

# 15<sup>+</sup> Chapter meeting minutes

MINUTES  
TRI-STATE CHAPTER OF THE  
AMERICAN RIGHT OF WAY ASSOCIATION

At an organizational meeting, following a dinner at the Radisson Hotel in Minneapolis on Monday evening, September 9, 1957, Tri-State Chapter No. 20 of the American Right of Way Association was formed.

Richard H. Taylor, Regional Chairman of the association presided.

Invocation was made by William Thoma, National Vice President from Chicago.

Introduced were the following out-of state dignitaries: Frank Balfour, founder of the organization; Dan Rosencrans, and Reginald Kean, also from California; Ken Smith from Spokane; Homer Swift, Glen Land and Fred Crane from the Oklahoma area; Bill Thoma and Ervin Zelasko from Illinois; Rolfe Sawtelle, Don J. Topp, Arnold J. Neyes and Carlton F. Peterson from Wisconsin; Otto Knudsen from Iowa; D. M. Whelen from Port Arthur Canada; and Leonard Summerfield from California.

Telegrams of congratulations from various chapters throughout the country were read.

Mr. Taylor introduced H. A. McDaniel who called upon the chairman of the nominating committee, Mr. E. R. Lorens, to report the results of his committee in preparing a slate of candidates.

The following list of candidates were submitted for the approval of the body:

President: H. A. McDaniel  
Vice Pres.: F. B. Christlieb  
Secretary: B. E. Mullen  
Asst. Sec.: Ray Blongren  
Treasurer: William Ayre  
Board of Directors:  
    one year term: Channing Beeth, Vergil Edwards  
    two year term: Edw. R. Lorens, Donald R. Bundlie  
Nat'l. Board of Directors: F. B. Christlieb, H. A. McDaniel

It was then moved and seconded that the nominations be closed and the secretary instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for each of the above candidates. The motion carried.

In the nominations for the National Board, H. A. McDaniel was nominated for the two year term and F. B. Christlieb for the one year term.

Nominations were closed and the secretary instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for the nominees.

The new officers were seated and the investiture of office was performed by Richard Taylor, National President.

Mr. Taylor welcomed the new chapter into the ranks of the organization, and introduced Dan Rosencrans from California who spoke briefly on the Arms, Purposes and Ethics of the American Right of Way Association.

Homer Swift, Regional Director of Area 3 from Oklahoma welcomed the entry of the new chapter into the organization.

Mr. McDaniel was presented the gavel of authority as President, who introduced the next speaker.

Mr. Frank Balfour, Chief of the Right of Way Division for the California Highway Department and founder of the association spoke eloquently on the origin, birth and growth of the organization; its aims, intentions and purpose, stressing the need for education and cooperation.

A brief resume' of the Chapter By-Laws was recited by Mr. McDaniel and it was moved and seconded that they be accepted. The motion was carried.

It was announced that lapel pins would be available as soon as possible at \$2.00.

The Meeting was adjourned at 10:15 P.M.

*B E Muller*

IN ORDER TO GIVE A BRIEF HISTORY OF OUR CHAPTER I HAVE TO BEGIN WITH OUR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION.

OUR ASSOCIATION WAS FOUNDED IN 1934 BY A GENTLEMAN NAMED FRANK BALFOUR, WHO ONLY 3 YEARS EARLIER WAS HIRED BY CALIFORNIA DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS AS A RIGHT OF WAY AGENT.

FRANK THOUGHT RIGHT OF WAY WORK COULD BE UPGRADED INTO A PROFESSION. SO THE PURPOSE OF THE ORGANIZATION WAS TO SEEK WAYS TO IMPROVE RIGHT OF WAY AND LAND ACQUISITION TECHNIQUES AND PROCEDURES/AND THE STATUS OF RIGHT OF WAY EMPLOYEES.

THE FIRST MEETING WAS HELD IN LOS ANGELES ON OCTOBER 16, 1934. *our organization is in its 62nd year. 62nd year*  
THE ORIGINAL NAME OF THE ORGANIZATION WAS "SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RIGHT OF WAY AGENTS ASSOCIATION"

THE EDUCATION PROCESS STARTED.

IN MARCH, 1935, THE FIRST ISSUE OF "RIGHT OF WAY NEWS" A 4 PAGE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER WAS PUBLISHED. THIS WAS THE FORERUNNER OF OUR RIGHT OF WAY MAGAZINE.

IN 1936, THE OFFICIAL EMBLEM, THE RIGHT OF WAY SHIELD WAS DESIGNED. THERE HAS NOT BEEN A CHANGE IN THE EMBLEM IN 60 YEARS SINCE.

SAN FRANCISCO BECAME THE 2ND CHAPTER IN APRIL, 1939.

IN 1941 A CODE OF ETHICS WAS WRITTEN. ANOTHER 41 YEARS WOULD PASS BEFORE A MISSION STATEMENT WOULD BE DEVELOPED.

IN 1946 THE ASSOCIATION WAS INCORPORATED AS A NON PROFIT EDUCATIONAL ORGANIZATION AND IN DECEMBER OF THAT YEAR THE FIRST BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING WAS HELD.

