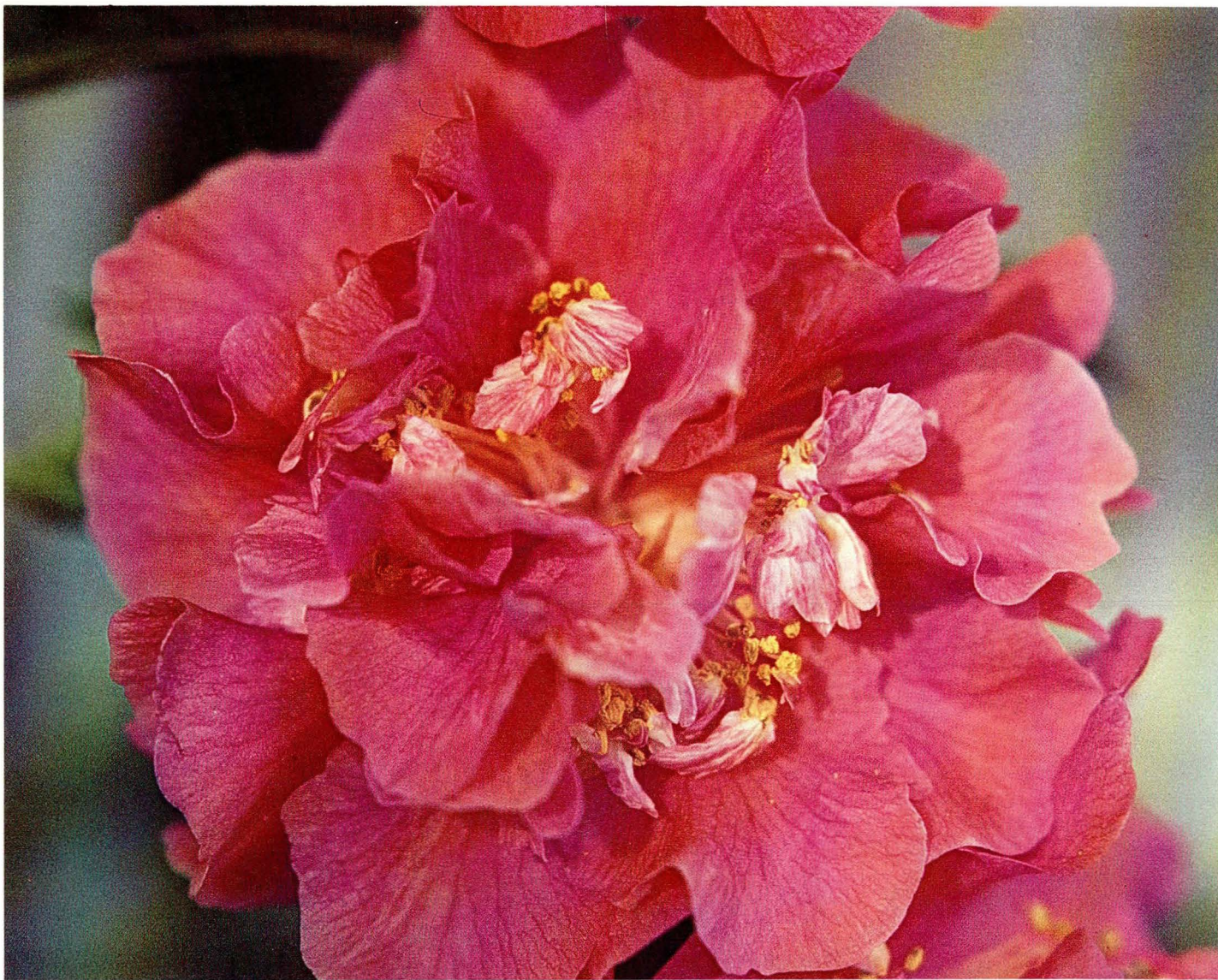


The *Camellia* Journal



'OUR KERRY'

ACS Reg. No. 1646

This is a large deep pink *C. reticulata* hybrid ('Crimson Robe' x 'Jean Pursel') originated by Frank Pursel, Oakland, California. It is being propagated by and is available from Ray Gentry, Jackson, Mississippi.

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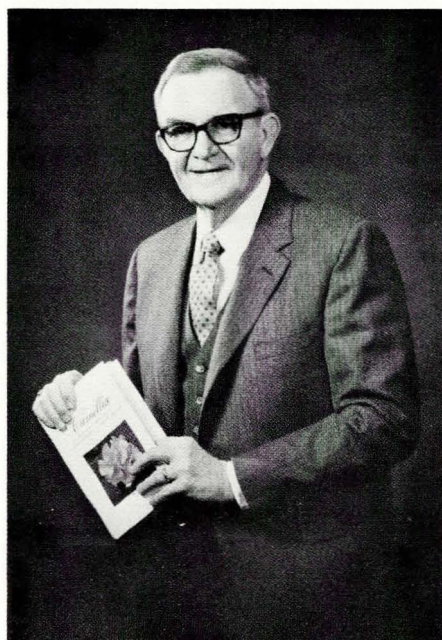
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President's Message



THOMAS C. EVANS

With this issue, I will have concluded my two-year term as President of our beloved American Camellia Society. It is difficult to realize that time passes so quickly when you are involved in an activity that you enjoy. I cherish these two years for many reasons; particularly because of the wonderful people I met within the Society and outside of it, and because of the excellent cooperation from all those called upon for assistance.

We are extremely fortunate to have our outstanding Staff at Headquarters. The team of "Brownie", Ann, Joe Pyron, Helen Teeter, Helen Bryan and Frances Bowden is the mainspring that keeps the organization moving ahead continuously. Their innovativeness, devotion to the betterment of the Society, unstinting donation of their time to Society business, and willing cooperation in all endeavors are worthy of the highest praise we can bestow. I consider myself very fortunate to have had their guidance and assistance.

In addition to the Headquarters Staff, we rely heavily on our standing committees to recommend policy matters to the Governing Board and to take action in accordance with the directions of that

Board. Noteworthy for their accomplishments are Mrs. Paul A. Dahlen (Marie) and the members of her Artistic Arrangements Committee, Vera and Al Parker and their Ways and Means Committee, Clyde X. Copeland and his Exhibition and Awards Committee, Philip Ireland and his Horticulture Committee, and James McCoy's Publications Committee. To all of these people, and those on the remaining committees, I extend my sincere appreciation for the invaluable assistance afforded me during the past two years.

Without doubt, the person that I appreciate most for her assistance in this endeavor, and all of my undertakings, is my beloved Dotty. She has encouraged me in more ways than it is possible to enumerate, tolerated inconveniences too numerous to mention, reminded me of deadlines that I had to meet, suggested solutions to difficult problems and consoled me when such was in order. Without this backup, the past two years would have been much less pleasurable.

Jack Mandarich, our new President, has been devoted to the improvement of our beloved flower — the camellia — for many years. He has also been a strong supporter of our Society. I am confident that we will continue to grow under his capable leadership, and I pledge my assistance in achieving this goal.

Thanks to you all for your support and many kindnesses.

Sincerely,

T.C. Evans

—ACS—

Camellia Registration Fee Increased

The Governing Board of the ACS at its meeting in Alexandria, Virginia on October 28th reluctantly increased the fee for registration of new camellias. The new fee, effective with the publication of this notice, is \$15.00. The fee has not been increased from \$5.00 for many years. Meanwhile the cost of postage, printing, and the secretarial work required have increased considerably over the past five years. Some suggested even a higher fee, but the Board compromised to set it at \$15.00.

The Camellia Journal

WORLD'S LARGEST PUBLICATION DEVOTED TO THE GENUS CAMELLIA

Volume 38

Number 1

February, 1983

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PRUNING TIME WILL SOON BE HERE

Most people prefer to prune at time of blooming or very soon thereafter. Whatever time you should select, here are some pointers by Jim Wagner, a horticulturist, at the Oregon Camellia Society's meeting in November 1982.

1. Opening up the plant to let in light and air will help to eliminate scale.

2. There are exceptions to all pruning practices. One should observe each individual plant for its needs.

3. Suggestions for the "right attitude" toward pruning seems important. *Think* you will be *successful* and you will be.

4. In pruning young camellias, watch for a second leader which would give competition to the main leader, and keep the second leader subdominant to the main leader.

5. Watch for branches lower down, growing parallel to the main trunk. Prune to structure your camellia the way you want it to go. Don't be timid in doing this. They can take a lot of pruning.

6. Prune to open up things so you don't have a ball of leaves and stems.

7. Drop-crotching: cut tip of branch to a bud, branch or crotch. Terminal buds control the growth of the bud directly below them. Thinning and drop crotching will force more buds.

8. Pruning is a dwarfing process. Frequent pruning is more dwarfing. Even three times a year it can be done. Removal of buds does no harm. It is what you *leave* that counts. Open spaces fill up. Any place you let light get in, will fill up as it forces new growth.

9. The blooming period tells what happened last summer. Camellias need a summer resting period in order to bloom well. They need to dry out between watering during the resting period. During the summer rest period the leaf buds turn to flower buds. Withhold water and fertilizer during the resting period.

10. The dormant season is not necessarily the best season to prune. Pruning in late Spring and early Summer slows next year's growth. The best time to prune is just about the time growth stops and before it starts its storage of food to harden the wood.

11. Fertilize camellias in the fall with low nitrogen and high phosphorus and potash.

12. Consider root pruning for large plants. Go around the plant with a sharp, straight spade, digging down a spade's depth. No set rules for this for distance. It differs with each plant. When the top of a plant is pruned severely, the roots should be pruned, too. This keeps the plant in balance and helps to dwarf or control growth. Hard pruning can delay or prevent bud formation, however.

13. Where to start pruning? It makes no difference, but one way is to 1st re-

move dead, diseased and damaged wood. 2nd, reduce size if necessary by drop crotching. 3rd, Start thinning. What is left of the plant is what is needed. Look at the structure.

14. Espaliering: All the above rules apply to espaliering. Use cup-hooks in the wall for training branches. The cuphooks come in all sizes and eliminate tying. In espaliering, remove all undesired branches. Support the remaining branches in the desired place. The second year remove long side branches and shorten others to thicken the foliage. The third year, start pruning. Do not cut the ends of permanent branches while they are developing. Practice. Become familiar with plant growth. Pruning is not an exact science — therefore there are exceptions to all rules.

—ACS—

PRUNING

DR. T. E. PIERSON

(Reprinted with thanks from St. George & Sutherland Branch "Review")
(Australian Camellia Research Society)

One of the main jobs for this time of the year is pruning. All plants will benefit from pruning even *reticulatas*. The trick lies in how you do it and why.

If you have *old, leggy, woody japonicas* you can afford to be rather ruthless and if you are prepared to sacrifice a blooming period then be heavy handed. Cut hard but before you do cut out the water for at least a week before hand and do it before growth commences or you will get excessive bleeding from the cuts and probable infection of the wounds. In fact, if you are going to cut into wood thicker than your thumb then I would suggest that you seal the cuts with grafting mastic as you do them. In this case keep the water restricted until new growth commences then, while the plant is growing vigorously, water and feed liberally. This type of pruning should be done before new growth commences, that is, as soon as flowering has finished; as should also the following:

Plants that really only need to be brought back within bounds and which don't warrant such excessive methods can well be reduced by up to a quarter of

the plant in any one season, this way you won't reduce your flowering by much and by spreading the process over a four year period you will keep the plant bushy and well furbished so that it will not become unsightly. As well as reducing the overall height of the plant you should aim to remove all spindly and twiggy growths from the interior and centre of the bush as such growth as a general rule will not produce much in the way of worthwhile flowers. Also any blooms that are produced are much more liable to wind damage, etc.

The previous is mostly applicable to *japonicas* and even more so to *sasanqua* varieties, when it comes to the *saluenensis* hybrids and the *reticulatas* one needs to be a little more discreet.

Saluenensis hybrids ('Donation,' 'Angel Wings,' etc.) have a nasty habit of die-back even without provocation and heavy-handed pruning is indeed provocation, always use mastic on wood of more than pencil thickness, always cut so that sap flow continues onwards, that is, cut to a growth point either to an obvious shoot or cut back flush to a main branch. Remember also that such hybrids have as a rule a rather open growth habit and as such you must grow that plant in accord with its natural character, you cannot make a naturally open and rangey plant into a dense, little bush.

