

ILICA



NEWS

Land Improvement Contractors Of America · Illinois Chapter

March - April 2012

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SUMMER FUN!



1ST AREA 6 GOLF OUTING, JUNE 22ND *(Pages 6 - 7)*



CATERPILLAR TO HOST PICNIC & MEMBER MEETING AT EDWARDS PROVING GROUNDS, JUNE 29TH *(Page 10)*

Also Featured Inside:

August Drainage Workshop Dates Tentatively Set *(page 2)*

July Area 5 Member Meeting At Springfield Plastics, Inc. *(page 9)*

Altorfer's Host A Big Crowd At Area 3 Member Meeting *(page 11)*

Upcoming Events:

Regular Meeting of the Board -
Heiser Insurance Office, Morton, IL
May 5, 2012

1st Area 6 Golf Outing
Meadowview Golf Course -
Mattoon, IL - June 22, 2012

Return To: Illinois LICA
P.O. Box 474
Brimfield, IL 61517

AUGUST DRAINAGE WORKSHOP TENTATIVELY SET FOR AUGUST 7TH, 8TH & 9TH IN DECATUR



wide open spaces for the hands-on field session and bio-reactors on site, just in case there's a chance to work those into the schedule. Richard has already mentioned spending more time on computer applications, including the on-line drainage guide. The colleges' internet access is more than adequate enough to handle this kind of session, especially in the summer when there are far fewer students on campus.

Additional details along with the registration form will be in the next issue of the ILICA News and available online after the May 5th education committee meeting. If there is a conflict on the dates listed above, the workshop will be held the following week, August 14 - 16, 2012. Keep checking the ILICA website for updated information and you are always welcome to contact the ILICA office at 309-446-3700 with any questions.



The August scheduling for Richard Cooke's drainage workshops have worked out very well the past few years so we're doing it again this year. We're still waiting to confirm Richards' availability, but it looks like we will return to Richland Community College in Decatur, August 7 - 9th for this year's drainage sessions.

Richland College provides an excellent classroom atmosphere including all the AV equipment a facilitator could want along with an outstanding staff to support it. It also has



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The LICA Creed



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Board Meeting Notice

**May Board Meeting
May 5, 2012 - 2 pm**

**Heiser Insurance Agency
133 S. Main Street - Morton, IL**

**Committee Meetings
10 am - 2:00 pm**

(See map & directions on page 19)



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello from eastern McLean County.

At this writing, we find ourselves ready for some kind of rain delay after being able to work almost the entire winter. It seems that we as contractors are never satisfied; we

complain when the weather works against us and then complain when we are able to work every day. Some of our "scheduled winter maintenance" was performed outside in 70 degree temperatures in March, because we had put the repairs off long enough.

The membership meeting hosted by Altorfer in East Peoria was a huge success earlier this month. Approximately 40 prospective members and at least that many ILICA members attended to hear the always informative IDOT State Troopers present their program. Many thanks to Altorfer for providing their facility for a tour and meeting, and supplying a great meal.

There are several activities planned this summer too. Upcoming on June 22, for those of us that are not frustrated enough at our September golf outing, we will offer another chance to swear, lose golf balls, and test your blood pressure at



the Meadowview Golf Course in Mattoon, hosted by Area 6. Bill Dean has been working very hard to get area contractors and business on board for this first annual outing. The week following on June 29, will be our summer picnic hosted by CAT at their Edwards facility.

And for another first, Springfield Plastics is hosting an Area 5 membership meeting and tour of their plant in Auburn on July 24th. After the tour, Edgewood Golf Club will provide dinner and a cash bar. Make note of these dates and we hope to see you all there.

If this message seems brief, it is because there does not seem to be enough hours in the day this time of year. Take time to take a break and appreciate the work that we do; and take a break for your mental and physical health. Work safe and have an outstanding season.

David Kennedy, President



ATTENTION! FLAGGER TRAINING COURSE ATTENDEES



If you were one of the 13 students who attended the first Flagger Training session held on August 22, 2009 at Heiser Insurance Agency in Morton, your certification will expire August 22, 2012. You should receive a renewal notice from the National Safety Council this summer, however, please be aware of this expiration in case yours doesn't arrive in time.

