

NORTH TEXAS NEWS



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JUNE LUNCHEON

OFFICER INSTALLATIONS
&
SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Please join us for the June Officer Installation and Scholarship Awards Luncheon hosted by IRWA Chapter 36!

This special luncheon is an opportunity to celebrate the incoming Chapter leadership, recognize the dedication of our outgoing officers and board members, and honor our scholarship recipients for their outstanding achievements and commitment to education and professional growth.

Chapter 36 continues to thrive because of the incredible volunteers, members, sponsors, and future leaders who invest their time, energy, and passion into our organization and industry. We hope you will join us as we recognize those who help make our Chapter such a success.

Come celebrate leadership, service, education, and the future of our profession alongside fellow right of way professionals and industry partners.

We look forward to seeing you there!



Stonebriar Country Club

5050 Country Club Drive

June 9th 11:30 am to 1:00 pm

Click [Here](#) to Register!

Costs:

Member - \$35

Non-Member - \$40

UPCOMING *Events*

TUES
JUNE

9

June Luncheon - Stonebriar Country Club

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

5050 Country Club Drive Frisco, TX 75034

Click [here](#) to register

FRI-MON
JUNE

26-29

2026 International Education Conference

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

455 North 10th Street Omaha, NE

Click [here](#) to register

TUES-WED
JULY

28-29

Principles of Real Estate Law

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Virtual

Click [here](#) to register

MON-TUES
OCT

19-20

Principles of Real Estate Negotiation

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

TBD

Click [here](#) to register



www.irwachapter36.org

Chapter 36 is on [LinkedIn](#)
and [Facebook](#)!
Please **follow** us!



hello
SUMMER



Editor's Column

As we wrap up another successful chapter year, it's hard to believe this is our final newsletter issue of the season. In this edition, we're sharing a few chapter updates and looking ahead to the International Education Conference in Omaha, June 26-29, where members from across the organization will come together to learn, connect, and celebrate. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to another great year of Chapter 36 events and activities. We wish you a wonderful summer and look forward to seeing everyone again in the fall! 🌞🎨📚

Kreg Hodge
kreg@pyleswhatley.com



Samantha Gwinn
samantha@pyleswhatley.com



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We've made it... June is HERE!



My favorite month of the year! First, because it is my birthday month, and second, because summer is simply the best. I love the rhythm of summer, the balance of rest mixed into the busyness of life, lazy pool days, travel, and all the celebrations that seem to fill the calendar. And can we all agree that setting your alarm even one hour later feels absolutely life changing? Who knew 60 minutes could feel so precious!

I truly cannot believe how quickly this year has gone by. Serving as your President has been one of the greatest honors of my career. I have always been proud to be a member of Chapter 36, but if there is one thing the last 11 months have shown me, it is just how incredibly special this Chapter truly is. I know I will look back on this year as one of the best seasons of my life. Thank you all so much for your encouragement, kindness, support, and friendship throughout this journey.

Part of me wishes I had another 12 months to continue building on everything we started, while another part of me is excited to rest a little and watch the next generation of leaders step forward. Honestly, that pendulum swings back and forth about 100 times a day.

Congratulations are certainly in order for our new **Executive Board, Committee Chairs**, and all of our incredible **scholarship recipients**. Each of you deserves to take a moment and celebrate your accomplishments. Proud hardly feels like a strong enough word. I am continually amazed by the willingness of our members to step up, serve, and begin their own leadership journeys within Chapter 36.

President Matthews, I am so excited to watch all that is ahead under your leadership. Thank you for supporting me this year, not just in this room, but in every room we walk into together. I am grateful to call you one of my dearest friends.

Director Snider, as you transition off the Board, thank you for 11 years of dedicated service to Chapter 36, whether on the Executive Board or through countless committee roles. You have always been willing to quietly step into the gaps and give your time, energy, and resources wherever needed. You are the definition of a servant leader, and I have learned so much from you.

I would also be remiss if I didn't thank my **Integra** family. Leading Chapter 36 takes time, and I cannot thank **Brent, Jason, and Will** enough for their encouragement and support throughout this year. I promised I wouldn't volunteer for anything else for the next... well, never mind. They already know that statement isn't true. 😊

As we transition into a season of rest and reset for our Chapter, I encourage each of you to reflect on what went well this year. Think about something you are proud of, something you accomplished, or maybe even something you simply had the courage to start. There are so many things I am proud of this Board and our community for achieving this year, and this newsletter is certainly one of them.

