

# *Atlantic Coast Camellias*



## ACCS MEETS

The seventh annual convention of the Atlantic Coast Camellia Society will be held October 3-4, 1986.

**Location:** Independent Holiday Inn, 1200 North Ocean Blvd., Myrtle Beach, SC 29577. Tel. (803) 448-1691.

**Cost:** Registration fee, \$20.00 per person.  
Hotel room, dbl, \$32.00/night for 3 and 4 October. For ACCS members who come early and/or stay longer, the room rate is only \$30.00 for each additional night.

### Schedule of Activities:

Friday, October 3:

- 2:00-5:00 Registration
- 3:00 Meeting of ACCS Officers and Directors at the hotel.
- 6:00-? "Christmas in October" party around the pool. Buffet food furnished by our ladies. Drinks furnished by ACCS.

Saturday, October 4:

- 10:00 a.m. Bloody Mary party at Myrtle Beach Elks Club hosted by President Brogden.
- 11:00 a.m. General Business Meeting.
- 7:00 p.m. Open bar at Myrtle Beach Elks Club furnished by ACCS, followed by Sea Food Spectacular banquet. Guest speaker will be Sergio Bracci of San Gabriel, CA. \* Other "after buffet" activities will include a raffle of Sadie Aycock's camellia painting, a plant auction conducted by Bill Robertson and Buck Mizzell, and a slide show presented by Marion Edwards entitled "What's New in the Camellia World?"

Make your reservations now, while you are thinking about it. Otherwise, you might forget! We almost always have nice weather in October. This is a most inexpensive beach vacation as well as the official kick off of the new camellia season. So plan to come to Myrtle Beach in October and don't forget to bring plants to auction. I have heard that Julius Nuccio and Bonnie might be there with Sergio and Elsie Bracci. Maybe we can sell Julius a camellia to take back to California!

\*Sergio Bracci is one of the top camellia growers on the West Coast.

## ABOUT THE COVER DRAWING

We are looking through an ancient wooden gate in an ancient stone wall at an ancient monastery. This monastery is in Portugal. What has this got to do with camellias? Well, it was to Portugal that camellias probably first came to Europe. This was in the first half of the 16th century. It is believed that camellias were planted in the Vila Nova de Gaia in Oporto about 1550.

# Atlantic Coast Camellias

## OFFICERS

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The Atlantic Coast Camellia Society was organized September 13, 1980 at Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. The purpose was to extend the appreciation of camellias and to promote the science of camellia culture. Dues are \$6.00/year for a single membership and \$9.00 for a couple. Make payment to Atlantic Coast Camellia Society, 1325 E. Barden Rd., Charlotte, NC 28226.

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## Editor's Page



Since the beginning of 1983, all issues of "Atlantic Coast Camellias," formerly "Carolina Camellias," have had a pen and ink drawing on the cover. This was not because we considered them more beautiful, more eye-catching or anything like that. It was done in the interest of saving money. We could save \$300.00 per issue if we would use the pen and ink drawing on the cover instead of the color camellia. This was the proposal from the printer despite the fact that our friends in ACS, Southern California, Australia and New Zealand would provide us the color separations at no cost to us.

We hoped to use a color camellia on the cover of this issue. We even got permission from the Board of Directors to spend the additional \$300.00 for this cover. We even borrowed color separations from Jim Rolfe, editor of the New Zealand Camellia Society Bulletin. He sent us beautiful colored photos of 'Tiptoe' and 'Mona Jury,' and would have sent us almost anything else that they have.

We planned to use 'Tiptoe' because it is a gorgeous flower, medium pink with dark pink edges. As far as I know, it has never been shown in any American camellia publication.

We went down eagerly to see our printers bearing the color separations of 'Tiptoe' and the request to use it on the cover of this issue. Why didn't we? Well, let me explain. Innocence is sometimes rudely shattered. Dreamers are sometimes abruptly awakened. We were told that the \$300.00 was an estimate only, given to us more than 3 years ago. It was no longer a valid price. The price as of this date was \$480!

Needless to say, your editor was shattered! Not only did he not have a pen and ink drawing to use, but he wanted to **celebrate** with a color cover. What did he want to celebrate? The same thing that every member of ACCS would like to celebrate, the election of Annabelle Fetterman to the office of president of ACS! Every member of ACS would probably like to join us in this celebration, and they would have been welcome to do so. However, we do believe that we have the right to celebrate **first and most!** She is one of us! She was president of Atlantic Coast Camellia Society for two years. You bet we're proud of her! Not only is she the first **lady** president of ACS, but she is the 3rd ACS president from North Carolina and the 2nd from the Fayetteville Camellia Club. The other was Bill Kemp.

In case you didn't know it, your editor is a member of the Fayetteville Camellia Club. You bet this magazine is going to celebrate Annabelle's election! Maybe we can't celebrate by using a color

camellia cover on this issue, but we figured out a way. Look further in this magazine for our pictorial tribute to Annabelle Fetterman, President Elect of ACS!

## HOW 'BOUT

Joe Austin, Four Oaks, NC

How 'bout those camellias we saw the last of last year and the first of this year that shook people up!

Parker Connor had a 'Mary Alice Cox' that was almost as pretty as Mary Alice herself! It was 6½ inches, every petal cupped, and grown outside. Parker, in my opinion, is the best outside grower anywhere.

'S.P. Dunn' is a winner, with rabbit ears galore!

'Our Kerry, Var'" is another beauty.

'Saimudan', the new one from China, is a late bloomer, but a winner if you can get it to a show.

I had a 'Nuccio's Ruby, Var' in Wilmington that captured every judge's vote in the show. This may be a first. I know that I have never seen another bloom receive every judge's vote.

How 'bout Robert Fowler's 'Elizabeth Astles' bloom that he showed in Columbia. It looked like a cabbage head!

How 'bout Sylvia and Ray Watson staying up all night to cut blooms for shows. Sometimes they cut and packed in their refrigerator van as many as 300 blooms for one show.

How 'bout Greensboro's trophies this year. They were wonderful. Keep it up.

How 'bout Fayetteville giving sterling silver for the second year in a row!

The two finest camellias I have ever seen were not to be seen anywhere this year, not even in a Court of Honor. I am referring to 'Elegans Champagne' and 'Margaret Davis'. I wonder why.

'Julie Felix' will be seen next year. This is a beautiful new pink one from New Zealand, a formal double.

'Edith Mazzei' and 'Buddy Bills' are two beauts. I showed 'Edith Mazzei' in Charlotte and almost cut the bush down giving away scions!

To all show chairmen and exhibitors who might be interested, Mable and I will not be showing 100 to 150 blooms anymore. It's just too much work! We will cut down to about 50 blooms to a show. But we will give blooms for any show, if you will come and get them. Remember this, Show Chairmen. If you think that you will need blooms, just send someone. We will wine them, dine them and give them a place to stay.

We really enjoyed the visit of Harry Watson and Dr. Olin Owen this spring.

Hulyn Smith and Boyington Cole with their brides stopped by on the way to Norfolk. I hope that all these guys learned something. I know I learn something everytime I visit someone else's greenhouse. I was in the process of giving my plants their Ridomil treatment. "Subdue" is the same thing. I have stepped up my Ridomil now to 2½ ounces in 5 gallons of water. Then I put it on with a hozon, 15 to 1. It really does work. Try it! I could tell that Hulyn wanted to turn around and go back to Valdosta to put Ridomil on his plants.

If these things were not so, I would not have told you.



# Message

*from Our President*

Dear Members and Friends:

This will be my last message to you as president of ACCS. I have held the reins for almost two years and they have been exciting ones. I am honored that you placed your trust in me to guide our camellia society, and I hope that I have fulfilled your expectations.

It takes more than a president to have a good viable and prosperous camellia society. It takes officers and a board of directors that lend their support, give good advice and are willing to devote the necessary effort to the job. I have been blessed with outstanding officers and directors. I know that it's uncouth to single out individuals that have given more than what was expected of them, but I would be remiss if I failed to give extra credit to Annabelle Fetterman, Latimer McClintock and Jim McCoy. These three have kept me out of trouble, guided me in a most gracious way and went the extra mile when it comes to work. I thank all of you from the bottom of my heart.

At Myrtle Beach, the first weekend in October, a new president of your society will replace me. I feel confident that Richard Waltz, from Baltimore, will continue to guide our society to greater heights. He has the enthusiasm, know how and the support of his officers and directors. With your encouragement and confidence in him, I know that he will

make the Atlantic Coast Camellia Society even better than it is today.

There is a saying in the Air Force to the effect that if you work for a man, give him your full support, encourage him and be honest with him, for if you don't, a small gust of wind will come along and blow you away. Dear friends, don't let a gust of wind blow you away. Any president of an organization needs the full support of its members, officers and directors. Not even a hurricane could blow you away if you are willing to pitch in and do your part. We all have a common interest, our love of camellias. Nurture this love by being willing to help our president and our society in any way you can.

A few months ago some of our members received a letter from a hotel in Myrtle Beach indicating that the Independent Holiday Inn was going out of business. Don't you believe it! The Atlantic Coast Camellia Society will have our Myrtle Beach Convention at the Independent Holiday Inn, just as we did last year. See our notice of this meeting along with the notice of our guest speaker, Sergio Bracci, elsewhere in this magazine. Come early, Monday if possible, since Sergio, Julius and wives will be there. You would have plenty of time to pry their growing secrets out of them. If you have camellia friends or acquaintances that are not members of the ACCS, bring

them along. We'll welcome them, sell them a membership in ACCS and encourage them to purchase some of the plants at the auction.

We have an outstanding society but unfortunately we don't have an outstanding bank account. What a pity! We had to cut expenses a little this year and decided that the Saturday A.M. brunch had to go. You will be fed free the finest of foods Friday night at the party around the pool and Saturday night, at the seafood spectacular. In place of the brunch Saturday A.M., we will have Bloody Marys

and soft drinks before our business meeting and then break in time for lunch of your choosing.

One final note, don't forget to gib your camellias on or about Labor Day. We have early camellia shows in our area, and Greenwood, Jacksonville, Columbia and Charleston will appreciate all the blooms you can bring.

If you fail to gib, you can forget these early shows, and believe me, they are fine shows that need your support.

Take care, my friends. You're very important.

