

Coushatta

Camellia

February 2004 Newsletter

P.O. Box 1655, Conroe, TX 77305



Society

GREETINGS, CAMELLIA LOVERS!

With winter coming to an end, isn't this the perfect time of year for garden lovers? When the gardening bug hits you, don't forget to make a stop at Garden World, Container Grown Nursery, and Henderson Feed and Seed.

The weather was still nippy on February 3, but it didn't stop members from convening for our regular meeting.

Membership Chairman Morris Waller welcomed new members Lillie Mae Wright and Tena Koch, who joined during the January Show. New member C J Reynolds and her husband Bobby Payne were also attending for their first time. Guests included Gayle Warren, Jenny Marcotte, Doris & Sammie Clark, and Barbara Turnbull (Tina's sister). Doris, Sammie, and Barbara joined CCS this evening!

Perry Liston told members the final plans for the Feb. 15 Garden Tour and passed around a sheet for members to volunteer as Garden Hosts and Hostesses at the residences of Charlie and Linda Gambrell, W. B. and Ruby Knox, Tom and Beverly Roche, Troy and Linda McCrary, and Jack and Diane Dyer. Brochures will be available at Kroger the week before the event. He also announced that the after-party for participants would be held at the home of Bob & Carolyn Tynan. This year, there will also be a "tour of the tour" for participants, who will meet at the McCrary's home at 10 a.m. on Monday the 16th.

The January CCS Camellia Show went very well this year, with over 500 blooms and about 450 visitors. The gift shop raised \$289 and camellia sales brought in \$1,424. New member Lillie Mae Wright was one of the lucky winners of a camellia door prize at the show. Jeanne Jackson was the other door prize winner.

Continued page 2 - see February meeting



Upcoming Events

March 2 March meeting
6:30 p.m. - social
7:00 p.m. - program
Rivershire Community Bldg.
206 Scarborough, Conroe

Speaker: John Ross
Forestry Service

Topic: "Seedlings Program"

March 13 Azalea Trail Field Trip
9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Call JoAnn Treat (979) 846-8172 for info

April 6 April social
6:30 p.m. - Dinner
River Plantation Country Club

*Have a wonderful summer - we'll
see you in September!*

September 7 September meeting
6:30 p.m. - social
7:00 p.m. - program
Rivershire Community Bldg.
206 Scarborough, Conroe

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February meeting *Continued from front page*

ESCAP chair Maxine Schank thanked the many members whose help made this year's Elementary School Camellia Appreciation Project so successful. She reported that many more children attended the show this year, and thanked the presenters who visited the schools. Next year's project will be even more successful, thanks to a critiquing meeting held by all the participants.

President Linda McCraray sadly announced the death of long-time member Lorena McRee. She and her husband were in the group that originated the Coushatta Camellia Society, and she will be greatly missed.

Linda announced that member Mike Welbes has volunteered to design a webpage for CCS. The website will be in progress during this month, and can be viewed at www.coushattacamelliasociety.com/CCS. Please visit and send a comment.

Linda also announced that CCS members will be participating in an Arbor Day celebration at Montgomery College on Saturday, February 7. The event will take place at the commons area from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and the CCS presentation is scheduled to begin around 11 a.m. Members

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are encouraged to attend.

Linda turned the meeting over to Hal Vanis and Dr. Pat McMurrey, who demonstrated 2 methods of grafting and answered many questions. Since time was running short, members did not perform grafting during the meeting, but took home the scions and plants. Congratulations to the lucky door prize winners! Linda McCraray won a package of camellia napkins, Morris Waller won Dr. Pat's graft, and Lillie May Wright won Hal's graft.

CCS Field Trip

**Everyone ready for a fun and
beautiful trip?**

The Azalea Trail under the auspices of the River Oaks Garden Club must be the premier garden event for Houston and surrounding areas! There are 7 stops on this year's tour (we'll make as many as we can). Call JoAnn Treat for more info.

March 13, 2004

Depart 9:00 a.m. – Back 6:00 p.m.

\$25 for Bus and \$15 for Tour

An inexpensive lunch stop will be Dutch treat

Registration Information: Send your check for \$40 per person (includes trip & Trail entry fee) to arrive no later than February 28*, to:

CCS, P. O. Box 1655, Conroe, TX 77305

***Registration after that date should include a check for \$45 to cover increased Trail entry fee of \$20.**

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Welcome New Members!

