



Trailwinds

February 2008

Dakota Chapter 72

Dear Chapter 72 members,

Four weeks and counting until the GREAT slate of events that have been planned for Deadwood this year! As you will see on the agenda for February 26 - 29, this will be an educational and fun-packed week. Early numbers indicate that nearly 80 people will be attending Thursday night's event. This is remarkable! There are several individuals who have provided information and/or history, and have or will be investing a great deal of their time into making this event a success. In no particular order, they are: Jerry and Geri Zainhofsky, Mike Haupt, George Papacek, Ed Schwab, Ron Golden, Amy Spilman, Jack Holt, Scott Lang, Valeree King, and David Anderson from Chapter 72, and Bill Phelps from Chapter 37. If I've missed anyone, please know that we all appreciate your help!

I do have some sad news to report as well. Jim Finnegan, who was originally contracted to facilitate courses 410 and 403, was involved in a very serious automobile accident on Friday, January 18. At this time he remains in critical condition. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Jim, his wife Gail, and their family.

As you will see on the agenda, we have found a replacement facilitator for both courses. Upon receiving the news of Jim Finnegan's accident, Valeree King immediately got on the phone with several facilitators, IRWA Headquarter staff, and was able to line up Donnie Sherwood. Donnie brings us the same level of expertise as Jim so please let Donnie know how much you appreciate his presence given such short notice.

A new twist in this edition of the "Trailwinds" is the autobiography of several members who will soon be retiring. Please take the time to read these articles, and "hear" in their own words what impact this great organization has had on them and their careers. Please take a moment to wish them the best in the next phase of their life!

See you in Deadwood!

Mike Murray, SR/WA, RW-NAC

Chapter 72 President

2008 REGION 3 SPRING FORUM HOSTED BY THE DAKOTAS CHAPTER 72

AGENDA OF EVENTS

Tuesday, February 26

6:30 PM - Slot Tournament

Cadillac Jack's Gaming Resort will be hosting a free slot tournament open to all who arrive early for the weeks events, including the classes, 30 year celebration of Chapter 72, and Friday's meetings. Cadillac Jack's is throwing in the \$80 purse with first place taking \$50. If you will be arriving Tuesday, please plan to join us for this fun way to get together, meet new people or see familiar faces.

Wednesday, February 27

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM - Course 410 Reviewing Appraisals in Eminent Domain

Facilitator: Donald J. Sherwood, SR/WA, MAI, is the Managing Director of the Fort Worth office of Integra Realty Resources, an international real estate valuation and consulting firm. He served as the 1998 President of the Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter of IRWA and was named "Professional of the Year" in 1998. He has also served as past president of the Central Texas Chapter of the Appraisal Institute. Donnie is a State Certified General Real Estate Appraiser and Real Estate Broker. He teaches for both IRWA and the Appraisal Institute and has been an adjunct professor in the Finance Department at TCU. Donnie is a graduate of Southwestern University and hold's a Masters Degree in Land Economics and Real Estate from Texas A&M University. He is the author of "Easement Valuation" published by the Southwestern Legal Foundation and written numerous articles for Integra Realty. He is the author of several seminars including "Skills of the Expert Witness" and "Reviewing Appraisals for Eminent Domain". He is a qualified expert in both state and federal court. Donnie has been appraising real estate since 1978. His assignments include a wide variety of property types ranging from single family homes to major commercial projects including Reese Air Force Base, Six Flags over Texas in Arlington, and Texas World Speedway in College Station.

Course Coordinator: David Anderson
(307) 685-8989
davanderson@bepc.com

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM - Lunch on your own

In an effort to save time, a taco bar lunch will be provided at \$9.00 per person. While not required, we encourage you to stay and enjoy lunch with us, visit with other professionals in the class, and save some time as alternate dining establishments are blocks away.

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM Deed Plotter Software Presentation

Presenter: Mike Johnson is the owner of Johnson Mapping and he will be hosting an evening session on the Deed Plotter Software. If you work with metes and bounds legal descriptions or draw parcels on USGS maps, then this session will be of interest to you. This session will be held in the same room as the class. Handout will be available at the door.

