



Trailwinds

SPRING 2009

DAKOTAS CHAPTER 72

PRESIDENTS REPORT

First of all, I would like to thank Mike Murray for doing an excellent job as President of the Chapter – Thank you, Mike! Also, please join me in congratulating Mike for being elected Secretary/Treasurer of Region 3. This came about at the Spring Forum in Kansas City on March 27th. Also, congratulations go to Otter Tail Power Company, 2008 Employer of the Year (less than 20 employees), and to the entire Chapter 72 membership (you) for taking second place for Chapter of the Year Award (chapters with less than 100 members).

This is the second go-around for me as President and there are a few things that have changed, but nothing too serious. I'm glad to see so many new people and that they are getting involved with the Chapter.

Courses 901 and 902 are scheduled for April 29 and 30 at the Ulteig Engineers offices in Fargo. Please go to the IRWA website (www.irwaonline.org) to register for either or both courses. Following the course on Thursday (between 4:30 and 5:00 p.m.), dinner will be served (compliments of Chapter 72) and the Chapter meeting will start shortly thereafter (all at Ulteig offices). If you will be attending the dinner and meeting, please send me an email (DHellman@bepc.com) so that enough food can be ordered.

Again, thank you all for your support and I look forward to the next couple of years as your President.

Don Hellman

Chapter 72 President



MEETING AGENDA

IRWA DAKOTA'S CHAPTER 72

Ulteig Engineers -- Fargo

3350 38th Avenue South

April 30, 2009 – 6:30 p.m.

Open meeting	Don Hellman
Housekeeping	Wayne Aamoeth
Introductions	Don Hellman
Approval of last meeting minutes	as printed in handout
Approval of Treasurer's Report	as printed in handout
Region 3 Report	Mike Murray
<u>Committee Reports</u>	
Awards	Don Hellman
Education	John Boheman
Course 501, August 18-19, 2009; Basin Electric in Bismarck, ND	
Course 200, October 21-22, 2009; Ulteig Engineering in Sioux Falls, SD	
Future courses	
Local Public Agency (ND & SD)	Kurt Donelan
Communications and Marketing	Valeree King
Professional Development	Kenn Haugen
Newsletter	Valeree King
Valuation	Valeree King
Program	Scot Pulse
Environment	Paul Mahlen
Pipeline	Mike Murray
Asset Management	Jack Holt
Relocation	Ken Brilz

Transportation	Ken Brilz
Surveying & Engineering	Russ Nelson
Utilities	Ron Golden
<u>Old Business</u>	
Chapter 72 Website	Don Hellman
<u>New Business</u>	
Conflict of Interest Statement (2009) Leadership	Don Hellman
2009 Annual Conference in Indianapolis, IN	Don Hellman
Additional items	
\$50 drawing	
Adjourn	



IRWA DAKOTA'S CHAPTER 72

February 6, 2009 Minutes

President Mike Murray opened the meeting at 8:30 a.m. at the Hampton Inn – Four Aces Casino in Deadwood, South Dakota.

Attendees were: Don Hellman, Bob Krava, Ed Schwab, Darryl Sayler, Matt Kostelecky, Michelle Schroeder, Stephen Miller, Valeree King, Ted Williams, Kelly Suko, David Anderson, Ron Golden, Bruce Koppinger, Josh May, Scot Pulse, Mike Noonan, Jack Holt, Ken Brilz, Tom Belmont, Toby

Panasuk, Chris Haiar, Harold Parlet, Kent Ellis, Kim Krull, Paul Mahlen, John Boheman, Wayne M. Aamoth, Jamie McIntyre, Joanie Miller, Craig Poorker, Rick Kaan, Dean Mostad, Duffy Heinle.

Approval of Minutes and Treasurer's Report

Motion by David Anderson, second by John Boheman to approve the October 29, 2008 minutes. Motion carried.

Motion by Bob Krava, second by Ken Brilz to approve the October Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

Slate of Officers for 2009-2010 – Bob Krava

The Nominations and Elections Committee met and nominated the following:

President – Don Hellman

President Elect – Ron Golden

1st Vice President – John Boheman

2nd Vice President – Josh May

Secretary/Treasurer – Amy Spilman

Directors for the Indianapolis Conference:

Mike Murray

Don Hellman

1st Alternate – John Boheman

2nd Alternate – Scot Pulse

Motion by Darryl Saylor, second by Ron Golden to close nominations. Motion carried.

Craig Poorker, Region 3 Chair, swore in the officers, directors and Professional Development Chair, Kenn Haugen.

Mike turned the meeting over to the new president, Don Hellman.



Region 3 Report – Craig Poorker

Craig wished Don good luck as the new president.

Stated that Mike is running for Secretary/Treasurer for Region 3.

Congratulated John Boheman as the nominee for Chapter 72 Professional of the Year,

Southwest Water Authority (SWA) as Chapter 72's Employer of the Year, and Ottertail Power Company as nominee for World Headquarters (HQ) Small Employer of the Year.

