



Current Events

- 2012 Water Supply
- 2012 Recharge Effort

Inside:

- New Policies 2
- Alan DeGiulio 2
- AVR 3
- New Ditchriders 3
- Automation 4
- Going Green 5

Aberdeen-Springfield Canal Company
208-397-4192

Water Supply

by Steve Howser

It's been a strange Spring, with freezing temperatures followed by record highs, followed by freezing temps again! As of the date of this newsletter, we're still on natural flow, but I suspect we'll start drawing storage water any day now. Typically our natural flow lasts until mid-July, just about the time we stop watering the fall grain. Even though it looks like we'll be a couple of weeks short of that, it also looks like the fall grain is a couple of weeks ahead. This

is important since after the grain is done, we usually decrease our diversion and finish the season on storage. That is, we usually get past our peak delivery before we start drawing storage.

This year we've seen the reservoirs fill and spill due to the USBR's flood control rules, and even though they all filled 'on paper', the physical fill is what really matters. With the storm that came through on Memorial Day, it looks like we'll see Palisades reservoir refill completely. Even if it doesn't, barring any unusual

weather (like weeks of 90° temps), I expect to have a sufficient supply this season.

I won't know our storage allocation from Water District 1 until the reservoirs have reached their peak fill (probably next week), but once they allocate storage, I'll post the allocation numbers on our website and send out initial balance letters. My 'best guess' at storage allocation is between 85% and 90%. For Company shares, that should be around 36 inches per share, and District shares should be around 7.5 inches per share.

2012 Recharge Efforts

Every year we cut the main canal at Rockford to allow spring run-off water to enter the canal. Every spring the limiting factor for when we bring the water in is typically how quickly we can get the cut rebuilt and ready for water. Since the State began their early-season recharge program, we have not been able to participate because we had to wait until the cut was repaired.

Building a structure at this location has been on our 'to do' list for many years, but it has always been pre-empted by higher priority projects and budget considerations. Last year the Board of Directors of the

Idaho Ground Water Appropriators offered to cost-share the installation of flood gates in the interest of maximizing every recharge opportunity. Last winter we completed the installation of two 3' diameter gates that we'll open in the Fall and close in the Spring, allowing us to bring water into the system as early as possible to take advantage of the State's recharge water right.

This year we brought the water in on March 24th to begin our recharge effort. Once the water got to our Hilton Spill area, we diverted the entire flow into the spill. We continued spilling water there

until the State's recharge right went out of priority on May 4th. We were able to accomplish 7,824 acre-feet of recharge.



Installing the new Rockford Flood Gates

New Stock Ownership Transfer Fee



Feeder Canal Check

Over the past couple of years we've seen a dramatic increase in the number of stock ownership transfers. Typically we only process a few transfers each year, but this year we're seeing 6 to 10 a month. Processing ownership transfers is much more complicated than you might imagine, and each transfer can take up to four to six hours to complete - more if the property splits. Consequently the amount of staff and manager time required to complete all

these transfers has severely affected the amount of time we have to accomplish our other duties.

At the May regular meeting of the Board of Directors, the Board decided to institute a fee for stock ownership transfers. This fee is a minimum of \$100.00, and can be more if the transfer requires more than four hours of research and preparation by myself or the office staff. This fee must be paid prior to issuance of the new stock certificate(s).

We will be preparing

a new Policy Manual to include this change that will be sent to all shareholders with the Annual Report in December.

Effective immediately, there will be a minimum \$100.00 fee for stock ownership changes.

New Canal and Lateral Change/Relocation Policy

In the past, we have had very few requests to move canals or laterals, but recently more and more shareholders are seeking to move or 'square up' canals to improve irrigation efficiency. Our policy has always been to consider each request on a case-by-case basis and prepare an agreement specific to each request.

The biggest problem we've encountered with canal relocations in the past few years is having the work completed prior to bringing the water in, which

often necessitates we use Company equipment and personnel to finish the work. This results in the Company billing the shareholder for the work, and more importantly, interferes with other work we need to accomplish before bringing the water in (cleaning, bank building, etc.).

Consequently, the Board has adopted a new policy that provides a more detailed description of the basic requirements and also requires a cash bond in the amount of \$25,000 before

the project is approved. This bond can be used to either reimburse the Company for any additional work needed to bring the project up to specs or to hire a contractor to complete the project, if needed. If the project is completed to specifications and accepted by the Company prior to the water coming in, the bond is fully refunded.

The full text of the policy will be included in the new Policy Manual.



Alan DeGiulio

As many of you probably already know, Alan DeGiulio of Springfield, long time member of the Board of Directors, passed away this month.

Alan served on the Board of Directors for 30 years,

and was instrumental in shaping the Company into what it is today. In addition, for the past 5 years Alan served as our representative on the Committee of Nine, the advisory board to Water District #1.

