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INDIANA

INTERNATIONAL RIGHT OF WAY ASSOCIATION: CROSSROADS OF AMERICA CHAPTER 10

MMXXVI Issue XL

May/June 2026



IRWA CHAPTER 10 2026-2027 INSTALLATION MEETING

Join us for the annual Installation Meeting on
Wednesday, June 10, 2026, at Victory Field in
Indianapolis, IN!

Details about the event and
registration are available on
the following page and on the
chapter website. Scan or click
the QR code to go straight
there.



IRWA Chapter 10

2026-2027 INSTALLATION MEETING

At Victory Field

INDIANS



COLUMBUS

*WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2026
501 W. MARYLAND ST.
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46225*

**12:30PM - GATES OPEN
12:45PM - INSTALLATION AT
YUENGLING LANDING
1:35PM - FIRST PITCH**

\$40/person

REGISTER HERE!



2026-2027

Slate of Officers

Congrats to our new Chapter 10 Slate of Officers!

- Zach Slavens – President/International Director
- Mike Hazeltine – Vice President
- Madison Culp – Secretary
- Kevin Rowland – Assistant Secretary
- Adam Westfall – Treasurer
- John Petkovsek – Assistant Treasurer
- Shelby Barkley – Newsletter Editor
- Laura Wermund Santos – Assistant Newsletter Editor
- Curt Candler – International Director

IRWA CHAPTER 10 RAILROAD SYMPOSIUM APRIL 17, 2026

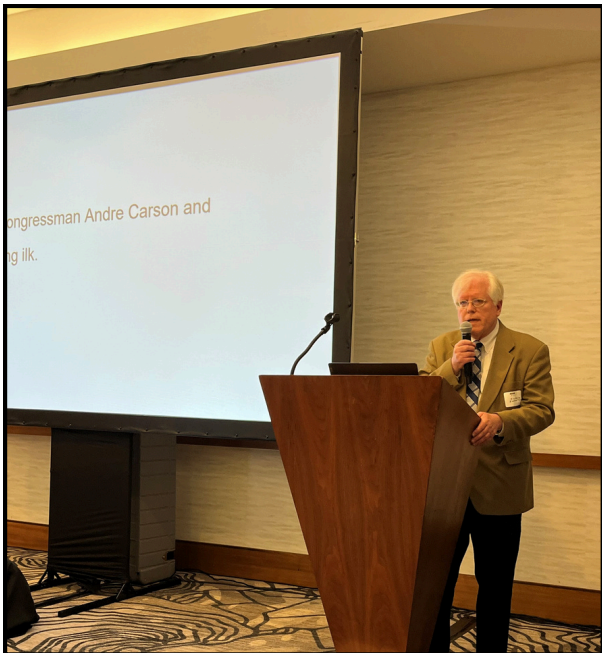
Speakers:



Richard Vonnegut, Hoosier Rails to Trails Council



Alex Saar, CSX Railroad



Jim Bishop



Rick Harnish, High Speed Rail Alliance

IRWA CHAPTER 10 RAILROAD SYMPOSIUM APRIL 17, 2026

Speakers:



