

Atlantic Coast Camellias

JOURNAL OF THE ATLANTIC COAST CAMELLIA SOCIETY



'Tomorrow Marbury's Light Pink'

ATLANTIC COAST CAMELLIA SOCIETY

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PRESIDENT	Ed Powers 234 Braxlow Lane Wilmington, N. C. 28409 (910) 799-4410
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ASST. SECRETARY AND TREASURER	Gloria McClintock 1325 E. Barden Road Charlotte, N. C. 28226 (704) 366-0207
HISTORIANS	Bill and Donna Shepherd 4724 Park Place East Charleston, S. C. 29405-4759 (803) 744-4841
EDITOR	Jim Darden P. O. Box 1087 Clinton, N. C. 28329 (910) 592-1424 (910) 592-3725 jdarden@intrstar.net jdarden@sampson.cc.nc.us

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COVER GRAPHIC

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This fine bloom of Camellia japonica 'Tomorrow Marbury's
Light Pink' is shown at the head table of a camellia show.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Ed Powers
Wilmington, N.C.



I am sorry to report that I missed about half of the shows in North and South Carolina area due to arthroscopic surgery on a knee. I hear that the shows in Charleston, Columbia, and Charlotte were a great success with a large number of outstanding blooms.

The nemesis of the outside grower, i.e., freezing weather, struck with a vengeance this year. In Wilmington we had one day at 10 degree F., and several days in the teens. We then had warm weather for the Wilmington (our biggest show in 10 years), Fayetteville, and Greensboro shows followed by another plunge into the teens. This

sounds like a weather report, but it demonstrates how variable the weather was in this year. Now there is only one show left for this year and that is in Norfolk.

Now the fun time of year is upon us. Of greatest importance is finding where we can get hold of a Royal Velvet Var. to compete with Parker Connor of Edisto Island, S.C., who has been winning everything in the unprotected category this spring with that bloom. Then its time to do the things I love like picking up the last dead blooms, pruning, fertilizing and spraying.

The planning for the next annual meeting at Myrtle beach is under way. We decided at the meeting last fall that we would have the Friday night party by the pool catered, as well as Saturday morning breakfast, and include both in the price of the meeting. A lot of our members come a day to two early and find it difficult to bring food for a covered dish dinner. It appears at this point that we will meet again this year at the Sand Castle if we can get a few details worked out. More details will follow.

I hope all of you have a safe summer.

Ed Powers

CAFFEINE, ANYONE?

The consumption of caffeine by humans in a beverage began long ago, probably first derived from the leaves of *Camellia sinensis* in China. It is thought that the use of tea began nearly five thousand years ago, far outdating other beverages. The following note was published in Nursery Notes, the journal of the North Carolina Nurserymen's Association.

Caffeine is a naturally occurring substance found in the leaves, seeds

or fruits of more than 60 plants. Note the following history of some popular caffeine-containing beverages:

Tea dates from 2735 B.C. when evergreen leaves accidentally fell into boiling water at an emperor's party, creating a heavenly smelling drink.

Coffee beans were used as money and consumed as food in 575 A.D. Soft Drinks with caffeine were created in 1884.



