

Upcoming 2018 IRWA Educational Courses 804 and 900



Chapter 74 sponsors C804 Skills of Expert Testimony, August 10, 2018 and Chapter 39 sponsors C900 Principles of Real Estate Engineering, September 13 - 14, 2018. Details inside...

Bluebonnet News

About Our Chapter

Bluebonnet Chapter No. 74, is the Austin, TX chapter of the International Right of Way Association (IRWA). 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, right of way and utility services.

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

Visit the chapter website at <http://irwachapter74.org/>



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Message	2
Calendar of Events	3
2018-2019 Board	4
Committee Members	5
Membership	6
Education	7
Program News	9
Save the Date	10
Career Connection.....	14
Sponsorship Page	15

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Local Area Professional Development
- 2018-2019 Chapter Board Members and Committees
- Classroom Education
- 2018 September Eminent Domain Seminar

PAST PRESIDENTS

2017 Virginia Anderson, SR/WA, R/W-RAC, R/W-NAC
2016 Maggie Schedler, R/W-RAC
2015 Patti Bell, SR/WA
2014 Donald C. Toner, SR/WA
2013 Denise Skinner, SR/WA
2012 Teri J. Morgan, SR/WA
2011 Dennis Sedlachek, SR/WA
2010 Lory R. Johnson, MAI, SR/WA
2009 Ron Olderog, MAI, SR/WA
2008 John Reed, SR/WA
2007 Connie Real, PMP, SR/WA
2006 Tinker Cotton, SR/WA
2005 Steve Bohuslav, SR/WA
2004 Steve Beck, MAI, SR/WA
2003 Elizabeth Norris
2002 Elisa Garcia
2001 Randall Kopfer, IFA, SR/WA
2000 Laurie Park, SR/WA
1999 George Schlemeyer, SR/WA
1998 Lauraine Rizer, SR/WA
1997 Randy Williams, MAI, SR/WA
1996 Margie Hamby, SR/WA
1995 Dean Harris, SR/WA
1994 Mary Jane Amezquita
1993 Larry O'Neal, SR/WA
1992 Sandra Bishop
1991 John Baylor
1990 Cheryl Bennett
1989 Rayburn Corbitt, MAI
1988 Josie Wiltzius, SR/WA
1987 Greg Althoff, SR/WA
1986 Richard Steubing
1985 Charles Clinger, SR/WA

2018-2019 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Chapter 74 Members,

I want to begin by thanking Virginia Anderson for serving as Chapter President 2017—2018. Under her leadership, we had a great year and continued our success in achieving unification amongst members through education, improving right of way service to employers and the public and a continued support of the advancement of our members within the professional industry.

I am honored to serve as the President of Chapter 74 for this upcoming year, 2018—2019. Thank you to each member of the chapter's Board and Committees. Your gracious volunteer effort over the next fiscal year is appreciated. I look forward to working with everyone in their assignments. I am excited to see all the great things we will continue to support and the opportunities to promote new ideas for our chapter this year.

July has quickly passed and August has just begun. There has been a lot of fun to be had as well as things to do. A decent group of our members were able to make the trek to Edmonton, Alberta to attend the International Conference and enjoy nicer weather and temperatures in the 70's. The Appraisal Institute/IRWA Joint Luncheon was a packed room. Many compliments were received on the selection of presentation speakers and their engaging topics. The Region 2 Refresher Seminar just took place in College Station, TX; along with the L.E. Clark Aggie Invitational Golf Tournament. This year, our Chapter was selected to speak on the topic of Utilities and we were proud to have Travis Beard with the City of Georgetown present "On, Over and Across: Complex Issues and Solutions for the Urbanizing Utility", last Thursday afternoon.

Let's continue our focus in establishing Chapter 74 as the great professional organization it has become to many of us. I anticipate a great year of membership experiences. Please feel welcome to contact me at alex.gale@austintexas.gov should you have any comments, ideas or recommendations regarding our chapter activities.

Thank you again for allowing me the opportunity to help in representing Chapter 74!



