# **GROWERTALKS**

### GT in Brief

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## On The Move

Jennifer Zurko







#### **MasterTag**

MasterTag has hired a pair of industry veterans for its sales team. Dave Dagen will be the new Eastern Region Accounts Representative. Dave has a long background with Syngenta, Oglesby and Emerald Coast Growers. And Shannon Hoover will be the Canadian Region Account Rep. Her background is in packaging, merchandising and marketing, and she has plied

her trade with Flamingo Holland and Lakeshore.

#### **Skagit Gardens**

Mark Buchholz has assumed the position of President of Skagit Gardens. Before coming to Skagit Gardens, Mark acquired his experience from his years of production and leadership at Monrovia Nurseries and as sales manager at Oregon Vineyard Supply.

Nanci Allen steps into the role of Finished Sales Manager. Nanci's previous 26 years at Skagit Gardens, in both shipping and sales capacities, combined with time at PlantHaven and Booshoot Gardens, has given her a broad base of expertise in producing, introducing and selling a wide range of annuals, edibles and perennials.

Pam Youngsman, as Liner Sales Manager, continues to be responsible for all liner sales, and will work more directly with customers and brokers nationwide.

#### The Ohio Nursery & Landscape Association

(ONLA) elected new board members at its Annual Business Meeting & Luncheon on January 15, 2013. The new ONLA president is Jim Searcy from Hyde Park Landscaping, Inc. in Cincinnati, Ohio. Jim has served on ONLA committees for more than 15 years, as well as a previous two-year term on the board of directors.

Andy Harding from Herman Losely & Son, Inc. in Perry, Ohio, will be serving on the board as Immediate Past President with Dave Richards from South Ridge Farms in Ashtabula, Ohio, serving as 2013 President Elect. Returning board members include: Stephen Maddox from Rice's Nursery & Landscaping, Inc. in Canton,

Ohio; Dr. Hannah Mathers, representing The Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio; Mark Reiner from Oakland Nursery, Inc. in Columbus, Ohio; Mike Satkowiak from Markman Peat in Westerville, Ohio; and Kevin Thompson Executive Director of ONLA.

New board members for 2013 include Jason Bornhorst from JB Design Group, LLC in Hilliard, Ohio; Bill Mainland from Klyn Nurseries, Inc. in Perry, Ohio; and David Listerman from Listerman & Associates, Inc. in Xenia, Ohio.

#### **Van Belle Nursery**

Van Belle Nursery announced that Jonathan Pedersen has joined the Van Belle team. Jonathan is well known for his accomplishments during his time at Bailey Nurseries, where he led the team that introduced some of the most well-known brands in horticulture today, including The Endless Summer Collection, Easy Elegance Roses and First Editions.

#### **Biobest**

Biobest announced the expansion of its management team with the addition of Nick Steeghs and Herman Van Mellaert. Nick joins the company as Director of Operations for Asia and North America. Nick formerly was Plant Manager at the Syngenta Bioline bumblebee factory.

Herman joins the company as Director of Business Development. Herman has extensive expertise in the creation and growth of several life science and biotechnology companies. Both Nick and Herman will be part of the Company's Executive Committee.

#### **Dow AgroSciences**

Mae Council has joined the Dow AgroSciences Turf & Ornamental team as a sales representative, replacing Scott Potter, who is retiring after 40 years of service. Mae will assist customers in Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming. She's been working with Dow AgroSciences since June 2012 as a T&O sales trainee in Indianapolis. **GT**