



KLICA News & Information

Kansas Land Improvement Contractors Association

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Cold and Snow Greets KLICA Convention Attendees 74th Annual Convention & Business Mtg. Edition



Presidents Message

Steve Peter, Vice President



Greetings! Winter is quickly winding down in Central Kansas, I can tell with the milder weather, things beginning to green up, and most obviously my phone is ringing off the hook with work needing to be done! Another busy year off and rolling! Hopefully you had the chance to attend our KLICA winter convention in Manhattan last month. I believe a good time was had by all. My partner and I didn't dominate the corn hole tournament, but maybe next year! I just want to thank all our members who were able to make convention and especially our vendors for setting up and hanging out for a few days. We appreciate visiting with you! We attended many good informational seminars on

Monday, and then ended the day with great food, fellowship, and fundraising auction! The auction was an outstanding success, thanks to everyone who participated! Money made by our auction is used to fund scholarships for our dirt construction work force. I have had the honor of handing several out to students and I know they really appreciate it!

The first week of March will find myself, the wife and several of our members at the LICA Winter National Convention being held in Las Vegas! I'm looking forward to meeting all the new friends I made at Duluth last summer. This will be the second National Convention for me to attend, I just want to say that you won't meet any greater people from all across this country. We will be meeting our new National Director Dennis Mikula. I'm very excited to see what the future holds for our organization moving forward. Hopefully we get some time to look around CONEXPO, I'll be wearing my good walking shoes!

I hope everyone has a great, safe, productive summer! If you see a contractor that looks like a good potential member, talk to them about becoming a member! There's many benefits to being a member and you meet great people from all across the state!



Marsha Schell won the KLICA logo engraved shotgun!

New Members

We welcome the following new member to our KLICA family. Please make sure you welcome them and introduce yourself. Pat was a guest at our convention this year. Welcome Pat & Kimberly!

Contractor

Urban Construction Inc.
 Patrick & Kimberly Urban
 952 Willow Rd.
 Robinson, KS 66532
 785-741-4515
 uci66532@yahoo.com



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74th Annual Convention & Business Meeting
Berry Tractor & Equipment Co. recognized as 2025 Associate of the Year.

Berry Tractor has been a long time supporter of the Kansas Land Improvement Contractors Association, as you can see later in this newsletter where they are recognized for 60 years of membership. Berry Tractor is a company built on family roots, hard work, and a genuine commitment to its customers. Since their start as a family-owned business, their focus has always been on supporting the community, including their partners.

They have extended this long-standing support to the Kansas Land Improvement Contractors Association. Over these years they have supported us at numerous events.

This last year they sponsored two teams at our golf tournament along with additional sponsorship. At our 2025 Convention they were gracious hosts welcoming our group to their Wichita location, where they provided us with a delicious catered lunch and shared with us the history and background of the business. After lunch we toured their facilities where they answered questions about their products and service. Congratulations to Berry Tractor & Equipment Co. for being recognized as our 2025 Associate of the Year and Thank You for your long time continued support of KLICA.



Pictured with their award are the Berry Tractor crew. L to R: Jon Ungerer, KLICA Executive Director; Chauncey Graham, Berry Tractor Sales Rep, Garden City, KS; Steve Peter, KLICA President; Clint Golay, Berry Tractor Sales Manager, Topeka, KS; Jake Zeka, Berry Tractor Sales Rep., Manhattan, KS; Kaitlyn Ray, Berry Tractor Used Equipment & Marketing Manager, Topeka, KS; John Malone, Berry Tractor Sales Rep., Topeka, KS.

Sunday Evening Reception Cornhole Competition

The cold and snow forced a late arrival for many and Sunday Evening brought a smaller crowd to our cornhole competition. While team numbers were down a little the competition proved intense as boisterous teams started trash talking early, culminating in a championship match that unfortunately was a one sided event. The M&M Insurance Team which had easily defeated all competition to get to the final finally collapsed as the winning team of Scott Lowe and Jeff Schell saved their best for the final match.



We're Number Two! Finishing second: M&M Insurance Associates - Trevor Moore and Gary Unruh.



The champions: Scott Lowe, Lowe Construction, LLC and Jeff Schell, Schell Farm & Construction, Inc.

74th Annual Convention & Business Meeting
THANK YOU!

Our Convention Sponsors

The following Associates provided financial assistance to support our convention and make it the best it can be for our members. Thank You.

Sunday Night Reception
Advanced Drainage Systems, Inc.
Murphy Tractor & Equipment Co. Inc.

Monday Morning Breakfast
Purple Wave Auction

Monday Morning Break
Precision Intakes, LTD

Monday Memorial Luncheon
Landoll Company, LLC

Monday Afternoon Break
Prinsco

Associates Night Bar Sponsor
Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers

Associates Night Sponsors
Berry Tractor & Equipment Co.
HeavyQuip of Kansas
J & J Drainage Products
Prins Insurance
Prinsco

Auctioneers
Purple Wave Auction

Tuesday Morning Breakfast
Kansas One Call 811

Tuesday Lunch & Tour
Dymax Inc.

