

Shrine Bowl Receives \$2500 Donation

At the 2008 North Dakota Shrine Bowl, Derrick Bulawa, CEO/GM of BEK Communications, presented a check in the amount of \$2500 to shriners Dale Duchscherer and Matt Sturlaugson on behalf of ten North Dakota partnering cooperatives/companies.

The partnering cooperatives/companies contributing to the \$2500 donation to the North Dakota Shrine Bowl include:

- BEK Communications, Steele, N.D.
- Dakota Central Telecommunications Cooperative, Carrington, N.D.
- Dickey Rural Networks, Ellendale, N.D.
- Northwest Communications Cooperative, Ray, N.D.
- Polar Communications, Park River, N.D.
- Consolidated Telecom, Dickinson, N.D.
- North Dakota Telephone Company, Devils Lake, N.D.
- SRT Communications, Minot, N.D.
- United Telephone Mutual Aid Corporation, Langdon, N.D.
- Halstad Telephone Company, Halstad, M.N.

These companies recognize the importance of the North Dakota Shrine Bowl which was started in 1973 as a way to honor high school athletes, raise money for the Shriners Hospitals and to make people aware of the Shriners Hospital for children. Shriners Hospitals for Children is a network of pediatric specialty hospitals, founded by the Shrine, where children under the age of 18 receive medical care absolutely free of charge.

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North Dakota Shrine Bowl receives donation from ten North Dakota Cooperative/Companies. Pictured left to right: Derrick Bulawa, CEO/GM, BEK Communications, Ken Shriners, Dale Duchscherer and El Zagal Shriners, Matt Sturlaugson.

Dates to Remember

- August 1
Calendar Photo Contest Ends
August Bills Mailed
- August 11
Disconnect Day
- August 13
The coin operated telephone was patented in 1889
- August 20
Reminder Notices Mailed
- September 1
Labor Day Observed
BEK Office Closed

Congratulations to the following people who registered and won a \$25 credit on their BEK bill:

Tri County Fair Winners:

Dianna Woehl, Wishek
Kim Rath, Wishek
LeAnn Holzer, Zeeland
Lea Just, Wishek

Kidder County Fair Winners:

JoEllen Aichele, Steele
Shannon Limesand, Driscoll
Milton Weippert, Tappen
Dean Fallgatter, Steele

**Thanks for stopping by
our booths!**



Advertising Advantages from BEK

How can your local phone/Internet/TV company help with your advertising plan?

For years there was just one simple answer to this question...**yellow page advertising** in BEK's phone book. Whatever goods and services you offer, people can find your business listing in the yellow pages.

Have you reviewed your yellow page ad lately? You can make changes this fall when the directory sales people come to visit. Remember, BEK's phone books get distributed to over 5000 homes and businesses each year. With the addition of this year's midi directory; distribution doubled!

Yellow page advertising is still a volatile advertising avenue but now, we've expanded the benefits. Not only is your listing accessible in every home in the phone book, people can find you on-line from anywhere with BEK's on-line directory. How many people can you reach on-line? Countless!

On a day to day basis, how do you let your customers know about your business, your specials and your new features? Every incoming call is a golden opportunity for you to keep your customers informed. **On Hold Messaging** allows you to make every call count. Call us to learn more about this feature.

BEK currently has over 1300 TV customers. How does this affect your business? Two **BEKTV advertising** opportunities are available to you:

- Channel 9 delivers BEK Bulletin Board. This is where people go to find out what is going on in the community and who is there to serve them. This is a great opportunity to expand your advertising by reaching the TV viewer.
- Also, consider a commercial produced for airtime during BEK Sports and BEK Life programming seen on BEKTV channel 8. What an exciting advertising opportunity! You have a captive audience viewing valuable local content; why not be part of the action?

To learn more about advertising with BEK, call 1-888-475-2361.

Ashley Joins the Team

Ashley Portra walked on the BEK Sports playing field June 10, 2008 as TV Production Operator.



Ashley is currently perfecting her skills in production operations for BEK Sports and BEK Life. In her short time at BEK, she has familiarized herself with all the events and duties assigned to the BEK Broadcasting team. She is also assisting in the preparation of the Fall Sports schedule and training. From commercial production and BEK Life content to the live broadcast of the Shrine Bowl, Ashley has taken the baton and become an active BEK Sports team player.

Ashley is extremely interested in the directing and production side of live events that BEK produces. Ashley shares, "I really enjoy watching a live production come together and I am very excited to begin learning how to direct a whole production crew."

Ashley left the nest of Sioux Falls, S.D. to attend college at the University of North Dakota (UND), earning a Bachelor of Arts & Science Degree in English. She was part of the "Studio One" television program at UND for two years holding various positions such as news reporter, assistant news director, stage manager, floor manager, sports reporter, video operator and sports anchor.

"Fresh out of college, this opportunity with BEK was too good to be true," says Ashley. "My number one priority after completing college was getting a job in broadcasting and I'm excited about the various roles I can contribute to the broadcasting team. I love variety; it really is the spice of life!"

Ashley is the oldest of three children. She has one sister, Morgan and one brother Terry Jr. All three children have left home leaving empty nester parents Terry and Lynn to continue their career paths in Sioux Falls.

