

The Heartlander

2002 Newsletter of the Year!!!



The Spirit of the Heartland - Chapter 41

August 2003

Calendar of Events

CHAPTER 41 QUARTERLY MEETING

PLACE MIDAMERICAN GENERATING PLANT, PLEASANT HILL

DATE & TIME FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 5, 2003 – 10:00 A.M.

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED –NO EXCEPTIONS

PLACE CLARION HOTEL, CLIVE

DATE & TIME SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2003

REGION 3 FALL FORUM

FALL OMAHA -- OCTOBER 9-10, 2003

COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT (SEE PAGE 4)

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE

PLACE PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

DATE JUNE 20 – 24, 2004

DEADLINES & UPCOMING EVENTS

AUGUST 18-19 - COURSE 205, AMES

(STILL A FEW OPENINGS CALL JANA JONES)

OCTOBER 9 – COURSE 302, OMAHA (SEE PAGE 4)

OCTOBER 29 - 30 – COURSE 901 & 902, CEDAR RAPIDS

President's Message

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

Where has summer gone? As we return from our vacations our thoughts turn to getting ready for school or how our favorite football team is going to fare on the gridiron.

We had wonderful chapter representation at the Kansas City conference and we pulled off the auction without a hitch. Of course, we didn't know if our auctioneer was going to make it until about an hour before the auction was to begin. I heard nothing but compliments about the auction. Congratulations to Nancy Halvorson, Rita Rasmussen, Bob Dahlgren and our many members who volunteered their time and effort to making it a success. **Special thanks to spouses, daughters, sons-and-sisters-in-laws and our friends in Chapters 20 and 78 for their help. I think we discovered some special talents out there during the actual auction.**

Our June chapter meeting at Pine Lake State Park was a success. We didn't let a little rain dampen our day. We had a number of guests from Grundy County, including the county engineer, sheriff and supervisors, past and present. I'm sure none of us will forget the look on the faces of that couple when a sheriff's car and about ten other vehicles showed up in that park at 10:30 a.m. on a quiet Friday morning. Oh ...the bridge view was great, too.

Our September meeting is another "Don't Miss" meeting. We will have an opportunity to tour the Mid American Generating Station under construction in Pleasant Hill from 10 a.m. until Noon. This is a great opportunity to see the latest in technology, but remember, for security reasons, you must RSVP to Jim Diemer prior to September 1st in order to receive a visitor's pass.

We will then convene for lunch and our chapter business meeting at the Latin King Restaurant on Hubbell Avenue in Des Moines. In addition to a lively discussion of chapter business, this will be your opportunity to vote for Chapter 41's 2003 Professional of the Year. Don't miss it!

The Fall Forum will be held in Omaha on October 9th and 10th. It's an easy trip to Omaha and the Old Market area is a great place to visit. The 2004 Spring Forum will be hosted by our chapter so this is good opportunity to get a feel for what the forum is all about.

Have a good August and we'll see you September 5th.

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RAFFLE, RAFFLE, RAFFLE

Region 3 has received a "Cozy Cabin Berber Quilt" donated and handcrafted by Joanie Miller of Chapter 20 to be raffled to benefit the Region. Region 3 has unanimously decided to make this a "friendly" competition between chapters on the sale of raffle tickets. The chapter that sells the most tickets will be awarded an "Article of Special Recognition" by Region Chair Nancy Halvorson.

This "up north" quilt is made of colorful flannels, knitted suede and earth tone fleece/berber material to make for a thick and cozy blanket. The accents on this blanket are moose designs from knitted suede, bears, trees and canoe from fleece and berber, with a berber backing. It's the perfect blanket for those cold winter evenings. The finished size is 5'x7' and is machine wash/dry.

We hope to have the quilt on display at each chapter meeting with all proceeds going to the Region treasury. Raffle tickets are only \$1 each and will be on sale until the Fall Forum. The drawing will take place at the Fall Forum in Omaha on October 10th. You need **NOT** be present to win. The Lucky Winner will be notified and announced in the Chapter and Region newsletter and also on the Region website.

We're looking for your support. Our Region treasury has been notoriously starved. We hope to fatten it and be able to use these funds for the assistance of our members with such things as assistance to attend Conference planning meetings for those Region reps who do not receive employer support.

Tickets will be available at the next chapter meeting. If you cannot attend the meeting but would like to purchase tickets and support Region 3, please contact your Chapter President.

Good luck to each chapter and we hope you all choose to participate!



