



***Region 3 Fall Newsletter  
August 2007***

**REGION CHAIR'S MESSAGE**

*By Craig Poorker, SR/WA, R/W – NAC*

Greetings Region 3! Wow, where did that summer go? My mom was right – “just wait until you’re my age – time REALLY flies.” Well, my mom is still older than I, but time keeps marching. It seems like we were just at the Spring Forum in St. Louis; it seems like we were just in Sacramento for the Conference. And now, we’re into autumn and approaching our Fall Forum in Iowa City.

While in Sacramento, I was installed as your new Region 3 Chair. It is really an honor that you chose me to fill that role, and the pressure is really on to follow the lead of so many wonderful chairs before me. I will do my best to serve all members of Region 3, and look forward to continued relationships with so many good friends. Rita Rasmussen, SR/WA, was also sworn in as Region 3 Vice Chair, and at the Spring Forum, Randy De George, SR/WA, R/W-NAC was elected as the new Region 3 Secretary Treasurer. I really look forward to working with them both in the next two years

Hats off, congratulations, kudos – to Jack Holt for all his hard work and his leadership during his six years serving Region 3. Region 3 is one of the most active and successful regions in our organization, and it’s because of Jack and all the chairs before him that have served so well. Thank you, Jack, for all your hard work!

It was indeed a great time at the Conference in Sacramento, and Region 3 was well represented. Congratulations to Mike Murray and Chris Pawloski, both of whom received their SR/WA plaques at the Awards Luncheon. Next year’s conference in Austin will prove to be a great time, and plan now to attend if you can.

The conference in Sacramento is the last for IRWA Executive Vice President Dennis Stork. Dennis is retiring the end of this year, and if you just think back five years, you know what a tremendous, improved change he has effected during his tenure. The IRWA has a look that is much different from 2002, and the organization is at a much higher level professionally, technologically and with a new level of efficiency. There have been some bumps along the way, but they always seemed to get smoothed after some adjusting, and most changes have been a huge improvement. The next EVP will have to reach high for the bar.

Congratulations to Chapter 41’s Bernie Banker, SR/WA, R/W-RAC, on being voted Region 3 Professional of the Year at our Spring Forum! Bernie has long been active in Chapter 41, and also

serves on the International Valuation Committee. And congratulations also to the other nominees; Region 3 has no shortage of respected professionals.

And speaking of Professional of the Year – Chapter Presidents – PLEASE have your selections for Professional of the Year by our Fall Forum on October 12<sup>th</sup>. We'll announce the nominees at the Fall Forum, and the selection will be announced at the Spring Forum next year.

I would also like to thank Jack Borgmeyer for his MANY years of service to IRWA, especially for all his hard work and dedication to the International Professional Development Committee, for the last few years as its Chair. This committee oversees the education development of all our courses, and it's an incredible amount of time and effort. Knowing that he only had hours left as the Chair, he was certainly in a rare mood while in Sacramento! Thank you Jack!

Please plan to attend the Fall Forum on October 12<sup>th</sup> at Riverside Casino and Golf Resort. I've heard nothing but good things about Riverside and our host, Chapter 41, will be having a social event and benefit auction the night before. So, bring whatever items you think could help raise funds for Region 3. The funds will be used to help support our Region Representatives to attend Committee meetings. There's more info elsewhere in the newsletter about the Forum. Hope to see you there!

I happened to be reviewing Jack Holt's message in the newsletter from a year ago, and he mentioned the severe weather that went through St. Louis last summer, leaving hundreds of thousands without power during a sweltering heat wave. This year, it's southeastern Minnesota that has suffered a horrendous rain storm, 17 inches, that has caused terrific destruction. This is an area of rugged terrain and numerous small creeks that carry a lot of water quickly. This is in addition, of course, to the I-35W bridge collapse, just minutes from our home, on a highway that nearly everyone in Minnesota has traveled at some time.

As your Region leadership, Rita, Randy and I are your connection with International, so if you have questions, need help with an issue, or just need more information, please don't hesitate to contact any one of us.

Best wishes to you all,

**Craig**

Region 3 Chair

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**REGION 3 FALL FORUM  
HOSTED BY: SPIRIT OF THE HEARTLAND CHAPTER 41**



**Thursday October 11**  
**[Course 103 - Ethics in ROW](#)**

**Chapter 41 Welcome Reception & Auction**  
*The Auction will benefit the Region 3 Treasury*  
*(To Assist our Region Representatives in attending meetings, The Conference, etc.)*  
5:30 – 8:30 p.m.