CAMELLIA
SASANQUA

JIM PINKERTON

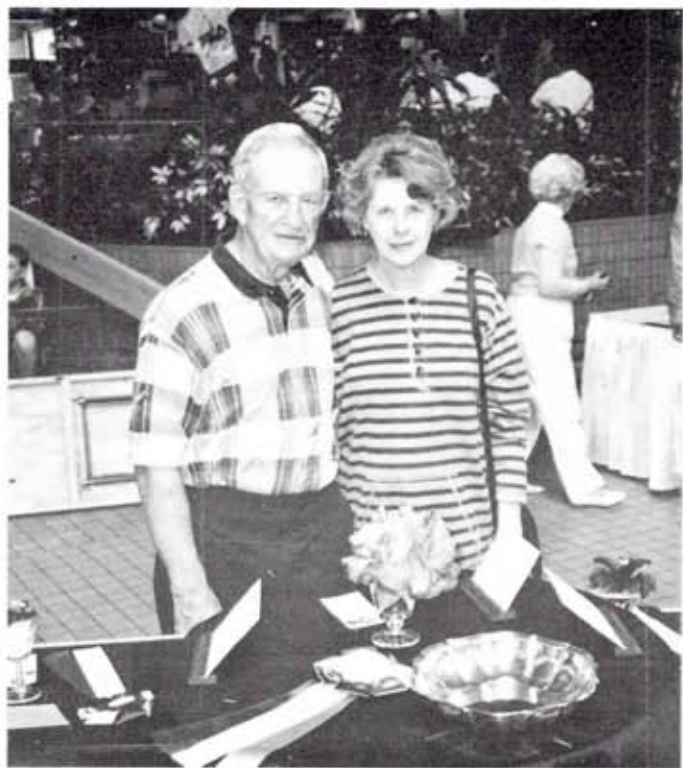
by Jim Darden

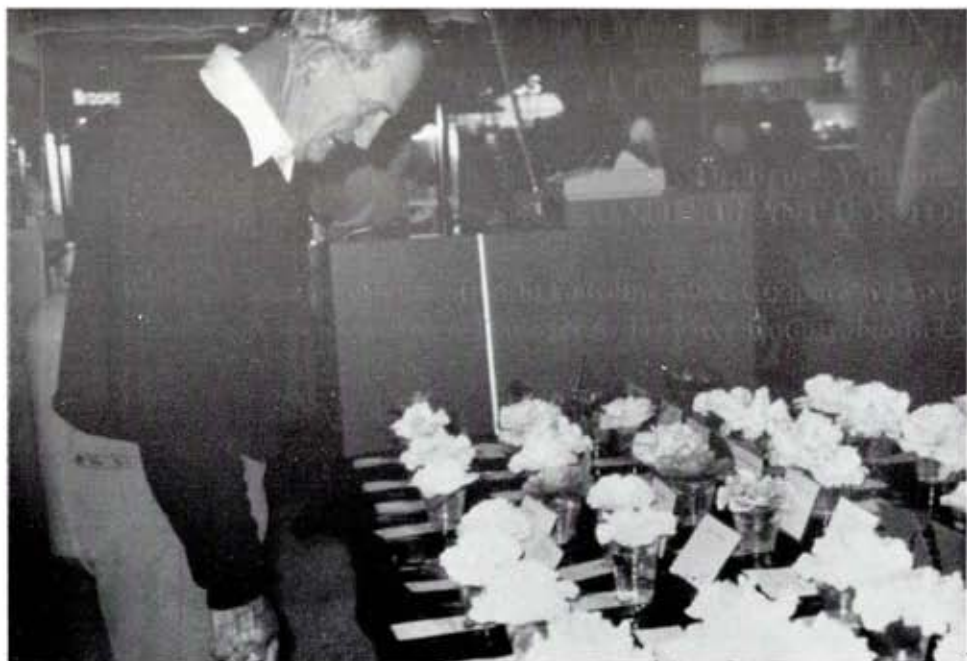
Jim Pinkerton has emerged as one of the best show camellia growers in the eastern United States. A resident of Lugoff, South Carolina, Jim made a name for himself as one of the top high school football coaches in the South. He coached at schools in Kingstree and Columbia before ending his career at A. C. Flora High in Columbia. Later he was executive director of

the South Carolina High School Athletic Association, and a distinguished Atlantic Coast Conference basketball referee.

In 1955 Jim was visiting a coaching friend in Columbia when he began to admire the beautiful camellias growing at the friend's home on a bluff overlooking the Saluda River. Before long he had been introduced to outstanding

Jim and Pat Pinkerton proudly displays their "Best in Show" bloom of Graem Yates Var. at the Wilmington Camellia Show.





Master camellia grower Jim Pinkerton surveys his championship flowers at a camellia show in Charlotte, North Carolina.

camellia growers Howard Rish and Dr. Herb Racoff. All three men soon had greenhouses for their camellia collections, and friendly competition began between the three friends to produce the best flowers.

Today Jim Pinkerton and wife Pat have three large greenhouses on his farm near Lugoff which house over 1200 fine camellia plants. These specimens are growing in the ground rather than in containers. Of all the many great camellia varieties in Jim's collection, he considers

'Hall's Pride Var.' as "the best camellia that God ever put on earth."

Jim's philosophy is to gather several duplicate plants of the varieties he considers the finest, knowing that this will provide him with many blooms from winning cultivars each week during the show season. Indeed, Jim says that his goal is to get 20 plants of the best 40 varieties. To further increase his chances of winning show trophies, he might step this up to 40 plants of the top 20 varieties. You can bet that *'Hall's Pride Var.'* will have a

substantial population in his collection of the future.

White-flowering cultivars that Jim rates as best include '*Ruffian*,' '*Silver Cloud*,' and '*Silver Chalice*.' At the top of his list of pink varieties are '*Tomorrow Park Hill*,' '*Elegans Splendor*,' '*Showtime*,' '*Nuccio's Pink Lace*,' and '*Emma Gaeta*.' '*Helen Bower*' and '*Frank Houser*' join '*Dr. Clifford Parks*' and '*Harold Paige*' as Jim's favorite Reds. '*Tomorrow Variegated*,' along with the great '*Hall's Pride Var.*' head the list of Jim's best variegated camellias.

Jim Pinkerton is an expert at all of the cultural procedures required to produce the finest camellias, and he considers fertilization with a variety of materials as one of the most crucial. Jim uses bloodmeal, a half handful per plant about the first of November, to enhance the

bloom colors. This, he feels, makes the red blooms assume an even redder hue. Cottonseed meal is applied near the end of the season, during March, at about a handful per plant. Then, about 30 days later, the time release fertilizer Osmocote in its 18-6-12 formula is applied, about a half handful per plant. A high nitrogen application of Bulldog Soda, 15-0-0, is used sparingly during the winter dormancy.

In the past few years, Jim Pinkerton has emerged to challenge Joe Austin and Fred Hahn as the premier camellia grower on the Atlantic coast. His flowers are huge in size and fabulous in quality. You can bet that Jim, along with his spectacular '*Hall's Pride Var.*' flowers, will be regular visitors at the head tables of many camellia shows during the coming years.



