



FALL 2009

MLICA News

Michigan Land Improvement Contractors of America

REGIONAL MEETINGS A SUCCESS

While attendance at some of the meetings was sparse, the first set of regional meeting was still a success!

In case you missed it, in August we held a series of four regional meeting across the state. We invited contractors from all over the state as well as current members to attend.

Jerry Biuso was there to explain the benefits that the National LICA organization has to offer and the value of being a member.

Our newly hired Government Relations Director, Scott Everett was also present at each meeting to discuss the current tax legislation that he is working on in Lansing involving personal property tax reform.

Special thanks Jerry Biuso for coming to Michigan (all the way from New Jersey) to help us get the word out about LICA and to all of the members that worked very hard to put these meetings on. James Proffer from Baughman Tile helped by providing us with his contact list and Scott Everett went above and beyond his duties by

sending out the mailings and traveling all over the state to organize the meetings as well.

In an effort to make more contractors aware of what Michigan LICA has to offer, we have decided to host another round of regional meetings March 1-5, 2010.

We had a wonderful response from our associates and several are willing to host the next round meetings in their facilities. At each of these meetings we will have a safety or educational speaker that will make it well worth the time for members and contractors to attend.

These meetings will also be held after working hours and dinner will be provided. By holding the meetings in the early spring, most contractors will be able to attend. More information will be coming out in the weeks ahead, with the different locations, contact people and dates.

If you are a current LICA member, we need your help in identifying local contractors that can benefit from being members of our great organization!

INSERTS:

Dues notice & Convention Registration

Please fill out and return as soon as possible!!

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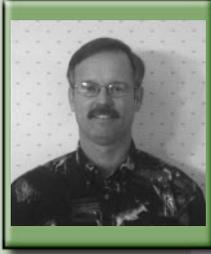
Next board meeting

Sunday January 10, 2010

4:30 pm

Lansing DAYS INN

(Formerly - Best Western Midway)



BY: Russ Talaski
President

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Will Word

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wconfd@frontiernet.net

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Kevin Holdwick

(989) 479-9822

James Proffer

(810) 955-3868

Government Relations

Director

Scott Everett

(517) 204-3328

President's Desk

Our summer Picnic was a huge success thanks to Trevor and Kelly and the effort they put into it. This was the first year in a long time that we didn't have it in Sebawaing and the membership thought we should move around the state. A lot of you drove a long distance to show your support to this organization and we appreciate it. Scott Everett spoke on the progress of a bill we are planning to introduce with the help of Senator Jim Barcia to have an Exemption on our Personal Property Tax for our equipment used for Agricultural Land Improvement and the Implementation of Conservation Practices. For an example if you did 90 % of your business working on Agricultural practices and 10 % for Industry or Homeowners then you would pay on the 10 % of your Personal Property Tax. Jerry Biuso from National LICA spoke on what benefits they have to offer and kicked off our 4 regional membership recruitment meetings that week. We signed up about 9 or 10 members that week.

Next years Michigan LICA GPS field day will be held in Elkton MI. in the thumb area on August 11 and 12, 2010. We will be working on a parcel of land rented by a group called Hunger Relief Project. This organization has a mission statement of, A local crop growing project for Food Resource Bank. I have meet with them and showed them our plans and started to set up committees for each area. They will be checking into using a neighbors hay field for parking, they will be in charge of the food concession and the Local FFA to serve that. I have asked them to contact a church next to the

field to see if we could park our campers in their large lawn area. We have 40 rooms blocked out at a Holiday Inn in Bad Axe, less that 15 miles from Elkton and we can get a personal tour of the Wind Farms in the evening. So mark down these dates for another very good GPS field day.

At the November Board meeting we will be making final plans for the Annual Meeting in January. We hope to see you there and will be looking for your inputs for future ideas and plans that we have been discussed. This meeting is one of the most important benefits that you receive for your membership dues so take advantage of it.

HAVE A SAFE AND PROSPEROUS SEASON

MI LICA PRESIDENT

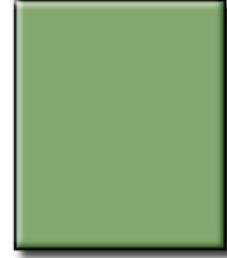
Russell L. Talaski



Contact **Chad Fullerton** at
the Bridgeport office at
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For all of your new and
used equipment needs.



Chapter News



New Members



Russ Talaski with new members Cliff and Tim Messing and Nathan Cambell from Cliff Messing Excavating in Ruth, Michigan. They joined at the Eastern Region meeting in Imlay City.



