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## Legislative Update

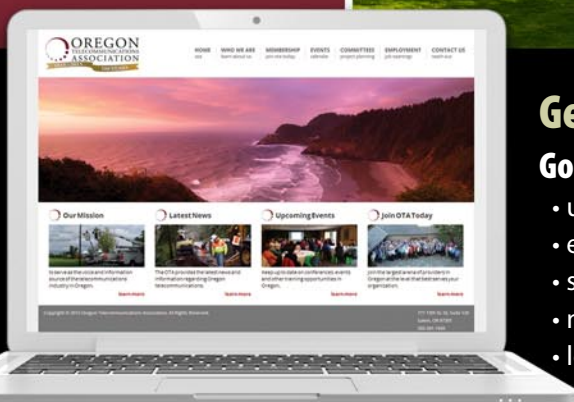
*Keeping you informed on what's happening in the Capitol.*

The first quarter of the year has certainly been interesting. There was a short(ened) Legislative Session and a couple of important procedures ongoing at the OPUC. While issues such as the Oregon Universal Service Fund (OUSF) and Carrier of Last Resort (COLR) obligations have suddenly become even more visible to policy-makers, work on them has had to slow down a bit like everything else in society.

To start with, the 2020 Session ended in the exact same way as the 2019 session. For our purposes, OTA worked on HB 4079, the 2020 version of the OUSF reform effort at mandating wireless and VoIP providers begin contributing to the OUSF. Getting any bill passed in a short session can be difficult simply because of the restricted timeline. HB 4079 faced those structural obstacles as well as the same resistance from wireless providers and the overwhelming majority of the Republicans in the House and Senate.

Despite that, HB 4079 had passed out of Ways and Means and was awaiting floor votes in the House and Senate. We all know what happened next. It is not worth repeating all the drama from last year in this little article. What is worth mentioning here are two names: Senator Bill Hansell (R) from Athena and Representative Greg Smith (R) from Heppner. These two Republicans are the lone supporters from their caucuses who supported OTA's effort to reform the OUSF. We are truly grateful for that support.

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**Get informed 24/7/365**

**Go to [www.ota-telecom.org](http://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**

# 2020



## ITA SHOWCASE NORTHWEST

Though attendance was slightly affected by the early throes of COVID-19, the event took place as scheduled at the Holiday Inn – Portland Airport Hotel on March 4-5. Lot's of "fist" and "elbow" bumps took the place of handshakes and the beginning of "social distancing" was observed.

Nevertheless, a good time was had by all and it was a great event! 80 vendors participated showing their products and services on the showroom floor and several short seminars took place throughout the day and half event.

### Seminars included:

- "Show Me the Money!" – DirectLink
- "Basics of Bonding and Grounding." – Graybar / nVent
- "The Revenue Edge." – Calix
- "Fight Churn and Grow Revenue: How Regional Telcos can Leverage Email Loyalty for Profits." – Atila
- "Amplifying the Subscriber Experience to Monetize Gigabit Broadband." – ADTRAN
- "Securing the Digital Home Front." – ZyXEL
- "Securing IoT/OT and Other Devices in Reliable, SD-WAN-Enabled Network Infrastructure." – Fortinet
- "Underground Fiber Construction, Conception, Executive & Completion." – Windwave Communications
- "Transformational Service Delivery Through Cloud Networking." – Arista Networks
- "IoT Network Architecture and Design." – GCSIT
- "How to Best Leverage Big Data, Analytics and Assurance for Better User Experience in Your Network." – Ciena
- "Pros and Cons of Using Internal Resources vs Subcontractors to Update Network Information on Newly Completed Construction Projects and Ongoing Maintenance." – Newnet Services

**Huge thanks** to Deb Low and the ITA Showcase Board of Directors for another amazing year! We appreciate all of your efforts in planning this tradeshow, making it all happen and your continual support of the Oregon Telecommunications Association!

Mark Johnson, Chairman  
North Sky Communications

Deb Low, Show Coordinator  
Graphic Design, Unlimited

Jim Brett, Director  
Graybar

Paul Lineback  
Corning

Paul Nolin, Vice Chairman  
Calix

Sev Giles, Director  
Primex

John Seelke, Director  
Nelson Truck Equipment

Glen Scymanski  
Adtran



## Congratulations...

to Jim Brett on his recent retirement — we wish you the very best in your quest for days of relaxation and no time schedule! Thank you for your continual support of the OTA over the past many years — we truly appreciate it. We will miss you!



