetings: "I'm not consciously looking for new information when I come to the meeting. I just want to engage in small talk, brag a little, reminisce and share a pleasant inconsequential experience." That isn't always true, of course, for either Doug or me. Our being able to do these things, however, is one of the reasons we are growing camellias as a hobby.

### SHOW RESULTS (Cont.)

Best Treated Hybrid With Reticulata Parentage — 'Howard Asper', Fred Hamilton, Santa Maria

Best Treated Hybrid With Non-Reticulata Parentage — 'Elsie Jury', Frank Reed, Pasadena

Japonicas on Court of Honor —

'Annette Gehry', Melvin Canfield; 'Clarise Carleton', Tom Stull; 'Clark Hubbs', G. Stump; 'Coronation', Dr. John Urabec; 'Drama Girl', Fred Hamilton; 'Kramer's Supreme', Fred Anderson; 'Lady Kay', George Kalin; 'Laura Walker', Melvin Canfield; 'Mathotiana Supreme', G. Stump; 'Nina Avery', G. Stump; 'Tom Knudsen', Janet Meyer; 'Tomorrow's Dawn', A. L. Summerson; 'Ville de Nantes', Frank Anderson; 'Wild Fire', Janet Meyer

Reticulatas on Court of Honor —

'Cornelian', A. L. Gunn; 'Moutancha', Fred Hamilton; 'Tali Queen', W. F. Goertz

Hybrid With Reticulata Parentage on Court of Honor — 'Milo Rowell', Tom Hughes

Treated Japonica on Court of Honor — 'Adolphe Audusson Var', Dr. Leland Chow

## TWENTY YEARS AGO

Twenty years ago, the Southern California Camellia Society was in its ninth year, having been organized in January 1940. After attending the Society's January 1949 meeting, with an attendance of over 125 and a profusion of flowers that would have provided fine competition for the Descanso Gardens Early Show that was held only ten days before the meeting, we wondered how things were and what was what in camellias back in the 1948-1949 camellia season. We went to Volume 10 of the Southern California Camellia Society BULLETIN, forerunner of CAMELLIA REVIEW, to find out.

Two big projects were under way. First and receiving more publicity than the other project was the Camellia Test Garden at the Huntington Botanical Gardens. The idea of a camellia test garden, a place for studying varietal nomenclature of camellias which was then a serious problem, was conceived by members of the Society. Curator William Hertrich of the Huntington Gardens enthusiastically endorsed the idea of the test garden and that it should be located at Huntington. The Test Garden was well under way by 1948-1949. We read in Volume 10 of the BULLETIN that Walter Hazelwood of Epping, New South Wales, Australia had sent cuttings of 140 Australian varieties, 50 of which would be grafted on Test Garden understock. We read also that Jerry Olrich, Superintendent of Capitol Park in Sacramento, had previously contributed 80 scions.

It was the original idea that the new varieties which the Test Garden was obtaining would be grafted onto the seedlings that were growing in the Garden, probably as large a project of grafting onto large understock as has been undertaken. The remarks in the November 1948 BULLETIN of Dr. David W. McLean, Chairman of the Camellia Society's Test Garden

Committee, are both interesting and significant in describing the problems of using camellia trees as understock. Dr. McLean wrote as follows:

"Grafting to large trees, with trunks four to six inches in diameter, presents interesting problems in itself. When there is sufficient scion wood, several grafts are made around the periphery of the trunk stub. If all take, all is well; circulation of the entire cambium layer will be re-established. If only one scion takes, maintenance of circulation in the remaining areas becomes a vital problem, lest one side of the large stump die. If a sucker starts on the unsuccessful side, it is encouraged. By the following year a scion from the successful side can be grafted to this sucker and the tree is well on its way. If only one or two scions are available for the large understock, and by chance both fail to take, a number of suckers are allowed to grow and new scions are grafted to these during a subsequent season. Incidentally, grafts take more readily on the young wood of suckers than on the old wood of large trunks.

"Another interesting thing about grafting to large understock is that the scion grafted to large understock is apt not to bloom as soon as the scion grafted to good stock in, say, a gallon can. The tendency of the plant is to rush foliage growth in order that the top may balance the large root system. If therefore you call in a grafting expert to change over the large dud in your garden, the rate of plant growth will make your eyes pop; but the gallon-can graft may bloom a year ahead of it."

