

PHONE DIRECTORY UPDATES

Culp John & Delia Claremont 294-5356
Force Jason Frederick 329-2124
Grant Annette Columbia 396-2604
Grotelueschen Kristine Hecla 994-2022
Johnson Jerry Groton 397-4761
Kamin Leroy Groton 397-2570
Leigh Patty Hecla 994-7108
The Potting Shed Groton 397-8338
Roettele Adam Columbia 396-2428
Schaller Orville and Joyce Cell Phone 397-7373
Serfling James Chelsea 887-3633
Shunkwiler Earl & Judy Stratford 382-5879

IMPORTANT ACCOUNT INFO

JVT respects your privacy and observes the privacy rules established by the FCC. One of these rules requires notifying you of the potential use of your CPNI. Customer Proprietary Network Information (CPNI) relates to services you already buy, including service type, how we provide these services, call detail and billing data. Unless you notify us that you do not consent to its use, JVT and its subsidiaries may use your CPNI to notify you of additional products and services available for which you are not currently being billed. We will never sell your account information or provide details of your calls to other parties unless required by law enforcement.

Whether you consent to the above use of your CPNI or not, your CPNI will always be treated confidentially. No action is necessary to receive additional product and service information because you already have services with JVT. If you do not consent to JVT using your CPNI, you may not be able to learn about new technologies or offerings or possible savings plans. Denial of consent will not affect services we are currently providing you.

If you do not approve the proposed use of your CPNI, fill out and return the form included in this month's bill, call 1-800-556-6525 during regular business hours, or send an email to marketing@nvc.net within 30 days.

DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE FOR LOW INCOME CUSTOMERS

If you cannot afford telephone service, Lifeline/Link Up may help you pay part of your monthly phone costs and/or connection charges if you qualify for the program. Participants can save up to \$8.25 on their monthly telephone bill for basic local service. The discount applies only to basic local phone service where the eligible participant resides.



If you cannot afford cellular service, Lifeline/Link Up may help you pay part of your monthly costs and/or activation fees if you qualify for the program. Participants can save up to \$8.25 on their monthly cell phone bill for basic local service. The discount applies only to basic local cell phone service where the eligible participant resides.

Eligible members can only receive credit on one wireline or one wireless phone per household. Call 397-2323 or 611 for more information.

The New Phone Books Are Here!

The June 2009 Phone Directory will be delivered to homes early this month. Please take a moment to review your listing and call 611 with any changes.

JAMES VALLEY
TELECOMMUNICATIONS

235 E 1st Ave • PO Box 260
Groton, SD 57445
(605) 397-2323 • Toll Free 1-800-556-6525

OFFICE HOURS: Mon-Fri 8am-5pm
www.jamesvalley.com

DIAL TONES NEWSLETTER

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keeping you in touch

SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY

"Describe the communication methods used by your generation compared to your parents' generation."



Name: Shane Bruckner
Parents: Bud & Julie Bruckner, Conde
School: Conde High School
College Plans: Attend Northern State University, undecided about field of study

Shane is one of five high school seniors in JVT's service area to receive a \$500 Bob Peterson Memorial Telecommunications scholarship from JVT!

There are many differences in communication methods between our current generation and the generation of our parents. This is because our generation has the technology that our parents did not have when they were younger.

Cell phones? Texting? Blogging? E-Mail? Wikis? Back in our parents' generation, these items did not even exist. People would write letters and send them through the mail. Also, they mostly used the traditional telephone through a land line to communicate with others around the country. In today's generation, the methods of communication we use are e-mail on a computer, online blogs, wikis (editable web pages), discussion boards, etc. Though the traditional telephone is still used, mobile cell phones have since been invented and now millions of Americans use these phones that allow them to call from anywhere they want and also to send text messages to other people. This new mobile means of communication has become such a part of our daily lives that laws regulating their use have been passed in some states to keep people safe on the roads. This is something not imaginable in our parents' generation!

My generation has grown up on instant communication. For instance, instant messaging, where individuals can "talk" over the computer or the use of e-mail where messages can travel through cyberspace to distances all around the world in a matter of seconds. Contrast this with our parents' generation who often had to wait

for days in order to receive letters from friends and family through the mail. Another new source of communication is social networking sites like Facebook and MySpace where users can create their own profiles and post pictures and messages for selected individuals to see and read. These types of websites have grown in popularity by leaps and bounds over the last few years as individuals have discovered they're an easy way to keep in touch with others near and far.

Even with all these new methods of communication, we can only imagine what's in store for future generations. But for my generation, we can't imagine life without computers, cell phones, and all the means of communicating with them. It is interesting, though, that our parents have embraced these new ways of communicating, too, and wouldn't want to return to the traditional ways they grew up with!

Annual Meeting Held May 28!

JVT's annual meeting was held last month. Pictures and results were not available at press time, so will be included in the July *Dial Tones* issue.

