

Carolina Camellias



'Miss Tulare', a chance *C. reticulata* seedling that first bloomed in 1973. It carries ACS Registration No. 1366, March 3, 1975. It was originated by M. W. Abramson of Tulare, California. (Photo courtesy of *The Southern California Camellia Review* and The American Camellia Society.)

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Carolina Camellias

Published three times annually—Winter, Spring, Fall—for the members of the South Carolina, North Carolina and the Virginia Camellia Societies.

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SOUTH CAROLINA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President's Message



DAVID G. ELLIOTT

Please accept my sincere appreciation for the honor and expression of confidence you have given me by electing me your president for the year 1976-1977.

The South Carolina Camellia Society is a healthy organization. It has strong roots and an active membership. We can't rest on our laurels, however, because your publication, *Carolina Camellias* depends primarily on membership dues for printing and distribution costs. We lose members yearly through attrition and with this issue, printing costs have increased again.

I'll be calling on various members to help us formulate capital and membership raising ideas. However, please don't wait for me to ask. If you have ideas, write me at your editor's address. She'll give me your letters along with my breakfast. Meanwhile, try this idea. I'm sure each of you have a friend to whom you would give five dollars if that friend was in need. Our friends *need* the friendship and fellowship of our society and the beauty of God's camellias. Each of you please remove the membership application in this issue and fill in the name of a friend in need. Mail it along with a check for \$5.00 and we will have hundreds of new members, many of whom will renew next year.

Have a fun season. Rosemary and I will see you along the camellia trail.

DAVE

NORTH CAROLINA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President's Message



CLYDE H. DORRITY

DEAR MEMBERS,

We will soon be in the full swing of another Camellia season. I hope that each of you had a wonderful summer and gave all of your camellias a lot of tender loving care so they will reward you for your efforts by showing up on the head table at many of the shows.

Please place a special marking on your calendar for February 19, 1977, for this is the date of the spring meeting of the North Carolina Camellia Society to be held in conjunction with the Whiteville Camellia Show in Whiteville, N. C. Be sure to attend this meeting and bring a friend, or better yet, bring a new member.

For those of you who have never helped set up, attend or exhibited flowers in a camellia show, you have truly missed a lot of hard work but a very exciting experience. You meet many old friends and make new acquaintances, and get a chance to view one of God's beautiful creations, the beautiful camellia blooms.

Thanks to the Howells, the Tolsons, the Aycocks and others, the North Carolina meeting and the fall show was a real success. The luncheon was held at the Whispering Pines Country Club and was enjoyed by all. It was followed by a wonderful program by Dr. William Ackerman. The camellia show was held in the Sandhill Community College in a beautiful setting and many outstanding blooms were displayed.

It is a distinctive honor to serve as your President for the coming year. I will need the support and cooperation from each of you. I look forward to seeing you at the camellia shows.

CLYDE H. DORRITY

VIRGINIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President's Message



WILLIAM G. REDWOOD

DEAR FELLOW MEMBERS:

If early November is any indication, it looks like we are in for a rather severe winter! For those of us who are not fortunate enough to own green-houses, this could mean trouble for our outdoor plants. However, there are certain procedures we can follow that will help bring us through the winter in better shape than if we neglected our treasured plants.

First of all, we should be sure that our plants are well mulched to protect the root system. Secondly, we must remember that our plants need water in the winter as well as in hot weather, particularly if precipitation is minimal and windy, dry weather persists. If we care for our plants, observe them regularly, (which we are apt to overlook if cold weather lasts very long), and do not start our Spring gibbing program too soon, we can look forward to a successful Spring bloom and be ready for our Spring Show on March 19 and 20, 1977.

Thanks to our good buddy and friend of all camellia lovers, Mr. Stewart Howard of Laurel Lake Gardens, and a dedicated cadre of our membership, our booth at the Men's Garden Club Show at Virginia Beach over the Labor Day weekend was most successful. All of the plants we had for sale were sold, and in addition, we sold 85 vials of gibberellic acid. A major fringe benefit of the sale however, was the opportunity to disseminate information and help created interest in the culture of camellias among the general public.

My best wishes to each and every one of you for a healthy and happy winter season for both you and your plants!

WILLIAM G. REDWOOD

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Show Dates

Beaufort, S. C., Beaufort Academy on Lady's Island, Beaufort Council of Garden Clubs	January 15-16, 1977
Mobile, Ala., Camellia Club of Mobile, Civic Center	January 15-16, 1977
Aiken, S. C., Aiken Camellia Club, Kennedy Jr. High School	January 22-23, 1977
Augusta, Ga., Augusta Camellia Society, Augusta Garden Center	January 29-30, 1977
Charleston, S. C., Coastal Carolina Society, Northwoods Mall	January 29-30, 1977
Savannah, Ga., Men's Garden Club of Savannah, Citizens & Southern Bank	February 5-6, 1977
Birmingham, Ala., Men's Camellia Society, Civic Auditorium	February 12-13, 1977
Columbia, S. C., Mid-Carolina Camellia Society, Bankers Trust Tower	February 12-13, 1977
Whiteville, N. C., Whiteville Camellia Society, Waccamaw Academy	February 19-20, 1977
Charlotte, N. C., Men's Camellia Club of Charlotte, Inc., South Park Mall	February 26-27, 1977
Wilmington, N. C., Tidewater Camellia Club, Blockade Runner Hotel in Wrightsville Beach	February 26-27, 1977
Fayetteville, N. C., Fayetteville Camellia Club	March 5-6, 1977
Greensboro, N. C., Men's Piedmont Camellia Club	March 12-13, 1977
Virginia Camellia Society	March 19-20, 1977
Washington, D. C., U. S. National Arboretum, Camellia Society of the Potomac Valley	April 16-17, 1977

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Show Results

COLUMBIA, S. C., October 16, 17, 1976

C. japonica

5' and over, Chem. Treat.—In Open—"TIFFANY"—Mr. & Mrs. Ch. Hendrix
 Runner-up—"CHARLIE BETTIES"—C. T. Freeman
 Under 5', Chem. Treated, In Open—"FEATHERY TOUCH"—Mr. & Mrs. B. E. Stockman
 Runner-up—"SAWADA'S DREAM"—Mr. & Mrs. W. C. Robertson
 Best Miniature, in open, Chem. Treated—"HOPKINS PINK"—Rosemary & Dave Elliott
 Best White, in open, Chem. Treated—"GUS MENARD"—C. T. Freeman

C. Reticulata

In Open, Chem. Treated—"VALENTINE DAY", Var.—Dottie & Ton Evans
C. Hybrid (With other than reticulata parentage)
 In Open, Chem. Treated—"ELSIE JURY"—Rosemary & Dave Elliott
 ACS Gold Certificates—In Open, Chem. Treated—Mr. & Mrs. Jack Teague
 ACS Silver Certificate—In Open, hem. Treated—J. A. Timmerman
 Seedling—Maj. Gen. Harold R. Bauer

WASHINGTON, D. C., October 30, 1976

Outdoor

Best Bloom—"DEBUTANTE"—Dr. & Mrs. Walter J. Hamer
 Second Best Bloom—"BERNICE BODDY"—Mr. & Mrs. Abraham H. Cannon
 Third Best Bloom—"MME. MARTIN CACET"—Mrs. William L. Acketman

Indoor

Best Bloom—"DR. CLIFFORD PARKS"—Rosemary & Dave Elliott
 Second Best Bloom—"SILVER WAVES"—Rosemary & Dave Elliott
 Third Best Bloom—"RENA SWICK", Var.—Rosemary & Dave Elliott

Sasanqua

Best Bloom—"SHOWA-NO-SAKAK" (Hiemalis)—John C. White
 Second Best Bloom—"BONANZA"—Dr. & Mrs. Arthur A. Maryott
 Third Best Bloom—"JEAN MAY"—Howard D. Zook
 Best Seedling—Marshall H. Rhyne

