

ILICA



NEWS

Land Improvement Contractors Of America · Illinois Chapter

January - February 2016

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MARCH 10TH & 11TH

ASHLAND HOUSE, MORTON, IL

(page 15)



Also Featured Inside:

ILICA Convention Update *(page 6 - 7)*

Springfield Plastics' Continued Support of Simmons Cancer Institute
Extension Connection: Evaluating 50+ Years of Drainage *(page 9)*

Research *(page 12-13)*

An Award Winning Night For Many *(page 14)*

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Upcoming Events:

10-Hr OSHA & Flagger Cert. -
Ashland House, Morton IL
March 10 - 11, 2016

March Board Meeting
Jubilee Café - Kickapoo, IL
March 12, 2016 - 2 PM

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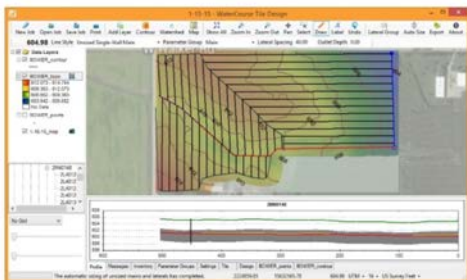
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2016 Board Member Attendance						
A = absent	P = present			C = cancelled meeting		
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Pres: Tom Beyers	P					
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1st VP: Grant Curtis	P					
Area 1 - Brian Brooks	P					
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NEW YEAR'S PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Illinois LICA began the 2015 year with a very successful annual convention and 2016 started off even better. The guest speakers in 2015 from Illinois Corn Growers and Wetlands Initiative who came to discuss possible construction projects attended this year to provide project updates or receive awards for the very successful Bureau County wetland project this summer. And membership meetings and the insurance program have helped push total members to 236 by convention this year.

The Area 6 golf outing was rained out by a 6-7 inch rain over night, but thanks to our generous associates and all those involved, the event was still a huge success. And once the rains began, planting season became a challenge.

The August Drainage Workshop was scheduled earlier than normal and the agenda altered in order to accommodate the desires of The Wetlands Initiative to build the Bureau County Wetland during the first week of August. Both events were completed successfully. The half-acre wetland involved lots of dirt to be moved in close quarters in a short time. Associates supplied lots of new equipment for us to demo, the show chairs were prepared and the volunteers stepped up to complete the project on time, safely with no issues.

The same positive comments can be said about the Farm Progress Show tile demo. The ILICA Show Chairmen were prepared, properly planned and staked the project, had the tie ins opened up and tiling plows set in and ready to demo on time, every day. There were 40 acres tiled during the three day show, which was called a "class act" by one of the spectators. Thank You again to the Associates and the Chairmen and the volunteers. These two projects put some funds in the bank making the budgeting much easier.

September brings a surprise; I got a telephone call from Janet our Executive Director, informing us that she is wishing to step down. September thru November the Headquarters and Executive Committees seek and find Ryan Arch, successor for the Executive Directors position. Ryan joined us just before this year's convention and is working with Janet and Lauri every day, getting up to speed.

During the course of the year, there has been additional interest in conservation type construction projects that present the possibilities of future construction shows and exhibitions. Some of these projects could be large and multi phased. Most of this interest is created by the State of Illinois Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy. The Science Assessment behind this strategy places one of our major industry enterprises, farm tile, squarely in the cross hairs of public water supply Nitrate levels. I think Jill Kostel put it very appropriately in one of her articles discussing the Bureau County Wetland Project; Nitrate in the

tile outlet effluent is a side effect of good farming practices that help produce the corn that makes Illinois and other Midwestern States a major contributor to the world economy.

ILICA members already have the knowledge, ability and desire to play an active role in preserving one of this Nation's greatest assets, the Mississippi River Watershed and the Gulf of Mexico. We in ILICA are up to the challenge; we plan to make a major contribution to this National effort to do the right thing. During the Board meeting held during the Annual Conference the Board approved a proposed exchange of Associate memberships with the Illinois Association of Drainage Districts (IADD). The IADD held their annual conference the week following the ILICA conference. Lee Bunting, Norm Kocher, Ryan Arch and I attended all or part of the conference. They had a very informative program which gave updates on several current issues facing drainage districts and ILICA contractors. I wish every one of our members could have been in attendance to learn more about these current issues facing Illinois farmers, drainage districts, the tiling industry and our neighbors in the public water works industry trying to keep our drinking water safe.

Tom Beyers, President

CALL TO SERVICE

It is that time of year again, that we are working on Committee assignments; it is always nice to have some rotation to get some new members involved. If anyone has an interest in any of the committees we would welcome volunteers. We also always struggle in the Southern portion of the State to fill the Director positions. These positions would require attendance at about 6 meetings per year usually on a Saturday. When these Director positions go vacant, the south has less of a voice. Norm Kocher and I could really use some help.

Again volunteers would be welcome. Just give me a call at (618)-267-8900. Thank You! Tom Beyers



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ILICA CONVENTION BRINGS IN RECORD ATTENDANCE, SPONSORSHIP & EXHIBITS *Thank You!*



Talk about knocking it out of the park! The 2016 ILICA convention broke all the records! A total of 38 exhibit tables were rented to 34 different vendors; close to 200 people attended the trade show and lunch on Thursday after the septic class which was standing room only; our outstanding associates provided sponsorship above and beyond what was solicited; and everyone certainly seemed to have a great time. The shortened schedule worked very well for our attendees and the only causality ended up being Saturday's optional bowling. Shortly after securing the Safari Bowl in Morton for Saturday afternoon, they had a fire which closed the doors for required remodeling. The exit survey's overwhelmingly asked ILICA to return to the Embassy Suites next year so Ryan has just secured the 2017 contract.

Our generous sponsors and exhibitors are listed to the right, so if you enjoyed the food, or the open bar on Thursday evening, or the ladies activities or ice cream break on Friday afternoon, please take the time to thank these outstanding ILICA supporters the next chance you get. This convention could not be successful without them, but it also takes the generosity all ILICA members who bring and buy auction items, take part in the theme or participate in the cake walk, which makes this convention so much fun!

And although there are a lot of changes on the horizon for ILICA with Ryan stepping into the Executive Director's position, this convention was a great way to start the year off! Perhaps this success is not only a sign of how far ILICA has come, but also a glimpse of how far it's about to go.



Exhibitors and Sponsors

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SEPTIC TRAINING ADDS 60 CONTRACTORS TO THURSDAY'S LUNCH & TRADE SHOW



Last year, the membership and on-site waste committees teamed up to hold septic training during the 2015 convention that qualified for the annual IDPH Continuing Education Units (CEUs) required to maintain a septic license in Illinois. Last year's sessions focused solely on the installer license classification and brought in 35 additional contractors to the event. This year, the sessions were more general, allowing anyone holding an installer, pumper or portable sanitation technicians license to attend the morning class and obtain the required CEU's for all of those, and the class was standing room only!

