

# SOONER CHAPTER 33



## IRWA

INTERNATIONAL RIGHT OF WAY ASSOCIATION

May 2010

### MAY MEETING

The next Chapter 33 meeting is Friday, May 7, 2010 at 4:45 p.m., at Remington Park in Oklahoma City, OK. We will nominate, elect and install our officers for the 2010 / 2011 term. Also, we will be electing our Chapter's Professional of the Year. After dinner, we will enjoy horseracing.

### DATES TO REMEMBER – 2010

- 502 Business Relocation Assistance  
Oklahoma City  
May 24 – 25, 2010
  
- 207 Practical Negotiations for US Federal  
Funded Land Acquisitions  
Oklahoma City  
June 10 – 11, 2010
  
- 56<sup>th</sup> Annual International Education  
Conference  
Calgary, Alberta, Canada  
June 27 – 30, 2010

### Negotiation Tip

Ed Opstein, SR/WA, R/W-NAC, R/W-RAC

Stress, frustration, blame, conflict, and much more negative activity comes up because of misunderstanding. One reason for much

misunderstanding arises because of differences in interpretation of what the parties "understand."

To help avoid this problem, be sure to ask questions before you leap to assumption. Get specific in what the parties understand. Sometimes, people like to leave issues ambiguous to avoid disagreement, but it only worsens the situation later. Clarify and review what is needed to get to agreement.

**IRWA's 56<sup>th</sup> Annual International Education Conference**  
**NO BOUNDARIES**  
June 27 - June 30, 2010  
IRWA  
INTERNATIONAL RIGHT OF WAY ASSOCIATION  
**CALGARY 2010**

**SOONER CHAPTER 33  
2009 - 2010 OFFICERS & DIRECTORS**

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Please frequently visit the Chapter 33 website  
located at [www.irwach33.org](http://www.irwach33.org) for useful  
information.



## Message from the President April 2010

Sooner Chapter 33 Members:

Our last meeting was held at Andy B's in Tulsa on April 2nd. The turnout was very light; however, the food was really good and we had a great time with our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Bowling Tournament. I would like to give a great big thanks to Steve Benson for the fantastic job he did in coordinating this event.

As we start another year with a new group of Chapter 33 officers, I would like to encourage your continued support of our profession and the IRWA at the Chapter, Region and International level. If you are not active in these areas, I encourage you to get involved as you will be rewarded in more ways than you can imagine. Through your participation, not only will you see personal and professional growth in yourself, you will see it in others as a result of your involvement.

Another area of consideration that I would like to highlight is that of certification. The IRWA provides the opportunity for obtaining a single discipline certification in appraisal, asset/property management, negotiation/acquisition, relocation assistance and environmental. Beyond that you are able to obtain the designation of SR/WA when you have demonstrated through experience, education and examination your ability to be proficient in multiple disciplines. Additionally, the IRWA has recently debuted the Uniform Act Certification program that includes a combination of education, experience and testing with a focus specifically in regard to the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Act for Federal and Federally-Assisted Programs.

Earning any of these certifications is a very worthy endeavor and will help boost your value in the work place by adding to your skill set which in turn

will separate you from the regular worker. In today's tough economic times, having the distinction of a professional certification can provide you with the advantage when it comes to employment opportunities, career advancement and salary potential. If you are interested in gaining an advantage in your career, see the IRWA website to learn more about these certifications and follow-up with a discussion with your chapter Professional Development Chair.

My term as your President of Chapter 33 is coming to an end and I would like to express my sincere thanks to the chapter and especially to the Executive Board for the patience, support and professionalism you have shown in the last year.

Our next meeting will be on May 7, 2010 at Remington Park Race Track in Oklahoma City. We will be having a late afternoon meeting and dinner. The meeting of the membership will begin at 4:45 pm highlighted by the nomination, election and installation of the 2010 / 2011 group of officers as well as the selection of Chapter 33's Professional of the Year. To top it all off, we will be throwing in a little fun by enjoying the horse races following dinner. I hope to see you there.

Kevin Stout, SRWA, R/W-NAC  
Chapter 33 President

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### IRWA Chapter 33 Minutes of Meeting Andy B's Bowling Alley Tulsa, OK

President **Kevin Stout** called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

Secretary **Bill Sanders** reported 16 members and no guests for a total of 16 present. There were not enough members to constitute a quorum, so no official business could be conducted, although reports were made.

Attendees introduced themselves and their guests.