Alex Gale

2018– 2019 Chapter 74 President

August 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 BOARD MEETING	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 Senior Citizens Day	22	23	24	25
26 Women's Equality Day	27 Lyndon B. Johnson Day	28	29	30	31	

Upcoming Events

✦ **August 1 – 3, 2018 - IRWA Region 2 Refresher Educational Courses**

Location: College Station, TX

✦ **August 10, 2018 - IRWA Course C804 Skills of Expert Testimony**

Time: 8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

Location: HDR Office , Chevy Chase

✦ **August 27, 2018 - Texas State Holiday (Skeleton Crew)**

✦ **September 13-14, 2018 - IRWA C900 Principles of Real Estate Engineering**

Time: 8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Daily

Location: San Antonio, TX



PRESIDENT

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alex.gale@austintexas.gov



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SEPTEMBER EMINENT DOMAIN SEMINAR

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SURVEYING AND ENGINEERING

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TRANSPORTATION

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PHC, (512) 381-5510

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Jlarsen@senderotx.com

Jaylia Travis
OR Colan, (512) 903-9995

Mahira Lopez
OR Colon, (512) 898-9147

2019 SYMPOSIUM/FORUM

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HDR, (512) 421-2742

Sheila Mills, SR/WA, R/W-NAC
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Richard Schultz
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Leslie Persia
alterra, (512) 381-5556

Laura Riley
TxDOT, (512) 416-2830

Visit the [IRWA Website](#) to submit your application electronically.

JOIN IRWA, BECOME A MEMBER!

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 while qualifying 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.

Region 2 Area Classroom Education

08.10.2018 | Austin, TX
C804 Skills of Expert Testimony



This course is facilitated by an attorney and/or an experienced appraiser. The situations faced by the expert witness are analyzed through extensive use of simulations based on actual cases, creating a unique learning situation.
 8 QEU / CEU

Start Date: 8/10/2018
End Date: 8/10//2018
No. of Days: 1 day
Course Level: Advanced
CEU Credits: 8.00
Class Time: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM Daily
Tuition: \$265.00 Member / \$330.00 Non-Member

(Late registration fee of \$25.00 applied on 07/18/2018)

[Click Here to Register](#)

Sponsored By: Chapter 74

Course Description: [C804 Skills of Expert Testimony](#)

INSTRUCTOR:

Sejin C. Brooks is an attorney in the Austin Office of Barron, Adler, Clough & Oddo, LLP. Raised in Oklahoma, he joined the firm in 2014 and focuses on eminent domain litigation. For eight years Mr. Brooks served as an Assistant Attorney General at the Office of the Attorney General of Texas, Transportation Division. While in that position he acted as the project manager of litigation for parcel acquisition matters regarding the DFW Connector Highway Construction Project. Prior to his time as an Assistant Attorney General, Mr. Brooks served as an Assistant District Attorney in Oklahoma and as a Partner Attorney for a law firm in Oklahoma. Mr. Brooks is a member of the State Bar of Texas and the Oklahoma Bar Association. Mr. Brooks is also a member of IRWA Chapter 74 and is an IRWA CLIMB Certified Instructor.

COURSE COORDINATOR:

Maggie Schedler, R/W-RAC, RW-URAC
 203 Cluck Creek Trail
 Cedar Park, TX 78613
 Phone: (512) 653-2783
 Email: maggieschedler@gmail.com

CLASS FACILITY LOCATION:

HDR, Inc.
 7745 Chevy Chase Drive, Building 5, Suite 220
 Austin, TX 78752-1650
 Phone: (512) 531-5900
 Fax: (512) 531-5995
 Participant Capacity: 25

Get Credentialed in the Industry you serve!

