

APWA NEWS

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From the President

As I reflect on the year 2002, I think of it as a year of rekindled patriotism for our country and a renewed interest in our communities. It has also been an exciting and productive year for our

chapter.

In the first ten months of this year, our chapter welcomed 72 new members and maintained a net increase in our membership. We had 943 registrants attend our chapter-sponsored education seminars.

We also had two very successful chapter conferences that featured new program formats and opportunities for additional continuing education credits. Terry Chamberlin and his committee did a fantastic job hosting the joint spring conference with the Washington Chapter at Skamania. The City of Pendleton hosted our fall conference. We thank Jerry Odman and his committee for an enjoyable conference and a job well done. The group in Eugene is busily preparing for our conference next spring. It promises to be a great one. I encourage you to start making arrangements to attend.

Our chapter is fortunate to have an abundance of members that contribute their time and talents to make such a successful organization. Your efforts reflected in our chapter receiving the "Presidential Award for Chapter Excellence" (PACE) at the National APWA Congress for the second consecutive year. It was a real honor for me to be there and to receive the award on behalf

our chapter. President-Elect Stephanie Reid, Immediate Past-President Ron Polvi, and David Evans and Associates spent many hours coordinating and assembling the PACE application and without their efforts, we would not have been recognized.

A few of the many accomplishments that culminated this year were the distribution of our updated membership directory, which Barbara Duda coordinated. The new APWA-ODOT Standard Specifications were published, which was coordinated by Paul Klope.

This last summer we met with representatives of both the League of Oregon Cities and the Association of Oregon Counties with the intent to better understand each other's purpose and explore ways that we can partner together toward common goals.

I want to thank all of you for allowing me the opportunity to serve you as Chapter President this year. I appreciate all the work you have done on committees and behind the scenes. I have enjoyed working with your executive board and appreciate all the time they have donated and the quality work they have performed. It has been a very rewarding experience for me that I will treasure.

As we approach this holiday season, I pray that you will take time to reflect on the true meaning of this season and experience its joys throughout the coming year.

Bob Deuel

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



OREGON APWA SPRING CONFERENCE

APRIL 1-4, 2003

VALLEY RIVER INN

EUGENE

Chapter In Action

Quakex-03 Will Test Emergency Plans

By Rosemary Gentry, Emergency Management Committee

The Emergency Management Committee encourages members to participate in the State of Oregon's statewide earthquake exercise, Quakex-03, scheduled for April 2003. All government entities, private industry, and volunteer organizations are welcome to take part. The scenario features a major earthquake in the Cascadia subduction zone, with resultant tsunami waves.

The exercise, planned by Oregon Emergency Management, will have two components. The response phase (the first two days after the earthquake) will take place April 2-3, 2003. The recovery phase (seven to eight days after the earthquake) will take place April 8-9.

To find out more, call Oregon Emergency Management at (503)378-2911.

E-Mail Links to Legislative Action

The 72nd Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon is set to convene January 13, 2003, and you're just a click away from staying informed, thanks to the efforts of the Leadership and Management Committee.

The committee has assembled a chapter e-mail list that includes more than 400 members. If you're on the list, you should have already received a message confirming your name and e-mail address.

Once the legislative session begins, periodic legislative updates will be sent via e-mail. If you are interested in researching and tracking legislative issues, the committee would like your assistance. For more information, contact Peggy Keppler, chair of the Leadership and Management Committee, at (541) 682-2869, or by e-mail at Peggy.A.Keppler@ci.eugene.or.us.

Chapter Awards Four Scholarships

by Dave Vargas, Education Foundation

Continuing a 20-year tradition of awarding scholarships to civil engineering students, the Oregon Chapter has awarded \$2,700 scholarships to the following students:

Torina Wilson attended Crook County High School and spent four years in the US Marine Corps, which included participation in Operation Desert Storm. She is currently an honor student at Oregon Institute of Technology, and holds student memberships in ASCE and ITE. Her goal is to become a designer of "smart" roads and bridges.

Christina Wilson attended Tillamook High School and Linn-Benton Community College and is currently a student at Oregon State University. Christina has a young son, and holds student memberships in ASCE and ITE. She plans to go on to graduate school and become a geotechnical engineer with the State of Oregon.

