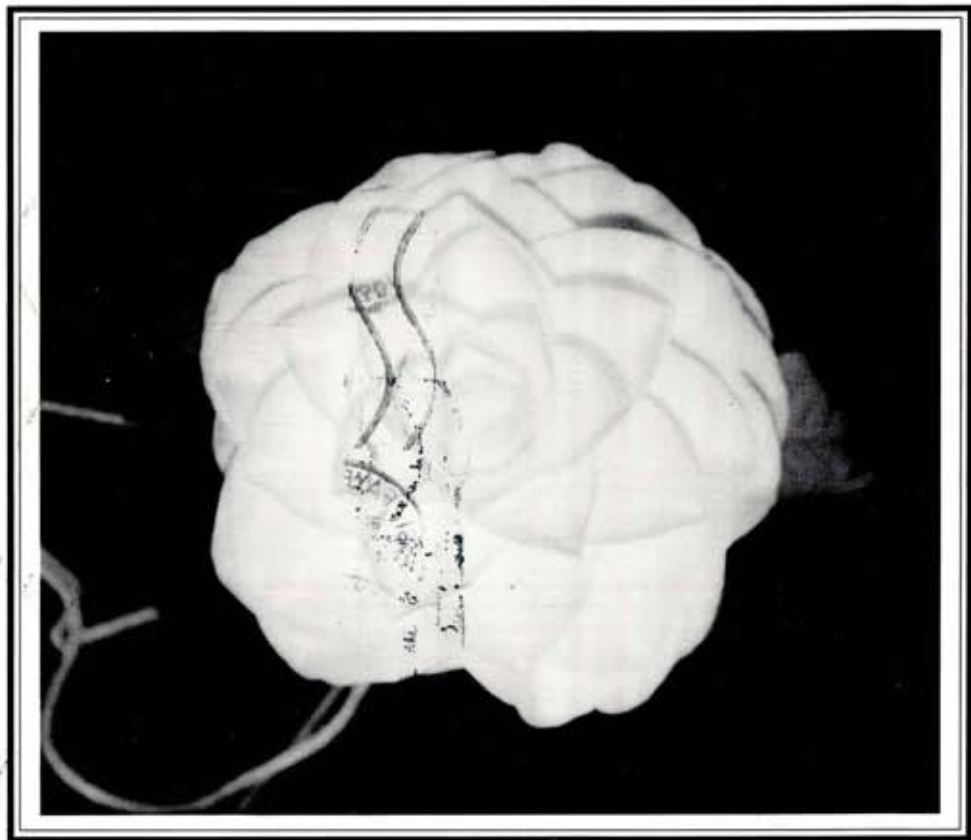


Atlantic Coast Camellias

JOURNAL OF THE ATLANTIC COAST CAMELLIA SOCIETY



Camellia japonica 'Seafoam'

ATLANTIC COAST CAMELLIA SOCIETY

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COVER PHOTO
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Camellia japonica 'Seafoam' was photographed by Major Doug Simon at the 1998 Fayetteville Camellia Show.

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CAMELLIA FANCY

By Kimberly C. Pritchett
The Daily Sun
Warner Robins, Georgia

Submitted by W. C. Wyatt
Fort Valley, Georgia

Marvin Jernigan, a 71-year-old Warner Robins man, has a great love for camellias. This long-time hobby of Mr. Jernigan began in 1968 when he and his wife, Ruth, attended a camellia show in the old C&S Bank in Macon.

Jernigan said he was very impressed with the flowers he saw and later asked a friend in landscaping to get him three camellias — white, red and pink.

Jernigan joined the American Camellias Society in Marshallville and began displaying some of his camellias in shows. When the 1974 and 1976 hard freezes struck, however, Jernigan lost approximately 50 plants in two years. It was then he decided his camellias needed some protection from the sometimes relentless weather. He built a small greenhouse to give the



*Marvin
Jernigan
with his
camellias.*

plants some protection, and a decade later he bought a 30-by-90 foot greenhouse. Now he houses 1200 camellias and some hybrids in his greenhouse.

The first few years, Jernigan showed his flowers around Georgia, collecting numerous awards. Then he expanded his range to the Carolinas and Florida. During this time, Jernigan said he and his wife were on the road nearly every weekend showing camellias. After a while, Jernigan said he had won so many blue ribbons that he began throwing them away. He also won books, cups, vases and other prizes.

Jernigan estimated that through the years he has probably won 5000 first-place blue ribbons and eight to 10 Best-in-Show awards. Best-In-Show awards are hard to attain since it is the best of as many as 1200 blooms. Flowers that receive ribbons usually compete against approximately 30 other blooms. These are the first place in a group, which consists of a bunch of one variety in that size.