(Continued on page 4)

Camellia Scions — Greenhouse Protected

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'Al Gunn'	'Dick Goodson'	'Grace Albritton Blush'	'Lasca Beauty Var.'	'Patsy O'Neal'	'Snow Mitt'
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'China Doll'	'Fran Mathis Var.'	'Lerlind'	'Mrs. R. J. Wheeler'	'Star Above Star'	'Twilight'
'China Lady'	'Francie L., R & V'	'Little Poppy'	'My Choice'	'Strawberry Betty'	'Valentine Day'
'Chow's Han-Ling'	'Gary's Red, R & V'	'Little Ruby'	'Myra D.'	'Sugar Babe'	'Veiled Beauty'
'Circuit Rider'	'Glen 40 Special'	'Little Slam, R & V'	'Nashville'	'Sultana'	'Verna Halbert'
'Clark Hubbs, R & V'	'Grace Albritton'	'Little Susie'	'Nuccio's Gem'	'Susan Johnson'	'W. H. Fish Var.'
'Coral Delight, R & V'	'Granada, R & V'	'Lulu Belle'	'Omega'	'Susan Shackelford'	'Wendy'
'Crimson Robe'	'Grand Prix'	'Magic City'	'Pat Nixon'	'Susan Terzian'	'William Jackson'
'Debbie, R & V'	'Grand Slam'	'Man Size'			

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(Continued from page 3)

What we classify as *reticulatas* must be further subdivided if you are thinking of pruning them, into *reticulata* and *reticulata* hybrids where the other parent is frequently a *japonica*.

True *reticulatas*, particularly the so called *Yunnan varieties* like 'Shot Silk,' 'Willow Wand,' etc. are *trees*, not bushes — they grow from a leader shoot and if this point is removed or damaged then that branch will die unless there is somewhere else for the growth to proceed so this class of plant must be pruned to an ongoing eye not just to where you hope there will be one in a leaf axil. Again, as die-back can be a problem use mastic to seal the cuts and be a little circumspect.

With *reticulata hybrids* it is possible to be a mite more adventuresome. Depending on what the other parent is, some such as 'Flower Girl' can be treated like their *sasanqua* half, others like 'Lila Naff' can almost be treated as *japonicas* without any ill effects, but varieties such as 'Howard Asper,' which obviously tend back towards the *reticulata* side of their parentage, must be treated as if they were straight *retics* and these you will never get bushy.

So basically: *Prune* to reinforce the natural growth pattern of the plant, not in direct contradiction to it.

Prune when the plant is as near to dormant as it ever becomes, not when it is growing at its most vigorous. Most important, remember that a heavily pruned plant has a large rootstock and may be a small head so it will grow most rampantly when it starts off; you will get growth but probably no flowers for a season or two until it settles down again.

—ACS—

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American Camellia Society Annual Meeting

FEBRUARY 10, 11 & 12, 1983
DALLAS, TEXAS — DUNFEY DALLAS HOTEL

TENTATIVE PROGRAM

Thursday, February 10, 1983

12 noon to 9 p.m. Registration, Main Ballroom, Lower Level.

5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Coffee and Hospitality Hour, Top of the Tower Room, Main Building.

7:00 p.m. Old Governing Board Dinner Meeting, Texas Room, President Thomas C. Evans, *Presiding*
Board of Directors Meeting, Chairman E. Hulyn Smith, *Presiding*.
New Governing Board Meeting, Jack Mandarch *presides as new President*

Friday, February 11, 1983

7 a.m. Board of Trustees, A.C.S. Endowment Fund, Breakfast meeting, Chairman G. Stuart Watson, *Presiding*.

9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Assorted Tours of Fabulous Dallas. Choose your tours on registration. All tours leave from the Foyer of the Main Ballroom.
Camey Vitale, *Tour Coordinator*,
Bill O'Rourke, *Tour Dispatcher*.

9:15 a.m. to 12 noon and 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Horticulture Program, Texas Room, Second Floor, Main Building, Onis D. Hyatt, *Presiding*.

9:15 a.m., Culture of Woody stem plants from individual cells, Dr. W. Y. Bennett

10:00 a.m. Micro-grafting, Dr. W. Y. Bennett

11:00 a.m. Hybridizing for fragrance and predictions regarding the orange, melon, apricot and coral tones, Ken Hallstone and Frank Pursel.

BREAK FOR LUNCH

1:30 p.m. Current camellia development at the National Arboretum; cold hardiness, Dr. W. L. Ackerman*

2:00 p.m. Camellia petal blight, Dr. Luther Baxter.

2:30 p.m. Arrival and hybridization of the Camellia Reticulata, Dr. Walter E. Lammerts*

3:00 p.m. What local camellia societies and individual growers can do to stimulate and assist in the propagation and distribution of camellia plants, a Panel, E. Hulyn Smith, *Presiding*.
Julio Nuccio*, Martin W. Usrey*, Ray Gentry, Sidney Meadows, Bea Rogers, and Charles Malone.

5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Hospitality Hour, Top of the Tower Room, Main Building.

* Papers prepared for presentation and possible future publication.

7 p.m. until Adjournment. Annual American Camellia Society Awards, Recognitions, Business and Reports Dinner. All Honorees will remain seated until just prior to the benediction when all who have been recognized or awarded will stand and receive one huge ovation. President Thomas C. Evans, *presiding*.

Saturday, February 12, 1983

SHOW DAY

6:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. Blooms entered in show in Main Ballroom.

Dallas Camellia Society, Thirty-First Annual Show, Main Ballroom, DUNFEY DALLAS HOTEL

Officers:

Frank Bailey, Jr., *President*,
Bob Mertens, *Vice-President*,
Jean Mertens, *Secretary*,
Lucille Harkey, *Treasurer*,
Eunilee Bailey, *Historian*,
Jack Greenberg, *Show Chairman*,
Charles Malone, *Chairman of Judges*,
Lucille Tate, *Chairman of Clerks*,
William Barbish and Clair Gothard, *Head Tellers*.

10 a.m. Judges and Clerks assemble in Main Ballroom.

11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Lunch, Main Ballroom.

12 noon to 7 p.m. Camellia Show open to the Public.

1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Additional tours of Fabulous Dallas with emphasis on shopping.

5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Hospitality Hour, Top of the Tower, Main Building.

7 p.m. Annual Banquet, American Camellia Society, Frank Bailey, Jr., President, Dallas Camellia Society, *Presiding*. Installation of Jack Mandarich as President of the American Camellia Society. Welcome to Texas, Morris Harrell, President American Bar Association. Entertainment to be announced.

—ACS—

Cut-Off Date For 1984 *Camellia Nomenclature*

In order for the Southern California Camellia Society to meet its printer's deadline for printing the 1984 issue of *Camellia Nomenclature* it has established *May 1, 1983 as the cut-off date for listing new varieties*.

It is suggested that you complete the routine ACS registration forms as *promptly as possible*. ACS will alert the SCCS about the new ones being properly registered. ACS is the recognized Official Registrar of Camellias in this country. It, in turn, has adopted the *Camellia Nomenclature* "As the Official Nomenclature Book of The American Camellia Society." This agreement was adopted some twenty years ago by both Societies.

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'Lucille Harkey'
'Margaret Davis Picotee'
'Mona Jury Var.'
'Moonlight Bay'
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Questions and Answers

E. C. SNOOKS

Q. — What is the best temperature to keep my camellia greenhouse at?

A. — Not having experience in this area of culture, I contacted several of the top exhibitor/growers in the South and Southeast. As would be expected, there are slight differences between their answers but all agree that the cooler one can maintain the greenhouse, the better. All have their thermostats set to come on at 33-35 degrees and to shut off at about 38 degrees. If outside temperatures will allow, try to maintain the temperature below 60 degrees. This may be accomplished with thermostated exhaust fans or automated vents. These growers also suggest that the humidity be maintained at a minimum of 70% and preferably as close to 100% as possible. Wet down the floors daily and use low level misters if possible.

It is important to remember that camellia flowers are over 90% water. The high humidity will help to maintain a fresh condition and the cool temperatures will assure a slow development of the bloom resulting in not only larger blooms but blooms with greater substance. Gibbed blooms, in particular, need ample water . . . both at the roots and in the air.

Q. — Some of my container grown plants seem to just sit there and grow very little. Many of them gradually worsen, frequently will shed leaves and finally die. What is the problem?

A. — Your description sounds like a classic case of phytophthora root rot. To help diagnose your problem, knock a "sick" plant out of its pot and carefully examine the root system. If you find mostly dead brown roots and very few white root tips (these will also be very short) you can be quite certain your problem is root rot. To correct, bareroot the plant, prune out dead roots, prune the top to balance and repot using a well draining mix. A new systemic fungicide, Subdue 2E®, is now available to treat this condition. Use at the rate of 1 ounce/50

gallons water. Drench the soil using 1 pint/gallon pot size. Treat at 6 month intervals to start the program and annually thereafter.

Phytophthora fungi are found in nearly all soils to some extent but usually do not present a problem if drainage and aeration are adequate. Now that an effective control is available, good cultural practice should include preventive treatments.

Another cause of your problem could be potting too deep. Insert your finger into the soil and try to locate the roots. If no roots are found within the top inch of soil, remove excess soil and water well. A light mulch often helps to develop surface feeder roots.

Q. — Where do I buy good camellia plants?

A. — Obviously the best place is at a nursery where they specialize in camellias. Alas, they are now few in number. Check those nurseries advertising in this and other camellia journals. They are specialists and well known in the camellia world. If a visit to such is not possible, ask your fellow camellia growers where they get theirs. You might also consider ordering plants by mail.

Q. — Is it safe to have plants sent from such nurseries?

A. — Yes. Many of these nurseries ship regularly to customers across the nation and abroad. They have developed special techniques which assure safe delivery with reduced weight and costs. This may be the only way you will be able to obtain plants of some of the newer introductions.

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FUTURE MEETINGS OF THE ACS

February 10-12, 1983 Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas
Fall 1983 (exact date not yet determined — Kennett Square, PA/Wilmington, DE
January 1984 (exact date not yet determined) Orlando, Florida
November 8-11, 1984 Perry/Fort Valley, Georgia
January/March 1985 Mobile, Alabama
Fall 1985 (exact date not yet determined) Houston, Texas
March/April 1986 Possibly Norfolk, Virginia

Ocala Camellia Show

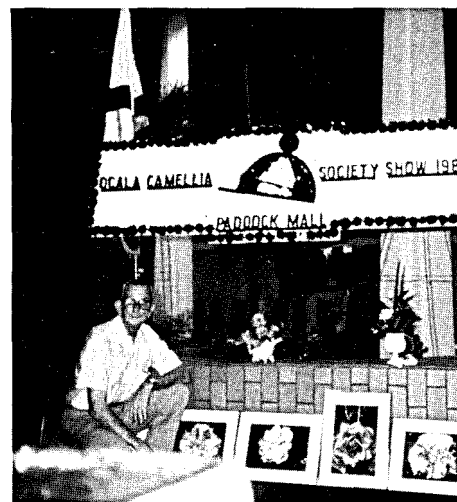
FLOYD MCHENRY, President
Ocala Camellia Society

The Ocala Camellia Society held its Annual Camellia Show for the first time in the brand new, spacious Paddock Mall in Ocala, Florida, heart of the Florida Thoroughbred Horse Industry.

Mr. Clayton Welch of the Paddock Mall encouraged us to show at the Mall, and even though we had to move the show date to February 5th and 6th, from January 16th and 17th (because of an unexpected freeze) Mr. Welch worked our show in.

Although the freeze took a toll on our growers, we're all outside growers, we still had 1,500 blooms shown.

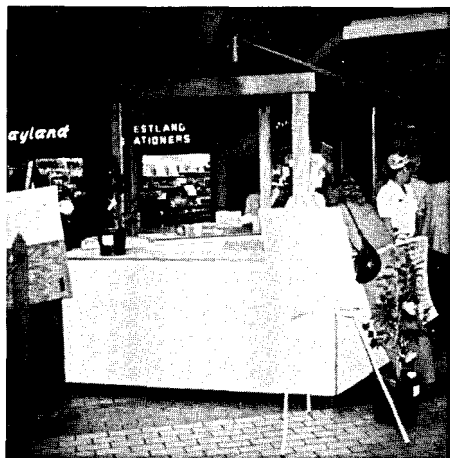
All of us put lots of time and effort into preparing for the show, but please let me mention one man very dear to us all, Mr. Ernie Paulk. He put in many, endless hours in preparation.



Ernie Paulk at the base of the banner made with 'Professor Sargent' and 'Alba Plena' camellias — fitting that the "logo" is a jockey's cap. (Photo by Kenneth Dugger)

Ernie, as Show Chairman, chose the logo of the Paddock Mall, the Jockey Racing Cap, as the focal point for the banner. It was covered with 'Professor Sargent' and 'Alba Plena' blooms! See Ernie and banner in Photo #1. Also thanks go to Kenneth Dugger for his lovely 12" x 16" photographs of some of his camellia collection, also Photo #1.