PINEHURST, N. C. (N.C.C.S. Meeting),
 Nov. 13-14, 1976

Best Japonica—Large—"CARTER'S SUNBURST"—Annabelle & Lou Fetterman, Clinton, N. C.
 Best Japonica—Med.—"FUNNY FACE BETTY"—Annabelle & Lou Fetterman, Clinton, N. C.
 Best Japonica—Small—"LITTLE MAN"—Dr. & Mrs. Ed. Ryan, Greenville, N. C.
 Best Japonica—Miniature—"MAN SIZE"—W. L. (Bill) Grainger, Wilmington, N. C.
 Retic or Retic Hybrid—"VALENTINE DAY", Var.—Graem Yates, Charlotte, N. C.
 Collection of 3 (same)—"MORNING GLOW"—Mr. Jean W. Hollstein, Fayetteville, N. C.
 Collection of 3 (different)—Mr. & Mrs. J. K. Blanchard, Wallace, N. C.
 Best Seedling—W. L. (Bill) Grainger, Wilmington, N. C.
 Sweepstakes—Mr. & Mrs. Jack Teague, Columbia, S. C.
 Sweepstakes—Runner-up—Annabelle & Lou Fetterman, Clinton, N. C.

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA, November 6, 1976

Best Bloom, in Open, Over 4½"—"HELEN BOWEN", Var.—Daniel Nathan, Ft. Valley, Ga.
 Best Bloom, in Open, Under 4½"—"FLORENCE STRATTON"—Dr. H. Racoff, Columbia, S. C.
 Best Bloom, Protected, Over 4½"—"TIFFANY"—Mr. & Mrs. C. H. Hendrix, Greer, S. C.
 Best Bloom, Protected, Under 4½"—"NUCCIO'S GEM"—Mr. & Mrs. Paul Dahlen, Aiken, S. C.
 Best White, in Open—"MARY ALICE COX"—J. M. Jones, Savannah, Ga.
 Best White, Protected—"CHARLIE BETTIES"—Mr. & Mrs. F. N. Bush, Columbia, S. C.
 Best Hybrid or Retic, Over 4½"—"OTTO HOPFER"—Marshall Rhyne, Belmont, N. C.
 Best Hybrid or Retic, Under 4½"—"ANGEL WINGS"—C. T. Freeman, New Elletton, S. C.
 Best Bloom, Under 2½"—"FIBICONE"—Rosemary & Dave Elliott, Wilson, N. C.

—CAROLINA CAMELLIAS—

Are Your Camellias and Azaleas Hungry?

A sickly yellowish green color and a distinctly slow and dwarfed growth—give them some nitrogen.

Do you have purplish leaves, stems and branches? Feed them some phosphorous.

Some potash, please, if your leaves are spotted, streaking or curling. Leaves like faces become wrinkled if you fail to feed them some calcium.

A little sulphur for young leaves light green with even lighter veins. Magnesium if your leaves lose their green color but the veins remain green.

These six elements plus the "trace elements"—boron, manganese, copper, Zinc, iron and molybdenum—all add up to beautiful Camellia plants which produce those prize winning beauties which win all the silver awards.

A well fed plant will stand more cold than an anemic one. A thirsty plant cannot stand a cold spell either.

Think Miniature!

By EDWARD P. RYAN

When our lovely Editor asked me to prepare this article, she said that it ought to be informative and instructive. So here it goes—what we biology professors call a “minicourse” on miniature camellias.

Now let's understand first what is meant by the term miniature camellia. It means, as most know, those varieties with the smallest flowers. And we would only include cultivars or varieties of *C. japonica* and non-reticulata hybrids since other species, except *C. reticulata*, tend to have smaller flowers. Since the miniature size was stated in the 1960 *Camellia Nomenclature*, most shows specify that blooms in the miniature category should be less than 2 1/2 inches in diameter (6.35 cm, when we go metric). The next larger size category is termed “small” and include those varieties with blooms which measure 2 1/2 to 3 inches. Growth habit, foliage size and nutrient requirements are no different for miniatures than for larger varieties except that for miniature there is no need to push them ahead with excessive feeding. Of course, reticulatas and retic-hybrids are not included as they are all in the medium to very large size categories.

The 1976 *Camellia Nomenclature* lists 96 varieties of japonicas and 7 varieties of non-retic hybrids as min-

iatures. In some cases, I did not count the variegated form of a solid variety. Those from the 1976 list are included below. No attempt is made to describe them here. The reader is referred to articles by Mr. Ernest Pieri, San Gabriel, California in which he groups miniature varieties both according to form and to color (*American Camellia Yearbook* 1973, pp. 97-104). He updated this list earlier this year (see *Sou. Calif. Cam. Soc.'s Camellia Review*, Jan. 1976, p. 7). In addition to these, some varieties have been registered since then, such as Tammia's 'HOMER FRITSCHIE'. Then too, there are many varieties circulating in scion exchange or sold as plants or scions from nurseries, all of which have never been registered. Among these in the Carolinas are 'ELLIE' and 'CHUS HENDRIX', seedlings of Mr. Jack Hendrix of Charlotte and 'LITTLE BUD', a seedling of Mr. C. W. Cranford of Salisbury, North Carolina. I hope both men will get these lovely blooms on the registry list.

According to Pieri (*Camellia Review*, March 1972), the earliest small or miniature camellias were 'BOUTONNIERE' and 'DRYADE', both introduced from Europe in the 1840's. Since then many new varieties of small and miniature camellias have appeared each year.

It is always a pleasure for me to meet or correspond with the originator of these camellia jewels, people such as: Mr. H. Winbigler of Foley, Alabama who introduced 'KITTY' and 'BUDDY'; Mr. J. M. Haynie who introduced 'CLORINE BOWEN', 'FOUR BITS', 'TINY ME' and has another little red one that is as yet unregistered and is sought after by camellia growers on the Gulf Coast. It was a special treat for me to be able to take time out between planes at the Los Angeles airport to visit with Mr. Vern McCaskill at his McCaskill Gardens in Pasadena. He has introduced about 20 or 30 varieties of small or miniature camellias, all of which we have growing in our yard.

Some others who have been responsible for miniatures have been no other than beloved Dave Strother, donor of Massey Lane to ACS and whose seedlings included 'MINI PINK' and 'THIRTY DROPS', both registered after his death. Also, in the Southeast Mrs. Lilette Whitman of Macon, Georgia gave us 'CHINESE LANTERNS', 'PETITE ROSINE' and 'RASPBERRY PARFAIT'.

Varieties registered from the Carolinas and their originators include: 'CAROLINE REHDER' by Harold Rehder of Wilmington, North Carolina; 'MRS. ROSA MURRAY', The Pines Nursery of Bath, South Carolina; 'PEARL'S PET', Mrs. P. Chico, Charleston, South Carolina; 'SNOWIE', Neal Cox, Georgetown, South Carolina; 'SUSANN', F. Griffin, Sr., Columbia, South Carolina and 'WILLIAM C. NOELL' by Mr. Stewart Howard of Salemburg, North Carolina. The last one was in

honor of a friend of Mr. Howard's, the late William C. Noell of Alexandria, Virginia, who had seen and greatly admired the seedling. This is about as close an association as we can get for our Virginia readers unless Dr. Habel registers those two or three that he has.

Miniatures seem to have a greater popularity on the West Coast. This can be attested to by the fact that over half have origins in California. Indeed, the California show reports often make mention of awards for miniatures grown inside as well as outside and some even mention miniature awards to junior growers. To group the smalls and miniatures as a single class, Boutonnieres, finds favor there too. Presumably our growers in the Southeast are not as fond of the miniatures for as I glean the show reports, I find many shows without a class for miniatures. Part of this may be the reluctance on the part of the judges to adhere to the 2 1/2 inch size. In many instances, a single plant may put out some blooms that measure 2 1/4 inches and other blooms that measure 2 3/4 and neither gibbed! I'm sure that if I were judging, I would hate to put a 2 1/2 inch ring on an otherwise perfect 2 3/4 inch flower!

