



MLICA News

Michigan Land Improvement Contractors of America

Michigan LICA Annual Convention

Well, the convention is almost here again! The dates are Sunday January 13th through Tuesday the 15th, 2008.

There are a few changes this year. We will be going to the Wharton Center for a musical on Sunday evening following the **2:30 pm board meeting**. The show will be “The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee” It is a crowd interactive musical. (see description on page 3).

Monday and Tuesday will be the annual meeting and educational seminars. Monday night will be the associates reception and entertainment will be a version of the Newlywed game by Russ and Joanne Talaski. The annual banquet will be held on Tuesday night this year.

Jodi Holdwick has volunteered to run the ladies program and has invited Marsha down on Monday. She will be doing facials and chair massages plus teaching how to make cards. Tuesday will probably also include a shopping trip.

If you have never been to a convention before, we urge you to attend. It will be well worth the time. Each year we have training and updates from industry associates like NRCS, Miss Dig, Michigan Truck Safety Commission, equipment dealers, hydraulics experts and GPS information. Not to mention the chance to meet other contractors in the same industry as you are. The ideas and tips you will get will be well worth the time invested.

Please take time now to fill out the enclosed convention registration and make room reservations with the hotel. Also, make sure to let the hotel know you are with Michigan LICA when making reservations.

An annual dues notice is also enclosed with this newsletter. Please send your annual dues to Mike Cook.

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Next board meeting
Sunday January 13th
2:30 pm
Lansing Best Western Midway

President's Desk

BY: Will Word
President

Michigan LICA Board Members

Chairman of the Board

Jerry Humpala
(989) 845-7104

President

Will Word
(517) 368-5931
wconfd@frontiernet.net

Vice President

Russ Talaski
(989) 479-9340

*Executive Director
Secretary/Treasurer*

Mike Cook
(989) 587-3528
swms@power-net.net

Board Members

Jack Bower
(419) 547-9413

David Dunne
(517) 448-8842

Dewey Pennington
(989) 743-5074

Nick Staat
(616) 399-0747

Trevor Young
(231)853-5277

Associate Board Members

Nate Cook
(989) 640-2347

Perry Strimback
(616) 530-2300

Well, as I began writing this article, I realized it will be the last President's report I have to write. By the time the next newsletter comes out, you should have a newly elected Michigan LICA President! I have enjoyed serving as President, and look forward to seeing the chapter continue to move ahead.

When I first joined the chapter, I thought, "man, those dues are kinda high", but within the first year of joining I made contacts and friends that far outweighed the cost. Before joining LICA I had been trying to design an on-board tile reel and also had been researching GPS mapping equipment. At the first convention I went to, I met the Bill Holdwick and Ben Foster. BOOM! Problems solved. The Holdwick's built me a custom made tile reel, and Ben got

me into my first GPS mapping system. Both of those advancements in my operation paid for that LICA membership many times over.

The other benefit of membership is that if I ever have a problem or question, I have 30 or 40 people that I could call that would be more than happy to help out. In our specialized field it's hard to find many people that even know what we do, let alone be able to help solve some of the problems we may come across.

So, if you are a newer member that has never been to a convention or a contractor thinking of checking us out, I urge you to come to the convention this winter. It will be well worth it!

NRCS announces new State Conservationist

Garry D. Lee officially became the state conservationist for Michigan on May 27, 2007. He brought 23 years of experience with the agency including service in New York and New Jersey where he last served as assistant state conservationist for operations.

Lee began his NRCS career in 1984 as an engineering student trainee in Upstate New York. He earned a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Agricultural Engineering Technology from Fort Valley State in Georgia. Following graduation he served as a soil conservationist in New York and later as a district conservationist in New Jersey.

In 2002 he began working at the New Jersey state office in Somerset where he served as the assistant state conservationist for programs and later for operations. Lee also served as the acting state conservationist for New York in 2006. He is originally from the community of Harlem in east central Georgia.





Convention Entertainment

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

In the Tony® Award-winning new musical comedy *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, six young people in the throes of puberty, overseen by grown-ups who barely managed to escape childhood themselves, learn that winning isn't everything and that losing doesn't necessarily make you a loser. *Spelling Bee* has been hailed by the *Wall Street Journal* as "perfect in every possible way – that rarity of rarities, a super-smart musical that is also a bona fide crowd pleaser." This tuneful, offbeat and at times heartwarming show offers audience members the opportunity (strictly voluntary) to become part of the action as on-stage spellers. *The New York Times* calls *Spelling Bee*, "irresistible, riotously funny and remarkably ingenious – gold stars all around."



THE
NEWLYWED
GAME



Come on and join in the fun at state convention on Monday night at the pool-side. We are looking for contestants who have been married anywhere from one month to eighty years. Questions will be in good taste and will pertain to your every day lives. Prizes will be given to the couple with the greatest knowledge of their spouses.

To Register Call: 989-550-1889 or 989-479-9340.

HOSTED BY:
RUSS & JOANN TALASKI

Michigan LICA Logo Embroidering

Last summer for the field day Russ Talaksi had our Michigan LICA logo, that was created by Don Lee, embroidered onto the Carhart jackets that we gave away as an incentive. Since we already have the logo created, we thought some members may want to have the logo embroidered onto a shirt or jacket of their own. Contact Russ at (989) 479-9340 if you are interested. He has been working with the embroidering business and can get you more information. It may be possible to have something for convention. Also, we are hoping to have samples and more information at the convention.





