

APWA NEWS

AMERICAN PUBLIC WORKS ASSOCIATION

Vol. 36 No. 3
September 2000



CONNECTING

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From the President



As your president this year, it's been great to work with the Chapter Board and Committees in helping to move the chapter into new and exciting areas. One that has literally changed the face of the chapter is our newsletter. You can thank **Eric Jones**, our newsletter editor, for the new look and feel of the newsletter.

We are now ready to move into a new phase of the newsletter development - sale of advertisement space. Our goal is to use the funds to offset the additional cost of producing the newsletter and also to continue to enhance its quality over time. See page 4 for more information on newsletter advertising opportunities.

In addition to the great work by the chapter on the newsletter, I've summarized other current activities that I hope you will find useful.

- The Water Resources Committee, chaired by **David Newton**, recently completed its work planning for the next several months. The first priority of the committee is to work on creating a resource site for members on the chapter's webpage (www.oregonapwa.org). The committee's goal is to post the latest information and links on such topics as the salmon listing, TMDLs, stormwater phase II and other environmental issues. If you are interested in participating on the committee or

making a presentation on a water resources topic at a future conference, please contact David at (503) 228-7718.

- **Steve Baker**, chapter board member, recently accepted the appointment to represent the Oregon Chapter as the Chapter Diversity Liaison with the National APWA committee. If you would like to hear more about the chapter's and National's effort to recognize diversity, you can contact Steve at sbaker@ci.beaverton.or.us.

- In our March 2000 issue, Inter-governmental Relations Committee Chair **Rich Girard** wrote about the Cooperative Public Agencies of Washington County (CPAWC). The CPAWC members have now prepared a short video on their success story. The complete story is on page 2.

- *Faster, Cheaper, Better???* is the theme for the upcoming Fall Oregon APWA Conference in Ashland on October 11-13. The conference steering committee, chaired by **James Olson**, City Engineer for Ashland, is preparing an exciting program. Topics range from updates on the final 4(D) rules to alternative fuels. In addition there will be a workshop on "Fish passage: Design concepts that work" plus a technical tour of the Medford Wastewater Treatment Facility (you must see the snail walk). For more information see page 2, or check out the Oregon chapter web page. I hope to see you there.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Les Lytle".

What's Inside

Chapter in Action	2
Advertising Information	4
Calendar	5
Tech Talk	6
New Members	8

Chapter In Action

Video Chronicles CPAWC Success

In 1993 public works leaders in Washington County created the cooperative Public Agencies of Washington County (CPAWC). This is a partnership of 15 public agencies to share equipment, purchasing and training to serve their customers more effectively and efficiently. A new CPAWC video, produced by high school students as part of a class project, provides an excellent overview. In addition, a workshop is planned for November 1 where diverse topics such as road rage and resource sharing will be discussed. You can contact Steve Baker with the City of Beaverton at (503) 526-2535 or call (503) 526-3707 for more information about CPAWC or the workshop.

Education Committee "Wish List"

Ever wonder how trainings and workshops are developed? Often it's by members just like you who help turn ideas into reality by sharing their experience and recommendations. Here are two examples of workshop concepts that could benefit from your involvement:

- People interested in **Effective Communication Skills**. Your involvement is attending two or three productive meetings to plan the agenda for a communication skills workshop. Please call either Tom Donahue at (503) 588-6211 or the Chapter office at (541) 926-0044 before September 15. It is a rewarding experience and you will make a difference by contributing to APWA's educational endeavors.
- People interested in **Transportation Design**. Your involvement is attending two or three productive meetings to plan the agenda for a

transportation design workshop. Please call the Chapter office at (541) 926-0044 before September 15. Join your fellow professionals in bringing informative, excellent training to public works in Oregon.

Joint Survey Coming at Fall Conference

by Dave Haskell, Survey Coordinator

A joint survey from your Chapter Committee is being produced and will be available in the Fall 2000 Conference registration packets. For those members not able to attend the conference, you will be able to find the survey and download it from the chapter website.

Member response is very important to the participating committees. To date the following committees will

be participating in the survey: Emergency Management, Standard Specifications, and Futures.

The Best Show in Public Works

Time is running out to register for the APWA International Public Works Congress and Exposition. This year the annual event is being held September 10-13 in Louisville Kentucky. As many as 7,000 public works professionals are expected to attend the congress to network, learn and share their expertise.