The response to gibberellic acid by miniature varieties varies from one cultivar to the next, just as with those awful big ones. Some are not stimulated to bloom early. Some reds are markedly affected and turn purple whereas others have no color changes at all. Our 'LITTLE SITTART', when gibbed, may put out a bloom of 3 1/2

to 4 inches. Most varieties though are so enlarged after gibbing that they would qualify as smalls. But how else are you going to have blooms for that fall show?

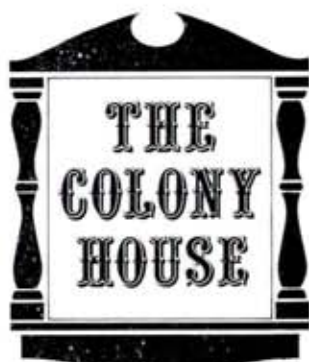
Including unregistered and unnamed seedlings, we have 126 varieties of small or miniature camellias, all growing outside, in beds. This means that anticipating blooms for any show is a gamble. Outside as I write, there are 68 small or miniatures gibbed for a show nine days from now. Our weather has been cool enough so that only a half dozen look as if they would bloom and the weatherman predicts temperatures in the low 20's tonight! This is in spite of my keeping careful records for five years of who blooms how many days later after gibbing. 'PINK SMOKE' and 'LITTLE SLAM', for examples, have often bloomed in 21-30 days, but not for fall 1976. So for us, or for me at least, satisfaction has not come from bloom awards but from the exquisite blooms themselves even if they open two or three days after the show. Almost as much satisfaction comes from sharing scions with others.

When I was first infected with the camellia disease, some years ago, and fascinated by the miniature class at the Fayetteville Show. I decided to learn to graft. Bugs Barringer of Rocky Mount, North Carolina offered to teach me to graft. Off I went to Rocky Mount and he did. What Bugs didn't tell me and what most articles on grafting don't stress is care after the graft is made. Being a marine biologist and naturally curious, each

night when I came home, I took off the jar and examined each graft union with a hand lens! You should have heard them laugh at the Camellia Society luncheon when I said only six out of 65 grafts took and I didn't know why since I examined them every day. No one told me to keep that jar on for six to eight weeks. I will ever be grateful to Son Hackney, Dr. J. M. Habel, Dr. T. E. Lundy and others who sent this novice choice scions that were lost. I know better now.

All of you who want to go with the herd, go ahead and raise those vulgar dinner plate blooms as do the Ralph McVeys, the Dave Elliotts, the Jack Jacksons and others. But if you really want perfect jewels, varieties that are one of a kind in your town,

*"Discerning diners
meet at
35 Prioleau Street"*



RESTAURANT

Overlooking the harbor in old Charleston

try raising miniatures. Not many commercial growers have certain varieties on this list for sale. Don't be bashful, write to the originator or someone who is a show winner with a variety that you'd like, but get your understock ready first. Lists of scions for sale from dealers should

appear in the journals in November, doesn't indicate in his advertisement which are miniatures. Certain of the older varieties are hard to find; I've been trying to find scions of 'LADY HUMES BLUSH' for years. If you don't want to try these suggestions, write to Ed Ryan—maybe he will help you with some scions.

MINIATURES AS LISTED IN 1976 CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE

Camellia japonica:

'ADOLESCENT'
'ANGEL'S BLUSH'
'AUTUMN SURPRISE'
'BABY ANGEL'
'BABY SARGENT'
'BABY SIS'
'BIMBO'
'BLACK DOMINO'
'BON BON'
'BON BON BLUSH'
'BON BON RED'
'BONSAI'
'BOUTONNIERE'
'BRIGHT SPRITE'
'CAMILA INGRAM'
'CAROLINE REIDER'
'CHINESE LANTERNS'
'CINNAMON CINDY'
'CLORINE BOWEN'
'CONFETTI'
'CONFETTI BLUSH'
'CONFETTI RED'
'COTTONTAIL'
'CUTIE PIE'
'DIMPLES'
'DOLLY DYER'
'DR. BOB'
'DRAGON EYE'
'DRYADE'
'ELLEN DANIEL'
'EVANGELINE'
'FAIRY GARDEN'
'FAWN'
'FIRCON'
'FLEURETTE'

'FLYNN SANS'
'FOUR BITS'
'GARDENIA'
'HOPKINS PINK'
'HOPKINS PINK DAWN'
'HOPKINS RED'
'HOPKINS ROSE PINK'
'IMP'
'JANE EAGLESON'
'JEAN BARDOW'
'JONI SANS'
'KEWPIE DOLL'
'LELA LAURENTS'
'LEONORA TAYLOR'
'LES-TAY-HOME'
'LITTLE DAVID'
'LITTLE POPPY'
'LITTLE RED RIDINGHOOD'
'LITTLE SITTART'
'LITTLE SLAM'
'LITTLE TOO'
'LITTLE UN'
'MAN SIZE'
'MELISSA'
'MEMENTO'
'MEN'S MINT'
'MIDGET WHEELER'
'MRS. ROSA MURRAY'
'PAULINE NELSON'
'PEARL'S PET'
'PEE WEE'
'PETITE ROSINE'
'PINK SMOKE'
'POPPY SANS'
'RASPBERRY PARFAIT'
'RED BUTTON'

'ROSY POSY'
'RUNT'
'SMALL WUN'
'SNOW BABY'
'SNOWIE'
'STARS AND BARS'
'STILL HOPE'
'SUGAR BABE'
'SUSANN'
'SUZIE'
'TAMMIA'
'THIRTY DROPS'
'TINSIE'
'TINY ME'
'TINY TOT'
'TOOTSIE'
'TOY TRUMPET'
'TRUNKET'
'TRUDY'
'TUFFET'
'TWINKLE'
'WART'
'WHITE BUTTONS'
'WIDDLE WUN'
'WILLIAM C. NOELL'
'ZING'

Hybrids:

'FRAGRANT PINK'
'FRAGRANT PINK IMPROVED'
'LITTLE LAVENDER'
'LOLLYPOP'
'PINK CASCADE'
'PRUDENCE'
'TINY PRINCESS'

Men and Camellias

By MRS. J. EDWARD BENNETT
Camellia Society of The Potomac Valley
Alexandria, Va.

Why are men so interested in camellia culture as a hobby?

Men prefer hobbies that present a challenge, especially one which may result in a worthwhile accomplishment. Camellias provide that challenge. To those in the northern fringe areas there is a challenge to develop varieties which will withstand wintry blasts. To those without greenhouses there is a challenge to have dependable blooms. To those with greenhouses, there is a challenge for bigger and better blooms. To camellia growers everywhere there is a challenge for new varieties with improved forms and colors. And there is the supreme challenge to bring fragrance to the Japonicas.

Men admire beauty! What other plant can offer more beauty than a camellia? With evergreen foilage the year-round, the blooming season finds flowers in a wide variety of form, texture, arrangements and color. Yes, men admire beauty, but each one has his own idea of beauty (the reason we wives were able to outwit our more glamorous competitors when we chased the man of our dreams until we let him catch us). Flowers on the same bush may vary from limb to limb and season to season. It is the anticipation and suspense that keeps men so interested. The same can be said for wives. What husband will know what his wife will

be like from year to year? Don't we vary like camellias?

A business or professional man needs a hobby which provides opportunities for solitude, to be his own boss, and to get his body and soul in tune. He needs a place where he can be alone and commune with nature and the Lord Almighty. Where is there a better place than in a camellia garden? Fishing you say? Yes, but apparently some men prefer to look into the face of a flower than the face of a fish.

