

# THE NEW ENGLANDER

IRWA Newsletter, New England Chapter 16, Region 4

Summer – Fall 2016

## President's Message

Chapter 16 Members,

As we welcome a new season, summer turning into fall, we also take time to welcome our new and continued members of Chapter 16. Thank you so much for your continued support of Chapter 16 and of the right-of-way profession.

First of all, I wanted to take the opportunity to thank those of whom we have had volunteer efforts for so many years, and who continue to serve, and to those who have faithfully served Chapter 16. Many thanks to Sue Tauber for her leadership efforts at the helm of our Chapter. I cannot say enough for our volunteers! We would not have a Chapter without you.

We have 13 of our members who have stepped up into Chapter leadership and chair positions, some of them holding multiple positions. I think that for the year ahead, we are well poised to be a solid group of professionals. Please take the time to acquaint yourselves with them. We welcome any interested persons to join a committee or to submit an article for our newsletter, The New Englander. Check it out on our website [www.nechapter16.com](http://www.nechapter16.com). One of the benefits of membership is sharing knowledge and support to our membership and we appreciate submissions to the newsletter.

I believe there was a record attendance at this year's International Conference in Nashville, TN. Many of the presentations are now posted on the conference tab at [www.irwaonline.org](http://www.irwaonline.org). Our own Rick Pino and Mike McParland have international leadership positions and attend events outside of the conference to share with other subject matter experts in their respective professions. Our Chapter is well represented by our many years of experience to the right-of-way profession and we hope that you take advantage of connecting with local contacts in your professions or by using the IRWA Member Network page. On it you can browse by subject or post your own question. It can be found at <http://membernetnetwork.irwaonline.org/>

Finally, check out our calendar of events for upcoming meetings and events for the 2016-17 year. We try to schedule our meetings on months that stagger the E-Board and General Membership meetings on the second Friday morning.

We hope to see you at an upcoming meeting!

Patty Quinn, SR/WA, R/W-NAC  
Chapter 16 President

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# Remembering Don LaBelle

*August 6, 1965 - August 5, 2016*

We are sad to report that NHDOT Right-of-Way Agent and long-time IRWA Chapter 16 member, **Don LaBelle**, passed away at his home on August 5th after a courageous battle with cancer. Don was a great guy, who will be remembered for his quick wit, common sense personality, and his ability to easily engage people in a conversation. Don was a very talented musician, playing guitar in the band Echo Tones.

Professionally, Don was a natural when it came to working in the field of right-of-way acquisition and relocation, described as having a “heart for debate”; he would often engage his fellow Right-of-Way Agents and IRWA members in discussions about the philosophical aspects of the job.

During his time as a member of Chapter 16, Don was a certified relocation specialist (RW-RAC) and a certified negotiations/acquisition specialist (RW-NAC). His passing leaves us with broken hearts and a void in our little right-of-way community that will be all but impossible to fill. Don was 63 and leaves behind his wife Marie, daughters Nicole, Lauren, Liza and Molly, as well as his son Daniel, along with a large extended network of family, friends and acquaintances.



## DRONE NEWS

### Regulation Update

The potential for drone applications within the right-of-way industry continues to become more apparent. By using unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), commonly known as “drones”, the cost of having “eyes in the sky” can be substantially reduced.

However, there are some significant challenges that must be overcome before right of way professionals will be able to fully take advantage of this emerging technology. Particularly, there are legal issues, especially when operating at lower altitudes over private property, and beyond the direct line of sight of the operator, that prohibit many of the most useful applications. The Chapter learned first hand about some of these rules and regulations from **Leah Brooks**, an attorney with **Loomis Law Firm from Lansing, Michigan**, who spoke at our General Membership Meeting on June 3, 2016. Attorney Brooks introduced the Chapter to the existing administrative process required for an operator to legally fly a commercial use drone.

Since that meeting, The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has issued a new rule, known as Part 107, effective August 29, 2016, concerning the use of drones for commercial applications. Drones must still be registered, but the process for becoming certified to operate a drone has been significantly streamlined. The operator must be 16 years old, pass an Aeronautical Knowledge Test at an FAA approved testing center, and pass a background check. Among other

restrictions, drones must weigh under 55 lbs., be kept within direct eyesight of the operator during daylight hours, be lower than 400 feet, and cannot operate over crowds. Waivers are available for each of these restrictions provided that the operator can demonstrate that the operation will remain safe. More than 3,000 people registered to take the certification test on the first day.

In addition, spokespersons for the Oil & Gas and Electric Utility industries are commending Congress for the recent FAA Reauthorization legislation which contained language related to UAVs. This new legislation seems to emphasize the importance of operations beyond the line of sight, which is a major impediment to using drones for right of way applications. North Dakota Senator John Hoeven has been working to secure FAA approval for beyond the line of sight operations in the state, which would make the North Dakota UAS test site the first in the nation to have such operability. Keep an eye out for more advancements with this exciting technology!

