



# The Communiqué

Newsletter for North Star Chapter 20, International Right of Way Association

March 2007

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## President's Notes

*By: Marvin DeJear, SR/WA*

It was great to see everyone out at our chapter installation activities in January. Thanks to everyone who was able to attend and I look forward to seeing you at many future meetings. I am looking forward to the March meeting. We are expecting Mr. Gary Connett to be there to share views about "OUR ENERGY FUTURE". We will be back to our regular time for the meeting at Midland Hills Country Club at 12:00 noon.

Winter has been with us for a little more than it has been the last couple of years (B-r-r-r)! I usually have an opportunity to get away for a short period of time since I am the Region 3 Representative of the IRWA Pipeline Committee and the Pipeline Committee planners choose good locations for winter meetings (usually). The Pipeline Committee meeting was held in San Diego, California, the day after the installation activities (January 18, 2007). The highs were only in the 40's and even cooler at night. The following week, I attended our ROW Department's planned monthly meeting in Corpus Christi, Texas. Most of the time we were there, the high temperatures were only in the 30's and 40's, with almost freezing rain added to the mix. Hopefully we will be out of the worst part soon.

Chapter 20 needs someone with Web Designer abilities to start and maintain a web page for the chapter. If you or someone you know is able to help with this, please contact any board member.

I'll see you soon,

*Marvin DeJear, SR/WA*

# March Membership Meeting

Wednesday, March 21, 2007  
10:00am Board of Directors Meeting  
Everyone is welcome!

Noon – Member Luncheon  
Midland Hills Country Club  
2001 Fulham Street  
Roseville, MN 55113

Cost: \$15.00

Guest Speaker: Gary Connett, Great River Energy  
Topic: Our Energy Future

Please RSVP to John Foster,  
on or before Wednesday,  
March 14, 2007  
at  
[john.foster@uscorp.net](mailto:john.foster@uscorp.net)  
952-474-9443



**Gary L. Connett**

Gary is responsible for managing and directing the demand response, conservation, and energy efficiency programs as well as business development for Great River Energy. Gary has over 30 years experience in the electric utility business, all for Great River Energy. Great River Energy, which is located in Elk River, MN is a not-for-profit electric generation and transmission cooperative owned by 28 member retail cooperatives who serve nearly 600,000 consumers. Great River Energy is the second largest electric power supplier in MN and owns more miles of transmission line in MN than any other utility.

## **Education:**

Bachelor of Arts degree in Organizational Leadership, Bethel University, St. Paul, MN  
Masters in Business Administration (MBA) degree, St. Thomas University, St. Paul, MN

Gary is a member of several organizations and commissions including:

Powering the Plains: a non-profit organization dedicated to the development of guiding principles and policies for transitioning to a renewable and carbon-neutral energy economy

National Action Plan for Energy Efficiency: NAPEE is made up of energy market leaders including electric and gas utilities, federal and state utility regulators and energy agencies, energy consumers, energy service providers, and environmental/energy efficiency advocates dedicated to the development of a national action plan for energy Efficiency

Gary is on two city commissions: The City of Elk River's Energy City Commission and the City of Champlin's Environmental Resource Commission

## **Planning for the Future**

Great River Energy is one of the fastest growing electric utilities in the Midwest. To meet this fast-paced growth requires Great River Energy to develop forecasts and plans that consider many resource options. These options may include conventional power plants, renewable energy, distributed generation and energy conservation. Gary's presentation will describe the many issues that Great River Energy faces as it makes its plans to meet its future energy requirements.

# Chapter 20 - Meeting Highlights

**January 17, 2007**  
Installation Luncheon and Meeting  
At Midland Hills Country Club



The Board meeting, held earlier in the day, was well attended. Our special guest was Jack Holt.

Several new and returning members received membership certificates. Left-to-right: Gene Hoffman, Peter Schaub, JoAnn Heasley, Scott Graykowski, and Robert Boblett. Welcome to all!



Jim Anderson presented Craig Knudsen with Chapter 20's "**Professional of the Year**" Award. Congratulations Craig!