Our Convention Exhibitors

The following Associates took the time to set up a booth with us and visit personally with our members throughout convention. Thank You!

Advanced Drainage Systems, Inc.
(ADS)

Dymax Inc.

HeavyQuip of Kansas
J&J Drainage Products Co.

Landoll Company, LLC

Laser Specialists, Inc.

M & M Insurance Associates

Modern Ag Inc.

Murphy Tractor & Equipment Co., Inc.

Precision Intakes, LTD

Prins Insurance

Prinsco

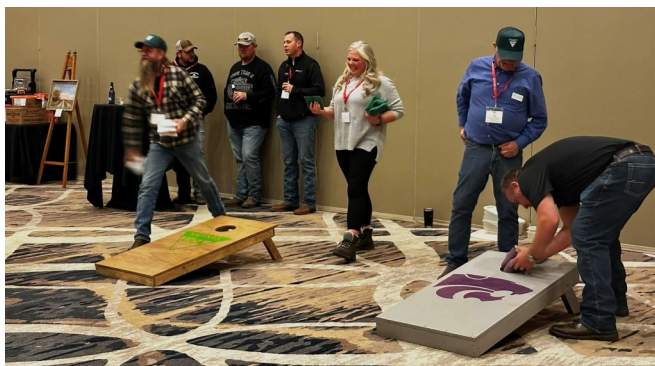
Purple Wave Auction

Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers

Smart Crew



Kurth Kircher, Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers, Jake Weyeneth, KLICA convention guest contractor, and Tate Lackey, Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers, find a quiet table to visit.



Left: Some of the Sunday Night tournament action.

74th Annual Convention & Business Meeting
Ladies Tour Abounds With Purple Pride



On the right in the picture above, Bill Snyder, the stadium being named for him says all you need to know. And on the left one of his players and the hope for the future of Wildcat football, Collin Klein.

The convention ladies were treated to a private tour of Kansas State University Wildcats Athletic facilities. The ladies were treated to the grand beauty of these KSU facilities as they viewed premier fan accommodations, training facilities and beautiful views of KSU athletic fields and floors. Tours included the West Stadium Center, Shamrock Zone/ Bramlage Coliseum, and the Morgan Family Volleyball Center. Even for fans who don't bleed purple it was a fun and enjoyable morning getting to see where the "legends" of Kansas State watch games from, as they experienced the suites of both Coach Bill Snyder and Super Bowl Champion Jordy Nelson. What was supposed to be a one hour tour actually ended up being over two hours, in large part due to having the premier tour guide of Kansas State facilities, Cindy Koon. Cindy is known for her furious loyalty to anything Kansas State. Her knowledge of KSU facilities and the legends inside them is second to none and many know her by name and ask her how she's doing when she meets them in these hallowed halls and facilities. Thank You Cindy for sharing your knowledge and dedication with our group.



Our ladies on the floor of Bramlage Coliseum.



*Left - the ladies tour guide, Cindy Koon, and her husband Jeff.
Right - Part of the luxurious surroundings of West Stadium.*



Dorrene Peterson, William R. Peterson Construction, Inc., at the entrance to Jordy Nelsons suite. The Petersons are actually neighbors to Jordy and do work for him!



To remember their trip to the Little Apple and KSU the ladies were given a pair of coasters.



74th Annual Convention & Business Meeting
Memorial Luncheon

The Memorial Luncheon was our time to remember the KLICA family members we lost in 2025. Unfortunately the weather, commitments, and illness prevented some of our families from making it to the luncheon. The members below were honored and remembered at this years convention Memorial Luncheon.

Alice Jueneman	April 23, 1942 - April 3, 2025
Judy Peery	Sept. 23, 1940 - April 6, 2025
Chase Stephen Kesl	May 25, 1983 - June 19, 2025
Dale Faelber	April 2, 1926 - August 22, 2025
Kathleen Jueneman	Oct. 21, 1951 - Oct. 10, 2025

Their memories will long live in our hearts.



The Kathleen Jueneman Family L-R: Wade Jueneman, son; Karen Jueneman, daughter in law; George Jueneman, husband; Kaylin Mueller, daughter and Joel Jueneman, nephew.



The Alice Jueneman Family L-R: Michelle Jueneman, daughter in law; Tim Jueneman, son; Lisa Zabokrtsky, daughter.



Spring will come and so will happiness. Hold on. Life will get warmer.

Anita Krizzan



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74th Annual Convention & Business Meeting
Length of Membership

Length of Membership Awards
Associate Members

60 Years

Berry Tractor & Equipment Co.
Foley Equipment Co.

