



Land Improvement Contractors Of America · Illinois Chapter

July - August 2009

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LOTS OF FUN

IN SOUTHERN ILLINOIS



2009 Summer Member Meeting and Picnic Weekend A Great Success! *(page 12-13)*

Also Featured Inside

1st Annual Area 3 Golf Outing *(page 6-7)*

Area 3 and Area 8 Member Meeting Scheduled *(page 11)*

2009 Des Moines, IA Summer National *(page 17)*

Upcoming Events:

U of I Erosion Control & Bell Tower Project - Aug. 3 - 7, 2009

Farm Progress Show, Decatur
- September 1 - 3, 2009

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



LUKE DAY AND SAMANTHA KOCHER WIN \$1000 LICA SCHOLARSHIPS



A big "congratulations" goes out to Luke Day, son of Scott & Kate Day, and Samantha Kocher, daughter of Steve & Susan Kocher on their successful applications for the \$1000 scholarships offered by National LICA. This year saw the largest number of applicants and the most difficult decision yet for the Region V.P.'s who are responsible for selecting the scholarship award winners. This of course, also made it more difficult to end up as one of the three selected, but once again, Illinois ends up a big winner.

The applicants are required to submit their applications with three letters of recommendation and a personal letter stating their educational goals, major area of study and why they should receive the scholarship. The content and overall feeling of the letter weigh heavily in the decision, so the winners are normally those who put the most thought and effort into them. Transcripts of high school and/or college grades must also be submitted with the application but are not the determining factor in most cases.



And it couldn't have happened to more wonderful ILICA families than the Days' and the Kochers'. Clyde Day, Lukes' grandfather, was one of ILICA very early members and Rose continues to share her wonderful wit and wisdom through her "Rambling Rose" articles. Their sons, Scott and Dan are still very active members and Dan's daughter, Kristin Kutemeier, is our very successful convention chairperson, continuing the family tradition of helping out where ever needed.

Norm Kocher, Samantha's grandfather, is another long time ILICA member and co-chair of the very successful membership committee. Mary Jane is active on the ladies and picnic committees and generally supportive in any way needed. Their sons, Steve and Jeff are also ILICA members, serve on the board of directors and have helped to promote our Area 8 member meetings. Both families must be proud that the next generation is starting out by such serious pursuit of a college education. Congratulations to you all.

WORDS OF WISDOM FROM THOMAS A. EDISON



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The ILICA News



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The LICA Creed



Land, the foundation of the Nation
 The basis of all wealth
 The heritage of the wise
 The thrifty and prudent
 The poor man's joy and comfort
 The producer of food, fiber and fuel
 The basis of factories
 The foundation of banks

All that man builds is from the land. We often take it for granted or even abuse it; And yet many, unthinkingly and unknowingly pass the land by. What man does with the land will be the deciding factor of his survival.

SCHEDULE CHANGE

Meeting Notice

ILICA Board Meeting
President Abraham Lincoln Hotel
Springfield, IL (Downtown)
Saturday, August 29, 2009 - 2:00 pm

Committee Meetings
10:00 am - 1:00 pm
Lunch Provided

(See map on page 18)



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

After an 14 hour day I have got home at about 9 pm to write this message for the upcoming issue. First thought to share is to never think to yourself: "Gee, I have had this scraper for 22 years and none of those little hoses on the steering cylinders has broke". There is credence to the power of suggestion.

We are over half done with the year already, and I think 2009 will be one of those that will stick in memory for some time to come. With the frequent precipitation and the massive amounts at inopportune times, it has made for a lot of erosion control work to be done while at the same time not letting you get out there and do said work. Here it is July and we're finally getting the shine back on the earthmover doing the first new waterway of the year. Hopefully this has not been the case for most members.

While the picnic and summer meeting was a good one down at Rend Lake, I was disappointed by the lack of new members that attended. It is a nice place and we that were there had a good weekend with boating, golfing (in my case anyway not sure you could call what I did golfing), a cook out, and the chance to share with your LICA friends. Thanks to Neal Barnes and Norm Kocher for the work done to get in together and to Janet for all the fine work she does filling in the details after the dreamers get done.

The summer Nationals in Des Moines, hosted by Iowa chapter, had a lot of interesting tours and the chance to see the farm that the chapter owns that they do their field days on. Maybe someday when we pass them up in membership, we could do the same thing. I hope you had the chance to take a ride over there and see what we are hosting next

summer. One of the perks of being a member is having these national events to go to as well as the state, so please take advantage of it.

It seems that the work to be done for the U of I in Champaign is finally about ready to go. Those that can keep in mind the need for personal and maybe equipment so that enough is available to "git er done", pardon my quoting of Larry the Cable guy. Details will be made known shortly if not in this newsletter. Would be great to see some new faces.

Also would like to extend to the membership committee a hearty well going, can't say done because we aren't yet, for membership is up to 126 for the current year and the state will get back in national dues over \$1800 in incentives for growth. The work that they have done in organizing the member meetings and getting the word out to contractors to attend as well as talking about the benefits of membership has been great. There are still a lot more potential members out there. And since the dues are lowered for the coming year, lets add even more. And then some personal invites might get them to state events; a membership mentor type of thing.

Finally, lets all remember this is a dangerous business we are in. Steel is heavy and hard as well as sometimes sharp, dirt falls to lower elevations as sometimes does machines, so keep your mind focused on what you are doing. Working safe starts with thinking safe; that power of suggestion in a more positive charge. So know what you are doing or going to do and know what you are going to do it with from hand tools to old scrapers that you have been running so long you feel like you are married to it, happily.

Be safe and lets see you again.

Steve Anderson, President



NATIONAL LICA DUES INCENTIVE PROGRAM BRINGS \$1845 BACK TO ILLINOIS LICA

ILICA's recent membership growth has been a real shot in the organization's arm in many ways. New directors and committee members bring fresh ideas, new enthusiasm and, often times youth, to meetings and other events. They also have the priceless opportunity to learn from those who have carried the ILICA torch for several years.

Another tangible benefit of the 39% growth ILICA has experienced over the past year, is qualifying for national LICA Dues Incentive Program for the first time since it's

implementation. ILICA received a 15% return on the dues paid to national LICA which was the highest percentage available this year.

The national Executive Committee decided to keep the program for at least another year at the Des Moines, IA summer conference, held earlier this month. And the way the ILICA membership committee is working, we're well on our way to qualifying for another big check next summer!



