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Teleconnections

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Webster-Calhoun
Cooperative Telephone Association

1106 Beek Street, PO Box 475, Gowrie, Iowa 50543 ★ Phone: 515-352-3151 ★ www.wccta.com ★ www.wccta.net

Many People “Pop In” To Attend Annual Meeting!

Things **ARE** popping at WCCTA and approximately 300 people attended the Annual Meeting of Members recently to review the status of the cooperative. Members elected new board members and voted to amend the bylaws which would, effective in 2007, implement mail ballots, create three districts and reduce the number of board members to nine.



Utilizing a new accounting firm, Jeff Naig, of Kiesling Associates explained the financial statement. General Manager, Daryl Carlson, and Board President, Alan Jacobson, also presented reports to the members. All three discussed many things that continue to pop up in the telecommunications industry. As President Jacobson remarked, “The theme ‘Things are Popping’ is really an understatement.” One of the reasons WCCTA’s financials are so stable results from substantial returns on outside investments in three cellular RSA’s (Rural Serving Areas) as well as part ownership in another telephone company in eastern Iowa. This is becoming increasingly important as network access rates continue to decline and other venues of competition are being realized.

Webster-Calhoun continues to be aggressive with plant upgrades. The next round of construction also includes implementing fiber to the home. This begins the ground work for potentially offering a “triple play” of voice, data and video and other products and services that may “pop up” in the future.



Coordinating with this year’s theme, WCCTA employees, Miste Hansch (left) and Linda Lawrence (right), serve up popcorn after the Annual Meeting of Members.

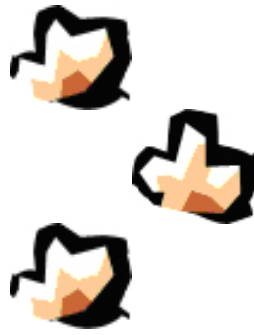
Congratulations to Newly Elected Board Members (Two Year Terms):

Glenn Stark, Boxholm
Morris Licht, Clare
Robert Taylor, Duncombe
Alan Jacobson, Farnhamville
Craig Fillman, Paton
Larry Winkelbauer, Somers



Dean Hoag (middle), pictured with General Manager, Daryl Carlson (left) and Board President, Alan Jacobson (right) was recognized at the Annual Meeting of Members for his service on the Webster-Calhoun Board of Directors.

Dean represented the Knierim exchange on the Board of Directors for the past 19 years! Thanks, Dean!!



The right numbers “popped up” for these lucky doorprize winners! Congratulations to:

Orval Herman, Moorland, Nemo Movie Pack
Sharon Axness, Badger, Gone With The Wind Movie Pack
Calvin Juergensen, Churdan, Shrek Movie Pack
Gary Boerner, Gowrie, The Notebook Movie Pack
Sally Woods, Gowrie, Western Movie Pack
Marie Hockemeier Ferguson, Gowrie, Oceans 11 Movie Pack
Cedric Marlow, Boxholm Exchange, Phillips DVD Player
Howard Piltingsrud, Gowrie, Sony DVD/VCR Combo
Eula Clutter, Farnhamville, Magnavox TV/VCR Combo
Walter Licht, Badger, RCA Home Theater System

Construction Continues...

Plans are already underway for plant upgrades in Somers, Knierim, Moorland, Boxholm, Pilot Mound, and Lanyon! Currently engineering crews from Martin Group and Vantage Point are in these areas mapping out plans.

The **Gowrie Development Commission** recently received funds from the **Iowa Network Services Charity Grant** for their recent revisions to the Gowrie web site. Pictured are (left to right) Patti Anderson, Gowrie Development Board Member; Rich Kloppenberg, Iowa Network Services, presenting a \$250 check to Gayle Rabbitt, Gowrie Development Board President; and Marcie Boerner, Webster-Calhoun, presenting matching funds of \$250.

Serving on the Gowrie Development Commission’s sub-committee for web site renovations included GDC Board Member, Patti Anderson, Morgan Fredrickson of Morgan Fredrickson Photography, and Marcie Boerner of Webster-Calhoun Cooperative Telephone Association.



Check out the new web site at www.gowrie.org.

PLEASE DON'T BURN DITCHES NEAR PEDS!!

If you choose to burn grass in ditches that have telephone pedestals, please make sure you leave a “buffer zone.” Heat from the fire creates a mess of melted wiring and conduit that potentially causes a loss of telephone service to your neighbors!!



Jeff Naig, CPA, CBM of Kiesling Associates gives the financial report at the Annual Meeting of Members. Naig, Partner-in-Charge of the Emmetsburg office, and several staff members visited WCCTA in February for the annual audit. Kiesling is a familiar company in the telecommunications industry and we are eager to utilize their experience.