JUNE - JULY
2017

MINNESOTA LICA NEWS

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GREETINGS From Your PRESIDENT

Hello everyone,

Hope your work season has gotten off to a good start. The weather seems to have straightened out to allow people to get rolling again after the long winter. Remember Safety! Don't forget to have your toolbox talks and safety meeting with your employees. We all want our employees to go home at the end of the day to their families.

Keep up to date with what is happening with MNLICA and National LICA by checking out the web site. The web site will keep you up to date on all that we do as an association.

Check out the National LICA website to get the information about the upcoming Summer Convention which will be held in Colorado Springs.

President Doug Breberg

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MNLICA Web-Site; www.mnlica.org
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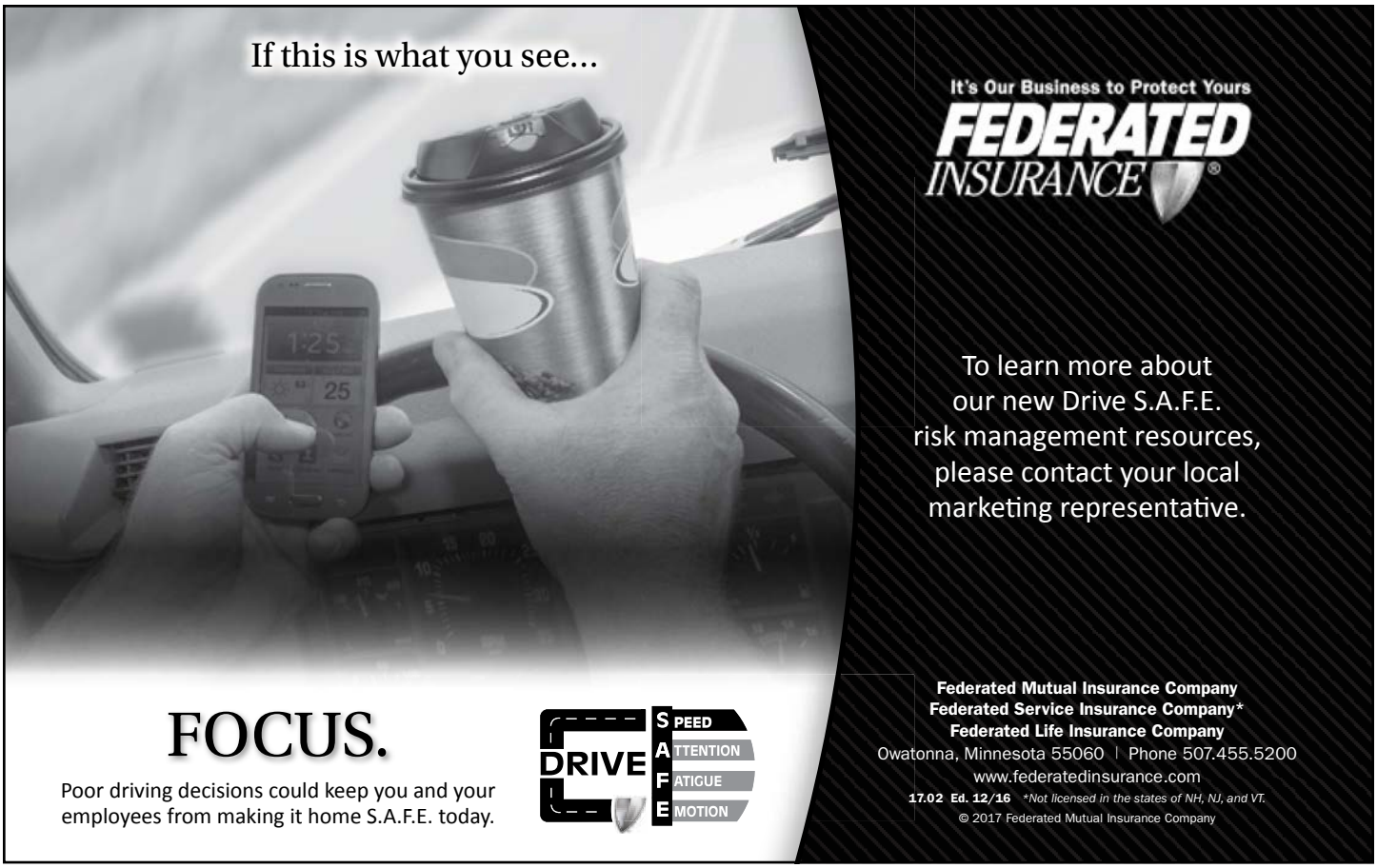

