

# *Atlantic Coast Camellias*

JOURNAL OF THE ATLANTIC COAST CAMELLIA SOCIETY



*Elegans (Chandler) Variegated*

# ATLANTIC COAST CAMELLIA SOCIETY

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COVER PHOTO  
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*Elegans (Chandler) was in England in 1831 (Alfred Chandler). It has a large to very large flower which is anemone form. This picture shows the variegated form of the bloom, with white marbling on rose pink petals.*

# In This Issue

In This Issue .....	1
Pruning Large Camellias .....	2
By Ann Richardson, San Marino, California	
Try This For Recruiting .....	8
By Jim Darden, Clinton, North Carolina	
A Proposed Standard Show Format .....	12
By C. Warren Thompson, Fort Valley, Georgia	
Join the American Camellia Society .....	15
Middle Georgia Camellia Show Results .....	16
By C. Warren Thompson, Fort Valley, Georgia	
Son Hackney .....	18
By Fred Hahn, Charlotte, North Carolina	
Mid-Carolina Camellia Show Results .....	21
By Bill Supplee, Columbia, South Carolina	
An Invitation to Join .....	23
President's Message .....	24
Jeannette Waltz, Hadensville, Virginia	
Editor's Column.....	25
By Jim Darden, Clinton, North Carolina	
Atlantic Coast Camellia Show Dates .....	27

# Pruning Large Camellias

By Ann Richardson  
The Huntington Botanical Gardens  
San Marino, California

The pruning of garden camellias is an art form applying certain techniques that conform to principles based on their growth habits. This article will briefly answer three basic questions on pruning: Why, When, and How.

## Why?

A camellia, particularly *Camellia Japonica*, produces an abundance of new growth that competes for all available light. As the tree continues growing outward and upward, it crowds itself with numerous interior branches growing in many directions, crossing over each other in the scramble of growth toward light. In older, unpruned camellias, many of these interior branches are dead inside, leaving an outside shell of leaves and twigs.

Upon parting the branches of a densely growing camellia, one sees a beautiful (or potentially beautiful) infrastructure. The trunk and branches are smooth and muscular. In fact, camellia wood is very strong and dense, supporting the adventurous pruner who climbs the tree to prune from within.

The following are brief reasons for pruning older untouched camellias:

1. To prune away all dead branches and twigs.
2. To prune away all interfering or crossing branches that rub against each other.
3. To allow light and air to circulate within and throughout the tree.
4. To partially expose the inner branching structure, or infrastructure, of the camellia.
5. To change the shape of a camellia previously pruned as a globe, ball, lollipop, square or rectangle into a more natural shape.
6. To make a hedge (more on this below).
7. To reduce from a 'tree-like' height to a 'shrub-like' height (i.e., a camellia originally planted as a foundation plant increases in size over the years and covers over windows).
8. To bring the plant in scale with its surroundings by reducing the height (i.e., interference with overhead structures and trees or disproportion of camellias to height of the house), or by reducing the width (i.e., the camellia is interfering with plants next to it).

9. To espalier (to train camellias on a fence, up a lath or lattice structure).

### Special Shaping Techniques:

In reference to #6, certain cultivars of camellias with habits for dense or compact growth are ideal for hedges. At the time of purchase, select plants with multiple branching close to the base of the plant. This will create a hedge full from the base upward. If you are trying to 'rejuvenate' an old straggly hedge, the best

possible course is to cut the old hedge as far back as you can. Camellias invariably will send out new sprouts at the base, but it is important to prune back hard.

In reference to #9, some camellia cultivars, like Camellia japonica 'Tulip Time,' lend themselves well to espalier. These cultivars are elongated between the nodes (swollen areas on the stems that are growth points) and consequently are easier to tie and train on trellis, lattice, or lath structures. They have loose

\* \* \* \* \*



*Ann Richardson is curator of the Camellia Collection at the Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens in San Marino, California.*

Photo by Donald Rogers

growth and pruning is minimal compared to cultivars that are vigorous and have a tight, compact growth habit.

## When?

Camellias can be pruned any time of the year, but it is best accomplished immediately after flowering and before commencing vegetative growth. In southern California, the general rule of thumb is to prune in March for early flowering camellias, like *Camellia sasanqua*, April for most *Camellia japonica* plants, and May for *Camellia reticulata*.

Pruning camellias after they have firmly set their flower buds but well before they bloom will produce fewer but astonishingly larger flowers, looking as if gibbed. At the Huntington Botanical Gardens, where pruning goes on year-round because of the large number of camellias maintained, those pruned September/October have produced this result.

## How?

Camellias usually have a vantage point or a 'front' where they are seen most frequently; for example, along a walkway or from a patio. Although camellias need to be viewed from all

sides (except those that are planted next to a fence or house) during the pruning process, it is important to make the final pruning decision from the vantage point most viewed. It is important to step away from your work frequently, to look at the tree from a distance and from all viewing angles.

A lot of pruning time (perhaps half) is spent 'inside' the tree, cutting out suckers, dead or injured branches, interfering or crossing branches. Often, in a large tree, it is advantageous to climb up inside it; the wood being very strong, it can support a lot of weight. Broken limbs and branches on camellias occur not from weight of heavy flowers or strong winds but from fallen branches of canopy trees.