Jernigan names his most prized seedlings after friends and family. He recently showed a camellia he is naming "LaVerne Norris" in Tampa, Florida. The



Marvin has won How Many Blue Ribbons?

seedling is being named after the manager of the Houston Mall. It won Best Seedling, beating out 30-35 other seedlings.

Recently Jernigan was up for a commemorative seedling certificate by the American Camellia Society for that seedling. In order to receive that certificate, a seedling must be given a "leg" by three panels of judges in three shows signifying they feel the seedling is worthy of the certificate. He has two "legs" which he received from shows in Tampa, Florida, and Lakeland, Florida. Since he already had the paperwork in for the seedling to be named after Norris, Jernigan doubts he'll get a "leg" from a third panel of judges before the paperwork naming the seedling goes through.

Jernigan has named more than two dozen camellias over the years, registering them with the American Camellia Society. Jernigan said he usually waits four to five years before naming a plant after someone, just to make certain the plant is going to continue doing well.

The first seedling he named was "Lady Eva" after his wife, Eva Ruth Jernigan. Each registered plant is noted in a yearbook with the picture of the bloom.

Growing camellias is simply a hobby for Jernigan. He doesn't sell his prized plants.

"It takes them sometimes five to seven years before they bloom for the first time," said Jernigan. But that's nothing compared to the long life of the plant. Camellias, according to Jernigan, live 300 to 400 years or longer.

"I've always been interested in plants – but I didn't know about camellias until I walked into that bank where that show was," said Jernigan, a former superintendent at the Central Correctional Institute in Macon. "It's very relaxing when you really get into it."

Jernigan is a member of the Middle Georgia Camellia Society and has served as its president several times. He has also served on the board of directors of the American Camellia Society.

When asked which camellia is his favorite, Jernigan replied "The one that's blooming."

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

By Jeannette Waltz
Hadensville, Virginia

As I write this letter the 1998 convention is but a memory. Many thanks to Bill Hardwick for the great job he did in his position as president of our fantastic group.

The camellia show season is in full BLOOM, (so many blooms, so little time). Here in Virginia the summer was so hot and dry, but now with a little rain and cooler temperatures, some of our camellia japonicas are confused and are starting to bloom early. We normally bloom in spring.

Our Myrtle Beach convention was great as usual and as usual we raised an amazing amount of money from the auction and raffle. We are sorry for our members who had to cancel because of hurricanes and for those who had to leave early. I sincerely hope no one suffered any severe damage.

Our program, done by Jerry Hogsette, let us know we didn't know as much about "bugs" as we thought, and his presentation was amusing as well as informative. Also brought up at this

meeting was the possibility of having a website of our own for informational purposes. This is being looked into, and it could be a good tool. My website has been interesting, and having access to the world wide web is mindboggling to say the least.

The convention next year will be at the same hotel, the first weekend in October, 1999. Put the date on your calendar now!

In closing I have two requests. Please do your camellia friends a favor and invite them to join us. They will thank you. Also, although you may think we are all doing the same things, we are not. Consider writing an article for our publication. What is your club doing to encourage new membership? What do you do at your shows or meetings to stimulate new membership or to increase your treasury? Who or what was an interesting program or field trip? Do you have workshops where members participate (you know when members get their hands on they understand better and become more in-

volved)? Maybe someone that did a program for your club would like to contribute an article. Jim would love to have articles you could send him.

Wishing you rain for your camellias, but not on your picnics, and ice for your drinks, but not

for your sidewalks, and glitz without the guilts for your holidays.

Jeannette

P.S. my e-mail address is: dickjan@alcnet.com



Our new ACCS Second Vice President is Geary Serpas, from Santee, South Carolina.

An Invitation To Join

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

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

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

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

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

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

NAME _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

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

Camellias In England - continued. . .

by Jim Darden
Clinton, North Carolina

From Trebah we toured the Helford River by boat, passing by the home of author Daphne DuMaurier and nearby Frenchman's Creek, of which she wrote one of her famous novels.

On Sunday afternoon we visited the National Trust Garden at Trellisick. This 500 acre park includes 25 acres of fine gardens,

with more than five acres of walkways, lined with fabulous blooming plants. The Camellias and Rhododendrons are huge. Bruce Williams stood by one massive rhododendron for a photo to prove it's immense size to the folks back home. Two-story Camellias arch over the walkways and join wisterias, hy-



Five miles of walkways at Trellisick are heavily planted with Camellias, Rhododendrons, azaleas and many other spectacular ornamentals. The garden is on a high bluff over the Fal River.

drangeas, viburnums, and azaleas to provide a spectacular rainbow of spring color.

