

# Carolina Camellias



## 'MING TEMPLE'

*C. reticulata* seedling of 'Cornelian', large to loose peony form with silvery pink petals. Early and late season blooms. Strong, columnar, compact growth. Developed by Dave Feathers and introduced by Redwood Empire Camellia Nursery.

*Courtesy Redwood Empire Camellia Nursery*

# Show Dates



**1979**

Columbia, S.C., Mid-Carolina Camellia Society S.C. State Fair	Oct. 26-27
Virginia Beach, Va., Virginia Camellia Society Pembroke Mall	Nov. 2-3
Savannah, Ga., Men's Garden Club of Savannah	Nov. 2-4
Fort Valley, Ga., Middle Georgia Camellia Society Massee Lane	Nov. 10-11
Charleston, S.C., Coastal Carolina Camellia Society First Federal Savings and Loan, Broad Street	Nov. 17-18
Gainesville, Fl., (30th ACS Annual Meeting) First Florida Savings and Loan	Dec. 1-2
Jacksonville, Fla., Camellia Society of North Florida Regency Square	Dec. 8-9

**1980**

Aiken, S.C. Aiken Camellia Society Kennedy Jr. High School	Jan. 19-20
Charleston, S.C., Coastal Carolina Camellia Society Charles Towne Square Mall, Charleston Hgts.	Jan. 26-27
Savannah, Ga., Men's Garden Club of Savannah	Feb. 2-3
Columbia, S.C., Mid-Carolina Camellia Society Columbia Mall	Feb. 9-10
Wilmington, N.C., Tidewater Camellia Club Wilmington Hilton	Feb. 16-17
Augusta, Ga., Augusta Camellia Society Garden Center, Telfair St.	Feb. 16-17
Atlanta, Ga., Georgia and Atlanta Camellia Societies Lenox Square	Feb. 16-17
Charlotte, N.C., Men's Camellia Club of Charlotte Eastland Mall	Feb. 23-24
Fayetteville, N.C., Fayetteville Camellia Club Cross Creek Mall	Mar. 1-2
Greensboro N.C., Men's Piedmont Camellia Club Four Seasons Mall	Mar. 8-9
Virginia Beach, Va., Virginia Camellia Society	Mar. 22-23

# Carolina Camellias

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

Published by the South Carolina Camellia Society, Inc.

## **Editor**

Tita Heins  
1854 Hutton Court  
Charleston, S.C. 29407  
Phone: (803) 766-8279

## **Associate Editor**

Charlie Heins

## **Art Editor**

Liz Carnell

## **Contributing Editors**

Dr. Luther Baxter  
James McCoy  
Mildred Robertson

## **Secretary-Treasurer**

Elliott P. Brogden

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# President's Messages

## *South Carolina Camellia Society*



I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and everyone of you for the help and support you have given me during my two years as your president. The next meeting of our Society will be the annual meeting at which time new officers will be elected for the coming year. Let me urge you to plan to attend. Support your Society. Information on the location, time, place, etc. will be sent to you by letter.

I look forward to the coming year and will anticipate seeing each of you at our shows and meetings.

*William C. Robertson, President*

## *North Carolina Camellia Society*



Well, it's that time of year again! Time to put plastic on those greenhouses and place the camellias back inside. After a short rest and it seems a short summer, it's time to roll up our sleeves and get back to work! Hopefully, you have prepared your plants so that beautiful prize winning blooms will be your product this year.

I encourage you to attend as many shows as possible. Due to gas availability and prices, it may not be possible for some to travel long distances, but do attend those shows nearest you. I urge you to support your local shows wholeheartedly and enthusiastically. Recruit new members and make the local shows a place for the public to visit and admire.

Speaking of shows, it will also soon be time to turn our attention to our Fall Meeting and Show. Bill DeLaney of Lake Waccamaw has been busy setting up this event. Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 3rd, Greenville, N.C. Final plans for our meeting are not complete at this writing, however, you will be informed well in advance.

If you have not renewed your membership for 1980, please do so immediately. The dues are \$5.00 per year. Please mail your check to Mrs. Jeanette Lewis, P.O. Box 97, Trinity, N.C. 27370.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for letting me serve as your president this past year. Your confidence in me has been very much appreciated. I want to thank each of you for your cooperation in making this a successful year for the Society.

See you in Greenville, N.C., November 3rd.

*Johnny Lewis, President*

## Virginia Camellia Society



We are off to another Camellia season and after two poor years let us hope and pray that the law of averages will give us a bountiful display of good blooms this year.

The summer in Virginia has been very dry, necessitating much watering right now for good bud growth. Gibbing of maturing buds should be commenced in early August on fairly well matured buds and continued into September for blooms to be entered in the November 2-3 show.

The passing of Frederic Heutte has left a void in the lives of Camellia lovers and of thousands of others who visit and enjoy his development, the Norfolk Botanical Gardens. As Norfolk's Superintendent of Parks for 30 years he planted 25,000 Crepe Myrtles and created an Azalea Garden as well. We miss him.

I want to thank the Virginia Camellia Society for the honor of being elected as their president.

Charlie Mason and others are doing a stellar job of propagating plants by the air-layering method for gifts to the Society.

Let us put forth efforts to get plenty of good quality blooms this year.

*John Walsh, President*



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# LOCAL CAMELLIA SOCIETIES

## SOUTH CAROLINA

### AIKEN CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: B.D. Kuhn; Secretary: Janet S. Burns, 1006 Alfred St. Aiken 29801  
Meeting: 2nd Tues. Oct. - Mar. at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Laurens St.

### COASTAL CAROLINA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Charles H. Heims; Secretary: Donna Shepherd, 106 Park Place E. North Charleston 29406  
Meeting: 3rd Tues. Aug. - May at Calvary Lutheran Church, 1400 Manor Blvd.

### MID CAROLINA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Col. Dave Heriot; Secretary: Katherine Mims, 1148 Baywater Dr. West Columbia 29619  
Meeting: 2nd. Wed. Sept. - Mar., Shane's, Beltline Blvd.

### WEST CAROLINA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: George L. Counts; Secretary: Ruby T. Clinkscales, Greenwood 29646  
Meeting: 2nd Sun. Oct. - Mar., Matthews Community Center

## NORTH CAROLINA

### FAYETTEVILLE CAMELLIA CLUB

President: J. William Anderson; Secretary: A. Nelson Condit, Rt. 1 Box 530 Aberdeen 28315  
Meeting: 3rd Tues. Monthly, Jordan's Cafeteria, Eutaw Shopping Center

### MEN'S CAMELLIA CLUB OF CHARLOTTE

President: Dr. Olin W. Owen; Secretary: J.L. McClintock, Jr. 1325 E. Barden Rd., Charlotte 28211  
Meeting: 1st Mon. Sept. - May, Social Services Bldg., Billingsley Rd.

### MEN'S PIEDMONT CAMELLIA CLUB

President: Martin Austin; Secretary: William Nichols, 2511 Burgandy Dr. 29407  
Meeting: 1st Mon. Oct. - Apr. at St. Andrews Episcopal Church 2105 W. Market St.

### TIDEWATER CAMELLIA CLUB

President: J.K. Blanchard; Secretary: Becky Newber, Rt. 3, Box 57 Wilmington 28403  
Meeting: 4th Tues. Monthly, Valentines Buffett, Long Leaf Mall

### WHITEVILLE CAMELLIA CLUB

President: Joseph B. Schulken; Secretary: Margaret M. Woltz, Box 56 Hallsboro 28442  
Meeting: 2nd Sun. Nov. - Mar., Chamber of Commerce Bldg.

## VIRGINIA

### VIRGINIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: John K. Walsh; Secretary: Lillian P. Miller, 4540 Shoshone Ct. Norfolk 23513  
Meeting: Norfolk Botanical Gardens

CAMELLIA JAPONICAS

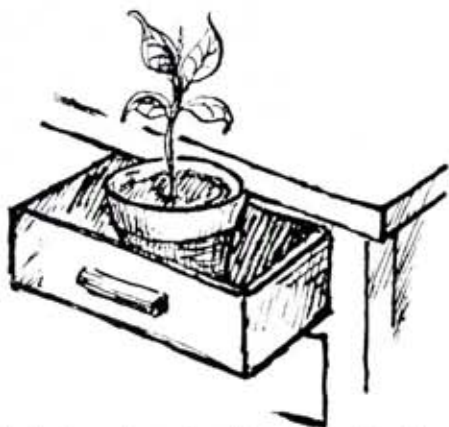
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# Editor's Drawer



After the North Carolina Camellia Society meeting last March Charlie and Jim McCoy discussed the possibility of publishing a greenhouse issue for *Carolina Camellias*. Jim was gracious enough to assume the responsibility for writing and soliciting the articles for this issue. As you read it you will see that he did a splendid job. (Yes, any and everything you want to know about greenhouses for camellias in the Southeast is contained right here in this little magazine. Just in case you want to know more, direct your questions to Jim McCoy).