Three tools are required for pruning large camellias. The first is a quality pair of hand shears, with a scissors-type action (as opposed to the anvil type). These pruning shears will cut up to 3/4" diameter branches. Loppers, those with long handles, are good for leverage, for branches with up to 1-1/2" diameter, and for reaching those hard-to-get areas in the tree. The third tool, a pruning saw with a curved and narrow blade, recommended for its ease in fitting into narrow spaces, can prune branches 3" or more in diameter.

### Some Rules of Thumb:

1. Never leave stubs. They are unsightly, and can invite decay and insect damage if left for long periods of time.

2. Prune at an angle so that water will run off, allow thorough drying, and help prevent decay from setting in.

3. There are three places to prune. Pruning anywhere else will leave a stub.

- A. Next to the Trunk.
- B. Immediately above a side branch.
- C. Immediately above a bud or node.

4. Generally, cuts should be made just above an outward-pointing bud or shoot so that the resulting growth will be heading outward. The object is to avoid any future growth to head toward the center of the tree. If you cut next to a bud or shoot that is heading upward or downward, the new shoot or branch will go in that direction. This kind of controlled pruning will force a tree to be narrow or weeping. Camellias will take on the form you give them by selectively pruning in this manner, except for some cultivars that tend to have haphazard growth habits, in which case annual pruning is necessary to keep them in control. Camellia reticulata plants, with haphazard



*These lovely ladies are enjoying the festivities at the Annual Meeting of the Atlantic Coast Camellia Society in Myrtle Beach. They are: L to R, Bev Ritter, Lillian Gordy and Louise Gerbing.*

and loose branching habits, do not take easily to heavy pruning which promotes die-back. Therefore, prune only those branches that grow beyond the natural form of the plant.

5. Camellias produce multiple leaders more often than a single leader. A camellia with multiple leaders arising near the base of the plant creates a shrub-like appearance and can be kept short as a foundation plant almost indefinitely with annual pruning.

6. For a more tree-like effect, prune away all but one to three leaders. All branches laterally crossing over and rubbing the leaders should be pruned out.

### **Step by Step Procedure:**

1. Prune out all dead and broken branches first.

2. Remove all suckers growing at the base of the tree.

3. Prune out unnecessary suckers heading directly upward along the trunk.

4. Select central leader(s) that will form the basic framework of the tree and remove the rest. Camellias tend to overproduce many leaders or trunks which create a chaotic number

of branches in the interior.

5. Prune out any branch that is crossing, rubbing or interfering with the central leaders and principal lateral branches.

6. Remove 'watersprouts' which camellias produce on the tops of lateral branches. These sprouts rob the camellia of clear spacing between branches and clutter the center of the tree. By pruning them away, the central leader(s) and the interior branching patterns can be viewed and more air allowed to circulate through the tree.

7. Remove all but one or two branches growing out from the same point along the trunk. Ideally, branches should be spaced alternately up the central leader producing a three dimensional effect. Many branches in one place creates congestion and a lot of pressure on the trunk. Leave one or possibly two branches, depending on the number and spacing of lateral branches above and below this point.

8. Remove branches that grow too closely parallel up the sides of the trunk. Branches tend to grow too closely spaced one over the other. Choose a lateral branch growing at a 90 degree angle out from the trunk over one that is growing at a narrower angle. Cut excess branches close to the trunk. Don't leave stubs.

9. After the tree is thinned, it may look out of proportion and will need to be 'headed back' (It may look wider than tall, or taller than wide). To narrow the tree, prune back the ends of the lateral branches to a growing point (i.e., a twig). To shorten the tree, prune back the top of the camellia to a lateral branch that has a narrow crotch angle, easily becoming the new central leader.

Pruning the following year will

be necessary because hard pruning causes an imbalance between the roots and the top of the tree, resulting in a strong flush of growth and suckers along the trunk and at the ends of the cut. For trees that have never been pruned, hard pruning is necessary to establish basic framework of strong leaders and principal laterals. Pruning in subsequent years means maintaining the balance and structure obtained through the aforementioned methods.

\*\*\*\*\*



*Three camellia experts discuss the upcoming show season during the ACCS annual meeting. They are, L to R, Fritz Morsink, John Newsome, and Richard Waltz*

# Try This For Recruiting

By Jim Darden  
Clinton, North Carolina

There has been much discussion lately about the dwindling membership of virtually all camellia groups, from ACS to ACCS to local clubs. We heard from Ann Walton at the ACCS annual meeting in Myrtle Beach that ACS has fallen from the all-time high of 9000 members to a current membership of approximately 3000.

Our mailing list for this journal, the membership of the ACCS, seems to be slipping with every mailing. So, what can we do to preserve one of our favorite organizations and pastimes? We have heard comments like, "We need young people," or "We need new blood," or "Maybe the new Internet website will help."