The original concept of the Test Garden as merely a test garden for clarification of varietal nomenclature had been superseded in 1948-1949 by a project for a Camellia Repository, in which only outstanding varieties of camellias would be planted. To quote from Dr. McLean, "the time has ar-

rived to work out with the committee some sort of yardstick, some level of quality, for acceptance of new varieties for the Garden; also a level of quality by which a new variety will rate one of the large seedlings as understock. There is no object in devoting space to varieties, especially new and unknown ones, so mediocre that the bloom is just another flower."

Twenty years ago, The Southern California Camellia Society through its Garden Committee with David McLean and Carl Tourje doing a large part of the spade work, was taking an active part in the building of what is now one of the great camellia gardens of the world—the Camellia Garden in the Huntington Botanical Garden.

The Society was also interested in camellia research, in which Dr. James Bonner, Plant Physiologist at Cal-Tech, participated through the Cal-Tech facilities. Walter Lammerts, then Plant Breeder at Descanso Gardens (then the private domain of Manchester Boddy) was Chairman of the Society's Horticultural Research Committee which produced the Society's publication CAMELLIA RESEARCH in 1950.

We read in the December 1948 issue of the BULLETIN: "With the new camellia flower season comes also the harvesting of last year's 'fruit', as old texts called camellia seed. The harvest from the Huntington Botanical Gardens is large, amounting this year to some thirty thousand seed. Following the custom of previous years since inauguration of the Test Garden, the Curator turned over to the Test Garden Committee several packages of *C. japonica* seed. In previous years this seed has been divided among those contributors to the Garden who might be interested; in those days there were many contributors of a plant or two, or of a few scions. This year and last, activities have been more largely centered in the hands of the Committee. It seemed desirable

therefore to sell the seed for the benefit of the Test Garden Fund." Thus started the project that put the Southern California Camellia Society on the way to become the largest seller of camellia seeds in the world, with customers in all camellia growing countries.

We read in the camellia news of twenty years ago, names of men who are now among the "elder statesmen" of camellia people in California. Roy T. Thompson was President of Pacific Camellia Society, in addition to which he continued to edit the Society's BULLETIN. The newly organized San Diego Camellia Society installed as its President the still active Stanley W. Miller. President of the Central California Camellia Society (Fresno) was Milo E. Rowell, who continues to be one of the guiding spirits (a working title, not honorary) of that Society. The Northern California Camellia Society's President was David L. Feathers, who relinquished his job as Editor of that Society's CAMELLIA BULLETIN only within the last couple of years. Harold L. Paige was one of the Northern California Society's Directors.

Harvey Short reported from San Diego that redwood tubs were proving to be a successful method for some of the growers who were having to contend with bad soil conditions. He said "Heavy clay soils present a drainage problem, and San Diego soils are spotty—some very much clay, some very much cobblestone. Two of our growers, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hebert of La Mesa, have approximately fifty to sixty splendid looking specimens in tubs and boxes now in their third year of container culture. A fine set of buds and perfect leaf condition show that it can be done."

That camellia petal blight has been with us for some time is indicated by D. G. Milbrath's article "Camellia Flower Blight Control" in the Feb.

*(Continued on next page)*

ruary 1949 issue of the BULLETIN.

Editor Claude Chidamian's editorial in the February 1949 issue will remind old timers that the recent Southern California cold weather is not the first of history. He starts out with "Think t'was the winter of '49, or mebbe '48, we had the Big Freeze out here. Froze might nigh everything. Ruined the orchid and begonia people something awful. Yep, lots of folks switched to camellias after that, seein' as how they was about the only real flower left that could take it." Then Mr. Chidamian continued in serious vein, "And the old timers on the porch will nod their heads wisely and tell about how their epiphyllums froze solid black, or how the fuchsias died right down to the roots, or the way the ferns had icicles hanging on them. Somebody will remember that it was the year all those Southerners came for the A. C. S. meeting in Sacramento and how they laughed when we told them what our camellias had just been through. 'Happens all the time down South, suh. That's why we grow 'em'.

