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March Happy Hour!

Thursday, March 22, 2018

5:30 p.m. — 7:30 p.m.

Chez Zee
5406 Balcones Dr.
Austin, TX 78731

The happy hour will replace the luncheon for March.

About Our Chapter

Bluebonnet Chapter No. 74, is the Austin, TX, chapter of the International Right of Way Association. Our Chapter was founded in 1985 by professionals in the right of way field to unite members for education, improve service to employers and the public, and to advance our members within the profession. We are part of Region 2 of the International Association. Our current membership includes professionals involved in a wide array of projects requiring real estate and right of way services.

Board of Directors Meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month. All are welcome. If you are interested in attending, please contact a Chapter 74 Officer.

President's Message

Greetings Chapter 74,

Spring is in the air and the birds are singing again. It looks like Winter is over! I hope everyone is enjoying the beautiful weather! I must say the rain has done wonders for my grass.

There will not be a luncheon this month. We have found that lunch is not heavily attended due to spring break so we thought we would try something a little different. Our programs committee is putting together an evening network social later in the month. More details will be provided by the end of the week.

It's time to nominate your IRWA Officers again. The nomination committee is seeking volunteers for Secretary and your current Officers are seeking reelection. If you wish to volunteer for Secretary or would like to nominate someone, please contact your current nomination committee (see more information about nominations in this newsletter). The deadline to submit nominations is March 27, 2018.

Our Education committee would like to hear from you about course ideas. If you are working toward a certification and need a course please reach out to Richard Schultz or Irene Balderrama. We want to make sure we are bringing the courses you need to Austin.

The Region 2 Spring Forum is on April 5th and 6th in San Antonio at the Hilton Palacio del Rio. The hotel room reservation block deadline is March 13, 2018, rate is \$159. Come join us for the latest news and some great networking.

The 2018's International Conference is quickly approaching. The 64th Annual International Education Conference will be in Edmonton, AB, Canada from June 24th to June 27th. If you are planning on attending, register as soon as possible. This year IRWA headquarters is doing things a little different, you must be registered for the conference before you can register for the hotel at the reduced rates. After registering for conference, IRWA will send you an email with a link to the host hotels. It's a great time to visit Canada! I hope to see you there.

Come join us on April 10th for lunch at Maggiano's, Amy Denney, editor of Northwest Austin Community Impact Newspaper is our speaker. Amy has a bird's eye view of all the transportation projects in the Austin Area and will share some of the latest developments with us. Elections will also be held on April 10th and each nominee will be able to share their visions and reasons you should VOTE for them. Stay involved! ATTEND, NOMINATE, VOTE!

See you soon!

Respectfully,



Virginia J. Anderson, SR/WA
Chapter 74 President

2017 – 2018

Calendar of Events

MARCH 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 BOARD MEETING	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 HAPPY HOUR	23	24
25	26	27	28			

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 8 — Board Meeting

Time: 12:00 p.m.—1:00 p.m.

Location: One Texas Center, City of Austin

March 22 — Happy Hour

Time: 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Location: Chez Zee, 5406 Balcones Dr, Austin, TX 78731

IRWA Chapter 74 Officers



President
Virginia Anderson,
SR/WA, R/W-RAC, R/W-NAC
Flairsoft, LTD
512-221-3798
virginia.pompa@flairdocs.com



Secretary
Tara O'Neal
Texas Department of Transportation
(512) 832-7373
Tara.ONeal@txdot.gov



President Elect
Alex Gale, SR/WA, R/W-URAC,
R/W-RAC, R/W-NAC
City of Austin
512-974-1416
alex.gale@austintexas.gov



Director / 2 Year
Maggie Schedler, R/W-RAC, R/W-
URAC
512-653-2783
maggieschedler@gmail.com



Vice President
Lori Bible, SR/WA
Contract Land Staff, LLC
512-346-6518
loribible@gmail.com



Director / 1 Year
Patti Bell, SR/WA
Allegiant Group, PLLC
512-826-1333
patti@allegiantgrp.com



Treasurer
Sheila Mills, SR/WA, R/W-NAC
H.W. Lochner, Inc.
(737) 704-3061
smills@hwlochner.com

