

# The Centerline

IRWA Chapter 8 Gulf States

October 2024

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Chapter 8 Members,

I hope this letter finds you well and you're enjoying the start of fall!

First, I want to thank all of you who joined us for our October meeting. **Scott Davis**, Partner with [Hicks, Davis, and Wynn](#) gave an engaging presentation about eminent domain law in Texas and an update to the Hlavinka case!

A special shout out to **Blake Ledford** with [Texas Land and Title, LLC](#) for generously providing the raffle gift at the meeting! Thank you so much and I know Bobby appreciated it.

Also, we just successfully hosted Course 218- ROW Acquisition for Electrical Transmission Projects at [CenterPoint Energy](#). **Lori** and **Chico**, thank you for your hard work in putting this together! We greatly value the industry partnerships within our Chapter and appreciate the opportunity to collaborate with you all.

Looking ahead, I'm excited to announce our upcoming November meeting, which promises to be equally informative and engaging. Our speaker for the coming month's meeting is **Charles McConnell**, Executive Director for the [University of Houston's Center for Carbon Management and Energy Sustainability](#), an industry expert with a wealth of knowledge and experience in Energy Management. The presentation, titled Energy Transition, and the Challenges We Face that Require More Energy-Less Carbon, will delve into important aspects of our evolving landscape of energy use and production.

To register for the event and find more information, please visit our website at [irwa8.org](http://irwa8.org). We encourage you to sign up early to secure your spot.

As always, our chapter's success depends on the support and involvement of each of our members. I'd like to extend my sincere gratitude to everyone who has volunteered their time and expertise to help make IRWA Chapter 8 an exemplary organization. If you're interested in getting more involved, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to our chapter, and I look forward to seeing you at our November meeting!

Best regards,

~Mercedes Osbern



## Inside this issue:

Letter from the President	1
Chapter 8 Officers & Committee Chairs	3
Chapter Highlights	4
Young Professionals	5
Upcoming Events	6
Things You Should Know	7

# CHAPTER 8 OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

## Officers

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# CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS

For our October Chapter 8 meeting we welcomed Scott Davis, Partner with Hicks, Daviss and Wynn and gave an presentation about Eminent Domain Law in Texas.

Our next Chapter 8 meeting will be on November 7th at The Ballroom at Tanglewood. We hope to see everyone there! Don't forget to register online fand so we can get an accurate headcount!

Chapter 8 will be hosting the Region 2 Forum next spring so be on the lookout to help the chapter with volunteer opportunities.





# CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS



## *Happy Hour Networking*



# YOUNG PROFESSIONALS



## YOUNG PROFESSIONALS NETWORKING EVENT

**UNWIND. CONNECT. NETWORK.**

**ATTENTION ALL YOUNG PROFESSIONALS IN THE RIGHT OF  
WAY INDUSTRY! JOIN US FOR A NETWORKING EVENT ON  
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14TH .**

### DETAILS:

**Thursday, November 14th  
5:30 - 7:00 PM**

**Patterson Park  
2205 Patterson St, Houston, TX 77007**

**Register Online At: [www.irwa8.org](http://www.irwa8.org)**



# THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

## Gift Cards Needed for Chapter Luncheon Raffles

The Chapter is looking for companies to donate gift cards for our raffles at each of our luncheons. If you or your company are interested, please contact Mercedes Osbern via email at [Mercedes.osbern@fhr.com](mailto:Mercedes.osbern@fhr.com)

## IRWA Luncheons Approved for SR/WA Rectification Credits

As you may know, the IRWA International Credentialing Committee has moved to a “Self Reporting” model. Meaning, IRWA members simply report that they attended X amount of meetings for X amount of hours on their CE forms. Each luncheon attended will earn you one (1) hour re-certification credit. Be sure to pick up a form you can fill out and retain for your records at our next IRWA Chapter 8 Meeting!

## Want a Free Lunch?

The Chapter 8 Board has decided to offer its members the opportunity to receive a free lunch for the submission, acceptance and publication of a newsletter article.

To Qualify:

1. You must be a current IRWA Chapter 8 Member (Chapter Chairs and Executive Officers excluded)
2. Submit a newsletter article and have it published in the Award-Nominated The Centerline.
3. You receive a free lunch voucher for one of the regularly scheduled lunch meetings.

Submit articles to [kjbreitinger@eprod.com](mailto:kjbreitinger@eprod.com)



# THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

## About the IRWA

Since its inception as a not-for-profit association in 1934, the IRWA has united the efforts of its members toward professional development, strong ethics and improved service to employers and the public, along with advancements within the right of way profession. IRWA is the unsurpassed sources of right of way educational programs and professional services worldwide.

## Our Members

Dedicated exclusively to the right of way profession, IRWA has nearly 10,000 members throughout the US, Canada and Africa. Our members are multi-disciplined professionals employed by private industry and government agencies as Acquisition Agents, Appraisers, Environment Professionals, Engineers, Lawyers, Property managers, Relocation Assistance Agents, Surveyors and Title Experts.

*Welcome New Members!*

Sean Reilly

Lucero Martinez

Matthew Parker

## Meet your Communications Committee:

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Want to join our committee?

Contact Karla Breitinger!