

# PLATTE RIVER CURRENTS



Chapter 78 News is a publication of the International Right of Way Association Platte River Chapter #78. Send comments or articles to: Randy De George, (402) 636-3648

## 2003 CHAPTER OFFICERS



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## President's Message

My Fellow Members:

I thought that this would be my last address to you in the newsletter, but Randy advised me on Sunday, that I will have one more opportunity to address you all at the end of the year.

I thought also that the last half of this year would be relatively slow, but with the Fall Forum being held in Omaha in October, and my efforts to prepare to pass the reigns onto next years leadership, I have been very busy.

For those of you who did not attend the Fall Forum, let me tell you that you missed something wonderful. Not only were the speakers great, but so was Chapter 78 in hosting the events. The region that our Chapter belongs to, Region 3, contains the States of Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota. Region 3 has no source of income to support the leaders in their travels, so an auction was held to help support the region. \$1,000.00 was raised for the Region as well as a matching donation from our Chapter in the amount of \$1,000.00. Needless to say, the Region leadership was quite flabbergasted at the generosity and hospitality of Chapter 78. My thanks to Judi Sorensen and Pat Evans on the accommodations, and Chris Pawloski and Jack Borgmeyer for organizing the auction that was held on Thursday night.

Our next Chapter meeting, on November 5<sup>th</sup>, has been scheduled to allow us to elect our next years Chapter officers. I want to reiterate the importance of these elections and solicit your involvement in our Chapter. Our next years President is going to need every ounce of effort from every member in order to make next year an even more successful year. Please become involved and volunteer.

Let's have a good Winter!

Paul G. Farrell,  
President Chapter 78

**REMINDER: NEXT MEETING AT MAHONEY STATE PARK ON WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup>, 2003, AT 11:00A.M.**

**OFFICER ELECTION MEETING FOR 2004.**



## CHAPTER 78 FALL QUATERLY MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup>, 2003

Chapter 78 held its' fourth quarterly meeting at Mahoney Park Lodge on September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2003. Attendance was moderate, one guest was present. President Paul Farrell brought the meeting to order. Copies of the meeting agenda, budget and the Chapter newsletter were handed out. Attendees introduced themselves to the group.

### **Committee Chair Reports are as follows:**

- **Chapter Secretaries Report:** John Meng-Frecker reported that the minutes had not changed from those printed in the newsletter and were accepted by the group by motion and seconded.
- **Chapter Treasurers Report:** George Howard reported on the financial status of the Chapter, after having a few more classes, the treasury has substantial sum with expenses already taken out. A motion was brought forth and the report was accepted as reported.
- **Education Chairs report:** Chris Pawloski and John Shotkoski reported that courses 503 and 504 that were held in Omaha at the Hampton Inn were a big success. Course 302 will be held in Omaha on October 9<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with the Fall Forum the Chapter is hosting.
- **Membership report:** Pat Evans reviewed with the members a list that she had received which is incorrect and is trying to reconcile what International has and what members had paid already. Pat also handed out new member pins to those who had not received them before.
- **Asset Management:** Judi Sorensen discussed the KC Seminar, and thanked those from our chapter for their participation as speakers as well as attendees. It was noted that this session had the most attendees of the seminar. She is still trying to get ideas for the next forum to be held in Philadelphia next year. Anyone with suggestions please contact her.
- **Wireless Committee:** No report to be given.
- **Newsletter/Website:** Randy De George reported that the web site and newsletter are going fine, and again asked for any input or articles that the members would want to share with the rest of us, and encouraged them to do so.
- **Environmental:** Nothing new from this committee at this time.
- **Old Business:**

Nominations for officers for the upcoming year were asked for. Those interested in becoming an officer can contact Lisa Burnside who is the Chair of the Nominations committee.

Minutes Continued:  
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- **New Business:**

President Farrell brought out the award given to Chapter 78 for the most numerical gain for the year 2002. President Farrell congratulated all members and also those from the Nebraska Department of Roads for helping to win this award.

President Farrell was approached by the marketing group for the Qwest Center asking if International would be willing to have an education seminar here in Omaha. Further discussion would be needed on this item.

President Farrell brought up the Fall Forum and auction items that were to be on hand from our chapter as well as the rest in the region. Jack Borgmeyer and Chris Pawloski are heading up the auction and ask for item descriptions to be sent to them as soon as possible.

Regional Committee Chairs and members were brought up as the Wireless and Transportation committees still have vacancies that Region Chair Halvorson is looking for a representative

Officer nominations were discussed by Nominations Chair Lisa Burnside who asked if there were anyone who wished to be on the nominations slate at this time. She and President Farrell asked that they be e-mailed with either the persons name or theirs and for what position.

Meeting broke for lunch and then the guest speaker was introduced.

