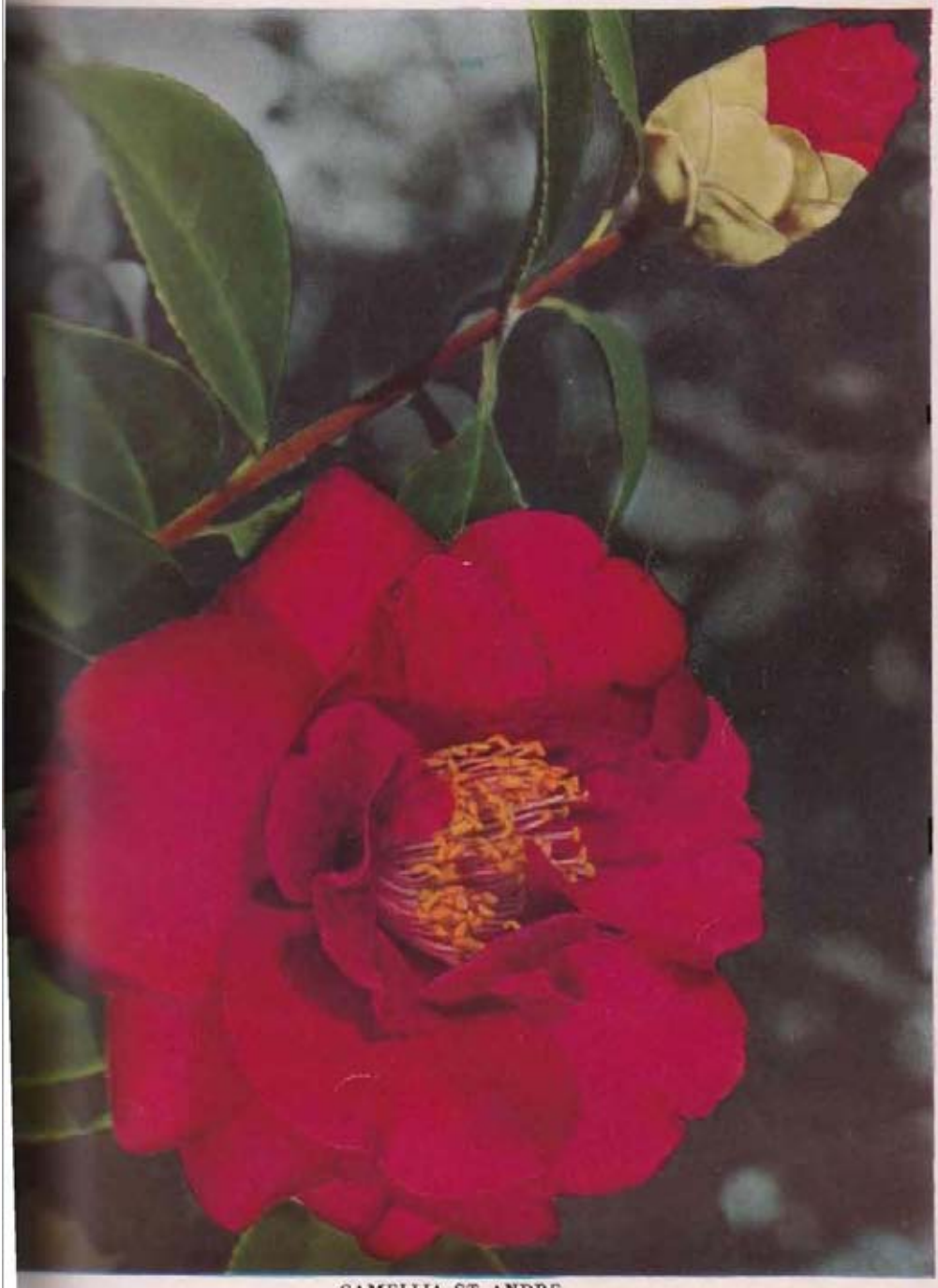
AMERICAN CAMELLIA SOCIETY

News-Letter

[illegible] NUMBER 4 OCTOBER, 1949



CAMELLIA ST. ANDRE

American Camellia Society News-letter
Volume 4 - Number 4, October 1949

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Front Cover	**1**
From: The Office of the Secretary	**3**
Early Flowers	**4**
Camellia Hall	**4**
H. H. Harms Honored	**4**
Propagation of *C. reticulata* by Cuttings	**5**
Camellia Yearbook	**5**
Notice	**5**
To Camellia Show Chairman	**5**
Mr. Roy O. Hill writes	**6**
Mr. E. A. McIlhenny	**7**
1950 Arrangement Contest	**8**
Camellia Organization Roster	**8**
Variety Registration	**10**
Nurserymen	**11**
Notes on Georgia Camellias, *by James Stokes*	**12**
Advertisements	**15**
Governor Earl Warren – Camellia Hall	**16**

American Camellia Society

NEWS-LETTER

VOLUME 4, NUMBER 4 OCTOBER 1949

From
The Office of the Secretary

WIN A CAMELLIA PLANT: Arthur Solomon, our President, says that we must have 10,000 members of our Association by December 31. To stimulate activity toward this goal, some of our most cooperative nurserymen have offered to give camellia plants as prizes.