From Michigan Center for
Truck Safety Newsletter
Summer 2007 Issue

National LICA Annual Meeting

March 9 & 10, 2008

CONEXPO-CON/AGG

March 11-15, 2008

Official housing reservation deadline is January 15th and advanced reservation for CONEXPO-CON/AGG is February 8th.

If you are interested in going to the National LICA Meeting in Las Vegas, get your reservations in soon. It sounds like they sell out pretty quick. Hopefully we can have a good delegation from Michigan attend. From what I've heard from past members that went to the convention and Conexpo, it's quite a show!

Regulation information—fact or fiction

By Bob Ramels, CDS, CDT Director of Safety



Much regulation information is shared and gained in several ways. Questions and answers are exchanged every day through "CB forums" and "truck stop coffee symposiums." However, how accurate are the given answers? Let's look at the questions in this issue of the *Safety Scene*.

Fiction: How come I have to cross the chains on the front or on the back of a bulldozer when I'm securing it to a trailer?

Fact: You got me! Maybe that's the way your boss wants you to do it? That's a matter of preference. All the regulations under 393.130 indicate that you must have four tiedowns: two in the front, two in back and as necessary to secure accessory equipment, like a backhoe. Don't forget, if you use a direct tie-down, one that goes from the frame of the trailer and then attaches to the equipment, you only get half of its value. For instance, if you use G70 transport 3/8" chain with a working load limit of 6,600

lbs. as a direct tiedown, the value is reduced to 3,300 lbs. On the other hand, if the tiedown goes over the equipment and is secured to the trailer frame on the opposite side (indirect), you will get the full value of 6,600 lbs. For heavy equipment over 10,000 lbs., the tiedowns must have a minimum working load limit of 5,000 lbs.

Fiction: I was always under the impression that I couldn't transport gas cylinders with the valves on them. I'm a welder and it's a pain to always be taking the valves on and off the tanks.

Fact: Let me relieve you of some of your pain. As long as you're transporting the cylinders as a material of trade and you don't exceed the quantity limitations, you can transport them with manifolds on the tanks. Hazardous Materials regulation 173.6(b)(5). Check it out.

Hope you feel better.

Dues

MLICA 2007/2008 Dues Notice

Your MLICA board of directors would like to thank you for your support the previous year(s). It is that time again to renew your membership and continue to receive all the benefits MLICA and National LICA has to offer. Please fill out the form below completely.

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- ★ Our own insurance and bonding program.
- ★ Initiated research at Michigan State University on Water Quality
- ★ Memorandum of understanding with NRCS, National Resource Conservation Service
- ★ MLICA is a member of the NRCS Technical advisory committee.
- ★ \$500 reward for vandalism or theft information.
- ★ Computer programs for Bidding and Accounting.
- ★ Newsletter a minimum of four times a year.
- ★ Annual safety and education seminars.
- ★ Strong national organization, with over 2,500 members.
- ★ State, regional and national conventions throughout the U.S.
- ★ Major Hotel & Motel chain discounts
- ★ Information received continuously from sources important to our industry

Your Support And Involvement is Needed! Dues Structure For 2007/2008

- | | | | |
|----------------------|-------|----------------------|------|
| --- Voting Member | \$225 | --- Affiliate Member | \$40 |
| --- Associate Member | \$300 | --- Retired Member | \$15 |

-----Cut here

***(Please send this portion with your check payable to MLICA)
in care of Mike Cook***

Company Name _____ Phone # _____

Member Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____ Age _____ Fax # _____

City/Zip _____ Email _____

Year joining MLICA _____ Members Date of Birth _____

List any affiliates or additional names below:

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____



Editor's Note

BY: Will Word

I hope this issue finds everyone in time for the convention. If you have high speed Internet and would be interested in receiving a digital version in your e-mail box, please let me know. It will find you faster and save the chapter printing and mailing costs. I hope everyone enjoys the information and as always, I am open to suggestions and ideas for future issues.

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

Eye Test:

Count every "F" in the following text:

FINISHED FILES ARE USUALLY THE RESULT OF YEARS OF SCIENTIFIC STUDY COMBINED WITH THE EXPERIENCE OF YEARS.....

How many?

Wrong! There are 6 -- no joke.

The brain cannot process OF. Incredible or what? Go ahead and look again. Anyone who sees 6 the first time is a genius.

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Sell and Swap Shop

For Sale

JD 544 C End Loader. \$27,500 or best offer. Caterpillar 225 excavator, \$18,000 or best offer.

Contact Rob Cook (517) 726-1492 for more information.



For Sale:

3 - Winthrop Welding tile stringing trailers. 12 volt, batteries less than 1 year old, implement tires. Very good shape. \$2,500 ea.

Contact Trevor Young for more information @ (231) 853-5277

For Sale:

Link 250 Plow for HD-21.
Holdwick Tile Reel. Bolt on mount for Fiat Allis HD-21B. Easily removed for transport, works with Agri-Drain tile spoons.

New bottom rollers for HD-21

Also: Waterway Equipment
8 ft Brillion hayseeder - 3 pt. hitch, double cultipacker. Seeds hay and grasses.

JD Round Bale mulcher. Self loading, 1-man operation.

10 ft Leibrecht Box scraper. Hyd tilt, aprox 5 yrd capacity.

If interested call Will Word (517) 368-5931



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 2008

13 **MLICA Annual Board meeting**
2:30 pm at Lansing Best Western Midway
14-15 **MLICA Annual Meeting -**
Lansing Best Western Midway

March 2008

9-10 **National LICA Winter Convention**
held in conjunction with
ConExpo/ConAGG in Las Vegas
11-15 **ConExpo/ConAGG**

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