Thursday, February 28

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM - Course 403 Easement Valuation

Facilitator: Donald J. Sherwood, SR/WA, MAI, is the Managing Director of the Fort Worth office of Integra Realty Resources, an international real estate valuation and consulting firm. He served as the 1998 President of the Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter of IRWA and was named "Professional of the Year" in 1998. He has also served as past president of the Central Texas Chapter of the Appraisal Institute. Donnie is a State Certified General Real Estate Appraiser and Real Estate Broker. He teaches for both IRWA and the Appraisal Institute and has been an adjunct professor in the Finance Department at TCU. Donnie is a

graduate of Southwestern University and hold's a Masters Degree in Land Economics and Real Estate from Texas A&M University. He is the author of "Easement Valuation" published by the Southwestern Legal Foundation and written numerous articles for Integra Realty. He is the author of several seminars including "Skills of the Expert Witness" and "Reviewing Appraisals for Eminent Domain". He is a qualified expert in both state and federal court. Donnie has been appraising real estate since 1978. His assignments include a wide variety of property types ranging from single family homes to major commercial projects including Reese Air Force Base, Six Flags over Texas in Arlington, and Texas World Speedway in College Station.

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12:00 PM – 1:00 PM - Lunch on your own

In an effort to save time, a sandwich bar lunch will be provided at \$9.00 per person. While not required, we encourage you to stay and enjoy lunch with us, visit with other professionals in the class, and save some time as alternate dining establishments are blocks away.

5:30 PM – 6:30 PM - Social hosted by Chapter 72

5:30 PM – 7:30 PM - Silent Auction hosted by Chapter 72

Proceeds raised will help Chapter 72 with the evening's expenses

6:30 PM – 7:30 PM - Dinner provided by Chapter 72

Join us for a two meat buffet of Prime Rib and Ham with all the fixing's.

7:30 PM – 8:00 PM - Presentation on the History of Chapter 72

8:00 PM - Live Auction hosted by Chapter 72 (Bill Phelps – Auctioneer)

Proceeds raised will be donated to the International Education Foundation (RWIEF)

Friday, February 29

8:00 AM – 10:00 AM - Chapter 72's Meeting

10:00 AM – 3:00 PM - Region 3 Spring Forum

Special Guest – Pat Pettito, Candidate for International Executive Committee (IEC)



Bob Larson

I am getting ready to retire and was asked if I could put together a brief biography. I was born in South Dakota, a product of the "Baby Boom" following WWII. I am sure I was a precious child, but my father passed away about the time I was born and my Mom was a single parent. She raised me and my older sister, Lorraine, for a few years until she remarried.

I know I was a good kindergartner because my teacher and I planned to spend our lives together on ice skates and my nap rug, but it didn't work out. We both had to move about 2nd grade. Miss Gartner because of her carrier and me because my family went to Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin to operate my Grandma's dairy farm. The farm was great and I had all the things a farm boy needed from a wood shed to a dog named Skippy. I rode the bus to a very progressive grade school, for 1954, where I had French Class as my second language, and a great effort was made to teach me the violin. Sadly I didn't retain much of either. After school my younger brother Mike, my sister and I did chores, slopped the hogs, candled eggs for the local market, and once in a while had to help with the milking.

I returned to Mobridge, South Dakota where I completed grade school, high school and college. Anything you have heard about my high school years or college antics has been much exaggerated. I confess to being in wrestling, debate and glee club. But anything about terrorizing students, teachers, or being responsible for a decline in the serious educational atmosphere at South Dakota School of Mines have very little truth and should not be considered as part of my real character.

After college I went to work for the Milwaukee Railroad as a Civil Engineer and worked from Minneapolis to Miles City and all the lines in North Dakota and South Dakota as well. The Army interrupted things a bit, but I got out of the Army with all my parts and was sent home honorably. Dianne had a weak moment and decided I had some hidden qualities. We were married in Othello, Washington the year after I was discharged. She came home to Aberdeen with me and I went back to work in the engineering department with the railroad.

Our son David was born in the Bi-Centennial year and is our pride and joy. Dianne was a great mom and David has all of her good qualities. He grew up as technology was growing by leaps and bounds and has never lost his interest in it. He is still our "little boy" but has grown into a very nice young man.

