

Your Oregon Guide

Today's lesson:  
Famous Oregonians

**Linus Pauling** — Two-time Nobel prize winning scientist.  
**Phil Knight** — Founder of Nike.  
**A.C. Gilbert** — Inventor, best known for the Erector Set.  
**Ursula K. Le Guin** — Author known for her science fiction and fantasy novels.  
**Matt Groening** — Cartoonist responsible for *The Simpsons*.  
**Ann Curry** — Journalist and television personality with *The Today Show*.  
**Ken Kesey** — Author and counterculture guru.  
**The Kingsmen** — The band that made *Louie, Louie* famous.  
**Gus Van Sant** — Movie director, with films including *Finding Forrester* and *Good Will Hunting*.  
**Jon Heder** — Star of *Napoleon Dynamite* and other films.  
**Mike Rich** — Screenwriter whose works include *Miracle*, *The Rookie* and *Finding Forrester*.  
**Will Vinton** — Stop-motion animator of California Raisins fame.  
**Steve Prefontaine** — World class distance runner.  
**Danny Ainge** — Two-sport athlete who played basketball in the NBA and major league baseball.  
**Beverly Cleary** — Children's author whose books include the *Ramona* series and *Henry Huggins*.  
**Dick Fosbury** — Olympic gold medal high jumper, inventor of the "Fosbury Flop."  
**Jean Auel** — Author of *The Clan of the Cave Bear*.  
**Doc Severinsen** — Musician known for his work on *The Tonight Show*.  
**Picabo Street** — Olympic gold medalist in downhill skiing.  
**Tonya Harding** — Ice skater, boxer and media darling.

Diversions

Who we serve

You've probably seen a standard sudoku puzzle with numbers and boxes. This is a twist on the concept, with words instead of numbers. When complete, each row, column and 3-by-3 square will contain each letter of this two-word phrase exactly once. The diagonal in blue spells the phrase correctly, and answers the question "who do we serve?" And because one sudoku is never enough, try your hand at taking the word "detouring" around the sudoku grid.

T						I		U
B	U	T					C	L
C		E	L			U	T	H
		C		H	I	B	L	
I	T	B		U		E	P	H
	L	H	E	T		C		
	E	T	I		H	L		P
H	C				T	U		E
L		I						C

O		G						
	E		G					
	U	D	T	O	R			E
U	N		D	R			O	T
I				N				G
G	D			I	U		E	N
R			N	U	D	E	T	
					E		G	
						D		U

DETOURING

B C E H I L P T U

Puzzle Answers

U	R	D	O	G	I	N	I	E
O	G	N	E	T	R	U	I	D
I	T	E	D	N	O	G	R	
N	E	R	U	I	O	T	G	
G	D	U	T	N	E	R	O	I
T	O	I	G	R	D	E	N	U
E	I	G	R	O	T	D	N	N
R	U	O	N	D	G	I	E	T
D	N	T	I	E	U	G	R	O

C	I	H	P	E	U	I	B	T
E	I	U	T	L	B	P	C	H
P	B	L	H	C	I	T	E	U
I	U	C	B	T	E	H	P	L
H	P	E	U	C	B	T	I	
T	L	B	I	H	P	C	U	E
B	H	T	U	P	T	E	I	C
T	C	P	E	I	T	U	H	B
U	E	I	C	B	H	T	P	T



Halloween on a deserted island.



Today's Schedule

**8:30 – 9:30 a.m.**  
NCHRP 20-24 Breakfast – Room A109

**10 a.m. – noon**  
Plenary Session  
Oregon Ballroom 201, 202

**Noon – 1 p.m.**  
Regional Association Meetings and Box Lunches  
Region 1: Room B119  
Region 2: Rooms B117, B118  
Region 3: Room B110  
Region 4: Rooms B111, B112  
Delegate Box Lunch: Foyer

**1 – 2:30 p.m.**  
Track 1A - Commuting and Travel Trends for the Future - Room B116  
Track 1B - Public/Private Ventures: State DOT Considerations in Concession Decisions – Rooms B113, B114  
Track 1C - The Future is Now: Innovative Strategies for Highway Construction - Rooms A108, A109

**2:30 – 3 p.m.**  
Afternoon Break - Foyer

**3 – 4:30 p.m.**  
Roundtable 2A - The Politics of Congestion and Capacity - Room B116  
Roundtable 2B - Public/Private Ventures: Private Sector Considerations – Room B114  
Roundtable 2C - Future Highway Systems Using Advanced ITS Technology - Rooms A108, A109

**4:45 – 6 p.m.**  
VII Executive Leadership Team Meeting - Room B110  
U.S. DOT Congestion Initiative - Room B112

Weather Forecast

**Today:** Partly sunny.  
High: 56 Low: 37  
**Tomorrow:** Partly cloudy.  
High: 54 Low: 34

AASHTO DAILY NEWS

Sunday, October 29, 2006

U.S. Secretary of Transportation visits, sees Road User Fee Pilot Program



Newly appointed U.S. Secretary of Transportation Mary E. Peters learns about ODOT's Road User Fee Pilot Program at the Leathers service station in Portland. The pilot program is investigating a mileage fee-based alternative to the gas tax. Dr. David Porter (right) explains how the process works as Oregon DOT Director Matt Garrett looks on.

Credibility on line as materials costs rise

The rising cost of construction materials was a key subject addressed by AASHTO Executive Director John Horsley at Saturday's business meeting of the Standing Committee on Highways. Between 1993 and 2004, the pattern of pricing for commodities included the "typical increases." However, "in 2004, 2005 and 2006 we have seen a dramatic surge in prices," Horsley said. He acknowledged that this is a huge concern for state transportation officials as they attempt to explain project cost increases to state legislatures, constituents and local news media. The Subcommittee on Construction is tracking this issue and will keep the committee updated on developments. "After all," Horsley said, "our credibility is on the line." At the business meeting, committee members reviewed and approved two policy resolutions and one motion without dissent.

