

2022 SCTA Annual Meeting Program

Covington, Louisiana

Tiger Branch Christmas Trees

Country Pines Christmas Tree Farm

Courtyard by Marriott

Friday, August 12

Tiger Branch Christmas Trees

01:00 PM - 05:00 PM **Open Farm Visit - An Informal Walk-Around**

Brent & Mitzi Dufrene, Tiger Branch Christmas Trees

18075 Tiger Branch Road, Covington, LA 70435, St. Tammany Parish

Telephone: (504) 236-4271, Email: TigerBranchTrees@AOL.com

Facebook: Tiger Branch Christmas Trees

Heads-up: There may be active parish bridge / road construction en route. Pay attention to your navigator. Please depart by 5:00 PM so the hosts can prepare for following functions. Thank you!

Courtyard by Marriott – Covington

101 North Park Boulevard, Covington, LA 70433

Desk: (985) 871-0244, www.Marriott.com/msycv

Heads-up: Heavy traffic congestion area. After exiting north of I-12 (Exit 63/B, US-190W / Covington) on to US Highway 190 West, get in the left lane for a U-turn at the fourth traffic signal. The U-turn is two lanes. You must be in the right lane because you will take the first immediate right on to Northpark Boulevard. The Courtyard will be on your left. If you miss the turn, take the second right.

03:00 PM - 09:00 PM **Registration** (Courtyard Lobby or Oak & Cypress Rooms)

St. Tammany Parish Tourist & Convention Commission staff will be present.

05:00 PM - 10:00 PM **Exhibitor, Tree & Wreath Competition Set Up** (Oak & Cypress Room area)

Exhibitors see Michael Buchart, tree entrants Michael Duncan, wreath entrants Brittany Anderson. ID markers will be placed on tables for exhibitors and floor markers for tree and wreath (easels) placement.

05:30 PM - 07:00 PM **Board Dinner with Family & Guests**

Don's Seafood Restaurant

126 Lake Drive, Covington, LA 70433

Telephone: (985) 327-7111, www.DonsSeafoodOnLine.com/covington

Non-board members are welcome to eat at Don's. Please, first allow seating of the board and their families in the designated area (side room). Don's is located next door, a short walk or vehicle hop south of the Courtyard. Come hungry for there is delicious food to be served by energetic and accommodating staff.

07:30 PM - 08:30 PM **SCTA Board Meeting** (Courtyard, Magnolia Room)

Saturday, August 13

Courtyard by Marriott - Covington

07:30 AM - 08:30 AM **Registration** (Oak & Cypress Rooms)

The Courtyard has a breakfast bar located in the lobby that is not included in the meeting registration. There are off-site restaurants located nearby. St. Tammany Parish Tourist & Convention Commission staff will be on hand for assistance.

08:30 AM - 09:00 AM **Opening Prayer**

Brother Harold Gaddy, Pastor, [Bible Baptist Church](#), Franklinton, Louisiana

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America

Colonel (Retired) Larry J. Massey, United States Army Reserve

[Rosebud Christmas Trees](#), Walnut Grove, Mississippi

Presidential Welcome

Steve Mannhard, [Fish River Trees](#), Summerdale, Alabama

Announcements, comments, guest, new member & exhibitor introductions, update on new disaster program changes, etc.

09:00 AM - 09:30 AM **Research Projects**

Moderator: Steve Mannhard, [Fish River Trees](#), Summerdale, Alabama

Dr. Jeremy Pickens, [Auburn University](#): *Weed Control Continued: A Case Study*

Dr. Courtney Siegert, [Mississippi State University](#): general updates

Dr. Jeff Wilson, [Mississippi State University](#): *Native Christmas Tree Production in North Mississippi*. Dr. Wilson also presented during the MSU greenery workshops.

09:30 AM - 10:30 AM **Member-to-Member Sharing Concurrent Session #1A** (Oak & Cypress Rooms):
Drip Systems - Irrigation, Fertigation & Chemigation

Moderator: Kevin Steele

[Steele's Christmas Tree Farm](#) & [Steele's Saje Shearing Machine](#), Angie, Louisiana

Tre' Haydel, [Irrigation-Mart, Inc.](#), Baton Rouge, Louisiana Region,

Supported by:

Gray Anderson, [Grant Farms](#), Grant, Louisiana (*water irrigator*)

Alfred Froberg, Jr., [Froberg's Farm](#), Alvin, Texas (*using all systems*)

Nathan VanWinterswyk, Flat River Farms, Bossier City, Louisiana (*installing*)

09:30 AM - 10:30 AM **Member-to-Member Sharing Concurrent Session #1B** (Bayou Room):
Value-Added Operations

Moderator: Mollie Anderson, [Grant Farms](#), Grant, Louisiana

Supported by:

Sandy Curry, [Curry Farms](#), Rayville, Louisiana

Robin Hughes, [Hughes Christmas Tree Farm](#), Benton, Louisiana

Cathy May, [Lazy Acres Agritainment](#), Chunky, Mississippi

Linda Worthey, [Worthey Tree Farm](#), Amory, Mississippi

10:30 AM - 11:00 AM **Break with Vendors, Tree & Wreath Judging**

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM **Social Media Advertising & Promotion, Session #2** (Oak & Cypress Rooms)

Moderator: Kevin Steele

[Steele's Christmas Tree Farm](#) & [Steele's Saje Shearing Machine](#), Angie, Louisiana

Michael May & Mikayla Carey, [Lazy Acres Agritainment](#), Chunky, Mississippi

Facebook: "Lazy Acres Farm Fun"

Supported by:

Alfred Froberg, Jr., [Froberg's Farm](#), Alvin, Texas

Facebook: "Froberg Fruit and Vegetable Farm / Greak's Smokehouse, Alvin, Texas"

