



CONTACTS

President

Karen Soohoo
2004 Buckey Way
Sparks, NV 89431
775-771-2157
Karen.sooohoo@yahoo.com

Vice-President

Kathy Renfrow
NV Energy Company
P.O. Box 10100
Reno, NV 89520-0024
775-834-4273
krenfrow@nvenergy.com

Secretary

Lori Miles
City of Reno
1 East First Street
Reno, NV 89501
775-334-3396
milesl@reno.gov

Treasurer

Jo Pinther
Property Specialists Inc.
975 Roberta Lane—Suite 104B
Sparks, NV 89432
775-332-6500
jo@property-specialists.net

Newsletter Editor

Carol Buonanoma, CMS, GISP
Washoe County Assessor's Office
P.O. Box 11130
Reno, NV 89520-0027
775-328-2225
cbuananoma@washoecounty.us



Senior Companions to be the Recipients of 2011 Holiday Giving

Last year, we had a very successful gift collection that benefited clients of the Senior Companions organization. It was such a heart-warming experience to help these very deserving people that the Chapter 46 Board of Directors decided to do it again this year.

Senior companions is a federally funded program with clients that are usually referred by the Department of Aging or one of the city or county agencies for seniors. Each Senior Companion volunteer is responsible for 2 to 4 clients who need help with things like shopping or trips to doctor's appointments. Sometimes the client has no family living nearby and the Senior Companion checks in and spends time with them, providing companionship to those who may be lonely.

The list of needed items are very basic—things most of us take for granted:

Blankets, Snuggies, socks, scarves, gloves, hats, Walmart Gift Cards

Personal items like:
lotion, disposable razors
toothpaste, soap, deodorant

Food items in pop-top cans:
soup, tuna, turkey, ham, chili, other

Pet food

Don't wrap your donated items. Senior Companion volunteers who are familiar with clients' individual needs will match the items to people who need them.

Please deliver the gifts by December 9th to any of these people:

Kathy Renfrow
NV Energy
6100 Neil Road, Reno
834-4273

Patty Paulson
Property Specialists
875 Roberta Lane
Suite 103, #2-4, Sparks
332-6500

Anne DeBolt
3033 Spring Creek Circle, Reno
657-8349

The gifts will be delivered to Senior Companions on December 12th.

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COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Asset Management

Lori Miles
775-334-3396
milesl@reno.gov

Education

Carolyn Carrica, SR/WA
775-834-4989
research.cac@gmail.com

Environment

John Dyer, PG, CEM
775-240-2147
john.dyer@kinross.com

Local Public Agency

Lori Miles
775-334-3396
milesl@reno.gov

Membership

Heather Edmunson, SR/WA
775-834-8071
hedmunson@tmwa.net

Nominations and Elections

(Vacant)

