



ILICA

NEWS

Land Improvement Contractors Of America · Illinois Chapter

March - April 2011

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2011 SPRING EVENTS



WORKSHOPS



AREA 8 MEMBER MEETING

Also Featured Inside

NRCS Supports Drainage Water Management Projects *(page 9)*

Summer Drainage Workshop Scheduled *(page 10)*

Upcoming Events:

May Board Meeting

Brimfield, IL - May 7, 2011

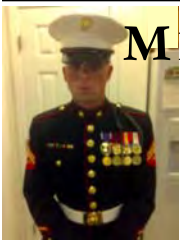
DWM Workshop

Rochester, MN - July 14, 2011

Drainage Workshop

Decatur, IL - August 2 - 4, 2011

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



MICHAEL GROTHAUS RECEIVES PURPLE HEART

Michael Grothaus, the son of ILICA member Bob Grothaus, was recently awarded the prestigious Purple Heart for injuries received last year while he was serving in Afghanistan. A road side bomb exploded under the 7 ton armored vehicle he was driving and he credits his survival to the armor upgrades done in recent years.

Michael is a 2005 graduate of Springfield High School and is already a Marine Corporal with 6 years of service to his credit. He has served 2 deployments to Iraq, 1 in Afghanistan and 1 in Japan and has the medals to show for it. According to

Bob, even his superiors have said that it is unusual for such a young soldier to have accomplished so much.

Bob was interviewed during a story aired on WICS since Michael is still stationed at Camp Lejeune, NC. And as Bob said, we owe all those serving in the military every honor we can bestow, however, it is obvious how proud Bob is of the outstanding young soldier his son has become. Let's take this opportunity to remember and pray for all those serving in the military and thank God for their courage.



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NOTE FROM THE EDITOR:

This issue of the *ILICA News* has unfortunately, gone to print much later than the editor had planned. A very busy winter and spring have finally caught up to the ILICA office but the work season is finally here!!! What that means is that everyone is back to work, membership meetings are on hold until fall and things can get back to normal ... for a while.

The next issue of the newsletter should be back on schedule although it is also time to begin work on the annual directory. All the hard work has paid off with a continually increasing membership and lots of activities and events yet to come. Keep checking our website for the latest information and this publication for details on the Farm Progress Show, summer picnic, drainage workshops and golf outing.

The ILICA News



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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.

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The LICA Creed



Land, the foundation of the Nation
 The basis of all wealth
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 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

May 7, 2011

ILICA Office

118 E. Knoxville St, Brimfield, IL

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

Board of Directors - 2:00 pm

See map and directions on page 19



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Greetings from McLean County,

As I sit and attempt to write my first president's message, I realize that I should not have dozed off during English composition class in school. I hope you will all bear with me as I dust off my writing skills. I am looking forward to serving my term as president and I hope no one regrets putting me in this position. If there is any problem, contact Don Hurst, since he was responsible for asking me to serve. We should all thank Steve Anderson for a job well done during the last two years and as he continues as Chairman of the Board. The annual convention in Bloomington was a great success, even though some of the convention committee became acquainted with the Bloomington Fire Department and we are looking forward to returning to Bloomington in 2012.

We have been fortunate to get a few weeks of work in after what seemed like a long winter. I'm sure that everyone's schedule is full as we look forward to another prosperous year. Before we know it the corn planters will be running full steam and we will be hustling to stay out of the way.

I do not have the benefit of multigenerational involvement with ILICA that some others do, having joined the organization in 1993. Early involvement was limited by family obligations and since the kids have grown more time is available to devote to the organization. I am always amazed by the dedication of the officers, directors, and committee members. I believe that everyone knows that ILICA is an excellent group and they are committed to making it better.

Having recently attended a membership meeting, I am also excited to see the interest from non-members in what we have to offer. We continue to see growth in membership; however, we cannot sit back and be satisfied with what we have

accomplished. Kudos go out to Wayne, Forrest, Norm, Janet and Jerry for their continued efforts in the membership drive. However, we as members of ILICA are ultimately responsible for getting new members; the committee gets them in the door so to speak and the members reinforce the benefits of ILICA. Let's not take the benefits of ILICA for granted and remember to promote the advantages to potential new members. We have a busy year ahead of us with the possible work at the Farm Progress Show site as well as summer picnic and just maybe some golf thrown in for good measure. We need to realize that involvement is work at times but the relationships and knowledge gained are immeasurable. That being said, let's keep up the good work.

