



I N T E R N A T I O N A L   R I G H T   O F   W A Y   A S S O C I A T I O N

Region 3 Newsletter  
Fall 2008

Region 3 Chair's Message  
By Craig Poorker, SR/WA, R/W-NAC

Greetings All!

Wow – where did THAT summer go?! I hope you all had a safe, healthy and happy summer, for it was way too short. However – the summer started wonderfully, as many of us celebrated the first day of summer in sunny (and warm) Austin, Texas. Region 3 had a tremendous turnout, including every single Chapter President. Yes, I repeat myself, but Region 3 always has great involvement and attendance at the Conferences and we're well represented on nearly every international committee.

An important issue, and one that we need to discuss as chapter leaders and region leaders, is the topic of realigning our regions throughout the IRWA. The Region Chairs have been charged with this project, and it's one that may affect all of us. Imagine that IRWA was a brand new organization, and we have all these members in the U.S. and Canada. What should a region look like? How many chapters per region should there be? How many chapters in each region? Where would YOU draw the region lines? Perhaps regions aren't all that important geographically? After all, it's the chapters where the real work gets done and makes the IRWA as successful as it is. Please – let me know your thoughts on this. We may very well have to vote on some kind of realignment next year in Indianapolis. We've had a very successful 75 years, and we need to grow with the next 75 years.

PLEASE – do all you can to attend the Fall Forum on Thursday and Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. Chapter 20 has a great presentation on the 9<sup>th</sup>, and the forum itself will be on Friday the 10<sup>th</sup>.

Chapter Presidents and Committee Representatives – please get your reports to me as soon as you're able. We'd like to get them posted to the website prior to the Fall Forum, if possible. I'll be callin' you!

Also at the Region Forum, we'll need your chapter's nomination for Region Professional of the Year. Please submit your nominees to [Nancy Halvorson, SR/WA](#).

And on the issue of elections, it's again that time of year. We'll have elections next spring for Region Secretary, Region Vice Chair, and Region Chair. The Secretary position is an open position, so if you'd like, please consider running for this most rewarding position.

At Your Service,

*Craig Poorker*

## **Call for Facilitator's:**

Each Region may nominate 1 person for the upcoming Facilitator's Clinic scheduled for January 11 & 12, 2009 in Las Vegas. The clinic is limited to 12 spaces. The application is found on-line. The deadline for submitting nominees is October 15, 2008. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Rita Rasmussen, SR/WA at 319.286.5807 or [r.rasmussen@cedar-rapids.org](mailto:r.rasmussen@cedar-rapids.org).



**BE SURE TO CHECK OUT THE IRWA REGION 3 WEBSITE FOR LOCAL EVENTS & COURSES AT: [www.irwaregion3.org](http://www.irwaregion3.org)**

**IRWA MEMBER SERVICES CENTER WEBSITE FOR ASSOCIATION NEWS AND LATEST EVENTS: [www.irwaonline.org](http://www.irwaonline.org)**



**CONGRATULATIONS TO REGION 3'S BALFOUR FINALISTS RITA RASMUSSEN AND CRAIG POORKER. YOU MAKE US PROUD!**

## 2008 REGION 3 FALL FORUM

Please join North Star Chapter 20 on October 9 & 10 for the  
Region 3 Fall Forum in Minneapolis, MN.

Our meeting will be held at the Park Plaza in Bloomington.

Their website is [www.parkplaza.com/bloomingtonmn](http://www.parkplaza.com/bloomingtonmn)

Address: 4460 West 78<sup>th</sup> Street Circle, Bloomington, MN 55435

Phone number: 1-800-814-7000.

A block of rooms have been reserved for the IRWA rate of \$109 a night. **RSVPs must be received no later than September 26<sup>th</sup>.**

Chapter 20 will be hosting a mini seminar titled:

### **The Twins Stadium Condemnation**

on Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup> beginning with lunch at 12:00.

<http://minnesota.publicradio.org/display/web/2006/10/22/twinsland/>

<http://www.startribune.com/sports/twins/11693861.html>

Everyone is welcome and details to follow.

This four-hour seminar will include MN continuing real estate credits, appraisal credits and legal credits, along with lunch and afternoon snacks. The cost per member is \$75.00

This seminar will be followed by the evening social event with appetizers and a cash bar beginning at 5:30.

Hope to see everyone in October!!!

Please rsvp to Joanie Miller @ [jmiller@greenergy.com](mailto:jmiller@greenergy.com) if you are attending our forum.

