

THE CAROLINAS' COURIER

INTERNATIONAL RIGHT OF WAY ASSOCIATION - CAROLINAS CHAPTER 31



Winter 2014

Volume 56, Issue 1

Letter from President John Yeagley

Happy New Year!!!! As we turn the page on 2013 we should take a moment to look back at the year that was and then look forward to 2014. In 2013 Chapter 31 reached 267 members. Thanks membership chair Kevin Kilpatrick!!!! This is the most members we have had since I began involvement with the chapter. I also looked back through old news letters that I had on file and I went back to October 2004 when we had 212 members. Chapter 31 has been very fortunate over the years to be able to maintain such strong numbers and grow the way we have over the last couple of years. Thank you to everyone who participates in the events and helps make this chapter what it is today. 2013 also brought a new website and online registration for events. Thanks to the web team for getting this together and continuing to refine the site.



President Yeagley

If you have not been there make sure to check out IRWA31.com. Along with the new website we are working to better stay in touch with the membership through the use of an e-mail marketing system that allows the chapter to send high quality professional e-mails to the members. In 2013 we also stepped up the Thursday night socials before the Friday seminars. We held events at the NASCAR Hall of Fame, the Greensboro Grasshoppers game, and the ever popular Uncle Al's low country boil in Charleston. A special shout out to Julie McDonald, program chair, and all of the corporate sponsors who helped make these events happen in 2013!!! 2013 saw great education participation. We had courses with both NCDOT and SCDOT. We had members taking advantage of on-line courses and working hard to get designations and certifications. Thanks everyone, who took advantage of the courses offered, and to education chair, Clark Hooper for running such a dynamic education program!!!

As we look ahead to 2014, we will continue to grow as a chapter. Please tell your business associates about Chapter 31 and all the benefits of membership. It would be great to get our membership number to 300!!! At 300 members we would likely be the 4th largest chapter in the entire association. With a little word of mouth we can get there. 2014 also has a good mix of seminar locations starting with this upcoming meeting in Myrtle Beach at the Ripley's Aquarium. What better way to start the year than with a get-a-way to the beach? In the spring, we head to the mountains of NC just outside of Asheville to the Waynesville Inn. Then in the summer, we head to Charlotte where we are planning (venue has not yet been secured) to hold the seminar and social at the US National Whitewater Center. For the fall, by popular demand we are still planning to go back to Uncle Al's for one more low country boil, and host the region 6 fall forum that weekend. The 2014 education schedule continues to contain a full slate of courses. Education is a key component of the association and chapter. Please take advantage of the opportunities to gain additional knowledge in the field we work in.

Chapter 31 is one of the best chapters in the entire association and I want to thank everyone for their participation in 2013. Let's move into 2014 with more involvement in order to make this chapter even better than it is today!! I look forward to seeing everyone in Myrtle Beach!!

Johan Yeagley

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WINTER SEMINAR, MYRTLE BEACH, SC

FEBRUARY 21, 2014 at:

Ripley's Aquarium

1110 Celebrity Circle, Myrtle Beach, SC 29577 843-916-0888

Hotel: Courtyard Myrtle Beach Broadway

1351 21st Avenue Myrtle Beach, SC 29577 843-445-6333

Room Rate: \$95.00 plus taxes

Please book thru website or email link. Ask for the **IRWA** rate. Or **click** the link below:

Book your group rate: IRWA Room Block Feb 2014

Reservations must be made by January 29, 2014 to secure this rate.

Fall Seminar Hospitality and Networking events at

Ripley's Aquarium, Myrtle Beach, SC

Sponsored by:



Thursday, February 20, 2014 6:00pm - 9:00 pm

Thursday Social at the Aquarium **\$10 per person** # attending ___

Friday Seminar (including lunch) **\$30 per person** # attending ___

Name _____ Phone: _____

Company _____

Street / P.O. Box _____

City _____

Guest(s) Name(s): _____

Guest's Company: _____

Register online at our Chapter website: www.irwa31.com

OR mail this form along with registration fee(s) (Payable to IRWA Chapter 31)

By Thursday, February 13 to

Julie McDonald

McKim & Creed, Inc.