I think the bottom line is that we

\* \* \* \* \*



*Sil Caruso enjoys sticking the 300+ cuttings of fine camellia cultivars he collected into the propagation bench at Sampson Community College. The area is only 3' x 5'.*

must all recruit tenaciously and accept new members into the clubs. If we do not, when I retire in a few years there might not be camellia shows and friends to enjoy. Sil Caruso has embarked upon a new idea that he feels might raise money for our Fayetteville Camellia Club while enticing new members to come into the fold.

Sil first asked himself, what are the roadblocks that stop new prospective members from enjoying fine camellias? One answer, he determined, was that novice camellia growers like the beautiful blooms

that they see at shows, but cannot find any of these great cultivars in nurseries. They are effectively shut out of growing show-quality camellias unless they have access to great varieties.

So Sil asked for a small space in one of our greenhouses on campus at Sampson Community College where he could propagate some camellias that might lure new members into the club at a very low cost. A nice rooted cutting of 'Betty Sheffield Supreme' might generate a dollar for our club while making show-quality germ plasm available to a novice



*Each cutting had 2-5 leaves, with the varietal name written on one of the leaves. Sil made certain that names were not lost by writing an individual name stake for each cutting.*

who would have trouble finding those cultivars in a nursery.

Sil went to work. We gave him a small space, only 3 feet wide and 5 feet long, in a propagation bench. This was under a mist system and the bench was filled with 4" of a good medium containing peat moss, sand, perlite and vermiculite. C-Mone liquid rooting compound containing the IBA hormone, was made available. Sil had all the right materials, and he had the desire. With a small amount of effort he felt he could enjoy rooting camellias, help his club financially and perhaps bring new and excited members into our Fayetteville group.

Sil contacted three camellia friends; Annabelle Fetterman, Bill Shepherd, and Parker Connor. When they initiated their August pruning they mailed Sil some cuttings from the wood that was to be discarded. Sil has worked diligently for the past ten years to air-layer over 300 camellias for his own landscape, many of which are now over his head in size. So he had lots of good varieties from his own yard as well.

Sil began to stick the cuttings into his small space, only 15 square feet. Any club could do the same thing if only a small space were made available in a greenhouse or cold frame. Around Labor Day Sil placed the cuttings in the medium, misting them for the remaining warm days

of September before turning off the mist system. Amazingly, he stuck more than 300 cuttings of over 100 varieties. At this writing, mid-November, the vast majority are rooted, and some have even produced lush new leaves.

Sil intends to pot these cuttings into 4" liner containers, each with an identifying label, and have them ready to sell to club members, prospective members, or to the general public at our show on March 4th. Each year we hear dozens of people from the public ask for sources of the spectacular camellias they see in our show. This year Sil might be ready with starter plants for just a dollar or two. And, of course, with the purchase will come a membership blank for our club.

We don't know how well this idea will work, but we will keep you abreast. What we do know is that Sil is doing something to help his club, both gaining much needed revenues and really getting new recruits excited about growing camellias.

Would this idea work in your club? Or, do you have other good ideas for recruiting that you can share with us? Age is not a factor, because at 81, Sil is putting forth both the thought and effort to help his club. I challenge every club to discuss recruiting at a meeting, come up with ideas aimed at gaining new members, and implement a strategy. If one

person in each club will make the effort that Sil Caruso has, I think there will be a rosy future for those of us who like to compete at camellia shows.

Some of the cultivars Sil has rooted include: Betty Sheffield Supreme, Botan Yuki, Funny Face Betty, Giulio Nuccio, Lady Laura, Pleasant Memories, Feathery Touch, Premier Var., Grace Albritton, Steve

Blount Var., Doris Ellis, Bobby Fain, Georgia National Fair, Tomorrow's Tropic Dawn, Ruta Hegman, Royal Velvet Var., Borom's Gem, Rosea Superba Var., Jean's Unsurpassable, Kramer's Supreme, Magic City, Elegans Champagne, Melody Shepherd Red, Campari, Cile Mitchell, Helen Bower, Sudie Blanchard, Mathotiana Supreme Var., Nuccio's Pink Lace, Butchie and Punkin.



*The cuttings were stuck about Labor Day, so Sil adjusts the time clock on the mist system for use on warm days. Soon, however, the mist was turned off and not used during the fall.*

# A Proposed Standard Format For Camellia Shows

by C. Warren Thompson  
Fort Valley, Georgia

Dear All Camellia Societies,

Attached is a proposed basic schedule for all camellia shows. I feel that there are several reasons that we need a basic schedule for all camellia shows in the Gulf Coast and Atlantic Coast areas.

When a grower participates in ten to fifteen camellia shows during the season, some continuity is needed when completing entry cards. I think that most show participants carry thirty to a hundred and fifty blooms to a show. It becomes necessary to have the entry cards prepared in advance because of the entry time on show day.

If you have blooms that are not entered due to damage, etc., the cards usually cannot be saved because the other shows have different classes for the same blooms. I know that I have about 200 cards that could have been used, but would have to be sorted and changed. Most of the time we just throw them away and, as you know, these cards are expensive.

Also, sometimes you decide to go to a show at the last minute. You might not have a show schedule and it might be too late to obtain one. So, you do not know how to properly card your blooms.

