



Missouri LICA NEWS

March/April, 2003

From Our President

It has been a busy first three months for Caelene and me. It started in January with our winter meeting. Attendance was down but I thought it was an excellent meeting. The Intro to Computers class was a big hit with the members.

Then, we attended the National Winter meeting in Oklahoma City in February. We had a great time seeing old friends. We just went for the weekend to attend the business meeting and we were able to see Nelson Wilson inducted into the National LICA Hall of Fame (Congratulations, Nelson!). At the end of February, six other contractors and I attended a Senate hearing on Senate Bill #398, which looks like it has stalled in committee. I want to thank the people who called and wrote letters to their Senators opposing this bill.

In March, I attended a meeting with the Insurance Committee on the new insurance program. It looks to be very promising. We can have a very good insurance program in the near future. Caelene and I also attended a District 4 meeting and what a nice group of people we have in District 4. I updated them on some state issues and had a nice visit. Also in March, we had our State Board Meeting. I want to thank those of you who took the time out of your busy schedules to attend. We had a very productive meeting. The MLICA Summer Meeting was planned and finalized. A schedule was planned and finalized for the 2004 Winter Convention. The insurance program was discussed and voted on. There was also discussion on 2004 field day and membership.

*Until next time,
Jeff Lance*

Thank You From Debbie!

I'd like to thank the members of LICA's Region IV for the paperweight and gift certificate. I don't believe I helped enough in planning the Moline Summer Meeting to earn it, but am very grateful for it!

Missouri LICA Wins!

At the 52nd Annual LICA Winter Convention, held February in Oklahoma City, Missouri LICA was a winner ... twice!

First, we were all very proud to see Nelson Wilson inducted to the LICA Hall of Fame. Nelson has been member of LICA for over 30 years. His commitment to his District, State Chapter and the National LICA has been remarkable. We figured that in one form or another, Nelson has held an officer's position for over 20 years! Thank you, Nelson, for sharing your time and wonderful talents with us. Congratulations!



← Nelson and Judy Wilson with his recognition as a 2003 inductee to the National LICA Hall of Fame

The second way in which Missouri LICA won at the LICA Convention was by earning a Gold State Award, recognizing the accomplishments of our membership in the year 2002. Congratulations, Missouri members!



↑ (Seated from left) Nelson Wilson and Jeff Lance; (Standing from left) Roger & Kenna Levings; Debbie Dickens; Judy Wilson; Caelene, Betty and Caryl Lance; and Hollis Boyer

Member News

Welcome Aboard!

We'd like to welcome the following new contractor member to our LICA family:

Contractor Member

Dan Spanburg; Karen Sellers
Spanburg Land Development & Excavating, Inc.
36 Sellers Rd.

Camdendon, MO 65020

District: 5 County: Camden

Phone: 573-374-6663

Fax: 573-374-5612

Mobile: 573-216-3865

Email: danspan77@hotmail.com

Sponsored by Dave Hancock

Mike Dobson; Susie
Dobson Trenching & Drainage Tile, LLC

805 W. 34th Street

Higginsville, MO 64037

Phone: 660-584-2931

Fax: 660-584-6360

Mobile: 660-909-1794

Email: dobsontrenching51@yahoo.com

Sponsored by: Roger Limback

Type of work: DI,ODW,SEP,TW

Equipment: BH,TR

Supporting Member

Elwin Yoder

R.R. #2, Box 243

Warsaw MO 65355

Sponsored by: Dean Yoder

Company Associate

Lloyd Kempf

Ag Tech Services

211 Prairie Grove Road

Buffalo, MO 65622

District: 4 County: Dallas

Phone: 417-345-7418 (o)

Mobile: 417-770-0389

Sponsor: Milburn Davis

With Sympathy

Clarence Duce, Duce Construction passed away the afternoon of February 18th. Clarence had been a member of Missouri LICA for over 30 years and was a member of District #1. If you would like to send Betty a sympathy card, her address is: 3856 SE Hedge Rd.; Maysville, MO 64469.

If you would like to honor Clarence or any other LICA member, please consider making a donation to the MLICA Auxiliary Scholarship fund in their name. If you would like to do so, please send your check (made payable to Missouri LICA Auxiliary) to the Missouri LICA office. Please be sure to tell us in whose name you are making the donation.