Laurie Anne Rice attended Kelso High School and Clark College in Washington State, and is currently a student at Portland State University. She hopes to continue into graduate school and become a licensed professional engineer. She is secretary/treasurer of the ASCE student chapter, and has served as an intern for the Army Corps of Engineers. Her engineering interests include water resources, geotechnical, and structural engineering.



Harley Young (second from right) with members of the Lyle family in Pendleton

Also this year the Oregon Chapter has awarded its first \$500 Les Lyle Memorial Scholarship to **Harley Brandon Young**, a second-year civil engineering technology student at Blue Mountain Community College. Harley attended Heppner High School, has worked for a logging company, and is a trained fire fighter. He plans to transfer to a four-year civil engineering or construction management program after obtaining an Applied Sciences degree at BMCC.

Chapter Earns Second Pace Award

By Stephanie Reid, President-Elect

Each year, APWA chapters are recognized for having positive impact on their members, profession, and community through the National Presidential Award for Chapter Excellence (PACE). Each chapter is judged on how effectively it meets specific program and service goals. For the second year in a row, the Oregon Chapter was selected, along with seven other chapters, to receive the 2002 PACE Award.

The application we submitted chronicles the activities and accomplishments of the chapter's committees,

board, member agencies, and private sector members. While the submittal takes some effort to compile, the result is a document that summarizes the chapter's efforts throughout the year. It helps us gauge the effectiveness of our activities and set goals and objectives for the coming year.

A special thanks to David Evans and Associates Inc. for donating the resources to prepare the PACE application. To view our PACE submittal, contact Ron Polvi, the Oregon Chapter Awards Committee

Chairman, at 503-226-4211 ext. 8140.

Speaking of awards, please take the time to view the 2003 Awards Program, at www.apwa.net. If you know outstanding individuals or groups that could be acknowledged through this program, contact Ron Polvi.



National Pres. Marty Manning (left) with Oregon delegates

Chapter Elects Board Members for 2003

Chapter delegates elected the members of the 2003 Board of Directors at the fall conference in Pendleton.

Serving as president will be **Stephanie Reid**, engineer with the City of Portland. Elected as president-elect was **Ted Kyle**, capital program manager for Clackamas County. **Greg Miller**, operations manager for Washington County, was tapped as secretary, and **Terry Kelsey**, public works manager for the City of Portland, will serve as treasurer. **Bob Deuel** is the immediate past president, and **Hugh Kalani** will continue to serve as the chapter's national delegate.

Two new directors were selected to serve the board.

Chris Berquist, public works director for the City of Roseburg, began his professional career more than 30 years ago. He graduated from Oregon Institute of Technology in 1973 and in 1986 he moved to his current position at the City of Roseburg, where he is airport manager for the Roseburg Regional Airport as well as public works director. He also has served as chairman of the Winston Planning commission for the past 10 years.

Gregg Weston, P.E., principal with Otak, Inc., is a Portland native and has spent his entire career in Oregon. Since 1996 he has worked for Otak, Inc. He is now a principal providing oversight to the engineering group and serving as a client and project manager for various public works and development projects. Gregg serves as a board member for the Columbia Corridor Association, serves on the Stormwater Advisory Committee for the City of Portland and is involved with the Clackamas County Business Alliance.

Continuing in their terms as directors on the Oregon APWA Board are **Kurt Corey**, public works director for the City of Eugene, **Ken Stoneman**, construction and materials manager for ODOT, **Rick Olson**, vice president of Spec Industries, and **Lila Bradley**, public works manager for the City of Lincoln City.



