

SCTA Annual Meeting Topic / Question Sheet (20240907)

This sheet has been provided as an opportunity to enter topics, questions and / or questions you would like to offer for consideration during our member sharing sessions. What is important for you to learn?

Please submit to the program chair, executive secretary or representatives at the registration desk as soon as possible. The program chair will organize contributions into the appropriate sharing session or Sunday farm tour.

Topic (s) / Question (s) / Concern(s), Etcetera:

SCTA Annual Tree Contest Rules

(20210216)

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 (NCTA) National Christmas Tree Contest.

Eligibility of Entrants

- All current, voting, grower members of SCTA in the states of Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi 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.
- *Added NCTA Rule:* entrants must be members in good standing of the NCTA at the time of the affiliated / state contest to be eligible to enter the NCTA contest.

Requirements of Entries

- All classes of commercially grown Christmas trees grown on the member farm 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 Recognition

- 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
FOLIAGE: (50%)	
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%
HANDLE: (10%)	
Length (min. = 6"; max. = 12")	
Well trimmed	10%
TAPER: (10%)	
Pines 40-90%, Others 40-70%	10%
TOP: (10%)	
Proper length, proportional to taper, full top, good needle coverage	10%
MARKETABILITY: (20%)	
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	_____



Wreath Contest Rules

By action of the SCTA Board of Directors, the following rules will govern the operation of the wreath contest (established August 2019).

The SCTA shall hold a fresh wreath contest at its annual meeting for the purpose of promoting excellence in the growth and production of real Christmas trees and production of fresh wreaths in our region.

ELIGIBILITY OF ENTRANTS

- All current SCTA members are eligible to enter a wreath in the contest.
- Members may enter only one wreath per farm entity.
- Each wreath entered must be presented to the display area not later than the official Saturday start time of the annual meeting.

REQUIREMENTS OF ENTRIES

- Only classes of locally and regionally grown Christmas tree greens/foilage may be used for the wreath.
- All wreaths must be made on a 12 inch ring.
- No artificial colorants may be used on the wreath.
- No decorations may be placed on the wreath.
- The use of clear products for moisture retention and needle hold is allowed.

ENTRY AND BALLOTING PROCEDURES

- Members who enter a wreath 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 the 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 letter of his/her wreath.
- The executive secretary will prepare ballots prior to the beginning of the meeting and include them in the registration packet.
- Balloting for the wreath contest must conclude not later than start time of the general business session. Ballots will be collected by the contest chairperson and counted by the three-person contest committee.

CONTEST AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

- An overall first, second, and third place award will be presented to the entrants that receive the most votes.

SCTA Wreath Contest Score Card

Please score each category for each wreath. Totals will be calculated for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. The wreath that receives the highest total number of points will be our GRAND CHAMPION, regardless of its state of origin. The next wreath receiving the most points will receive 1ST PLACE from its respective state (AL, LA, or MS). This process will continue until all awards are received.

Wreath Number	Foliage Condition 1-10 pts	Workmanship 1-10 pts	Originality/ Creativity 1-10 pts	Overall Appearance 1-10 pts	Total Points
EXAMPLE	8	8	8	7	31
#1					
#2					
#3					
#4					
#5					
#6					
#7					
#8					
#9					
#10					
#11					
#12					
#13					
#14					
#15					
#16					



www.SouthernChristmasTreeS.org

2024 Annual Meeting
of the
Southern Christmas Tree Association
September 13, 14 & 15

Frazier Christmas Tree Farm

Sunday Farm Tour Hosts

559 Frazier Road, Albertville, Alabama 35950

Facebook: Frazier Farms; Frazier559@charter.net; (256) 293-6062

Moody Farms

Friday Open Farm Visit

1489 Valley Road, Oneonta, Alabama 35121

Facebook: Moody Farms; MoodyFarms1489@gmail.com; (205) 559-2814

Springfield Christmas Tree Farm

Friday Open Farm Visit

595 Mt. Vernon Drive, Boaz, Alabama 35957

Facebook: Springfield Christmas Tree Farm; DSpring1953@gmail.com; (256) 558-4123

Lake Guntersville State Park, Lodge & Conference Center

1155 Lodge Drive, Guntersville, Alabama 35976

www.AlaPark.com; (256) 571-5440

*The 19th meeting of the Southern Christmas Tree Association
and the 48th since the founding of the
Alabama Christmas Tree Growers Association
and
Louisiana-Mississippi Christmas Tree Growers Association!*





www.SouthernChristmasTreeS.org

Kevin Steele, President 2024 / 2025
Steele's Christmas Tree Farm Trees / SAJE Shearing Machine
56459 Dollar Road, Angie, Louisiana 70426
www.SteelesChristmasTreeFarm.com & www.SteelesSAJE.com
(985) 966-1041, SheridanRN@Yahoo.com