February

01	Gerald Wyatt	17	L.L. Berkebile
02	Brian Kleinsorge	18	Roger Hinck
03	Bub Curless	21	Jimmie Bledsoe
10	John Houston	22	Carl Sloan
12	Ken Kauffman	26	Bruce Tague
13	Matt Walter	27	Gary Powell
15	Nelson Wilson		

March

15	George Schulte
18	Vern J. Bauman
20	Wilfred Kaiser
	Charles Ward
25	Gene Haile

April

13	Fred Carron
14	Don Scheib
15	Mel Kleinsorge
17	Juliann Jokerst
18	Violet Corbett
25	Ray Daub
26	Bob Parks

Missouri LICA News is a bi-monthly publication of the Missouri Land Improvement Contractors Association; Deborah Dickens, Executive Director; 1101 West High Street; Jefferson City, MO 65109; Phone: 573-634-3001; Fax: 573-761-0375; Email: info@MLICA.org; Website: www.MLICA.org.

LICA Positions On Federal Legislation

Capital Gains Tax Reduction

LICA Position: LICA supports legislation that lowers capital gain tax rates and provides incentives for long-term investment.

How It Affects Your Business: The capital gains tax is levied on all capital gains, including those attributed to inflation. It subjects income to multiple levels of taxation; deprives individuals and companies of money to invest; and deters property owners from selling assets. Equity investors in the construction industry - often employees, friends and family - are risk takers, building businesses and creating jobs. This activity must be encouraged to produce long-term economic growth. Lower capital gains taxes will provide incentive for construction companies to innovate, grow, create jobs, and increase wages.

Protect Constitutional Rights Of Private Land Owners

LICA Position: Private property owners are constantly being deprived of their rights by never ending governmental regulation which effectively takes private property without any compensation. Private property owners are capable of developing land while simultaneously protecting sensitive environmental areas without government interference.

How It Affects Your Business: Governmental regulations slow down any use of private property for development or commercial use, thereby costing jobs, and slowing down the economy, effectively denying an owner the use of their property.

Permanent Elimination Of Death Tax

LICA Position: LICA supports federal legislation to eliminate the Death Tax permanently on family-owned business, family-owned farms and their employees. The Death Tax is the most confiscatory of all taxes. The Death Tax is unfair, anti-family, anti-business, and anti-jobs.

How It Affects Your Business: The federal estate tax is one of the biggest obstacles to family business continuity and growth because of the astronomical rate of 55% federal tax, in addition to state estate taxes, as well as income, business, and capital gains already paid over the individual's

lifetime. The thousands of dollars spent on estate planning to minimize their tax burden could be better spent on business growth, job creation, and equipment purchases.

Reduce The Nation's Dependence On Foreign Energy By Tapping Domestic Sources Of Oil

LICA Position: LICA supports opening the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) for oil exploration and drilling, as well as expanding the use of gasohol.

How It Affects Your Business: America's increasing dependence on foreign oil, coupled with the increasing cost of oil, weakens our ability to compete globally. Instability in the Middle East further illustrates the need for expanded domestic oil exploration and production. Of ANWR's 18.3 million acres, less than one-tenth of the northern most 1.5 million acres would be affected by the development of the plan. Protecting valuable natural resources can be equitably balanced with the need to provide America's economic viability. Expanded use of gasohol would open additional marketing opportunities for farmers.

Health Care Reform

LICA Position: LICA supports legislation seeking health care reform which does not include increased Federal mandates, bureaucracy and litigation. LICA believes that competitive, market based forces and not governmental dictates will drive health care costs down and allow greater access to healthcare. The government must seek ways to control litigation in the health care services.

How It Affects Your Business: In recent years, Congress has considered proposals calling for broad health care consumer protection and quality standards. Unfortunately, the "Patients Bill of Rights" would rely heavily on employer mandates, new Federal bureaucracy and the threat of litigation to achieve these goals. Of particular concern is a provision that would expand malpractice liability to health care plans and employers. Proponents argue that employers are shielded from lawsuits by this legislation, but the language is murky at best, and does not fully

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LICA Positions On Federal Legislation *(Continued from Page 3)*

exempt employers from lawsuits. A company could be sued simply for selecting a health care plan.

The only way an employer might protect himself is to not provide any health care benefits.

Oppose Expansion Of The Family And Medical Leave Act (FMLA)

LICA Position: LICA opposes any attempt to expand the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) to cover non-health related absences or to include employers with fewer than 50 employees.