Monday, May 18, was a special day. The emerald in our horticultural crown tour was a visit by helicopter to the Scilly Islands. This day was so spectacular that I will treat it separately, doing an article on the Abbey Gardens at Tresco in the next issue of the journal. Suffice it to

say, that the Scilly Islands, a tiny, rocky archipelago located 30 miles off the southwest coast of England and washed by the warming Gulf Stream currents, are a haven for Camellias. More later on Tresco.

On Tuesday we left Falmouth and the Budock Vein for the six hour bus ride east to London. Along the way we stopped at Stourhead, another National

Marine Col. Neil Patrick is dwarfed by the camellia trees on Tresco. Camellias are so large here that they are used as trees under which shade-loving perennials are grown.



Trust garden located near the M-4 in the central part of the English isle. We were back into the area where rhododendrons, deciduous azaleas and viburnums dominated this extraordinary garden, along with centuries old chapels, temples, and towers. The age (should I say maturity) is unlike anything I have ever seen in America.

Our bus continued zipping across the Salisbury plain when, without fanfare, our driver announced "There's Stonehenge." Indeed, the ancient arrangement

of huge stones was just outside our window. It has been preserved, standing alone on the rolling plain, with only tourists on foot to mar the view. The shops, parking area, etc., are all underground so the viewer sees the famous stones just as the Druids did a millennia ago. But, no time to stop as we headed on to London.

Our last three nights were spent in London, and the first night there was a rude awakening. First problem, the sun rises at 4:00 a.m. (We are a lot nearer



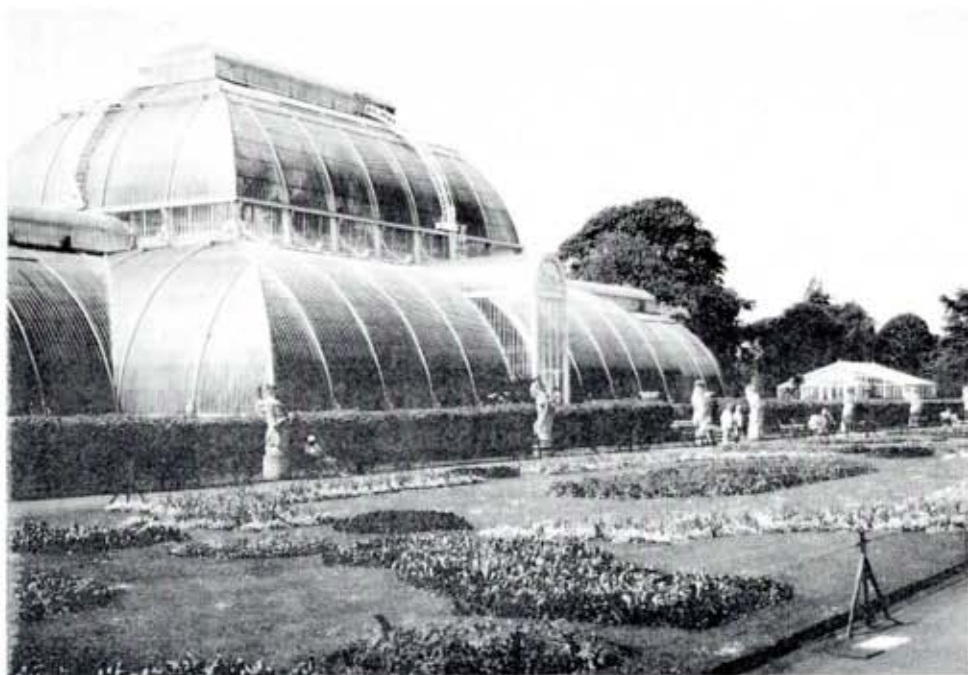
'Chateau Litou de Bayou', a fine pink formal-double camellia, is in bloom in May at the gardens on Treseco. Washed by the balmy Gulf Stream winds, these islands never freeze and produce tree-sized camellias.

the Arctic Circle than Clinton, N. C.) Secondly, there is no air conditioning and England is having a heat wave, so we had to leave our second story window open. That allowed the street (or race track) noises below to fill our room.

With sleep out of the question, I rose at 4:30 with an idea. Since I am the same age as Prince Charles, and I watched with great interest as he, Earl Spencer, and his sons walked the funeral route during Diana's funeral, I decided to trek that very scenic 3 1/2 mile route myself.

