



# President's Message

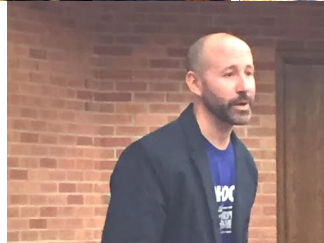
It's that time of the year- Trade show season! It was nice running into a lot of you at the GLTE show in Lansing last week! There sure seemed to be a positive vibe in attendance too! It seemed like a lot of the little things from the weather, to people wanting to learn and network all came together. From my perspective hats off to the Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association for doing a fine job with the show!

At our February meeting we will have the Michigan State Police DOT division on hand to present us some information. One goal is to block out plenty of time for "personal" questions and answers. Now is a great time to make a note or send me an email with questions you would like to ask. Most of us have some sort of vehicles used in a commercial application and with all the changes there are certainly new topics we need answers to. I'm sure there are few old questions we could use a reminder on also.

I respect the great people who serve to protect and keep us safe. From my experience on interacting with them, they are only doing their job, even though I might not think it at the time!

We are all members of this professional organization; are we doing our job being safe and doing the job right? These are the small things that add up which make your organization more professional than the other guy. This is a great meeting to invite, introduce or reward some of your employees by having them attend; they are the ones who need the information too! Hope to see you at my home turf next month!

Nate Weaver, WMNLA President  
Michigan Wood Fibers LLC  
*Contact him with comments, ideas, & questions at (616) 875-2241 or [nate@michiganwoodfibers.com](mailto:nate@michiganwoodfibers.com)*



**Rick Lohman, Woohooing.com  
January Meeting, Hope College**

# WMNLA Scholarship Application

Attention all High School & College Students in Ottawa, Kent, Allegan, Newaygo, Muskegon and Oceana interested in a degree in a Green Industry field.

The WMNLA Scholarship Application through the Grand Haven Area Community Foundation is available for completion online at : <http://www.ghacf.org/scholarships> Students should go to this page to see available scholarships and then go to the application tab to click the link to begin the E-grant process. The printed and signed application, transcript and page one of the FAFSA must be stapled together and post-marked to GHACF no later than **Thursday, March 2nd, 2017** All of these instructions are on the online application also.

For questions contact: Grand Haven Area Community Foundation, 1 South Harbor, Grand Haven, MI 49417. 616-842-6378.

**Jim Dykstra, Dykstra  
Landscape Services  
Celebrates 40 years of  
MNLA membership**



## Call for WMNLA Board Nominations

We need to elect *two* new board members to serve the next three-year term starting on June 2016.

Finishing their terms are **Nate Weaver, Michigan Wood Products** and **Brian Boyink, Gardens Alive Farms (formerly Zelenka Farms)**.

Our goal is to have balanced representation from the green industry. Contact one of the current board members if you have interest in serving on the WMNLA Board of Directors or if you have any suggestions for nominees that you think would serve. WMNLA well.

## March Garden Day Expo Registration for March 12, 2016

There is still time to register for a vendor booth at March Garden Day!

A Standard Booth space of 10'x 10' is available, **the cost is \$75.**

Exhibitor move in will be on Friday, March 10, from 1-5:00 PM and Saturday March 11, from 7-8:00 AM.

Tear down will be at 3:30 PM on Saturday.

Contact **Pam Cater, [wmnla2013@gmail.com](mailto:wmnla2013@gmail.com). Or call 616-402-4885 to reserve your space.**

# March Garden Day Saturday March 11, 2017

*A Celebration of Gardening!*  
*Sponsored by the West Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association*  
*Grand Haven Community Center*  
*421 Columbus St., Grand Haven MI 49417*  
*Saturday, March 11, 2017*

## **8:00 Registration and Check In**

View exhibits, indoor gardens and Silent Auction.