8020 Tower Point Drive Charlotte, NC 28227

jmcdonald@mckimcreed.com, 704-201-8898



WINTER SEMINAR - February 21, 2014

Courtyard Myrtle Beach Broadway, Myrtle Beach, SC

1351 21st Avenue Myrtle Beach, SC 29577

843-445-6333

Thursday, February 20 NETWORKING & HOSPITALITY DINNER

6:00p.m. - ??? **Ripley's Aquarium, Myrtle Beach, SC**

1110 Celebrity Circle, Myrtle Beach, SC 29577

Sponsored by:



Friday, February 21 QUARTERLY SEMINAR - Courtyard Myrtle Beach Broadway

7:30a.m. - 8:00a.m. **Fall Seminar Registration**

8:00a.m. - 8:30a.m. **Committee Reports/ Chapter Update**

8:30a.m. - 8:40a.m. **Break**

8:40a.m. - 9:30a.m. **International Update - Tim Drennan**

9:40a.m. - 10:30a.m. **Social Media for beginners - Mark Dolezel**

Break

10:40a.m. - 11:30a.m. **Generational Differences - Sandy Costa**

11:40a.m. - 12:30p.m. **SCDOT Highway Projects Update**

SCDOT Highway Commissioner 7th District,

Mike Wooten, PE, F-ASCE

12:30p.m. - 1:30p.m. **BELIEVE IT OR NOT LUNCH (Ripley's Aquarium)**

1:30 p.m. - until **Chapter 31 Board of Directors and Chapter Business Meeting**

Carolinas Chapter 31

International Right of Way Association

2013-14 Leadership Directory

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

John Yeagley

Telephone (704) 333-3373

Email: Jyeagley@chase-services.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Julie A. McDonald, PLS, PE

Telephone (704) 201-8898

Email: JMcDonald@mckimcreed.com

TREASURER

Matt Rhoad

Telephone: (919) 821-6748

Email Mrhoad@smithlaw.com

SECRETARY

Ottis 'Buster' Allen

Telephone (336) 336/632-3708

Email: Buster.allen@duke-energy.com

INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR (1 YEAR)

George W. Christian, Jr., SR/WA

Telephone (704) 382-6972

Email: Bill.Christian@Duke-energy.com

INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR (2 YEAR)

John Yeagley

Telephone (704) 333-3373

Email: Jyeagley@chase-services.com

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PEARLS OF WISDOM?



Tada it's **Permboy** to the rescue. Jumping short buildings, making typos left and right. When you get in twouble, who do you not call? Permboy.....slower than 3 legged snails, denser than cast iron, hairwave tighter than melded rebar. Saving mankind from balded pates everywhere!

A Few Things Will Rogers had to say:

You can always joke good-naturedly a big man, but be sure he is a big man before you joke about him.

Everybody is ignorant, only on different subjects. (Ask me.)

Discontent comes in proportion to knowledge. The more you know the more you realize you don't know.

Communism is like Prohibition; it's a good idea, but it just won't work.

America invents everything. The trouble is, we get tired of it the minute the new is wore off.

(Remember, this was 80+/- years ago) - Last year, we said, "Things can't go on like this," and they didn't. They got worse!

Hawaii is the only place I know where they lay flowers on you while you're still alive.

Successful colleges (football teams) will start laying plans for a new stadium; unsuccessful ones will start hunting a new coach. (How true.)

If you have news for the *Carolinas' Courier* please contact:

Buzz Prescott SR/WA, R/W-EC

Carolina Gas Transmission

220 Operations Way

Cayce, SC 29033

803/217-2189 - office

803/260-6138 - cell

bprescott@scana.com

The *Carolinas' Courier* is published quarterly.

Right of Way Etiquette

By Jerry Moran

AS ROW folks, we have to remember that our facilities cross people's hard earned lands. Inasmuch, we need to:

- Remember the Golden Rule. You are doing work on someone else's land.
- They pay the property taxes; they maintain it and they love it!
- We may have an easement; usually we do if we have facilities or access rights on the property. There have been times however that facilities were placed on private property without benefit of an easement. When this occurs, and the owner tells you that there is no easement, don't argue with them. Get a Right of Way Agent to make the determination unless you are absolutely positive that there is an easement.
- Access is sometimes a problem. Use the most direct and/or least intrusive route to the easement or facility. More problems have occurred because of misuse of access rights: tearing up roadbeds and/or fields, leaving gates open and letting animals out, taking small amounts of crops, etc.
- What can we do on the property? We have the right to construct, operate, maintain, and remove our facilities. Our easement gives us those rights and they are valuable to us.
- What if we have an easement and the owner won't let us on the property? Call your supervisor. If he/she can't solve the situation, then call the Right of Way Agent. He/she will verify that we have an easement. If we do, the last resort is to get a copy of it and have the Sheriff help enforce our rights. Do not try to interpret our easement rights.
- Ask for help from the Right of Way Department.
- If in doubt, ASK FOR HELP!

