



[www.SouthernChristmasTrees.org](http://www.SouthernChristmasTrees.org)

## **2017 Joint Annual Meeting**

of the

### **Georgia Christmas Tree Association and the Southern Christmas Tree Association**

**August 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Valley Community Center**

130 Sportsplex Drive, Valley, Alabama 36854  
[www.CityOfValley.com](http://www.CityOfValley.com)

#### **Saturday Farm Tour**

#### **Sunday Farm Tour**

##### **Gilbert Christmas Tree Farm**

Ray & Joan Gilbert, Hosts  
1230 County Road 296, Lanett, Alabama 36863  
Chambers County  
[www.GilbertTreeFarm.com](http://www.GilbertTreeFarm.com)

##### **Wadsworth Christmas Tree Farm**

Frank & Lucie Wadsworth, Hosts  
3071 Dexter Road, Wetumpka, Alabama 36092  
Elmore County  
[www.WadsworthChristmasTrees.com](http://www.WadsworthChristmasTrees.com)



[www.SouthernChristmasTrees.org](http://www.SouthernChristmasTrees.org)

August 5, 2017

Dear Fellow Growers and Vendors:

I have wanted to have a joint annual meeting between the Southern Christmas Tree Association and the Georgia Christmas Tree Association for a long time.

I felt by having a joint meeting we would be able to have better programs and more vendors. Both associations have incredible members and dedicated leadership with everyone doing a great job representing our fine Christmas tree industry. I want to encourage you to meet and make new friends while renewing old friendships. The most important part of our annual meetings is sharing ideas and learning from others. I have never been to an annual meeting and not learned something new to take back and incorporate in my farm operation.

I encourage you to visit and support our vendors as they are a vital part of hosting an annual meeting. They know their business and their product lines. Our exhibitors and advertisers are always available to assist you.

Special thanks go to Chuck Berry, Linda Wilson, Matthew Gay, Steve Mannhard and Michael Buchart who helped put this meeting together and especially to Frank Wadsworth for hosting the Sunday farm tour. Any member who has hosted a farm tour knows the amount of preparation involved. The GCTA and SCTA thank you Frank, Lucie and your crew for the tour. I want to encourage everyone to attend.

The annual meeting requires much effort to organize and produce. I hope that you will benefit.

Let's Keep it Real!

Ray Gilbert, SCTA President 2016 /2017  
Gilbert Christmas Tree Farm, Lanett, Alabama

*Proud member of the National Christmas Tree Association ([www.christmastree.org](http://www.christmastree.org))*



**2017 Joint Annual Meeting**  
of the  
**Georgia and Southern Christmas Tree Associations**

**August 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>**  
**Valley, Alabama**

**Agenda**

**Conference Facility**

Valley Community Center  
130 Sportsplex Drive, Valley, Alabama 36854  
www.CityOfValley.com, (334) 756-5290

**Primary Lodging**

Hampton Inn  
4210 Phillips Road, Valley / Lanett, Alabama 36863  
www.HamptonInn3.Hilton.com, (334) 576-5400

**Saturday Farm Tour**

Gilbert Christmas Tree Farm  
Ray & Joan Gilbert  
1230 County Road 296, Lanett, Alabama 36863  
Chambers County  
www.GilbertTreeFarm.com, (706) 585-5306

**Sunday Farm Tour**

Wadsworth Christmas Tree Farm  
Frank & Lucie Wadsworth  
3071 Dexter Road, Wetumpka, Alabama 36092  
Elmore County  
www.WadsworthChristmasTrees.com, (334) 399-1547

**EVANS**  
**CHRISTMAS PRODUCTS**  
*a division of Evans & Company Inc.*

*Providing quality Grower products and supplies at competitive prices with fast delivery and Southern Hospitality!*



*Keep the traditions alive!*

**7930 Zeigler Blvd. • Mobile, Al 36608**  
**800-832-4521**  
251-633-6008 • 251-633-6840 fax  
www.evanschristmas.com

**Friday, August 4<sup>th</sup>**

Times are Eastern Daylight Saving Time

05:00 pm – 07:00 pm	On-Site Registration at Hampton Inn
05:00 pm – 08:00 pm	Exhibitor & SCTA Christmas Tree Competition Set-Up Valley Community Center
06:00 pm – 07:30 pm	GCTA Board Dinner, to be determined
07:00 pm – 08:30 pm	SCTA Board Dinner, Milano's, 373 Fob James Drive, Valley
08:00 pm – 09:00 pm	GCTA Board Meeting at Hampton Inn
09:00 pm – 10:00 pm	SCTA Board Meeting at Hampton Inn



