

THE NEW ENGLANDER

IRWA Newsletter, New England Chapter 16, Region 4

President's Message

Chapter 16 Members,

As we enter a new fiscal year, I am thrilled to begin working with the professionals that have volunteered their time to serve on the Executive Board. As members, we owe them many thanks for their dedication and leadership. We have exciting times ahead for the Chapter.

Several of us from the leadership group have just returned from the Annual Education Conference in Anchorage, Alaska. At the conference, we were able to participate in workgroups with leading right of way professionals from across the world. It was inspiring to see such enthusiasm for progress throughout the organization. I thoroughly enjoyed the fellowship and perspective that the international conference provided.

Expect to see new opportunities enhancing the value of your membership. Several of our Chapter initiatives this year surround engaging our members more often and in different ways. We hope to host more social functions, similar to our annual Mini Golf Classic, which continues to be a huge success (see pages 4-5). We are hoping to start off by planning an outdoor event around our September meeting in White River Junction, Vermont, so keep an eye on our website for future details.

Summer 2017 Edition

In This Issue

- President's Message
- Book Review - *The Landmen*
- Regional Update
- Young Professionals Update
- Mini-Golf Classic
- Infrastructure Funding Article
- Visiting the Alaska Pipeline
- Election Results
- Professional Development
- Upcoming Events



Region 4 Members the 2017 Annual Education Conference in Anchorage, Alaska

We aim to continue to provide the most relevant and interesting educational opportunities to our members. Our education committee will be hard at work scheduling courses and seminars, so if you are looking for a specific course, let us know and we will get it onto the schedule. Through education and mentorship, our Chapter will continue to support the growth of our members to develop the future of the IRWA.

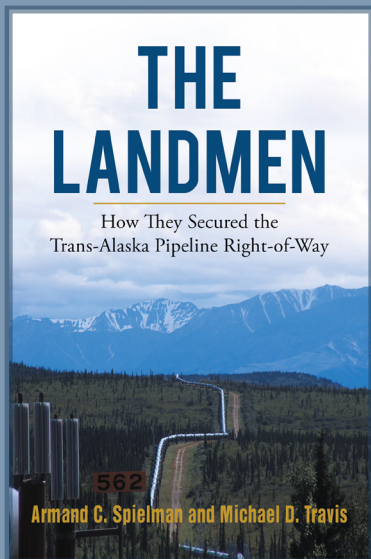
Another goal will be to increase communication among our members. We will be publishing newsletters, email updates, and will continue to enhance our social media presence throughout the year. If you have material that you wish you share with our members, including noteworthy articles, or industry news, please send it to us or post it directly to one of our social media pages. Links can be found on our new website, which is becoming more robust week by week.

It is an interesting time to be employed in the right of way industry, when infrastructure development is ever present in the media. Although there are differing opinions on how our nation should approach our ailing infrastructure, there seems to be a general consensus that the time to do so is now. We, as Right of Way Professionals, are at the forefront of these initiatives.

Thank you again to all of those members that continue to dedicate countless hours to supporting the IRWA. I anticipate a successful year ahead for the Chapter and the Region, and I look forward to seeing you at one of our upcoming events.

Derrick W. Roma, PMP, SR/WA
IRWA Chapter 16 President and Director

Book Review!



In 1969, Armand Spielman had no idea of the overwhelming task before him when he became a temporary landman for the company that would build the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS). His task, with the help of his team of landmen, was to acquire right of way so that crude oil could flow the 800 miles from Prudhoe Bay to the ice-free port of Valdez, where it would be shipped to west coast refineries.

This book, their true story, is absolutely fascinating to read. It tells of the struggles and obstacles the group overcame to obtain the land needed to build the Alaskan pipeline. The group had to contend with significant land issues along the proposed corridor including native allotments and mining claims, regardless of whether the claims were legitimate or not. Because Alaska, as a State, was in its infancy, many of these issues had not been tested yet by the courts.

The project, which of course involved a significant federal action, was kicking off just as the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) became effective in 1970. Interestingly, when the law was signed, no one seemed to pay much attention to the possible ramifications. As the group waded through the waters of an untested NEPA process, environmentalist groups were mounting their legal challenges against the project.

From backroom legislative sessions, to disarming miners blockading the route across their claims, this group witnessed it all. This story should peak the interest of any right of way professional, particularly those interested in American history, politics, and legal wrangling. You will truly get a glimpse into the life of a right-of-way professional working in the final frontier.

Region Leadership Update



Dear Region 4 Chapters!

