

FALL 2025



NEW YORK LICA NEWS

LAND IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTORS • NEW YORK CHAPTER

NYLICA 12th Annual Golf Outing

PRESIDENT
David Rule

VICE PRESIDENT
Dennis Bliss

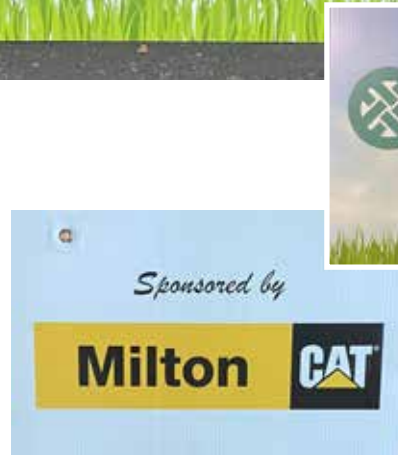
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TREASURER
Dennis Bliss

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Derek Cassiano
Derek Decker
Linda Rule

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Mark Henderson

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Batavia, NY 14020
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UPCOMING EVENTS

GLOW With Your Hands
September 30, 2025
Genesee County Fairgrounds

UDig Expo
October 22, 2025
The Oncenter, 800 South State St.
Syracuse, NY 13202

NYLICA Annual Meeting
January 2026
TBD

A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT, DAVID RULE



Hello all,

I hope everyone is doing well! It turned out to be a nice summer—hot and dry for the most part—and I hope that fall will bring us more pleasant weather.

The 12th Annual Golf Outing on September 5, 2025 at Batavia Country Club was the best and most well attended to date. We would like to thank our sponsors - Monroe Tractor, Tompkins Insurance Agencies, Milton CAT, American National Insurance, and Origin, and all the attendees! We had 112 golfers, we started the day with registration and Bloody Mary's, lunch, a beverage cart, a prime rib dinner, awards and to finish the evening - an Ice Cream Truck.. One of the highlights was seeing new members join in the fun, and many participants commented on how much they enjoyed the Prime Rib dinner. As you know from the past newsletter this event has enabled us to award scholarships to 7 very deserving young people for their education.

We have saved the date for next year - September 11, 2026, mark your calendars and join us for a fun day.

National LICA has more new benefits. The latest is for Red Wing footwear. There is a 15% discount for LICA members. I have worn Red Wing for years and can attest that they are of the highest quality. Take advantage of this benefit. See page 9 for more information.

If you have any questions about upcoming events or suggestions for future activities, please don't hesitate to contact us. Your feedback is vital in helping us create meaningful opportunities for all members and strengthen our organization.

David Rule

From the Executive Director

I would like to thank everyone who helped at the 12th Annual Golf Outing. This event takes a lot of time and effort, but it is so worthwhile. There are so many people that made this happen. Thank you to all our sponsors, supporters, golfers, members, volunteers and friends for your ongoing support for this golf outing for the past 12 years!

Thank you to our friends coming in from Indiana, Illinois, and New Jersey just to help. From National LICA - Allison Hack, Steve Anderson, Chris & Pat Wagner, Bob & Donna Clark, Mary Beth Schram. NYLICA - David & Linda Rule, Dennis & Pam Bliss, Courtney Cassiano and friend, Cindy Linderman. We appreciate each and everyone of you and couldn't do it without you.



Thank you to our Golf Outing Sponsors



&



Beverage Cart Sponsor



Bloody Mary Sponsor

Milton



Lunch Sponsor



Thank you to our Supporters

Agle's Trenching & Excavating, Inc.

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The Print Shop

Tompkins Insurance Agencies

Lowest Score - Tompkins II Team

Longest Drive - Dom Brotz

Closest to the Pin - Wayne Taylor

Most Honest Golfers - LICA Team

Tompkins Team III



Yasses Team



Crab Team



McIlroy Team I



NYLICA 12th Annual Golf Outing teams

RKK Team



Meyers Team



**The 4 Putts Team
& Who's Your Caddy**



LICA Team





Monroe Team



McIlroy Team II



Lavocat Team



Milton Team



5 Star Team



Tompkins Team I



Frisbee Team

*Thank you for the generous donations for door prizes:
David & Linda Rule, Chris & Pat Wagner,
Craig & Cindy Linderman, Janice Cotto,
Pat Broderick, Joan Plapus, Tompkins Insurance,
Mary Ann Crabb, Mary Beth Schram, Pat Keem & Maura Dibble*

According to OSHA, a strong safety culture is defined as an environment where the attitudes, behaviors and perceptions of all workers are reflected in the health and safety of the workplace. A company that fosters this type of culture not only reduces the risk of workplace accidents, but sees many other benefits as well.