The plan is simple. Every member of the Society who brings in 15 new members by December 31, 1949, will be given a camellia plant, and a good one too. Credit will be given for all new members obtained since January 1949. Many old members have already qualified for the free camellia plant and these will be delivered in the fall. They say that it is a cinch for anybody to get 15 new members. Every lover of camellias—and there are millions of them —will readily join if the work of the Society is explained.

Tell your prospect how the Society is eliminating the confusion arising from careless nomenclature; how numerous varieties are being examined and, when warranted, are being recognized; inform them about the work of the test plots at the University of Florida, at Lafayette, Louisiana, and at the Huntington Botanical Gardens at Pasadena, Calif. Let them know how much you enjoy the quaterly bulletins. Have a copy of your Yearbook with you so that they can see just how this outstanding job is being done. The membership fee is only $3.00. There are still a few 1948 Yearbooks left which are available to old and new members for an additional $2.50.

In addition to the prizes that will be given to every member who brings in 15 new members during 1949, we have arranged for other prizes and we are pleased to announce the details of these various contests:

1. Our President has agreed to award the outstanding seedling of the year to the person who brings in the greatest number of new members in the entire nation. The person bringing in the second greatest number of new members in the entire nation will receive a plant donated by W. T. Wood, Macon, Ga. Vice-President of the Atlantic States; the third prize will be a plant donated by S. J. Katz, Covington, La. Vice-President for the Gulf States; the fourth prize will be a plant donated by William Hertrich, San Marino, Calif., Vice-President for the Pacific States; and the fifth prize will be a new seedling, "Charlotte Bradford," donated by J. S. Bradford, Ocean Springs, Miss. We are expecting other special prizes in this nationwide contest which will be announced later.

2. Directors of each state will give a plant to the person in his state who brings in the greatest number of new members from his state.

3. A city, town, or incorporated hamlet will be designated as the ACS Camellia City which has the greatest number of new members in 1949 in proportion to its population and the award will be three outstanding varieties of camellias to be given to the Chamber of Com-

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merce or other civic body designated by the mayor of the city.

So get busy and do a job for the Society and at the same time win a camellia for yourself

STATE MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMEN: The membership campaign is in full swing. A membership campaign has been organized in each city in which there is camellia activity. The following have been selected as State Membership Chairmen and have accepted:

ALABAMA, H. W. Lee, P. O. Box 13, Mobile; CALIFORNIA, A. E. Morrison, Room 120 Court House, Sacramento; FLORIDA, John N. Sewell, 1420 Edgewood Ave. Jacksonville; GEORGIA, Dr. W. G. Lee, 418 Nottingham Drive, Macon; LOUISIANA, T. K. McKnight, Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge; SOUTH CAROLINA, C. N. Hastie, Jr., Magnolia Gardens, Charleston; MISSISSIPPI, Dr. Guy D. Bethea, Hattiesburg; NORTH CAROLINA; Mrs. R. L. McMillan, 1810 Park Drive, Raleigh; OREGON, Mr. H. H. Harms, Rt. 3, Box 1320, Portland; TEXAS, C. L. Babcock, P. O. Box 1964, Beaumont; VIRGINIA, Frederic Heutte, Bureau of Parks & Forestry, City of Norfolk, Norfolk; WASHINGTON, W. L. Fulmer, 505 Boylston Ave., North, Seattle.

It is expected that each chairman will appoint a membership chairman in each city or town in his state. The success or failure of the campaign will depend upon the activity of the local organization.

M. J. Witman, Chairman
Membership Committee
American Camellia Society

EARLY FLOWERS: Notices of early flowers continue to be reported. Mr. Guy L. Champlain of Jacksonville, Fla. had a second Prof. C. S. Sargent open July 1. Gordon E. Dugal of Lafayette, La. had a White Diakagura July 23 and Mrs. Henry Rigdon had a Daikagura August 1. Mr. Wallace L. Harris of Cochran, Ga. had an Arejishi August 5. Mr. E. P. Henderson of Bath, S. C. reports a perfect flower of Arejishi open August 14 and that on August 16 it was still in good condition and four more were in the process of opening. Mr. E. J. Pfingsti reports that Mr. Harry Nation of Montgomery, Ala. had an Arejishi August 16. The early seedling in the test garden reported last year had its second flower fully open August 19. Several have mentioned the fact that many varieties have buds that show promise of being far advanced over the usual for this time of year.

NOTICE! "Camellia Hall" will conform to the new ruling regarding California camellias by the quarantine Departments of Georgia, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, and Tennessee. For $1.00 additional, they will deliver to you prepaid, one of the plants mentioned in their ad on the back cover of this issue of the News-letter. They **guarantee** deliver of **healthy** plants that will live and do well in your garden. Descriptive price list available.

We wish to thank the California nurserymen who did not cancel their Yearbook advertising after the announcement of the quarantine against camellia flower blight. We hope the membership will always patronize our advertisers.

