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
May newsletter due by:
April 16, 2009

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

March 2009
VOL. 55 • NO. 01

Tim Davis
Commonwealth Associates
PO BOX 1124
Jackson, MI 49201

MICHIGAN Chapter Seven
IRWA
INTERNATIONAL RIGHT OF WAY ASSOCIATION

Address Correction Requested

What:
General Membership Meeting

When:
March 5, 2009
8:00AM

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

Cost:
$40 per person
$45 at the door
and late registration

Last Day to Register:
Friday, February 27, 2009

Questions about this meeting?
Larysa Figol, SR/WA, The City of Troy,
500 W. Big Beaver Road, Troy, MI 48083
(248.524.3380) figoll@troymi.gov

2009 EVENTS SCHEDULE - updated

January 9	Installation of officers Meeting	Weber's Inn, Ann Arbor
February 5	Executive Board Meeting	Oakland County Road Commission, Waterford
March 5	General Membership Meeting	Weber's Inn, Ann Arbor
April 2	Executive Board Meeting	The City of Troy
April 24 - 26	Spring Region Forum	West Virginia
May 7	General Membership Meeting	Best Western Sterling Inn, Sterling Heights
June 4	Executive Board Meeting	The City of Troy
June 28 – July 1	Annual Education Conference 75th Anniversary	Indianapolis, Indiana
August 6	Executive Board Meeting	Orchard, Hiltz & McCliment; Livonia
September 30	Executive Board Meeting	Lakeview Hotel, Mackinac Island
October	*International Right of Way Month*	
October 1 & 2	Fall Education Seminar	Lakeview Hotel, Mackinac Island
October 16 - 18	Fall Region Forum	Wisconsin
November 12	General Membership Meeting	Maggiano's Little Italy, Troy
December 3	Executive Board Meeting	Washtenaw County Road Comm., Ann Arbor

Note: All Executive Board Meetings start at 9:30 a.m.
All General Membership meetings start at 8:00 a.m. with registration.

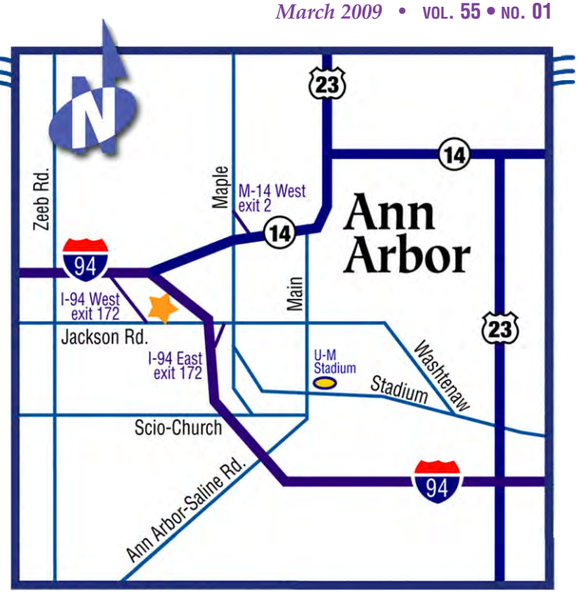
MICHIGAN Chapter Seven
IRWA
INTERNATIONAL RIGHT OF WAY ASSOCIATION

THE great lakes State•ment

Michigan Chapter 7 Membership Meeting

March 5, 2009

Weber's Inn • 3050 Jackson Road • Ann Arbor, MI
8:00AM



8:00 – 8:30AM	Registration
8:30 – 8:45AM	Opening Remarks & Business Meeting
8:45 – 9:45AM	**Valerie Lafferty**, Market Street Land Services *LEEDS – What is it? Why and what we may need to know*
9:45– 10:45AM	**Thomas Wackerman**, Brownfield Restoration/Risk Assessment, ASTI Environmental *Brownfields and basic alternatives in remediation*
10:45 – 11:45AM	**Michael Odette**, MDOT *Coordinating Underground Right of Way improvements in the MDOT Highway Right of Way*
11:45 – 1:00PM	**Lunch** Please return promptly at 1:00 p.m.
1:00 – 2:00PM	**Jeff Hawkins**, Envirologic *Proposed DEQ 201 Changes – Pros & Cons*
2:00 – 3:00PM	**Lori Chmura**, Educational Director, Middleton Real Estate School *Generational Differences in Negotiations*
3:00PM	Adjournment – *Please drive safely.*

Breaks will be given between speakers as time allows.