CERTIFIED FLAGGER TRAINING AVAILABLE SOON

Brent Breedlove, the proud Dad pictured to the right, has recently completed the National Safety Council's (NSC) Certified Flagger Instructor Course. Brent is busy fulfilling some additional course requirements that will qualify him to teach public Certified Flagger Training in the very near future. He has received several inquiries regarding in-house programs for contractors and municipal groups and will bring this new expertise to ILICA workshops as one more benefit of membership.



processed at their office. Reminders are also sent to prior participants about 6 months prior to the expiration date, advising them of their need to renew.



The ILICA office will partner with Brent by processing the required paperwork and maintaining records along with the ILICA certification information already on file. This program fits in very nicely with ILICA's existing certification program and will provide one more classification of safety education to our members.

The program is very strictly monitored by the NSC who reviews everything from the class schedules to the student sign in forms. They track all participants in their database and issue the official certificates once class records are

The primary objectives of the program are to train flaggers to provide safe passage of traffic through and around work areas and to minimize confusion by bringing standard flagging procedures to our nation's highways. To get your crew members trained and certified in safe flagging techniques in just four hours.

NEW MEMBERS



Active Contractors

Todd Isaacson

Isaacson Concrete & Excavating, LLC - Normal

Jay Mulholland

Flagg Construction & Excavation Co., Inc. - Rochelle

Matt Reinhart

Reinhart Excavation - Beason

David Schielein

IronHustler Excavating, Inc. - Peoria

Each attendee will receive a thorough understanding of flagging procedures and proper use of required equipment. They will also gain improved flagging skills from hands-on training, classroom activities and a flagging skills test, giving them increased ability to coordinate traffic movement through any work zone.

This course can be scheduled on-site at the location of your choice. Learn the same essentials of proper work zone flagger training at a site convenient to your crew! Contact Brent or the ILICA Office for more information about this important safety program.

Thank You!



Wayne Litwiller, Jerry Binsco, our newest member David Schielein and Forrest Davis at IronHustler Excavating in Peoria

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ILICA CONTRACTORS - WE NEED YOUR HELP

SEPTEMBER 10, 2009

As you know by now, ILICA's first golf outing fund raiser is just a few weeks away and things are coming together nicely. Since area 3 continues to be the area of strongest ILICA membership, we're starting in the heart of Illinois at Bartonville's Coyote Creek Golf Club and the stage is set for a fun day that will hopefully end up as a huge success for the newly formed Golf Outing Committee.

However, to make all this work, we need our ILICA contractors along with their non-member contractor friends to come out for an afternoon and spend time with our sponsors on the course, in the clubhouse or at the bar. Get your crew lined up for the day and headed out to their job sites and then drive out to Bartonville and join in the fun. You'll barely notice the time spent away from work!

Since this is an Area event, the ILICA office and committee members will be contacting most of our associates in the area for tee, green and meal sponsorship as well as to sign up foursomes to enjoy this relaxing afternoon. Don't forget though, anyone who wants to support ILICA can sponsor a tee or green and add to the success of this fun event. There are several contractors who have already signed up.

We know the kind of results we can achieve in this ILICA area and expect the same outstanding attendance for this first golf outing. The registration form is on the following page and there is still plenty of time to get involved. Tee and Green



signs will be kept for future outings and meal sponsors will be recognized in next year's directory. Golf Outing sponsors will also be recognized in the directory and at January's convention in Springfield.

Don't miss out on this outstanding opportunity to have fun working for ILICA! It's not often we can make an offer like that, so take advantage of it while you can! Call Janet at the ILICA office if you have any questions or would like more information and get signed up!

Sponsored By:

Peoria Convention & Visitors Bureau

Peoria, IL

309 - 242 - 2222

Sample Tee or Green Sponsor sign.

Golfing & Sponsorship is NOT restricted to ILICA Members but available for ANYONE who would like to support ILICA's first FUN Day Fund Raiser! Contact Janet for more Info!

2009 PICNIC SPONSORS

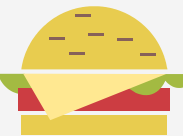
Meal Sponsors

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Agri-Drain Corporation

Fratco, Inc.

Springfield Plastics, Inc.



Event Sponsors

C.D. Getz Corp.

Prins Insurance, Inc.



Thank You!



Cooperative Sponsors

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Clark County Supply

Hickenbottom, Inc.

Martin Equipment of Illinois

Midwest Auger-Aerator

Precision Intakes, LLC





Golf Outing Sponsors

**The Land Improvement Contractors of America
Illinois Chapter**

First Annual Golf Outing

Coyote Creek Golf Club • Thursday, September 10, 2009

8201 W. Lancaster Road, Bartonville, IL 61607

Shotgun Start 1:00 pm



Golf & Dinner.....\$ 90.00

(Includes Green Fees, Golf Cart, Hot Dog & Beverage, Buffet Dinner, \$5 Pro-shop credit & Prizes)

Golf Only..... \$ 70.00 • Dinner Only..... \$ 45.00

*** Please RSVP before August 26, 2009. ***

Registration Form

Enclosed is the check PAYABLE TO ILICA
In the amount of \$ _____ for the following;

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

| Golf & Dinner | Golf Only | Dinner Only |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| \$90 @ | \$70 @ | \$45 @ |
| <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 Green or Tee \$150

I would like to be a lunch sponsor \$ 250.00 *

Please provide our sign (\$35 per sign)

I would like to be a Dinner Sponsor \$ 350.00 *

We will provide our own sign (16" x 24")

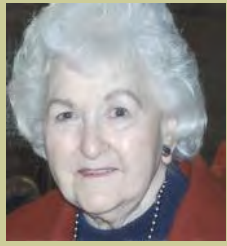
I would like to be an Outing Sponsor \$ 500.00 **

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

Mail checks and this form to: Illinois LICA - P.O. Box 474 - Brimfield, IL 61517

* 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. Their logos will also be used on all outing promotional material and on the ILICA website. Outing sponsors will receive recognition in the annual ILICA Directory and at the annual Convention and Member meeting.



GABBIN' WITH THE GALS...

Hello again and a great summer is wished to all. People have been putting out flowers and it is a pleasant sight to enjoy. Recently a friend sent me a copy of what took place at a meeting and enclosed a packet of Sweet Peas flower seed as everyone at the meeting received one. She said to just throw them out in the lawn and they will grow. Wonder what the man who mows my lawn would think of that! But we do have a place where that could be done so we look forward to seeing those blossoms in the near future.

Our men have kept busy, except for rain of course, and we hope all contractors out there have been also. On Memorial Day, son number two was ill and could not take us to the cemetery where they have a program every year and so my grandson, Eric, took the task in hand. We all lucked out because it threatened rain all through the program and just as it came to an end, it started to sprinkle. Somebody up there was looking out for us! We came back home and Eric called his family to meet us at a local restaurant for breakfast. He has a baby daughter who provided us with entertainment, which made great-grandma happy as we don't see her very often. Children have a habit of growing up before some of us have had a chance to enjoy them.

