



MNLICA

NEWS

Land Improvement Contractors of America • Minnesota Chapter

WISCONSIN PLASTIC DRAIN TILE COMPANY GOES PINK FOR CANCER AWARENESS

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MNLICA STATE CONVENTION The Award Recipients for 2011



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and
Nordis Estrem



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"Contractor Wife of the Year"

Left to right:
Nordis Estrem,
Kevin Bakken
and
Jan Loken
"Dedication & Service to MNLICA"





GREETINGS

From Your
PRESIDENT

To my fellow LICA members,
Last night I had a dream. Seems almost fitting to have a dream. It was the Saturday night before the LICA convention, January 15th, 2011, Martin Luther King weekend. Myself being a leader like Martin (but in a smaller way to a smaller group of people and not being a public speaker thought maybe I should just write it down on paper and not give a speech.) I think my dream might have come from a bigger dream that Nordis had about having a national convention in Minnesota. If you're going to dream, why not dream big! Well, I'm pretty sure Nordis's dream is going to come true. The National Convention is in Rochester, Minnesota, July 13—16, 2011 at the Downtown Kahler Hotel. I think all this information is correct but it's hard to be sure because this is only a dream. One would think on the night before the convention I would be dreaming about that, but you know Jan and Nordis are so organized and such hard working gals that my small mind just didn't come up with a dream. It's all set up and they basically think of everything. Besides that I usually don't dream about older women (except for my wife).

As with any night's sleep in our house around 3:00 a.m. nature calls. Off to the bathroom half asleep. Remember those organizational skills. Let's see now, turn on the light, lift the lid, flush, and lower the lid. In that order only. Back to beddy bye.

Where do I go with this dream? I can't get that summer convention out of my mind. The field day at Bruce Bucknells pit on July 13th, 2011. Why did I volunteer, what if it doesn't turn out. What if no one comes, what if it rains all day or worse yet a tornado comes along and blows the tents over. What if it's 110 degrees in the shade? What a nightmare. Where do all these ideas come from? Wait a minute, this is my dream and I can do what I want with it. Let's push away all the bad thoughts. Oh yes, things are becoming less jumbled. Clearer and clearer, we have a committee that's working on this. Hum, it's not a last minute operation. Great! I'm starting to love this dream. I'm envisioning a tent with trade show displays, equipment to jump on and try out, backhoes, skidloaders. What a great place Bruce Bucknells pit is for a field day. David Gustafson is there giving a talk on septic systems in Minnesota. LICA members from all over the USA are there and their nice people; just like the ones from Minnesota. But the best thing of all is that there are lots of members from Minnesota at this event. They are all working together and proud to be LICA Minnesotan's and willing to share what we know about septic systems and equipment. Oh, wait a minute now. For a second I thought I saw a Minnesota Vikings football player. This must be my wife's dream! What a crazy dream. Oh wait someone's giving me the elbow. What, am I snoring too loudly? No its Jeanie, my wife, time to get up and go to the convention. I'm tired; dreaming is hard on a person. I sure hope we can live the dream. Please help with the national convention on July 13—16th, 2011 so our dream can come true.

Don't forget the Winter National Convention in Las Vegas on March 20th and 21st, 2011 with Con-Expo following that week. We hope to see you there.
Respectfully yours,
Kevin Bakken
President MnLICA

To access what is going on with legislative and other
Issues and meetings, please go to the following site:

MnLICA Web-Site; www.mnllica.org
Or e-mail Nordis Estrem at
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Make the Right Moves Early in Your Business

You worked hard to create a successful, respected business. The opening moves of your exit strategy plan will ultimately help determine your final financial victory.

Many professional advisors suggest putting a succession plan in place at least five years before you intend to retire...10 years may be even better. In fact, some recommend that an exit strategy be built into the initial business plan.

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**NLRB plans rule promoting more union rights.
John Peterson, LICA
Director of Government Relations.**

Most private employers, such as LICA member business owners, would have to display posters informing workers about their rights to form a union under a proposed federal rule that is bound to please unions and draw the ire of companies trying to resist labor organizers.

The planned rule, announced on Dec. 21st, 2010 by the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), would require businesses to post election notices in employee break rooms or other prominent locations to explain workers' rights to bargain collectively, distribute union literature, or engage in other union activities without reprisal.

