

# The Communicator

AN INFORMATIONAL NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS OF RTC



## LOOKING BACK MOVING FORWARD

RTC Prepares for 64th Annual Meeting



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AN INFORMATIONAL NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS OF RTC

## RTC WILL BE CLOSED

- July 3 – In Observance of Independence Day
- September 7 – Labor Day

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO MOVE FORWARD WITH A NEW CAREER OPPORTUNITY?

RTC is experiencing exciting growth, which is one of the topics to be covered during the 64th Annual Meeting. Such growth leads to career opportunities in a variety of areas, and we're always looking for hard-working and talented individuals to join our team.

To inquire about current employment openings, please contact RTC's Human Resources Department at 1.888.862.3115 or visit <http://www.RTC.coop/about/employment/>.

RTC is an equal opportunity employer and provider.

## LOOKING BACK MOVING FORWARD



### You're Invited to Attend RTC's 64th Annual Meeting Thursday, June 18, 2015, at Parshall High School

Members will get a \$25 bill credit just for attending. (Limit of one credit per member account.) Plus, kids are welcome, and childcare will be provided. There will be prizes throughout the evening, including a children's drawing and the grand prize drawings for a flat panel TV and a free year of local phone service.

- 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.  
Member registration and free meal
- 6:30 p.m.  
Meeting called to order

The theme for the 64th Annual Meeting is "Looking Back, Moving Forward." We'll look back at RTC's history and look forward to a future with super-fast gigabit internet service. We'll also welcome Shane Hart as our new CEO/General Manager and bid farewell to retiring CEO/General Manager Royce Aslakson.

We look forward to seeing you there!



# Happy Retirement to Royce Aslakson

## After 28 years at RTC, Royce looks back (and ahead) with a smile

Take a glance at the childhood photo of Royce Aslakson holding a toy phone and his career in telecommunications makes perfect sense. He's staring at the handset with curious eyes and the start of a grin.

"Since I was into gadgets when I was little, that toy phone was given to me during the photo shoot to get me to sit still and smile," recalls Royce. "It's pretty funny that I ended up spending 28 years working for Reservation Telephone Cooperative."

On June 1, 2015, Royce Aslakson retired as CEO/General Manager of RTC, making this an ideal time for him to reflect on past experiences and share future plans.

"I grew up on a family farm south of Ray, N.D. I loved it. I got to work around cattle and machinery, and fix this and that. You learn a lot of practical things as part of farm life," Royce says.

### "Keep smiling and everyone will wonder what you are up to!"

—ROYCE ASLAKSON'S MOTTO

Royce graduated from Concordia College in Fargo-Moorhead in 1973 with degrees in business and accounting, then married Joyce. He notes, "I first went to work as a field auditor for Blue Cross / Blue Shield, then was hired for the management program at Scheels Hardware. In 1987, I was picked by Gene Sloan, then RTC's General Manager, for the Office Manager Trainee job." In



1988, Royce became an Office Manager, then was promoted to Assistant General Manager in 1998 and General Manager in 2001. Chief Executive Officer was added to his title in 2004.

When asked what about his RTC years he's most proud of, Royce responds, "The most important asset of a business is the people. I'm proud of the RTC employees and managers, and it was rewarding for me to see people blossom and work their way up."

Royce and his wife Joyce have three children. Their son Mark lives in Fargo and works in telecommunications for Dakota Carrier Network. Their son Paul also lives in Fargo and works for Thrivent Financial. Their daughter Julie lives in Minot and works as an R.N. All three are married



and there are a total of eight grandkids, ranging in age from one to 10.

"I missed many of our grandkids' activities over the years because of work. Now, thanks to retirement, I'll be able to get more involved with them," he says.

Royce wants to end this trip down memory lane with messages of gratitude: "I'd like to thank Gene Sloan who gave me this opportunity and was my mentor. I'd also like to thank past and present board members, managers, and employees who served RTC so well."

His signature motto, however, is the perfect way to wrap things up: "Keep smiling and everyone will wonder what you are up to!"



## TWEED NAMED RTC EXCEPTIONAL EMPLOYEE

Michelle Tweed, Cable Locator, is the recipient of the RTC *Exceptional Employee Award* for the first quarter of 2015. She started working at RTC in June 2012, and her duties include locating RTC's underground cable, working with excavators to ensure the safety of RTC's cable, and working with North Dakota One Call.

RTC's East Outside Plant Manager Chad Betz says, "Michelle goes above and beyond to protect RTC's underground cable from being damaged, which protects customers from service outages. She is very diligent and committed to her work."