And to close out with the thought that while many things are different now than they were twenty years ago, some things have not changed much, we quote from the March 1949 issue of the BULLETIN. "We are indeed fortunate," writes Mr. (Stanley) Miller (San Diego Society President, writing with reference to his Society's second annual show that had been held on February 19-20 in Balboa Park), "that the weather changed during the week preceding the show, thus providing us with an ample supply of blooms which we were totally unable to foresee a week before the show date". Readers should now turn to the second paragraph of the article in the February CAMELLIA REVIEW that reports the Early Show which was held at Descanso Gardens on January 4-5, 1969.

## PRUNING (Cont.)

trolled also and when a plant gets up out of reach the top should be cut back. Who wants to get out the ladder for disbudding and cutting blooms?

There are some japonica varieties which are very difficult to shape and practically impossible to force to grow into proper upright plants—even with staking, tying and cutting. We have one such plant, a healthy 'Coronation' which "just got away"—so the only solution was to plant it next to a wall and tie the long, limber branches flat and let it be an espalier.

When training young plants, staking and tying is often necessary. After a few years such a plant will support itself in an upright position and have a better chance to grow symmetrically for an improved and balanced appearance.

When moving a large plant which has been growing in the ground we often cut and damage the root system. To compensate for this shock and loss of root it is necessary to cut away a good portion of the top.

It is difficult to kill a healthy camellia plant by over pruning. For example, in most cases when large plants have been sawed off for grafting—where the graft then fails—we find new shoots being forced out and in a short time vigorous new growth replaces the original foliage.

Spraying for pest control is so much easier after thinning out, and it is more important to spray inside the plant than the outside foliage.

Remember, to keep your camellia plant healthy, vigorous, shapely and a producer of the finest blooms, don't be afraid to use the shears!

## ACTIVITIES (Cont.)

destruction due to termination of the Parks camellia hybridization project at the Los Angeles Arboretum. Working with Dr. Clifford Parks, our group arranged to take delivery in July, 1967, and care for some 3,100

seedlings in order that his work might be completed. Twelve of our members are participating in this project, scoring and evaluating the blooms and plants. Completion of the work will require several years.

There are some interesting sidelights on this Committee. Two members have been transferred east but have retained their membership on a correspondence basis and have modified their activities to suit their new environment. This gives us opportunity to test some of our cold hardiness developments and concentrate a little more effort in that direction. One member regularly travels 900 miles round-trip to attend our meetings — Basil J. Neptune of Long Beach — to whom all credit is due for his dedication.

Perhaps in the largest sense it is not only the special interests but the camaraderie and spirit of teamwork that has held this group together for so many years. We actually have a waiting list because of the necessity of limiting our membership to a size that can be readily accommodated in our homes. It is also very gratifying to our older members that so many younger fellows show an interest in this sort of thing, for this is a vital necessity if the work is to be perpetuated.

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### **R. H. S. Award To 'Mrs. D. W. Davis'**

C. japonica 'Mrs. D. W. Davis' was the only camellia listed in the December 1968 JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY among the plants to which awards were made by the Society in 1968. The award was made "as a flowering plant for the cool greenhouse". The flower was described as follows: "The flowers are semi-double with a few petaloids fringing the tight central cluster of stamens, and measure up to 6½ inches across."

## **ACS 1969 Awards**

Southern California won all the races in the American Camellia Society sweepstakes for the outstanding varieties in the three categories in which Awards for the 1968-1969 season were made; namely, japonica, sasanqua and hybrid. As is generally known, the award winners are selected by an ACS Awards Committee the membership of which is known only to a very few people. The winning blooms and their originators are as follows:

The *Ilges Metal* for outstanding japonica to 'Grand Slam', which was originated and propagated by Joe and Julius Nuccio of Nuccio's Nurseries of Altadena. This variety also won the Margarete Hertrich Award of the Southern California Camellia Society for outstanding japonica in the 1967-1968 camellia season.

The *Ralph Peer Award* for outstanding sasanqua to 'Star Upon Star', which was originated and propagated by Vern McCaskill of McCaskill's Gardens in Pasadena.

