



Andy Smith was "Ma Bell" for the Capay Valley from 1948 to 1988, as sole owner and operator of Capay Valley Telephone System, Inc.

Capay Valley Telephone System, Inc.



Capay subscribers—There is no charge on calls to Guinda if you dial 941 for Guinda numbers.

CAPAY AREA

GUINDA AREA

H-60125

Andrew "Drew" or "Andy" Elmer Smith was born Feb. 26, 1922 in Guinda and was a life-long Yolo County resident. Mr. Smith was a 1940 graduate of Esparto High School and spent two years in the U.S. Navy. From 1948 through 1988, he was the owner of Capay Valley Telephone System Inc., and affectionately known locally as "Andy the one-man telephone company." He was also a life member of VFW Post No. 7143, American Legion, Fraternal Order of Eagles, 50-year member of Golden Sheaf National Grange--and, of course, a member of *Telephone Pioneers of America*.

Ok, how many of you have lived long enough to remember the old crank phones? And 10-22 person party-lines that lasted even longer than that? Well, I do! And I remember Andy Smith, a good friend of my Dad's and a similarly happy soul, living in the beautiful Capay Valley nearly all his life, and for most of that time, singlehandedly running the independent phone company for the whole valley.

As for my memory, growing up as pretty typical "farm kids" we were left along often and given strict instructions on what to do in an emergency--which included how to use the old crank phone and reach a switchboard operator!

Capay Valley Telephone System, Inc.

P.O. Box 7
Guinda, California

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

- Andrew E. Smith President
- Willard F. Smith Vice-President
- John F. Wallace, Jr. Secretary
- Ernest H. Smith Assistant Treasurer
- Presley O. Kent, Jr. Assistant Secretary
- Andrew E. Smith Treasurer and Manager

HOURS OF OPERATING

- CAPAY office dial 24 hours
- GUINDA office
- Weekdays 7:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M.
- Sundays and Holidays 7:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon
- Sundays and Holidays during FIRE SEASON 7:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M.
- Holidays Observed
- New Year's Day Washington's Birthday
- Memorial Day Independence Day
- Labor Day Admission Day
- Armistice Day Thanksgiving
- Christmas

Capay-Guinda Telephone Directory 1

EMERGENCY CALLS

FIRE — Capay Office

Dial 743 (Direct to Fire Station) or Dial 941 and ask Guinda operator for the Capay Valley Fire Truck at Guinda 9 Y 3 — or Dial "0" — Operator and ask for Esparto Stillwell 7-3300.

(Residents in our Capay district dial area are in two different fire districts. Check to see which fire district you are in and call the appropriate number above.)

FIRE — Guinda Office

Ring Operator and ask for Guinda 9 Y 3 stating that you wish to report a fire.

(After the 9:00 P.M. closing time of the GUINDA switchboard the fire truck may be reached from the Guinda pay telephone by asking for Capay 743.)

SHERIFF, Woodland, Calif. MOhawk 2-5401

Resident Deputy Keith Culley Stillwell 7-3767
Esparto, California

CONSTABLES Capay area Dial 713

Guinda Area ask Operator for 18 Y 2

HIGHWAY PATROL

Emergencies only ZEnith 1-2000

AMBULANCE, Woodland MOhawk 2-1714

DOCTOR

Name Telephone Number
(Fill in above information immediately)

HOSPITALS, Woodland, California

Woodland Clinic Memorial MOhawk 2-3961
Yolo General Hospital MOhawk 2-2851

ELECTRIC FAILURES

(Weekdays — 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.)
Winters, California SYcomare 5-4575
(For emergency calls from 5:00 P.M. to 8:00 A.M. and on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays)
Vacaville, California Hlckory 8-6500

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WARNING

The California Penal Code Section 384 makes it a misdemeanor for any person who shall wilfully refuse to immediately relinquish a telephone party-line when informed that such line is needed for an emergency call to a fire department or police department or for medical aid or ambulance service. Also, any person who shall secure the use of a telephone party-line by falsely stating that such line is needed for an emergency call, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. "Emergency" means "a situation in which property or human life is in jeopardy and the prompt summoning of aid is essential."

TELEPHONE SERVICE CALLS

Capay District

- Long Distance Calls Dial "0" Operator
- Numbers not in Directory Dial "0" Operator
- When a telephone is "Out of Order" Dial 941
(Give trouble report to Guinda Operator, not Woodland)
- To report difficulty with local service Dial 941
- To report difficulty with long distance service Dial "0" Operator
- Telephone business matters (when you wish to order a telephone, have your telephone moved, or discuss your bill) Dial 941 and ask th Guinda Operator for the business office.

Guinda District

Report all trouble of any nature to the Guinda Operator.

See back of Directory for other Telephone suggestions

Old Guinda phonebook scans courtesy of Mike Bloom of Guinda.

There would be no “playing on the phone”: everyone knew your distinct ring and many could listen in on your conversation--and your light lit up the switchboard, so a kindly but stern voice would ask, “Which one of you Monroe kids is this?” But when you needed help, it was always there, very personal and generally very caring--don't ya all just miss those days?!

