

fall 2014

**IN THIS ISSUE**

Watch TVEverywhere Update  
Mail Server Upgrade  
Annual Meeting Recap  
Employee News

# THE DCT link

LIFE'S CONNECTIONS DAKOTA CENTRAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS

## Business Spotlight: Arrowwood Prairie Co-op



*Agronomy and Fertilizer Plant, Wimbledon*



*C-Store and Fuel Station, Carrington.*



*Main office and propane station, Carrington.*

**Our fellow cooperative Arrowwood Prairie Co-op is your local solution for all agriculture, fuel, and heating needs.** Whether you are in need of propane to heat your home, fertilizer for your crops, or gas for your vehicle – they've got you covered. With headquarters located in Wimbledon, the company also has multiple facilities in Carrington, Sutton, and Cooperstown. Each facility is a little different, offering a range of various products and services to fit their customers' needs. Arrowwood Prairie Co-op relies on high speed Internet and telephone connections in all daily operations. The cooperative utilizes Dakota Central services in five of their locations, which includes two facilities in Wimbledon and three in Carrington. Reliable Internet and telephone service is imperative in order to conduct business, as frequent communication takes place between all locations each day. Also, every computer runs on the same system – connected by the Internet – which means without it, they would have no way to operate the system on each computer.

### WIMBLETON

At Arrowwood Prairie Co-op's Main Office in downtown Wimbledon, you will find financial offices for the company, along with the C-Store, fuel station and a full service Auto Center. All propane needs are also taken care of here.



*Arrowwood Prairie Co-op Headquarters, Wimbledon.*

Services provided at the Auto Center include tire services, repair services, and oil changes.

Offsite from the Main Office, the Agronomy Plant is located right on Highway 9 on the East side of Wimbledon. Here you will find all agronomy services including seed, chemical, and fertilizer, as well as soil testing, crop scouting, and custom application services. The agronomy facility was recently updated in order to accommodate their growing customer base. New additions to the facility include a chemical storage building, new office area for the Agronomy Manager and Bookkeeper, and updated seed treatment facility.

### CARRINGTON

Carrington is home to three different Arrowwood Prairie Co-op locations, also providing you with agriculture, fuel, and heating solutions. The main office in Carrington, located downtown, handles all propane business, as well (*cont. pg. 5*)



# Letter from the General Manager

Keith A. Larson, CEO/GM

It seems like the summer months have passed very quickly as I see combines working in the fields already.

I would like to remind everyone that if you are planning to have us bury cable to a new building, please let us know as soon as possible. Every year it seems as though we receive calls just as the ground is ready to freeze and it is too late to get it in the ground. The next couple months will pass very quickly as fall work takes place, so let us know soon if you need cable buried. It's sad to think that freeze-up will be here shortly!

This summer we have been replacing the Optical Network Terminals (ONT) located on the outside of houses in the Carrington exchange. The new terminal will be located indoors and supports WIFI service. The ONT's are part of the first generation of fiber optic circuit equipment we began installing more than 10 years ago. Once the Carrington exchange is completed, Jamestown will be the next community on the schedule.

It has been a busy summer for our staff in all departments. As road construction proceeds throughout the summer, our Plant department has also been busy locating cable in order to prevent cable cuts. Inside the shop, our IT department has been busy transitioning customers' email accounts to a new server.

The FCC recently issued rules regarding the application process for \$100 million to fund broadband experiments in price-cap served areas, similar to the rural Jamestown area. Previously, we filed a letter with the FCC expressing our interest in the funding. If we intend to pursue the funding further, we will need to file a formal application with the FCC. The FCC specifically indicated it will focus the experiments on projects seeking 10 years of recurring support, rather than proposals for projects seeking one-time support to construct facilities. Projects will be accepted at both the census tract level and the even smaller census block area.

We are reviewing regulations to determine if the funding is sufficient to file an application for specific areas within rural Jamestown. Earlier this year we filed three applications for rural Jamestown through the Community Connect Program, funded by Rural Utilities Service. Those applications remain pending at this time, as we have not heard that any applicants have received funding yet. We will continue to monitor the broadband funding programs that become available for rural Jamestown, and hopefully will be successful in obtaining funding.

I wish you all a great fall season!



# INTRODUCING THE NEW VIP CONNECTION... IT'S A PRETTY BIG DEAL

SOCIAL INTERNET (30MBPS)  
DIGITAL TV  
WHOLE HOME HD/DVR  
LOCAL PHONE

Now offering the **VIP Connection** for all you **Very Important Peeps** out there: Social Internet @ 30 MBPS (to handle all of life's essential devices), Digital TV (fully-loaded), Whole Home HD/DVR (so you don't miss a thing), and local phone (to keep you in the loop). All that for the affordable price of \$133.75/month.

**Sign up for VIP status and you'll find a shiny \$100 credit on your next bill!**

Already a DCT customer? Upgrade your current status and get a **FREE** trial of our All Movie Package!