## *A Few Words About Gibbing*

Dr. Alvin E. Johnson

Much has been written about gibbing, whether to gib or not, and the technique of gibbing.

The actual practice of gibbing involves much more.

Before the gibbing season begins, it is well to survey all plants to see if any are so heavily budded that they require drastic disbudding. A large plant may have hundreds of buds, and ruthless disbudding of three-fourths of them may be in order. Then a listing of all plants will facilitate a bud count. Planning the gibbing is next, and the number of times that gibbing can be done is determined. Generally this will be at one or two week intervals beginning about September 1, and continuing until or even after Christmas. Plan how many buds on each plant are to be gibbed each time. Perhaps by the end of the season all buds will be gibbed. After several week-ends of gibbing, it is well to repeat bud count. New buds may have developed, others may have browned and dropped off, or the squirrels may have eaten a few. Some are knocked off by brushing by. With the new count a reevaluation of each plant

may be made.

When walking into the garden it is wise to equip yourself with (1) snippers, (2) clothes pins, and (3) a note book with abbreviated list showing number to be gibbed on each plant that time. The practice of gibbing involves disbudding, pruning, and pinning back. As each bud is gibbed, visualize it opening, considering that it will become larger and heavier and hang down. Allow room, and if necessary snip away neighboring twigs, especially if they are not budded. Pin back either the gibbed bud or whatever encroaches upon it. Sometimes only half a leaf need be snipped off. As one practices this art longer and longer, the more snipping and less pinning will be done. Generally, useful pruning may be incorporated into the procedure. Outdoor growers should also consider the waving of the bud in the wind, and sometimes pinning can give stability. Needless to say, as the buds enlarge and get nearer to opening fully, they should be watched, and further pinning or snipping away may be needed. No use to gib if you don't get undamaged blooms.

# The *C. chrysantha* Hybridizing Craze

By Bill Donnan

The first question any camellia hobbyist asks when he attends a society meeting or goes to a camellia flower show is: "What progress have you made with hybridizing for a yellow bloom?" With the advent of the *C. chrysantha* and it's prospect of yellow genes in the pollen everyone is getting on the band wagon in hopes of creating a yellow flowered seedling.

One used to be able to count the camellia hybridizers here in Southern California on the fingers of one hand. Now, just about everyone who owns a *C. chrysantha* plant has become a self-styled hybridizer or plans to be one as soon as his plant blooms. Not only have many "duffer" hobbyists gone into the hybridizing game but, more interestingly, former famous hybridizers who, years ago, gave up fussing with camellias are now back in the hunt for a yellow! For example, Howard Asper, famous for having been the first plant breeder to cross *C. reticulata* with *C. sasanqua* while he was Curator of Camellias at the Huntington Gardens, is now back working with *C. chrysantha* pollen. Asper made many interspecific crosses among which, the "Girls - 'Flower Girl,' 'Dream Girl,' etc. were some of his creations. He gave up working with camellias 15 or 20 years ago and instead, set up a nursery propagating other kinds of shrubs. However, he is back making camellia hybrid crosses using *C. chrysantha* pollen.

The same goes for Dr. Walter Lammerms whose fame involves the importation of the first 20 *C. reticulata* cultivars from China in 1948. He made many of the early crosses using *C. reticulata* x *C. japonica* when he was stationed at Descanso Gardens. He gave up working

with camellias some 20 years ago but now, in his 80s he has purchased several *C. chrysantha* plants and hopes to obtain pollen to use in his quest for a yellow bloom.

What are the chances of getting a yellow, orange, apricot, or peach colored camellia bloom? The track record so far appears to be quite negative. The Chinese botanists have had the *C. chrysantha* species since 1968 and they began hybridizing in 1972. In the past 13 years they have made upwards of 15,000 hand pollinated crosses with *C. chrysantha* as one of the parent plants. The results have been very disappointing. They have been using *C. reticulata* cultivars as the "mother" plant and the seed production has been very low. Furthermore, the rate of seed survival has been less than 50 percent.

The Japanese were the first people outside of China to obtain seeds, scions, and pollen from the Yunnan Botanical Institute. They were the first to bloom the yellow camellia outside of China. Since about 1981 they have been making interspecific crosses in attempts to develop hybrid cultivars in various shades of yellow. Indications are that most of the Japanese plant breeders have been using *C. japonica* cultivars as the "mother" plant. Here again the viability of seed set and germination has been disappointing. The colors of their F-1 and F-2 blooms have all been pink or light red.

In the United States of America there has been a tremendous effort on the part of the nurseries, botanical gardens and hobbyists working with pollen from *C. chrysantha* plants imported as seed in 1980. These seeds were germinated and there was a race to be the first to bloom



the seedlings. Apparently, Meyer Piet and Lee Gaeta of Arcadia, California were the first to bloom *C. chrysantha* in the U.S.A. Their first bloom opened on February 1, 1984. That year they managed to open 12 blooms, the pollen of which was "dabb-ed" on quite a variety of other camellia flowers. These two hybridizers had been making interspecific crosses for 10 or 12 years and thus they had a number of "bridge" plants with which to experiment. They found that using *C. chrysantha* pollen on hybrid cultivars appeared to influence the viability of seed pods and the germination of the seeds. For example, they crossed almost an equal number of *C. japonica* and *C. hybrid* "mother" plants. From these crosses they obtained 33 *C. japonica* x *C. chrysantha* seeds of which only 11, or 33 percent were viable. However, in the *C. hybrid* x *C. chrysantha* crosses, they obtained 158 seeds (5 times as many) of which, 140, or 88 percent were viable. From these seeds they obtained 93 seedlings and the grafts of these seedlings produced 75, one gallon plants many of which are two feet high. The 1985 crop of *C. chrysantha* blooms numbered 56 and the 1986 crop numbered over 150 blooms. As the *C. chrysantha* plants matured they produced more blooms. This circumstance has allowed the Piet-Gaeta team of

hybridizers to make hundreds of crosses and some back crosses. So far they have produced 3 or 4 blooms, all of which have proved to be light pink or white.

In 1985 Piet and Gaeta managed to set 6 seed pods on one of the original *C. chrysantha* plants using the *chrysantha* as the "mother" plant. One of these seed pods held on to maturity. It was about as big as an acorn and was olive black in color. When it matured it held one seed which was planted in October 1985. This seed has produced a seedling with leaves like *C. chrysantha*. The seedling has been grafted and the forced growth should prove interesting. The Piet-Gaeta team has about 75 two year old hybrid plants and some 100 one year old *C. chrysantha* crosses in the greenhouse. Only time will tell what the results of this program will bring forth.

This is only one example of the intense activity among many, many hobbyists here in Southern California. Progress in other parts of the U.S.A. and overseas is being reported in issues of the American Camellia Society Journal. Suffice to say that either through hard and painstaking work or some phenomenal luck, someone is going to come forth with a new yellow flowered cultivar. When they do, we will all rejoice!

## FOR SALE

Six very large retic camellias in half 55 gallon drums, \$15.00 each. Other japonicas and non-retic hybrids, some very rare, in 2 and 3 gallon containers priced from \$7.50 to \$15.00. This sale is due to a move from one city to another. Contact the editor of this publication.

## QUOTE NOT WORTH QUOTING

There are six different kinds of camellia plants - japonica, reticulata, sasanqua, drupifera, saluenensis, and hongkongensis! Does anyone know of any others?

# IN AND AROUND THE GREEN HOUSE

James H. McCoy

I believe that most people who swap camellia scions, either by personal delivery or through the mail, will do the following. Cut fresh scions, place them in a plastic bag, sprinkle a few drops of water in the bag and seal it. This is the standard recommended procedure. Then place the bag in the refrigerator until delivery can be made or the scions are mailed. There are two things here which I believe is wrong, or at least not necessary. First, and the more important item, is the sprinkling of water in the plastic bag prior to sealing. This will not harm the scions if delivery can be made quickly. It could be disastrous if delivery can **not** be made quickly. The leaves could fall off the scions! This generally spells disaster! I have found that there is enough moisture in freshly cut scions to keep them for several days to several weeks without the addition of water. Even if scions are mailed, they would be better off without any sprinkling of water. And, never insert the end of a scion in an orchid pic full of water or wrap the end of the scion in moist cotton or paper, unless it is for a short time only. This would provide too much moisture and disaster would probably be the consequence. Another thing, it is not necessary to keep the plastic bag and scion in the refrigerator. I brought scions back to North Carolina from California once in a plastic bag placed on the back seat of the car. Several times I have transported scions in an unrefrigerated plastic bag on a trip which lasted more than a day. Once, a plastic bag of scions was inadvertently left on a table in my greenhouse for several days with no ill effect.

Just like Joe Austin says in his article: "I learn something everytime I visit so-

Fayetteville, NC

meone else's greenhouse," I learn something every time I join a group of camellia people. The trip to Columbia for the annual Mid-Carolina Camellia Society Bar-B-Que in May was no exception! When I visited our president's back yard, I saw a quantity, maybe 25 or 30, grafts which had taken, and were growing like mad. Many of them were retics and were 18 or 20 inches above the graft union. President Brogden said that he was waiting for an overcast day so he could take the covers off. What covers were these, for 18 inch tall grafts? They were two liter soft drink bottles with the top and bottom cut out, and stacked one on top of another! Only a president would think of such an ingenious solution to this problem! In the past, I have gone to a lot of trouble building "tents" out of canes and dry-cleaner plastic to take care of these maverick grafts which grow too fast for the callus which has formed, to risk uncovering.

'Glen 40' has long been one of my favorite camellias for the garden. I even wrote an article in praise of it which was published in one of the camellia publications some years ago. It was one of a list of favorite camellias which included 'Lady Clare' and 'Ville.' All of a sudden, 'Glen 40' has leaped to the absolute top of the list! Though I cannot claim that I have tried to grow all the well known and commonly grown camellias, I have grown hundreds of varieties, or tried to. 'Glen 40' is the only camellia that put on a gorgeous display of blooms for me last bloomings season. I had 5 plants of 'Glen 40,' 3 large plants and 2 small ones. They all bloomed, and this was the winter after the two "killer" winters. A few other varieites bloomed for me, but 'Glen 40' was the only one to put on a spectacular

display of gorgeous color which lasted several weeks. I still like 'Lady Clare' and 'Ville,' but my large 'Lady Clare' was killed, and so was one of my two 'Villes.' The other was not killed, but almost. It has put out good growth above the graft union and in a couple of years will be blooming normally again, I hope.