Changes are afoot in Region 4! Not only are many of our Chapter's welcoming new leadership, the same is true for Region 4 leadership! For those who have not heard, Region 4 Chair Doug Hummel, SR/WA has resigned from his role as our Chair. Doug has taken a new position with Contract Land Staff in Seattle, WA. We wish Doug the best in his new adventure and appreciate what he has done as a volunteer for his Chapter and Region 4!

Moving forward, I have assumed the Region 4 Chair position. As for the Region 4 Vice Chair, I have appointed Ida Parrett, SR/WA as interim Region Vice Chair. Ida not only meets the criteria to become RVC but brings knowledge and enthusiasm to the position as well. Together, Ida and I look forward to working with the Region's Chapters to maximize member value.

The Region will have an opportunity to ratify Ida's appointment at the Region 4 Fall Forum in Cromwell, CT. The Fall Forum is from October 4-7, 2017 with the Forum meeting being held on Friday October 6. Chapter 23 is finalizing the details of the event. Book your room now! (Raddison Hotel, 100 Berlin Rd, Cromwell, CT 06416 (860) 549-2400. Use "IRWA" for the \$109/night rate). Stay tuned — more details to follow!

Sincerely,

Craig J. Curtis, SR/WA
Region 4 Chair



Region 4
FALL Forum
Save the Date
October 4-7, 2017



Hartford

Radisson Hotel
100 Berlin Road
Cromwell, CT 06416
(860) 807-2483

Room Rate: \$109 / night
Includes on-site parking
Short distance to Downtown Hartford
and Downtown New Haven



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FORE! 6th Annual Mini Golf Classic - a Fun Family Event

By Lara Baily, SR/WA, R/W-NAC

Loads of fun was enjoyed by all at the 6th Annual Mini Golf Classic at Kimball Farm in Westford, MA on July 14, 2017!! On a beautiful day, we had 6 teams participate in mini golf, a fabulous lunch, and lots of other activities.



Congratulations to "Team Drivers" for the Best Score, "Go Bananas" for Best Theme, and "Red, White & Mini Golf Blues" for Best Name and Best Effort!!



Thank you to our sponsors!



Save the Date:

2018 Mini Golf Classic is
scheduled for Friday, July 20,
2018 at Kimball Farm

Young Professionals: The Future of the IRWA

Annual Conference Recap

In addition to the education and networking opportunities, this year at the Annual IRWA Education Conference, the focus for the Young Professionals Group was to become integrated with senior leadership, and remain involved in shaping the future of the IRWA. Everyone recognizes that the workforce is aging, and that the younger professionals will play a vital role in the future of the industry. However, there is no clear cut path ahead. The Young Professionals Group members are taking every opportunity to be involved in the discussions and strategic planning.

The conference kicked off this year with a networking reception on Saturday night sponsored by the Young Professionals Group. At the event, which proved to be an excellent opening for the conference, professionals of all ages were able to meet in a casual atmosphere. The YP Group continued to maintain a strong presence throughout the week, including staffing our own booth in the exhibit hall. At the booth, we signed up over 200 professionals of all ages to participate in a new mentor program that will be launching soon. The program will aim to match mentors with younger professionals, and each member will be able to customize the user experience. We hope that this program will help members develop lasting mutually beneficial professional relationships. The YP Region Chairs were then invited to the Leadership Appreciation and Recognition Reception where we were able to continue our discussions regarding the future of the organization.



Another initiative of the YP Group was to organize several of the education sessions. This year, the sessions were integrated into the conference, and the topics focused on soft skills, leadership, and career growth. One of the workshops was streamed live online for members that were not able to attend the conference in person. This was a new and innovative approach to try to engage more young professionals from across the organization.

Finally, all of the Region YP Chairs participated alongside other IRWA leadership members in a strategic planning session with Glenn H. Tecker. Glenn is recognized as one of the world's foremost experts on association leadership and strategy. The session was interactive and participants spent time scanning the environment for current conditions, trends, and made assumptions about the future that could impact the organization. Among other challenges, there was a general consensus that an aging workforce remains one of the primary concerns of the Association. This challenge for the organization will present numerous opportunities for young professionals throughout the industry.



