

From the General Manager - Blake Callaham



As we reflect on our 71st year as a cooperative in western Oklahoma, we can only appreciate the evolution of communication throughout the years. Pioneer Telephone Cooperative began connecting western Oklahoma with voice services through copper facilities to today connecting the world via fiber optics. Do you think that children of the 21st century will ever distinguish a voice call from a Facetime call? I don't believe so, the power of technology today is transitioning to a data or internet-based service regardless of whether the call is from a cell phone or a cordless phone in your living room. The common denominator is fiber connectivity. Whether it is a cell phone, iPad from your living room or the traditional cordless phone—fiber optics is how that service is ultimately delivered and that is exactly the reasoning behind the Pioneer Broadband Revolution.

Education today is even more evident to the opportunities of the future workforce. Either dedicating countless hours to a specific professional trade to

pursuing a bachelor's degree in a subject matter of your choice. We are happy to provide an avenue of financial support to pursue that dream. The opportunity is now, and we announce our acceptance of applications for College Scholarships and Technology Center Scholarships.

The Scholarship Committee will consider all applicants entering their Junior/Senior College year in August 2024 for the College Scholarship, which shall cover \$1,000 per semester toward the cost of tuition for a maximum of \$2,000 per year. The Committee will also consider all qualified Technology Center applicants for the Technology Center Scholarship, which shall cover \$1,000 toward the cost of tuition and fees for their chosen program. I encourage all eligible students to apply for a scholarship through Pioneer. Please direct your students to our website GoPioneer.com under Community Resources and click Scholarships for all the information and application forms they need to apply.

We strongly encourage all our applicants to email in their applications, but the applications can also be submitted by mail. The deadline for applying is June 3, 2024, and the requirements for each respective scholarship can be found in this issue of the Tele-Topics on page 6. Please send in your completed applications to its respective email:

techscholarship@ptci.com
collegescholarship@ptci.com

or

Scholarship Committee
Attn: Blake Callaham
Pioneer Telephone Cooperative,
Inc.

P.O. Box 539 Kingfisher,
Oklahoma 73750

We look forward to receiving your applications and wish all students the very best as they pursue their dreams.

I am extremely excited to announce our official 71st anniversary and want to invite you to the exciting Pioneer Telephone Cooperative membership event on May 7, 2024. Thanks to the successful membership decision in 2023, we will gladly be allowing drive through registration this year. We will begin the drive-through process at 7:30 a.m. followed at 8:30 a.m. with our annual bingo games. The business session will begin at 10:30am with a fulfilling breakfast being served prior to the session. We are excited to showcase some of our local talented employees with their amazing grilling skills providing breakfast sandwiches and other tasty treats during the morning hours. In addition to the amazing breakfast, each member will also receive a FREE Pioneer logoed sound machine, Pioneer hat, and a pot holder. We will once again be hosting bingo and giving away over \$4,600 in cash prizes!

This year, we are not proposing any business changes, but only celebrating the success of 2023/2024 while anticipating the progress of the Pioneer Broadband Revolution. In addition to the normal "State of the Cooperative" report, we will discuss the historic opportunities that Pioneer Telephone Cooperative has accepted and how we will be providing fiber connectivity to 100% of the cooperative members in less than five years. We look forward to celebrating our 71st anniversary with you on May 7, 2024. See you there!



CONNECT WHAT MATTERS

Blake Callaham
General Manager

Annual Meeting Notice

OFFICIAL NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS OF PIONEER TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.

The Annual Meeting of members of Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, Inc., Kingfisher, Oklahoma, will be held in the Kingfisher County Exhibit Building on the grounds of the Kingfisher County Free Fair Association, located just West of Thirteenth Street and South Bowman Avenue, situated on a tract of land described as the N/2 of the NE/4 of Section 21, Township 16 North, Range 7 W.I.M., Kingfisher County, Oklahoma, at 10:30 a.m., on Tuesday, May 7, 2024, to take action on the following matters:

- I. Certified copies of the Minutes of the District Meetings of Members in which Trustees have been elected.
- II. Report of Officers, Trustees and Committees.
- III. All other business which may come before the meeting or any adjournment thereof.

