

The LICA NEWS

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In This Issue:

Features

A "Sloggy" Summer	1
Are You A Veteran?	2
Proposed By-Laws Change	2
The Elections	3
A New Dues Incentive Program	3
Attention Executive Directors	3
2009 National LICA Convention Agenda, Tours and Registration	5

**Make Plans to
Join Us in
Nashville!**

A "Sloggy" Summer

by Dean Neiswinger, NLICA President

The rain began on Friday, June 6. By the time we woke up on Saturday, June 7, we had over 14 inches of rain. The photos below were taken around 7:00 p.m. on Saturday evening. That's how Rhonda and I spent our anniversary in Indiana, looking at drowned equipment. By then, the water had already started to recede.

Earlier in the day, my brother had called to say you could no longer see the dozer sitting beside the excavator. In the picture of the dozer by itself, you can tell that the water didn't get quite as high as it had gotten in the picture of the dozer and excavator. A levy in the area broke and kept the water from going higher. Both of these sites were just off of Highway 46; however, you could not get to them via the highway because it was closed due to the flooding. We had to take the back roads to see even get close enough for the pictures. My camera was zoomed in as far as it would go.

While we were in Harrisburg attending the National LICA Summer Meeting, over four more inches of rain fell! This caused more roads to be temporarily closed due to flooding. The river was back out in many fields.



Pictured above and below, Dean Neiswinger's equipment was stranded by rising river water this summer.



The LICA NEWS



The Land Improvement Contractors of America

THE LICA NEWS is the official publication of the Land Improvement Contractors of America, dedicated to the professional conservation of soil and water. LICA was founded in 1951 and is today comprised of twenty-four chapters across the continental United States.

Publisher
Eileen Levy

Contributing Writers
Jerry Biuso
Wayne Maresch
Eileen Levy

Art Direction
Jerry Biuso

THE LICA NEWS welcomes letters, subject to editing for accuracy and brevity. THE LICA NEWS also welcomes articles relevant to the land improvement industry. Include your name and daytime phone number for verification purposes.

Deadlines are the twenty-first of the month preceding issue date. All unsolicited material must be accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

3080 Ogden Avenue
Suite 300
Lisle, IL 60532

PHONE: 630-548-1984
FAX: 630-548-9189
Email: waynef86@aol.com
or nlica@aol.com

Visit our website
www.licanational.org

Are You A Veteran?

by Wayne Maresch, DelMarVa Executive Director

There are some veterans' benefits of which many are not aware. Most of us know about the GI Bill by which many veterans went to colleges and universities. However, there are others. I just became aware that anyone who served in the military from 1940 to 2000 may be eligible for higher Social Security benefits. Even if you have already begun to collect Social Security you should take your Form DD-214 to the Social Security Office and ask about it.

In addition, I just learned that if you served in the Military 90 days or more and at least one day was during wartime, the VA will pay up to \$1540 per month toward keeping you in a nursing home; and for your spouse the amount is \$990 per month if the nursing home has a contract with the VA. I found this out as we placed my brother-in-law in a home. He had no Service connected injuries and is not retired from the military.

For other benefits go on-line to <http://www.va.gov> and click on "benefits."

Proposed By-Laws Change

At the Summer Meeting in Pennsylvania, discussion took place on the number of voting delegates per state chapter and the membership size of each chapter. The following was passed by the Board and will be presented for vote in Nashville.

This by-laws change would give one voting delegate to states with fifty members or less, instead of two delegates for state chapters with one hundred members or less, which is currently the policy. It would only effect state chapters with under fifty members.