I get comments ever now and then on my articles. Most are favorable. But I surely opened a can of worms when I spoke disparagingly of Aloe Vera! I didn't know Aloe Vera had such a loyal following. One correspondent wrote me that he believed that Dr. Baxter and I were using something else in our experiments, not Aloe Vera. A friend from New Zealand wrote me that he used it last year on 3,000 camellia cuttings and 500 grafts with excellent results! Besides the uses I mentioned in the article (*Atlantic Coast Camellias*, Vol XXXIII, No. 1, page 14), quite a few other uses were brought to my attention. Some I might one day try, such as scalp care and varicose veins. At least one, I am sure that I will never try, eliminating stretch marks from pregnancy!

One of our camellia people mentioned to me that he had no trouble sprouting retic seed, but could not grow them to

blooming size. This is pretty close to the experience I have had. We both have been following the long held credo that the tap roots of camellia seedlings should be pinched off when they are taken out of the sprouting medium. He wondered (and I did too) if retic seedlings should be treated differently from japonicas and sasanquas. I wrote to an experienced retic grower in Southern California where all they have to do is throw retic seed out in the yard and they'll sprout and grow. I posed to him the question: "Should we pinch off the tap root of retic seedlings or not? Here is his unedited answer:

"(1) If you intend to plant in the ground and **grow in the ground** to bloom stage, you should leave the root as is. The new seedling will send its roots deep, and if the bloom is no good, you will have a stronger understock on which to graft something you like.

(2) If you intend to plant in a pot or a one gallon can, cut off the root tip. Your one gallon can will fill quickly nicely with roots. If you do not bob off the tip, the root will curl down around the bottom of the can and the seedling will be difficult to bloom, and will be difficult to re-can or to plant out in the garden."



#### STOCK - UNDERSTOCK

Way back in 1958 (*ACS Quarterly* for Jan), Dr. H. Harold Hume was objecting to our use of the word "understock" when we were referring to stock for grafting. He said that "understock" is entirely irrelevant and its use connotes that there is an **upper** stock. Also "understock" indicates that there is an inadequate supply. Come on, you camellia people, we might not be able to find any, but we can use the right word in our search for it!

#### ONE QUOTE THAT I LOVE

"In the meantime, I try to set aside about 3 hours a day to work with my camellias. What's with those types who die of boredom when they retire! I tell you, one lifetime is not long enough, and every minute of it is fun." Sorry I can't reveal the author. I don't have his permission to quote him.

# SHOW RESULTS

## AIKEN CAMELLIA CLUB

Aiken, SC

January 18-19, 1986

Best bloom in show: 'Elegans Supreme, V,' Mr. & Mrs. Fred Hahn

Best japonica grown in open: 'Black Tie,' Mr. & Mrs. T.C. Evans

Runner-up: 'Tom Cat, V,' Rupert E. Drews

Best japonica grown protected:

Large-very large: 'Tomorrow Park Hill,' Joe Austin

Small-medium: 'Nuccio's Gem,' Mr. & Mrs. Fred Hahn

Best white japonica: 'Snowman,' Mr. & Mrs. William C. Robertson

Best reticulata or retic hybrid: 'Harold L. Paige,' Joe Austin

Best non-retic hybrid: 'Debbie,' Mr. & Mrs. William C. Robertson

Best miniature: 'Mansize,' Mr. & Mrs. William T. Shepherd

Best Seedling: Seedling #8, Mr. & Mrs. William T. Shepherd

Best collections:

Three, same variety: 'Tomorrow Park Hill,' Mr. & Mrs. Oliver Mizell

Five different: C.T. Freeman

Sweepstakes, grown in open: Parker E. Connor, Jr.

Runner-up: Rupert Drews

Sweepstakes, grown protected: Ralph B. Davidson

Runner-up: Joe Austin

Tri-color certificate: Sunshine Garden Club

Creativity certificate: Country Gardeners

Court of Honor:

'Feathery Touch,' Mr. & Mrs. Fred G. Hahn

'Margaret Davis,' Mr. C.T. Freeman

'Arcadia,' Joe Austin

'Tomorrow's Dawn,' Mr. & Mrs. Oliver Mizell

'Chow's Han Ling,' Mr. & Mrs. Fred G. Hahn

'Elegant Beauty,' Mr. & Mrs. Fred G. Hahn

'Don Mac, V.,' Rupert Drews

'Miss Charleston, V.,' Joe Austin

'Elegans Splendor,' Mr. & Mrs. Fred G. Hahn

'Blossom Time,' Joe Austin

'Redwood City,' Joe Austin

'Ville de Nantes,' Mr. & Mrs. Fred G. Hahn

Number of blooms: 818

Show Chairman: Paul A. Dahlen

## GAINSVILLE CAMELLIA SOCIETY

Gainesville, FL

January 25, 1986

Best bloom in show: 'Tomorrow's Lisa,' E. Hulyn Smith

Best protected blooms:

5 Inches and Over: 'Eleye Weaver,' Ruth & Marvin Jernigan

Under 5 Inches: 'Something Beautiful,' E. Hulyn Smith

Hybrid or Retic, 5 Inches and Over: 'Lilette Witman,' Ruth & Marvin Jernigan

Hybrid or Retic, Under 5 Inches: 'Hulyn Smith,' E. Hulyn Smith

Best unprotected blooms:

Large japonica: 'Betty Sheffield, Supreme,' Mrs. Walter A. Smith

Medium japonica: 'China Doll,' J. Hintermister

Small japonica: 'Ed Combatalado,' O.L. Jacobson

Hybrid or Retic, under 5 inches: 'Rob Roy,' Bill & Alda Boll

Best Seedling bloom (Doris Ellis Award): 'J-006,' Ruth & Marvin Jernigan

Best Miniature bloom (Henry Lunsford Award): 'Fragrant Joy, Var,' Cile & Ivan Mitchell

Best Bloom Other Species: 'Star above Star,' O.L. Jacobson

Best Bloom Gainesville Society Member: 'Guilio Nuccio, Var,' Cile & Ivan Mitchell

Best White Bloom: 'Mansize,' Cile & Ivan Mitchell

Best Collections:

Tray of three same variety: E. Hulyn Smith

Tray of five different varieties: Dale H. Fitzgerald

Sweepstakes: Anne & Bob Gramling

Gainesville Sweepstakes: John McFerrin

Court of Honor:

'Pink Pagoda,' Raymond Crawford

'Dixie Knight Supreme,' Dale H. Fitzgerald

'Sawada's Dream,' Mrs. J.H. Hintermister

'Donckelarii,' O.L. Jacobson

'Mathotiana Supreme,' Bill & Alda Boll

'Princess Lavender,' Cile and Ivan Mitchell

'Golden Gate,' Ruth & Marvin Jernigan

'Dahlonga,' Ruth & Marvin Jernigan

'Elegans Supreme,' Ruth & Marvin Jernigan

'Rena Swick,' E. Hulyn Smith

'Melinda Hackett,' E. Hulyn Smith

'Tomorrow Park Hill Pink,' E. Hulyn Smith

'Robert's Jewel,' E. Hulyn Smith

'Dr. Clifford Parks,' E. Hulyn Smith

'Terrell Weaver, Var,' E. Hulyn Smith

'Fircone,' Ruth & Marvin Jernigan

'Hopkins Pink,' Mr. & Mrs. T.W. Adams

'Anniversary,' O.L. Jacobson

'Seedling 255,' Walter F. Homeyer, Jr.

'Tomorrow,' Gladys Ristig

'Tiffany,' Mrs. Walter A. Smith

'Veiled Beauty,' Raymond R. Crawford

'Grand Slam,' Irene Williams

'Maria Camp,' Anne & Bob Gramling

'R.L. Wheeler,' Anne & Bob Gramling

## COASTAL CAROLINA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

Charleston, SC

January 25, 1986

Best bloom grown in open: 'Guilio Nuccio, V,' Warner W. Braclett

Runner-up: 'Rose Dawn,' Parker E. Connor, Jr.

Best bloom protected: 'Tomorrow Park Hill Pink,' Mr. & Mrs. Oliver Mizell  
Runner-up: 'Tomorrow's Dawn,' Mr. & Mrs. Fred G. Hahn  
Best Non-Retic Hybrid grown in Open: 'Freedom Bell,' Parker E. Connor, Jr.  
Best Non-Retic Hybrid grown protected: 'Mona Jury, V,' Joe Austin  
Best Retic or retic hybrid grown protected: 'Curtain Call,' Robert & Doris Fowler  
Best 'Miss Charleston' grown in open: Rupert E. Drews  
Best 'Miss Charleston' grown protected: Mr. C.T. Freeman  
Best White grown protected: 'Charlie Bettes,' Mr. & Mrs. Oliver Mizell  
Best Miniature: 'Little Slam,' Mrs. Alfred Bissell  
Best Seedling: Mr. & Mrs. Bill Watson  
Best Bloom by a novice: 'Herme,' Lucille Wishchuk  
Sweepstakes, grown in open: Parker E. Connor, Jr.  
Runner-up: Dot & John Thomas  
Sweepstakes, protected: Joe Austin  
Runner-up: Mr. & Mrs. Fred G. Hahn  
Court of Honor, Grown in Open:  
'Lady Kay': M.S. Edwards  
'Steve Blount': M.S. Edwards  
'Betty Sheffield, Pink, V.': M.S. Edwards  
'Donckelarii': V.A. Boufolf  
'China Doll': Albert V. Ewan  
'Miss Aiken': Parker E. Connor, Jr.  
Court of Honor, grown protected:  
'Clark Hubbs, V': Joe Austin  
'Elegans Supreme, V.': Joe Austin  
'Mrs D.W. Davis, Special': Joe Austin  
'Tomorrow's Dawn Bessie': Mr. & Mrs. Fred G. Hahn  
'Donckelarii': Mr. & Mrs. Bill Watson  
'Tammia': Lena & Harry Watson  
Number of Blooms: 787  
Show Chairman: Rupert E. Drews

## FAYETTEVILLE CAMELLIA CLUB

Fayetteville, NC

March 1-2, 1986

Best japonica bloom grown in open: 'Ville de Nantes,' Bill Watson  
Runner-up: 'Donckelarii,' Mr. & Mrs. J.K. Blanchard  
Best blooms grown protected:  
Large-very large: 'Silver Cloud,' Mrs. Ray D. Watson  
Medium: 'Ferol Ilene,' Dr. & Mrs. Herbert Racoff  
Small: 'Black Tie,' Mrs. Ray D. Watson  
Best Retic or Retic Hybrid: 'Jean Pursel,' Doris & Robert Fowler  
Best Non-Retic Hybrid: 'Mona Jury,' Doris & Robert Fowler  
Best Miniature: 'Botan Yuki,' Mr. & Mrs. J.K. Blanchard  
Best Seedling: 'J001,' Exhibited by Annabelle & Lew Fetterman  
(This seedling was awarded a provisional commended seedling Certificate.)  
Collections:  
Three, same variety grown in open: Mr. & Mrs. J.K. Blanchard

Three, same variety grown protected: Mr. & Mrs. Lester Allen

Five, different varieties, grown protected: Joe Austin

Sweepstakes; Mr. & Mrs. Ray D. Watson

Court of Honor:

'Miss Charleston,' Parker E. Connor, Jr.

