

Candidates Nominated for Director Elections

The 2008 Nominating Committee met Wednesday, February 27, 2008 to nominate members of BEK Communications Cooperative to run for the Board of Directors for District I, District II and District III. The election of directors is an integral part of the BEK Communications Cooperative Annual Meeting. Each year the member-owners of the Cooperative elect directors to 3-year terms.



2008 Nominating Committee

L to R: Wayne Moen, Ronald Volk, Mary Ann Gefroh, Wes Mastel, Randy Kapp and Laverne Rachel.

The 2008 Nominating Committee consists of six members, appointed by the Board of Directors. The Nominating Committee made the following nominations:

District I

(Regan, Sterling, McKenzie, Wilton, Wing)
Sanford Williams, Wing (incumbent)

District II

(Pettibone, Tappen, Robinson, Tuttle, Steele)
Doug Kalianoff, Steele (incumbent)

District III

(Kintyre, Strasburg, Hazelton, Linton)
Virgil Horner, Strasburg (incumbent)
Ronald Bauman, Strasburg

District IV

(Lehr, Zeeland, Wishek, Napoleon)
No election in 2008

On June 12, 2008, the member-owners of BEK Communications Cooperative residing in Districts I, II, and III will elect one (1) director from each District to a 3-year term in office.

Dates to Remember

- | April 1
April Fools Day
- | April 1
April Bills Mailed
- | April 9
Disconnect Day
- | April 21
Reminder Notices Mailed
- | April 23
Administrative Professionals Day

Mark Your Calendars for the 56th Annual Meeting of BEK Communications Cooperative to be held Thursday, June 12, 2008 at the Steele Dawson High School auditorium. An official notice will be mailed to the members at the end of May.

Talk is cheap,
cheap, cheap,

with BEK's
local phone service and
UNLIMITED long distance
BUNDLE

ONLY
\$29.95*
PER MONTH



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additional calling
features** such as
call waiting, voice
mail, and more.

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as you want and
whenever you want.



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BEK 1-888-475-2361
bekcomm@bektel.com

*Pricing excludes mandatory fees and taxes. Offer available to residential customers only. Some restrictions may apply.

Improved Computer Safety Software

Over 450 BEK Internet customers are protected with SecureIT protection software and the benefits have just gotten better. SecureIT Services recently announced a major overhaul of their product to enhance their services and provide optimal performance.

What does this mean for you? A better product, therefore increased peace of mind that your computer is being properly protected. More specifically, the SecureIT technology will be upgraded to include the following...

- Improved anti-virus integration with Sourcefire's ClamAV engine
- New malicious software prevention features
- Significantly smaller download package
- Improved management console with exciting new look and feel for easier navigation
- Soon monthly reports will be sent according to registration date rather than the first of each month

The new and improved product will update automatically. The only thing you will be prompted to do after the update occurs is reboot your computer. That's it!

If you are not currently a SecureIT Plus subscriber, contact BEK at 1-888-475-2361 to get the following benefits for just \$4.95/mo/computer*:

- Managed virus protection
- Spyware detection, removal and pop-up blocker
- System & disk maintenance
- Microsoft patch management
- Firewall protection
- Threat & vulnerability alerting
- Email summary and online reporting

* A one time activation fee of \$14.95 per computer will apply.

Safe Driving Certificates Awarded

In recognition of their employees for driving 472,345 accident free miles this year and 7,793,739 miles to date without a chargeable accident, BEK Communications Cooperative has been presented with a Safe Driving Certificate for 2007 from the Apprenticeship Training and Safety Program.

BEK employees recognized for safe driving career miles in 50,000 increments:



Randy Sugden
350,000 Miles



Joe Rewald
150,000 Miles



Landyn Wolf
100,000 Miles



Paul Olson
200,000 Miles



William Kemnitz
200,000 Miles



Gene Zimmerman
250,000 Miles

BEK Communications is proud of earning this Safe Driving Certificate and commends its employees for their efforts in safety.

Questions and Answers, Part III

Ok, it's time to talk about comparisons. Whenever we trade for something new, even though we expect new, we tend to lean towards the familiar. In our final installment of BEKTV questions and answers, we'll explore TV service differences and how to adapt to the changes.

Q: What is the difference between Digital and Analog TV?

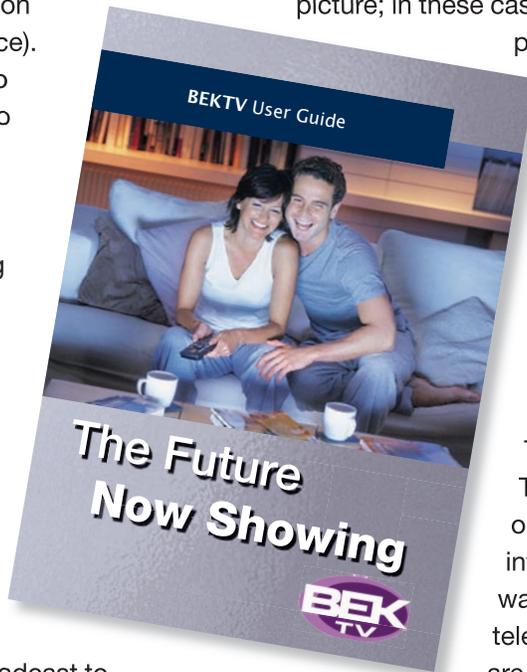
A: In order to explain the differences, we need to draw on an experience that most people have encountered during their lifetime. For example, many of the members have experienced the old BEK Telephone service using a party line that was manned by an operator at a switchboard (You may view one of these antique switchboards on display at the BEK Communications office). At that time, the member was required to talk to the operator in order to connect to their neighbor and disconnect once the call was completed. Today, with BEK's phone service, each member can direct dial to a destination on their phone using a touch-tone key pad. A computer listens for the tones and connects the call to the number dialed. It is all computerized and the connection is private between both parties.

This comparison between the operator assisted party line of the past and BEK's phone service of today is similar to analog TV and digital TV. Today's analog TV is broadcast to everyone at the same time from the transmission tower and is shared by everyone. The digital TV service includes a set-top box which is a computer that requests a channel from the BEKTV system when you push a button. As a member, you get a private copy of what you want and can adjust the format, language, settings and images to your personal preference. Digital television is simply television delivered via computers in a language that computers understand.

Q: The picture color is different than my other TV service, can the color be adjusted?

A: No two TVs are alike and no two TV services are alike. If the picture on your TV is different than before or is not to your liking, it can be adjusted at your TV. Most new TVs will

have the ability to adjust the color, brightness, contrast and tint via a menu using the TV remote or a button or dial on the front or back of the TV. If you are unable to achieve an acceptable picture color, please give BEK a call; we would be happy to help you adjust your TV. Be aware that very old TVs may no longer be adjusted to achieve an acceptable picture; in these cases BEK will use reasonable efforts to provide a viewable picture.



Q: Why is the channel change time slow?

A: The channel change time for digital television is much slower than that of analog TV. This is due to the fact that the set-top must wait until it receives enough information to build the complete picture. The channel change time is similar to any digital TV service whether it is the new digital TV from PBS, KFYZ, KXMB, satellite or cable. All of their digital TV services introduce channel change time delay that was not experienced with traditional analog television services. All broadcast stations are required to be digital by early next year as it has been mandated by the Federal

Communications Commission (FCC). With BEKTV service, you are able to see what is on other channels while watching the channel currently displayed by using the up and down buttons and the information bar.

This wraps up our last round of BEKTV questions and answers, but it's just the beginning of high quality digital TV service backed by an experienced customer service staff ready to assist you. Whatever question, concern or tip you have to share, please let us know.

We have one number for all your needs – Call 475-2361 or toll free 1-888-475-2361.

BEK Team Recruits Derrick Wolf

In August of 2007, Derrick Wolf began as a temp at BEK Communications to help with the installation of BEKTV. Derrick, a native of the northern BEK territory, joined the BEK team in November 2007 as a Plant Tech I employee.



Many hands were required to launch BEK's exciting new TV service and since Derrick's beginning he has expanded his skills by assisting in Fiber to the Home projects plus installing and maintaining telephone, Internet and TV services.

Derrick's attraction to BEK is the emphasis placed on rural customers. Derrick shares,

"I want to be part of a company that brings state-of-the-art technology to rural America." New technology interests Derrick because everyday he learns new things. He adds, "Technology is changing so fast and by working for BEK, I will always be a step ahead."

From Robinson, to Tuttle and now living in Wilton, Derrick enjoys the great outdoors where he can hunt, fish and enjoy the benefits of rural living. He has a girlfriend named Kinda and a one year old son, Gavin.

Welcome Derrick Wolf.

Linton 2nd Grade Class Invites BEK to School

Do your children know the dos and don'ts of telephone and 911 usages? Would they tell a stranger they are home alone, or offer personal information like their name, age and address? Do they know the proper time to call 911?