Negotiation Tip

Edward Opstein, SR/WA, MPA

Preparation and Expectation are not the same!

On Monday, a very troubled little boy was expected to arrive at his new pre-school. He was a terribly abused child in a foster home. People in his old school said he was a serious problem. That's what his new school advisor was told.

The little boy who arrived was totally different. Everyone enjoyed him, especially those who did not know his background. His new advisor had prepared for him but did not EXPECT bad behavior. Maybe they were just lucky, or maybe they treated him in a "normal" way.

*When you plan to see a property owner,
Prepare for it but do not let your Expectations
get in the way. What you expect may happen
because your behavior coaches it into action.
Prepare for Reality and Expect a Solution! Be a
Healthy Negotiator.*



[right of way magazine](#)

Back Issues Available

If anyone is missing a back issue of [right of way magazine](#) please let me know...a member has donated the following back issues:

1997: January
1999: Jan/Feb, May/June and Sept/Oct,
Nov/Dec
2000: Jan/Feb, Mar/April, May/June,
Sept/Oct, Nov/Dec
2001: Jan/Feb, Mar/Apr, May/June
2002: July/Aug, Sept/Oct, Nov/Dec
2003: Jan/Feb, Mar/Apr

Email shelly.whiteing@dot.state.ia.us and I will bring to the September meeting.



Anne M. King



Anne M. King has been a member of IRWA with Chapter 41 for five years. During that time she has been employed as a Right of Way Agent with MidAmerican Energy Company in Des Moines.

Anne finds chapter meetings to be a good setting for discussion of pertinent ROW issues. She commends Jim Diemer and Patti Simons on their great program topics. She also finds IRWA courses to be helpful and well planned.

Anne's "distribution of her *personal* energy is primarily along a three-phase line: family, church and work. Rodney King, my husband of 34 years (not the guy in Los Angeles), is a pastor of a church in Des Moines. So, locally, in addition to being a ROW Agent for MidAmerican, I am very involved with our church and her people. Our house sees many guests and our church members refer to our home as "the King's inn". I especially enjoy working with the church youth and being part of a weekly ladies' Bible study group. Our relatives all live out of state, with the heaviest concentration of them being in North Carolina. I have four married children and eight grandchildren. We bridge distance with e-mails and lengthy phone conversations. All my vacation time is reserved for getting together with our scattered family, wherever we can."

Don Corrigan, R/W-RAC



Don Corrigan, IRWA member since 1997 and recently certified in Relocation Assistance is also a member of Phi Alpha Alpha. Recently, Don was also made an Honorary Member of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials.

Don is currently a member of Chapter 41's Education Committee after previously chairing the Relocation Committee. He is also one of our two new representatives on the Leadership Development Council.

Don was previously with the City of Des Moines for more than 25 years, with 20 of those years spent in Relocation Assistance. He was involved in many projects including urban renewal, various HUD programs, public housing, FAA, BOR, FEMA, FHWA as well as a code enforcement program for monthly rent supplements.

For the past two years Don has taken time off to examine the right-of-ways of 26 states, attend IRWA functions including courses, the Uniform Act Symposium in Mesa, an IRWA Seminar in Mobile and a Conference in Kansas City. He also does volunteer work and has received training to qualify him to facilitate drug and alcohol abuse aftercare groups.

Don's hobby is Volkssporting, which is walking over a predetermined course that is usually 10K (6.2 miles) in length (he says "someone has to use that right of way once it is acquired"). So far he has done over 360 walks in 34 states and 15 European countries.

Don states that even over the objections of his two cats now, it is time to find a job.

Would you like to be in an Upcoming Spotlight?

Please email me (shelly.whiteing@dot.state.ia.us)

"Smile for the Camera" at our next meeting.

REGION 3

NEWS AND INFORMATION

Region 3

Nancy Halvorson, SR/WA, R/W-RAC, Region 3 Chair

Make plans to attend the Fall Forum October 10th in Omaha. This is close enough that more should be able to attend. Chapter 78 promises a great experience. During the Hospitality Hour on Thursday the 9th, at Upstream Brewery in the Old Market we will be having a "mini-auction" to raise some funds for the Region treasury. Our checkbook has been notoriously starved and we hope to build a balance that would allow us to sometimes assist Region representatives with some meeting expenses and just to make us more self-supporting. Our only income is the \$1.00 per member annual voluntary dues from each Chapter. We are asking each Chapter to bring an item(s) for the auction. It will be fairly brief but should be fun.