For hotel information or questions on the accommodations, contact Kathy Blomquist @ [Kathleen.a.blomquist@xcelenergy.com](mailto:Kathleen.a.blomquist@xcelenergy.com)



**Meeting Minutes  
IRWA Region 3 Spring Forum  
Friday, February 29, 2008  
Deadwood, SD**

Meeting called to order at 8:30 a.m., by Craig Poorker, SR/WA, Region 3 Chair  
Welcome remarks from Mike Murray, SR/WA, Chapter 72 President

**Introductions** were given by attending members and a roll call to make sure that there were voting members for election of Region Officers.

Special Guests were Randy Williams, SR/WA from IEC and also Pat Pettito, SR/WA, candidate for IEC.

**Region Secretary/Treasurer Report – Randy De George, SR/WA**

The Treasurers report showed a balance of \$4,660.72 in the Region account, and a motion to approve was submitted by Mike Murray and seconded by Bob Larsen, with the motion being approved. Minutes from the Region Fall Forum in Riverside, IA were read and a motion to accept the minutes as written was submitted by Bob Larsen and seconded by Ed Schwab, motion was approved.

**Chapter Reports were given**

See Chapter Reports on line at <http://www.irwaregion3.org> . Several reports stated that they're having difficulties recruiting younger members. Craig said the challenges are throughout the Association with recruiting younger members.

**Pres Report: Randy Williams of IEC**

Randy reported that IRWA is moving the PRES to Las Vegas for a 1 or 2 year term starting in 2009. He indicated that the Federal organizations who wanted IRWA to put this PRES on were not showing up to attend and IRWA is taking a big hit with the costs. Randy said the attendance was lower this year than in the past. Bob Larsen talked about the budget constraints for the Feds and some people can only travel one time. Randy said that maybe Region 2 didn't show as well because the Education Seminar is in Austin this year. Randy did say however, that other organizations (partners) are looking for some sort of certifications to go along with PRES participation. The Appraisal Association is looking more into partnering with IRWA on this matter as well. A reminder was made about getting the IRS Tax reports to International before the March 15<sup>th</sup> deadline.

## **International Committee Reports/Updates:**

Those committee members in attendance gave their respective reports. Please review these reports online at <http://www.irwaregion3.org> .

## **Nominations & Awards by Nancy Halvorson, SR/WA**

Nancy reported the IEC Officers slate and that Butch Rossetti just withdrew from running and that Pat Pettito was the only one running for the IEC. Nancy did say that nominations could come from the floor at the International Directors Meeting in Austin.

Craig Poorker, SRWA, R/W-NAC and Rita Rasmussen, SR/WA have both been submitted for the Frank C. Balfour Award. Good luck to both!

Employer of the year nominations have been submitted from Region 3 for Otter Tail Power Company and Great River Energy.

SARPA Scholarship had 12 applications submitted this year with two of these from Region 3.

Newsletter of the Year: Chapter 20 has submitted theirs.

## **Region 3 Professional of the Year:**

Cynthia Gan from Chapter 37 was Region 3's Professional of the Year for 2007. Cynthia was unable to attend the forum due to work obligations and the plaque was presented to Gerald Johnson, Chapter 37's President. Nancy Halvorson commented that this year was a close race and congratulated all who were submitted.

## **Region Education report:**

Rita Rasmussen, Region 3 Vice Chair said she was happy with the coordinators of the classes that were being held in the Region. She talked about the Board Briefs that had just come out and reported that class sizes were up and averaged 19. She also talked about the bonuses that Chapters and Coordinators receive based on the class sizes, and also discussed a way to cut costs for having classes by getting company facilities to hold these classes.

## **Region 3 Chair report:**

Chair Craig Poorker reported that the Association has a new EVP, Mark Rieck who succeeds Dennis Stork.

Two new affiliate chapters for the Association - in Texas and in Florida.

Chapter bylaws need updating and should be uniform for all Chapters.

IRS forms to be completed and in to International by March 15<sup>th</sup>. Chapters are asked to copy Craig or Randy.

A survey from International should be coming soon, to be distributed by Chapter Education Chairs, to ask members for courses they would like to see. Over 75% of the courses have been redone. The US Department of Transportation likes the revamped courses and is using IRWA as

a place for education. Courses that are available online will be presented in the spring with some courses having a certification and some not. The fees for these courses are also being reviewed.

The conference in Austin will have more items available in the silent auction part and fewer in the live auction in order to condense the auction time.

Craig reminded those who will be the Board of Directors for each Chapter to check in early on the day of the Directors Meeting.

