



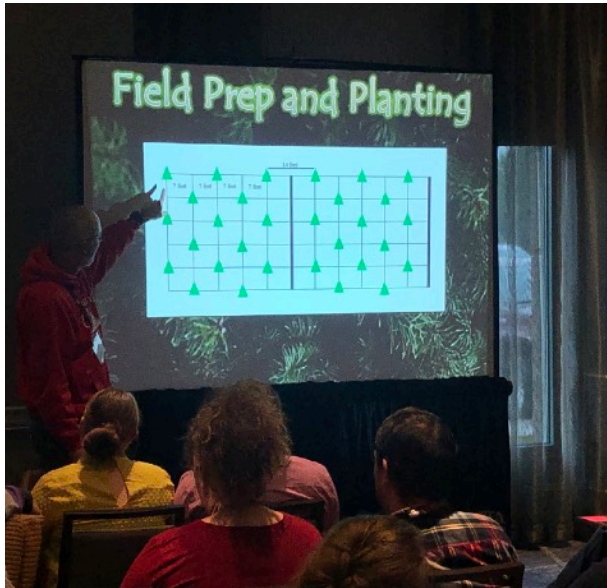
TCTGA NEWS - APRIL 2019

Recap of 2019 PickTN Conference

On February 21 and 22, Tennessee Christmas Tree Growers gathered for the PickTN Conference in Franklin, TN. The PickTN Conference had over 600 people in attendance. About 30 TCTGA members participated throughout the 2 days of workshops, exhibits and networking.



The PickTN Conference is an annual event bringing together farmers from across the state to explore the latest information and resources for every facet of modern farm life. TCTGA is one of eight participating associations that help plan the conference.



During the conference, there were 6 workshop sessions pertaining to Christmas trees. Some of the sessions were:

- *Growing Christmas Trees*
- *Christmas Fun at Lazy Acres Tree Farm*
- *Internet Marketing Tips & Tricks*
- *Agritourism In Action*



Evans Christmas Supply and Fraser Knoll Supplies were exhibitors at the PickTN Conference. They displayed many of their products and equipment related to the Christmas tree industry.



Recap of 2019 Tree Farm Tour



On Saturday, March 23, Tennessee Christmas Tree Growers gathered for a farm tour at Country Cove Christmas Tree Farm in Murfreesboro, TN. Joe and Jan Steiner told their story about growing and selling Christmas trees. The weather was good and 48 people attended the day's events which included sessions on Growing Trees, Successful Gift Shops and a Wreath Making Demonstration.



TCTGA Annual Business Meeting Summary

The Tennessee Christmas Tree Growers Association held its annual business meeting on March 23, 2019 in Murfreesboro, TN. The meeting was held in conjunction with the Farm Tour of Country Cove Christmas Tree Farm. Here is a summary of the meeting.



- Several things were voted on and approved by the membership.
- The past meeting minutes and financial report were approved as presented.
- After some brief discussion, the new TCTGA By-Laws were approved as presented.
- New Officers and Representatives were elected. Dan Raulston was elected President. Jamie Faircloth was elected Vice-President. Margaret Johnson was re-elected as Secretary-Treasurer. Leo Collins was elected as East TN Representative. Laura Faircloth will continue to serve as Middle TN Representative and Bart Gilmer will continue to serve as West TN Representative.
- Our Association has received a grant from the USDA for the Speciality Crop Block Grant. This grant is for \$10,000 and will fund an Executive Director for our Association for the next two years. The new TCTGA Board of Directors (Officers and Representatives) will be responsible for hiring this contract position.
- Please contact your TCTGA Officers if you have any questions about the business of the Association.

Please pay your 2019 TCTGA Dues by May 1st.

Go to: <https://squareup.com/store/tennessee-christmas-tree-growers-association>

SUMMER FIELD DAY FOR 2019

- Plans are being made for our Summer Field Day. The location will probably be in East Tennessee. The exact location and date are still to be determined.
- More details to come. Keep an eye out on your email and our Facebook Pages for more information coming soon.

PICK TN CONFERENCE IN 2020



February 20-22, 2020 in Franklin, TN
(www.picktnconference.com)

YOUR TCTGA ASSOCIATION OFFICERS:

President - Dan Raulston, Raulston Acres Christmas Tree Farm

Vice-President - Jamie Faircloth, Pinewood Christmas Tree Farm

Secretary - Margaret Johnson, Lazy Spread Christmas Tree Farm

East TN Regional Representative: Leo Collins, Bluebird Christmas Tree Farm

West TN Regional Representative: Bart Gilmer, Falcon Ridge Christmas Tree Farm

Middle TN Regional Representatives: Laura Faircloth, Pinewood Christmas Tree Farm



WEBSITE:

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