About 1984 I decided to go back to college. By getting special help from several department heads, good teachers, and going to class 5 days a week, I completed the Business Administration classes at the local university. The railroad had been purchased by the state and I didn't have an interest in moving out of the Dakota's so in 1984 I took the position I am retiring

from with the Department of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs. I managed the real property for the Bureau's Department of Transportation.

The work included right-of-way and I began to hear about the IRWA and its classes. In 1986 I met Larry Marquard, Matt Edman and many others at a Chapter class and they encouraged me to become a member of Chapter 72. I taught my first class at the International Education Seminar in Sacramento in 1990 and later I became an instructor for the IRWA. I am thankful to so many of our present and past members who helped me become successful.

I am a product of the "Baby Boom", German parents, a conservative upbringing, life on the farm, and a desire to have some fun along the way. I love Rock and Roll from the 50's and 60's, but might be caught listening to classical music. Growing up when the automobile changed every year, I longed for all the shining chrome and a car of my own. My first old car was a '37 Plymouth, then there was a Straight 8, '48 Pontiac, a '28 Ford one ton truck that friends and I turned into a band stand, a '34 Olds and on and on it goes. I have never gotten over this and now have several old cars I don't think I could part with. Well, not until the next old memory comes along and needs a bit of restoring.

I grew up on gravel roads, licking Green Stamps to redeem at the Piggly Wiggly Store, when ice was delivered and roller skates had a key. Tinker toys, erector sets, Lincoln Logs and socks from Penny's were under every Christmas tree. We made our own sling shots and the school had the biggest two story tubular steel slide – but they called it a fire escape. It was as much fun to crawl up as it was to slide down.

Retirement is not just a time to look back at how things have changed and all the good times and good friends I have met. It is much more than a Social Security check and regular mail from AARP. For Dianne and me, it is a time for looking ahead. More time together, less travel for me, and more time to work on the things we really want to do. I don't plan to quit doing the things I enjoy and look forward to lots of new adventures.



Ed Schwab



My last day of work is March 31, 2008; I will have 38 years in for retirement pension. I was born in Hazen, North Dakota, on February 19, 1946. I was raised on the family farm southeast of Hazen and attended a one room royal school until the eighth grade, the ninth grade at Hazen High School and the last three years at Stanton High School, ND. While growing up, my dad measured land for the ASC for Oliver County, and I helped him all through my school years. After high school I joined the U.S. Army and served two years. Upon completion of the Army in 1966, I moved to Minnesota and worked at various jobs in the St. Cloud area.

In the spring of 1968, I moved back to the Hazen area and worked for the Mercer County ASC for 1-1/2 years. In 1969 I got married and starting working construction, operating a scraper and a dozer, building dams and dugouts for the ASC. On March 2, 1970, I was employed by Minnkota Power Company power plant, at Center, North Dakota, and worked in Operations for 10 years. On April 1, 1980, I transferred to Montana Dakota Utilities, Coyote Power Plant at Beulah, North Dakota, worked in Operations as a Shift Supervisor for 10 years. On April 1, 1990 I moved to Bismarck to the MDU Office as a Right-of-Way Agent. On March 31st, I will have worked 18 years as a Right-of-Way Land Agent with MDU.

I joined IRWA Dakotas Chapter 72 in September 1990 at a Right-of-Way Class in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. I have been an IRWA member for 17-1/2 years. I've gone through all the offices of Chapter 72 and was the first person to hold the President's office for two years. I have been Class Coordinator for a few IRWA Courses. I have been in charge of the Deadwood social and auction for about 5 years. I was our Chapter Newsletter Editor for about 10 years. I also served as Committee Chairman for our Chapter on different Committees.

I have won a few awards from the IRWA, with help, of course, from some of our chapter members. They are: 2nd place Chapter 72 National Newsletter Year Award; 1st place Chapter 72 National History Book Award; Chapter 72 – 2003 Professional of the Year Award

My wife passed away in 1987 and I met Betty in 1993. She has been very special to me for the past fifteen years. I have five children and ten grandchildren. Four of my kids are married; three of them live in Bismarck, one in Hazen, and one in Billings. Betty has two children and two grandchildren. Her children are both married – one lives in Waterloo, Iowa, and the other is in the Army and lives in Springfield, Missouri.

