



The Bluebonnet

APRIL VIRTUAL LUNCHEON—APRIL 13

Please join us Wednesday, April 13 via Zoom for a presentation by Georgia Snodgrass the 2021 International Conference Co-Chair for information about the upcoming conference and what to expect. Additional details on Page 8.

2021 NOMINATIONS—See Page 7 for all the details!

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](#).

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

“Success is not final; failure is not fatal; it is the courage to continue that counts.” – Winston S. Churchill

Welcome to March! Thank goodness we are finally getting back to normal! Things have thawed out and warmed up back to our normal Texas weather. I have been enjoying the last few days with a bit of extra time in the evening to enjoy time walking the dog or playing with my daughter and hanging out in the backyard.

Lisa Cooper organized and held our virtual luncheon with speaker Christin Evans with Texas Economic Development Corporation (TxEDC) who presented on how they partner with the Governor's Office of Economic Development and Tourism to market Texas as a premier business location in an effort to continue to grow Texas and keep Texas economy strong. It was a great pleasure to have Christin join us and thank you to all who chose to attend virtually.

There are a few upcoming events!

- The Spring Forum will be held in New Orleans on April 1st and 2nd. This is a hybrid event and will be both Symposium and a Forum
- International Education Conference will be held in San Antonio from June 6th through the 9th and will be offered virtually and in-person. Registration has begun.
- Fall Region 2 Region 2 Refresher will be held August 11th through the 13th in Bryan, College Station.

Reminders:

- Nominations for Professional, Young Professional and Employer of the Year (these are all open for your submissions see the page in the Newsletter, it will give you the link to the Nominations Committee)
- Officer Nominations (these are all open for your submissions- see the page in the Newsletter, it will give you the link to the Nominations Committee)
- Membership Drive- Time to Renew!

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, SR/WA, R/W-URAC, 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

THINK AHEAD!

Our 2021-2022 year is right around the corner. If you are interested in serving, please reach out to incoming Chapter 74 President, [Barbara Price](#).

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

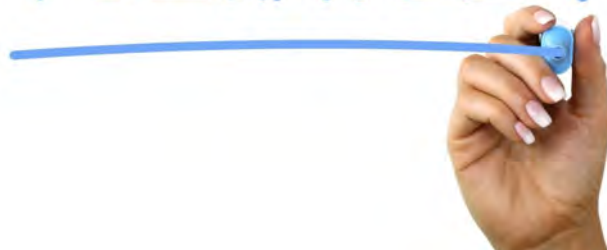
Shannon Gray

Virginia Anderson

Don Toner

[CONTACT ANY COMMITTEE USING OUR ONLINE FORM](#)

VOLUNTEER



MEMBERSHIPDRIVE

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. **Split-payment option for IRWA dues.** Want to break up your IRWA dues into two payments? Please contact Mariah Carrillo, Membership Services, at carrillo@irwaonline.org for more information.

Renew your IRWA membership today by going to 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.

Contact our local Membership Chair, [Leslie Persia](#).



Chapter 74's Newest Members

Jason Reynolds

Bowman Construction

Lauren Woodward Stanley

Eldon Y. Rude, MAI

Aegis Group, Inc.

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.

CHAPTER 74 EDUCATION PLANNING

The Education Committee is currently planning courses for the 2021 year. Be on the look out for additional information coming soon!

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



**NOMINATIONS
COMMITTEE
MEMBERS**

RANDY WILLIAMS

VIRGINIA ANDERSON

RONALD OLDEROG

**[CLICK HERE TO EMAIL
YOUR NOMINATIONS
FORM TO THE
COMMITTEE MEMBERS](#)**

Submit

CHAPTER 74 NOMINATIONS

The Chapter 74 Nomination Committee has identified the following schedule for the upcoming 2021/2022 election cycle. Please see below for schedule of events. ***The nomination forms are attached to the newsletter and are available on the website.*** These can be submitted to the Nominations Committee using the **SUBMIT** button on the left.

Nominations for Professional, Young Professional and Employer of the Year

March 1, 2021 (Monday): Opening date to begin submittal of nominations to the Nomination Committee

April 30, 2021 (Friday): Closing date for submittals

Nomination forms will be sent in a blast email to the membership.

We will announce the awarded nominees with the officer election results in May.

Officer Nominations

March 1, 2021 (Monday): Opening date for submittal of officer candidates to the Nomination Committee

Nominees for officer positions must submit a biography and rationale for their desire to serve the Chapter. These will be added to the April and May newsletters.

April 30, 2021 (Friday): Closing date for candidate submittal

(A reminder email will be sent to the membership that nominations for the officer positions is closed.)

May 3, 2021 (Monday): An email blast will be sent to the membership identifying the officer candidates on

May 4, 2021 (Tuesday): An email request for a motion to open the elections will be sent to the Chapter Board. The motion must be made and seconded before opening the election. Once the motion and second have been made, an email with the ballot of the officers and the nominated candidates will be sent to the chapter membership with a 14-day deadline for voting.

