



## The Bluebonnet

### FEEDBACK REQUESTED

The chapter is currently requesting member responses for two surveys in order to plan appropriately for 2021. Details are included within the newsletter but below are the survey links for quick access.

[EDUCATION SURVEY](#)

[LUNCHEON/EVENT SURVEY](#)

### 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.

The Chapters By-Laws are available [online](#).



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President’s Message .....	2
Chapter Officers .....	3
Committees .....	4
Membership .....	5
Education .....	6
Programs.. .....	7
Member Survey.....>.....	10
Professional Development.....	11
Region 2 Professionals.....	12
Sponsors.....	13

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's Fall Y'all!

It's officially Fall, and I for one am enjoying the cooler temperatures that have moved into the area. It is a reminder that the holiday season is fast approaching and with it will come holiday shopping, possibly wet or icy roads and more traveling. Construction has not ceased during this time and seems to have only increased while so many have been grounded during the "stay-at-home" orders. You may have noticed as many of you begin to venture out more now that there are now roads, exits and flyovers where they did not exist before.

This past month the Eminent Domain Seminar was held virtually for the first time. The collaboration and efforts of several key individuals made this event a success. Over 300 people attended the virtual Eminent Domain Seminar spanning across the nation. From our Chapter I would like to acknowledge Randy Williams and Liz Norris for their coordination, Richard Scholtz for presenting and Ray Rials for his technical support! I am so proud to be a part of this Chapter that is so involved in an event that provides education and updates and will be looking forward to being able to network once again next year!

We want to hear from our members! We have 2 surveys coming out, one survey is regarding education needs, such as courses and how you would prefer to attend whether virtual or in-person. This information will be reported back to our Education Committee, Alexis Vanzura and Laurie Miller and courses will be offered based on the information compiled from the responses. The other survey is regarding social gathering preferences. We want to know if/ when you would be open to a networking event or and other chapter activities. Lisa Cooper will use the information from this survey to coordinate upcoming events whether virtual or in-person. Please take the time to respond so that we can gauge our planning accordingly.

Hope you have a wonderful October and a Happy Halloween!

See you in November!

Sincerely,  
Tara O'Neal  
2020-2021 Chapter 74 President

### PAST PRESIDENTS

2019—Lori Bible, SR/WA  
2018 Alex Gale, SR/WA, R/W-URAC, R/W-RAC, R/W-NAC  
2017 Virginia Anderson, SR/WA, R/WRAC, 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

## 2020—2021 CHAPTER 74 OFFICERS



**President**  
Tara O'Neal



**Vice President**  
Barbara Price



**Treasurer**  
Richard Scholtz, R/W-AC



**Secretary**  
David Baylor, SR/WA



**Director 1 Year**  
Alex Gale, SR/WA, R/W-URAC, R/W-NAC



**Director 2 Year**  
Lori Bible, SR/WA

Volunteer opportunities are still available for the 2020-2021 chapter committees.

If you are interested in serving, please reach out to the chair of the committee or a chapter officer by clicking the email links within the newsletter.

## 2020—2021 CHAPTER COMMITTEES

### MEMBERSHIP

[Leslie Persia](#)

### EDUCATION

[Alexis Vanzura](#)

Laurie Miller

### PROGRAMS

[Lisa Cooper](#)

Shannon Gray

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

[John Campbell](#)

Kimberly McClung

### YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

[Max Roach](#)

Jaylia Travis

Tori Shrum

Stephanie Ferraris

Nickie Hebert

### LEGAL

[Kimberly McClung](#)

### COMMUNICATIONS

#### NEWSLETTER

[Lisa Cooper](#)

#### WEBSITE

[Ray Rials](#)

#### VALUATION

[Cathy Thomas](#)

#### NOMINATIONS

[Randy Williams](#)

Ron Olderog

Virginia Anderson

#### SEPTEMBER

#### SEMINAR

[Liz Norris](#)

#### BY-LAWS

[Kimberly McClung](#)

Tanner Taylor

Shannon Gray

Virginia Anderson

Don Toner

# VOLUNTEER



# MEMBERSHIPDRIVE

2021 Membership Renewal Invoices have been sent out and while there is plenty of time to renew your IRWA membership, December 31st will be here before you know it. With the addition of [Online Renewal](#) it has never been easier to renew your IRWA membership!