Then, as we begin looking toward the fall, think about two things you want to improve, pursue, or grow in next season. I am absolutely certain the future is bright for Chapter 36. We are surrounded by inspired, talented, and generous people who, when given the opportunity, will continue taking this Chapter further than I could have ever imagined.

Thank you, Chapter 36.

Leighton Gambill, SR/WA
President, IRWA Chapter 36

See the next page
for pictures of
President
Leighton's reign!



Previous Luncheon

May Luncheon | Chapter 36

Chapter 36 welcomed members and guests to its May luncheon for an engaging EDC Fireside Chat, "Managing Growth: What Is Our 10-Year Outlook for the Metroplex?" Held at the Texas Star Golf Course Conference Center in Euless, the program featured a distinguished panel of industry and economic development leaders, including **Cherie Gordon** of the City of Fort Worth, **Kevin Shatley** of the Dallas Regional Chamber, and **Christie Goodman** of the City of Arlington, with **Marcus F. Boyd** serving as moderator. The discussion provided valuable insight into regional growth, infrastructure development, economic trends, and the opportunities and challenges facing the Metroplex over the next decade.

The luncheon also provided an opportunity to celebrate excellence within Chapter 36. Congratulations to the newest SR/WA designees, **Matt Sims** and **Matt Yager**, who were recognized during the meeting for achieving the highest professional designation awarded by IRWA. Their dedication to education, professional development, and the right-of-way profession reflects the commitment to excellence that continues to strengthen our chapter.



Right: Matt Sims receiving his SR/WA designation from Leo Summer.

Left and Below: Matt Yager receiving his SR/WA from Gina Phalen.



June Meeting

Join Chapter 36 on June 9th from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM at Stonebriar Country Club in Frisco, Texas, for our Officer Installation and Scholarship Awards Luncheon. This special event will celebrate incoming Chapter leadership, recognize outgoing officers and board members, and honor scholarship recipients for their achievements and commitment to professional growth.



2025 - 2026

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD



President

Leighton Gambill, SR/WA



Vice President

Tommy Matthews, SR/WA, R/W-AC



Treasurer

Juan Salazar, SR/WA, R/W-NAC, R/W-RAC



Secretary

Danyelle Daniels, SR/WA, R/W-URAC, R/W-RAC



Director 2 Year

Matt Lance, SR/WA, R/W-RAC, R/W-URAC



Director 1 Year

Will Snider, MAI, SR/WA, R/W-AC

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Clara Castaneda, SR/WA, R/W-RAC
Lisa Featherstone, SR/WA, R/W-NAC
Shannon Perkins, SR/WA

EDUCATION

Ana Salazar, SR/WA, RW-NAC
Ben Gross, RWA, R/W-AC
Blayke Dangelmayr

MEMBERSHIP

Ciara Brown

PROGRAMS

Lisa Alexander
Dorrien Himes
Jennifer Sheetz, RWA

AUDIO

Jacian Martin

REGISTRATION

Brooklyn Patton
Jarred Robinson

HISTORIAN

Brent Patterson, SR/WA, R/W-NAC

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

Miles Travis

COMMUNICATIONS

Kreg Hodge (Newsletter)
Samantha Gwinn (Newsletter)
Kerri Prentice (Website)
Mary Watson (Website)
Jessica Shultz (Social Media)
Miriam Salazar, SR/WA, R/W-NAC
(PR/Marketing)

INTERNATIONAL LIASONS

Leighton Gambill, SR/WA
Joel St. John, MAI, CCIM
Matt Brown, MAI, R/W-AC

IRWA REGION 2



About our Organization

Region 2 includes 1,535 members and 491 associate members from US and Mexico. Our eight chapters include Chapter 74 (Austin, TX), Chapter 43 (Louisiana), Chapter 36 (Dallas/Fort Worth, TX), Chapter 8 (Houston, TX), Chapter 51 (Little Rock, AR), Chapter 33 (Oklahoma City, OK), Chapter 39 (South Texas) and Chapter 85 (Mexico). Region 2 is proud to be a leader in our Association, supporting career advancement through educational programs and promoting the Association's mission to improve people's quality of life through infrastructure development.

Registration is now open for the 2026 International Education Conference, taking place June 26-29, 2026, at the CHI Health Center Omaha in Omaha. Join industry professionals from across the country for education, networking, and professional development opportunities during this exciting annual event!