September 14, 2024

Greetings SCTA members, visitors and exhibitors.

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2024 annual meeting of The Southern Christmas Tree Association at The Lake Guntersville State Park, Lodge & Conference Center in Alabama. Unfortunately, Beverly and I are unable to attend with you. I am comforted knowing that a great program is ahead.

I hope everybody has a good time and you take away a great deal of knowledge to apply on the farm. There is a great line-up of knowledgeable speakers.

We are a very fortunate association to have three of the finest universities and their agricultural departments supporting our endeavor. Auburn University, Louisiana State University and Mississippi State University continue to be successful securing grants and applying much needed research funding. Leading these efforts are Drs. Jeremy Pickens, Valerie West and Joshua Granger each of whom have a sincere desire to better Southern Christmas tree farming. Every member of this association is appreciative of Jeremy, Valerie and Josh. Thank you.

While I prepared this letter, we were facing a category one hurricane zeroing in on the coast refocusing everyone's day. Even the executive secretary for fear of electrical loss in Baton Rouge sent all the conference literature for print to Birmingham. I pray now that when those of you in Hurricane Francine's path read this letter you will be safe and your farm unscathed. We know what can happen. Several of us have suffered serious storm damage. Let us all be ready to help when and where help is needed.

Sincerely,

Kevin Steele, President 2024/2025

Proud member of the National Christmas Tree Association (www.christmastree.org)





www.SouthernChristmasTrees.org

Kevin Steele, President 2024 / 2025
Steele's Christmas Tree Farm Trees / SAJE Shearing Machine
56459 Dollar Road, Angie, Louisiana 70426
www.SteelesChristmasTreeFarm.com & www.SteelesSAJE.com
(985) 966-1041, SheridanRN@Yahoo.com

September 14, 2024

Dear Friends,

Welcome! Susan and I are excited to host the Sunday Farm Tour of The Southern Christmas Tree Association's 2024 annual meeting.

We started our Christmas tree farm in 2010 and sold our first trees in 2014. Susan and I purchased the farm in 1978 and have since added acreage as opportunities became available. Now, we have approximately 100 acres where we also run a calf operation and cut and bale hay. It is an understatement to say feeding cows and calves keeps us busy year-round.

Because of our love for the birth of Jesus Christ, Susan and I wanted to enhance the joy of Christmas with a tree farm for our neighbors and community.

When we planted in 2010, we assembled a synchronized 25-minute light and music show for the Christmas Season. People pull up on the side of the road, turn on the radio and enjoy. The show has become a popular attraction.

2022 we decided to open a gift shop that fronts the road. The shop, named Mistletoe Place, is located conveniently for visitors where we carry quality gift items, offer complimentary hot chocolate, and, best of all, a visit with Santa Clause.

We hope you enjoy your visit to Frazier Christmas Tree Farm; we will.

Merry CHRISTmas,

Benny & Susan Frazier

Frazier Christmas Tree Farm

559 Frazier Road, Albertville, AL 35950

256.293.6062; Frazier559@charter.net; Facebook: Frazier Farms

Proud member of the National Christmas Tree Association (www.christmastree.org)



IT'S CHRISTMAS. KEEP IT REAL.

