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Spring 2023

Dear Members,

In one more year, our organization will celebrate its 70th anniversary. We were organized in 1954, and filed Articles of Incorporation November 23, 1955. The purpose for which we organized was stated: "to promote the production of better Christmas trees, to promote research, to encourage grading, etc."

Over the years, we have fluctuated between 73 and 409 members. We appreciate that you are one of the 150 current members.

As a review, the association provides:

- the *WCTPA Quarterly Journal* which is mailed to you
- an opportunity to advertise on our website
- two conventions yearly
- a subscription to the *Great Lakes Christmas Tree Journal*
- free buy/sell/trade ads (in the journal and e-mail)
- a new membership sign

Please read each page for details on advertising. (You can defer the payment for some of the ads to accommodate your budget.)

We encourage your feedback, so if you have anything you want the association to change or improve on, please talk with me or one of the board members. The list of board members can be found in the front of each *Quarterly Journal*.

If you know of anyone who may benefit from being a member, please share this information with them or give me their name and address and I will contact them. And, if you want to be on our Board of Directors we would welcome you as a candidate as we elect 3 directors each year.

Please send your paperwork and dues payment in as soon as possible to remain on the mail list. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Cheryl Nicholson
Executive Secretary

-Keep this page as your receipt-

FULL ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP:

Dues for 2023-24. Our fiscal year runs from July 1 - June 30.

This is a voting membership and also allows you to advertise your trees/wreaths on the WCTPA website.

Active membership shall be for persons or firms engaged in producing or marketing Christmas trees, wreaths, boughs and roping/garland in or from Wisconsin or Upper Peninsula Michigan. Dues amount is based on your gross income of these items from the previous season.

Gross Income* Dues

\$ 0 - 9,999 \$ 215

\$10,000 - 49,999..... 290

\$50,000 - 199,999 365

\$200,000 - 499,999 465

\$500,000 plus 615

(*gross income includes sales of trees, wreaths, boughs and roping/garland)

Included in the dues payment is:

- ✓ A \$25 Tree Industry Partnership (TIP) assessment which goes to the National Christmas Tree Association, used for industry protection and other benefits.
- ✓ Subscription to the *Great Lakes Christmas Tree Journal*, mailed directly from them.

Website Advertising Options:

Wholesale web listing: \$150

Cut-Your-Own web listing: \$150 ea. | Retail Lot web listing: \$150 ea.

Display ads on website: \$200/quarter or \$600/year (please see detail pages)

Extra Mailing, Retired Grower or Full-time Student Membership: \$50 (this has no voting rights)

An extra mailing can be purchased for your employees, business partners, or family members if you are a full active member. A retired grower or full time student can subscribe for \$50. Please provide the mailing address. You may also purchase an additional subscription to the *Great Lakes Christmas Tree Journal*.

Trees for Troops

This is your chance to donate to the Trees for Troops program. The Christmas Spirit Foundation (charitable branch of the National Christmas Tree Association) coordinates the collection and distribution of trees donated by Christmas tree growers and given to military families throughout the U.S. This program generates a lot of good will for us along with media attention.

In Wisconsin we will tentatively have 3 collection points: Green Bay, Wausau and Madison. The collection date has typically been the Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday after Thanksgiving. Growers bring their trees to the collection point to be loaded onto a FedEx truck.

Our goal is 600 trees. Please indicate on the payment form and let me know by July 15th if you are donating trees.

Monetary donations are appreciated to offset the cost to run this national program.

You may make a check payable to "Christmas Spirit Foundation" and mail it to them directly at: **Christmas Spirit Foundation, 2650 S. Hanley Road, Ste 100, St. Louis, MO 63144.**

The EIN for Christmas SPIRIT Foundation is 20-3361126.

Or select Trees for Troops #12283 in the Combined Federal Campaign, which may also be eligible for matching employer donations.