

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

It seems like an eternity since I've had the opportunity to drop a note to everyone. Looking back, my last message was in February of this year, some six months ago. I trust your 2007 is rolling along smoothly and your summer is everything you hope it will be.

I apologize for not being able to attend our June meeting in Pella or the International Education Conference in Sacramento, California. I missed our chapter meeting because I had to attend the closing on a new-to-me home in west Ames (on Nebraska Avenue, of all places)...and the Education Conference in mid-June, all in anticipation of my marriage to a great lady, Jerri, on July 7, 2007.

I want to take this opportunity to thank chapter Secretary Linda Martens for stepping in for Jim Diemer and myself and conducting the June meeting in Pella. From all reports, she did an excellent job.

Since I was unable to attend the Sacramento meeting I felt a bit out of touch with the goings on until I picked up my August/September copy of *Right of Way* and read the transcript "Four Foot, Eight and a Half Inches", as presented by Dennis Stork on June 17, 2007 in Sacramento. As you know, Mr. Stork will be retiring as our Executive Vice President in November of this year.

Please make it a point to read this little parable and its relationship to our changing face and challenging future as an organization.

Did you know that:

less than a quarter of our membership is less than 45 years of age and more than a third of our membership is 55 years of age or older;

our membership has changed from being a male-dominated association to now having female membership of nearly 38% and growing; and,

for years our membership was predominantly employed by the public sector but a recent survey shows that 41% of our current membership are in the private sector, or self-employed; 41% are government employed; and, the remainder are from the quasi-governmental or regulated segment such as railroads and utilities.

I won't continue to bore you with the numbers, but please give the article a read and it will provide a great overview of where we've been and where we're going as an association.

We have a big second half of the year planned with Advanced Relocation Courses 505 and 506 in September in West Des Moines and Right of Way Ethics Course 103 scheduled for October in conjunction with our hosting the Region 3 Fall Forum at the new facilities in Riverside, Iowa.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in September and October!

Bernie

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- ◆ September 11, 2007
Class 505 Advanced Residential Relocation
West Des Moines, IA
- ◆ September 12-13, 2007
Class 506 Advanced Business Relocation
West Des Moines
- ◆ September 13, 2007
Chapter 41 Meeting
West Des Moines, IA
- ◆ October 11, 2007
Class 103 Ethics in the ROW Profession
Riverside, IA
- ◆ October 11-12, 2007
Region 3 Fall Forum
Riverside, IA

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Congratulations Bernie Banker, SR/WA, R/W-RAC

2006 Chapter 41 and Region 3 Professional of the Year!



"WE WOULD
ACCOMPLISH MANY
MORE THINGS IF WE
DID NOT THINK OF
THEM AS IMPOSSIBLE."

-VINCE LOMBARDI



**Bernie Banker, SR/WA
&
Jack Holt, SR/WA Region 3 Chair**

Bernie Banker was named as the Chapter 41 2006 Professional of the year in March 2007. Jack Holt, SR/WA Region 3 Chair presented Bernie with a plaque recognizing him as the Region 3 2006 Professional of the Year at the Spring Forum held in St. Louis Missouri. Bernie has been an active member in both the Chapter and Region for many years. We could not ask for a better representative of our Chapter and Region at the local, regional and international levels.

Congratulations, Bernie!

Membership News - Chair Vicki Elscott

New Chapter 41 Members

Mr. Darin Wickersham
Mid American Energy

Mr. Adam Jablonski
Mid American Energy

Ms. Jamie Baker
Mid American Energy

Welcome—We look forward to your membership

Treasurer's Report - Treasurer Nancy Halvorson, SR/WA, R/W-RAC

Second Quarter Report

Income	\$ 157.74
Expenses	<u>\$2,229.00</u>
Net Gain	-\$2,071.26
Current Balance	\$10,962.10
Long Term Obligations	<u>\$ 795.00</u>
Net Balance	\$10,167.10



SECRETARY 'S REPORT
International Right of Way Association
"Spirit of the Heartland" - Iowa Chapter 41

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*Minutes of Business Meeting – Friday, June 1, 2007
The Opera House, Pella, Iowa*

The meeting was called to order at 10:32 A.M.

Secretary's Report: The minutes from the March 9, 2007, business meeting were reviewed. A motion was made to approve the minutes as published. The motion was seconded and approved.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report indicated a total net balance of \$10,167.10. A motion was made by Rita Rasmussen to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. The motion was seconded by Shelly Whiteing and approved by all members present.

