

Coushatta

Camellia



November 2011 Newsletter

P.O. Box 1655, Conroe, TX 77305

GREETINGS CAMELLIA LOVERS!

It's the season to give thanks for all the blessings in our lives, not the least of which is the lovely camellia!

This summer, the drought has been hard on all our plants, not excepting our camellias. Nevertheless, our members have entered blooms in recent shows, and come home with ribbons.

Congratulations to:

Tidewater Camellia Show, Wilmington, NC, Oct. 29, 2011

C. hybrid (w/no retic parent) protected:

COH: 'Delores Edwards', Annabelle Fetterman



Virginia Camellia Show, Norfolk, VA Nov 12, 2011

C. japonica protected:

RU for Lg/VLg: 'Touchdown', Annabelle Fetterman

Best Bloom, Md: 'Early Autumn', Annabelle Fetterman

Mississippi Gulf Coast Camellia Show, Gulfport, MS, Nov 19

Best Tray of Three, Unprotected

C. japonica: 'Evelyn Poe, Pink', Tommy Weeks

Coushatta Camellia Society Treasurer's report November 2011

Beginning Balance 11/1/2011	\$12,594.86
Income:	
Dues	30.00
Raffle	26.00
Christmas Dinner	<u>154.00</u>
Total Income	\$ 210.00
Expenses:	
Speaker	50.00
Newsletter Printing	10.08
P. O. Box Rent	<u>41.00</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 102.08
Ending Balance 11/22/2011	\$12,702.78

Society

Upcoming Events

December 3 Ozone Camellia Show
Slidell, Louisiana

December 6 Christmas social
Hyden's Restaurant, 5104 W. Davis,
Conroe, TX - 6:30 p.m.
Choice of 3 entrees, \$14-\$18 per person
contact Renee Bilyeu at (936) 760-6744.

December 17 9 a.m. - Workday at
Gilmore Florists Greenhouse
Northshore Camellia Show, Covington, LA

January 3, 2012 January meeting
Speaker: Dr. David Creech
Regents Professor of Horticulture and
Director of the 68 acres of Gardens at
Stephen F Austin University
First Christian Church
3500 N Loop 336 W, Conroe

January 14 Camellia Club of New
Orleans Show, Metairie, Louisiana

January 27-29 Conroe, TX
40th Coushatta Camellia Society Show
January 27-Set-up & Pre-Show pizza party
January 28 - 7 am bloom preparation;
10:30 brunch; 11:30 judging; 1:00 open
to the public 'til 4; continues Jan 29 12-3.
First Christian Church Gymnasium
3500 N Loop 336 W, Conroe



16159 Rabon Chapel Road
Montgomery, Texas 77316
936-588-3779

CCS Plant Sale
December 10, 2011
9 am to 3 pm

J&D Nursery at
America's Country Store

Highway 105 West of Conroe
About one mile West of the
336 Loop intersection with SH105W
On the South side of SH105

Volunteers needed to work 3 hour shifts
(9-12, 12-3). Sign up at December
dinner , or call Dennis (936) 760-6744

*Support Our
Sponsors!*

Happy Birthday!

November

Barbara Gibson
Nancy Dupré
Sarah Eidem
Ronnie Gibson
Ruby Knox
Ron Liston
Beverly Roche
Kim West

December

Reneé Bilyeu
Carolyn Brown
Mabel Bryant
Cherokee Caddell
Jack Dyer
Ginny Glesener
Betsy Hunter
Margaret Lewis
Linda McCrary
Maxine Schank
Phyllis Shackelford
Anne Stodghill
Joan Stringer
Milton Surles



GIBBERELIC ACID (aka gib):

Part of the fun of growing camellias

Unfortunately, ACS is no longer able to sell gib due to repacking restrictions imposed by the EPA.

Mail Order Sources: (from ACS Journal)

Coors Farm Supply, Smithfield, NC (800) 999-4573

Hummert International www.hummert.com

BWI www.bwicompanies.com

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MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

*Coushatta Camellia
Society Newsletter*

*Published monthly, August
through March, for members of
the Coushatta Camellia Society*

President Dennis Bilyeu

Editor & Writer Judy Weidner

*E-mail comments and suggestions
to judy@cwew.net*



DECEMBER TIPS FOR THE CAMELLIA GARDNER

By Dennis Bilyeu

- 1 This is a very good time to spray dormant oil for scale problems on your camellias. Add the Nickel fertilizer-if you have it-and it will jump start the growth of your camellia next spring. If you didn't get any from Mark Crawford, use any kind of soluble fertilizer. Also, add a little (1 tbs/gal) insecticide such as Malathion to help kill the scale insects. If you have a mite problem use a mitescide instead of the insecticide. I found a good mitescide at Henderson Feed Store that worked well for me.
- 2 Also this is a great time to start gibbing blooms for our January camellia show. Start with 30 to 40 buds this week, then come back and gib more buds each week up to about three weeks before Show time. Gibbing will not only control the time your flowers mature, but will also result in larger, showier blooms.
- 3 If you bought camellia plants recently, there are two options you need to 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-check our website for a recommended procedure. If you don't see a lot of roots, repot the plant. Leaving the plant in the pine bark soil will require frequent fertilizing and daily watering, plus the root system will not develop in a way that sustains the plant once in the ground. To remedy this common problem from nursery grown Camellias, carefully remove the pine bark from around the roots (a gentle water spray works well) and repot using a good potting mix, perhaps a camellia-azalea mix, to encourage good root growth. Don't plan on planting in the ground for about a year.