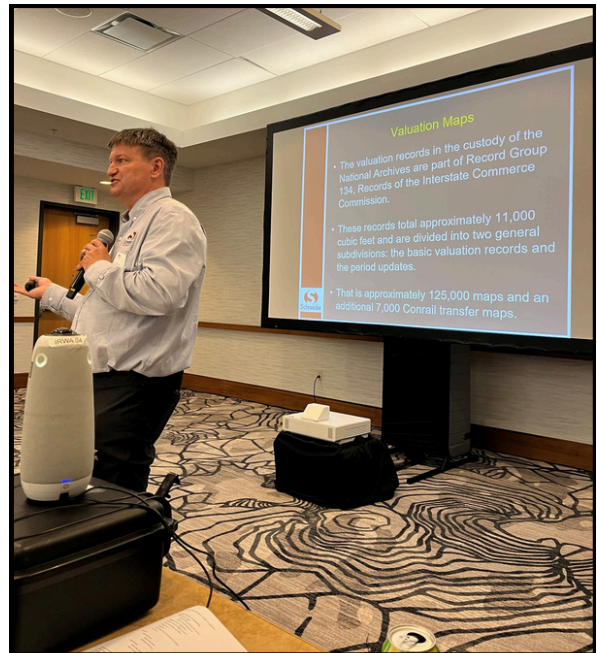
Karl Krukenburg, WSP



Pat McCallister, WSP



Eric Powell, Ports of Indiana



Curt Candler, Schneider Geomatics



IRWA REGION 5 SPRING FORUM APRIL 18, 2026

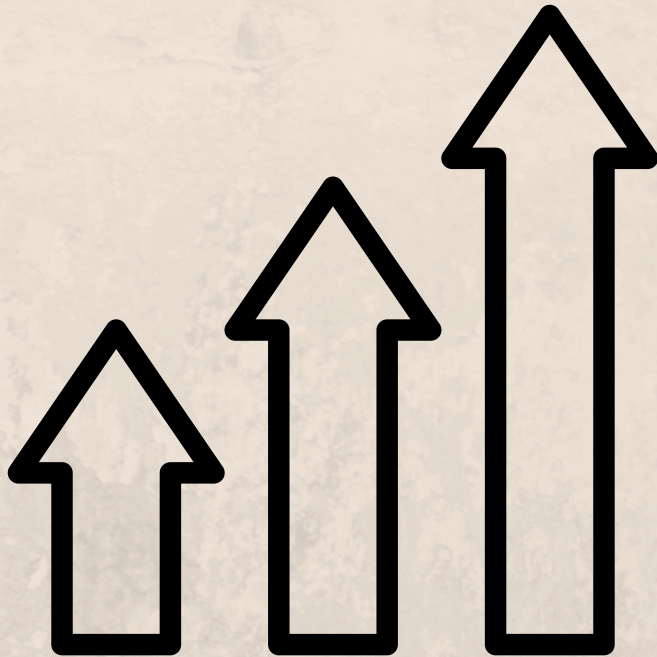
New Region 5 Leadership



Gail Morton, SR/WA Chair, Dave Griffith, SR/WA Vice Chair, Doug Grant, SR/WA Secretary

MISO

Load Jump from Data Centers



MISO has stated that a significant load jump is expected largely due to the development of data centers in their territory. Their current trajectory shows that data centers would use a fifth of all MISO's electricity by 2030 and a quarter of it by 2040.

Click the arrows to read more!



- ✓ Our experienced professionals will work with you on large or small scale projects to reach fair and equitable settlements.
- ✓ We advocate for our clients with good faith negotiations while upholding their valuable reputation.
- ✓ We have over 100 years combined experience in right of way acquisition and stand ready to *Lead you the Right Way!*

Member Spotlight



Name: Zachary Slavens

Employer: Bowman

Time in Industry: Nine years

How long have you been a member of IRWA: 3 years

Position on Board (Past or Present): Vice President

How did you hear about IRWA: I overheard someone mention the IRWA at INDOT when I was first starting my career in right-of-way. I found the international aspect intriguing and liked the idea of being part of a right-of-way community.

Favorite Meeting or Speaker: One of my favorite meetings was the Economic Development and Planning Meeting in Jasper Indiana. The setting was exceptional, and I especially enjoyed the mayor's opening presentation highlighting the city's rich history.

What you have learned since being a member of the IRWA: Since becoming a member of IRWA, I have learned from every discipline imaginable that involves right-of-way. Through attending the IRWA's symposiums and meetings, I have strengthened my understanding of each discipline and remained current on the evolving industry practices.

What do you do in your free time: In my free time, you'll often find me working on my home. I am currently restoring my 1940s house into a true 1940s time capsule. When I'm not at home, I enjoy traveling with my girlfriend, hiking/biking and exploring new national parks, and searching for unique antiques to add to the house.



SCHNEIDERGEOMATICS.COM

50 FOR FIFTY

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Funded by the Right of Way International Education Foundation (RWIEF)

The Fifty for Fifty Scholarship Program provides fifty (50) \$2,500 scholarships to support IRWA members pursuing professional certification and continuing education. Scholarship funds may be applied toward eligible IRWA coursework and may be used for in-person, virtual, or on-demand courses.

SCHOLARSHIP ALLOCATION

- **Forty (40) scholarships** allocated equally among IRWA's ten (10) U.S. and Canadian Regions (Four scholarships per Region).
- **Up to five (5) scholarships** awarded to qualified applicants from IRWA international chapters (No more than one scholarship per international chapter).
- **Five (5) additional scholarships** awarded to U.S. and Canadian Regions based on documented excess demand.

