

# Happy 4th of July

## IRWA Chapter 25 Members

Happy New Year! As many of you know Chapter 25 has moved their fiscal year to match that of the IRWA International calendar. Therefore, our fiscal year is now July 1st to June 30th. Now that we are talking about the new year, what is your career “new year’s” resolution? Do you plan to set goals for the upcoming year, or are you just trying to keep the boat afloat? Have you taken the time to explore your career path to an IRWA certification? Chapter 25 has been steady over the last few years in offering a variety of classes that can help you fulfill those goals. Thanks to the past Chapter 25 cabinet of officers, the first Officer Installation Banquet was a great success and very informative to those who attended. Mary Anne Marr, SR/WA performed the installation of the new officers and then gave a presentation on the individual certifications offered by IRWA and shared about the importance to you and your employer in becoming an SR/WA. To help further the thought, International has announced the NEW IRWA University. Beginning on Tuesday, July 8th, 2014, all IRWA online classes and VEIT (Video Enabled Integrated Technology) classes will be available through IRWA University. This new platform provides a user friendly approach to all of the IRWA Online Education. Everything you need, just a click away, under the same roof! To celebrate this new launch, International will be offering a discounted tuition for all of the online classes. Enjoy a \$50 discount for each online class purchased through the IRWA University. This offer is valid until Saturday, August 30th, 2014. Whether you are seeking a designation or continuing education credits, it is time to save money.

Now looking forward, August 8, 2014 at 12:00 pm will be the next Chapter 25 General Membership Meeting to be held at the Gheens Foundation Lodge at Beckley Creek Park. The presenters for this meeting will be Dean Loy, Acting Director of the Division of Right of Way and Utilities for the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet and the respective Right of Way Branch Managers sharing the details of upcoming events and the future project outlook for the next year. This has been a well-attended meeting in years past. Please RSVP with Wayne Kimbel so that we can order food accordingly. The following are the directions to the lodge, as some had trouble finding it last month with their GPS devices.

Directions to Garden Gateway Entrance from Downtown Louisville:

- Take I-64 East to exit 19B to merge onto I-265N/Gene Snyder Freeway
- Take exit 27 for US-60/Shelbyville Rd toward Middletown/Eastwood
- Turn right off the exit onto US-60 E/Shelbyville Rd
- Drive approximately 1.5 miles and enter the park on the right across from Valhalla Golf Course (by turning onto Beckley Creek Parkway)

Thanks,

**Leigh A. Karr, SR/WA**



## 2014-2015 Officers

 President: Leigh Alden Karr, SR/WA

 Vice President: Wayne Kimbel

 Treasurer: Matt Chapman, MAI

 Secretary: Jessica Grivna

 International Directors: William L. Busch, SR/WA & Chad Cutsinger

## 2014 Committee Chairs

 Communication & Marketing/Newsletter: Wayne Kimbel

 Education: Mike A. Penick, SR/WA, RW-EC

 Engineering Liaison: Debby Taylor, PE

 Land & Economic Studies: Matt Chapman, MAI

 Local Public Agency: James Wray

 Membership: W.Clement Russell

 Newsletter Publisher: Jessica Grivna

 Professional Development: William L. Busch, SR/WA

 Relocation: Chad Cutsinger

 Roster: Morris L. Smith

 Transportation: Bruce Napier, SR/WA

 Valuation & Website: William R. Cox, SR/WA

# 2014 Education Conference Hartford, CT



William Busch & Don Brent



## 2014 Hartford Education Conference

By: William L. Busch, SR/WA

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### Chapter 25:

It was a pleasure to represent you at the 2014 IRWA Education Conference in Connecticut. Don Brent SR/WA began the week by stuffing the hand-out bags. The group of about 30 volunteers placed about 20 items in each of 1000 bags in about two hours. Each volunteer would pick up a bag and go down a row of tables placing all the items in the bag, then circle around and do it again. There were many familiar faces (even for me) and volunteers were able to reconnect as each did their laps.

