

Region 3 Fall Newsletter ***September, 2004***

REGION CHAIR'S MESSAGE

By Nancy Halvorson, SR/WA, RW-RAC

Greetings:

Now that the Annual Conference is behind us we can start to look forward to another busy year. We really had a great turnout in Philadelphia and a remarkable number even rose early enough to attend the 6:45 a.m. Region Caucus – I've just received word from International that this time is going to be pushed back to 7:30 for Toronto! 2004 Conference Chair Joe Bottino and the entire Host Committee did a remarkable job of showing off their City and making us all feel welcome.

We also can be very proud that our Region was the only one to make a cash donation of \$950.00 to the children's book drive. Those funds purchased 380 books to be distributed throughout the Greater Philadelphia area.

Our Region is home to two International Industry Committee Vice-Chairs now – Rita Rasmussen is serving her second year as Vice Chair of the Local Public Agency (LPA) Committee and Dave Hingtgen has been appointed to serve as Vice-Chair of the Utilities Committee. Both are members of Chapter 41. Joanie Miller of Chapter 20 has been appointed to serve on the International Membership Committee. Congratulations to all. Please feel free to contact Rita, Dave or Joanie if you have a questions or concern that their Committee could help you with.

Lastly, I would like to remind everyone of the upcoming Region 3 Fall Forum in St. Louis on October 15th, hosted by St. Louis Chapter 37. We will be initiating the new International Leadership training at this Forum. I will be receiving training on this in Vancouver during the IEC-Region Chairs meeting in September. This will be approximately a two-hour session as part of the Forum. This is expected to be a very good resource and I hope many of you can attend to take advantage of the presentation.

Additionally, we will be discussing nominations for Region Officer positions for election next Spring and each chapter should have their Chapter's Region Professional of year candidate to announce at the Forum. If anyone is interested in running for any of the Region Officer positions, please let me know and I will pass on the information to the Nominations Committee – remember – you can choose to run for any of the three positions – Chair, Vice-Chair or Secretary-Treasurer. If you're interested or would like some information, please let me know. Our nominations committee is chaired by Pat Cairns,

SR/WA, and he will be assisted by Bruce Reed, SR/WA, and Daryl Knobbe. We hope to have a probable slate of officers to present and discuss at the Fall Forum. Anyone interested is invited to let any of us know. It seems the new involvement of Region Chair with the IEC is stimulating some real interest and competition. I believe this is a very good thing for our Regions and International. I've heard from some other Regions that there is even actual campaigning taking place – this proves how committed to serving some are and I think it's a very exciting process. So please feel free to make your desires to serve known. We of course do not vote until Spring Forum but any probable candidates who would like time on the Fall Forum agenda to state their case for candidacy are welcome. Please let me know if you'd like to avail yourself of this opportunity to address the Forum.

Fall Forum: Best Western Westport Park
 2434 Old Dorsett Road
 Maryland Heights, MO 63043
 314-291-8700 and ask for Jim Dill and the IRWA rate.
 Rate: \$65.00 + 14.075% tax
 Deadline for reservations is September 22nd

The social on Thursday evening will be in the Hotel Lounge and Friday's lunch will be provided by host Chapter 37. This information will be posted on both the Chapter and Region websites in the next few weeks. I will provide an agenda for your review by the end of September. My plan is to start at 8:30 and be able to adjourn by 4:30 or 5:00. However, we will have a very full agenda and many items to discuss that we don't want to skimp on so we may run later. I would advise as many of you as possible to not plan on escaping early on Friday – as many will recall, we used to meet for all day Friday and until noon on Saturday so we're still hopefully ahead of the game!

I'd also like to thank all of you who made the extra effort to congratulate me on being selected as a Balfour finalist – it was indeed an honor and your support and kind words meant a great deal to me. Thanks!

Hope everyone is having a great summer. Please check our Region website often for news and updates. We will be posting a running list of those who are throwing their hat in the ring for Regional office.