Unused international scholarships may be reallocated to Regions based on excess qualified applications.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To qualify, applicants must:

- Be an **active IRWA member in good standing for at least one (1) year.**
- Have **formally declared candidacy for at least one IRWA certification program.**
- Submit an **essay of 300 words or less** addressing:
 1. Their strongest current potential contribution to IRWA and how this scholarship would enhance that contribution.
 2. What excites them about the future of IRWA and the right of way profession.
 3. The role they hope to play in the future of the profession and IRWA.

APPLICATION TIMELINE

- **Application Deadline: May 15, 2026.**
- **Notification of Recipients: June 1, 2026.**
- **Scholarship Term: July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2028.**
- **Funds must be used within the scholarship term.**

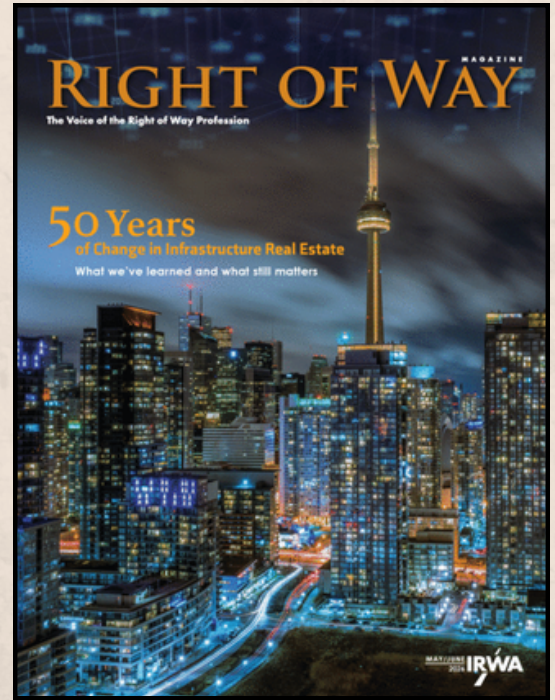
To download the application and apply, click [here](#).

Learn more about this scholarship and other RWIEF initiatives at <https://www.rwief.org>



IRWA INTERNATIONAL

The May/June edition of the Right of Way Magazine is now available! Click the cover photo on your right to access the digital copy.



Registration for the 72nd Annual International Education Conference in Omaha, Nebraska is still open!

[Click HERE!](#)

The banner features a stylized landscape with mountains and a train. The text 'IRWA's 72ND ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE' is prominently displayed in white and blue. The IRWA logo, featuring a stork, is on the right. The slogan 'All Aboard the Right of Way Express!' is written in a cursive font above a train silhouette. A 'REGISTER FOR CONFERENCE' button is in the bottom right. The location and dates 'OMAHA, NEBRASKA June 26-29, 2026' are at the bottom left.

IRWA's
72ND ANNUAL
INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE

All Aboard the Right of Way Express!

IRWA
EDUCATION CONFERENCE
OMAHA 2026

REGISTER FOR CONFERENCE

OMAHA, NEBRASKA
June 26-29, 2026

YP CONNECT TRAVEL SPONSORSHIP



01 How to Apply

Complete a 500-word essay covering the following topics and submit with your resume.

02 Application Submittal

Email your application to:
Alyssia.padilla@gmail.com by 5 PM Central

May 15, 2026

Join us at the 2026 Young Professionals Thursday Night Event and YP Committee Meeting in Omaha. Funding is available for airfare and 2 days of travel expenses to attend from 6/25-27/2026.

Topics

- Detail your participation and contributions to the IRWA organization
- Explain how attending the conference will support your career growth and benefit the IRWA
- Describe your current role, experience, and professional achievements in your field



NEWSLETTER SPONSORS



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IRWA CHAPTER 10 GOLF OUTING

EAGLE CREEK GOLF CLUB

SEPTEMBER 2, 2026



SAVE THE DATE!

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- Beverage Cart Sponsors: \$600 and up
 - 2x5 banner displayed with your logo, Sponsors can provide cart decorations of their choice & advertising handouts if desired
- Gold Sponsors: \$500
 - 2 x 5 banner displayed with your logo
- Silver Sponsors: \$250
 - Logo displayed at tee box
- Bronze Sponsors: Under \$250 and/or Swag Bag & Raffle Donations
 - Contact Angela Deddish by 8/22/26 for pick up/delivery
 - Delivery Address: 4630 S. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46217

All sponsorships will be included in a social media post.

[CLICK HERE TO SPONSOR!](#)



TRANSITION FROM COAL TO GAS

AES Indiana

AES Indiana has proposed converting their current Petersburg Units 3 & 4 from coal to gas. This transition would put them on the path to being the first investor-owned electric utility to stop burning coal. Work is expected to be completed in 2026 and is estimated to significantly reduce customer costs.