Credentialing demonstrates a specialized industry based knowledge and skill set as well as a commitment to professional development and performance excellence. IRWA offers a curriculum pathway of progressive credentialing options for infrastructure professionals. <https://www.irwaonline.org/courses/>



Region 2 Area Classroom Education

09.13—14.2018 | Austin, TX
C900 Principles of Real Estate Engineering



With the use of lecture, questions and answers, exercise methods and graphic illustrations, participants in this course will learn how to use engineering tools and will gain basic skills in reading and interpreting information contained on engineering plans. Participants will also learn how to read, understand and plot simple descriptions using the most common methods of property descriptions. 16 QEU / CEU

Start Date:	9/13/2018
End Date:	9/14/2018
No. of Days:	2 day
Course Level:	Core
CEU Credits:	16.00
Class Time:	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM Daily
Tuition:	\$415.00 Member / \$520.00 Non-Member

(Late registration fee of \$25.00 applied on 08/31/2018)

[Click Here to Register](#)

Sponsored By: Chapter 39

Who should take this course: This course is designed for the novice or new non-engineer employee but is also a valuable refresher course for experienced agents.

INSTRUCTOR:

Jesse Cooper, RPLS , Senior Utility Project Manager with HDR Engineering providing Utility Adjustment Coordination with 30+ years of project administration, surveying, coordination, QA/QC and project controls experience. He has a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the Texas A&M University and is a Registered Professional Surveyor in Texas (No. 5110). His career has been centered on all aspects of utility coordination/utility engineering/utility relocation/SUE/ utility adjustment monitoring & verification. Jesse has provided leadership for the HDR team on Projects such as the Rapid Bridge Replacement Project in Pennsylvania for the utility relocation analysis of over 500 bridges and updating of the North Carolina Utility Manual. As the former TXDOT Section Director of the Map, Survey, & Utility Section, Jesse provided oversight of the Texas Utility Program relocating utilities for transportation projects. He also managed Subsurface Utility Contracts and developed a contract template which is now used for professional Utility Coordination Contracts. He was part of the team presented the FHWA 2006 Utility Outstanding Achievement Award in the Category of Utility SUE (Subsurface Utility Engineering).

COURSE COORDINATOR:

Joyce G. Labus, SR/WA
 145 Navarro
 San Antonio, TX 78205
 Phone: (210) 416-4557
 Fax: (210) 353-2965
 Email: jglabus@cpsenergy.com

CLASS FACILITY LOCATION:

San Antonio River Authority
 100 E. Guenther Street
 San Antonio, TX 78204
 Phone: (210) 227-1373
 Participant Capacity: 20



PROGRAM NEWS- JUNE JOINT LUNCHEON

Our June Joint Luncheon was a successful event and consisted of a panel presentation and discussion of various right-of-way acquisitions involving unusual property types or unusual circumstances/considerations during the condemnation process. Thank you to our moderator and presenters for an afternoon of continued learning and professional networking.



Contact the [Programs Committee](#) with any speaker recommendations or presentation topics.

SEPTEMBER 7, 2018

2018 SEPTEMBER SEMINAR HOT TOPICS IN REAL ESTATE AND EMINENT DOMAIN

SAN MARCOS, TEXAS

“Hot Topics in Real Estate and Eminent Domain Seminar“ for Attorneys, Legal Staff, ROW Agents, Appraisers, Engineers, Consultants, City and Land Planners, Real Property Analysts, Government Agents, Real Estate Agents.

SPEAKERS ANNOUNCED

Paul Barkhurst, J.D. – Barkhurst Hinojosa PC

Tommy Smith, J.D. – Law Office of Thomas J. Smith

Kristina W. Silcocks, J.D - Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP

Tony Blazi, J.D. – Office of the Attorney General

Randy Ward, J.D. - Right of Way Attorney, TxDOT Right of Way Division

James Kirk II, J.D. – Associate General Counsel, TxDOT

Sejin Brooks, J.D. – Barron and Adler, Clough & Oddo, LLP

Patrick Rose - President, Corridor Title

Jeff Jordan, PhD. – Research Associate, Institute for Demographic and Socioeconomic Research

Saloni Rajput, PhD. – GIS Analyst, Texas Demographic Center

Lora Gunter, J.D. Director, Project Delivery, Texas Department of Transportation

Jim Oliveros J.D. – Ross Molina Oliveros PC

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Sponsoring at IRWA's 2018 September Seminar will afford your company with a valuable opportunity to advertise your company name to over 350 local professionals involved in all facets of right of way work. Cost for sponsorship is \$250 and includes sponsorship recognition in seminar print materials and during the event. Contact Elizabeth Norris for more information at Elizabeth.Norris@atkinsglobal.com or (512) 342-3443. Sponsorship forms due 8-24-2018.

