

February/March 2016



WEST MICHIGAN NURSERY & LANDSCAPE ASSOCIATION

WMNLA News

President's Message

Thanks to our entire line up of educational and informative speakers this year; we've become a little wiser on everything from long range weather forecasting to business succession planning. We even got a lesson on how to maintain a hotel and resort on horse-back.

Thank you for those who trekked through the snowstorm to attend our last educational meeting for the year. Nate Weaver and Michigan Wood Fibers provided a delicious lunch and hosted our last meeting.

Michael Hanson from WDARD; our most recent guest speaker drove up from Saint Joseph to share a lesson on invasive insect and disease problems in our native and ornamental landscape. There is one current threat he highlighted that continues to weigh heavily on my mind: The Hemlock Woolly Adelgid.

My backyard is lined with over 10 40 ft hemlocks, over the years they have become my most favorable and cherished evergreen. Their draping branches give my family privacy, provide shade in the warm summer sun and are stunning when covered in snow. I can't imagine my home without them.

My wife and I are expecting a baby this spring and it's important to me that my child grow up surrounded by these beautiful trees.

What comes to mind is the devastation the Ash borer recently caused, leaving holes in our landscape that will take years to replace. With greater awareness, we will prevent such widespread damage from the Woolly Adelgid and any other problem nature (or Man) throws at us.

As this term winds down, it's time to start thinking about board members for the upcoming year. I encourage you to consider participating by nominating someone who you think may enjoy and contribute to our great organization. We have an amazing team of board members and joining is a fun way to have an impact on our local industry and community.

Dirk Jonker

Dirk Jonker, Jonker's Garden
WMNLA President *Contact him with comments, ideas, & questions at (616) 392-7234 or info@jonkersgarden.com*

WMNLA Scholarship Application Available Online

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.htm> 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 postmarked to GHACF no later than March 4th, 2016. All of these instructions are on the online application also. For questions contact: Kim McLaughlin, Director of Donor Services and Scholarships, Grand Haven Area Community Foundation, 1 South Harbor, Grand Haven, MI 49417. 616-842-6378.

March Garden Day Saturday March 12, 2016

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 12, 2016

8:00 Registration and Check In

View exhibits, indoor gardens and Silent Auction.

9:00 Session 1



“Experience The Richard and Helen DeVos Japanese Garden” with Greg Afman. Greg is the lead horticulturist for the Richard and Helen DeVos Japanese Gardens at the Frederick Meijer Garden and Sculpture Park. Greg studied Art History at the University of Michigan. While there, he became interested in Japanese culture and bonsai. Greg moved to Japan and was selected as an apprentice to a bonsai master. He also worked as a gardener for a Japanese garden construction company. Greg completed the Professional Gardener program at Longwood Gardens. Greg will present design elements of the Richard & Helen

DeVos Japanese Garden and ideas for applying them to your garden.

10:30 Session 2

“Simplify to Keep on Growing” with Janet Macunovich Janet is a professional gardener, designer, author and educator. Known as the “lady at the flower house, the one with no lawn”, she began designing for others in 1980, teaching a college garden design course in 1987 and published her first book in 1990. Janet will present techniques for simplifying your garden, including making tasks physically easier by modifying designs and adopting variations in tools and timing. Janet’s ideas can be implemented by experienced and new gardeners alike.



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

“Divide and Conquer: Dividing Perennials” with Jolene King, Advanced Master Gardener, Michigan Certified Nurseryman, employed at Weesies Garden Center.

“Bonsai,” with Greg Afman, Lead Horticulturist at the Helen DeVos Japanese Garden, Frederick Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park



“Zandra: The Chicken Whisperer” with Zandra Talley, Jonker’s Garden

“Vertical Gardening: Bringing Walls to Life” with Lori May, Sales Specialist for LiveWall, LLC a division of Hortech Nursery

“Twice As Good: Three Common Culinary Herbs and Their Medicinal Uses,” with Ruth Zwald, owner of “SpiritLink Herbals: Linking the Goodness of Plants With The Well-being of Your Spirit.”

1:45 Session 3 :

“Plants on my Wish List” with Janet Macunovich Janet will present trees, shrubs, perennials and annuals that she chooses when she must whittle down the choices, yet still be sure to design a beautiful, classic, enduring landscape.

To download registration forms, go to: www.wmnl.com.

: WMNLA Welcomes New Member: Capsure Insurance Group



**Nate Lyons, CIC | Risk
Advisor**

[616 401-5835](tel:6164015835)

McKay Tower | Suite 421
146 Monroe Center NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

CapSureIns.com

Providing a fresh focus on unique industries, CapSure Insurance Group specializes in property and casualty insurance.

With over 30 years of previous insurance industry experience in the region, CapSure is poised to become the best new independent insurance agency in the industry. Through strategic partnerships in place with nationally reputable insurance carrier partners, a desirable work environment, and a passion for the changing industry, CapSure is a new dedicated leader in the insurance marketplace.

CapSure Horticultural specializes in managing the exposures faced by wholesale distributors, retail florists, retail garden centers, greenhouse growers, nurseries, landscape professionals, tree care specialists and many others.

Nate Lyons has dedicated his career to providing innovative insurance solutions to the “green” industry. A graduate of Michigan State University, he sure knows what it means to be Green. Nate is very excited to be a part of WMNLA from an educational and networking standpoint, and hopes to help grow our association.

You may contact Nate 616-401-5835 or visit their website at:
www.horticulturalinsurance.com



[616.399.6861](tel:6163996861)
HOME : PORTFOLIO : CONTACT US

Bosch's Landscape & Lawn Specialties is seeking a Landscape Foreman: Will be responsible for organizing and leading a crew. Experience is a plus. Competitive wages and 401(K) plan available.

Please email your resume to service@boschlandscape.com or call [616-399-6861](tel:6163996861).

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 **Dirk Jonker, Jonker's Gardens** and **Mike Teunis, BFG Supply**.

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.

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 11, from 1-5:00 PM and Saturday March 12, from 7-8:00 AM.

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

Contact **Pam Cater**, wmnla2013@gmail.com. Or call **616-402-4885** to reserve your space.



**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!**

**WMNLA Annual Golf Outing
Friday, September 23rd, 2016
at the Grand Haven Golf Club**

*Profits benefit West Michigan & Nursery Scholarship
Funds*

2015-16 WMNLA Board of Directors

Dirk Jonker, President, Jonker's Gardens
Nate Weaver, Vice President, Michigan Wood Fibers
Brian Boyink, Secretary, Zelanka Farms

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

**Wednesday February 10th, 2016
'Green Industry Updates'**

Presented by Mike Bryan, Nursery & Export Specialist, Michigan Dept of Agriculture and Rural Development

Mike Bryan, Nursery & Export Specialist with the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development updated WMNLA members Wednesday, February 10th about several insect pests that are of concern to the Michigan nursery community.

Mike provided identification tools and the current status of Hemlock Woolly Adelgid, Asian Longhorned Beetle and Balsam Woolly Adelgids.

More information can be found
at: www.michigan.gov/exoticpests and
www.na.fs.fed.us/fhp/hwa.

Quarantine information can be found at:
www.michigan.gov/pestquarantines. Possible identification of these pests in Michigan can be reported to
1-800-292-3939 or www.misin.msu.edu.

