

A Publication of the Southern California Camellia Society



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COVER PHOTO

Camellia Vernalis - 'Grady's Egao'

Photo by Grady Perigan. Color separation Courtesy of Nuccio's Nursery

A foliar as well as a color sport of 'Egao' caught by Grady Perigan of San Marino. This sport will set buds early, which makes it very desirable.

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THOUGHTS FROM THE EDITORS

Dave and I can appreciate what a fine job Mel Belcher was doing as editor of Southern Cal's *Camellia Review*. We have agreed to act as interim editors while Mel and Bobbie are out of the country on sabbatical leave. Now we know what a tremendous job it is.

As this is our first effort, we hope you will give us very much needed help by submitting your articles and photographs, as you make all the difference in the quality of our publication. We would appreciate articles from out of state as well as local news. We look forward to giving you an interesting and educational publication. In the future, we shall include more photos.

Dave Wood and Sergio Bracci

CONTRIBUTIONS & THANK YOU!

In Memory of Roger Treischel

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Robert & Betty Kellas
Sergio & Elsie Bracci
Bob & Carol Van Zandt
Les & Edna Baskerville
Thomas Hughes
Chuck & Rosamond Gerlach

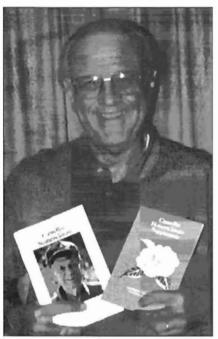
In Memory of Leone Summerson

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Please send contributions for The Camellia Nomenclature Fund and The Camellia Review Fund to: Southern California Camellia Society, 7475 Brydon Road, La Verne, CA 91750-1159

CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE 1996 AND NOMENCLATURE SUPPLEMENT

Art Gonos



Art Gonos, editor of Southern Cal's Nomenclatures, displays the newly-released 22nd revised edition of the 1996 CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE and the CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE SUPPLEMENT, a collection of older cultivars of sasanquas and japonicas that have been omitted from the regular nomenclature since the 1981 historical edition.

The 1996 Camellia Nomenclature has been printed and is now available for distribution. This triennially revised book is published by the Southern California Camellia Society and has been adopted by the American Camellia Society as its official nomenclature authority. This 'Book' is designed primarily for use in English-speaking countries and features all of the new registrations from Australia, New Zealand, and the United States.

This 1996 Edition is dedicated to

the memory of Bill Woodroof, who founded the 'Book' and edited the first twenty editions from 1947 to 1990. Bill dedicated his life to camellia nomenclature. He was a lawyer by profession, and he researched camellias just as carefully as he would prepare a legal brief for the courtroom. We are indebted to Bill for bringing stability to camellia nomenclature at a time when stability was sorely needed.

The computer age has enabled the Nomenclature Research Committee to save a substantial amount of the cost of publication as the 'Book' is now prepared entirely on one computer disk. As a result of the reduction in cost, we have been able to add color photos of flower forms.

Compared to the 1993 Edition, there are 207 new cultivars listed in the 1996 Edition. This breaks down to 116 Japonicas, 33 Reticulata Hybrids, 47 Non-Reticulata Hybrids, and 11 various other species.

The following are changes in sizes that were listed in the 1993 Edition:

Japonica

'Black Gold' from "medium" to

"small to medium."

'Ellen Daniel' from "miniature" to

"miniature to small."

'Melinda Hackett' from "large" to "medium to large."

Reticulata

'Mayor Talia' from "medium" to

"medium to large."

'Terrell Weaver' from "large" to

"large to very large."

Hybrid

'Nicky Crisp' from "large" to "medium to large."

The 1981 Edition was named the 'Historical Edition' as a large number of Species Japonica and Sasanqua were deleted starting with the 1984 Edition. This action was taken to reduce space

Continued on Page 7

REPORT ON THE COMMITTEE ON NOMENCLATURE OF CAMELLIAS.

California Nurserymen's Association Riverside, California, September 22—24, 1932

Editor's note: Here is another in a series of Historical Reports on Camellia Nomenclature which we feel should be published. When you see the names of the committee members, you will understand the inclusion in this issue of the articles by Julius Nuccio and Toichi Domoto.

Since its introduction in 1739 into English gardens of Lord Petrie, the genus Camellia has been held by lovers of beautiful flowers as one of the most handsome and valuable of all our woody shrubs. Through the agency of the sailing ships sent into the Orient from European ports in the early years of the 18th century for trading purposes, many plants then unknown in Europe were introduced into the Continental gardens. By this route camellias were brought into England and the ports of Holland, from there to be distributed, as time went on. throughout the wealthy estates and gardens of continental Europe. It was probably about 1750 or 1760 that the first camellias found their way to this country and became established in the Southern Colonies.

As might be expected in the case of so strikingly beautiful a genus as that of Camellia, the propagation of new sorts was early begun, but this work largely centered on the crosses of the two species of the genus Camellia japonica and Camellia waratah, which appear to have constituted the original species in the genus to reach Europe. From these crosses many of our more handsome and distinct varieties have probably arisen, but, unfortunately, no records are known to exist which would substantiate the origins.

With the spread of the genus camellia into various parts of Europe and America, hybridizers worked along somewhat specialized lines so that today local communities seem to show more or less preference to certain type forms. Northern Italy, for instance, emphasizes the semidouble form above all others. In this country, however, we can hardly say that we have as yet expressed a national or sectional preference, although the tendency seems most marked toward the doubles and semidoubles, for single varieties are not popular, although they are mostly free bloomers.

From the humble beginnings of a few scattered individuals brought from the Orient by enterprising ship captains, the genus, and especially the species *Camellia japonica*, became so popular that extensive hybridization began. Approximately 100 years after the first introductions into Europe, the gardens of the continent and the American colonies boasted more than 750 named sorts and varieties.

That such rapid gains in popularity should have been accompanied by confusion in nomenclature is hardly to be wondered at. Such was the situation exactly, and most regrettable of all was that, in the latter half of their second century of popularity, we saw the gradual disappearance of many sorts once popular and the survival of others as isolated individuals or collections. These were carried out often entirely without name. It is in recognition of this fact and in the knowledge that the genus is fast regaining the high esteem of discriminating gardeners that your committee is making an endeavor to shed a little light upon the subject of nomenclature in Camellias.

