MICHIGAN Chapter Seven
IRWA
INTERNATIONAL RIGHT OF WAY ASSOCIATION

THE great lakes State-ment

November 2008
vol. 54 • no. 05

Friday • November 14. 2008

Frankenmuth, MI

Last General Membership meeting for 2008!

Zehnder's of Frankenmuth

(Town Hall Room)

730 S. Main St. • Frankenmuth, MI • 800 863 7999

Frankenmuth is the perfect destination to finish (-or begin) your holiday shopping!
The town welcomes visitors with Bavarian hospitality and because the program ends mid-day, you still have time to enjoy everything Frankenmuth has to offer!

Education Seminar Program

8:15 – 8:30am	Morning registration and *breakfast buffet:* Waffles, Scrambled Eggs, fried potatoes, ham & sausage and pastries, fruit & juice *(Don't be late for this one!)*
8:30– 9:00am	Michigan Chapter 7 Business Meeting and Committee Reports
9:00–10:00 am	**John Erb** – DTE Energy *MGM Casino Acquisition Challenges*
10:00– 11.00 am	**Paul Bidwell, MAI, CCIM** – Affinity Valuation Group, L.L.C. *Appraisal Issues of Today*
11:00– 12.00pm	**Robert Rollinger, P.C.** *Condemnation Issues and the Courts*
12:00 – 1:00pm	Lunch: Frankenmuth's famous chicken with all the trimmings and desert of Apple Strudel
1:00– 2:00pm	**Larry Kestenbaum** – Washtenaw County Register of Deeds *Politics and Land Records*- How political forces have affected and even shaped the process of recording deeds, both historically and in the present
2:00 – 3:00pm	**Boris Yakima** – Monaghan Law Firm *Condemnation Practice in the Right of Way Field*

Please Note: We have not as yet received information from the Department of Licensing regarding continuing education credits for Appraisers, Brokers and Salespersons for this Education Seminar Program.

What:
The Last 2008
General Membership Meeting

When:
November 14, 2008

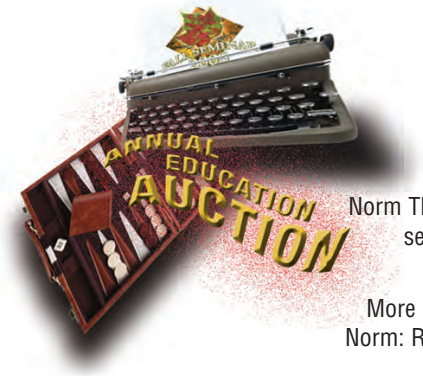
Where:
Zehnder's of Frankenmuth
730 S. Main St.
Frankenmuth, MI
800 863 7999

Cost:
$40.00 / **November 6th by noon**

$45.00 / **After** November 6th

Last Day to Register:
November 12th by noon
Registration must be received by noon on November 12th via us mail or phone call to Laura Southwell!

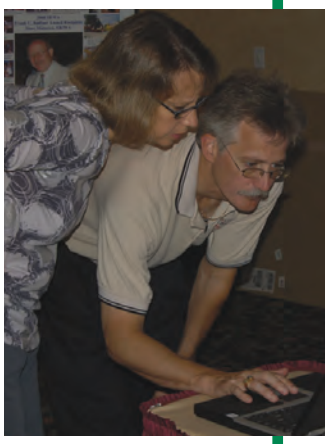
Questions about this meeting?
Laura Southwell, SR/WA
Washtenaw County Road Commission
555 N. Zeeb Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
734 327 6694
734 761 3239 / fax
southwelll@wcroads.org

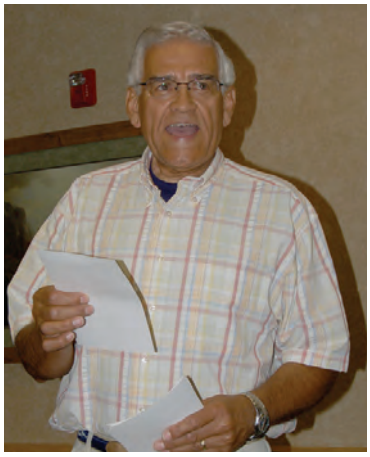


Norm Thomas & Lynn Hall set up the computer/ projector (right)

More *tech wizards* assist Norm: Roland, Jim & Andy (below left)

Official Chapter #7 Auction Tabulator, Lynn Hall (below)





above, left: Alicia Worthley shares her Auction secrets with some "trainees"

Joe Lietaert and Jeff Jones check out some of the auction items, at left

Ed Bradley, our venerable *Auctioneer Extraordinaire*

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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

Well … another *GREAT* Fall Seminar was hosted by good ol' Michigan Chapter 7 this past September. I would like to thank ***Laura Southwell, SR/WA*** and ***Alicia Worthley, SR/WA*** for putting so much hard work into this year's seminar. From the tremendous speakers and topics to the meticulous facility arrangements, our membership was able to enjoy a wonderful couple of days. Also, a big thanks to ***Pat Petitto, SR/WA*** for coordinating Course 406B prior to the seminar.

