

IRWA Kachina Chapter 28

PMB #428
5025 North Central Avenue
Phoenix AZ 85012



NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER, 2003

Executive Board Meeting

When: Wednesday, September 3, 2003
Where: Holiday Inn Select (44th Street & Washington)
Time: 4:45pm
This is the last Board Meeting before the Seminar. Please RSVP to Melita Hillman at **melita.hillman@cityofmesa.org** or 480.644.2671

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45th Annual Seminar

Don't miss the 45th Annual Seminar coming up on September 18th & 19th. Information can be found on the Chapter website at: **<http://www.irwaaz.com/seminar.htm>** or you can contact any Executive Board Member. Registration deadline is Wednesday, September 10th.

2004 Elections

The Chapter 2004 Elections will be held on Thursday, September 18th at the Seminar Luncheon. The slate of Officers to be voted on will be as follows:

- President: Douglas McLaughlin, SR/WA
- President Elect: Carolyn (Chris) Banks, SR/WA
- Secretary: Michael Sterling
- Treasurer: Toni Soderman, SR/WA
- International Director (1 Year): Melita Hillman, SR/WA

The **2004 PDC** will be represented by:

- Chair: Larry Ambrosier, SR/WA
- 2 Year: Al Dickie, SR/WA
- 3 Year: Michael Wilson, SR/WA

If you have a desire to serve the Chapter in any capacity, please contact any Executive Board member for more information.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Rebekah Louis, Chair

The following people were approved for membership at the August 6th Executive Board Meeting:

- Rosa Bowser, Universal Field Services
- Carrie Lundin, Acquisition Sciences

The following person was read for 30 day consideration at the August 6th Executive Board Meeting:

- J Douglas Estes, Sell & Associates

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Toni Soderman, SR/WA, Chair

Kachina Chapter 28 has a new SR/WA. Congratulations are in order for Dan Kovoichich of SRP for earning this designation.

We also have three members who have submitted their application for Candidacy:

Coral Sheehan - 7-3-03

Gayle Estes - 7-10-03

M. Earl Lewis, Jr. - 7-29-03

Once a person is a candidate they must have a minimum of 5 years of qualifying related right of way experience. They must also have a Bachelors degree or in lieu of a bachelor's degree, complete any 4 of the 12 segments listed below:

College:	30 Credits	30 Credits	30 Credits	30 Credits
Experience:	2 Years	2 Years	2 Years	2 Years
Add'l Courses:	8 Days	8 Days	8 Days	8 Days

The Years of Experience can run concurrent with the first 5 years stated above. Example: You do not have a bachelor's degree so you would need 8 years of qualifying experience, 3 additional years plus your original 5 years.

If you would like to submit an SR/WA candidacy application, please mail it to me, along with a check for \$20.00 made out to National, Toni Soderman, at Maricopa County Department of Transportation, Right-of-Way Division, 2901 W. Durango St., Phoenix, Arizona, 85009-6357.

IRWA application forms can be found on the Internet at www.irwaonline.org. Requirements for the Certification and SR/WA programs are listed in the back of every Right of Way Magazine.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Melita Hillman, SR/WA, Chapter President

It's September and final preparations are in full swing for our 45th Annual Kachina Chapter 28 Annual Seminar. Following the theme of "Doing More with Less" we are putting the final touches on what looks to be another super presentation. We have speakers to help us deal with reduced budgets, new cost-effective technology and managing the ever-changing workplace. Join us on September 18 & 19. And don't forget the goody bags, raffle prizes and other fun stuff. If you haven't registered, hurry up and get your registration information to Doug McLaughlin by Wednesday, September 10.

At the Annual Seminar, Chapter 28 will recognize the Professional and Employer of the Year as well as those who have assisted Chapter with Special Service Awards. This is also the time of the formal election of officers for next year. The current slate of officers promises a continuation of the enthusiasm on the Board of past year. However, if you would like to assist, contact Doug McLaughlin as he recruits Chairs and members for the various Committees for next year.

Following up on the possible realignment of chapters in Region One, I have received the Report and Recommendation of the Task Force from Region One. The Recommendation, based on comments from various chapters and individuals both inside and outside the Region, is to amend the IRWA Policy and Procedures Manual to allow 15 chapters per Region (up from the current 10). Further recommendations include studying the realignment of all the IRWA Regions and /or create more Regions as well as to evaluate the Regional Leadership Chair & Vice Chair structure to improve the liaison between chapters, international committees and Headquarters. This recommendation is consistent with the recommendation of Chapter 28 to the Task Force – to not move chapters from Region One.

On a more personal note, I pass on to you the sad news that Phyllis Heitmann, SR/WA, of Tucson Electric and Chapter 73 lost her battle with cancer on August 12. She had been a member and officer in Chapter 73 and had regularly attended classes here as well as our Annual Seminar every September. I met Phyllis in 1996 when I coordinated the 101 series of classes and we took several courses together after that in addition to the SR/WA review and cram sessions. She always had a smile and kind word for everyone. She will be missed.

Community Service Project Adopt a Family for the Holidays

Recently the Board approved a Chapter 28 Community Service Project for this year. While most of us individually have our own way of giving back to the community, it is also our goal to give to the community as an organization. The Board approved the Chapter "adopting" a family for each of the end of the year holidays – both Thanksgiving and the December holidays.

We anticipate collecting food and financial contributions at both the November and December luncheons to assist the selected family for that month to be able to celebrate the holiday in a manner otherwise not possible for them. If you would like to assist us or coordinate our efforts in the project, please let me know.

Goody Bag Stuffing

Join us for some fun and assist with the Annual Seminar at the annual Goody Bag Stuffing Party on Wednesday, September 17 at the Holiday Inn Select at 4300 East Washington. We will meet at the Holiday Inn about 4:45 PM to begin the stuffing about 5 PM. If you or your organization is donating goodies for the bags, please bring them or have them delivered so are ready to begin by 5 PM. This takes about an hour to do the stuffing – but then you can hang around for some socializing afterwards. See you there!

Free Computer Class for IRWA Chapter 28 Members

To continue the tradition established last year, In October instead of a chapter luncheon, we will be hosting "Microsoft Word – Beyond Word Processing" for the members of Chapter 28. Last year we answered the questions you wanted to know about computers but didn't know who to ask. This year – it is all those things you want or need to do with Word – but aren't sure where to begin - like importing graphics or spreadsheets into your Word document; creating charts and tables and all sorts of other fun and short-cut steps.

It seems so quick and easy when you watch someone else, but then when you begin – it doesn't seem to work. Well – this half-day class will make it something you can do!! And give you the confidence to make it easy for you too. Besides demonstration and instruction, we will have a workbook/handout for you with all the information in easy to read and understand language.

Mark the date on your calendar - Thursday, October 16 in the afternoon at the Salt River Project PAB facility on Project Drive from 1 till 5 PM. Look for further info and registration information over the next month.

Our own Cate Chamberlain of Canyon Digital Solutions - and the newsletter and web mistress of Chapter 28 – will do the honor of teaching the class. If you have other Word related issues or topics, let us know and we will try to include them. This is a class for you – help us make it what will help you. Let us know what you want covered.