20240715

**Southern Christmas Tree Association
2024 Annual Meeting Program
September 13, 14 & 15
Guntersville, Alabama**

Friday Open Farm Visit

Moody Farms

1489 Valley Road, Oneonta, AL 35121
205.559.2814; MoodyFarms1489@gmail.com
Facebook: Moody Farms

Friday Open Farm Visit

Springfield Christmas Tree Farm

595 Mt. Vernon Drive, Boaz, AL 35957
256.558.4123; DSpring1953@gmail.com
Facebook: Springfield Christmas Tree Farm

**Lake Guntersville State Park,
Lodge & Conference Center**

1155 Lodge Drive, Guntersville, AL 35976
256.571.5440; www.AlaPark.com

Sunday Farm Tour

Frazier Christmas Tree Farm

559 Frazier Road, Albertville, AL 35950
256.293.6062; Frazier559@charter.net
Facebook: Frazier Farms

Friday, September 13

10:30 AM - 02:30 PM

Open-Farm Visit 1

Moody Farms, Lynn & Teresa Moody and David & Rachel Moody

Moody Farms planted their first Christmas trees in 2014 growing Virginia pine, Leyland cypress and Murray X on their 6-acre farm. For the second year, the Moodys will host their popular corn maize. The family has farmed agricultural products on this land for at least one hundred years. The property has welcoming street appeal where it is evident the whole family literally digs in.

Moody Farms is located 28 miles southwest of Springfield Christmas Tree Farm and 40 miles southwest of the Lake Guntersville State Park, Lodge & Conference Center.

Open-farm visits are informal, non-structured events providing opportunities to look around, ask questions, share ideas, meet other growers and fellowship.



GRANT FARMS

EST. 1983

Planting Stock, www.GrantFarmsFun.com

12:30 PM - 04:30 PM

**Open-Farm Visit 2
Springfield Christmas Tree Farm, Dana & Terri Springfield**

Dana and Terri have been in the choose and cut Christmas tree business since they planted their first trees in 1979. The farmed land has been in their extended family for at least 75 years with each member increasing acreage. They have grown many species of trees including white pine and Norway spruce. When Teri and Dana speak, listen. Look closely at the pulpwood-size timber on their property. Those trees are a mixture of Christmas species that grew substantially when Dana took a break from trimming. You think you have had a hard day? Dana is the epitome of strength and determination when most people would have quit. Their beautiful entrance invites you to an enchanted place.

Springfield Christmas Tree Farm is 18 miles south of the Lake Guntersville State Park, Lodge & Conference Center approximately mid-way between the lodge and Moody Farms.

Open-farm visits are informal, non-structured events providing opportunities to look around, ask questions, share ideas, meet other growers and fellowship.

04:00 PM

**Room Check-In Begins
Lake Guntersville State Park, Lodge & Conference Center**

05:30 PM - 06:30 PM

**SCTA Board Meeting
Lake Guntersville State Park, Lodge & Conference Center - Boardroom**

05:00 PM - 07:30 PM

**Registration
Lake Guntersville State Park, Lodge & Conference Center - Lobby**

See Brenda & Tim Parker of Hillside Christmas Trees or the executive secretary Michael Buchart. Registration will continue Saturday morning in the Grandview Ballroom Foyer. Tim and Brenda are the definition of the good folks of SCTA. They recently sold their Parker Acres Farm (3rd year selling trees) and relocated to north Alabama where they started all over (sort of) again. They continued their membership even when they were in transition and nowhere near putting trees in the ground.

Nationally Recognized Insurance Program Designed for the Christmas Tree Industry

Tree Farms • Choose & Cut • Retail Lots

Contact Us Today For Your Insurance, Risk Management, or Safety Needs

All Insurance Lines Available

800.469.7844 or 503.226.1422 or christmas@keelson.com

707 SW Washington • Suite 625 • Portland, OR 97205

FAX: 503.226.2488

Visit Our Web Site: www.keelson.com

KEELSON PARTNERS



06:30 PM - 08:00 PM

Board Dinner

Pinecrest Restaurant Seafood Buffet (dinner hours 4:00 PM - 9:00 PM)

The Pinecrest Restaurant is known regionally for its Friday night seafood buffet. All registrants are encouraged to enjoy the popular seafood buffet. Please allow board members and their families to seat first in the board's designated area. Thank you.

Both the Pinecrest Restaurant and the adjoining Hickory Lounge share a large patio that overlook Lake Gunter'sville. It is a beautiful venue to eat, enjoy the scenery and fellowship. The executive secretary has been assured the Hickory Lounge is well stocked with systemic nutrients. Newcomers do not be bashful, gather with your fellow SCTA'ers.

