

# Carolina Camellias



*Twilight*

## CAMELLIAS: GOOD, BAD AND IN-BETWEEN

The December 1981 issue of "Camellia News", publication of The Australian Camellia Research Society was the 1st issue of Mrs. Helen Simon, the new editor. It is an extremely fine issue. Mrs. Simon should be proud. It consisted of 42 pages, with a color photo of 'Show Time' on the cover. In addition, it had 45 color photographs, including 26 photos of specimen camellia cultivars. One feature, an assessment of some of the newer camellias by several respected camellia growers was so interesting till this editor decided to try such a feature. Following is an assessment of some of the newer camellias by 4 of our own fine growers.

### **Son Hackney, Charlotte, NC**

I have picked 5 hybrids and 5 japonicas that I have bloomed and think they will be in the camellia world as good flowers a long time.

Japonicas:

1. Sara Alice Ruffin: This large white has upright growth, good color in the leaves. The flower is large with good texture and holds well for a long period of time.
2. Oscar Elmer: Heavy, upright grower with large dark green leaves. It sets buds early. The deep red flower has good color and travels well. The variegated form is a must, very outstanding.
3. Tomorrow's Dawn, Bessie: A sport of Tomorrow's Dawn with deep border (white) on petals. Has all the good growing habits of its parent.
4. Tomorrow Park Hill Blush: This flower is a sport of Park Hill Tomorrow. The light pink blush flower is very outstanding. It also has the great qualities of the Tomorrow family.
5. Carter's Sunburst Blush: This pale pink sport of Carter's Sunburst, Pink is a beautiful and outstanding flower. When it is

right, it can be head table flower. I believe this is a real sleeper.

Sleepers:

1. Chameleon: This multicolor flower I saw in California several years ago. It was a large white flower with red spots and dashes of peony form. Very outstanding. I bloomed it this past season and had a solid white flower as my first bloom.
2. Dick Goodson: Hybrid that has heavy growth with large dark leaves. The color is excellent and texture of flower is good. When one gets a strong plant, it will throw large outstanding flowers.

Hybrids:

1. Hulyn Smith: Has good color with good texture. Travels very well and will hold for long periods of time.
2. Harold Paige: Fast upright grower with heavy red flowers that do not fade. Excellent show flower.
3. Mona Jury: This beautiful non-retic flower can be outstanding after getting a good strong graft. The variegated form is also beautiful.
4. Miss Santa Clara: This extremely large flower with long slender petals is quite showy, and has fast, upright growing habits. Look forward to seeing it again next season.
5. San Marino: This dark red flower with its twisted and crinkled petals is very outstanding and unusual. The texture is extremely good also. It has spreading growth habits. A good variegated form of this flower would be very outstanding.

### **Buck Mizzell, Ellore, SC**

1. Lasca Beauty has been our best performing large-very large bloomer during the 1981-1982  
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# Carolina Camellias

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# Editor's Page



A camellia friend who had registered a camellia in 1969 asked me if I would make a graft of her camellia, grow it and exhibit it in some shows. She complained that it is a beautiful camellia, but nobody grows it and nobody shows it. She says that it will never get recognition unless it is exhibited. Of course she is right. Unless it is a spectacular camellia like 'Grace Albritton', which could not possibly be ignored, it would need some effort on the part of the originator in order to get it accepted.

I believe that at least 99% of registered camellias never leave the run way. They are grown by the originator, a few of his close friends and nobody else. Probably many of these don't deserve to be grown by anybody else, but surely there are some which do! The question is: what should an originator of a camellia do to launch his baby?

I have some firm convictions on the subject, and if I ever originate and register a camellia, the camellia world will know about it!

The first thing I would do would be to try to persuade an established and well known nurseryman to propagate it. Failing that, I would propagate it myself, make about 100 grafts to start with and advertise in camellia publications. Of course to do this you would have to have your premises inspected by the state de-

partment of agriculture and would probably have to get a nursery license.

I would try to persuade as many of my camellia friends as possible to grow it. I would show it myself in as many shows as I possibly could.

I would write an article for every camellia publication I could think of and try to persuade the editors to publish them. In the articles, I would tell all about it, and I would not pull any punches in blowing it up sky high. I would not be reticent in my description of its merits, because if I ever registered a camellia, it would have to be a superlative camellia in some area of evaluation. It would have to be different or better. It would have to merit my glowing prose.

Then last and most important, I would back up my enthusiasm with my money. I would have an **excellent** slide made, not **just a slide**. I would keep trying till I got one which did justice to my beautiful camellia. Then I would pay the necessary \$200.00 to have color separations made and would try to get its picture in (and preferably on the cover of) every camellia publication which uses color pictures!

If this plan of action doesn't launch my camellia, then I was wrong, and the camellia deserves to die a-borning.

## ACS FALL MEETING IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL AREA

The American Camellia Society will hold its Fall Meeting in 1982 on October 27-30 in the Nation's Capital Area. The Nation's Capital Area is a metropolis, with a population in excess of three million, extending from the Federal City of Washington, D.C. into southern and western Maryland, and across the Potomac River into Northern Virginia. The headquarters of the National Meeting will be the Ramada Inn Old Town in Alexandria, Virginia, with a view of the Potomac River, where the CSPV, the host of the National Meeting, will also hold its annual, the eleventh, Fall Camellia Show. The CSPV Show will receive bloom entries from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. and will open at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 27 and will extend through Thursday, October 28. Judging by accredited judges will begin shortly after 5 p.m. on the 27th. It is hoped that many blooms from across the country will be entered in competition. A cocktail party will also be held on Wednesday evening, October 27, as the show opens in an adjoining room.

On Thursday, October 28, a day-long sightseeing bus tour of Washington, D.C. will be offered. You will see the famous as well as less well-known Washington landmarks. Members of CSPV who are especially knowledgeable about historical and present-day Washington will serve as guides. Visits to the White House and the Diplomatic Reception Rooms of the State Department are planned. A visit to the National Cathedral of Saint Peter and Saint Paul on Mount Saint Alban is scheduled for Saturday afternoon. Thursday and Friday evenings will be free for leisure or additional tours of the city or surrounding countryside.

Interesting technical sessions are planned for Friday, October 29. Dr. Henry M. Cathy, Director of the U.S. National Arboretum in Washington, D.C. will open the session in the morning, focusing attention on innovative ways of growing camellias. He will be followed, after a coffee break, by three speakers. Dr. Francis Gouin of the University of Maryland will specialize on container growing camellias and other ornamental plants while Dr. James Locke and Dr. Donald Krizec of the Agriculture Research Center, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Beltsville, Maryland will talk, respectively, on pest control and growth, humidity, and light factors as they affect plants.

The afternoon session on Friday, October 29, will be opened by Mr. Robert Dreschler, Curator of the Bonsai Collection at the U.S. National Arboretum. He will speak on the history of the Bonsai Collection, a gift from Japan to the United States on the occasion of the U.S. Bicentennial. Mr. Dreschler will also demonstrate some bonsai techniques. Dr. Clifford R. Parks, Botany Department, University of North Carolina, will speak on the evolution of cultivated camellias. Dr. William Ackerman, Research Horticulturist of the U.S. National Arboretum, will conduct an open panel discussion on research currently underway on camellias. The speakers hope for active audience participation.

Friday evening will be free for individual dinner parties, sightseeing, discussions, or perhaps a visit to the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts to see a play or other performance - a ballet or an opera, or hearing a concert by the National Sym-

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# Presidents' Messages

## *SOUTH CAROLINA CAMELLIA SOCIETY*



Bonnie and I have enjoyed the shows and fellowship with many of you at the camellia shows, drop-ins, and just general gatherings of camellia people.

I extend my congratulations to Graem Yates and the Charlotte club for hosting an excellent and well organized ACS meeting. I think an enjoyable time was had by all who attended.

I hope that all you growers had a successful grafting season. Every year it amazes me at how many new grafts that I want to put on. The green

house is never large enough. So I guess I'll have to weed out the non-producers.

The annual fall meeting of the S.C. Camellia Society will be held in conjunction with the Atlantic Coast Camellia Society's meeting in Myrtle Beach. The exact time will be announced at the meeting, which will again be the 1st weekend in October.

