

THE  
*Camellia*  
REVIEW

A Publication of the Southern California Camellia Society



C. M. Wilson Splendor  
*Courtesy Nuccio's Nursery*

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October 1971

No. 1

One Dollar

# *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: \$6.50.

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## THE COVER FLOWER

### C. JAPONICA 'C. M. WILSON SPLENDOR'

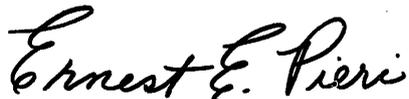
This heavily serrated sport of 'C. M. Wilson' has been admired by all who have seen it since it was first entered in a camellia show in 1969 in the Division for Sports. It has the same color and other characteristics as its parent.

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## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

As president of your society, I wish to extend a warm welcome to you, and hope that each of you has had a wonderful summer and is now ready to return to our meetings and display the results of your summer efforts. This also includes those of you who enjoy using the Camellia in flower arrangements.

Your Board of Directors and I feel that we have an outstanding program for each of our meetings and look forward to seeing you.



ERNEST E. PIERI  
President



# THOUGHTS

*from the editor*

As I start my twelfth year as Editor of CAMELLIA REVIEW, I recall my wife's question to me as I started my second year back in 1961. She said, "now that you have covered the field of camellias during your first year, what are you going to write about in the year ahead?" It is the same question every year as the No. 1 issue of the new Volume rolls around. While an Editor is a necessary part of any publication and must provide the leadership, the continuing success of a specialty publication such as CAMELLIA REVIEW depends on participation by the members of the group who, after all, possess the knowledge that goes into the publication.

I solicit participation by members of camellia societies. I am aware that some people "write easier" than other people do. I hesitate to ask such people to write when I know that writing would be a mental chore for them. On the other hand, I know that this is used as an excuse by some people to avoid doing a job. So I ask this: To those who have an experience or know of somebody else who is having an experience with their camellias that others would like to know about, please write it up and send it to the Editor. If the writer doesn't like what he has written, the Editor is always glad to "polish it up." To those who know of something that he thinks will interest others: pass the information along to the Editor. He will get somebody to write it up.

An important function of Camellia Review is to help people who are new in camellia culture. Experiences and experiments in cultural methods are always helpful to new people. They are also enjoyed by people who are past the beginners stage but are still seeking knowledge.

We believe that many of the subjects covered at camellia society meetings are worthy of being passed on. The test here, of course, is whether you would want to read about it if it were a report from another society. Publicity for one's society is not a reason for writing about it.

We like to have articles about research work that is being done, such as we have obtained from time to time from the Los Angeles County Arboretum. Some good work is being done by individuals, of which we are not aware.

These subjects would all be covered if we had a crew of reporters out circulating among camellia growers. We don't and shall not have such a group. The alternative is that a person who is interested in *Camellia Review* be conscious of the fact that most other camellia people are interested in the same things that interest him, and passes that on to the Editor.

*Harold E. Oyler*

# NEW ZEALAND CAMELLIA SHOW vs. CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SHOWS

Ben J. Rayner  
Stratford, New Zealand

Having recently visited California to attend the Camellia Convention and see as much as possible of camellia people, I have been asked to write an article comparing the Shows in our respective countries. There are many differences indeed, but these seem to suit the individual needs of those concerned. First of all, the main difference takes place many months before the shows and here my opinion is based on what I saw in Bill and Ruth Goertz's garden where my wife and I spent several happy days as guests of this delightful couple. As soon as blooming is over the bushes are pruned heavily, manicured continually and the results show in the following season. In New Zealand the bushes are, in the main, part of the general garden scene, very seldom pruned and in many cases never fertilized. In our garden here, we supply several nurseries with large quantities of wood for grafting and cuttings and several bushes which get pruned heavily for this reason reflect the attention given by supplying us with large numbers of gorgeous blooms.



Photo by Meyer Piet  
Ben and Wynne Rayner

One notices another big difference. I can still remember the work involved around the Goertz garden in picking up blooms, leaves, etc. and am sure that a few weeks of such treatment would be good for my figure. Here, the large bushes are surrounded by a carpet of spent blooms (may petal blight never arrive in this country).

As the Show approaches, another large difference between our respective countries emerges. At this year's Convention in New Zealand, there were exactly ten Classes for specific named varieties, which were 'Betty Sheffield Supreme', 'Carter's Sunburst', 'Elegans Supreme', 'Guest of Honor', 'Mrs. D. W. Davis', 'R. L. Wheeler', 'Tiffany' and 'Tommorrow'. Then they have a Class for Single Blooms, one for Semi-doubles, one for Peony form, one for Anemone form and Rose form and Formal double. These are followed by Classes for three blooms, miniature or small; three blooms, medium to large; three blooms japonica, different varieties; six blooms different varieties and twelve blooms different varieties. There is also a collector's class for twenty-four different varieties or species of camellia. There are thirteen different Classes for specific named reticulata, three Classes for groups of reticulata. These are followed by eight classes for hybrids and five Classes for seedlings.

The exhibitor decides which he will enter, marks his schedule accordingly and posts it off to the Show Secretary. On arrival at the Show, one finds the tables all laid out, with entry cards beside the containers already filled out. The big advantage of this system is that the Show Committee know in advance the exact amount of table space required. This I thought was the

*(Continued on next page)*

worst feature of the California shows that I saw. The Show Committee has no idea of how many entries they will receive or how much table space is required. This really did not effect all the shows which I saw, but one in particular had tables and tables of tightly packed blooms, which did not do the blooms justice, neither did it help the Show concerned.

What did impress me more than anything else were your Judges breakfasts or luncheons. This is a feature which could be started in New Zealand. This social get together emphasizes that part of camellia growing which I consider to be the most important, that of meeting people and becoming friends with them.

Now, having the blooms entered in the show, the Judges have finished the judging, let us move in for the post mortem. When I arrived back in New Zealand I received a letter from an American who wrote, "What did you think of our judging? Don't you think that a ten year old boy, with a tape measure, could do as well?" Without being derogatory in any way to you good people, I have to admit that in many cases this did apply. After judging was completed in the four shows which I saw, I wandered around on my own with a very critical eye. All your Judges go for size and condition whereas we in New Zealand place more value in form for

the variety concerned and its condition. All other conditions being equal, then the big fellow wins every time and rightly so.

Whilst in America I was of the opinion that your japonicas were better than ours but our reticulatas were far superior. Now, with another Show behind us, I am of the opinion that our reticulatas are still out in front, but now with our plants becoming larger, our blooms of the species japonica are at last equal to the best I saw Overseas, and in many cases far superior. The winners of the Class for twenty-four blooms, Mr. and Mrs. Ron Show of Auckland, had at least twenty blooms in their winning entry which would not have disgraced any Head Table in California and at least ten of these could have been Best Bloom in the show. The Champion Bloom, in fact, was a perfect flower of 'Janet Clark' and many people drooled over this bloom to the extent that if they couldn't obtain a plant they tried to obtain scions. The flower was exhibited by Dr. Wilson and was the only flower shown by him. I did not measure it but it must have been over seven inches across and nearly five inches high. Believe me it was gorgeous.

Many other varieties which originated in your country were shown for the first time but I felt that they still

*(Continued on page 20)*

## RESULTS OF NEW ZEALAND CAMELLIA SOCIETY NATIONAL SHOW

Best Bloom in Show—'Janet Clark,' Dr. W. H. Wilson, Auckland  
Reserve Champion—'Mrs. D. W. Davis,' Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Shaw, Auckland  
Best Japonica—'Mrs. D. W. Davis,' Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Shaw  
Best Reticulata—'Janet Clark,' Dr. W. H. Wilson  
Best Hybrid with Reticulata Parentage—'Futura,' Mrs. R. R. McNab, Levin  
Best Seedling in Show—To be named 'Greystone,' Mr. and Mrs. Shaw  
Best Seedling Reticulata (Clark Cup)—Won by Mrs. Ivan Wood, Christchurch  
3 Different Japonica Blooms (Boon Trophy)—Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Shaw  
6 Different Japonica Blooms (Council Trophy)—Mr. and Mrs. Shaw  
12 Different Blooms (Council Trophy)—Mr. and Mrs. Shaw  
Collectors Class, 24 Different Varieties or Species (Council Trophy)—Mr. and Mrs. Shaw

# CAMELLIA CULTURE AS WE PRACTICE IT

L. R. and Violet J. Shuey

Before detailing our methods and procedures for growing worthwhile camellias, we wish to point out that our garden contains in excess of 450 camellia plants, including many of the species. None of these plants are grown under seran, plastic, or in a lath or green house, but are all grown under the partial shade of trees or tall shrubs. This makes for somewhat different camellia culture than if they were grown under lath or seran where there is a constant and even distribution of sunlight.

