

# Coushatta

# Camellia



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

## December 2009 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 5, 2010** ..... January meeting  
6:30 p.m. - social; 7:00 p.m. - program  
"Vintage Camellias"

Speaker: Florence Crowder  
Secretary, Great Gardens  
of America Preservation Alliance  
First Christian Church Parlor  
3500 N Loop 336 W, Conroe

**January 9** ..... Metairie, LA  
Camellia Club of New Orleans Show

**January 15-17** ..... Conroe, TX  
40th Coushatta Camellia Society Show  
January 15 - Set-up & Pre-Show party  
January 16 - 7 am bloom preparation;  
10:30 brunch; 11:30 judging; 1:00 open to  
the public 'til 4; continues Jan 17 12-3.

First Christian Church Gymnasium  
3500 N Loop 336 W, Conroe

**February 10, 2010** .. February meeting  
6:30 p.m. - social; 7:00 p.m. - program  
"Grafting Heirloom Tomatoes"  
Speaker: Tom Leroy  
Montgomery County Extension

**February 13-14** ..... Garden Tour

**February 27** ..... Texas Camellia Show  
West Hill 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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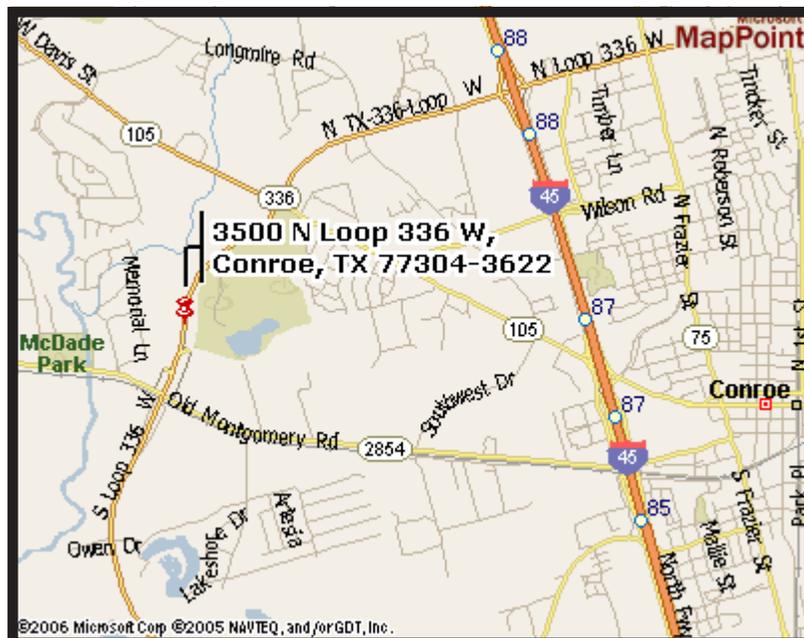
## CHANGE IN PROGRAM FOR JANUARY: VINTAGE CAMELLIAS



Our January program and speaker have changed. I know you will all enjoy the program on "Vintage Camellias" which will be offered by Florence Crawford, of Denham Springs, Louisiana.

Florence is a former teacher, as well as a commercial greenhouses production owner and manager. She is currently a member of several camellia societies, and serves on the American Camellia Society Library Committee and the ACS Camellia Trail Committee. She has researched the pre-1900 introductions of the camellia in Louisiana, the US and Europe.

She serves as Secretary of the Great Gardens of America Preservation Alliance, which seeks to preserve ancient azalea and camellia cultivars. In Denham Springs, Florence is a civic activist, a member of the Denham Springs Main Street movement, and cultivates her love of the old and the beautiful with her work as an Antiques Dealer.



New members! Come join us in the parlor (or the gym, look for a sign on the parlor door) at the First Christian Church at 3500 North Loop 336 West, in Conroe. The church is not far from the intersection with highway 2854, and can be reached from Interstate Highway 45 most easily by taking either exit 84 (Loop 336 S) or exit 88 (Loop 336 N) and proceeding west around the loop to the church, which lies on the west side of the road.

[www.margaritaandpeppers.com](http://www.margaritaandpeppers.com)



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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.

## Linda Gibson (husband Kenneth)

9190 Crystal Springs Dr.  
Conroe, TX 77303-2375  
Phone: 936-443-8420  
E-mail: ldg5454@yahoo.com  
Linda's birthday - May

## William J & Patricia E Harness

3 Antico Court  
The Woodlands, TX 77382-7008  
Home: 281-298-7226  
Cell: 938-525-8352; Work: 936-539-0500  
E-mail: williamharness@sbcglobal  
Birthdays: Aug

## Gloria Hoffman

6069 Longmire Trail, Conroe, TX 77304-4867  
Phone: 836-441-6849  
E-mail: gloper@hotmail.com

## Shelley Madeley

P.O. Box 1924  
Trinity, TX 75862-1824  
Phone: 936-661-7787  
E-mail: shelleymadeley@yahoo.com  
Birthday: April

## Vern & Elizabeth Vanrooy

14050 Hwy 75 N, Willis, TX 77378-3422  
Phone: 936-856-6535; Work: 936-232-0226  
E-mail: lazubeid@gmail.com  
Birthdays: Feb



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

## Happy Birthday!

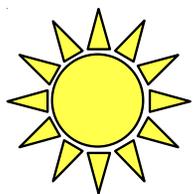


### December

Reneé Bilyeu  
Mabel Bryant  
Cherokee Caddell  
Jack Dyer  
Ginny Glesener  
Margaret Lewis  
Linda McCrary  
Tomi Plew  
Maxine Schank  
Anne Stodghill  
Joan Stringer  
Milton Surles

### January

Dennis Bilyeu  
Myra Liston  
Troy McCrary  
Mike Mendeck  
June Sadoti  
Rex Stodghill  
Victor Treat  
Lewis Walker  
Jan Waller



## SUNSHINE

Do you have news to share about a member? Maybe there is a special anniversary coming up, or perhaps one of our members is a little under the weather. Sarah Eidem would like to brighten up his or her day with a little Sunshine!

Send her an e-mail at seake@consolidated.net or call 936-264-2437.

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## CCS PREPARES FOR SHOW

January 15-17, 2010

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 15<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM at the First Christian Church (see map and directions on page 2) and will have pizza afterwards for all our workers.

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 5 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 5 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](mailto:cgambrill@consolidated.net).



### **Coushatta Camellia Society**

P.O. Box 1655

Conroe, TX 77305