



CELL PHONE STATISTICS

*National Safety Council research shows cell phone use while driving has been associated with quadrupling the crash risk. The council estimates that **28 percent** of all crashes per year involve talking on cell phones and texting while driving accounting for **1.6 million crashes**.

*According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, an estimated **11 percent** of drivers in 2008 were talking on cell phones at any given time.

*NHTSA statistics show in 2008, approximately **5,870** people were killed and an estimated **515,000** were injured in crashes in which there was at least one reported form of driver distraction. Drivers younger than 20 accounted for about **16 percent** of those deaths.

National Safety Council
Safety + Health
June 2010

TOO MANY DISTRACTIONS!
DON'T BECOME A STATISTIC –
TURN YOUR CELL PHONE OFF
OR PULL OVER WHEN TALKING.



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Contractors Association
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Elkhorn, NE 68022

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The NLICA NEWS

Vol. 15, No. 6

The Nebraska Land Improvement Contractors Association

July 2010



DATES TO REMEMBER:

July 13-17, 2010
National Summer Boards
Holiday Inn City Centre
Peoria, IL

September 11, 2010
Board of Directors Meeting
Fischer Residence
Rulo, NE

November 6, 2010
Convention Planning Mtg.
Board of Directors Meeting
Holiday Inn & Convention Center
Kearney, NE

January 18-20, 2011
52nd Annual Convention
Holiday Inn & Convention Center
Kearney, NE

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THANK YOU **ASSOCIATE MEMBERS**

The 2010-2011 Nebraska Land Improvement Contractors Association Membership Directories have been sent out. The Board of Directors would like to thank the following associate members who advertised in it.

A.S.P. ENTERPRISES, INC.
ACE/EATON METALS
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AGRI-DRAIN CORP.
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UNION AGENCY, INC.
WARNER PLASTICS & LINERS

To show appreciation for all that these companies do for the association please patronize their businesses.



The *Nebraska LICA News* is the official Publication of the Nebraska Land Improvement Contractors Association, dedicated to the professional conservation of soil and water.

Publisher
Publication Printing of Nebraska, Inc.
Editor
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www.nelica.com

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello NLICA Members,

Greetings from southeast Nebraska where flooding continues. Due to the flooding and washed out railroad bed I did work one day for the railroad, I loaded railcars with a very large rip rap. Some of the rocks were twice as big as the excavator bucket. It isn't something I would want to do everyday but it was fun to operate a large excavator.

I want to thank everyone who attended the NLICA summer picnic and the LICA summer board meeting. It was an excellent opportunity for fellowship with our contractor members.

With work being a little slower, now may be a good time to do some member recruitment. Contractors would have a little more time to discuss membership directory. There is a list in the directory of the benefits to belonging and a membership application. If you need more directories contact Patti McArdle.

If you have any topics you would like to have in the meetings at convention please contact myself or Patti McArdle. We, I mean Patti, will try to find someone to cover that subject. If you know of anyone that may want to address the group about a topic that would be of interest to our group please let Patti know.

Nancy and I hope you can all attend the September board meeting at our home. Please let us know if you are coming so we can be sure to include you in our plans.

~ *Larry*

A NOTE FROM THE FIRST LADY

Hello Friends,

Well, I'm busy working on the "PLAN" for the September 11th board meeting. We hope that all of you feel welcome to attend because we want to share our little corner of Nebraska with all of you. Besides, what could be more exciting than a NLICA board meeting? The board meeting will be held at approximately 7:00 PM, so I'm thinking 5:00 would be a good time to have the meal. We will be serving ... well I'm not sure yet but it will be tasty.

Here is a list of adventures you may want to try before the meal or on your way home Sunday: If you are into wine.

1. Schilling Bridge Winery in Pawnee City, Nebraska. The birthplace of Larry the Cable Guy. I think you can even buy Larry the Cable Guy beer there.
2. Whiskey Run Creek Winery in Brownville, Nebraska. If you attended the Region 6 meeting in Nebraska City several years ago we visited the site when we toured Brownville. They have an outdoor deck and it should be beautiful with the fall colors.