I look forward to the next two years with great anticipation; looking at what we have already accomplished and what remains to be achieved.

I hope that everyone enjoys what they do as much as I do. Work hard, work safe, take time to enjoy your craft which is as the title says, land improvement.

David Kennedy, President



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NEW MEMBERS

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Curtis Excavating, Inc. - Springfield

H. James Twyford

B & T Excavating, Inc. - Naples

Keith Kelsey

Kelsey Farms - Minonk

Tom Lowdermilk - Wheatland, IN

Wade Wilson

Wilson Farms Excavating & Rock Hauling - Olney

John Stevens

Stevens Farms - Allendale, IL

Todd Bogatitus

TNT Lawn & Snow, LLC - Spring Valley

Active Contractors *(cont.)*

Rick Maguire

Maguire Backhoe Company - Virden

Joshua Anderson

Miller Twp Construction - Marseilles

David Hauger

Lowell Farm Drainage & Excavating, Inc. - Standard

Associate Members

Midwest Construction Products, Inc. - Springfield

Mueller & Reece, LLC - Bloomington

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1ST SAFETY WEEK WORKSHOP IS WELL RECEIVED

ILICA's first safety focused workshop was held in Springfield, February 8th - 11th at one of our favorite places, the President Abraham Lincoln Hotel. This workshop was also the first 4-day workshop held in recent memory but attendees could sign up for individual days or get a discount for attending all week. The 10 Hour OSHA and Flagger Training certification sessions were at maximum capacity, and although the First Aid and CPR certification sessions only had about half as many students, the hands on content of the class would have had to spill out into the hallway had there been more.

Brian Bothast, a Compliance Assistance Specialist from the Peoria OSHA office started off the 10 Hour OSHA class with in-depth trenching, shoring, confined spaces and demolition sessions with Bruce Mosier, a Certified Insurance Counselor and authorized OSHA trainer from Prins Insurance completing the 10 hour training session Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning. Brent Breedlove, education chair and National Safety Council certified Flagger Training Instructor, finished out Wednesday's scheduling with a full classroom for flagger certification.

Thursday's session on electrical safety presented by Steve Thomas and Jim Miles, could have been allotted twice the time scheduled and they still might not have had time to answer the many questions their presentation brought up from the group. This session is definitely one that will be repeated in future safety scheduling. Gina Meehan from Ameren Illinois and Roger Watwood from JULIE 1-Call also provided safety

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and compliance information on Thursday to a very attentive crowd, rounding out a very informative day of training.

Friday's CPR and First Aid training may have been the biggest surprise of the week's training sessions. This topic has been discussed many times during workshop planning sessions, but always ended up being cut when the schedule had to be narrowed into the available time slots. And although many people may get a little uncomfortable considering the idea of performing CPR on a friend or co-worker, this class provided the hands on training and classroom information needed to give attendees the kind of confidence required to handle an emergency situation.

The American Red Cross instructors, Rick Wright and Kelly Jackson, did an outstanding job presenting this important information out of their obvious in-depth knowledge of the subject, mixed with a little humor. As you can see from the picture above, a little tom-foolery was allowed during the class, which concluded with testing for the 2 year certification. Those who decided not to stay for this final day really missed out on a fun and informative day.

Thanks to all the ILICA contractors who took part in this important safety training, to our facilitators for their time and effort, and to our associate sponsors, listed to the left. ILICA sincerely appreciates everyone's support!



(above) Bill Doubet, Dave Hurst and Brent Breedlove pose as our "wounded warriors" during the First Aid certification class. Brian Bothast from the Peoria OSHA office and Bruce Mosier, from Prins Insurance. (left) Brent Breedlove teaches a full class for Certified Flagger Training on Wednesday.



EROSION CONTROL WORKSHOP “TEST RUN” PROVIDES MANY LESSONS

The long awaited ILICA Erosion Control workshop facilitated by Dr. Kalita from U of I, finally became a reality March 3 - 4th. Dr. Kalita and his team, made up of Army Corp. of Engineers staff and graduate students, were as anxious to get this “beta” class off the ground as anyone. They had been working closely with Illinois DOT on each module as they were developed but until the material was actually presented in a classroom setting, everything from the timelines to the test questions were little more than theory.

This class was originally scheduled last August but the timing wasn’t suitable to secure enough attendees to really “test” the sessions. Response for the March scheduling was still slightly under what we had hoped for, but the ILICA contractor and engineer members who registered for the class ended up being a perfect mix for putting the program through its paces. Detailed handouts were provided by Dr. Kalita’s team and IDOT staff were on hand to monitor the flow of the fundamental module in



why he frequently receives “professor of the year” and why the exit surveys contained so many outstanding comments on his presentations.