Registration cost: $40 per person; $45 at the door and late registration.

Please register: **Larysa Figol**, SR/WA, The City of Troy,
500 W. Big Beaver Road, Troy, MI 48083
248 524 3380 / phone • figoll@troymi.gov / e-mail

Registration deadline: Friday, February 27, 2009

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(248.524.3380) figoll@troymi.gov

Mark your calendar!
Next Chapter 7 IRWA Membership meeting:
May 7, 2009

Annual International Education Conference

Indianapolis, IN • June 28 - July 1

Each year, IRWA's Annual International Education Conference provides right of way professionals with unparalleled learning and networking opportunities. With typically more than 1,000 registrants, attendees have the opportunity to learn about best practices, share project challenges and hear solutions from the industry's leading professionals. *AND* you can earn get up to 24 hours of Recertification Credit!

Online registration and information available at irwaonline.org

Conference Location and Headquarters Hotel: Indianapolis Marriott Downtown Hotel Rates (excluding taxes): $156 / good through May 26. Reserve your room today at www.indymarriott.com - You must mention IRWA to receive negotiated special rates.

MiCREA Announces New Committee Members for 2009

MiCREA proudly announced the addition of 3 new members to the committee. One of which is our own **Norman Thomas**, Certified General, R. S. Thomas & Associates, Inc. Each member of the committee assumes his or her position on January 1 of the year following their appointment and serves a three-year term. Way to go, Norm!

submitted by: Dave Maturen

In the News:

KALAMAZOO GAZETTE | SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2008

Celeste, Michelle and Nicole Maturen

Celeste, Michelle and Nicole Maturen, daughters of David and Nancy Maturen of Vicksburg, MI, were all awarded degrees in 2008.

Celeste earned a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism from Michigan State University; Michelle completed a Masters Degree of Education in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages from Lehman College of the City Universities of New York; Nicole was awarded a Ph.D in Biology from the University of Michigan.

Observer & Eccentric HOMETOWNlife

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

Jerome P. Pesick

Jerome P. Pesick of West Bloomfield has been selected for inclusion in the 2009 Edition of The Best Lawyers in America in the specialties of Eminent Domain and Condemnation Law. He is the managing shareholder of Steinhardt Pesick and Cohen, P.C. He was also recently elected as chairman-elect for 2008-09 State Bar of Michigan Real Property Law Section.

International Right of Way Association

Michigan Chapter 7

2008 Executive Board

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

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

Kimberly A. Tassen
Vice President

Paul E. Sander, SR/WA
Secretary

Steve R. Roon, SR/WA
Treasurer

Larysa A. Figol, SR/WA
Assistant Secretary-Treasurer

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Asset Management & Accreditation

