



March / April / May / June 2008

# MLICA News

Michigan Land Improvement Contractors of America

## AUGUST 6 & 7

Hosted by the Michigan Land Improvement Contractors of America



### FARM DRAINAGE & GPS FIELD DEMONSTRATIONS

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- JDE Equipment Co.
- Mayan Agency
- Michigan Cat
- RWF Industries
- Schlatter's Inc.
- Timewell Tile of Michigan

The Land Improvement Contractors of America, Michigan Chapter will be demonstrating advancements in GPS systems used in agriculture and construction.

Demonstrations using high-end RTK GPS systems as well as laser systems will include:

- Drainage Installation
- Surveying
- Soil Conservation Practices
- Crop Yield Analysis

A number of seminars and product shows, including heavy equipment and supplies are being planned for both days.



**Concessions Available On-site**

Contact Mike Cook at (989) 587-3528  
or Will Word at (517) 368-5931  
for more information.

Visit MLICA on the web at:  
[www.MichiganLICA.org](http://www.MichiganLICA.org)

**BRING ALONG YOUR FRIENDS, CLIENTS, & ASSOCIATES**

#### Inside This Issue

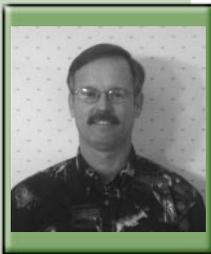
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#### Next board meeting

August 17th - At the Summer Picnic

10:00 am Board Meeting 12:00 Barbeque

Village Park , Sebawaing, MI



BY: Russ Talaski  
*President*

## Michigan LICA Board Members

*Chairman of the Board*

**Will Word**

(517) 368-5931  
wconfd@frontiernet.net

*President*

**Russ Talaski**

(989) 479-9340

*Vice President*

**Trevor Young**

(231)853-5277

*Executive Director  
Secretary/Treasurer*

**Mike Cook**

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

*Board Members*

**David Dunne**

(517) 448-8842

**Dewey Pennington**

(989) 743-5074

**Ben Foster**

(989) 838-2554

**Rob Cook**

(517) 726-0121

*Associate Board Members*

**Perry Strimback**

(616) 530-2300

**Kevin Holdwick**

(989) 479-9822

## President's Desk

May 2008

Dear MLICA friends and family,

Welcome to Spring! It's time for fresh air, more sunlight, more hours to work outside and of course the busiest time of the year for all of us. I had an older friend of mine tell me when I went into business that I now could work just as many hours as I wanted to. He actually meant that I would have to work many extra hours. Try to remember to enjoy the spring weather while it's here because before you know it the crops will be in the fields and we will be waiting for crops to come off to tile again.

In February, my wife Joann and I went to Washington D.C. to meet with our Michigan legislators. And even though there was a little confusion on the convention dates, we were able to be in D.C. on Monday and Tuesday of the convention. The National LICA turnout wasn't as good as other years, which could have been because of its earlier date and being just before Con-Expo and the National LICA Convention.

While I wasn't able to meet with the senators or representatives themselves because they were traveling; I was able to meet with their very well informed agricultural aids. They were on board with the issues that we presented from National LICA. It was most surprising to me that both of Michigan's senators backed the Clean Water Act. Their aids explained to me that they will be able to watch it better from within and will be proposing bills that will be beneficial to us. They want a clarification of what a wetland is and who has jurisdiction over it. They don't want DEQ to over-

step the Army Core of Engineers or the NRCS. However, they didn't feel that the Clean Water Act would go to vote any time this year.

We also had the opportunity to meet in the Agricultural Building on Tuesday morning to talk with members of the Natural Resources Conservation Service about EQUIP, CRP, and their involvement in funding agricultural programs. They all agreed that our involvement directly working with them to put conservation practices on the land is still working very well.

Our trip to Washington was filled with lots of encouraging conversations and therefore, I strongly encourage anyone of you to join me next year to visit with our senators and representatives so you can see how this system works.