**Friday October 12**  
**Region 3 Fall Forum**  
8:00 – 4:00 p.m.

A block of rooms are being held (until September 10) at a Special Rate of \$89.95 (\$50 if you are a government employee) for Wednesday, Thursday and Friday nights.  
Call to Make Reservations: 1.877.677.3456

(You must identify yourself as International Right of Way Association Chapter 41)

Check out their Website

[www.riversidecasinoandresort.com](http://www.riversidecasinoandresort.com)

**Meeting Minutes**  
**IRWA Region 3 Spring Forum**  
**Friday, April 27, 2007**  
**St Louis, MO**

Meeting called to order at 8:30 a.m., by Jack Holt, SR/WA, Region 3 Chair  
Welcome remarks from Cynthia Gan, Chapter 37. Officer roll call was taken and all chapters with officers present for voting. Every Chapter President is present.

**Introductions** – IEC Secretary/Treasurer, Juan Zaragosa, SR/WA

**Region Secretary/Treasurer Report - Rita Rasmussen**

Balance of \$3,864.96 Vote to approve was passed.

**Chapter Reports**

See Chapter Reports on line [www.irwaregion3.org](http://www.irwaregion3.org)

**International Committee Reports (view reports on line [www.irwaregion3.org](http://www.irwaregion3.org))**

**Asset Management** – Report given by Cynthia Gan

The IAMC met in Dallas. The Chair organizes conference calls with committee members. The committee has two vacant positions within Region 4 and 8. The committee is sponsoring two sessions at the conference.

**Environment** – No Report

**LPA** – Report given by Rita Rasmussen in Ashleigh Robison's absence.

The ILPAC met in Dallas in February. The ILPAC is sponsoring 6 sessions in Sacramento, two sessions are co-sponsored. The ILPAC is assisting the marketing committee on identifying allied associations. The session "When Public Agencies Collide" may be developed into a 1-day course or Hot Topic session. The committee contributed responses to the article "How Has the Kelo Decision Impacted Your Industry or Projects?"

**Nominations and Elections** – Nancy Halvorson

International Slate of Officers for 2007/2008:

Jim Struble, SR/WA – International President

Faith Roland, SR/WA – International President Elect

Sandy Grigg, SR/WA – International Vice President/Treasurer

Juan Zaragosa, SR/WA – International Secretary

Ken Davis, SR/WA – International Executive Committee Member

**Frank C. Balfour Award Nominees:**

Sue Finley, SR/WA: Chapter 8, Region 2

Eric Finn: Chapter 29, Region 8

Bernie Lee, SR/WA: Chapter 45, Region 7

Lee Satterfield Hamre, SR/WA: Chapter 6, Region 9

Samantha Strangman, SR/WA: Chapter 31, Region 6

No one nominated from Region 3

**Nominations and Elections Continued:** – Nancy Halvorson

SARPA Scholarship Award: Unclaimed

Directors to sign in Monday morning at the Region Caucus, deadline is Wednesday.  
The packet will be posted on the website.

**Resolutions:** INEC concerned they will not have the checks and balances for review process. The INEC needs to gather more information before it is passed. The recommendation is for the INEC to recommend everyone equally running for the IEC instead of recommending one person as in the past.

**Regarding Membership Dues:** billing dues will remain on calendar year, dues are prorated through the year for new members, however the last quarter is free.

The 2007-2008 Region slate of officers are: Craig Poorker, Chair; Rita Rasmussen, Vice Chair; and Chris Pawloski and Randy DeGeorge candidates for Secretary/Treasurer. Anyone can run from the floor and votes will be counted by Nancy Halvorson and Rita Rasmussen.

**Pipeline:** – Report given by Marvin DeJear

The Committee met last week and is putting on several sessions in Sacramento.

The Pipeline Committee to donate to the RWIEF. Professional Development – No Report

**Relocation:** – Met in Dallas in February. Continued problem with outdated questions on SR/WA exam. FHWA posted its latest revisions on their website.

**Survey:** – No Report

**Transportation:** – See Region 3 Website for Report

**Utilities:** – Report given by Randy DeGeorge

Committee met in Dallas with 13 members present. Discussed how they might start classes for design utilities. Not a lot out there for courses in Utilities discipline.

The committee is hosting five sessions in Sacramento.

**Valuation:** – Report given by Bernie Banker

The committee discussed in Dallas aligning the committee with other groups. The Committee is hosting seven sessions in Sacramento, with a couple co-sponsored with other committees.

### **Education Seminar Hosted by Chapter 20 – Joanie Miller**

“Right of Way Acquisition In An Environment of Power Demand Growth and Legislative Mandates,” – a 1½ day class to be held August 6th & 7th, 2007 in Stillwater, Minnesota. Riverboat cruise scheduled Monday evening. Information posted on Region 3 website. Some proceeds from seminar are going to RWEIF.