If you are unsure when you initially attended class, the expiration date for flagger training can be found on your certification card or contact the ILICA office. Please contact Brent Breedlove to set up your renewal training or to find out when the next session is scheduled for this important construction safety information.

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Humbolt, IL 61931
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Flat Rock, IL 62427
Ph: 618-928-2304

Forrest Davis
Forrest Davis Bulldozing & Earthmoving
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Manito, IL 61546
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DID YOU KNOW?

**National Stress Awareness Day
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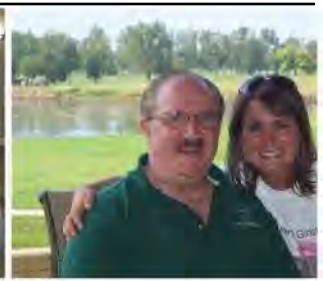


National Stress Awareness Day is your opportunity to recognize that there is plenty of stress in your life... as if you didn't already know. More importantly, it is an opportunity to learn, and to do something about the stress..... before it drives you batty or worse.

April 16 was designated as Stress Awareness Day because it is the day after taxes are due!

Stress Awareness Day and Stress Awareness Month is sponsored by the Health Resource Network (HRN). They started this holiday in 1992 to increase public awareness of the causes and cures of stress.

Source: Holidayinsights.com



Illinois Land Improvement Contractors Association

1st Annual Area 6 Golf Outing - Friday, June 22, 2012

Meadowview Golf Course - Shotgun Start 1:00 pm

6489 Meadowview Lane, Mattoon, IL 61938

Golf & Dinner.....\$ 80.00

(Includes Green Fees, Golf Cart, Noon Hamburger lunch, Driving range, 2 Beverage tickets, evening Buffet Dinner & Prizes)

Golf Only..... \$ 55.00

• **Dinner Only..... \$ 40.00**

Registration Form

Please RSVP By June 12

Enclosed is the check PAYABLE TO ILICA

In the amount of \$ _____ for the following;

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

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Golf Only
@ \$55

Dinner Only
@ \$40

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

My preferred foursome is: _____ I do not have a preference

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Green & Tee Sponsors

Company Name (To be listed on sign) _____

Contact Person: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

- Yes, we would like to Sponsor a Green or Tee - **\$150**
- Yes, we would like to Sponsor a Hole at both Outings - **Only \$250**
- Please provide our sign (\$35 per sign)
- We will provide our own sign (16" x 24")
- Use sign from last year's golf outing

\$50 discount for participating in both ILICA Area Golf Outings as a Hole Sponsor

Meal & Outing Sponsors

- I would like to be a lunch sponsor \$250.00 *
- I would like to be a Dinner Sponsor \$350.00 *
- I would like to be an Outing Sponsor \$500.00 **
- I would like to be an Outing Sponsor & sign up a foursome \$740 *** (includes 1 free golf & dinner registration)

Enclosed is the check **PAYABLE TO ILICA**, in the amount of \$ _____ for registration and sponsorship.

Mail check and this form to:

Illinois LICA - P.O. Box 474 - Brimfield, IL 61517 (Credit Cards also accepted. Call the ILICA office @ 309.446.3700 for details)

* Lunch and Dinner sponsors will have signage in place at registration table and dining area and receive recognition in the annual ILICA Directory.
 ** Outing sponsors will have signage (including company logo) in place at registration table, in dining area and at cart pick up location and will receive recognition in the annual ILICA Directory and at the annual Convention and Member meeting.
 *** Outing sponsors that also purchase a foursome receive special pricing on golf & dinner registration; **buy 3 get one free!**

1ST AREA 6 ANNUAL GOLF OUTING FRIDAY, JUNE 22ND IN MATTOON, IL



The ILICA annual Area 3 Golf Outing has become quite popular, with many people looking forward to attending each year. It's been such a success, we've decided to add a second opportunity for our members to get together for a fun afternoon of golf, food and beer.

Illinois is a big state and we understand that adding hours of driving time to an event can make it almost impossible for some people to attend. Area 6 had great success at its first member meeting which was held last December, so Bill Dean agreed to help coordinate a second golf outing in that area. Our hopes are to make it a little more convenient for some of our Southern Illinois members to see how much fun chasing a little white ball around the pasture can be with this group!