How It Affects Your Business: Expansion of the FMLA could create new and substantial administrative and staffing burdens on small business. The FMLA now requires firms employing 50 or more to grant up to three months leave without pay to their employees for the birth or adoption of a child, care of a sick relative or personal health conditions.

The regulations cover more than 300 pages, and are very complex. Among the many deficiencies of the FMLA is the definition of "serious health condition" (which is vague and confusing) and the intermittent leave provisions which are complicated and difficult to administer. This places an especially heavy time and expense burden on small companies. Small business cannot afford consultants and attorneys to help them comply with all these rules and regulations.

CARA (Conservation And Reinvestment Act)

LICA Position: We strongly oppose this act. Our nation is founded on the principle of Private Property Ownership and history has shown that in countries where this is not the case, private citizens lose their "stake" in the country. The Federal government already owns over 30% of the land and is doing a poor job of managing that.

The bill has no protection against condemnation of private land. It allows grant money to environmental and animal rights organizations. It allows the government to grab land for nearly any reason if land or water is suitable or capable of being made suitable for feeding, resting or breeding by wildlife. Our taxpayer funds can be used to meet the perceived needs for wildlife and the habitats on which wildlife depend.

**MLICA Summer Meeting
Saturday, August 9th
Meramec State Park
Watch your mail for details!**

A Win-Win Situation!

You could be a winner, Missouri LICA could be a winner, and a fellow contractor could be a winner. Here's how ...

When you sign up a new contractor member, Missouri LICA's voice becomes stronger as we protect our industry.

In addition to the contractor benefit package, the new contractor member will receive a FREE registration to the 2004 MLICA Winter Convention.

And you could qualify for one of the prizes being offered during the National LICA Membership Drive. The Membership Drive contest ends Feb. 7, 2004.

Here are the prizes:

- ▶ \$ 500 cash, ½ off the Lexington Winter Convention registration and one free raffle ticket when you sign up 10 new contractor members.
- ▶ \$ 250 cash; ½ off the Lexington Winter Convention registration, and one free raffle ticket when you sign up 5-9 new contractor members.
- ▶ \$ 100 cash; ½ off the Lexington Winter Convention registration, and one free raffle ticket when you sign up 3-4 new contractor members.

Directory Additions/Changes

The 2003 Membership Directory has been sent to our members. If you have not received your copy, please call the state office (573-634-3001).

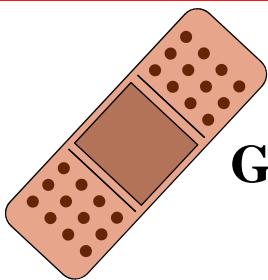
Company Member Additions

Wil Siron
Cooke Sales & Service
P.O. Box 232
St. Joseph, MO 64502
District #1 County: Buchanan
Phone: 816-233-2545 (o);232-8100 (h)
Fax: 816-233-5725
Mobile: 816-294-3280

Dale McKay
Hancor, Inc.
2835 S. Ann Avenue
Independence, MO 34057
Distinct: 4 County: Jackson
Phone: 816-795-8068
Fax: 816-795-1071
Email: dmckay26@comcast.net

Supporting Member Additions

L.L. Berkebile; Peggy Lou
Berkebile Construction
Rt.#4, Box 145
Butler, MO 64730
District: 4 County: Bates
Phone: 660-679-5262
Mobile: 660-679-7043



Get Well Quick!

Betty Hickenbottom has been under the weather recently. If you would like to send her a get well card:

Betty Hickenbottom
Hickenbottom, Inc.
2074 Hemlock Ave.
Fairfield, IA 52556.

Contractor Member Additions

Doyle Kirchner
Kirchner Excavating
P.O. Box 111
Morse Mill, MO 63066
District: 6 County: Jefferson
Phone: 573-438-2712
Work Categories: DI,EC,EMC,EXG,LL,LS,ODW,
OSW,PD,R,SEP,SP,SWU,TH,TW,WM
Equipment: BH,CL,DP,DZ,EX,GR,LD,SC


Directory Changes

Arvel Lee Schneider's address has changed. It is now: Schneider Excavating; 3168 Piezuch Rd.; Owensville, MO 65066. The phone remains the same.

Eddie Gilmore has a new email address. It is: gilmores@ktis.net

A strong connection.