Thanks to Jerry Moran - NMI Management & Training Services 510-530-9342 nmi@flash.net



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- Cable Industry

William F. Saunders, Jr.

President

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MEMBERSHIP REPORT

CAROLINAS CHAPTER **31**

March 2013—July 2013

Allover, Carolina

Total Membership as of October 30, 2012	259
New Members	+8
Total Membership as of Jan. 1, 2014	267*

* Based on the most current Rooster

New Members

Welcome !

Colin J. Haggerty	Telics
Cleveland A. Wright Jr.	Integra
Patrick Scarborough	Enterprise Products
Kimberly Lockamy	Duke-Energy
K. Shane Killion	Duke-Energy
Robert Elliott	Crider, Bouye & Elliott
Harold E. Taylor, PLS	Santee Cooper
Annette H. Hefner	121 Realty, LLC

We look forward to having y'all in our Chapter.

Attention members and those applying for membership to Chapter 31 – Please email your membership application form to: irwaonline.org

Or—email kdkilpatrick@vaughnmelton.com for info!

HERE ARE SOME
NUMBERS FROM
OUR TREASURER
OF WHICH YOU
MAY HAVE SOME
INTEREST

Chapter 31 Reconcile Report for CASH & BANK: Savings -Wells Fargo

Report created on 1/10/14

Summary

Net Assets

(as of 1/10/14)

\$71,785.85

Income

(9/17/13-1/10/14)

\$20,684.63

Includes \$15,778 course
from SCDOT

Expenses

(9/17/13-1/10/14)

\$13,787.82

Net Operating Income

(9/17/13-1/10/14)

\$6,896.81

Submitted by

Matt Rhoad, PB

Hear Ye, Hear Ye

With your participation at the IRWA Chapter 31 Board Meeting Friday afternoon in Myrtle Beach you could have a new moped, a free flight home and your 2015 dues paid.
(Just kidding about the moped and flight)

If you hang around long enough you just might win, like the BCSNC winner FSU on a nationally televised contest 11 or so days ago. It was rigged ya know.

Like the lottery motto says, paraphrasing loosely,

“If you don’t stay, you can’t play!”

So, stick around and get a chance to win your 2015 dues.

(Lottery winner must be an adult over the age of 21, a member of Chptr 31, male OR female, able to read, have no more than 16 children, not read ‘War & Peace’ (more than twice), able to leap small buildings, can tame tiggers and be a productive member of society.) Thank you.



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SRWA, RW-RS, RW-NAC

pmmcahan@gcpa.net

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Charlotte, NC 28217

704-529-3949

	1st Quarter Winter Seminar	Region Spring Forum	2nd Quarter Spring Seminar	Annual Chptr 31 Board Meeting	International Education Conference	3rd Quarter Summer Seminar	Region Fall Forum	4th Quarter Fall Seminar
2014	Myrtle Beach Crse 104 Feb 20-21, 2014		Waynesville, April 23-25, 2014 Crse 200	Charlotte May 16, 2014	Hartford, CT June 22-25 2014	Charlotte, NC Crse 100— August 18-21, 2014	Chapter to Host Region 6 meeting in Charleston, SC	Charleston SC October 22-23, 2014
2015	Columbia, SC Feb 18 -19, 2015 Crse 501 Residential Relocation		Raleigh, NC April, 24 2015 Crse 410 Reviewing Appraisals	Charlotte May 22, 2015	San Diego, CA June 14-17, 2015	Hickory, NC August 21, 2015 Crse 700 Intro to Prop/Asst Mgmt		Charleston, SC October 23, 2015 Crse 604 Envrmntl Due Dilignc Buzz BD :)
2016	Greenville, SC Feb 19, 2016		Durham NC April 22, 2016	Charlotte May 20, 2016	Nashville, TN June 12-15, 2016	Charlotte, NC August 19, 2016		Myrtle Beach, SC October 21, 2016

The Education Corner

by Clark Hooper or Kent Winslow and/or MR. PDC, Bobby Deal

Ruh Roh.....

