

Summer 2013



WEST MICHIGAN NURSERY & LANDSCAPE ASSOCIATION

WMNLA News

The 14th Annual WMNLA Golf Outing & Scholarship Fundraiser



Event Sponsored by



Friday, September 13

The Meadows Golf Course

at Grand Valley State University

Event Sponsored by



Sign-In and team selection at 11:00 a.m.

Shotgun Start at Noon. Dinner at 5:00 p.m.

This year's Event Sponsors are **Eco Green Supply Wyoming** and **Forever Green Sod of Fremont**. Our Hole-In-One Prize Sponsor, **Grand Auto**, is giving away a free one-year lease on a new car. There will be a lot of great golf, a great time, and supporting a great cause!

Open to all WMNLA members, employees, friends, customers, vendors, & family. Bring the sales team! Bring a new member! You can sign up individually or as teams of 2, 3 or 4. We'll partner individuals to make foursomes.

\$65 Per Person – Includes Dinner, 18 holes of golf, power cart, dinner, and an all-round great time. **Advance Registration Required by September 1.**



Hole-In-One Prize—
One-year lease on a new car

Dinner includes a cook-out after the tournament of burgers, hot dogs & brats. Spouses and non golfers welcome to **"dinner only"** for \$20
Cash bar available.

Proceeds benefit the WMNLA Scholarship Fund & Horticulture Education Fund.



Your company can advertise by sponsoring a hole for \$50. Deadline is August 20. Or donate a prize for the raffle (golf outings, shirts, golf balls, restaurants, hockey tickets, gift cards, etc.)

Contact **Lisa Denison, Landscape Design Services** at **(616) 928-9283** to donate prizes.

WMNLA Golf Outing Registration

Team or Individual	\$65 per player
1. _____ <small>Name Company</small>	\$ _____
2. _____ <small>Name Company</small>	\$ _____
3. _____ <small>Name Company</small>	\$ _____
4. _____ <small>Name Company</small>	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have "dinner only". \$20	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> My company wants to Sponsor a Hole for only \$50!!! <i>Thank you for your support of the WMNLA Scholarship & Horticulture Grant Funds!</i>	\$ _____
Method of Payment:	Total:
<input type="checkbox"/> Please Bill Me.	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Check enclosed. Please make out to WMNLA .	
<input type="checkbox"/> Visa / MC # _____ Expiration _____ SSN _____	

President's Message

"The days are getting shorter" the weatherman said this morning as I was watching the news preparing for my day. It is something that I knew, but for some reason it seemed to set in more than the days since June 21. We're officially past the midpoint of summer, and with the season we've had this year it seems like we just got started. Letters have already gone out from the schools announcing teachers for the upcoming school year, summer is going fast. As I have been reflecting on this past year of being president, it has flown by. It is probably due to the people I have served with on our board. I know it is also a result of our coordinator, Pam Cater. Those of you who have never dealt with her personally have no idea how much of an asset she is to our organization and how fortunate we are to have her. Thank you to Jeff Rylaarsdam, who has served as our treasurer for the last year. Thanks also to Kurt Gernaat, who has had to step away from our board due to a change in occupation, but who was a definite contributor of ideas and insight over the past year. Matt Mellema will be filling out Kurts term, and will no doubt be an asset to our board once again. Thank you in advance to Mike Teunis and Dirk Jonker for their willingness to serve on our board. I have enjoyed the opportunity to serve on this board, and hope that it has been led in the direction that is best for us. Any good leader is surrounded by better people who are behind the scenes, but make him look good. I think it's a very true statement, and we are fortunate to have the people we do in this group, who care as much as they do not only for the organization, but also for our industry. Hats off to all of you who make WMNLA successful. Please take the time to attend not only our upcoming annual golf outing in September, but our programs throughout the upcoming year. We hope that many will be able to take plenty away from the programs, as well as have a break to enjoy the fellowship of other green industry professionals. As cliché as it may be to say, I will end with GO GREEN!!