The *Aubrey Harris Award* for outstanding hybrid to 'Francie L', which was originated by Ed Marshall of the Huntington Gardens staff (but not in the Huntington Gardens) and propagated by Nuccio's Nurseries.

No award of *The Sewell Award* for outstanding mutant was made.

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### **Camellia Council Sets Show Dates**

The Los Angeles Camellia Council Board of Directors has set the following dates for the 1969-1970 camellia season shows that it will sponsor.

**EARLY SHOW:** December 6 and 7, 1969, to be held in Hospitality House in Descanso Gardens. The current season Early Show was held early in January 1969 because of conflicts in December dates involving

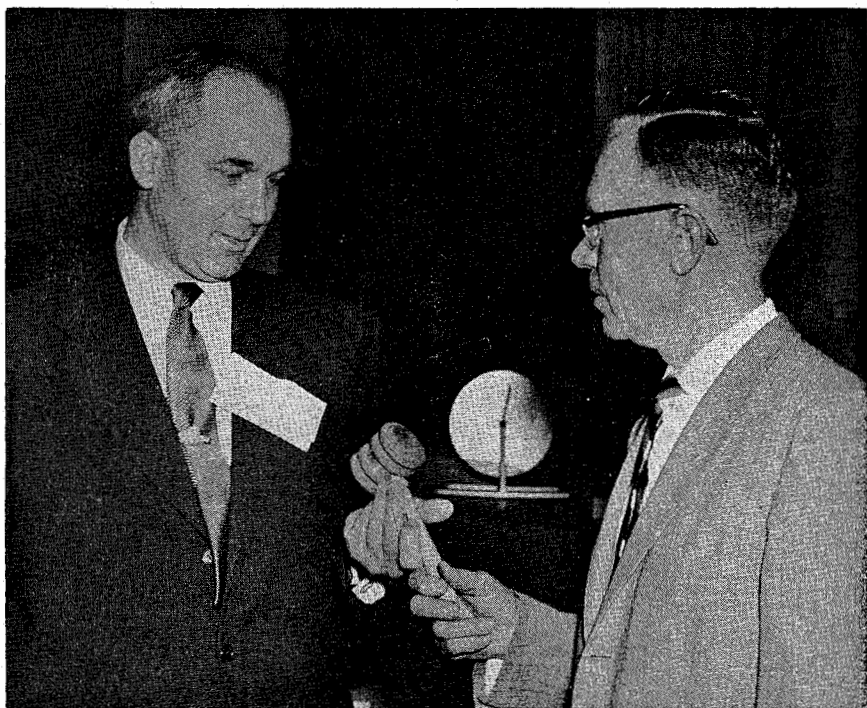
(Continued on next page)

Hospitality House and the decision to use this location in early January rather than go to another location for an early December show. The same conflict will exist for a December 1970 Early Show, and the Directors of the Camellia Council will decide in January 1970 regarding the date and location of the 1970-71 season Early Show.

**SPRING SHOW:** February 28 and March 1, 1970, to be held in Descanso Gardens as usual. The Board of Directors has adopted a formula for setting Spring Show dates, as follows: The show will be held on the week-end that is closest to March 1st, with the proviso that when March 1st is equidistant from the preceding and subsequent week-ends, the show will be held on the week-end that precedes March 1st.

## Australia and New Zealand Societies Dues

The Southern California Camellia Society is the Agent of the Australian and New Zealand camellia societies for the collection of dues of American members of these societies. The Australian Society dues are \$3.35 per year. New Zealand Society dues are \$3.00 per year. Both are on a calendar year basis. Checks for dues should be made payable to Southern California Camellia Society. American members of the two societies are urged to send their checks to the S. C. C. S. Secretary promptly to avoid having their names removed from the mailing records. Persons desiring to become members may join in the same manner. Publications of both societies are well worth the price of membership.



SCCS President Caryll Pitkin presents gavel to Retiring President Edwards H. Metcalf in 1957.