Our efforts for this year concentrated on the educational aspect of growing camellias. Again, Mr. Ernie Paulk was a trooper with this program. He gave live demonstrations every 2 hours on propagation techniques.



Information Booth at the Ocala Camellia Show. (Photo by Kenneth Dugger)

We also maintained an information booth (See Photo 2) where we solicited new members, and answered questions concerning camellia culture. As an added incentive, two local camellia growers donated camellia plants to be given away as door prizes; one every 2 hours. Thank you to Mr. Jim Smith and Mr. Bob Wines for camellia plant donations.

We encouraged our members to participate in the artistic display. Perhaps one of the most novel arrangements was presented by Mrs. G. T. Smith and Mrs. James Evans. The Paddock Malls interior decor is built around the Horse Industry, and as you can see in Photo #3, their rendition of a winners circle blanket piece certainly took 1st place in many hearts. The use of 'Don Mac' and 'Professor Sargent' blooms was never more artistically displayed.

At the risk of omitting anyone, let me say that all members, friends, relatives that participated and viewed the show were truly blessed at yet another example of God's goodness to us all.



Artistic display by Mrs. G. T. Smith and Mrs. James Evans in the form of a blanket over the winning horse at the Paddock Mall. (Photo by Kenneth Dugger.)

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A Note Concerning Eradication of Tea Scale On *Camellia Sasanqua* Cuttings

LUTHER W. BAXTER, JR. and PEGGY A. MITCHELL

Some *Camellia sasanqua* cuttings were rooted in a greenhouse under intermittent mist during the fall of 1981 and early winter of 1982. When the cuttings were removed (February 1982), they were severely infested with tea scale (*Fiorinia theae*).

We considered discarding them, but since we had used dimethoate [Cygon — O,O-dimethyl S-(N-methylcarbamoylmethyl) phosphorodithioate] effectively to reduce scale infestation in the field, we decided to soak the scale infested rooted cuttings in a dimethoate solution. The cuttings had been randomly made from large unnamed *C. sasanqua* plants to be used as understock on which *Camellia japonica* scions would be grafted. Twenty-five (25) of these rooted cuttings were soaked in a dimethoate solution (10 ml per gallon) for 30 minutes and 25 were soaked in the dimethoate solution for 60 minutes. After soaking, all cuttings were rinsed in tap water to remove the dimethoate on the outside. All cuttings survived and, as of November 22, 1982, all cuttings are completely free of scale. All 25 of the cuttings soaked for 30 minutes are well and hearty; 23 of those

soaked for 60 minutes are equally well and hearty, while two of them are not growing properly. Except for these two plants, there is no visible difference between these two groups of plants.

If anyone tries this procedure, remember that the LD₅₀ of dimethoate (Cygon) is 225 mg/kg, compared to malathion which has an LD₅₀ of 1375 mg/kg. The lower the LD₅₀ the greater the toxicity and the danger of using the material. The fungicide benomyl (Benlate), for example, has an LD₅₀ of 9590. When using the dimethoate solution for the above purposes, use an approved grade of rubber gloves and take other necessary precautions.

—ACS—

A SECRETARY'S DREAM

"I fell asleep the other night, and
while I had my snooze,
I dreamed each member stepped
right up, and promptly paid his
dues.

BUT, when I found it was a dream,
I nearly threw a fit,
It's up to you to make it true, so
won't you please remit."



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Commissioned by the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission, a City/County agency
Design/Photography by Denise Roberts and Susan Jones
Printing by Graphic Center
Paper from Meier, Smith & Turner
Decorations by Riverside Graphics

(Photograph by Meisels Photography and loaned to us by the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission.)

Camellia Capital

The camellia folks and the city of Sacramento will welcome The International Camellia Society at its meeting during March 4-9, 1983. You won't want to miss the international gathering of camellia enthusiasts, experts and friends. If you haven't seen and been part of one of the annual Sacramento Camellia Festivals you have missed a good part of your "camellia life."

The Art in Public Places Program of the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission initiated a poster competition for an official Sacramento poster that "best describes and celebrates the City of Sacramento." There was an award of \$1,000.00 offered.

A Sacramento newspaper reporting on the winner noted that there were more than 70 submissions. The winner was the Camellia Poster, representing the fact that the camellia is Sacramento's official flower. There were 2500 originally printed on April 29, 1982. They were nearly gone within four weeks and a second printing was then made. Thanks to our good friend Judge Sherrill Halbert we have one of the first printings here at Massee Lane.

To give you the "big picture" of this lovely poster depicting, obviously, the lovely formal 'Pink Perfection' camellia, we quote the Press Release of April 22, 1982 by the Arts Commission.

SACRAMENTO HAS AN OFFICIAL POSTER

"Sacramento now has an official poster. Designed by Penina Meisels and Gwen Amos, the poster was selected by the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission from over seventy entries to the Sacramento Poster Competition administered by the Art in Public Places Program. The competition was open to residents of Sacramento County and called for a poster of high quality that "captured the essence of Sacramento." The winning poster is a photograph of a large pale pink camellia set against a deep purple background. The name Sacramento appears across the bottom. Mei-

sels said that she and Amos wanted to treat the camellia, one of the most distinct symbols of Sacramento, in a formal and elegant fashion. "It's a simple and beautiful image that we think symbolizes Sacramento and that people might want to have in their homes," says Meisels.

"This poster was selected by a panel of design experts: Pamela Prince, Art Director of Portal Publications in Corte Madera; Michael Vanderbyl, a graphic designer from San Francisco and David Rible, glass artist and a member of the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission. The feelings of the panel were summed up by Prince who said: "There were many entries of high quality, but the Meisels/Amos poster seemed to address the issue with taste and quality. It was a natural winner."

"An exhibition of the Camellia poster, the seven honorable mentions and a selection of poster entries will be held in the front windows of the Open Ring Gallery, May 1-20, 1982. Copies of the poster are available from the Arts Commission, 1221 J Street, for \$5. There are a limited number of posters signed by the artists available for \$25.

"All the proceeds from the sale of the poster return to the Commission's Art in Public Places Program which initially commissioned the poster. Jennifer Dowley, Coordinator of that program, is pleased with the results of the poster sales and said: "Arts programs all over the country are searching for new ways of generating income. We have stumbled onto what may be a precedent setting project. Although publishing posters is a common method of attracting public attention and generating income for museums, theatre and music events, it is a very unusual project for a public arts agency. The funds raised from this project augment City funds so that our program can commission more artists to create works of art for the City."

"The Sacramento Camellia Poster continues to sell for \$5 each for the unlimited edition and \$25 for the limited, signed edition.

"The Art in Public Places Program is one of several programs administered by the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission. The Arts Commission is a City/County agency established in 1977 to foster and develop support for the arts

and is made up of eleven publicly appointed Commissioners. The Commission's programs are administered by a full-time professional staff."

—ACS—

In Memoriam

REGINALD TRY

We were saddened to learn of the death on September 29, 1982 of Reginald Try of Windsor, England. For many years Mr. Try served faithfully and efficiently as The American Camellia Society's Representative in the United Kingdom. He visited Massee Lane on one of his visits to the United States a few years ago. The *Windsor Express* in writing his obituary noted that "Mr. Try gained world-wide recognition for his hobby — growing camellias and won many prizes at the Royal Horticultural Society shows." In 1970 he along with his wife Gemma were traveling companions of Houghton and Ariana Hall on a trip to Japan. He led a colorful life having worked as a boy footman to Sir Dunjibboy Bomanji, now the Oakley Court Hotel some 70 years ago. Following World War I he purchased an old Army ambulance with his military gratuity and he converted it into a bus in 1920. He went on from there to head a multimillion dollar transport company before retirement. All who have been fortunate enough to have met this wonderful man feel a loss at this time.

—ACS—

Additional Judges Appointed

Since November 1982 Journal

CALIFORNIA

Tulare:

Dr. H. C. Schumacher (Nov.)

FLORIDA

Fernandina Beach:

Dr. Asa Barnes (Nov.)

Fort Walton Beach:

August A. Lenert, Jr.

MISSISSIPPI

Laurel:

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TEXAS

Houston:

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Rosamay L. Davis

WILL YOU SUPPORT A
HORTICULTURIST?

Studies on the Influence of Benomyl on Grafting Camellias

L. W. BAXTER, JR., SUSAN G. FAGAN, and PEGGY MITCHELL¹

(Appreciation is extended to Dr. Peter Burrows, Department of Experimental Statistics, Clemson University, for analysis of the data and to Dr. W. M. Epps, Head Emeritus, Department of Plant Pathology and Physiology, Clemson University, for help with the manuscript.)

Camellias are susceptible to *Glomerella cingulata*, the cause of dieback, canker, and graft failure (1, 2, 4, 7) (Figs. 1 & 2). The environmental conditions in the southeastern United States favor this disease complex (6). *Camellia sasanqua*, often used as stock on which other camellias are grafted, is susceptible to *G. cingulata* (3) but resistant to *Phytophthora cinnamomi*, the cause of camellia root rot (Fig. 3 and 4), while *C. japonica* seedlings and cultivars are susceptible to the root rot fungus (6, 8, 9). One of the procedures recommended to control root rot is to graft susceptible *C. japonica* cultivars onto resistant *C. sasanqua* stock (6).

G. cingulata is sensitive to benomyl (sold by du Pont as Benlate) (1, 5) (Fig. 5). It has been found that camellia scions graft better when soaked for 30 min in a benomyl suspension prior to grafting presumably because of dieback control (1). Unconfirmed reports at meetings of The American Camellia Society have suggested that benomyl may prevent successful grafting of scions coming from benomyl-treated plants. This study was conducted to find out whether or not there is validity to these reports.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Two hundred greenhouse grown *Camellia sasanqua* seedlings were used as stock on which 200 scions from 10 *C. japonica* cultivars were grafted: 'Carter's Sunburst,' 'Clarise Carleton,' 'Drama Girl,' 'Dr. Burnside,' 'Erin Farmer,' 'Fashionata,' 'Granada,' 'Katie,' 'R. L.



Figure 1. Death of camellia graft caused by *Glomerella cingulata*.

Wheeler,' and 'Show Time.' The 200 scions were purchased from Nuccio's Nurseries, 3555 Chaney Trail, P. O. Box H, Altadena, CA 91001. They were grafted during December 1980 in a greenhouse maintained at 21 C (minimum, maximum variable). Number 337 Dixie Cups were used as graft covers. Before grafting, 50 *C. japonica* scions (5 of each cultivar) were soaked for 30 min in water; 50 for 30 min in a benomyl suspension at a concentration of 300 ppm; 50 for 30 min in benomyl at 600 ppm; and 50 for 30 min in benomyl at 1200 ppm. A portion of the benomyl suspension was applied to the completed graft. One inch of builders sharp sand (1 inch depth) was added to the top of the soil around each stock plant so that a tight seal of the graft cover was made which maintained high humidity around the graft. Good horticultural and plant pathological techniques were followed during grafting. Data were collected in December 1981 and analyzed statistically.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Forty-two percent of the controls (scions soaked in water only for 30 min

prior to grafting) were successful and 83.3 percent of the treated scions (scions soaked for 30 min in benomyl at 300, 600, or 1200 ppm) were successful (Table 1). Soaking scions for 30 min in a benomyl suspension of 300 ppm is the recommended use rate ($= \frac{1}{2}$ lb/100 gal water $= 2.27$ grams/gal $= 0.6$ grams/liter $= 300$ ppm $=$ approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ tablespoonful/gal water). All scions were purchased from California because dieback is not a problem there, and this eliminates it as a variable. Also, repeated observations have revealed that *C. sasanqua* seedlings, grown in greenhouses at Clemson, remain free of contagious cankers which means that graft failures in this study were caused by a factor, or factors, other than *G. cingulata*. The data were collected in December 1981, 1 year after grafting, which means that weak grafts which died during the summer stress period are not reflected in the data as successful grafts.

No statistical difference occurred between grafts made from scions soaked 30 min in different rates of benomyl suspensions (300, 600, or 1200 ppm) but all grafts made with all benomyl rates were statistically better than the controls. Scions of two cultivars, 'Drama Girl' and 'Fashionata,' grafted well either with or without a benomyl soak while scions of two other cultivars, 'Erin Farmer' and 'Clarise Carleton,' did not graft well ei-



Figure 2. Contagious canker of *Camellia sasanqua* caused by *Glomerella cingulata*.

