



IRWA CHAPTER 7

PROUDLY SERVING MICHIGAN'S LEADING RIGHT OF WAY PROFESSIONALS

OCTOBER 2017 ISSUE

IN THIS ISSUE:

The 2017 Fall Seminar took place at Shanty Creek Resorts in Bellaire, MI. “Everything Easements” was a huge success! From excellent speakers and presentations to the actual flying of a drone, we all learned something new and had fun while doing it. A huge thanks to our sponsors, speakers, and guests. Inside see details for our November membership meeting in Frankenmuth & other upcoming events!

By: Heather McCardel



Photo taken by Mike Kurschat, “Drone”

2017 FALL SEMINAR HIGHLIGHTS

Thank you all for making our IRWA 2017 Fall Conference at Shanty Creek a success! Our first meeting of the year was a tremendous hit, and David Nepper did a great job of lining up some spectacular presentations.



Daniel Brooks and Zachary Halberd

Drone Presentation

UAS Regulatory Protections

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

<http://www.irwamichigan.org/>

**November 1st, 2017 General
Membership Meeting**

Bavarian Inn Lodge
One Covered Bridge Lane
Frankenmuth, MI 48734



ITC's Michigan Thumb Loop Presentation (Mischa Boardman, Wyatt Price, Todd Edwards, Jenny D'Anna, Devin Sullivan)

IRWA Chapter 7 Group Photo with Drone presenters Daniel Brooks & Zachary Halberd





Congrats Rob! Rob Bourgeois was awarded his SR/WA designation at our 2017 Fall Seminar. We thank you for all that you do and commend you on receiving the highest designation that the International Right of Way Association gives.



Rob watching the live drone presentation outside the Shanty Creek Resort in Bellaire, MI

Silent Auction

We raised just over \$1,050 for the Right of Way International Educational Foundation (RWIEF) at the 2017 Fall Seminar silent auction, facilitated by Lynn Huston. The proceeds are being donated on behalf of Alicia Worthley, past Michigan Chapter President, who recently passed away. Alicia had many accomplishments in her life and career with IRWA only being a slice of it. We have attached her obituary in honor of those achievements.

“When there is teamwork and collaboration, wonderful things can be achieved” — Mattie Stepanek

Greetings,

As a chapter, we have plenty of things to be proud of, and look forward to! Our Fall Seminar at Shanty Creek last month was a tremendous success. We had excellent speakers on thought-provoking topics. If you weren't there, you won't want to miss any more highlights like that one.

Looking forward, we have our next General Membership meeting at Frankenmuth coming very soon! It's less than a month away on Wednesday, November 1 at the Bavarian Inn in Frankenmuth Michigan. So, don your lederhosen (if that works for you), and get ready for another great educational conference. You won't want to miss the world-famous hospitality at the Bavarian Inn in Frankenmuth.

On a sad note, our chapter and the right-of-way profession lost a giant leader last month with the passing of Alicia Worthley. We all stand on the work of those who have gone before us, and I am proud of her many accomplishments that propelled our chapter forward. If you didn't know Alicia, you can read more in her obituary at the end of this newsletter.

Although the Regional Spring Forum looks to be far off in April 27-28, 2018, you might be interested in this one. This year it's in Louisville, KY, and one of the events will be planned around horse racing leading up to the Kentucky Derby! Seating is limited, and reservations are required before November 1, so contact me if you're interested in attending.

Finally, if you have employees or peers that are interested in joining the IRWA, this is an excellent time to join. A new program allows new members to join and get the first partial year of membership count towards the first full year of dues. Full details are on the IRWA website.

See you at the Glockenspiel in Frankenmuth!

Michael F. Kurschat, M.S.F., ASA, MAI

Kurschat & Company

Real Estate Appraisers and Consultants

www.kurschatco.com

[2075 W Big Beaver, Ste 222](#)

[Troy, MI 48084](#)

Phone: [248-816-9166](tel:248-816-9166)



FALL REGIONAL FORUM HIGHLIGHT

September 29 – 30, 2017 Pat Petitto, Jeff Jones, Brad Krabel and Mike Kurschat attended the Regional Forum in Cleveland, OH. Beautiful city, nice time.