The move to issue a broad rule signals a more aggressive posture by the labor board, which usually makes policy on a case-by-case basis in individual labor-management disputes.

It comes less than a year after the president made several recess appointments to give the board its first Democrat majority in a decade. His appointments to the board were held up for months over Republican concerns that one nominee, former AFL-CIO counsel Craig Becker, would be too sympathetic to unions.

As unions struggle to get Congress to pass pro-labor legislation, union leaders are increasingly looking to the labor board and other federal agencies to help reverse what they view as an increasingly hostile atmosphere for organizing new members.

Unions are trying to reverse years of membership declines in the private sector, where just 7.2% of employees belong to a union. I would be interested in knowing how many of our LICA members are unionized. I expect for some LICA members, that may depend on where the job is.

Source: *Political Scene*, The Washington Times, Dec. 22, 2010, p A4.

GOPHER STATE ONE-CALL
2020 Centre Pointe Blvd
Mendota Heights, MN. 55120

On January 1, 2011, Gopher State One-Call has implemented two new websites for excavators & facility operators. These new websites are available for you to submit tickets electronically to the call center a search for ticket status & Positive Response.

No registration is required to search for tickets. Registration is required to submit tickets on line, with early registration now open. Training videos are available for both sites through the links provided below.

NEW E-TICKET SITE

Please visit www.gopherstateonecall.org/eticket-training to:

- View the training video
- Complete your early registration
- Practice submitting tickets

NEW TICKET SEARCH SITE

Please visit www.gopherstateonecall.org/search-prs-training to:

- View the training video
- Practice submitting tickets

If you have any questions about the E-Ticket or Search Ticket sites, please contact the GSOC Transition Hotline 952-697-4299 or e-mail gsoctransition@korterra.com.

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WINTERTIME DRIVING

1. **Be able to see and be seen:** Clean snow and ice off windshield and windows. Also clean off all lights and reflectors.
 2. **Check your tires:** Tires with deep treads are important on slippery roads. Also check the air pressure of your tires.
 3. **Increase your following distance:** Winter surfaces increase stopping time.
 4. **Brake before curves:** Turn your steering wheel slowly and keep a constant speed in the turn. Pump your brakes if it is necessary to brake or stop.
- These are just a few things you can do to be a safer driver, for more information look in the LICA Contractor Safety management Plan .

BETTER THAN EVER BEEF ENCHILADAS

Kraft Food & Family

- 1/2 pound extra lean ground beef
- 1/2 cup chopped green peppers
- 1/2 cup chopped red peppers
- 2 cups Salsa-(divided)
- 1 cup shredded Sharp Cheddar Cheese (divided)
- 2 Tablespoons Zesty Italian Dressing
- 8- 6 inch corn Tortillas
- 2 Tablespoons chopped Cilantro (fresh)

Preheat oven to 400 degrees.

Cook meat and peppers in skillet until browned. Add 1 cup of Salsa; simmer 3-4 minutes. Remove from heat and stir in 1/2 cup cheese.

Spread 1/4 cup Salsa onto bottom of 9x13" glass baking dish. Brush dressing lightly over both sides of tortillas. Stack 4 of the tortillas and wrap them in a large sheet of waxed paper. Microwave on high for 20-30 seconds. Immediately spoon 1/3 cup of meat mixture down the center of each tortilla; roll up. Place, seam side down into dish. Repeat with the remaining tortillas and meat mixture. Spoon the remaining 3/4 cup Salsa evenly over filled tortillas; cover with tin-foil.

Bake 20 minutes. Uncover; top with remaining 1/2 cup cheese. Bake additional 2-3 minutes.

Top with Cilantro

Serves 4

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BE AWARE!

It has been brought to our attention there is a letter being sent out using the name of the U.S. Department of Transportation in Washington D.C. It will claim that your company is registered as a prospective contractor for procurements by them but states after reviewing the records you have not submitted your financial information. There is an authorization for release of financial information sent with it and a request to fax it back. **DO NOT** fill it out. Call the authorities and report the SCAM!

