

Six - One - One

Volume 1 Issue 2

Quarterly Newsletter for Tri County Telephone Association, Inc. Members

August 2002

Capital credits checks issued

Capital credits checks were mailed at the end of June for credits accrued in 1983 and 1984. Members should also have recently received notification of capital credits accrued for the 2001 calendar year.

As most of you are aware, every current member of Tri County Telephone Association, Inc. receives a \$15.11 capital credit each month. That credit is deducted from your current capital credits for the calendar year in which it is issued and applied directly to your telephone bill. In addition to the capital credits refund, each subscriber line receives a credit from the Universal Service Fund. These two credits substantially decrease monthly telephone charges.

If you have questions about capital credits or the USF credit, please contact our office for clarification. Just dial "611" toll free to reach one of our customer service representatives.

Invitation to monthly board meetings

The Tri County Telephone Board of Directors meets on the third Wednesday of each month beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the company office in Basin. The board has set aside the first hour of each regular board meeting for member visitation and input.

You do not need to call in advance to attend meetings, but if you have specific topics to discuss, please write or call (611) one week in advance of the scheduled meeting date to ask that your discussion item be placed on the agenda. The board will then allow extra time to address the subject after researching the issues, to be sure that your questions will be answered on that day.

ADSL in Ten Sleep

As reported in our last issue, DSL has been offered in the Burlington exchange for several months and for about 3 months in Hyattville. The first ADSL customers in Ten Sleep were added in August.

DSL technology allows customers to access the Internet using a high-speed, constant connection without dialing up and a much higher speed than with a traditional 56K modem. Best of all, using the Internet with DSL will not tie up your telephone line.

Because of equipment and distance limitations, ADSL and VDSL services cannot be offered everywhere in Tri County exchanges at this time. Call 611 for details if you are interested in DSL service to your home or business.

Bylaws revision committee update

The bylaws revision committee has been working during the past several months to come up with a revised set of bylaws to present to the members. The proposed bylaws are scheduled to be mailed out, with this newsletter, to all members of the association toward the end of August. Also included in the packet to be mailed is a copy of the bylaws currently in effect, a letter from the committee explaining to the members what has been done and what the membership needs to do, a ballot with a variety of choices regarding the proposed bylaws changes, and an envelope in which to return the ballot.

Live election results

Several Tri County employees were busy August 20 covering the primary election returns from Big Horn County, live on the Internet and on TCT WEST Broadband TV Channel 60. With the combined efforts of many, the 3 1/2 hour live broadcast was aired locally to VDSL customers with commentators Scott Good of Greybull, and Carroll Miller of Shell.

As soon as results were called into the courthouse from county precincts, those numbers were relayed to the Tri County office where the information was input into computers, tabulated, and uploaded instantly to the Internet and to the big board in our studio. As the results showed on the board, they were announced to the TV audience and were also available on the Internet. The final results can still be seen at <http://www.tctwest.net/election>



Throughout the evening candidates were interviewed live via telephone. One candidate, Sheriff Dave Mattis, arrived at our studio shortly after confirmation of his primary victory, for a live TV interview.

We plan to cover the general election results on November 5 with live television coverage and Internet postings on our web site.