The 2000 event features more than 80,000 square feet of exhibits, plus 150 cutting-edge education sessions in eight tracks. For more information, visit the APWA National web site at www.apwa.net.

Fall 2000 Conference Is Faster, Cheaper, Better'



"Faster, cheaper, ... better??"

The folks in Medford and Ashland are working hard putting together the 2000 Oregon APWA Fall Conference. The semi-annual chapter event will be held October 11-13 at the Ashland Windmill Inn (formerly Ashland Hills).

On the fun side, there's golf and tennis, plus an entertaining lineup for the Thursday evening banquet. On the educational

side, there are three program tracks (technical, management, and environmental), a preconference workshop on fish passage design, a tour of the Medford Wastewater Facility, and a look at upcoming legislative issues with State Sen. Lenn Hannon. And, as always, there are lots of opportunities to meet people and enjoy the accommodations.

Register by September 22 and receive a discount. You should receive a registration packet in early September. If you haven't received a packet, call Medford Public Works at (541) 774-2100. Another great way to get conference information is on the chapter's web site, www.oregonapwa.org, where you can get the latest information about program sessions, hot links to accommodations, and online registration.

Foreseeing the Foundation's Future

by Lori Faha, Foundation President

The Oregon APWA Scholastic Foundation Board is in the midst of goal-setting. We've met our first set of goals, established when the Foundation was formed in 1994: reach \$100,000 by the end of the century, and start distributing scholarship funds from this permanent endowment fund.

At the Fall Conference in Ashland, the Foundation Board plans to present to the membership some proposed goals for consideration. **(We would appreciate input now, as we put the proposal together, and input on what we develop in October.)**

Why are new goals so important? Many members may think that since we made the \$100,000 fund target and can now distribute funds, that we're set. Far from it! Here's some information to get you thinking about it.

Because the Foundation General Fund goal of \$100,000 was reached in December 1999, \$4,100 was budgeted for the 2000/01 school year, which was then supplemented by the Oregon APWA Chapter by an additional \$6,000 (this has been the normal Chapter scholarship funding for several years), making a total of \$10,100. This provides for engineering scholarships at OSU, PSU, and OIT in the amount of \$2,700 per school, plus \$2,000 for a new public works administration scholarship at PSU (Lindberg Scholarship). Clearly, the Foundation is not yet capable of funding the entire existing Chapter scholarship program.

Now that the initial goal has been met, a new funding goal should be set. To set such a goal, the Foundation Board, Chapter Board, and Foundation members should first decide the size of a scholarship program that should be supported by the Foundation funds. Should the Foundation ultimately provide for part or all of the

existing three engineering school scholarships and Lindberg scholarships? Should the existing scholarship amounts remain the same? Should additional scholarships be funded by the Foundation?

To reach the \$100,000 goal, the primary source of funds came from the Chapter, including the initial start-up donation of \$25,000. The biggest fund-raiser was the Mike Lindberg dinner, which netted about \$16,000 (wow!). GIZMO typically brings in \$500 to \$1000 per conference. Raffles have generated \$500 or less. The Gene

Your 2000 Foundation Board

Lori Faha	President (1998-2000)
Gordon Merseth	Vice-President (2000-2002)
Dan Boss	Treasurer (1998-2000)
Jeanne Nyquist	Secretary (1999-2001)
Bob Adams	Director (2000-2002)
Bruce Erickson*	Director
Les Lyle*	Director

*Chapter President & Immediate Past President are automatically Foundation Board members

Appel retirement party brought in about \$3,500. The golf tournament at the 2000 Spring conference netted about \$1,200. We know of two people who have put the Foundation in their wills, but this is obviously a long-term fund-raiser for the Foundation.

Another possible fund-raiser being explored by the Foundation Board is to approach corporate APWA members, vendors, or others to solicit contributions, possibly toward Tribute Accounts (special accounts which, when exceeding \$10,000, can be used for new, specified scholarships). At this point, it is not known how this fund-raiser would be approached or whether it would be successful.

Add this information up, and you realize there is a long way to go to get to full funding of the existing scholarships (let alone any new scholarships) in any reasonable time frame.

Questions to consider:

- Is the Foundation on track in terms of meeting Foundation/Chapter member desires and priorities?

- How much of the scholarship program should be covered by Foundation funds, and when?

- Should/can the Chapter continue to annually budget \$6,000 as pass-through money to the Foundation for scholarships? Should this remain consistent over time?