It was a privilege to present SRF Consulting Group, Inc. with the Chapter 20 "**Employer of the Year**" Award. Timothy D. Phenow, PE, Senior Vice President and Matthew D. Hansen, PE, LS, Principal accepted the award.



Jim Anderson presented Debbie Tyler with an award "**For Excellence as Editor of the Newsletter**".

I appreciate the recognition! Thank you.

More happenings at the January installation luncheon and meeting.

A special Award was given to Sue Pariseau for her outstanding dedication and service as Education Chair. Sue is stepping down as Education Chair in 2007. Thanks Sue!



Craig Poorker gave thanks to Ginger Anderson for all that she does behind the scenes for Jim and Chapter 20.



Lisa Beckman passes the *Presidential Gavel* to Marvin DeJear.



Lisa Beckman accepts the "Past President Plaque from Marvin.



The Installation of the Officers:  
John McKay - Professional Development Chair  
Lisa Beckman – Director, One Year  
Jason Alt – Secretary  
John Foster – Vice President/Treasurer  
Joanie Miller – President Elect  
Marvin DeJear - President



Eric Larsen was our guest speaker. Eric is a modern day explorer. He told fascinating tales of his journey "One World Expedition" to the North Pole during the summer of 2006.



## Thank you!



SRF was honored to receive the 2006 Employer of the Year Award from IRWA Chapter 20 and takes great pride in this recognition. After seeing the lively interaction at the January 17th Chapter luncheon, it is clear that IRWA provides a forum for professional dialogue and an excellent opportunity for right of way professionals to network with their peers. We also appreciate IRWA's extensive educational program; the training sessions that SRF has attended have presented important information in a high quality manner. SRF fully supports the efforts of Chapter 20, and we wish you and your officers continued success.

Thank you from SRF Consulting Group, Inc.

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**Chapter 20  
2007 Luncheon/  
Presentation Calendar**

**March 21, 2007**

**Our Energy Future**

Gary Connett, Great River Energy  
Midland Hills Country Club

**May 16, 2007**

**Stearns Parks, Trails and Recreation**

Chuck Wocken, Stearns County Parks Director  
St. Cloud, MN

**July 23-24**

**Arrowhead Westin & Utility Round Table**

American Transmission Company  
Power Engineers  
Various speakers  
Stillwater, MN

**September 19, 2007**

DM&E Railroad  
Midland Hills Country Club

**October 17, 2007**

**Big Stone II**

Dean Pawlowski, Ottertail Power  
Midland Hills Country Club

**November 14**

**Please note the date change!**

**CapX 2020**

Randy Fordice, Great River Energy  
Midland Hills Country Club

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**CELL: (612) 747-6662**

**E-MAIL: [jha@mplslaw.com](mailto:jha@mplslaw.com) MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55415-1003**

**BARRISTERS TRUST BUILDING  
247 THIRD AVENUE SOUTH**

**Hot Topics**

*Here's what the industry is talking about...*

Attention Chapter 20 members! This section of the newsletter is dedicated to industry news. Do you have information or have you read a recent article that will interest our members? Please share it with the rest of the chapter. Just write a short summary or email the original article and the source (where you found it), to Debbie Tyler, Chapter 20 Newsletter Editor, at [debbiet@comexusenergy.com](mailto:debbiet@comexusenergy.com). Remember to send it by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month, preceding the newsletter's distribution. We publish the newsletter about the 5<sup>th</sup> of the following months: January, March, May, September, October, and November.

# Membership Report

By: Mark Hudson

For those of you who were unable to attend the January Membership meeting it was well attended. This was also our installation of officers for 2007. We were able to recognize a number of new or returning members and a number of awards were presented to those members serving our chapter. A special award was also given to James Anderson's wife Ginger for securing all the various plaques and awards that Jim has presented over the years. The speaker was Eric Larsen and he gave an interesting presentation on his polar expedition

to the North Pole. Eric and his partner Lonnie Dupree actually reached the pole several times waiting for the arrival of the helicopter to pick them up, overnight the ice would drift miles from the pole and they would get up the next morning and travel again to the pole. I believe when they were actually picked up they were nine miles from the North Pole. Kind of like finishing up a right of way project only to have the engineer side keep finding more parcels after you thought you were done.