Thursday's lunch served 197 people that we could count. And although it may not be an all time high for convention attendance, it's been a very long time since ILICA has had that many guests at state convention. So, look for this training to repeat again next year and please, consider joining us next year and see what you can get out of your membership with ILICA.

(page 6: upper left) Crowded exhibit hall on Thursday evening before the auction. (page 6: lower left) Exhibitor photo, thank you all; Steve and Jeff Kocher and Bill Lee from CFCO visit with Greg Reese of SunSource; the delicious "wares for the winning" for Thursday evenings cake walk, hosted by the ladies committee. YUM
(above, upper left to lower right) Kane Curtis, theme night's farm animal costume winner! Jill Kostel from The Wetland's Initiative, presenting an

overview of the Bureau County Wetland building project; Jim Jansen, Jason Brown, Brian Brooks and Brian Hays enjoying conversation and refreshment; the very full septic class; theme night's farm animal contest participants; Rod Weinzierl, Illinois Corn Growers, lunch speaker; Doug Ebelherr, Chase Environmental Services, septic class facilitator; Richard Lyons, Illinois Association of Drainage Districts, lunch speaker.

CATERPILLAR & JOHN DEERE BRING BIG TICKET ITEMS TO THIS YEAR'S AUCTION

As most folks know, each year's auction is a large part of how the event is financed, making every donation and/or purchase a very important part of the conventions' success. But although each and every item is important, two of our outstanding associates went above and beyond to help ILICA reach it's auction goal for this year's convention.

Martin Equipment brought a big truck tool box, shown to the right (behind the flowers, sorry) that brought a very good auction price and Caterpillar donated another Golden Ticket for an hour of seat time on the D11 at Edwards, which ended up being 2, making everyone a winner! A special thanks goes out to Martin Equipment and Adam Zimmermann for their outstanding generosity.



ILICA LADIES PAGE

Five Ways To Kick The Winter Blues

<http://www.womenshealthnetwork.com/womenshealth/tips-to-kick-winter-blues.aspx>



As temperatures get colder and sunlight becomes scarce, some of us experience more cravings, more fatigue, and just generally feel blue. Women wonder, "Is it depression? Is it seasonal affective disorder? What's wrong with me?" There are certainly psychological aspects to the winter blues. Yet we've found that there are also some very real physical contributors to feeling low in the wintertime that are sometimes easy to tackle first.



Of course if you feel there is something really wrong, it's always best to talk things over with your doctor. But you might try these tips prior to labeling yourself with seasonal affective disorder or seeking out antidepressants.

Supplement with vitamin D

Research shows that adequate vitamin D levels can improve mood during the winter months. We recommend getting your vitamin D levels tested and supplementing as necessary. Even with all the talk about vitamin D these days, many people are still low. The optimal range, according to Dr. Susan E. Brown, PhD, nutritionist and bone health expert, is 50 -70 ng/mL. For healthy women who haven't been tested, we recommend supplementing with 2000 IU of vitamin D3 per day, especially through the fall and winter months.

Exercise outdoors

Getting outside is so important in the winter months. We need fresh air and whatever sunlight we can get. According to a 2011 review of the literature, moving your body outdoors has been associated with "greater feelings of revitalization and positive engagement, decreases in tension, confusion, anger, and depression, and increased energy." Dr. David J. Linden, professor of neuroscience at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, writes that exercise is also "...an excellent antidepressant and anxiety reducer..." So make a plan to get outside every day, even if it's for a short walk around the block.

Embrace "winter" nutrition

We tend to reach for comfort foods at this time of year, especially around the holidays, which means heavy pasta dishes, cheese, and sugary treats. Eating a salad in December just doesn't feel right! And this instinct is in line with Ayurvedic wisdom, which tells us that our bodies and minds feel best if we change our eating habits according to the seasons. As winter comes, our digestive fires aren't as strong, which means slow cooked stews, soups, and warm meals are more nourishing and grounding. In the summer and spring months, our digestive fires are stronger and can man-

age raw vegetables and cool foods eaten on the go. So stay with comfort foods, but instead of Mac n' cheese, white bread, and white potatoes, find recipes that include healthy protein, root vegetables and wild rice. Cutting back on simple carbs will help with cravings, fatigue, and mood swings.

Check your hormones

The feel good neurotransmitter, serotonin is affected by light. So it's no surprise that serotonin is typically lowest during the months of December and January. So how does this disrupt your hormones? With low serotonin, your body sends out cravings for carbohydrates (which help in the process of serotonin production). High carb diets lead to rapid spikes and drops in insulin, one of our major hormones. Once this major hormone is disrupted, other hormones like estrogen, progesterone and testosterone can become imbalanced, making fatigue, cravings and mood disturbances even worse. If you are in perimenopause, we recommend using herbal support to balance your hormones. Our product Herbal Equilibrium has helped thousands of women. You might also consider supplementing with 5-HTP, a naturally occurring amino acid that can help support the systems responsible for mood and appetite.

Plan a vacation

Okay, we admit this isn't exactly a "physical" fix for the winter blues, but the planning, build-up and time away makes for a great way to break up the winter doldrums. It would be great to take a vacation someplace warm and sunny, but if you don't have a lot of money, you can simply plan a weekend visit to a friend or family member's home. You might consider attending a yoga retreat, writing retreat or other creative endeavor. Simply making a plan and taking a short break from your daily routine can do wonders to restore and rejuvenate you!



~ To Our Sponsors ~

The ILICA Ladies say "thank you" for everyone's support at the Annual 2016 Convention in East Peoria. For all who bought tickets for the Cake Walk, bid on the purses or silent auction items; for the vendors who let us use their exhibit tables to display the very successful purses for sale, we extend our sincere thanks.

A special thanks to ADS for sponsoring the ladies day, Schlatter's for sponsoring the transportation and to all the ladies who joined us for the outing and for the crafts on Saturday. We hope to see you all next year!

The Ladies Committee

SPRINGFIELD PLASTICS' CONTINUED SUPPORT OF SIMMONS CANCER INSTITUTE RESULTS IN A DONATION OF \$35,850

(December 14, 2015) - Steve Baker, President, Springfield Plastics, Inc.

Springfield Plastics, Inc. first launched its "Drain for the Cure" campaign in October of 2014 in order to raise money for cancer research at the Simmons Cancer Institute at Southern Illinois University in Springfield. For each donation received, Springfield Plastics pledged to match the amount up to \$10,000. They were able to donate a total of \$22,665 in 2014. In October 2015, Springfield Plastics increased its match up to \$15,000. They surpassed last years amount with a grand total of \$35,850.

