

ILICA



NEWS

Land Improvement Contractors Of America · Illinois Chapter

January - February 2013

David Kennedy
Chairman of the Board

David Haag
President

Tom Beyers
Vice President

Dave Hurst
First Vice President

Janet Burtle-Doubet
Secretary

Bill Dean
Treasurer

Directors

Brian Brooks

Steve Anderson
Stuart Anderson

Forrest Davis
Mike Yordy

Lee Bunting
John McCoy

Brent Breedlove

Scott Day
J.D. Laster

John Barttelbort
Doug Nicholson

Norm Kocher
Paul Halter

Janet Burtle-Doubet
Executive Director

200+ ... AN ILICA MILESTONE!



Featured Inside:

December Member Meetings Help Numbers Climb *(page 2)*

Safety Workshop, Ashland House in Morton, IL *(page 6)*

The Extension Connection *(page 12 - 13)*

Upcoming Events:

Safety Workshop - Feb 26-27, 2013
Ashland House, Morton, IL

March Board Meeting - March 2nd
2 PM - Exact Location TBA

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

DECEMBER MEMBER MEETINGS HELP NUMBERS CLIMB



This fall, our membership meeting schedule was set in Areas 6 and 8 with three meetings in three locations in early December. The membership committee started out at Birkey's in Mattoon with the educational presentation by EK Petroleum who also helped to host the event. Approximately 30 attendees enjoyed a delicious dinner and informative session on bio-fuel and storage tanks. Although most attendees were current ILICA members, Lee Goeckner and his wife Amy, shown to the right, signed up on the spot after talking to Jerry Biuso and other ILICA contractors about the benefits of membership.

for Contractors session to crowd of more than 25 attendees. The 2 non-members in attendance there, Larry Holt and Gary Scherer, also signed up that evening after spending some time with Norm and Wayne, membership co-chairs.

The next meeting was set for BM Truck Equipment in Olney, shown below, where ISP Commercial Vehicle officer Trooper Kruse, provided the ever popular IDOT Regulations

The week concluded with a meeting hosted by Erb Equipment in Marion Illinois, a new part of Area 8 for us, with Trooper Kruse repeating his presentation from the previous evening to a smaller group. However, Jerry was able to convert Ferguson Contracting, LLC into our newest member by the time the evening was over. Our thanks go out to Jerry Biuso for his help and to all our outstanding hosts.



Agri Drain CORPORATION

America's most complete manufacturer and supplier of products for drainage water management, wetlands, ponds, lakes, erosion control, and land improvement.

Call for your FREE catalog today! 1-800-232-4742

info@agridrain.com ▪ www.agridrain.com

JCG MIDWEST
DRAINAGE PRODUCTS

****A ONE-STOP-SHOP FOR ALL YOUR DRAINAGE NEEDS!****

Located directly off of US Rt. 51 at:
2700 North Main St. - Moweaqua, IL 62550
(217) 768-3040
 Email: JCGMidwest1@gmail.com

	<p>Agri Drain CORPORATION</p>	
<p>PIPE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MAXI COILS • DUAL WALL • SINGLE WALL • FITTINGS • PVC • CORRUGATED METAL 	<p>ACCESSORIES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RISERS • FABRIC • SHOVELS • PROBES • TILE CUTTERS • WATER CONTROL STRUCTURES 	<p>EQUIPMENT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TRENCHER PARTS • CHAINS, ROLLERS, CUTTERS, TEETH, SPROCKETS, CONVEYOR BELTS AND MORE • TILE CARTS • MAXI SPOOLS



LET US HELP YOU SAVE TIME BY USING OUR DELIVERY SERVICE!

* ILICA SUPPORTER *

The ILICA News



Editor / Advertising Manager

Janet Burtle-Doubet

Chairman of the Board
David Kennedy, Colfax

President
David Haag, Kempton

Vice President
Tom Beyers, Odin

1st Vice President
Dave Hurst, Yates City

Secretary
Janet Doubet, Williamsfield

Treasurer
Bill Dean, Mattoon

Educational Advisor
Professor Richard Cooke
University of Illinois

The *ILICA News* is the official publication of Illinois Land Improvement Contractors Association, Inc. at 118 E. Knoxville St., Brimfield, IL 61517. (309) 446-3700.

Subscription price is \$25.00 per year, issued bi-monthly: Jan.-Feb.; Mar.-Apr.; May-June; July-Aug. Sept.-Oct.; Nov.-Dec., and includes one annual directory.

FEATURES

- December Member Meetings Help Numbers Climb 2
- 2013 Safety Workshop Registration. 6
- 2013 Safety Workshop Agenda 7
- 2013 Golf Outings - Save The Dates 7
- Paul Says "Thank You" 9
- Another Great Convention 10
- Convention Supporters 11
- Legislative Page: Farm Bill Update From NACD 14
- Harvest In The Midst Of Drought 15
- Employment Law - Hiring 20
- Hundreds of U.S. Levees Need Repair 22
- 2013 Convention Photo Gallery. 23

COLUMNS

- Board Meeting Notice 3
- Presidents Message 4
- New Members 5
- ILICA Ladies Page 8
- NEW!** The Extension Connection 12-13
- 2013 Committee Members. 16
- Member Application 17
- Featured LICA Benefit 18
- Advertisers Index 19
- Calendar of Events 19
- Safety Feature: Over Head Power Line Tips 21

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.



Meeting Notice

March Board Meeting Notice

Regular Board Meeting

March 2, 2013 - 2 pm

Committee Meetings 10 am - 1 pm

Exact Location TBA

(See page 19 for additional details)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hello from Kempton, IL

For those of you who don't know me, I operate a drainage and excavation business at Kempton Illinois, 30 miles east of Pontiac with my wife Marsha.

I've been in business over 30 years at the same location. We have three daughters and one son who in turn have provided us 6 grandsons and 2 granddaughters.

For those not able to attend the Annual Meeting and Convention, you missed a great opportunity to sit in on educational sessions, meet fellow contractors and mingle with old friends. Our Associates' exhibit booths were available for you to visit and see their latest merchandise and services.

I am proud to let you know that our association has grown to over 200 contractor members. We are like spokes in a wheel. If we all work together, members and associates, we can continue to be successful. Take time to greet the new members at our functions; we too were the new kid on the block at one time, so please make them feel welcome and get involved.

Reminder, there is a Safety Workshop scheduled for February 26th & 27th at the Ashland House in Morton, Illinois. 10 Hour OSHA certification and Certified Flagger Training sessions will be presented at this workshop.

We will be having 2 golf outings this summer. Dates and locations are noted in this newsletter and registration forms will be published in later issues. Also, remember the Picnic and Members meeting is being planned in the Moline area, sometime in June.

Many of us have continued to work through January. Take time for repairs to make sure your equipment is safe and efficient.

Illinois will be well represented at the LICA National Meetings and Conference in Savannah, GA in February. Safe travels to those attending.

As I say "So Long" for now, be safe.

David Haag, President



"THANK YOU" To OUR CONVENTION COMMITTEE

- Kristin Kutemeier - Chair
- Brent & Tracy Breedlove
- Bill & Bev Dean
- Greg & Jennifer Furkin
- Corey & Whitney Getz
- David & Lori Kennedy
- Mike & Holly Yordy
- GREAT JOB ... AGAIN!**

You protect our environment, but who's protecting you?