My taxi left the Mandavilla Hotel and arrived at Kensington Palace at 5:30 a.m. and began walking. First came a beautiful mile walk through Hyde Park, which was in full bloom with rhododendrons and azaleas. There were no Camellias to be seen and the prolonged gray of early morning took some of the glow from the flowers.

Then came the Royal Opera House, the Wellington Arch, and Buckingham Palace. From there I walked down the Mall, a pretty tree lined avenue which brought me to the military headquarters



The Tropical Conservatory at Kew, home to thousands of jungle-like plants, was built in 1846. Forty-foot-tall palms grow in its center section.



Camellias grow in profusion at Kew. This nice example is 'Mathotiana Alba', in full bloom in Mid-May.

and brightly uniformed guards. As I rounded the next corner Big Ben sounded seven times as it rose majestically before me. Soon I was at Westminster, and my tired knee told me it was ready for another taxi.

Later in the morning we enjoyed a tour of the Chelsea Physic Garden, 3 1/2 acres on the Thames where plants have been collected and tested for medicinal purposes since 1693 by the Society of Apothecaries. During the afternoon a few of us dashed across town on a bus to visit Kew Gardens, thought by many to be

the world's most outstanding plant collection. It was fabulous. And along with collections of trees, azaleas, tropicals, and every other type of plant imaginable, there was a collection of Camellias. I photographed several which still had a few good blooms, including 'Mathotiana Alba,' 'Lady van Sittart,' and 'Angela Cocchi.'

Our last morning in London was one of the most memorable. We bussed to Chelsea and attended the Chelsea Flower Show. It was indescribable. There were five huge tents with world class

flower collections. Outside the garden competition had been won by a million pound 'White Garden.' It included water, furniture, lots of greenery, and all types of white flowers, including Camellias. It was really gorgeous.

The following morning we departed Gatwick for home. The history, architecture, good friends, and above all the spectrum of plants and flowers were

beyond description. It was a trip I will never forget. Yes, there are plenty of Camellias in England. If you ever have a chance to enjoy a flower tour there, by all means do it. I hope to return a see central England and Scotland soon. Thanks to all the Wilmington Master Gardeners and Dr. Bruce Williams for letting me tag along.



This white garden built by CoCo Chanel at a cost of one million pounds, was the outside competition winner at Chelsea. It has white peonys, impatiens, hollyhocks, hydrangea, and, at lower right, camellias.

Mid-Carolina Camellia Society

October 16-17, 1998 Show Report

Best Large Japonica Open	Carterís Sunburst Pink Var.	Lib Scott
Runner-up	Mary Agnes Paton	Rupert Drews Charleston, S.C.
Best Medium Japonica Open	Dawnís Early Light	Parker Connor Edisto Beach, S.C.
Runner-up	Woodville Red	Parker Connor Edisto Beach, S.C.
Best Small Japonica Open	Willamina	Parker Connor Edisto Beach, S.C.
Runner-up	Black and Gold	Rupert Drews Charleston, S.C.
Best Miniature	Fircone Var.	Brenda & Miles Beach
Best White Bloom	Lucy Stewart	Parker Connor Edisto Beach, S.C.
Best Large Japonica Protected	Woodville Red Blush	Lew & Annabelle Fetterman Clinton, N.C.
Runner-up	Edna Bass	Bill & Mildred Robertson Ninety-Six, S.C.
Best Medium Japonica Protected	Dr. Tinsley	Ann & Mack McKinnon Lugoff, S.C.
Runner-up	Debutante	Ann & Mack McKinnon Lugoff, S.C.
Best Small Japonica Protected	Kiku Togi	Bill & Mildred Robertson Ninety-Six, S.C.
Best Reticulata	Lasca Beauty	Lib Scott
Best Hybrid	Jubilation	Parker Connor Edisto Beach, S.C.
Best Sasanqua	Sparkling Burgundy	Carter Bays
Best Seedling	#013	Parker Connor Edisto Beach, S.C.
Best White Bloom Protected	Little Hooper	Annabelle & Lew Fetterman

Total Blooms Display: 370

Total Attendance: 16,000 (South Carolina State Fair)

Reported by Show Chairman G. William Supplee

Highlights of the Atlantic Coast Camellias Society Convention

by Clara Hahn
Charlotte, North Carolina

The Atlantic Coast Camellia Society held its annual convention at the Sand Castle in Myrtle Beach, S.C., on September 25 and 26, 1998, with 82 people in attendance. We had near perfect weather, although we all kept a watchful eye on Hurricane Georges as it battered and flooded our many friends in the Gulf Coast area.