06:00 PM - 09:00 PM

Exhibitor, Auction Item, Tree & Wreath Competition Set-Up Grandview Conference Room & Foyer

Participants are encouraged to set-up Friday evening. Exhibitors will be in the area leading to the Grandview Ballroom. Placards will assign exhibitor tables. Tables will be placed in the ballroom for auction items. Be sure auction items are identified with donor name and approximate retail value. Yellow sticky notes will be available on the tables. Tree and wreath competitors will place their entries in designated tree spots or on empty easels. Suggestion: keep wreaths horizontal overnight before displaying on easels. In the absence of the executive secretary, see Michael Duncan of Neely Farms for the tree competition and Brittany Anderson of Talson Farms for wreaths. Discarded trees and greenery will be placed in a to-be-determined location for staff fishermen. Please be sure your spot is dry and swept. Thank you.



Shearing Equipment

Clamp-Type Wreath Frames & Machines

Shakers & Other Equipment

Stands - Cinco, Yule Tree, Gunnard and More

Polyurethane Balers & Netting

Colorants

WAGNER'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

Saturday, September 14

- 07:00 AM - 08:30 AM **Exhibitor, Auction Item, Tree & Wreath Competition Set-Up**
Grandview Conference Room & Foyer
See above for setup.
- 07:30 AM – 08:30 AM **Light Snacks and Coffee Sponsored by**
Evans Christmas Products
- 07:30 AM - 08:30 AM **Registration**
Grandview Ballroom Foyer
Brenda & Tim Parker, Hillside Christmas Trees
Michael Buchart, Executive Secretary
- 08:30 AM – 08:45 AM **Welcome, Prayer, Pledge of Allegiance**
Grandview Conference Room
Opening Prayer
Bentley Curry, Curry Farms / NCTA/SCTA Representative
The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America
Colonel (Retired) Larry J. Massey, U. S. Army Reserve,
Rosebud Christmas Trees
Welcome
Wesley Bass, Bass Christmas Tree Farm, Senior Vice-President 2024/2025
General comments, introduction of officers & board members, farm hosts,
vendors, recognition of 1st year members, guests, etc.

EVANS

CHRISTMAS PRODUCTS

a division of Evans & Company Inc.

7930 Zeigler Blvd

Mobile, AL 36608

800-832-4521

251-633-6840 fax

www.evanschristmas.com

The Easy-Lift Harness



Specifically designed for lifting the weight of heavy extended power pole pruners that previously made tree trimming a strenuous and back breaking task.



Providing quality products at competitive prices with fast delivery and southern hospitality! Colorant, pruners, saws, netting, balers, tree stands, preservative, tree tags and banners, wreath supplies, bamboo, tree stakes, flock and flock equipment. Beneke trimmers, chemicals, Call for free catalog.

- 08:45 AM - 09:15 AM **Research Projects, Proposals, Ideas**
Steve Mannhard, Fish River Trees & The Cabins at Fish River Trees,
Past-President, 2024 Program Chair & Moderator
- Dr. Valerie West**, Louisiana State University
Dr. Joshua Granger, Mississippi State University
Dr. Jeremy Pickens, Auburn University
Proposals / Ideas for Future Projects from The Audience
- 09:15 AM - 10:00 AM **Irrigation Systems That Work**
Gray Anderson, Grant Farms, Moderator with Panel
- 10:00 AM – 10:30 AM **Break, Visit Vendors, Tree & Wreath Judging**
- 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM **Production, Sharing Session #1**
Steve Mannhard, Fish River Trees & The Cabins at Fish River Trees,
Past-President, 2024 Program Chair & Moderator with Panel
- A. The Great Drought & The Great Freeze - Damage, Lessons Learned
B. Spraying for Insects Prior to Sales
C. Combining Herbicides and Fungicides: What Works
D. Member Submitted Questions, Issues, Topics & etc.
- 11:30 AM - 01:00 PM **Lunch Buffet, Pinecrest Restaurant**
- 01:00 PM – 02:00 PM **Production, Sharing Session #2**
Steve Mannhard, Fish River Trees & The Cabins at Fish River Trees,
Past-President, 2024 Program Chair & Moderator with Panel
- A. The Great Tree Challenge:
Leyland Cypress vs. Murray Cypress
Blue Ice vs. Carolina Sapphire
B. Planting 2-inch, 1-gallon or 3-gallon Liners: Pros & Cons
C. To Flock or Not to Flock
D. More Submitted Questions, Issues, Topics & etc. from Participants
- 02:00 PM – 02:30 PM **Break, Visit Vendors, Tree & Wreath Judging**