Ashley's many interests include reading, writing and painting. She enjoys purchasing and refinishing old furniture with her mother. She and boyfriend Jayson love to get some sun time and outdoor activities occupy their spare time as they discover new and exciting adventures. She says music is her passion which must explain the smile on her face. Her goal is to tour Europe someday...no doubt she will.



Join us in welcoming Ashley Portra!

Area Students Reap Benefits at Academy

The 8th annual Electronics/Telecommunications Academy was a huge success thanks to the attendance of our area students!

Eight students from the BEK service area attended the 2008 Electronics/Telecommunications Academy at Bismarck State College June 1 – 6, 2008.

The Academy is free and it gives students the opportunity to discover the latest in technology and to explore the telecommunications field through hands-on application and interactive activities. Students completing the course earn one-fourth school credit, a stipend from their sponsoring company and a chance to win one of four \$1000 scholarships.

Congratulations to the 2008 scholarship winners: Jeremy Grossman, Hazelton-Moffit-Braddock High School, sponsored by Northwest Communications; Ella Hein, Wing Public School, sponsored by United Telephone; Chris Swartz, Hazen High School, sponsored by West River Telecom and Justin Twogood, Dickinson High School, sponsored by Consolidated Telecom. The scholarships they received can be used for the following programs:

- Electronics/Telecommunications
- Computer Science
- Computer Support Specialist

The Academy is sponsored by Telephone Apprenticeship Training and Safety, Bismarck State College, Bismarck Public Schools, BEK Communications and several local independent telephone companies throughout the region.

Sixteen high school students from across North Dakota and one student from Montana were selected to participate. These students had the opportunity to learn about the Electronics/Telecommunications industry and explore the possibility of seeking a career in the industry.

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Last year the North Dakota Shrine Bowl raised over \$25,000 for the Shriners Hospital and transportation fund to send children to the Shrine Hospital from North Dakota and Northwest Minnesota.

The North Dakota Shrine Bowls consists of two football matches with an East vs. West format. The teams are comprised of graduating high school seniors nominated by their coaches and selected by members of the coach's association. This year's 35th Shrine Bowl was played in the FargoDome at Fargo, N.D. on Saturday, July 12, 2008. In addition to their monetary donation, the ten companies listed above, as well as IdeaOne Telecom and Dakota Carrier Network, partnered to deliver a live broadcast of these games, offering statewide coverage to over 24,000 homes.



Front Row – (Bismarck Public Schools Instructor) Lee Guillisrud, Evan Wolfe, Emily Scheer, Ella Hein, Robert Arso (BSC Electronics/Telecommunications)
Middle Row – Nathan Buchmann, Alyssa Noel, Chris Swarz, William Vetsch, Monica Jackson, Ashleigh Heavygun
Back Row – Travis Haag, Anthony Mountain, Mason Helphrey, Jeremy Grossman, Justin Twogood, Ben Meier, Austin Pipe

Sponsoring company and their attendees:

BEK Communications, Steele, N.D.

Ben Meier, Zeeland High School
Emily Scherr, Zeeland High School
Evan Wolf, Zeeland High School
William Vetsch, Zeeland High School

Consolidated Telcom, Dickinson, N.D.

Justin Twogood, Dickinson High School
Travis Haag, Dickinson High School

Nemont, Scobey, M.T.

Anthony Mountain, Wolf Point High School
Austin Pipe, Wolf Point High School

Northwest Communications, Ray, N.D.

Jeremy Grossman, Hazelton-Moffit-Braddock High School
Mason Helphrey, Napoleon School District

Reservation Telephone, Parshall, N.D.

Ashleigh HeavyGun, New Town High School
Monika Jackson, New Town High School

United Telephone, Langdon, N.D.

Alyssa Noel, Linton Public School
Ella Hein, Wing High School

West River Telecommunications, Hazen, N.D.

Chris Swarz, Hazen High School
Nathan Buchmann, Beulah High School

Important Notice

Digital Television Transition

On February 17, 2009, local off-air TV stations will cease broadcasting in analog and switch to digital signals.

'Analog' TV sets not connected to cable, satellite or other pay TV service (in other words, TVs that use an antenna or rabbit ears for over-the-air TV) will need a digital converter box after Feb. 17. Most newer, 'digital' TV's (LCD, plasma or DLP) have the tuner needed to receive the digital signal, so a converter box will not be needed.

'Analog only' TVs connected to BEKTV service will continue to work after the transition and will not need a converter box. 'Analog only' TVs also should continue to work as before to receive low-power, Class A or translator TV stations and with gaming consoles, VCRs, DVD players and similar products.

The federal government is offering discount coupons for viewers who need to purchase converter boxes for analog TV sets. **More information about the DTV transition is available at www.DTV.gov or by contacting BEK at 1-888-475-2361. For discount coupons, visit www.dtv2009.gov or call 1-888-DTV-2009 (1-888-388-2009).**

BEK is required by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to provide this notice to our customers every month until March 2009.

