

THE KINGDOM CONNECTION

A Kingdom Telephone Company Publication

December 2016

Board Selects Nominating Committee, Chooses New Venue



The groundwork for the 2017 Annual Meeting of Shareholders is already being laid, and even though it is three months away, we want to inform you that this year the meeting will be held at a different location. **The 2017 venue will be North Callaway High School in Kingdom City.** The change was necessary due to a scheduling conflict with the South Callaway R-II School District.

The date is set for March 4, as required by our bylaws, which state the meeting must be held on the first Saturday of March each year. Shareholders will be asked to vote on various bylaw

changes at the meeting, including the bylaw mandating the meeting date.

The 2017 nominating committee for the Board of Directors was appointed at a meeting held on November 10, 2016.

Members of the nominating committee are:

- Kenneth Knipp, Auxvasse, 573-386-5191
- Jay Foster, Auxvasse, 573-386-2446
- Dorothy Brune, Tebbetts, 573-295-4055
- Donalane Richards, Tebbetts, 573-295-4786
- Paul Bader, Big Spring, 573-252-4594
- Doug Graue, Big Spring, 573-252-4553

Our bylaws describe three methods of nomination:

1. Selection by the nominating committee. If you are interested in becoming a candidate for Board membership, contact a member of the nominating committee before January 3, 2017. The committee will meet on January 3 at 6:30 p.m. at the business office.
2. Nomination by petition. Petitions must be signed by fifteen or more shareholders and delivered to the business office by 5:00 p.m., January 20, 2017.
3. Nomination from the floor. You may nominate a candidate from the floor at the Annual Meeting.

More details regarding the Annual Meeting will be available in the Annual Report and Notice of Shareholders Meeting that will be mailed to you in mid-February.

SAYING 'THANK YOU' TO OUR CUSTOMERS

The pleasant weather with sunny skies and warm temperatures added the perfect touch to our 2016 Customer Appreciation Day. The event was held on September 30 in the parking lot of our Auxvasse office. Kingdom customers enjoyed bratwurst, hot dogs, and chips with fresh hot kettle corn for snacking. Each shareholder received a t-shirt, and there was a drawing for two Roku 3 streaming video devices. Nita Wilkerson of Auxvasse and Kim Rayhart of Portland were the winners.

Informational booths rounded out the day. An Internet booth dedicated to streaming content online was popular as visitors learned about the money-saving benefits of cutting the cord on cable TV. We showcased our Jump 1, Jump 2 promotion which offers attractive and cost-cutting Internet upgrade options. The Callaway County Public Library provided an outreach display about their online catalog and e-book collection, and Missouri One Call was on hand to share goodies and information on the correct procedures to follow when digging and doing construction. All in all, it was a very good day!



KINGDOM PARTICIPATES IN LIFE LEARNING SIMULATION AT NCHS

Teens need all the help they can get to succeed as grown-ups, and learning some basic life skills can make all the difference in the world. The Reality Enrichment and Life Lesson (REALL) simulation is a unique program offered annually at North Callaway High School in Kingdom City. Held in October, REALL gives teens a hands-on opportunity to participate in the adult world they are about to enter.

For the second time, Kingdom joined United Security Bank, Richland Baptist Church, the Callaway County Sheriff's Office, and other area businesses in the program, constructing a simulated community in which the students would interact. Dana Myers, Kingdom Customer Service Representative, played the role of a utility in the simulation.

The students simulate the life of someone who has made negative decisions and experiences difficulties because of them, such as trouble finding employment, hardship paying bills, high stress, and strained relationships. The participants also simulate a lifestyle in which positive decisions can lead to better life outcomes, such as living wage employment, affordable housing and childcare, and time for hobbies and interests. The sessions end in group discussions with the goal of building an understanding of how responsibility, continuing education, and following the law lead to adult self-sufficiency.

STREAMING VIDEO SPOTLIGHT



Choice. It's one of the best aspects of streaming video over the Internet. Today it is possible to tailor an entertainment package for yourself that suits both your taste and your budget. More options become available all the time. In short, streaming just gets better and better.

The downside to all this choice is that it can be overwhelming. Streaming video is a relatively new way to watch TV, so there are a few things to learn.

In order to receive content over the Internet, you must subscribe to one or more streaming services like Netflix, Amazon Prime, Hulu, Sling TV, Playstation Vue or HBO Now. Dish TV also has a brand new streaming video option. It's just a matter of choosing which service(s) will suit you best. A little investigation and legwork will serve you well.