One of our reliable and authentic early references to the genus Camellia is that of Wm. B. Booth in the "Transactions of the Horticultural Society of London," which he delivered in September of 1830. In that report he included Thea as being botanically the dominant genus and so distinct as to include Camellia within it. This controversy has long been open for discussion, but at present we believe that the two are no longer grouped together, each now being given separate generic rank. In Booth's report to the Society, he divides the genus Camellia of Reese (prepared in 1704, and probably based on the original description) into six species as follows:

- 1. Camellia sasanqua, from Japan and China, single, semidouble, double, fragrant.
- 2. Camellia oleifera, from China and Japan, oil-producing.
- 3. Camellia kissi, Nepal, oilproducing, erect and branching, treelike.
- 4. Camellia maliflora, sasanqualike, but distinct from it, very thin foliage.
- 5. Camellia reticulata, distinct from other species. Said to be the most splendid member of the genus but extremely difficult to propagate.
- 6. Camellia japonica, the species from which most of our varieties and hybrids have arisen.

With this brief outline of the botanical background for the genus, we are able to place the species japonica where it belongs in reference to the genus as a whole. However, it is here that most of our difficulties really begin.

We need not point out to horticulturalists the possibilities of confusion arising as rapid and unrecorded hybridization proceeded. Suffice it to say that such confusion did exist and, by 1840, had reached such a point that the Abbe Berlese in Paris undertook the great task of establishing a grouping into which the 750 odd hybrids might, with some assurance, be safely placed. As a result of his colossal work, we now have an authentic record with hand-colored plates and complete individual floral and leaf characteristics of approximately 750 named camellia sorts. To this we may

turn, knowing that no equal work had ever been done in the genus and that no more complete or thorough study has followed it. The monograph of Berlese, therefore, forms the great and classical reference for all those interested in the group. We are particularly fortunate in having a complete set of this almost priceless work in the State Library in Sacramento where anyone who is interested may consult it. Although written in French, it can always be translated.

A classification of the species and varieties based upon color is obviously inadequate and unworkable. This method of classification has from time to time been attempted and abandoned. After giving this subject of nomenclature some little thought, it is the feeling of your committee that perhaps the only opportunity to arrive at uniformity is to attempt to recognize and reestablish the five classical groups of Berlese. Into these divisions could be thrown our present known forms, adding their proper names as rapidly as they can authentically become established.

To the five groups proposed above, we would suggest the addition of a sixth, which would include a form not clearly covered by Berlese.

According to Bailey, however, the genus Camellia is divided into but three species as follows:

- 1. Camellia japonica, with the varieties alba, white; alba -plena, double white; anemoniflora, flowers red with five large petals, the stamens changed into numerous smaller and narrower petals, the whole flower resembling a double anemone; magnoli florae, flowers pale rose, semidouble, 12-15 narrow upright petals; apucae formia, leaves bifid at the apex.
- 2. Camellia reticulata, flowers 5-7 inches across, rosy purplish, including variety plena, flowers with twice as many petals and more regularly arranged.
- 3. Camellia sasanqua, shrub of loose straggling habit, flowers small

1 ¹/₂—2 inches, many forms including the varieties semi-plena, semi-double, white; anemoniflora, flowers large, double, outer petals white, inner ones much smaller, yellow; oleosa, single white flowers; Kissi, not important flowering plant, from Himalayas.

Numerous synonyms are given, but in these Thea always appears as Camellia thea.

For the purpose of our work, this specific classification is of interest, but does not affect the final selection of the groupings we choose to set up for the species *Camellia japonica*.

If this procedure be followed, we will find the species japonica of the genus Camellia divided as follows:

I. True single - one or two distinct rows of true petals. Sexual parts distinct, erect, not more or less petaloid. Example, Camellia 'Christmas Red'. (New group set up by the committee.)

II. Anemonaeform—only two or three rows of external petals, sexual parts more or less petaloid, center anemonaeform. Example, Camellia

'Chandleri Elegans'.

III. Peoniform—the corolla composed of 2, 3 or 4 rows of wider, outer petals, the sexual parts transformed into complete petals, but unequal and deformed. This forms a large tufted, veering, convex center resembling the officionalis type of peony. Example, Camellia Colveilli.

IV. Rosiform—the corolla may

appear in two forms:

(a) Semi-regular rose with ample exterior petals, placed in rows of 3 or 4 or 5, imbricated in places, an indeterminate center, concave and more or less full; stamens more or less apparent. Example, Camellia Derbiana, Camellia Rosa Sinensis.

(b) Irregular rose with diverse exterior petals, warped, curled up, unequal; center uniform, convex.

Example Variegata.

V. Ranunculiform—corolla is regularly imbricated from one end of the circumference to the other, with a center almost always concave, and with petals set in opposition, like that of the ranunculus. Example, 'Alba Plena', 'Pink Perfection'.

VI. Warathiform or Pomponiform—corolla with one or two rows of outer petals, sexual parts almost all transformed into perfect petals, long, trim, laniferous, uniform, equal, appearance spherical or pompon. Example, Waratha, Vespucius, Hebra, Rubina.

We realize the difficulties attendant upon the establishment of such a scheme of classification and the confusion it may cause, but we believe that ultimately its adoption must be accepted as affording the most concise, logical and representative authoritative scheme that has so far been suggested. As an aid to the trade, we propose to present to each of you for your guidance in the grouping, a series of photographs which will present carefully selected specimens of typical well-known, named types, falling in the several suggested divisions. As rapidly as is possible, names will be added in the divisions, but the ultimate solution of the confusing problem of nomenclature may be one requiring years of careful and painstaking study and comparison. It is hardly to be expected that all the original names can be established again, for there is a great probability that even in the work of Berlese and others there may have crept in certain synonyms. What will have to be done in such cases remains to be seen.

With the lively interest now being manifest in the Camellia, many propagators are turning to the ever-fruitful field of new seedlings in the hope of finding worthy novelties. Such practice is believed by your committee to be highly desirable. We would, however, suggest that proof of the ancestry or parentage be adequately established to the satisfaction of your association or its committee in order that, in proposing names, no duplication shall take place.

