



**International Right of Way Association  
Chapter 1 – Los Angeles County  
January 2003 Newsletter**

**Upcoming Events**

- February 11<sup>th</sup> Chapter 1 Board Meeting  
DPW, 700 Fremont Ave., Alhambra (595-H/6)
- February 25<sup>th</sup> Chapter 1 Membership Meeting  
Stevens Steak House, 5332 Stevens Place, Commerce (675-G/3)  
RSVP to Deborah Zelaya, Luncheon Chair, at (310) 816-0466 ext. 135
- March 11<sup>th</sup> Chapter 1 Board Meeting  
DPW, 700 Fremont Ave., Alhambra (595-H/6)
- March 25<sup>th</sup> Chapter 1 Valuation Seminar  
(and Joint Membership Meeting with Southern California Chapter of the  
Appraisal Institute)  
Quiet Cannon, 901 N. Via San Clemente, Montebello (636-A/7)  
Contact Elaine McDaniel, Valuation Seminar Chair, at (310) 216-1400
- April 8<sup>th</sup> Chapter 1 Board Meeting  
DPW, 700 Fremont Ave., Alhambra (595-H/6)
- April 22<sup>nd</sup> Chapter 1 Membership Meeting  
Stevens Steak House, 5332 Stevens Place, Commerce (675-G/3)  
RSVP to Deborah Zelaya, Luncheon Chair, at (310) 816-0466 ext. 135
- May 20<sup>th</sup> Relocation Seminar (and Membership Meeting)  
Quiet Cannon, 901 N. Via San Clemente, Montebello (636-A/7)  
Contact Fred Arevalo, Relocation Chair, at (323) 890-7473
- October 28<sup>th</sup> Fall Seminar (and Membership Meeting)  
Quiet Cannon, 901 N. Via San Clemente, Montebello (636-A/7)  
Contact Augusto (Gus) Parcerero, Fall Seminar Chair, at (213) 847-5580.

**Membership Luncheon**

- January 28<sup>th</sup> Chapter 1 Membership Meeting (Members Free with RSVP by Jan. 23)  
Stevens Steak House, 5332 Stevens Place, Commerce (675-G/3)  
RSVP to Deborah Zelaya, Luncheon Chair, at (310) 816-0466 ext. 135



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**President's Message**

GOODBYE 2002  
HELLO 2003

**By: Michael Popwell, SR/WA**

**THE QUEEN MARY RINGS OUT 2002**

Chapter 1 hosted the Tri-Chapter Installation Banquet for Chapter 57 (Riverside) and Chapter 67 (Orange) on December 10<sup>th</sup> in the Britannia Salon at The Queen Mary in Long Beach. The event was well subscribed with 160 reservations, and was particularly well attended by Chapter 1 members. The event started on time and, to everyone's astonishment, ended on time. This was due in large part to the expert talent of Chapter 1's very own Mistress of Ceremonies, Theresa Wesson, who kept the program on schedule and the speeches short.

This year the Tri-Chapter Installation Banquet format was revised to accommodate an audio-visual presentation by the Ship's Office, Captain Roy Sorge, on the history of The Queen Mary. The presentation was quite interesting and followed the ship through the initial trials of construction, operation as the world's largest luxury liner, service in World War II as a troop carrier, and then eventually it's move to Long Beach and the ongoing conservation efforts. Equally enjoyable was the lunch itself, which was well prepared and professionally served by the ship's staff. Check out the Tri-Chapter Installation photos in this issue of Crossroads.

**2002 ECONOMIC FORECAST HERALDS IN 2003**

The January 28<sup>th</sup> Chapter 1 Membership Meeting will feature the 2003 economic forecast presented by Dr. Christopher Thornberg, Senior Economist with the UCLA Anderson Forecast. Dr. Thornberg authors the Anderson Forecast for Los Angeles and is involved in a number of special studies.

The UCLA Anderson Forecast has provided business and government leaders insight into the economy for the past 50 years. During the first years of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, the UCLA Anderson Forecast has been deady accurate in predicting the recession and anemic recovery. In fact, the most recent recession was correctly characterized as the first business cycle the U.S. economy has ever experienced, being the first recession brought about by a lack of business investment. The other 10 U.S. recessions since 1958 were all generated by declines in consumer spending rather than business spending.

**Remember, the January 23<sup>rd</sup> Chapter 1 Membership Meeting is FREE to all Chapter 1 regular members who RSVP by January 23<sup>rd</sup>.**



## FREE FLOOD HAZARD MAPS AND AERIAL PHOTOS

by Michael Popwell, SR/WA

The Fourth Quarter of *Valuation Insights and Perspectives* provided information on two free websites which provide detailed flood hazard maps and aerial photos. Here's the scoop:

### [www.esri.com/hazards](http://www.esri.com/hazards)

This is the ESRI/FEMA Hazard Awareness Site. Type in the address in the address bar of your internet explorer. Don't search the site as you will likely get a number of interceptor sites which will try to sell you what's free at the ESRI/FEMA site. By the way, ESRI stands for Environmental Systems Research Institute and is the developer of the commercial GIS (geographic information systems) software ARC/INFO. Exploring the website and the linked websites is very interesting if you have a few minutes on your hands and enjoy that sort of stuff.