Take Away -

Region 5 would like to raise money to be a gold sponsor of the golf outing at the International Conference in Edmonton next summer. The amount our chapter is asked to raise to meet that goal is (at least) \$357.14. I think we can do that with our 50/50 Raffle, and we may need some other ideas to shore up that amount.

International is requesting ideas for selecting the host city/chapter for the Annual Conference.

IRWA's website is being re-vamped, but they have new feature called the "Credential Concierge". It helps candidates figure out what classes they need and where they are being held. How cool is that?

Chapter awards applications are due February 1st, 2018.

New members can join the IRWA now at a great price!

Spring Regional Forum, Louisville Kentucky, April 27-28

Plan on going to the 2018 Regional Spring Forum in **Louisville Kentucky, April 27-28, 2018** at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. This is the Saturday before the famed Kentucky Derby, and the city will be a continuous party. They have an **EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL EVENT** – Evening Horse Races - secured at the Louisville Downs – for select attendees only.

The event includes gourmet dining, open bar, and access to the Grand Foyer and Overlook, only \$125. They'll need your payment by November 1. Only 6 members/guests (3 openings remaining) of our chapter are guaranteed this evening of horse racing. After that, it is first come-first served, and will be an immediate sell-out. So if you'd like to attend the Regional Forum, let me know if you'd like to attend this EXCLUSIVE add-on event ASAP! We have 3 (out of 6) guaranteed openings available.

Look forward to hearing from everyone!



November 1st, 2017 – General Membership Meeting

Bavarian Inn Lodge
One Covered Bridge Lane
Frankenmuth, MI 48734
844-264-9023

Breakfast at 8am
Meeting Begins at 9am

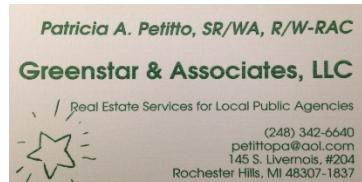


SPONSORED BY



**JUDEH &
ASSOCIATES**

The Real Estate Valuation Experts



Register by Monday October 24th - \$50 Members, \$60 Non-member

Register online at: <http://www.irwamichigan.org/>
OR Contact:

Deb Poeder
Land Matters, LLC
11230 Tallmadge Woods Dr.
Grand Rapids, MI 49534
Phone: (616) 791-9805
Email: dpoeder@landmattersllc.com



SAVE THESE DATES: SEPTEMBER 26-28, 2018

IRWA Michigan Chapter 7's 2018 Fall Education Seminar



IRWA Michigan Chapter 7's 2018 Fall Education Seminar will be held at The Inn at Bay Harbor. Bay Harbor has amazing sunset views and is set along five miles of Lake Michigan shoreline. It was named among *Travel + Leisure* magazine's "Best Hotels in the World" and honored as a "Top 75 Golf Resort in North America" by *Golf Digest*. This resort includes 45 breathtaking holes of championship golf, a full-service spa and salon, award-winning restaurants, easy access to world-class shopping, and a marina. For more information, see <http://www.innatbayharbor.com/>.



Building for the Future



After a successful conference, heading into a new Chapter and Region year can be daunting. Alaska's natural beauty was incredible. You learned lots of industry best practices during conference sessions and had a blast reconnecting with peers and friends. So what now?

Coming off high conference energy is the perfect time to build for the future. Leadership training and development is critical to your organization. So how do you engage in that learning process without breaking the bank or leaving your office? Great leadership skills are a mouse click away via IRWA's Leadership Institute program which is provided FREE to IRWA members. Funded by the Right of Way International Education Foundation and the Canadian Right of Way Education Foundation, eleven training modules help prepare IRWA volunteers to be more effective within the organization and provide personal development in other leadership roles through life.

