



Trailwinds

April 2008

Dakota Chapter 72

Dear Chapter 72 members,

It is hard to believe that I am well into the last year of my term. Where does the time go? Two months from now many of us will be in Austin, TX for the International Education Conference which is always a great time. Amy Spilman and I are excited to be representing Chapter 72 as Directors for the Annual Meeting in June. For those of you who have never been to one of the IRWA Annual Education Conferences, you need to try to attend one. I have no doubt you will come away feeling rejuvenated and impressed with the magnitude of our profession.

The International Awards have been announced and Otter Tail Power Company came in at a very close Second Place for the International Small Employer of the Year; by one point, in fact! The good news is that the employer who took home First Place was also from our Region, Great River Energy took the honor. My understanding is that this was a two employer race, which is encouraging if Otter Tail Power Company were to try again next year.

The hype from our recent Deadwood events seems to still be going strong. Region 3 recently donated \$100 to our Chapter to show their appreciation for the results and to help us with the banquet expenses. I think I can speak on behalf of all of us that this is a generous donation and we greatly appreciate it. Because of the success of the Deadwood events, I have submitted an article to IRWA Headquarters to let everyone know what a small chapter can do. It will be published in the July/August edition of the IRWA magazine.

A reminder that our Chapter will be hosting Course 103 – Ethics & the Right-of-Way Profession at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 1st at Basin Electric in Bismarck. We will have our Chapter meeting at 8:00 a.m. on Friday, May 2nd also at Basin Electric. And we still do not have a problem filling up our classes as we already have 20 participants signed up for Course 103. Please start thinking ahead for our next meeting to be held in conjunction with Course 501 sometime in early August. I believe we are due for a South Dakota location once again, so you South Dakota members, please be thinking about this so we can discuss at our May 2nd meeting.

Please also remember the membership drive that is currently going on. The member who recruits the most new members will win a very nice IRWA windshirt. I am asking all of you to please consider taking an active part in this drive as the success of our Chapter depends on our membership.

With that, I hope you all get a chance to enjoy the wonderful spring season as we are accustomed to here in the Dakotas and hopefully will see you soon.

Mike Murray, SR/WA, R/W-NAC

Chapter 72 President

Upcoming Meetings/Courses/Events ...

Thursday, May 1 – C103 (Ethics & the Right-of-Way Profession); Bismarck ND (Basin Electric)

Friday, May 2 – Chapter Meeting; Bismarck ND (Basin Electric)

June 22-25 – 54th Annual International Education Conference; Austin, TX (Hilton Austin)

August 2008 – C501 (Residential Relocation Assistance)



Presentation of Chapter 72 Employer of the Year Award 2007

Otter Tail Power Company

Chuck Macfarland and Mike Murray



Presentation of Chapter 72 Co-Professional of the Year Award 2007

Mike Murray and Bob Krava

News around the Chapter ...

Ken Brilz attended a Right-of-Way Conference in Lincoln, NE on April 7, 8 and 9 for DOT's of Midwestern States hosted by the Right-of-Way Division of the Nebraska Department of Roads.

Amy Spilman, Kelly Suko and John Boheman have passed their SR/WA exams. Please congratulate them on their outstanding accomplishment!!!

Mike Murray has been named Supervisor of the Property & Right-of-Way Section of Basin Electric. Mike succeeds Scott Lang who retired after 37 years of service to Basin Electric.

Job Openings ...

Right of Way Agent – North Dakota Region

Enbridge Pipelines North Dakota, LLC (EPND) is currently seeking a Right of Way Agent in our Minot, ND office. EPND is a wholly owned subsidiary of Enbridge Liquids Pipelines, a leader in crude oil and natural gas transportation, gathering, and processing.

Typical duties include: Perform the duties associated with acquisition of land rights, settling claims and records maintenance of all properties necessary for the operation and maintenance of the existing pipeline system and any new expansions within the North Dakota Region. Maintain effective relationships with landowners, governmental agencies, tax officials, grantors of leases/permits and employees throughout the Enbridge pipeline system. Occasional travel is required.

Qualifications: The preferred candidate should be a university graduate in a related field, with 3-5 years of experience in acquiring and maintaining fee owned, easement, and permitted type properties. Coursework and experience in land appraisal, title examination, relocation, real estate transactions and landowner negotiations is desirable. Must have the ability to understand real estate laws and practices, possess excellent written and oral communication skills, and have effective negotiating and transaction skills. Experience siting linear facilities is desirable. If applicable, relocation assistance will be provided.

Qualified candidates should apply on-line @ www.enbridgeUS.com (job opening #7681). Please attach a cover letter and resume. **No phone calls, please.** We thank all applicants for their interest. However, only applicants selected for interviews will be contacted. Equal Opportunity Employer.

Chatter from the "Chair" ...

I know you want to see all the pictures from our Deadwood events but there are so many, that this newsletter and my poor laptop couldn't handle the volume! If you are interested, I can load them onto a CD for distribution – send me your mailing address ☺

I'm still looking for articles and pictures that you would like to have printed in "Trailwinds"... please send them to me at vking@bepc.com.