United Fire Group's state LICA insurance program is designed for dirt-moving contractors and includes:

- coverages tailored to your business needs,
- safety group dividends,
- preferred pricing, and
- professional loss control services.

Let United Fire Group protect you and your business.



Administered by:



For more information, please contact your local United Fire Group agent; PRINS Insurance, Inc. at 800-831-8545; or email Bruce Mosier at bmosier@prinsins.com.



4678 Weinmann Dr., Suite A
Olney, IL 62450

LEE MILONE
OWNER / MANAGER

Phone (618) 395-8046
Fax (618) 393-4702

1-800-247-7972

"WE TAKE PRIDE IN OUR WORK AND SERVICE WHAT WE SELL"



NEW MEMBERS

Active Contractors

Lee Goeckner
Goeckner Backhoe, Septic & Concrete
 5658 N. 1700th Street
 Dieterich, IL 62424
 Ph: 217-739-2276

Kevin Ferguson
Ferguson Contracting, LLC
 205 E. Reid
 Marion, IL 62959
 Ph: 618-997-3374

Gary Scherer
Scherer Farms, Inc.
 3515 N. Shell
 Olney, IL 62450
 Ph: 618-869-2467

Larry Holt
Holt Backhoe Service
 8782 1050 Avenue
 Robinson, IL 62454
 Ph: 618-546-5110

Greg Yoder
Yoder Farm Drainage
 1637 J. Creek Road
 Sullivan, IL 61951
 Ph: 217-246-6192

Kevin Shauman
K & S Tiling & Excavating
 R.R. 1, Box 148
 Kirkwood, IL 61447
 Ph: 319-759-7454

Logan Eck
Illiana Irrigation, LLC
 43 E. Brookhaven Road
 Vincennes, IN 47591
 Ph: 812-886-5411

Nicholaus Benson
Nicholaus Benson Farms
 R # 2, Box 199
 Lawrenceville, IL 62439
 Ph: 618-943-8264

David Klassen
 2055 State Highway 137
 Brownfield, TX 79316

Bill Harkrader
Harkrader Salave
 2625 State Route 250
 Sumner, IL 62466
 Ph: 618-928-1873

Cory Funk
Benson Farms
 R. R. 2, Box 340
 Lawrenceville, IL 62439
 Ph: 618-291-0626

Paul Frohning
HSF Excavating, Inc.
 1371 N. 1400th Street
 Newton, IL 62448
 Ph: 618-783-9164

Ronald Wesner
C.F.C.O. Inc.
 207 N. Plum
 Flat Rock, IL 62427
 Ph: 812-890-2660

John Pierson
C.F.C.O. Inc.
 R # 2
 Lawrenceville, IL 62439
 Ph: 618-928-3647

Active Contractors *(cont.)*

Brett Caise
C & A Drainage Solutions
 2755 N 1600 E. Road
 Clifton, IL 60927
 Ph: 815-383-9196

Donald Murphy
Black Diamond Farms
 7051 Morrisonville Avenue
 Harvel, IL 62538
 Ph: 217-341-9242

Associates

JCG Midwest
Jeff Getz
 2700 N. Main St.
 Moweaqua, IL 62550
 Ph: 217-768-3040

Club Colors
Carrie Rucolas
 420 East State Parkway
 Schaumburg, IL 60173
 Ph: 800-249-2582

Bledsoe Financial Engineering
Tom Bledsoe
 123 E Knoxville St.
 Brimfield, IL 61517
 Ph: 309-446-3825

Thank You!

PRINSCO: YOUR TECHNICAL PARTNER

As you plan for your upcoming drainage projects, remember that Prinsco is your technical partner and available to address all of your questions. With over 35 years of experience serving the Midwest, Prinsco offers valuable insight into the selection of the best products for water table control in a variety of soil conditions. If you've got technical questions about drainage, Prinsco has answers. **Call 800.992.1725 today!**

GOLDLINE **GOLDLINE MANS** **10000100** **GOLDFLO** **MAK STRONGER TRENCHERS** **ACCESSORIES & FITTINGS**

WATER MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS SINCE 1975
 800.992.1725 | www.prinsco.com | agblog.prinsco.com

PRINSCO
 ENGINEERED WITH INTEGRITY

2013 SAFETY WORKSHOP REGISTRATION



February 26 - 27, 2013
Ashland House Best Western - Morton, IL



- Daily Pricing** **CEU's On All Sessions** **Full Workshop & Additional Attendee Discounts**
- Lunch and Breaks provided each day** **10-Hour OSHA class begins at 9 am Tues.**

Pre-Registration Workshop Fees - ILICA Members		
	<i>1st Attendee</i>	<i>Additional</i>
Full Registration/both Sessions:	\$175	\$150
10 Hr OSHA	\$125	\$105
Certified Flagger Training	\$ 75	\$ 65
After February 13th or On-Site Registration		
	<i>1st Attendee</i>	<i>Additional</i>
Full Registration/both Sessions:	\$200	\$175
10 Hr OSHA	\$150	\$125
Certified Flagger Training	\$ 90	\$ 75
Optional Certification Review & Testing (2 year certification period)		
\$100—Initial Certification Per Applicant \$50—Bi-Annual Renewal Per Applicant		

Pre-Registration Workshop Fees - Non-Members		
	<i>1st Attendee</i>	<i>Additional</i>
Full Registration/both Sessions:	\$275	\$250
10 Hr OSHA	\$225	\$200
Certified Flagger Training	\$175	\$150
After February 13th or On-Site Registration		
	<i>1st Attendee</i>	<i>Additional</i>
Full Registration/both Sessions:	\$300	\$275
10 Hr OSHA	\$250	\$225
Certified Flagger Training	\$190	\$175
Optional Certification Review & Testing (2 year certification period)		
\$500—Initial Certification Per Applicant \$200—Bi-Annual Renewal Per Applicant		

Company Name: _____

Attendee Name: _____ Contact Phone #: _____

Mailing Address: _____ City, State _____

Additional Attendees: _____, _____, _____
 _____, _____

Yes, I (we) will attend:

Mail to: ILICA - P.O. Box 474 - Brimfield, IL 61517 or Fax (309) 446-3744 10 Hour OSHA # _____

Pre-Registration fee: (Must be received in our office by February 13, 2013) Certified Flagger Training # _____

The 10-Hour OSHA certification sessions are set for all day Tuesday, concluding at noon on Wednesday. Attendees must be there both days for certification.

Please note the full registration and additional attendee discounts listed above and list all attendees on the form above.

If those you register plan to attend different sessions, note the number of attendees with each day(s) selections.

Pre-registrations must arrive at the ILICA office on or before February 13, 2013 or on-site registration pricing applies.

Lunch and breaks are provided all days of the workshop!



FEBRUARY SAFETY WORKSHOP AGENDA

FEBRUARY 26, 27, 2013



Although the American Red Cross is not able to accommodate our scheduling for this year's safety workshop, the 10 Hour OSHA and Certified Flagger Training will go on as planned. Prins Insurance Inc and United Fire Group will facilitate the 10 Hour OSHA sessions, beginning Tuesday at 9 am. Those sessions will conclude at lunch on Wednesday at which time Brent Breedlove will present a Certified Flagger Training

session. Brent is also considering additional flagger training sessions on the Monday prior to the workshop, if there is enough interest to warrant them.

