



THE CORRIDOR

International Right of Way Association
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Website: WWW.IRWANJ.ORG

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Dear Colleagues:

Our Chapter is moving along in several directions at once it seems. This for the most part is a positive thing. I would like to point out that many of the familiar faces amongst the officers are now or will soon be moving out of state. For the Chapter to continue to succeed and be of value to our members, we need to join together and share some of the work that goes into operating a chapter. I hope that you will consider what the chapter can be and how you can help us reach that point. With your help, the chapter can move ahead and continue to provide value for our investment.

Next, I want to remind everyone about the 2009 Spring Forum in Atlantic City. We hope that you will participate in our forum in whatever way you can, whether helping as a volunteer, providing financial support or even just attending. Every contribution will be very appreciated.

Another topic is the update of our bylaws. This longstanding project is finally ready to be put before you for a vote at our May 14 meeting unless the International General Counsel has any last minute objections. The changes to the bylaws reflect the way in which our Chapter is actually operating and bring the bylaws up to date in anticipation of the 75th Anniversary of the IRWA.

Our Chapter is here to help each member move forward in his or her professional life. To that, we need your suggestions and support.

Have a great spring and hope to see you at the May 14 meeting.

Dave

Bylaw Changes

The Chapter Executive Board has reviewed the proposed bylaw changes and voted to put them before the membership for a vote at our next regular meeting, May 14, 2008. Barring any unforeseen objections from the International General Counsel. The bylaws are available at <http://www.irwanj.org/bylaws.htm>

To allow time for you to review the bylaws, we are sending the May newsletter a little early. Don't get used to it being too early, this is a one time event.

Chapter Meetings

May 14, 2008 Our meeting will be held at the Omega Diner located at 1337 U.S. Hwy. 1, North Brunswick, telephone number 732-745-2628. Lunch to start at noon. Directions are available at <http://www.omegadiner.com/>

Our topic is "Innovative Negotiations - - Can you Top This", Audience Participation Expected! Bob RaVell will put on a brief vignette to open up discussions and then we will throw the floor open to our members to raise questions or suggest solutions to difficult negotiations situations. Bring your war stories and your questions, you never know who might be asked to relate a story or provide an answer to an interesting question. We anticipate that this unique format will allow our members to tap into the wealth of experience that each of us brings to the table in our professional lives. We hope you will come out and join us as we get a chance to learn from each other.

NOTE: The Chapter Meeting will also hold an official vote on the version of the bylaws, which was authorized for a vote by the Executive Board in a recent meeting.

You may obtain a copy of the proposed bylaws at: <http://www.irwanj.org/bylaws.htm>

**Please be sure to mark your calendars for our other upcoming meetings.
September 10, 2008 November 12 2008 December 10, 2008
Locations and programs will be posted later.**

Previous Meeting: March 5, 2008 While the room was a little smaller than we hoped, Chapter 15's own Allie Schiano and Anthony Graziano put on an interesting presentation. A lot of questions were generated afterwards and it was a nice opportunity to see some of the intricacies in appraising a partial acquisition.

If you would like to make any comments or suggestions about our meetings, please visit our survey page. <http://fs2.formsite.com/httpwwwirwanjorg/form728441604/index.html>

Educational Success

Walter Scharfenberg recently received his certifications for Right of Way – Environmental Certified (R/W-EC) and Right of Way – Negotiation/Acquisition (R/W-NAC). Walter has been an SR/WA for many years. His example shows that there is always something new to learn and a new challenge to overcome. Way to go Walter!

Hartford Bids for 2013 International Education Conference

The folks in the New England Chapter are bidding to host the 2013 International Education Conference and will be competing with Ft. Worth, TX and Charleston, WV. It has been quite a while since a conference was held up in New England. They will be presenting their bid and manning a booth at the 2008 International Education Conference in Austin TX. Some additional details about the 2008 conference are found later in the newsletter. International Education Conferences are already planned in 2009 - Indianapolis, IN, 2010 - Calgary, AB, 2011 - Atlanta, GA and 2012 - Seattle, WA

SPRING FORUM 2008 REPORT

The Spring Forum 2008 was held in Lahaska, Pennsylvania on April 16-18th. There is some exciting news about our organization that was brought forth during the forum. The IEC is proposing a new Governance Board which will consist of all of the Region Chairs and Vice Chairs. The Chairs will have vote and voice, while the Vice Chairs will have voice only. The IEC will retain control over day to day operation items such as personnel and will meet several times each year when not meeting as part of the Governance Board. The feeling is that this will ensure that each region has a voice in our organization, something that a 5 person IEC on its own could not accomplish. Including the Vice Chairs is intended to allow them more time to understand the needs of the organization and to augment their skills.

