

THE KINGDOM CONNECTION

A Kingdom Telephone Company Publication

February 2012

The 57th Annual Meeting Combines Business with Fun

All work and no play would make a dull annual meeting, and we aren't ever going to let that happen! Join the Kingdom directors and staff on Saturday, March 3, for a tasty lunch, some great music, a bit of serious business, and more than 150 prizes. The event will be held at South Callaway R-II High School where shareholders will elect directors for the Mokane, Williamsburg and At Large Southern exchanges. You will find the list of candidates on page three of this newsletter.

Registration will begin at 10:30 a.m. Please bring the registration card included in the 2012 Annual Meeting Notice you will receive in the mail in mid-to-late February. The registration card is designed to make the registration process smoother and faster. It also allows you to become eligible for door prizes.

Last year we served a luncheon of sloppy joes, baked beans, and cole slaw. Pie and beverages rounded out the meal. We received a highly positive response to the change in menu from the traditional soup and sandwich fare, so we will repeat the new menu again this year. The Callaway County 4-H Clubs will begin to serve at 10:30 a.m.

In the gym, beginning at 11:00 a.m., Win Grace (pictured at right) will play and sing in a wide variety of musical styles — mixing it up with old time country, French Canadian fiddle tunes, cowboy songs, soft rock, blues, folk, bluegrass, and Cajun. She'll sing (and maybe yodel!) and play piano, accordion, autoharps, guitar, and feet (seated clogging!). Win will be joined by friends (and ace musicians) Tom Weislocher and Thom Howard on keyboard/piano, guitars, bass, mandolin, banjo/guitar and who knows what else? She recently began writing songs, and will perform some of her original music for us.



Win Grace has toured and performed nationally for thirty years. She has recorded eight albums and joined other musicians on numerous recordings. Since she only performs for special occasions at this time, we are excited to have her performing for us and know you will enjoy her show!

The business portion of the meeting will be called to order at 1:00 p.m. When the election has been held, company news discussed, and other business has been completed, drawings will be held for a flat screen television, an Apple iPad, a Nook Color e-Reader, 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 of these categories will receive a \$50 cash prize.

We've got our fingers crossed for good weather and look forward to seeing you!

REGISTER FOR THE 2012 YOUTH TOUR OF WASHINGTON, D.C.



The groundwork is underway for the annual Youth Tour of Washington, D.C. Kingdom will send two students and a chaperone on the Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) tour. Each year, the FRS brings 100 high school students from rural America together for an educational experience in our nation's capitol.

The students, who must be age 16 or 17 at the time of the tour, will enjoy an all-expense paid trip plus \$100 of spending money for souvenirs and snacks. A chaperone will accompany the two Kingdom-sponsored students. Highlights include visits to such sites as the Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials; The Korean, Vietnam and new World War II Memorials; Mount Vernon, home of George Washington; and the Smithsonian Museums. Students also learn about the telecommunications industry, as well as the regulatory and legislative processes, by attending lectures given by prominent industry members. The trip will take place from June 2-6.

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 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.

The children and grandchildren of KTC and KTIS staff, board members, former employees, and former board members are not eligible to participate. Application forms may be downloaded at www.ktis.net. You may also call our business office or check with your high school counselor. More information about the tour can be obtained at <http://www.frs.org/youth-outreach/frs-youth-tour.html>.

FAQ: 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.

SSSHHH...DON'T BUG ME NOW! PRIVACY CONTROL/DO NOT DISTURB

Privacy Control and Do Not Disturb are two of our newest and most useful features. The duo puts you in control of who you speak with on your landline phone – and when you speak with them, for only \$5 per month. If you don't want to be bothered by incoming phone calls, you won't be! We all have times when our personal priorities take precedence over random interruptions. At the same time, we don't want to miss really important calls. These features let you pick and choose, giving you more control than any of our other previous calling features. If you would prefer to have only Privacy Control or only Do Not Disturb, the charge is \$3 per month.



Privacy Control intercepts telemarketers, unknown callers, and callers who have their number blocked from displaying on Caller ID. The first facet of the feature is the Allowed List. Kingdom has an established local calling area which Privacy Control considers to be Allowed Numbers. Callers from outside this local calling area

or unknown callers will hear the Telemarketer Screening Announcement. Once a caller has pressed 1 after hearing the announcement, they will be automatically added to the Allowed caller list and will not hear the announcement on subsequent calls.

The second part of Privacy Control deals with Private Callers. It addresses numbers that are shielded from Caller ID service. The announcement gives an additional option for the caller to press 1 to reveal their Caller ID information which will allow the call to be completed.

Finally, Privacy Control includes the Blocked List. If a number has been placed on your Blocked List, calls from that number will hear a message telling them that you do not accept calls from that phone number. We can all probably think of a nuisance number we would like to block!