I would also like to remind you that we will be having meetings coming up soon to start planning for our GPS Field Day and also to start appointing committees. Please feel free to call or email me if you have any questions and of course become as involved in this great event as you possibly can.

Thank You and Good Luck this Season,

Russell Talaski  
989-550-1889  
fieldtile@avci.net

## MLICA Field Day AUGUST 6 & 7



The field day is fast approaching! The board recently met and went over some of the planning for the event. The planning was a little easier this year because we made it through the “unknowns” last year, but the most important thing we will need again this year is **YOU!**

We had a great member turnout last year and things went pretty smooth. We need the same commitment from the members to make this year's event a success as well.

We will need a crew leader for each event or practice being demonstrated. Since we have such skilled contractors and crew, this was not hard to do. Also, if you can, bring your crew along. It is a great chance for them to participate, show off their skills and operate some different brands of equipment. Last year we had

almost every brand of backhoe on site, as well as excavators, dozers and loaders. Just be warned that after running all of that new stuff, they will insist that you need to upgrade!

The event will take place at the same location at Cook Brother's Farm. We will be right across the road from last year's field day. It will be interesting to see that field planted to corn and see how the finished project looks.

Well, we hope to see you there and if you have any questions, give Mike Cook a call at (989) 587-3528



## CON - EXPO

We had quite a few Michigan LICA members head out to Las Vegas last March for the winter LICA convention and Co-expo. I'm sure there were more Michigan members out there than I met up with, but that expo was huge.

The meetings at the national convention were very informative and there was a lot of enthusiasm by all the states to keep this organization moving forward. They have been working hard at the national level to provide member benefits and insurance programs, as well as the new safety manual you should have received in the mail by

now. Also the new LICA Contractor magazine is a big hit.

At the Expo it was amazing the amount and diversity of equipment. I was told that it would take several days to see it all, and after 2 solid days of walking, I barely scratched the surface.

It was nice to see some of our associates there as well. Mike and Nate Cook had a booth set up for AGPS and RWF Bron was also there.

If you get the chance to go the next time expo comes around, try to make it. It's well worth it!

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## Chapter News

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### Web site:

Please check out the Michigan LICA Web site at [www.MichiganLICA.org](http://www.MichiganLICA.org). Nate has been updating it with newsletters and current chapter information. We would like to get more involvement from the members. If you already have a web page, send the address to Nate and he can put up a link from our page.

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*Submitted by:  
Newsletter Editor*

### Field Day Fliers:

Members and Associates: You should be receiving a packet of MLICA Field Day fliers soon. **PLEASE** distribute them to your customers and anyone that may be interested in attending the field day. They are one sided, so they can be posted at local bulletin boards and places that may attract interested attendees. We had people come from all over last year and are hoping to increase attendance this year. This may be a good opportunity to send out a promotional letter about your business and include the flier with it. Some contractors have offered incentives to their customers to attend as well. Be creative and let's see how many people we can get to come this year!

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### New Idea Becomes Reality!

Here are some pictures of Mike Cook's rotating Bron 360 Drainage Plow. A lot of thought and design went into this new machine. It will eliminate the need for turning around in the field when pre-ripping which will do less damage to the field and less wear on the undercarriage.

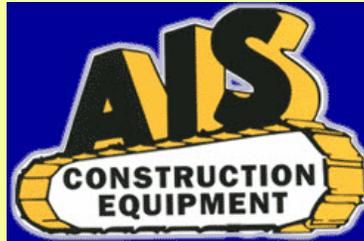
Make sure to come to the field day to see it in action!