45 Years

J & J Drainage Products

25 Years

HeavyQuip of Kansas

10 Years

Prinsco

5 Years

Carry Pumps, Inc.

Length of Membership Awards
Special Members

75 Years

Bernritter Construction
Furney Construction
Oltjen Construction
Pacey Construction

55 Years

Rocker Excavating

20 Years

Crawford County Conservation District
Jim Wallace

5 Years

John & Blanche Peterson

Length of Membership Awards
Contractor Members

75 Years

Bayer Construction Company
Fox Construction Company, Inc.

60 Years

Malm Construction Company, Inc.
Orval Jueneman Dozer Service, Inc.

50 Years

Bramhall Dozer Service, Inc.
Levi Construction
Loflin Dirt Construction
Pilkington Dozer & Farms, LLC
Wesling Construction, Inc.

40 Years

Dirks Earth Moving

25 Years

Dirks Dirt Construction, LLC
Hoffman Construction, LLC
Jerry Austin Excavating, Inc.
Koontz Construction
Land Improvement Center, Inc.
Orear Construction
Stallbaumer Dozing
TS Construction

10 Years

Advanced Erosion Solutions, LLC
Aller's LLC

BAM Excavation & Trucking, LLC
Benkendorf Trucking, LLC
Greeley Excavating, LLC
LRS Construction, Inc.
Roy Miller Backhoe, LLC
Siebenmorgen Excavating

5 Years

Christian Excavating, LLC



Our Members

Our Family!

Congratulations!

74th Annual Convention & Business Meeting
Length of Membership - Contractors



75 Years!
Bayer Construction Company
Kelly Briggs



60 Years!
Orval Jueneman Dozer Service,
Inc. Tim Jueneman



50 Years!
Bramhall Dozer Service, Inc.
Kim Bramhall



50 Years!
Levi Construction
Eddie Lee



50 Years!
Loflin Dirt Construction
Mike Loflin



25 Years!
Orear Construction
Dave Orear



10 Years!
Siebenmorgen Excavating
Luke Siebenmorgen

74th Annual Convention & Business Meeting
Length of Membership - Associates



60 Years!
Berry Tractor & Equipment Co.
Jake Zeka



60 Years!
Foley Equipment Company
Josh Ingold



45 Years!
J & J Drainage Products
Bill Rumback



25 Years!
HeavyQuip of Kansas
Luke Wiman



10 Years!
Prinsco
Alex Barrans

74th Annual Convention & Business Meeting
Length of Membership - Special Members



75 Years!
Furney Construction
Jim Furney

The numbers on page 8 are amazing and tells you all you need to know about KLICA. Once a member and a part of this amazing group of people they truly do become part of a family. This year we recognized two Contractor Members with 75 years of membership and nine Contractors with 50 or more years of membership. A total of 27 contractors representing 845 years of membership! We recognized two Associates with 60 years of membership and six Associates totaling 205 years of membership! Special Members added four members with 75 years and eight members totaling 400 years! The friendships and knowledge represented by these members has and will continue to benefit and enrich the lives of KLICA members for many more years. THANK YOU to ALL our members!



75 Years!
Oltjen Construction
Barb Oltjen

C
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And
Thank
You
For
Being
Part
Of
Our
KLICA
Family

Love this picture of three generations at Convention! Annette & Kim Bramhall, and Anthony & Cassie Bramhall with their daughter, Lacey, representing Bramhall Dozer Service, Inc.
We also had Bernie & Dorrene Peterson and Asa & Sarah Peterson with their three young children, representing William R. Peterson Construction, Inc. at convention - we will get your picture next year!
Seeing three generations of families at our convention makes me happy!

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Aaron McKee, Convention Auctioneer.

Right: More Auction Photos.



74th Annual Convention & Business Meeting
Contractor of the Year

Joe Schletzbaum has been a long time supporter of KLICA. His commitment to KLICA has been demonstrated through his increased involvement with field days and other events. When KLICA completed the work on the SAVE Farm he was there every day making sure the pipe was in place, trenches were dug, and the pipe laid as needed. Joe moved into the presidents position in January 2024. Unfortunately, shortly after that he developed health problems that prevented him from fully undertaking the role. Although he has continued to deal with health issues his desire to see the Association succeed and move forward has never wavered. Throughout his term Joe called the Executive Director and other members at least once a month to keep up and offer input as needed. He always made sure to touch base with the Executive Director before events to see if things were in place or if anything was needed. After the event Joe followed up to see how things went. Although things have not worked out quite as he planned his commitment to KLICA has remained unwavering. Thank You Joe for all you've done and Congratulations on your selection as the 2025 Contractor of the Year!

Unfortunately Joe was not able to make it to convention so on February 21 Jon & Kathy stopped by Joes shop to present him his awards. As always Joe was humble and gracious indicating what a great organization KLICA is and his desire to make it better.