## CHAPTER 20 NEW MEMBERS

Peg Flaig is our newest member and has joined the Right of Way Staff at Anoka County. Peg has worked for Anoka County for the past eight years in property records. She began her career as a Right of Way Agent this past June. Peg indicated that she "loves" her new job and spoke

enthusiastically about her co-workers and that she is having fun with this new challenge. I found this to be a great pick me up as I wrote this article, this can be a very challenging profession and it is easy to forget that it is also a job that can be enjoyable and even fun at times. Peg lives in Anoka and has three grown children, with the last one in college. She will soon celebrate her 30<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Peg has attended several of the past luncheons and will be presented with her membership certificate and pin at a future meeting. Welcome to Chapter 20 Peg.

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**Civil Engineering** •

**Land Surveying** •

**Landscape Architecture** •

**Environmental** •

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- Short form Appraisals
- Residential Appraisals
- Review Appraisals

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- Conduct Comparable Studies
- Provide Referrals
- Prepare Claims for Final Payment



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Email: [matthews@elsco.net](mailto:matthews@elsco.net)

## Chapter 20 - 2007 Membership Directory

I will soon be working on the 2007 membership directory so please send any updated information to me at [HUDSONM@CO.ST-LOUIS.MN.US](mailto:HUDSONM@CO.ST-LOUIS.MN.US). The 2006 directory came out barely before 2006 was over. I hope not to repeat that this year. I am also looking into the cost of producing a pamphlet style directory so you may see that for 2007.

## On-Line Membership Update

International Headquarters has requested that ALL members update their membership information on-line. If you have changed your employment, telephone number, address or email address, it is imperative that you do this immediately. If you have problems with accessing the website or with your password please contact Sergey Yushkevich at [yushkevich@irwaonline.org](mailto:yushkevich@irwaonline.org).

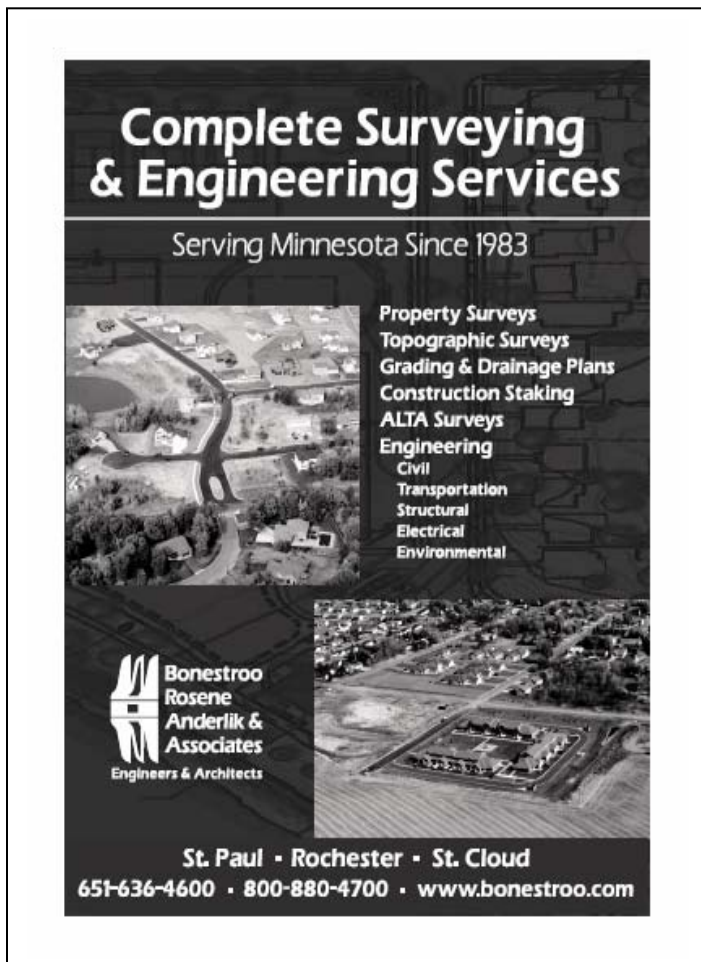
If you have any questions, please contact me at 218-625-3862 or by email at [HUDSONM@CO.ST-LOUIS.MN.US](mailto:HUDSONM@CO.ST-LOUIS.MN.US)

If you would like to introduce yourself to the membership with a short biography and picture please email them to me and we will run them in a future newsletter.

