

# The Pole Line

A publication of The Telephone Museum

Spring into *Telephony* with us June 17th—see inside for information!

## TELEPHONY Comes to Maine

*Telephony, An Illustrated Monthly Telephone Journal*, was launched in January, 1901 in Chicago with Harry B. McMeal as editor for the first 16 years. It was monthly, then became weekly in 1908 when increasingly fast-moving developments made it important to get news to the field quickly. For over a century *Telephony*, having evolved into *The Journal of the Telephone Industry*, reported on news, products and developments in the communications industry. It covered the evolution from magneto party lines to today's fiber-fueled broadband and mobile revolution, and everything in between, before evolving into *Connected Planet* in 2009.



[The Telephone Museum](#) was contacted last year by Jason Meyers (former editor-in-chief of *Telephony*) who alerted the museum that publisher, [Pen-](#)

[ton Media](#), was moving and the archive of hard-bound copies were in danger of being discarded.



Mr. Meyers referred Sandra Galley to Mark Hickey at Penton, who sought permission to donate the archives - if shipping from Chicago to Ellsworth could be arranged by the museum. Steve Pater of the museum met with Kimberly Gonzalez and Mark Hickey at Penton offices in Chicago and photographed the archives, measured shelves and volumes, and weighed several of them in order to calculate the size and weight for shipping.

Time was not on our side. Penton had to be out of their old building by the end of November, and if we did not take the collection it was destined for a dumpster. There were numerous discussions

with museum board members about the best way to move the collection. Money was not on our side either. One option involved driving to Chicago and bringing it back in a U-Haul trailer.

There were numerous challenges, including the building owners' requirements for insurance, access to the freight elevators during normal working hours and concerns with packing, pallets, hand-trucks and loading docks.

Ultimately, we abandoned the "do-it-yourself" plan and we hired the moving company that was already approved to move the Penton offices out of the building. Pat Bonnema of Anderson Brothers Moving was great to work with; his crew packed all the volumes into book cartons and loaded them onto pallets. When we were faced with the problem of trying to coordinate our pickup with the building's restricted freight elevator schedule, Mr. Bonnema volunteered to transport the pallets back to his Chicago warehouse (for free! – thanks, Pat!) where our carrier could pick them up during a normal workday.

So *Telephony* was saved. It took many donors and the assistance of wonderful people like Kimberly, Mark, Pat, Matthew Strong of the museum - who was instrumental in getting the two-ton archive from Chicago to Ellsworth - as well as several museum staff to make the move happen.

So now it's up to us to preserve this collection for the years to come. The Telephone Museum seeks volunteer, member curators. If you are interested in helping preserve and promote telecommunications history, please contact the museum at [the.tel.museum@gmail.com](mailto:the.tel.museum@gmail.com) about volunteering and more info.

Endnotes:

<https://goo.gl/QBPSG5>

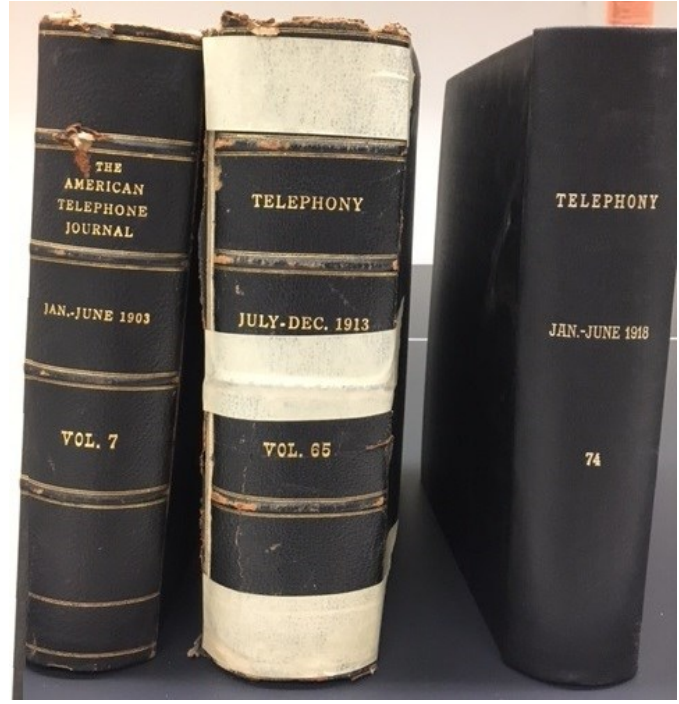
<https://goo.gl/e4fR79>

<https://goo.gl/704tTt>

<https://goo.gl/xjK172>

TELEPHONY, Jan. 18, 1971, p. 29

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June 17th is going to be "Telephony Day" at The Telephone Museum. We will be moving the collection from the receiving warehouse to our own interim storage in the morning and are scheduled to have coverage by the Ellsworth American (<http://www.ellsworthamerican.com/>) in the afternoon, weather permitting. Volunteers and public welcome.

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**Is this your last Newsletter?**

**Please say it isn't so!** If you haven't renewed yet this year, you can find a renewal form on the rear of this newsletter. Your membership helps preserve history, like *Telephony*, and sponsor educational programs like *The First Hackers*, as well as keeping the doors open and switches clicking!

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### Headlines, News and Notes from *Telephony* 50 Years ago: 1967

- Watch word: Common Control. Sales teams marketing the new electronic PENTEX switch (Plessey), NX-1 & NX-2 Crossbar switches (North Electric), Pentaconta A-1 (ITT) as well as tried and true XY (Stromberg-Carlson).
- Pushbutton Telephones Introduce New Era of Convenience, Adaptability ("Touch Tone" — they don't have \* and # buttons yet). 500 sets are (still) money makers as manufacturers push two-line models, models with exclusion keys, models with night lights, etc.
- Continental Telephone Corporation (CTC) listed on the New York Stock Exchange.
- AT&T announced it will begin using new radio-telephone equipment this year to improve quality of telephone service between the U.S. and several South American countries.
- A state-of-the-art underground cable, capable of carrying 32,400 simultaneous conversations (L-4), is being plowed in a furrow 1,800 miles long from Boston to Miami - 260 miles of it into median of the Sunshine State Parkway!
- The North Carolina Telephone Co. of Matthews, N. C., has installed the first Independent manufactured T-type carrier terminal (Stromberg-Carlson Vicom) working with a Bell T-1 terminal. It has been installed Matthews and Charlotte, N. C.
- N carrier and new rubber and glass open-wire insulators still being sold.
- Microwave (Lenkurt) networks for Brewster Flat and Paumalu, Hawaii Earth Stations.
- There's a new number for Long Distance information: 555-1212.
- 80 high use New York subscribers begin DDD trial to Europe.
- New York Telephone is experimenting with "Dial Tone First" paystations.

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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 <b>Saturdays 1 – 4 PM</b>
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 <b>4 PM</b>
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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#### BOARD of DIRECTORS

Martin Harriss, *President*  
Douglas Kirkpatrick, *Vice President*  
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Elizabeth Lenart, Sandra Galley, Stephen Pater,  
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Joshua Zukerman

#### Founders:

John Bowditch, Charles Dunne, Elizabeth Lenart

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# Become a Telephone Museum Subscriber!

Receive free admission to the museum, notification of special events, a free listing in the Museum Directory, and "The Pole Line" newsletter.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:

The Telephone Museum  
166 Winkumpaugh Road  
PO Box 1377  
Ellsworth, ME 04605-1377

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- Individual \$30
- Participating \$100
- Life Member / The Long Lines Club \$1,000
- Additional Tax-Deductible contribution

- Family \$50
- Sustaining \$250
- Organization \$75
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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