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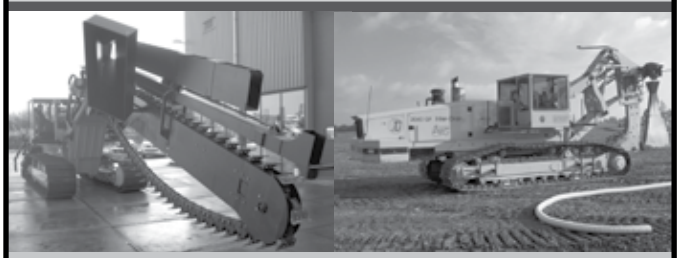

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Remembrance Day: how to wear a poppy correctly

According to an ex-serviceman, there is a right and a wrong way to wear yours.

"A lovely military man selling poppies stopped me today and asked if he could reposition mine - while doing so he told me that women should wear their poppy on their right side: the red represents the blood of all those who gave their lives; the black represents the mourning of those who didn't have their loved ones return home; and the green leaf represents the grass and crops growing, and future prosperity after the war destroyed so much.

"The leaf should be positioned at 11 o'clock to represent the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, the time that World War One formally ended.

"He was worried that younger generations wouldn't understand this and his generation wouldn't be around for much longer to teach them."

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By Bucky Fox

The GI newspaper Stars & Stripes recently turned 75, with no letup on its heroic march. Headlines and stories over the decades flashed Anzio, Inchon, Khe Sanh, Medina Ridge, Fallujah. Now Stripes spearheads coverage at Bagram Air Field and other points in Afghanistan.

S&S goes where America's troops go, these days online to complement the paper form.

Stripes had fleeting appearances in the Civil War and World War I, the latter featuring Harold Ross as editor before his New Yorker magazine co-founding and Grantland Rice on the sports page ahead of his golden age domination.

The continuous version of Stripes started in London in the spring of 1942, a few years before the Pacific edition set sail. While World War II raged, Bill Mauldin cracked up his fellow soldiers with sardonic "Willie & Joe" cartoons. Gen. George Patton was so ticked at the belittling of officers, he threatened to toss Mauldin in jail. Didn't happen, thanks to Patton's boss, Dwight Eisenhower, who underscored, "Stars & Stripes is the soldiers' paper, and we won't interfere." Mauldin got the last laugh, winning two Pulitzers.

Another Striper in the European Theater was Andy Rooney, who covered D-Day decades before grumbling on "60 Minutes." That snarl on CBS was no act.

Another Striper in the European Theater was Andy Rooney, who covered D-Day decades before grumbling on "60 Minutes." That snarl on CBS was no act. Upon S&S' 50th birthday celebration in 1992 at the paper's office just south of Frankfurt, Germany, I let on that while editing his column, I changed his copy to reflect the subjunctive mood: If I were, not if I was. Rooney had a fit, telling me his work was already edited and to lay off. That night at the party he joked about it, and I continued to tweak his grammar.

Meanwhile, more talent stepped to the fore at S&S: John Windrow, a hilarious writer who went on to teach journalism at Hawaii Pacific University; John Kominicki, a brilliant scribe who became publisher of Long Island Business News; and Bill Sammon, whose cutting-edge reports on the military's mission in Bosnia preceded his rise as White House correspondent for The Washington Times and now a top editor at Fox News.

The absolute star at Stripes will forever be Bob Wicker. His name is about as nationally known as his hometown, Dothan, Ala. No matter. In the last half of the 20th century, he was a soldier, writer, sports editor, managing editor and simply the paper's bulwark.