If you have not renewed your membership in S.C. Camellia Society, which included your subscription to "Carolina Camellias", please do it at once. Bill Robertson of Aiken is our new treasurer and will be most pleased to handle that matter. We need your continued support to keep our organization viable.

Have a pleasant summer.

Geary Serpas, President

## *NORTH CAROLINA CAMELLIA SOCIETY*



I hope all of you have had a wonderful summer. Let us hope that it's not as hot as our winter was cold.

I guess by now each of you has put your secret fertilizer out on your camellias. As for me, I put the same old fertilizer, so I guess I'll get the same old blooms.

Do not forget your N.C.C.S. dues. They may be mailed to Harris Newber, Box 57, Wilmington, NC, 28401. They are \$7.50

Our fall meeting will be held at Myrtle Beach in conjunction with the meeting of the Atlantic Coast Camellia Society. My wife and I hope to see all of you there.

Ed. Liebers, President

## VIRGINIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY



Our spring show took place at the Norfolk Botanical Gardens on March 27 and 28 with approximately 750 blooms. This is far, far below our Virginia Camellia spring show. The severe winter took its toll on buds and blooms. In fact, many reported loss of plants; nevertheless, the blooms were beautiful and all felt the presence of spring in the air.

We are planning a May 18th meeting at which a picnic and tour of the Norfolk Botanical Gardens will highlight our year.

Many of you throughout the Carolinas and this great nation know and respect Allison (Preacher) Parsons. Preacher is a past president of the American Camellia Society, was instrumental in founding our American Camellia Society Foundation and helped to establish our national headquarters in Fort Valley, GA. A man who for 22 years served as commission chairman for the Norfolk Botanical Gardens. Prior to that he was chairman of the Old Dominion Horticulture Society which was the springboard for the Norfolk Botanical Gardens, its related foundations, societies and specialty gardens. God bless a great American who has accomplished so much for us all. Preacher has now retired from all activities.

We expect to have a preliminary report soon from Dr. Bob Lambe regarding his research on petal blight control for camellias.

Our fall show is scheduled for November 5 and 6 at the new Greenbrier Mall in Chesapeake, VA. You all come!

See you in Washington for the American Camellia Society meeting and Myrtle Beach for our A.C.C.S. meeting.

Have a great summer!

Cecil E. Sears, President

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CAMELLIA SASANQUAS

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## A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME

T. J. Savige N.S.W. Australia

Editor's note: Mr Savige is chairman of the International Registration Authority for the Genus *Camellia*.

The fundamental purpose of giving any plant clone a name is for identification so that those wishing to grow a particular cultivar will hopefully get the one they order by name.

When camellias returned to popularity after the last world war, there was untold confusion in their nomenclature and it can fairly be said that it was in the endeavour to overcome this confusion that the American *Camellia* Society and the Australian *Camellia* Research Society were formed.

Amongst the early attempts at producing suitable lists of *camellia* cultivars were the American *Camellia* Catalogue and the American *Camellia* Society Cultivar List. However, it was not until the Southern California *Camellia* Society started producing its "*Camellia* Nomenclature" that a list became generally available to all growers. It was basically the advent and development of this publication that finally stabilized names in America and also it can be said in the English speaking part of the *camellia* growing world outside America, particularly as far as the new varieties were concerned.

However, as is now known, *Camellia* Nomenclature lists fewer than 25% of the total *camellia* cultivar names that have been given. Being basically concerned with the American scene, vast numbers of European and Oriental *camellias* are excluded, only being listed should they have been imported to the States.

It was largely because of the lack of suitable international re-

search and listing that the International *Camellia* Society came into being. A successful application was made to the "International Horticultural Congress" to be recognized as the International Registration Authority for the Genus *Camellia*. At the same time a number of influential early members from America and England convinced the Longwood Foundation to sponsor and fund what was to be a six year study designed to produce an International Check List.

This was handled through the L. H. Bailey Hortorium, Cornell University, who appointed Dr. Ralph Philbrick to undertake the study. A cut-off date of 1959 was selected and material collected from all over the world. An international *camellia* advisory group was set up to study special problems and the check list of *camellia* names with first valid listings was started. However, Dr. Philbrick was appointed Director of the Santa Barbara Botanic Gardens and had less and less time to spend on the work, so that extensions of the list arrived at longer and longer intervals; the latest sections "P" and "Q" arriving in 1976 just prior to the death of Professor Waterhouse.

In 1981 Professor David Bates, Director of the Bailey Hortorium, visited Australia and the possibility of re-activating the project was discussed. It was decided that the I.C.S. would endeavour to complete the project. As, over the years, the writer had accumulated considerable card files of *camellia* names, an extensive slide collec-

tion of camellia plates from old literature, plus a considerable library and, as well the library and records of Professor Waterhouse were available, he assumed responsibility for the task. A complete set of the Philbrick Check Lists "A" to "Q" was supplied from the Bailey Hortorium and the task began of inserting all new cultivars since the 1959 cut-off. These check lists consist only of the names, with earliest date of publication, originator, species and country of origin.

This is proving relatively simple with the occidental varieties, as they are mostly registered or otherwise recorded in modern publications. However, in the meantime, further old catalogues of Portuguese and Italian varieties were found, introducing other varieties and affecting validity of some cultivars which were listed by Van Houtte and Verschaffelt with names in French. However, it is now established that many were Italian cultivars prior listed with names in Italian.

One problem was simultaneous listing by Belgian and Italian nurserymen in French and Italian respectively. It was decided that the proper decision was to nominate validity to the name given in the country of origin, the other name becoming a synonym or orthographic variation.

However, the greatest headache, as Ralph Philbrick also found, was dealing with the oriental varieties. In the intervening years many old manuscripts with camellia lists had been located in Japan and translated, and at the same time there had been an uncontrolled explosion of new varieties in Japan and more recently, to a lesser extent, in China.

The nomenclature code accepts names in characters as the original

valid names and permits transliteration or romanization of oriental names as a suitable Western alternative. Translations also can be used, but here the problem is; into which language?

Therefore, traditionally, the transliterated version of the oriental name in romaji has been used in camellia lists. Most Chinese and Japanese lists include this with the name in characters.

This is fine, except there are many systems of transliteration with different orthography. The Japanese have three basic systems; the "Hepburn", the "Nippon" and the "Kokutei". The Chinese also have three; the "Wade", the "Yale" and "Pinyin". There is also a bastardized system in Taiwan which does not appear to tie into any formal system.

This means that it is possible to have seven transliterated names for one cultivar, as well as a translation. Luckily this is rare, but it has occurred to the old oriental camellia "Eighteen Scholars".

As far as validity is concerned, for Chinese varieties the official Pinyin system will be used, with the other transliterations referred to as "other readings" (of the characters).

A somewhat similar decision has to be made for the Japanese, using the Hepburn system as a basis. However, as the Japanese do not have an "official" system as do the Chinese, it is difficult to get cooperation and names continue to be published in any of the different systems.

However, this is not all. There are usually a number of Chinese Characters which have the same transliteration. This means there are cases of two and sometimes three identical transliterated names which refer to different cultivars whose names are expressed by dif-

ferent characters.

As a final clincher there is no firm agreement as to how a transliterated name should be written. The Chinese have mostly written a name in one word, such as "Qingmeihongguiye" in Pinyin, while in Wade it was split up to match the characters as "Ching-mei-hung Kuei-yeh". It is proposed that the Pinyin also be broken into related groups, so that the name of this variety would be written Qingmeihong Guiye. Actually, I often feel it is easier to write these names in the Chinese characters - 青 玫 紅 桂 叶. So much simpler don't you think?

A straight character by character translation becomes Blue-Red Prunus Osmanthus Leaf. However, fear not, those who have been following Dr. Bartholomew's stories on the 105 Yunnan reticulatas in the A.C.S. Yearbook will know it simply as "Rosy Osmanthus Leaf", and no doubt it will be released by Western nurserymen as "Rosie O'Grady" or something similar.

There are similar problems with Japanese transliterated forms.