Certified Flagger training is limited to 15 students per session and the 10 Hour OSHA class is limited to a class since of 30 participants. If you want or need to attend these sessions, please don't delay in registering to make sure space is available. See below for additional details.

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

8 - 9 am	Registration & Continental Breakfast
9 am	10 Hour OSHA Certification
12 Noon	Lunch on site
12:45 pm	10 Hour OSHA Certification (cont)
2:30 pm	Afternoon Break
5 pm	Conclusion of Tuesday's sessions

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

8 am	10 Hour OSHA Certification (cont)
10 am	Break
12 Noon	10 Hour OSHA Certification Concludes
	Lunch
12:45 pm	Certified Flagger Training
2:30 pm	Break
4:45 pm	Workshop Concludes

2013 GOLF OUTINGS - SAVE THE DATES!

MATTOON - JUNE 28TH - MORTON - SEPTEMBER 13TH

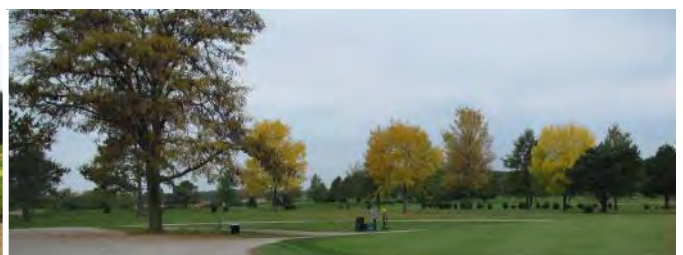


We had so much fun last year that Bill Dean wants to invite everyone back to beautiful Mattoon for the 2nd Annual Area 6 Golf Outing! This year's outing is scheduled for Friday, June 28th with a quick lunch at noon followed by the 1 pm shotgun start at the beautiful Meadowview Golf Course.

In September, the 5th Annual Area 3 Golf Outing is moving to Pine Lakes Golf Course near Morton and moving to a Friday scheduling. After reviewing the local courses that fit our group, the committee decided on Pine Lakes because of their beautiful club house and rural location, which is still easy enough to get to. There is currently some discussion regarding an earlier shot gun start time for this outing, so look for more details in future issues.

Last year, a few folks brought their campers down and made a weekend get-away out of this event. There will be a room block in one of the Mattoon hotels for those who want to spend the night before heading home rested and wide awake! Registration and sponsorship forms will be printed in the March - April issue of the *ILICA News* and posted on-line, but save the date and join us for this fun afternoon fundraiser!

This outing has always been a very popular event so put Friday, September 13th on your calendars and we'll see you this fall at Pine Lakes!





ILICA LADIES' PAGE

Ladies Convention Activities

Our ILICA Ladies work hard too, so it's only right that they get spoiled at least one day of convention! ADS/Hancor graciously sponsors the ladies day outing each year and this time, our ladies enjoyed a guided tour of the Edwards Place followed by refreshments and a Ba-



tik scarf make and take project, all facilitated by the Springfield Art Guild.

After the ladies got in touch with their artistic side, it was off to Café Moxo in downtown Springfield. It's a quaint little bistro with outdoor seating that is probably a pure delight in June ... but they also have a private dining room inside, which is where our group enjoyed lunch.



(above) Summer photo of Café Moxo, where the ladies enjoyed lunch and an interior photo of the quaint downtown café.

(right) Copy of an old postcard showing the original "Edwards Place"; Our ILICA ladies working on their scarf projects and a tree showing several of the pieces, drying.



(bottom row) Morgan Kutemeier with Holly Yordy, who planned the ladies day outing for us; Dr. Anne Miller, facilitator of the Bone Health ladies session; Preregistration area decorated for the Tailgating theme and housing several scrapbooks from years past; Several members of the convention committee, left to right, Whitney Getz, Tracy Breedlove, Jamie Martin (committee member by family association) and Holly Yordy with several of our youngest ILICA members.





PAUL SAYS “THANK YOU”

Paul is a very lucky bear indeed ... for ILICA anyway! The board decided several years ago that any money collected for Paul is to be used by our membership committee. And with ILICA finally surpassing 200 contractor members, its been well worth the effort and the cost.

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| Charlie Adams | A.J. Adams & Sons |
| Phil Algreen | Agri Drain Corp |
| Steve Anderson | Miller Twp. Construction |
| Mark Baker | Springfield Plastics, Inc. |
| Tom Beyers | Beyers Excavating, LLC |
| Freeman Bortrager | Bortrager Farm Drainage LLC |
| Tom Bower | Great Lakes Inter Drain |
| Brent Breedlove | B.E.B. Excavating, Inc. |
| Brian Brooks | Brooks Farm Tiling |
| Lee Bunting | Bunting Brothers |
| Donald Bunting | Bunting Brothers |
| Forrest Davis | Forrest Davis Bulldozing & Earthmoving |
| Dennis Davis | Davis Excavating |
| Scott Day | Day Drainage Company |
| Bill Dean | Dean Drainage LLC |
| Bill Doubet | D & L Drainage LLC |
| Kevin Ferringer | Eager Beaver Trailers |
| Nathan Gannaway | Birkey's |
| Corey Getz | ADS / Hancor |
| Bob Grothaus | Springfield Plastics, Inc. |
| Dave Haag | Haag Enterprises |
| Dave Hurst | Hurst & Sons Land Improvement |
| David Kennedy | Kennedy Farm Drainage |
| Norm Kocher | C.F.C.O. |
| Eric Layden | Layden Drainage Inc. |
| Wayne Litwiller | Litwiller Excavating |
| Jamie Martin | Kennedy Farm Drainage |
| Ron Masching | Masching Excavating |
| John McCoy | McCoy & Sons Farm Tiling & Excavating |
| Steve Miller | National LICA |
| Bruce Mosier | Prins Insurance Inc. |
| John Pogge | Prinsco, Inc. |

The auction brought in another all time high revenue and Paul did alright for us too. However, the auction did run a little late, so those who generously donated to our membership efforts were not recognized at that time. (the convention committee already has ideas for speeding things up next year!) Every dollar donated helps our numbers grow so the ILICA leadership asked that our generous supporters be recognized here! So a very special thanks goes out to the people listed below for their financial and physical support of the ILICA membership committees' efforts.

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| Dave Randolph | ADS / Hancor |
| Norm Rozendaal | Precision Intakes, Ltd. |
| Ron Schlatter | Schlatter's Inc. |
| Stan Seevers | Seevers Farm Drainage Inc. |
| Jon Seevers | Seevers Farm Drainage Inc. |
| Kevin Shimp | Port Industries Inc. |
| Mike Slaughter | First Mid-Illinois Insurance Group |
| Joe Streitmatter | Streitmatter Land Improvement Inc. |
| Troy Warweg | Northland Trenching Equipment |
| Gordon Whittaker | Whittaker Land Improvement |
| Mike Yordy | Mike Yordy Excavating & Land Improvement |

Great Lakes Inter Drain



2951 East State Street • Fremont, OH 43420

Your U.S. Distributor for:

Inter-Drain Trenchers and Plows
New and Used Equipment

Advanced Geo-Positioning Solutions (GPS)
for Survey and Total Machine Control

AFT Add on Trenchers • Laser Systems
Weichmann Chain, Cutters etc.