ZIP-LOCK OMELET

The night before have each person write their name on a quart zip-lock bag with permanent marker. Crack 2-eggs into the bag; shake to combine the eggs. Put in ham, green peppers, onion, tomato, salsa, cheese, whatever you want; even hash-browns. Zip bag shut and shake ingredients. Make sure to get the air out of the bag. In the morning place bags into rolling, boiling water for 13-15 minutes. For 6-8 omelets use a 5 quart pan. Open the bag over a plate and the omelet will roll out.

Mention Wetlands, Drainage or Permits and Someone will Mention Rinke Noonan.

Landowners are becoming increasingly aware of the difficulties in dealing with wetlands, drainage and acquiring permits. The DNR, NRCS, Corps of Engineers, county and local governments all may have interests that must be addressed.

Our work involves wetlands, drainage, and other water related issues, permits — areas of law that are constantly changing and becoming more specialized.

If you're facing a challenge in any of these areas, or are wondering if you could benefit from legal help, call Kurt, John or Gary at (320) 251-6700.

RINKE NOONAN
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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KURT DETER

JOHN KOLB

GARY LEISTICO

ADMC

By Harold Reetz
Executive Director

This has been a good year for Ag Drainage in many ways. The Midwest weather this growing season has certainly helped show the value of a good drainage system. Corn yield differences of 100 bu/A in neighboring fields comparing pattern-tiled to no tile 40-acre tracts have been reported here in central Illinois. The weather also cooperated this fall in many areas to allow early harvest and field work, so that there was a good opportunity to install new drainage systems. Managed drainage is getting a lot of attention in the farm press for its potential value in both improving yields and reducing losses of nitrates into downstream water bodies. More stories will be coming this winter. Preliminary look at ADMC's 3-year CIG project results indicate some positive messages to come from that work as well. We hope to do some follow-up work to add to those results. USDA-NRCS, USEPA, and related state agencies and other organizations are taking a more serious look at agricultural drainage management as they formulate their programs for the coming years. So far, most of that is positive for drainage and for agriculture. Over the years we have worked to install improved drainage systems to get water off the fields fast enough to reduce water damage to crops. That still remains a high priority and there are many acres yet to be drained. More recently, the ability to manage that drainage through various control structures has drawn more attention, and will likely be more of a factor as we look ahead. Ag drainage articles in national press, such as New York Times and Wall Street Journal, have brought more public attention to drainage issues. I think we can do a lot to build on that attention and interest to make it a positive force for our programs. ADMC is working with government agencies at the state and national levels to provide facts on the new research and technology developments. We are also working with the farm press to help get the word out on the value of improved drainage systems and of managed drainage systems. We are developing training modules to help bring contractors, NRCS, and others up to date with the latest information, to teach farmers the value to be gained from managed drainage, and to show the general public how we are working to reduce negative impact on water resources. ADMC has an important role to play in getting the word out! Over the winter months, I plan to attend as many of the local meetings of LICA and other groups as I can to get better acquainted with the drainage industry and those of you who make it work. I want to get your input and guidance on how ADMC can best serve your needs, and get your ideas on research, demonstrations, and training that we can provide

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

It may be true that the law cannot make a man love me, but it can stop him from lynching me, and I think that's pretty important.

Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.

In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends.

WISCONSIN PLASTIC Drain Tile

WISCONSIN PLASTIC DRAIN TILE is a family owned and operated business. It was founded in 1972 by Gary A. Fish. To this day, he continues to be the Owner and President of Wisconsin Plastic Drain Tile. In 1972, he set up shop in a little town called Albion, WI. The company resided there until 1994. In 1994 we had outgrown our facility and moved to Jefferson, WI. This is the location where we currently manufacture drain tile for the commercial market, as well as the farm drainage industry. We produce drain tile ranging in size from 3" - 6", along with fittings in those sizes. Wisconsin Plastic Drain Tile also carries a full inventory of single wall tubing in sizes up to 18" and dual wall/smooth wall tubing in sizes up to 48".



In 2009, we again felt the need to expand our shipping capabilities. In October, we opened an inventory distribution yard just outside of Jesup, IA. We currently maintain a large inventory of 4", 5" and 6" drain tile at that location. We have employees there that are able to deliver truckloads to meet the needs of our customers.

We maintain a fleet of seven (7) tractors and eleven (11) trailers. We continue to add trucks and trailers to our fleet in order to accommodate the continuing demand of our customers for quick and timely deliveries.