'Shikibu,' Mr. & Mrs. J.K. Blanchard

'Pink Perfection,' Mrs. Ray D. Watson

'Debbie,' Joe Austin

'Diddy's Pink Organdie,' Lena & Harry Watson

'Hody Wilson,' Doris & Robert Fowler

'Swan Lake,' Joe Austin

Number of Blooms: 842

Show Chairmen: Jim McCoy & Joe Austin

## MEN'S PIEDMONT CAMELLIA CLUB

Greensboro, NC

March 8-9, 1986

Best japonica grown in open: 'Pink Diddy,' Dot & John Thomas

Runner-up: 'Glen 40,' Dot & John Thomas

Best japonica grown under cover:

Over 5": 'Eleanor Martin,' Doris & Robert Fowler

Runner-up: 'Tomorrow Park Hill,' Mr. & Mrs. L.M. Fetterman

Under 5": 'Little Susie,' Mr. & Mrs. L.M. Fetterman

Runner-up: 'Nuccio's Jewel,' Harry & Lena Watson

Best White: 'Swan Lake,' Doris & Robert Fowler

Best Seedling exhibited by Joe Austin

Best Miniature: 'Tammia,' Lena & Harry Watson

Runner-up: 'Man Size,' Lena & Harry Watson

Best reticulata: 'Pharaoh,' Joe Austin

Runner-up: 'Emma Gaeta,' Joe Austin

Best non-retic hybrid: 'Mona Jury,' Fred Hahn

Runner-up: 'Elegant Beauty,' Fred Hahn

Best Collections:

Three, same variety, grown in open: Mr. & Mrs. J.K. Blanchard

Five, different varieties, grown in open: Mr. & Mrs. J.K. Blanchard

Three, same variety, grown under cover: Lester M. Allen

Five, different varieties, grown in open: Joe Austin

Sweepstakes, grown in open: Mr. & Mrs. John Thomas

Sweepstakes, grown protected: Ray Watson

Number of Blooms: 1070

Show Chairman: Joseph F. Coyle

## CHARLOTTE CAMELLIA SOCIETY

Charlotte, NC

February 1-2, 1986

Best japonica bloom grown in open: 'Magic City,' Parker E. Connor, Jr.

Runner-up: 'Don Mac,' M.S. Edwards

Best bloom, 2½ to 5 inches grown protected: 'Margaret Davis,' Joe Austin

Runner-up: 'Feathery Touch,' Mr. & Mrs. Fred Hahn

Best bloom, 5 inches and over: 'Fashionata, Var,' Mr. & Mrs. Fred Hahn

Runner-up: 'Tomorrow Park Hill Blush,' Mr. & Mrs. Fred Hahn

Best Miniature: 'Man Size,' Dr. Olin Owen

Runner-up: 'Bonbon,' David Blackwell

Best white bloom: 'Swan Lake,' Mr. & Mrs. Fred Hahn

Best Retic or Retic Hybrid, 2½ to 5 inches: 'Dr. Louis Polizzi,' J.F. Hankins

Best Retic or Retic Hybrid, 5 inches and over: 'Curtain Call,' Robert Fowler

Runner-up: 'Arcadia,' Mr. & Mrs. Fred Hahn

Best Non-Retic Hybrid: 'Mirage, Var,' Joe Austin

Best Seedling: Exhibited by Joe Austin

Sweepstakes in open: Parker E. Connor, Jr.

Sweepstakes protected: Mrs. Ray Watson

Runner-up: Joe Austin

Court of Honor:

'Seafoam,' Mr. & Mrs. Fred Hahn

'Elegans Supreme, Var,' Mr. & Mrs. Fred Hahn

'Diddy's Pink Organdie,' Mr. & Mrs. Fred Hahn

'Lemon Drop,' Mr. & Mrs. J.K. Blanchard

'Snowman,' Mrs. L.G. Wilhelm

'Tomorrow Park Hill,' Mr. & Mrs. Oliver Mizell

'Edith Mazzei,' Joe Austin

'Emma Gaeta, Var,' Mr. & Mrs. Fred Hahn

'Dr. Clifford Parks,' Mr. & Mrs. Fred Hahn

'Elegant Beauty,' Mr. & Mrs. Fred Hahn

Number of Blooms: 767

Show Chairman: Mrs. Elvin Bigham

## MID CAROLINA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

Columbia, SC

February 8-9, 1986

Japonicas, grown in open:

Large-very large: 'Elizabeth Boardman,' M.S. Edwards

Runner-up: 'Carter's Sunburst,' Marian E. Dils

Small-medium: 'Little Man,' Joe Austin

Runner-up: 'Prince Eugene Napoleon,' Parker E. Connor, Jr.

Best white: 'Mary Alice Cox,' Parker E. Connor, Jr.

Japonicas, grown protected:

Large-very large: 'Elegans Splendor,' Fred Hahn

Runner-up: 'Elegans Supreme,' Fred Hahn

Small-medium: 'Margaret Davis,' Fred Hahn

Runner-up: 'Seafoam,' C.T. Freeman

Best white: 'Silver Cloud,' Robert Fowler

Best Miniature: 'Bonbon,' Fred Hahn

Runner-up: 'Shikibu,' Dr. Herbert Racoff

Best Seedling: Exhibited by Joe Austin

Best Retic or Retic Hybrid: 'Elizabeth Astles,' Robert Fowler

Runner-up: 'Dr. Clifford Parks,' Robert Fowler

Best 'Valentine Day' (Special trophy): Joe Austin

Best Non-Retic Hybrid: 'Elsie Jury,' Ann & Mack McKinnon

Runner-up: 'Mona Jury, Var,' Joe Austin

Collections:

Three japonica blooms, same variety: Fred Hahn



Five japonica blooms, different varieties: Joe Austin  
Three hybrid blooms, same variety: Mrs. L.G. Wilhelm  
Five hybrid blooms, different varieties: Anne & Mack McKinnon  
Three miniature blooms, same variety: Ann & Mack McKinnon  
Best bloom exhibited by a novice: 'Francie L, Var,' Tommy Burris  
Sweepstaks in open: Parker E. Connor, Jr.  
Runner-up: M.S. Edwards  
Sweepstakes protected: Mrs. Ray D. Watson  
Runner-up: Joe Austin  
Number of Blooms: 1379

Show Chairman: M.S. McKinnon

## TIDEWATER CAMELLIA CLUB

Wilmington, NC

February 22-23, 1986

Best bloom in show: 'Nuccio's Ruby, Var,' Joe Austin

Best blooms grown protected:

Over 5 inches: 'Elegans Champagne,' Mrs. Ray Watson

Under 5 inches: 'Nuccio's Jewel,' Joe Austin

Best tray of three, same variety: Mrs. Ray Watson

Best tray of five, different varieties: Bill Watson

Sweepstakes: Mrs. Ray Watson

Sweepstakes Runner-up: Joe Austin

Best bloom grown in open:

Over 5 inches: 'Tiffany,' Parker E. Connor, Jr.

Under 5 inches: 'Donckelarii,' Gayle & Bill Putnam

Best tray of three, same variety: Bill Watson

Best tray of five, different varieties: Mr. & Mrs. J.K. Blanchard

Sweepstakes: Parker E. Connor, Jr.

Runner-up: Dot & John Thomas

Best Retic or Retic Hybrid: 'Nuccio's Ruby,' Joe Austin

Best Non-Retic Hybrid: 'Elsie Jury,' Mr. & Mrs. Fred Hahn

Best Miniature: 'Black Tie,' Mr. & Mrs. J.K. Blanchard

Best White bloom, 'Ruffian,' Mr. & Mrs. Fred Hahn

Best Seedling: 'J001,' exhibited by Lew & Annabelle Fetterman

(This seedling was awarded a provisional commended seedling certificate.)

Court of Honor: Protected:

'Valentine Day, Var,' Joe Austin

'Curtain Call, Var,' Joe Austin

'Tony's Joy,' Joe Austin

'Aztec, Var,' Joe Austin

'Pink Diddy,' Joe Austin

'Tammia,' Mr. & Mrs. Fred Hahn

'Mandalay Queen, Var,' Mr. & Mrs. Fred Hahn

'Ville de Nantes,' Mr. & Mrs. Fred Hahn

'Mona Jury, Var,' Doris & Robert Fowler

'Miss Houston,' Doris & Robert Fowler

'Arch of Triumph,' Doris & Robert Fowler

'Mrs. D.W. Davis,' Mrs. Ray Watson

'Betty Sheffield, Var,' Mrs. Ray Watson

'Drama Girl,' Mrs. Ray Watson  
'Jean Pursel,' Mr. William H. Vaughn  
Court of Honor, Grown in Open:  
'White Nun,' Parker E. Connor, Jr.  
'Kuro-Tsubaki,' Parker E. Connor, Jr.  
'Mary Alice Cox,' Parker E. Connor, Jr.  
'Miss Aiken,' Parker E. Connor, Jr.  
'Sara Abigale,' Parker E. Connor, Jr.  
'Tom Cat,' Parker E. Connor, Jr.  
'Gunsmoke, Var,' Parker E. Connor, Jr.  
'Ville de Nantes,' Gayle & Bill Putnam  
'Grand Slam, Var,' Rupert Drews  
'Don Mac, Var,' Rupert Drews

Number of Blooms: 1147

Show Chairman: Harris Newber

## LETTER TO A CAMELLIA GROWER FROM HIS SON

Dear Dad,

For a number of years the reason I have not joined your camellia society has nagged me, so I take pen in hand to explain.