Michelle is originally from central North Dakota, and her family has lived in Garrison since late 2009.

"I enjoy working directly with co-workers, contractors, and community officials on projects. I always take a great deal of pride in my work. RTC is a wonderful company to be a part of, and I am thankful every day, rain or shine, that I am on our team," Michelle notes.

The *Exceptional Employee Award* was developed to recognize RTC employees who go above and beyond the call of duty. Nominations are made by fellow employees and it is awarded to a deserving RTC employee.



RTC Cable Locator Michelle Tweed receives Exceptional Employee Award from CEO/General Manager Shane Hart.



## RTC Splits Outside Plant Manager Position

Effective March 16, 2015, the responsibilities of the Outside Plant Manager for RTC were split into two separate positions: Outside Plant Manager – West and Outside Plant Manager – East.

Cory Johnson has been RTC's Outside Plant Manager since 2011. Due to our rapidly growing service area, the duties of the Outside Plant Manager grew to become a two-person job. Cory Johnson is now Outside Plant Manager – West, responsible for the Mandaree, Keene, Watford City, Arnegard, Alexander, and Squaw Gap exchanges. Chad Betz was promoted to Outside Plant Manager – East, responsible for the New Town, Ross, Parshall, Plaza, Makoti, Douglas, Roseglen, Ryder, Emmet, Garrison, Norma, Spencer, Kenmare, and Max exchanges.

### Chad and Cory's duties include the following:

- Overseeing the installation and maintenance of RTC services at the customer premises along with all cable locating
- Meeting with the Department of Transportation regarding roadwork that will affect RTC's underground cable
- Coordinating contract workers in their areas
- Resolving a variety of customer concerns as they arise

Chad started at RTC on October 13, 1998 as a Combination Tech—installing phone, internet, and TV services for customers as well as troubleshooting service issues and locating cable. He previously held the RTC positions of Combination Tech Lead, Central Office Tech, and Combination Tech Coordinator.

Shane Hart, RTC CEO/General Manager, says, "I am excited to welcome Chad Betz to the Management Team! He has incredible energy and is driven by a great work ethic. I already see a positive impact to RTC by his promotion. Cory Johnson now has more time to focus on the western part of the RTC service area while Chad covers the eastern part."

Chad attended Bismarck State College. He lives in Garrison with his wife, Amy, and their children, Alexis and Ethan.



# Employees and Director Recognized for Years of Service



**Morgan Bauer**  
Computer Tech  
1 year of service



**Kelly Cooper**  
Purchasing Agent  
1 year of service



**Matthew Dupay**  
Combination Tech  
1 year of service



**Laci Hanson**  
Customer Service Rep  
1 year of service



**Stan Ogletree**  
Combination Tech  
1 year of service



**Jordan Schaubert**  
Combination Tech  
1 year of service



**Shannon Stafslie**  
Part-Time  
Marketing Rep  
1 year of service



**Scott Torgerson**  
Accountant  
1 year of service



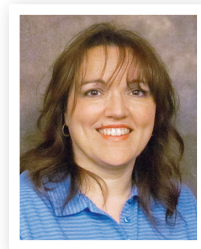
**Chance Westgard**  
Mapping Tech  
1 year of service



**Wayne Winterberg**  
Combination Tech  
1 year of service



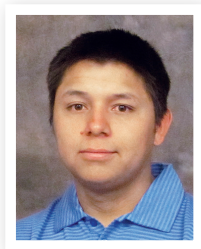
**Jamall Wold**  
Combination Tech  
1 year of service



**Gretchen Edwards**  
Human Resources  
Manager  
5 years of service



**Lori Johnson**  
Customer Service Rep  
5 years of service



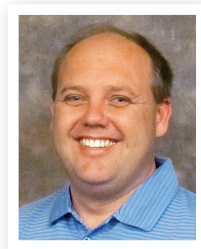
**Jessie Many Ribs**  
Utility Tech  
5 years of service



**Belden Moberg**  
Business Systems Tech  
5 years of service



**Chad Talbott**  
Data Network Tech  
5 years of service



**James Vaagen**  
Central Office Tech  
5 years of service



**Paul Hellebush**  
Combination Tech  
10 years of service



**Dave Uhlich**  
Combination Tech Lead  
10 years of service



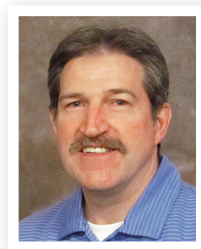
**Monica Bangen**  
Customer Service Rep  
15 years of service



