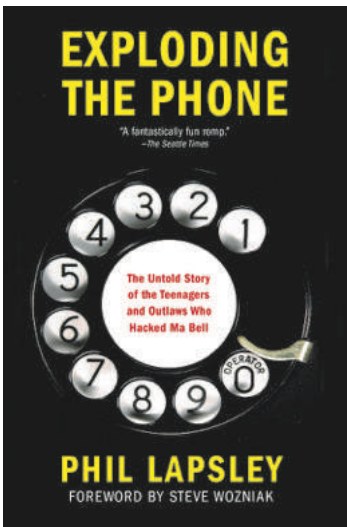


The Pole Line

A publication of The Telephone Museum

Honey, I Exploded the Phone!

This past June, The Telephone Museum in Ellsworth, Maine held the grand opening of its largest event to date. The exhibit, titled *The First Hackers: Phone Phreaks vs. Ma Bell*, is located in the new Visitors Center. Inspired in part by the



Phil Lapsley book *Exploding the Phone*, *The First Hackers* shows how the first phone hackers learned the secret inner-workings of the mysterious telephone network and how to manipulate control of it to their own ends.

A number of interactive stations in the exhibit are equipped so visitors can try their hand at "dialing" calls by

"blowing" 2600Hz and/or "blue boxing" calls. Also part of the phreaking experience are stations for the loop around in the #5 Crossbar switch where callers can connect with a another visitor or lurk and see who else calls in including from C*NET!



Charlie Pyne on the No.5 Crossbar

and/or are on loan from personal collections to make this exhibit possible, including blue boxes, red boxes, flutes, whistles, magazines—even evidence photos from the era.



TTM VP Doug Kirkpatrick and Director Steve Pater

In addition to numerous items from the museum's own collection a number of items were donated



Red Box *Small Change* and Phil Lapsley's Blue Box

We were honored to have many of "the first hackers" in attendance for the grand opening, and it was a pleasure to have them and to hear their stories; not only ones that didn't make it into the book, but also how the experience shaped their lives in later years.

(Continued on page 2)



The Telephone Museum – Barn

The looks on the faces of all of the guests and visitors made all the time, effort and funds into producing the exhibit worthwhile. Due to positive feedback we've decided to extend the exhibit through next season – but we need your help.



Special guests L.Rachman, H.Yeates, A.Rubinstein

This exhibit strikes at the core of our Mission, but the museum will need the support of all volunteers and donors to execute and fund the ambitious plan to extend this exhibit and simultaneously try and save the Barn (see related article). Please give generously. If you haven't received an appeal, or to learn more about how you can help support continuing the exhibit, the museum and save the Barn, contact any Director or e-mail us at tmm.switchboard@gmail.net.



The cast

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M.Harriss, L.Rachman, H.Yeates, A.Rubinstein



Author and special guest speaker, Phil Lapsley

OUR MISSION

Is to demonstrate the social and technical significance of the telephone network from 1876 to the present, using working equipment to provide tangible, operable evidence of an evolving technology. We celebrate the inventiveness, craftsmanship, ingenuity and industry of the telecommunications community through educational programs, exhibits and special events.

BOARD of DIRECTORS

- Martin Harriss, *President*
- Douglas Kirkpatrick, *Vice President*
- Charles Dunne, *Treasurer*
- Chad Perkins, *Secretary*

- Elizabeth Lenart, Sandra Galley, Stephen Pater, Pat Saunders, David Thompson, Jeffrey Webber, Joshua Zukerman

Founders:

- John Bowditch, Charles Dunne, Elizabeth Lenart

Save the “Barn”

Despite all the excitement and our success this past year, we have a serious problem. The Barn, our main exhibit building, is in trouble. Built 30 years ago, the Barn is sided with a plywood product known as T11. This siding serves both decorative and structural functions – and it is failing. To prevent the Barn from collapsing, we need to get it re-sided. Due to the size of the Barn, this is an expensive undertaking – estimated at \$50,000.

Every fall we make an Annual Appeal to subscribers, friends and supporters for contributions to help fund the *usual expenses* including insurance, maintenance, educational outreach, and electricity (it takes a lot to keep the switches clicking).

We need your usual support, however this year a *Special Contribution from you will help Save The Barn!* Rather than two separate appeals we are making a Combined Appeal – for your usual assistance – PLUS something special to *save the Barn.*



Save the Barn 2017 – Make this contribution Special AND Significant: *We really need your help because saving the Barn is crucial to keeping the doors open, the lights on, and the bells ringing in this rare and unique collection. So please, if you haven’t already given, please be as generous as you can when you send this year’s tax deductible contributions!*

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2017 Telephone Museum Calendar

- Saturday January 7 Board Meeting: 1 PM @ Muddy Rudder, Yarmouth, ME
- Fri - Sat March 17-18 The Telephone Museum Exhibit @ Maine Science Festival. Bangor, ME
- Saturday April 8 Board Meeting: 1 PM @ Muddy Rudder, Yarmouth, ME
- Saturday May 20 Volunteer Day: 10 AM – 4 PM @ The Telephone Museum
- Saturday June 17 Volunteer Day: 10 AM – 4 PM @ The Telephone Museum
- Saturday July 1 Museum Opens for the season **Saturdays 1 – 4 PM**
- Saturday July 15 Volunteer Day: 10 AM – 4 PM @ The Telephone Museum
- Sunday July 16 Board Meeting: 10 AM @ TTM Visitor Center
- Saturday August 19 Volunteer Day: 10 AM – 4 PM @ The Telephone Museum
- Saturday September 16 Volunteer Day: 10 AM – 4 PM @ The Telephone Museum
- Saturday September 30 Museum Closes for the season 4 PM
- Saturday October 7 Volunteer Day: 10 AM – 4 PM @ The Telephone Museum
- Sunday October 8 Board Meeting: 10 AM @ TTM Visitor Center

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Morrell family donates a decade of Telephony

Janet Schutte and her sister, daughters of Albert Morrell of North Anson, have donated a decade of Telephony Magazine and host of other training and technical manuals from their father’s estate. Arrangements are still being made for the old Somerset Telephone Company switchboard, from where he worked for many years.

Thank you Janet.

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THE TELEPHONE MUSEUM
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