Trump's Initiative to Rebuild Crumbling Infrastructure

By Allyson Brown, RWA

A preliminary list of the top 50 infrastructure projects nationwide, was released several months ago by President Trump's team, as part of the new president's initiative to replace America's crumbling infrastructure and hopefully improve national connectivity and economic efficiency. The list, provided to the National Governor's Association by Trump's transition team, provided an initial glimpse of which projects around the country, could receive funding. Totalling at least \$137.5 billion, the list was intended to be a working draft, where the federal government would make a down payment for only a fraction of the cost. The remaining cost would be funded by a combination of private industry, state and city tax money, and borrowed funds.



Some key parts of Trump's plan included investing in rural infrastructure, unleashing private sector capital and expertise to rebuild cities and states, lowering the average permit time from 10 years to only 2 years by slashing regulations, and creating jobs along with skill-based apprenticeship education opportunities for work-force training.

The projects that made it onto the preliminary list had to meet specific criteria, including qualifying as a national security or public safety "emergency", being "shovel ready" with a minimum of 30% design and engineering complete, is a direct job creator and with a potential for increased U.S. manufacturing.

Some large projects on the list include a new terminal at the Kansas City Airport, upgrades for North Carolina's I-95, privatizing and replacement of the nation's radar-based air traffic control system with a satellite based system, the Alaska Pipeline, the Fort Mojave Solar Project, an expansion at the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, and the Cadiz Valley Water Conservation Recovery and Storage Project.

Projects in our region included the MBTA Green Line Extension in Massachusetts and a rebuild of I-93 in New Hampshire. Nearby, New York sought funding for the Champlain Hudson Power Express, Phase 2 and 3 of the Second Avenue Subway, The Peace Bridge and the Gateway Program.

The nation, investors and the ROW industry will all be following the discussions coming out of Washington closely over the coming months, as the industry is about to get even more exciting!



Welcome New Members!

- ◆ Rose Rinaldi, Maine Department of Transportation
- ◆ Kevin Arsenault, PLS - The Engineering Corp (TEC)
- ◆ Benjamin Sprague, O. R. Colan Associates, LLC
- ◆ Alexandra M. Echandi, BSC Group

Join Today!

www.irwaonline.org

Betsy Bosiak
Membership Chair

A Visit to the Trans Alaskan Pipeline System

By Derrick W. Roma, PMP, SR/WA

The Trans Alaskan Pipeline System, built in the mid-1970's, is one of the largest in the world, and had to overcome many engineering challenges during construction. At the annual Conference this year in Anchorage, AK, we learned about the construction of the pipeline and the history of the right of way acquisition through several presentations.



Michael Travis explains the design used to protect the TAPS from earthquakes

Originating in Prudhoe bay, on the Alaskan North Slope, the pipeline meanders its way south a total of 800 miles to the ice-free port and Marine Terminal at Valdez. During the engineering, geologic studies located the Denali Fault, which the pipeline had to cross. Engineers estimated that a Denali Fault earthquake could subject the pipeline to a magnitude 8.0 earthquake in the future. Thus, engineers accounted for a potential 20 foot horizontal and 5 foot vertical ground slip in their design. In order to accommodate the ground shift, engineers designed the pipeline to be supported by photo at left).

These estimates proved to be remarkably accurate, for during the 7.9 magnitude Denali Earthquake in 2002, the ground shifted 14 foot horizontally and 2.5 feet vertically. During the quake, the ground offset beneath the pipeline, and violent shaking damaged a few of the pipeline's supports near the fault, but the pipeline did not break.

Another challenge involved the unique landscape and soil conditions, particularly permafrost. Burying the pipe in the permafrost would cause it to melt, and the pipe would sag, so the solution was to install the pipe above ground for nearly half of the route. Engineers supported the pipe with refrigeration posts that are affixed with aluminum radiators. The posts would conduct heat away from the soil and keep the permafrost solid.

A third challenge was to overcome the substantial temperature variations in Alaska. Temperatures in Prudhoe Bay and Valdez, which are 800 miles apart, can vary from -60°F to 35°F. That 100 degree variation, over the course of 800 miles, would cause the metal pipe to expand and contract causing it to either buckle or snap if it were straight. To prevent the pipe from breaking, the designers configured the pipe to zig-gag.

In addition to the large lateral movement at the Denali Fault pictured above, the engineers designed the system to allow for movement laterally along the entire distance. As seen in the photograph to the right, each section of the pipeline rests on an H-shaped support. Where the pipe meets the crossbar, it is attached to a Teflon shoe that free floats, allowing the pipe to move laterally left to right without causing damage.