"We have the field experience you can depend on after the sale."




For more information call:
(800) 767-1904 or (419) 332-1904
Fax: (419) 332-2344

Visit us on the web at: www.greatlakesinter-drain.com
or email: sales@greatlakesinter-drain.com

ANOTHER GREAT CONVENTION!

This year has started off with another informative and fun convention, back at the President Abraham Lincoln Hotel in Springfield. The PAL did not disappoint with their great service and food, which was expected. The staff went all out to play along with the “Tailgating” theme night, wearing referee shirts and serving the convention signature drink, the “Refereeta”. And the recent renovations in the hotel made everyone’s stay pleasant and comfortable.

The educational programs presented on Thursday were well attended and provided some great information for our guests. Many of our facilitators donate their time preparing for these sessions and they have our sincere thanks for the benefit they provide to our guests. Outstanding support was provided once again by our very supportive associate members with a full exhibit hall, great sponsorship and lots of donations for the auction. Auctioneer Roger Kaufman brought his wife Tina along and stayed the night to join in some of the fun after his work was done. ILICA is so blessed to have such great support and genuine friendships in our associate membership.

ADS / Hancor and Springfield Plastics Inc. hosted hospitality rooms on Thursday and Friday evenings, which were very well attended as always and there were no reports of “injuries” from those festivities, which is always a good thing! And Jean Davis, Devotion committee chair, provided inspiring and entertaining guests for the devotional programs on Friday and Saturday. Dave Johnson, a retired missionary, spoke to the group on Thursday with family singing group, Anticipation bringing their beautiful harmonies to Friday’s program. It is a joy to see so many of our attendees up early to attend devotions before breakfast.



Friday morning, as the ladies took off for their annual outing, Ameren Illinois provided JULIE and underground gas line safety, followed by ADMC and the Illinois NRCS with updates on Drainage Water Management and bio-reactors. Of course, the final board of directors meeting and winter member meeting takes up most of Friday afternoon as our exhibitors break down and we prepare for Friday evening’s entertainment. The Champaign Theatre Group returned with another Murder Mystery Dinner which ended up involving Joe Streitmatter and Nathan Gannaway as suspects by the end of the performance! I’m happy to report that neither of them were found guilty!

Saturday’s business education was a big hit, as always, with Dustin Courson’s tax update and Tom Bledsoe, one of our newest associates, discussing financial planning. Saturday’s tour to Abraham Lincoln’s National Museum of Surveying was also well attended although due to state funding being cut, the museum is closed for now as they search for grants and funding to reopen. The Awards banquet brought in our new President, Dave Haag, as the convention concluded. The University of Illinois Extension was recognized for their support with K.C. Ting attending to accept the Shiny Shovel award. All and all, it was another great convention.



(top rt) Bill Dean decorated for Tailgating night; Ridgeview High Mystery Dinner performers; (above, top left to lower rt.) Our facilitators: Tom Bledsoe, Bledsoe Financial Engineering; Dustin Courson, Courson & Associates LLC; Dr. Ruth Book, Illinois NRCS; Dr. Stephen Stone, SIU School of Medicine; Steve Baker, ADMC Treasurer; Dr. Anne Miller, SIU School of Medicine; Joe Laverty, Wessels Sherman and Gina Meehan, Ameren Illinois.

OUR CONVENTION SUPPORTERS

Convention Exhibitors

ADS / Hancor
 AGPS - Mike Cook
 Agri Drain Corp
 Ameren Illinois
 Birkey's
 CIT Group, Inc.
 Club Colors
 Eager Beaver Trailers
 Fratco, Inc.
 Great Lakes Inter Drain
 Hickenbottom, Inc.
 Illinois NRCS
 Martin Equipment
 Metal Culverts, Inc.
 Midwest Auger-Aerator /
 Illini Equipment

Convention Exhibitors

Northland Trenching Equipment
 Port Industries, Inc.
 Precision Intakes, Ltd.
 Prins Insurance, Inc / Unit-
 ed Fire Group
 Prinsco, Inc.
 RWF BRON
 Safeguard Business Systems
 Schlatter's Inc
 Service Supply
 Springfield Plastics Inc.
 Wisconsin Plastic Drain Tile



Convention Sponsors

ADS / Hancor
 Agco, Inc.
 AGPS - Mike Cook
 Altorfer - CAT
 CIT Group, Inc.
 Eager Beaver Trailers
 Fratco, Inc.
 Great Lakes Inter Drain
 Hickenbottom, Inc.
 Martin Equipment Inc.
 Northland Trenching Equipment
 Port Industries, Inc.
 Precision Intakes, Ltd.
 Prins Insurance Inc. / Unit-
 ed Fire Group
 Prinsco, Inc.
 Schlatter's Inc.
 Springfield Plastics, Inc.



Since 1923 supplying quality drainage products
 with service second to no one...

Why Fratco Pipe and Fittings?

Quality and Service. We are 100% committed to offering the best HDPE corrugated pipe and fittings to the market, with a friendly and knowledgeable staff that is dedicated to providing unparalleled flexibility and delivery, ensuring prompt and accurate order filling from our fully stocked yards.



Experience the Fratco Difference....

Members of:



ST. ANNE OFFICE
 499 SOUTH OAK ST.
 ST. ANNE, IL 60964
 (815) 427-8144
 (800) 475-8144

www.fratco.com



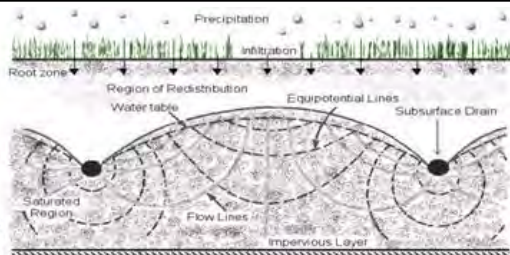
MT. PLEASANT OFFICE
 1600 W. WASHINGTON ST.
 MT. PLEASANT, IA 52641
 (319) 385-1213



FRANCESVILLE OFFICE
 4385 SOUTH 1450 WEST
 FRANCESVILLE, IN 47946
 (219) 567-9133
 (800) 854-7120

Members of:





The Extension Connection

TESTING FILTERS TO BE USED IN DRAINAGE CONTROL STRUCTURES WHEN NUTRIENTS ARE

Animal manure can be an economical source of crop nutrients. However, manure, and indeed any fertilizer, must be managed properly to reduce the probability of surface water contamination. For instance, although fall and winter application are preferred to spring application, as the timing allows for biodegradation of manure before crop uptake, there is the potential for runoff during the winter months to cause an influx of nutrients and other contaminants into surface waters. Farmers, therefore, must manage application rates based on need, season, weather, soil type and many other factors in order to minimize environmental impacts.



Figure 1: Manure being injected into no-till ground

The Problem

Agricultural runoff accounts for a large percentage of nonpoint source pollution in surface waters in the United States. In recognition of this fact, there are intense efforts to mitigate the effects of agriculture on the

environment. Fertilizer management, drainage management systems, subsurface bioreactors, riparian buffer strips, and wetlands are being implemented across the Midwestern United States to treat agricultural drainage water laden with excess nutrients and other pollutants. These practices aim to reduce runoff and capture soil sediment and nutrients to prevent movement from fields to receiving waters. Excess nutrients in surface waters cause eutrophication, a leading water quality problem which threatens and degrades aquatic ecosystems by creating harmful algae blooms and hypoxic zones. One such example is the hypoxic zone in the Gulf of Mexico, at the outlet of the Mississippi River Basin. The economic loss and environmental degradation associated with this zone has been linked with nutrients transported from Illinois and other Midwestern states.

