

Board of Directors

President

Frank Blackburn
1515 SR 245
Clovis, NM
88101-9476
1.575.985.2455

Vice President

Kenny Willhite
950 CR 15
Clovis, NM
88101-9575
1.575.389.5116

Secretary-Treasurer

Pow Carter
PO Box 516
Fort Sumner, NM
88119-0516
1.575.355.2998

Milo Aragon
PO Box 251
Ribera, NM
87560-0251
1.575.421.2227

Shirley Carter

624 Maple
Clayton, NM
88415-2904
1.575.374.9761

James Cordova
P.O. Box 457
Santa Rosa, NM
88435-0457
1.575.472.3986

Mabel Flores

436 Baca Ave
Santa Rosa, NM
88435-2442
1.575.472.5326

Frank Garnett
1901 Quay Rd 96
Nara Visa, NM
88430-9718
1.575.633.2029

Leland Harral

HC 61 Box 41
Encino, NM
88321-9701
1.575.584.2674

Jim Lyssy

PO Box 446
Fort Sumner, NM
88119-0446
1.575.355.2811

Michael Montoya

PO Box 205
Roy, NM
87743-0205
1.575.485.2270

Jerry Sours

3729 CR U
Grady, NM
88120-9637
1.575.357.2092

Larry Wallin

PO Box 355
Logan, NM
88426-0355
1.575.487.2616

Corporate Executives

David Robinson

Chief Executive
Officer

Vince Tyson

Chief Operations
Officer

The Netlink is published monthly by Plateau. Comments, questions or suggestions should be directed to J.R. Jacobs, P.O. Box 1947, Clovis, New Mexico 88102-1947. Phone 1.575.389.4241. Email jrj@plateautel.com. Online version available at <http://www.plateautel.com/docs/Netlink.pdf>.



We Are Plateau. Full Speed Ahead!



Frank and Marcella Blackburn display the clock presented to him for 40 years of service to the Cooperative.

Blackburn recognized for 40 years of service

In 1977, several “firsts” took place. Apple Computer was incorporated; the Trans-Alaska pipeline was completed; Jimmy Carter began his first year as the country’s 39th President; the Toronto Blue Jays and the Seattle Mariners played their first-ever professional baseball games; fiber-optic cable was first used to carry live telephone traffic; and, Frank Blackburn began serving on the Cooperative’s Board of Directors.

Mr. Blackburn was recognized for 40 years of service to the Cooperative’s Board of Directors at the monthly Board Meeting in July. A handsome, engraved clock was presented to him from the Cooperative, and a luncheon was enjoyed. On hand for the celebration were Marcella (his wife), Jerry and Betty Swenson (son-in-law and daughter, Clovis), David and Debbie Lansford (son-in-law and daughter, Clovis) and former Plateau CEO Tom Phelps.

The Cooperative has enjoyed a number of accomplishments since 1977, and Mr. Blackburn has had a hand in all:

- In 1978, the Cooperative service area nearly doubled in size with the acquisition of the Anton Chico, Conchas Dam, El Valle and Trementina service areas from Mountain Bell.
- Groundbreaking on a new physical plant and headquarters north of Clovis took place in 1979. The Cooperative’s main business offices remain at the same location today.
- From 1980 to 1985, the Cooperative completed merging several former Mountain Bell service areas into the Cooperative, including Clayton, Corona, Farwell, Fort Sumner, Logan, Mosquero, Roy, San Jon, Santa Rosa and Vaughn.

(continued on page 2)

Have a Safe Labor Day!
Without Labor Nothing Prospers
- Sophocles



The Offices and Stores of Plateau Will be
Closed on September 4 for the Holiday.
For Trouble Reporting Call 1.800.432.2369.

