December 2008 • **vol. 54 • no. 06**

Annual Dinner Meeting & Installation of Officers

Friday • January 9, 2009

Weber's Inn • Ann Arbor, MI

6:30PM – Registration & Welcome Reception
including cocktails & hor d'oeuvres

7:00PM – Dinner

8:00PM – Annual Meeting & Installation of 2009 Officers

Choice of entrée -

Prime Rib: House specialty, slowly roasted and served with au jus

Chicken Maurice: Sautéed chicken breast with stuffed herb crouton dressing

Asiago Encrusted Talapia: Grilled to a golden brown and topped with casino butter

– all dinners include vegetables, tossed salad and assorted pastries

What:
2009 Annual Dinner Meeting & Installation of Officers

When:
FRIDAY, January 9, 2009
6:30PM

Where:
Weber's Inn
3050 Jackson Road
Ann Arbor, MI
734 769 2500

Cost:
early registration:
$40./per person
Registration, Check and Dinner Selection
must be received by January 2, 2009

regular registration:
after January 2, 2009
$45./per person

Register TODAY!
Use this Registration Form ***TODAY*** *and receive your $5.00 discount per person*

Obtain an early registration discount for this special Friday Meeting…
Advance Reservations must be received by January 2, 2009!

By making sure your Registration, Check and Dinner Selection is *received by* January 2, 2007, your cost is only $40. /per person. The regular Registration Fee is $45. /per person. If you have additional questions about this meeting or menu, please contact Alicia Worthley SR/WA: 248 588 8293 / phone • worthleya@aol.com / email

Weber's Inn has set aside a limited number of hotel rooms at a special rate of $89. + tax
You must call Weber's directly @ 800 443 3050 and mention *International Right of Way Association* for this special room rate.

Registration Information / Reservation Form:

- Make checks payable to: Chapter 7 IRWA
- Mail to Alicia Worthley SR/WA: 260 Bellevue Avenue, Clawson, MI 48017

Cost: $40.00/per person – Registration, Check and Dinner Selection ***must be received by January 2, 2009***
Registration Fee *after* January 2nd is $45.00/per person *(SAVE $5.00 by registering TODAY!)*

Questions about this meeting? Please call Alicia: 248 588 8293 • worthleya@aol.com / email

Please reserve space for the following (check your choice of entrée):	Prime Rib	Chicken Maurice	Asiago Talapia
Name:	☐	☐	☐
Guest/Spouse Name(s):	☐	☐	☐
	☐	☐	☐
	☐	☐	☐

Company/Agency:

number of attendees: ***@ $40./ea=*** ***@ $45./ea=*** ***total: $***

Phone Day: Phone Nite:

Certified General Status

Congratulations to ***Glenn Spence*** of Burgoyne Appraisal Company, LLC. Glenn successfully passed the State of Michigan Licensing exam and has advanced to Certified General Status.

submitted by: Norman G. Thomas, ASA SR/WA
R. S. Thomas & Associates/Harold Blake Co.

A Promotion!

Christopher Lamus of OHM was promoted to Director of Field Operations, where he manages construction and survey groups. Congratulations!

submitted by: Dave Maturen, SR/WA
Maturen & Associates

Michigan Foreclosures – November 2008

Although foreclosures in Michigan have dropped to 7th place v. 3rd from last year, the total number of foreclosures have risen dramatically. Detroit, unfortunately, is among the 20 hardest hit metropolitan areas. According to a recent seminar at the State Bar of Michigan Real Property Section program on the subject, Comerica Bank's attorney shared that foreclosure notices to homeowners have increased 70% from Q3 2007 to Q3 2008. This is very tough news for a state also reeling from the weakness of the auto industry and instability on the energy front.

Good advice for people faced with possible foreclosure is to call their lender's loss mitigation department as soon as possible to work out possible alternate solutions. You won't be surprised to know that lenders do not want to take back houses, even more now than ever. Lenders are moving their staff from loan origination to loss mitigation. Also HUD and MSHDA (Save the Dream) have been funding and training foreclosure counselors for the past year or two. The laws on the state and federal front have been changing rapidly and these counselors are in a good position to apply updated help to individual circumstances. These services range from free to nominal. United Way started their own hotline by dialing 211… or 800 552 1183. Because the social, stabilizing fabric of a neighborhood is at high risk with foreclosures, the longer term effects are much more devastating to larger communities and cities. Perhaps we could help to mitigate some of the damage by sharing this information with others… if you aren't already!

submitted by: Valerie F. Lafferty SR/WA
Market Street Land Services

International Right of Way Association
MI *Chapter 7*

2008 Executive Board

Andrew M. Reed, SR/WA
President, International Director

Norman G. Thomas, SR/WA
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Jeannine Myers
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William A. Horn, Esq.
Environment

