

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

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President's Message

My Fellow Members:

My, how the first half of this year has passed. Much has happened since we last met.

First, the Annual International Educational Seminar in Kansas City, MO. A great event with beneficial classes and contacts. The speakers were outstanding, too. I very much enjoyed hearing from Captain Charles Plumb, a POW in Vietnam and his survival techniques while imprisoned for nearly six years in the Hanoi Hilton, and from Buck O'Neil, a member of the Kansas City Monarchs of the Negro Baseball League in the 30's and the 40's. At the Seminar, our Chapter was the recipient of the Gene L. Land Award for the largest numerical membership increase in the year 2002 - (Thank You Nebraska Department of Roads). Take a look at the award on the table near the entrance at the next meeting.

Secondly, the educational opportunities offered by our Chapter. Chris Pawloski and Jim Shotkoski have worked very hard to arrange for these opportunities. Let's take advantage of them.

Thirdly, the Fall Forum to be held in Omaha on October 9-10 at the Courtyard Marriott Hotel at 101 South 10th Street. Chris Pawloski and Judi Sorensen will give us an update on the events. I just learned that the IRWA EVP, Dennis Stork, will be joining us at the Forum. Let's give him a Big Red Welcome!

Fourthly, the nominations for next years Chapter Officers will be conducted at our next Chapter Meeting, September 4th. Although, a committee makes a recommendation to the Chapter, you as an individual can nominate any other Chapter member. Please do not be shy and volunteer yourself or your member friend.

Let's have a good fall!

Paul G. Farrell
Chapter 78 President

Reminder: Next meeting to be Thursday September 4th at 11:00 A.M., Mahoney State Park.



Chapter 78 3rd Quarter Meeting Minutes

Chapter 78 held its' third quarterly meeting at Mahoney Park Lodge on June 4th, 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 which was brought for motion and approved as reported.
- ?? **Education Chairs report:** Chris Pawloski and John Shotkoski reported on the upcoming classes of 400 on August 11th & 12th at Mahoney and courses 503 and 504 to be held in Omaha at the Hampton Inn. Course 302 will be held in Omaha on October 9th in conjunction with the Fall Forum the Chapter is hosting. It was also discussed from the previous Chapter meeting of the Chapter paying for a free class for its members as a way to give back monies in the treasury. Greg Cade had volunteered to be the Chair for a committee to discuss and come up with a process on this.
- ?? **Membership report:** Pat Evans reviewed membership. She brought up the member advantage web page that has been sent out to all the members in the Association which has valuable information. She also discussed the non paid members list which is incorrect and is trying to reconcile what International has and what members had paid already. International has a new members application on their web site that new members can fill out. Pat also handed out new member pins to those who had not received them before. This process in the future will be done through International as they will be charging a \$20 fee for new member applications which will cover the pins and a certificate.
- ?? **Asset Management:** Judi Sorensen asked that members attending the seminar in Kansas City to come to the asset management session on Tuesday June 17th at the Kansas City 49th Annual International Education Conference.
- ?? **Wireless Committee:** Dave Burden reported that the committee was busy with the presentations they plan to put on at the seminar.
- ?? **Newsletter/Website:** Randy De George reported that we did not win the coveted newsletter of the year award as the Chapter has grown to such a great number that we are now in the larger category for this award. Randy asked for any input or articles that the members would want to share with the rest of us, and encouraged them to do so. Chris Pawloski congratulated Randy on a job well done with our web page and newsletter saying that it really looked good.

?? **Environmental:** Committee working on the presentations they are to have at the seminar.

?? **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.

?? **New Business:**

Volunteers to go to Kansas City were reviewed. At the time of the meeting, dates and times of when our chapter volunteers were needed was not available but all were waiting for their assignments.

Resolutions were discussed by the Directors and how the Chapter wished to vote. Most items were housekeeping and the Chapter gave its' approval for the Directors to vote as the rest of the Region would be doing after their Region Caucus.

President Farrell received a letter from International telling us that again Chapter 78 was in the top 3 for most membership gained in 2002. (See Presidents message for results of this award.)

Seminar auction items to be donated to the seminar are a mantle clock made by Howard Miller, a crystal train set and Omaha Steaks certificates.

Chapter 78's Professional of the Year is....Randy De George as was announced by President Farrell.

