



Volume 106 February 2022  
9030 Forestview Lane N. Maple Grove, MN 55369 763-494-5983 Open 2nd Sunday of the month

## MAPLE GROVE HISTORICAL PRESERVATION SOCIETY

### OFFICERS

**President: Al Madsen**

**Vice President: Lynn Cook**

**Secretary: Karen Brajdich**

**Treasurer: Patty Reuter**

**Newsletter Editor: Pat Ruffing**

**Research: Mary Moyle, Rosie Gruidl,  
& Karen Brajdich**

**Web page designer: Steve Briggs**

<http://www.maplegrovmnhistory.org>

**Purpose: To collect and preserve information and artifacts and to educate the community of the history of Maple Grove, MN.**

### Regular

### Events



### Open House:

The Maple Grove History Museum hosts an open house on the second Sunday of every month from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

### Monthly Meeting:

The third Thursday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at the History Museum. Anyone with an interest in his story is welcome to join us!

### Quarterly Newsletter:

**May: Letters through the Mail**  
**mail delivery- post offices**



### History on Display:

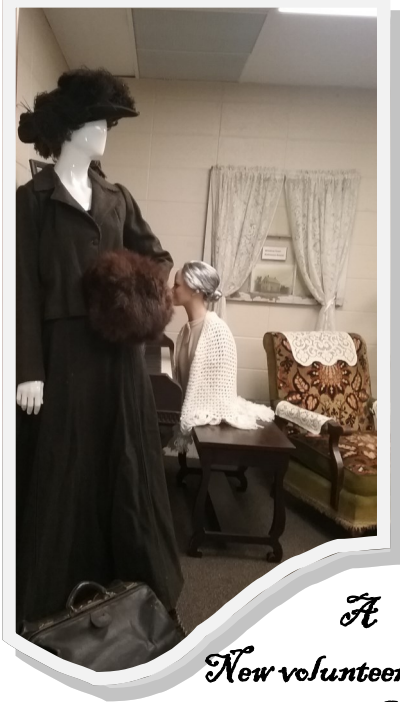
Ox Cart site and territorial downtown Maple Grove:  
15310 Territorial Rd (0.7 mi. w. of Fernbrook Lane N. Maple Grove, MN.)

Pierre Bottineau House : Elm Creek Park Reserve:  
12400 James Deane Parkway, Maple Grove, MN.

4 History Display Cases at M.G. Government Center:  
12800 Arbor Lakes Pkwy N. Maple Grove, MN.

**Annual dues : January**

**Election of officers at meeting: October**



*A  
New volunteer to greet  
you at the Museum.*

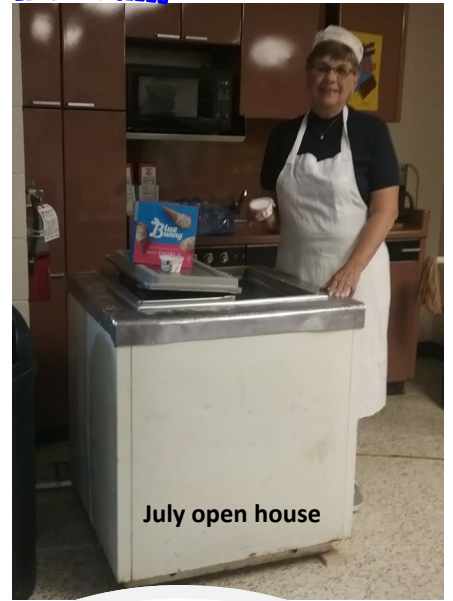
# Her Spirit lives on at the Maple Grove Museum



July open house 2021  
in her favorite dress

**Louise Ruth Hanf Age 74, of  
Maple Grove  
Passed away  
January 3, 2022—**

February 1, 1947 – January 3, 2022 Sur-  
vived by her loving husband of 51 years,  
Joe Hanf; children, Brian (Angela) Hanf,  
Patrick (Jennifer) Hanf, Amanda (Jack)  
Waltz; grandchildren, Aidan, Grace, Joey,  
Calvin, Tristan; Louise was a loving, wife,  
mother, grandma, sister, friend and cat  
adorer. She was an avid blood donor and  
an excellent baker. Louise and Joe were  
active volunteers at the Maple Grove His-  
torical Preservation Society.



