

# RBC CABLE NEWS

December  
2016  
Edition



Volume  
#6

## Merle Sorenson Chairman & CEO

I'm writing this as I am on a flight back from a trip to Denver. Mike and I have been in Denver seeing Scott, Tim and the team. It was a great trip and we were able to get out and see some jobsites and meet with the crews as well as some customers. We also met with our current Landlord and signed an additional 3 year lease for the Denver facility. We are expecting big things from the Denver Team (no not the Bronco's). They have a lot of work booked and a bright future.

As you are all aware we have a new president and administration to lead the country. We believe and see this as a total positive for our industry. There will be increased spending on infrastructure projects including renewable energy and in the gas distribution and pipeline sectors. And with the fast growing and ever changing mobile phone market and the increase in internet shopping and iCloud storage growing rapidly these factors and many others will drive growth in the fiber optic markets. We see 2017 and beyond a few years being a very strong market for RBC.

I want to thank Craig for his work on the new website, also Joe Bergren for his role in training and managing our safety program. Joe got a huge compliment from RBC's insurance carrier when he took them on a jobsite visit. Joe works hard to make sure all of you go home safe at night. I have a great appreciation for what our VP of Logistics Marvin Porfily does for RBC, managing all the equipment and DOT.

I also want to recognize and thank the crew in Alaska that are finishing our large project and are having to endure some very tough working conditions -5 to -30 below zero. We are hoping they get the job completed by Christmas to be home with their families. I also want to recognize Marty Miller CFO and his tremendous staff he has in the Vancouver Corporate office. The support they give all of us on a day to day basis is first class.

I would also like to thank all of our subcontractors, vendors and customers.

I want to wish all of our valued employees and their families a safe and enjoyable Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.

A shout out "Thank you" to my assistant Janna Dart for helping me put the RBC Cable News together. If any of you want us to send a copy to someone, please email Martina or Janna. Enjoy the read! And **WIN EVERY DAY**



# A message from Chris Keksi

O'd to the traveler

Vice President

“Another night in a strange hotel, what could be more familiar”

Gypsies of the trade in this fast pace telecom market are a must and I just want to say thank you from operations for all of you that travel out of town for us. I know it can be tough with additional travel and time away from family. With the holidays upon us, I also want to wish everyone a safe and Happy Holiday! Please take time to spend with your families this holiday season.

With the large foot print we now cover, scheduling logistics, equipment and personnel reliability, and communication all add to being successful while on the road. We are working on improving our reporting and accountability from everyone to continue to make RBC a better company. We will see more minor tweaks to come while we work to improve on this and any input is welcome.

RBC has made significant growth the past several years and we're looking forward to another busy year in 2017. With our progress and growth we are looking to each of you as employees to learn and grow with us. Merle, Mike, Craig, Dan and myself all started with shovels in our hands and moved up the ladder with growing companies. If you have special interest in any part of the craft work we do, please let your supervisor know and we will work to get you experience in that field.

As always spread the word for new employees and if you bring one on and if they stay for 6 months it's worth \$500.00 to the employee that brought them to team RBC.



**Nate Woolsey**

**Contract Administrator**

We would like to welcome Nate Woolsey to the RBC team. Nate grew up in Ridgefield, WA. In the summers Nate worked for his family's construction business Landworks Northwest, Inc. After High school Nate went into the military and on a ROTC scholarship program attended Citadel. The military college of South Carolina. There he focused on leadership training and other extracurricular activities prepared him for his time in service. He completed college as a Distinguished Military Graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in International Politics and Military Affairs. Immediately following, Nate commissioned into the army as a scout officer. He became an experienced leader both in the field and in the office gaining extensive knowledge of operational planning and execution, processing raw data into actionable intelligence, critical decision making, accountability and personal development. In the summer he can be found kayaking the PNW's rivers, golfing as much as possible, or at Portland International Raceway as a crew-chief.