Approximatly one-fourth of our plants are in the ground; whereas the majority are in various size containers. This, of course, requires the adoption of different cultural procedures.

We are now on the threshold of a new camellia year. Most of our plants are in bud and the flowers that are to come will determine whether or not we have done our work well. The proper care of camellias is a constant effort and some of this effort must be expended during each month of the year to obtain maximum rewards.

We will now attempt to enumerate the cultural steps that must be taken to obtain these rewards in our garden, keeping in mind our growing conditions. Since, as connoisseurs of fine camellias, we are interested in perfection, our primary tasks at this time of year are (1) disbudding, (2) fertilizing, and (3) limited pruning. We commenced disbudding as soon as we could distinguish between bud growth and plant growth and will continue to do so until only one, or not more than two, buds remain on each branch. Disbudding is done to obtain fewer flowers, but of larger and show quality perfection. This is a prime requisite for those interested in exhibiting flowers; however, if one does not wish to exhibit his blooms and desires color

in the garden or around the home, limited or no disbudding may suffice. Some varieties of camellias are prone to set buds up and down the stem in the manner of a gladiola. All buds, except those on the terminal of each branch, are removed. To date, we have removed several thousand flower buds from our plants and will continue this practice, especially on the late blooming varieties which set buds much later than the early bloomers.

Another very important function at this time of year is the application of additional fertilizer to camellias. As the first new buds appear, we discontinue the use of high nitrogen fertilizers (which promote rapid new plant growth) and begin feeding our plants with low nitrogen fertilizers. We are currently using "High Bloom," a liquid fertilizer, whose principal chemical ingredients are as follows:

1. 2% nitrogen
2. 10% Phosphoric acid
3. 10% Potash

This plant food has proven highly satisfactory in the obtainment of quality blooms and is applied every 30 or 40 days until the commencement of the blooming period. We also augment this fertilizer with iron chelate, which is applied at least twice between October and December. In addition to strengthening and rejuvenating the soil, iron corrects chlorosis (yellowing of foliage) caused by iron or other mineral deficiencies and restores the deep, green healthy color to foliage. Furthermore, the use of iron is extremely important in darkening the color of red in camellias. We use a product sold under the trade name of "Iron Plus," because in addition to iron, it contains zinc, manganese, copper and sulphur, all of which are beneficial and build up the soil.

*(Continued on next page)*

Limited pruning is a basic requirement at this time of year and particularly with specimen size plants growing in the ground. Secondary plant growth commences during the early summer months and should be removed. If this is not done, it will cause flower buds to drop, any one of which may be a potential "best flower" of show. This growth is for the most part rank and stringy and does nothing to enhance the shape of the plant. Nurserymen prune and remove this growth from their plants to make them more salable to the public.

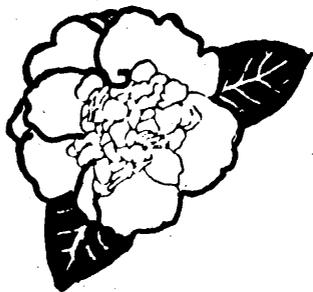
We also do some pruning of small branches in the center of the plant to let in light and to promote the flow of sap to the main terminal branches from which the best flowers are obtained. These small and inferior branches do not contribute anything to the quality of your plant and its blooms.

Another of our basic cultural prac-

tices at this time of year is the removal of all tree leaves which have fallen into our pots or around the base of plants growing in the ground. Unless removed, these decaying leaves will be breeding places for snails, slugs, sow bugs, beetles, etc. It is essential that the soil beneath a camellia plant be free of decaying or contaminated matter to avoid, if possible, the presence of deadly root fungi which, in many cases, impair or destroy a plant.

At last, but not least, inasmuch as Vi and I are avid disciples of "gib," we commence the work of treating our camellia buds with gibberellic acid between September 15 and October 1. This is necessary to insure that we have blooms for the initial November meetings of the various Southern California camellia societies that we attend. Once we begin this work, we endeavor to gib a certain number of buds each week until about March 15,

*(Continued on page 8)*



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# CAMELLIA PERSONALITIES

## SLANE AND GERTRUDE STUMP

Stanley and Alice Miller  
El Cajon, California

That never ending question to the Camellia enthusiast, "How did you get into Camellias?" When we asked the Stumps this question, we learned of the friend in need. In this case a friend of Gertrude's whose husband had left her more camellias than she could manage alone, asked for help. So the Stumps took about a hundred of them.

This was the challenge faced by Gertrude and Slane Stump of La Crescenta, now residents of Vista, San Diego County, and the winners of many a trophy from Southern California camellia shows.

Before they left La Crescenta yet another friend invited them to a program on Camellias at the Pacific Camellia Society. They attended these meetings again and again. They were gaining knowledge and making new friends. Gertrude, Slane and daughter Mary Thurman were so pleased with the delightful people they met at Pacific Camellia Society that when they built their new home in Vista, they decided to join the San Diego Camellia Society. They have been members since 1963.

Now the Stumps have a collection of several hundred Camellias. Japonicas comprise the largest selection although they have Reticulatas and Hybrids, too. Seedlings? Yes, all their own. Gertrude says she is a collector by nature and they usually buy about a dozen each year of the new varieties of special appeal to them. Of special appeal to Gertrude is the pink blend or "sweet pea" type as she terms it. Slane likes the variegated and Mary Thurman likes the miniatures. They are interested in all forms and sizes, quote "we don't agree that just because a flower is bigger, it is better."

For housing their collections, the

Stumps have one large lath house and one large shade house. They are both full and they are beginning to consider adding shelves just in case they see more camellias that have appeal. Some are planted in the ground on the north side of the house. These are doing well and have produced some winners. All the Camellias are beautifully grown. Each one reflects good care. Small wonder that so many blue ribbons and top awards go to the Stumps. But in visiting with them about their successes they disclaim any real knowledge about Camellias. They are humble to a noticeable degree. They speak gratefully of their close friendship with Howard Asper and the sage advice from Harvey Short. They admit to an eagerness to pick up any worthy suggestion from those they consider to be more experienced.

The care of the collection is a joint endeavor. Slane does all the grafting. Gertrude cares for the seeds from harvesting to bloom. Slane is willing to use for rootstock any of the shatterers and those that are subject to balling in their area. When it comes to pruning, Slane and Gertrude work together. Pruning is done so that the plants in containers have space and air around them. The fertilizing starts in March usually and continues each month through August with one handful of cotton seed meal, supplemented with a scanty iron feeding. Irrigation is considered to be an individual plant problem and treated accordingly. When a plant is ready and needy, it is watered, a finger pressed into the soil is the yard stick. How can such individual care be given? To quote Slane who's retired, "Retirement is the greataest invention since the wheel."

*(Continued on next page)*

They do take time to just enjoy their Camellias, to study their needs, to watch them respond to care. They say that is why they have them. Competition is quite secondary to sharing hundreds of their blooms with the ill and with organizations to which they belong to be used in decorating. And for their own reward, that early morning visit to their collection to reveal over that fresh, newly opened flower, so lovely in its perfection—be it named variety or one of their own beautiful seedlings.

As to their continued successes in competition, they feel they have been lucky. They know they have some good flowers and feel fortunate that weather and growth have coincided to give them some good deals. To assist what might be considered natural causes in this, the Stumps have taken the directions of Fred Hamilton. They usually pick the extra good flowers beginning as early as Tuesday or Wednesday before a Show. They place these carefully in boxes and take the boxes to the Cooling Room in Vista. The cooler is set at 45 degrees. The 'Mark Alan' which won the Best Large Japonica at Descanso Show was picked Tuesday in a downpour of rain. Gertrude gently wiped off the raindrops with a tissue, packed it in the boxes with the others, took it to the cooler Tuesday before the show, where it stayed until late Friday. Gertrude said, "We were surprised when

it won but then we are always surprised when we win. We always think everyone else has superior flowers to ours. And this feeling does not seem to change no matter how many trophies and ribbons we win."

Being most gracious and hospitable people, the Stumps feel that one big pleasure that winning Sweepstakes twice in San Diego brought them was the Camellia buffs who dropped by and the Camellia chit chat that followed.

The Stumps feel that their Camellia hobby tends to keep them on their toes, alert and interested, reading everything they can find, talking with anyone who will talk and experimenting with suggestions that arouse their interest.

They have always had botanical interests. From time to time their interests have included Fuschias, Pelargoniums and at the present time Succulents, Zygocactus and an outstanding collection of Daylillies. Besides these interests, they still have time for horses and horseback riding. Boredom for the retired? It is a safe guess—not for the Stumps. They will never die of ennui!