### **Region Education Report: – Craig Poorker**

- Region Vice Chair is charged with overseeing education aspects for Region 3, and works with chapters on education. Received some schedules for 2008/09 already. View Region website for courses. Members receive e-mails from HQ listing all Region 3 courses. Some are tentative. Contact Education Chair and Region vice Chair before canceling a class. See Region 3 Vice Chair for ideas to promote class. Decide by two weeks before class if need to cancel. Don't always rely on HQ; send post cards and e-mails, or make phone calls. The Vice Chair contacts coordinators before classes to see how it's going. Courses 103 and 215 are available on-line.

- Mark Boettcher expressed concerns with what the incentive is to put on course

when registration is low because they are offered on-line. Appraisal Institute gives net profit to local chapters for member taking course on-line. This issue needs to be addressed in IRWA. People prefer attending a course than taking the course on-line.

- Juan stated that HQ does not receive proceeds from non-IRWA courses. However, members are not required to send HQ any proceeds although IRWA logo is used.
- Course Coordinator Certification: 5 people attending Region meeting are now certified. The course takes 45 minutes. There is a slide show presentation with a short exam at the end. Highly recommend that members take the course. Suggested that chapters encourage education chairs attend the Region Forum.
- Use IRWA website to find Region 3 courses. It works well. HQs will send only one e-mail per month of all Region courses. This is the only blast on your course.
- Heather Morris is the new IRWA Education Coordinator. The course coordinator can get course brochures and send out themselves. Chapters need to take a more active role in promoting courses.
- Pricing: HQ has suggested pricing for courses. Chapters can lower price if they desire. Negotiate fee with instructor and consider holding class in free room.
- Mark Boettcher says that USPAP-local provider putting on courses cheaper than IRWA.
- Check with IRWA and instructor to make sure they are qualified to instruct. Some instructors will do a class for expenses only.

### **Election of Officers:**

Chris Pawloski and Randy De George gave their candidate statements for 2007-08 Region 3 Secretary/Treasurer. Votes taken and counted, and Randy De George, SR/WA – R/W - NAC was voted the new Region 3 Secretary/Treasurer.

### **Region Chair Report – Jack Holt**

- The Region Chair meeting was held in Dallas in February with the IEC.
- Region 3 is one of the few Regions with competition running for office.
- Many of the regions are having problems with attendance to region meetings. It was suggested the chapters bring their Treasurer and Education Chair or Course Coordinators to the Region meetings.
- Utilize IRWA Recruitment Video. Encourage Joint Chapter meetings and courses.
- IRWA may consider a Region Website Award.
- Bringing Region Chairs into governance is working well. A joint meeting with region chairs and committee chairs will improve communication.
- IRWA will be hiring a new EVP. Goal is to have a new EVP by October. Interviewing qualified candidates after Sacramento in July. Using Executive Search Consultant. IRWA is 3.8 million dollar corporation; therefore, it's going to require a special person. Send thoughts and suggestions to Juan Zaragosa about EVP.

### **Region Chair Report Continued: – Jack Holt**

- Eleven Region 3 Spring Forum attendees will be attending the Sacramento Conference. The Region 3 Caucus will be Monday morning at 7 a.m. Jack encouraged members to attend. Directors to sign in Monday morning. Check-in for the Board of Directors meeting is at 1:15 on Wednesday.
- Four cities are in running for 2012 conference location: Anaheim, Reno, Charleston, and Seattle.

**2007 Region 3 Fall Forum: – Bernie Banker**

Chapter 41 is hosting Fall Forum in Riverside, Iowa. Ethics course to be held Thursday, October 11th with a social event that evening. Meeting is Friday, October 12. See Region 3 Website for further information or attached flyer.

**IRWA Talking Points: – Jack Holt**

Jack Holt reviewed points with attendees.

Talking Points may be viewed online at [www.irwaregion3.org](http://www.irwaregion3.org)

**Region 3 Website Appreciation Award:**

Vicki Elscott presented with a gift for managing Region 3 website.

**Professional of the Year-2006:**

Congratulations to Bernie Banker, SR/WA, RW/RAC

**Education Foundation: – Report given by Bruce Reed**

- Provides funding for IRWA courses. Budget provides funding and foundation for courses. 2004/05 Education Summit Idea – funding for survey – where are we going? IEC asked for \$425,000 to get it done. 41% in rewrites and 62% funds dedicated to class. Funding comes from members.
- In 2006, \$28,000 came from donation with membership dues. Encourage members to donate at renewals.
- Funding comes from auction and golf tournament at Annual Conferences. Last year \$13,000 from auction and \$25,000 from golf tournament. Doing raffle tickets this year, half goes to RWIEF.
- Requesting 100% donation to golf tournament from Region 3.
- Suggestions to increase funding: Legacy, annual auction and golf tournament.
- Indicate chapters who donated within Region when sending check.
- Chapter 41 donated \$500 to RWIEF.
- Chapter 78 matched donation of \$500 to RWIEF.
- Region 3 Auction raised \$1,000.00 and donated to RWIEF.