Joe with his Contractor of the Year Award - note between us you can see one of Joes trademark blue risers.



Joe with his Outgoing Presidents Gavel.



Joe trenching for pipe at the SAVE Farm.



Kathy tried out for a job drilling holes in risers.



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74th Annual Convention & Business Meeting Dymax Inc. Tuesday Lunch & Tour

For our Tuesday lunch and tour we traveled 16 miles East down Highway 24 to Wamego. There, we were hosted by Dymax, Inc.

Scott Balderson provided us a history of the company which he has been a part of since Dymax Inc. was purchased by his father, Clark, in 1997. Following an informative and interesting talk we were treated to a delicious pulled pork lunch.

After lunch Rusty Ecord took us on a tour of the facilities where we were allowed to see first hand the quality of work and customer commitment that Dymax Inc. is known for.

Dymax Inc. remains a family-owned manufacturer of specialized work tool attachments for construction machinery and a railway division offering attachments, vehicles, and specialty rail carts.

We welcome Dymax Inc. as a new Associate Member of KLICA and Thank them for graciously hosting us following our 74th Annual Convention & Business Meeting.

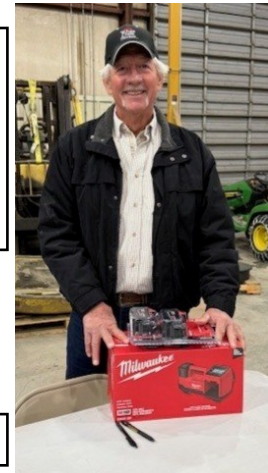


Scott Balderson, President & CEO, keeps the group engaged with his enthusiastic and interesting conversation.



Our group is welcomed by Scott.

Right: Justin Sage, Justin's Backhoe Service, was the lucky winner of the Milwaukee air compressor & batteries door prize.



Below: The group on tour.



L-R: Scott Balderson, President & CEO, Kerry McDonnell, Sales Representative, and Rusty Ecord, Director of Sales & Products.





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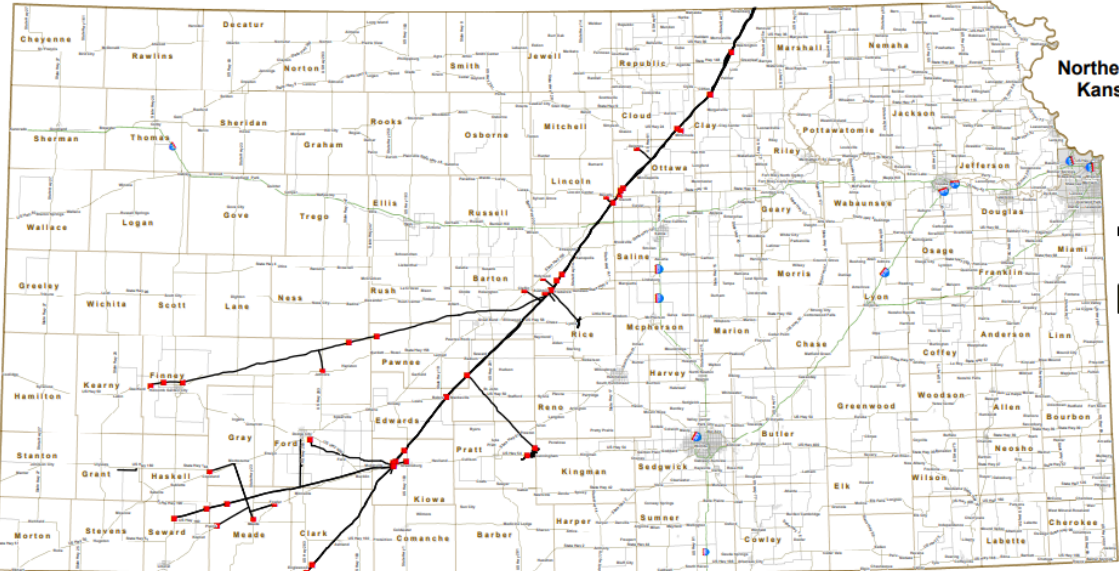


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6. Do not use any equipment, including excavators, backhoes, or any other equipment.
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On the Other Side of the Dozer Blade

by Margaret Smelser



My view from the kitchen table looks out to another gray, chilly morning. The landscape is dull, kind of monotonous. We did have an inch of rain a few days ago. Leavenworth County is still

considered drought area. Thankfully there have been no wildfires. No severe storms or lots of wind.

The past three months have had quite a variety of happenings. A large two story house just east of us will be pushed in the basement & burned. The house and big red barn have been a landmark in this community. Neglect and destruction have taken their toll. This will be missed. In the 50's a threshing bee began on the farm. In a few years it grew too large and moved to McLouth, to a large area. That put McLouth on the map and it is still held every year. They also have tractor pulls there. Lloyd never wanted to watch the threshers, he had enough dust and chaff when he was a boy.