CONTINUING EDUCATION IRWA Application made for 6 hours of SRWA recertification by the International Right of Way Association. **AI** Application made for 6 hours by the Appraisal Institute for Continuing Education (CE) credits. **TREC** Application made for 6 hours of Mandatory Continuing Education (MCE) by the Texas Real Estate Commission. **TALCB** Application made for 6 hours of Appraiser Continuing Education (ACE) by the Texas Appraiser Licensing and Certification Board. **CLE** Application made for 6 hours of Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credits.



REGISTRATION FORMS PROVIDED BY EMAIL



STATS AND FACTS

San Marcos Roots Run Deep: San Marcos has been a favorite destination for more than 12,000 years! An underwater archeological dig in Spring Lake at the Headwaters of the San Marcos River uncovered Indian artifacts dating back over 12,000 years to the Clovis Indians, the oldest known inhabitants of the western hemisphere. This is reportedly the longest continuously inhabited site in North America, according to underwater archeologist Dr. Joel Shiner.

Our People: With a population of more than 64,000, San Marcos boasts a unique multicultural heritage and history where Hispanic, African-American, German, Anglo and other cultural influences are a part of everyday life.

Bobcat Spirit: Texas State University (fourth largest university in the state with more than 38,849 students as of August 2016). Every day is a great day to be a Bobcat! The university participates in NCAA Division I as a part of the Sunbelt Conference (FBS in football) and some sport is always in season. Join us at a game and help celebrate our Bobcat Pride.

A Walk in the Park: 1200+ Acres - includes miles of hike and bike trails, children's park, skatepark, dog park, and beautiful public access river frontage.

Changes in Attitude, Changes in Latitude: San Marcos is in the perfect location with a latitude reading of 29 degrees and 53 minutes North and longitude of 97 degrees and 56 minutes West!

Just Another Day in Paradise: Average annual temperature is 68.8 degrees and the sun shines 275 days a year!

Hometown Heroes: Just a sampling of the influential, colorful, and talented people who have called San Marcos home:

- Lyndon B. Johnson: The 36th President of the United States
- George Strait: Multi-Platinum Award Winning County music superstar
- Charles Austin: 1996 US Olympic High Jumper Gold Medalist
- Heloise: Nationally syndicated newspaper columnist
- Eddie Durham: Pioneer American jazz guitarist, trombonist, composer and musical arranger
- **Ralph, the Swimming Pig:** Ralph debuted at Aquarena Springs in 1969 and continued his show business career as an international tourism sensation until his retirement in 1994
- Tomas Rivera: Internationally known Chicano author who set the standard for contemporary Mexican-American literature
- Blue October: American Alternative Rock band
- Terri Hendrix: Award Winning Folk artist
- Kent Finlay: Texas songwriter, cultivator of music talent, lyrical editor and owner of Cheatham Street Warehouse

Source: <http://www.toursanmarcos.com/about/media-tools/stats-and-facts.html>



2018 RWPTX MAKE-A-WISH GOLF TOURNAMENT

LANDA PARK GOLF COURSE
AT COMAL SPRINGS
180 GOLF COURSE ROAD
NEW BRAUNFELS, TX 78130

SEPT. 06, 2018



REGISTER FOR ONLY

\$100 PER GOLFER
INCLUDES GOLF
AND DINNER

TO REGISTER, CONTACT
REGISTERMAWGOLF@GMAIL.COM

REGISTRATION CHECKS MUST BE MADE
PAYABLE TO: ROW PROFESSIONALS OF TEXAS

DONATIONS

DONATIONS OF ITEMS FOR THE SILENT
AUCTION AND DOOR PRIZES OR MONEY TO
PURCHASE ITEMS, WILL ALSO BE ACCEPTED

FOR SPONSORSHIP AND DONATIONS, CONTACT
MATTHEW ECKMAN AT (830)221-4089
MECKMANN@NBTEXAS.ORG OR **RICHARD
SCHOLTZ** AT RICHARD.SCHOLTZ@AM.JLL.COM