New Ideas

Since tile drainage is such an important part of agriculture in Illinois, there is a need for innovative and economically feasible drainage-related management practices that are easy to implement. At the University of Illinois new practices are continually being developed and evaluated. For example, research is being done on the potential to use filters in drainage control structures to capture suspended solids and soil particles, excess nutrients, herbicides, pesticides, heavy metals or other contaminants. The first step is to design filters that can capture soil particulates and sediment-bound nutrients without adversely affecting flow.

Source: Stephanie Herbstritt and Richard Cooke

TESTING FILTERS TO BE USED IN DRAINAGE CONTROL STRUCTURES WHEN NUTRIENTS ARE



Figure 2: Prototype filter showing captured particulates



Figure 3: Testing a filter in the ABE Soil and Water Lab at the University of Illinois.

The Process of Trapping Pollutants

We are currently designing and testing activated carbon filters in drainage water management structures for their effectiveness in capturing particulates and trapping pollutants. Robust Plexiglas screens are used to hold the carbon medium in a modified stop log. Activated carbon is a suitable filter medium because of its high microporosity. One gram of activated carbon has hundreds of square meters of surface area to which contaminants can be adsorbed. Activated carbon effectively removes organics including benzene, toluene, PCBs, hydrocarbons like gasoline, pesticides and herbicides making it a viable option for agricultural pollutant removal. Ongoing research is being done to determine the pollutant removal efficacy of several prototypes. Activated carbon filters could be used when farmers are applying fertilizer, in order to reduce the risk posed by spills or short circuiting through worm holes, root channels, or other preferential flow paths. The adsorption process could then be reversed in order to recycle and reuse the carbon and captured nutrients on agricultural fields.

Research is being done to determine the optimal activated carbon particle and filter size to balance effective contaminant removal and water movement. Increasing surface area and contact time allow greater amounts of contaminant to be removed from the water, but there is a need to avoid excessive head loss through the filters, as this reduces drainage efficacy. The combinations of carbon particle size and filter thickness evaluated to date, allow flow rates of up to 0.3 cfs without appreciable head loss. This flow corresponds to the maximum flow through an 8-inch single wall tile on a 0.1 percent slope.

In addition to designing filters with suitable flow capacities, filters are also being evaluated for their effectiveness in removing particulates, by measuring upstream and downstream sediment concentrations at different combinations of flow rate and inflow concentration. In subsequent tests, filters will be evaluated for their ability to remove other contaminants. The ultimate goal is to develop filters that can provide an economically feasible solution to farmers who, as good stewards, desire to protect rivers, streams, and other receiving waters.

**IN THE NEXT EXTENSION
CONNECTION COL- →**

In the next issue of the *ILICA News*, this column will address the determination of optimum drainage depth and spacing.



LEGISLATIVE PAGE: FARM BILL UPDATE FROM NACD



As the ball dropped on the end of 2012 and as a new year began, a last-minute deal passed the Senate by a vote of 89-8 and passed the House by a vote of 172-85. This deal largely addresses tax issues by changing estate taxes to 40% with a \$5 million deduction and raising income taxes on families making more than \$450,000 and individuals more than \$400,000. It also increases the capital gains tax to 20% for those above the \$400,000/\$450,000 level and uses a permanent fix for the alternative minimum tax. The bill extends most of the 2008 Farm Bill, including direct payments, for nine months but does not include many expiring energy and organic programs and does not reform milk policy.

The farm bill extension contains limited authority with reduced dollar amounts for most conservation programs, including WRP, GRP, FRPP, EQIP, CSP, WHIP, CRP, and VPA. The short-term thinking of this extension makes it difficult to fully use all of the conservation tools, including enrolling CRP, WRP, and CSP contracts in 2013 because these programs are not fully funded. The efficiencies and savings found in the 2012 framework have been lost with this extension, and this nine-month deal ignores the 2012 Farm Bill framework passed by the Senate and House Agriculture Committee that took a common sense approach to our resource needs across the landscape by consolidating 27 programs into four major categories: (1) working lands programs that deal with soil health, (2) easements that are simplified, (3) CRP with important haying and grazing provisions, and (4) a partnerships program to find watershed scale solutions to water quality and quantity concerns. NACD finds it extremely unfortunate that farmers and landowners will be left without the certainty of a five-year policy and the assistance of critical programs to protect America's land, air and water that ensure proactive planning for a sustainable food, fiber and fuel supply for the future.

When Chairwoman Stabenow and Chairman Lucas saw the writing on the wall during the Fiscal Cliff negotiations, they worked together to form a 78-page thoughtful, one-year farm bill extension, tailored to the needs of the landscape. However, their work was disregarded in this end-of-the-

year deal, just as the 2012 Farm Bill was never given the opportunity to come to the House Floor. In a time of tremendous drought in the West and hurricane damage in the East, the \$850 million in disaster aid included in the extension plan agreed to by Senate and House Agriculture Committee Leadership was not included in this deal.

This bill does not address long-term budget cuts and only kicks the can down the road to delay sequestration for only two months. This bill does not raise the debt ceiling, so in two months Congress will be fighting the same budget fights that led to this deal, including the expiration of the Continuing Resolution funding the government through March 27, 2013. In total, this bill does not address deficit reduction whereas the 2012 Farm Bill as passed by the full Senate and the House Agriculture Committee would have saved taxpayers \$23 billion and \$33 billion respectively, while maintaining critical funding for the necessary conservation programs that proactively address resource concerns. This short-term extension leaves farmers and landowners without the certainty they need to plan for the future of their land and businesses, so now that Congress has dealt with the Fiscal Cliff, NACD urges the Senate and House Leaders to make the passage of a long-term Farm Bill with a strong Conservation Title as a top priority.

Source: John Peterson, LICA Director of Government Relations

CONTRACTOR CLASSIFIEDS FOR SALE



♦ 1985 Fruehauf 45' Flatbed

Call Brent Breedlove for details at
309-968-9992 or 309-696-9992 (cell)

Email: bebinc2010@gmail.com

HARVEST IN THE MIDST OF DROUGHT: HEALTHY SOIL DELIVERS FOR OHIO FARMER

Source: Paige Mitchell-Buck, Public Information Officer - NRCS State Office - Illinois

NRCS Unveils National Effort to Promote Healthy Soil Benefits

Last October, Natural Resources Conservation Service Chief Dave White visited a family-owned farm in Ohio to announce the start of a U.S. Department of Agriculture effort meant to highlight the benefits of improving and maintaining America’s soil.

“This initiative will help our farmers meet current and future demands for American-grown agriculture by encouraging good soil and natural resources practices that are beneficial to their operations,” said White. “We understand that soils and farms vary across the country, so our job is to provide farmers the very best information available to meet their unique needs and help their business thrive.”

White visited the farm of David Brandt, who experienced a successful harvest despite extreme weather and challenging growing conditions. Good soil conditions and management practices contributed to the surprising yield, though little precipitation fell across central Ohio over the summer.

