



March 2019

# KLICA News & Information

Kansas Land Improvement Contractors Association

## Meet KLICA

### KLICA Officers

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**Mike Loflin**

**Steve Peter**

**Randy Myers**

**Joe Schletzbaum**

**David Orear**

**Greg Thole**

**Keith Babcock**

**Associate: Dustin Ketchum**

**Jon L Ungerer**  
Executive Director

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Marysville, KS 66508  
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Clem Karlin presents the Lifetime Achievement Award to Paul & Joann Hettenbach.



Gabe Gantz, Nick Martin, & TJ Ryan receive Associate of the Year Award for ModernAg Inc.



## President's Message: James Fenwick

How do! Hope you all survived winter. Around here it was definitely interesting. We were flooded four times since September, we had two thunderstorms, thunder snow, blizzard like conditions, roads that drifted shut and below freezing temperatures all in the same week. All in all, it was just winter in Kansas.

I hope you are all doing well. As for myself and my family, we are all doing great and looking forward to spring. As spring and summer gets started, try to remember not to over book or overdo. I hope some of you take the time to go to the summer national in Portland. KLICA and LICA both have some great contractor benefits that you should look into and we are always on the lookout for new members and new ideas for the organization. We keep hoping to get a field day going but it does take a lot of planning and organizing.

It is early in the year and I don't have much to say, but I would like to thank our associate members for all their support. Due to personal reasons, I cannot make it to Iowa for the Prins Insurance meeting, but we will be well represented by Jon, Paul and Ringo (aka Clem). I hope you all have a safe, fun and productive summer.

James Fenwick, President

## Welcome New Members

The Kansas Land Improvement Contractors Association continues to grow and we want to welcome the following new members. Thank you for joining and we look forward to years of mutual benefit to your business and KLICA.

### Contractor Members

- **C.S. Carey Inc.** - Kansas City, KS  
Chris Carey & Kelly Carroll
- **William & Janie Glace** - Sabetha, KS
- **Earl Newbury Construction**  
White City, KS  
George Earl & Rebecca J. Newbury

- **Travis Hutton Lawn & Landscape, Inc.** - Gardner, KS  
Travis & Megan Hutton

### Associate Members

- **Citizens State Bank** - Marysville, KS
- **Landoll Corporation** - Marysville, KS

KLICA extends condolences to the families of Phil McCoy & Norm Rozendaal.



Phillip McCoy, Leawood, KS,  
passed away December 20, 2018.  
Phil was the President of  
Roadbuilders Machinery & Supply,  
Kansas City, KS.

Norman Rozendaal, Monroe, IA,  
passed away January 3, 2019.  
Norm and his wife Coretha owned  
Precision Intakes, Monroe, IA.



"To lose a friend is hardship, but to forget them is as if you died too."  
Unknown

# 2019 Annual Convention Coverage

## Convention Sponsors

Silver Level (\$1,000)

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**Northern Natural Gas**

**Precision Intakes LTD**

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Karen Woodrich  
NRCS State Conservationist



Gary LaGrange and Tim Heiman - SAVE Farm:  
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# 2019 Annual Convention Coverage

## Convention Exhibitors



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# 2019 Annual Convention Coverage

## Convention Exhibitors



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USDA/NRCS



**Kansas Land Improvement Contractors Association  
2020 Convention  
Set for Salina Hilton Garden Inn**  
Join us next year for the KLICA Annual Convention on  
January 26, 27, & 28, 2020  
At the Hilton Garden Inn Salina, KS  
See you there!

