

one voice

KEEPING YOU CONNECTED

Employee Milestones

Several employees and directors of LaValle Telephone have reached an anniversary milestone during 2009 and 2010. Congratulations and well done!



Richard Sheahan,
Board President
25 years



Greg Rockweiler,
Accountant/
Office Supervisor
20 years

- John Bartz, Operations Mgr. – 15 yrs.
- Rodney Henke, Board Sec. – 15 yrs.
- Jody Harrison, Construction Sup. – 10 yrs.
- Paul Bodendein, Board V. P. – 10 yrs.
- Sally Wheeler, Board Member – 5 yrs.

Contact Us

108 W. Main Street • PO Box 28
LaValle, WI 53941
985-7201

Billing Questions, New Service, Moving, etc.
985-7201

After Hours Repair for Phone and TV
985-7220

24/7 Internet Help Desk
985-HELP (4357)

E-mail Us **Visit Us Online**
ltc@mwt.net www.ltc.coop

Office Hours
Monday – Friday 8:00am to 4:30pm

Holiday Closures

Thanksgiving:
Thursday, November 25th and
Friday, November 26th

Christmas:
Friday, December 24th and
Monday, December 27th

New Year's Eve:
Friday, December 31st



National Broadband Plan – What This Means for Rural America

What would happen if the federal government decided that city roads, bridges, and infrastructure should be better constructed and more efficient than the roads in rural America? What if policymakers determined that urban consumers should be able to get where they are going and get what they need faster than rural consumers?

A new government plan intends to make that true of our nation's information super-highway — the Internet. And while it's not the highway we drive on, rural consumers should still be very concerned.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has crafted a plan to make broadband Internet access universally available. Reliable, high speed broadband has become the essential service of today, like electricity and telephone service were decades ago. Broadband can improve the lives of all consumers, but access is especially important for those of us living in rural America. The Internet enables farmers to monitor weather patterns and ranchers to buy and sell livestock in markets far from home. It also gives small businesses the opportunity to reach customers nationwide, offers local students the chance to take classes online, and allows doctors to remotely diagnose patients and even offer remote emergency care.

The many benefits of broadband are clear, and we applaud the government's



efforts to make affordable, reliable Internet connections a reality for all Americans. But the FCC's plan will make rural Americans second-class citizens in the new broadband world, because it establishes a speed goal for rural areas that is twenty-five times slower than for urban areas. Shouldn't rural communities have access to the same broadband services as our larger towns and cities?

Years ago, Congress established a universal service policy for telephone service. It required that those living in rural areas have access to communications services at prices that are affordable and reasonably comparable to those available in urban areas. Rather than support this same universal service philosophy for broadband, the FCC's plan offers faster, better service to some Americans while guaranteeing lesser service to others.

Don't let the FCC keep our rural community on the slow side of the broadband digital divide. **Contact your congressional representatives and urge them to support regulatory action that ensures equal access to broadband for all Americans.**

Our Congressional Representative, Ron Kind, wants to hear from you. Contact him regarding this issue at:

La Crosse • 205 Fifth Avenue S., Suite 400 • La Crosse, WI 54601
8:30am to 5:00pm • PH: 1-888-442-8040 FX: (608) 782-4588 TTY: 1-888-880-9180

Share The Holiday Spirit

Donate to our Holiday Food Drive

Happy Holidays from our family to yours. LaValle Telephone invites you to participate in our Holiday Food Drive and help feed the hungry in our community. Simply drop off non-perishable food items between November 1st and December 31st at our office, and they'll be given to the food pantry for distribution.

Enjoy a free gift for your family

When you donate, you'll receive a free gift from us. Choose either two FREE PPV movies **or** FREE installation and the first month FREE of Caller ID.*

**Free offers must be used by December 31, 2010.*



LaValle's Video Has New Features

An upgrade on LaValle's video guide format has provided you with a couple of new helpful features! When you go to the guide (as seen in photo 1) anything showing a gold star in front of the program name means it is a new program, just airing and not a rerun. Another new option is, while viewing a program, if you press your remote's OK button, a box will appear on the screen with an option to highlight "Expanded Info." If you highlight this option and press OK again, you will get the complete information dialect regarding the program you have on (as seen in photo 2).



Local Veterinarian Revives a 70s Hotspot

It isn't every bar owner that can say a world famous band once played there, but Dr. Joe Donovan can say that about his place. The Jungle Bar once hosted an outdoor concert starring the rock-n-roll band Cheap Trick in the 1970s. They drove up in a stretch limousine to suggest that they were on their way to the top, but nobody had ever heard of them back then.

This was about the time when "Doc" Donovan and his wife, Gay, were thinking about moving out to the area. Doc was born and raised in Milwaukee and worked as a small animal veterinarian in the city for 11 years before starting the Cazenovia Animal Hospital in 1978. The business was moved to the couple's home two years later where it remains today. The size of his patients got bigger when he moved out here. The dogs and cats in Milwaukee were replaced with heifers and bulls at the Animal Hospital. "Most vets start with large animals and then switch to small ones," Doc told us, "I did it the other way around."

Doc's clinic is on the original half-acre plot he bought in 1978 from the former owner of the Jungle Bar. The original Jungle Bar building isn't around anymore; the victim of a fire in 1977. Over the years, Doc purchased the land on which the bar sat as well as the surrounding parcels. He now owns 16 ½ acres complete with a pond stocked with trout and blue gill.

A trailer was eventually moved to the bar's former site by one of the Donovan children when tragedy struck again. The trailer was gutted by fire and Doc was told it would take \$5,000 to haul it to a landfill. "The kids got together and said, 'hey, let's make it into a bar,'" Donovan recalls. Within a few short weeks, the trailer was cleaned out, fitted with new windows and doors, and the Jungle Bar was reborn. The success of the bar's resurrection was due in large part to Doc's kids surfing the Internet for equipment.

"We got the coolers for \$400," Doc says, noticeably pleased. The pool table and dart machine were also discovered online. The bar looks much bigger once you are inside. Donovan's children made the bar out of wood and galvanized metal. The walls are donned with deer heads (from deer captured within 200 yards of the building) and pictures from the past. Doc's brother took the picture of Cheap Trick as they performed in the valley down below the pond. "Do you think they'd come back here for a reunion?" Doc ponders while looking at the old photo.

The Jungle Bar is open Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.