Natural Resources Conservation Service’s (NRCS) awareness and education effort features farmers from communities in numerous states—Ohio, Indiana, New Mexico, North Dakota, Indiana, Utah, North Carolina, Massachusetts, Montana and Kansas—where growers are increasingly interested in how improved soil health can benefit their operations. The agency is studying successes and identifying lessons learned in these states to share with farmers in other states.

For example, Brandt promotes soil health by eliminating plowing and by mixing cover crops. This has significantly reduced the effort he puts into his crops. His soil has been found to be rich in spongy organic matter that feeds crops and holds more than its own weight in water. This additional moisture retention is believed to be the basis for Brandt’s success in the face of the current drought.

Awareness and education components of NRCS’s soil health initiative will include fact sheets, brochures, videos, web, radio and social media announcements, as well as local field days. To “Unlock the Secrets in the Soil,” go to NRCS’s soil quality page or contact your local NRCS office.

The “Unlock the Secrets in the Soil” effort builds on President Obama's America's Great Outdoors initiative, which fosters a 21st century approach to conservation that responds to the priorities of the American people. During the past three years, USDA's conservation agencies, the U.S. Forest Service, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the Farm Service Agency, have worked with more than half a million farmers, ranchers and forest landowners to enroll record acres in conservation programs, have targeted conservation dollars to locally-driven conservation initiatives and have worked to increase conservation and restoration activities on the 193 million acre National Forest system.



2013 Committees

Associate

Corey Getz - ADS / Hancor, Chair
 Mark Baker - Springfield Plastics
 Mike Bierbaum - CPI Supply
 Dave Mosier - ADS / Hancor
 Chad Nicholson - Fratco, Inc.
 John Pogge - Prinsco, Inc.

Auditing

Bill Dean, Chair
 Steve Anderson
 Ron Masching

Awards

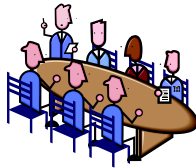
Bill & Bev Dean, Chair
 Brent & Tracy Breedlove
 Bill & Janet Doubet

Budget

Tom Beyers, Chair
 Dan Day
 Bill Dean
 Dave Haag
 Dave Hurst

By-Laws

Stuart Anderson, Chair
 Bill Doubet
 Dave Hurst
 Stan SeEVERS
 Joe Streitmatter



Certification

Dave Hurst, Chair
 Wayne Litwiller
 Ron Masching
 Prof. Kent Mitchell, retired U of I
 Stan SeEVERS

Certification Board

Dave Hurst, Chair
 Forrest Davis
 Dave Kennedy
 Wayne Litwiller
 Ron Masching

Convention

Brent & Tracy Breedlove, Chair
 Bill & Bev Dean
 Greg & Jennifer Furkin
 Corey & Whitney Getz
 David & Lori Kennedy
 Kristin Kutemeier
 Mike & Holly Yordy

Devotions

Jean Davis, Chair
 Steve Anderson
 Norm & Coretha Rozendaal

Education

Brent Breedlove, Chair
 Tom Beyers
 Richard Cooke: Univ. of Illinois
 Corey Getz
 Kristin Kutemeier
 Eric Layden
 Mike Yordy

Executive Committee

David Haag, Chair
 Steve Anderson
 Tom Beyers
 Janet Burtle-Doubet
 Bill Dean
 David Kennedy



Golf Outing

Wayne Litwiller/Bill Dean - Co-Chairs
 Jerry Biuso
 Brian Brooks
 Norm Kocher

Headquarters

Dan Day, Chair
 Steve Anderson
 Mark Baker
 David Haag
 Ron Masching

Industrial & Business Relations

Bill Doubet, Chair
 Dan Day
 Bill Dean
 Wayne Litwiller
 Mike Yordy

Insurance

Dan Day, Chair
 Charlie Adams
 Lori Kennedy
 John McCoy
 Jackie Streitmatter

Ladies

Marsha Haag, Chair
 Judy Beyers
 Bev Dean
 Cathy Masching
 Jackie Streitmatter

Legislative

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



Long Term Planning

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



Membership

Wayne Litwiller, Co-Chair
 Norm Kocher, Co-Chair
 Steve Anderson
 Mark Baker
 Tom Beyers
 Brent Breedlove
 Brian Brooks
 Forrest Davis
 Dan Day
 Scott Day
 Bill Dean
 Bill Doubet
 Eugene Glueck
 Ron Masching
 Larry Rhodenbaugh

Nomination

Joe Streitmatter, Chair
 Brian Brooks
 Dan Day
 Dave Hurst

On-Site Waste

Wayne Litwiller, Chair
 John McCoy
 Larry Rhodenbaugh
 Jason Winings

Picnic

Steve Anderson

Publicity

Bill Doubet, Chair
 Mark Baker
 Wayne Litwiller

Safety

Doug Nicholson, Chair
 Brent Breedlove
 Dave Hurst
 Dave Kennedy
 Carol Kiley
 John McCoy
 Jason Winings

Show & Other Income

Dave Kennedy, Chair
 Brent Breedlove
 Brian Brooks
 Joe Krupps
 Wayne Litwiller
 John McCoy
 Joe Streitmatter



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Illinois Land Improvement Contractors Association, Inc.

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

Company Name: _____

Member Name: _____ Spouse's Name _____

Street Address: _____

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

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

Fax: (_____) _____ Email: _____

Website (if applicable): _____ LICA Sponsor: _____

Check All Services Provided

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

Active Contractor Membership - \$295

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

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

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

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



FEATURED LICA BENEFIT - CORPORATE LODGING (CLC) TRAVEL CARD



It's easy to sign up for the CLC Travel Card and you can start saving right away! Follow the easy instructions on this page and save 20 - 40% on your next hotel stay.

- ✘ 1. Go to <http://www.cclodging.com/> and click on the "Join Now" button shown below OR call 1-866-857-9747, Option 1
- ✘ 2. Fill out the short form online to get your account started.



Congratulations!

You are taking your first steps toward saving 20-40% on hotel stays with the CheckINN Card. Please complete the information below to become a member.

Contact Information

Member Information → 2. Credit Card Registration → 3. Confirmation

Questions? Give us a call. 1.866.857.9747, Option 1, Member Enrollments Mon. - Fri., 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Central Time

First Name, MI, Last Name, Suffix, Company, Title, Address 1, Address 2, City, State/Province, ZIP/Postal Code, Country (Optional), Phone, Secondary Phone (Optional), Email, Confirm Email, Authorized Account Administrator, Check this box if you do not have an email address, Check this box to purchase a print version of the CheckINN Card hotel directory for \$10.25.

Easy to Save!

Save 20-40% at 10,000 hotels nationwide and in Canada — guaranteed!



If you find a lower qualifying rate, we'll match it and give you \$30 for your next stay!

The ILICA office has saved over \$320 so far using this card on membership drive hotel stays and other travels. **This card really works!**

Create Your CLC Lodging Web Account

Choose a username and password for your online CLC lodging Web Account. Your CLC Web account provides you access to participating hotels, member rates and lodging activity when you login at www.cclodging.com. Your login credentials are also used to access hotels and member rates via the CLC Lodging Hotel Locator for iPhones® and Android™.



Preferred Username, Password, Confirm Password

Optional Key Codes

If you have a key code from CLC or a referral code from a friend, please enter it. You may be eligible for special benefits.

