

# GVTC PARTY LINE

GUADALUPE VALLEY TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE INC.

APRIL 2002

## APRIL PROMOTIONS

### Voice Mail

Residential and business customers can order Voice Mail and pay only \$1.00 for the first month. Additional months priced at \$4.95 per month. Never miss that important call!

### DSL Internet

Contact the business office today or visit our web site [www.gvtc.com](http://www.gvtc.com) to find out about the DSL discounts and save up to \$194.00.

### Cingular Wireless

Never pay long distance or roaming charges again! Receive 3,750 minutes for just \$29.99! That's 250 anytime minutes with 3,500 bonus NATIONAL night weekend minutes - all with no long distance or roaming. Call the business office today or visit the web site [www.gvtc.com](http://www.gvtc.com) for details on the five new

**NATIONAL RATE PLANS AVAILABLE.**



**Guadalupe Valley**  
TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE INC.

36101 FM 3159  
New Braunfels, Texas  
78132-5900

Phone: (830) 885-4411  
Toll Free: (800) 367-4882  
Fax: (830) 885-2400  
Web: [www.gvtc.com](http://www.gvtc.com)

## IN SEARCH OF... DIRECTORY COVER CONTEST

Guadalupe Valley Telephone Cooperative (GVTC) is once again in search of that special painting or photograph for the 2002-2003 Telephone Directory. The artist must be a member of GVTC. The item can be of any reasonable size but preferably of a proportion similar to the current directory cover. The item will remain the property of the artist, who must sign an agreement allowing GVTC first publication rights to use their artwork on its directory cover. One entry per member will be allowed. We invite you to join the search and submit a painting or photograph before Wednesday, May 1, 2002. If you have any questions, please contact Ola Armstrong, Vice-President of Public Relations at 830 885-4411 or 1-800-367-4882.



## DOES GVTC OWE YOU MONEY?

We need your help to find hundreds of people to whom Guadalupe Valley Telephone Cooperative (GVTC) owes capital credit checks! In April 2002, GVTC will introduce a new link on our web site, [www.gvtc.com](http://www.gvtc.com), entitled "Do We Owe You Money?" On this web page, viewers may peruse the list, using the last name of a member, in an easy alphabetical search format. For instance, you may call up a list of last names beginning with the letters A or B or C, etc. In many instances our efforts to distribute the payments were unsuccessful due to the fact that the initial checks were returned by the Post Office. Each November, GVTC is required to send unclaimed monies to the State of Texas. Therefore, if you are on this list or if you know anyone who is on this list please have him or her call our office to verify their membership and we will promptly send them their check.

## MORE DSL SITES

In our continuing effort to bring Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) Internet service to the GVTC Membership the following new sites scheduled to be added during the second quarter of 2002 are:

- Sun Valley Village
- Emerald Valley
- FM 1116 (Cost)
- Pleasant Valley
- Waterstone
- Mountain Lodge

Upon completion of these sites, Guadalupe Valley Telephone Cooperative will have updated 56 sites with DSL technology. #57676 Visit our web site at [www.gvtc.com](http://www.gvtc.com) to see if DSL is available in your area! Sign up today and enjoy discounted installation with savings up to \$194.00.

Authorized Agent of

 **cingular**<sup>SM</sup>  
WIRELESS

NOTE: GVTC & GVCS offices will be closed on Friday, March 29, 2002, in observance of Good Friday.

# CALL BEFORE YOU DIG IT'S THE LAW

**Toll Free 1-800 DIG-TESS (1-800-344-8377)**

Did you know Texas Law requires excavators to contact a notification center at least 48 hours before digging? This free service is designed to reduce the chance of injury, damage to public or private property and loss or interruption of services vital to public safety. So, before construction starts, call for a free facilities locate.

## Here's how to place your call:

1. Call 1-800-DIG-TESS (1-800-344-8377).

2. An operator at the center will record the following required information:

- Your telephone number, name, fax number, email address
- If applicable, company name and address
- City or closest town, county, street address or nearest street intersection
- Latitude / longitude (if known)
- Type of work, length of job
- Blasting (yes or no)
- Remarks or directions

3. Then the operator will provide you with the names of the companies & notification centers.

4. The "Location Request Message" is then forwarded to the owners of the underground facility companies and to all other registered notification centers in Texas.

