

Atlantic Coast Camellias

JOURNAL OF THE ATLANTIC COAST CAMELLIA SOCIETY





Mary Edna and Haywood Curlee

Front Cover photo of Haywood and Mary Edna Curlee was provided by
Mary Curlee Musick

Inside Front Cover

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President's Message

John Newsome

As I write this letter, we have completed another good show season. Shows started slow with bloom numbers down, but picked up in late January through February. Although the numbers were down, the quality of the blooms was excellent. When I tried to pinpoint the problem, everything points to the drought. So, start preparing for the next season in anticipation of at least average rainfall.

Once again the Denton's have graciously agreed to host the spring meeting of the ACCS Board in conjunction with the Mid-Carolina Camellia Society's annual picnic on Saturday, April 26, 2008. The Board meeting begins at 2:00 pm, followed by hospitality, the auction, and the picnic. Plan to attend this fun outing with camellia friends and bring plenty of cash or your checkbook for the auction. Also, please mail a check for \$12.00 per person to Richard Mims for food and drink.

Mark your calendars and start making plans to attend the fall meeting of the ACCS, September 19-20, 2008 in Charleston, SC. Magnolia Plantation and Gardens will be our host for this meeting. The planning is well underway and complete details will follow after the Board meeting at the end of April.

Have a great spring and I look forward to seeing all of you in Charleston in September.

John

Editor's Column

Richard Mims

Since I first volunteered to edit one issue of Atlantic Coast Camellias and have found that the burden of content weighs heavily upon my shoulders for many more editions, my thoughts have turned to not only the camelliophytes I admire but also the camelliophytes with whom I feel the closeness of true, sincere friendship. If we have heard it once, we have heard it a thousand times, "It's not just the loving of the flower, Camellia, it's the people."

Two of the most wonderful people I have ever met became part of my life through our mutual love of the camellia and promotion of camellias through membership in the same societies, participating in shows, and talking with the camelliophytes who receive pleasure through growing and admiring the camellia bloom.

Haywood and Mary Edna Curlee are being honored in this issue of Atlantic Coast Camellias mostly to let you newcomers know who they are, what they mean to us "old timers," when you can see one of the

largest private planting of camellias in the southeast, and where they live-- the latter being Mr. and Mrs. Haywood Curlee, 1097 Riverside Drive, Orangeburg, SC 29115. If you lose this article find their address on the Atlantic Coast Camellia Society roster where it has been since the group was formed. Should you not have that list, look at any membership roster of the American Camellia Society beginning in 1959 through the latest year.

For those who know and have talked with Haywood and Mary Edna, you know from the outset that these two were born with the love of camellias. You feel and know that love of camellias from the description of the first garden they saw in their early years through this published interview by their daughter, Mary Musick, when Mary Edna exuberantly talks camellias.

I'll share part of a letter received recently from Mary Edna: "Haywood and I miss going to the camellia shows, but our going days are over. He has

to use a wheel chair and I have tower well over a hundred feet. to use a walker. He will be 94 Should you visit during bloom- in July and I'll be 92 in June. ing season, you will probably On June 14 we will have been experience the best golf cart married 70 years. Seventy ride ever. One reason being, wonderful years! We miss see- Haywood loves to share his ing all of our camellia friends." knowledge and stories about

"We have a camellia bush growing camellias. While the just outside of our bedroom Curlee's blooms have won just window. It is about 8 feet away about every show award imag- and has limbs reaching out inable, the show circuit is now about 4 feet from the center. It in their past because of health reaches all the way up to our 2nd reasons. Nevertheless, the acres story window. It has just of camellias are there and well started to bloom and I am en- taken care of and during bloom- joying it so much, especially ing season the Curlees would when a little breeze begins to welcome viewers. And don't move its limbs back and forth." believe for one moment that

Haywood now must use blooms are not still shared with wheels to get around in the the public. Hayward tells us in house and also uses wheels in his comments what happens to the form of a golf cart to go many of the blooms.

amongst the acreage of now, Their birthdays and anniver- huge camellias that grow under sary are coming up. How about pines they planted that now sending them a card or note?

WATER!

- Never fertilize a dry plant.
- Water pH is significant. It should not be too alkaline. It should be close to 7.0. Have yours checked.
- Keep newly planted camellias moist for two growing seasons.
- Watering deeply once or twice a week is better than several shallow waterings.

Join NOW!

(Membership is a great gift for friends and family!!!)

The Atlantic Coast Camellia Society

We are a society that wants more members to help us promote the science of Camellia culture by exchanging knowledge and ideas with Camellia specialists, provide information about shows and social events and join us at our annual meeting in September or October each year. Annual dues are \$12.50 per year for singles or couples. A membership entitles you to a journal published in January, May, and September. To join, send your check and personal information for receiving communications and journals to:

**ACCS
Bonnie Serpas
229 Green Street
Santee, SC 29142**

Membership Form

ACCS Dues 9/1/07-8/31/08 Single or Double \$12.50

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone Number (include Area Code): _____

E-Mail: _____

Haywood and Mary Edna Curlee

By Miles Beach

(Editor's note). I wondered how Miles and Brenda Beach knew so much about the Curlees and their flowers. He sent this article explaining the relationship and also the wonderful cover photograph.)