Pipeline

Heather Edmunson, SR/WA
775-834-8071
hedmunson@tmwa.net

**Professional Development
Chair 1**

Carrie Byron, SR/WA
775-888-7966
cbyron@dot.state.nv.us

**Professional Development
Chair 2**

Carolyn Carrica, SR/WA
775-722-6698
research.cac@gmail.com

**Professional Development
Chair 3**

Anne DeBolt, SR/WA
775-657-8349
msskippy@charter.net

Relocation Assistance

Patty Paulson, SR/WA
775-332-6500
patty@property-specialists.net

Survey

David Crook
775-358-9491
dcrook@tristateld.com

Transportation

Alan Yoshida
775-332-2144
ayoshida@rtcwashoe.com

Utilities

Frank Borghetti
(775) 834-7127
fborghetti@nvenergy.com

Valuation

Steve Johnson, MAI
775-322-1155

Web Site

Carol Buonanoma, CMS, GISP
775-328-2225
cbuonanoma@washoecounty.us

Photographer

Frank Borghetti
775-834-7127
fborghetti@nvenergy.com

Annual Chapter 46 Holiday Luncheon

By Kathy Renfrow

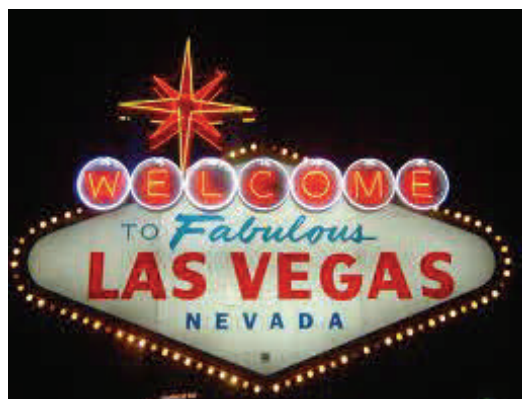
We will be celebrating the holidays at our upcoming membership meeting on December 21st. We will not have a speaker but, will instead have lunch catered by the cafeteria at NV Energy. The menu will consist of prime rib, mashed potatoes, asparagus bundles and rolls with butter. The approximate cost is \$14.00 per person based on 25 people.

It is very important that you RSVP to me, Kathy Renfrow at your earliest convenience—preferably by December 5th. My phone number is 834-4273 or you can email me at KRenfrow@nvenergy.com. Please be aware that if you respond that you will be attending and then you don't



attend, we will still need to collect \$14.00 from you. Unfortunately, our chapter cannot afford to pick up the tab for those that don't attend; we have to pay for the number of meals we order from the caterer even if you don't show up for lunch. Thank you for your cooperation on this matter and we hope to see you at the meeting.

Region 1 Spring Forum to be held in Las Vegas



The Region 1 Spring Forum will be held on Saturday, April 14, 2012 in Las Vegas. The host hotel will be the Gold Coast Hotel and Casino. Reservations may be made directly through the hotel's website at: <http://www.goldcoastcasino.com/groups> or

by calling 1-888-402-6278. Use Group Reservation ID A2SGC04. The special group room rate is only available until March 13, 2012, so don't delay making reservations. The special room rate for "Premium" (newly remodeled) rooms is \$86 per night. "Standard" rooms are \$71 per night. For those wanting to come early or stay after the Forum is over, the hotel will offer a limited number of rooms for \$29—\$39 (standard or premium) per night from Sunday through Thursday. The hotel offers free garage parking and a free shuttle to the Las Vegas Strip.

The Spring Forum flyer is available on the IRWA Region 1 website at: www.region1.irwachapter46.org.

Faces of IRWA

Chapter 46 Officers

by Heather Edmunson, SR/WA

This month and next month we are featuring two of our fabulous Board Members! I hope you enjoy reading about Kathy Renfrow, Chapter 46 Vice President, who works at NV Energy, and Lori Miles, Chapter 46 Secretary, who works at The City of Reno. I have known these ladies for many years and am excited for you to get to know more about them too. See you all at the holiday luncheon where we will have an exceptionally exciting Raffle this month!



Name: Kathy Renfrow

Position: Sr. Land Management Administrator

Employer: NV Energy

IRWA Chapter 46 Office: Vice President

How long have you worked at NV Energy ?

4 years

What brought you to NV Energy and where did you work before?

I started in the title insurance business at 22 years old in Southern California. In 2003 I was laid off and decided it was time to move out of the L.A. area. I came to Reno as one of my childhood friends lives here. I got a job at a title company – where else. After 4 years there, I was approached by NV Energy, then known as Sierra Pacific Power, to come work in their lands department as a right of way agent. I had no experience in this field, but my title background and my co-workers helped me a lot to learn this new career. After a couple of years as an agent, I had an opportunity to take over the Senior Land Management

Administrator position which I have been doing for the past 2 years now.

How does your job at NV Energy differ from other jobs you've had and other places you've worked?

After being in the title biz for over 30 years, working for the power company is very refreshing. I learn new and interesting things every day.

What do you love most about your job?

The people I work with and learning a new profession after being in title for so many years.

When did your interest in Right of Way begin?

I had no idea what right of way was until I came to work here. I mean, I knew about easements and rights of way, but I didn't realize there was a whole right of way industry out there.

What is unique about your job at NV Energy?

I am the only one who does my job here in the Reno office, although I have a counterpart down in Las Vegas. Sometimes that makes things difficult as I'm pretty much learning my job on my own.