**National LICA Summer Meeting  
Set for beautiful  
Vancouver, Washington**



**2019 National Summer Meeting  
Hilton Vancouver Washington  
July 9-13, 2019**

\$165/night (plus taxes & fees)  
Reserve by: June 8, 2019

*Please note the room block fills up fast.  
Reserving close to the deadline does NOT  
guarantee you will get the discounted rate.*

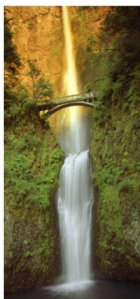
To reserve a room call or click below:  
Phone: (360) 993-4500 (Land Improvement Contractors)  
Booking link: <http://group.hilton.com/LandImprovementContractorsOfAmerica>

**Tuesday, July 9- Mount St. Helen's**



Stops at Silver Lake Visitors Center, Forest Learning Center and Johnston Ridge are in order. See the monumental devastation left by the eruption on May 18, 1980. The force of the blast flattened trees and destroyed nearly everything in its path. Come now and witness the rebirth that has occurred since that morning. Includes lunch.

**Wednesday, July 10  
Columbia River Gorge & Mount Hood**



Take in the breathtaking view from Crown Point Vista House high above the Columbia River. This tour passes several waterfalls, including Multnomah Falls. We will visit the Bonneville Dam and fish hatchery as well. From there we will visit Mt. Hood. Enjoy the beautiful alpine scenery while you make your way to Timberline Lodge. This National Historic Landmark features year round downhill skiing, and is the frequent training site of the U.S. Olympic Ski Team. Lunch is included.

**Tentative Agenda**

**Tuesday, July 9**

- Mount St. Helen's Tour

**Wednesday, July 10**

- Columbia River Gorge & Mount Hood Tour

**Thursday, July 11**

- Executive Director's Meeting  
- Educational Seminars  
- Associates' Night

**Friday, July 12**

- Committee Meetings

**Saturday, July 13**

- Board Meeting  
- Tour (TBA)

*More information is coming soon!  
Check the National LICA Website  
& Facebook for the latest information.*

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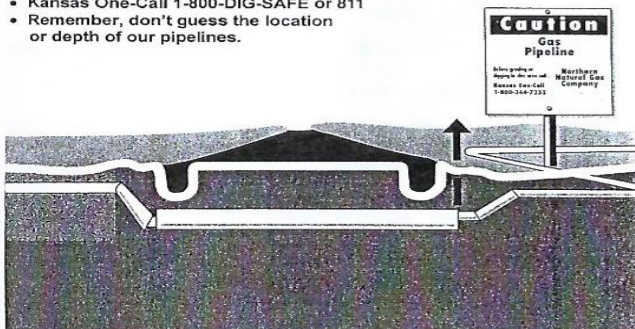


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## **Rambling Thoughts of an Executive Director:**

On a daily basis we hear the stories of what our neighbors to the north are enduring. We see the pictures and although they say a picture is worth a thousand words it is still nearly impossible to imagine the extent of what they have endured. The power of nature has exhibited herself once again and has shown that we are but pawns here on Earth. We also see stories of sacrifice and helping. People help their neighbors, they also help those they've never met and will never meet again. All that matters is ensuring everyone is safe and has shelter, food, and water. Once the safety of your family, neighbors, and strangers needing help is ensured attention turns to animals. While everyone thinks first of domestic pets many of those affected turn to their livestock. To the farmers and ranchers this livestock isn't just their livelihood and their future it is their life. Even though many of these farmers and ranchers are faced with the total loss of their facilities and infrastructure they still devote themselves fully to the animals that depend on them. They will spend untold hours and days without eating or sleeping until they know they have done all they can to save and care for their livestock.

There are the first responders, the law enforcement, fire departments and so many others not named who risk their lives to rescue others. Again, working for days without sleep or enough to eat they put the needs of others ahead of themselves to make sure the public is safe and sheltered. It might be their job but they make less money than many of those that depend on them for their help. But it's not about the money, it's about their dedication to their jobs and to the public they assist on a daily basis, not just during these times of great emergency.

The destruction. The devastation of what man has built. These are the effects that will last years, that some will see the rest of their lives. I saw Nebraska Farm Bureau estimates farm and ranch losses will reach \$1 billion in the state. Crop losses exceeding \$400 million and livestock losses up to \$500 million. Agriculture amounts to 20 percent of Nebraska's gross domestic product and provides one of every four jobs in the state so these losses will be seen and felt by all, urban and rural. According to Governor Pete Ricketts there is over \$449 million dollars of damage to roads, levees, and other infrastructure.