- Should/can the Chapter budget funds to give the Foundation for its invested endowment fund (General Fund) separate from the annual pass-through money?

- Should Gizmo and/or other fund-raisers be continued at each Chapter Conference?

- What other fund raisers should be considered? Can assistance to the Foundation Board be found to help organize fund-raisers?

- How much can realistically be generated annually from various sources?

- Is the current mix of scholarship types/amounts adequate and addressing member goals and priorities?

- Should target audiences for scholarships and/or applicant qualifications be amended?

- How can we better track and gain active APWA membership from scholarship recipients?

The Foundation Board has requested input on the above questions from the Chapter Board. We also would appreciate any thoughts from any and all members. If you can take just a minute or two to provide a couple comments, please do so by emailing Foundation Board president Lori Faha at: faha@teleport.com or call her at (503) 493-3619. Also, more information about the Foundation is available on the Chapter website at www.oregonapwa.org/foundation.

700 Excellent Reasons to Advertise in the Oregon APWA Newsletter

The 700 members of Oregon APWA include public works directors, professional engineers, educators, owners of private consulting companies, managers, designers and highly qualified technical staff involved in every aspect of public works.

When you place an ad in the Oregon APWA newsletter, you're reaching the people who make the decisions about public works in Oregon. And the funds raised by the sale of ads helps ensure that the

Oregon APWA newsletter continues to be a high-quality publication meeting the members' needs.

In addition to reaching an excellent audience, here's what else you get when you place an ad in the Oregon APWA newsletter:

- Design assistance in composing your ad
- Two colors (wide selection of tints in brown and blue)
- Full capability to reproduce logos, photos, or other artwork

It's easy to place an ad in the Oregon APWA newsletter. Call Eric Jones, newsletter editor, at (541) 682-5523, or fax Eric at (541) 682-6826, or e-mail Eric at eric.r.jones@ci.eugene.or.us

Eric and his staff will help turn your text and ideas into attractive ads such as the examples below. To reserve a space for your ad in the next issue of the Oregon APWA newsletter, contact Eric Jones by October 15.

Your Name Here

Style A - \$25
2.264" x 2"

Web Address • Phone Number

Your Name Here

Style C - \$40
4.677" x 2"

LOGO

Email - Website - Phone Number

Your Name Here

Style B - \$40
2.264" x 4"

Address
Phone number
Email

LOGO

Your Name Here

- Phone Number
- Fax Number
- Website
- Email

Style D - \$75
4.677" x 4"

LOGO

Calendar

Here is updated Oregon APWA education information as well as additional non-APWA training opportunities. For more information or to register for specific courses call **541.926.0044**, fax **541.926.3478** or visit the chapter's web site at **www.oregonapwa.org**

2000 Schedule

Pump Station Design • September 21-22 • Medford



*Openings still available
in this popular class!*

Working with Consultants & Contractors • September 27-28 • Wilsonville

Fall Conference – Oregon Chapter APWA • October 11-13 • Ashland

Street Maintenance & Collection Systems Fall School • October 25-27 • Welches

Public Works Leadership Skills • November 1-3 • Cannon Beach



More information on page 8

Safety in Public Works • November 15-17 • Newport

Transportation Design Issues • To be re-scheduled in 2001

2001 Schedule

Construction Inspection • February 15-16 • Portland

Project Management • March 1-2 • Tualatin

The Developing Leader • March 28-30 • Bend

Spring Conference - Oregon Chapter APWA • April 4-6 • Sunriver

Street Maintenance & Collection Systems Spring School • April 25-27 • Florence

Road & Street Surface Repair & Maintenance • May 7-8 • Bend

Effective Communication Skills • May 16-17 • Wilsonville

Pump Station Design • June 14-15 • Portland

Working with Consultants & Contractors • September 20-21 • Location TBA

Fall Conference - Oregon Chapter APWA • Date & Location TBA

Street Maintenance & Collection Systems Fall School • October 24-26 • Location TBA

Public Works Leadership Skills • November 2001 • Location TBA

Safety in Public Works • November 14-16 • Location TBA

Non-APWA Educational Opportunities

Stormwater Regulations: Meeting the Challenge

September 19-20, 2000 • Doubletree Hotel, Springfield, OR
Contact: April Hildner, 503.657.6958, ext. 5104

Linking Performance Measures to the Budget

September 25, 2000 • Seattle, WA
Contact: Roger Kilbourn, 800.639.3188, ext. 63896

