

**Christmas Tree Grower Workshop Agenda** (20260331)

**The Southern Christmas Tree Association**

**Host: Curry Farms, Rayville, Louisiana**

**Saturday April 25, 2026**

**07:30 AM – 08:30 AM**

Gate Open, Check-In with the Executive Secretary, Coffee & Fellowship

*SCTA's workshop protocol: the agenda is prepared for generalities. There is too much to write down and a world of subjects to cover. As with all SCTA functions, discussions will develop on any number of topics. Today's speaker-members have years of experience farming and marketing Southern Christmas trees. Do not be shy with questions or comments, especially the dumb ones, or forever hold your peace. Understand, the speakers continue to learn as well. SCTA is known for networking, openness and building relationships with fellow grower members. You are SCTA's strength. If you are not a member, join. Build upon SCTA. Thank you.*

**08:30 AM ~ 08:45 AM**

*Kevin Steele, Steele's Christmas Tree Farm, SCTA President*

Opening Prayer, Pledge of Allegiance to the USA, Welcome

Identify: officers & directors, those with no-trees-in-ground-yet, trees-in-ground-but-have-not-yet-sold, out-of-state neighbors

*Bentley Curry, Curry Farms, Host, Ag Consultant, SCTA NCTA Representative*

Welcome, Workshop Overview

**08:45 AM ~ 09:45 AM**

Trailer Ride to Field for Observations & Discussions

**09:45 AM ~ 12:00 PM**

Presentations & Discussion in the Barn / Field

*Gray Anderson, Grant Farms, SCTA Louisiana Director,*

Tree Varieties & Management Practices

*Bentley Curry, Curry Farms, Host, Ag Consultant, SCTA NCTA Representative*

Management of Competition, Pests & Diseases with Fungicides, Herbicides, Pesticides

*Kevin Steele, Steele's Christmas Tree Farm & SAJE*

Tree Shearing, When & How to Shear, Various Equipment Available

**12:00 PM ~ 01:00 PM**

Lunch following Blessing

**01:00 PM ~ 03:00 PM**

Continued Presentations at the Barn or in the Field

Closing Remarks Bentley Curry & Kevin Steele

*2026 Annual Meeting - 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: September 18-20, Lazy Acres Agritainment, Chunky, Mississippi*

## Leadership Contact Information

Gray Anderson, Grant Farms, SCTA Louisiana Director  
716 Whitaker Road, Grant, LA 70644, Allen Parish  
[www.GrantChristmasTreeFarm.com](http://www.GrantChristmasTreeFarm.com); [GrantFarms1983@GMail.com](mailto:GrantFarms1983@GMail.com); 337.789.3072

Michael Buchart, Executive Secretary, Southern Christmas Tree Association  
5444 Lost Oak Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70817  
[www.SouthernChristmasTreeS.org](http://www.SouthernChristmasTreeS.org); [SCTAES@gmail.com](mailto:SCTAES@gmail.com); 225.505.6335

Bentley Curry, Curry Farms, Host, Ag Consultant, SCTA NCTA Representative  
548 Robinson Drive, Rayville, LA 71269, Richland Parish  
[www.CurryFarms.net](http://www.CurryFarms.net); [BentleyCurry@AOL.com](mailto:BentleyCurry@AOL.com); 318.366.3575

Kevin Steele, Steele's Christmas Tree Farm & SAJE  
25184 Blitzens Way, Angie, LA 70426, Washington Parish  
[www.SteelesChristmasTreeFarm.com](http://www.SteelesChristmasTreeFarm.com); [SheridanRN@Yahoo.com](mailto:SheridanRN@Yahoo.com); 985.966.1041

Not present due to a conflict but a valuable resource:

Dr. Valerie West, Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service, SCTA Extension Director  
204 Burt Boulevard, Benton, LA 71006  
[www.LSUAgCenter.com](http://www.LSUAgCenter.com); [VWest@AgCenter.LSU.edu](mailto:VWest@AgCenter.LSU.edu); 318.965.2326

*SCTA is constantly exploring options and opportunities. Got any ideas? If so, communicate with officers, directors or the executive secretary.*

*SCTA welcomes constructive criticism.*

*Get involved. SCTA is an organization where "Members Help Members" become friends while providing experiences lasting a lifetime.*

*SCTA activities and officers and state directors are listed at [www.SouthernChristmasTreeS.org](http://www.SouthernChristmasTreeS.org).*

*If you engage in social media, members are encouraged to join SCTA's private Facebook group "Members Only SCTA". Use exact spelling, there are other SCTA organizations.*

*Please pick up and tidy your area so Bentley can get back to work on the million tasks Sandy assigned that he was supposed to have accomplished by today.*

*Thank you and travel safe!*