

Letter From the President

Greetings Chapter 8!

Well we are certainly off to quick start in 2018. I'm truly feel the industry turning. Not only in the attitudes of those have I see at our meetings, but in project releases as well.

Speaking of the New Year, how is everyone doing on their 2018 New Year Resolutions? Mine you ask? I don't want to talk about it...

In other news, the Rodeo is about ready to kick off and I'm really digging the lineup this year.

I hope that most of you have been able to dodge the flu bug. For men, the struggle is real.



*Bruce Trepl, SR/WA
IRWA Chapter 8 President*

man flu
(noun)

an illness that causes the male to be helpless and sicker than any other family member.

In females: a cold



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We look forward to seeing you soon!

Bruce Trepl

Chapter 8 Officers and Committees

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Young Professionals

Chair

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Harness the leading edge knowledge and skills to excel in your Right of Way career, earn your credential, and enhance your lifelong continuing education journey.

Choose from five categories of professional education that are customized to fit your unique learning needs and wishes! The five categories are:

- VEIT classes- online classes with a classroom feel
- Leadership Institute- online classes for emerging leaders
- On Demand Classes- online audio/ppt classes
- Education-to-Go- mini-enrichment online classes
- Classroom-based classes- traditional in person classes

[IRWA Education Link](#)

Calendar of Events

February 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

Feb 1 - Chapter 8 Monthly Luncheon

Hess Club

CLASSES:

Beginning April 2018, Chapter 8 will no longer be accepting educational vouchers for its classes. We encourage you to utilize them on classes prior to April.



Calendar of Events

March 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

March 1 - Chapter 8 Monthly Luncheon

Hess Club

CLASSES:

March 27-29 - C201 - Communications in R.E. Acquisition

Percheron Field Services LLC

March 29 - 604 - Environmental Due Diligence and Liability

Kinder Morgan

Beginning April 2018, Chapter 8 will no longer be accepting educational vouchers for its classes. We encourage you to utilize them on classes prior to April.



Chapter 8 Monthly Meeting Recap

IRWA Chapter 8 Meeting Recap – February 1, 2018

By Jason Reece, R/W-AC, Sendero Appraisals, LP

Speaker: Debra Ibarra Mayfield, District Court Judge

Topic: Eminent Domain Cases from a Judicial Perspective

How does a case get assigned once it is filed in either district or county court in Harris County?

Until 2012, only County Courts at Law heard Eminent Domain matters. After 2012, cases with value of \$200K and above go to District Courts, and those cases under \$200K go to County Court. In County Court, there are four judges and three of them are experienced with Eminent Domain, whereas in District Court, there is only one out of twenty-four judges who have significant experience in Eminent Domain. This means you have a better chance of having a judge with Eminent Domain experience if you file in County Court.

What are the statistics and the percentage of eminent domain cases filed in district court? What percentage of my respective docket (one out of 24 civil district judges) is eminent domain?

In District Court, Judge Mayfield currently has about 1,500 pending cases, and less than 1% are Eminent Domain cases. This ratio generally holds up across all twenty-four courts. In County Court, Eminent Domain cases make up approximately 8% of the overall cases. In District Court, none of the cases proceeded to verdict before a judge or jury since 2012.

What is the difference between county and district court, and how should that effect a condemning authority's strategic decision on where to file its case?

The experience of the judges is an important factor to consider, since at this point in time, the County Courts have more experience with Eminent Domain. Therefore, if the condemning authority has the choice of where to file, that authority has a better chance of having an experienced Eminent Domain judge in County Court.

What are juries currently thinking about condemnation cases in Harris County?

Not much, since none have been tried to a jury since 2012.

What do judges think about when considering a challenge to expert testimony from either the landowner or the condemning authority?

Chapter 8 Monthly Meeting Recap

Judges typically do not want to challenge or strike an expert witness, since the expert in Eminent Domain proceedings is typically an appraiser and the value of the property is so vital to each case.

What are some of the lessons I've learned through the years in my roles as special commissioner, attorney for the condemning authority and as a judge hearing eminent domain cases?