Men are born story tellers and what better opportunity is afforded a man than to join a Camellia Society and swap experiences with others, not only locally but nationally. National organizations mean meetings in other cities and here is where we wives reap fringe benefits. "Take me along with you!"

Finally, men love to bring happiness to others—especially women. Any man who has plucked and handed a camellia to a girl, be she 6 or 106, has seen her face light up with joy. In giving we receive, and what better opportunity to share this joy than with camellias.

Challenge, Beauty, Solitude, Friendship, Travel, Happiness! Camellia culture can be a most worthwhile hobby. God Bless Us Everyone!

Gib Acid and Camellias

By HERBERT RACOFF, DVM, Columbia, South Carolina

WHAT IS IT? Gibberellic acid, gib for short, is a white crystalline powder. It is produced commercially by growing a fungus, *Gibberella fujikuroi*, in a culture. The fungus produces the acid as a product of its growth.

HAS IT BEEN FOUND ELSEWHERE? Gib acid or a chemical indistinguishable from it has been

demonstrated to be normally present in many plants and seeds. It seems to be an integral part of the growth regulating mechanism of many plants.

HOW IS IT USED ON CAMELIAS? Select well developed, mature bloom buds. Break out the tip of the growth bud as shown at A figure 1. This will leave a cup as shown at B figure 2. Fill the cup with gib acid solution using a dropper. Be careful not to let any solution run down the stem since this may damage the growth buds at C and below, figure 1.



Figure 1

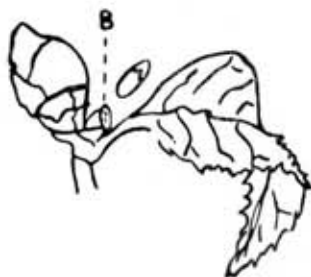


Figure 2

WHEN SHOULD ONE START GIBBING? Gibbing can be started as soon as the buds are well developed and matured. For plants grown outdoors this would be from August 1st to August 15th. Depending on size of plant treat one or more buds weekly until September 15th. Many buds treated after September 15th will get caught by freezes in November. Greenhouse growers can continue to treat as long as there are buds.

WHEN CAN ONE EXPECT GIBBED BUDS TO BLOOM? This is influenced by many factors such as variety, season, temperature, amount of sunlight, rainfall, etc. In general

treated buds can be expected to bloom in from 30 to 90 days after treatment.

WHY SHOULD ONE GIB? Use of gib makes it possible to get blooms before cold weather, even from those varieties classified as late bloomers. When seeing varieties one no longer has to wonder whether or not they will bloom successfully outdoors. Varieties which usually lose their buds when subjected to freezing temperatures can be bloomed successfully in the fall. In many cases the blooms will be larger and prettier than those normally seen, especially if one takes care of the plants and sees to it that they are adequately fertilized. The flowers will stay on the plant better and last longer.

In areas where petal blight is prevalent blooms in the fall are generally not infected with this disease.

USE OF GIBBERELIC ACID ON SEEDS TO GET EARLIER GERMINATION. Use one part of the acid solution used to treat bloom buds. Add 9 parts of tap, rain or distilled water. File a notch in or crack the seed coat. Soak the seeds 24 hours. Remove seeds from the solution and plant in the normal manner.

Using gib acid is no longer experimental or confined to the experts. If you enjoy growing and blooming camellias gib will certainly add to your enjoyment and pleasure. Why don't you try it? Once you do I'm sure you will continue.

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Judgment and Tears

By DR. E. W. VAUGHN
Greensboro, N. C.

After the judging was over and the show was opened to the public, I was "wandering around" looking at the beautiful blooms and I saw a small gathering of men questioning the decision of one of the groups of judges—on a particularly beautiful bloom. I heard one of the men say, "If that were my flower I'd have tears in my eyes for a third place instead of first." The other men agreed but the owner of the flower was taking his obvious disappointment gracefully, saying, "All I want to know is what the judges had against my flower." As I looked over the group of eight flowers this particular one hit you right between the

eyes, it was an outstanding bloom. It was larger than the other flowers, its color was perfect, texture was good, symmetrically formed, without a blemish, and it was as fresh as a daisy. I, too, wondered why it wasn't given the blue ribbon, and then I remembered an incident that happened in the group I judged with that same morning. I was with two ladies and we came to a group of flowers that had at least five blooms which deserved a blue ribbon, and I remarked to the judges "I surely would hate to see the expressions on the faces of the exhibitors of the flowers in this group who don't get blue ribbons." We expressed our opinions about the flowers, freely marked the cards and passed on. Later on, one of the ladies glanced back and said "When you look at those flowers from this angle, No. 2 should have been first." I replied to her in a joking manner in the words of Jesus, "No man, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the Kingdom of God." They both knew what I meant, that once having made a decision, we shouldn't go back and change it, but they answered in unison, "What if you've made a mistake and there is still time to correct it?" We went back and rejudged the blooms.

In any group of flowers when there are several near perfect blooms, it is a very difficult task for any group of judges to select 1, 2 and 3, and whatever selection is made you can rest assured that a tear will appear later on in the eye of the exhibitor when he sees the result of your judgment.

Camellia Society of the Potomac Valley Continues Camellia Improvement Program at National Arboretum

By ARTHUR A. MARYOTT & JAMES E. MCCORMACK

CSPV members have made excellent progress on our Society's program, for helping the National Arboretum improve and enlarge its camellia garden. Up to the closing time for this issue, twelve CSPV members had contributed \$290 to the Friends of the National Arboretum for the acquisition of additional camellia plants. These contributions are gratefully acknowledged from the following CSPV members:

Mrs. Henry L. Abbott
Dr. and Mrs. William L. Ackerman
Mr. and Mrs. O. Preston Davis
Mr. Harry Dewey
Mr. and Mrs. Carroll P. Hickman
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Hill
Mrs. Frederick C. Lee
Dr. and Mrs. Arthur A. Maryott
Mr. and Mrs. James E. McCormack
Mrs. William C. Noell
Mrs. J. Philip Schaefer
Mr. and Mrs. William J. Sette

In addition to the foregoing contributors, Mrs. Mayo Fitzhugh donated 18 choice camellia plants, and Mr. J. Stewart Howard of Laurel Lake Gardens & Nursery, Salemburg,

North Carolina, contributed a large supply of scions of desirable varieties for grafting on the large camellia seedling plants and duplicated varieties in the Arboretum's present camellia garden.

The donations of money, plants, and plant materials amount to at least \$600, conservatively valued. This is a fine beginning. But additional donations are needed during this planting season for further substantial acquisition of camellia plants.

In addition to donating money, plants and plant material, CSPV members have participated in the grafting of scions of desirable new varieties on 68 large seedling plants and duplicated varieties in the Arboretum's present collection.

More recently, many of our members have participated in work projects involving the camellia plantings at the national arboretum. This program is under the general supervision of Dr. Ackerman of the arboretum staff. In early 1975 the scope of this program was greatly expanded when President McCormack re-

activated the Public Gardens Committee with Carroll Hickman as Chairman. Prior to that time much of the effort of our society had been confined to the annual treatment of the *C. japonica* collection with gibberellic acid in order to promote fall blooming. In the expanded program our members have provided much of the labor of planting the new acquisitions, weeding and the thinning out of badly overcrowded areas by grafting and pruning.

In March, 156 grafts were attempted, mostly on large, multi-trunked plants that were twenty or more years old and with scions of varieties that were not in the existing collection. Many of these were recommended and scions generously supplied either by Milton Brown, Executive Director of the American Camellia Society at Masee Lane, or by David Feathers of Lafayette, California. Of these 95 (61%) were successful. For comparison 68 grafts were attempted in 1975 with 45 (66%) takes. An interesting but quite mysterious observation was that most of the 1976 failures (50 in 51 attempts) occurred in sections where no grafting had been done in the previous year.