Our Friday night seafood dinner around the pool and our Saturday night dinner were prepared by the Elks Lodge. Mr. McKinney and his crew do a wonderful job.

We have a committee working on plans and gathering information about the ACCS getting on the Internet.

A donation was made to the American Camellia Society in honor of Jim Darden, Editor of our journal, for the outstanding job he does. A donation was also made to the American Camellia Society in honor of Clara and Fred Hahn for the work they do

as Secretary-Treasurer.

Sadie Lyon did a camellia painting and Clara Hahn made a camellia flag for the raffle. The total from the raffle was \$720.00. Our auction raised a total of \$1,243.00. Many thanks to those who donated plants and items. George Gerbing won the painting and Buck Mizzell won the flag.

Jerry Hogsette was our speaker at the Saturday night banquet. He is a Research Entomologist at the Department of Agriculture and teaches at the University of Florida. He gave a very interesting slide presentation on insects that cause problems with camellias.

Our next convention will be at the Sand Castle in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, on October 1 and 2, 1999. Mark this date on your calendar and join us for great fellowship!

Editor's Column

By Jim Darden
Clinton, North Carolina

I certainly enjoyed seeing many of you briefly at the Myrtle Beach meeting in September. The Hardwick's, Hahn's, and others did a fine job, as always, of organizing a very nice event. Jeannette Waltz came in as our new President, and I'm sure she will be a fine one.

The date for our Fayetteville show at Cross Creek Mall has been changed from the regular date, first Saturday in March, to February 20-21, 1999. We were forced to make the change because of the ACS meeting in California, which would have taken most of the best growers in our region away and drastically cut down on the number of quality blooms on display.

Please make a note of this change. Our sincere apologies to the Atlanta Show, which will also be held that same weekend. We promise to move back to our regular date next year.

I want to thank everyone at the annual meeting for the kind donation made to ACS in my honor. What a nice way to say thank you. I just hope to main-



tain the quality of publication that you have rewarded, and will make every effort toward that end.

I saw that Sadie Aycock Lyon's painting fetched nearly \$700.00 for the organization at Myrtle Beach. Recently I was advised that Sadie had passed away, and was truly sorry to hear the bad news. Sadie donated one of her fine camellia pastels to the auction each year, and we all enjoyed the monetary rewards of her wonderful gifts. I have one of her camellia drawings in my home, along with portraits of my two boys done by Sadie. She did

a remarkable job of capturing my son's spirits on canvass, and I will always treasure her work. We will miss Sadie Lyon.

I hope you have read with interest my articles on the garden tour I took to England this past May. Part two of that article is in this edition of the journal. Dr. Bruce Williams, Director of Extension in New Hanover County (Wilmington), N.C. headed the trip. His Master Gardeners' group takes a trip every year, going to Italy in 1999, and France and Scotland in the following two years.

Bruce has organized a fall (October) trip to England this year (1999), but due to extensive travel conflicts he will be unable to lead the tour. He has asked me to stand in for him, and I hope to do just that.

This will be a ten-day trip, first class in every way, with professionally guided tours into many of England's finest gardens. These include Sissinghurst, Westonbirt, Kew, Hidcote, Barnsley House, Oxford University Botanical Gardens, the London Physic Garden, and Hampton Palace Gardens.

In addition, we will be treated to a private tour of the 17th century townhouse and gar-

den on the Thames owned by noted garden writer Malcolm Hilliard. We will have a free day in London, and much, much more.

If any of you are interested in receiving a brochure outlining the specifics of this trip, please give me a call. I would love for some of my Camellia buddies to be with me on the tour. It is possible that we might organize a later tour to England, which emphasizes gardens with Camellias. Edgecomb Castle Gardens, I understand, had over 600 varieties, and I would truly love to return to the Isles of Scilly and see the camellias in full bloom in the gardens at Tresco.

Let me hear from you if you are interested. My address and phone number are in the front of the journal, and my new E-mail address is:

Jdarden@Sampson.cc.nc.us.
You can also fax me at (910) 592-8048.

Best wishes, and I hope to see you at a camellia show.

Jim

Sadie M. Aycock Lyon

1917-1998

Submitted by Joe Austin

Edited by Jim Darden

Sadie Aycock Lyon passed away on November 29, 1998, after a prolonged illness. She will be remembered as a friend and active member of the Atlantic Coast Camellia Society and the Fayetteville Camellia Society. She was active in both of these organizations until her death.

Sadie Lyon was a talented artist who painted beautiful pastel works of art, usually portraits of children or bloom pictures of camellias, the flower she loved so much. Each year, in addition to her busy schedule painting portraits commercially in her studio, Sadie spent many hours preparing a camellia drawing.