¹ Professor, Agricultural Science Assistant, and Technician, respectively, Department of Plant Pathology and Physiology, Clemson University, Clemson, SC 29631.

Contribution No. 2026 of the South Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station. Supported in part by the American Camellia Society.



Figure 3. Root rot of *C. japonica* caused by *Phytophthora cinnamomi*.

ther with or without a benomyl soak. In the absence of *G. cingulata* as a factor, it is not understood why there was an apparent stimulation from soaking scions in benomyl. One-year-old grafted plants resulting from this study were healthy and vigorous. The stock plants, on which the graft failed, formed adventitious buds (sprouts) and grew satisfactorily. When *G. cingulata* causes graft failure it usually kills the stock too. More information is needed regarding this factor. When *G. cingulata* is not introduced into the stock after cutting off the top it recovers. Fifty *C. sasanqua* seedlings that were treated in this manner in another study recovered fully (Baxter, unpublished data). Since the experimental benomyl level of 1200 ppmi is four times (4X) the recommended use rate (300 ppmi) and, since no symptoms suggestive of benomyl tox-



Figure 4. Root rot of seedlings of *C. sasanqua* and *C. japonica*. Left to right: 2-yr-old *C. sasanqua* seedling, 2-yr-old *C. sasanqua* seedling, and 2-yr-old *C. japonica* seedling, all inoculated with *Phytophthora cinnamomi*, the cause of camellia root rot.

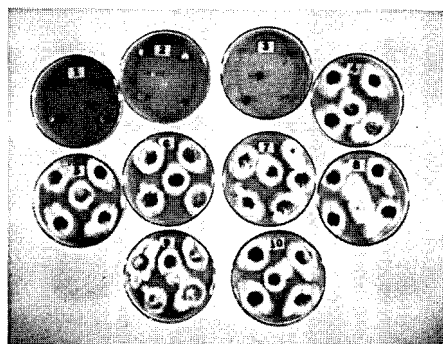


Figure 5. Response of *G. cingulata* to fungicides added to carrot juice agar: 1, 2, and 3 (benomyl 1, 10, 100 ppmi, respectively); 4, 5, and 6 (maneb 1, 10, 100 ppmi, respectively); 7, 8, and 9 (dodine 1, 10, 100 ppmi, respectively); and 10 (control — no fungicide in the carrot juice agar medium).

icity to grafts at 1200 ppmi were noted, it is concluded that benomyl does not adversely affect camellia grafting.

SUMMARY

Scions of 10 cultivars of *C. japonica*, soaked in benomyl (50 each of 300, 600, and 1200 ppmi), grafted better (83.3%) than 50 scions (controls) soaked only in tap water (42.0%). No toxicity from the

use of benomyl to either scion or stock was evident. The recommended use rate for benomyl is 300 ppmi (= ½ lb/100 gal water = 2.27 grams/gal = 0.6 grams/liter = 300 ppmi = approximately ½ tablespoonful/gal water). There appears to be stimulation from the use of benomyl since only disease-free scions and stock were used. From this study it is concluded that benomyl used during camellia grafting is not harmful but may be beneficial.

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TABLE 1. The grafting response of 10 *Camellia japonica* cultivars to three levels of benomyl compared to controls (without benomyl). Scions soaked 30 minutes in either tap water (controls) or a benomyl suspension immediately prior to grafting. Stock, 2-3-year-old *C. sasanqua* seedlings.

Cultivar	Control	Benomyl (ppmai ¹)			Total from benomyl trts.	Total benomyl treated plus controls
		300	600	1200		
'Carter's Sunburst' ²	1/5 ³	4/5	5/5	4/5	13/15	14/20 (70%)
'Clarise Carleton'	1/5	3/5	2/5	4/5	9/15	10/20 (50%)
'Drama Girl'	4/5	5/5	5/5	5/5	15/15	19/20 (95%)
'Dr. Burnside'	1/5	5/5	3/5	3/5	11/15	12/20 (60%)
'Erin Farmer'	1/5	2/5	2/5	3/5	7/15	8/20 (40%)
'Fashionata'	5/5	5/5	4/5	4/5	13/15	18/20 (90%)
'Granada'	2/5	5/5	5/5	5/5	15/15	17/20 (85%)
'Katie'	2/5	5/5	5/5	4/5	14/15	16/20 (80%)
'R. L. Wheeler'	3/5	5/5	4/5	5/5	14/15	17/20 (85%)
'Show Time'	1/5	5/5	5/5	4/5	14/15	15/20 (75%)
Total	21/50 (42.0%)	44/50 (88.0%)	40/50 (80.0%)	41/50 (82.3%)	125/150 (83.3%)	146/200 (73%) (73.0%)

¹ ppmi — parts per million active ingredient

² Scions purchased from Nuccio's Nursery, P. O. Box H, Altadena, CA 91001

³ Numerator indicates number of successful grafts, denominator indicates number of attempted grafts.

Using Benlate*

JUDGE E. HULYN SMITH

* This article has been drawn together from the excellent Minutes by the Gulf Coast Camellia Society Secretary, Mrs. Jean Comber, and the notes that Hulyn dictated to Janet, his wife, on the way home from the Gulf Coast meeting August 8, 1982.

What I do with "*retics*" and how I keep them alive? I have 250 spaces in my greenhouse, and I don't have time for sick flowers. I have lost my share of them; and I set out about 2 or 3 years ago to find out what I was doing wrong and how I was going about to stop it. I don't grow many *japonicas* but I grow a few. I grow 'Miss Charleston,' 'Villie,' 'Dixie Knight Supreme,' 'Betty Sheffield Supreme,' 'Lady Kay,' 'Melody Shepherd,' 'Rena Swick,' 'Ruffian,' 'Silver Cloud' and 'Nuccio's Gem'. I just grow the white ones as it is necessary to carry a few to the shows. I am not excited about white camellias. I have never seen one yet that turned me on. It is just necessary and I grow them and my wife demands that I grow a few. I can do without them.

I hear a lot of people say they are growing "*retics*" and are having trouble with them. I am going to tell you something. I am going to "put my flowers where my mouth is." Any of you who are having problems, I invite you to come by my greenhouse in Valdosta. I do not have any dieback, and I have not had any dieback in my greenhouse for over two years. I have not had a limb to wilt and had to go in there to cut it off. I have not had any growth to die, and you can do the same thing that I have done.

Let's go back and start with the *grafting* because that is where the *entire process takes place*. When I start grafting camellias, I graft two ways. I graft some in the containers and some in the ground. I despise containers, I wish they had never made any containers. You are committing that plant to death when you put it in a container to start with. The clock is running when you put it in a container. I grow some in containers for a reason because I give some plants away and it is inconvenient to go out there and dig them, ball and burlap them at that time. You have to grow a few in containers. When I graft a camellia, the first thing I

do when I am getting ready to start is to get a bucket and make up some Benlate solution. I put one tablespoon Benlate to two gallons of water. I soak my scions about 15 to 30 minutes. You can't do it exactly, because you are working; you are busy getting things ready. I put my scions in and get them thoroughly cleaned with Benlate. Before I put the saw to the understock I have another bucket of Benlate solution, the same mix, with a rag in it and I take and wash that limb, from about two feet high to the ground. Then I saw it off and put sand around it. I get a dump truck load of sand, the coarsest river sand I can buy. I put a layer of sand around the ground or clean out the top of the container and put sand in there. I flood that with Benlate solution. I wash my jars before the beginning of the season and then wash the jars with Benlate on the day that I use them. I set the scion, I think all of you are doing the same thing, using some type of hormones when you graft, and I put the jar on and, "I am ready to go!"

When the scion is calloused, and it is time to let the jar up, most of you use some process of propping that jar up. I use some little strips of 1" x 1" wood, cut them and prop them under the jar, pull a little of the sand away each day and then put two more strips the other way and get the jar stacked up. I want to get the jar off as fast as I can after it heals. I clean the sand away and paint the understock with Benlate. I take a hairspray cap, mix one or two tablespoons of Benlate, mix a little water with it like a mud paste, and paint it on with a brush. I paint the understock right up to where it is calloused over. I don't lose any grafts to dieback after I get the jar off and get them growing. As soon as I get that jar off, I start to work. I don't want some dieback from my neighbor's yard drifting over and killing my plant, particularly if I have a brand new one. I don't want to lose it. I am dealing with a delicate commodity. I don't deal in "every day stuff." I am fighting for the new ones. I guarantee I have as many new camellias as anyone in this room. I can't afford to lose them. I don't want to graft them on understock in cans, I want to graft them in the ground.

Once I get the jar off and get the painted base on there, then I go to spraying. I do spraying differently than most

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of you. I go to the 8 o'clock service on Sunday and get home a little after 9. I crank up that spray machine. I mix one tablespoon Benlate to the gallon, then I put it in about a 10 gallon tank and add about six tablespoons Cygon. I spray every Sunday morning from the time I take the top off of my greenhouse until all of the new growth is hardened off for the season. I start my fertilizer program in the greenhouse not later than 1 March. Then I am ready to go with my growing season. I spray until that growth is hardened off. The rain we have had this summer has extended my spraying time considerably. I can't stop them from growing. Another problem that you are going to have is getting buds to set on *hybrids*. On *C. japonicas*, the second year you are going to have buds. Don't give up on your "*retics*". On the overall average, I find that it usually takes three, four, five years to get that *hybrid* to settle and to get it to blooming like you want it to bloom.

I have had some people tell me that they cannot grow 'Hody Wilson,' that they are having trouble with it and some people tell me they are having trouble with 'Overture' and can't grow it. 'Hody Wilson' is 5 to 6 feet tall in my greenhouse with not one sign of dieback. I have 'Overture' in the same manner. If any of you want to come by whenever you are in my area, come by and see what I am doing. I will be happy to have you. I don't have any dieback. It is simple to control,

but it is regular.

Any Questions?

Q. Why Cygon and Benlate?

A. Cygon is an insecticide and Benlate is a fungicide. Both are systemic. I vary my Cygon. I want to start strong enough and then cut down on it. I use the recommended label procedure on that — about six tablespoons to 10 gallons. I use one tablespoon Benlate to 1 gallon water for my spraying.

Q. How many have Bonsai Pruners?

A. If you don't have them, talk to Ed Atkins. You can take those pruners, get right up to a limb, cut it as slick as a button. I prune heavy. Keep it open. Be able to stand at one end of your greenhouse and look at the other end through those plants. You don't want those plants in the greenhouse setting more than 5 or 6 buds. You are growing show flowers. You are not growing landscape plants. Prune that plant so it can breathe; because if you don't prune heavy and you have a shaded moist area, you have a good breeding ground for dieback and you have to fight it much harder. So, prune the devil out of those plants. If you have any plants in there that have cankers, there are several things you can do. I don't try to get in there to cut or dig out all of the spots. I just let it heal over and then cover these cankers with the Benlate paste. I had a sport in the greenhouse I thought was going to die. I painted it, wrapped aluminum foil around it and then got some masking tape, rolled that, left it there for over a year. When I pulled it off, it had healed the prettiest you had ever seen. The callous had just rolled around it and closed it up. Prune

those plants heavy, keep the trunk smooth, take Benlate paste and paint it on.

Let me go back to *spraying*. Anyone can spray the top of the leaves. You never see an insect or a worm on top of the leaf. The bug is on the bottom of the leaf. You have to spray there. I spray at the ground, at the trunk of that plant. I put that gun down and spray a good fog with pressure down there. I come up that trunk, get the main woody section of the plant first, and then turn the gun over and get under there and spray, bringing the nozzle up the middle of that plant. Blow it in there good. The real work that you are going to do that is going to pay off is going to be on that stem up that plant. I spray lots of times on Sunday morning, it rains that afternoon and people say I have wasted all that spray, that Mother Nature washed all of it off; but, don't believe them. It might have gotten the top stuff but not the bottom side.

Just remember when you graft, keep your stuff clean, get a good conditioner and use that Benlate. All during the year spray, prune early in the spring, get it open, get your spray in there and I don't believe you will have any problems. I use some other things during the year. I use a product called Su-cu Flow which is sulphur and copper. This is for the peanut industry. I spray the woody stems and underside of the leaves. This will clean your plants.

Q. Is spraying with Benlate toxic to your system?

A. I have been spraying for two years and I am not dead yet. Mark Cannon stated he almost died from spraying. His

doctor said any spray that is toxic, *you should wear a mask!*

I use Manzate — it is a contact killer. By the time it is dried, it is going to do what it is going to do. I use 1½ tablespoons per gallon of water. I am experimenting with another one called Super Tin. It is being used in the pecan industry. It is very expensive, comes in liquid and is a scab killer.