The employees, customers, family and friends who had been touched by cancer inspired Springfield Plastics to take action in support of cancer awareness, and they were overwhelmed by the response from their customers and the local community. Springfield Plastics President, Steve Baker, commented, "In 2014, we were overwhelmed with the outpouring of support shown by our staff, customers and friends. We were excited to do the campaign again in 2015. The fact that we raised even more funds this year is a testament to the caring individuals that we are so privileged to be associated with. We



couldn't be prouder to be a part of this endeavor and only hope to continue showing our support for such a worthy cause."

The Simmons Cancer Institute serves the people of central and southern Illinois by addressing their present and future cancer care needs through medical education, biomedical research, patient care and community service.

A formal check presentation of the donation was held on Thursday, December 17th at Simmons Cancer Institute at SIU located at 315 Carpenter St. in Springfield, IL.



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PAUL HAS A NEW HOME!



Paul The Good Luck Bear has been a fixture at the ILICA office as long as Janet Doubet has been ED. It's ironic that Paul has also decided to make a change this year, heading home with Dave and Ryan Maltby from Maltby Excavating, Pawnee. Paul has sat on the auction table every year, *(except that one when he was left behind)* dressed for the theme, ready to assist the membership committee in financing any work they can accomplish throughout the year. But this year, Paul really went over and above, with the generosity of the Maltby's, to smash previous records for this sponsorship.

Most convention attendees know how the Paul "auction" works. Membership chairs, Norm Kocher and Wayne Litwiller solicit donations for Paul and then bid against each other up to the total of what they've collected. And the membership has always been very generous. But this year, the Maltby's matched the collected amount with their own donation, reaching an all time high, earning them the right to take Paul to his new home.

Paul will return next year to the Embassy Suites in East Peoria as the contract has just been signed for 2017. He will sit among the auction items again, with that knowing smile on his face. He's a good bear, and should bring the Maltby's the same kind of luck he's brought ILICA during this past decade.



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WATER LAWSUIT FATE MAY REST WITH IOWA SUPREME COURT

Donnelle Eller, deller@dmreg.com: Des Moines Register

The Iowa Supreme Court will weigh in on legal questions that could be crucial in deciding whether Des Moines Water Works can seek damages from drainage districts in three north Iowa counties for nitrate-laden drinking water.

Federal Judge Mark Bennett filed an order Monday sending the questions to the Iowa Supreme Court, given the case's state importance and "the novelty" of the utility's legal arguments. "I believe that the interests of the parties and the public are best served" with rulings from the Iowa Supreme Court, Bennett wrote.

The judge said he needs the legal answers before he can rule on a request from the drainage districts in Sac, Buena Vista and Calhoun counties to dismiss part of the complaints in the Des Moines utility's lawsuit.

The order requires the state Supreme Court to weigh whether 10 drainage districts are immune from damages and cannot be forced to pay the utility's costs to remove excess nitrates. "The Iowa Supreme Court will pretty much decide if these claims are dismissed or move forward," said Kristine Tidgren, an attorney at Iowa State University's Center for Agricultural Law and Taxation.

The Des Moines utility's lawsuit, filed nearly a year ago, alleges that the north Iowa drainage districts act as conduits that enable high levels of nitrates to move from farm fields into the Raccoon River, one of two sources of drinking water for 500,000 metro area residents.

The utility says it spent about \$1.5 million last year to remove nitrates that exceed federal drinking water standards. The utility also says it will need to build a larger nitrate removal plant over the next four years that could cost up to \$184 million.

Des Moines Water Works seeks to have the drainage districts, and indirectly farmers, regulated by the federal government.

The questions sent to the state Supreme Court don't include parts of Des Moines Water Works' lawsuit that seek federal oversight of the drainage districts under the U.S. Clean Water Act, Tidgren said.

The drainage districts' attorneys argued against sending the questions to the state high court, saying the case precedent clearly says drainage districts are immune from damages.

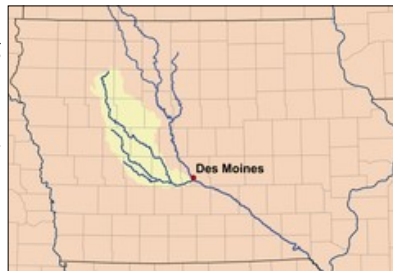
The drainage districts, formed only to oversee drainage improvements and maintenance, "have only such limited power as the Legislature grants them," Bennett wrote about the drainage district attorneys' stand. "Therefore, they argue, the defendants are not a proper party to this suit, and this is a debate to be had with the Iowa Legislature."

Des Moines Water Works says, among its arguments, that immunity for drainage districts "is no longer good law and should be changed."

Bill Stowe, Des Moines Water Works' CEO, welcomed Bennett's order. "What we're really happy about is that the federal judge didn't accept the defendants' argument that we have no basis ... for damages under state law," he said.

"We think the idea that the drainage districts should have a free drop to downstream damages without any accountability is not consistent with state law or good public policy," Stowe said.

Bennett is slated to hear the Water Works lawsuit in August.



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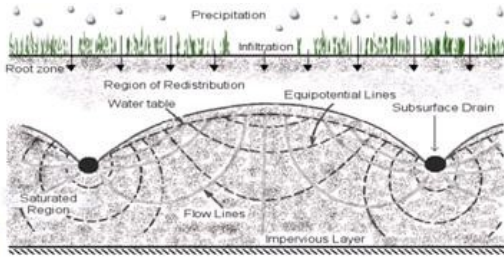
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The Extension Connection

Evaluating 50+ Years of Drainage Research: Looking Backward Can Help Point The Way Forward

Source: Dr. Laura Christianson Department of Crop Sciences, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

The roughly ten million acres of tile drainage in Illinois makes us one of the most heavily drained states as well as one of the most agriculturally productive. With many of our drainage systems dating back more than one hundred years, we're in a critical period of improving and replacing this vital infrastructure. Against this backdrop of more intensive drainage, growing awareness about the new Illinois Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy has led to increasing questions about options to reduce nitrate loss in tile drains. It is well established that production of corn and soybeans on tile drained acres results in loss of nitrate in drainage water (Figure 1). However, looking to the future of drainage in Illinois, there is a bright opportunity for land improvement contractors, drainage engineers, and the drainage industry to play a strong role in efforts to meet our Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy goals.