Will Word welcomes new members Larry Siegel and his wife Ruth. Larry and Ruth own and operate Siegel Excavating in Pittsford, in the southern part of Michigan.

In Memoriam:

Robert A. Kemp

Robert A. Kemp, 36, of Sebewaing, died unexpectedly Monday, Nov. 2, 2009 at Scheurer Hospital in Pigeon. He was born Dec. 6, 1972 in Bay City, son of Lon F. and Bonnie M. (Wildner) Kemp.

He was a 1991 graduate of Unionville-Sebewaing Area High School. He was united in marriage to Rebecca J. Fritz on Feb. 14, 2007 in Bad Axe.

Robert had been employed at Kundinger & Kroll in Sebewaing for 15 years.

He was a member of the Unionville United Methodist Church.

He loved hunting and spending time with his family and children.

Surviving besides his wife, Becky, are two sons and one daughter, Logan, Rachel and Caden, all at home;

his parents, Lon and Bonnie Kemp of Unionville; two brothers, Eric and Jennifer Kemp; Aaron Kemp, all of Unionville; grandmother, Lula Kemp of Sebewaing; grandparents, Orville and Ilah Wildner of Unionville; father-in-law, Raymond Fritz of Sebewaing; brother-in-law, Timothy and Michelle Fritz of Caseville; sister-in-law, Amy and Doug Donohue of Blanchard; and many nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts and uncles.

He was preceded in death by his grandfather, Edward Kemp.

Sadly, James Proffer's father has also passed away recently. Our thoughts and Prayers go out to James and his family in this time of loss.

Chapter News

Summer Picnic

The summer picnic was held on the west side of the state this year, hosted by Trevor and Kelly Young. It was a beautiful location and everyone that attended had a wonderful time. Trevor had a hog roasted for the event and supplied fresh sweet corn too! There were 42 in attendance, including Jerry Biuso, Executive Vice President from National LICA.



*Submitted by:
Newsletter Editor*

Web site:
Please check out the
Michigan LICA
Web site at
www.MichiganLICA.org.

Ladies Program

We may need some help with the Ladies program at the winter convention this year. Jodie and Kevin Holdwick are in the process of building a new house, and Jodie isn't sure if she will be able to attend this year. Sarah Cook may not be able to be there every day either. So, if any of the ladies that will be attending have any ideas or would like to help out, let Jodie or any of the board know. We are planning on a real good turnout this year with all of the new members coming on board, so we would like to have a nice program.

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Buckeye 9200 Magnum

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- 36" Wide Conveyor-Dual Motor-Bar Style Dirt Shield
- Digging Wheel Pivot



Buckeye 7200 Magnum

A Few Key Features:

- 350 HP Cummins QSM11 Engine
- 7' Dual Hydrostatic Drive, Tapered Digging Wheel
- Self-Leveling Wheel Up to 8 Degrees Left or Right
- 36" Wide Conveyor-Bar Style Dirt Shield
- Digging Wheel Pivot

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Notice Of MLICA Proposed Bylaws Change!

At The MLICA annual meeting January 11 @ 4PM the board of directors has proposed the following Bylaws Changes:

1. In Article III – Membership Section III - Affiliate Members:
Any Individual (Insert these words:) **DIRECTLY ASSOCIATED WITH A REGULAR OR AFFILITE MEMBER** desiring to assist.....

2. In Article III Membership to add a section as follows:
SECTION IV – SUPPORTING MEMBERS:

ANY INDIVIDUAL, BUSINESS, FIRM, CORPORATION OR ELECTED OFFICIAL DESIRING TO SUPPORT THE ASSOCIATION AND/OR ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO BE A REGULAR, ASSOCIATE OR AFFILIATE MEMBER SHALL BE ELIGIBLE FOR SUPPORTING MEMBERSHIP.

3. In ARTICLE IV – ANNUAL DUES change as follows

Section I – Regular Members:

Dues for regular members shall be ~~Two Hundred Twenty Five Dollars (\$225.00)~~ **THREE HUNDRED (\$300.00)** Dollars per year and shall be paid on or before the date of the Annual Meeting each year.

Section II – Associate Members:

Dues for Associate membership shall be ~~Three Hundred (\$300.00)~~ **FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$400.00)** Dollars per year and shall be paid on or before the date of the Annual Meeting each year.

Section III – Affiliate Members:

Dues for the Affiliate membership shall be ~~Forty (\$40.00)~~ **SEVENTY FIVE (\$75.00)** Dollars per year and shall be paid on or before the date of the Annual Meeting each year.

SECTION IV – SUPPORTING MEMBERS:

DUES FOR THE SUPPORTING MEMBERSHIP SHALL BE ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00) PER YEAR AND SHALL BE PAID ON OR BEFORE THE DATE OF THE ANNUAL MEETING EACH YEAR.