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WORKDAY at the GILMORE FLORIST GREENHOUSE

CCS members Dennis and Renee Bilyeu, Cherokee Caddell, Judy Weidner, Bill and Laurie McCranor, and Randy McDaniel had a productive workday Saturday, November 19, at the Gilmore Florist greenhouse.

Dennis, Randy, and Bill primarily worked on repairing and installing new irrigation systems that will benefit both the orchids currently housed in the greenhouse and the camellias that we plan to move to this location. Cherokee, Judy, Laurie, and Renee weeded and repotted the badly neglected orchids.

About 1/3 to 1/2 of the orchids have been weeded and repotted. Another work session will probably finish the job. Contact Cherokee Caddell if you would be able to give a little time towards this project: call (936) 441 4365 or cherokeecaddell@consolidated.net. We plan to have our next workday on Saturday, December 17, starting at 9 a.m., at the greenhouse behind Gilmore's Florists on N. Frazier.

This project is a win-win for CCS and Gilmore's. The florist is providing all the materials for the repairs, and CCS is providing the labor. In addition to having a large protected area to keep our camellias now, we will have a great place to propagate more plants via cutting and grafting in the future. Kudos to Dennis and Cherokee for their parts in establishing the collaboration between Gilmore's and CCS.

COUSHATTA CAMELLIA SOCIETY CHRISTMAS DINNER

Tuesday, December 6, 6:30 pm

Place: Hyden's Seafood Restaurant

5104 West Davis, Conroe, TX

Date: Tuesday, December 6 at 6:30 p.m.

- Menu choices:
- 10oz. sirloin (\$18), Catfish fillet dinner (\$18), Fried shrimp dinner (\$18)
- Hyden's chicken and shrimp salad (\$16.50)
- Chicken fried steak (\$14.00).

Dinner includes soda, tea, or coffee. All items come with vegetable of the day, and a choice of mash potatoes, French fries, Cajun rice, red beans and rice, or white rice. Choices can be made at dinner. Tax and gratuity is included. Dessert is NOT included, but available for purchase at the time of the dinner

To make your reservation call Renee Bilyeu at (936) 760-6744.

Directions: From I-45, in Conroe, take Loop 336 (either on the north side of Conroe or the south side of Conroe) west to its intersection with Hwy 105 (or take 105 through town, but the intersection at I-45 is under construction). Drive west on Hwy 105 (Davis Street) about 1 1/4 mi, and Hyden's will be on your right.



Coushatta Camellia Society

P.O. Box 1655

Conroe, TX 77305

Minutes for CCS November 2011 Meeting

Nov. 01, 2011

The November meeting began at 7:00 pm. Our guest speaker was Bart Bretcher, curator of Bayou Bend Gardens. Mr. Bretcher spoke about organic gardening as it is practiced at the Bayou Bend gardens and how it could be applied to our own gardens.

The business meeting opened at 8:05 with a prayer given by Morris Waller. Dennis discussed a workday at Gilmore's Florist, set for Nov. 12, beginning at 9:00 a.m. The sprinkler system and weeding and possible repotting of the orchids will be the main projects for that day. Volunteers were encouraged to attend, as Gilmore's is a new sponsor for our club. The date has since been changed to Nov 19, but the time to begin remains at 9:00 a.m.

The adopt-a-park project still needs someone to head it up or we will have to table it till next year. Dennis did some updates to our web site to bring it up to date.

Dennis reiterated that the minutes of our meeting and treasurers report are in the newsletter each month. The motion to approve the minutes, as published, was made by Morris Waller, with a second by Bill McCranor. The motion to approve the treasurer's report, as published, was made by Judy Weidner and seconded by Tina Koch.

Location of our plant sale was still not secured. Dick Eidem said he could be contacted early evening if anyone found a location or had questions. December will likely be the new date of our plant sale if we should in fact have one. Dennis stated if we did not have a sale we would likely have to cut our budget. Dick will be checking on the Mercer plant sale.

Randy McDaniel reported the club will not be buying new tables for our show this year, and that details for the show are moving along. Prizes for our Camellia Show are still being worked on. Randy is also still checking on permission for the bench in memory of member Allie Dezelle, to be donated to the Church, and has acquired prices for the bench.

Morris Waller reported the steering committee for the Huntsville show met last week and everything is planned and ready, with February 11, 2012, being the date. The show will again be at the Walker Education Center, but this year on the lower floor of the building. It was noted the wrong date for the show was on the website and in our yearbook.

Bill McCranor reported the Garden Tour would be March 3 and 4, 2012. That date is also incorrect in our yearbook. He will be asking for homes and volunteers for the tour.

Laurie McCranor, our publicity chair, will be working on cost of advertising the plant sale, and tour.

The club's Christmas party will be at Hyden's and those attending are urged to sign-up and pay for their dinner as soon as possible. Dennis and Renee will be collecting the monies to pay as one check. There will be five different entrees to choose from, with dessert and any alcoholic drinks being extra.

The contract for the storage unit the club is currently using will be expiring in July and going up about double in price. Oscar said we might still have it for another month after that because of the initial agreement made at time of lease. Dennis said a possible answer could be the storage shed at Gilmore's.

Joann Treat stated she would hopefully have the paper work for our non-profit status completed this following week.

The question of availability of Gib (gibberellic acid) was raised. Claudette Shelfer stated that ACS does not sell Gib anymore. A source for Gib may be in the ACS journal; this will be checked on and reported by Judy in the coming newsletter.

Cherokee Caddell won the raffle. Door prizes went to Edie Tong and Laurie McCranor. Dennis asked for plant questions from the membership and the meeting was then adjourned at 9:00 p.m.