

Carolina

Camellias



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Carolina Camellias

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About the Cover

'ROSEA SUPERBA VARIEGATED,' a beautiful form of an old favorite, 'ROSEA SUPERBA,' a sport of 'MATHOTIANA.'

S. C. CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President's Message



JOHN A. TYLER, JR.

DEAR FELLOW MEMBERS:

I was happy to see so many of you at our meeting in Columbia, and I hope to see even more of you at the Dutch Luncheons in Charleston and Spartanburg. I am sure that you will enjoy the fellowship and all the Camellia talk. Come and bring another camellia grower with you, what better way could there be to introduce them to the South Carolina Camellia Society.

Thank you for making me your president for another year. I shall try to do a better job this year than I did last year. With your help, we can make this a banner year for the SCCS. Talk to your camellia friends who do not belong to the society and persuade them to join. You will be doing both them and the society a favor. The more members we have the better job we can do for camellias—our favorite flower.

Come to the shows—Bring your blooms—Bring your friends.

You will enjoy the day . . . see the new varieties . . . see old friends. And who knows, you may take home the silver for "BEST IN SHOW".

Sincerely yours,

JOHN A. TYLER, JR.,
President.

GEORGIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President's Message



STUART WATSON

DEAR MEMBERS:

Once again I want to urge all of you to write anything of interest on the subject of camellias, culture, varieties personalities, or anything else, that will help him. Carroll is doing such a good job I received a letter from him last week asking for my letter to the membership for the winter issue on or before November 15. This is fine, but it's awfully hard to realize summer is over and camellia season has arrived.

Upon receipt of Carroll's letter, instead of sitting down and writing I began to put my plants in the greenhouse, patch the windows that would leak cold air, check over the heaters and get ready for another season of beauty and fellowship. So far I've had blooms on about 25 varieties, and Bill Mathis told me he has already had more than 50. At the dedication of the Jr. College in Albany last week, all of the wives of the State Officials and other dignitaries wore "show blooms" that had been donated by Spencer Walden. The South Georgia Camellia Society has just held its first meeting.

I am looking forward to seeing as many of the membership as possible at our various meetings during the year and at the Georgia shows. With the coming of gib to full stature, there will be more shows than ever and more opportunity for all of us to get together and exchange ideas. Bring your blooms to the shows to help those who are doing the really hard work from which we all benefit. A show is a cooperative thing. It's hard work for the local people, and it involves some work for those of us who get up early in the morning, pick and pack blooms, and carry them for many miles to enter. But it is more than worth the price in effort to be able to get together and enjoy the fruit of the labor of the local committees.

By the time this letter is published, the November meeting in Macon will be over, but we will still have meetings scheduled for Atlanta on January 13th and for Moultrie in February. Try to be at both these meetings as I know the program committees will make them most enjoyable.

Sincerely,

G. STUART WATSON,
President.

N. C. CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President's Message



L. L. TRAMMEL

DEAR MEMBERS:

The North Carolina Society held its fall meeting at the Blockade Runner in Wrightsville Beach on November 5. The weather was beautiful and there were over two hundred members in attendance at the luncheon.

A. J. "Preacher" Parsons, President-Elect of the A. C. S. spoke on the preservation of Massey-Lane through contributions by local clubs, state societies, and individual members.

Members of the Coharie Men's Garden Club, the Whiteville Camellia Society, and the Tidewater Camellia Club did a commendable job on details for this meeting.

The show was "bigger and better" and certainly a very pleasant occasion for all members and guests.

Your new officers and directors are listed on a separate page. Let's strive to increase our membership this year. Take time out to speak to someone about our Society. We are very anxious to serve you in any way we can.

Our host for the spring meeting is the Piedmont Men's Garden Club, Greensboro, which will be held March 18, 1967. Let's turn out in numbers never before heard of. Support your Society and Greensboro. A program of this meeting will be sent to you at a later date.

Your comments or criticism, and also any suggestions as to how we may increase our membership or to improve our Society are welcomed.

Sincerely,

LARRY L. TRAMMEL,
President.

VIRGINIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President's Message



EUGENE M. WORRELL

DEAR MEMBERS:

Since our first meeting of this season which was held in September, it has been most gratifying to see new and renewed interest in our favorite hobby, the camellia.

You will recall, that as announced the Virginia Camellia Society provided each member and guest with Gibberellic Acid to get them off to a good start.

At that meeting we were pleased to have 68 members and 24 guests present. Six of the guests have become new members.

For many years our favorite fall blooms including the gorgeous debutante High Hat, Joshua Youtz, etc., have shown promise only to be nipped by frost and freezes! But not this year. More than ever, our members are enjoying the beauty of these species plus additional magic that "Gib" gives to them. Those who have been reluctant to indulge in this process, are now enjoying blooms which prior to this time have appeared in late winter.

Our first Fall Show is to be held at the John Coleman Memorial in Portsmouth, Va. A dinner and social hour with the show are expected to make the occasion one to be pleasant and remembered.

Incidentally any of our friends from other areas who visit Norfolk or Portsmouth, will find the John Coleman Memorial Garden, an experience well worth the trip. It is truly a wonderful and appropriate tribute to our late and beloved John Coleman, who contributed much of his time, and much of his self to Camellias.

I believe, I speak for all our members who attended, that appreciation and congratulations are in order to the North Carolina Camellia Society for the enjoyable Fall Show and Meeting at Wrightsville Beach on November 5th. It was an inspiring kick-off for the season. It is hoped that in the future more Virginia members will join in the enjoyable occasions and participate in the Carolina Shows.

We are very proud of our Preacher Parsons who has just been elected President of the American Camellia Society. Preacher takes the gavel at one of the most important times of the American Camellia Society, the beginning stages of the foundation fund for the new home of the Society which will be an everlasting tribute to the loveliest of all flowers, and those who are responsible for perpetuating their development and beauty.

The Virginia Camellia Society again assures our President our full support.

It has been brought to our attention that the name "Virginia Camellia Society" has led to some misconceptions concerning the extent of our organization. The society consists of members principally from the Tidewater area, and is not a parent organization of the various societies in the State. We are now in our 26th year. This longevity might account for our name being a bit presumptuous.

At the writing, we have 165 members, and are working hard towards a goal of 200.

As a start, we are pleased to have contributed \$500.00 to the Massee Lane Foundation from our treasury. Also the proceeds from our "Gib" and Hypo Pen sales will be donated.

If each of our members would get one new member, we would double in size. So I hope we will all work together and do our best to enlarge our society.

Looking forward to our best season, I remain

Sincerely,

EUGENE M. WORRELL,
President.

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SPENCER C. WALDEN	Albany, Ga.
C. B. BUTLER	Columbus, Ga.

South Carolina Camellia Society Holds Fall Meeting

The South Carolina Camellia Society held their fall meeting at the Wade Hampton Hotel in Columbia on Saturday, November 19th. The meeting began with a luncheon at 12:00 Noon. President John Tyler presided. Report was made by the nominating committee. All officers and directors were re-elected for another term. Herbert Benson discussed the American Camellia Society Foundation, set up to provide for the operation of permanent Headquarters at

Massee Lane Camellia Gardens in Forth Valley, Georgia, and invited those who wished to have a part in this to make contributions. Frank Brownlee, Chairman of the Test Garden Committee, introduced Dr. L. W. Baxter, who led a most interesting discussion on Dieback on Camellia plants.

Following the meeting the group adjourned to the South Carolina national Bank on 900 Assembly to attend the camellia show.



Dr. L. W. Baxter, Botany Dept., Clemson University, talks on Dieback on Camellia plants.

Camellias

By BOB BAILEY

County Agent, Richland County, Columbia, S. C.

First of all, meet the Camellia. I think one must have a complete understanding of the requirements of a plant under cultivation. Something of its origin and background, where how and under what conditions it prospers without any care whatsoever.

Equipped with such knowledge, one who wishes to grow it under cultivation has merely to duplicate the natural environment as closely as

possible to be assured of success. Consequently I shall begin with a description of the Camellia in its native surroundings.

Imagine yourself in the midst of a semitropical forest. The vegetation, though lush, is open rather than impenetrable. Around you on all sides are eye-catching plants ranging in height from a few feet to more than 20 feet.

Officers and Directors of South Carolina Camellia Society



Front Row: Paul Rush, *Secretary-Treasurer*; Pete Horne, *Vice-President*; John Tyler, Jr., *President*; Mrs. J. W. Wood, *Director*. Second Row: H. D. Preguall, *Vice-President*; H. L. Benson, *Director*; George Poe, *Director*; Frank Brownlee, *Chairman, Test Garden*; William Garoni, *Director*; Frank Key, *Director*.