The basic schedule that I am proposing can have classes added by simply adding a suffix to any class, such as A-1, J-4, etc. Additionally, any class or part of a class, can be left out. Each society can still have their own schedules for the awards they desire.

The main objective of this suggested format is not to change classes. It is to create continuity between the clubs and shows. It is the opinion of several camellia judges that this proposal would help all participants

in bringing and entering blooms in the camellia shows.

I plan to submit this proposal at the next board meeting. Please let me know your feelings concerning this proposal.

Sincerely,



C. Warren Thompson  
Vice President  
Middle Georgia Camellia Society  
602 Forrest Drive  
Fort Valley, Georgia  
(912) 825-2559 (phone)  
(912) 825-2559 (fax)



*Warren Thompson enjoys drinks with fellow ACCS stalwarts Les Cawthon, Jeannette Waltz, and Richard Waltz. Warren has proposed a standard show format for ACCS camellia shows.*

PROPOSED SCHEDULE FOR ALL CAMELLIA SHOWS				
CLASS			PLACE CARDS	PL CDS
L			ENTRY CARD COLOR	HEAD
A	SIZE	DESCRIPTION	PLACEMENT TABLE	CONSIDERATION TABLE
S		BEST BLOOM-OUTDOOR		X
S		BEST BLOOM-PROTECTED		X
		SWEEPSTAKES		X
		SWEEPSTAKES-RUNNER UP		X
A	LG/V.LG	JAPONICA - OUTDOOR	CLASS A - WHITE	X
A	MEDIUM	JAPONICA - OUTDOOR		X
A	SMALL	JAPONICA - OUTDOOR		X
B	LG/V-LG	JAPONICA - PROTECTED	CLASS B - GREEN	X
B	MEDIUM	JAPONICA - PROTECTED		X
B	SMALL	JAPONICA - PROTECTED		X
C	V-LG	RETICULATA-OUTDOOR	CLASS C - GOLD	X
C	LARGE	RETICULATA-OUTDOOR		X
C	MEDIUM	RETICULATA-OUTDOOR		X
C	SMALL	RETICULATA-OUTDOOR		X
D	V-LG	RETICULATA-PROTECTED	CLASS D - GOLD	X
D	LARGE	RETICULATA-PROTECTED		X
D	MEDIUM	RETICULATA-PROTECTED		X
D	SMALL	RETICULATA-PROTECTED		X
E	LARGE	NON-RETIC - OUTDOOR	CLASS E - BLUE	X
E	MEDIUM	NON-RETIC - OUTDOOR		X
E	SMALL	NON-RETIC - OUTDOOR		X
F	LARGE	NON-RETIC - PROTECTED	CLASS F - BLUE	X
F	MEDIUM	NON-RETIC - PROTECTED		X
F	SMALL	NON-RETIC - PROTECTED		X
G	MINIATURE	ANY VARIETY-OUTDOOR	CLASS G - WHITE	X
H	MINIATURE	ANY VARIETY-PROTECTED	CLASS H-GREEN	X
J	SAME VAR	COLL. OF THREE-OUTDOOR	CLASS J-WHITE *	X?
K	SAME VAR	COLL. OF THREE-PROTECTED	CLASS K-GREEN *	X?
L	DIFF.VAR.	COLL. OF FIVE - OUTDOOR	CLASS L-WHITE *	X?
M	DIFF.VAR.	COLL. OF FIVE-PROTECTED	CLASS M-GREEN *	X?
N	LARGE	SPECIAL NOVICE	CLASS N - WHITE	X?
N	MEDIUM	SPECIAL NOVICE		X?
N	SMALL	SPECIAL NOVICE		X?
O	1	SEEDLING	CLASS O - PINK	X
O	2	MUTANT	CLASS O - PINK	X
P		SASANQUA / OTHER SPECIES	CLASS P - WHITE	X
		BEST WHITE		X
<b>ADD TO: LEAVE OUT: BUT DO NOT CHANGE CLASSES</b>				
			*-GOLD OR BLUE	
Q CWT 3/19/1999				



*Join*

**AMERICAN CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

Membership provides the following:

Quarterly Camellia Journal

Booklet of Camellia Care

ACS Yearbook

Free admission to Gardens

Workshops, library, slide sets and other educational opportunities.