Well we had a family reunion of my side of the family and my offspring handled the whole shebang and did a great job too. Since I am the last survivor in my immediate family I had the misconception that we probably would not have very many - yet, they rented the parish hall of our church, which is large, and it's a good thing because before it was over, we had it full. What I failed to remember was that cousins grow up and they have families too; and we no doubt have second and third cousins we have never seen, so with that in mind, we all enjoyed the gathering very much!

Another story comes out of the above - when my immediate family arrived home later, we had quite a scene before us. I had ordered some candy from a catalog that I use frequently (when one can no longer go shopping, you depend on catalogs a lot) and since I had been away all day, a cardboard box containing this candy had arrived by mail and a squirrel had chewed a hole in the top of the box and had a candy bar in his mouth! He must have had a good smeller to tell what was in the box since they were wrapped. He hasn't been seen since so maybe his candy bar satisfied his sweet tooth!

On the lighter side; It seems a group of elder Americans were traveling by bus through Holland and stopped at a farm where they made goat cheese, explaining how it was made. They said the older goats were put out to pasture when their production was over. The hostess then asked, "What does your

country do with old goats?" A spry old gentleman replied, "They put us on bus tours!"

Mistaken advise: In 1954 a concert manager fired Elvis Presley saying, "You ought to go back to driving a truck." In 1962 Decca Records rejected the Beatles saying "We don't like the sound and guitar music is on it's way out." In 1966 Time Magazine predicted that machinery will be producing so much that everyone in the United States will be wealthy. And Nat King Cole, (one of my favorite performers) was told by his voice teacher that he should take up a different career. He probably laughed all the way to the bank.

Bragging Rights - No, I don't own a certificate of such, but claim them anyway. Most of you know our son Larry who is an artist and has worked in a large advertising company for many years. He used to draw a portrait of the outgoing national LICA president until he just didn't have enough time anymore. Well, his eldest son seems to be a carbon copy of Larry because as soon as Andrew's college time was over, he was hired by Larry's employer. Larry spent a lot of time later illustrating children's books but had to give it up because it was taking too much of his time. When a writer contacted him recently about illustrating a book, he had to turn them down. Then they asked if Andrew would do it and he agreed, even though the time limit was pretty short. He surely did well and the book should be in bookstores now. The title is "White House Dog." He is also a gentleman and gave acknowledgement of his father who encouraged him along the way. So we claim bragging rights and wish much success to Andrew.

In the 2009 Directory, several names of members who have passed on were familiar to me. They say, "that's life" but it still may come as a shock. Sometimes we don't realize how time has passed by and it is difficult to admit that time has pushed us forward also. This person can no longer say Good Morning but rather say Good - it's morning. At my age, a new day is a gift and even if we slip into a nap, we can call it rejuvenation and don't sweat it!

May I present a prayer said by President George Washington on his inaugural day; Direct my thoughts, words and works, wash away my sins in the immaculate Blood of the Lamb, and purge my heart by the Holy Spirit. Daily frame me more and more into the likeness of Thy Son, Jesus Christ.

The word for this issue is "Life." We should give thanks each morning we awaken and ask the Lord to help make it useful. We had someone take pictures at our Family Reunion but you know they have to use cameras that are programmed for computer, so this person hasn't seen them yet. Oh, for a reliable Brownie, and what is scary is that I'm afraid those cameras are gone forever. Whatever happened to Kodak??Rambling Rose



CATERPILLAR® CONTINUES TO SUPPORT LICA

While back in Peoria on his way to the ILICA picnic at Rend Lake, Jerry Biuso, Wayne Litwiller, Forrest Davis and Janet Doubet met with Andy Schlicksup, CAT's Marketing Strategy Consultant for the Americas, to follow up on CAT's support of national LICA conventions, including the one set in Peoria and to discuss the area member meetings supported so generously by Altorfer's and CAT this past March.

Following that March meeting in East Peoria where over 100 contractors enjoyed the hospitality of Altorfer's and CAT, several more new members have signed up, bringing our membership to an astounding 126 at this writing. One can't help but think that Altorfer's and other dealerships could see a real benefit from hosting this target audience of business owners at their facilities as well.

Other state LICA chapters have seen the outstanding success Illinois LICA and others are having by holding area member meetings and are following suit. CAT has once again stepped up to put corporate support behind their dealers around the country and is encouraging them to assist state LICA chapters in those efforts.



Janet Doubet, Wayne Litwiller, Forrest Davis and Andy Schlicksup meet for a casual lunch with Jerry Biuso in Peoria's Holiday Inn City Centre.

CAT is also working closely with Janet and Jerry on tentative tours for the 2010 summer national meetings. And although nothing is written in stone, there's talk of tours of the engine factory and foundry followed by a hands-on demo at the Edwards facility and much more. Check out the ILICA website for more detail!

Look for continuous updates on Illinois' summer national in the *ILICA News* and on our website, as this big event is just 1 year away. And don't forget to thank your CAT representative for their support of ILICA.

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LEGISLATIVE UPDATE; CAP & TRADE COULD COST \$846 BILLION

When the House Energy and Commerce Committee approved the Waxman-Markey climate change bill last month to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions, many from both political parties predicted it would impose huge costs on the American economy. According to the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) they were right.

The CBO, the official non-partisan “scorekeeper” of the Congress, has determined in a new analysis, that the so-called “cap-and-trade” system in the bill would cost American corporations, public utilities and the oil and gas industry \$846 billion over 10 years. The bill is the centerpiece of the Administration’s energy policy.

Most of that money, all but about \$24 billion, would flow out from government coffers in the form of rebates of various kinds to affected industries, local power companies and refineries, among others.

The CBO report was a sharp reminder that the greenhouse-gas reduction plan would require an expensive, complex, government program to achieve its goals. Under this plan, declining federal greenhouse-gas limits would be coupled with a mandate on affected companies to buy annual emissions permits or allowances, from the government or through the marketplace. Companies could exceed their pollution target by buying additional allowances, or purchasing “offset” credits from approved

forestry and conservation projects. Companies that cut their emissions faster than required can save their excess allowances for future years, or sell them.



American Petroleum Institute President Jack Gerard said the projected costs of Waxman-Markey will mean increases of as much as 77 cents a gallon for gasoline, and 88 cents per gallon for diesel. “This is what happens when market-based regulation is abandoned in favor of picking winners and losers,” Gerard said. “Putting most of the burden on one sector also helps to explain why the legislation promises to be a job-killer.”