## Professional Development

*By: John J. McKay, SR/WA, PDC Chair*

Congratulations to Marvin DeJear, SR/WA! Marvin has recently met all his requirements for recertification.



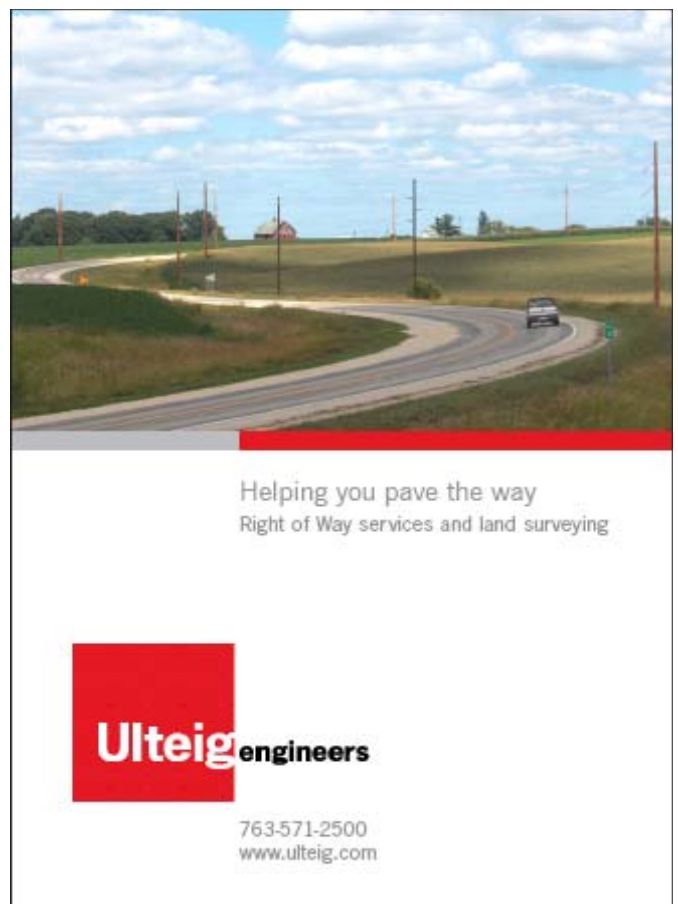
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# IRWA Region 3

## News Briefs

### IRWA REGION 3 2007 SPRING FORUM

April 24-27, 2007  
(Wed-Fri)

Hosted By: Gateway Chapter 37

Drury Inn Union Station  
201 South 20<sup>th</sup> Street  
St. Louis, MO 63103  
314-231-3900

Room Rates: \$92.00 - 102.00 per night

When you make your Reservation,  
be sure to mention

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then enter group number 134695  
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April 24, 2007 8:00am to 5:00pm **SR/WA Review Session**

April 25, 2007 8:00am to 5:00pm **SR/WA Review Session**

April 26, 2007 8:00am to 5:00pm **SR/WA Review & Exam**

(Clyde Johnson will be the Facilitator)

Thursday April 26, 2007 6:00 to 7:00 Happy Hour

Live Auction at 7:00\* (Proceeds will go to Education Foundation)

Friday, April 27, 2007 8:00am - Region 3 Business Meeting

Contact Cynthia Gan at 314-331-8184 or Ashleigh Robison at 314-436-2296

**NEEDED: MORE AUCTION ITEMS - Proceeds for Education Foundation**

For more information, visit: [www.irwaonline.org](http://www.irwaonline.org)

