



"Phone Chatter"

www.kanokla.com
kota@kanokla.com

P.O. Box 111 - Caldwell, Kansas 67022-0111 - (620) 845-5682

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New look – Same Exceptional Service

By General Manager Greg Aldridge

You might have noticed the logo we started using on our computer products and Internet services over a year ago. Well, now KanOkla is going to change over to this logo as our corporate logo, too. Besides having a fresh new look, it takes KanOkla out of

its past of a small telephone utility offering just plain old telephone service in Kansas and Oklahoma, to its future of providing a variety of communications services to customers everywhere.

Why a New Look?

A corporate image reflects everything an organization does. The company's identity is a combination of the visual and of the actual company and its reputation. Should the visual image or company logo appear antiquated, (especially to younger customers), the perception generally is that the entity is stagnant and not progressive. Far from stagnant, KanOkla has always stayed ahead of the pack and wanted this progressive attitude reflected in our logo, too.

Same Exceptional Service

Image is not just a logo or a look but an attitude...how the company provides for its customers' needs and keeps up with their industry's technology. It is the perception that members, non-member customers, industry leaders, and government officials have of the company. KanOkla has always been "keeping you connected" to the leading edge of communications technology, while continuing our promise of exceptional customer service.

We will be promoting our new logo in the weeks and months ahead, and we hope you will be as excited about it as we are.



A Tiger Cruise Aboard the Stennis

In the spirit of July 4th, we thought an article on John Partee would be more than appropriate. He is the son of Rusty and Judy Partee of Braman, Oklahoma. Rusty is a Plant Technician at KanOkla.

John started his Naval career by enlisting in the Military before he graduated from Braman High School. Once school was done, he was off to The Great Lakes Naval Training Center for Boot Camp.

In November of 1998 John was stationed on the USS John C. Stennis (CVN 74). The mission of Stennis and her embarked Air Wing (the group of planes that are assigned to that ship) is to conduct sustained combat air operations while forward deployed in the global arena. The Stennis' aircraft are used to conduct strike, support land battles, protect the Battle Group or other friendly shipping, and implement a sea or air blockade. The Ship carries approximately three million gallons of fuel for her aircraft and escorts, and enough weapons and stores for extended operation without replenishment. A few more facts about the Stennis:

- Crew Size: 5,000 (including the air wing)
- 2 anchors weight: 30 tons each
- A/C plant capacity: 2,900 tons (enough to service 950 homes)
- Distillation plant capacity: 400,000 gals (enough to serve 2000 homes)
- Tons of structural steel: More than 60,000 tons
- Cost: \$3.5 billion; projected service life: 50 years

(Tiger Cruise continued on page 4)

USS John C. Stennis



IMPORTANT CAPITAL CREDIT INFORMATION

KANOKLA TELEPHONE ASSN., INC.

PO Box 111, Caldwell, KS 67022-0111
(620-845-5682)

Greg Aldridge General Manager

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Dave Lowe President
(Caldwell-Renfrow)
- Randy Lanie V. President
(Manchester-Waldron)
- Sue Schwerdtfeger Sec./Treas.
(Capron-Hardtner)
- J. C. Feist Director
(Director at Large)
- Howard Osborne Director
(Bluff City-Danville-Freeport)
- Jerry Johnston Director
(Braman)
- William H. Stanley, Jr. Director
(Jet-Goltry)
- Ronnie Frazier Director
(Corbin-Mayfield)
- Wayne Kufus Director
(South Haven-Geuda Springs)

BUSINESS HOURS

7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Office closed Saturday and Sunday

COMPANY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

(No toll charge within KanOkla service area)

- Customer Service, Trouble Reporting, and
Other Business 620-845-5682,
or dial 611 inside the KanOkla Service Area.
- In Emergency Dial Operator

PHONE CHATTER

A member newsletter published by the
KanOkla Telephone Assn., Inc.

Editor - Louise DeWitt
Assistant Editor - Pam Schneider
Staff - Kim Reilly

Oklahoma people have capital credit refund checks returned to the Association too!!! You've helped to find the Kansas people, now please take time and do the same for the Oklahoma folks. These capital credit checks were for the years 1993-1994. If you see the name of someone you know on this list, please contact them and have them contact me here at the Association. I truly appreciate your time and effort in helping with this project. Not only does it make the recipient happy, it helps to keep the capital credits records current and in order. Thank you for your time.