PIONEER TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.

BY David Parker
Its President

ATTEST:

[Signature]
Its Secretary

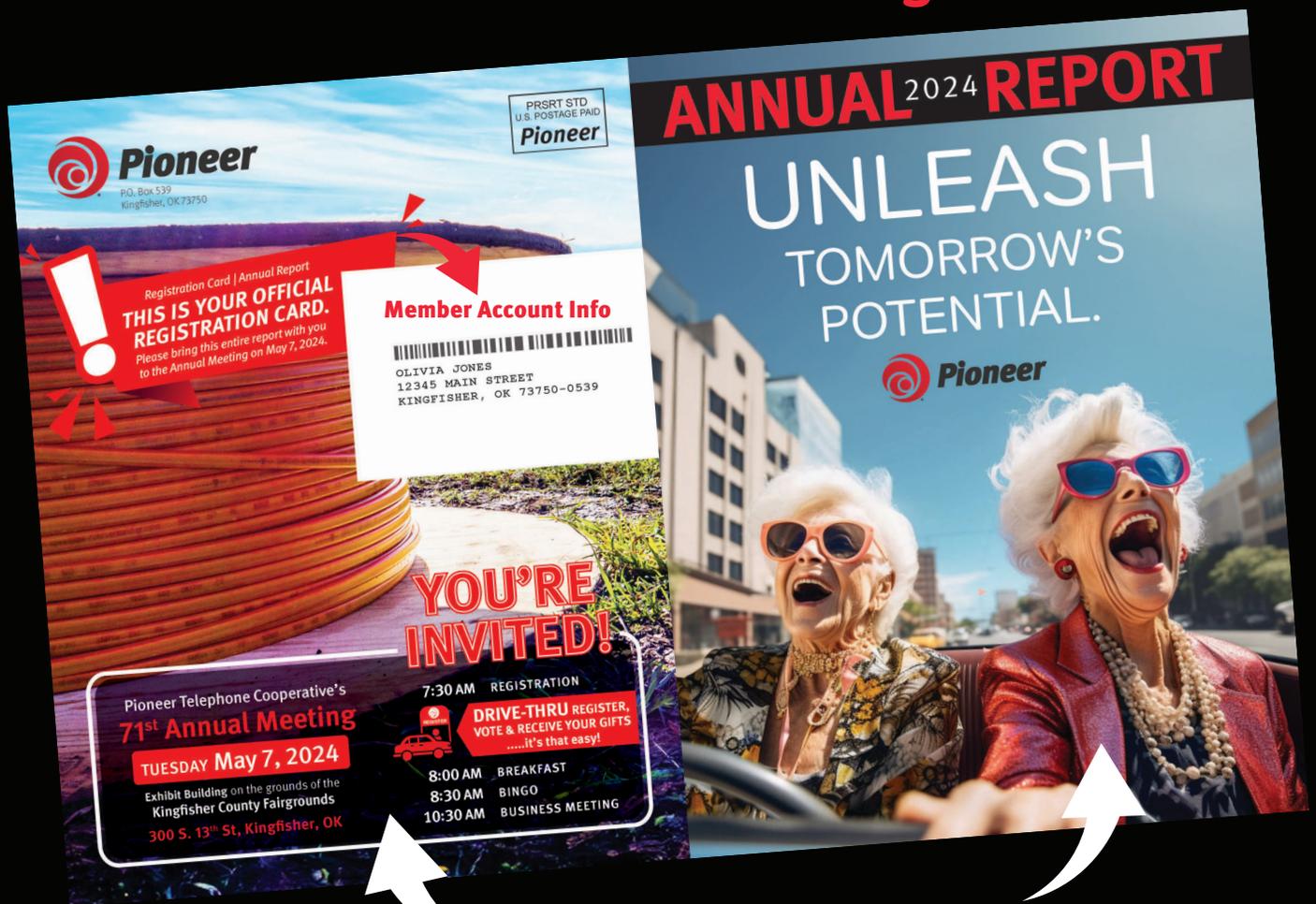
(SEAL)

If anyone needs an interpreter present because of hearing impairment, please notify us five (5) days in advance.
Equal Opportunity Employer M/F

IMPORTANT NOTE FOR MEMBERS: We're Switching Things up!

