



# Bell Ringer

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## OCTOBER IS COOP MONTH

October is Coop Month, so it's the perfect time to celebrate why Coops are great! If you have services with ITC, you are most likely an ITC Coop member. Being a part of a Coop has many benefits; here are a few.

Cooperatives have existed for many years, but the important values from years ago remain the same. These core values have provided guidance when making important decisions for ITC.

When you join a Coop, you are a member. You have a voice. You also have a vote regarding changes made in the Coop and the directors that represent our communities. Not many companies can say that.

One of the top benefits is capital credits. ITC has been paying out capital credits to its members for years and has paid out over \$26 million in the last five years! ITC is able to provide capital credits to the members because you support the products and services provided by your Coop. Your support also makes it possible to offer the latest technologies at affordable rates. For those who could not attend the Annual Meeting in September, Tracy Bandemer, ITC's CEO, announced that approximately \$10.6 million in capital credits would be paid out again this December (Picture shown on the right.) These capital credits checks will include 2013 and 2014 in full, 25% of 2021, and 10% of 2023. It is our biggest payout yet!

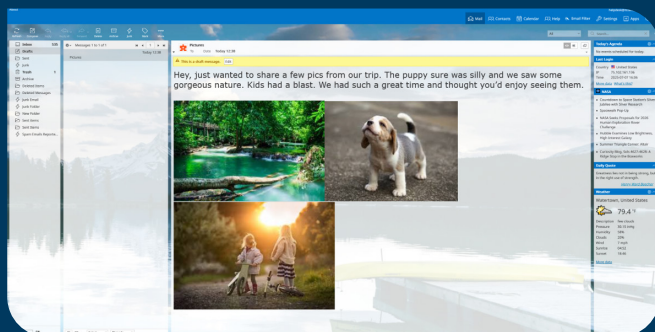
Besides being a Coop, ITC's employees and Board of Directors help make this Coop what it is today. They live in the same communities as you, making it their business to bring you the latest technologies possible.

Thank you for supporting ITC, your local Cooperative. Happy National Coop Month!



## WEBMAIL IS GETTING A NEW LOOK

ITC is upgrading your Webmail! You might notice some new features and a slightly different layout, but everything you usually do in Webmail will still work as before. Because this is an official change from ITC, you don't need to click anything or take any special steps to get this upgrade. Your login will work the same as always, and all your messages are safe and sound. Learn more about the new Webmail on the back.



Since we are making a change in Webmail, we wanted to remind you that ITC will not send an email asking you to verify your username or password or to log in using a special link. If you receive an email like this, please delete it and do not follow the instructions. These messages are likely scams.

Thanks for being a part of ITC, and enjoy your refreshed Webmail experience!

### NEW WEBMAIL

*By Michael Martinell, Network Broadband Technician*

Big changes are coming to your inbox, and this time, it's the kind you'll actually look forward to. At the ITC Annual Meeting, we shared the exciting news that a brand-new Webmail is on the way, and it's packed with features designed to make your online life easier, smarter, and even more fun.

#### Out of Office

For starters, Out of Office Replies, one of the most-requested features, is finally here. Going on vacation? Heading out for the weekend? Or want a little digital peace and quiet? Now you can set up automatic responses so people know you're away. No more scrambling to send last-minute "I'll get back to you Monday" emails.

#### Security

Your security will get a boost, too. The new Webmail will show you your Last Login Info, including the IP address of your most recent sign-in. In plain English, if someone logs into your account from a strange location, you'll know immediately.

#### Fun Upgrades

There are plenty of fun upgrades, too. Imagine opening your email in the morning and being greeted with a fresh Daily Quote to kick off the day, or glancing at the built-in Weather Updates so you know whether to grab a jacket before heading out. There's even a News Ticker so that you can stay in the loop.

#### Customization

Let's talk about customization. The new Webmail lets you choose your backgrounds, color schemes, and even "skins." Translation: you're no longer stuck with the same old plain white inbox. Make it as bright, bold, or as calming as you like. Think of it as giving your email a fresh coat of paint.

#### Advanced Filtering

For the email power-users out there, Advanced Filtering Rules will be a game-changer. Want all your shopping receipts sent straight to a "Receipts" folder? Done. Prefer that newsletters skip the inbox and land neatly in a "Reading" folder? Easy. It's like training your inbox to clean up after itself.

#### IMAP

Of course, you don't have to use Webmail if you prefer an email program like Outlook, Apple Mail, or Thunderbird. You're free to set those up, too. However, we recommend using IMAP instead of POP. Why? Because IMAP keeps your messages safely stored on ITC's servers and synced across all your devices, you'll always see the same up-to-date inbox no matter where you check your email. And if you stick with Webmail, it already works that way by default.

Put simply, this new Webmail is more than just a facelift. It's smarter, safer, and way more customizable. Whether you're in it for the convenience, the extra security, or fun touches like quotes and weather, there's something for everyone.

### PARENTAL CONTROLS

*By Holly Stormo, Marketing Communications Specialist*

The next ITC University class topic is Parental Controls. This class will be pre-recorded and available to watch in October. We will include parental controls for your phone and your home Internet. We will review tips for keeping your kids or grandkids safe while browsing online.

Go to our website at [www.itc-web.com/itcuniversity](http://www.itc-web.com/itcuniversity) and scroll to the bottom to check out this class and others.

### PICTURE RECAP OF ITC'S ANNUAL MEETING



The ITC Annual Meeting took place on September 10, 2025, with the theme of "Future Ready Connections: Leveling Up for Tomorrow!"

Board President, G. Todd Garry, presented to a great turnout of ITC members.



Staff gave members rides from their cars to make attending easier.

Board Treasurer, Susan Robbins, announced that ITC is Debt Free!



CSRs checked memberships before the meeting and handed out our free gift.