A recent review of several hundred drainage studies confirmed and reiterated that both controllable and uncontrollable factors impact nitrate loss in tile drainage (Christianson and Harmel, 2015 Ag. Water Management journal). Uncontrollable factors like precipitation amount and timing are extremely important, but it's the controllable factors like drainage design, cropping rotation, and nutrient management where things really get interesting. In corn and soybean-based cropping systems, the nitrate load leaving a field in drainage water in a given year is strongly correlated with the volume of drainage (Figure 2). Greater drainage volumes mean greater nitrate loss, thus it follows that reducing the volume of drainage water to only that which is needed for good crop

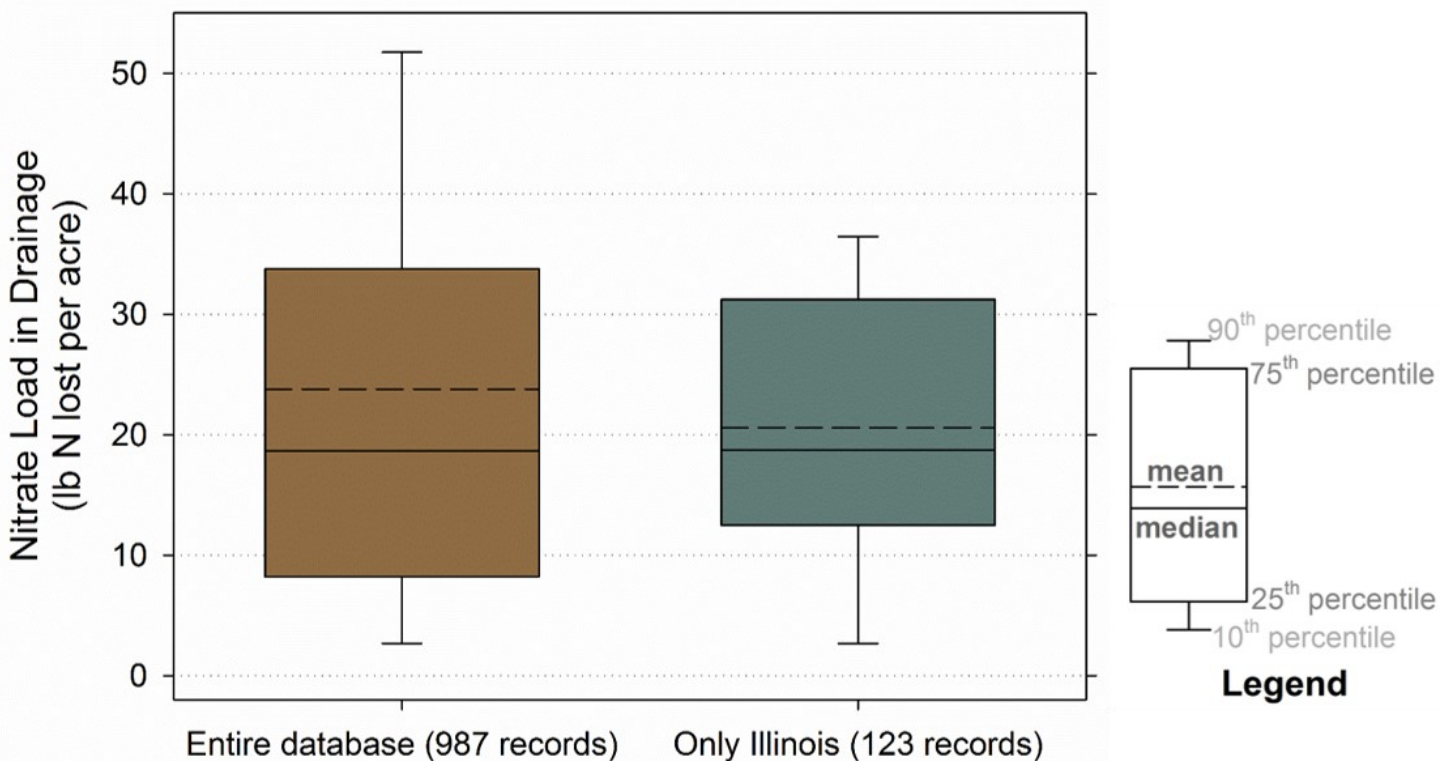


Figure 1: In a recent review of more than fifty years of drainage studies, the representative load of nitrate lost in drainage water from across the Midwest and Eastern Canada (left bar) and from Illinois (right bar) was around 20 lb N lost per drained acre. (Adapted from Christianson and Harmel, 2015 Ag. Water Management)

Evaluating 50+ Years of Drainage Research: Looking Backward Can Help Point The Way Forward CONT.

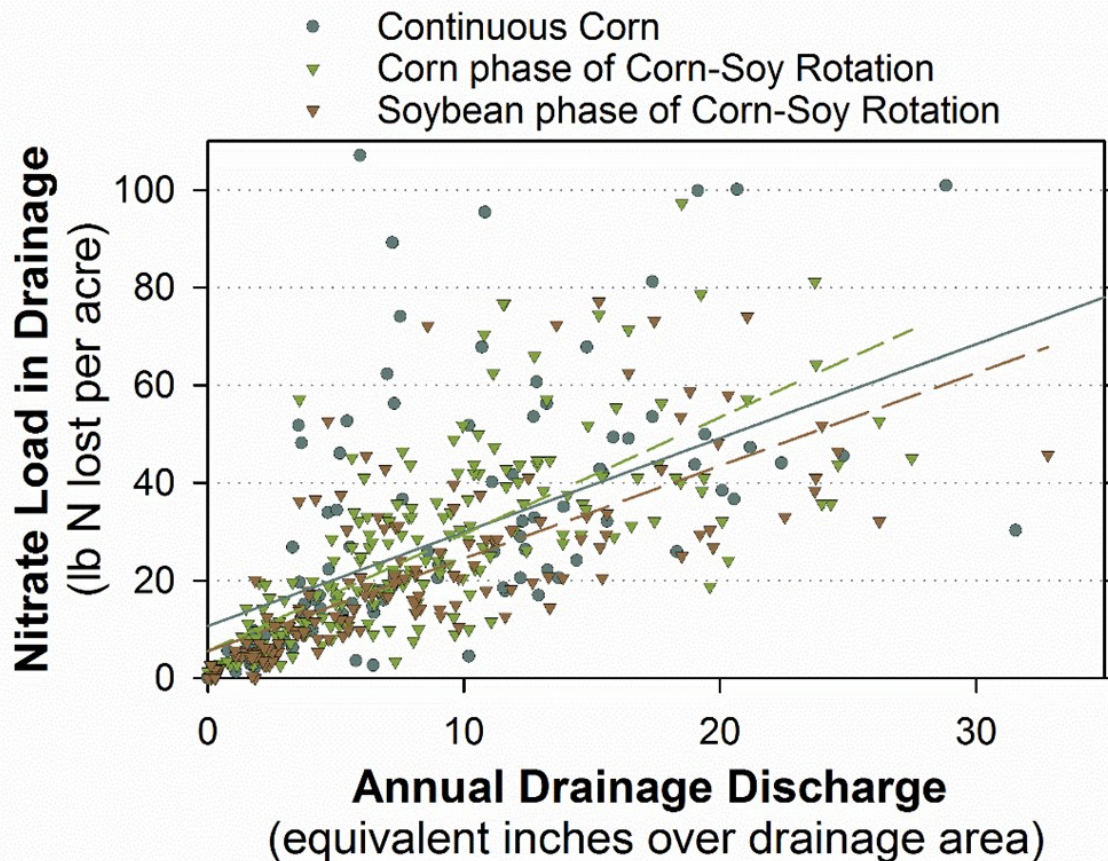


Figure 2: The nitrate load leaving a field in drainage water generally increases when there is more drainage. The regression lines show that for every additional inch of drainage, there is roughly a corresponding two pound per acre loss of nitrate. *L. Christianson, unpublished*

