



THE CORRIDOR

International Right of Way Association
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Dear Colleagues:

The year is fast approaching an end, and while things have started to get better on the economic front, that sigh of relief isn't here yet.

We have an exciting meeting scheduled for September 16 and we hope to have a mini education seminar in November. What we really need are your ideas for meetings. These meetings are meant to be a positive experience that helps bolster our knowledge base and allow us to keep up our contacts with our colleagues in the field. To that well, we are constantly on the look out for new topics. If there is something you would like to hear about, please drop us a line, give us a call or use our Meeting survey:

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

Along with our educational mini seminar (we hope), the November meeting also will be our election, so if you have any interest in joining the Executive Board, we would love to hear from you. We can tailor a role to fit your desires and talents. Serving as an officer is not only a positive point on the old resume, and when is the last time we updated our resumes, but it is also a very fulfilling opportunity to work with other talented members of our Chapter.

Here is to a more prosperous remainder of 2009 and a sincere hope that we will see you at our meetings.

Dave

Future Meetings

Regional Fall Forum

September 30 to October 3, 2009

This fall will be a very unique fall forum. Normally just Region 4 is involved in our forums, but we are adding Region 8 and having a joint regional fall forum in Niagara Falls. This sounds like a real treat. I hope you will take a moment to go through the PDF link and see all of the things that are available to participate in at this forum. We look forward to seeing a lot of new faces and many of our own members at this special fall forum.

Regional Fall Forum Announcement and Registration

http://www.irwanj.org/2009_Joint_Fall_Forum-Education_Seminar_agenda.pdf

Chapter Meetings

September 16, 2009

TOPIC: "Confronting NJ's Twin Challenges: Recruiting & Retaining Residents and Businesses; Redeveloping a Nearly Built-Out State

This promises to be a topic of interest to anyone concerned about the future of our state. Preserving open space, while insuring good jobs and good places to live is a complicated balancing act between development, redevelopment and wise use of limited resources and funds while not spending our great grandchildren into debt.

Speaker Ted Zangari Mr. Zangari is a Member of Sills Cummis & Gross P.C. in Newark, New Jersey where he concentrates his practice on the development and leasing of commercial real estate throughout the United States. His client roster includes many of the country's well-known developers and retailers.

September Meeting Announcement:

http://www.irwanj.org/2-11-09_Mark_Your_Calendars.pdf

November 4, 2009

November 4 we are looking to try an educational seminar, with several speakers and of course a lunch. Members may attend the lunch alone or both the lunch and the educational sessions. During lunch, we will also be conducting the Chapter elections. Please note we are still considering a location, we are not sure what the ultimate attendance number will be, so we are trying to find a hall that could accommodate a larger number without being too expensive.

December 9, 2009

Location and program will be posted later.

Previous Meetings:

February 11, 2009

Digital Age Surveying. Bruce Blair was our speaker. Bruce brought a wonderful sense of humor and some valuable information together in one neat presentation. Bruce has been a part of our chapter for many years and he continues to help the Chapter and more importantly our members with his knowledge and his time.

April 9 & 10 2009 Spring Forum

Chapter 15 hosted the 2009 Spring Regional forum at the Sheraton Conference Center in Atlantic City. We had a total of 13 persons attend Course 213, Conflict Management.

On April 9th. Following the course, we had our opening reception. Bob and Nan Moore from Interstate Acquisition Services were kind enough to host a booth explaining some of the features of wind power.

The Region business meeting, along with a Chapter lunch meeting were held on the 10th. At the business meeting the future of education and certification were discussed. The issue of how to make the educational product both relevant and recognized as a good value are areas under consideration. There are a number of options under consideration, including cooperation with colleges, changing some of the program to make it more accessible to non members among many potential concepts. This will require significant thought before implementation, but clearly the goal is to strengthen the organization and the value of the education it provides.

We had a good attendance from around the Region, although we only had a few additional members from the Chapter join us for lunch, not counting those members who were already attending the forum. Our lunch speakers were from NJDOT and Dewberry discussing the incredibly difficult challenge of balancing competing environmental and right of way issues found in the rehabilitation of the I76, Route 42 and I 295 interchange.

We were very happy with the support from our sponsors. Their generosity made the forum a great experience. On behalf of all of the members of the Chapter, we want to thank our sponsors again for their time and generosity.

May 2009 Our May meeting was held at Charley's Other Brother and our topic was "Federal Economic Stimulus for New Jersey's Highway, Bridge, and Transit". Our presenter was Timothy G. Chelius, P.P., AICP, Executive Director of the he South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization (SJTPO). The SJTPO is a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the southern New Jersey region. Its job is to help direct federal funding for transportation projects in South Jersey. Besides explaining the function of the SJTPO, Tim provided a lot of information about the Stimulus program, including the work to connect the Riverline to the AC Railroad.

TO INDIANAPOLIS AND BACK 2009 IRWA International Conference
by Kristina Hofmann

This June the IRWA Annual Educational Conference was held in Indianapolis, which did not really send excitement up my spine, but then, first impressions can be misleading.