Jim has served as our chief consultant, advisor, and contributor of ideas and articles during our term as editors. His suggestions and encouragement have been a great help to us. Thank you, Jim.



Before each issue of *Carolina Camellias* goes to press for the final printing, Liz Carnell and I go over the magazine to see what we need in the area of photos and sketches. Her

help has given *Carolina Camellias* the artistic touch that so many of you have commented about. We were, indeed, fortunate to have someone of her knowledge, talent, experience and interest to give us her time. To her it was a "fun job".

She says that she has studied art all of her life and is still learning. She has a BA in art from Maryville College, Tennessee and did her graduate work at University of Alabama. Her work in graphic arts has taken her into fields of advertising, printing, educational television, management and teaching. She now teaches art in her studio at home and has a class of three year olds in Westminster Presbyterian Church Kindergarten. She is also a free lance artist with work published in various periodicals. Some of her sketches accompany articles written by her husband, Dr. C. Mitchell Carnell, Jr. Mitch is the Director of the Charleston Speech and Hearing Center, lecturer, and free lance writer. The Carnell's have two children, Suzanne, a student at University of South Carolina in Columbia and Michael, a senior at St. Andrews High School in Charleston.

Thanks, Liz, for the touch of beauty you added to our magazine.



A friend of ours moved to the West Coast and needed someone to drive his Cadillac to the West Coast about the same time Charlie had a week's conference to attend in California. We left in plenty of time to drive 55 miles per hour and to stop at a few places of interest. Honestly, we did. We drove 55 miles per hour all the way across country and were passed by every car going our direction. We had no difficulty getting gasoline. The cost was 95.9 cents to 99.9 cents per gallon except at Grand Canyon and, in California. There it was 104.8 to 116.8 per gallon. I wondered how the gas meters would register more than 99.9 with its limited slots for price notices. Now I know. It is posted for the price of a half gallon, 58.4 per half gallon. The only place we saw lines of cars at gas stations was on Sunday in San Francisco. In talking with gas station attendents we learned that there seemed to be no fear over the lack of gas and their predictions for the leveling off prices were anywhere from \$2.00 per gallon to \$5.00 per gallon.

How will the inflated price of gas effect the Camellia Hobby? Mrs. Crown's article (see 20 Years Ago on page 12 )tells us of a visit to a camellia greenhouse during World War II. It is evident that neither gas rationing nor the stresses of war dampened the enthusiasm of camellia growers. Perhaps some of us will be limited in our travel to shows held away from home. Fortunately, one can still enjoy the Camellia Hobby by walking in to his back yard or joining his cam-

ellia friends down the street and around the corner.

This issue of *Carolina Camellias* is mostly about greenhouses. Yard growers can demand equal space by sending in articles about growing unprotected camellias.

Joe Wooten of Summerville, S.C. plans to submit an article on how to produce prize camellia blooms the Tuesday after the Show.



This will be the last *Carolina Camellias* that Charlie and I will be editing. Truly, we have enjoyed serving the members of the South Carolina Camellia Society, North Carolina Camellia Society and Virginia Camellia Society in this capacity. We were fortunate in having unlimited talent to draw upon for articles throughout the three States. If we listed the names of all the members who helped with the publication of *Carolina Camellias* there would be no room for anything else in this issue. We say to each of you THANK YOU and encourage you to support the new Editor of *Carolina Camellias*.

*Tita Heins*

I think every Camellia has its own significance. Think of the sacrifice the Professor Sargent made in making the Tomorrow Park Hill more beautiful.

J.O. "Jack"

# NEWS FROM BROWNIE

Milton H. Brown, Executive Secretary



## ICS MEETING

March 1980 will find the International Camellia Society meeting in Japan. This will be a very exciting meeting in Kyoto from March 23 to March 27.

A Japanese tour agency has been in touch with me and has set up what sounds like a most interesting and exciting tour. We would leave Los Angeles on March 17 and return on April 3. There will be a fascinating escorted tour both before and after the conference. Before the conference, we would visit Tokyo and the Mount Hakone National Park and take a boat trip to Oshima Island, which is the camellia island and is mentioned in Phil Ireland's article in the 1978 *Yearbook*. We will also visit Niigata and Kamo to see the snow camellias.

After the conference in Kyoto, where we will see many ancient temples and camellias as old as 300 or more years, we will travel the picturesque Inland Sea to Beppu where there is a fabulous hotel and wonderful camellias and bonsai and then across Kyushu for the scenic highway to Humamoto, home of the Higo camellias, where a special exhibition of camellia bonsai and a nursery visit are planned.

If you wish to plan on going contact Mr. Brown, American Camellia Society, P.O. Box 1217, Fort Valley, GA. Details and costing are now being worked on and will be sent to you on request. See you in Tokyo in March 1980?

\* \* \* \* \*

## DAVE FEATHERS HONORED

The Massachusetts Horticultural Society has honored David L. Feathers by awarding him the prestigious Jackson Dawson Medal for "skill in the science and practice of hybridization of hardy woody plants." Dave's long and illustrious camellia career was most recently highlighted by his editing the interesting and authoritative book *The Camellia, Its History, Culture, Genetics And a Look Into Its Future Development* which was published by the American Camellia Society.

\* \* \* \* \*

## 1980 — THE YEAR OF THE CAMELLIA

The ACS Governing Board has unanimously approved a resolution to name 1980 as The Year of the Camellia. We hope that all local camellia societies, state and regional societies will make an extra effort during 1980 to bring our favorite flower to everyone's attention. It is fitting that the ACS will meet for its Fall Convention in Charleston where camellias have been popular since the early 1800's.



## Fred Heutte

*He loved every living thing. Every living thing loved him.*

Robert O. Matthews, Superintendent, Norfolk Botanical Gardens

As a young man he came from France to America. Norfolk knew him first in 1936, when he came here as Superintendent of Parks and Forestry. His enthusiasm for horticulture in general was unsurpassed. He began to beautify the City of Norfolk with Crape Myrtle and azaleas. My chance he noticed two single blooming camellias growing in Norfolk which gave him the inspiration to begin a collection in our Norfolk Botanical Gardens, which now contains 708 varieties .... mostly by scions exchanged from other gardens and his fellow camellia lovers. This collection contains many species collected around the world.

He was instrumental in bringing the camellia *C. granthamiana* to America from Hong Kong. It now flowers in great numbers, here in Norfolk and throughout America. It was our privilege to flower the first one on this continent.

His love for camellias inspired others, to where it became one of the basic landscaping plants of the Tidewater Virginia area. He was the founder of the Virginia Camellia Society and his fondness for this flower grew nationally. He wrote many articles for camellia publications. Although Fred is no longer with us (he passed away July 29, 1979) his contributions to the camellia world and all other living things will beautify our world forever .... he will never be forgotten .... he has many living memorials.

# Tidewater Show

Becky Newber, Wilmington, N.C.

If you'd like to try something a little different, come to the Tidewater Camellia Show on February 16th and 17th, 1980 at the Wilmington Hilton, Wilmington, N.C.

What can be more appealing than to walk into a ballroom full of top quality camellia blooms banked with tables of flower arrangements—all set off by a back drop of rustic redwood racks filled with all types of hanging baskets. The camellia does not lose out — she's always queen. Why the other two attractions?

The arrangements are in conjunction with the theme set by the American Camellia Society. All arrangements feature camellias. This section is by invitation only.

The hanging baskets were started about eight years ago to add new interest and to act as background and fill in an off bloom year. Even though we always seem to come up with an ample supply of camellia blooms, the hanging baskets have become a popular attraction. The club built the racks; these can be broken down and stored after each show. The hanging basket division is divided into two sections: one for foliage plants, the other for flowering plants in bloom. Anyone may enter except professional growers.

Why not plan to come to Wilmington for our 1980 Spring Show — we'd love to have you.

(For more information contact Joe Schannell, 417 N. Crestwood Dr., Wilmington, N.C. 28405)



## THE ALCOHOLIC'S TOAST

It was a day in October,  
I was far from being sober,  
I was carrying a load home with manly pride.  
When my feet began to stutter,  
There I layed down in a gutter,  
And a pig came up and layed down by my side.  
Now there were two good fellows together  
Enjoying the fair weather.  
When two ladies passing by were heard to say,  
"You can always tell who boozes  
By the company that he chooses",  
And the pig got up and slowly walked away.