## **9:00 Session 1**



*“Lessons Learned under the Trees” with Susan Martin.* Susan is an avid gardener, writer and speaker for gardening audiences across the U.S. She has spent nearly two decades in the Horticulture industry working in new plant development, garden design, communications, sales and marketing; including over a decade in management at the largest wholesale grower of bare root perennials in the United States. Susan will share her knowledge of shade gardening gleaned from over ten years of experience gardening in every degree of shade along the Lake Michigan shoreline. You will learn how to take advantage of the conditions you have, not those you wish you had, and discover life beyond hostas in the shade garden. .

## **10:30 Session 2**

*“Smart Plants for Pollinators with Rebecca Finneran.* Rebecca is a Senior Horticulture Educator with Michigan State University Extension. Rebecca has been serving Michigan since 1987 helping the green industry and consumers learn about horticulture, the environment and pesticide safety. Supporting native bees and beneficial insects right at home is the first step in conservation of these species. Rebecca will help you choose the right plants and how to adopt ‘Smart Gardening’ behaviors to help our native bee and insect populations thrive.



## **11:45-1:15 Lunch Break/Break Out Sessions**

*“What’s New and Old in Roses” with Eric Nelson,* Weesies Brothers Garden Center and Landscaping.

*“Indoor Miniscapes; Creating Miniature Gardens and Terrariums”, with Bev Harkema”,* Jonkers Garden

*“Mature and Ornamental Tree Pruning” with Keith Hogan,* Bartlett Tree Experts

*“Tools and Tips from the Pros” with Paul Keifer* Specialty Gardens, *Allison Jesky,* Hope College *and Greg Dunn,* Blackbird Farm CSA. Join Paul, Allison and Greg for a lively discussion about their favorite ‘can’t do without’ tools.

*“Yoga for Gardeners”, with Kathi Skorupski,* Yoga fit instructor for 19 years. Learn how to garden smarter and healthier with simple yoga moves.

## **1:45 Session 3 :**

*“Moving Beyond Pretty with Bonus Points” with Susan Martin.* Susan will show us how to see plants from a new prospective, resist buying impulses, and how to select plants in a more intentional way, moving beyond pretty and into the realm of more.

**March Garden Day is going Green! All food waste and lunch products will be biodegradable and composted. All paper and plastic will be recycled. Water and coffee will be available with biodegradable cups. Registrants are welcome to bring their own water bottles.**





**WEST MICHIGAN NURSERY &  
LANDSCAPE ASSOCIATION**

P.O. Box 96  
West Olive, MI 49460

For advertising, business news, submission  
of articles and WMNLA member news:

Contact Pam Cater at

(616) 402-4885

Email:wmnla2013@gmail.com

**Mark Your  
Calendar!**

**March 11, 2017**  
**“March Garden Day: A  
Celebration of Gardening”**

at

*Grand Haven Community Center*  
*Www.wmnla.com for more information*

**2016-17 WMNLA Board of Directors**

Nate Weaver, President, Michigan Wood Fibers, LLC  
Ryan Weesies, Vice President, Weesies Farm & Garden  
Center  
Brian Boyink, Secretary, Gardens Alive Fams

Chris Howe, Treasurer, Hortech  
Russ Hillman, Member at Large, Bosch's Landscape & Lawn  
Specialties  
Allison Jesky, Member at Large, Hope College

**“Green Industry Update”**  
*presented by Michigan State Police,  
Department of Transportation*

**Wednesday, February 8, 2017**

**11:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.**

**At Michigan Wood Fibers**

**9426 Henry St.**  
**Zeeland, Mi 49464**

**Lunch provided by Michigan Wood Fibers**

**RSVP by Monday, February 6th**

**wmnla2013@gmail.com**

**Text or call 616-402-4885**

**WMNLA Board Meetings**

You are welcome to attend the WMNLA Board Meetings at 10 a.m. on the day of the Program. It is an excellent opportunity to address the Board with any industry & membership issues.