Ed Atkins stated that any time you spray, *you should use a mask*. Cygon is very toxic. I said that he liked Dysiston better than Cygon. "It does a good job for me." Hulyn Smith stated he killed a lot of plants with it. He went to Cygon from Dysiston. He plans to use Orthorex next year. It is a systemic also.

Mark Cannon said he wanted to quote his doctor in regard to these sprays. Mark has been spraying since 1940 and had never used a mask. He was up at the lake and noticed a little scale and had Malathion up there so decided to spray. It was 90°F. His clothes had gotten wet where you could wring them out. The doctor told him that when you get that hot and you spray with anything, your pores open and then any kind of spray gets in the bloodstream. He said it would have been easier for him to die that night than to live if he could have gotten back the next morning. Be sure you are covered all you can, long sleeves, long pants, mask. When you get too hot, just stop because that is when you get into trouble.

Hulyn Smith stated he was now convinced he should use a mask.

Dr. Scheibert stated you should use surgical gloves also when working with sprays.

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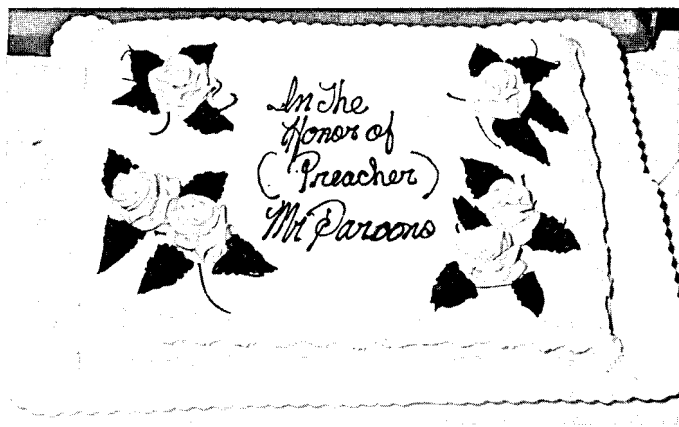
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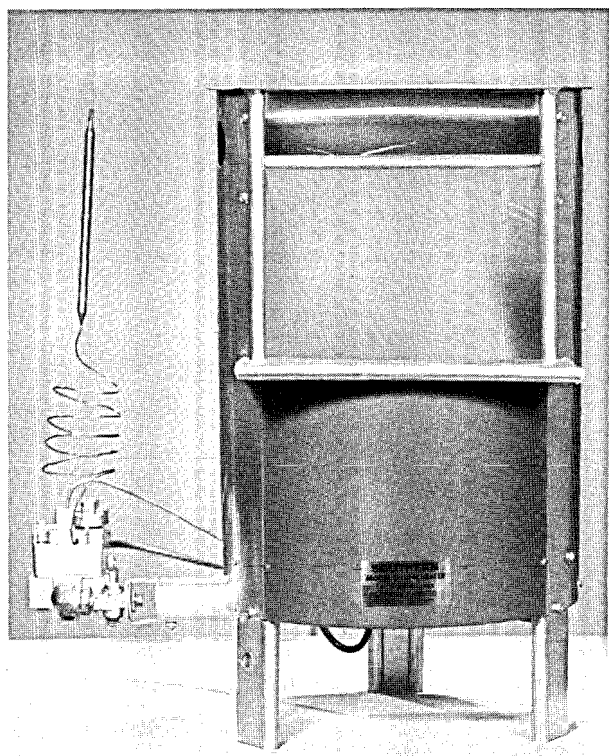
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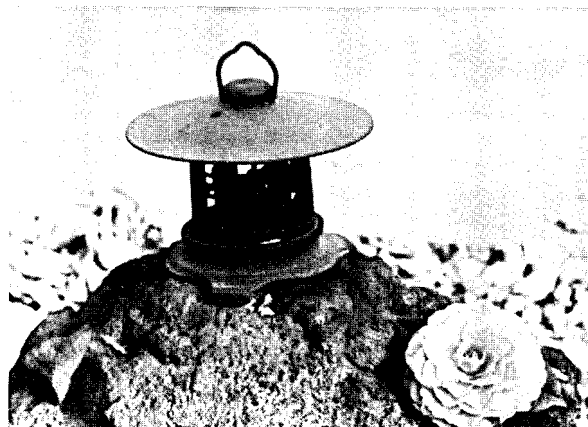
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David L. Feathers' Fight Blight Awards Made

Luther Baxter, a Seneca, S. C. resident and Clemson plant pathologist, received The David L. Feathers' Fight Blight Award of \$1,000 from the American Camellia Society for his efforts to control a fungus that is the major camellia disease in many areas of the country.

The funds will be used to search for a way to control the flower blight. One method to be explored will be a protective chemical fungicide that can be absorbed by the plant to guard vulnerable open flowers. Camellia growers now rely on a protection program that includes destroying infected blossoms; spraying soil with a powerful chemical, since the fungus survives from season to season in the earth; and spraying open flowers with fungicides.

"The present three-prong approach does some good, but is not completely effective," says Baxter, a researcher with Clemson's S. C. Agricultural Experiment Station.

At its Fall Meeting in Alexandria, VA/ Washington, DC meeting on October 28, 1982 the ACS Endowment Fund Trustees made two David L. Feathers' Fight Blight Awards of \$1,000.00 each to Professor Gordon E. Holcomb of Louisiana State University and to Dr. Luther W. Baxter, Jr., professor of plant pathology and physiology of Clemson University. The awards were made upon the recommendation of the Research Advisory Committee by its Chairman Dr. William L. Ackerman of the U. S. National Arboretum.

For additional information on Dr. Holcomb see page 16 of the February 1982 "Camellia Journal" and page 24 of the May issue. This is his second such award.

The following article in *C News* of the South Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station, Clemson University on November 8, 1982 gives you additional information about Dr. Baxter.

A Clemson University scientist who has spent 32 years trying to keep the symbol of the South healthy has been cited for his work.

Camellias originally came from Japan, and entered the United States at a Hoboken, N. J., port in the late 18th century. Since camellias were first planted in American soil, more than 1,700 varieties have been developed. The plant was brought across the Mason-Dixon line about 150 years ago, and has since joined the magnolia as a symbol of the South.

The 5,000-member Camellia Society has honored Baxter in the past. A year ago he became the 19th person to be named a Fellow in the group's 36-year history.

The applications of Dr. Holcomb and Dr. Baxter are on file at the ACS Headquarters and are available for members to see, if anyone should so desire.

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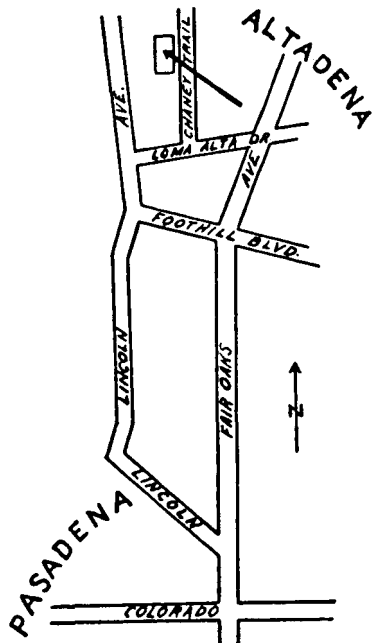
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Shares for a Horticulturist

The Board of Trustees of the ACS Endowment Fund on March 6, 1982 established the concept of "selling shares for a horticulturist" at \$500.00 a year for four years beginning in 1982. See page 28 of the May 1982 issue of *The Camellia Journal* for details. We still have lots and lots of "shares" left. We need a horticulturist.

1982

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Clyde X. Copeland of Jackson, MS has once again made it possible for those of us who want to have a hardback *Yearbook*. He has talked to the binder who did such an excellent job last year and he will do them once again. If you wish to have your 1982 *American Camellia Yearbook*

bound in green with gold lettering, as last year, send your *Yearbook* and a check or money order for \$10.00 to Mr. Ralph Elmore, 12 Orleans Street, Greenwood, MS 38930. That modest price will cover the binding of the book and the postage to send it back to you. We thank Clyde for this service to the Society.

—ACS—

Corporate and Sustaining Members

We want to thank the many members who have become Sustaining or Corporate Members for 1983. Due to the rush of the season the list is not yet complete. Therefore, we shall list all such members in the May issue of the *Journal*. Such support for 1982 was most helpful in permitting us to stay "in the black" in our budget. Our Finance Chairman, Dr. Earl Beatty, Jr., also wishes to express his many thanks to you all.

—ACS—

Cover Flower 'Our Kerry'

'Our Kerry' is such a delightful name. This flower was named for the granddaughter of Mary Love and Ray Gentry! The Gentrys were happy to have her visiting Jackson from her home in Columbia, MO over the recent holidays.

'Our Kerry' is a very large, deep pink, semidouble *C. reticulata* hybrid ('Crimson Robe' x 'Jean Pursel') that blooms mid-season to late. The six-year old seedling bloomed for the first time in 1979. The average size of the flower is six inches in diameter and 3½ inches deep. The flower usually has 10 to 15 petaloids, yellow anthers and whitish to pink filaments. The petals are deep-red veined, heavy texture and have a good lasting quality. The bush is upright, open and has rapid growth with dark green heavy leathery leaves that are deeply veined. They measure about five inches long and three inches wide.

'Our Kerry', which carries ACS Registration Number 1646, was originated by Frank Pursel of Oakland, California. It is commercially propagated and available from Ray Gentry's Nursery, Jackson, Mississippi.

The Science of Growing Camellias in Containers

FRANCIS R. GOUIN
Department of Horticulture
University of Maryland
College Park, Md. 20742

(A talk made at A.C.S. Convention in Alexandria, Virginia October 29, 1982.)

The growing of woody plants in containers (container culture) is an old horticultural practice. However, over the years as people have experimented with growing an increasing number of plants in containers, under many different conditions and in many different geographic regions, the number of problems with container culture have increased substantially. When the majority of the people were either directly or indirectly involved in agriculture, and frequently were taught gardening principles before they entered grade school, plant problems were not as common as they are today. With increased leisure time and with renewed interest in gardening, even for people who live in apartments or townhouses, the growing of plants outdoors in containers has become a challenge. [Especially with many novice gardeners who have been from birth completely removed from agriculture.]

Growing camellias in containers is no different than growing Japanese hollies, junipers or dogwoods in containers. What is important is that these are all woody plants that have certain growth requirements far different from common house plants such as crotons, ferns and Swedish ivy. Camellias should be grown outdoors and require a certain amount of exposure to chilling temperatures in order for them to grow properly and flower. Bringing the plants indoors into a darkened warm room during the winter months is almost certain to guarantee failure.

Containers

Selecting the proper container for growing camellias is of utmost importance. The containers should be large enough to give the plant stability and should contain sufficient growing me-

dium to minimize stress and to allow ample room for expansion of the root system. For all practical purposes young camellias such as potted liners should not be planted in containers smaller than 2 gallon capacity. The container selected should be provided with ample drainage holes in the bottom so that all excess water can drain away. Never attempt to grow plants in water-tight containers. Placing a few stones or pieces of charcoal in the bottom of a water-tight container does not solve the drainage problem. Also try to select a container that is 1 to 1½ times taller than its diameter. Deep containers do not have to be watered as frequently. Shallow wide containers may be preferred for growing Bonzai but they require constant attention which most home gardeners are not prepared to provide.

Potting Mix

A good growing medium is one that always drains well but also retains water and nutrients. There are many commercially prepared potting mixes on the market but most of them are designed to be used primarily for growing short term crops such as bedding plants and house plants. A camellia is likely to remain in its container for 1 to 2 years before it is shifted into a larger container. Since camellias are grown outdoors the year round, the potting mix used should have sufficient weight to keep the plant upright especially during periods of high winds. The potting mix used should also remain stable and not shrink from the sides or vanish from the container through oxidation or by washing out.

Soil by itself does not make a good potting medium. It is much too dense and does not provide adequate drainage and root aeration. Therefore, a good potting medium must be manufactured by blending different materials. If weight is not a problem there are a number of inexpensive material that can be used for blending an ideal potting mix. Equal parts by volume of compost, peat moss and sand; sterilized top soil, peat moss and sand; or milled pine bark, peat moss

and sand all make ideal potting mixes. Although soil testing is highly recommended, the pH (a measure of acidity or alkalinity) of most soilless and soil mixes can easily be adjusted by knowing the pH characteristics of the materials being used. Camellias appear to grow best at a pH near 6.0. Most of the peat moss that is available has a pH between 3.2 and 3.8. Most composted materials, unless they have been limed heavily will have a pH between 6.5 and 7.2, this includes garden compost as well as composted leaves. Sand or expanded shale generally have a pH near 7.0. The pH of soils depends on the region in which the soil is taken and previous treatment. If the soil is taken from a vegetable or flower garden that is limed regularly or frequently treated with compost or manures, its pH will most likely be 6.0 to 6.5. However, soil from midwestern regions or from areas where there are shallow lime deposits, the pH can be in excess of 7.8. If soil is to be used in blending potting mixes it is advisable to have the pH tested.

