



Gigs & Grants

at the Grandover

**TRI-STATE TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE AND
EXHIBITOR SHOW
JUNE 4 - 6, 2023**

THE GRANDOVER RESORT AND SPA, GREENSBORO, NC

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Tri-State Technology Conference and Exhibitor Show
“Gigs and Grants at the Grandover”
June 4-6, 2023
Grandover Resort and Spa
1000 Club Rd., Greensboro, NC 27407
www.grandover.com 1-800-472-6301

Thank you to the Tri-State Planning Committee
 Focus Broadband- Tim Smith, Brandon Wilkins
 Randolph Communications- Daniel Nicodemus, Jeff Rice
 Skyline- Brian Tester, Robbie Farmer
 Star- Joseph Andrews
 Surry- Andy Hull, Scott Mosley
 Zirrus- Patrick Gray
 RiverStreet- Heather Berrier

Agenda:

Sunday, June 4, 2023

3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Exhibitor Set UP

6:00 pm – 7:30 p.m.

Dinner Reception in Exhibitor Showcase

Grandville Ballroom

Monday, June 5

7:00 – 8:00 am

Breakfast Buffet – In Exhibitor’s Showcase

8:00 – 11:45 am

General Session

8:00 – 8:10 am

“Welcome to Tri-State”

8:15 – 9:00 am

“Architectural Evolution and Network Deployment Challenges in a Gigabit World and Beyond”

Craig Hugueley, AMT

9:05 – 9:35 am

“UNC Health’s Virtual Journey: The Impact of Connectivity and Access to Healthcare”

**Barbara S. Edson, UNC Health
Amir H. Barzin, UNC Health**

9:35 – 10:15 am

Refreshment Break - In Exhibitor’s Showcase

10:15 – 11:15 am

“Grants, Protests, Solving the Puzzles – View from State Broadband Offices”

**Nate Denny, NCDIT
Caroline Luxhoj, VATI**

11:20 – 11:50 am

“Robocall Mitigation”

Mike Twomey, Eastwind

11:50 am

Break for Tri-State Golf Tournament

1:00 pm

Tri-State Golf Tournament - Grandover Golf Course

6:30 pm – 8:00 pm **Tri-State BBQ Celebration for All Attendees at the Grandover Grandville Lawn**

Tuesday, June 6

7:00 – 8:00 am **Breakfast Buffet– In Exhibitor’s Showcase**

8:00 – 1:00 pm **General Session**

8:00 – 8:45 am *“Federal Perspectives and Updates”* Jill Canfield, NTCA

8:45 – 9:30 am *“Underground Damage: NC811 Update”* Louis Panser, NC811

9:30 – 10:00 am *“Handling the Rigors of Mapping and Grant Compliance”* Farhan Chughtai, JSI

10:00 – 10:45 am Refreshment Break – In Exhibitor’s Showcase

10:45 – 12:00 am *“Company Perspectives- Manager’s Roundtable”*
Kim Shepherd, Skyline TMC
Bill Franklin, Scott County TMC
Mark Brown, Farmers TMC

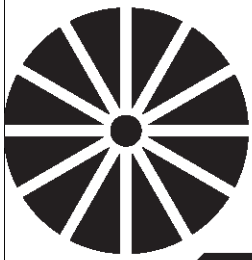
12:05 – 12:35 *“Improving PON Construction Issues and Monitoring Timeframes”*
Stephen Knight, Viavi

12:45 pm Wrap Up and door prizes



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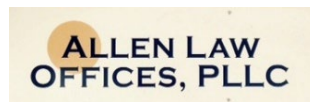
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2023 Tri State Speakers

Craig Hugueley, AMT, “Architectural Evolution and Network Deployment Challenges in a Gigabit World and Beyond”

Craig Hugueley has 23 years of Cable TV Experience in both Sales and Engineering. He is currently the Sales Director at Advanced Media Technologies (AMT). Before working at AMT, he was a Sales Director and Access Specialist for CommScope, ARRIS, and Motorola for 10 years. For more than 7 years prior to working at Motorola, Craig held various engineering positions at both Adelphia and TWC with his last four years at TWC working as a Senior Director & VP of Engineering. He has significant experience architecting and managing large scale networks and was a technical white paper author at ARRIS. Craig has his MBA, and he has all but his dissertation completed on his management doctorate.

