



NTNGA March Newsletter

The meeting in March will be at The Farmhouse in Van located at 1125 South Oak Street (I-20 + FM 314) March 8th at 6:00 p.m. Helena Chemical Company will be sponsoring the meal and Bill Abetz will be giving a educational presentation titled "What's in the Bag" that will discuss the nutritional requirements of plants and how fertilizers are utilized. The discussion will illustrate how to analyze fertilizer labels so growers can be sure they are supplying their plants with the proper nutrients. Mark your calendar and don't forget to RSVP.

RSVP to Jade @ Circle G Nursery by Tues. March 6th (903) 963-5255 or jadehopson@sbcglobal.net.

Thanks to the LETCO Group, L.P. for sponsoring the January meeting and providing dinner by Circle "E" Steaks. There were 41 present.



Herman reported that the attendance this year was 1,080. This is a slight increase over last year. The auction was a record breaker!! NTNGA raised just over \$16,000 for the Mary Moser Scholarship fund. Thanks to everyone who was involved in making this happen. Thanks to everyone who donated to the auction and everyone who purchased something. A special thanks to Herman for putting this together every year. He really does a great job!!!

A note from H. Brent Pemberton @ Texas A&M University AG Research and Extension Center:

Just wanted to make sure that you guys knew about the new website that is up now for our container trials. Terri and Kristen have done a great job getting all of this up and running. Thanks again for your support and we look forward to seeing you at Pack Trials and our Field Days this spring and summer. Brent

<http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/floriculture/containertrials/index.html>

A person is only beautiful, when their own beauty, is reflecting on to others. Tara Grady



Member of the month: Sungro Horticulture - Mark Smelser

Sun Gro is the largest producer of peat in North America and the largest distributor of peat moss and peat-based growing media products to the North American professional plant growers market. The Company sells its products primarily to professional greenhouse, nursery and specialty crop growers throughout North America, as well as to golf course developers and landscapers. Sun Gro was founded in 1929 in Vancouver, British Columbia as the Western Peat Company Ltd., a producer of peat moss.

Sun Gro's vision is to be the leading supplier of superior quality plant growing products in North America.

We will achieve our vision by focusing on customer and employee satisfaction and enhancing unitholder value. We will passionately pursue continuous improvements in all aspects of our business through team design.

We will be a customer driven organization by:

- Exceeding customer expectations.
- Developing long-term supply agreements with strategic customers.
- Creating new products and new markets.
- Forming relationships with our customers at all levels of our organization.
- Becoming the supplier of choice to the leading distributors in our industry.

Mark Smelser recently joined Sungro as the Northeast Texas and Oklahoma District Manager. He has a degree in horticulture from Texas A&M. He lives in Troup, TX with his wife Mandy and his son Jake. You can reach him at (903) 330-4545 or marksm@sungro.com.

Welcome to two new members:

Athens Tree Farm located in Larue, TX and Holly Springs Tree Farm located in Montalba, TX

May the roads rise to meet you,
May the winds be always at your back,
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
The rains fall soft upon your fields,
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the hollow of His hand.



- An Irish Blessing.

NTNGA
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