# Directory of California Camellia Societies

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

## \*CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF KERN COUNTY

President: Frank Anderson; Secretary, Melvin Canfield, 2709 Scott Pl., Bakersfield 93306

Meetings: 2nd Monday Oct. through Apr. at College Hts. School, 2551 Sunny Lane, Bakersfield

## \*CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF ORANGE COUNTY

President: Ronald Cowan; Secretary, Mrs. George T. Butler, 1813 Windsor Lane, Santa Ana 92705

Meetings: 1st Thursday October through April in Orange County Farm Bldg., 1916 W. Chapman, Orange

## CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF SACRAMENTO

President: Fred E. Carnie, Jr.; Secretary, Mrs. Frank P. Mack, 2222 G. St., Sacramento 95816

Meetings: 4th Wednesday October through May in Garden & Art Center, McKinley Park, Sacramento

## \*CENTRAL CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Robert Kellas; Secretary, Mrs. Glenn S. Wise, 5493 E. Liberty Ave., Fresno 93702

Meetings: Nov. 20, Dec. 18, Jan. 15, Feb. 19 in Mayfair School, Fresno

## DELTA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Wm. H. Hayes; Secretary: Mrs. Juanita Luther, 3408 Camby Rd., Antioch 94509

Meetings: 4th Tuesday October through April in School Adm. Bldg., 510 G St., Antioch

## JOAQUIN CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Karn Hoertling; Secretary: Mrs. Ethel S. Willits, 502 N. Pleasant Ave., Lodi 95240

Meetings: 1st Tuesday November through April in Micke Grove Memorial Bldg., Lodi

## LOS ANGELES CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: James Tuliano; Secretary: Mrs. Joe L. Vendracek, 13176 Fenton, Sylmar 91342

Meetings: 1st Tues., Dec. through April, Hollywood Women's Club, 1749 N. La Brea, Hollywood

## MODESTO CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Anthony F. Pinheiro; Secretary: Mrs. Hazel Grosso, 1424 Encina Ave., Modesto 95351

Meetings: 2nd Monday October through May in "Ag" Bldg. of Modesto Junior College

## NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Harvey L. Morton; Secretary: Robert C. McConnell

Meetings: 1st Monday November through May in Claremont Junior High School, 5750 College Ave., Oakland

## PACIFIC CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Albert H. Dekker; Secretary: Mrs. A. L. Summerson, 1370 San Luis Rey Dr., Glendale 91208

Meetings: 1st Thursday November through April in Tuesday Afternoon Club House, 400 N. Central Ave., Glendale

## PENINSULA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: R. E. Bernhardt; Secretary: Mrs. Charles F. O'Malley, 65 Robles Drive, Woodside 94062

Meetings: 4th Tuesday September through April in First Federal Savings & Loan Bldg., 700 El Camino Real, Redwood City, Calif. 94061

## \*POMONA VALLEY CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Walter Harmsen; Secretary: Mrs. Janet Meyers, 744 E. Dover, Glendora

Meetings: 2nd Thursday October through April in First Federal Savings & Loan Bldg., 399 N. Garey Ave., Pomona

## \*SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Charles B. Persing; Secretary: Mrs. William Schmitt, 101 Minot St., Chula Vista

Meetings: 2nd Friday (except February which is 1st Friday) November through May in Floral Assn. Bldg., Balboa Park, San Diego

## SANTA CLARA COUNTY CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Abe D'Innocenti; Secretary: Miss Pat McIntyre, 1810 Olive Ave., Apt. 4, San Jose 95128

Meetings: 2nd Thursday at Willow Glen Branch, American S/L, San Jose

## SONOMA COUNTY CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: James Grant; Secretary: Mrs. Inez Tryon, 614 Forest Dr., Sebastopol

Meetings: 4th Thursday, except Nov. (3rd Thursday) and Dec. (to be decided) in Redwood Empire S/L Assn., 1201 Guerneville Rd., Santa Rosa

## SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

See inside front cover of this issue of CAMELLIA REVIEW

## \*TEMPLE CITY CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Grady L. Perigan; Secretary: Mrs. Marie Perigan, 1147 Daines Dr., Arcadia 91006


Meetings: 2nd Thursday of Nov., 4th Friday of Dec. and 4th Thursday Jan. through April in Lecture Hall of Los Angeles County Arboretum, Arcadia



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