



**2010  
Iowa LICA Officers and Staff**

**Chairman of the Board**  
**Leo Rieken**  
712-825-5886

**State President**  
**Randy Liddle**  
319-275-4528

**State Vice-president**  
**Gene Blazek**  
563-238-7150

**Safety Director**  
**Linda Moyna**  
319-635-2908

**Web Site Director**  
**Sheryl Brown**  
319-627-4232  
[www.ialica.com](http://www.ialica.com)

**Executive Director**  
**Dan Rasmussen**  
319-240-2420

**Iowa LICA**  
1310 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. N.E.  
Independence, Iowa 50644  
319-334-9884  
Cell 319-240-2420  
Fax 319-334-6095  
Email [ialica@indytel.com](mailto:ialica@indytel.com)

## Greetings from your State President

My wife, Dee, and I have just finished attending the district meetings. We met in Kingsley, Avoca, Oelwein, and Iowa City. There was good information at all the meetings, and the attendance was great. We all want to thank our sponsors for helping out at these meetings.

The meetings consist of communication and safety with your employees and a whole lot more. Committees meetings and membership are always talked about. We usually lose a few members each year so, we need to gain a few just to maintain the same amount. It's not hard to get new members, but we all need to keep trying. Another thing is when the chairperson of the committee meeting calls for help, please help out. If anyone has concerns on any subjects, just contact those chairpersons and they will get the information you need to you. The names of those chairpersons are in the front of your new directory.

It is always interesting to me to drive in different areas of the state. I like to look at geographies of land from hills, rocks, and to flat areas. I am a farmer as well as a contractor and this time of the year I am always looking at the corn and soybean fields. A lot of the times Dee should be doing the driving.

We have a lot of events this summer: our summer board meeting in July at Melbourne where most of our Winter Convention plans are decided; the National Convention in Peoria; Farm Progress Show with a booth in Boone, Iowa.

In closing, I would like to thank the state for donating toward the goal of Zach. He is my son and will be running across Iowa using majority of the 2010 Ragbrai course. Run For Life will be known as the name of his run, and he is teaming up with the American Cancer Society and Lance Armstrong Foundation. This will happen July 21- July 30. He will be leaving four days ahead of the bikers and will hopefully finish a day before the bikes arrive at the east side of Iowa. He will have to average 40 miles a day, and it will take him 10 days to run. In April of this year, he finished the Boston Marathon Race and ran in many local 5-K races as well. So if you live somewhere close to the course, you can join him and run for a few miles with him.

Thanks again, Randy and Dee Liddle

### **Iowa LICA Summer Board Meeting**

**Call 1-877-334-9884 or email me at [ialica@indytel.com](mailto:ialica@indytel.com) to confirm your reservation.**

Our Summer Board Meeting will be held at the LICA Farm near Melbourne on Sunday, July 11, 2010, at 12 o'clock noon. **Steak sandwiches** will be prepared by Steve Neuzil. Plan to bring the whole family and look over the new wetland. One of the main topics at the Summer Board meeting is deciding on what topics to have at the Winter Convention. If you have ideas on educational topics, let us know.

## **Iowa Drainage School**

July 27-29, 2010

Borlaug Learning Center, Northeast Research and Demonstration Farm, Nashua, Iowa

### **Purpose of the Drainage School**

To train stakeholders in sub-surface drainage concepts, planning and laying out drainage systems including surveying a profile, laying out the system, calculating tile line sizes and spacing using actual field data, making connections, and setting up drainage control structures, NRCS & IDDA regulatory considerations, and fixing common drainage system issues.

### **School format**

This is a three-day school with each day including a combination of hands-on training, lecture and discussion, and problem solving using examples. By attending this school, participants will be able to plan and layout subsurface drainage systems and workout estimated project costs.

### **Who should attend?**

drainage contractors

professional engineers and consultants

NRCS professionals

county administrators

landowners

IDDA officials

anyone interested in subsurface drainage design and maintenance

To get more information on this school go to: [www.aepiastate.edu/ids/homepage.html](http://www.aepiastate.edu/ids/homepage.html)

## **Stream bank Stabilization Workshop August 2-4, 2010**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District Regulatory Branch, is pleased to announce a stream bank stabilization workshop August 2-4, 2010. This year's workshop will be held at the Polk County Conservation Board's Chichaqua Longhouse, which is located at 8700 NE 126th Ave., Maxwell, IA, 50161

The workshop is designed to address the common issue of stream bank stabilization and ways to minimize it, stop it, and improve the streams in Iowa. The workshop is targeted at any professional that has struggled with ways (other than dumping a load of broken concrete over a riverbank) to stabilize stream banks, improve stream bank habitat, protect critical infrastructure, improve riparian wetland habitat adjacent to streams and rivers and many other issues. This will be a great three day event, and you and your agency should benefit from your attendance. The best part, it is FREE!!!!!! Space is limited to the first 60 people.

