



January/February 2010

MLICA News

Michigan Land Improvement Contractors of America

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

2010 Michigan LICA Convention Highlights

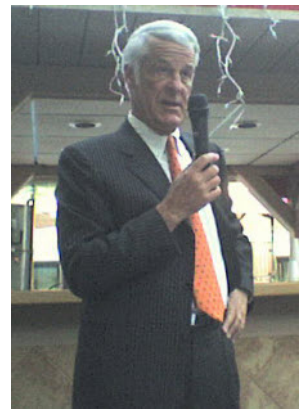
The annual Michigan LICA convention was held January 10-13 and was a great success. We had 65 members and guests present at the Monday luncheon.

We had several new events and speakers this year, as well as some of the same information and updates we look forward to hearing each year.

Jodi Dremaline from Paychex Payroll services spoke to us about payroll outsourcing. John Carpenter from B & J Hydraulics brought in a filter cart and explained how we could build our own. Perry Strimbeck and Chris Patrick, from JDE discussed the possible advantages of track machines over wheeled machines in our particular industry and applications. They also demonstrated how they can measure and track the wear of your undercarriage.

There were several new faces there as well. Joe Frankis from Armtec, Ed Cosman with Drainage Contractor Magazine, Michael Hoag from Haviland Drainage Products, as well several new LICA members.

One of the new events we held was a legislative breakfast on Tuesday morning. Representative Rick Jones, representing the 71st District (Eaton Co.) was present as well as legislative aides from Senator Cameron Brown's office and Representative Calley's Office. Bill Ballenger was the keynote speaker and had a wealth of information about state politics and what we could expect from the 2010 Michigan elections.



On Wednesday, a group of members and associates took a short drive to the AIS facility right here in Lansing and got a behind the scenes tour of what AIS has to offer. The services they provide are very extensive and the technology being used in equipment tracking and maintenance were impressive!

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Next board meeting
Wednesday February 17th 4:00 PM
at the office of Scott Everett
318 W. Ottawa St.
Lansing, MI

Michigan LICA Board Members

Chairman of the Board

Will Word

(517) 368-5931
wconfd@frontiernet.net

President

Russ Talaski

(989) 479-9340
fieldtile@avci.net

Vice President

Trevor Young

(231) 853-5277
trevor.young@plantpioneer.com

Executive Director Secretary/Treasurer

Mike Cook

(989) 587-3528
swms@4wbi.net

Board Members

David Dunne

(517) 448-8842

Mike Pennington

(989) 413-1940
joey6mile@gmail.com

Ben Foster

(989) 838-2554
wbfiv@aol.com

Rob Cook

(517) 726-0121
landg@ia4u.net

Associate Board Members

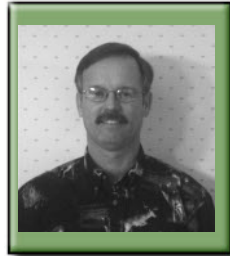
James Proffer

(810) 955-3868
james@baughmantile.com

Seth Mellott

(810) 813-1564
seth.mellott@ads-pipe.com

President's Desk



I would like to thank you for letting me be the State President for Michigan Chapter of Land Improvement Contractors of America for the past two years. It has been very educational and I have met a lot of very friendly, cooperative and very concerned members of our chapter. For those of you that couldn't attend the State Convention in January or had to leave early, I have accepted the office of state president for another year. That means that if you

like my newsletter reports or not, you will be reading them for a while longer. I would like to thank Dewey Pennington for being on the board of directors and welcome his son Mike Pennington to the board. Mike works with his dad and has shown a lot of interest in this organization. He will be chairing the Central Regional Meeting this March. Way to step-up and help out.

Another board member that has been with us is Jack Bower, he will be leaving the board and we want to thank him for all the time and effort that he has put forth. Jack and Sue have been attending board meetings every since I have been involved and I understand a lot of years prior to that. They have been driving from Ohio to be with us and I have been assured that they will be coming back and will stay involved with their Michigan friends. Kevin Holdwick will be leaving the Associates board and will be replaced with Seth Mellott, a Customer Sale Rep. From ADS. Welcome aboard.