Remember when Jim and I were children and you would say to us, "Boys, let's go to the farm and go fishing." We would be all excited, and true to your word, you would take us fishing - for 15 minutes! Not one to waste time, you would have us dig creek sand for your rooting box for the rest of the day. That wasn't the worst! I think the crowning blow was the time you took us on a dove shoot. We were in our teens, and should have been smarter by then. There was no dove field or doves anywhere near our farm, but there was a bog full of spagnum moss. Getting to the bog was an adventure in itself. I can still hear Mom scream at the condition of our shoes and clothes. You promised it would be fun and so easy! When I reached down to brush the leaves off the moss, I brushed a snake instead! Getting out of that swamp was a lot quicker than getting in! I left a path through the swamp that is known to this day as Aiken County's Nature Trail. I understand that the Highway Dept. has its eye on this trail, wondering if it is a lost

highway.

Now that I am grown with a family of my own, you are trying your tactics on your grandchildren. Dad, you know Becky is too small to be on top of your greenhouse repairing your plastic cover! I realize that you are waiting for Chip to grow up a little. I suppose that you are still mad with him for picking those flowers for Grandma. But they were so pretty! How was he to know that there was a show that weekend?

I really did try to grow those camellias that you gave me. I tried to grow them just like you told me Buck Mizzell grows his, in his dog pen. You didn't tell me he got rid of the dogs first! I thought that Beth and her puppies would enjoy the shade. Labs are not known for their smarts, but I never thought that they would eat camellias!

I reckon that one of these days I will mellow out and try growing camellias again if someone gives me some. But I refuse to talk to them nor will I sing to them. I might pipe in music to them, but don't bet on it!

I still love you,  
Your No. 1 Son

Editor's Note: See if you can guess who wrote this letter.

## SOAKING CAMELLIA SCIONS IN A BENOMYL-CAPTAN SUSPENSION IS SAFE

Luther W. Baxter, Jr., Professor,  
Susan G. Fagan and Sally B. Segars,  
Ag. Science Associates

The camellia dieback strain of the fungus, *Glomerella cingulata*, is the cause of contagious camellia dieback and canker. It is very sensitive to the fungicide benomyl. On benomyl-amended carrot juice agar, the fungus grows slowly if at all even when benomyl is added at rates as low as 1 to 10 parts per million, active ingredient (ppmai). When conidia are exposed to aqueous benomyl suspensions of 300, 600 or 1200 ppmai for 30 to 1440 minutes, only benomyl at 1200 ppmai killed the spores, and then only when spores were exposed for either 480 or 1440 minutes (8 or 24 hr, respectively) (1).

The fungicide captan, at the recommended rate (1200 ppmai) killed all spores of *G. cingulata* 'camellia dieback strain' after a 30-minute exposure. When benomyl and captan were mixed, spores of *G. cingulata* were killed as when exposed only to captan (Baxter & Fagan, unpublished data). Therefore benomyl had no safening effect against the toxic action of captan.

This study was done to find out whether or not a mixture of benomyl, and captan (300 and 1200 ppmai, respectively) is safe to use during the camellia grafting operation. Twelve (12) scions of *Camellia japonica* 'Rev. John G. Drayton' (RJD) were soaked 30 minutes in the above benomyl-captan suspension and then grafted onto *C. sasanqua* stock; 12 scions of RJD were soaked 30 minutes in a spore suspension of *G. cingulata* 'camellia dieback strain,' but

not in benomyl-captan suspension, and then grafted onto *C. sasanqua* stock.

In a second study, scions with one leaf and one mature bud (Fig. 1) of the following cultivars were grafted onto *C. sasanqua* stock; 10 *C. sasanqua* 'Beulah Seedling;' 12 *C. sasanqua* 'Texas Star;' 6 *C. japonica* 'Latifolia;' 2 *C. japonica* 'Thanksgiving;' and 2 *C. japonica* 'Jessica.' All scions were soaked 30 minutes in a benomyl-captan suspension as above.

In a third study, 36 lateral scions (Fig. 2) of RJD, each with two leaves and one or two mature buds, were grafted onto *C. sasanqua* stock. All scions were soaked 30 minutes in a benomyl-captan suspension.

All grafts were made in January on potted *C. sasanqua* stock in a greenhouse. Conventional cleft grafts were made and handled as other grafts



Figure 1. Lateral camellia scion with one lateral leaf (as opposed to terminal) and one mature, lateral, vegetative bud.

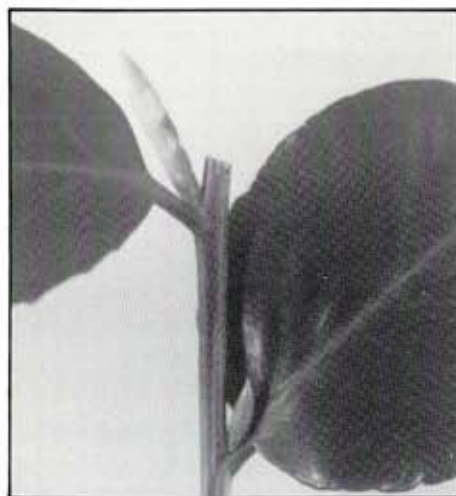


Figure 2. Lateral camellia scion with two lateral leaves (as opposed to terminal) and one or more mature, lateral, vegetative buds.

had been done over the past three years. Typically, grafting is done in either December or January in the greenhouse. Stock plants used are two-year-old *C. sasanqua* liners, usually of a commercial cultivar, such as 'Jean May'. They are grown in one-gallon containers and at grafting time, builders sand is added to the top of the soil so that a good seal can be made with the cover, a #337 Dixie Cup. At intervals, the grafts are observed and when the vegetative buds begin to grow, the bottoms of the Dixie Cups are

removed. After a few days the entire cut is discarded. The grafts are then watered as needed and if mites or insects become problems, they are sprayed.

#### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

Of a total of 74 scions grafted, Table 1, including scions taken from *C. japonica* and *C. sasanqua* cultivars or unnamed seedlings, and soaked in a benomyl-captan suspension, 73 were successful. These grafts are all growing well and in excellent shape. While the sample is relatively small (74 scions), they are considered to be representative of that which one would use. All scions were taken from plants grown locally out-of-doors.

Since 73 of 74 grafts were successful, it is concluded that soaking scions in a captan-benomyl mixture is safe. It is clear that graft failure occurs whenever camellia scions are soaked in a spore suspension of *Glomerella cingulata* (Table 1), the cause of contagious graft failure. It is not inferred that all graft failure is caused by *G. cingulata*.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Thanks are extended to Dr. W.M. Epps for reviewing the manuscript.

#### LITERATURE CITED

1. Baxter, Luther W., Jr., and Susan G. Fagan. 1985. The effects of benomyl on a strain of *Glomerella cingulata* that causes camellia dieback. *Atlantic Coast Camellias* 37(3):26-27.

Table 1. Results of *Camellia japonica* and *C. sasanqua* scions soaked 30 minutes in a benomyl-captan suspension\* and grafted onto stock of *C. sasanqua*.

No. camellia scions & cultivar	Treatment	Results
12 C.j. 1**	30-min soak in benomyl-captan suspension	12/12***
12 C.j. 1	no soak in benomyl-captan suspension;	
	soaked in spores of camellia dieback fungus	0/12
10 C.s. 1	30-min soak in benomyl-captan suspension	9/10
12 C.s. 2	30-min soak in benomyl-captan suspension	12/12
2 C.j. 2	30-min soak in benomyl-captan suspension	2/2
2 C.j. 3	30-min soak in benomyl-captan suspension	2/2
36 C.j. 1	30-min soak in benomyl-captan suspension	<u>36/36</u>
Total		73/86

\*benomyl rate: 300 parts per million, active ingredient; captan rate: 1200 parts per million, active ingredient.

\*\*C.j. 1 = *Camellia japonica* 'Rev. John G. Drayton'

C.j. 2 = *C. japonica* 'Thanksgiving'

C.j. 3 = *C. japonica* 'Jessica'

C.s. 1 = *C. sasanqua* 'Beulah Seedling'

C.s. 2 = *C. sasanqua* 'Texas Star'

\*\*\*Numerator = successful grafts; denominator = attempts.

## Sugar Babies From Down Under

James H. McCoy

Fayetteville, NC

I call them "sugar babies" because they're tiny, and whenever a lady sees one for the first time, she will say, more likely than not, "Oh, how sweet." I am referring to the tiny miniature hybrid camellias that are being developed and introduced primarily by hybridizers in Australia and New Zealand.

We may be missing the boat by ignoring these camellias. They will never win a trophy at a show, but this is not the only reason camellias are grown. In fact, those who exhibit camellias in shows are a tiny minority of the camellia loving public. It may be that our camellia people don't know about them. It certainly is not that we appreciate only the monstrous blooms, as we've been accused of! It is true that we do not disparage the enormous blooms as many of our camellia friends Down Under do. One correspondent from New Zealand wrote of 'Harold Paige,' "It's a super monster, but one which I can tolerate. Its color must be one of the most remarkable of all time."

Articles have been published on the miniatures, both in American camellia publications and in camellia publications overseas. But this article will deal with miniature hybrids from Australia and New Zealand only. They are super-miniatures, in that they are nowhere near the maximum size, 2½ inches, permitted

under the miniature classification. There are many hybridizers Down Under who are working to develop these miniatures. We will consider one cultivar from each of a few of the most successful of these hybridizers.

