VOICE of the Valley

GARDEN VALLEY TECHNOLOGIES

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1...2...3...Retail Stores

Garden Valley Technologies has opened the doors to our new retail store located in Thief River Falls.

In our newly renovated store we have interactive displays for you to learn hands-on about the technology products we offer, including Cellular, Security, GVTV, Smart Home, and Internet. You can apply for new services, make changes to your account, pay your bill, and purchase a wide variety of electronic items and accessories. Plus, Minkota Technologies will be available to help you with all your networking, computer support & repair needs.

The Thief River Falls and Bagley store hours are Monday through Friday from 10:00am to 6:00pm or you can stop by our Erskine location from 8:00am to 4:30pm.

Garden Valley welcomes everyone to come visit our new Thief River Falls store located at 1517 US Hwy 59 South in Thief River Falls, in the strip mall next to Tractor Supply.

113TH Annual Meeting Highlights

The construction theme was strong and present at the 113th Annual Membership Meeting of Garden Valley Telephone Company d/b/a Garden Valley Technologies held at the Win-E-Mac School auditorium near Erskine on Tuesday, June 5, 2018. More than 270 persons, including 215 registered members, were in attendance.

As members registered and received their GV construction level as an attendance gift, entertainment was provided by "Caleigh", a northern Minnesota band. Members and guests were also treated to coffee and donuts prior to calling the business meeting to order. A resolution to amend Article III, Section 1

Continued on inside

News & Events

Holiday Office Closings

Garden Valley business offices will be closed in observance of the upcoming holidays:

July 4 Independence Day

September 3 Labor Day

Elected Directors

Arlene Novak - District 3
(Red Lake Falls, St. Hilaire)

Larry Djernes - District 6
(Clearbrook, Gonvick, Leonard)

Ron Kiesow - District 9
(Gatzke, Goodridge, Grygla, Rural TRF)

2017 Annual Reports

A limited supply of the 2017 Annual Report are available to members upon request.

Visit us at the Fair

Learn more about our products & services by visiting us at the Fair.

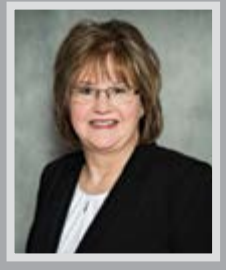
Polk Cty - July 12-15
Pennington Cty - July 19-22
Clearwater Cty - August 2-5

113TH Annual Meeting Highlights

Continued from front page

of the By-Laws was voted on and passed. The business meeting included reports from President Jerry Freitag, Treasurer Jim Ferden, and CEO/General Manager Tim Brinkman. Corporate Counsel Chuck Fitzgerald reviewed By-Laws information relating to director qualifications and voting; then the election of directors for Districts 3, 6 and 9 was held. Retiring District 6 Director Vernon Hamnes and retiring District 9 Director Ronald Engelstad were recognized for their many years of service on the board of directors. Garden Valley employees were available to answer questions about the Cooperative's products and services. Prizes were awarded and lunch was served following adjournment of the meeting. *The winners of the prize drawings are listed to the right of this article.*

Larry Djernes of Clearbrook was elected to fill the 3-year term as director for District 6 *(Clearbrook, Gonvick & Leonard exchanges)* and **Ron Kiesow** of Goodridge was elected to fill the 3-year term as director for District 9 *(Gatzke, Goodridge, Grygla and rural Thief River Falls exchanges)*. **Incumbent Director Arlene Novak** of St. Hilaire was re-elected to serve the 3-year term as director for District 3 *(Red Lake Falls & St. Hilaire exchanges)*.



Arlene Novak
District No. 3
Red Lake Falls, St. Hilaire

Ron Kiesow
District No. 9
Gatzke, Goodridge, Grygla, TRF

Larry Djernes
District No. 6
Clearbrook, Gonvick, Leonard

Annual Meeting Prize Winners

Grand Prize $250 Gift Certificate to GV	**Charlie Kiesow, Goodridge**
$25 Garden Valley Bill Credit	Jim Seibel, Thief River Falls Maynard Johnson, Mentor Lois Ball, Fosston William Peterson, Plummer
$30 Cash donated by Moss & Barnett	Mabel Helgeson, Bejou Albert Luecken, Bagley Doris Michaels, Fertile Edward Pettit, Red Lake Falls Sylvia Larson, Bagley
Gray GV Blanket	Virginia Flatland, Trail Vonny Lofstrand, Fosston Wayne Johnson, Bagley Mark Christianson, Fertile
GV Yeti Mug	Shirley Beltz, Bagley Gary Loland, Fosston
$25 Amazon Gift Card donated by Olsen Thielen	Carolyn Toupin, Erskine Irene Hemphill, Fosston Dorothy Johnson, Bagley Leslie Hofstad, Plummer
Amazon Gift Card donated by CNS	Linda McCloskey, Oklee Pat Finseth, Thief River Falls
GV First Aid Kit	Stephanie Johnson, Gatzke Don Mosbeck, Red Lake Falls Clifford Bartz, McIntosh Judy Dunrud, Gully
GV Cookbook Gift Basket	Jerry Shaver, McIntosh Jan Lundmark, Clearbrook Iris Moen, Fertile Shirley Dessellier, Oklee
$50 Cash donated by Pinnacle Marketing Group	Don Vaa, McIntosh Einar Kvasager, Oklee
Floral Arrangement	Jim Proulx, Mentor

Children's Prize Winners

Bluetooth Speaker	Alanna Willis & Aaron Wiese

Grand Prize - 24" Bicycle
Joe Phillips

Unlimited Internet without a phone line

Customer Broadband Only Line (CBOL), is a new service offering unlimited Internet speeds up to 1 Gbps without a phone line. This service is now available to residential customers located within GV's service territory and can be purchased a la carte or bundled with GVTV Video and/or Cellular for additional savings.

Before you decide you no longer need a phone line in your home, keep in mind in the event of an emergency that requires a call to 911, the operator will quickly track a call from a landline, but a cellular device cannot necessarily be traced. According to the FCC, emergency call centers can only track a cellular call to the nearest cell site. Your phone line also provides a reliable connection when a cell signal may be poor or unavailable.

For availability in your area, packages and pricing, please visit our website at www.gvtel.com, or contact Garden Valley at 800-448-8260 to visit with a representative.

DON'T MISS OUT ON A SINGLE GAME

Garden Valley Technologies, just in time for the Fall sports season, will be partnering with the Grygla School, our seventh local school and content channel. The local content channel can be found on the GVTV television system on channel 36, which is available to GVTV subscribers. To date we have six schools participating, each with their own channel. These schools are Win-E-Mac, Fosston, Fertile, Bagley, Red Lake Falls, and RLCC in Oklee.

Win-E-Mac 30 | Fosston 31 | Fertile-Beltrami 32
Bagley 33 | Red Lake Falls 34 | RLCC 35 | Grygla 36
(Fall 2018)

We have partnered with the schools by providing cutting-edge equipment that students can use to produce live events. This is the same equipment used by national organizations such as Fox Sports Net North to broadcast their events. Students will have the ability to switch between cameras, insert advertisements, graphics and other creative items. This program truly does provide students with real world skills which they can take with them beyond their high school years. The local content channels can be found on GVTV channels 30 to 36. Be sure to check out the local area student-run productions.

Billing Information

Universal Service Charge
The Federal Universal Service Fund Charge (FUSC) decreased in July from $1.75 to $1.70 per line for most residential and single-line business customers. Most multi-line business customers will see a decrease from $2.24 to $2.18 per access line.

The new FUSC amount for cellular service is calculated by multiplying the FUSC factor against your cellular plan charges. Effective in July, that FUSC factor will decrease from 6.8264% to 6.6409%.

More than $514,000 of GV Capital Credits paid

Over 16,200 checks, totaling more than $514,000, were issued on May 17 to Garden Valley Technologies members who had service with the Cooperative in 2000 and/or 2017.

More than $10.7-million of capital credits have been authorized by the board of directors for payment to Garden Valley members over the last ten years.

These payments are not dividends for tax purposes because they are a return of contributed capital.

Unclaimed Capital Credits
If you are wondering if you have any capital credits that we've been unable to get to you, visit our website at: **www.gvtel.com/about-gv/capital-patronage**. Under the heading Unclaimed Patronage, you can view a list of unclaimed checks. If your name is on the list, call us at (800) 448-8260.

YOUTH TOUR

Garden Valley Technologies recently provided Jaden Kiesow and Bayli Dukek with a first-hand look at the telecommunications industry through the FRS Youth Tour to Washington, D.C. The kids visited famous historical sites and attended educational sessions at the nation's capital. The following are comments from the students about their trip.

"We visited the Arlington National Cemetery where we watched the Changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. I was impressed how precise and dedicated the guards were, even during the rain storm…This was an experience I will never forget and I am very grateful for this opportunity. I would encourage anyone who is able to visit our nation's capital. We have much to be grateful for. I want to thank Garden Valley Technologies for selecting me to participate in this trip" said Jaden Kiesow.

Bayli Dukek said "Having a blast in D.C.! Yesterday we saw the Arlington National Cemetery, Smithsonian Museums, Lincoln, Korean War, Vietnam War, and WW2 Memorials. The quote, 'Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass but learning to dance in the rain' comes to mind when I remember walking through the pouring rain to see the monuments...very cold and wet, but just as incredible!"

New Technologies Manager

Congratulation to **Brian Grunhovd** who has been selected to fill the position of New Technologies Manager effective on June 4, 2018.

Until his recent promotion, Brian worked as a Central Office Equipment Technician.

Service Representative

LaDawna Anderson of Pflugerville, TX has been selected to fill the Part-Time Service Representative position in Erskine.

Personnel News

Temporary construction employees working on our 2018 summer construction projects are: **Blake Derosier, Aaron Determan, Austen Hanson, Thomas Johanneck, Jacob Joppru, Tahlor Ose, Chad Parsley, Mark Schmitz, and Mark Thode.**

We would like to congratulate the following employees for their years of loyalty and dedicated service with Garden Valley.

Mary Ann Senn | Service Representative | 25 years
Dawn Burbage | Service Representative | 20 years
Lauri Walker | Facilities Technician | 20 years
Matt Derosier | Service Supervisor | 15 years
April Shimpa | Office Clerk | 10 years
Bryce Torgerson | District Representative | 10 years
Jordan Cote | District Representative | 10 years
Heather Hegre | Office Clerk | 5 years

Customer Newsletter Award

Garden Valley strongly believes in providing you, the customer, the best quality service from your call, to our office, to the way we provide you Company information.

Recently, NTCA - The Rural Broadband Association recognized Garden Valley Technologies during the TeleChoice Awards as the best customer newsletter based nationwide among telecommunications companies. Read current and past issues of the Voice of the Valley at [www.gvtel.com/about-gv/voice-of-the-valley-newsletter.](www.gvtel.com/about-gv/voice-of-the-valley-newsletter)

Honeywell Camera System

$549

Offer Includes:

- Installation
- HD Indoor / Outdoor Infrared Wi-Fi Cameras
- Mobile Device Camera Viewing *(Internet service required)*

Pricing includes equipment and installation. Taxes not included.
Total Connect service and Cloud Storage is required for a monthly fee of $15.00.
Based on credit approval. Restrictions may apply. Call for details. Offer ends July 31, 2018

Enter to win

$50 cash prize

Garden Valley Technologies Directory COVER CONTEST

Deadline: **July 31, 2018**

View Rules & Submit Entries:
www.gvtel.com/about-gv/directory-photo-contest

FAQ What cDVR package do I need with my GVTV Service?

If you want to watch TV on your time schedule, live in a household with multiple people or just love to keep up with the latest series, then the **Ultimate Plus II** is the way to go. It has 1TB of storage and you can record up to 8 programs at one time while watching another program.

Our customers with kids tell us that once the kids learn how to use the DVR feature, they end up needing more storage. Also, keep in mind the larger storage space is especially nice when storing HD programs, which take up more space than standard definition programs.

From the avid viewers to ones who only want to store their favorites, Garden Valley has the cDVR package to fit your storage needs. Call for additional details ~ 800-448-8260

Ultimate cDVR *(3 stream /250MB Storage)*
$6.00/mo.

Ultimate Plus cDVR *(6 stream/500MB Storage)*
$8.00/mo.

Ultimate Plus II cDVR *(8 stream/1TB Storage)*
$10.00/mo.

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Office Hours

Erskine: Monday - Friday 8:00am - 4:30pm
Bagley: Monday - Friday 10:00am - 6:00pm
TRF: Monday - Friday 10:00am - 6:00pm

Company Telephone Numbers

Customer Support 24/7/365
800-448-8260, 218-687-5251, or
888-879-4968 *(GV Long Distance)*

Business Office or Service Requests
218-687-5251 | 800-448-8260

Radio Shack Sales Center
218-687-3233

Gopher State One-Call
800-252-1166
811 *(call toll-free before digging)*

GV Internet

Email: helpdesk@gvtel.com
Website: www.gvtel.com

Internet Support 24/7/365
877-546-7495

Internet Remote Support
support.gvtel.com
Monday - Friday 8:00am - 4:30pm

Live Chat *(8:00am - 11:00pm)*
www.gvtel.com

Board of Directors

Jerry Freitag, President | Plummer
Byron Ness, Vice President | Fertile
Arlene Novak, Secretary | St. Hilaire
James Ferden, Treasurer | McIntosh
Larry Djernes, Director | Clearbrook
Lee Hoaas, Director | Erskine
Casey Holland, Director | Fosston
Ron Kiesow, Director | Goodridge
Allen Paulson, Director | Shevlin

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