Rosie Bernard
Capital Credit/Membership Rep.

- WILLIAM R & MELVA M BABCOCK
- DONNA L BELL
- BOB'S GOLTRY GOLD MINE
- %Lynn Keaton
- STEVE CAMPBELL
- ART & VIRGINIA COMBS
- KENNETH D COTTON
- DANIEL L COX
- CRIBLOCK RETAINING WALLS
- CLIFF CROW
- RICHARD OR NANCY CROW
- ROBERT KEITH & JENNI DENTON
- HAROLD A DUVALL
- BARBARA GAGE
- GUFFEY'S TAVERN
- JIM HANSEL
- BETTY HARBOUR
- BRIAN HENDRICK
- KENT E HOSKINS
- JIM BUTLER CONSTRUCTION CO
- MARK & SHARON KUEPFER
- THOMAS S & NANCY LISK
- LAVERNA A LOFTUS
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- NORTH SIDE CAFE
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- TERRI OR KELLI PAGE
- CHRISTI J POWELL
- GLENN PRINCE
- PATRICIA L RHOADES
- NORA ROBERTSON
- CHERYL ROGERS
- WILLIAM D ROWLAND SR
- DONNIE GRYDER
- SHEPHERD HARVESTING
- EDWARD L SHULTZ
- MARY SKAGGS
- STATE LINE TAVERN HUNNEWELL
- %Dennis Landers
- AR SULLIVAN
- LORETTA LYNN SUMMITT
- GAYLE E TAYLOR
- JONNA L TIPTON
- LESTER VAUGHAN
- JOHN WEDMAN
- THOMAS WIECHMAN
- FRANK H WILLIAMS
- WIL-MC OIL CORP
- CLARA YOUNG

Survey Winner is...

Chad and Lura Gressel of Geuda Springs were the Survey Winners. They will receive a \$25 dollar check! Their name was drawn for completing and returning the mailed survey. Congratulations Chad and Lura!

Chatter Trivia ????

The winner of the Mystery Photo was Brenda Brown of Geuda Springs. They correctly identified the gorilla in Geuda Springs, KS. They received a \$30 KanOkla Buck Certificate. Congratulations Brenda!

This month is Chatter Trivia. Call in with the answer of the question about last month's Chatter and your name will be put into a drawing. The winner will receive a \$30 KanOkla Buck Certificate. Call 620-845-5682 or 611. Good Luck! The question is...

What was the number of KanOkla Country directories collected by Jennifer Mobley's School of Dance?

June's mystery photo.



Delta Chi Sorority pictured with Caldwell Police Department and participants of the safety bike clinic.

Varoom...Screech... Bikers Take Over KanOkla

Delta Chi Sorority held a Bike Safety Clinic on June 1, 2001 at KanOkla Telephone for grades K-6. The Caldwell Police Department assisted with this successful clinic. The young bike riders learned safety rules and maneuvers. Drivers need to remember bike riders are more abundant in the summer months.

Be alert and be careful!!



John Defore helps Nick Nispel learn the rules of the road.



Wayne Kufus, director of KanOkla Telephone Association presenting a check to representatives of the South Haven After-Prom, Priscilla Rinehart and Katrena Hess, at a local fundraiser.



Representatives of the South Haven After-Prom would like to express their appreciation to all the parents, faculty, friends, relatives, and businesses that contribute their time, prizes, and donations, which make their After Prom a success. Once again, our loyal donators made the 2002 After-Prom a safe and memorable occasion for our students. Thank you for your support.

KanOkla Community Service Award Nominees Wanted!

KanOkla is looking for nominees for a new community service award that will recognize those people in our communities who are always lending a helping hand, by giving of themselves. The KanOkla Community Service Award will be based on the significance and extent of the nominee's service to the community.

To be eligible to receive this Award, the nominee must:

- be a KanOkla Telephone subscriber.
- have contributed through leadership, creativity, dedication, self-motivation, and/or commitment to better the community.

Take a look around your community to see whom you would like to nominate. Nominations are due by August 1, 2002. For an application, contact the KanOkla business office at 620-845-5682.

Know who is calling you with **Caller ID!**

Never miss a call with
Call Waiting!