By-Laws

Section 4. Voting

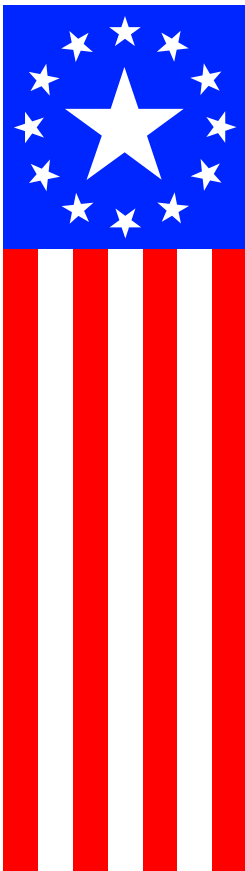
- B. Two (2) voting delegates from each State Chapter for the first one hundred (100) active members or fraction thereof and one (1) voting delegate for each additional fifty (50) active members of fraction there of in excess of one hundred (100) active members. (Voting delegates do not include State Chapter representatives on the Board who are entitled to vote because they are members of the Board)

Change to:

Section 4. Voting

- B. One (1) voting delegate from each State Chapter for the first fifty (50) active members or fraction thereof and one (1) voting delegate for each additional fifty (50) active members or fraction thereof. (Voting delegates do not include State Chapter representatives on the Board who are entitled to vote because they are members of the Board)

As always, if you have any questions concerning this proposed change or any other membership issue, please don't hesitate to contact your Regional Vice President or the National LICA office (630-548-1984). After reviewing the proposed change, be sure to voice your opinion to your Chapter delegates who will be voting on this issue in February at the National LICA Winter Convention in Nashville.



The Elections

by Wayne F. Maresch, DelMarVa Executive Director

Most of the news today is about the upcoming elections. The emphasis, of course, is on who will become the next President. While that is important, the greatest concern, perhaps, should be on who will represent us in Congress. They are the ones who propose and pass laws, while the President can either sign or veto what the Congress passes. Sure, the President can propose a bill, but if the Congress chooses not vote on it, the bill will die and there is nothing the President can do about it.

What does this say about where our efforts should be spent? Even if we can influence a President, will it do us any good? Each of us has a Congressional Representative and two Senators who are expected to speak for us in the Legislative Halls. Since they represent us, how well do we know them? Or, even more important, how well do they know us? Since they can't be everywhere, it falls to us to take the necessary steps to insure that our

Representatives and Senators know us and that they know about LICA. You now have a golden opportunity. Your Washington legislators will be home soon to mend fences and to garner votes to keep themselves in office. They are always anxious to attend any function where they can speak to a crowd to solicit their votes. You can then educate them about LICA and what we mean to the future of our Nation. You might even get them to take a tour of some work that LICA members have done, where they can talk to their farmer constituents. The important thing is that they learn what LICA is all about and how legislation affects us.

In addition, know where their local office is. Visit there once in a while, even if he or she is not there. It pays to know the staff. When your Representative is in town take him or her to lunch. In other words, use every opportunity to keep them up to date on LICA ... before and after the election!

A New Dues Incentive Program



Above, representatives from the Carolinas, New York, Iowa, Kansas, Indiana, New Jersey, Michigan and Missouri LICA Chapters pose with their chapter's Dues Incentive checks! These states qualified for a dues dividend for the program which ended June 1, 2008.

A new Dues Incentive Program has been developed for the 2008/2009 year. For an increase of 5% in membership, the state chapter shall receive a dues dividend of \$5 per member; an increase of 10% will earn the state chapter a \$10 per member dues dividend; and for an increase of 15%, the state

chapter shall receive \$15 per member. The incentive program will use membership counts as of June 1, 2008 and June 1, 2009 for comparison. Remember to get your "Just One" and earn money for your state!

Attention Executive Directors!

The Ladies Committee will be holding a silent auction at the National LICA Winter Convention, to be held in February in Nashville, TN. Each State Chapter is asked to donate at least one item for this event. Funds raised during the Silent Auction will be used to fund Ladies Programs, Children Programs, and the Scholarship Fund.

The National LICA Winter Convention - February 10-15, 2009

Embassy Suites Hotel, Nashville Airport, Nashville, TN

Welcome to Nashville!

The 2009 National Winter LICA Convention promises to be the most exciting in many years with fun tours, unique educational programs and in the magical city of Nashville.

Nashville has so much to see...so little time. With a multitude of outstanding attractions, events, tours, shopping, restaurants and live entertainment, it's hard to fit everything into a single visit.

