

OUCC President's News Letter February, 2015

This year Oregon811 (OUNC) is sponsoring the Willamette Country Music Festival and the Cape Blanco Country Music Festival. You will see the Oregon811 as a sponsor on the web, TV, and the large BiMart paper bags. We will need volunteers to man the booth. Volunteers will receive passes for the event(s). Please let me know if you are interested. It will be first come first served. Some of the passes are already spoken for so don't wait too long.

Check out the new Oregon811 web page www.oucc.net it has been redesigned and updated.

Our next quarterly meeting will be at McMenamins Grand Lodge, 3505 Pacific Ave., Forest Grove. The meeting will be March 11, 2015 in the afternoon from 1 PM until 3 PM following the OUNC Board meeting. If you haven't already received your 811 signs you can pick them up at this meeting.

Jarrod Morrison and I have been forging ahead with the changeover to the Damage Information Reporting Tool (DIRT). There will be an Oregon811 Damage Reporting Committee meeting: February 17th, 2015 from 10:30am to 12:00pm held at Public Utility Commission of Oregon, 3930 Fairview Industrial Dr. SE, Salem, Oregon 97302-1166, in the hearing room upstairs. I encourage the Damage Chair people to attend this meeting. If everything goes as planned we should be able to preview the program and answer questions. The implementation of DIRT will give more value to damage reporting. Once a year a report will be produced that will break down the damages in a way that will enable us to identify and address areas of concern.

The hot topic this past month has been whether warning tape is considered part of an underground facility. According to the definition of Underground Facilities in the *Standards Manual*, page 17 [952-001-0010 (25)], warning tape would not be considered a part of an underground facility because it does not store or convey energy, gases, liquids, etc. However, Best Practices would indicate that notifying the facility operator in the event warning tape is damaged or removed would be sensible and responsible.

Oregon811 and the OUCC are starting a project to develop a standard training program to be used state wide. Our hope is to develop a Power Point Presentation that can be used as easily by experienced presenters as by those who have little experience. We want it to be complete, concise, and accurate while leaving room to cater it to the audience receiving the training. We would like to see any training programs, Power Point Presentations, and/or material that you have developed or presently use.

Please send in your dues and officer lists, with pictures if possible. Please let me or one of the Board Members know if you need a speaker for a meeting or event. There are people who can do presentations on things such as: ITIC, ITIC Mobile, Dig Law changes, Dig Law training, gas line safety, electrical facilities safety, and a host of other subjects.

Until Next time....."Dig Safely".

Kenny Hamlin

Kenny Hamlin OUCC President

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Please update your Damage Reports on the OUCC Web Site <u>www.oucc.net</u> (Damage Reporting section).

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and *like* us!

Visit the OUCC web site www.oucc.net

Visit the OUNC web site www.digsafelyoregon.com







Jarrod Morrison, Kevin Hennessey, Shannon Davis, Kenny Hamlin, and Flo Hoskinson at the OCC Tech Conference in Seattle, October 2015