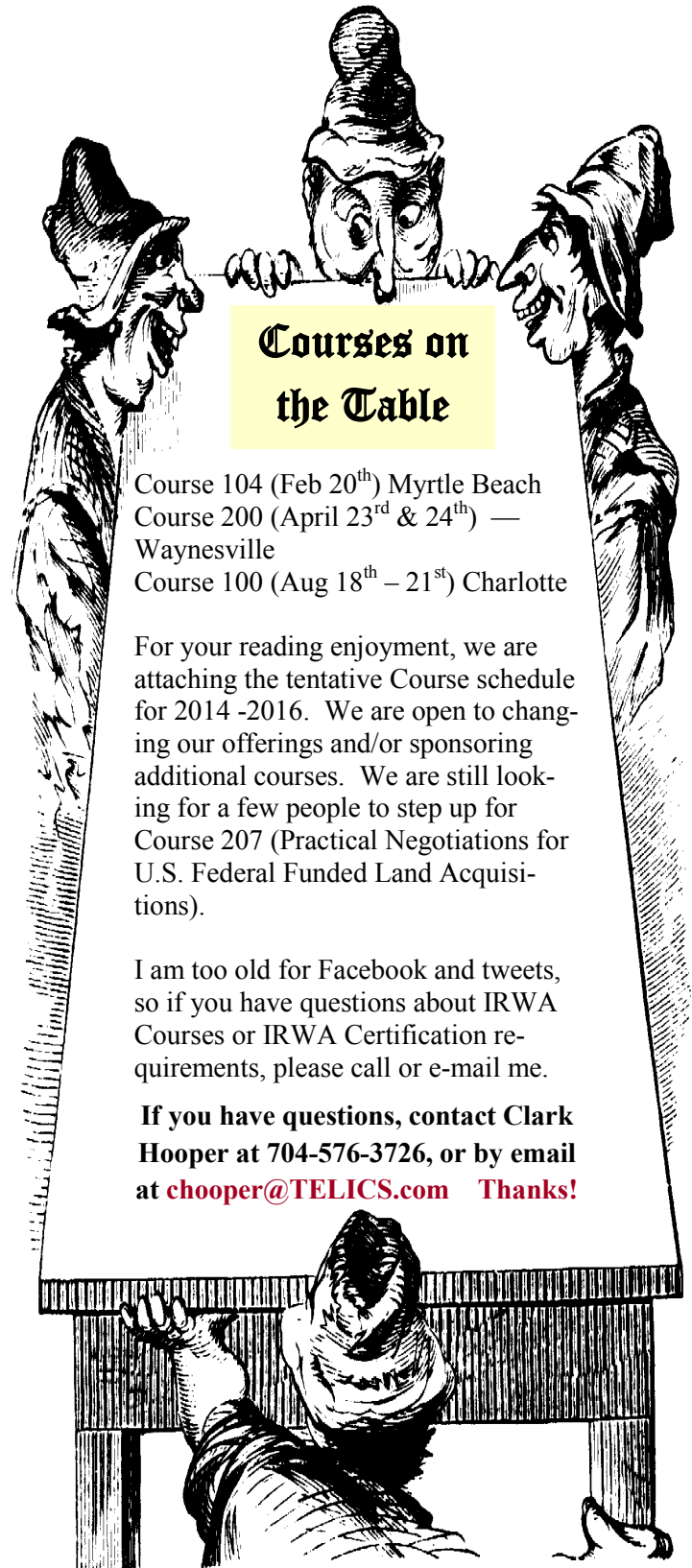
Happy New Year to Chapter 31 Members!! Let's start off this year with a "Bang" by attending IRWA Course 104 (Standards of Practice for the ROW Profession) on February 20, 2014. It should be a good time to be at Myrtle Beach. I have asked Buzz Prescott to provide surfing lessons after the class. He has not agreed yet. *(Editor's note: What idjut would go sit on a piece of waxed & laminated Styrofoam for 3 hours hoping to catch a 2-3 foot wave in 25 degree weather?:)*

On a more serious note; thank you to all the Chapter 31 members who responded to the Education Questionnaire. Approximately 12% of our members responded letting us know about their IRWA course needs.

As a result of your response, we have changed directions slightly for this year. We now plan to offer IRWA Course 200 (Principles of Real Estate Negotiation) in Waynesville on April 23rd and 24th. Take if form a guy who grew up in the Western Carolina Mountains, April is a great time to visit Waynesville.

Also, based on member input, we will be offering IRWA Course 100 (Principles of Land Acquisition) in Charlotte on August 18th through 21st. Course 100 is now required of anyone who plans complete the Right of Way Agent (RWA) Certification or the Senior Right of Way (SR/WA) Designation.