*J.O. "Jack"*

# IMPORTANT NOTICE

## Dues Increase for South Carolina Camellia Society Members

Like everything else, the cost of publishing *Carolina Camellias* and conducting the day to day business of your society has soared. The Board of Governors has therefore, through necessity, been forced to increase dues to \$7.50 a year for annual membership and \$10.00 for sustaining membership. In particular, cost of publication, postage, supplies and clerical help has caused this increase in dues.

Even with the increase, we feel that our publication is a bargain. Where else can you get a first class, informative and timely magazine for so little.

And so dear Camellia friends, renew your subscription to *Carolina Camellias* **today**. Also solve your Christmas present problems by sending your friends and relatives a gift subscription. They will appreciate it and you will be promoting the most beautiful of all flowers — Camellias.

Elliott P. Brogden  
Secretary/Treasurer

## *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.

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# Twenty Years Ago

(Excerpts from SOUTH CAROLINA CAMELLIA BULLETIN, Spring 1959)

## The Pleasures of Camellia Growing — Fletcher Pearson Crown

Just like a fairy tale, it all began a long time ago, when I was about five years old. There were some big camellia plants in the yard. They were big enough for me to play underneath. The lovely red blossoms fell to the ground before they became faded. With these I made lovely flower gardens.

In a shady spot on the north side of our home I would dig out to make a hole about eight by ten inches. This was lined with soft green moss, and on the moss I placed the fallen camellia blossoms. Over this hole was placed a pane of glass which was covered completely with soil. When I wished to see its beauty I carefully pushed the soil back, starting at the middle and going around, pushing it away to make an opening. We called these gardens "Peep Shows". I could trade a "peep" for something another child had and which I wanted. After each peep it was carefully covered again. These lovely blossoms lasted several days, maybe longer. I understand now in the "far south" the growers frequently use this method to preserve some unusual blossom so that many visitors can have the pleasure of seeing it.

In those days we did not hear them called "Camellia", for everyone spoke of the "Japonicas". We had very few varieties, and they were much smaller than the ones we now see. I do not remember anything of their care and feeding, for my only interest was to use them to make this little spot of beauty, my "peep-show".....

...During the Second World War, when so many things were rationed and most news was disturbing. One Sunday afternoon we visited Mrs. Porter's lovely gardens and lingered in the glass houses where her beautiful and well cared for plants were filled with blossoms. There were at least twenty-five persons looking and talking about the different varieties. We called them by name and consulted about their hardiness and culture. On the way home my husband, who was not at that time a camellia enthusiast, remarked — "Do you realize that not one person made any reference to the war. Everyone had a smile and I feel much better for having been there." When flowers do so much and require so little, I feel that I want to tell and help everyone to begin this magic art....

....I use my camellias as insurance for a long and happy life. Even though we have several hundred plants I always plant some seed each fall, and insist on my husband planting some. There is nothing like an intense interest to keep people alive. So with seedlings coming along each year we live one more year, to be the first to see the blooms. How could one be so bored as to pass on leaving these unknown beauties to be viewed by others or maybe neglected.

I even know one couple who passed up a divorce because they couldn't decide how to divide their camellias.



# In And Around The Greenhouse

James H. McCoy, Fayetteville, N.C.

I know many are wondering how our friend, nursery man Ray Gentry, made out during the much publicized flood of Jackson Mississippi. I can report from Ray himself that his nursery did not experience any flooding at all. The city of Jackson received awesome damage that totaled many millions of dollars and from which it will take years to recover.

It will soon be time to return plants to the greenhouse, about October 15. This is considered by many to be the best time to repot. Others consider the best time to be at the end of the blooming season. Either time would be all right. Each of these time periods has its advantage. The roots of camellias grow during the winter, so if you repot, step a plant up to a larger container in the fall, it will have all winter to develop a strong, healthy root system so in the spring it can take off and go. Also, in the fall there is usually more time available for this activity. Arguments in favor of spring are just as valid. You would not chance setting the plant back just before blooming season and thus reducing the quality of the blooms. In the spring, after buds swell, you can more easily determine whether a plant needs repotting. A sure sign that it does would be failure of a plant to put out vigorous new growth along with the other plants.

Most of us regraft when a graft fails. We use semi-hardened new growth for scion wood as a general rule. These regrafts fail more often than not. Someone has suggested that we store the scions in the refrigerator for a couple weeks prior to

grafting. They are supposed to take better. Haven't checked this out yet but expect to do so come next grafting season.

Camellia growers find the most unusual uses for ordinary things around the house. Take clear plastic trash bags for example. Of course we use them for trash but how about using them as an "oxygen tent" for an ailing camellia? Also they can be used as a cloche for a graft when the scion starts growing before sufficient callusing has taken place. Sometimes the growth reaches the top of the jar and still you don't dare take the jar off. One solution would be to cut several inches off the new growth and leave the jar on for a few more weeks. Another would be to use a plastic trash bag, held up off the plant with canes and held as near air tight as possible at the bottom with string around the container.

I have about reached the conclusion that unless a camellia hybridizer gets a color break in his retic hybrid, he will never get one which would merit registration. No pink semi-double could ever surpass 'Howard Asper' in size or beauty. No pink peony could be bigger or more beautiful than 'Miss Tulare' or 'Jean Purcel'. I recently had a very large, pink, loose peony bloom on a cross of 'Tranquility' x 'Cornelian'. I was more excited than that day long ago when I got my first new car. I finally forced myself to admit that it wasn't any more beautiful or much different from 'Howard Asper'. I will never register it. But if it had been the color of 'Moonlight Sonata', what a difference that would

*continued on page 28*

# BUILD YOUR OWN GREENHOUSE

James McCoy, Fayetteville, N.C.

there are about as many types of greenhouses as there are houses, from quonset hut types covered with visqueen to the luxurious fully equipped Lord and Burnham. Here is a relatively simple, relatively inexpensive, relatively easy to construct semi-permanent design that would take care of the needs of most camellia growers. With judicious placement of containers and the average percentage of 1, 2, 3, and 5 gallon containers, it would accommodate about 200 plants.

Water should be provided by installing a 1/2-inch plastic water line buried about 12-inches deep, with a hose bib inside the greenhouse. Lights are very desirable and entails installation of a 30-amp fuse box with a 10/2 GW UF cable from a 2-pole breaker in the main panel up at the house. Two lighting circuits can be installed with as many as ten 100 watt lights on each circuit. These circuits can also be used for electric heaters up to 1500 watts each. Door can be fabricated out of 1 x 4 pieces of scrap lumber, covered with the same corrugated plastic used on the walls.

Some notes: This is very light construction and concrete footings are not necessary. 4-inch masonry blocks, laid flat, could be used for a footing instead of concrete. It would be cheaper, but you probably should check with your building inspector to be sure that he would approve. In the Carolinas, not much heat is ever needed. Two 1500 watt electric heaters would keep the temperature above freezing except in severest cold, during which a supplemental heater of some sort (kerosene, gas or

oil) could be used. Another excellent greenhouse heater is the model C-1 greenhouse heater, manufactured by Southern Burner Co., Chickasha, OK, 73018. The cost of this heater is about \$350.00. It would require the installation of an LP gas tank and lines which is not excessively expensive. No mechanical ventilation is required, just leave the door open sometimes if you want to vent your greenhouse, or make several wall panels removable or hinged so they can be opened. A work table is another very desirable feature. Any jack-leg carpenter can build one at no great expense. Don't forget, use treated lumber only in greenhouse construction. Storm windows could be used in lieu of corrugated plastic for the walls. Spacing of studs would have to be adjusted to fit the width of the windows selected, and would add \$300.00 or more to the cost of the project. It would be much better however unless you have stone throwing or baseball playing little boys in the neighborhood. The corrugated plastic for the walls could be the cheapest you can find at the discount building materials stores. Get the kind that's 26 inches wide which would permit 24 inch spacing of the studs. That for the roof would need to be a heavy grade of fiberglass. The width of the panels would determine the number and spacing of the trusses. Take the width of the panel, subtract the width of one corrugation (center of valley to center of valley), and that is the distance between centerline of trusses. Prices quoted here were in effect during the month of June, 1979.



