

FALL MEETING

American Camellia Society

NOVEMBER 12, 13, 14, 1970

WILMINGTON,
NORTH CAROLINA



'VILLE DE NANTES' from an original watercolor by Paul Jones which hangs at ACS Headquarters. Prints are available in original size 22" by 16½" suitable for framing from ACS, Box 212, Fort Valley, Ga. 31030.

About L. S. Marbury . . .

There are very few people who have been more influential in the American Camellia Society than Les Marbury. Since 1940 when he moved to Wilmington and, on the advice of Irving and Naomi Corbett, planted camellias around his new home, his interest has grown into a vast knowledge of camellia lore. After consulting Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Sprunt of Orton Plantation, his first plantings were made, and he has kept full notes on the planting and care of camellias, seedlings, grafts, and out of this has come a wealth of camellia information. Les became a charter member of ACS and in 1956 accepted a one year term as president. During this year standard nomenclature was clarified. He was first to promote a camellia plant for sale ('LAURA WALKER') with benefits to go back to ACS.

Early in his camellia hobby his wife, Kathryn, urged Les to plant seed although he felt they would take too long to flower. As with his other pursuits, he was successful with this. Among his outstanding seedlings are 'IRVING CORBETT,' 'SARAH BELLAMY,' 'KAY ACKER,' 'KATHRYN MARBURY,' 'MYRA WADSWORTH' and 'KATHRYN SNOW.' He has many other promising seedlings still under number.

Les has encouraged many young couples to participate in the wonderful camellia hobby. A gift of camellia plants to new homeowners is his most enticing method.

In the quiet, gracious home he and Kathryn maintain they pursue their many other hobbies and interests, always coming back to camellias. In camellia season, Les is an inveterate traveler, judging, speaking, lending his knowledge and

experience to camellia growers all over the country. He has attended more Board meetings than any other ACS member, and in 1958, in recognition of his many abilities, the Yearbook was dedicated to him. He played a significant part in the gift of Massee Lane to the ACS from Dave Strother and has since helped establish the Endowment Fund, being the first to make a substantial gift. Once the headquarters building was completed, Les assisted with the planning and building of the Jeff Smith Memorial Greenhouse which will open this Fall. For these and his many other accomplishments, Les was awarded a well-deserved Bronze Plaque in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the advancement and welfare of the American Camellia Society.

It has been my pleasure to be associated with Les and Kathryn since I first became interested in camellias, and they have been a great inspiration to me, as they have to most people with whom they have come in contact. He is a gracious host and a walk with him through his beautiful gardens is a pleasure to the eye and always informative. Through his knowledge and love of camellias, he has helped me develop a hobby and I can say, as he does, that it "will last me all my life."

It is with personal pride and appreciation, as well as that of the ACS, that we acknowledge the great influence Les Marbury has had on the camellia world, on us individually, and on the American Camellia Society.

(Article written by J. M. Habel, M.D., Senior Vice-President, American Camellia Society)



In Appreciation of LES MARBURY

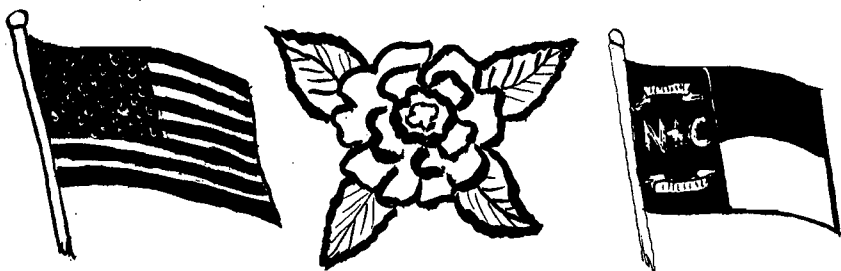
For his untiring services in the Camellia World, for his assistance, and enthusiasm in our Camellia Club, we the members of the Tidewater Camellia Club have the honor of dedicating this program to S. L. Marbury.



THE NORTH CAROLINA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

EXTENDS

GREETINGS and WELCOME



May your visit with us be one pleasantly remembered. You are cordially invited to join us at our Fall Meeting Luncheon, 1:00 p.m. Saturday, November 14th, at The Timme Plaza. (Reservations open until Noon Friday.) Judge Sherrill Halbert, President-Elect, American Camellia Society, will be our guest and speak to us.