Clark



Courses on the Table

Course 104 (Feb 20th) Myrtle Beach
Course 200 (April 23rd & 24th) —
Waynesville
Course 100 (Aug 18th – 21st) Charlotte

For your reading enjoyment, we are attaching the tentative Course schedule for 2014 -2016. We are open to changing our offerings and/or sponsoring additional courses. We are still looking for a few people to step up for Course 207 (Practical Negotiations for U.S. Federal Funded Land Acquisitions).

I am too old for Facebook and tweets, so if you have questions about IRWA Courses or IRWA Certification requirements, please call or e-mail me.

If you have questions, contact Clark Hooper at 704-576-3726, or by email at chooper@TELICS.com Thanks!



THE SECRETARY'S REPORT

BY OTTIS "BUSTER" ALLEN, PHD, HA, BHC

CHAPTER 31

Carolinas Chapter 31 Fall Seminar and Board of Director's Meeting

Friday, October 25, 2013

Board Members Present –John Yeagley, Julie McDonald, Matt Rhoad, Buster Allen, Bill Christian, Clark Hooper, Tim O'Brien, Buzz Prescott, Jason Bloch, Kevin Kilpatrick, Glenn Winfree Paul Thompson, Bobby Deal, Larry Wright, Sarah Easter, Jane Nelson, John Horne and Clark Hopper.

Our chapter now has a Twitter account, @IRWAChapter 31. If you have a twitter account please sign up to follow us.

Next seminar will be February 20-21 in Myrtle Beach, SC. Bill Rogers was volunteered to organize the golf outing in February. Everyone is encouraged to attend the board meeting where you can win a membership for 2014 if you name is drawn. You have to be present to win.

Education Chair Presentation-Clark Hooper

Education and PDC can help all the new members work towards a career path, regardless of which certification you choose. Online courses are receiving good reviews with the ease of use they provide and are a source of revenue for the chapter. https://www.irwaonline.org/EWEB/upload/bundles/Career_Path_Overview_10110.pdf

SR\WA Presentation-Bill Rogers Central Electric—Todd Berrian received his SR\WA certification today!

New Business:

Clark Hooper reported that we had 30 people take the last SCDOT class which is the second large class they have had this year. The class at the seminar only had 9 participants. Next class will be class 104 in Myrtle Beach being offered at the rate of \$175 for members.

John Yeagley mentioned the schedule for next year which was in the last newsletter and posted on the chapter website. Region 6 meeting will be in Charleston, SC next year sponsored by our chapter.

Kevin Kilpatrick needs help with membership mainly to keep up with the membership roster email distribution list. Trying to get this process automated with software called Mail Chimp. Jason Bloch has volunteered to help Kevin.

A big thank you to Julie McDonald for her work as program director.

Glenn Winfree mentioned that volunteers are needed at the Region and International level so please consider providing your services to those committees.

Newsletter deadline is January 10th. Please have anything you want to go into the newsletter to him by this date.

Motion made by John Yeagley for four hours of certification credits for this seminar. Motion was seconded by Buzz.

Drawing for the free membership was won by Grant Whitney.

Respectfully submitted,

Buster Allen

Buster Allen, Secretary, IRWA Chapter 31

Chapter 31 Utilities Committee Report

February 21, 2014 Quarterly Meeting

Submitted by: Glenn Winfree, SR/WA

At this point in the year, your international committees and Community of Practice (CoP) groups are primarily concerned with ensuring good conference sessions for everyone. The IEUC has held meetings via conference call to finalize the selection of session topics for our June 2014 conference. Topics have been submitted to the IGC for review and approval. The preliminary session schedule is now completed and includes important topics that are going to provide valuable learning experiences for us. The committee will continue to work on finalizing the sessions, speakers, moderators and the final schedule.

The IRWA's realignment process continues to be worked on. The goal is to align and coordinate the focus of our organization on our structure, education, events, and credentialing. Members can now be a member of an industry committee, as well as participating in the CoP groups. Integration of the industry committees and the CoP's is ongoing and will be a topic of discussion at the Hartford Conference.

The new C-218 course (Electric R/W Acquisition) is being finalized by a professional course developer.

Your Chapter 31 Utilities Committee would like to provide more value to our Chapter and asks for your ideas, suggestions and (especially) your participation.