**Children's Book Drive:**

Requesting members donate books again at Sacramento Conference.

**Door Prize:**

2 drawings of \$50.00 each to Paul Gustafson and Nancy Halvorson

Meeting Adjourned

*Minutes submitted by Rita Rasmussen, SR/WA*

*Region 3 Secretary/Treasurer*

**Congratulations Bernie Banker, SR/WA, R/W-RAC**

*2006 Chapter 41 and Region 3 Professional of the Year!*



**Bernie Banker, SR/WA & Jack Holt, SR/WA Region 3 Chair**

Bernie Banker was named as the Chapter 41 2006 Professional of the year in March 2007. Jack Holt, SR/WA Region 3 Chair presented Bernie with a plaque recognizing him as the Region 3 2006 Professional of the Year at the Spring Forum held in St. Louis Missouri. Bernie has been an active member in both the Chapter and Region for many years. We could not ask for a better representative of our Chapter and Region at the local, regional and international levels.

*Congratulations, Bernie!*

**Spring 2007 Forum - St. Louis, MO**



Cynthia Gan, SR/WA Chapter 37 President  
Welcomes everyone to the Auction on  
Thursday Evening.



Members at the business meeting on  
Friday.

## **Meeting Minutes**

### **IRWA Region 3 Caucus Monday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2007 Sacramento, California**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 a.m., by Jack Holt, SR/WA, Region 3 Chair

Introductions were given by the attending members, roll call was taken, and all chapters were represented.

Region 3 delegates reviewed and will be present for 2007 Board of Directors Meeting

Region 3 recognitions:

SR/WA recipients: Chris Pawloski and Mike Murray

Break for photo op.

Juan Zaragosa, IEC Int'l Treasurer/Secretary, is seeking support of 2 amendments and one resolution. Name change of INEC to IAEC (International Awards and Elections Committee). It's proposed that IAEC would nominate slate of officers and let BOD decide. Policy change on how performance is assessed. It's being recommend the Region Chairs do the evaluation review. Also changing the deadline for candidate to run for the IEC.

Charleston, WV stopped in to ask for support for the 2012 conference location.

Nancy Halvorson, INEC Region 3 Rep, provided a brief overview and she has concerns for the last minute policy change, and much discussion ensued.

Reno and Seattle stopped in asking for support for the 2012 conference location.

Vickie Turpin announced a brochure is being developed to educate the membership on RWIEF. Suggest checking off and paying \$10.00 when renewing membership as many employers will not pay the \$10.00. Auction is tonight and golf tournament is Tuesday. Vickie asks chapters to donate. Tear-offs will be on the tables at the auction if you choose to make a donation and will be selling raffle tickets. The winner keeps 50% of the winnings and the other 50% goes to the RWIEF.

Region 3 Fall Forum is scheduled for October 12, 2007, hosted by Chapter 41 in Riverside, Iowa. The Ethics Course 103 will be held on October 11, 2007.

Chapter 72 is hosting the Region 3 Spring Forum in Deadwood, SD to celebrate the chapter's 30th Anniversary.

Jack Holt thanked the Region for their support the last two years.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 a.m.

Minutes submitted by Rita Rasmussen, SR/WA, Region 3 Secretary/Treasurer



**Region 3 Caucus held Monday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2007 in Sacramento Education Seminar**



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

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

**IRWA Region 3 Treasurer's Report  
Spring Forum 2007 S1. Louis, MO  
Friday, April 27, 2007**

Balance 10/19/06	\$4,136.76	
 Income		
Interest	4.78	
Region 3 Dues (Chapters 5)	90.00	
Total Income	\$94.78	
 Expense		
Rita Rasmussen (reimburse for Region Fall Forum Travel) Ed Opstein (fall forum drawing)		150.00
Kelly Suko (fall forum drawing)		50.00
Webspec Design (region 3 web service)		35.00
IR W A (POTY plaque)		59.00
Lucky A wards (POTY plaque engraving)		22.58
Total Expense		<b>\$366.58</b>
 BALANCE AS OF 4/24/07	 \$3,864.96	

Respectfully Submitted,

**Rita Rasmussen, SR/WA  
Region 3 Secretary/Treasurer**