

The Heartlander



2002 Newsletter of the Year (Chapters with 100 Members or Less)

The Spirit of the Heartland - Chapter 41

May 2006

Calendar of Events

CHAPTER 41 QUARTERLY MEETING

PLACE MID AMERICAN ENERGY URBAN DALE (SEE PAGE 8)

DATE & TIME FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 2006 9:30 A.M.

REGION 3 FALL FORUM

PLACE BRANSON, MISSOURI

UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY 15-17, 2006 – COURSE 202 INTERPERSONAL
RELATIONS TO REAL ESTATE, COUNTRY INNS AND
SUITES, AMES

JUNE 18-21, 2006 – INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION
CONFERENCE, ADAM'S MARK HOTEL, DENVER,
COLORADO

SEPTEMBER 15, 2006 – CHAPTER 41 MEETING, LOCATION
AND TOPIC TO BE ANNOUNCED

FALL 2006 -- COURSE 214 SKILLS OF EXPERT TESTIMONY,
TENTATIVE (SEE PAGE 3)

DECEMBER 8 OR 15, 2006 – CHAPTER 41 MEETING
URBAN DALE

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President's Message

President Bernard B. Banker, SR/WA, R/W-RC

Happy Spring 2006! As I write this we are having a nice spring shower. And, as many times is the case, it is the weekend and all my outdoor activities will need to be changed.

Last Thursday and Friday was the Region 3 Forum in Omaha and as usual, our friends at Nebraska Chapter 78 were the consummate hosts. Our Thursday evening social function centered on hors'douvres and a lively auction to raise funds for Nancy Halvorson's candidacy for the IEC.

As you may recall, the region had an online auction for a one week stay at a cabin in Minnesota donated by Jim Diemer and a website design donated by Vicki Elscott. Successful bidders were our own Linda Martens and Chapter 78, respectively.

This online auction held in March, along with the Thursday night festivities netted over \$4,100 for Nancy's campaign. I am very proud of our chapter members who, without hesitation, stepped forward with their generosity.

Course 700 – Introduction to Property Management was held on April 10th and 11th in Ames with a class of 27. The combination of great student input and the facilitating skills of Mr. David Layne made for a very informative, entertaining two days.

Mr. Layne will be facilitating Course 202 – Interpersonal Relations in Real Estate, on May 15-17, 2006 in Ames. There is still time to sign up...I'm sure you will enjoy it!

As Chapter Directors for the International Education Conference in Denver, Colorado, Jim Diemer and I will be receiving our Director packets in the near future. At our June 2nd meeting, we will discuss a number of items that will be voted on at that meeting. We want your input, so please plan to attend.

Bernie

In The Spotlight



Gwen Ballard

Gwen Ballard joined Chapter 41 in 2005 following the LPA Best Practices Conference held in Des Moines.

Gwen has five years experience in the Right of Way field with the Iowa Department of Transportation. She is a Property Manager and Local Public Agency Coordinator.

Gwen says, "I joined the IRWA to support an organization with the primary mission of supporting Right of Way professionals. I appreciate the continuing educational opportunities and the benefits of further honing my Right of Way skills. All IRWA courses and functions that I have attended have been informative, interesting and enjoyable. The opportunity to network within the Right of Way community is an additional IRWA member advantage.

I look forward to further professional development and a continued beneficial relationship with IRWA and Chapter 41."

Gwen and her husband reside in Ankeny with their 8-year old daughter and 10-month old Anatolian Shepard.



Vern Rash

Vern Rash, Licensed Professional Engineer (PE) and Land Surveyor (LS) added IRWA to his professional organizational membership in 2005. He is also a member of the Society of Land Surveyors in Iowa.

Vern has approximately 15 years experience in the right of way field. He is employed as Senior Engineer at the Des Moines Water Works. He began his career with the Water Works in 1978 immediately following receipt of his Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from Iowa State University. In 1986 he received his Master of Science degree in Environmental Engineering.

Vern's primary responsibility at the Water Works has been in the engineering discipline; however, with his survey background he was often involved in solving land ownership and boundary issues as the Des Moines Water Works planned for remote pumping stations and storage facilities. This has gradually evolved into handling the entire real estate acquisition process associated with new water and transmission main right of way and other water works facilities. This includes route/site selection, determination of real estate needs, generating compensation estimates for minor acquisitions, preparing document and land descriptions, gathering field survey information, negotiations and closing.

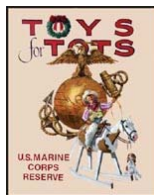
Vern says "IRWA has given me a means to network with others in the right of way acquisition field and keep up with the rules and laws that govern the acquisition process".

