

From the General Manager - Blake Callaham



Embracing the Christmas Spirit: Connecting What Matters for Our Cooperative Members and Subscribers

As the holiday season approaches, we are reminded of what truly matters: family, community, and the connections we share with one another. At Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, we take immense pride in being part of your lives, ensuring that these connections remain strong and vibrant throughout the year. This Christmas, as we celebrate the joy of the season, we are grateful to be the bridge that helps bring you closer to the people and things that matter most.

A Season of Gratitude and Giving

Christmas is more than just twinkling lights and festive decorations. It's a time to reflect on the bonds we've formed and to give thanks for the relationships we've nurtured. For us at Pioneer, this means recognizing the vital role we play in your everyday lives. Whether you're catching up with loved ones over video calls, enjoying family movie nights, or working from home, we are committed to providing

the high-quality fiber services that keep these moments possible.

As a cooperative, our mission extends beyond just delivering fast and reliable fiber internet. It's about investing in our community—our members and subscribers—because you are at the heart of everything we do. Every connection we enable, every service we provide, is an investment in our shared future. It's our way of giving back, not just during the holidays, but every day of the year.

Bringing Communities Together

At the core of the Christmas spirit is the idea of coming together. This year, our fiber service has been instrumental in bringing our members closer, no matter the distance. We've helped families stay in touch across miles, enabled students to access education, and supported businesses in staying connected with customers.

In a world that increasingly relies on digital communication, we understand how critical it is to provide a service that our community can count on. As we light up more homes and businesses with our fiber service, we are not only enhancing the lives of our members and subscribers but also fostering a sense of togetherness that transcends the physical barriers of geography.

Connecting What Matters

During the holidays, connections are more important than ever. We know that your traditions—whether it's streaming your favorite holiday movies, gathering around a virtual dinner table, or sharing memories with loved ones on social media—are enhanced by the reliable internet we provide. And we are proud to play our part in making these moments possible.

At Pioneer, we believe that our service is more than just technology; it's a lifeline to the things that matter most. It's about connecting families, empowering students, and supporting local businesses—all while helping to create lasting memories

this Christmas season and beyond.

We also believe in the ultimate connection for our youth (future members) during this holiday season—connecting to Santa Claus himself. As we have for over 25 years, we will be providing a direct line to Santa, Mrs. Claus and their various helpers. The boys and girls across Western Oklahoma can call 1-866-92-SANTA or 1-866-927-2682 on December 10 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. They will be connected to Santa, Mrs. Claus, or one of their many helpers who are eager to hear about their Christmas wishes! Connecting what matters is what we do, and we are once again happy to assist in such a joyful and exciting special event by having our personal line to Santa Claus this Christmas 2024 season.

Looking Ahead with Hope

As we reflect on the past year and the challenges it has brought, we are filled with hope for the future. The Christmas season reminds us of the power of community, of the strength we have when we work together, and of the impact we can make when we remain committed to a shared goal. We are excited about what lies ahead as we continue to expand our fiber network and connect even more of our members to the opportunities of the digital world.

From all of us at Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, we wish you a joyful, peaceful, and connected Christmas. May this season bring you closer to the things and people that matter most, and may we continue to be your trusted partner in delivering the service that makes it all possible.

Thank you for choosing Pioneer as your connection to the world. Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!

Blake Callaham
General Manager



*Protect Your Porch This
Holiday Season with*



Arlo Secure



With holiday packages piling up, ensure every delivery makes it safely under your tree. Pioneer's Arlo Secure system gives you the ultimate peace of mind with features like 2K resolution, night vision, and a wide 180° field of view, so you can keep a close eye on your doorstep—even when you're not home.

Get started for just \$15/month on your first camera or doorbell. From gifts to groceries, Pioneer's Arlo Secure keeps your porch protected, giving you one less thing to worry about this season.



EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT

It is the policy of Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, Inc. to pledge its full support to equal employment opportunity and be free of unlawful discrimination and harassment for all persons, regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, age, sex, pregnancy, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, marital status, disability status, protected veteran status, genetic information, and any other status protected by applicable laws. This policy applies to recruitment, hiring, training, promotion and all other terms and conditions of employment, provided the individual is qualified to perform the work available.

Accordingly, all employment decisions shall be consistent with the principles of Equal Employment Opportunity ("EEO") and comply with applicable federal, state and local laws. All hiring and promotion decisions shall be consistent with the principles of EEO. All other personnel actions or programs such as compensation, benefits, transfers, layoffs, recalls, Cooperative-sponsored training, education, tuition assistance, and social and recreational programs, will also be administered in compliance with EEO principles.

Further, it is the policy of the Cooperative to comply with the concepts and practices of affirmative action. Pursuant thereto, this policy establishes an

Affirmative Action program composed of specific steps that will be undertaken in order to implement this policy. In compliance with regulations provided by the Secretary of Labor in 41 C.F.R. Chapter 60 (as amended from time to time), when hiring or promoting in those job categories in which women, minorities, individuals with disabilities, veterans of the Vietnam era, other protected veterans or veterans with disabilities are underutilized, the Cooperative will take affirmative action to seek out qualified applicants without regard to sex, race, religion, marital status, color, age, national origin, disability, veteran status or other protected status. An executive of this Cooperative, currently the Human Resources Manager, has been designated to administer the Cooperative's Affirmative Action Compliance Plan and will monitor that program and make reports on a periodic and continuing basis to Executive Management. Administration will be in accordance with Policy No, 1300 – Affirmative Action Compliance.

The Affirmative Action Compliance Plan is available for inspection by applicants and employees in the Human Resources Department between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE® (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)

Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation

1. Publication Title: Pioneer Tele-Topics

2. Issue Frequency: Quarterly

3. Issue Date: 10/20/24

4. Number of Issues Published Annually: 4

5. Annual Subscription Price: \$2.96

6. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer): Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, Inc. P.O. Box 539, Kingfisher, OK 73750-0539

7. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, Inc. P.O. Box 539, Kingfisher, OK 73750-0539

8. Complete Mailing Address of Publisher (Not printer): Dean Carter, P.O. Box 539, Kingfisher, OK 73750

9. Complete Mailing Address of Owner: Dean Carter, P.O. Box 539, Kingfisher, OK 73750

10. Owner: Dean Carter, P.O. Box 539, Kingfisher, OK 73750

11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box: None

12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one): Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months

13. Publication Title: Pioneer Tele-Topics

14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below: Sept. 2024

15. Extent and Nature of Circulation: Cooperative Membership

	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)	29,805	29,805
b. Paid Circulation (By Mail and Outside the Mail)	0	0
c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b(1), (2), (3), and (4))	29,805	29,805
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)	0	0
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d(1), (2), (3) and (4))	500	500
f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)	650	650
g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3))	30455	30455
h. Total (Sum of 15f and 15g)	31,000	31,000
i. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15f times 100)	98%	98%

16. If you are claiming electronic copies, go to line 16 on page 3. If you are not claiming electronic copies, skip to line 17 on page 3.

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Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation

16. Electronic Copy Circulation: N/A

17. Publication of Statement of Ownership: If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed in the November 2024 issue of the publication. Publication not required.

18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner: *Carly Brown* Date: 10/20/24

19. I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

PS Form 3526, July 2014 (Page 1 of 4) See instructions page 41. PSN: 7530-01-000-0031. PRIVACY NOTICE: See our privacy policy on www.usps.com

SANTA CALL-IN

1-866-927-2682

TUESDAY
December

10

5:30-7:30 pm

A community service provided by  **Pioneer** GoPioneer.com

ONE NIGHT ONLY

Take 5, Win \$25!

Complete the entry form (all fields must be completed), clip out and mail to: Pioneer Tele-Topics, PO Box 539, Kingfisher, OK 73750 OR visit bit.ly/T5WIN25

Name: _____

City & Zip: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Pioneer Telephone #: () _____

1. This year's Santa Call-In is scheduled for Tuesday,

December 10, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m..