## Legislative, Continued

What is also worth mentioning, again, is the continued support OTA gets from urban, Democratic elected officials. I know there are folks who will read this newsletter who will not appreciate that acknowledgement but those are the facts. Democratic Leadership in the House and Senate as well as the Governor's office have been solidly in support of our members with COLR obligations who rely upon the OUSF to help meet that obligation. We can't forget that simple fact.

Beyond that, there is a proceeding related to COLR ongoing at the OPUC. A series of workshops were scheduled to address whether or not COLR obligations are good public policy and, if it is, does COLR make sense in every area of the state? This proceeding is a direct result of the effort that has gone into passing an OUSF reform bill. As more and more policy makers become better informed about broadband in rural Oregon, issues like COLR get more daylight.

Most work on the COLR proceeding has slowed down to a large degree. With no ability to hold public meetings in person, OPUC is

attempting to take care of business via remote meetings. This is imperfect when part of the agency name includes the word "Public". Commissioners and Staff take the public aspect of their work seriously so some of the COLR workshops have been cancelled until public gatherings can take place. There is a remote workshop scheduled for May right now and OTA will of course participate fully.

Finally, this is an election year. Getting to know candidates and meeting with folks running for re-election is a large part of OTA's mission and purpose. Meeting these people face to face is invaluable and obviously, that can't happen right now. The only consolation in this area is that everyone is in the same boat. Eventually, restrictions on public gatherings and stay at home orders will be lessened. Whenever it is appropriate and safe, we will once again work on advancing our goals with elected officials and candidates.

***As always, I appreciate all the support and please be safe and stay healthy.***

SAVE THE DATE

20/20 VISION • WHAT'S YOUR FOCUS?

# GWNW Consulting's 2020 Executive Seminar

AUG 20-21 / TIGARD, OR • AUG 26-27 / SAN ANTONIO, TX





Clear Creek  
Communications



RENEWABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
FUND

## Clear Creek Communications to receive Portland General Electric Renewable Development Fund Award

*Clear Creek's Current Solar Power Project to be Completed by Mid-Spring*

REDLAND, Ore. – February 26, 2020 -- As part of the Portland General Electric (PGE) renewable energy program, Clear Creek Communications has been named as one of the recipients of the 2018 Renewable Development Fund Project Award. This grant was made possible by PGE Renewable Development fund and from the Energy Trust of Oregon. Clear Creek was also awarded a grant from the Oregon Public Utility Commission (OPUC) to aid in this project.

These organizations have come together to fund an exciting solar project at the Clear Creek main office in Redland, Oregon. This combined award will fund about 85% of the cost to install two solar arrays on the company property that will generate nearly 110 kilowatts of solar energy that will offset 25% of Clear Creeks overall power requirement.

The project kicked off in late January with construction lasting through the end of February and the system is estimated to be fully functional by mid-spring of 2020. The end result has the benefit of not only offsetting power expenses for Clear Creek, but it also has enormous potential for growth within the community, putting Redland on the map for forward energy thinking.

“We are thrilled to be a part of this power source evolution toward greener and renewable sources,” remarked Clear Creek Communications CEO, Jay Henke. “This is a long-term plan and the solar project is just the start to make that bigger plan a reality. Stay tuned for more exciting information on this project and presentations of its benefits to not only Clear Creek but the future potential for the Redland Community.”

Clear Creek keeps a keen eye on energy use from their products and services too. The company has been systematically migrating away from power hungry set top television boxes and WiFi routers to more eco-friendly, further reaching options that benefit both our members and the environment.

### **Funding Source**

Since 1999, PGE customers have supported clean energy by choosing one of PGE's Green Future<sup>SM</sup> options. The money that Clear Creek received from the fund would not be possible without the support of more than 200,000 PGE customers who purchase Green Future<sup>SM</sup> renewable energy. Their contributions have helped fund more than 8 Megawatts of new renewable energy generation currently installed in Oregon, with another 3 Megawatts under construction.