Heidi Howard and Niels Svendsen from the Army Corps of Engineers have worked very closely with Dr. Kalita on this project from start to finish. They not only prepared the initial design of the research facility, they also administered the test which concluded the two day workshop. Our ILICA attendees provided feedback on the test which will help Heidi clarify some of the questions.

Dr. Kalita’s graduate students, Rabin, Joseph and Carlos, have put countless hours in on this project as well, taking care of most of the hands on research projects at the testing facility. It is obvious how much they enjoy working with Dr. Kalita and this group and everyone involved did an outstanding job on their part of the presentations. Thanks to all involved for letting ILICA take part in this initial class.



(above) Neal Barnes and Dr. Prasanta Kalita at the end of a successful first day of class. (left) Classroom at the I-Hotel, complete with the latest technology as well as a very comfortable setup.

this in-depth series. As it turned out, everyone there ended up learning something valuable from this scheduling.

The initial proposal was to present each module in a one day class, even though it would be a rather long day. And since this would be the “test run” for the program, Dr. Kalita decided to include a field session for our ILICA contractors and extend the time allowed for the classroom sessions, to encourage participation and questions from our group.

The feedback provided by our attendees proved to be helpful, not only to Dr. Kalita and his team but also to the IDOT staff attending. By Friday afternoon as the workshop concluded, it was decided that the interaction of participants would be crucial to the program’s success and that the modules would be presented over two days once the final versions are approved by IDOT.

Professional Engineering PDH credits were awarded to those interested and the engineers who attended found the class to be incredibly useful. Professor Kalita was totally in his element during the segments he facilitated and demonstrated



(above) Early spring at the erosion control testing facility during field session. Workshop attendees listen as Dr. Kalita explains some of the research that has been done at this outstanding facility.

MARCH AREA 8 MEETING IN OLNEY FEATURES PETROCON PRESENTATION



With the busy schedule of workshops in February and early March, only one Area member meeting was held this March, and that was in Area 8. Lee Milone welcomed ILICA to BM Truck Equipment for a second time, hosting the March 10th member meeting in Olney. BM Truck Equipment continues to supply the area with outstanding fabricating services for almost any need. Lee and Linda provided another delicious meal with over 20 contractors present to enjoy their outstanding hospitality. Our Southern Illinois members continue to support these area meetings, which is greatly appreciated ... and it also makes it easy for us to keep coming back.

The educational topic for the meeting, "Understanding

Lubricants & Applications to Enhance Machine Performance", was provided by Joe Giovinazzo, president of Petrocon Corporation. This new member benefit from national LICA was announced in the last issue of the *ILICA News* and at the winter meetings in Las Vegas. Joe traveled to Southern Illinois from New Jersey then drove all the way across the state just to help kick off this outstanding program. Unlike past Area 8 meetings, Jerry Biuso was unable to attend due to the preparation needed for the winter meetings and LICA booth at Con-Ex in Las Vegas, but that didn't stop the ILICA membership committee from taking care of the task at hand; securing new members before the annual ILICA directory is compiled in April. (And a little friendly competition between Wayne and Norm doesn't hurt our efforts either!)

And although Jerry wasn't able to join us for this meeting, he feels that this new benefit may be the best thing to happen for LICA members since the introduction of the CWG insurance program. See the short bio below for more information about this unique company.

A LITTLE HISTORY...



Joseph Giovinazzo, President of Petrocon Corporation, has 20 years experience in the Petroleum Industry. A graduate in Business Administration from the University of Delaware's Lerner Business College in 1989, Joseph spent his college years working construction after growing up on a farm in eastern PA. Working for a cable utility construction company, Joseph started his construction career as a laborer, digging and cleaning ditches with a pick and shovel. Joseph learned an appreciation for the hard work and the people in the construction industry. Ending his construction career as an operator and job foreman, he entered the business world in management.

Upon graduating college, Joseph started a career in one of the largest Honda Motorcycle dealers in the U.S. Working as Parts Manager, Sales Manager, and Business Manager, he learned the business of running a successful distributorship while racing in the AMA Motorcycle Roadracing Series professionally from 1992-1994.