Bob was my sports editor at Stripes in the 1980s and '90s, and did a marvelous job expanding space in the paper for Army basketball and Air Force football. He directed coverage of troops and their children at air bases in England and Holland, barracks in Germany and Belgium, naval stations in Spain and Italy. He inspired a staff that included Ben Abrams, whose legend lives on among military brats recalling his prolific high school columns, and Rusty Bryan, a maestro whose 1998 Wimbledon headline sang after Jana Novotna finally shed her choke tag: Novotna Czechs her baggage.

Now 80 and living near Reno, Nev., Bob Wicker stands as a pillar in the history of journalism. He was a rock of a newspaperman, solidified with creativity and integrity. Think Gibbs of "NCIS" with a laugh.

Happy birthday, Stars & Stripes.

Bucky Fox is an author and editor in Southern California.

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REGION IV—VICE PRESIDENT REPORT

I hope this finds all or most of you hard at work as Spring has sprung in most states.

For the ones that attended the NLICA and Region IV winter meetings in Las Vegas, THANK YOU! We need you there to discuss any problems at the National, Regional & State levels. I know things move slow—just ask Don Loken of MN, 10 years on the Farm Tap issue and they are finally starting to listen and understand the problem is a Safety issue! YEA Don, don't ever give up!

I plan to attend either a Field Day or Outing in your state this summer. I hope to see EACH OF YOU there, as every BODY helps to make your state happenings a SUCCESS! Try to attend one NEW thing this year and you might just enjoy it! I hope to see you there.

YOUR STATE NEEDS YOU!!!!

Sincerely

Nordis Estrem

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT

As executive directors we have been busy, paying the bills, finished the directory, everyone should have theirs by now. The scholarship winners have been chosen and notified. We've been busy working on the Scholarship Sporting Clay Shoot and Golf Outing which is tentatively set for September 15, 2017. Please set aside this date to attend this fund raiser, watch for the registration form in the mail. All of the profit is used to fund future scholarships. Next years MSHA meeting has been scheduled. Shortly we will be working on the 2018 Winter Convention events which is scheduled for January 3rd, 4th and 5th, 2018 at the Best Western Hotel in New Ulm. We will be attending the LICA Summer Meeting in Colorado Springs at the Hotel Elegante Conference & Event Center on July 13th, 14th and 15th, 2017 with pre-tours on the 11th and 12th of July 2017. Go to National LICA's website for additional information and Registration (www.nlica.org). Hope to see you there.

Kevin and Jeanie

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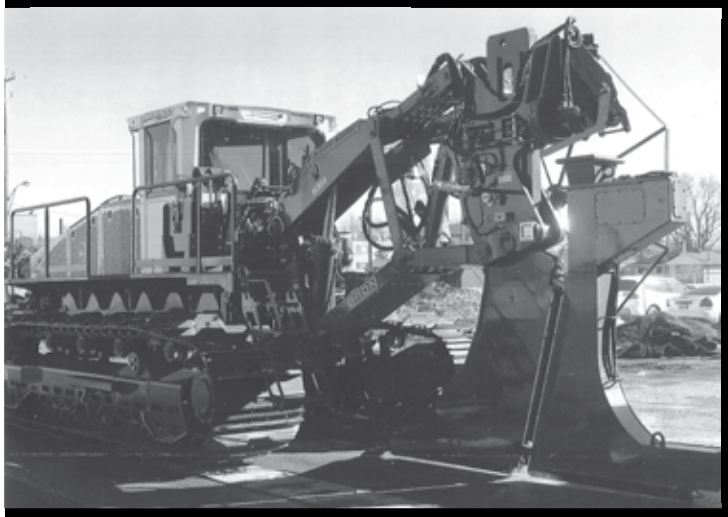

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THE AMERICAN FLAG

Did you know that at military funerals, the 21 gun salute stands for the sum of the numbers in the year 1776.

Have you ever noticed how the honor guard pays meticulous attention to correctly folding the American flag 13 times? You probably thought it was to symbolize the original 13 colonies, but we learn something new every day!

The 1st fold of our flag is a symbol of life.

The 2nd fold is a symbol of our belief in eternal life.

The 3rd fold is made in honor and remembrance of the veterans departing our ranks who gave a portion of their lives for the defense of our country to attain peace throughout the world.