Finally, it must be stated that such an International Check List must abide completely by the Published Nomenclature Code. It cannot be said that "as a name has been in such common usage it should be used at the expense of an earlier published name", as this just does not apply on the international scene. There is always, somewhere, where the first validly published name is in use.

As the Check List will contain about 25,000 names, there is always the possibility that a modern name will duplicate an older varieties' from another country or be too similar to an existing name. The publication of the International Check List will at least give the national registration authorities the

opportunity to check all new names against the existing ones, and make appropriate decisions.

In compiling the list, there were found many cases of duplicate names. In a general sense the second name was invalid, but, as it usually was in general use in a particular area, the principle has been adopted of adding the country of origin in brackets to the second name, letting the prior name stand unchanged.

Synonyms, orthographic variations and errors are identified and referred to the priority name.

An attitude has been adopted by some people, that there is no point in wasting time on obsolete and ancient varieties no longer grown. But, as those who visited gardens and nurseries in other countries will know, a considerable number of these so called "old varieties" are still grown and propagated around the world.

Undoubtedly the gardener will happily go on calling his favourite camellia by the name by which he has always known it.



## ABOUT THE COVER FLOWER

This is a japonica, registered by Nuccio's Nurseries in 1964. The flower is blush pink, and is a medium to large formal. Though its origin is "Stateside", it seems to be appreciated more in Australia and New Zealand, winning its share of awards at shows. This photograph has been furnished us through the courtesy and cooperation of the New Zealand Camellia Society and the photographer, Vonnie Cave.

# *DON'T BE A CAMELLIA SHOW WIDOW*

Lena Watson Charlotte, NC

"Golf Widow" is probably one of our most often heard expressions. but many women would add to that football, fishing and other sports and hobbies that take men away from home or keep them glued to the television set. This can practically drive you to thinking about committing mayhem, but thank goodness for one hobby that we can join them in - Camellias! you do not have to be a Camellia Show Widow!

I had always loved roses and particularly red ones. For years we tried, but never with too much luck. Maybe too little sun, poor soil and I finally had to admit they do seem to fall victim to many diseases. A change had to be made. I believe the Pink Perfection blooming beside the garage finally did it. We moved to the country and with several acres I knew he could have all the camellias he wanted outside and also a greenhouse. I still think more room for the children may not have been the main reason for the move. If he had aimed the three additions to the first small greenhouse toward the kitchen it would almost join the house. Maybe he will do this yet.

It wasn't long until he was going to camellia shows and then he and Fred Hahn decided to become judges. The invitations would include Clara and me. We'd go together and after a delicious luncheon for the judges, Clara and I would be on our own while they judged. We'd walk and window shop. I especially remember an antique shop in Charleston that we spent so much time in I'm surprised they didn't get suspicious of us. It was one of these afternoons with tired feet that we decided it was time for us to be-

come judges too. This decision seemed to please our husbands and with their help and encouragement we got down to business. The very idea of trying to remember the name of so many blooms, what their formation should be or even learning to spell some of them seemed a monumental undertaking, but I'm married to a very patient man. As a man who could teach his wife to drive he really deserved a medal - or a purple heart. I had spent a lot of time in the greenhouse, for I'd really become good at watering, picking up blooms, raking out trash, going for this, going for that, but never anything a trained chimp couldn't do. Of course, I knew he'd help me and he did - I can still remember the many questions; what's this? what's that? until I would have given up and gladly gone back to looking in store windows but I was determined I'd do it if other women could. Don't think for a moment that I'm trying to impress you or lead you to believe that I memorized the nomenclature book! Far from it, for after all these years there are times when I'm sure that I'm not really qualified to be a judge, but if my love for the camellia itself and the many friends we've made and share this mutual interest with counts for anything then I'm satisfied that I'm doing my best.

It does remind me that an old friend I enjoyed until she was ninety-one, could lower the boom on conceit and inferiority. Rather disgusted with a doctor once, she remarked that a lot of doctors should be driving trucks. Later she said the same thing about preachers. So every now and then I think maybe I should learn to drive one of those

eighteen wheelers.

I believe it was Augusta that first invited us as novice judges. Our dread of this first show was foolish, for everybody was so nice and helpful we actually enjoyed it. The five shows as a novice did not prove to be painful and then we were judges! I must admit I was so proud of that ribbon pinned on me saying "Judge" that I couldn't help thinking of Miss America or something. Of course, nobody my age had ever been crowned Miss America (It should be noted here that I try not to lie, but sometimes I may get a little reckless with the truth).

If the U.S. Post Office has a boastful slogan about the mail going through in spite of sleet, dark of night, etc., etc., surely camellia show judges can equal their zeal. This was proven by one show in Charleston that we will never forget and really made Clara and me convinced that we were married to a couple of crazy men. With snow and ice everywhere around Charlotte, we tried to tell Harry and Fred that we should call Charleston and cancel, but they insisted that once we got out of Charlotte there would be no snow. I can't believe that Clara and I could be that gullible. The chains on one of the tires broke before we got out of town, so Harry borrowed a piece of wire from a service station that had not opened. After all not many places open before six in the morning. I was not surprised to see the snow was still with us to Rock Hill, Great Falls and all points south. To make a long story short, it took five hours to get to Columbia - a distance of approximately one hundred miles. This did include a stop we had to make and then the car wouldn't start. I figured they'd find four frozen bodies in the Spring and maybe wonder about the brown camellia blooms in the boxes. Once we got on I-26 the roads were fine, but when we reach-

ed Charleston they were starting to judge and lunch was over and we were starved. Even the blooms looked edible. I'm afraid we disgraced ourselves at the reception later. It had been a long time since 5 a.m. We made it, clear to the men that was our last trip in the snow. How often we do eat our words. I think it was only in February that we traveled in the snow to Fayetteville with Ruth and Olin Owen. Good traveling companions make this judging even more pleasant and I can vouch for the Hahns' and Owens'.

There is no way to really say how much we have enjoyed being judges. Looking forward to seeing friends again in the Fall and the gracious hospitality shown to us everywhere we go. So many nice, generous people. Scions, plants, advice and quite a few delicious recipes are exchanged at these shows. After all, we do really love to talk and eat!

The camellia is truly one of the most beautiful things God gave us. This, plus the fellowship and friendships brought about by sharing this love and interest in them, cannot be measured. Not for anything would I exchange the pleasure we enjoyed in growing and sharing these flowers. If I'm not able to identify every bloom and always judge every bloom just right, I sure hope I'm never found out!

So to any woman in doubt about becoming a judge, I promise you won't be sorry! It is an opportunity to do something together and that's what it really is all about, isn't it? Think about it, we need you!



## APARTMENT AND CONDOMINIUM CAMELLIA GARDENS

Barbara Butler Modesto, CA

The question was asked how do we recruit new young members to our camellia societies when the young live in Condominiums or Apartments? These homes have limited patio and garden space that is seldom fully utilized as a suitable location to grow camellias.

It is all a matter of pointing out the many options available to these young people. Camellias can be satisfactorily grown in limited space. It is the proper use of good landscape design techniques that will turn a patio of 10' x 12' into a camellia garden.

First, let's develop a plan for the apartment dweller who has a limited space of 10' x 12' patio or even a small balcony of 6' x 12'. If such an area faces east or north, one must deal with wind and cold temperatures. The need for a sun screen is paramount for those patio garden areas that are located on a west or south exposure.

If one lives in a Condo, his or her options are of a more permanent nature. The apartment dweller must think in terms of mobility; and getting the permission of the landlord before making the necessary horticultural climatic changes to successfully grow camellias. The list of camellias found at the end of this article would give the new camellia member the opportunity to compete with the more extensive collections of the home owner. One could select his favorite dozen plants and still have a balanced collection.

Landscape design is always developed as a background setting that will not only enhance the building's exterior, but provide added beauty as a functioning part of the living environment. Patio gardens of Modern, Oriental, and Victorian

style are three basic designs that are well suited to display camellias at their best. These styles offer ample possibilities for the younger camellia grower.