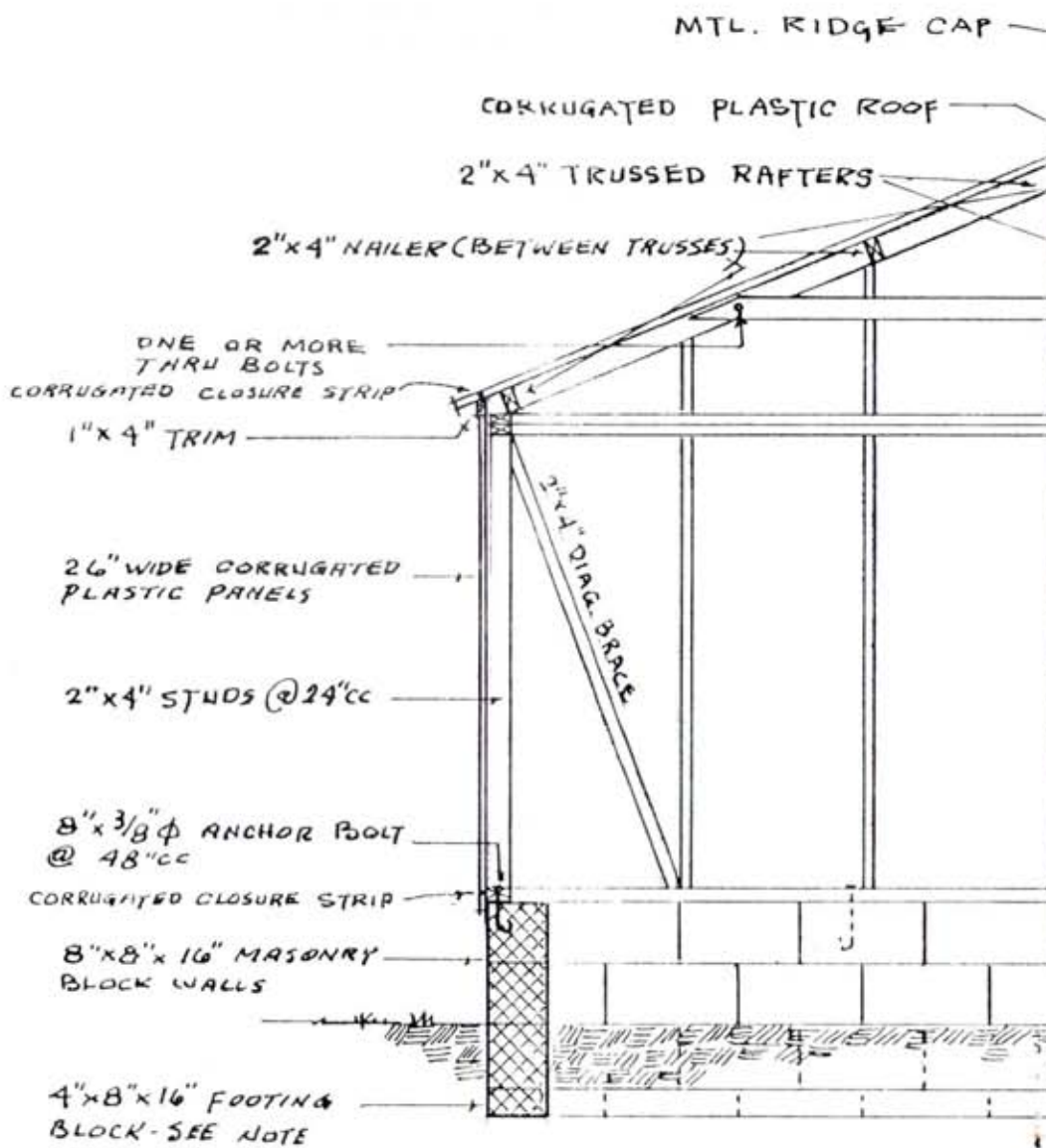
## DETAILED COST ESTIMATE

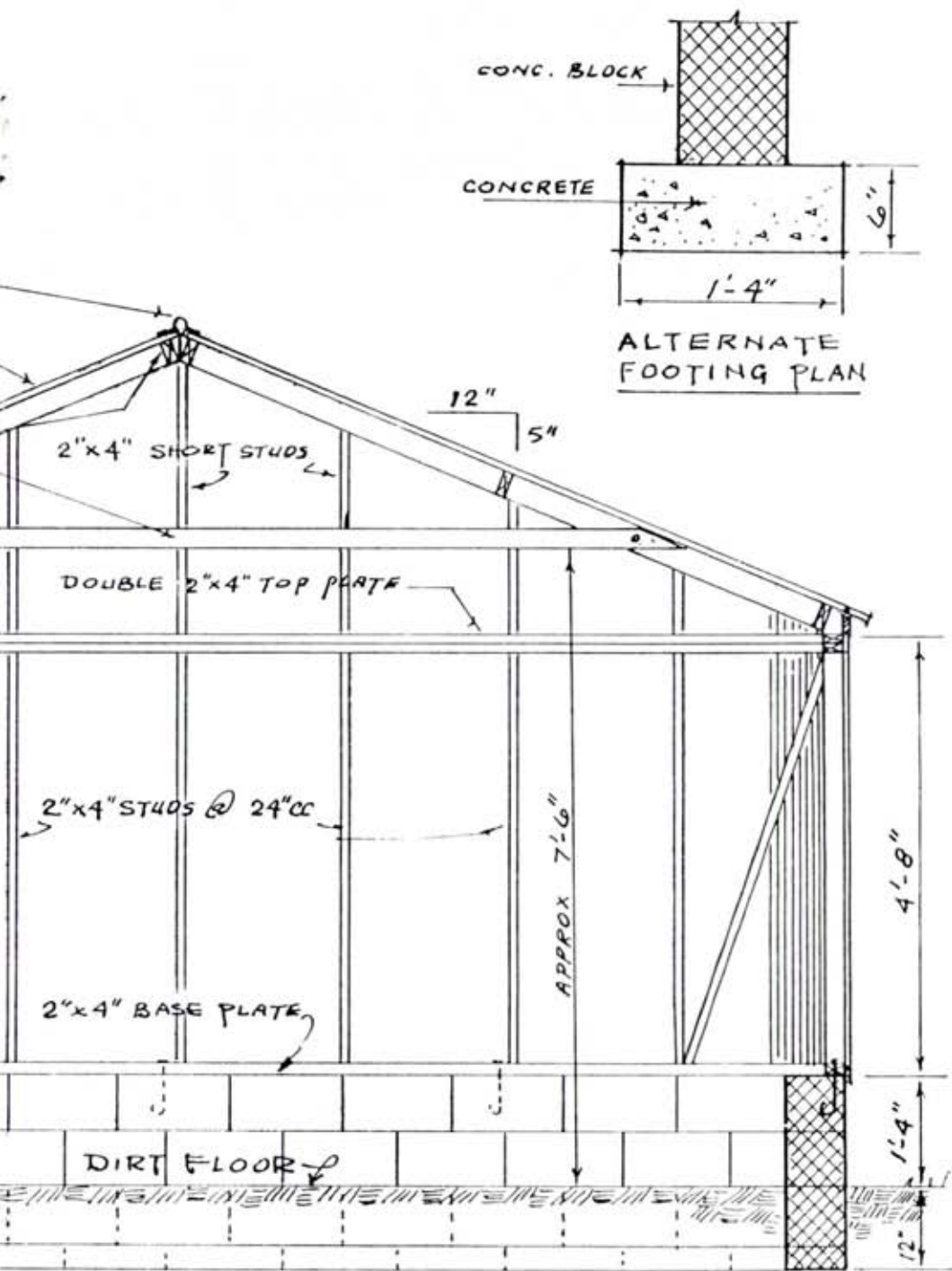
DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT PRICE	COST
4" Masonry Blocks	64	ea	\$ 425	\$ 27.20
8" Masonry Blocks	150	ea	.65	97.50
Brixment	4	bags	2.90	11.60
Base Plate:				
2" x 4" x 10'	4	ea	2.50	10.00
2" x 4" x 14'	1	ea	3.50	3.50
2" x 4" x 16'	1	ea	4.37	4.37
Studs:				
2" x 4" x 14'	1	ea	3.50	3.50
2" x 4" x 10'	19	ea	2.50	47.50
Top Plate:				
2" x 4" x 10'	8	ea	2.50	20.00
2" x 4" x 16'	4	ea	4.37	17.48
Short Studs (in gables):				
2" x 4" x 12'	4	ea	3.00	12.00
Trusses:				
2" x 4" x 10'	12	ea	2.50	30.00
2" x 4" x 16'	4	ea	4.37	17.48
Spacers (nailers between trusses)				
2" x 4" x 10'	8	ea	2.50	20.00
5 oz. Corrugated plastic (5 sh. 50½" x 12')	253	s.f	.50	126.50
Cheapest grade Corr. Plastic, 26" x 10'	20	sh.	4.25	95.00
Closure strips for walls	72	l.f	.014	1.01
Closure strips for eaves	40	l.f.	.014	.56
Side lap sealer	1	tube	3.45	3.45
Aluminum nails, 2", twisted w/neoprene wash.	2	lbs.	3.50	7.00
Sheet metal ridge (12" x 28")	9	ea.	1.25	11.25
Screen door w/hardware (homemade)	1	ea		26.00
Door stop, approx. 1" x 2", scrap lumber	17	l.f.		
Paint, exterior latex	2	gal.	10.00	20.00
Anchor bolts, 3/8" x 8"	19	ea.	.45	8.55
16 penny nails (3½", cement coated)	10	lbs.	.65	6.50
8 penny nails (2½", cement coated)	1	lb.	.65	.65
1" x 2" wood trim	80	l.f.	.20	16.00
caiking	1	tube	1.50	1.50
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$636.10</b>
NOTES: Sales tax not included.				
Cut 5 oz. corr plastic in half for roof.				
Paint wood before applying plastic.				
Cost for lights and water not included.				