June, July, and August Events

- Chapter 33: SR/WA Review
 - June 1-3
- Chapter 8: Course 502
 - June 8-9
- Chapter 39: Course 421
 - June 9-11
- Chapter 8: Course 205
 - June 17-18
- International IRWA Education Conference
 - June 26-29
- Chapter 8: Course 207
 - July 15-16
- Region 2 Fall Seminar & Forum
 - July 29 -31
- Chapter 33: Course 600
 - August 7
- Chapter 33: Course 200
 - August 20
- Chapter 8: Course 900
 - August 24-25
- Chapter 33: Course 100
 - August 26-27
- Chapter 8: Course 218
 - August 27-28

THANK YOU TO OUR CHAPTER SPONSORS!



Ridgeline
LAND SERVICES



GTM Appraisal, LLC



WESTERN LAND SERVICES
AN EMPLOYEE OWNED COMPANY



PARTNER
Valuation Advisors



"Exceptional infrastructure real estate
services delivered by
dedicated professionals
who care."



TEXAS LAND AND TITLE LLC



CHARLES STEARMAN, SR/WA
Right of Way Appraisal Reviews
817-797-9997



Integra Realty Resources
Fort Worth



Planning
Engineering
Program Management



JEFF TILLMAN, MAI, AI-GRS
Appraisal & Appraisal Review
tillmanj@flash.net
817-926-9835



EDUCATION COMMITTEE NEWS

Hi Chapter 36 Members!

June not only brings us into a new season, but also marks the close of my time serving as Education Chair. It has truly been an honor to help support our chapter's educational efforts and connect with so many amazing members along the way. Thank you for your encouragement, participation, and support throughout the year. I'm proud of all we accomplished together and excited to see the continued success of our chapter in the months ahead.

A special thank you to 7 Arrows for graciously hosting Course 218 for their team and supporting our chapter's continued education efforts.

Chapter 36 2026 Education Calendar

	Course	Location	Date
800	Principles of Real Estate Law	Virtual	July 28-29
200	Principles of Real Estate Negotiation	In-Person, TBD	Oct. 19-20



WHAT COURSES DO I NEED?

Only the PDC can tell you which class you need to complete the education requirements for designation and certification. If you are planning to get your RWA, RWP or SR/WA the list of courses you need to complete your credentialing are located at www.irwaonline.org. Just visit the "Credentialing" tab.

WANT TO HOST A CLOSED COURSE FOR YOUR TEAM?

If your company is interested in hosting a Closed Class for your employees, please reach out to us and we can assist in helping schedule and coordinate the class. Send the Education Committee an email at education@irwachapter36.org.

YOUR EDC CHAIR



Ana Salazar
SR/WA, R/W - NAC

Pinnacle Consulting Management Group, Inc.
Project Manager
C: (817) 901-2634
Asalazar@Pinnaclegroup.biz



Professional Development

COMMITTEE

Greg Cook Scholarship Spotlight

Thank you to all the outstanding candidates who applied for the Greg Cook Scholarship! We truly appreciate the time, effort, and dedication each of you demonstrated in your submissions. We're excited to recognize this year's recipients and will be announcing the scholarship winners at the June Monthly Meeting. We hope to see you there!

Summer Break & Big Thanks

As we approach our summer break, we'd like to extend our sincere appreciation to the IRWA Chapter 36 Board, our members, and everyone who has supported the PDC Committee throughout the year. Your involvement and commitment have played a vital role in our success!

Please keep up the great work and remember we're always here as a resource to answer questions, provide guidance, and support you on your certification journey!

Best Wishes,

*Lisa Featherstone, SR/WA,
R/W-NAC and your PDC-2 Year*

- **PDC Chair** - Clara Castaneda, SR/WA, R/W-RAC
- **PDC 2 Year** - Lisa Featherstone, SR/WA, R/W-NAC
- **PDC 3 Year** - Shannon Perkins, SR/WA