If there is anything that we could do for you or answer any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our sales staff at 800-362-6642 or locate us on the web at www.draintile.com. We plan to be at the State Convention in January, please stop by the booth and see the ladies in pink.

GARY A. FISH

CIG**Executive Summary**

The field evaluation of drainage water management (DWM) for Midwestern row crop agriculture was completed by the Agricultural Drainage Management Coalition and its partners from the five states of Iowa, Minnesota, Illinois, Indiana and Ohio. The project entailed four paired field evaluations in each of the five states. The partners on this project included Purdue University, Iowa State University, Ohio State University, USDA Agricultural Research Service, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, University of Minnesota and University of Illinois.

Drainage water management uses water control structures to raise the effective height of the water table, thereby managing the amount of drainage from a field. DWM is a practice that shows great promise for reducing nitrate loading in the Midwest while maintaining drainage intensity during critical periods of the crop production cycle. This project demonstrated the impact of managing water table depths to reduce nutrient transport from subsurface drains during the fallow season and to reduce water deficit stress during the growing season. Changing the stop logs in the DWM control structure during the year is subject to the timing of the spring field operations and completion of fall field work. NRCS Practice 554 specifies a 30-day window for changes in the water table levels. All of the field evaluations were operated like the producers' normal farming operations with the exception of managing the control structures in the drainage systems.

The 20 field evaluations included data on nutrient reductions, crop yields, profitability, and timing of drainage water management, precipitation and drainage outflows from each field plot. The results from the different plots helped highlight the regional differences from state to state and, in some cases, fields within a state.

The state tables in this report list precipitation, drainage outflows, nutrient reductions and crop yields. Profitability of DWM is hard to quantify due to the inconsistency of yield information. However, a table of estimated installation costs and an equation to estimate annualized costs of implementation are included in this document.

The variable that could not be controlled in this project was precipitation—when it was received and the amount received. Precipitation was compared to the 30-year average at each location.

All of the field demonstration sites were retrofits with the exception of the Windom site in Minnesota which was designed specifically for drainage water management. Using retrofit drainage systems was somewhat challenging because the area of DWM impact was not always maximized and the tile installation maps were not always accurate. Some of the sites do not have any nutrient or yield data for 2007 year because their systems were being installed that year.

In reviewing the data from the individual state charts, it is apparent that reductions in nitrate outflow of 20 to 60% can be achieved, depending on the amount of precipitation received and when it occurs. There appears to be greater reductions in the southern part of the Corn Belt vs. the northern Corn Belt.

This may be due to the frozen soils in the northern Corn Belt during the fallow season.

To implement this practice, a producer or landowner needs a good set of topographic maps in 6-inch contours to develop a plan for DWM. Many producers are already collecting this information through the use of GPS equipment on their tractors, combines or field sprayers. Sometimes this information can be supplied by a custom applicator of agricultural inputs or a drainage contractor with GPS-enabled equipment. With a good topo map, field map, existing tile maps and soils information, a technical service provider or drainage contractor trained in DWM design could produce a DWM system for the producer or landowner.

Recommendations

It is feasible to retrofit existing drainage systems up to 0.5% grade. Estimates of drained acres that will accommodate DWM could exceed 10 million acres or more. If DWM designs were incorporated into the designs of new drainage systems or drainage systems that are being replaced because they are deteriorating, a greater percentage of each field could be utilized. By placing the drainage mains up the slope and installing the lateral drains across the slope, and using new, high-technology in-ground controls to manage the water table, DWM could be installed on grades up to 2%. This would increase the estimated drained acreage by an additional 50 million acres. The estimated cost of designing and installing a new system for DWM is 10% or less of the total drainage project cost. The economics of including upgrades to new system on a per-unit cost of nitrate reduction should be included in cost-share funding.

The size of the main dictates the coefficient of a drainage system, but the lateral spacing of the drainage pipes determine the level of the water table. One area of concern is the perched water table halfway between the lateral drainage lines. The perched water table can be reduced by using a smaller diameter pipe spaced closed together without changing the drainage coefficient. This would create more uniformity and allow producers to change the control settings to as much as 10 days prior to or after field operations, thereby reducing the total amount of outflows.