Brenda grew up in Orangeburg and she and the Curlee's daughter, Mary were best friends. When they were seniors in high school, Brenda's father was transferred to Louisiana and Brenda spent her last year in high school living with the Curlees. She very quickly discovered that all of those blooming bushes on the Curlee homestead were very important to them and they were called camellias. She learned very quickly how to pin camellias for showing because that was the practice then. She experienced getting up at three a.m., cutting the freshest blooms and packing them in dress boxes for transporting to the show.

It goes without saying that Haywood and Mary Edna were very active in the camellia show circuit and won many awards for their camellias.

Haywood and Mary Edna were ACS accredited camellia judges. Haywood often served as the head judge. Those of you who know him will remember his tapping his pocket knife on a table to get everyone's attention.

Well, how do I fit into the picture? Before Brenda gave me an answer when I proposed to her, she said, "There's someone I want you to meet so they can check you out." When we drove down the drive leading to their house surrounded by four or more acres of camellias, I knew we were going to get along just fine.

From that first visit we all became wonderful friends. As my mentors, they were always willing to share their vast camellia knowledge, camellia plants, scions and camellia books. Some of our first camellias were air-layers made from plants in their garden. Their collection of more than a thousand plants represents the finest cultivars through the 1960's when Haywood slowed his hobby because of health problems. Many of the cultivars

I've only seen in their garden. When Haywood took me through the garden, which was almost every week or so, he made sure I knew which were the best cultivars and would often say remember where that plant is, you may want to grow it one day. Well after more than 15 years of visits and endless wonderful desserts that Mary Edna would fix for our visits, I occasionally receive a

phone call wanting to know were a particular plant is in the yard and I usually can help.

Both Mary Edna and Haywood are kind, wonderful people who represent the very best in Christian ideals that we all strive for. Brenda and I are so proud to know them and feel they are our second parents.



Haywood Curlee with Miles Beach
(photo provided by Miles Beach)

Conversations With My Parents, Mary Edna and Haywood Curlee

By Mary Curlee Musick

Mary Edna:

Our love affair with camellias began in earnest years ago when I went with my Azalea Garden Club to the lovely old colonial home of Ms. Kitty Fairey in Ft. Motte, SC, for a garden show. When I saw that landscape with tall beautiful camellia bushes in full bloom, I just had a fit! I was like a little butterfly or bumblebee flitting from one bloom to the other trying to decide which I liked best! I watched the other ladies exit the garden for the flower show inside; but, as far as I was concerned I wanted to see the flower show outside in “Miss Kitty’s” camellia garden. Finally I selected two that I liked the best and later went to Mr. Andrew Dibble’s nursery on the Roseville Road. He didn’t have those two but I was attracted to and bought a blooming camellia plant, Lady Van Sittart, which is still a magnificent specimen near our front door. That was the beginning of many years of pleasure of pur-

chasing and propagating camellias.

Haywood:

When Mary Edna took me to visit “Miss Kitty Fairey” (now deceased) she was old and I mean old! Mary Edna interrupted, “Haywood, she wasn’t as old as we are now!”

I don’t recall noticing camellias in my hometown of Ansonville, NC, nor when I attended the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. When I bought my first house in Orangeburg, SC, I did notice a few camellia plants in yards of our neighbors. One neighbor, Miriam Smith, brought us our first camellia blooms. We were so impressed with the blooms and became such great friends with her that she married Mary Edna’s brother, Frank, and became our sister-in-law.

I have always been interested in watching things grow and I wanted to know more about camellias. There is such a diversity of varieties. Ca-

mellias have a possibility of mutating, and you don't know what will happen next. Two flowers can combine and produce something new, like two people.

Some of my favorites are *Jesse Katz V.*, *'Nuccio's Jewel*, *Rosea Superba*, *Marie Bracey V.* and *Gullio Nuccio*.

In the early days of our interest in camellias, when we were young, we found older people with camellias, and a good introduction at first was our mutual love of the flower. We went out of our way to visit them and later people came to visit us. When we visited in the gardens of these older growers, they would give us cuttings of their plants. They were always willing to share.

When we became flower show judges, we enjoyed traveling to the shows, judging and seeing friends who were also judges. Judges were required to have a collection of camellias and know what they were talking about. They are high caliber persons. In fact, anyone who has a collection of camellias we would expect to be a high caliber person.

Mary Edna:

When we first became interested in camellias, Haywood made a trip to Charleston for a meeting. Since I was pregnant and could not go with him, he stopped by Summerville on the way back and bought me three camellia plants. We started camellia collecting in earnest.

We joined camellia groups and subscribed to camellia magazines. We saw where there were garden centers in Georgia, so we drove our panel truck to Georgia to see some flower shows. The shows were frozen out by the weather, so we went to the nurseries we had read about. There was a great big nursery in Bainbridge, Ga., along the Alabama, Georgia line. We ordered 500 plants at \$.50 each in five gallon cans. We knew that Dr. Gehry and Dr. O'Cain in Orangeburg, and Nick Chaplin from Neeses wanted some too and a lawyer friend. We had already learned how to graft from a man in Orangeburg.

