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N E W S L E T T E R   A P R I L   2 0 0 5

Rocky Hill Exeter

Next new tower to be operational in April
Expanded service for Exeter, Badger Hill Estates, and Woodlake

This photo in early March marks the initial ground breaking for our next new tower, on what we refer to as "RHE" (Rocky Hill Exeter) to differentiate it from our tower on the other Rocky Hill east of Porterville.

The foundation for the new tower has now been formed and poured. The tower should be ready to stand in early April, followed by service around the middle of the month.

This tower, standing approximately 60 feet tall, will substantially improve our high-speed wireless Internet service to the Exeter area. New service will also be provided to Badger Hill and north toward Woodlake and Ivanhoe.

Limited service will also be extended in the direction of Mehrten Valley, Lemon Cove, and the Three Rivers area. Please check our website or contact our office for more information!

Generator Backup

In our February 2005 issue, the article *Whatever It Takes* described what can happen after several days without sunshine at our solar-powered tower sites.

Since then we've installed generator backup units at three of those sites, to recharge the storage batteries after their typical three-day reserve has been depleted.

A search for suitable units a year ago came up short. Everything on the market was either much too large for our needs, or was gasoline powered – which poses a number of problems relating to extended storage and remote starting in cold conditions or following long periods of inactivity.

WIRELESS SERVICE AREAS

New customers in Yokohl Valley and Balch Park say service is GREAT!

- Porterville
- Springville
- Pleasant Valley
- River Island
- Globe Drive
- Strathmore
- Terra Bella
- Lindsay
- Exeter
- Visalia
- Yokohl Valley
- Camp Nelson

In progress
- Success Valley
- Richgrove

NEW! Our new Rocky Hill Exeter tower will be operational this month!

• **VIRUSES STOPPED BY OCS SYSTEM: 1,073,124** (last 30 days 5,108)
• **SPAM BLOCKED BY OCS SYSTEM: 23,993,389** (last 30 days 668,548)

What Channel Are You On?

Wireless technology uses "channels" within the assigned frequency range to help avoid conflicts and interference with other devices. Several types of devices share the same frequency range as wireless Internet, including (to name a few) microwave ovens, cordless telephones, and baby monitors.

Increasingly there's another gadget finding its way into homes and offices, the wireless network router. These devices are used to connect multiple computers to a network, and doing it wirelessly means there's no need to run a physical cable between each of them.

This is not only fast and easy – it also adds flexibility, allowing for example a wireless-enabled laptop to be carried from one room or office to another, or out onto the patio, without needing to be plugged in.

The rest of the good news is that wireless routers are widely available, they're inexpensive, and they're easy to set up.

Work from home!!!

OCS can connect your home to your office or tie multiple offices together at high speed and with full "VPN" security, anywhere in the Valley or beyond…

OCS dialup and wireless plans are described at www.porterville.com

Internet Plans and Pricing

Call about eCommerce!

THE *NATIONWIDE* OCS REFERRAL PROGRAM
If you refer a friend, family, or business associate to OCS, tell them to mention your name and you'll receive up to a month of free service! **Our subscribers have earned $37,151 so far!** Click *Referrals* on our home page for details. Your friends may simply click *Subscribe* to sign up online, now from anywhere in the country!

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Generator Backup
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We were considering a custom-engineered solution, but hadn't got to it yet. The ferocious hurricane season in Florida last fall then prompted a market demand for smaller propane-powered units, and when an ideal model for our needs became available we immediately got on the list of back-orders.

We can start and stop these new units remotely from either our office, or actually from anywhere in the world where we have access to the Internet (see last month's article *OACYS in Japan*). They can also be configured to respond without intervention to a low battery voltage situation, starting and stopping automatically as required.

The propane fuel burns cleanly, it can be stored indefinitely without building up a sludge, and because it's pressurized it remains reliable for cold starts even after extended periods of inactivity. So with tanks holding enough propane to last through the winter, our late night recharging adventures may now fade into history.

The heavy weather may be pretty much behind us for this season, but now we're ready for next year!