In addition, personal congratulations to ***Jeffrey Jones, SR/WA*** for his selection as the 2008 Chapter 7 Professional of the Year. Jeff's contributions to our Chapter, Region, and International were recognized during our Fall Seminar with the bestowing of this award. Well done, and well deserved Jeff.

As my year as your President draws to a close, I am struck by the mixed feelings that I have with regards to finishing my "duties." I have found the last 5 years to be extremely rewarding. Of course, you only get out of it what you put into it, but the rewards have far outweighed the hard work required to fill the positions on our Executive Board. Not only was I able to meet and work with my peers, I was able to make friends and better myself as a professional. I was so profoundly impacted by our Chapter and International leaders, that I have decided to continue - this time attempting to be approved as a Facilitator for IRWA.

The long and short of this: GET INVOLVED! You will not be sorry. ***Norman G. Thomas, SR/WA***, your incoming president, will be approaching folks to get involved at the committee level. Before you hang up on him, just think about it…

I would also like to encourage our membership to take advantage of a wonderful opportunity in the upcoming year. The 75th Anniversary of the IRWA will be celebrated at the International Education Seminar in Indianapolis, IN in June of 2009. It is rare to have our annual seminar in such close proximity. As you have no doubt heard before, this annual seminar is a great chance to learn about our organization, our professions, and the people who make this 'thing' go. I encourage all of our members to consider this chance and capitalize on this rare opportunity.

Looking forward to a big turnout in Frankenmuth for another great program put together by **Laura Southwell, SR/WA**.

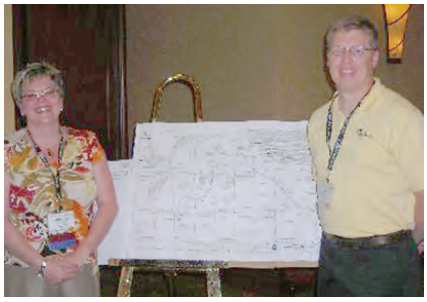
Respectfully submitted,

Andrew M. Reed, SR/WA
2008 President and International Director, Chapter 7
reedandassociates@mac.com

So Much Good News, So Little Space

There was so much fantastic news out of Austin, TX at the Annual International Conference that we didn't have enough room! Here are follow-ups from the last issue and some additional items of note.

And the Big Winner is…



Chapter #7 member ***Henry Horton*** of Rowe Incorporated is the Pipeline Category Winner in the IRWA Surveying & Engineering Committee Annual Mapping Competition. His IRWA Sponsor: Philip Norder.

This is the Winner with Mary Anne Marr. *Congrats, Henry!*

Professional of the Year!

As mentioned in his President's Letter, Andy Reed presents the Chapter 7 2008 Professional of the Year Award to ***Jeff Jones, SR/WA***. Jeff is a Past Chapter President and is currently the Professional Development Committee Chair, as well as the Secretary/Treasurer for Region 5.

Thank you for all the time and effort on behalf of IRWA, Jeff.

And in news about the children of our members:

A Birth Announcement

We are pleased to report, ***Tim Davis, SW/RA***, Roster Committee Chair, his wife, Cyrelle, and oldest daughter, Carys welcomed Wraiya Ryan to the on September 17th. The new addition to the Davis family weighed 5 lbs. 6 oz, 18 inches. All are healthy and well. *Our warmest wishes to all.*

Zoom, Zoom…

Laura Southwell, SR/WA reports her son, Mark Southwell (AKA: Junior) won at Milan Dragway on the Forth of July in the fastest and most dangerous class: the *10.5 Outlaw*. The 10.5 means his front tires can be no larger than 10.5 inches - that's smaller than the height of this paper! Junior built the motor and raced a 1987 Ford Mustang at over 180 mph in the 1/4-mile in just over 8 seconds. The race was was shown on national TV on the Speed Channel.

Laura is, of course, a very proud mom and we add our congrats - *but we don't want to ride shotgun!*

A

B

D

C

Traverse City, MI
September 24-26, 2008

E

a | A good Chapter #7 turn-out on Auction Night

b | A trio of Chapter #7's own Frank C. Balfour winners: Pat Petiitto, Dave Maturen and Alicia Worthly

c | President Andy Reed congratulates Balfour winner, Dave Maturen

d | President Andy Reed welcomes members

e | Mary Anne Marr, Consumers: Wind Energy in Michigan

J

F

K

L

G

H

M

I

f | Benjamin Aloia, Aloia & Associates, Freedom of Information Act

g | Laura Southwell, Chapter 7 program chair

h | Susan Shipman, SRR: BV and RE Valuation

i | Carl Meyer, Michiana Land Services, Inc., Leasing for wind turbines

j | Michele Brower, SRR: BV and RE Valuation

k | Dave Maturen, Maturen & Assoc., Appraisal Foundation - updates

l | New SR/WA Steve Roon is congratulated by Jeff Jones, PDC Chair

i | The *(un)Official Oakland County Table* sporting blue "Petitto for IEC" cups

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It is the responsibility of the advertiser to provide accurate and updated information. MI Chapter 7 will make the best effort to update *The Great lakes State•ment* and Roster as soon as possible thereafter. All ads subject to editorial approval. Chapter 7 accepts roster advertising related to the Right of Way profession. Neither the acceptance nor the publication of any such advertising constitutes an endorsement, recommendation or warranty of the advertiser on the part of Chapter 7, its officers and/or its committee members.

