

February 2023 /
March 2023

MINNESOTA LICA NEWS

LAND IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTORS OF AMERICA • MINNESOTA CHAPTER

2570 130th St.
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www.mnlica.org
mnlica2@gmail.com

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**IT'S TIME TO APPLY FOR THE MNLICA
SCHOLARSHIP!
APPLICATIONS ARE DUE MARCH 1, 2023
SEE DETAILS AND APPLICATION IN THIS ISSUE!!!**

**THANK YOU TO THE
ASSOCIATES THAT HELPED
SPONSOR THE CONVENTION AND
THOSE THAT PARTICIPATED IN
THE TRADESHOW!!!**

**SEE A FULL LIST INSIDE
THIS ISSUE!**



GREETINGS From Your PRESIDENT

Where do you wear your shirt? Well, that would be on my body, right? I was packing for our convention and pulling my MNLICA shirts out and I got to thinking. Mostly, I just wear my shirt to conventions. But those people already know about MNLICA. We wear all kinds of shirts in the public to show our support, make a point, or to just be a part of something. Even during the tough seasons, the Vikings fans don't quit wearing those jerseys. I've got shirts for 4-H, Minnesota Pork Producers, Dordt College, tile and GPS companies, Canby Knowledge Bowl shirts and a couple of Red Onion shirts (Ice cream drive-in at Belgrade, MN). I wear them because they are things that I connect with. I wear them because they are things I want to succeed. Don't we want that for MNLICA? I do!

So wear the MNLICA shirts, to a ball game, to a local meeting, when bidding on a ribbon at the county fair. And next report we can talk about bumper stickers.

Stu Frazier, MN LICA President

BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD THURSDAY, MARCH 9TH, 2023 AT THE BEST WESTERN PLUS HOTEL, NEW ULM AT 5:00 PM

Attention:

There are two scholarship opportunities. First, MN LICA scholarship, on page 3. You can also find the application on the website mnlica.org. Simply print the application and submit with information requested to address on application. Application must be postmarked no later than March 1, 2023. Second opportunity is to apply for the National LICA Scholarship, which is found on the National LICA Website at www.licanational.com. These application are due no later than March 15th, 2023. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTION, CONTACT ME AT 320-226-6398

GOOD LUCK !!!

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MNLICA Web-Site; www.mnlica.org
E-mail: mnlica2@gmail.com



MNLICA
2570 130th Str.
Dawson, MN 56232
320-226-6398

A scholarship opportunity for MNLICA members/employees' families in their high school senior year. MNLICA offers a scholarship for advanced education to a qualified high school senior. Candidates will be considered and the recipients selected based on applicants' ability to achieve their highest aspirations' through personal advancement, education and philanthropic service.

MNLICA Scholarship Application Form: Must be Post Marked by March 1st

Applicant Information

Applicant name: _____

Home Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home phone _____ Email _____

Parents _____

MNLICA Member Sponsor _____

Education & Accomplishments

High School _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Graduation Date _____

Organization, Clubs and Special Activities _____

Honors, Recognition and Awards _____

Cumulative GPA _____

College/Technical School Planning to Attend _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Expected Graduation Date _____

Instruction:

1. Write an essay (300 words or less) describing you're academic, vocational goals and objectives and why you should receive this scholarship.
2. List your major course of study include high school transcripts.
3. Include 3 (three) letters of recommendation from your community, school or other adult non-relative.
4. Include a wallet size picture (2"x3" or equivalent), with the understanding that award recipients will be featured in the MNLICA newsletter.
5. Application must be completed and mailed to MNLICA office on later than March 1st. Incomplete applications and ineligible students are automatically disregarded.