# Specially Formulated Colorant Kolors by Kirk

Make Your Season Merry & Bright



Saturday, August 5<sup>th</sup>

Times are Eastern Daylight Saving Time  
Location: Valley Community Center

07:30 am – 09:00 am

Exhibitor & SCTA Christmas Tree Competition Set-Up

07:30 am – 10:00 am

On-Site Registration GCTA & SCTA

09:00 am – 09:10 am

Welcome by Presidents Ray Gilbert (SCTA) and Matthew Gay (GCTA)

09:10 am – 09:20 am

Welcome by Ashley Crane, Executive Director  
Greater Valley Area Chamber of Commerce

09:20 am – 09:50 am

Estate Planning  
Mark Tippins, Attorney at Law

09:50 am – 10:10 am

Break, Visit Exhibitors

**KEELSON PARTNERS**  
Insurance & Risk Management

Tree Farms • Choose & Cut • Retail Lots  
503.226.1422 or 800.469.7844

*A licensed and admitted insurance program tailored to the needs of the  
Christmas Tree Industry!*

707 SW Washington • Suite 625 • Portland, OR 97205 • FAX: 503.226.2488  
Visit Our Web Site: [www.keelson.com](http://www.keelson.com)

# Everything But the Trees For the Successful Christmas Tree Lot

| Flock and Flock Machines | Sales Control Tags |  
 Lot Supplies | Rebar Stands | Tree Removal Bags  
 | Wood Stands | Nail-on Water Bowls | Netting |  
 Tree Colorant and Needlebond | Retail Items  
 Banners, Pendants and Signs | Accessories  
 Bows and Ribbons | Flame Retardant  
 | Wreath Rings and Embellishments |



| [www.Veldsma.com](http://www.Veldsma.com) |  
 800-458-7919 | 770-389-8814



10:10 am – 10:40 am

Asset Protection Strategy

10:40 am – 11:00 am

Mark Tippins, Attorney at Law

Toys for Tots Foundation, A.T. Wilson

Trees for Troops, Greg Smith



## SWIHART

### Sales Company

- Mist Sprayers -

SPRAY INNOVATIONS

Motor Models available

American Made

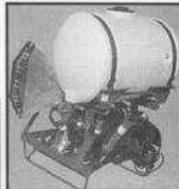


References available in your area

We offer a complete line of low volume mist blowers.

Low Maintenance  
High Performance

Excellent for spraying: Christmas Trees, livestock, vegetables, vineyards, orchards, nurseries, trees, mosquitoes, chicken houses, etc.



For free brochure contact:  
**Swihart Sales Co.**  
 7240 County Road AA, , Quinter, KS 67752

785-754-3513 or  
**800-864-4595**  
[www.swihart-sales.com](http://www.swihart-sales.com)

# DISCOVER THE DURANA ADVANTAGE ON YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE FARM!



The Durable, All Purpose White Clover

- Excellent fit for Ground Cover Management Systems
- Reduces weed competition
- Reduces soil erosion and chemical runoff
- Tolerant of pH ranges required by Christmas trees
- Nitrogen fertilizer source
- Low maintenance costs
- Builds soil organic matter
- Improves soil tilth
- Increases beneficial insect populations



### EASY TO MAINTAIN

Durana is low growing with small leaves. Requires minimal mowing thus reducing labor and equipment costs.



### REDUCES WEED COMPETITION

Durana forms thick cover that suppresses weed emergence and competition.



### EROSION CONTROL

Durana is a true perennial that will hold the soil year round, saving precious topsoil, while helping reduce chemical runoff.

**Durana has over 90% more stolons, increasing persistence up to 3 times longer than other white clovers!\***



1-800-285-SEED  
www.Pennington.com



\*data on file

Pennington with design is a registered trademark of Pennington Seed, Inc. Central Garden & Pet and Central Garden & Pet with design are trademarks of Central Garden & Pet Company.

11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Webinar

*A Very Special Tree –*

*The Hunt for a Disease Resistant Leyland at Shady Pond Tree Farm*

Presenters:

Gray Anderson, Grant Christmas Tree Farm & Syrup Mill

Dr. John Frampton, Professor / Christmas Tree Geneticist, NCSU

Clarke Gernon, Shady Pond Tree Farm

12:00 pm – 12:30 pm

Break, Visit Exhibitors

**WAGONER'S fraserknoll**  
SUPPLIES + EQUIPMENT

We select and offer the best-working products!