There are many old camellias in the country worthy of propagation and

readily acceptable to the trade for which no authentic names are known to exist. We would suggest in such cases that the plants continue to be propagated and sold, that the public be educated in their value, beauties and habits, but that local names be not given. Let such plants be sold by number, placing them, of course, in their proper group of the six proposed above. The use of local names in such cases can but lead to confusion, disappointment, distrust and difficulty and should, therefore, be discontinued.

For seven years the annual Sacramento Camellia Show held each spring in that city has continued to grow and receive increasing recognition. This annual display might well be used as the agency through which camellias could be compared. It would also provide an official setting in which worthy seedlings and novelties could be introduced to an intelligent audience drawn from all parts of California.

In conducting the work of establishing a nomenclature for Camellias, your committee feels that every effort should be made to correlate the nomenclature of the Pacific Coast with that of the Eastern and Southern parts of the United States. Too great an emphasis cannot be placed upon this correlation.

In order to accomplish anything of value in this important work, a committee should be continued for more than one year. As has been suggested, such work may require many years for completion.

In trade practices, we feel that greater value to the buying public can be built up, and consequently greater cash returns to the grower, if any effort be made to use and emphasize the six major groups of the species japonica suggested above. While this grouping is not a complete solution of the problem, it represents the first necessary step toward orderly arrangement.

Wherever possible, and if agreeable, we feel that cases of doubt should be established by the committee.

The use of Japanese names in designating forms of direct Oriental origin has been raised as a point of sales resistance. We cannot feel that this presents great difficulties. We need but refer to the Japanese Iris, genus Kempferi, or to the flowering cherries for two good examples. In these cases the names given in the Orient have been used and are now firmly established and widely accepted. If, however, we should find in subsequent studies and comparisons of oriental and continental forms that clear-cut cases of synonymy exist, it might perhaps be best to accept the continental nomenclature. This, however, is a matter to be determined by other workers on other committees.

The report is respectfully submitted. Ashley C. Browne, Chairman, T. Domoto, Member, W. B. Clark. Member.

(Continued from page 3) and cost. Most, but not all of the cultivars that were deleted, were introduced prior to 1950 and were no longer in 'substantial commercial distribution.' We have had a great number of requests to reprint the 1981 Edition, but that is cost prohibitive. As a result, we have printed a Nomenclature Supplement to be used with the 1996 and all subsequent editions. This Supplement contains all of the cultivars that were

deleted after 1981. The *Supplement* and the *1996 Nomenclature*, when used together, contain all of the cultivars that have been listed since 1947.

The 1996 Edition and the Supplement may be ordered directly from the Southern California Camellia Society. Refer to page one for ordering information. The next edition of Camellia Nomenclature will be printed in 1999.

JAPANESE CAMELLIA IMPORTS INTO CALIFORNIA IN THE EARLY 1900s

by Toichi Domoto

Forward: In 1958, Toichi Domoto of the Domoto Brothers Nursery in Hayward, California, sent some information about the early day Japanese camellia imports into California to Dr. Ralph Philbrick, Cornell University, New York. Dr. Philbrick was then working on an international camellia checklist. It is felt that this report would find interested readers and it is being published as an historical note.

This article on Japanese camellia imports is written mostly from memory. Most of the invoices of my father's firm were lost at the time of evacuation so that, except for a few personal letters and brief notes, exact dates are lacking on shipments during the late 1800's to 1926. Imports since then made by the writer were limited due to Quarantine 37 so that dates and varieties are authentic.

The early catalogs and invoices of Domoto Bros. do not list the camellias by variety. They simply show the number imported and price per unit. Copies of Domoto Bros. catalogs of 1986 and of the Yokohama Gardeners' Association of 1891 showed the names of varieties which were still being grown at Domoto Nurseries, e.g., 'Shiragiki' ('Purity'), 'Kumasaka', 'Daikagura', 'Mikenjaku' and 'Usu-Otome'.

'Usu-Otome' was renamed 'Pink Perfection' by my father on the first group of plants imported to San Francisco about 1887. By November, 1945, the name 'Pink Perfection' was accepted by the trade as noted in a memorandum from Mr. F. Ludemann of the Pacific Nursery, located on Baker Street between Lombard and Chestnut Streets in San Francisco, when he asked, "Have you good healthy and well-rooted plants of 'Pink Perfection' camellias? If so, please state size and price per dozen." Now, hold your breath for prices: wholesale of that

date—19-24 inches - \$3.00 per dozen, \$20.00 per hundred; potted \$3.50 -\$4.00 dozen and \$25.00 per hundred; 12-18 inch size at \$16.50 per hundred for balled and moss-wrapped plants. (Editor's note: Remember, these are 1958 prices.)

The Pacific Nurseries were handling quite a few of the European varieties, mostly grafts brought in from Europe and the East Coast at that time.

The varieties imported then were mostly 'Pink Perfection', 'Shiragiku', 'Daikkagura', 'Hikaru-Gengi' and 'Otome Red'. 'Kumasaka' was not imported in quantity until a much later date.

'Sodekakushi' ('Lotus', 'Grandiflora Alba') was imported in the early 1900's but, due to the weak growth characteristics, the premium price which was asked for in Japan and subsequent heavy losses on the imported plants, the importing of this variety was given up and it was not imported again by my father. Most of the stock available at this time came from plants propagated by Jannoch's Nurseries of Pasadena. The original plant was moved from Southern California to Miss Louise Boyd's garden in San Rafael in 1938 or 1939.

The writer imported some 'Grandiflora Alba' from the Yokohama Nurseries in 1929 and sold some plants to Mr. Alonzo Boardman of Atlanta, Georgia, without seeing the flowers. When the plants bloomed, we found it was another variety. On corresponding with Mr. Suzuki of the Yokohama Nursery, we found that they had shipped us 'Haku Tsuru' ('White Crane') instead of the true 'Sodekakushi'. This probably accounts for the mix-up in the name of 'Grandiflora Alba' in the southern states.

The variety 'Apple Blossom' (now Saluensis) was imported in 1917. The name was given to it by Mrs. Charles Evans of Piedmont because of the apple blossom-like appearance and fragrance of the flowers.

'Akebono', both variegated and pink, were imported in 1917 for the first time, to my knowledge.

