



**IRWA
CHAPTER 32
NEWS & EVENTS
3Q 2021**

President's Corner



Dear Colleagues,

As my term as President of IRWA Chapter 32 is beginning, we have several opportunities. The opportunities we have are immediate given the passage of The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. In Tennessee, \$5.8 billion is expected for federal highway programs and bridge replacement/repair of \$302 million over a five-year period¹.

No industry is omitted with these opportunities and include appraisal/appraisal review, consulting, engineering, construction, relocation, buying, infrastructure impact studies, and litigation support. What does this mean for our chapter? It means that state, county, and local government entities ranging from community development to highway departments will need guidance and expertise that only our members can provide. Not only government, but private sector representation (i.e., representing the property owner and their legal representatives) offer similar opportunities. Our members are the most skilled in the infrastructure world due to high ethical standards, education, and experience. The International Right of Way Association mission is “We empower professionals by elevating ethics, learning and a standard of excellence within the global infrastructure real estate community.” Chapter 32 exemplifies this mission.

The 2021 IRWA International Education Conference was a success and awards were earned by our members. The International Executive Committee recognized our very own Carol Croft, SR/WA, GRI with the Lifetime Achievement Award. The award is offered periodically (last in 2016) and is reserved for individuals that have made extraordinary and exceptional contributions to the profession and IRWA. Ms. Croft mentored numerous individuals, is involved in the Right of Way International Education Foundation (RWIEF) as president for 10 years, completed countless projects with a high degree of professionalism and proficiency, and gifted her time to individuals that are much better people and professionals because of it. I can think of no one more deserving of a Lifetime Achievement Award.

President Rhett Turner, SR/WA, MAI awarded Jon Zirkle, P.E. (Region 3, TDOT) and Patti Bowlan (Associate Counsel, Region 3 TDOT) the Convention Presenters Appreciation Award for their presentation “Where Roadway Design and Right of Way Intersect.” Thank you to both for their diligent efforts and representing our chapter.

¹ <https://www.tennessean.com/8/11/2021>

Chapter 32 continues to be one of the education leaders with Angel Bailey, RWP chairing the Education Committee. Director and past President Rhett Turner established a goal of our chapter leading in education. I will follow his example. We are in an era of lifetime learning due to rapidly changing technology and methodologies. It would be a disservice to our members if the chapter did not make education its priority. The following courses will be offered virtually (more on that below) and were selected by our members to meet immediate educational needs.

Course 501: Residential Relocation and Assistance, September 1-2, 2021

Course 502: Non-Residential Relocation Assistance, September 30 – October 1, 2021

Course 403: Easement Valuation, November 2nd or 3rd, 2021, depending on instructor availability.

Course 421: The Valuation of Partial Acquisitions, November 15 – 18, 2021

Course 431: Problems in the Valuation of Partial Acquisitions, December 6, 2021

Now, for a reality check. Director and Immediate Past President Rhett Turner, SR/WA, MAI, brought us through an extremely turbulent and, sometimes heartbreaking year as some of us lost friends and peers. We are grateful for his steady leadership. It looked as if we had “come through the other side” as Spring rolled into Summer and the officers had decided to hold an in-person meeting in September at Maggiano’s which is one of our chapter’s frequented and loved restaurants. However, as the Delta variant of Covid-19 has dramatically risen in our state and based on the responses to the email sent to members, I have decided the safest course of action is to continue to hold virtual meetings. This, I hope will change when infection rates begin to decrease. The tentative Zoom meeting dates are:

September 14, 2021 @ 6:00 pm CDT

December 14, 2021 @ 6:00 pm CDT

March 17, 2022 @ 6:00 pm CDT

June 3, 2022 @ 6:00 pm CDT

In closing, I want to thank our members for the privilege of being President of Chapter 32. It is humbling and there is much to look forward to in 2021 and 2022. This is certainly not the first time we have experienced adversity and I have an excellent team of officers to help guide myself and our chapter in deciding the safest courses of action while maximizing opportunities for our members.

Respectfully submitted,

Brett

Summary of Chapter Meeting June 3, 2021

The June 3, 2021 Chapter 32 meeting at the Loveless Café in Nashville was the first in-person meeting since December 2019. Several members were in attendance to see the 2021–2022 Chapter Officer installation. They enjoyed a wonderful meal and some long overdue mingling with old friends. Members from middle Tennessee, west Tennessee and City of Memphis were present to enjoy the evening.