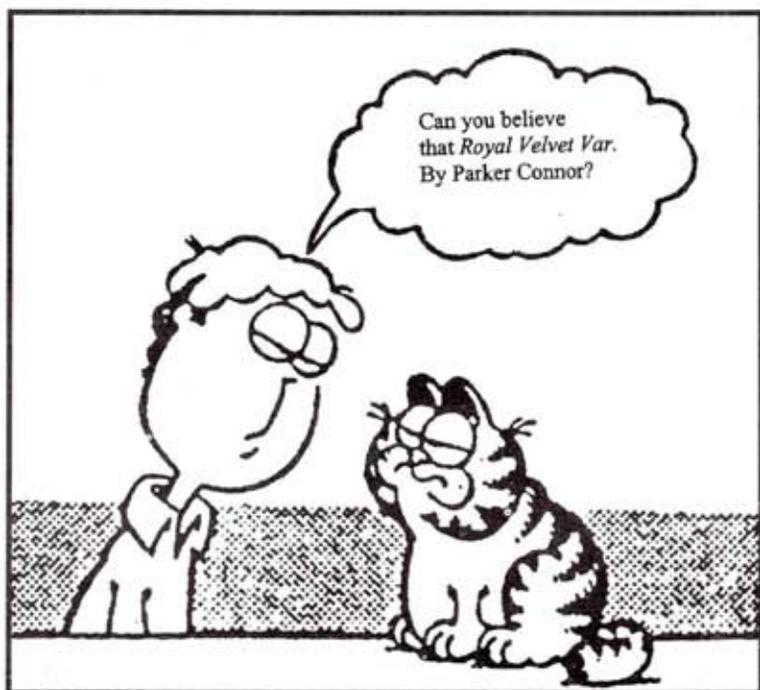
**Middle Georgia Camellia Show**  
**Georgia National Fairgrounds**  
**Perry, Georgia**  
**October 16, 1999**

Best 'Georgia National Fair'	Georgia National Fair	Parker Connor
Best Outdoor Bloom	Edna Bass	Parker Connor
Best Protected Bloom	Delores Edwards	John Newsome
Best Large Japonica Open	Rosea Superba	Lib Scott
Best Medium Japonica Open	Dawn's Early Light	Lib Scott
Best Small Japonica Open	Little Hooper	Clarence Gordy
Best Large Japonica Protected	Nuccio's Fink Lace	Bill Robertson
Best Medium Japonica Protected	Magic City	Warren Thompson
Best Small Japonica Protected	Brooke	John Newsome
Best Large Reticulata Open	Massee Lane Var.	Clarence Gordy
Best Medium Reticulata Open	Betty Ridley	Eileen Hart
Best Very Large Reticulata Protected	Frank Houser Var.	Dr. Dave Scheibert
Best Large Reticulata Protected	Miss Tulare	Frank Jamison
Best Large Non-Retic Open	My Diane	Clarence Gordy
Best Medium Non-Retic Open	Julia	Clarence Gordy
Best Large Non-Retic Protected	Rose Bouquet	Frank Jamison
Best Medium Non-Retic Protected	Debbie	Bill Robertson

Best Miniature Open	Little Red Riding Hood	Parker Connor
Best Miniature Protected	Fircone Var.	Warren Thompson
Best Tray of Three Alike	Fircone Var.	Parker Connor
Best Tray of Five Different		Lib Scott
Best Novice Bloom	Daikagura	Penny Almon
Best Seedling-Mutant	Edisto	Parker Connor
Best Species Bloom	Sparkling Burgundy	Tommy Alden
Best White Bloom	Mary Alice Cox	Clarence Gordy

Blooms Displayed: 479  
 Submitted by Warren Thompson

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# Samuel Henry "Son" Hackney, Jr. 1916-1999

Materials submitted by Fred Hahn  
Charlotte, North Carolina

(Editor's Note: I became involved in camellia societies and joined the ACCS in the mid 1980's, a year or two after Son Hackney had left his beloved camellias and moved to Myrtle Beach, effectively ending his involvement in camellia growing. I believe I remember meeting him at one of the first annual meetings I attended in Myrtle Beach, but only briefly. I have read his name often in the old yearbooks and journals, so his heavy involvement is evident. However, I never really understood his importance in the camellia world.

Son Hackney passed away recently, and one of his good friends submitted several pieces of information about Son to me. They include personal notes, an obituary, the dedication of an ACS Yearbook by Graem Yates, and minutes of the organizational meeting of the ACCS in Myrtle Beach in 1980. I will attempt to bring this information together in a fitting remembrance of a prominent camellia figure who came before my time.)

Samuel Henry "Son" Hackney passed away on Tuesday, November 23, 1999 at the Grand Strand

Regional Medical Center in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. He had resided on 13th Avenue South since moving to Myrtle Beach from Charlotte in 1984. He was 83 years old.

Son Hackney was a past president of the American Camellia Society. He was a World War II veteran, serving in the Army Air Corps which decorated him with the Distinguished Flying Cross. His family was prominent in the Charlotte Business community, owning the Myers Park Hardware and the Sharon Hardware. He was survived by his wife, Ann Sullivan Hackney of North Myrtle Beach, a son and two daughters, and six grandchildren.

The Hackney family asked that memorials be made in Son's memory to the Multiple Sclerosis Society, 2711 Middleburg Drive, Columbia, South Carolina 29204.

Son Hackney was born in Charlotte, N.C., on March 12, 1916. After serving as a flyer in World War II he returned to his hometown to become involved in the hardware business. He also cultivated an

intense interest in growing camellias. According to Fred Hahn, son ultimately would have three greenhouses dedicated to the culture of his favorite flower. Two of these were quite large, on a scale comparable to Joe Austin or the late Jim Pinkerton. In other words, Son Hackney was one of the first great camellia growers in the Southeast.