Key Code/Referral Code, Key codes are optional.

- ✘ 3. Enter the key code "LICA" and receive the \$9.95 sign-up fee FREE!

Credit Card Information

The CheckINN Card ensures the security of your credit card information and account privacy by using SSL encryption. We also limit the display of your credit card number on our site to its last four digits. CheckINN Card hotel stays are billed to your credit card only after they have been reviewed for accuracy and membership pricing.

Card Type, Choose Credit Card, Sign-up requires a valid credit card. A \$4.95 per room night transaction fee applies when you choose to save money at a participating hotel.

Continue >> Need help with this?

- ✘ 4. Don't let the \$4.95 room night fee stop you! You will still save money using this card!

A Few of the Brands You Can Select:



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Illinois

Safety Workshop - Ashland House - Morton, IL

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

8 am: Registration - 9 am - 4:30 pm: 10 Hour OSHA

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

8 am - 12 Noon - 10 Hour OSHA

12:45 - 4:45 pm - Certified Flagger Training

Lunch and Breaks included each day

Illinois LICA Regular Board Meeting

Exact Location TBA - *(meeting notice will be sent)*

Saturday, March 3, 2013 - 2 pm

Committee Meetings - 10 am - 1 pm

2nd Annual Area 6 Golf Outing

Meadowview Golf Course - Mattoon, IL

Friday, June 28, 2013

12 Noon - Lunch; 1 pm - Shotgun Start

5th Annual Area 3 Golf Outing

Pine Lakes Golf Course - Morton, IL

Friday, September 13, 2013

12 Noon - Lunch; 1 pm - Shotgun Start

ADVERTISERS INDEX

Agri Drain Corp	2
BM Truck Equipment	4
Contractor Classifieds	14
Fratco, Inc.	11
Great Lakes Inter Drain	9
JCG Midwest.	2
Martin Equipment of Illinois	24
Midwest Auger Aerator.	24
Precision Intakes Ltd	24
Prins Insurance Inc./United Fire Group	4
Prinsco	5
RWF Bron	22
Springfield Plastics Inc.	24

National

Winter Meeting & Conference

Marriott Riverfront

100 General McIntosh Boulevard - Savannah, Georgia

Tours: February 5th, 6th, & 7th

Committee Meetings: February 8th

Board & Delegate Meetings: February 9th

LICA National Summer Meeting

July 2013

Canton, Ohio

(More information coming soon)

March 2nd Board Meeting Info

The convention committee is in the process of determining next year's convention site and has asked that the board meeting location selection for March be delayed until we can decide if it should be held in conjunction with a site visit.

We are considering Champaign, Decatur and Peoria as potential 2014 convention sites. The meeting notice will be sent in mid-February with the exact location, committee meeting times, map and other details. It will be available on the ILICA website at that time as well. However, if you have any questions or need your committee to meet, please contact Janet at (309) 446-3700.

EMPLOYMENT LAW - HIRING

*Excerpt from Employment Law Session at the 2013 ILICA Convention, facilitated by:
Joseph H. Lavery, ESQ. Shareholder - Wesells Sherman, Ph: (563) 333-9102
Email: jolavery@wesellsberman.com - Website: www.wesellsberman.com*

WESSELLS SHERMAN

The Hiring Process

A. Advertising

Although there are no specific rules regarding the method and content that an advertisement for a job must take, certain practices are recommended to best protect employers against charges of discrimination. Union employers should be aware, however, that the collective bargaining agreement might require specifics regarding the notice, time of posting, place of posting, etc. When conducting an audit it is advised that any collective bargaining agreement be consulted in these regards.

Employers might be surprised to know that federal law has been interpreted as protecting employees and applicants against discriminatory business practices, including advertising for open jobs. Where the job is advertised (ex. Only in certain ethnic neighborhoods), when it is posted (ex. For 24 hours only), how the job is described (ex. Seeking English only speaker), and generally who the job is marketed to are all avenues that could lead to a charge of discrimination.

B. Applications

There is no specific form that an employment application must take. However, the form should elicit information without creating an inference of a discriminatory selection procedure. DO NOT ask questions directly or indirectly related to: race, creed, national origin, marital status, disability, color, religion, sex, public assistance, sexual orientation, date of birth unless under 18.

The application should ask questions intended to assist in determining the applicant's qualifications. Avoid questions not directly related to job performance.

Necessary information for purposes of providing insurance to new employees should be asked after the decision to hire has been made. Include a confidentiality statement.

The following should also be included in an employment application: an at-will employment statement, if applicable, an Equal Employment Disclaimer; and a Model Employee Verification of Truthfulness Authorization & Release Statement

C. Interviews

There are numerous legal pitfalls for the unwary employer engaged in the hiring process. Hiring inquiries that may seem harmless may violate the fair employment laws, depend-

ing upon how the information solicited is used. Employers and those conducting the interviews need to be aware of the federal, state, local laws and regulations and common law that affect hiring.

1. Training Interviewers
 - a. EEO laws.
 - b. Contracts/Collective Bargaining Agreements
2. Designing Interview Questions
 - a. Necessary skills and ability: Work experience, education, technical skills, communication skills, analytical skills ...
 - b. Behavioral factors: Motivation, interests, goals, energy, reliability, stress level.
 - c. Corporate culture: Team environment, independence, social effectiveness, interpersonal skills.
3. Particular Issues Posed by the ADA

Although employers may not ask disability-related questions or require medical examinations at the pre-offer state, they may do a wide variety of things to evaluate whether an applicant is qualified for the job, including the following:

- a. Employers may ask about an applicant's ability to perform specific job functions. For example, an employer may state the physical requirements of a job (such as the ability to lift a certain amount of weight, or the ability to climb ladders) and ask if an applicant can satisfy these requirements.
- b. Employers may ask about an applicant's non-medical qualifications and skills, such as the applicant's education, work history and required certifications and licenses.
- c. Employers may ask applicants to describe or demonstrate how they would perform job tasks.



Once a confidential job offer is made, the employer may ask disability-related questions and require medical examinations as long as this is done for all entering employees in that job category.

Note: The materials in this article have been abridged from a variety of sources and are not necessarily applicable to a particular situation. The contents of this article should not be construed as legal advice. Readers should consult with legal counsel before taking any action on matters covered by this article.

SAFETY FEATURE: OVERHEAD POWER LINE TIPS

Electricity is one area where every contractor needs to be exceptionally safe. When working around buildings or other structures, be sure to survey the area for any overhead power lines BEFORE you climb into the cab.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN CONSTRUCTION WORK

- Survey the site for overhead power lines. **LOOK UP!**
- **BEST SAFETY PRACTICE:** NEVER GET CLOSER THAN 10 FEET TO AN OVERHEAD POWER LINE!
- Consider all overhead lines as energized until the electric utility indicates otherwise, or an electrician verifies that the line is not energized and has been grounded.
- In construction work, an overhead power line safety component should be part of your employer's overall safety and health program and safety training.
- If overhead lines are present, call the utility company and find out what voltage is on the lines. Ask if the utility company can shut off the lines while you are working near them.
- If overhead lines cannot be shut down, ask the utility company if they can install insulation over the lines during the time you will be working near them.