An 1891 catalog shows 'Otoma Shibori' ('Baronne de Bleichroeder'). I do not know which name had precedence. 'Otome Red' was imported heavily, which accounts for so many large plants of this variety in Central and Northern California. Although its flowers are similar in shape to 'Pink Perfection', the first year it begins to lose its form until it is only fit for understock.

'Flame' was found in 1921 among a mixed lot of plants imported in 1917 but which were either too weak or small to flower until the later date. It was not propagated too heavily because it was a single to semidouble and was somewhat difficult to propagate at that time. No other variety since imported with similar description has been identical, although 'Tsuri Kagar' was thought by us to be a 'Flame Variegated'.

'Biho' is not an import but was the name given to this variety originally growing in Sacramento.

Camellia wabisuke in white, pink and red is supposed to be another species. Makino, the botanist, has it under Camellia reticulata. Lindle. var. Wabisuki, Makino', also under campanulata and subuirdua. These are dwarf growing, small flowered singles with small narrow leaves, very dark and sharp.

A list with a short color description of varieties imported in 1937 and 1938 are as follows:

'Akasumi Guro'—double red

'Akashigata'—single large rose 'Amanogawa'—semidouble white 'Beni Chidoro'-semidouble rose with white spots 'Beni Kirin'—deep red peony type 'Beni Botan'—deep rose peony type 'Bokan'—red and white variegated

'Chiyo No Hanagata'—light pink semidouble

variegation 'Haku Botan'—large white double 'Hana Fuki'—deep pink semidouble 'Hagomoro'—semi double pink flat 'Hakuro Nishiki'—large pink with deeper pink spots 'Iwane Shibori'—variegated double

'Chiyota Nishiki'—red white

'Kayaidori'-semidouble pink with deeper pink stripes

'Kiyo Kanoko'-peony type variegated 'Kimigavo'—semidouble white 'Kishiu Tsukasa'—double pink regular 'Kiyo Botan'—deep pink with white stripe

'Konron Koku'-dark red small flower 'Kuro Tsubaki'-very dark maroon 'Mine No Yuki'—double white 'Miyo Renji'—single rose pink 'Miyuki Nishiki'—single variegated 'Mochio'-bright red semidouble 'Mariu Shibori'—large variegated 'Oniji'—semi -large variegated 'Rasan Zome'-variegated 'Saihi'—red with white spots 'Seishi' ('Kiyoshi')—variegated 'Shin Akebono'—single light pink 'Shiun Shio Ko'—light pink semidouble

'Shiro Kagura'—double white 'Shiro Daikagura'—double white 'Shishi Arai'—red with white speckling

'Sumidagawa'—red variegated 'Sodekakushi'—large white 'Takara Awase'-variegated white and red

'Teruhi'—double red 'Tsuri Kagari'-semi-deep red, white spots

'Yedo Nishiki'-variegated 'Yohei Shiro'-white 'Yuki No Mine'—single white

Many of the above never recovered from the shipment; others were similar to ones already being grown here under other names (many sports) and most of them were dumped as worthless.

With this list, I wish to close this article. If it has been worth your while to read through the article, it may help in a little historical background of some varieties.

A TRIBUTE TO TOICHI DOMOTO

by Julius Nuccio

The privilege and honor to introduce Mr. Toichi Domoto is a task I thought would be quite simple. After all, I've known him most of my life as a fellow nurseryman, as a plants man, as a great friend and as a competitor. However, "competitor" is not the proper word for Toichi because he was always a contributor—never a competitor. The fact that Toichi has always been the same steady, quiet, humble person with strong opinions of plant evaluation, but yet is never controversial, makes this introduction a difficult task. I have nothing but good to say about him. He brought to the nursery industry integrity and a continued search for new and better varieties with honest evaluation.

I first met him in the late 1930's. I had experienced several years of working in a full-line nursery and soon found myself hooked on the two greatest flowering shrubs on earth—the camellia and the azalea. Camellia popularity was just coming into a new, lively market with many interested gardeners and camellia hobbyists all searching for new and better varieties. The availability of varieties was quite limited; hence, my first trip to Hayward, California, and business with Toichi Domoto. At that time he was the leader in available stock as well as varieties and, of course, knowledgeable about both camellias and azaleas.

This man was open, non-secretive and shared his knowledge and made many varieties available. I couldn't believe his sincerity and the humility that has been his trait throughout all our many years as friends.

The demand for camellias of new and better varieties grew so rapidly that it created thirty or more camellia specialty nurseries in Southern California area alone and many throughout the entire state. The race was truly on and Toichi was ready with stock and an established nursery. However, along came Pearl Harbor—that's right. He was interned. I couldn't believe it!

These were very difficult years for Americans of Japanese descent, especially those with established businesses such as Toichi. His lost business opportunities because of the war were truly tragic. Toichi never wavered even though being interned only proved to be half the battle. Upon his return at war's end, he found that many in the industry continued to discriminate against the Japanese-Americans and hoped to keep them out of competition. This, too, was very hard to believe.

It was in these early years after the war that I realized what a great and sincere friend this man was. We at Nuccio's were able to get into the camellia world—but not so for Toichi. Toichi called me one day in 1948. In order to get back in the race he wanted to know if we would supply him with some of the newer varieties. Of course. our answer was that we would be more than happy to. Upon completion of the order he said that his truck would pick up the plants at 6:00 a.m. This was fine, but I wondered why such an early hour. Toichi gave us several such orders and each time the truck arrived at 6:00 a.m. for pick-up.

Finally I asked him why the early pick-up. His reply was that he didn't want anyone to see a Japanese in our nursery for fear of hurting our business. This respect and consideration for others was always a trait of Toichi's.

Needless to say, this man was soon back in the competition and contributing to the world of camellias new varieties such as 'Ecclefield', 'Destiny', 'Scented Gem' and 'Shiro Chan', to name a few. 'Shiro Chan' was and is, without a doubt, one of the finest mutations ever developed. Toichi's testing of this camellia and preparation for distribution was truly outstanding.