PRICE COMPARISON

Location	Prefix	Base Rate excluding taxes & surcharges	Wire Maintenance Charges	Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3	ADSL/VDSL	Walk-in Business Office	Custom Calling Features	Internet Service Provider	Local Exchange Carrier
Cody	587	23.10	4.95	15.50	25.50	46.25	No	No	3-Way Calling, Call Waiting, Call Forwarding, Speed Call, Caller ID, Call Rejection, Priority Call, *69, Redial ***	No	Qwest
	527										
	578										
Powell	754	23.10	4.95	15.50	25.50	46.25	No	No	3-Way Calling, Call Waiting, Call Forwarding, Speed Call, Caller ID, Call Rejection, Priority Call, *69, Redial ***	No	Qwest
Worldand	347	11.51 *	1.95	2.50	5.25	9.90	No	Yes	3-Way Calling, Call Forward, Call Forward Busy Line, Call Forward No Answer, Call Waiting, Call Transfer, Caller ID, Speed Calling, *69, *66, Call Forward Remote Access, Customer Originated Trace, Distinctive Ring, Selective Call Rejection, Teen Line ***	No	RT Communications
Thermopolis	864	11.51 *	1.95	2.50	5.25	9.90	No	Yes	3-Way Calling, Call Forward, Call Forward Busy Line, Call Forward No Answer, Call Waiting, Call Transfer, Caller ID, Speed Calling, *69, *66, Call Forward Remote Access, Customer Originated Trace, Distinctive Ring, Selective Call Rejection, Teen Line ***	No	RT Communications
Ten Sleep	366	18.52 **	1.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	Yes	Yes	3-Way Calling, 6-Way Calling, Call Forward, Call Forward Remote Access, Call Forward Busy Line, Call Forward No Answer, Call Forward Time of Day, Call Waiting with Cancel, Call Transfer, Caller ID, Speed Calling (8 & 30), *69, *66, Customer Originated Trace, Distinctive Ring, Selective Call Rejection, Selective Call Acceptance, Teen Line, Voice Mail, Conference Bridge, Unidentified Call Rejection, Long Distance Authorization Code, Toll Deny with PIN	Yes	Tri County Telephone Association, Inc.
Hyattville	469	18.52 **	1.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	Yes	Yes		Yes	
Burlington	762	18.52 **	1.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	Yes	Yes		Yes	
Hamilton Dome	867	18.52 **	1.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	No	Yes		Yes	

* Includes \$1.02 touch tone charge (included in base rate for Tri County Telephone customers).

** After credits have been applied.

*** Information obtained from PSC web site.

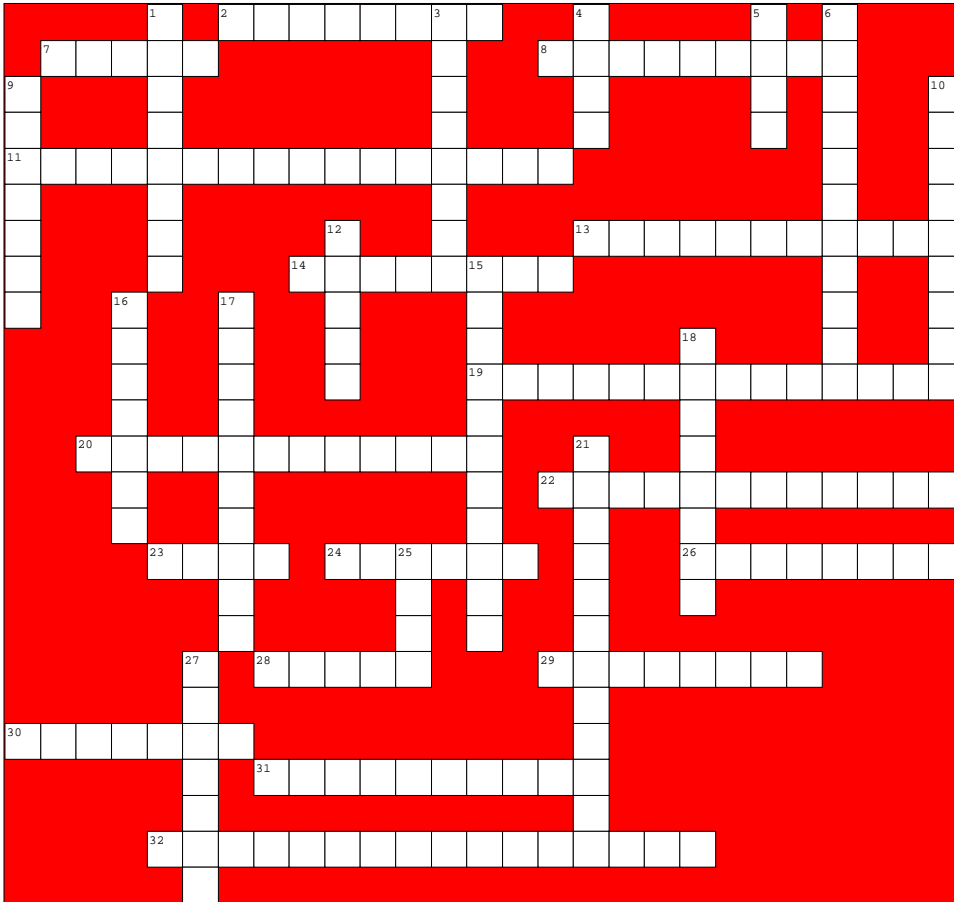
In order to understand the information contained in the above chart, customers need to look at both the basic telephone rates in each area and then also look at the zone charges. Tri County Telephone Association, Inc. no longer charges mileage on customer accounts. Many of you will remember that a few years ago you were assessed an additional charge for distance from our switching equipment. Because most of our customers are considered rural, a good share of you would be considered in the "zone 3" category. For example, many of you would have an additional \$46.25 per month charge on your phone bill (Monthly Charge = \$69.35 + tax & surcharges) if you were living in a Qwest area and a \$9.90 additional charge (Monthly Charge = \$21.41 + tax & surcharges) if living in an RT Communications area.

In addition, because their local telephone company cannot provide those services, many of our neighbors living outside the Tri County/TCT WEST exchange boundaries are unable to take advantage of the types of custom calling features that we have available to us. Where those features are available, the cost of the options per month are generally significantly higher than you are paying. For example, Call Waiting in Worldand costs \$3.50 per month compared to only \$2.00 from Tri County. DSL services (ADSL/VDSL - high-speed Internet/television) are not offered in the area except in Tri County/TCT WEST exchanges at this time.

What does this information mean to you as members of Tri County Telephone Association, Inc.? It means that your telephone rates are considerably lower than those rates for our neighbors in Powell and Cody. It also means that your rates are comparable with those rates in Worldand and Thermopolis.

Wyoming Trivia

The solution to this quarter's crossword puzzle will be printed in the next issue of Six-One-One. If you just can't wait, you can it online now at <http://www.tctwest.net/newsletter/newsletter2.htm>



TriCounty Telephone Association

ACROSS

- 2 Southern neighbor
- 7 First woman in the US to be elected to state office (Wyoming Supt. of Public Instruction - 1894)
- 8 First seen in Douglas in 1829?
- 11 State tree
- 13 First national park
- 14 Home of largest high school in Wyoming
- 19 State fish
- 20 Wind River's name is changed to this "in the middle of the stream"
- 22 Legendary name of the horse on Wyoming's license plates
- 23 Legend says this animal clawed the ridges in Devils Tower
- 24 Location of state's first coal mine
- 26 State nickname
- 28 Designer of the Wyoming state flag
- 29 Capitol location
- 30 County location of famed Hole in the Wall
- 31 State reptile
- 32 State flower

D O W N

- 1 30th Governor of Wyoming
- 3 The name "Wyoming" comes from this Native American language
- 4 State gemstone
- 5 First woman governor
- 6 First national monument
- 9 Department store chain founded in Wyoming
- 10 No natural drainage -- drains neither east nor west
- 12 State mammal
- 15 State dinosaur
- 16 Casper's baseball team
- 17 State bird
- 18 There are 23 in Wyoming
- 21 Nation's largest coal mine
- 25 First woman to head the US Mint
- 27 State song written by C.E. Winter and G. E. Knapp

Win \$10

Clip the form below and return it with your next telephone payment. We will draw three lucky member responses. Those three winners will each receive \$10 off their next phone bill. Entries must be received by September 20, 2002. Credit will be issued on the October 1 bill. Winners will be listed in the next issue of Six-One-One. The winners of our last contest were: Carla Loveland, Burlington; Bill Renner, Ten Sleep; and Steve & Carol Jones, Hamilton Dome.