July Board meeting highlights

The Cooperative Board of Directors met in regular session on Thursday, July 27. Highlights of that meeting follow:

- The Board approved the applications of 46 new members to the Cooperative.
- Board member Shirley Carter reported about her participation in an *Innovation in Schools Grant* check presentation to the Clayton School Board. The school will use the funding for online education materials.
- Board members Frank Blackburn and Milo Aragon reported about their participation at the NTCA–The Rural Broadband Association’s Regional Conference this month.
- The Board recognized Frank Blackburn for 40 years of service to the Cooperative as a member of the Board of Directors with the last 20 as Board President (see article on page 1).
- In an effort to avoid any holiday conflicts, the Board approved to change this year’s November and December monthly board meetings to the 3rd Thursday of those months. The new dates are November 16 and December 21.
- A construction status report was presented to the Board and included:
 - ~ Conversion of members from copper cable to the new fiber-optic network in the El Valle exchange (along I-25 in the Ilfeld and San Jose area) continues.
 - ~ Construction continues for a new fiber-optic network in the Bernal and Tecolote areas.
 - ~ Construction for a new fiber-optic network in the Ribera area is complete.
 - ~ Rural Fiber Expansion Project construction in the Bellview area is complete.
 - ~ Rural Fiber Expansion Project construction on the Silver Spur Ranch (Bell Ranch) is complete.
 - ~ Rural Fiber Expansion Project construction in the Roy area continues.
 - ~ Rural Fiber Expansion Project construction in the Clines Corners area is complete.

The next regular monthly meeting of the Cooperative Board of Directors is scheduled for Thursday, August 24 at the Cooperative’s business offices north of Clovis.

Mission statement

Our mission is to provide our members with universal access to high quality, reasonably priced, progressive communications services that enhance the quality of life and economic development of our service areas.

We will work for the attainment of this mission through investment in, and efficient management of diverse communication related ventures, which will provide financial and other value.

We will strive to achieve this mission by deployment of appropriate technologies, and empowering and equipping our employees to deliver customer satisfaction.

Blackburn

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- In 1988, the Cooperative began building a telephone network in the previously unserved communities of Claunch, Bingham and White Lakes, expanding the Cooperative’s service area to what it is today.
- In 1989, Plateau received its first shipment of fiber-optic cable to be used in Phase I of an ambitious system-wide renovation. Today, the Cooperative has put into service over 5,400 miles of fiber-optic cable.
- The Cooperative’s Education Foundation was formed in 1993 with the goal of improving educational opportunities for the youth of the service area. As of this year, the Foundation has awarded over \$1.1 million in scholarships to 515 graduating high school seniors.
- Plateau first began offering internet access in 1996 and is now rated the fastest ISP in the state of New Mexico by Ookla.
- In 2014, Plateau paid off all remaining RUS debt.
- Plateau began offering IPTV in 2015.
- Cooperative membership has grown from 959 in 8 exchange areas in 1977 to well over 7,000 in 26 exchange areas today.
- During Blackburn’s tenure, the Cooperative’s communications network has transformed from overhead aerial lines and mechanical stepper switches to modern digital equipment and buried fiber-optic cable.

In addition, Mr. Blackburn has stood for re-election to the Board of Directors 13 times, serving a total of 40 years, with the last 20 of those spent as Board President.

Documentation for Education Foundation Scholarship installments due

Recipients of 2016 and 2017 Banner Scholarships and 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017 Memorial Scholarships from the Education Foundation are reminded that documentation containing certain information must be received at the Cooperative’s business offices before the next installment can be processed (fall 2017). Information required follows:

- Scholarship winner’s full name
- Scholarship winner’s Student ID Number or Social Security Number (whichever number your school uses)
- Proof of cumulative GPA of 2.5 or above (on a 4.0 scale)
- Proof of full-time registered status from institution attending
- Institution’s address (where the next installment is to be sent)

Questions regarding the status of any Education Foundation Scholarship can be directed to 1.575.389.4241, toll free 1.800.432.2369 ext. 4241 or email jrj@plateautel.com.



Classified advertising rates - \$3 for first 15 words and 30 cents per word thereafter per issue. There is no limit on the number of items per ad. Count each whole number or phone number as one word. There are no additional charges for business ads.

Ads run on space available basis. The Netlink reserves the right to edit and/or refuse any advertisement submitted for publication.

Payment for all classified advertising must accompany order. Checks and money orders should be made payable to Plateau.

Enclose advertising message with payment and send to Classified

Advertising, The Netlink, Plateau, P.O. Box 1947, Clovis, N.M. 88102-1947.