Aiken Camellia Show

Aiken, South Carolina
W. Lee Poe, Jr., Chairman
750 Blooms

Best Bloom In Show: **Hall's Pride Var.**

Mr. & Mrs. Howard Rish, Winnsboro, SC

Best Large Japonica Open: **Miss Charleston Var.**

Parker Connor, Edisto Island, SC

Runner Up: **Helen Bower Var.**

Parker Connor

Best Large Japonica Protected: **Tomorrow Lisa**

John & Sandra Penny, Four Oaks, NC

Best Medium Japonica Protected: **Nuccio's Jewel**

John & Sandra Penny, Four Oaks, NC

Best Small Japonica Protected: **Something Beautiful**

John & Sandra Penny, Four Oaks, NC

Best Miniature: **Ann Clayton**

Elliott Brogden, Columbia, SC

Best Reticulata: **Jean Pursel**

Joe Austin, Four Oaks, NC

Runner Up: **Frank Houser Var.**

Jim & Pat Pinkerton, Lugoff, SC

Best Hybrid: **Delores Edwards**

Jim & Pat Pinkerton, Lugoff, SC

Runner Up: **Julie Var.**

John & Sandra Penny, Four Oaks, NC

Best Collection of Three Alike:

Annabelle & Lew Fetterman, Clinton, NC

Best Collection of Five Different:

Jim & Pat Pinkerton, Lugoff, SC

Best White Bloom: **Charlie Bettes**

Julia Leisenring, Aiken, SC

Best Seedling: Jim & Pat Pinkerton

Gold Certificate—Open: Parker Connor

Gold Certificate—Protected: Lew & Annabelle Fetterman

Silver Certificate—Open: Ed & Lu Powers, Wilmington, NC

Silver Certificate—Protected: Jim & Pat Pinkerton

NEW CAMELLIA FACES — 1995

by Meyer Piet

Let's talk about some of the flowers Lee and I have seen this 1995 season. '*Kristy Piet*,' a 1 1/2" to 2" diameter, high, formal, is a beautiful white to light pink flower with occasional pink specks or streaks. This season our '*Kristy Piet*' developed and bloomed two sports, one a dark red formal with a few white streaks and the other a pink formal with dark red and white streaks. Both new flowers are as beautiful as the original flower. We grafted the two different scions and in a few seasons we will know if the new flowers will "hold." I consider '*Kristy Piet*' a better and more exciting flower than '*Pink Perfection*.'

We have about three plants of '*Joanne Gaeta*' in the ground and they bloom beautiful 4" to 5" diameter, 3" high, full peony medium pink flowers. The flower is a cross of '*Charlie Bettes*' x '*Elsie Jury*' (Japonica x Saluenensis). This flower should be winning shows in the non-retic class.

It was this flower we crossed into species *Granthamiana* to eventually obtain '*Phil Piet Var.*' which bloomed 6" to 7" diameter, pink and white flowers the last three

years. This cross has one part *Chrysantha* in its blood line (Japonica, Saluenensis, Granthamiana, and Chrysantha). The flowers bloom early December, January and February. We are using the pollen for back-crossing into yellow flower.

Since Lee Gaeta and I have been doing this new seedling work for so long, we have many plants that now have three or four different Camellia species in their blood line.

An example of this type of work is a flower we call the "White Retic." About 10 or 15 years ago I obtained a large 3" diameter single, white Saluenensis flower scion from Descanso Gardens. When the grafted scion bloomed (2 or 3 years) I crossed it with pollen from *C. reticulata* '*Crimson Robe*.' It set seed and produced two new flowers, which we call White Retics. They are frosty white, semi-double hybrid flowers that have a faint blush of pink on the back side of the back petals.

We used these as seed setters for a number of years and then I purposely used the pollen of our flower '*Hallelujah*' ('*White Chalice*' x '*White Cloud*') and obtained a new

plant that bloomed a 4" to 5" fully formal, white speckled Reticulata hybrid flower. It occasionally stacks its petals. Yes, it has its parents' faint blush of pink in the back petals.

When I first saw the new flower I was so struck by its beauty that I named it '*White Lightening*.' Now a potential new face in the Reticulata hybrid show competition, of all things, a double formal white Retic. I don't know how it will be judged, but its flower is so unusual compared to our other show

winners — '*Emma Gaeta Var.*,' '*Larry Piet*,' '*Arcadia*,' etc., that it could be a show stopper. It is on an excellent bushy plant with Japonica-type leaves.

The last 3 or 4 seasons we have had an overabundance of beautiful new formals and peony-form flowers that are outstanding. I have taken 35 mm color slides and now have a slide show that will make an excellent Camellia meeting program. There are 60 or so slides included.



After a hard afternoon of shopping Delores Edwards and Louise Gerbing soothe their tired feet in the hotel sauna in Myrtle Beach.

(Photo by Shepherd)

American Camellia Society and Robert Ehrhart of the Northern California Camellia Society have a slide show set and will help me evaluate the new flower candidate for possible introduction by obtaining audience reaction. If you would like to “play the game,” I will

send each different country a slide set. Hopefully, I will obtain enough data to select the outstanding new flowers.

Yes, we are still working on yellow. We have a 3 inch diameter yellow-orange, semi-double flower that we are using in our hybridizing work. But, that’s another story.



Ann Blair Brown, Executive Director of the American Camellia Society, and Bill Shepherd enjoy a pool party at the ACCS annual meeting in Myrtle Beach. (Photo by Shepherd)

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 if you want a membership card.*

PLANTING CAMELLIAS

by Ogle Hess

(Reprinted with permission from *If I Can Do It, You Can Too*,
by Ogle Hess, Wilmington, N.C., 1993.)