growth and trafficability can help reduce our nitrate losses. In-field drainage practices like controlled drainage (sometimes called drainage water management) or rethinking the drainage intensity with shallower drains or wider tile spacing reduces the volume of drainage water leaving the field while still meeting crop growth and trafficability goals. Edge-of-field drainage practices like woodchip bioreactors, saturated buffers, and constructed wetlands that receive tile drainage are additional great ways to keep nitrate in drainage water from moving downstream. Be it in-field or edge-of-field, all these practices require land contractors who are familiar with them, appreciate how they work, and understand how they need to be installed.

The challenge laid before us by our Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy requires collaboration and cooperation broadly across the state – between sectors, between industries, and between neighbors. This is why it’s an exciting time for me to join you in Illinois. I began my role as Assistant Professor of Water Quality in the Department of Crop Sciences at the University of Illinois in September 2015 (Figure 3). With my background in agricultural engineering, I formerly worked on the design of woodchip bioreactors in Iowa, studied options to improve ditch drainage water quality in Maryland, and even had the opportunity to work on drained dairy pas-



Figure 3: Keep your eyes out for Dr. Laura Christianson who is new to the University of Illinois. She not only enjoys talking about woodchip bioreactors and other conservation drainage practices, but also loves getting these practices in the ground.

tures in New Zealand. In my new job, talking about the need to improve drainage water quality can be a hard sell, since there is often no direct crop yield benefit of many conservation drainage practices. However, I see a marketable opportunity for land improvement contractors and the drainage industry if they fully embrace this concept of conservation drainage. The state needs your help in understanding and installing these practices, and with your support, I look forward to a bright future for drainage.



AN AWARD WINNING NIGHT FOR MANY



(above, upper left to lower right) Angela Layden, Mrs. Contractor of the Year and Jon SeEVERS, Mr. Contractor of the Year; Jill Kostel receiving her Merit Award from Bill Dean, awards chair; Shiny Shovel Award recipients, Joe Streitmatter, David Kennedy, Bill Dean Brian Brooks with Jill Kostel; Janet Doubet and the president's she has served with, David Kennedy, Tom Beyers, Steve Anderson, Bill Dean and Dave Haag; MC Bruce Mosier introducing the head table.

With 2015 being the very busy year it has been, there were several people deserving of recognition at this year's awards banquet. Bruce Mosier agreed to be the evening's MC and did an excellent job, which everyone knew he would. Bruce has our sincere thanks for taking part in this special evening and is truly "one of us" here in Illinois.

Along with the expected Mr. and Mrs. Contractor Awards which were given to the very deserving candidates shown above, several Shiny Shovel awards were also presented. It was no surprise that the Bureau County wetland project and Farm Progress Show tiling installation co-chairs were recognized for the very long summer they put in ... starting back in May. David Kennedy, Joe Streitmatter, Brian Brooks and Bill Dean led these successful projects, which not only provided much needed funds, putting some breathing room back into a tight budget, they have also given ILICA additional recognition in the industry. That is really an award winning outcome for the association!

Merit awards were presented to Veronica SeEVERS for her outstanding work as LICA ladies chair, her work with the state ladies committee AND her driving skills and to Jill Kostel for the Wetland's Initiatives' outstanding partnership on the Bureau County wetland building project.



(above) Bill & Janet Doubet with her 10 Years Outstanding Service award; Veronica SeEVERS with her Merit Award and Mr. Contractor of the Year and husband, Jon SeEVERS.

And as the Executive Director baton passes from Janet Doubet to Ryan Arch, Janet was warmly recognized for 10 years of outstanding service to ILICA with not only an award for the office wall at home, but also with a beautiful emerald necklace (LICA colors you know), and a Lifetime Membership.

Thank You

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their kind words and generosity at my semi-retirement from this position. I so appreciate the beautiful necklace and cards, as well as the gift cards and cash!

But most of all, I would like to thank so many of you for the exceptional support I have received in my tenure as Executive Director. As in all things, it takes everyone working together to realize the kind of success ILICA has enjoyed. I am honored and truly humbled to have been a part of it.

Sincerely, Janet Doubet

Thought for the Day!

"If everything seems under control, you're just not going fast enough."

Mario Andretti





10-HOUR OSHA CERTIFICATION CERTIFIED FLAGGER TRAINING MARCH 10 - 11, 2016



10 Hour Construction focused OSHA Certification Thursday, March 10th through Friday, March 11th at noon.
Certified Flagger Training Friday, March 11th, right after lunch.

The final agenda is being determined at this time with the inclusion of hands on & land improvement specific enhancements being considered.

Registrations and detailed agendas will be mailed to all ILICA contractor members soon and will also be posted on the website as soon as they are available .

Best Western Ashland House & Conference Center

201 E Ashland St, Morton, IL 61550

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Room Block - Wednesday & Thursday

Group Room Rate: \$89.99 +tax

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ANOTHER BUSY SUMMER FOR ILICA?

Discussions have been initiated between Jill Kostel, The Wetlands' Initiative (TWI), and the ILICA office regarding the very real possibility of another wetland project for this summer. Discussions with Laura Gentry and Rod Weinzierl, Illinois Corn Growers (ICG) have been ongoing since last year but most recently, Laura let Ryan know that ICG hopes to have 5-6 potential sites identified in the next few weeks and would like ILICA's help in determining the best of those sites.

Until this past year, conservation expos have been a very difficult thing to come by for ILICA but these partnerships have rejuvenated this important facet of the organization. Jill Kostel is currently working with the landowner to secure the wetland site, which could end up going through EQIP, delaying the project until the following year. However, initial expense projections and plans for the project have been sent to the ILICA office and discussions on where equipment would be brought on-site and how much land to leave fallow are already taking place. Look for updates on this "hot topic" in the next issue of the *ILICA News*.

Of course, there is a lot of time involved in planning these projects as well as the required equipment and volunteer donations to pull it off. But once again, ILICA associates will step up to provide material and equipment and ILICA contractors will show up to move dirt, install pipe and get the job done. All of which are business critical for the success of this kind of project.




**Illinois Corn
Growers Association**





And believe it or not, there are more conservation projects in the very preliminary stage of discussion as well, so things look very promising for 2016. Not only for ILICA, but for conservation practices being put on the ground. Stay tuned here for developments!


