

Upcoming Election of KanOkla Directors and Annual Meeting

Each year the membership holds an election of three directors, each from a different district. This year, the three districts up for elections are District Three, Corbin/Mayfield, District Four, South Haven/Geuda Springs, and District Seven, Jet/Goltry. The nominating committees have been established. They are:

- District Three- Gary Wolff, Julia Strnad and Larry Hill
- District Four- Wayne Kufus, Tom Mitchell and Don Bigler
- District Seven- David Campbell, Merry Gaff and Brenda Sidwell

Each nominating committee's duties are as follows: (a) to complete a list of one or more nominees for their district's director's position, (b) to supply the list to KanOkla's main office in Caldwell, Kansas no later than September 1, 2005, and (c) to make a committee report to the annual meeting.

Any persons nominated must meet the following qualifications (set out in Article 4, section 3 of the bylaws):

- (a) be an active member of the Association (as defined in Section 6 of Article 1); and
- (b) maintain his or her principal residence within the district represented, or to be represented, by him or her, and have done so for at least two consecutive years immediately prior to nomination, and reside in his or her principal residence at least nine (9) months per year; and
- (c) not be an employee of the Association; and
- (d) not be a close relative of a director or an employee, a close relative being a spouse, child, parent, grandchild, grandparent, sister, brother, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew or first cousin, or not be a close relative of the spouse of a director or an employee, a close relative being a child, parent, grandchild, grandparent, sister, brother, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew or first cousin; and
- (e) not have been convicted of a felony or of any criminal offense involving dishonesty or breach of trust; and
- (f) not be in any way employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise or a business engaged in selling competing service or supplies, or constructing or maintaining competing facilities. Ownership of stock traded on a major stock exchange shall not be a violation of this subsection....'

If you are interested in serving as a director, or if you know of someone who would make a good director for your district, you may contact a member of the nominating committee for your district, or you may contact the KanOkla Business Office and we will put you in touch with the committee. A good director is someone who will devote a substantial amount of time and energy to KanOkla, and who will dedicate herself/himself to continuous growth, change, and learning, as our cooperative keeps our communities connected to the world. You can also obtain a booklet of information about serving as a director by contacting your local director or the KanOkla Business Office for a copy of KanOkla's "Information for Potential Directors".

At the annual meeting, each nominee will be given an opportunity to give a three-minute speech. Voting on the election of directors will be done solely by mail. An official ballot along with a brief biography of each candidate will be mailed to each member following the annual meeting.

We are looking forward to seeing you at our annual meeting at the Caldwell High School gymnasium on November 4, 2005.

~Pam Schneider, Member Relations/Economic Development Rep.

Tired of getting annoying phone calls when you just **DON'T** want to be bothered? Then you need KanOkla's Do Not Disturb feature. With **Do Not Disturb**, you can block **ALL** calls until you decide you want to accept them again. With a personalized override code your family can still reach you if necessary. Sign up today for the peace you deserve!

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

Greg Aldridge.....CEO
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Scott Bannister.....President
(Corbin-Mayfield)
Randy Lanie.....V. President
(Manchester-Waldron)
Sue Schwerdtfeger.....Sec./Treas.
(Capron-Hardtner)
Howard Osborne.....Director
(Bluff City-Danville-Freeport)
Kim Miller.....Director
(Caldwell-Renfrow)
C.R. Tyson.....Director
(South Haven-Geuda Springs)
Harold LeValley.....Director
(Braman)
Mark McEachern.....Director
(Jet-Goltry)
J.C. Feist.....Director
(Director at Large)

KanOkla Headquarters and KanOkla Store
7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Office closed Saturday and Sunday
Help Desk
Internet Support
Monday-Friday.....7:30a.m. to 9:00p.m.
Saturday.....8:00a.m. to 5:00p.m.
Sunday.....Noon to 5:00p.m.

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 Assoc., Inc.


