

MARCH 2023

OLICA NEWS

LAND IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTORS OF AMERICA • OHIO CHAPTER



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A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Greetings,

I hope this newsletter finds each and everyone of you well. Please allow me to introduce myself. My name is Doug Nieman with Nieman Excavating Company in Wayne County, Sterling, Ohio. Since being elected to be your 2023 OLICA Organization President, I know I have some tall boots to fill, as my predecessors have done an amazing job. Thank you Dave for serving us as our 2022 president. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with you during my Vice Presidency.

We again held our state winter convention at the beginning of January 2023, and it was a success and very enjoyable. Thanks to all who participated in this event. It is great to catch up with everyone. A special thanks to our associates. Pat and Amy thank you for organizing this special event. All members and associates, please let us know your input for any changes for future conventions.

Besides the week of Christmas, it has been a fairly mild winter with only a handful of days, the ground was froze enough to get on to. Hopefully, everyone caught up in the shop or elsewhere. Spring will be here before we know it, and things will be back into full swing.

I would like to wish everyone, their families, employees, and co-workers all a safe and successful year. I would like to personally invite all of you to please reach out to me or any other board member, with input on any ideas or concerns to help keep this great organization thriving. We are all called to be good stewards of this great land in which God has entrusted us with. Take care of the soil and it will take care of you. Thank you for the honor to serve this chapter.

Doug Nieman
OLICA President
(330) 466-0882

LICA Vision Statement

LICA will be an effective partner to its members supporting their capability in assisting landowners and users in the stewardship of our nation's precious natural resources by providing leadership and training, improving communications, promoting sound financial management, and providing representation to federal, state and local legislative bodies on natural resource issues.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S NOTES

OLICA held a successful 2023 Winter Convention this past January. The convention consisted of a cornhole tournament, educational seminars, associates night, awards luncheon and ended with our annual member meeting. Our annual associates night scholarship auction was a huge success. We raised \$8,850 for our scholarship fund. Thank you to those who donated items to the auction and to those who purchased items. We had a good turnout, but there is always room for more. Denny Osting, Haviland Drainage, was elected by the associates to serve as Associate Liaison. Election of Directors was held at the annual meeting. Shawn Kirian, Terry McConnell and Dave Schwieterman were re-elected to serve another three year term on the board. Doug Niemen will serve as your President, Nick Bower was elected as Vice-President and Shawn Kirian was re-elected to serve as Secretary. Congratulations and thanks to all for your willingness to serve.

2023 NATIONAL LICA SUMMER MEETING

The 2023 National LICA Summer Meeting will be held July 11-15, 2023 at The Graduate Hotel, Lincoln, Nebraska. The Graduate Hotel is in the Historic Haymarket District, which boasts shops, galleries and a wide variety of restaurants and bars. The area is very walkable and consists of beautifully renovated 19th century brick warehouses. Members will also be close to many attractions including the University of Nebraska State Museum, tour the Cornhuskers' Memorial Stadium, visit the beautiful Sunken Gardens, Lincoln Children's Zoo and so much more.

OSU LIMA BRANCH FIELD DAY

Plans are in the works to hold a field day at the OSU Lima Branch. As we are still in the planning stages, the scope of the work and the date are to be determined. As additional details become available they will be posted on our website and Facebook pages.

2023 FARM SCIENCE REVIEW FIELD DAY

This year's Farm Science Review Field Day will be held September 19-21, 2023 at the Molly Caren Ag Center, London, OH. We are always in need of volunteers to help out at the field day, so please mark your calendar's now. We cannot have a successful field day without YOU. Any and all help is greatly appreciated.

2024 OLICA ANNUAL WINTER MEETING

Plans are already underway for our 2024 annual meeting, which will be held January 2-4, 2024 at the Embassy Suite, Dublin, OH. We encourage all members to attend the winter meeting. This is your meeting, so if you have any topics you would like to see covered at the meeting please email Event Director, Pat McConnell at tpmc76@yahoo.com or myself at ohiolica@gmail.com

THANK YOU for being an Ohio LICA member.

Continue to stay healthy and work safely.
Amy Gerten, Executive Director

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WHERE'S DIGGER

Congratulations to Emma Overla, granddaughter of Paul and Cathy Pullins, Pullins Drainage & Excavating LLC for winning a \$50 VISA gift card. Her name was drawn from the individuals who found Digger in the last issue.

Digger is hidden within the pages of this issue. When you find him send his location to OLICA's Executive Director at

ohiolica@gmail.com

by April 15, 2023. Your name will be entered into the drawing for a \$50 VISA gift card.