- The first resolution was in support of the Construction Management Integration Technical Group (CMITG).
- The second resolution supports AASHTO's response to an FHWA recommendation on retro-reflectivity for traffic signs. AASHTO requested that minimum maintained retro-reflective levels not be made part of the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), so state DOTs can retain flexibility while still providing safe roadways.
- The motion the committee reviewed was a proposed extension of the AASHTO Task Force on Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS), until the 2007 AASHTO annual meeting.

## Breakfast served up with awards, humor



A team from the Michigan DOT was on hand to receive the President's Award for Planning for their MI Travel Counts Program. AASHTO award winners were recognized at a breakfast Saturday morning.

Humorist and motivational speaker Dr. Dale Henry lit up a packed Oregon Ballroom with laughter and lessons in life Saturday morning as the emcee of the Awards Breakfast. "Dr. Dale," as he is known, shared folksy asides from his Smokey Mountains upbringing and leaned heavily on humor to deliver his message of personal and professional integrity.

There was the apparent dimwit Dr. Dale encountered while boarding a plane to Cincinnati to give a presentation at Cisco Systems. Seems the fellow was delaying other passengers while trying to fit a huge suitcase into a tiny storage compartment.

Rather than shower the spatially challenged gentleman with epithets, Dr. Dale said he checked the guy's bag for him. The next day, Dr. Dale ran into the same man setting up a PowerPoint

presentation at Cisco's headquarters. It turns out the man was the CEO of Cisco.

"Can you imagine if I had said what was going through my mind?" Dr. Dale asked. "If it's easy to say, don't say it."

That was the message of the morning.

"Behave each day as if everyone you meet knows who you are," he said. "That's integrity."

He pointed to people who sarcastically exclaim, "I just love my job," with a scowl and a scrunched-up expression.

To those folks, he would pose this question: "Why don't you tell your face? It looks like you were weaned on a pickle."

In announcing the award winners, Dr. Dale took the opportunity to poke some fun at the finance team from the Mississippi DOT, which won this year's Administration Award.

### AASHTO award winners

**The Thomas H. MacDonald Memorial Award**  
Jack Lettiere, former AASHTO President, New Jersey DOT

**The Alfred E. Johnson Achievement Award**  
David L. Huft, South Dakota DOT

### The President's Transportation Awards

**Administration**  
Finance Team, Mississippi DOT

**Environment**  
Cooper River Bridge Replacement Team, South Carolina DOT

**Highways**  
I-70 Fast Track Project Management Team, Indiana DOT

**Highways**  
Field Manager Administration Team, Michigan DOT

**Highway Traffic Safety**  
Teens in the Driver Seat Team, Texas DOT

**Intermodal**  
ServiceArizona EZ Pay Team, Arizona DOT

**Planning**  
MI Travel Counts Program Team, Michigan DOT

**Planning**  
Phillip E. Russell, Texas DOT

**Quality**  
Performance Measurement Implementation Team, Florida DOT

### Best Practices in Context Sensitive Solutions

**Best Project—Small Urban or Rural**  
Montana's Woodard Avenue—Absarokee Small-Town Makeover

**Best Project—Large Urban**  
Ohio Eastern Corridor

**Best Program, Co-Winner**  
Massachusetts Highway Department 2006 Project Development and Design Guide

**Best Program, Co-Winner**  
Texas DOT Safety Rest Area Program

**Best Organizational Integration**  
Washington State DOT, CSS Policies, Procedures and Standards

## Safety's priority rises to new levels

This year's AASHTO conference in Oregon is likely to energize traffic safety priorities across the nation, after the association's Standing Committee on Highway Traffic Safety (SCOHTS) met Saturday to jump-start new efforts.

Noting that there has not been a White House meeting on highway safety since the Eisenhower administration, the committee decided Saturday to draft a resolution suggesting presidential attention. The panel is expected to have a resolution drafted in time for Monday's AASHTO Board of Directors meeting.

The committee already has two resolutions before the board – urging the use of automated traffic law enforcement and the promotion of roadway safety as a public health issue to governors and state legislatures.

"Agencies and states have made great strides in reducing fatalities and crashes, but we still have challenges," said Susan Martinovich, committee vice-chair and deputy director/chief engineer of the Nevada DOT. "Now we need to step it up and go to the next level."

In addition, the panel has eight recommendations before the board, including one that suggests broader and more flexible eligibility for roadway safety funding, as long as projects are dictated by states' safety priorities.

"Every day there are approximately 112 lives lost in traffic crashes across this nation," said committee member Troy E. Costales, administrator of the Oregon DOT Safety Division. "SCOHTS realizes that this is not an acceptable cost for a public transportation system and will continue to promote emerging



Committee members (left to right) Larry Tibbits, Troy Costales, Cash Misel and Jeff Lindley listen to discussion during Saturday's meeting of the Standing Committee on Highway Traffic Safety.

and best practices to reduce this toll."

The AASHTO Board of Directors recently approved the formation of a new subcommittee under SCOHTS to integrate and energize more transportation safety work across the country. SCOHTS members also have been busy looking at the implementation and use of resource materials derived from the AASHTO Strategic Highway Safety Plan.

The Portland meeting confirmed the work of the subcommittee and reviewed final AASHTO Policy Guidelines for highway safety under consideration for reauthorization.

"Highway safety has been at the top of the transportation agenda for many years, but over the past decade a renewed sense of urgency has taken hold," Costales said.

## Delegates enjoy State Night gala