Although sterile soil is preferred, because it is free of disease, insects, worms and weed seeds, it is not necessary; but, it is advisable to remove all earthworms from unsterilized top soil when using it in blending a potting mix. A potting mix of equal parts compost, peat moss and sand would not necessarily need lime to raise the pH because of the pH of the compost. If the potting mix were to be a blend of equal parts by volume of top soil, peat moss and sand it would require approximately 4 to 6 lbs of limestone per yd³ unless the soil was alkaline or had been limed regularly in the garden. Potting mixes made of equal parts of milled pine bark, peat moss and sand would require 6 to 8 lbs. of limestone per yd³ (22 bushels per cubic yard). Only dolomitic limestone (high magnesium limestone) should be used. Never use burnt or hydrated lime when blending potting mixes. For light weight mixes, substitute expanded shale or styrofoam beads for sand or soil. Do not use vermiculite as a soil lightener or perlite in areas where the soil will be subjected to alternate freezing and thawing.

When using a milled pine bark, peat moss and sand in addition to adding limestone the medium should also be amend-

(Continued on page 22)

ed with trace elements. Readily available sources of trace elements include fly-ash and ground cinders from coal burning furnaces, wood ash from a fireplace or stove. They should be used at 1-2 lb/yd³. Other sources of trace elements include "Esmigrand," "Micromax," "Fritted Trace Elements" and others available from nursery and supply dealers and follow directions. Also use fertilizers that contain trace elements.

Fertilizers

Container grown plants need a constant supply of plant nutrients and today there are fertilizers that can satisfy almost any gardener's ambition. For the casual gardeners who do not wish to be bothered with fertilizing plants regularly, Osmocote 18-5-11 is available. A single application of this fertilizer will release its nutrients over a period of nearly 2 years. For the slightly more aggressive gardener who likes to feed plants more often, there is Osmocote 18-6-12 and Sierra Blend that must be applied yearly. For the aggressive gardener but one who likes to take a vacation several times during the growing season, there's: Osmocote 19-6-13, or 14-14-14; sulfur coated 19-6-12 and 19-6-12 + iron; sulfur coated 32-0-0; ureaform 38-0-0; I.B.D.U. 38-0-0 granules or tablets and container tablets 14-4-6. These must be applied at 1 to 2 month intervals to satisfy the nutrient need of most container grown plants. For those gardeners who like to work with their plants regularly, weekly or bi-weekly applications of liquid or granular fertilizers are recommended. However, it is important that all fertilizers be used according to manufacturers recommendations. There is a fertilizer available to suit the lifestyle of most gardeners.

Irrigation

Successful growing of plants in containers is highly dependent on a reliable source of quality water. Because all of the roots of the plants are confined to the growing medium within each container, allowing the medium to dry severely once, is most likely to result in the death of the plant. The growing medium should be watered thoroughly so that excess water always drains freely from the base of

each container. This assures that excess soluble salts are flushed from the soil and that the rootball is thoroughly moistened. Avoid frequent light waterings. Always allow the growing medium to become dry to the touch at least 1 inch deep into the surface of the root ball before applying water. Alternate wetting and drying of the growing medium stimulates root growth, especially in the bottom of the container where water is more readily available. Keeping the growing medium wet by frequent irrigation will restrict root growth to the surface of the container. One of the benefits of growing plants in deep containers is that they don't have to be irrigated as frequently.

Winter Protection

Camellias are not known for their winter hardiness. Washington, D. C. is the northernmost limit for growing camellias in gardens and even then many camellias in this area were killed during the winter of 1981-82. Camellias growing in containers are not as cold-hardy as camellias growing in the ground. This difference in hardiness is due to the high temperature at which roots are killed. It is a recognized fact that the roots of plants are not as cold-hardy as are their stems and leaves. Based on experience it is estimated that the primary roots of camellias (those most recently formed) may be killed at approximately 25°F. The roots of camellias growing in the garden are seldom exposed to temperatures below 28°F, especially if the ground is mulched. On the contrary, the roots of a camellia growing in a container above the ground will be exposed to the same cold temperatures as the leaves and stems. Even placing the plant in an insulated container will not provide adequate protection because there is no such thing as a perfectly insulated plant container.

Therefore, if camellias are to be grown successfully in raised planters in gardens, patios and balconies, year after year, it is of utmost importance that they be provided with maximum winter protection during late fall, winter and early spring. This can be accomplished outdoors by using a thermo-blanket. Winter protection should begin sometime between Thanksgiving and mid-December, depending on your location.

Thermo-Blankets

Thermo-blankets can be made by sandwiching 4 to 6" of loose straw between 2 layers of plastic, by covering the plants with ¼" microfoam and with clear or white polyethylene; or by covering the plants with ¼" polyethylene foam. Microfoam is manufactured by E. I. DuPont de Nemours, Inc., Film Division, Wilmington, Del., while polyethylene foams are manufactured by Guilford Plastics and Fiber Co., High Point, N.C. Both of these materials are available in large rolls 250' long 6'-7' wide from some nursery supply dealers and from wholesale paper and packaging dealers. Encourage your local garden center to stock rolls of the material so that it can be cut and sold at desired lengths.

For maximum winter protection when using thermo-blankets gather all container grown plants needing winter protection into an area where the ground is well drained and where there is partial shade, if possible. When the weather starts to turn cold and stays cold in the fall, water the root balls thoroughly within 24 hours of covering the plants. Upright plants such as camellias should be laid on their sides and the plants should be packed as tightly as possible to conserve space and reduce surface area. If you have smaller spreading plants growing in containers that also need protection, pack them amongst the camellias that are lying on their sides. Always expose as much of the foliage to light as possible and avoid placing root balls over the foliage of adjoining plants. Thermo-blankets can be made to any desirable size, the bigger the better.

A. Plastic-Straw-Plastic Thermo-Blanket

If the plastic-straw-plastic thermo-blanket is used, lay a sheet of either 2 mil or 4 mil white or clear polyethylene over the plants. Next, spread as uniformly as possible 4 to 6 inches of loose straw over the polyethylene and cover the straw with a second sheet of clear polyethylene. Pull the thermo-blanket as tightly over the plants as possible and anchor all of the edges to the ground with soil, timbers, bricks, pipes, etc.

B. Microfoam Thermo-Blanket

Before covering the plants with microfoam, it is advisable to place masking

tape over the cut ends of the microfoam to prevent its tearing and to prolong its useful life. Cover the plants with the microfoam, making sure that all edges will come in contact with the ground. Next, place a sheet of 4 mil clear or white polyethylene over the microfoam and pull the thermo-blanket as tightly over the plants as possible to reduce the surface area and anchor the edges to the ground as described above.

C. Polyethylene Foam Thermo-Blanket

Polyethylene foam is very similar to microfoam except that it is much tougher and generally does not need an outer covering. Some polyethylene foams come with white polyethylene laminated to the outer surface. This increases its strength and helps to control temperatures under the thermo-blanket better. When using polyethylene foam, simply lay the thermo-blanket over the plants, pull it down as tightly as possible and anchor the edges to the ground to form a good seal as previously described.

Do not disturb the thermo-blankets during the storage period other than to remove plants for early forcing. The thermo-blankets will seal the moisture in

so that the plants never need to be watered. However, depending on your location the plants should be uncovered as soon as temperatures begin to show a warming trend in late winter or early spring, generally between February 18 and March 1, depending on your location. Delaying uncovering the plants will result in early flowering under the thermo-blanket and possible late frost injury if vegetative growth begins early.

As soon as the plants are uncovered, stand all of the plants upright but keep them packed tightly together. Always make certain that the plants are watered at least twice weekly. Keeping the root balls wet at all times during this post-storage period will prevent any root damage, should the plants be exposed to cold, frosty nights.

To extend the useful life of your microfoam or polyethylene foam, allow the material to dry thoroughly on both sides, roll tightly and tie, and store in total darkness. With care, some nurseries have reused the same microfoam for over 7 years. Because polyethylene foam is a stronger material, its useful life expectancy should be considerably longer. However, both materials are vulnerable to deterioration by direct sunlight.

BOOK REVIEWS

THE CAMELLIA STORY by Colonel Tom Durrant; published by Heinemann Publishers (NZ), Ltd; 168 pages; 11 x 8½": cloth; \$47.95 from International Scholarly Books Services, P. O. Box 1632, Beaverton, OR 97075.

This fascinating book is a must for the library of all serious camellia growers. Tom Durrant, a long time friend of the ACS, was Founder President of the New Zealand Camellia Society from 1957 until 1962; Honorary Editor of "The New Zealand Camellia Bulletin" from 1957 until 1974. In this latter post he was most cooperative with the Executive Secretaries of the ACS in sharing pictures, articles, etc. He has been New Zealand Director of ICS and was the Registrar for the Genus in New Zealand from 1960 to 1980. Colonel T. Durrant, C.B.E., D.S.O., A.H.R.I.H., is currently the Patron of his country's camellia society. There is none more qualified to author such a book that we know of.

BOOK SUMMARY:

The Camellia Story is a fascinating study of the botanical, horticultural, literary and social history of the Genus *Camellia*, and the first for many years, written in English by a recognized international authority.

The story begins in China and Japan, the main centers of camellia origin, and follows their introduction into Europe, where the habit of tea drinking, and the spectacular rise in popularity of the flowers of *Camellia japonica*, made a social impact of great importance. It tells how, early in the 19th Century, camellias spread to the United States, and accompanied missionaries and settlers to Australia and New Zealand, where many venerable old trees still survive. The author then documents the 20th Century revival of interest — the work of the great plant explorers whose discoveries made possible the production of numerous hybrids and new flower forms, and the dramatic appearance in the West of the Chinese garden forms of *Camellia*

(Continued on page 24)

—ACS—

Show Dates

(ACS Cooperative Shows)

Place, Location, Sponsor	Date
Palos Verdes, CA, South Coast Botanic Garden, South Coast Camellia Society	January 29-30, 1983
Redwood City, CA, Community Activities Building, 1400 Roosevelt Avenue, Peninsula Camellia Society	February 5, 1983
Jackson, MS, Plaza of Walter Sillers Building, Jackson Camellia Society	February 5-6, 1983
Charlotte, NC, Eastland Mall, Charlotte Camellia Society	February 5-6, 1983
Savannah, GA, Men's Garden Club of Savannah	February 5-6, 1983
Columbia, SC, Columbia Mall, Columbia Mall and Mid-Carolina Camellia Society	February 12-13, 1983
Birmingham, AL, Eastwood Mall, Birmingham Camellia Society, Inc.	February 12-13, 1983
Santa Clara, CA, Santa Clara Camellia Society	February 19-20, 1983
Wilmington, NC, Independence Mall, Tidewater Camellia Club	February 19, 1983
Monroe, LA, Central Bank, DiSard St., Northeast Louisiana Camellia Club	February 19-20, 1983
Atlanta, GA, Atlanta & North Georgia Camellia Societies	February 19-20, 1983
Fort Worth, TX, Fort Worth Garden Center, 3220 Botanic Garden Drive, Fort Worth Camellia Society, Inc.	February 20, 1983
Waycross, GA, First National Bank, Federated Garden Clubs of Waycross and First National Bank	February 23-24, 1983
Charlotte, NC, Eastland Mall, Men's Camellia Club of Charlotte	February 26-27, 1983
Chattanooga, TN, Chattanooga Camellia Society	February 26-27, 1983
Warner Robins, GA, Houston Mall, Middle Georgia Camellia Society	March 5, 1983
Atwater, CA, Atwater High School Cafeteria, Atwater Camellia Society	March 5-6, 1983
Beaufort, SC, Beaufort Academy Gymnasium, Council of Beaufort Garden Clubs & Banker's Trust of South Carolina	March 5-6, 1983
Sacramento, CA, Sacramento Convention Center, Sacramento Camellia Society (In conjunction with the International Camellia Society Congress)	March 5-6, 1983
*Nashville, TN, Tennessee Botanical Garden at Cheekwood, Middle Tennessee Camellia Society	March 5-6, 1983
Concord, CA, Willows, 1975 Diamond Blvd., Northern California Camellia Society	March 12-13, 1983
Fresno, CA, Fashion Fair, Central California Camellia Society	March 12-13, 1983
Modesto, CA, E & J Gallo Winery Administrative Offices, Modesto Camellia Society	March 19-20, 1983
Santa Rosa, CA, Santa Rosa Jr. College, Sonoma County Camellia Society	March 26-27, 1983
*Norfolk, VA, Norfolk Botanical Garden, Virginia Camellia Society	March 26-27, 1983
Gulfport, MS, Harrison County Court House, Gulfport Area Camellia Society	November 19-20, 1983
Slidell, LA, Municipal Auditorium, Ozone Camellia Society	December 3-4, 1983

*Changes since November 1982 issue.

reticulata. Their romantic history, ancient cultivation, and their impact on modern camellia development, are discussed in detail, the author having been responsible, in 1964 for the introduction of some of the varieties never before seen outside China.