Rep. Dave Camp (R-MI) said “Increasing Americans’ fuel and utility bills in this recession is not only bad public policy, but it completely ignores the hardships millions of Americans are already facing.”

Defeating this Waxman-Markey legislation in the heavily Democrat House is still considered to be an uphill climb. To my knowledge, LICA has not taken any formal position on this legislation, but if passed it is sure to affect every LICA member. LICA members with opinions on this legislation might want to write their Senators and Representative and express them.

By John Peterson, LICA Director of Government Relations



BY-LAWS DUES STRUCTURE CHANGE PASSED

The recommended by-laws change, published in the last issue of the *ILICA News*, was brought to a vote at the summer members meeting at Rend Lake on June 27th. The proposed change was passed unanimously by the members present and is now in effect, altering the dues billing structure for 2010.

This change was two-fold: Active contractor dues will be billed at \$295 annually, eliminating the increase in dues after the second year. It also increased dues for our associate members to \$295, making both levels of membership the same. Starting with the 2010 billing, which will include any contractor who signs up after September 1st, each year’s membership will stay at \$295. Associate members that sign up through the summer will pay a pro-rated amount and then be billed for \$295 for 2010.



This will take effect just as our membership co-chairs head back out on the road in mid-September. The revised dues structure is simple and straightforward, making it easier to promote through these area member meetings and other events. This change just makes sense and should help retain current members at the end of their second year.

If you have any questions about the by-laws change for dues, please contact Janet at the ILICA office or By-Laws Committee chairperson, Stuart Anderson.

| Starting September, 2009 | |
|--|----------|
| 2010 Active Contractor Membership Dues | \$295.00 |
| 2010 Associate Member Dues | \$295.00 |
| 2010 Affiliate Member Dues | \$ 85.00 |

AREA 3 AND AREA 8 MEMBER MEETINGS SCHEDULED FOR THIS FALL

As shown by the results of our past Area member meetings, contractors are looking for opportunities to keep up with changes in their industry without taking too much time away from their work or families. ILICA's educational sessions have been very well received and our commitment to continue to provide this benefit is stronger than ever.

This has been a difficult year for land improvement contractors in Illinois and surrounding states due to the heavy and repeated rains of this spring and summer. Finding a dry day to work is a rare commodity and one that can't be overlooked for almost any reason. With the late planting season, October looks to be a very busy month for our contractors this year so with that in mind, membership co-chairs Norm Kocher and Wayne Litwiller, have decided to schedule meetings for both areas in September and November but will only have one Area 3 meeting in October.

Since our first Area 3 golf outing is set for September 10th, Jerry Biuso and the membership co-chairs have decided to make the most of Jerry's next trip to Illinois. We are working with area associates around Mt. Carmel for the next Area 8 meeting on Tuesday, September 8th. The agenda will be similar as last year with the meal at 6:30 pm followed by a short introduction to ILICA and a 1 hour educational session. The tentative topic is "What is OSHA and How to Survive an OSHA Audit", but please keep watching this newsletter and our website for any changes as the date approaches.

Following the golf outing on Thursday, the committee will take a day to re-group and then head to the Moline area for the next Area 3 member meeting. ILICA contractor, Larry Rhodenbaugh, is still working with area associates for a sponsor but it's set for the Sherrard Fire House at noon. Although technically, this is still Area 3, it's really new territory for these meetings, since contractors are more than 90 minutes away



from our previous Area 3 meeting locations.

On October 29th, new member David Shielein, owner of IronHustler Inc. in Peoria, has agreed to host an Area 3 member meeting to demonstrate the Rubblemaster concrete recycler. Rubblemaster is one of National LICA's associate members and has been very supportive of the organization on that level. David has just joined our ILICA contractors but was more than happy to host a Rubblemaster demonstration, which should be a big draw for our contractors.

In November, the plan is to return to Southern Illinois on November 17th for the next Area 8 meeting at Erb Equipment Company in Mt. Vernon, followed by another Area 3 meeting at Altorfer's in East Peoria. The committee is still working on topics for the educational sessions for this series, but more information will be available soon on the website.

Many ILICA directors and officers are starting to plan for area meetings in other parts of the state, but Area 3 and Area 8 have a proven track record of success that has fueled our recent momentum. The membership co-chairs and ILICA office are very grateful for the welcome received in these areas and the plan is to keep doing what provides the greatest benefit to our contractors.



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2009 SUMMER MEMBER MEETING & PICNIC IS A BIG SUCCESS!

The first ILICA weekend picnic and members meeting was a great success, even with the scorching heat that weekend. ILICA members from all over the state drove to Southern Illinois with their boats, fishing gear, golf clubs, rifles (for trap shooting of course), and families to enjoy a leisurely weekend at Rend Lake Resort. Several groups arrived on Friday evening and got together for an enjoyable evening meal at Gibbys, right on the golf course that would be played on Saturday. If noise level is any indication of how much fun people were having, it was a very good time!

Saturday morning began with some early fishing for a few folks, but with the members meeting starting at 10 am, it was soon time to get down to the business of the weekend. The by-laws change regarding our dues structure passed unanimously and soon it was time to send everyone out with the box lunch sponsored by ADS to their selected afternoon activities. Associate support of the weekend was outstanding, providing a total of over \$2000 of sponsorship for meals and events.

A variety of activities were available and the 2 pontoon boats that were reserved filled up quickly. Rend Lake is so large that even though it was busy that weekend, it was still easy to find a spot to drop anchor and cool off in the refreshing water. Several people braved the heat to golf and although everyone ended up playing 18 holes, it did seem like the course had a nice breeze and plenty of shade to give them a break. There were

others that also braved the heat to trap shoot, but shade was a little harder to come by at the shooting complex.

After an afternoon of fun, the picnic began with a delicious cook-out meal catered by the Rend Lake Resort and sponsored by Springfield Plastics, Inc. There was plenty of food, and even though it remained warm through the evening, everyone enjoyed hearing stories of the afternoon's adventures of other members before heading back to their hotel rooms for the relief of air-conditioning and a shower.

Sunday morning started off (wouldn't you know!) with much cooler temperatures and a delicious buffet breakfast hosted by Fratco. The morning had a more relaxed pace to it and many members stayed around to visit before checking out and heading home.

We were blessed to have Bruce Barnhart, National ILICA president and his family join us for the weekend along with Region IV V.P. Steve Miller and family and Executive V.P., Jerry Biuso. Those polled on Sunday morning thought the 2-day schedule worked great so we plan to do a similar weekend next year and are looking at Lake Shelbyville or the Collinsville area where we held the 2008 picnic.

