

Coushatta

Camellia



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

December 2012 Newsletter

P.O. Box 1655, Conroe, TX 77305

Society

GREETINGS, CAMELLIA LOVERS!

Our best wishes to you for a happy and healthy New Year in 2013. As you know by now, our usual meeting date fell on January 1, so we will meet on the second Tuesday.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE

by Bill McCranor

Happy New Year to all! I would like to invite everyone to visit our website (coushattacamelliasociety.com) to see the changes that have been made. The site is still under construction and, admittedly, taking a bit longer than I had anticipated as currently and unavoidably my time is needed for other affairs. However since becoming "webmaster" in June much progress has been made.

The main page has a whole new look and is some-what divided into three sections: an 'About us' section, a 'what's been going on' section and a 'Society Notes' section for current news. The main page also has a menu bar at the top for easy navigation to the other information on the site. Presently you can find information about our upcoming flower shows, access this year and last year's newsletters, reference our "Camellia Growers Calendar" and view Dennis Bilyeu's "Camellia Planting Demonstration". By clicking on 'Sponsors & Links' on the menu bar you are taken to a page that displays the logos of our society's sponsors. For some, by clicking on the logo takes you to the sponsor's homepage. The 'Links' portion of the page contains other sites of interest to gardeners and camellia growers alike.

I still have much to do: A page about plant sales, the garden tour, revamping the forum - just to name a few. But for now I would like all members to take a look at our website, decide what you think about it and formulate some suggestions to share at our next meeting. I need your help in many areas. Keep in mind that I never wanted to author the entire website. I would much prefer that we, together as a society, decide what we want our website to be about. My job is make sure those ideas get online and look somewhat presentable.

Upcoming Events

January 8, 2013 January meeting
6:30 p.m.; First Christian Church

January 12 Camellia Club of
New Orleans Show, Kenner, LA

January 19-20 Camellia Club of
Mobile, Mobile, AL

January 26 Conroe, TX
41st Coushatta Camellia Society Show
January 25-Set-up & Pre-Show pizza party
January 26 - 7 am bloom preparation;
10:30 - judging to noon, then lunch;
1:00 open to the public 'til 4
First Christian Church Gymnasium
3500 N Loop 336 W, Conroe

February 2 Brookhaven Camellia
Show, Brookhaven, MS

February 5 February meeting
6:30 p.m., First Christian Church

February 9-10 Baton Rouge Camellia
Society, Burden Center, Baton Rouge, LA

February 16 Texas Camellia Show
Walker Education Center, Huntsville, TX

*Coushatta Camellia
Society Newsletter*

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the Coushatta Camellia Society*

President Oscar Schank

Editor &

Writer Judy Weidner

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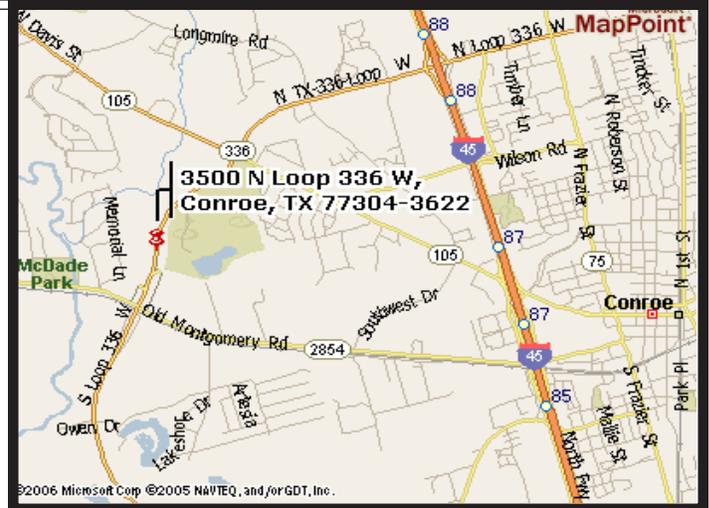


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New (and not-so-new) members! Come join us at the First Christian Church at 3500 North Loop 336 West, in Conroe. The church is not far from the intersection with highway 2854, and can be reached from Interstate Highway 45 most easily by taking either 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.

TREASURER'S REPORT DECEMBER 2012

Beginning Balance November 18, 2012 \$15,495.58

Expenses:

Post Office Box Rent	\$ 52.00
Christmas Dinner	133.92
Food Bank Donation (Church)	100.00
Davis Memorial (ACS)	100.00
Donation -- Tables for Church	611.54
Newsletter Printing	16.80
Total Expenses	\$ 1,014.26

Income: Plant Sale \$ 17.50

Ending Balance, December 31, 2012 \$14,498.82

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TIPS FOR THE CAMELLIA GARDENER

By Dennis Bilyeu



- 1) Continue gibbing buds for the upcoming Camellia shows. Since our Show is less than a month away you should be gibbing Camellias that are normally mid to late season bloomers to make them bloom early enough for our Show.
- 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 (leaves, mulch, etc) 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 (no salt) and the cheapest price. The minimal processing makes the corn meal more effective as a fungicide. If you can't get it at the feed store, just plain yellow corn meal from the store works just fine. Also, if you can't rake up all the organic material under your Camellia, just sprinkling the corn meal on top of the organic material also works, just not as well.
The organic material removed from under your Camellias should be disposed of the same way as the fallen blooms. Bagging and placing 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 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/miteicide 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. Our feed store sponsor Henderson has a systemic product I used and it worked well. Be sure and apply the product according to label directions and reapply at the recommended frequency.

-- Dennis



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

Happy Birthday!

December

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



January

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

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CCS PREPARES FOR SHOW

January 25-26, 2013

by Randy McDaniel

As you enjoy this newsletter our CCS Camellia Show is just a few 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 25th at 2 PM at the First Christian Church (see map and directions on page 2) and will have pizza afterwards for all our workers.

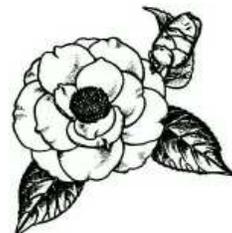
The doors open for bloom exhibitors at 7 AM on Saturday with bloom preparation and set out from 7–10:30 AM. This year we are requesting all participants to take special care to be sure that entry forms are completed correctly with properly classified and named blooms and placed in the correct area for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

Judges and Clerks briefing will be at the end of set-up with Judging taking place from 10:30 to noon. Lunch will be available from 12:30 to 1:30 pm for judges, clerks, and CCS members. Please consider donations of cookies for the show. Bring them to the Gym by 11:30 A.M. on Saturday and label the container for CCS, so they will not get mixed with church school goodies.

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 4 PM on Saturday. Randy McDaniel will update us on show details and make final calls for member assistance at the 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 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: Randy McDaniel at mcpuli@consolidated.net



Coushatta Camellia Society

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Conroe, TX 77305