



INTERNATIONAL RIGHT OF WAY ASSOCIATION

***Region 3 Spring Newsletter  
February 2007***

REGION CHAIR'S MESSAGE

*By Jack C. Holt, SR/WA*

Another year is upon us and with that comes a new slate of officers for most chapters. Four of the six chapters have new presidents and other additional officers. As always, these volunteer commitments are very much appreciated and it is generally a lot of work on their own time. Good luck to all of you.

I would also like to thank the officers who held positions while I served as chair. My term as Region Chair will end at the conference in Sacramento, CA, and it has been a busy and interesting period to hold this office. There are now meetings with the chairs and IEC. Also, the chairs will now meet on our own for a half day; something I think that has been needed. I am sure Craig Poorker and Rita Rasmussen will be equally challenged. Craig will likely be the new incoming Chair and Rita the likely Vice Chair for Region 3.

At the Forum in St. Louis we will be voting for a new Secretary/Treasurer for the region. Both nominees to this point are from Chapter 78. Please read their statements as posted on the region web and I expect all qualified voters will attend. Chris Pawloski and Randy DeGeorge are expressing their interest in becoming region officers. They are excellent candidates.

Region 3 continues to be a wonderful group of ambitious officers and we have more international committee chairs and vice chairs than any other region. It has been a pleasure to work with all of you and hope a good core of you will be able to make the spring forum and/or the conference.

I would like to congratulate the chapter professionals selected. At the Spring Forum we will announce the winner for the region. The contestants are: Craig Knudsen, Chapter 20; Ashley Robison, Chapter 37; Bernie Banker, Chapter 41; Mike Murray Chapter 72; Chris Pawloski, Chapter 78.

Jack C. Holt, SR/WA  
Region 3 Chair



**ATTENTION VOTERS: It is time once again to vote for a new Region 3 Secretary/Treasurer at the 2007 Spring Forum in St. Louis.**

**The following are Region 3 Bylaws pertaining to voting.**

**Region 3 Bylaws:**

VI. Voting

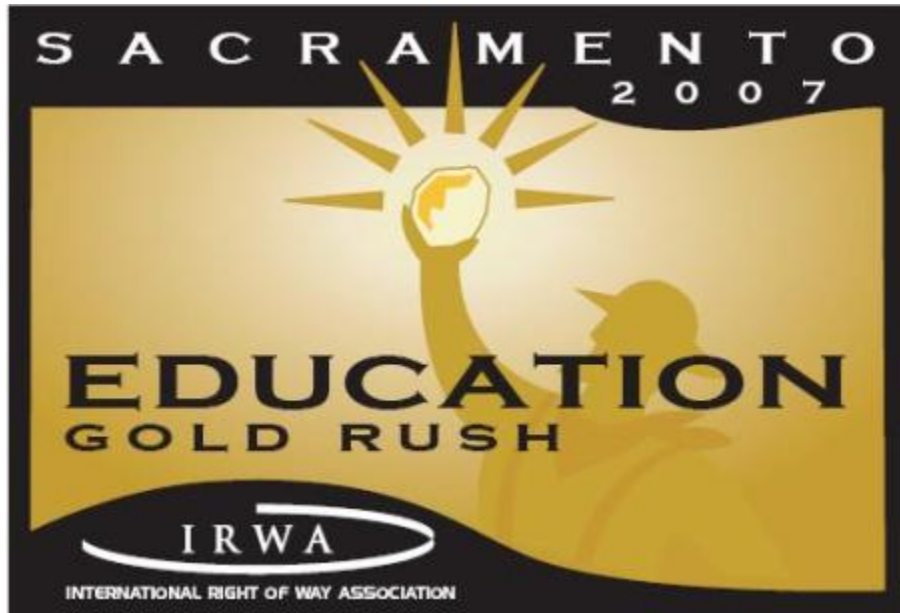
In respect to any matter calling for a vote of the Regional Forum, each chapter present shall be entitled to three votes regardless of the number of chapter members attending such meeting. Other members in attendance shall have a voice but no vote. A majority vote is required for passage.

Each chapter's votes shall be cast one each by the Chapter President and the two International Directors. Where an individual is both President and an elected International Director, said individual shall be entitled to cast two votes. All votes must be cast either by the above referenced person or by the Chapter designee. Notice of such voting representation shall be submitted to the Chair prior to the Forum being called to order. It shall not be permissible for any person other than a Chapter President also servicing as an International Director to cast two votes. **Should a Chapter President not attend the forum, that chapter may designate a person to vote in place of the President and thereby retain the 3 chapter votes, however, the person voting in place of the President may not also vote as a Director.**

In the event of a tie vote, the Chair may cast the tie breaking vote.

**The 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual International Education Conference is slated for Sacramento, California**

**June 17-20, 2007**



**Region 3 Caucus - Monday, June 18, 2007 @ 7:00 a.m.**

Each year, IRWA's Annual International Education Conference provides right of way professionals with unparalleled learning and networking opportunities.