Most camellias grow and produce better flowers when planted in light shade. It is better to plant in a northern or western exposure—protected from intense morning sun. Tall pine trees offer an excellent growing area since they filter the sun and generally block high winds.

Do not plant where shade trees with shallow roots will compete with plants for nutrients and water. (I do have some plants near dogwood trees, but fertilize them more frequently than others.)

Good drainage is essential. Camellias love an adequate supply of water but can not stand wet feet. Do not plant next to the house where roof runoff will pour on the bush. Reflected heat from the house is not beneficial to larger plants. It is best to allow 5'-6' between plants.

Dig your hole at least twice as large as the plant's rootball. When I plant a camellia I dig the hole about 1' to 2' wider than the root ball but leave the center of the hole undisturbed. This allows the plant to be placed in the hole in such a way to avoid soil settling.



Ogle Hess

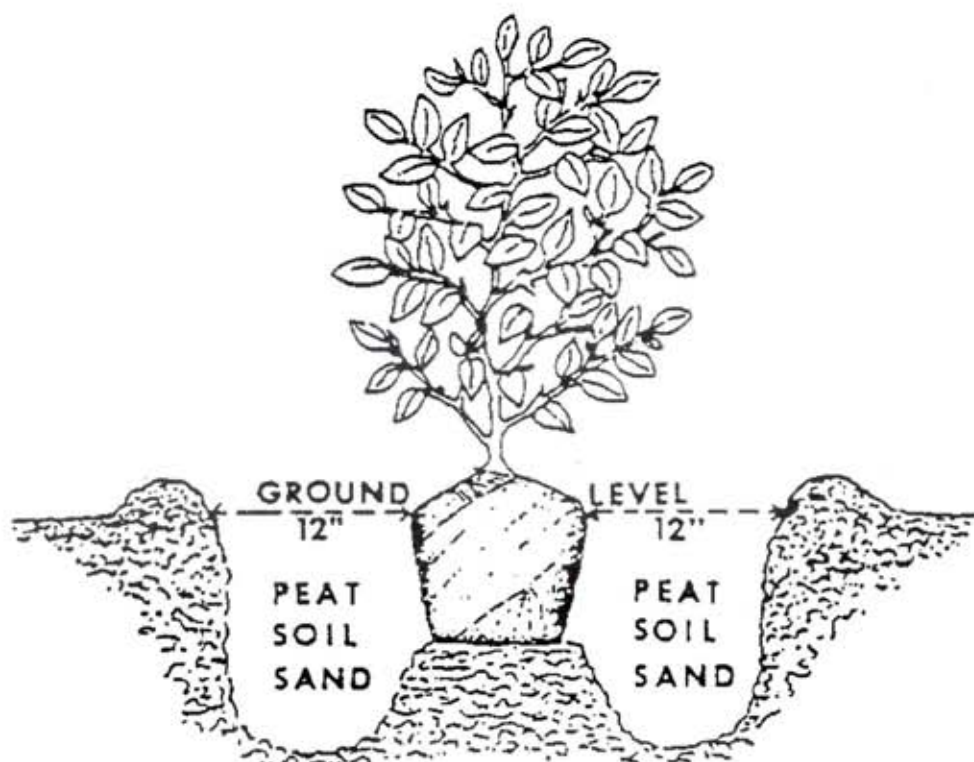
Mix the soil you remove with 1/3 soil, 1/3 peat moss, and 1/3 pine bark mulch (not pine bark nuggets). I usually check the pH of this mixture and adjust the pH to a level of 5.5 to 6.5 on a pH meter. This can be done by adding lime to raise the pH or adding aluminum sulfate to lower the pH. pH meters cost approximately \$12.00 at most garden shops.

Place your plant on the raised portion of the center of the hole so

that the crown of the plant is 1 1/2" to 2 1/2" above the soil level. Fill the hole around the root ball with the mixture of soil. Tamp down firmly with the feet as you fill, sloping the soil so that it may be watered and avoid runoff. One way camellias are temperamental is in the depth of planting. More plants die from being planted too deep than

any other cause.

If you are planting a containerized camellia, wash some of the soil from the rootball and loosen up the outer roots with your fingers. DO NOT FERTILIZE A NEW PLANT FOR AT LEAST THREE TO FOUR MONTHS. MULCH WITH 3"-4" OF PINE STRAW, NOT LEAVES.



The Right Way To Plant A Camellia
(American Camellia Society)

Hardiness of *Camellia Japonica* in Richmond, Virginia

by Rosalie Nachman

I realize 35 years of growing camellias does not make me an expert, but perhaps a few observations will be helpful.

Temperatures in Richmond can easily go to six to ten degrees below zero in January and February. We're OK—if the temperature stays below freezing no more than one week. After a week the plants desiccate (dry out) and can die almost to the ground, or, completely or partially defoliate. I've seen that happen twice in 35 years and, frankly, it's

not too bad; most plants survive.

I grow, at present, about 70 varieties—all Japonicas. Many are old varieties bought from Mr. Howard at Laurel Lake. Seedlings are prolific and some are rather exciting (a *Magnoliaeflora* seedling, just like mother but with a red stripe; also, a Rose Hill Red, only it's white with peppermint stripes).

