

PLATTE RIVER CURRENTS



Chapter 78 News is a publication of the International Right of Way Association Platte River Chapter #78. Send comments or articles to: Dan Greco, (402) 955-2900

2005 CHAPTER OFFICERS



[Chris Pawloski, President & Relocation Committee](#)

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(402) 955-2900

[Jim Shotkoski, President Elect](#)
Lancaster County Engineering Dept
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[Joel Walker, Vice President & Education Chair](#)
Nebraska Department of Roads
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[John Meng-Frecker, Secretary & Survey Committee](#)
E&A Consulting Group
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[Joey Kramer, Treasurer](#)
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[Paul Farrell, Director & Nominations Chair](#)
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(402) 997-3570

[Chapter Committee Chairs](#)

[Sarah Crook, Membership Coordinator](#)
Northern Natural Gas Company
(402) 398-7149

[Randy De George, Professional Development Coordinator](#)
Omaha Public Power District
(402) 636-3648

[OPEN!! Asset Management](#)

President's Update

Hello Fellow Members,

I hope every one is well and getting ready for the holidays.

I would like to personally apologize for the late delivery of this newsletter. We are working to get back on schedule after the first of the year.

At our last meeting on November 2, 2005, the Chapter members elected the officers for the 2006-2007 terms. Your new Chapter Leadership will be as follows:

Jim Shotkoski, SR/WA- President/Director
Joel Walker, SR/WA- President Elect
Joey Kramer, SR/WA- Vice President
Dan Greco-Secretary
William Ince-Treasurer
Chris Pawloski-Director

I am sure the new leadership will maintain our standing as a leader in the region and in the organization. As we make this transition to the new leadership, please be sure to provide any input to the new leadership.

The Chapter 78 Installation Banquet will be held January 28, 2006 at the Riverside Grill located in Council Bluffs, Iowa. The banquet will be held from approximately 5:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. The invitations will be e-mailed out later this week and RSVP's will need to be returned by January 13, 2006. All of the details of the event will be listed in the invitation.

Chapter 78 will be the host of the Region 3 Spring Forum, April 20 & 21, 2006. We are very excited to have the forum return to Chapter 78. We are planning to present IRWA Course 302-Team Building on Thursday the 20th from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Chapter 78 will then host a networking hour followed by a live auction. If you have any items that you would like to donate to the auction it would be greatly appreciated. The proceeds generated by this event will be presented to Nancy Halvorson, SR/WA and will be used in her campaign for a Member at Large seat on the IRWA-International Executive Committee.

Many of you may not be aware that Ron Kramer of the Nebraska Department of Roads, passed away last week. Ron was a great person that always had a good joke or two that he wanted to share. His passing is a grave loss to all that knew and worked with him. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family.

As my Chapter Presidency winds down, I would like to thank all of the members of Chapter 78 for their friendship and support throughout these last two years. I feel that the Chapter has achieved most of the goals we have put forth and I am confident that the foundation is solid for the future.

I would like to wish each and everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Thank You,

Chris A. Pawloski / President
Platte River Chapter 78



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Northern Natural Gas Company
(402) 398-7034

Tom Lund, Local Public Agency

The City of Omaha
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Glen Hass, Pipeline

Northern Natural Gas Company
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David Lane, Utilities

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Randy De George, Web Site Editor

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**REGION 3
2006 SPRING FORUM
APRIL 20 & 21, 2006
HOSTED BY: PLATTE RIVER CHAPTER 78**

**HILTON OMAHA
1001 CASS STREET
OMAHA, NEBRASKA 68102
(402) 998-4300**

**THURSDAY - IRWA PRESENTATION
C-302 (Team Building)
THURSDAY EVENING -LIVE AUCTION
FRIDAY- REGION 3 BUSINESS MEETING**



IRWA Quarterly Meeting on November 2, 2005

The quarterly meeting of Chapter 78, of the International Right-of-Way Association was held on November 2, 2005, at Mahoney State Park, Ashland, Nebraska. Chris Pawloski, Chapter 78 President, called the membership to order at 11:00 AM. The meeting was well attended with approximately 36 members and 4 guests. The guests included:

- Tom Manning, Nebraska Dept. of Roads
- Nick Moustakes, Corps of Engineers
- Ken Miller, Northern Natural Gas Co.

We extend our thanks to our members and guests for their chapter support.