The 4th fold represents our weaker nature, for as American citizens trusting in God, it is to Him we turn in times of peace as well as in time of war for His divine guidance.

The 5th fold is a tribute to our country, for in the words of Stephen Decaur, "Our Country", in dealing with other countries, may she always be right; but it is still our country, right or wrong.

The 6th fold is for where our hearts lie. It is with our heart that We pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, Indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all.

The 7th fold is a tribute to our Armed Forces, for it is through the Armed Forces that we protect our country and our flag against all her enemies, whether they be found within or without the boundaries of our republic.

The 8th fold is a tribute to the one who entered into the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day.

The 9th fold is a tribute to womanhood, and Mothers. For it has been through their faith, their love, loyalty and devotion that the character of the men and women who have made this country great has been molded.

The 10th fold is a tribute to the father, for he, too, has given his sons and daughters for defense of our country since they were first born.

The 11th fold represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon and glorifies in the Hebrews eyes, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

The 12th fold represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies, in the Christians eyes, God the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit.

The 13th fold, or when the flag is completely folded, the stars are uppermost reminding us of our nations motto, "In God We Trust."

After the flag is completely folded and tucked in, it takes on the appearance of a cocked hat, Ever reminding us of the soldiers who served under General George Washington, and the Sailors and Marines who served under Captain John Paul Jones, who were followed by their comrades and shipmates in the Armed Forces of the United States, preserving for us the rights, privileges and freedoms we enjoy today.

There are some traditions and ways of doing things that have deep meaning. In the future, you'll see flags folded and now you will know why. Share this with the children you love and all others who love the symbol of "Liberty and Freedom."

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Summer Board Meeting

June 22nd, 2017

Best Western Hotel
New Ulm, MN

6:00 P.M.

Walter E. Williams

Is profiling OK?

Profiling is needlessly a misunderstood concept. What's called profiling is part of the optimal stock of human behavior and something we all do. Let's begin by describing behavior that might come under the heading of profiling.

Prior to making decisions, people seek to gain information. To obtain information is costly, requiring the expenditure of time and/or money. Therefore, people seek to find ways to economize on information costs. Let's try simple examples.

You are a manager of a furniture moving company and seek to hire 10 people to load and unload furniture onto and off trucks. Twenty people show up for the job, and they all appear to be equal except by sex. Ten are men, and 10 are women. Whom would you hire? You might give them all tests to determine how much weight they could carry under various conditions, such as inclines and declines, and the speed at which they could carry. To conduct such tests might be costly. Such costs could be avoided through profiling — that is, using an easily observable physical attribute, such as a person's sex, as a proxy for unobserved attributes, such as endurance and strength. Though sex is not a perfect predictor of strength and endurance, it's pretty reliable.

Imagine that you're a chief of police. There has been a rash of auto break-ins by which electronic equipment has been stolen. You're trying to capture the culprits. Would you have your officers stake out and investigate residents of senior citizen homes? What about spending resources investigating men and women 50 years of age or older? I'm guessing there would be greater success capturing the culprits by focusing police resources on younger people — and particularly young men. The reason is that breaking into autos is mostly a young man's game.

Should charges be brought against you because, as police chief, you used the physical attributes of age and sex as a crime tool? Would it be fair for people to accuse you of playing favorites by not using investigative resources on seniors and middle-aged adults of either sex even though there is a near-zero chance that they are among the culprits?

Physicians routinely screen women for breast cancer and do not routinely screen men. The American Cancer Society says that the lifetime risk of men getting breast cancer is about 0.1%. Should doctors and medical insurance companies be prosecuted for the discriminatory practice of prescribing routine breast cancer screening for women but not for men?

Some racial and ethnic groups have higher incidence and mortality from various diseases than the national average. The rates of death from cardiovascular diseases are about 30% higher among black adults than among white adults. Cervical cancer rates are five times greater among Vietnamese women in the U.S. than among white women. Pima Indians of Arizona have the world's highest known diabetes rates. Prostate cancer is nearly twice as common among black men as it is among white men. Using a cheap-to-observe attribute, such as race, as a proxy for a costly-to-observe attribute, such as the probability of some disease, can assist medical providers in the delivery of more effective medical services. For example, just knowing that a patient is a black man causes a physician to be alert to the prospect of prostate cancer. The unintelligent might call this racial profiling, but it's really prostate cancer profiling.