Spring Forum will be in Overland Park West, Kansas, March 27, 2009.

Conference will be held the last week of June in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Changes in Certifications and Designations.

Region realignment will not be voted on this year, wait another year.

Incoming Chair for Region 3 is Rita Rasmussen and Vice Chair is Randy DeGeorge.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Awards – Mike Murray, Chair; Don Hellman and Amy Spilman

Don handed out the following awards:

2008 Chapter 72 Professional of the Year – John Boheman

Chapter 72 Employer of the Year – Southwest Water Authority

IRWA Small Employer of the Year nominee – Otter Tail Power Company

Past President – Mike Murray

Small Chapter of the Year, Chapter 72, application has been submitted to HQ



Education – John Boheman, Chair; committee members - Dean Mostad, David Anderson and Shad Erdmann

Course 801 had 41 participants. Thank You, Ted Williams, for another great job as Course Facilitator!!!

Courses 901 & 902 have been rescheduled for April 29 & 30; the Chapter meeting will be the evening of April 30, after class at Ulteig Engineering in Fargo, ND.

Certificates of Appreciation were presented to John and Amy for putting on a great class. (Thank You, John, for your help – Amy)

Please let John or Don know of any courses members need. John is always looking for a class to coordinate!

Local Public Agency – No Report

Communications and Marketing – Ron Golden

Bob Larson is a good friend and Ron wants to carry on his tradition of getting new members and linking everyone together.

New member contest winners were:

South Dakota – Mike Noonan - 8 new members

North Dakota – Kelly Suko - 5 new members

Mike and Kelly each received a Certificate of Appreciation and a windshirt for their efforts. Holly Suko (Kelly's beautiful wife) and Denise Murray (Mike's beautiful wife) each received a Certificate of Appreciation for their great work as our "Models" for the live auction. (Thank You, Ladies; your help was greatly appreciated!!!) Kent Ellis received a Certificate of Appreciation as our live auction auctioneer. (Kent, you did a GREAT job!!!) Mark Roby also received a Certificate of Appreciation for his support for Chapter 72 as a non-member. Communications and Marketing new committee members are: Valeree King, Chair; Josh May and Ron Golden.

Professional Development – Kenn Haugen, Chair; committee members: David Anderson, Mike Murray and Terry Fasteen

Active candidates for the SR/WA Designation are: David Anderson, Kelly Suko and John Boheman. Wayne Aamo and Darryl Brandt received their R/W-NAC Certifications.

Nominations and Elections – Bob Krava, Chair; committee members: Scot Pulse, Darryl Sayler and Brad Fettig

Bob is encouraging members to think of our next Employer of the Year and Professional of the Year.

Newsletter – Valeree King

If someone can't open the pictures in the newsletter, let Valeree know and she will send you a CD.

Discussion on advertising in the newsletter; \$50 for ¼ page and \$100 for ½ page ads. Ted Williams strongly suggested that some kind of guidelines/parameters be set up, an advertising policy. Motion by Bob Krava, second by Kelly Suko, to form an ad hoc committee to set up

policies for the newsletter and to present their information at the next meeting. Motion carried. Don and Valeree will follow through with this.

Valuation – No Report

Program – Don Hellman

Angie Tucker from the Hampton Inn was very accommodating; no set up charge, just a flat rate for our classes and meeting at the Hampton Inn.

Silent Auction money - \$1,491.50 and Live Auction money - \$1,595. Total money brought in by the auctions - \$3,086.50

Don would like the Nominations and Elections Committee to find a new Program Chair. Scot Pulse volunteered for Program Chair. (Thank You Very Much, Scot!!!)

Environment – Paul Mahlen

News on website – there are links to different governmental agencies.

Pipeline – Mike Murray

Nancy Greer is the new pipeline chair.

Mike would like to step down as chair. Darryl Saylor is our new Pipeline Chair.

(Thank You, Darryl!!!)

Asset Management – Jack Holt

The committee has been keeping in touch by conference call.

Jack commented that people are our greatest “Asset”.

Side comment from Jack regarding a new definition for IRWA - “**I Really Want Alcohol**”.

Relocation – Ken Brilz

Nothing on website.

Transportation – Ken Brilz

No goals and objectives on website.

Surveying & Engineering – No Report

Utilities – Ron Golden

Ron received an email from the National Utilities Committee stating that a committee called “I Want it Underground” will be at the conference.

The committee is looking at more levels above the SR/WA Designation, something more prestigious for someone to go higher than SR/WA.

Ten new courses this year.

OLD BUSINESS

Chapter 72 needs a website. Need to get a list of criteria for the website. A couple members know of people that could get this going, but the Chapter needs to put together a list of what we want.

NEW BUSINESS

Taxes have been submitted and are complete.

Conflict of Interest Statements have been signed by officers.

So far 5 members will be going to the Conference.