The picture was framed, named by variety, and always looked magnificent. She donated the painting each year to the Atlantic Coast Camellia Society for the fund-raising auction at the annual meeting in Myrtle Beach. Sadie's camellia painting usually

sold for \$500.00 to \$800.00, a sum she donated entirely to our society.

Joe and Mabel Austin, Sadie's best camellia friends with whom she often made trips to camellia shows in the region, provided the following information.

Sadie Massey Aycock Lyon, age 81, of Smithfield, North Carolina, died on Sunday, November 29, 1998 at Johnston Memorial Hospital.

Sadie Massey was born June 13, 1917, in Johnston County, North Carolina. She was educated at Smithfield High School and Meredith College. She taught in the Johnston County Schools for more than 30 years.

Sadie married Ernest Aycock in 1942. The Aycocks were active participants in many camellias shows during the 1970's and 1980's. A Joe Austin hybrid camellia was named for Ernest Aycock in the 1980's. Following

Ernest's death in 1981 Sadie married Judge Pope Lyon. He, too, accompanied Sadie on many of her camellia outings. Pope Lyon died in 1993.

Sadie retired in 1992 and pursued her passion of painting. He was an active member of the First Presbyterian Church, a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and several camellia societies.

Sadie Lyon had a talented and creative spirit, which was evident in her love for the camellia. She surrounded herself with beauty

and revealed her talent in her many pastel paintings. She will certainly be remembered for her ability to see beauty in all things and all people. She was always willing to donate her time, warmth and efforts to see projects through to completion.

We will all remember a caring, insightful, and loving person whose influence will be seen in our lives for many years. And, when we meet in Myrtle Beach her absence will be conspicuous. Sadie Aycock Lyon will be missed.

Fred Hahn with one of his show winners in Wilmington. Fred and Clara were honored by the ACCS in Myrtle Beach with a contribution made in their name to ACS.



Wiley Gardeners Thwart Deer

by Roger Mercer

The Fayetteville Observer-Times
Fayetteville, North Carolina

I have asked my readers to help in suggesting ways to keep deer from destroying flowers and vegetables in the garden. As usual, the readers came through. Thank you for all the diverse, funny, interesting, and, we hope, effective ways of dealing with deer that you suggested. Here is a look at a few suggestions for dealing with deer that I've received.

Dear Roger: My friend says she wants something cheaper than a fence to keep out the deer, or she will be eating Bambi. I live on a farm and we grow 1,000 acres of soybeans and corn each year—many of the fields having woodlands nearby.

We spray with a chemical named Hinder. We bought it from a local fertilizer dealer, so I am pretty sure that it can be purchased everywhere.

It is not too expensive. We also used garlic juice, which was purchased in gallon drums and sprayed by airplane. It also worked well. It also repels lots of insects, and it did a good job

YOUR GARDEN



Roger Mercer

The Fayetteville Observer

on me, too, when I went out to check on how it was working.

I hate to tell you what we did before we sprayed: My brother shot some deer, but according to Louisiana law we had to leave them on the ground where they fell to rot.

After shooting three, we started bugging our fertilizer and chemical dealer until he found Hinder. It worked, and we have bought more for next year.—Pat in Louisiana.

Fences Effective

Dear Roger: My electric polytape fence has been operational since April 29 of this year. With the exception of one night,

when a tree limb was blown across the fence, sufficiently shorting it out, there have been no deer inside the electric tape that runs almost a third of a mile around our gardens.

However, before I sing the praises of this type of fencing too high, I best wait for September and October to pass to see if there are any attempts to enter. During those two months, the deer tend to move around a bit more, and in October my new crop of daylily seedlings are just about the greenest, more delectable food in sight.

I will let you know later if the fence successfully repels them when their search for food becomes more intense. I will say, however, that this is the first season in at least the last six years that no deer has eaten anything in our garden. Usually by this time several hostas, lilies, and phlox have been eaten to the ground. So, the 12 volts running through this fence seems to be worthy of their respect. I, too, am a bit more respectful of the fence, since grabbing the tape with my hand to check for current.—Ted in Maine.

Deer Repellent

Dear Roger: I saw this in the newspaper, but don't know how well it works. Anything is worth

a try to stop the destruction of our plants.

*2 cups milk

*4 eggs

*4 cups hot water

*2 tablespoons of Malathion

Mix together the milk, eggs and water in a blender. Be sure the top is on tight. When well blended, pour the mixture into an old tin can or heavy plastic cup and add the Malathion. Shake gently.