At Prinsco, we take pride in our strong connection to important industry issues through our support of organizations like Missouri LICA. Thanks for all you do to ensure our success!

 **PRINSCO**
The pipe with the gold stripe.

www.prinsco.com

MN Corporate Hqtrs: (800) 992-1725 • IL Dist. Center: (800) 869-7712
IA Dist. Center: (800) 533-8327 • MN Dist. Center: (800) 699-7187

National LICA 2004 Summer Meeting

July 15-19, 2003

Holiday Inn Select - Niagara Falls, NY

Tours

Tuesday, July 15 - "The Sweetish Tour"

We will travel to the home of Linda & DAvid Rule in Arcade, NY for a refreshment stop at their maple sugar operation, proceeding south with a stop at the sand & gravel operation of Norm Ungermann. Then on to Sprague's Sugar House where we will have a maple sugar party and tour. We are looking for a brief stop on the way back to the falls. [Cost: \$35 each]

Wednesday, July 16 - "Manufacturing Plants"

We will tour two manufacturing plants in Canada, working with Ideal Drain Tile, London, Ontario and RWF Bron in Woodstock, Ontario. They will provide us with lunch and the tour of their plants. We will have brief stops along the way. [Cost: \$30 each]

Thursday, July 17 - "Ladies Tour"

Niagara-On-The-Lake Candle Plant tour with lunch, stops at historic sites, and a wide variety of shops [Cost: \$20 each]

Friday, July 18 - "The Niagara Clipper"

Dinner and cruise on the river, with music and dancing. [Cost: \$50 each]

Saturday, July 19 - "The Canadian Tour"

See the falls from the Canadian side with dinner in the Revolving Skylon Tower. [Cost: \$55 each for adults; \$25.00 each for children]

Important Information!

- It's important to register early in order to guarantee a seat on these tours or a hotel room!
- If you're crossing into Canada, you will need a copy of your Birth Certificate and a photo ID (driver's license) with you.
- If you have questions, contact Bob Yunker; New York LICA Executive Director at 217-278-2619.

Summer Meeting Events

Thursday, July 17

- Opening Breakfast with Keynote Speaker Tom Ryan; Assistant Vice President; Public Safety, Parking and Emergency Services; State University of New York; Oswego (Retired) Topic: "How Safe Are We?"
- All day seminars and exhibits, including "On Site Wastewater Treatment."
- Ice Cream/Soda Party with National Raffle Kick-Off

Friday, July 18

- Committee Meetings
- Regional Meetings
- Seminars
- Optional Dinner & Dancing Cruise

Saturday, July 19

- Breakfast
- Board of Directors Meeting
- Optional Sightseeing Tour to the Canadian Falls

Registration & Reservations

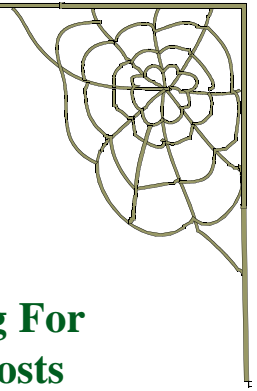
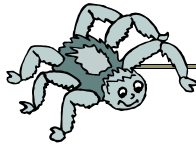
Hotel: Single (one bedded room) \$106/night
Double (two bedded room) \$106/night
Suites \$199/night

Holiday Inn Select
300 Third Street
Niagara Falls, NY
Phone: 716-285-3361
Fax: 716-285-3900

Space is limited, so make your reservations right away!

Convention Registration:

For registration information, contact the Missouri LICA state office and we'll send you a registration form. **Early discount ends May 15!**



Important Information On The Web

Technical Service Providers

The USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is seeking potential sources to act as technical service providers for implementation of Farm Bill programs administered by NRCS (as authorized under Section 1242 of the Food Security Act, as amended by the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, P.L. 107-171 (2002 Farm Bill)).

Individuals who wish to provide technical assistance can register and complete an on-line application from the national NRCS home page at:

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov> and then click on *TechReg: New Internet Application* or by direct access at: <http://techreg.usda.gov>

Please do not contact your local NRCS office or the State NRCS office regarding applications for technical service providers. All applicants must apply through the website noted. Individuals who are interested in using the services of a Technical Service Provider will be able to access the up-to-date list of all certified Technical Service Providers at this same site.