H. H. HARMS HONORED: Mr. H. H. Harms, our Director from Oregon received a Citation for Distinguished Achievement in Horticulture in June from the Oregon Federation of Garden Clubs for his activities in the culture of rhododendrons and camellias, the organization of the Oregon Camellia Society, the American Camellia Society program to clarify nomenclature, the production of new varieties of camellias, and his general helpfulness to any one interested in gardening.

PROPAGATION OF **C. reticulata** BY CUTTINGS: The propagation of the garden form **C. reticulata** has been limited to either grafting or inarching although several attempts have been made to root cuttings.

It seems that cuttings will root but for some reason they will not grow off even though roots have been formed.

Mr. H. C. Swim of Armstrong Nurseries, Ontario, Calif. reports that two years ago, 2 of 8 cuttings rooted. One died soon after transplanting while the other lived for about a year and produced roots 6-8 inches long but it was never able to force the terminal bud into growth and the plant finally died. This last season 10 more cuttings were put in of which 2 rooted and the other 8 were callused.

Dr. H. V. Allington of the Northern California Camellia Society rooted a cutting which made a good root ball in a 3 inch pot. It died, however, during the winter.

Dr. P. W. Zimmerman of Boyce Thompson Institute was also able to root cuttings which did not grow.

It is also reported that a grower in Mississippi rooted cuttings but it is not known whether or not they grew.

Harold L. Paige, Oakland, Calif.

CAMELLIA YEARBOOK: The following was received from a South Carolina camellia grower: "Please send me a copy of the American Camellia Yearbook, 1948. My wife is a member of your society, therefore we have a copy of the 1948 Yearbook, but I do not dare carry it farther than the front porch. She values it so highly that to take it farther would be a capital offense. I am such a camellia fan that I have to have a copy to show my friends." We suggested that he also join and now he has a Yearbook that he can take anywhere he wishes.

NOTICE: The 1950 Annual Meeting will be held at Lafayette, La. January 20-21.

The plate of Ville de Nantes used on the July News-letter is from a picture made early in the season. Flowers from the same plant produced later will be fimbriated.

TO CAMELLIA SHOW CHAIRMEN: If your Camellia Show will be held in cooperation with the American Camellia Society, the requirements are:

1. Notice of show date and chairman's name listed as early as possible with Wm. T. Wood, Chairman, Exhibitions & Awards Committee, 576 Mulberry Street, Macon, Ga.

2. Have a table to take applications for membership in the American Camellia Socety.

3. If you desire to use the Gold and Silver Certificates and the Award of Merit, these should be requested prior to the show from Mr. R. J. Wilmot, Secretary, American Camellia Society, Gainesville, Fla.

4. As soon as available a copy of your schedule and list of judges should be forwarded to Wm. T. Wood.

5. Immediately after the show is over, an article for the Yearbook or the Bulletin covering your show should be written by one of your members and forwarded to Mr. R. J. Wilmot. It should cover attendance, winners of major awards, varieties which won and number of flowers shown.

Wm. T. Wood, Chairman
Exhibitions & Awards Committee

Mr. Roy O. Hill of Dothan, Ala. writes as follows:

"During the past grafting season, I had an experience that might possibly be of interest to other amateur camellia growers. Early in the season, I grafted a plant with two scions and by early March I had determined that both of them failed to strike. I finally found a friend with an Elizabeth Boardman that had not yet begun to grow and obtained from him two scions and regrafted this plant on March 7. The



Mr. James Hyde Porter at a Birthday Party given for him at the Bibb Manufacturing Co.

James Hyde Porter, past president of the Camellia Society of America and patron of the American Camellia Society, died in Macon on June 13, at the age of 76. A great philanthropist, churchman, and flower fancier, Mr. Porter had long been a source of inspiration and education to flower lovers.

His home, Porterfield, near Macon, was at one time the largest trial garden for roses in the South—having at times more than 500 varieties. Camellias were his second love, but as the years went by he devoted more and more time to the study and culture of this beautiful flower until he finally had a collection of 500 plants representing 400 varities. He grew a large number of varieties out of doors and was a pioneer in the use of conservatories for camellias in this section.

Mr. Porter's generosity with his flowers was boundless. No flower show in Macon was complete without an exhibit from Porterfield — which in itself was usually a show. Porterfield gardens were open to the public at all seasons and thousands took advantage of the opportunity to enjoy and learn from it. Many civic, educational, and church groups in and around Macon have long been treated to decorative cut flowers sent by Mr. Porter.

Mr. Porter's purpose at all times was to educate the flower growing public by the introduction of new varieties for test purposes, showing them the most suitable varieties for this section and thus saving them from disappointment. Unselfishness characterized his growing of and love for flowers.

Many camellias which he did so much to popularize will through the years, be a growing monument to the interest and generosity of James Hyde Porter.

—H. T. Conner.

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growth buds burst forth in early July and are now growing very nicely. It looks like this plant by the end of the year will be as large as other plants grafted in February.

It occurs to me that this provides an incentive to graft early so that in case of a complete failure on any plant, it can be re-grafted in the same year, thus saving a year's time, unless, perhaps, you are one of those fellows who graft in June."

One commercial propagator, and perhaps more, makes it a common practice to store some scions in damp sphagnum in the refrigerator to be sure to have scions for just such use. The scions should be packed down in a covered box so they will not dry out.

