

**Chapter 27**  
**Spring Forum Report**  
**October 3, 2009**

**Strengths:**

This chapter has a strong base of members who have wide ranging experiences in the IRWA organization and ROW Profession. We have new members fresh out of college and seasoned members who are past International Presidents. 4 Past International Presidents have reigned from Sacramento Chapter 27. This Chapter has supportive members who are happy to share their institutional knowledge. The chapter leadership continues to be strong in a fairly active and demanding membership environment. This Chapter also enjoys consistent ongoing support from employers and turn-out for monthly meetings and it's events. Lunch programs are well organized and run. The Chapter has always provided its members with education opportunities and continues to hold 4 or more classes per year. Chapter 27 has a diverse membership in many ways. The chapter has also shown that it can change with the times and still offer a "fresh" experience for its' events. Chapter 27 is well organized and doing quite well financially. Our chapter also has the benefit of representing the Sacramento region, which, being the state capitol is home to many agencies involved in the ROW and Public Real Estate profession. A great website. A complete email list of over 250 R/W professionals in the region, the Chapter itself has 182 members. There are quite a few "younger" people involved on the Board, which provides a healthy outlook to our future.

**Weaknesses:**

Membership numbers are not where they could be considering all of the potential members in. Lack of DRE and OREA credit for some courses, especially considering nearly 50% of the Chapter membership hold a RE license. Participation (not membership) from the utility community, namely PG&E and AT&T, the two largest utilities in the area. Lack of Employer participation and recognition of benefits.

We have been unable to attain the tickets sales that were predicted for our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, due to the failing economy in our area.

**Opportunities:**

Budget cuts are hurting our cities and counties and making it much harder to get Infrastructure bond money to fund future projects. We need to broaden our reach amongst the professions that interact with the R/W profession. More thorough planning and marketing of the Chapters courses, such as obtaining DRE and OREA credit for the courses, marketing to those not on our roster or email list. Working with the various agencies that work in R/W who are not active, to provide awareness and interest. The depth of knowledge in the chapter gives the membership the opportunity for informative forums and information exchanges. Our Christmas luncheon always has good turnout and we are looking forward to doing more outreach to get a better pulse on our members' needs at this years' event.

**Threats:**

Waning support of employee participation from State and local Agencies. Consultants dominating the organization, course expenses, maintaining quality facilitators. Economic downturn and lay-offs in public and private sectors resulting in a cutback of road and infrastructure projects that employ our members in the ROW profession.

**General Condition of Chapter:**

General Condition of Chapter is that it is currently doing very well and the future is viewed with optimism as we have members that want to make the chapter more dynamic and exciting. We have a core group of experience Board members that continue to step-up when called upon. This is what gives our Chapter its' solid foundation.