American Camellia Society

1970 FALL MEETING

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American Camellia Society

1970 FALL MEETING

TIMME PLAZA MOTOR INN

November 12, 13, 14



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

THURSDAY, November 12

- 10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.—Registration—\$20.00 per person—Timme Plaza Lobby
Hospitality Room 316—Timme Plaza—open to greet early arrivals
- 2:30 p.m.—Business meeting of American Camellia Society Governing Board—Board Room

FRIDAY, November 13

- 10:00 a.m.—Bus leaves Timme Plaza for Scenic Tour—Luncheon served—Orton Plantation—Return to Timme Plaza where Hospitality Room 316 will be open for all registered persons
- 6:30 p.m.—Social hour—Ballroom Timme Plaza—Dinner on your own

SATURDAY, November 14

- 9:30 a.m.—Bus leaves Timme Plaza for Cornwallis House and U.S.S. North Carolina Battleship Memorial
- 12:00 noon—Board Members and wives
Judges luncheon—Timme Plaza Ballroom
- 1:30 p.m.—Judging—Garden Room
- 3:30 p.m.—Tidewater Camellia Show—Garden Room
- 6:30 p.m.—Social Hour—Foyer of Timme Plaza Ballroom
- 8:00 p.m.—Dinner and general meeting—Timme Plaza Ballroom

SUNDAY, November 15

- 12:00 noon—Camellia show open to public
- 6:00 p.m.



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Waxing of Camellias

By MARTHA BLANKS
Columbia, S. C.

Reprinted from "Carolina Camellias"

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:

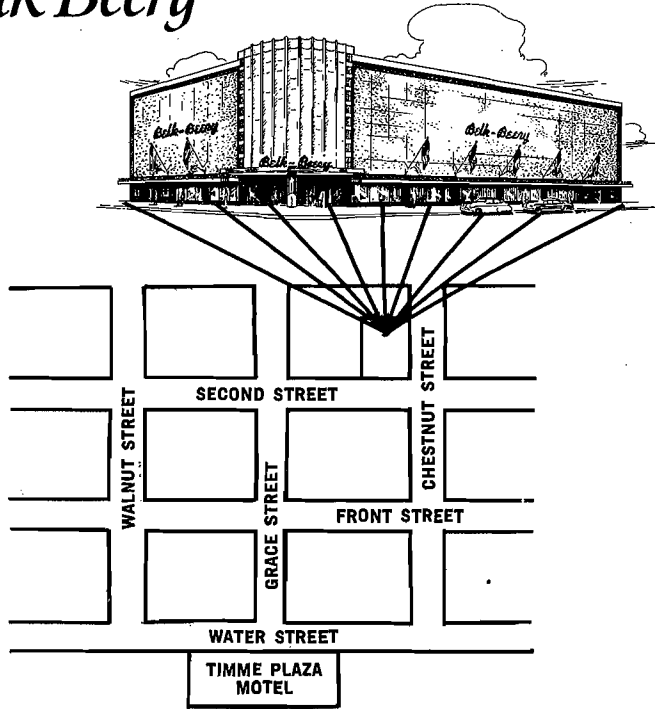
- 1 double boiler or large coffee can (one that has plastic lid) placed in a pail of water
- 2 or 3-1 lb. boxes of household wax (depending on size of waxing container)
- 1 large deep bowl with ice water
- 1 thermometer—a must

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.

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CAMELLIAS AND GIB

By HERBERT RACOFF, D.V.M.
Columbia, South Carolina

It is now over 6 years since the use of gibberellic acid was widely publicized and extensively tried on camellias in the United States. Treating camellia buds, or "gibbing" as it is commonly referred to, has continued each year to become increasingly popular, especially in the Southeastern and Gulf coast areas.

WHAT IS IT?

Gibberellic acid is a white crystalline powder. It is produced commercially by growing a fungus, *gibberella fujikuroi*, in a culture, a process similar to producing penicillin. The acid is a metabolite of the fungus. Gibberellins have been demonstrated to be normally present in many plants and seeds. They seem to be an integral part of the growth regulating mechanism of many plants.

FORMULATIONS MOST GENERALLY USED

There are at present two formulations most generally used by camellia growers, gibberellic acid (GA₃), and potassium gibberellate (Kgib). Gibberellic acid is insoluble in water and requires the addition of an alkali, to produce a salt, in order to put it into solution.