Please note the complete list of sponsors on page 6 of this publication and don't forget to "THANK" them for their continued support the next chance you get.

(top L. to lower R.) The Kutemeier clan and friend on the Prins sponsored pontoon boat; Veronica & Jon waiting for their boat captain; Tyler, Tanner & David Brooks at the Shooting Complex; Our boaters cooling off in Rend Lake; Refreshment cart for the thirsty golfers.



2009 SUMMER MEMBER MEETING, PICNIC IS A BIG SUCCESS! (CONT.)



(Upper right) Dan & Sylvia Day enjoying the day on the pontoon boat (top L. to lower R.) Saturday evening BBQ picnic at the lake; Dinner at Gibby's on Friday night; Youngsters cooling off at the picnic; Group sponsor signs & Top State Award; Sunday's Buffet breakfast line, sponsored by Fratco, Inc.; More of our brave golfers in the afternoon heat.






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FORMAL DEDICATION OF AISWCD OFFICE FEATURES GREEN PRACTICES

You may recall a story about 1 year ago, noting how ILICA members provided excavation work for the AISWCD pervious parking lot and driveway featured in the story on the next page. Rich Nichols had been working with NRCS landscape architects on replacing the gravel areas with permeable pavers as a demonstration for area builders and had asked for ILICA's help with the excavation during the 2008 convention. Thanks to Dave Hurst, James Wells, Jeff Litwiller, and Rod Walters, the initial phase of the project was completed in less than 2 days.

Pictures of the original excavation are shown to the lower right and a picture featuring the new surfaces is shown below.



(top) Wayne Litwiller & Forrest Davis were present for the media day activities. ILICA was also recognized for their contribution to the project. Excavation of the AISWCD office parking lot and driveway was done by ILICA volunteers in preparation for the installation of pervious surfaces.

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IEPA AND AISWCD UNVEIL CONSERVATION PRACTICES AT DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS

Best Management Practices can reduce flooding, pollution and other damaging effects from heavy rainfall.



Illinois EPA Director Scott today joined Association of Illinois Soil and Water Conservation Districts' (AISWCD) Executive Director Rich Nichols, and other dignitaries to showcase best management practices that the Association has implemented in their own parking lot.

The Illinois EPA has been working with the AISWCD to improve the Association's "watershed footprint" to design its parking lot and driveway by incorporating a variety of Best Management Practices, including a porous pavement driveway, permeable paver parking lot, rain garden, and native vegetation in landscaping. The non-point source pollution prevention projects were funded from an award through the Clean Water Act Section 319 program administered by the Illinois EPA.

Along with urban area sprawl, we continue to add more and more impervious areas, such as parking lots, driveways, roads, sidewalks and turf grass. With this, we reduce the areas where rainwater can soak or percolate into the soil to become groundwater. All water eventually drains to the lowest part of a watershed and then into and out of the next downstream watershed, carrying the pollutants with it.

Located in the Sangamon River Watershed, water that falls at the AISWCD would previously have hit the pavement, run down the road into a ditch and eventually flow into the Sangamon River. Some of it might have been collected by a combined storm sewer and treated with other wastewater by the Springfield Sanitary District (adding to its load and treatment costs) then be discharged into the Sangamon River. From there it would flow to the Illinois River Watershed and then on the Mississippi River Basin and to the Gulf of Mexico, picking up pollutants along the way and carrying them along. It would also erode the streambanks.

With projects like the AISWCD parking lot of pervious material, rainwater is allowed to percolate into the soil, recharge

ing our groundwater rather than adding pollutants and erosion-causing water to our rivers and causing damaging floods.

The Association also planted a rain garden, including Marsh Marigold, Fox Sedge, Swamp Milkweed, Black-eyed Susans, Blue Flag Iris and Monkey Flower. Rain gardens hold stormwater and allow it to slowly percolate into the groundwater system, lessening the stormwater load into our storm sewer systems and ultimately the creeks and rivers.

Since 1990, more than 300 non-point source projects have been administered by the Illinois EPA. Projects include developing watershed-based plans; controlling NPS pollution from agricultural lands, urban sources and construction areas; restoration of water quality, wetlands and stream channels and information/education programs.

Illinois EPA has partnered with the Association and its member county districts on a total of 12 Section 319 non-point source projects, totaling almost \$3 million in federal grant funds, for which the Association has provided \$2 million in match from state and local funding sources. Among the projects were:

- Protecting Water Quality in Urban Centers:** This project maintained and improved water quality in urbanized areas by creating a partnership between soil and water conservation districts in 23 mostly urbanized counties across the state which implemented non-point source pollution prevention education and information projects aimed at local government land use decision makers and the development community.
- Watershed Planning:** Under this project, the association acted as a liaison to soil and water conservation districts to assist local watershed groups in preparing or upgrading 10 watershed based plans to improve water quality by controlling non-point source pollution. Planning occurred in both urban and rural watersheds.
- Construction Site Inspection Program:** Illinois EPA has contracted with 17 SWCDs covering 18 counties to conduct Phase II Storm Water Education and Outreach efforts. The project goal is to have soil and water conservation district staff visit construction sites to provide technical compliance assistance to site owners and contractors, using their erosion and sediment control expertise, and to keep construction site activities and stormwater discharges from negatively impacting the state by strengthening Illinois EPA's compliance assistance process.



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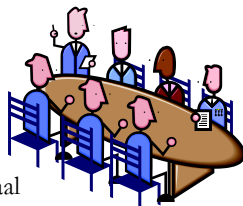
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2009 DES MOINES IA SUMMER NATIONAL



There was a lot going on this year in Des Moines Iowa the week of July 13th. Not only was the Mid-West Drainage Water Management (DWM) Workshop set to kick off the week of the LICA summer meetings, Iowa LICA had been working frantically to get everything ready for the field days at their farm near Melbourne, IA. And all that was in addition to planning the many other tours for the visiting LICA members and their wives to enjoy while in Des Moines.

Tuesday was spent in the classroom for the DWM workshop, which was well attended. Wednesday was set for hands on training at the Iowa farm, where a water control structure was installed to divert rain water from the new shed roof into a rain garden which will be constructed later. The ladies toured the Bridges of Madison County and enjoyed a nice lunch before returning to the hotel. Thursday provided another interesting tour of Cemen Tech for the men with the Des Moines Botanical Gardens, a winery and chocolate maker for the ladies tour. Everyone ended up at the Iowa Farm for the kick-off reception and an outstanding smoked pork dinner with all the trimmings.