TOURNAMENT SPONSORSHIP

ALL SPONSORSHIP PROCEEDS BENEFIT
MAKE-A-WISH FOUNDATION

PLATINUM \$1000

INCLUDES: ABILITY TO SET UP TENT ALONG
COURSE TO SERVE FOOD OR DRINKS,
APPRECIATION GIFT, SIGN AT HOLE ALONG
COURSE, DESIGNATION AS A
PLATINUM SPONSOR ON BANNER,
4 DINNER TICKETS

GOLD \$500

INCLUDES: SIGN AT HOLE ALONG COURSE,
APPRECIATION GIFT, DESIGNATION AS A
GOLD SPONSOR ON BANNER,
2 DINNER TICKETS

SILVER \$250

INCLUDES: SIGN AT HOLE ALONG COURSE,
APPRECIATION GIFT, DESIGNATION AS A
BRONZE SPONSOR ON BANNER,
1 DINNER TICKET

SPONSORSHIP CHECKS MUST BE
MADE PAYABLE TO:
MAKE-A-WISH FOUNDATION



2019 IRWA REGION 2 FORUM & INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SYMPOSIUM

WHEN: April 10 – 12, 2019

WHERE: SHERATON HOTEL, AUSTIN, TX

More information coming soon and will include

- ◆ ROOM RATES
- ◆ SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
- ◆ IRWA COURSE INFO
- ◆ SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



A red rectangular graphic with the words "WE'RE HIRING!" in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. The text is arranged in two lines: "WE'RE" on top and "HIRING!" on the bottom.

Right of Way Agent - The Guadalupe Valley Electric Cooperative (GVEC)

GVEC is looking to hire a full-time Right-of-Way Agent that will be responsible for researching internal and external databases and public records to identify land owners and negotiate and acquire easements for electric and fiber infrastructure.

- Travel to multiple courthouses to conduct deed and records research to determine correct land ownership
- Travel to landowner's homes and businesses to negotiate and acquire easement rights for GVEC facilities
- Keep records and notes of landowner appointments and special requests
- Based on landowner negotiations, properly execute all necessary and appropriate legal documents and reporting to acquire the easement rights for GVEC Facilities
- Maintain and be responsible for reports and filing of legal documents in internal and external database records
- Meet with internal and external GVEC personnel to understand and coordinate projects
- Be accountable for goals and metrics associated with measuring success of projects

For more information on GVEC and ROW Agent qualifications, visit <https://www.gvec.org/about-us/careers/>

Have a Job Opening?

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



WEBSITE SPONSOR PERKS!

Sponsor logo and company URL displayed on site Home Page, including direct contact information in the Sponsor tab.

Sponsorship provides company the opportunity to post new job openings to the Chapter webpage, monthly newsletter and email blasts to Chapter 74 members.

2018 WEBSITE SPONSORSHIP RENEWALS ARE STILL OUTSTANDING



BECOME 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.



**HEAT
SAFETY**

Take measures to stay cool, remain hydrated, and keep informed. Getting too hot can make you sick. You can become ill from the heat if your body can't compensate for it and properly cool you off. The main things affecting your body's ability to cool itself during extremely hot weather are:

High humidity. When the humidity is high, sweat won't evaporate as quickly, which keeps your body from releasing heat as fast as it may need to.

Personal factors. Age, obesity, fever, dehydration, heart disease, mental illness, poor circulation, sunburn, and prescription drug and alcohol use can play a role in whether a person can cool off enough in very hot weather.

Website Sponsorship Information or Newsletter Questions?

[Lisa Cooper](#) (Website)

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[Jennifer Lopez](#) (Newsletter)

Atkins North America, Inc.
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FIND US ONLINE AT:

Chapter 74 Website: www.irwachapter74.org

IRWA Website: www.irwaonline.org

IRWA Region 2 Website: www.irwaregion2.org



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