Prof. Ira S. Nelson in Home Gardening 6:246-249, 1946 in his article on grafting suggested that a first cut be made 6 inches above the ground to allow for at least two more attempts should the first fail.

Mr. E. A. McIlhenny, Jungle Gardens, Avery Island, La., a Patron of the Society, passed away August 8, 1949, at his home after a prolonged illness. He is survived by his wife, the former Mary Mathews of New Orleans, three daughters, Mrs. Rosemary Osborn of Ponca City, Okla., Mrs. Pauline M. Simmons of Avery Island, Mrs. Leila M. Brown of New Orleans, a brother Dr. Paul A. McIlhenny, New Orleans, and a sister, Mrs. Sidney Bradford of Avery Island.



Mr. E. A. McIlhenny in Jungle Gardens. A picture taken by Dr. H. H. Hume in 1946.

Born March 29, 1872 on Avery Island, he was the son of Edmond McIlhenny and Mary Avery McIlhenny. In 1892 he left Lehigh University before graduating to join the first Peary Arctic Expedition which came to grief when the ship was wrecked near Greenland. He returned to Avery Island to establish a bird city to preserve the egret which was becoming almost extinct because of the slaughter of the birds for their plumes. In 1879 he led a scientific expedition to Arctic Alaska and among the men rescued from a wrecked whaler was Jack London the writer.

Jungle Gardens which had its first beginning in 1902 with 100 varieties of camellias, mostly old, large plants from nearby plantation homes, was developed to contain from 750 to 1000 varieties, many azaleas, bamboos, hardy palms, and other flowering or ornamental exotics. In the period of 1929 through 1938 Mr. McIlhenny imported many thousands of plants from Japan, England, France, Germany and Belgium. Many of the Japanese varieties of japonicas and sasanquas were first distributed by him as were some of the old standard varieties from Europe whose names had been lost in this country for 100 years. He planted many seed and distributed some very fine varieties as Jungle Garden's seedlings.

He translated the Verschaffelt **Iconographie des Camellias** of 1848-1860 and republished the Dearborn translation of the **Monography of the Genus Camellia** which was first printed in 1838. These were published and sold at a nominal cost which allowed those interested in camellias to possess them.

Mrs. Pauline M. Simmons has had active management of the nursery during his illness.

At this time of year we always wish to remind the membership that dues are payable by the calendar year and that payment is due and payable January 1. A great deal of postge and labor will be saved this office if dues are paid without having to send out bills.

1950 ARRANGEMENT CONTEST

PURPOSE: To promote a more general use of camellias in arrangements with good design.

RULES AND REGULATIONS: 1. The contest is open to any member of the American Camellia Society and to any exhibitor in a show held in cooperation with the American Camellia Society.

2. An exhibitor may make only one entry in each class.

3. Entries shall be submitted in the form of photographs on glossy paper approximately 5" x 7".

A brief analysis of the design with a detailed description of the container and plant material with name and address of exhibitor written on a separate sheet of paper, shall accompany each entry.

Photographs of arrangements made at home by members of the A.C.S. and those entered in a show held in cooperation with the American Camellia Society may be used.

4. All photographs submitted will become the property of the American Camellia Society.

CLASSES: 1. An arrangement symbolizing Peace, featuring white camellias with other white flowers. No foliage. Accessories permitted.

2. Camellias and other plant material in your favorite design. No restrictions.

3. An arrangement featuring camellias with bold or striking foliage for the modern home. Use of accessories optional. (Sizes and backgrounds will be controlled by local show schedules).

JUDGES: Three nationally known Judges will serve. Judges' decisions shall be final and their comments will be published in the American Camellia Society Yearbook.

AWARDS: Most outstanding entry in the contest — Camellia plant.

First in each class . . . Camellia plant.

Second in each class . . . Camellia plant.

Third in each class . . . Membership in American Camellia Society.

Winning photographs will be reproduced in the American Camellia Society Yearbook. Before April 1, 1950 send photographs to:

Mrs. W. T. Wood, Chairman
3875 Overlook Ave.
Macon, Ga.

Show Chairmen!!! Please include the contest classes in your schedules so that a large number will be eligible to compete.

Exhibitions & Awards Committee
W. T. Wood, Chairman.

CAMELLIA ORGANIZATIONS ROSTER: Below is a partial list of the Camellia Societies and Clubs as we have them. We have included meeting place and dues wherever this was furnished us should anyone in the locality wish to become a member. We thought that inclusion of time and place of meeting would be of interest to any travelers who might happen to be in the neighborhood.

We will publish additional listings as they come to us and if your Club or Society has not been included send us the information:

Alabama Men's Camellia Society, Greenville, Ala.
President—Dr. A. A. Stabler
1st. Vice-President—H. W. Lee
2nd. Vice-P.—Dr. T. V. Magruder
3rd. Vice-President—Mr. J. T. Alley
Secretary—W. B. McGehee

Montgomery Camellia Society, Montgomery, Ala.
President—Alden Jones
Vice-President—J. M. Garrett, Jr.
Secretary—Ralph Eagerton
Treasurer—J. T. Alley
Time of meeting—second Monday at 7:30 P.M. from November to March, inclusive
Place of meeting—Jefferson Davis Hotel
Dues—$1.00 per year.

