

# CHAPTER 45 NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2010



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**May 11-12: Course 501**  
See our web site for full details  
Or to pay with PAY PAL:  
[www.irwa45.org/classes.html](http://www.irwa45.org/classes.html)

**June: IRWA'S 56<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL  
INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION  
CONFERENCE**



## A NOTE FROM YOUR PREZ:



**No doubt you've already set some significant goals for 2010. Today, I'm going to ask you to set one more:**

### TO BECOME A BETTER PERSON

You are going to do that by making a commitment to...

- pay less attention to yourself and more attention to other people
- focus on opportunities, not problems
- listen first, talk later
- criticize only when your criticism is helpful
- never speak badly about anyone
- never complain about anything
- perform an act of kindness every day

This will have a profound effect on your happiness. Nothing else you do will bring you peace of mind. Money won't. Success won't. Fame won't.

**June 27-30, 2010  
Calgary**

**Conference Location**



**Calgary Telus Convention Center  
120-9th Avenue S.E.  
Calgary, Alberta T2G 0P3**

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**RECOGNITION**

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**Quite an honor!**

Did you catch this?

SPEECH OF  
**HON. FRED UPTON**  
OF MICHIGAN  
***IN THE HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES***

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the International Right of Way Association, which is celebrating its 75th Anniversary on Friday, October 16, 2009. IRWA is responsible for educating and cultivating top talent in the industry that has led us to many of today's modern conveniences and landmarks.

The United States is home to many accomplished and dedicated Right of Way professionals—the IRWA has been providing the path to success and adamant professionalism for members since its inception as a not-for-profit association in 1934.

IRWA has united the efforts of its members toward professional development, improved service to employers and the public, and

PREZ CONT ...

The secret to substantial and enduring happiness has nothing to do with putting yourself first, nurturing your inner child, or any of the many other forms of narcissism so popular among today's pop psychologists. As someone who has spent too much time in the vain (and I do mean vain) pursuit of self-gratification, I am here to tell you that happiness and fulfillment in life is usually about doing less for yourself and more for others.

This is not a revolutionary concept. It was, it seems to me, the essential message of Christ and Gandhi, to name just two.

I'm probably not saying anything you don't already know. And you may be much further along than I am in making selflessness a permanent part of your life. Still, as I'm sure you've discovered, putting others first is a commitment that seems to require constant attention. And that is precisely why I am asking you -- as I am asking myself -- to renew that commitment now.

When I think about the happy people I admire, they are invariably those who are always looking out for others. I'm not speaking of missionaries and professional humanitarians but of ordinary people who make it a habit to care about those around them.

They are the people who ask you how you are doing and pay attention to your answer. They visit you when you are ill, and have kind words for you when you need them. They are ordinary people with the same problems that other ordinary people have – yet they don't ask you to pity them. When they see you limping because of an injured knee, they don't tell you about their aching back. They give you sympathy and recommend a helpful treatment. When everyone gets up from the holiday meal and rushes off to have an after-dinner drink or smoke, they linger with the host - - helping out by clearing the dishes or wiping off the table.

They know you have children and want to know how they're doing. They remember your birthday. They know how you take your coffee. And though they want you to be better and stronger and more successful than you are, they never give you the feeling that they are unsatisfied with what and where you are, right now.

continues to make advancements within the Right of way profession.

Right of way professionals play a leading role in the development and advancement of our transportation, water, and energy projects, while advancing America for future generations. IRWA has nearly 10,000 professional members comprised of engineers, appraisers, property managers, acquisition agents, lawyers, surveyors, title experts, environmentalists, and relocation assistance agents.

Right of way professionals improve the lives of citizens across our nation through the building of infrastructure projects that transform our community. Infrastructures the country over have benefited from the hard work of IRWA professionals—the highways we drive on, utilities in our homes, and telephone towers that enable us to communicate—have all benefited because a right of way professional applied their unique expertise in creating the nation's infrastructure.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.



Newsletter editor: [Carole Kammerman](#)

PREZ CONT ...

I am fortunate enough to be married to one of these people, and I have friends and colleagues that fit the bill. I am always astonished by their goodness and humbled by their strength. They make me want to be, a little bit each year, a better man.

Becoming a better person starts with trying to make the people in your immediate family happier.

Your spouse and children, mother and father, brothers and sisters aunts and uncles, and nieces and nephews were not brought into this world to solve your problems. That's your job. Resolve to spend less time complaining to them and more time listening to their complaints.

Smile when you see them. Give them the time and attention they need to share their dreams and ambitions with you. Give them the advice they want and shut up when they don't want any. Become the person they turn to when the chips are down. Learn to love their peculiarities and encourage them to overcome their faults.

*Above all, be loyal to them.*

Be a reliable and steady resource for your business colleagues, too. Help them achieve their goals -- not because you want their support but simply because you want them to succeed.

And do something for people you don't know -- a stranger you come upon, a foster child, or a sick or poor person who can benefit from your help. Spend money. Spend time. Most of all spend your love.

Make this outward focus a natural part of your daily life. Do it purposefully and deliberately until it becomes second nature to you.

This is not the kind of goal one can achieve in a single year. It will be on my list next year. Perhaps it will be on your list too. By: Michael Masterson

Thank you for allowing me into your life and being of service to you.

Appreciation that is not expressed is wasted.

David W. Whitlock, SRWA