Vern and his wife Sheryl have three daughters, Michelle (12), Emily (7) and Stephanie (1 year).



**IRWA's 52nd
Annual International
Education Conference
June 18-21
Denver, Colorado**

Chapter/Region News



TOYS FORTOTS

Vicki Elscott, Program Co-Chair

To date our 2006 donation for Toys for Tots is \$130.
(We collected \$75 in March!)

For more information on where to send a check,
please email Vicki Elscott vicki.elscott@dot.iowa.gov
Thank you for your continued generosity.

MEMBER RECOGNITION



Ray Callahan

On March 20, 2006 Ray Callahan was honored for a 50-year career at the DOT. Ray's career began in the Office of Right of Way in March 1956 as a draftsman.

Chapter 41 President Bernard Banker, SR/WA, R/W-RAC was on hand at the celebration to present Ray with a plaque from Chapter 41 "In appreciation for 43 years of dedicated service".



Ray Callahan & Chapter 41 President Bernie Banker

CONGRATULATIONS

\$50 Door Prize Winner

March Meeting

Tim Bunkers



Education Report

Nancy Halvorson, SR/WA, R/W-RAC, Chair

Course 202

Interpersonal Relations in Real Estate

Instructor: David Layne, SR/WA*

May 15-17, 2006

Ames Country Inn and Suites

Course Coordinator:

Patti Simons (patricia.simons@dot.iowa.gov)
515.239.1562 or FAX 515.239.1247

Course 202 will satisfy three days of the 200 - Series
Course Requirement for SR/WA designation.

If you are working toward your Certification
these two courses combined will satisfy the
200 level course requirements.

Course 214

Skills of Expert Testimony

Proposed for Fall, 2006

**Contact Education Chair, Nancy Halvorson,
SR/WA, R/W-RAC if you are interested.**

You can register for either of these courses at:
<http://www.irwaonline.org/education/register.cfm>

David Layne, SR/WA is the owner of Layne Consulting Services, Inc. He has 30+ years experience in all phases of ROW. He was the recipient of the 1991 Frank Balfour Professional of the Year Award.

REGION 3 PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR




At the Spring Forum in Omaha, Nebraska on April 21 it was announced that former Chapter 41 President and former Region 3 Chair, Nancy Halvorson, SR/WA, R/W-RAC was the Region 3 Professional of the Year!

Member Information:



SR/WA RE-CERTIFIED
Shelly J. Whiteing, SR/WA
Congratulations, Shelly!



MEMBERSHIP NEWS
Chair Don Corrigan, SR/WA, R/W-RAC
 NEW MEMBERS
Allen Runnells, Contract Land Staff-Rockies Express Pipeline
Theodore Francois, Alliant Energy
Rebecca Kluesner, City of Cedar Rapids
Welcome–We look forward to your membership.

NEW MEMBER



Chapter 41 President Bernie Banker Welcomes New Member, Marty Sankey of the Iowa DOT.

Message from Nancy Halvorson, SR/WA, R/W-RAC

I would like to thank all who have so generously donated to my campaign for the IEC – whether you donated an item for the auction, spent money at the auction (we do have some fierce bidders in our midst!!), or made a cash donation. Your support is invaluable.

As you all know by now, I was not the candidate to receive the INEC Endorsement for the ballot; however, we are forging ahead and will run from the floor. The other unendorsed candidate also is running from the floor, thus the vote will likely be split three ways for one position. Our plans for campaign activities at the Conference are pretty well set – all we need to do is get there and WIN! We will be discussing some of our plans at the June Chapter meeting. Anyone attending the Conference who would like to help out – we can sure use you. Please contact me if you have some time to spare in Denver. The support has been overwhelming, not just in our Chapter but from our Region as well – I can't tell you how much I appreciate it.

**FRANK C. BALFOUR
PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR NOMINEES**



The International Nominations and Elections Committee recently announced the finalists for the Frank C. Balfour Professional of the Year. Region 3 is very proud to have two members as finalists for this award:

- Bruce Reed, SR/WA Chapter 5
- Joanie Miller, SR/WA Chapter 20

The Frank C. Balfour Professional of the Year is awarded to an IRWA member who demonstrated outstanding contributions to the Association's activities and the Right of Way profession.

Other finalists are:

- Corinne H. Barkdull, SR/WA Region 4
- Lee Satterfield Hamre, SR/WA Region 9
- Lisa R. Harrison, SR/WA Region 2
- Donald J. Sherwood, SR/WA Region 2

Finalists will be recognized at the Monday awards luncheon during the Educational Conference in Denver. The winner will be announced at the Wednesday evening banquet.

