

photo by REBECCA FARR



June 2018

RINGER



2018 Annual Meeting

Official Notice of NCC Annual Meeting

Tuesday, June 19, 2018 at the NCC Warehouse in Ray 111 Railroad Avenue

- 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. **Registration**
- 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. **Demonstration Booths**
- 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. **Kids Entertainment**
Prize Drawings for Kids. Grand Prize is a bike.
- 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. **Free Meal**
Shredded beef sandwiches and sides.
- 6:00 to 6:30 p.m. **Entertainment by DMJ**
An all-female band/trio from Williston with beautiful harmony, a variety of instrumentation, and a contemporary folk style.
- 6:30 p.m. **Business Meeting**
Cash Drawings during Business Meeting including the Grand Prize of \$500 Cash.



Three Directors will be elected to three year terms:

- District #1** ROGER MANGER (incumbent)
- Grenora, Marmon, and Round Prairie exchanges.
- District #2** TROY DONNELLY (incumbent)
- Ray and Epping exchanges.
- District #4** NATHAN JEPSEN (incumbent)
- Bowbells, Flaxton, and Lignite exchanges.

Be sure to check out the **Internet Usage demo!**
Sign up at the meeting, plus be entered for an additional prize!

Grant Opportunities

Rural Development Finance Corporation (RDFC) Grant:

NCC and the other Rural ILECs in ND are given \$2,000 to distribute to community owned entities, non-profits and other community-based projects. Funds can be distributed in (4) \$500 increments, (2) \$1,000 increments or (1) \$2,000. This grant requires the organization to match \$4 to every \$1 RDFC grant funds. Due back to NCC by August 1, 2018.

CoBank Grant:

NCC is again partnering this year with CoBank to provide a grant of up to \$10,000. Entities who can apply must be a 501 (c)(3) charity, school or government organization such as counties or municipalities and their agencies or departments. CoBank will match a \$1,000 to \$5,000 charitable contribution made by NCC for a total grant to the applicant of \$2,000 to \$10,000. Due back to NCC by August 1, 2018.

The Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) Grant:

Grants range from \$250 to \$5,000 and support organizations and projects that fit into the following categories: business and economic development, community development, education and telecommunications. The application needs to be postmarked by September 15, 2018 along with a letter of support from NCC. The application and more information can be found at www.frs.org/programs/grant-program. You can mail us the completed application and we can send in with the letter of support, or ask for the letter of support from us and mail everything together yourselves. Grants are awarded December 1, 2018 and funds distributed December 31, 2018.



Please provide us with a contact phone number for our outbound calling system. It defaults to your landline telephone number. If you would like a different phone number, please call 568-3331 or email ncc@nccray.com and let us know that number. It will help us to contact you when there's important information to share.

Cooperative Members will be voting at the Annual Meeting on June 19th.

NCC Director Candidate Profiles:



ROGER MANGER
Incumbent
DISTRICT 1
*Marmon, Grenora,
and Round Prairie*

The incumbent director from District 1 is Roger Manger. He graduated from Grenora High School and from Minot College of Business with a Business Administration Computer Programming degree. He worked for SRT Communications in Minot for 34 years.

Roger retired and moved back to the farm south of Grenora and works for farmers and ranchers. He is on the Strandahl township board, a member of the St. Petri Cemetery Assoc., and St. Olaf Lutheran Church, serves on the Williams County Farm Bureau board, and has served on the NCC board for 6 years.

Roger and his wife Mary Lou of 46 years have four children and 10 grandchildren. He enjoys horseback riding, hunting, and fishing with his grandchildren.

The incumbent director from District 2 is Troy Donnelly. He is a graduate of Ray High School. He later graduated from Williston State College with a degree in diesel mechanics.

Troy is currently farming in the Ray area, and is a member of the Ray Fire Department and the Ray Lutheran Church. He also serves on the West Bank Township Board and the Ray Cemetery Board.

Troy is married to Deanna who is an elementary teacher at Ray School. They have three children; Riley, Haley, and Cassidy.



TROY DONNELLY
Incumbent
DISTRICT 2
Ray and Epping

The incumbent director from District 4 is Nathan Jepsen. He is a graduate of Bowbells High School, received his AS degree from Williston State College, and BS degree from Minot State University. Nate is a self employed Certified Public Accountant and is also engaged in farming.

Nate serves on the board of directors for Williston State College Foundation and Flaxton Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Company. He is a member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church - Bowbells and has served on the church council. Nate's wife is Lenell and he has two step children, Ryan and Taylor. He enjoys watching sports in his spare time.



NATE JEPSEN
Incumbent
DISTRICT 4
*Bowbells, Flaxton,
and Lignite*

Capital Credit Allocations

• **NCC cooperative customers will soon be mailed their annual allocation statement which provides the total amount of capital credits earned for doing business with NCC.** Capital credits are amounts allocated to each member from the Cooperative's annual profits. The amount allocated is determined by the amount of business an individual does with NCC each year and NCC's profit for that year. The 2017 margins to be allocated is \$2,234,456. Capital credits are not available as cash until the Board of Directors authorizes their retirement. The NCC Board of Directors vote, on an annual basis, whether or not to retire a certain percentage of the accumulated capital credits. The NCC Board of Directors has chosen not to retire any general capital credits while we are in the process of our fiber build out.