Patricia A. Petitto, SR/WA
Jeffrey L. Jones, SR/WA
Jeannine Myers
Education

William A. Horn, Esq.
Environment

Alicia T. Worthley, SR/WA
Fall Education Seminar

Laura K. Southwell, SR/WA
Finance

Raymond Howd
Law & Legislation

Frank Del Vecchio, SR/WA
Chris Barnes
Larysa Figol
Local Public Agency

Julie A. Sandzik
Membership

Michael Oakes
Newsletter

Jeffrey L. Jones, SR/WA
Richard Roth, SR/WA
Andrew M. Reed, SR/WA
Nominations

Edward R. Bradley, SR/WA
Parliamentarian & Historian

Gary E. Bowman, SR/WA
Past Presidents & Retired Members

Carl L. Meyer, SR/WA
Gayle Konik
Pipeline

Alicia T. Worthley, SR/WA
Recognition & Awards

Kelly Ramirez
Relocation

Tim Davis, SR/WA
Roster

Chris Lamus
Survey

Paul E. Sander, SR/WA
Steve Roon, R/W-NAC
Transportation

Kimberly A. Tassen
Mary Anne Marr, SR/WA
Utilities/Liaison

David C. Maturen, SR/WA
Ken Smith
Valuation

Lynn P. Hall, SR/WA
Jim Aiello
Website

Professional Development

Patricia A. Petitto, SR/WA	Class of 2009
David C. Maturen, SR/WA	Class of 2010
Andrew M. Reed, SR/WA	Class of 2011

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

–Theodore Roosevelt

editor's corner

Hopefully, as we near the third month of 2009, we are sticking to our New Year's Resolutions. Perhaps, you have resolved to enroll in one of the various education courses offered each year. An updated education calendar is included below.

The IRWA -: Well done.

Finally, if you need a class which isn't on this year's schedule, please submit your request. Be mindful, that most classes require a minimum number of attendees to be feasible. But, the Chapter has added classes when a enough attendance was assured. Last year Course 100 Principles of Acquisition was added by request as well as Course 803 Legal Aspects of Easements.

Class is more fun when you can attend with colleagues, or friends. If you know of a class that you and others need or want, please let us know. As they say "Keep those cards and letters coming."

p.s. Norm, I think you're pushing the envelope of *Business Casual* with that photo.

Michael A. Oakes, Newsletter Chair

Education Schedule for 2009

The Education Committee is planning on offering the following courses in 2009. Please look for more information in upcoming newsletters, brochures and e-mails The schedule looks like this:

Dates	Course No.	Title
February 9 & 10	215	Right of Way Agent's Development Program
May 11 – 15	401	The Appraisal of Partial Acquisitions
July/August	901	Engineering Plan Development and Application
	902	Property Descriptions
September 30	505	Advanced Residential Relocation Assistance
November	200	Principles of Real Estate Negotiation
	400	Principles of Real Estate Appraisal

If you are looking for courses to enable you to get your SR/WA designation or a right of way certification, make your plans to attend the above courses. If you have any questions feel free to contact us.

submitted by: Jeff Jones

Course #401

The Appraisal of Partial Acquisitions

May 11-15, 2009
5 days: 8 AM - 5 PM DAILY

Class Location:
Weber's Inn, Ann Arbor

Facilitator: Dave Burgoyne, Andy Reed is currently getting approval from IRWA to team teach

Course Tuition: Members / $755.00 – Non-Members / $935.00 includes Participant's Manual and USPAP Text

Required Materials: Hand-held Calculator

Prerequisites: It is recommended that participants successfully complete IRWA Course 400 "Principles of Real Estate Appraisal" prior to attending this class, or have a minimum of one year practical appraisal experience or college appraisal class (minimum of 9 hours) or its equivalent.

Course Description: This advanced course for the experienced appraiser deals with the special problems of the valuation of partial acquisitions, both fee and easement.

The participant will learn various accepted appraisal methods in order to best determine the approach that is needed in any particular situation.

This "how to" class includes:
- How to determine and appraise the larger parcel
- Techniques for appraising the part acquired
- How to identify and measure various types of damages
- How to value the remainder after acquisition
- Special benefits - ways to handle
- Straight before and after - how, why & when

Topics:
- Valuation of the Larger Parcel
- The 2 Basic Approaches to Right of Way Valuation: How Each Approach Works, Case Differences, Uses, Advantages, Techniques for Valuation of the Part Acquired
- Damages/Diminution Causes, Methods of Measurement, How to Demonstrate in Court
- Special Benefits, Techniques for Measurement, Practical Considerations in Eminent Domain
- Special Problems of Easement Valuation, All Types of Utility Easements, Temporary Easements, Rule of Thumb v. Rule of Economic Impact, How to Handle in Court
- The Appraiser as an Expert Witness