By renewing your membership, you stay connected to your profession through, Right of Way Magazine, educational programs, and the community of your peers. You also receive reduced member rates when you take a course, as well as when you attend Association conferences, seminars, and Chapter meetings and events.

If you are facing the difficult choice of paying for your dues out of your own pocket- or letting your membership lapse altogether, we encourage you to call the IRWA Headquarters to discuss options on how you can maintain your membership for the upcoming year.

Don't let your membership lapse. Renew your IRWA membership today by going to [www.irwaonline.org](http://www.irwaonline.org) and clicking on "Membership" at the top of the homepage, then "Dues Renewal Invoice" on the right side, or by contacting Mariah Carrillo, Membership Services at 310-538-0233 ext. 134 by email [carrillo@irwaonline.org](mailto:carrillo@irwaonline.org).

**You can also reach out to our local Membership Chair, [Leslie Persia](#).**



*James Briggs  
is our newest member  
to Chapter 74.*

## EDUCATION

Though many in-person courses and seminars are suspended due to COVID-19, IRWA leadership is working hard to make education available to the members.

Visit the International website for a [listing](#) of the virtual courses available.



Alexis Vanzura, our Education Chair, is currently out of the office on maternity leave.

If you need any assistance during her absence please reach out to Education Committee member, **Laurie Miller**.

## CHAPTER 74 EDUCATION SURVEY



The Education Committee is seeking responses for your 2021 education needs to assist in planning for the upcoming year.

Your feedback is important. Planning surveys generally only receive about 10% response from membership. We want to serve all members and would so appreciate your input. The survey takes less than 5 minutes to complete.

Please take the [SURVEY](#) today!

Opportunities are also available to join the committee, become a course coordinator, or instructor.





# NOVEMBER VIRTUAL LUNCHEON

Please join us virtually for our November luncheon.

## **Region 2 & 2021 International Conference Updates**

November 10, 2020 12:00 PM

We will receive an update from our Region 2 Representatives as well as a planning update for the 2021 International Convention to be hosted by IRWA Chapter 39 in San Antonio, Texas.

### **Join Zoom Meeting**

[https://zoom.us/j/91261535194?  
pwd=NFR1ZkJPcVBEZTdsZThUYoJTczErUTo9](https://zoom.us/j/91261535194?pwd=NFR1ZkJPcVBEZTdsZThUYoJTczErUTo9)

### **Dial In**

+1 346 248 7799

Meeting ID: 912 6153 5194

Passcode: 000188

thank you!

Thank you to all of our members that participated in our partnership with the Central Texas Food Bank. Though we fell short of our goal, we were able to raise a total of \$2,873 to benefit the local organization.

Our thanks again to Tara Sinicropi for the coordination with the Central Texas Food Bank.



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Programs Committee is actively seeking chapter members interested in assisting the committee.

Please [contact us](#) for more information on how you can support the Chapter.

## PROGRAMS SEPTEMBER LUNCHEON RECAP

A special thank you to our members for attending our October virtual luncheon. We are so grateful for your participation. Our guest speaker, Lonny Stern, with Capital Metro provided members with a detailed look into [Project Connect](#), which will be on the November 2020 ballot.

Project Connect is Capital Metro's plan to expand transit in the region. The plan includes a transition to an all-electric fleet and adding new light rail, commuter rail, neighborhood circulators, MetroRapid, and park & ride services across the region.

Thank you to our Vice President, Barbara Price, for hosting the luncheon and Virginia Anderson for providing insight to the International Right of Way Association for the benefit of our speaker.

Please visit the link in the first paragraph if you would like additional information on the project prior to voting.



Any suggestions for topics and/or speakers by the membership are welcome. Please contact the [Programs Committee](#).