### CAMELLIA CULTURE (Cont.)

at which time the blooming period is past its peak.

We'll be with you again next month for a continuation of our cultural program.

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# SHOW RESULTS

## NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

Sunvalley Center, Concord—March 13-14, 1970

- Best Flower of Show—'Elegans Supreme,' William D. Stewart, Sacramento  
Sweepstakes—Mrs. and Mrs. Charles A. Boynton, Lodi  
Sweepstakes Runner-up—Frank T. Bartucco, Sacramento  
Best Group of 3 of Show—'Kona,' Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. O'Malley, Woodside  
Novice Sweepstakes—Anthony Pinheiro, Modesto  
Award of Excellence—Harvey L. Morton, Lafayette  
Challenge Award—Harold B. Studt, Sacramento  
Best Large Japonica—'Easter Morn,' Dr. and Mrs. Hugh Wang, Pleasant Hill  
Best Large Japonica Runner-up—'Carter's Sunburst Pink,' Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Boynton, Lodi  
Best Medium Japonica—'Margaret Davis,' Mr. and Mrs. Skip Stevens,  
Best Medium Japonica Runner-up—'Can Can,' Mr. and Mrs. Geo. A. Stewart,  
Best Boutonniere Japonica—'Kitty,' Mr. and Mrs. Eric A. Flunker, Modesto  
Best 3 Japonicas—'Grand Slam,' Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Boynton  
Best 3 Japonicas Runner-up—'Betty Sheffield Supreme,' William D. Stewart,  
Best 3 Boutonniere Japonicas—'Pink Smoke,' Dr. and Mrs. F. L. Rankin,  
Best 3 Boutonniere Japonicas Runner-up—'Kitty,' Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Pinheiro  
Best 6 Japonicas—'Angel,' Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Pinheiro  
Best 6 Japonicas Runner-up—'Clark Hubbs,' Mr. and Mrs. Richard Ray, Sacramento  
Best 6 Boutonniere Japonicas—'Man Size,' Dr. and Mrs. Fred E. Heitman, Lafayette  
Best 6 Boutonniere Japonicas Runner-up—'Maroon and Gold,' Frank T. Bartucco  
Best Reticulata—'Lila Naff,' Harvey L. Morton, Lafayette  
Best Reticulata Runner-up—'Mouchang,' Dr. and Mrs. F. L. Rankin  
Best 3 Reticulatas—'Mandalay Queen,' Mr. and Mrs. Chas. F. O'Malley  
Best 3 Reticulatas Runner-up—'Tali Queen,' Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Wist, Orinda  
Best 6 Reticulatas—'Mandalay Queen,' Mr. and Mrs. Howard Burnette, Castro Valley  
Best 6 Reticulatas Runner-up—'Crimson Robe,' Robert J. Slobe, Sacramento  
Best Large Hybrid—'Vallee Knudnen,' Mr. and Mrs. Sal Davi, Pittsburg  
Best Large Hybrid Runner-up—'Valentine Day,' Harold L. Paige, Lafayette  
Best Medium Hybrid—'Dorothy James,' Dr. and Mrs. Fred E. Heitman  
Best Medium Hybrid Runner-up—'Brigadoon,' Harold R. Studt, Sacramento  
Best 3 Large Hybrids—'Vallee Knudsen,' Mr. and Mrs. Sal B. Davi  
Best 3 Large Hybrids Runner-up—'Howard Asper,' Harvey L. Morton  
Best 3 Medium Hybrids—'E. G. Waterhouse,' William D. Stewart  
Best Special Culture Bloom—'Mathotiana Supreme,' Mr. and Mrs. Jack Woo, Fresno  
Best Special Culture Bloom Runner-up—'Howard Asper,' Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ehrhart  
Best Group of 12 Varieties—Mr. and Mrs. Richard Ray, Sacramento  
Best Large Seedling—No. 26, Matt P. Tallia  
Best Large Seedling Runner-up—80 (4), D. L. Feathers, Lafayette  
Best Medium Seedling—Matt P. Tallia  
Best Medium Seedling Runner-up—No. 13, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. A. Stewart  
Best Boutonniere Seedling—Peony Var, D. L. Feathers

## CALIFORNIA INTRODUCTIONS FOR 1971

Twenty varieties of new camellias are being introduced by California nurseries in the 1971 season. Nuccio's Nurseries will have thirteen, McCaskill Gardens five, Monrovia Nurseries of Azusa one and Al and Vera Parker's Redwood Empire Nursery of Sebastopol one. The twenty varieties are listed alphabetically in the following.

**ARBUTUS GUM**, by Nuccio's Nursery. An open pollinated reticulata parentage seedling that was developed by Frank Maitland of Sylmar. It was known as Maitland's A-1 before it was named. The flower is light to deep rose-pink in color, large, semi-double with upright petals. Plant growth is medium and upright. It blooms mid-season.

**AZTEC**, by Monrovia Nurseries. It is a cross of *C. japonica* 'Lotus' and *C. reticulata* 'Crimson Robe,' with 'Crimson Robe' the female parent, that was made by Howard Asper and first bloomed in 1964. The rose form double flower has reached six and one-half inches in diameter and three and one-quarter inches in depth in outdoor growing. Color is rose madder. It blooms mid-season.

**BLACK LACE**, by Nuccio's Nursery. This variety was originated in the South. It is a medium to large formal double, a dark velvety red with a darker red edge. Growth is compact and upright. It blooms mid-season.

**BONBON BLUSH**, a sport of BonBon, by McCaskill Gardens. The miniature flower is deep pink with each petal edged in white.

**C. M. WILSON SPLENDOR**, by Nuccio's Nurseries. This heavily serrated sport of C. M. Wilson was discovered by Clark Thomas of the Paul Gaines Nursery in San Dimas, California. It was first displayed in the February 1969 show of the Pomona Valley Camellia Society where it was awarded Best Sport. The sheen in the blossom and foliage is similar to that of 'Elegans Supreme.' It blooms mid-sea-

son. This new sport has been the new variety that has been most admired by the people who have been privileged to peek into Nuccio's back lath house where the new stock has been grown.

**CARNIVAL PRINCE**, by Nuccio's Nurseries, a rose-pink sport of their 1968 introduction 'Carnival Queen.' The flower is peony form.

**CARNIVAL PRINCESS**, by Nuccio's Nurseries, also a sport of 'Carnival Queen.' The color is pale pink, bordered white. The flower is large, an irregular semi-double to full peony form. It blooms mid-season.

**CHITTAGONG**, by Nuccio's Nurseries. This chance seedling with reticulata parentage was developed by Monique Peer of Park Hill in Hollywood. Color is a sweet pea red. The flower is large to very large with wavy, crinkled petals. Plant growth is medium and spreading. It blooms mid-season.

**CONFETTI**, by McCaskill Gardens, a white miniature spotted red. The flower is formal to anemone form. The plant is vigorous, upright and bushy. McCaskill is also introducing two sports of 'Confetti,' **CONFETTI BLUSH**, pink with a red stripe, edged white, and **CONFETTI RED**, red as its name implies.

**CRAIG CLARK**, by Nuccio's Nurseries. This seedling of *C. reticulata* 'Cornelian' was developed by Jack Clark of Auckland, New Zealand. Color is deep carmine. The flower is very large, semi-double with wavy, crinkled, crepe-textured petals. Plant growth is vigorous and spreading. 'Craig Clark' received the Frank Sturment Award of the Southern California Camellia Society for outstanding reticulata of 1970.

**FANDANGO RED**, by McCaskill Gardens, a solid red sport of 'Fandango.'

**KEWPIE DOLL**, by McCaskill, a chalky light pink miniature. The

flower is anemone form with a high petaloid center. Plant growth is vigorous, upright and bushy.

**KOHINOR**, by Nuccio's Nurseries, another chance reticulata seedling from Park Hill. The flower is large to very large, semi-double with irregular, upright petals. Color is an unusual frosted, orchid pink. 'Kohinor' won 2 Bests in Southern California shows of 1970.

**MRS. D. W. DAVIS DESCANSO**, by Nuccio's Nursery. This is a peony form of 'Mrs. D. W. Davis' that was discovered in Descanso Gardens of La Canada, California and was stabilized by Mark Anthony, Superintendent of the Gardens, before he let it be known that he had discovered the peony form. There have been any number of peony forms of 'Mrs. D. W. Davis' that have been entered in camellia shows, sufficient in number that the name 'Mrs. D. W. Davis Peony' has been registered and is listed in **CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE**. In California, at least, these peony forms have not been stabilized. With this background, it was impossible, of course, to use the name 'Mrs. D. W. Davis Peony' for the Descanso Gardens flower and it was decided to use the name 'Mrs. D. W. Davis Descanso' to identify it as the one discovered in the Garden and stabilized by Mark Anthony. It has the same color and growth habits as the parent. The flowers that have bloomed at Nuccio's have been somewhat smaller in their compact peony form than the flowers of peony form that have bloomed on plants of 'Mrs. D. W. Davis.'