## “Depreciation: It’s for Real (or maybe not so much?)...”

Prior to the Mini Golf Classic, the Chapter held a special appraisal seminar on the evening of July 14, 2016 where David Layne, SR/WA presented to nine participants a slideshow of photographs depicting what is (or sometimes only appears to be) depreciation

Depreciation, right?



...but, how about this?



Topics included all types of depreciation that David has observed over his many years in real estate. His photos reminded us that when it comes to depreciation, seeing is believing! Thank you, David for the presentation!



Left to Right: Michael McParland (Treasurer), Patty Quinn (President), Betsy Bosiak (Secretary) and Derrick Roma (Vice President)

## Elections and Awards!

At the General Membership meeting on June 3, 2016, the Chapter swore in the new slate of officers for the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year (pictured above). We are excited to announce the following board member results:

- ◆ **Patty Quinn, SR/WA, R/W-NAC:** President, 1 Year Director, Environmental Chair
- ◆ **Derrick Roma,** Vice President, 2 Year Director, Young Professional Chair
- ◆ **Betsy Bosiak, Secretary,** Asset Management, Membership Chair
- ◆ **Irene Shannon,** Assistant Secretary
- ◆ **Michael McParland, R/W-RAC,** Treasurer, Relocation Chair
- ◆ **Ashley Emerson, AICP,** Assistant Treasurer
- ◆ **Trish Morrison,** Education Committee, Transportation Chair
- ◆ **Lara Bailey, SR/WA, R/W-NAC:** Professional Development, Pipeline Chair
- ◆ **Terry Conley:** Nomination and Election Committee Chair
- ◆ **John Roberts, SR/WA:** Survey and Engineering Chair
- ◆ **Rick Pino, MAI, R/W-AC,** Valuation Chair
- ◆ **Sandy Fogg:** Utilities Chair
- ◆ **Ally Brown,** Newsletter Editor



Patty Quinn, SR/WA, R/W-NAC (left) accepts her award for Professional of the Year and also accepts the Employer of the Year on behalf of Percheron!



# FORE! 5th Annual Mini Golf Classic - a Fun Family Event

*Lara T. Bailey, SR/WA*

The 5th Annual Mini Golf Classic was held on Friday, July 15, 2016 at Kimball Farm in Westford, MA. We had an awesome day with a record of 11 teams participating!

Members of Chapter 16 and their families and friends enjoyed a sunny, but not terribly hot, day at the mini golf tournament. Afterward we delighted in a scrumptious lunch from the seafood grill and Kimball's homemade ice cream for dessert.

The rest of the afternoon was spent exploring the other adventures at Kimball Farm including the country store, pony rides, bumper boats, the arcade, and batting cages. Congratulations to:

- ◆ **Best Theme: "Baby Faces"** (Sarah, Jason, Joan, Jean, and Baby Liam)
- ◆ **Best Score - "Got Pie?"** (Dorene, Luke, Nate, Genny, and Laura)
- ◆ **Best Effort: "Pop Pop's Boys"** (Mike, Ryan, Timothy, and Colin)
- ◆ **Best Name - "The Old Duffers"** (Irene, Les, Betsy, and Isabella)

We also thank our four sponsors again; **Lane Consulting Services**, **M&N Operating Co.**, **Overland, Pacific & Cutler (OPC)**, and to **Percheron** for supplying the golf balls. We sincerely appreciate their continued support of this special occasion!



**Baby Faces wins Best Theme!**



**Got Pie? Wins Best Score!**



**Team "Old Duffers" win Best Name**



**Pop Pop's Boys wins Best Effort!**



**Next year's Mini Golf Classic is scheduled for Friday, July 14, 2017 at Kimball Farm** with a seminar on Thursday evening, July 13th. Watch for details early next year. We would love to see YOU at the next mini golf event!

# Professional Development Update

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

**Course 421: The Valuation of Partial Acquisitions** was taught by Phyllis Lilly, SR/WA on July 25 - July 28, 2016 at the New Hampshire Department of Transportation in Concord, NH. A total of 21 appraisers and other right of way professionals came from across the northeast to attend! Students learned how to determine and appraise the larger parcel, how to identify and measure various types of damages and how to value the remainder. The course introduced ways to handle special benefits and explored the before and after approach with numerous case studies.

**Course 803: Eminent Domain Law Basics for the Right of Way Professional** was held at the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NH DOT) on August 17 - 18, 2016. This course discussed the characteristics and sources of eminent domain law, and analyzed the many components of the constitutional right of eminent domain. Participants gained an understanding of the meaning of just compensation and the legal aspects of valuation. The course was taught by Theresa M. Brennan, Esq.



