



# BUSYLINE

McDonough Telephone Cooperative • Colchester, Illinois

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Reelected board members (l to r): Dennis Huffman, Rose Marie Lynn and Larry Thompson

## \$400,000 Distribution Announced

Members attending the 58th McDonough Telephone Cooperative annual meeting received news on the financial status of the co-op and honored a number of 50-year members.

Treasurer R. Stephen Hunt stated in his report that the cooperative ended the year with total assets of \$24,784,596.

Board Chairman Roger Barclay highlighted the cooperative's achievements and activities over the past year.

In addition to receiving a capital credit distribution last November and a \$25 service credit at Christmas, members have also been invited to activities such as Morning Exchanges during which co-op employees visit communities to meet with the members.

Youth programs include participation with Illinois Electric and Telephone Cooperatives in the Youth to Washington Tour. The MDTC board sent a total of four students to Washington.

"While the year held many positive experiences," said Barclay, "the death of board member Don Rings has brought a great sadness to the cooperative. His leadership will be missed by all of us."

Barclay then delivered the well-received news that the board moved to pay out the first half of the capital credits from 1996.

"This distribution will be close to \$400,000," Barclay announced.

Chairman Barclay introduced Les Fowler who in turn introduced three of the students who represented McDonough Telephone on the annual Youth to Washington Tour: Carl Hartweg of Carthage, Anna Powers of Macomb and Alan Simonson of Good Hope. The students unanimously expressed their appreciation for the wonderful experiences they were able to have and encouraged continued support of this educational program.

Buchanan opened his report by emphasizing that the past year has been a year of change, both in our government and in our industry.

"Because of a new administration in Washington, we have new challenges," said Buchanan. "With a new administration comes a new Federal Communications Commission with a new agenda. We don't even know what that is yet."

Buchanan explained that MDTC may not qualify for any of the billions of dollars available for broadband deployment through the Federal Stimulus package because the co-op has done its job so well.

"We've made so many investments in technology over the years that we don't qualify for funds designated for unserved

## Prizes Awarded

McDonough Telephone is pleased to announce the winners of the numerous prizes awarded at its 58th Annual Meeting of the Members. Gracie and Emily Jones, daughters of Heather Jones, and Tanner Buchanan, son of Mallorei and Bill Buchanan, assisted in the drawing.

- **Grand Prize – Hewlett Packard Laptop Computer:** Herbert Bozard, Industry
- **"Take Your Pick" Gift Certificate (value over \$250):** Doyle Lutz, Good Hope
- **Flip Camcorder:** Donald Starbuck, Good Hope
- **Collin Bogle Print:** Nicholas and Linda Thompson, Colchester
- **Kodak EasyShare Digital Camera:** Paul and Carla McHone, Industry
- **Five - \$100 Service Credits courtesy of Sharp Brothers Contractor:** Edward Brooks, Blandinsville; Gerald Haney, Industry; Peak Printing/Linda Peak, Blandinsville; Carol Lawson, Colchester; Eugene Hobby, Stronghurst
- **Two - VTECH 2 Handset Cordless Phones with one year free Caller ID Name & Number:** Penolia Lickey, Plymouth and Robert Logan, Blandinsville
- **Eight - \$25 Service Credits:** Irene Smith, Sciota; Gary Shelley, Plymouth; Colchester Library, Colchester; Richard Krohe, Industry; Hudson/Riebling Office, Good Hope; Bonnie Beck, Colchester; Melinda Morrell, Colchester; and Jo Ella Williams, Colchester

### Youth Prizes

- **7" Widescreen Portable DVD Player:** Gracie Jones, Colchester
- **iPOD Shuffle w/\$25 iTunes card:** Khali Scott

We also held the "Come to an MDTC Event & You Could Win a Prize" drawing for people who participated in our community events throughout the past year. The winner of a **Garmin Nuvi 205 GPS** Navigator was Janet Strader, Good Hope.



