



GRAND MOUND PHONET NEWSLETTER

Quarterly Newsletter Published for our Customers

March 2005

To Report Outages for Telephone and CATV Service, please call **847-3000**. If

after hours or on weekends, also please call 847-3000 and leave your outage information on the answering machine. Our technicians will check the answering machine several times during the weekend for any emergency calls.

Remember to call 847-3000, 24 hours a day/7 days a week to report any outages.

NEW DIRECTORY LISTINGS AND UPDATES

-D-

Diercks, Craig A.....847-1282

-H-

Hines, Sherry.....847-1071

-K-

Kilburg, Steve.....847-1666

-P-

Petersen, Elmer L.....847-1352

-R-

Ruggeberg, Jim & Selena.....847-1230

-S-

Simonson, Brian & Ronda.....847-1057

-T-

Toerber, Martin.....847-1038

Trenkamp, Aaron & Carrie.....847-1232

GMCTA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING SET FOR MARCH 12, 2005

The Annual Meeting of the members of Grand Mound Cooperative Telephone Association will be on Saturday, March 12, 2005.

The meeting will be held at the Grand Mound Community Center beginning with a 12:00 noon luncheon followed by the business meeting at 1:00 p.m.

The business meeting will be for the purpose of electing directors and transacting other business as necessary.

The official notice of the meeting will be mailed to the members of GMCTA on March 1, 2005.



SOLAR INTERFERENCE

During the month of March, we will be experiencing solar interference during which degradation or loss of Satellite signal will occur on our CATV system. This will occur between the hours of 2:00-4:00 p.m. for approximately 10 days.

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN!



Call Before You Dig! 1-800-292-8989

Notification service for locating underground

Spring and summer are just around the corner. Of course, that means the digging season is knocking at our door.

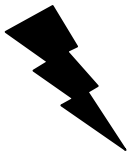
Please call Iowa One Call at
1-800-292-8989

to have the underground facilities located and marked. Call 48 hours in advance of digging and remember that

IT'S THE LAW!

TECH TIP

When burning or mowing ditches, be aware of telephone pedestals and equipment. You may not only damage the equipment and cables, but vital emergency services could be cut off to your neighbors or yourself.



THUNDERSTORMS.....



...AND COMPUTERS

Spring is about here and summer is fast approaching. We know from past experience that we are fast approaching the thunder-storm season. As an important reminder to you, during a thunder-storm, it would be wise to unplug your modem from the power and phone line. This is a good practice to keep you connected and trouble-free rather than getting fried with unnecessary repairs.

ATTENTION INTERNET CUSTOMERS!

If any of our GMTel.net Internet customers still have any of the old "netINS" installation CDs or any of the old "GMTel.net" conversion discs, please throw them away. They are no longer valid to use and will not work to set up your Internet account on your new computer or after you have re-formatted your old computer.

If you need help with your Internet account settings, please call our GMTel.net Technical Support at **1-866-847-4638**. They are available 24 hrs. a day, 7 days a week to assist you with any Internet related problems.

...AND TELEPHONES

Phones dead after a storm? Before calling the telephone office to generate a trouble ticket, you can do some simple checks of your own. Unplug your answering machine, cordless phone, computer modem, fax machine or regular phones one at a time from the phone jack. When plugging back in one at a time, check to see if you get a dial tone, if not, then you have found the equipment with the short. If no such luck, then call the telephone office. Remember, you can save us time and yourself money.

Landline vs. Wireless

As convenient as wireless phones are to use when we're out and about, the fact is they cannot compare to the landline local telephone service in many ways. The poor quality of wireless communications is well known. While we are prone to put up with problems while we're driving or at the store, it's not really what we need when we want to have a good old-fashioned conversation. Nothing can compare with the excellent quality of the landline phone system of the United States. Landline use is regulated, meaning there are quality and service standards put in place by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Wireless use is not regulated and the FCC has no control over quality or pricing.

The wireless industry acknowledges that quality will not improve in the foreseeable future. The competing wireless companies currently do not use the same technology, making sharing between markets and constant roaming a problem. There is also a very real possibility of privacy invasion as your conversations are not secure on a wireless phone. Although wireless service does have a useful place in our lives, the landline service offers more security in an emergency, consistent quality reception and is more reliable with fewer dropped calls.



Published quarterly for customers of

**Grand Mound Coop.
Telephone Assn.
and
Grand Mound
Communications Co.**

providing local telephone service for the Grand Mound area, PCS Wireless, Voice Mail, Paging Services, travel calling cards, data and fax services, CATV, Internet, and DSL.

(563) 847-3000

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Business Office Hours

Monday to Friday
8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

General Manager

Mark Harvey

Office Manager

Terri Bumann

Office Assistant

Dee Dee Banowetz

Combination Technician

Chris Beuthien

Board of Directors

Dennis Campbell
Joe Dierickx
Roger Green
Rick Mineck
Ruth Schroeder
Harry Slaymaker
Wayne Whitman