**Thank you to the New Hampshire DOT** for your partnership and for providing the facilities to host both of these important educational events!

## Education Needs?

If you have any training or continuing education needs, and would like for the Chapter to host a specific IRWA Course, please contact our Education Chair and discuss the options that are available.

**Trisha Morrison**  
Education Chair

[tmorrison@dot.state.nh.us](mailto:tmorrison@dot.state.nh.us)

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

[www.irwaonline.org](http://www.irwaonline.org)

## Upcoming Chapter and Regional Events

### September - December 2016

- ◆ Friday, September 9, 2016: General Membership Meeting, White River Junction, VT
- ◆ Thursday, October 6 - Saturday, October 8, 2016: Region 4 Fall Forum, Saratoga Springs, NY
- ◆ Friday, October 21, 2016: Executive Board Meeting (see website for details)
- ◆ Friday, November 11, 2016: General Membership Meeting, Portland, ME
- ◆ Friday, December 9, 2016: Executive Board Meeting (see website for details)



Please see the flyers enclosed at the end of this newsletter for more information regarding the next General Membership Meeting on September 9th and the Fall Forum in October. Also, you may visit our website ([www.nechapter16.com](http://www.nechapter16.com)) for more specific details regarding times and locations of future meetings and events.

We encourage all of our members to join the Executive Board for any of the E-Board Meetings. These are generally planning meetings and are a great opportunity to get involved with various committees and present ideas to improve our Chapter.

# Spotlight on our Partner

## VELCO

**Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc. (VELCO)** was formed in 1956 when Vermont's local utilities joined together to establish the nation's first statewide, "transmission only" company in order to create and maintain an interconnected electric transmission grid capable of sharing access to clean hydro power. VELCO currently manages a system that includes:

- 738 miles of transmission lines
- 13,000 acres of rights-of-way
- 55 substations, switching stations and terminal facilities
- Equipment that enables interconnected operations with Hydro-Québec
- Fiber optic communication networks that monitor and control the electric system and serve as a key link for Vermonters' high-speed data internet access



Headquartered in Rutland, Vermont, VELCO manages the safe, reliable, cost-effective transmission of electrical energy throughout Vermont. VELCO's goal is to provide an optimal system of electric transmission facilities as part of an integrated regional network designed to meet both current and future energy needs.

### Planning Department:

VELCO transmission planners continually evaluate the performance of the electric transmission network by comprehensively analyzing how various factors, such as Vermont and regional demand, proposed new generation and growth, will affect system reliability and operation. The planning process is continuous and is guided by both the state and regional requirements and coordination.

VELCO collaborates with the ISO-New England in its responsibility to plan the transmission system for New England, as reflected in the ISO-NE's annual report on transmission system needs, the Regional System Plan (RSP). Both VELCO and ISO-NE must plan and design the transmission system to meet regional and national standards. The national transmission planning standards are mandatory and are maintained by the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC). The regional design criteria and procedures are maintained by the Northeast Power Coordinating Council (NPCC) and ISO-NE.

**Come learn more by joining us at our next General Membership meeting sponsored by VELCO. See the page at the end of the newsletter for more information.**

## Welcome New Members!

- ◆ Ronald Tubman, National Grid
- ◆ Terry Conley, O. R. Colan Associates, LLC
- ◆ Linda Schoffield, New Hampshire DOT
- ◆ Dena Rae, New Hampshire DOT
- ◆ Stephen Springer, PLS, BSC Group

Thank you to **Stephen Springer** and the **BSC Group** for getting involved right away by hosting our August E-Board meeting at their Worcester office!

## Join Today!

[www.irwaonline.org](http://www.irwaonline.org)

**Betsy Bosiak**  
Membership Chair

[bbosiak@metrocast.net](mailto:bbosiak@metrocast.net)



## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

**SEPTEMBER 9, 2016**

Please join us for our next **General Membership Meeting** in White River Junction, Vermont where we will welcome a speaker from VELCO to talk with us about **regional electric transmission system planning, load forecasting, and PV/wind power integration.**

### VELCO:

*Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc. (VELCO)* was formed in 1956 when Vermont's local utilities joined together to establish the nation's first statewide, "transmission only" company in order to create and maintain an interconnected electric transmission grid capable of sharing access to clean hydro power. VELCO currently manages a system that includes 738 miles of transmission lines and 13,000 acres of rights-of-way.