Agenda

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

8:00 am - 5:00 pm Discover Nashville Tour *(Optional)*

Wednesday, February 11, 2009

7:00 am - 9:00 pm Komatsu Tour *(Optional)*

Thursday, February 12, 2009

5:00 am- 7:00 pm Registration

8:00 am -10 am Executive Committee

8:00 am - 5:00 am Educational Seminars and LICA Benefits

Drainage Water Management Workshop

Introduction to "Seal The Deal" Dynamic Sales Training

Improving Safety and Efficiency Through Productivity

Estate Planning (Passing on your business)

Introduction to The Puraflor Peat Biofilter System

Introduction to Pervious Concrete the alternative to costly stormwater management methods.

7:00 -10:00 pm **Associates Reception and Exhibit Hall**

Hotel Information

EMBASSY SUITES HOTEL
Nashville Airport
 Room Rate \$112 plus tax

Reservation number:
(800) 362-2779 (615) 871-0033
 Request: Land Improvement Contractors

Agenda Continued

Friday, February 13, 2009

7:30am- 8:00am Devotions

8:30 am - 9:45 am Committee Meetings
 Certification
 Devotions
 Legislative
 Water Table Management

10:00 am - 11:00 am By-laws
 Cons, Earthmoving & Exc
 Education / Technology

11:15 am - 12:15 pm On-Site Waste
 Long Term Planning
 Membership

12:30 - 1:30 pm Lunch

1:30 pm- 2:30 pm Policy
 Safety / Insurance
 Convention
 Associate Advisory

3:00 pm - 4:00 pm Region Meetings
 Region 1
 Region 2
 Region 3
 Region 4
 Region 6
 Region 8

4:15 pm - 5:00 pm Nominating

5:30 pm - 7:00 pm Dinner

7:00 pm -10:00 pm Tour Grand Ole Opry Show *(Optional)*

Saturday, February 14, 2009

7:00 am- 7:30 am Devotions

8:30 am - 10:00 am Executive Directors

9:30 am - 10:00 am Budget Committee

10:30 am - 11:45 am Delegate Meeting

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm **John Deere Luncheon**

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm Board Meeting & Issue
 Session

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm **CNA Insurance Reception**

7:00 pm - 10:00 pm **Caterpillar Awards Banquet**

A brief description of the Educational Seminars...

Drainage Water Management

The Agricultural Drainage Management Coalition (ADMC) will present to members a brief overview of cutting-edge drainage water management techniques first-hand. Managing the water table under agricultural cropping systems with gated control structures and well-planned patterned tile systems delivers a variety of benefits including:

- Reducing wintertime releases of nutrient-rich drainage water;
- Allowing growers to drain the root zone for fieldwork and planting in the spring;
- conserving water in the soil profile for crop use in the summer.

Introduction to The Puraflo Peat Biofilter System

Bord na Móna has been supplying wastewater treatment systems in Ireland for over 20 years. The company offers a technical capability, proven experience and a wide range of wastewater treatment solutions. The Puraflo Peat Biofilter System from Bord na Móna has been offered in the U.S. since 1993 with a strong proven track record of performance. The Puraflo Peat Biofilter Treatment System from Bord na Móna Products U.S. Inc. is the natural answer to domestic wastewater treatment requirements. Utilizing a unique biofibrous peat filter media, the Puraflo treatment system is one of the longest running, top performing, most reliable systems on the market today.

The modular design of the Puraflo system allows maximum flexibility for use on virtually all installation sites. The most common system applications include individual residential sites, community cluster systems, commercial, light industrial, business and office parks, schools and subdivision developments. The Puraflo treatment system can also be used for repairs.

Introduction to "Seal The Deal"

Seal The Deal is an innovative, dynamic sales training and consulting program tailored to your industry's needs and issues. This program is an exceptional blend of traditional sales practices, tested communication methods and innovative sales techniques. It is a rare combination of modern technology and disciplined sales work. Applicable to the outside & inside sales rep, customer service personnel, telecommunication sales, project managers, estimators, field personnel and any other customer contact position. Designed to increase revenue, margins and customer retention. Get results! Seal the Deal! Tom's track record in sales is second to none. As a territory rep, Tom single-handedly increased a local distribution house's revenue by 1,000% in 3 years. He designed and sold a national education program that received coverage by CNN and USA Today.