Receive messages when you're unavailable with
Voice Mail.

What's even better is when you add any calling feature during July you will receive

**THREE MONTHS FREE plus
FREE ACTIVATION.**

Some restrictions do apply. Call KanOkla at 611 for details.



New Faces At KanOkla

Chris Rowe came from Tulsa, OK in October. He started working at KanOkla Technology Store October 16, 2001 as a Help Desk Technician. Chris has obtained three associate degrees. Also, he spent two years in Dallas at an Art Institute studying computer animation. To keep busy, Chris teaches martial arts and enjoys doing graphic design and computer animation. Currently, he is finishing a children's book in which he is the author and illustrator. Chris and wife Teresa live in Caldwell.

KanOkla has employed **Jenni Zitsch** since May 15, 2002. However, she is not a stranger to this area; she moved back to Caldwell nine months ago. Jenni is a Help Desk Technician at the Technology Store. She is a National Volunteer for the American Red Cross. During the tragic events of September 11, Jenni volunteered at the World Trade Center for about two months. Jenni also enjoys sewing and making her own clothes. She plans to get her associate degree and hopes to settle in Caldwell.



Lacy McDonald, from Caldwell, is working as a Public Relations Intern for KanOkla this summer. Her parents are Gary and Gayla McDonald of Caldwell. Lacy started June 10, 2002 and will finish in mid-August. After this summer she plans to return to Kansas State University to complete her Marketing degree in December 2002. Activities that interest

Lacy are painting, swimming, bargain shopping, and making western décor. She plans to make Caldwell her home after graduation.

(Tiger Cruise from page 1)

The CVN 74 got its name from Senator Stennis. Stennis served 41 years in the Senate.

In a speech given by Ronald Reagan he stated, "Senator, when I consider your career, there's a certain comparison that comes to my mind. In troubled places, you've brought calm resolve – like one of those great fighting ships you've done so much to obtain for the Navy – serene, possessed."

John Partee is a Team Leader in the V4 Fuels Division; his primary job is to refuel the aircraft. John has been on two missions, both of which were in the same general area of the Arabian Sea. The second mission was ordered to depart two months earlier than the original plan due to the attacks of September 11th.

Rusty and Judy Partee had the wonderful opportunity to take a Tiger Cruise aboard the USS John C. Stennis. Tiger is the term for relatives of the Navy personnel. John had just finished his duty in Operation Enduring Freedom, so Rusty's visit was greatly anticipated. The ship met the Tigers at Hawaii. They were on the Stennis for five days, two of which their son had to work. While aboard the Stennis, Rusty and Judy learned more of their son's duties. They bunked separately in male and female units. Rusty and Judy were allowed on deck only if there was not a flight in progress. The Tiger Cruise ended in San Diego, California.

John is married to Trisha; she too is a member of the U.S. Navy. They have a daughter, Juliana Marie. John has chosen not to reenlist; however, his wife has reenlisted and will be assigned a carrier based air wing, VS33, which is an air refueling tanker squadron.

This July 4th take some time and remember those that have fought and are protecting our country.

*~By Lacy McDonald
(more photos on page 5)*



Look what's happening in KanOkla Country!

KanOkla sponsored 4D Barrel Race---Caldwell, KS

June 29, Saturday, Kansas Central 4D Barrel Race starting at 7:30 held at the Caldwell Rodeo Grounds. For more info call Sheri Schmidt at 620-845-2820.

Town-wide Garage Sale—Braman, OK

July 4, Thursday. 8:00 a.m. until ???

4th of July Celebration—Hardtner, KS

July 4, Thursday. 10:00 a.m. Parade. Afternoon Games. Auction at 5:00 p.m. Nighttime fireworks at the City Park.

4th of July Celebration—Caldwell, KS

July 4, Thursday. 5:00 p.m. Drawings and Entertainment at the City Park.

Demolition Derby—Caldwell, KS

July 27, Saturday. 7:00 p.m. Rodeo Grounds. For more information, contact Scott York at 620-845-2561.

Barber County Fair—Hardtner, KS

August 2 through August 4, Friday through Sunday. Town of Hardtner.

Summer County Fair—Caldwell, KS

August 7 through August 10, Wednesday through Saturday. Town of Caldwell.