All members are asked to vote on these proposed changes at the annual meeting with a 2/3 majority vote required to make these changes as spelled out in the existing MLICA bylaws

Submitted by:
Will Word

Michigan LICA Family

Dave Gordon
10900 Cambria Rd.
Camden, MI 49232
(517) 368-0374

Please keep our dear friend Dave Gordon and his family in your thoughts and prayers. Dave recently found out he has Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis , which is a very serious lung disease. While in the hospital for a lung biopsy they also discovered he had some heart trouble, so they installed a pacemaker. Dave is back to work now and I'm sure he'd appreciate a card or call from his LICA family.

Here is the latest update from Dave:

Family and friends.....Well...the month of September ended on a very good note for me . I had my first visit with my lung specialist Dr. Fouts since my lung biopsy. We anticipated hearing all the details from the biopsy and were praying as all of you were for some good news. Dr. Fouts came in...asked how I was feeling..and then in a very relaxed position began filling in the blanks on pulmonary fibrosis. He really feels I have probably had this at least 1-2 yrs..perhaps more. BUT...the good news is that he feels I am still in fairly early stages!!!!

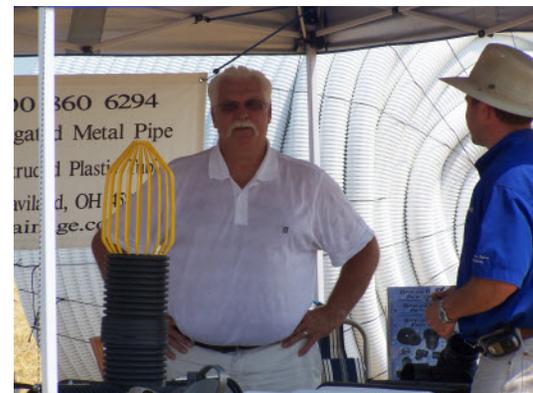
He turned my oxygen off and with an oxometer on my finger began asking questions and glanced at the oxometer reading often. In all that time I was able to keep the oxygen level at 91 to 92 while talking and sitting. He wants me to remain on the oxygen 18 hrs a day and definitely while sleeping or walking more than 50 yds. Friday we have Apria (our oxygen suppliers) coming to bring a backpack system to make working and attending church a lot easier!

Yes...I said "Work!" I can return to work as I feel I can!! I will now be able to see my customers and get back into a slow routine of being the salesman I enjoy being!!!! Praise God..I really love my job and this is an answer to my prayers!! I can use the smaller backpack to get around . He wants me to start out just seeing a few people a day to start.

Just pay attention to your body was his advice. If you feel tired..rest. If you feel good ...great!!!!!!

Thanks for your continued prayers and I will keep you posted on my continued journey. Don't have to see the specialist until January!!!!!!

Psalms 84:12...Love in Christ Dave



Michigan LICA Winter Convention 2010

In this edition of the newsletter you will find a convention registration form. Please fill it out and send it in as soon as possible. It may seem a ways off, but it will be here before you know it. We will have many of the same informative speakers we look forward to hearing each year, along with some new and diverse information as well!

We are changing things up a little bit to keep things exciting. One new thing we are doing is a fund raising auction on Monday night during the associates reception. Along with the auction, there will be door prizes, so everyone should end up with something to take home!

We are also planning on inviting some state legislators and a speaker for a special Tuesday morning breakfast.

The annual banquet will be held on Tuesday night, and on Wednesday we will have a field trip to the AIS Equipment facility in Lansing.

If you are a member and haven't attended a convention in a while or are a contractor who is curious about LICA, we urge you to attend. Miss Dig will be conducting a class on "on-line" ticket entry. Once you are certified through this course, you can enter your own staking request from your home computer at your convenience. We have updates from the Michigan Truck Safety Commission, Ohio State drainage research, Hydraulics maintenance and information and many others!



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Legislative Report December 2009

Scott Everett, Director
MLICA Government Relations



SB 1012 Sponsors Senators: Jim Barcia - (primary) Gerald Van Woerkom, Mark Jansen, Mike Nofs, John Gleason, Alan Cropsey, Cameron Brown, Roger Kahn

The bill exempts machinery used to install field tile for agricultural purposes on qualified agricultural land from Personal Property Tax.