- **Speaker:** Marvin Krout, Planning Director, City of Lincoln discussed his background and how he came to the City of Lincoln as its Planning Director. He also discussed various upcoming projects that were to be facing the City of Lincoln in the next few years.
- President Farrell called the meeting back to order and asked if anyone had any concerns, with none being heard a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Submitted by,  
Randy De George for John Meng-Frecker, Chapter 78 Secretary



## **2004 Educational Offerings IRWA Chapter 78**

Hello Fellow Members,

I would like to thank those of you who participated in our recent educational survey. The survey results are used to determine what IRWA Course presentations need to be offered to continue the professional development of our Chapter members.

As I have mentioned in previous newsletters, Chapter 78 will be co-sponsoring IRWA Course 303, Managing the Consultant Process with our neighboring Chapter 41. I am glad to inform the chapter that we have made final arrangements with Howard Armstrong, SR/WA, to instruct this course. The course will be held at the Holiday Inn at Ameristar Casino, in Council Bluffs, Iowa, on February 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, 2004. Our goal is to market this course to all governmental organizations within IRWA Region 3. If any Chapter 78 members have contacts that could be helpful in the marketing of this course, please contact Chris Pawloski at: [pawloskic@midwestrow.com](mailto:pawloskic@midwestrow.com) or Nancy Halvorson at: [nancy.halvorson@dot.state.ia.us](mailto:nancy.halvorson@dot.state.ia.us).

### **2004 Educational Offerings- Chapter 78**

February 26-27, 2004	Course 303, Managing the Consultant Process Location: Holiday Inn, Council Bluffs, Iowa Instructor: Mr. Howard Armstrong Coordinators: Chris Pawloski/Nancy Halvorson
March 2004	Course 200, Principles of Real Estate Negotiation Location: Omaha, Nebraska Instructor: Mr. Ed Opstein Coordinator: Chris Pawloski
April 19-20, 2004	Course 900, Principles of Real Estate Engineering Location: Mahoney State Park-Ashland, NE. Instructor: Mr. Craig Poorker Coordinator: Jim Shotkoski
May 2004	Course 403, Easement Valuation Coordinator: Jim Shotkoski
July 2004	Course 103, Ethics and the Right-of-Way Profession Coordinator: Chris Pawloski
Sept. 2004	H-005, Reviewing Appraisals in Eminent Domain Coordinator: Jim Shotkoski
November 2004	Course 505 & 506, Relocation Assistance Coordinator: Jim Shotkoski

Education Continued:

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If anyone has any questions or comments regarding IRWA Courses, please contact Jim Shotkoski at [jshotkos@ci.lincoln.ne.us](mailto:jshotkos@ci.lincoln.ne.us) or Chris Pawloski at [pawloskic@midwestrow.com](mailto:pawloskic@midwestrow.com).

As Education Chair I have been afforded the opportunity to form many great relationships with the members of our chapter, region and international organization. I look forward to enhancing those relationships as I fill the position of Chapter 78 President. As president I am looking forward to working alongside Jim Shotkoski to help maintain the excellence of our IRWA Educational Program. We want to continue our history of providing quality course presentations that meet our members' needs.

I would like to thank all of the members of our chapter for the opportunity to serve as Education Chair.  
Thank You,

Chris A. Pawloski  
Education Chair



**Tentative 2005 Educational Offerings**  
**Chapter 78**  
**International Right-of-Way Association**

March 2005	Course 700, Introduction to Property Management Chapter 78, Nebraska
May 2005	Course 401, Appraisal of Partial Acquisitions Chapter 78, Nebraska
June 2005	Course 211, Effective Written Communications Chapter 78, Nebraska
August 2005	Course 801, Land Titles Chapter 78, Nebraska
October 2005	Course 902, Property Descriptions Chapter 78, Nebraska
November 2005	Course 602, Project Development & the Environmental Process Chapter 78, Nebraska



### **LDC MEETING-Baltimore, Maryland**

The IRWA Leadership Development Council Meeting was held in Baltimore, Maryland, on October 24th and 25th.

On October 24<sup>th</sup>, the members were presented with IRWA Course 213, Conflict Management. The course was instructed by Ted Williams, SR/WA, and presented by International. The course objectives were as follows:

- To define conflict, to examine sources of conflict and consider its consequences.
- To learn several conflict management strategies and tactics.
- To examine ways to reduce and eliminate conflict.
- To present a conflict management plan.

On October 25<sup>th</sup>, Armando Apadoca, International Vice President of Membership Services and Administration, gave a report on some of the changes taking place at the international offices in Torrance, California. Some of the items addressed were:

- Agency Membership Program
- New course pricing structure and implementation
- Reorganization of International staff
- Future web based plans of Marketing, Surveys, Newsletters and a new IRWA Membership Directory going out to the public.
- The outsourcing of printing responsibilities to Kinko's
- The outsourcing of Human Resources to Adminstaff.

