



August / September 2007

MLICA News

Michigan Land Improvement Contractors of America

GPS FIELD DAY

I love it when a plan comes together! And boy did it, thanks to the hard work and dedication of our members. From the beginning, we knew it would take all of us to make this event a success, and it turned out great. A lot of you went above and beyond the call of duty and I would like to thank you for that. We estimate about 400 people visited the 2 day event from as far away as Manitoba and Ontario, Canada. We had some visitors from Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Iowa.

The feedback that I received from the attendees, was that they enjoyed seeing so many different practices being demonstrated in one place.

Mark your calendars for August 6 & 7, 2008 for next years field day. We will most likely hold it at Cook Brother's farm again.



A few Stats.....

24 MLICA members present along with several of the LICA Ladies
Approximately 400 visitors (at least 50% were contractors)
20 crew members (LICA contractor's employees)
24 associate booths
130 acre demonstration site

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Dual Wall Pipe installation with excavator:

40 ft of 30"

1,900 ft of 24"

1,600 ft of 15"

Pipe installed with tile plows

900 ft. of 12" single wall

4,000 ft. of 6" mains

33,500 ft of laterals at 30 ft spacing - during the field day.

Several waterways along with two WASCOBs were constructed

Next board meeting

November 8th

4:00 PM

Lansing Best Western Midway



BY: Will Word
President

Michigan LICA Board Members

Chairman of the Board

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(989) 845-7104

President

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(517) 368-5931
wconfd@frontiernet.net

Vice President

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(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

President's Desk

Well, it seems that summer went by in the blink of an eye, and we are already heading into the fall work season. From what I hear from the tile salesmen and other contractors, it looks like we should have a busy season. Right now crops are being harvested and the farmers are finding out how well they fared through the rough dry summer.

As a chapter, we had a busy and productive summer! I would once again like to thank everyone who helped at the GPS field day. A special thank-you goes out to Mike and Nate Cook for putting a lot of planning and effort in this project, and to Rob and Steve Cook for allowing us to use their farm and provide all of their resources and manpower as well. Thank -You to

Jack Bower and his crew for bringing their machine and crew up here all the way from Fremont Ohio. The response was great and we are planning on doing it again next summer.

Before you know it we will be meeting again at the winter convention in Lansing. In the next newsletter, you will be getting more information on the convention and membership dues will be sent out as well. Jodie Holdwick is planning on having another fun filled ladies program with manicures, massages, card making and of course, shopping!

I hope everyone has a prosperous and safe fall season!

Field Day Incentive

As part of the field day incentive, we had decided to award a Carhart Jacket with the Michigan LICA logo to the member that had the most people come to the field day. The winner was determined by the names signed up at the LICA tent at the entry of the event. The members that had the most attendees were Rob and Steve Cook. Not only did they invite the local

farmers and customers, they went above and beyond and mailed out flyers with their own newsletter, and promoted the event in their own advertisements. It was decided by the committee to award each of them a jacket to show our appreciation. Thanks again Rob and Steve for all of your hard work!

National LICA Annual Meeting

March 9 & 10, 2008

CONEXPO-CON/AGG

March 11-15, 2008

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!

National LICA Scholarship

Congratulations to Sara Heaton for winning a National LICA scholarship! Sara is the daughter of member Fred and Jan Heaton of Homer. Sara attends Michigan State University and is majoring in accounting.



*Courtesy of
National LICA
Newsletter*

Summer Picnic

Well, it seems funny that we were wearing jackets and huddling around the coals of the barbeque pit in August, but it was a bit chilly in Sebawang that day. We had a pretty good turn-out and the chicken was wonderful as usual. Thanks to Al and Dave Kemp and the crew for cooking up some great chicken. There were kids games and great food. The ladies like Joann Talaski's sea food salad so well, that they requested her recipe be published in the newsletter, so I included it below.

*Submitted by:
Will Word*

From the kitchen of Joann Talaski
Recipe: Seafood Salad



Salad :

Cooked Macaroni

crab meat or tuna

onion, peas, carrots, celery, chunk cheese

Dressing:

2 cups mayonnaise

1 can sweetened condensed milk (Eagle Brand)

1 cup sugar

1 cup vinegar

1 teaspoon salt

*Submitted by:
Joann Talaski*

2007 Michigan LICA Field Day

*Snapshots submitted by
various MLICA members*



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Submitted by:
Stacy Richter
Agri-Drain

Editor's Note

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BY: Will Word

Send suggestions and info to Will Word at (517) 368-5931

Or e-mail to wconfd@frontiernet.net with information.

Editor's Note

I apologize for this issue getting behind schedule. I guess I have had too many "irons in the fire" as they say.

I had a suggestion to include a new membership list along with the newsletter. My list has been updated and changed a few times, but if you see something incorrect, please let me know so I can get it corrected.

I could also use some fresh ideas and input for the newsletter. Pictures are always good too! Thank-you to Jodie Holdwick, Nick Staat, Kelly Young and others who took pictures at the field day.

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: Waterway Equipment

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

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The following is of great concern. AGC is opposed, Farm Bureau is opposed, as are many others.

Congress is considering the "Clean Water Restoration Act of 2007," HR2421. This bill would delete the term "navigable" from the Clean Water Act and replace it with "Waters of the United States." This action would have far reaching effects, taking jurisdiction over all intrastate waters away from the states and giving it to the Corps of Engineers and EPA. That includes ground water, ditches, pipes, streets, municipal storm drains, gutters, ponds, etc. The Corps and EPA would have authority over all "activities affecting these waters," public or private. This could mean grading and shaping, site preparation, tiling, clearing, you name it if it affects the waters. If you think today's rules are a nightmare, just wait!

The LICA Executive Committee believes this to be important enough that every contractor must contact his/her Congressman and implore them to defeat this bill. Their livelihood depends on it!

ACTIONS -- DO BOTH OF THE FOLLOWING:

Send this message on your company's letterhead to your Congressman:

Dear Congressman _____

It has come to my attention that Congress is considering the "Clean Water Restoration Act of 2007" (HR2421) that will delete the term "navigable" from the Clean Water Act and replace it with "Waters of the United States." This would infringe on State's Rights in that intrastate waters will then come under Federal jurisdiction. The result will greatly hinder land improvement work on farms and ranches and perhaps stop even maintenance of water management systems all together. I urge you to vote against this bill and to encourage your fellow Congressmen to do so, also.

Sincerely,
Your Name

Call your Congressman's office and say the following:

This is (*Your Name*). I am your constituent from (*Your Town*) I want to register my opposition the the proposed "Clean Water Restoration Act of 2007" (HR2421). If this bill passes, it will do irreparable harm to the progress of conservation work involving water management throughout the country. I am asking you to vote against this bill, and to urge your fellow Congressmen to do the same.

Thank you.

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Event Calendar

November 2007

8 MLICA board meeting
4:00 pm at Lansing Best Western Midway

January 2008

13 MLICA Annual Board meeting
4:30 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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