Azaleas are another passion of mine—every different variety I can get my hands on: Robin Hills, Satsukis, Polly Hills, Linwoods,



Rosalie Nachman working with Camellias in her garden in Richmond, Virginia.



Rosalie's Garden in Richmond has an extensive collection of azaleas (evergreen and deciduous), rhododendrons, and camellias.

Back Acres, Nuccios, Girards, and on and on. I do love the deciduous ones, too—great colors.

Ferns of many kinds, along with trillium and other wild flowers, seem to “ground” or naturalize an otherwise stiff garden.

The new *Kalmias* are another favorite. I’m trying another dozen varieties this year from Dick Jaynes; he’s a real expert on the subject. *Pieris* fits into this type of garden very well, and there are lots of new varieties there, too.

To me, a compost is a must. I never put a camellia or azalea in the ground without at least one good bucket dug in and around the soil

where I plan to put my new plant. I’ll plant or move a plant any time except hot summer days and bitter cold days. Feeding can be done—as long as it’s not heavy feeding—almost any time, as long as you “wet it in” with rain or hose. Winter (December—February) is a good time to feed—snow and rain can slowly take it to the roots.

Air layering is the best way to propagate in order to get a large budded plant in one year. We’ve put on as many as a hundred air layers in a day. One of the hardest jobs is to cut down old, tired, or not exceptional varieties, admit defeat and try something new.

Some of the most hardy varieties for the Richmond area, ones I've grown for at least twenty years, are listed below. Do be careful of what is sometimes sold in nurseries—too early or too late varieties—which will be hurt by either cold or heat. Of those listed below, the most cold-hardy camellia I have experienced is **Paulette Goddard**.

Red Japonicas

Rose Hill Red
Brilliant
Paulette Goddard

Pink Japonicas

Dr. Tinsley
Magnoliaeflora
Elegans (Chandler)
C. M. Wilson
Jacks

Variegated Japonicas

Cabeza de Vaca
Kitty
Sawada's Dream
Admiral Nimitz
Gov. Mouton
Lady Vansittart
Bella Romano
Carter's Sunburst



Camellia notables and veteran judges Buddy Cawthon, Atlanta, Ga., Elliot Brogden, Columbia, S.C., Mildred Robertson, Ninety Six, S.C., and Kathryn Allen, Wilmington, N.C., study fine camellia blooms.

Editor's Column

by Jim Darden, Clinton, N.C.

What a season it has been. I had every intention of attending at least four, perhaps half a dozen, shows this winter to see all the good people, photograph the blooms, have fun, etc. But alas, I only made it to two. Snow in Charlotte, too icy to go to Charleston, too busy landscaping to go to Greensboro or Norfolk, and so on. The best laid plans oft go astray.

One bright spot this winter was certainly your response to my request for help. In the last issue I said that YOU can provide the best articles for this journal. When you respond with articles about Camellias and Camellia people everyone finds them interesting. It is the best way to have an outstanding journal. And you really came through in the clutch.

First there was Rosalie Nachman from Richmond. What a wonderful lady. Many years ago I gave a program on azaleas to the American Rhododendron Society in Petersburg. Rosalie and her husband, who were in the retail clothing business in Richmond, invited me to tour their garden. And what a fine one it was (is). I was amazed to see the rhododendrons, deciduous and evergreen azaleas, Camellias, and much more growing in Rosalie's landscape.

Then Jerry Hogsette, editor of the Gainesville Camellia Society



Journal, wrote and kindly offered us access to the information in that journal. Did you know that the Gainesville Society is on the internet, and has over 100 Camellia varieties pictured in color? Just search under "Camellia."

Then Dr. Herb Racoff wrote from Columbia. He has procured permission from Meyer Piet, an outstanding California grower and breeder, to print a very good article about new Camellia varieties. And Sil Caruso, my friend from here in Clinton, co-authored an article with me following up on his article in the last journal on air layering. Ogle Hess provided some of his Camellia writings from Wilmington.

Such a great response will insure that we have good information for you in upcoming issues. How about it, Charleston, Aiken, Norfolk, and Atlanta. Let us hear from you.

Jim

The Daikagura Family

by Jerry Hogsette
Gainesville, Florida

Daikagura and its sports have been favorites with Camellia growers since the early 20th century for a number of reasons. First, the flowers are produced early, and over a fairly long period of time. Second, the flowers are good sized, with colors that range from red to pink to white, all sports included. Finally, the plants are tolerant of a wide range of climatic conditions. The foliage is attractive and the leaves

are deeply serrated. Unfortunately, the habit of growth is willowy and rather slow. Like other Camellias that have been with us for a number of years, the **Daikagura** story from its beginning to the present is interestingly convoluted along the way, as individual Camellia experts tried to piece together the facts necessary for proper classification.

According to the 1996 *Camellia Nomenclature*, **Daikagura** was



Sharon Herring, former instructor at Sampson Community College, enjoys the variegated form of 'Camellia japonica Daikagura' in Annabelle Fetterman's greenhouse.