Trans-Alaska Pipeline Near Glennallen, AK



Officers' Pledge:

"I do solemnly promise and swear that I will faithfully fulfill the duties of the Office to which I have been chosen and will conform to and abide by the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the International Right of Way Association and that I will make every effort possible to advance the interests of the IRWA so help me God."

Meet Our 2017–2018 Officers!

At the General Membership meeting on May 12, 2017, the Chapter swore in the officers for the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year. We are excited to introduce the following board members, pictured left to right:

- ◆ **Benjamin Sprague, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer**
- ◆ **Ashley Emerson, AICP, Treasurer**
- ◆ **Derrick Roma, PMP, SR/WA, President, 2 Year Director**
- ◆ **Patty Quinn, SR/WA, R/W-NAC: 1 Year Director**
- ◆ **Betsy Bosiak, Secretary,**
- ◆ **Trish Morrison, SR/WA, Vice President (not pictured)**

Congratulations to our Members!

- ◆ **Allyson Brown of Vermont Electric Power Company (VELCO) has earned the Right of Way Agent Certification (RWA)**
- ◆ **Trisha Morrison of NH DOT has earned the Senior Right of Way Professional Designation (SR/WA)**
- ◆ **Derrick Roma of O. R. Colan Associates has earned the Senior Right of Way Professional Designation (SR/WA)**

The Road to McCarthy, AK

By Derrick W. Roma, PMP, SR/WA

At a time when America was steadily building railroads, electrifying cities, and supplying munitions for WWI, prospectors in Alaska discovered some of the purest copper ore deposits ever found. However, its remote location, between the Chugach and Wrangell Mountains, made transporting the heavy copper a major challenge.

The mining company, in collaboration with J.P. Morgan and the Guggenheim family, hired Big Mike Henry, who had earned a reputation of success after constructing the Yukon and White Pass Railroad in Skagway. In addition to hiring Henry, the mining company acquired Henry's interest in a right-of-way that he had assembled starting at the coast in Cordova.

Constructing the railroad was a considerable feat of engineering. It crossed raging rivers, mountains, bogs, active glaciers, and dense forests on its way to the mine in Kennecott. One of the more significant challenges was designing and building the "Million Dollar Bridge" between the Miles and Childs glaciers, when both glaciers were calving threatening icebergs throughout spring construction season.

Other developments along the stretch between Chitina and Kennecott included building the Gilahina Trestle in only 8 days in the dead of Winter, where temperatures would dip lower than 40 degrees below zero. The trestle stands today (pictured above) over 100 years later. Amazingly, it took just four years to construct the 196 mile railroad, at a total cost of approximately \$24M.

At the peak of operation, nearly 300 people worked in the Kennecott mill town and 250 worked in the mines. Altogether, the mine produced over \$200M worth of ore (nearly \$3Bn today) with profit margins exceeding 50%. However, by the early 1920's, the supply of high-grade copper ore in the mines had diminished, and the price of copper had plummeted. Declining profits and increasing costs of railroad repairs led to the eventual closure of the Kennecott operation by 1938.

In 1941, the Kennecott Corporation donated the railroad right-of-way to the United States "for use as a public highway" and the Alaska Department of Highways started the conversion in 1953. Today, the McCarthy Road is a mostly gravel-surfaced road that follows 60 miles of the railroad right of way from the town of Chitina into the heart of the Wrangell St. Elias National Park.



After the annual conference in June, I took the opportunity to drive out to visit the Kennecott Mines National Historic Landmark, where the National Park Service (NPS) is in the process of renovating and restoring many of the significant buildings. The trip is highly recommended, but care must be taken when driving the road, since it is not uncommon for history (railroad spikes) to resurface.

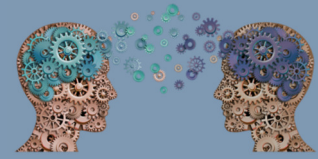
Professional Development Update

IRWA continues to be considered the unsurpassed source of right of way education programs and professional services worldwide. Chapter 16 continues to bring these valuable resources closer to home for our Chapter Members. Recently, the Chapter has sponsored course 504 to our members:

Course 504: Computing Replacement Housing Payments was taught by Bob Merryman on July 12 –13 at the New Hampshire Department of Transportation in Concord, NH. Several of our members attended the course to learn the residential relocation requirements under the Uniform Act. With various states and agencies represented, lead to great discussions on how individual states interpret and implement the law and regulations. Non members gained an insight into the caliber of education opportunities that IRWA offers.