There are wild azaleas and rhododendrons, not quite ready to bloom. Spreading rather than growing upright, many of these handsome plants send ambitious branches skyward to catch the spots of light coming unhindered through the canopy overhead.

And growing in clusters among other plants is an especially attractive shrub, neater than the others, adorned with beautiful foliage that looks as though it had just been polished. These plants bearing an abundance of blooms, are Camellias.

Some of these have showy flowers of bright red, some of pink and some of white . . . others, variations of these colors. All open to show golden stamens. You can detect a delicate, spicy fragrance borne on the sun-warmed, gentle breeze, that rustles through the trees. It is the subtle perfume from the camellias. You discover some of these plants are thirty-foot trees, with trunks at least a foot thick with small blooms which seem to be as numerous as the leaves.

Beneath your feet is a thick carpet of decaying leaves and twigs. You kick your foot into the mulch and note the earth below. Some of it has a brownish cast where the rot of decaying vegetation is incomplete. Some is blackish, loose soil that readily breaks up in your hand. You look more closely and find a few small stones in each handful. The soil in your hand is completely moist, but it does not lump though you press it as hard as you can. When you drop it to the ground, it crumbles again.

The rain is heavy now, but no water collects on the forest floor. The leaf carpet breaks the raindrops' fall and sucks the moisture down into the rich soil. Tiny rivulets forms and surface water quickly disappears, leaving no mud anywhere. The shower is soon over, the sun shines again and little evidence of rain remains. But the air is fresher, and the leaves are clean and glistening . . . glossier than when you first admired them.

This was a visit to the home of the Camellia which might well have been in the vicinity of Junming in the province of Yunnan, China, whence came the twenty-odd wonderful varieties of Camellia Reticulata now available in our section.

The natural camellia belt lies along the coast of China and offshore islands, including Japan and Formosa.

This region is also one of the homes of the tea of commerce . . . Camellia Sinesis as it is known botanically. Both it and its first cousin *C. Sasanqua*, which is also used to some extent for beverage purposes, are closely related to the handsome *C. Japonica* and *C. Reticulata*.

It is said that a British trading company in about 1700, commissioned one of its sea captains who was embarking for China, to bring back specimens of that country's tea plant. The company intended to try to grow tea in Europe and thus to make unnecessary the hazardous, time consuming, and expensive importation of tea from so far away. Realizing the probable result of allowing their tea plants to get to Europe, the China growers decided

to protect their lucrative trade by giving the Englishman specimens of the ornamental camellia instead of the plants he had requested.

In this odd way the introduction of the Japonicas into England is said to have come about. From there it was eventually distributed throughout Europe, America and Australia. This story colorfully illustrates the close relationship between the tea of commerce and the camellia with which we are concerned.

Kinds of Camellia

Only a few of the camellia species bear sufficiently attractive flowers to have merited widespread cultivation to date. Measured by the yard stick of popularity there are in fact, only three presently of major importance: The Japonicas, Sasanquas and Reticulatas. There are other species that are rapidly becoming better known and considered to have ornamental value.

In growing camellias take a lesson from nature. In studying the natural environment of the camellia, as I have related above, we find it is quite obvious that the plant we are dealing with is primarily a slow-growing tree with all the characteristics of that superior form of growth. In fact, there are many points of similarity between the camellia and the California live oak, for the two grow both as trees and shrubs.

Their seed not only lose vitality rapidly if not planted when fresh, but also germinate very similarly, each sending out a very vigorous taproot. When the live oak is small it grows almost as symmetrically as does the

camellia, although its rate of growth is somewhat more rapid. Both the camellia and the live oak are very long lived and they thrive in close proximity. Many of their cultural practices are similar, although the live oak needs less water in summer because its roots go deeper. Poor drainage and a soggy root system is fatal to either.

If you have live oaks on your grounds, you are indeed fortunate because the oaks and camellias make a most desirable combination. The live oak provides the filtered sunlight the camellia needs as well as a never ending supply of oak leaf mold, that important planting soil component that is so difficult to obtain.

Since the camellia is a tree, it must be regarded as having a certain amount of ruggedness. This does not mean hardiness, however, for its practical limit of cold resistance is only about 8 degrees F. The idea that a camellia plant must be "babied" is erroneous.

The camellia is a slow growing tree that flourishes in a temperate climate having relatively high humidity and abundant rainfall. Since it grows best under the shelter of taller trees, it prefers to have some protection from both sun and wind.

The soil must be light and loose in structure and to a reasonable depth, at least, is composed largely of decayed vegetation. The bottom soil is slightly heavier in texture but is well drained because it contains particles of eroded rocks. Little or no clay is present and so no mud forms following a rain.

A study of the camellia in its natural surroundings establishes the fact that its basic cultural requirements stated in the simplest terms are these: Perfect drainage, constant moisture, soil that is loose and acid, shallow planting, and protection (some shade and shelter).

In our next write up I shall give you the future of camellia growing and the choosing of and planting a quality camellia.

—CAROLINA CAMELLIAS—

Letter to the Editor

The following, part of a letter was so interesting I asked for and received permission from Fred Brookins to publish it in Carolina Camellias.—ED. NOTE.

Believe it or not, I've been busy since April building a 24 x 52 plastic (corrugated) greenhouse, and this has taken all the time I could spare from my other work with nozzles and accessory items. This greenhouse is unlike any other—so is every other similar construction in which the builder wishes to come up with "something new" and different than all others. There are no two alike. And another thing: too many of us who "nail down" hard and fast pronouncements to the "inexperienced Amateurs" on the subject of How, When, Where and What, too often wish we had a "Chic Sale" to duck into until the avalanche of erudition blows over and the "Wise World" has a chance to forget our soundings off. Remember the July issue of last year's Journal in which this Guy sounded off on how

NOT to drag your plants out of the greenhouse just 'cause it was to be a "long, hot summer"? Well, "good authority" (a guy well known to us all) now advises to move them OUT for the hot weather. Fertilizer is good (if used right), pruning is beneficial (if timed right), gibbing is the thing (if moderation is used). Systemics are wonderful insecticides (if you know how and when to use them) and Camellias are wonderful plants and the care of them a wonderful hobby —(if you care enough for them to successfully grow good blooms). So, the old adage "Be not the first by whom the new is tried; nor the last to lay the old aside" has me blocked because (being 71 "going on 72"), what I know is old and crusted over, and what's new is too unstable to rush into print with. So, I expect to stick to a handful of basic Truths, and maybe, after all rush in where—others have smoothed the way.

Nevertheless, what others write I like to read about, for, like the young man whose heart accelerates when the name of his "only" is mentioned, mine "prances like a young colt" when someone speaks of or writes about that most wonderful of all shrubs: the CAMELLIA!

Respectfully yours,

Fred C. Brookins

—CAROLINA CAMELLIAS—

The Camellia Season will soon be in full blast. Get all those odd jobs out of the way so you will have your Saturdays free to go to Camellia Shows.

Fall Meeting—North Carolina Camellia Society

The fall meeting of North Carolina Camellia Society was held on November 5, 1966, at Blockade Runner Motor Hotel, Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina.

This was one of the largest and finest fall meetings North Carolina Camellia Society has enjoyed in many years. New officers elected were: Larry L. Trammel, of Hickory, President; Irvin Nixon, of Elizabeth City, President-Elect; William W. Delaney, of Wananish, Vice-President; Mrs. Melba Hinson, of Whiteville, Executive Secretary and Treasurer; and Mrs. W. T. Rainey, of Fayetteville, Historian. President Trammel will appoint a Secretary within a few days.

Following the luncheon, the nearly two hundred members attending heard an excellent, instructive and challenging address by Allison J. ("Preacher") Parsons, President-Elect of the American Camellia Society.

The Mrs. R. L. McMillan perpetual plaque, honoring the Honorary Life President of North Carolina Camellia Society, to be presented each year to the North Carolina camellia show obtaining the most new members for North Carolina Camellia Society, and the Robert Holmes perpetual plaque, honoring the first president of North Carolina Camellia Society, to be presented each year to the North Carolina Camellia show having the most attractive membership booth were both presented for 1966. The Mrs. R. L. McMillan plaque was awarded to the Wallace Council of Garden Clubs

and the Robert Holmes plaque was awarded to Men's Piedmont Camellia Club. With each plaque award an honor certificate was presented.

In addition, Mrs. R. L. McMillan was belatedly presented a certificate signifying her election as Honorary Life President at the first meeting of North Carolina Camellia Society in October, 1949.