June 2026

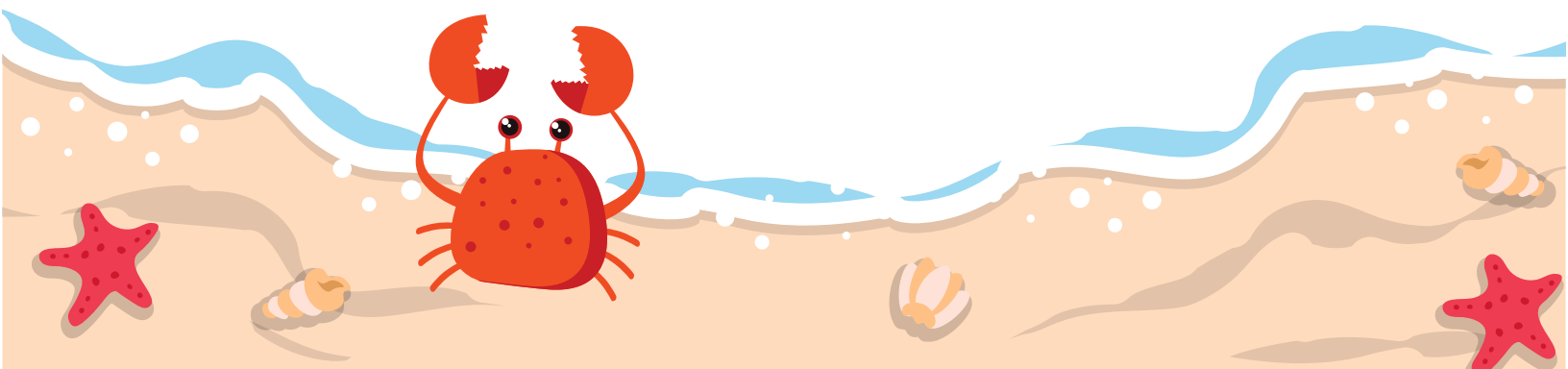
YOUR PDC CHAIR



CLARA L. CASTANEDA
SR/WA, R/W - RAC

HDR, Inc.
C: (682) 219-4243
Clara.Castaneda@hdrinc.com

Most of us would rather search
for the right person than become
the right person.
-Unknown





- celebrate -

Celebrating our Newly Certified and Designated Members!!

CONGRATULATIONS to **Joanna Cooley** with LJA whom received their SR/WA, **Ashley Gartner** with Interwest whom received their R/W-RAC, **Nicholas Evans** with Criado & Associates whom received their R/W-NAC, and **Derek VanDevander** with Oncor and **Natalie Pittman** with 7 Arrows Land Staff whom received their RWA.



Whenever feasible, pick your team on character, not skill. You can teach skills; you can't teach character.
- Ranulph Fiennes





June 2026

Membership Committee

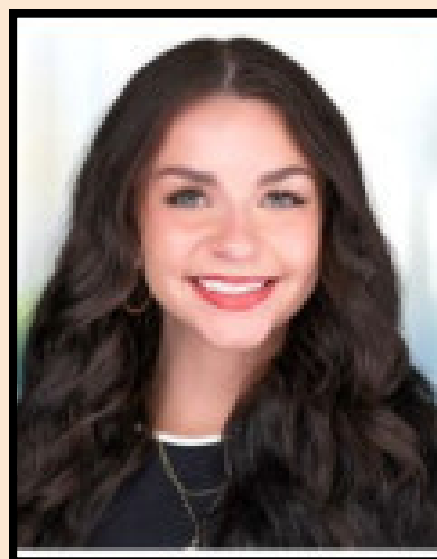
The International Right of Way Association (IRWA) is devoted solely to the right of way profession and proudly represents nearly 10,000 members worldwide. Chapter 36 is currently the largest chapter in IRWA and we are extremely proud of this achievement. The North Texas Chapter currently has 422 members!!

Membership in our organization offers valuable opportunities for professional growth, networking, and involvement. From access to educational resources and industry updates to invitations for exclusive events, members enjoy a range of benefits designed to support their success. We encourage you to stay engaged, take advantage of upcoming workshops and volunteer openings, and help us welcome new members as they join our community. If you know someone who would benefit from becoming part of our group, please share the membership information below—we're always excited to grow and strengthen our network.

Welcome Our New Members

- Candice Hartzog - Hartco Gatherings, LLC
- Juan Valles
- Cambrie Daniels
- James Lamb - Colliers Engineering & Design
- Bryan Cortney - Purple Land Mangement
- Tiffani Dygert - Atmos Energy

YOUR MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

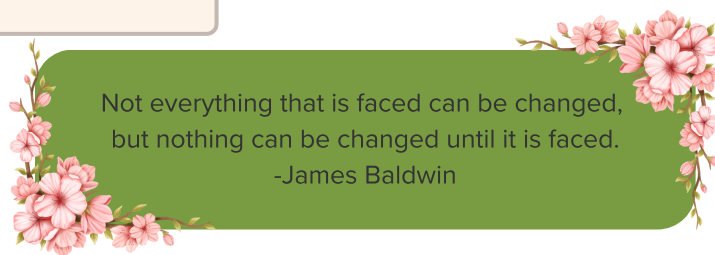


Ciara Brown

O'Brien Right-of-Way Valuation
C: (918) 605-6422
cbrown@obrien-row.com

Not everything that is faced can be changed,
but nothing can be changed until it is faced.