OREGON CHAPTER 3 WAS CHARTERED IN OCTOBER 1950.

SEATTLE CHAPTER 4 WAS CHARTERED IN FEBRUARY, 1952.

*separate TP*  
KANSAS CITY CHAPTER 5 WAS CHARTERED IN OCTOBER, 1952. THIS IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE KANSAS CITY'S AREA INCLUDED MINNESOTA AND THERE WERE SEVERAL MEMBERS FROM MINNESOTA WHO BELONGED TO CHAPTER 5. ON JUNE 23RD AND 24TH, 1955, THE FIRST NATIONAL EDUCATION SEMINAR WAS HELD IN LOS ANGELES.

ON SEPTEMBER 9, 1957, WHEN I WAS A CRACK BENCH WARMER ON OUR LAKE CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP FOOTBALL TEAM, AN ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING WAS HELD TO FORM TRI STATE CHAPTER 20. THIS INCLUDED MINNESOTA, NORTH DAKOTA AND SOUTH DAKOTA. OUR CHAPTER WAS CHARTERED ON DECEMBER 19, 1957, AND INCORPORATED IN MINNESOTA ON DECEMBER 20, 1957.

PEOPLE WHO WERE INSTRUMENTAL WITH FORMING OUR CHAPTER  
ARE

CURLY MC DANIEL - NSP

ED LORENS - MNDOT

FRANK CHRISTLIEB - MNDOT

DON BUNDLIE - ATTORNEY

JOHN RIPSIN - NSP

HOWARD SHENEHON - APPRAISER

ALL OF THESE PLUS A FEW OTHERS WERE MEMBERS OF KANSAS CITY  
CHAPTER 5.

SOME OTHER CHARTER MEMBERS WERE

JIM DEEGAN

VINCE AND EARL DORN

GORDY ELMQUIST

GENE LA FOND

HY HAYMAN

WIN MITCHELL

BILL MUSKE

RUSSELL SMITH

AND EVEN GENE LAND, <sup>was a charter member</sup> WHO AT THAT TIME WAS A VP WITH COATES  
FIELD SERVICE AND LIVED IN OKLAHOMA. ~~was a charter member~~

A YEAR LATER HE STARTED UNIVERSAL FIELD SERVICES.

SOME OTHER EARLY MEMBERS OF CHAPTER 20 ARE

ELMER MORRIS LATE 1957

GEORGE WATSON - 1958 - GEORGE WAS TO BECOME NATIONAL ATTORNEY AND PARLIAMENTARIAN FROM 1964 TO 1968. HE THEN BECAME INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT IN 1969.

DICK GUNN JOINED IN 1959 AND PETE LA SALLE IN 1960. AT THAT TIME HE WAS A MN/DOT EMPLOYEE.

IN OCTOBER, 1957, THERE WERE 139 MEMBERS. 92 ATTENDED THE OCTOBER MEETING.

ON A TABLE IN THE BACK IS A LIST OF THE 139 MEMBERS PLUS A COPY OF OUR CHARTER AND SOME R/W MAGAZINES WITH CHAPTER INFORMATION.

IN MAY, 1958, THERE WERE 171 MEMBERS WHO PAID ANNUAL DUES OF \$15.00. THE PINS COST \$2.00.

CHAPTER 20'S FIRST EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR WAS HELD AT THE U OF M ON SEPTEMBER 10TH, 11TH, AND 12TH, 1959. THE REGISTRATION WAS \$15.00. IF YOU WERE FROM OUT OF TOWN YOU COULD HAVE 2 NIGHTS LODGING AND 6 MEALS AT THE UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR AN ADDITIONAL \$22.50. THE PROGRAM AND ARRANGEMENTS WERE MADE BY HOWARD SHENEHON. 143 MEMBERS ATTENDED. HOWARD WAS LATER TO BECOME A PRESIDENT OF OUR CHAPTER. HOW MANY PAST PRESIDENTS DO WE HAVE IN ATTENDANCE TODAY? WOULD YOU PLEASE STAND.

WAS ALSO THE LAST YEAR FOR A CHAPTER ANNUAL SEMINAR. COURSES WERE BEING DEVELOPED ON A NATIONAL LEVEL AND IN 1970, THERE WERE 4 COURSES DEVELOPED, THE FORERUNNERS OF THE CURRENT 101 COURSES.

THE FIRST CHAPTER PRESIDENT FROM OUTSIDE THE METROPOLITAN AREA WAS GENE FOOTE FROM CROSBY IN 1973.

THE FIRST WOMAN PRESIDENT WAS KAYE ANDERSON IN 1991

IN MARCH OF 1980 THE CHANGE IN NAME WAS MADE FROM AMERICAN R/W ASSOCIATION TO INTERNATIONAL R/W ASSOCIATION.

*when our Chpt was 25 years old*  
IN OCTOBER, 1982, NORTH DAKOTA AND SOUTH DAKOTA WERE CHARTERED AS CHAPTER 72 AND OUR NAME WAS CHANGED TO NORTHESTAR 20.