For instance, the person who is on a tight budget might try HuluPlus and Netflix. You will need a computer or a streaming device to watch. The cost for both services is under \$20 per month.

If you are married with children, take a look at Netflix and Sling TV which offer lots of options for on-demand children's content. A computer or a streaming device is necessary. Costs start at approximately \$30 per month.

The die-hard sports fan is the toughest cord cutter to please. Sports fans should investigate Sling TV and Playstation Vue. The rights to televising sports are expensive so the cost to view them begins at about \$50 per month for the two services. Connect with Playstation 3, Playstation 4 or a variety of streaming devices.

We'll take a closer look at streaming devices in a future newsletter, so stay tuned. In the meantime, you can find more information about streaming video on our website at kingdomtelco.com/streaming-video-guide.html.

UPDATE: BUILDING A FIBER NETWORK



Fiber is the future of our company. Copper cables will provide DSL to our customers, but we all want — and need — more speed. This is why it is so important that we continue to build our fiber plant. Construction has been completed on the northwest side of Auxvasse. We are starting to connect customers and have also gained new customers in these areas. The project has now moved on to the east side of Auxvasse moving east on HWY B towards Shamrock.

--Chris Meloy, Plant Manager

TECHNICALLY SPEAKING: PASSWORDS

A strong, complex password is essential to staying safe online, and many experts suggest using pass-phrases to achieve the greatest security.



A pass-phrase is a sentence that is easy to remember. In fact, pass-phrases are often easier to recall than are passwords. Build your pass-phrase from a quote you find notable or catchy. The quote might be from a book you love, a movie you have seen, a Bible verse or even an advertising jingle.

Blend the quote with special characters and numbers. This increase the complexity and makes the pass-phrase stronger. For example, "summertime-andthelivingiseasy" is better than "summer1." Mix numbers, capital letters and characters into your sentence to make it even better — "\$ummerT1me-AndTheLivingIsEasy."

RELAY MISSOURI PROVIDES PHONE ACCESS FOR HEARING AND SPEED IMPAIRED



Relay Missouri is a service that provides full telephone accessibility to people who are deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind, and speech disabled.

The service is always available — 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and 365 days a year. It can be used to

make telephone calls to family, friends, businesses or anyone who has a phone.

Relay Missouri operators voice everything you type and type everything you say. All conversations are private and confidential; no records of any conversations are maintained.

Relay services are available at no charge. There are no sign-up or monthly fees, and there is no need to change telephone service. If the call is long distance, the user will be billed for those charges by their regular carrier. The equipment itself is available upon request to eligible parties.

To learn more, visit relaymissouri.com or kingdomtelco.com/relay-missouri. To use the service, dial 7-1-1 or call the Relay Customer Service Hotline at 800-676-3777 to reach the type of relay needed.

HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS: APPLY NOW FOR A \$2,500 FRS SCHOLARSHIP



The Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) offers an annual college scholarship program to help further higher education among rural youth. The \$2,500 scholarships are available to students for their first year of college, university or vocational-technical school. The FRS Program encourages the students

to return to their rural hometowns after graduation, contributing to vital, healthy communities.

Each student is sponsored by an NTCA member company like Kingdom Telephone. The FRS funds \$2,000 of each scholarship and the sponsoring company awards the remaining \$500.

Seniors whose parents are Kingdom Telephone or Kingdom Technology Solutions customers may apply by obtaining an application from their guidance counselor. Forms may also be downloaded from the FRS website at frs.org. All applications should be sent directly to FRS and must be postmarked no later than March 1, 2017. Winners will be announced by May 1, 2017.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS & EXCHANGES

President

Mike Love, Auxvasse

Vice-President

Eugene Richards, Tebbetts

Secretary/Treasurer

Doug Lensing, Rhineland

Jim Blacklock, Williamsburg

Jim Buffington, Mokane

Gene Eldringhoff, Big Spring

Glen Horstman, At Large: Southern

Randy Lee Smith, At Large: Northern

Bennie Young, Hatton

General Manager, Renee' Reeter



FOR INFORMATION ABOUT OUR PRODUCTS OR SERVICES

(573) 386-2241

OFFICE HOURS

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

The business office will be closed on the following holidays.

- December 23 & 26 - Christmas
- January 2 - New Year's Day
- February 20 - President's Day
- May 29 - Memorial Day