Spray the leaves of plants with this mixture to repel deer. This spray must be repeated after rains.

The writer of the column grows daylilies and has lots of trouble with deer. She doesn't say she has used it, but does say a friend that has lots of "deer trouble" gave her this recipe and she uses it on her lilies. Hope it works.—Evelyn in Georgia

More Deer Repellent

Dear Roger: I thought I'd chime in with yet another deer repellent. Drill holes in Ivory Soap (because of its strong smell), thread a piece of twine through it, and hang these bars on the periphery of your garden.

This kept the deer from eating up my tanyosho pines after a buck uprooted and dismembered

a weeping tanyosho! Carnage!

Another trick the local conservation agent shared with me is to put up an electric fence around your garden at about nose level to a deer (36 inches or so). He said deer can jump 8-foot fences if they want to, so keeping them from jumping is not the point. This is—before you turn the fence on, fold 1" by 3" over half the fence, and stick them together with peanut butter or apple jelly.

The deer will be attracted to the smell, and get a big shock! This has really worked at my in-laws' suburban garden where the neighbor feeds the deer!

Every year the fence is torn up and drug away into the woods right after it is put up, as if the deer got it in his mouth. This will be the only infraction for the season! Yeah! In my neck of the woods, they just shoot the deer.

Blood meal and human hair did not work for me to repel either deer or rabbits. Cayenne pepper powder sprinkled on tasty plants like hosta did prevent the rabbits from feasting, though.—Brian in Missouri

Nutty Bucks

Dear Roger: My house and plant beds are in a clearing in the middle of acres of woods. I have

lots of deer around, but last fall I had a young buck that was nuts and "fighting" everything—to-mato cages, bird feeders, etc. He was even up on our deck after the wind chimes.

Clothes-dryer sheets made him quit picking on anything I hung them on. The theory is that it smells like a hunter (deer are able to smell laundry detergent and softeners). Some hunters pay a lot for detergents to wash their hunting clothes in. Then they wont have any smell. I imagine this would not work in areas where hunting is not allowed, because the deer would not be as afraid of a human smell.

By the way, nature solved my problem with the buck. A huge buck moved in and almost killed the nutty little buck and run him off, never to be seen again.

Update on Gao Jiying's Camellia Book

By Jean Comber
Pensacola, Florida

Editor's Note: The following is a letter from Jean Comber concerning our previous article (Summer, 1998) on the new Camellia book by Chinese author Gao Jiying's. His book is entitled "World's Best Camellia Cultivars."

September 17, 1998

Dear Jim,

I am enclosing Gao Jiying's correct E-mail address. The correct address is (risf@fyptt.zjpta.net.cn) I left out a letter so that messed things up. I received my book last week and it is beautiful. The pictures are beautiful - the names are in English but the descriptions are in Chinese.

Just received the Atlantic Coast today and was very interested in the web page. We were at the Gulf Coast last week and they had a discussion about getting a web page. Grant Black of Slidell is working on it - I think Jerry Thompson is helping on it too.

All of the web sites listed in the Journal were interesting. We like E-mail because you can just write a few bits of news and it takes a lot less time than writing a letter, or less expensive than long distance. We hear from friends now that we used to only hear from when we got their Christmas card.

The weather was terrible in Mobile last weekend - rain and more rain. Some of the people could not get there from Texas and some of the folks from New Orleans had to go home because of high water. We had a good time but the women could not do much shopping.

Hope all is fine with you all.

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ATLANTIC COAST SHOW DATES

- January 9-10: Gainesville Camellia Society
 The Oaks Mall
 Gainesville, Florida
- January 9-10: Tallahassee Camellia Society
 Tallahassee Mall
 Tallahassee, Florida
- January 16-17: Aiken Camellia Club
 Aiken Mall
 Aiken, South Carolina
- January 23: Thomasville Garden Club
 Thomasville Garden Center
 Thomasville, Georgia
- February 6-7: Charlotte Camellia Society
 Carolina Place Mall
 Pineville, North Carolina
- February 6: Savannah Camellia Society
 Oglethorpe Mall
 Savannah, Georgia
- February 13-14: Mid-Carolina Camellia Society
 Columbia Mall
 Columbia, South Carolina
- February 20-21: North Georgia Camellia Society
 Atlanta Botanical Gardens
 Atlanta, Georgia
- February 20-21: Fayetteville Camellia Club
 Cross Creek Mall
 Fayetteville, North Carolina
- February 27-28 Massachusetts Camellia Society
 The Arnold Arboretum
 Jamaica Plain, Mass.