The Men's Camellia Club of Selma, Ala.
President—William P. Baker
Vice-President—Douglas Bullard
Secretary-Treas.—Roscoe Hinson

Time of meeting—Third Monday of each month at 7:30 P.M.

Place of meeting—Alabama Power Co. Auditorium.

Men's Camellia Society of Birmingham, Ala.

President—Dr. T. V. McGruder

Vice-President -E. A. Hamilton

Treasurer—Lee Poe

Secretary—Travis P. McGahey

Northern California Camellia Society, Oakland, Calif.

President—D. L. Feathers

Vice-President—Walker M. Wells

Secretary-Treasurer—Barlow Hollingshead

Time of meeting—First Monday in each month from October through May at 8:00 P.M.

Place of meeting—Chabot Schoo. Auditorium

Annual dues—$5.00.

Pacific Camellia Society, Inc.

President—Dr. Winston E. Squire

Vice-President—Dr. A. A. Pavette

Treasurer—Mr. G. P. Clifford

Secretary—Mr. Frank W. Barley

San Diego Camellia Society

President—Stanley W. Miller

Vice-President—Edward F. Kohl

Secretary—Mrs. Althea Hebert

Treasurer—Mrs. Gladys Stark

Time of meeting—Second Friday of the month November through May 7:30 P.M.

Dues—$4.00 per year.

Southern California Camellia Society, Inc., Pasadena, Calif.

President—Harold C. Hill

1st. Vice-President — W. L. Rifenberick

2nd. Vice-President—Alvin J. Fink

Secretary & Treasurer—C. M. Gale

Dues—$4.00 per year.

Men's Camellia Club of Escambia County, Pensacola, Fla.

President—M. B. Dawson

Vice-President—Charlie Taylor

Secretary B. H. Crooke

Treasurer—John K. Edwards, Jr.

Time of meeting—2nd Wednesday of each month, October through April at 7:30 P.M.

Place of meeting . Recreation room of the First Presbyterian Church 10 E. Chase St.

Men's Camellia Club of Tallahassee, Fla.

President—E. E. Selman

Vice-President—Dr. J. V. Knapp

Secretary-Treasurer — Francis R. Bridges, Jr.

Time of meeting—First Tuesday of each month October through April

Dues—$3.00 per year.

Louisiana Camellia Society

President—T. K. McKnight

1st. Vice-President — Gervais A. Compton

2nd. Vice-President—Aubrey Henderson

3rd. Vice-President—Miss Camilla Bradley

Secretary-Treasurer — Mrs. Lionel J. Billeaud

Time of meeting—Third week-end in January

Place of meeting — Southwestern Louisiana Institute campus.

Dues $1.00 per year.

Hattiesburg Camellia Society, Hattiesburg, Miss.

President—Dr. Guy D. Bethea

1st. Vice-President—Charlie Chiles

2nd. Vice-President — Mrs. B. D. Blackwelder

Secretary—Mrs. C. Eric Carlovitz

Treasurer—E. E. Burkett

The Men's Camellia Club of Ocean Springs & Biloxi, Miss.

President—J. S. Bradford

Vice-President—Dixon Hodges

Secretary & Treasurer—S. Poitevent

Time of meeting—First & third Friday of the month during season and first Friday thereafter

Dues $2.00 per year.

Men's Camellia Club of Pike County, McComb, Miss.

Time of meeting Second Monday of each month

Place of meeting—McComb City Hall

Annual Dues $1.00.

Oregon Camellia Society

President—Morrie L. Sharp

Secretary—Mrs. A. E. Johnson

Treasurer—Mrs. E. Wetzler

Time of meeting—Third Friday of

each month September through May.

Place of meeting—Auditorium of the Journal Building.

Dues—Initation fee $5. included first year's dues, annual dues thereafter $1.00.

Men's Camellia Club of Charleston County, Charleston, S. C.

President—W. M. Quattlebaum

Vice-President—Rudolph Siegling

Secretary & Treasurer — Wm. M. Arms, Jr.

Time of meeting—Third Thursday of each month

Place of meeting—Charleston Y. M. C. A. on George St.

Dues—$2.00 per year.

Virginia Camellia Society

President—Alan J. Hofheimer

1st. Vice-President—Henry M. Pinner

2nd. Vice-President—Mr. Wm. G. Maupin

Secretary—James Mann, Jr.

Treasurer—Paul H. Kear

Time of meeting—Four meetings per year to be called by the Board of Directors between September 1 and May 31.

Place of meeting—Assembly room of the Norfolk County Medical Association

Dues—$1.00 per year.

VARIETY REGISTRATION

No. 17 EDDIE G. WHEELER: This is Wheeler Nurseries chance seedling W-13 which first flowered in 1943 at 11 years of age. It has upright slow growth due to the fact that it is so floriferous. The foliage is small to medium. The flower buds are long, slender, pointed and light green. The semi-double flowers are 4 to 5 inches in diameter with 15 to 21 petals, light to medium pink, opening from January to April. It is very free flowering and the flowers are seldom injured by cold.