Some 33 new plants of *C. japonica* were acquired either through donations from our members or purchased with funds that had been contributed to "Friends of the National Arboretum". Most of these were 3' to 4' specimen plants in 3 gallon containers. In addition about 15 *C. Sasanqua* were added to the collection.

"Gibbing" began on the 18th of August and continued through the

first week of September with an estimated 6000 buds treated. In view of the early spring and exceptionally good flower bud development at the time of gibbing considerably more emphasis was placed on early applications than heretofore. In particular, a number of varieties that had not been treated in recent years because of their slow response were tried again. Initial response in this group has been very encouraging with excellent blooms on 'BETTY SHEFFIELD PINK', 'BETTY SHEFFIELD CORAL' and several other "slow responders" noted on October 11. On the above date 46 varieties were found in bloom, the most striking plant being 'CAROLYN' with 25 fresh, crisp blooms.

CSPV members who contributed to these projects included Bill Ackerman, Margo Williams, Polly Stuart, Joe Luskey (all of the Arboretum staff). Preston Davis, Doug Hall, Carroll Hickman, Peter Horvath, Walter Hamer, James McCormack, Jean and Arthur Maryott, Rix Perkins, John Roundtree, Bill Sette, Tom Smith, and Howard Zook.

In Memorium

JAMES J. SEELIG
Mt. Pleasant, S. C.

MRS. EDWIN VAUGHN
Greensboro, N. C.

L. CASTON WANNAMAKER
Cheraw, S. C.

Camellias Are For Everyone

By LUTHER W. BAXTER, JR.

Camellias can be grown and caused to flower in every yard in South Carolina! Most certainly cultivars of *Camellia sasanqua* will bloom in the fall in the upper Piedmont, for at Clemson such "varieties" as 'TEXAS STAR', 'CLEOPATRA', 'SETSUGEKKA', 'MAIDEN'S BLUSH', 'JEAN MAY', 'DAYDREAM' and literally dozens of others perform beautifully every fall and occasionally 'MINE-NO-YUKI', 'CRIMSON BRIDE', and other late bloomers do very well.

Appreciation is extended to the Horticulture Department, Clemson University, for making the facilities at the Ornamental Trial Gardens available for many of the studies which contributed to the formulation of the ideas herein presented.

Cultivars of many *C. japonica* plants will survive our winters without injury to the vegetative parts. Since our winters are unpredictable, the probability of good flowers in March and April is not good. However, many of these spring varieties respond well to "gibbing" and can be forced to bloom in the fall. Among these can be listed 'ROSE HILL RED', 'REV. JOHN DRAYTON', 'PINK PERFECTION', 'KUMASAKA', 'EMMETT BARNES', 'GOVERNOR MOUTON', 'DOCTOR TINSLEY', 'FLAME', 'PROFESSOR SARGENT', 'GLADYS WANNAMAKER', 'LADY CLARE',

and 'DEBUTANTE', to name a dozen. There are unquestionably many others which respond equally well to gibbing and which too can withstand our temperature extremes.

One of the great delights in my own garden has been the results of gibbing the cultivar 'DEBUTANTE'. Since it is inherently an early bloomer it responds well by blooming within 40 days after gibbing. Also the size of the flower is enlarged and the color is intensified. This variety grows rapidly and sets buds in abundance. However, it does put out new growth early in the spring and therefore is subject to late spring frosts. Also, the plant is subject to rather severe foliage chlorosis and variegated flowers when it is virus infected. The chlorotic leaf areas are prone to both sun scald and frost injury. Therefore, it is advisable to use virus-free plants when available.

Since 'DEBUTANTE' variegates excessively, this cultivar can be used to index rootstocks for the presence or absence of virus. For example, plants of 'MINE-NO-YUKI', which usually fail to exhibit virus variegation in both leaves and flowers, can be carrying a severe strain of virus which may or may not be objectionable in a rootstock, depending on the variety. The

to twenty cuttings taken from such a plant and rooted can serve as subsequent stock plants. If the scion shows virus symptoms, the cuttings then can be destroyed, while cuttings taken from another plant used as a rootstock and not transmitting variegation to the Debutante scion can herefore be increased. From a few known indexed plants, virus-free 'MINE-NO-YUKI' plants could be propagated and serve as rootstocks for grafting purposes.

Plants of the cultivar 'MINE-NO-YUKI' would make excellent understock (except for the virus) since it rarely is affected by dieback, it is resistant to root rot, it roots easily, and it grows quickly. Furthermore it is winter hardy in the upper Piedmont. Since it blooms so late in the fall, it rarely performs well as a specimen plant for us.

One serious mistake sometimes made by camellia enthusiasts is to select a camellia site with too much shade. With too dense shade, few flower buds are set, such as on the cultivar 'GOVERNOR MOUTON'; drought may become a serious problem and the wood tends to be leggy. One advantage of dense shade, however, is the protection afforded against early or late light frosts by the heavier overhead canopies. Some compromise in the amount of shade therefore seems to be necessary in order to balance these opposing effects. Many disease problems are more serious in dense shade and camellias are not an exceptional plant in this respect. For example, *Exobasidium* leaf gall on *Camellia sasanqua* is

more serious in the shade. Also, camellia flower blight and dieback are likely to be more serious in dense shade which encourages high humidity, a prerequisite for spore dissemination and survival.

The soils of the Piedmont are not inherently fertile, but most are adequate, with fertilization, to support excellent growth. Pines afford excellent shade for *C. japonica* cultivars. Some pine species, however, are subject to a root disease, little leaf, which is caused by the fungus, *Phytophthora cinnamomi*, a soil borne pathogen. Unfortunately this same fungus causes root rot of many *C. japonica* cultivars and so at times the pine roots support adequate quantities of this fungus which can damage roots of *C. japonica* plants when they are growing on their own roots. Root rot of camellias growing under pines is not a problem on all sites because drainage is a very important factor governing its incidence. In general, good drainage (or planting high) either reduces or eliminates root rot of camellias so that even very susceptible cultivars, such as 'PINK PERFECTION' on its own roots, can be successfully grown. Occasionally there are certain *C. japonica* cultivars, such as 'R. L. WHEELER', which seem to perform well in spite of an otherwise poor location, where other *C. japonica* cultivars either die or are seriously stunted.

Another serious mistake made by some growers is to fertilize their plants too heavily. This burns the roots, which makes them susceptible to drought and, in severe cases, the

entire plant may be killed. Actually two applications of fertilizer, the first about the first week of spring and a second the first week of summer, are adequate. The amount should not exceed 500 to 750 lb. of a 10-10-10 fertilizer or equivalent per acre (about 1 to 1 1/2 lb. per 100 sq. ft.) each time of application. Spread the fertilizer evenly over the area; do not aggregate large quantities near the base of the plant. If fertilization is to be done on an individual plant basis, spread 1 cup of fertilizer for each 1 inch of trunk diameter around the drip line.

For many soils of the Piedmont a method of transplanting camellias I have used may be of some interest. After a site is selected (not too much shade with adequate drainage) I do

not dig a hole and remove soil and then replace with a new mixture, but rather, with the aid of a rototiller, mix into the top soil peat moss, bark, sawdust, or a combination of these along with some lime and phosphate. The net effect is to raise the area slightly, depending on the amount of material added (about one bushel), which protects against root rot. The lime and phosphate are thus worked well into the soil where the roots can be encouraged to ramify throughout the soil. Caution! Do not set the new plant too deeply and be sure to pack the bottom of the hole so that the plant does not settle. Be sure to water the newly transplanted plants well the first year. Preferably transplant in either October or early March although with special care plants can

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NEW SCIONS

'ELVEEGE ELMER'
'MISS TULARE'

'ELEGANS CHAMPAGNE'

'BIG DADDY'
'TERRILL WEAVER'

WRITE FOR SCION LIST

be transplanted any time of the year. Transplanting camellias between April 1 and October 1 usually leads to severe drought problems, especially the first year until the roots become established.

