



# NTNGA June Newsletter

## **June Meeting:**

The June meeting will be held on Thursday June 12th at Cracker Barrel in Tyler starting at 5:30 p.m. The meeting will be sponsored by BWI. Peter Paddock with BWI will give a short presentation on designing irrigation systems.

## **May Meeting:**

Thank You to Tawakoni Plant Farm for sponsoring and hosting the May meeting. Following a tour of the farm, a BBQ dinner was provided. Scott Armstrong with Bioworks gave a presentation On "Putting common cents into safe solution." Many thanks to Scott and Bioworks also.

## **Southwest Growers Conference:**

The annual **Southwest Growers Conference** will be held in Conroe, TX on **July 8-9, 2008**. All nursery and greenhouse growers are encouraged to refer to the website (<http://swgrowers.tamu.edu>) for more details and to register for the conference. On Tuesday, July 8, there will be **tours** to four innovative nursery/greenhouse operations including Just Trees, Magnolia Gardens (tissue culture lab), Creekside Nursery, and Green Valley Growers. On Wednesday, July 9, there will be a full day of timely **educational sessions** at the Lone Star Exposition Center. Two morning sessions will focus on the practical and economic applications of environmental sustainability. Afterwards, a session on hiring a legal work force will cap off the morning program. In the afternoon, there will be sessions on water quality and alkalinity, controlling new insect and disease pests, the use of PGR's, reducing weed control costs, and a laws/regs session to cap off the day. TDA Certified Pest Applicator CEU credits as well as TNLA CEU credits will be available.

## **NTNGA MEMORIAL FUND**

NTNGA has established the NTNGA Memorial Fund. The mission of the NTNGA Memorial Fund is to promote the nursery industry, provide the most up to date and relevant information to our members, and to assist in the establishment and ongoing work of programs that provide our members with vital information.

Our first project involves the Texas AgriLife Extension Service Research Center at Overton. Kinney Bonded Warehouse has designed and will be constructing a new greenhouse for vital research needed to support our industry.

Many of you know Dr. Ludwig and Dr. Steddom and have benefited from the information they have provided from their research.

Doug Arnold  
Trees USA

"For the past several years Dr. Scott Ludwig, with the Overton Research Station, has played an integral role with our Nursery Industry. He has monitored nurseries for various different insect issues and has been diligent in his efforts to help resolve these issues. Dr. Ludwig has also done a great job of keeping us informed via newsletters and seminars. I have always found the Research Station in Overton to be an excellent resource staffed with talented individuals eager and willing to help."

Herman Vess  
Bruce Miller Nursery

"Working with Scott and Karl at extension has been a real pleasure. They have been very helpful and responsive when we have had a problem at our nursery. They have also been very 'active in' and 'supportive' of NTNGA. They seem to show a real interest in the grower aspect of our industry."

The first proceeds for the Memorial Fund were gathered at our auction in February at the NTNGA Trade Show. We raised \$12,000. Thank you to all who participated in the auction!

For those of you who did not have the opportunity to contribute, you still have a chance! Our goal for this project is to raise another \$18,000. We have already had a couple of members step up to donate. Bruce Miller with Bruce Miller Nursery has pledged \$1000, and is challenging all of our members to make a donation to this important project. Your support is appreciated. If you are interested in giving please contact Jade Hopson, Circle G Nursery (903) 963-5255 or [jadehopson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jadehopson@sbcglobal.net). We hope to have the project completed by July 10<sup>th</sup>.

A link has been set up to follow the progress of the project.

<http://etipm.tamu.edu/greenhouse.cfm>

Thank you to Circle G Nursery and TNLA Region 3 for their pledge of \$1,000 each! Also thank you to Dosmatic.