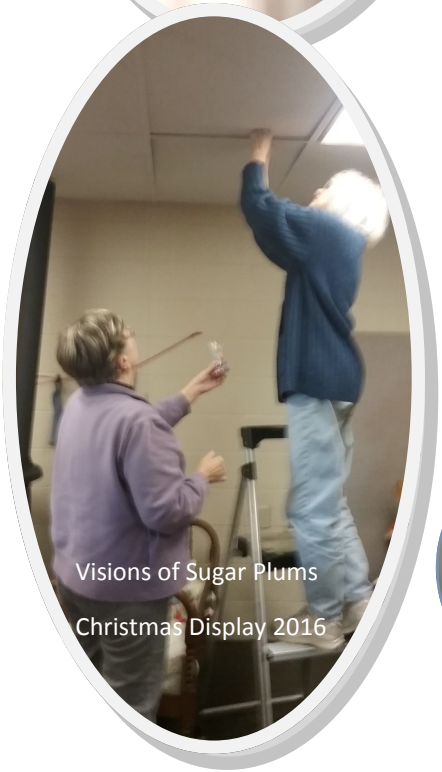
July open house

Celebration of Life Service for Louise will  
be Saturday, February 5, 2022 at 11am,  
with gathering time starting at 10am at  
Kapala Glodek-Malone Funeral Home  
(7800 Bass Lake Rd. New Hope)

**Memorials requested to  
Maple Grove History Museum.**



Maple Grove Days  
2021



Visions of Sugar Plums  
Christmas Display 2016



Jewelry display at City Hall



Junk Drawer Display at City Hall

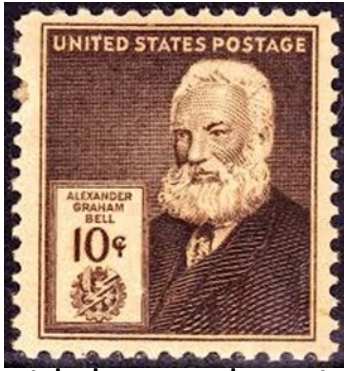


Her last MG Days Parade 2021

7/15/2021



Thelma—Louise— and Brad Pitt



On March 10, 1876, Alexander Graham Bell successfully spoke through a telephone to his assistant in the next room, saying: "Mr. Watson, come here, I want to see you." The rest is history.

The telephone was demonstrated in 1876 at the Philadelphia Centennial. There were six different inventors working on electrical telephones around this time with high levels of success. As Wikipedia describes it, "The early history of the telephone became and still remains a confusing morass of claims and counterclaims. Nevertheless, thanks to US patents, we know who invented the telephone from a practical standpoint: the Bell and Edison patents were commercially decisive because they dominated telephone technology."

<https://ancestralfindings.com/modern-communication-a-history-of-the-telephone>



"Small Boys Reap Harvest Handling Telephone Books," reported the *Minneapolis Tribune* on December 3, 1911. One hundred thousand telephone directories are distributed and collected in Minneapolis three times a year... The work is entrusted (sic) to boys, who get from half a cent to five cents on each directory delivered and, on every old telephone directory collected, half a cent or one and five-eighths cents... The Northwestern Telephone Exchange company distributes the directories from the Main, Colfax, South, East and Central stations. The Tri-State Telephone and Telegraph company assembles all its books at its main station and rushes them to the different parts of the city. Special rates are given to the youthful "business men" who carry telephone books to Hopkins, St. Louis Park and sundry suburban homes. The books are made of special paper called "telephone" paper. It is a durable material that will stand much wear. The names and numbers are printed in special ink, and the whole book is bound with special machinery."

[slphistory.org/telephone/](http://slphistory.org/telephone/)



## The White House Phone was "1"

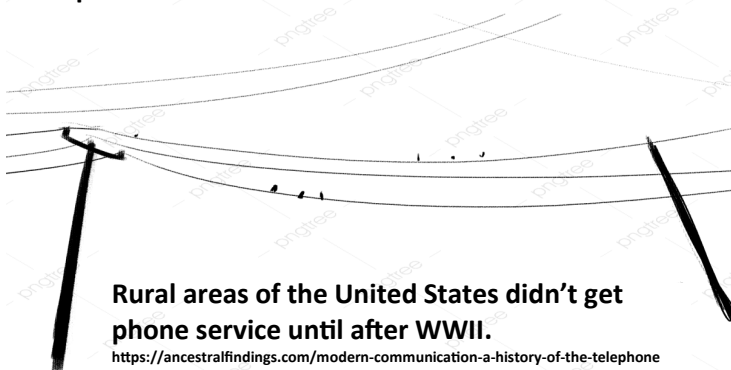
President Rutherford Hayes installed the first telephone in the White House in 1879. It was the first telephone used in a residence. Slowly others, usually the wealthy began to get telephones.