Though DWM can be used as a stand alone practice, producers could use it as one of a suite of drainage management practices that can also include constructed or natural wetlands, saturated buffers, bioreactors and crop production practices that can reduce nutrients and flows from the landscape. Many of these practices can be installed at the edges of fields to reduce impacts on cropping.

In order to provide the technical support needed to assist landowners and producers, a network of private and public trained personnel needs to be a high priority for implementation. ADMC's Conclusions The three-year DWM demonstration program yielded important insight on the environmental benefits and the practicalities of controlling drainage, as well as outreach efforts that made more than 1 million impressions on farmers, drainage experts and members of the environmental community through farm forums, outreach and publications. Even challenges encountered in quantifying yield effects provided important perspective on future study and observation of the practice.

View full report online at www.admcoalition.com.

Congress is Broken.**By****John Peterson, LICA Director of Government Relations**

For a long time I have been convinced that many of our members of Congress got into their positions with no experience that would have helped them become capable legislators. Recently I was reading an article by Raj Shah who made that same point. This notion I am sure will be a bit controversial. Many LICA members have expressed this same concern to me.

Our Congress seems unable to deal with the real pressing issues; fiscal stability, immigration, and education reform have been crippled by partisan bickering. Our faith in Congress has reached an all-time low. According to a recent Gallup Poll, Congress ranked 16th out of 16 institutions in public confidence, trailing even Wall Street and health maintenance organizations. The public no longer thinks Congress has the capacity to act in our nation's long-term interest. A lifetime of campaigning is a poor substitute for true leadership earned through real-life experiences such as business ownership or military combat. Why is it that we cannot seem to elect better candidates?

Examining Congress today sheds light on the situation. Congress, of course, is made up of individuals, 535 people with varied experiences, intellects, ideologies and motivations. Historically this body was a true cross section of our nation's citizens, with individuals rising up to elected office only after successful careers in business, private law, military service, or distinguished academic accomplishment (note I said "distinguished."). But recently we have seen the rise of a career political class whose resumes are filled exclusively with "public service" and election management for other politicians. Their only work has been in politics.

Also, the average tenure of our elected representatives has lengthened. An average tenure of a little more than 5 years in office just a century ago has more than doubled to 10 years in the House of Representatives, and almost 13 years in the Senate. When you add in the typical decades spent in elected office at the state and local level for the average professional politician, it's easy to see why many in Congress have spent their entire adult lives campaigning. I don't believe our national government needs professional politicians with no real-life experience. The issues we face today require genuine leadership and perspective gained through what Shah calls "clarifying experiences," experiences in which decisions made have real, life changing consequences for the person making them. Sadly, many in Congress today also lack integrity.

Shah believes 2 professional situations are particularly clarifying: meeting payroll as a business owner and service in military combat. Successful farmers and ranchers are business owners. (And the incoming Chairman of the House Ag Committee is a successful rancher from Oklahoma, Representative Frank Lucas.) The risks in each are significant: losing ones business or employees, or losing one's life or limb. The leadership skills learned from successfully navigating these challenges is invaluable and not easily gained elsewhere.

Our nation today cries out for leaders who have real leadership experience. Nothing accelerates the attainment of leadership and prioritization skills quite like an enemy's bullets or a looming payroll deadline; both require absolute clarity of thought and action. Unfortunately few members of our current Congress have faced either. Although 21% of Congress has some military affiliation, just 5% have ever served in an active combat zone. That is awfully low given our presence in Southeast Asia and the Middle East. It will improve a bit in the 112th Congress. Business experience is only a little better. In the Senate just 20% of members have business experience, while 50% are former lawyers, many in public service.

I think that somehow we need to break the monopoly that lifetime politicians have on Congress, and once again install citizens who have cut their teeth in the genuine experiences of meeting payroll as business owners, farmers or ranchers, or military combat. We need leaders and not career politicians. Unfortunately, many of our fellow citizens have come to depend on government largess and the handouts they get from those career politicians who seem to think there is an infinite supply of money. How do we change this? I never thought I would ever favor term limits for Congress, but I am rapidly moving in that direction. One undesirable aspect of term limits is we would lose some really good legislators, like Rep. Lucas, when their terms were up. What do you LICA Members think? I would love to hear from you.

Reference: Shah, Raj, *Congress lacks clarifying moments: America needs leaders with real-life experience*, The Washington Times, Nov. 26, 2010, p B3. [Mr. Shah is a partner at Federal Systems and recently returned from deployment to Iraq as an F-16 pilot.]