She learned that various procedures such as setting up special commissioners need to be done quickly once the case is filed due to the fact that there is a project in the works. She realized there were no formal procedures in place to code these cases in order to alert the judges that this is an Eminent Domain case and there are processes that need to be started early. Judge Mayfield was instrumental in setting these procedures up to streamline the process.

What are some legislative or judicial issues that you see coming on the horizon?

There was a recent bill that was proposed at the last legislative session that was very favorable to the landowner and had a provision that provided for attorney fees to be paid by the condemning authority in many cases. This bill never made it to a vote, however Judge Mayfield assumes that a variation of that bill will be proposed again in the future. As for the judicial side, she said they are always tracking upcoming legislative activity to be prepared for what is coming in the pipeline.

Are the ancillary judges different in County vs. District courts? Is there still forum shopping going on during these ancillary periods?

Yes, the judges on ancillary duty and the procedures are different in County vs. District courts, and the ancillary schedule is not released to the public for the purpose of avoiding forum shopping.

Bio

Debra Ibarra Mayfield is a two-time judicial appointee of Governor Greg Abbott. Judge Mayfield became Abbott's first judicial appointee in Harris County when he tapped her for the 165th District Court. Most recently, Governor Abbott appointed Judge Mayfield to the 190th District Court, as post to which she will run for re-election in 2018. Before becoming a State District Judge, Debra was the first Latina County Court at Law Judge in Harris County. Having been unanimously appointed by the Commissioners' Court, she served as Judge of County Civil Court at Law No. 1. Judge Mayfield has served as senior in-house legal counsel for Enterprise Products, one of the largest publicly traded partnerships and a leading North American provider of midstream energy services. She also served as adjunct professor at the University of Houston Law Center, teaching private property rights and eminent domain. Before her judicial career, Judge Mayfield was a partner in a civil defense firm where she handled litigation and appeals in

Chapter 8 Monthly Meeting Recap

both state and federal courts across the State of Texas.

Judge Mayfield is an alumna of Texas A&M University and South Texas College of Law Houston. She serves on the boards of several non-profit organizations and bar associations, including the Association for the Advancement of Mexican Americans (AAMA), the Association of Women Attorneys (AWA), and the Mexican American Bar Association of Houston (MABAH). She has received numerous recognitions for her public service, including being selected as a "Woman on the Move" by Texas Executive Women, award the "Public Service Award" from South Texas College of Law, the Amicus Award by the Mexican American Bar Association of Texas, selected as one of "Houston's 50 Most Influential Women" by Houston Women Magazine, and awarded the "Outstanding Mentor Award" by the Houston Young Lawyers' Association. Also, the Texas State Bar Convention honored her for her significant contributions to the Hispanic legal community.

Debra is married to Eric, a former United States Army Captain, and they have two young children.



40 For Forty Scholarship Program

40 FOR FORTY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Association is happy to announce its first cohort of 40 scholars, pursuing either IRWA's Right of Way Agent and/or Right of Way Professional Certification. These scholarships were made possible by a \$185,000 gift from the Right of Way International Education Foundation.

