

# Calling on You



**HAPPY  
THANKSGIVING**

West River  
Cooperative  
Telephone  
Company will be  
closed November  
23 & 24 in  
observation of  
Thanksgiving.



[facebook.com/WRCTC](https://facebook.com/WRCTC)



Mattie Krautschun and Mecarty Rice enjoy their delicious sausage and pancake supper!

## Annual Meeting Highlights

We had a wonderful evening for the 70th West River Cooperative Telephone Company Annual Meeting, with 185 people in attendance on October 2nd. The WRCTC Warehouse was bustling with members and a delicious pancake and sausage supper was served. Each membership that registered received a \$20 bill credit and a Bingo card for a chance to win a grand prize! Once members registered in the Social Room, they were directed to the warehouse to enjoy the meal prepared by the telephone technicians. Kids ages 0-18 were able to sign up to win an iPad. A booth was set up for members to visit and ask questions about Managed Wi-Fi and all of its benefits. If members had the CommandIQ application, they were entered to win a \$25 bill credit.

Before the meeting began, the Color Guard posted the colors, Channing Reiff, Bison, sang the National Anthem and Phil Hahn, Grace Bible Fellowship, gave the invocation.

The Credentials Committee Report was presented to the members by Chairperson Alice Holcomb. Judy Gano, ran unopposed and continues her directorship. Don Trohkimoinen attended his last annual meeting as a director and taking his place, running unopposed, was Todd Williamson of



Channing Reiff sings the National Anthem.

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## Annual Meeting Continued:

Newell. Matt DeBow and Laura Johnson ran against one another for the At-Large Director Position. Laura Johnson of Reva, SD, now fills the At-Large Director Position on the WRCTC Board of Directors.

General Manager Eric Kahler, reported on the challenges and accomplishments of West River Cooperative Telephone Company over the 18113 Winkler Rd, Newell; past year and discussed future projects that are in store for the Cooperative.

President DeJon Bakken and General Manager Eric Kahler recognized the following for their years of dedication to West River Cooperative Telephone Company:

Employee: Tyrell Ellingson – 20 years  
Directors: Sandi Helms – 20 years  
Garrett Schweitzer – 10 years

Don Trohkimoinen was recognized for his 22 years of service on the West River Cooperative Telephone Board of Directors and was 12847 Salmen Pl, Buffalo; presented with a plaque and for his time and dedication.

The lucky iPad winner was Oakley Hulce, daughter of Jeremy and Kylie Hulce, Lemmon. Members played Bingo at the end of the meeting to win five \$100 grand prizes! After only three games were played, there were five Bingos! Winners were: Jake Helms, Reva; Kristi Witt, Lemmon; Becky Block, Lemmon; Karen Englehart, Bison and Penny Lemburg, Bison. Krista Card, Bison, was the winner of the CommandIQ \$25 bill credit! Thank you to our members who made our 70th Annual Meeting a great success!



Members listen intently as General Manager Kahler gives his report.



Above: DeJon Bakken, right, congratulates Tyrell Ellingson (left), Sandi Helms (middle), and Garrett Schweitzer (right) for their years of service to WRCTC.



Oakley Hulce is excited to take home her new iPad!



DeJon Bakken presents Don Trohkimoinen with a plaque for his 22 years on the Board of Directors.



Grand Prize Bingo Winners: Karen Englehart, Bison; Kristie Witt, Lemmon; Becky Block, Lemmon; Jake Helms, Reva and Penny Lemburg, Bison.



## Newell Luncheon

On October 9, West River Cooperative Telephone Company and Grand Electric employees traveled to Newell for an Appreciation Luncheon to thank our member-owners! Members were invited to the NVN Senior Center in Newell for an informal get together. Employees and Board Members were there to answer questions and General Manager Eric Kahler gave a brief update on the current happenings of both Cooperatives. The Lyons Club members supplied a delicious lunch of ham sandwiches, chicken noodle soup and bars for dessert. A \$25 bill credit was up for grabs and the winner was Gayle Cerullo, Newell. Thank you to everyone who stopped by to chat, ask questions and enjoy great food and even better company.



## Celebrating Cooperative Month

We celebrated the month of October with our members in their communities! Concern for Community is one of our seven Cooperative Principles. We are proud to serve our service territories and the members who live there!

In October, appreciation luncheons were held in Newell, Red Owl and Ludlow. West River Cooperative Telephone Company and Grand Electric also covered all admission charges at several volleyball 223 Main Ave, Lemmon; games throughout our service territory. These events are possible because of you, our member-owners! Thank you to all who attended our events and made October such a successful Cooperative month!



## Anniversary



Tyrell Ellingson started working for West River Cooperative Telephone Company November 2003 and is celebrating 20 years 505 4th St W, Lemmon; of employment this year.

Tyrell is the Lemmon Area Journeyman Combination Technician. He takes care of repairs and new service installs in Lemmon, McIntosh and the surrounding areas. Tyrell has three sons, Tyler, Trevor, and Kaleb that keep him on his toes. Tyrell also volunteers on the Lemmon Fire Department. When he is not 12074 Taylor Rd, Nisland working, he enjoys playing pool, bowling and throwing horseshoes. Congratulations on 20 years, Tyrell!





## New WRCTC Members

### Lemmon

Aufdenkamp, Erik & Heather 605-374-8699  
Parks, Peter B. 605-374-6605

### Updates to Current Members

McCall, Gary & Lori From: 605-866-4887  
To: 605-456-8894  
Schackow, Robert From: 701-376-3106  
To: 605-374-0882

## 2023 Tailgate Suppers

West River Cooperative Telephone Company and Grand Electric Cooperative finished the tailgating season with a bang! On September 8th, hotdogs and brats were served at the Lemmon-McInotsh game in Lemmon. Serving this busy game were, Tyrell Ellingson, Connie Bootz, Mike Stadler, Lyle Reiff, Sharon Longwood, Garrett Schweitzer and DeJon Bakken. On September 15, WRCTC and Grand Electric tailgated in Faith at the Longhorns game! Serving at this game were Gavin Nelson, Janelle Goddard, Bonnie Sander, General Manager Eric Kahler and Reid Palmer.

A big THANK YOU to the Lemmon Booster Club for helping serve and grill at the Lemmon tailgate party! We had a wonderful turnout for tailgates this year and it's always fun seeing our members in their communities! There is nothing better than enjoying a good football game in the fall! Good luck to all of the teams as they finish out their seasons!

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## Find Your Address

Five addresses were hidden in the last newsletter. Hidden in this issue are five new addresses. If you find YOUR address, all you have to do is notify our office. The \$20 will then be deducted off your next telephone bill. Changes of address in the New WRCTC Members section do not count.  
**Deadline is November 28, 2023.**

**\$20**  
**bill credit**