For more information contact Class Coordinator:
Jeannine P. Myers, Right of Way Specialist
Commonwealth Associates, Inc.
517 414 1220 / phone • 517 788 3003 / fax
jpmyers@cai-engr.com / e-mail

Cancellation Policy: Written notification of cancellation must be received by class coordinator 15 days prior to start of class. A 75% refund will be made if written notification is received less than 15 days prior to start of class. No refund will be made after the start of class. A fee may be charged for registrations received after deadline and for those registering on day of class.

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President

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engineers • consultants • construction managers
TIM DAVIS, SR/WA
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Gayle M. Konik | Department Head
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Thank You
to our advertisers

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.

president's chapter message
Norman G. Thomas, SR/WA

All of us began in right of way much earlier than we think. Even in my early years, right of way made an impact. However, in today's world we have just a few extra items to consider from the photo:

- Can the soil support my roadway
- Am I disturbing natural/ protected vegetation
- Is the weight load of the wagon within limits
- What other easements exist here
- Is a roundabout necessary at this intersection
- There are numerous engineering, surveying and valuation questions that will undoubtedly lead to relocation, legal and negotiation/acquisition issues.

Yes – we are in Right of Way. It appears most of the media attention has been emphasizing the valuation/appraising aspects with the mortgage bailout. However, utilities and transportation are going to be extremely busy in the coming year.

We will keep you informed of the updates and changes on the legislative issues, Right of Way projects, Chapter education and general news. We encourage **ALL** our members to submit information for publication. The magnitude of our Members and the wealth of information and knowledge we have are truly incredible.

Thank you Alicia for coordinating a fabulous Installation Dinner in Ann Arbor and a special *Thank You* to the Corporate and individual sponsors that were a tremendous help for this event.

Our Past President Andy Reed, SR/WA set the bar and set it high. We have an excellent Executive Board, and Committee Chairs and Co-Chairs and will be working throughout this year on many levels. It is definitely exciting. We have completed our first Executive Board meeting and it proved to be lively with many issues that we will be facing in the near future.

Lets have some fun. I'll see you at the upcoming meeting.

Norman G. Thomas, SR/WA
Michigan Chapter 7 President

Welcome to our New Members

Three new members were approved by Chapter 7 at the Installation Banquet, they are:

Michael Dwyer
McNeely & Lincoln Associates, Inc.
Sponsored by Tim Davis, SR/WA

Matthew Willson
Road Commission for Oakland County
Sponsored by Jeff Jones, SR/WA

Jason Benedict
Road Commission for Oakland County
Sponsored by Jeff Jones, SR/WA

submitted by: Jeffrey L. Jones, SR/WA

Your Support is Still Appreciated

erratum: Please pardon the errors in the last issue – sorry for any confusion or problems it might have caused!

The roster and advertising copy should have been as follows:

Contact information for advertising or roster up-dates:
Tim Davis, SR/WA, R/W-NAC, R/W-RAC, at trdavis@cai-engr.com or Sallie Martin at samartin@cai-engr.com

It's Roster time!
If your contact information has changed please contact Tim Davis or Sallie Martin

Advertising with IRWA!

We are currently sending invoices to the existing advertisers in *The Great Lakes Statement (GLS)* and *Membership Roster*. If you would like to purchase an ad please contact Tim or Sallie for information. Current rates are:

$75.00 *GLS* business card

$75.00 *Roster* business card

$150.00 *Roster* half page

$225.00 *Roster* full page

Advertisers will need to provide their completed ad, business card, half page (approximately 3 3/4" x 3 1/2") or full page (3 3/4" x 7"). Final ad size will be adjusted as needed.

submitted by: Tim Davis, SR/WA,R/W-NAC, R/W-RAC
Manager, Land Services Section, Commonwealth Associates, Inc
517 768 7153 / phone • trdavis@cai-engr.com / e-mail