Alicia T. Worthley, SR/WA
Fall Education Seminar

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Richard Roth, SR/WA
Andrew M. Reed, SR/WA
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Alicia T. Worthley, SR/WA
Recognition & Awards

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Tim Davis, SR/WA
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Chris Lamus
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Utilities/Liaison

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Ken Smith
Valuation

Lynn P. Hall, SR/WA
Jim Aiello
Website

Professional Development

Jeffrey L. Jones, SR/WA	Class of 2008
Patricia A. Petitto, SR/WA	Class of 2009
David C. Maturen, SR/WA	Class of 2010

Every man owes some of his time to the upbuilding of the profession to which he belongs.

–Theodore Roosevelt

president's chapter message

Andrew M. Reed

"So long, farewell, auf wiedersehen, goodbye…"

I can't believe I just quoted *The Sound of Music* in my final letter as your President. That may show the toll that this year has taken on my sanity. Good luck, Norm!

Seriously, this year - as well as the five years prior - has been a tremendous experience for me both personally and professionally. I have met and worked with the best people - all with a shared goal and commitment of improving our fantastic organization. From General Membership and Executive Board meetings to Region Forums to our International Education Seminar, my personal and professional development have benefited greatly. Having said that, I would highly recommend that anyone interested in getting involved to do so – with no reservations.

Though January 9th ends my service to the Michigan Great Lakes Chapter 7 as President, this does **not** end my resolve to stay involved. In fact, I will be lucky enough to serve as 2011 Professional Development Chair. Additionally, I will be taking the IRWA facilitator seminar in January, attempting to be approved to teach education offerings for years to come. I believe this would fall into the category of, "put your money where your mouth is." After all, if I'm going to sing the praises of getting involved, I should follow my own lead, eh? (Canadian inflection added for all of our transplants from *south of the border*.)

Also, in the coming years I hope to stay involved at the Region level and in promoting the benefits and strengths of the SR/WA designation. In my opinion this designation does not enjoy the recognition that it deserves in the field of right-of-way and specifically for those in our field who may not be involved in our organization. I will be working hard to further this recognition.

A big "thank you" to our Board from this year: Norman Thomas, SR/WA, Laura Southwell, SR/WA, Kimberly Tassen, Paul Sander, SR/WA, Steve Roon, SR/WA, and Jeffrey Jones, SR/WA. Also, best of luck to Larysa Figol, SR/WA as the incoming Assistant Secretary/Treasurer and Patricia Petitto, SR/WA as the 2009 Professional Development Chair.

Additionally, I would be remiss to not send thanks to Mary Anne Marr, SR/WA, David Maturen, SR/WA, Alicia Worthley, SR/WA, Roland Cilke, SR/WA, and Dick Roth, R/W-AC for all of their help and guidance over the past 6 years.

A special "thank you" to you, our General Membership, for your support and participation. I look forward to seeing you in January at our Annual Installation of Officers Meeting in Ann Arbor.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew M. Reed, SR/WA
2008 Outgoing President and International Director
Michigan Great Lakes Chapter 7

Your Support is Appreciated

The Great Lakes State•ment

Chapter 7 Membership Roster

We would love to welcome you and your company as a new or returning advertiser. We are currently sending invoices to the existing advertisers and if you would like to take advantage of our reasonable rates, get your name in front of members and support IRWA or if you have any questions, please contact:

Tim Davis, SR/WA, R/W-NAC, R/W-RAC: trdavis@cai-engr.com
or Sallie Martin: samartin@cai-engr.com

Current rates are:

Business Card Ad *Great Lakes State•ment* or Roster - one time	$75.
Roster Half Page Ad	$150.
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Business Card Ad *Great Lakes State•ment* only - 6 Issues	$125.
Business Card Ad *Great Lakes State•ment* - 6 Issues **AND** Roster	$175.

Advertisers will need to provide their completed ad art: full page/4.5w X 7.5h, half page/4.5w X 3.5h, business card. Final ad size will be adjusted as needed.

A

B

C

General Membership Meeting

Frankenmuth, MI
November 14, 2008

D

E

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G

H

I

J

a | President Andy Reed welcomes members

b | Jeff Jones Education Report

c | New FhWA Rep Ron Krauss

d | VC Laura Southwell

e | Boris Yakima. Atty

f | John Erb, DTE

g | Robert Rollinger, Atty

h | Paul Bidwell

i | Larry Kestenbaum, Washtenaw Co Register of Deeds

j | 2009 Executive Committee: Thomas, Southwell, Tassen, Sander, Ron, Figol and Reed (PDC)

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to our advertisers

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Congratulations!