Stephanie Reid



Chris Berquist



Gregg Weston

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Images from Pendleton

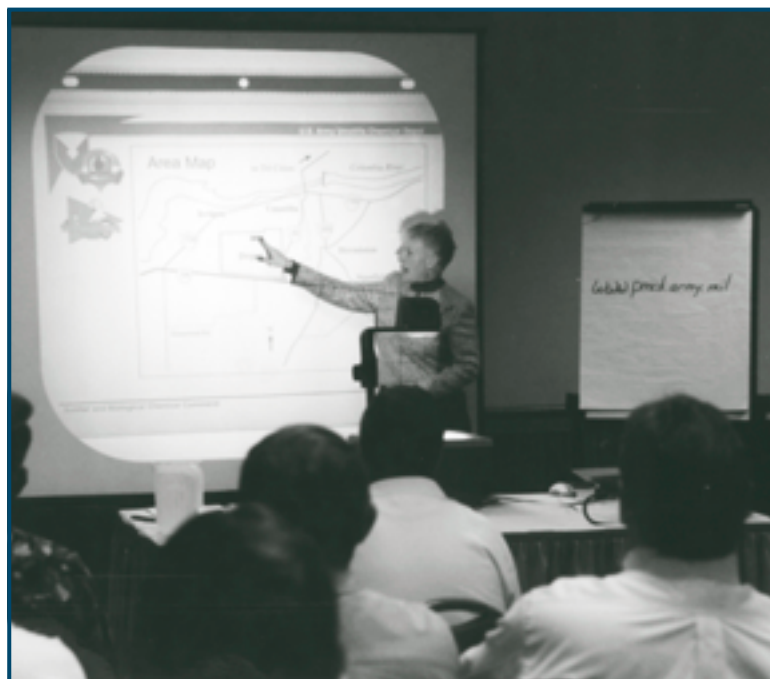
The Chapter always has a great time in Pendleton, and this time was no exception. Kudos to the exhibitors for a great show, and thanks to the folks in Pendleton for the great entertainment, tours and technical sessions.



Photos by Denton Sprague,
City of Pendleton



Jerry Odman heaped on the western hospitality as the conference host and master of ceremonies



Educational sessions included a presentation on the Umatilla Chemical Depot



Vocalist from "Second Chance" croons to Mona Kalani at the Thursday banquet



Gene Appel painstakingly assembles "compass art" for the Education Foundation's auction fundraiser, which brought in \$765



Stephanie Reid presents an award to Jim Gilmer of David Evans & Associates for the firm's help in preparing the PACE Award submittal



And the winner is ... Dave Haskell (actually, it's the Education Foundation, which received more than \$1,800 from the Gizmo contest)

Merseth Honored with Bowes Award

The Oregon Chapter of APWA conferred its highest honor, the William A. Bowes Service Award, on Gordon L. Merseth, P.E., principal of Crane and Merseth, at the Fall 2002 Chapter Conference in Pendleton.

William Bowes was a Portland city commissioner (of public works) who was instrumental in establishing the Oregon Chapter of APWA in 1964. The Bowes Award was established in 1978 to honor a chapter member for "Distinguished Service Given To The Chapter and its Members." The Bowes award is the highest honor the chapter can bestow on a member.

Gordon has been a member of APWA for more than 25 years. He served several years as chapter's newsletter editor. He has served on several committees, the most recent being the Futures Committee. He has helped in organizing chapter conferences as well as teaching classes and making presentations.

He served on the chapter Board of Directors and as Chapter President in 1994. In 1995 he was elected to the board of the APWA Oregon Chapter Scholastic Foundation and served as president and secretary and currently is serving as vice-president.

Gordon was presented this award for the many years of service he has given to the chapter and its members and in recognition of his dedication to advancing the field of public works in Oregon.



Gordon Merseth was recognized for his many years of service to the Oregon Chapter

Chapter Members Among National APWA Presidential Appointments

Several chapter members have been appointed to National APWA committee positions by the president and board of directors of the national organization.

Paul Klope, principal civil engineer for the City of Eugene, is a member of the Congress Program Review Committee.

Kurt Corey, public works director for the City of Eugene, is chair of the Engineering and Technology Committee.

Mary Meloy, public works director for the City of Redmond, is a member of the Transportation Committee and also serves on National's TEA-21 Task Force.

Ron Polvi, director of district engineering for Northwest Natural, is a member of the Utility and Public Right of Way Committee.

Joint Standards Classes Under Way

*By Paul Klope,
Standard Specifications Committee*

ODOT and APWA have teamed up to present an introductory class on use of the 2002 ODOT/APWA Joint Standard Specifications and Drawings. The class explains basic use of the specifications and drawings, major changes, and highlights issues first-time users should be aware of to help them be successful applying the new specifications. The new Joint Standards are the classroom textbooks, and attendees are taken on a guided tour through the Standards to give them first-hand experience using the Standards. Some of the material taught in the class is from the Users Guide, and copies of the guide are sent home with each person who attends.