Possibly the most popular and most sought after camellia of all in Australia is Edgar and Beryl Sebire's 'Snowdrop.' This is a tiny little flower, about the size of a fraterna bloom. From its name you would expect a white flower, but actually, it would have to be described as pink and white. The buds are definitely pink. When I saw the buds for the first time, I thought to myself, "This couldn't be 'Snowdrop.' The scions must have got mixed up." But that's the way it is. When it opens, you realize that 'Snowdrop' is a pretty appropriate name for it after all. It astonishes everyone with its clusters of buds at every leaf axil. I counted 8 buds in an inch-and-a-half length of stem on 5 different branches on my small plant. It is so floriferous till it reminds me of a white forsythia when in full bloom. I have been told that it flowers for 5 to 6 months when grown outside. It is a pitardi x fraterna cross and is so popular in New Zealand till one nurseryman told the originator that he had an order for 200 'Snowdrops' from one garden center the first year he offered it for sale.

'Baby Bear,' a rosaeflora x tsaii cross

was developed by Neville Haydon of Camellia Haven Nursery in New Zealand and registered almost a decade ago. This is another miniature hybrid that is setting the camellia world on fire Down Under! This miniature hybrid bloom looks much like its seed parent, *rosaeflora*, though lighter pink in color. But that's as far as the resemblance goes. It is very slow growing and dense, almost too dense. The leaves are small too, and resemble the leaves of the other parent, *tsaii*. This camellia is so popular in New Zealand till the nursery that propagates it is never able to satisfy the demand! The blooms of 'Baby Bear' are pretty close to the color of 'Snow Drop,' but not exactly. Both are very pale pink to white, but the pink of 'Baby Bear' is a little more on the yellow side and more uniform throughout the bloom. 'Baby Bear' is smaller than 'Snow Drop' too; most blooms measuring from an inch to an inch and a quarter, and it is almost as floriferous. I have not grown 'Baby Bear' long enough to have personal knowledge of this, but I have been told that it "hates sun and wind" and for it to look good, it really has to be babied. Mr. Haydon has registered another hybrid of the same cross named 'Baby Willow.' I have not seen even a photograph of this camellia, but all who have seen it want it. It has not been released yet.

The Durrants of Rotorua, New Zealand, originators of many popular miniature hybrid camellias, recently registered another that should make an enormous splash in the camellia pool wherever camellias can be satisfactorily grown outside. The camellia I refer to is a *fraterna* x *tsaii* cross named 'Ariel's Song.' The name of this camellia is enough to sell it to me! I have not yet seen it, and doubt that it has been released yet. But the bloom is tiny, like *fraterna*. The leaves are small and narrow. The photographs that I have seen

show a somewhat pendulous plant, but so heavily laden with tiny white to very pale pink blooms till the overall appearance is stunning!

Mr. Os Blumhardt of New Zealand is another hybridizer who is working with the small species to produce miniature to tiny hybrids. The one that interests me most is his 'Tiny Star,' a cross of 'Berenice Boddy, and 'Tiny Princess.' This camellia is different from most tiny hybrids in that it doesn't show any stamens. The bloom seems to be a little larger than 'Snow Drop' but actually is not. It too, measures about 1 ¼ inches in diameter, but appears to be larger because it has more petals; usually about 15. It is a darker shade of pink than the three previously mentioned miniature hybrids. One could call it bright medium pink. It too, is reported to be very floriferous and I believe it must be, or it would not interest even the originator. My plant does not exhibit this characteristic, and I have so far been unable to locate even a photograph of this cultivar in full bloom. However, in my mind's eye, I can see a compact plant of 'Tiny Star,' loaded with these tiny, cheerful pink, no-stamens-showing, blooms and I give the plant an extra dose of tender loving care.

Now, moving back to Australia, Tom Savage started something back in the early 70s when he registered his 'Wirlinga Belle,' a small hybrid with *rosaeflora* as one of the parents. In 1981, he registered 'Wirlinga Gem,' a tiny white hybrid with a pink flush. This cultivar also had *rosaeflora* blood in its veins, but it had *fraterna* also ('Tiny Princess'). This is a small leaved, spreading, pendulous plant which is extremely floriferous also, and is excellent for standards grafted on tall stock. I do not have this cultivar and doubt that it is even available here in any nursery. But I understand that it is commercially available in New Zealand where it is receiving enthusiastic reviews.

Have also been told that it is being evaluated in Japan and England. Surely we will not have to wait much longer.

'La Petite' is the name of Mrs. Erica McMinn's 'Janet Clark' and *fraterna* cross. Yes, that's right, 'Janet Clark,' a *reticulata*! That a tiny (about 1½ inches) flower resulted from this cross must have surprised even the originator! *Fraterna*, wherever it is used in hybridizing, seems to be the dominate species. I know of no hybrid with *fraterna* as a parent, that is other than miniature. Most, if not all, of *fraterna*'s hybrid offspring also have the very floriferous, buds-in-a-cluster characteristic of *fraterna*, beginning with the first such hybrid, 'Tiny Princess.'

Felix Jury, originator of many fabulously beautiful hybrid camellias, including 'Dream Boat,' 'Julie Felix,' and 'Dresden China,' has recently introduced a real "sugar baby". I am referring to 'Itti-Bit,' a *saluenensis* x 'Tiny Princess' cross. When I first read the description of this camellia, it did not particularly catch my attention. It is described as being 6 cm in diameter. This would be about 2 3/8 inches, too big to qualify as one of my tiny miniatures. But when my plant bloomed, the flowers measured only about 4 cm in diameter, about 1½ inches, and were just as fluffy as tiny feather dusters. The color was about apple blossom pink, and almost as floriferous as 'Snow Drop.' Get this one if you want to risk getting hooked on tiny miniatures.

I have described in detail the tiny

hybrid camellias that I consider to be the most interesting of seven Australian and New Zealand hybridizers. There are other hybridizers in each of these countries who are working with the miniature-producing species such as *rosaeflora*, *fraterna*, *lutchuensis*, *tsaii* and *pitardi*. They also have had success and have produced some outstanding miniature hybrid camellias. Some of these other kudos-deserving hybridizers are Trevor Lennard and Fred Tuckfield.

Some conclusions may be reached by examining the parentage of these seven tiny hybrid camellias. Some guidelines for a would-be hybridizer also are there, especially if he wants to produce a good tiny hybrid camellia.

1. *Fraterna* is a red hot "daddy" or "mommy". Six of the seven hybrids described had *fraterna* blood, either in the pollen parent or the seed parent. Even if the pollen of *fraterna* or a *fraterna* hybrid is used with a *japonica* or a *reticulata*, the resulting progeny could be a tiny hybrid; e.g., 'Tiny Star' ('Berenice Boddy' x 'Tiny Princess') and 'La Petite' ('Janet Clark' x *fraterna*).

2. *Tsaii* is another good pollen parent in hybridizing for the tiny ones, and used with *fraterna*, the success would seem to be more nearly certain.

3. There are some species which cannot yet claim any worthwhile tiny hybrid offspring, but which would seem to be candidates for the distinction. *Yuhshienensis* is one which readily comes to mind.

#### FALL CAMELLIA SHOW DATES

October 18-19, 1986  
October 24-25, 1986  
November 2, 1986  
November 15, 1986

Greenwood, SC  
Columbia, SC  
Charleston, SC  
Charleston, SC

Cross Creek Mall  
S.C. State Fair Grounds  
Magnolia Gardens  
First Federal S & L

# LET'S HEAR IT FROM PENSACOLA

## DON'T GIVE UP ON OUTSIDE CAMELIAS

Bob Sansing

Have you been disturbed by the suggestions and opinions of many of our camellia buddies regarding the future of growing camellias outside? Quite a few have gone so far as to say they weren't going to plant anymore outside camellias. They were tired of planting them for the cold weather to kill. This action would be a tremendous shock to the camellia growers who worked so hard in the early thirties and forties establishing the camellia world we have inherited and have enjoyed so much.

They did all of this against great odds and a tremendous amount of work and dedication. Without the assistance of Gibbelic Acid, improved fertilizers, pesticides and insecticides we have come to depend on to plant, grow, and harvest our blooms and attend the camellia shows for such wonderful companionship and fellowship with our camellia growing friends.

I say the above to say the following - If we abandon the outside plants in our growing efforts and shows we will most definitely increase the growing decline in membership we have experienced in our parent and controlling organization, "The American Camellia Society," and anything that does this is **not good**.

There are so many facets of possible deterioration with the loss of outside camellia plants - Here are a few, I think of with concern.

In remembering my conversations and work with those great people come and gone, I remember the pleasure they shared in recalling their joy and pleasures in and problems acquiring one plant at a time, then enjoyed planting them in their yards.

I also remember how these plants

were planted in the yard as landscape plants and the joy of driving by these houses with their 'Pink Perfection,' 'Debutante,' 'White Empress,' 'Lady Clair,' 'Purple Dawn' blooms, etc. proudly showing their beauty. We have let a lot of this get away by not replacing these plants as they grow old and weak with new healthy strong plants.

I wish it were possible for Dutch Smith the great guy, camellia grower and cheer leader from Tuscaloosa, Alabama to make his rousing speech again to all of us - "Bring your blooms to the show, if not we will wind up with just the head table at the show." He was right. Most visitors who used to come in numbers came to see if the 'Pink Perfection,' etc. in their yards were as pretty as the ones entered in the show. If you don't believe this, then you didn't walk the aisles of the shows back in the days when it was common practice to have 5000 blooms entered in the show, and with still others under the display tables because all the display tables were full.

On the other hand, it seems to be there is a special joy you get out of cutting a beautiful outside bloom. They normally can't compete with inside blooms after the fall blooming season, but they just seem to be "more for real." Over the years I have cut some very pretty outside blooms and what a joy it was.

**For instance:** About 6 weeks after this years Christmas Eve freeze Jean and John Comber were visiting in my yard and Jean called me to ask if I had seen a plant that was in full bloom out there. It was an 'El Dorado' with a trunk about 6" in diameter, 7½' tall and 6' limb spread. It was lit up just like a Christmas tree with the beautiful 'El Dorado' blooms.

**Another:** The visit to the Miller



Gardens was worth the trip to the Norfolk ACS Show. What a beautiful sight to look out over some 2000 strong healthy camellia plants -- especially bearing an abundance of beautiful camellia blooms the first week of April after the terrible winter they had gone through. Then to add icing to the cake, Mr. Miller had made some 500 grafts to the above, most of them common yard type varieties to distribute to his friends and neighbors interested in growing camellias. And it is to be noted he does not have a greenhouse, slat house, or other method other than good winter culture practices to do the above. This is a fine case for monkey see, monkey do.