### SPEAKER:

**Bernadette F. Fernandes, P. E.**

*Senior Transmission Planning Engineer, VELCO*

Mrs. Fernandes has over 15 years of utility operations, engineering, and planning experience and is responsible for coordinating Transmission Planning within the State of Vermont and with the New England Independent System Operator (ISO-NE). She holds a BS in Electrical Power Engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute, is a Professional Engineer in multiple states, and holds leadership positions with the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Green Mountain Section.

**WWW.NECHAPTER 16.COM**

## SPONSORED BY



### WHEN:

**Friday, Sept. 9, 2016**

8:00 AM - Registration

8:30 AM - General Meeting

10:00 AM - Speaker

### WHERE:

Holiday Inn Express

White River Junction

121 Ballardvale Drive

White River Junction

Vermont, 05001

**RSVP BY SEPT. 5, 2016 TO:**  
**DROMA@ORCOLAN.COM**

### NETWORKING!

Continue the discussion and join us for lunch afterwards at 12:00 PM at Crossroads Café in White River Junction.





## FALL FORUM

October 6-8, 2016 Saratoga Springs, New York

The Saratoga Hilton at City Center

<https://resweb.passkey.com/go/Region4IRWAFall>

(direct link for booking)



### Sponsored by Empire State Chapter 18

- ❖ Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>
  - ❖ Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup>
  - ❖ Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup>
  - ❖ Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup>
- Registration & Hospitality (evening)  
Session Style Symposium of Speakers including:  
-Laura Ayers, Esq. > Easements – Case Studies  
-Rick Pino > Indirect Damages – Case Studies  
-Kayla Biltucci > Market Value in Eminent Domain  
-NYSDOT > Kosciuszko Bridge (Queens)  
Relocation Case Studies  
-NYSDOT > Tappan Zee Bridge - \$3.9B project  
Engineering and Design Aspects  
Region 4 Business Meeting & Banquet  
Breakfast | On Your Own Tour

**Location: The Saratoga Hilton at City Center**, 534 Broadway, Saratoga Springs, NY | (888) 866-3591

<https://resweb.passkey.com/go/Region4IRWAFall> | \$169.00/Night (excludes taxes & fees) | Mention the IRWA Forum upon reserving. Rate good until September 11, 2016

For more information, contact:

- ❖ Tim Magyar (716-685-0500 ext.26)  
[tmagyar@rightofwaypros.com](mailto:tmagyar@rightofwaypros.com)

Saratoga Springs offers numerous points of interest and activities including: Saratoga Racino, Downtown Shops and Cafes, Old Saratoga Brewery, The Saratoga Winery, Golf, and the Saratoga Battlefield.







## FORUM & SYMPOSIUM REGISTRATION FORM

Region IV – Fall Forum, 2016

October 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>

Saratoga Hilton at City Center

Saratoga Springs, New York

Hosted by: Empire State Chapter No. 18

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Discipline: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Name(s) (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

INCLUSIVE FORUM REGISTRATION (circle where appropriate):

	<u>Member</u>	<u>Non-Member</u>	<u>Guest</u>
Forum Meeting Friday, Oct. 7th Prior to Sept. 5, 2016	\$175	\$195	\$125
Forum Meeting Friday, Oct. 7th After Sept. 5, 2016	\$195	\$205	\$145
Session Style Symposium Thursday, October 6, 2016	\$185	\$210	N/A
TOTAL ENCLOSED			

Make Check Payable to: IRWA Empire State Chapter 18

Mail to or for additional information, contact:

Tim Magyar, Forum Committee Chairperson  
c/o Right of Way Professionals, LLC  
60 Lakefront Boulevard, Suite 120  
Buffalo, New York 14202  
Telephone: 716.685.0500 ext. 26  
E-mail: [tmagyar@rightofwaypros.com](mailto:tmagyar@rightofwaypros.com)





## **Region IV – Fall Forum 2016**

**October 6<sup>th</sup> – October 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Saratoga Hilton at City Center**

**Saratoga Springs, New York**

**Hosted by: Empire State Chapter No. 18**

### **ITINERARY\***

**Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>**

6:00 pm to 9:00 pm      Registration & Hospitality

**Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup>**

7:00 am to 8:00 am      Registration  
8:00 am to 5:00 pm      Session Style Symposium  
6:00 pm to 8:00 pm      Registration & Hospitality  
7:00 pm to 10:00 pm      Pub Crawl

**Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup>**

7:00 am to 8:00 am      Registration/Breakfast  
8:15 am to 11:45 am      Forum Meeting  
12:00 pm to 1:00 pm      Lunch  
1:00 pm to 5:00 pm      Forum Meeting  
5:00 pm to 7:00 pm      Hospitality  
7:00 pm to 8:00 pm      Dinner  
8:00 pm to 10:00 pm      Hospitality

**Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup>**

8:00 am to 9:00 am      Breakfast  
9:00 am to              On Your Own Tour

*\*times may be adjusted as necessary*