**ROYALTY**, by Nuccio's Nursery. This japonica 'Clarise Carleton' X reticulata 'Cornelian' seedling was developed by T. E. Croson of Simi, California. Color is bright pink to red in the center of the petals. The flower is very large, semi-double with wavy, crinkled petals. Growth is medium and upright. It blooms mid-season to late.

**SAN DIMAS**, by Nuccio's Nursery,

developed by Clark Thomas of the Paul Gaines Nursery of San Dimas. It is named after the city in which the nursery is located. It is a large, brilliant orange red semi-double with wavy petals. Blooming time starts in mid-November. The plant has dark green foliage, is compact and upright in growth.

**SUNSET**, by Nuccio's Nurseries. This is a Frank Maitland reticulata seedling that was first known as "Big Orange Red." The flower is large to very large, semi-double with irregular petals. It blooms mid-season to late. Plant growth is medium and upright.

**THREE DREAMS**, by Nuccio's Nurseries. An open-pollinated seedling of 'Buddha' from Park Hill. Color is deep rose pink. The flower is large to very large, semi-double with wavy, crinkled petals. It blooms mid-season.

**WYNNE RAYNER**, by Al and Vera Parker's Redwood Empire Nursery of Sebastopol, California. This saluenensis hybrid was developed by Ben Rayner of New Zealand and named by him in honor of his wife Wynne. The flower is semi-double to anemone in form and is four to five inches in diameter. The color is lavender pink, along the line of the saluenensis hybrids we have seen. Al Parker thinks that 'Wynne Rayner' will be most popular as a camellia for garden landscape.

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## **Members With Paid Dues Will Receive New Nomenclature Book**

As in the past, the new 1972 edition of **CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE** will be sent to S. C. C. S. members whose 1972 dues have been paid. The new edition will be ready for mailing about December 1st, and it is in a member's interest that he pay his 1972 dues before that date. Subsequent to December 1st, the book will be mailed to members as their dues are received by the Secretary.

# CAMELLIA RESEARCH PROGRESS REPORT— LOS ANGELES ARBORETUM

George P. Hanson and Carlos D. Jativa  
Los Angeles County Arboretum

Camellia research at the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum for the past two years has consisted of evaluating and selecting seedling hybrids, hybridizing for sun tolerance and landscape subjects and initiating a series of gamma-irradiation, pollen storage and root induction experiments.

Evaluation and selection of hybrids are done as they come into bloom. Longley and Parks in 1962 initiated a massive program to gain genetical information on camellias and these studies have been continued by Parks and collaborators (see Camellia Breeding Progress Reports published in the American Camellia Yearbook 1964-68). The plants remaining at the Arboretum are those which on the basis of their parentage offer promise of an improved camellia. As these plants are scored, the best individuals are selected and planted on the Arboretum grounds for further study.

One of these selections has been named "John Anson Ford" in honor of the former county supervisor who was a prime mover in the creation of the Los Angeles County Department of Arboreta and Botanic Gardens. For a color photograph and brief description of this camellia see *Lasca Leaves*, June 1971, Vol. XXI, No. 2. This hybrid (Park's number 75H-1) is the result of a cross between a Huntington Botanic Garden seedling of Williams Lavender X Purple Gown. It should be available to the public shortly.

Another selection (R17-22) won praise at a Southern California Camellia Society show for its unusual cupped petals with dark pink margins. This hybrid is being tested for sun tolerance and propagated for potential introduction. Another of Dr. Park's crosses (80-4) sent to the Nor-

thern California Camellia Society, Inc. has been shown by David Feathers at several flower shows. Last spring this hybrid won best in class for A Reticulata or Reticulata Hybrid Seedling at the Los Angeles Camellia Show at Descanso Gardens in La Canada, California. It will be introduced shortly, probably under the name 'Dr. Clifford Parks.'

Camellia hybridization now being carried out has two major goals: To obtain more sun tolerant japonicas and to develop new types of camellias for landscape use. Crosses for sun tolerance are being made among existing japonica cultivars which show some degree of tolerance. Selected reticulatas are also being employed as a source of sun tolerance germ plasm.

We believe that several relatively unknown species of camellias carry genes which offer promise as landscape plants. *C. rosaeiflora* is very floriferous and japonica-rosaeiflora hybrids have dense foliage, small leaves, and a multitude of intermediate size flowers. This species may yield a camellia suitable for a hedge.

*C. lutchuensis* contributes fragrance to its hybrids. Resulting flowers are often rather small, but foliage characteristics are pleasing.

*C. fraterna* is a small flowered, leaved species which contributes these characters and a somewhat pendulous habit to its hybrids. The result is rather pleasing and further attempts are being made to improve upon it.

*C. granthamiana* is a large flowered, prominent veined camellia with a rather open habit. Preliminary crosses have yielded some nice hybrids. Further work is called for.

Other species such as *C. taliensis*, *C. hongkongensis*, *C. salicifolia*, *C. tsaii*, *C. drupifera*, *C. kissi*, etc. are

being used to determine their potential value for Southern California landscapes.

In an effort to better understand the rooting capacity of several well known varieties and their response to (IBA) we have carried out several rooting experiments using an endogenous carrier (DMSO). Preliminary conclusions have been published in the *Camellia Review*, Vol. 32, Nov. 1970, No. 2.

Another area of exploration being pursued at the Arboretum is gamma-irradiation. It is being employed to produce highly desirable mutants for ornamental purposes. Gamma-irradiation is commonly used now for improving agricultural plants. See *Scientific American*, *Induced mutations in plants*, Jan. 1971, Vol. 224, 86-95. We are using it to improve species hybrids which exhibit much promise but are sterile. We have found considerable variation between varieties and species with respect to sensitivity to irradiation. Apparently one dosage will not be optimal for all camellias—5000 roetgens is about right for a *lutchuensis-japonica* hybrid we tested, but it was lethal for Bernice Boddy, and had little effect on Narumigata and Debutante.

In order to facilitate crosses between species, which do not flower at the same time, and to make their germ plasma more available to hobbyists, we have begun studies on pollen storage. *C. granthamiana* is a relatively early bloomer (fall flowering) which readily hybridizes with *C. saluenensis*, *C. japonica* and *C. reticulata*. Reciprocal crosses between *C. granthamiana* and *C. reticulata* (late bloomer) are not possible due to the nonavailability of *C. granthamiana* flowers when *C. reticulata* is in mid-bloom. To by-pass this barrier we have stored pollen grains of *C. granthamiana*, *japonica* var. Reg Ragland and var. Ville de Nantes and *C. reticulata*. (Wild Form). After six months storage the pollens from these species

is still viable. Thus far we have learned that storage conditions as well as pre-storage treatments are of great importance. For example the percent germination in all species mentioned above dropped to less than one percent after six months of storage in a vial containing Calcium Chloride and kept in a laboratory drawer. (This method has been outlined by Sawada in the 1948 *American Camellia Yearbook*, page 89-90). Freeze-dried pollen grains of *C. japonica* var. Ville de Nantes stored in the freezer on the other hand showed insignificant reduction in germination after six months storage. Further camellia pollen storage studies will be carried out with pollen collected in the next flowering season in an effort to find the optimal storage conditions bearing in mind a future pollen bank to make available desirable genotypes on a year-round basis.

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### **Austins and Rayners Say "Thank You"**

Harold and Phyllis Austin of New Zealand, who with their fellow countrymen Ben and Wynne Rayner visited California last February and March, including the time of the A. C. S. meeting at Pasadena, have asked for a "small corner" of *Camellia Review* for them to "express to the California people the heartfelt thanks of four Kiwis for the wonderful hospitality showered on us during our recent visit." Mrs. Austin stated in her letter "I am sure that there is something peculiar to 'Camellia-ites' that sweeps away barriers to make the stranger in a strange land feel perfectly at ease. We enjoyed meeting you all—seeing your gardens, discussing Camellias and taking a peep at your way of life. We hope that, in our turn, we can have the pleasure of showing our Camellias to any who are able to make the trip 'Down Under' to New Zealand in the future."