Marc Headden, SR/WA was introduced as the Chapter's newest designated member. Daryl Lewis and Candise Tuggy were recognized for earning their RWA certifications.

New members Jon Webber, Charles Thomas, Carolyn Bunch, Danielle Bunch and Dyan Damron were presented membership pins as acknowledgement for joining the Chapter over the past year.

Jenni Kriner, SR/WA, R/W-NAC installed the officers for 2021-2022:

One-Year International Director	R. Rhett Turner, MAI, SR/WA
President/Two-Year International Director	C. Brett Spaulding, MAI, SRA*
President Elect	Robin A. Upchurch, SR/WA, R/W-RAC
Treasurer	Brain R. Eades, MAI, CCIM*
Secretary	Steve Hertstein, SR/WA**

*Officers were not present and were installed via virtual meeting at a later date.

**Due to circumstances beyond his control, Mr. Hertstein resigned from his position as Chapter Secretary in August.

Outgoing President R. Rhett Turner, MAI, SR/WA was presented his Past President's pin by Angela Turner and Jackson Turner presented the Past President's plaque to his father.

Chapter President R. Rhett Turner, MAI, SR/WA presented Marc Headden, SR/WA as the newest designated member of Chapter 32. Congratulations Marc on a job well done.



Members on the Move*

*Please forward information related to promotions, designation attainment, and professional accomplishments to brian@eadesvaluationgroup.com for inclusion in future issues.

Upcoming Meetings

Our next meeting will be held via Zoom on September 14th at 6:30 PM CST.

Summary of 2021 IRWA Education Conference – June 6-9, 2021, San Antonio, Texas

The next few pages will highlight Chapter 32's participation at the IRWA Education Conference.

2021 IRWA International Education Conference



Carol A. Croft, SR/WA, GRI receives Lifetime Achievement Award

June 6, 2021, San Antonio, Texas. Those in attendance enjoyed a special treat, having the honor to be present when IRWA bestowed the LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD upon Chapter 32's very own Carol A. Croft, SR/WA, GRI. National Officer, Judy Jones, SR/WA (Alabama Chapter), had the honor to present Carol with the award. Carol's distinguished career spans decades and numerous projects. She has inspired and encouraged an untold number of people in our industry to be all that they can be.

On Monday afternoon (June 7, 2021), Chapter 32 & TDOT Region 3 staff members, Jon Zirkle, PE and Patti Bowlan, Associate Counsel, presented an outstanding program entitled *Where Roadway Design and Right of Way Intersect*. Thank you, Jon and Patti, for your involvement and professional representation. You certainly made Chapter 32 proud.



Chapter 32 President R. Rhett Turner, MAI, SR/WA presenting Jon Zirkle, PE and Patti Bowlan with the Convention Presenter's Appreciation Award.

Armadillo Race



The star of the show, the speedy armadillo...



Robin Upchurch, SR/WA and Rhett Turner, MAI, SR/WA enjoy a fun moment at the Monday night event.



The Monday Night Event, a RWIEF fundraiser was held at the ESPY. Chapter 32 sponsored the Armadillo Race, a fun and exciting event indeed. Jenni Kriner, SR/WA and Candise Tuggy participated in the main event race while the rest of us cheered them on...



Carol A. Croft, SR/WA, GRI spending a little money at the benefit auction Monday night.



Melinda Upchurch, Vice-Chair - Education Committee; Robin Upchurch, SR/WA, Chapter Treasurer; Dustin York - Deputy Director of Property Management/Project Support with Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority; and Angel Bailey, Chair - Chapter Education Committee, enjoying the Monday Night Event.

Region 6 Fall Forum

Chapter 26 will be hosting the Region 6 Fall Forum. It will be held in Tampa, Florida from November 3-5, 2021. For more information, please contact Matt Harris, SR/WA, R/W-RAC at (601) 359-7094 or mdharris@mdot.ms.gov.

Upcoming Education

As mentioned in the *President's Corner*, the following courses are being offered:

Course 501: Residential Relocation and Assistance, September 1-2, 2021

Course 502: Non-Residential Relocation Assistance, September 30 – October 1, 2021

Course 403: Easement Valuation, November 2nd or 3rd, 2021, depending on instructor availability.

Course 421: The Valuation of Partial Acquisitions, November 15 – 18, 2021

Course 431: Problems in the Valuation of Partial Acquisitions, December 6, 2021

Please take a moment to peruse the National and Chapter websites for topics of interest to you.

National website:	www.irwaonline.org
Chapter website:	https://irwachapter32.org