The first order of business was the approval of Old Business:

- The minutes for the IRWA Chapter 78, Quarterly Meeting, held on June 1, 2005, at Mahoney State Park were presented by President Pawloski. The minutes were presented to the membership. A motion to accept the minutes as was submitted by Jack Borgmeyer, SR/WA, and Randy DeGeorge, SR/WA, seconded the motion. The motion was accepted by a voice vote of the members. Motion to accept "Passed"
- The minutes of the IRWA Chapter 78, Quarterly Meeting, held on August 27, 2005, at the Henry Doorley Zoo, Omaha, Nebraska, were submitted by President Pawloski for approval. The minutes were presented to the Chapter membership. Joey Kramer noted that Chapter Member Lesile Meyers name was incorrect and should have read Lesile Myers. In addition, membership report was amended from 11 paid members to 111 paid members. A motion to accept the minutes as amended was submitted by Randy DeGeorge, SR/WA, and the motion was seconded by Joey Kramer, SR/WA. The motion was accepted by a voice vote of the members. Motion to accept "Passed"
- The Treasurer's Report was submitted by Joey Kramer, for the June 1, 2005, chapter meetings. A motion was made by Jim Shotkoski, SR/WA, to accept the Treasurer's Report, as presented for the June 1, 2005, chapter meeting. Ron Marshall, SR/WA, seconded the motion. Motion to accept "Passed"
- The Treasurer's Report was submitted by Joey Kramer, for the August 27, 2005, chapter meetings. A motion was made by Paul Farrell to accept the Treasurer's Report, as presented for the August 27, 2005, Chapter meeting. David Lane, SR/WA, seconded the motion. The motion was accepted by a voice vote of the members. Motion to accept "Passed"
- The chapter checking account balance as of 11/02/2005 is \$ 7,177.75. In addition, the Chapter has a Certificate of Deposit with a cash value as of 09/30/2005 of \$ 11,579.63.
- Chris Pawloski and Jim Shotkoski presented the Education Report. Chris Pawloski served as Course Coordinator for the URA Seminar, held October 24th as well as Courses 505, Advanced Residential Relocation and Course 506, Advanced Business' Relocation Classes which were held October 25th-27th at the Mid-America Energy Center, Council Bluffs, Iowa. President Pawloski reported these classes were fairly well attended and offered our thanks to David Lane, Mid-American Energy Company, who provided our chapter with the site location for the classes. President Pawloski mentioned that there is approximately \$3,000 in receivables that have yet to be processed. In addition, Jim Shotkoski reported that Courses 901, Engineering Plan Development and Course 902, Property Descriptions have sufficient interest and the courses will be held as scheduled this November 14 and 15th.
- Sarah Crook, Membership Services Chair, reported that our current membership totals 112 members. President Pawloski reported that 2006 Membership Dues will be arriving. An increase in membership dues of approximately \$ 25.00/member is anticipated.
- Dan Greco, Newsletter Chair, informed the membership of his ideas for the newsletter and encouraged members to submit any articles, ideas, etc., to him for consideration.

- Professional Development Chair, Randy DeGeorge, SR/WA, presented SR/WA pins and/or plaques to Tim Mullin, Nebraska Dept of Roads, Jim Hunter, Nebraska Dept of Roads, Dean Hume, Nebraska Dept of Roads, Tim Lentz, Nebraska Dept of Roads, and John Rownd, Nebraska Dept of Roads. Congratulations to our newest SR/WA's. Randy DeGeorge noted that over the past two (2) years, Chapter 78, has designated nineteen (19) new SR/WA's. This is a significant accomplishment and as a chapter we offer our congratulations to each and every one of you.
- Jack Borgmeyer, SR/WA, reported that he would be in attendance at an IRWA Educational Summit, to be held in Chicago during November of this year. The summit will deal with the revamping of all of IRWA educational offerings and attempt to identify future educational needs. In addition, Mr. Borgmeyer, SR/WA, noted that as of July 2006, SR/WA's who wish to be certified for either "Relocation" or "Valuation", will have to pass a discipline exam, prior to certification.

The chapter broke for lunch and reconvened shortly thereafter to take up remaining New Business items on the Agenda.

- President Pawloski reported on the Region 3 Fall Forum, held on October 13-14, 2005, at Bloomington, Minn. Five members represented the Chapter. President Pawloski reported on a "Time Management" PowerPoint presentation that will be available for members in the near future. It is hoped this presentation will be available for a Chapter Meeting in the near future.
- President Pawloski mentioned that Chapter 78 will be hosting the Spring Forum on April 20-21, 2006, at the Downtown Omaha Hilton, 1001 Cass Street, Omaha, Nebraska. The Chapter will host an Auction on April 20th with the proceeds anticipated to go to Nancy Halvorson's Campaign for an executive position with International. The members of Region 3 have endorsed her candidacy. Friday, April 21st, Chapter 78 will host the Region 3 Business Meeting. Details are being worked for the schedule of activities for Thursday, April 20th. Consideration is being given as to whether the Chapter should sponsor some type of educational opportunity in conjunction with the Region 3 Spring Forum.
- The 2006 Installation Banquet was discussed. President Pawloski and President-Elect Shotkoski presented flyers outlining the itinerary for the banquet, which will be held on Saturday, January 28, 2006, at the Riverside Grille, 2 Harrah's Blvd, Council Bluffs, Iowa. Invitations and RSVP's will be forthcoming.
- President Pawloski turned the meeting over to Paul Farrell, Nomination Committee Chairman. Mr. Farrell presented the 2006 slate of officers as selected by the committee. Mr. Farrell then opened the floor to nominations for the 2006 Chapter Officers. None being heard, David Lane, SR/WA, made a motion to accept the 2006 Chapter 78 Officer slate as presented. The motion was seconded by Chris Pawloski. The motion was accepted by a voice vote of the members. The 2006 Officers for Chapter 78, are:

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| • Second Year Director and Nominations Chair: | Chris Pawloski |
| • President and First Year Director: | Jim Shotkoski, SR/WA |
| • President-Elect 2008 | Joel Walker, SR/WA |
| • Vice-President: | Joey Kramer, SR/WA |
| • Secretary: | Dan Greco |
| • Treasurer: | Bill Ince |

- President Pawloski opened the floor to discussion. Hearing none, a motion to adjourn was made by David Lane, SR/WA, and seconded by Paul Farrell. The motion was accepted by a voice vote of the members.
- The meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM.





2005 Educational Offerings IRWA Chapter 78
IRWA Chapter 78 Newsletter Report from Education Coordinator
December 2005

Final numbers have come in on the 701 Property Leasing Management Course. Net to the Chapter is \$2594. Many thanks go to our own Randy De George for picking up as coordinator in mid stream and making this course a resounding success for the chapter. Way to go Randy!

Final numbers will be coming in on courses 505, 506, 901, and 902. We expect to have funds left over from all of these courses as well.

The Nebraska Department of Roads Right of Way Division has asked the chapter to schedule IRWA Course 410 in late summer of 2006. The course will be offered to the Local Public Agencies as part of a larger program.

We have a brand new projector. It is an NEC brand model VT676. The projector should serve our chapters needs very well. We plan to show it off at the Installation Banquet in January. Until otherwise decided, the custodian of the projector is the Chapter Education Chair.

The Chapter Education Plan will be posted to the website for your reference.

Anyone with suggestions for improvement in the chapter education effort is invited to call, write, or talk with me in person. jwalker1@dor.state.ne.us (402) 479-4472



New Year's Resolution

By Susan Young

*Outside my window a new year I see,
And I can determine what kind of year it will be.
It can be busy and productive and funny,
Or boring, and cold ~~ but I'll make it sunny.
My own state of mind is a determining key
For I am the person that I choose to be.
I can be creative with my crafts on the shelf,
And think more of others than I do of myself.
I can enjoy what I do and make it fun
Rather than gripe and unload on someone.
I can be patient with others less driven
And encourage them to use their talents given.
I'll have faith in myself, what I'll see, what I'll hear;
And I personally intend to make the best of this year!*



Welcome Aboard New Members!



Ben Koziel - Omaha Public Power District
Ernestine Burtley - Union Pacific Railroad

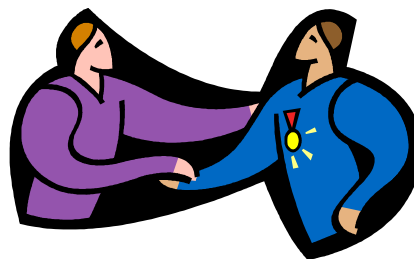
Congratulations to the Chapters newest SR/WA's:



Chapter Professional Development

Congratulations to Pat Evans on obtaining her Relocation Assistance certification to go along with her SR/WA she has already.

Congratulations to Stacey Kroeger and Chris Pawloski on their certification candidacies and also to Chris and Mark Lorenz on their SR/WA candidacies. Alan Hesse from the City of Sioux City has also submitted his final paperwork for his SR/WA.



2005 Officers



Chris Pawloski/President



Jim Shotkoski/President Elect



**Joel Walker, SR/WA
Vice President**



John Meng-Frecker/Secretary



Joey Kramer, SR/WA/Treasurer

You and your guest are cordially invited to the
**Platte River Chapter 78 Installation
Banquet**

Saturday, January 28, 2006

At the

Riverside Grille

2 Harrah's Boulevard
Council Bluffs, Iowa

Social Hour
Buffet Dinner
Business Meeting
Awards and Installation

More Details to Follow

The **E** Pages

www.claus.com

Claus.com is an interactive web page where kids can play Christmas games and check out the Nice-O-Meter just to make sure. There is also a Santa tracking feature for Christmas eve, and the ability to call Santa in his sleigh.



WEB SITE LOCATIONS

For those of you who have internet access, here are a few handy links to various web sites:

Chapter 78's member site: <http://members.cox.net/irwachapter78/Main.html>

Region 3 web site located at: <http://www.irwaregion3.org>

International Headquarters can be reached at <http://www.irwaonline.org>

Should you have any questions, contact me at greco@midwestrow.com or phone at: (402) 955-2900.