Email thoughts and comments to: Glenn.Winfree@Duke-Energy.com



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**Don't forget! We're
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www.IRWA31.com**



1/2 page - \$150

3/4 page - \$200

Whole page - \$250

ADVERTISEMENTS

There, we said it. Our newsletter committee has been working feverishly getting this issue out for your inquiring minds. We have some ads in this issue. Along the way, you've seen some advertisements from some of the folks you've met at meetings. Their companies have joined the IRWA in hopes of making business connections, but also making new friends. So, in order to further that, we're happy to help out with some ADVERTISEMENTS.....and, we believe them to be decently inexpensive. So, dig down a bit and put your name or company name (camera ready of course) in print.

One more thing—these rates are per issue; capisce?

Got pictures of IRWA interest?
We can use them. Send them to:
bprescott@scana.com

1/4 page—\$75.00

1/8 page - \$40

Hey, clemmons fans...high five!!



**THIS SPACE
FOR RENT! (cheap)**

All right, just so you know, you can view this whole thingamahobob g nusletter AND all the other trappings of our Chapter on the web at IRWA31.com. Wonder at the *marvels* of modern technology as Mark Dolozel takes you through the many meanderings of a programmer's mind and a R/W Chapter based in SC/NC. (Film at 11)



There it is boys and girls....come and getttt ittt. Uncle Al sets out a mean set of food for the notorious IRWA31 gang.



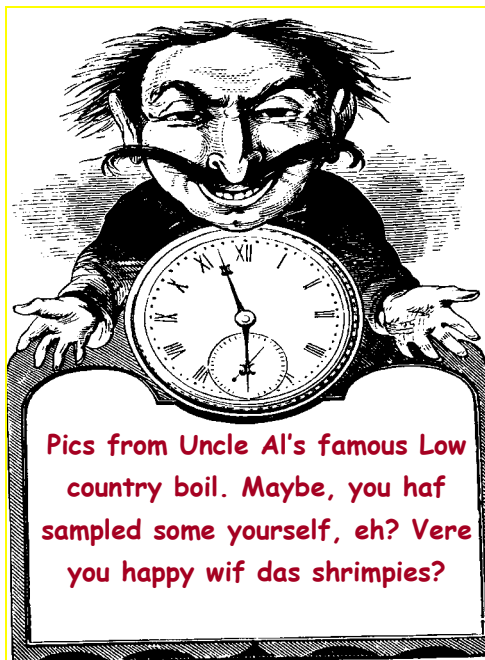
Yeagleymeister. Still scary, huh?



What a fine looking couple. Yes, lub can blossom at IRWA cookouts. It's apparent that Glenn is a lil needy.



Here's Bill proudly showing off his Shifting Alignment and Plate Tectonics theory drawing in Charleston.



Pics from Uncle Al's famous Low country boil. Maybe, you haf sampled some yourself, eh? Vere you happy wif das shrimpies?



Even the NC contingent wishes they were South Carolinians after munching down on Uncle Al's goodies. Well, maybe not Bob. What's up with that smile Robert? Ya goober.



The tables overflowed, but however you ate your meal, it was excellent. We're still working with Buzz on not talking with his mouth full. Close 'em up 'Ruprick'.



The Ashley River at sunset.

IRWA – Shifting Alignment

Happy New Year and welcome to a new round of change. We should be accustomed to routine change by now and often seek it to become better at who we are and what we do. Think resolutions. The reality is that change has become constant and if we are not changing and adapting we will likely be left behind. Our “association” in recent years has struggled to reach some of our goals of membership and credentialing. (My apologies to Lisa Harrison, as I am paraphrasing much of her white paper to our leadership in this article to our Chapter 31.)

Over the years our association has been organized in a way that doesn’t take advantage of the speed in which we communicate today. Networking was key in 1934 and it still is but think of how fast information travels in today’s social environment. Additionally, we need an external focus in order to serve our customers but also to better serve our membership. What do our customers want and what do our members need to fulfill this desire. Four industries (customers) have been identified to date and we are charting a course to align our organization, education, credentialing and communications toward relevance to these industries:

- Electric & Utilities
- Oil & Gas Pipeline
- Transportation
- Local Public Agencies

These industry committees are part of the new alignment but just as important and not exclusive are the disciplines of practice within our association that cross all industries. These disciplines include asset management, appraisal/valuation, survey/engineering, environmental, relocation and other potential groups. I think it will be these Communities of Practice that drive improvements to our educational offerings which will increase our importance and value to our customers.

I encourage you to read Lisa’s Alignment article in our Sept/Oct Right of Way Magazine “again”. I have now read it several times and have picked up some new thoughts each time. Our industries our changing and our association must adapt to stay relevant as a preferred provider of professional services. Anything we can do to educate ourselves, learn of best practices, build bridges within our various disciplines and have fun doing so with like-minded professionals is worthy of my time and efforts. I hope you find this true as well.