**SR/WA and CERTIFICATION FEES
to INCREASE JULY 1, 2006**

Effective July 1 many fees associated with SR/WA and Certification candidacy, designation and recertification will increase. So, if you've been procrastinating...the time is NOW.

The fees to increase:

- SR/WA Application: up from \$160 to \$175
- Recertification: up from \$50 to \$100
- Candidacy Application: up from \$20 to \$50
- Exam fee for 4 separate exams: up from \$25 to \$50
- Certification Application: up from \$25 to \$50
- Recertification Application: up from \$25 to \$50

If you have questions please contact Chapter 41 PDC Chair, Shelly Whiteing.



International Right of Way Association

“Spirit of the Heartland” - Iowa Chapter 41

**Minutes of Business Meeting – March 10, 2006
Cedar Rapids, Iowa**

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 pm by President-Elect Jim Diemer.

Secretary's Report: The minutes from the January 21, 2006 business meeting were reviewed and Don Corrigan suggested a correction to the minutes regarding Membership Committee report, it was noted that the correction would be completed; otherwise the minutes were accepted and approved as published. The motion was seconded and approved.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report indicated a total net balance of \$7,908.74. A motion to approve the report was made, seconded, and approved.

Committee Reports:

- Membership Committee -- Don Corrigan reported we have three new approved members, Corie Erickson, of Corn Belt Power Cooperative, Martin Sankey, Iowa Department of Transportation and Allen Runnels, with Contract Land Service-Rockies Express Pipeline. That takes our membership total to 71. Don also mentioned that the International Membership Committee is to consider complimentary memberships at their April meeting. Don stated he has requested 12 membership packets from International. If you have not paid your dues yet you will be assessed a 10% delinquency fee. After April 15th payment must include dues, the 10% fee and a \$50 reinstatement fee. President-Elect Diemer presented Corie Erickson with his membership pin and certificate. Welcome, Corie!
- Education Committee -- Chapter 41 plans to sponsor the following courses for 2006:
Course 700 - Introduction to Property Management, April 10-11 in Ames, IA
Course 202 - Interpersonal Relations in Real Estate, May 15-17 in Ames, IA
Course 214 - Skills of Expert Testimony, dates and location to be announced
New policy: Course Coordinator no longer gets to take the course for free per International effective July 1, 2006.
- Marketing Committee -- Needs to work on a plan for marketing and retention of members.
- Program Committee -- June 2, 2006 meeting will be in Des Moines, tentative Mock Condemnation. September 15, 2006 meeting (tentative) in Des Moines and December 8 or 15, 2006 with further information to follow.
- Local Public Agency Committee -- Rita Rasmussen attended a meeting in Washington DC and also attended a meeting in Las Vegas. San Antonio is holding the LPA Conference in 2007; there are other interests in the LPA Conference.
- Survey Committee -- Dan Shiflett reported that the survey committee has a new member, Corie Erickson of Corn Belt Power Cooperative, Humboldt, IA
- Transportation Committee -- Don Corrigan is Region Chair for the Transportation Committee
- Utilities Committee -- At the last International meeting there was some discussion regarding a course in progress, a copy of the course has been submitted to International Course Review Committee.

Awards: Professional Development Committee member Shelly Whiteing presented the following awards:
Congratulations to Steve, Shelly, Dan, and Linda!

Steve Chapman and Shelly Whiteing: Approved by headquarters for SR/WA recertification

Dan Shiflett: Approved by headquarters for R/W Negotiations

Linda Martens: Approved by headquarters for R/W RAC

Unfinished Business: Nancy Halvorson updated the chapter on her campaign for election to IRWA International Executive Committee. Nancy has visited forum meetings and found the experience to be very rewarding and positive. Nancy is excited and enthusiastic about her campaign and is looking forward to representing IRWA members as a

member of the International Executive Committee. Nancy is appreciative and very thankful for the encouragement and support offered to her by many people as she campaigns for this opportunity to represent IRWA members. Nancy is qualified and capable and Region 3 extends support to Nancy's endeavor.

New Business:

Spring Forum request for expense reimbursement request: Bernie Banker, President Chapter 41 has requested \$125.00 for Region 3 Spring Forum. A motion was made per this request seconded and approved. It was suggested that if there is any request for reimbursement to get these submitted very soon and they will have to be voted for via on line communication.

Education Conference, June 18-21, 2006, in Denver, Colorado, a motion was made, seconded and approved to provide our two Directors \$1,000.00 each for expenses. Our two directors are Bernie Banker and Jim Diemer.