Whenever we went to the flower shows and members

invited us to their gardens, they would give us cuttings. We put them in plastic bags with water. We grafted them on under stock. Almost every plant in our yard has a story. We bought our 14 acres on the Edisto River full of small pine trees just for the camellias to grow under. On those acres we have about 250 different varieties of camellias, and 3 or 4 plants of our favorites. We put in an underground sprinkler system that drew water from the river. The first winter, someone on the river put mud in the pump, so then we used our deep well pump. When it began to pump sand, luckily the city had just put in a water line close enough so we could use city water.

We drew up the landscape plan for our gardens and invited landscape architect Charles Marvin from Walterboro to come up to Orangeburg to draw up a plan also for our garden. He approved of what we had planned! With curving walks around the camellia beds, planted under the pines for protection, which are now huge trees.

Haywood:

I always advised planting a \$10 plant in a \$100 hole. Dig a hole wide around and plant the camellia almost on top of the ground. We used cottonseed meal for our camellias. Later we realized that too many weeds came with the meal. Later we used bales of peat moss – opened out and allowed to soak up water. Also we used lots of our own compost – always save your scraps!

We had truckloads of leaves brought in by the city to decompose in our backyard, down towards the swamp. And we had truckloads of manure brought in. A friend, Skip Mutch, gave us horse manure! Once we bought pigeon manure from Sumter. We also mulched with our abundance of pine straw from our trees.

Mary Edna:

After we became flower show judges, Haywood would often be called on to be the head judge. Many recall him rapping on the table with his knife announcing it was time to quit socializing (which we

loved to do) and start judging! We were active in state and local camellia clubs and the National Society. We hosted the President of the American Camellia Society to a drop-in at our home once. We still enjoy reading about what is going on in camellia circles and subscribe to the Atlantic Coast Camellias Journal and enjoy reading the articles and seeing the pictures.

Thanks to the efforts of long time dear friends of our family, Miles and Brenda Beach, two camellia seedlings have been named in our honor, one of the seedlings has been named Mary Edna Curlee and another one Haywood Curlee. Miles taught us how to air layer camellias, and many plants have been acquired this way for friends and family from camellias in our yard, thanks to that knowledge.

We have always enjoyed sharing our camellias with others. Many plants and boxes of blooms have been shared with family, friends, neighbors and relatives. Our blooms have been shared for homes, nursing homes, hospital rooms, weddings and funerals, parties, meetings, anniversaries and even the Governor's Mansion. Each year it is a joy to see the first bloom of the season, and later to be able to exclaim, "This is the best season we ever had for camellias!"

Mary Edna and Haywood will celebrate their 70th wedding anniversary on June 14, her 92nd birthday on June 8, and his 94th birthday on July 26. Everyday they profess their love to one another and end with kisses. They have had a long and happy marriage.

SEEDLINGS!

New judging rules permit ACS Outstanding Seedling awards for gibbed seedlings. Now we might see late blooming seedlings that would never make it to a show unless gibbed early.

By Geary Serpas

Each show seems to be “doing their own thing” with miniatures. There is a noticeable problem with judging miniatures. Judges are not concerned with large blooms being within the confines of 4 – 5 inches; or medium blooms being 3 – 4 inches; or small being 2 ½ to 3 inches: In fact, Cooperative Rules posits under *Size* that “larger size is a plus” Why should miniatures fit within a 2 ½ inch ring? I am proposing that a miniature be a bloom denoted in the nomenclature as miniature only. Judges would determine the first, second, and third place winners among miniatures the same as among other sizes making measurements no longer necessary. The Cooperative Rule, “...where larger size should be considered a deficiency,” should still apply to judging miniatures. (Ed: It is recommended that the proper American Camellia Society Committee reclassify the Miniature to Small camellias that through the years have won national miniature awards and make them Miniatures to be eligible for further awards and to prevent confusion in the literature.)

Camellia Show Rules

1. The Show is sanctioned by the American Camellia Society and will be conducted in accordance with the latest revision of "Rules and Regulations Governing Procedures and Judging of ACS Cooperative Shows". The Show Chairman may establish such further rules as deemed necessary for the proper conduct of the show. In all cases, the decision of the judges will be final.
2. Entries will be received -----
3. Standard Entry Cards will be used, and should include the name of the variety. Exhibitors are encouraged to have the bloom size circled and class entered.
4. Any individual grower may exhibit. Entries must be from plants owned by and in the possession of the exhibitors for at least 30 days. Exhibitor does not have to be a member of a camellia society or garden club.
5. Entries must have only one bloom to a stem, and at least one but not more than two leaves, but not necessarily attached. Wiring of blooms is permissible.
6. Blooms shall be named in accordance with the *ACS Nomenclature* (published by the Southern California Camellia Society). Any variety with a name not found in the Historical or current "Camellia Nomenclature" will not be judged. The nomenclature committee will attempt to identify blooms as time permits.
7. No bloom can compete in more than one class and may win only one award.
8. Unprotected blooms are defined as those grown in natural surroundings without any man-made protection from the elements of nature.
9. The Show Chairman or representative reserves the right to reject or discard flowers that are obviously inferior in quality.

Camellia Show Rules, cont.

