

Coushatta

Camellia



*Camellia
"Lois Boudreaux"
Registered by Hyman Norsworthy
featured on the 2007 Garden Tour brochure*

December 2008 Newsletter

P.O. Box 1655, Conroe, TX 77305

Society

GREETINGS, CAMELLIA LOVERS!

TIPS FOR THE CAMELLIA GARDENER

By Dennis Bilyeu

- 1 Continue gibbing buds for the upcoming Camellia shows.
- 2 Pick up the blooms that fall on the ground and dispose of them so they can't generate the spores that produce petal blight.

If you have had a problem with petal blight in the past, you may want to take some extra steps to minimize it this year. Something I learned from the horticulturist at Bayou Bend is to: A-rake up all the organic material under your Camellias down to bare ground. This eliminates the source for the petal blight and destroys the tiny mushrooms that emit the spores that spread petal blight. And B-sprinkle corn meal over the bare ground. The best source for corn meal is your local feed store. That is where you get corn meal with minimal processing and the cheapest price. The minimal processing makes the corn meal more effective as a fungicide.

The organic material removed from under your Camellias should be disposed of the same way as the fallen blooms. Bagging and placing it in the trash works but I prefer to bury the organic material under at least 4 inches of soil. Burning the organic material also works. I am hoping after a year or two I will be able to dig up the buried organic material and use it in my garden without having live petal blight spores. I saw this burying technique at the Gordy home in Florida but I didn't learn how long it has to be buried before you can reuse it. I will let you know on this when I learn this bit of information.

- 3 If you are repotting your recently acquired plants (bought, air layered, rooted, grafted), as discussed last month don't forget to spray the leaves with a good fungicide/insecticide mix. E. B. Smith uses a systemic spray from Ortho he claims works very well and his plants show his wisdom. I have looked for this product at Lowe's and Home Depot and have not found it. I will be going to our feed store sponsor Henderson soon to see if they have it and let you know.

- Dennis

Upcoming Events

January 6, 2009 January meeting
6:30 p.m. - social; 7:00 p.m. - program
Program: Preparation for Show
Speaker: Tommy Weeks
First Christian Church Parlor
3500 N Loop 336 W, Conroe

January 10 Metairie, LA
Camellia Club of New Orleans Show

January 16-18 Conroe, TX
Coushatta Camellia Society Show
January 16 - Set-up, then Pre-Show
party at Italian Grill for judges & workers-
RSVP (936) 445-1765

January 17 - 7 am bloom preparation &
set-out; brunch @ 10:30; judging @ 11:30;
doors open to public at 1:00 p.m.

January 24 Baton Rouge, LA
Baton Rouge Camellia Society Show

February 3, 2009 February meeting
6:30 p.m. - social; 7:00 p.m. - program
Program: to be announced

February 14-15 Garden Tour

February 21 Huntsville Show
West Hills Mall, Huntsville, TX

Coushatta Camellia Society Newsletter

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

President Oscar Schank

Editor &

Writer Judy Weidner

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TWELFTH ANNUAL OPEN GARDEN TOUR

By Bill McCranor

Similar to past years, this year's garden tour schedule will be based on geographic locations. In 2009, we will have six Conroe locations which will be open on Saturday as well as two gardens in the New Waverly area open on Sunday. Saturday's tour will feature two new gardens located at the homes of E. B. & Lois Smith as well as Randy & Susan McDaniel. Both gardens are unique in their own way, each featuring many camellias and a variety of other plants. These gardens are welcomed additions to this upcoming year's tour and we, as a society, look forward to seeing them for many years to come.

Despite the devastating effects of Hurricane Ike in September, this year's tour still promises to be an exceptional display. I am sure that all of our gardens were affected in some way and I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank the members of the Coushatta Camellia Society for helping with the damage done by the storm to my garden.

Make it a point to spread the word-this Valentine's Day, take your sweetheart on a romantic tour of camellia gardens.