Applicants Signature _____ Date _____



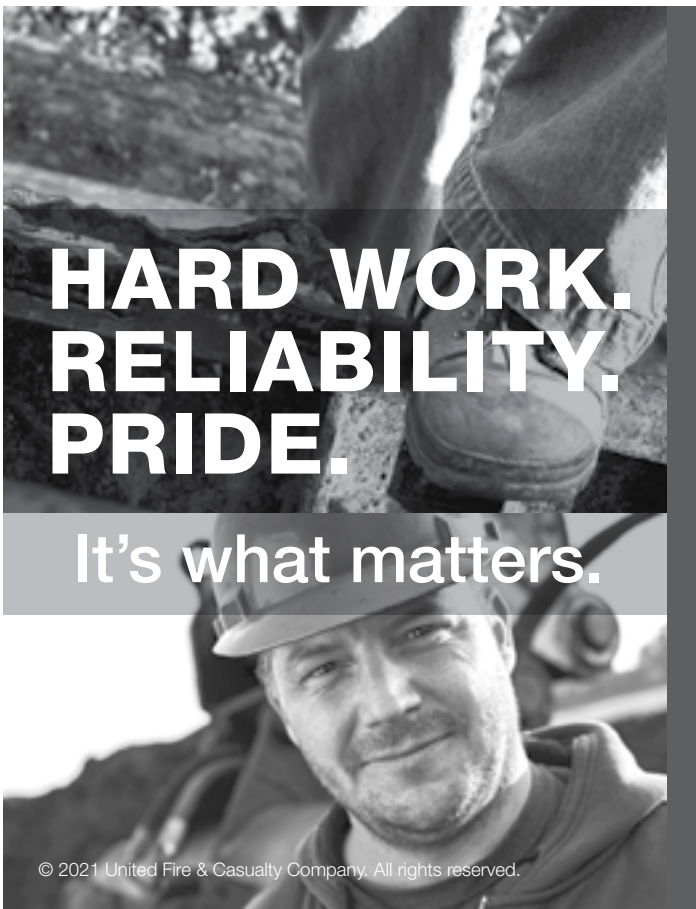
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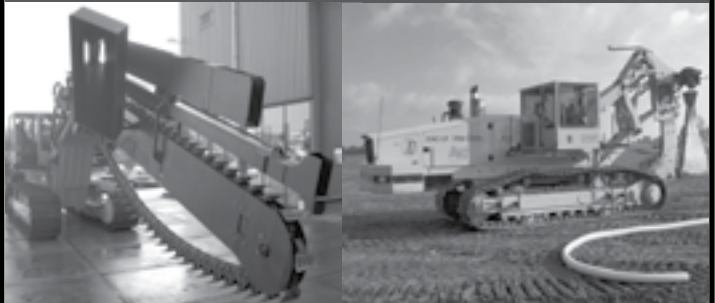
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2023 MN LICA CONVENTION

BEAN BAG TOURNAMENT



BEAN BAG TOURNAMENT WINNERS: (Left to Right)
1st Place: Robert Sayer, A & E Const. Supply and Matthew Casper, Acre Nexus. 2nd Place: Bruce Mosier, Prins Ins. and Jeremy Misselhorn, Misselhorn Tiling & Exc. 3rd Place: Jesse and Sarah James, James Bros. Const.

Thank you to Mark Morreim for organizing and keeping track of the Bean Bag Tournament !!!



2023 TRADE SHOW



PRESENTATIONS AND SPEAKERS



SSTS CERTIFICATION



DRAIN TILE SAFETY COALITION PRESENTATION



ALLISON AND CAROLINE FROM NATIONAL LICA



ATTORNEY JOHN KOLB, RINKE NOONAN LAW FIRM



DOT—OFFICER PROKOSCH



DAN BLOCK, NRCS

PRESENTATION BY TIM WEIDENBACH, DIRECTOR OF HIGHER POWER SPORTS.
Tim gave a very impactful presentation on a how just a quick look at your cell phone can cause a tragedy that will change the life of a family and yours.



MNLICA'S 2023 Annual Meeting held Friday, January 13, 2023



***Board members Re-elected:
Everett Garlisch and Dee Ann Larson***

2023 Contractor of the Year Dee Ann Larson, Landscape Gal



Dee has been very active in MN LICA as well as National LICA. After graduating from University of MN Waseca and working for several other companies, she started her own landscaping business. She does the designing, bidding, as well as installing. She also handles all the bookkeeping and setting up jobs for the next year. She can operate a dozer, an excavator, skid loader and dump truck. She is truly a Hands on Boss. CONGRATULATION TO DEE ANN.

(Below)

Her mom Nordis excepted the award for her at the banquet.



2023 Associate of the Year Mike Kluck, WA Group



Mike has only been with MNLICA for a short time, but has gone above and beyond for this organization. Mike's enthusiasm is truly contagious. Mike is always willing to jump in and help as needed. Mike helped organize MNLICA's participating and volunteering for the "Day of the Dozer" event which raises funds for Children's Hospital. Mike is determined to make sure everyone knows what LICA is about and why they would benefit from becoming a member. CONGRATULATION!