## NEW CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE BOOK WILL HAVE CHANGES

Harold E. Dryden

The new 1972 edition of CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE is at the printers and will be ready for distribution around the first of December 1971. While printing costs have increased since the present edition was printed in 1969, the Board of Directors of the Southern California Camellia Society has decided that the price of the new 1972 edition will be the same as for the prior edition. Single copies will be priced at \$2.50 a copy. Camellia societies and other groups will pay \$1.95 a copy on purchases of twelve and more copies. Income from the sale of the 1970 edition has slightly exceeded costs, but less than the expected increase in the cost of the new edition because of increases in paper and labor prices. The Board of Directors hopes that what might appear to be a deficit for the new edition can be avoided by increased sales through the camellia societies in the areas where camellias are grown, and will work toward this end.

The new edition will include all new American varieties that were registered with the American Camellia Society prior to the first of September. New registrations in Australia and New Zealand have been obtained from the publications of the Australian and New Zealand camellia societies. Two steps have been taken by Editor Bill Woodroof which he feels will contribute to the usefulness of the new edition, particularly in connection with its use for camellia shows.

Editor Woodroof has reviewed the listings of all japonica varieties with regard to their classification as Medium or Large flowers. Growing experience in some areas has brought out that some varieties that were registered as large do not consistently produce large flowers. The increasing

practice of having separate Divisions in camellia shows for Large and Medium flowers has pointed to the importance of having the varieties properly classified in the nomenclature book, particularly because the show rules generally provide that Camellia Nomenclature will be the authority for classifying the varieties. Some varieties classified as Large have consistently bloomed Medium and these varieties have been reclassified accordingly in the new edition.

Many varieties, however, have not set a consistent pattern which would justify such reclassification, particularly in view of the fact that the originator has described them as Large. The Editorial Board has not felt free arbitrarily to change such varieties from Large to Medium. Rather, it has used the expedient of the classification Medium to Large, which means that in some areas the flowers may be Medium and in other areas Large. The Editorial Board recognizes that this may create administrative problems for some camellia show committees, in that a committee must decide whether flowers of such a variety will be entered in the Medium or Large Division. The Editorial Board believes, however, that the function of the nomenclature book is to describe the varieties as accurately as possible, and that arbitrary descriptions should not be forced solely for the purpose of simplifying the administration of camellia shows. Looking to the future, Woodroof points out that accuracy with regard to size classification will be improved if people everywhere who use the nomenclature book will inform him of instances in which varieties do not bloom in their area according to nomenclature book classification.

A major change has been made in

the new nomenclature book with regard to varieties with reticulata parentage. Heretofore the title "Species Reticulata" has been used for the reticulatas that were imported from China and for those new varieties that have been identified as "reticulata" by the originators on their registration statements. The latter has included both seedlings that were the result of hand pollination and both parents were known to be reticulata (such as 'Mouchang,' a cross of 'Moutancha' and what has been called 'Chang's Temple') and some of the chance seedlings that were called reticulata only because they came from reticulata seeds. Most of these chance seedlings with a single known reticulata parent in recent years have been called hybrids and have been listed under the title "Hybrids," along with the cross-pollinated reticulata hybrids, such as 'Francie L' (saluensis 'Apple Blossom' X reticulata 'Buddha') and those known not to have reticulata parentage (such as 'Elsie Jury,' saluensis X japonica 'Pukekura White'). The title "Hybrids" has thus included three groups: (1) Hand pollinated seedlings with both parents known, one of which is reticulata, (2) Seedlings having one known reticulata parent with the other unknown, (3) Seedlings where neither parent is reticulata.

This has created an undesirable competitive situation in camellia shows for the hybrid group, which has been relieved in some camellia shows by having two Divisions for Hybrids, one for varieties with reticulata parentage and one for varieties with other than reticulata parentage. Under this plan, such outstanding hybrids as 'Elsie Jury,' 'Julia Hamiter' and others without reticulata parentage have won "Best of Show" awards, which had been only infrequent when they were competing with such as 'Howard Asper' and 'Francie L.'

With the present trend to classify as hybrids all the new reticulata seed-

lings except the few hand pollinated seedlings where both parents are known to be reticulata, this has had the effect of practically freezing the listings under a title "Species Reticulata." Dr. Clifford Parks, who has given at least as much thought and study to camellia species as any other person in the United States, has expressed doubt that there is really a pure species "reticulata" but that the reticulatas that were brought out of China in 1948 are probably the result of natural cross pollination that had occurred over the years.

Because of these considerations, i.e., the competitive show consideration and the probable doubt that there is a pure reticulata, the two sections "Species Reticulata" and "Hybrids" are superseded by "Reticulatas and Hybrids With Reticulata Parentage" and "Hybrids With Other Than Reticulata Parentage." Show committees that wish to continue to have a Division for the varieties that have heretofore been listed as "Reticulatas" can continue to do so by defining the group in their show rules; namely, the China importation group and the hand pollinated crosses as described above. All the chance reticulata seedlings would then be competing as Hybrids With Reticulata Parents.

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## DESCANSO EARLY SHOW

The early gib camellia show will be held this year at Descanso Gardens on December 4 and 5. The Descanso Guild will use the Hospitality House in December for a Christmas Decorations Show and the Los Angeles Camellia Council has decided to hold an outdoor show at Descanso Gardens rather than hold it at the Los Angeles County Arboretum as has been done in the past when the Hospitality House has not been available. Arthur Krumm will be Show Chairman.

## PREPARE NOW FOR CAMELLIA GRAFTING

October is not too early to start preparation for the 1972 grafting program. People sometimes seem suddenly to awaken to the fact that January or February has arrived and, therefore, it is time to think about making some of the grafts they mentally noted during the last blooming season. They look over their plants to determine if some should have their heads chopped off. If they don't find enough understock from this source, they start to shop among nurseries. Better results will be obtained in the long run if the thinking and some of the acting starts early - about now.

Fortunate is he who grows enough seedlings so that he has seedling understock to meet his grafting needs. The better growers of seedlings will have given the same attention to such understock that they have given to their named varieties - proper soil mix, ample watering and probably some fertilizing. But even here some attention in October 1971 may prove to be beneficial for 1972 grafting. Some of the gallons dry out rapidly because the roots have about filled the cans. While there is a general feeling that a can full of roots tends to push the new graft, and therefore repotting should be delayed until after the new graft is well on the way, failure to repot now may cause frequent dry conditions with the new graft. Now is the time to repot these plants into two-gallon size for use in February. The same principle applies, of course, to seedlings in two-gallon containers. Some seedlings that bloomed last year at an early age and before they reached proper size for use as understock have been put aside for use this year. It would be a good idea to look at the roots of these plants to make certain that they have solid root systems. More than one failure of a graft has been traced to the absence of a solid root system, particularly when the

caliper of the plant has been marginal. And last, even though the plant looks O.K., the roots may have that tell-tale brown appearance that foretells graft failure, particularly when the seedling has been slow to bloom and therefore has been in the can longer than normal.

Digressing a bit and looking beyond 1972, now is the time to plant seeds if one wishes to grow his own understock for the future. The nice way, of course, is to grow japonica and reticulata seedlings with the hopes of hitting the jack-pot, then using the discards for grafting. If a person is interested only in growing understock, sasanqua seedlings will grow faster and will give good understock for grafting at least a year sooner than will the other species.

After considering seedlings, or possibly before, one turns to his named varieties. In some cases the grower made a note last year, on paper or in his mind, that he doesn't care for a variety sufficiently to continue it in his collection. Some varieties have not shown good new growth during the past growing season. Here is where some time spent in October in looking over such plants will produce dividends in 1972. It is axiomatic in growing camellias that no plant will do better than its root system will permit it to do. This rule is important particularly with grafts, because the grower has made a graft of a variety so that he will have that variety in his collection. There is no retracing the course when the graft is lost but one must wait until next year to try again. A few minutes spent in looking at the roots of these plants selected for head-chopping may avoid such disappointment. The process is easy with the plastic containers because their sloping contour permits the plant's removal without hurting the roots. With tubs with loose bottoms, the plant can be raised sufficient-

ly without root disturbance to see if the rots are healthy or otherwise. Needless to say that a plant whose roots have been disturbed in October cannot be used for grafting in January or February. If the plant to be used is in the ground, the only thing to do is to use only those plants that have been healthy growers and have put on new growth during the past growing season.

Having neither seedlings or named varieties to cut off, one must turn to a commercial source for his understock. The chances are that such understock purchased from an established and reputable camellia nursery will be satisfactory. There is no reason why such plants should not be purchased now and given the same scrutiny that is given one's own plants. This is particularly true if the plants have large caliper that suggests some root crowding. The caution in buying understock relates largely to buying from smaller nurseries, generally all-purpose nurseries, that have "bargains" on plants that have outgrown their containers. It is always wise to observe a rule that there are no bargains in camellia plants where prices are reduced except when the prices are reduced in a close out or to reduce stock where a surplus exists. "Bargain" plants might really be bargains when bought for future use after the roots have been checked and, if nec-

essary, washed and repotted in the proper size container.

