

3rd Quarter 2016 Edition

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Pioneer Telephone Cooperative

Barb Young

CenturyLink

2016 CO-IT Seminar Recap

The 2016 Central Office & Information Technologies Seminar took place on September 8 and 9 in Newport at the Best Western Agate Beach Inn.

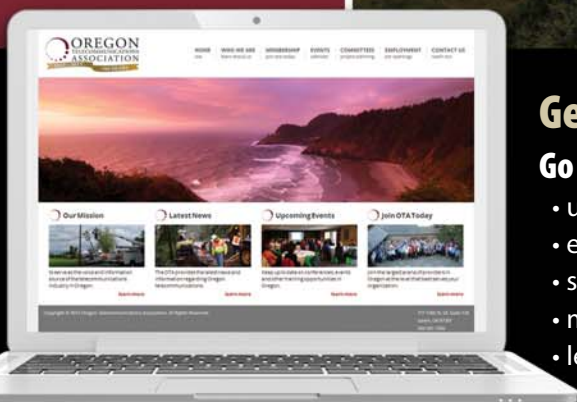
This year's event was sponsored in part by



Ken Snow

The weather was incredible! Attendees enjoyed a fully packed one and a half day program with sessions and vendor exhibits. Kicking off the program was **Bob Gnapp**, Director Member Training and Network Analysis, **NECA** with a presentation on "IP Network Transition Considerations" followed by **Ken Snow**, Senior Consultant, **GVNW Consulting, Inc.** providing a historical perspective on LNP.

Continued, See CO-IT



Get informed 24/7/365

Go to www.ota-telecom.org

- 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

CO-IT Continued...



Mark Benson, NW Sales Manager, **American Power Systems** joined us to talk about AC vs. DC Power. **Chris Fikert**, Regional Technical Manager, **American Power Systems**

provided “WiFi: Deployment Considerations and Best Practices.”

FBI Special Agent Christopher Bizanno and Alfred Nurnberger, VP of the Oregon Chapter of **InfraGard** gave a presentation on “Why We as Citizens Should be Active in the Protection of our National Critical Infrastructure.”



Yumei Wang, PE, Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) provided a session on “Cascadia Earthquakes: The Road to Resilience.” **Brant Wolf, EVP, Oregon Telecommunications Association** joined us with “Oregon Legislative and Regulatory Updates.”

Kerry Benthin, Mt. Angel Telephone moderated a panel of representatives from our member companies for a roundtable discussion on Hosted PBX and VoIP. Panel members included **Charlie Boeing** from **Cal-Ore Communications**, **Jim Hemshorn** from **SCTC** and **Tony Heckard** from **Canby Telcom**.



David Bodine, Mapcom



Jon Meyer, KGP Logistics



Tim Hall, VeEx and Doug Justice, Clearfield

“Vendor Quick Topics” were scattered throughout the first day with spotlights by Power & Tel, Western Systems and Services (VeEx), Mapcom Systems and CORE Telecom Systems. For those of you who don’t know, Vendor Quick Topics are a 5-minute segment slotted in between our regular sessions where a vendor has the opportunity to get in front of the full attendance and talk about a specific product or service that their company offers. The idea behind these segments was to offer a bit more exposure to our supportive vendors and entice attendees to stop by and visit the booths.

Continued, See CO-IT

CO-IT Continued...



Frank Mulhearn, RepCom

Brad Peterson, Calix

Brett Vanderipe, datalink

Trevor Reynolds, Walker and Associates

Special thanks to each of the following exhibiting companies that attended, helping to make this event a great success!!



OTA would also like to thank the CO-IT Committee members for their continual support of the OTA and for their diligent work putting together programs each year focusing on the needs of our members in the area of central office maintenance, design and information technologies. This year's committee has been steered by Committee Chair, **Kelli McAbee (Cascade Utilities, Inc./Reliance Connects)** and Committee Vice Chair, **Kerry Benthin (Mt. Angel Telephone/Canby Telcom)**.



2017 Membership Directory Update Process

It is once again time to check your listing in the OTA Membership Directory and submit any changes you wish to be included in the 2017 publication.

We will again be offering a printed hard copy of the directory as well as an interactive electronic version on the OTA website.

The OTA will continue to work closely with Nick Schaffner of Fluid Communications to implement the updates. You will soon be receiving a letter of instructions.

Please respond quickly to ensure that your listing contains the most current information for your company.

As always, should you have any questions once you have received your letter, please contact Susan at the OTA office at 503-581-7430 or Nick Schaffner at Fluid Communications at 971-241-2400.

Thank you!