Congratulations to all for their achievements in 2008!

Professional Development

New SR/WAs

Larysa A. Figol, SR/WA

Steve R. Roon, SR/WA

Re-certified SR/WAs

Valerie F. Lafferty, SR/WA

Paul Stempin, SR/WA

New R/W-RAC: Timothy R. Davis, SR/WA, R/W-NAC, R/W-RAC

Re-certified R/W-RAC: Laura K. Southwell, SR/WA, R/W-RAC

Re-certified R/W-AC: Anthony Piazza, R/W-AC

Also congratulations to ***Jeannine P. Myers*** for passing the Relocation Exam.

Election of 2009 Officers

Michigan Chapter Seven held it's Election of Officers at the general membership meeting at Zehnder's of Frankenmuth on November 14. The following members were elected to serve IRWA Chapter Seven for 2009:

President & International Director
Norman G. Thomas, SR/WA

President-Elect & International Director
Laura K. Southwell, SR/WA, R/W-RAC

Vice President
Kimberly A. Tassen

Secretary
Paul E. Sander, SR/WA

Treasurer
Steve Roon, SR/WA, R/W-NAC

Asst. Secretary/Treasurer
Larysa Figol, SR/WA

Professional Development Chair 2011
Andrew M. Reed, SR/WA

Thank you all for stepping forward to lead our Chapter and for giving us your most valuable asset… your time.

submitted by: Jeff Jones, SR/WA
Professional Development Chair 2008

Possible Region Realignment

In September, region chairs met in Baltimore, to consider Region realignment, in order to position the association for continued success in the next 75 years. The goal is to take a step toward balancing the size and strength of our regions, while taking into consideration government laws, travel distance, regional culture and natural business lines among the chapters we serve.

This new region structure will not only compliment chapter representation on the proposed Governing Council, but will strengthen our organization across the board, through collaboration with strong and successful chapters in each of the nine regions being proposed, in alignment with the larger effort of the 2009 IRWA Strategic Plan.

This information on the proposed region map will be discussed at our upcoming region forums and we will then allow for a chapter comment period. Feedback collected during the comment period will be shared with each of us and the IEC as we work toward a final recommendation.

Michael A. Oakes
Newsletter Chair

Hey there…
What's new?

It's that time, again…

It's time to check your listing in the Chapter 7 Membership Roster and if you have **ANY** changes, corrections or additions:

PLEASE forward your updated information to:

Tim Davis, SR/WA, R/W-NAC, R/W-RAC:
trdavis@cai-engr.com
or Sallie Martin: samartin@cai-engr.com

The Great Lakes State•ment is a publication for the members of MI Chapter 7 of the International Right of Way Association (IRWA). Stories and articles of interest are encouraged. Please forward your submissions to:
Michael Oakes,
Newsletter Chair/Editor
517 788 2332
maoakes@cmsenergy.com
Linda M. Polo, Polo Design
Art Director/Editor
lmpolo@aol.com

Submissions for the March newsletter due by:
February 12, 2009

For information on IRWA MI Chapter 7, please contact the Secretary:
Paul E. Sander, SR/WA
248 483 5100
sanderp@MI.gov

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Tim Davis
Commonwealth Associates
PO BOX 1124
Jackson, MI 49201

MICHIGAN Chapter Seven

IRWA
INTERNATIONAL RIGHT OF WAY ASSOCIATION

Address Correction Requested

IRWA Michigan Chapter 7 • Tentative 2009 Schedule

January 9	Installation of officers	Ann Arbor: Weber's Inn
February 5	Executive Board Meeting	Waterford: Road Commission of Oakland Co.
March 5	General Membership Meeting	Ann Arbor: Weber's Inn
April 2	Executive Board Meeting	The City of Troy
April 24-26	Spring Region Forum	West Virginia
May 7	General Membership Meeting	Sterling Heights: Best Western Sterling Inn
June 4	Executive Board Meeting	The City of Troy
June 28 – July 1	Annual Education Conference 75th Anniversary	Indianapolis, IN
August 6	Executive Board Meeting	Livonia: Orchard, Hiltz & McCliment
September 30	Executive Board Meeting	Mackinac Island
October	International Right of Way Month	
October 1 & 2	Fall Education Seminar	Mackinac Island
October 9 - 10	Fall Region Forum	Wisconsin
November 12	General Membership Meeting	Troy: Maggiano's Little Italy
December 3	Executive Board Meeting	Ann Arbor: Washtenaw Co. Road Commission

All Executive Board Meetings start at 9:30AM (except for Fall Seminar)
All General Membership meetings start at 8:00AM with registration

Clip & Save
The dates you need to know in 2009!