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 Chad Nicholson - Fratco, Inc.
 John Pogge - Prinsco, Inc.
 Dave Randolph - ADS

Auditing

Bill Dean, Chair
 Steve Anderson
 Ron Masching

Awards

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 Bill & Janet Doubet
 Lori Kennedy

Budget

Lee Bunting, Chair
 Tom Beyers
 Grant Curtis
 Dan Day
 Bill Dean

By-Laws

Stuart Anderson, Chair
 Lee Bunting
 Bill Doubet
 Stan SeEVERS
 Joe Streitmatter

Certification

Tom Beyers, Chair
 John Haile
 Wayne Litwiller
 Ron Masching
 Prof. Kent Mitchell, retired U of I
 Stan SeEVERS

Certification Board

Tom Beyers, Chair
 David Kennedy
 Wayne Litwiller
 Ron Masching

Convention

Eric & Angela Layden, Chairs
 Janet Burtle-Doubet
 Grant & Lindsey Curtis
 Greg & Jennifer Furkin
 Kristin Kutemeier

Devotions

Jean Davis, Chair
 Steve Anderson
 Janet Burtle-Doubet
 Norm & Coretha Rozendaal



Education

Brent Breedlove / Eric Layden
 Co-Chairs
 Brad Baker
 Tom Beyers
 Richard Cooke: Univ. of Illinois
 Grant Curtis
 Mike Yordy

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 Ryan Arch, Exec. Director
 Lee Bunting, V.P.
 Grant Curtis 1st V.P.
 Bill Dean, Treasurer
 Dave Haag, Past President

Golf Outing

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 Dan Day
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 Lori Kennedy
 John McCoy
 Jackie Streitmatter

Ladies

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 Marie Bunting
 Janet Burtle-Doubet
 Marsha Haag
 Lori Kennedy
 Cathy Masching
 Veronica SeEVERS

Legislative

Steve Anderson, Chair
 Tom Beyers
 Lee Bunting
 Bill Doubet
 Norm Kocher
 Joe Streitmatter
 Mike Yordy

Long Term Planning

Steve Anderson, Chair
 Stuart Anderson
 Dan Day
 Bill Doubet
 Ron Masching

Membership

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 Co-Chairs
 Steve Anderson
 Mark Baker
 Tom Beyers
 Brent Breedlove
 Brian Brooks
 Dan Day
 Scott Day
 Bill Dean
 Bill Doubet
 Eugene Glueck
 Ron Masching
 Larry Rhodenbaugh

Nomination

Joe Streitmatter, Chair
 Stuart Anderson
 Brian Brooks
 Dan Day
 Ron Masching

On-Site Waste

Wayne Litwiller, Chair
 John McCoy
 Larry Rhodenbaugh

Picnic

Steve Anderson / Bill Dean

Publicity

Bill Doubet, Chair
 Mark Baker
 Wayne Litwiller

Safety

Dave Haag, Chair
 Brent Breedlove
 David Kennedy
 John McCoy

Show & Other Income

Bill Doubet, Chair
 Brent Breedlove
 Brian Brooks
 Dan Day
 David Kennedy
 Joe Krupps
 Eric Layden
 Wayne & Wes Litwiller
 John McCoy
 Jon SeEVERS
 Joe Streitmatter



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Illinois Land Improvement Contractors Association, Inc.

118 E. Knoxville · PO Box 474 · Brimfield, IL 61517
 (309) 446-3700 · Fax: (309) 446-3744 · Email: ryan@illica.net

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Member Name: _____ Spouse's Name _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ County: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ Cell Phone: (_____) _____

Fax: (_____) _____ Email: _____

Website (if applicable): _____ LICA Sponsor: _____

Check All Services Provided

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> CUI - Cable/Utility Inst. | <input type="checkbox"/> OSW—On Site Waste Treatment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DB - Directional Boring | <input type="checkbox"/> PD - Ponds / Dams |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DI - Drainage/Irrigation | <input type="checkbox"/> RBD - Road Boring/Drainage |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DWM - Drainage Water Mgmt | <input type="checkbox"/> R - Reclamation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EC - Erosion Control | <input type="checkbox"/> SA - Dealer/Service Co./Government Agency/
Consultant/Insurance Agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EMC - Earthmoving/Land Clearing | <input type="checkbox"/> SP - Site Prep |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXG - Excavating/Grading | <input type="checkbox"/> SWU - Sewer/Water/Underground Utilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GR - Gravel/ Rock Production | <input type="checkbox"/> TH - Trucking / Hauling |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LL - Land Leveling | <input type="checkbox"/> TW - Terraces / Waterways |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LS - Landscaping | <input type="checkbox"/> WM - Water Management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ODW - Open Ditch Leveling | Other: _____ |

Active Contractor Membership - \$295

(One hundred seventy dollars (\$170) for Illinois Membership plus One hundred twenty five dollars (\$125) for National Membership)

(Active members are individuals engaged in the business of entering into contracts for performing work that will result in soil, land, natural resource conservation or rehabilitation, water conservation, control and prevention of soil erosion, depletion and misuse of natural resources and soil and water pollution and contamination.)

Associate Membership - \$295 (Associate members are those businesses that manufacture or sell equipment, materials or services used by active members)

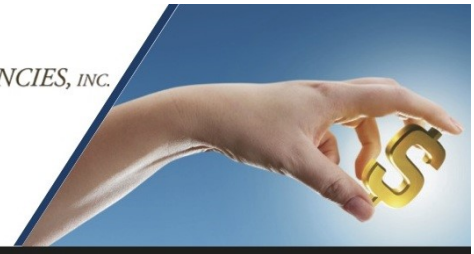
Affiliate Membership - \$85 (Affiliate members are individuals employed by an active member in the business that makes the active member eligible for membership)

Signature: _____

FEATURED BENEFIT: TWO NEW LICA BENEFITS!

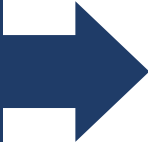
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Beyond a broad loan policy, Newtek offers an uncommonly efficient and personalized application process. Step-by-step, a Newtek Business Services specialist guides the borrower from the initial application through closing.



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In conjunction with LICA's goal to always provide Members with essential benefits LICA has partnered with Newtek and ADP Statewide Insurance to create the National LICA Small Business Loan Program. This program will give LICA's members access to Small Business Term Loans.

Newtek's business lending division, Newtek Small Business Finance, is distinguished for its broad array of lending products and customer friendly application process. Newtek makes loans ranging from \$50,000 to \$10 million for existing businesses (with two or more years of tax returns).