Gordon MacNair, SR/WA and International President Elect, gave a report on the Strategic Plan for the International Executive Committee. Mr. MacNair also gave a report on the updated International structure.

There were four other presentations given:

- Johnny Dyess, SR/WA and LDC-Vice Chair, presented Region Structure and Leadership. Also discussed were the requirements needed to attain the SR/WA designation and R/W Discipline certifications.
- Mike Williams, LDC Chair, and Lara Bailey, LDC Secretary, presented the Chapter Structure and Leadership.
- Lara Bailey, LDC Secretary, gave a report on the International Membership Committee. The topics included new member recruitment and a revised "Mega Bucks" program.
- Ted Williams, SR/WA, presented a motivational speech on "Heroes"

LDC Minutes Continued:

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The business meeting for the LDC was the last item on the agenda. The following topics were addressed:

- A finalized version of the By-Laws, Mission and Vision Statements, Strategic Plan and Governance of the Leadership Development Council were discussed with the group.

The group voted on keeping the current governance intact until the 2004 IRWA Annual Conference in Philadelphia.

- The LDC By-Laws, Mission and Vision Statements, Strategic Plan and Governance will presented to the International Executive Committee for their approval and guidance before the next IRWA Annual Conference.
- The group was encouraged to bring new members from their chapters to the next meeting.
- The next LDC Meeting will be held in Philadelphia at the 2004 IRWA Annual Conference and the next Annual Meeting will be held in Toronto prior to the 2005 IRWA Annual Conference.
- Mike Williams, LDC Chair, asked the group if they wanted to proceed with the current format of the LDC seminar at the next meeting. Mr. Williams said there will be several surveys being e-mailed to the group for their responses.

A copy of the minutes for this meeting will be available shortly. If you are interested in a copy please contact me at: [pawloskic@midwestrow.com](mailto:pawloskic@midwestrow.com).

Chris A. Pawloski  
LDC-Region 3 Representative





Fall decorations on the reports table

### **Region 3 Fall Forum** unofficial notes



EVP Dennis Stork from International giving an update to attendees.

The Region 3 Fall Forum was held at the Marriott Courtyard Hotel in Omaha, Nebraska on October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2003. Region Chair Nancy Halvorson called the forum to order and she introduced our special guest, Dennis Stork, EVP from Headquarters, and the rest of the attendees introduced themselves.

Region Secretary/Treasurer Craig Poorker gave his report on the treasury, noting that there was \$770.32 with two Chapters not paying their dues for the year as of yet.

Chair Halvorson then asked for each Chapter to Report in the Region. Various Presidents or their assigns provided their Chapters reports to the attendees.

EVP Dennis Stork then discussed the new course pricing and how much easier it is to understand, and how the Chapters would break even using the new format that was designed. He then discussed the financial situation of Headquarters saying that the Association will lose about \$100,000.00 this year due to executive search, new software and computers for headquarters. Outlook for 2004 appears that headquarters will regain its losses and actually be ahead but that is to be seen. He also discussed that the courses are being attended but that they are not sellouts. New course flyers will be sent by International to coordinators via e-mail and it will be up to coordinator to either get the materials to Kinko's to make up of course manuals or the Chapter can send out the flyers at their own cost reducing Internationals fees for the course. Mr. Stork also discussed the membership only being down 50 people from last year and International to try and get them back. Also there are only 37 applications for membership awaiting Chapter approval versus the over 200 that International had last year. This is a good thing for the membership as we do not want to have zero people in the pipeline so to speak, as that would mean no growth in the Association. Since the Agency membership was conceived the person will pay a fee and portion of it will be given back to the Chapter where that individual is located. It will be up to the Chapters to try and get them to join as a full member. Mr. Stork also discussed the course invoicing and how it has been affected at International. They are trying to get a better handle on this process and he feels that it will happen in time.

Committee reports were discussed and copies handed out to attendees. Chair Halvorson is still looking to fill the Wireless and Transportation spots still available. She asked for any volunteers and a few names were tossed out but will have to get back to her if those individuals agree to fill those positions.

Chair Halvorson announced the candidates for the Region Professional of the Year and they are as follows:

**Al Donoho, SR/WA, Chapter 5**

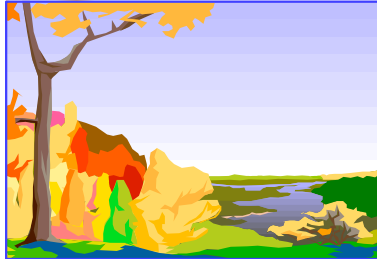
**Pat Carins, SR/WA, Chapter 20**

**Daryl Knobbe, Chapter 37**

**Jim Diemer, Chapter 41**

**Ed Schwab, Chapter 72**

**Randy De George, SR/WA, Chapter 78**



Fall Forum Cont:

Chair Halvorson then brought up the duplication of courses and lack of communication between the Chapters to not have these problems and competing for dollars. All Chapters are to have their Education Chairs contact each other to get a calendar to Jack Holt, Vice Region Chair for the upcoming years.