Jon

Jon Mellema, Owner of Shoreline Landscape & Maintenance and Forever Green Sod, LLC of Fremont was the 2012/13 President of WMNLA. Contact him with comments, ideas, & questions at (231) 924-5307 or jon.mellema@sbcglobal.net.

*Hole Sponsored by
Your Business
Your Phone
West Michigan Nursery &
Landscape Association*

**Be a Hole Sponsor for
\$50 at the WMNLA
Golf Outing on
September 13 at the
Meadows Golf Course.**



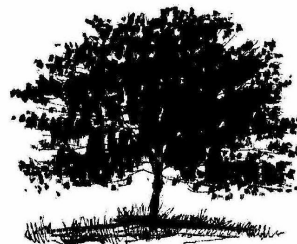
WMNLA Introduces New Board Members

Welcome new members **Dirk Jonker** of **Jonker's Gardens** and **Mike Teunis** of **BFG** to the WMNLA Board.

Dirk Jonker grew up in the Garden Center business at Jonker's Garden. He graduated from Michigan State with a B.S in horticulture. While in East Lansing he worked several seasons for Christian's Garden Center in Williamston. He moved to outside of San Francisco and managed an Armstrong Garden Center for 4 years. He earned his CCN (California Certified Nurseryman) designation. Then he moved to Southern California where he managed several different retail locations for Armstrong Garden Centers. He's spent the last year and a half taking over the reins at Jonker's Garden in Holland.

Mike has been in the Turf & Landscape industry for 18 years. Mike started out as a truck driver for J Mollema & Son. He has held the position of Distribution Coordinator, Purchasing Assistant, and Marketing Manager. Mike is currently the Sales Consultant for the Turf & Landscape Division at BFG Supply. Mike's passion is meeting other Turf & Landscape professionals and helping them to be successful in their business. Mike lives in the city of Hudsonville and is employed with the Hudsonville City Fire Department.

Dirk and Mike will be serving a three year term starting July 1st. Jon Mellema will also be returning as member-at-large for a one year term.



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- ◆ **Our prices are competitive.**
- ◆ **We deliver to the jobsite on time and at your convenience.**
- ◆ **We welcome you to "tag your own".**
- ◆ **We have been pleasing our customers for **25** years.**

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is Northern Hardy!



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**Give us a call for a price quote and
availability today!**



2013/14 Program

Wednesdays with WMNLA

Date/Time	Event	Information	Number Attending
Friday, September 13, 2012 11:00 a.m.—Registration 12:00 p.m.—Shot Gun Start	WMNLA Golf Outing & Scholarship & Horticulture Grants Fundraiser Bring Friends & Spouses. Reward your Staff,	<i>\$65 per person—Open to all! \$20 "dinner only" \$50 Corporate Hole Sponsorship The Meadows Golf Club, GVSU Allendale</i>	—
Wednesday, October 16, 2013 11:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.	"Business Strategies" <i>Presented by William M. Johnson President & CEO, The Berean Group LLC</i> A discussion of strategic planning, marketing, banking & finance, succession planning for small and medium business..	<i>\$12 per person, includes lunch. Employee Special—Send 3, 4th employee free. RSVP by October 9 At: to be determined</i>	—
Wednesday, November 13, 2013 11:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.	"Environmental Benefits of the Everyday Landscape" <i>Presented by Dr. Bob Schutzki MSU Horticulture Department</i>	<i>\$12 per person, includes lunch. Employee Special—Send 3, 4th employee free. RSVP by November 6 At: to be determined</i>	—
Wednesday, December 18, 2013 11:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.	"Exotic Forest Pests" <i>John Bedford Michigan Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development's Pesticide and Plant Mgt. Division</i> Identification and discussion of invasive forest pests in Michigan	<i>\$20 per person for the Holiday Program, includes lunch. RSVP by December 11 At: to be determined Certified Applicator Recertification Credits in Commercial Core, Categories 2,3b and 6.</i>	—
Wednesday, January 13, 2014 11:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.	"Bringing New Ornamental Plants to Market" <i>Presented by Walter's Gardens</i>	<i>\$12 per person, includes lunch Employee Special—Send 3, 4th employee free. RSVP by January 6 At: to be determined</i>	—
Wednesday, February 12, 2014 11:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m. **Employee Meeting**	"Social Media for Green Industry Businesses" <i>Presented by Christopher VanOosterhout Muskegon Community College</i>	<i>\$12 per person, includes lunch Employee Special—Send 3, 4th employee free. RSVP by February 5 At: to be determined</i>	—
Saturday, March 15, 2014 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.	March Garden Day This is the annual garden event to the public presented by WMNLA featuring gardening seminars and member expo showcase.	<i>\$60 Early Bird Booth Registration ; \$75 after February 1, 2013 At the Grand Haven Community Center, Open to the Public</i>	—