WISCONSIN PLASTIC DRAIN TILE

The Wisconsin Plastic Drain Tile Company has 8 tractors and the company has a new color in their name. The new color is PINK. They have a PINK "Tiling for Ta-Ta's stringer trailer which was made in Morgan, MN by Wayne's Inc. They rent it out and the proceeds go to the American Cancer Society in support of Breast Cancer Awareness for the Midwest Section. They have one trailer in Wisconsin and in the spring another will be in Jesup, Iowa at their inventory lot.

During the past couple of years some of Gary's family, close friends, employees and customers have been stricken with this awful disease. It was then decided that we wanted to have a hand in providing donations to help support treatments and/or find a cure and the PINK trailers were born. In 2011, Wisconsin Drain Tile is donating 1% of the sales to the American Cancer Society.

If you wish to rent one of these trailers just call Dee Williams at 920-674-3332 in Jefferson Wisconsin.



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NATIONAL AND MINNESOTA HAVE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Minnesota LICA has two \$1000.00 scholarships for graduating Seniors from High School. MnLICA's scholarship is for members children, grandchildren and employees children (employed at least 6 months). The form is found at www.mnlica.org or you can call Nordis Estrem at **507-649-1771** or e-mail dnestrem@frontiernet.net.

National LICA is offering eight \$500.00 scholarships to students of any year in college or a graduating high school senior going into college in the fall. You may go on-line to www.nlica.org; call **630-548-1984** or e-mail allisonnica@aol.com.

Both scholarship forms are due to the correct offices by March 15, 2011.

Upcoming Extension Drainage Events
Tri-state agricultural drainage forum set for Jan. 26 in Brookings

BROOKINGS, S.D. – An informational forum on agricultural drainage will be held on Jan. 26 at the Swiftel Center in Brookings. The one-day event costs \$30 per person for those who preregister or \$40 for walk-ins at the door, which includes lunch. Seating will be limited, so pre-registration is highly encouraged to ensure that you have a seat. To register, contact the Brown County Extension office at 605-626-7120 or e-mail the office at this address: Brown.County@sdstate.edu.

The forum will be an all-day event beginning at 8 a.m. and ending by 5 p.m. Topics will include drainage fundamentals; permitting, legal, and wetlands issues; drainage impacts on hydrology and water quality; climate impacts on drainage; and conservation drainage practices.

For convenience, an online registration form that participants can fill out and submit electronically is available at this link: <http://www.sdstate.edu/sdces/districts/north/1/agronomy.cfm>. The link takes you to an SDSU webpage, and there, click on the “Tri-State Drainage Forum Registration” choice to pull up the form. Participants can make payment at the door by cash or check.

The South Dakota Cooperative Extension Service, North Dakota State University Extension Service, and University of Minnesota Extension collaborated to make the forum possible.

The forum is intended for farmers, contractors, government agency staff, consultants, industry, land and water resource managers, and others interested in learning more about agricultural drainage issues. Extension Water Management Engineer Chris Hay said that with the flooding and wet conditions over the past few years, many producers are considering subsurface drainage. “For producers considering drainage improvements and others interested in agricultural drainage, this will be an opportunity to learn more about drainage basics, permitting, and some of the issues associated with drainage,” said Hay. Call Hay for more information at 605-688-5610 or e-mail him at this address: christopher.hay@sdstate.edu.

Agricultural Drainage Design Workshop Set for Wahpeton on Feb. 23-24

A Drainage Design Workshop will be held in the Tech Center, Room 87, on the campus of the North Dakota State College of Science in Wahpeton on Feb. 23-24. The workshop is a collaborative effort by the University of Minnesota Extension, North Dakota State University Extension Service and South Dakota Cooperative Extension Service.

Planning topics include legal aspects of drainage, basics of drainable soils, agronomic considerations, what to think about if considering doing your own tiling, land evaluation tools and regional rainfall trends.

The design topics begin with basic design considerations and progress through small-team projects. There will be several hands-on problem-solving examples covering basic design and layout principles, water flow calculations, tile spacing, sizing and tile grades. Design factors for lift stations and conservation drainage practices also will be discussed.

