



2nd Quarter 2015 Edition

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Celebrating 100 Years

The Oregon Telecommunications Association is proud to be celebrating 100 years of service to the telecommunications industry in the Pacific Northwest.

If you have ever visited the OTA office in Salem, you have seen the wall adorned with photos of our Association President's beginning with Charles E. Wells of Northwest Telephone who served as President of the OTA from 1915 – 1940. In the early years, the OTA was known as OITA — Oregon Independent Telephone Association. In 1997 the Association adopted its current name.

It's fun to look at the pictures gracing the reception area wall and note the changes in the popularity of facial hair — or not, styles of suits; ties, from skinny to bow to wide, when paisley ties were "in" and "out" and then back in fashion again. And the proud heritage of generations of family owned and operated telephone company's runs deep through the veins of this Association.

As one would expect, the industry has changed immensely over the past century — imagine what will transpire in the century ahead! But some things remain constant. *"The Mission of the Oregon Telecommunications Association is to serve as the voice and information source of the telecommunications industry in Oregon."*

OTA's member companies continue to be dedicated to providing the highest quality telecommunications services available, affordable prices, satisfying the special needs of our customers and promoting economic growth throughout this great state. *Here's to another 100 Years!*



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- up-to-date industry news
- event calendar
- seminar information
- member directory
- legislative updates

Show off your stuff...

Are you a new member? Would you like your fellow OTA members to notice your company and products? If so, this quarterly online newsletter is a great way to be seen and make new contacts!

Contact the OTA office today!

503.581.7430



A Grand Celebration...

took place at the 2015 OTA-WITA Joint Annual Meeting as both the Oregon and Washington Association's acknowledged their 100 year anniversaries. The setting for this year's event was the Salishan Spa & Golf Resort on the beautiful Oregon Coast in Gleneden Beach.

We were especially honored to have some of our past members join us for the big celebration and spend some time reminiscing through the years. It was so good to see everyone!

Tom Bauman

Lee & Vicky Dillard

Tom Fairfield

Keith & Jan Galitz

Gordy Grochau

Larry Hall

Gary & Virginia Miller

Ed & Peggy Newcombe

Bob Petranek

Dick & Carol Patrone

Greg & Marilyn Shimek

Jerry & Linda Schlachter

Gene & Betty Smith



Couldn't have done it without you!

A stroll through the past century was staged in the Terrace Room where pictures, tools, equipment and memorabilia were on display for everyone to peruse over the 2 ½ day event. A huge thank you to each of the phone companies that graciously loaned items for our museum! And a special thanks to Mitchell Moore, Clear Creek Communications for staging all of the items and helping with this project — we so appreciate all the work you put into making this a fun walk through the history of the telecommunications industry!

continued, see JAM





JAM continued

The annual golf tournament kicked off the first morning with 54 golfers playing 18 rounds. Those that didn't play golf were able to take advantage of a quiet day on the coast, enjoying the relaxing atmosphere and beautiful scenery. Things kicked up a notch with the Welcome Reception held in the Exhibit Hall with our vendors on Wednesday evening. It was packed with people, considerably loud and got a little warm, but everyone appeared to be having a great time!

The Silent Auction was a huge hit — there were some really cool items for folks to bid on and the raffle items were a Traeger BBQ (who couldn't use one of those), a Pendleton Woolen Mills Blanket and a Landmann Outdoor Fire Pit. Hmmmm...sounds like the makings of a perfect late summer or early fall evening. All proceeds from the auction, the raffle and the golf mulligan & strings sales go to fund the scholarships that are awarded each year. We thank you for your continual and generous support!

A champagne and sparkling cider toast sparked the evening dinner buffet. QBE/Unitel Insurance sponsored the beverages and Rand Moritzky played a worthy toastmaster! We truly appreciate the support over the past many years.

A warm thanks to EZ Video (Canby Telcom) and ClearView (Clear Creek Communications) for sponsoring our festive cupcakes for the 100 Year Celebration. The cupcakes were the culinary expertise of Rockfish Bakery, a local Lincoln City entrepreneur and the "chocolate telephones" that decorated the top of each cupcake were made by Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory in Canby. Who celebrates without chocolate?!

The tables were all set with centerpieces created by the OTA Scholarship Committee and included a vintage telephone, historical OTA photos set in mason jars tied up with burlap and raffia placed on a crocheted doily, a small vase with a sprig of fresh flowers and votive candles. The committee did an outstanding job of capturing the theme and making this a memorable event.

General Sessions began on Thursday morning with Commissioners Stephen Bloom of the Oregon PUC, Dave Danner of the Washington UTC and Chris Nelson of the South Dakota PUC discussing telecommunications regulation in the states. This was followed by a federal issues update with Steve Pastorkovich (NTCA-The Rural Broadband Association) and Eric Keber (WTA-Advocates for Rural Broadband) and Sue Barrett (NECA) with a discussion on all the issues happening in our nation's capitol.

Matt Polka (American Cable Association) joined us for an informative and insightful discussion of his views on Net Neutrality rules, Title II, Wholesale Unbundling and Retransmission Issues.