General loan parameters

- » Loan sizes from \$50,000 - \$10 million
- » Variable interest rates tied to prime
- » Limited or no prepayment penalties

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- » Varies depending on use of proceeds
- » 10 years for general business purposes
- » 15 years to purchase equipment
- » 25 years for acquisition or refinancing of commercial real estate

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Industry types

- » Contractors
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- » Special purpose properties
- » Gas station/C-Store
- » Retail
- » Service businesses

C2C is a national network of independent financial professionals working together to help LICA members preserve and protect their financial future!

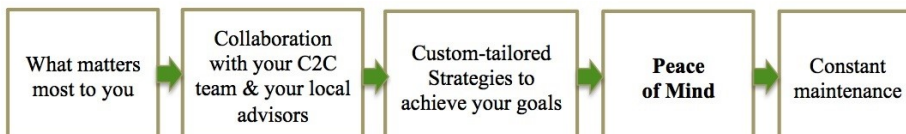
With over 100 years of combined experience, and advisors in every LICA region, we work on your behalf to provide planning for:

- ◆ Business Succession, Owner Exit & Continuation
- ◆ Estate and wealth transfer strategies
- ◆ Buy/sell arrangements
- ◆ Insurance & Risk Management Reviews & Brokerage
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Exclusively for LICA MEMBERS: No-Fee Initial Consultation!

Let's get to know each other and what is really important to you. From there, our team of financial professionals will customize a strategy tailored to your needs and desires.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Illinois

10-Hour OSHA & Flagger Training

Ashland House Best Western
Morton, IL
March 10 - 11, 2016

March Board Meeting

Jubilee Café - Kickapoo, IL
March 12, 2016
Committee meetings - 10 am - 1 pm
Board Meeting - 2 pm

National

LICA Winter Convention

Drury Plaza Hotel Riverwalk - San Antonio, Texas
February 29 – March 6

Matching Mans' & Ladies Watch Raffle

Contact Ladies Chair, Veronica SeEVERS, for Tickets

LICA Summer Convention

Hosted by Missouri LICA
Kansas City Missouri - July 2016

Board of Directors Meeting

Saturday, March 12, 2016 - 2 pm

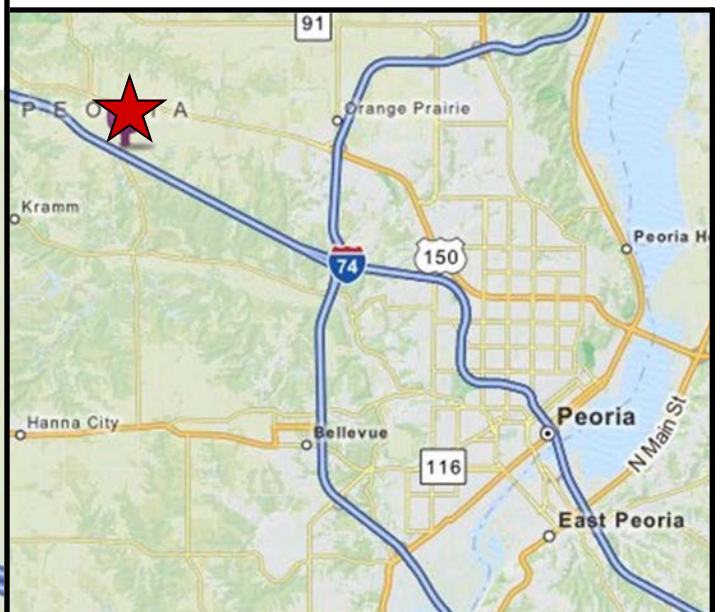
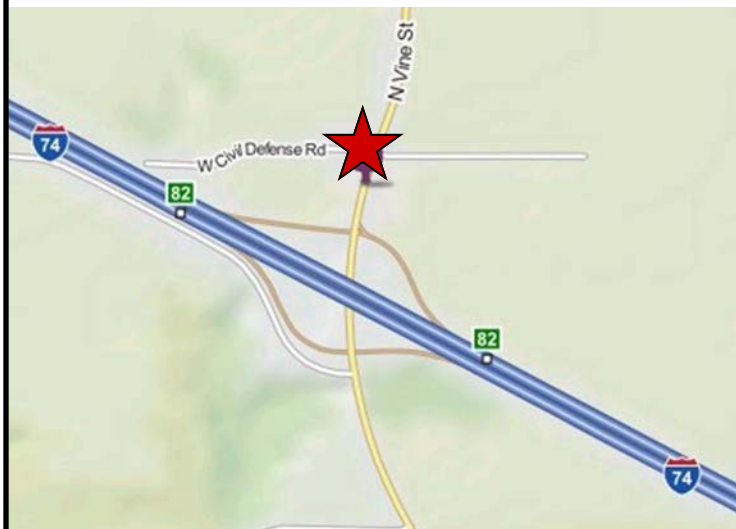
Jubilee Café - 7203 N. Kickapoo - Edwards Road

Committee meetings - 10 am - 1 pm

Jubilee Café is just off I-74, north at the Kickapoo /Edwards exit (Exit 82) just West of Peoria. The Jubilee Café is on the west or left hand side of the road, just past the Mobile station and across the road from the Shell station.

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SAFETY FEATURE: USE MACHINE GUARDS

Machine guards are designed to protect you when working with dangerous equipment. Unfortunately, many workers also view them as an inconvenience or an obstacle to the task at hand. Regardless, guards are there for your protection, and using them properly is a safety requirement.

Protecting Against Hazards

- Specifically, machine guards are used to protect against:
- Direct contact with moving parts
- Flying chips or other debris
- Kickbacks
- Splashing of metal or harmful liquids
- Mechanical and electrical failures
- Any number of potential human errors

While guards may often appear to be a hindrance, overall they have proven to be otherwise for both security and production. Greater machine speeds are made possible through proper guarding, as production does not have to stop due to injuries and employees can often work quicker knowing they have the proper protection in place to do so safely.

Types of Guards

Two types of guards are used to protect machine operators: fixed guards and interlocking guards. Fixed guards are most commonly used and are generally preferred because they protect you from dangerous parts of machines at all times. Interlocking guards are used if a fixed guard is not practical. This type will not allow the machine to operate until dangerous parts are guarded. The interlocking guard is designed to disconnect the source of power from the machine.

Safety devices such as pullbacks, sweeps and electronic devices are used where neither a fixed nor an interlocking guard can be used satisfactorily. Safety devices are operated by the machine itself. Regardless of the type of guard or safety device used, all provide the operator with the greatest possible protection.

Safety is Not an Option

Of course, no guard can do the job without the cooperation of the machine operator. Machine guards are a part of our workplace, and using them properly is your responsibility. Always follow these basic safety requirements:

- Do not adjust or remove a guard unless permission is given by your supervisor or unless the adjustment is a normal and accepted part of your job.
- Do not start machinery without the guards in place.
- If guards are missing or defective, report it to your supervisor immediately.
- If guards are removed for repair or adjustment, the power for the machine should be turned off and the main switch locked and tagged.
- Loose clothing, watches, rings and other jewelry should not be worn around mechanical equipment, and long hair should be tied back.