In 1993, Joseph joined Mobil Oil Corporation as a Sales Engineer. Joseph was awarded the Pegasus Elite Award with Mobil and headed up one of the fastest growing and most profitable distribution regions in the country through the 1990's. In 1998, Joseph went to work as a director for a prominent oil distributor in the Mid-Atlantic. In 2006, this distributor was ranked #1 in the country with ExxonMobil.

In 2007, Joseph founded Petrocon Corporation. Petrocon is the only company in the world of its kind. Focused to help construction, aggregate, mining, and cement companies save money through leveraged buying and national account exposure. Petrocon is unique for all of the combined commodities in our offering to the heavy duty sector. The company's mission is to reduce operating costs for the privately held company while offering extensive technical support for the commodities offered.

2011 SUMMER DRAINAGE WORKSHOP SCHEDULED AUGUST 2ND, 3RD & 4TH

With the good response received for last year's August drainage workshop in Champaign, the education committee has decided to hold another one this August. Richard Cooke will facilitate this year's workshop as well, with the first 2 days concentrating on survey and design and the 3rd day dedicated to a more advanced class on control structures and bio-reactors. Sessions will be priced to allow for full or partial participation with pricing for members and non-members that provides group discounts for multiple attendees from a company.

The workshop is set for the first week in August at Decatur's Richland College, site of the 2006 and 2008 ILICA Conservation Expo's. The expo site has multiple water control structures which were installed in 2006 along with two types of bio-reactors that have provided Richard Cooke with research data for several year's now. The college has wireless access available for participants to access the on-line drainage guide and soil maps that are part of the survey and design program. The adjacent property also has plenty of open space for the



field session portions of the survey class.

Details are still being finalized but please **SAVE THE DATE** for this annual workshop. The registration form will be published in the next issue of this newsletter along with the tentative class agenda. And on a side note, there is a good chance ILICA will be installing drainage tile near Progress City USA during the 2011 Farm Progress Show. ILICA will once again participate with other conservation agencies, hosting a booth in the Conservation tent; and the installation project should bring a little more attention to our display.

(above rt) Last years drainage class at the I-Hotel in Champaign (below) Pit style bio-reactor being installed during the 2006 Conservation Expo at Progress City USA in Decatur. Richard Cooke, Norm Rozendaal and Dave Haag work with collection tubes as the bioreactor is completed.



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ADMC TO HOST DRAINAGE WATER MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP SET FOR JULY 14TH IN MINNESOTA



This year's Summer LICA meeting in Rochester MN will also include an ADMC facilitated Drainage Water Management (DWM) workshop which will provide NRCS recognized certification for attendees. The summer meetings are set for July 12 - 16, 2011 with this one day class scheduled the day prior to the start of board and committee meetings. Several states' NRCS offices including MI, IN, and OH already recognize this training as part of their criteria for serving as a TSP for DWM design and installation. In those states, if ADMC certifies a drainage contractor, they can design and submit plans to the NRCS for approval, just like plans from a Professional Engineer. During the winter meetings in Las Vegas, Mike Cook, ED of Michigan LICA, added that in their state, they are currently helping the NRCS to develop the cost share figures for these practices.

offers LICA members a 50% discount on individual membership dues as well as discounted training fees. The registration form for the summer DWM workshop will be on the ADMC website very soon and should be included in the National LICA newsletter as well.

Several LICA members attended the last ADMC DWM workshop at the 2009 summer LICA meetings in Des Moines, where it received outstanding reviews. ADMC also

Along with the DWM workshop, the National LICA summer meeting will include two days of interesting pre-tours that will appeal to LICA ladies and men, as well as a children's program and a special septic display. It is scheduled at the Kahler Grand Hotel, 20 2nd Avenue SW in Rochester, MN, beginning July 13th. A visit to Red Wing MN, a tour of Amish country, including an Amish hosted lunch are just some of the things planned. It should be a little cooler in Minnesota in July so keep these dates in mind and see if a trip North can fit into your summer schedule!




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ILICA LADIES' PAGE

Do YOU have a favorite recipe you'd like to share with other ILICA Ladies ... or an inspirational story? Please submit your ideas to janet@illica.net.

Short Cut To Healthy Cooking

Posted by [Skinny Chef](#) at 4/7/2011 7:00 AM CDT



Get More Veggie Power in Your Meals: No time to chop veggies? Use frozen vegetables mixes and just stir into jarred marinara, add to chicken dishes, and your favorite pastas.

Dress Up Lean Protein: Everyone knows that skinless chicken and fish are good for you, but how can you turn them into a flavorful meal, fast? Do you have peanut butter and soy sauce in your cabinet? Then you have a great fast topping for baked salmon, instead of making a complicated sauce!