10. If only one bloom of a variety is entered, it shall constitute a class, and shall be judged accordingly.
11. To help control the spread of disease, all blooms become the property of the society and will be destroyed.
12. Awards in any division or class may be withheld if, in the opinion of the judges, no flower deserves the award.
13. Classification as to size will be in accord with the latest edition of “Camellia Nomenclature”. Where a bloom is classified to include two sizes, the smaller size shall determine the award class with the exception of miniatures. Blooms must be classified as miniature only, not miniature to small to compete in the Miniature Class.
14. A novice is defined as an individual who has never won a “Head Table” Award at an ACS Camellia Show.
15. Blooms will be displayed in containers provided and may not be “visually enhanced” by placing blooms on a bed of Polyfil, cotton, moss or similar products.
16. Judges must disqualify themselves while their blooms are being judged.
17. The use of collars for supporting large blooms is permitted.
18. No distinction shall be made by the judges between chemically treated and non-treated blooms.
19. The camellia society, its officers and members, are not under any circumstances responsible for the loss or damage to flowers or other property or for the injury to persons. Care will be exercised for protection of all property used, but this shall not be interpreted as an assumption of liability.

Camellias Registered by ACS

Since 2006 *Nomenclature*

Includes Registrations Listed in March—May 2008 ACS Journal

Camellia Japonica

- Ashton's High Rise—Medium pinkish red. Medium, rose form double. M. (U.S. 2008—David Parks, Chapel Hill, NC)
- Autumn Perfection—Clear pink, small, formal double. E. (U.S. 2007—Camellia Nursery, Lucedale, MS)
- Ben George—White striped rose. Very Large, single to semidouble. M. (U.S. 2008—Erinon Camellias, Plymouth, FL)
- Bryanna Nicole—Vibrant pink washed with lighter pink. Small. Anemone form. M. (U.S. 2006—Don Bergamini, Martinez, CA)
- Camille—Pink, Large, rose form, formal double. M. (U.S. 2006—Hulyn Smith, Valdosta, GA)
- Caro-Lan—Pink with lighter center. Medium, formal double with incurved to flat, star-shaped stacked petals. M—L. (U.S. 2006—Harold Haeffele—Hampstead, NC)
- Catherine Hall—Light pastel pink. Very large, anemone. E.—M. (U.S. 2007—Marion Hall, Dothan, AL)
- Cathy Jones—Salmon pink. Medium, formal double. M. (U.S. 2007—Dr. Luther Baxter (deceased) and Jack E. Jones, Anderson, SC)
- Dale Fitzgerald—Rose pink. Large, Peony. E.—M. (U.S. 2008—Jerry Conrad of Erinon Camellias, Plymouth, FL)
- Ed Powers—Deep rose and white. Very large, rose form double. E—L. (U.S. 2006—Ed Powers, Wilmington, NC)
- Ella Joe—Clear pink. Medium—Large, formal double. M. (U.S. 2006—Dick Hardison, Tallahassee, FL)
- Etha Prickett—Deep pink. Miniature, rose form double. L. (U.S. 2006—Etha Prickett Carson, deceased)
- Fred Mayo—Bright red. Medium, formal double, M.-L. (U.S. 2007—Leighton McKeithen, Fayetteville, NC)
- Gail Hooks—Crimson. Small, formal double. L. (U.S. 2006—Etha Prickett Carson, deceased)

- Henny Drews—Pale pink and white. Medium, peony. E.—M. (U.S. 2006—Rupert E. Drews, Charleston, SC)
- Henry Parrish—Dark red. Large, rose form to formal double. M. (U.S. 2007—Hulyn Smith, Valdosta, GA)
- John Edwards—Dark red. Very large, semidouble. M. (U.S. 2006—John K. Edwards, Pensicola, FL)
- Lady Fernanda—Medium pink with some shading. Medium, rose form double. M. (U.S. 2006—Magnolia Plantation and Gardens of Charleston, SC)
- Landon Waters—White with some flecks and spots of red. Small, Formal double. M. (U.S. 2006—Don Bergamini, Martinez, GA)
- Lane Moss Hagood—Coral with white blotches and speckles. Very Large, peony with some rabbit ears. M. (U.S. 2006)
- Longwood Centennial—Pink. Miniature, single. E.-M. (U.S. 2007—Longwood Gardens, Kennett Square, PA)
- Longwood Valentine—Pink. Miniature, single. E. (U.S. 2007—Longwood Gardens, Kennett Square, PA)
- Lou Powers—Medium pink. Very Large, semidouble. M.-L. (U.S. 2006—Ed Powers, Wilmington, NC)
- Magnolia Pixie—Vibrant pink. Miniature, semidouble. M. (U.S. 2006—Magnolia Plantation and Gardens of Charleston, SC)
- Marion Hall—Rosy red and white. Very Large. Peony. E.-M. (U.S. 2006—Marion G. Hall, Dothan AL)
- Mary Grant Hall—White with pink edges. Large, peony. (U.S. 2006—Marion G. Hall, Dothan, AL)
- Miss Gladys—Pale pink. Large, rose form double. M. (U.S. 2006—Gladys Weinspach, Ocala, FL)
- Miss Henni—Dark rose to violet rose. Miniature, formal double. M.-L. (U.S. 2006—John Grimm, Metairie, LA)
- Mrs. Katherine M. Howell—Deep rose red. Large. Formal double. M. (U.S. 2007—Camellia Nursery, Lucedale, MS)
- Nina Annulette—Deep rose red with slight purple hue and white splotted mottling. Large, peony. M.-L. (U.S. 2006—John D. Gentry, Jr., Richmond Hill, GA)

