



Annual Meeting Re-Cap

Poka Lambro Telephone Cooperative, Inc's (Poka Lambro) 66th Annual Membership Meeting was held March 30, 2017 at Poka Lambro's main location, 11.5 miles north of Tahoka on US Highway 87.

Prior to the business meeting, attendees enjoyed lunch, checked out their cooking-themed goodie bags, and caught up with old friends. The business meeting was called to order by Board President Randy Hensley at 12:30. Hensley introduced and welcomed guests, then turned the meeting over to Board Vice President Randy Simpson who announced the 2016 Poka Lambro Scholarship winners (see Page 2 for scholarship details). Board Secretary Quinton Kearney presented the Secretary's Statement on Notice of the meeting. The Directors and General Manager were introduced, and the minutes of the 2016 Annual Meeting were reviewed.

Next on the agenda was the election of Directors. Congratulations to Randy Simpson of District 1, and Quinton Kearney of District 4 for being re-elected. Each will serve a 3-year term.

The membership voted to approve Amendments to the By-laws, granting authority to the Board to remove a sitting Director for cause, as presented. The next item on the agenda was the presentation of the financial report by Nathan Paden of Bolinger, Segars, Gilbert and Moss, L.L.P. Mr. Paden summarized the balance sheet and income statement for 2016.

After the conclusion of the business session, attendees enjoyed the much-anticipated door prize drawings. Congratulations to Grand Prize winner Alton Cook, who took home a 50" Smart TV! Lyndell Brooks won a 32GB iPad Air, Larry Killian and Ramiro Rosales Sr. picked up FitBit Charges, and Bobby Clem received a Yeti Roadie Cooler. Many lucky members went home with great prizes including BBQ tools, insulated cups, and cash.

Thanks to all who attended the 2017 Annual Membership Meeting! Visit our Facebook or Twitter page to see pictures from the meeting. We look forward to seeing all of you again next year!

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2017 Poka Lambro Scholarship Winners!

Katherine Barrington – Katherine attends New Home High School. Katherine is the daughter of Matt and Lisa Barrington. She plans to attend Texas Tech University where she will study Industrial Engineering.



Hayley Gray – Hayley is a student at Borden County ISD. She is the daughter of Glen and Lisa Gray. Hayley plans to attend Texas Tech University where she will participate in the Pre-Physician's Assistant Program.



Olivia Hammonds – Olivia attends Tahoka High School. Olivia is the daughter of Martin and Dina Hammonds. She plans to major in Animal Science at Texas A&M University.



M'Kenzie Scott – M'Kenzie is a student at Loop High School. M'Kenzie is the daughter of Shane and Charla Scott. She intends to study Education at Lubbock Christian University.



Blaze Smith – Blaze is a student at Post High School. Blaze is the son of Robert and Stephanie Smith. He plans to study Chemical Engineering at Texas Tech University.



Haley Stephens – Haley attends Tahoka High School. She is the daughter of Alicia Stephens. After getting her Associate's Degree from South Plains College, Haley plans on transferring to Texas Tech to pursue a Master's Degree in Education.



Fiber Network Updates

We remain committed to continuing to upgrade our infrastructure and network in order to deploy a first rate fiber optic voice and data network to meet the ever-evolving needs of our customers. Once fiber has been installed in an area, customers located there will need to upgrade to the new fiber facilities in order for their service to continue working. There is no cost to the customer to transition to fiber facilities. However, we do need to enter the home or business to install a small piece of equipment.

Ausborne: Construction is now underway.

Hatch: The cable construction phase has been completed in Hatch. Fiber-splicing has begun.

Loop: The northwest portion of the Loop exchange has been completed. If you are located in this area and have not yet been upgraded to the new fiber facilities, please contact our office to schedule a time for the upgrade.

Wheatley: The Wheatley exchange has been completed. If you are located in this area and have not yet been upgraded to the new fiber facilities, please contact our office to schedule a time for the upgrade.

If you are unsure whether you are in an area that has been upgraded, or need to schedule an appointment, please call us at 806-924-7234 or 800-422-2387.

Tech Tip



As time passes, people stop using certain applications and programs for a number of reasons. Sometimes we no longer have a need for that application, or we find a solution that better suits our needs. Old programs that are no longer useful can take up valuable network space, and worse yet, they could become vulnerable if they aren't updated. All of these old icons and folders will also clutter your home page or desk-top making it more difficult to find what you are looking for.

Do yourself a favor and set aside a little time to clean-up your computer or device. Simply delete or uninstall programs and applications you no longer need. You will enjoy an increase in productivity, better device performance, and a less stressful work environment.

