



The Compass

Celebrating 65 Years
Established 1955

2020-21 CHAPTER 12 OFFICERS

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Greetings Chapter 12,

So far, 2020 has introduced many new challenges to each of us, whether as Right of Way professionals, leaders, employees, employers, parents, friends, neighbors, and members of our communities. The IRWA, Region 5 and Chapter 12 have faced hurdles and made tough decisions along the way including hiring a new CEO, cancellation of the Region 5 Spring Forum and the International Education Conference, transition to virtual meetings, and the postponement of many educational and development opportunities.



That being said, I think there is reason to be optimistic for the future. Each of these challenges has created an opportunity for positive change. As an example, previous educational offerings were either in-class or online, but IRWA has now leveraged technology to allow for in-person classes with a virtual component. The IEC and the Finance committee have sought to balance fiscal discipline with member value through strategic adjustments to the budget.

I am truly honored to have been given the opportunity to serve as Chapter 12 President for the 2020-2021 year. Thankfully, I will get to serve with a team of great leaders that includes President-Elect Laura Moonshower, Vice President Don York, Secretary Dan Olson, and Treasurer Jennifer Spurlock.

Throughout my time in Chapter 12 leadership, I have been very thankful for the guidance of Past Presidents, including Kris Koehler, Bill McIntyre, Smed Bernard, and Patty Bajt. During their terms in office, each leader brought their own perspective and worked to make things better for our members. I hope to continue their tradition of service.

I have outlined several goals for the next year:

- Seek to build member value by identifying and seeking to fill educational needs
- Support member credentialing efforts
- Prepare future leaders and build a leadership pipeline
- Continue a culture that values all members
- Have a little fun (even if we have to mask and socially distance)

Here are some upcoming activities:

Several of our courses earlier in the year were cancelled due to COVID-19. We are working to present additional offerings in an in-person/virtual format.

Region 5 held a Virtual Spring Forum on Saturday, April 25, 2020. This year's Fall Forum will be held in Green Bay, Wisconsin on October 23rd & 24th, and will include a Saturday night event at Lambeau Field.

Chapter 12 will host the 2021 Region 5 Spring Forum, tentatively scheduled for April 23rd & 24th in the Carbondale area. If you would like to assist in the planning and delivery of this event, please contact Jennifer Spurlock or me.

Since joining the ROW industry and IRWA 8 years ago, I have been thankful to encounter such a diverse group of professionals, each with their unique perspectives and experiences. The more I learn, the more I want to learn and share with others. I think that's the true value of IRWA. When we interact with another one of our members, it opens the door to new knowledge and insight. I'm really looking forward to the next year. We will accomplish great things together.

Rob Kirkpatrick
Chapter 12 President



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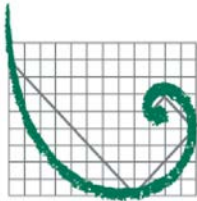
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about each of our sponsors: <http://www.irwachapter12.org>

IRWA Chapter 12 2020-21 Officers

President	Rob Kirkpatrick
President Elect	Laura Moonshower
Vice President	Don York
Secretary	Dan Olson
Treasurer	Jennifer Spurlock

International Director – 1 year term	Rob Kirkpatrick
International Director – 2 year term	Laura Moonshower
Professional Development Committee	Robin Upchurch

IRWA Chapter 12 2020 Awards

Member of the Year	Patty Bajt
Company of the Year	IDNR



4th Quarter Treasurer’s Report 2020

Balance on 04-01-2020:	\$26,471.32
Total Expenses:	\$ 2,554.85
Total Income:	\$ 7,250.00
Balance on 06-30-2020:	\$31,166.47



IRWA Chapter 12 2020 Golf Outing

After much consideration by the IRWA Chapter 12 board, we have decided to cancel the 2020 golf outing in effort to protect the health and safety of our members and other players. We hope to see you all at the 2021 IRWA Chapter 12 golf outing scheduled for August 19, 2021 at the Pontiac Elks Lodge.

Chapter News

Great news for Chapter 12! Smedmore Bernard was selected to be on the international Finance Committee for the IRWA. He will join Beth Smith from the Badger Chapter to represent the region on the committee.

Operation: Make the SR/WA Great Again!

Utilizing a campaign initialized by regional leadership, we are going to embark on a quest to get 1,000 designated members within Region Five. Between experience in newly minted instructors, we are attempting to find out what members need in order to meet their designation goals. In Chapter 12, we have a special aid to start us off. In 2019, our chapter established the Robin Upchurch designation scholarship fund. Anyone who commits to the candidacy for designation will get their registration paid for by the chapter.

International Education Conference

June 6 – 9, 2021

San Antonio, TX

Upcoming Meetings & Events

- September 10, 2020 Chapter 12 Summer Business & Education Meeting
- October 23-24, 2020 Region 5 Fall Forum
Green Bay, WI
- November 5, 2020 Chapter 12 Fall Business & Education Meeting
Springfield, IL
- April 23-24, 2021 Region 4 Spring Forum
Hosted by Chapter 12 – Location TBD
- June 6-9, 2021 International Education Conference
San Antonio, TX
- August 19, 2021 Chapter 12 Golf Outing
Pontiac, IL

Upcoming Courses – Region 5

- October 5, 2020 Course 200: Principles of Real Estate Negotiation
INSTRUCTOR LED VIRTUAL CLASS
- October 21, 2020 Course 701: Property/Asset Management: Leasing
Elkhart Lake, WI
- October 23, 2020 Course 604: Environmental Due Diligence and Liability
Green Bay, WI

Would you like to submit an article or information for the newsletter?

Are you interested in placing an advertisement?

Contact Lisa Krenz at lisa.krenz@bp.com