*Available to new or existing DCT customers. Contract term 12 months. Upon early termination, \$100 credit or All Movie Package (\$42.95) will be billed. Connect fee will not be billed.*



652.3184 Carrington  
952.1000 Jamestown

[WWW.DAKTEL.COM](http://WWW.DAKTEL.COM)



## Thank You To Everyone Who Attended the Annual Meeting!

Once again the Foster County Fairgrounds was full of buzz on June 4th for the Dakota Central Telecommunications' 63rd Annual Meeting. Registration was followed by the business meeting, concluding with a meal and good company!

During the business meeting, the following were re-elected to the DCT Board of Directors: Gary Heintz, Bowdon Exchange; Luke Kutz, Sykeston Exchange, and Mitch Schulz, Woodworth Exchange.

Pastor Randy Hahne gave the invocation and Mayor Don Frye welcomed everyone in attendance. General Manager Keith Larson and Board President Doug Wede gave brief presentations on various topics concerning the telecom industry at this time. Keith also presented the financial statements, reporting that the company had another financially sound year.

Concluding the meeting, door prizes were given out. This year, rather than handing out various gift items, winners received cash prizes in the form of a \$50 bill. The grand prize for the kids' drawing was a brand-spankin' new bike, won by Keaton Klocke.

Following the meeting, dinner was served by DCT employees and the Schoolhouse Café from Grace City. Over 300 people enjoyed shredded beef sandwiches, potato salad, pickles, and bars.

Thank you to everyone who attended and helped with the Annual Meeting. A special thanks goes out to the CHS Spanish Club, Pastor Randy Hahne, Mayor Don Frye, the Schoolhouse Café, as well as all of the DCT employees. Another year goes down in the books!



*DCT employees receiving service awards.*



*Directors Gary Heintz and Mitch Schulz also received service awards.*



*Keaton Klocke, winner of the kids' drawing for a shiny new bike.*



*Jamestown employee Denise with Ty Kulsrud taking the bike for a test drive.*



## Employee News...

# DCT Welcomes New Employees

**Shawna Prodzinski** joined DCT this past May as a Customer Service Representative in the Jamestown office. We enjoy her smiling face and positive attitude! Stop by and say "Hi" to Shawna in Jamestown!

**Tim Eggers** has joined our team, once again, as Technical Sales and Service Representative. You may recognize Tim as a former Combination Technician here at DCT. Tim can also be found in the Jamestown office. Tim will be your go-to-guy for Security and Monitoring Systems, advanced phone systems, business services and more!

### OTHER PERSONNEL CHANGES

We have had several other employees moving and shaking the past few months as well! The following are DCT employees that have taken on new roles within the team.



**Shawna Prodzinski**



**Tim Eggers**



**Holly Utke**  
Chief Financial Officer



**Lori Solberg**  
Customer Support  
Manager



**Deedra Aasand**  
CABs and Regulatory  
Coordinator



**Joanie Somsen**  
Accountant



**Brianne Partlow**  
Marketing Coordinator



**Ryan Larson**  
Network Tech

## Business Spotlight, Cont.



*Agronomy and Fertilizer Plant, Carrington*

as billing for the three facilities in town.

Right on Highway 281 coming through town is the Arrowwood Prairie Co-op C-Store. Along with the convenience store, they offer gasoline, diesel, and now gas and diesel blender pumps. Be sure to stop by the C-Store for a quick snack, as they have a variety of hot food options.

Also on Highway 281, the Agronomy and Fertilizer Plant is located on the South edge of town. This is the place for any and all agronomy needs: seed, chemical, fertilizer, custom application services, soil testing and crop scouting. According

to General Manager Paul Klosterman, the newest addition to the company is at the fertilizer plant in Carrington. The fertilizer plant has expanded significantly in the last couple of years, as they have added and updated equipment in order to handle the large amount of product used by their customers. The seed treatment facility has also recently been updated, two new fertilizer blenders have been added, and they are currently in the process of expanding the fertilizer facility further.

DCT is pleased to help Arrowwood Prairie Co-op stay "connected" in order to serve their growing customer base and efficiently conduct business between all locations!



# 2014 FALL SCHEDULE

## NDSU FOOTBALL

DATE	OPPONENT	GAME TIME
September 6	@Weber State	7:00 pm
September 13	Incarnate Word	2:30 pm
September 20	Montana	2:30 pm
October 4	@Western Illinois	3:00 pm
October 11	Southern Illinois	1:00 pm
October 18	Indiana State	2:30 pm
October 25	@South Dakota	2:00 pm
November 1	South Dakota State	2:30 pm
November 8	@Northern Iowa	4:00 pm
November 15	@Missouri State	2:00 pm
November 22	Youngstown State	2:30 pm

## NDSU VOLLEYBALL: SUMMIT LEAGUE GAMES

DATE	OPPONENT	GAME TIME
September 26	@South Dakota	7:00 p.m.
September 28	IUPUI	1:00 p.m.
September 30	@South Dakota State	7:00 p.m.
October 3	@Omaha	7:00 p.m.
October 5	Western Illinois	1:00 p.m.
October 10	@Denver	8:00 p.m.
October 12	@Oral Roberts	12:30 p.m.
October 18	@Fort Wayne	6:00 p.m.
October 24	Omaha	7:00 p.m.
October 26	South Dakota State	1:00 p.m.
October 28	Denver	7:00 p.m.
November 2	South Dakota	1:00 p.m.
November 7	@ Western Illinois	6:00 p.m.
November 8	@IUPUI	6:00 p.m.
November 14	Fort Wayne	7:00 p.m.
November 15	Oral Roberts	5:00 p.m.