What have you learned working at NV Energy?

Wow, where to start. First of all, I've learned about the right of way process itself and how far reaching it is. I'm still learning about it. Now I'm being stretched even more with the responsibilities of learning how to manage the company's properties; acquisition and dispositions of properties, handling leased properties and a myriad of other things.

What do you do on a typical day on the job?

There is no typical day here! I take care of many "odd" items every day. I work on projects with other departments, which means lots of meetings, research work, going out in the field, etc.

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What is your proudest professional accomplishment while working at NV Energy?

I can't think of one thing in particular but, being recognized and appreciated by my supervisor for my everyday accomplishments is very nice.

What do you enjoy doing outside of work?

I love to camp and be outdoors. I only got to camp once this past summer, but it was exciting. We had a bear come into our camp one night and try to steal all our food and booze! He did manage to get into the ice chest and eat a whole container of sliced cheese before he knocked over the barbeque which made a lot of noise and scared him off. I want to travel more and I recently went to Kauai for the first time and fell in love with it! I could definitely live there!

Were you named after anyone?

No. Mom said I was either going to be Kathleen or Patricia. I guess we know which one won out, huh?

Do you have kids?

Yes. My daughter Kari is 29 years old and has her own daughter, Katelyn, who is 2 ½. Kari followed me into the title business and has been an escrow officer for 10 years now.

What is your favorite ice cream?

Rocky Road or Butter Pecan

What are you listening to right now?

Silence in the office. Everyone is out in the field today except Frank (Borghettit) and me.

What's your favorite food?

Lobster, lobster and more lobster! I'm a sucker for chips and dip too.

What is the last movie you watched?

Water for Elephants

What book are you currently reading?

No time. I've been reading lots of catalogues and shopping for Christmas! I am trying to read the SR/WA review book in preparation for my upcoming review class. That's exciting.

Where were you born?

Nürnberg, Germany (Dad was in the army) Someday I'd love to travel there and see the country. My parents lived there for 4 years and returned to the States when I was 6 months old.

What's the next planned event you are looking forward to in life?

My nephews wedding on December 10th. I'll be traveling down to Southern California for this event. The best part is, I'll get to see my granddaughter there too.

Do you have any hobbies?

I like scrap booking and am currently working on a wedding album and a baby book. I also love to work outside in the garden and am bummed now that the weather has turned cold.

Do you have any pets?

I've always had pets in my life, but lost my kitty Molly about three years ago to old age. She was 18! Currently, we have my mom's dog Kobe. She's a rat terrier and will be 12 in January.

What's your favorite sport to watch on TV?

I'll watch baseball and football on TV, but enjoy them more in person.

My nickname is:

Kaki – given to me by my childhood friend here in Reno, back in our senior year of high school in California.



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Name: Lori Miles

Position: Property Program Technician

Employer: City of Reno

IRWA Chapter 46 Office: Secretary

How long have you worked at City of Reno?

Four and half years

What brought you to the City of Reno and where did you work before?

I wanted to expand my experiences and try the other side by working for the public sector instead of a private company. Plus, the benefits were nice!!! Prior to working for the City, I had worked for Property Specialists for about 3 years doing acquisition and relocation. This is where I began my career in the right of way world. Prior to that I worked in the title and escrow rat race for about 7 years.

How does your job at the City of Reno differ from other jobs you've had and other places you've worked?

It is quite different in that everything I do is to supply services to the public and I am not competing with other institutions for profit. I have a lot more rules, guidelines and restrictions to follow under NRS (Nevada Revised Statutes). I am managed by a large chain of command and control. And unlike title and escrow, I do not have month end deadlines I have to meet that could cause the customer to lose their interest rate.

What do you love most about your job?

I love the fact that I don't have to compete against other companies for business and that I can just get down to the business at hand, which is to manage the City owned properties in a way that would best benefit the public.

When did your interest in Right of Way begin?

I was tired of doing escrow work and my friend suggested I get into a new career and that her husband could teach me. So in July, 2004 I moved back to Reno and started working for Patty and Brett Paulson at PSI as a assistant right of way agent and the rest is history.