In cooperation with this meeting Coharie's Men's Garden Club of Clinton, Tidewater Camellia Club of Wilmington and Whiteville Camellia Society presented a very beautiful fall camellia show. Gladys and Jim Pinkerton of Columbia, South Carolina, stole the show, winning the best bloom in show ('BETTY SHEFFIELD PINK VARIEGATED'), runner-up best bloom in show ('MATHOTIANA SUPREME'), and placing five of twenty blooms on the honor court. Seedling No. 11, entered by Little Red Barn, of Georgetown, South Carolina, was awarded an A.C.S. Provisional Highly Commended Certificate, and Usubeni entered by R. R. McVey, of Wilmington was adjudged the best sasanqua. Gold Certificate Sweepstake was won by Mrs. Wilbur Brown of Monroe and Silver Certificate Sweepstake was won by Gladys and Jim Pinkerton.

Upon invitation of Men's Piedmont Camellia Club, the spring meeting of North Carolina Camellia Society will be held in Greensboro on March 18th, at the time of the Greensboro Camellia Show.

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Hybrid Rhododendrons

By FRANK KEY, Florence, S. C.

In the spring issue of 1965 Carolina Camellias I wrote about my experience and success on the above subject. I repeat again what I wrote then, if you don't have a hybrid Rhododendron you are missing a pleasure words can't express. They bloom after Camellias and Azaleas are gone. They take the same type soil—should be built up so you can have good drainage. A good mixture of well rotted sawdust, well rotted cow compost, and peat moss. I use finely ground bark from hardwood trees. This is put out by Roundwood Corp. of this city. It takes the place of peat and half the price. I have used it on everything that blooms and found it, if anything, better than peat.

Hybrid Rhododendrons can be grafted—even easier than Camellias. They graft with no trouble on our native Rhododendrons plants. I use the cleft graft with green understock and green scions. July is the time when both are green. This is tip grafting on an old native plant. As a rule you will have several stems come out on tip of plant. Cut all back except the one you intend to graft on. This one you cut back to just where you have enough room to work with. In graft you spilt your understock the same as Camellia. Cut your green scion in wedge shape. That is, you cut both sides to a fine end as this end must go to bottom of cut on understock. The understock heals from bottom up. Be sure that no exposed

portion of scion is visible at top. Just so the cambium layer matches on one side. Of course, wrap this with rubber band to hold in place as you would Camellias. I use aluminum wire to hold plastic bag off scion. As Rhododendrons require moisture I moist sphagnum and wrap around the union then put plastic bag on. As in tip-grafting camellias I put a paper bag to keep the sun out.

I have found the following a good grower in our section of the State: 'PINK PEARLE', 'DELAMAR', 'RED HEAD', 'FABIA', 'MRS. LEAK', 'JEAN MONTIGUE', 'BLUE PETER', 'DAVID GABLE', 'AMERICA', 'ROSEUM', 'CHRISTMAS CHEER', 'CYNTHIA'—the fastest and one of the prettiest: 'WIND BEAM', 'MARS', 'DAVIDSONIANUM', 'JANET WHITE', 'LADY CHAMBELAIN', 'VULCAN', 'MATADOR', 'BEDFORD', 'EVENING GLOW', 'PURPLE SPLENDOR', 'LADY BLIGHT', 'CRIMSON GLORY', 'COTTON CANDY' (if you don't buy but two, let that be one of them), 'MRS. CHARLES PEARSON', 'ANGELO SOLVENT QUEEN' and 'HARVEST MOON'.

I bought the last seventeen plants from Comerford's, Box 100, Marion, Oregon. I couldn't have bought nicer plants anywhere and the price very reasonable. I bought plants from him both by express and mail and they all came in good condition.

As a last word, I'll say they are easy to root. All you have to have is a covered plastic box, jar, or what you have you.

Reticulatas in Virginia

By CHARLES URQUHART, JR.

Readers of Carolina Camellias who year after year have viewed with awe the many lovely specimens of various cultivars of *Camellia reticulata* exhibited in our shows by greenhouse experts in Virginia and the Carolinas and have walked away sadly shaking their heads and mumbling to themselves "these are not for me" can take renewed heart. Retics can be grown outside and Mrs. W. K. Crockett of the Bayside Section of Virginia Beach, has had for many years every February or March the living flower-

ing plants to prove it. No longer must we travel to California to see outside container grown or planted in the ground *reticulatas*. Mrs. Crockett grows under tall pine trees in her spacious garden located at 1130 Shenstone Drive a mile or two from Norfolk's famed Botanical Gardens, seven healthy, symmetrical, lustrous green *Camellia reticulatas* ranging in age from three to twelve years and in height from five to twelve feet. One, 'BUTTERFLY WINGS', came to her as a small plant in a container. The rest were grafted by Mrs. Crockett on *sasanqua* understock. Her retics, according to Mrs. Crockett, receive the same treatment received by the rest of her many camellia plants and, through the 1966 blooming season, have never been fertilized. While her *reticulata* blooms do not ordinarily attain the seven or eight inches in diameter reached by those grown by Joe Austin in his greenhouse at Four Oaks, North Carolina, many of them do grow to five or six inches and her plants in full bloom are a joy to behold.

Mrs. Crockett is successfully blooming in her garden 'BUTTERFLY WINGS', 'SHOT SILK', 'CAPT. RAWES', 'CONFUCIUS', 'LIONS HEAD' and 'CRIMSON ROBE'. How has she succeeded in a field in which our most respected enthusiasts have failed? How, indeed? She insists that she has no secret formulae. She willingly and most graciously shares her methods and her



Mrs. Charles Urquhart, Jr., stands beneath a *Camellia reticulata* tree in Bayside Beach, Virginia.

scions with her fellow members of Norfolk's Virginia Camellia Society. Gardening is her full time occupation and her well-kept acreage with a profusion of camellias and azaleas situated about a mile from Chesapeake Bay and fronting on a small lake evidence her constant attention and tender loving care.

Mr. Frederick Heutte, beloved former director of Norfolk's Botanical Garden who is well known to many of the readers of Carolina Camellias and who is widely recognized in the camellia world as an expert's expert, confesses that he has no ready explanation for Mrs. Crockett's success with reticulatas. He suggests, however, that it may be the result of some unusual soil condition or of a microclimate but attributes most of her achievement to hard work and common sense. All camellia enthusiasts in the area share Mrs. Crockett's pride in her blooms and are gratified that she has been and continues to be able to confound all the manuals, guide books and camellia texts by bringing into bloom in her garden year after year reticulatas that are the envy of most greenhouse growers.

—CAROLINA CAMELLIAS—

DID YOU KNOW THAT

The PH of a soil is important because it controls the availability of most plant nutrients in the soil. When the PH is below 5 most plants become deficient in magnesium and phosphorous, and frequently are damaged by toxicity (excess quantities) of aluminum and manganese. On the other hand, when the PH is above 6.5 plants show deficiency of manganese and iron. The ideal PH for camellias is 5-6.

Spring Show in Aiken

By MARIE W. DARLEN, Publicity Chairman

Mr. Thom C. Evans is Show Chairman for the Show which will again be held in the Kennedy Junior High School on the week-end of February 4 and 5.

Mr. Rufus H. Gaddy, Jr., can be contacted at 511 York St. S. E. for entry cards.

Entries will be received between the hours of 8:30—12:00 noon.

There will be two classes, with NO distinction between treated and untreated blooms.

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Memoriam

By FRED MCGEE

It is with keen regret that we report the death of H. E. Ashby of North Charleston, S. C.

Camelliaphile has lost one of its most dedicated friends and promoters. We have lost one of our dearest friends.

Mr. Ashby served untiringly as a director and president of the SOUTH CAROLINA CAMELLIA SOCIETY and as a director-at-large in the AMERICAN CAMELLIA SOCIETY for many years, resigning from this last post in 1965 due to poor health. Space will not permit the listing of his accomplishments during his tenure of the above named positions. He worked diligently in his modest way without fanfare, letting the results of his efforts speak for themselves. The same was true of his efforts in his successful business career.

Mr. Ashby came to North Charleston in 1927 as a young school teacher from Kentucky and joined in construction of that neighborhood at the ground level.

He left teaching where he also coached football at the North Charleston high school and entered the business world. First in banking and then real estate. He was one of the chief builders of the community. He never lost interest in education and supported many causes, the latest being the new Baptist College. He was one of the organizers and chairman of the foundation which raised money for scholarships and a building program which includes student housing, the

campaign being known as "DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS." He was also an enthusiastic member of the Rotary Club serving as president and district governor. He was a Mason and at one time served as Grand Master of his lodge.

Mr. Ashby will always be remembered by camellia people for the beautiful seedlings he introduced and so unselfishly gave to anyone interested, never seeking any monetary return as he liked to share their beauty with everyone. Of all his beautiful seedlings he never named one for himself but remembered his friends and two grandchildren and daughter-in-law. 'MARK ALAN' and 'TOOEY' for the two boys and 'MARLENE' for the daughter-in-law. Then there was 'JULIA FRANCE', 'MARGUERITE CANNON', 'ELIZABETH DOWD', 'ETHEL MCGEE', 'GLADYS WANNAMAKER', 'ERIN FARMER' and 'JUDGE MARVIN MANN', that come to mind at this time.