One very different job is moving a historical cabin belonging to the Wyandotte Tribe. It will be taken to the Kansas City area to a site belonging to the Tribe. I believe this is where a church was built, a Methodist Mission. A nearby neighbor is "Chief" in this area.

Along with my flood of junk mail a business size envelope stood out. It stood out as scam before I even opened it. Indiana Toll Road unpaid bill of \$80.90, January 14, 2026, Elkhart, IN. Even had our DOT number, from IT Concession Company, LLC. A vehicle registered to us. McLouth is a long way from Indiana. What next?

On a more pleasant note, David has a list of pond work. One prospective customer told him, "you

come highly recommended." The best advertising. David and Lee are a good team.

Leavenworth County is still considered drought area, thankfully our ponds have held up in spite of no runoff. I wish I knew how many ponds Lloyd built in this county.

On another note, Lee and Rachel's, Cora will soon be five. What a lively little girl. She loves all the animals and goes racing around the yard with the two dogs.

Another convention passed, it must have been a really good one. Thanks, Jon and all the crew that did good work. Linda Orear continues to send me a report now and then, which means a lot. The Memorial Program was beautiful tribute. I feel like I'm "on the outside looking in" but still feel a part.

Our cattle came through the winter in good shape. First calf has arrived. The worth of a baby calf is amazing. One farm publication said the country is short 750 thousand cows.

Looking ahead, it will soon be Easter - we are living in such troubled times, if ever we need the grace of God it is now. My favorite gospel song 'Because He Lives, I Can Face Tomorrow'. To all of you who are still grieving, my sympathy and understanding. I know it doesn't go away.

"Holding you all in my Heart."



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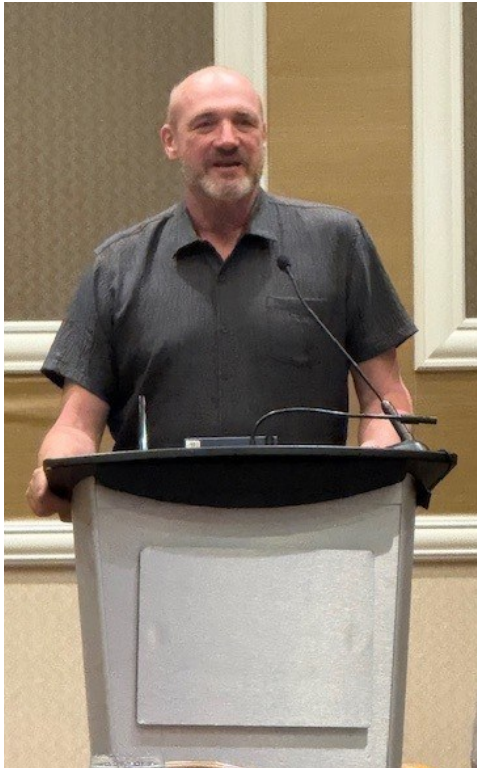


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National March 2026 Las Vegas

See Executive Directors column on the next page for more on the National Convention.



Ted Lashley, LICA Contractor of the Year.



Kansas had a full representation at National LICA Delegates Meeting and Board Meeting. L-R: Jeff Schell, LICA Outgoing President, Incoming Chairman of the Board & KLICA Treasurer; Jon Ungerer, KLICA Executive Director; Steve Peter, KLICA President; Dave Bose, KLICA District 1 Director; and Steve Dick, KLICA District 6 Director.



Attendees from Kansas L-R: Jon Ungerer, Executive Director; Dave Bose, District 1 Director; Jeff Schell, Treasurer & LICA Chairman of the Board; Marsha Schell; Steve Peter, President; Karla Peter; Linda Dick; Steve Dick, District 6 Director; Kayleb Vulgamore.



Left: Jeff Schell receives his Presidents Desk Set from Caterpillar Rep Cailey Dierking. Caterpillar were strong supporters of this years National Convention.



Rambling Thoughts of an Executive Director

Convention is in the books for another year. Although the weather tried to throw us a curveball leaving us with a sparse Sunday Evening crowd we had one of our best turnouts in years by the time Associates Night started Monday Evening. We missed some of our out of state Associates who were not able to make it and auction items were a little down but overall it was a great convention.

As covered earlier the Length of Membership awards this year were awesome with many long time members being recognized. For so many, membership in KLICA spans not only a lifetime but passes on through generations. Seeing this firsthand and recognizing what it means to members demonstrates that KLICA, while not a large organization, is truly a special one.