In the real world, there are many attributes correlated with race and sex. Jews are 3% of the U.S. population but 35% of our Nobel Prize winners. Blacks are 13% of our population but about 74% of professional basketball players and about 69% of professional football players. Male geniuses outnumber female geniuses 7-to-1. Women have wider peripheral vision than men. Men have better distance vision than women.

The bottom line is that people differ significantly by race and sex. Just knowing the race or sex of an individual may on occasion allow us to guess about something not readily observed.

Walter E. Williams holds a bachelor's degree in economics from California State University (1965) and a master's degree (1967) and doctorate (1972) in economics from the University of California at Los Angeles. In 1980, he joined the faculty of George Mason University in Fairfax, VA, and is currently the John M. Olin Distinguished Professor of Economics. He has also served on the faculties of Los Angeles City College (1967-69), California State University (1967-71) and Temple University (1973-80). From 1963-67, he was a group supervisor of juvenile delinquents for the Los Angeles County Probation Department. He is also the author of "Race and Economics: How Much Can Be Blamed on Discrimination?" and "Up from the Projects: An Autobiography." Williams sits on many advisory boards, including the Review Board of Economics Studies for the National Science Foundation, the Research Foundation, the National Tax Limitation Committee, the Taxpayer's Foundation and the Hoover Institution.

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President Trump's tax plan would eliminate the death tax

John Peterson, LICA Director of Government Relations. 28 APR 2017/jwp

On Wednesday, the White House announced the outlines of an ambitious tax reform plan that envisions deep cuts in the rates paid by American families and businesses. The plan would reduce most Americans' tax filing to a single page (I really wonder if that is possible) and make businesses more competitive in the international economy.

The president laid out four goals for reforms. They are;

A plan that expands the economy and creates jobs.
A plan that simplifies the burdensome tax code.
A plan that provides relief to American families, especially the middle class.
A plan that establishes one of the lowest business tax rates in the world.

His plan would flatten the tax code by reducing the number of tax brackets from 7 to 3. He would lower the tax rate from 39.6% to 35%, the standard deduction would more than double to $24,000 for a married couple, and would eliminate every tax deduction except for home mortgage interest and charitable contributions. The corporate tax rate would go from 35% to 15%.

And our LICA colleagues should love this. His plan would eliminate the death tax, as well as the alternate minimum tax (AMT). For many years LICA has encouraged the elimination of the death tax, and we have a position paper on that topic.

Here are the highlights of the plan.

Category	**Current Policy**	**Trump Proposal**
Income taxes	Seven brackets, 10%. 15%, 25% 28%, 33%, 35%, 39.6%	Three brackets, 10%, 25%, 35%
Standard deduction	$6,300 for singles, $12,600 for Married couples.	Increases deductions so that A married couple could claim $24,000
Alternative Minimum Tax	Limits certain benefits for higher-income earners	Eliminated
Capital gains tax	Top rate of 28%	No higher than 20%
Estate (death) tax	Taxes estate property valued at more than $5.4 million	Eliminated
Corporate taxes	Top rate of 39%	No higher than 15%
Tax deductions	Dozens of deductions allow individuals and corporations to reduce their tax burdens	Eliminates all deductions except for mortgage interest and charitable giving

While business leaders applaud the plan, I doubt the opposition party will. I really like to see the death tax and the AMT eliminated, and hope that actually happens.