The writer prefers to use the ammonium salt, and believes it gives the best all 'round results consistently. Other camellia growers are of the opinion that the potassium salt gives just as good results. It does have the advantage of being easier to prepare for use, but the potassium salt readily picks up moisture (hygroscopic) and unless stored in an airtight con-

tainer, will result in one ending up with a brown goeey paste.

Freshly mixed solutions seem to work best. Solutions can be kept refrigerated for several months and continue to give satisfactory results. Solutions stored refrigerated more than 2 or 3 months require a longer time than do fresh solutions to produce desired results. The powder can be kept indefinitely if stored in tightly stoppered dark glass bottles in a cool place.

HOW TO PREPARE POWDERS FOR USE

Solutions of 16,000 to 20,000 parts per million of gib seem to give the best results. These can be prepared as follows: Take one gram of 81% potassium gibberellate. Divide it into 10 approximately equal parts (100 milligrams each) or weigh out 100 milligrams on a scale. To 100 milligrams Kgib, add 5 cubic centimeters of tap, rain, or distilled water, (a syringe can be used to measure 5 cc. of water). Shake well before using. This will result in a solution of about 16,200 parts per million. If one gram is divided into 8 approximately equal parts (125 milligrams each) each part when added to 5 cc. of water will result in a solution of 20,250 parts per million.

To use gibberellic acid 80% plus strength, divide one gram into 10 approximately equal parts, or weigh out 100 milligrams. To each part of 100 milligrams, add 5 cubic centimeters of water and then add household ammonia, with or without de-

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tergent. Shake between drops until the solution clears up and powder no longer settles to the bottom of the solution. The number of drops of ammonia added depends on the freshness of the ammonia, the size opening in the bottom of the dropper, as well as the particular batch of gibberellic acid. The dropper I use delivers 33 drops per cc. of water.

The writer prefers to use household ammonia with detergent. This has the advantage of increasing the surface tension of the solution so it tends to stay better where applied. It does have the disadvantage of foaming.

Gibberellic acid is quite soluble in 70% iso propyl alcohol. 100 milligrams of the acid can be added to 5 cc. iso propyl alcohol, and camellia buds treated with good results.

If one gram of gibberellic acid is divided into 8 approximately equal parts (125 milligrams each) and each added to 5 cc. of water, the resulting solution will exceed 20,000 parts per million gib.

The potassium gibberellate referred to above is 81% strength and by Merck and Co., Rahway, New Jersey. The gibberellic acid is item #7444, produced by Eastman Organic Chemical Co., Division of Eastman Kodak Co., Rochester, N. Y. Mixed solutions of gib acid and Kgib ready for use are available from many sources.

WHEN TO GIB CAMELLIA BUDS

Gibbing of buds can be started as soon as they are well developed and matured, depending on growing conditions, season, geographical location, and variety. This generally would be after August 1st. The writer prefers not to treat prior to September 1st

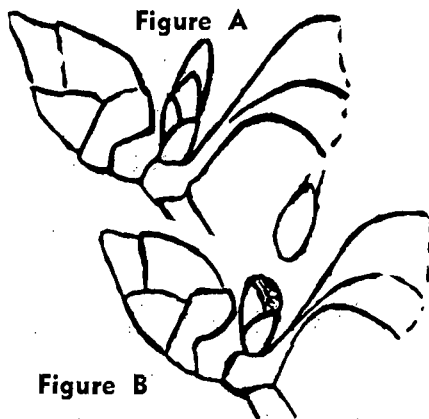
in the Columbia, S. C. area to avoid blooming when the weather is still too hot. Hot weather causes the flowers to wilt and be short lived.

For outdoor growers it is recommended that one or more buds per plant be treated weekly beginning about September 1st, and continuing through October. Greenhouse growers can continue to treat as long as there are buds.

HOW TO GIB CAMELLIA BUDS

Select a well developed bloom bud. The growth bud should also be well developed. 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 this cup with gib solution.