# OTA EVENT CALENDAR

**2020**

## **NECU Training Class (Low Voltage License Update)**

*One-day training class (8 hours) for those needing to renew low voltage license. This course is currently scheduled for two separate dates and locations. Because of the current COVID-19 pandemic, classes may be switched to online training or may need to be rescheduled for late summer. Decision will be made by April 20; notification will be sent via email to those registered.*

**May 5**

Pioneer Connect – Philomath, OR  
or

**May 14**

Stayton Cooperative Telephone – Stayton, OR

## **Central Office & Information Technologies Seminar September 17 - 18**

Best Western Agate Beach Inn - Newport, OR

## **Consumer Services & Marketing Seminar October 22**

Best Western Premier Boulder Falls Inn - Lebanon, OR

*On Tuesday evening, October 21st there will be a "Meet & Greet" Welcome Reception for all attendees held at the hotel. Look for the conference brochure in mid-August for details!*

## **Safety Seminar November 18**

Best Western Premier Boulder Falls Inn - Lebanon, OR

*On Wednesday evening, November 17th there will be a "Meet & Greet" Welcome Reception for all attendees held at the hotel. Look for the conference brochure in mid-September for details!*

## **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**

### **Stayton Law**

582 E. Washington Street  
Stayton, OR 97383  
503.769.7741  
Fax: 503.769.2461

### **Jennifer Tiger**

[jennifer@staytonlaw.com](mailto:jennifer@staytonlaw.com)

### **Law Offices**

**of Richard A. Finnigan**  
2112 Black Lake Blvd SW  
Olympia, WA 98512  
360.956.7001  
Fax: 360.587.3852

**Richard A. Finnigan**  
[rickfinn@localaccess.com](mailto:rickfinn@localaccess.com)

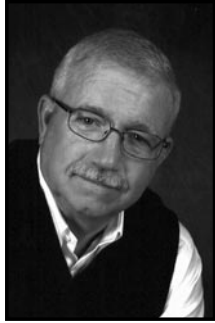


*In Loving Memory*

## **Ronald Wayne Jagodnik Sr.**

November 13, 1944 to March 31, 2020

Ronald Wayne Jagodnik Sr. passed away on Tuesday, March 31, 2020 in his home surrounded by his loving family and friends. He is survived by his wife, Sally, his three children, Ronald Jr., Stefani Gosslee and Tifani Erpelding, his seven grandchildren, Breanna Sinclair, Reni and Melbourne Jagodnik, McCoy and Clair Gosslee, Oliver and Aiden Erpelding and a great grandchild, Felix Sinclair.



Ron was born on November 13, 1944 to Joseph and Marge Jagodnik in Trinidad, Colorado. Eventually the family moved to Anaheim, California and then to Colton, Oregon in 1958 where he graduated from Colton High School, class of 1962. He spent a year at Oregon State University before finding his real calling, the United States Marine Corp. In July 1963, Ron joined the Marines, earned accommodations right out of Boot Camp, toured Vietnam from 1967-68 stationed in Da Nang and was stationed in Iwakuni, Japan from 1970-72. When he finished his tour in Iwakuni, Ron switched his status to active reserve and served under many commands retiring with the rank of First Sergeant in 1991 after 29 years of service. Once off active duty, Ron moved his family into the home he grew up in in Colton and took a job with Molalla Telephone Company. During the thirty years he worked for Molalla Telephone, he also umpired thousands of baseball and softball (slow and fast pitch, men's and women's) games all over Oregon. After retiring from both the Marine Corps and Molalla Telephone, Ron started working with the VFW. He served as Molalla's VFW Post Commander from 2014-2016. He was active in VFW up until he passed.

A Celebration of Life will be held on a later date due to present circumstances. The family has asked that in lieu of flowers, gifts or cards that donations be made to the Molalla Fire Dept.