Tour Schedule

Saturday, February 14: 10 AM – 4 PM

(Around and in Conroe)

Tommy & Sandra Weeks - 11281 Jake Pearson Rd., Conroe

W.B & Ruby Knox - 215 Sunset Blvd., Conroe

E. B. & Lois Smith — 600 Brook Hollow Dr., Conroe

Randy & Susan McDaniel – 13999 Kidd Rd. Conroe

Dick & Sarah Eidem - 11363 Newton Circle, Conroe

Tena Koch - 10584 Champion Forest Loop, Conroe

Sunday, February 15: 11 AM – 3 PM

(Along the Browder Loop in Old Waverly)

Bill & Laurie McCranor - 1100 Browder Loop, New Waverly

John Browder - 1201 Browder Loop, New Waverly

Pre-Show Social

Come join the fun! Workers & judges will be meeting at the Italian Grill at 5 p.m. (following set-up at the church) for the pre-show social. **RSVP Maxine Schank (936) 445-1765** if you will be able to attend. Members bringing an extra guest will be responsible for their guest.

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Welcome new members!



Welcome to our newest members, who joined during the November plant sale. Please add the following information to your yearbooks.

Vicki Barnes (husband Don)
1535 Helen Drive, Spring, TX 77386-2186
H: 281-367-6269; C: 832-651-6269
e-mail: vlbarnes@swbell.net birthday: May

Joyce Baumgartner
125 Magnolia Lane, Conroe, TX 77304-2533
H: 936-760-3290 birthday: October

Amelia Cardona (please call me **A.G.**)
6 Coralberry Court, The Woodlands, TX 77381-2864; H: 281-363-4385; C: 281-787-8478
e-mail: agcar@swbell.net birthday: March

Sarah Gooch
146 Billandrea Lane, Conroe, TX 77304-1107
H: 936-896-3948; C: 713-201-8555
e-mail: gemini@consolidated.net birthday: August

Tomi Plew (husband Tony)
2605 Woods Estates Drive, Conroe, TX 77304-4873
H: 936-756-8964; C: 702-274-5344
e-mail: tomiplew@aol.com birthday: December



Danny Moore

Insurance Agent
Financial Services Agent

FARMERS

25802 IH 45 North, Spring, TX 77386
Office: 281-466-1511

Email: cmoore2@farmersagent.com

Home*Auto*Life*Commercial*Financial Services

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Montgomery, Texas 77316
936-588-3779

Happy Birthday!

December

Reneé Bilyeu
Jack Dyer
Margaret Lewis
Linda McCraray
Tomi Plew
Maxine Schank
Anne Stodghill
Milton Surles
Kim To



January

Dennis Bilyeu
Shirley Fontenot
Myra Liston
Troy McCraray
Mike Mendeck
June Sadoti
Rex Stodghill
Victor Treat
Bob Tynan
Jan Waller

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CCS PREPARES FOR SHOW

January 17-18, 2009

by Charlie Gambrill

As you enjoy this newsletter our CCS Camellia Show is just two short weeks away. As a viable and growing member of the American Camellia Society, this is the most important event of the year for CCS. All CCS members and area non-members should be sure to enter blooms and to encourage friends and neighbors to come out and enjoy the great atmosphere and beautiful flowers.

We kick off with our Show set up on Friday, the 16th at 2 PM at the First Christian Church and then on to a fun Pre-Show dinner at the Italian Grill. Please RSVP to Maxine Schank (936) 445-1765 or email oschank@peoplepc.com by 6 January.

The doors open for bloom exhibitors at 7 AM on Saturday with bloom preparation and set out from 7–10:30 AM. This year we are requesting all participants to take special care to be sure that entry forms are completed correctly with properly classified and named blooms and placed in the correct area for judging. This year we are hoping to have a “classification” table set up to assist with this.

A fine brunch put together by June Sadoti and a great group of volunteers is from 10:30-11:30 am for judges, clerks, and CCS members. Please consider donations of cookies for the show. Bring them to the Gym by 11:00 A.M. on Saturday and label the container for CCS, so they will not get mixed with church school goodies. Judges and Clerks briefing will be at the end of the brunch with Judging taking place from 11:30 to 1:00 p.m.

As with most programs there is always a job to be done. We look forward to the support and assistance from all our members beginning with set up at 2:00 PM on Friday through take down at 3 PM on Sunday. Charlie Gambrill will update us on show details and make final calls for member assistance at the 8 January meeting.

CCS members can exhibit blooms in the Open show or the CCS show for members only. Don't be shy, there are awards for Novice entries and in some years we have had categories that are not awarded because of no entries. We will have the Show Program available at the 6 January meeting. Check it carefully for entry categories and the CCS “Special Memorial Awards”.

One thing for sure, a successful show makes us all winners! Your participation is needed and appreciated by all. To volunteer, make suggestions or if you have a question, contact: cgambrill@consolidated.net.



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Conroe, TX 77305