

*Happy Halloween on
Monday, October 31st!*



KEEPING YOU...

venture
communications

In Touch

October 2022 ■ Volume 46 ■ Number 507

65th Cooperative *Annual Meeting* Held!

The members of Venture Communications gathered together on Wednesday, September 21, 2022 in Highmore, SD for the 65th annual meeting of the cooperative. Over 200 members and guests enjoyed a noon meal prepared by Gypsy Nosh.

Venture is celebrating 70 years of incorporation. A brief history was given by President Langer to the members on how the original board of directors formed Sully Buttes Telephone Cooperative which is now Venture Communications Cooperative.

President John Langer called the 2022 annual meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and led the membership in prayer. The members approved the notices as read along with the minutes of the 2021 annual meeting. Tracy Wientjes of Onida, Charles Birkholt of Selby, Tommy Wagner of Rosholt, and Marlin Jenner of Sisseton were seated to three-year terms on the Venture Communications Board of Directors. President Langer commented on the 2022 general retirement. He also thanked the membership and Venture team for their loyal support to Venture Communications.

Manager Houdek updated the members in regards to the rural Beadle/Spink project and the rural Beadle project. He also expressed his sincere appreciation to the members, directors, and employees for their continued dedication and service to the cooperative.

The membership approved the financials as presented in the annual meeting booklet. A cooperative legal report was given by Attorney Rogers. There was no old or new business brought before the membership.

After adjournment, prizes were drawn for with David Salathe being named the winner of the grand prize Smart TV.

\$4,000,000 in *Patronage* Credit to be Paid Out!

Venture Communications is proud to announce that \$4,000,000 will be paid back to the cooperative members from outstanding capital credit patronage balances. A portion of the total amount returned to members comes from the 2007, 2008 and a small portion of 2009 and 20% of 2021 allocations. Members who were customers of Venture Communications during those years were mailed their patronage checks in late September. Patronage checks for amounts less than \$100 will not be written and the amounts will be applied as a credit to the member's monthly Venture bill. Customers will see this credit on their October bill on page 1 under Adjustments. A bill message will also appear on the last page.

Customers who had service with Venture Communications Cooperative in 2021 recently received an allocation statement on their May 2022 bill. The amount shown on the allocation statement will NOT be equal to the amount of the check received. The allocation statement shows total accumulated earned patronage through the year 2021. The retirement check that customers will receive is a portion of the statement amount.

**CO-OPS
BUILD
ECONOMIC
POWER**

Venture Communications is celebrating Co-op Month in October. You make Venture Communications successful. As a member of the Venture Co-op, you have helped blaze a trail to provide Venture customers with the most advanced communications services available. THANKS for being part of our co-op's team!

October 2022 New Directory Listings:

ROSHOLT

ShortStop 605-537-4799

Tax Funds *Distributed* to Area Schools!

Venture Communications recently paid gross receipts tax for the year 2021 to schools in the areas where Venture serves. The taxes are paid annually in August to the South Dakota Department of Revenue, who then disburses the taxes to state-funded school districts, based on the revenue generated by customers in each school district.

The following schools received the amount shown below. Some Venture customers live in school districts other than those shown below. Consequently, some funds were disbursed to schools outside of our service area.

Agar-Blunt-Onida	\$56,675
Bowdle	\$23,271
Britton-Hecla	\$89,727
Edmunds Central	\$16,030
Faulkton Area	\$48,764
Gettysburg	\$60,177
Highmore-Harold	\$73,011
Hitchcock-Tulare	\$23,654
Hoven	\$36,503
Langford Area	\$31,836
Miller Area	\$29,195
Northwestern Area	\$ 5,049
Pierre	\$ 6,602
Rosholt	\$38,786
Selby Area	\$38,786
Sisseton Public	\$183,846
Webster Area	\$19,284
Wessington Springs	\$49,324
Wolsey-Wessington	\$12,651



VETERAN'S DAY

The Venture Communications office will be closed on Friday, November 11th to observe Veteran's Day. Please join us in honoring our Veterans who have shown heroism and love of country. We are grateful for the noble sacrifices made by these Veterans who continue to inspire those who defend America today.

Tune in to these *Entertaining* Events!

- Venture Communications in cooperation with SDN (South Dakota Network) is please to be airing the State Soccer Tournament on October 15th on Venture Digital TV channel 399.
- The State Cheer & Dance Championships will be broadcast on October 21st & 22nd on Venture Digital TV channel 399.
- We are pleased to announce we will be broadcasting the All-State Chorus & Orchestra Concert on October 28th & 29th on Venture Digital TV channel 399.
- The State Football Championships will be broadcast on November 10th – 12th on Venture Digital TV on channel 399.

Surma *Wins* Directory Photo Contest!

Venture Communications recently held the annual photo contest to select the cover photo for the telephone directory. We received a host of exceptional pictures from our customers again this year.

The 2022-2023 cover photograph is a beautiful and serene photo of a horse with a gorgeous sunset as a backdrop. Stuart Surma of Java submitted the winning picture and will receive a \$50 cash prize. Congratulations Stuart!

As always, we look forward to seeing next year's contest photos and encourage others to participate. We would like to thank everyone who took time to submit pictures for this year's contest.

**Remember to turn your clocks back one hour
on Sunday, November 6th. It's also a good time
to check all smoke detectors in your
home for maintenance.**



venture
communications

Venture Communications is an
equal opportunity provider and employer.

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Office Hours: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. ■ Monday - Friday



PROVIDER