NOTES:

Barbara Edson & Dr. Amir H. Barzin, “UNC Health’s Virtual Journey: The Impact of Connectivity and Access to Healthcare”

Ms. Edson serves as the Executive Director for the UNC Health Virtual Care Center (VCC). Establishing the Center in 2017, she leads telehealth initiatives across the health care system driving utilization and adoption. She applies her implementation, patient safety and leadership knowledge and experience to telehealth implementation of provider-to-provider and provider to direct-to-consumers solutions and programs. Prior to her taking on this role she served in a VP, Clinical Quality at Health Research and Educational Trust (HRET) of the American Hospital Association. There she led several large federally funded projects to improve quality and safety in our nation's hospitals, nursing homes and ambulatory surgical care centers. At a state level, Ms. Edson, was the Director of Collaborative Learning for the NC Quality Center at the NC Hospital Association.

In her nursing career Ms. Edson had extensive experience in pediatric nursing and hospital leadership positions. She is a Master TeamSTEPPS trainer and has been a state Baldrige examiner. She has a BSN from Marquette University, an MBA/MHA from Pfeiffer University, and has completed IHI Patient Safety Officer training and obtained Just Culture Certification from Outcome Engenuity.

She has co-authored several articles and studies on safety, quality, infection prevention and telehealth. Ms. Edson has served on the National Patient Safety Board of Governors. Ms. Edson works to combine her interest in quality, safety, implementation, delivery models and organizational culture to improve patient outcomes and experience.

Amir Barzin, DO, MS, FAAFP attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill as a Morehead-Cain scholar and received an undergraduate degree (BS) in Biology. He next returned to Texas where he received a

Master of Science (MS) in Medical Science from the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth and his medical degree at the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine. As someone who loved Chapel Hill, he was thrilled to return to UNC and complete his residency in Family Medicine. After doing a Chief Resident Fellowship, he has remained with the UNC School of Medicine Department of Family Medicine. He has served in various leadership roles within the department including the Family Medicine Inpatient Service Line Director, Medical Director of The Family Medicine Center at Chapel Hill, and the UNC Urgent Care at The Family Medicine Center at Chapel Hill. He currently serves as the Medical Director for UNC Health Virtual Care Services and the UNC Health Clinical Contact Center. Over the past few years, he has led various divisions of the COVID response for both UNC Health and UNC-Chapel Hill including establishing and being the Director and Lead Physician of the Carolina Together Testing Program. While at UNC, Barzin has received various teaching awards and clinical care awards including the Robert Cefalo UNCH Housestaff Award, the Hyman Battle Distinguished Excellence in Teaching Award, the C. Knox Massey Distinguished Service Award, UNC School of Medicine Distinguished Service Award, and the UNC HBH Friend of Nursing Award.

NOTES:

Nate Denny, NCDIT, “Grants, Protests – Solving the Puzzles – View From State Broadband Office”

Nate Denny was named deputy secretary of the N.C. Department of Information Technology’s Broadband and Digital Equity Division in May 2021. He previously served as NCDIT's chief of staff and legislative director. Before joining NCDIT in 2017, Nate was a presidential appointee at the U.S. General Services Administration in Washington, D.C., where he served as deputy chief of staff, director of intergovernmental affairs and senior advisor for congressional affairs.

NOTES:

Mike Twomey, Eastwind, “Robocall Mitigation”

Leading Eastwind Communications’ Product Management and Technical Support efforts, Mike Twomey has over 20 years of experience in a variety of roles working with service providers to deploy new technologies and solutions. Over the past several years, Mike has been focused on working with providers and vendors to successfully deploy and manage Robocall Mitigation and STIR/SHAKEN solutions.

NOTES:

Jill Canfield, NTCA, “Federal Perspectives and Updates”

Jill Canfield is General Counsel and Vice President of Policy at NTCA – the Rural Broadband Association. With more than 25 years of telecommunications law experience, Ms. Canfield advocates on behalf of NTCA’s 850 small and rural telecommunications providers, overseeing wireless, video, cybersecurity and consumer matters. Ms. Canfield also serves as in-house counsel.

Ms. Canfield began her legal career at an associate at a DC law firm specializing in telecommunications law and worked in broadcasting before attending law school.

Ms. Canfield holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University, and a Juris Doctor from Syracuse University College of Law. She is a member of the New York State and District of Columbia bars and is certified for corporate practice in Virginia.

NOTES:

Louis Panzer, NC811, “Underground Damages: NC811 Update”

Louis has been an active participant in the underground damage prevention space for over 25 years. He has worked in the development of software to enhance field mapping, 811 processes and spoken through the industry about best practices. Mr. Panzer has served as Executive Director of NC 811 since 2011. He has published an industry text as well as multiple research papers to help others understand the process, trends and direct and indirect causes of damages. He firmly believes in the concept of damage prevention as a shared responsibility.