What is unique about your job at City of Reno?

I am required to go to Council for approval for just about everything I do.

What have you learned working at City of Reno?

I have learned to write really good staff reports!! No really - I have learned a lot about property management under a public agency. It is much different than in the private sector. For example, I have to make people to understand that you can't use City property free of charge for a private purpose.

What do you do on a typical day on the job?

It's nice to say that no two days are alike and with me being the only one in my department, I am very busy. I coordinate or assist in the acquisition, disposition, and maintenance of real property or rights of way for public use. I prepare all the contracts for leases, licenses, easements, rights of entry, etc. I maintain the records for all leases and revenue, whether the City is the landlord and the tenant. I am a liaison to survey, construction and inspections crews for streets and highway dedications, storm drains, sewer easements, rights of entry and encroachment permits. I maintain the City property inventory list. Any and all property management and right of way issues come through me.

What is your proudest professional accomplishment while working at City of Reno?

I would have to say it was finding and collecting about \$200,000.00 in outstanding lease revenue within the first year and half of working here.

What do you enjoy doing outside of work?

I enjoy spending time with family and friends, raising my two boys, shopping and going to the movies.

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Were you named after anyone?

My middle name Jeanette is after my grandmother Jean on my dad's side.

Do you have kids?

Yes, 2 boys, Brandon, 15 and Jacob, 9.

What is your favorite ice cream?

Mint Chocolate Chip and Jamocha Almond Fudge.

What are you listening to right now?

Christmas music on my iPod!!

What's your favorite food?

Italian and American.

What's the last movie you watched?

I saw *Happy Feet 2* (it wasn't as good as the first).

International Committees

Focus on The Nominations and Elections Committee

By Carolyn Carrica, SR/WA

Mission statement:

To originate, receive, prepare and recommend to the Board of Directors nominations for positions of International Officers on the International Executive Committee. In addition, the Committee is responsible for maintaining the Association's awards program by establishing policies and procedures. The Committee encourages quality professional members to participate in the operation of the International Right of Way Association at all levels.

Awards and Applications:

International Executive Committee

Any qualified member may be nominated for any of the follow-

What book are you currently reading?

Who has time for that – yuck!!! Can you tell I don't like to read!!!

Do you have a special talent?

Hahahaha that's funny - NO.

Where were you born?

I was born in BEAUTIFUL Southern California – Van Nuys.

What's the next planned event you are looking forward to in life?

Right now all I can think of Christmas with the family in California!!

Do you have any hobbies?

Besides shopping, I like going to Disneyland!!

Do you have any pets?

I have a Rat Terrier named Zach.

What's your favorite sport to watch?

Football.

What sport do you like to play?

I don't!!

My nickname is:

BRAT!!

ing IEC positions: President-Elect, Vice-President, Treasurer or Secretary. Any candidate must possess the following:

- Be a member in good standing for at least six years
- Experience serving as either and elected officer of a Chapter of the Association for at least one year or a IWA International Committee member for at least two years
- Must possess the SR/WA designation

Submission deadline is **DECEMBER 5, 2011** and must be sent via email to INEC Chair Nancy Halvorson, SR/WA, R/W-RAC at mnhalvors@msn.com

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Newsletter of the Year Award

Two awards are given Chapters over 100 and Chapters under 100 members. Awards for journalistic endeavor are granted to the newsletter exhibiting exemplary qualities in their communication of chapter, regional and International news. Submission to the INEX Vice-Chair Kevin Paul, SR/WA at kevin.paul@cpr.ca

Employer of the Year Award

There is a revision in this award for 2011 two awards – Private and Government.

To qualify the nominee must be an active supporter of their employees who are members of the IR/WA. This award was changed to private and government categories in order to level the field. Government often cannot financially participate to the same extent of the private companies. Submission to: INEC Chair Nancy Halvorson, SR/WA, R/W-RAC at mnhalvos@msn.com

Chapter of the Year Award

Two awards are given Chapter less than 100 and more than 100 members.