Thank You to our Associates who supported us with their presence and sponsorships. We had 15 Exhibitors this year! Next year we are going to try some different things to improve our contractor/exhibitor interaction - Thank You for the input at our Associates Meeting on how we can improve convention for our exhibitors. The scholarship fund raffle again proved successful this year. An over/under shotgun with the KLICA logo engraved into the stock will provide not only memorable hunting opportunities for a KLICIA family but will provide a KLICA family heirloom for future generations. And it went home with a strong second generation KLICA/LICA family, being won by Marsha Schell, Schell Farm & Construction, Inc. Congratulations Marsha.

The facilities at the Hilton Garden Inn were excellent and the hotel staff was great meeting our needs and taking care of us. We are looking forward to returning to Manhattan and the Hilton Garden Inn again next year. Membership is down but we had a number of guest contractors at convention again this year and it looks like we will be picking them up as members. Thank You to those who invited these guests. We are still signing up members who come to convention as our guests - if every contractor would bring a guest every year our membership would be back up there again! When you're talking to nonmember contractors throughout the year mention it to them and provide me their contact information! While we need to work hard to provide additional benefits for our members, there continues to be no doubt our members are our biggest benefit and asset. Again, look at the Length of Membership awards and all the knowledge acquired in those many years. Members of KLICA share a love for what they are doing and a love for the resources they are benefitting. The willingness of members to share and pass on that knowledge, to let others learn from their mistakes and

their successes is priceless for young members just starting out and even members who have been in business for years. New ideas, new thoughts, different ways of doing things, correcting and learning from mistakes, and the willingness to share and discuss all this with other contractors is invaluable!

As you have probably heard by now we are going to move the Swing Away & Pray Golf Tournament to Seneca, KS for 2026, on June 12. Seneca has a very nice 18 hole course and enough golf carts to accommodate our teams. We are looking forward to a good day of golf!

I just returned from National in Las Vegas. Our national staff is loyal and dedicated to our future and I am excited by the guidance and direction our new CEO, Dennis Mikula will provide moving forward. Dennis brings youthful energy and many good ideas. He is engaging others and meticulous in his attention to detail. If you have been on the fence about getting involved with LICA now is an exciting time to jump aboard. All eyes are on the future and I see good things coming. I was also excited and proud to see Kansas well represented. Our own Jeff Schell will be moving into the Chairman of the Board position and it was great to see Kansas fully represented with our full contingent of three voting members present at the Delegates meeting. With National looking towards growth and improvement I hope Kansas continues to have a strong presence moving forward! My time with LICA has resulted in gaining some great friends and I was happy to see one of those, Ted Lashley, our Region 6 VP from Nebraska, be recognized as the LICA Contractor of the Year. Also, congratulations to New York as the State of the Year, and Pat McConnell, Ohio LICA, as LICA Lady of the Year.

Hope you all have a great Spring! Take Care.



Not only is Ted a great contractor he knows how to order a proper beer!



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How to Cope with the Winter Blues

With winter now in full force, the cold temperatures and short days lead many people to experience a common phenomenon known as the “winter blues.” This refers to feelings of low-level sadness or sluggishness that often persist during this time of year. While you may not be able to change the weather or amount of daylight during the winter months, you can practice good self-care to combat behavioral changes. Try the following tips to cope with the winter blues

Change your mindset. Refocus your thoughts on wintertime pleasures by making a list of things that you enjoy about winter. Some ideas include getting cozy with a book, making traditional recipes and listening to the sound of wood crackling in a fireplace.

Get outside. Make a point to go outside daily for fresh air or a quick 15-minute walk, especially before the sun sets. Ensure you have the proper clothing, boots and cold-weather accessories to stay warm.

Increase the amount of light in your home. If you cannot go outside, open the blinds to allow more sunlight into your space. You can also try light therapy. This involves sitting in front of a bright light box that mimics natural sunlight, which can help regulate the body’s circadian rhythm and alleviate associated symptoms.

Exercise regularly. Physical activity is a powerful mood booster. Regular exercise, whether a brisk walk, yoga or a gym workout, can help release endorphins. These natural mood lifters can help combat the lethargy of winter blues.

Eat a healthy diet. Nutrition plays a crucial role in mental health, so consuming a well-balanced diet rich in fruits, vegetables, whole grains and lean proteins is important. Omega-3 fatty acids in fish, flaxseeds, walnuts and edamame may also contribute to mood stability.

If you’re feeling blue this winter, and the feelings last for several weeks, talk to a health care provider. Additionally, if you’re concerned about your mental health, talk to your doctor or a licensed mental health professional, or contact the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s National Helpline by calling 800-662-HELP (4357).

Manifestation Techniques to Try

Manifestation is the practice of turning your thoughts and intentions into reality by aligning your mindset, emotions and actions with your goals. At its core, manifestation is about focusing on what you want rather than what you fear and creating a positive environment for those desires to flourish. Consider trying the following manifestation techniques:

Clarify your intentions. Before you can manifest anything, you need to be clear about precisely what you want. Take time to write down your goals in clear, specific terms. Instead of saying, “I want to be successful,” try, “I want to earn a promotion within the next year.” Specificity helps your mind focus on actionable outcomes.