Chris Pawloski and Jack Borgmeyer gave the total money amount made by the auction that was put on by Chapter 78 on Thursday night's gathering. The auction brought in \$973.00 and then a few others donated enough to make the total \$1,000. Chapter 78 President Paul Farrell then donated a matching check for \$1,000 to the Region coffers. He also paid the Chapter dues for this year and next.

Chair Halvorson then asked that all Chapter newsletters be sent to the Chapter Officers, all Presidents in the Region, Bonnie Gray at International, and the Region Officers.

Next Region Spring Forum to be held in Des Moines, IA on April 16<sup>th</sup> with class of Legal Aspects of Easements Course 802 being taught on April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2004.

The Fall Forum will be in St. Louis either October 8<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup>.

Chair Halvorson presented a plaque of appreciation to Melissa Wurtz and Bruce Reed who accepted the plaques on behalf of Al Donoho and Steve Grandon as they were the co-chairs for the seminar. Chair Halvorson then brought up those in attendance from the Kansas City Seminar committee to also recognize them for their hard work. In return, Melissa Wurtz, Chapter 5 President also presented a plaque to Nancy Halvorson and Bernie Banker for Chapter 41's involvement in the Auction for the Seminar. Melissa then asked those who helped with the seminar to stand and be recognized with most of the attendees standing.

Chair Halvorson asked if there was any other business to discuss, and with none being heard a motion was made to conclude the Forum, with a second the Forum was concluded.

The "Super Seller" of tickets for the raffle which was done after the forum went to Chris Pawloski, who was awarded a plaque. The total money brought in for the quilt raffle was over \$800, with Chris selling \$279.00 from Chapter 78.

A special thanks to Pat Evans for providing the decorations for the Forum tables and to those companies (OPPD, UP, Northern Border, and Contract Services) who provided the goodies that were in each bag for all the attendees to take with them.

Respectfully submitted by  
Randy De George, SR/WA  
Chapter 78 Newsletter/Website Editor

# “THE PHOTO SECTION” AUCTION & EVENING EVENT OF FALL FORUM 2003



Food Time! Jack Holt & Tim Powell



Pres. 72 Bob Krava and Bruce Reed



Chapter 41 people and Pat Cairns.



Listening intently in the conversation.



Various conversations all at once.



Dr. Bob Pawloski enlightens us.



Dr. talks about Lewis & Clark Trail.



Table of donated items for the auction



Auctioneer Gary Hassebrook.



Auctioneer extraordinaire getting the money



Now 40, now 45, now 50!



Rita Rasmussen trying her luck.

# “THE PHOTO SECTION”

## FALL FORUM 2003



Table decorations for handouts at forum.



Some participants waiting for forum to start



Greetings from Chapter 78 President Paul Farrell



Attendees listen intently on Chapter reports.



Bruce Reed & Melissa Wurtz, Chapter 5 accept plaques of appreciation on behalf of Al Donoho and Steve Grandon for their work as co-chairs for the KC Seminar.



Chapter 5 gives a plaque to Chapter 41 for their work on the Auction night at the KC Seminar.



Chapter 20's Sue Parisaeu and Joanie Miller hold the raffle tickets. Let the drawing for the quilt begin!

## **MEMBERS.....**

### **Are You Lost In Space?**

We miss you at meetings, we miss you at events, we just plain miss you!  
**WHAT CAN WE DO?**

You are needed for your input, you are needed for your participation, you are needed to be part of  
a great team!

We need committee participants, we need committee leadership, we need YOU!

Please plan on attending our next meeting September 4, and bring a friend!  
Good meeting, good speaker, good food....

Our Installation Banquet is Saturday, January 17, 2004.  
The banquet will held at Skyline Woods Country Club  
Plan early so you and a guest can join us !

If you have not received your membership pin or your Mega Bucks matching dollars,  
please contact Pat at (402) 444-3778



### **WEB SITE LOCATIONS**

For those of you who have internet access, here is the link to Chapter 78's web site:

<http://members.cox.net/irwachapter78/Main.html>, also here is the link to the Region 3 web site located at:

<http://www.irwaregion3.org> Should you have any questions, contact me at [rdegeorge@oppd.com](mailto:rdegeorge@oppd.com) or phone  
at: (402) 636-3648.