Well, back to the free flood hazard maps. The reason I was interested in this was I have a property in Palmdale to appraise and needed the flood zone information. As a side note, if the property was located in the City of Los Angeles I would have gone to the City's web site and gotten a complete property profile, zoning, flood hazard, and a prolific amount of other information including a zoning map, but more on that another day. Good work LA City Department of Engineering.

So the property is located in Palmdale and after calling city hall, which is not bad in smaller towns, and verifying the Win2Data 2000 property profile zoning – which is often wrong – I still needed the flood zone information. At the ESRI site you click on the Online Hazard Map hotlink and search for the area by zip code, city and state, or Congressional District (smells like federal funding to me). I, of course, used the zip code geographic finder as the city/state is too large an area and I don't know my own Congressional District, much less the one for Palmdale.

Next, choose the type of hazard you would like to search. The first choice is flood hazard, but there are several other interesting choices you might want to try for your own residence location. These include recent earthquakes, historic earthquakes, historic hailstorms, hurricanes, tornados, and wind storms. Choose your hazard and click on Make the Map. There are two options to print, select the PRINT button on the map and the map is printed but not the legend. Since I consider the legend rather important, I simply printed the page from the task bar. Happy hunting for your favorite hazards at ESRI.

### [www.mapquest.com](http://www.mapquest.com)

Free aerial maps can be found at the Mapquest website. Again, it's best if you go there directly from your address bar on the internet explorer. Normally, if it were in the majority of Los Angeles County I would use my Los Angeles CityROM – The Aerial Photo



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Street Atlas of Greater Los Angeles County. It's a single CD which provides reasonably good resolution aerials of almost all of Los Angeles County, northern Orange County and western San Bernardino and Riverside counties. Unfortunately, Palmdale is not on the CD and so off to the web I go.

Once in Mapquest, simply type in the address of the location you would like to have the aerial map. First will come up a street map and you then select the Aerial Photo tab at the top. Now, if this is the first time you have used Mapquest, you must get a user name and password – just follow the instructions – and yes, it's free. Next, click the Print Aerial Photo Tab and you are in business. I particularly like the aerial photos to better understand the nature of surrounding development. The resolution is not sufficiently detailed to isolate the subject property in a blowup photo, but speaks volumes about the nature of the built environment and is pretty descriptive of the topography as well. Happy hunting for your aerials at Mapquest.

**If you enjoyed finding out about these two sites, please email me at [michael.popwell@lacdc.org](mailto:michael.popwell@lacdc.org) with your favorite information gathering sites – preferably free – together with a brief description and I will put together a list for a future issue of Crossroads.**

**New Members**

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| 1. Michael Andrew Fischer, Development Specialist<br>Sponsored by: Michael Popwell | County of Los Angeles Community Development Commission |
| 2. William Larsen, Senior Analyst  | Integra Ellis Group                                    |
| 3. Sam Wong, Real Estate Officer<br>Sponsored by: Eileen Schwing                   | Los Angeles World Airports                             |
| 4. Barbara Stoll, Real Property Aquisition Specialist                              | City of Santa Clarita                                  |



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**2003 Scheduled Courses for Chapter 1**

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Class Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Instructor</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Coordinator</b>	<b>Phone No.</b>	<b>Email</b>
March 27	103 1 day	Ethics and the Right of Way Profession	Ralph Brown, SR/WA	19800 S. Vermont Ave, Torrance, CA	Hayley McKuur	(310) 646-1014	Hmckuur@lawa.org
May 19	504 1 day	Computing Replacement Housing Payments	Bill Von Klug, SR/WA	19800 S. Vermont Ave, Torrance, CA	Hayley McKuur	(310) 646-1014	Hmckuur@lawa.org
July 17	214 1 day	Skills of Expert Testimony	Ralph Brown, SR/WA	19800 S. Vermont Ave, Torrance, CA	Hayley McKuur	(310) 646-1014	Hmckuur@lawa.org
1 <sup>st</sup> half September	407 1 day	Valuation of Contaminated Properties			Rudy Romo	(714) 379-3376	Rromo@paragon-partners.com
November 6, 7	803	Eminent Domain Law Basics for Right of Way Professionals	Bruce Beach	19800 S. Vermont Ave, Torrance, CA	Hayley McKuur	(310) 646-1014	Hmckuur@lawa.org