Bill Christian
Chapter 31 International Director
Region 6 International Professional Development Committee

MAP-21
Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act
by Paul W. McMahan, SR/WA

The President signed MAP-21 into law on July 6, 2012. MAP-21 is more commonly known as the federal transportation bill. MAP-21 is the first long-term transportation bill passed since 2005. The previous bill, **SATETEA-LU Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users**, as it was known, suffered through 10 extensions before a strong bipartisan vote passed MAP-21 a 27-month (typical duration) transportation bill. Transportation bills provide a lion's share of funding for state DOTs.

MAP-21 was significant for the right of way professional as it made changes to the current Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended. 49CFR part 21. However, SATETEA-LU was funded in an amount of \$244 billion versus MAP-21 at \$82 billion.

The fed's promotional blurb - *"MAP-21 creates a streamlined, performance based, and multimodal program to address the many challenges facing the US transportation system."*

MAP-21 purports to:

- Strengthen America's Highways - expands the National Highway System to incorporate principal arterials not previously included
- Establish Performance-based Programs - focuses on national transportation goals, planning and programming
- Creates jobs and supports economic growth - for road, bridge, bicycle, and walking improvements; encourages private sector investment
- Aggressive Safety Agenda - to reduce highway fatalities, adds distracted driving and transit carrier safety
- Streamlines FHWA programs - consolidates programs and eliminated many discretionary programs
- Accelerates Proj. Delivery and promotion of innovation - in development, planning, and environmental review

HIGHWAY TRUST FUND- is the source of funding for most of the programs in the act. Federal motor fuel taxes are the major source of income. Of course, this is the major challenge for highway funding for the future. Better gas mileage and use of other forms of transportation challenge income sources.

MAP-21 is striving for a performance and outcome-based program.

Performance goals are:

- Safety - reduce fatalities
- Infrastructure condition - maintain our system in good repair
- Congestion reduction - reduce congestion in the National Highway System
- System reliability
- Freight movement
- Environmental sustainability - protect and enhance the natural environment
- Reduce project delivery delays - accelerate project completion and reduce regulatory burdens

Most discretionary programs were eliminated with MAP-21 legislation and there were no earmarks. However it included two major non-transportation provisions: an extension of the 3.4% interest rates for student loans and the reauthorization of the flood insurance program.

Of the \$37.7 billion per year funding:

\$21.8 billion, or 58% goes to the National Highway Performance Program

\$10 billion goes to the Surface Transportation Program

\$2.2 to Highway Safety

\$2.2 to Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement

The rest to Railway-Highway Crossing, Transportation Alternatives, Metro Planning

The National Highway Performance Program includes the Interstate System and all principal arterials.

The Surface Transportation Program will be used to preserve or improve conditions on any Federal-aid highway or facility.

What are the changes to the Uniform Act?

MAP-21 Section 1521: Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 Amendments

- Owner-occupant RHP's will be increased from \$22,500 to \$31,000
- Tenant RHP's will be increased from \$5,250 to \$7,200
- Business in-lieu of payments will be increased from \$20,000 to \$40,000
- Business re-establishment payments will increase from \$10,000 to \$25,000
- Reduces the occupancy requirement for homeowners to qualify for an owner RHP to 90-days instead of 180-days
- Authorizes the lead agency (FHWA) to adjust the previously given statutory benefit levels by regulation (instead of law) - in order to meet Uniform Act objectives
- Each Federal Agency must submit an annual report of acquisition and relocation activities to the FHWA (as lead agency)
- Enhances the FHWA services by requiring steps to maintain and improve their capacity to manage and oversee acquisition and relocation programs; *ie. training, assistance and coordination*

The new payment eligibility benefits will be effective on **October 1, 2014**.

What to do if you are in the middle of a project? - be uniform and apply benefits fairly to all.

MAP-21 Section 1301 - Streamlining Demonstration Program

Purpose to determine if some current processes could be altered to accelerate project delivery - such as lump sum acquisition and relocation payments

MAP-21 Section 1302 - Advance Acquisition of Real Property

- Expands the types of property interests that may be purchased in advance with Federal funding and revises the conditions under which property may be acquired prior to completion of the NEPA review (Nat Enviro Policy Act) effective as of October 1, 2012
- Owners and tenants are eligible for relocation benefits and assistance
- Property must be negotiated - no threat of condemnation

Thanks Paul.....to contact Paul, see top right section of page 7.