# Region 3

## Upcoming Course Offerings

### *March*

#### **Chapter 37**

209 Negotiating Effectively with a Diverse Clientele  
March 20, 2007  
St. Louis, MO

#### **Chapter 78**

Ethics and the Right of Way Profession  
March 26, 2007  
Council Bluffs, IA

### *April*

#### **Chapter 72**

901 Engineering Plan Development and Applications  
April 17, 2007  
Fargo, ND

#### **Region 3**

SR/WA Comprehensive Review and Exam  
April 24-26  
St. Louis, MO

### *September*

#### **Chapter 37**

502 Business Relocation  
(Tentative) September 13-14, 2007  
St. Louis, MO

For more information, visit: [www.irwaonline.org](http://www.irwaonline.org)

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# Wanted: Web Page Designer

IRWA Chapter 20 is in the need of a WEB Page Designer/Coordinator. If you have experience with web design, we would appreciate it if you would share your talents with your fellow members. Promote the chapter by designing and maintaining an IRWA Chapter 20 web page. Financial support will be available. If you are interested, or if you know of someone that would be a good candidate, please contact any board member.

The *Hunters & Seekers* section is available for all members. If you have a position available or a seeking a position, and would like to have a **FREE** ad posted, please contact the editor [debbiet@commexusenergy.com](mailto:debbiet@commexusenergy.com) one month prior to the publish date for details.



## Right of Way Specialist

Ulteig Engineers, one of the region's premier multi-disciplined engineering firms, is seeking a **Right of Way Specialist II** in our Fargo, ND; Sioux Falls, SD; & Minneapolis, MN Regional Offices. Ulteig offers a progressive and professional work environment, together with a competitive salary and benefit package. *Please see our website for full position descriptions.*

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## IRWA Education

SR/WA  
Review Session  
and Exam  
April 24-26, 2007

Held during the  
IRWA Region 3  
2007 Spring Forum.

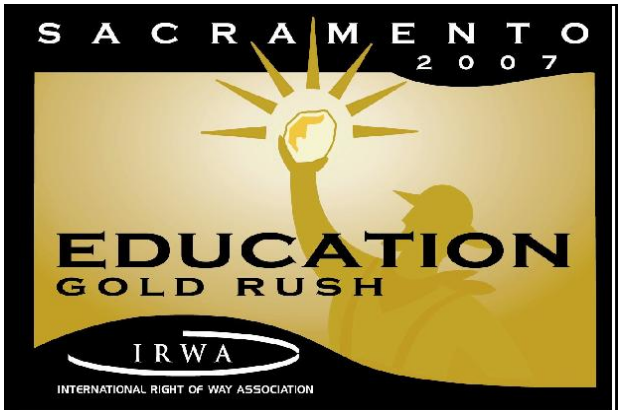
For more information, visit:  
[www.irwaonline.org](http://www.irwaonline.org)



Transpo'07 promises to be a spectacular event with three days of invoking educational programs covering topics such as procurement and contracting, lessons learned and best practices.

For information visit: [www.designbuildtransportation.com](http://www.designbuildtransportation.com)

This is not an IRWA sponsored event.



## IRWA Annual International Educational Conference



June 17 – 20<sup>th</sup>  
Hyatt Regency  
Sacramento, CA

### Major Events:

#### Harley Davidson Executive to Kick-Off Sunday Session:

On Sunday, June 17th, **Clyde Fessler**, former Vice President of Business Development for **Harley-Davidson Motor Company**, will be the Keynote Speaker. Clyde played an integral part in the company's dramatic turnaround, as it went from the brink of bankruptcy to one of the most dominant brands in the world.

#### Monday Awards Luncheon

On Monday, June 18th, the Annual Awards Luncheon will honor chapters and individuals who have made significant contributions to the Association and the right of way profession in the past year.

#### SR/WA Recognition Breakfast features Inspirational Speaker

For more than 20 years, **Roger Crawford** has inspired organizations to adopt a winning attitude toward work and life. On **Tuesday, June 19th**, Roger shares how he overcame life-changing physical obstacles, and today, *Sports Illustrated* calls him one of the most accomplished physically-challenged athletes in the world.