BALERS • NETTING • WREATH-MAKING SUPPLIES • SHAKERS • TREE STANDS  
TAGS • COLORANTS • BANNERS • SHEARING MACHINES • REMOVAL BAGS & MORE

As an experienced grower and retailer, we can help you select products for a more productive and profitable business.

**1-877-352-7355 • www.fraserknoll.com**  
384 BURNT HILL ROAD • LAUREL SPRINGS, NC 28644 • PHONE/FAX: 336-982-3517

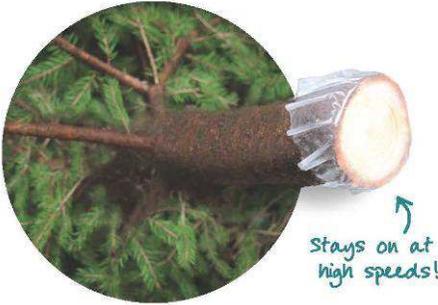
WOW YOUR HIGH END CUSTOMERS AND APPLY ONE TO EACH TREE!



*Fresh Cut.*



# TREE BASE COVER



96% WATER  
KEEP YOUR TREES HYDRATED AND CUSTOMERS HAPPY  
NO NEED TO RE-CUT THE BASE AT HOME\*  
ATTRACTIVE EASY TO USE PACKAGE



*freshcuttech.com*  
Patent Pending

\*Depending on conditions.

**Fresh Cut Tech, LLC.**  
P.O. Box 256 Botsford, Connecticut, 06404  
Telephone (573) 539-1396; [SEdwards@FreshCutTech.com](mailto:SEdwards@FreshCutTech.com)

- 12:30 pm – 01:30 pm Buffet Lunch, Valley Community Center
- 01:30 pm – 02:00 pm Christmas Tree Promotion Board  
Marsha Gray
- 02:00 pm – 02:30 pm Whole Farm Revenue Protection  
Heyward Baker, USDA – Risk Management Agency (retired)
- 02:30 pm – 02:45 pm Break, Visit Exhibitors



Steele's  
sa je™  
Shearing Machine



- ▲ Cut Shearing time 80%
  - ▲ Reduce cost 50%
  - ▲ One cut perfection
  - ▲ Perform 3 jobs at once
- [www.steelessaje.com](http://www.steelessaje.com)  
**1-985-848-5133**

## Tim Mitchell's Yule Stand System



6437 East Exeter, Scottsdale, Arizona 85251  
800.394.6536 / 602.956.9574; Facsimile: 602.778.9899  
E-mail: [info@timmitchellschrimstrees.com](mailto:info@timmitchellschrimstrees.com)

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

02:45 pm  
02:45 pm – 03:45 pm

Deadline to Submit SCTA Christmas Tree Competition Ballots  
General Membership Business Meeting

04:00 pm – 06:00 pm  
07:00 pm – 10:00 pm  
08:00 pm – 08:30 pm  
09:00 pm – 10:00 pm  
10:00 pm

Farm Tour, Gilbert Christmas Tree Farm  
Buffet Dinner, Valley Community Center  
Dinner Speaker – Jody Fuller comedian, speaker, writer & soldier  
SCTA Tree Contest Winners & SCTA Auction Fundraiser  
All Exhibits and Christmas Trees Must Be Removed





**Sunday, August 6<sup>th</sup>**

09:00 am – 09:15 am  
 09:15 am – 12:30 am  
 12:30 am – 01:30 pm  
 01:30 pm

Times are Central Daylight Saving Time  
 Farm Tour, Wadsworth Christmas Tree Farm  
 Worship Service on the Farm  
 Christmas Tree Farm Tour and Demonstrations  
 Lunch  
 Adjourn and return home safely!



Contact: Terry Robertson, 54 Samantha Place, Dadeville, AL 36853,  
 (617)416-0788, [Trad65@gmail.com](mailto:Trad65@gmail.com)

