

OUNC Updates Tracking Software

By Russ Thomas, Co-Chair One Call Committee

The Oregon Utility Notification Center has announced that tracking software for locate tickets has been upgraded and is now available online at www.managetickets.com

At this site, under the heading "Search & Status," all locate ticket information is available to the public. This service allows users to search, view and print copies of locate requests (tickets) for participating states. To date, tickets from January 1, 2005, to today are available. Tickets outside of this timeframe can be obtained by contacting the one-call center directly.

Positive response statuses are also posted for participating facility owners. In addition to this, additional upgrades scheduled to be implemented February 1, 2008, will allow the viewer to see the ticket locations plotted on a local map and allow utility owners to review their service boundaries and make online updates to those boundaries.

The Oregon Utility Notification Center board of directors will be hosting a Central Oregon regional excavating law update in Redmond at Eagle Crest Resort on January 29, 2008. This is the second in a planned series of statewide hosted meetings to report on the excavation law updates and the operation of the Oregon Utility Notification Center. More information can be found by visiting the OUNC website at www.digsafelyoregon.com

Oregon APWA Luncheon Committee Reports Successful Year

By Nancy M. Snyder, Committee Chair

Following the final event of the year on November 21, the Public Works Luncheon Committee reports another successful year. The luncheon meets at the Alexis Greek Restaurant in downtown Portland every other month, and the luncheon committee plans to continue meeting there as the location is ideal and the food and service is excellent.

Luncheon notices are sent out through an e-mail flier, as well as being posted on the Oregon APWA website, approximately three weeks prior to the event. These events are open to non-APWA members with the intent of attracting new membership. The goal is to promote networking between APWA members and potential members, present educational opportunities and offer a venue to participate in APWA on a regular basis.

In January, we held the now-traditional joint Oregon Chapters APWA/ASCE to a sell-out audience of 85 attendees, with speaker Rich Seright, PE, Portland Water Bureau, presenting on the Bull Run Watershed System, the Past, Present and Future.

The March 2007 luncheon brought in Keith Johnson of Oregon DEQ for a Superfund Clean-Up and Stormwater Discharge presentation. He discussed regulatory issues and explained how they work, who pays and how stormwater fits in.

The City of McMinnville's water supply expansion project was the focus of the May 2007 luncheon, titled "McGuire Reservoir Expansion" by Kyle McTeague and Bill Hollings, both of Murray, Smith & Associates.

Portland's Aerial Tram Project was presented verbally and visually with an incredible PowerPoint presentation by Gary Hopkins, Construction Manager for the Portland Bureau of Transportation in July.

Earthquake hazards and analysis of piped systems was the topic for the September event, with Dr. David Baska. His presentation, starting with an overview of the potential hazards in the Portland area followed by the study done in the Seattle area, was titled "Seismic Vulnerability Assessment of Seattle Public Utility Pipelines."

Our last presentation was held in November, with David Heintzman, PGE Hydro Licensing, presenting on the Removal of the Marmot Dam on the Sandy River, a recent project to encourage fish habitat.

If you would like to be added to luncheon distribution list, please send an e-mail request to nancis@water.ci.portland.or.us, with "APWA Luncheon" in the subject block.