**Terry Wilber**  
Director  
15 years of service



**Ron Sanderson**  
Cable Locator  
20 years of service



**Dave Aamot**  
Financial Manager  
25 years of service



**Carl Brunsell**  
Utility Tech  
25 years of service



# RTC

## EMPLOYEE NEWS

**RTC welcomes these new employees:**

**Andrew Steele**  
Utility Tech

**Jim Taggart**  
Utility Tech

**RTC congratulates these employees on their new positions:**

**Jason Bauer**  
Central Office Tech

**Pat Fitzgerald**  
Combination Tech

**Jarett Bauer**  
Combination Tech Coordinator  
– Garrison

**Daniel Leppell**  
Data Network Tech

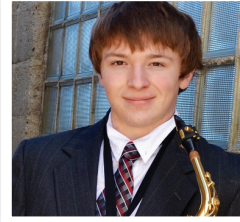
**Vernon Snyder**  
Combination Tech Coordinator



# RTC Scholarship Winners



**DISTRICT 1A**  
**Coy David Obrigewitch,**  
**Beach High School**  
Son of Jay and Jolene Obrigewitch. Plans to attend North Dakota State University to major in Animal Science.



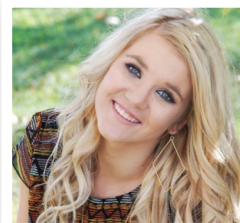
**DISTRICT 1B**  
**Nicholas D. Valenzuela,**  
**Watford City High School**  
Son of David and Deanne Valenzuela. Plans to attend North Dakota State University to major in Music Education/Performance.



**DISTRICT 2A**  
**Rebecca R. Froshaug,**  
**New Town High School**  
Daughter of Randy and Teresa Froshaug. Plans to attend North Dakota State College of Science to major in Crop Production Sales and Technology.



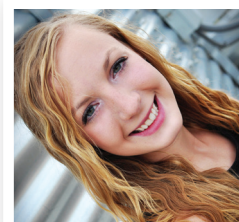
**DISTRICT 2B**  
**Cassandra Jean Thelen,**  
**Stanley High School**  
Daughter of Lisa Thelen. Plans to attend Minot State University to major in Nursing.



**DISTRICT 3**  
**Katie Ingerson,**  
**Kenmare High School**  
Daughter of Duane and Diane Ingerson. Plans to attend University of North Dakota to major in Communications.



**DISTRICT 4**  
**Hunter Andes,**  
**North Shore High School**  
Son of Lee and Jody Andes. Plans to attend Bismarck State College to major in Civil Engineering and Land Surveying.



**DISTRICT 5**  
**Gwen Scheresky,**  
**Max High School**  
Daughter of Galen and Bonnie Scheresky. Plans to attend North Dakota State University to major in Agricultural Economics.



**DISTRICT 6**  
**Savana Wretling,**  
**Garrison High School**  
Daughter of Jeff and Madonna Wretling. Plans to attend Bismarck State College to major in Business Management.



**AT LARGE**  
**Justin Roberts,**  
**Parshall High School**  
Son of Stacey and Darlene Roberts. Plans to Attend North Dakota State University or University of North Dakota to major in Zoology/Pre-Med.



# New Listings

## Alexander - 828

Patriot Fuels - Fax.....	3315
Jeanson, Max.....	3628
Holen, Luke & Nikki.....	3733
Patriot Fuels.....	3951

## Arnegard - 586

Matthew, Matthew & Joanne.....	3073
Hunt Oil - Elsworth 1-31-30H.....	3133
Johnson, Shane D.....	3397

## Emmet - 337

Spain, Joe.....	2290
Matzke, Jarod.....	2607
Carlson, Drew.....	2626
Olson, Clayton & Cynthia.....	2741
Fox, Carmen L.....	2797
Russell, D.....	2919
Poggemiller, Josh & Kelli.....	2933
Schlehr, James D.....	5309
Sandeen, John & Cindy.....	5994

## Garrison - 463

Blanchard, G & D.....	2207
Griffith, Daniel R.....	2450
Petz, Robert.....	2994

## Keene - 675

Weinand, K.....	2155
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## Kenmare - 385

Dugall, David.....	3172
Worsham, William.....	3619
Christianson, Olaf.....	3632
KMP Kenmare Meat Processing.....	4663
Seed Master Global.....	4691
Seed Master Global.....	4692
Seed Master Global - Fax.....	4693