**Our Supporters:**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>Evans Christmas Products</b><br/>                 Stephanie &amp; Craig Evans, Julie Holland<br/>                 (member, advertiser, exhibitor)</p> | <p><b>Evergreen Tree Stands</b><br/>                 Terry Robertson &amp; James Miller<br/>                 (exhibitor)</p> |
| <p><b>Fraser Knoll Farms</b><br/>                 Tommy Wagoner<br/>                 (member, advertiser, exhibitor)</p>                                    | <p><b>Fresh Cut Tech</b><br/>                 Scott Edwards<br/>                 (advertiser)</p>                            |
| <p><b>Grant Christmas Tree Farm &amp; Syrup Mill</b><br/>                 Gray Anderson<br/>                 (member, exhibitor)</p>                        | <p><b>Keelson Partners</b><br/>                 Tom Wilkins<br/>                 (advertiser)</p>                            |
| <p><b>Kirk Company</b><br/>                 TJ Roland<br/>                 (advertiser, exhibitor)</p>  | <p><b>Pennington Seed</b><br/>                 Al Hubbard<br/>                 (advertiser)</p>                              |
| <p><b>Steele's Saje</b><br/>                 Kevin Steele<br/>                 (member, exhibitor)</p>  | <p><b>Tim Mitchell's Yule Stand System</b><br/>                 Craig Sorensen<br/>                 (exhibitor)</p>          |
| <p><b>Peak Seasons \ Veldsma &amp; Sons</b><br/>                 Mark &amp; Stephanie Clifford<br/>                 (advertiser, exhibitor)</p>             | <p><b>Swihart Sales Company</b><br/>                 Roger Swihart<br/>                 (advertiser)</p>                     |

## **Presenters**

### **Gray Anderson**

Grant Christmas Tree Farm & Syrup Mill  
716 Whitaker Road, Grant, LA 70644 Allen Parish  
[www.GrantChristmasTreeFarm.com](http://www.GrantChristmasTreeFarm.com), (337) 789-3072, [GrayAnderson88@Yahoo.com](mailto:GrayAnderson88@Yahoo.com)

**Heyward Baker**, retired program administrator, USDA, RMA - Crop Insurance Program  
517 Singleton Avenue, Kingstree, SC 29556  
(843) 356-0670, [heywardbaker@yahoo.com](mailto:heywardbaker@yahoo.com)

**Ashley Crane**, Executive Director  
Greater Valley Area Chamber of Commerce  
P.O. Box 205, Lanett, AL 36863  
[www.GreaterValleyArea.com](http://www.GreaterValleyArea.com), (334) 642-1411, [ACrane@GreaterValleyArea.com](mailto:ACrane@GreaterValleyArea.com)

**Dr. John Frampton**, Professor / Christmas Tree Geneticist  
North Carolina State University, Department of Forestry & Environmental Resources  
Jordan Hall Addition 3219, Raleigh, NC 27695  
[www.cnr.ncsu.edu](http://www.cnr.ncsu.edu), (919) 515-7580, [John\\_Frampton@ncsu.edu](mailto:John_Frampton@ncsu.edu)

**Matthew Gay**, President GCTA  
Gay's Christmas Tree Farm  
2335 Tobacco Road, Augusta, GA 30906 Richmond County  
[www.GaysChristmasTreeFarm.Gacta.com](http://www.GaysChristmasTreeFarm.Gacta.com), (706) 798-3731

**Clarke Gernon**  
Shady Pond Tree Farm  
37226 Pine Street Extension, Pearl River, LA 70452 St. Tammany Parish  
[www.ShadyPondTreeFarm.net](http://www.ShadyPondTreeFarm.net), (985) 863-5569, [SPTF@CGernon.com](mailto:SPTF@CGernon.com)

**Ray Gilbert**, President SCTA  
Gilbert Christmas Tree Farm  
1230 County Road 296, Lanett, AL 36863 Chambers County  
[www.GilbertTreeFarm.com](http://www.GilbertTreeFarm.com), (706) 585-5306, [RayGilbert@Mindspring.com](mailto:RayGilbert@Mindspring.com)

**Marsha Gray**, Industry Communication & Program Director  
Christmas Tree Promotion Board  
PO Box 3669, Littleton, CO 80161  
[www.ChristmasTreePromotionBoard.org](http://www.ChristmasTreePromotionBoard.org), (800) 985-0773, [Marsha@ChristmasTreePromotionBoard.org](mailto:Marsha@ChristmasTreePromotionBoard.org)

**Greg Smith**, Past President GCTA 2013/2014 & Georgia Tree for Troops Coordinator  
7 G's Farm  
2331 Old Kings Bridge Road, Nicholson, GA 30565  
[www.7GsFarm.WordPress.com](http://www.7GsFarm.WordPress.com), (706) 202-8936, [Greg@7GsFarm.com](mailto:Greg@7GsFarm.com)

**Mark Tippins**, Attorney at Law  
Private practice specializing in estate planning and asset protection.  
118 North Ross Street #6, Auburn, AL 36830  
(334) 821-3670, [MTippins@BellSouth.net](mailto:MTippins@BellSouth.net)

**A.T. Wilson**  
USMC, Toys for Tots Foundation  
With Honor, LLC  
2700 Ivy Mill Drive, Buford, GA 30519  
[www.WithHonorLLC.org](http://www.WithHonorLLC.org), (770) 932-6031



**Jody Fuller** is a comic, speaker, writer, and soldier with three tours of duty in Iraq. He currently holds the rank of Major in the US Army Reserves. Jody is also a lifetime stutterer.