The Modern patio camellia garden provides pleasing geometric form to showcase standard, hanging basket, and espalier camellia forms. The repetitive use of square or round containers, a bold use of garden sculpture, and night lighting will give much functional expression to all aspects of outdoor living.

The Oriental camellia patio could feature a delightful small tea house with wooden decks and benches. A perfect setting for bonsai camellias. The use of *Reticulata* camellias would form a taller background for individual displays of *Japonica* and *Species* camellias. One could easily opt for a Chinese influence through use of a moon gate or a small Chinese pavilion.

The Victorian patio garden offers a wide range of design possibilities. A small lattice gazebo would shelter an all white, an all fragrant, or a collection of all formal camellias. One could choose all variegated camellias, or all the big *Reticulatas* for a Victorian display in the grand manner. These camellia plants could be trained as standards, topiary, espaliers or hanging baskets.

This limited outdoor garden space is really a garden living room; an extension of the indoor living space. This is an area where perhaps a small table and chairs are used to entertain guests. It is a private oasis where the owners can escape the confines of a nonwindow office. This garden room has four corners and four walls to deco-

rate with camellias and other compatible landscape plants. Specimen camellias would be the accent in their large containers. These camellias could be trained as espalier, standard, or topiary styles.

A portable, freestanding camellia wall would provide the ideal space for hanging basket camellias. Securely anchored in planting boxes these mobile, vertical walls become banks of blooming camellias, and other acid loving filler plants. A year round display of flowers and foliage to rival the gardens of Babylon.

There are any number of ways to design and to build a canopy to protect a camellia collection. Saran screen is an ideal unobtrusive medi-

um. This inexpensive canopy does not cast shadow stripes like lath does.

This garden project will be one of beauty, where the wife will not object to a mass of lined-up nursery cans that usually results when the husband takes up the camellia hobby. This will be a joint project where both individuals can share in its creation, enjoy its beauty, and become active members in a local camellia society. Camellia garden rooms are indeed a delightful way to pursue the camellia hobby. By choosing the right camellias, trophies can be won quite easily by the Condo and Apartment dweller.

## JAPONICA CAMELLIAS

Variety	Hanging					
	Standard	Basket	Specimen	Espalier	Topiary	Bonsai
1. Adolphe Adusson Sp.	X		X		X	
2. Betty Sheffield Sup.	X		X		X	
3. Bob Hope Var.	X		X			
4. Coronation	X			X		
5. Debutante	X		X			
6. Easter Morn	X		X			
7. Elizabeth Weaver	X			X		
8. Elegans Champagne	X	X		X	X	
9. Elegans Splendor	X	X		X	X	
10. Grace Albritton	X					X
11. Gigantea			X	X		
12. Granada	X		X	X		
13. Gwenneth Morey	X		X			X
14. Ivory Tower	X		X			
15. Kujaku-Tsubaki		X				X
16. Kumagai - Higo						X
17. Mrs. D.W. Davis	X		X		X	
18. Margaret Davis			X			
19. Miss Charleston Var.	X		X			
20. Nloi-Fubuki - Higo	X					
21. Pink Perfection	X				X	
22. Purity	X				X	
23. Ragland Supreme	X			X		
24. Tomorrow Park Hill	X	X				
25. Ville de Nantes Red	X	X	X			

## RETICULATA CAMELLIAS

Variety	Hanging		Specimen	Espalier	Topiary	Bonsai
	Standard	Basket				
1. Arch of Triumph	X		X			
2. Cornelian	X		X		X	
3. Curtain Call			X	X		
4. Dr. Clifford Parks			X			
5. Dr. L. Polizzi	X					
6. Fire chief Var.			X	X		
7. Francie L.			X			
8. Harold Paige				X		
9. Howard Asper			X	X		
10. James McCoy			X			
11. Jean Pursel			X			
12. Lasca Beauty			X	X		
13. Miss Tulare			X			
14. Mouchang			X			
15. Nuccio's Ruby	X		X			
16. Otto Hopfer	X		X			
17. Pharaoh	X				X	
18. Royalty	X		X			X
19. Shot Silk			X			X
20. Tali Queen	X		X			
21. Valentine Day	X					
22. Valley Knudsen	X		X			
23. William Hertrich	X		X			
24. Woodford Harrison				X		

## NON - RETICULATA HYBRIDS

1. Ack-Scent	X		X			
2. Angel Wings	X	X				
3. Anticipation	X					
4. Debbie	X				X	
5. E.G. Waterhouse Var.			X			
6. Elsie Jury			X	X		
7. Fallen Angel				X		
8. Fragrant Pink			X	X		
9. Garden Glory	X		X			
10. Pink Dahlia	X					
11. Snippet		X				X
12. South Seas	X					
13. Tulip Time		X		X	X	
14. Utsukushi - Asaye			X			X



## SPECIES CAMELLIAS

Variety	Hanging				
	Standard	Basket	Specimen	Espalier Topiary	Bonsai
1. Botan-Yuki			X		X
2. Bow Bells		X			
3. Granthamiana	X		X		
4. Fraterna		X		X	X
5. Lutchuensis		X	X		X
6. Oleifera	X		X		
7. Shibori - Egao		X		X	
8. Tsaii	X	X	X		



### A MIRACLE OLD TIMER

Les Marbury    Wilmington, NC

As far as Old Timers are concerned, if I had to pick a choice, I would have to go along with the late Dave Strother who always said that if he could have only one camellia, it would be 'Ville de Nantes'. However, my hat is off to 'Elegans (Chandler)'. I choose it not for the variety alone, but for giving us such a fine list of sports.

It is hard to conceive of this variety being available since the year 1831, and remaining dormant, we might say, with nothing happening. And then, well over a hundred years later, it came forward with the finest group of sports that any Old Timer ever produced!

It just goes to show, never under sell the old timers, for if it were not for 'Elegans (Chandler)', we would never have had this most formidable list of camellias: 'Barbara Woodruff', 'C.M. Wilson', 'Francine', 'Elegans Miniata', 'Elegans Supreme', 'Elegans Splendor', 'Elegans Champagne', 'Shiro Chan', 'Snow Chan', 'Hawaii', 'Kona', and 'Maui'.

As for myself, I owe a debt of gratitude to 'Elegans (Chandler)', for producing my favorite of all camellias, that is 'Elegans Splendor'. It has everything that one could ask for. It has attractive foliage, is a strong grower, and **what a flower!**

# SHOW RESULTS

## *AIKEN CAMELLIA CLUB*

Aiken, SC January 23-24, 1982

Most outstanding bloom in show: 'Pharaoh', C.T. Freeman.  
Best Japonica in open: 'Professor Sergeant', Charles R. Grace.  
Best Japonica protected, Large-Very Large:  
'Clark Hubbs, Var', Geary Serpas.  
Best Japonica, White: 'Snowman', Mrs. J.C. Bickley.  
Best Seedling: T.L. Hoffman.  
Best Retic or Retic Hybrid: 'Jean Pursel', Geary Serpas.  
Best Non-Retic Hybrid: 'Elegant Beauty', John T. Newsome.  
Best Miniature: 'Mansize', Paul and Marie Dahlen.  
Best Collection of Three: C.T. Freeman.  
Best Collection of Five: C.T. Freeman.  
Sweepstakes, Open: Charles R. Grace.  
Sweepstakes, Protected: J.K. Blanchard.

Show Chairman: Frank S. Watters

Number of Blooms: 682

## *COASTAL CAROLINA CAMELLIA SOCIETY*

Charleston, SC January 30, 1982

### Grown in Open:

Best Bloom (Belle W. Baruch Award): 'Donckelarii', Bill P. Mayer.  
Runner-Up: 'Tammia', Mrs. W. Laughlin.  
Best 'Miss Charleston': Mr. & Mrs. M.S. Edwards.  
Best White Bloom: 'Alba Plena', Mr. & Mrs. John Thomas.