2023 AWARDS

President's Award

This year a new award was established by the board of directors. It is the President's Award. This is for individuals who may not be members, but have contributed to MNLICA.

The individual chosen for the first President's Award is Mark Dittrich of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. Mark was raised on a dairy farm near Plainview, Minnesota. In 1993 he began working for the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. He serves the agency's drainage and outreach expert and is known for his creative approach to problem solving and building partnerships. He has attended many MNLICA events, and encouraged, listened to, and educated many of the members. Mark often represents the MDA at the Drainage Work Group meetings. He and his wife Margaret have two children, four grandchildren and though he lives in the cities, he returns to the family farm as often as he can.



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MNLICA Issues at the State Capitol

Plans are being made to visit the Minnesota State Capitol on February 8th. Here are a few issues

Concerning Drainage:

Some environmental groups are pushing legislature to establish a drainage registry. This is for public ditches, also known as Judicial or County ditches. It would require the drainage authority to submit information for maintenance actions, as well as repairs. After submitting the information to an agency like BWSR or DNR, there would then be a comment period, during which no work could begin.

MNLICA holds that NO REPAIRS should be required to report on a registry. Since these actions are returning a system to an “as designed” capacity, it is not changing flows or output.

At this time, no language has been introduced and there are no house or senate file numbers.

Senate File 2 and House File 2 are intended to change paid time off for employees. If these bills pass and are signed by the governor, a new agency will be formed and a new tax will be assessed on employers. This program would allow for up to 26 weeks of paid time off for things like medical issues.

The Minnesota Chamber of Commerce brings up the points that employers are already struggling to fill job openings while operating in one of the most regulated business climates in the nation.

MNLICA holds that overregulation and high tax loads make operating in Minnesota prohibitive.

Recreational marijuana is again a topic for the legislature. A number of groups oppose the passage of legislation that will cut prosecution for marijuana usage, some stating that this will make our roads more dangerous. Promoters say that making marijuana illegal doesn't work.

MNLICA contractors are required to have safe work sites and to monitor their drivers. Legalizing recreational marijuana takes our state in the opposite direction.

These are a few of the issues that are of concern to MNLICA members. If you see any other issues to be addressed, or would like to meet your legislators at the state capitol, please contact Mark Morreim, Stu Frazier or Jenny Breberg.



RINKE NOONAN

attorneys at law

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Farmers, landowners, and land improvement contractors are becoming increasingly aware of the legal and permitting challenges created by wetlands, drainage, and conservation compliance. Working with a team of attorneys experienced in navigating the DNR, NRCS, Corps of Engineers, EPA, U.S. FWS, and county and local governments regulations adds value to the success of your project.



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Executive Director's Report

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

We are off and running in 2023! Thank you to everyone that attended the Convention. Although I don't get to attend a lot of the sessions, I am sure a lot was learned. I appreciate all the help from the board members during the convention, it takes a lot to put one together. I would encourage everyone to get to a Convention there is much to see and much to learn.

We were able to schedule an MSHA Refresher Class on January 25th.

Again, a great big thank you to Loken Excavating & Tiling for hosting. There are plans to have an OSHA training yet this spring so watch for that. I will send out information, put it on Facebook and on the website. I will be attending the National LICA Winter Convention in Las Vegas. Then it will be time for a new newsletter, board meetings and planning for the Scholarship Fundraiser in the fall.

Please remember, if you have a child that is graduating high school or one of your employees does, make sure to get the scholarship application in by March 1st. Also, apply for the National LICA Scholarship, it is available on the National LICA website.

As always if you have something for the newsletter, send it to me!

Jennifer Breberg, Executive Director



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MSHA CLASS - JANUARY 25TH, IN OWATONNA THANK YOU TO LOKEN EXCAVATING & DRAINAGE FOR HOSTING THE EVENT!

The MSHA class this year saw 71 attendees. It was great to see such a good turnout. A great big thank you goes to Loken's for all the preparation and setup to hold such an event. The refreshments and food were planned by Dallas, Ladonna and the staff. MSHA Certification training is required each year.