Sessions of the class were held in Wilsonville, Bend and Eugene in October and November, with a total of 255 attendees. Additional classes are scheduled in Eugene and Hillsboro in December, and in Medford in January. Instructors are Dale Deatherage, ODOT Specifications Engineer, and Paul Klope, City of Eugene.

The interest in learning about the new Joint Standards has far exceeded expectations. During planning for the training, the original arrangements were for two trainings, with an estimate of 50 people in Wilsonville and 30 people in Bend, and no future sessions scheduled. The Wilsonville class grew to 165 (with a waiting list) and had to be moved to the Holiday Inn Conference Center, and the Bend class grew to 45. Some of the people not able to get into the first two sessions stepped up and arranged for the training to be repeated in Eugene, Hillsboro and Medford. The December classes in Eugene and Hillsboro will host 150 people and are full. Further classes are not scheduled, but may be if there is sufficient interest.

ODOT Begins Converting Back to English Units

By Jay Remy, Oregon Department of Transportation

The Oregon Department of Transportation has begun converting back to the English Unit of Measurement for its contract plans. This decision follows extensive discussions with the Association of General Contractors (AGC) and the local American Public Works Association (APWA) chapter. This conversion would make the state consistent with Oregon cities and counties by using a single measurement system for road construction projects.

In 1991, Congress and the Federal Highway Administration mandated that all federal-aid construction projects be in metric units by September 30, 1996.

ODOT began metric conversion in 1993 and started to contract metric projects in 1996. Since then, Congress has removed the requirement that contract plans be in metric units. After the removal of the metric requirement, most states have reverted back to English, with Oregon being one of eight states that still uses metric units. A total of 35 states use English measurements and an additional seven states use a dual system. In addition, most cities and counties in Oregon continued to use English measurements.

The original intent of the federal mandate was to have all state DOTs using metric measurements and even

though ODOT believes the metric system to be the most efficient system of measurement, it is more important to be in alignment with other state DOTs and our local government partners.

Below are some general timelines for ODOT's conversion to English units:

- January 2003 – Begin contracting local projects and state consultant projects in English units, if those projects do not depend on ODOT standard drawings for their development. Local projects that depend on ODOT standard drawings may need to wait until as late as June for ODOT's standard drawings to be converted into English units.
- March 2003 – Begin gathering survey information in English units
- July 2003 – Begin development of state projects in English units
- April 2004 – Begin contracting state projects in English units
- October 2005 – Most projects contracted in English units

This schedule doesn't dictate that projects be immediately converted from metric to English. Each project is unique and will be evaluated individually to determine whether to convert to English units or complete the project in metric units. Project schedules will not be delayed for unit conversion.

Local or consultant projects will need to be evaluated to determine if the necessary English measurement contract support items, such as standard drawings, are available (many support items will not be completely converted until July 2003). Most likely the first state English unit projects contracted will be simple preservation projects followed by more detailed modernization projects.

Allison Hamilton, (503) 986-3558, is heading up ODOT's English conversion process and is forming an English Conversion Committee.

Drawing Revisions Available on Web

Revisions to the ODOT-APWA Standard Drawings are made frequently. If you own the hard copy version of the Standard Drawings, ODOT will send out notices of revisions when they are made, with a copy of the revised drawings, or information about where to obtain a copy of the revised drawings. APWA will revise the AutoCAD version of the english drawings as soon as possible after receiving the notice of revision from ODOT.

When APWA has completed the revision to the AutoCAD version, a copy of the revised drawing file will be posted on a special site (called an ftp site). Your internet browser can be used to navigate to the ftp site where you can download a copy of the revised drawings files.

The revised drawing files will remain on the ftp site for 60 days. If you need an electronic copy of a revised drawing that has already been removed from the ftp site, contact the APWA office at 541-926-0044.

For more information about revisions or to get a link to the ftp site, visit the Oregon APWA web at www.oregonapwa.org/specrevisions.htm.