A Guide to Broadband

What is Broadband?

Simply put, broadband is a method of connecting to the internet. It is called broadband because it is always on and provides a high speed connection compared to the older “narrowband” or dial-up technologies. Today, broadband speed is typically measured in Megabits Per Second (Mbps) or Gigabits Per Second (Gbps). Digital information is measured in bits, so Mbps and Gbps are used to represent how much information you can download or upload per second. A Gigabit is equal to 1,000 Megabits.

What Speed do I Need?

The broadband download speed you need can best be determined by the types of activities you will be doing and the number of devices you will be using. For example, 4 Mbps download speed is likely sufficient for one person to surf the web, check email, and access social media on one device. However, speeds of 20 Mbps and higher may be required for multiple users to comfortably stream video, listen to music, or run video surveillance. These higher speeds are becoming more prominent with the popularity of streaming applications like Netflix and Skype.

When deciding what speed you need for your home, think about your entire household and all of the people, devices, and applications that will be accessing the internet. Many adults now have a phone, tablet, television, and laptop connected at all times. More devices obviously require more speed. If you find that pages are loading slowly, or that your videos and/or music are buffering for too long, you likely need more speed.

Remember

Download speeds can be hampered by common factors like congestion during peak usage hours, multiple users on in your household, and old equipment. If your internet is only slow on one device, there is likely an issue with that device rather than your internet. Check your device settings, be sure to close any unnecessary apps, and log-out any devices not in use.

Other Factors to Consider...

Upload Speed – The speed at which you can send information from your device to the web. Higher upload speeds are especially important for video applications and sharing large files.

Latency – The delay, or lag, in packets traveling across the network. Latency is also extremely important in video applications like conferencing or gaming. Too much latency can lead to buffering, freezing, scrambled pixels, or audio “cutting out”.

Data Limits – Some providers limit the data you can upload/download and charge fees for exceeding those limits. Poka Lambro does not limit your data usage.

Give us a call at 806-924-7234 if you have any questions, or would like to look into increasing your bandwidth. Ask about our Free 3 Month Speed Upgrade for current internet subscribers.

New Connects...

Aten

Beatrice Gomez..... (806) 439-6326
Paradigm Enterprises..... (806) 439-6676

Loop

Nathan Davison..... (806) 487-6664
Diane Hunt..... (806) 487-6769
Kerrie Taubert..... (806) 487-6775

New Home

AC Machine..... (806) 924-7669
Angelica B Castro..... (806) 924-7405
Brady Cook..... (806) 924-7392
Maria Juana Garcia..... (806) 924-7702
Brent Meyer..... (806) 924-7682
Oscar Rendon Jr..... (806) 924-7572

O'Donnell

Nathan Lowe..... (806) 428-3403
Leona Ruth Pugh..... (806) 428-3298
The Apple & I..... (806) 428-3501

Patricia

Leatrice Ann Schneider..... (806) 462-7687

Punkin Center

AC Machine..... (806) 489-7689
Michelle R Contreras..... (806) 489-7649
Colt Middleton..... (806) 489-7426
Susie Ramirez..... (806) 489-7497

Southland

Quova Nelson..... (806) 996-5525
Joe Rodriguez..... (806) 996-5318

Union

Jessie Neufeld Hildebrand..... (806) 755-2758

Wheatley

Paula Martin..... (806) 522-6470
Paula Martin..... (806) 522-6621

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Randy Hensley
PRESIDENT

Randy Simpson
VICE PRESIDENT

Quinton Kearney
SECRETARY

Kevin Pepper
TREASURER

Wendell Morrow
DIRECTOR

Wayne Barton
DIRECTOR

Ricky Mills
DIRECTOR

The Connection

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*Some speeds not available in all areas.



4 Tips to Stay Safe Online



- Be sure your computer and all mobile devices are running the latest operating systems (OS). Malware creators are always adapting, and so are OS developers. If a vulnerability is identified, developers will fix it in the next update, so you want to be sure you have it!
- Install anti-virus software on all connected devices and be sure it is up-to-date. Attacks become more sophisticated every day, so the best programs are always adapting to combat the latest threats. Be sure you are up-to-date for the best protection.
- Use caution when opening emails with links or attachments. Look for misspellings, unsolicited offers or prizes, and requests for personal or financial information. Some scammers try to mimic a reputable company, so be wary, and call the company directly if you're suspicious.
- Only download software from reputable sites or stores. Hackers will sneak malicious code into fake versions of the programs and apps that you want. The best way to avoid a fake is to stick to official company websites and app stores.