The first town to get city-wide telephone service was Deadwood, South Dakota, in March of 1878. It was on the edge of the American frontier at the time, and the town just had one phone that was made available to the whole town to use... a line that connected directly to the White House. Many towns just had one town phone for a lot of years before getting individual household phones.

In 1877 telegrapher Richard Henry Hankinson installed the first telephone in Minneapolis in June 1877 between his home and Minneapolis City Hall. The first telephone circuit consisted of a single iron wire with a "wet" battery for power.

In 1878 Hankinson built the first switchboard in Minneapolis, which was made out of old sewing machine parts. On December 10, 1878, Hankinson organized the Northwestern Telephone Exchange Co. of Minneapolis.

In 1908 telephone service was established between Minneapolis and St. Paul. [slphistory.org/telephone/](http://slphistory.org/telephone/)



Rural areas of the United States didn't get phone service until after WWII.

<https://ancestralfindings.com/modern-communication-a-history-of-the-telephone>

## Come visit me

The Pavék Museum  
[www.museumofbroadcasting.com/](http://www.museumofbroadcasting.com/)

St Louis Park Historical Society  
<https://slphistory.org/telephone/>



The independent telephone industry began to develop throughout rural America early in the 1890s. After the publication of a manual that explained to farmers how they could develop their own telephone systems on a mutual or cooperative basis, many farmer mutual systems emerged throughout rural America. By 1912, the number of rural telephone systems had grown to more than 3,200, and the U.S. tele-

phone industry included several manufacturers that specialized in the production of so-called "rural phones."

The number of farmer lines continued to increase after World War I. At its high point in 1927, the rural telephone industry included some 6,000 mutual systems and other organizations. But during the same period, these systems were deteriorating: Many failed to keep adequate accounts; subscribers were lax about paying bills; and there were few maintenance people and little regular upkeep of the facilities. Poor service became the standard in rural America. <https://ancestralfindings.com/modern-communication-a-history-of-the-telephone>



### History of Glass Insulators

"The first insulators had nothing to do with telegraph wires or electrical wiring and were used to protect homes against lightning strikes. However, these small glass cups were a vital element in the development of mas-

sive communication technologies as they helped telegraph and telephone wires keep their electrical currents from losing strength during their transmissions. This consistent flow of electrical energy allowed for speedy connections that simultaneously connected people around the world.

Glass insulators for wiring began to be manufactured in the mid-19th century in response to the needs born out of the technological advancements. Samuel Morse had successfully used the first telegraph machine in 1844, and by These glass insulators reached their peak use between 1920-1950. By the end of the 1950s, electrical companies had begun transitioning to porcelain insulators - . [https://antiques.lovetoknow.com/Antique\\_Glass\\_Insulators](https://antiques.lovetoknow.com/Antique_Glass_Insulators)



Telephone on display at the Maple Grove Museum

Roger McHugh remembers his mom Sally as a telephone operator: He called his girl friend to say he would visit, and the operator-Mom- was "rubbering" and said "No you will not visit her" as a snow-storm was coming!"



The tin can telephone, also known as the lover's phone, is the type of "phone" you created in elementary school: you connect two tin cans (or "diaphragms") using a taut string or wire. The mechanical vibrations from your voice travel down the wire before being converted back into sound energy at the other end of the line.



Phone at Museum

"Federal Communications Commission (FCC), which was created by the Communications Act of 1934. This act called for "making available, so far as possible, to all the people of the United States a rapid, efficient, nationwide and worldwide wire and radio communication service with adequate facilities at reasonable charges..." The goal of universal service was—and remains today—to ensure that all Americans, regardless of where they live, receive quality communications service at reasonable rates."

<https://ancestralfindings.com/modern-communication-a-history-of-the-telephone>

# UNITED TELEPHONE COMPANY

In attempting to reconstruct the history for the United Telephone Company in the Osseo exchange, we have used the knowledge of several people who have worked for the company for a number of years.

Roman Barthel, who started with the company around 1933, is one to whom we turned. Also, Ed Follett, who has worked in the area since 1956.

Prior to 1933, the telephone company was known as the Rural Telephone Company and was owned by a group of farmers of the area.

In 1933, the properties were purchased by Paul Glaeser and Leo Fischer, who operated the company under the name of Pioneer Telephone Company. In that same year, wages paid to linemen were \$.28 per hour. It was decided that St. Michael at that time would be converted to a dial telephone system. This was one of the first systems in the state.

