

Mechanic Keeps KPUD Fleet Running

Klickitat PUD is happy to have Skip Mulrony join its ranks as a mechanic in April 2011.

Skip is responsible for maintaining, trouble-shooting, diagnosing and repairing the entire KPUD fleet. The fleet has about 150 vehicles and pieces equipment, including trucks, diggers with derricks, backhoes, trackhoes, trenchers and power equipment. The mechanic works with drive trains, hydraulics, pneumatics, brakes, electrical systems, tire maintenance and radio equipment.

Skip comes to KPUD from Halton CAT, where he was a mechanic for 24 years. His work history with Halton prepared him well for the tasks and demands of his new job. As a mechanic for Halton, travel was part of his daily routine, but now Skip enjoys the advantages of a short commute to the KPUD warehouse.

Looking back over his career, Skip recalls an opportunity his job at Halton gave him. He took two trips to a remote location near a frozen village in Russia, where he assisted a logging operation in getting its equipment up and running.



Skip Mulrony

His travels turned into quite an adventure that included spending four days without an interpreter, bartering for his own food and lodging, and even drawing the attention of the Russian mafia. Despite poor living conditions and differences in culture, Skip fully enjoyed the adventure.

“If they would have asked, I’d have gone back in a heartbeat,” he says with a smile.

Skip was raised in the Goldendale area. At age 16, he started working for Skeeter Theabolt at a full-service gas station, where he did mechanic work, pumped gas, fixed tires and brakes, and worked his way through high school.

After graduation, Skip earned a degree in diesel technology from Yakima Valley Community College. He was offered a job right after graduation and went to work as a mechanic for the St. Regis Lumber Co.

When he is not in the KPUD shop, Skip can be found farming and working at his home. He enjoys hunting elk and deer, and packing in after them by horseback.

Skip has been on the Klickitat County Fair board for 15 years in many different capacities, and rodeo organizer for 13 years. He is a proud member of the Cowboy Memorial.

Congratulations to Skip on his position. Klickitat PUD is proud to welcome him aboard. ■

Order Now for Native Plant Sale

Nelson Henderson, a farmer, World War I veteran and pioneer, is perhaps most famous for his quote: “The true meaning of life is to plant a tree, under whose shade you do not expect to sit.”

Are you ready to plant a tree, shrub or perennial seedling this spring? It is time to place your order for low-cost native tree and shrub seedlings with your local conservation district.

Wherever you live in Klickitat County, you are able to purchase low-cost native seedlings, such as Douglas fir, ponderosa pine and mock orange, for planting in your forest, backyard, streamside or anywhere on your property.

Underwood Conservation District will accept orders until March 1. Seedling pickup will be Friday and Saturday, March 23-24, in White Salmon.

To view a list of the 19 available species, a price list and an order form, visit the UCD website <http://w3.gorge.net/>

ucd/treesale.htm. For more information and to order, contact the UCD office at (509) 493-1936 or ucd@gorge.net.

Eastern and Central Klickitat conservation districts will accept orders until March 16. Seedling pickup will be March 24 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Goldendale.

To view a list of the 78 available species, a price list and an order form, visit E/CKCD websites at www.ekcd.org and www.ckcd.org. For more information and to order, contact the E/CKCD office at (509) 773-5823 ext. 5 or cdoffice@gorge.net.

Prices vary depending on species, but most seedlings cost between \$1.25 and \$4.50. Large quantity discounts are available. Quantities are limited, so order early for best selection.

If you act now, you just might be able to sit in the shade of the trees you plant. ■

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

February

- 4**—Pinochle, 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., Odd Fellows Temple, 301 NW 2nd St., Goldendale.
- 4**—Lyle Lions first Saturday breakfast, 7 a.m. to 10 a.m., Lyle Lions Community Center.
- 9**—KPUD irrigators meeting, 9 a.m., Alder Creek Grange Hall, Bickleton.
- 11**—Brad Paisley concert, Tacoma Dome.
- 14**—KPUD commission meeting, 2 p.m., Goldendale.
- 16**—KPUD irrigators meeting, 9 a.m., Goldendale Grange Hall.
- 20**—President’s Day. KPUD offices will be closed.
- 24-26**—Home and Garden Show, TRAC Center, Pasco.
- 26**—Harlem Globetrotters, 3 p.m., Yakima Valley Sundome.
- 28**—KPUD commission meeting, 2 p.m., Goldendale.

March

- 2-4**—America’s Largest Antique and Collectible Show, Portland Expo Center.

To have an event listed in the community calendar, call (509) 773-7606.