There are 3 cities wanting to host 2013 seminar and they are Ft. Worth, Charleston, West Virginia, and Hartford, Connecticut.

Craig also talked about recruitment of new members with brochures, CDs, & DVDs available online from International. He also said membership was up over 8,700 now.

Sponsorship of RWIEF Golf Tournament and hole donation for the Seminar outing was discussed and Bernie Banker from Chapter 41 made a motion that the Region 3 donate \$300.00 from its coffers as it did last year. The motion was seconded by Joel Walker from Chapter 78 and the motion was voted on and carried. Craig asked that each Chapter decide if it was going to donate, and if so to try and match the Region amount of \$300.00. Craig also mentioned the Book Drive donations and asked the Chapters to consider this worthy cause.

### **IEC Report/Discussion:**

Randy Williams, SR/WA, IEC Member reported that Jim Finnegan, Past President of IRWA was doing well after his recent car accident.

The Associations 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary will be celebrated next year at the Indianapolis Education Conference with special happening taking place.

He talked about the future of the IRWA and saying that it is in the hands of its membership as to what direction it should be going in. A look at how the Association is structured and what if any consolidation of Regions, but not Chapters should be reviewed. He asked that chapters discuss ideas so they can be passed on at the Fall Forums. More on this in the future on the IRWA web site.

### **Election of Region Officers:**

Bernie Banker made a motion to re elect the officers by acclamation; he was seconded by Joel Walker with a unanimous vote carrying the motion.

### **Report from Chapter 72 Auction:**

Mike Murray, SR/WA, Chapter 72 President thanked every one again for coming and supporting the Chapter's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration and auction which brought in \$3,454.00 which will be donated to the RWIEF. Great job by Chapter 72 for their hospitality!

### **Fall Forum location:**

Joanie Miller, SR/WA, Chapter 20 President, reported that the Fall Forum location has not been set yet. Discussion for where to hold it will be made at the Chapter 20 meeting in March.

## **Open Forum:**

Randy Williams asked about class sizes throughout the Region and with Chapter 72 holding their two courses having 45 in one and 46 in the other Randy made the comment that it seems to be the trend what's happening throughout the Association. Some chapters are holding blocks of classes so that there is not as much cost for attending members for travel. Rita Rasmussen, SR/WA, also suggested that registration fees should include lunch costs when the courses are sent to prospective attendees.

## **Door Prizes:**

Nancy Greer, SR/WA, President of Chapter 5 donated a few door prizes from Twin Peaks Company with Dan Shiflett and Vicki Elscott winning them.

Region door prizes were \$50.00 checks, one won by Joanie Miller and was donated back, with Joel Walker winning it, and the second check going to Janice Christensen both from Chapter 78.

Craig Poorker asked for a motion to adjourn the forum, and David Anderson made a motion and Gerald Johnson seconded.

## **Meeting Adjourned**

Minutes submitted by Randy De George, SR/WA, R/W - NAC  
Region 3 Secretary/Treasurer





**Meeting Minutes  
IRWA Region 3 Caucus  
Monday, June 23, 2008  
Austin, Texas**

Meeting called to order at 6:45 a.m., by Craig Poorker, SR/WA, Region 3 Chair

**Introductions** were given by attending members and a roll call to make sure that there were voting members for the Board of Directors Meeting.

**Region Secretary/Treasurer Report – Randy De George, SR/WA**

Minutes from 2008 Region Spring Forum in Deadwood, South Dakota was read and a motion was made to approve by Chris Pawloski, SR/WA and seconded by Gerald Johnson with the motion carrying. The Treasurers report showed a balance of \$3,723.51 in the Region account, and a motion to approve was submitted by Marvin De Jear, SR/WA and seconded by Mike Murray, SR/WA, with the motion being approved.

**Vice Chair report – Rita Rasmussen, SR/WA**

Rita said that everything seems to be going well with the classes that the Region Chapters are putting on. She said Member Services (HQ) likes how well the Region is doing and thanked Rita for such an active Region.

**Patricia Petitto , SR/WA** introduced herself to the Region and announced that she is running for the IEC. Chair Poorker asked that the Region give their support.

**Chapter Reports were given**

**Chapter 5: Nancy Greer, SR/WA** Chapter President reported that they had 2 meetings with both being attended very well. The Chapter also discussed the RWIEF donations and were asking for options for the future.

**Chapter 20: Joanie Miller, SR/WA** Chapter President reported that Chapter 20 held their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with 120 attendees at their function. She said the upcoming officers are doing well in leading the Chapter.

