

TSTCI INFORMATION

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR TSTCI MEMBER COMPANIES

SEPTEMBER 2008

www.tstci.org

Texans Helping Texans

Volume XII, No. 9

Texas Statewide Telephone Cooperative, Inc. is a statewide telecommunications non-profit organization representing the interests of Texas rural independent telephone systems. All member companies are regulated by the Public Utility Commission of Texas.

TEAM 2008

PRESIDENT'S CLUB

Robby Allen
Susie Handley
John Howard
Bob Ingram
Beverly Meade
Scott Thompson
Joyce Wied

DIRECTOR'S CLUB

Robbie Allen
Darlene Burden
Scotty Hart
Alicia Haynes
Justin Haynes
John Howard
Thomas Hyde
Joan Johnson
Joe Macias
Rhonda Millington
Rusty Moore
Toney Prather
Don Richards
Milton Sargent
Brian Stalzer
Charlie Thomas
Bob Wilson
Delbert Wilson
Curt Walzel
Bruce Wood

See you at the

TSTCI
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
OCTOBER 1-3

OMNI MANDALAY AT LAS COLINAS
IN DALLAS, TEXAS

For the agenda and other information, visit
www.TSTCI.org

TSTCI MEMBERS HONORED

Representatives of TSTCI Member and Associate Member Companies were among the recipients of awards presented at the Texas Telephone Association Annual Convention in San Antonio.

This year's Neville Haynes Award was presented to **Toney Prather** of Comanche County Telephone Company. The prestigious Neville Haynes Award is the highest award presented by TTA to an individual.

Joan Johnson of Big Bend Telephone Company was honored with TTA's Outstanding Achievement Award. The 2008 Associate Member of the Year award was presented to **Nancy Stewart** of Telecom America Services.

TSTCI Members and Associate Members receiving Chairman's Citations this year were **Ricky Martinez**, Cap Rock Telephone Cooperative; **Bill Colston, Jr.** and **Judy Colston** of Riviera Telephone Company; **Joan Johnson**, Big Bend Telephone Company; **Danny Johnson**, Etex Telephone Cooperative, **Amy Linzey** and **Jean Langkop** of CHR Solutions, Inc., **Wes Robinson** and **Jim West** of John Staurulakis, Inc.; **Ron Davidson**, Enersys; **J.C. Evans**, MP Nexlevel; **Dennis Henke**, TRC Engineering Services; **Chester Hurst**, Texus Telecommunications, **Jody Barr**, Hickman Advertising Specialties; **Scott Stringer**, Embarq and **Nancy Stewart**, Telecom America Services.

Congratulations!



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TEAM 2008

LONE STAR CLUB

- Mary Ackley
- Denny Bergstrom
- Darrell Dennis
- Alvin Fuhrman
- Terry Gentle
- Tim Humpert
- Roger Hutton
- John Ivy
- Ricky Martinez
- David McEndree
- Larry Pechacek
- Lauren Sanders
- Bill Stinson
- Jim Whitefield

CENTURY CLUB

- Charles Albert
- Steve Alexander
- James Allen
- Blake Belcher
- Jim Tom Cardwell
- Philip Cox
- Ray Ellis
- Weldon R. Gray
- Barak Harlan
- Tim Humpert
- Stephen Jones
- Danny Kellar
- Tonya Kelsey
- Brent Kennedy
- Lorna Ketron
- Alan Link
- Donald McArthur
- Vanessa McGalliard
- Jackie Mitchell
- Felix Nuniz
- Shane Parsons
- Gordon Purl
- Bernidine Raines
- Amanda Ramsey
- John Sablatura
- Denise Salter
- Bonnie Taylor
- Patrick Tinley
- Sandy Vandevender
- Lori Vergin

TEAM 2008

TOGETHER EVERYONE ACCOMPLISHES MORE!

TSTCI PARTICIPATES IN LEGISLATIVE CANDIDATE ACTIVITIES

As you know, the legislators who support the rural telecommunications industry also depend on us for support.

During this busy time of preparation and fundraising for the upcoming election, the TSTCI Board of Directors counts on our members to represent our association at various events.

The Board would like to take a moment to express its appreciation to several individuals who recently took time from their busy schedules to represent the entire membership of Texas Statewide Telephone Cooperative.

On behalf of TSTCI, thank you to **Richard Adams**, Brazos Telephone Coop., **Charlie Cano**, Etex Telephone Coop., **Weldon R. Gray**, Eastex Telephone Coop., **Sandy Vandevender**, Five Area Telephone Coop., and **Jim Whitefield**, Cap Rock Telephone Coop.



Rep. Warren Chisum (L) takes a moment during a cattle drive to shake hands with TSTCI's Sandy Vandevender

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

We would like to thank the following individuals for helping protect the rural telecommunications industry in Texas through support of the TSTCI PAC.

- Mary Ackley**, Industry Telephone Company
- Weldon R. Gray**, Eastex Telephone Cooperative, Inc.
- John Howard**, Lipan Telephone Company
- Tim Humpert**, Coleman County Telephone Cooperative, Inc.
- Danny Kellar**, Etex Telephone Cooperative, Inc.
- Rhonda Millington**, Lipan Telephone Company
- Don Richards**, Richards, Elder & Green, LLP
- Curt Walzel**, Livingston Telephone Company

Thanks also to the employees of **Nortex Communications** for their support of the TSTCI PAC, and to **Lipan Telephone Company** for their generous support of the TSTCI Board Discretionary Fund.



EMERGING COMMUNICATIONS IN RURAL AMERICA SEMINAR IN NEW BRAUNFELS OCTOBER 23-24

If it's important for you to be abreast of the myriad of new broadband technologies, please plan to attend a very important Applied Learning Solutions (ALS) training event, "Emerging Communications in Rural America 2009". The event will be held October 23-24 in the Guadalupe Valley Telephone Cooperative auditorium in New Braunfels, Texas. This course has received excellent reviews from the rural telephone companies in other states. A director for a small, progressive Missouri Telco shared, "This is top notch training! I would certainly recommend this to others. It was extremely helpful and I really enjoyed the overview of where things are and where they are going."

ALS trains independent telephone company personnel in 23 states, and has an exclusive contract to train Cisco engineers on all emerging wired, IP, wireless, and unified communications topics. ALS designed "Emerging Communications in Rural America 2009" specifically for independent telephone companies, taking the best content from their 15-course curriculum. This is the most comprehensive broadband technology review you will find for independent telephone companies.

If you only have time to attend one course in 2008 or 2009, this is the one to take!

Additional information for Independent Telcos

Emerging Communications in Rural America 2009 includes topics unique to rural telephone companies, including rural network security, outside plant trends, inside wiring as a line of business for rural Telco's, Carrier/Service Provider Ethernet and cloud computing as a carrier offering.

Who should attend?

Telephone companies typically send the Director of Network Operations, a more technical employee and the person responsible for marketing. ALS offers special discounts for three or more attending from the same company.

The cost of the seminar is \$795. To register, contact Bob Etzel at 785-478-9986 or email betzel@e-als.com

Emerging Communications in Rural America 2009 is derived from the following training courses:

- ✧ Carrier and Metro Ethernet
- ✧ Video and Voice over IP Monitoring and Troubleshooting
- ✧ IMS
- ✧ MPLS
- ✧ IP Networking and VPNs
- ✧ IP Security
- ✧ Fixed and Mobile WiMAX
- ✧ Advanced WiFi
- ✧ Optical Networking
- ✧ QoS in Multimedia IP Networks
- ✧ Unified Communications, Web 2.0 and IPv6
- ✧ The Protocol Workshop: SIP, SIP-T, Skinny, MGCP, MEGACO, H.323 and Skype

MARTIN GROUP DEMONSTRATES END-TO-END CAPABILITIES IN INTEROPERABILITY LAB

(Mitchell, S.D.) – Martin Group, a leading provider of BSS|OSS software solutions, next generation engineering, and business services that address the operational and marketplace challenges faced by today's communications providers, today announces an exclusive open house for Martin Group clients on Friday, September 26 in which Martin Group and InterOperability (InterOp) Lab suppliers will demonstrate the end-to-end environment and the interoperability of systems used by leading communications providers required to provide advanced services.

InterOp Lab suppliers, including ADTRAN, Calix, Conklin-Intracom, Foundry, Infinity Security Solutions, Occam Networks, Pannaway, and Zhone, will share their knowledge and expertise. ADTRAN will present "The Total Access 5000: From POTS to PON". This session will highlight ADTRAN's flagship Multi-Service Access and Aggregation Platform (MSAP) and how it can be used for triple-play service delivery. See the latest Calix access solutions in action (GPON, 10GE Transport, VDSL2, etc.) and learn how they're helping service providers deliver a Unified Access Infrastructure. Conklin-Intracom will be demonstrating its fs|cdn IPTV middleware and conditional access solution, focusing on back-office operations, ecosystem integration and delivery of non-traditional revenue generating applications. Foundry Networks will be presenting the just announced NetIron CES 2000 - a multi-service edge switch with a powerful set of capabilities that combine performance with rich functionality at the network edge. Infinity Security delivers a building block approach to affordable network security for performance-demanding applications - at the edge or inside the network - as traditional borders dissolve. Occam Networks' broadband access solutions empower service providers to offer profitable new voice, data, and video services over copper and fiber with fastest time to revenue. Pannaway Networks will discuss building core networks that support current and future access technologies. Pannaway Networks will also conduct a brief demonstration. Zhone will present their Multi-Service Access Platform (MSAP) products available today offering solutions for voice, data and video, including Sky Zhone WiFi and EFM Solutions.

For more information, visit Martin Group online at www.martin-group.com.

Upcoming Events

October 2008

- 1-3** **TSTCI Annual Membership Meeting – Dallas, Texas**
- 8 Texas PUC Open Meeting
- 15 FCC Meeting
- 23 Texas PUC Open Meeting

November 2008

- 2 Daylight Savings Time Ends
- 4** ***Election Day***
- 11 Texas Legislators being pre-filing bills
- 20 Texas PUC Open Meeting
- 27-28** ***Thanksgiving Holidays (TSTCI offices closed)***