### Grown Protected:

Best Bloom (Julia Frampton Award): 'Tomorrow's Dawn', Mr. & Mrs. S.G. Holtzclaw.  
Runner-Up: 'Elegans Supreme, Var.', Mr. & Mrs. Fred G. Hahn, Jr.  
Best 'Miss Charleston': Mrs. W. Laughlin.  
Best White Bloom: 'Silver Chalice', Mr. & Mrs. L.M. Fetterman.  
Best Reticulata: 'Valentine Day', Mr. & Mrs. Fred G. Hahn, Jr.  
Runner-Up: 'Lasca Beauty', Mr. & Mrs. Oliver Mizzell.  
Best Seedling: Dr. Herbert Racoff.

Show Chairman: Keith Gilker

Number of blooms: 1681

## *MEN'S CAMELLIA CLUB OF CHARLOTTE*

Charlotte, NC March 6-7, 1982

Best bloom grown in open: 'Elegans Champagne', William Stewart.  
Runner-up: 'Sawads's Dream', Mrs. A.B. Rhodes.  
Best protected bloom 2½-5 inches: 'Margaret Davis', Dr. Olin Owen.  
Runner-up: 'Feathery Touch', Dr. Olin Owen.

Best protected bloom 5 inches and over:

'Ville de Nantes', John Newsome.

Runner-up: 'Elegans Champagne', Clara and Fred Hahn.

Best Miniature: 'Man Size', Clara and Fred Hahn.

Runner-up: 'Tammia', Clara and Fred Hahn.

Best white bloom: 'Ruth Seibels', Dr. Olin Owen

Best Seedling: Dr. C.D. Scheibert.

Best retic or retic hybrid: 'Howard Asper', W. Gist Duncan.

Runner-up: 'Nuccio's Ruby', Mr. & Mrs. Jack Teague.

Best non-retic hybrid: 'Elsie Jury', Clara & Fred Hahn.

Gold Certificate in open: Mrs. A.B. Rhodes.

Gold Certificate protected: Mrs. Ray D. Watson.

Silver Certificate protected: Mr. & Mrs. J.W. Holderby.

Show Chairman: Fred G. Hahn

Number of Blooms: 1551

## **MID-CAROLINA CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

**Columbia, SC February 14-15, 1982**

Best Japonica bloom, protected:

Over 5 inches: 'Elegans Splendor', Stanley G. Holtzclaw.

Runner-up: 'Elegans Champagne', W.H. Rish.

Under 5 inches: 'Apollo, Var', Lena & Harry Watson.

Runner-up: 'Feathery Touch', Olin W. Owen.

White: 'Sea Foam', Fred G. Hahn, Jr.

Best Japonica bloom, unprotected:

Over 4½ inches: 'Mark Alan', Rupert E. Drews.

Runner-up: 'Gulio Nuccio', Stephen K. Myers.

Under 4½ inches: 'Ville de Nantes', Donna & Bill Shepherd.

Runner-up: 'Kitty', G.R. Dubus.

White: 'Imura', Dot & John Thomas.

Best Miniature: 'Fukurin-Ikky', J.K. Blanchard.

Runner-up: 'Bon Bon', Fred G. Hahn, Jr.

Best retic or retic hybrid: 'Franci L', Fred G. Hahn, Jr.

Runner-up: 'Mouchang', Fred G. Hahn, Jr.

Best non-retic hybrid: 'Julia Hamiter', Mr. & Mrs. Wm. C. Robertson.

Runner-up: 'El Dorado', Fred G. Hahn, Jr.

Best collection of 3, same variety: 'Carter's Sunburst, Var',

Olin W. Owen

Best collection of 5, different varieties: C.T. Freeman.

Best Seedling: Olin W. Owen.

Best bloom by Mid-Carolina Society Member: 'Mona Jury',

Herbert Racoff.

Sweepstakes, protected, Gold: J.K. Blanchard.

Sweepstakes, protected, Silver: Fred G. Hahn, Jr.

Sweepstakes unprotected, Gold: Dot & John Thomas.

Sweepstakes, unprotected, Silver: H.K. Snell.

Show Chairman: J. Davidson Heriot

Number of Blooms: 1681

## FAYETTEVILLE CAMELLIA CLUB

Fayetteville, NC February 27-28, 1982

Best bloom in show: 'Aztec', Mr. & Mrs. Robert Fowler.

Blooms grown protected:

Best large japonica: 'Tomorrow', Graem Yates.

Best med. japonica: 'Apollo 14', Ed. Liebers.

Best small japonica: 'Kitty', Sadie Aycocok.

Best bloom grown in open: 'Donckelarii', Mr. & Mrs. J.K. Blanchard.

Best Miniature: 'Tammia Blush', Mr. & Mrs. J.K. Blanchard.

Best non-retic hybrid: 'Elsie Jury', Mr. S.H. Hackney.

Best retic or retic hybrid: 'Aztec', Mr. & Mrs. Robert Fowler.

Best Seedling: Graem Yates.

Best tray of 3 blooms alike grown in open: Mr. & Mrs. J.K. Blanchard.

Best tray of 5 blooms different grown in open: Mr. G.M. Putnam.

Best tray of 3 blooms alike grown protected: Mr. S.H. Hackney.

Best tray of 5 blooms different grown protected: Joe Austin.

Gold certificate grown in open: Mr. G.M. Putnam.

Gold certificate grown protected: Ray Watson.

Best bloom exhibited by a novice: 'Magnoliaeflora', John Marshall Jones.

Show Chairman: Ed. Liebers

Number of blooms: 950

## MEN'S PIEDMONT CAMELLIA CLUB

Greensboro, NC March 13-14, 1982

Japonicas grown in open:

Best bloom under 5 inches: 'Betty Sheffield Sup', J.K. Blanchard.

Runner-up: 'Imura', Dot & John Thomas.

Best bloom over 5 inches: 'Midnight', J.K. Blanchard.

Runner-up: 'Donckelarii', J.K. Blanchard.

Japonicas grown under cover:

Best bloom under 5 inches: 'Elizabeth Weaver, Var', Lena & Harry Watson.

Runner-up: 'Seafoam', Mrs. Ray D. Watson.

Best bloom over 5 inches: 'Elegans Supreme, Var', Dr. Olin W. Owen.

Runner-up: 'Grand Prix', Mr. & Mrs. J.W. Holderby.

Best Miniature: 'Tammia', Lena & Harry Watson.

Runner-up: 'Man Size', Dr. Olin W. Owen.

Best Retic or Retic hybrid: 'Lasca Beauty', Lester M. Allen.

Runner-up: 'Howard Asper, Var', Mr. & Mrs. J.W. Holderby.

Best non-retic hybrid: 'Elsie Jury', Mr. & Mrs. Fred G. Hahn, Jr.

Runner-up: 'Mona Jury', Dr. Olin W. Owen.

Best Seedling: 'Ellie', Dr. Olin W. Owen exhibitor - Jack Hendrix.

Runner-up: #145, Mr. & Mrs. J.K. Blanchard.

Best white japonica: 'Ivory Tower', Mr. & Mrs. J.W. Holderby.

Runner-up: Lucy Stewart', Dr. Olin W. Owen.

Best Collection of three, same var, unprotected: J.K. Blanchard.

Best Collection of five, different vars, unprotected: J.K. Blanchard.

Best Collection of three, same var, protected: Lester M. Allen.  
Best Collection of five, different vars, protected: Dr. Olin W. Owen.  
Best bloom exhibited by a novice: 'Miss Charleston', Sam Hudson.  
Sweepstakes, indoor blooms: Mr. & Mrs. Gordon P. Howell  
Sweepstakes, outdoor blooms: Dot & John Thomas.

Show Chairman: Bill Nichols

Number of Blooms: 1152

## **VIRGINIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

**Norfolk, VA March 27-28, 1982**

### Unprotected blooms:

Best large: 'Donckelarii', Mrs. Dora Midgett.  
Runner-up: 'Funny Face Betty', Dr. J.M. Habel, Jr.  
Best Medium: 'Shorty', Dr. J.M. Habel, Jr.  
Runner-up: 'Magnoliaeflora', Mr. A.M. Daughtry.  
Best small: 'Grace Albritton', Grover C. Miller.  
Runner-up: 'Black Tie', Mr. & Mrs. C.C. Mason.  
Best Miniature: 'Tammia', Mr. & Mrs. J.K. Blanchard.  
Runner-up: 'Spring Festival', Ira E. Hefner.  
Best White: 'Lotus', Dr. J.M. Habel, Jr.  
Runner-up: 'Emmett Barnes', Melvin Stallings.  
Best Hybrid: 'Carousel', Irvin Nixon.  
Runner-up: 'Carousel', Irvin Nixon.