Bill introduced on 12-8-09, Referred to the Committee on Finance

Governor Signs Executive Order (EO) 2009-45:

On October 8th *Governor Granholm* issued an EO combining the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Department of Environmental Quality that were separated in 1996. The EO also removed the authority from both the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources Commissions from overseeing the departments, including the long-standing authority of the commissions hiring the directors. (*Members of both commissions are appointed by the Governor.*)

Concurrent Resolutions (CR(s)) were introduced in both the House and the Senate to reject the EO primarily driven by the changes of the authority to the commissions. The Senate passed their CR to reject on 11/12/09 with a vote of 22-15. Meanwhile, the Chairman of the Agriculture Commission resigned, sighting disagreement with recent decisions made by the administration that would impact the industry.

Then, on December 1, the Governor issued another EO amending the first one.

The new EO (2009-54) contains a lot of poetry—giving some duties back to the commission but ultimately keeping the hiring of the director and policy making authority with the director/administration and due to both the House and the Senate not rejecting the EO by December 7, it is now officially a done deal.

The bottom line: The Michigan Department of Natural Resources becomes the Department of Natural Resources and Environment and both the Agriculture and Natural Resources Commissions have a new job description with less responsibility than they both had before.

(Legislative Report Continued)

SB 785 (Senator Birkholz)

Signed by the Governor, PA 120 of 2009.

Amended the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act pertaining to Michigan's wetland law.

- Adopts federal definition of wetlands.
 - Language designed to facilitate the development of cranberry sites.
 - Requires the DEQ to follow the application of the federal standard in terms of prudent alternatives.
-

HB 5127 Signed into PA 117 of 2009:

Amended the Animal Industries Act and for the first time implement animal care standards into law.

In Summary:

- Farm animals must be able to stand up, turn around and extend their limbs and cannot be tethered for more than a majority of a day.
- Exemptions include transportation, scientific research, exhibition and 7 days before a sow gives birth.

Comment: This law has a 10-year implementation period and may dramatically challenge both the poultry and hog industries in Michigan. Ohio chose a different route, in November they went to the state wide ballot with a proposal to establish an **Animal Care Board** which will determine animal care standards and it passed.

SB 1 (Senator Jansen)

Cuts the surcharge to the Michigan Business Tax (MBT) by 50% for tax year ending 2009 and then eliminates it. Passed Senate 25-11 on 1/29/09, referred to the House Tax Policy Committee.

Michigan Taxable Values:

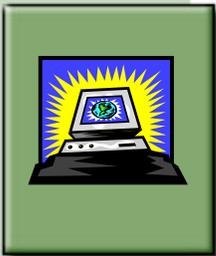
Taxable Value is the number your millage rate is multiplied by to determine your property tax per Prop A of 1994.

Prop A says:

Taxable Values shall increase at the **rate of inflation** or 5% whichever is less.

- Last year the inflation rate was 4.4% (taxable values increased by 4.4%)
- This year the inflation rate is reported to be -.03%
- This means you will either see a 0 increase in Taxable Values or a – 0.3% decrease.

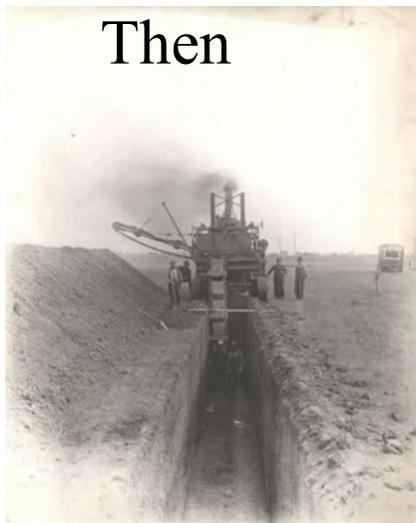
Comment: The good news is, unless your community votes to increase a millage, you will pay the same or less in property taxes next year. The bad news is the state budget and the State Education Fund was greatly challenged this year --wait until next year.



From the Net....

Submitted by:
Will Word

Send suggestions and
info to me at
(517) 368-5931
Or e-mail to
wconfd@frontiernet.net



Then

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Men installing new water mains
for the growing town of Regina
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Daycab Kit for International Semi \$200

If interested call Will Word (517) 368-5931

For Sale : 2004 Kubota RTV
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Contact Trevor Young (231) 853-5277

Editors note:
This section is free for members to advertise equipment you have to sell or are looking for.