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

2004 Fall Forum Info

Course 213: Conflict Management - October 14, 2004

Social Hour hosted by Chapter 37 at Hotel Lounge 5:00 p.m. +/-

Forum - October 15, 2004

Hotel Information:

Best Western Westport Park
2434 Old Dorsett Road
Maryland Heights, MO 63043
Phone: 314-291-8700
Fax: 314-291-2891

Please plan on a full day Friday for Forum. We have much business to discuss and will be doing a 2-hour Leadership Training program. We plan to begin **promptly** at 8:30 a.m. and hope to conclude by 4:30 p.m.

Chapter Presidents and Region Committee Representatives: Please email your report to me no later than Monday, October 4th. If anyone has any items for the agenda, please email those to me also at:

nancy.halvorson@dot.iowa.gov

Please remember to check our Region website and the message board for any issues or updates at www.irwaregion3.org

Thanks everyone,

Nancy

REGION 3 FALL FORUM

Course 213: Conflict Management

Thursday, October 14, 2004

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

Thursday Night Social

Thursday, October 14, 2004

Hosted by St. Louis Chapter 37 in the Hotel Lounge

5:00-8:00 +/- p.m.

Best Western Westport Park

2434 Old Dorsett Road

Maryland Heights, MO 63043

Phone: 314-291-8700

Fax: 314-291-2891

Fall Forum

Friday, October 15, 2004

8:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Syberg's – next to and attached to:

Best Western Westport Park

2434 Old Dorsett Road

Maryland Heights, MO 63043

Phone: 314-291-8700

Fax: 314-291-2891

*Please make your room reservations by **September 22, 2004.***

There are a total of 25 rooms held (15 doubles & 10 kings) @ \$65.00 + 14.075% tax. Anyone needing a room should call Jim Dill at the phone number listed above and mention the IRWA to get the stated room rate. Call-ins are the preferred method of reservation.

CHAPTER PRESIDENTS!

A membership survey will soon be emailed to each of you. Please discuss this survey with your board and committee members and return results to either Nancy Halvorson or the Region website by September 30th.

This survey will also be posted on the region website @ www.irwaregion3.org

Region 3 Website: www.irwaregion3.org

International Right of Way Association Website: www.irwaonline.org

I often wonder whether we do not rest our hopes too much upon constitutions, upon laws, upon courts. These are false hopes, believe me these are false hopes.

Liberty lies in the hearts of men and women; when it dies there, no constitution, no law, no court, can save it. Judge Learned Hand, 1944

Quote seen at the Constitution Center

Region 3 Caucus – Meeting Minutes

**IRWA Region 3 Caucus
Monday, June 21, 2004
Philadelphia, PA**

At 6:50 a.m. (that's right, 6:50 a.m.!) Nancy Halvorson, SR/WA and Region 3 Chair, called the Region caucus to order. Roll call was taken and all chapters were present.

Joe Bottino of Chapter 9 visited briefly and welcomed us to Philadelphia. He announced his candidacy for the IEC and asked for our support. Joe also supplied us with the morning biscotti!

Faith Rowland, accompanied by Johnny Dice, was on Joe's heels with her visit to also solicit our votes for her candidacy for the IEC. Faith and Joe are both excellent candidates and we wished them the best of luck.

Photo break.



Region 3 contributed \$200 to the Philadelphia Children's Hospital Book Drive, in addition to what the chapters donated. Region 3's total donation (including chapter contributions) was \$950.00! Way to go Region 3!!

We received a visit from Howard Armstrong, IEC Treasurer, who presented two resolutions and the adoption of the budget to be voted on Thursday at the Board of Directors meeting. Howard also discussed the search for a conference site east of the Mississippi River for 2009.

The Fall Forum will be in St. Louis, on October 15, 2004 with Chapter 37 as our host. *Course 213: Conflict Management* will be offered on Thursday, October 14. Nancy is encouraging everyone to participate in the leadership workshop to be presented during the Fall Forum.

