

# *Coushatta Camellia Society*



## *September 2015 Newsletter*

P.O. Box 1655, Conroe, TX 77305

### **GREETINGS, CAMELLIA LOVERS!**

*Fall is the time for cooler temperatures, but our friendships stay warm, despite the weather.*

### ***THE BEGINNING OF A NEW YEAR For CCS***

*Plans have been made for the year, but it is up to all who are interested in seeing this club prosper to become involved – participate by attending meetings, by offering suggestions, and by helping.*

Fortunately, Don Marcotte is continuing to serve this year as our President along with some of the same officers and committee chairs from last year (partially listed below). We are grateful to all of them for getting the year off and running. You will find lists of dates and activities for the year in several places so be sure to mark your calendars.

Unfortunately we begin our year with the sad news that Morris Waller passed away on June 4, 2015. He will be missed greatly, not only for all the great work he did for CCS and the Camellia world in general, but for his kind and gentlemanly nature.

The first meeting will again be in October on Sunday the 4<sup>th</sup> beginning with social and greetings at 2:30 and the meeting at 3:00 p.m. with a covered dish meal with the meat furnished by CCS – so make your plans to participate. Come learn about this year's activities and give feedback on your thoughts and suggestions.. (continued on page 2)

## *Upcoming Events*

**October 4** ..... October meeting  
2:30 p.m. social; 3:00 p.m.mtg.  
Kick Off the Year -- Covered Dish  
Meal – CCS Provides Meat  
First Christian Church Parlor  
3500 N Loop 336W, Conroe

**October 16**..... CCS Plant Sale  
8:00 am – 5:00p.m.  
Veterans Memorial Museum  
On Highway 75 North in Huntsville  
Master Gardner Symposium

**October 19-20** ..... Gulf Coast  
Camellia Society Annual Mtg  
Hollywood Casino - 711 Hollywood  
Blvd - Bay St. Louis, MS  
(866)758-2591 -

**November 8** ..... November meeting  
2:30 p.m. social; 3:00 p.m.Mtg.  
Additional Information to Follow  
First Christian Church Parlor  
3500 N Loop 336W, Conroe

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Tommy Weeks has seeds, if anyone is interested in growing seedlings and they will be available at the meeting. We will have a plant or plants for door prizes. IT HAS BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE WE HAVE SEEN EACH OTHER.= **So Don't Miss this Meeting.**

The calendar in the side bar shows you that the Annual Plant Sale will be on October 16. It will be in conjunction with the Master Gardner's Symposium and Don will provide information and forms about their various presentations – contact him at 936-661-1101. Dick Eidem has plants (about 250) for sale to CCS Members at \$20 – contact him at 936-264-2437. Dick and Don have made sure that we have a wonderful variety available.

We have been missing Claudette Sheflet since she has been unable to attend due to health problems. In talking with her recently, she has had a set back and isn't well – doctors are work to correcting this. We wish her a speedy recovery.

We, also, have a new member to welcome into our midst – Debbie Bickley of Montgomery – we will look forward to getting to know her and her camellia interests.

### **A Message from the Treasurer:**

Our treasurer would like to thank all of you who have already paid your dues, and to remind those who have not yet sent in their money - NOW is the time to PAY THOSE DUES! Its \$10 for a single membership and \$15 for a joint membership, a price which can't be beat.

You may call **Dick Eidem**, our Treasurer, if you are not sure whether or not you have paid your dues for 2015-2016.

### **Morris I. Waller** **July 23, 1929 – June 4, 2015**

Morris Inman Waller was born in Trinity, Texas. He then attended and received a Bachelor of Business Administration from Sam Houston State University; served as Naval Officer aboard the USS Toledo during the Korean Conflict; pursued a career in banking for 30 years and was the Chief Executive Officer of a Huntsville Bank; was a devoted Rotarian for 38 years; served as City Councilman and Mayor of Huntsville from 1972 – 1981; and was active and support of many community activities.

Morris served as a Director of the International Camellia Society. He attended the International Camellia Society Conference in China and New Zealand. He was an active member of Coughatta Camellia Society for many years and participated in and helped run many Camellia Shows and won awards for his prize camellias, which he enjoyed sharing..

He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Jan Waller and two daughters, Karen Van Eaton (David) and Cheryl Hersh. He will be greatly missed by those who knew and worked with him through CCS.

## OCTOBER TIPS FOR THE CAMELLIA GARDENER

By Dennis Bilyeu

- 1 This is a very good time to spray dormant oil if anyone has scale problems on their camellias. When you spray, add the Nickel fertilizer-if you have it-and it will jump start the growth of your camellia next spring. If you don't have any Nickel fertilizer, use any kind of soluble balanced fertilizer. October is the last month this year you should fertilize your Camellias. Fertilizing later may expose new growth to freezing weather before it has a chance to harden off. You can mix the fertilizer and dormant oil into one spraying.
- 2 If you are planning on showing flowers at our show or one of the other shows in January you could start gibbing buds on plants that are normally late bloomers. Start with 30 to 40 buds this week, then come back with more each week. Gibbing will not only control the time your flowers mature, but will also result in larger, showier blooms. Don Marcotte will be bringing gib to the meeting him.
- 3 If you still have camellia plants in pots, there are two options you should consider. Take the plant out of the pot and take a look at the root system. If there are lots of roots and the plant looks almost root bound, it is ready to put in the ground. This time of year is a great time to be planting camellias. If you need help planting your Camellia check out the planting procedure on our website or give me a call. The other option is, if you don't see a lot of roots at the edge of the dirt, you should repot the plant. Leaving the plant in the existing pine bark will require frequent fertilizing and daily watering, plus the root system will not develop in a way that sustains the plant in the ground. Carefully remove the pine bark and use a good potting mix, perhaps a camellia-azalea mix to repot the plant and to encourage good root growth. Don't plan on planting in the ground for about a year or until you see good root development at the edge of the root ball.
- 4 Keep watering your Camellias. I have been watering mine every day through the hot dry weather. I have installed a automated watering system that is simple and easy to install, so I don't have to be home every day to water my plants. A good drip system can be invaluable if you are not able to be around to water your plants; plus it is allowed even when water conservation restrictions are in effect through the city or the county, and it is much easier than hand watering once you have it in place. The county extension office has more information on these systems.

### Officers and Directors:

President	Don Marcotte
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President, Programs	TBD
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Show Person	Randy McDaniel
Recording Secretary	Sarah Eidem
Treasurer	Dick Eidem
Immediate Past President	Oscar Schank
At-large-Director	Bill McCranor
At-large-Director	Hal Vanis
At-large-Director	Dudley Boudreaux



### Brief Calendar for the Year

Oct 4 - Kickoff Meeting  
Oct 16 - Annual Plant Sale  
Nov 8 - Regular Meeting  
Dec 13 - Meeting - Possible Party to be decided  
Jan 10 - Regular Meeting Nominating Committee  
Jan 15 - Setup Conroe Show  
Jan 16 - Conroe Show  
Feb 5 - Huntsville Show setup  
Feb 6 - Huntsville Show  
Feb 21 - Home Tour  
Mar 13 - Regular Meeting Election of officers  
Apr10 - End of year Meeting