David Cook, a camellia nurseryman in Southern California twenty years ago, wrote the following regarding using for understock, plants that are not healthy, whether in your own collection or bought from a nursery. "Perhaps I shouldn't go so far as to say 'no success'. You quite possibly may succeed in getting your graft to start off well, or passably well. In a few years time, however, you may expect your understock to be incapable of matching the rate of growth of the top of the plant. Outgrown its roots, so to speak. You've set your precious gem in a mounting of pot-metal. If you would only stop to think for a moment, you would realize that you have behaved in a way that no intelligent farmer, or livestock breeder, or seedman, or husbandman, or parent, or any other producer would do. You have chosen for that part of the union that must perform the most important duties the weakest, sickliest, scrawniest plant you could lay your hands on. A potbound, club-footed, flint-hearted, bud-dropping camellia that you didn't want or the nurseryman didn't want, or else he wouldn't have allowed it to get overgrown and unsold in his bins. But don't feel that you're the only one who has committed this error. You're just one of the brotherhood now, brother, we've all done it."

## **1971 CROP — CAMELLIA SEEDS**

### **JAPONICA SEEDS**

Mixed seeds, including a small percentage of seeds from seedling trees in the Huntington Botanical Gardens

**\$3.75** per 100 (minimum order)

### **SASANQUA SEEDS**

Sasanquas are excellent for grafting understock. They grow faster and have good roots. **\$1.50** per 100 (minimum order)

No Reticula and Hybrid Seeds

### **SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

**12022 Gertrude Dr.**

**Lynwood, Calif. 90262**

## "HODY" WILSON WRITES ABOUT GIBBING SEEDLINGS

Editor's Note:

A subject that was discussed during the A. C. S. Annual Meeting at Pasadena last February between some of the local California people and visitors from the South was the gibbing of camellia seedlings. Some of the California people have felt that too much weight has been given to gibbed blooms in evaluating new seedlings, particularly with regard to size. The Southern visitors undertook to explain why gibbing is so important in the South and why the gibbing of new seedlings is helpful to them in the selection of new varieties. W. F. "Hody" Wilson, Jr., a member of the staff of Louisiana State University at Hammond, Louisiana, was active in these discussions and has written a letter to me that reviews the points that he and others made at Pasadena. I am printing his letter primarily for the people of California who did not participate in the discussions, in order that they might have an understanding of the reasons why gibbing is such a way of life among camellia growers in the South.

Mr. Harold E. Dryden  
820 Winston Avenue  
San Marino, Calif. 91108

Dear Harold:

I did fairly well I thought with Bill Woodroof on some real reasons why we should gib camellia seedlings. I thoroughly agree that a report on ungibbed seedlings is desirable. Actually, we really do not gib to see if they will gib well, but if they are actually desirable flowers for us. As you well know, the majority of the 6,000 to 7,000 members of ACS grow their camellias in the area where many of the shows do not make any distinction between treated and untreated flowers; and any worthwhile new seedling will have to be one that is good

enough, regardless of whether it is gibbed or ungibbed, to make the grade in this area. We may have an obligation to go beyond such local consideration and, as you say, to determine if the natural blooming characteristics make a seedling worthy. If the answer is no, that does not mean that the vast majority of camellia growers in the biggest area in this country do not want it.

By using classic examples, I can illustrate for you what I am trying to say — that in this area, across the south, CLARK HUBBS is an absolute dog and worthless to us unless gibbed, then it becomes a very worthwhile variety—a top variety. Another good example of why seedlings should be gibbed, for this great number of camellia growers who are growing them, is the old variety FLORENCE STRATTON and its mutant SIEUR DE BIENVILLE. As a naturally grown seedling, this would never get in any of our shows as it blooms too late. Yet, with the use of gibberellic acid, we can get it even in the early shows and is a very fine flower for the regular show season. I might use Bill Woodroof's test garden, which is one of the finest things that I know of, for a localized area; and he always states that that is his rating for that particular area.

Certainly in our area, where the use of gibberellic acid I have never considered to be so valuable from the standpoint of any changes in sizes and so forth of the bloom itself, when compared with its great value for early blooming. I can remember the time when I was to judge six shows and had five of them called off, and the other was a poor one, due to cold. With the advent of plastic and protected flowers, we no longer had this trouble, but lacked enough weekends due to so many shows conflicting with

## **International Camellia Society Conferences In 1972**

The International Camellia Society will hold two Conferences in 1972. The first will be at Stresa, Italy, at the invitation of the Societa Italiana Della Camellia from April 6th to 11th, and the other at Brighton, England from April 21st to 23rd. As the Camellia Competition of the Royal Horticultural Society will be held in London on April 18th and 19th, just preceding the Conference, this period should be most interesting to camellia people.

The Conference in Italy will coincide with the 8th International Camellia Show of the Societa Italiana Della Camellia which will be held in the Congress Palace at Stresa. Visits will be made to Villa Taranto, Rovelli Garden, Isola Bella and Isola Madre, Hillebrand Nursery and other gardens on Lake Maggiore. The date chosen is normally the peak flowering period for camellias in this region, and the Conference presents an excellent chance to see some of the old camellia specimens for which Italy is noted. First class hotel accommodations will be provided.

The Conference at Brighton, England will visit several noted gardens in Sussex, including Leonardslee (Sir Giles and Lady Loder), Nymans (Countess of Rosse and National Trust), South Lodge (Miss E. Godman), Heaselands (Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Kleinwort), Sunte House (Mr. G. Gorer) and Brighton Parks Department (Director, Mr. J. R. B. Evison). In the evenings there will be illustrated lectures on various camellia topics. The Conference Headquarters will be at the Grand Hotel, Brighton, which has been extensively modernized. The cost of the full Conference at Brighton will be £14.00.

These two Conferences will afford an excellent opportunity for Americans to combine a visit to Europe in

the Spring of 1972 and attendance at two meetings of camellia people in the two areas of Europe that are active in camellia culture. Full information regarding one or both of the Conferences can be obtained from Mr. Charles Puddle, Secretary of the International Camellia Society. His address is Bodnant Garden, Tal-y-Cafn, Colwyn Bay, Denbighshire, North Wales.

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### **HODY WILSON (Cont.)**

each other, which is a good thing. We still have that trouble and need more of it as we get more shows, but gibberellic acid did something that was not feasible any way except by the resulting early blooms as it gave us a number of weekends for shows that had never been available before.

These early shows will increase; and we are in need of information on those varieties, whether new or old, that perform best during that portion of the year when using gibberellic acid. There is not much doubt in my mind that one which is not any good when naturally grown, and is a good performer when gibbed for early fall shows, will be grown and appear in more shows than the one which does meet the standards for a naturally grown flower.

What I really tried to say is that the idea that the great big blooms attained by gibbing has been emphasized to too great a degree; and that the number of shows and ACS members, or non-members so far as that goes, in the south and southeast that use gibberellic acid constitute a very large percentage of camellia growers. Without a doubt, it is a standard cultural practice with these people at the present time and can only increase as we grow more camellias. Certainly the evaluation of seedlings when grown under similar cultural practices is consistent with the growing of camellis in this area.

Sincerely yours,  
"Hody"

## NEW ZEALAND (Cont.)

need a few years before we shall see them at their best. A bloom which appealed to me very much was one exhibited by Colin Spicer and is a seedling sasanqua 'Plantation Pink' times reticulata times Granthamania. This flower showed no characteristics of any of its parents but was a large peony form with intermingled gold stamens and was a lovely shade of pink. I hope to have a copy of all the winners, etc. in time to post to your Editor and it will then be over to him whether or not he publishes these results. Actually, practically every Class was won, and deservedly so, by Mr. and Mrs. Shaw who will just about have to add a room to their house to accommodate all the silver they carried off.

The Convention itself was marvelous from go to whoa. Thursday was spent entering blooms and after the judging the usual post mortem. That evening we had the Annual Meeting. The following day was spent in sight-seeing around Auckland but the weather was overcast and whilst we had no rain, it was too hazy to see very far. The evening was spent at a dinner, the wine flowed freely, and with pleasant company everyone had a marvelous time. On the Saturday en route for home we visited a garden in the morning, then lunch, then another garden visit with goodbys and promises of scions. Another convention was behind us.

It was then a case of home sweet home where on arrival my wife and I wandered around by torchlight,\* looking at all the lovely blooms which in many cases were superior to those we had taken. Summing it all up, there is not a great deal of difference between our two countries. The people, the most important part of growing camellias in either country, are very friendly, hospitable and generous to a degree only found amongst camellia fanatics. My wife joins me in

sending best wishes to all our friends wherever they may be.

