



# TELE U WHAT



## 2015 CAPITAL CREDIT REFUND

## The Cooperative Advantage

Paul Bunyan Communications has mailed out over \$2.8 million in capital credits to members. The payouts include 50% or the unretired balance from 2001 and 20% of the capital credits earned in 2014. All subscribers who were a member in either of those years and accrued over \$10 total in capital credits should have or will receive a check. The use of capital credit allocations are the cooperative's way of individually securing each member's share of the cooperative's net margins.

We are very proud to once again issue capital credit returns to our members. Our cooperative remains strong because of the high quality of services we provide, loyalty of our members, leadership of the Board of Directors, and our dedicated employees.

As a cooperative, Paul Bunyan Communications is owned by the members it serves. Services that apply towards capital credit returns include local phone service, Paul Bunyan Long Distance, Internet service from Paul Bunyan Net, Paul Bunyan Television, and Minnesota Gold Yellow Page Advertising.

It's the cooperative advantage and a win-win for our members. You get high quality communication services at affordable rates with a high level of customer service and share in our success. The return a member receives is based on their patronage and our profit margin from that particular year.

It's rare that a customer gets money back from a service provider. The cooperative structure allows us to give back to those who make us successful. It is truly providing service at cost.

**If you were a member of the cooperative in 2001 and/or 2014 and accrued more than \$10 in total capital credit allocations, but do not receive a check by September 26, please contact Paul Bunyan Communications at (218) 444-1234 in Bemidji or (218) 999-1234 in Grand Rapids.**



Leading Lights Editor-in-Chief Ray Le Maistre (left) and PBC Information Technology & Development Manager Steve Howard (right)

# GIGAZONE™

## Paul Bunyan Communications Wins 2015 Leading Lights National Award

### GigaZone Named Most Innovative Gigabit Broadband Service

Paul Bunyan Communications has been named the winner of the Most Innovative Gigabit Broadband Service for its GigaZone project in the Light Reading 2015 Leading Lights awards program. The national award recognizes the communications provider that has launched the most innovative Gigabit Broadband service during the past year. The other finalists for the award were large national or regional corporations including AT&T, C Spire, and TDS Telecom.

The cooperative announced the gigabit project last fall and it will be one of the largest gigabit networks in rural America when the project is done. Already over 7,800 locations in northern Minnesota are in the GigaZone and an estimated 20,000+ will be reached by the end of this year. The project is expected to take a few years but is progressing ahead of schedule. Once completed it will include the cooperative's entire service territory of over 5,000 square miles.

"We are honored to receive this award for our GigaZone project. It is one of the first gigabit network initiatives that will encompass a large rural area and I think that is significant. Many of the gigabit network projects taking place are in small portions of densely populated metropolitan areas. Too often, the more challenging rural America gets overlooked. That's not the case here in northern Minnesota and we are thrilled that Light Reading acknowledged our efforts." said Gary Johnson, Paul Bunyan Communications CEO/General Manager

The Leading Lights program, the telecom industry's most prestigious awards program, focuses on next-generation communications technologies, applications, services, and strategies. The Leading Lights winners were announced at an awards dinner at Chicago's Field Museum on Monday, June 8 to coincide with the Big Telecom Event.

"The volume and quality of the entries we received across our 24 categories shows how seriously the industry takes these awards, which are now in their 11th year," stated Light Reading Editor-in-Chief Ray Le Maistre. "The winners are an exceptional group of companies that have every right to be proud of their achievements and progress during the past year." added Le Maistre.



# Channels Added to PBTv, HD, and PBTv Everywhere



**CHANNEL 20**  
BELTRAMI, HUBBARD, AND  
CASS COUNTIES ONLY

**Decades** utilizes a library of more than 100 classic television series, including select titles from the CBS library such as *I Love Lucy* from the 1950s, *Star Trek* from the 1960s, *Happy Days* from the 1970s and *Cheers* from the 1980s, as well as a wide selection of theatrical and made-for-television movies and footage of historical news events from the archives of CBS News and Entertainment Tonight. Decades will provide viewers with a new way to experience our shared historical and cultural past.



**CHANNEL 21**  
BELTRAMI, HUBBARD, AND  
CASS COUNTIES ONLY

**The Justice Network**, a new broadcast network out of Minneapolis, has been added to the PBTv lineup

The Justice Network features more than 500 hours of crime and mystery programming, including shows such as *Alaska State Troopers*, *Body of Evidence*, *LA Forensics*, *Masterminds* and more.