# Craig Sorenson

EXEC. VICE PRESIDENT  
NEW RBC WEBSITE LAUNCHED

After nearly a year in development, the updated RBC website recently launched. We worked with a group of IT professionals from the Oregonian Media Group and Studio 1850 to develop a much improved website that can be accessed from all IT platforms. The site is much easier to navigate and has a more professional appearance. We chose a “grittier” look to help convey RBC's ability to complete tough projects. We highlighted the strength of our team, and our core competencies. This included the addition of information on our directional drilling and rock excavation services. A heavy emphasis was placed on images, most of which were collected from our team members in the field. We also added a locations map that identifies our broad geographic service area.

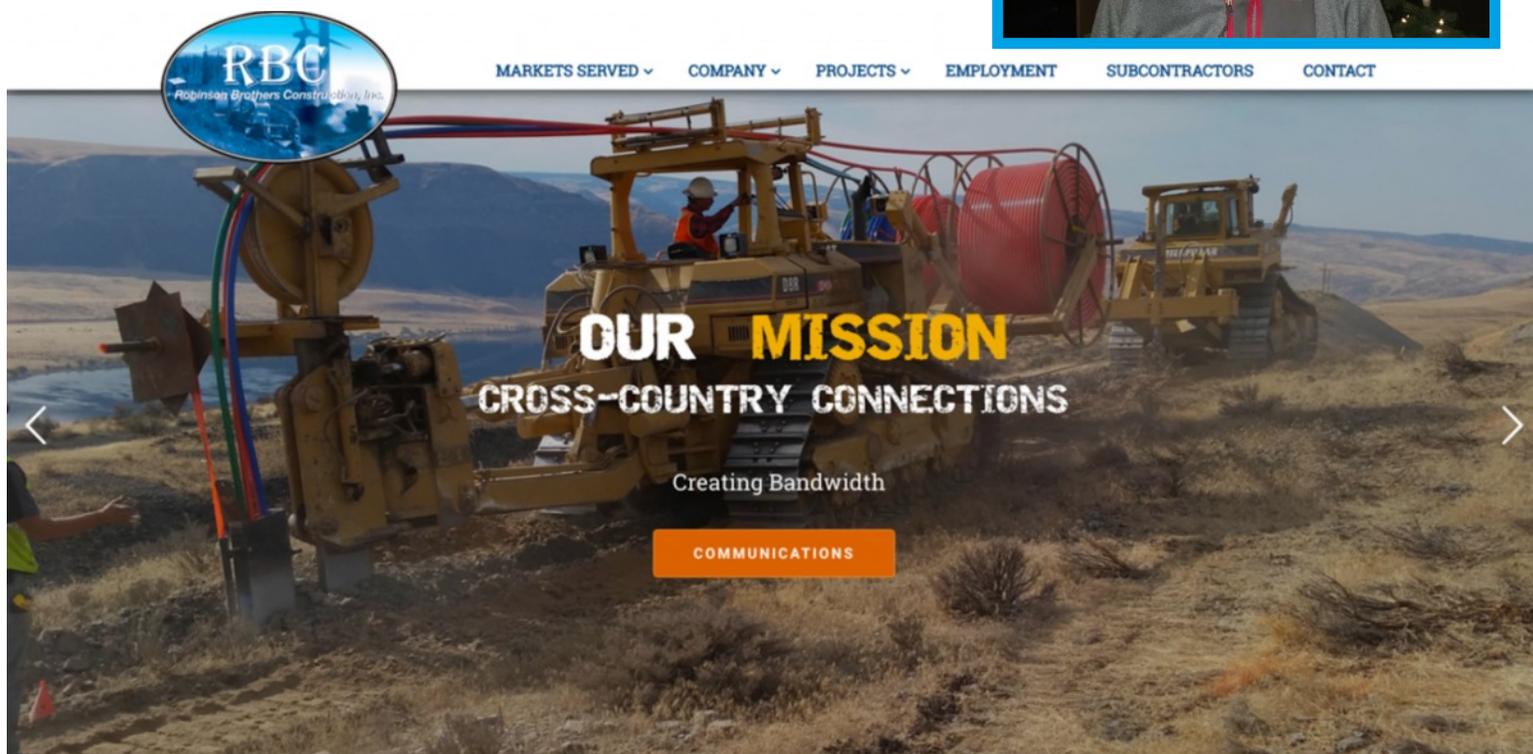
I encourage you to visit the site and check out all of the new changes. There is a “News” section with all past issues of the RBC Cable News, a great article written by national publications about our company, a testimonial from our bonding company, and a photo gallery. Featured project articles are being put together with input from project managers and testimonials from our customers. We will also be launching an RBC YouTube channel with video clips of our company in action in the near future.