Along with his own introductions, Toichi's distribution and confidence in the Camellia sasanqua must be told. He was one of the first to predict that some day the gardeners of America would benefit from the great fall color and versatility of this camellia species. It has taken years, but today Camellia sasangua is accepted as one of our finest flowering evergreen shrubs. The varieties that Toichi valued many years ago are still the most popular today, e.g., 'Hana-Jiman', 'Hiryu', 'Momozono-Nishiki', 'Narumi-Gata', 'Nodami-Ushiro', 'Setsugekka', 'Shinonome', 'Shishi-Gashira', 'Showa-No-Sakae', 'White Doves' and 'Yae-Arare'.

It should be obvious that our relationship grew well beyond fellow nurserymen and good friends. We became interested in one another's families and their futures. At each of our meetings over the years, regardless of business, the conversation was: "How are the kids?" This is where Toichi's life took another turn; his children chose different roads and are doing very well. Mine stayed to carry on the nursery business.

A nursery that produces and introduces new varieties should be family-oriented to be successful and Toichi, with all his wisdom and knowledge, knew this. He realized that, if he sold the nursery, the Domoto tradition would no longer be, and he would certainly not be happy away from what he had loved all his life. Hence, he decided to phase out his stock to a comfortable size that would allow him to relax. In doing so, he has

given the young people at Nuccio's all of his selected seedlings for them to evaluate and market.

In the early years of his phasingout program during the 1970's, he sent us two fine selected seedlings. One was a hybrid cuspidata and the other was a 'Shishi-Gashira' seedling. In our testing it became obvious that both of these would be great new varieties and should be named and marketed. I called Toichi to tell him that he had two fine camellias and that he should name them. I suggested to him that the boys at the nursery felt that his name would be perfect for either one as they both respected the excellent qualities he had always striven for. His answer was firm; he did not want his name used and told me to tell the boys that, whatever name they decided on other than his, would be fine. The cuspidata hybrid was named 'Spring Festival' and the sasangua 'Dwarf Shishi'. Both have been marketed and have won acclaim all over the camellia world. They represent what Toichi worked for—excellent landscape plants for the gardens.

At this time many of Toichi's seedlings are being propagated for future introductions. While his nursery has phased down considerably, the man has not. His interests are still high for the new varieties. Recently we received another group of his seedlings for testing and know from his track record that they will all have merit. Hopefully, I have conveyed to the reader my feelings of respect and admiration for Toichi Domoto and his contribution to the horticultural and nursery industries.

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Australia Society \$14.00 Single \$16.50 Family/U. S. Dollars

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RESEARCH COMMITTEE

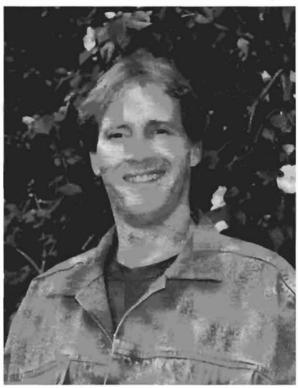
by Marilee Gray

An important addition to Southern Cal's programming is being initiated this season with the formation of a Southern Cal Research Committee to study various aspects of camellia hybridizing, propagation, diseases, and culture. A similar committee has been functioning in Northern California for many years where it began primarily as a forum for hybridizers. In more recent years, the scope of its interest has widened to include all topics relating to camellia culture and propagation. Gordon Goff's article on the influence of pH that appeared in the September-October Camellia Review is an

The selection of the one to head up this committee is obvious. We are exceptionally blessed to count among our newer members Jerry Turney, who signed on as Staff Plant Pathologist and Curator of the Camellia Gardens at the Huntington Botanical Gardens in San Marino in late '94. Hardly had he seen the scope of his assignment before he determined some problems that needed attention with the Huntington camellias and detailed courses of investigation. His level of expertise is

example of that committee's efforts.

the very best that could be hoped for.
Jerry graduated magna cum laude
with a B.S. in Botany and a minor in
Plant Pathology from the California
State Polytechnic University in



Dr. Jerry Turney, Chairman of Southern Cal's Research Committee

Pomona in 1989. Subsequently, in 1995 he completed study for his PhD in Plant Pathology from the University of California in Riverside. His resume includes numerous research, teaching, and consulting experiences and the publication of several abstracts and articles. In 1988 he conducted a research project on the control of the camellia flower blight from fungi collected at the Descanso Gardens in La Canada.

In addition to his academic and research pursuits, Jerry is a licensed landscape contractor who provides the full services of a design, construction, and maintenance specialist.

Jerry's initial research program on camellias at Huntington deals with die-back that has infected and inflicted severe damage on many sasanguas and reticulatas in the gardens. He is aiming at a control that may be chemical and/or cultural. In the coming year he hopes to continue the investigation of Phytophthora root rot that was the focus of his research at UCR. His work will explore the use of soil mixes that inhibit the development of root rot. Clearly, Jerry's research is expected to benefit all who enjoy growing camellias. The results of his programs will be reported in this publication from time to time.

The members of the Research Committee will, of necessity, be

limited, but the research efforts should not be limited to these members. Not all programs of interest will be as sophisticated as those Jerry will design; some will simply be a comparison of different cultural practices. As programs develop, we may survey the general membership or solicit assistance in order to acquire more significant pieces of data.

At the onset, Southern Cal members are urged to voice any suggestions for studies related to any of the areas of hybridizing, propagation, disease, and culture. We have an outstanding committee head in Jerry Turney. We have the obligation and the potential to make a real contribution to the camellia world.

THANKS!!

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SPORTS

by Julius Nuccio and Bill Donnan

In this article, we are not going to talk about Baseball, Football, Basketball or Track. We want to discuss some of our most wonderful camellia varieties ever discovered.

A camellia sport is a chance mutation of a named camellia variety which blooms differently from the parent plant. Some camellia varieties are known for their many sports or mutations. For example, the old camellia variety named 'Chandleri Elegans' has produced many outstanding named sports, such as 'Elegans Splendor', 'Elegans Supreme', 'Elegans Champagne', to name a few.

Some sporting camellia varieties have produced named sports which far surpass in beauty and desirability their parent plant. For example, 'Aspasia MacArthur', an old Australian variety, has produced several outstanding sports. The parent variety itself is seldom, if ever, seen on the Camellia Show Bench or, in fact, in any camellia hobbyist's garden. Furthermore, one would be hard put to find the variety 'Aspasia MacArthur' for sale in any nursery, yet two of its sports, namely 'Jean Clere' and 'Margaret Davis', can be found on nearly every Camellia Show Table.

