

Coushatta Camellia Society

September 2019 - Newsletter



50th Anniversary

Fellow CCS Members:

According to the calendar, it's officially Fall! It must not be blistering hot outside! Seriously, It is a bit cooler, if not much, and I think we all survived the recent rains without too much pain. It's getting on toward camellia season, and it can't come soon enough for me. Meanwhile, it's time to stop fertilizing your camellias, to let the new growth harden off for the winter, and we can start gibbing our buds in the next few weeks.

We had a good first meeting September 8th, with food provided by the Society, and a presentation on the Big Thicket by an expert in the field (ahem). Our next meeting, October 13th, will feature a talk on the snakes of southeast Texas, by Laura and Adrian Berg of Texas Reptile Conservation Outreach. I've heard them speak, and they are really good. Please come! Also, remember to renew your memberships for the coming year, with reliable contact information. There is a renewal form at the end of this newsletter.

We will have our Holiday Dinner on December 8th, but we have not decided where to have it. If anyone has suggestions, please let one of the officers know. Remember that we would need room for 20-25 people.

See you all on the October 13th!
Frank Ohrt, President

Current Activity

October 13, 2019

Regular Meeting

Program - All About Snakes

November 10, 2019

Regular Meeting

Program: - Dennis Hart, President of
Gulf Coast Camellia Society

November 23, 2019

Mercer Botanic Gardens & Arboretum

Plant Sale - our volunteers will
be on hand to discuss camellias

December 8, 2019

Christmas Party

CCS Website:

<http://coushattacamelliasociety.com/>

All About Snakes

Our October speakers will be Adrian and Laura Berg, of Texas Reptile Outreach, talking about the snakes of our part of Texas. I can hear the "Eew! I hate snakes!" responses of some members, but snakes are a vital part of our ecosystems, very few are ever harmful to humans, they aren't slimy, and they aren't out to get you. Think of them as lizards without legs (which is what they are, after all). Come hear the program, and you might find them a lot less fearsome than you were taught. – Frank

P.S. This will also help you identify snakes that might show up on your garden

Gulf Coast Camellia Society

The 2019 GCCS annual conference will be held this year in Brookhaven, Mississippi on Monday, October 7th and Tuesday, October 8th. We hope you can attend this important conference to meet your fellow camellia lovers from across the Gulf Coast region.

GCCS members attending the conference can tour the Great Mississippi Tea Company for free; GCCS will pay for any costs for the tour. Also, on Monday, October 7th, all conference attendees are invited to visit Woodleigh Plantation at 3 pm for an informal walk around the camellia gardens with refreshments on the patio. Woodleigh is located at 415 Natchez Avenue in Brookhaven.

<https://gulfcoastcamelliasociety.org>

Brief Calendar for 2019-2020

September 8, 2019

Kickoff - Social
First Christian Church Parlor
3500 N Loop 336 W, Conroe

October 13, 2019

Regular Meeting

November 10, 2019

Regular Meeting

December 8, 2019

Christmas Party

January 12, 2020

Regular Meeting
First Christian Church Gym

January 24, 2020

Show Setup

January 25-26, 2020

45th Annual Coushatta Camellia Show
First Christian Church

February 9, 2020

Regular Meeting

March 8, 2020

Regular Meeting

April TBD

End of Year Party

Officers and Directors: 2019-2020

President	Frank Ohrt
1 st Vice President, Programs	Edward Estrada
2 nd Vice President, Show Chair	Randy McDaniel
Recording Secretary	Kelli Hornsby
Corresponding Secretary	Glynda Malleske
Treasurer	Jo Ann Treat
Immediate Past President	Jo Ann Treat
At-large-Director	Bill McCranor
At-large-Director	Don Marcotte
At-large-Director	Dudley Boudreaux
At-large-Director	Tommy Weeks

MERCER BOTANIC GARDENS

Mercer Botanic Gardens spans over 400 acres of land in Humble, Texas. Aldine Westfield Road divides the property into the east side botanic gardens and the west side arboretum. The botanic gardens consists of over 60 acres of beautifully maintained gardens that feature bamboo, color displays, daylilies, endangered species, ferns, gingers, herbs, tropicals, and more. The East Side also has an extensive walking trail system, a Remembrance Walk for memorials and honorariums, ponds, a visitors' center, courtyard plaza, plus much more.

The arboretum on the west side of Aldine Westfield features two playgrounds, a picnic area nestled in a woodland setting with two barbecue pavilions, plenty of picnic tables, a hickory bog and boardwalk, cypress swamp, maple collection and several miles of walking trails that wind through beautifully preserved woodlands.

Mercer employs a team of experienced botanists, horticulturists, and gardeners who offer a wealth of knowledge and information, and will gladly assist you in anyway they can during your visit.

Hours of Operation

Mercer is open daily except for, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day. *Mercer's hours of operation are subject to change; please check the website regularly for current hours.*

March 19 – Sept. 30: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Oct. 1 – Nov. 4: 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Nov. 5 – March 18: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

<https://www.hcp4.net/parks/mercero/about/>

COUSHATTA CAMMELIA SOCIETY

Website **<http://coushattacamelliasociety.com/>**

Our CCS Members should be aware of and take advantage of our own website which has significant information useful to all of us.

An example is the book put together some years back by our own members which give you month by month information on growing camellias. ***A Calendar for Camellia Growers.*** There is also an article offering *Camellia Planting Demonstration* by former member Dennis Bilyeu.

There is an archive of CCS Newsletter going back to 2003 organized by month. In addition there are links to other camellia organizations, gardening tips, friends, etc.

COUSCHATTA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

Membership Information

Year 2019-2020

(The Society meets monthly at 2:30 on the 2nd Sunday – September to April)

Name (s) _____

Mailing Address _____

Telephone #s Home _____

Cell Phones _____

e-mail address _____

Indicate your preference for receiving information such as the Newsletter, notices, etc.

_____ E-mail _____ U.S. Postal

Membership choice _____ couple \$20; _____ Individual \$15

INTERESTS : Please indicate all activities in which you would be willing to help. Place a ranking number for each, if you would like, and make a note beside one if you wish to expand on your interest. Obviously some of these activities require many people such as the shows, and some of them are more limited in their needs.

— Conroe Camellia Show – Jan 25-26,2020

— March Mart – Mercer Arboretum

— Hospitality

— Membership

— Monthly Meeting Door Prizes and/or Raffles

— Photography

— Publicity

— Social Activities:

— Yearbook and Newsletter

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT EACH OF US WHO PARTICIPATE IN CLUB ACTIVITIES PITCH IN AND HELP. PLEASE KNOW THAT WE NEED EVERYONE TAKING ON SOME OF THE WORK TO MAKE THE YEAR'S ACTIVITIES A SUCCESSFUL AND REWARDING TO ALL.

FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO JOIN BUT DO NOT ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE, WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND WELCOME YOU!

PLEASE RETURN TO: JO ANN TREAT, P. O. BOX 143, COLLEGE STATION, TX 77841