A

Ann Arbor, MI

Annual Dinner Meeting & Installation of Officers

B

C

D

E

F

At the top right is the turn-out for the Annual Dinner Meeting

a | Installation of 2009 Officers, doing the swearing-in honors: Pat Petitto

b | New '09 President, Norm Thomas, giving his first address

c | Marian Barnes is flanked by the brand-new President, Norm Thomas and past-President, Andy Reed – and all three are Albion Grads!

d | Norm relieves his President's pin from Robin while Luke Thomas looks on

e | Out-going President Andy Reed presents the gavel plaque to in-coming President, Norm Thomas (The spittoon and other accessories came later!)

f | President Andy Reed giving his farewell address

Course 215 was held in February and well-attended by Chapter 7 members, other states including WI, IN and PA, and also an attendee from Canada. Roland Cilke the Class Facilitator is in action in the top photo and Jeff Jones, the Course Coordinator, is at right.

UPdates

The Crisis in Transportation:
Brother Can You Spare a Dime?

Brother can you spare a dime? - a popular song and question asked during a time our country was in trouble. That question was the theme of the last depression. I cannot predict the start of another depression; however, investments are depleting, the housing market is in a slump and our leaders do not know what to do. Times are getting hard again in all industries. Did you know that the State of Michigan is getting ready to send millions of our dollars back to the Federal Government because we cannot meet our 20% (or two dimes of the dollar) matching funds? Other issues, as indicated from a letter from Kirk Stuedle, Director of the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), to the MDOT employees "With soaring gas prices, motorists have made permanent changes to their driving habits. They are driving less, and buying more fuel efficient vehicles and hybrids, leading to a $100 million decrease in gas tax revenue over the past five years, and this trend is going to continue."

Michigan and other states critically need to find sources of money to invest in our infrastructure. Where else can anyone quadruple his or her money in one day? There is a crisis in Michigan and we need to follow it closely. We need infrastructure projects to keep Michigan moving and the Right of Way business strong. Please read the attached information taken from a MDOT presentation.

10 Things You Don't Know About Transportation Funding

- Higher gas prices don't mean more funding for transportation.
- The gas tax is a flat 19 cents per gallon, regardless of the price of fuel.
- Only a small fraction of Michigan's 6% sales tax added to gas goes to fund transportation.
- Every dollar of federal gas tax collected in Michigan is distributed nationwide, with only 92 cents from each dollar coming back to fund Michigan roads.
- Fuel taxes and registration fees cost the average Michigan motorist $35 a month.
- For every dollar spent on transportation, $5 to $6 in economic benefit is created.
- Michigan has ranked in the bottom 10 in the nation in transportation funding for the past 40 years.
- Lost time, wasted fuel, crashes, and vehicle repairs cost the average Michigan motorist $1,671 annually. This cost will increase if funding restrictions cause roads to deteriorate.
- Construction costs have increased by 20% to 32% in the past five years.

What you don't know will cost you!

Submitted by: Paul E Sander, PMP, SR/WA

More on the Transportation Funding Crisis & MDOT

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) recently published a power point presentation about *the transportation funding crisis facing Michigan*. The power point can be accessed by visiting: www.michigan.gov/tf2 and clicking the *Presentation on Funding Crisis (Feb.6, 2009)* link.

Teresa R. Vanis, Local Agency Coordinator
MDOT - Real Estate Division

The Board of Real Estate Appraisers Scheduled Meetings

Appraisers as well as the general public may attend The Board of Real Estate Appraisers scheduled meetings. Appraisers receive 2 hours. con-ed credit. Many items are handled at these meetings including disciplinary matters and can be real *eye openers*.

To get the schedule of these meetings and observe the *nuts and bolts* of State licensing in action, check out this link for a Board of Real Estate Appraisers Meeting Schedule for 2009:

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dleg/2009_Appraisers_Meeting_239231_7.pdf

Glenn Spence, Land and Valuation Committee