Growing up in Opelika, Alabama Jody had to overcome two things: poverty and stuttering. Enlisting in the Army after high school helped him overcome the poverty but the stuttering continues to pose unique challenges. After a 4 year stint as an Army medic, he returned home to attend college at Auburn University at Montgomery where he received a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration.

After 9/11, Jody returned to the Army by way of Officer Candidate School (OCS) at Fort Benning, Georgia. After OCS, he completed the Transportation Officer Basic Course at Ft. Eustis, VA, before being assigned to 2nd Infantry Division at Fort Lewis, Washington. In November 2003, he deployed to Iraq for a year with the 296th Brigade Support Battalion of the Army's First Stryker Brigade, where he served as the platoon leader of the third largest platoon in the United States Army. In 2006, Jody left active duty Army to join the Alabama National Guard and deployed to Iraq two additional times. As of 2016, Major Fuller continues to serve in the Army Reserves.

When not in uniform, Jody performs all over the U.S. for a wide range of groups, including non-profits, corporations and disability groups. He also performs for troops at home and abroad. To date, he has performed for U.S. military personnel in 15 countries and counting. As a writer, his column can be read in 10 newspapers. He's also been published 6 times in the popular Chicken Soup for the Soul series including: *A Lifetime of Stuttering: From Lemons to Lemonade: 101 Positive, Practical, and Powerful Stories about Making the Best of a Bad Situation*; *Embracing my Uniqueness: Think Positive for Kids: 101 Stories about Good Decisions, Self-Esteem, and Positive Thinking*; *Miracles in Uniform: Miracles Happen: 101 Inspirational Stories about Hope, Answered Prayers, and Divine Intervention*; and *Tough Love: The Power of Gratitude: 101 Stories about How Being Thankful Can Change Your Life*.

Jody is a member of two NSAs: the National Stuttering Association and the National Speakers Association. He lives in Opelika with his Ruby, his chocolate lab, and Abbey, his cat.

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

***Thank you!***

**Georgia Christmas Tree Association**

120 Cordele Road, Hawkinsville, Georgia 31036

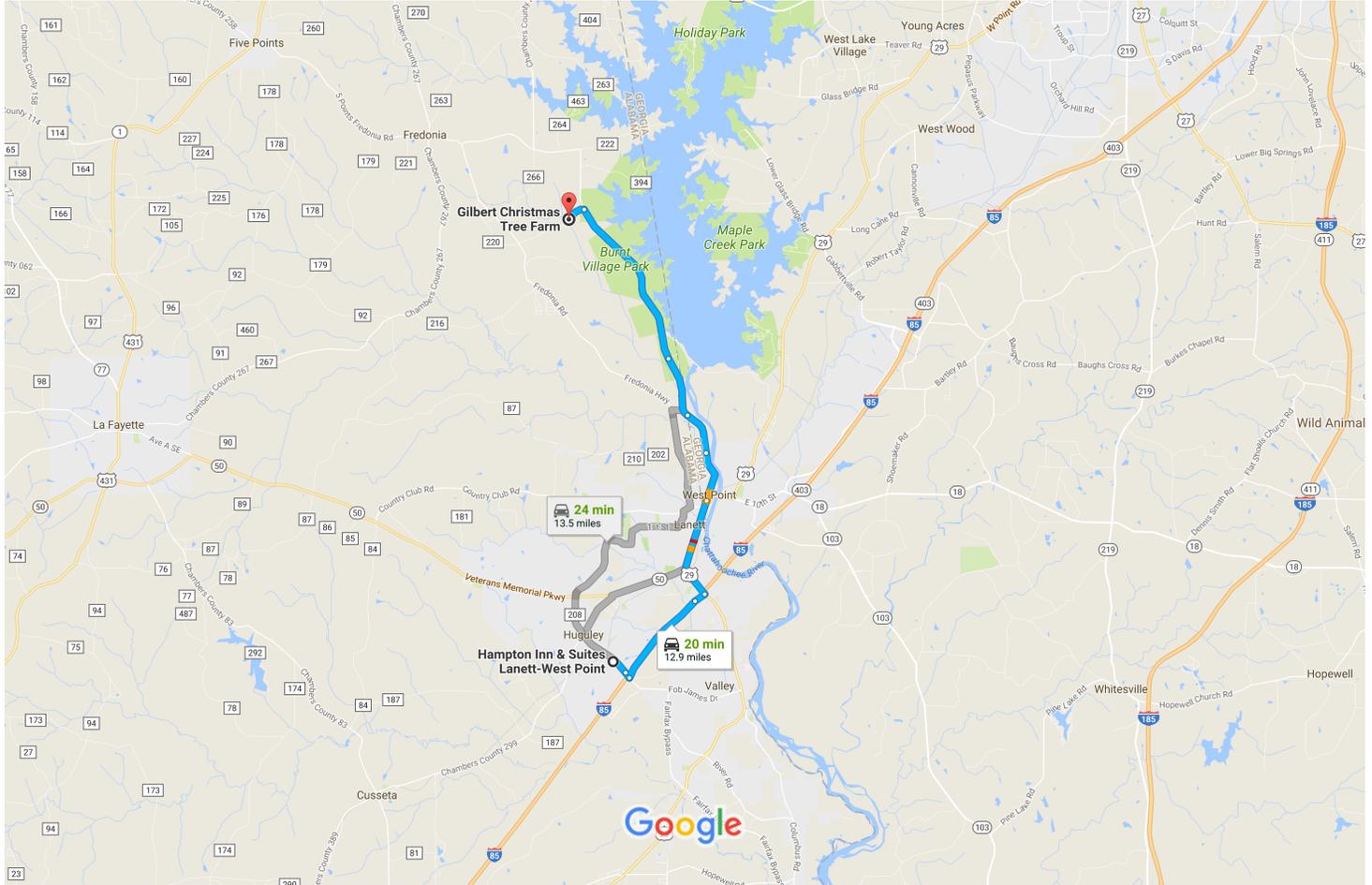
[www.GCTA.com](http://www.GCTA.com); Telephone (478) 9198733; Email [GCTA@Comsouth.net](mailto:GCTA@Comsouth.net)