The Camellia Show Manual authored by Mr. Ashby was another contribution of his time and money. This manual, although a guide for staging a successful camellia show, was written so that variations could be made to fit any local condition and still keep the running in an orderly fashion if instructions were followed.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Nell Wheeler Ashby of Charleston, S. C. and a son, Robert W. Ashby of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, one brother, Hubert Ashby of Centertown, Kentucky and two grandchildren.

For the Love of the Flower

By MRS. ALEX BRUNSON, Florence, S. C.

All Camellia lovers await the time when they can exhibit their biggest and finest blooms in a show. It is a thrill to see what nature and gib can do in filling the tables with wonderful, beautiful Camellias.

The men like best of all to parade their fabulous specimens. I admit that I do too. A man likes also to see his wife wearing such a sizeable bloom that it almost hides her, and at this point, the wife revels in having someone look behind the flower. Then, we all enjoy carrying trays of fine blooms hither and yon.

When it is time for special occasions at home, an arrangement of lovely camellias gives the feeling of beauty and refinement that it is not easily achieved in other ways. Then it does not mean the biggest and the best. It does mean the daintiest and the loveliest.

For bride and debutant parties, I have seen more 'DEBUTANTES' used than any other camellia. The 'DEBUTANTE' plant is floriferous and a large plant can furnish score of blooms. To be sure that there will be hundreds of blooms available before cold strikes, it is a simple matter to gib the buds in early September and get ahead of the freeze. Nothing looks worse than dead blooms hanging on the plant.

'PINK PERFECTION' is perfect for delicate arrangements in the natural clusters of small shell-like flowers. In the early spring, an arrangement of 'PINK PERFECTION' in a Dresden com-

pote with small, blue Roman hyacinths and other small flowers as scillas and tiny white narcissi create something to remember. On a breakfast tray, a few small, fresh blooms are right to start the day. Honestly speaking, I would not object to seeing the biggest bloom in town on my tray, regardless of proportion. But, I have long since thrown the rule book out of the window.

One of the most artistic and prolific of all Camellias for arrangements is 'MARJORIE MAGNIFICENT'. It is more hardy than 'DEBUTANTE' and the flowers are lighter in weight and color. 'DR. TINSLEY' follows closely behind 'MARJORIE'. Other hardy pinks are 'BERENICE BODDY', 'WILLIE HITE', and 'WINIFRED WOMACK'. Their blooms may be killed one day, but fresh flowers generally appear in a day or so.

For late spring, the exquisite form of 'PEARL MAXWELL' is ideal in a compote or any type of container. Since camellias are usually cut with rather short stems, compote height is best to show them well. Other favored varieties that are excellent for arrangements are 'PINK DIDDY', 'SPRING SONNET', 'HORKAN', 'VIRGINIA RICH', 'NINA AVERY', and 'SAWADA'S DREAM'.

The shattering varieties are to be avoided in arrangements. At least half of the blooms of 'MAGNALIAEFLORE' are likely to be on the table before the day is over. Speaking of shattering, sasanquas come to mind. The sasan-

qua family is good for landscaping, but sasanquas lose their heads faster than any flower that I know. However, if you have only sasanquas in the early fall, it is possible to have a picturesque arrangement if you fix them just before the guests arrive. The sprays fall very quickly and easily into place. Then they are likely to go through the party and that is probably all you would ask of them anyway. 'PINK SNOW' and 'JEAN MAY' are artistic types.

The pink varieties seem to be leading, but pink may not suit your color scheme or the season, but there are others waiting to be named. Our old favorite *j a p o n i c a*, 'PROFESSOR SERGEANT', is my top choice for Christmas and for Valentine. A heart-shaped Valentine candy box may be filled with

red 'SERGEANTS'. Since it is the sentimental season, a lace paper edging may be used around the box. Chiffon and satin streamers could adorn the red composition. We have another advantage with 'SERGEANTS' for we can cut them with long stems when we wish from the huge plants that old gardens produce. 'FLAME' is another hardy and prolific red japonica that arranges well for winter occasions either in a dignified or in a casual manner. One word about the foliage for the arranger: it must be clean and green.

When the glamorous gibbed flowers first start blooming in the fall, it is good to have one great, big, bouncing beauty that you can dramatize in front of some lustrous foliage as Burfordi holly. This is especially good in

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an entrance hall. If the grand old 'WHITE EMPRESS' is in bloom, you may use one flower or as many as you wish if you make a majestic white arrangement in an alabaster urn for the piano. Other large blooms can create a breath-taking picture if you give them space. The families of 'GUILIO NUCCIO', 'TOMORROW VILLE', 'R. L. WHEELER', 'BETTY SHEFFIELD', 'MATHATIANA', etc. make conversation pieces. In the one-to-three numbers in the shows, the "big boys" are often used. However, generally speaking, the small or medium size flowers are decidedly best for arrangements, especially for the dining tables.

It is not necessary to hunt around for new varieties unless you are a confirmed collector. Get the tried and true ones that you know and like for arrangements and for the garden landscape plants. I have not seen a new cultivar in the shows that I would exchange for the proven varieties. Anyway, you can buy a better plant in an old stand-by that will produce more good blooms for a third of the price of a new addition.

Flowering shrubs make splendid companions for camellias arrangements. They give height and lightness to the picture which might otherwise be heavy with japonicas only. The flowering fruits are especially attractive: cherry, peach, plum, pears and quince. Most of the spireas shatter too quickly. The 'WEeping CHERRY' is one of my favorites.

As long as we create something beautiful, we have made the world a pleasanter place. Let us use our most beautiful containers for our most

beautiful flowers: porcelain, crystal, silver or rare Oriental texture. I shall leave it to the young generation to work out the driftwood and modern containers to suit the modern homes.

I hope and trust that the day of the hideous in modern and abstract arrangements in flower shows will soon pass. There is one place that I do not ever want to see a camellia used again and that is in an abstract deal. I do not want to ruin anything as lovely as a Camellia in such company. Camellias are for beauty and not distortion as much of the materials in the weird, so-called arrangements is distorted today. (I might have hesitated to say this if I had not passed the abstract symposium and gotten my master's certificate.) If one has to resort to the junk pile to find the skull of an animal for a flower show, it is a sad day for beauty. But, I have seen it done when camellias were in florescence, and I have also seen the public insulted at sight. The pendulum has swung so far that surely the artistic must return to gladden our wonderful world of flowers. No real camellia lover can arrange the blooms in any but the lovely and elegant manner befitting the queenly flower.

—CAROLINA CAMELLIAS—

Remember it takes water to make Camellias bloom. Don't let greenhouse plants get too dry. Plants outside will probably be getting enough rain.

—CAROLINA CAMELLIAS—

Be sure to carry pencil and paper to every show to list new varieties you see and want.

You are invited
to attend and
participate

A decorative illustration on the left side of the page features a circular wreath-like border containing two large, stylized flowers with detailed petals and several leaves with prominent veins. Below the wreath, a separate stem with three leaves and a flower bud is shown.

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RAILROAD BANK & TRUST COMPANY AND THE AMERICAN CAMELLIA SOCIETY

Old Favorite

Hakurakuten

Regular Feature

By ALBERT FENDIG

This is one of the best white camellias to be found in any garden. It is large to extra large with long, narrow petals which overlap, are fluted and have a satiny texture. There are about ninety central stamens which intermix with petaloids to form a cylinder. The foliage also is distinctive being large, medium green, with both ends tapered to sharp points, and with the margins shallowly and slightly indented. Its growth is vigorous, and generally spreading.

Like many camellias which originated in Japan, HAKURAKUTEN seems to have been called by other names including SHOKKO, HAKUOU, REFUGEE, and WHITE CRANE.

While it is said to have been imported into the United States by Domoto in 1929, its first publication in Japan is in the Chugai Catalog of 1934-1935. Shortly thereafter, in 1938, it was listed for sale by E. A. McIlhenny, of Avery Island, Louisiana.

One of its outstanding seedlings is Mrs. JIMMY DAVIS, a white, striped and flecked pink anemone form, ranging in size from large to very large, and originated by W. R. Wilson, Jr., Hammond, Louisiana.

It is believed that any list of the ten best white Japonicas will include HAKURAKUTEN, and it therefore merits its classification as an "Old Favorite".

—CAROLINA CAMELLIAS—

When buying new Camellia plants, don't go all out for buds. Look for a healthy plant. An investment in a Camellia plant can be a lifetime deal.