Committee Reports:

Membership: Don Corrigan reported Chapter 41 currently has 60 members. International has sent Don a list of 8 members who did not renew. They are Allen Rummel, Chris Jenkins, Dave Hingtgen, Fred Cirksena, Ken Schwarz, Angela Sheeley, Mary Beth Kiner and Mary Brunssen. Don had requested, in the February newsletter, that anyone who was considering not renewing to please contact him. Don did not receive any response. If any of you believe any member information to be incorrect, please contact Don Corrigan

Education: Chapter 41 will offer course 103 Ethics on October 11, 2007 as part of the Fall Forum to be held at the same location in Riverside, IA. 15 attendees have already signed up for Course 103; Jim Diemer will be the Class Coordinator. Advanced Residential Relocation, Course 505 and Advanced Business Relocation, Course 506 are proposed for September or October 2007, the final details are being worked out pertaining to these two classes, we should have final information very soon, class coordinators will be needed for these two courses.

Program: Vicki Elscott asked again for any suggestions as to what might be of interest to any members as far as future meetings. It was suggested that we could use committees to help with programs in the future, if you have any suggestions or ideas please feel free to share with Vicki. If you have an interest or expertise you would like to share with members of Chapter 41 please feel free to share with your colleagues', it would be appreciated. It was suggested we might entertain holding our business meeting after a class which usually ends around 4:30 P.M., which could coordinate both the course and the business meeting on the same date for convenience sake.

Professional Development: Shelly reported that Don Corrigan has completed requirements for recertification in Relocation Assistance Certification. Congratulations Don.

Old Business:

2007 Spring Forum Report- Handout prepared by Bernie Banker. Bernie has been elected as Region Professional of the Year. Congratulations Bernie and thank you for the work you do for Chapter 41 and Region 3. It was reported that Course 215, Right of Way Agent Development recently held in Council Bluffs was a very informative and interesting session; the instructor was very capable and did a great job.

Please note the Fall Forum will be held at the Riverside Casino, Riverside, IA, 319-648-1234, October 11 and 12, 2007, don't forget to make reservations by September 10, 2007, if you have questions or need any .

International Right of Way Association

"Spirit of the Heartland" - Iowa Chapter 41

assistance regarding reservations please contact Shelly Whiteing. Please note there will be an Auction as part of the Fall Forum on Thursday evening, October 11, 2007, plan to donate an auction item, purchase an auction item and have fun at the event as well!

We are sorry there was not a newsletter this quarter. The next newsletter will be August 2007.

New Business:

Look at the IRWA web site regarding the 2012 Conference the four cities contending for the host city are listed in a grid format. You may find the information interesting.

At the International Conference to be held June 17 thru 20, 2007 in Sacramento, CA, our Officers and Directors will be voting on resolutions, including the new amendments that were just posted last Tuesday on behalf of the INEC, Officers and specifically Directors take a few minutes to look these over so you can decide how the Chapter wishes our Directors to vote on these important issues, one option might be to table the decision pending further discussion regarding amendments. We can appreciate the added value of an over site committee in respect to IEC leadership positions resulting in added quality for the overall organizations ability to better serve the entire membership.

A change regarding dues, a reduced partial payment will be accepted when a member joins IRWA for part of a year, which has been in effect. The actual change is dues will be waived for people joining in the last quarter of a year this is something that has been needed regarding new memberships occurring in the last quarter of a year.

A contribution of \$300.00 in the form of a check has been given to Rita Rasmussen to be presented for the RWIEF Golf Outing, as approved at the March 2007 Chapter Meeting. Auction items for International Conference in Sacramento, CA, June 2007 will be three \$50 gift cards.

Also, a check for \$1,000.00 has been given to Don Corrigan to help defray expenses as a Director to the 2007 Educational Conference in Sacramento, CA this was also approved at the March 2007 Chapter Meeting

Other business: Don't forget Toys for Tots which will be presented in December of this year 2007.

Online Education Course Coordinator must be taken before anyone can coordinate courses for a Chapter. Please notify Nancy Halvorson and Bernie Banker when you complete the course and achieved your certificate.

Door Prize Drawing: Shelly Whiteing is the winner of the drawing for the \$50 door prize for June, 2007.

At 11:45 A.M. a motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded and approved.

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda R. Martens, R/W-RAC
Vice President/Secretary
Spirit of the Heartland-Chapter 41

REGION 3 FALL FORUM

HOSTED BY:

SPIRIT OF THE HEARTLAND CHAPTER 41



THURSDAY OCTOBER 11, 2007

COURSE 103 - ETHICS IN ROW

CHAPTER 41 WELCOME RECEPTION & AUCTION

THE AUCTION WILL BENEFIT THE REGION 3 TREASURY

(TO ASSIST OUR REGION REPRESENTATIVES IN ATTENDING MEETINGS, THE CONFERENCE, ETC.)

FRIDAY OCTOBER 12, 2007

REGION 3 FALL FORUM

8:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

A BLOCK OF ROOMS ARE BEING HELD (**UNTIL SEPTEMBER 10TH**) AT A SPECIAL RATE OF \$89.95. (\$50.00 IF YOU ARE A GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE) FOR WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, AND FRIDAY NIGHTS.

