



The Bluebonnet

OCTOBER VIRTUAL LUNCHEON

Join us on Tuesday, October 12, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. via Zoom for our virtual luncheon featuring Bob Daigh, Senior Director of Infrastructure for Williamson County. He will be providing an update on upcoming Williamson County projects. See Page 8 for additional details.

NOVEMBER HAPPY HOUR!

The Programs Committee and Young Professional Committee are hosting an Autumn Happy Hour on Thursday, November 11, 2021. See Page 9 for additional 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

Dear Members,

Like most things in life, what you get out of your IRWA membership depends on what each of us puts into it. As so many of our activities are virtual, let's take the opportunity to focus this month on our social media and Website.

I would like to spotlight our Chapter 74 Website and Social Media Administrator, Ray Rials.

First, congratulations to Ray for becoming a certified General Appraiser! A lot of time and hard work went into his new designation, and it is well deserved. Ray also puts in a lot of personal time on behalf of our Chapter website, the Region website, and our social media posts. His duties include coordinating with IRWA Headquarters, keeping up our posts, assisting in website maintenance and updates, to list just a few. Please remember to follow us on LinkedIn, submit news and coordinate with Ray. Your support is the cornerstone of our success.

Next, I would like to remind everyone to thank Lisa Cooper, our Communications Chair. Her work, behind the scenes, is the real magic which brings it all together.

I ask each of you to take the Education Committee Survey Monkey that is posted on the website. The survey helps our Education Chair, Alexa Vanzura, the education committee, and the course coordinators create course offerings, which are relevant, and meet member needs.

The course offerings directly impact our ability to help our members achieve their credentialing. Chapter 74 members have a tremendous opportunity to enhance their careers in right-of-way by obtaining an IRWA designation. There are several ways in which the Chapter helps individuals achieve this milestone:

By assisting the membership with counseling and guidance through the Professional Development Committee Chair, John Campbell, PE, to chart their own path toward an IRWA designation.

By encouraging government agencies and right-of-way firms to promote the designation to their employees or agents.

This month, the board leadership is pursuing ways in which we can give more assistance to our membership. There may be offerings to assist financially with courses, in the future. For years, we have seen other chapters offer course discounts, for their members, and this year, we may be able to do so. Submit your ideas to help your Board be mindful on how we can improve and grow our organization.

Members of the Buckeye Chapter will be giving us an update on how they plan to Rock the IRWA International Conference, next June, at one of our upcoming Board meetings. Spend your lunch hour with us for more information!

PAST PRESIDENTS

2020—Tara O'Neal

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

In response to the issues in our area, The Eminent Domain Seminar went Virtual. The date was September 10, 2021. We want to thank Randy Williams, Elizabeth Norris, and all the volunteers and speakers who once again created an unforgettable event!

Speaking of events, our Programs Co-Chairs, Kimberly Pulver, Brittany Snellgrove, and committee members, Lisa Rials and Lauren Woodward Stanley, are planning to bring the cool weather in with a celebration! They are cooking up a delicious menu and a cool evening outdoors, set with strings of lights, near the Brushy Creek and the famous Chisholm Trail Cattle Trail, in the background. It is still in the works, stay tuned for the announcement on our webpage and email blasts. November may bring a rooftop celebration, with social distancing and Covid safety measures.

For our October 12th virtual luncheon, the Programs Committee worked hard to put together a great program:

“IRWA Chapter 74 October Luncheon: Williamson County Projects Update with Bob Daigh, Sr. Director of Infrastructure for Williamson County.” Be on the lookout for a Zoom invite for October 12th, 2021, at noon.

When you need assistance with a project, go to our Chapter website and check out the great companies that are advertising and supporting Chapter 74. The Chapter would like to thank our sponsors for their support. Remember to look to these advertisers for professional assistance with your projects!

We know many people are seeking employment so remember to submit your job openings for posting on the website. The Federal government is hiring, civil service positions, for Right-of-Way professionals. The job series name is REALTY. Federal Agencies that attended International, in San Antonio, reminded us that they will be posting some exciting opportunities, over the coming months. Many of the Federal agencies have real estate lands and ROW to manage including the Bureau of Land Management, our National Parks, FHWA, Federal Transit Authority and more.

