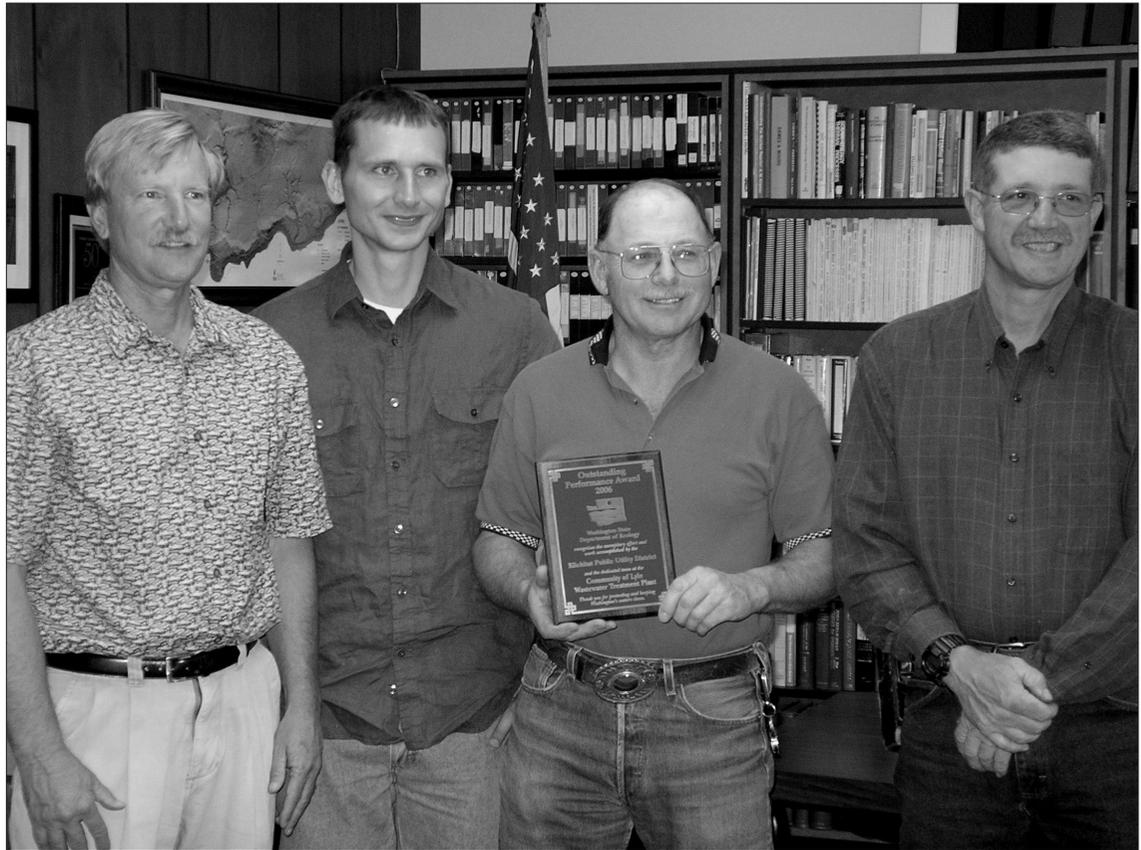


Treatment Plant Operator Howard Sinor dedicated 17 years to working for Klickitat PUD. He and his coworkers received an award from the Washington State Department of Ecology in 2006 for outstanding performance at the Lyle Wastewater Treatment Plant. From left, Doug Miller, Eric Shea, Howard and Tim McMurrin.



## Howard Sinor Retires After 17 Years

By Lori Froehlich

Howard Sinor was hired as a part-time employee for Klickitat PUD's water department in 1996. It wasn't long before he was asked to be a full-time employee for the department.

"Howard proved to be a true gold mine," says Doug Miller, retired supervisor of the water wastewater department. "He worked tirelessly to make sure the Glenwood water and sewer systems were performing at the most efficient means available.