(to whom it may concern)

The most ideal flower plant to put at the headstone of your mother's grave is a Rhododendron because 99% of the years it will be in full bloom on Mother's Day.

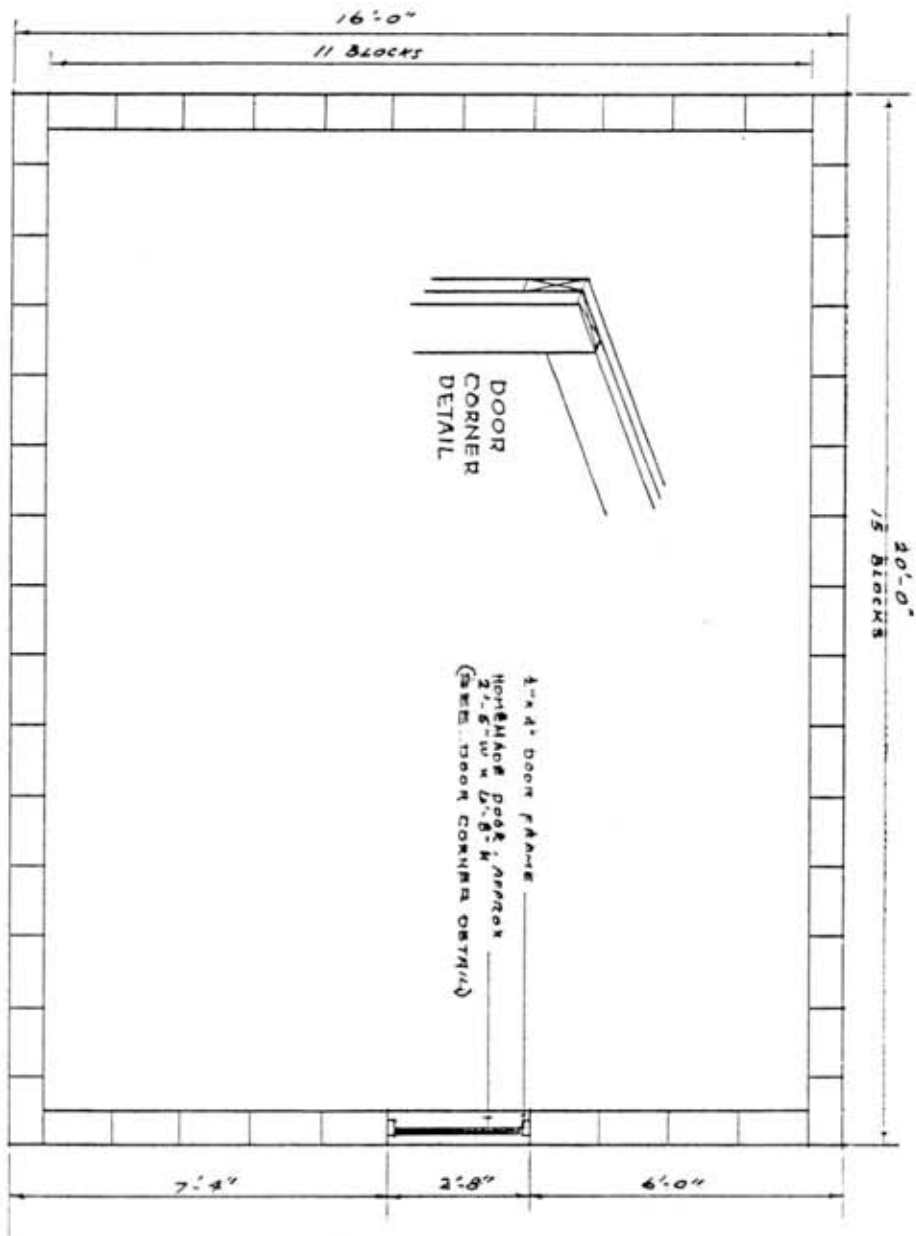
J.O. "Jack"





SECTION

PLAN



## POTTING MIXES FOR CONTAINER GROWN CAMELLIAS

James McCoy, Fayetteville, N.C.

Most greenhouse growers of camellias would probably agree that there is no more important aspect of container culture than soil mix and feeding. Certainly, disease and insect control, temperature, humidity, pruning, disbudding and all the other things that we are concerned with are important, but there is not much doubt that most container grown camellia losses are due to a poor growing medium and/or poor feeding practices. With this firm conviction, we have asked some of our most successful greenhouse growers to tell us what sort of potting mix they use and some of their feeding practices. Here are some of the responses.

From Robert Fowler, Lumberton, N.C.

- 6 parts milled pine bark
- 2 parts aged sawdust
- 2 parts coarse sand
- 2 parts sandy top soil
- to one construction type wheelbarrow full of the above mix, add  $\frac{1}{3}$  cup dolomitic lime
- $\frac{1}{3}$  cup of Dupont Uramite

From Paul Dahlen, Aiken, S.C.

- 40% sandy loam
- 10% peat moss
- 25% pine bark
- 25% perlite
- He says, "This year I am using Osmocote in addition to my usual fertilizing."

From Lester Allen, Greensboro, N.C.

- 1 part soil, not clay
- 1 part coarse sand
- 1 part old sawdust. Should be very old and very dark
- 1 part medium and fine pine bark

Mix this material thoroughly, then add

- 1 pint cottonseed meal
- 1 tablespoon minor elements
- $\frac{1}{2}$  pint dolomitic lime.

The four main parts are equal to 12 pecks or 24 gallons. If you can get it, it is good to add  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce of chlorodane dust. If very old sawdust cannot be found, substitute one more part bark. He says that he does not add anything to this mix at potting time. He also says that he has never had a potting mix that he is completely satisfied with. The above is his 1978 mix.

From Marshall Rhyne, Belmont, N.C.

- 1 part sand
- 2 parts woods dirt
- 3 parts sawdust
- 4 parts fine pine bark

If it drains too fast, use more dirt or sawdust. If it drains too slowly, use more bark and less dirt or sawdust. He says that he only waters one time per week unless temperature is above 90 degrees.

From Bill Robertson, Aiken, S.C.

- 5 parts old sawdust
- 3 parts sandy loam soil
- 1 part ground pine bark
- 1 part very coarse washed sand
- 1 part commercial cow manure.

He says, "I use no nutrients or trace elements in the mix other than the manure. I fertilize in March, June, and September with dry Sta-Green with all the trace elements. During the blooming season, I use liquid fertilizer every

*continued on page 28*

# A SOUTH GEORGIA GREENHOUSE

by Hulyn Smith, Valdosta, Georgia

To live in deep South Georgia, with three big lots on a slight hillside by a creek with tall, stately pine trees for filtered shade, good well-drained soil and a well with a complete overhead irrigation system, is just about as near heaven as a camellia grower can get. With all of this, I didn't think I would ever want or need a greenhouse.

Then we experienced three consecutive severe winters. I had extensive cold damage to my blooms and I began to realize that I could not compete in shows with only outside grown blossoms to exhibit. In the fall of 1976, I finally made the decision to build a greenhouse.

After my decision to build, I was faced with the dilemma of what type structure to erect and then the decision as to whether I should grow my plants in containers or in the ground. There are many ways to build a greenhouse, and I believe I heard them all.

I finally took Ray Gentry's advice. He suggested that the ideal way was to grow them outside and bloom them inside! Now this may sound impossible, but believe me, it can be done.

In the spring of 1977, I graded my spot of land and went to work. I managed to get a load of railroad cross-ties and laid out my beds inside the greenhouse area. Now I was ready to start moving in a few plants. By autumn of 1977, all of the beds had been made with three inches of pine

bark on the bottom. As I placed the plants in the beds, good topsoil and rotted bardwood sawdust were used for bed mix. Two inches of pine bark on top of the plants was used for a mulch.

In the spring and summer of 1978, all of the framing for the greenhouse was completed. I finally decided on a quonset type structure with 1 1/4 inch PVC for the ribs. I extended my irrigation system to include the greenhouse, installed a fan and had the house wired with plenty of strong lights, and installed three propane greenhouse heaters.