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Relay For Life---Caldwell, KS

September 7, Saturday, held at the Caldwell Football Field. For more info call Bonnie Thomas at 580-849-6781





KanOkla will be closed Thursday,
 July 4, 2002,
 to celebrate the holiday.
 KanOkla would like to wish you
 and your family
 a happy and safe Fourth of July!



Patriotic Quote

“Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe to assure the survival and the success of liberty.”

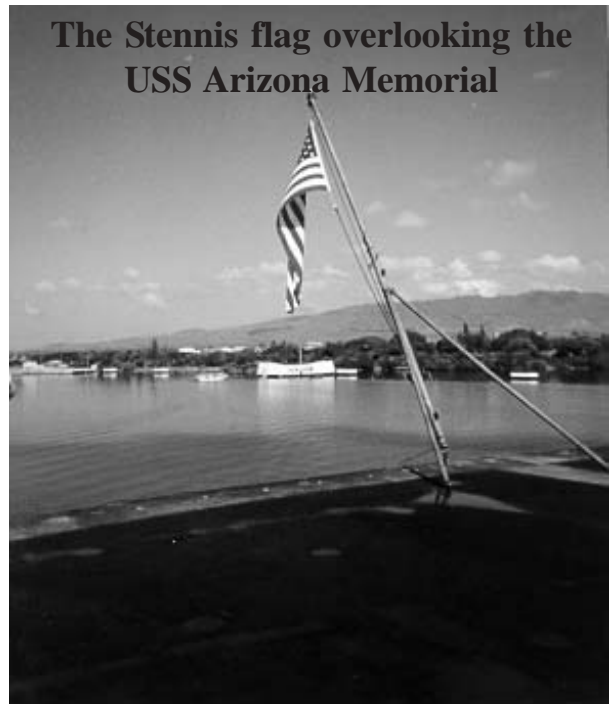
—John F. Kennedy Inaugural Address
 Washington, D.C. January 20, 1961



Rusty



Judy and John



**The Stennis flag overlooking the
 USS Arizona Memorial**



**Photos taken
 by Rusty
 Partee**



A soldiers view



“Change is the only constant”

This title statement is part of a well-known quote from Denise McCluggage. As we are all aware, agriculture, insurance, the telecommunications industry, and almost everything else is constantly changing. And not only does our industry change, but our company must continually change. This year, KanOkla will undergo a change that we've never done before in the 51 years of service to our members. We will have directors “rotate off the board, naturally”. Our bylaws mandate term limits for board members and three of our directors have completed their terms. Ronnie Frazier representing Corbin/Mayfield, Billy (William F.) Stanley representing Jet/Goltry area, and Wayne Kufus representing South Haven/Geuda Springs, will rotate off the board. These three gentlemen have done a wonderful job representing the members of their districts on our board of directors.

This year, KanOkla will undergo a change that we've never done before in the 51 years of service to our members.

At our Annual Meeting on November 8, 2002, the membership will elect three new directors to fill these positions. The reason I am writing about this a month or so early this year is to give the membership plenty of time

to consider whom from each of these three districts would make a good director, serving the members responsibly and sincerely. A great deal of responsibility goes along with this job; there is much to learn. The first year or so, at least, after a new director is elected he/she spends every meeting learning about our industry, competition, regulations, revenues, expenses, and growth. He/she is asked to attend meetings, conferences, and seminars to acquaint him/herself with many issues relevant to this fast-paced telecommunications industry.

I hope those people in Districts Three, Four, and Seven will give serious thought to this decision. We will publicize the names of those people serving on the nomination committees for that area. **We also have an “Informational Guide for Potential Directors” booklets available** upon request in our office at 620-845-5682, or dial 611 from within the service area for a free call to us.

~By Louise DeWitt

KanOkla Youth to YLC

Adam Beierman and Abigail Yunker represented KanOkla at the Farmland Youth Leadership Conference (YLC) at William Jewell College in Liberty, Missouri. Adam is the son of Harold and Pat Beierman of Jet, OK and Abigail is the daughter of Thomas & Sarah Yunker of South Haven, KS.



Approximately 115 students participated in the YLC, which focused on personal development through small group activities. Abigail said her favorite activity was the challenge course where you had to trust each other and work as a team to go through the course. Adam enjoyed the dinner and dance at the American Royal. Both, Adam and Abigail, would

have liked more time to sleep. They were up by 6:00 a.m. and back to their rooms at midnight.