NW Energy Association Fall Symposium: Natural Hazard Mitigation for Lifelines and Distributed Systems

October 6-7, 2000 • Hatfield Marine Science Center, Newport, OR
Contact: Event Solutions, Inc. 541.928.5055, or www.nwenergyassociation.org

Shake, Rattle, and Roll! Planning for Regional Earthquake Emergencies

October 11, 2000 • Jones Farm Conference Center, Hillsboro, OR
Contact: Event Solutions, Inc., 541.928.5055

Tech Talk

I-5 Cable Barrier Passes Second Anniversary

WOODBURN – A unique barrier installed in the median of Interstate 5 between Wilsonville and Salem has worked perfectly so far in preventing deaths and reducing serious injuries from cross-over type traffic crashes, according to the Oregon Department of Transportation.

ODOT reports that since the first section of the three-cable barrier system was installed in December 1996, not one traffic fatality has occurred in a crossover-type traffic crash. April marked the second anniversary of the installation of the final 13-mile-long section of cable barrier.

"It's working exactly as we believed it would," said Don Jordan, ODOT district manager. "This system has been a real lifesaver in that we haven't seen one case where a car has crossed over the median barrier and crashed into oncoming traffic. There are times when we have to go out and repair the barrier– even replace sections of cable – but I'll take that over a head-on crash at freeway speeds any day!"

Jordan added that there have been at least two instances where large

commercial trucks have crashed through the barrier.

"The cable barrier system isn't designed to stop a semi-truck pulling a set of double trailers," he said, "it's meant to stop passenger cars. And so far, it's doing a perfect job."

According to statistics compiled by ODOT's Research Group, vehicles hit the 22-mile-long section of barrier about 65 times each year. Of those impacts, ODOT estimates approximately half could have resulted in a car crossing the median area and entering oncoming traffic.

"That means we prevent 32 potentially serious – perhaps fatal – traffic crashes each year," said Jordan. "That's an excellent return on our investment in this system."

Brett Sposito of the ODOT Research Group said that the number of reported crashes has actually in-

creased 30-fold since the installation of the barrier.

"We believe the increase most likely is due to vehicles driving into the median, impacting the barrier and causing enough damage to make the

crash reportable."

said Sposito. "Vehicles that drove into the median prior to the installation of the barrier typically re-entered the roadway without incident."

"On the other hand," he said, "during the past

decade we had one fatality and one major injury about every two years on average in the initial nine-mile section. Fatal crashes have been eliminated and serious injury crashes have dropped by close to half since the barrier went up."

"Since the figures are based on two years of experience," Sposito said, "the results should be considered

continued on next page



Crash barrier prevented head-on accident

Job Opportunities

Employment Opportunities

If you're considering a new position or looking for people to fill a posting, you'll want to check the chapter web site at www.oregonapwa.org. To list a job opening, just click on the "classified" button and select "post" near the top of the page. The rest is easy – fill in the information and then click "post article" at the bottom of the form. (Remember, you need to "refresh" your browser to see your new article online.) It's so easy a former or current "Gizmo recipient" was able to use it (check the classifieds and see for yourself)!

In addition to the online postings, we've received word of a number of professional positions for civil engineers being recruited by SCM Staff Placement Specialists of Kennewick, Washington. The openings include West Coast postings for up to 15 civil engineers with BSEs and three to 10 years of experience in design and construction of water and wastewater facilities including pipelines, reservoirs, pump stations and treatment plants. The recruiter is also looking for two civil engineers in Portland. Both positions are modeling jobs using Storm Water Management Model (SWMM) for analysis of quantity and quality problems associated with urban runoff. Refer to 126-001 and 126-002 when submitting resumes. For more information, contact Angie at SCM at angiec@scm-ae.com, or by calling 1-800-274-5208. Fax resumes to (509) 735-1678.

preliminary. Also, it is important to note the cable system is recommended for use in locations where there is enough room for lateral deflections of up to 11.5 ft."

Sposito added that the barriers are saving society hundreds of thousands of dollars a year.

"Based on cost estimates developed by the National Safety Council," he said, "crash-related costs have dropped from \$600,000 per year to \$200,000 per year when comparing crashes before and after installation of the initial nine-mile-long section of barrier. That is a very significant cost savings to society."

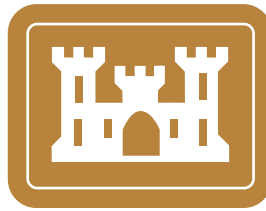
The crash cost analysis is based on all societal costs of traffic crashes, including emergency response, medical attention and rehabilitation and lost wages.