I have certainly enjoyed the lights in the greenhouse. This extends my working hours and I can also show visitors around at night. My wife accuses me of showing visitors the greenhouse and yards even when they don't want to see them!

On November 4, 1978, I finally put the cover on greenhouse #1. It is 24 feet by 75 feet and 12 feet high in the middle. A single sheet of 40x100 6 mil plastic will cover the quonset, with enough left over to do the ends.

I was very pleased with the first blooming season in my new greenhouse. Valdosta experienced a rather mild winter this year, with only a few hard freezes. I found that with the good bit of sunshine the house receives and with a good moist floor, I was able to maintain a high humidity and these conditions seem to create a natural heat. I only used my



heaters nine nights. This cold, but not freezing, temperature seemed to be the condition my plants needed. I had some really magnificent blooms from the greenhouse. I did find, however, that the conditions under which the camellias flourished were certainly not good for my wife's ferns and patio plants. These barely survived and she hasn't forgiven me yet. On March 15th the plastic cover was removed and my plants were suddenly being grown outside again.

By November of 1979, I will have 240 plants in the ground in greenhouse #1, with room for about 200 container plants in the aisle and between the beds. I really don't like container grown plants, but I can't bear to see this heated space not be used.

Normally this would be the end of the story. But really it is just the beginning. Several years ago, when I was grafting everything I could get my hands on, Dr. Walter Homeyer of Macon commented that one day I would start growing camellias for my own

pleasure and enjoyment. It has taken me a long time to understand what he meant. Now I am grafting varieties that I really love. This season I grafted four Lady Kays, several Pirate's Gold Variegated, four Terrell Weaver Variegated, four Harold Paige Variegated, three Pavola Variegated, two May Westbrook Variegated, four Dr. Clifford Parks Variegated, three Nuccio Ruby Variegated, four Dixie Knight Supremes, and three Miss Tulare Variegated.

As you have no doubt noticed, I love to variegata camellias. This is something of a challenge to me. I use a system to try and produce highly variegated blossoms, but try to keep the foliage as near solid green as possible.

The next step to growing camellias for my own enjoyment will begin in January 1980, when I break ground for greenhouse #2. It will be right beside #1 and will be the same size and design. The purpose of #2 will be to grow seedlings. I am excited about trying some hybridizing this winter. I can hardly wait to start dabbling pollen.

In January, 1979, at the ACS meeting in New Orleans, I met Frank Purcel and Ralph Bernhardt from California and they set me on fire to try hybridizing. Until then I had no desire to fool around with pollen. All I wanted to do was grow the best plants and the biggest blooms. Now I am ready for fall of '79 to come so that I can really grow camellias for my own enjoyment.

If you are ever near Valdosta Georgia, come by to see me. I would love to show you around the greenhouse and yards - whether you want to see them or not!

## CAMELLIA GREENHOUSE CULTURE IN NEW ZEALAND

by John Lesnie, Auckland, New Zealand

In agreeing to contribute this short article from 10,000 miles distant, I do so with some diffidence. When comparing my recent entry to the wonderful world of camellias with those long time U.S. enthusiasts, I feel little more than a beginner's beginner.

A south pacific country roughly similar in area to Colorado, New Zealand has a population of 3.2 millions. Its largest city, Auckland (pronounced Orkland) is a sub-tropical seaport (pop. 800,000), situated in the northern area, where temperatures range from a winter low of 28 degrees to a summer high of 88 degrees. Humidity is relatively high and annual rainfall averages around 50 inches.

My first tentative venture into camellia culture produced mediocre blooms, an inevitable result of exposure to Auckland's frequent rain and wind through winter and spring. Ron Shaw, one of the most consistent show winners, grew all his exhibition blooms under glass protection and one visit to his property convinced me of its great virtue.

While I was formulating plans to build my first glasshouse, a nurseryman friend, persuaded me that the best glass was fiberglass. Enquiries from the N.Z. makers of Duralite, indicated greater heat and light efficiency. Long life, ease of erection and low maintenance.

With revised plans, I constructed my first house of 800 sq. feet. Even though the sides were not tightly enclosed, it was soon evident that Auckland's summer generated too much heat, so I had a 50% Sarlon shade cloth made to hang on the in-

side. All timber, both inside and out, was painted a rich dark green which merged with the outside landscape and blended with the camellia foliage within.

New Zealand, a land of earthquakes and volcanic activity, supplies vast mountains of scoria, which when crushed, makes perfect roading and footpaths. I spread it liberally underfoot and had accommodation for about 500 containers. By now, I was importing scions of all the latest and best U.S. developments and the 800 sq. feet were soon fully occupied.

The next move was my most ambitious, being a 1200 sq. ft. shade house with top and sides covered with 50% Sarlon, the plants all growing in a special soil mix. To facilitate perfect drainage, all beds were raised 6 inches and in all 80 cubic yards of soil trucked in. Once again, the green paint was applied, producing a cool tranquility within and a dark unobtrusive exterior. Now firmly convinced of the magic of dark green, I descended on our home and all the out buildings, removing every speck of white on the entire 3 acre property.

It was in my fourth serious year with camellias that I became interested in what is undoubtedly its most absorbing and fascinating aspect, namely, hybridizing. I now realized that the first covered house, with shade cloth removed in winter, would provide optimum conditions for successful pollination. Even on relatively cold days, the inside temperature would easily top 60 degrees, which according to the most knowledgeable authorities, is the minimum for satis-



factory takes.

Growing conditions in the shade house were so perfect that it soon resembled a dense forest of lush green. I use it primarily as an evaluation area for the imports that are regularly arriving from overseas. I have since built a third, a fourth and a fifth house, the last being definitely the **last**. There is just so much that one pair of hands can accomplish. The last house, 45' x 15' has a Duralite roof and is designed for raising seedlings and understock. It also has a high humidity room, set aside for new grafts.

Although many enthusiasts are pursuing a hybridizing path that could lead to new colours, my objectives are being guided by trends in home building. I believe that the future for camellias will be determined by smaller homes and home lots. The day of the large garden is over and demand will be for smaller, container grown plants having neat, elegant foliage and appropriately proportioned blooms. My other objectives will be for long lasting blooms, long lasting bright pollen, clear colours and an extended blooming season.

Using the "super breeder" plants developed by Les Jury, some or all of those objectives could be attained and along the way, the much sought after colour breaks into orange, yellow or blue could also evolve.

The covered houses have proved their value as a means of testing various kinds of growing media and my most recent experiments suggest that crushed pine bark alone, gives perhaps the best results. Plants are fertilized six times yearly with a compound of fish meal, potassium sul-

phate, dolomite lime and trace elements. Dolomite, particularly in containers, seems to be of value in raising the pH level and of supplying magnesium. Problems like petal blight are unknown in this country and such few insects as there are, cause no measurable harm.

Although my overwhelming interest is centered on camellias, I have an extensive collection of choice daffodils, whose mainly yellow colours act as an interesting foil to the well known camellia colours of red, pink and white. A large organic garden provides us with a year round vegetable supply and I even squeeze half a dozen containers of tomatoes into one of the warm houses during winter.

If this small contribution from "down under" conveys an impression of a very busy life, it is the kind of life that gives the ultimate satisfaction. After forty high pressure years in the business jungle, it is sheer bliss to retire into a pleasant oasis of peace and tranquility.



# A NON-ARTICLE FROM AUSTRALIA

Len Hobbs, Victoria, Australia

Having seen issues of Carolina Camellias for some years, thanks to my friend James McCoy, and after expressing congratulations to those responsible for the publication, an invitation to contribute was promptly issued. The suggested subject was "Camellia Culture under glass in Victoria." This is an impossible task for me. The reason for this may make something of interest nevertheless.

Increasingly, over quite a few years, I have accumulated a great number of publications covering camellia culture in America, which I read and share. I was also fortunate to visit the United States briefly and to see as much of the camellia scene as time would allow. The trip was conducted and hosted by so many of your "camellia family" that many hospitable doors were opened wide.

In company with other "Aussies", I was privileged to visit quite a number of well known gardens, including some which were equipped with many of the facilities the requested article describing the Australian scene was supposed to describe. Well, in capital letters, here is the reason for this "non-article": I don't know of a glass house in Australia used for such a purpose, not even for temporary protection. Rarely do we use such means to try to advance flowering time.

Why is this so? The answer lies simply in the fact that in Australia, wherever camellias are being grown and enjoyed, the climate makes all such aids unnecessary.

The more I read of your enormous climatic problems and associated

horticultural disasters the more reasons we find to count our blessings. Speaking generally, if we had to pursue our common hobby under such harsh conditions as yours, most of us would turn to easier pursuits, I'm sure.