No. 18 WHEELERS FRAGRANT: This is a chance seedling planted by R. L. Wheeler of Wheeler Nurseries, Macon, Ga. in 1932 that first flowered in 1942. Its growth is rapid, compact and upright in form. The leaves are large on vigorous new growth, slightly serrated, of medium size and thickness on normal growth. The flower buds are round, opening from late September through December. The 4 to 6 inch flowers are white to faint pink with rose stripes and are unusually fragrant, more so than Herme. The form varies from semi- to incomplete double.

No. 19 SELMA SHELANDER: A 17 year old seedling plant grown by C. S. Tait (now deceased) of Brunswick, Ga., now the property of Mrs. Selma F. Shelander, St. Simon's Island, Ga. It first flowered in 1946. The plant of average growth, compact and upright. The leaves are dull green, about 3½ inches long by 1½ inches wide and they have a tendency to curl. The flower buds are ovate and large, opening late December through February. The white, shading to blush pink flowers are 5 to 6½ inches in diameter, vary from semi-double to incomplete double, occasionally with small petaloids. There are usually 17 petals. This flower won an Award of Merit at the Cassina Garden Club Camellia Show, St. Simons Island.

No. 20 R. L. WHEELER: Seedling W-68 of unknown parentage 8 years old that first flowered in 1948 at the Central Georgia Nurseries, Macon, Ga. The seed originated in Dr. W. G. Lee's garden. The plants have rapid, upright growth with strong, heavy stems. The leaves are unusually large, dark green. The flower buds are very large and conical. The 6 inch rose flowers vary from semi-double to incomplete double, with heavy convoluted guard petals. Petaloids are massed around the base of the stamens and the stamens open up like Daifarin. Flowering season is December through February. Flowers of this variety won the Award of Merit at Pensacola, Cor-

dele, Valdosta and Augusta, where it also won the best flower in the show. An old flower won honorable mention at Macon.

No. 21 BETTY SHEFFIELD: A 5 year old seedling of the variety Mrs. F. L. Gibson grown by Mrs. A. B. Sheffield of Thomasville, Ga. It is being registered and propagated by Thomasville Nurseries of Thomasville, Ga. The plant is of rapid, regular growth.

The 4 - 4½ inch flowers are incomplete double with upstanding large pétaloids interspersed with stamens, white with a few red and pink splotches and stripes. Opening mid-season.

No. 22 BRYAN WRIGHT: A 5 year old seedling of Martha Wright grown by Miss Beatrix Hoyt of Thomasville, Ga. Being registered and propagated for the 1949 season by Thomasville Nurseries of Thomasville, Ga. The plant is of average compact growth. The flowers are medium large, incomplete double with large and small petaloids and stamens intermixed, light pink between Lady Hume's Blush and Frau Minna Seidel (Pink Perfection). It flowers in mid-season.

No. 23 CHARLES MAXWELL: A 10 year old seedling of Enrico Bettoni grown by Mrs. C. O. Maxwell of Cairo, Ga. It is being registered and propagated by Thomasville Nurseries, Thomasville, Ga. for introduction in the fall of 1950.

It is of rapid upright growth. The 4 - 4½ in. flowers are complete double imbricated, rose red in color, slightly darker than Price Eugene Napoleon. It is superior to the latter variety in that the color is always even. It is also superior to Brilliant and several others in that there is no tendency for the petals to fold back as the flower ages.

No. 24 EDNA EARL: An 8 year old seedling of the variety Mrs. F. L. Gibson grown by Mrs. A. M. Jones of Quitman, Ga. It is being registered and propagated by Thomasville Nurseries, Thomasville, Ga. The plant is vigorous and compact.

The 2½ to 3 inch flowers are semi-double, almost single, with a few stamens in the center. The exquisitely formed flowers of light rose pink, bloom early. It is particularly desirable because of its small size.

No. 25 FRANK GIBSON: A 5 year old seedling of unknown parentage grown by Mrs. F. L. Gibson of Thomasville, Ga. It is being registered and propagated by Thomasville Nurseries of Thomasville, Ga. The plant is of fairly open, rapid growth. The 3½ to 4½ in. flowers are incomplete double with small petaloids like Elegans. The guard petals are white and the petaloids are white but each is edged with yellow making the central pompon almost yellow in color. It flowers in midseason.

No. 26 PEARL MAXWELL: A ten year old seedling of Enrico Bettoni grown by Mrs. C. O. Maxwell of Cairo, Ga. It is being registered and propagated by Thomasville Nurseries, Thomasville, Ga. for introduction in the fall of 1950.

The plant is of upright, rapid growth, hardy and vigorous.

The 3½ to 4 in. flowers are complete double, regular, imbricated of an exquisite soft shell pink that is always even in color with never any streaks. Has the appearance of a giant Frau Minna Seidel, but even more lovely and perfect in color. It flowers midseason to late.

No. 27 PETER J. HJORT: An 8 year old seedling grown by the late Peter J. Hjort from seed imported from China. It is being registered and propagated by the Thomasville Nurseries, Thomasville, Ga. The plant is of open, rapid growth.