## Mandaree - 759

Baker, Marle.....	3179
Fredericks, Mary.....	3179
Tribe CHILD Program - Fax.....	3246
McKenzie Bay Marina.....	3366
Mann, Sadie.....	3518
Zink, M.....	3544
White Owl, Frank.....	3550
Danks Ted - Shop.....	3584
Catholic Church Rectory - Church Office.....	3790
Enriquez, J.....	3797
Probst, Kyle.....	3833
Hunts, Along Vincent.....	3949

## Max - 679

Wenger, Shalynn.....	2572
Swanson, C.....	2677

## New Town - 627

Roscoe, Elaine M.....	2158
Little Light, G.....	2204
Waupoose, DeeAnn.....	2282
Torgerson, A.....	2294
Frederick, Louis & Sherri.....	2414
Six Star Observer LLC.....	2555
Six Star Observer LLC - Fax.....	2571
Demaray, A Jr.....	2713
Baker, Scott & Mary.....	2923
Colter, Adam & Stephanie.....	3037
Chapin, Vernie J.....	3203
Kaylor, Bruce & Susan.....	3403
Good Bird, Benjy & Joanie.....	3447
Holley, Peggy.....	3483
Fox, Jay.....	3488
Hagen, Adam & Cassandra.....	3655
Yellow Wolf, Frank J & Lynn.....	3948
Bear, Dylan & Jasmyne.....	3965
Diamond Willow Energy LLC.....	4124
Elbowoods Memorial Healthcare.....	4223
Elbowoods Managed Care - Fax.....	4227
Wilber, Edith.....	4288
Dakota Check Cashing.....	4457
QR Water Depot.....	4501
QR Water Depot - Fax.....	4550
Pipes, Brittany.....	4630
Nabukiza, W.....	4766
Billy Pounds Motors.....	5100
Grady, Lucy.....	5124
Shopko Hometown.....	5200
Trevino, Jay & Monica.....	5285
Hatter, David & Crystal - Lake Home.....	5544

## Norma - 467

Blomquist, Samantha.....	3460
Gottschall, Greg - Fax.....	3290
Melin, Jason & Jessica.....	3155

## Parshall - 862

Brady, Daunelle.....	2460
Healing Horse Estate & Ranch Office - Fax.....	2495
Mariner Gulf ND.....	2754
Hovey-Keller Trailer.....	3440
Farmer, Ashley & Sam.....	4407
Rabbithead, Joanne.....	4701

## Plaza - 497

Plaza-Makoti Equity Elevator - Chemical Warehouse.....	3255
Chartre, Justin.....	3296
Reeves, Ronnie.....	3444

## Roseglen - 743

Billadeau Wade - Hired Man Trailer.....	4072
Selhorst, Donald.....	4347
De La Cerda, Alexia.....	4392
Poggemiller, Josh & Kelli.....	4933

## Ross - 755

Sauber, JD.....	3725
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## Ryder - 758

Guild, Anthony.....	2805
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## Squaw Gap - 565

Gasho Harlan - 2nd House.....	2215
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## Watford City - 842

Neamah, Doc.....	2599
Conoco Phillips.....	3178
Backes, Stephen & Leanna.....	3265
Great Northern Concrete Co.....	3334
Hall, David.....	3520
Brosz Engineering-Fax.....	3527
Anderson, R.....	3575
McArthur, Frank.....	3627
AE2S Construction LLC.....	3634
Lucero, T.....	3642
Foley, James.....	3683
Polivka, Nick & Amy.....	3720
Sanford Occupational Medicine Watford City.....	3740
Nichols, Jason.....	3977
Transtrom, Tim & Deana.....	4141
Corcoran Oilfield Services Inc.....	4160
Cobb, Kenneth & Ellen.....	4166
Hoff, Lacey J.....	4183
Home Of Economy.....	4200
RE/MAX Bakken Realty.....	4224
RE/MAX Bakken Realty - Fax.....	4225
Auburn Ridge Appartments.....	4245
Dodge, C.....	4247
AE2S Construction LLC.....	4250
CBK Trucking.....	4270
Scholtes, S.....	4279
Treese, Levi.....	4319
Koistinen, Andrew & Emily.....	4332
Hixon, Kenneth & Trudy.....	4339
Boots, Dale R.....	4350
Josie, Rosales.....	4351
AE2S Construction LLC.....	4360
Gregg, Raymond.....	4370
Hartner, David.....	4376
Britton, Michael.....	4391
Whitney, Budd & Gretchen.....	4392
Hawkins, Chad.....	4395
Preble Medical Services.....	4400