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Name: _____

Spouse: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Cell: _____

Email: _____

Type of Business: _____

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Retired Member	\$ 50.00

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- ◆ Space Pen



2023 CONVENTION ENTERTAINMENT

COMEDIAN JOHN DEBOER

Convention goers were treated to the comedy of Comedian John DeBoer during our Banquet Thursday evening. Thank you to Advanced Drainage Systems for Sponsoring!

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1/2 (8 OZ.) PKG. CREAM CHEESE

1 C. CHOPPED HAM

DIRECTIONS:

STEP 1: Place potatoes, celery, onion, chicken stock and parsley into slow cooker. Season with salt & pepper. Set Cooker on High, and simmer until vegetables are tender, about 2 hours.

STEP 2: Whisk flour with milk in bowl until smooth. Pour into slow cooker and stir until thickened. Cook on High for 2 more hours.

STEP 3: Mash Potatoes in the slow cooker to your desired thickness and consistency; stir in cream cheese and cooked ham. Simmer soup until cream cheese has melted, soup is thick & creamy and ham is heated through, 30 minutes to 1 hour. ENJOY!!!



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Membership: Benefits: Applications:

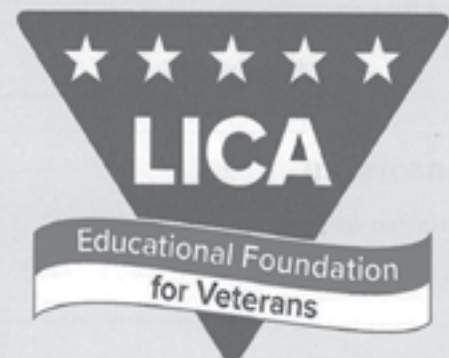
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**Scholarship Application: Ladies
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Prolonged time spent working in the cold may result in serious occupational ailments, such as frostbite, hypothermia and trench foot.

Working Safely in Cold Weather

Winter weather poses a number of safety risks, particularly for employees who spend a lot of time working outdoors. Prolonged time in the cold may result in serious ailments or even death. Injuries and illnesses associated with exposure to extreme cold include:

- **Frostbite**—This condition occurs when the skin is exposed to cold or windy weather or comes into contact with cold objects or surfaces. Common symptoms include numbness; red skin with gray, white or bluish patches; hardened skin; and skin that blisters after being warmed.
- **Hypothermia**—This condition occurs when your body temperature drops below 95 degrees Fahrenheit. Symptoms include shivering, confusion, brain fog, slow breathing, low energy or fatigue, bright red skin, loss of coordination and slurred speech.
- **Trench foot**—This condition occurs when the foot is exposed to wet and cold temperatures for a prolonged period of time. Common symptoms include swelling; numbness; cold, blotchy and red skin; itching or burning sensations in the foot; and a feeling of heaviness in the appendage.

Any employees who can't avoid working outdoors in cold temperatures may be at risk of these ailments. The likelihood of cold weather-related injuries and illnesses may be heightened among workers who take certain medications, are in poor physical condition or have specific health problems (e.g., diabetes, high blood pressure and heart disease). To keep yourself safe while working in cold weather, consider the following tips:

- Wear several layers of loose clothing.
- Ensure your ears, face, hands and feet are protected.
- Wear waterproof and insulated boots.
- Take frequent, short breaks in warm areas.
- Drink hot beverages and eat warm, high-calorie foods before working and during breaks.
- Learn the signs and symptoms of cold weather-related ailments to help identify them in yourself and among co-workers on the job.

Talk to your supervisor for more information on working safely in cold weather.



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Safety Alert

Highwall Safety

Since CY 2012, falling rocks and materials from hazardous highwalls have resulted in 9 mining fatalities and 27 serious injuries.



A miner was fatally injured at a surface coal mine while operating a front-end loader to remove shot rock near the base of a 63 ft. highwall.



A miner was severely injured while working near the base of an approximate 65 ft. highwall. The miner was struck by loose, fractured and overhanging rocks.