**Chapter 37: Gerald Johnson,** Chapter President said they had 1 meeting since the Spring Forum that was well attended. Their next meeting will include their annual St. Louis Cardinal game, and they are in the process of updating their by-laws and website.

**Chapter 41: James Diemer, SR/WA,** Chapter President reported that they have 68 members currently and are putting on Courses 802 and 803 in September. They also talked about how the state of Iowa is incorporating wind turbines to its electrical systems.

**Chapter 72: Mike Murray, SR/WA,** Chapter President, reported that they are having a membership drive and have 9 new members for their efforts. They have proposed by-laws changes in process and held 2 classes 501 and 205. The Chapter again brought a knife for the auction and also donated the \$1,500 to the RWIEF coffers.

**Chapter 78: Joel Walker, SR/WA,** Chapter President reported that 2 meetings were held since the spring Forum. The Chapter is in the process of by-laws changes and they are nearly finished. Course 409 and 410 are to be offered in October.

Pause for Region photos by Member Services Center.

A presentation was made by Chapter 36 of Fort Worth, Texas for the 2013 Education Seminar, along with a presentation made by Hartford Connecticut for the 2013 Education Seminar, and West Virginia again making a pitch for the 2013 Education Seminar.

**Fall Forum update:** Joanie Miller, SR/WA reported that the dates have been finalized and Thursday October 9<sup>th</sup> and Friday October 10<sup>th</sup> will be in Bloomington Minnesota. The Thursday event will be a mini seminar on the Twins Stadium condemnation and is approved for continuing education.

**INEC Report:** Nancy Halvorson, SR/WA of the INEC reminded all the Directors that they need to sign in again by 1:00 P.M. on Wednesday and enter the hall before 1:15 to the Board of Directors Meeting. Nancy reported that there is no one running from the floor for the IEC position. The Region has 2 Balfour finalists in Craig Poorker, SR/WA and Rita Rasmussen, SR/WA and wished them luck. The Employer of the Year will be presented to Grenenergy.

**RWIEF Report:** Bruce Reed, SR/WA reported that a \$50,000 donation was to be given to the RWIEF by Region 2, with more Chapters to donate money at the auction. Bruce also reminded us that you can make donations when you renew your membership at the end of the year. More of the classes are coming to members by way of on-line. The RWIEF is celebrating the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year. Bruce also said that this Region is in the top 3 when donating to the RWIEF and thanked us for it.

**Chair Poorker** informed the Region that Headquarters has changed their name to Member Services Center. Also instead of the Board of Directors meeting it will be changed to International Assembly. Someone from the IEC will be at the next Spring Forum to discuss a possible restructuring change to the Regions and the Association. Craig asked if there were any items up for discussion and with hearing none asked for a motion to adjourn. Bruce Reed made the motion with Mike Murray seconded and the motion was carried.

### **Meeting Adjourned**

Minutes submitted by Randy De George, SR/WA, R/W - NAC  
Region 3 Secretary/Treasurer

**IRWA Region 3 Treasury Report**  
**Education Seminar Caucus 2008 Austin, TX**  
**Monday June 23, 2008**

**BALANCE AS OF 1/29/08** **\$4660.72**

**Income**

Region Dues from Chapters 5, 20, 41, 72, 78	\$ 547.00
RWIEF Donations from Chapters 5, 20, 37, 41, 72, 78	\$1,500.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$2,047.00</b>

**Expenses**

Harland Clarke Check Order for Region 3	\$ 30.14
Region Web site Maintenance Web Spec	\$ 200.00
Reimbursement for Region Rep for Bernie Banker	\$ 250.00
Reimbursement for Region Rep for Nancy Halvorson	\$ 250.00
Region combined donation to RWIEF	\$1,800.00
Region donation to Chapter 20 for 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Costs	\$ 100.00
Region donation to Chapter 72 for 30 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Costs	\$ 100.00
Payment to Vicki Elscott for continuation of Region Web Site	\$ 54.07
Chris Pawloski drawing winner from Fall Forum 2007	\$ 50.00
Jack Holt drawing winner from Fall Forum 2007	\$ 50.00
Joel Walker drawing winner from Spring forum 2008	\$ 50.00
Janice Christensen drawing winner from spring Forum 2008	\$ 50.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$2,984.21</b>

**BALANCE AS OF 6/20/2008** **\$3,723.51**

Respectfully Submitted

*Randy J. De George*

Randy J. De George, SR/WA, R/W-NAC  
Region 3 Secretary/Treasurer

**Photo Gallery from Austin Education Seminar:**



Region 3 Caucus Photo June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2008