Call Albert Frohlich if you have any other questions at 309-794-5859 or go to the Iowa LICA website at [www.ialica.com](http://www.ialica.com) for more information and registration materials.

## Winners of NW District Mini Excavator Competition



Dee Liddle won the Women's Division  
Gene Blazek was first, Steve Miller was second,  
and Roger Schroon was third.

Elaine Todd, President of the Northwest District, with the help of her sons and daughter and employees of Bohle Construction did a great job of setting up this event. We also want to thank Sooland Bobcat of Sioux City for the donation of the mini excavator. We hope to have them as new associate members soon.

Gene Blazek blazing through the course in record time!!!



Bruce Mosier of Prins Insurance gave a presentation at the **NW District** meeting of a new health insurance product for Iowa LICA members and their employees. More information on this program will be coming in the near future. This new program will make it easier for you to shop for all types of health insurance programs and other types of insurance. Tom Bushman of Bushman Insurance and Real Estate from Ossian made the same presentation at the **NE District** meeting.

Members of the **SW District** were met by this old gentleman as they entered the **Farmall-Land USA** museum.



Members had the opportunity to look at hundreds of Farmall equipment from the past. The buildings were packed with everything you could imagine that was made by Farmall or International, including refrigerators!

The **SE District** meeting was held in Iowa City with a tour of **County Materials** new concrete pipe manufacturing facility. It is hard to believe that 3 men can operate the entire production of large concrete pipe. The work is done by robots.

We want to thank all the sponsors of the June district meetings:  
**Prins Insurance, Inc.; Agri Drain Corp.; Mid Country**

## Machinery; Prinsco; and Road Machinery and Supply, Inc.



*I am sure you all recognize this. Hopefully, the weather will be a little better the rest of the summer. I took this picture while we were on our way to a parade. Needless to say, the parade was cancelled!*

**Looking ahead to the future.** I will be meeting with representatives of the Division of Soil Conservation, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, and Army Corp of Engineers on Tuesday, July 6 at 11 AM at the LICA farm near Melbourne, Iowa. The purpose of the meeting is to find out what permits LICA will need to build a pond on the site in 2013.

## Iowa Farm Progress Show

This year Iowa LICA will have a display at the Farm Progress show near Boone, Iowa. The show dates are Tuesday, August 31, Wednesday, September 1, and Thursday, September 2. The show times are 8 AM to 5PM on Tuesday and Wednesday and 8 AM to 4 PM on Thursday. Region IV VP, Steven Miller, is in charge of the display and needs your help. Setup for the show is on Monday, August 30. He could sure use at least one person to help him get things ready for the show. Iowa LICA will be in the same tent as the NRCS, IDALS, DNR, FSA, CDI, Trees Forever, and Iowa Rural Water Association and a couple others. This is a great opportunity for Iowa LICA to let people know who we are.

We also need a few more volunteers to help out during the show. If you would be able to help out, give me a call at 319-240-2420 or send me an email at [iowalica@indytel.com](mailto:iowalica@indytel.com).

## **Drainage and Wetland Pilot Project**

On Wednesday, June 23, 2010, I was invited to attend an informational meeting on a new project that we hope will start real soon. This project is called, "Iowa Drainage & Wetland Landscape Systems Initiative."



"Agricultural producers in the tile drained landscape of Iowa are facing demand for increased production of food, fuel, and fiber while reducing the environmental impacts of production practices and enhancing other ecosystem services including water quality and habitat. It is increasingly clear that these challenges are best addressed using an integrated systems approach at watershed scales. We propose to establish a series of small watershed scale landscape laboratories within which ecosystems services can be evaluated using and integrated systems approach."

To put this in my words: What this plan is trying to find out is if the subsurface drainage of the land is increased and drained into a constructed wetland, will we decrease the surface runoff and remove nitrates from the tile water. I guess we already know that this should work, but is it economically feasible? Of course, it is a little more complicated than that. We may have someone explain it more at the January Annual Meeting and Convention.