With typically more than 1,000 registrants, attendees have the opportunity to learn about best practices, share project challenges and hear solutions from the industry's leading professionals.

See the International Right of Way Association website for registration.

[www.irwaonline.org](http://www.irwaonline.org)



**BE SURE TO CHECK OUT THE IRWA REGION 3 WEBSITE FOR LOCAL EVENTS & COURSES**

Region 3 Website: [www.irwaregion3.org](http://www.irwaregion3.org)

## **Meeting Minutes**

### **IRWA Region 3 Fall Forum Friday, October 20, 2006 Kansas City, MO**

Meeting called to order at 8:45 a.m., by Jack Holt, SR/WA, Region 3 Chair

Welcome remarks from Melissa Wurtz, Chapter 5

Officer roll call was taken and all chapters were present.

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

Balance of \$4,136.76 includes remaining IEC Campaign Fund balance of \$2,167.91

Vote to approve

#### **Introductions** – all attendees

#### **Chapter Reports**

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

#### **Spring Forum-2007 Information**

Hosted by Chapter 37

Friday, April 27, 2007 (tentative) at Downtown St Louis

Auction Thursday evening (tentative)

More information to follow

#### **Membership Recruitment Video**

Attendees viewed the IRWA Membership Recruitment Video

Video is now on-line [www.irwaonline.org](http://www.irwaonline.org)

It was suggested IRWA consider playing the video continuously at the IRWA Membership booth during the APWA Conference.

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

IRWA HQ is worried about the number of students and dollars being made.

Training Manual has been refined requiring course coordinators to take a 90 minute class to become certified. The course coordinator gets the class for free, if certified, to give incentive for coordinator to work on more attendance. HQ wants Regions, or at least geographical areas, to put on all core courses every 3 years.

HQ will not accept classes unless it is submitted to the Region Vice Chair. If the course is in conflict with another course within the region, the course could be cancelled or rescheduled. Recommend chapter education chairs take coordinator course as well. This all takes effect the first part of the year (2007). No charge to take the coordinator course.

The latest version of “Principles of Right of Way Textbook” can be downloaded from the IRWA website.

If the Chapters need assistance with promoting course, the Region Vice Chair can assist by sending a broadcast e-mail. Headquarters is working on membership list access to Region Vice Chairs and other chapter officers. Be aware the E-broadcast may be identified by server as junk mail.

Problems: Coordinators not receiving materials until the day before the class.

The on-line registration sometimes doesn't accept credit cards.

### **Candidates for Professional of the Year-2006**

Chapter 5 - None

Chapter 20 – Craig Knudsen, SR/WA

Chapter 37 – Ashleigh Robison, SR/WA

Chapter 41 – Bernie Banker, SR/WA, R/W-RAC

Chapter 72 – Mike Murray, R/W-NAC

Chapter 78 – Chris Pawloski

### **Talking Points**

Jack Holt reviewed with attendees

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

### **Chapter Financials**

A reminder to Region 3 Chapters that the financial reports are due to HQ on March 15, 2007.

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

Asset Management – Report given by Cynthia Gan

The IAMC had 2 sessions in Denver. The IAMC will meet again after PRES in February. The IAMC has 3 region openings. Jack Holt has volunteered to be the incoming Region 3 Representative for the IAMC.

Environment – Curt Proud

Course 601 is new.

LPA – Report given by Ashleigh Robison.

The ILPAC sponsored 7 sessions and the mobile workshop at the Denver Conference. They were well attended. No plans to do another mobile workshop in Sacramento however the committee has seven sessions (2 co-sponsored with other committees) planned for Sacramento. The ILPAC assisted in hosting a membership booth at APWA in KC. The ILPAC has put together a 1 day hot topic session. The committee is looking for at large members. Next committee meeting is February 16 in Dallas after PRES.

Nominations and Elections – Nancy Halvorson

Applications for Chapter Professional of the Year to Jack by December 1, 2006. Applications can be found on HQ website. Region officers' elections to be held at the Spring 2007 Forum. Chair - Craig Poorker; Vice Chair – Rita Rasmussen; and Randy DeGeorge and Chris Pawloski nominees for Sec/Treasurer.

Pipeline – Marvin DeJear

Committee met October 1, 2006 and will meet again January 18, 2007 in San Diego.

Professional Development – Ed Opstein

Changes involved in Association with courses, facilitator requirements, course coordinator qualifications. Ed is involved daily in education issues. It is a very exciting time. The association is developing new courses and making changes. The committee met in September and established 6 new task forces dealing with education issues, all kinds of programs to refine and reshape progress. Members shift to discipline instead of Region. Focus of course is purely on professional development of association not just regional.

Relocation – No Report

Survey – No Report

Transportation - Don Corrigan

The ITC sponsored 10 sessions, 3 sessions were co-sponsored with other committees. The ITC is looking for speakers for the 2007 conference. ITC is doing a lot of outreach by E-mail broadcast. The ITC needs a Chapter 5 representative. ITC is working on website.

