

# THE KINGDOM CONNECTION

A Kingdom Telephone Company Publication

February 2015

## Taking Care of Business: 60 Years of Annual Meetings

It's nearly time for our members to get together to transact some business, and this seems to go naturally with a bit of visiting, good food, and an enjoyable time. This year will mark our sixtieth annual meeting, which has changed greatly over the years. Not much information exists on the earliest annual meetings, just a few anecdotes and memories.

As far as we know, the annual meeting has always been held on the first Saturday in March. Our longtime employees say that in the early 1980's, the meeting was held in a different exchange every year—one year at the Auxvasse or Williamsburg Elementary School, another year at North or South Callaway High School. Coffee and doughnuts were served or cake and punch on an anniversary year. It was sometimes necessary for Kingdom employees to go into local stores and businesses to round up enough folks to make a voting quorum. The elections were different, too. The three candidates who received the most votes were awarded the three positions being vacated; there were no specific representatives for each exchange.

This year, the meeting will be held in the place to which we've become accustomed in recent times: South Callaway R-II High School in Mokane. The date is still the first Saturday of March, in this case, the 7th. We will elect directors for the Mokane, Williamsburg, and At-Large Southern exchanges. The list of candidates appears on page 3 of this newsletter.

Registration begins at 10:30 a.m. Please be sure to bring the registration card included in the 2015 Annual Meeting Notice you will receive in the mail in mid- to late-February. The card is designed to make the registration process smoother and faster. It also allows you to become eligible for door prizes.

In the cafeteria, you can enjoy a luncheon of sloppy joes, baked beans, chips, and coleslaw. A beverage of your choice and pie are also on the menu. The Callaway County 4-H Clubs will begin to serve at 10:30 a.m. After eating, please proceed to the gym and take a listen to Doctor Jack, aka Jack Jones, General Manager of IAMO Telephone Company. Doctor Jack performs a variety of music and can be found on the Internet singing online karaoke. You can also pick up your door prize at this time.

The business portion of the meeting will be called to order at 1:00 p.m. When the election has been held and other business has been completed, drawings will be held for a flat screen television, a meat smoker, a Kindle Fire, 50 hams, and 100 turkeys. Special drawings will be held for those 12 Years Old & Under and 13-18 Years Old. The winner in each category will receive a \$50 cash prize.

Please be sure to join us—whether it is your first meeting or your sixtieth!



## GM TOM YOUNG TO RETIRE

It is with regret and warm wishes that we announce the upcoming retirement of General Manager Tom Young in April of 2015.



Tom joined Kingdom Telephone in 2007, taking over the position of General Manager. This was not Tom's first term of employment with Kingdom, however. He worked with the company from 1972 - 1998, filling the positions of lineman, I&R Technician, Combination Technician at Callaway Nuclear Plant, Central Office Technician, and Facilities Manager before leaving to join Grand River Mutual as the Bethany District Manager.

During his tenure in the telecommunications industry, Tom has served as a Central Region Director for NTCA, been a board member of MTIA and MO1Call, and Chairman of the Skitter TV Board.

Tom's plans for retirement will focus on activities that he has always enjoyed, but hasn't had time to do. First on his list is a new granddaughter scheduled to arrive in early April in Chicago.

Tom also plans to get a little exercise. He has signed up for two bike trips in 2015: the first, Bike Across Missouri, in June, and the second in September starting in Santa Fe, New Mexico and ending in New Franklin, Missouri, a jaunt of about 1,100 miles.

We thank Tom for his dedicated service to our company, and wish him a long, happy and healthy retirement.

## RENEE' REETER ON BOARD AS GENERAL MANAGER

Renee' Reeter, formerly Chief Financial Officer of Green Hills Telephone Cooperative, will succeed Tom Young as General Manager on March 2, 2015.



Renee' served as CFO at Green Hills in Breckenridge, Missouri, since 1999. Prior to entering the telecommunications industry, she worked as the Financial Manager for wholesaler Graves Menu Maker Foods, located in Chillicothe and Jefferson City.

She grew up in Kansas City and moved with her parents to Iowa during her senior year of high school. Renee' graduated early and began both work and college, earning a Bachelor's degree in Accounting and a Master's degree in Business Management.

Renee' has been married to her husband, Mike, for 27 years, and they have one son, Chase, who is a sophomore at Missouri State University in Springfield, Missouri. Chase is working on a Masters in Finance and a Major in Business Management. She has two step daughters, Michelle and Micha, and seven grandchildren, ranging from 16 to 20 years old. Her husband retired from United Parcel Service six years ago after thirty years as a delivery driver.

Renee' tells us she is very excited about the move to Kingdom and the opportunities it will present as she begins a new phase in her life. We welcome her and wish her the best of luck in her new position.

## MORE BANG FOR YOUR BUCK: NEW CHANNELS COMING TO SKITTER TV LINEUP

Listen up, Skitter TV subscribers, more channels are on the way! They are scheduled to be available in early February, although the exact date is not known as of this writing. Watch our website for more information!

**getTV (channel 15):** getTV is a new television network that airs classic films. You can enjoy the glamour of old Hollywood with legendary actors and award-winning films playing all day and night.