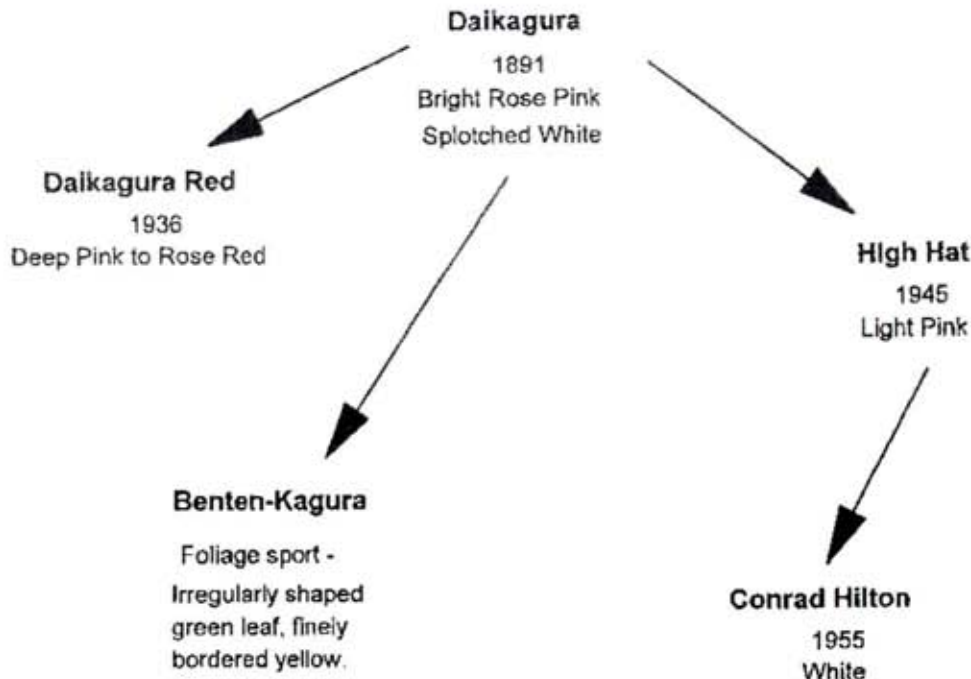
developed at the Yokohama Nursery in 1891. Waterhouse (1948) found it listed for the first time in the 1895 edition of the nursery's catalogue. Pronunciation of this Japanese name, which means 'great sacred dance,' has presented many problems, hopefully not for the Japanese speakers, but certainly for English speakers.

There are several variations based on how people think the name

should be pronounced, and be advised that your choice of pronunciation might be quickly corrected, depending on who is listening! The phonetic pronunciation guide in Sharp (1957) indicates that his pronunciation choice is DYE-KUH-GOOR-UH, with the accent firmly placed on the third syllable. However, in the southeastern U.S. the favored pronunciation seems to be DYE-

Daikagura Family -

Unless stated, size is medium to large,
and form is Peony.



KA-GOOR-UH, with the accent on the second syllable and the 'a' in 'ka' sounding like the 'a' in cat. Take your pick of these and other.

Although I could not find the year that **Daikagura** actually reached the States, J. E. Youtz, Jr. (1949) remembered that his father purchased his first **Daikagura** plant in Pasadena about 1911. It was soon after this that years of confusion arose about **Daikagura** colors and names. The first recognized variety to sport from **Daikagura**, as listed in the 1996 Camellia Nomenclature, was **Daikagura Red** in 1936. But according to Waterhouse (1948), a white sport of **Daikagura** named **Shiro Daikagura** was listed and described in the 1895 edition of the Yokohama Nursery catalogue. Could this be true?

Youtz, Jr. (1949) described a transaction where his father in 1920 was given some camellia seeds from Japan by the owner of a nursery in Montebello, CA (apparently F. M. Uyematsu, owner of Star Nursery). Youtz, Jr. went on to state that from these seeds his father developed several names varieties, including a white one his father named **Youtz White Daikagura**! Supposedly a seedling of unknown parentage, this was subsequently named **Joshua E. Youtz**. But Camellia Nomenclature lists **Joshua E. Youtz** as a Japanese

flower imported by the Star Nursery in 1915! If **Youtz White Daikagura** was actually a seedling of **Daikagura**, what happened to the white **Daikagura** sport, **Shiro Daikagura**, listed in the 1895 Yokohama Nursery catalogue? Fendig (1958), in his **Daikagura** family tree, listed **Joshua E. Youtz** as a **Daikagura** seedling, but what led him to that conclusion is unknown to me.

Gerbing (1943) described and pictured **Daikagura** as a solid rose-red flower and **Daikagura Variegated** as the rose-pink and white variety. **Daikagura** is also described as a red bloom on a 1930 camellia import list from the Star Nursery (Williams and Thompson, 1950). Because camellia flowers are more commonly a solid color first and then subsequently variegated, it is easy to understand why Gerbing thought that **Daikagura** was the solid variety and not the reverse. Apparently this confusion was common through most the 1940's (Waterhouse, 1948).

In 1945 the **Daikagura** sport, **High Hat**, appeared. This bloom is light pink fading to white towards the edges of the petals. Soon, a reverse **High Hat** appeared (Whitfield, 1950). This bloom, which is predominately white, was called **Daikagura (Ward)** or **Ward's Daikagura**. It is now

known as just a heavily variegated strain of **Daikagura**. In 1955 **Conrad Hilton**, a white sport of **High Hat**, was registered. What? Another white **Daikagura**?