Sunday was spent in meetings and getting ready for sessions. I attended the International Public Agency (IPA) meeting as a region at-large representative and we discussed processes to improve communications between Chapters, Regions, and IEC. Committees were challenged to make budget requests showing the value to IRWA of activities. The focus of committees is away from merely planning Education Conference sessions, to a focus on adding industry value.

We attended sessions and visited the exhibit hall Monday and Tuesday. Throughout the conference Marjorie and I hosted our German guests, Bert Bosseler and his wife Barbara. Monday I moderated a unique session coordinated by Bert in which we had speakers from Belgium, the Netherlands, Paris France and Germany; they were live streaming into our meeting and presenting portions of the topic Managing the Crowded Underground. Q & A was enabled so that the audience could interact with the speakers. All 50 or so attendees were intrigued with the technology that enables international interaction using a laptop as the platform. Also, Monday, I had the honor of presenting the Balfour award to Janet Walker, SR/WA, R/-NAC at the Awards Luncheon. Our Region was honored with several awards.

Tuesday Marjorie and I escorted Bert to the International Luncheon. Ten countries were represented –truly amazing. Later in the afternoon I attended a more private meeting with representatives of the IEC and Bert where we

discussed the future of our affiliation with IKT (Western Europe) and cooperative efforts in the next year. Two items of significance are that IKT will host an international symposium on underground infrastructure in September that will feature an IRWA presence. Mark Rieck, Executive Vice President; Lee Hamre, International President, SR/WA, R/W-URAC, R/W-NAC; Glenn Winfree, Utilities Committee outgoing Chair SR/WA, R/W-EC; and I will attend and speak at their conference. Later in the year IRWA will feature a Webinar series in cooperation with IKT on Energy issues. Wednesday was the last day. In the morning I moderated the Eminent Domain update session attended by about 80 registrants. In the afternoon the Board of Directors meeting was held during which Don and I represented Chapter 25. Portland won the vote for the 2019 conference. It was a dramatic vote that took four or five ballots to finally break a tie with Minnesota. Jeff Jones SR/WA, R/W-URAC, R/W NAC, R/W-RAC, was elected incoming IEC Secretary. The Chapter directed us to vote for Jeff so I gave a three minute speech in his behalf. The other IEC members were duly elected and the proposed budget, including dues increases for the next two years, passed. Don presented a check for \$1,000 from the chapter to the IRIEF (Education Foundation) and I presented the \$500 check in behalf of our support of Jeff Jones. Don and I thank you for helping us with the expenses.

**William L. Busch, SR/WA**  
**International Director &**  
**Professional Development Chair**



# May 2014 General Membership Meeting



**Chad Cutsinger, Mary Anne Marr, Clem  
Russell & Mike Penick**



# More Chapter 25 Fun...



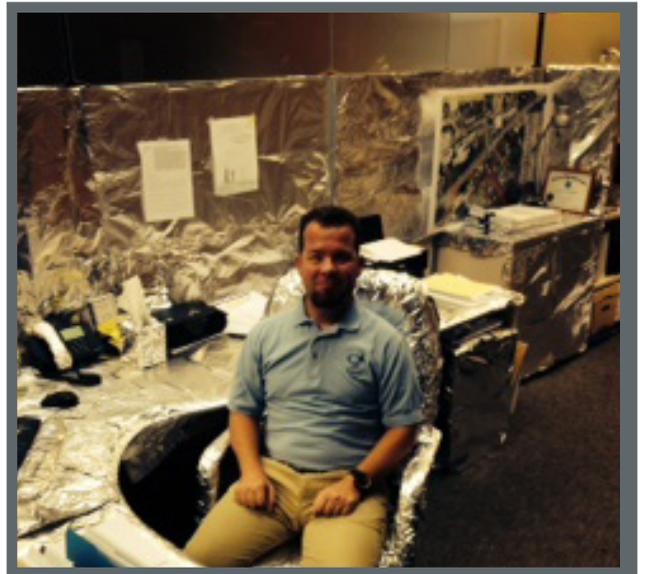
**Marjorie Busch, Rose Russell  
& Clem Russell**