It was Son Hackney who persuaded Fred Hahn to become involved in the camellia hobby. Fred remembers when Son attended camellia shows all over the South, collecting any new cultivar he could find. Fred insists that Son taught him everything he knows about camellias, which must have been a considerable amount of knowledge judging from Fred's lofty status as a leading grower today.

Fred fondly remembers that Son was a most friendly chap, addressing all ladies as "honey." After one visit to Son's house, Fred recalls that he had to explain to his daughter why this man was calling her mother "honey." Whether in the hardware store, at a camellia show, or on the beach, Son Hackney never met a stranger.

Graem Yates remembered that Son was a member of the Eighth Air Force during the War, and his plane was shot down twice during runs over Germany. He remembers Son's forty years in the hardware stores,

where people actually stood in line to talk with him and get his professional advice. He characterized these encounters as generating smiling faces, vanishing problems, and customers leaving the store happy and grateful.

But everyone saves their most glowing compliments for Son's knack with camellias. He was, by all reports, an extraordinary grower. His flowers were the best of that time, winning shows all over the South. Son attended many national ACS conventions, and even ventured to New Zealand to see camellias in 1973. While extremely competitive at camellia shows, Son Hackney was also a teacher, sharing freely of his time and expertise.

Graem Yates even compared Son to Johnny Appleseed because he helped so many people get started in camellias and provided untold numbers of scions to collectors all over the world.

The minutes of the 1980 ACCS organizational meeting at Myrtle Beach clearly reflect the importance of Son and Ann Hackney to the people in attendance. They read, "Son and Ann Hackney spearheaded the party which took place around the pool. On Friday evening at the cocktail party tickets were sold for a raffle on Ann Hackney's two beautiful camellia paintings. A breakfast was sponsored by Son

Hackney on Saturday morning. Present were the proposed officers and directors of the ACCS, contacted by and agreed to by Mr. Hackney." It is clear that Son Hackney organized the ACCS.

For those of us who joined ACCS after the fact, the names of those who were here to organize the association 20 years ago is interesting. They include Huly Smith, Annabelle Fetterman, Jim McCoy (former editor), Roy Stringfellow, Milton Brown, Bill Kemp, Dr. J. M. Habel, Joe Pyon, and Col. Ed Atkins. Speakers at the first meeting, who were organized and invited by Son Hackney, were

Mark Cannon, Bea Rogers, Huly Smith, and C. B. Abrendroth.

Clearly Son Hackney led our group into existence, inviting the Who's Who of camellia growing in the southeastern USA to join in the effort. He laid the foundation for what we have today. I am sorry that I did not get to meet and learn from Son Hackney when he was such a role model for the ACCS. It is my loss, which is exactly what everyone who learned from him will tell you. To Son's family the members of the ACCS would like to express our sincere thanks and heartfelt sympathy.

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*Debbie Odum and Gene Phillips, of Gene's Nursery in Savannah, Georgia, enjoy learning from the masters of camellia growing at the ACCS Annual Meeting. They are Ron Wolfe, center, and Huly Smith, right.*

## Mid-Carolina Camellia Show

South Carolina State Fair  
Columbia, South Carolina  
October 8-9, 1999

Best Large Japonica Open	Helen Bower	Ray & Beulah Smith
Runner-Up	Woodville Red	Parker Connor
Best Medium Jap. Open	Daikagura	Lib Smith
Runner-Up	Dr. Burnside	Parker Connor
Best Small Japonica Open	Kiku Toji	Parker Connor
Runner-Up	Pink Petticoat	Lib Smith
Best White Bloom Open	Fimbriata	Parker Connor
Best Miniature	Fircone	Parker Connor
Runner-Up	Little Slam	Parker Connor
Best Species	Showa-no-Sakae	Carter Bays
Best Seedling		Lib Scott
Best Large Japonica Protected	Barbara Colbert	Warren & Cheryl Thompson
Runner-Up	Premier	Buck & Tyler Mizzell
Best Medium Jap. Protected	Elaine's Betty	Buck & Tyler Mizzell
Runner-Up	Doris Ellis	Bill & Mildred Robertson

Best Small Japonica Protected	Black Tie Var.	Paul & Marie Dahlen
Best White Bloom Protected	Melissa Anne	Cheryl & Warren Thompson
Best Reticulata	George Firth	Dr. & Mrs. Dan Nathan
Runner-Up	Frank Houser	Buck & Tyler Mizzell
Best Non-Retic Hybrid	Mona Jury	Buck & Tyler Mizzell

Blooms Displayed: 245  
Submitted by Bill Supplee

\*\*\*\*\*



*MASSIVE PUCKER POWER* was exerted on Dr. Dave Scheibert at the Annual Meeting by Gail Reese and Beverly Beach. He was afraid that Elizabeth would find out, but she only hoped that he enjoyed himself.

## An Invitation To Join

We hope that you will join the Atlantic Coast Camellia Society. Let's enjoy Camellias together.

The Atlantic Coast Camellia Society was organized September 13, 1980 at Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. The purpose of our organization is to extend the appreciation of Camellias and to promote the science of Camellia culture. Through our Camellia shows and programs, and by exchanging knowledge and ideas with the Camellia specialists within our membership, we feel that everyone in the ACCS benefits from being a member of this organization. Whether you are a beginning Camellia fancier or a veteran Camellia competitor, the ACCS is dedicated to providing information, shows and social events that you will find helpful, entertaining and enjoyable.