-James Baldwin



Young Professionals Committee

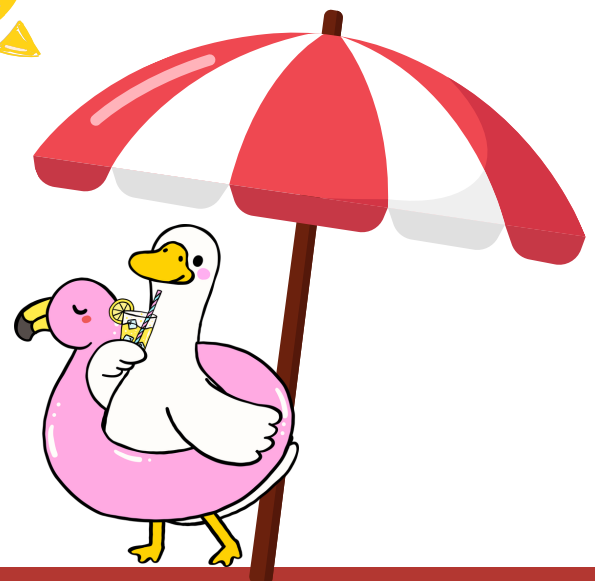
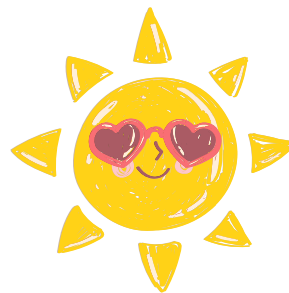
Chapter 36

June 2026

YP Membership

The International Right of Way Association Young Professionals of IRWA Chapter 36 continue to foster growth and connection within the right-of-way industry. Through events and collaboration, they provide opportunities to gain insight, build confidence, and strengthen professional relationships.

More than a networking group, YP serves as a supportive community focused on education, ethics, and development. As the largest chapter in IRWA, Chapter 36 proudly supports nearly 469 local members and almost 10,000 worldwide. With exciting events ahead—including the Spring Seminar and annual Golf Tournament—we can't wait to see our Young Professionals connect, learn, and make an impact in the industry.



CHAPTER 36

SPONSOR HIGHLIGHT

Chapter 36 | June 2026

This month, Chapter 36 is proud to shine a spotlight on **Texas Appraisal Team**, a respected appraisal and consulting firm specializing in Right of Way, commercial lending, and financial decision-making services. With more than 50 years of combined experience, the firm provides valuation services for commercial, industrial, special-purpose, and complex real estate assignments throughout Texas and across the United States.



Founded in 2011 by **Aaron H. Wright, MAI, R/W-AC** and **Christy E. Wright**, Texas Appraisal Team has grown into a trusted industry resource known for professionalism, expertise, and client-focused service. The company serves governmental agencies, utility providers, municipalities, lenders, and private clients, providing accurate and reliable appraisal services tailored to each project's unique needs.

At the heart of Texas Appraisal Team is a commitment to integrity, quality, and collaboration. The firm values its professional partners and works closely with all stakeholders involved in infrastructure projects, while maintaining respect for the property owners affected by acquisitions. Their goal is simple: deliver high-quality appraisal and consulting services that exceed client expectations.

What sets Texas Appraisal Team apart is its team-based approach. Rather than relying on a single appraiser, clients benefit from a group of experienced professionals who work together to provide consistent, thorough, and credible valuations. Open communication and collaboration allow the team to adapt to complex assignments and deliver dependable results on projects of every size.

The accomplishment Aaron and Christy are most proud of is the team they have built. By focusing on each individual's strengths and fostering a culture of respect and support, Texas Appraisal Team has created an environment where team members and clients alike feel valued. As team member Leo Sumner shared, "We are more than just an appraisal company—we are a dedicated team committed to delivering the highest quality and most accurate appraisals possible."

Looking ahead, Texas Appraisal Team remains focused on continued growth, strengthening client relationships, and expanding its reach across Texas and beyond. With a new office in downtown Fort Worth and projects spanning the region, the firm continues to build on its reputation for quality, service, and trusted expertise.