Michelle M. Agostinelli
Region 5, Chapter 13

Sharina Ann Arevalos
Region 1, Chapter 2

Angel Bailey
Region 6, Chapter 32

Smedmore M. Bernard
Region 5, Chapter 12

David A. Blackwell, R/W-AMC
Region 2, Chapter 39

Niels Brown
Region 2, Chapter 36

Thorin Michael Burke
Region 2, Chapter 73

Matthew L. Chapman
Region 5, Chapter 25

Alexandria L. Clark-Quinones
Region 2, Chapter 39

Janella Cordova
Region 1, Chapter 67

Brandi Davenport, RWA
Region 9, Chapter 38

Angela W. Deddish
Region 5, Chapter 10

Anita L. Entinger, RWA
Region 5, Chapter 17

Dawn Fletcher
Region 7, Chapter 4

Frank Fucile, RWA
Region 8, Chapter 29

Noelle L. Hoelsken
Region 9, Chapter 6

Michelle R.L. Householder
Region 7, Chapter 45

Kristopher Koehler
Region 5, Chapter 12

Eeden Huey Lee, RWA
Region 1, Chapter 27

Leesa Love, RWA
Region 2, Chapter 8

Carolann McCarron
Region 4, Chapter 16

Julie McDonald, PLS, PE
Region 6, Chapter 31

Eric T. Meyers
Region 9, Chapter 6

Carlos M. Obando
Region 1, Chapter 57

Ryan J. Pankiewicz
Region 5, Chapter 13

Jacob Partridge
Region 10, Chapter 66

Carlos Pietri
Region 9, Chapter 6

Dena Rae
Region 4, Chapter 16

Jayne Randleman
Region 7, Chapter 3

Mintra R. Rickelman
Region 2, Chapter 8

Michelle E. Sechman
Region 5, Chapter 10

Shellie K. Sepulveda, RWA
Region 9, Chapter 38

Rachel Siegert
Region 3, Chapter 37

Roxan Sierra
Region 2, Chapter 74

Brent H. Thygesen, RWA
Region 10, Chapter 62

Karla D. Tyson
Region 4, Chapter 9

Amanda Vande Voorde, RWA
Region 3, Chapter 41

Charmaine Williams
RSA, Chapter 83

Andrew Wilson
Region 8, Chapter 65

Dawna Leigh Woytowich
Region 10, Chapter 62



Young Professionals



IRWA Chapter 8 Young Professionals

The IRWA Young Professionals Network is focused on building a strong foundation for the next generation of Right of Way Professionals. Ethics, education and encouragement are the nucleus of our organization. Be a part of the initiative!





C201 - Communications in R.E. Acquisition

Start Date: 3/27/2018

End Date: 3/29/2018

No. of Days: 3 days

Course Level: Intermediate

CEU Credits: 24.00

Class Time: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Tuition: \$565.00 Member/\$7100.00 Non-Member

Sponsored By: Chapter 8

Course Description: [C201 Communication in Real Estate Acquisition](#)

INSTRUCTOR:

Ana B. Rausch, SR/WA, R/W-RAC, is a Senior Vice President with Percheron. She has over 25 years of project management experience in the right of way industry. Her areas of expertise include project management, feasibility studies, negotiation and acquisition, title research, title curative, permitting, relocation assistance, damage and claim settlement, construction support, condemnation support, due diligence and budgeting for the pipeline, electric utility, telecommunications, transit, wind, rail and public sector projects. Over her career Ana has worked as a consultant as well as the Vice President of Real Estate for a majority Transit Authority. Ana received a Masters in Business Administration (MBA) along with a Bachelor of Science (BS) from the University of Houston. She is a Licensed Texas Real Estate Broker. Ana is a member of the IRWA International Electric and Utilities Committee and served as Chair of IRWA Region 2 from 2015-2017. Ana is a Certified IRWA Climb Instructor and is a past President and Professional of the Year for IRWA Chapter 8. Ana was recently elected as the IEC Secretary for the IRWA.



COURSE COORDINATOR:

Kelly Simmons

3801 Kirby Drive

Houston, TX 77098

Phone: (713) 661-7777

Email: ksimmons@paragon-partners.com

CLASS FACILITY LOCATION:

Percheron Field Services, LLC

1904 Grand Parkway #200

Katy, TX 77449

Phone: (832) 300-6400

PARTICIPAN CAPACITY: 25

HOTEL ACCOMODATIONS:

Participants are responsible for their own accommodations.

604 - Environmental Due Diligence and Liability

Start Date: 3/29/2018

End Date: 3/29/2018

No. of Days: 1 day

Course Level: Intermediate

CEU Credits: 8.00

Class Time: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Tuition: \$265.00 Member/\$3300.00 Non-Member

Sponsored By: Chapter 8

Course Description: [604 Environmental Due Diligence and Liability](#)

INSTRUCTOR:

Dhugal M. Hanton, SR/WA has a diverse background in both technical and management capacities in the oil and gas industry and carries the Professional Biologist (P.Biol); Professional Agrologist (P.Ag.) in Saskatchewan and Alberta, Canada; as well as the Senior Right of Way Agent (SR/WA) designations. He began his career as a Surface Landman with EnCana Energy and still carries a Land Agent License in the Province of Alberta, Canada. Dhugal then shifted into the environment profession and became a Reclamation and Remediation Advisor after obtaining his P.Ag. designation with Cenovus Energy. He continued his career with Cenovus where he became the Group Lead of Environmental Services and Compliance, responsible for acquiring regulatory approval and maintaining environmental compliance on both upstream oil and gas plays as well as Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act (EPEA) regulated oil sands projects. In the last few years, Dhugal has primarily focused on supporting land, regulatory and environmental projects in the Mid-Continent US including Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Louisiana and North Dakota with the Vertex Resource Group. He has been actively involved with numerous organizations including the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers (CAPP), Canadian Land Reclamation Association (CLRA) and International Right of



Way Association (Past President Chapter 48, International Environment Committee). Dhugal brings a unique perspective to development balancing both land and environmental professional viewpoints.

COURSE COORDINATOR:

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Phone: (713) 420-3353

PARTICIPAN CAPACITY: 25

HOTEL ACCOMODATIONS:

Participants are responsible for their own accommodations.

C219 - Introduction to Presentation, Instruction and Facilitation

Start Date: 4/9/2018

End Date: 4/10/2018

No. of Days: 2 days

Course Level: Intermediate

CEU Credits: 16.00

Class Time: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Tuition: \$415.00 Member/\$520.00 Non-Member

Sponsored By: Chapter 8

Course Description: [C219 Introduction to Presentation Instruction and Facilitation](#)

INSTRUCTOR:

Donald J. Sherwood, SR/WA, MAI, is the owner of Donald J. Sherwood LLC focusing on appraisal review and education. Mr. Sherwood is the former Managing Director of the Fort Worth office of Integra Realty Resources DFW, LLC, a full-service real estate consulting and appraisal firm. Mr. Sherwood has been an appraiser of all types of real property since December 1978. Donnie has performed appraisals on various properties including, but not limited to, shopping centers, apartment complexes, industrial facilities, a nuclear bomb storage site, an air force base, automobile race track, raw and developed land, office complexes, motels, hotels, marinas, cemeteries, bowling alley, amusement parks and mixed use developments. Donnie is a CLIMB certified instructor and is a past recipient of IRWA's Balfour Award and author of several courses and articles. He served as an adjunct professor at TCU for nine years.



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PARTICIPAN CAPACITY: 25

HOTEL ACCOMODATIONS:

Participants are responsible for their own accommodations.

400 - Principles of Real Estate Appraisal

Start Date: 4/11/2018

End Date: 4/12/2018

No. of Days: 2 days

Course Level: Core

CEU Credits: 16.00

Class Time: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Tuition: \$415.00 Member/\$520.00 Non-Member

Sponsored By: Chapter 8

Course Description: [400 Principles of Real Estate Appraisal](#)

INSTRUCTOR:

Donald J. Sherwood, SR/WA, MAI, is the owner of Donald J. Sherwood LLC focusing on appraisal review and education. Mr. Sherwood is the former Managing Director of the Fort Worth office of Integra Realty Resources DFW, LLC, a full-service real estate consulting and appraisal firm. Mr. Sherwood has been an appraiser of all types of real property since December 1978. Donnie has performed appraisals on various properties including, but not limited to, shopping centers, apartment complexes, industrial facilities, a nuclear bomb storage site, an air force base, automobile race track, raw and developed land, office complexes, motels, hotels, marinas, cemeteries, bowling alley, amusement parks and mixed use developments. Donnie is a CLIMB certified instructor and is a past recipient of IRWA's Balfour Award and author of several courses and articles. He served as an adjunct professor at TCU for nine years.



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PARTICIPAN CAPACITY: 25

HOTEL ACCOMODATIONS:

Participants are responsible for their own accommodations.

