Happy New Year,

Hope that everyone is enjoying all the snow we've been getting. Quite a contrast with last winter, which was one of the driest on record. Here in Santa Fe we broke a record for the most snow in a 24-hour period during the New Years Eve storm; 26 inches fell. It promises to be a nice spring if it keeps up. Good tree growing weather.

Last fall, the New Mexico Tree Farm Committee submitted three grant proposals to the American Forest Foundation, our parent organization. We have been awarded the following grants.

1. New Mexico Forestry Camp. $1,750.00 for sponsorship of various activities at this weeklong camp in the Jemez Mountains for New Mexico youth to learn about forestry and the forest environment. The camp is held every year at the Rancho del Chaparral Scout Camp, which is a Tree Farm member. This year the camp is scheduled to be held June 3-8, 2007.

2. Philmont Demonstration forest. $350.00 for improvements to "learning stations" along the 1-mile interpretive trail that teaches scouts and school groups about forest harvest techniques and forest ecology. The Philmont Demonstration forest is visited by several thousand scouts every year as well as school groups.

3. Brochure. $1,000.00 to assist in printing and distribution of a new Tree Farm brochure that will spread the word about our organization. As the largest forest landowner association in the nation and the state we are a well-kept secret.

We are pleased to receive these awards. It will help us spread the word about all the good forest management being done by Tree Farm members.