The employee portal that we launched a couple years ago is still accessible through the new website and everyone should utilize this tool to access the most up-to-date information on our safety program, employee benefits, and general forms like timesheets and equipment list.

This has been an exciting project and I want to thank everyone for their contributions. Please continue to send Martina and I your best photographs and videos. We will make sure they are added.

Have a great Christmas,

Craig Sorenson



Picture of home page on the new webpage

# A message from Joe Bergren

## Field Safety Supervisor

Team, with 2016 almost at an end I would personally like to thank each and every one at RBC for their continuing and ever improving attention to safe Operations, even though in the 2nd and 3rd quarter of this year we had a serious spike in Utility Damages and Asset damage, we have got these issues under control and are looking great to this point.

I have been able to make more site visits in the last few months and can see a notable change in the field regarding safety RE: reports are getting sent in a timely manner with better attention to detail, Required P.P.E is being used and or worn even in the remotest areas and the overall attitude towards safety has greatly improved, so thank you all for your efforts in making RBC a safe and prosperous company, the list of personnel receiving safety awards is growing rapidly!

With the end of 2017 coming soon we will be ramping up our safety training and certifications shortly after the New Year, I will work directly with the area managers on requirements and needs going forward to make classes and training as efficient as possible for your regions.

In closing I want to send out a special thanks to those directly involved in the monthly safety committee meetings and look forward to tallying up the Ballots for the 2017 members, current members are:

Vancouver: Joe Bergren, Marvin Porfily, Holly Akimseu-Leitgeb

Alaska: Jeff Jerome +1

Mid-West (Denver): Mike Kelly, Randy Mathews

Oregon Coast: Duane Schoeneck +1

Central Washington: Jerry Pearsall +1

Puget Sound: Nic Quall, Robert Plaquet

Idaho: Robin Barker+1

Wenatchee/Ellensburg: Dave Klinkenberg +1

West Oregon Electric: Paul Johnson +1

NOTE: Committee members subject to substitution based on availability and employment status. Area/Regional managers are contacted prior to meetings in order to make substitutions of a craft person if needed.

To all and your family's have a Safe Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Sincerely, Joe Bergren Field Safety Supervisor



### MERIT OF EXCELLENCE AWARD

Congratulations to Nic Quall and his Team in the Puget Sound Region for winning RBC's first Merit of Excellence award. This award was announced in our last newsletter by our President Mike Rakoz. It is a quarterly award of \$3000 given to the division that a committee guided by Joe B and Marvin P and Dan C. They look at the incident and accident reports as well as utility hits, damaged property, personal injuries. Certainly profitability and billing and paperwork reporting is also a determining factor. The number of labor hours worked in each region is divided by these items and factors to determine the winning area. Nic has \$3000 to award the TEAM that have worked in his area the way he wants to. The next award will be chosen at the end of March & announced in April's newsletter. So let's be the best we can be out there and good luck to everyone.

# A message from Marvin Porfily

## Vice President Of Logistics

Team, as you are probably aware of by now, we have been monitoring mileage, truck excessive Ideling and Speeding with our GEO TECH GPS system. At first the numbers we were seeing were quite literally shocking on the number of wasted dollars but with everyone's help we have improved dramatically.

With that said there is still room for improvement and I know with everyone's continuing efforts we will get there as long we keep managing our assets, keep in mind the GPS is a tool for improvement to help us be more efficient, not a tattle tale it just records and relay's the facts.

As of today, we are at 8% for our DOT rating. Which is very good. This drop has occurred due to our managers and employee's holding each other accountable, I would like to personally thank all of you for the hard work and because of us all taking this seriously we will go into 2017 with a clean start. All of you and your families have a safe and Merry Christmas.

