



**2010
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LICA NEWS

April 2010

Iowa Members attend National LICA Annual Membership Convention

Iowa LICA members had a great time at the National LICA Annual Membership Convention in Phoenix, Arizona. National President, Bruce Barnhart, did a great job serving National LICA. We can all be proud of

the work he did. Bruce and his wife, Shelley, traveled all over the nation serving the association.



Steven Miller of Iowa was elected as Region IV VP at the Region IV meeting. Steve has done a great job for the Region, and everyone there applauded his efforts.

Iowa had the largest number of delegates at the convention. Iowa delegates were: Leo Reiken, Randy Liddle, Mark Erpelding, Frank Tuma, Doug Egeland, Merle Gronwald, Maretta Grattan, and Shelley Barnhart



It was great to go to a place with blue sky and 75 degree weather. It was hard to leave Iowa for a few days of this weather!

Randy Liddle, Iowa LICA State President, was the big winner of the National LICA Raffle. He won \$5000.00! Randy then donated



\$1000 to the LICA Building fund and \$1000 dollars to National LICA. He gave the balance to his wife, Dee! Thanks Dee and Randy from Iowa LICA.

Jacob Barnhart, Bruce & Shelley Barnhart's son, won \$500. **Way to go Iowa!**

Iowa LICA Members Visit with Local Representatives at Capitol



On March 4, Iowa LICA members visited the State Capitol in Des Moines, Iowa to talk with their representatives and senators. Pictured on the right are Leo Rieken, Worthin and Maretta Grattan, Dan Rasmussen, Mark Erpelding, Dee and Randy Liddle, John McBride, and Gene Blazek. We were very fortunate to meet many of the legislators before they recessed for the day.

Representative Annette Sweeney had time to talk to members about funding for conservation projects for the upcoming year. The Department of Agriculture will be taking another big hit in

this year's budget.

Although funding for conservation practices may be there, we may be having more problems getting work designed and checked out. Some employees may be laid off or not replaced. Representative Sweeney is pictured third from the right.



After their visit to the Capitol, members went to Ankeny to meet with representatives from the NRCS, DNR, and IDALS. We had a very productive meeting. Much of the discussion was about the budget and what we could expect in this spring and summer. Also, we talked about the next Midwest Construction Expo and Field Day which will be held in 2011. Everyone is on board to help out.

Members talked to DNR and IDALS about the process we needed to go through to get a pond build on the farm in the future. It was decided that we would meet at the farm this summer to discuss the process. It is hoped that representatives from DNR, IDALS, the Army Corp, and EPA will be there to help us through the process. This should be educational????

Iowa LICA March District Meeting

Thanks to Jerry Witt and all the Ziegler Team who put on a great district meeting for LICA



members and others on March 4, 2010. Ziegler representatives gave presentations on new Cat equipment and their commitment to make the contracting business safe, productive, and profitable. After the meeting, members had a big lunch and tours of the Ziegler Cat facility in Altoona, Iowa.

Educational Opportunity for 2011 Field Day

I recently received this email. I couldn't resist putting it into the newsletter. I think any of us who have had the pleasure of doing tile repair will enjoy this. Also, do we have any takers on putting on this demonstration? I think there are a lot of good ideas in these few paragraphs. I think the author of this had kind of a bad day----but just so he knows----many of us have been there.

Here's maybe an idea for the field day, go a couple of months ahead of time and dig up several lines and smash them, cover it up again and then give demonstrations at the field day as to how to even get there let alone fix it and get it to work again, it would be great if it were a 8 or 10 inch main having flooded acres for several months ahead of time.

There's got to be a better way to go about fixing these nightmares than how we are doing it, burying my equipment in waist deep soup and creating a small swimming pool before finding the line to drain, digging a channel to let the water out somewhat. Installing new is nice but maybe it's time to give demonstrations on troubleshooting and repair and how to overcome everyday problems that arise with plugged, smashed, gopher eaten, root filled, connection exploded, outlet plugged lines.