Click the coal plant to read more!

A promotional banner for CRE Consulting. At the top, there are four blue buttons with white text: "Right-of-Way Management", "Appraisal Services", "Appraisal Review", and "Negotiation & Support". Below these buttons is a central graphic featuring a blue shield-shaped logo with a white outline. The logo contains a stylized landscape with a road, a power line tower, and a wind turbine. Below the landscape, the text "CRE CONSULTING" is written in large white letters, with "consultcre.com" in smaller white letters underneath. The background of the banner is a photograph of a dirt road with a yellow double line down the center, leading towards a green field and blue hills under a cloudy sky. At the bottom of the banner, there are three white icons on a blue background: a globe, a telephone handset, and an envelope. Below each icon is the corresponding contact information: "consultcre.com", "317.660.1492", and "info@consultcre.com".



IRWA Chapter 10 had a booth at Purdue Road School, which was held on March 17th and 18th!



FIRST
APPRAISAL GROUP, INC.
Real Estate Valuation and Consulting

WELCOME

New Members:

- David Cain
- Tracey Burm, Enbridge Employee Services Inc.
- Heather Wall, INDOT
- Brooks Moore, INDOT
- Bruce Warren, Negotiations, Inc
- Christi Warren, Negotiations, Inc
- Melissa Perry, Egis BLN USA



IRWA CHAPTER 10 EDUCATION

2026 -2027 AVAILABLE COURSES

MAY
15, 2026

Course 901 – Engineering Plan Development & Application
NIPSCO Southlake Campus, Merrillville, IN

AUGUST
3-6, 2026

Course 421 – The Valuation of Partial Acquisitions
Schneider Geomatics, Indianapolis, IN

AUGUST
20-21, 2026

Course 501 – Residential Relocation Assistance
NIPSCO Southlake Campus, Merrillville, IN

OCTOBER
1-2, 2026

Course 219– Adult Communication Principles and Methods
NIPSCO Southlake Campus, Merrillville, IN

NOVEMBER
6, 2026

Course 102 – Elevating Your Ethical Awareness
Schneider Geomatics, Indianapolis, IN

NOVEMBER
18, 2026

804 - Skills of Expert Testimony
NIPSCO Southlake Campus, Merrillville, IN

APRIL
16, 2027

Course 902– Property Descriptions
NIPSCO Southlake Campus, Merrillville, IN

AUGUST
27, 2027

Course 215 –ROW Acquisition for Pipeline Projects
NIPSCO Southlake Campus, Merrillville, IN

DECEMBER
3, 2027

Course 802 – Legal Aspects of Easements
NIPSCO Southlake Campus, Merrillville, IN

AND MORE STILL TO COME!!!!

Do you have a list of IRWA Education Courses that you have identified that you want to take over the next couple of years??

Send your list to Education Chair Patrick McCallister, SR/WA
(Patrick.McCallister@wsp.com) so that he can get these courses worked into the Chapter's course schedule.

DID YOU KNOW.....

.....by taking IRWA education courses you can earn IRWA Certifications/Designation that are looked at as marks of excellence in the Right of Way Industry.

Newsletter



Do you have something you'd like included in the next edition of the Chapter 10 Newsletter?

If so, send us an email [HERE](#).

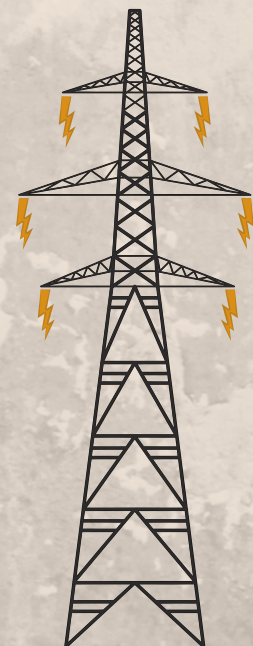
Click the newsletter to access our Newsletter Archive!

PJM Capacity Issues

PJM has laid out 3 frameworks for reframing their market to ensure it has sufficient power supplies to keep up with the growing demand.

PJM President and CEO David Mills said in the report that “The region has years, not decades, to make these choices deliberately.”

Click the electric tower to read more!



2025/2026

Chapter 10 Committees

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Laura Wermund Santos, SR/WA, (317)538-6987
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PARLIAMENTARIAN

Chris Wischer, Esq., (812) 425-1591

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