THE RIGHT OF WAY INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Angel Banks has been elected Trustee for the Right of Way Education Foundation (RWIEF). At our fall meeting she spoke about the Foundation and funding commitments made for new IRWA education initiatives. First, she congratulated and thanked Chapter 31 for their \$5,000 donation – this was the largest contribution made this year by any chapter! She encouraged C31's continued leadership and shared the following information.

Keeping current with education and professional development is essential to all of us and to advancing our careers. IRWA has a challenging task to create courses, keep them current, develop leadership training and to make all these products easily available through the latest technology. This is a dynamic, expensive process requiring levels of funding the IRWA does not have. So how does IRWA pay for education initiatives? Through funding support from the RWIEF. The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to fund and promote ROW education. We can hold funds to directly assist education initiatives and contributions to RWIEF are considered charitable donations by the IRS. This differs greatly from IRWA which is a 501(c)(6) organization. They cannot hold funds but must use revenues to run the for-profit business in support of their members and contributions to IRWA are considered business expenses by the IRS.

IRWA recently announced a new five-year education plan to develop or upgrade 50 educational products. At a cost of \$280,000, the first year will include:

- development of a new pipeline course for a new pipeline certificate program;
- a new communications/social diversity course entitled “Social Ecology”;
- a new Uniform Act valuation course;
- revisions and updates to C603 and C604;
- production of C103 and C104 in the new Video Enabled Integrated Technology (VEIT); and
- the first piloted VEIT course, C213.

IRWA requested RWIEF to fund 50%, or \$140,000, toward this first-year cost and RWIEF agreed. Also on the Foundation's books is a remaining \$25,000 commitment from last year for the ethics course rewrite. All total, RWIEF is currently committed for \$165,000. So how does all this impact RWIEF and ultimately, members of IRWA? Let's look at some basic numbers.

RWIEF has current assets of \$1.2 million, of which \$100,000 is restricted and held for IRWA's annual awards, leaving \$1.1 million in long term assets available. For the period of 1/1/13 to 10/14/13, the Foundation's P & L statement reflected:

- income of \$255,914;
- expenses of \$82,287; and
- net operating income of \$173,627.

So \$173,627 in net operating income less \$165,000 of commitments leaves \$8,627 – not nearly enough to fund future education improvements. So where does RWIEF get those funds? We could start dipping into the \$1.1 million in long term assets. OK, you say, that sounds good...right? So what happens if RWIEF starts dipping into those reserves? To get an idea, let's look at some history. Over the last five years RWIEF has funded \$769,450 worth of educational projects for IRWA. That equates to \$153,900 per year. For this example's sake, let's assume IRWA requests similar assistance in years two through five of their education plan. That would equal \$615,600 in funding requests. You can see how quickly that would erode \$1.1 million in reserves. Letting reserves drop is like a corporation selling off assets to meet expenses – that will ultimately lead to failure of the corporation. So you can see why it is critical to IRWA education products, and you the end user, that contributions to RWIEF not only be sustained, but be increased through the coming years.

Without a charity partner like the Foundation, IRWA would have to fund 100% of these costs through their general budget. It doesn't take a rocket scientist to see how that would impact membership fees.

How many of you have benefited from your involvement with IRWA? Have you taken courses? Have you obtained the SR/WA designation or a specific certification? Have you made valuable contacts in the industry through networking at IRWA functions? Have you learned something from articles in *Right of Way* magazine? Have you found or filled a job through postings on the Association's website? Have you improved your understanding of the industry by attending seminars offered at the annual conference or local chapters? My guess is that we all have benefitted through most of these opportunities. To continue those benefits, it comes down to this:

***CONTRIBUTIONS TO RWIEF =
SUPPORT OF EDUCATION FUNDING =
CUTTING-EDGE EDUCATIONAL PRODUCTS =
PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL BENEFIT***

Please help the Right of Way International Education Foundation provide you with innovative educational products and professional development opportunities. Support education funding with your contributions to RWIEF. It's easy to do and there are many options:

- include a donation along with your annual IRWA membership renewal;
- donate directly online at www.rwief.org;
- support fundraisers like the Monday night conference event or the annual golf tournament;
- collect funds in your chapter/region and be recognized at the conference Board meeting; and
- give a legacy donation through your will or trust.

RWIEF thanks you for your past contributions! Keep up the good work. You'll benefit and feel good about giving back to your profession. Thank you!

Angel Banks, Trustee