Some camellia sports produce sports of their own. The sport of the sport of 'Margaret Davis' was named 'Margaret Davis Picotee' because it was discovered that the fine red markings on the edge of the petals could be caught and reproduced. These markings enhance the flower.

In the 'Elegans' strain of sporting proclivity, sports of sports are very common. The variety, 'C.M. Wilson', a sport of 'Elegans', produced a sport named 'Hawaii', which produced a sport named 'Kona', which produced a sport named 'Maui'. Some of these sporting varieties have caused some consternation and confusion in the naming of camellias. 'Hawaii' retained

the same foliage, growth habit, and blooming season as its parent, 'C.M. Wilson'. 'Kona' changed foliage and growth habit (not pendulous like 'C. M. Wilson', but compact), and it became a late bloomer. 'Maui' again changed foliage and growth habit.

Many years ago (1949), this same sport named 'C.M. Wilson' got into a controversy. This light pink sport of 'Elegans' was discovered in Pensacola. Florida, and also in Monterey Park, California. Mr. Carter of Monterey Park wanted to name his mutation 'Grace Burkard', but his registration was submitted several weeks after that of Mr. Wilson of Pensacola, Florida, Hence, priority was given to the name 'C.M. Wilson'. They were both light pink sports of 'Elegans' and, at the time, it was assumed they were the same, NOT TRUE, 'C.M. Wilson' has smaller foliage, smaller blossoms, and has a more compact growth. 'Grace Burkard' retained the same foliage and flower size of 'Elegans'. Consequently, today's propagation of 'C.M. Wilson' is actually 'Grace Burkard'.

Another example is found in 'Augusto L'Gouveia Pinto' and 'Jack McCaskill', both sports of 'Grand Sultan', better known as 'Te Deum'. Between 'Augusto L'Gouveia Pinto' from Portugal and 'Jack McCaskill' from Pasadena, California, the priority was given to 'Augusto L'Gouveia Pinto'. Again, we assumed them to be the same, and again we were wrong. 'Pinto' has smaller foliage and smaller blossoms. 'Jack McCaskill' maintained the flower size of 'Te Deum'. Both are identical in color but yet distinctly different.

What some camellia hobbyists don't realize is that the sport or mutant of a camellia can change many other characteristics of a named variety besides the color of the bloom. When one cuts off the scion which produced the new mutant bloom and grafts it onto understock, he may be changing the entire plant. There may be changes in plant growth, bud set, flower form, growth habit, and bloom season.

This brings up an interesting mutation history that perhaps should be told but not be used to rewrite the nomenclature book. For instance, most camellia lovers can easily see a new color or flower form on a camellia variety, but they may never notice the foliage sport, growth habit, or blooming season change. It has always been assumed that a sport would have the same foliage and flower size as its parent. For instance, we would assume that a sport of 'Alba Plena' called 'Fimbriata' (a new flower form) would have the same foliage and flower size of its parent. Not true. 'Fimbriata' has smaller foliage and smaller blooms.

One of the finest new sports that is being propagated for release and sale is 'Grady's Egao'—a sport of 'Egao'. This sport was caught by Grady Perigan of San Marino, and it has proven to be a great improvement over the original parent plant. It has a beautiful new color, salmon pink edged in white. But, more important to the commercial grower and the landscape gardener, it also has a more compact growth habit, smaller foliage, and a heavier bud set at an early age. 'Egao' is a great camellia, but it never sets buds at an early age.

In closing, we admonish all camellia hobbyists to check their blooming plants carefully. If they see a mutant or sport they should cut off the scion and graft it on some understock. They just might find a new variety which may have merit.

I'VE BEEN THINKING Scottie Illes

Disbudding—scary thought. I feel toward that the same as toward pruning; "The plants are so young—how much damage will I do if I bungle the job?" I solved the pruning question by taking off a bit here and there and will wait to see what the plant looks like next year. I will harden my resolve and be ruthless (for me anyway) about removing excess buds, keeping in mind that this is the way to that elusive, perfect show blossom. But my heart will sing with the SASANQUAS. No pruning, no disbudding—just bunches of beautiful blossoms on a plant designed by Nature.

There are many things that must be done to make our homes comfortable; vacuuming, dusting, washing, ironing, cooking, scrubbing; and all the while we are longing to get out in our gardens. And we work just as hard to make our gardens relaxing retreats. The best part is when it all comes together and our

friends and neighbors think we are masters of management.

However, we must not get so tied up in the doing that we forget to just enjoy what we have done. Our homes are where we live and our gardens are where we refresh our spirits. Both take work and care and the result is contentment.

15

MY TEN BEST

by Bill Donnan

I have written several different articles about "My Ten Best." I know that one's Ten Best Camellia varieties will change with time as new more spectacular varieties become available.

I think that my first "My Ten Best" list was implanted in my mind when I was a party to the choosing of the first ten camellia varieties to be named to the William E. Woodroof Camellia Hall of Fame. A committee comprised of Mel Gum, Meyer Piet, Hoddy Wilson, and Harold Dryden met on my patio to choose the ten camellia varieties to start the Woodroof Camellia Hall of Fame. I figured that these eminent camellia hobbyists would surely know all about the Ten Best varieties, and so their selections became My Ten Best.

This list included 'Adolphe Audusson Variegated', 'Debutante', 'Guilio Nuccio', 'Grand Prix', 'Kramer's Supreme', 'Mathotiana Supreme', 'Reg Ragland', 'R.L. Wheeler', 'Tiffany', and 'Tomorrow Park Hill'. You will note that not one of these is a C. reticulata. Quite frankly, I could not tell you to this day what 'Reg Ragland' or 'R.L. Wheeler' looks like, but at that time they were included in My Ten Best.

As I have stated, the varieties on my list have changed markedly over the years, and this is my present list. I still like some of the Woodroof Hall of Fame varieties, and I'll note those first.

 'Adolphe Audusson Variegated'. This is a great old variety, and when it was virused it became a great, great one. It will always catch my eye.

2) 'Guilio Nuccio'. This camellia variety is a number one favorite all over the world. I will never forget walking through Eden Gardens at the foot of Mount Eden in Auchland, New Zealand, and there on the side of the path was a 10-foot plant of 'Guilio Nuccio' in full bloom. It was a magnificent sight.