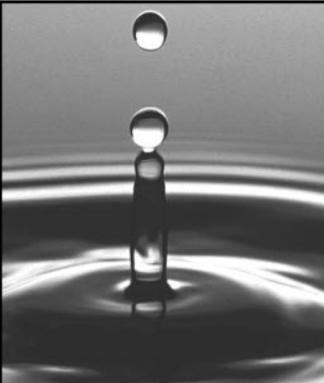


## 2008 Committee Assignments

<b>Ladies</b>	Jodie Holdwick & Sarah Cook
<b>Insurance</b>	John Cook & Tom Mayan, Jr.
<b>Safety and Education</b>	Mike & Nate Cook
<b>Associates</b>	Perry Strimback & Kevin Holdwick
<b>Convention</b>	Mike Cook
<b>Nominating</b>	Dewy Pennington & Jerry Humpula
<b>Michigan Technical</b>	Mike Cook & Ben Foster
<b>EQUIP / Farm Bureau</b>	Trevor Young
<b>Membership</b>	Tom Frank, Dave Dunne & Jodie Holdwick
<b>NRCS</b>	Steve Davis
<b>C.S.P.</b>	Will Word
<b>By Laws</b>	Dave Dunne & Nick Staat

We would like to welcome AIS Equipment Co. as new advertisers to the newsletter.  
 Look for their ad in the next issue!





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Submitted by:  
Will Word

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

## Editors Note:

I'm terribly sorry for the lack of a spring issue newsletter. It was a very busy spring and I didn't have time to get enough information to put a good issue together. As the time flew by, it was nearing our board meeting, so I figured we might as well wait send out an issue with details of the field day.

I could really use some ideas and information to keep the newsletter interesting. I will be trying to get around to the membership and continue to keep the member and associate profiles going.

Also, if you have any equipment or items to sell or are looking to buy, please let me know. I've had calls from all over the country about things that I have put in there. People are finding the newsletter and "sell and swap shop" by searching the web.

It seems that sending the newsletter via e-mail is working out pretty good. If you would like to receive it that way, let me know. It saves the chapter both time and money.

Till next time,  
Will Word

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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:

**Link 250 Plow** for HD-21.  
Parting out Fiat Allis HD-21 B  
New bottom rollers for HD-21  
Leibrecht Laser trailer - 16 ft height  
LB-4 Dual grade laser - new battery and just calibrated  
Daycab Kit for Intenational Semi \$250  
**If interested call Will Word (517) 368-5931**

### For Sale:

2004 Kubota RTV 900 w/ 925 hours  
Factory roof and windshield  
Very well maintained w/ records.  
\$7,000 or best offer

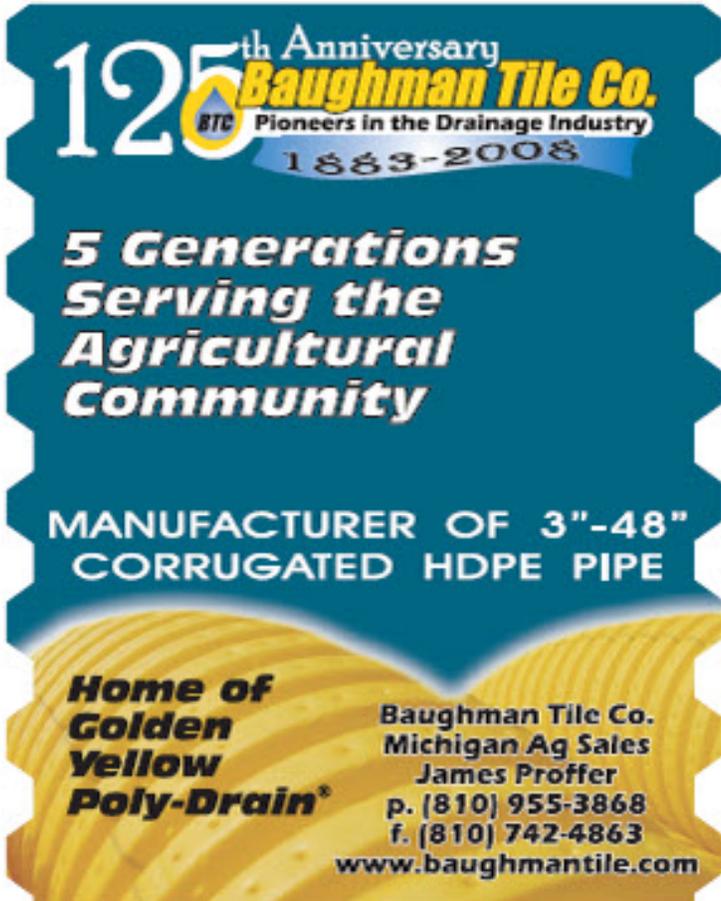
**Contact Trevor Young for more information @ (231) 853-5277**

