



THE CORRIDOR

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Dear Colleagues:

While at the Kennedy Space Center to watch a Shuttle launch (STS 124, the toilet mission), Sue and I had an opportunity to have lunch with an astronaut. Of course, the lunch included 300 other persons, but it was exciting anyway. Astronaut Charles "Sam" Hagen has flown on three Shuttle missions. Besides a sense of humor, he had some comments I wanted to share with you. During his talk, Sam gave the following advice: "Dream Big. You can never dream big enough. Whether you are 7 or 70, there is still more out there to do." I think many of us become immersed in our individual problems, work issues and so forth and over time, our dreams grow less important. The change from an optimistic youth to a pessimistic view of the world is a gradual one, like the middle age spread, it seems to appear as if by magic.

I would like to join Sam in saying that our dreams are what set our limits. To live a fulfilling life, we need to reach beyond the mundane, to strive towards something that will make us proud as individuals. That can be a daily struggle, but one worth undertaking. To dream, one must devote some time to contemplation and reflection. Finding that time is not always easy. But investing that time means that not only do you have a chance to create new dreams or revive old ones, it also gives you a chance to examine what is important in your life, including the friends and family around you. It means that life does not have to go by in a blur of chores, that you can take time to enjoy a sunrise or sunset and recognize that such activities are also value added. In short, while each and every one of us has a boss or person we must report to, the way we see our lives, the way in which we dream is still entirely in our control. Perhaps it is time to reclaim some of the wonder and joy of childhood and apply that to making our lives, and the lives of those around us better.

Have a great summer and hope to see you at the Sep 10 meeting.

Dave

Bylaw Changes

The Chapter Executive Board reviewed the proposed bylaw changes and voted to put them before the membership for a vote at the next regular meeting, which was May 14, 2008. During that meeting, the members present voted unanimously to accept the new bylaws. The new bylaws are available at <http://www.irwanj.org/bylaws.htm>

Chapter Meetings

September 10, 2008 Wind Power Where does it work and how does it work?

Robert W. Moore, Jr., Esq., MAI, will be our speaker. Bob brings a wide variety of skills to the right of way field.

Our topic is an area that is probably new to most of us, that is the acquisition of land and the various factors that need to be considered in the design of wind power plants. Bob has been working on several fascinating projects in West Virginia, where he has been acquiring both the wind farm sites and the right of way for the electric transmission lines. And just to make it more interesting, Bob's client is doing this without condemnation authority.

Bob brings to our conversation not only these specific projects, but also a very thorough background in the economics and physical reality of wind power throughout the nation.

Clearly wind power is a very hot topic now, so come on out and learn about all of the factors that go into locating and operating a successful wind farm site.

As an added treat, we will be having our meal at the Atlantic County Utility Authority wind farm and will have a tour of the facility after our regular meeting.

September Meeting Announcement:

[http://www.irwanj.org/9-10-08 Mark Your Calendars.pdf](http://www.irwanj.org/9-10-08_Mark_Your_Calendars.pdf)

**Our other upcoming meetings: November 12 2008 December 10, 2008
Locations and programs will be posted later.**

Previous Meeting: May 14, 2008 Our meeting was held at the Omega Diner, North Brunswick.

Our topic was "Innovative Negotiations - - Can you Top This". We had good attendance, and many members of the audience shared not only interesting negotiations, but also great advice .

As noted above, the Chapter held an official vote on the revised bylaws, which received unanimous support.

Participation in Chapter 15

In keeping with the theme of the President's Message, we would like to take a moment to discuss participation in the Chapter. It is my theory that most of us don't get involved in activities because we are not aware of what we tasks need to be done or we are unsure if we have the skills to do the tasks, or we are afraid of the amount of time these tasks will require. To help make more informed decisions, perhaps this chart will help:

Need	Action	Time
Donations for Silent Auction at 2009 Spring Forum in Atlantic City April 2009	<p>Look around the home or office for new items that have value that you don't need.</p> <p>Big sized items are harder to sell due to flight restrictions. Gift Certificates are OK. Unique Hunting and Fishing items are good as are things to eat or drink. Art work may not sell well. Women's jewelry is good. Electronics work - if cutting edge (say a Wii). Items should be new, unless they are collectibles such as coins. If you wouldn't buy it, probably no one else will either</p>	Half hour to research and find item at home, drop off at next Chapter meeting
Helping out at a Meeting	Take attendance, accept payments and write receipts out, help new comers, etc.	10 to 15 minutes at a meeting
Serving as an officer	<p>Vote on issues, assist in setting up meetings, additional duties are shown at this link: http://www.irwanj.org/Officer_Duties.pdf</p> <p>While the duties can seem very involved, all of the officers chip in to ensure that it is a fun and rewarding experience.</p>	Attend regular meetings and executive board meetings, some additional work may be needed.
Sponsorship of Chapter 15 2009 Spring Forum	<p>Involves cash or in kind donation to the Chapter to sponsor an event or meal at the forum. Can be made by an individual or corporation See our sponsorship brochure: http://www.irwanj.org/sponsor.pdf</p> <p>In kind donations can include gifts for welcome packets, providing van service for spouses trips, etc.</p> <p>Donations help t defray the cost for those who don't receive reimbursements, and are a good way to advertise services.</p>	Either sponsor individually or request your employer to sponsor an event