Ad copy must be received in our office by the 10th of the month preceding publication. Example: March 10th for April Issue; April 10th for May Issue, etc.

Disclaimer: Plateau is not responsible for the content of any classified advertising, nor for any product, service or information advertised therein.

Limitation of liability: Classified advertisers indemnify Plateau for any claims arising out of their classified advertisements. Plateau's liability for classified advertising is limited to refund of the amount paid for the publication of that advertisement.

Custom Welding – Gates, fences, window guards, plasma cutting, fabrication and farm equipment. JC Welding, <http://www.jc-welding.net>, 1.505.429.6039.

For Sale – 2002 GMC Yukon XL, 5.3 liter engine, power windows and locks, leather, under 97,000 actual miles. \$8,500. Front Line Equipment Company 1.575.456.1000 or 1.575.760.5461.

For Sale – On Big Mesa Avenue at Conchas Lake, New Mexico. Improved lot very close to water. Just over ¾ acre. \$98,000. Big Mesa Realty, 1.575.456.2000, Paul Stout, Broker, NMREL 17843, 1.575.760.5461, <http://www.bigmesarealty.com>.

For Sale – 1995 Ford Astro Van with handicap power seat on passenger side (turns outside). Also has electric power lift for wheelchair on back. \$3,500 or best offer. Call 1.575.472.5016 or 1.575.512.8687.

For Sale – 1997 New Holland 8870 MFWD tractor. New rear duals, power shift. \$39,500. Front Line Equipment Company 1.575.456.1000 or 1.575.760.5461.

For Sale – 204 Conchas Place, 2-story, 2-bedroom, 2-bathroom weekend getaway in Hooverville addition close to the water. Two car garage and open RV storage. Low maintenance and beautiful wood accents inside. Upper deck with fantastic views of the lake and surrounding mesas. \$179,000. Big Mesa Realty, 1.575.456.2000, Paul Stout, Broker, NMREL 17843, 1.575.760.5461, <http://www.bigmesarealty.com>.

For Sale – 1979 MGB Roadster by original owner. Solid body, originally from California-no rust.

Runs great, silver exterior with black removable hard top, convertible top frame included. Black interior. 87,457 miles, (24,000 miles are towed miles in motorhome travels). Asking \$12,500. Call 1.575.421.2818.

For Sale – Kinze Row Crop Planter. 16R30, stack fold, lift assist wheels, gauge wheels, monitor. \$12,500. Front Line Equipment Company 1.575.456.1000 or 1.575.760.5461.

Sold – 613 Bullhead Drive, Conchas, New Mexico, 2-bedrooms, 2-bathrooms with 3-bay boat shed and storage building on two lots, totaling just under 3/4 acre. \$39,500. Big Mesa Realty, 1.575.456.2000, Paul Stout, Broker, NMREL 17843, 1.575.760.5461, <http://www.bigmesarealty.com>.

For Sale – Pea and Bean Sheller - Taylor Mfg., Co. Model #675, 1/3 hp., electric, 12x12x27, shell rate 4 bu./hr.+, \$300.00, interested party only please. Will ship UPS rate. Call 1.806.481.5516 (leave message) or email tstaylor@suddenlink.net.

For Sale – Crust Buster 4030 All-Plant Wheat Drill. 30 ft., 10 in. spacing, markers. \$15,000. Front Line Equipment Company 1.575.456.1000 or 1.575.760.5461.

For Sale – 300 Marshall in Grady. New Mexico, 3-bedrooms, 2-bathrooms home on just over one acre. Covered horse stalls and pens. Village water. \$65,000. Big Mesa Realty, 1.575.456.2000, Paul Stout, Broker, NMREL 17843, 1.575.760.5461, <http://www.bigmesarealty.com>.

For Sale – 2013 Rockwood Windjammer thirty-two foot pull behind travel trailer. Two-slide outs, power canopy, power level. 7,500 lbs. dry. \$25,500. Call 1.423.505.4314 or 1.575.374.0250.