Patti Perkins—Rose red with white variegation. Small, loose peony to rose form double. E.-M. (U.S. 2006—Glenn Read Nursery, Lucedale, MS)

Yeaman's Hall—Shell pink with darker pink striping. Medium, formal double. M. (U.S. 2006—Coastal Carolina Camellia Society, Mt. Pleasant, SC)

Camellia Reticulata

Mary A. Bergamini—Hot pink. Large, peony. M.-L. (U.S. 2006—Don Bergamini, Martinez, CA)

Mackenzie Green—Rose pink. Very large, semidouble to rose form double. M. (U.S. 2007—Hulyn Smith, Valdosta, GA)

Marilyn Maphis—Pink. Very large, semidouble. M. (U.S. 2007—Jack Mandarich, Garner, NC)

Professor John L. Spencer—Red. Medium, rose form double. M.-L. (U.S. 2006—Spencer Camellias, Lakeland, FL)

Camellia Non-reticulata

Raspberry Flambe—Rose. Medium, formal double. M. (U.S. 2006—Roscoe Dean Nursery, Lucedale, MS)

Camellia Hybrid

Afterwards—Pale pink, lighter toward the center. Large, rose form double. M.-L. (U.S. 2007—Williams L. Ackerman, Ashton, MD)

Mary Jacquelyn—Rose pink with lavender hue. M.-L. (U.S. 2007—Gene's Nursery, Savannah, GA)

Pumphrey's Pride—Medium pink rose. Medium, rose form double. M. (U.S. 2007—John Pumphrey, Baltimore, MD)

Randolph Maphis—Red frosted. Very Large, semidouble peony. M. (U.S. 2008—Hulyn Smith, Valdosta, GA)

Shirley Estes—White. Medium, loose peony. M. (U.S. 2006—Glenn Read Nursery, Lucedale, MS)

North Georgia Camellia Society Show Report

Atlanta, GA
Feb 16-17, 2008

900 Blooms

Best Bloom In Show	<i>Phyllis Hunt</i>	Mary & Howard Rhodes
Unprotected—Japonica – Outside Metro Atlanta		
Lg	<i>Dick Hardison</i>	Bev & Chuck Ritter
Med	<i>Midnight Magic Var.</i>	Bev & Chuck Ritter
Sm	<i>Tudor Baby</i>	Bev & Chuck Ritter
Japonica – Metro Atlanta		
Best	<i>Don Mac</i>	Henry Wyche
Runner-Up	<i>April Remembered</i>	Gary Supula
Reticulata		
Best	<i>Frank Houser Var.</i>	Stuart Tomlinson
Non-Reticulata		
Best	<i>Tom Perkins</i>	Bev & Chuck Ritter
Protected—Japonica		
VLg	<i>Paul Haskee</i>	Mary & Mickey Moore
Lg	<i>Veiled Beauty</i>	John Newsome
Med	<i>BettySheffield Blush Supreme</i>	Steve & Gayle Lawrence
Sm	<i>Grace Albritton</i>	John Newsome
Reticulata	<i>John Hunt</i>	Mary & Mickey Moore
Runner-Up	<i>Frank Houser</i>	Mary & Mickey Moore
Non-Reticulata	<i>Tom Perkins</i>	John Newsome
Best Miniature	<i>Man Size</i>	John Newsome
Runner-Up	<i>BonBon</i>	Steve & Gayle Lawrence
Best Tray of 3	<i>Royal Velvet</i>	Ron & Elizabeth Wolfe
Best Tray of 3 Retic.	<i>Frank Houser Var.</i>	Ron & Elizabeth Wolfe
Best Tray of 5		Bev & Chuck Ritter
Novice	<i>Ville de Nantes</i>	Bonnie Supplie
Seedling		Randolph Mathis
Sweepstakes Unprotected Winner		Chuck & Bev Ritter
Sweepstakes Unprotected Runner-Up		Stewart Tomlinson
Sweepstakes Protected Winner		Mickey & Mary Moore
Sweepstakes Protected Runner-Up		Howard & Mary Rhodes
Court of Honor		
	<i>Deep Secret</i>	John Newsome
	<i>Guilio Nuccio Var.</i>	John Newsome
	<i>Black Gold</i>	Steve & Gayle Lawrence
	<i>Black Gold</i>	Stewart Tomlinson
	<i>Little Babe Var.</i>	John Newsome
	<i>Miss Charleston</i>	Louise Poe Hairston
	<i>Dixie Knight</i>	Ester Lawrence
	<i>Wendy</i>	Chuck & Bev Ritter
	<i>Larry Piet</i>	Randolph Maphis

Tidewater Camellia Club Show Report

Wilmington, NC
February 16, 2008

1001 Blooms

Outdoor—Japonica

Lg-VLg	<i>Pirate's Gold Var.</i>	Johnnie Walker
Runner-Up	<i>Tiffany</i>	Johnnie Walker
Med	<i>Ville De Nantes</i>	Bob & Jean Williams
Runner-Up	<i>Tama Americana</i>	Tony & Christine Smith
Sm	<i>Something Beautiful</i>	Johnnie Walker
Runner-Up	<i>Maroon & Gold Var.</i>	Johnnie Walker
Best Reticulata	<i>Frank Houser</i>	Beary & Bonnie Serpas
Best Non-Retic	<i>El Dorado</i>	Johnnie Walker
Best White	<i>Melissa Ann</i>	Ed & Lou Powers
Miniature	<i>Grace Albritton</i>	Bill & Molly Howell
Tray of 3	<i>Royal Velvet Var.</i>	Bill Howell
Tray of 5		Bob & Sandy Black