If you would like to make any comments or suggestions about our meeting locations or potential topics or speakers, please visit our survey page.

<http://fs2.formsite.com/httpwwwirwanjorg/form728441604/index.html>

Educational Opportunities

Chapter 15's next planned course is Course 213 Conflict Management which will be held on April 9, 2009 at our Spring Forum in Atlantic City. Details about an instructor are not yet finalized, but you can learn about the forum on our website at <http://www.irwanj.org/forum.htm>

If you would like the chapter to host an IRWA course, please let Bill Perry, our education coordinator know. (bill.perry@williams.com). To see what courses IRWA has to offer, visit <https://www.irwaonline.org/eweb/startpage.aspx>

NEW EDUCATION FEATURE

IRWA has added a new suite of electronic courses to its Online Learning Center. IRWA bought these from another education source as a service to our members. You can reach the Online Learning Center from the IRWA home page www.irwaonline.org left navigation bar.

Some of the new offerings will count towards SR/WA recertification. Those courses are marked with an "R" beside the description and show the number of credits they count for.

International Education Conference

2008 Annual International Education Conference was held in Austin, TX, June 22-25, 2008.

The Austin, Texas 2008 IRWA Conference set a record attendance with 1,236 paid registrants. Chapter 15 had 5 members (Walter Scharfenberg, Linda Beyer, Kristina Hofmann, Stephanie Rankin, and Lorraine Gorman) in attendancewhich may also have set a chapter record.

The Education Foundation Auction grossed over \$27,000, and the golf tournament should bring in between \$25,000 and \$30,000. It was reported that the fund has a balance of over 1.1 million dollars, part of which will be used for development of more on-line courses.

Chapter 15's donation was a beautiful painting by Ellen Scharfenberg, which was involved in a bidding war at the silent auction. Allen Wurtz finally won. This may have been the 4th painting of Ellen's that he has purchased.

Three cities had put in a bid for the 2013 Conference - Charleston, West Virginia (who had lost the bid last year to Seattle), Fort Worth, Texas, and Hartford, Connecticut. The Board of Directors voted for Charleston with 95 votes, Hartford received 48 votes and Fort Worth 33.

Call for Articles

Do you have an opinion? Is something new and different happening in your area of specialization? Do you feel an urge to share a better way to get the job done? If you answered yes to any of these, you could be a contributor. You don't have to submit a full blown article, even an idea would be a great help in making this newsletter better. If you would like to contribute to the newsletter please visit our newsletter link at <http://www.irwanj.org/newsletter.htm>

Fungler

No good deed goes unpunished. I had volunteered to tar the roof on my father's shed. I was about halfway done when I slipped and fell flat on my face getting black goop all over my shirt, my pants, even my hair. Hearing the thud, Dad looked up. "What happened?"

I got up and began to say, "All I did was..." when my feet shot out from under me and I flipped into the tarry mess a second time.

"You know," Dad said dryly, "you could have just told me."

Late one night I stopped at one of those 24-hour gas station mini-marts to get myself a fresh-brewed cup of coffee. When I picked up the pot, I could not help noticing that the brew was as black as asphalt and just about as thick. "How old is the coffee you have here?" I asked the woman who was standing behind the store counter.

She shrugged. "I don't know. I've only been working here two weeks."

Finally, our last mortgage payment. To make a ceremony of it, we went to the bank and paid in person. The teller processed everything and handed me the closing papers.

Heading for the door, I suddenly remembered a rebate check I'd brought along to cash.

I went back to the same teller. "Sorry, we can't do that," she explained. "You don't have an account here."

My wife and I get along just great—except she's a back-seat driver second to none. On my way home from work one day, my cell phone rang as I merged onto a freeway bypass. It was my wife. By chance, she had entered the bypass right behind me.

"Honey," she said, "your turn signal is still on. And put your lights on—it's starting to rain."