Utilities – Report given by Randy DeGeorge

Randy is the new Region 3 Representative. The committee met in Sept. 2006 to establish sessions. Focus on Eminent Domain legislative changes. Next meeting in February after PRES. Addressing membership. The committee has 3 new region reps, additional at large members. Creating industrial contacts. The Utility Committee is being highlighted in the next issue of *Right of Way*.

Valuation – Report given by Bernie Banker

The Committee met in Denver. The committee is bringing in quality speakers for 2007. Important to partner with other committees on sessions. Would like to find resources to help fund speaker.

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

- RWIEF has 3 meetings a year, the last meeting was held in Memphis
- RWIEF has expanded members from 8-10
- The figures are not in yet for the 2006 Golf Tournament
- The auction brought in \$13,145
- Total assets are \$1,163,756.60, with \$180,982.93 in liabilities
- Raised \$40,000 in memory of Howard Armstrong
- Website is up and running with plans to expand.
- Possibility of looking at credit card donations
- New Chapter of the year award - Tammy and Steve Benson donated \$10,500 to start fund. Criteria being changed.
- New Membership Video and Brochure
- Education summit recommendations: 13 courses completed, rest by February 2008. Only attorneys can teach law courses after February 1, 2007.
- Suggest each chapter donate \$2,000 a year.

- The Denver Conference is the first year all Region 3 chapters did not donate to the golf tournament. However, Region 3 donated most \$ out of all Regions.
- 7900 IRWA members to date
- Recommend someone from RWIEF go to each Region Fall Forum to inform members of RWIEF

### **Fall Forum 2007 Information**

Iowa Chapter 41 hosting the 2007 Fall Forum  
Location in Perry, Iowa (30 minutes west of Des Moines) at the Hotel Pattee.  
See website at [www.hotelpattee.com](http://www.hotelpattee.com)  
Ethics Course planned in coordination with the Fall Forum

### **Election of Officers**

Encourage chapters to get voting members to the Spring Forum  
Each chapter has 3 votes (1-President and 1 per Director)  
Tie is broke by the Region Chair  
Candidates for the Region 3 Sec/Treas: Randy DeGeorge and Chris Pawloski

### **Chapter Installation Banquet Schedule**

Chapter 5 – December 8, 2006 (luncheon)  
Chapter 20 – January 17, 2007 (afternoon)  
Chapter 41 – December 1, 2006 (morning and afternoon)  
Chapter 37 – to be determined (January on a Saturday evening)  
Chapter 72 – February 2, 2007 (morning)  
Chapter 78 – January 20, 2007 (dinner)

### **Open Forum**

Reminder for Chapters to pay dues at the 2007 Spring Forum  
Chapter 5 donates \$1,000.00 to RWIEF on behalf of the late Rick Wurtz

### **Door Prize**

2 drawings of \$50 each to Kelly Suko and Ed Opstein

Meeting Adjourned

**IRWA Region 3 Treasurer's Report**  
 Fall Forum 2006, Kansas City, MO  
 Friday, October 20, 2006

Balance 4/21/06	\$2,521.18
<b>Income</b>	
Interest	10.67
Chapter 78-Golf Donation	500.00
Region 3 Dues (Chapters 72, 78, 41, 37)	337.00
RWIEF	1,600.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$2,447.67</b>
<b>Expense</b>	
Computer Iowa-Region 3 Website	200.00
RWIEF	2,400.00
Joanie Miller (reimburse Committee Meeting)	200.00
Rita Rasmussen (reimburse for IRWA Membership booth at APWA)	200.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$3,000.00</b>
<b>Region 3 Balance</b>	<b>\$1,968.85</b>
<b>Excess IEC Campaign Funds</b>	<b>\$2,167.91</b>
<b>BALANCE AS OF 10/19/06</b>	<b>\$4,136.76</b>

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**Nancy's IEC Campaign Fund**

<b>Income</b>	
Donations to Nancy's IEC Campaign Fund	5,600.00
Auction	4,101.00
D. Layne-IEC Campaign Donation	100.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$9,801.00</b>
<b>Expense</b>	
Nancy Halvorson (campaign buttons)	279.00
Nancy Halvorson (campaign travel reimbursement)	792.42
Nancy Halvorson (campaign travel reimbursement)	216.82
RWIEF-Nancy's IEC Campaign Donation	1,500.00
IEC Campaign mailing	749.89
Feuring Promotions, Inc.-IEC Shirts	597.06
Buen Provecho Catering-IEC Catering	900.00
IEC Reception	2,569.92
Craig Poorker-reimburse for Champaign	27.98
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$7,633.09</b>
<b>Campaign Fund Balance (10/19/06)</b>	<b>\$2,167.91</b>

*Respectfully Submitted,*  
 Rita J. Rasmussen  
**Rita J. Rasmussen, SR/WA**  
**Region 3 Secretary/Treasurer**