**Jessica Grivna, Matt Chapman & Mike Penick**



**Wayne Kimbel, Chad Cutsinger & Mary  
Anne Marr**



**40th Birthday fun for Chad  
at the Qk4 Office**

## **Greetings from IRWA Region 5**

**By: Brad Krabel, SR/WA, IRWA Region 5 Chair**

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My name is Brad Krabel, SR/WA and I am your current IRWA Region 5 Chair. As Region Chair I am privileged to serve as your representative on the IRWA International Governing Council. Some might be asking what makes up Region 5? You do! Region 5 is made up of IRWA members from Chapter 7 (Michigan), Chapter 10 (Indiana), Chapter 12 (Illinois), Chapter 13 (Ohio), Chapter 17 (Wisconsin), Chapter 21 (West Virginia), Chapter 25 (Kentucky). Region Forums are held twice a year (Fall & Spring) to give the Chapters a chance to come together and discuss best practices, receive news of activities throughout the IRWA including Industry Committees, Service Committees and to discuss thoughts and opinions on suggested changes within the organization. In general this is where your voice is heard.

Each Chapter has three votes at all Region Forums (Chapter President (1), International Director 1 (1), International Director 2 (1)). In addition to the Chapter leaders there is also a Region Vice-Chair (Greg Mathias, SR/WA (1)) and a Region Secretary/Treasurer (Beth Smith, SR/WA) that are an important part of each Forum. Although only a few can vote, all members of the Region are welcome to attend the Forums. This is a great opportunity to learn more about the association and hear firsthand the exciting events being held in other Chapters. Ok, that is more of an official sounding line....for me.....it's the people. Hard to find better folks than in Region 5. When I have a right of way question or want to know how others are handling a specific problem I take it to the Forum. There I receive best practices from 7 different states, how can you beat that? If you have never been I have a great opportunity for you to see for yourself.

October 10 & 11 Region 5 will be having its Fall Forum in Jeffersontown, KY. Now this is not just any Forum, my friends in Chapter 25 (Kentucky) have really pulled out the stops to make this Forum one to remember. On Friday night all attendees have been cordially invited to attend and compete in the Annual Chapter 25 Chili Cook-off. You might not know it, but they get serious about their chili in the Blue Grass State! It will be a no holds barred contest

to see who will take home the trophy this year. On Saturday the Region meeting starts in the morning and overly gracious hosts have set up a Saturday night outing at Comedy Caravan to finish off the day. Comedy Caravan just happens to be the best comedy club in the City! To get more information and to get registered visit the Region website at [www.irwaregion5.org](http://www.irwaregion5.org).

I could continue to go on and on about the Region, but I will leave you with this: Region 5 is known as the "Quality Region", because of the members. All of your hard work on Chapter committees, commitment to education and general pursuit of excellence is what sets this Region apart from others. In that vein, if there is anything I can do to help please let me know. Listed below is my contact information. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or need a ride to Kentucky!

Thank you and I look forward to seeing you all in October!

**Brad Krabel, SR/WA**  
**IRWA Region 5 Chair**

## Reflections

By: W. Clement Russell

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### Membership Musings:

Shortly after I joined the KYTC in the late seventies, I was asked to join Chapter 25. Knowing that my employer would not pay my membership fee, I was quite reluctant to join, but after attending several courses and the hospitality functions that followed, I decided to join. I remember a long-time member from eastern Kentucky telling me that it was our hospitality get-togethers that sold them on our chapter. This member has gone on to receive their SR/WA designation and serve as chapter president. Whatever your reason may be for joining our chapter, we hope that it becomes an essential part of your career path in the right of way field.