Just combine 1 tablespoon creamy peanut butter with 1 tablespoon reduced sodium soy sauce. Preheat your oven to 400°F. Peanut Butter is high in the good kind of fat and a great substitution for butter. Spread over a salmon filet and bake in glass dish for 12 to 15 minutes. Orange marmalade and balsamic vinegar make for a flavorful, fat-free sauce for chicken, and honey and mustard for your weeknight pork chop.

Mess Free Vitamin Boost: Want to add a vitamin boost to your favorite comfort food? Just blend 2 cups of baby spinach with 1/2 cup of hot water to make a flavorful rich and nutrient-dense topping for pizza, soups, and even sandwiches. Not all veggies are created equal! Spinach is like a vitamin pill, high in over 20 essential nutrients, things like vitamin C, A, B2, and iron.

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THANK YOU FROM OSF

ILICA received a very nice thank you note on behalf of the OSF St. Joseph Medical Center Foundation Council for the donation provided to both ladies' speakers on Thursday during the 2011 Convention.

Our donation to these speakers was passed onto the programs that Kelly & Kim champion at St. Josephs and they, along with ILICA, was recognized on a monthly memorial/honoraria plaque in the lobby of the Medical Center.

Kelly Schuler and Kim McClintic not only provided outstanding programs for our ILICA ladies, their efforts also provided financial assistance to these very important programs.

Thank YOU Kelly & Kim!!

2010 LICA MRS. CONTRACTOR



Shelley Barnhart is the recipient of this year's Mrs. Contractor Award, presented by incoming President, Steve Gerten. Shelley has been invaluable to Bruce as he moved through the National LICA presidency and then as board chairman. Congratulations Shelley; it is very well deserved!!

Top 10 Things Only Women Understand



10. Cats' facial expressions.

9. The need for the same style of shoe in different colors.

8. Why bean sprouts aren't just weeds.



7. Fat clothes.



6. Taking a car trip without trying to beat your last time.

5. The difference between beige, off-white and eggshell.

4. Cutting your bangs to make them grow.

3. Romantic stuff like mushy cards and flowers.

2. The inaccuracy of every bathroom scale ever made.

And the number one thing only women understand:

1. Other women!



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LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: ILICA POSITION STATEMENT ON PREVAILING WAGE EXEMPTION FOR AG RELATED PROJECTS ON PRIVATE LAND



ILICA holds the position that agriculture related soil conservation projects on private land should be exempted from prevailing wage requirements. Prevailing wage rules and requirements applied to projects on private land will have a wide reaching detrimental effect on soil conservation projects that are funded through IDOA cost share programs.

- Government cost share involvement in soil conservation is a very cost effective method of environmental protection as opposed to the cost of environmental remediation.
- Government cost share programs motivate landowners to use proven methods of soil conservation.
- Allocated Conservation dollars will go further with a prevailing wage exemption.
- Prevailing wage requirements will discourage landowners from entering into contracts with IDOA for soil conservation projects.
- Landowners that do enter into a contract may be liable for penalties and fines if a prevailing wage violation occurs.

- Government agencies that issue a contract may be liable for penalties and fines if a prevailing wage violation occurs.
- Contractors that are unaware that prevailing wage is required may be subject to penalties and fines if a violation occurs.
- The publicity that would occur if a landowner is penalized for a prevailing wage violation on private land would effectively end participation in soil conservation cost share programs.
- Loss of participation would eliminate an important test bed for research and development for soil conservation.

Soil conservation on private land is more important now than it has ever been. The programs and system in place are effective, efficient and is keeping pace with the changing world. Landowners know they have to be good stewards and want to do the right thing. Granting an exemption will encourage participation and advance soil conservation to the benefit of all.

Approved by: ILICA Legislative Committee

ILLINOIS LICA WINS KEMP LEGISLATIVE AWARD AT NATIONAL WINTER MEETING

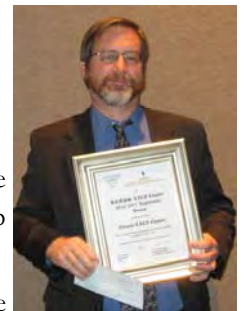


In 2009, the LICA Executive Committee met with LICA Director of Government Relations John Peterson, who offered to establish and fund a KEMPS-LICA Chapter Legislative Award. Peterson is the President/CEO of KEMPS Consultants, Inc., a small government relations, natural resources public policy consulting firm located in Burke, VA. The first award was given to the Missouri LICA chapter at the 2010 LICA Winter Meeting in Phoenix, AZ. The second such award went to Illinois LICA at the 2011 LICA Winter Meeting in Las Vegas, NV. The purpose for establishing this award is to encourage LICA Chapters to work with and influence their own state legislatures on issues of importance to LICA mem-

bers in their state. The award will recognize the LICA Chapter that has done the best job in that regard during the year.