Taylor Leigh's Christmas Trees

Wholesaler

1465 Cordova Road, Germantown, TN 38138

www.TaylorLeighsChristmasTrees.com; MTMills424@yahoo.com; (901) 292-6929

- 02:30 PM – 03:30 PM **Various Topics, Sharing Session #3**
Steve Mannhard, Fish River Trees & The Cabins at Fish River Trees,
Past-President, 2024 Program Chair & Moderator with Panel
- A. Liability Insurance
 - B. Selling Fir Trees: Pros & Cons
 - C. To Trim or Not to Trim: Are We Over Trimming?
 - D. Fungicide Spraying: When to Start & Stop
 - E. More Submitted Questions, Issues, Topics & etc. from Participants

- 03:30 PM – 04:00 PM **Business Meeting**
Wesley Bass, Bass Christmas Tree Farm, Senior Vice-President 2024/2025
Michael Buchart, Executive Secretary
- A. Turn in Tree & Wreath Ballots
Trees: Michael Duncan, Neely Farms
Wreaths: Brittany Anderson, Talson Farms
 - B. NCTA Report: Bentley Curry
 - C. Financial Report: Michael Buchart, Executive Secretary
 - D. Elections
 - E. Other Business
2025 Louisiana Meeting / Farm Host?
2026 Mississippi Meeting / Farm Host?



IRRIGATION-MART
we SAVVY irrigation

- 05:00 PM – 06:00 PM **Social Hour**
Hickory Lounge (cash bar)
- 06:00 PM - 07:30 PM **Dinner Buffet**
Pinecrest Restaurant
- 07:30 PM - 07:45 PM **Tree / Wreath Competition Recognition & Photographs**
Grandview Conference Room
Wesley Bass, Bass Christmas Tree Farm, Senior Vice-President 2024/2025
- 07:45 PM - 08:00 PM **Christmas Spirit Foundation**
Rick Dungey, Executive Director
- 07:45 PM – 09:30 PM **Auction**
Bentley Curry, Auctioneer, Curry Farms
Michael Duncan, Barker, Neeley Farms
Michael May, Barker, Lazy Acres Agritainment
Cathy May & Ginger Duncan, Auction Recorders



100+ years of
Sustainable Growing

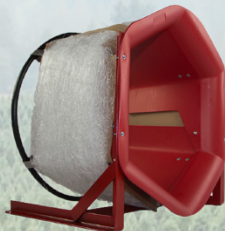


Visit Kirk for all your U-Cut and Tree Lot Supplies
(800) 426-8482 www.kirkcompany.com

Snow Flock



Tree Baler and
Netting



Wreath Rings



Scented
Pine cones



Tree Care Kit
What's Inside:
(tree not included)



Removal Bag



Same Great Product.
New Package!

Kolors by Kirk



Tree Life/Keeps It Green!
Tree Hydrator



Same Great Product.
New Package!



Twine available
in 4 colors



BALERS · NETTING · TREE LIFE PRODUCTS · KOLORS BY KIRK · COLORANT & MORE!

Sunday, September 15

Frazier Christmas Tree Farm

Benny & Susan Frazier, Hosts

559 Frazier Road, Albertville, AL 35950

Facebook: Frazier Farms; Frazier559@charter.net; 256.293.6062

Benny & Susan have always supported the Southern Christmas Tree Association while maintaining their membership for years without ever having attended a meeting because of their demanding business needs. Their dedication paid off when they recently sold their NAPA Auto Parts franchise. Now, they have been able to jump in with all four feet into SCTA and their farm. Benny and Susan did not hesitate to offer their place when SCTA planners approached them for the 2024 meeting despite being their first meeting. As you will see, the Fraziers have applied their successful business experiences into the now blossoming Frazier Christmas Tree Farm. Their Christmas light show is a go-to for the community. You cannot resist turning in when you pass their farm store.

07:30 AM

Gate Open

Coffee, Donuts, Fellowship

08:30 AM - 09:00 AM

Welcome

Wesley Bass, Bass Christmas Tree Farm, Senior Vice-President 2024/2025
Benny & Susan Frazier, Sunday Farm Hosts

Devotion by Chris Johnson, Senior Pastor, Albertville First Baptist 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

09:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Farm Production - How We Do It Tour

Benny Frazier

Overall operation: process & flow with customers: signage, entering the farm, customer greeting & explanation; wagon ride; candy canes & hot chocolate; Santa Clause, payment, exiting the farm

The customer: finds their tree, tears two-part tag, goes inside gift shop, shops & pays for tree, visits Santa

Tree varieties.

Harvesting tree & removing from field: Cutting the tree, pickup process, pull to pick-up station

Tree preparation after the cut: shake, drill, wrap, load & tie down

Planting: timing, row layout, staggered tree planting, plug vs 1gallon vs 3-gallon, drill bit size for each, equipment – minx, ½ drill, small vs large, electric vs gas auger

Tree staking

Fertilizing: bag vs liquid, when and what to apply

Spray equipment.

Herbicides: spray when, schedule, what.

Insecticides: when, schedule, what

Fungicides: when, schedule, what

Mowing: around trees, when, schedule, equipment

Shearing: gas vs electric, schedule

Other useful farm equipment.

Mistakes: crooked trees, no handles, ugly, killed accidentally, non-performing varieties

~10:30 AM - 12:00 PM
(field tour departure)

Concurrent Session: Other than The Trees

Susan Frazier

Gift Shop Operations, Markets, Buying & Selling, Wreath Operation, Santa Clause, Light Show, On-Site Events, Maintaining Contact with Customers after Season, etc.

12:00 PM - 01:30 PM

Lunch

01:30 PM

Close 'er down, lend a hand tidying up, last one out closes the gate, drive home safely, good luck preparing for The Season, give it your all-out best for your farm guests come November, try to relax, start all over again, and finally plan on attending the 2025 Louisiana annual meeting.

Remember, there is no need for physician prescribed sedatives or therapy - we have The Southern Christmas Tree Association and YOU!

Any comments, suggests, ideas or whatevers for the next annual meeting, please be sure to contact the president or the executive secretary. If anyone would like talk about the possibility of hosting a future annual meeting or workshop, please contact the executive secretary. The more input and options the better. The 2025 annual meeting will be in Louisiana and Mississippi 2026.

Our Partners



Presenter / Participant / Exhibitor Contact Information

Brittany Anderson, Wreath Competition, Talson Farms, 88 Arnold Pryor Road, Laurel, MS 39443; FB: Talson Farms; info@TolsonFarms.com; (601) 433-4794.

Gray Anderson, Moderator, Grant Farms, LLC, 716 Whitaker Road, Grant, LA 70644; www.GrantChristmasTreeFarm.com; GrayAnderson88@yahoo.com; (337) 789-3072.

Wesley Bass, Senior Vice-President 2024/2025, Bass Christmas Tree Farm, 103 Riley Road, Columbia, MS 39429; www.BassTrees.com; BassTreeFarm@gmail.com; (601) 731-8232.

Bentley Curry, NCTA/SCTA Representative, Curry Farms, Inc., 548 Robinson Drive, Rayville, LA 71269; www.CurryFarms.net, FB: Curry Farms, Inc.; BentleyCurry@AOL.com; (318) 728-6203.

Michael Duncan, Tree Competition, Neely Farms, 1879 County Road 107, Randolph, AL 36792; www.neelyfarmschristmastrees.com; NeelyFarmsTrees@gmail.com; (205)389-1831.

Rick Dungey, Speaker, Executive Director, Christmas Spirit Foundation, 2650 South Hanley Road, Suite 100, St. Louis, MO 63144; www.ChristmasSpiritFoundation.org; Info@ChristmasSpiritFoundation.org; (314) 416-2245.

Benny & Susan Frazier, Sunday Farm Tour Hosts, Frazier Christmas Tree Farm, 559 Frazier Road, Albertville, AL 35950; FB: Frazier Farms; Frazier559@charter.net; (256) 293-6062.

Dr. Joshua Granger, Speaker, Mississippi State University, College of Forestry, Box 9681, Thompson Hall Room 321, Mississippi State, MS 39762; www.msstate.edu; Joshua.J.Granger@MsState.edu; (662)325-0596.

Chris Johnson, Sunday Devotion, Senior Pastor, Albertville First Baptist Church, 309 East Main Street, Albertville, AL 35950; www.AlbertvilleFBC.church; (256) 878-2291.

Steve Mannhard, 2024 Program Chair & Moderator, Past-President 2022/2023, Fish River Trees & The Cabins at Fish River Trees, 13982 Woodhaven Dairy Road East, Summerdale, AL 36580; www.fishrivertrees.com; FishRiverTrees@gulftel.com; (251) 988-8114.

Colonel (Retired) Larry J. Massey, United States Army Reserve, Rosebud Christmas Trees, 5819 Gunter Road, Walnut Grove, MS 39189; FB: Rosebud Christmas Trees; Massey_Larry@hotmail.com; (601) 201-8179.

Lynn & Teresa Moody (parents) and David & Rachel Moody, Friday Open-Farm Hosts, Moody Farms, 1489 Valley Road, Oneonta, AL 35121; FB: Moody Farms; MoodyFarms1489@gmail.com; (205) 559-2814.

Sargent (Honorably Discharged) W.T. "Tim" Parker, Force Recon & Combat Military Police, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Army & **Brenda Parker**, Registration, Hillside Potted Christmas Trees, 444 County Road 221, Scottsboro, AL 35768; (251) 232-0138.

Dr. Jeremy Pickens, Auburn University, College of Agriculture - Department of Horticulture, P.O. Box 8276, Mobile, AL 36689; www.ACES.edu; Jeremy.Pickens@Auburn.edu; (251) 342-2366.

Dana & Terri Springfield, Friday Open-Farm Hosts, Springfield Christmas Tree Farm, 595 Mt. Vernon Drive, Boaz, AL 35957; Facebook: Springfield Christmas Tree Farm; DSpring1953@gmail.com; (256) 558-4123.

Dr. Valerie West, Louisiana State University, Ag Center Cooperative Extension, 204 Burt Boulevard, Benton, LA 71006; www.LSUAgCenter.com; Vwest@agcenter.lsu.edu; (318) 965-2326.

Exhibitors

Stephanie Evans & Julie Holland, Evans Christmas Products (grower & tree lot supplies, SCTA member), 7930 Zeigler Boulevard, Mobile, AL 36608; www.EvansChristmasProducts.com; Julie@EvansAndCompany.com; (800) 832-4521.

Gray Anderson, Grant Farms, LLC (planting stock, SCTA member), 716 Whitaker Road, Grant, LA 70644; www.GrantChristmasTreeFarm.com; GrayAnderson88@yahoo.com; (337) 789-3072.

Eric Houser, Irrigation-Mart, Inc. (irrigation, drainage & wastewater systems & supplies), 200 South Service Road East, Ruston, LA 71270; www.Irrigation-Mart.com; Eric.Houser@Irrigation-Mart.com; (334) 332-3624.

Don Mills, Taylor Leigh's Christmas Trees (wholesale Christmas trees, SCTA member), 1465 Cordova Road, Germantown, TN 38138; www.TaylorLeighsChristmasTrees.com; MTMills424@yahoo.com; (901) 292-6929.

← from Lake Guntersville State Park
to Frazier Christmas Tree Farm, 615 Frazier Rd, Al...

23 min (14.1 miles)

via Rose Rd

Fastest route, the usual traffic



Lake Guntersville State Park

1155 Lodge Dr, Guntersville, AL 35976

↑ Head south on Aubrey Carr Scenic Dr toward AL-227 N

1 sec (49 ft)

> Continue on AL-227 N. Take Rose Rd, Edmondson St and Section Line Rd to Frazier Rd in Albertville

22 min (13.5 mi)

↪ Turn right onto Frazier Rd

i Destination will be on the left

1 min (0.6 mi)

Frazier Christmas Tree Farm

615 Frazier Rd, Albertville, AL 35950