Alan was dedicated to improving the Company and our system, and his wisdom and knowledge will be sorely missed.

AVR - The Aquatic Vegetation Rake

For the last 60 years or so, ASCC has been plagued with a tough invasive aquatic plant called Flowering Rush. This plant is incredibly resistant to chemical control. In some of our canals and laterals it can get so thick that it almost completely stops flow.

Three years ago we were approached by a company that was trying to develop a tool to remove aquatic vegetation from canals, and we showed them 'I' lateral, which was almost completely blocked by flowering rush. The following water season they asked permission to test their solution on our system.

They spent about 8 hours removing the flowering rush from the lateral with their prototype AVR on a mini-excavator. It was fast, efficient, and removed nearly all of the plant and root mass without overly disturbing the bottom of the canal. Last season 'I' lateral was still relatively free of the flowering rush.

Last year, they brought their finished product - a 16' model - to demonstrate on the end of the Lowline Canal. In attendance at the demo were representatives from several large canal companies as well as two of our Board members. After

watching it work for an hour, our Board members were convinced. So far this season the flowering rush is still controlled on 'I' lateral and the Lowline looks great.

Last week we took delivery of the very first production model, custom designed to our specifications for our Cat 312 excavator. We plan on using the AVR everywhere we have flowering rush and cattails infesting the canal (which is pretty much everywhere). In addition, the AVR will work to remove moss. We're hoping to be able to eliminate the need for aquatic herbicides on many parts of the system.



New Ditch Riders

We've made a couple of changes to our ditch rider roster this year. Thanks to our continuing system automation efforts, we've decreased the number of ditch riders from 7 to 6.

Gary Ohman, the Rose Ride ditch rider, has taken over the A Lateral Ride from Tony Dixey. Tony has been moved to the Springfield Ride, replacing Pete Thurston who retired this Spring.

Dan Hill, the Wilson Ride ditch rider has left the Company after 20 years and we've replaced him with a new employee, Blake Healy.

Those water users affected by these changes

should already know, but just in case here is a list of the ditch riders, their ride, and their phone numbers:

Rose/A Lat Ride - Gary Ohman: 681-5402

Springfield Ride - Tony Dixey: 681-5068

Big Fill Ride - Mike Ohman: 681-5012

19 Fill Ride - Lee Corbridge: 681-5023

Wilson Ride - Blake Healy: 681-5024

Cedar Ride - Lenny Isaak: 681-5026

Thanks to our continuing canal automation program, we've been able to decrease the number of ditch riders from 7 to 6.

Automation

"Aberdeen-Springfield has the most advanced control and monitoring system in Idaho, probably even in the Western United States."

Dave Tuthill, former Director of the Idaho Dept. of Water Resources

Over the last 5 years we've been working diligently to add computer automation and monitoring of the system. A lot of folks ask me why we're doing all of this work and spending money on automation when the system worked just fine without it for a hundred years. The answer is really pretty simple. First, we've been using simple

automation on most of our check gates for 40+ years - it just makes controlling the water easier. Second, and more importantly, precise measurement and control saves water. For example, three years ago we installed full-time monitoring on the Lowline canal at the Wilson spill. This spill was historically measured twice a

day by the ditchrider. After we installed the computer monitoring equipment, we found that the spill actually fluctuated about 200 inches every hour. We then installed computer automation on the check just upstream, which resulted in eliminating the fluctuation and saving nearly 5,000 acre-feet of water.

continued on last page



Pete Thurston

Two ASCC Employees Retire

This year we had two long-time employees of ASCC retire.

As mentioned above, Pete Thurston, Springfield Ride ditchrider retired in May after 15 years with the Company.

In February, Brian Jensen, who served as the 19 Fill

ditchrider for several years before joining the maintenance crew, retired after 27 years of service.

We'll miss both of them and we wish them luck and fun in their well-deserved retirement.



Brian Jensen

Employee Profile

Please welcome our newest employee, Blake Healy. Blake is the new ditch rider on the Wilson Ride replacing Dan Hill who, after 20 years with the Company, has moved on to explore another career opportunity with the American Falls Housing Authority.

Blake was born in Durango, Colorado and came to Idaho when he was 1 year old. He grew up in Malad and served in the U.S. Navy after High School.

Blake is married to Melissa, our office clerk, and has a beautiful 2 year old daughter, Maegan.

Blake's hobbies include fishing, atv'ing, and snowboarding, and he is an aspiring middle-weight professional MMA fighter.

We're looking forward to Blake having a long and successful career with the Company.



Here's a piece of useful information: 1 miner's inch is equal to 9 gallons per minute.