I plan to live in Hazen, spend more time with the grandchildren, and work in my shop that we built this past fall. (OH!!!! did I say WORK?!!! That's wrong – it's just "honey, do this, and honey, do that" stuff)!!! A good share of the time I will be fishing and being at my lake home at Lake Sakakawea. Will do a little more hunting and try and shoot another big buck (that is during the week). (NO FISHING OR HUNTING ON WEEKENDS). And I will try to take in a few Cheese Head GREEN BAY PACKERS games in Wisconsin.

My involvement with IRWA Dakotas Chapter 72:



Joined the IRWA in 1990

1994 & 1995 – Secretary/Treasurer of Chapter 72

1995 – Chapter 72 Assistant Newsletter Editor

1996 – 2007 – Chapter 72 Newsletter Editor

1996 – Vice President of Chapter 72

1997 – President Elect of Chapter 72

1998 & 1999 – President of Chapter 72

1998 – 2nd Place Newsletter Award, 44th Education Seminar, Minneapolis

1998 – Our Chapter was in charge of the 44th Education Auction held in Minneapolis. I assisted and provided the Program Database for the Education Auction

1998 & 1999 – As President I worked and helped to increase our membership from 44 to approximately 60, an increase of 30%

1999 – I received 1st Place Award for the Chapter History Book at the 45th Education Seminar in Albuquerque

2003 – I became Chapter 72 Professional of the Year

- In the past 16 years, I have been Pipeline Chairman for 5 years and served on various other committees.
- I have assisted the Course Coordinator for various classes. I have been our Chapter Course Coordinator for several classes.
- Was involved with and helped our Chapter for the annual Deadwood, South Dakota meeting and classes for the past 14 years.
- I helped and have been in charge of the Regional Forum Meetings whenever our Chapter hosted it. Have been to several of the Region Forum meetings.
- Have been to 11 of the past IRWA Education Seminars. Have been a Director from our Chapter for 2 years at the Education Seminars and alternate for 2 years.
- I have been in charge of our “Chapter Membership Database Program” for keeping all records of our membership up-to-date, and worked with HQ’s Bonnie Gray, Membership Coordinator. I also help keep records up-to-date of other Chapter officers in Region 3 and the International Executive Committee and IRWA HQ.
- I was in charge of sending all notices for meeting and other functions we held in our Chapter.
- I have taken 16 IRWA courses in the past 17 years. The courses have very much helped me in the Right-of-Way field for my everyday work. I have learned to work with the landowners and it made make my job a lot easier.

My employer, Montana Dakota Utilities Company, has backed me up 100% as an IRWA member and all my interests with the IRWA. In 1999 my employer received a very nice appreciation letter from Bruce Reed, Region 3 Chair. I was very much thankful for the work I have done with the IRWA. I would like to thank MDU for their support of the IRWA and also the IRWA and its members for helping me in my Right-of-Way field.



Scott Lang

In March of 1971 I was about to graduate from college and one of my instructors saw an ad in the paper for work in Bismarck for a position at Basin Electric Power Cooperative. I decided to go to Bismarck and apply for the job. This company had about 42 people and my dad thought it would be a great place for me to start until I could find something a little more permanent. Little did I know what would happen in the years to follow. I started the Drafting Department, working on spotting structures for our first transmission line to be built to Watertown, South Dakota from the Leland Olds Power Plant at Stanton, North Dakota. In doing this I began to work with the Right-of-way Department under the direction of Duane Bye. Right-of-way work caught my interest and when changes started to occur and a position opened up in the Right-of-way Department, I thought I would apply. I got the job and here I am 37 years later. Duane Bye moved into a position at Basin Electric on Environmental Affairs and Don Dobrowski took over the Right-of-Way Department.