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We have above plants in 1-2-3-4-year grafts available. Also, have many other varieties not listed. All plants available at **reduced price**.

Camellias Under Lights

By C. ERNEST HARRISON, Nashville, Tenn.

Mr. Ernest Harrison is administrative assistant to the Pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church in Nashville, Tenn. Mr. and Mrs. Harrison are newcomers in Camellia growing with an aim to develop a retirement hobby that is simple and relatively inexpensive.—Ed. NOTE.

On February 18, 1966 a full-color page appeared in the Nashville, Tennessee evening newspaper titled "Camellias Move Up From Deep South." It included four excellent photos of members of the Middle Tennessee Society surrounded by blooms.

The response was phenomenal. Long overshadowed by the Orchid Society, and numbering less than 20 amateur growers—well, we were suddenly thrust to a pinnacle of prominence in the community.

One of the photos pictured the Harrisons in their "unique greenhouse" and the caption read "Harrisons experimenting with growing camellias under fluorescent lights, an unusual but obviously successful method." This calls for setting the record straight, to wit:

In the Fall of 1964 we succumbed to the siren call of friends and bought our first dozen plants. What to do with them? The answer was to convert the unused basement under our new family room into winter house for our new babies. This is the result:

Room size 17' x 22' with 7½' ceiling, block walls, 2 steel frame windows converted to aluminum storm sash,

and an outside door with aluminum jalousie door added for more light and air. In opposite wall is door into main basement of house. The new room is on southwest rear of house and nearly all above ground.

Between the two doors is an L-shaped brick walk laid on sand with only sand and pea gravel swept in between the bricks. There is one other cross walk to give access to windows. All remaining space is in four terraces, or beds, four bricks high (to save the back). Ground is covered with pea gravel three inches. Ceiling is original aluminum insulating sheeting.

To this we added three rows of five—40W Sylvania GroLux tubes. We also added a water tap and a suspended Arvin Heater-Humidifier with fan. Nothing is automatic, so we have



Basement room being prepared for Camellias by Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Harrison, Nashville, 1964.

the feeling of "doing it ourselves." All of these improvements cost about \$350 in two years. Space is adequate for 50 plants with nice spacing. We now have 34 heavily budded plants in pots, plus two gardenias.

Outside, in the 20 feet between this room and the rear paved driveway, and lightly shaded by a big wild cherry tree, we duplicated the space in three terraces, to have the plants outside from mid-April to mid-October.

Of course we do not "grow" camelias under the light. This enclosed, controlled area does make a very effective "blooming room." Temperature seldom goes below 40°, humidity can be maintained above 60% fairly easily, and the full-spectrum light gives a

luxurious appearance to both blooms and foliage. Ventilation is easy and we are free of the vexing problems of heat and cold common to glass greenhouses. Original cost is reasonable. Maintenance is very low. We have the fluorescent lights on about 10 hours every day, and use only the necessary water, fertilizer, and chemicals, plus a little more electricity for evaporating water and occasional auxiliary heat.

Six months inside in this equable, brightly lighted environment, and six months outside, seems to be agreeable to plants as well as amateur owners.

—CAROLINA CAMELLIAS—

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Flower Arrangement

Regular Feature

Form Follows Function

By MRS. FRED J. HAY, Dillon, S. C.

A flower arranger thinking in terms of modern or abstract sees and uses her plant material as form, line, texture, and color. But whether she designs in modern or more traditional styles an appreciation of form is essential, since "forms, well organized and related, are the first elements to be considered in planning an arrangement."

Form is the external appearance, the bodily contour of anything three-dimensional. The form of an apple has length, width, and depth. A leaf on the other hand has only two dimensions, length and breadth. A painted camellia, although to the eye through the illusion of color may seem to have three dimensions, has only two, length and width. But a big fluffy camellia that wins Best in the Show has that quality of depth also that is so much stressed in contemporary arrangements. In selecting material it is of vital importance to keep in mind the functions of the various forms. There are three broad categories, *rounded, transitional, and elongated*. Thomasson has a phrase,

"Form allows function," which we might do well to keep in mind.

Rounded forms are compelling. They draw the eye like a magnet. They stand out from the adjacent material and are used where strength and eye appeal are most needed. Each form has its own characteristics and distinguishing appearance. Some are solid, heavy, and more or less uniform, as the apple, with great visual weight. Others are not solid and may be fragile and delicate with little or no visual weight—examples, iris and orchids. When three-dimensional shapes are not solid, as an apple, but are open, as a lily, they are called volumetric shapes. The space enclosed is referred to as volume. There is a difference in the feeling of weight between solid and volumetric shapes. Think of the difference between lilies and solid fruit. Each makes its own contribution and demands a different treatment in design. Learn to recognize volumetric shapes in nature, as bell-shaped, cupped, and trumpet-shaped flowers and curled leaves. There should be

a harmonious relationship between fragile forms and other materials used with them. Heavy and solid forms are compatible with more weighty materials. Consider this in planning. The prime function of rounded forms is to create an area of magnetic interest, yet not overwhelm the other elements. Some rounded forms, as camellias, are so compelling our eyes must be led away from them by gradual transition.

Transitional forms reconcile and unify contrasting material. If the design is to remain vital, the relationship within must have changing aspects. The function of transitional forms is to establish this relationship between rounded forms and elongated forms that go to make up a design. They are the go-betweens. An over-emphasized focal area is the most frequent cause of poor transition—our eyes are trapped and it is difficult to move on to other areas of the design. We should be led away from the area of interest by gradual transition in an orderly interesting progression. Clusters of berries, flower sprays as lilacs, half open

buds, some foliage are classed as transitional forms.

Elongated forms are line-like. Their function is to create lines that travel into space. They give charm and character to the silhouette of an arrangement. As the eye is released by them it is drawn back again to the dominant area of interest. Scotch broom, vines, and branches are examples of elongated materials that serve as lines.

The stage of growth may determine the form of a flower. A tight camellia bud on a long stem would be an elongated form, a half open bud a transitional one, and a fully open bloom would be a rounded form. Sometimes the latter can be used transitionally by turning it in profile. Study your material, turning it to see its various aspects, then place it at the angle best suited to your purpose.

—CAROLINA CAMELLIAS—

Attention members of Georgia Camellia Society, pay your dues to: James A. Blissett, 3193 Wynn Dr., Avondale Estates, Ga. 30002.

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Virginia Camellia Society Holds First Fall Show November 19, 1966

By SUZANNE HOLDEN

EDITOR'S NOTE: In order to stimulate more interest in camellias, it was proposed by the directors to give out plastic vials with 6cc of gibberellic potassium acid to all members present at the first meeting on September 6, 1966 and to those guests who joined the Society. The Fall show was then planned hoping to have good results with the gibbing.

The following article by Mrs. Suzanne Holden appeared in the *Norfolk Ledger-Star*:

Portsmouth — Three hundred camellia exhibits in a season when camellias are not even in bloom made the Virginia Camellia Society's first fall show Saturday night a unique horticultural happening for Tidewater.

Welcoming the 100 or more members gathered at the Coleman Memorial Garden Center, society president Eugene M. Worrell of Norfolk said gibberellic acid made the fall show possible. A growth regulator, and in this case, a booster to bloom, the acid is widely used by camellia fanciers now to produce blooms throughout the cold months. The practice is called "gibbing" and in addition to speeding up the blooming process, it nearly always creates a much larger flower.

Mr. and Mrs. Worrell took the best-in-show silver tray for their giant bloom of Mary Agnes Patin. Mr. and

Mrs. Bernard H. Wolter of Norfolk were runners-up, winning a silver trophy for their 'BETTY SHEFFIELD' (pink).

In the six-place honor court were Mr. and Mrs. Alan J. Hofheimer of Norfolk, who entered 'BETTY SHEFFIELD SUPREME'; Dr. and Mrs. J. M. Habel, Jr., of Suffolk showing their 'SEEDLING 107' and a variety called 'TOM CAT'; and Mrs. J. W. Britt with 'ELEGANS', variegated.

Camellia lovers from as far away as Arlington were present for the social hour, dinner and the show. Norfolk and Virginia Beach were heavily represented and others came from Elizabeth City, N. C., Richmond, Portsmouth, Churchland and Courtland. The Virginia Society's spring shows, when camellias are in bloom all over the area, are 26 years old.

The event was a special salute to a Virginia Society member who recently became president of the American Camellia Society. He is Alison J. Parsons, about whom Frederic Huette said, "To grasp the significance of what Parsons has done for us, we have to realize that we are tenderfoots in the American Society. Until 20 years ago, we in Tidewater didn't know much about camellias. And to bring this honor to us, of having the na-



President picks a winner.—Mr. and Mrs. Worrell, *right*, show their 'Mary Agnes Patin' camellia to Mr. Parsons.

tional president in our midst, is a great accomplishment.