AE2S Construction LLC.....	4402
Mayer, Judith.....	4411
AE2S Construction LLC.....	4424
Dannels, Christy.....	4428
Warner, David.....	4443
Silva, M.....	4460
AE2S Construction LLC.....	4484
Ryan, Daniel.....	4495
AE2S Construction LLC.....	4496
Watford City Real Estate Group - Fax.....	4501
AE2S Construction LLC.....	4506
Ryan, Kevyn.....	4515
Priority One Safety Services.....	4519
Graybar Electric Company Inc.....	4520
Wash, Marcus.....	4530
Tipton, H.....	4573
Ford, John.....	4582
Seiler, Shannon.....	4635
Anderson, Roger & Marion.....	4651
Turcios, Henry.....	4653
AE2S CONSTRUCTION.....	4666
AE2S Construction LLC.....	4667
Wells, Evan.....	4672
Walsh, A.....	4675
Maguire, Amber.....	4685
Herrera, Jack.....	4693
Scharf, Tony.....	4708
Ruuti, Jessica.....	4715
Bondy, Ron.....	4732
AE2S Construction LLC.....	4745
AE2S Construction LLC.....	4748
Guillory, Paul.....	4749
Rohan, Zack.....	4755
Schroeder, J.....	4765
Bitanga, Aris.....	4775
Foreman, I.....	4824
Teague, Joseph.....	4847
Adams, Bryce.....	4864
AE2S Constuction - Fax.....	4875
Namanny, Billie.....	4885
Denardo, T.....	4894
Sargent, Katherine.....	4902
Volkov, Katerina.....	4911
Jessen, Craig.....	4928
Brown, Cory & Bilquis.....	4932
Cullinan, Brian & Cassie.....	4972
Pena, Drew & Rossana.....	4973
AE2S Construction LLC.....	4985
Orozco, J.....	6018
Wisness Brett - Shop.....	6149
Ray, Shawn.....	6411
Houser, Gordy & Heather.....	6527
Small, Shawn.....	6895

## STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

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24 Main Street North • PO Box 68  
Parshall, ND 58770  
www.RTC.coop • RTC@restel.com



**Customer Service:** 0811 (within RTC exchanges) or 888.862.3115

**Repair Service:** 0611 (within RTC exchanges) or 800.822.3311

**24/7 Help Desk:** 0211 (within RTC exchanges) or 800.497.2151

**New Town Office:** 202 College Drive • New Town, ND 58763

**Watford City Office:** 601 14th St SW • Watford City ND 58854

RTC is an equal opportunity employer and provider.

# 6 GREAT REASONS TO ATTEND RTC'S 64TH ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, June 18, 2015, at Parshall High School

- 1. Members will get a \$25 bill credit just for attending.** (Limit of one credit per member account.)
- 2. You'll enjoy a free dinner.** Between 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m., there will be member registration and the meal.
- 3. You'll learn what's ahead for RTC.** The meeting will be called to order at 6:30 p.m.
- 4. Free childcare will be provided.** Kids are welcome so you can make it a family activity.
- 5. We're giving away prizes throughout the evening.** This includes a children's drawing.
- 6. You could win a flat panel TV or a free year of local phone service.** Those are the grand prizes.



## READERS' CONTEST

Congratulations to these Spring 2015 Communicator "Readers' Contest" winners. They will receive a \$10 credit on their RTC bill:

- Mark and Carrie Ahmann, Max Exchange
- Grant Hiltner and Chelsey Peterson, Kenmare Exchange
- Fay Jorgenson, Keene Exchange
- Joe Iverson, New Town Exchange
- Glen Landsiedel, Parshall Exchange

For your chance to be entered in the drawing to win a \$10 credit on your bill, correctly answer the questions at right and include with your RTC bill. Mail to RTC, PO Box 68, Parshall, ND, 58770. Or email the answers to [rtc@restel.com](mailto:rtc@restel.com).

NAME

PHONE

1. RTC's 64th Annual Meeting will take place at the \_\_\_\_\_ High School.
2. All members who register at this year's Annual Meeting will receive a \_\_\_\_\_ bill credit.
3. RTC has given out \_\_\_\_\_ scholarship awards this year.