3) 'Tiffany'. This variety is borderline, but it is still on my Ten Best List.

4) 'Nuccio's Gem'. This is, perhaps, one of the best white formal double camellias ever developed. It was not picked in the first top ten of the Woodroof Hall of Fame Awards because it had not been at least 10 years on the market in 1978.

Pink Perfection'. This is an old camellia that originated in Japan over a century ago as 'Otome'. Its anglican name expresses to me (a formal double freak) all that is perfect in a camellia bloom.

6) Before I go ballistic on formal doubles. I want to choose one C. reticulata hybrid to add to my list. This is a real tough choice. I wanted 'Buddha' with which I have won so many prizes. I wanted 'Valentine Day', a formal double. I wanted 'Crimson Robe', one of the original *C. reticulatas*. But I chose 'Harold L, Paige' because this variety epitomizes my idea of a C. reticulata hvbrid.

Joe Nuccio'. This hybrid formal double is new to my list, but I feel that it will outlast many other varieties in the

favor of hobbyists.

8) 'Black Magic'. This is another rather new variety, but its color is so striking that I must put it on my list.

Jerry Donnan'. This sport of 'Donnan's Dream' has supplanted the original plant which had been on my list. The fringed petals make it my new dream.

10) 'Fimbriata'. This beautiful sport of 'Alba Plena' with the fringed petals has been at the top of my list since I first set eyes on it about 15 years ago. If I could only have one camellia in my garden, it would have to be the variety named 'Fimbriata'.

Well, there is My Ten Best, and you can see that the formal double form dominates with 5 of the 10 being of that form. I could have had all 10 as formal doubles since I had to leave out 'Nuccio's Cameo', 'In the Pink', 'Glen 40', 'C. M. Hovey', 'Dahlohnega', to name a few not included on my list.

THE MONDAY MORNING SOCIAL

by Marilee Gray

There is a well-established social function in Southern California camellia circles that flourishes without invitation or notification. It is the elite gathering of some male camellia hobbyists that congregate at the Nuccio's Nurseries in Altadena. Every Monday morning as early at 6 a.m., they appear almost instinctively at the small residence in the nursery that nestles beneath the massive trees that shade some of the camellia beds. In this group are the pillars of the camellia societies in

inspection and discussion—from religion, to football, to politics. Whether it be society politics, national politics, or world politics, these men have a opinion on all matters and a solution for all ills.

After this informative session, the group moves with anticipation into other recessive areas of the nursery, particularly the trial beds. It is here that they inspect and evaluate the first 'Edna Bass' bloom to open at the nursery, the first bloom of a promising cross, the blooms from the crosses made in the



The elite who meet for the Monday morning socials: (left to right, back row) Julius (Jude) Nuccio, Julius Nuccio, Grady Perigan, Joe Nuccio; (front row) Tom Nuccio, Jim Nuccio, Sergio Bracci, Bill Donnan, Tom Hughes. Bob Jaacks was the photographer.

Southern California, the long-time camellia hobbyists for whom camellias have become a way of life.

Their attraction to and fascination with Nuccio's Nurseries is obvious to anyone who has ever had the opportunity to stop there. There exists, of course, a common interest in camellias, but, beyond that, where else can one find a more likeable, informative, and helpful group than the Nuccios? The Nuccio clan are to them what the light is to the moth.

The festivities usually begin with coffee and doughnuts, but the fare is by no means limited to this. Wine and cheese served with a particularly delectable Italian bread will appear when there is something that needs to be celebrated. (Does anyone not know that the Nuccios are Italians and proud of it?) Even gourmet items, such as a fantastic home-cured olive or an exotic liquored cherry are occasionally served. Variety truly is the spice of life!

The conversation also is lively and varied. Nothing is too sacred to avoid

dogged search for the elusive yellow, or the blooms from the intriguing species crosses. It is here that these mature men come alive with the ebullient enthusiasm of young boys. What greater delight, what greater thrill can there be to an ardent camellia fan than to witness such momentous events?

By the time the nursery opens at 8 a.m., this band of camellia enthusiasts will have retreated from the nursery to return for a rerun early the next Monday morning. Yes, they know they are fortunate to have Nuccio's Nurseries situated practically in their back yards. Who wouldn't appreciate that?

Recently, Bill Donnan caused rejoicing in the group by appearing once again at the Nuccio's Monday morning social. He had successfully survived the rigors of chemotherapy, regrown a full head of hair, and now exhibited a renewed vigor and vitality. The accompanying photo was taken to commemorate the event. Was that a wine and cheese morning? What do you think?

NEW MEMBERS

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> Matthew Wilkin 2842 Pineland Ave. La Verne, CA 91750 (909) 593-5677

INTRODUCTIONS FOR 1995-96

'ACS Jubilee' 'Snowfall' 'Lucky Star'

'Silverado'

'Hakushu' 'Nishiki Kirin' 'Yume' 'Himekoki' 'Okumi' Camellia lapedea 'Kamo-Honnami'

'Oshima Red' 'Satsuma Kurenai' 'Oshima White' 'Wakamurasaki' 'Oshima Pink' 'Tsushima-No-Musume'

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'95-'96 SHOWS HOSTED BY SOCIETIES OF THE SOUTHERN COUNCIL

There are some significant changes in the show schedule for the upcoming season. We have a master date schedule to follow, but conflicts arise from year to year that necessitate modifications of that schedule. Understandably, some people get confused or even upset by such changes, but they need to recognize that, when no other accommodations can be secured, it becomes a matter of either changing show dates or

locations or cancelling a show altogether. What has been decided upon is often the only option available. Bear in mind that sometimes an alterative that we have had to accept one year has proven to be so beneficial that we have opted to remain with that change whenever possible.