Protected—Japonica

Lg-VLg	<i>Dorothy Chester</i>	Bob & Sandy Black
Runner-Up	<i>Kick Off</i>	Julia B. Leisenring
Med	<i>Black Magic</i>	Lew & Annabelle Fetterman
Runner-Up	<i>Nuccio's Cameo</i>	Bob & Sandy Black
Sm	<i>Little Babe</i>	Bob & Sandy Black
Runner-Up	<i>Peggy's Blush</i>	Lew & Annabelle Fetterman
Best Reticulata	<i>Ruta Hagmann</i>	Lew & Annabelle Fetterman
Best Non-Reticulata		<i>Cile Mitchell</i> Bob & Sandy

Black

Best White	<i>Melissa Ann</i>	Buck & Tyler Mizzell
Miniature	<i>Sweet Jane</i>	Lew & Annabelle Fetterman
Tray of 3	<i>Melissa Ann</i>	Buck & Tyler Mizell
Tray of 5		Bill & Molly Howell
Best Antique Bloom	<i>Donckelarii</i>	Bill Howell

Novice

Lg-VLg	<i>Lady Clare Var.</i>	Frank & Betty Stover
Med	<i>Magnoliaeflora</i>	Ken Shanklin
Sm	<i>Pink Perfection</i>	K. Fitzpatrick

Seedling

Bob & Sandy Black

Special Award: Member of Tidewater Camellia Club

Best Bloom	<i>Magic City</i>	Alma Buffkin
Runner-Up	<i>Black Tie</i>	Alma Buffkin

Sweepstakes Unprotected Gold

Johnnie Walker

Sweepstakes Unprotected Silver

Ed & Lou Powers

Sweepstakes Protected Gold

Lew & Annabelle Fetterman

Sweepstakes Protected Silver

Bob & Sandy Black

Tidewater Camellia Club Show Report Cont.

Court of Honor

<i>Royal Velvet</i>	Ed & Lou Powers
<i>Guest Star</i>	Ed & Lou Powers
<i>Pink Perfection</i>	Bill Howell
<i>Miss Sally</i>	Bob & Sandy Black
<i>Cherries Jubilee</i>	Buck & Tyler Mizzell
<i>Grace Albritton</i>	Buck & Tyler Mizzell
<i>Sweet Jane</i>	Tony & Christine Smith
<i>Fircone Var.</i>	Mack McKinnon
<i>Frank Houser</i>	Geary & Bonnie Serpas
<i>Frank Houser</i>	Lew & Annabelle Fetterman
<i>Joe Nuccio</i>	Bob & Sandy Black
<i>Debbie</i>	Buck & Tyler Mizzell
<i>Ivory Tower</i>	Johnnie Walker
<i>Charlie Bettes</i>	Julia Leisenring
<i>Kitty</i>	Ken Shanklin



Photo provided by Johnnie Walker

Middle Georgia Camellia Society Show Report

Macon, GA

February 23, 2008

721 Blooms

Best Bloom-Outdoor *Ville de Nantes* Clayton & Nedra Mathis

Best Bloom-Protected *Raspberry Glow* Steve & Gayle Lawrence

Outdoor

Japonica

Lg *Grand Slam* Carolyn Dickson

Med *Black Magic* Ron & Elizabeth Wolfe

Sm *Miss Lillian* Chuck & Bev Ritter

Reticulata

VLg *Pat Pinkerton* Chuck & Bev Ritter

Lg *Valley Knudson* Clayton & Nedra Mathis

Med *Prof. John Spencer* Chuck & Bev Ritter

Non-Reticulata

Lg *Tom Perkins* Chuck & Bev Ritter

Med *Julia* Chuck & Bev Ritter

Sm *Spring Daze* Chuck & Bev Ritter

Miniature *Man Size* Tommy & Brenda Alden

Tray of 3 *Jessie Burgess* Mickey & Mary Moore

Protected

Japonica

Lg *Veiled Beauty* John Newsome

Med *Deep Secret* John Newsome

Sm *Little Susie* Ron & Elizabeth Wolfe

Reticulata

VLg *Frank Houser* John Newsome

Lg *Valentine Day* Frank Jamison

Non-Reticulata

Lg *Tom Perkins* John Newsome

Med *Julie* John Newsome

Sm *Spring Daze* Steve & Gayle Lawrence

Miniature *Man Size* John Newsome

Tray of 3 *Black Gold* Steve & Gayle Lawrence

Novice *Bart Colbert Var.* Brenda Gilstrap

Seedling Chuck & Bev Ritter

Sasanqua or Other Spec. *Botan Yuki* Jim Pruckler

Best White *Swan Lake* Frank Jamison

Sweepstakes Winner Chuck & Bev Ritter

Sweepstakes Runner-Up Steve & Gayle Lawrence

Aiken Camellia Society Show Report

North Augusta, GA

March 15, 2008

Under the sponsorship of the Aiken Camellia Society, North Augusta held its third annual Camellia Show on March 15, 2008. North Augusta has a strong camellia heritage established by Dr. and Mrs. Henry Mealing who named 20 varieties of *C. japonica* between 1946 and 1975. Many of his plants still exist on the grounds of Look-Away Hall in the heart of town. Our guest speaker at the show was Mrs. Pat Setzer of Columbia, SC, a daughter of Dr. Mealing, who spoke about Dr. Mealing and showed pictures of many of his named varieties.