It took years for dedicated individuals to build and construct this infrastructure but just hours to destroy it. Sadly, many farmers, ranchers, and businesses will not recover from their loss. The years to build operations, herds, businesses will be just a memory. The general public will see their daily lives affected through the inability to use roads and bridges that were a part of their normal commute, the loss of residences and other buildings.

The youth of today will tell the story of the great flood/snowstorm of 2019. They will remember how it used to be before things were destroyed. But they will also see something else. They will see how it is then, a generation from now after it has been rebuilt. LICA contractors and other professionals will rebuild the infrastructure the public depends on in their daily lives, the levees, drainage systems, and conservation structures that urban and rural depend on for protection.

Farmers and ranchers will continue to feed the nation and the world. Businesses will come back and new ones will start up. Hard work, the willingness to help when needed, and a resilient attitude will move forward. Men and women who recognize that their efforts to improve and protect our interests while recognizing that ultimately nature is all powerful will do the best they can to make the future a better place.

# Proposed Waters of the United States Rule

The public comment period for the proposed rule will close on April 15, 2019. The proposed rule was published in the [Federal Register \(FR\)](https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2019/02/14/2019-00791/revised-definition-of-waters-of-the-united-states) on February 14, 2019. The federal register link is:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2019/02/14/2019-00791/revised-definition-of-waters-of-the-united-states>

The EPA website with information about the rulemaking process is:

<https://www.epa.gov/wotus-rule>

The following table was copied from a JonesDay article published March 6, 2019 and provides a brief comparison of the proposed changes.

Comparison of Existing Standards to Proposed Rule

Category	Post-Rapanos Agency Guidance	2015 Rule	Proposed Rule
Traditional navigable waters	Regulated	Regulated	Regulated as a single category with territorial seas.
Interstate waters	Regulated	Regulated	Not regulated unless within a different category.
Impoundments	Not regulated if they are constructed wholly in dry land.	Not regulated if they are constructed wholly in dry land.	Not regulated unless they impound waters that otherwise are navigable waters.
Tributaries	Regulated if flow at least seasonally. Also will regulate if not relatively permanent flow if a significant nexus to a navigable water is found.	Regulated so long as there are physical indicators of a bed and bank and an ordinary high water mark.	Regulated if river, stream, or other natural surface water channel that contributes perennial or intermittent flow to a traditional navigable water. Perennial means flowing continuously year round, and intermittent means flowing during certain times of year and not in direct response to precipitation. Ditches are only regulated if they are themselves: a traditional navigable water (such as the Erie Canal); a man-made alteration to a tributary; in adjacent wetlands.
Lakes and ponds	Not regulated if they are isolated.	Not regulated if they are artificial and constructed in dry land.	Only regulated if they are otherwise a navigable water, contribute flow to a tributary, or are flooded by an otherwise regulated water in a typical year.
Prairie potholes, Carolina and Delmarva bay, pocosins, western vernal pools, and Texas coastal prairie wetlands	Not regulated as a separate category.	Regulated if a "significant nexus" is found on a case-by-case basis to navigable water, interstate water, or territorial sea.	Not regulated as a separate category.
Adjacent wetlands	Regulated if bordering, continuous or neighboring, a navigable waterway. Includes situations where there is: (i) an unbroken surface or shallow subsurface connection, even if intermittent; (ii) physical separation by man-made dikes or barriers, natural river berms, beach dunes, or similar features; or (iii) proximity that is "reasonably close," such that they have an ecological interconnection with jurisdictional waters.	Regulated if they border, are contiguous with, or neighbor an otherwise regulated water. "Neighbor" includes certain areas of 100-year flood plains, areas within 100 feet of the ordinary high water mark, and areas within 1,500 feet of the high tide line.	Only regulated if they touch at one point or side an otherwise regulated water or have a direct hydrologic surface connection to an otherwise regulated water.