Pruning camellias is sometimes necessary to shape the plant and, on some of the more aggressive cultivars, to keep them restricted in size. Keep in mind however, that pruning, like grafting, creates a wound through which *Glomerella*, the cause of dieback, can enter. If pruning is required, it should be done during August or September for the thinning-out type or during late March to early April for the heading-back type. This timing will facilitate healing and thus maximize the probability of avoiding dieback problems.

For satisfaction from camellias follow these few precautions:

1. Select a good site in partial shade and amend the soil. Do not space plants too closely.
2. Select a healthy dieback—and canker-free cultivar adapted to your region.
3. Transplant correctly at the proper time or provide special care, (watering, shade, mulching in summer, etc.).
4. Fertilize with appropriate amounts at the right time.
5. Prune lower limbs of large plants and keep weeds down to provide good aeration. This practice gives some help in the control of both flower blight and dieback.

6. Irrigate liberally during hot, dry weather.
7. Control scale with Cygon used according to directions.
8. Gib *C. japonica* flower buds in August and September for October and November flowering.
9. Avoid lawn mower and other implement wounds, and afford protection against small animals.
10. Learn to graft and increase your favorite cultivars using *C. sasanqua* seedlings as understock and then give these to friends, schools, churches, municipal organizations, etc.
11. Give camellia plants as door prizes at meetings, as does the Greensboro, N. C., Camellia Club.
12. Think camellias and wear a camellia smile!

—CAROLINA CAMELLIAS—

Brunswick Stew

(This is an old family receipt of Ernest Aycock)

1 5 lb. Chicken	7 large carrots
1 piece side meat	5 med. onions
1 lb. squash	1 qt. garden peas
½ lb. okra	2 qt. tomatoes
1 lb. snap beans	1 lg. green pepper
1 pt. butter beans	1 pod red pepper

Cook chicken until tender. Add other ingredients chopped fine. Cook 2 hours.

Add 1 pt. (2 cans) cream style corn.

4 large ground potatoes.

Cook stirring often about 1 hour.

An Invitation to Join

SOUTH CAROLINA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

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 in Grafting, Planting, Feeding, Gardens, Sasanquas, 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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North Carolina Camellia Society

By MOLLY HOWELL

The NCCS members held their Fall Meeting and Camellia Show in Southern Pines, N. C. on November 13th and 14th. William S. Howell concluded his term as 1976 President. Site of the Camellia Show was the comparatively new and beautiful Sandhills Community College, nestled comfortably in the southern golf haven of North Carolina.

The officers and board of directors meeting was held at the college followed by a delightful luncheon for members at the Whispering Pines Country Club.

At the board meeting reports were heard and main attention was directed to increasing NCCS membership. Hopefully forthcoming will be a newsletter to all members of various Camellia clubs in the state giving details and purposes of the work of the NCCS. With better understanding of what the NCCS accomplishes, the board hopes to involve many more club members in the future.

Officers for the coming year were elected by acclamation, and are as follows:

President—Clyde Dorrity, 1601 Westlawn Ave., Fayetteville, N. C. 28305.

President Elect—J. W. Holderby, P. O. Box 1684, Reidsville, N. C. 27326.

Sec.-Treas.—Harris Newber, Rt. 3, Box 57, Wilmington, N. C. 28401.

Historian—Mrs. C. M. Allen, 1812 Liveoak Pkwy., Wilmington, N. C. 28401.

Directors: Dist. 1—Marshall Richardson, P. O. Box 494, Washington, N. C. 27889.

Mike Vaughan, Rt. 3, Box 59, Wilmington, N. C. 28401.

Erwin Nixon, 1202 Tuscarora Ave., Elizabeth City, N. C. 27909.

Directors: Dist. 2—David Elliott, 906 Tremont Rd., Wilson, N. C. 27893.

Ed Tolson, Jr., 13-A Pine Lake Dr., Whispering Pines, N. C. 28389.

Col. Jean Hollstein, 323 Birnam Rd., Fayetteville, N. C. 28305.

Directors: Dist. 3—Fred Hahn, 4437 McKee Rd., Matthews, N. C. 28105.

Lester Allen, 917 Forest Hills Dr., Greensboro, N. C. 27410.

Johnny Lewis, P. O. Box 97, Trinity, N. C. 27370.

It was announced by President Bill Howell that the Spring meeting of the NCCS will be held in Whiteville, N. C. on February 19-20, 1977 by the Whiteville Camellia Society at the Waccamaw Academy.

Guest speaker for the luncheon was Dr. William Ackerman of the

National Arboretum of Washington, D. C. He gave a most interesting talk (illustrated with slides) on his work with camellia breeding. He is at present doing research mainly to improve cold-hardiness of camellias as well as fragrance and developing a true lavender. Dr. Ackerman has also been experimenting with cross breeding camellias with other plant species.

Before the luncheon meeting was adjourned to the Camellia show, Bill Howell thanked the Show Chairmen, Ed Tolson and Nelson Condit, Past President, Ernest Aycock and their wives for a job well done.

An invitation from various clubs around the state to their forthcoming Camellia shows was heard—including Greensboro, Charlotte and Wilmington. About 72 members of the NCCS were present for the luncheon.

The quality of the blooms at the Camellia show was excellent and numbered about 350, coming from North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia. Most of the blooms were under glass since the weather in these areas has not been very cooperative recently.

A Welcome party for the show judges was given on Friday night by Mr. and Mrs. Ed Tolson, Jr., at their lovely "home-on-the-lake" at Whispering Pines. It was a cold night, but the warm fellowship was enjoyed by all.

If you weren't at Southern Pines, we missed you, and you missed a lovely Camellia show and a congenial weekend!"

Notes for Camellia Show Entry Committee

By JUDGE ANONYMOUS

Camellia show entry or property committee should provide exhibitors with three (3) sizes of display cups:

1. Very small cups with 1" to 1½" mouth for miniatures.
2. Medium size cups with 2" to 2½" mouth for the average size, 4" to 5" blooms. This is the size commonly used for *all* size blooms.
3. Extra large cups with a 3½" to 4" mouth for the 6" to 8" blooms now being shown.

Why have at least three (3) sizes of display cups? Take a look at a miniature bloom displayed in an average show cup. The miniature bloom is smaller than the mouth of the cup and the bloom is in the cup instead of on the cup. A small cup is just as important to a miniature as an extra large cup is for an 8" bloom. A perfect ½" miniature looks pitiful sinking in the mouth of a 2" cup.

The medium size display cups now being used do a fine job for the medium size bloom which constitute the majority of entries exhibited.

When growers "blow their bloom up" to the 6" to 8" size, the larger cups are needed. When any Camellia exhibitor, by their knowledge of Camellia culture plus a good "shot of gib" and a lot of devoted attention produces an exceptionally fine extra large bloom, and the bloom and the exhibitor deserves the support provided by the proper size display container.

Waxing of Camellias

By MARTHA BLANKS
Columbia, S. C.

Waxing camellias is fun and also brings out the beauty of the flower. The purpose of waxing flowers is to be able to lay camellias on tables or around and not have to put them in a dish or vase of water. They will last 3 to 4 weeks and even longer, depending on the condition of the camellia and whether or not the bloom gets bruised during waxing.

They may turn brown around the edges, fine, this gives it an antique look! I find blooms with open stamen

wax prettier than blooms with tight and closed type stamens.

When cutting blooms to wax, be sure and leave at least 1 leaf, and not more than 3 (I have better luck with only 2 leaves on the bloom), it seems that you can manage to get two leaves waxed in place than you can 3, this is left up to individual. Cut bloom with about 2 inch stem.