### Protected blooms:

Best large: 'Elegans Splendor', Irvin Nixon.  
Runner-up: 'Fashionata', Lester Allen.  
Best medium: 'Diddy's Pink Organdie', Mr. & Mrs. J.K. Blanchard.  
Runner-up: 'Nuccio's Pearl', Ira E. Hefner.  
Best small: 'Kitty', Lester Allen.  
Runner-up: 'Susan Stone', Dr. J.M. Habel, Jr.  
Best white: 'Ivory Tower', Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Howell.  
Runner-up: '-Sea Foam', Mr. & Mrs. J.K. Blanchard.  
Best Reticulata: 'Jean Pursel', Joe Austin.  
Runner-up: 'Bernadette Karsten', Ira E. Hefner.  
Best non-retic hybrid: 'Charlean', Irvin Nixon.  
Runner-up: 'Elsie Jury', Ira E. Hefner.  
People's choice: 'Black Lace', Lester Allen & 'Sea Foam', Dr. J.M. Habel, Jr.  
Best Seedling: Dr. J.M. Habel, Jr.

Show Chairman: Ira E. Hefner

Number of Blooms: 700

## **TIDEWATER CAMELLIA CLUB**

**Wilmington, NC February 20-21, 1982**

Best bloom in show: 'Helen Bower', Mr. & Mrs. S.H. Hackney.  
Best japonica under 5", grown in open: 'Donckelarii',  
Bill & Molly Howell.  
Best japonica over 5", grown in open: 'Lady Kay', V.A. Boudolf.

Best japonica under 5" protected-: Fred Sander Var', Lester M. Allen.  
 Best japonica over 5", protected: 'Helen Bower',  
 Mr. & Mrs. S. H. Hackney.  
 Best miniature: 'Tammia Blush', Mr. & Mrs. J.K. Blanchard.  
 Best reticulata or retic hybrid: 'Howard Asper Var', Graem Yates.  
 Best non-retic hybrid: 'Mona Jury Var', Joe Austin.  
 Best Seedling: 'Jacks Belle', Mr. & Mrs. S.H. Hackney.  
 Best white bloom: 'Campari White', Mr. & Mrs. Ray D. Watson.  
 Best novice bloom grown in open: 'Ville de Nantes',  
 Gayle & Bill Putnam.  
 Gold sweepstakes grown in open: Gayle & Bill Putnam.  
 Silver sweepstakes grown in open: Mrs. A.B. Rhodes.  
 Gold sweepstakes protected: J.K. Blanchard.  
 Silver sweepstakes protected: S.H. Hackney.  
 Best trays:  
 3 blooms same variety grown in open: 'Don Mac', Mrs. A.B. Rhodes.  
 5 blooms different variety grown in open: Bill & Molly Howell.  
 3 blooms same variety protected: 'Tomorrow Park Hill',  
 Mr. & Mrs. S.H. Hackney.  
 5 blooms different variety protected: Bill & Molly Howell.

Show Chairman: William E. Grainger

Number of blooms: 1586

## *CAMELLIA KNOW-KNOWS*

Luther W. Baxter, Jr.

The love of camellias drives  
 a person to try to grow the  
 perfect flower;  
 This was true of T. O. Bower who  
 gave us the beautiful  
 Helen Bower.  
 Now it is the time when Drama  
 Girl's reputation is at stake;  
 Finding out what really happened  
 down yonder at Swan Lake.  
 There is no longer any trouble when  
 the pinks are pitted against  
 the whites  
 Or the singles and the peonies  
 against the formals and the  
 lights;  
 It is our most requested prayer that  
 the judges will not find  
 The least little flaw as they ponder  
 our camellia flowers divine.  
 It is Silver Triumph pitted against  
 Silver Cloud down the stretch,  
 But Nuccio's lustrous Red Dandy  
 will be plenty hard to match;

But wait, is that a blemish on  
 Sawada's Frizzle White?  
 Egad no! Or could it be the dreaded  
 flower blight?  
 We built the finest greenhouses  
 that money could secure;  
 We calculated and applied just the  
 right amount of heat and manure  
 To protect and grow the most noble  
 flower, our precious camellia  
 blossom;  
 But alas! the door was left ajar by  
 that marauding southern  
 "possum."  
 And so it's onward and upward to  
 the next camellia show,  
 With our gibbed and protected  
 camellia blossoms all aglow;  
 There we'll get the silver with our  
 Martha Anne and the crystal  
 with our Flame  
 Or else those one-eyed, color-blind  
 judges must certainly take the  
 blame.

## CAMELLIAS, GOOD, BAD

(cont. from inside cover)

season. Lasca Beauty seems to have a weak habit of falling off just as it reaches its peak. Some years are better than others, but this year has been a good year for "holding on till cutting time" for us. I feel that this variety is truly a great flower.

2. Elsie Jury has been our best performing medium to large variety throughout our entire camellia "career". It has won the most awards for us. We even had such an outstanding one in Greenwood several years ago that it was chosen "Best-over-all-bloom" in the show. We really talk to Elsie Jury and brag on it often when we show people our greenhouse.

### Sarge Freeman, New Ellenton, SC

1. White Cloud: No success so far with this one.
2. Ruffian: Did great as a seedling but for some reason has failed to meet expectations.
3. Mona Jury: Will be among the best of the non-retic hybrids.
4. Debut: I have no luck at all with this one.
5. Donna Newton: Good bud set, blooms average.
6. Cameron Cooper: One of the best ret. hybrids. Long lasting on the bush.
7. Jean Pursel: Can throw a beautiful bloom, but like some women, shape not too good.
8. Dr. Clifford Parks: Very good. Will bloom in the fall.
9. Lasca Beauty: Lacks substance. Fall off the bush after two or three days. Will win if cut day or so before show.
10. Overture: Spend your money on women or booze, not this dog.
11. Debut: Not so good. Bloom not large enough to compete with other retic-hybrids.

12. Miss Tulare: Good bloomer. Bloom not large enough to compete with other retic-hybrids.
13. Aztec: I like this one. May be the best of all retic-hybrids. Snowman and Charlie Bettes are still the best whites. I am sure others will not agree.

### Robert Fowler, Lumberton, NC

1. Rita Thornton: Good bloom, but won't hold very long after cutting.
2. Hulyn Smith: Real good.
3. Applause: Color is good. Bloom falls apart too soon after cutting for me.
4. Roberts Jewel: Real good one.
5. Dr. Brian Doak: Good bloom.
6. Eugene Stockman: Good. Has potential.
7. Miss Santa Clara: Excellent bloom. Color is great.
8. Mona Jury: Some blooms are excellent, others are just so-so.
9. Al Gunn: Good.
10. Tomorrow's Lisa: Good addition to Tomorrow family.
11. Dick Goodson: Doesn't open uniformly for me.
12. Arcadia: Excellent. Get this one!
13. Overture: No good for me. Two specimen plants will get the axe next grafting season if they don't show me something next blooming season.



### SUCCESSFUL PLANT AUCTION

A plant auction was held at the summer meeting of the South Carolina Camellia Society, Saturday May

1. Some of the finest camellias we know about were offered for auction, and the members enthusiastically bid for them. Almost \$300.00 was collected for the society.