With all of the high tech genetic methods available today, we may one day solve the mystery of the **White Daikagura**. But, while we

are all waiting with bated breath, don't wait any longer to add members of the **Daikagura** family to your camellia collection. The flowers are beautiful, and you will probably be the first one on your block with Japonica blooms each fall!



Are camellia growers happy people, or what? Carl Allen, former ACS President, and George Gerbing enjoy the Wilmington Show.

Atlanta Camellia Show—1996

Atlanta, Georgia

John T. Newsome, Show Chairman

652 Blooms

Best Local Japonica Open: **Gov. Mouton**

Peggy Snoeyenbos, Atlanta, Ga.

Runner Up: **Pink Perfection**

Gary Spikula, Atlanta, Ga.

Best Japonica Open—Outside Atlanta: **Candy Stripe**

Lee Poe Jr., Aiken, SC

Runner Up: **Royal Velvet**

Warren Thompson, Fort Valley, Ga.

Best Very Large Japonica Protected: **Mrs. D. W. Davis Special**

Jim & Pat Pinkerton, Lugoff, SC

Runner Up: **Silver Chalice**

Fred & Clara Hahn, Charlotte, NC

Best Large Japonica Protected: **Miss Charleston Var.**

Fred & Clara Hahn, Charlotte, NC

Runner Up: **Helen Bower Var.**

Buck & Tyler Mizzell, Santee, SC

Best Medium Japonica Protected: **Elaine's Betty**

Fred & Clara Hahn, Charlotte, NC

Runner Up: **Elegans Supreme Var.**

Fred & Clara Hahn, Charlotte, NC

Best Small Japonica Protected: **Little Susie**

Fred & Clara Hahn, Charlotte, NC

Runner Up: **Kay Berridge**

Jim & Elaine Smelley, Moss Pt., MS

Best Miniature: **Man Size**

Curt Smith, Atlanta, Ga.

Runner Up: **Fircone Var.**

Warren Thompson, Fort Valley, Ga.

Best Reticulata: **Janet**

Jim & Pat Pinkerton, Lugoff, SC

Runner Up: **Hall's Pride Var.**

Fred & Clara Hahn, Charlotte, NC

Second Runner Up: **Jean Pursel**

Paul & Marie Dahlen, Aiken, SC

Best Hybrid: **Rose Bouquet**

Fred Hahn, Charlotte, NC

Runner Up: **Elegant Beauty**

John T. Newsome, Atlanta, Ga.

Best White Bloom: **Elegans Champagne**

Jim & Pat Pinkerton, Lugoff, SC

Runner Up: **Sarah Alice Ruffin**

Fred & Clara Hahn, Charlotte, NC

Gold Certificate—Protected: George & Jane Griffin, Nashville, TN

Silver Certificate—Protected: John T. Newsome

Grow Natural

The approximate N-P-K contents of common organic fertilizers:

	Nitrogen	Phosphorus	Potassium
Bone Meal (Steamed)	2.0	28.0	—
Bat Guano	3.0	8.0	1.0
Cottonseed Meal	7.0	2.0	2.0
Earthworm Castings	2.5	0.37	0.28
Egg Shells	1.2	0.4	0.2
Fish Emulsion	5.0	0.5	1.5
Hair	12.0	—	—
Oak Leaves	0.8	0.4	0.2
Oyster Shells	0.4	10.4	0.1
Pine Needles	0.5	0.1	—
Potato Skins	—	—	5.2
Sawdust	0.2	—	0.2
Seaweed (Dried)	0.7	0.8	5.0
Soybean Meal	7.0	1.2	1.5
Spanish Moss	0.6	0.1	0.6
Sweetpotato Skins	—	3.3	13.9
Wood Ash	—	2.0	6.0
Tobacco Leaves	4.0	0.5	6.0
Tomato Leaves	0.4	0.1	0.4
Wheat Straw	0.5	0.15	0.6

NOW IS THE TIME TO TEST YOUR SOIL!

by Dr. Bruce Williams
'THE PLANT DOCTOR'

(North Carolina State Cooperative Extension Director,
New Hanover County, North Carolina)

Many experts recommend that you sample your soil every year. For homeowners, a soil sample every two or three years is sufficient.

Soil analysis is free or relatively inexpensive, and now is a good time to get your soil tested. There is no need to apply fertilizer when the plant can't use it, or when sufficient quantities already exist in the soil for plant growth.

Soil testing is the intelligent, environmentally sound approach to gardening in the 90's. Time spent on tests will be repaid many times over in healthier plants, fewer pest problems, and fewer weeds. A soil test is the best way to determine the health of your soil.

Sampling technique is critical for a valid test. Define each area that you will sample. For example, most home gardeners should sample the front yard, back yard, vegetable garden, rose garden, perennial flower beds, shrub beds, camellia areas, and others.



The objective is to provide a sample that will represent all the cultivated soil on the site.

Soil types in many residential areas are variable, so the more subsamples collected the better the sample. Use a soil probe or small spade to collect the top four inches of soil in established turf or gardens. Collect subsamples in 10 or 12 locations and mix the subsamples in a clean plastic bucket. Metal or chemically contaminated buckets will give false results.

After all subsamples have been collected and thoroughly mixed in the bucket, place at least one heaping cupful of the soil in a

sample box obtained from your county extension office. Follow the instructions on the box and fill in the information sheet, then return filled sample boxes to the extension office or testing lab.