This outing is scheduled for Friday, June 22nd and will follow a similar format as our September outing. Lunch will be served between noon and 12:50 pm with a 1 pm shotgun start. After the fun of traveling Meadowview's 18 hole course with your buddies, there will also be a catered dinner at the course where the bar will remain open for our guests.

Since it will be a Friday evening, things may wrap up a little later than usual so room blocks have been secured at three local hotels. (See below for contact info) The Quality Inn & Suites requires a 2-night minimum stay on weekends however, it is a newly renovated hotel and is very close to the golf course. In Mattoon, nothing is that far away though so there is also a Comfort Suites & Baymont Inn at the next exit north that do not have a minimum room nights. And although there are several hotels at that exit, **many of them were already full for the night when the blocks were set up.** So if you think you might want to stay, please make reservations now and cancel them later, rather than take a chance sleeping in Bill Dean's workshop!



Comfort Suites - 1408 E. Broadway, Mattoon, IL ~ \$85 + tax for Double Queen / \$80 + tax for King **Ph: (217) 235-6745**
Quality Inn & Suites - 4922 Paradise Road, Mattoon, IL ~ \$94 + tax **Ph: (217) 235-0222 (2 night minimum required)**
Baymont Inn - 206 McFall Road, Mattoon, IL ~ \$60 + tax **Ph: (217) 234-2355**
Prefer to camp? Try **Lake Mattoon** or **Wolf Creek State Park!**
 Check with the ILICA office or Bill Dean for more information.

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ILICA LADIES' CONVENTION ACTIVITIES

CRAFTS



A great big "thanks" to Holly Yordy, who took care of both craft activities at this year's convention! Our ILICA ladies got to take home beautiful handmade greeting cards (sponsored by Hickenbottom, Inc.) and personalized painted flagstones. (sponsored by Northland Trenching Equipment)



(above) Coretha Rozendaal & Cathy Masching look at all the beautiful artwork created at Saturday's make & take; Dian Whittaker selecting paper for her card while Holly tries to look camera shy!

(upper right) Jackie Streitmatter applies the finishing touches to her flagstone; Cathy Masching & Mary Jane Kocher display their lovely handmade greeting cards.

LADIES OUTING



(above & left) The ladies enjoy a delicious lunch at "The Loft" in Clinton after touring the C.H. Moore Homestead & Gift Shop, shown in lower left photo.

(below, center) The Ladies Hospitality room was available all day Thursday for relaxing conversation, puzzles, games and refreshments

(below right) The ladies day outing group on the stairway at the C.H. Moore Homestead. ADS sponsored the ladies day outing, as they traditionally do each year.



1ST SUMMER MEMBERSHIP MEETING JULY 24TH, SPRINGFIELD PLASTICS, INC.



During the past four years, membership meetings have been scheduled around Illinois in March, April, November and December to best accommodate contractors work schedules. Some months work best for one part of the state, other months work better for others. However, the drainage contractors involved in ILICA also have a brief respite during the summer months. With that in mind, Springfield Plastics, Inc. has agreed to work with the membership committee to host the first ever July meeting.

The meeting format will be a little different than most. Instead of a guest speaker, there will be a tour of the Springfield Plastics plant in Auburn Illinois and dinner will be held at Edgewood Golf Club, also located in Auburn. There just isn't room at the plant to set up tables and chairs for a sit down dinner but Edgewood is only 4 miles from the plant and will without doubt, provide a great meal for our guests along with air conditioning and a cash bar!



More information will be available as the date get's closer, but please mark this down on your calendars and plan on joining us for a great evening. Check the ILICA website, www.ilica.net and look for more news in the next issue of this newsletter!



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CATERPILLAR® TO HOST EQUIPMENT DEMO & DINNER AT SUMMER PICNIC & MEMBER MEETING

SAVE THE DATE: FRIDAY, JUNE 29TH

After a follow up meeting at the ILICA office in late February, details are finalized for this year's summer picnic and members meeting. Although the picnic is traditionally held on a Saturday or even over a weekend, this year's event is planned for Friday evening to make it possible for our guests to see a very special equipment demonstration, courtesy of Caterpillar Inc. at their proving grounds in Edwards Illinois.

