



President's Message

The snowflakes have begun falling and falling and falling, the Christmas music *before* Thanksgiving has been playing, and some of you have been busy plowing the near record snowfall, while still others are trying to put up lights and ornaments, it must mean we are getting close tothe end of the 2014 season. Before that happens, we must have our Christmas program. It will be a very picture perfect program as Judge Ed Post shares his talent with his photography.

We had a good turnout for the November Program, and again thank you to Dr. Robert Schutzki on an outstanding job. Reminder to all of us in Business, the January program will be full of insight and knowledge so that we are not taken advantage of. Come and see.

As I sit here at my computer on this snowy, cold, blustery evening, I can't help but think of how blessed we all are. Sure, maybe our business isn't as profitable as we would like, but I have had a good year, great employees, I have a wonderful family, and a God

who loves me. I hope many if not all of you can say the same. With all the turmoil and fighting in foreign countries it is hard for me to imagine a life without freedom. Freedom to work, to vacation, to go to church, to hunt, to live life without having gunfire or bombs going off at all hours of the day. I have friends in the military currently serving and those that have served. To all the military men and women I can't thank you enough for your willingness to put your life on the line for my freedom. Remember these individuals when job positions in your company become available. See you all on Dec 17.

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- Reminder that the GLTE 2015 is January 26-28 at the Lansing Center. **Note New Date and Location This Year**

—Matt Mellema

Matt Mellema, Owner of Mellema Nursery LLC in Fremont, is the 2014-2015 President of the WMNLA. Contact him with any comments, ideas, or questions at (231) 924-5106 or at mellemam@ncats.net.

***New Meeting Location
Grand Haven Community Center
421 Columbus, Grand Haven, Mi 49417***

Certified Green Industry Professional Program Update



The MNLA offers a Certification program (Certified Green Industry Professional – CGIP) that is specifically designed for Michigan’s green industry experts. You can get certified in 3 easy steps:

- Purchase the self-study Manuals.
- Study the Manuals and the Plant ID CD
- Sign up to take a test:

December 11, 2014 –

Drost LandscapeDesign & Construction in Petoskey, M

January 28, 2015 – Great Lakes Trade Expo

Exam Review will be held in the morning before the exam

February 13, 2015 –

Ray Wiegand’s Nursery in Macomb, MI

Exam Review will be held in the afternoon on February 12th

If you have questions about earning the Certification credential, please contact Kristin Faasse at MNLA at P: 517-381-0437 or E: kfaasse@mnl.org. You can also visit our website for more information and answers to FAQs: <http://www.mnla.org/edu/home>.

GVSU Employment Opportunity

- **Groundskeeper** – Grand Valley State University is accepting applications for the position of Groundskeeper 1.
- Prior professional employment (prefer three years) in ground keeping, landscaping, gardening, construction, horticulture, agronomy, soils, or turf maintenance experience.
- Demonstrated ability to operate standard grounds and snow removal equipment is preferred.
- Valid driver’s license. Must have or obtain CDL license within 90 days of accepting the position.
- For a full description and to apply online, go to www.gvsujobs.org.
- Review of application begins immediately and continues until the position is filled.
- Grand Valley State University is an affirmative action, equal opportunity institution.



GREAT LAKES TRADE EXPOSITION LANSING, JANUARY 26-28TH, 2015

“Promoting a healthy economic future through ideas, interaction and inspiration”

Go to www.mnla.org for more information

WMNLA 2014/15 Programs

Wednesday, December 17, 2014 “Birds and Blooms”, Ed Post, owner of Ed Post Photography
“Industry Update”: Amy Frankmann, MNLA Director

Wednesday, January 14, 2015 “Health Care/Obama Care and Small Business”, Dave Young

Wednesday, February 11, 2015, “Michigan Department of Transportation: Regulations/Question & Answer” at *Michigan Wood Fibers, 9426 Henry St, Zeeland, MI, 49460* (Lunch provided by Michigan Wood Fibers)

All meetings eligible for CGIP Credit

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

Cost: \$15.00 person,

Employee special: Send 3-4th employee eats free

Door Prizes!!!!



Classifieds! Employment Opportunitites!

Look for our website at www.WMNLA.com. We now have the capability to offer our members the opportunity to post employment openings and equipment for sale.

Classifieds will run for one month at the low fee of \$5.00 per ad. Limit postings to 3-4 sentences with the optional ability to post a photo.

Contact Pam Cater at wmnla2013@gmail.com. for information.

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.

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

Contact Pam Cater at

(616) 402-4885

Email:wmnla2013@gmail.com

2014-15 WMNLA Board of Directors

Matt Mellema, President, Mellema Nursery
Dirk Jonker, Vice President, Jonker's Gardens
Lisa Denison, Secretary, Landscape Design Services

Mike Teunis, Treasurer, BFG Supply
Brian Boyink, Member at Large, Berry Family of Nurseries
Nate Weaver, Member at Large, Michigan Wood Fibers

“Birds and Blooms”
presented
by Ed Post, Ed Post Photography

Wednesday December 17

11:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.

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

Woodbine Room

***421 Columbus
Grand Haven***

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

Send 3, 4th employee is free

Ed Post of Ed Post Photography will present “Birds and Blooms: The art and adventure of Photographing Wild Birds and Flowers” a photographic narrative of birds and wildflowers throughout the seasons. Ed will share his knowledge of photography, and some professional tips and tricks of the trade with us. His excellent pictures will transport us back to nature.

Ed's work can be seen at : www.EdPostPhotography.com

Amy Frankmann, Executive Director of MNLA will provide an industry update at the December 17th meeting.

**Mark Your
Calendar!**

January 14, 2015

**‘Obama Care: How it
Affects your Business:**

By

By Dave Young, Account Executive

RSVP by December 10th
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