Mrs. Binkowski's second grade class in Linton knows. They invited BEK to class Monday, March 10th to share in telephone etiquette and 911. Judi Hintz and

Yvonne Heaton shared two videos with the class entitled, "Using the Telephone" and "911 Know How to Call." After viewing the videos, the class was quizzed. Then, with the assistance of two famous character phones, Lightening McQueen #95 from Cars and Spiderman, Judi took the roles of stranger, Mom, sister, businesswoman and friend to

help demonstrate phone scenarios with volunteers from the class. After each demonstration, the class applauded the volunteers and offered suggestions. The children were awarded with stickers, pencils and treats for being such good listeners and participants. And what reward was given to the instructors? Well.....the class recited a poem to Judi and Yvonne entitled "Yellow Butter" which ended in "Don't talk with your mouth full!" Is that good telephone etiquette advice, or what? Thanks kids, you are officially "In the Zone with Telephone and 911."



NEW MEMBERS

- | Kintyre-Braddock
Braddock City Center.....332-6664
Grossman, Jered A.332-6783
- | Napoleon
Leier, Derrick & Andrea.....754-2638
Roehrich, Nancy & Eugene ...754-2653
Schmidt, Isabella754-2225
- | Pettibone-Lake Williams
Bowerman, Mike.....273-4106
- | Steele
Pirates Café.....475-2144
- | Sterling-Driscoll-Moffit
Nelson, Jesse.....387-4433
- | Strasburg - Hague
Roehrich, Sheila336-2619
Schmidt, Arley Rae.....336-2628
- | Wishek
Herr, Floyd W.452-4405
Lewis, R. S.452-2790
Pete's Distributing452-4444

2008 APPOINTMENT OF VOTING REPRESENTATIVE

If you are attending the Annual Meeting of BEK Communications Cooperative as the Voting Representative of a church, school district, cooperative, or other organization, the following "Appointment of Voting Representative" form must be completed. This form may be submitted to BEK Communications Cooperative **anytime before 12:00 noon June 12, 2008** (the day of the Annual Meeting).

This is not a Proxy Statement. Residential and privately owned business customers cannot use this form. They must vote in person at the Annual Meeting.

Completed forms may be dropped off at the BEK headquarters office in Steele by noon June 12, 2008. Forms may also be mailed to the following address:

BEK Annual Meeting
BEK Communications Cooperative
PO Box 230
Steele, ND 58482-0230

Be sure to mail your forms early.

Submit Appointment of Voting Representative Form anytime before noon - June 12, 2008!

2008 Appointment of Voting Representative

2008 Appointment of Voting Representative Form

A membership in the BEK Communications Cooperative may be held in the name of a church, school district, or other political subdivision, corporation, cooperative, association or other organization. If your organization is to be represented at the Annual Meeting, complete this form and deliver to BEK Communications Cooperative **anytime before 12:00 noon the day of the Annual Meeting.**

This certifies that _____ is appointed the voting representative for the following organization _____ at the June 12, 2008 BEK Communications Cooperative Annual Meeting.

Said voting representative is authorized to cast the vote of, and otherwise represent this organization in all matters at the Annual Meeting of the members of BEK Communications Cooperative or any adjournment thereof. **Only ONE Appointment of Voting Representative Form per organization is allowed.**



BEK Annual Meeting
BEK Communications Cooperative
PO Box 230
Steele, ND 58482

Signed: _____

Title _____

Date _____

Organization's Business Phone No. _____



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Steele, North Dakota 58482

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February Trivia Winners:

Marlow Scherbenske, Lehr; Craig Kleven, Baldwin; Virginia Fettig, Napoleon; Hadley Seeklander, Hazelton; and Holly Bender, Hazelton.



Board of Directors

- Leo Meier, President Hague336-7258
- Doug Kalianoff, Vice President Steele475-2839
- Sanford Williams, Secretary/Treasurer Wing943-2474
- William (Bill) Becker Wishek452-2928
- Anton Braun..... Napoleon754-4440
- Richard Hausauer Wilton734-6116
- Virgil Horner Strasburg336-7208
- Brett Stroh Tappen327-8201
- Michael Wickenheiser..... Linton254-4949
- Derrick Bulawa, CEO/General Manager,
Manager Feedback 701-475-1234
managerfeedback@bektel.com

Beacon Trivia Questions

- | There will not be an election for director in _____ at the 2008 Annual Meeting of BEK Communications Cooperative.
- | SecureIT is protection for your _____.
- | Who told BEK employees, Judi and Yvonne, "Don't talk with your mouth full?" _____.
- | BEK's 56th Annual Meeting will be held _____, 2008.

Entries must be received by May 8, 2008.

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Clip and send to the BEK office with your phone payment. You can also email to bekcomm@bektel.com. We will be drawing for five \$5.00 credits to be applied to the winners' phone bill.