Osseo operated on a magneto basis for a number of years. For those who don't remember, this was the crank type system. This was later converted to common battery, and in 1958, the first dial unit was installed in Osseo.

In the early years, the farm people worked off their telephone bills by helping the local telephone company set poles, string wire, etc. Only 2 or 3 regular employees maintained Osseo, St. Michael, and Rogers for a number of years.

In 1939, in the Spring, and later Fall, sleet storms raised havoc with most of the lines which were open wire at that time. Months were spent putting these facilities back in order.

In 1954, there were 1,320 telephones in the Osseo, St. Michael, and Rogers exchanges compared to 12,394 today. This indicates some of the growth which has occurred in the 21-year period.

In 1958, Osseo was converted to dial, and with it came toll free dialing to Minneapolis and St. Paul.

In 1968, the Osseo dial-switching unit was again changed, due to the high growth rate. In this same year, United Telecommunications and the Pioneer System were merged. The name changed once again to United Telephone Company of Minn.

Since 1933, ten managers have been assigned to the area, and of that number, six are still employed with United Telephone Company in some capacity, including Roger Herdt, who is the present manager.

Thirty-six employees are now employed in the Osseo district who are responsible for the service and maintenance of the plant which has a value of \$6,563,000.



Progress continued to come to Brooklyn Township as pay stations were finally closed in Osseo in 1915. Booths were removed and connections were made to the switchboard of the local Rural Telephone Company, now connected to the Northwestern Telephone Company. Mildred Smith (left) and Myrtle Engles were switchboard operators in 1926. (Courtesy of Osseo Preservation Society.)

## We had our Own "911"

Back in the days of the party line, the telephone was a big, brown wooden box fastened to the wall. You had to stand very close to talk into the mouth-piece and hold the receiver to your ear to hear. You couldn't use it to take pictures, surf the net nor send a text message. You used it to make telephone calls, you talked, you listened, you had a conversation. To make a telephone call you would turn the crank on the right hand side to make one short ring. This would alert "central" in the telephone office. You gave the telephone number to her and she connected you to your party.

Things were quiet at night. Carol Gelle Emmans often worked nights while attending high school. Because things were slow she usually napped on a cot in the office. Should she have any trouble she was instructed to turn on the light above the outside door. Jack Heesen, the Osseo policeman, would check it out when he was on his nightly patrols. These were the days when everyone was on a party-line.

There were as many as 10 families sharing one telephone line. We had 8 parties on our line, including 2 businesses and the local pastor. Each party had its own ring. It was an important message! Depending on the seriousness of the problem, other party lines were also alerted with the message. I remember hearing 5 long rings only once.

Clara Lange was concerned that her husband had not come in from the field for supper that evening. She requested a search party to look for him. My uncle joined the search party while my dad did the chores. Many wives did the milking that evening.

They found Chris Lange had driven too close to the bank of Rush Creek. His tractor had tipped, plunging Chris in the water of the creek and pinning him. He died by drowning. Emily Koehler Amann from May 2019 Newsletter



By connecting with the Northwestern Telephone Company, people in Osseo and outside subscribers of the Brooklyn area could now call direct over the tristate lines. They could now contact people in Minneapolis or St. Paul. A call to Minneapolis was 15¢ with a 1¢ war tax. From left to right, Lillian Killmer Robertson, Emma (Gosselin) Van Dyke, and Mamie (Wells Killmer) Phenow kept their neighbors connected. (Courtesy of Osseo Preservation Society.)



**a party line is like a barn raising**

The same cooperation which made the community barn raising a fine American tradition has its equal in the rural party line. Telephone neighbors can make their party line an ideal example of cooperation by using their telephone sharingly.

The endless demand for low cost rural telephone service can be met from the equipment standpoint only by more party line installations. This expanding service increases the usefulness of every telephone. You can make the most of it and help yourself to better service by being a good party line neighbor.

<https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/>

Telephone Directory  
FOR  
**OSSEO -- ST. MICHAEL**

Includes  
ROGERS--DAYTON--MAPLE GROVE--LETCHER  
CONCORAN--ALBERTVILLE

OSSEO EXCHANGE--To Report a FIRE Notify the Telephone Operator.

ST. MICHAEL EXCHANGE--To Report FIRE Dial 2471. If 2471 does not answer dial any of the following numbers: 231--242--244--246--253 and give full information as to location of the fire.

ALBERTVILLE -- To Report a FIRE Dial any of the following numbers: 2705--3702--2641.