The chapter Executive Directors met for over three hours on Tuesday afternoon for their annual training meeting that has been held at National's office in Lisle in the past. Many chapters are interested in the particulars of the very successful membership drives Jerry Biuso is organizing around the country. The Member Benefit power point developed by Jerry and Allison Levy was reviewed and very well received by most ED's. Several plan to incorporate their state benefits into the content for future use at their member meetings.

Committee meetings began right after breakfast on

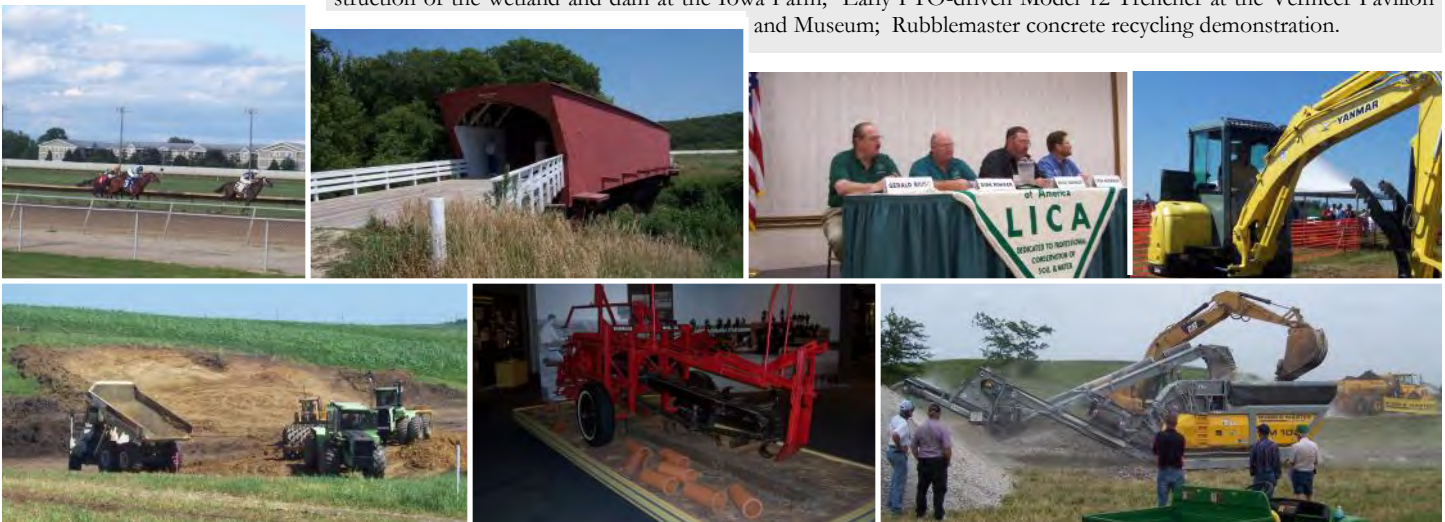
Friday morning and ran most of the day. Each committee was charged with suggesting educational topics for the 2010 winter convention set for Phoenix AZ as well as the 2011 Con Ex the next winter. Jerry Biuso is once again in charge of the Excavation educational tract at Con Ex, due to his great success of 2008.

The convention committee decided to recommend that next year's summer national be set for Rochester, MN, July 13 - 16th, 2011 at the historic downtown Kahler Grand Hotel. Room rates are locked in at \$89 per night and several tour ideas were circulated for a show of interest. The venue was voted on at the board meeting and passed. Suggestions for the 2012 summer meeting were Colorado Springs CO, Cincinnati or Columbus OH, Indianapolis IN and Boise ID. Several committee members agreed to take one site each and research pricing, tours and other details to bring to Arizona for review in February. Region meetings rounded out Thursday's agenda, and after a short break, a very entertaining evening of Square Dancing followed dinner. It's safe to say most of our contractors shouldn't quit their day jobs to pursue a career in dance, but it was a lot of fun!

Saturday's schedule was less hectic with the main event of the morning being the board meeting. Following lunch, several attendees headed for home and missed out on all the fun at Prairie Meadows Racetrack and Casino. It was a beautiful evening and every once in a while, someone's horse actually won!

All and all, the tours and activities were interesting, the food was great and the company, as always, was outstanding. Thanks to Eileen, Allison, IA LICA and the national leadership

(Below, top left to lower right) Nearing the finish line on a beautiful night at Prairie Meadows; One of the Bridges of Madison County; Jerry Biuso, Dirk Riniker, Bruce Barnhart and Dean Neiswinger at Saturday's board meeting; Wayne Litwiller checking out a Yanmar VIO 55-5 at the Iowa Farm; Construction of the wetland and dam at the Iowa Farm; Early PTO-driven Model 12 Trencher at the Vermeer Pavilion and Museum; Rubblemaster concrete recycling demonstration.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Illinois

**University of Illinois Erosion Facility
& Bell Tower Projects**
U of I South Farm - Champaign, IL
August 3 - 7, 2009

2009 Farm Progress Show
Partners in Conservation Tent
Farm Progress Show Site - Decatur, IL
September 1 - 3, 2009

Area 8 Member Meeting
Location TBA

Tuesday, September 8, 2009

Free Catered Dinner - 6:30 PM

Program: "What Is OSHA & How to Survive an Audit"

1st Annual Area 3 Golf Outing
Coyote Creek Golf Club - Bartonville, IL
September 10, 2009