Colchester: 309-776-3211 or 888-640-4334  
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or underserved areas,” he said.

Buchanan noted the ongoing trend of a decrease in access lines at the same time we’re seeing our High Speed Internet and Digital TV services increase each year. He mentioned a number of measures the cooperative has taken over the past year to remain competitive and to improve service quality. Among these are an updated middleware product for our video; development of a cellular service to be called Mi Cellular; the addition of a restricted, lower cost local phone service; expansion into the Macomb market; and collaborations with other rural phone companies in Illinois to lower the cost of bandwidth and to expand public awareness of the

important role rural telcos serve.

Michelle Torrance then recognized those members celebrating a 50th anniversary with the co-op. This year there were over 30 members in the 50-year category. “We appreciate our core members,” said Torrance, “the ones that have come to rely on the cooperative throughout its existence, the ones that remain loyal to the cooperative principles and the work that went into making the cooperative successful.”

During the meeting, members re-elected Rose Marie Lynn, District 1 - Adair/Bardolph, Larry Thompson, District 2 - Raritan/Smithshire and Dennis Huffman - District 5, Lomax to the board of directors.

## Send Us Your Photos!

The deadline for the 2010 Directory Cover Photo Contest is looming. After November 20 you’ll lose the chance to have your photographic skills highlighted on our 2010 directory cover. You’ll also miss the chance of winning the \$100 First Place prize, \$75 Second Place prize or \$50 Third Place prize. Here’s what you need to do:

1. Submit up to two photos—either prints and negatives or high resolution digital files—of a scene in the McDonough Telephone directory coverage area or of a human interest shot.

2. All entrants must be McDonough Telephone members or the children of members and reside within our service area. No professional photographers, please.

3. The photograph(s) and negative(s) become the property of McDonough Telephone Cooperative.

4. Send all entries to: Karen Proulx; McDonough Telephone Cooperative; PO Box 359; Colchester, IL 62326 or email to karen@mdtc.net. Please include your name, phone number and a little information about the photograph(s). Good luck!

## October is Co-op Month

Each October, cooperatives across America celebrate the role, accomplishments and contributions of our nation’s cooperatives. Cooperatives are part of the self-help tradition of America. Cooperatives are businesses organized by people to provide needed goods and services. Cooperative businesses:

- are owned by the people who use their services;
- provide an economic benefit for their members;
- are democratic organizations, controlled by their members;
- are autonomous and independent;
- recognize the importance of education about cooperative business and

organizational practices;

- support cooperation among cooperatives, which has resulted in the growing importance of cooperatives in today’s global economy; and
- exhibit concern for their communities.

Today, 40% of the American population belong to a cooperative. Cooperatives demonstrate the positive impact realized when people join together for a common goal.



## We’re Coming To YOU! McDonough Telephone Morning Exchange

### Beck’s Snack Bar

134 E. Market St.  
Colchester, IL

Wednesday, October 14 • 7-9 a.m.  
FREE Breakfast from 7-8 a.m.

Come join us!

## Directory Additions

Blann, Goldie	254-3787
Byers, Brian	774-4127
Chatterton, Regan	456-3820
Danner, Kyle	254-3592
Edmonds, Rich	755-4245
Gerstel, Rick & Gina	449-3780
Hart, Jessica	653-2396
Hole, J.	254-3613
Lee, Ervin	746-6286
Lung, Steven	755-4383
Mesick, Melissa	776-4089
Mowery, Bonnie	774-4209
Nelson, Brandon	776-3288
Taylor, Scarlett	254-3483
VanBrooker, Brad & Maureen	769-5410
Ward, J.	456-3446
Weaver, Travis & Shannon	776-4056
Worthington, Jennifer	776-3561



## Lomax Office Schedule OCTOBER 2009

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Days Open in Red • Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Closed for Lunch 11:30 a.m. to noon  
Oct. 15 - Bills Due • Oct. 26 - Disconnect Day