Perhaps the best comparison would be our two nation's capitols. Ours has the latest flowering season of all the mainland states, due to cold frosts. It experiences enough spoiled flowers and bud damage to cause considerable interest in cold hardy cultivars among enthusiasts. Your Washington, D.C. scene would consider these problems too insignificant to mention.

In Victoria, there are some gardens containing camellias which are subjected to occasional snowfalls of a few inches, lasting long enough to bend and break limbs, but even this would not happen more often than one year in five. Frosts are far more widespread, covering most of our growing areas. They occur over a period of no more than five consecutive mornings, a week at most. There are few localities where ice lies on the ground after mid-day, never for days on end. Frost is mostly confined to the Winter months, phasing out with the Spring.

All this means that cultivars with long flowering capabilities can follow their own programmes, from "go to whoa." Sure, some blooms get bashed and ruined by hail, rain and wind, but in a mature garden, somewhere, odd flowers in enough quantity and quality have been spared.

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# FUNGI ASSOCIATED WITH VEGETATIVE BUDS OF CAMELLIAS IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Luther W. Baxter, Jr., Wesley Witcher and Susan G. Fagan<sup>1</sup>

Grafting scions of *Camellia japonica*, other camellia species, or camellia hybrids, onto *C. sasanqua* seedlings, used as understock, often presents a problem, even to the person experienced in grafting. There are many variables which affect the success of grafting, such as (1) the age of the scion wood, (2) the vigor and freshness of the scion wood, (3) the time of the year when the grafting is done, (4) the size of both scions and understocks, (5) the care given at the time of grafting, and (6) the presence of fungi in the buds. This report deals with fungi associated with vegetative buds of camellias which can present a serious problem when grafting camellias. This work has done to determine whether or not fungi, other than *Glomerella cingulata*, might be a factor in the survival of scions of various camellias grafted onto *C. sasanqua* rootstock. Seedlings and cultivars of *C. sasanqua* promote better growth of camellias under moderately drained conditions because they are resistant to root rot, caused by the water mold, *Phytophthora cinnamomi*.

Vegetative buds (864) were collected during the fall and early winter of 1978-79 from both *C. japonica* and *C. sasanqua* plants grown at Clemson under field conditions. All the buds were taken from branches that were apparently free from dieback and

canker, although there was a small amount of this disease in the area. The buds were washed in warm (30 C) soapy water, rinsed in cool (22 C) tap water, surface sterilized in 20% Clorox for 2-3 minutes and then plated onto sterile carrot juice agar (180 ml carrot juice, 16 grams agar and tap water to make 1 liter). Most of the buds were cut lengthwise with a sterile scalpel before the two halves were placed on carrot juice agar. The buds were incubated for 7 days at 22 C (72 F) and then observed microscopically to identify any fungi which grew from the buds. Clorox is a very efficient surface sterilant, killing both fungi and bacteria with which it comes into contact. Thus, surface fungi on the outside of the buds were killed by the Clorox treatment, leaving only the fungi which were either deeply imbedded among the bud scales or were actually inside the tissue where the Clorox could not penetrate. In studies made with spores of several selected fungi and with bacterial cells, a concentration of 20% Clorox killed them in less than 30 seconds, proving it to be an effective biocide (germicide). However Clorox does not penetrate tissue and therefore is not effective for the eradication of fungi which are either within the bud tissue or hidden deeply among the tight bud scales. Furthermore, Clorox (20%) cannot be used for treatment of either scions or stocks since it is toxic to living surface tissues.

Fungi isolated from apparently healthy camellia buds are listed in

<sup>1</sup>Contribution No. 1718 of the South Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station. Published with approval of the Director.

<sup>2</sup>Professors and lab technician, respectively. Department of Plant Pathology and Physiology, Clemson University, Clemson, S.C. 29631.

Table 1. Some camellia buds were entirely free of any organism while some contained two or more fungi. Since there were only two camellia buds which yielded bacteria when cultured, it is possible that these bacterial colonies represented surface contaminants that occurred among bud scales which escaped the killing action of Clorox. There were only seven genera of fungi which occurred 10 or more times from the total of 864 buds studied. Eleven other genera occurred only one to five each and it is probable that these were merely surface contaminants. At any rate it is obvious that many fungi were associated, in some way, with camellia buds, even though these buds were apparently healthy.

These various fungi, with the exception of *Exobasidium camelliae* and *Glomerella cingulata*, are not pathogenic on camellia. Most are saprophytic organisms that may be isolated from many dead or living plant tissues or from the soil. These include *Alternaria tenuis*, *Epicoccum* spp. and *Pestalotia* spp. *Exobasidium camelliae* causes leaf gall on *C. sasanqua* and *G. cingulata* causes dieback and canker on both *C. sasanqua* and *C. japonica*. From our studies of death of several hundred Camellia scions, when a biological organism is responsible for their death, it is always *G. cingulata*, never any of the other organisms isolated. We have never been able to kill a scion by making inoculations with pure cultures of *Pestalotia* spp., *Phomopsis* spp., *Alternaria* spp. or any of the other fungi isolated.

The species of fungi which were isolated from buds of *Camellia sasanqua* and *C. japonica* were identical and thus the data were not kept sep-

arate. *G. cingulata* was isolated from both *Camellia japonica* and *C. sasanqua* and inoculations made with representative isolates onto *C. sasanqua* seedlings proved them to be virulent.

This study demonstrates that fungi occur regularly in vegetative buds of camellia. The buds studied herein were obtained from camellia plants which were known to have a low incidence of contagious dieback and canker caused by the fungus, *Glomerella cingulata*. Camellias grown along the coast, and in greenhouses, have a higher incidence of contagious dieback and canker than camellias grown out-of-doors in the Piedmont section of South Carolina, primarily because of the higher humidity and a longer growing season. Since a surface treatment with Clorox, one of the best biocides, does not kill fungi occurring either within vegetative buds or deeply embedded among the bud scales, and since the pathogenic *G. cingulata* is so prevalent in the buds, it becomes important that, at the time of grating, a good systemic fungicide be used, such as benomyl (sold under the trade name of Benlate). Also, to increase fungicidal effectiveness, a mixture of benomyl (½ table-spoonful/gal) and captan (2 table-spoonfuls/gal) should be used for soaking scions for at least 30 minutes just prior to setting. Captan kills the external *G. cingulata* spores quickly while the benomyl slowly (but surely) kills any *G. cingulata* tissue that may be internal.

#### SUMMARY

Many different fungi inhabit apparently healthy camellia buds. Clorox, used as a surface sterilant, failed

to eradicate these fungi from the buds. Cultures of the fungus *Glomerella cingulata*, the cause of contagious camellia dieback and canker,

was the only fungus isolated from buds that caused dieback in *Camellia sasanqua* seedlings when they were appropriately inoculated.

Table 1. Fungi Associated with Surface Sterilized Vegetative Buds of Camellias. The surface sterilant used was 20% Clorox, for 2 to 3 minutes.

Fungus	Number of times fungus (except 2 bacterial colonies) recovered from 864 vegetative camellia buds studied	% of buds studied
<i>Alternaria</i> sp.	3	.3
<i>Alternaria tenuis</i>	279	32.0
Bacteria	2	.2
<i>Botrytis</i> sp.	5	.5
<i>Cladosporium</i> sp.	83	10.0
<i>Curvularia</i> sp.	2	.2
<i>Dothiorella</i> sp.	.2	.2
<i>Epicoccum</i> sp.	71	8.0
<i>Exobasidium camelliae</i>	4	.4
<i>Fusicoccum</i> sp.	1	.1
<i>Gloeosporium</i> sp.*	3	.3
<i>Glomerella cingulata</i>	58	7.0
<i>Pestalotia</i> sp.	132	15.0
<i>Phoma</i> sp.	4	.4
<i>Phomopsis</i> sp.	110	13.0
<i>Pythium</i> sp.	1	.1
<i>Sordaria</i> sp.	10	1.0
<i>Sphaeropsis</i> sp.	1	.1
<i>Trichoderma</i> sp.	1	.1
Unknown fungi**	106	12.0

\* *Gloeosporium* different from that causing dieback of camellia, all listed under *Glomerella*.

\*\* Many fungi did not sporulate and thus they could not be accurately identified

LOVE IS - congratulating the winner at a Camellia Show when you think you have one there just as good as his.

J.O. "Jack"

## In and Around the Greenhouse

*continued from page 13*

have made! Another that would be well received is a very large formal double with a pale pink color like 'Lila Naff'.

Are you ready to hear something good about the retic? Well, it has occurred to me that I have never encountered tea scale on any retic, nor are aphids much of a problem. I have seen some peony scale on retics, but not very much. It makes me wonder if there isn't some toxin in the retic sap that protects it from scale. If I weren't so lazy, I'd make a test to see if this is true.