The ILICA legislative committee found renewed enthusiasm during the state convention this January while discussing a change to the interpretation of a prevailing wage act that took effect January 1, 2010. And as committee chair, Steve Anderson, moves out of the presidency this year he plans to spend more time on these efforts. Please note the ILICA position paper at the top of this page on an ag exemption to the prevailing wage act. The legislative committee continues to work with other agricultural associations and the Association of Illinois Soil and Water Conservation Districts as the state SWCD offices actually administer funding for many of the projects at risk of being subject to the prevailing wage act.

If you have an interest in this legislative topic or perhaps have another issue you would like ILICA to weigh in on, please contact Steve Anderson or ILICA President, David Kennedy to become a member of this important committee.





ANNUAL NRCS / ILICA MEETING HELD ON MARCH 30TH

Each spring ILICA meets with Bill Gradle and Illinois NRCS personnel in Champaign. This year, there were only a few issues to discuss but maintaining the partnership between ILICA and the state NRCS is as important as ever. Ruth Book, State Conservation Engineer and Ivan Dozer, Asst. State Conservationist for Programs joined Bill for the meeting with 5 ILICA contractors and ED, Janet Doubet. Ivan had been in Wisconsin at the time of last year’s meeting and it was good to have his remarkable knowledge of state programs to draw from during the meeting. Topics discussed were:

- The Mississippi River Basin Initiative (MRBI)
- Irrigation Cost Share Programs
- Conservation standards for forestry and oil well drilling BMP’s
- Results from the Listening Forum
- Possible waiver for tile repair on terrace maintenance jobs

Bill Gradle added that they are still operating under a continuing resolution until the budget passes with April 8th being the deadline. The current resolution has already cut funding for watershed and conservation operations and there is no reason to think that will not continue with the next round of budget cuts. Ivan also mentioned that the practice scenarios they develop for cost share work are not meant to exceed 100% of the cost and that they would appreciate being made aware if our contractors find out this is the case on any of their projects. The meeting ended with a discussion on money that is available for organic operations, which was actually mentioned in the November-December 2010 issue of the *ILICA News*. See the note below and consider landowners in your area that may be switching to organic operations. There may be significant dollars available for them.



GOING ORGANIC? DON'T GO IT ALONE!

DID YOU KNOW... that according to Ivan Dozer at state NRCS office in Champaign, there is \$1,000,000 in the EQIP organic cost share available for those practices?? Illinois producers with agricultural operations of ALL shapes and sizes can access hands-on technical assistance and science-based conservation solutions and financial assistance of the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), administered by

USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS.) NRCS offices, located in nearly every Illinois county, now offer EQIP program benefits to farmers certified organic or those transitioning to an organic operation. To learn more, visit NRCS online at www.nrcs.usda.gov or contact your local NRCS office.

ILICA SAYS “GOODBYE” TO DALE COLLINSON



Anyone who has been in ILICA for more than 5 years at least knows of Dale Collinson. Dale joined ILICA in 1965 and has supported the organization ever since. He spent his youth farming before becoming an equipment operator and drainage tile supplier in his home town of Galva. Dale regularly attended both state and national LICA conventions, served on the ILICA board of directors as well as on several committees. He received Mr. Contractor of the Year in 2007 and both of Dale’s wives, Mary Ellen who he lost in 1992, and Donna, who became his wife in 1997, received the Mrs. Contractor of the Year awards.

Dale passed away Monday, March 14, 2011 at the seasoned age of 82 while at the Kewanee Care Home. He was a member of the First Baptist Church in Galva, the Knox County Farm Bureau, Galva Manx Society and served as secretary of the Galva COOP board and Knox County Soil and Water Conservation District board. Dales daughter, Carol Kiley along with her husband Jim, continue to support ILICA in many ways, but Dales’ support and wisdom will be sorely missed.