Annual dues for membership in the ACCS are \$12.50 for singles or couples. The membership year runs from September to September. A membership entitles you to three issues of Atlantic Coast Camellias, the journal of the Atlantic Coast Camellia Society. These are issued January 1 (spring), May 1 (summer) and September 1 (fall). In addition, your membership provides an invitation to our annual meeting in October in Myrtle Beach, S. C. This event has been especially successful in recent years, with over 100 participants in 1986, and with such keynote speakers as Julius Nuccio and Sergio Bracchi.

A variety of Camellia topics are addressed in articles published in Atlantic Coast Camellias. In addition to regular features concerning Camellia culture in the landscape and in the greenhouse, articles cover such topics as Camellia planting, grafting, rooting, judging, pruning, gibbing, disease control, insect control, new and old varieties, show preparations and results, liming, fertilization, spraying, mulching, disbudding, and nursery production. Numerous photographs and illustrations are provided.

We invite you to join and welcome you as a member. Please make your check payable to the Atlantic Coast Camellia Society. Fill out the convenient application blank below and mail it to:

Atlantic Coast Camellia Society  
4437 McKee Road  
Charlotte, N. C. 28270

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

( ) *Check here if you want a membership card.*

# *Camellia Herald*

by Sid Denham  
Savannah, Georgia

*(Editor's Note: We wish to welcome into our ACCS family the newest Camellia society in our region, the Camellia Society of Southeast Georgia, in Savannah. Following is an excerpt from the very fine color newsletter of that organization, Camellia Herald, for December, 1999. You may contact Sid at (912) 355-3260 if you would like to join and support the society.)*

We all look forward to this time of year when the Camellias begin blooming. There is always so much going on that we sometime forget to pay attention to their beauty.

Our next meeting should be one of interest. John Newsome and Buddy Cawthon will be our guest speakers and will give us all of the scoop on running a successful Camellia show. Our goal in organizing and carrying off a camellia show should always be to promote interest in the Camellia. This can be done through Camellia shows that are properly organized, which John and Buddy have been doing for over 20 years with the North Georgia Camellia Society, and they have it down to a science.

Buddy and John have also both played a large role in helping us get our organization started. Their innovative ideas have inspired us to "Make Camellia Fun"! Please make plans to attend our meeting. It will be held on Wednesday, January 5th, instead of our usual Thursday. The meeting will be at the St. Paul Episcopal Church, 1802 Abercorn Street, in Savannah.

We will have a Pot Luck Dinner at 6:00 p.m. Please bring your favorite dish and

have dinner with us. Plates, cups, utensils, napkins and drinks will be provided. John and Buddy will present the program at 7:00 p.m. The door prize that night will be "Anticipation."

## **Camellia Show Workshop**

On Saturday, January 15, 2000 we will have a morning and afternoon session, held at the Coastal Gardens/Bamboo Farm Educational Center, on Highway 17. Camellia shows can be very intricate events and everyone should know what their job is before the morning of the show in order for the show to run smoothly. This workshop can provide information that you will need to know if you are going to work in clerking, placement, or receiving. We need many volunteers. Call Debbie Odom, Show Chairman, at (912) 692-0859.

## **Oyster Roast**

The Camellia Society of Northeast Georgia will hold it's first annual "Oyster Roast" for our Judges, out-of-town exhibitors, guests and sponsors. This will be at the German Country Club on Jasmine & Bismark Avenues at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, January 28, 2000. For non-oyster-eaters we will have barbecue. This should be fun. We hope you will attend.

## **Camellia Show 2000**

This will be a spectacular event for our society. It should be our goal to use this event to educate and interest others in the wonderful world of Camellias. The show will be held at the Hyatt Regency Harborside Center on Riverstreet. We want to encourage everyone to exhibit their blooms. Help us show the rest of the world what Savannah can do. See you there.

## Editor's Column

By Jim Darden  
Clinton, North Carolina

Here we go again. Yes, this fall we have seen another round of crushing hurricanes here in eastern North Carolina, the worst being Floyd. For many nurseries in the eastern part of the state the result has been catastrophic. One fine azalea nursery in the Wilson area is reported to have lost a million azaleas. Everyone near a river or creek has had trouble.

Ed Powers tells me that Wilmington experienced over thirty inches of rain in a two-day period during Floyd. Here in Clinton, some sixty miles northeast of the Port City, we "only" got 22 inches during that time. The result was two of my six acres of nursery under a foot of water for several days, and another 26 large pine trees down.

All of this mounts up to a great loss for nurseries everywhere in our region. It is not just the loss of pine shade needed for azaleas, camellias and rhododendrons. It isn't just the drowned plants either. It involves crushed irrigation lines, crushed plants, trees smashing through offices and storage sheds, ruined propagation areas, and ruined plastic liners in water holes. Possibly worst of all, nurserymen have fewer quality plants to take to market next spring (and with which to retain their customers). Well,



as they say in these parts, "That's just farmin'."