NATIONWIDE OCS SERVICE for
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With over 2,500 free local access numbers across the country, you can keep quality OCS dialup service when you travel or even if you move. Or recommend it to your friends, family, and business associates across the country and earn referral credits at the same time! To check for available numbers in different areas of the country, just click "Nationwide Numbers" or "Access Numbers" on our website. New accounts may sign up using the handy "Subscribe Online" procedure on our home page. Call us for more information!

What Channel Are You On?
Continued from Page One

However, there can be a little more to it than might first appear. Remember that thing about channels? Your microwave oven and those other devices don't allow you to fine-tune the channel they're using, but that's a standard part of the setup procedure for wireless routers.

And the conflict thing? If the new wireless router is set to a channel that's on or near the same channel that your wireless Internet connection is using, there is almost certainly going to be an interference issue.

That's why, when a customer calls to report a problem with their Internet service, we've added another new support question – "have you recently installed a new wireless router?"

This is simply one of those things that doesn't trigger a second thought. Networking homes and offices is increasingly popular, but the potential for creating a conflict with a wireless router often doesn't register.

So now you know! Our recommendation is to check with OCS *before* adding one of these devices. We can tell you what channel to select in order to avoid a conflict with your Internet service.

OACYS INTERNET SERVICE PLANS

Plan Name	Average Speeds			B-M-W[1]	One-Time Fees			Monthly Service
	Min	Typ	Max		Service Activation	Install/ Configure	Equipment Deposit	
				1 Bandwidth-Mailboxes-Webspace (see notes)				
DIALUP	26K	40K	53K	1-5-5	25.00	-	-	24.95
Accelerator	Typically 2-5X faster			-	-	-	-	+5.00
WIRELESS | STANDARD 2.4 GHz								
24 Basic	125K	500K	750K	10-5-5	25.00	100.00	200.00	49.95[2,3]
24 Premium	250K	1M	1.5M	15-5-5	25.00	100.00	200.00	79.95[2,3]
24 Business	375K	1.5M	2M	20-10-10	25.00	100.00	200.00	129.95[2,3]

2 Add $10 per month amplifier fee for locations beyond 5 miles from nearest tower
3 Add $10 per month for locations in designated remote service areas

900 Basic	125K	375K	750K	5-5-5	25.00	100.00	200.00	59.95[4,5]

Special "mission impossible" cases are those where obstacles such as trees or buildings between the wireless tower and the customer site normally make wireless service impossible. OACYS can now use new technology to provide service in some cases, sending signal around or through the obstacles. Individual circumstances will vary and this plan may not be available from all towers. Our free site survey will determine whether 900 service may be feasible when standard 24 service is not.

4 Add $10 per month amplifier fee for locations beyond 5 miles from nearest tower
5 Add $10 per month for locations in designated remote service areas

WIRELESS | MISSION CRITICAL 5.8 GHz (where available)								
58 Premium	250K	1M	1.5M	15-5-5	25.00	100.00	200.00	99.95
58 Business	375K	1.5M	2M	20-10-10	25.00	100.00	200.00	129.95
58 Professional	500K	2M	3M	25-25-25	25.00	100.00	200.00	159.95
58 Corporate	750K	3M	4M	30-30-30	25.00	100.00	200.00	199.95
58 Enterprise	1M	4M	5M	40-40-40	25.00	100.00	200.00	249.95

Notes. All plans include automated central email virus scanning, email spam filtering, and website parental controls. Some plan types permit webspace for personal use only. Wireless installation and deposit package may be paid in installments upon request. All speeds are symmetrical (same for upload and download) within the OACYS network only. All plans terminate at OACYS Porterville headquarters and transport to the Internet via dual T3s over dedicated OC12 fiber optic circuit. All plans subject to change without notice. Pricing and terms are current at the date of this newsletter and supersede previous versions. Please check with our office for additional detail regarding any of our Internet service plans.

Meet the Team -- We ran short on space this month but there are still more to meet! We'll continue this series next month...

I Didn't Know That!

OCS provides "A-to-Z" computer technology services:

• Complete computer service and repair shop

• Broad variety of Internet access plans and packages

• Professional website design, development, and hosting

• Professional programming and custom application development

• eCommerce and business groupware solutions

• Computer and Internet technology consulting

• Secure branch office inter-networking

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• iSuite of online utility applications

To set Account Preferences or make Payments Online, click UserAdmin on our website