I believe that the last blooming season produced the biggest crop of seeds that I have ever seen. I noticed an exceptionally heavy crop on my own plants and I attributed it to the hive of bees that I had just installed in the yard. But on visits to other plantings, I notice the same heavy crop. It must have been the weather. I have one plant 'T.K. Variegated' so heavy with seeds till some of the small branches are bent under the weight. Well, maybe this is a small exaggeration. Anyway, the plant is only about 6 feet tall, counting the new growth, and I counted the seed capsules, branch by branch, starting at the bottom. It has 465 seed pods.

### Potting Mixes

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3 weeks, either Ortho, Rapid Grow or Miracle Grow.

From Joe Austin, Four Oaks, N.C.

1/2 pine bark

1/8 sawdust

1/8 cow manure

1/4 coarse sand or perlite

When asked why he used the manure, he responded, "Well,



### GRANDMA SAYS:

I speck the main reason Grandpa spends so much time with his Camellias is that they stay put and don't give him any sass.

TIA HEINS

they have to have some nutrients."

From the reports above, some interesting observations can be made: Pine bark is incorporated in all 6 mixes, from 25% to 50%. Sawdust is almost as generally used, 5 of the 6 mixes, from 10% to 25%. Only one used peat. This is a switch from days gone by. Most of them incorporate some nutrients in their mix.

Well, we hope that this report will be helpful. If you want to change your mix, pick one of these. All of these growers are successful and you couldn't go wrong following advice from any of them.

# So you want a Greenhouse?

by Lawanda Brogden, Columbia, S.C.

Dear Buck,

Now that you have your own place and want to get started in camellias, I'll tell you how to build a \$35 greenhouse. I know it will cost \$35 cause your Dad said it did. He tells all the Garden Clubs he speaks to about his \$35 greenhouse.

After building his foundation from cement blocks (they didn't cost anything — remember the patio we used to have by the car port where we kept the picnic table?) he asked Michael (Dot's Grandson) to level the inside. Michael reminds me of our campfires — you have to keep feeding him to keep him going. Six ice cream sandwiches and five root beers later he says he has a swimming date and we own him \$14. When I went outside to see our \$14 hole, I almost fell in. He had dug straight down and almost struck water. I told your Dad I thought the idea was to plant the camellias not bury them. He accused me of making snide remarks because I was still mad about the patio.

Next comes the frame. He got the pick-up load of 4 by 4's from the neighborhood bandit at the local lumber yard for only \$8 apiece. I tried to count them but he got a little huffy and said what was wrong with this world was people didn't trust people.

Your Dad vowed from the first this was to be a masterpiece of construction. (This from a man who is so unhandy we never let him change a light bulb) He took the level from the camper and carefully measured each beam. I still get upset when we go

camping and I sleep with my feet higher than my head. He keeps promising to replace the level as it broke when he dropped it in the hole.

He got his hammer, nails and saw and proceeded with the actual construction. We only have a six foot ladder but it worked real well as the house is only seven feet at the lowest point — except where the \$14 hole was in the middle. Tricias' Dad came over and joined the crowd to watch him and came up with a marvelous suggestion. We put up a net around the ladder as your Dad has a thing about falling off ladders. It wasn't so bad the first time or two — hardly hurt himself at all — but when he stepped into thin air with a gallon of paint, I had to giggle. As he scooped up the paint from the dirt with his hands he looked at me with blood in his eye and said if I was smart I would go back in the house. He didn't lose too much of the paint and I feel sand and leaves add a lot of character to the paint job. Remember that lovely old oak tree where we always hung swings for you guys in the summer? Had to cut it down to build the greenhouse but one of the leaves is always there to remind us of its' beauty, painted right into one of the beams.

Next came the cover for the outside. I like to call it the skin cause so much of mine is still out there. Be sure to pound the nail points down. Polyethelyn is not all that expensive when you buy what you need. However, when you try to beat inflation by stocking up it gets a little costly.

*continued on page 30*

Storage is another problem but we have a store room on the car port where we kept the freezer when we had room.

We tried several types of cover for the roof — first polyethelyn but the cat kept falling through — then rigid plastic from K-Mart but finally decided on Lasco Light from Cosco. Your Dad says it's not so expensive and as soon as we figure out what to do with all those funny looking nails and all those wavy pieces of styrofoam we will justify the cost. Lasco light is a life time cover — guaranteed not to turn brown no matter how much pine straw you leave on it from year to year. I think that is debatable. Your Dad says all that pine straw keeps the house cool in the summer (light makes heat) and warm in the winter (like a blanket). I believe I could have found something cheaper but maybe I'm being contrary as by then I had found the check book in his sock drawer.

So you see Buck, building a \$35 greenhouse depends on several things — first a good relationship with your wife — a check book in your sock drawer and a determination to do things RIGHT.

Our greenhouse cost \$35 and I know it did because your Dad says it did. He tells all the Garden Club Ladies so.

Kiss Tricia and the babies for us —

MOM

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The height of optimism is having Camellia bloom shrink two inches from cutting time till show time.

J.O. "Jack"

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The most tragic thing about being a good sport is that you have to lose to prove it.

J.O. "Jack"

## A Non-article

*continued from page 24*

These, when gathered together make a presentable display on the benches. Picking in advance and storing is also used as an added insurance. Plants in containers can be moved into various forms of shelter. Individual blooms on garden plants can be protected.

Usually, sheer numbers of blooms to choose from make a good selection possible. Most addicted exhibitors are not prepared to go to extremes in any form to chase prizes or kudos. We have little or none of your silver or crystal on our honor tables. Perhaps when the A.C.S. silver salver presented to the A.C.R.S. (Australian Camellia Research Society) during our project OIL visit, gets unwrapped and into use, competition here might take on a new dimension.

It is not normal for blooms to be carried many miles to shows, beyond fifty miles would be exceptional. In recent years Victoria flowers have been sent as far as Perth (3000 miles) and also to Sydney by air freight for them to use as talking points at their shows. Apparently this has been successful as they ask for repeats. Canberra started these projects several years ago. Pressurized aircraft, styrene foam boxes and experimentation with packing now point toward considerable rewarding outturns for the future.





## *Ladies Only*

Mildred Robertson, Aiken, S. C.

With the approach of the holiday season, I thought it might be interesting to explore some ways we can use the Camellia blooms which we usually have blooming in profusion around Christmas when there are no shows to attend.

I am sure all of us have incorporated blooms in holiday arrangements and found them to be a lovely addition which greatly enhanced the beauty of any arrangement. Altar arrangements are another way that we can use them and share them with many people.

Bonnie Serpas reports another way she used her Camellia blooms during last year's holiday season. She was asked by the Altar Guild of her church to be responsible for the Advent Wreath, which is a symbol of worship

depicting the coming of Christ. The wreath if made from fresh greenery with three violet and one pink candle to remind us of the four Sundays in Advent. Each Sunday during reading of the Old Testament prophecy which foretells the coming of Christ, an additional candle is lighted. Violet, the color of Advent, symbolizes penitence, prayerfulness and royalty. The pink candle symbolizes the "Sunday of Joy".

In assembling the wreath Bonnie decided to use some small Camellias. She placed a vial next to each candle and inserted either a pale pink or white Camellia, whichever was available at the time. She then placed small violet bows throughout for balance. The result was very beautiful and it was a well received addition

to the worship service.

During the Christmas season, the Advent Wreath can be used as a Christmas wreath by changing the candles to white and using a white ribbon bow. This is a unique idea that some of you might like to try in your own churches.

One of my favorite ways of using Camellia blooms during Christmas season is as package decorations or "bows". If I am delivering a package to someone and it is to be opened right way, I like to put a fresh Camellia bloom in a small vial and attach it to the package with ribbon. This always brings exclamations of delight from the happy recipient. Another thing I have done along this line is to spray a Camellia bloom (and in this case

it doesn't even have to be a fresh one - it can be one that has dropped off already) with gold paint of the type that you always find with Christmas decorations. When this dries these "gold" flowers are then used on packages for bows. They can be attached to the package with staples or super glue. By co-ordinating my wrapping paper with velvet ribbons and then using these gold-sprayed flowers as bows, I have had some very elegant Christmas packages that have caused quite a lot of comment.

You have probably used your blooms in other unusual and novel ways but I thought these might give you some new ideas for a headstart on the holidays.



## **CONGRATULATIONS CAMELLIA SOCIETY MEMBERS**

Your new editor is:

James McCoy  
3531 Scottywood Drive  
Fayetteville, North Carolina 29305

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In your Golden Chain of Camellia Societies — regard me as a link.

*J.O. "Jack"*



"Alba Plena"

Les Carnells  
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*Courtesy of Nuccio's Nurseries*