



PMT Connection

FALL 2015

Community Rewards Program

PMT is celebrating 100 great years in 2016, and in appreciation and thanks to you, we're giving away \$1000 each month in 2016! \$500 to a customer and \$500 to local organizations or charities.

Each month throughout 2016, PMT will choose one customer at random draw to win \$500. PMT will also make a \$500 donation in the winner's name to a local organization or charity of the customer's choice. Winners can choose to support any local organization that is legally registered as a non-profit, charity or school. Examples include county schools, Magic Valley Folk Festival, Mini-Cassia Christmas Council, or whatever is near and dear to your heart, and because you are already a PMT customer, you're automatically entered. **Best of luck!**



Message from the President

It's hard to believe school is in full swing and harvest is complete. As the weather cools down and winter weather arrives I would like everyone remember to drive cautiously when the roads are snowy and slick.

Our PMT employees have been extremely busy over the past few months. We are excited about our new IPTV roll out. We experienced a few glitches with the installation of the equipment; however, we believe we have worked through those issues, and now we have the ability to offer SD and HD channels, as well as DVR's with this new service. We are currently installing our new IPTV in Rupert, and as our neighborhoods are completed, we will be expanding into our adjacent service areas. Additionally, PMT will begin offering a Hosted PBX/Cloud solution to our business customers. PMT will provide the necessary hardware within our central offices, while offering businesses the same functionality as a local switching or PBX system within your office. This service will give businesses the ability to add features to their networks that were previously unavailable within their own equipment. Please contact a local PMT business representative for more information.



Our new web page is up and running, and I urge all of our customers and non-customers to visit www.pmt.org when you get a moment. Our 100-year anniversary is approaching quickly. PMT will be announcing several exciting contests during our celebration next year. We will be awarding monthly prizes just for being a loyal customer, and matching these prizes with charitable contributions to the preferred non-profit organization of the winner's choice.

Thanks for your business, our PMT employees are committed to providing you with the best local service in the Magic Valley.

Dan Hoover
President and CEO
PMT

PMT Foundation Awards Community Grants

On October 15, 2015 The PMT Foundation awarded nearly \$15,000 to organizations in the Magic Valley, each seeking to help sustain and improve our community.

"It's our privilege to award grants to local organizations," states Alan Johnson, PMT Foundation Chairman. "Many of this year's recipients are helping the most underserved individuals in the Magic Valley, and the PMT Foundation is happy to contribute money to these organizations to further their good works in the Magic Valley."

As a customer owned cooperative, Project Mutual Telephone (PMT) pays patronage dividends back to customers every year based on services used. When those monies go unclaimed for a number of years, they are transferred over to the PMT Foundation, which focuses on furthering education through a scholarship program, and supporting community projects through grant awards. PMT Grants are awarded once a year and will become available again in the summer of 2016.

Recipients:



- Sleep in Heavenly Peace received \$1,500 to purchase supplies and materials to build bunk beds that are given to children without beds in the Magic Valley.



- Minidoka County Fair Board received \$5,000 to help improve the fairgrounds by building a concession stand on the south end of the fairgrounds. Once built, this will allow youth groups to use the stand as a fundraising opportunity.



- Wellness Tree Community Clinic received \$5,000 to purchase dental x-ray equipment for a free dental clinic for the most underserved individuals in the Magic Valley.



- 5th Judicial Court CASA Program received \$1,500 to obtain audio/visual equipment for recruitment, training and support of volunteer advocates who are the voice for the safety and well-being of neglected and abused children.



- Magic Valley Rehabilitation Services received \$1,940 to purchase new laptops to be used in providing community based services, such as job development for persons with disabilities.

Patronage/Estate Planning Article

Believe it or not, you have an estate. Your estate includes your checking account, home, car, furniture, personal possessions, and even patronage dividends from PMT. All of us have an estate, no matter how large or modest, which is why you should have an estate plan.

Have a plan in advance to name who you want to receive the things you've accumulated over the years. Keep these points in mind:

- Authorize a trusted family member or friend on utility accounts .
- Include instructions on what is to happen if you are permanently disabled before you die.
- Name a guardian for minor children, or disabled persons in your care.
- Provide instructions for the transfer of your business.
- Appoint a personal representative, grant a power of attorney, and appoint an executor of your estate.

Too many people don't have a plan, and if YOU don't have a plan the STATE does. Estate planning does not need to be expensive, and should include at least a will or living trust.

The best time for estate planning is NOW.

Advanced Service Technicians Spotlight on Excellence!

Meet our Advanced Service Technician (AST) group. They specialize primarily in working with our business customers, providing telephone systems (including VoIP); internal voice mail systems; network and data cabling; alarm systems; and video surveillance systems, all geared toward the technologies required in today's fast-paced business world. These technicians strive to exceed the expectations of our customers, sometimes working odd hours to limit interruption to *our* customers so they are able to take care of *their* customers without causing major disruption.

The senior technician, Brent Stimpson, has been with PMT since May of 1989, and in AST the majority of that time. He takes a personal interest in making sure the customer not only gets what they want, but also what they need. Brent has been spending most of his days working in our expanding Twin Falls market, and has been instrumental in converting Twin Falls County's services, among others over to PMT. Brent has been a valuable resource to the AST group and PMT. Brent is in the process of transitioning to our Network Operations Center department where he will use his knowledge and expertise as we move forward with new products and services, such as our Hosted Phone System.

Eric Carrington was hired in August of 1996, and has also spent the majority of his time with the company in AST. He works in the Mini-Cassia area primarily, and has done a lot of phone system work for both Minidoka and Cassia Counties, as well as Minidoka Memorial Hospital.

Bill Jones has worked for PMT twice, most recently in February 2006 after a few years with the US Military. His second time

around has been entirely with the AST group. He works mostly in the Mini-Cassia area as well, and recently upgraded the alarm systems at Minidoka County and the Sheriff's office.

Tony Kline came on-board in December 2009 and works in the Twin Falls and Jerome areas of the valley. He spent a lot of time doing the network and data cabling for many of the First Federal Banks in those areas over the past several months.

Jason Spencer is the newest member to the AST department. Jason started at PMT as an Installation and Repair Technician, installing and repairing PMT services for residential customers, and is splitting his time between the two departments while he trains with the ASTs.

Our experienced technicians are BiCSI certified, among the many and varied certifications they each hold, which helps ensure that PMT continues to provide our customers with the very latest business technology options and capabilities. They all are instrumental in installing and maintaining multiple business systems throughout the Magic Valley area.

For installation or service upgrades, please contact any of our offices, and we would be glad to send one of these outstanding technicians to take care of your business needs.



(L to R): Brent Stimpson, Eric Carrington, Bill Jones, Tony Kline and Jason Spencer.

INTERNET SALE



Limited time offer.
Call for details.

When Was Your Last Back- Up on Your Important Devices?

Data is the most important aspect of your computer or device. The operating system can be reinstalled and so can applications, but it may be difficult or impossible to recreate your original data.

It is essential that you always back up your important information and have a plan for recovering from a failure. Data may become corrupt or wiped out by a hardware problem. Devices can be lost, stolen, or damaged beyond repair.

You should back up your personal or critical work data on a regular basis. There are many free back up applications for any smartphones, devices and PC's. The features that some of us are looking for, like scheduling an automatic backup to run so we do not have to worry about it, and cloud uploading is usually a pay per application (app) or service. These apps and services are worth their weight in gold when needed.

Now is the time! Set aside a few minutes to check or setup your back up. You will sleep easier and you won't be sorry when or if your device/pc has a hardware malfunction.