# OTA COMMITTEE

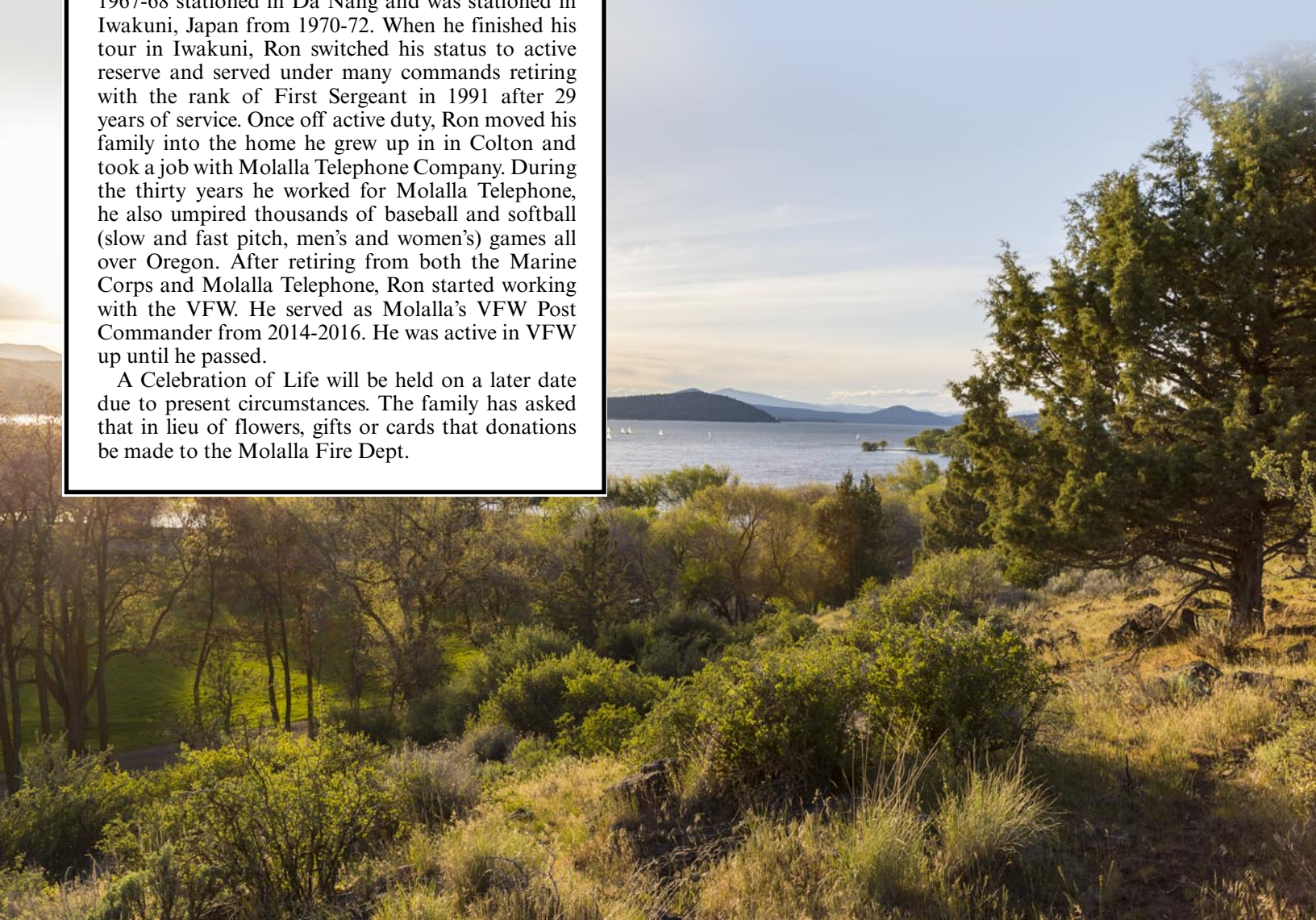


# MEETINGS CALENDAR

## APRIL 2020

- 21 **Safety Committee Meeting**  
Tuesday – 10:00 a.m., Conference Call
- 22 **CO-IT Committee Meeting**  
Thursday – 10:00 a.m., Conference Call
- 28 **Consumer Services & Marketing Committee Meeting**  
Tuesday – 10:00 a.m., Conference Call

*With the uncertainty of being able to plan face-to-face meetings amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, please check our website for regular updates or call the OTA office at 503-581-7430.*





# 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.*

## **Associate Members:**

### **Arista Networks**

[www.arista.com](http://www.arista.com)

### **BroadBand International, Inc.**

[www.broadbandinternational.com](http://www.broadbandinternational.com)

### **Buckingham Manufacturing**

[www.buckinghammfg.com](http://www.buckinghammfg.com)

### **Commscope**

[www.comscope.com](http://www.comscope.com)

### **GCSIT**

[www.gcsit.com](http://www.gcsit.com)

### **Inno Instrument America**

[www.innoinstrument.com](http://www.innoinstrument.com)

### **Multilink**

[www.gomultilink.com](http://www.gomultilink.com)

### **Padtec**

[www.padtec.com](http://www.padtec.com)

### **Telco Systems**

[www.telco.com](http://www.telco.com)

### **United Poly Systems**

[www.unitedpolysystems.com](http://www.unitedpolysystems.com)



## **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](mailto:bwolf@ota-telecom.org)

### **Susan E. Allen**

Office Manager/  
Members Services Coordinator  
email: [sallen@ota-telecom.org](mailto:sallen@ota-telecom.org)