Your Slate of Nominees for 2009

At the September General Membership meeting, a slate of officers was presented. As recommended by the Nominations Committee:

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

President-Elect, International Director
Laura K. Southwell, SR/WA

Vice-President Kimberly Tassen

Secretary Paul E. Sander, SR/WA

Treasurer Steve R. Roon, SR/WA

Asst. Secretary/Treasurer
Larysa A. Figol, SR/WA

Inadvertently left off was:
Professional Development Chair for 2011
Andrew M. Reed, SR/WA.

This position is to be voted in with the others at the General Membership Meeting scheduled for November 14, 2008 in Frankenmuth. As was stated at the September 25th meeting, nomination will remain open to the November 14th meeting.

submitted by: Jeffrey L. Jones, SR/WA
Nominations Committee
jjones@rcoc.org

news & UPdates

Detroit International River Crossing Budget Controversy Continues…

Democratic and Republican legislators continued to face-off over how much further the state can go with the Detroit River International Crossing project, meaning no agreement has yet been reached on the overall 2008-09 Department of Transportation budget.

Rep. Lee Gonzalez (D-Flint) recessed the conference committee on HB 5808 after tempers began to get strained over the ongoing controversy.

Mr. Gonzalez had proposed language to allow completion of the DRIC study and require legislative approval before construction could begin. Republicans objected, saying that could allow for engineering studies, right of way acquisition and other pre-construction elements. No vote was taken on that language.

A proposal they then offered allowed completion of the study and nothing else without legislative approval failed on a 3-3 vote.

Rep. Matt Gillard (D-Alpena) offered a proposal that would have called for further legislative oversight of the Gateway project at the Ambassador Bridge, a project that has been underway for several years. The proposal clearly drew GOP ire and in the end Mr. Gillard was the only legislator to vote for his language. It was then Mr. Gonzalez recessed the meeting to the call of the chair.

submitted by: Andrew M. Reed, SR/WA
2008 President and International Director, Chapter 7
reedandassociates@mac.com

editor's corner

As autumn settles in with a burst of color, falling leaves and a tinge a frost, now may be a good time to grab a cup of hot chocolate and peruse the *Great Lakes State-ment*.

Last month, Chapter 7 held its annual Fall Education Seminar in Traverse City. This was an excellent event discussing many relevant Right of Way issues. In addition, David Burgoyne, SR/WA presented the 7-Hour USPAP update for appraisers.

Topics of discussion on Thursday, September 25th included two different perspectives on wind energy development, differences in real estate vs. business appraisal, *Freedom of Information* processes, and mineral rights. Also, David Maturen, SR/WA provided an update on the Sate Board of Real Estate Appraisers and the Appraisal Foundation.

Friday morning featured issues in condemnation or litigation appraisals for partial acquisitions; The Michigan Supreme Court ruling in the Tomkins case, i.e., special effects of a taking vs. general effects of a the project; a discussion of the need for advance preparation and coordination of resources in LPA projects entailing eminent domain litigation and Kelly Ramirez and Teresa Vanis of MDOT provided a comprehensive discussion of the relocation process.

If you missed the Fall seminar, perhaps you plan to attend November 14th Meeting at Zehnders in Frankenmuth.(See the front cover for details.) Whether you were in attendance at last month's seminar or not, you may still have questions or you may desire to follow-up on any of these, or other, subjects.

I would like to start a forum for readers on relevant issues. These may include USPAP, condemnation preparation, due diligence during acquisition, etc. Please send any questions to The *Great Lakes State-ment*, c/o Michael Oakes, Editor, One Energy Plaza, EP7-432, Jackson, MI 49201 or email to maoakes@cmsenergy.com and "hold the "marshmallows." I will enlist the assistance of the Executive Board and/or Committee Chairs based on subject matter expertise. Also, this may be expanded on the web site (http://www.irwamichigan.org/) into a thread discussion forum.

Michael A. Oakes, Newsletter Chair

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,
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517 788 2332
maoakes@cmsenergy.com
Linda M. Polo, Polo Design
Art Director/Editor
lmpolo@aol.com

Submissions for the December newsletter due by:

November 19, 2008

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

November 2008
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Tim Davis
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MICHIGAN Chapter Seven

IRWA
INTERNATIONAL RIGHT OF WAY ASSOCIATION

Address Correction Requested

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