The registration fee is \$200, which includes lunch, course materials and refreshments. Class size will be limited to 50 participants, so preregistration is required. Participants must register online at <http://www.regonline.com/2011Subsurface> by noon, Jan. 28. The fee after Jan. 28 is \$225.

For more information, contact Tom Scherer at (701) 231-7239 or thomas.scherer@ndsu.edu. Other contacts are Gary Sands, University of Minnesota Extension, (612) 625-4756, grsands@umn.edu, and Chris Hay, South Dakota Cooperative Extension Service, (605) 688-5610, christopher.hay@sdstate.edu

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By Jenna Fortier

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DIRECTORS REPORT

The MNLICA state convention was a success thanks to all Who attended, brought and purchased items at the auction to support our Legislative issues.

I would like to especially thank all the Associated who had a booth at the Tradeshow or Sponsored a meal or a break. YOU are SPECIAL! MNLICA appreciates your generosity!

MNLICA will be hosting a MSHA and Adult First Aid, CPR classes in two locations. Red Wing is on March 8 and Northfield is on March 9, 2011. We hope you take advantage of this training resource.

Forms are available from Jean Bakken or Nordis Estrem if you misplace the form mailed to your business.

MNLICA is hosting the National LICA summer convention from July 13-16, 2011 in Rochester, MN. WE NEED YOUR HELP! Please volunteer to ride a pre-tour bus or take tickets or help set up or tear down at the Bucknell's Pit for a Field Day with machinery and exhibits.

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March 9, 2011

**Dennison (Kevin Bakken Shop: 9600 S. Dennison Blvd. Northfield, MN) 507-645-6905 or 612-328-2784
Red Wing, MN (Colville Park Aquatic Center, 480 Mymphara Lane (Off 7th Street So E)) 651-388-9234**

The training will be from 7:30 a.m.—5:30 p.m.

Cost per person: \$100.00 for LICA members. \$125.00 for non-member

Lunch & Breaks included

Safety Training will include the following topics and **meet the requirements for: MSHA Certification; Adult C P R and First Aid Training**

For more information please contact:

MNLICA; Jeanie A Bakken

Bakken Excavating LLC

9600 South Dennison Blvd, Northfield, MN 55057

Office: 507-645-6905

E-Mail: bakken4957@gmail.com

Cell: 651-343-5866

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To register please fill out the form below and return it to: MNLICA, 9600 South Dennison Blvd., Northfield, MN 55057 by February 15, 2011

Name of Company: _____

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MNLICA CONVENTION

Thanks to all the Associates and Members who attended the 2011 MNLICA State Convention at our new location. The Best Western Hotel was great. The layout fit our Tradeshow and we had room for trainings and the group seemed to have a good time as usual.

Say a special thank you to the sponsors of the events when you call upon your sales representative. The following sponsored and or had a booth: ADMC; Advanced Drainage Systems Agri-Drain; A & E Construction Supply; Carlson Tractor & Equipment; Century Plastics; EEP; Federated Ins.; Greater MN. Gas Inc; Hancor, Inc; Mackenzie Agency; Maring Auction Services; McPherson Crop Management; Mid-Tech Services; MN. Department of Ag; MN. Soybean Growers; Northern Natural Gas; Northland Trenching & Equipment; Port Industries; Precision Intakes, LTD; Prins Ins; Prinsco, Inc.; RDO Equipment Co; Rust Sales; St. Joseph Equipment Co; Willmar Precast Co; Wisconsin Plastic Drain Tile Corp; Ziegler/Cat.

Congratulations to the recipients of the awards; Associate of the year Roger Kolbet; Mid-Tech Services; Sherry Gysbers the Contractor Wife of the year; Doug Gysbers Contractor of the year. Jan Loken received a plaque for Dedication & Service to MNLICA.

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2011 UPCOMING EVENTSMNLICA Web-site: www.mnlca.org**2011**

March 8-9	MSHA, 1ST AID; Adult CPR	Red Wing, Dennison
March 20-21	National LICA Convention	Las Vegas, NV Riveria Hotel
March 22-26	Con-Expo	Las Vegas, NV
March 31	Spring Board Meeting	Bakken Residence
July 13-16	National LICA Summer Mtg.	Kahler Grand, Rochester
September	Scholarship Golf Outing MNLICA Board Meeting	to be determined



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