"The American Society has always had giants of the horticultural world as its presidents. You really have to 'be somebody,' believe me."

Arthur J. Lancaster, Jr., of Coleman's made a sentimental presentation to Parsons of the John Coleman silver bowl, given in past years at Virginia Society shows for the outstanding camellia collection in the

exhibit. Taking the bowl out of circulation by giving it to Parsons took the form of a memorial to the late John Coleman, whom Lancaster succeeded at the nursery: "After all, 'Preacher' (Parsons) had it most of the time," said Lancaster. Parsons' name is engraved on the bowl five times.

In an after-dinner address, Parsons attacked "a profoundly disturbing sign of our times that such a sentiment (love for the camellia) is fre-

quently challenged." He regards such programs as the one held Saturday night as "the result of a great sense of patriotism." Rather than devotion to the welfare of one's country as defined by a dictionary, this brand of patriotism, he said, is directed instead to God's creation of a beautiful flower.

The challenge to the sentiment evidenced by camellia lovers is the same kind directed towards others once highly regarded such as honesty, piety, love of family, charity, honorable conduct, he believes.

"Our materialistic age has spawned a rapidly expanding belief that unless one can see, hear, smell, feel or taste a substance, it has no reality."

He rejects this "secular concept of the nature of the universe", holding that the basic spiritual values such as honor, duty and charity, "constitute the most powerful of those forces which, in the years to come will shape the character of our world and of its peoples."

—CAROLINA CAMELLIAS—

Winter Meeting of South Carolina Camellia Society to be Held in Charleston

The Winter Meeting of the South Carolina Camellia Society and the annual Spring Camellia Show will be held jointly with the Coastal Carolina Camellia Society of Charleston.

The activities will get underway with a buffet luncheon at the Charleston Inn at 12:00 noon, January 28, 1967.

Following the meeting, members and friends will attend the Camellia Show at the South Carolina National Guard Armory, opposite the Johnson-Hagood Stadium.

The Luncheon is \$3.00 per person. Mail your check to H. D. Pregnall, 1356 Emory Drive, Charleston, S. C. 29407 before January 24th.

Out of town exhibitors who desire show entry cards may obtain them from Albert V. Ewan, 1214 Mae Queen Avenue, Charleston, S. C. 29407

—CAROLINA CAMELLIAS—

Color Your Gib Red

After wasting quite a lot of gib and experiencing extreme difficulty when treating camellia buds up high or down real low on the bushes (wearing bifocals), I decided that if the gib solution were a bright color instead of the clear stuff that I was using, I just might be able to see it better.

If you are unfortunate enough to have to wear bifocals, try this with your gibbing; To each 3 C. C.'s of your clear gib solution, add one drop of just regular red food coloring. Shake well and apply in the usual manner. A small drop of this red gib will shine like a tail light on the green camellia bud. I can now operate without my glasses. This food coloring also seems to tend to stabilize the droplets of gib, making the solution stick better.

—NEAL COX.

Georgia Camellia Society to Hold Winter Meeting

The Georgia Camellia Society is invited to meet with the North Georgia Camellia Society at the 1375 Peachtree St. Building (corner of Peachtree and 17th St.) on Friday evening, January 13th. Meet for Dutch dinner in the Polly Davis Cafeteria on the street floor at 6:45 p. m. Camellia meeting starts at 8:00 p. m. in the Gulf Oil Co. auditorium on the same floor of the building. Door prizes for best indoor and best outdoor bloom. There is easy parking in

the building. Drive into the garage from the alley off of 17th Street at the rear of the building and go to "C" level at the first entrance on the right. There is an elevator to the Terrace or Street Floor level.

No reservations needed for dinner, but make reservations to Mr. or Mrs. Boynton Cole, 1843 Flagler Ave. N.E., Atlanta 30309, phone 872-8321 for tours by private car Friday afternoon or Saturday morning to greenhouses or other points of interest.



Officers and Directors of Georgia Camellia Society at the Fall Meeting in Macon, Ga. on November 15th.—*Seated, Left to Right:* Charlie Butler, Columbus, Director; Spencer Walden, Albany, Director; Stuart Watson, Albany, President; Carl Good, Atlanta, A.C.S., Director; Dr. Frank Houser, Macon, Director; Terrell Weaver, Macon, Vice-President; Jim Peterson, Soperton, Director; Boynton Cole, Atlanta, Director.

Show Dates

<i>Place, Location and Sponsor</i>	<i>Date</i>
Waycross, Ga., First National Bank, The Federated Garden Clubs of Waycross	January 5-6, 1967
Thomasville, Ga., Thomasville Garden Club, Inc., and Men's Garden Club	January 14-15, 1967
Cairo, Ga., Cairo Garden Clubs Council	January 21-22, 1967
Mobile, Ala., Mobile Men's Camellia Club and Gulf Coast Camellia Society in Connection with ACS Annual Meeting	January 21-22, 1967
Charleston, S. C.; Coastal Carolina Camellia Society	January 28-29, 1967
Moultrie, Ga., Cherokee Garden Club	January 28-29, 1967
St. Simons Island, Ga., Cassina Garden Club	February 1, 1967
Aiken, S. C.; Aiken Camellia Club	February 4-5, 1967
Savannah, Ga., Savannah Electric & Power Co. Bldg.; Men's Garden Club of Savannah	February 4-5, 1967
Columbia, S. C., Men's Camellia Club of Columbia	February 11-12, 1967
Georgetown, S. C., Youth Association Center; Georgetown Council of Garden Clubs	February 11-12, 1967
Augusta, Ga., The Georgia Railroad Bank & Trust Co.; The Augusta Garden Council & The Georgia Railroad Bank & Trust Co.	February 18-19, 1967
Atlanta, Georgia; Lenox Square Auditorium; North Georgia Camellia Society, Buckhead Lions Club and the Atlanta Camellia Society	February 18-19, 1967
Wilmington, N. C., Tidewater Camellia Club	February 18-19, 1967
Summerville, S. C., Summerville Camellia Society	February 18-19, 1967
Charlotte, N. C., Cotswold Mall; Men's Camellia Club of Charlotte, Inc.	February 25-26, 1967
Whiteville, N. C., Whiteville Camellia Society	February 25-26, 1967
Fayetteville, N. C.; Fayetteville Camellia Club	March 4-5, 1967
Statesboro, Ga., Ogeechee Camellia Society	March 4-5, 1967
Greenville, S. C., Men's Garden Club of Greenville	March 4-5, 1967
Wallace, North Carolina; Women's Club Building, Wallace Council of Garden Clubs	March 11-12, 1967
Greensboro, N. C., Men's Piedmont Camellia Club	March 18-19, 1967
Elizabeth City, N. C.; Men's Horticultural Society	March 25-26, 1967
Norfolk, Va., Virginia Camellia Society	April 1-2, 1967
Richmond, Va.; The Carillon; Richmond Camellia Society	April 1-2, 1967



Birddogs Corner

By F. B.

These are some you will be looking for.

Ashby's No. 103

This lovely flower is in the "One Alone and Julia France" category. It will probably be named for Mrs. Ann Hackney.

Ashby's No. 104

Large to very large, semi-double to peony. White with pink stripes.

Tooev

A beautiful semi-double to peony, pink (color of Pink Diddy) flower five to six inches.

Sara Abagale

Very large red peony flower. Very thick and real deep.

Cheerleader

A deep rose pink variegated form of Touchdown (Nuccio).

Oh Boy

John F. Marsher's seedling. Flower is five to six inches, full double, intricate and strong purplish pink in color. Different from any other flower I have seen.

Bill Blount

Very large semi-double with two red stripes. Six to seven inches. Will be released by Mark Cannon. It is named for a grandson.

Hody Wilson has two new seedlings that have just been released.

Omega

A very large sweet-pea, semi-double to peony, very pretty. I think Hody's best.

Hody's No. 796

A very large peony red flower, grows good. This one will be named Zephyr.

Tomorrow has thrown several good sports.

Crutcher's pink "Peachie" Sellers' "Tuxedo"

Have seen neither but am told they are both beautiful flowers.

Marbury's Light Pink

Flower a blush color. Exquisite. I think this one will give Park Hill a run for the money.

Leanne's

A sport of Tomorrow's Dawn. An unusual color. I do not care for this one.

Nuccio Sports.

McVay's

Bloom almost white. Picture seen on A.C.S. Journal.

Mrs. Thomas'

A beautiful flower with Betty Sheffield Sup. border. All blooms do not come true but worth taking a chance on.

Patsy Rish

An unusual pink. Gib makes this flower outstanding. Could be a show winner.

Rish's No. 2

A very large pink with rabbit ears. Size up to 7 in. This flower with a good variegation will be outstanding.