12:00 PM - 01:30 PM **Lunch Buffet** (Oak & Cypress Rooms)

01:30 PM - 02:30 PM **Member-to-Member Sharing Concurrent Session #3A** (Oak & Cypress Rooms):
Production Issues, continued

Moderator: Steve Mannhard, [Fish River Trees](#), Summerdale, Alabama

Supported by:

Gray Anderson, [Grant Farms](#), Grant, Louisiana

Bentley Curry, [Curry Farms](#), Rayville, Louisiana

Larry Massey, [Rosebud Christmas Trees](#), Walnut Grove, Mississippi

Kevin Steele, [Steele's Christmas Tree Farm](#) & [Steele's Saje Shearing Machine](#), Angie, Louisiana

01:30 PM - 02:30 PM **Member-to-Member Sharing Concurrent Session #3B** (Bayou Room):
Value-Added Operations, continued

Moderator: Mollie Anderson, [Grant Farms](#), Grant, Louisiana

Supported by:

Sandy Curry, [Curry Farms](#), Rayville, Louisiana

Robin Hughes, [Hughes Christmas Tree Farm](#), Benton, Louisiana

Cathy May, [Lazy Acres Agritainment](#), Chunky, Mississippi

Linda Worthey, [Worthey Tree Farm](#), Amory, Mississippi

02:30 PM - 03:00 PM **Break with Vendors, Tree & Wreath Judging**

03:00 PM – 04:00 PM **Member-to-Member Sharing Concurrent Session #4A** (Oak & Cypress Rooms):
Production Issues, continued

Moderator: Steve Mannhard, [Fish River Trees](#), Summerdale, Alabama

Supported by:

Gray Anderson, [Grant Farms](#), Grant, Louisiana

Bentley Curry, [Curry Farms](#), Rayville, Louisiana

Larry Massey, [Rosebud Christmas Trees](#), Walnut Grove, Mississippi

Kevin Steele, [Steele's Christmas Tree Farm](#) & [Steele's Saje Shearing Machine](#), Angie, Louisiana

3:00 PM – 04:00 PM **Member-to-Member Sharing Concurrent Session #4B** (Bayou Room):
Value-Added Operations, continued
Moderator: Mollie Anderson, [Grant Farms](#), Grant, Louisiana

Supported by:

Sandy Curry, [Curry Farms](#), Rayville, Louisiana

Robin Hughes, [Hughes Christmas Tree Farm](#), Benton, Louisiana

Cathy May, [Lazy Acres Agritainment](#), Chunky, Mississippi

Linda Worthey, [Worthey Tree Farm](#), Amory, Mississippi

04:00 PM – 04:15 PM **Business Meeting** (Oak & Cypress Rooms)

Upon completion of the business meeting, please vacate the area and help staff by leaving a clean place as they prepare for SCTA's functions. Thank you!

05:00 PM – 06:00 PM **Social Gathering**, Courtyard Lobby Bistro Bar (cash bar)

06:00 PM - 07:30 PM **Dinner Buffet** (Oak & Cypress Rooms)

Dr. Mike Strain, DVM, Commissioner

[Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry](#)

07:30 PM - 08:00 PM **Tree & Wreath Contest Winner Announcements: Steve Mannhard**

08:00 PM -09:30 PM **Auction: Bentley Curry & Michael May**

Sunday, August 14

Farm Tour - Country Pines Christmas Tree Farm, Hosts Neal & Jessica Sharp

08:00 AM - 09:00 AM **Coffee & Visit**

81332 Jim Sharp Road, Covington, LA 70435
Telephone: (985) 630-4547, Email: CountryPinesTreeFarm@gmail.com
Facebook: Country Pines Christmas Tree Farm

09:00 AM - 09:30 AM **Opening Prayer**

Bentley Curry, SCTA Member
Lay Speaker, [Crew Lake United Methodist Church](#)

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America

Sargent (Honorably Discharged) W.T. "Tim" Parker, Force Recon & Combat
Military Police, U.S. Marine Corps & U.S. Army
[Parker Acres Farm](#), Bay Minette, Alabama

Welcome

President Steve Mannhard
Hosts Neal & Jessica Sharp

09:30 AM - 12:00 PM **Farm Operations, Tour & Demonstrations**

Neal Sharp

Presentation, under the tent and shades of the oaks, of farm history, plans, operations, management, employee management & expectations, customer handling, payment methods, handling tips, sales, securing customer trees to vehicles, marketing, photographers, becoming a more efficient part-time grower, farm & product expansion and etc.

Walking tour & demonstrations to include farm layout, field layout ideas, tree spacing, planting methods & equipment, to remove or not remove planting soil around roots before planting, trimmers, shearing options, chemical application & equipment, nursery, preparing & transplanting liners to gallon pots, larger tree (>8'), various types of equipment / tractors available and etc.

12:00 PM - 01:00 PM **Catered Lunch under the Tent and Shades of the Oaks**

01:00 PM **Tree Down; The End**

Depart homeward, travel safe, work carefully and return next year for fellowship in Mississippi. Thank you!

The 2023 annual meeting will be in Mississippi and 2024 Alabama returning to Louisiana 2025. If you would like to consider offering your place as an open farm visit, Sunday farm tour, field day / workshop location or if you have new ideas, suggestions and criticisms, please communicate with the executive secretary, president or any officer / director. SCTA officers and directors are always looking forward while striving to improve the association. SCTA does not want to hear "We do not get anything from the association." or "What is the use? There is the Internet." or whatever. If so, SCTA wants to know your reasons. SCTA has a great team and is always looking for members to step up to the plate.