- February 27-28: Tidewater Camellia Club
Independence Mall
Wilmington, North Carolina
- March 6-7: American Camellia Society Convention
Camellia Society of Sacramento
Sacramento, California
- March 6: Middle Georgia Camellia Society
Houston Mall
Warner Robins, Georgia
- March 13-14: Piedmont Camellia Club
Holly Hill Mall
Burlington, North Carolina
- March 27: Virginia Camellia Society
Chesapeake Square Mall
Chesapeake, Virginia
- April 10-11 Camellia Society of the Potomac Valley
U. S. National Arboretum
Washington, D. C.



Atlantic Coast Camellias Editor, Jim Darden, enjoys the Chelsea Flower Show in London, May, 1998.

CAMELLIA BUDDIES AT



AZALEA SUNSET A LOW COUNTRY REGISTERED NURSERY

by **Bill McDavit**

Bill McDavit is a retired Electronic Design Specialist from the Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, D.C. He specialized in radio direction finding and Navy space systems projects. He is a U.S. Naval veteran of the Korean War, and is an active member of the Veteran's of Foreign Wars Post 7288 in Calabash, N.C. He is a golf enthusiast, and works as a starter/ranger weekly at River Hills G&CC in Little River, S.C. Bill and his wife, Mary, have been married for 46 years. Before retiring to Sunset Beach, N.C. in 1988, where they became azalea addicts, Bill and Mary lived in Oxon Hill, MD for 32 years. Previously, Bill has written articles for The Camellia Journal and The Azalea, Journal of the Azalea Society of America.

When Jim Darden called and asked if I'd be willing to write an article for the ACCS Journal about azaleas, I was not only flattered but flabbergasted. I'll give it a go, but realize please, I'm only an enthusiastic layman.

Unbeknownst to Jim, he was instrumental in Mary and me getting interested in collecting azaleas. We were introduced to his wonderfully color illustrated book, GREAT AMERICAN AZALEAS, in June of 1988. Sadly, this manuscript went out of print shortly after that. In our opinion, a revised edition is long overdue, but may be in the offing.

Mary and I are retirees who collect rhododendrons, azaleas, camellias and iris species/varieties. We specialize in testing and evaluating plants in-ground in our 3/4 acre garden, and lecture

and write about extending the azalea (includes camellias now) blooming season. We have no green house; only a cold frame set in the ground. We use root cuttings from those varieties that we deem special, and give the grown versions away at our lectures or to friends. We do not sell anything. Strange? Well, to quote the famous columnist, Dave Barry, "There is a very fine line between "hobby" and "mental illness"." Perhaps we qualify.

Initially, we were very green hobbyists with an extremely limited background in horticulture.

(We had yet to learn what a camellia was, so you can see how green we were). Back then, we were members of the red-white-pink-and-purple crowd, not even knowing that azaleas had varietal names. We became aware of Jim's azalea book at a local nursery, while we were still in the initial landscaping stage. We bought the book on the spot, intending to have it help us make color selections. Little did we know that later on we would try to locate and procure every azalea variety described in Jim's book. We haven't made it yet, but we've not



'Bart Colbert Var.' growing in the collection of
Bill and Mary McDavit at Azalea Sunset.

quit trying.

That was Phase I, if you will, and took place in the summer of 1988. Over a ten year span, we have collected and planted more than 1700 azaleas, of which 950 of them are different registered varieties. These hybrids have been collected from nurseries in seventeen eastern and southern states.

We've collected rhododendrons, also. Most cold hardy rhododendrons we've purchased have not lasted a year. Maybe one or more of you learned horticulturists can explain why. Is the reason because of the lack of a winter's nap (the ground does not freeze here)? Anyway, we've resigned ourselves to collecting only those rhododendrons that are

propagated by southern nurseries.

All rhododendrons we've gotten from the Gulf Coast areas have set buds and flourished exceptionally well. We have nurtured and named six rhododendron seedlings, purchased from Cotton & Thornton (Pushepetappa Gardens) in Covington, LA.

Our evaluation parameters include winter foliage, plant growth, effects of direct sunlight, susceptibility to disease, insects and drought, as well as, flower color and style, which tend to be individualistic likes and dislikes. We try our best not to be subjective about that, but personal tastes seem to get in the way, quite often.

To be continued. . . .



Camellia Ladies Lawanda Brogden, Rosemary Elliott, and Bonnie Serpas enjoy the Annual ACCS Meeting in Myrtle Beach. (Shepard)



ATLANTIC COAST CAMELLIA SOCIETY

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RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED

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CAMELLIAS ♦ ♦ ♦

