



# DAS Facilities Update

# September 2007

## A Monthly Newsletter for Facilities Employees

### New O&M Safety Program



The Operations and Maintenance Managers are working to improve an already quality safety program. They are taking a seven week training course presented by SAIF Corporation to reduce employee injuries to zero. So far, the course has assisted the O&M Managers in implementing a Touch Caring Contract and the use of an Employee Observation Form. The

O&M employees were asked to sign a Tough Caring Contract indicating they would alert and protect their fellow employees by reporting worksite safety hazards. Once the document was signed, it was placed on the O&M Safety Employee bulletin board for review. Recently, the O&M Managers were trained to observe employees at work while completing an Observation Form. The form reviews preparation, procedures and protection. The information is shared with the employee once the Observation Form is completed and suggests safety improvements and recommendations for acquiring safety equipment to work in a more safe and efficient manner. As a result of the two

initiatives tested, it was found employees are interested in hearing how they can reduce injuries and work safely. Article provided by Debbie Howard & Marcia Howell. Thank you ladies!

**KUDOS Wow!** There were too many to list here this month! Check your e-mail, if you don't have access to e-mail ask someone in the office to print out Kris Kautz's Kudos this month. Many Facilities employees were recognized including, Joe Abood, Jim Betts, Aron Edie, Tollie Emerson, Martina Falk, Robin Harpster, Jon Hubbard, Nora Leahy, James McIntyre, Jose Rincon, Tom Simons, Michael Spady, Conda Walsh, Sid Wriggelsworth, and Scott Young.

### Leasing Manager



Valerie McBride has rejoined the Leasing Section as the Leasing Manager on a temporary basis while we are advertising for the position. Valerie held the position from 2002 until her retirement in 2006. Please welcome Valerie back to the Facilities family! It is nice to have her back even if temporarily.



### The Oregon Sustainability Board

The Oregon Sustainability Board was created in the 2001 Legislative session by the Oregon Sustainability Act. Over the last six years it completed many tasks, such as creating a Sustainable Oregon website <http://www.sustainableoregon.net/> establishing sustainability "toolkits" for local governments, and much more. While the Board has been successfully helping to set policy and create a culture of sustainability in state government, it never had a permanent structure and was susceptible to

sun setting when the political landscape changed. The 2007 Legislature passed House Bill 3244, which created the Oregon Sustainability Board within DAS. The Board has functioned without a formal staff support position since its inception. At the same time, DAS was changing the position of Statewide Resource Coordinator in Facilities and broadening its scope to become The DAS Sustainability Coordinator. Elin Shepard was promoted into this position and now dedicates 20% of her time to Board activities. Because of this shift in duties, it made sense to move that position

into providing support to the Board. Since moving into the position Elin has been involved with setting the Board's agendas, working on the upcoming agency presentation planning process, and reinstating the Interagency Sustainability Network that existed a few years ago. 80% of Elin's time is still spent tracking energy usage, conducting energy audits of DAS buildings, and coordinating energy incentives with DAS and the Department of Energy. Elin would love to hear from anyone who has thoughts or questions: 503-378-2865 ext. 241.

### Annual Corn Feed

The Facilities Annual Corn Feed is scheduled for September 18th from Noon to 1:00 PM. Weather permitting, seating will be provided behind the O&M Maintenance Shop, otherwise the group will eat in the O&M Warehouse area. Two ears of local corn, a hot dog, chips & soda. Advance tickets are \$5, by Sept 13th, please pay at the O&M Office or Conda Walsh in Facilities Admin.