Fun & Games

“Life is more fun if you play games.” ~ Roald Dahl

V I M N P H A W A I I D N A L S I E D O H R O
I W A O A E A M E S O U T H D A K O T A S R R
R Y I S I I N I A R K A N S A S C A N I L A E
G O N A G H N N Y A K S A R B E N A O O W A G
I M E S R B O D S T N O M R E V T N U E T O O
N I S N O C S I W Y Y M M A Y N I I S O T K N
I N A A E B E A A A L I C A O L S T S U L O M
A G N K G A E N D L C V N M L I V E C A N P M
I R I E M S T A I H A I A I A I N I H D E E A
P N L Y T I V O I C L B N N R N T O D A W N R
P D O I E E S G K O A E A G I C M S E W H Y Y
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S D A P A N R A O Y D N I N A P E O A S M C A
S I C K S R C E O U I H N F I E S A W H P U N
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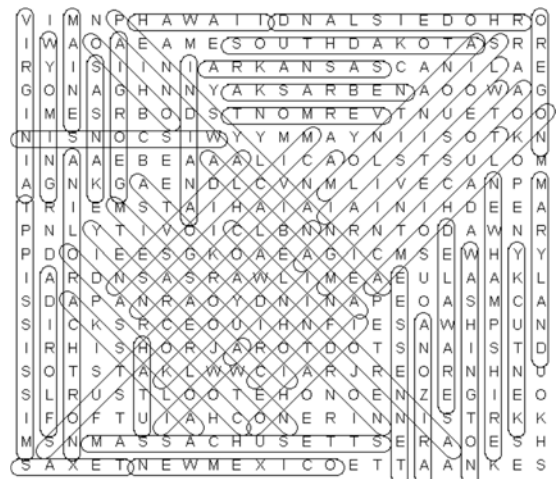
Alabama	Idaho	Minnesota	North Dakota	Vermont
Alaska	Illinois	Mississippi	Ohio	Virginia
Arizona	Indiana	Missouri	Oklahoma	Washington
Arkansas	Iowa	Montana	Oregon	West Virginia
California	Kansas	Nebraska	Pennsylvania	Wisconsin
Colorado	Kentucky	Nevada	Rhode Island	Wyoming
Connecticut	Louisiana	New Hampshire	South Carolina	
Delaware	Maine	New Jersey	South Dakota	
Florida	Maryland	New Mexico	Tennessee	
Georgia	Massachusetts	New York	Texas	
Hawaii	Michigan	North Carolina	Utah	

Answers are on the next page!

Fun & Games

		4	3					6
8			1		5			7
	9	2						
					4			
	3		7	8				
	5	9			3		6	
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		1					8	2

5	7	4	3	9	2	8	1	6
8	6	3	1	4	5	2	9	7
1	9	2	6	7	8	5	3	4
2	1	8	5	6	4	9	7	3
4	3	6	7	8	9	1	2	5
7	5	9	2	1	3	4	6	8
6	8	7	4	2	1	3	5	9
9	2	5	8	3	7	6	4	1
3	4	1	9	5	6	7	8	2



About the IRWA

Since its inception as a not-for-profit association in 1934, the IRWA has united the efforts of its members toward professional development, strong ethics and improved service to employers and the public, along with advancements within the right of way profession. IRWA is the

unsurpassed source of right of way educational programs and professional services worldwide.

Our Members

Dedicated exclusively to the right of way profession, IRWA has nearly 10,000 members throughout the US, Canada and Africa. Our members are multi-disciplined professionals employed by private industry and government agencies as Acquisition Agents, Appraisers, Environment Professionals, Engineers, Lawyers, Property Managers, Relocation Assistance Agents, Surveyors and Title Experts.

Please welcome our newest Chapter Members:

Mark Johnson

Eli Villegas

Krista Affolter

LaRheta Ann Tise

Blake Tyler Allen

Jared McGhee

Danielle LeBlanc

Joseph Shane Jenkins

Charles Thomas Davis, Jr.

Anabeli Salinas

Melanie Vargas

Andrew Kims

Please help us congratulate the following Educational Milestone, Recertification's and Candidacy's:

New RWA Designation's

Suzy Romoser R/W-RAC

****REMINDER****

All current holders of SR/WA/s and Certifications, please check your expiration date to insure you take the necessary steps to insure your recertification.

Meet Your Communications Committee:

Teri Cameron
VP Marketing
Contract Land Staff

Karla Breiterger
Sr. Land Analyst
Enterprise Products

Jason Reece
Sendero Appraisals, LP

Contact:

Teri.Cameron@
contractlandstaff.com

We're on the web!

www.irwachapter8.org