Auction items – knife and Ron Golden will check on a painting by John Green.

Motion by Bob Krava, second by Ron Golden to spend \$1,500 at the conference auction and then bring the items back and resell at our silent/live auction in Deadwood. Motion carried.

Children’s Book Drive at the conference. Motion by Mike, second by Steve Miller to donate \$100 and any books collected to the Book Drive. Motion carried.

Helping with expenses for officers and directors to attend Region Forums and Annual Conference. Motion by Ken Brilz, second by Wayne to spend \$300 per event for the Spring and Fall forums. Motion carried.

Motion by Ken, second by Bob Krava to spend \$750 plus registration for 2009 Annual Conference. Motion carried.

The Chapter would like to thank Dean Mostad for giving up his ‘Hula Girl’ at the silent auction in Deadwood ... it made a little girl VERY happy! Thank You, Dean!!!

Next meeting location will be at Ulteig offices in Fargo on April 30.

\$50 Drawing – Joanie Miller’s name was drawn to win the \$50, she graciously gave it back and Bob Krava won the drawing.

Motion by Kenn Haugen, second by John Boheman to adjourn. Motion carried.





Pictures from the Social, Dinner and Auctions – Deadwood, SD (2009)



Kelly Suko & Ron Golden



Mike Noonan & Ron Golden

Membership Drive Nets Dakotas Chapter 72 Monumental Results

(reprinted from Right of Way Magazine, Sep/Oct 2009)

In an effort to strengthen the future of Dakotas Chapter 72, Chapter President Mike Murray, SR/WA, R/W-NAC, initiated a membership drive for 2008 that would produce results far beyond any expectations of the chapter. An increase from 60 members to start 2008 to 88 members to finish the year. That's an increase of over 46% for this small chapter. Although it probably should not have been that big of surprise with how active this chapter has been over the past several years.

It started out with members of the chapter looking around at all the retirements taking place and potential retirements in the near future. The chapter membership was about to take a big hit if it did not act quickly. So they put together a membership drive where the person who recruited the most new members would be rewarded with an IRWA wind shirt. Ten new members would have been great, but the membership drive kept producing all year long until there were 28 new members by year end. With such a large recruitment, the decision was made to award two prizes - one for the top recruiter in North Dakota and the top recruiter in South Dakota. Kelly Suko, R/W-NAC, was the top recruiter in ND with 5 new members and Michael Noonan was the top recruiter in SD with 8 new members. The growth in membership did not stop with the completion of the membership drive as the chapter now sits at 95 members.

In addition to recruiting new members, the chapter acted on retaining the retirees also. As long as the retirees remain active by attending meeting, classes or other IRWA events, the chapter reimburses their membership dues. This has also proven to be very successful as we were able to retain 5 retirees on our membership in 2008 and into 2009.

Dakotas Chapter 72 of Region 3 has members from ND, SD, Western MN and Eastern WY.

UPCOMING COURSES / MEETINGS

April 29-30, 2009 – Courses 901 & 902, Fargo

Class Coordinator: Josh May

April 30, 2009 – Chapter 72 meeting, Fargo

4:30-5:00 p.m. --- Ulteig offices

August 18-19, 2009 – Course 501, Bismarck

Class Coordinators: John Boheman & Amy Spilman

October 21-22, 2009 – Course 200, Sioux Falls

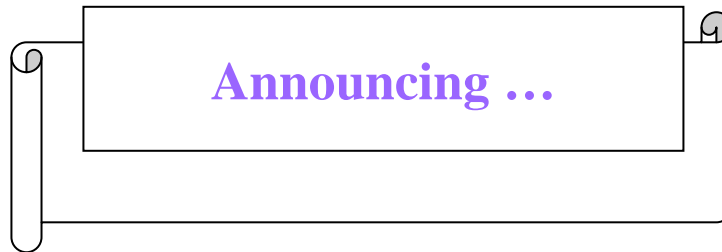
Class Coordinator: John Boheman

February 2010 – Course 900, Deadwood

Class Coordinator: Amy Spilman



**John Boheman presenting Ted Williams, Course Facilitator, with
Certificate of Appreciation and gift.**



If you have any news about you or your family that you would like to share, please send me a note ... and pictures! These are some very happy announcements from two of our members ...

11/29/2008 Rachelle & Todd Weiler welcomed to the world their first baby, a girl named Rylee Dawn. Rylee weighed 5 lbs 3 oz and was 19 inches long. She was greeted at home by family dogs, Lunar and Buster. Rachelle is the Assistant Marketing Coordinator for the Southwest Water Authority in Dickinson, North Dakota.



12/31/2008 Stephen Miller and his wife, Floramay, met their first granddaughter, Mariah Katherine Unser, on January 1, 2009. In Stephen's words, "we promptly drove to Ames, Iowa where we began to spoil her"! Stephen is a Right-of-Way Specialist/Senior Planner with Kadrmas, Lee & Jackson in Bismarck, North Dakota.