The Do Not Disturb feature allows you to designate quiet times, blocking callers unless they have a 4-digit PIN override access number. This would be especially handy for folks who work second or third shift and don't want to be disturbed during the day or early morning when sleeping. Give the PIN out to close family members so you will always be available for them when a call is necessary.

SKITTER TV UPDATE

Excitement is building for the rollout of our Skitter TV product. We are learning what a complex venture the video business really is...contracts with content providers, upgrading of our network, trying to come up with packages and pricing. It is indeed a daunting task, but our team is working hard to keep a first quarter rollout a real possibility.



A crew from Montana will arrive in two weeks to install four satellite dishes next to our central office in Auxvasse. Equipment installation in the central office building has been going on for some time and network upgrades to allow us to transport the video signal have been happening in every exchange. In February we hope to begin actual testing in subscriber's homes. We will keep you posted on the progress. A channel listing is available at www.kingdomtelco.tv.

CANDIDATES FOR 2012 BOARD CHOSEN

In a special meeting on January 3, the 2012 Board Nominating Committee chose six shareholders who hope to be elected or reelected to the Board of Directors. At each Annual Meeting, our members elect three directors to serve three year terms.

The nominees are:

Mokane Exchange

Heidi Lindemann Powers

8411 State Road CC, Mokane

Stan K. Kriete

8304 County Road 448, Mokane

Williamsburg Exchange

Gene Austin

9722 State Road AB, Williamsburg

Wayne Schmidt

9382 County Road 184, Williamsburg

At Large Southern Exchange

Glen Horstman

9643 County Road 455, Mokane

Earl Williamson

9610 County Road 455, Mokane

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 20. Nominations may also be taken from the floor at the Annual Meeting.

CANDIDATES FOR 2012 BOARD UPDATED

A nomination by petition was received after the newsletter went to print. The nominee is:

Mokane Exchange
Jim Buffington
9654 State Road C, Mokane

The full list of nominees is as follows:

Mokane Exchange
Heidi Lindemann Powers
8411 State Road CC, Mokane
Stan K. Kriete
8304 County Road 448, Mokane

By Petition: Mokane Exchange
Jim Buffington
9654 State Road C, Mokane

Williamsburg Exchange
Gene Austin
9722 State Road AB, Williamsburg
Wayne Schmidt
9383 County Road 184, Williamsburg

At Large Southern Exchange
Glen Horstman
9643 County Road 455, Mokane
Earl Williamson
9610 County Road 455, Mokane

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

Danelle Uebinger, At Large: Northern

Glen Horstman, At Large: Southern

Henry Lindemann, Mokane

Gene Austin, Williamsburg

General Manager, Tom Young

IS THIS THE WAY WE PAY FOR THE INTERNET CHANGING?

Part 3 in a three-part series on our changing Internet experience.

As consumers, the price we pay for the products and services we buy every day is based largely on the quantity we are buying of that product or service; or stated more accurately, our “usage” of that resource. This holds true whether we are buying toothpaste, electricity, fuel for our vehicles or Internet service. The greater the quantity we consume...our “usage”... the more we pay.



We even pay for “usage” on occasions when we might not be conscious of the fact that we’re paying for “usage”. Take buying a home, for example. The larger the home, the more “usage” of material and labor resources it took to build. And so the more we are asked to pay.

As we have discussed in the previous two articles, the Internet and the way we use the Internet has changed drastically in the past few years. Previously, the vast majority of us utilized our Internet connection to send and receive email, search for information or shop for the best prices on the things we needed. Today, in addition to the foregoing, we now listen to online streaming music, watch YouTube videos, enjoy full-length online movies and download the latest photos of family and friends.

As a result, the definition of Internet “usage” has evolved both rapidly and radically. Until now, most Internet service providers, regardless of how we connected to them, charged for Internet service based upon the speed of that Internet connection. Speed was the defined Internet resource that determined how much we paid for the service. The faster we wanted to go, the more we were asked to pay.

But with advances in technology, Internet connection speed has become a commodity; a facet of our service that is no longer the primary determination in how much we pay. More and more, service providers like KTIS/Kingdom are opening up their networks and allowing their service consumers to travel to the Internet as fast as the local network will allow. The local network has become a more fixed or embedded cost; a cost that increases very little with the changing way we consumers use our Internet connection.

Today bandwidth, defined as the quantity of Internet information that we consume...email, photos, streaming music and movies...is fast becoming the primary determining factor in how much we pay for our Internet service. Mobile wireless providers such as Verizon, AT&T and others have led the way with new monthly data plans that include preset levels of Internet data consumption. As demand for Internet-delivered resources continues to grow, Internet service plans will continue to transition away from today’s speed-based pricing plans to service plans based upon the quantity of the consumer’s Internet bandwidth “usage”.



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We’re the
Bird on the Wire.

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 in observance of President’s Day on Monday, February 20.