The recent appearance of yellow-flowered and scented species, the production of small scale and miniature forms, the great possibilities for future development, and the basic principles of camellia cultivation are all dealt with.

Over 200 full color photographs illustrate the text. Apart from those of historical importance, the camellias illustrated are a careful selection of varieties of proven excellence and most of them are readily available.

Tom Durrant's lively text, with carefully chosen quotations from contemporary sources, makes absorbing reading — even to those with only a passing interest in horticulture. His wide experience in studying, raising and growing large numbers of camellias, which he so readily shares, makes this book a must for all those who share his fascination with the Genus *Camellia*.

CONTENTS:

Introduction; Camellias at Home; Camellias go to Europe; Camellias to the New World; The New Hybrids; The Ynnan Reticulatas; The Great Revival; Future Camellias; Culture.

APPENDIX A: Some Botanical Details of the Genus *Camellia*; B: Bibliography; C: Camellia Societies' Address List; Acknowledgements.

PENJING: THE CHINESE ART OF MINIATURE GARDENS by Hu Yunhua; published by Timber Press in cooperation with The American Horticultural Society in 1982. This 8½" x 11" cloth-bound book packs a lot of information in its 166 pages. There are 92 color pictures of all phases of miniature trees and gardens — later on in history called Bonsai by the Japanese. There are many line drawings on the "how to" of making these lovely miniature gardens — from one miniature tree to a "forest" of many. There are flowering trees, deciduous trees, many different evergreen trees.

The Shanghai Botanic Garden has, for several centuries, been regarded by the Chinese as the center of the best Penjing

cultivation. This book has been prepared by the staff of the Shanghai Botanic Garden who is responsible for the large collection of Penjing displayed there. When we visited Peoples' Republic of China in 1980 we were able to spend a lot of time with the staff there in Shanghai under the guidance of Madam Wan pei and to see perhaps thousands of miniature trees and miniature landscapes. A lovely 240-year old Penjing pomegranate was in full bloom, as were some cherry and others. In the miniature landscapes stones are the main components, supplemented by grasses, moss, boats, bridges and pavilions — a miniaturization of mountains and rivers.

This lovely book can be purchased from Timber Press, P. O. Box 1631, Beaverton, OR 97075 for \$35.00.

—ACS—

American Horticultural Society Celebrated Sixtieth Birthday

In October The American Horticultural Society celebrated its sixtieth birthday. The American Camellia Society participated along with other plant societies and clubs. We were represented at the party by Douglas Deane and Martha Hall. Doug selected a 'Kumasaka,' one of the most cold hardy of camellias, to be planted in the gardens along the Potomac River.

We thought you would like to read the letter that was sent to Doug by Mr. Richards.

Mr. & Mrs. Douglas D. Hall
22 Primrose Street
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Hall:

I am writing to express the deep appreciation of the American Horticultural Society for your participation in our 60th Anniversary Celebration. Your kindness in bringing the camellia to the party and then taking it back to keep for us during the winter is very much appreciated.

Incidentally, we all certainly enjoyed the birthday card that accompanied the plant, not only because it was the only birthday card we received but also because of your thoughtfulness.

Again, we all thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Thomas W. Richards
Executive Vice President

What Are Copper Enamels?

The History. The making of small hand painted enamel boxes was developed in Staffordshire during the 18th century — Staffordshire being the centre of the necessary metalworking and ceramic skills. They were originally intended as a substitute for the lavish and expensive gold enamels that were then being produced on the Continent. Many different items were produced — including snuff and patch boxes of many sizes and shapes, wine labels and coasters, bowls, candlesticks, bodkin cases, bonbonniers, etuis, etc. The industry ceased in 1840 due to the Industrial Revolution in England which made it impossible to compete with the larger commercial industries that were then developing — and to the Napoleonic Wars which disrupted the trade between England and the Continent. The enamels from this period are now widely sought after, hard to find and very expensive.

The Process. The processes used today vary very little from those of the 18th century. There are two separate and different skills used in the manufacture of enamels. The metalwork side involves the pressing of thin sheet copper — used for its malleability and cost — into lids and bases. These lids and bases are first prepared for the enamel by cleaning and treating in acid. Two coats of enamel are applied and separately fired in a muffled kiln to around 800°C under the strictest control, until a brilliant shiny surface has developed. When completed the enamelled base and lid are joined together with a special adhesive by a gold plated bezel or mount. This bezel or mount is made from brass — the two separate rings are first formed then soldered together via a hinge and finally cleaned, polished and electro gold plated.

The ceramic side involved the manufacture and application of the enamel itself. This enamel is made from glass frits which are then ground in cylinders together with the colouring oxides and the necessary suspension agents. The outline transfer of each particular pattern is applied and fired. This transfer provides the outline for the many various colours to be painted in by highly skilled hand

paintresses, which require many different firings. This whole process is basically no different from that used in the 18th century. Indeed the production and application of an outline transfer was perfected by the enamel industry and thereafter used by the pottery industry. The final result is an intriguing masterpiece of skill, craftsmanship and great precision uniting two quite different areas which makes enamels so distinctive and unusual-and so popular with collectors who prize the fact that all our enamels carry the backstamp — Staffordshire Enamels.



—ACS—

Limited Issue of Enamel Boxes For ACS

The people at Staffordshire Enamels custom made for The American Camellia Society an edition limited to only 35 with an artist's rendition of the camellia 'Elegans' on its cover. Inside the cover are the words: Camellia Japonica 'Chandleri Elegans', "Iconographie de Genre Camellia" by M. L. Abbé Berlèse-1841. On the bottom is the Staffordshire emblem and The American Camellia Society, Fort Valley, Georgia. There are also the marks 1 of 35, 2 of 35, etc., to 35 of 35.

Each is in a handsome silk lined Royal maroon presentation box complete with a description of Staffordshire Enamels. Similar boxes with other designs sell in the better shops for \$65.00 to \$90.00.

These are obtainable *only from the American Camellia Society for only \$55.00 postpaid*. There will be no other of this design when the 35 are sold.

Camellias — Their Likes & Dislikes*

BILL HOOPER

The Camellia is a very tolerant plant, and will adapt to a wide range of conditions such as soil, location and climate, etc. However, if we are to expect show-quality flowers, we must endeavour to avoid or rectify conditions they dislike, and try to provide conditions they do like.

Regardless of this, some varieties do not give of their best in districts that are little above sea level, and require a much higher elevation in order that they open and do not "ball". These include some of our most desirable varieties such as: "William Bull," "Roma Rissorta," "High Jinks," "Prince Frederick William," "C. M. Hovey," "Lady St. Clair" etc. but their beauty cannot be enjoyed if they do not open.

Chemical treatment with gibberelic acid could be tried if the grower lives in an unsuitable locality and considers them a must.

Position:

Generally Camellias need at least three hours summer sun for satisfactory growth and bud-set. This should be prenoon in preference to afternoon sun, which is far too hot and would need to be filtered by shade cloth or lathe-cover.

Where heavy dews prevail, early morning sun can tarnish and sometimes prevent the "multi petaled," "slow opening" varieties from opening. But the less complicated single, semi double and "loose informal types" perform satisfactorily in this otherwise ideal position.

Camellias *dislike* a position against the wall of a building which faces north, or northwest, as the wall reflects heat, thus making the position untenable, even for varieties that will tolerate full sun.

Soil:

Soil texture should be a medium to light loam. Heavy clay soils should be permanently made lighter by incorporating up to 50% of coarse "non saline" sand, plus a generous amount of spagnum or sedge peat moss.

* From: The Australian Camellia Research Society, Western Australian Branch "Newsletter," May 1982.

Camellias *dislike* and will not thrive in heavy soils which "cake" and do not lend themselves to light cultivation.

Soil pH factor should be determined with a "soil testing kit". Several reasonably priced ones are available and are accurate enough for this purpose. A reading of 5.5 to 7.0 is a suitable range for Camellias. They dislike readings that are below or above this range.

Drainage:

Good drainage is a must and every effort should be made to drain off problem areas with the use of agricultural pipes. A hole dug to the depth of the subsoil, and observed during "a wet spell," will quickly determine if drainage is adequate.

Camellias *dislike* poorly drained and soggy areas and will not survive in them.

Fertilizing:

Camellias are not cross feeders and *dislike* liberal applications of plant foods. A little and often is to be preferred.

Dry complete fertilizers with an (N-P-K ratio) of approximately (6-10-8) should be applied in the Spring, with a further application in the early Summer, and further fertilizing should be of the water soluble type, and should cease by mid Autumn. The health of the plant, and the quality of the blooms will always portray how the plant was cared for during the Summer.

Mulching:

In their natural habitat Camellias are "forest-plants" and are mulched with fallen leaves and bark, consequently we should try to duplicate these conditions during our hot Summers. In open gardens leaves tend to blow away, and peat moss has the same problem. So both these materials should be reserved for incorporating in the soil around the plants.

"Pine bark" seems to be the most readily available mulching material and if rotted barnyard manure can be added to this, so much the better. As we know Camellias are "surface feeding plants" and *dislike* their roots being dry and baked during hot days.

(Continued on page 27)

A EDWIN L. ATKINS
N COL USAF RET
D PRESIDENT EMERITUS
GULF COAST CAMELLIA SOC.

I have been selling and repairing antique and new Grandfather Clocks for about 15 years. I have recently been appointed a dealer for the KING ARTHUR CLOCK COMPANY. I took the dealership because I believe these clocks offer more for the money than any other brand. With each purchase We will donate to the ACS endowment fund in your name the amount of \$50.00.

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Pruning and Disbudding:

Young plants generally need no pruning, corrective shaping being all that is required. Older plants benefit greatly from pruning, and the annual removal of twiggy and unthrifty growth from the centre of the bush. Low branches that are splashed with mud when watering are better removed, as this will happen to the flowers as well.

Do not expect your plant to support bunches of buds. It can't and most will not open and fall off — the buds that do open will be of poor quality and half their normal size. For the best blooms, remove in excess of one bud to a stem.

Camellias *dislike* trying to nourish more buds than it is capable of, and supplying nutrients to unproductive wood. Camellias give of their best when their dislikes are corrected and their likes are pampered.

Watering:

This is a chore which should be taken more seriously than it is. Plants in pots, or the open ground, should be checked constantly to ascertain whether the top ½ inch of soil has dried out. If this is the case, then they should be watered very thoroughly. Watering should not be repeated until this condition is again evident, and the frequency will depend on

the prevailing weather conditions.

Camellias *dislike* soil that is dry, and soil that is made soggy by watering when it is not necessary.

Pests:

Camellias are not hosts to many insects. "Aphids" although not serious, seem to be the most prevalent. Any insecticide recommended for sap sucking insects will suffice.

Leaf-chewers are troublesome when there is "new growth" in the Spring, and during December and January, once the foliage hardens off it has little appeal for caterpillars. A spray containing "Carbaryl" will give complete control.

With the introduction of so many reticulatas and their hybrids, "mites" of various types are becoming an increasing problem and any discolouring on the underside of the leaf should be suspect, and sprayed with red spider spray or "Kelthane".

Scale insects seem to infest neglected plants mainly. Plants that have been sprayed regularly for the above pests usually are not troubled by scale, but if they are, "white oil" (1 part to 80 parts water) plus the recommended quantity of "Rogor 40" applied on a cool day will eliminate these pests.

Camellias *dislike* insects especially those that live off their sap.

glorious blooms with the new friends you made there. But look around you. Where are the representatives of the young television generation?

We are not the only ones suffering from this. When I have given talks at other clubs and societies I have generally found the audience is devoid of young people. I read that overseas societies are having the same problem. Why? Partly, of course, the answer lies in television providing easy entertainment. It is certainly a lot easier to sit in the comfort of a warm home and watch television on those rainy winter's nights than make the effort of travelling to a camellia meeting.