Capay Area 3

Capay Area Subscribers

A	
Anderson Eric A	847
B	
Brackett Joe	961
C	
California State of	
Division of Forestry	746
Capay Tourist Court	891
Capay Valley Fire District	743
Capay Valley Telephone System, Inc.	941
Clara's Place	871
Clark Gilbert	957
Cline W G	713
Country Club	897
Cristler Michael G	761
Cristler Michael G Jr	768
D	
DeLaVergne Fred	982
Duncan May	762
Duncan Roy	764
E	
Eowan George F	951
Esparto Unified School District	
Capay School	791
F	
Faustman L Ada	730

4 Capay Area

G	
Garcia Sabas	986
Garrison Dan F	712
Gillitzer Elmer L	716
Goff A A	740
Gonzales Felipe	760
Gonzalez Philip	733
Gordon C M	747
Gottier Arthur W	971
Gray George A	781
H	
Han John	741
Harris W W	711
Henson J P	867
K	
Karn R D	749
Karn V J	742
Kennnitz J L	735
Kennnitz Richard V	737
Krebsbach Walter	701
Kutsuris Catherine	821
L	
Lamoree H E	777
Lindberg J Tom	744
Louie's Cavern	877
Lufkin Horace E	734
M	
McClary W W	745
Metzger Zane	887
Miguel Leon R	726
Monroe Tom J	771

When Andy Smith returned from the Navy and WWII, he paid \$6,500 for the existing Capay Valley phone service in 1948. At that time he had 83 customers on 6 lines--one of which had 22 people sharing one line! The basic rate was \$2 per month!

In an interviews for the *Sarasota Herald-Tribune* and the *Sacramento Bee* in the 1970s, Mr. Smith claimed he

Capay Valley was tiny, but not the smallest of California's 29 independent phone companies -- Bryan Telephone Co. had 16 phones! At that time, Pac Bell had 12 million costumers and 35 % of the state had no service.

then had 280 customers from Capay to Rumsey, and had had only 32 days of vacation in 28 years--but in some ways, every day was a vacation because he loved his work and life in the beautiful valley where he was born! The basic rate at that time was \$5.30. He was then applying for a federal loan to increase the size of his phone service--the valley population was growing and the lack of privacy was still an issue: People would use the pay phone in front of the Guinda phone company office for an real privacy! By now

the value of the company was over \$200,000--not bad for the lone-stockholder, who “had \$28 in my pocket” and borrowed \$1000 from an uncle for the down payment in 1948! The \$650,000 loan he sought in 1975 was to upgrade service for 500 numbers--all on private lines! At that point, Andy would have to finally hire another full-time employee. Until then, only full-timer, he had spend a couple of days each month preparing/mailling bills, and the rest of his time “looking after the system, installing phones, getting trees off lines, solving problems.” Smith is president, general manager, linesman, repairman--and everything else!

Guinda Area 11

T	
The Corner	25 W
Tolle Clarence	9 Y 13
Tompkins H W	19 M
Twomey Dominick P	28 Y 2
V	
Vallerga Rena	18 Y 5
Vieu T L	7 Y 14
Vose Daisy M	24 M
W	
Wallace C B	8 Y 22
Wallace John F	10 Y 2
Wallace John F Jr	9 Y 2
Wanshop Dwight	8 Y 12
Watkins Grace	9 Y 14
Wiltse Carl C	16 Y 12
Winter James G	10 Y 13

USING YOUR TELEPHONE

When dialing a telephone number let the dial return freely after each digit dialed. Forcing or retarding the return of the dial may result in a wrong number or damage to the equipment.

DO NOT let children play with the telephone. Please do not let the children tie up the lines with unnecessary calls.

Be sure to hang up your receiver correctly after you are through talking as all telephones on your line will be out of order if you don't.

If your telephone receiver has a coiled cord on the receiver be sure that it does not hold up one end of the receiver when you hang up. This also puts your line out of order.

DO NOT pick up the receiver in the middle of a ring or ringing code. Let the ring complete, then answer.

12 General Information

CHANGES OR ERRORS IN DIRECTORIES

The Capay Valley Telephone System, Inc. assumes no liability whatever for damages arising from errors or omissions made in the preparation of this directory. However, the utmost care is used in listing all numbers correctly.

NOTICE TO ALL USERS OF THESE FACILITIES

Report all trouble promptly to the Guinda Operator. Capay customers dial 941. We keep a trouble record on all reports and will give you prompt attention as we possibly can.

If our service is not satisfactory to you, tell us; not others; they cannot help it, while we may be able to remedy it.

This telephone directory is issued free of charge by, and remains the property of, the Telephone Company.

This Telephone Company does not undertake to deliver or transmit oral or written messages and will assume no responsibility for such service. Any person or employee who assists patrons in communications does so in each case solely as the individual representative of the patron.

CHARGES AND PAYMENT OF BILLS

Toll charges will be made against the owner of the telephone from which the call comes. IF YOU DO NOT WANT TO PAY FOR OTHER PEOPLE'S TALK DO NOT LET THEM USE YOUR TELEPHONE.

Do not allow non-subscribers to use the service. If you do, you are giving away something that does not belong to you. The time that you do not need the service belongs to some other patron on the line.

Statements for services, rentals and tolls are mailed out by the 1st of each month. Tolls listed go from the 21st of one month to the 20th of the following month -- one month in arrears. Service and equipment rental paid one month in advance.

All bills become due on the 1st of each month and are delinquent on the morning of the 15th of the same month. If any bill is not paid within 15 days from date of presentation service may be discontinued, in which event restoration will not be made until the bill has been paid.