Noon lunch; Shotgun Start - 1 pm; Dinner - 6 pm

Area 3 Member Meeting
Sherrard Fire House

September 12, 2009

Free Catered Lunch - Noon

Program: IDOT Trucking Regulations for Contractors

Area 3 Member Meeting
Location TBA

October 29, 2009

Free Catered Dinner - 6:30 PM

Program: Rubblemaster Concrete Recycling Demo

2010 ILICA Convention & Member Meeting
President Abraham Lincoln Hotel - Springfield, IL
January 13 - 16, 2010

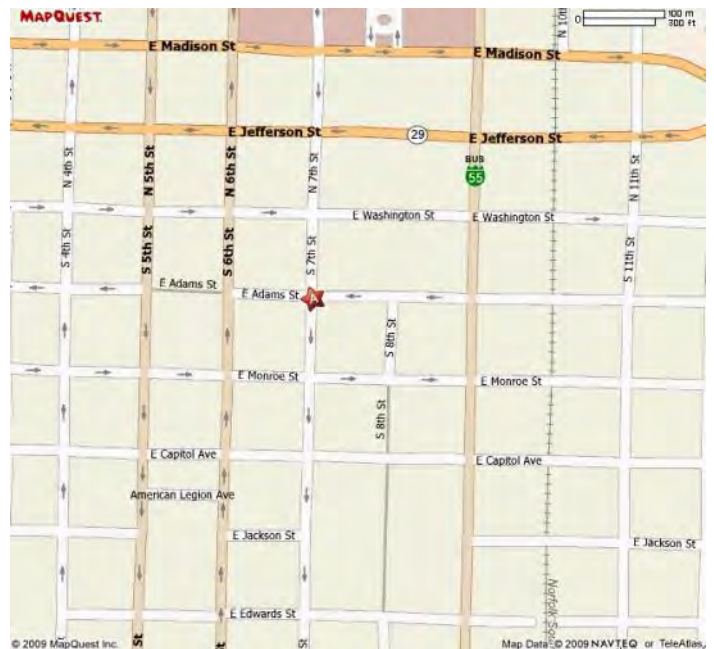
National

2010 LICA Winter Convention
Sheraton Crescent Hotel · Phoenix, AZ
February 16 - 20, 2010

2010 LICA Summer Convention
Holiday Inn City Centre · Peoria, IL
July 13 - 17, 2010

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President Abraham Lincoln Hotel - Although the address is on Adams St., if you plan to use the parking garage, please follow Clear Lake, which turns into Jefferson St. east until you reach 7th Street. Turn left or South on 7th and parking garage is on your left 1 1/2 blocks south of Jefferson. Street parking is free on Saturday's so Adams or 7th may have free street parking spots.

SAFETY FEATURE - LOADING A MACHINE FOR TRANSPORT

Tips on proper methods of loading and securing machines and their components for safe transport. These are things that are known and practiced, but sometimes overlooked.

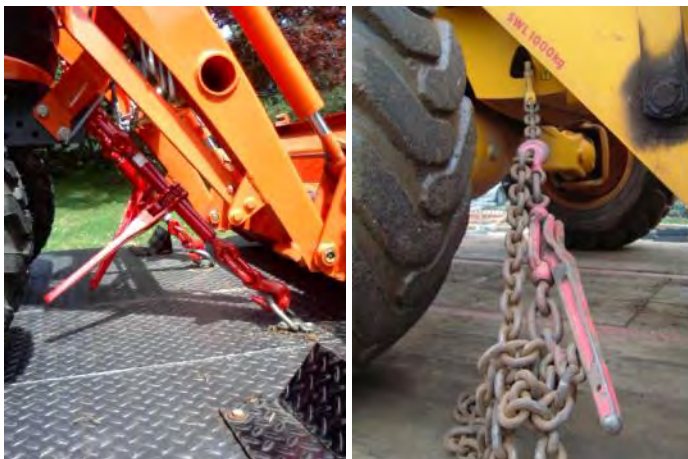


Before Loading

- Always read and understand the Operation and Maintenance Manual
- Always be sure to clean off rocks and debris from tracks and roller frames before loading
- Check for fluid leakage
- Always measure your load
- Check and meet federal, state, or local regulations for height, weight, and width
- ALWAYS verify the trailer floor & tie-downs are serviceable

Measuring your Load


- Accurate weights and measurements are necessary to ensure the machine is properly placed or positioned on the trailer for transporting and to meet local and national highway regulations
- Machine height is most crucial
- Always be sure to use a measuring pole from the ground to the highest point on the machine
- Most North American roads have an allowable 13 feet 10 inches, (1.2 meters)
- Make sure you know your route so you can adjust for the correct height



Loading

- Always wear the appropriate PPE when in, on, or around any machine
- Always wear your seatbelt
- Eye contact should be maintained by the operator and all around the machine
- Keep anyone not involved in the loading away from the area
- Make sure the machine is balanced
- Lower all work tools
- If work tools cannot be lowered, lock all work tools in their transport position (e.g. the center lock-pin for a backhoe loader)
- Lock the transmission in neutral and apply the parking brake
- Make sure the machine is off and key removed
- As a rule, you should use one chain for every 8500 pounds (3855.5 kg) of weight, or one chain for every 10 linear feet (3.1 meters) of cargo





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Manual and make
this page your week-
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<http://web.extension.uiuc.edu/state/>

ENJOY LIFE—INSTALL A FARM POND

Source: Robert W. Frazee, Extension Educator, Natural Resources Management, rfrazee@illinois.edu

A farm pond can add more than just a scenic setting to your land. It can be very practical and may even provide a little fun reports Bob Frazee, University of Illinois Natural Resources Educator. A farm pond is environmentally friendly in that it can capture runoff water, preventing it from doing erosive damage. It can also provide water for livestock, household use, irrigation, and fire fighting. On top of this, a farm pond can offer recreation—fishing, swimming, picnicking, ice skating, and wildlife habitat.

If you would like to create a farm pond, Frazee states the first step is to identify a suitable site. This means finding a site that has the right topography and an acceptable soil type that will provide sufficient water. The ideal topography is a wide, gently sloping basin with rather steep banks that would come closely together at the proposed dam site. The idea is to impound the largest amount of water with the smallest dam.

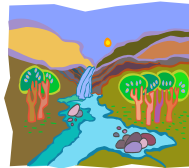
To construct the farm pond, Frazee recommends building a dam across an existing gully or low-lying area. Using a bulldozer or excavator, dig out a bowl-shaped basin above the spot where the dam will be located and then use the soil to build the dam. Within a year, the pond should fill with water.

The soil for a farm pond must contain enough clay to provide a watertight dam and a basin through which a minimum of water will seep. Usually 3 feet of clay soil is needed below the excavation level beneath the dam site and in the pond basin to prevent seepage. It may be necessary to haul clay for the dam from a nearby area. If there is not enough water-



tight soil for the entire dam, you may need to put a clay core in the center of the dam or install a prefabricated pond liner.

The watershed is the area surrounding the pond that drains into it. The ideal watershed will provide enough silt-free water to keep the pond full at all times with water seldom running over the spillway.



A rule of thumb that Frazee recommends is to aim for about 20 acres of watershed area for every one acre of pond surface. However, local conditions can alter this figure. If you have too much watershed area draining into the pond, you can move water away from the pond with terraces or diversions; and if you do not have enough watershed area, you can divert water toward the pond.

For successful fish management, Frazee states the general rule is that ponds should have a surface area of at least 1 acre and 10 to 12 feet of water in 25 percent of the pond basin. Ponds less than 1 acre can handle relatively little pressure by fish populations. Also, if the water is not deep enough, fish can be killed by oxygen depletion during hot days in the summer and when the lake is covered with ice & snow during the winter.



To determine if you have the right topography and the correct soils for building a farm pond on your land, contact your local Soil and Water Conservation District and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Biologist.