Equipment and Material Needed:

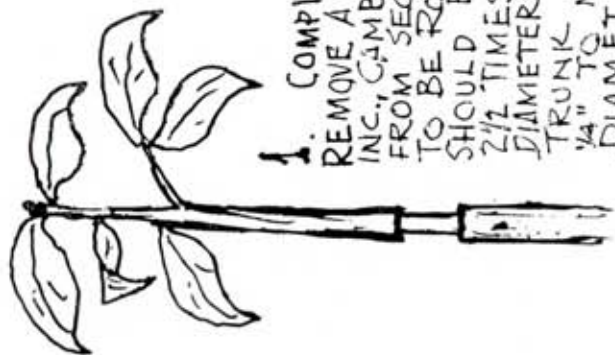
- 1 double boiler or large coffee can (one that has plastic lid) placed in a pail of water
- 2 or 3-1 lb. boxes of household wax (depending on size of waxing container)
- 1 large deep bowl with ice water
- 1 thermometer—a must

Heat the wax and keep at 140°F—this is where you use the thermometer (this must be checked with thermometer and kept at 140°). Catch camellia by stem and immerse in heated wax, dip immediately in the bowl of ice water (remove the ice, just have cold water in bowl), place camellia on wax paper to harden. This only takes a few minutes. Be sure you have enough wax to dip camellia in without it hitting bottom or side of pot or can.

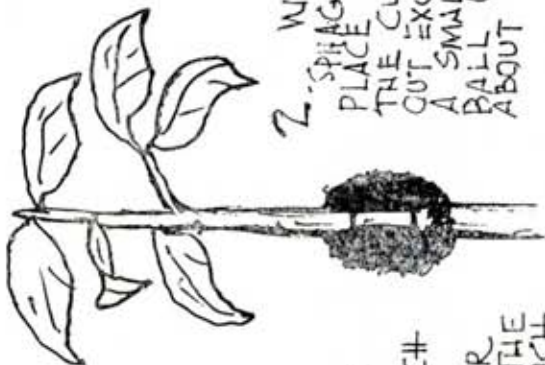
A few helpful hints: The coffee can is more convenient to use (if you have a pail it will fit into), after the wax cools, the plastic lid can be put on can and you have your wax any time you want to wax flowers.

Do not let water get into the melted wax. *Do not* melt wax directly over flame, it is flammable. *Do not* pour wax down the drain.

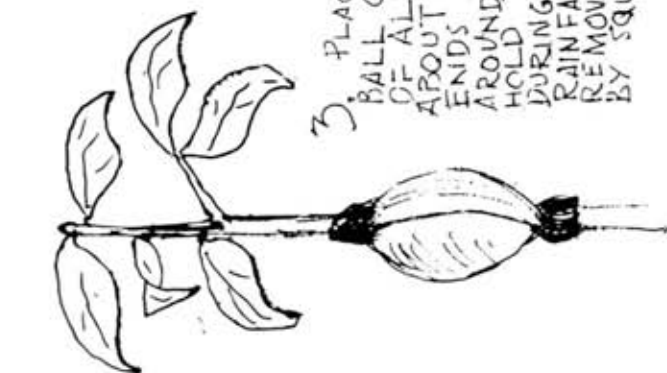
PROPAGATING CAMELIAS BY -- AIR-LAYERING --



1. COMPLETELY REMOVE A RING OF BARK, INC. "CAMBIUM LAYER, FROM SECTION OF BRANCH TO BE ROOTED. RING SHOULD BE ABOUT 2 OR 2 1/2 TIMES AS WIDE AS THE DIAMETER OF THE BRANCH. TRUNK OF BRANCH MAY BE 1/4" TO MORE THAN 1" IN DIAMETER.



2. WET A BALL OF SPHAGNUM MOSS AND PLACE IT SO IT COVERS THE CUT EVENLY. WRING OUT EXCESS MOISTURE. ON A SMALL PLANT THE BALL OF MOSS WILL BE ABOUT 2" IN DIAMETER.



3. PLACE AROUND THE BALL OF MOSS A PIECE OF ALUMINUM FOIL ABOUT 6" X 8". TWIST ENDS OF THE FOIL TO AROUND THE TRUNK TO HOLD THE BALL IN PLACE. DURING PERIODS OF HEAVY RAINFALL IT HELPS TO REMOVE SOME OF THE WATER BY SQUEEZING THE BALL.



4. WHEN ROOTS ARE ESTABLISHED CUT OFF THE BRANCH BELOW THE BALL, REMOVE THE FOIL, AND PLANT IN A POT OF GOOD SOIL. IF THE LAYERING IS DONE IN APRIL OR MAY THEY SHOULD BE READY TO POT BY SEPT OR OCT.

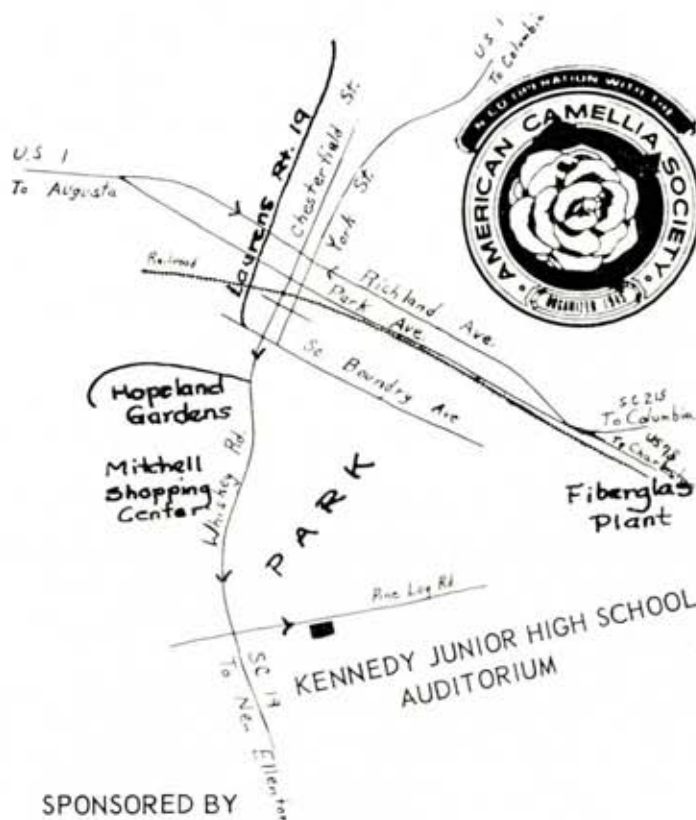
Aiken Camellia Show

Presented by THE AIKEN CAMELLIA CLUB
in Cooperation With THE AIKEN GARDEN CLUB COUNCIL

An invitation to exhibit and attend our Show on January 22-23 to be held in the Minnie B. Kennedy Junior High School; entries from 7:30 a. m. to 11:30 a. m. on Saturday, January 22, 1977.

WILLIAM C. ROBERTSON—Show Chairman

Phone: 649-9434



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Hole Grafting

By T. M. McCUTCHEN

Florence, S. C.

Frank Key, Sr., told me about this type of grafting a year or two ago. Last year I tried a few, shoulder high on a plant, using plastic to cover them. Two or three took and grew well. This year it was tried on a larger scale and I would like to share my experiences with you.

My "takes" this year, using the "hole" method, exceed the cleft grafts by far. Some were tried using no cover or protection: all died. On another, sand was banked around to help hold the moisture and three of the four are still living. The best way, however, is to use a conventional cover.

In doing this kind of grafting one needs a set of bits, a drill and an ice pick (to start hole in smaller root stock). Trim a half inch of bark from a one-bud scion, then select the correct size drill. The fit should be snug. If just a little loose, insert a pine straw in the hole to make it fit snugly.

In trimming the scion make the cutting strokes of different lengths. This will make the matching of the cambium layers much easier. Trimming (above) refers to the two layers of bark.