Practice visualization. Visualization is one of the most powerful tools for manifestation. Spend a few minutes each day imagining yourself living the life you desire. The more vivid the image, the stronger the emotional connection.

Use affirmations. Affirmations are positive statements that reinforce your goals and beliefs. They help reprogram your subconscious mind to support your desires.

Practice gratitude. Gratitude can shift your mindset from one of scarcity to one of abundance. By appreciating what you already have, you create space for more positive experiences. Start a gratitude journal and write down three things you’re thankful for each day. This simple habit can boost your mood and attract more of what you value.

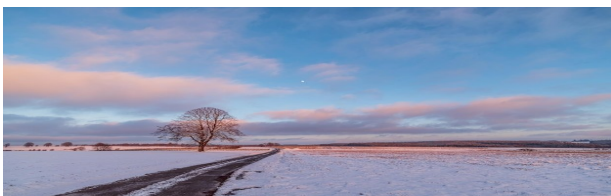
Take action. Manifestation isn’t just about thinking, it’s about doing. When opportunities arise that align with your goals, act on them.

Manifestation is a journey, not an overnight miracle. Consistency, belief and openness are key. Start small, stay positive and trust the process; you might be surprised at how quickly your mindset can shape your reality.

Provided by Prins Insurance, Inc.

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A yellow excavator is being transported on a red Landoll trailer. The trailer is a multi-axle unit with a red frame and black tires. A QR code is visible on the right side of the trailer.

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A white and red Landoll 850XT Extensible Detach trailer is shown. The trailer has a white body with red and black graphics. It is a multi-axle unit with a red frame and black tires. A QR code is visible on the right side of the trailer.

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House Ag Chair Introduces Farm Bill Reauthorization

House Agriculture Committee Chairman Glenn “GT” Thompson (R-PA) introduced the Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2026 last week with support from fellow committee Republicans and announced the bill will be marked up on Feb. 23.

The bill represents Congress’s latest attempt to pass a full farm bill after several temporary extensions of the last farm bill passed in 2018. According to House Agriculture Committee leadership, the bill is designed to provide long term certainty for farmers, ranchers, and rural communities by updating agricultural policies to meet modern challenges.

Key provisions in the bill expand disaster assistance programs, increase guaranteed operating loan limits, and adjust dairy policy—changes intended to strengthen the agricultural safety net. The bill also advances priorities such as rural infrastructure development, community development resources, and conservation and land stewardship initiatives.

The bill’s release has already sparked political debate. While Republican committee leaders describe it as a long overdue modernization shaped by extensive outreach to rural America, the top Democrat on the committee criticized the package for including what she called “poison pills.” Despite the disagreement, the committee is moving forward with the scheduled markup, signaling that lawmakers are eager to advance a comprehensive farm bill after years of delays and short term extensions.

On conservation, the bill would allow funds for the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) and Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) to go toward precision ag technologies. Conservation programs are being positioned as part of a broader rural development strategy, with lawmakers aiming to give producers more tools to manage soil health, water resources, and environmental resilience. The measure would also reauthorize CSP through fiscal 2031, maintaining the program’s current 27-million-acre cap.

For the Agricultural Land Easement Program, it would increase federal cost share from 50% to 65%, change program certification processes, and allow more flexibilities for reconciling easement deed terms.

The Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) would be streamlined by USDA to make approvals for RCPP partnership agreements within 180 days and provide payments to partners in 30 days. Up to 10% of agreement funds could be used to cover administrative expenses incurred by project partners, and the program would be expanded to cover flood resiliency and drought-mitigation practices.

Scholarship Opportunity

Now is the time to get your scholarship application in for KLICA family members of our Contractor Members or children of Contractor Members Employees. March 15 is the deadline for scholarship applications to be received or postmarked by. Applicants can be attending a four year college or Trade school - applications for any type of continuing education are accepted. Please complete the application on the next page and follow all directions submitting required items.



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Kansas Land Improvement Contractors Association Scholarship Application

Name: _____ Age: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Educational Institution Attending: _____

Present Year in School: _____ Major Course of Study: _____

Credit Hours Enrolling Next Year: Fall Semester _____ Spring Semester _____

Parent(s) or Guardian(s): _____

Contact Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Company Name/Employer Name _____

KLICA Contractor Member: _____

Applicant Relationship to Company Owner(s)/Employee: _____

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Application Requirements/Instructions:

Include this completed form and the following -

- 1) A single page essay which describes your academic, vocational, and personal goals and objectives explaining why you think you should receive this scholarship.
- 2) Your college transcripts which shows your year in school and major course of study. If a college freshman include high school transcripts.
- 3) Three (3) signed letters of recommendation. These can be from school staff/employers/community leaders who are familiar with you and your skills/abilities.
- 4) A wallet size picture (approximately 2"x3"). This picture will be included in the KLICA Newsletter and Directory.