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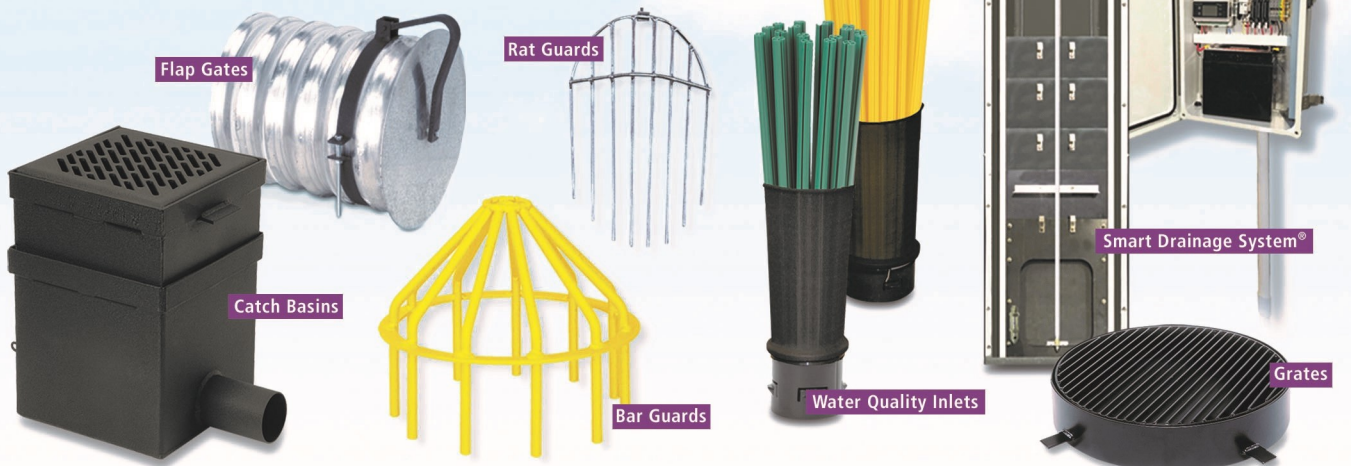


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Dan Wagner
Wagner Farm Drainage
Bucyrus, OH 44820

Derek Nicol
Nicol Drainage
Marysville, OH 43040

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Todd Schaeffer
Todd Schaeffer Equipment LLC
Marion, OH 43302

Jerry Frantz
Meredith Brothers, Inc.
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068

Wyatt Kissell
Bane-Welker Equipment
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Rick J. Santa
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CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



Laurel Gomersal, daughter of John & Rebecca Gomersal, J.A.G. Lawn Maintenance & Landscaping is a student at Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama. Laurel is working towards her goal of becoming a professional sport team athletic trainer. She has always dreamed of being on the sideline of a professional team and having the opportunity to provide medical care to athletes of such high profile is the perfect combination.

Gavin Lochard, grandson of Paul & Cathy Pullins, Pullins Drainage & Excavating is a student at Edison State Community College and will be transferring to The Ohio State University in the fall to finish his bachelors degree. Gavin is pursuing a degree in agriculture. His ultimate goal is to run his own ag business. His grandfather, uncles and parents run their own businesses and that has shown him that the hard work he puts in will pay off.



Madelynne McKelvey, granddaughter of Larry & Sue Orr, Orr Construction is currently attending Youngstown State University and will be transferring to Aultman College in the fall of 2023, where she plans to major in Radiography. Her goal is to become a Certified Radiology Technician. Madelynne has known since she was very young that she wanted to be in the medical field and work in a top tier hospital.

Joseph Metzger, grandson of Bob & Jan Featheringill, R F Farm Drainage/ Retired is a student at the University of Cincinnati. He is currently a fifth-year mechanical engineering student and will graduate in the spring of 2023 with a Master's in Business Administration and a minor in robotics and automation. Joseph has done two co-op rotations with Siemens Digital Industries Software and is expecting a full-time offer from them.

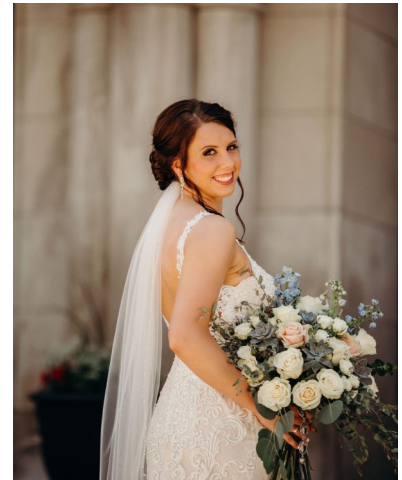


CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



Nathaniel Metzger, grandson of Bob & Jan Featheringill, R F Farm Drainage/Retired is a student at the University of Cincinnati majoring in Electrical Engineering. Nathaniel has interned at Brookside Laboratories and is currently working at Siemens for his first co-op rotation. His current goal is to utilize the co-ops to learn more about Electrical Engineering, which will hopefully lead to a well paying job upon graduation from college.

Jennifer Tinnerman, daughter of Dave and Carol Schwieterman, Cy Schwieterman Inc. is a student at the University of Findlay. Jennifer is currently in her third and final year of graduate school, working towards obtaining her doctorate in physical therapy. A personal goal of Jennifer's is to improve the quality of life in individuals of all ages. She would like to specialize in pediatrics and help children with disabilities and after graduation would like to find a job working in an outpatient clinic closer to her home town.