Our Chapter will be hosting Spring Forum on April 16, 2004, so start thinking of ideas for where we would like to hold it and how we will entertain the Region attendees.

As Region Chair, I welcome your ideas, questions or concerns. Let me know how I can help you.

I'd like to also thank those from Chapter 41 who have volunteered to serve a Region Representatives to International Industry Committees: Those folks are: Ed Opstein, SR/WA – LPA Committee; Bernard Banker, SR/WA – Valuation Committee; Dan Shiflett – Survey Committee; Dave Hingtgen – Utilities Committee. Elsewhere in the newsletter you will see that we still need reps for Transportation and Wireless Committees. If you're interested, please let me know.

I hope to see you at our September Chapter meeting and at the Fall Forum.

REGION 3 FALL FORUM

OMAHA

OCTOBER 9-10, 2003

The place to be on October 9 & 10 is Omaha, the host city for the Region 3 Fall Forum. The forum will be held at the new Courtyard by Marriott in the beautiful historic Old Market in downtown Omaha. Plans for a night of laughs, smiles, eating, and networking is being planned for Thursday evening. The meeting will take place on Friday, October 10th.

Please make your reservations for lodging as soon as possible. A limited number of rooms have been blocked for this event:

Hotel: Courtyard by Marriott

Location: Downtown Omaha -- 101 S. 10th Street, Omaha, NE 68102

For Reservations call: 1-800-321-2211 or (402) 346-2200 Ask for the International Right of Way Association group rate.

Room Rate: \$79 plus tax

Amenities: Free parking, Restaurant and Lounge, Fitness Center with indoor pool. Walking distance to numerous restaurants, parks, nightlife, and fabulous shopping.

On Thursday, IRWA Course 302-Team Building will be held. Please try and attend. This is an excellent course for anyone that works with others on projects and would be great for all IRWA Chapter officers and leaders to attend! Judi Sorensen will be coordinating this Course. Please contact her at (402) 636-3654 for more details. Brochures will be coming later this summer.

Hope to see you all in Omaha in October!!!



Region 3 Committee Positions

Region 3 is looking for Region Representative on two committees... **Wireless and Transportation.**

If you would like to get more involved at the Region and International level this is a GREAT OPPORTUNITY.

Please contact Nancy, if you are interested.



Region 3 website:

www.irwaregion3.org

Questions or Comments,
contact webmaster

vicki@ipublishers.com

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Kansas City, Missouri



Region 3 Caucus





Sunday Evening Welcome Reception



**Region 3
Board of Director's Meeting**



Highlights of Seminar



International Committee's



**Survey Committee...
Dan Shiflett (3rd from Right)**



**LPA Committee...
Rita Rasmussen, Vice Chair (front Right)**

Chapter 41 Hosts the Educational Auction



Installation Banquet



**Installation of Region Officers
That's Chapter 41's Nancy Halvorson just prior to being Installed as
Region 3 Chair!**



**(Left to Right): President Donald Marx, SR/WA;
President-Elect Gordon MacNair, SR/WA;
Vice President Daniel Beardsley, SR/WA; Treasurer W. Howard Armstrong, SR/WA;
Secretary James Finnegan, SR/WA; and Executive Committee James Struble, SR/WA**



**Outgoing President Albert Allen, SR/WA, and
Incoming President Donald Marx, SR/WA**

June Chapter Meeting



Iowa River Bridge



“What’s down there, Joe?”



Bob Dahlgren...”what did Ed, do!?”



“Can you hear me now?”
Ken Schwarz, Jim Diemer, Anne King



Mike LaViolette with Chapter 41 members.



Rita Rasmussen, Jana Jones
and Bernie Banker



Board Meeting

Member News & Information:



CONGRATULATIONS

\$50 Door Prize Winner

June Meeting

Steve Chapman

(You could be the winner in September!!!)



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Chair Timothy Greenwood

NEW MEMBERS

Earl W. Wood, Corps of Engineers

James L. Buckingham,

Graham Land Acquisition Associates

Welcome—

We look forward to your membership.



CERTIFICATIONS

Deane L. Davenport

Certified in Appraisal

Congratulations, Deane!

