

October 2015



WEST MICHIGAN NURSERY & LANDSCAPE ASSOCIATION

# WMNLA News

## President's Message

Imagine looking into a crystal ball and being able to EXACTLY foresee what the weather will be like, so that you can plan your business accordingly. Those who attended chief meteorologist George Lessons' extended weather forecast presentation last year were able to do just that and profited as a result! Ok, this may not be 100% realistic, but I can say that all of those who did attend his presentation last year had a great time and did learn a lot about weather forecasting. So back by popular demand, we are excited to announce that George Lessons will kick off our seminar series on October 14<sup>th</sup> at the Grand Haven Community center. As nursery professionals, we tend to be very concerned about, and even dependent on the weather, so this is sure to be a presentation well worth attending.

As you will see from the photos in the Newsletter, this year's golf outing was a huge success. We would like to give a big thank you to Grand Haven Golf course, as well as the golfers, sponsors, and volunteers for all they did to help make this event happen. We also wish to give a special thanks to Mike Teunis for leading the charge in organizing the event at its new location this year. If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions to make

the outing even better next year, please connect with one of the board members, we would love to hear your thoughts.

Even as we are busy finishing up our last projects in this Fall season, as well as trying to prepare for winter, don't forget to take a moment to enjoy the beautiful Autumn that only Michigan can offer. In a short time the freezing rain may chill us to the bones as we hurry to clean up the last of the fallen leaves. First we hope that you are able to say that you enjoyed the striking colors, gorgeous landscapes, pleasant weather and delightful time of the fall season. See you at the next meeting!

*Dirk Jonker*

Dirk Jonker, Jonker's Garden  
WMNLA President

*Contact him with comments, ideas, & questions at  
(616) 392-7234 or [info@jonkersgardens.com](mailto:info@jonkersgardens.com)*

## WMNLA Golf Outing

The 16th Annual Golf Outing Fundraiser was a big success for the WMNLA Scholarship Fund with 79 golfers participating. It was a great day for golf, even with the damp, chilly morning. The Grand Haven Golf Club hosted an excellent outing and the camaraderie was good fun.

For the first time there was a three way tie for first place honors. The winner by tie-breaker was Mellema Nursery, followed by Jacobsen and Double L Landscaping. Our last place award of practice golf balls was happily accepted by Dykstra Landscape Management. Congratulations to all teams for supporting the WMNLA Scholarship funds!

WMNLA is grateful for the generous support from Event Sponsors Eco Green Supply and Forever Green Sod. Our lunch was sponsored by Landscape Design Services. Over 50 businesses, both members and friends of WMNLA, supported the event and the scholarship & horticulture education grant fund through hole sponsorships, cash prizes, and raffle gifts. Some of the great prizes included a two night stay at Grand Traverse Resort, Michigan State Basketball tickets, craft beer baskets, wine baskets and more.

Thank you to Mike Teunis of BFG Supply Co. for chairing this year's event. He did a great job and we appreciate the WMNLA board's support!

WMNLA is very fortunate to be able to award a \$1500 scholarship for 2015/16 from the WMNLA Scholarship fund to Rachel Grinwis, a student at Michigan State University. WMNLA also awarded a \$300 Master Gardener grant to Kathy Wells. This is a new fund set up in 2015 to help members and employees of members off set tuition costs.



# Thank you to **Eco Green Supply and Forever Green Sod** who generously sponsored the WMNLA 16th Annual Golf Outing & Scholarship Fundraiser



**Lunch Sponsor**  
**Landscape Design Services**



<b>Golf Hole Sponsors</b>		<b>Prize Contributors</b>	Jonker's Garden
Bartlett Tree Experts	Jonker's Gardens.	BFG Supply	Lemon Creek Winery
BFG Supply	Mellema Nursery	Boyink Plant Solutions	Maple Hill Golf
Double L Enterprise	Michigan Nursery & Landscape Association	Colonial Golf Club	Michigan Wood Fibers
Dykstra Landscape Management	Michigan Turf & Ornamentals	Grand Haven Golf Club	New Holland Brewery
Evergreen Acres	Michigan Wood Fibers, LLC	Grand Traverse Resort	Old Boy's Brew Pub
Grand Haven Garden House	Rosebay Nursery	GVSU Facilities	Simpson Nursery
Great Lakes Nursery Soils, Inc.	Seavers Lawn Service	Tony Hamilton	West Ottawa Golf Course
Jacobsen-Great Lakes	Vandenberg Bulb Co		
John Deere Landscaping			