By: Robert W. Frazee, Extension Educator, Natural Resources Management, rfrazee@illinois.edu

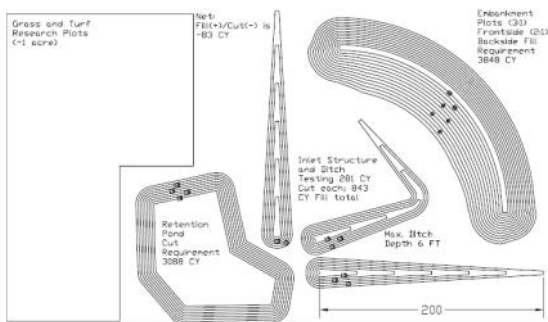


! UNIVERSITY CONSTRUCTION PROJECT UPDATE !

WORK SET TO START AUGUST 3RD



View of Bell Tower looking to the Northwest



The contracts have been signed and studies completed, allowing the McFarland Bell Tower and Erosion Control Facility projects to proceed as planned.

Please consider spending a day supporting ILICA on one of these projects.

Contact Jon Seevers at (217) 433-1302 or Neal Barnes at (618) 779-2985 if you can help.

YELLOW JACKET NESTS IN HOUSES

Source: David J. Robson, Extension Educator, Horticulture, drobson@illinois.edu



If you have "bees" going in and out of the wall of your house, you probably have yellow jackets. Yellow jackets are elongated, about an inch long, and are black with yellow markings showing as stripes on the abdomen. These wasps construct large paper nests underground, in wall voids and in other protected places. They contain several horizontal combs and several thousands individuals.

All members of the nest, except the queen die during the winter, and fertilized females that overwinter in protected places start new ones each summer, states David Robson, University of Illinois Extension horticulture educator, Springfield Center.

The young yellow jackets (larvae) feed on insects and other bits of meat that the adults capture or scavenge from garbage cans, picnics or other areas where food is left uncovered. The adults chew up the insects or other meat and feed this partially digested food to the larvae. Adults feed on nectar and the juices of the larval food.

Elimination of nests is best done at night when the yellow jackets are less active. Be sure to wear protective clothing in order to minimize exposed skin to possible stings. Underground nests will usually have a single opening that the wasps use to enter and leave the nest. Ground nests can be treated by soaking the nest opening with a recommended insecticide. Seal the opening with soil immediately after spraying.



wasps use to enter and leave the nest. Thus, direct insecticide spraying involves the removal of part of the wall.

These wall void nests can also be killed by placing an insecticide dust in and around the wall opening. The yellow jackets pick up this dust on their bodies, groom themselves with their mouthparts and feed each other in the nest. Frequently, the insecticide dust must be reapplied up to four times over a two- week period.

Once the wasps have been killed, a few more may emerge from cocoons over the next few days, but these are



likely to encounter the insecticide dust and die also. Since the source of reproduction—the queen—has been killed, no more young will be produced. After two weeks have passed with no wasp activity near the nest opening, the hole may be sealed.

Caution! Do not confuse yellow jackets with bald-faced hornets, bees and beneficial wasps. These insects are considered friends of man because they feed flies and other harmful insects to their young and pollinate plants in the process of gathering nectar to feed them. Their nests should be allowed to survive in most situations.

If a person stays at least 3 or 4 feet away from the nest, hornets will usually not attack. Lawn work and other necessary activities close to the nest should be done late in the evening, when hornets are less active. Rarely will hornets sting while foraging for food.

Wall void nests are frequently several feet from the wall opening that



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- CUI-Cable/Utility Installation DB-Directional Boring DI-Drainage or Irrigation DWM-Drainage Water Mgmt
 EC-Erosion Control EMC-Earthmoving/Land Clearing EXG-Excavating or Grading GR-Gravel/Rock Production
 LL-Land Leveling LS—Landscaping ODW-Open Ditch Work OSW-On Site Waste Treatment PD-Ponds / Dams
 RBD-Road Boring/Drainage R-Reclamation SA-Service Co (Government, Insurance Agency, Dealer) SEP-Septic Systems
 SP-Site Prep SWU-Sewer/Water/Underground Utilities TH-Trucking or Hauling TW-Terraces & Waterways
 WM—Water Management Other: _____



ILLINOIS FARM PROGRESS SHOW - ILICA JOINS PARTNERS IN CONSERVATION TENT - SEPTEMBER 1 - 3, 2009

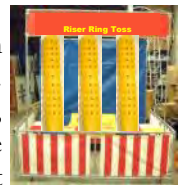
Once again, ILICA joins many of our partner agencies at the 2009 Farm Progress Show in Decatur Illinois. Although the Farm Progress Show draws a big crowd, the conservation tent struggles each year with creative new ways to draw those crowds into the world of conservation long enough to get our message heard.

Once inside, the Partners In Conservation tent will look more like a carnival midway with games of chance and skill combined with questions about soil erosion, water quality, habitat and our environment in general. Taking our cue from the very successful Illinois EPA exhibit during the 2007 FPS, each agency and organization will have an activity, trivia like questions on the environment and prizes to entice our visitors into thinking just a bit.

Many of the practices that were installed during the

2006 and 2008 ILICA Conservation Expo's in will also be featured in the Conservation Tent. No walking tours of the practices are planned, but since Professor McLaughlin serves free snow cones during the 3 day event, we expect some heavy traffic around the pervious roadway and rain garden areas. The bio-reactors, water control structures and restored wetland will be part of ILICA's table top display and trivia questions, but the real draw will be the "Riser Ring-Toss" game. You'll just have to stop by and see how it turns out, since the ILICA office hasn't figured out all the details yet.

As always, ILICA needs representatives at the booth to help with the many questions landowners and farm managers have during the 3 day show. Contact Janet with your availability and remember, **free admission** is included. Any day or half-day you have to help out would be greatly appreciated.





Application for ASSOCIATE Membership Illinois Land Improvement Contractors Association



P.O. Box 474 · Brimfield, IL 61517 · Phone (309) 446-3700 · Fax: (309) 446-3744 · janet@illica.net

_____ hereby makes application for Associate Membership in the ILLINOIS LAND IMPROVE-
MENT CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION, INC., (ILICA) and enclose Two Hundred Dollars (\$200) as my annual membership
dues for the year _____. One dollar (\$1.00) of this amount is for a subscription to the "ILICA News", a bi-monthly newsletter,
for one year.

Associate members shall consist of and be limited to persons, firms, corporations, associations or organizations that manufacture or
sell equipment, material or services to land improvement contractors.

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

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Firm Name: _____


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