Thanks for the Contributions

The chapter would like to offer special thanks to the organizations that contributed to the construction standards class "Cruising by the Construction Standards":

**KPFF Consulting Engineers
Otak, Inc.
W & H Pacific
Jim McWade
Cathy Ardanaz, 3M**

Letter States Position on Accessibility

"APWA believes that all communities should provide a safe and inviting environment with facilities and amenities accessible to all, including people with disabilities. Infrastructure within the public right-of-way is rightfully intended to serve the needs of and provide a benefit to entire communities. At the same time, communities have the responsibility to balance their needs and requirements against available resources as part of their overall service delivery missions."

That's how National APWA President Martin Manning starts his letter of recommendations to the U.S. Access Board on the issue of draft guidelines for accessible public rights-of-way. This issue affects anyone who designs, constructs, or maintains public facilities in the right-of-way. For the full text of the letter, or for more information on the draft guidelines, visit the Oregon APWA web site at www.oregonapwa.org/news.

New Members

Wilma Bogue, Office Supervisor, City of Salem, (503) 588-6008

Dan R. Brown, Engineering Services Manager, Multnomah County, (503) 988-5050

Kathy A. Busse, Land Use and Trans Director, Multnomah County, (503) 988-5050

Laurel E. Byer, Assistant City Engineer, City of Wilsonville, (503) 570-1564

Edward J. Chamberland, Project Manager, W & H Pacific, (503) 372-3544

Charles Dejanvier, Civil Engineer, Josephine County

Laura Dose, Stormwater, City of Gresham, (503) 618-2430

Cruz Flores, Public Works Foreman, City of Cannon Beach, (503) 436-2045

Thomas J. Hansell, Project Manager, Multnomah County, (503) 988-5050

Peter J. Martins, KPFF Consulting Eng, (503) 227-3251

Jim Mitchell, Transportation Division, City of Corvallis, (541) 76-6916

Scott A. Nebeker, P.E., Anderson-Perry & Assoc, (541) 963-8309

Carrie C. Pak, Div Manager Stormwater, City of Gresham, (503) 618-2583

Ron C. Patterson, Fleet Maintenance Supervisor, Multnomah County, (503) 988-5050

Joe F. Ramirez, Engineering Service Mgr, Multnomah County, (503) 988-5050

Kenneth S. Rehms, Project Manager, W&H Pacific, (503) 372-3526

John G. Replinger, Engineering Services Manager, Multnomah County, (503) 988-5050

Scott Sapp, Foreman, City of Gresham, (503) 618-2626

James K. Soli, Civil Engineer, City of Gresham, (503) 618-2659

Curtis C. Vanderzanden, Associate, KPFF Consulting Eng, (503) 227-3251

David W. Weber, Murray Smith & Associates, (503) 225-9010

Correction

DeHaas & Associates was not listed in the consultant section of the Oregon Chapter's 2002 Membership Directory. Marlin DeHaas is president of the firm, which can be reached at (503) 682-2450. Please make a note in your directory.

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Enclosed Envelope Makes it Easy to Donate

Included with the December 2002 Oregon APWA newsletter is a donation envelope that makes it easy for you to contribute to the Scholastic Foundation. Because the Foundation is a non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization, your contributions are tax deductible. And with the end of the calendar year quickly approaching (and tax time right around the corner), there's no better time than right now to put a check in the mail. Or charge it to VISA or MasterCard. Just

follow the simple instructions on the envelope.

Another easy way to donate to the Foundation is through the United Way. Most pledge forms include a space to make contributions to tax-exempt organizations. Be sure to list the correct

name – Oregon Chapter American Public Works Association Scholastic Foundation. Other information you may need, including the foundation's taxpayer ID number, is on the envelope. Check with your local United Way office if you have questions.



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2003 Calendar

March 19-21 Developing Leader , Bend	October 21-24 Oregon APWA Fall Chapter Conference , Kah-Nee-Ta Resort
March 4-5 Preventive Maintenance for Roadway Surfaces , Redmond	October 29-31 Street Maintenance & Collection Systems Fall School Gleneden Beach
April 1-4 Oregon APWA Spring Chapter Conference , Valley River Inn, Eugene	For more information or to register online visit www.oregonapwa.org/training .
April 16-18 Street Maintenance & Collection Systems Spring School , Welches	