<b>Golf Teams</b>	
Bartlett Tree	Landscape Design Services
BFG Supply	Mellema Nursery
Double L Enterprises	Michigan Turf & Ornamentals
Dykstra Landscape Management	Michigan Wood Fibers, LLC
Dykstra Landscape Services	MNLA
Eco Green Supply	Pete's Lawncare
Evergreen Acres	Plantscapes
Grand Haven Garden House	Seavers Lawn Service
Jacobsen-Great Lakes	Van's Pines
<b>Jonkers Garden</b>	Weesies Garden Center
	Weesies Landscaping & Garden Center

## ***WMNLA 2015/16 Programs***

**Wednesday, October 14, 2015** George Lessens, Chief Meteorologist WZZM Channel 13 Weather, 'Past and Present Weather Trends including WZZM's Long Range Forecast'

**Wednesday, November 11, 2015** Dr. Robert Schutzki, MSU, Horticulture; 'Updates within the Green Industry from the MSU Horticulture Department'

**Wednesday, December 9 2015** Mary Stancik, Previous Director of Grounds & Golf at the Grand Hotel, Mackinaw Island; 'Take a Tour of the Beautiful Grand Hotel'; Amy Frankmann, Executive Director MNLA; 'Updates from MNLA and the Capital'

**Wednesday, January 13, 2016** Adam Kantovich, Business Management Educator from. MSU; 'Farm and Business Seccession Planning'

**Wednesday, February 10, 2016**, Mike Bryan, Nursery & Export Specialist, Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development; 'Green Industry Specific Updates from the Department of Agriculture' **at Michigan Wood Fibers, 9426 Henry St, Zeeland, Mi 49464 (Lunch provided by Michigan Wood Fibers)**

**All meeting eligible for CPIG Credit**

Meeting time 11:30 a.m. at **The Grand Haven Community Center, 421 Columbus, Grand Haven, Michigan.**

Cost: \$15.00 person,

Employee special: Send 3-4th employee eats free



**First Place Winners  
Mellema Nursery  
Double L Landscape  
Jacobsen-Great Lakes**



**Look for all team pictures on Facebook**





**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!**

**November 11, 2015 -**

*Dr. Robert Schutzki, Michigan  
State University  
Horticulture Department*

**2015-16 WMNLA Board of Directors**

Dirk Jonker, President, Jonker's Gardens  
Nate Weaver, Vice President, Michigan Wood Fibers  
Brian Boyink, Secretary, Berry Family of Nurseries

Mike Teunis, Treasurer, BFG Supply  
Ryan Weesies, Member at Large, Weesies Farm & Garden Center  
Chris Howe, Member at Large, Hortech

**“Past and Present Weather Trends including WZZM’s Long Range Forecast”**

*presented by*

*George Lessens, On Target Chief Meteorologist, WZZM Channel 13 News*

***Wednesday, October 14***

***11:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.***

***At The Grand Haven  
Community Center***

***Mackinaw Ballroom***

***421 Columbus  
Grand Haven***

***\$15 per person,  
includes lunch***

***Send 3, 4th employee is free***

**George Lessens On Target  
Chief Meteorologist for  
WZZM Channel 13 News**

will present a program about  
the long term weather  
forecasts for the green  
industry .

George is a member of the  
American Meteorology Society  
(AMS) and holds its highest seal of  
approval as a **Certified Broadcast  
Meteorologist (CBM.)** George is a  
graduate of Penn State University  
where he earned a **B.S. in  
Meteorology**, and is also a  
graduate of Grand Rapids

Community College, where he  
earned an **Associate Science  
degree in Chemistry**. Watch  
George Lessens weekdays at 5:30,  
6:00 and 11:00 pm. On Channel  
13, WZZM.

You can email George at  
[georgelessens@wzzm13.com](mailto:georgelessens@wzzm13.com)

**RSVP by October 10  
Let us know you are coming so  
our hosts can prepare!**

**WMNLA member businesses &  
staff are welcomed!**

**RSVP to Pam Cater at  
(616) 402-4885 ❖  
wmnla2013@gmail.com**