Jane Melby-Wigen moderated a panel discussion on the changing landscape and structure of benefits as it relates to compensation, examining program design options that assist in strategic planning and maintaining affordable programs. Panelists included Chad Duval (Moss Adams); Alishia Young (Xenium HR) and Janet Cloyde (NTCA).

This year we had four vendor break-out sessions offering a variety of topics:

"Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery"
presented by Dennis Rose of Moss Adams, LLP

JAM continued

“Stake Your Claim in the Service Provider Wi-Fi and Grab!”
presented by Keith Jones of CCI Systems, Inc.

“The New Era of Connected Aging”
presented by ClearView Security and Home Automation,
joined by Lesley Ogden MD, COO, Samaritan Hospital and
Shaun Plummer of CORE Telecom Systems, Inc.

“FTTx Fiber Deployment Strategies, Reducing Cost and Increasing
Revenue”
presented by Doug Justice of Clearfield, Inc.

The last morning of sessions began with Randy Trost (GVNW
Consulting, Inc.) with a discussion and his ever popular “show and
tell” session of some of the latest in consumer technology in
today’s continual advancement of the ‘Internet-of-Things’.

The final closing session of the conference was presented by
James Patterson of AIG Insurance. James talked about cyber expo-
sures, one of the top risks which poses an increasing threat to all
of our companies.

We would like to express our gratitude to the following
sponsors of this year’s conference:

Thank you AKT, LLP for sponsoring our lanyards!!

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North Sky Communications

Silver Sponsor

American Power Systems
Calix
Mid America Computer Corporation
National Directory Assistance

Bronze Sponsor

Power & Tel Supply





JAM continued

And a huge thank you to each of the following companies that participated as an exhibitor at our event:

- Ad Specialties of Oregon NW
- ADTRAN
- American Power Systems
- ANPI
- Calix
- CCI Systems, Inc.
- Cisco
- Clearfield, Inc.
- ClearView Security and Home Automation
- CORE Telecom Systems
- Datalink
- GENBAND
- Huawei Technologies, USA
- Innovative Systems
- Mega Hertz
- Metaswitch Networks
- Mid America Computer Corp
- National Directory Assistance
- NeoNova
- PEAK Internet, LLC
- Power & Tel Supply
- Rep Com International
- Structured
- Telcom Insurance Group
- Walker and Associates

*Hope to see you next
year in Seattle!
May 16 - 18, 2016*

*And finally, a warm thank you to all those
who attended this year's conference—
we thoroughly enjoyed having you all join us.*



2015 Outside Plant Seminar

This year's event was held on April 9 – 10 at Chinook Winds Casino & Resort in Lincoln City, Oregon.

The day and a half event kicked off with **James Loftus**, owner of the **Gardner House Café and Bed and Breakfast** and Founder of the **Joseph P. Loftus, Jr. Museum** speaking to the group on **"How Asking the Right Question Can Help You Keep Your Job."**

Tony Wilson, National Manager for Independent Operating Companies at **Alpha Technologies** joined us with his presentation on **"Powering the ONT: A Comparison of Line Power and Local Power Architectures,"** covering Power over Copper to the MDU and Power over Copper to the NID.

Tom Pope of **ADTRAN** gave a presentation on **"Drinking Gigabit – Market and Network Approaches to Realizing the 'Gigabit Community,'"** focusing on the strategies involved from initial market approach, building a customer demand, and network implementation end-to-end.

Chris Robertson, **Three Wolves Consulting**, discussed **"Bonding, Grounding and Electrical Protection at customer Locations,"** covering the best method for obtaining an adequate ground reference for the Primary Protector, 60 Hz fault current, Lightning Current and the operation of the Primary Protector.

Danny Reed of **JDSU** spoke on **"Last Mile Optical Transport: Rapidly Increasing Bandwidth and Your Fiber."** With today's environment of optical transport including DWDM increasing at an alarming rate, Danny talked about diagnosing and resolving the issues that accompany these rapidly increasing speeds.

Brant Wolf, EVP at **OTA** gave his **"Oregon Legislative & Regulatory Updates"** presentation, discussing issues that OTA has been directly involved in during the 2015 Legislative Session and providing an update on all OPUC proceedings that have occurred over the past year that have impacted our members.

Tom McGowan, Manager Network Support for **CenturyLink** and immediate past president of the Oregon Joint Use Association (OJUA) brought his years of experience to stimulate a lively dialogue amongst attendees on **"Joint Pole Usage & Pole Violations."**

Gary Held, Support Center Manager at **PEAK Internet** offered his presentation on **"Basic End-User Networking,"** where he discussed the basics of home networking, WiFi speed and glitches, and what options you have to give your customer a positive experience to remember.

Carey Cahill (far left), Business Development Manager, OTA Outside Plant committee Chair Kerry Lawson (Plant Supervisor at Clear Creek Communications) in green shirt and Richard Ryan (far right), President/CEO of Hunter Communications congratulate Jim Lamp as he receives the 2015 Outside Plant Employee of the Year Award.