Like my life, my years as a member of the IRWA have gone by unbelievably fast, but they have been some of the best times of my life. Over the the years, I have met and had the pleasure to work and network with a great group of right-of-way professionals across the state. One of the most enjoyable times as a chapter member was working on the Louisville '95 IRWA Seminar. It afforded me and several other chapter members the opportunity to travel to other host cities to observe how they ran their Seminars. One of my most profound memories of these trips was our trip to to Portland, Oregon. On a whim, several of us decided to rent a small plane and fly over Mount St. Helens. The effects of the 1980 eruption were still evident, and we had a spectacular view of all sides of the mountain. I just wish

I could find my misplaced pictures!

In planning for the Louisville '95 Seminar, we always thought we could do things better. Everything was done in-house by our chapter members. We did not use an event planner/coordinator. I was in charge of coordinating all food that was to be served at the Seminar. We wanted to produce a Monday night event on the Belvedere that included free dinner for all participants attending the Seminar. Other chapters charged a fee to attend the Monday night events but ours was free. The Louisville '95 Seminar returned more money to the IRWA than was previously returned by any other Seminar. That's how successful our Seminar was for the IRWA. Our chapters share of the funds made from this Seminar was a lot more than

anticipated. Due to this windfall profit from the Louisville '95 Seminar, we were able to throw a sit-down dinner with an open bar at the Big Springs CC for all members who worked on the Seminar. In addition, each member was allowed to bring a guest at no charge also. Speaking of the Louisville '95 Seminar, I still have lapel pins from the Seminar that each participant received. If any member is interested in attaining one, they can see me at our upcoming Chapter 25 meeting. I will bring bring some pins to this meeting. As membership chair for the past 15+ years, I have seen our membership go from a high of 132 members to a low of 62 members. Our current membership is approximately 75 members. Despite our lower membership numbers, our finances have never been better. This is largely due to the efforts of Mike Penick - our course coordinator - and Bix Cox. Bix has developed and taught at no charge several courses for our chapter. Kudos to both Mike and Bix for their efforts!

**Clem Russell**  
**Membership Chair**

**IRWA Chapter 25**  
**Welcomes the following**  
**new members:**

**Nathan Coleman**  
**Keith McDonald**  
**Chris Phelps**  
**Timothy Wiley**

## The Reviewer's Corner - Issues & Answers

By: William R. Cox, SR/WA

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### Talking Dirty: Septic Systems

I've been mucking about with a lot of septic issues lately. For some unknown reason, appraisers doing right of way work for the Transportation Cabinet are responsible for hiring septic contractors to probe for lateral lines and/or do perc tests for replacement systems in conjunction with the local Environmental Services Division of the county Health Department. Both of these parties are to be paid by the appraiser. If the project plans indicate a potential problem, an estimate of these fees can be built into the appraiser's per parcel fee, in advance. If the situation is a surprise, we must eat the loss. I don't know how this will work if we move to fees based on man-hours. There would be no provision for these, and many other, types of expenses.

Monetary considerations aside, appraisers and appraisal reviewers should be well acquainted with the variety of septic system designs and how they work, or don't work.

The first document for your septic systems library should be the 53-page Kentucky On-site Sewage Disposal Systems Regulation – 902 KAR 10:085 Available for free download at: <http://www.kentuckyonsite.org/publications.htm>. Among other helpful information is a table of various commercial building occupancies and their average daily flow of waste water on a per gallon basis, and residential outputs based on the number of bedrooms, both used for tank sizing. Lateral field requirements are shown for various widths of drain beds. Layout requirements are also detailed, as well as set backs for property lines, buildings, water sources, swimming pools, utility easements, driveways, and livestock pens, among others.

Taking my own advice, I recently purchased several other books on the subject so that I could speak with some better knowledge to septic contractors and property owners. Two books that I can recommend are Wells and Septic Systems by Max & Charlotte Alth, 2nd Edition, revised by S. Blackwell Duncan (which also deals with water wells of all types), and my personal favorite, The Septic System Owner's Manual by Lloyd Kahn, with art by the late Peter Aschwanden, illustrator of John Muir's classic How to Keep

Your Volkswagon Alive. The drawings resemble R. Crumb cartoons, but less provocative. I actually kept several Volkswagons alive with this latter book in years gone by. But, back to subterranean mysteries.