JAMES VALLEY
TELECOMMUNICATIONS

What's On This Month...

DIRECTORS ATTEND NTCA LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

In mid March, directors Bill Ewalt and Merle Hanson attended the National Telecommunications Cooperatives Association Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C., along with more than 20 other cooperative officials from across South Dakota. This annual gathering of cooperative directors, managers and senior staff from across the nation gives JVT an opportunity to discuss pertinent communications issues with members of Congress and their staff.

While there, the group got a chance to meet with Sen. Tim Johnson, Sen. John Thune and Rep. Stephanie Herseth Sandlin. The National Telecommunications Cooperative Association (NTCA) also asked the group to meet with the staff of members of Congress from more urban areas to help educate them on the challenges of bringing communications services to sparsely populated areas.

Four issues topped the group's agenda: 1) implementation of a national broadband policy; 2) distribution of stimulus funding for broadband projects; 3) changes to the universal service audit process; and 4) changes to rules governing video services.

The need for a national broadband policy is growing increasingly important with each passing day. As our economy and our basic lifestyle become more reliant on data and information, the need for better infrastructure and higher Internet speeds grows as well. In South Dakota, we have done a very good job of making sure that even the smallest communities have broadband access. That is not the case in some parts of this country. As other countries surge forward academically and economically, the United States needs to be ready to compete in today's global economy. That's why a national broadband policy is vital to the future of our country and is in the best interests of our nation's next generation.

When Congress passed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (also known as the "stimulus package") earlier this year, nearly \$7 billion for broadband deployment in areas where there is little or no availability was included in the final form of the bill. The group urged policy makers to consider that when stimulus funds are allocated,

companies like James Valley Telecommunications with a proven track in building out broadband services should be given priority consideration. We believe it is best to trust companies like ours that have a history of service and are good corporate citizens as opposed to unknown entities that may have no relation to the local area.



Bill Ewalt



Merle Hanson

The group also raised the issue of universal service audits. Over the past two years, the Inspector General of the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) has sent hundreds of auditors out to companies like JVT to review whether USF funds have been used appropriately. These audits have cost the taxpayer more than \$125 million and have shown that there is little to no abuse of the funds. However, Congress allocated another \$25 million for additional audits in the omnibus spending bill that was just passed. While audits are a necessary part of administering USF monies, the way these audits have been conducted is extremely costly. Even USAC admitted in a February report that there are problems with the current audit process.

In addition to bringing you high quality communications services, JVT delivers the best in video programming. However, the video part of our business has become increasingly difficult to manage as broadcasters and content providers make more demands on companies like ours that ultimately increase the cost of providing these services to you. For example, if JVT wants to add a particular sports network to our lineup, we may be asked to carry several other networks as part of that package, even though these networks are of little interest to our members. And, in many cases, the rules that have been set up for these types of negotiations provide us little, if any, ability to negotiate on a level playing field with these large, national companies. The group asked for Congress to look into these discriminatory practices.

As always, the directors and management of JVT will work closely with our state and national organizations to make sure that your interests are protected both today and into the future. JVT remains committed to delivering the best telecommunications products possible to our members.

VIDEO RATES TO INCREASE

JVT is committed to providing you with the highest level of cable TV service at the lowest possible rates. Programming fees from cable TV networks continue to increase by 7%-10% each year, and this year JVT has been forced to pay for what used to be free programming from local stations like KSFY and KELO. To meet these increasing costs JVT must raise its cable TV rates by \$3.00 for all cable TV packages effective June 1, 2009. Monthly rates for Internet and phone service will not change. We will continue to do the very best we can to obtain popular programming at the most reasonable prices possible.

JVT is committed to providing the utmost value to our members, such as through packages that bundle TV, Internet, phone service and cell phone service. These bundles provide significant annual savings over the price you would pay if you ordered the services separately and from different providers. Contact JVT at 397-2323 to discuss bundling options that are available to you.

NVC IS ON TWITTER

NVC has joined the Twitter community and can be found at www.twitter.com/nvcinternet. Twitter is a free social networking service for friends, family and co-workers to communicate and stay connected through the exchange of quick, frequent answers to one simple question: "What are you doing?" Once a Twitter site or profile has been set up, fellow Twitter users can choose to become a follower to receive updates that are placed on that site.

We hope to see all fellow Tweepers (ie: a Twitter user) following NVC soon! As for the rest of you, becoming a Tweeter is easy - simply visit twitter.com and click "Get Started - Join" to create an account.

The current top 5 Twitter sites and screen names are:
#1 Ashton Kutcher - **aplusk** - 1,684,745 followers
#2 CNN - **cnnbrk** - 1,403,319 followers
#3 The Ellen Show - **TheEllenShow** - 1,396,415 followers
#4 Britney Spears - **britneyspears** - 1,354,350 followers
#5 Barack Obama - **BarackObama** - 1,105,931 followers

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