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OLSON
 COMPUTER
 SERVICES

NETWORKING THE
 COMMUNITY
 SINCE 1982

N E W S L E T T E R F E B R U A R Y 2 0 0 6

Stormy Weather!

The storms at New Year's this year were real whoppers! There was significant flooding in some areas, and quite a few trees and fences wound up horizontal. Even the Rose Parade saw rain for the first time in more than 50 years.



The impact on OCS service to our wireless customers was minimal. Around town a few rooftop antennas were knocked out of alignment, and at our Lindsay tower on "L Hill" (Elephant Back) we needed to resecure a panel that had worked itself loose.

The largest impact was at Alpine Village and the surrounding area. Edison power there went down for nearly four days, which exceeded our backup capacity. But, many of our customers up there were also without power so computers weren't much good anyway!

Last summer we equipped all of our solar-powered tower sites with backup generators that can be

controlled remotely from our office. Other than the brief and isolated exception at L Hill, these generators kept service up to all of the Lindsay, Springville, and River Island and Pleasant Valley areas despite several days with very limited sunshine. A year ago this would not have been possible.

A completely bombproof backup solution for the Alpine, Camp Nelson, and Pierpoint areas is still somewhat elusive due to the relatively small number of customers in the area and the potential for long periods of utility power outage. However as more people up there begin to use and rely on our service we'll be able to consider installing a winterized and extended capacity generator system at each of the wireless relay sites.

During the storms so far this season we've also handled calls from a number of customers who experienced brief power dips or outages at their homes, which can sometimes lose data or cause equipment problems. The simplest solution in many of these situations is an

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**WIRELESS
 SERVICE
 AREAS**

Subscribers on our new Rocky Hill Exeter tower say service is GREAT!

- | | | |
|-------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| • Porterville | • Strathmore | • Yokohl Valley |
| • Springville | • Terra Bella | • Camp Nelson |
| • Pleasant Valley | • Lindsay | <i>In progress</i> |
| • River Island | • Exeter | • Success Valley |
| • Globe Drive | • Visalia | • Richgrove |

Our new Rocky Hill Exeter tower also covers Badger Hill Estates!

- **VIRUSES STOPPED BY OCS SYSTEM: 1,247,807** (last 30 days 9,952)
- **SPAM BLOCKED BY OCS SYSTEM: 33,466,244** (last 30 days 1,307,895)

Wireless On the Road

It may seem the last thing you'd care about in the awe-inspiring cathedral that is Yosemite Valley, but wireless Internet service is now available at both the Lodge and the historic Ahwahnee Hotel. So you could email a breathtaking personal digicam photo the same day and forget the postcard! And for business folks, if you can stay in touch with the office you can stay longer.



Gift Certificates

Access to a world of information and knowledge has never been easier, and fast OCS Wireless Internet service makes a terrific gift! It's simple, just contact our office and we can make up a custom gift certificate for the amount of service you wish to give, from a month to a year or even a complete new installation. If it's for a new customer you'll even receive a referral credit for a month of free service!

Looking Back

- 5 Years Ago – OCS Wireless Internet Service pioneered, Dec 2000
- 10 Years Ago – OCS Local Internet Service pioneered, Oct 1995
- 24 Years Ago – OCS founded, Feb 1982

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!

Need qualified computer or network maintenance? Give us a call!

AMERICA SUPPORTS YOU

Our Military Men & Women

AMERICASUPPORTSYOU.MIL

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 \$41,567 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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Stormy Weather!

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inexpensive UPS (Uninterruptable Power Supply). These devices are essentially a battery backup unit that plugs in between your computer and the wall socket ... when a dip or outage is sensed, the batteries take over automatically and keep you running.

Larger units will provide this temporary power for longer periods of time, but a small device for home use will typically allow from 15-30 minutes for \$50-100, plenty of time to save your work and shut down normally if the power hasn't returned. You can find several UPS options at OfficeMax or other computer retailers, or online at apcc.com, or check with our office.

PS: For wireless users, don't forget to add a UPS where your wireless radio and possible router are plugged in!

Finally, if your computer is becoming important enough that staying "up and running" is critical even during power outages, we can suggest home or small business generator backup solutions that start automatically and provide power to your normal electrical outlets. This can also keep your refrigerator and lights running while you remain connected to the world, and the cost has become surprisingly affordable.

More than 99% of our customers can rely on OCS to be up even during power outages, and that's how you can do the same at your end.



NATIONWIDE OCS SERVICE for
FRIENDS • FAMILY • BUSINESS

Personal Technology

Walt Mossberg's flagship column in The Wall Street Journal is Personal Technology, which is available online at ptech.wsj.com and doesn't require a subscription. Here's a recent question:

Q: An IT director for a local bank told me I didn't need a firewall on my computer since I was using a router which acted as a hardware firewall. What is your opinion?

A: Some routers – the boxes that direct Internet traffic on a network – do include hardware-based firewalls that can help protect computers from hackers and other intruders. But I believe that everyone should also use a software firewall like ZoneAlarm, because you can't be too careful where security is concerned. You should at least turn on the free, built-in firewall that comes with Windows or with the Macintosh.



Fan Mail



"OCS is the best service I have ever had. I've had cable and DSL here before, and you are the best. I definitely want your VOIP when you get it." -SK, 10/05

"I want to thank your wireless crew profusely for all the work they did in getting service to us. At first it didn't look like we could get it in our location, but your crew went out of their way to set it up." -FH, 12/05



INTERNET
VOIP



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-Webpace (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	100.00	49.95 ^{2,3}
24 Premium	250K	1M	1.5M	15-5-5	25.00	100.00	100.00	79.95 ^{2,3}
24 Business	375K	1.5M	2M	20-10-10	25.00	100.00	100.00	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	100.00	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	100.00	99.95
58 Business	375K	1.5M	2M	20-10-10	25.00	100.00	100.00	129.95
58 Professional	500K	2M	3M	25-25-25	25.00	100.00	100.00	159.95
58 Corporate	750K	3M	4M	30-30-30	25.00	100.00	100.00	199.95
58 Enterprise	1M	4M	5M	40-40-40	25.00	100.00	100.00	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.

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
- Internet-based "VOIP" telephone services
- iSuite of online utility applications

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