Rish's Yellow that smells like Honey-suckles.

I saw this flower grown in a one gal. can, own roots. 5 in. without Gib. A very unusual flower.

E. J. Prevatt of Bonneau has several new, good flowers.

Prevatt's No. 1

A real pretty pink. 5-6 in. Won three A.C.S. awards last year.

Prevatt's No. 504

A full double red, good color. With right variegation could be best in show.



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LAURINBURG, N. C.

Susan Wearn

Full double, medium size. Color is bluish pink with flecks of deeper pink.

Pat Jones

A good peony pink up to 6 in. Has no bad habits. Does not bullhead.

Elizabeth Hickling

A very outstanding flower. Soft pink shading to lighter pink. Large rose form double. I have seen this bloom look good after three weeks on bush. To be released by Mark Cannon.

Bill Arant has one of the best seedlings that I have seen in a long time. Parent plant "Ville". Extremely large, up to 7 in. A beautiful pink with rabbit ears.

No. 522 Neal Cox

The flower opens up with 3 to 4 rows of large slightly ruffled and curled guard petals and plump rosebud center which gradually opens to form a more or less rose form double, with several ruffled rabbit ears interspersed with a few golden stamens. The color is a deep rich red with good substance. Blooms average 5 to 6 inches without gib and 6 inches plus with gib.

It is normally a midseason bloomer and usually opens within 35 to 50 days after being treated. Has not bull-nosed a bloom yet and falls in one piece. Keeps well on or off the plant.

—CAROLINA CAMELLIAS—

Attention members of North Carolina Camellia Society, pay your dues to: Mrs. Melba Hinson, P. O. Box 813, Whiteville, N. C. 28472.

Mr. and Mrs. F. N. Bush Win at Charleston

The Coastal Carolina Camellia Society held its 3rd Annual Fall Camellia Show on November 5-6th, at the St. Andrews Elementary School, Charleston, S. C. Honors for Best in the Show (Treated) went to Mr. and Mrs. F. N. Bush for their Woodville Red., in addition the Bushs also had



four blooms on the Court of Honor along with winning the Sweepstakes. Best in the Show (Not Treated) was won by Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Matchen for their Mrs. Goodwin Knight. Best Seedling went to the Little Red Barn. Others on the Court of Honor were Mr. and Mrs. Tom Evans, Mr. Wm. T. Shepherd, Mr. Carroll T. Moon, Mr. and Mrs. James Pinkerton, Mr. Herbert Racoff, Mr. W. W. Risher, Miss Alice Ann Ector. Sweepstakes for members of Coastal Carolina Camellia Society was won by Dr. Walter Ector. Show Chairman was Victor A. Boudolf, President, Coastal Carolina Camellia Society is James J. Seelig.

Mr. Strother's Fabulous Camellia Garden Given to ACS

By JOE PIVON

At its annual meeting in Sacramento in March 1966, the American Camellia Society's Governing Board unanimously voted to accept Mr. Dave Strother's generous offer of his 7 acre Camellia garden as the site of its new headquarters. This thirty year old garden, known as Masee Lane, near Fort Valley, Georgia, is the most famous camellia collection anywhere.

Since maintenance of such a garden involves considerable expense, Mr. Strother also has given \$25,000.00 and a total of 137 acres of highly productive farm land toward its permanent endowment. This includes 22 acres of Stewart pecans which this season produced 20,000 pounds.

An Endowment Fund has been established and a number of donations ranging from \$5 to \$10,000.00 have been received; however, several hundred thousands of dollars are needed. These funds are being invested in order to produce sufficient income without spending the principal, to maintain the garden, headquarters, the experimental and educational programs, the employment of a horticulturist and carry out other projects. These expenses cannot be paid for out of current annual dues of \$6 nor is it planned to increase dues.

Donations are coming in at a rate sufficient for the Endowment Trustees to proceed immediately with

plans for constructing a fireproof headquarters building and at least one modern greenhouse. When these are completed later this year, headquarters will be moved from Tifton, Georgia.

Contributions to the Endowment Fund have been ruled as tax deductible for income tax purposes by the U. S. Internal Revenue Service.

There are larger camellia collections. Masee Lane contains only the better varieties, species and hybrids. No attempt has been made to collect every variety. The seven acres are beautifully landscaped with boxwood bordered brick walls, cast iron benches, companion plants and a canopy of pines. These gardens are open every day of the year without charge. Already thousands of visitors come to Masee Lane each year. It is located only a few miles off Interstate 75 near Perry, Marshallville and Fort Valley, Georgia, so is easily reached by many of the 7200 ACS members.

The new headquarters building will house the finest Camellia Library in existence including the famous Rubel library which is being given by Mr. and Mrs. William P. Kemp of Goldsboro, North Carolina. A reception room for members and guests and office space are being provided.

If you haven't visited the new ACS headquarters site it is well worth a special trip.

Some Observations of Color-breaking Virus

By J. U. SMITH

These observations are not based on any systematic studies, records or scientific methods. I have read the papers or articles written by the very highly respected plant pathologist, professor emeritus of the Department of Botany, L. S. U., Dr. A. G. Plakidas, with much interest, enthusiasm and appreciation, but I'm still very much an amateur.

From the standpoint of size apparently I never grew up; being just a little over 5 feet, and maybe I am just a little old boy who still likes to see what makes things tick. It's still fun, too—What! you, too? The sophisticated ones would call it research but I think we have more fun and who wants to keep records when fun is the primary motive.

Don't try to put more white (less color) in an already variegated flower. Dr. Plakidas tells us that there are a number of different types of virus which cause color-breaking and one virus could counteract another. Start out with understock that has no known virus and graft a scion of the solid variety that you wish to variegate along with a virus infected scion. You may find that two plants grafted the same way on the same type understock will not give the same results. The condition of the soil and amount of elements varying in the soil will have some affect. Iron sulphate seems to lessen the amount of

white in an already variegated plant to you don't prove much with one graft. Once you get a strain showing less color usually they will hold true pretty well but not always.

'GLENWOOD', a solid red peony seedling, was variegated by use of a scion from a 'KRAMERS SUPREME' which contained some mottled leaves but showed only a few bird shot spots of white in the blooms. 'GLENWOOD' bloomed with more than 50% white throughout the compact center of petaloids with the guard petals remaining almost completely red. Last year a two year air-layer plant from the original plant of 'GLENWOOD' (solid) growing in a two gallon container was placed beneath a large plant of 'CLIFF HARRIS' (variegated form of 'HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH') late in July. An arc graft of two end twigs of the 'GLENWOOD' was made on lower branches of the 'CLIFF HARRIS'. Late October of early November I began arranging my plants in the greenhouse and pulled the arc grafts loose thus separating the plants entirely. One bud on the end of the twig of 'GLENWOOD' bloomed in February showing more white than ever observed in that variety. The new growth on one of the branches shows considerable mottling of the leaves. I expect all blooms of the air-layered 'GLENWOOD' to be variegated this blooming season.

Scions from a good variegated 'VILLE DE NANTES' or 'DONCKELARI' will serve well to variegated other varieties and if the scion of the solid color fails to take you still have a desirable graft. I have found that 'CLIFF HARRIS' and 'MERCURY' variegated, seem to carry a strong strain of virus and does a good job in variegating other varieties. Cut-away the scion used for inducting virus into plant any time after it starts growing but preferably in February of the following year. The growth the first year will help to nurture the roots and by the second year the one remaining will grow sufficiently to do the job.

A large plant may be changed from solid color to variegated by arc grafting a variegated branch from a container plant sitting beneath or beside

the recipient. This may be done also by cutting off one branch and doing a limb graft thereon, using a virus infected scion. This occurs sometimes accidentally by root grafts taking place in plants growing near each other.

The use of stock already infected with the color-breaking virus on which to graft pink or red varieties is an easy method of obtaining a variegated strain. If you have the solid color in any variety (a few exceptions which seem to be virus resistant) and if you have understock there's no problem to getting a variegated plant of the variety.

If you aren't tired of reading please turn to page 108 of the 1962-63 A. C. S. YEARBOOK and read the article by Dr. Plawidas.

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How to Get "Hooked" in Three Years (or Beginner's Luck)

By W. M. "BUS" WALKER, Spartanburg, S. C.

Some five years ago, I moved back to Spartanburg after giving the life of South Florida a try for four years. It wasn't long before one neighbor had given me ten seedlings in quart cans, and another neighbor swamped me with both seeds and cuttings. In as much as I sell Sylvania lamps, it wasn't long before I had my damp basement "flooded" with Gro-Lux lamps and I was really in business. With every seed and cutting seemingly trying to outdo each other, space got to be a problem.