**Southern Christmas Tree Association**

12263 Brookshire Avenue, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70815

[www.SouthernChristmasTrees.org](http://www.SouthernChristmasTrees.org); Telephone (225)505-6335; Email [SCTAES@Gmail.com](mailto:SCTAES@Gmail.com)

**IT'S CHRISTMAS. KEEP IT REAL.**



Map data ©2017 Google United States 2 mi

### Hampton Inn & Suites Lanett-West Point

4210 S Phillips Rd, Lanett, AL 36863

- ↑ 1. Head northeast toward S Phillips Rd 25 s (0.1 mi)

**Take I-85 N, US-29 N, Chambers County 212 and Stateline Rd to Chambers County 296** 19 min (12.3 mi)

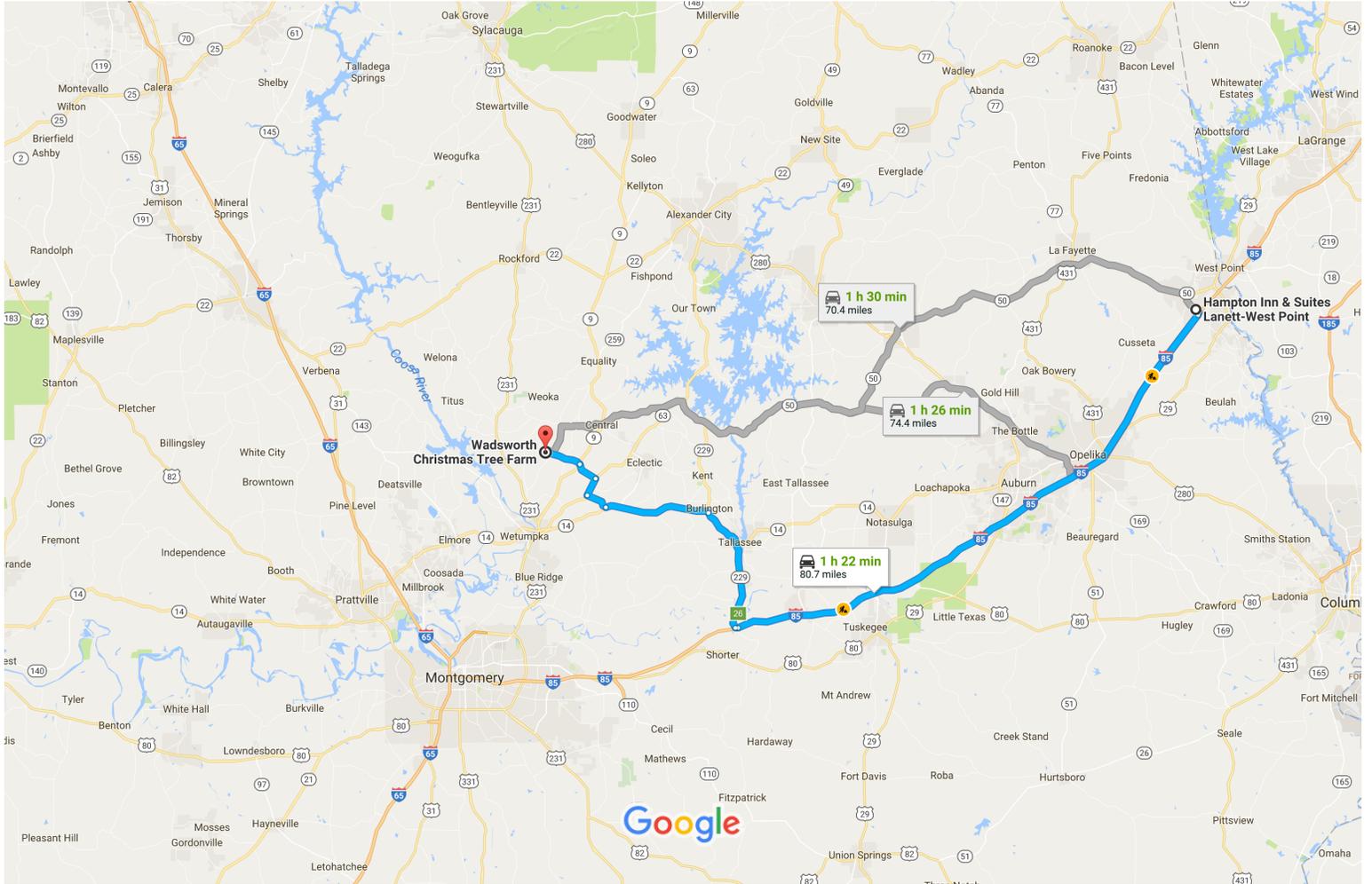
- ↗ 2. Turn right onto S Phillips Rd 0.3 mi
- ↑ 3. Continue onto Fob James Dr 0.1 mi
- ↖ 4. Use the left 2 lanes to turn left to merge onto I-85 N 2.2 mi
- ↘ 5. Take exit 79 for US-29 toward Lanett/Valley 0.2 mi
- ↑ 6. Use the left lane to keep left at the fork and continue toward US-29 N

- 
- 85 ft
- ↩ 7. Turn left onto US-29 N  
[i](#) Entering Georgia
- 
- ↑ 8. Continue straight onto 3rd Ave 2.2 mi
- 
- ↑ 9. Continue onto S State Line Rd 1.1 mi  
[i](#) Entering Alabama
- 
- ↑ 10. Continue onto Chambers County 212 1.0 mi
- 
- ↑ 11. Continue onto Stateline Rd 1.3 mi
- 
- ↑ 12. Continue onto Stateline Rd 3.8 mi
- 
- ↩ 12. Turn left onto Chambers County 296  
[i](#) Destination will be on the right
- 
- 2 min (0.4 mi)

## Gilbert Christmas Tree Farm

1230 Chambers County Road 296, 2118 County Road 266, Lanett, AL 36863