*Entries must be received by July 15, 2015.*



# NOMINATING COMMITTEE

## MEETING MINUTES

The Nominating Committee met Wednesday, May 13, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in the RTC HQ Conference Room in Parshall. Members present were: Karla Quale, Connie Fischer, Mylo Wolding, Curt Wittmayer, Pastor Dan Dapelo, Jane Schonauer, Susan Best, Duane Estvold, and Stephen Hannegrefs.

Motion and second to have Mylo Wolding as Chairman. M/C

Motion and second to nominate Gretchen Edwards, RTC Human Resource Manager as Recording Secretary. M/C

The Nominating Committee reviewed the packet they were given including the RTC by-laws regarding the nomination, Minutes of 2014 Nominating Committee Meeting and election of board members and the Director Composition Report.

Motion and second to approve the Minutes of the 2014 Nominating Committee Meeting. M/C

The cooperative districts and current directors were reviewed. There was discussion regarding representation of each district and the percentages of each district.

The Nominating Committee reviewed the signed Certification of Nominee forms completed by Jared Eagle, Glenn Schreiner, and Duane Estvold.

Motion and second to approve list of candidates: District 2A – Jared Eagle, District 2A – Duane Estvold, and District 5 – Glenn Schreiner. M/C

Motion and second that it is the recommendation of the Nominating Committee to have the ballots, if they are paper ballots, alternated 50/50 with the candidate's names at the top of the ballot. M/C. Motion and second that if electronic ballots are used, candidates should be listed alphabetically. Eagle would be 1 or A; Estvold would be 2 or B.

Chairman Wolding called for other business. Discussed if any committee members would be available to count ballots, if necessary. Chairman Wolding agreed to read the Minutes of the Nominating Committee Meeting at the Annual Meeting if needed.

Motion and second to adjourn. M/C

Meeting adjourned.





# DIRECTOR CANDIDATES



**JARED EAGLE**  
District 2A Candidate

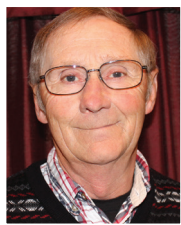
Jared Eagle is 32 years old and has lived in New Town his entire life. He is the son of Ronnie and Kim Eagle.

Jared has worked for the Indian Health Service and the Three Affiliated Tribes Health System for eight years. The first four of those years were spent as the Community Health Educator, and the past four have been with the Diabetes Program, as the Fitness Director and now the Program Director.

A graduate of North Dakota State University, Jared is active in the community. He served on the New Town Volunteer Fire Department for four years and the North Dakota Comprehensive Cancer Advisory Board for four years. For the last nine years, he has served on the Edgewater Country Club Board and remains there today. His wife, Candice Eagle, works at Cornerstone Bank.

“I am interested in serving on the Board of Directors to ensure that the future of RTC is strong and the services offered remain in the best interest of the employees, members, and communities in Northwestern North Dakota. I hope to bring a new energy to the

board to help strengthen the already existing state-of-the-art telecommunication services RTC provides to meet the needs of the communities it serves,” he says.



**DUANE ESTVOLD**  
District 2A Candidate

Duane Estvold is 65 years old and has been a member of RTC for 40 years. He grew up on a family farm near

New Town and has lived in that community all his life. Duane and his wife of 45 years, Sharen, have two daughters, one son, and 10 grandchildren.

Duane worked for Dakota Quality Grain Co-op, formerly Farmers Union Elevator of New Town, for 44 years and retired in 2012. He was on the New Town City Fire Department for 30 years as an active member. In 1998, he moved to the country so he went inactive and has been on the Rural Fire Department ever since. Duane has been the President of the New Town Community Ambulance Service District since 1992 and a member of the Bethel Lutheran Church all his life. He also served as Secretary-Treasurer for the Edgewater Country Club golf course for 15 years.

He says, “Having worked for a co-op all my life, I am a firm supporter of co-ops. Why do I want to serve on the RTC board? I am interested in learning how a telephone co-op works, and now that I’m retired, I have the required time and effort to devote to this task.”



**GLENN SCHREINER**  
District 5 Candidate

Glenn Schreiner lives eight miles south of Max on his family farm homestead. He is retired from North American Coal

after working there for 35 years.

He was Director of CHS Garrison for 24 years, on the St. Nicholas Church Council for six years, and Director of Garrison Golf Course for four years. Glenn also served on the Advisory Committee for the Garrison Hospital emergency room renovation.

Glenn is widowed and has three grown children and three grandchildren. He enjoys golfing, fishing, cooking, hunting, and watching his grandchildren participate in a variety of activities.