Another proposal that will be brought forward is to change the name of the International Board of Directors to the International Delegate Assembly. This change reflects that a Board of Directors is typically understood to be a small body, while our Directors are a much larger group. The change is a change in name only. No change in powers or duties is proposed.

These new concepts are being introduced in the regional spring forums and will then be announced to the Board of Directors at the 2008 Annual Conference. The request for an actual change in the bylaws will be made at the 2009 Annual Conference. By allowing for a long introductory period, the hope is that any kinks or issues will have had time to be addressed prior to an actual vote in 2009.

As part of the Forum process, Chapter 15 was asked to report on the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities or threats to the Chapter. Among our strengths is the diversity of our membership, with members coming from many different employers and professions within the field. One of our weaknesses is that we don't have a lot of folks interested in running for office. Another weakness is that we are struggling to find topics that will be of interest to our members. The 2009 Spring Forum is a great opportunity for us to be creative and to work together. Finally, in terms of threats, a gradual shift towards electronic rather than in person courses could pose a substantial threat to the economic health of the chapter.

2009 SPRING FORUM

Chapter 15 will host the Spring Forum 2009 to be held in Atlantic City. We have signed a contract with the Sheraton Atlantic City. We are in the planning stage now, and encourage anyone who would like to get involved to contact one of the officers or join us after a regular chapter meeting to help.

Another opportunity to help out is to consider becoming a sponsor for the Forum. Your contributions will help to make the forum a success. You can see the sponsorship categories at [http://www.irwanj.org/2009 IRWA Region 4 Spring Forum Sponsor Form.pdf](http://www.irwanj.org/2009_IRWA_Region_4_Spring_Forum_Sponsor_Form.pdf)

Finally, we would like to hold an auction to support local educational efforts. These are often quite fun. If you think you have an item that might work, feel free to bring it to any regular Chapter 15 meeting and one of the officers will be happy to “take it off your hands”. In considering what to give, keep in mind the tips shown for auction items under the International Education Foundation item shown below.

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. Included are management courses, leadership courses, negotiation, communication, team building and computer program. 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 is being held in Austin, TX, June 22-25, 2008. These conferences offer a tremendous educational value. Register before May 23 and save! Details are at <http://www.irwaonline.org> under [Annual Conference](#) or directly at: <http://www.irwaonline.org/EWEB/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=IRWA071306&WebKey=bafb2f19-d334-49d5-a19d-1b249056d642>

International Education Foundation

An auction to benefit the International Education Foundation will be held at the 2008 Annual International Education Conference is being held in Austin, TX. If you would like to donate an item, you may forward it to Donnie Sherwood, Integra Realty Resources, Fort Worth Office 930 W. First Street, Suite 303, Fort Worth, TX 76102

Keep in mind that many folks are flying in and so items need to be small enough to carry home on a plane. Some suggestions: Big sized items are harder to sell. Gift Certificates are OK. If unique, Hunting and Fishing items are good. Things to eat or drink are good. Art work may not sell well. Women's jewelry is good. Electronics work - if cutting edge (say a Wii). Keep in mind that these items should be new, unless they are collectibles such as coins. If you wouldn't buy it, probably no one else will either.

The items will have to be logged in and other paper work done, so please send by early May.

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>

Funnies

Heard around the water cooler: A woman told her friend that she had been playing way too much tennis on her Wii game. She said she was afraid she might have to go in for wiihab.

True Headlines

- Teach Strike Idles Kids
 - Headless Torso Found In Topless Bar
 - Psychics Say World Didn't End Yesterday
 - Babies Are What the Mother Eats
 - Never Withhold Herpes Infection From Loved One
 - Here's How You Can Lick Doberman's Leg Sores
 - Study Finds Sex Pregnancy Link
 - "Light" Meals Are Lower In Fat, Calories
 - Alcohol Ads Promote Drinking
 - Malls Try to Attract Shopper
 - Official: Only Rain Cures Drought
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