The State Convention was a great success and we want to thank Mike Cook for all he did and all others that did their part. It was very rewarding to see our new members take part and see what this organization has to offer. We had a lot of new guest speakers and we are looking forward to working with them. A new event this year was the Monday Night Auction. Associate members and LICA members gave items to be auctioned off, the person donating became the auctioneer and some were extremely surprised what the value ended at. Thanks to all that donated and those who bid so very generous.

I have given Will Word the Hotel information in the Bad Axe area that is the closest to the GPS Field day in Elkton MI., Elkton is about 12 miles from Bad Axe and if your interested in camping or a bed & breakfast option Please call me ASAP because there is the Famous Cheeseburger in Caseville Festival that week on the west side of our county. I invite each of you to join in the Regional meetings and ask you to invite others that would benefit from what we have to offer.

THANK YOU

(looking forward to serving you)

Russell L. Talaski



2010 MLICA Legislative Day

Our second annual MLICA Legislative day will be held on Wednesday February 17th. We will meet at the office of Earthscape Resource Mgt located at 318 W. Ottawa St., directly across from the street from the Capital building on the North side.

We will meet at 11:00 am, have a brief meeting to discuss the issues, lunch and head to The Capitol building and other legislative offices.

You will use meter parking on Ottawa St. between Capitol Ave and Walnut St.

If you are planning to come, contact Scott Everett about when to schedule an appointment with your Representative or Senator at 517-204-3328



After our visits are finished, the board will meet at Earthscape's office. All members are welcome to attend the board meeting as well.

*Submitted by :
Scott Everett
Director of Government
Relations*

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Member Profiles



In the past we've had member profiles in the newsletter, which is a great way to get to know each other. We would like to continue to highlight members and associates in each issue, but it is difficult to get to the members in person to get all of the information. So, we are asking for your help to keep this section going. Please fill out the form below, or feel free to write you own, and let us know what you do and a little bit about your business and family.

This is for new members, existing members, and associates. Also, please send a photo so we can put a face to the name. Feel free to include your crew, machine and family. Either mail it or e-mail it to the editor, and we will start getting them in future issues!

Web site:

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

Return to :
Will Word
Newsletter Editor
9400 Abbott Rd.
Camden, MI 49232

wconfd@frontiernet.net

NAME : _____

COMPANY NAME _____

TYPE OF BUSINESS _____

LOCATION _____

YEARS IN BUSINESS _____ NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES _____

CREW MEMBERS NAMES _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: _____



Michigan LICA Region Meetings

The Board of Directors for the **Michigan Chapter of the Land Improvement Contractors of America** would like to invite you to attend one of **FOUR** regional meetings that we have scheduled during the first week of March.

Given these challenging economic times we feel it is important to call attention to land improvement issues that will help increase our ability to do business and help Michigan's distressed economy.

The agenda for these meetings will include a free buffet starting at 5 PM with a short program beginning at 6 PM on legislative issues, DOT/Safety Information followed by a chance to kick the tires of some of the equipment that will be on sight at all of the locations.

Please plan on attending one of the meetings listed below and feel free to bring anyone you feel would be interested in attending.

Regional Meeting Locations and Contacts

Southern Region: Monday March 1st - 5 PM

D-P Equipment Co.

10700 S. Edon Rd, Camden, MI 49232

Will Word, Word Construction, Inc.

PH: (517) 398-1105

Eastern Region: Tuesday March 2nd - 5 PM

Michigan CAT

3141 Wolf Road, Saginaw, MI 48601

Russ Talaski, Talaski Farm Tiling, Inc.

