

September 2018 President's Message

I hope you all enjoyed our fabulous summer weather. I was fortunate enough to spend mine traveling to compete in barrel races for the first time in nearly four years. Above is a photo of my beloved steed Mozzie & I from June in Chilliwack, B.C. Canada, eh!

We had a great turnout for our first meeting of this fiscal year... 70+ members and guests! Krista Chambers provided a lot of information about the potential options for restructuring the IRWA, most notably is all three proposals reduce the number and location of the Board of Directors. The current Board of Directors consists of over 200 members which includes two representatives from each Chapter, who vote on important issues such as restructuring, elections, budget, and education to name a few. If you would like a copy of the information Krista presented, which includes who to contact for questions/concerns, there will be a link included in the weekly email. There is currently a "FixIRWA" initiative regarding a lack of communication pertaining to the proposed reorganization and education issues. I have discussed this with our Region 7 Chair, Dee Oakland, who has committed to seeking resolution at the September IEC/ICG meeting. As Chapter 4's current International Directors, John Nidecker and I will be voting on behalf of Chapter 4 at Region Forums and the International Board of Directors meeting this year, and would like to hear your thoughts. We will be attending the fall forum next month where we will learn more. Stay tuned!

I want to thank Janae Barbeau for volunteering to find a location and menu, along with the help Jean Funk & Kim Anderson, of HDR for their hard work, generosity and hospitality. On that note, the Chapter acknowledged HDR for their role in helping Chapter 4 receive the Gene L. Land Award by presenting them one of the free memberships which came with the award. We also announced that we would be doing incentive drawings for the other two free memberships we received. One will be a membership incentive drawing and the other will be an award nomination incentive drawing. If you are interested in winning a free membership, contact Michele Pescador, Membership Committee Chair or Melinda Burkhart, NESAs Chair for details. You can find their contact information on our website in the "Contact Us" Section. Melinda has updated our nomination forms this year for ease of use and we have moved our project of the year presentations to March. We hope that these changes, along with the free membership incentive will increase nominations for Chapter awards. Get yours in soon for a chance to win a free membership!

Speaking of the website, thank you for your patience with not being able to update our website for the past couple of months. We anticipate having the ability to update it soon. In the

meantime, we will continue to register and pay for meetings manually. So please email Julie Aune (jaunemail@yahoo.com) to register for our October 10th Lunch Meeting at the Red Lion in Bellevue by October 5th. Our guest speaker will be Doug Hummel, who will be sharing his experience acquiring property in the UK.

Our 2018 Golf Tournament is in the books. A special thanks to our tournament director, Shawn Greninger and the 20+ people who participated and won cash and prizes. Congratulations to the

first place team of Mike Bulzomi, Scott Matetich, Hunter Manson, & Paul Gould, and all the other winners!

Here's a recap of business conducted at the September Executive Board meeting: • Approved the 2018-18 Chapter Budget

- Retained current Chapter dues structure
- Approved 10 new members

- Approved StarChapter as the new website manager
- Approved use of the incentives received with the Gene L. Land Award
- Finalized Position Description Updates
- Reviewed Travel Policies
- Reviewed sponsorship & advertising policies
- Reviewed Chapter Bylaws
- Decided the Holiday Social Event (December 12th, 6 PM Tap House in Seattle)

Once our new website manager starts, the meeting agendas and minutes will be posted monthly. I typically provide the agenda to the Executive Board the week prior to the meeting. Anyone can attend the Board meeting (10-11:30 AM), and if you'd like a copy of the agenda in advance, please feel free to contact me.

Looking forward to seeing you on October 10th at the Bellevue Red Lion for the next Chapter lunch meeting, along with the cool and crisp air fall brings us!

Dawn Fletcher
President IRWA Puget Sound Chapter 4