RETREAT AGENDA

YOUNG FARMER'S ANNUAL RETREAT

MARCH 2-4, 2007

Turf Valley Resort
2700 Turf Valley Road
Ellicott City, MD 21042

AGENDA:

Friday March 2:	5:00p.m.	Registration
	6:00p.m.	Reception (light refreshments)
	7:00p.m.	Discussion meet Orientation
	8:00p.m.	Preliminary Discussion Meet
Saturday March 3:	6:30a.m.	Registration (Breakfast on your own)
	7:00a.m.	Buses Leave for Tours
	12:30-1:30p.m.	Lunch
	3:45p.m.	Return to Hotel
	3:40-5pm	Free Time
	5:00 pm	Final Four Discussion Meet
	6:00p.m.	Banquet Dinner Achievement Award Winner & Excellence in Ag Winner Announced
	8:00p.m.	Ice Cream Sundae Bar/Fun
	9:00p.m.	Auction
Sunday March 4:	7:00-8a.m.	Breakfast
	8:00-11a.m.	Educational Session
	11:00-11:40a.m.	Business Meeting Old Business New Business Nominating Committee Report Elections Adjourn

Lesson of the Sad and Unwanted Christmas Tree

By Amy Priest
MFB Young Farmer Chair

As a little girl, my father would cut our Christmas tree from our woods every year. He would come home with some that were too short or tall or even three sided. He said those with three sides made the best corner trees. No needed to decorate the back.

One year however, he decided to see just how accepting his family was to his choices. The tree he brought home was tall but spindled, having a total of six to eight branches on the entire tree and a good foot of space between them. Seeing the disappointment and listening to the murmurs of "That is the ugliest tree in the world," Dad proceeded to put the tree up in it's respected corner and tell us a story.

Imagine the "Charlie Brown Christmas Tree" story times ten with a Lewis Smith twist. Mom, my sister and I sat on our sofa sobbing for this tree, vowing to make it the best Christmas tree ever. The tree looked great that year and its lesson will remain with my family for years to come.

And the lesson here:

With all you say and do and with all you have to give, make someone else feel special this Christmas and continue to share this gift everyday for the rest of your life. Even the most insignificant of things can bring hope and joy to that "Sad, unwanted tree."