Past Presidents

2016 Maggie Schedler, R/W-RAC	2006 Tinker Cotton, SR/WA	1995 Dean Harris, SR/WA
2015 Patti Bell, SR/WA	2005 Steve Bohuslav, SR/WA	1994 Mary Jane Amezcuita
2014 Donald C. Toner, SR/WA	2004 Steve Beck, MAI, SR/WA	1993 Larry O'Neal, SR/WA
2013 Denise Skinner, SR/WA	2003 Elizabeth Norris	1992 Sandra Bishop
2012 Teri J. Morgan, SR/WA	2002 Elisa Garcia	1991 John Baylor
2011 Dennis Sedlachek, SR/WA	2001 Randall Kopfer, IFA, SR/WA	1990 Cheryl Bennett
2010 Lory R. Johnson, MAI, SR/WA	2000 Laurie Park, SR/WA	1989 Rayburn Corbitt, MAI
2009 Ron Olderog, MAI, SR/WA	1999 George Schlemeyer, SR/WA	1988 Josie Wiltzius, SR/WA
2008 John Reed, SR/WA	1998 Lauraine Rizer, SR/WA	1987 Greg Althoff, SR/WA
2007 Connie Real, PMP, SR/WA	1997 Randy Williams, MAI, SR/WA	1986 Richard Steubing
	1996 Margie Hamby, SR/WA	1985 Charles Clinger, SR/WA

2017-2018 Committees

Asset Management

Ron Olderog, MAI, SR/WA
City of Austin, (512) 974-7193

Communication

Lisa Cooper, R/W-RAC
HDR Engineering, Inc., (512) 531-5900

Jennifer Lopez
Atkins North America,
ROWAustinCh74@atkinsglobal.com

Allison Anderson, RWA
Atkins North America, (512) 342-3216

Sam Wilson, SR/WA
Atkins North America, Inc., (979) 255-7474

Education

Richard Scholtz
JLL Valuation & Advisory Services, (512) 459-3440

Irene Balderrama,
Contract Land Staff, (512) 574-9065

Legal VACANT

Local Public Agency

Laura Riley
TxDOT, (512) 416-2830

Kerry Fulton
LAN, Inc., (512) 585-9282

Luanne Dunn
Austin Energy (512) 322-6410

Membership

Leslie Persia
alterra Design Group, (512) 381-5556

Professional Development

John Campbell, SR/WA
(512) 767-3066

Relocation

David Harrah, SR/WA, R/W-RAC, R/W-URAC
TxDOT, (512) 416-2962

September Eminent Domain Seminar

Elizabeth Norris
Atkins, (512) 342-3443

Nominations

Don Toner, Jr. SR/WA
THC, Inc.; (512) 435-7675

Randall Kopfer
LCRA, (512) 217-1937

Dennis Sedlachek, SR/WA, R/W-RAC
Cintra U.S., (512) 371-4816

Randall Ward
TxDOT, (512) 416-2906

Programs

Barbara Price
Capital Metro, (512) 389-7438

Michael Latham, R/W-NAC
H.W. Lochner, Inc, (737) 704-3065

Leila Valenzuela
Halff Associates, (512) 777-4616

Surveying and Engineering

Jesse Cooper
HDR Engineering, Inc. (512) 699-6766

Transportation

Dennis Sedlachek, SR/WA, R/W-RAC
Cintra U.S., (512) 371-4816

Don Toner, Jr. SR/WA
THC, Inc., (512) 435-7675

Mark Anderson
(512) 815-0512

Valuation

Chris Hornsby
Paul Hornsby & Company, (512) 381-5510

Catherine A. Thomas, MAI, SRA
CBRE, (512) 499-4911

Young Professionals

Nicolette Hebert
Contract Land Staff, (512) 346-6518

Jim Larsen
Sendero, jlarsen@senderotx.com

Membership News

Visit the [IRWA Website](#) to submit your application electronically and become a member of Chapter 74!

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY!

*Installment Options are available for membership fees.
Contact your local committee chairs for more information.*



Membership is important to our chapter. We want to promote growth to be able to qualify for incentives from IRWA International.

5% Net Growth = 3 free memberships | 1 free conference registration &
10% Net Growth = 3 free memberships | 2 free conference registrations | \$500 travel voucher

New Members: Please contact the [Membership Committee](#) to have your first luncheon covered by the Chapter.

Leslie Persia
(512) 381-5556

Programs News

February Luncheon Photos

Thanks so much to our February luncheon speaker!

The Programs Committee is seeking both venues and speakers for this year's luncheons. Please email any suggestions you have, including topics of interest to the [Programs Committee](#).

Michael Latham
(737) 704-3065

Barbara Price
(512) 389-7438

Leila Valenzuela
(512) 777-4616

Programs News

Happy HOUR

Chapter 74 will have a happy hour for March in lieu of a monthly luncheon.

Thursday, March 22, 2018
5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Chez Zee
5406 Balcones Dr.
Austin, TX 78731

Please join us for this networking opportunity!

The Chapter will provide a drink ticket and light hors d'oeuvres for those attending. Additional drinks and food will be purchased by individual attendees.

Michael Latham
(737) 704-3065

Barbara Price
(512) 389-7438

Leila Valenzuela
(512) 777-4616

Nominations News

2017 Professional of the Year
Michael Latham



2017 Employer of the Year
Capital Metro



Nominations News

**NOMINATE
NOW!**

2018—2019 Chapter 74 Secretary Nominations

The Nominations Committee is pleased to announce that we are opening nominations for the position of Chapter Secretary.