If seconded, the next day (**May 5**): an email will be sent to the chapter membership that elections will close May 19, 2021 (Wednesday).

May 20, 2021 (Thursday): An email will be sent to the chapter membership informing them the elections are closed.

May 21, 2021 (Friday): An email will be sent to the chapter membership announcing the new 2021-2022 officers.



APRIL 2021 VIRTUAL LUNCHEON

**April 13, 2021
Presentation @ 12:00 PM**

Georgia Snodgrass *2021 International Conference Co-Chair*



Georgia Snodgrass, SR/WA, R/W-NAC, R/W-AMC, RW-RAC is a Senior Project Agent in the Public Sector Division of Contract Land Staff. She has more than 35 years of experience in public sector acquisition project management, real estate services and negotiations. Ms. Snodgrass is a graduate of Eastern Kentucky University with a BS in Business Education and an MS in School Business Administration from Pepperdine University in Malibu, CA.

She is past Region Chair of both Regions 1 and 2. She is a member of IRWA South Texas Chapter 39 in San Antonio where she has served in all chapter offices. Currently, she Chairs the Nominations and Elections Committee. In addition, she is a Co-Chair of the 67th Annual IRWA Education Conference to be held in San Antonio, TX, June 6-9, 2021.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/91513498344?pwd=R3FhUXJuOFZoOFdhck13NWgyTHVIIdzo9>

346-248-7799
Meeting ID: 910 3256 3609
Passcode: 204035



2021 International Education Conference in San Antonio

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!

The IRWA 67th Annual Education Conference is moving forward in San Antonio, Texas June 6th - 9th, 2021. You should have already received an e-mail with registration information, including registration either for virtual or in person attendance. Chapter 39, as host for this conference, is requesting volunteers at this time for various shifts and assignments. We're not quite certain yet how many volunteers we will need, but are looking for at least 100 at this point to ensure we have enough help when the time comes. Volunteer slots will be filled as we get closer to the conference date. Just looking for names at this point. This conference will be a big undertaking, so the more volunteers we have the smoother it will run.

If you are planning on attending the conference, we would hope that you would volunteer to help this great Region pull off yet another successful event. We know that we have great members who are always willing to help out and this is another opportunity to make our Region SHINE.

So step up and sign up! Please provide your name, contact information (e-mail and cell phone) and shirt size. The shirt will be a polo shirt in both men's and women's sizes.

Joyce Labus
Chapter 39 Conference Volunteer Coordinator
210.416.4557
jglabus64@gmail.com





2021 International Education Conference in San Antonio

67th Annual International Education Conference June 6 - 9, 2021

The International Right of Way Association is excited to announce plans for the 67th Annual International Education Conference, June 6 – 9, 2021.

We understand that there is uncertainty around traveling and events, but we are committed to providing you a valuable education experience – whether you choose to attend in person, or virtually.

[Register Online Today!](#)

In Person

Where: San Antonio Marriott Rivercenter

Plans are in place for a safe, socially distanced annual conference with opportunities to learn, network, and engage with other right of way professionals. With your live registration, you also have virtual access and can earn a total of up to 48 hours of CE credit*!

You can book your hotel reservations here: **[San Antonio Marriott Rivercenter](#)**

Virtual

Where: Wherever You Are!

Experience the Annual Education Conference virtually! You'll be able to view the general sessions, join educational sessions and earn up to 48 hours of CE credit with your virtual participation**!

**24 hours of CE credit will be automatically recorded for participation at the in-person conference. Up to an additional 24 hours of CE credit can be earned by watching additional educational sessions on demand.*

***Up to 48 hours of CE credit can be earned by watching on-demand educational sessions presented at the live conference.*

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

**Anita Medina, SR/WA, R/W-URAC,
R/W-NAC, R/W-RAC**

Re-certification Right of Way Relocation Assistance specialty certification, (R/W-RAC) Negotiation and Acquisition specialty certification, (R/W-NAC) Right of Way Uniform Act specialty certification, (R/W-URAC)

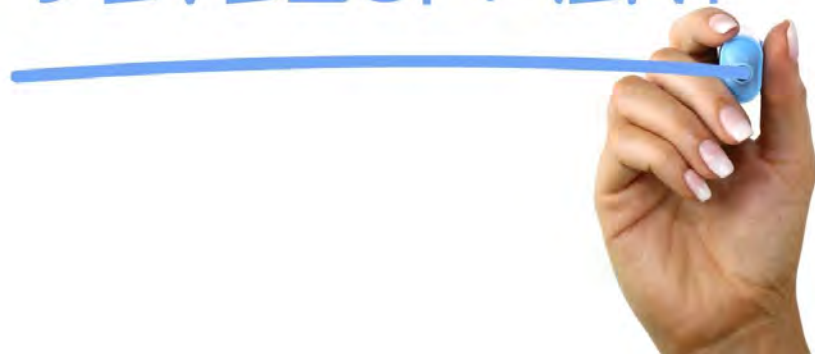
Charlotte Dotson, SR/WA

Re-certification of SR/WA designation

Todd Milligan, R/W-AC

Re-certification of Right of Way Appraisal specialty certification (R/W-AC)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT





CURRENT JOB POSTINGS

[AUSTIN TRANSIT PARTNERSHIP—JOB POSTINGS—CLICK HERE](#)

The Austin Transit Partnership is an independent organization with the authority and resources to design, construct and implement the Project Connect program. ATP will operate with full transparency for the community and with oversight from the Capital Metro board and Austin City Council. Our next steps will be to search for candidates who are leaders and change agents able to effectively collaborate with Capital Metro and the City of Austin leadership and staff. Many of these new jobs include architectural, urban design, engineering, or construction expertise.

[HDR ENGINEERING, INC.—MULTIPLE POSITIONS POSTED](#)

Want to be part of a company on Forbes magazine's list of America's Best Large Employers for 2019? Are you interested in a company that has a strong local presence, supported by national experts in Right of Way Acquisition and Real Estate Services, that provides you with opportunities to work on transformational projects in the Transportation and Resources sector? Are you interested in a firm that is 100% employee-owned with full transparency of financial results and a solid record of performance year-to-year? If you answered yes to any or all of these questions, we have several positions within Texas that may be an excellent fit. Click on the links to find out more!

[RELOCATION AGENT](#)

[AGENT 1](#)

[AGENT 2](#)

[SENIOR AGENT](#)



Perks of Being a Sponsor

- Free job postings in the newsletter, website, and email blast.
- Your logo and link to your website included on IRWA Chapter 74 website and monthly newsletters.

Payments can be made [online via our website](#) for your convenience.

We appreciate all of our sponsors as they help support our website and social media platforms so we can stay connected with our membership.



CHAPTER SPONSORS



*ROW Professionals
of Texas*

STAY CONNECTED

FIND US ONLINE!

Chapter 74:

[Chapter 74 Website](#)

[Chapter 74 LinkedIn](#)

IRWA Website:

www.irwaonline.org

IRWA Region 2 Website:

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.



2021 Official Nomination Application for the Chapter 74 Employer of the Year Award

The nominated company must be an active supporter of its employees, who must be members of the International Right of Way Association. To qualify as a candidate for the award a company must have made outstanding support contributions to the activities of the Association and its member employees.

Winners within the previous three years are not eligible for nomination.

Nominated Company / Agency		
Company / Agency Representative / Contact Person		
Address		
City	State / Province	Zip/Postal Code
Phone	Email	
Nominated By		
Chapter Number 74		

1. Does the Company or agency actively support Chapter 74?
2. Are their employees' members of IRWA and Chapter 74?
3. Does the company or agency send their employees to IRWA and Chapter 74 education classes?



4. Does the company or agency support IRWA chapter 74 activities by sponsorship or encourage their employees to Participate?

5. Please add additional comments as to why this company or agency should be considered for this award?



2021 Official Nomination Application for the Chapter 74 Professional of the Year Award

The Candidate should be an active member of IRWA Chapter 74. They should have contributed to the Chapter in some way such as holding an office or participating on a committee or assisting with one of the Chapter's special events throughout their membership with the Chapter.

There is no age requirement/restriction associated with the Professional of the Year award or Application.

Winners within the previous three years are not eligible for nomination.

Nominee Name		
Address		
City	State / Province	Zip/Postal Code
Chapter Number 74	Region Number 2	
Years as an IRWA Member		
IRWA Designations		
Employer		
Applicant Name		

IRWA Participation Describe their participation at the Chapter, Region, and International level including positions held, initiatives, and goals. (if known)
Justification Describe the reasons why you're nominating this person as a good candidate for the Professional of the Year Award.



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Person Submitting Nomination:	Date:
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2021 Official Nomination Application for the Chapter 74 Young Professional of the Year Award

The Candidate should be an active member of IRWA Chapter 74. They should have contributed to the Chapter in some way such as holding an office or participating on a committee or assisting with one of the Chapter's special events throughout their membership with the Chapter.

The age requirement/restriction associated with the Young Professional of the Year is 35 years or under.

Winners within the previous three years are not eligible for nomination.

Nominee Name		
Address		
City	State / Province	Zip/Postal Code
Chapter Number 74	Region Number 2	
Years as an IRWA Member		
IRWA Designations		
Employer		
Applicant Name		

IRWA Participation Describe their participation at the Chapter, Region, and International level including positions held, initiatives, and goals. (if known)	
Justification Describe the reasons why you're nominating this person as a good candidate for the Young Professional of the Year Award.	
Person Submitting Nomination:	Date: