



Please be our guest at our
Customer Appreciation Open House on Thursday, July 23, 2009 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Come see us and enjoy a **FREE** lunch, **FREE** drawings for great prizes, and a tour of our remodeled office area!

2009 Annual Meeting, April 23 at the Eckley Community Center

This year's meeting of the Plains Cooperative Telephone Association, Inc. was held in the Eckley exchange, at the Eckley Community Center. Seventy-four cooperative members were in attendance for the dinner and meeting. The attendees enjoyed barbecue beef sandwiches and cookies prepared by the Eckley Community Center, and Plains Telephone employees enjoyed seeing some of the customers we visit with on the telephone.

After the meal, the business meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. Nellie Swale of the Eckley Community Church gave the invocation. Board President Terry Oestman introduced the Board of Directors, Company attorney, Ed Zorn, auditor, Dave Weber, and the employees of the company. Dakin Bushner was appointed to serve as Parliamentarian for the meeting.

Dave Weber, representing the Company's auditing firm, reported on the annual financial statements of the Cooperative and its subsidiary. He indicated that the cooperative paid \$313,000 in capital credits to members in 2008. That amount represented approximately 1/3 of the Cooperative's operating cash flow.

Manager D. Kevin Felty summarized the activities and accomplishments for the preceding year. The cooperative now has nearly 600 DSL customers, representing 50% market penetration.

Elections were held for directors from Cope, Kirk and Seibert. These three directors - Jim Cecil, Allen Liming and Kelly Burr were not running for re-election because of term limits. They had each served on the Board since 1994. The candidates who had filed proper petitions to run for these positions were Linda Sackett and Betsy Shaw from the Cope Exchange, Kent Ficken, Gary Hill and Lora Liming from the Kirk Exchange and Gerald (Jerry) Guy from the Seibert Exchange. Gerald Guy, being the only candidate from the Seibert Exchange, was elected by motion to cast a unanimous ballot. Ballots had been mailed to Cooperative members earlier in April and a teller committee was appointed to count the ballots for the candidates running from the Cope and Kirk Exchanges. By the vote of the membership, Linda Sackett was elected to serve as a director from the Cope Exchange and Lora Liming was elected to serve as a director from the Kirk Exchange. During the counting of the votes, attendees viewed a slide show made up of photos from the 2009 directory cover photo contest and prize drawings were conducted. The progressive cash prize drawing of \$400.00 was drawn from the full membership, with the prize to be awarded only if the member whose name was drawn was in attendance at the meeting. No one was able to claim the prize this year and the progressive drawing will move to \$500.00 for next year's annual meeting, which is scheduled to be held in the Anton exchange.



D. Kevin Felty.....General Manager

Board of Directors

**Terry Oestman.....President
Eckley Exchange, 359**

**Richard Meade.....Vice-President
Joes Exchange, 358**

**Denise Weyerman.....Secretary
Idalia Exchange, 354**

**Tom Rodwell.....Treasurer
Anton Exchange, 383**

**Gerald Guy.....Director
Seibert Exchange, 664**

**Lora Liming.....Director
Kirk Exchange, 362**

**Linda Sackett.....Director
Cope Exchange, 357**

**Our office hours are from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM,
Monday through Friday**

Do you need more time in your day? Save time and simplify your life with a little help from Plains Telephone

With so much to get done each day, we're all looking for ways to be more efficient. Plains Telephone has a menu of affordable and easy-to-use tools to help you accomplish more with the time you have.

Web Mail - perfect for when you are traveling, our Web Mail lets you check your e-mail from any computer with an Internet connection, wherever you go.

Online Bill Pay - Instantly pay your monthly Plains Telephone bill online using the bank account or credit card you designate. No more looking for a stamp or worrying about payments arriving late.

DSL High Speed Internet - if you need to spend time online, DSL is the ultimate time saver. Call us to find out about upgrading your dialup Internet service to DSL.

Plains Telephone also offers many optional calling features to customize your phone service to meet your specific needs. These calling features include a variety of ways to streamline your calling. Some of the more popular calling features are listed below. More information about our calling features can be found starting on page 3 of our 2009 directory.

Voice Mail - takes messages while you are on the phone or away from your home or business.

Caller ID - shows you the name and number of the caller.

Call Forwarding - forwards your calls to wherever you are.

3-Way Calling - this feature lets three people talk on the same call.

Speed Dialing (8 digit or 32 digit) stores a list of numbers that can be dialed quickly with a one or two digit number.

Automatic Callback - will notify you when the line is clear if the number you are trying to call is busy.

Automatic Recall - returns calls to the last number that called you, whether or not you answered the phone.

Distinctive Ringing - gives you a second telephone number which will ring differently on your phone. Great for kids, roommates, fax machines...any time you want to know who the calls are for.

Give us a call for more details. We'll work with you to customize your home or business service to your specific needs.



Building For the Future

If you've stopped by our office lately, you know that things are looking different. As of this writing, we're finishing up with the addition and remodeling project that started last fall.

The first wing of the present building was built in 1966. An addition built in 1980 tripled the floor space of that first structure. Some improvements have been made since then, including cabinetry built in the late 1980's, and the work stations in the front office, which were installed in 1995.

Our addition includes 3 new offices, as well as meeting space. The existing space has also been re-modeled and every bit of space will be utilized. We have a new mail room for processing customer mailings, an office for the outside plant manager, and work space for all the other employees. The result is a more efficient and attractive office building.

We hope you'll join us for an open house on July 23, 2009, any time between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm. We'll be serving lunch and you'll also have the chance to win some great prizes.



It's Thunderstorm weather!

Plains Telephone would like to remind you to protect your electronics during storm season. Lightning strikes can travel through the telephone line and electric energy can possibly be transferred. Please keep in mind these simple steps to follow before, during and after a storm.

Before: *Unplug electronic equipment (routers and modems as well as computers and cordless phones) if possible. Surge protectors cannot guarantee 100% protection.*

During: *Stay off the telephone unless you need to make an emergency call. Lightning can travel through telephone lines and there is a chance you could be hurt if you are on the phone.*

After: *If you have no dial tone, please check each device in your home that is plugged into a jack. Unplug all devices, then plug one back in and check for dial tone.*

We also want to remind you that your cordless phones won't work during an electrical outage, or when the phones are unplugged because of a thunderstorm. We encourage you to have at least one corded phone available for use in your house!





ECRWSS
PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Joes, Colorado
PERMIT NO. 4

Mark your calendar now!

Please join us on Thursday, July 23, 2009, for our Customer Appreciation Open House, from 10:00 am till 2:00 pm. **FREE lunch, FREE drawings, FREE fun!**

Don't forget to dial before you dig!



Summer is here! Have you spent the winter months planning your summer landscaping projects? If you need some ideas, try typing "landscaping ideas" in a Google search. You'll find sites with ideas, pictures, and how-to information. Here are just a few sites to get you started:

the-landscape-design-site.com, goldenplains.colostate.edu

Just remember that whether you are planting trees and shrubs, installing water feature or digging a new garden, every digging project requires a call to 811, the utility notification center, at least 48 hours in advance to have all your utility lines properly identified and marked by your local service providers. It's not just a suggestion, it's the law! Many utility services, including phone, electricity and gas come to your home via underground lines--and some may lie close to the surface.

By placing one call to 811 at least 48 hours in advance of your digging project, you can have all utility lines properly identified and marked by local service providers. You'll stay safe when you are digging, and avoid issues like gas leaks and service outages.

As one of your local service providers, Plains Telephone thanks you in advance for your cooperation in this community effort.