The evening will begin at 4 pm with our hosts greeting the group at this beautiful facility, complete with a gift shop, a simulator training room, and fully equipped dining room. The equipment demo will be first thing on the agenda so plan on taking off work just a little early that Friday to make sure you don't miss even a minute of this special presentation.

After the program, there will some time to check out the equipment before the bar opens and the members meeting begins in Caterpillar's dining room. The summer meeting is more casual than the winter meeting with a lot less business to take care of, making it much shorter in the process. The meeting should conclude no later than 6:15 pm with a hog roast dinner scheduled for 6:30 pm on site.

(above right) Lobby area of Edwards facility; National LICA guests enjoying a cold refreshment and shade outside the Edwards facility, July 2010.

(below) Dining room filled with LICA contractors, July 2010; special CAT motorcycle on display in the lobby at Edwards.



A hotel block is being secured for Friday evening near the Shoppes at Grand Prairie and the registration form will be in the next issue of this newsletter. Families are encouraged to attend. Several other activities were discussed for Saturday but the final decision on those will be determined by the level of interest indicated on registration forms.

Be sure to mark your calendars for this event because you are not going to want to miss it. Keep checking the website for updated information as the date gets closer!

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ALTORFER'S HOST A BIG CROWD AT MARCH AREA 3 MEMBER MEETING



It's been a few years since ILICA has done the IDOT Regulations for Contractors program in the Peoria area so a large crowd turned out for the March 8th member meeting hosted by Altorfer's at their East Peoria location. Illinois State Police Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officer Fred Thatcher did a great job keeping up with all the questions as his partner was out with the flu that evening.

Altorfer's began the evening's festivities with a tour of their facility for those able to arrive at 5:30 pm but by 6:25, we were ready for a delicious BBQ meal, catered by Hickory River in Peoria ... and it was GOOD! Jerry Biuso flew in for the occasion and spent some time on the many new LICA benefits

available for members today. Most recently, a dental program and fuel discount card have been added to the already long list.

The educational program began right on time with Trooper Thatcher fielding any and all inquiries from the group. Since Fred has been in the area for a while, he already knew several of the locals in a crowd of over 100, and had a little fun with them during the evening as well. Our thanks go out to Altorfer's and Caterpillar for their generous hospitality. It takes a lot of work to get ready for a meeting this size and everyone's effort is very much appreciated. Thanks to our outstanding members who supported the evening in a big way and to the many other area contractors who also attended!



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BELATED SHINY SHOVEL AWARD PRESENTED



Norm Kocher would normally never leave an ILICA convention early, however, this year unavoidable circumstances made him head home the day before the Awards banquet. Given the “secret” nature of the annual awards, Bill Dean choose not to announce the 2011 Shiny Shovel Award winner that evening. So, Norm was quite surprised when Bill got up at the beginning of the March board meeting and started talking about the recipient ... who sounded a great deal like Norm Kocher! Norm’s hard work on membership this year landed him this very special honor.

Congratulations Norm! You’ve earned it!

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ILLINOIS BRINGS HOME SOME PRESTIGIOUS NATIONAL LICA AWARDS AND REGION 4 V.P.



This year's National LICA convention was held in beautiful San Diego California and several Illinois members made the trip West to enjoy great tours, outstanding weather

and a very rewarding awards' banquet. The weather really was the star from all accounts but the tour of the USS Midway and San Diego zoo were also very well received and to liven things up a little, associates night was converted into a Hawaiian luau.

But, there is always business to take care of at the summer LICA meetings and this year, there were three state chapter past presidents running for Region 4 V.P. For many years now, this position as been held by an Iowa contractor, and although there have been some outstanding Region VP's from Iowa, there was a time long ago when Illinois also had several outstanding contractors who held that title.

Well, once again, Region 4 has an Illinois contractor as it's VP. Russ Peters of Iowa and Kevin Bakken of Minnesota also ran for the position, but thanks to Steve Anderson's campaign manager, Wayne Litwiller, (or so Steve says) Steve ended up securing the position. It is an honor to have Steve in this leadership position as his legacy as state LICA president and chairman indicate he will be an outstanding national LICA officer as well.