Two new members joined during the February meeting, and one new member joined during the Garden Tour. Their contact information is listed below to be added to your yearbooks.

Doris and Sammie Clark, 12632 Walco Hills Drive, Willis, TX 77378-6088; 936-856-0762

Barbara Turnbull, RR3 Box 130 HP51, Trinity, TX 75862-7422; tbabsa@aol.com; 936-594-0361 (Barbara is the sister of new member Tena Koch)

Don and Peggy LeVrier, 14331 Walker Road, Conroe, TX 77302; dlevrier@msn.com; 281-429-2587

Member updates - the following members have new e-mail addresses. Please update your yearbooks.

Eddie Tong: ebtheart@cox-internet.com

Marvin & Elizabeth Williams: ElizaW@ev1.net

Carolyn & Bob Tynan have a new phone number: 936-228-0093

NOW IS THE TIME FOR ALL GOOD MEMBERS TO PAY THEIR DUES!

Treasurer Jan Waller is ready to collect your dues for 2004-2005. Make your payment (\$10 single, \$15 joint) at the March meeting and save postage.

Just joined in January or February? We're glad to have you! You need not pay dues until next year at this time.

Consider becoming a "Friend of CCS" this year. Your donation of \$25 will be recognized in the yearbook. Thanks to Charles Malone, who has already made his donation.

Is there a program you'd like to see or give? Edie Tong would like to have your ideas! Thanks to Charlie Gambrell, who has offered to teach us how to construct an outdoor fountain.

THE PERFECT GIFT

Consider purchasing a Coushatta Camellia Society membership for that special person!

This year, each new CCS membership will include a free 6 month American Camellia Society membership, along with the ACS Journal.

Linda McCraray has all the forms needed -- call 936-441-3143.

Congratulations to new member Ed Holland, who has just become a Novice Judge. Ed & Greg Davis recently represented Houston at the Texas ACS meeting in Slidell, where Greg's Black Magic won Runner-Up in Unprotected Medium. A bit of camellia culture help from Greg: he says hold off until March to prune your camellias.



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Coushatta Camellia Society Newsletter

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President .. Linda McCraray

Editor &

Writer Judy Weidner

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Garden Tour Bright and Beautiful

by Perry Liston

The Seventh Annual Camellia Open Garden Tour was a huge success, with a record attendance of 80-150 people per home. A beautiful sunny day was most welcome after the two weeks of rain, and everyone enjoyed the lovely weather. A special thanks to all those who volunteered at the tour gardens, and especially to gardeners Charlie and Linda Gambrill, Tom and Beverly Roche, W.B. and Ruby Knox, Linda and Troy McCrary, and Jack and Diane Dyer for opening their gardens.

The evening was capped with a wonderful lasagna dinner reception hosted by Robert and Carolyn Tynan at their home in Panorama. Thanks for being such great hosts!

Note: Perry has graciously accepted the invitation to organize next year's Eighth Annual Camellia Open Garden Tour. We know he'll do another great job!

Perry asks that, again, those interested in opening their gardens notify him early. This year's attendance bonanza was largely due to great advertising, only possible with early notification. Perry also needs someone to take responsibility for signage for the event.

CCS APRIL END-OF-THE-YEAR FEAST

Don't be an April Fool! On Tuesday, **April 6th**, come celebrate a great camellia year with dinner at the **River Plantation Country Club, 550 Country Club Dr.** We'll be meeting at **6:30 p.m.**

Driving directions:

Take exit 81 (FM-1488) on I-45 and proceed north on the feeder road to River Plantation. (If coming from the north, go south on the feeder road to the FM-1488 E loop and cross the interstate to get to the north feeder road-in effect, making a U turn)

Turn right onto River Plantation Drive, proceed about 3/4 mile to the Country Club Dr. fork, bear left and drive up the hill to the parking lot behind the club.

Bring your check made out to **CCS** for **\$24.50** per person to the March meeting, or mail it to Renee Bilyeu by March 29.

When paying, choose your entree of Chicken Marsala with Wild Mushroom Sauce or Burgundy Beef Crepe. Checks without a choice marked will be designated as chicken.