While the technology of television may have presented us with problems, other technological developments resulting in increased leisure time may be our salvation if we play our cards right. Many people are becoming more selective in their television viewing, are even turning their sets off. We have to attract these people by offering them an attractive alternative. Bear in mind that we are not the only ones tempting the gardeners. Rose, African Violet, Pelargonium, Cacti and other societies all have their followings.

How do we do it? Firstly, we build on the strong foundation we already have. Camellia societies have proliferated throughout Australia, and indeed the world. We have about 1500 members. We must not be complacent, we must build for the next 25 years. We used to get an average of 100 at our monthly meetings, 150 on one night that I recall.

In recent times we dropped to an average of 80. We attract crowds at our June Show and at the Myer Show. Thousands have been through Eryldene over the last 18 months. This proves that there is a great interest in camellias, camellia gardens and the people associated with them. Books like Stirling Macoboy's are not produced if the author and publisher do not feel the demand is there. Good Gardening's "Camellias, Azaleas and Rhododendrons" is in its second printing.

We must attract more of the people who go to the shows, visit the gardens, and buy the books, to come to our meetings.

We must bring our friends. How many

(Continued on page 28)

Looking into the Crystal Ball*

BOB SAVELL — NSW
Foundation Branch

The world is a changing place. Very few things remain the same from year to year, let alone over a quarter of a century. Alvin Toffler in "Future Shock" stated that the amount of knowledge in the world doubled in the last 15 years and would double again in the next eight years. Much of this knowledge has been in the field of technology. Two aspects of this that have some relevance to us are the introduction of television and the demand for and the granting of a shorter working week.

Television has enabled people to be

entertained, albeit as passive receptors in their own homes. The desire to go out to seek entertainment and enjoyment has been reduced for a very large proportion of the population. Millions are armchair "Norms" who watch sport, movies and serials that require little effort or thought.

How does this relate to camellias or camellia societies? Very simply. The people who have been most influenced by television are the young generation born since World War II. Most of the members were raised in the era when you could entertain yourself; you played cards, went on picnics, even talked to each other at meal times. If all else failed, you could join a camellia society where you could share your enthusiasm for the

* From *Camellia News*, Australian Camellia Research Society, No. 2, September 1982.

From the Desk of the Executive Secretary/Editor

It is Christmas Eve as I sit here in the quiet office to write to you all. It will be belated when you get this issue, but we here at Massee Lane hope you had a very meaningful Christmas Season and a very happy holiday one. For you and yours, we all wish you the very best for 1983. May you all have Head Table Blooms!

This reminds us as to what the Ways and Means Committee might be thinking. The members of that Committee hope you all have "Head Table Cooks" — our very own ACS cookbook! We still have plenty of copies available for only \$10.00 plus \$2.50 postage and handling for ACS members. For others the cost is \$12.50 plus the \$2.50. (Georgia residents, of course, must add the 4% sales tax.)

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

In keeping with the yuletide spirit, we are able to celebrate with ten (10) new Life Members since our November issue. The new Life Members are: Miss Millie Botesky, Warner Robins, GA; Stanley C. Cunningham, Danville, VA; Jon's Nursery, Eustis, FL; F. F. Becker II, Brookhaven, MS; Dr. Peter Kurilecz, Jr., Dallas, TX; B. R. Littlejohn, Jr., Spartanburg, SC; Thomas H. Perkins, III, Brookhaven, MS; Mr. and Mrs. Jack Greenberg, Dallas, TX; Joshua C. Collins, III, Doctors Inlet, FL. We may yet reach our next interim goal of 300.

POTPOURRI

Someone backed a car into the lattice wall in the formal garden in front of the Headquarters and did not tell us about it. On December 23rd Marvin Jernigan with our two gardeners Eif and George were asked to repair it. The wall, as you know, is made from very old antique bricks. When they were finished Marvin mentioned that it wasn't too level across the top. This prompted Eif, 81 years young, said, "It don't look bad considering the old bricks and three men who don't know nothin' about laying bricks." Actually, you can hardly tell where the damage had been.

The Greenhouse garden in the Smith Memorial Greenhouse looks outstanding. All of the camellias and other plants are in the ground and well mulched. There are some gold fish swimming about in the fountain-pool. There have been many wonderful comments about this addition to Massee Lane.

"HEAD TABLE COOKS"

You can still be a big help in the sales of our cookbook. Have you taken a copy to your local newspaper's food editor or to the local TV stations for review? We have found everyone so far to be receptive when approached personally by someone enthusiastic about the book. Have you contacted local book stores and food speciality shops to see if they would handle them? They — or you — can send in for the Commerical Order blanks. Stores hereabouts are selling them well. Let's all make this *our project* for 1983 — to sell the first 10,000 copies and enter into the second printing!

HAPPY NEW YEAR

—ACS—

(Continued from page 27)

people have you told that you are a member of the camellia society and they say, "Oh, I love camellias." You have a chat about favourite blooms and new plants, but leave it at that. Why not follow it up? Give them a copy of the newsletter, make sure it's a good issue with something of interest. Enthuse them and bring them along to the meetings. Or, if you pass a garden that has lots of camellias in it, get the address and the committee should send an invitation by mail.

How many doctors, dentists, accountants, optometrists waiting rooms have you been in where there is nothing better to read than a 1960 "Women's . . ." Surely these are places where we should have our Camellia Annuals. We should be trying to sell them subscriptions (tax deductible) or if that fails, we should be giving them surplus copies.

Once we get people to our meetings we have to keep them. While we have a

hospitality group to meet new members, collectively the membership must take the time to talk to them. I know it's good to talk to old friends or you are busy with some aspect of running the meeting; if we don't take the trouble to make new members and visitors welcome, we'll have nobody to talk to in five years' time. Wouldn't it be nice if we could give every new member a small camellia? Some branches do. A friendly gesture that shows we want them as members and friends.

Committees have to do their best to ensure that meetings run smoothly and efficiently. We cannot sustain membership because things used to be good or some of the meetings are good. Our organization must be first class at least 90% of the time.

Members must get involved. Don't just criticise, go home and say that was a terrible meeting. You might come to the next one in spite of it, but others might not. If it was a poor meeting tell someone on the committee, that's a start, and an important one. If you can suggest something that should be done, say so. The views of 100 members should be better than a dozen or so on the committee.

Tell committee members about the talents and skills of members who can contribute to the organization and running of the branch. Tell us that Bill Smith works for a travel agent and can organize outings, that Fred Jones used to edit "Dandelion News" or that Sally Green is the best little organizer this side of the Black Stump. It may get them involved; it will help the branch. I'm sure you have lots of ideas, don't keep them to yourself.

Finally, bring friends to field days; invite friends and neighbors to morning tea, ask a fellow camellia society member to give a short talk on camellias. Have ACRS membership forms at the ready. If you are having "old" camellia friends to your place, invite a newer member as well. If somebody says, "How do you go about this grafting business?", invite them to your place to have a look at your garden, show them how to graft, give them a few scions.

Remember, it is easier for you, as an established member of the society, to extend the hand of friendship to a new member than it is for them to break into already established friendship groups.



'FRANCES B. HOMER'

ACS Reg. No. 1506

This very large blush pink semidouble to peony-form flower is a *C. japonica* cross of 'Elizabeth Boardman' x 'Don-Mac'. It blooms mid-season. It bloomed on a 12-year old seedling the first time in 1972. The flower has yellow anthers and white filaments. The average size flower, untreated, is 5½ inches to 6 inches in diameter. The flower has heavy substance, good texture but is a somewhat poor budsetter — a great flower. This lovely flower was originated by Dr. Walter F. Homeyer, Jr., Macon, Georgia. The color separations are the courtesy of Dr. Homeyer.

The Camellia Journal

WORLD'S LARGEST PUBLICATION DEVOTED TO THE GENUS CAMELLIA

Volume 38

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SUPER COOKBOOK

Head Table Cooks, the award winning name of the cookbook to be published this year by The American Camellia Society was given to us by the late Charles C. Mason of Norfolk, Virginia.

The book will contain more than 825 fabulous recipes sent to us by more than 350 cooks from many States of our Union and from the People's Republic of China, Japan, New Zealand, Australia, South Africa, Argentina, France, Mexico. The recipes reflect the cooking of all of the major areas of the U. S. and the rest of the World.

You can plan a full meal from the eleven menus that are accompanied by pen-and-ink drawings of homes, poolsides, patios and an interior done by James McCoy. The menus start with drinks and go on through desserts and coffees. They reflect a breakfast, a banquet, a brunch, a poolside luncheon, dinners, even a tea and buffet lunches and cocktail buffets. You will also find helpful hints and substitutions.

From a light snack to a heavy dinner, recipes for all of the makings are found in this attractive and truly helpful cookbook.

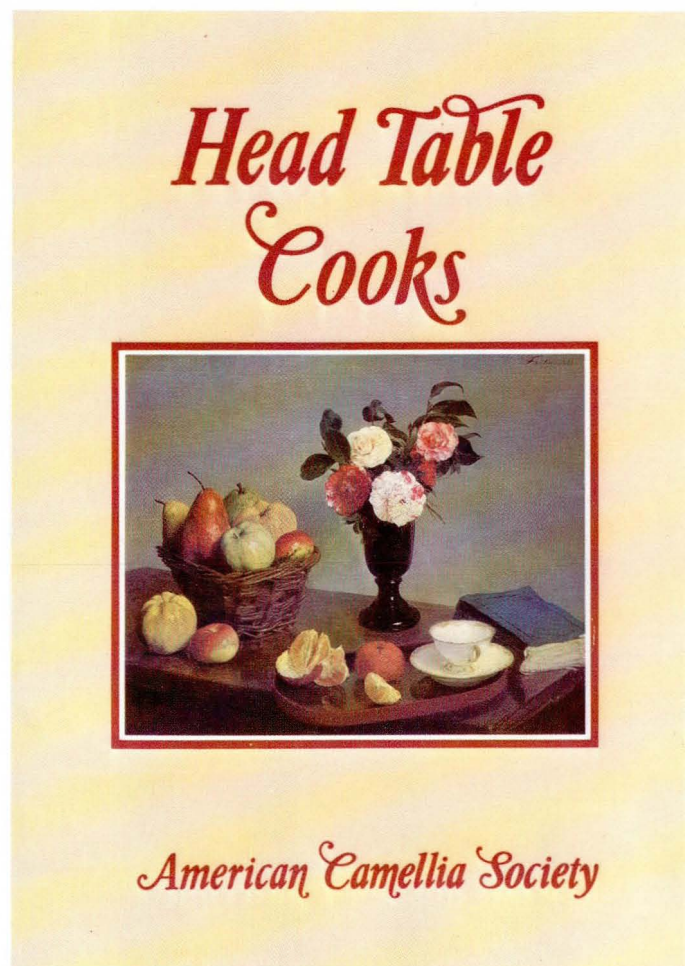
You can order your book NOW for the earliest delivery. We are planning to have them in time to send for Christmas gifts. You can order for yourself and include your gift list and we will send the books directly from Massee Lane.

The book has hard covers and is spiral bound for your convenience when cooking.

The cost of this book is only \$10.00 plus \$2.50 for postage and handling for MEMBERS ONLY. (Georgia residents add \$.40 sales tax per book ordered.) For others, the cost will be \$12.50 plus \$2.50 for postage and handling (Georgia residents add \$.50 sales tax per book ordered).

You can send you check or money order to Cookbook, The American Camellia Society, P. O. Box 1217, Fort Valley, Georgia 31030.

Initial reviews in various newspapers in Georgia, South Carolina, Tennessee, Mississippi, Louisiana have been outstanding. *Macon Telegraph* calls it "an exciting new cookbook"; *Aiken Standard* says it "is a dandy cookbook"; the *Chattanooga News-Free Press* in displaying a picture of the cover calls it "a wonderful new cookbook with a collection of recipes from around the world. . ."; the *Daily Sentry-News* of Slidell highlights the sketches by Jim McCoy and the recipes as probably the best there are; the *Jackson Daily News* with a color drawing of camellias in a vase, highlights not only the recipes but the



menus, helpful hints and substitutions and points out that 115 recipes from 61 Mississippians from 18 Mississippi towns are included. The article in it and the Brookhaven newspaper were inspired by F. F. Becker II, the ACS Director from Mississippi. The *Albany Sunday Herald* writes, "What new cookbook has just about everything, traditional recipes, new versions of family ones, menus and beauty? Answer: Head Table Cooks. . . ." *Fort Valley Leader-Tribune* says "Head Table Cooks is a collector's item," and that it is "fabulous."