Fred Easton, PLS, SR/WA, RW-AMC

Candidate for International Secretary

I have had the honor of serving the IRWA for over a decade in various leadership positions but choosing to continue my journey and run for International Secretary was not an easy decision for me. Those who know me best are aware that I don't do things lightly. If I'm going to do this, I'm going to go "all-in." That's what you can expect from me: a leader who will devote themselves to growing the Association, improving our education and helping our members meet our purpose to improve people's quality of life through infrastructure development. That purpose really speaks to me.

When I was a young professional, I had the pleasure of working on a project that brought roads, sewers, water and housing improvements to people living in homes constructed shortly after the civil war with outhouses, dirt tracks and external wells. I saw 90-year-olds, whose parents were born into slavery, brought to tears when they turned on their own kitchen sink for the first time and were able to use a restroom that wasn't outside in the swampy Florida weather. This affected me greatly and turned what I saw as a job into a career.

After that experience, I set a goal to provide only high-quality services and work on projects which benefit people and communities. The IRWA has helped me meet that goal through education and training opportunities. I feel a sense of duty to give back to the Association by improving the quality of those opportunities and to bringing them to the widest audience possible.

Our Association faces many challenges to achieving our purpose. The top two I would like to set my sights on are:

1. **Education -** We have an amazing source of knowledge in our instructors and SR/WA members to tap into. Our courses are our chief assets and we need to build an asset management plan to determine if we have the right number of regularly updated courses and to determine which courses no longer fit the needs of our industry.

2. **Marketing -** We must continue to engage and support our local Chapters in their endeavors and do even more. They are our front lines and the face of our Association; the importance of our Chapters cannot be overstated! It's been a real pleasure working with staff to conceive and evolve ways of helping Chapters during my time on the International Governing Council. I want to expand on this by encouraging and supporting the development of more Regional and local educational offerings, such as seminars and symposiums.

   Also, our specialized training through courses and designations only truly exists with us! We must adjust our marketing strategies to get that message out to the decision-makers and stakeholders who can obtain funding and encourage their staff to join our Association. These stakeholders are often outside our association.

I'm very proud of what I have accomplished over the years for Chapter 6 and Region 9, including hitting growth goals, holding seminars and symposiums, hosting other Regions and growing our education. It would be my greatest honor to have your vote and support for the position of International Secretary so that I can bring that goal-oriented focus to the International Executive Committee.

Accessibility is very import to me; I welcome any calls/emails. I would love to discuss the challenges you are facing in your chapter! Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have or just to discuss the IRWA or anything!

CONTACT: **phone: 303.947.9983** **email: feaston@f-w.com**

LICENSE, EDUCATION, AND DESIGNATIONS

- Professional Licensed Land Surveyor, State of Colorado
- Courses in Land Surveying, Valencia Community College, Orlando, FL
- Completed additional coursework through IRWA, achieving the SR/WA and R/W-AMC designations
- Machinist Mate Naval Nuclear Field "A" School, Orlando, FL
- Operating Engineers Formal Apprenticeship Program – Land Surveying, completed through Chief of Parties, 1993

IRWA EXPERIENCE

- Region 9 Chair, 2018 – Present
- CLIMB Certified Instructor, 2016 – Present
- IDEAs Task Force Chair, 2018-2019
- Region 9 Vice Chair, 2016-2018
- Region 9 Secretary, 2015-2016
- Region 9 IAMC representative, 2013-14
- Chapter 6 Events Chair, 2016-2018
- Chapter 6 President, 2014-2015
- Chapter 6 Vice President, 2013-2014
- Chapter 6 & Region 9 Treasurer, 2012-2013
- Chapter 6 Secretary, 2011-2012
- Chapter 6 Survey Committee Chair, 2009-2018

EMPLOYMENT

- Survey and GIS Manager at Farnsworth Group, Inc. 2001 – Present