Residential Septic Service Plan

After many months the Residential Septic Service Plan is a reality! The Residential Septic Service Plan is only available through LICA Contractors. There many benefits for a LICA Contractor to sell this program:

1. **The LICA Contractor will receive $50.00 for each Service Contract sold from National LICA. Every year the contract is renewed the contractor will continue to receive $50.00**
2. **The LICA Contractor will conduct an inspection prior to the Service Contract approval at the customer's expense.**
3. **The LICA Contractor can be paid for pumping by the customer (when applicable).**
4. **At no cost to the contractor National LICA will provide a customized webpage. The consumer will use the webpage to purchase the Service Contract and for additional information.**
5. **If repairs are required after the Service Contract is in affect the approved estimate of the claim will be paid to the LICA Contractor by Bankers, up to $10,000. Repairs must be in compliance with the Service Contract.**
6. **The LICA Contractor will be able to increase their customer base by offering the Septic Service Contract to both new and previous qualifying customers.**
7. **National LICA of the LICA State Chapter will provide Septic Service Contracts, promotional and sales material to the participating LICA Contractor.**

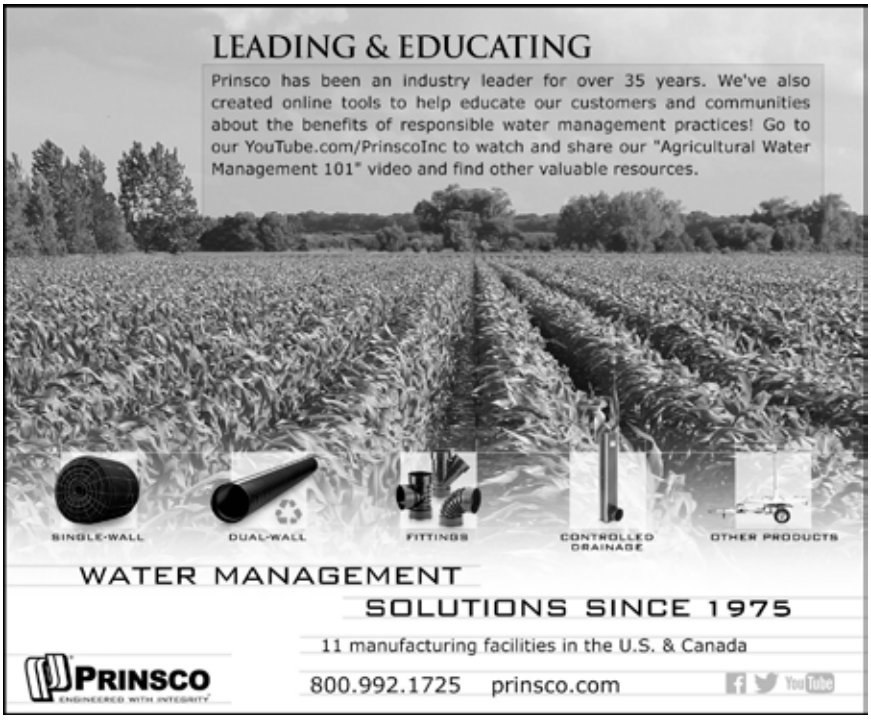
As a consumer the Residential Septic Service Plan features:
Coverage up to $10,000
-No Deductible
-Nationwide repair network
-24/7/365 customer service
-Transferable to a new homeowner

The Residential Septic Service Plan is a great benefit to both the LICA Contractor and the consumer. We are excited that we have begun to sell. Minnesota has been approved to begin selling this plan.

2017 Board Member Meeting Attendance

Area/Director	Jan	Mar
Pres Doug Breberg	P	P
VP Mike Lehmann	P	P
Tres Scott Hutton	P	A
Chrmn Karlen Nelson	P	P
East Bruce Bucknell	A	A
East Dan Estrem	P	P
East Don Loken	P	A
East Mark Olsen	A	P
West Stu Frazeur	P	P
West Brad Herickhoff	P	A
West Steve Vis	P	P
West Justin Wildfeuer	A	A
Retired Jim Walker	P	P
Assc Shaun Mickelson	P	A
Ex Dir Kevin Bakken	P	P
Ex Dir Jeanie Bakken	P	P

A = Absent P = Present C = Cancelled Meet



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September 15, 2017

2017 Scholarship Fund Raiser

Tentatively planned sporting clay shoot and 9 holes golf

Total Agricultural Solutions Provider

HP Ag Lift Station

- Increases yield by controlling root zone water
- Simple & easy remote access via any web-enabled device
- One system manages water flow & field water table level
- Get into fields earlier to perform required field tasks

