



## Board of Directors

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Gervais Telephone

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Mitchell Moore  
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Jerry Schlachter  
Pioneer Telephone Cooperative

Ross Skinner  
CenturyLink

Len Tobias  
Ultralife Energy Services

Renee Willer  
Frontier Communications

# CONNECTIONS

## NEWSLETTER

1st Quarter Edition  
2011

## Legislative Update

The 2011 regular session of the Oregon Legislature convened in January but then quickly left town and did not begin business until February. In addition to the usual issues the OTA deals with in any given legislative session, we also had three bills of our own that we had introduced and worked to pass. We'll look at those first and then others we have been following.

HB 2192 – this bill fixes language from the 2009 legislative session that allowed the Oregon Public Utility Commission to use state USF dollars for the matching money needed for the state broadband mapping project. The language that was adopted was far too broad and needed to be more restrictive and more in line with what the OPUC had asked for. The bill passed from the House and now is in the Senate awaiting action.

HB 2463 – the intent of this bill is to introduce criminal and civil liability protection for your employees if they are involved in helping your customers with their personal computers. There is a requirement that computer technicians must report anything they suspect might be child pornography. Even if your employees aren't classified by you as computer technicians that is in effect what they are

continued, see **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**



**OREGON TELECOMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION**  
777 13th St. SE, Suite 120 • Salem, Oregon 97301-4038

**Oregon Telecommunications Association & Washington Independent Telecommunications Association**  
Joint Annual Meeting  
June 6th - 8th  
Salishan Spa & Golf Resort  
Gleneden Beach, Oregon

**Salishan SPA & GOLF RESORT**  
7760 N. Hwy 101 • Gleneden Beach, OR 97388

Accommodations	Nightly Rate*
Traditional Guestroom	\$119.00
Deluxe Guestroom	\$139.00
Premier Guestroom	\$159.00

\*Room rates based on single or double occupancy. Suites are available, call for rates.

**Call the Resort today at 1.800.452.2300**  
Please be sure to ask for the "OTA/WITA Annual Meeting" group rates.  
Reservation deadline: May 5th, 2011

## Get informed 24 hrs a day!

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

if they do this kind of work. Federal law provides protections for good faith reporting of this nature but there is no similar provision in state law. This bill clarifies the reporting requirement and gives us the same kinds of protections that exist in the federal requirement. This bill has passed from the House and is awaiting action in the Senate.

HB 2200 – this little bill was one the OTA had worked on for quite a while. If passed, it would fundamentally change the Oregon USF in several ways. It would mandate wireless carriers contribute; allow OPUC to mirror the federal USF funding mechanism; re-purpose the USF to a broadband support fund and address access charge issues. To make a short story even shorter this bill is dead as a door nail. It never had a chance thanks to our friends in the wireless business who got it referred to a Committee where it faced stiff resistance to even having a hearing. Disappointing for sure but we will be back with these issues.

Here is a brief summary of other bills that the OTA is involved in to one degree or another.

HB 2327 – would allow counties to charge a permit fee for work along county roads. OTA met with legislators and testified in opposition.

HB 2075 – would mandate that pre-paid wireless and VoIP providers pay the 9-1-1 monthly fee. OTA supports this bill and has worked with the sponsors to get it passed.

SB 111 – would re-direct some of the RSPF fee towards establishing a newspaper reading service for sight impaired and blind individuals. OTA feels that the RSPF funds should be used for the purpose for which it is collected and therefore opposed this effort at it's hearing.

SB 525 – If passed would allow distribution of telephone directories to only those who contact the company and ask for one. This is a much bigger bill to some of our members than others but we opposed it this year as in years past. It should not get any traction this session.

This is only seven of the more than forty bills introduced this session that the OTA is actively monitoring. As is usually the case there are many bills introduced we oppose and some we monitor just in case we need to get involved. The OT Legislative Committee does a great job of helping determine what our position should be on these bills.

Finally, you all know by now that Steve Crosby passed away recently. What you might not know is that Steve served for many years on the Legislative Committee and was the Committee Chairman this year and last year. The OTA owes much gratitude to Steve for his service and we will miss him greatly at our Committee meetings.

# OTA COMMITTEE



## MEETINGS CALENDAR

*Please keep in mind the possibility that these dates could change, so be sure to watch your email for meeting confirmation and details that are sent to all committee members the week prior to the scheduled meeting date.*

### APRIL 2011

#### **19th Legislative Committee Meeting**

Tuesday - 9:00 a.m. at the OTA Office; Conf. Rm A

### MAY 2011

#### **16th Scholarship Foundation Board Meeting**

Friday - 10:00 a.m. at the OTA Office; Conf. Rm A

#### **18th Combined OTA Board of Directors and Small Company Committee Meeting**

Wednesday - 9:30 a.m. at Gervais Telephone

#### **27th Consumer Services / Marketing Committee Meeting**

Monday - 2:00 p.m. at the OTA Office; Conf. Rm A

### JUNE 2011

#### **16th Legislative Committee Meeting**

Thursday - 10:00 a.m. at the OTA Office; Conf. Rm A

# 2011 OTA EVENT CALENDAR

## 2011

### Outside Plant Seminar • April 21-22

Best Western Agate Beach Inn - Newport, OR.

### OTA-WITA 2011 Joint Annual Meeting • June 6-8

Salishan Spa & Golf Resort - Gleneden Beach, OR.