This award honors IRWA Chapters whose goals and accomplishments have focused on fulfilling the chapter responsibilities as outlined in IRWA Strategic Plan including growth, professional development and education. Submission to: INEC Chair Nancy Halvorson, SR/WA, R/W-RAC at mnhalvos@msn.com

SARPA Scholarship Award (\$5,000)

This scholarship is awarded to students majoring in a course of studies related to the right of way field or public works admini-

stration. Those eligible must be full time students, an active IRWA member or a family member of an active IRWA member. Age limit for students is 25 years. Submission to: INEC Chair Nancy Halvorson, SR/WA, R/W-RAC at mnhalvos@msn.com

CRWEF Scholarship Award (\$1,000)

This annual scholarship will be awarded to a graduation high school student who is entering a full time course of study in any of the various fields impacting the right of way profession. This award is open to all high school seniors and there is not IRWA family relationship required. Submission to: INEC Chair Nancy Halvorson, SR/WA, R/W-RAC at mnhalvos@msn.com

Frank C. Balfour Professional of the Year Award

IRWA's highest honor recognizes individual's whose outstanding contributions have included leadership positions in the chapter, region and international levels. Any active IRWA member in good standing is eligible. Submission to: INEC Chair Nancy Halvorson, SR/WA, R/W-RAC at mnhalvos@msn.com

New Awards to be rolled out by August 15, 2011

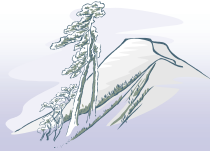
The INC is going to announce three new categories of awards for the coming year.

- Website of the year for Chapter of 100 members and for Chapters of less than 100 members.
- Government Employer of the Year
- The W. Howard Armstrong Facilitator of the Year award to be presented to an outstanding IRWRA facilitator as recognized by their peers.

Details and criteria for these awards are still being finalized. Each INEC Region representative will forward details by late summer. All submissions other than for IEC office are due by the first business day of February 2012.

Region 1 Representative is Blandon Granger, SR/WA bgranger@smud.org

There will be article on the International Committees in each issue of the Zephyr until I have finished all of the Committees. If you have any preference as to the order or specific questions please contact me Carolyn Carrica, 775-722-6698 or research.cac@gmail.com



Sierra Nevada Chapter 46
 International Right of Way Association
 P.O. Box 11352
 Reno, NV 89510-1352

Visit us on the web at www.irmvchapter46.org



Next Meeting

December 21, 2011

Location:
 NVEnergy
 6100 Neil Road
 Reno, NV
 Cafeteria Conference
 Room

NOTE

The December 7th Board Meeting will be held at 6100 Neil Road, in the cafeteria, rather than the usual location at 1 Ohm Place.

Meeting Dates

Board	September 7, 2011
Membership	September 21, 2011
Board	October 5, 2011
Membership	October 19, 2011
Board	November 2, 2011
Membership	November 16, 2011
Board	December 7, 2011
Membership	December 21, 2011
Board	January 4, 2012
Membership	January 18, 2012
Board	February 1, 2012
Membership	February 15, 2012
Board	March 7, 2012
Membership	March 21, 2012
Board	April 4, 2012
Membership	April 18, 2012
Board	May 2, 2012
Membership	May 16, 2012

Robert Schiffmacher, MAI

Real Estate Appraiser

Office, Commercial & Industrial Properties
 Eminent Domain • Rights of Way • Easements

Warren & Schiffmacher, LLC

85 Keystone Ave. #C, Reno, NV 89503
 Phone: (775) 686-2622 • Fax: (775) 688-4681
 bobws@gbis.com
www.warrenschiiffmacher.com



975 Roberta Lane, Ste. 104-B
 Sparks, NV 89431

PATTY PAULSON, SR/WA
 President

TEL: 775.332.6500 FAX: 775.332.6510
 CELL 775.225.0024

Acquisition, Relocation & Project Administration Consultants
patty@property-specialists.net

Zephyr Advertising Rates:

2" x 3.5" (business card size) \$25.00 per year 3.5" x 4.5" (quarter-page) \$75.00 per year
 4.5" x 7" (half-page) \$150.00 per year 7" x 9" (full-page) \$300.00 per year