Executive Committee:**President & Committee Chair - David Kennedy****Board Chairman - Steve Anderson****Vice President - David Haag****1st Vice President - Neal Barnes****Treasurer - Forrest Davis****Executive Secretary - Janet Burtle-Doubet****Associate**

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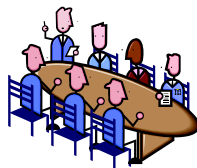
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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

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

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

Name: _____ DOB:(*required for active members only*)_____

Firm Name: _____

Spouse: _____ County: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email : _____ Sponsor: _____

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Fax: _____

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| EMC - Earthmoving/Land Clearing | SP - Site Prep |
| EXG - Excavating/Grading | SWU - Sewer/Water/Underground Utilities |
| GR - Gravel/ Rock Production | TH - Trucking / Hauling |
| LL - Land Leveling | TW - Terraces / Waterways |
| LS - Landscaping | WM - Water Management |
| ODW - Open Ditch Leveling | Other: _____ |

Active Contractor Membership - \$295 (*One hundred seventy dollars (\$170) for Illinois Membership plus One hundred twenty five dollars (\$125) for National Membership*)

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

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

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

ILLINOIS LICA BENEFITS



Education

Illinois LICA provides many educational opportunities throughout the year with sessions at our annual convention, at Area member meetings and at workshops each year. Almost every Area is hosting meetings this year.

Illinois LICA state convention, which includes exhibits by our associate members, is scheduled each January in various locations around the state. First year contractor members will receive 1 free full participation registration to the convention, which includes all meals during the 3 day event. Several educational sessions are scheduled during the convention along with many social and networking opportunities.



Workshops are offered multiple times per year. In 2011 there were three scheduled; A 4 day safety workshop in February, the University of Illinois Erosion Control workshop in March and a drainage and drainage water management workshop set for August. OSHA 10 Hour certification will be offered every other year and Certified Flagger training is available as often as demand warrants.



Continental Western Group/LICA Insurance Program

Continental Western Group has designed a comprehensive LICA Insurance program, blending Property, Inland Marine, Crime, General Liability & Business Auto coverage into a simple and convenient policy. It offers standard coverage for many items specific to the Land Improvement industry, providing outstanding coverage at a very competitive rate, even before the Safety Group Dividend potential return. Although the dividend is not guaranteed, the return rate has been between 3.5% and 12% most years.



ILICA News & Annual Directory

The ILICA News is a bi-monthly publication distributed to all Illinois LICA members that contains 24 pages of information relative to the land improvement industry as well as notice of activities and upcoming events. The annual directory of members is published each spring and distributed to all ILICA members and many IEPA, NRCS and SWCD offices throughout Illinois.



Legislative Representation

ILICA has an active Legislative Committee that monitors legislation that impacts small business in Illinois. They participate in the Agricultural Legislative Roundtable caucus and many other events then disseminate that information to ILICA members. They are currently working on a system to streamline this process for more effective communication.

ILICA not only maintains its own relationship with legislative contacts, Illinois along with other state chapters have a combined voice in Washington DC through national LICA. Each year, representation from ILICA travels to Washington DC along with several other chapters, to lobby their congressmen and women regarding legislation that affects land improvement contractors.



National Benefits

A LICA membership entitles contractors to many benefits that can give their company a competitive edge. Listed below are just a few:

- National LICA Contractor Magazine
- LICA Contractor Safety Management Plan
- National Equipment Register
- Beyond Perks Program
- Petrocon Commodities Discount Program
- National LICA Winter Convention and Summer Meeting
- National Scholarship Program
- Land & Water Magazine
- LICA Sponsored Limited Medical Program

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Illinois

ILICA Summer Picnic
Jon & Veronica Seevers Home - Cisco, IL
June 25, 2011

Drainage Workshops
Survey & Design - Richland College - Decatur, IL
August 2 - 3, 2011

Water Control Structures & Bioreactors
August 4, 2011

Illinois Farm Progress Show
Partners In Conservation Tent
Progress City USA - Decatur, IL
August 30 - September 1, 2011

National

2011 LICA Summer Meetings
Kahler Grand Hotel - Rochester, Minnesota
July 13 - 16, 2011

ADMC Certified Drainage Water Management Training
Kahler Grand Hotel - Rochester, Minnesota
July 14, 2011

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Directions To:

ILICA Office - 118 E. Knoxville Street - Brimfield, IL

From West: Take the Route 78 exit from I-74 to Kewanee and Canton and turn North from the exit ramp. Turn right or east onto Route 150 at Akron Services grain storage facility. Follow Route 150 into Brimfield and the ILICA office is on your right, next door to the bar and restaurant, Good Time Challey's and directly across from the bank time and temperature marquee.