The membership discussed the published minutes of the 15 January 2010 meeting and found no errors. If there is a quorum at the next meeting, these minutes can be approved.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Treasurer

Treasurer, **Steve Benson**, reported balances of  
**\$38,608.12** in the checking account,  
**\$32,074.67** in first CD, and  
**\$11,152.52** in second CD  
**\$81,835.31** total for the chapter

### Membership

Membership Chair, **Lori Vernon**, reported the Chapter has 6 new applicants:

- **Jeremy Duskin**
- **Austin Hacker**, CLS Group
- **Benjamin Johnson**, Enbridge Energy
- **Victor Salmay**, Easton Land Services
- **Darin Savage**, Andrews Davis, PC
- **Jennifer Whitey**, Wilson & Co

### Education

Education Chair, **Kevin Stout**, reported:

The US Army Corps of Engineers requested we produce courses C100 & C700 specifically for their employees on 2-3 August 2010. The chapter is considering.

### Professional Development

Professional Development Chair, **Ed Opstein**, distributed a handout.

### Nominations and Elections

Nominations and Elections Chair, **Joe Coates**, was not present.

### Old Business

Chapter logo shirts are still available for those who haven't received theirs.

Region 2 Winter Forum was held 4-5 February 2010, New Orleans.

### New Business

Region 2 Winter Forum, Chapter 33 to host 2011 Winter Forum in Tulsa

International Education Conference, 27-30 June 2010, Calgary.

- Auction items: Alex will handle
- Donation to Canadian RWIEF, \$2,000 was suggested
- Donation to RWIEF, in lieu of the \$20,000 donation they received from us last year, none was suggested for this year.

Region 2 Refresher Seminar, 4-6 August 2010

- Ch 33 session is valuation, Alex will handle.
- Theme is "Education Round-Up"

Proposed travel policy; see handout

A suggestion was made to consider offering a Chapter sponsored scholarship.

Nomination and election of chapter officers was not accomplished as no quorum was present.

The next meeting is set for:

5:30 p.m. (time)  
7 May 2010 (date)  
Remington Park (facility)  
Oklahoma City, OK (city, state)

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

Attest:

Chapter Secretary  
**William J Sanders**

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### New Member Application

**Delana Staats**  
**Chesapeake Midstream Management LLC**

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### Treasurer's Report

Balance as of 4/28/10:

Checking account:	\$41,537.45
7-month CD	32,088.29
Fixed Term CD	<u>11,161.52</u>
Total	<u>\$84,787.26</u>

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**IRWA CHAPTER 33  
2009 – 2010 EDUCATION COURSES**

<b>COURSE</b>	<b>NO. DAYS</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
503 Mobile Home Relocation	1	5/3/2010	Oklahoma City
502 Business Relocation Assistance	2	05/24 – 25/2010	Oklahoma City
207 Practical Negotiations for US Federal Funded Land Acquisitions	2	06/10 – 11/2010	Oklahoma City
100 Principles of Land Acquisition	4	08/02 – 05/2010	Tulsa
700 Introduction to Property Management	2	08/06 – 07/2010	Tulsa
103 Ethics and the R/W Profession	1	09/13/2010	Oklahoma City
401 The Appraisal of Partial Acquisitions	4	10/18 – 21/2010	Oklahoma City
800 Principles of Real Estate Law	2	11/08 – 09/2010	Oklahoma City

**Professional Development -**

The following is a listing of Chapter members who have pursued a new step in their professional development in 2010:

**Randall Booth**  
Candidate for R/W-NAC

**Charles Davis, R/W-RAC**  
Recertified in R/W-RAC Certification

**Diana Barlow, R/W-RAC**  
Recertified in R/W-RAC Certification

**Lori Vernon, SR/WA, R/W-RAC**  
Awarded SR/WA Designation

**IRWA Course Information:**

- Course 207 – Oklahoma City, OK, June 10 & 11, 2010 (This course is a requirement for the new URA Certification.)

**Credentials Update:**

Please note that *any changes to requirements* to obtain the Designation or Certifications after July 1, 2010 will NOT apply to those who have been accepted for Candidacy for those credentials PRIOR to July 1, 2010.

The individual “capstone exams” for each discipline are required for the individual certification programs. Those who took four individual exams for the SR/WA Designation can apply those results to the Certification requirement(s).

Ed Opstein, SR/WA,  
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**THANKS TO OUR ADVERTISERS!**

If you are interested in advertising in the 2010 series of Chapter 33 Newsletters, please remit a check for \$75.00 made payable to IRWA Chapter 33 to Steve Benson, Universal Field Services, Inc., P.O. Box 35666, Tulsa, OK 74153-0666, (918) 494-7600.



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