Water Control Structure

- Controls water level of drainage basin at any level
- Allows drainage to maximize crop development
- Drainage control reduces annual transport of nitrogen
- Allows a controlled release of outlet flow

HP Storm Pipe

- 12"-60" Agricultural Main
- Smooth interior reduces friction
- Superior strength beneath farm equipment
- Integral bell couplers for easy installation

Singlewall Pipe

- 3"-24" Solid or Perforated HDPE Pipe
- Greater Crop Production
- Provides A Longer Growing Season
- Reduced Downtime and Labor Costs

www.ads-pipe.com

For more information please contact Shaun Mickelson at 507-508-5455 or shaun.mickelson@ads-pipe.com

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MNLICA WEB--www.mnlica.org

Check out the MNLICA web-site:
Membership: Benefits: Applications: Directory & Map
Scholarship Application: Ladies Activities
Newsletter Archive: Contact Information
Calendar of Events: Legislative Issues: National LICA

MAR-A-LAGO

In my March GR Report I mentioned that Blanche and I has seen President Trump's Palm Beach estate Mar-a-Lago when we were in FL for Nats spring training. I thought some of you might be interested in Mar-a-Lago's history. We toured the entire Palm Beach Island, its swanky shops and exclusive homes with beautiful landscaping, and on the way back to the mainland saw Mar-a-Lago, President Trump's estate. Mar-a-Lago was built from 1924 to 1927 by heiress and socialite Marjorie Merriweather Post. Post envisioned the house as a future winter retreat for American presidents and foreign dignitaries, and following her death in 1973, it was bequeathed to the nation. However, successive presidents declined to use the mansion, which was returned to Post's estate in 1980, and in 1985 was purchased by Donald Trump. The 126-room, 110,000-square-foot house contains the Mar-a-Lago Club, a members-only club with guest rooms, a spa, and other hotel-style amenities. The Trump family maintains private quarters in a separate, closed-off area of the house and grounds. Since taking office, President Trump has referred to Mar-a-Lago as his Southern White House and uses it as a Camp David-style presidential retreat. The day we left for Hilton Head Island they were having a boat show at the marina near Mar-a-Lago with boats worth $1.5 billion. Trump was also planning on being there. Traffic had to be awful.

John Peterson
LICA Director of Government Relations
9304 Lundy Court
Burke, VA 22015-3431 USA
Ph: 703-455-4387
Cell: 703-505-1782
Fax: 703-455-6888
Email: jwpeterson@cox.net

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West Concord, MN. 55985

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Nelson Brothers Tiling LLC
43480 County Road 4
Nicollet, MN 56074

MNLICA Executive Directors
Kevin and Jeanie Bakken
9600 South Dennison Blvd.
Northfield, MN. 55057
bakken4957@gmail.com
Phone; 507-645-6905
Cell: 612-328-2874
Fax: 507-645-1654

NATIONAL LICA
3080 Ogden Avenue
Suite 300
Lisle, IL. 60532
Phone: 630-548-1984
Fax: 630-548-9189

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Beaver Creek, MN 56116

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2017 UPCOMING EVENTS
MNLICA Web-site:www.mnlica.org

June 22nd , 2017 – Summer Board Meeting – at 6:00 p.m. Best Western Hotel New Ulm, MN

July 11th – 16th, 2017 National Summer Meeting – Colorado Springs, CO

August 17th, 2017 - Fall Board Meeting – at 5:00 p.m. Place to be Determined

September 15th, 2017 – Fall Scholarship Outing – Tentative Type of Event/Time/ Place to be Determined

November 30th, 2017 - Winter Board Meeting – at 5:00 p.m. Place to be Determined

January 3rd, 4th, 5th, 2018 – MNLICA SSTS Class and Winter Convention – Place to be Determined

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Land, the foundation of the nation,
the basis of all wealth,
the heritage of the wise, the thrifty and prudent,
the poor man's joy and comfort,
the silent partner of man,
the producer of food, fiber and fuel,
the basis of factories,
the foundation of banks.

All that man builds is from the land.
We often take it for granted, or even abuse it,
and yet many unthinkingly and unknowingly pass the land by.
What man finally does with the land
will be the deciding factor in his survival.