Benefits of a Strong Safety Culture

The range of benefits from cultivating and nurturing a strong safety culture can include:

- **Fewer accidents**—This culture can reduce the likelihood of accidents and better protect employees on the job. This can, in turn, pose financial benefits, including lower insurance expenses, fewer medical bills and reduced equipment replacement costs. It may also limit the need for additional salary expenses that may follow an accident (e.g., overtime pay or additional employee salaries to cover an absence).
- **Increased employee morale**—When employees feel safe at work and are comfortable reporting or discussing safety concerns, they are generally happier and more engaged. This can improve job satisfaction and productivity and result in a lower turnover rate.
- **Enhanced business reputation**—An organization that is committed to employee safety and well-being typically has a solid reputation among workers, clients and the general public. This positive reputation can help attract customers and serve as a recruiting tool in the search for new talent.
- **Fewer compliance concerns**—A business can minimize potential compliance concerns, particularly as it pertains to meeting OSHA requirements. This can lower the likelihood of having to pay noncompliance fines and penalties.

Creating a Strong Safety Culture

Here are some tips businesses should consider to foster a strong safety culture:

- **Ensure leadership prioritizes safety** and communicates its importance.
- **Maintain comprehensive safety policies and procedures** and hold all workers accountable for following them.
- **Offer regular training to employees** on safety-related matters.
- **Conduct routine risk assessments** and hazard identification activities.
- **Provide safety equipment and protective gear** and ensure proper use.
- **Encourage incident reporting and promptly respond** to all reported incidents.
- **Recognize and reward** employees who show a commitment to safety.
- **Commit to ongoing safety improvements** by continually monitoring and assessing on-site risks and adjusting policies and procedures as needed.

For assistance in building a strong safety culture, please reach out to your NYSIF loss control representative or contact me.

Also, please remember it is important to complete your 2024-2025 Workers' Compensation Audit as soon as possible. You should have received guidance from NYSIF on completing your year-end audit. This is important to not only be billed an accurate premium for the policy year, but also to be eligible to share in the dividend distribution of the Safety Group which will be determined in spring 2026. For those of you who have completed your audit, thank you.

We're always interested in growing Safety Group 562, and your referral is the best advertising for our safety group. When you refer a fellow contractor, not only is it a great compliment to us at Tompkins, but we are also able to share the benefits and expand the association and group.

As always, if you have questions please feel free to reach out to Tompkins Insurance, Group Manager for LICA Safety Group 562, underwritten by NYSIF.

1-888-229-6151

TIASafetyGroup@tompkinsfinancial.com

Provided by: NYSIF



Brian Deery, Director of Government Relations LICA

Scaffold Law Reform Effort Gains Momentum with Federal Push

Efforts to reform New York’s Scaffold Law received new momentum with the introduction of Federal legislation to prohibit its use on Federally funded construction projects. The law has stood since 1885 imposing absolute liability on property owners and contractors for elevation-related injuries. The law holds employers financially liable, with few exceptions, when a worker is injured from a fall regardless of whether the worker is found to be at fault. While originally intended to protect laborers working at heights, critics argue that the law has become a financial burden on the state’s construction industry and construction owners. New York is the only state that has such a law in place. Proponents of reform estimate the Scaffold Law increases construction costs by 5% to 10% across New York State. Public projects across New York, like schools, affordable housing developments, road and bridge repairs and other major infrastructure have been especially impacted, with hundreds of millions in taxpayer dollars diverted to cover liability-related expenses.

Efforts to reform the law at the state level have gained some momentum in recent years but have not been enacted. In response, a coalition of nearly 50 organizations including contractors, insurers and civic groups are mounting pressure in support of the federal legislation aimed at reforming the law. Rep. Nick Langworthy (R-NY) has introduced the Infrastructure Expansion Act that would preempt the application of the scaffold law on federally funded construction projects. The proposal aims to eliminate the state’s absolute liability standard in favor of a comparative negligence approach, aligning New York with every other U.S. state.

The reform coalition argue that this change would reduce fraud, lower insurance costs, and accelerate infrastructure development across New York. Rep. Langworthy’s office projects that the Infrastructure Expansion Act could save taxpayers over \$2 billion in federal spending over the next decade. Rep Lang-worthy said the legislation is necessary to pressure Democrats who control both chambers of the state Legislature to move forward with reforms.

“My hope is that this law, if enacted, will finally force Albany to reform this law, saving millions each year in construction costs to build schools, residential housing, and other projects which are not typically funded by Washington,” Langworthy said.

With the bill now under consideration in the US House, stakeholders are watching closely—hoping 2025 marks the year New York finally modernizes its century-old liability framework.



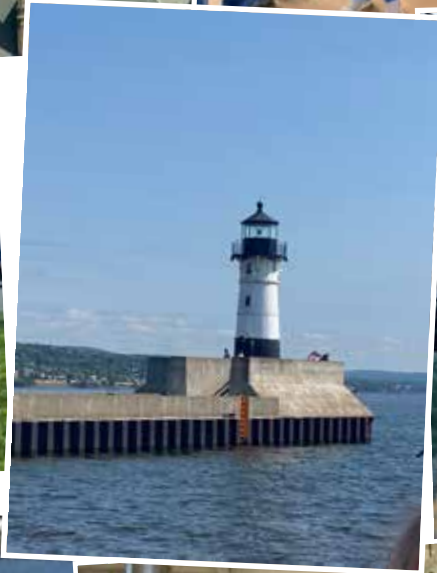
If you have any ideas for convention topics or other topics for workshops that you think we should be looking into, please contact us.