# IN AND AROUND THE GREENHOUSE

James H. McCoy Fayetteville, NC

Martin Bernstein, a camellia grower from (prepare for a shock), Bronx, NY, brought to my attention a new rooting compound discovered by Professor Makota Kawase of the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center. Though it has not been tested by this writer, it sounds like something that camellia growers would be interested in. The rooting compound is found in willow twigs. Used in conjunction with a commercial rooting hormone like Rootone or Hormodin, it can produce 100 per cent rooting of plant materials that have been considered impossible to root. To a camellia grower, the retics come immediately to mind. They are extremely difficult to root and for years, we were told that they could not be propagated by rooted cuttings. Even some of the lovely retic hybrids like 'Dream Girl' just laugh in your face if you try to root them. This is the way to use willow twigs for rooting. Take several twigs of willow and soak them in water for 48 hours. Place the cuttings in this same water and soak them for 24 to 48 hours. Dip the cuttings in a rooting hormone and place them in the rooting mix. Sorry I can't tell you how many twigs to use or whether a 48 hour soak would be better than a 24 hour soak. Next year this time, I will be able to tell you as I plan to root retics, retic hybrids and may even try a few red maples and pink dogwoods.

Greenhouses are sometimes used for many things other than camellias, but one thing they should not be used for is incubating goose eggs. Mrs. Ella Boyette from Pikesville, NC, used to have a greenhouse, but doesn't anymore. Her young grandson had a goose egg that he wanted to hatch. He noticed that it was nice

and warm in the greenhouse. So he took some straw, made a nest for his goose egg on top of the greenhouse heater. The straw ignited and the greenhouse was burned to the ground.

The December 1981 issue of *Camellia News*, the publication of the Australian Camellia Research Society, describes and pictures a new retic hybrid registered in Australia as 'Arthur Knight'. The flower is described as 100 to 120 mm (about 4½ inches) in size. It is a formal double with a high bud center like 'Valentine Day', and, believe it or not, it is pure white! This publication also depicts some lovely introductions of Mr. Edgar Sebire: 'Lovely Lady', a formal double retic hybrid; 'Georgie Girl', a loose peony retic hybrid; 'Annette Carol' and 'Adorable', two pitardi-pitardi hybrids. Two others, registered by Mr. Tom Savige, which would set any camellia lover on fire, are 'Len Bray' and 'Coral Challice', both formal doubles. The former a retic hybrid and the latter a japonica.

One big surprise this year was the performance of Dr. Habel's new introduction, 'Flip'. I have had this cultivar for at least 8 years and perhaps longer, and it had never done anything worthwhile before. I really did not blame Dr. Habel for not registering it, and was surprised when he did. I grew it first in the greenhouse and got nothing but flat formals which had tiny bud centers. They were quite insignificant. I put it in the yard about 4 years ago and it grew beautifully. But still no good flowers. So last year I high-grafted 5 other camellias on it and this year 2 more. I planned eventually to get rid of it altogether. But this year for some reason, perhaps the extreme cold in mid January, it has bloomed every bloom a perfectly gorgeous,



very full and high formal double. It is of a form that I have never seen before in a camellia, so much like a rose till you couldn't tell that it wasn't, except for the color. The color is very beautiful too: White or blush with some petals marked with small, delicate dashes of darker pink. It does have one draw back which would be considered serious by many, it is extremely late. Here it is mid-April, income tax time, and it is in full bloom.

Here is a new wrinkle for you grafters. It comes to me from Joe Austin. Joe not only grows the prettiest plants and produces the best blooms you are liable to see anywhere, but he has been having exceptionally high percentage of takes on his grafts, almost 100 per cent. Here is the wrinkle: Take some clay, mix some captan or benlate with it and pack a ball of it around the juncture of scion and stock. Joe says that the callusing underneath this clay is very fast and good. The clay is left on the graft till fall when it can be easily removed by shattering it. Everybody knows that callusing is faster in the dark, and some have tried using aluminum foil at the juncture. I have done this with good results, but wait now until the scion starts to push before applying the foil. One reason is that it seems to get too wet under the foil. Another reason is I just like to watch the callus form. Despite the excessive moisture, I have had very good luck applying the foil at the time the graft is made.

'Overture' is a retic from Australia, and is grown by many greenhouse people here in the States. This cultivar performs exceptionally well back home, judging by its show record, but I have not met an American grower yet who has had any luck with it. It may be that this is a classic case of a camellia which will perform well in one part of the world and will not in another part.

One camellia friend has bloomed it for 3 years without a single respectable bloom. He says that he's going to give it one more year and then the axe will get the plant.

I have always heard and read that the roots of a camellia should not be allowed to dry out when you're repotting a plant. This advice seems reasonable to me. But in Charlotte, Charlie Mason was telling me about a greenhouse that he visited somewhere on the Gulf Coast. The greenhouse owner had dug quite a few sasanquas that he planned to use for grafting stock, and had washed all the dirt off the roots. The plants were leaning up in one corner of the greenhouse. The owner didn't seem concerned or in any hurry. He said that he'd get around to potting them up "one of these days." This story reminded me of a picture I saw in one of the camellia publications of a large pile of camellia roots, clean as a whistle, which a Japanese nurseryman had prepared to give to those attending the ICS congress in Kyoto. I don't believe I know anyone who would bare root a bunch of camellias and stack them up in a corner of the greenhouse till he got around to potting them up. Nor do I know anybody who would like to have a camellia root that had been stacked up and dried like cord wood. But these stories ought to dispel any suggestions that the camellia is cantankerous and difficult to grow.



I am amazed at the relative ease that camellias can be grown in this area.

Bob Klaben,  
Syracuse, NY

# A Method of Maintaining Cultures of *Ciborinia* (*Sclerotinia*) *camelliae* Kohn in vitro<sup>1</sup>

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## ABSTRACT

*Ciborinia* (*Sclerotinia*) *camelliae*, the fungus causing camellia flower blight, can be maintained in a transferable state on carrot juice-banana pulp agar for 4 wk at temperatures varying from 15 to 30 C.

*Ciborinia* (*Sclerotinia*) *camelliae*, the fungus responsible for camellia flower blight (2, 3, 4, 5, 7), can be isolated easily from blighted camellia flowers onto a variety of standard laboratory media. We and others (1) have experienced difficulty, however, in maintaining the fungus on media such as potato-dextrose agar, oatmeal agar, carrot juice agar (CJA), cornmeal agar, and V-8 juice agar. CJA was the best of the media tested. The purpose for growing the fungus is to furnish inoculum for laboratory studies on fall-grown camellia flowers and to grow it out for laboratory diagnostic work (that is, to identify the cause of various flower problems). In order to maintain cultures on CJA in the laboratory it has been necessary to incubate the cultures at 15 to 20 C, to transfer the cultures to fresh CJA at intervals no longer than 7 to 10 days, and to use a transfer bit containing part of the unbroken margin of the parent culture.

Even under these conditions, difficulty has been experienced in maintaining *C. camelliae* cultures and we have never been able to maintain cultures for as long as 6 months. However, McCain (6) did not experience difficulty in maintaining *C. camelliae* in culture.

In this study we tried maintaining *C. camelliae* on CJA supplemented with various substances. The only medium which worked well was CJA supplemented with banana pulp (CJBPA).

The following points were found:

1. The fungus could be grown at temperatures of 30 C (86 F) and still be transferred satisfactorily; a special incubator for its growth was not needed.
2. The fungus could be transferred after the culture was 7, 14, 21, or 28 days old (the length of the study); age was no longer a factor.
3. One and two above could be combined and it still could be transferred satisfactorily; age and temperature combined were not restricting factors on transferability.
4. Transferring unbroken margins of the actively growing fungus was not necessary for cultures to grow; transferability was not dependent on **how** it was transferred.
5. Old cultures that had developed masses of microconidia (male spores needed for fertilization) could be transferred satisfactorily; these usually were older cultures (2 to 4 weeks old) that had grown at reasonably high temperatures 30 C (86 F).
6. The fungus could be transferred (that is, it would grow satisfactorily) if it had been transferred weekly for 6 months (duration of the study).
7. The fungus could be transferred

<sup>1</sup>Contribution No. 2043 of the South Carolina Agriculture Experiment Station. This research was supported in part by the South Carolina Camellia Society and the American Camellia Society.

satisfactorily from colonies grown at 15, 20, 25, or 30 C; usually about 5 days of incubation were required before new growth appeared.

8. On CJA (not CJA plus banana pulp = CJBPA) none of the above conditions supported transferability of **C. camelliae**.
9. About 500 transfers were made of the fungus from various media (CJA, PDA, OMA, CMA, etc.) onto CJBPA and all grew with vigor.
10. Transfer bits placed on CJA or PDA that did not grow within 7 to 14 days, did grow, however, when subtransferred onto CJBPA.
11. Cultures were pathogenic to camellia flowers.