Region 3 attendees:

<u>Chapter</u>	<u># of Members</u>	<u>Guests</u>	<u>Youth</u>
5	6	0	0
20	8	0	0
37	11	1	4
41	8	6	0
72	11	9	3
78	11	4	0

There was much discussion on the spouse's program and the cost. Spouses are eligible for the tours and meals ONLY when registered at the conference. Nancy will address this at the next IEC meeting.

Some region conference highlights are: Judi Sorensen is coordinating a session for the Asset Management Committee and Jack Borgmeyer will be handling the Course Coordinator's workshop, both to be held on Tuesday.

Bruce Reed gave an update on the Education Foundation. Currently the foundation has a \$1.1 million balance and there are requests for funds. HQ will offer financial support to chapters that require assistance with their continuing education certification costs or other education related items. These expenses must be approved by the Region prior to HQ submitting payment.

Valerie Fries stopped in and welcomed us to the 50th Annual International Education Conference, and to let us know she will be at the IRWA booth should we have any questions.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 a.m.

*Minutes submitted by Craig Poorker, SR/WA, RW-NAC
Region 3 Secretary/Treasurer*

A BIG THANK YOU

Sharon and I want to give a BIG THANK YOU to all of the members of Region 3 for the Lifetime Achievement and Certificate of Merit awards that were presented to us at the Spring Forum. We both feel honored to be recognized and privileged to be associated with such a great group of people. We especially want to thank the Award Committee of Nancy, Jack and Bruce for making this happen. And I'm also especially grateful for the recognition you gave Sharon. Without her support my activities in the IRWA may have been much different. You are a great group whose friendship we cherish very much. Thanks again. We look forward to seeing you in St. Louis.

Pat Cairns, SR/WA



Pat and Sharon



"I'm speechless!"

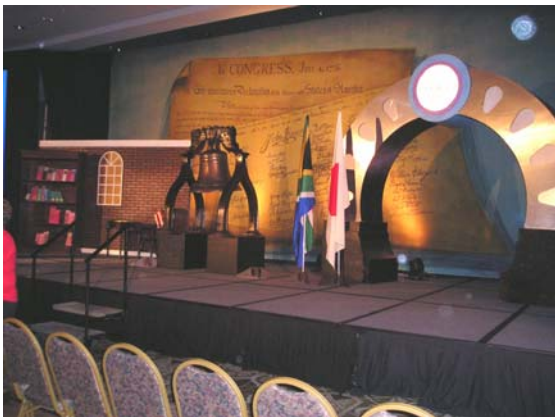
50th Annual International Education Conference

by Joanie Miller, SR/WA

On Sunday, June 20th, Chapter 9 and the city of Philadelphia welcomed us to the 50th Annual International Education Conference. We began with check-in, registration, greeting fellow members unseen since the 2003 conference and then onto the International Committee Meetings in the afternoon and the President's Welcome Reception in the evening.

Monday morning found us at the Region 3 caucus bright and early. We had a full room with 35 attending. Nancy quickly got us underway and down to business. During the caucus, we were visited by Faith Rowland and Joe Bottino, both of them IEC candidates, International Treasurer Howard Armstrong and Valerie Fries, Director of Professional Development, each presenting their specific agenda.

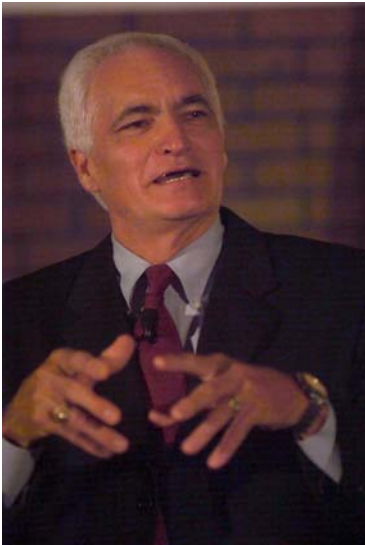
Once business was concluded, we all gathered in the ballroom for the Opening Ceremonies. There, we were entertained by Betsy Ross, Benjamin Franklin and Dick Clark and the American Band Stand. We honored our flags to the music of Yankee Doodle Dandy and received a warm welcome from the Philadelphia Visitors Bureau. Rocky (Don Marx, IEC President), wearing his traditional red and white robe and boxing gloves, greeted our membership. What a surprise and laugh we all shared when the hood came off and Don was revealed. We were fascinated with Dr. Lowell Catlett, our keynote speaker, who is an economist, professor and futurist known for delivering thought-provoking and highly entertaining presentations.