\*For Americans, this is a flashlight.—Ed.

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## SCCS AWARDS FOR 1971

The Southern California Camellia Society announced at the Annual Awards Supper at Descanso Gardens on June 19, 1971, the following Awards for outstanding camellias for 1971.

**MARGARITE HERTRICH AWARD** for outstanding japonica seedling to 'Easter Morn.' It was developed by Dr. C. C. Wright of Sacramento, California and was registered in 1965. The flower is very large in a form that varies from a rose form double to full peony. Color is a baby pink.

**EDWARDS H. METCALF AWARD** for outstanding hybrid to 'Pink Sparkle,' a chance reticulata seedling (reticulata X japonica) that was developed by Frank Maitland of Sylmar, California and was registered in 1967. The flower is large to vary large, semi-double with irregular petals. Color is light pink with iridescent petals.

**WILLIAM WYLAM BOUTONNIERE AWARD** to 'Little Slam,' a rich red, full peony form miniature japonica. It was developed by Nuccio's Nursery and introduced in 1969.

**FRANK STORMENT RETICULATA AWARD** to 'Craig Clark,' a deep carmine, very large semi-double seedling of 'Cornelian,' that was developed by Jack Clark of Auckland, New Zealand. Mr. Clark made the trip from New Zealand to receive the Award at Descanso Gardens.

No award was made for the **WILLIAM HERTRICH AWARD** for outstanding japonica mutant.

# REPORT ON SCCS INFORMATION BUREAU

Willard F. Goertz

During the several months since the Southern California Camellia Society inaugurated the Information Bureau quite a few requests for information have come in—not all direct to the writer but some forwarded through the Secretary.

The most popular subject has been gibbing of camellias, and our article in the May, 1971 Camellia Review regarding the success of "Gib Tabs" brought a great many requests for more details and sources for procurement. Since the manufacturer long delayed an answer to our request for locations of distributors all correspondents were referred to Nuccio's Nurseries in Altadena. Recently the Elanco Products Division of Eli Lilly & Company of Indianapolis, Indiana (46206) advised of the following dealers in the camellia growing areas: USS Agri-Chemicals, Box 1685, Atlanta, Georgia 30301; PureGro Company, 1052 West 6th Street, Los Angeles, Calif.; A.F.C. Inc., Box 11, Edison, Calif. 93220; Gar Tootelian Inc., 8246 South Crawford, Reedley, Calif., 93654.

Many of the questions could be answered from our personal experiences as they concerned culture. Others included the subject of bud dropping by certain varieties and what to do about it. When we made inquiries from other camellia growers the concensus was that this is typical of certain varieties in certain areas only, such as 'Cover Girl' for example. We had questions regarding where certain camellia varieties could be purchased, such as, 'C. M. Wilson Splendor' which Nuccios are releasing this season.

It is quite difficult to help people who want to have a variety identified by a description only, and to those we suggest a visit to a camellia show or ask for help from a nearby hobbyist or camellia nursery.

It is always pleasant to hear from people looking for a camellia society to join in their area.

Some write in hopes of learning how to induce a greater degree of white in an existing plant having variegated blooms, which we think can best be done in the summer time with a bark graft in the side of the main stem with a scion of a highly variegated 'Mercury' or 'Adolphe Audusson.'

Other questions have included: how to combat certain plant pests and diseases; what is the best type of shade and where shade cloth can be purchased; what species or varieties are best for understock; which is the best fertilizing program and can grape pumice be used.

Many answers we must obtain from experts, and have found the Los Angeles County Arboretum in Arcadia, Mark Anthony at Descanso Gardens, and Nuccio's Nurseries to be very helpful and cooperative. This, of course, also benefits us as well as the correspondant and we have learned many interesting things about growing camellias from other people's problems.

One subject which required a good deal of research was presented by a hobbyist who wanted a list of varieties which would withstand cold country conditions and how best to cope with this problem. We found that The Southern California Camellia Society book "Camellia Culture," which has a world of good information on a multitude of subjects concerning camellias (but unfortunately is now out of print), and several American Camellia Society Year Books were excellent sources for articles covering the subject.

Beginners asking for help on "What camellias should I plant in my new garden?" are invited to see us per-

*(Continued on page 24)*

# CAMELLIA HYBRIDS

Howard E. Burnette  
Castro Valley, California

Resume of talk to Santa Clara County Camellia Society at their  
September 1971 Dinner Meeting

Hybrids should no longer be considered controversial. I am reminded of a reporter who recently traveled with the Notre Dame football team. He asked the coach if it was true that they always took a chaplain with them on their trips. "That is true", the coach replied. The reporter then asked if he might be introduced to the chaplain. "Certainly", replied the coach, "do you want to meet the offensive or the defensive chaplain?" Since it takes quite a bit of perfectionism and specialization to be a consistent winner in our camellia competition, it obviously requires a knowledge of both offense and defense. In any event, ENJOYMENT is the name of our game!

Several years ago most of us considered the hybrids to be merely a novelty or something to be just tolerated. Most of the show trophies were won by DONATION or E. G. WATERHOUSE or one of the other hybrids with Saluenensis parentage. Occasional show winners were BRIGADOON, PHIL DOAK, WALTZ TIME, FLUTED ORCHID, MONTICELLO and WALTZ DREAM. Saluenensis was still the predominate species used to obtain these cultivars. LEONARD MESSEL was found to be quite an outstanding show flower and a look at it's parentage shows it to be a cross of Reticulata X Williamsii MARY CHRISTIAN. Interest in hybrids reached fever peak when HOWARD ASPER was introduced to the trade. From this point on it was expected that all new hybrids would be bigger and better! Wouldn't that be quite an order? This is quite a normal attitude where interests are mainly show flowers, with little or no interest in plant or shrub values . . . "just a flower in a cup."

Since HOWARD ASPER was the result of a cross of C. Reticulata CORNELIAN\* X C. Japonica CORONATION enlivened interest was created on the hybrid scene. From this point it looked as if C. Reticulata was to provide the hybridists with their missing ingredient. C. Saluenensis is a fairly cold hardy species which seemed to thrive in the climate peculiar to the southern part of England, has a very desirable bushy growth habit and is quite floriferous, although the blooms have a tendency to be soft. On the other hand, C. Reticulata is not very cold hardy, in tub culture leaves much to be desired in the way of growth habit but produces huge, exotic blooms. From this it is logical that most hybridists would use C. Saluenensis in their work. Let's not overlook the fact that the Yunnan Reticulatas were not available at this time.

Next on the hybrid scene was a series of crosses between C. Sasanqua and C. Reticulata which produced interesting blooms on very leggy plants and were quite floriferous. These were known as "the girls" . . . FLOWER GIRL, DREAM GIRL, SHOW GIRL, and FELICE HARRIS. NARUMIGATA was the seed parent and the off-spring inherited its tall, pendulous habit of growth. The plants bud up well all along the branches and the flowers are medium to large providing good subjects for cut sprays and arrangements.

\*While the registration form listed 'Lionhead' as the C. Reticulata parent, The Editor has substituted 'Cornelian' which, on the basis of present knowledge, is the proper name of the variegated flower that has been variously called 'Lionhead,' 'Chang's Temple' and 'Cornelian.'—Ed.

It is interesting to note the differences in leaf structures when crosses and reverse crosses are made between C. Japonica and C. Reticulata. When Retic is the seed parent the leaves tend to be quite thick and leathery. Another item of interest is the number of desirable varieties which have been obtained from controlled crosses vs. open pollinations. You couldn't have helped but hear of Sylmar, Calif. due to their recent explosion and earthquake but let's not overlook the fact that this is also the home of Mr. Frank Maitland from whose garden has originated many outstanding open pollinated seedlings of Reticulata X Japonica. Original releases from this garden were—TEMPLE MIST, PINK SPARKLE, SILVER MIST, JOHN TAYLOR (seedling DR. or DARK RED), and BERNADETTE KARSTEN, (TWO-TON TONY). Seedling A-1 has now been released as ARBUTUS GUM and this year seedling OR or OK is available as SUNSET. Several more of his seedlings are being evaluated. The interest is such that thousands of Reticulata seedlings are being grown for evaluation and should create much future interest.

On the controlled cross side of the picture Howard Asper of Escondido, Calif. has introduced numerous interesting hybrids:

HOWARD ASPER, Retic. CORNELIAN X Jap. CORONATION

EL DORADO, Pitardii X Jap. TIFFANY

VALLEE KNUDSEN, Saluenensis X Retic. BUDDHA

FORTY-NINER, Retic. BUTTERFLY WINGS X Jap. INDIAN SUMMER

VALENTINE DAY, Retic. CRIMSON ROBE X Jap. TIFFANY

MILO ROWELL, Retic. CRIMSON ROBE X Jap. TIFFANY

FIRE CHIEF and RED EMPEROR are also outstanding Retic. seedlings originated by Mr. Asper.