View Federal Regulations

The Federal Government has established a new website which allows the public to view Federal regulations of all agencies that are currently open for public comment. The new website is located at www.regulations.gov. The website not only enables users to identify and read proposed rules of over 80 agencies on the site, as well as to file comments electronically without leaving the website.

Check out the NRCS bid projects on the web at:
www.mo.nrcs.usda.gov/contract.asp

NRCS Looking For Contractor Costs

NRCS is searching for cost information. LICA contractors are probably best suited to provide information on the costs of installing conservation practices.

So, we're asking as many contractors as possible to get on the techpro website and enter their costs for each of the practices they install. The web site address is: <http://techreg.usda.gov/> You do not need to be certified to enter this data. The deadline for submitting this data is April 11, 2003.

Here's how:

- On the opening page (<http://techreg.usda.gov/>), click on the "Cost Survey" icon on the left side of the page, then when the next page comes up, click on the bar near the bottom that reads: "Proceed to Cost Data Entry Screen."
- On that screen fill out "Contact Name," "Company Name," "eMail Address," and "Phone Number."
- Then select the state you want to work and the counties. If you work in many counties select "All Counties."
- Then go to the block that says "Access Road (580)," click on the down arrow and select the practice you want to enter data for. You must then enter the unit size (acre, foot, each, or whatever unit your data applies to).
- Next, enter your costs for "Design Cost," "Installation/Layout Cost," and "Checkout Cost." If you want, you can enter the "Bundled Cost" which is the total of the previous three, but that probably should not be done, especially if you are not entering costs for all three.
- Last, click on "Save"
- Then repeat this for each practice you perform.

Missouri Legislative Update



At the time of this writing, the Missouri General Assembly has over 1,500 bills working their way through the process. Please take the time to voice your opinion - or you'll be governed by someone else's.

If you have internet access, go to the Missouri LICA website (www.mlica.org) and find the Missouri State Government page on our "Links" page. Once you get to the Missouri State Home Page, go to the Senate page (listed on the left side) and check the bills and sponsors. You can email your opinions directly to the sponsors.

SJR 12 Increases the motor fuel tax by four cents to retire state bonds authorized by the General Assembly [heard in committee 3/18]

SB19 Allows a tax deduction for those who contribute to medical savings accounts [passed out of committee 3/18]

SCS/SB 26 - This act creates a tax credit of up to \$2,000 for 10% of the contribution made by a small business to a health reimbursement arrangement. The health reimbursement arrangement must meet certain requirements which basically constitute a hybrid self-insurance plan with an umbrella. Certain farmers will qualify as eligible employees under the definitions provided by the act. [out of committee 2/4]

SB36 Requires risk assessment and cost-benefit analysis to be prepared when certain environmental rules are promulgated [voted out of Senate; in House for hearing 4/2]

SB 38 Creates the "Missouri Biomass Technology" Commission [on perfection calendar 3/24]

SCS/SB 69 - This act requires state agencies which are proposing rules to consider alternative compliance methods for small businesses and to prepare a small business impact statements. [set for perfection calendar 3/24]

SCS/SB 81 - This act expands the definition of "totally unemployed" in the context of employment security to include workers who have been suspended pending a final determination regarding alleged misconduct or employment status. [out of committee 2/5]

SB 95 Establishes a small business health insurance tax credit program to offset employee health insurance premium costs [passed out of committee 3/4]

SCS/SBs 299 & 40 - This act provides that the Budget Director must develop and implement a performance-based budgeting system that establishes goals and objectives, provides detailed measures of program and fund performance against attainment of planned outcomes, and provides for program evaluation. The Governor may consider outcome measures used for each program and fund as compared with the attainment of the established goals and objectives of the program and fund over the past three fiscal years in preparing budget recommendations to the General Assembly. The General Assembly shall consider such outcome measures and attainment of goals and objectives for each program and fund in approving appropriation levels for each program and fund. [in House for vote 3/24]

SCS/SB 544 - This act creates the Missouri Sunset Act. Each new program enacted into law will sunset after a period of not more than six years. A program may be re-authorized for a period of up to twelve years. [set for perfection calendar 3/24]

SCS/SB 117 - This act extends the area for land improvement contractors' commercial motor vehicles from 25 miles to 50 miles. [passed out of House committee 3/19]

HB 643 - This bill makes several changes to the workers' compensation law. [referred to committee 3/13]

Attention District Presidents!

Why don't you invite your State Senator and/or Representative to speak at your next District meeting?