From East: Take the Brimfield exit from I-74 and turn North from the exit ramp. Turn left or West onto Route 150 at the stop sign. Follow Route 150 into Brimfield and the ILICA office is your left, next door to the bar and restaurant, Good Time Challey's and directly across from the bank time and temperature marquee.

May 7, 2011 Board Meeting Location ILICA Office - 118 E. Knoxville Street - Brimfield, IL





UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
EXTENSION

NEW U OF I WEBSITE HELPS HOMEOWNERS CARE FOR SEPTIC SYSTEMS

Source: John Church, Extension Educator, Natural Resources Management

When septic systems do not function properly, humans may come into contact with wastewater that contains disease organisms and other harmful substances. Nearby groundwater and surface water supplies can also be contaminated. "Failure of the system can be caused by lack of proper maintenance, over use of water in the household, or improper design of the septic system" says John Church, University of Illinois Extension Educator, Natural Resources.

To help homeowners understand their septic system, how to care for it, and how to troubleshoot problems, University of Illinois Extension has just published a new website, "Septic Systems in Illinois". The site URL is <http://web.extension.illinois.edu/septic/systems/systems.cfm>. Both tank-type and surface discharge systems are discussed. Septic functions are dependent on soil conditions which are also discussed on the website.

The website was developed by U of I Educators with the support of staff from the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association, IL EPA, IL Department of Public Health and local health departments.

Possible indicators of a failing system includes a sulfur or rotten egg smell in the vicinity of the system or indoors, water and possibly solids surfacing in the drain field, or sewage backing up in the house. Well water tests showing high levels of nitrates or coliform bacteria may also be an indicator. Evaluating causes of septic failures is included on the web site.

Solids that build up in the septic tank should be re-

moved periodically. If this build up is not pumped out, solids will enter the drain field and plug it up. Costs for drain field replacement are usually several thousand dollars, whereas routine pumping can be much cheaper. It is recommended that septic tanks be pumped out at least every 3 years, or more often, for most homes. Pumping tips are on the website.

Over use of water is a common occurrence. Septic systems are designed to handle a certain amount of water each day, usually depending on the number of people living in the house when the system was put in. Keeping your system working properly is a section of the website that outlines issues such as water usage.

In addition to the new website, U. of I. Extension offers the publication "Septic Systems: A Homeowner's Guide" (C1378), available at local county Extension offices or on-line at <https://pubsplus.uiuc.edu/C1378.html> for \$7.50.

Maintained septic systems can be trouble free for many years.



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LICA WINTER CONVENTION AND LAS VEGAS CON-EX BRING IN RECORD CROWDS



Every three years LICA national goes to Vegas to combine the winter meetings with Con-Ex/Con-Ag. Con-Ex takes the place of pre-tours but most LICA contractors are more than happy to spend a few days walking around the 7 buildings and 4 parking lots jammed with equipment of every description imaginable. Pictures just don't do it justice.

Jerry Biuso led the charge again this year, coordinating the LICA booth and member volunteers at the show. Jerry had lots of help manning the booth and over 100 leads were secured from around the country. State chapters are following up on those leads now, trying to secure a few more members before directories go out for 2011.

The CAT Awards Banquet on Monday ended the conference on a high note. Outstanding attendance and great food, along with the afternoon's excitement at the Go-Kart track made for an entertaining evening. *(ask Jon SeEVERS about that!)*

Top State went to Nebraska and Contractor of the Year was awarded to John Rothberg from New Jersey. Mrs. Contractor was awarded to Shelley Barnhart who spent the conference helping Bruce around since he was still in a cast from an ankle injury ... Vegas on crutches is no picnic it appears. We congratulate these very deserving award winners on their honors.

Illinois came home with the LICA-Kemps Legislative Award *(see story on pg 14)* and also won the Region IV membership challenge for most new members. Both came with a cash prize so ILICA came home from Vegas ahead!

CAT's outdoor "Generations Park" was only one of Caterpillar's display areas; JCB's ballet of equipment over a packed crowd; Illinois voting delegates ready for the summer board meeting; Jerry Biuso with Bill Doubet at the opening reception; one of the large dinner crowds at this year's conference; busy Agri Drain display at the opening reception; Vermeer T-1255 was so large it had to be assembled on-site inside the exhibit hall; John Deere 524K rubber tired loader; Kobelco's outdoor display of large excavators.

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