If you are into nature and historic places:

1. Brownville Nebraska has several historic building sites.
2. Indian Cave State Park in southern Nemaha County. Camp sites available. History buffs will enjoy the restored schoolhouse and general store from the old river town of St. Deroin, where old-time crafts are demonstrated on weekends during the summer.
3. Iron Monument. This is a survey marker set in 1854 when the Kansas-Nebraska territory was opened to settlement. I have more information if you are interested.

If you are into Casinos:

1. White Cloud Casino - South of Rulo
2. Golden Eagle Casino - In Horton, KS

Places to stay in Falls City:

1. Vision Inn Motel - Brand new. Phone number: 402-245-2459
2. Grand Weaver Hotel - Newly renovated. Phone number: 402-245-2448
3. Check-in Motel - About 35 years old. Phone number: 402-245-2433
4. Mathes Manor - Bed and Breakfast. Phone number: 402-245-5449

Places to camp:

1. Indian Cave State Park - Phone number: 402-883-2575
2. Stanton Lake - In Falls City - for hookup reservations and information, call the City Office at 402-245-2851.
3. Big Lake State Park - NOT available, something to do with a flood.

All these places have websites and more details available. If you need more help you can contact me at 245-5616 after 5:00 PM or on the weekends. If I'm not here please leave a message and a number, I will call you back. I have been told by my co-workers who have a family in Holdridge and Shelton that Hwy 36 in Kansas is a quicker way to get here from western Nebraska than the interstate. Hope your summer hasn't been as damp as ours and I hope to hear from you all soon.

Larry's best first lady ever. That's me!

~ *Nancy*

CARD CHECK UPDATE

By
John Peterson, LICA Director of Government Relations.
14 JUN 10/jwp

Since LICA has taken a position opposing the union supported ill-named Employee Free Choice Act or Card Check legislation, I thought a bit of an update on its status might be in order. With the primary elections conducted in many states last week, I'm sure you have been reading predictions in your local papers. I was particularly interested in one primary and how it might tell us something about card check. That was the senatorial primary in Arkansas where incumbent Senator Blanche Lincoln (D-AR) was opposed by AR Lt. Gov. Bill Halter.

I would admit to some bias here. Sen. Lincoln really helped me when I was trying to get the Small Watershed Rehabilitation Act (PL 106-472) passed. She and Sen. Paul Coverdell (R-GA) were my principal champions in the Senate. When Sen. Coverdell passed away unexpectedly in 2000, Sen. Lincoln picked up the ball and ran with it, helping secure passage.

Lincoln opposed card check. Halter favored it. So "big labor" or the unions decided to make Lincoln an example, and they poured an estimated \$10 million into Arkansas in Halter's behalf. They did force a runoff, but when the smoke cleared, Lincoln won fairly comfortably. An exasperated official in the White House told Politico's Ben Smith, "Organized labor just flushed \$10 million of their member's money down the toilet on a pointless exercise (1)."

Since some House members seem more easily intimidated by union threats and campaign money, and card check has twice passed the House. But thanks to opposition by Members from both political parties, it has not won in the Senate. Passing card check is still labor's No. 1 legislative priority.

For the unions, their desperation is a function of two realities. First, only 7% of all private sector employees are union members. Fewer members mean less dues revenue, which in turn reduces how much cash they have to give to politicians. Second, labor finances are in bad shape. The Service Employees International Union (SEIU) as an example, owes \$156 million, including \$94 million of the Bank of America and other lenders they tapped to help finance their 2008 political contributions.

Card check, which union leaders think would enable them to recruit new members, is critically important to

union's future. Unions have spent \$400 million since 2006 seeking to ensure that card check becomes law.

The American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Gerald McEntee said his union would spend another \$50 million in 2010 trying to protect congressional incumbents who supported their cause.

This bad idea is not going away. We must remain watchful and be prepared to communicate our views at critical times.

Reference:

1. *The Examiner, newspaper, June 10, 2010, p2.*

CONVENTION IDEAS

January 2011 sounds like a long time away but it will be here before you know it. We are currently working on topics for the informational sessions at convention. Nominations for award recognition are welcome at this time also. NLICA member input is always welcome - it is for YOUR convention.

RECRUITMENT

When you are out and about this summer talk about NLICA to a contractor or a business that is not a member. Benefits of the association are many. They are listed in the front of the membership directory. Recruit a new contractor or associate member today!

SOMETHING TO REMEMBER

The 3 R's: Respect for self

Respect for others

Responsibility for your actions