Nominations will close at COB March 27, 2018. We will hold elections at the April 10, 2018 Chapter luncheon and install officers at the May 8, 2018 luncheon, with the term of office starting July 1, 2018.

If you are interested in the position or would like to nominate someone else, please email the [Nominations Committee](#) with your nomination. The Nominations Committee includes Don Toner, Randy Ward, Randall Kopfer, and Dennis Sedlachek

Please Note: If you are nominating someone else, we will need confirmation from that person that they are willing to take on the responsibility of the position.

Located below is a summary of the responsibilities and qualifications for the position of Chapter Secretary as developed by the IRWA.

Overview of the Executive Board: Chapter Officers provide general oversight and strategic leadership of their chapter. Chapter Officers coach and mentor chapter members and work closely with the Region Officers and international committee chairs, to ensure that the goals of the association and the needs of the chapter members are met, along with providing communication to the Region Officers from the local chapter.

Role of Chapter Secretary: The Chapter Secretary shall keep a book of minutes of all of the meetings of the Chapter and the Executive Board, shall carry on all correspondence of the Chapter and shall perform such duties as may be required by the Executive Board.

Qualifications: A Chapter Secretary must be a member in good standing of the IRWA, a chapter or chapters of the Association (current membership paid in full). Ideally, a Chapter Secretary may have previously served as a Committee Chair.

Competencies: The Chapter Secretary should demonstrate the following core competencies:

External Awareness: Understands and keeps up - to - date on local, national, and international policies and trends that affect the organization and shape stakeholders' views; is aware of the organization's impact on the external environment.

Vision: Takes a long-term view and builds a shared vision with others; acts as a catalyst for organization change. Influences others to translate vision into action.

Strategic Thinking: Formulates objectives and priorities, and implements plans consistent with the long - term interest of the organization in a global environment, Capitalizes on opportunities and manages risks.

Entrepreneurship: Positions the organization for future success by identifying new opportunities; builds the organization by developing or improving products or services. Takes calculated risks to accomplish organizational objectives.

SAVE THE DATE—2018 ED EMINENT DOMAIN SEMINAR

Mark
Your
Calendar!



2018 Eminent Domain Seminar
September 7, 2018

The 2018 Eminent Domain Seminar will be on September 7, 2018. Planning is underway for a lively seminar with a diversity of topics, issues and speakers relative to all agencies and municipalities. We also offer sponsor opportunities.

So mark your calendars, more details to come.

For more information, please contact Liz Norris at elizabeth.norris@atkinglobal.com or 512-342-3443.

Career Hotline

APPRAISER

We are looking for the right candidate to expand our right-of-way Valuation group in the Austin office of CBRE. The position prepares market value appraisals and appraisal reports, including entering data in the property database, taking photos/measurements of the subject and comparables and driving the neighborhood. Confirms data, conducts discussions with market participants, and performs additional research as necessary. Successful candidate will have excellent written and verbal communication skills; strong organizational and analytical skills; ability to provide efficient, timely, reliable and courteous service to customers; ability to effectively present information. Requires Bachelor's degree (BA/BS) from four-year college or university. Prefer a minimum of two+ years of related experience and/or training in commercial real estate appraising. Advanced training in appraisal/valuation services and/or right-of-way experience is a plus, but we're willing to train the right candidate. State Certification desired. Interested? Please email cathy.thomas@cbre.com



**WE'RE
HIRING!**

Have a Job Opening?

Email the [Communications Committee](#) to include in the newsletter.

Chapter 74 Website Sponsors

Thank you to following sponsors for supporting the Chapter 74 website:



Flairdocs

Process innovation > Real results.



**CONTRACT
LAND STAFF**

CBRE VALUATION & ADVISORY SERVICES



Stateside
Right of Way Services



LOCHNER



*ROW Professionals for
Make A Wish*



Perks of Being a Sponsor!

You will have your logo displayed on the home page and linked to your company URL as well as your contact information on the Sponsor tab.

This elite sponsorship gives you access to have upcoming jobs posted to the webpage, in the monthly newsletter and email blasted to all Chapter 74 members.

Chapter 74 Website Sponsors



2018 WEBSITE SPONSORSHIP RENEWALS ARE DUE THIS MONTH!

NOT YET A SPONSOR?

Email lisa.cooper@hdrinc.com for information on becoming a Chapter 74 website sponsor.

Perks of Being a Sponsor!

You will have your logo displayed on the home page and linked to your company URL as well as your contact information on the Sponsor tab.

This elite sponsorship gives you access to have upcoming jobs posted to the webpage, in the monthly newsletter and email blasted to all Chapter 74 members.