OTA COMMITTEE MEETINGS CALENDAR

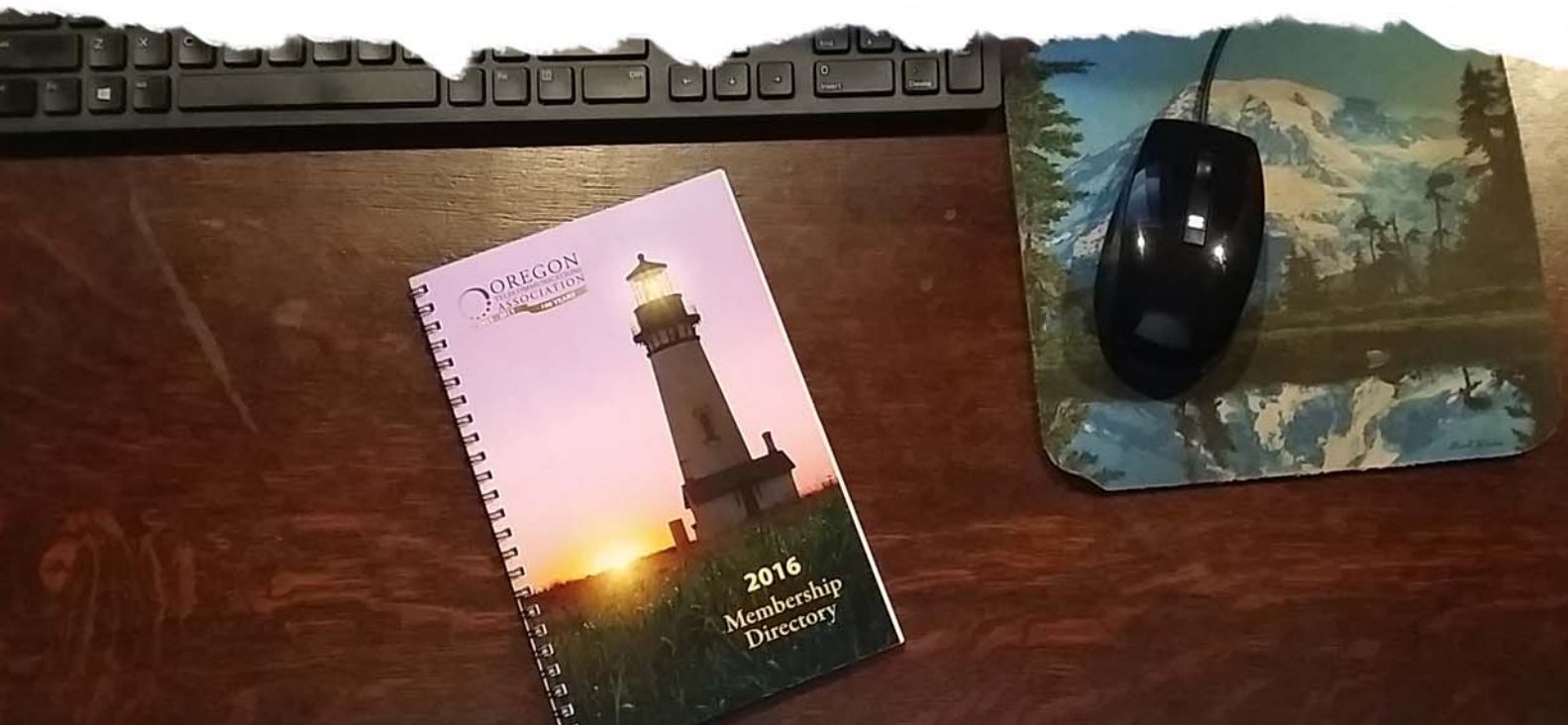


NOVEMBER 2016

- 9 *OTA Small Company & Board of Directors Meeting*
Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. - Scio Mutual Telephone Association , Scio
- 9 *OTA OSP Committee Meeting*
Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. - SCTC, Stayton
- 29 *OTA-WITA Joint Annual Meeting Committee Meeting*
Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. - Clear Creek Communications, Oregon City

DECEMBER 2016

- 13 *OTA Consumer Services & Marketing Committee Meeting*
Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. - DataVision Cooperative, Gervais
- 14 *OTA CO-IT Committee Meeting*
Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. - OTA, Conference Rm A, Salem





Safety Seminar

November 16, 2016

Best Western Boulder Falls Inn
505 Mullins Drive - Lebanon, Oregon



The OTA Safety Committee is working diligently to put together an informative one-day program to include the following topics:

Workplace Safety & Situation Awareness ♦ Cyber Security ♦ Emergency & Disaster Recovery Planning ♦ Federal Mandates for Employee Training on Active Shooters in the Workplace ♦ Stepping up our Safety Game with the latest rule changes and upcoming items required by OSHA

Please plan to join us for a day of educational training and networking!