This year Annual Report is coming to your mailbox! In just a few weeks the 2024 Annual Report will be delivered—but don't toss it!

The Annual Report you receive in the mail will contain your Registration information for Annual Meeting!



Agenda

This is your
Annual Report

BRING THIS REPORT SO YOU CAN REGISTER!!!

Pioneer Telephone Cooperative's

71st Annual Meeting

Tuesday, May 7

Join us for

A FUN-filled Morning

Registration **7:30 AM**

Breakfast **8:00 AM**

*DELICIOUS breakfast sandwiches
provided to MEMBERS ONLY.*

Bingo and Prizes **8:30 AM**

*This is your chance to win
prizes valued at \$4,600!*

Business Meeting **10:30 AM**

*Learn all the great things
happening with YOUR Cooperative!*

Meeting Adjourned **11:00 AM**

Lunch will not be provided.

OR

DRIVE-THRU

Register

Join us before work to register
and receive your gift
in one quick stop!

OPENS AT

7:30 AM

Drive-thru *and* attending
Registered Members Will Receive:
Pioneer Hat | Portable Sound Machine |
Pot Holder | Breakfast Sandwich

+

Attending members will have
THE CHANCE TO WIN
CASH PRIZES VALUED AT **\$4,600**



**Don't forget to bring
your Annual Report!**

Members!

Have you heard about our blog, Tech Tea? It's our little corner of the internet where we serve up a mix of tech-oriented stories just for you! From tips on using apps to bring your family closer to reminders about the importance of taking a break from screens, we've got it all. Plus, we'll keep you in the loop with stories on timely topics, like uncovering scams and other important updates you need to know.

You can view the blog at anytime at GoPioneer.com/blog, but make sure you're following us on Facebook so you never miss out on the latest cup of tea!



Scan this QR code
or follow us on Facebook
[@GoPioneerOK](https://www.facebook.com/GoPioneerOK)

TECH • TEA

AN INFORMATIONAL BLOG BY PIONEER TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE



**Do you LOVE GoPioneer Magazine?
We hope so!**

If you'd like to continue to receive a paper copy of the GoPioneer Magazine, check yes. If you'd like to stop receiving a mailed magazine, check no.

Please cut out this slip and bring it with you to Annual Meeting OR drop it off at your local office!

Yes, send me a magazine.

No thanks, I don't want a mailed magazine.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

PIONEER COLLEGE/TECHNOLOGY CENTER SCHOLARSHIPS ANNOUNCED

Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, Inc., has announced applications are available for both the 2024-2025 College Scholarship AND the 2024-2025 Technology Center Scholarship.

The College Scholarship(s) awarded will provide \$1,000 per semester for tuition and/or books for a maximum of \$2,000 per year.

The Technology Center Scholarship(s) awarded shall cover the cost of tuition and fees for \$1,000 per program.

Review the requirements and required documents below. Visit GoPioneer.com/community/scholarships for the application.

REQUIREMENTS FOR CONSIDERATION

1. The son, daughter or legal dependent of a residential subscriber of Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, Inc., shall be eligible for consideration of one (1) of up to twelve (12) *College Scholarships* OR one (1) of up to twelve (12) *Technology Center Scholarships* to be awarded each year.
2. A subscriber is defined as a member of the Cooperative whose membership account for services is located in the landline telephone exchange boundaries; and, subscribes to a retail landline dial tone service with Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

OR

Subscribes to a residential retail landline stand-alone Digital Subscriber Line Service, (DSL), provided by and using Pioneer Telephone Cooperative's landline copper or fiber facilities, with or without a corresponding analog voice, (dial tone), service.

The Scholarship Committee will consider all applicants who will be entering their Junior/Senior College year in August 2024.

The Technology Center Scholarship committee will consider all qualified applicants.

Note: Dependents or children of any Employee of Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, Inc., shall only be eligible for consideration of the scholarship awarded from the Thirteenth (13th) District-At-Large of the Cooperative each year.

