

Illinois Christmas Tree Association General Meeting

Friday July 19, 2024 4:17 p.m. EDT

Present: Dave Hoover, the Holesingers [Bill, his guest, and Bill's father], Rod and Cathy Stahl, George and Wendy Richardson, 2 members whose names the secretary managed to miss [She apologizes.], Lou Little, Robert and Emily Grady

Vice President Dave Hoover called the meeting to order.

George Richardson gave a health report on President Rob Richardson.

August 10 is the Summer Field Day at Lee's Trees hosted by Lee Richardson. Hours are 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. with reservations to be sent to Lee Richardson.

Old Business:

Discussion of scholarship donations to Southern Illinois University and the refunds for past winter meetings. Cathy Stahl volunteered to assist Treasurer Robert Grady.

NCTA Report:

Illinois NCTA Director Wendy Richardson announced the new directorship for NCTA, Q and A Solutions of St. Louis, Missouri, will replace retiring current executive director Tim O'Connor. Q and A solutions also serves the Christmas Spirit Foundation, a separate entity of NCTA.

All members were reminded to send in ICTA dues by the end of July.

The 2025 MACT meeting will be at Ducthman Tree Farms [Manton, MI] in conjunction with the Michigan Christmas Tree Association.

Treasurer Robert Grady reported a checking account balance of \$14,749.38 with a current balance of \$9,121.22 in the Certificate of Deposit.

Bill Holesinger led a brief discussion of the difficulty of dealing with local Illinois zoning ordinances that are written for seasonal businesses and/or agritourism.

George Richardson moved to approve the minutes of the January meeting. Bill Holesinger seconded. Motion carried.

Wendy Richardson moved to file the treasurer's report for audit. Bill Holesinger seconded. Motion carried.

Donna Cackler reminded ICTA the joint winter meeting for 2025 is Friday January 31 and Saturday February 1 in Indiana.

Illinois is in the rotation for the MACT in 2027. Member farms are urged to consider hosting.

Rod Stahl moved to adjourn the meeting. Bill Holesinger seconded. Motion carried. Vice President Hoover adjourned the meeting at 4:38 p.m. EDT. -----Emily Grady, Recording Secretary