Auction item for the Education Conference in Denver, Colorado: based on last years success it was decided to select a piece of jewelry for the event. \$250.00 is the amount to be spent for the item. A motion was made, seconded and approved.

At the Education Conference in Denver, Colorado, Directors will be voting on a dues increase. We want to be cautious that this is not mistaken to be a blanket approval for an annual increase each year.

A discussion regarding future meeting dates took place and it appears the dates will be: June 2, September 15, and January 13, 2007, more to follow.


Announcement: \$75.00 was collected at today's meeting for Toys for Tots!

Door Prize Drawing: Tim Bunkers was the winner of the drawing for the \$50.00 door prize. The names of the members attending today's meeting will be included in the drawing for the \$1,000.00 Grand Prize and the "free membership" Second Prize at the Banquet.

At 1:50 pm a motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded and approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda R. Martens
Vice President/Secretary
Spirit of the Heartland-Chapter 41

	TREASURER'S REPORT	
	Treasurer Nancy Halvorson, SR/WA, R/W-RAC	
	<u>1st Quarter Report</u>	
	Income	\$ 846.58
	Expenses	<u>2,591.83</u>
	Net Loss	(\$ 1,745.25)
	Current Cash Balance	\$ 7,908.74
	Long Term Obligations	<u>- 1,260.00</u>
	Net Balance	\$ 6,650.48

MARCH HIGHLIGHTS,

Cedar Rapids



Jim Diemer, President-Elect
Filling in for Bernie Banker
Listening Intently



Presenters from MidAmerican Energy
Steve Harrison, Project Engineer and
Tim Bunkers, ROW Project Manager



Newest Certified Members with Professional Development Chair, Shelly Whiteing
Linda Martens, R/W-RAC



Dan Shiflett, R/W-NAC



Jim Diemer welcomes New Member
Corie Erickson to Chapter 41



Dan Shiflett, Corie Erickson and Bob Kirby



JUNE CHAPTER MEETING

MID-AMERICAN ENERGY

4299 NW URBANDALE AVENUE, URBANDALE

Friday, June 2, 2006

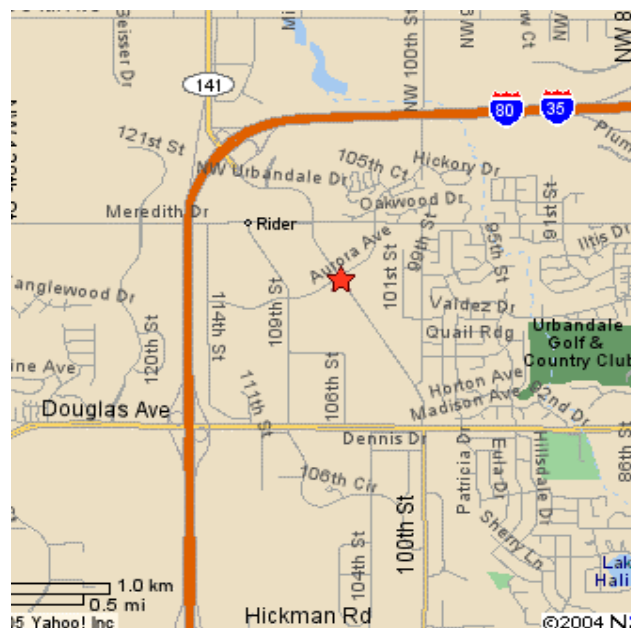
The Future of Transportation: What Are We Going to Use for Fuel

**9:30 a.m. Peter Hamlin, Environmental Dept. MidAmerican
Jim Rost, Office of Location and Environment, Iowa DOT**

**Followed by (Free) Lunch and Business Meeting
(Should be concluded by early afternoon)**

It is imperative that you notify Jim Diemer no later than May 30 if you plan to attend...

your names MUST be registered for admittance. Please email Jim at JPD3919@aol.com



Officers for 2005

Chapter 41

PRESIDENT: BERNARD B. BANKER, SRWA, R/W-RAC

BERNARD.BANKER@DOT.IOWA.GOV

PRESIDENT-ELECT: JAMES DIEMER, SR/WA

JPD3919@AOL.COM

VICE-PRESIDENT/SECRETARY: LINDA MARTENS,
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Important Websites:

Chapter 41: www.irwa41.org
Region 3: www.irwaregion3.org

Questions or Comments,
contact Webmaster

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Do you have a new email address?

Are you moving?

Notify:

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Steve Chapman, SR/WA, R/W-RAC

DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER ISSUE

August 15, 2006

Your articles and/or suggestions are always welcomed.

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NANCY HALVORSON, SR/WA R/W-RAC AND JAMES DIEMER, SR/WA

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