These directions are for planning purposes only. You may find that construction projects, traffic, weather, or other events may cause conditions to differ from the map results, and you should plan your route accordingly. You must obey all signs or notices regarding your route.



Map data ©2017 Google United States 5 mi

### Hampton Inn & Suites Lanett-West Point

4210 S Phillips Rd, Lanett, AL 36863

#### Get on I-85 S

- ↑ 1. Head northeast toward S Phillips Rd 2 min (0.7 mi)

---

- ↘ 2. Turn right onto S Phillips Rd 0.1 mi

---

- ↗ 3. Turn right to merge onto I-85 S 0.3 mi

---

- ↗ 3. Turn right to merge onto I-85 S 0.3 mi

#### Follow I-85 S to AL-229 N in Macon County. Take exit 26 from I-85 S

- ↗ 4. Merge onto I-85 S 42 min (50.7 mi)

---

 5. Take exit 26 for AL-229 N toward Tallassee 50.4 mi

---

0.2 mi

**Continue on AL-229 N. Take AL-14 W to Dexter Rd in Elmore County**

---

39 min (29.3 mi)

 6. Turn right onto AL-229 N (signs for Tallassee/E V Smith Ctr.)

---

11.3 mi

 7. Continue onto AL-14 W/Gilmer Ave

 Continue to follow AL-14 W

---

9.2 mi

 8. Turn right onto Haynes Rd

---

2.1 mi

 9. Turn right onto AL-170 E

---

1.6 mi

 10. Turn left onto Pierce Chapel Rd

---

2.0 mi

 11. Continue onto Dexter Rd

---

3.1 mi

## Wadsworth Christmas Tree Farm

3071 Dexter Rd, Wetumpka, AL 36092

These directions are for planning purposes only. You may find that construction projects, traffic, weather, or other events may cause conditions to differ from the map results, and you should plan your route accordingly. You must obey all signs or notices regarding your route.