Improving Safety and Efficiency Through Productivity: Is It a Fallacy?

Presented by The School of Risk Control, CNA Insurance

With the construction workforce aging at an increasing rate and profit margins thinner than ever, this class provides a focused approach to reducing non-production time and improving the ability to turn a profit. Discussion points include understanding job site exposures, specific job tasks and limitations within the construction trade that can impact productivity and efficiency.

Learning Objectives

At the end of this class, participants should be able to:

- Identify effects of pre-planning and profit
- Discuss the impact that staging of materials has on profits and exposures to loss
- Examine factors that determine if your job(s) will be safe and profitable
- Identify practices that will directly impact the industry's key loss drivers.

Estate Planning (Passing on your business)

This program will initially review the reasons for adopting a comprehensive estate plan, with a focus on the tax implications associated with the transfer of a business. We will also discuss a variety of techniques for transferring a business within the family in the most tax efficient manner possible. The techniques will include gifts and bequests; lifetime and post-mortem sales of interests; valuation discounts; and funded and unfunded buy-sell agreements. We will then explore the integration of the business transfer within the overall estate plan to avoid the disparate treatment of children in the business and children not in the business.

Learning Objectives

- Provide the attendees with an appreciation for the need to establish an estate plan;
- A basic understanding of the Federal estate and gift tax system;
- Planning opportunities that permit tax efficient transfers of their business interests.

Invisible Structures - Introduction to Pervious Concrete the alternative to costly stormwater management methods.

A basic overview of the products available for pervious pavement, which includes concrete, gravel, pavers or grassed options for a surface that can be rated for the same load limits as asphalt or regular concrete. With the basic understanding of what products are available today, contractors can then include those alternatives as they work with land or homeowners on construction products.

The National Winter Tours and Events

Komatsu Plant Tour and Training Demo site

Tour Komatsu's Manufacturing Plant, *Chattanooga, TN*

Members will enjoy a two hour tour of the Chattanooga Manufacturing plant. Its main focus is on mid-size hydraulic excavators and articulated dump trucks. The expansive operation covers 488,000 square feet and sits on 53 acres of property.

Komatsu's Training and Demo Site, *Cartersville, GA*



Members will tour Komatsu's state-of-the-art training facility and 500 acres of Demo Site adjacent to the main building. This facility will give our members an opportunity to learn and more importantly test the latest advances in Komatsu's equipment and technologies. The site gives customers a "hands-on approach" as they operate equipment in environments that simulate real work applications such as excavating, dozing, grading and even a haul road to simulate mining and quarry usage.

Agenda

6:00 - 7:00am	Breakfast on your own.
7:00 am	Board buses and depart to Chattanooga
9:00-11:00 am	Tour Komatsu's Manufacturing Plant, Chattanooga, TN
11:00 am	Board buses depart to Cartersville, GA.
12:30-1:30 pm	Lunch at Komatsu's Training and Demo site, Cartersville, GA
1:30-5:00 pm	Members will tour Komatsu's state-of-the-art training facility and 500 acres of Demo Site adjacent to the main building.
5:00 pm	Board buses for Chattanooga Hotel.
6:00 pm	Dinner in Chattanooga
7:00 pm	Board buses for return trip to the hotel.



Discover Nashville Tour

Any city that was founded as a fort in 1779 is certain to be packed with history. And Nashville certainly doesn't disappoint in that department. Music City was home to two U.S. presidents, the site of bloody Civil War battles, host of the 1897 World's Fair and the quintessential antebellum Southern city. The Nashville area offers a vivid portrait of a bygone era, featuring graceful architecture, opulent mansions, a rich riverfront merchant district and much more. And Music City is still making history.

