



Hope you all had a Happy Halloween! This November, I am “thankful” for the sole trick or treat visitor who came to the Lucky D Ranch, my grandson (pictured, dressed in his costume as *Marshall* from *Paw Patrol*).

### **Region 7 Fall Forum**

Last month, I promised a brief recap of the Region 7 Fall Forum held October 27, 2018 in Spokane, WA. Here are the highlights:

- Chair Dee Oakland indicated the International Governing Council requested the International Executive Committee to provide background information on the origin of the Governance Committee including member selection.
- Dave Whitlock, Region 7 Representative on the new Governance Task Force, reported on the first meeting held October 24<sup>th</sup> ([Review minutes here](#)).
- Vice-Chair Jim Lingeman is focusing on education oversight and working to coordinate with agencies and the appraisal institute.
- The Chapter Incentive Program has \$188,000 from education and membership. The program changed a couple of years ago and the Chapters no longer receive compensation for on-line courses. HQ sent out a survey to help determine future changes to the program.
- A large portion of the meeting was spend discussing education. There is uncertainty about the requirements for CLIMB, which is the program to certify IRWA instructors. The PIPE Committee is responsible for the program.

- The Region 7 Spring Forum will March be 7-8, 2019 at the Hilton Downtown Portland. The Region 7 Election will occur at this time. Chapter 3 has a call for volunteers on their website for the June Conference in Portland.
- Chapter 4 Board voted to donate the two conference registrations and the \$500 it won for the Gene L Land Award to the Region 7 travel fund.
- The question arose if one individual could vote twice at the annual meeting if they held two positions on the International Board of Directors. Krista Chambers, Region 7 INEC Representative recently confirmed there is nothing in the International bylaws that precludes a Past International President of the association from also being an International Director of their Chapter.
- Krista Chambers also provided information on international awards and nominations as follows:
  - Nominations for the International Executive Committee are due no later than **December 1, 2018!** [IEC Nomination Form](#)
  - IRWA has the following **AWARD** opportunities:
    1. [Chapter of the Year](#)
    2. [Newsletter of the Year](#)
    3. [Employer of the Year](#)
    4. [Website of the Year](#)
    5. [Regional Professional of the Year](#)
    6. [Young Professional of the Year](#)
    7. [Frank C. Balfour Professional of the Year](#) *\*\*Remember the Balfour application requires a letter from the Region Chair.*
    8. [W. Howard Armstrong Instructor of the Year](#)
    9. [SARPA scholarship](#)
- DEADLINE for all award nominations is **February 1, 2019!** Here's the link to the IRWA Award descriptions and applications: <https://www.irwaonline.org/about-us/awards/>

## November Chapter Meeting

We had another great turnout for our November meeting at Tacoma's Landmark, where Steve Fuchs, P.E. discussed WSDOT's SR 167 completion project. This project has been in the works for about 20 years, and has been funded for a 16-year construction schedule.

During the Executive Board Meeting, four new members were approved, including Andrew Sorba, Appraisal Group Northwest, who also volunteered to Chair next year's Chapter 4 golf tournament. Andrew is already looking for venue ideas, so all you golf enthusiasts, please let him know if you have a preference.

The Chapter 4 position descriptions as updated were approved. They will be posted on the website, which is a little behind deployment schedule. Julie Aune, Communications Chair has expanded her committed to include Michelle Rude, HDR. Michelle will be assisting with managing and updating our new website, which is nearing completion.

We awarded one of our free membership incentives to Cynthia Para of Tierra. Cynthia's name was drawn for the NESA incentive, and was one of six who submitted early nominations for a chance to win a free membership. It is not too late, to be entered in our second free membership giveaway for our membership incentive drawing. If you refer a new member, let us know so we can get you into the drawing. The second membership will be announced at our December meeting.

The 2019 Board of Directors page on the IRWA International website was recently updated. You will find the page by clicking on Membership Resources from the homepage, then click on Leadership Resources and International. Once you sign in as a member, you will have access to that section of IRWA's website. The 2019 Board of Directors Information link is at the top of the list. They post current financials, minutes and other pertinent data monthly and this year have expanded financial reporting with the full reports as seen by IRWA's Finance Committee, including an expanded Variance Report.

### **December Meeting & Social**

Our next Chapter meeting and social event will be the evening of December 12, 2018 in Seattle. The Executive Board meeting will be from 4-5:30 PM at Integra Realty Resources located at 600 University St, Suite 310, with a holiday social event to follow at 6 PM at the Tap House Grill located at 1506 6<sup>th</sup> Ave. Please be sure to register by emailing [jenifer.olsen@contractlandstaff.com](mailto:jenifer.olsen@contractlandstaff.com) by December 7<sup>th</sup> to enjoy food, drinks and door prizes. We will also be collecting toys for a local charity.

Wishing you a happy and blessed Thanksgiving!

Dawn Fletcher, President IRWA Puget Sound Chapter 4