

## President's Message – August 2019

Hello, and happy summer Chapter 4 members! I am honored and look forward to serving as your next IRWA Chapter 4 President. The new season is fast approaching, and we are putting together a great year. But, first off, I want to thank our Immediate Past President Dawn Fletcher for a great year this last year. Not only did she preside over a record-breaking membership increase, she continues to work diligently to support our membership. We couldn't do it without you Dawn, thank you!

I also want to highlight our Chapter's and Region's most recent accomplishments and accolades.

- Finalist for Website of the Year and for the Gene L Land-Highest Numerical Gain
- MNGD was nominated by our chapter for employer of the year (under 20 employees) and won!
- Krista Chambers received Region 7 Professional of the year
- Cyndi Whempley was a finalist for the Balfour Award

We, as your board, had our planning session earlier this month. Along with great program ideas, we are planning a one-day spring education seminar; location, date and topic to be announced shortly. But there will be lunch, CE, relevant topic(s) in light of regional transit activity, and opportunities for networking. Stay tuned!

We're also mixing it up a bit this year. IRWA is sponsoring an October membership drive and will be providing up to \$300 to sponsor this event. Therefore, we will be holding our usual February MNGD membership drive meeting on Wednesday October 9, 2019. The \$25 application fee will be waived for all new applications submitted from this event, and any current member who signs up a new member will receive a \$25 credit toward their IRWA membership renewal. Furthermore, HQ will provide one free membership with three or more applications submitted during the month of October. Bring your co-workers and anyone you think would benefit from this great group!

The Chapter 4 website has recently been revamped and should be updated with the new Officers and Committee Chairs. There is a wealth of information here; in addition to upcoming meetings, events and current events, you will find Board meeting agendas and minutes to ensure transparency and accountability to our members. Save the date and watch for upcoming events including the Region 7 Fall Forum in Boise, Idaho September 26-28, 2019. We will be resuming our regular Board and Chapter meetings (second Wednesday of each month) on September 11, and please remember, any member is welcome to join the board meetings. Please be sure to read your Chapter 4 emails and check the website for new information about what's happening in your Chapter!

Lastly, our chapter runs with the dedicated help and time of many volunteers, the jobs of which run the gambit; from committee and board positions to the registration desk, the chapter would not function without everyone's help. And like any volunteer run organization, our chapter needs

your help. If you want to be more involved with your chapter, on any level, please reach out, we would love to talk with you!

Enjoy the remainder of summer and I look forward to seeing you all soon!

John Nidecker, MAI, AI-GRS

Chapter 4 President