Another challenging activity for the group of students was to market and sell conference souvenirs. This activity allowed the students to serve as managers, employees and members of a board of directors for a cooperative mart. Abigail's group sold boomerangs and boxers and made over \$100, which they donated back to Farmland. While Adam's group sold t-shirts, doohickeys, and hats. His group ended up in the hole.

Adam and Abigail both agreed that the Farmland YLC was a great learning experience that allowed them to meet many different people. Abigail stated, “The best thing was learning to communicate in different ways and to trust people you've only known for a few days.”

~By Pam Schneider

KanOkla Hosts a Forklift Seminar



Chuck Tyler (KanOkla employee) is shown operating the forklift at Coop's feed mill.



KanOkla hosted a forklift seminar on Friday June 14. A few employees from KanOkla and Caldwell's new Bottling Water Company were in attendance. Chet Logue from Cowley County Community College was the instructor. **OSHA requires all forklift operators to be certified.** The main topic discussed was safety. For each individual to successfully complete this course, they had to pass a written exam and a forklift-driving test.

KanOkla's Landmark Anniversaries



Jill Kuehny
Assistant Accountant
10 years

Byron Ridlen
Plant Technician
15 years



Wayne Kufus
Director
15 years

Alysia Keller
Assistant Accountant
5 years



Dana Pierce
Plant Supervisor
15 years

Kansas One Call And Call Okie



What is Kansas One-Call?

"Kansas One-Call" is the underground utility notification center for the state of Kansas. Through this center a person can notify operators of underground facilities of proposed excavations to request that the underground facilities be marked **BEFORE**

THEY DIG!

Buried utilities could exist just about anywhere you dig. Homeowners and contractors can prevent damage to underground utilities and prevent service interruptions by calling **Kansas One Call** at least two working days prior to excavating.

Kansas One Call takes information from callers who are digging, processes it using a sophisticated software mapping system, and notifies underground utility operators that may have utilities in the area. The owners of the utilities then send personnel to locate their utilities.

Oklahoma One-Call System, Inc. (CALL OKIE) is a non-profit corporation, incorporated in the State of Oklahoma in 1979. **Call Okie** is a valuable tool used in preventing damages to public services. It is a communication link between the excavators and operators of underground facilities. **Call Okie** is a safety and damage prevention program designed to promote public awareness and to eliminate potential hazards posed to excavators, general public, vital underground facilities, and the environment whenever excavation is done



Local Youth Look for Forrest in Washington, D.C.!!

Jessica Yunker (Caldwell High School Junior), Kayla Johnson (Braman High School Junior), and chaperone Jennifer Brown (KanOkla Telephone Billing Representative) set out on June 1, 2002 for our beautiful capital Washington, D.C., to attend the Foundation for Rural Services (FRS) Youth Tour. Ninety rural high school juniors from across the United States participated in the 8th Annual Youth Tour hosted by FRS. The students learn first hand about the legislative and regulatory processes that take place daily, as well as a complete overview of the telecommunications industry.

She remembered this famous site from a scene in the movie Forrest Gump.

The youth tour included a tour of historical sights, such as Arlington Cemetery, Lincoln Memorial, Mount Vernon, and the National Cathedral. Jessica's favorite site was Mount Vernon. She was amazed at the symbolic detail of the Lincoln Memorial. Kayla's favorite was also the Lincoln Memorial but she also enjoyed the Washington Monument. She remembered this famous site from a scene in the movie "Forrest Gump." Jennifer Brown stated, "The changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier was a very moving experience and makes one very proud to be an American."



Pictured left to right Jennifer Brown, Jessica Yunker, and Kayla Johnson.

The tour concluded on June 4, 2002 with a dinner and dance. The young ladies made many new friends and would encourage all juniors to take advantage of this opportunity KanOkla offers. They both expressed, "it was an experience of a lifetime!"

Greg Aldridge, KanOkla's General Manager, stated, "Today's youth are the future of telecommunications in rural America and we hope that by educating them about the industry, we will not only broaden their horizons, but strengthen our communities. We are proud to have a role in educating our local youth and contributing to the future economic health of communities."

~By Kim Reilly



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Offer valid through July 2002. Some restrictions do apply.
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