?? **Speaker:** Greg Petersen retired City of Omaha Planning Director, gave an update on the new convention center and arena progress. He then discussed other projects that were going on in downtown Omaha such as the sculpture park on 14th & Capitol, the Gallup Campus for Executives which will bring an additional 900 jobs to Omaha, the Union Pacific Headquarters building which will be 1 million square feet when finished, the 1,300 parking stall complex, Performing Arts Center, condos in the area and also the expansion of the Marriott Hotel and the building of a new Hilton Hotel in conjunction with the convention center. The Lewis & Clark Park and Rick's Boatyard Café have already been open to the public. He stressed that not all these improvements will be done within the year but should all be finished in 2006 at the latest.

?? 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,
John Meng-Frecker
Chapter 78 Secretary



June 2003 IPDC Report

The **International Professional Development Committee** met in Kansas City, Missouri on June 13th and 14th. All the regions were represented except Region 7. We were joined by IRWA's Director of Professional Development, **Valerie Fries**. Also joining us were the new Executive Vice-President, **Dennis Stork**, and **Don Marx**, incoming International President.

The following will cover the **more important issues** on which the **IPDC** is presently working.

The IPDC has developed a **5-year business plan** to help keep both **Education Foundations** abreast of the course revision schedule and the budget for updates and revisions.

We are hoping to have the new **Principles of Right of Way Textbook** complete and available by the end of this year. There have been problems obtaining updates of certain chapters and also with the final review.

Reviewed comments on the new **Instructor's Newsletter** by David Layne of Region 4 and the **Course Coordinator's Newsletter** by Pat Pettito from Region 5 which are now on the IRWA Website. The comments were all very good by committee members and the annual conference attendees.

The committee reviewed and took action on **22 IRWA courses** that are in the process of either being developed or revised. **Eight additional courses** are being considered for revision.

The status of some of the **Course Updates** follows:

Course 103, Ethics and the Right of Way Profession, Online The pilot presentations will be completed by July 30, 2003.
Course 211, Effective Written Communications A proposal to revise has been accepted pending some clarification from the developer.

Course 213, Conflict Management will be piloted in July, 2003, in Baltimore, MD.

Course 222, Negotiating for Rights on Aboriginal/First Nation Lands in Canada will be "on the shelf" after some minor changes are made to the exam and a Powerpoint presentation is added.

Course 303, Consultant Management is now "on the shelf." Course will be ready for Chapter presentations on October 1, 2003.

Course 408C (formerly Course 221), Valuation of Aboriginal/Native/Indian Lands in Canada will be "on the shelf" after some minor changes are made to the exam and a Powerpoint presentation is added.

Course 501, Relocation Assistance The revised 2-day version has been submitted to HQ and will be sent to the Relocation Committee for review.

The two-day **Course 506, Advanced Business Relocation** has been completed and a pilot presentation will be scheduled by Headquarters.

Course 802, Legal Aspects of Easements The proposal to revise will be forwarded to the IEC as soon as a couple of items are clarified by the developer.

A new format for presenting **Course Revision Requests for Proposals** in the Right of Way Magazine was reviewed and approved by the committee.

The IPDC is developing a more defined process for **maintenance and revision of courses**. The process will include the industry committees working with specific IPDC members and Headquarters to shorten the time it now takes to revise or update courses.

The committee reviewed requests from **16 IRWA Instructors** to upgrade their status or teach a new course and took action on each request.

Dennis Stork, EVP, presented a proposal for a **new course delivery process** and also for **course pricing**. The committee supports the course delivery proposal but asked for additional information regarding the course pricing proposal.

Headquarters will no longer fund the **State Certification Program**. HQ will assist the chapters in obtaining State Certification for IRWA Courses if requested.

Some additional topics the committee is working on are: 1) A possible change in the **SR/WA Designation** requirements. 2) Are exams necessary for **one-day courses**? 3) The **institutional course presentation** process.

These are just some of the highlights of items that were covered during the IPDC meeting. If anyone would like to see a copy of the minutes from the meeting, please contact **Jack Borgmeyer at 955-2900 or e-mail borgmeyerj@midwestrow.com**



International Asset Management Committee IAMC

The IAMC committee met twice while in KC in June. We met on Sunday to discuss the upcoming educational sessions that the committee was sponsoring as well as discussed the strategy for revising and upgrading the 700 series courses. We also met on Thursday to review and evaluate all sessions sponsored by the Committee, discuss educational sessions for 2004 in Philly, and plan for the upcoming IAMC Planning meeting that will be held in February. It was also agreed to that all people expressing a desire to serve as a Member at Large on the IAMC as well as the Regional Committee Representatives should submit applications to the Committee Chair. If anyone is interested in participating on this Committee please contact Judi Sorensen at 636-3654.

Submitted by Judi Sorensen, SR/WA
Region 3 IAMC Representative

BE ON A WINNING TEAM!!!