Maybe it could be a spectator sport with lawn chairs-- kinda thing where everyone sits around and says, "Yea let's see how the experts do this and make it work". Announce in the agenda that it'll take place at a secluded corner of the farm, and it'll be at a designated time. Have a roundtable discussion as to how to fix it and then give a demonstration as to getting it done. Just an idea for something different to have at field day other than watching half a million dollar plows put tile in at 30 ft centers on dry ground.

It could be a circus, but in real life it is with safety always a concern and to figure out how to safely do these tasks. Last year, it was a real topic of conversation when the tile plow got stuck. I'd like to see how to safely pull these things out when they are sunk above the tracks 200 ft from solid ground and get it out without killing someone from a cable breaking or chain snapping. Maybe even get the safety director involved as to how to do these things safely. The trench box demonstration was good, but it was on dry ground with stable banks. How about using a soupy water filled hole that you can't see in, or am I the only one working in these conditions? Just a thought anyhow.

2010 Iowa LICA State Committee Chairs:

Drainage/Wetland	Roger Schoon	Legislative	Bruce Barnhart
Education	Steven Miller	Membership/Awards	Doug Egeland
Excavating/Earthmoving	Jay Detterman	On-Site-Waste	Randy Liddle
Insurance/Safety	Linda Moyna	Public Relations	Tim Wahlert
Ladies/Devotions	Dee Liddle	Underground Utilities	Eric Gamm

If you have information or a problem that needs to be addressed, contact one of the committee chairs listed above, or call the LICA office at 877-334-9884 and your information will be forwarded to the committee involved.

North to Alaska

Last Call----If you have waited to make up your mind on this trip----you have only a few days left! I have talked with Lynn Dixon, LICA Travel Guide, and we must make up our minds NOW! The ship is filling up and all the rooms in the LICA block must be surrendered. If you want to go contact Lynn Dixon right now.

You will make your **reservations** with Lynn Nixon at lynix1@cox.net or at Big Dog Travel 602-795-0747. As soon as you confirm, a **20% deposit** is required. **Final payment** is due June 1, 2010.

You can take family, friends, or whoever you would like on this trip; it is not limited to Iowa LICA members. Our trip is to Alaska with **Princess Cruises**. You have an option of a **Cruisetour** – August 30 to September 11, 2010 – or a **Cruise** – September 4 through 11, 2010. The cruisetour will start at Fairbanks with a riverboat cruise, then take a train to Denali staying at the Denali Princess Wilderness Lodge and to Mt. McKinley, staying at the McKinley Princess Wilderness Lodge. You then travel to Whittier(Anchorage), where you board the Diamond Princess Cruise ship. You will cruise to Hubbard Glacier, Glacier Bay, Skagway, Juneau, Ketchikan, and end at Vancouver.

Prices for the Cruisetour (Double Occupancy) plus taxes: (notice a slight increase in 3rd and 4th passenger rates)

	Per Person	3 rd Passenger	4 th Passenger
Cat. J Cabin	\$1912	\$1448	\$1448
Interior cabins – no windows			
Cat. F Cabin	\$2212	\$1648	\$1648
Oceanview cabins with obstructed view			
Cat. EE Cabins	\$2612	\$1648	\$1648
Oceanview cabins			
Cat. BC Cabins	\$2762	\$1748	\$1748
Cabins with Balcony			

The prices for the Cruise only (Double Occupancy) plus taxes:

Cat. J Cabin	\$777	\$477	\$477
Cat. F Cabin	\$1077	\$677	\$677
Cat. EE Cabin	\$1477	\$677	\$677
Cat. BC Cabin	\$1627	\$777	\$777
Cat. BB Cabin	\$1667	\$777	\$777

One additional cost that I was not aware of is you pay for the meals during the “Tour” part – the first five days. Additional cost would be you **airfare** which would be approximately \$1000 round trip. Also recommended is **trip insurance** which averages about \$86 per person, but depends on the age of the passenger. You will need a **passport** as you will be departing the cruise in Vancouver, British Columbia. In addition to this, you can take **side trips** at any of the cities for an additional cost. You can look at the sidetrips online.

If you would like to check information on the internet, search for “Princess Cruises.”