With proper preparation and care we can raise outside camellias, and for myself I will be trying a little harder in the future.

John Davy

Why are so many good outside (camellia) growers giving up?

I lost very few plants from the extreme cold weather the last few years. True, I was not able to send flowers to the head table at the January and February shows, but neither were any other growers experiencing the same environmental conditions. Regardless of my current lack of acclaim for dinner-plate size camellias, my plants are still healthy and ready for future years and future shows.

Why did my plants survive? There are several reasons:

- 1) My plants are, for the most part, young and vigorous.
- 2) My plants are grown north of Pensacola, unprotected by water masses and had therefore grown and developed under lower annual winter temperatures. When the extreme cold

weather and winds arrived my plants were more acclimated than plants grown in the city and previously protected by bays and bayous.

- 3) My plants grow under pine trees which offer overhead protection and morning shade. (Morning "burn" protection of frozen plant material).
  - 4) My plants are planted among azalea hedges which act as wind breaks and reduce dehydration injury.
  - 5) Plants are grown **with attention rather than with neglect**, which includes:
    - A) Proper pruning practices (landscape style, pruning-vs-"individual large flower/slow flower" pruning style).
    - B) Proper fertilization -- not over-fertilization. (Plants are never "pushed" into flower production.)
    - C) Deep watering to encourage deep roots.
    - D) Heavy mulching with organic material for improved water-retention and temperature retention in the root zone.
    - E) Yearly spray program for tea-scale.
    - F) Limited use of giberlic acid after October.
    - G) Removal and replacement of weak plants.
  - 6) Plants are grown in heavy rather than sandy soil.
  - 7) I grow plants which are cold-hardy. In other words, Japonicas, cold hardy non-retic hybrids and cold-hardy species-types.
  - 8) Don't grow more plants than you are willing to take care of.
- Most of the above "survival strategies" can be practiced by any camellia grower in the Southeast United States, or can be changed somewhat to fit one's growing situation.

There is no reason for one to give up growing camellias - outside.

## SOME OBSERVATIONS ON COLOUR AND SHADES OF COLOUR FOR CAMELLIA REGISTRATIONS

Dr. T.E. Pierson\*, Hurstville, Australia

With regard to colour in camellias, to date we have really only been concerned with two basics, red and white. Everything else being variations on this basic theme, whether it be shades of red, pinks, whites, creams or off-whites. The exceptions to this rule are the lavender suffusions and the red-purples of such camellias as 'Pilida' and 'D Herzilia de Freitas Magalhaes'. This we hope is set to change in the near future when chrysantha makes its presence felt, and we get some real yellows, apricots and, may we dare hope, some brilliant orange tonings? All this gives rise to the question, are we to continue the present hopeless confusion as to the naming of colours, or will some rationality at last prevail, and allow the use of a standard, any standard, colour chart?

The present system must needs to be abandoned. Even in the English speaking world the same word can mean different things in different countries. Some of them are quite hilarious. Seriously, what colour is flesh pink? Even in Australia, its meaning varies from Melbourne to Brisbane (about 1200 miles North to South). That is just a question of semantics. The problem is further complicated by the fact that most registration authorities, at least in Australia, are male, and the degree of either complete or partial colour blindness amongst males of European origin is surprisingly high. This becomes even more apparent when attempting to distinguish between various shades of the same colour, particularly in the red and pink groups. Green is a strong complement colour to red, and will intensify it beyond its true value, so that any charting of reds must be done in absolute

isolation either with a white or blue background.

With new registrations in Australia, we have previously been in the habit of using the Royal Horticultural Society colour chart. But for many years, the R.H.S. colour chart has been out of production (to be available again this year, I understand). As a result, when we decided to update our registration for new cultivars, we searched around for a new standard. We came up with the Metheun book of colour, which is to be the accepted colour REFERENCE STANDARD for Australia. This means that by quoting the number of the chart reference when making the registration, anyone, anywhere will be able to see at a glance exactly what colour and shade is meant, irrespectively of what it may be called.

This ability is absolutely essential with new registrations. We all know that the nomenclature book is getting hopelessly overcrowded with far too many look-alikes. For some years, one of the criteria for a new registration has been differences in either colour or form. But how can we tell if it is different when all we have to go on is the wording submitted by the registrant. To any complaint that may be made that the two sample charts I have quoted are both British, let me say for Australia, that we are completely indifferent what STANDARD chart is used. All we would require is that it be readily available on a world-wide basis, or at the very least, in those countries from which most of the new registrations are coming. Those are Australia, New Zealand, U.S.A., Japan and, we may hope, China. But please let us treat the matter as urgent, and lobby our National Associations accordingly.

\*Dr. Pierson is National President of Australia Camellia Research Society.

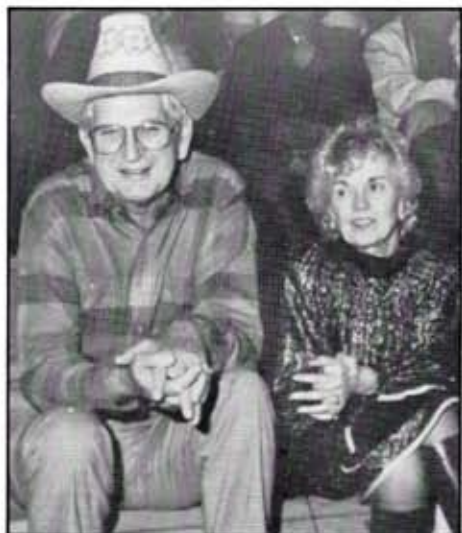
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## CAMELLIA SPOTLIGHT

Regular Feature

At the ACS convention in Houston in November, Hulyn Smith showed some slides of new camellias. The flower that attracted most attention was Frank Pursel's retic-hybrid seedling which has been named for the originator, 'Frank Pursel.' It is a large, red, loose semi-double with short yellow stamens and a sheen. A well known California camellia man has stated that **this** is Frank Pursel's best. Hard to believe that **anything** could be better than 'Jean Pursel'! Anyway, you retic lovers, latch on to this one as quickly as you can, probably not available until fall of 87. There was another camellia shown that could be a sensation. This is another retic-hybrid, developed by Harry Cave of Wanganui, New Zealand. It also was a medium pink, semi-double with a dark pink stripe down the center of each petal. I believe that this feature makes this flower unique. I have not heard that it has been registered or even named. Keep your eyes open for it however.

I have been hearing of a camellia which sounds like something all of us would like to grow, its name 'Hari Withers'. It is a non-retic hybrid, a saluenensis seedling. It is not new born, as it was impressing camellia people since mid 70's. Tom Perkins saw it in 1976 and was very favorably impressed. Have heard that it has won at least one Best Seedling award in the States. It is a formal-double, somewhat like that great camellia 'E.G. Waterhouse,' but with more petals and a more delicate pink in the center and lighter toward the edges. It

has been registered in Australia as their number 330.

A North Carolina camellia has caught my attention this year, though I have never seen it. It is not registered, and may never be, but its name is 'Virginia Dare.' It is a chance seedling which made its appearance in the Elizabethan Gardens in Manteo. It impresses everyone who sees it. Patty Hutaff describes it as a small formal-double, very light in color but **not** white. She says it is marble color, the same color as the marble statue of Virginia Dare, hence the name. It is a little darker on the petal edges.

I have been hearing about a 'Ville' seedling that was shown in North Carolina this year which excited such hard to excite camellia men as Hulyn Smith, Marion Edwards and Ray Gentry. Sorry I can't tell you more about this seedling yet. The originator might not want the spotlight on his baby yet. If it's as good as I have heard that it is, and if the fimbriation is as eye-catching as they say that it is, the spotlight will surely fall upon it before long. Meanwhile, watch for 'Ville' seedlings on the seedling tables in North and South Carolina next show season.

Speaking of seedlings, Marvin Jer-nigan of Warner Robins, GA, has been showing two which have been noteworthy, if winning ACS provisional commended seedling certificates makes them noteworthy. They are his J001 and J006. His J001 has won 3 of these awards this year and J006 has won 5! I saw J001 and can report that it is good. I would add

such a camellia to my collection in a minute! It is a 'Nina Avery' x 'Laura Walker' cross. It is a formal double, very light blush pink. The bloom I saw had some darker pink touches here and there which increased its beauty in my eyes. I have not seen J006, but can report that it sounds like something everybody would like to have. It was described to me as a formal double, deep red variegated, not genetic variegation. It has lots of petals and will reach 7 to 7½ inches in diameter. It too is a 'Nina Avery' seedling. Pollen parent is 'Ville.' Marvin has another 'Nina Avery' x 'Ville' seedling which he claims is very good. It is his J0010. It is also a formal, almost white, with an iridescent pink overcast. Looks like the East has another successful hybridizer. Move over, Fero!

There are two new non-retic hybrids from New Zealand which are almost sure to start winning shows and setting exhibitors on fire. I am referring to 'Julie Felix' and 'Softly,' two crosses of *saluenensis* x 'Joshua E. Youtz,' registered by Felix Jury. Both are soft lavender or rose, fading to almost white in the center. 'Julie Felix' is described as a very large (about 5 to 5¼ inches), rose form double with a spreading habit of growth. 'Softly' is supposed to be a large (about 4 inches), formal double with upright growth habit. Now, here is the catch! There are camellia growers and exhibitors who believe that the two cultivars are so similar, and so mixed up over here, till one cannot be sure which he has. I know growers who have grown 'Julie Felix' only to find that it produces formal double flowers. 'Softly' came to the States a little later than 'Julie Felix,' I believe, and I don't know of anyone who has bloomed it. Perhaps next year we can sort things out and reach a decision as to who has what. Meanwhile, rush right out and buy a plant of both, if you can find them! I believe that these two camellias

are so good till they will give 'Mona Jury' and 'Coral Challice' a run for their money!