The type of medium onto which **C. camelliae** is transferred makes a difference in its subsequent growth. This may account for some of the discrepancy noted in the literature about the maintenance of this fungus in culture, particularly during the summer months (1, 6).

The fungus will grow on banana pulp agar (without carrot juice) but the addition of carrot juice to banana pulp enhanced both growth and production of sclerotia. However sclerotia only form when the culture is grown at 15 to 20 C. Sclerotia developed best (larger sclerotia) at 15 C on CJBPA but the time required for their development was lengthened as compared with growth at 20 C. Rarely did sclerotia develop at all when fungus was grown at 22 C or higher and then they were very small.

In conclusion **Ciborinia camellia** grew well on carrot juice (360 ml) banana pulp (100 grams) agar (16 grams with water to make one liter) and transferred easily from CJBPA to CJBPA regardless of season, the age of the cultures at transfer time, the number of transfers, and temperature within the framework of

our studies.

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The most important item in getting large blooms is water. If one just lets his plants get dry after the buds are formed, he will pay the price all during the blooming season.

Gene Snooks,  
Ja Jolla, CA

# WHAT TO DO IN THE GREENHOUSE

*(When there's nothing to do)*

James H. McCoy Fayetteville, NC

"What do you do in the greenhouse every day? There are no blooms. You've already sprayed, pruned, fertilized and repotted. You surely don't have to water every day, and you're not gibbing, grafting, air layering or anything else! What do you do?"

This is Mrs. Kamel upbraiding Linnaeus for spending an hour or two in the greenhouse every morning and about the same time every evening though the blooming season has just passed. It's the last of March.

Let's follow Linnie on one of his trips and see what he does.

First he goes down the row of retics admiring the new growth. He comes to one that sports a dead terminal where a gibbed bloom had fallen off. He goes over to the table, gets a razor blade, cuts off the dead terminal and goes back to the table. He lays down the razor blade, opens a gallon of roofing asphalt, takes a small amount on a stick and daubs the tiny, match stick size wound. He goes back to his row of retics.

He comes to one plant on which there are colonies of aphids and ants on some of the new growth. He almost runs back to the table, gets a "Fantastic" bottle of Emo-Nik and sprays the insects. He uses enough to drown a dozen june bugs. He puts the spray back on the table, comes back and continues inspecting and admiring his retics.

He comes to one with wild new growth hanging into the aisle. He pushes it out of the way and starts to pass. Changes his mind. Goes back to the table, gets a ball of heavy twine and ties the branch back to the plant. He goes to the table and deposits the ball of

twine. He has now reached the end of "retic alley".

He goes to the far end of the table, drops to his knees and inspects the two dozen or so grafts that he keeps under the table - all still under their jars. He looks for new growth. He finds a few just starting to push. He takes off a couple of jars and looks at the callus. He replaces the jars, apparently he's not satisfied with the amount of callus he finds. He had examined these same grafts just the day before, and the day before that. He has heard the old adage, "A watched pot never boils," but he doesn't pay any more attention to that one than a "A stitch in time, saves nine", "A penny saved is a penny earned", "etc".

He goes over to the japonicas and starts down the rows. Almost immediately he comes to a lush 'Mathotiana Supreme' with 5 or 6 new growth branches on every terminal. He stops, contemplates the plant a moment, then gingerly breaks out 2 or 3 of the new growth branches, groaning every time he breaks one out. He considers breaking out a few more but just doesn't have the heart to do it. He moves on.

He finds a plant which seems to be having trouble with its new growth buds. They are large but haven't started unfolding their leaves. He can't resist the temptation to help them along. He gently and guiltily opens a few of the buds. He knows that they'll open without his help in a day or two, but patience is not his forte.

He finds a few more colonies of aphids and repeats the Emo-Nik treatment. A half hour has now passed.

He stops before a 4-foot plant of

'Mary Phoebe Taylor'. He says out loud, "What are you doing here. You're supposed to be over there with the retics. You are a retic hybrid, aren't you? Or are you a non-retic hybrid? Maybe I'd better check. But it won't hurt to paint your trunk with Benlate. He goes back to the table, mixes up some Benlate with water. It's too thin to suit him, so he adds more Benlate. He winds up with almost a half cup of Benlate paste. He applies about a 6 inch band around the trunk of the plant and washes out the cup. Down the drain goes about a dollar and a half.

He continues down the row of plants and stops before a tired looking plant of 'Charlie Bettles.' The leaves are green but lifeless looking. There's no new growth or swollen growth buds. He says out loud again, "I knew I should have repotted you last year. Maybe it's not too late." He takes the plant to the table, reaches under and pulls out a 5 gallon paint can about half full of potting soil. He also selects a clean 3-gallon container and proceeds to repot 'Charlie', dumping the old soil outside the greenhouse door. He puts 'Charlie' back in his place and walks on.

Ever now and then, he picks up a

few fallen camellia petals and puts them in a bucket on the table.

He comes to a row of last years grafts that have begun the spring "push". One is a double graft of 'Easter Morn'. Each graft had taken and grown about 18 inches high the previous year.. One of them now had dull green, lifeless leaves while the other had bright green leaves with new growth starting. "Oh-oh," he says to himself, "dieback." He takes the plant over to the table, and breaks off the unhealthy looking part. He breaks it into little pieces looking for dieback. He finds none. He then gets an exacto knife and cuts away all traces of that graft from the stock. He finds healthy green tissue. He must be relieved for he starts humming "Oh, What a Beautiful Morning." He paints the cut tissue with asphalt and puts 'Easter Morn' back on the floor. An hour has now passed.

The greenhouse door opens and Mrs. Kamel comes in.

"Linnie, did you water my geraniums?"

He crosses his fingers quickly. "Just did, darling. Just did."

"How about my begonias?"

With his fingers still crossed: "Just did, darling. Just did."



Mrs. Stone, Mrs. Kelly and Mrs. Maye all charmed by Bill Anderson at the last meeting of Fayetteville Camellia Club at the home of Ed. Liebers, 1981.

## ACS Fall Meeting

*continued from page 3*

phony Orchestra under the direction of its world-famous conductor, Mstislav Rostropovich.

On Saturday morning October 30, a bus tour of historical Alexandria, Virginia, is planned. This tour will be conducted by Mr. and Mrs. Merrill G. Beede, members of CSPV and residents of Old Town, Alexandria. Among the sights that will be seen will be Christ Church where George Washington worshipped and Robert E. Lee was confirmed; Gadsby's Tavern, a focal point of Old Town, the site of the preparation of the Fairfax Resolves of George Mason and predecessor document of the Bill of Rights; Carlyle House, the headquarters of General Braddock and five British governors where they proposed the Stamp Act of 1755 - taxation without representation; and cobblestoned Captain's Row which contains 18th and 19th Century homes of sea captains.

If time permits the tour may also include a visit to the archaeological site near the Ramada Inn where the

stone remains of a 19th century canal lock were recently uncovered. This lock was once the Potomac River outlet for the Alexandria Canal, that played an important part in the seaport history of Alexandria, and will become a part of a city-owned historical park that will emphasize Alexandria's maritime heritage.

A visit to the U.S. National Arboretum will be made in the morning of October 28. Here one will see the Bonsai Collection; camellias, some hopefully in bloom after chemical treatment; species and cultures of crabapples, hollies, dwarf conifers, and peppers of the Americas, and in late October lycoris, sternbergia, and massed fruits of crabapple, firethorns, and berried shrubs may be seen.

The Fall ACS Meeting will end Saturday evening, October 30, with a gala banquet at Gunston Hall which stands south of Mount Vernon, home of George Washington. It was originally the home of George Mason, author of the Bill of Rights and is renowned for its architectural beauty as well as its history.



*This happy camellia man is John Terry from Fort Walton Beach, FL. No, he didn't win a plant of 'Glowing Embers', he's helping with a plant sale. Photo by Greg Davis.*



Don Mac

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