As a member, capital credits continue to accumulate even though the general retirements are not made. So, even though you may not be receiving an annual payment, you continue to accumulate capital credits. The full allocation of capital credits due to a deceased member is retired to an estate or to the member's heir(s). Estate retirements are done at each monthly board meeting. It is important that customers provide NCC with updated address information, even when service is disconnected and/or they move out of the area, so that they can be found when their capital credits are retired.

• **Why should I continue to do business with a Cooperative that is not retiring capital credits?** While capital credits are not being retired this year, that amount is still allocated to you. The retirement of capital credits is voted upon annually by the Board of Directors, and can change from year-to-year. Trying to be fiscally responsible and keeping the Cooperative financially sound, it is the intention of the Board of Directors to not borrow money to pay general capital credit retirements. NCC has already committed to some debt to replace the plant, and in essence would be borrowing more if capital credits were to be retired.

Your Cooperative was started with a mission to provide telecommunication services to people in northwest North Dakota. It is still the mission today to bring quality service to members. We do everything possible to make this happen. If that means delaying general capital credit retirements while large investments are being made in the plant, then as a Cooperative we must do so.

NCC has been in business for over 65 years. We are highly committed to providing quality telecommunication service to connect you to the world; and hope that is more than enough to convince you to do business with a company that you have ownership in.

Happy Father's Day!



Must-have Travel Apps

Vacations can be wonderful if everything goes as planned, but they can quickly go downhill if something goes wrong. So, if I'm going on a trip, I want to have a plan in place. Regardless of the type of trip I am taking, I want to make it as affordable and stress free as possible. Today, I want to pass along a few of my favorite apps that can help you plan your perfect trip.

TripAdvisor:

This is a well-known and commonly used app to get reviews on hotels, tourist attractions, restaurants and more. I use this very frequently when traveling.

Yelp:

If you are looking for a great local restaurant, try looking at Yelp. Here you can see reviews from customers and find out the best places to eat.

Gas Buddy:

Find the cheapest gas near your location.

Waze:

Get crowd sourced travel information and directions. Be one of the first to know of traffic jams, accidents, road conditions or road construction. You can contribute as well as access this real-time information.

iExit:

Find out if the next interstate exit has a gas station, campground, restaurant, hotel or other helpful locations before you take it.

Geocaching:

This is one of the best activities to do with family while traveling, especially on long road trips. Geocaching allows you to go treasure hunting in a fun and affordable way. It uses your phone's GPS to find little hidden treasures all across the country. Many of these treasures are nothing more than a little (half the size of a finger) metal container with a rolled up piece of paper that you can sign and date to show you have found it. By downloading a GPS app and Geocaching you can get out and explore the areas around you, and maybe even find a little treasure! It's fun for adults and kids alike! You can learn more by going to www.geocaching.com.

By Carissa Swenson, Consortia Consulting, Inc.

New Listings

CROSBY

Love Tyler.....965-2081

EPPING

Audette Zachary.....859-2370

Kreit Dennis.....859-3020

Lewis Terry & Ella859-5716

LIGNITE

Moore Nichol.....933-5863

MARMON

Barkie Dennis L & Bethann826-7282

Goetz Kasey.....826-5936

NOONAN

Krecklau Jordan925-5759

RAY

Carrillo Salvador.....568-5014

Stone Jimmy568-6898

ROUND PRAIRIE

Sewell David & Lalanya875-6616

TIOGA

Dill Faye.....664-3818

Garcia Jacquelin.....664-5094

Hampton Sonya664-7348

Lefever Mia.....664-7363

Odegaard Jayme & Lindsey.....664-8983

Porter Dale & Ilona664-8816

Shipley Bette664-5320

TL Construction.....664-4446

T2 Environmental LLC.....664-2100

WILDROSE

Foxley Nathan539-6967



Concern for Community – A Cooperative Principle

- Sign up in June to receive paperless statements and get entered to win FREE INSTALLATION of an NCC Security System!
- Enter again to win by signing up for SmartHub, NCC's online customer portal.



Go Green!



111 Railroad Ave • Ray, ND 58849
800-245-5884 • www.nccray.com

Join NCC at June Events!

- Powers Lake Youth Fishing Tournament on June 2nd
 - 9 Strong Outlaw 5k (formerly Rancher Renegade Run) June 9th in Powers Lake
- Tioga Fire Department Golf Tournament on June 9th
- Divide County Fair in Crosby June 15th – 17th
 - NCC Annual Meeting in Ray on June 19th
- Crosby Country Club Ag Open Golf Tournament on June 21st
- Ray Gnarly Barley 5k on June 23rd
- Burke County Fair on June 23rd – 24th

Notes

- **Happy Father's Day!** Sunday, June 17th.
- **Dial 811 BEFORE** doing any digging. It could save you time and money!
- **Like Us on Facebook!**
facebook.com/northwestcommunications

Report Trouble: 611
Email: ncc@nccray.com
Ph: 701-568-3331 or 800-245-5884
Directory Assistance: 411
Call Before You Dig: 811
Newsletter Editor: Angela Schepp
Design: lori@leutzgraphics.com

*Business Hours: M-F 8am to 5pm.
 NCC Message Center will take calls outside of these hours.*

Make a payment anytime by using Secure Pay 1-888-816-8068 or SmartHub www.nccray.com or download the app