BUDGET NEWS

TREASURER'S REPORT

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

Second Quarter Report

Income \$ 91.08

Expenses 5,061.35

Net Income (\$ 4,970.27)

Current Cash Balance \$16,656.66

Long Term Obligations \$ 1,115.00

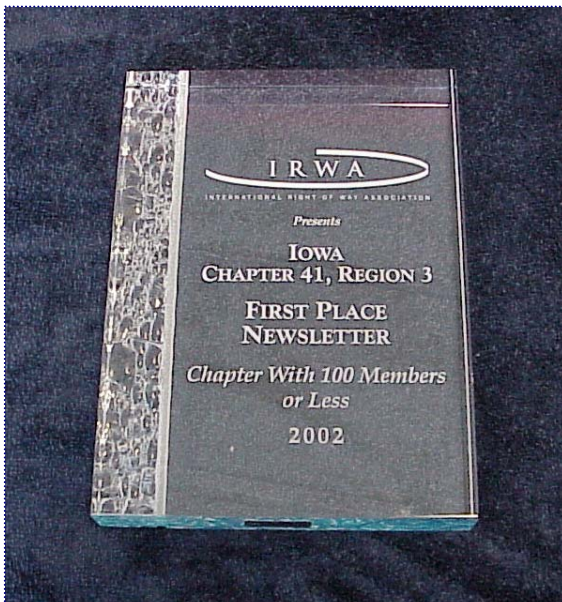
Net Balance \$15,541.66

YOUR COURSE HISTORY

Is now on the World Wide Web

http://www.irwaonline.org/education/course_history.cfm

You can now access your personal information and make changes. You can also view your course history. If there are courses missing or you would like to include courses prior to 1988 you may contact Annette Gray atagray@irwaonline.org or 310-538-0233, Extension 138.



Please help us build a Chapter Data Base



If you have not already submitted a chapter survey form, one is attached to this newsletter. Please fill this out and return to Shelly Whiteing at shelly.whiteing@dot.state.ia.us as soon as possible.

This information helps us be assured we have your current address, telephone number, etc.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

International Right of Way Association

"Spirit of the Heartland" - Iowa Chapter 41



Minutes of Business Meeting – June 6, 2002

Pine Lake Lodge - Eldora, Iowa

Secretary's Report will be distributed in a separate email
Prior to September 5 Meeting.

SEPTEMBER CHAPTER MEETING



Mid American Generating Station - Pleasant Hill

Friday, September 5, 2003

10:00 a.m. - Noon Tour of Generating Station

This plant is currently in the second phase of construction. When it is completed it will be the most modern and technologically advanced unit in Iowa. The combustion comes from natural gas rather than coal, with a second unit that recovers the heat that it generates to create steam to run the turbines to create additional output.)



VERY IMPORTANT – Please Read if You Plan to Attend



Enter through the construction gate and gather at the north end of the building. We will be issued hard hats and will be in a conference room where personnel will tell about the plant and basics about generating electricity.

RSVP Required

For security reasons visitor badges need to be prepared in advance and issued by guards at the gate.

Please RSVP to Jim no later than September 1

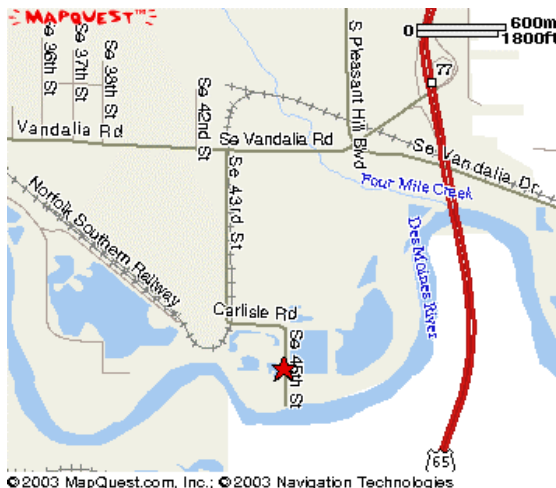
(email: jpdiermer@midamerican.com or phone 515.281.2305)

No name, no badge, no get in.

Noon Lunch and Board Meeting – Latin King Restaurant, 2200 Hubbell Avenue, Des Moines

Please plan to attend for your opportunity to vote for Chapter 41's, 2003 Professional of the Year!!

\$10 Registration Fee Includes Lunch (order from Menu)



Take the I-5 bypass south to the Vandalia Rd. exit.
Go right (west) until you get to SE 43rd St.
Turn left and follow the street to the plant.

Parking is through construction gate.

Officers for 2003

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BERNARD.BANKER@DOT.STATE.IA.US

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www.irwa41.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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DEADLINE FOR NOVEMBER ISSUE

October 15, 2003

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