## On the Other Side of the Dozer Blade

by Margaret Smelser

The sun is in and out, teasing us into feeling that spring is coming, right on schedule. It's a quiet Sunday afternoon. Lloyd is in the basement, working on something; he can't be still very long.

I'm a little blue, thinking about our beloved friend and neighbor, we stopped to visit on our way to church. She is facing the choice of having heart surgery, very "iffy" at her 94+ years. We are close in faith, though she is Catholic, we are friends. It's hard to see this strong farm woman so frail. We've shared much through the years, laughter, tears, problems, concerns, and many, many prayers. Cherish your friendships, they are priceless.



Shall I mention mud? David has rocked some driveways and has more to do. Road rock is in short supply; Rusty said on one day there were trucks from five counties at the quarry on 92 Highway. David has had six burials: two horses, three cows, and one calf. Conditions in feed lots must be terrible.

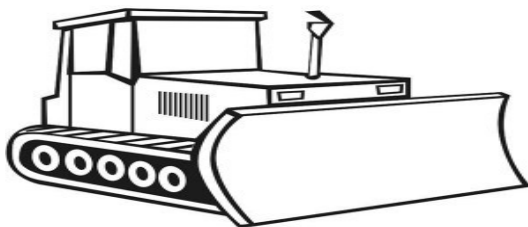
David has taken Jean to work several times due to road conditions. Jean must be one of St. John's most faithful employees in her job as a phlebotomist.

For the first time in years, we are nearly out of hay, a very common story this year. David has done a good job of taking care of the cows: he and Jean went out to ear tag a new calf and she went bonkers. She ran through a fence and it took David, Jean, Lee, and a passerby to corner her. That didn't help David's love for cattle! He and Lee have kept busy doing shop work and always errands. When work opens up, that kind of time will be limited.

It's nearly noon now, on Tuesday. Time to get out the leftovers, including my once-a-year corned beef, my "Irish" for a day. Trusting you've all made it through a very difficult winter and will soon be back doing what you do best. Again, my you have "strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow." Be good to yourself and all those who love you. You are needed.

Afterthoughts:

The news stories of the flooding in Nebraska and elsewhere is beyond my comprehension. So many farmers facing unbelievable heartbreak & loss. We think of farmers as being strong in mind and body, but some tragically reach a breaking point. This week there is an article in Drovers Magazine about the high rate of suicide among Nebraska farmers. Now the floods. I hesitate to write my own personal experience of many years ago when I unwittingly became an addict. This due to a prescription for a severe & constant headache. When the problem came to light, due to circumstances, my life seemed so dark and hopeless I attempted to take my own life. Through the grace of God, a compassionate doctor, and my family I recovered. I only write this to perhaps let someone know, "there is hope in the darkest hour." My experience thought completely different from what seems to be losing everything makes me feel deeply. Please find help. Whether you are a farmer, a dirt mover, or both, you are here for a purpose and we care.



*Editors Note: Margaret had a note with the "Afterthoughts" that I should decide whether or not to add it. As I read it, with tears forming in my eyes, the decision was pretty easy. Thanks Margaret for your honesty, strength, and encouraging words every Newsletter.*



Kansas Land Improvement  
Contractors Association  
850 U.S. Hwy 77  
Marysville, KS 66508

### **Important dates for your calendar. . . . .**

- **April 6, 2019**  
**KLICA Spring Board Meeting**  
**Little Apple Brewery**  
**Manhattan, Kansas**
- **July 9 - 13, 2019**  
**National LICA Summer Meeting**  
**Hilton Vancouver Washington**  
**Vancouver, Washington**
- **January 26, 27, & 28, 2020**  
**Kansas LICA Annual Convention**  
**Hilton Garden Inn**  
**Salina, Kansas**