And that's not all! Two more Illinois members were recognized for their accomplishments. Wayne Litwiller was presented with the Hancor Award for his understanding and long-time involvement in on-site-waste and septic system regulations and installations. Wayne has been nominated for this award a few times in years past, but this is the first time he has been awarded this honor.

Veronica Seevers was shocked and amazed when her name was called as the recipient of this year's Mrs. Contractor award. Veronica has also been nominated over the last few years for this honor because of her dedication to Seevers Farm Drainage and for her support of ILICA. And although these fine folks don't do what they do to receive accolades, both awards were very much deserved, and we congratulate both Wayne and Veronica for their outstanding achievements.




(Above right) Mike Hagen of ADS/Hancor presents Wayne with the annual Hancor Award; Veronica Seevers with the beautiful "Mrs. Contractor" jewelry box;

(Above) Bill Dean (on the right) gets Steve Anderson, newly elected Region 4 VP, to show a rarely seen big smile at the ILICA Awards banquet in January.

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ILLINOIS AG LEGISLATIVE ROUNDTABLE REPORT

Source: Dave Hurst, Area 3 ILICA Director & Roundtable Member



The Illinois Agricultural Legislative Roundtable met on January 26th in the CC Auditorium at the Illinois Farm Bureau in Bloomington at 9 am. The Roundtable is meant to provide an opportunity for participants to network, to receive timely updates on subjects and issues important to all of Illinois agriculture and to provide a platform for continued collaboration and education throughout the year. Dave Hurst, ILICA Area 3 director and Roundtable member, attended this year's January meeting and provided the following report of the day's events.

The reports mostly were about the general aspects of the financial issues in Illinois and their effect which was not real encouraging; however there were some issues not necessarily financial that we need to be aware of.

The Illinois Fertilizer and Chemical Association along with the Council on Best Management Practices introduced a new program that addresses the use of nutrients on corn and soybean applications and the resulting loss of nutrients that parallels the work that ADMC and Dr. Cooke are doing. The funding is not through the government so they are looking for research locations on their own within IEPA designated watersheds which fall in some of our contractors areas. The program is called **KIC2025** and is headed by Dan Schaefer, director of Nutrient Stewardship, Council on Best Management Practices. They already know the watersheds they are looking in and a website search will show the locations. They are looking to research the loss through tile outlets on existing and proposed drainage systems.

FFA addressed some proposed changes coming from the Department of Labor on Child Farm Labor Rule Impact, the proposed changes will affect any minor under the age of 18 on the farm making it illegal to do most of the tasks that they now do. As usual the proposed changes are not specific and there will be no way to know if rules are being violated until a complaint is filed and results of a hearing are out. There are a couple of congressmen working on this but didn't get their names.



If you would like more detailed information about the topics discussed at this meeting, there is a Roundtable page on the Illinois Farm Bureau website to share the power point presentations and provide updates throughout the year on Roundtable events. It can be found at : <http://www.ifb.org/ifb-news-and-events/conferences-and-events/illinois-agricultural-legislative-roundtable.aspx>

If you would like more information about the IFB's coalition's work with consumers, please visit the Illinois Farm Families® website at www.watchusgrow.org.

Taxpayer's Federation of Illinois painted a bleak picture of the pension funding and projection on having to service the debt on just that.

We were asked to urge our legislators to push for the federal 2012 Farm Bill, it is feared the election will delay any progress to 2013.

They also discussed:

- The payroll tax
- HR872 pesticide permits
- Estate tax expiring
- The need to push for Ag transportation improvements, mainly on river locks.

There will be another Roundtable meeting in June but I don't know what goes on there since I've never been able to attend. Respectfully submitted: Dave Hurst





UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
EXTENSION

THE MILD WINTER AND COMMON VEGETABLE INSECT PESTS

Source: Matt Montgomery, Extension Educator, Local Food Systems and Small Farms, mpmontgo@illinois.edu



What might a mild winter mean for vegetable insect pests? Does it necessarily mean that growers will see more problems? That largely depends upon how mild the winter has been, if the insect in question overwinters in our area, and if the insect in question overwinters above ground.

Has the winter been mild? Yes, the winter has been mild. The average temperatures for December, January, and February when added together total in the mid to high 90s. That is pretty warm, and for certain insects like the corn flea beetle, temperatures in that range have historically equated to excellent winter survival. So what about the other two components of the winter survival question? What about the questions if they overwinter here and where they overwinter if here?