Take Care,

Barbara Price

2021-2022 Chapter 74 President

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1987 Greg Althoff, SR/WA

1986 Richard Steubing

1985 Charles Clinger, SR/WA

2021—2022 CHAPTER 74 OFFICERS



President
Barbara Price



Vice President
Richard Scholtz, R/W-AC



Treasurer
David Baylor, SR/WA



Secretary
Cathy Thomas, R/W-AC, MAI



Director 2 Year
Lori Bible, SR/WA



Director 1 Year
Tara O'Neal

THINK AHEAD!

If you are interested in serving on a committee, please reach out to incoming Chapter 74 President, [Barbara Price](#).

2021—2022 CHAPTER COMMITTEES

MEMBERSHIP

Leslie Persia

EDUCATION

Alexis Vanzura

Michael Glaros

Kimberly Pulvar

PROGRAMS

Kimberly Pulvar

Brittney Snellgrove

Lauren Woodward Stanley

Lisa Rials

PROFESSIONAL

DEVELOPMENT

John Campbell

Kimberly McClung

Sunshine Vanover

BY-LAWS

Kimberly McClung

Tanner Taylor

Shannon Gray

Virginia Anderson

LEGAL

Kimberly McClung

COMMUNICATIONS

NEWSLETTER

Lisa Cooper

WEBSITE

Ray Rials

VALUATION

Lory Johnson

NOMINATIONS

Randy Williams

Ron Olderog

Virginia Anderson

SEMINARS

Liz Norris

Randy Williams

YOUNG

PROFESSIONALS

Max Roach

Jaylia Travis

Nickie Hebert

Tori Shrum

Micah Bergman

CONTACT ANY COMMITTEE USING OUR ONLINE FORM

VOLUNTEER



Who is the

INTERNATIONAL RIGHT OF WAY ASSOCIATION



Dedicated exclusively to the right of way profession, the International Right of Way Association (IRWA) has nearly 10,000 professional members throughout the U.S., Canada, So. Africa, and China. Members include Engineers, Appraisers, Property Managers, Acquisition Agents, Lawyers, Surveyors, Title Experts, Environmentalists and Relocation Assistance Agents. As the central authority for the right of way profession, IRWA has united the efforts of its members toward professional development, improved service to employers and the public, and recognition of right of way as a highly-specialized profession. With headquarters located in the greater Los Angeles area, IRWA is the unsurpassed source of right of way educational programs and professional services worldwide.

BENEFITS

3

REASONS TO JOIN IRWA

GET AND STAY CONNECTED.

Through local, regional, and national meetings, along with the only magazine dedicated to right of way, you will have access to the latest trends in Right of Way and the professionals who are setting them.

STRENGTHEN KNOWLEDGE.

IRWA offers over 350 classroom courses annually. Providing industry leading training to over 10,000 Right of Way professionals each year.

IRWA members enjoy discounts on tuition, events, and the annual IRWA Education Conference.

GAIN A PROFESSIONAL EDGE.

IRWA membership comes with access to IRWA Member Network - the only online community dedicate to the Right of Way industry.

Need an opinion while working on a project? The IRWA Member Network, and its 30 online communities, can help find an answer from industry professionals around the globe.

MEMBERSHIP



Ways to Join



irwaonline.org



888.340.IRWA

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



Please join us in welcoming the new members to IRWA Chapter 74!

Andrew Griffin

OR Colan & Associates

Steven Thoreson, JD

Thoreson Law, PLLC

Philip Arnold

Bickerstaff Heath Delgado Acosta LLP.

Paul Hanna

City of Austin

Betty Nguyen

City of Austin

William "Cullen" Eastland

Cobb Fendley

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

UPCOMING CHAPTER 74 IRWA COURSES

Chapter 74 is currently scheduling the following courses for 2021-2022. Be on the lookout for the details in the future.

100—Principle of Land Acquisition

This course is an introduction to industry specific disciplines. Infrastructure professionals/ right of way agents who typically participate on a project team are from the following disciplines: environment, engineering/survey, appraisal, negotiation/mitigation, and relocation assistance.

505—Advanced Residential Relocation Assistance

This course requires a thorough understanding of the relocation process. This course begins with an awareness exam; then, in case-study format, covers residential relocation issues. There is a detailed analysis of each case study so that participants understand the lead agency's theory behind its interpretation of the situation. Facts are applied in order to simulate a relocation that is consistent with the intent of the Uniform Act.