Be careful not to let the gib solution run down the stem. There may be no growth from this limb the following spring. If the growth bud at A, Figure 1 is small and not well developed, it may be difficult to break out the tip, and damage to the attachment of the bloom bud to the stem may result. When this happens,



the flower bud and leaf adjacent may fall off in a few weeks or the bud may break off as the bloom develops, due

COMPLIMENTS OF



CAPE FEAR FORD

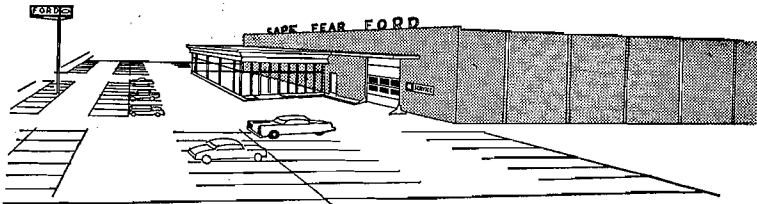
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to the increase in weight on the weakened stem.

HOW SOON CAN BLOOMS BE EXPECTED

Treated buds in many cases will be larger than untreated after one week. It is impossible to predict when any given bud will bloom. As a rule, one can expect 90% of the treated buds to bloom in from 21 to 90 days. One can expect at least half of the buds to bloom within 60 days. Varieties classified as early will generally be the first to bloom. Some buds treated in the greenhouses in September will not bloom until January or February.

HOW MANY BUDS SHOULD BE TREATED PER PLANT?

This question has been frequently asked and it is difficult to answer, since so much depends on the size and vigor of the plant and plant feeding practices. Camellias often set more buds than can mature into quality blooms, so disbudding is in order if one is to get good flowers following gibbing. On young plants 2 to 3 feet in height, it is suggested that only 3 or 4 buds be treated. On old plants 20 or more years of age, 200 or more buds have been treated without any bad effects.

It has been noted that when gibbing is done on plants, non gibbed buds, when they bloom on the same plants are often inferior to blooms expected of these varieties when non-gibbed.

Many greenhouse growers figure that a plant can produce about a maximum of 6 show quality blooms. They then isbud down to 6 buds and eventually treat all these buds.

AFTER TREATMENT

Gibbed terminals should be pruned off after blooming or if buds have dropped. These terminals often make puny growth and sometimes do not grow at all. Most camellia buds are set on the first growth cycle. If too many terminal buds have been treated and pruned off, there may be a scarcity of bloom buds the following fall.

Plants that have been gibbed should be adequately fertilized with a balanced fertilizer in the early spring and summer to replace used up nutrients.

USE OF GIB ON GRAFTS

This year several grafts were callosed but the scions failed to grow off. On September 1st a drop of gib solution was placed on the terminal growth bud of the scion. In one week the growth buds began to stretch out and in two weeks new growth appeared.

WHY USE GIB?

The use of gib makes it possible to get blooms before cold weather, even from those varieties classified as late bloomers. No longer does one have to wonder if a variety will bloom successfully outdoors. In most cases, the flowers will be larger and prettier than those produced without gib. They will stay on the plant better and last longer.

In areas where petal blight occurs, fall blooms are not affected. Petal blight has not been reported as being seen prior to mid December.

Using Gibberellins is no longer experimental or confined to experts. If you enjoy growing and blooming camellias, gib is sure to add to your enjoyment and pleasure. Why don't you try some?

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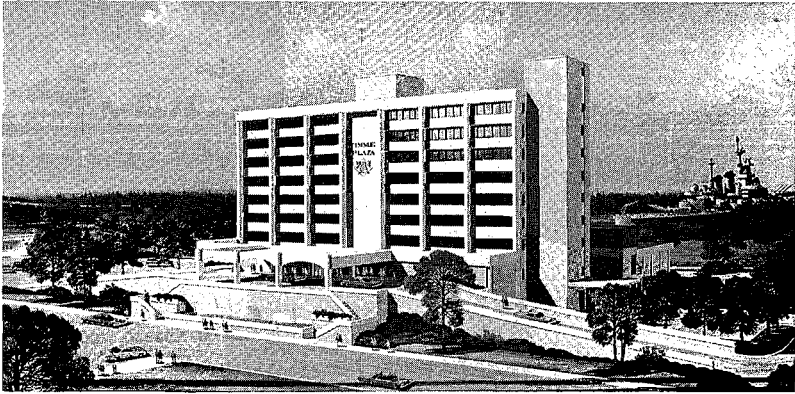
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