- True
- False

2. This is a ONE NIGHT ONLY event on Dec. 5.

- True
- False

3. Children will have the chance to talk to:

- Santa
- Santa's Elves
- Mrs. Claus
- All of the Above

4. Call 1-866-92-SANTA or 1-866-927-2682 to speak directly to Santa's workshop at the North Pole.

- True
- False

5. Due to the overwhelming response in past years, I understand that this event is only for Oklahoma residents.

- True
- Yes

**Skip the stamp! Fill this form out online at:
bit.ly/T5WIN25**

IF WE DRAW YOUR ENTRY AND YOUR ANSWERS ARE CORRECT, YOU WIN \$25! ELIGIBILITY: Correctly answer all the questions. You must be a current member/subscriber of Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, Inc., 18 years of age or older. One entry per household. No photocopies. Employees of Pioneer or its subsidiaries, and their immediate household members are not eligible to enter. Winners will be contacted by letter and announced in the next issue of Tele-Topics. Clip out and mail to: Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, Pioneer Tele-Topics Take 5, PO Box 539, Kingfisher, OK 73750. **Entries must be received by Dec. 13, 2024**

Santa is making his list, and checking it twice, so don't miss the chance to let your children help Santa with their Christmas lists. Each year Pioneer helps Santa by creating direct telephone lines to the North Pole and Santa's workshop. Pioneer is honored and excited to offer this special service again!

This year's event will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. CST on Tuesday, December 10. This **ONE NIGHT ONLY** event will be your children's chance to speak directly to Santa Clause, Mrs. Clause or one of his many Elves in the Christmas workshop.

Call toll free 1-866-92-SANTA or 1-866-927-2682. Due to the overwhelming response in previous years, this service is only available to residents of Oklahoma. We hope we can help connect you to Santa this Holiday Season!

USDA

Non-Discrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Person with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202)720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800)877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at <https://www.ascr.usda.gov/ad-3027-usda-program-discrimination-complaint-form> and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax : (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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USDA

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Para presentar una denuncia por discriminación en el programa, complete el Formulario de denuncias por discriminación en el programa del USDA, AD-3027, que se encuentra en línea en <https://www.ascr.usda.gov/ad-3027-usda-program-discrimination-complaint-form> o en cualquier oficina del USDA, o escriba una carta dirigida al USDA e incluya en la carta toda la información solicitada en el formulario . Para solicitar una copia del formulario de denuncias, llame al (866) 632-9992 . Envíe su formulario completado o su carta al USDA por las siguientes medios:

- (1) correo: U.S. Department of Agriculture ,
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Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442 ; o
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Tele-Topics
Volume 4 of 4 2024
P.O. Box 539
Kingfisher, OK 73750
GoPioneer.com



PIONEER TELE-TOPICS (USPS No. 456-200) is owned by and published quarterly for the benefit of the approximately 32,000 member families of Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

EDITORIAL & CIRCULATION

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Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, Inc.
Attn: Capital Credit Department
P.O. Box 539 • Kingfisher, OK 73750

POSTMASTER:
Send address changes to
Pioneer Tele-Topics,
P.O. Box 539, Kingfisher, OK 73750.

Periodical Postage paid at
Kingfisher, OK 73750 and other
additional entry offices.

Member subscription rate:
\$2.96/year
Non-Member subscription rate:
\$6/year

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Issue 3 Take 5, Win \$25 Winners

\$25 Winners will receive their checks by mail within a few days of this publication.

- District #1** winner — **Craig Winn, May**
- District #2** winner — **Belinda Carter, Fargo**
- District #3** winner — **Alta Burke, Grandfield**
- District #4** winner — **Lillie Cary, Hollis**
- District #5** winner — **Neva Stephens, Blanchard**
- District #6** winner — **Mark Carr, Comanche**
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- District #12** winner — **Corintha Hartman, Newcastle**
- District At-Large** winner — **Dawn Grove, Greenfield**