Never having built anything larger than a shoe shine box some 40 years ago, it became evident that my next construction project would, of necessity, be larger than this box. I just had to have a greenhouse.

After one trip to the hospital for a tetanus shot after sticking a nail in my foot, and a second trip to check for broken bones after a bad fall from the roof, my greenhouse somehow got finished, completely lighted with the new wide spectrum Gro-Lux lamps for flower bud formation.

Talk about beginner's luck, in January of 1965 I did 41 grafts and got 38 takes. This year, with all my "experience," my percentage of takes was miserable. Also, my first seedling bloomed this year, with two blooms.

One of these blooms won a blue ribbon at our Spartanburg show and the second bloom gave me a repeat at the Charlotte show. I have named this seedling after my grandmother, the late Dora Dee Walker, known throughout South Carolina as "Mother" Walker, who organized the first 4-H club in the United States.

As this is being written, I am at home recovering from surgery and I hated to miss Columbia's Fall show. However, a camellia friend from Greer was nice enough to take a few of my blooms down for this show. He has just called to say that my 'BETTY SHEFFIELD SUPREME' looked as big as life sitting on the Court of Honor table. Man, I'm as proud as the day my first child was born, as this is my first trip to the head table.

What with activity in our local Camellia Society, as well as the S. C., American, and Southern California Societies, and attending every show within 100 miles, I'm just wondering how "hooked" one can get in three short years?

—CAROLINA CAMELLIAS—

Attention members of Virginia Camellia Society, pay your dues to: A. F. Schafhirt, 6018 Upperbrandon Place, Norfolk, Va. 23508.

Moon Sign Dates for Grafting

Whether to graft by the moon or not is the question. On this question people are divided into three groups.

The first group believes in the moon signs and will hold scions in the refrigerator until the sign is right. They have often proved this to their own satisfaction.

The second group does not believe in any such tommyrot and say the time to graft is when you have a scion.

The third group is made up of people who either don't know or they are waiting to be shown.

There are many beliefs with reference to the effect of the moon on land, sea, man and vegetable life. It is not contended that a scion grafted on the wrong sign will not take but results by many who graft on the right sign lead to the conclusion that when scions are grafted on the right sign the number of takes will be larger, the callous better and the growth more vigorous.

Why not try the moon signs this season and decide for yourself.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Best Sign</i>	<i>Good sign</i>
January		
10		after 1:06 p. m.
13	after 5:47 p. m.	
14	all day	
15	all day	
16	until 5:50 a. m.	
18		after 6:39 p. m.
19	all day	
20	all day	
21		until 5:37 a. m.
23	after 12:48 p. m.	

<i>Date</i>	<i>Best Sign</i>	<i>Good sign</i>
24	all day	
25	until 4:19 p. m.	
February		
10	after 1:21 a. m.	
11	all day	
12	until 1:18 p. m.	
15		after 1:19 a. m.
16		all day
17		all day
19	after 10:42 p. m.	
20	all day	
21	all day	
22	until 3:02 a. m.	
March		
10	after 11:30 a. m.	
11	until 7:54 p. m.	
14		after 8:54 a. m.
15		all day
16		until 9:18 p. m.
19	after 7:11 a. m.	
20	all day	
21	until 1:00 p. m.	
25		2:50 p. m. to 10:21 p. m.
April		
10		after 2:56 p. m.
11		all day
12		all day
13		until 3:15 a. m.
15	after 1:34 p. m.	
16	all day	
17	until 8:50 p. m.	
22		after 1:40 a. m.
23		all day
24		until 1:19 a. m.

The dates and times listed are Eastern Standard. Add one hour each time zone east and subtract one hour for each zone west.

Frank Talk

By FRANK KEY, Florence, S. C.

In the Spring issue of *Carolina Camellias*, 1966, I wrote an article on my experience using Gib on scions when grafting. You will recall on the 25 plants grafted all took with growth from a foot to thirty-five inches the first year.

I have been asked several times what happened afterwards. Of course, some "Grafters" have experienced the same results with grafts not having used Gib with scions. But, with me, it was something entirely different. On the faster growing plants they budded up and bloomed beautiful flowers. In fact, I took a good many ribbons—not all blue—had to have a few reds and yellow for color.

If you run out of something exciting and new and don't have any understock available try this: Get a healthy seed that you have put in peat and it has commenced to sprout. Break off the top shoot. Sharpen the scion to a point and push gently into the seed to where you have cut the scion meets the top of the seed. Put scion and seed in half peat and sand covering the seed about two inches. Place a jar over scion. It works. I tried five. Two of them took. The rest might have fared better but I tried gib on them.

I told two friends of mine about it. They both beat me in the growth of their scions. You know that can happen. You try it.

On one of the seeds I broke off top growth, left root system and piercing same with scion. It didn't work. The two that took I broke off both top and root before piercing seed with scion.

Being weak-minded, as far as experimenting is concerned, I tried using Indoleacetic Acid on scions. It was costly as I had bought the scions, but, I was sold on the idea. I tried mixing the acid with gib, also, by itself. Unless you know what you are doing, leave it alone. I had to buy a large bottle of the "Stuff". Anyone wishing some let me know. It only takes enough that would go on the head of a pin.

Here's an experiment that I understand works perfectly. I am trying it.

Root a cutting of *Camellia* or *Rhododendron*. After it is well rooted put in 2 1/2" can or pot. Allow it time to commence growing. Mix 2 oz. of cycocel in 3 quarts of water. Drench the soil 2 or 3 times at intervals of 3 to 4 weeks. Water and fertilize as though you weren't using the mixture. What will happen? This application will retard the growth of the plant—induces increase flower bud formation. I understand it will eliminate die-back.

A Source of Enthusiasm and Happiness

By J. U. SMITH

President, Men's Camellia Club of Columbia

The Men's Camellia Club of Columbia, the Rose Garden Club and the Palmetto Sertoma Club proved last spring that they make an excellent team for a dual purpose:—to stage the best possible camellia show and to develop a community project for worthwhile charities. If you recall the show you know that they did a pretty good job from that angle and the final accounting showed a nice sum deposited to the charities' account.

There's always room for improvement and the same team say that even a better job will be done this February 11th and 12th. The Sertoma Club has agreed to work with us regularly and in so doing we hope to make our show bigger and better, at-

tracting thousands to participate in this worthwhile project. Happiness for many who are benefactors of the charity funds will result from our enthusiasm in staging the show. Our city and communities will be enhanced as we increase interest in camellias and strengthen the ties that bind so many wonderful admirers of the beautiful things and deeds of life.

Last year a Lexington County lady was made very happy by winning a mink stole given as a door prize, and a number of other door prizes will be offered again this year. Try your luck, see some of the most outstanding camellias grown anywhere and share in the enthusiasm and happiness with us. Let's spread a little sunshine while we work and play.

—CAROLINA CAMELLIAS—

The Augusta Camellia Show

An Invitation to Join
SOUTH CAROLINA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

The South Carolina Camellia Society is one of the largest, most active, horticultural and hobby state organizations in America. The Society is a non-profit organization.

The purpose of the Society is to:

1. Stimulate and extend appreciation of Camellias.
2. Encourage and promote the science and art of Camellia culture.
3. Develop, acquire, and disseminate information concerning the Camellia and its origins, history and culture.
4. Seek the aid and cooperation of and to work with Clemson University, the American Camellia Society, the State of S. C., the S. C. Association of Nurserymen and Municipal authorities in the promotion of the purposes of the Society.
5. Promote, sponsor, and supervise state-wide Camellia shows in cooperation with the American Camellia Society, with amateurs, professionals, and nurseries participation with emphasis on horticulture and individual flowers.
6. Publish and distribute a magazine to its members.

Membership which runs with the Calendar year, January 1 through December 31, entitles you to three issues of "CAROLINA CAMELLIAS", issued usually in January, March, and October, which has more regular features, authentic feature articles on Grafting, Planting, Feeding, Gardens, Sasasquas, Judging, Pruning, Arrangement, Disbudding, Diseases, Spraying, and Mulching, to mention a few. Also, there are photographs and other types of illustrations.

The South Carolina Camellia Society will welcome you as a member. For your convenience an application blank is printed below.

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Betty Sheffield Supreme	Dan Graves	Lieut. Bennie Folsom
Betty Sheffield Supreme Blush	Elegans Supreme	Mary Paige
Betty Sheffield Coral	Erin Farmer	Magic City
Betty Sheffield Veined	Fortune Teller	Moonlight Sonata
Commander Mulroy	Gus Menard	Marguerite Cannon
Cresta Blanca	Georgia Rouse	One Alone
Coral Queen	Grandeur	Pink Magic
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	Judge Thomas Porter	

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P.S. Sorry we will not have Tooev for release until fall of 1967. Last winter was rough on us.

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