Several weeks later, you will receive the test results. Beginners

should focus on the soil pH and the "Suggested Treatment of the First Crop."

The pH is the measure of soil reaction. If the pH is not correct for growth, then any fertilizer will be wasted.

The pH will determine the



The long and the short of camellia growing—Lew Fetterman (6'8") and Molly Howell (5'2") enjoy the winning trays in Wilmington.

ability of the soil to make nutrients available for plant growth. Plants can't extract nutrients from soil that is too acid or too alkaline. Unless the pH is adjusted to the correct level, adding fertilizer or other amendments is a waste of time. Soil pH is adjusted with limestone or sulfur. Limestone neutralizes acid soil. Sulfur acidifies alkaline soil.

Use powdered dolomitic agricultural limestone for adjusting pH of new ground or when tilling old plant debris into the ground.

Either pelleted or powdered lime is fine for established lawns or gardens. Most soils in the coastal plain are very acidic because of leaching by heavy annual rainfall.

Some sandy soils can acidify quickly, dropping as much as 0.5 pH units in a season.

Extreme care should be used if applying sulfur to acidify soil. Sulfur has side effects, in addition to acidification. It is converted to sulfuric acid in the soil and tends to strip away many nutrients from soil particles. Excessive or improper sulfur application can lead to trace element deficiencies in plant growth.

Most soil texts recommend adding fertilizer nutrients. Numbers on the fertilizer bag represent the percent of nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium in the fertilizer.

A hundred pound bag of 8-10-12 fertilizer contains 8 pounds of nitrogen, 10 pounds of phosphorus, and 12 pounds of potassium.

The needed fertilizer can be applied in many ways. For example, the soil analysis may recommend 1.6 pounds of nitrogen and 4.8 pounds of potassium, or, 20 pounds of 8-0-24 fertilizer per 1000 square feet of garden or lawn. You can reach the recommended soil fertility by applying 20 pounds of 8-0-24 per 1000 square feet or 32 pounds of 5-0-15, or 16 pounds of 10-0-30, or 22 pounds of 0-0-22 mixed with 5 pounds of 33-0-0.

If you have questions check with your county extension agent or a reputable garden or farm center. Fertilizer should be applied to the soil before or during active growth depending upon the crop. For more information on proper limestone and fertilizer use, request literature from your cooperative extension agent.

Coastal Carolina Camellia Show-1996

Charleston, South Carolina

1087 Blooms

Best Large Japonica Open: **Lady Laura**

Parker Connor, Edisto Island, SC

Runner Up: **Tomorrow Var.**

Parker Connor

Best Medium Japonica Open: **Magic City**

Parker Connor

Runner Up: **Funny Face Betty**

Gail & Bob Reese

Best Small Japonica Open: **Black Tie**

Parker Connor

Runner Up: **Lady Hume's Blush**

Parker Connor

Best Large Japonica Protected: **Elegans Splendor**

Joe Austin, Four Oaks, NC

Runner Up: **Lady Laura**

Buck & Tyler Mizzell

Santee, South Carolina

Best Medium Japonica Protected: **Magic City**

Jim & Pat Pinkerton

Lugoff, South Carolina

Runner Up: **Betty Sheffield Supreme**

Ann & Mack McKinnon, Lugoff, SC

Best Small Japonica Protected: **Grace Albritton Starfire**

Ann & Mack McKinnon

Best Reticulata Open: **Valentine Day**

Parker Connor

Best Reticulata Protected: **Harold L. Paige**

Ann & Mack McKinnon

Best Hybrid Open: **Waltz Time**

Parker Connor

Best Hybrid Prot.: **Phil Piet Var.**

Ann & Mack McKinnon

Best Miniature: **Tama Bambino**

Bill & Donna Shepherd

Charleston, South Carolina

Best White Bloom Open: **Snowman**

Bob & Gail Reese

Best White Bloom Protected: **Ruffian**

Jim & Pat Pinkerton

Best Novice Bloom: **Betty Sheffield**

Howard Rish

Best **Miss Charleston** Open: Parker Connor

Best **Miss Charleston** Protected: Fred & Clara Hahn

Best Seedling: Jim & Pat Pinkerton

Gold Certificate—Open: Parker Connor

Gold Certificate—Protected: Lew & Annabelle Fetterman, Clinton, NC



These camellia ladies attending the ACCS meeting last October in Myrtle Beach are Mildred Robertson, Mable Austin, Lu Powers, and Pat Pinkerton. (photo by Shepherd)

Remaining 1996 Camellia Shows:

November 16-17:

Valdosta Camellia Society
Valdosta Garden Center
Valdosta, Georgia

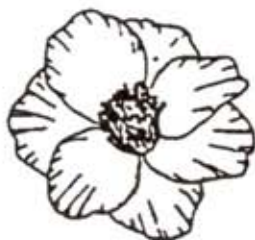
November 20-21:

Federated Garden Clubs of Waycross
Suntrust Bank of SE Georgia
Waycross, Georgia

December 7-8:

Island of Beaches Camellia Society
Jacksonville Beach Womens Club
Jacksonville Beach, Florida

CAMELLIA FLOWER FORMS



ATLANTIC COAST CAMELLIA SOCIETY

Jim Darden, Editor

P. O. Box 1087

Clinton, N. C. 28329



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