Discussion Date: _____

Employee Participants

WORKING WITH TOOLS & EQUIPMENT

- If the lines cannot be shut down and/or insulation applied, a minimum safe distance of 10 feet must be established. Have a brief job site meeting to discuss the planned work as it relates to the power lines. Discuss topics such as the use of long-handled tools, and equipment (raised dump trucks, back hoes, etc.) that could come in contact with the lines. Consider the need for a designated person to monitor activities around the lines.
- Only use nonconductive ladders when working on or near overhead power lines.
- Employees shall not be permitted to approach or carry any conductive object closer than 10 feet to an energized line. The only exception is for trained and qualified employees using insulated tools designed for high voltage lines.

CRANES/EQUIPMENT

- If using a crane/equipment near lines rated at 50,000 volts (50 kv) or less, minimum distance between the energized lines and any part of the crane (boom, load line, etc.) shall be at least 10 feet.
- If using a crane/equipment near energized lines rated at 50,000 volts (50 kv) or more, minimum distance between the energized lines and any part of the crane shall be at least 10 feet plus 0.4 inch for each 1,000 volts over 50,000 volts.
- Where it is difficult for the operator to maintain the desired clearance by visible means, an employee shall be designated to observe the distance between the crane/equipment and the line so as to give timely warning to the operator. This should be the ONLY job the monitor is performing when this hazardous condition is present.
- For further information, please refer to the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 1926. You may also find your local OSHA Area Office by going to: <http://www.osha.gov/oshdir/il.html>

HUNDREDS OF U.S. LEVEES NEED REPAIR

By: John Peterson, LICA Director of Government Relations

The first-ever inventory of flood control levees overseen by the federal government has found hundreds of levees at risk of failing and endangering people and property in 37 states. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has yet to issue ratings for a little more than 40% of the 2,487 structures which protect about 10 million people. Of those it has rated, 326 levees covering more than 2,000 miles were found in urgent need of repair.

Levees deemed in unacceptable condition are found all over America, from Washington, DC, to Sacramento, Cleveland, Dallas, Augusta, GA and Brookport, IL. The problems are many, from earthen walls weakened by trees, shrubs and burrowing animal holes, houses built dangerously close to or in some cases on top of levees, and decayed pipes and pumping stations.

When asked about why certain levees were judged to be unacceptable and how many people would be affected by levee failure, the USACE would not comment saying that such information could heighten risks of terrorism and sabotage.



Compared with other types of infrastructure, our nation's levees, within and outside federal jurisdiction, don't fare well. They earned a D- for overall condition from the American Society of Civil Engineers in its 2009 report card, ranking behind dams, bridges, rails and eight other categories.

The concern with our levees came into dramatic focus in August 2006 when Hurricane Katrina's rain and storm surge topped levees in New Orleans and tore up the Gulf Coast. It left 1,800 people dead and the damage was estimated at \$108 billion.

If we as a nation ever decide to get serious about all categories in infrastructure, and bringing it up to current health and safety standards, it could benefit LICA Contractors. In my humble opinion, the last infrastructure bill was really a sop to unions. But if we were serious about things, there is a lot that could be done, and fixing our failing levees is one example.



PLOWING AHEAD

in Farm Drainage

NEW for 2013 - BRON 350
350 Horsepower Self Propelled Drainage Plow
Contact BRON for details

BRON Self Propelled Drainage Plow

BRON's line of Self Propelled Drainage Plows has set the standard in Farm Drainage. BRON manufactures 750 Double Link Plows, 750 RC Link Plows and 750 Cantilever Plows. Engineered from the ground up, the BRON Drainage Plow gives you better control, higher productivity and extreme comfort while offering more features than any other drainage plow on the market.

- Balanced Weight Distribution
- Enhanced Operators Visibility
- Telescopic Tracks
- FOPS/ROPS Certified
- Ergonomic Cab Comfort
- Tri-Core Cooling System



750 Cantilever Plow



750 Double Link Plow



750 RC Link Plow



POWER TO PERFORM

rwfbron.com
1.800.263.1060

EECH2632-501-01



(above - upper left to lower right) Awards Banquet head table with Nathan Gannaway, MC speaking; K.C. Ting and Barry Dickerson with the University of Illinois Extension Shiny Shovel Award; Holly Yordy, Mrs. Contractor and Brent Breedlove, Mr. Contractor of the year; Ivan Dozier, State Conservationist, NRCS; David Kennedy awarding Bill Dean a "Safety" award ... don't ask!; Stan SeEVERS and Kevin Shimp, winners of the Bean Bag Toss Contest; Exhibit hall; some of the newest ILICA members dressed up for Tailgating theme night.

(below - upper left to lower right) Singing group Anticipation during Saturday morning's devotional program; some of the wonderful auction items for Thursday's live auction; Bruce Mosier plays against Kevin Shimp during the bean bag toss contest; Don King presenting the partner report for Illinois Farm Service Agency; Richard Breckenridge presenting the Illinois EPA report; Dave Johnson, retired missionary, speaking at Friday's devotional program; the new leadership, David Kennedy, Chairman of the Board, Bill Dean, Treasurer, Dave Hurst, 1st Vice President, Tom Beyers, Vice President & David Haag, incoming President.





Springfield Plastics, inc.

CONSISTENT QUALITY AT EVERY INCH

Your Supplier for Quality Drainage Products
A Complete Line of the HEAVIEST FITTINGS on the Market



THE ONLY U.S. MANUFACTURER CERTIFIED AS USING ONLY 100% VIRGIN MATERIAL SINCE 2000

QUALITY YOU CAN COUNT ON,
THE TREATMENT YOU DESERVE

1-800-252-3361
www.spipipe.com



ILICA SUPPORTER FOR 34 YEARS

MARTIN EQUIPMENT



Goodfield, IL 309-965-2502	Springfield, IL 217-528-4347	Tolono, IL 217-485-6755
Rock Island, IL 309-787-6108	Peru, IL 815-224-4711	Cedar Rapids, IA 319-365-0515
Dubuque, IA 563-588-1950	Ashland, MO 573-657-2154	Palmyra, MO 573-769-2274

TRI-STATE CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT CO.



"LIFE'S SHORT—DIG FAST!"

BUCKEYE 7200 MAGNUM



- STATE-OF-THE ART DESIGN
- HIGHER PRODUCTION
- BETTER BUILT

MIDWEST AUGER-AERATOR

AUGER BACKFILLERS / WHEEL TRENCHERS
AUTHORIZED DEALER — BUCKEYE / SPEICHER
1-800-232-7008



Precision Intakes Full Line of Surface Water Intakes

- 8" & 10" riser with patented 8" & 10" combination Tees.
- Also 6" square & round risers with patented reducing Tee.
- Constructed of heavy-weight, high-density polyethylene.
- Parts highly adjustable & interchangeable with others on the market.
- Orifice plate placed at tee level or at ground level.
- Exclusive locking device on each part.
- User Friendly—Priced effectively.
- Adaptor available to repair old metal or broken intakes.



Type B Riser—6" 8" & 10" Trash Baskets with metal cup features

Why inventory 2, when 1 serves both!



"Dealer Inquires Welcome"

~~PRECISION INTAKES~~

Norm & Coretha Rozendaal
2064 Republic Ave West
Monroe, IA 50170

(800) 932-7611
(641) 259-2651
(641) 259-3218 Fax