## **SCTA Annual Tree Contest Rules**

The Southern Christmas Tree Association (SCTA) shall hold a tree contest at its annual meeting for the purpose of promoting and rewarding excellence in the production of Christmas trees in the region and establishing eligibility of the winners for the National Christmas Tree Association's (NCTA) National Christmas Tree Contest.

### **Eligibility of Entrants**

- All current SCTA members are eligible to enter a tree in the contest.
- Members may enter more than one tree in the contest but only one tree per species.
- Each tree entered must be set up in the established display area not later than the official Saturday start time of the annual meeting.

### **Requirements of Entries**

- All classes of commercially grown Christmas trees are eligible for entry in the contest, including both cut trees and container-grown trees. There will be no separate classes or categories of trees.
- Eligible trees must be no less than 6 feet in height and no more than 8 feet in height measured from the bottom of the handle to the tip of the leader.
- In the case of container trees, it will be measured from the bottom of the pot to the top of the leader. The container can be any size or shape except that the diameter of the top of pot cannot exceed 24 inches.
- Entries cannot be artificially colored or flocked.
- Entries cannot have branches or limbs that are wired, tied, or inserted in any fashion within the tree.
- Any tree failing to meet these requirements will be declared ineligible by the contest chairperson.

### **Entry and Balloting Procedures**

- Members who enter a tree in the contest will notify the contest chairperson of their entry prior to the entry deadline (official Saturday start time of the annual meeting).
- The president of SCTA will appoint a three-person contest committee with a chairperson to supervise the contest procedures, balloting, and announcement of awards.
- The chairperson will attach a lettered tag to each entry and maintain a log of each entry detailing the entrant and the assigned number of his/her tree.
- The executive secretary will prepare ballots prior to the beginning of the meeting and include them in the registration packet.
- Balloting for the tree contest must conclude not later than start time of the general business meeting. Ballots will be collected by the contest chairperson and counted by the three-person contest committee.

### **Contest Awards and Recognitions**

- A first, second, and third place award will be presented to the entries from each state that received the most votes.
- A contest Grand Champion and Reserve Champion will also be awarded to the two entrants receiving the most votes from among the winners from the three states.
- The Grand Champion and Reserve Champion will have the honor of representing the SCTA at the national contest sponsored by NCTA during the following year's annual NCTA contest.



# TREE CONTEST

**GUIDELINES—CHRISTMAS TREE JUDGING**  
*(Included for reference only. Please make every effort to judge quality in each category below.)*

	Percentage
<b>FOLIAGE: (50%)</b>	
Presence of insects and/or diseases	10%
Density (appropriate for species)	10%
Uniformity or balance (gaps, crown thinness, internal structure, weak branches or whorls)	10%
Quality of cultural work (long branches, multiple tops)	10%
Cleanliness	10%
<b>HANDLE: (10%)</b>	
Length (min. = 6"; max. = 12")	
Well trimmed	10%
<b>TAPER: (10%)</b>	
Pines 40-90%, Others 40-70%	10%
<b>TOP: (10%)</b>	
Proper length, proportional to taper, full top, good needle coverage	10%
<b>MARKETABILITY: (20%)</b>	
Consumer acceptance (first impression, color, taper, etc.)	10%
Number of good faces (USDA Standards)	10%

## INSTRUCTIONS:

Using NCTA's guidelines for contest tree judging (shown at left), examine each tree for the indicated characteristics.

Rank each tree according to its overall quality and marketability. Place the letter of the tree next to its ranking.

The tree that receives the most #1 votes will be our GRAND CHAMPION, regardless of its state of origin. The next tree receiving the most #1 votes will receive 1ST PLACE from its respective state (AL, LA, or MS). This process will continue until all PLACES are filled.

<u>RANK</u>	<u>TREE LETTER</u>
#1	_____
#2	_____
#3	_____
#4	_____
#5	_____
#6	_____
#7	_____
#8	_____
#9	_____
#10	_____
#11	_____
#12	_____
#13	_____
#14	_____