Our show's purpose is to make people aware of the many varieties of camellias in the area, to offer an opportunity for individuals to bring blooms and get help in identifying their plants, to provide information on propagation, and to increase awareness of the Aiken Camellia Society and the American Camellia Society.

375 Blooms

Best Bloom In Show *Royal Velvet Var.*

Chip Buchanan

Outdoor

Japonica

Lg-VLg

Guilio Nuccio Var.

Jim Stutts

Med

Lady Vansittart

Bill McCall

Sm

Tama-No-Ura

David & Anna Sheets

Protected

Japonica

Lg-VLg

Mississippi Beauty

Lee Poe

Med

Ville de Nantes

David & Anna Sheets

Sm

Kuro-Tsubake

Nancy Ballew

Min

Little Slam Var.

David & Anna Sheets

Reticulata Lg-VLg

Lasca Beauty

David & Anna Sheets

Hybrid

Lg-VLg

Taylor's Perfection

David & Anna Sheets

Best White

Swan Lake

Julia Leisenring

Seedling

Lee Poe

Unknown

Doris Momeier

Virginia Camellia Society Show Report

Norfolk, VA
March 22, 2008

847 Blooms

Outdoor

Japonica

Lg	<i>Alabama Tide</i>	Ed & Lou Powers
Runner-Up	<i>Snowman</i>	Ken & Cathy Walsh
Med	<i>Ville de Nantes</i>	Ken & Cathy Walsh
Runner-Up	<i>Dixie Knight Supreme</i>	Bill Wilcox
Sm	<i>Black Tie</i>	Jim Grider
Runner-Up	<i>Tom Thumb</i>	Jim Henkel
Min	<i>Frances Councill</i>	Doug & Sally Simon
Runner-Up	<i>Zing</i>	Jim Henkel
Best White Bloom	<i>Edelweiss</i>	Doug & Sally Simon
Tray of 3		Doug & Sally Simon
Runner-Up		Doug & Sally Simon
Tray of 5		Ed & Lou Powers
Runner-Up		Ercel Jackson

Protected

Japonica

Lg	<i>Dusty</i>	Bob & Sandy Black
Runner-Up	<i>Paul Haskee</i>	Bob & Sandy Black
Med	<i>Grand Marshall Var.</i>	Bob & Sandy Black
Runner-Up	<i>Margaret Davis</i>	Bob & Sandy Black
Sm	<i>Tudor Baby Var.</i>	Bob & Sandy Black
Runner-Up	<i>Black Tie</i>	Bob & Sandy Black
Best Reticulata	<i>Frank Houser</i>	Bob & Sandy Black
Runner-Up	<i>Frank Houser Var.</i>	Bob & Sandy Black
Best Hybrid	<i>Anticipation</i>	Doug & Sally Simon
Runner-Up	<i>Freedom Bell</i>	Bob & Sandy Black
Best White Bloom	<i>Swan Lake</i>	Bob & Sandy Black
Tray of 3		Bob & Sandy Black
Tray of 5		Bob & Sandy Black

Novice

	<i>Francie L.</i>	Henry Vicellio
Runner-Up	<i>Taylor's Perfection</i>	Elizabeth Simpson

Seedling

Lg	Bob & Sandy Black
Med	Bob & Sandy Black
Sm	Jerry Holmes

Sweepstakes Gold

Doug & Sally Simon

Sweepstakes Silver

Bob & Sandy Black



We

ACS Awards for Membership - need YOUR help

ACS membership trend over the years is the following

1961: 7,550

1970: 6,250

1980: 4,800

1990: 2,961

2004: 2,750

2007: 2,058

Each of us gets ONE new member = 4, 116 members - Double membership!

Each of us gets TWO new members = 6, 174 members - Triple membership!

Each show gets 10 new members = 500 new members

(Think Christmas, birthday, anniversary, mother's/father's day, secretary's day, boss's day, or any day.)

Club Awards

- * Most ACS members signed up at a show
- * Most ACS members during a year (Aug-Aug)
- * Most ACS members under 18
- * Highest % of club members who are ACS members
- * Best ACS table - from photo - 1st, 2nd, 3rd place
- * Photo contest-winners on 2009 calendar (download - web site)
 - 1st, 2nd, 3rd place in each category
 - Single bloom
 - Multiple blooms
 - Camellias in the landscape
 - Camellias and children
 - Overall winner on calendar cover

Beginner's Corner: Pruning

By Bob Bailey, (former) Richland County Agent
(reprint from *Carolina Camellias*, Vol XXII Spring 1970, No. 2)

Camellias grow well without pruning. You may want to do "some cutting" however to remove dead, injured or diseased branches, or to reduce the size of plants or to keep plant "More bushy."

The best time to prune is right after blooming. Always make pruning cuts back to a bud or larger branch.