One done in the early winter is now about 5-6 inches tall. All were put on understock in the greenhouse. One rootstock had 14 scions put on it.

So far, all are living and beginning to grow. The bud turns upward as soon as it starts growing. Using short (1 bud) scions makes it easier to cover with jar or plastic.

I want to try a root stock at least a foot high, putting two dozen or more scions in it. To cover one this high will require a wire frame with ends stuck in the ground. Cover this with plastic, placing weights on edges to keep out the air.

Maybe research has already been done along this line. If so, I would like to know about it.

—CAROLINA CAMELLIAS—

CSPV to Donate Camellia Plants

The Camellia Society of the Potomac Valley has agreed to supply three camellia plants for the garden of the Lee-Fendall House in Alexandria, which the Alexandria Council of Garden Clubs has undertaken to restore. The house, in which the Robert E. Lees once lived, is now owned by the Virginia Trust for Historical Preservation, having been bought from the estate of John L. Lewis.

The camellias, the varieties of which have not been decided, will join other camellias already in the garden.

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Camellia Arrangements

By MRS. PAUL KINCAID

Many of us consider Camellias the most beautiful of all flowers. Certainly they would be a flower arranger's dream of beauty at any season of the year, but blooming as they do at a time when usually only florist flowers are available make them indeed gems.

The Camellia in its many forms, sizes, textures and colors is versatile in creating the feeling of any setting or era. It is effective in bountiful period bouquets, in sculptured contemporary styles and in linear Oriental arrangements. In our eighteenth century home I often use mass designs for the dining room table, but my favorite style for our home and most other settings is Japanese. Good things from many periods and countries may be used together in perfect harmony and with easy grace. Only when periods are too far apart in essentials such as scale, line, color and texture are they unharmonious. Always adhere to the basic elements of good design and good taste in mixing eras.

It is a delight to speculate on the role of the Camellia in the history of flower arrangement. Both Camellias and floral art had their origin in the Orient. No doubt they were one of the first flowers to be arranged, centuries ago, by priests for their altars. Since Camellias symbolize happiness, lon-

gevity and good fortune, they have long been intimately associated with Japanese customs and traditions. However, the Camellia has not in all ages been a happy omen. In feudal days, because the flower often falls bodily from the stem while in perfect bloom, it suggested to the samurai a beautiful life brought suddenly to an end. Therefore to the warriors, whose heads were also apt to fall quickly, a Camellia arrangement was an un auspicious sight. Today, as in most past eras, the Camellia is considered an auspicious flower indeed and is combined with for many occasions and celebrations. For instance, the most popular New Year combination is pine, willow and Camellias. White Camellias are popular for weddings, red and white Camellias in combination are symbolic of health and happiness, bamboo (symbol of endurance) is also combined with Camellias.

Techniques with Stems and Blossoms

Cut flowers early in the morning when they are turgid or, second choice, late in the afternoon.

The experienced arranger usually takes flowers of different sizes, including a few partially opened blooms and buds. Most Camellia blooms do



Camellias grown, arranged and photographed by Mrs. Paul Kincaid

not develop or open further after cutting, so cut them at the stage of development desired. Do not cut old flowers; their colors are faded and they will soon fall from their stems.

Submerge stems and re-cut under water for longer life of blooms. If stems are large, cut on a slant and split the ends a time or two or crush the ends to increase intake of water.

If flowers are not to be used soon, spray them with a fine mist of cold water and place in refrigerator or a cool place.

Always handle Camellia blossoms *gently*. No amount of conditioning can restore a flower that has been bruised or crushed by careless handling.

Often stems can not be cut long enough for a design. There are excellent plastic vials on the market that can easily remedy this. One end of the vial has a rubber cover with a slit into which the short-stemmed flower is placed, the other end slips snugly over a florist stick or a stick of your own contrivance.

To solve the problem of flower-dropping, run a small wire (I like 24 gauge for general use) through the

calyx and twist it carefully down around the stem inconspicuously.

Often a stem is too weak to support a large bloom. In that case increase the size of wire used to run through calyx to 20 or 22 gauge or reinforce stem with a stronger stick. Hollow stems such as those of gladiolas are also useful for holding stems of flowers too short, thin or fragile to be placed directly into the holder.

Spray your finished arrangement with a fine mist of water to increase the life span of Camelias. Clean water and fresh, cool air are the best preservatives for any flower, but Camelias are extremely sensitive to humidity levels. They take and lose moisture readily through their petals and require frequent misting for longer life.

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Avoid drafts, heat and such which shorten the life of arrangements.

Containers

The container is more than a vessel to hold flowers and water. It is an integral part of the design and should have good structural lines and an affinity for the flowers as well as the room where it is to be used. Strong, simple containers having a look of stability suit the large, bold Camellias. Delicate, fragile-looking ones are fine for the small blossoms and delicate colors. Elegant, expensive vases are a joy to own and to use, but containers need not be costly to be effective. Many low-priced pieces of pottery, metal, glass and synthetic materials are on the market. If they are of good design and understated they may be effective and easy to use.

Reality can be many things. Plato first formulated the doctrine that what we conceive is as real as physical substance. For me, the reality of traveling is a recurring experience through my flower arrangements. As I tuck a few flowers, into an ancient jar from Egypt, arrange Camellias around a figure from Mexico, or create a line in lovely, antique alabaster from Rome, I re-create the pleasures of earlier travels. Of course, with this sound logic I easily convince myself (and Paul) that the treasure on which I may have set my heart is an economy rather than a luxury!

Many times the treasure is free for the taking. In the natural world around us handsome forms lie concealed, awaiting only the eye of some perceptive arranger. Weathered wood,

bare tree branches, rocks and shells—there is a wealth of dramatic materials, frequently overlooked, perhaps because it comes without a price tag. I feel that if one can't see beauty in the simple things of life that are free, it is not likely he can recognize beauty when it is for sale.

To make truly distinguished designs, the seeing eye must be developed. With increasing awareness of the things around us, plant material is no longer only a flower or a branch, but an ingredient having line, form, color, and shape with which to create a composition to display our Camellias.

—CAROLINA CAMELLIAS—

Fayetteville Club Holds Plant Sale

Want to know of a good way for a club to raise money and have lots of fun in the same time? Have a Plant Auction at one of your regular meetings. That's what the Fayetteville Camellia Club did at their October meeting, and the auction raised over \$225.00 with 36 members present. The brainchild of James McCoy of the Program Committee, each member was asked to bring some plants or plant related material to the meeting. Mrs. C. C. Duell was the auctioneer, and at times the betting was so intense that husbands overbid their wives much to the delight of the auctioneer who refused no bid! Camellias, azaleas, rhododendrons, hanging baskets, potted plants and even a basket of home grown vegetables were sold. During the brief

business meeting Louis M. Fetterman, president, presided. A thoughtful invocation was given by Mr. Fred Mayo. Mrs. J. Duke Haynie read a Resolution in memory of Mr. David Oates, a Charter Member and Past President of the Fayetteville Camellia Club and well known Camellia Judge throughout the States. Mr. Oates died in June. Mrs. Martin Berry, Secretary, was instructed by the President to place this Resolution in the permanent records of the club and to send a copy of same to Mrs. Oates as an expression of love and sympathy from the membership. Mrs. J. F. MacGill

made a report on a proposed trip by charter bus to Fort Valley, Georgia, Headquarters of the American Camellia Society. Much enthusiasm was shown and the membership will decide at the next meeting whether to take it in the Fall-Winter season or in the Spring. Mr. Ernest Aycock reported that all plans for the Sandhills Camellia Club to be held November 13 and 14 are well underway. All members were urged to participate in the Show. The Fayetteville Camellia Show will be held in beautiful Cross Creek Mall this Spring. The dates are March 6 and 7. You all come!

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