We would be remiss not to mention these other hybrids of note with Retic. parentage:

CARL TOURJE, Pitardii X Retic.

CORNELIAN

FRANCIE L., Saluenensis X Retic.

BUDDHA

OTTO HOPFER, Retic. CRIMSON

ROBE X Jap. LOTUS

CHINA LADY, Retic. BUDDHA X Granthamiana

Nuccio's Nurseries will be introducing Mr. T. E. Croson's very fine Hybrid ROYALTY. I have had my sights set on this one for three years and will be waiting to see this very large bloom with bright pink, wavy and crinkled petals.

This season you will note a distinct change in the hybrid scene. Once the Retic. Hybrids started to over-shadow the show tables, the show committees specified classes for Retic. and non-Retic parentage. The 1972 Nomenclature Book as published by the Southern California Camellia Society will classify the Reticulatas with the Hybrid section. This should permit classes by flower size (such as that used for the Japonica classes) and will give recognition to many fine flowers which could not compete because of their lack of size. There is a great number of open pollinated Reticulata seedlings which are available and will be listed as Hybrids.

Whereas my personal tastes lean towards the Retics and Retic Hybrids, it is only fair that we make mention of JULIA HAMITER (Williamsii seedling), CHARLEAN (Japonica X Williamsii), and the very outstanding ELSIE JURY (Saluenensis X Japonica). Mr. Les Jury of New Zealand has introduced a light pink formal double to semi-double GAY TIME (Saluenensis X Japonica MATHOTIANA). Another eye-catcher from New Zealand is WATER LILY (Saluenensis X Japonica K. SAWADA); this medium, formal double, blush flower has been introduced by Mr. Felix Jury.

During the past two show seasons Mr. David Feathers has exhibited two

*(Continued on next page)*

fine seedlings which were originated by Dr. Clifford Parks during his extensive project at the Los Angeles Arboretum. Arrangements are to be made for the naming and introduction of these flowers. Interesting results are becoming apparent from the thousands of seeds being planted by Mr. J. Tuliano at Park Hill (the Peer Estate).

Most of this discussion has only covered flowers. Only time and close observation can determine which varietal crosses will enter our camellia hall of fame as desirable landscaping shrubs.

Much time is being devoted to hybridization by many camellia hobbyists and the road to real success is a rough, bumpy one. Not only does it take several years for the seedlings to bloom, it also requires astute judgment as to desirable plant characteristics and distinctiveness. With the Hybrid scene moving at such a fast pace we can only hope that registration is given only to those varieties truly worthwhile; otherwise, we will have a nomenclature book that will rival our dictionary for size.

## **C. Reticulata 'Chang's Temple'**

As has been reported in former issues of CAMELLIA REVIEW, Col. Tom Durrant of New Zealand imported additional varieties of reticulata from China. Among these varieties was the true 'Chang's Temple.' He was informed that the variegated flower which we had called 'Chang's Temple' is 'Cornelian,' as is also the one we have called 'Lionhead,' and that 'Cornelian' is the variegated form of 'Lionhead.' The new Camellia Nomenclature will describe 'Chang's Temple' as "china rose in color, large, with an open center and some petaloids.

Nuccio's Nurseries has obtained the true 'Chang's Temple' from Col. Durrant and are building up a stock of

plants which they will release in a couple of years or so. It will bloom for the first time in the United States this year. It would seem desirable that all camellia growers who have the variety formerly known as 'Chang's Temple' should change their tags to 'Cornelian' and that all show committees should be alert to the situation. If this is not done and people continue to use the name 'Chang's Temple' in connection with the variegated flower, there will be confusion when the true flower is released.

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## **NEW ZEALAND AWARD OF MERIT**

The Council of the New Zealand Camellia Society has decided that the Society will make Awards of Garden Merit to camellias that have performed well in New Zealand gardens and are likely to do well in average New Zealand conditions. It is intended that the criterion of excellence should be a variety's general performance as a garden plant and not merely the flowers considered from a show table point of view.

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## **INFORMATION BUREAU**

sonally if living in Southern California or see other camellia hobbyists in their area. This type of information can best be acquired by a personal contact to get answers on (1) how much shade do you have, (2) do you want plants for strictly landscaping or do you intend to try for show blooms, (3) what colors appeal to you, (4) how much money do you intend to spend, etc., etc. Seeing a camellia garden will give the beginner a good idea of what can be done and what all is involved.

It's a great hobby, and hearing from strangers in all parts of the country adds a lot of spice. Please keep the questions coming! My address is 1835 Carlisle Dr., San Marino, Calif. 91108.

# **Directory of California Camellia Societies**

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

## **\*CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF KERN COUNTY**

President: Bob Krause; Secretary: Lemuel Freeman, 209 S. Garnsey Ave., Bakersfield 93309  
Meetings: 2nd Monday Oct. through Apr. at Franklin School, Truxton and A St., Bakersfield

## **\*CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF ORANGE COUNTY**

President: Thomas Scanlin; Secretary: Mrs. George T. Butler, 1813 Windsor Lane, Santa Ana 97205

Meetings: 1st Thursday Oct. through April at Great Western S/L cor. 15th St. and N. Main, Santa Ana

## **CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF SACRAMENTO**

President: Richard Ray; Secretary: Mrs. Frank P. Mack, 2222 G. St., Sacramento 95816  
Meetings: 4th Wednesday, Oct. through April in Garden & Art Center, McKinley Park, Sacramento

## **\*CENTRAL CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

President: Donald Martin; Secretary: Mrs. Jack Evans, P.O. Box 108, Ivanhoe 93235

Meetings: Nov. 17, Dec. 15, Jan. 19, Feb. 16 at Mayfair School, Mar. 15 at Fresno State College

## **DELTA CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

President: Aldo Maggiora; Secretary, Mrs. F. C. Hopper, 1016 Tiffin Dr., Concord 94521

Meetings: 3rd Tues. Nov. through Apr. except Dec. 7, in room B, Sun Valley Mall, Concord.

## **JOAQUIN CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

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

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

## **LOS ANGELES CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

President: Thomas Hughes; Secretary, Mrs. Haidee Steward, 130 S. Citrus, L.A. 90036

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

## **MODESTO CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

President: Mrs. Virginia Rankin; Secretary: Dr. J. Holtzman, 2987 Marshall Rd.,  
Crow's Landing 95313

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

## **NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

President: Robert Ehrhart (act.); Secretary: Jules Wilson, 18248 Lamson Rd., Castro Valley 94546

Meetings: 1st Mon. Nov. through May in Claremont Jr. High School, 5750 College Ave., Oakland

## **PACIFIC CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

President: Dr. John Urabec; Secretary: Mrs. A. L. Summerson, 1370 San Luis Rey Dr.,

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

## **PENINSULA CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

President: Capt. John C. Nichols, U.S.N., Ret.; 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: Frank Burris; Secretary: Walter Harmsen, 3016 N. Mountain Ave., Claremont 91711

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

## **\*SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

President: Mrs. Althea Hebert; Secretary: Miss Edna Francis, 615 W. Pennsylvania, San Diego  
92103

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: John M. Augis; Secretary: Mrs. Helen Augis, 2254 Fairvalley Court, San Jose 95215

Meetings: 2nd Thursday Sept. through April in Hospitality Room, American Savings, 1285  
Lincoln Ave., San Jose

## **SONOMA COUNTY CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

President: Mrs. Alton B. Parker; Secretary: Miss Joy Monteleone, 505 Olive St., Santa Rosa 95401

Meetings: 4th Thurs. Nov. through April, except Nov. (3rd Thur.) and Dec. (to be decided) in  
Multipurpose room, Steel Lane School, Santa Rosa

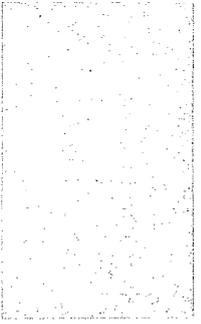
## **SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

See inside front cover of this issue of CAMELLIA REVIEW

## **\*TEMPLE CITY CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

President: Milt Schmidt; Secretary: Mrs. Elsie Bracci, 5567 N. Burton, San Gabriel 91776

Meetings: Nov. 14 (Fri.), Dec. 17 (Fri.), Jan. through Apr. is 4th Thurs. in Lecture Hall of Los  
Angeles County Arboretum



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