If you are willing to host a member event in your area, NYLICA will pick up the tab!! It could be dinners, tours, your job site, education - whatever you think would be of interest to our members.

LICA Summer Meeting in Duluth, MN

July 8-12, 2025

The meeting took place by Lake Superior, featuring scenic views, a cruise, and a mine tour. The sessions were informative and well attended, offering a valuable chance to connect with colleagues nationwide and exchange ideas.





RED WING SAFETY FOOTWEAR PROGRAM

We are thrilled to announce that Red Wing Shoes has been chosen as our preferred national supplier of safety footwear for all U.S. sites.

As of 2025, LICA and Red Wing have signed an Agreement to provide our members with exceptional safety footwear, service, and value. With this Agreement, LICA members will gain access to a range of program highlights, including:



- ✓ A 15% discount on safety footwear off MSRP, as part of an exclusive billing program
- ✓ Multiple purchasing options - In-Store, Mobile Boot Trucks, and Online W/Free Shipping
- ✓ A selection of over 350+ safety footwear styles
- ✓ Digital voucher management platform
- ✓ A 1-year warranty on Red Wing footwear and a 6-month warranty on Irish Setter and Worx footwear
- ✓ Free boot checkups, cleaning and conditioning, and laces for the life of the footwear
- ✓ Over 1200+ retail stores and 170+ mobile shoe stores

[Red Wing For Business Videos](#)



Exceptional Service

If you are currently using Red Wing, rest assured that you will continue to receive the same exceptional service you have come to expect. Additionally, you will now have access to all the program highlights and our national account team.

For Land Improvement Contractors of America members that are not currently utilizing Red Wing, we invite you to consider joining the program. Please reach out to the contacts below and indicate that you are interested in participating in the LICA program. They will arrange a virtual meeting to better understand your needs and fully demonstrate the capabilities of this exceptional safety footwear program.



Dedicated Support Team

Brian Duerinck
 Field Account Manager
 Red Wing Shoe Company
 815-355-4242
Brian.Duerinck@redwingshoes.com

Business Accounts
 Red Wing Shoe Company
 800-239-1064
business.accounts@redwingshoes.com



Monroe Tractor Welcomes Keith Tanny as Sales Representative in Albany Location.



At Monroe Tractor, our commitment to our customers is simple, “We are here to keep you doing your job.” With that mission in mind, we’re excited to welcome Keith Tanny to our Albany branch as an equipment sales representative. Keith will be serving Southern Washington, Northern Rensselaer, Central and Southern Saratoga, Schenectady, and Schoharie counties.

Keith brings a unique and well-rounded background to the role. He spent seven years in industrial equipment sales and service before transitioning into a 28-year career as a commercial insurance and finance agent serving dealerships. Throughout that time, he developed a deep understanding of sales operations across the automotive, trucking, equipment, and powersports industries. More recently, Keith’s dedication to community service led him to volunteer firefighting – bringing him back to his hometown and opening the door to a new chapter at Monroe Tractor.

“As a professional, I know I’m taking a step into a new industry,” said Keith. “But I’m not doing it alone. I plan to lean on the expertise of the Monroe Tractor team to provide my customers with the dependable, solutions-driven service they deserve.”

“Keith’s career demonstrates a long-standing commitment to customer relationships and an ability to grow within specialized markets,” said Scott Lawson, Branch Manager, “Our customers can expect someone who listens, learns, and puts their needs first every step of the way.”

With 18 locations across New York State, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Vermont, Monroe Tractor offers a full line of CASE construction equipment, Case IH agriculture equipment, Screen Machine, Wirtgen products, NPK demolition attachments, Talbert and Towmaster trailers, Alamo mowers, Kage and Arctic snow pushers and Precision products to keep you on target.



Be sure to use your Benefits!
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LICA Contractor Magazine
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Equipment Values
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Telematics Plus
MASA Medical Transport
M&V Custom Apparel
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NYLICA Scholarships
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Piston & Piston Kits
Red Wing Discount
Titanium Payments

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- We understand job site operations.
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Scan code for
additional details.

Contact Preston Miller: 267-730-8685 | pmiller@zoginc.com



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March 3-7, 2026 | Las Vegas, NV

Don't miss out and join us at CONEXPO-CON/AGG 2026

North America's Largest Construction Tradeshow is back March 3-7, 2026, in Las Vegas.

Dont miss your chance to find the equipment and services from 2,000 exhibitors in over 2.9 million square feet of exhibit space! This event comes once every three years, so register now and don't miss your chance to gather with your construction community!

Use promo code LICA26 for 40% off in your registration! Offer expires December 5, 2025