Need to know how to recruit and motivate volunteers, how to develop a strategic plan, how to make meetings work, how to delegate and empower or how to become a top-performing Chapter? These topics, along with other leadership training can be found at IRWA University. Just go to www.irwaonline.org, select the Education tab, go to IRWA University and select Leadership Institute. So what are you waiting for? Advance your career. Hone your leadership skills and build your Chapter and Region for the future.

www.rwief.org
www.crwef.org



Alicia Worthley Griffiths

August 04, 1946 - September 12, 2017

Online Obituaries for the Clawson, Michigan area.

Alicia Mareen Worthley-Griffiths, 71, a resident of Clawson, Michigan for more than 30 years, passed away on September 12 at Royal Oak Beaumont Hospital.

Her quiet passing is in stark contrast to the life she lived. Bold, intelligent, energetic, and determined, Alicia was Michigan's first female building inspector. Working in a male-dominated industry before women's liberation had even found a foothold in the United States, was a job only a strong, force of nature like Alicia could handle. She was, as her son Rodger Griffiths indicates, "a proud, Leo woman with a Leo personality to match." Truly, she is remembered as adventurous, genuine, and generous, traits that exemplify her life.

She was a dauntless foodie, who made a hobby out of visiting new restaurants and tasting unique dishes with her loving husband of 32 years, Rodney W. Griffiths. Rodney, who met Alicia on a blind date, says that when he first saw her, he was taken by her "beautiful dark hair, her pretty eyes, and great smile." He adds that Alicia's "fascinating personality" and her willingness to dine on BBQ at a dive in downtown Utica sealed the deal for him: he was hooked. Several years later, they married at Church of Christ in Troy, Mich. When not eating out, the couple enjoyed annual visits to Florida, where the sounds of the Atlantic Ocean lapping the sandy shores of Daytona Beach were among Alicia's greatest joys. The two also reveled in flea markets and the local arts and crafts scene, as well as weekly Pinochle games with her brother-in-law and his wife.

Her passion was also ignited by a love for beautiful things, which culminated in frequent trips to her favorite spot: Neiman Marcus. Just as her personality, she loved to sparkle, from her trademark rhinestone-rimmed glasses to her innumerable pairs of glittering clip-on earrings, which she enjoyed wearing as much as possible. Only her warmhearted demeanor could outshine her impeccably good taste.

Not much stood in Alicia's way, particularly when work was concerned. Her accomplishments as a building inspector allowed her to progress through the ranks until she became the department head for the Right of Way Division for the City of Troy. But being Alicia means she didn't stop there. Instead, she took her characteristic achievements and dynamic charisma to the next level and excelled in the International Right of Way Association, where she served as the Michigan Chapter President. She taught classes and seminars, organized local and nationwide events, and travelled all over the U.S. Her efforts were rewarded. Before her retirement in 2001, she was awarded the incredibly prestigious Frank C. Balfour Professional of the Year Award, the association's highest honor.

But even her groundbreaking work could not match her biggest success: her family. Grandma G., as she was called, delighted in her three grandchildren, Reiss, Liam, and Carter, and counted her hours with them as her happiest. She absolutely adored them. Her immense and all encompassing love was far-reaching, particularly for her extended family, whom she considered her very own. After her sister, Jackie Palmer, passed away, Alicia became a second mother to Jackie's six children, with whom she had a wonderfully close relationship her entire life. She also took great satisfaction in caring for another sister, Sandra Finney, and Sandra's husband, as well the couple's daughter, who, after Sandra's death, came to live at the Griffith family home in Clawson, where she still resides. Alicia's days were often spent caring for family members and she considered it among her most important and most joyful commitments. Her door, as well as her heart, was always open.

Written by Beloved

Funeral Information

Friends may visit Gramer Funeral Home, 705 North Main Street (Livernois between 14-15 mile roads.) Clawson, MI

Thursday, September 14, 2017 from 4 pm until 8 pm and Friday September 15, 2017, from 2 pm until 8 pm.

A Celebration of Alicia's life will be held at 11 am Saturday at the Funeral Home on Saturday



October 2017 Chapter Newsletter
By Heather McCardel

Contact Us

IRWA Chapter 7

<http://www.irwamichigan.org/contact-us/>

Website:

<http://www.irwamichigan.org/>