



Dial Tones is published monthly for members of Dell Telephone Cooperative, Inc., a member-owned cooperative since 1956.

Proud to serve Dell City, Desert Haven, Guadalupe Peak, Mile High, Timberon and Queen.

### Volume 16 Edition 3 Board of Directors

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- Bonnie Larreau
- Donna Morrell
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### Editor

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## 54TH ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

### MEMBERSHIP TO ELECT DIRECTORS

Our 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Membership Meeting is just around the corner! Your Membership Packet should have arrived the week of February 16<sup>th</sup>.

Your mail ballot, ballot envelope and postage paid return mail envelope are included in your Membership Packet. Please read the instructions carefully and contact our Business Office at 915/964-2352 if you have any questions. You may vote by mail or in person at the Annual Meeting.

The meeting will be held at the Cooperative Business Office in Dell City on Saturday, March 27, 2010. Registration will be from 9:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. The Business Meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. During the Business Meeting, members that did not vote by mail will vote for Directors of District 1 and 2. The following candidates were selected by the Nominating Committee:

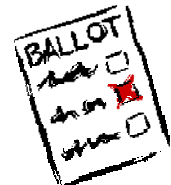
#### District #1

Donna Morrell

#### District #2

Rob Beard  
Therran Gentry  
Kevin Lynch

**Members who did not  
vote by mail will vote  
For Directors for  
District 1 & 2  
at the meeting!**



### FREE BABYSITTING?!!

To allow all DTC members the opportunity to enjoy the Annual Membership Meeting, we are once again pleased to announce that FREE BABYSITTING will be available at the Dell City Community Building for your children ages 3 to 4<sup>th</sup> grade.



## March 2010

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- March 13 Daylight Savings Time Begins
- March 17 St. Patrick's Day
- March 27 Dell Telephone Annual Meeting
- March 28 Palm Sunday

### Ode to an Old Friend

Did you know today saw the passing of an old and trusted friend?  
After twenty five years of dependable service  
The DMS 10's tenure in Dell City  
Finally came to an end.

Maybe it went without a whimper,  
Hardly saying goodbye  
Cooling fans whirring to a halt  
With a groan or perhaps soft sigh?

Still, with the circuit breakers all shut off  
Bay lights remained stubbornly lit  
One last laugh remained to process  
Steadfastly refusing to quit

The reprieve was only temporary  
No pardon - just a glitch  
Finally all her lights went out  
When Martin threw the hidden switch

Encrusted desert will cling to her racks  
As she's unceremoniously tossed out the door  
We wonder where she will end up  
At Dale's or romantic shore?

No, time and technology marches on  
Now it's Ethernet and I. P.  
Will the Meta be here in 2035?  
We'll just have to wait and see.

Pictured Above:  
**Retired DMS 10** →  
Martin Tavarez, Grant Spence

OLD GENERATION PHONE SERVICE: After 25 years of service the DMS 10 Digital Switch has been retired.

← **POEM:**  
Ode to an Old Friend  
Written by: Grant Spence  
CO Supervisor

Pictured Below:  
**New MetaSwitch** →  
Grant Spence, Martin Tavarez

NEW GENERATION PHONE SERVICE: Cutovers from the DMS 10 to the New Meta Soft Switch have been completed. This process will provide customers with state of the art telephone service. THANK YOU to our customers for your patience. DELL TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE



### St. Patrick: the myth and the man

For some, St. Patrick's Day (March 17) is a reason to wear green, go to a parade, and drink more Irish whiskey than usual. But just who was this St. Patrick fellow?

The most common belief is that he drove the snakes out of Ireland. Ireland probably never had snakes, though, and the myth may refer to Patrick's efforts to stamp out the serpent imagery used by the Druids. He also may have used the three-leafed shamrock to illustrate the concept of the Holy Trinity to the people he was trying to convert to Christianity as a missionary in Ireland during the fifth century.

Historians agree that Patrick was born in Roman-occupied Britain, the son of a Christian deacon. At age 16 he was captured and taken to Ireland, where he was slave for six years. During this time, his Christian faith strengthened, and one day he heard a voice (according to a letter he wrote about his early life) promising he would soon return home. Shortly afterward he escaped, found his way to a ship, and went back to his family.

An angel appeared to him in a dream, he later wrote, telling him to return to Ireland as a missionary. After a long period of religious training, Patrick went back to the land where he had been a slave to convert the Irish and to minister to those Christians living there.

March 17 is believed to be the date of his death. Although never formally canonized, Patrick came to be considered a saint, and March 17 was celebrated as a religious holiday until 1903, when it became a public holiday in Ireland by an act of the British Parliament.

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