For the sake of structuring that part of the discussion, vegetable insects will be divided into three categories – occasional pests, perennial pests, and severe pests.

Occasional pests are those that can create yield and/or quality issues given the right combination of circumstances and environmental conditions. Aphids, flea beetles, grubs, cutworms, grasshoppers, and bean leaf beetles are probably the more common examples. Aphids, sap-sucking pests that emerge later in the growing season, are hard to classify as related to winter survival. They inflict more injury during hot dry periods. Many different species exist and they overwinter in different locations and in different stages. Some might see a little better winter survival depending upon the species in question. Flea beetles, which grind away at plant tissue sucking up the contents, do well in a mild winter as noted earlier. Bean leaf beetles may also survive the winter well. They overwinter beneath residue in the area, but they also tend to distribute themselves throughout the area once plenty of soybean fields have emerged. Cutworms overwinter down south, grasshoppers overwinter as eggs in the ground, and grubs overwinter in the soil as grubs – the intensity of winter weather/lack of intensity in our area will likely not influence these pests.



quality losses. Examples might include asparagus beetles, cucumber beetles, loopers, cabbage worms, and leafhoppers. Leafhoppers, sap-suckers that burn the leaves, and loopers, green larvae that consume a lot of foliage, overwinter in the south. In other words, central Illinois winter weather really doesn't influence their survival. Nor does our winter influence the survival of the spotted cucumber beetle which also overwinters in the south migrating into our area after the season has already begun. Cabbage worms overwinter as pupae (cocoon-like stages) in above ground debris, striped cucumber beetles overwinter as adults in protected areas, and asparagus beetles spend the winter as adults beneath residue. These latter three species will probably do well given our spring-like December, January, and February.



Severe pests are those that cause heavy yield and/or quality losses on an annual basis. Earworms/tomato fruit worms, hornworms, squash bugs, and the squash vine borer all come to mind. Hornworms, those troublesome feeders of foliage and fruit, and squash vine borers, those stem boring pests of cucurbits, tend to overwinter as pupae in the soil. The pupae of both overwinter rather shallow in the soil. A more typical winter that freezes the soil a few inches deep could reduce their number, but our mild winter has likely done little to both.



Squash bugs overwinter as adults beneath debris that is close to the field/garden meaning that a mild winter will likely allow many to survive. Perhaps the biggest "question mark" in severe pest survival comes in the form of earworms/tomato fruit worms. We typically think of this pest migrating back into Illinois from the south. After the arrival of adult moths, the resulting larvae notch out fruit and devour the tips of sweet corn ears. However, they can also survive as pupae in southern Illinois. The lack of a hard winter might mean that more Illini earworms will survive. Could that mean an earlier start to the earworm season? Stay tuned.



Perennial pests are those that frequently cause yield or

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_____ hereby makes application for _____ Membership in the **ILLINOIS LAND IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION, INC., (ILICA)** and enclose \$_____ as my annual membership dues for the year _____. One dollar (\$1.00), which is included in the \$295 dues, is for a one (1) year subscription to the “ILICA News”, a bi-monthly newsletter.

Send completed application with payment (make check payable to ILICA) to the corporate address above or give to any ILICA member to forward.

Name: _____ DOB:(*required for active members only*) _____
 Firm Name: _____
 Spouse: _____ County: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Email : _____ Sponsor: _____
 Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Check All Services Provided

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(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)

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Illinois

Regular Meeting of the Board
Heiser Insurance Agency, Morton, IL
Board Meeting - 2 pm

Committee Meetings 10 am - 1 pm

1st Area 6 Annual Golf Outing
Meadowview Golf Course - Mattoon, IL

Friday June 22, 2012

Lunch - Noon - 12:55 pm ~ 1 pm Shotgun Start

Catered Dinner on-site - 6:30 pm

Summer Picnic &
Equipment Demo, Member Meeting & Hog Roast
Caterpillar Proving Grounds - Edwards, IL

June 29, 2012 - 4 pm Demonstration

Meeting & Dinner immediately following

Area 5 Member Meeting
Springfield Plastics, Inc. Plant Tour
Dinner at Edgewood Golf Course, Auburn, IL