For TV broadcasting information, go to  
[www.gobison.com](http://www.gobison.com)



# 2014 FALL SCHEDULE

## UND FOOTBALL: CONFERENCE GAMES

DATE	OPPONENT	GAME TIME
September 27	@Montana State	2:30 p.m.
October 4	Montana	1:30 p.m.
October 11	Portland State	1:30 p.m.
October 25	@Southern Utah	2:05 p.m.
November 1	@Eastern Washington	TBA
November 8	Weber State	12:00 p.m.
November 15	Northern Arizona	12:00 p.m.
November 22	@Northern Colorado	1:00 p.m.

## UND VOLLEYBALL: CONFERENCE GAMES

DATE	OPPONENT	GAME TIME
September 25	Eastern Washington	7:00 p.m.
September 27	Idaho	3:30 p.m.
October 3	@Montana	8:00 p.m.
October 4	@Montana State	8:00 p.m.
October 10	@Weber State	8:00 p.m.
October 11	@Idaho State	8:00 p.m.
October 16	Portland State	7:00 p.m.
October 18	@Northern Colorado	4:00 p.m.
October 23	Northern Arizona	7:00 p.m.
October 25	Southern Utah	12:00 p.m.
October 30	@Sacramento State	9:00 p.m.
November 1	Northern Colorado	12:00 p.m.
November 6	Montana State	7:00 p.m.
November 8	Montana	7:00 p.m.
November 13	@Idaho	9:00 p.m.
November 15	@Eastern Washington	9:00 p.m.

For the full UND Football and Volleyball schedule and  
TV broadcasting information, go to  
[www.undsports.com](http://www.undsports.com)



# Mail Server Upgrade

We recently upgraded to a new mail server on July 15th, so you may have noticed some changes to your email. If you use Webmail to access your email, you will notice a difference when logging into your account. The log-in interface visually looks different, but is essentially the same. However, if you are using an email client on your computer, such as Outlook, everything should look the same as it did before the upgrade.



## What will you experience with the upgrade?

- Better performance, as the new mail server can process email faster.
- Bigger mailbox size (meaning more space), going from 100 Mb to 1/2 GB of space per email account.
- Webmail email addresses will now auto-populate – after you send an email to someone once, Webmail will “remember” that email address in the future as you type in the first few characters (you may currently experience this with Outlook or other email clients).



## Rural Broadband Solutions-Oriented, Community-Based

For more than 60 years, community-based telecommunications providers have been moving rural America forward with advanced networks that today provide access to high-speed Internet, video and voice services—technologies that make rural markets vibrant places to live, work, raise a family and educate our children.

Finding solutions to remote and rural communities' technology needs is what America's rural broadband providers are all about. It's what inspires us to foster innovations in education, health care, public safety, civic engagement and commerce for the benefit of our nation as a whole.

*No one does it better because no one is more committed.*

Learn more about our trusted solution providers at [www.NTCA.org](http://www.NTCA.org)



Facebook.com/NTCARuralTelecom

@NTCAconnect

YouTube.com/RuralTelecommunity

# DCTV Everywhere Update

We have been busy adding networks to our DCTV Everywhere platform, and we hope you are enjoying the ability to watch some of your favorite programs everywhere! We are still continuing to add content, so be sure to check back often at [www.WatchTVEverywhere.com](http://www.WatchTVEverywhere.com)! The following networks are currently available to DCTV Everywhere subscribers:



\*STARZ Play & ENCORE Play available to STARZ & ENCORE subscribers only.

DCTV Everywhere is available to DCTV customers at no cost. If you are not a DCTV customer, call 652.3184 to subscribe!





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# \$10 CREDIT IF YOU SIGN UP FOR AUTO PAY!

**Sign up for Auto Pay by bank or credit card, and your DCT bill will be paid automatically each month.** No more wondering whether you paid your bill or not! You will then automatically receive an e-bill, unless you choose to continue to receive a paper bill statement.

**IT'S A NO-BRAINER!  
Call 652.3184 or 952.1000 today to sign up!**

*\*A one-time \$10 credit will be applied to your DCT account.*

# Win credit on your DCT bill!

Win **\$25 credit** on your DCT bill. Just return this coupon by October 31, 2014, to be eligible for the drawing.

**Congratulations to last issue's winner:  
Ken Astrup, Jamestown.**

NAME

PHONE #

The DCT Link is published by Dakota Central Telecommunications.

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