PH: (989) 479-9340

Central Region: Wednesday March 3rd - 5 PM

AISS Construction Equipment

3600 N. Grand River Ave, Lansing, MI 48906

Mike Pennington, Pennington Farm Drainage

PH: (989) 413-1940

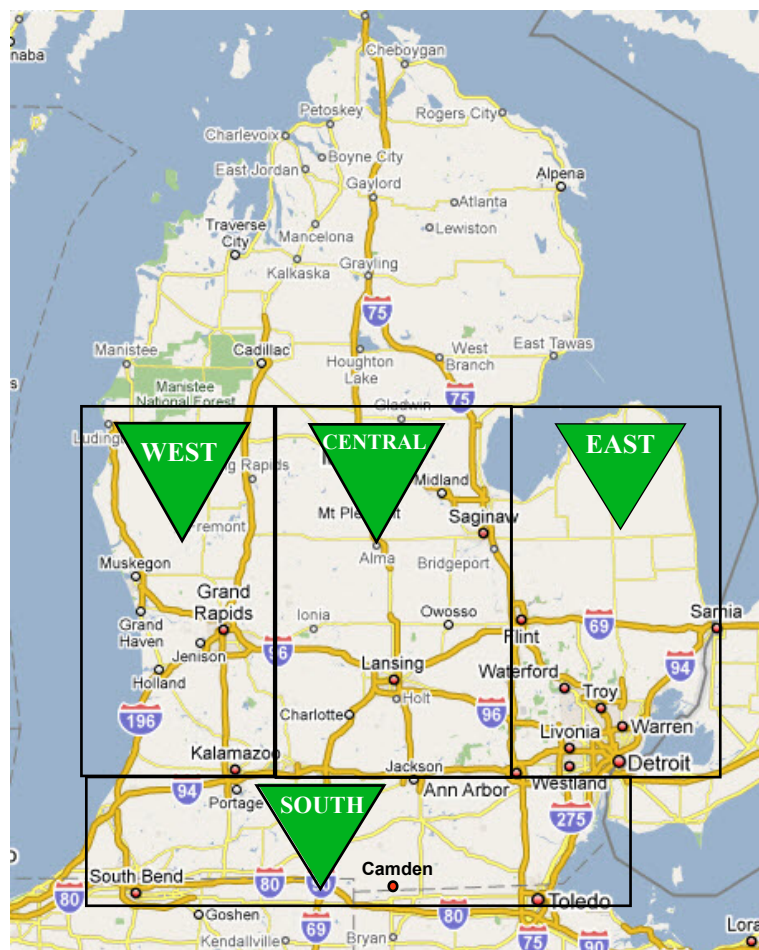
West Region: Thursday March 4th - 5 PM

JDE-Equipment

651 AIS Drive SW Grand Rapids, MI 49548

Trevor Young, S. Hecksel Farm LLC.

PH: (231) 853-5277



Submitted by:

Hotel Information for GPS Field Days August 11-12, 2010

Bad Axe is only about 15 minutes from the field day site in Elkton. Keep in mind that there is a big festival in Caseville, only a few miles from Bad Axe, so lodging may be scarce. If you are planning on staying at a campground, contact Russ soon, because they fill up with advance reservations as well. Also remember, we will need extra help one day before and after the event to help with set-up and tear-down duties. So, plan your hotel stays accordingly. Michigan LICA has blocked rooms at the Holiday Inn Express. Econ Lodge is also listed below.

Holiday Inn Express
55 Rapson Rd
Bad Axe, MI. 48413
Ph. 989-269-5293 email gmalchow@juno.com

2 Queen Beds \$75.96 plus taxes
1 King bed \$80.71 plus taxes
Blocked 20 smoking and 20 non-smoking
Reserved until 7-16-2010 after that date open to the public

Econo Lodge
898 N. Van Dyke Rd
Bad Axe, MI. 48413
Ph. 989-269-3200

2 Queen Beds \$69.95 plus Taxes
10 % discount AARP and AAA Members

Camp Grounds Information Call Russ Talaski (989) 479-9340 or (989) 550-1889

2010 Committee Assignments

Ladies.....	Sarah Cook & Jodie Holdwick
Insurance.....	John Cook & Tom Mayan, Jr.
Safety and Education.....	Mike & Nate Cook
Associates.....	James Proffer & Seth Mellott
Convention	Mike Cook
Nominating.....	Dewey Pennington & Ben Foster
Michigan Technical.....	Mike Cook & Rob Cook
EQUIP / Farm Bureau.....	Trevor Young
Membership.....	Will Word, Mike Pennington Dave Dunne
NRCS.....	Steve Davis
C.S.P.....	Will Word
By Laws	Dave Dunne & Kevin Holdwick
Government Relations.....	Scott Everett

Notice Of Michigan LICA Bylaws Changes

At The MLICA annual meeting January 11, 2010, the following Bylaws changes were voted on and passed.