*In the 80's our Ed form changed to having 18 hrs courses and 1 day seminars we've put on over 16*  
SINCE OUR CHAPTER WAS FOUNDED, WE HAVE HAD 1 NATIONAL PRESIDENT - GEORGE WATSON

5 REGION CHAIRS

ED LORENS

DON BUNDLIE

BUD STORM

ED BRUNKHORST

AND CURRENT CHAIR PAT CAIRNS.

*1 day  
seminars,  
changing courses  
numerous topics*

WE'VE HAD NUMERIOUS MEMBERS SERVE ON INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEES AND SEVERAL AS CHAIRS OF COMMITTEES.

IN 1988 OUR CHAPTER RECEIVED 2 INTERNATIONAL AWARDS ONE FOR THE HIGHEST NUMERICAL NUMBER INCREASE AND THE OTHER FOR THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE INCREASE.

WE CURRENTLY HAVE 200 MEMBERS AND ONLY 19 SR/WA'S AND 27 CANDIDATES. WE HAVE OVER \$20,000 IN OUR TREASURY AND THE MOST AGGRESSIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM OF ANY OF THE CURRENT 75 CHAPTERS.

WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO SHOW CASING OUR STATE AND CHAPTER WHEN WE HOLD THE 1998 INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION SEMINAR RIGHT HERE AT THE HILTON.

MIKE, CONGRATULATIONS ON BEING OUR 40TH PRESIDENT AND WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO A GREAT YEAR.

THANK YOU.



IN 1965 MEMBERSHIP REACHED AN ALL TIME HIGH OF 223 MEMBERS.

IN MAY OF 1965 A DINNER PARTY WAS HELD AT THE EDGEWATER INN. THE ACTUAL PRICE OF THE DINNER WAS \$2.95, THE CHAPTER ADDED A COST OF 35 CENTS BRINGING IT TO \$3.30, THE TIP WAS 95 CENTS MAKING IT \$4.25. THE CHAPTER RAISED IT TO \$4.50 PER PERSON SO AS NOT TO LOOSE MONEY. 125 PEOPLE ATTENDED.

IN OCTOBER, 1967, A FEE OF \$75.00 WAS PAID FOR THE SPEAKER AT THE CHAPTER MEETING. THE SPEAKER WAS HALSEY HALL. HE CONSUMED MORE MARTINIS THAN I THOUGHT POSSIBLE AND PROCEEDED TO GIVE A VERY GOOD AND HUMOROUS PRESENTATION AND AFTER THE MEETING HE WENT TO WCCO RADIO TO GIVE HIS 10:20 SPORTS CAST.

IN MAY, 1968, THE SPRING BANQUET WAS HELD AT THE GOLDEN VALLEY COUNTRY CLUB. THE COST WAS \$6.00 PER PERSON AND 68 ATTENDED. THE CHAPTER TOOK IN \$408. THE BAND COST \$138, THE DINNERS COST \$400 THE CHAPTER LOST \$130.

THIS ALSO WAS THE YEAR THE SRWA DESIGNATION WENT INTO EFFECT.

IN JUNE, 1969, CHAPTER 20'S GEORGE WATSON BECAME NATIONAL PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION. PRIOR TO THAT HE HAD SERVED AS NATIONAL ATTORNEY AND PARLIMENTARION FROM 1964 TO 1968. 1969

IN THE 60'S MEETINGS WERE HELD EVERY MONTH EXCEPT JUNE, JULY AND AUGUST, AND THE MAJORITY WERE HELD IN THE EVENING AND ATTENDANCE AVERAGED OVER 80 MEMBERS AT THE MEETINGS.

IN 1960 THE TREASURY STARTED WITH A BALANCE OF \$395.00 AND FINISHED THE YEAR WITH A BALANCE OF \$960.00.

IN FEBRUARY, 1961, A NATIONAL OFFICE OPENED IN LOS ANGELES. CHAPTER 20 CREATED THE POSITION OF EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, WITH NO VOTE ON THE BOARD, AND A YEARLY SALARY OF \$250.00. THE FIRST EXECUTIVE SECRETARY WAS BRUCE MULLEN, A MN/DOT EMPLOYEE.

IN JUNE, 1962, THE NATIONAL SEMINAR WAS HELD AT THE LEXINGTON HOTEL IN MINNEAPOLIS. I CAN'T FIND ANYTHING ON HOW MANY PEOPLE ATTENDED, BUT THAT WAS THE FIRST ONE I EVER ATTENDED AND I WASN'T EVEN A MEMBER YET. ED LORENS WAS THE CHAPTER PRESIDENT.

IN 1963, THE CHAPTER'S TREASURY HAD A BALANCE OF \$3,500. A SAVINGS ACCOUNT WAS STARTED WITH \$1,200 AT AN INTEREST RATE OF 4%. THE 4TH ANNUAL SEMINAR AT THE U OF M HAD 174 MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE.

IN 1964 HERMINA KLAUS BECAME EXECUTIVE SECRETARY. SHE WAS ED LOREN'S SECRETARY. HERMINA WAS EXECUTIVE SECRETARY FOR 10 YEARS. ALSO IN 1964 BUD STORM BECAME A MEMBER.