For Sale – 192 Green Place, Conchas, New Mexico, 2-bedroom, 2-bath mobile home with permanent foundation on 3 lots. Attached 20'x20' carport, covered rear deck and 32'x36' barn. \$149,000. Big Mesa Realty, 1.575.456.2000, Paul Stout, Broker, NMREL 17843, 1.575.760.5461, <http://www.bigmesarealty.com>.

Small Ranch for Sale – Trujillo, New Mexico. Off the grid. 647 Acres with 2-bedroom, 2-bath house. Community well. Million dollar view! Above Canyon Largo. Motivated seller, all reasonable offers considered. Call 1.713.468.8495.

Vacation Rental, Ute Lake, Logan, New Mexico – 3-bedroom house, lake view, all the amenities. <http://www.utelakevacationlodging.com>. 1.505.980.7925.

For Sale – 7543 NM 104, Conchas, New Mexico, 3-bedroom, 2-bath double-wide with sunroom on 2.91 acres, detached garage, carport, outbuildings, chain link fence with remote gate. Highway frontage with commercial potential. \$135,000. Big Mesa Realty, 1.575.456.2000, Paul Stout, Broker, NMREL 17843, 1.575.760.5461, <http://www.bigmesarealty.com>.

Oh, Shoot Gun Shop – 120 E. 3rd St., Roy, N.M. We offer gunsmithing, firearms and ammo sales. Visit us at <http://www.ohshootgunshop.com> for hours and to shop our online store. Call 1.575.485.0074.

Career Opportunities – For the latest career opportunities at Plateau, visit us at <http://www.plateautel.com>.

Have something to buy, sell or trade? Reach countless numbers of Cooperative members and even more through our website every month for as little as \$3 per month for a 15-word classified ad. Simply complete this form and RETURN WITH PAYMENT to Netlink Classified Advertising, P.O. Box 1947, Clovis, N.M. 88102-1947 or call 1.575.389.4241 or email jrj@plateautel.com.

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Plateau

PO Box 1947

Clovis, NM 88102-1947

1.800.432.2369

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Upcoming Events

August 24 Board of Directors Meeting – Monthly meeting of the Cooperative Board of Directors at the Cooperative’s business offices north of Clovis, New Mexico.

September 1 to 4 Santa Rosa Billy the Kid Bike Rally and Route 66 Music Festival – The city of Santa Rosa, New Mexico livens up with the sounds of motorcycles and music. For more information, visit <http://www.visitsantarosanm.com>.

September 4 Labor Day – The stores and offices of Plateau will be closed for the holiday. Considered the unofficial end of summer, Labor Day honors the American labor movement and the contributions that workers have made to the country.

September 12 to 16 New Mexico Highlands University Homecoming – Alumni and students alike get into all the festivities of homecoming week in Las Vegas, New Mexico. For more information, visit <http://www.nmhufoundation.org>.

September 15 and 16 Special Olympics State Equestrian Games – Special Olympics athletes compete in their state equestrian games at the Curry County Events Center in Clovis, New Mexico. For more information, visit <http://www.sonm.org>.

September 15 and 16 Bozo and the Crew Car Show – The City of Santa Rosa, New Mexico is alive with great food, music and classic cars. For more information, visit <http://www.visitsantarosanm.com> or go to Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/bozoandthecrewfunrun/>.

September 20 Ag Safety Day – Hundreds of third-graders from Union County converge on the Union County Fair Grounds in Clayton, New Mexico to learn safe habits. For more information, call 1.575.374.9361.

September 22 to 24 Nara Visa Cowboy Gathering – Recognized as one of the most pure cowboy gatherings in America with cowboy poetry and music, chuck wagon meals, vendors, crafts, children’s activities and so much more. Takes place in the Old School Community Center in Nara Visa, New Mexico. For more information, call 1.575.403.5040 or 1.575.633.2272.

Monthly survey winners

Customers receiving a \$25 gift certificate in this month’s survey drawing include:

- San Miguel Ranch, Las Vegas, N.M.
- Michael Fazio, Roswell, N.M.
- Temor Tires LLC DBA Big O Tires, Roswell, N.M.
- Stephen Whittington, Clovis, N.M.

All completed surveys are eligible for the monthly drawing.