The Justice Network also offers safety tips and ask viewers to help track down most wanted criminals and missing children each hour.



**CHANNEL 967 OR 1067**

**KKCW 96.7** Owned by R&J Broadcasting Inc., KKCQ serves the area with local news, sports, weather and farm information as well as professional and college sports to include, Minnesota Viking football, Minnesota Twins Baseball, Minnesota Wild hockey, Minnesota Timberwolves basketball, NDSU Bison football, NFL & NCAA sports from Westwood One and more! KKCQ also broadcasts high school sports for area high schools including Red Lake and Blackduck.



**CHANNEL 800**

**The Weather Channel HD** is now available to all PBTv HD subscribers. Through The Weather Channel, weather.com, Weather Underground, Intellicast.com and third-party publishing partners, the Weather Channel provides millions of people every day with the world's best weather forecasts, content and data, connecting with them through television, online, mobile and tablet screens.



**CHANNEL 600**

**WGN America HD** features entertainment programming including the original, scripted series "Salem," "Manhattan," "Outsiders" and "Ten Commandments," along with first-run syndicated series, blockbuster movies and live sports. For more information, visit [wgnamerica.com](http://wgnamerica.com).



**CHANNEL 517**

**KBSU HD** Can't make it to the game? Watch BSU Football home games this fall and BSU Men's and Women's Basketball NSIC Conference home games this winter in high definition on KBSU-17 with PBTv! PBTv HD subscribers can find KBSU HD on channel 517. KBSU is also available to all PBTv digital subscribers in standard definition on channel 17.



**Fox Sports Go is now a part of PBTv Everywhere!** FOX Sports GO provides live video for the biggest events and the best shows for sports fanatics everywhere. Stream live sports content from FOX Sports, FOX Sports 1, FOX Sports 2, Fox Sports North, and FOX College Sports. Catch NFL, MLB, NBA, college football and basketball, NASCAR, UFC and much more. FOX Sports GO is available on FOX-SportsGO.com, iOS, Android and Windows tablets & phones, Amazon Fire TV & phone and Kindle Fire tablet. PBTv customers can watch programs on their computer, smart phone, gaming systems, or tablet with PBTv Everywhere. It's free and all you need is Internet access. Some restrictions may apply.



# In the Community



## Project Lifesaver

Paul Bunyan Communications recently made a donation to Project Lifesaver, a public safety program through the Beltrami County Sheriff's Department. Project Lifesaver is designed to use state of the art technology in assisting those who care for victims of Alzheimer's dementia, Autism, Down Syndrome, and any other cognitive condition that causes wandering. The program places personalized radio transmitters on identified persons which assist caregivers and emergency agencies in locating those who cannot help themselves.

Pictured are Brian Bissonette, Paul Bunyan Communications Marketing Supervisor and Project Lifesaver to Beltrami County Sheriff's Deputy Scott Hinners.



## 4-H Robotics Program

Paul Bunyan Communications recently made a donation to the regional 4-H Robotics program. This is the 4th consecutive year the cooperative has been a major donor to the program which supports Robotics programs throughout the region served by Paul Bunyan Communications.

Pictured with the check (left to right) are Chloe Keprios, Paul Bunyan Communications Account Executive and Ann Marie Ward, 4-H Program Coordinator. They are surrounded by members of the Beltrami County 4-H Robotics team.



**Enter to win!**  
**Samsung**  
**GALAXY Tab 3**



## Taking Care of Business Event

Join Paul Bunyan Communications at the 5th annual "Taking Care of Business!" event held by the Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday, October 7th from 4:00 - 7:00 pm at Timberlake Lodge.

Admission is free and a chance to learn about a wide variety of Grand Rapids chamber businesses plus get in to win great door prizes.

Be sure to stop by the Paul Bunyan Communications booth to learn more about the communication services our cooperative can provide you, get a free gift while supplies last, and get in to win a Samsung Galaxy 3 tablet!

**JULY**

Paul Bunyan Communications Board of Directors conducted its monthly meeting on July 8, 2015. Also present were CEO and General Manager Gary Johnson, CFO Dave Schultz and Administrative Assistant Elaine Iverson.