### For Sale :

2 used Novatel RTK GPS Units  
1 used Ashtech RTK GPS Unit  
2 used Xplore computers  
Great discount to get started In RTK Systems  
**Contact: Mike Cook @ (989) 587-3528**



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



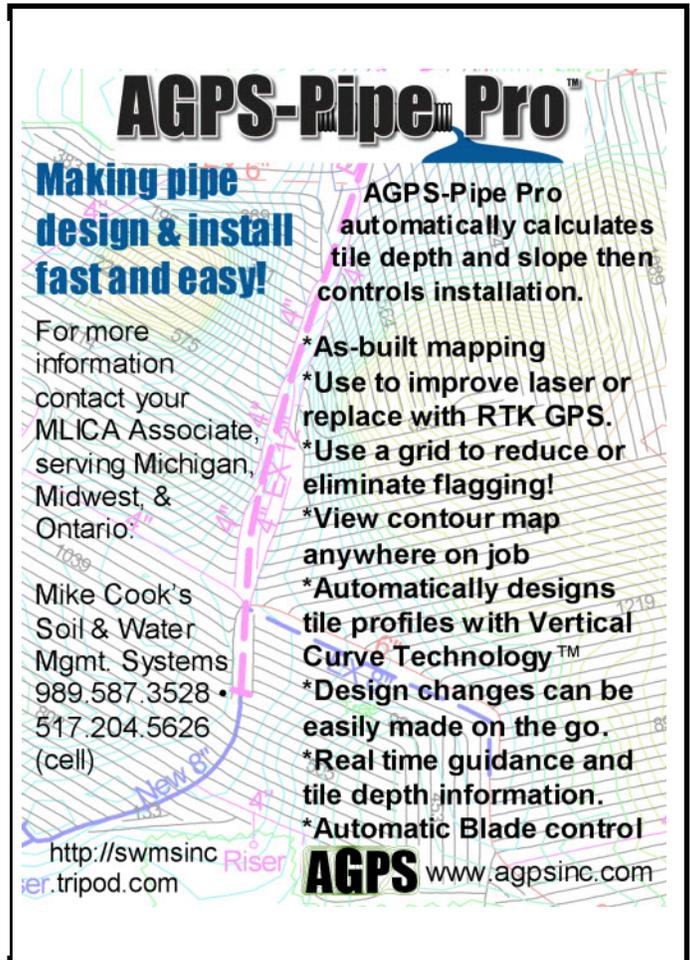
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# Event Calendar

## JULY 2008

**8th - 13th National LICA Summer Meeting** - Harrisburg, PA

**15th-17th AG Expo** - Michigan State University

**Field day committee meeting** - 3rd week in July - Date and time TBA

## AUGUST 2008

**6-7 MI LICA Field Day**

Cook Bros. Farms  
Vermontville, MI

## AUGUST 2008 (cont.)

**17th MI LICA Summer Picnic**

10:00 am Board Meeting  
12:00 Barbeque  
Village Park , Sebawaing, MI

## November 2008

**8th MI LICA Board Meeting**

4:30 pm. Lansing Best Western  
Midway

## January 2009

*(Tentative dates)*

**11 MLICA Annual Board meeting**

2:30 pm at Lansing Best Western Midway

**12-13 MLICA Annual Meeting** - Lansing  
Best Western Midway

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