1. In Article III – Membership Section III - Affiliate Members:

Any Individual (Insert these words:) DIRECTLY ASSOCIATED WITH A REGULAR OR AFFILIATE 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 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.

Also at the annual meeting:

- Scott Everett , Earthscape Resource Management, Inc. was hired for a 1 year term as Director of Government Relations, and was commended for his work this past year.
- Rob Cook was appointed as MLICA representative to the Michigan Technical Committee , with Steve Cook serving as alternate. Will Word will remain on the CSP committee and Trevor Young will remain on the EQUIP and Farm Bureau committees.
- New board members were Mike Pennington, Will Word, and Trevor Young. With Seth Melott as the new Associate representative. We would like to thank Dewey Pennington, Jack Bower and Kevin Holdwick for their service to the board.

Tips and Tricks

Submitted by :
Will Word

Editor's Note:

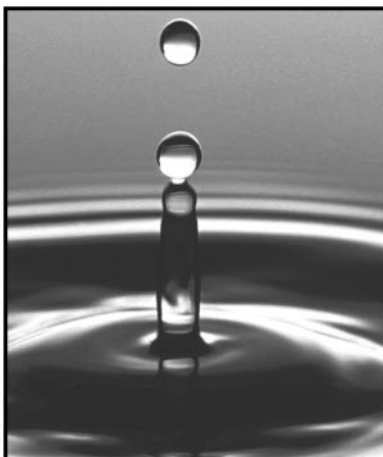
If you have any photos, ideas or tips you'd like to share, please let us know. Sharing and exchanging knowledge is the greatest benefit of being in an industry specific organization like ours!

I was having trouble getting a good footing in frost last year, so I decided to try and come up with a temporary frost grouser for my tracks. (My previous machine had welded on frost



grouser bars) I copied the design of the bolt on grouser that I had, and cut a saw tooth pattern about 2" - 3" high. They work great in frost. In the pictures, we were pulling through 10" of frost at 3 foot deep. (no-pre ripping) That way we didn't have to run over the pre-ripped frost chunks. I wouldn't want to run all day in frost

like that, but we were able to finish up a field without spinning and winching all day. I also have found that they are handy to use in muddy conditions, because they give you that extra bite, without the rough ride. And when you load up to the next job, one bolt takes each one off.



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HARD HAT NEWS

CNA

Risk Control

RIGGING

Rigging looks like an easy operation that requires no particular skill or experience. But if you have an idea that just anybody can do it, you're wrong. Too many workers have lost fingers or hands or have suffered more serious injuries because they thought, "Anybody can do that."

Here are some dos and don'ts to remember:

1. Name one member of the crew to act as the signal person, and instruct the equipment operator to recognize signals from that person only. The signal person must be careful not to order a move until he/she has received the "all ready" signal from each member of the crew.
2. Each rigger must be sure they are in the clear before he/she gives an "all ready" to the signal person. When you have positioned the sling or choker you're using, release it, if possible, before you give the "all ready" signal.
3. If you must hold it in position, be sure your hand is clear of pinch points. In fact, your hand should be far enough away so there's no possibility of a frayed wire catching your glove and jerking your hand into a pinch point.
4. Taglines shall be utilized to maintain control of loads being raised and/or positioned except where the use of such lines would create a greater hazard. Taglines shall be of a nonconductive type when used near energized lines.
5. Watch out for the roll or swing of the load. Since it's almost impossible to position the hook exactly over the load center, there will just about always be a swing or roll. Anticipate the direction of the swing or roll and work away from it.
6. Never place yourself between material, equipment or other stationary object and the load. Also, stay away from stacked material that may be knocked over by a swinging load.
7. Never stand under the load, and keep from under the boom as much as possible. Chances are that nothing will break, but something might.
8. Look over the place where the load is to be set. Remove unnecessary blocks or other objects that might fly up if struck by the load.
9. When lowering or setting the load, be sure your feet and all other parts of your body are out from under. Set the load down easily and slowly so that if it rolls on the blocking, it will be a slow shift that you can get away from.