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the silent partner of man,
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2023 OLICA Winter Convention



1st—Terry Gorman—World Insurance Associates, LLC
Kevin Shimp—Wolfe Heavy Equipment

2nd—Brendan Noggle—Fratco
Paul Liggett—Fratco

3rd—Justin Holmes—Reinhart Ditching & Repair, LLC
Luke Wilker—Nupco, Inc.



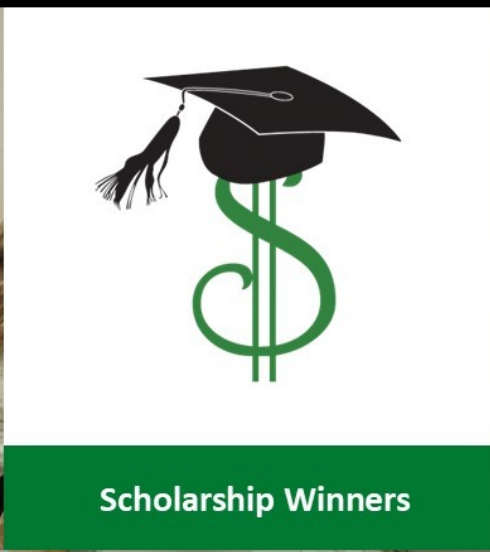
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2023 OLICA WINTER CONVENTION



Scholarship Winners



Congratulations Rick Galehouse for your 50 years of service to the Overholt Drainage School



Outgoing President Dave Schwieterman being recognized for his service



Passing of the gavel to OLICA's 2023 President Doug Nieman

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2023 OLICA WINTER CONVENTION



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Safety Matters

Accident Prevention

We all know that safety is important, but do you realize just how costly a workplace injury can be? When all is said and done, injuries can cost business owners hundreds of thousands of dollars. The extra expense to pay for injuries has a powerfully negative effect to a company's bottom line.

Why is profitability also an important issue to you? The only way that a company can stay in business is to operate at a profit, and that ability can be threatened by a serious workplace injury.

The Real Cost of Workplace Injuries

It may be surprising to hear that most companies do not have a high profit margin—3% is about average. Expenses take a large chunk of the income, and competition limits how much we charge for the products and services we provide.

Each time an accident occurs, the cost of the injury must be subtracted from profits. Consider the following two examples:

- At a 5% profit margin, an extra \$20,000 in sales or income is needed to compensate for a \$1,000 injury.
- If the profit margin is nearer to 1%, an additional \$100,000 worth of new income is necessary to maintain that profit level for the same injury.

As you can see, each adds up to a lot of extra sales just to compensate for a single injury. Plus, every time a worker gets hurt on the job, other employees are affected too. You may need to work extra hours to make up for lost production, the cost of insurance can go up, or the company may be forced to make difficult budget decisions such as cutting hours or jobs.

Also, recovering from an injury can mean time away from work, reduced compensation, painful rehabilitation and frustrating adjustments to daily life.

Practice Prevention

Though operating at a profit is essential to your success, your top priority is to keep your employees safe and healthy. That's why we are counting on you to help practice good safety principles. Safe work behavior will contribute directly to your bottom line as well as to everyone's job security. By observing safety precautions, we can limit on-the-job accidents.

It is always wiser to spend a bit more time doing the job safely than to risk getting a serious injury. Be sure to always follow safety guidelines and stay alert for unsafe conditions. Think of practicing good safety as both pain-free and profitable—a win-win situation for everyone!

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 Enjoy having immediate access to safety checklists, toolbox talks, webinars, newsletters, safety committee discussions, recordkeeping help, safety Q&A, articles, posters, and other resources.

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Client Portal Resources
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Custom Written Programs
 LSCI will work with your company to create custom written safety and health programs based on your industry, hazard exposure, and in accordance to OSHA's standards.

Mock OSHA Inspections
 Our highly qualified safety professional will come to identify hazards in your workplace, observe safety practices, and issue a report of their findings.

OSHA Inspection Assistance
 If your company is cited by OSHA, we can assist with the OSHA abatement process and provide representation at OSHA informal conferences. We've handled hundreds of cases!

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UPCOMING EVENTS

2023 National LICA Winter Convention • March 11-13, 2023
Harrah's Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas, NV

2023 CONEXPO CON/AGG • March 14-18, 2023 • Las Vegas, NV

2023 Overholt Drainage School • March 13-17, 2023
The Ohio State University ATI Campus, Wooster, OH

2023 National LICA Summer Meeting • July 11-15, 2023
The Graduate Hotel, Lincoln, NE

2023 OLICA Summer Picnic • Date TBD

2023 OSU Lima Branch Field Day • Date TBD

OLICA Farm Science Review Field Day • September 19-21, 2023
Molly Caren Ag Center, London, OH

2024 OLICA Annual Winter Meeting • January 2-4, 2024 • Embassy Suites, Dublin, OH