July 24, 2012

Plant tour - 5:30 pm - Dinner - 7:15 pm

National

Summer Meeting & Conference
July 10 - 14, 2012
Manhattan Kansas

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May 5, 2012 Board Meeting Location Heiser Insurance - 133 S. Main Street - Morton, IL



From I-74, take Exit 102, Morton Avenue to Jackson St. Turn left onto Jackson St and follow it to Main. Turn right onto Main, go 4 blocks to Adams St. Turn right onto Adams and turn right into the parking lot. From I55, take Main to Adams, turn left and park behind the building. There is an glass entrance door into the building from that parking lot.



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USDOT BANS HAND HELD CELL PHONE USE IN TRUCKS - EFFECTIVE JANUARY, 2012

November 23, 2011 - WASHINGTON

U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood today announced a final rule specifically prohibiting interstate truck and bus drivers from using hand-held cell phones while operating their vehicles. The joint rule from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) and the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) is the latest action by the U.S. Department of Transportation to end distracted driving.

"When drivers of large trucks, buses and hazardous materials take their eyes off the road for even a few seconds, the outcome can be deadly," said Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood. "I hope that this rule will save lives by helping commercial drivers stay laser-focused on safety at all times while behind the wheel."

The final rule prohibits commercial drivers from using a hand-held mobile telephone while operating a commercial truck or bus. **Drivers who violate the restriction will face federal civil penalties of up to \$2,750 for each offense and disqualification from operating a commercial motor vehicle for multiple offenses.** Additionally, states will suspend a driver's commercial driver's license (CDL) after two or more serious traffic violations. **Commercial truck and bus companies that allow their drivers to use hand-held cell phones while driving will face a maximum penalty of \$11,000.** Approximately four million commercial drivers would be affected by this final rule.

"This final rule represents a giant leap for safety," said FMCSA Administrator Anne S. Ferro. "It's just too dangerous for drivers to use a hand-held cell phone while operating a commercial vehicle. Drivers must keep their eyes on the road, hands on the wheel and head in the game when operating on our roads. Lives are at stake."

Source: www.dot.gov/briefing-room.html



While driver distraction studies have produced mixed results, FMCSA research shows that using a hand-held cell phone while driving requires a commercial driver to take several risky steps beyond what is required for using a hands-free mobile phone, including searching and reaching for the phone. Commercial drivers reaching for an object, such as a cell phone, are three times more likely to be involved in a crash or other safety-critical event. Dialing a hand-held cell phone makes it six times more likely that commercial drivers will be involved in a crash or other safety-critical event.

In September 2010, FMCSA issued a regulation banning text messaging while operating a commercial truck or bus and PHMSA followed with a companion regulation in February 2011, banning texting by intrastate hazardous materials drivers.

"Needless injuries and deaths happen when people are distracted behind the wheel," said PHMSA Administrator Cynthia Quarterman. "Our final rule would improve safety and reduce risks of hazmat in transportation."

Nearly 5474 people died and half a million were injured in crashes involving a distracted driver in 2009. Distraction-related fatalities represented 16 percent of overall traffic fatalities in 2009, according to National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) research.

Many of the largest truck and bus companies, such as UPS, Covenant Transport, Wal-Mart, Peter Pan and Greyhound already have company policies in place banning their drivers from using hand-held phones.

Illinois Distracted Driving Laws:

- Ban on all cell phone use (handheld and hands-free) for bus drivers (Commercial Vehicles) (Primary law)
- Ban on all cell phone use (handheld and hands-free) for novice drivers (Primary law)
- Ban on texting for all drivers (Primary law)
- Illinois bans the use of cell phones while driving in a school zone or in a highway construction zone.

Note:

A primary law means that an officer can ticket the driver for the offense without any other traffic violation taking place. A secondary law means an officer can only issue a ticket if a driver has been pulled over for another violation (like speeding).



**SAMPLE EMPLOYER POLICY ON
DISTRACTED DRIVING**



[Company Name] Distracted Driving Policy

Please read the Distracted Driving Policy, sign and return to your supervisor.