Note: Any scholarship granted shall be evaluated at least annually. School standards must be maintained to continue funding of the scholarship.

Note: The Board of Trustees of Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, Inc., reserves full discretion with regard to the granting or renewal of any scholarship.

ITEMS TO BE SUBMITTED

College Scholarship Applicants

1. College and/or High School transcripts
2. ACT or SAT scores
3. Two (2) Letters of Recommendation from a high school administrator, instructor, or professor who is familiar with your character and academic performance.
4. Teacher Education acceptance letter if the applicant is an Education Major.
5. Submit an essay of 500 words or less answering one of the following questions:
 - i. Tell us about a teacher or professor that impacted you and why that made you select your current field of study.
 - ii. Tell us about your favorite "pioneer" in your field, one discovery, or moment that sparked your interest in your current field of study.
6. Applicant must complete the College Scholarship Application Form
7. Applicant must attach a studio-quality (color) picture of themselves to the Scholarship Application Form
8. Attach a list of scholarships, grants and/or tuition waivers. Include the amount of each one and how often it is received, i.e., per semester, per year, etc.

Technology Center Scholarship Applicants

1. High School transcripts, if available
2. ACT or SAT scores, if available
3. Two (2) Letters of Recommendation from a high school or current instructor who is familiar with your character and academic performance.
4. Submit an essay of 500 words or less answering one of the following questions:
 - i. Tell us about someone that impacted you and why that made you select your current field of study.
 - ii. Tell us about your favorite "pioneer" in your field, one discovery, or moment that sparked your interest in your current field of study.
5. Applicant must complete the Technology Center Scholarship Application Form
6. Applicant must attach a studio-quality (color) picture of themselves to the Scholarship Application Form
7. Attach a list of scholarships, grants and/or tuition waivers. Include the amount of each one and how often it is received, i.e., per semester, per year, etc.

MAIL APPLICATION TO:
SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE / ATTN: BLAKE CALLAHAM
PIONEER TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.
P.O. BOX 539
KINGFISHER, OK 73750

OR

EMAIL APPLICATION TO:
techscholarship@ptci.com
collegescholarship@ptci.com
Subject: Scholarship Submission 2024



Equal Opportunity Employer

Tele-Topics
Volume 2 of 4 2024
P.O. Box 539
Kingfisher, OK 73750
GoPioneer.com



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

Name: _____

Address: _____

Pioneer Telephone #: () _____

City & Zip: _____

Email: _____

**Skip the stamp! Fill this form out online at
GoPioneer.com under Tele-Topics Newsletter**

1. Pioneer's Annual Meeting is on May 7.

- True
 False

2. Official Business will begin at 10:30 a.m. on May 7.

- True
 False

3. My presence at the Annual Meeting is vital and encouraged.

- True
 VERY TRUE!

4. The 2024 Meeting will end by 12 p.m..

- True
 False

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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Blake Callaham *General Manager*
Kim Grellner *V.P. Marketing, Sales & Service*
Brenda Walta *V.P. Finance and Administration/CFO*
Mike Baustert *V.P. Operations and Engineering*

CAPITAL CREDIT ESTATE INFORMATION

To obtain your Capital Credit balance, or begin the process to collect for a deceased member, please call toll free at
800-650-6116.

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

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Issue 1 Take 5, Win \$25 Winners

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

District #1 winner — **Donlad Robison, Longdale**

District #2 winner — **Glen Blood, Canton**

District #3 winner — **Christopher Fatjo, Frederick**

District #4 winner — **Emily Stinson, Oakwood**

District #5 winner — **Kerrie Newburn, Blanchard**

District #6 winner — **Traci Fuller, Okarche**

District #7 winner — **Shanee Johnson, Meno**

District #8 winner — **Kayla Zook, Waynoka**

District #9 winner — **Jackie Stewart, Orlando**

District #10 winner — **Rita Brown, Dover**

District #11 winner — **Doretta A. Davis, Calumet**

District #12 winner — **Cleo Moore, Newcastle**

District At-Large winner — **Tana Parrott, Cashion**