"Howard needed very little instruction on getting jobs done. He was always on time and stayed

until the job was completed. Even those cold midnight call outs, he was the one we could count on to be there and have the tools ready to fix whatever needed to be repaired. The snow and ice are an everyday occurrence in the Glenwood Valley during the winter, and he managed to be at his job on time, whether it was Glenwood or at other KPUD systems throughout the county, such as Klickitat or Roosevelt."

Howard saw the PUD change a great deal through his tenure, especially in the water wastewater department. He saw the addition of new water and wastewater systems, new automated wastewater

plants, new managers, and the switch from reading water meters by hand to installing touch- and radio-read meters.

One event Howard remembers fondly is the purchase of a trackhoe. For the first decade he worked at KPUD, all of the ditches were dug by hand.

"The PUD has come a long ways, and after everything I've seen, I am convinced the PUD is in good hands and the general manager has each community's best interest at heart," Howard says.

As a treatment plant operator, Howard not only was responsible for helping protect the

health of Washington's waters, he was responsible for keeping the customers and communities throughout Klickitat County healthy with safe and reliable drinking water.

Howard says he is excited to embark on his new adventure of retirement. He has so many plans to fill his days, he will wonder how he ever had time for his work.

His wife, four daughters, one son, 10 grandchildren and one great-grandchild all will see more of him, as he plans to spend more time with his family. They are spread across the United States, so he will see more of the country in his travels, including Hawaii, Massachusetts and Florida.

Howard's neighbors and friends in Glenwood will still see him, as he plans to spend a fair share of his time at OK Ranch. He plans to continue to fish, hunt and make more knives and arrowheads while he learns the art of knapping.

The community of Glenwood gains an energetic citizen as Klickitat PUD loses a valued employee.

"It will be tough for folks not to be able to walk across the street and ask Howard for some help on a water leak, or where to find a shut off, or any other number of little favors he was always ready to do," Doug says.

Howard's positive attitude, dedication, work ethic, experience and knowledge will be missed. Of course there are other employees to do the work, but with Howard's retirement, there is a large void that is hard to fill.

Best wishes to Howard and his family from everyone at Klickitat PUD. ■

## Walkley Scholarship Nominee Selected

Kelsey Howard, daughter of Lake and Sheila Howard of Goldendale, was selected as Klickitat PUD's nominee for the \$1,000 Walkley Scholarship 2013 drawing.

This scholarship is sponsored by Glenn and Elvira Walkley. Glenn was a Franklin County PUD commissioner from 1945 to 1980.

The Washington PUD Association's awards committee holds the final drawing for the winner of the 2013 scholarship. Nominees included in their drawing are submitted from all Washington public utility districts that are members of the Washington PUD Association.

Kelsey's name was drawn from other eligible high school seniors who are children of KPUD employees. The other student included in the drawing was Rachel Starr, daughter of John and Toni Starr.

Kelsey is a senior at Goldendale High School. She has had a busy high school career, and this year as senior class president she has a lot of responsibility. She played three years of soccer and four years of softball. She also is a member of Leadership class, the Leo Club, Purple & Gold Club, and the National Society of High School Scholars. Kelsey was a princess on the 2013 Homecoming court.

Kelsey has been involved in volunteer work through her organizations, and plans to continue as a volunteer after high school. One of her favorite volunteer efforts was participating in Global Day, where she helped raise money to send to villages in third-world countries. She also was part of a concert for veterans put on by Dr. Ogden's Eye Clinic, and raised money for the firefighters during the Monastery Fire in 2011.

Kelsey plans to attend college to become a registered nurse. She has not decided if she will attend a community college for the first two years or start at a university in the fall.

Kelsey would like to thank Klickitat PUD for the opportunity to achieve this scholarship. The PUD wishes her good luck in the Washington PUD Association's final drawing for the \$1,000 Walkley Scholarship. ■



**Kelsey Howard and her father, Lake, a journeyman lineman on the construction crew at Klickitat PUD.**