Kelly Jeffery of **Allied Telesis** talked about **"GPON vs. Lambda PON for FTTx: What is Lambda PON and what is the difference?"** In this session, Kelly discussed how this technology allows you to passively split colors of light without degrading bandwidth, how it works and how it affects your FTTx network.

The 2015 Outside Plant Employees of the Year Award was presented to **Jim Lamp** of **Hunter Communications**. Jim is the Chief Construction Manager for Hunter Communications, a Southern Oregon based Telecommunications Company, CLEC and ISP. Over the past 13+ years with Hunter, Jim has played a crucial role developing the construction side of the organization, with the goal of creating a true all-fiber communications network throughout the state.

Jim has more than 21 years combined experience in fiber optic construction and construction management. He possesses and unrivaled work ethic. He is a certified traffic controller specialist, a certified first aid first responder, CPR provider and wild land forest firefighter. He still works as a lineman and equipment operator for underground construction. Jim has written company policies on safety, quality control and standards, and created training programs for nearly all aspects of fiber optic constructions and equipment operation. He is looked to as an expert and resource by peers throughout the area, and always provides assistance freely when there's a need. Jim is actively involved in the OJUA.

Please join the OTA in congratulating Jim on his commendable work ethic and his contribution to the telecommunications industry, Hunter Communications and to his community.

OTA EVENT CALENDAR

September 2015

CO-IT Seminar

September 17-18

Three Rivers Casino Hotel - Florence, OR

October 2015

(No events currently scheduled)

November 2015

Safety Seminar

November 18

Comfort Suites Airport - Salem, OR

December 2015

(No events currently scheduled)


Notification of OTA President of Any Antitrust Concerns

OTA members, representatives and attendees should promptly bring any antitrust concerns to the attention of OTA President. Because antitrust law and policy is legally complex (especially in view of the heavily regulated nature of the telecommunications industry), all OTA members, representatives and attendees are expected and instructed to seek promptly the advice of counsel for OTA in the event that there is any question as to whether any contemplated action, activity, proposal, or other course of action may be in conflict with applicable law.



OTA members, representatives and attendees should terminate any discussion, seek legal counsel's advice, or, if necessary, leave any meeting or discussion where improper subjects are being discussed and explain the reasons for departure to those still in attendance.

For a copy of OTA's Antitrust Policy in its entirety, please contact the OTA office.

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OTA COMMITTEE



MEETINGS CALENDAR

Security and Home Automation Service

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Protect your Future.

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SEPTEMBER 2015

- 9th *Outside Plant Committee Meeting*
Wednesday - 10:00 a.m. at the OTA Office; Conference Rm B
- Salem, OR
- 16th *Consumer Services / Marketing Committee Meeting*
Wednesday - 10:00 a.m. at DataVision Cooperative
- Gervais, OR
- 16th *CO-IT Pre-Seminar Committee Meeting*
Wednesday - 6:00 p.m. at Three Rivers Casino Hotel
- Florence, OR
- 17th *Accounting Committee Meeting*
Thursday - 10:00 a.m. at Consolidated Business Services
- Mt. Angel, OR

OCTOBER 2015

- 2nd *OTA Board of Directors & Small Company Committee Meeting*
Friday - 10:00 a.m. at Eagle Telephone Systems
- Richland, OR

NOVEMBER 2015

(No meetings scheduled at this time)

DECEMBER 2015

- 10th *OTA Scholarship Foundation Board of Directors Meeting*
Thursday - 2:00 p.m. at OTA Office, Conference Room A
- Salem, OR
- 16th *Consumer Services & Marketing Committee Meeting*
Wednesday - 10:00 a.m. at Beaver Creek Telephone
- Oregon City, OR

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New Members

The OTA would like to welcome the following companies who have recently joined the association.

For contact info and links to their websites, please visit the OTA website.

New Associate Member:
Datalink



Coming in September.....

2015 CO-IT Seminar

September 17 – 18

Three Rivers Casino & Hotel – Florence, Oregon

We are excited to have Kenneth Blackard, Chief Telecommunications Network Intercept Advisor of the FBI join us for a presentation on CALEA. His overview will focus on components of interception and electronic surveillance basics.

Moss Adams will provide an industry update on A-CAM and discuss other relevant regulatory topics. ADTRAN will join us to talk about "Equipping the Gigabit Toolkit." Canby Telcom is providing an introduction to "Wire Shark." They will discuss when to use it, set-up and navigation and how to pull useful data from the captured packets.

Beaver Creek Telephone will present a session on Customer WiFi Network Designs. Brant Wolf, OTA and Jeff Smith, GVNW Consulting will tag team a session on "Regulatory and Legislative Issues Report."

Comtrend will join us to discuss TR-069 software and how it can reduce truck rolls, boost revenue and make customer CPE management easier. And Ruckus wireless will discuss proper engineering in multiple environments and give a thorough overview of the new 802.11ac WiFi standard.

Further details of the program and on-line registration can be found on the OTA website at www.ota-telecom.org.

Please join us for this informative and educational event.

Need to contact the Oregon Telecommunications Association?

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