

Joseph M. Stehling Jr.

Chairman, NM Tree Farm Committee

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Greetings;

The Tree Farm Committee lost a good friend and colleague on June 6th when Dr. John Harrington was tragically hit and killed by a motorist while he was riding his bicycle home from work. John was head of the New Mexico State University Mora Research Station. John would often commute from his home in Pendaries to the research station in Mora by bicycle. He was an avid marathon runner and riding his bike to work was one way to stay in shape.

John had been involved with the Tree Farm Committee for close to twenty years. He served for many years as our secretary and also as editor of our Tree Farm newsletter. Even though he had a very busy schedule as head of the research station he would always stay in touch with the committee and would take the time to truly participate in any discussions of the moment. He always had an opinion and was quite articulate in expressing it but in a manner that would usually end in laughter.

As with many volunteer groups it can be difficult to get people to fully participate but John was an exception. You could always count on him to go the extra mile. He stuck to his commitments and approached life with boundless energy. When he was in the room our meetings were always more lively. He was never just "there" at a meeting but would always be fully engaged.

Godspeed John.

A memorial was held for John at Pendaries on June 10th. A memorial fund has been set up for those who wish to contribute:

NMSU Foundation (memo: John Harrington Fund) C/O Mark Gladden Development Officer MSC 3AG P.O. Box 3003 Las Cruces, NM 88003

Harry A. Morrison, Vice Chairman, NM Tree Farm Committee





John T. Harrington PhD (May 11, 1962 – June 6, 2011) If you would like to learn more about John visit:

www.rogersmortuarynm.com

FROM THE CHAIRMAN: The past several months have been quite trying. The loss of John Harrington was a blow that will take us a long while to overcome. He was a great guy and an irreplaceable member of the Tree Farm Committee. In addition to the wise counsel he provided the committee, he was also the editor of the biannual Tree Farm Committee Newsletter. We will miss him greatly. Our foresters have been swamped with working the numerous wildfires in and near New Mexico - over 600,000 acres have burned from over 750 fires thus far this year. Our last quarterly Tree Farm Committee meeting did not have a quorum to conduct business. These events have

caused me to delay starting the regional meetings that was the intention of the Tree Farmer survey earlier this year. As soon as things settle down, we will begin working on that. In addition to my continuing plea for a tree farmer to step forward to fill the secretary position on the committee, we now need someone to put together the biannual newsletter. Writing the articles is not necessary, but soliciting articles and putting them together into newsletter format is. Please consider stepping forward for one or both of these positions.

Do not forget to sign up for the National Tree Farm Convention which the New Mexico Tree Farm committee is hosting this year 9 – 11 August at the Tamaya Resort outside Bernalillo. Register at http://www.treefarmsystem.org/2011-tree-farmer-convention. Also remember to attend our quarterly meetings in Albuquerque the second Tuesday of the first month of each quarter (March, June, September, December).

Don't forget to put the Tree Farm National Convention on your calendar, 09-11 August 2011 (<u>www.treefarmsystem.org</u>).