**Grit TV (channel 16):** Grit is the all-new network television home for your favorite bold, brave and legendary action heroes like Clint Eastwood, John Wayne, Steve McQueen, Bruce Willis, and even The Cisco Kid.

The line-up will also soon boast two more channels aimed specifically at women. The Oxygen Network features original reality television series, acquired scripted series and feature films. Bravo's original programming delivers food, fashion, beauty, design, and pop culture. Channel numbers are not yet available.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS & EXCHANGES

### President

Doug Lensing, Rhineland

### Vice-President

Eugene Richards, Tebbetts

### Secretary/Treasurer

Mike Love, Auxvasse

Jim Hughes, Hatton

Gene Eldringhoff, Big Spring

Randy Lee Smith, At Large: Northern

Glen Horstman, At Large: Southern

Jim Buffington, Mokane

Jim Blacklock, Williamsburg

General Manager, Tom Young

## A GUIDE TO VOTING AT THE ANNUAL MEETING

### Who is a shareholder?

Only those named on your monthly billing or the label of the Annual Meeting Notice are recorded as shareholders. No other person is eligible to receive a ballot to vote or win a prize at the Annual Meeting. If a shareholder wants to add a person to a share, the shareholder must contact our business office at 800-487-4811 and complete the proper document. This must be done before February 20th if it is to be effective for the Annual Meeting.



### What is a proxy?

A completed proxy allows another shareholder to cast your vote at the Annual Meeting. The Company bylaws state that a shareholder may vote only one proxy. You may either appoint a voter or leave the appointment of a voter blank to allow for your proxy to be given to another shareholder to vote as they choose. Should your appointed voter have multiple appointed proxies, they may vote only one proxy and all others will be considered spoiled. To complete your proxy, you are required to date, sign, and provide either your stock or telephone number on the proxy. Completed proxies must be legible. A shareholder must present a valid proxy when first registering to receive a ballot for that proxy.

### Why use a Voter Designation Form?

Churches, schools, corporations, cooperatives, partnerships, and associations are entities that must designate someone to vote for them. A designation may also be written on company letterhead and signed by someone of authority at that entity. The letter must indicate to which meeting the designation to vote applies. A qualified shareholder may vote as many valid designations as they bring to the meeting. The voter must present the valid designation form(s) or letter(s) when first registering to receive a ballot(s).

A proxy and Voter Designation Form are included on the inside back cover of the Annual Meeting Notice.



## FOR INFORMATION ABOUT OUR PRODUCTS OR SERVICES

(573) 386-2241 or (800) 487-4811

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

The business office will be closed on Monday, February 16, in observance of President's Day.

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHOOSES CANDIDATES FOR 2015 BOARD ELECTION

In a special meeting on January 6, the 2015 Board Nominating Committee chose six shareholders who hope to be elected or re-elected to the Board of Directors. At each Annual Meeting, our members elect three directors to serve three year terms. The nominees are:

### **Mokane Exchange**

Jim Buffington, 9654 St. Rd. C, Mokane  
Dee Pfeiffer, 9668 CR 447, Mokane

### **Williamsburg Exchange**

Jim Blacklock, 5230 St. Rd. YY, Montgomery City  
Virginia Gearhart, 10656 South St., Williamsburg

### **At-Large Southern Exchange**

Glen Horstman, 9643 CR 455, Mokane  
George Burre, 5087 CR 486, Tebbetts

Kingdom bylaws include two other methods of nomination. Nominations may be made by petition signed by fifteen or more shareholders. The deadline for petitions was 5:00 p.m. on Friday, January 16. Nominations may also be taken from the floor at the Annual Meeting.

# SOME THINGS ARE ALWAYS BETTER TOGETHER LIKE EXCELLENT SERVICE AND GREAT VALUE

You can get both, and so much more with our new Select & Save Bundles. Customize your services by selecting phone, unlimited long distance calling, Internet and even TV. Bundles start as low as \$87.95. Contact our office today to learn more.



**Your home and Kingdom communication and entertainment services.**  
*Always Better Together.*

## Select & Save Bundles

## APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE NOW FOR 2015 YOUTH TOUR OF WASHINGTON, D.C.

Washington, D.C. is a hub for American politics and history, and Kingdom Telephone will again send two students on the Foundation for Rural Service Youth Tour of our capital city. Students who have made the trip call it an “amazing experience” and “a trip you will remember forever.”

The four-day trip, from May 30 - June 3, brings together 100 high school students from across rural America. Students will tour Washington museums, monuments, and memorials; get a glimpse of governmental and legislative processes; and learn about the telecommunications industry and the FCC. Along the way they will make new friends, be entertained, and even dance the night away.

To be eligible for consideration, the student’s parent or guardian must be a shareholder of KTC stock and have service with Kingdom Telephone Company. The students must be age 16 or 17 at the time of the tour. The student must complete an application and return it with two letters of recommendation, postmarked no later than March 13. The final candidates will be interviewed by two members of the Board of Directors and two KTC managers. All expenses are paid by the company, and the students will receive \$100 in spending money for souvenirs and snacks.

Application forms may be downloaded at [www.kingdomtelco.com](http://www.kingdomtelco.com). They are also available at our business office or from your high school counselor.