Safety is a Top Priority

To accomplish this, we need the commitment of all employees to respect our safety rules and to use machine guards as intended, to keep everyone on the job safe and productive. If you have any questions regarding guards or other safety issues, please ask your supervisor.

safety matters



Machine guards are a part of our workplace and using them properly is your responsibility. **They are designed to keep you safe.**

Discussion Date: _____

Employee Participants

2016 Winter Convention Tentative Agenda

Registration forms available online!

Registration forms available online!

Tuesday, March 1

12:15 pm - 4:00 pm Enchanted Springs
6:00 pm Executive Committee

Wednesday, March 2

8:00 am - 6:00 pm Austin

Thursday, March 3

8:00 am - 12 pm Educational Seminars (TBA)
11:45 am Golf Outing
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm Executive Directors
7:00 pm - 10:00 pm Fiesta-Themed Associates' Night

Friday, March 4

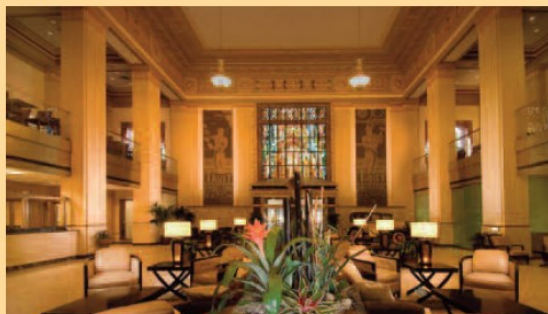
7:00 am - 7:30 am Devotions
7:30 am - 8 :00 am Committee Chairs
9:15 am - 10:15 am **Committee Meetings**
Education/Tech
Legislative
Water Table Mgmt.
10:30 am - 11:30 am By- Laws
Conservation, Exc.
Ladies/Devotions
11:45 am - 12:45 pm Convention
Long-Term/Past Pres.
On-Site Waste
Safety/Insurance
1:00 pm Lunch
2:15 pm - 3:15 pm Associates
Awards
Membership
Policy
3:15 pm - 4:15 pm Region Meetings
4:15 pm - 5:15 pm Budget

Saturday, March 5

7:00 am - 7:30 am Devotions
9:00 am - 10:15 am Delegates Meeting
10:30 am - 11:45 am Board Meeting
12:00 pm **John Deere Lunch**
6:00 pm **CNA Reception**
7:00 pm **Caterpillar Awards Banquet**

Drury Plaza Hotel

A complimentary hot breakfast is served every morning There is also an evening reception at 5:30 pm which includes, three free beverages per adult.





USGS MEASURES HISTORIC FLOODING ACROSS THE NATION

Source: <http://www.usgs.gov>

Historic Flooding Across the Country

U.S. Geological Survey field crews are measuring record flooding on rivers and streams in 12 states across the country. USGS is making preparations for a prolonged field effort along the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers as major flooding will extend well into mid-to-late January, particularly along the lower Mississippi River.

Since late December, USGS has measured more than 50 preliminary record-high flood measurements along the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers and their tributaries.

Currently, Missouri, Arkansas and Illinois are experiencing the most extreme flooding. Flooding in Missouri has caused 22 fatalities, hundreds of road closures and more than 1,000 power outages across the southern portion of the state. USGS crews are out in Missouri, Illinois, Kentucky, and Arkansas making flood measurements of flooded streams, with extra concentration on those areas where levees have been overtopped and the collected data is so critical to public safety and preservation of property.

As the floodwaters move downstream, USGS is working to ensure field crews are deployed to areas necessary for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the National Weather Service and other flood response agencies. The Mississippi River is expected to crest in Memphis, Tennessee sometime around January 8, and flood crest will be arriving in Louisiana in the January 14 to 17 time frame. A similar flood situation in the Mississippi River Basin occurred in 2011 where USGS river data became crucial to ensure responsible decisions by emergency managers.

USGS Crews in the Field

USGS hydrologists and field crews are out collecting flood information critical for emergency forecasting and response. They are taking flood measurements, collecting water samples, repairing damaged streamgages and flagging high water marks.

“USGS crews are working around the clock to make accurate flood measurements available to the Army Corps of Engineers, National Weather Service, and emergency managers for flood forecasting and flood-control operations,” said USGS National Flood Coordinator, Bob Holmes. “Our team is working closely with other agencies, like the U.S. Coast Guard, to assist with the logistics of gaining safe access to rivers for our USGS field crews. This was especially true as we prepared for the Mississippi River crest in St. Louis.”

Flood Information is Critical

The USGS is collecting critical streamflow data that are vital for protection of life, property and the environment. These data are used by the National Weather Service to develop flood forecasts, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to manage flood control and local agencies in their flood response activities.

There are more than 8,100 USGS-operated streamgages throughout the country that measure water levels, streamflow and rainfall. When flooding occurs, USGS crews make numer-



USGS scientists Chris Rowden, Larry Buschmann and Bob Holmes were on the Mississippi River at St. Louis taking streamflow measurements on New Years Eve. This information is critical to the National Weather Service, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and emergency managers in making flood predictions and response. Photo credit: Jennifer LaVista, USGS.

ous streamflow measurements to verify the data USGS provides to federal, state and local agencies, as well as to the public.

For more than 125 years, the USGS has monitored flow in selected streams and rivers across the United States. The information is routinely used for water supply and management, monitoring floods and droughts, bridge and road design, determination of flood risk and for many recreational activities.

How Does Flooding Impact Water Quality?

Flooding impacts water quality in ways that can have short and long-term impacts on drinking water resources and aquatic ecosystems. In addition to the large quantities of water that occur during floods, increased amounts of sediment and chemicals are washed from the landscape into rivers and transported downstream.

Many sites experiencing flooding have USGS instrumentation for continuous water-quality monitoring, and the data are made available online. Continuous, real-time USGS water-quality monitoring stations provide scientists, water-resources managers and emergency responders with information to make informed decisions vital for the protection of life, property and the environment.

During this particular storm event, two sewage-treatment plants and a drinking-water plant in Missouri were inundated by water and failed, contributing untreated sewage to the floodwaters. The USGS has been collecting samples for water quality analysis at key locations in the Mississippi and Missouri River Basins since the onset of this storm event, and will continue sampling as the flood surge moves downstream in the lower Mississippi River basin states.

Samples are being analyzed for fecal bacteria, and chemicals such as nutrients, volatile and semi-volatile organic carbon compounds such as solvents and oil and fuel products, and organic wastewater chemicals such as pharmaceuticals and other products indicative of human waste. When possible, scientists are focusing on locations where data have been collected in the past to provide a baseline comparison for the effects of this event on water quality.



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