Statement of Nondiscrimination

BEK Communications Cooperative is the recipient of federal financial assistance from the Rural Utilities Services, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and is subject to the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, and the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture which provide that no person in the United States on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status shall be excluded from participation in, admission or access to, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any of this organization's programs or activities.

The person responsible for coordinating this organization's nondiscrimination compliance efforts is Derrick Bulawa, Chief Executive Officer of BEK Communications Cooperative. Any individual, or specific class of individuals, who feels that this organization has subjected them to discrimination may obtain further information about the statues and regulations listed above from and/or file a written complaint with this organization; or the Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250; or the Administration, Rural Utilities Services, Washington, D.C. 20250. Complaints must be filed within 180 days after the alleged discrimination. Confidentiality will be maintained to the extent possible.

NEW MEMBERS

- | Hazelton - Temvik
Kraft, Merry 782-4183
Schmidt, Nate 782-4339
Strand, James & Karen 782-3333
- | Kintyre-Braddock
Mock, Mandi & Anthony 332-0909
- | Lehr
Bender, Joe 378-2306
Ketterling, Edwin & Ella 378-2644
- | Linton
Cunningham, A. C. 254-4398
Griffin, Robin 254-4316
Sletten, Reggie & Jessica 254-0175
- | Napoleon
Burkle, ElRoy 754-2650
- | Pettibone-Lake Williams
Abraham, Bruce & Bonnie ... 273-4243
- | Steele
Benshoof, Erin 475-0289
Binder, Michael & Erica 475-2057
Dakota Physical Therapy
PC 475-2022
Quellhorst, Kale & Tara 475-2047
- | Sterling-Driscoll-Moffit
Malsam, Doug 387-4367
- | Strasburg - Hague
Walch, Betty 336-7419
- | Tappen - Dawson
Crystal Springs - Lake Isabel
Kapp, Alexis 327-4322
Schmidt, K. 327-8125
- | Wilton
Thorson, Chad & Sara 734-6937
- | Wing-Arena
Renner, Corey 943-2433
- | Wishek
Kemmet, Gladys 452-4431

Kuchen Contest

Winners Announced

The Tri County Fair annual Kuchen Contest, sponsored by BEK Communications was held Friday, July 11, 2008 at Wishek.

Bakers from around the area arrived one by one, bringing their kuchen entries to the BEK booth on a sultry Friday morning, July 11th. The kuchen were stored in coolers until noon when our panel of judges arrived: Derrick Bulawa, BEK CEO/GM, Kevin Lech, BEK Business Solutions, Bill Becker, District IV BEK Director and Greg Doll of Bismarck, avid fair goer and kuchen connoisseur.

The judges waited in anticipation as the 17 kuchen entries were arranged on the table by category: apple, cheese, peach, prune, rhubarb, wedding and other. The sweet aroma from these special German “cakes” filled the air and the table of temptation “BEKend” the judges to begin! As the sampling progressed, there were mmmm’s, ahhs, ohhs and oh my’s and then looks of dismay as the realization set in that this is not an easy task! Each delicious taste followed another scrumptious bite delighting the palate and confusing the mind. With their mouths full, three judges looked at Mr. Bulawa with an expression that said, “Thanks, buddy this is a tough job!” The general consensus was that there are excellent kuchen bakers in the BEK area. In the final tally, the following four contestants got all the dough!

Congratulations to the 2008 Tri County Fair kuchen contest winners:

Apple	Cheryl Wald.....	\$25
Cheese	Agnes Dallman.....	\$25
Peach	Cheryl Wald.....	\$25
Prune	Cheryl Wald.....	\$25
Rhubarb.....	Alice Wiest	\$25
Wedding	Karen Just.....	\$25
Others.....	Alice Wiest	\$25

And the overall grand champion winner is Agnes Dallman who won an additional \$50.



Agnes Dallman wins best cheese and is overall grand champion winner!



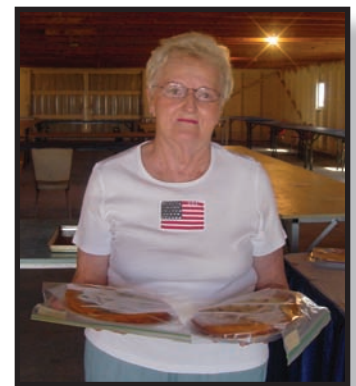
Cheryl Wald cleans up in three winning categories: peach, prune and apple.



Karen Just’s scrumptious wedding kuchen wins.



How sweet it is!



Alice Wiest wins best rhubarb and apricot (other).

Happy Judges: BEK Director Bill Becker, Greg Doll, Kevin Lech from BEK Business Solutions and Derrick Bulawa, BEK CEO/GM.





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May Trivia Winners:

Jerome Mosset, Linton;
Camille Schmidt, Dawson;
Kristie Hagseth, Steele;
Karen Kershaw, Menoken;
and Allen Will, 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

- | _____ (how many) students attended the 2008 Electronics/Telecommunications Academy in June.
- | True or False. If you have BEKTV services, you will need to purchase a converter box by February 17, 2009.
- | Who is the 2008 grand champion of the Kuchen Contest sponsored by BEK Communications? _____

Entries must be received by September 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.