Copies of the ODOT Research Group report are available on the ODOT website at www.odot.state.or.us/tddresearch.

Corps Seeks Dialogue on Water Resources

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will be initiating a dialogue with the general public, federal, state and local agencies about future water re-

sources challenges facing the nation. The dialogue will entail a series of 14 regional listening sessions to be conducted from June through September. The purpose is to have



these sessions reach a broad spectrum of interests in order to better define water resources challenges and accurately define national requirements, including the appropriate governmental role in addressing them. Results from these sessions will be compiled into a report and shared with interested agencies and parties.

The listening sessions will include a meeting in Vancouver, Washington, on September 19 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Red Lion on the Quay, 100 Columbia Street, Vancouver, Washington. For schedule updates and registration, please visit the Corps website:

www.wrsc.usace.army.mil/iwr/waterchallenges. For more information, please contact: Dave Kenyon, (202) 761-8575 or email: david.c.kenyon@usace.army.mil.

ODOT Develops School Safety Guide

The Oregon Department of Transportation has developed a new publication, "Guide to School Area Safety." The publication was produced by ODOT's Traffic Management Section in cooperation with the Alliance for Community Traffic Safety in Oregon (ACTS Oregon). ACTS Oregon coordinated a School Zone Safety Task Force and initiated the original draft of this document. Many individuals from various agencies contributed to this document.

This publication was recently adopted by the Oregon Traffic Control Devices Committee. It is



our hope that this publication will improve the safety of children in school zones. The publication is available on the ODOT web site at: <http://www.odot.state.or.us/tstrafmgtpublic/>

History corner

From the January 1976 APWA News

Gordon Wyatt, Membership Chairman, reports that Oregon Chapter APWA membership represents 43 cities, 15 counties, and 12 other public agencies. In addition there are 21 engineering consulting firms, 18 commercial firms, and one public utility included in the membership. There are also two retired members, one student member, and five affiliates. The current total membership is 363.

Because there are at least 10 cities of over 5,000 population and 10 counties of over 10,000 population that are not represented in the Chapter membership, the growth potential is great. Another area for membership growth is in public utilities, where only one company is now represented.



Former Governor Neil Goldschmidt with Oregon APWA Chapter Officers (from left to right) Donald Harwell, Gene Appel, Ed Sigurdson, Merle Langley, Ken Erickson, and Hugh Kalani (photo taken May 1987)

2000 Board Members

President, **Les Lyle**

541-682-5291

President-Elect, **Ron Polvi**

503-585-6611 x8140

Secretary, **Bob Deuel**

541-774-2100

Treasurer, **Stephanie Reid**

503-823-7095

Past President, **Bruce Erickson**

503-653-9093

National Delegate, **Hugh Kalani**

503-632-4982

Director, **Steve Baker**

503-526-2444

Director, **Dave Haskell**

503-861-2233

Director, **Jon Katin**

541-757-6729

Director, **Ted Kyle**

503-557-6472

Director, **Greg Miller**

503-681-7188

Director, **Ken Stoneman**

503-986-3023

Welcome New Members

David Cox, Division Administrator, Federal Highway Administration
Salem, OR (503-399-5749)

Cory Crebbin, Public Works Director, City of Medford (541-774-2100)

Matthew Gwynn, Street Superintendent, City of Woodburn (503-980-2424)

Public Works Leadership Skills

Gain people skills working with elected officials, employees and customers. Find ways to effectively interact with the media and regulatory agencies. Participate in self-assessment exercises and create a developmental plan tailored to your specific needs.

You can do all this and more at APWA's Public Works Leadership Skills workshop November 1-3 at Cannon Beach. Experienced administrators, recent appointees, and those who wish to become public works directors will find this a valuable training opportunity. Space is limited, so register early. Call (541) 926-0044, or check the chapter's online training calendar at www.oregonapwa.org.

Foundation Board Has Openings

Two Foundation Board positions are up for elections at the Fall Conference. If you are interested or have a suggestion of a good candidate for one of the three-year Foundation Board positions, please contact Lori Faha at (503) 493-3619.



APWA NEWS is published quarterly by the Oregon Chapter, American Public Works Association, 5018 SE 36th Avenue, Portland, OR 97202-4129

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Website: www.oregonapwa.org

**Fall Conference
Info Inside**

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Oregon Chapter

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