Upcoming Courses in the Region:

- U. S. Land Titles, September 11-12, 2017, Wilmington, DE
- Legal Aspects of Easements, Sept. 13, 2017, Wilmington, DE
- Eminent Domain Law Basics, Sept. 14, 2017, Wilmington, DE
- Principles of Real Estate Negotiation, Sept. 20-21, 2017, Moon Township, PA
- Elevating your Ethical Awareness, Sept. 22, 2017, Moon Township, PA
- The Valuation of Partial Acquisitions, Sept. 25, 2017, Latham, NY
- Principles of Real Estate Engineering, Sept. 26-27, 2017, Virginia Beach, VA
- Engineering Plan Development & Application, Sept. 28, 2017, Virginia Beach, VA
- Property Descriptions, Sept. 29, 2017, Virginia Beach, VA
- Principles of Real Estate Appraisal, Oct. 19, 2017, Virginia Beach, VA
- SR/WA Review Study Session & Exam, Nov. 07, 2017, Virginia Beach, VA



If you have any training or continuing education needs, and would like for the Chapter to host a specific IRWA Course, please contact:

**Trisha Morrison, SR/WA
Education Chair**

tmorrison@dot.state.nh.us

Visit IRWA's website to see a list of course titles and descriptions:

www.irwaonline.org

Upcoming Chapter and Regional Membership Meetings

- ◆ Friday, September 8, 2017: General Membership Meeting, White River Junction, VT
- ◆ Thursday, October 5 - Friday, October 6, 2017: Region 4 Fall Forum, Cromwell, CT
- ◆ Friday, November 02, 2017: General Membership Meeting, Concord, NH
- ◆ Friday, January 19, 2018: General Membership Meeting (location TBD)
- ◆ Friday, March 9, 2018: General Membership Meeting (location TBD)
- ◆ Wednesday, April 11 - Saturday, April 14, 2017: Region 4 Spring Forum, Lahaska, PA
- ◆ Thursday, May 10, 2018: General Membership Meeting (location TBD)



IRWA Mentor Match

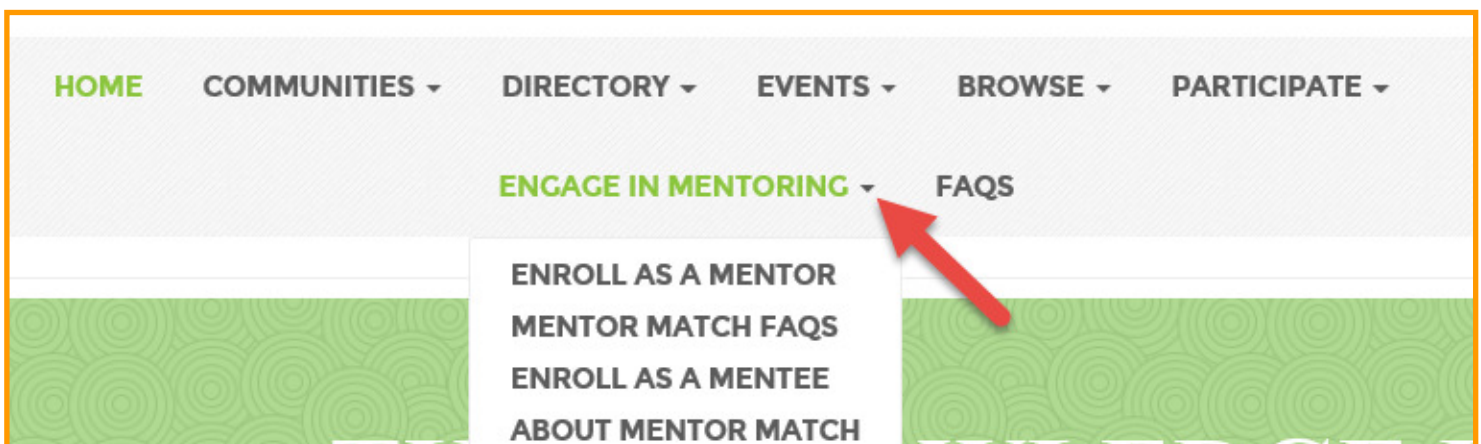


The IRWA is proud to announce the launch of this exciting new member benefit that reflects our commitment to you and your professional development. This unique networking and career development tool helps you find, connect and share your experiences with your fellow industry peers across the globe! You can simply apply to our IRWA Mentor Match program by visiting IRWA's website at www.irwaonline.org.

Once on the website, click on “Member Network”



Then click the “Engage in Mentoring” Dropdown Menu



Let the mentoring Begin!