All materials must be mailed to the KLICA office and postmarked no later than **March 15**. Incomplete, late, or ineligible applications will not be considered.

Family members of contractor members and children of contractor member employees are eligible to apply for the KLICA continuing education scholarship.

Jon L. Ungerer
KLICA
850 US Hwy 77
Marysville, KS 66508
jungerer@kansaslica.com
785 221-8697

Kansas Land Improvement Contractors Association



(KLICA)



6th Annual 2026

Swing Away & Pray Golf Tournament

June 12

Registration: 7:30 AM
 Golfers Meeting: 8:45 AM
 Shotgun Start: 9:00 AM
 Lunch Beginning around Noon
 as you pass the clubhouse

Spring Creek Golf Course
 1800 Spring Creek Dr.
 Seneca, KS 66538

Please fill in name and check appropriate golf balls

Golfer Names	Golf (Includes Lunch) \$100.00	Mulligans \$10 for 2	Lunch Only (\$15.00)	Cart Needed
If you don't have a team we'll form teams or get you place on one.				

Bubba Drive Hole 18 \$25/Team _____				

Sponsorships Available: Sponsor Name: _____

Course: (\$1000) _____ Refreshments (Bar): (\$500) _____ Lunch: (\$300) _____

Tee or Green (\$150) Name placed on sign at Tee or Green _____ Number of Holes: _____

Hole Prize Sponsor (closest to hole/longest drive/etc. on designated holes) Prize value or cash amount should be \$50.00 minimum

Prize donated: _____ Cash: _____

Multiple sponsorships at all levels accepted. Thank You for your support.
 To insure time to print signs sponsorship commitments needed by June 1, 2026

Send registration to:
 KLICA
 Jon L. Ungerer
 850 U.S. Hwy 77
 Marysville, KS 66508
 Call Jon at 785-221-8697
 with questions or
 jungerer@kansaslica.com

Tournament format is a four person team scramble.
 Spring Hill Golf Course is an 18 hole course - Play will be 1 Round (18 holes)
 Two mulligans per player may be purchased for \$10.00/player (See Above)
 Mulligan proceeds to KLICA Scholarship fund.
 Golf Tournament proceeds to benefit
 Kansas Land Improvement Contractors Association (KLICA).
 Come out for a day of fun & socializing!
Registrations due by June 1, 2026
Sponsorship Commitments by June 1, 2026.



**Kansas Land Improvement
Contractors Association
Membership Application**

Date: _____

Company Name: _____

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Street Address: _____

Mailing Address if different: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Business phone: _____ Cell phone: _____

Fax: _____ Home phone: _____ Email: _____

Sponsor: _____

Annual Dues:	Contractor	Associate	Special
Circle Applicable Member Type	\$325	\$250	\$40

Contractor Services Provided:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> CH – Concrete/Hardscaping | <input type="checkbox"/> OD – Open Ditch Work/Dredging |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CR – Crane Service | <input type="checkbox"/> PD – Ponds/Dams |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DB – Directional Boring | <input type="checkbox"/> RP – Roads/Paving |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DW – Drainage/Water Mgmt./Irrigation | <input type="checkbox"/> SP – Site Preparation/Demolition |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EM – Earth moving/Grading/Leveling | <input type="checkbox"/> SS – Septic Systems/Onsite Wastewater Treatment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EX – Excavating/Land Clearing | <input type="checkbox"/> TH – Trucking/Hauling |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GR – Gravel/Rock Production | <input type="checkbox"/> TW – Terraces/Waterways |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LS – Landscaping/Seeding/Sod | <input type="checkbox"/> UU – Underground Utilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dealer/Service Company/Consultant/Insurance/Other | |

Annual dues are due and payable on a calendar year basis, prior to January 1 of each year.
KLICA dues for new contractor members joining after March 1 are paid up for the next full calendar year.

Return Application to: Jon L. Ungerer, Executive Director
 Kansas Land Improvement Contractors Association
 850 U.S. Hwy 77
 Marysville, KS 66508

Contact Phone: 785-221-8697
 Email: jungerer@kansaslica.com



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

Important Dates for your Calendar.....

- April 2, 2026
KLICA 2nd Quarter Board of Directors Mtg.
Fort Hays Tech North Central
Beloit, KS
- April 8, 2026
Kansas 811 Safety Summit
Heartland Credit Union Arena
8151 N Hartman Arena Dr.
Park City, KS 67147
- June 12, 2026
KLICA Golf Tournament
Spring Creek Golf Course
Seneca, KS
- January 24, 25, & 26, 2027
KLICA 75th Annual Convention & Mtg.
Hilton Garden Inn
Manhattan, KS