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Event Calendar

January 2010

4-6 Ohio LICA Convention
Bellville, OH

27-29 Indiana LICA Convention
Indianapolis, IN

February 2010

National LICA Convention
February 16-20, 2010
Sheraton Crescent Phoenix, AZ

March 2010

1-5 Michigan LICA Regional Meetings.
Specific Locations and Times TBA

August 2010

11-12 Field Day - Elkton, MI
(TBA) Summer Picnic

10-13 Michigan LICA Convention
Lansing DAYS INN
(Formerly Best Western Midway Hotel)
- Sunday 10th - Board meeting 4:30 PM
- Monday 11th - Registration 8:30 AM
- Tuesday 12th - 7:30 AM Breakfast
- Wednesday 13th - AIS Field Trip

19-21 LICO Conference (Ontario)
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2010 ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION & INFORMATION January 10 thru 13, 2009 at the Days Inn (formerly Best Western Midway) in Lansing

Your MLICA board welcomes everyone to come join in for three days of seminars and sharing experiences with fellow members at our annual meeting. You will find the atmosphere and remodeled facilities of the Days Inn to be pleasant and relaxing. **Note the annual banquet will be Tuesday Eve.** A brief overview of the daily activities includes:

Sunday January 10, @ 4:30 PM the board will meet...ALL ARE INVITED! At 6:30 we will meet for supper

Monday January 11, registration will be from 8 to 9:30 AM. From 9:30 to noon informative updates and seminars will bring you up to date. At noon a luncheon will be served, with a guest speaker planned. At 1PM seminars will continue until 5PM. **At 4PM our annual meeting will take place.** After supper MLICA will hold an Auction to raise funds. **Please donate something to auction!**

Tuesday January 12, will begin with breakfast with legislators. Seminars will begin at 9 AM. After a buffet lunch and a guest speaker, new MLICA board members will be introduced. More informative seminars will follow in the afternoon or possibly legislative visits.

Wednesday January 13 all will tour the AIS facility with hands on demos & presentations by AIS

Some of the planned seminars: the NRCS will summarize FY 2009 & 2010 programs & answer questions. John Carpenter will return for a hydraulics discussion. Miss Dig will present internet locating requests, & Ron Edwards of the MI Trucking Association will return. Gidgets & Gadgets, Safety, and an associate update will be of interest. **Please identify you are with MLICA when reserving your room as meeting room costs are tied to rooms used! REMINDER---MAKE YOUR HOTEL RESERVATIONS ASAP BY CALLING 517-627-8471!**

**Invite a potential MLICA member free for either daily activity.
Please send bottom portion with your check payable to MLICA ASAP
In care of: Mike Cook 4372 S Wright Rd, Westphalia Mi. 48894**

	<u>NAME FOR BADGE</u>	<u>REGISTRATION FEE</u>
() Member/Associate/Guest 2 day registration @ \$100 _____		_____
() Spouse, Employee 2 day registration@ \$75 _____		_____
*Same for Affiliate, Retired or paying guests with a member registration		
() Member Day Registration @ \$60 _____		_____
Day Attending _____ Same fee for Affiliate, Retired, Spouse, or guest		
		TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____ Additional
Name(s) for Badges _____		

**Remember: New members attend the convention free with 1st year dues paid in advance!
Potential members can attend any day free! (Excludes Mon Evening functions)**



Michigan LICA Membership Application

www.MichiganLICA.org

Company Name _____
Member Name _____ Spouse's Name _____
Street Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone (_____) _____ Cell Phone (_____) _____
Fax (_____) _____ Email: _____
Contractor Member Date of Birth (Required for Insurance) _____
LICA Sponsor _____

Contractor (Type of Business)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> CR Crane Service | <input type="checkbox"/> ODW Open Ditch Work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DI Drainage/Irrigation | <input type="checkbox"/> OSW On Site Waste Treatment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EC Erosion Control | <input type="checkbox"/> PA Paving |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EMC Earthmoving/Land Cleaning | <input type="checkbox"/> PD Ponds or Dams |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXG Excavating/Grading | <input type="checkbox"/> R Reclamation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HD Hardscaping | <input type="checkbox"/> SEP Septic Systems |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LL Land Leveling | <input type="checkbox"/> TH Trucking or Hauling |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LS Landscaping | <input type="checkbox"/> TW Terraces or Waterways |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SA Dealer, Service Co., Government Agency, Consultant, Insurance Agency | |

Application is for (Check One)

- Voting Contractor Member (Annual Dues)..... \$ 225.00
Active Land Improvement Contractor.
- Associate Member (Annual Dues)..... \$ 300.00
Person or companies selling materials, equipment or services to contractor members.
- Affiliate Member (Annual Dues)..... \$ 40.00
Person(s) or associations interested in Michigan LICA.
- Retired Member (Annual Dues)..... \$ 15.00

Signature _____ Date _____

Mail to: Mike Cook
MLICA Executive Director
4372 S. Wright Rd.
Westphalia, MI 48894

For additional information contact Mike
At : 989- 587-3528 • Email: swms@4wbi.net