New Members Welcome!

West Michigan Nursery & Landscape Association



RSVP your attendance to
 WMNLA at
 wmnla2013@gmail.com





WEST MICHIGAN NURSERY & LANDSCAPE ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 96
West Olive, MI 49460

RSVP your attendance to WMNLA at
wmnla2013@gmail.com

Register Today!

2013/14 WMNLA PROGRAM INSIDE

WMNLA Scholarship Golf Outing

September 13, 2013

At the Meadows Golf Course at GVSU

2012-13 WMNLA Board of Directors

Paul Keifer, President, Specialty Gardens
Mat Mellema, Vice President Mellema Nursery
Lisa Denison, Secretary, Landscape Design Services
Tony Hamilton, Treasurer, Berry Family Nursery

Jon Mellema, Member at Large, Shoreline Landscape & Maintenance and Forever Green Sod
Dirk Jonker, Member at Large, Jonker's Garden
Mike Teunis, Member at Large, BFG Supply

MNLA Scholarship & Horticulture Grant Fund

Scholarships Since October 2001 Equaling \$22,800

The West Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association 2013 Scholarship in the amount of \$1500 has been awarded to Kira M. Thomas. Kira is a sophomore attending Michigan State University, majoring in Environmental Studies and Agriscience. Kira hopes to study abroad next year at the University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences in Vienna, Austria. While there she hopes to study land and water conservation and management, organic agriculture and landscape architecture. The scholarship will help her to accomplish this goal. Kira spent the last summer working in



the nursery industry at Evergreen Acres in Spring Lake Michigan and hopes to

return to Michigan after graduation and apply her knowledge to help shape the future of Michigan's environment.

Currently, the WMNLA Scholarship Fund balance is \$9,570.50 and the Horticultural Education Fund balance is \$6,663.64.

In 2012 the WMNLA Board invested \$5,000 of the proceeds from the March Garden Day and Golf Outings into the Scholarship Fund and the Horticulture Education Grant Fund.

WMNLA Horticulture Educational Grant Program

The WMNLA uses this Fund to award annual grants to youth programs offered by area high schools to promote awareness of the horticulture industry. This competitive grant program awards grants of up to \$500 to horticulture educational projects offered by teachers in our serviced counties; Ottawa, Allegan, Muskegon, Oceana and

Applications are reviewed on a competitive basis.

The WMNLA Grant Fund has special interest in projects & activities designed to give students a better understanding of the green industry, specifically, greenhouses, nursery and landscaping.

The advisory committee has reserved \$1500 to be awarded annually. Grant requests for up to \$500 may be submitted for projects and activities that enhance classroom learning and which require funds beyond those available through normal school resources.

The 2013 grant award recipient is Clarence Rudat, of Montague High School. Clarence is a FFA And Ecology educator at Montague High School. The \$500 grant award will be used for develop a native plant nursery as part of a larger project to develop a nursery landscape program at Montague High School. Student will focus on increasing awareness of how native plants can be used in landscaping. The grant will be used to purchase growing media and container to start plants and develop a demonstration site on the high school grounds.