The 3 to 4 inch flowers are semi-double with a compact ring of golden stamens pink with a salmon undertone. It is an early blooming variety.

NURSERYMEN: If you have not done so please send a copy of your catalog to this office so we can keep our list of current varieties up to date.

ELECTION: As the year draws to a close it is again time for the election of Directors whose terms expire at the next Annual Meeting. Unit Three, consisting of Florida, Mississippi, South Carolina, Washington, are to elect their State Directors and Connecticut, Illinois, Massachusetts, Nebraska, New York, Pennsylvania, and Australia join in to vote for two Directors at Large.

Nominations for Unit Three are for one State Director for each of the four states and two Directors at Large from the whole unit. Nominations must reach this office by December 1 at which time the final ballots will be mailed. The incumbents are Mrs. J. H. Churchwell, Kenneth G. Price, C. N. Hastie, Jr., and W. L. Fulmer State Directors, and R. E. Lee and Dr. Guy D. Bethea, Directors at Large.

NOTES ON GEORGIA CAMELLIAS

JAMES STOKES
Georgia State College for Women
Milledgeville, Georgia

All species of camellias are indigenous to the Orient, but the newer varieties are coming from wherever enthusiasts are at work, and Georgia has many productive workers. Since the near future should see the introduction of a lengthy varietal list it seems appropriate, at this time, to trace the history of some of the varieties that have originated in or entered the trade from this State.

Camellias came to Georgia shortly after the turn into the nineteenth century, flourished for a time, and later fell into disrepute. There are many casual factors involved in the fall of the camellia, but three of the most important ones were the chaotic conditions in the South following the Civil War, the tardiness of Southerners in learning that camellias were excellent materials for outdoor culture, and the perfection complex of the breeders always directed toward the production of petalmanous types such as the famous Alba Plena. The formal double types are exquisite, but since the most invariable thing in nature is variation, one may well expect the public to demand variation. About thirty years ago there was a revival of interest in these exotic plants, and the chase for new varieties has been on ever since.

Camellias have many crosses in their ancestry and are highly hybridized plants. As a consequence, when seed are planted, the grower may expect anything from a very inferior flower to one worthy of propagation, but the former is frequent and the latter rare. Camellias also belong to the Hugo deVries group of plants known as the ever sporting forms, and sports from the parental plant are not uncommon. Many fine varieties have come to us as mere chance seedlings of unknown ancestry, and others have come as sports from known or unknown plants. Some workers have practiced artificial hybridization between varieties and even between different species, and seeds from such known ancestry have developed into some of our new and finer varieties.

It is not necessary that you be a highly trained scientist in order to create new varieties of camellias. Intelligence, observation, and dogged perseverance over a period of years are requisites to success. However, the elements of chance and various mitigating circumstances may work against your obtaining the perfect flower that you hoped to bring into existence. When you plant seeds of such varieties of pecans as Stuart, Schley, and Mahan, you do not expect seedlings that will bear Stuart, Schley, and Mahan pecans respectively. An

analogous condition exists in camellias. However, the dim hope that something finer than the parents may arise is the spark that fires the determination of the camellia enthusiast.

In Augusta lives Mrs. James E. Harper who has been a camellia enthusiast since the early days of the camellia revival. She is thoroughly capable of telling you, in her own words, where some of Georgia's camellias came from:

"About thirty years ago I planted my first seed. I found them on an old plant in the Village cemetery, and because of the crabbyness of the old sexton, my husband and I gathered them by the light of the moon. These I planted, and to my joy they germinated 100 per cent. The next year Mr. Bailie, of Fruitland Nurseries, gave me some seed from Magnolia Gardens, and from then on I have not missed a seed or a season. My seedlings are just what the bees have made them. I have never tried cross-pollenization by hand. Mr. Wilson, formerly at Fruitland Nurseries, is doing it, he tells me, but he has had no blooms as yet. Now I have had several good varieties. My first was a semi-double red I call **General Lee,** but at times it strikes too many stamens to be reliable. Another, **Jim Harper,** I think has a great deal of the Debutante strain. It is the same lovely pink, not as large, but in many respects similar. My **Jim Goldman,** I believe, comes from Herme. The manner of growth is the same, its foliage is similar, and it also has a faint fragrance like the Herme. My **Judge Barrett, Anne Harper, Grady McCord and Willis Smith** have no resemblance to other varieties.

"Now you ask about sports. My Hall Towns is a sport. It came on a very ordinary plant, white with red stripes. Thanks to the falling of a pine limb, the main branch was destroyed and only the sport remained. My Herme's have sported repeatedly, and I feel that my old plants have helped to supply Mr. Bailie and Mr. McCord with much of their stock. Last year my Lady Clare sported a beautiful peony-centered bloom. I have grafted that, and it is now at least two feet tall. I hope it will bloom next season. I have never been able to get a seedling to bloom under five to seven years, and some of them have never bloomed."

In the opinion of the writer this is a charming report, and it is an excellent example of the intelligent Georgia Laywoman, plying her hobby season in and season out, always looking toward a future full of surprises, and all the while maintaining a serenity that comes only to those who are engaged in the conscious pursuit of some worthy purpose.