- The Manager updated the board on our CLEC projects. New member sign-ups in the rural Park Rapids and Trout Lake areas were discussed. GigaZone activations were reviewed and 2015 construction for new activations was discussed. The promotion of GigaZone service was discussed. Upcoming construction in the Blackduck exchange was discussed. Access lines for the ILEC were reviewed.
- Digital video was discussed. PBTv Lite options were discussed.
- The Manager updated the Board on data services.
- The management team reviewed with the board a financial and construction five-year forecast for offering GigaZone service. Grant areas were also noted.
- Network Operations Manager Rob St. Clair reviewed construction plans and fiber cable needs for 2016. Following discussion, a motion was made, seconded and carried to accept the low quote presented for the fiber purchase for 2016 construction.
- The Manager gave his monthly report. He stated he participated in a forward looking roundtable discussion on broadband with Red Lake Tribal Band leaders.
- The May 2015 financial report was reviewed.
- Thank you letters and correspondence were reviewed.
- The delinquent accounts and new member lists were reviewed.

**AUGUST**

Paul Bunyan Communications Board of Directors conducted its monthly meeting on August 6, 2015. Also present were CEO and General Manager Gary Johnson, CFO Dave Schultz and Administrative Assistant Elaine Iverson

- The Manager updated the board on our CLEC projects. New member sign-ups in the rural Park Rapids and Trout Lake areas were discussed. GigaZone activations were reviewed and 2015 construction for new activations was discussed. Upcoming construction in the Blackduck exchange for this fall was discussed. Access lines for the ILEC were reviewed.
- Digital video was discussed. PBTv Lite options were discussed.
- The Manager updated the Board on data services.
- The board reviewed the NTCA Standing Committees for 2016 and designated their interest to serve on any of the committees.
- A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve two broadband construction fund checks to reimburse general funds.
- Digital Services Supervisor Leo Anderson reviewed a proposal with the board to purchase monitoring software for our digital television service. A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the purchase with the quote presented.
- An expansion opportunity was reviewed and discussed.
- The Manager gave his monthly report.
- The June 2015 financial report was reviewed.
- Thank you letters and correspondence were reviewed.
- The delinquent accounts and new member lists were reviewed.

# GigaZone Activated for Thousands in Bemidji and Grand Rapids



The GigaZone is quickly becoming one of the largest Gigabit networks in the United States. While only activated just 9 months ago, the GigaZone is currently available to over 9,400 locations including all of the cooperative's service area of rural Park Rapids, Lake George, Trout Lake Township east of Grand Rapids, and areas of Bemidji and now Grand Rapids.

Most recently over 2,800 locations in the Bemidji area were upgraded in June and over 2,100 locations in Grand Rapids were upgraded in September and are now in the GigaZone. GigaZone upgrades are expected by the end of the year in the remaining areas of Grand Rapids currently served by the cooperative.

To find out if you are in the GigaZone or when it may be coming to you, visit [paulbunyan.net/gigazone/map/](http://paulbunyan.net/gigazone/map/)

"We have already seen the demand for GigaZone services from the region with lots of people wondering when it will reach their location. The online map of the active areas and plans for this year is a great resource for those interested in checking on their specific location." added Brian Bissonette, Paul Bunyan Communications Marketing Supervisor.

GigaZone service options include unprecedented Broadband Internet speeds of up to 1000 Mbps – a Gigabit. Members who subscribe to GigaZone Broadband can also add PBTv Fusion and/or low cost unlimited local and long distance GigaZone voice service. All current service options also remain available to cooperative members within the GigaZone.

Most current wireless routers cannot support blazing GigaZone Internet speeds. To help, the cooperative is offering GigaZone Integrated Wi-Fi that uses the latest in advanced Wi-Fi technologies to maximize the in-home wireless experience. This service is free to all new GigaZone customers for the first six months, with a minimal charge thereafter.



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email: info@paulbunyan.net  
online: paulbunyan.net



### BEMIDJI

1831 Anne St. NW  
Bemidji, MN 56601  
Phone (218) 444.1234  
Toll Free (888) 586.3100  
Monday - Friday 7:30 am - 6:00 pm  
Saturday 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

### Paul Bunyan Net

Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 7:00 pm  
Saturday 8:00 am - 4:30 pm  
NOTE: No walk-in customers after 6:00 pm, phone support only

### GRAND RAPIDS

Grand Square  
1220 S. Pokegama Ave.  
Grand Rapids, MN 55744  
Phone (218) 999.1234  
Toll Free (888) 586.3100  
Monday - Friday 7:30 am - 6:00 pm  
Saturday 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President Kathy Peterson, District 3**  
*Inger-Wirt, Squaw Lake*

**Vice President Jim Tarbell, District 4**  
*Cohasset, Deer River, Grand Rapids*

**Secretary Gary Eklund, District 1**  
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COMMUNICATIONS™

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