In order to increase employee safety and eliminate unnecessary risks behind the wheel, [Company Name] has enacted a Distracted Driving Policy, effective [Date]. We are committed to ending the epidemic of distracted driving, and have created the following rules, which apply to any employee operating a company vehicle or using a company-issued cell phone while operating a personal vehicle:

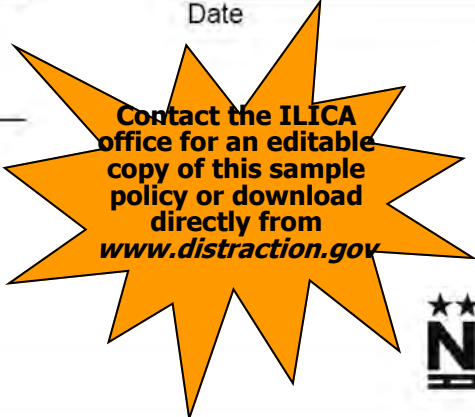
- Company employees may not use a hand-held cell phone while operating a vehicle – whether the vehicle is in motion or stopped at a traffic light. This includes, but is not limited to, answering or making phone calls, engaging in phone conversations, and reading or responding to emails, instant messages, and text messages.
- If company employees need to use their phones, they must pull over safely to the side of the road or another safe location.
- Additionally, company employees are required to:
 - Turn cell phones off or put them on silent or vibrate before starting the car.
 - Consider modifying voice mail greetings to indicate that you are unavailable to answer calls or return messages while driving.
 - Inform clients, associates and business partners of this policy as an explanation of why calls may not be returned immediately.
- [Company consequences for failing to follow policy]

I acknowledge that I have received a written copy of the Distracted Driving Policy, that I fully understand the terms of this policy, that I agree to abide by these terms, and that I am willing to accept the consequences of failing to follow the policy.

Employee Signature

Date

Employee Name (printed)



BUSINESS MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP FACILITATED BY AREA EXPERTS

The education committee encourages suggestions for workshop topics from the membership, which is how the first business management focused workshop held February 14 - 15 in Morton came about. Questions about employment law and problems with contracts or a lack thereof inspired the topics and sent committee members on a search for facilitators who could present pertinent information relative to business owners in our industry.

Happily, some very qualified attorneys were found for the sessions in their expertise. Joe Lavery of Wessels Sherman out of the Quad Cities presented an outstanding session on from the employers side of employment law along with a handout with tons of information there just wasn't time to cover in class. This session was a big hit, given that almost every business owner has questions about this topic.

Jim Lestikow, a partner with Hinshaw & Culbertson from Springfield, facilitated the Estate & Succession planning session, although he mentioned that proposed changes to the



(above) Jim Lestikow of Hinshaw & Culbertson during estate planning session. (pg. 23, top - down) Joe Lavery of Wessels Sherman during employment law session; Shannon Mollenhauer presenting Quickbooks; Fadi Rustom of Hall & Rustom discussing how contracts can protect a business.

current federal and state estate tax laws could alter the asset protection strategies he presented during class. This topic is another that has the potential to impact almost every business owner, unfortunately, it is also something that can vary a great deal from one individual or company to the next, making the options almost endless.

The first day concluded with a Quickbooks session from Peoria's Professional Development Institute, affiliated with Illinois Central College. Shannon Mollenhauer brought a

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BUSINESS MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP FACILITATED BY AREA EXPERTS (CONT.)

wealth of knowledge along with his handouts as questions came up that were not part of the outline.

The second day began with Fadi Rustom, a partner at Hall & Rustom from East Peoria presenting what to look for or look-out for in contracts and how to protect yourself against lawsuits. Jason Yordy provided a brief but excellent session on using Excel spreadsheets to track and trend many aspects of business and the workshop concluded with a discussion group on standard contracts, moderated by Dick Taylor. Each session concluded with a question and answer period to add even more value to these topics.

This workshop also had the support of some of our outstanding associates. Springfield Plastics, Inc. sponsored Tuesday's lunch, Ryan Duncheon of Central Illinois Trucks (CIT Group) joined us for their sponsored breakfast buffet and Prins Insurance, Inc. sponsored Wednesday's lunch. Meal sponsorship helps us to keep our registration fees at a minimum and we can't thank these guys enough for their continued support of our events.



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