Opening Ceremonies



Rocky (Don Marx)



Dr. Lowell Catlett



View towards NJ from host hotel

Soon we were on our way to classes. This year, we again found a variety of sessions to accommodate everyone. These included, for the highway industry: Highways, Byways and Private Roads and Highways for Profit; for energy and utilities: Wind Power - Blowing in the Wind; the Impact of Wind Farm Siting on Property; Utility Issues in the Design Process and Blackouts: Are There More To Come?; along with Urban Forests and Utility Lines, Can They Co-exist?; for the Environmental industry: Turning Brown Fields into Green Fields and Environmental Pitfalls in Project Permitting; for the Appraisal industry: Appraising Historic Properties, Valuing Blue Sky, and the Valuation of Avigation Easements. There were numerous Canadian courses, Relocation courses, Developing PowerPoint Presentations and Managing Stress in the work place sessions.

Each year we observe new and diverse sessions being offered. Our industry is constantly changing and our organization is working to stay abreast of the latest developments. The conference does an outstanding job with offering these special sessions to keep us informed.

Monday evening we boarded buses to the Constitution Center for "A Taste of Philly." There, we experienced America's History throughout the 160,000 square foot building. What an incredible experience it was for everyone present. Later, we were entertained by Johnny Maestro and the Brooklyn Bridge and to the birth place of rock n roll. The dance floor was amassed with poodle skirts, saddle shoes, jeans and white t-shirts.

On Tuesday morning, runners congregated in the lobby, gearing up for the annual Finnegan's Fun Run. Armando greeted us at the door with bottles of water and watched us on our way. Our run this year brought us to the Philadelphia Museum of Art, you know, the stairs made famous by Rocky! More sessions followed and then the Awards Luncheon

where Sandy Grigg, IPDC chair, announced the six Balfour finalists. Our very own Nancy Halvorson, SR/WA, Region 3 Chair, was among them. Nancy is a very deserving candidate and one that we are all proud of. On Tuesday evening, members and guests gathered together for the silent and live auction. This annual event raises thousands of dollars for the education foundations and fun is had by all.



Jack Holt, Don Marx, Nancy Halvorson



Rita Rasmussen, Don Marx

Wednesday morning we were honored to be in the presence of Mike Schlappi, a four-time Olympic winner and inspirational speaker. Mike is a dynamic person to watch on stage, as his wheelchair never stays in one spot for long. He shared with us his childhood and the tragic shooting accident that left him a paraplegic. Mike's favorite saying inherited from his mother is, "just because you can't stand up, doesn't mean you can't stand out."



Mike Schlappi



Craig, Joanie, Ben, Brad

IRWA golfers were found at RiverWinds Golf Course in Newfield, Gloucester County, NJ. Proceeds benefit the RWIEF and the CRWEF for use in developing educational materials and courses for the IRWA.

Thursday brings us to the end of the 2004 conference. The sessions are winding down, the trade show has packed up, our minds are on overload and our feet are moving slower. Tonight we say "good job" to Don Marx and we say "welcome" to our new International President, Gordon MacNair at the Annual Installation Banquet and Dance. What a privilege for all of us who know and have visited with these wonderful individuals. The dedication they have to this association and their determination to keep us growing and prospering is certainly appreciated.



Marvin and Pauline



Laura, Jack, Tom, Judi, Bruce



Gordon and Joanie

See you in Toronto next year!