FIND US ONLINE AT:

Chapter 74 Website:
www.irwachapter74.org

IRWA Website:
www.irwaonline.org

IRWA Region 2 Website:
www.irwaregion2.org

Website Sponsorship Information or Newsletter Questions?

Contact

[Lisa Cooper \(Website\)](#)

HDR Engineering, Inc., (512) 531-5900

[Allison Anderson \(Newsletter\)](#)

Atkins North America, Inc., (512) 342-3216

**PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW
WEBSITE ADDRESS:**

<http://irwachapter74.org/>



The Chapter 74 Bluebonnet Newsletter is a publication of the International Right of Way Association.

SIGN UP TODAY!

IRWA'S 64th ANNUAL

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE

June 23-27, 2018

Edmonton, AB, Canada

Ages 35 and under will receive a 20% discount on registration fees
To register, [click here](#)

Young Professionals will host a welcoming event on Saturday, June 23, 2018
at [Craft Beer Market](#)

There will be more than 50 education sessions with some specific education seminars for young professionals, including:

- Right of Way Game Show
- The Journey of a Young Professional
- Project Management Basics for the Young Professional

Endless networking and education opportunities!

To get a jumpstart on networking today, log into the [IRWA Member Network](#) and click on "Engage in Mentoring"

IRWA
YOUNG PROFESSIONALS



Alan D. Wurtz, SR/WA Scholarship Fund

Funded by Percheron, LLC

in conjunction with Right of Way International Educational Foundation
and the International Right of Way Association

Who is Alan D. Wurtz, SR/WA?

Alan D. Wurtz, SR/WA had a tremendous passion for education. After spending the first 6 years of his professional career as a teacher and coach, Alan started an abstract and real estate company. Alan then transitioned to the right-of-way business as an agent and quickly joined the IRWA. While working in the right-of-way industry, he continued his education and obtained his law degree. Over the course of his nearly 40 years in the industry, Alan served the IRWA from the chapter level through the International Executive Committee, serving as IRWA President from 2001-2002. In his last professional role, Alan served as President of Percheron, LLC – Field Services where his wisdom, discernment, and leadership helped make the company what it is today. Alan’s passion for education, the IRWA, and for helping young professionals to develop their career was evident to everyone who knew him.

Alan D. Wurtz, SR/WA Scholarship Fund Objective:

The Alan D. Wurtz, SR/WA Scholarship Fund seeks to award a \$1000 scholarship to an active IRWA Young Professional who exemplifies Alan’s enthusiasm for learning and his passion for the IRWA. The Alan D. Wurtz, SR/WA Scholarship Fund will reimburse the Scholarship Recipient up to \$1000 for educational courses and seminars sponsored by the IRWA over a 3-year period.

Eligibility:

Percheron, LLC welcomes applicants to apply for the Alan D. Wurtz, SR/WA Scholarship Fund. To qualify for the scholarship, applicants must be (1) a member in good standing of the IRWA for a minimum of one year, (2) a young professional (age 35 or younger) practicing in the right of way profession (3) committed to enhancing their knowledge of the industry, and (4) willing to honor the legacy of Alan D. Wurtz, SR/WA by furthering the IRWA’s Purpose and Mission.

Schedule:

Applications may be submitted to WurtzScholarship@percheronllc.com between March 1, 2018 and May 1, 2018. The Scholarship Recipient will be notified June 1, 2018 and will be announced at the IRWA’s Annual Conference. The award will begin on July 1, 2018 and may be used for IRWA sponsored courses and seminars through June 30, 2021.

Selection Criteria:

Selection will be based on an essay (up to 500-words) outlining how the Alan D. Wurtz SR/WA Scholarship Fund will enable you to enhance your education and professional development and empower you to contribute to IRWA’s Purpose and Mission. A current resume must also be included.

Selection Committee

The Selection Committee will include Allison Wurtz, SR/WA daughter of Alan D. Wurtz, SR/WA; the current Chair of the IRWA Young Professionals; one representative of Percheron, LLC; and one industry professional not employed at Percheron, LLC.

Application:

Please complete the below in its entirety.

Applicant Name: _____ IRWA Member Number: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

Chapter #: _____ Region #: _____

Essay Question:

Answer the following question using up to 500 words:

How will you use the Alan D. Wurtz, SR/WA Scholarship Fund to enhance your understanding of the industry and to contribute to the IRWA's Purpose and Mission?

IRWA's Purpose:

We improve people's quality of life through infrastructure development.

IRWA's Mission:

We empower professionals by elevating ethics, learning and a standard of excellence within the global infrastructure real estate community.

Completed Application:

Please send completed application, up to 500-word essay, and updated resume to WurtzScholarship@percheronllc.com by May 1, 2018