# 2021 feedback

Members,

As we look to 2021, the Chapter Board and Committees are seeking your input. Please complete [THIS SURVEY](#) to let us know if you're ready to return to in-person luncheons, happy hours or other social events.

It is important that we remain connected during this time but we also want to make sure we are following all the appropriate safety guidelines.

We have currently received 15 responses. Please remember there are no right or wrong answers here but the more participation we receive, the better we can plan for the future of Chapter 74. The survey takes less than 2 minutes to complete.

You can also reach out to any officer or board member with your feedback or suggestions. We look forward to hearing from all of you!



## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Professional Development committee is available to assist you in obtaining your right-of-way career goals.

Be sure to check out the current the current [industry paths](#) as well as [specialist career paths](#) available to you.

Please reach out to a [committee member](#) for any questions you may have.

# Congratulations!

*Patti Bell, R/W-AC*  
Appraisal Certification

*Catherine Velasquez, R/W-NAC*  
Negotiation Certification

*We are so proud of your achievements!*

# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT





**REGION 2 2020 PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR**  
**MARCUS BOYD, SR/WA, R/W-NAC, R/W-RAC, R/W-URAC**



Marcus is a Vice President and partial owner for Pinnacle Consulting Management Group, Inc. Marcus oversees operations nationwide with focused management of all Texas projects. Pinnacle is a professional right of way, land acquisition, relocation assistance and survey company. Marcus has been in the Right of Way business since 2005, earned his R/W- Relocation Assistance Certification in 2009, the SR/WA designation in 2011 and R/W-Negotiation and Acquisition Certification in 2017. He has Business Marketing and Management degrees from Texas Tech University and is a licensed Texas Real Estate Broker. Marcus currently serves on the International Diversity Task Force, is a Member-at-Large of the International Transportation Committee and has recently served as the North Texas Chapter 36 International Right of Way Association International Director, Chapter President, Vice President, Secretary, Membership Chairperson and Professional Development Committee Chairperson. Marcus is extremely blessed to be able to enjoy spending time with his wife, his son, and his two daughters.

**REGION 2 2020 YOUNG PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR**  
**Robert W. "Will" Snider, MAI, RWA, R/W-AC**



Will Snider serves as a Senior Vice President for JLL's Valuation and Advisory Services (VAS) in the Fort Worth office. Mr. Snider has performed valuation and consulting services across the State of Texas on various properties including, but not limited to, retail centers, apartment complexes, industrial facilities, raw and developed land, office buildings, mixed use developments and hotels/motels. His experience in appraisal for right-of-way acquisition purposes includes projects for TxDOT, local municipalities, TRA, pipeline companies, and other agencies.

Prior to joining JLL in late 2016, Mr. Snider was an analyst for the Fort Worth office of Integra Realty Resources DFW, LLC, a full-service real estate consulting and appraisal firm. Mr. Snider joined IRR, DFW as an intern in May 2013 and accepted an analyst position upon graduating with his graduate degree from Texas A&M University in December 2013.

Will has been an active member of IRWA Chapter 36 since 2014 and has served as the Chapter Young Professional Committee Chair, a Committee Member of the Education Committee as well as the Chair of the Education Committee. Will was named 2019 Chapter 36 Young Professional of the Year and IRWA Young Professional of the Year.

## CHAPTER SPONSORS



*ROW Professionals  
of Texas*

STAY CONNECTED

FIND US ONLINE!

Chapter 74:

[Chapter 74 Website](#)

[Chapter 74 LinkedIn](#)

IRWA Website:

[www.irwaonline.org](http://www.irwaonline.org)

IRWA Region 2 Website:

[www.irwaregion2.org](http://www.irwaregion2.org)

COMMUNICATIONS  
CONTACTS

Website Questions?

Contact [Ray Rials](#)

Newsletter Questions/  
Contributions?

Contact [Lisa Cooper](#)

Contact [Ray Rials](#) to  
become an IRWA  
Chapter 74 Sponsor.