Editor – Pam Schneider
Assistant Editor – Kim Reilly

Survey Winner

Lenita Reser of Caldwell, KS won a \$25 KanOkla Gift Card for returning the survey. Congratulations!

We have a \$50 Winner

Michael Clausen of South Haven, KS won the drawing for paying his bill by the 10th of the month. Congratulations!

KANOKLA
Keeping You Connected

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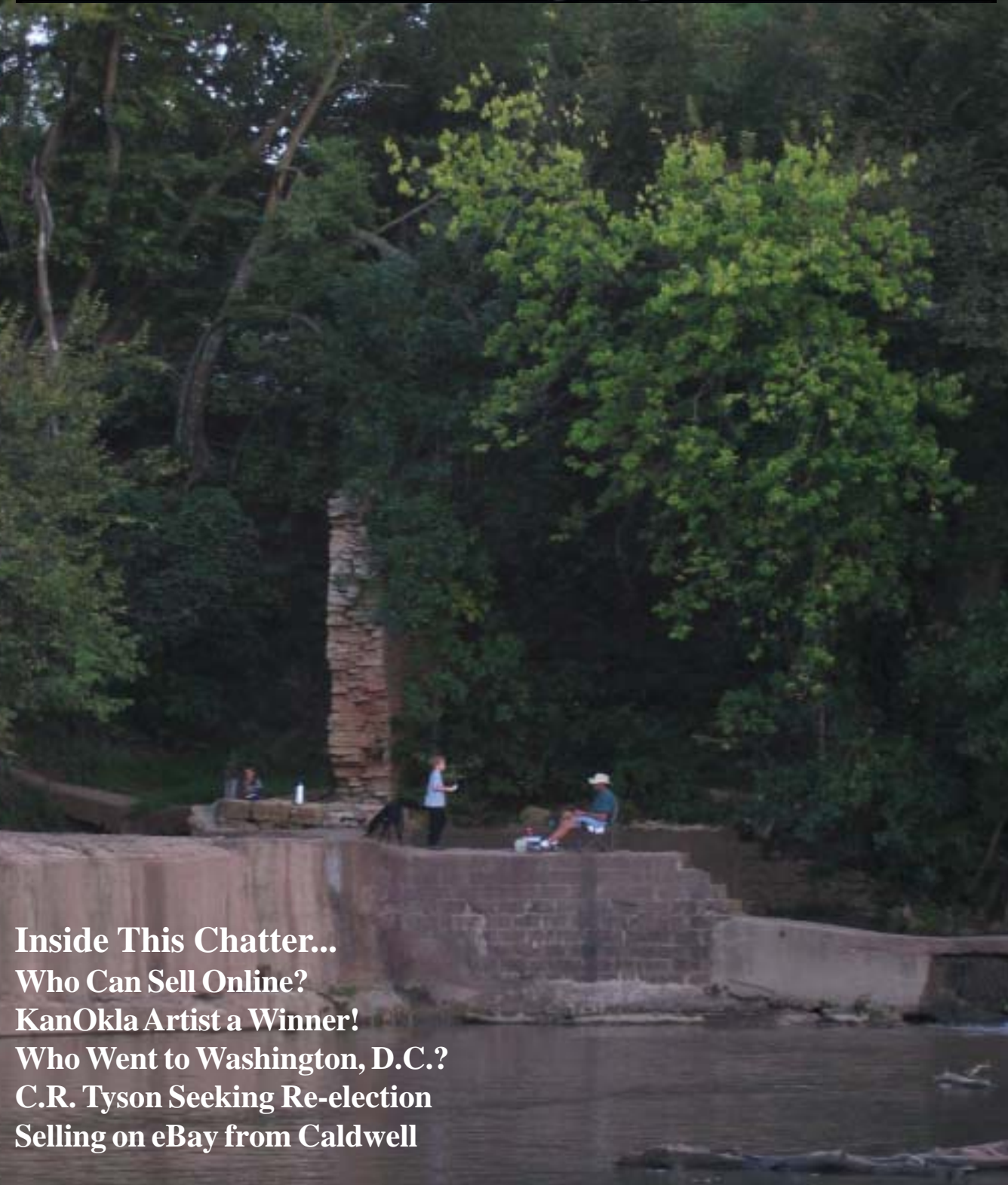
Sign Up During August and Receive Your **First Month FREE!**

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Certain restrictions apply. Offer good August 2005 only. Call 611 for details.



Volume 33 August 2005 No. 08



Inside This Chatter...

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“Who Can Sell Online?”

Anyone! With the emerging Internet Market place, every business should be reevaluating their standpoint and what they need to keep their current customers and how to obtain new customers.

All things being equal, people will go and get a product where it is the best value, the best variety, or most convenient. More and more, that is on the Internet. Most businesses can sell their products on the Internet with just a little help. KanOkla can provide that help with web site design and hosting. After KanOkla has your site set up, you can manage it through the Self Management Interface. A large portion of the world’s population is buying off the Internet, because it has a large variation of products, and is very convenient. All this makes it the largest market of consumers anywhere. With KanOkla’s help, you can be a part of that.

People are constantly shopping online. Imagine your store hours going from 8 hours a day to 24 hours a day. Even local customers could benefit from having your products listed online. You could have customers browsing your products at 11pm and in your store to make purchases the next day. Talk about convenience! That is what you could do with an online store from KanOkla. With KanOkla’s Gold Package you will have personalized emails for your business, shopping cart, power tools, and much more!

If you would like to take advantage of selling your products online, be sure to give us a call at 800.526.6552. We would be more than happy to talk with you about what steps you would need to take and how we can help you.

~Jamie York, Marketing/Admin. Assistant



**Home Town Competitiveness
Overview Session
Tuesday, August 30, 2005
8:30am-4:00pm
at Fresh From the Oven
114 W. Lincoln, Wellington, Kansas**

- Does your town:**
- lack opportunities for young people to stay and prosper or return and prosper?
 - have unmet potential for new business development?
 - seek to develop a broad and varied team of leaders?
 - worry about the future of businesses on Main Street?
 - need new resources to support development efforts?
- HTC helps communities identify approaches and actions appropriate to their goals.**

For more information contact Pam at KanOkla at 620-845-5682 or go to www.kanokla.com.

Be sure to stop by the KanOkla Fair Booth in your area. Sign up for DSL at your local fair and receive Free Activation and One Year Modem Rental Free! We will also have fun stuff for the kids, so be sure to stop by and see us!

August 2005						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
14	15	16	17 Braman Blood Drive Town Complex 12-6pm	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26 South Haven Fair	27 South Haven Fair
28	29	30 HTC at Fresh From the Oven in Wellington, KS 8am-4pm	31			

September 2005						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 18th annual All Wheels Super Saturday starting at 8am at Caldwell City Park
4	5	6	7	8	9	10

ebay Selling on eBay from Caldwell, KS?

Sure.....why not? Erin and Cory Logan of Caldwell are using their KanOkla DSL Internet connection to sell on eBay. Erin and Cory met while attending Southwestern College in Winfield and married. They both graduated with Bachelor Degrees in History in 2004. As newlyweds, they started going to auctions just to see what they were all about and got hooked.

From working at an antique store in Arkansas City, she gained considerable knowledge from her employer such as determining the value of an item and how to bring back the luster of a well used piece thru repair and paint. Erin also obtained insight into the ever-changing antique market thru the dealers and antique junkies who frequented the antique shop. When additional information is needed on an item, Erin does a search on the Internet.

Cory and Erin continue to attend auctions and estate sales to purchase inventory for their eBay business, Hatchlings Haven. They also have a booth at Antiques Unlimited in Wellington and attend an antique show, Let’s Go Antiquing, on May 1st and October 1st in Wichita. Erin has sold on eBay for just less than two years. She sets her work hours to coincide with Cory’s work schedule. Cory works at Central Plains Book Manufacturing at Strother Field. He uses computer technology to enhance book covers utilizing Photoshop, InDesign, and Quark software.

The beauty of being an entrepreneur on eBay is that it lets you get into e-commerce without having to go through the trouble and expense of setting up an e-commerce site of your own. Also you can work from the comfort of your home, set your own hours and you control the volume of your sales. Erin sells between 100–350 items per week on eBay and is noted as a power seller for selling between \$1,000-\$5,000 per month. She has learned to focus on customer service by answering questions by email as quickly as possible, use an accurate description with history to the item, take the time to display the item for a quality picture, ship once a week, offer payment options, and to be business-like. Erin said, “I won’t sell anything on eBay that I won’t have in my home.”

When asked why they moved to Caldwell, Erin replied that they were attending one of JE Cochran’s auctions in Caldwell and started looking at houses. The house they purchased was an older woman’s home that had charm, character, a vintage feel and blooming flowers that they fell in love with. They are a very happy young couple that have found their niche market by doing something they love, doing it together, and adapted it to their lifestyle with the technology of the Internet. They can enjoy the benefits of living “the good life” in rural America and reap the rewards of having a worldwide market in which to sell their goods.

If you would like to learn more about Erin and Cory and the variety of items they are selling, go to eBay’s homepage at www.ebay.com, click on the “Community” link at the top of the page. On the Community page, type in hatchlingshaven in the “Enter a User ID” box and click “Find A Member”. You can either review their About Me page or select Seller’s Item’s at the right for a list of items currently up for sale.

~Pam Schneider, Member Relations/Econ. Development



C.R. Tyson Seeking Re-election for District Four

C.R. Tyson is currently the KanOkla Director for District Four and is seeking re-election to represent the South Haven and Geuda Springs area. C.R. resides in the South Haven area where he manages his own farming operation. He has two grown children, Eddie and Angie. Eddie teaches and coaches in the Oxford High School district. Eddie and his wife, Jody, have three children, Whitney, Nicholas, and Drew. Angie and husband, Steve, live in the Wichita area and have two children, Allie and Kellen.

C.R. is involved with his community as he serves on various boards. He has been on the Township Board for 15 years, Cemetery Board for 20 years, and the Sexton for the cemetery for 15 years. C.R. supports the youth of his communities and enjoys going and watching sporting events.

C.R. commented that a change he has seen while serving on the board is KanOkla’s project with cellular partner-ship Pioneer Cellular and Sprint. He also stated the two new board members Kim Miller and Harold LeValley have



been an asset for KanOkla.

When asked why he wanted to run for re-election on the KanOkla Board, C.R. stated, “I’ve enjoyed the challenges and the opportunities to learn about the telecommunications industry the past three years. It has been a humbling experience to sit in the boardroom each month and realize there is still so much to learn. A lot of responsibility goes with the job. It has been a great experience to work with KanOkla’s board of directors. They are a great group of people. If the membership would see fit to re-elect me to the board, I’d be honored to serve another term. I’ll be bringing three years experience with me. I would appreciate your support in the election in November.”

Who Went To Washington, D.C.?

On Saturday, June 4, 2005, Kayla Strickland, Whitney Cochenour, and I boarded American Airlines flight 5325 and our destination was Washington, D.C. The next four days we would be partaking in a very busy FRS Youth Tour schedule along with 102 other rural teens and 19 chaperones. KanOkla, in conjunction with the National Telecommunications Cooperative Association’s Foundation for Rural Service Service (FRS), sponsor two area high school juniors to attend the FRS Youth Tour.