There are several common types of septic system designs encountered by appraisers regularly across Kentucky.

The most common is the tank and the lateral field, also referred to as a drain field, leach field, absorption field, or bleeder lines. This is the system that is most frequently hit by right of way projects when the drainage lines are within the proposed acquisition area.

A word here about project plans. Hint: the lateral lines shown on the plans are most likely not accurate. If the plans show the lines fanning out from the tank, the plans are definitely not reliable for spotting the lines, since drain fields are never arranged in a fan shape. Sometimes the tank locations are also, shall we say, generalized.

The only way to accurately locate the lines is to probe the ground with a metal rod usually starting at the tank and working your way out. This is why we hire a septic contractor.

I recently had a property on a project that had three sets of lateral lines, all flooded, with only a small area projecting into the proposed right of way. The drain field took up the entire back yard with no room for replacement. It only took that small amount of loss to damage the entire system.

Another type of septic system is the wetlands design. This also involves a tank, but the drainage is piped into a constructed wetland on top of the surface of the ground which is built up with gravel and/or dirt with wetlands vegetation planted within to aid in the treatment of the waste water. A waterproof liner is used on the sides and bottom to contain the water for the plants. Some incorporate a pond as the last step. Here's good article on this type of design: <http://www.ianrpubs.unl.edu/pages/publicationD.jsp?publicationId=269>

## The Reviewer's Corner - Issues & Answers CONTINUED

By: William R. Cox, SR/WA

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The third type of system is the lagoon. A recently encountered property owner referred to his system as The Goon. There are a variety of Goon designs. Basically, it is the wetlands system with a pond replacing the wetlands, but retaining the vegetation surrounding the pond. These systems can last up to 30 years. Here is a rather complete and well written article on the subject: [http://www.nesc.wvu.edu/pdf/WW/publications/pipline/PL\\_SP97.pdf](http://www.nesc.wvu.edu/pdf/WW/publications/pipline/PL_SP97.pdf)

I have recently encountered three properties, in three counties, where the building improvements were being acquired, but leaving the septic systems in place and the question arose from the owners about buying the building back at salvage value and moving it to the location of the drain field, after removing the existing system. The answer is no. Once the septic field has no function due to the absence of the building improvements, the Health Departments consider the area to be a contaminated site requiring expensive remediation, similar to any other hazardous waste site. No disturbance of the soil is otherwise allowed, including construction of a new foundation.

The only other option would be to pave the site for a parking area, thereby capping the hazardous waste. This solution has its limits since the soil is unstable and may not support the weight of vehicles.

Lastly, if the ground is wet around the tank, it may indicate a failure of the drainage system, or it may simply mean that the tank needs pumped out. If the ground is wet around the location of the drain field, it is an indication that the soil is not percolating properly.

Well, that's all the dirty talk I have room for today. Please write your own comments or criticisms and send them to Wayne Kimbel at [wkimbel@lwcky.com](mailto:wkimbel@lwcky.com) for publication in the next newsletter.

**William R. Cox, SR/WA**

**Valuation & Website "Guru"**



**KYTC & IRWA  
General Membership Meeting  
& Installation of 2014 Officers  
Speakers: Dean Loy & Staff, Division of ROW & Utilities**

Friday, August 8th at Noon  
The Parklands of Floyds Fork  
Gheens Foundation Lodge (The Parklands Room)  
1421 Beckley Creek Parkway  
Louisville, Kentucky 40245

1) Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_  
Company \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Cost: \$30.00

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Deadline: Friday, August 1st, 2014

Make check/money order payable to:  
IRWA Kentucky Chapter 25  
and mail to:

Leigh A. Karr, SR/WA  
Lochner  
1040 Monarch Street, Suite 300  
Lexington, Kentucky 40513

**PREFER TO USE YOUR CREDIT CARD? WE GOT PAYPAL!  
GO TO <http://www.irwa25.org>, and look for this meeting!**