Chapter 15 had 4 members participating, Walter Scharfenberg, Christine Roy, Mark Stevens and myself. Mark and Christine manned a booth in the exhibit hall for their law office.

The full 5 days were filled with courses, seminars, meetings, lunches, dinners, parties, installation and awards. There was no time to rest. The main hotel was the Marriott, but since I got organized late there was no room at the inn and I landed at the Westin, right next door. That turned out to be a blessing in disguise since it was a less hectic retreat.

Over breakfast it was time to pick out the seminars to attend and what hours to visit the many booths. Everything I chose was well presented and interesting. It turned out to be one of the best organized conferences I have attended. Of course, it would be a little more considerate if they had not insisted on beginning some meetings at 6:45AM, but duty called and we were all in the same boat. One could only push on, so as not to miss out on anything.

The weather had been HOT up until the conference began and then it turned chilly. The same jacket saw lots of use, but mostly because of the air-conditioning. There were several side trips arranged, but in this respect there was little of personal appeal. The INDY 500 track drew the attention of a lot of the guys, including Walter. He told me later that the museum of older model racers was pretty fascinating. There was a race car parked in the exhibit hall and I did have my picture taken sitting on it and holding a crash helmet. Good enough for me. Shopping held interest for some of the women and the neat part of those excursions was that you could walk from hotel to convention center to numerous commercial establishments by way of elevated enclosed walkways. Very practical way to move about during harsh Indiana winters.

There were Sandy Grigg. A lot of pomp and circumstance, as well as some comic moments. Faith Roland, red white and blue American, handed the baton to our red and white maple leaf Canadian. There were quite a few of the 880 participants who were there to cheer their countryman. The Canadians always do throw a great party every year, but this time they put on something a little extra. It took me days to scrub off the 'temporary' tattoo that was required to gain entry to the Wild Beaver Saloon. Those who stayed for most of the evening no doubt lost a lot of their hearing.

IRWA truly is International. This year the Japanese faction must have had 30 or more participants, the Koreans were visible, South Africa has joined and quite a few other countries. They all join for the education to be able to standardize their own organizations.

Among the names of the sponsors on the national level were some that have local affiliates. Integra and Dewberry here in NJ were sponsors at our Spring Forum. It is great to have support that we can count on.

One of the featured speakers was Frank Abagnale, the author of "Catch Me if You Can", which was also made into a movie. He is an expert on fraud and forgery, which is how he began his own life and then spent time in prison. He decided it was better to help the FBI and has been on the right side of the law ever since. What he said in a rapid fire delivery was enough to make your jaw drop. Nothing is

Indianapolis continued.

Nothing is safe from confidence men. One nugget I took away with me is that only the Black Uniball 207 gel pen is permanent. The ink from ALL other pens can be removed and forgery instituted. Forget the several hundred \$ writing instruments, they can be tampered with, but you can feel pretty good using the Uniball for \$2. Utterly amazing and fascinating speech.

Indiana Chapter 10 put on this great event and boy am I glad I went! Next year it will be Prairie Chapter 48 that gets the honor in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. I would suggest we all start saving our pennies, take some extra vacation time and bring the family. I have an inkling that it will be a happening to remember. Our own Stephanie Rankin will be there for sure. She told me that her own successful run for the Presidency of IRWA began in Calgary when last they hosted the conference. There should be more than 4 of us! Stephanie and I and no doubt Walter, now what about the rest of you?

Potential Retirees

REMINDER You can remain a member of the Chapter and save money by converting from a regular active member to a retired member of IRWA. Membership dues for retirees are very inexpensive. We need your help, humor and accumulated wisdom, so please consider a Retire membership. And don't forget to let us know your new (non company) email and mailing addresses.

New Articles

This is September, and except for Kristina, haven't heard much else. Send an email, drop a phone call, I know you have some ideas, and believe it or not, we are all interested in reading something new, so lets liven up this newsletter.

What is new in your field? • What is new at your office?
New ideas, concepts in your field? • New family members?

We will accept articles, sentence fragments or any other ideas you may have. To contribute please visit <http://www.irwanj.org/newsletter.htm>

Employee Recognition

Has your employer made a noteworthy contribution to the right of way profession? Have they supported you in your professional growth? You can let us know and we will be happy to mention that here in the newsletter. <http://www.irwanj.org/newsletter.htm>

Ways to Participate in Chapter 15

We need your help to continue to grow and develop as a Chapter, below are some ways in which you can make a difference.

Need	Action
Helping out at Meetings	Greet members, collect fees, take attendance, etc.
Serving as an officer	Vote on issues, assist in setting up meetings, additional duties are shown at this link: http://www.irwanj.org/Officer_Duties.pdf

If you would like to suggest a meeting locations or potential topics or speakers, please visit our survey page.

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

Region 4 has just distributed their newest newsletter. Check it out at:

http://www.irwanj.org/Region_4_Newsletter-Fall_09.pdf