The first day we boarded three tour buses, which took us to several places before our stop at the Smithsonian Museums. I cannot describe the magnitude this place holds. Our time was limited to three hours so I had to decide what I wanted to see. The National Museum of American History was my first stop. In the foyer of this grand building is an enormous size United States Flag that was draped on the wall of the Pentagon on September 12, 2001. The story behind the flag is at it’s base and it gave me mixed emotions of sadness and pride. It was



inspiring to witness young people who were experiencing the same feeling. We continued on to the second floor where the history of the First Ladies Political Role and Public Image is located. The photographs and personal artifacts displayed on the different eras show how some of the First Ladies handled their roles with self-confidence and public approval. The Gown Gallery is very impressive. The styles and the beauty of these gowns were very remarkable to see. The next place on the list was the National Museum of Natural History to see the famous Hope Diamond. It was beautiful but...I don’t think it was worth all the drooling some women were doing on the glass. Okay...the next stop is The National Archives. I wanted to see the Declaration of Independence, Constitution of the United States, and the Bill of Rights. These famous articles are displayed in the Rotunda, which holds beauty within itself. I looked at the beautiful scrolled writing on the delicate aged paper and the precedence of freedom these documents hold is overwhelming. It definitely was worth standing in line for...time well spent. The next bus stop was at the Union Station where we had dinner. The schedule of events ended with a night tour of Washington, D.C. We had the honor to see the Korean, Vietnam, Women’s Vietnam, and WWII Memorials. Each one was remarkable with its symbolism and valor.



Monday we started our day at the NRECA building where we had educational sessions on the world of telecommunications. Shirley Bloomfield, NTCA, spoke about the importance of rural telecommunications and the roles NTCA plays advocating for the Telcos. Madelyn Butera spoke about careers in the telecommunication field. Marina Veljanovska gave a very informative presentation on the progress of development of international telecommunications in remote countries. We were dismissed for a fast bite of lunch and back aboard on the tour bus. Our next scheduled stop was Arlington National Cemetery. It is hard to describe the feeling looking over the sea of the white stone markers. The markers symbolizing the



thousands of men and women who answered their country’s call and stood for what they believed in. We had the opportunity to witness the changing of the guard at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The feeling of patriotism and honor is overwhelming while watching such precision. Mount Vernon, George Washington’s home was our next destination. The Mansion was beautiful and the view overlooking the Potomac River was magnificent. We dined at the Mount Vernon Inn and then back to hotel where the evening was topped off with an interactive “Who Done It” mystery.

The last day we started our day at the USDA building. The educational session was the overview of obligations and functions of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Rural Utilities Service and Federal Communications Commission. We went to the Hard Rock Café for lunch. We took a group photograph before our visit to the Capitol Hill. We heard the Honorable Tim Johnson, United States Senator from South Dakota speak about a career in politics. Steve Perrotta, Professional Staff Member, finished off the educational session answering questions from the students. We finished the day touring the Supreme Court or the Library of Congress. We loaded the buses for one last time to return to the hotel. The farewell dinner and a dance was the grand finale.

The Youth Tour was a great experience and was worth every minute and mile walked. It gave you enough of a taste to want to return again. So...for next year’s juniors, take advantage of a great opportunity and fill out and return the application...you’ll be glad you did.

~Kim Reilly, Member Relations/Econ. Dev. Assistant

KanOkla Artist is a Winner



Telcom Insurance Group held a “June is National Safety Month” Art Contest and invited kids in our KanOkla communities to participate. KanOkla is a client/member of the Telcom Insurance Group. The theme this year was “Safety where we live, work, and play”. Each year more than 20 million Americans suffer disabling injuries. Another 100,000 die from their injuries. Nearly two-thirds of those who die are workers or family members of workers.

There were more than 200 kids ranging from 4 to 14 years old that submitted entries. Kaityn Dvorak, daughter of Chad and Brandi Dvorak of Caldwell, won \$75.00 by placing 2nd in the under 8 years old age category. Her artwork was titled *Say no to strangers*.

By allowing the children to express themselves in drawings, we at KanOkla hope that it will teach and strengthen the importance of safety at home. Through the commitment to our youth, KanOkla strives to enhance our rural communities. Congratulations Kaityn!