On-line registration is available on the OTA website at www.ota-telecom.org or call Susan at 503-581-7430

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:
Merry Shepard, Canby Telcom,
503-266-8249, mshepard@canbytel.com

**CANBY TELEPHONE ASSOCIATION (d.b.a. Canby Telcom) WILL CONSOLIDATE
MT. ANGEL TELEPHONE COMPANY INTO THE COOPERATIVE AND BEGIN OPERATING
UNDER A NEW ASSUMED BUSINESS NAME AND BRAND: DIRECTLINK**

October 14, 2016 - Canby, OR: On November 1st, Canby Telephone Association (d.b.a. Canby Telcom) and Mt. Angel Telephone Company will begin to operate as a single telecommunications cooperative under a new name, **DirectLink!**

Mt. Angel Telephone Company to change to a telephone cooperative on January 1, 2017

Canby Telephone Association acquired Mt. Angel Telephone Company nine years ago. Since then, Mt. Angel Telephone Company has functioned as an independent operating company, while Canby Telephone Association operated as a telecommunications cooperative under the assumed business name, Canby Telcom. The Canby Telephone Association Board of Directors is pleased to demonstrate their commitment to the Mt. Angel and Canby communities with the unification of Mt. Angel Telephone Company and Canby Telephone Association as a cooperative telecommunications association effective January 1, 2017.

A cooperative business is one that is founded on members' values and needs including cooperative principles, community commitment and interaction, cooperative buying power and economic advantage. Essentially, it's people helping people. Every day, the employees of Canby Telephone Association seek to demonstrate that a cooperative enterprise helps to build a better world. They not only deliver information, communication and entertainment, but also strive to provide exceptional services at competitive rates and to improve the quality of life in the communities served through donations to local nonprofits, educational opportunities and employee volunteerism.

When both companies were formed more than a century ago, their goal was to provide telephone "connections" for their patrons and community. The telephone industry has undergone considerable changes over the last century, most recently a significant shift towards a focus on Internet and video. Both Canby and Mt. Angel locations followed suit and are no longer "just a telephone company." However, their core values remain to build and serve these new and upcoming connections for their members.

Both Companies change to DirectLink on November 1, 2016

The business names Canby Telcom and Mt. Angel Telephone Company no longer reflect this evolution from providing simple telecommunications to the technology of today and tomorrow. In anticipation of the consolidation between Canby Telcom and Mt. Angel Telephone Company in January they are renewing their combined mission to deliver a direct link through Internet, Video, Voice and other communications services that provide unlimited potential for the communities

served. They are assuming a new business name and brand identity that better reflects those combined services and values: **DirectLink**.



Although the name and brand identity are changing, the cooperative core remains as Canby Telephone Association. The staff, office locations, and commitment to community, service and innovation remain steadfast. The DirectLink brand promise to both new and existing membership is "We're here for you."

"DirectLink is committed to be here for the community, to be here for its members, to be here for its employees, and to be here for today's technology and services," stated Paul Hauer, President. " We're excited to continue to partner with our members as a cooperative that puts people first and look forward to continuing to serve our membership as DirectLink."

DirectLink members will receive a detailed letter describing the change and the reasoning behind it. The company has indicated that additional information will be coming for members and the communities served in the weeks ahead. Preliminary information on the brand change before the November 1 launch can be found at www.directlink.coop.

ABOUT DIRECTLINK

DirectLink connects over 8,000 members to the world they work, play and live in through Internet, video and voice services. The service area includes over 100 square miles in the Canby and Mt. Angel communities in the northern Willamette Valley of Oregon. The company has been nationally recognized many times over as an industry leader and is well-known for being friendly, local and reliable. DirectLink is a nonprofit, telephone cooperative business model that began in 1904 and employs over 70 people. Visit www.directlink.coop for more information.

OTA EVENT CALENDAR

Safety Seminar November 16

Best Western Boulder Falls Inn – Lebanon, OR

Register on-line at www.ota-telecom.org

2017

ITA Showcase March 8 – 9

Holiday Inn Portland Airport Hotel – Portland, OR

For information visit www.itashowcase.org or contact Deb Low at 360-352-8334 or itashow@aol.com

Outside Plant Seminar April 27 – 28

Best Western Agate Beach Inn– Newport, OR

OTA-WITA Joint Annual Meeting June 5 – 7

Skamania Lodge – Stevenson, WA

2018

OTA-WITA Joint Annual Meeting May 29 – 31

Sunriver Resort – Sunriver, OR

2019

OTA-WITA Joint Annual Meeting June 5 – 7

Salishan Spa & Golf Resort – Gleneden Beach, OR

2020

OTA-WITA Joint Annual Meeting June 1 – 3

Skamania Lodge – Stevenson, WA

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.

OTA Legal Counsel

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360.956.7001
Fax: 360.587.3852

Richard A. Finnigan

rickfinn@localaccess.com



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, just click on the web address or please visit the OTA website.

New Associate Member:

No new members added this quarter



Need to contact the Oregon Telecommunications Association?

Mailing Address:

777 13th St. SE, Suite 120
Salem, Oregon 97301-4038
Telephone: 503.581.7430
Fax: 503.581.7457

Brant D. Wolf, CAE

Executive Vice President
email: bwolf@ota-telecom.org

Susan E. Allen

Office Manager/
Members Services Coordinator
email: sallen@ota-telecom.org