You will depart with a guide on a professional guided city tour of Nashville to include a drive-by of the following historic Second Ave, Fort Nashborough, the state capitol, Bicentennial Capitol Mall, Music Row, Vanderbilt University, and Centennial Park, and the Parthenon. Also included in the tour is admission into the Ryman Auditorium and your choice to either the Country Music Hall of Fame OR Musician's Hall of Fame.



Grand Ole Opry Show

Reserved seats are included for the Grand Ole Opry, the world's longest radio show. The Grand Ole Opry, an American Icon and Nashville's number one attraction, is known for creating one-of-a-kind entertainment experiences for audiences of all ages. It's where unforgettable moments happen every week. With country music's new stars, superstars, and legends live on stage.

Limited space. Please make your reservations early. For more information call National LICA (630) 548-1984

2009 NATIONAL LICA WINTER CONVENTION

Embassy Suites Nashville Airport • February 10-15, 2009

REGISTRATION

(Registration Includes: Opening Reception Thursday evening)

CompanyName: _____
 ContactPerson: _____
 Address: _____
 City/State _____ Zip _____
 Phone: _____ Email: _____

Early Bird Registration - Post Mark before January 5, 2009						\$ 195.00	\$ _____
Youth - 15 years of age and under						\$ 100.00	\$ _____
<hr style="border: 1px solid green;"/>							
Registration after January 5, 2009							
Members, Spouses, Associates, Government Employees, Consultants.....						\$ 210.00	\$ _____
Youth - 15 years of age and under.....						\$ 120.00	\$ _____
Children 3 years of age and under.....						- Free -	
<hr style="border: 1px solid green;"/>							
Tour Costs (per person):		#1 Nashville \$45 (Tuesday, Feb. 10th)	#2 Komatsu \$60 (Wednesday, Feb. 11th)	#3 Grand Ole Opry \$55 (Friday, Feb. 13th)			
<i>Print Names for Name Badges</i>		Tour #1	Tour # 2	Tour #3	Total		
1)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____		
2)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____		
3)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____		
4)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____		
ADD TOUR REGISTRATION: Please put total tour cost amount here						\$ _____	
<hr style="border: 1px solid green;"/>							
TOTAL: MEETING REGISTRATION FEES PLUS TOURS						\$ _____	

Registration policy: Only individuals registered and wearing badges may attend events. All must register to attend conventions, programs or functions. No registration will be processed without payment. Registration fee deadlines will be strictly enforced.
Refund policy: For cancellations received prior to January 1, 2009 a \$30.00 charge will be deducted from the original amount paid. No registration payments will be refunded after January 20, 2009 unless an emergency has been experienced.

For further information call: (630) 548-1984

Please return this form with payment to:
LICA WINTER MEETING
3080 Ogden Ave. Suite 300
Lisle, IL 60532

EMBASSY SUITES HOTEL
Nashville Airport
 Room Rate \$112 plus tax
 ~
 Reservation Phone number:
 (800) 362-2779 (615) 871-0033
 Request: National LICA Meeting Block

Put Your Dues To Work ... And Dig Into LICA!

January 2009 Conventions

- 5-7 Ohio LICA**
Sugar Creek, OH
For info: 419-694-6404
- 7-8 Wisconsin LICA**
Oconomowoc, WI
For info: 920-833-6493
- 7-9 New York LICA**
Batavia, NY
For info: 585-762-8454
- 9-10 Missouri LICA**
Booneville, MO
For info: 573-634-3001
- 11-13 Iowa LICA**
Des Moines, IA
For info: 319-334-9884

January 2009 Conventions

- 11-14 Michigan LICA**
Lansing, MI
For info: 989-587-3528
- 16-17 Carolinas LICA**
For info: 704-463-5927
- 18-20 Kansas LICA**
Junction City, KS
For info: 785-594-3120
- 18-20 Minnesota LICA**
Owatonna, MN
For info: 507-446-8478

January 2009 Conventions

- 20-22 Nebraska LICA**
Kearney, NE
For info: 402-289-2489
- 28-30 Indiana LICA**
Indianapolis, IN
For info: 765-593-1901

February 2009 Convention

- 11-15 National LICA**
Nashville, TN
For info: 630-548-1984



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