HOW? Attend Team Building 302 on October 9, 2003 from 8-5 at the Courtyard by Marriott downtown and learn how participating on and building winning teams result in successful projects. Lunch and refreshments will be served throughout the day. Stay after the class and join in on the fun social events planned in conjunction with the fall forum being hosted by your Chapter 78. Guaranteed to be an exciting and rewarding day with a lot of fun provided at no additional cost.

Contact Course Coordinator, Judi Sorensen at 636-3654 for details.

SEE YOU THERE!

Chapter 78 welcomes you to the

IRWA REGION 3

2003

FALL FORUM

October 9th & 10th, 2003

Courtyard Marriott

101 South 10th Street

Omaha, Nebraska 68102

(402) 346-2200

Call and Mention IRWA Fall Forum for Reservations

Schedule of Events

October 9th

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

IRWA Course 302, Team Building

Courtyard Marriott

5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Chapter 78 Reception

Upstream Brewing Company

(Live Auction starting at 6:45 p.m.)

October 10th

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

IRWA Region 3 – Business Meeting

Courtyard Marriott

**IRWA REGION 3
2003**

**Fall Forum
Reception**

at the

UPSTREAM BREWING COMPANY

514 South 11th Street

Omaha, NE 68102

Come Join Chapter 78 for

**Hors D'OuvRes
spirits auction**

October 9th, 2003 5 - 8 p.m.

Live Auction at 6:45 p.m.

Pick Up Free Drink Tickets from Chris Pawloski



COURSES TO ATTEND FOR 2003

Hello Fellow Members,

The chapter is moving forward with the presentation of Course-302, Team Building. This course is being held at the Courtyard Marriot in downtown Omaha on October 9th, 2003. If you have an interest in attending this course, please contact course coordinator Judi Sorensen.

Our chapter has just reached an agreement with Chapter 41 to co-sponsor C-303, Managing the Consultant Process. The Course date is February 26 & 27, 2004 and will be held at the Holiday Inn at Ameristar Casino located in Council Bluffs, Iowa. The course coordinators will be Nancy Halvorson and Chris Pawloski. We are glad to receive confirmation that Howard Armstrong will be instructing this course.

If you are looking for a specific IRWA course to complete your SR/WA or attain a certain Discipline Certification and our chapter does not have it scheduled in the immediate future, please contact Jim Shotkoski or Chris Pawloski.

For additional information on IRWA courses, be sure to check out the IRWA Region 3 website for additional courses being offered in our region.

August
11th & 12th **Course 400-Principles of Real Estate Appraisal – 2 Days**
Coordinator- George Howard
Instructor- Arthur (Al) Donoho, MAI, SR/WA
Where- Mahoney State Park, Ashland, Nebraska
This course has been rescheduled from the original March 11th & 12th dates.

September
29th & 30th **Course 503-Mobile Home Relocation 1-Day**
Course 504-Computing Replacement Housing Payments 1-Day
Coordinator- Chris Pawloski
Instructor-Howard Armstrong
Where- The Hampton Inn, Omaha, Nebraska

October
9th **Course 302-Team Building 1-Day**
Coordinator- Judi Sorensen
Instructor-John Blubaugh
Where- Courtyard Marriott, Omaha, Nebraska

If any one has any questions or comments regarding IRWA Courses, please contact Jim Shotkoski at jshotkos@ci.lincoln.ne.us or Chris Pawloski at pawloskic@midwestrow.com .

Thank You,

Chris A. Pawloski
Education Chair

“THE PHOTO SECTION”

KC EDUCATION SEMINAR.



Dan Beardsley at Region 3 Caucus



Retired POW Captain Charles Plumb.



Blues, Brews & BBQ style,
nice glasses Gail.



Legendary Buck O'Neil at luncheon



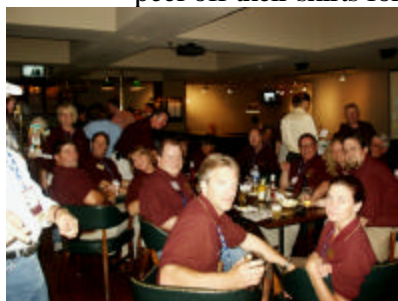
President Farrell receives Gene Land Award for most
Numerical increase of members for 2002



Judi & Chris helping out on Auction.



Seminar Co Chairs Al Donoho and Steve Grandon
peel off their shirts for money. Go Steve Go!!



Auction crew relaxing after a long fun night.



Incoming International President Don Marx giving his speech.



Trickery from magician as part of the nights entertainment. Watch out Ed!



Presidents Ball after dinner.

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 or phone at (402) 636-3648.