Name _____ Telephone Number _____

Comments or suggestions:

Welcome to new members

The Board would like to welcome the following members who have joined the association through July 31, 2002:

Ten Sleep
Keith & Carolyn Gentzler
Wendy A. Harget
Jalan Crossland
Marie Saultz
Beth Forshee
David A. Brown
Janette Lantrip
Dawna R. & Travis W. Purdum
David & April Steed
Peggy Quinn
Tim Kurtz
Sandra Gaudern

Burlington
Fidel Herebia
Sandra Carrizales
Joseph D. & Donna S. Bassett
Craig & Leslie Jones
Joan Fabricius
Duane & Lisa Horton
Arden & Phyllis Christiansen
Phillip Boreen
Tess Tom & Joan C. Fremlin
David & Jennifer Franks
Aaron M. Maier
Larry D. Zeiter
Joan Meier

Hyattville
Jeff H. Page
Walter Schwede & Gail Baer
Adrienne Twitchell

Hamilton Dome
Durward D. & Deborah K. Jones
Sherri Turner & Mike Barham
Gaild & Mickie D. Ferney
Eugene R. & Laura J. Kuhman

Caller ID - Featured calling option

It is so nice to be able to *see* who's calling before you answer the phone. With Caller ID you can decide which calls to answer and which to ignore or deal with later.

Your Caller ID unit will keep a list of calls received with the names and/or numbers, if available, of each caller. The calls will be time and date stamped. Even if you have voice mail or an answering machine, many callers hang up without leaving messages. With the Caller ID call record, you will see a list of each call received, even if a message was not left.

Customers wanting this calling option must purchase a Caller ID phone or unit. That equipment does not have to be purchased from Tri County Telephone although we do have Caller ID units available for purchase and can be picked up at our office or mailed to you.

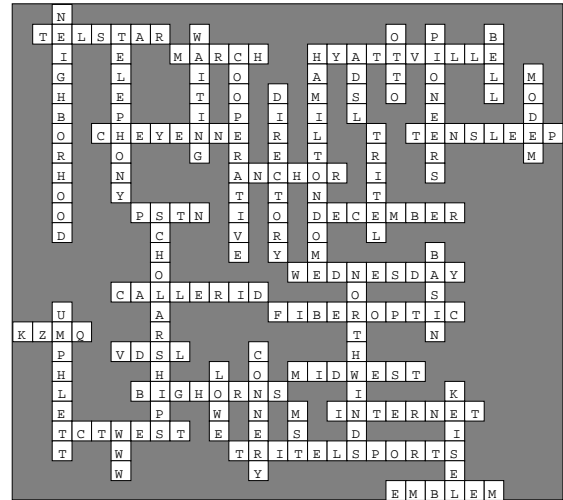
You may see detailed user instructions for the most popular features by visiting <http://www.tctwest.net/telephone.htm> on the Internet or look in the information pages of our telephone directory.

Tri County Telephone Association, Inc.

PO Box 310

Basin, WY 82410-0310

Answer to May crossword puzzle



Scholarship Awards

Tri County Telephone Association, Inc. and TCT WEST, INC. have awarded the following scholarships to area students:

High School Seniors:

Brittany Lyman, Ten Sleep HS

Sharae Bischoff, RMHS

Kimberly Miller, RMHS

Continuing Students:

Ross Tolman, UW

Teri Harrison, NWC

Kelly Skarda, UW

We congratulate these students and the other applicants for their hard work and wish them all the best during the coming academic year.

Board Members

William A. Greer, Chairman
Gene Anderson, Vice Chairman
Clifford Alexander, Sec/Treas
Hugh Vass, Member
Keefe Anderson, Member

Board Meeting Dates

August 21, 2002
September 18, 2002
October 16, 2002

