

# TSTCI INFORMATION

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR TSTCI MEMBER COMPANIES

SEPTEMBER 2009

[www.tstci.org](http://www.tstci.org)

Texans Helping Texans

Volume XIII, 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.

## TSTCI TEAM

### PRESIDENT'S CLUB

John Howard

### DIRECTOR'S CLUB

Robbie Allen

Alvin Fuhrman

Gracie Fuhrman

Roger Hutton

Dwight McInturff

### LONE STAR CLUB

Charlotte Hewitt

Danny Johnson

Danny Kellar

Perry Mannis

Ricky Martinez

Bryan Patterson

Jamey Wigley

Jennifer Wilson

### CENTURY CLUB

Jason Allen

Lonnie Arthur

Joey Anderson

Lawana Drosche

Kenneth Ehler

Mike Fillingim

Bill Galyean

Weldon R. Gray

Jay Hagins

Gary Harrell

Jimmy Horton

Dan Houchin

Tim Humpert

Tonya Kelsey

Brent Kennedy

Don Mimms

Claudia Morrow

Shane Parsons

## TSTCI SUPPORTS FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

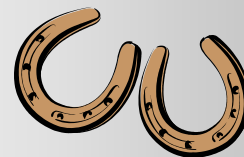
Last month TSTCI representatives participated in various fundraising activities sponsored by state legislators. **Weldon R. Gray** represented our association at the 2009 Speaker's Golf Tournament benefiting the Caring for Children Foundation of Texas. Hosted by members of the Texas House of Representatives, this charitable event to date has raised over \$1 million to provide immunizations to uninsured children. Weldon also represented TSTCI during the 17th Annual Pitts-N-Putters Fundraising Golf Tournament to benefit the Jim Pitts Campaign.

**Sandy Vandevender** spent a day as a Ranch Hand at the 2009 Chisum Ranch Round Up. This year's Round Up benefitted the Texas Conservative Coalition Research Institute.

The TSTCI Board of Directors expresses its appreciation to these gentlemen for taking the time from their busy schedules to represent the entire membership of Texas Statewide Telephone Cooperative.



Left:  
Back at the bunk house with (L-R)  
Rep. Warren Chisum, Sandy Vandevender  
and Rep. Harvey Hilderbran



Below:  
On the trail  
Rep. Warren Chisum, Sandy Vandevender



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**TSTCI TEAM****CENTURY CLUB CONT'D**

Rocky Rocchio  
 Alan Rohmer  
 Bill Sides  
 Steve Smith  
 Tommy Swaringen  
 Bonnie Taylor  
 Scott Thompson  
 Lori Vergin  
 Jim Whitefield

**CAUCUS CLUB**

Stanley Degan  
 Rodney Hackemack  
 Billy Hale  
 Mack Isaacs  
 Carolyn McPherson  
 Beryle Murdoch  
 Edward Murray  
 Jerry Smith  
 Joe Smith  
 Eric Swenson  
 Jeff Thacker

**Thanks also to:**

**The employees of  
 Nortex Communications**

To date, their collective  
 investment in TSTCI PAC  
 is \$2,329!

**Remember...**

**T**ogether  
**E**veryone  
**A**ccomplishes  
**M**ore!!!

**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 **Gracie Fuhrman** of Nortex Communications. The prestigious Neville Haynes Award is the highest award presented by TTA to an individual. Gracie is the first woman to be honored with this award. Alvin Fuhrman was bestowed with the award in 1999, which makes the Fuhrmans the first couple to have both received the award. **Congratulations to the Fuhrmans on making history!**



This year's Outstanding Achievement Award went to Henry Flores, and Jody Barr was presented with the Associate Member of the Year Award.

TSTCI Members and Associate Members receiving Chairman's Citations this year were Ricky Martinez, Cap Rock Telephone Cooperative; Danny Johnson, Etx Telephone Cooperative; Joan Johnson, Big Bend Telephone Company; Rodney Hackemack, Industry Telephone Company; Bill Colston, Jr. and Judy Colston, Riviera Telephone Company; Jean Langkop, CHR Solutions, Inc.; Jody Barr, Hickman Advertising Specialites; Wes Robinson, John Staurulakis, Inc.; Ron Davidson, Enersys; J.C. Evans, MP Nexlevel; Jody Barr, Hickman Advertising Specialties; and Nancy Stewart, Telecom America Services.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!**

*See you at the*

**TSTCI Annual Membership Meeting  
 October 7-9**

**Omni Mandalay at Las Colinas in Dallas, Texas**

**Register online at [WWW.TSTCI.ORG](http://WWW.TSTCI.ORG)**

## *News from Associate Members*

### *CHR Solutions and Martin Group Merge to Form Largest Single-Source of Support and Services for Rural Telecommunications Clients*

In a strategic move designed to create the largest, single-source, resource-rich delivery of support and services to their client base, CHR Solutions and Martin Group announced the companies have merged effective September 25, 2009.

The merged entity will retain the CHR Solutions name, with company headquarters in Houston. An additional 13 offices will span eight states. Locations include Austin, Texas; Camden, Arkansas; Columbia, Missouri; Dallas, Texas; Lubbock, Texas; Minneapolis, Minnesota; Missoula, Montana; Mitchell South Dakota; Nashville, Tennessee; Rapid City, South Dakota; Sioux Falls, South Dakota; Springfield, Illinois and Wichita, Kansas. More than 425 employees will be available to serve client needs.

CHR Solutions is a premier, multi-faceted consulting and managed service IT/infrastructure provider with a 60-year heritage of serving clients in rural telecommunications, energy and finance market segments. CHR Solutions integrated offerings include engineering, financial services, marketing, regulatory/business compliance, operational optimization, association management, wireless initiatives, strategic planning, IT managed services, remote infrastructure management (RIM), a managed network operation center, data center and applications development.

Martin Group is the nationwide leader of software solutions, business services and engineering resources, serving rural telecom provider and tier 2 & 3 clients with advanced operation support systems and billing support systems, engineering and consulting services. Martin Group's expertise has led to development of international clients as well.

The combined company will be a resource-rich, single-source provider using locally based delivery teams guiding clients to grow revenue, control costs, improve operations, manage risks, and align technology with business goals. CHR Solutions will provide services to more than 800 clients in all 50 states, as well as internationally. Clients can expect unsurpassed capabilities and dedication to satisfaction from the management-owned company led by experienced and committed industry experts.

James Taylor, chairman and chief executive officer of CHR Solutions, said, "This merger demonstrates the commitment we've made to our clients to expand resources to meet the demands of an ever-changing business and technology marketplace while maintaining our personalized, customized delivery structure. It increases our capabilities and provides clients an outstanding opportunity to single-source their needs for superior coordination and efficiency."

Jim Odom, president and chief executive officer of Martin Group, said, "We are thrilled to offer clients the expanded support and services that result from our combined employee teams. World-class expertise will be available through local, client-focused delivery teams giving clients the best of both worlds. This merger provides great opportunity for our clients and our employees. It reflects the commitment and entrepreneurial spirit that both companies embrace."

Mr. Taylor will be the chairman and chief executive officer of the combined companies. Dr. Arun Pasrija will be the president and chief operating officer of the enterprise. Mr. Odom will be president of the company's software solutions business unit, complementing Mr. Roger Hutton, president of the telecommunications and business infrastructure business unit and Mr. Ray Webb, who oversees the IT and managed services business unit.

## ***Communications Data Group Announces Regional Account Manager and New Sales Territories***

CHAMPAIGN, IL -- CDG welcomes a new Regional Account Manager! Paris M. Donahue has joined CDG as the Regional Account Manager for the Southwest territory. Paris brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in consulting, researching of competitive information, acquisitions and conversions, major account management in the LEC, IXC, OSP, PSP, ISP and CLEC arenas, as well as billing industry sales experience. Paris has been involved in all aspects of the telecommunications billing industry for many years, including CABS billing, with extensive knowledge and expertise in end user billing concepts and systems. According to Vice President of Sales Andrew Sabatuk, "Paris is a great addition to CDG! With her experience and skill set, she will be able to assist our current clients and future clients right away."

With the addition of Paris to the Sales team, CDG has also restructured our Sales territories to account for our expanded Sales team and client base. Paris Donahue will manage the new Southwest territory; David Bailey will be in charge of the new East territory; and Scott Barrett will handle the new Midwest territory.

About CDG:

CDG provides smart data solutions: CABS, Mediation, Customer Care, Plant, Trouble, Service Activation Manager, E-Care, company workflow management and third-party financial, mapping and facilities management products, business consulting and hosted back-up services. Full-service, on-line, and licensed options are available. CDG can help you manage information, bill wisely, and grow your business.

## **Upcoming Events**

### **October 2009**

- 7-9**      ***TSTCI Annual Membership Meeting – Dallas, Texas***
- 8          Texas PUC Open Meeting
- 22        Texas PUC Open Meeting
- 22        FCC Open Meeting

### **November 2009**

- 5          Texas PUC Open Meeting
- 18        FCC Open Meeting
- 19        Texas PUC Open Meeting
- 26-27**    ***Thanksgiving Holidays (TSTCI offices closed)***

### **December 2009**

- 1          Texas PUC Open Meeting (Setting Interest Rates)
- 2          Texas PUC Open Meeting
- 16        FCC Open Meeting
- 17        Texas PUC Open Meeting
- 25**        ***Christmas Day (TSTCI offices closed)***