The breakfast will recognize all SR/WA's in attendance who received the designation in the past 12 months.

IRWA's Annual International Education Conference offers unparalleled learning and networking opportunities!

We invite you to join more than 1,000 participants, as you gain insight into project challenges/solutions and learn best practices from the industry's leading professionals.

#### *More than 60 right of way workshops!*

More than 60 educational workshops and interactive sessions are scheduled for the 3 1/2 days of the conference. IRWA courses are also offered before and after the conference.

Details and session descriptions were published in the January/February issue of *Right of Way Magazine* and available on the IRWA website at [www.irwaonline.org](http://www.irwaonline.org).

Chapter 27 - Region 1 will serve as the host chapter. Co-Chairs **Dwight Pattison, SR/WA**, and **Michael Pattison, SR/WA**, encourage you to attend this important educational event.

# Chapter 20

## 2007 Education Calendar

<b>March, 2007</b>	<b>Course 602</b> Location: Coordinator: Instructor:	<b>Project Development &amp; the Eng Process - 2 days</b>  Sue Pariseau, 651-463-6373, <a href="mailto:spariseau@dakotaelectric.com">spariseau@dakotaelectric.com</a> Co-instructors Jennifer Wolff & another to be announced
<b>April, 2007</b>	<b>Course 103</b> Location: Coordinator: Instructor:	<b>Ethics and the Right of Way Profession - 1 day</b>  Matt Storm, 651-882-0200, <a href="mailto:matthews@elsco.net">matthews@elsco.net</a> Bill Rottschaefer
<b>July, 2007</b>	<b>Round Table</b> Location: : Coordinator: Instructor:	<b>Power Up WI Course - 1.5 Days</b> Stillwater Great River Energy Numerous Presenters
<b>September, 2007</b>	<b>Course 503</b> Location: : Coordinator: Instructor:	<b>Mobile Home Relocation - 1 day</b> TBD Steve Carlson, 651-882-0200, <a href="mailto:steven@elsco.net">steven@elsco.net</a> Reg Draheim & Deanna Loewenhagen
<b>November, 2007</b>	<b>Course 700</b> Location: Coordinator: Instructor:	<b>Introduction to Property/Asset Management - 2 day</b> TBD
<b>January, 2008</b>	<b>SR/WA Exam Course</b> Location: : Coordinator: Instructor:	TBD

**IRWA cancellation policy on classes:**

Written notification of cancellation must be received by the class coordinator 15 days prior to start of class. A 75% refund will be made if written notification is received less than 15 days prior to start of class. No refund will be made after the start of class.

**Attention course attendees:**

Please contact the Course Coordinator prior to attending a course for information on Real Estate, Appraisal or Legal continuing education credits. **PLEASE, DO NOT** assume that all classes offer continuing education credits.

## Tell us YOUR story.

**IRWA seeks contributors for upcoming issues of *Right of Way* magazine.**

We are looking for people to **share their career story**.

We are also accepting:

- letters to the editor
- press releases (Industry Buzz section)
- articles or ideas for publication

Contributing to *Right of Way* puts YOU in front of more than 10,000 subscribers worldwide, enhancing your image in the right of way profession.

Email Kate Shirley at [shirley@irwaonline.org](mailto:shirley@irwaonline.org), Editorial/Marketing Coordinator, with submissions or questions.

### **Chapter 20 Advertising**

If you are interested in advertising in our Chapter Communiqué or Chapter Directory, please contact the following people:

Chapter 20 Directory:	Mark Hudson, Membership Chair 218-625-3862
Chapter 20 Communiqué:	Debbie Tyler, Newsletter Editor 763-323-2619

We offer space for  $\frac{1}{4}$  page ads in our Communiqué at \$25 per year (six issues) and space for  $\frac{1}{2}$  page ads in the directory at \$50 per year.



IRWA North Star Chapter 20  
Debbie Tyler  
Connexus Energy  
14601 Ramsey Boulevard NW  
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