Moving on to brighter items of news, if you haven't seen the Internet website created by Miles Beach you are really missing out on a great camellia treasure. We are so fortunate to have a talented member like Miles who can put together this treasure trove of camellia beauty. He already has pictures of over 100 fine camellia blooms on the page, with many more to come. Over 200 visitors had been to the site prior to December 1.

I hope to use a digital camera to photograph several camellia shows this season, with all photos going straight to Miles. You can do the same.

If everyone would photograph their show and send Miles the disk, imagine how much color we could project all over the world. I plan to include Miles' address on the inside cover of this journal under "Webmaster" so everyone will have easy access to him. His e-mail address is [Mrcamellia@aol.com](mailto:Mrcamellia@aol.com). Notice that Miles is the fourth person listed on that page with an e-mail address. The address of our fine website is [www.southerncamellias.com](http://www.southerncamellias.com).

The meeting in Myrtle Beach is still fresh in our minds, and I want to commend everyone who helped President Jeannette Waltz organize that event. Over 100 Camelliaphiles were present, and Mary Nell and I really had a good time. I enjoyed doing the program at the Saturday evening session

on my trip last year to England.

Our England trip, planned for May, 2000, has a dozen travelers signed up to go at present, with room for several more if any of you still are interested. But, the deadline for final reservations is February 1, 2000, so let me hear from you right away. I would also like to know if some of my ACCS friends would be interested in a May, 2001, England trip to include London (camellias at Kew Gardens), Edgecumbe Castle (with the National Camellia Collection), the Scillely Islands (camellias at the Gardens at Tresco), and several camellia stops at gardens in Cornwall. I would be very pleased to put that trip together.

I hope everyone has fine blooms and enjoys the shows this season. Best wishes for a great spring.

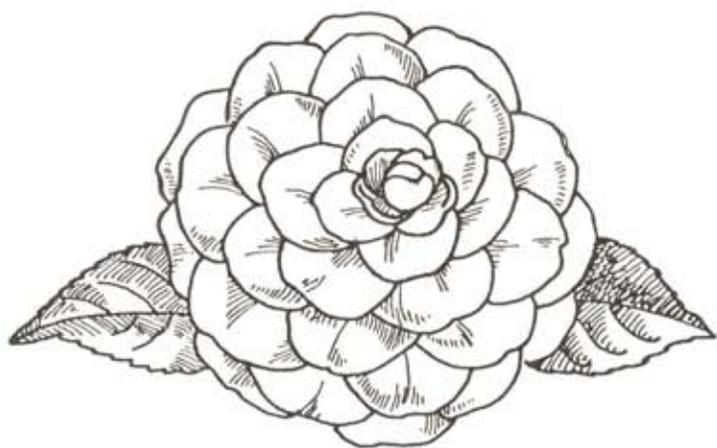


*Ryan Herring, a student in Horticulture at Sampson Community College, stands by two downed tree stumps and broken water lines in the Editor's nursery caused by Hurricane Floyd.*

## Atlantic Coast Camellia Show Dates

- January 8-9, 2000: Gainesville Camellia Society  
The Oaks Mall  
Gainesville, Florida
- January 8-9, 2000: Tallahassee Camellia Society  
Tallahassee Mall  
Tallahassee, Florida
- January 15-16, 2000: Aiken Camellia Club  
Aiken Mall  
Aiken, South Carolina
- January 22, 2000: Coastal Carolina Camellia Society  
Citadal Mall  
Charleston, South Carolina
- January 22, 2000: Thomasville Garden Club  
Woodland Manor Garden Club  
Cairo, Georgia
- January 29-30, 2000: Camellia Society of Southeast Georgia  
Hyatt Regency Harborview Center  
Savannah, Georgia
- February 5-6, 2000: Charlotte Camellia Society  
Carolina Place Mall  
Pineville, North Carolina
- February 5, 2000: Savannah Camellia Club  
Oglethorpe Mall  
Savannah, Georgia
- February 12-13, 2000: Mid-Carolina Camellia Society  
Columbia Mall  
Columbia, South Carolina

- February 19-20, 2000: North Georgia Camellia Society  
Atlanta Botanical Gardens  
Atlanta, Georgia
- February, 2000: Massachusetts Camellia Society  
The Arnold Arboretum  
Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts
- February 26, 2000: Tidewater Camellia Club  
Independence Mall  
Wilmington, North Carolina
- March 3, 2000: Middle Georgia Camellia Society  
Houston Mall  
Warner Robbins, Georgia
- March 4-5, 2000: Fayetteville Camellia Club  
Cross Creek Mall  
Fayetteville, North Carolina
- March, 2000: Piedmont Camellia Society  
Holly Hill Mall  
Burlington, North Carolina
- March 25, 2000: Virginia Camellia Society  
Norfolk Botanical Garden  
Norfolk, Virginia
- April 15-16, 2000: Camellia Society of the Potomac Valley  
U. S. National Arboretum  
Washington, D.C.
- April, 2000: Pioneer Camellia Society  
Baltimore, Maryland



ATLANTIC COAST CAMELLIA SOCIETY

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