5. Upon notification, the underground Facility Company or operator dispatches a technician to mark the locations of facilities at the excavation site. These marks are color-coded as follows:

- **Red** - Electric Power lines, cables, conduit & lighting cables
- **Yellow** - Gas, oil, steam, petroleum or gaseous material
- **Orange** - Communication, alarm or signal lines, cables, or conduit
- **Blue** - Water, irrigation and slurry lines
- **Green** - Sewers and drain lines
- **Purple** - Reclaimed water
- **Pink** - Temporary survey markings
- **White** - Proposed excavation

**It's easy, simple and It's the LAW!**

# THERE'S A BETTER WAY TO PAY YOUR BILLS.

Over twelve hundred Guadalupe Valley Telephone Cooperative (GVTC) members have enrolled in GVTC's FREE Electronic Billing (E-Billing) program to pay and receive their telephone bills on-line. This E-Billing service provides an electronic version of your GVTC paper bill that can be viewed from any computer with Internet access. That's right, it means NO more check books and NO more stamps or envelopes! As an added bonus, beginning in April 2002, the announcement page that appears as a bill insert each month will now be available on the web site.

## It's easy to get started:

- Log onto the GVTC web site, [www.gvtc.com](http://www.gvtc.com),
- Click on the E-Billing icon
- Enroll now to receive this absolutely FREE safe, secure service.
- Once enrolled you will be prompted to create and enter your password. This secure log-in and password is designed to protect your account and privacy.
- Now you can see your GVTC telephone bill just like you would on paper. Simply choose the bill(s) to pay, the date to pay and payment method (credit card or electronic bank draft). All payment methods are encrypted in our database for security.
- If you prefer, you may elect to have recurring payments. This means you can set up your account to automatically pay the Total Amount Due each month.

**NEW!!**  
**E-Billing**  
**PAY YOUR GVTC BILL ONLINE**

With GVTC's E-Billing you can even automate payments while you're out of town, or view and pay your bills from anywhere! Once enrolled in the program, you can access previous bills or check your payment history with just a click of the mouse. #22002 Members will continue to receive a paper bill for 3-months after enrollment.

Why is GVTC offering E-Billing to its customers? We at GVTC are extremely motivated to provide our customers with the latest in technology and services. Therefore, when customers expressed a need to pay their bills by credit cards or electronic bank drafts we developed GVTC E-Billing. With GVTC E-Billing they can achieve this solution and much more.

If you do not have Internet access, you can still participate and pay your GVTC telephone bills with an electronic bank draft or credit card by simply calling the business office.

## GVTC SELECTS NEW DIRECTORY PUBLISHER

### The Berry Company #1 Directory Publisher in the World!

Guadalupe Valley Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (GVTC) entered into a multi-year contractual agreement with The Berry Company to market, publish and distribute the GVTC telephone directory. The Berry Company is a national Yellow Pages sales and publishing company with over 110 telephone company customers and one million advertisers. "We are very pleased to have The Berry Company as our new telephone directory publisher," GVTC Senior Vice President & C.O.O, Robert Hunt said.

"This was not an easy decision. Our selection process lasted quite a few months with several of the top publishing companies competing. Overall our decision was based upon the fact that The Berry Company brings our company more than 92 years of unparalleled quality, proven sales and marketing techniques, and a firm commitment to customer satisfaction."

## Find Your LUCKY NUMBER!

Two lucky member numbers are hidden in this issue of Party Line. Find YOUR member number after a # sign in the text of this newsletter and you're a winner! The number must match your member number (from your GVTC statement). This month GVTC is giving each of the two winners a \$20.00 GVTC Gift Certificate, to be applied to your phone bill. If you are a winner in this newsletter call Mrs. Janet S. Sczech, Manager Sales & Marketing at GVTC: (830) 885-4411 or toll-free 1 (800) 367-4882.