One my first assignments for Don was to go to Storla, South Dakota and buy Basin Electric's first substation site. I remember the drive down there thinking what if I don't get this substation site or have to pay too much, this job could be short lived and I had a wife and son to support. Oliver Diggerness was the farmer and he told me I had to go to Mitchell, South Dakota and deal with his son. So off I went – not knowing what to expect. Glen, his son, was not in a hurry to make a decision but asked me to stay over the weekend and he would think about it. I said I would and called home to inform my wife that I would not be back until the following week. I spent the weekend riding dirt motor bikes with Glen and on Monday morning, he sold me the substation site and I headed home a happy guy. Not only did I get the site, but for a price everyone at the office liked. Wow, I thought this job was great so I thought I'd stay! In my career, I have worked on

every transmission line, every substation site, every microwave site, and every power plant site that Basin Electric owns and operates.

My first introduction to IRWA was I believe in 1973 when Don Dobrowski got me to join the local chapter and start attending local meetings on educational classes they offered right-of-way folks. Then sometime later I got to attend my first IRWA seminar in Texas. I could not believe the people I got to meet from across the country who worked in that field. This was great, I thought, because I could call folks with the same issues and learn from them. Over the years I attended many International Right-of-Way Seminars across the country. I was loving my new career and starting to meet folks with the same interest. One of my best friends at the time was Gaylord Johnson, who had taken my place in the Drafting Department at Basin Electric. I kept telling him, "Hey, you really need to apply for a right-of-way job, you'll love it." He would always tell me he didn't see any future in that area and really had to be pushed to give it a try. We hunted and fished together and I kept telling him about the work, and he finally gave in and applied for the job. Of course, he got the job as Don thought he would work fine. Gaylord and I worked together until his very untimely death and I really cherish those memories that we had together. Ask me sometime and I'll tell you hours of "TALES ALONG THE LINE"!

Over the years I have held the job of president of our local chapter and served on many committees of which I have enjoyed. I always wanted to become an SR/WA but it never happened due to management thinking. One of my goals after taking over Basin Electric's Right-of-Way Department was to make sure all of my team would have a chance to obtain their SR/WA. I do think we'll be real close to that before I walk out the door. I have met so many good people over the years and always look forward to seeing them at each every meeting I attend. Deadwood, South Dakota, of course, is always a highlight.

Years ago I remember saying to Al Cordner, one of our past members and co-workers, "I wish I had your experience and my age." Well, that did happen – I now have his experience but I now also have his age!

IRWA has been a great part of my career and I look forward to belonging to our local chapter for many years after I retire. I'll see you in Deadwood!





Jack Holt

I started my career in Right-of-Way in 1983 with McKenzie Electric in Watford City during the previous oil boom. It was quite hectic then and there was a stack of about 25 easements on my desk that needed signing yesterday. There were no computers or cell phones then. My phone rang. A landowner was yelling his lungs out and the people at the desks around me were all grinning. No partitions then either. That was my first day.

A month later a lady showed up at my office and told me about the IRWA. I don't remember who she was, but it changed everything for the better. My boss knew I needed some kind of training and supported me throughout the remainder of my time with the association. My experience landed me a job with Basin Electric in 1990. I then continued with my membership with the support of Basin Electric.

I went to Wheatland, Wyoming and worked on local right-of-way issues and land management of ranches Basin Electric owned for water rights. I became a Wyoming Chapter 61 member (Region 9) and acquired the SR/WA while belonging to that chapter. I remained an associate member of Chapter 72. In 1999 the C02 pipeline started in North Dakota and I transferred to Bismarck. I rejoined Chapter 72 and Region 3. I have been president in both chapters.

On the personal and family side, I was born in Grand Forks, North Dakota and was the third of four boys. My dad was a power line contractor (hence the background). My youngest brother and his sons now operate the business. They are currently building substations for wind energy, which I am presently working on for Basin Electric. Moving back to Bismarck brought us closer to our families which has been great.

I have been married to my wife, Judy, for 30 years. She has moved every time with me without complaining while raising our two sons, Cameron, 24, and Jeremy, 23. They live in Bozeman, Montana.

Growing up in Grand Forks makes Bismarck seem like the banana belt. I now have a pontoon which will occupy a good part of my retirement during the summer. The Missouri River is awesome. I will also be making frequent trips to the mountains as long as the boys are there. I still play hockey with the old man league. If someone falls down, we all stop. We also say things like "Excuse me" and "Sorry" when we bump into each other.