How about camellia registrations in 1985? Well, it seems that registrations are down in the States, in Australia and in New Zealand. In the States, apparently there are 23 camellias registered, of which 13 were retic hybrids, 2 non-retic hybrids and 8 were japonicas. In Australia, 6 non-retic hybrids and 4 were japonicas. In New Zealand, 10 camellias were offered for registration of which only one was a retic hybrid, 4 were non-retic hybrids and 5 were japonicas. I have not seen any of these camellias and wouldn't presume to evaluate them. I can't resist saying though, that the one retic hybrid offered for registration in New Zealand (Trevor Lennard's 'Hazel Lennard') sounds like it might one day flip the retic loving American camellia public on its ear! Imagine a peony form camellia that measures 15 cm in diameter, **without gib!** That's 6 inches, you all!

As a last item in this feature, let me pass on to you what Ray Gentry is going to be offering for the first time this fall. I'm not on Ray's payroll or anything like that, but he does write me every year and tell me what he thinks will be good and what he will be proudly offering for sale. I would pass along this sort of information from any nurseryman who would go to the trouble of letting me know.

1. 'Maggie Bush.' We mentioned this camellia before. It will be available this fall. Ray says this is, "A great flower, very large, semi-double, good pink color."
2. 'Fortieth Anniversary' was named in honor of the 40th Anniversary of ACS. It is a large, orange-red, semi-double.
3. 'Ivan Mitchell' is a medium to large, dark red formal to rose form double.
4. 'Hank Stone.' This is a medium to large, semi-double to formal double, with very large petals.

## NEARLY EVERYONE LIKES A GOOD SPORT

By Ivan J. Mitchell

Some of the most beautiful camellias that grace the gardens and greenhouses of this earth are *C. japonica* mutants. One of the first on record is 'Fimbriata,' the exquisite, classically fringed sport of 'Alba Plena,' brought from China to England about one hundred seventy years ago. Another magnificent sport -- considered by some fanciers to be the greatest *C. japonica* of all time -- is 'Ville de Nantes,' the elegant, fimbriated, rabbit-eared mutant of 'Donckelarii.'

About two dozen distinguished sporting families have contributed a multitude of outstanding mutant offspring. Many of them -- including such beauties as 'Elegans Supreme,' 'Elegans Splendor,' 'Elegans Champagne,' 'Hawaii,' 'Tomorrow Park Hill,' 'Tomorrow's Dawn,' 'Betty Sheffield Supreme,' 'Margaret Davis,' 'Lady Kay,' 'Mrs. D.W. Davis Descanso,' 'Mrs. D.W. Davis Special,' 'Mathotiana Supreme,' 'Flowerwood,' 'Carter's Sunburst Pink,' 'Chow's Han Ling,' 'Spring Sonnett,' 'Elizabeth Lebey Blush,' 'Mrs. Hooper Connell,' 'Woodville Red Blush,' 'Linda Brothers,' 'Diddy's Pink Organdie,' and 'Feathery Touch' -- are not only great garden plants, they also continue to win their share of awards, honors, and horticultural glory.

It takes several years for new cultivars to be evaluated, propagated and distributed. For example, 'Betty's Beauty,' 'Margaret Davis Picotee,' 'Tomorrow's Dawn Bessie,' 'Tomorrow's Dawn Blush,' 'Tomorrow Lisa,' among others, are just now showing up on the honor courts -- even though they have been registered, listed in *Camellia Nomenclature*, nursery catalogues, and on scion lists for several years.

Other intriguing sports have been registered, such as 'Betty By George,'

'Carter's Sunburst Sweetheart,' and 'Linda Brothers Blush,' but are not apparently generally available as yet.

Undoubtedly there are more exciting new ones in the offing. I happen to have seen a couple. One -- 'Omega' -- to my knowledge, had never sported. But this year it came up with a **quadruplet delivery -- one of a different kind on four terminals!** In addition to regular 'Omega,' one bloom was pure white. Another was white with a few small pink spots. A third was pale pink, and the fourth a clear rose pink. This plant is growing in Keystone Heights, and will be closely observed as to its future antics. There is also another most promising sport of 'Mathotiana' that resembles 'Mathotiana Supreme' -- except that each petal is heavily fimbriated!

Over a period of a good many years I have been intrigued with the mutational charades of many of the sporting *japonica* families, and have observed them with more than casual interest. I am personally convinced that once a variety produces a bud sport, there is a tendency for additional mutants to follow at sporadic intervals.\*

What about hybrid and retic hybrid mutants? So far you can count them on the fingers of your two hands, and have some fingers left over. Remember that it took over a century for some of the *C. japonica* families to start their dynasties -- such as 'Donckelarii' and 'Elegans.' On the other hand, the initial period for mutational gestation for 'Mrs. D.W. Davis,' 'Tomorrow,' and 'Betty Sheffield,' among others, was only a few years. It is entire-

(Editor's Note: The author wrote another most interesting article about the mutation of Camellias, published in the 1981 ACS Yearbook, entitled "A Sporting Chance For More Mutants")

ly possible that crosses of *C. reticulata* and *C. japonica* might produce more mutant progeny more quickly than pure retics -- especially when the japonica partner is from one of the sporting families.

As far as I know, there have been only four non-retic hybrid mutants registered, and two of these do not involve any change in blooming characteristics.

'Fair Jury' is a color sport of 'Elsie Jury,' white with mauve pink streaks or flecks. It is half *saluenensis* and half japonica. Remember that the premier picotees, 'Betty Sheffield Supreme' and 'Margaret Davis' both sported from cultivars with white blooms genetically streaked and dashed with red or pink -- just like 'Fair Jury'! This may be the first of more exciting sports to come!

'FBI' is a light lavender pink miniature sport of 'Bonnie Marie.' It is one fourth *saluenensis*, one fourth *cuspidata*, and one half japonica. Since there are several good miniatures with *cuspidata* lineage, could it be that *C. cuspidata* has a miniaturizing influence? The japonica influence is 'Charlotte Bradford,' one of the sports of 'Mrs. Baldwin Wood,' and this connection gives promise of additional mutations!

'Fragrant Pink Improved' is a polyploid mutant of 'Fragrant Pink,' achieved by Dr. William Ackerman to induce fertility into the cross. It is otherwise, to all intents and purposes, identical to 'Fragrant Pink.' (Half *rusticana* and half *lutchuensis*.)

'Golden Spangles' is a foliar mutant of 'Mary Christian.' Other than the variegated foliage, it is identical to 'Mary Christian.' (Half *saluenensis* and half japonica.)

A couple of other spectacular non-retic hybrids may be candidates for sporting. One is 'Mona Jury,' with one quarter 'Betty Sheffield Supreme' in its parentage.

Another is 'Julie Felix,' originated from a cross involving 'Joshua Youtz' -- a seedling of the sporting 'Daikagura,! It might be good to keep an eye on these two.

I am familiar with only three retic hybrid mutants, although there may be more that have not yet been registered or advertised. Let's take a look at this trio.

'Black Lace Peony' is a peonyform sport of 'Black Lace.' It is half *saluenensis*, one quarter *reticulata*, and one quarter japonica 'Donckelarii.' It has the same deep velvet red color, and the same inherent cold hardiness of both plant and bloom characteristic of 'Black Lace.' I have observed the original mutant, as well as numerous grafts, for more than five years, and all blooms I have seen have come scrupulously true. It is possible that the Bob Wines Nursery in Ocala may release this fine mutant this coming season.

'Francie L Surprise,' one half *saluenensis*, one quarter retic, and one quarter *pitardii*, was registered as a variegated peonyform sport of 'Francie L.' I saw a perfect specimen bloom of this variety introduced by the late Clyde Copeland entered in a show -- and I just had to have one! My grafts of this mutant all bloomed regular 'Francie L' in formation -- semi-double instead of peonyform. I understand that this mutant seldom holds, and that many are no longer propagating it as such. (I note that Mr. E.R. Sabire from "down under" has registered a peonyform *C. reticulata* hybrid of 'Francie L' and named it 'Mark's Surprise'.)

'Jean Pursel Blush,' three quarters retic and one quarter japonica 'Mrs. D.W. Davis,' is a variable blush mutant of 'Jean Pursel.' Ray Gentry and Joe Austin say that this mutant throws gigantic blooms -- very deep and up to eight or more inches across. Joe says that like 'Jean Pursel,' it blooms "nine different ways." Although this mutant has never been registered,

## ATLANTIC COAST CAMELLIA SOCIETY

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plants and scions are available.

While not exactly mutations, there are other continuing changes taking place in our camellia plants. These continuous infinitesimal changes can culminate in what we commonly call "strains". Buster Bush had one of finest strains of 'Lady Kay' in the Southeast. Strains can also involve patterns of virus variegation. The "McVey" strain of 'Gulio Nuccio' is well known. Hulyn Smith has one of the finest strains of 'Dixie Knight Supreme' -- and also 'Rosea Superba Var' that I know of. Fred Hahn and Joe Austin are known to propagate and exhibit choice strains of show winning varieties. Marion Edwards will drive 100 miles to pick up a scion from a particular limb on a special plant, and has some fine strains in his collection to justify his efforts and judgement.

It is good to tag the ungibbed terminals that produce superior blooms -- to ensure good graft wood. 'Betty Sheffield

Supreme' and 'Margaret Davis' should have all "maverick" blooms removed permanently by pruning their terminals back to their beginnings.

Undoubtedly many good mutants have been lost because they were not observed, or not recognized as possible bud sports. Others may have been destroyed by disease, or pruning, aborted by gibbing, or other means. When a plant throws an unusual bloom, and it is noticed, the terminal should be tagged, with a brief notation on the tag, and then kept under scrutiny.

James Norman, who has the sporting 'Omega' does a good job of riding shotgun on his camellias. During the blooming season, very few blooms escape his scrutiny. Last year he discovered that two branches on his 'Lois Shinault' were sporting blooms with a deep pink picotee border! Let's hope this sport holds, stays healthy -- and reproduces true!

## The Camellia Nomenclature Book

The 19th Revised Edition of CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE which is published by the Southern California Camellia Society will be off the press on October 1, 1986. This book, which is updated every three years, has been the "bible" of the camellia world since it was first published in 1947. It is presented as

a gift to all paid-up members of the Southern California Camellia Society and is sold to other camellia societies and to individuals throughout the world. The printing of the 19th Revised Edition is being authorized at 2,500 copies and it will be released on a first come, first served basis.