Mark your calendar with these dates AND locations:

*December 2 & 3, 1995: Gib Show hosted by the Pacific Camellia Society

Los Angeles County Arboretum, Arcadia

*January 20 & 21, 1996: Show hosted by the Southern California

Camellia Society

Descanso Gardens, La Cañada-Flintridge

*January 27 & 28, 1996: Show hosted by the South Coast Camellia Society

South Coast Botanical Gardens, Palos Verdes

February 3 & 4, 1996: Show hosted by San Diego Camellia Society

Casa Del Prado, Rm 101, Balboa Park, San Diego

February 10 & 11, 1996: Show hosted by Southern California Camellia Society

Huntington Botanical Gardens, San Marino

February 17 & 18, 1996: Show hosted by Pomona Valley Camellia Society

Church of the Brethren

Bonita and "E" Streets, La Verne

February 24 & 25, 1996: Show hosted by the Southern California Camellia

Council

Descanso Gardens, La Cañada-Flintridge

March 2 & 3, 1996: Show hosted by Camellia Society of Kern County

First Christian Church, Bakersfield

March 9 & 10, 1996: Show hosted by Central California Camellia Society

Fresno Fair Mall, Fresno

*This show has extensive classifications for both the treated and the non-treated blooms. Yes, the show season will soon be here, so make your plans to attend. See you there!

JUDGES SYMPOSIUM

Mark your 1996 calendars now for the annual judges symposium that is sponsored by the Southern California Camellia Council. It will be held Saturday, January 6th, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., in Classroom B at Descanso Gardens, 1418 Descanso Drive, La Canada-Flintridge. Although it is called the 'judges symposium', it is also intended to give beginning exhibitors a winning advantage by showing them how to better display their blooms. Therefore, everyone from the first-time exhibitor to the experienced judge is advised to attend.

This seminar offers the required testing, bloom identification, and judging instructions that are specified

for seminars that are recognized by ACS for the accreditation of judges. All ACS accredited judges must be reaccredited every five years. The Southern California Council recommends a refresher course for all judges at least every three years. The attendance registration is submitted to ACS for updating their files; it is also made available to the chairmen of judges at the various shows.

It is expected that a revamped set of guidelines for judging will be presented at this symposium, so all Southern California judges should try to attend.

Lunch will be available at a nominal cost.

PLACE YOUR ORDER NOW

1995 crop of camellia seeds from Huntington Gardens and Park Hill Estate

Japonica seeds - \$10 per 100 Sasanqua seeds - \$7.50 per 100 Reticulata seeds - *sold out* Minimum order - \$5.00

Southern California Camellia Society c/o David Trujillo 13265 Catalpa, Etiwanda CA 91739 (909)899-1650

SPRING SCCS MEETINGS

November 16, January 25, February 22, March 28, April 25 Los Angeles County Arboretum • 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia

> 7:00 p.m.—Bloom Placement 7:30 p.m.—Camellia Culture 8:00 p.m.—Monthly Meeting and Program

DIRECTORY OF CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETIES

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

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

KERN COUNTY, CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF: President—Helen Maas; Secretary—Susan Coyle, 7401-24 Hilton Head Way, Bakersfield 93309. For meeting dates and times, call Helen Maas (805)872-2188.

MODESTO, CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF: President—Don Kendall; Secretary—Sue Kendall, 1505 Gary Lane, Modesto, 95355. Meetings: 2nd Tuesday September-May, 7:00 p.m., Memorial Hospital Education Dept., Room 62, 1800 Coffee Road, Modesto.

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

PACIFIC CAMELLIA SOCIETY: President—Russ Monroe; Secretary—Alma Wood, 2434 Allanjay Place, Glendale 91208. Meetings: lst Thursday, November-March, 7:30 p.m., Descanso Gardens, 1418 Descanso Drive, La Canada.

PENINSULA CAMELLIA SOCIETY: President—Ed Tooker; Secretary—Nicky Farmer, 360 Santa Margarita Avenue, Menlo Park 94025. Meetings: 4th Tuesday, October-March, Veterans' Building, 1455 Madison Avenue, Redwood City.

POMONA VALLEY CAMELLIA SOCIETY: President—David Trujillo; Secretary—Dorothy Christinson, 3751 Hoover St., Riverside 95204. Meetings: 2nd Monday, November-April, 7:30 p.m., Church Fellowship Hall, White and Sixth Streets, La Verne.

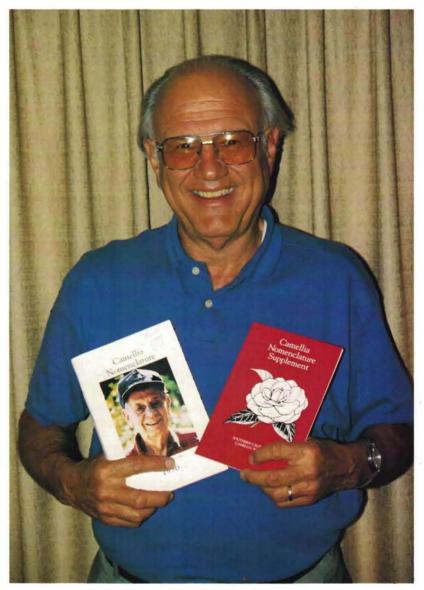
SACRAMENTO, CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF: President—Bob Conlin; Secretary—Mary Louise Jones, 4454 Marley Drive, Sacramento 95521. Meetings: 4th Wednesday, October-April, 7:30 p.m., Garden and Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Boulevard, Sacramento.

SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY: President—Dean Turney; Secretary—Catherine Marlar, 4734 Cather Circle, San Diego 92122. Meetings: 3rd Wednesday, November-April, 7:30 p.m, Room 101 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego.

SANTA CLARA COUNTY, INC., CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF: President—Bev Allman; Secretary-Treasurer—Helen Augis, 2254 Fairvalley Court, San Jose, CA 95125. Meetings: 3rd Wednesday, October-April, 7:00 p.m., Lick Mill Park, 4750 Lick Mill Boulevard, Santa Clara.

SOUTH COAST CAMELLIA SOCIETY: President—Helen Gates; Secretary—Pauline Jones, 1251 Tenth Street, San Pedro 90731. Meetings: 3rd Tuesday, September-July, 7:30 p.m., South Coast Botanic Garden, 26300 Crenshaw Boulevard, Palos Verdes Peninsula.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY: President—Marilee Gray; Secretary—Bobbie Belcher, 7475 Brydon Road, La Verne 91750. Meetings: 7:30 p.m., Ayres Hall, Los Angeles County Arboretum, 301 Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia, on October 26, November 16, January 25, February 22, March 28, April 25. Note: No December meeting.



Art Gonos, editor of Southern Cal's Nomenclatures