Sincerely,

Marvin Porfily, VP Logistics



# 401K



213 Participants

\$1.490 m

We encourage RBC employees to take part in our 401K plan and save for your future. We match a portion of your contribution. There is no easier money than that.

# Award Of Excellence



From left to right: Mike Rakoz, Merle Sorenson & Craig Sorenson

In August RBC was presented a beautiful Crystal award for 10 years of Excellence from the Travelers Bonding Company

## Get Well-Brandon Peterson

Team RBC wants to wish Brandon a full and speedy recovery. Brandon fell off his roof at home in Rathdrum, Idaho. A month or so ago and sustained very-serious broken bones and injuries he has had several surgeries and is at home recovering, Stay positive Brandon.

## Farewell And Best Wishes

Katie and Nathan will be missed at team RBC. Katie was A (VIP) Payroll Specialist. And was excellent at her job and always had a smile. Katie will continue doing payroll till the end of January. Nathan (Nate) wore many hats at RBC and was very talented and up to whatever was thrown at him. They are returning to there roots in Florida to be with family and onto new endeavors. Best of luck Katie and Nate.

# The Puget Sound Crew in Front Of There New Office In Mukilteo, WA



From left to right: Al Johnson, Dwayne Chaput, Julie Brown, Tanner Porter (back), Cole Claussen (front). Randy Delfino (back), Don Archie (front), Cole Whittendale (back), Nic Quall, Robert Plaquet

## The Puget Sound Crew On Job in Rochester, WA



Sam Farra on ground left flagging traffic, Cole Whittendale on ground center and Robert Plaquet in bucket upper right.



Left to right Robert Plaquet, Sam Farra & Brian Keksi. Working through a ice storm on Maytown RD in Rochester, WA

**Scott Griebel**  
**Vice President Of The Rocky Mountain Mid-West Region**

We are excited to announce the hiring of Scott Griebel as RBC's Vice President of The Rocky Mountain Mid-West Region.

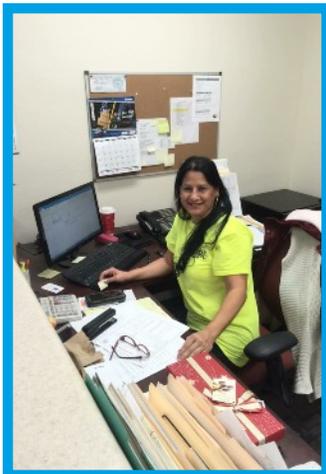
Scott has been in the telecommunications, fiber optic field for over 25 years. He has valuable experience in the utility and fiber optic construction, management, network maintenance, restoration and estimating.

Scott lives in Lafayette, Colorado since 2001 with his wife Kathy of 25 years. They have 2 sons Keegan (24) and Wyatt (20) and a daughter Riley (17). He likes to fly fish, hunt, camp and ice hockey. He also builds fly rods and ties his own flies. Their family also likes to travel. They have friends that they travel to see every couple of years that live in the United Kingdom.

We are looking forward to Scott building RBC's Rocky Mountain Division and taking it to great heights.



Colorado crew left to right Tim Aragon JR, Andres Aguilar, Jose Banuelas, Jose Huerta, Jairo Mier, Mike Kelly,  
Front row: Mike Mestas, Baldo Cruz, Randy Matthews & Jose Quintana  
Not pictured Jorge Guerra, Joe Huerta, Tim Aragon & Jonell Garcia



Jonell Garcia joins the Denver office as administrative assistant



Crew completing a road X-ing. Operator Jose Bunuelos groundsmen Baldo Cruz & Andres Aguilar