### Central Office/Information Technologies Seminar September 29-30

Best Western Agate Beach Inn - Newport, OR.

### Consumer Services/Marketing Seminar • October 20-21

Best Western Agate Beach Inn - Newport, OR.

### Accounting Seminar • October 27-28

Best Western Agate Beach Inn - Newport, OR.

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## 2011 Membership Directory Update

The name of Len Tobias, Ultralife Energy Services was inadvertently left off of the OTA Board of Director's listing in the 2011 Membership Directory. We sincerely regret this oversight. Len serves on the OTA Board as the Associate Member Delegate. Len can be reached at (509) 240-4736 or len.tobias@ultralifecorp.com. Sorry Len!!!

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## Welcome Cal-Ore Communications!

OTA is pleased to announce that Cal-Ore Communications, Inc. has recently changed the status of their membership from an Associate Member to a Telecom Provider Member. Cal-Ore Communications is a sister company to Cal-Ore Telephone Company which has been an Associate Member of the OTA for many years as a rural local exchange carrier providing service in NE Siskiyou County, California since 1950.



Cal-Ore Communications provides competitive communication services in the Klamath Falls, Oregon area and along the I-5 corridor in northern Siskiyou County, California. Telecommunication and data service is provided utilizing Fiber to the Premise, Facility Based UNE-L, and Fixed Wireless. Cal-Ore Communications currently has approximately 900 access lines in Oregon and 850 customers in California and continues to look for growth opportunities in both service areas.

For contact information, please refer to OTA's web site for the Cal-Ore listing in the on-line Membership Directory.

## 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: 360.753.6862

Richard A. Finnigan

rickfinn@localaccess.com





## Sign up now to attend the 2011 Outside Plant Seminar April 21-22

*This year the Outside Plant Seminar is once again taking place on the Oregon Coast in Newport at the Best Western Agate Beach Inn.*

Please consider joining us for sessions that address timely issues that are relevant to outside plant operations:

### **"Effective Damage Investigations"**

with Anita Floyd, Construction Supervisor with Qwest

### **"Fiber Optic Cable: History, Production and Applications"**

with Joseph Rose, NW Region Sales Manager  
with Corning Cable Systems

### **"T-1 Testing and Troubleshooting"**

with Jeff Harmon, IP Account Manager with JDSU

### **"Line Powering Telecom Facilities in the Outside Plant Network"**

with Robert Macaluso, President & CEO of Generonix, Inc.

### **"The Future of Telecom"**

with Terry Martin of Martin and Baugh Consulting Group

### **"Cascadia Earthquakes: Deaths, Dollars and Downtime"**

with Yumei Wang, Geotechnical Engineer & Geohazards Team Leader with the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

### **"Legislative and Regulatory Overview"**

with Brant Wolf, EVP with Oregon Telecommunications Association

Registration forms are available on the OTA website [www.ota-telecom.org](http://www.ota-telecom.org) or by calling the OTA Office at 503.581.7430. For hotel reservations, call 1.800.547.3310. Please indicate that you are with the Oregon Telecommunications Association Outside Plant Seminar group.

## 2011 OTA-WITA Joint Annual Meeting

*is fast approaching!*

*Please join us for this informative event.*

Congressman Greg Walden has been invited to address our group and discuss some of the important telecommunications issues that Congress is considering. Congressman Walden is the chairman of the Energy and Communications Committee Subcommittee on Communications and Technology.

Our line-up of speakers and topics should prove to be both interesting and educational.

Don't miss out!

If you have not yet received the conference brochure and registration materials via email or snail mail, they are also available on the OTA and WITA websites or you can call to request these documents from either of the associations.

*June 6 – 8, 2011*

*Salishan Spa & Golf Resort*

*Gleneden Beach, Oregon*



# 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 Telecom Provider Member:

**Cal-Ore Communications**

## New Associate Members:

**Condux International, Inc.**

**DAS-CO of Idaho, Inc.**

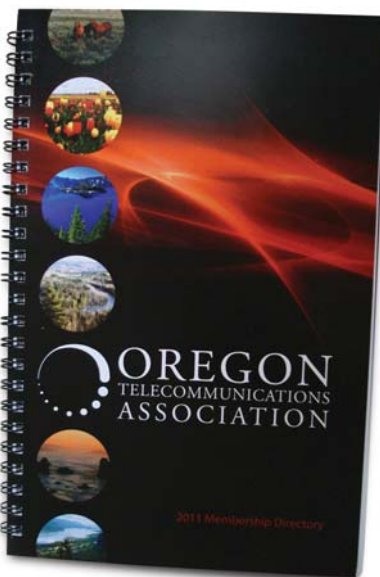
**Engineering Associates, Inc.**

**NAVE Communications Company**

**Platt Electric Supply**

**Trenchless Pipe Company**

**Vantage Point Solutions**



## Fluid saves.

Professional print marketing doesn't have to cost an arm and a leg. Just ask the OTA.

Through redesigning and reformatting the 2010 Membership Directory, Fluid was able to reduce the amount of total pages in the 2011 Directory. The end result: lower printing and production cost. Fluid handled the entire project from design to printing to production AND saved them a considerable dollar amount. How much can Fluid save you?



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THE CONSEQUENCES?**

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associated with fire.**

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or visit our new website: [www.nwfire.com](http://www.nwfire.com)  
for more information.**

15385 SW Beaverton Creek Court, Beaverton OR 97006

## 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)

### Patrick J. Lynch, CAE

*Director of Member Services*

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