Remember that teamwork is necessary on any job to prevent injury to yourself and your partners. But in rigging, crew teamwork is doubly important.

For more information please call us toll-free at (866) 262-0540 or visit us online at www.cna.com/riskcontrol

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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

Editors Note:

I hope you will find the newsletter interesting and informative. Please notice that there will be a membership application included with each issue of the Michigan LICA News. Please distribute the application to anyone that might benefit from being associated with LICA. Also, if you have any contractors or associates that may be interested in receiving a newsletter, send me their address or e-mail and I will see that they get a copy.

Funny Stuff

Recently, when I went to McDonald's I saw on the menu that you could have an order of 6, 9 or 12 Chicken McNuggets. I asked for a half dozen nuggets.

'We don't have half dozen nuggets,' said the teenager at the counter.

'You don't?' I replied.

'We only have six, nine, or twelve,' was the reply.

'So I can't order a half dozen nuggets, but I can order six?'

'That's right.'

So I shook my head and ordered six McNuggets

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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

February 2010

- 16-20 National LICA Convention
Phoenix, AZ
- 17 Michigan LICA Legislative Visits
State Capital - Lansing 11:00 - 4:00
- Board Meeting to follow @
office of Scott Everett

March 2010

Michigan LICA Regional Meetings

- Monday 1st - Southern Region
5:00 PM D-P Equipment - Camden
- Tuesday 2nd - East Region
5:00 PM Michigan Cat - Saginaw
- Wednesday 3rd - Central Region
5:00 PM AIS - Lansing
- Thursday 4th - West Region
5:00 PM JDE - Grand Rapids

March 2010 (Cont.)

22-26 Overholt Drainage School
Sydney, Ohio

June 2010

16 Board meeting -
Location TBA

July 2010

21 Field day committee meeting -
onsite in Elkton

August 2010

11-12 Field Day - Elkton, MI

November 2010

3 Board Meeting -
Location TBA

Industry and Associate Websites

<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

<http://www.michigan.gov/>

<http://www.micountyroads.org/page.cfm/22/>

<http://www.michigan.gov/mdot>

<http://www.truckingsafety.org/>

<http://www.michiganfarmbureau.com/>

<http://michiganlica.org/>

<http://www.licanational.com/>

<http://www.drainage.org/>

<http://www.bigodrain.ca/>

<http://www.agpsinc.com/>

<http://d-outlet.cfans.umn.edu/>

<http://www.bronrwf.com/>

<http://www.aisequip.com>

<http://www.jdeequip.com/>

<http://www.baughmantile.com/>

<http://www.mayanagency.com>

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Michigan Government
Seasonal county weight
restrictions
Michigan DOT website
Michigan Center for
Truck Safety
MI Farm Bureau
Michigan LICA
National LICA
LICO (Ontario)
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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)

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ CR Crane Service | ☐ ODW Open Ditch Work |
| ☐ DI Drainage/Irrigation | ☐ OSW On Site Waste Treatment |
| ☐ EC Erosion Control | ☐ PA Paving |
| ☐ EMC Earthmoving/Land Cleaning | ☐ PD Ponds or Dams |
| ☐ EXG Excavating/Grading | ☐ R Reclamation |
| ☐ HD Hardscaping | ☐ SEP Septic Systems |
| ☐ LL Land Leveling | ☐ TH Trucking or Hauling |
| ☐ LS Landscaping | ☐ TW Terraces or Waterways |
| ☐ 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) directly associated with a Regular or Affiliate Member interested in Michigan LICA.
- ☐ Retired Member (Annual Dues)..... \$ 15.00
- ☐ Supporting Member (Annual Dues) \$ 100.00
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 Membership.

Signature _____ Date _____

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

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