CALL TO MAKE RESERVATIONS

1.877.677.3456

(YOU MUST IDENTIFY YOURSELF AS INTERNATIONAL RIGHT OF WAY ASSOCIATION CHAPTER 41)

CHECK OUT THEIR WEBSITE

www.riversidecasinoandresort.com

NOTE: RIVERSIDE CASINO IS LESS THAN 15 MINUTES SOUTH OF I-80 & 2 MINUTES FROM THE AVENUE OF THE SAINTS (HIGHWAY 218)
201 MILES FROM ST. LOUIS
251 MILES FROM MINNEAPOLIS
254 MILES FROM KANSAS CITY

CONVENIENT TO THE EASTERN IOWA AIRPORT IN CEDAR RAPIDS (35 MILES)
QUAD CITY AIRPORT IN MOILINE (APPROXIMATELY 70 MILES)
DES MOINES INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IS (APPROXIMATELY 100 MILES)

CHAPTER 41 WILL HOST



A FUNDRAISING AUCTION

FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE REGION 3 TREASURY

(TO ASSIST OUR REGION REPRESENTATIVES IN ATTENDING MEETINGS, THE CONFERENCE, ETC.)

DURING HAPPY HOUR

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2007

6:00 P.M.

CHAPTERS AND INDIVIDUALS –PLEASE CONSIDER PROVIDING ITEMS FOR THE AUCTION

CHRIS PAWLOSKI HAS AGREED TO BE OUR AUCTIONEER, SO YOU KNOW IT WILL BE FUN AND EXCITING!

CONTACT:

Nancy Halvorson – nancy.halvorson@dot.iowa.gov

OR

Vicki Elscott - vicki.elscott@dot.iowa.gov

Officers for 2007 - Chapter 41

PRESIDENT : BERNIE BANKER, SR/WA, R/W-RAC

BERNARD.BANKER@DOT.IOWA.GOV

PRESIDENT ELECT : JIM DIEMER, SR/WA

JPD3919@AOL.COM

VICE-PRESIDENT/SECRETARY : LINDA MARTENS

LINDA.MARTENS@DOT.IOWA.GOV

TREASURER : NANCY HALVORSON, SR/WA, RW/RAC

NANCY.HALVORSON@DOT.IOWA.GOV

DIRECTOR 1-YEAR : JIM DIEMER, SR/WA

JPD3919@AOL.COM

DIRECTOR 1-YEAR : DAN SHIFLETT, SR/WA, R/W-RAC

DAN.SHIFLETT@CBPOWER.COOP

Committees

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND NOMINATIONS/ELECTIONS

SHELLY WHITEING, SR/WA R/W-RAC, CHAIR
NANCY HALVORSON, SR/WA R/W-RAC
JAMES DIEMER, SR/WA

EDUCATION

NANCY HALVORSON, SR/WA R/W-RAC, CHAIR
AMY WALTER, AND RITA RASMUSSEN, SR/WA

MEMBERSHIP

VICKI ELSCOTT

MARKETING

TIM BUNKERS, SR/WA, R/W-NAC
DAN SHEPHERD

PROGRAM

JIM DIEMER, SR/WA
VICKI ELSCOTT

ASSET MANAGEMENT

ED OPSTEIN, SR/WA, R/W-NAC, R/W-RAC

AUDIT

RITA RASMUSSEN, SR/WA
DAN SHIFLETT, SR/WA
SHELLY WHITEING, SR/WA-R/W-RAC

ENVIRONMENT AND SURVEY

DAN SHIFLETT, SR/WA, R/W-NAC
PAIGE NORRIS

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

SUE ALBRIGHT

LOCAL PUBLIC AGENCY

RITA RASMUSSEN, SR/WA, CO-CHAIR
ED OPSTEIN, SR/WA, R/W-NAC, R/W-RAC, CO-CHAIR
BERNARD BANKER, SR/WA

TRANSPORTATION

BERNARD BANKER

UTILITIES

JIM DIEMER, SR/WA
TIM BUNKERS, SR/WA

VALUATION

JOE ANDERSON
RUSS MANTERNACH
FRED LOCK

Chapter 41: www.irwa41.org

Region 3: www.irwaregion3.org

Questions or comments, contact
Webmaster: Vicki Elscott

vicki@elscottfamily.com



DO YOU HAVE A NEW EMAIL ADDRESS? ARE YOU MOVING?

CONTACT:
VICKI ELSCOTT
515-239-1700

VICKI@ELSCOTTFAMILY.COM



Newsletter Editor: Vicki Elscott
vicki@elscottfamily.com

Deadline for December Newsletter
October 20, 2007

Your articles and/or suggestions are always
welcome.