NOTES:

Farhan Chughtai, JSI, “Handling the Rigors of Mapping & Grant Compliance

Farhan Chughtai is a Senior Policy Broadband Counsel at JSI with over 10 years of experience in telecommunications policy and regulatory affairs. His issues of focus include consumer protection, broadband labels, broadband funding, privacy, data protection, 911 reliability, and digital equity. Farhan was previously Director of State Government Affairs at Charter Communications. He advocated to all State Attorneys General on behalf of Charter and helped lead their efforts to secure over \$1.2 billion in federal broadband grant funding through RDOF. Before Charter Communications, Farhan worked as Director of Policy and Advocacy at USTelecom, focusing on federal regulatory and consumer protection issues at the Federal Communications Commission on behalf of carriers such as Verizon, AT&T, Century-Link, and Frontier. Farhan also has experience working at the Wireless Infrastructure Association, Time Warner Cable, and the Virginia General

Assembly. Farhan received his J.D. from American University Washington College of Law and M.A. from the American University School of International Service.

NOTES:

Bill Franklin, Scott County TMC; Mark Brown, Farmers TMC; & Kim Shepherd, Skyline TMC, “Company Perspectives – Manager’s Roundtable”

Bill Franklin is a Father, Papaw (Daddy Bill), former Teacher, Coach, Banker, Farmer, and Telco Executive. Bill has been serving Scott County Telephone Cooperative for 35 years. He served on the Board of Directors for 8 years and has served as CEO for the last 28 years. Bill lives with his family on the family farm he grew up on. Bill serves on several local Boards, some Regional Boards and one National Board. Bill and his constituents have built many relationships while serving Scott County Telephone Cooperative, including partnerships with wireless carriers, planning districts, economic development authorities, municipalities, and the neighboring electric cooperative. Bill would like to share some of Scott County Telephone Cooperatives relationships and how they were built.

Mark H. Brown, PE, started his career with Farmers Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (FTC) as a summer employee in 1994. He then joined FTC's Corporate Engineering Department in 1995 via the Cooperative Education program offered by Clemson University. Mark graduated in 1998 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering and was hired by FTC as an Engineering Trainee. He was promoted to Senior Plant Designer in 1999, and to Plant Design Supervisor in 2002. Mark became the Construction Certifier and Certification Coordinator for FTC under the RUS Construction Certification Program in 2010. Mark is responsible for overseeing the design, contracts, and records of FTC's construction. He completed an Outside Plant Records Modernization Project that converted legacy CAD maps to a GPS accurate mapping system in 2007. Currently, Mark is focused on FTC's FTTH buildout and various state and federal grant programs FTC participates in.

Mrs. Shepherd is the CEO of SkyLine Membership Corporation in West Jefferson, NC. She has worked for the cooperative for the past 25 years and assumed her current role in July 2018. Prior to being named CEO, Mrs. Shepherd served as Chief Management Officer from 2016-2018 overseeing all operations of the company. Mrs. Shepherd has also provided leadership in the areas of customer service operations through her responsibilities as Executive Director of Customer Operations from 2011 – 2016 and Customer Service and Sales Manager from 2002 – 2011. Mrs. Shepherd holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mathematics and Secondary Education from Appalachian State University and a Master of Business Administration from Gardner-Webb University. She serves on various industry boards including Carolina West Wireless, Telecom Insurance Group, Access On Networks, Inc., Carolina/Virginias Broadband Membership Association, North Carolina Broadband Cooperative Coalition, Tennessee Broadband Association, North Carolina Rural Center and she currently serves on the Board of Trustees at Appalachian State University. Kim and her husband, Derek, reside in Warrensville, NC and they have two children. They are members of Pleasant View Baptist Church in Lansing, NC

NOTES:

Steven Knight, Viavi, “Improving Construction Issues and Monitoring Timeframes”

Stephen Knight is an experienced executive with over 38 years Telecommunications experience. He is currently a business development manager working for Viavi Solutions. He has experience in sales, sales engineering and has held senior management positions in a variety of telecommunications verticals, including Lab Evaluation, Educational Services, Third Tier Support, Stephen has also held VP of Operation positions managing, Field Operations, Service Delivery, Service Assurance/NOC, Change Management, and OSS. Stephen has serviced as an adjunct telecommunications professor and has written many white papers, Stephen is a graduate of the Oklahoma State Technology University.

NOTES:



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