Several of the above varieties have been introduced to the trade through the Fruitland Nurseries. The origin of the variety Hall Townes opens a problem either in recurrent mutations or confusion in the history of the origin of this variety. This variety is identical with Rainsford Cantelou, which is reported by Mr. C. N. Hastie, Jr., to be one of the Magnolia Gardens. It has also been earliest varieties introduced into referred to as W. H. Hastie. It was named Rainsford Cantelou in 1940. On the west coast this variety is known as Regina dei Giganti and also Gloriosa. Regina dei Giganti is listed in volume 12, page 248 of "The Verschaffelt." It was named Rosalie by E. A. McIlhenny, Pink Silk Satin by Judge A. W. Solomon, and Hall Townes by Mrs. James E. Harper. This is a very old variety and should not be listed as having originated in Georgia. The matter of priority of name is one to be determined elsewhere.

Recurrent mutations are not uncommon in camellias. Many camellia enthusiasts are the proud possessors of recurring sports in Herme. Mathotiana Alba is a variety also well known for its recurring muta-

tions. One of the sports of Mathotiana Alba, which has recurred many times, is a variety known as Anna Bruneau. Miss Willie E. Rice of Marshallville has a sport limb on her Mathotiana Alba plant which is identical with the variety Anna Bruneau. Miss Rice comments as follows: "My Mathotiana Alba plant is now about ten feet high and the sport limb comes out near its base and grows up through the bush, almost to its top. It is always true to form and color. The white section of the plant often has other variations, such as flecks of pink or whole petals of pink, and I have seen one half of bloom pink as if a line had been drawn across. Our plant has been a very satisfactory one because my mother accidentally planted it on the north side where an acorn grew into a large water oak giving it dense shade. It is still blooming (May 5, 1949)."

Some years ago Mrs. M. E. Brice of Quitman nurtured a chance seedling in her side garden, and it later blossomed as a new variety. It has been named **Martha Brice** in honor of Mrs. Brice. It is an exquisite semi-double blush pink and is now being propagated from coast to coast. A North Hollywood California nursery describes it as one of the most unusual of all camellias and a "must" in every collection of fine camellias. Concerning the history of this variety Mrs. Brice says, "This camellia came from a seed which I planted in a pot. It sat out in the yard for some time. When it had grown large enough to transplant, I planted it out in my garden. It had only one bud the first year it bloomed. We all thought it very pretty, and someone suggested I name it for myself which I did. Hence the name Martha Brice. Strange to say, the parent plant has never produced another seed. It blooms beautifully every year, but has not made a seed. I have many other seedlings which have not bloomed as yet." This variety was first catalogued and introduced by the Thomasville Nurseries, Inc.

In the Thomasville area camellia interest has been kept high under the guiding influence of Mr. Sam C. Hjort, President of Hjort, Hjort, Hjort, and Hjort, otherwise known as the Thomasville Nurseries, Inc. For many years he has kept a watchful eye on promising seedlings and has, in many instances, named these for the originators and introduced them to the trade.

(To Be Continued)

The American Camellia Catalog has no official connection with the American Camellia Society and is purely a private endeavor. Material in it is being checked by the Nomenclature Committee.

Robinson 56—C. M. Wilson—Letitia Schrader—Gov. Earl Warren—Mary Charlotte — Pride of Descanso — Thelma Dale — Black Dragon



Lorelei — High Hat — Gypsy — Simeon — Glen 40 — King Lear Kenny—Lotus—Tiara—Pax—St. Andre—Red Wonder—Virginia Davis

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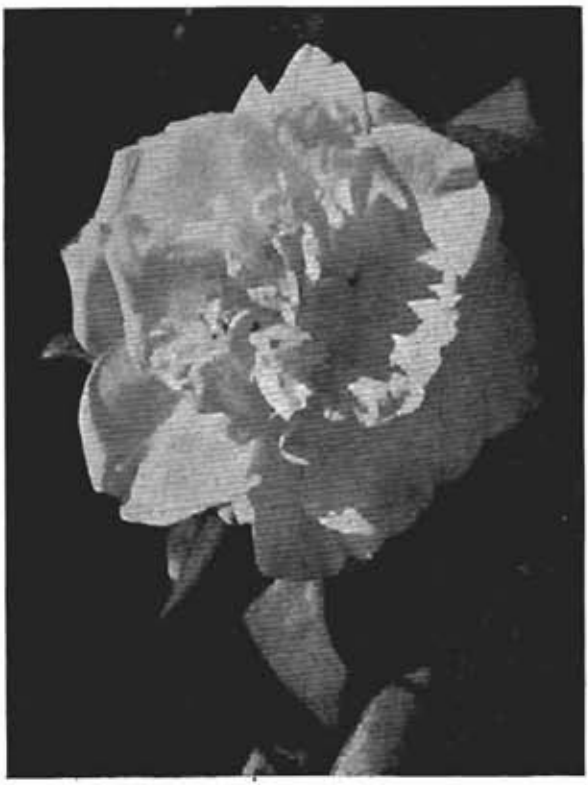
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