INTERNATIONAL ASSET MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (IAMC)

Change is in the air!! IRWA's new strategic planning process is focusing on the structure and future direction of the industry committees and the role of the Region Chairs.

While in Philly, IEC member Dan Beardsley, SR/WA, shared with the IAMC how the "new vision" of the industry committees focus will be in the following 5 areas: governance, educational programs, research, liaison with other committees and networking.

The process of expanding the role of Region Chairs by their inclusion into the Executive Board planning process and leadership training has kicked off. More information on this strategic vision will be forthcoming from headquarters this year.

Attendance at the IAMC sponsored educational sessions was very high and all sessions were well received. Your Region 3 IAMC and LPA committee representatives (Rita Rasmussen and I), sponsored and moderated Turning Assets Into Cash, parts 1 & 2. Rita moderated the morning session and I moderated the afternoon session. Both sessions were well received. Surveys were distributed and results calculated. Over 73% of the attendees of part 2 strongly agreed they liked the format of the session. Over 60% strongly felt they gained new ideas to apply to their work place.

The IAMC held committee meetings both pre and post conference to discuss committee business and upcoming sessions for Toronto. An update on the series 700 courses was given by Sandy Grigg (IPDC) who is currently under contract to rewrite Course 701. The IRWA business plan includes a 5-year schedule for all courses. The goal is to take all old classes from the 80s and update them. Then, the subsequent 5-year business plan would call for another update. The goal is to have all courses on a 4-5 year plan with continuous updates.

Please contact me at 402-636-3654 if you would like a copy of the IAMC minutes from Philly.

Respectfully submitted by:

Judi Sorensen, SR/WA
Region 3 IAMC Representative.



Greater
Philadelphia

July 23, 2004

Nancy L. Halvorson, SR/WA
Chair, IRWA Region 3
2313 120th Street
Story City, IA 50248-7584

Dear Nancy,

On behalf of Reach Out and Read Greater Philadelphia, it is my pleasure to thank IRWA's Region 3 and Chapters 5, 20, 37, 41 and 78 for their donation of \$950.00 to the Reach Out and Read (ROR) sites in the five counties of Philadelphia as part of IRWA's 2nd Annual Host Chapter Children's Book Drive at the 50th Annual International Education Conference in Philadelphia. This generous contribution enabled me to purchase 380 wonderful, developmentally and culturally appropriate books for the ROR Greater Philadelphia sites.

Reach Out and Read, a national pediatric early literacy program started in 1989, trains pediatricians, nurse practitioners, family practitioners and physician assistants to advise parents about the importance of reading aloud and to give new books to children at pediatric check-ups from 6 months to five years, with a special focus on children growing up in poverty (www.reachoutandread.org).

Reach Out and Read Greater Philadelphia, a Coalition established in October 2002, has developed a collaborative approach to establishing and sustaining ROR sites in Southeastern Pennsylvania. Currently, 26 ROR locations, affiliated with ten healthcare organizations, participate in the Coalition.

Early exposure to books and the satisfaction that results when a parent and child read together form the basis for future learning. Evidence continues to build showing that intervention by pediatric physicians and nurse practitioners can dramatically affect parents' reading practices at home. Recent studies have shown that giving books to infants and toddlers changes parental attitudes and behaviors toward reading aloud and improves child language outcomes.

Thank you for your support and interest to help promote early literacy for over 70,000 children in need, ages 6 months to five years, in the Philadelphia region! Please contact me anytime at 215-590-5989 if you would like more information.

Sincerely,

Kirsten P. Rogers, CCLS
Coordinator, Reach Out and Read Greater Philadelphia

cc: Martin F. Nelson, SR/WA, IRWA, PA Chapter #9, Region 4
Craig Poorker, IRWA, Secretary/Treasurer, Region 3

Trude Haecker, M.D., Medical Director

c/o The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia • 34th Street and Civic Center Boulevard • Ambulatory, Suite 1380 • Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104-4399

TEL: 267-426-2548 • FAX: 267-426-2455

WEB: www.reachoutandread.org