Going 'Green'

Going Paperless

by Annette Johnson

It seems as we work through our daily 'to-do' lists even the smallest tasks end up generating stacks of paperwork. This paperwork, over the 100+ years of the Company, accumulates into boxes and boxes of dusty papers. This has inspired our crusade to go paperless whenever possible.

Our first step is to determine if our shareholders are interested in signing up for electronic invoices. Some benefits to this include allowing more time to process payments, efficiency of communication with Title companies, and the added benefit of greatly reducing mailing and paper supply costs.

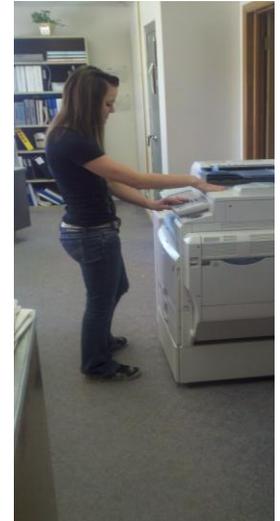
We have been working with our IT Specialist to provide this service to our shareholders who are ready to take that leap to the "Green" side. For those of you who want to participate in receiving ASCC correspondence, O&M assessment notices, water balances, GAP water quality reports, etc. by way of email, please send me an email at annettej@ascanal.org.

Our efforts in "Going Green" continue with document retention and retrieval. We have established a Records Management Program as outlined by the Idaho Department of Administration. I attended training held by the State Record Center Administrator

which proved to be very valuable in helping us to implement accepted standards of document and record retention.

In addition, for the past few years we've been working hard to create electronic copies of our inventory of records dating back over 100 years, much of which is on 'onion skin' paper. This inventory of records is vital information about the history of the Company and its preservation is a high priority. Safeguarding and preserving these documents in a digital format will also aid in the event of a disaster where the Company Office could function in a temporary location.

continued on last page



Melissa Healy, Clerk, scanning documents

ASCC Website

Another way we're working at saving paper and mailing costs is using our new Company website (www.ascanal.org) to put out up-to-date information about water supplies, maintenance projects, and general information for our shareholders.

Over the next few weeks we'll be adding quite a bit of content to the website, which already contains quite a bit of useful information for our shareholders. There you will be able to find frequently used forms, updates from the General Manager and Office Manager, the Company By-Laws and Policies and Procedures, some useful

links and water measurement tools.

We'll also be adding content that will be useful to realtors and title companies handling the sale and/or refinancing your property.

Look for the addition of lots of historical and recent photographs in the photo galleries. Speaking of photographs, from time to time as we work through the huge pile of historical documents we come across old photos and documents that are a bit of a mystery. We'll be adding a page to the website where we post some of these in the hopes that some of you might recognize

people and places in the photos and help us to categorize them. If you have any old photos of the system or past employees, we would love to add them to our collection. We don't need to keep the originals, we'll just scan them and get them right back to you (with a little notice, we can probably even do that while you wait).

Our new website, hosted by Google, is very easy to update and change, so if there's something you'd like to see please feel free to let us know either by email or via the form on the 'Contact Us' page.



Main Canal circa 1900

Going Paperless continued...

P.O. Box 857
144 South Main Street
Aberdeen, Idaho 83210

PHONE:
(208) 397-4192

FAX:
(208) 397-4510

E-MAIL:
annettej@ascanal.org
steveh@ascanal.org



We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.ascanal.org

Another big advantage we get from creating digital copies of all of our documents is ease of access. Now, when we bring up your account on the computer, we are able to link to all the documents associated with you, such as Stock Certificates, Warranty Deeds, correspondence, invoices, and agreements. This saves a lot of time when you call or stop in as we don't have to search through the document storage to find them.



One of our 3 document storage rooms.

Automation continued...

Another example is the precise control we've been able to achieve at our Main gates. Prior to computer control we had a 15-20 cfs (750-1000") fluctuation. With our new system we can control the Main with a precision of less than 250

inches. We estimate this saves as much as 8,000 acre-feet each year. The third reason this automation project is such a great idea is that it allows us to monitor canal water levels at key points on the system 24 hours a day. Last Memorial

Day, with the big storm, we had electrical problems at the Hilton and Wilson spills. Water levels got dangerously high around 3 AM. Our warning system let me know in plenty of time to get repair crews out and prevent what would have been a disaster.

About Our Organization...

Aberdeen-Springfield Canal Company is a private, non-profit 'Carey Act' canal company. Established in 1910, we provide irrigation water to 62,000 acres of crop land

in Bingham and Power Counties through nearly 200 miles of canals and laterals.

Aberdeen-Springfield Canal Company has 19

full-time employees who are dedicated to serving our shareholders.

**ABERDEEN-SPRINGFIELD
CANAL COMPANY
P.O. BOX 857
ABERDEEN, IDAHO 83210-0857**

**ADDRESS LABEL
HERE**

