

Fall 2020

The 21st Annual WMNLA Golf & Scholarship Outing

Fifty-four golfers participated in the 21st annual WMNLA Golf Outing at Western Greens Golf Course. The day held amazing weather, great golf, and companionship among peers. Just over \$3,000 was raised for WMNLA Scholarships and Education Grant Funds.

The first place team was Greenmark Equipment: Brandon Israel, John Israel, Aaron Maatman, and Josh Hoffman.

Second place went to the team from Mellema Nursery: Matt Mellema, Steve Yonker, Jason DeKuiper, and Heath Scott.

WMNLA would like to the following companies for sponsoring snacks, holes, dinner, or providing prizes.

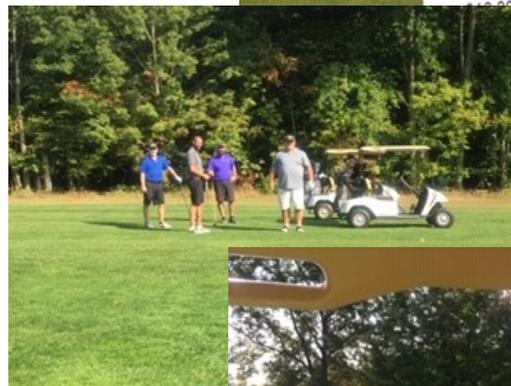
Event Sponsor: Eco Green

Dinner Sponsors: Landscape Design Services, Ditch Witch Sales of Michigan, and Bartlett Tree Experts

Snack Sponsor: Michigan Wood Fibers

Hole Sponsors:

- Landscape Design Services
- Ditch Witch Sales of Michigan
- Evergreen Acres
- Bartlett Tree Experts
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- Greenmark Equipment
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- Weesies
- Vandenberg Hort



WEST MICHIGAN NURSERY & LANDSCAPE ASSOCIATION

WMNLA News



President's Message

I'm writing this newsletter on the heels of what I consider to be a wonderful day – our 21st annual WMNLA Golf Outing. We didn't know how many golfers to expect this year, but were very pleased to have so many participate. We as a board are extremely excited to report that our scholarship is funded for another year thanks to the event's generous sponsors and over fifty golfers. The weather was utterly perfect, the fellowship was amazing as always, and the staff at Western Greens were extremely helpful and accommodating. We've created a poll for all who attended to share their thoughts on the outing and to weigh on whether they might be interested in forming a committee for future golf outings. Please stay tuned for an email with the link to share your thoughts.

At the last minute before the outing was held, we had some WMNLA swag put together for the raffle. While the items were delivered to the event late, many commented that the embroidered hats and pullovers were very well done. For those that didn't win your bid for raffle items, please stay tuned for an order form for those WMNLA embroidered items and a few more.

We have finally started to have some traction on setting up our series of lunch and learn monthly meetings for this fall and winter. That is good a good thing, as the time for our monthly meeting is already next week – October 14th at Noon! As much as it might seem to the contrary this year, time continues to march on, doesn't it? As the COVID19 situation continues to evolve, we've decided to have at least the first three events be webinars held on Zoom. For members on a set lunch schedule, we will attempt to keep the topics a little shorter. On the other hand, we'd like to also allow time to visit as an association for members who can benefit from the idea sharing that has been the hallmark of our traditional in-person monthly events. Each webinar will be recorded and sent out to membership that have missed meetings or would like to train staff on the topics offered. All meetings are eligible for CGIP credits.

Next week's meeting will feature Paul Sachs, Director - Department of Planning and Performance Improvement for Ottawa County. He will give us an update on the status of our local groundwater aquifer which is currently experiencing declining levels of water and rising levels of chlorides. We will also walk through an ongoing survey that can help Paul's team develop future best practice suggestions for us as green industry professional stakeholders before someone else develops rules and policies that are not compatible with the future of our trade. Log in information will be shared in a separate email to all members.

Last but most certainly not least, we wish to thank our outgoing WMNLA Coordinator, Pam Cater. Over her many years of service to the board, she has made it very easy to operate this valuable association. Her ability to organize and keep us all on task has been invaluable. We wish her will on her full retirement as she hopes to spend more time with family – especially those out of state. Please join the board in welcoming our new WMNLA Coordinator Kelly Stehouwer! Kelly shares a last name with our current Vice President Ryan Stehouwer - as well as a home, a new greenhouse business, and some children. Kelly is new to our industry and is very excited to meet all of you! She and the board are excited to continue building on what we've accomplished together as an association chapter, and we all welcome your suggestions and feedback!

Until next time,

Josh J Roggenbuck, CGIP
President, WMNLA
Regional Product Manager , Walters Garden



Future meetings to look forward to:

Wednesday, October 14th – Paul Sachs, Director – Department of Planning and Performance Improvement for Ottawa County
Location – Your desk

Wednesday, November 11th – Josh Reimer, AFIS Crosby & Henry Inc. – Horticulture Specific Insurance Policy Details.
Location – Your desk.

Wednesday, December 9th – Mike DeBoer, Grounds Dept. Manager, Aquinas College – Returning to campus after the nine week COVID19 shutdown. Challenges encountered and new practices developed since.
Location – Your desk.

Wednesday, January 13, 2021 – Associate Professor, Dept of Biology GVSU – Ecological Restoration, Wildland Fire Management, Soils.
Location TBD.

Wednesday, February 10, 2021 – Open for now –

What would you like to discuss or hear?

Location TBD.



P.O. Box 96
West Olive, MI 49460

2020-21 WMNLA Board of Directors

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