Unlike most people my age, I am not a grandparent but that's okay. If I am one day, that's okay, too. My wife Judy sees little kids every day as a 2nd grade teacher, and I see a lot of them from a distance - sledding down the hill behind our house.

This year I plan to retire. I owe a lot to my coworkers and supporters of the IRWA. They have gone hand in hand. I just finished 6 years of various positions at the Region level for the IRWA. So I think I will do fine with retirement and hope that it will be a long one as well as for the other guys in our chapter who are leaving this year.





Ed's Big Buck 8:30AM November 17, 2007

It all started out the first weekend of deer season in November of 2007. I had to go hunting by myself, as my son Evan and grandson, Austin, could not make it. Evan was gone for his job and Austin off with his Bismarck Century High School "Hockey Team". So I decided I would have to see what I can do by myself by heading out to our farm land, 9 miles southeast of Hazen, ND. I drove out and was going to just sit on a hill and watch for deer and see if I could be lucky enough to see any or even get one.

Well on Friday opening day just before sundown, I did see a few does, (**NO BUCKS**). Saturday morning drove out before sun up and did see a few more does (I think they were the same ones) but 2 more, total 5 now (**NO BUCKS**). Saturday just before dark, here comes 3 does again and about 15 minutes later the other 2 (**NO BUCKS**). I knew there were a few bucks in there as I have seen them for the last few weeks, during pheasant season (it seems those Bucks know when opening weekend is, they just go hide). Sunday morning before sun up, I head out. I am sitting on this hill again and about 15 minutes after sun is up, here comes a nice big doe, follow by a **NICE BIG BUCK** (4 or 5 point). Well I got out of the truck and was waiting for them to come in closer, and about that time they stopped so I just waited. Well I shouldn't have waited, as about that time here comes a truck down the trail and over the hill. Yes! They scared the deer off; the Buck turned around and ran back. I stopped the driver and asked why he didn't shoot. He said, "I never saw them." I said "They were right next to the trail and about 100 yards from you." So I decided to walk the trees they went into (**NO DEER**). That was it for that morning. That evening I tried again, all I saw was the same 5 does. Monday back to work.

Friday second weekend my son and grandson came with. Friday evening we saw a couple of does about 1/2 mile away (**NO BUCKS**). Saturday morning we are out again before the sun was up. It snowed about 4 inches the night before so we knew it would be a lot easier to see deer. We were sitting on a hill north of our land and did not see a thing, and about 1/2 hour after sun up I said let's drive to the other hill overlooking our land. We parked there for about 10 minutes and I saw some movement about 1/2 mile away. I said let's go. We drove out and around the section line and when we came over the hill, my grandson said, "Look there, it's **A HUGE BUCK**." I jumped out and got a shot off as it was running (missed it). Shot again and hit it. It kept running and ran in to a row of trees. We got out and could see the blood on the new snow. We started

tracking it and when we got into the trees we found more tracks. My grandson then spotted blood on a tree branch. He started tracking one way and I went the other. I followed the tracks for a short ways and then found blood again. I continued tracking blood in the new fresh snow. As I continued tracking I noticed he was starting to lose more blood and I could see where one leg was dragging. I knew then I was not giving up. I followed him for about another 3/4 mile and as I got to a fence, I saw meat and some fat hanging on the fence. I figured he did not jump, but had to crawl threw.

About 50 feet in from the fence is a creek and it was iced over. I saw the ice was broken and he had to try and cross. Then I thought, "OH NO! He fell in and how am I going to get him out." I walked to the edge of the creek and about that time he got up and started running. I had to shoot again, and this time he was mine. When my grandson got there he said, "**GRANDPA, YOU SHOT A MOOSE**".

We field dressed him out and only had to drag him about 150 feet to a trail where my son came down with the truck. He dressed out at 165 lbs. I ended up with about 75 lbs meat. NICE BUCK! I am having him mounted so he can hang along side my 5 by 5 I shot 21 years ago, and also along with my 8.3 lb walleye.

Sunday morning we went out again and I shot a nice doe, and we got another 50 lbs from her. I gave some of the meat to my son as he has 3 kids to feed. I made sausage from all the meat that I had and I have enough sausage to feed an Army now. Anyway it looks like I will be eating sausage every day, for the next year or two.