Best Practices

- **Develop and follow a plan** for the safe control of all highwalls where miners work and travel in close proximity to the highwall.
- **Train miners to recognize highwall hazards.**
- **Conduct highwall examinations** and assure hazards (loose rocks, overhangs, trees, etc.) are taken down or supported prior to work or travel near the highwall. Examine more frequently after rain, freezing and thawing.
- **Scale highwalls** to eliminate hazards, e.g. loose rocks or overhangs. Perform scaling from a position that will not expose miners to injury. Until hazards are corrected, place warning signs or barricades to prevent entry.
- **Restrict highwall height** to allow available equipment to safely scale the highwall. If benching is necessary, provide adequate bench width based on the type of equipment used for routine clearing or scaling operations.
- **Develop blasting plans** and use proper blasting techniques. Examine highwalls after blasting.
- **Remove trees, vegetation, and unconsolidated material** a safe distance from the top edge of highwalls.
- **Never park equipment, perform maintenance or store materials beneath highwalls.**
- **Use diversion ditches or slope the ground** so that surface runoff drains away from highwalls.

Report accidents and hazardous conditions: 1-800-746-1553

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2023 Board Member Meeting Attendance

<i>Area/Director</i>	Jan	March	June	Aug	Dec
Pres Stu Frazier	P				
VP Dallas Loken	P				
Tres Mark Olsen	A				
Chrmn Steve Vis	A				
Mark Morreim	P				
Karlen Nelson	A				
Everett Garlich	P				
Brad Herickhoff	P				
Mike Lehmann	P				
Doug Breberg	P				
Dee Ann Larson	A				
Jesse James	P				
Don Loken	P				
Assc. Tim Dahl	P				
Assc. Mike Kluck	P				
Ex Dir Jennifer Breberg	P				

A = Absent P = Present C = Cancelled Meet

OFFICERS**PRESIDENT**

Stuart Frazier
Stu Frazier Tiling
2776 200th Str
Canby, MN 56220

VICE PRESIDENT

Dallas Loken
Loken Excavating & Drainage
3695 Hoffman Drive NW
Owatonna, MN 55060

TREASURER

Mark Olsen
Big Woods Excavating LLC
12825 190th Street East
Nerstrand, MN 55053

CHAIRMAN of the Board

Steve Vis
Vis & Van Dyken Drainage LLC
685 30th Ave
Beaver Creek, MN 56116

MNLICA Executive Director

Jennifer Breberg
2570 130th Str
Dawson, MN 56232
mnlica2@gmail.com
Phone: 320-226-6398

NATIONAL LICA

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

AREA STATE DIRECTORS**Directors:**

Mark Morreim
Morreim Drainage Inc.
71610 263rd Street
Albert Lea, MN

Everett Garlich
Eiden Farm Drainage
35127 746th Avenue
St. James, MN

DeeAnn Larson
Landscapgal LLC
3343 Union Lake Trail
Northfield, MN 55057

Jessie James
James Brother Construction
43963 43rd Str., PO Box 59
Elysian, MN 56028

Retired:

Don Loken
Loken Excavating & Drainage
3695 Hoffman Drive NW
Owatonna, MN 55060

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

Brad Herickhoff
Ag Tech Drainage, LLC
40536 US HWY 71
Sauk Center, MN 56378

Michael Lehmann
Air-Row Surveying LLC.
19184 State Hwy 22
Mankato, MN 56001

Doug Breberg
Larson Tiling, Inc
812 Oak Street
Dawson, MN 56232

Associate:

Tim Dahl
Advanced Drainage systems

Mike Kluck
WA Group

2023 UPCOMING EVENTS MNLICA

Web-site: www.mnlica.org

OSHA Training—TBD

**March 1st, 2023—MNLICA Scholarship Application must be
 Postmarked**

**March 9th, 2023—Spring Board Meeting—Best Western Plus, New Ulm
 at 5:00 p.m.**

March 11-13, 2023, National LICA Winter Convention, Las Vegas, NV

March 14-18, 2023 CONEXPO, Las Vegas, NV

June 15th, 2023, Summer Board Meeting, TBD

July 11th—15th, 2023 Summer National LICA Convention, Lincoln, NE

August 17th, 2023—Fall Board Meeting—TBD

September 2023—Scholarship Fund Raiser Event—TBD

December 7th, 2023—Winter Board Meeting—TBD

**January 10th, 11th and 12th, 2024—Winter Convention—Best Western
 Plus, New Ulm, MN (Tentatively)**

**February 13th—17th, 2024, National LICA Winter Convention—
 Virginia Beach, VA**



MNLICA

2570 130th Street
Dawson, MN 56232

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THE LICA CREED

*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.*