Treat pruning wounds . . . with a tree wound dressing to prevent harmful fungi from invading the branches. (Ed: To try to help prevent dieback we now use a product called Spinout or a fungicide paste made with fungicide and a little water.)

Pruning simply means removing undesirable parts from the plants. Most of our pruning could be avoided if plants were chosen wisely (Ed: proper growth habit for landscape) and planted properly. This is especially true, where plantings have been thoughtlessly made and then neglected and grow up into leggy and unattractive bushes or plants. On the other hand, quite often when pruning is done, the worst kind of butchering takes place and many crimes are committed on plants by those who undertake the task and those who insist on shearing the top off all bushes exactly alike and at the same time of year. The result is bushes looking alike without any individuality, with some of them robbed of the growth that

makes the most beautiful flowers. (Ed. Flower buds grow on new growth that usually hardens off in late June or July. Excess internal, flimsy branches should be removed not only to leave space for flowers to open on sturdy branches but also to open thick plants for aeration and to help control scale.)

Pruning is not a complicated task. Neither is it a hard job. A little knowledge of the growing habit of the camellia you plant (Ed: check it out in *Nomenclature*), an appreciation of their natural beauty and a willingness on the part of the grower to learn a few fundamentals is all that is necessary to keep plants healthy and natural growing. If there is one infallible rule to be observed it is this . . . prune at the bottom. (Ed. Limbs that touch and are close to the ground, even on windy days, are very susceptible to scale and insect damage. Also, pruning from the bottom promotes an open, natural look unlike a clipped hedge.) The oldest limbs should be cut from time to time (Ed: Selective pruning). Their places will be filled by new young clean and vigorous stems. (Ed: When old camellias need "renewing" take more than a year and have some new growth for blooms and appearance when another half or third is cut back severely.)

There are four reasons for pruning camellias:

1. Sanitation, to remove dead wood or diseased branches or twigs. The dead branches must be traced back to the crotch or the fork nearest the line and healthy wood and cut at this point. Sometimes this means cutting a branch directly to the ground. This should be done rather than leave a bare stub which is dead and ugly looking. Of course any leaves, branches or twigs that are diseased must be removed and burned.
2. We prune for better flower production. Cutting away surplus growth or undesirable parts stimulates flower production. (Ed: Pruning selectively in September removes excessive buds and tends to make blooms larger.)
3. Pruning keeps plants young. Each year or two the old branches are taken out leaving young growth to develop. Pruning is necessary to keep this young growth and the beauty of the plant.
4. Pruning keeps under control the long unruly branches.

Pruning is done to secure cuttings for propagation of new plants. (Ed: cuttings for grafting are usually done in late January and February but also some summer grafting is done. Cuttings for rooting are usually taken in July and August.)

Just remember prune camellias at a time when least damage is done to the wood on which flowers are produced. (Ed: Always leave the branch with the name tag and leave the branches on which you want blooms or have a seed pod which you want to save and plant.)

Be sure that the proper tools are used. A good pair of sharp pruning shears is usually all that is needed. Be sure that the shears are sharp, so that a clean smooth even cut is made without bruising or tearing the wood or bark. A ragged cut is not only unsightly but it often results in damage to a good plant. Never leave a stub when pruning. A stub will often die back to the nearest limb and decay thus causing injury to the plant. Cut the branch at its base and flush with the place where it joins the main plant. If this is done, new bark will soon grow over it and the wood will heal without damage to the plant. Stubs may also be avoided by cutting shoots just above an eye (growth bud).

Finally I have found that disinfecting shears helps from one plant to another. This is done by having a solution of Lysol or some other disinfectant and water. (Ed: some growers use isopropyl alcohol or one part Clorox to nine parts water.) When moving from one bush to another or from one cut to another, just dip shears into the solution.

Recipe Corner

By Mary Kay Hall

When my son, Iain, was in 5th grade, he was in a cooking club at our school. The only dish of which we still have the recipe is, of course, this wonderful dessert. (Have you noticed how we love desserts in the column?) We enjoy making this anytime of the year. However, it really is best when you can get fresh-from-the-garden strawberries. Hope you enjoy!

- 1 large clear glass punch bowl or mixing bowl
- 2 pints (at least) fresh strawberries (We normally use 3-4 pints)
- 1/2 to 1 c sugar (depends on how sweet the berries are)
- 1 large Cool Whip
- 1 can condensed milk
- 1 Angel Food Cake (torn into pieces)

Clean and cut up strawberries and mix with sugar. Let stand. (You may want to hold onto some whole strawberries for decorating the top)

Stir/Mix together the Cool Whip and condensed milk (CW/CM).

Layer the following in the punch bowl:

- 1 layer Angel Food Cake
- 1 layer Strawberries
- 1 layer CW/CM mixture

Continue until bowl is filled ending with a CW/CM mixture. Garnish with either whole or halved strawberries on top.

Variations:

- Substitute low/no-fat Cool Whip and condensed milk and substitute Splenda for sugar.
- Use other seasonal fruits — blueberries, raspberries, peaches, etc.
- Some people have purchased the strawberry gel filling found in grocery store fruit/vegetable sections and mixed with the strawberries instead of sugar. (I strongly prefer the sugar!)

A great 4th of July variation is using both strawberries and blueberries for a patriotic-looking dessert.



Ville de Nantes

Photo provided by Johnnie Walker