Crew do a building entrance placing fiber cable. Jose Quintana and Jullian Mier



Denver Area Manager Tim Aragon

**Robin Barker**  
**Idaho/Montana/ Eastern, WA**  
**Regional Manager/Estimator**

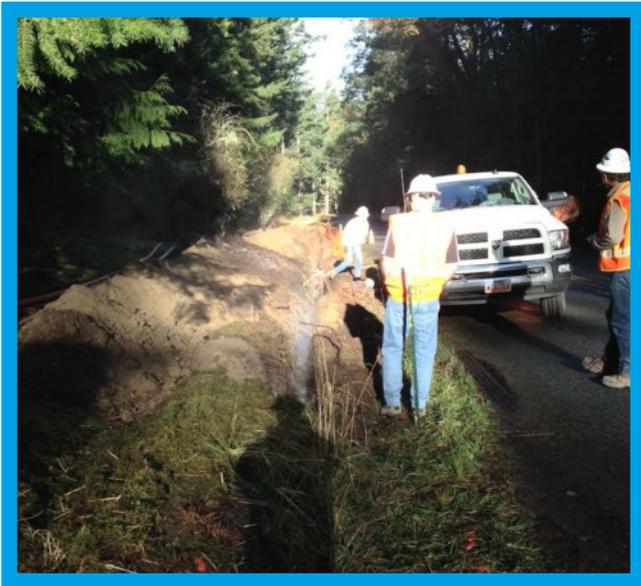
Team RBC has hired Robin Barker to lead our team out of Rathdrum, Idaho.

Robin went to work in 1978 for GTE which later became Verizon. He worked in many different capacities out of Sandpoint and Coeur d' Alene, Idaho. In 2007 he retired from Verizon and went to work for Henkel's and McCoy as an area manager for Idaho, Montana and parts of Oregon and Washington. He did estimating and managed crews building fiber to the home projects in numerous states.

Robin has been married to his wife Christie since 1978. They have 2 grown children, Stephanie and Ryan, two grandsons and one granddaughter. Robin enjoys camping, hunting fishing, ATV riding and riding his Harley. He loves spending time with his family and many friends. We look to the knowledge Robin has to help RBC excel and welcome Robin to the team.



## San Juan Islands Job's



Buck Davenport exiting trench,  
Dan Cook center, Jim Cooper  
Right. Trenching on Lopez Island  
in Washington



Bert Pegg finishing concrete on a  
cabinet site. On Lopez Island in  
Washington

# Toys for Tot's



Martina in Vancouver



Colorado



Kennewick



Seattle

Toys for Tots thank you!

RBC had 4 offices participate in the toys for Tots drive. We thank Martina Tarango for heading up the drive. Vancouver, Seattle, Denver & Kennewick. Together the offices collected over 125 toys. Also thank you to our subcontractors and suppliers that contributed.

# A NOANET PROJECT In GLENOMA, WA



left to right is Fred Steinbach  
and Trent Steinbach



Fred Steinbach on RT 115  
Cable Plow



from left to right is Trent Steinbach-  
Bryson Hill and Ron Hanson



left to right Fred Steinbach  
and Trent Steinbach.



Walker Matlin in bucket, Obie Garza on ground Left, Don Barragan ground Right.



Obie Garza ground left, Walker Matlin in Bucket center, Don Barragan ground right.



Don Barragan lashing fiber



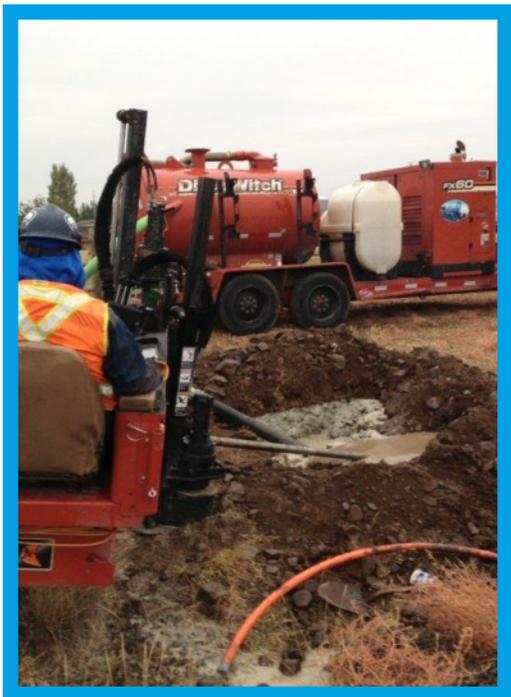
Tony Jensen operator with Roberto Hernandez; groundman performing cleanup after placing new conduit on Tucannon River Wind farm near Dayton, WA.