506 - Advanced Business Relocation Assistance

This course begins with a pre-assessment of the participants' knowledge, followed by case study analysis of complex business relocation issues which require a thorough understanding of the relocation process and the Uniform Act. A detailed analysis of each case study is provided so participants understand the lead agency's theory behind its interpretation of the situation. Facts are applied in order to simulate a relocation that is consistent with the intent of the Uniform Act.

800—Principles of Real Estate Law

This course is designed to build on the basics of real estate law provided by Course 100 "Principles of Land Acquisition" and to assist right of way agents, property managers and others in collaborating with property owners and attorneys. This introductory level course provides novice employees dealing with real estate issues with basic right of way information and experienced employees with a broader perspective on legal issues and applicable law.

803— Eminent Domain Law Basics for the Right of Way Professional

Basic theories behind and practical aspects of the various laws, rules and regulations applicable to the acquisition of private property for public use through the exercise of eminent domain.

900—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.



October 12th, 2021 Virtual Luncheon

Join us on **Tuesday, October 12, 2021** starting at noon for our October Virtual Luncheon.



The luncheon will feature an update on the upcoming projects in Williamson County.

The presenter will be **Bob Daigh, P.E., Williamson County's Senior Director of Infrastructure** .

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83680831960?
pwd=S2ZGUTNYQWN5QzBLQUJOTklydExkQT09](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83680831960?pwd=S2ZGUTNYQWN5QzBLQUJOTklydExkQT09)

Meeting ID: 836 8083 1960

Passcode: 437930

VIEW THE [EVITE](#) to [URBAN ROOFTOP](#)



IRWA CHAPTER 74

PRESENTS

AUTUMN HAPPY HOUR!

The Bluebonnet Chapter Programs Committee and Young Professionals are excited to announce that we will be hosting a happy hour event at Urban Rooftop in Round Rock, Texas! It's been a while since we've gotten together as a chapter, and we hope you can make it!

**Thursday
November 11th
5:30 – 8:30 P.M.**

**Urban
Rooftop**

**411 W Main St
Round Rock TX**



EXCLUSIVE EVENT!

Members Only

APPETIZERS + TWO FREE DRINK TICKETS

40 people MAX allowed on the rooftop...

Please RSVP by October 27th so we know if we will have room to open the invite to non-members.

RSVP ASAP!

Brittney Snellgrove
772-643-2167
bsnellgrove@orcolan.com

Kimberly Pulver
512-906-9079
kpulver@jla.com



February 23, 2022

Norris Conference Center, Houston/City Center

★ SPONSORS NEEDED ★

PLATINUM \$1,500

GOLD \$1,000

SILVER \$750

BRONZE \$500

February 22, 2022

Course 230 Oil & Gas Basics

&

Yo-Pro Happy Hour

Yard House 6-8pm

ANY QUESTIONS?

Please contact: Rebecca Eguia and Liz Neidlinger at og.pl.symposium@gmail.com

HOSTED BY

IRWA CHAPTER 8-GULF STATES & REGION 2

Visit the [IRWA Chapter 8 website](#) for more information.



AUSTIN TRANSIT PARTNERSHIP - [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.

LJA

College Intern: [CLICK HERE](#)

LJA Engineering, Inc. (LJA) is an employee-owned, multi-disciplined, engineering firm with a corporate office in Houston and offices across Texas and throughout the nation. Our team provides professional consulting services with expertise and pride in delivering projects. We are always looking for individuals that are eager to grow and develop their professional skills in Right of Way (ROW) to join the LJA team.

HDR, Inc.

Sr. Real Estate Tech—San Antonio [CLICK HERE](#)

Sr. Right of Way Project Manager—Houston—[CLICK HERE](#)

Real Estate Services Agent I—Houston—[CLICK HERE](#)

At HDR, we know work isn't only about who you work for; it's also about what you do and how you do it. Led by the strength of our values and a culture shaped by employee ownership, we network with each other, build on each other's contributions, and collaborate together to make great things possible. When you join HDR, we give you license to do the same. We help you take charge of your career, giving you multiple growth opportunities along the way.

Texas Department of Transportation

[CLICK HERE](#) and search "Right of Way"

Currently hiring Right of Way Project Managers in Austin, Waco, San Antonio, Houston,
Currently hiring Right of Way Agents in Corpus Christi, Laredo
Currently hiring Right of Way Coordinators in Houston, Abilene, El Paso, Odessa,



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.

IRWA Ethical Rule #3:
Advertising Practices

PROMOTE YOURSELF
HONESTLY

WWW.ETHICSIRWAONLINE.ORG

