TO: All Alleghany County Christmas Tree Growers

FROM: Greg Miller, President, ACTA
      David Isner, Executive Secretary

WHAT: Alleghany Christmas Tree Association General Meeting

WHEN: Tuesday, March 28, 2006

WHERE: Blue Ridge Business Development Center/
       WCC/Alleghany Campus ~ 115 Atwood Street, Sparta, NC

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

You’re invited to join us on Tuesday, March 28th at 7:00 p.m. at the Blue Ridge Business Development Center for our regular monthly meeting.

Ron Hudler will be presenting a program on “The Marketing Expansion Results for 2005” — and they are exciting!

Also a program on “Risk Management for Christmas Tree Farmers” will be presented. If you like what you hear in the highlights of this program, we will set up a workshop in the future.

If you haven’t paid your dues for 2006, please bring your check for $50 payable to ACTA, along with your inventory sheet for the Buy-Sell Guide.

Please mark your calendar for March 28th and make plans to join us for a very informative meeting.
Hello ACTA Members and Fellow Tree Growers,

Everything is starting to speed up and Spring is just around the corner. Several of us have fertilize out and even have some planting done. February and March are, and have been very busy in the ACTA and the NCCTA.

At our February 28th meeting, our new Buy-Sell Guide got off to a great start with the auction of five ads bringing in around $5,000. This money will go a long way toward getting Alleghany County trees out and noticed. There are more ads still available for the center page on a first come, first serve basis. When you see Wayne Miles and Doug Murphy, give them a big thanks for taking the lead with the Buy-Sell Guide and Ad Auction.

For everyone that takes the position that, I don’t need to participate, I have all my trees sold, I say, “how about a raise in pay? The laws of supply and demand tell us that if demand is high so are the prices.” So, come join us and let’s see how we can create a greater demand for our Christmas trees.

On that note — come and hear what is happening on the national level. On the 28th of March at our monthly meeting, Ron Hudler will be presenting the market expansion results for 2005 and they are exciting! Also, on the agenda will be a program on “Risk Management” for Christmas tree farmers. If you like what you hear in the highlights of this program, we will set up a workshop for risk management in the future.

Don’t forget — if you haven’t paid your dues for 2006, please do so as soon as possible and turn in your inventory sheet information to be printed in the Buy-Sell Guide.

If you have seniors graduating from Alleghany High and heading for college, please ask them to apply for the scholarship being offered from your ACTA. Scholarship applications are available in the Guidance Office at Alleghany High School.

Once again, if you have an idea for a topic or program you would like, please let me know. I’m looking forward to a great year! See you on March 28th.

Greg Miller, ACTA President 2006

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**A Couple of Tree Facts to Ponder...**

 Did you know that one acre of trees produces enough oxygen for 18 people?  

 Did you know that in Alleghany County, Christmas trees are more than a 25 million dollar per year industry? If you did know this—I bet your neighbors don’t.
Groundcover Management in Fraser Fir
Thursday, March 23, 2006
3:00—5:15 p.m.
Location: Nathan Bryan Farm on Macedonia Church Road

Alleghany Christmas Tree Association Meeting
Tuesday, March 28, 2006
7:00 p.m. at
Blue Ridge Business Development Center, Sparta, NC
Program: “Risk Management for Christmas Tree Growers” and “The Marketing Expansion Results for 2005”

THANK YOU to the following who have submitted their inventory updates and dues for 2006.

Mike Carter    Bill Huxster    John Rosser
Buddy Deal    Chris Jones    Bill Shepherd
Earl Deal      Casey Jones    Bruner Sides
Tony Duncan    Dan McInnis    David Sides
Brad Edwards   Shade Mecum    Homer Sides
Joe Edwards    Greg Miller    Randal Sides
Percy Edwards  Sam Miller    Jack Staley
Rondal Farmer  Tom Miller    Scott Stoker
Bobby Joe Gambill     Alfred Motsinger    Jamie Vestal
Lewis Gaskin   Doug Murphy    Wagoner Farms
Ronald Hendrix  Buddy Nelson    Tim Warden
Hal Hollcroft  Mark Pardue    Steve Warren
Gene Howell    Dale Pruitt    Richard Woodie
Slade Howell   Bob Robertson    Robert Woodie
Byron Woodruff

REMEMBER!

If you have not paid your dues or submitted your information for the 2006 Buy-Sell Guide, please do so as soon as possible. You may make your check payable to ACTA in the amount of $50 and mail to the following address or drop it by the Alleghany Extension Office.

ACTA
PO Box 892
Sparta, NC 28675