Shannon Stiles doing maintenance in our Othello facility. Getting things ready for the next big project that starts in 2017.



Fred Steinbach blowing 144 count fiber in, Gig Harbor Wa.



Andy Nelsen operator of the Ditch Witch JT 25 drill in Ellensburg.



A Frontier fiber optic site build in Libby Montana. Left to right brothers Paul and Rob Martin.



Chris Kronich on ground, Gene Lougee on Backhoe. On a cable project in Silverwood, ID.



Andy Morgan  
performing a drill shot  
in Raymond, WA.

# EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION:

**Fred Steinbach** 9/7/16 Received RBC Hydro Growler for excellent job and asset maintenance (Pacific county )

**BJ Hill** 9/7/16 Received RBC Hydro Growler for excellent job and asset maintenance (Pacific county )

**Ron Hanson** 9/7/16 Received RBC Hydro Growler for excellent job and equipment maintenance (Pacific county )

**Trent Steinbach** 9/7/16 Received RBC Hydro Growler for excellent job and equipment maintenance (Pacific county )

**Jose Esparza** 9/7/16 Received RBC Hydro Growler for excellent job and equipment maintenance (Pacific county )

**Dakota Booker** 9/8/16 Received RBC Polo Shirt for safety and production (Vernonia )

**Roderick Gray** 9/8/16 Received RBC Hydro Growler for exceptional job maintenance and clean up (Vernonia )

**Chris Smith** 9/8/16 Received RBC Hydro Growler for exceptional job maintenance and clean up (Vernonia )

**Buck Davenport** 9/8/16 Received RBC Hydro Growler for excellent leadership and safe production (Vernonia )

**Tanner Porter** 9/8/16 Received RBC Hydro Growler for P.P.E expiration verification and replacement RE: Hardhat (Vernonia )

**Bill McCoy** 9/13/16 Received RBC Hydro Growler for exceptional project Management and keeping crews updated on safe operations ( Pacific and Wahkiakum county projects )

**Rob Martin** 10/11/16 Received RBC Hydro Growler for detail on safe operations and Complete JHA'S ( 16-FIM-128 Libby MT )

**Tony Jensen and Roberto Hernandez** both received RBC Buck Knives for Good Standing with PGE on safe operations and work performance ( 16-MIS-442 Tucannon Wind )

**Sam Farra and Bryan Herrick** 10/26/16 both received RBC Growlers for P.P.E/JHA Complete and helping ensure RBC Assets are kept clean and trash free. 15-WAV-048 Rochester WA

**Bryson Hill and Trent Steinbach** 11/3/16 both received RBC Buck knives for Completed JHA and general overall safety operations and P.P.E Toledo WA Bore shot

**Cory Rosenow** 11/14/16 received RBC Thermos for 2 years no recordable accidents/incidents. Tri Cities

**John Taylor** 11/14/16 received Plier set for safe operations in the field. Tri-Cities

**Walker Mattlin** 11/14/16 received RBC Growler for safe work practices. Badger mountain project

**Jim Rosenthal** 11/14/16 received RBC Growler for 2 years no recordable accidents or incidents Tri Cities

**Sam Tebay** 11/14/16 received RBC Growler for 2 years no recordable accidents or incidents Tri Cities

**Sergio Chavez** 11/14/16 received RBC Buck Knife for safe work practices Tri-Cities

**Obie Garcia** 11/14/16 received RBC Thermos for safety practices in the field Badger Mountain Project

**Dakota Kienbaum** 11/14/16 received RBC Buck Knife for working with new hires on Pre-Trip Vehicle and equipment inspections Noanet Projects

**Alfonso Cobian** 11/14/16 received Plier set for showing outstanding interest in learning safe work practices Noanet Projects

**Tom Gear** 11/14/16 received RBC Growler for 2 years no recordable accidents or incidents Tri-Cities



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