**JUNE 1944**

**RURAL TELEPHONE CO.**

LOCAL OFFICE -- OSSEO, MINNESOTA  
GENERAL OFFICE -- WAGONIA, MINNESOTA

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**BUS DEPOT**

BE HEALTHY, WEALTHY and WISE--EAT AT THE  
**OLYMPIA CAFE**  
(Air-Conditioned)  
**Mike's VELVET**  
OSSEO, MINN. PHONE 58  
**HOME MADE ICE CREAM**  
Mike Korfiatis, Proprietor

Osseo 1944 telephone Directory are at MG Museum

**OSSEO EXCHANGE**

<b>A</b>	Boerboom, Rev. Henry, res. ....21
	Bonn, Edgar, res. ....233
	Bonn, Geo. P., farm ....169-4
	Borck, Mrs. Mike, res. ....161-2
	Bouley, Philius, farm ....170-4
	Braun, Fred, O., farm ....169-01
	Bredenberg, Herbert, farm ....172-2
	Bredenberg, Louis, farm ....172-00
	Brockhaus, Fred, farm ....199-31
	Brockhaus, Otto, farm ....199-13
	Bucholz, Mrs. Amelia, res. ....60
	Bucholz, Walter, farm ....166-4
<b>B</b>	

**Long Distance Service**

**To Make a Long Distance Call**

When you wish to make a long distance call ring central in the usual manner. Give the operator the name of the town you are calling, the telephone number, if known, or the name and address of the residence or business firm being called. If you wish to talk to a specified person, also give the name of that person.

**Station-to-Station Call**

A Station-to-Station call is one on which you will talk with anyone available at the telephone called.

**Person-to-Person Call**

A Person-to-Person call is one on which you ask to talk to a certain person.

**Reduced Night and Sunday Rates**

Every night and all day every Sunday there are reduced rates for both Station-to-Station and Person-to-Person calls over distances of about 50 miles or more.

**Ringling Code For Rural Party Lines**

00 .....2-L 2-S	6 .....1-S 1-L 1-S	13 .....1-L 3-S
01 .....1-S 1-L	7 .....1-L 1-S 1-L	20 .....2-L 1-S
02 .....1-S 2-L	8 .....2-S 1-L 1-S	21 .....2-S 1-L
03 .....1-S 3-L	9 .....1-S 2-L 1-S	22 .....2-S 2-L
2 .....2 Rings	10 .....1-L 1-S	30 .....3-L 1-S
3 .....3 Rings	11 .....1-L 2-S 1-L	31 .....3-S 1-L
4 .....4 Rings	12 .....1-L 2-S	
	General Call ..... 5 Long Rings	

(3)



**AS A TEENAGER I HAD MY OWN SPECIAL TELEPHONE BOOTH ..**

Our house was an old one which had a pantry and the phone was on the wall adjacent to that door. I had many calls sitting on the big stool inside the door - that is unless one of my brothers decided to walk by and click the receiver causing the call to disconnect. My friend Mary worked in the telephone office and if we had news we had to share with others -,she could plug in the wires which allowed several of us to be on the conversation!! - sort of the like the "merge" call button on my cell phone where I can converse with my 3 daughters all at once. We also used telephone books to find numbers and now we have most numbers right in our cell phones or we can ask Siri for the number . Joyce Deane

## Telephone memories by Karen Brajdich

My earliest memories of the telephone in our house in St. Cloud are that of a five year old girl in the early 1950s. It was a black wall telephone and it hung high on the kitchen wall. A slinky-like cord connected the receiver to the black box. With my arms stretched high and standing on my toes, I could not reach or touch it.

As a five-year old, I never had an opportunity to hold the receiver in my hands. It was too big and heavy. Occasionally, my great grand parents called from Milwaukee. Sometimes I got to say, "hello." In those instances, Mom would hold the mouthpiece to my mouth and I would greet Grandma with a "hi." Grandma Tusczyk would say, "Hello, Karen, how are you?" I never heard her question because I had my mouth and nose against the mouthpiece. And what did Grandma Tusczyk hear? She heard the heavy breathing of five-year-old me.

The wall telephones in our house were always the standard issue, black and we always had a party line. It was the low cost and economical. We moved several times between the 1950s and late 1960s; seven in all. Every house had a black wall telephone with a party line and it was always installed on the kitchen wall. In the later years when my older brother and sister were teenagers, an extra long telephone cord was added. That meant the telephone cord could be stretched-out so conversations with friends could be made in semi-privacy.

My other recollections of the telephone in the Axell homesteads...

Before the introduction of area codes, the telephone industry utilized switchboard operators to connect long distance callers. My mother was a switchboard operator for the Wisconsin Telephone Company (now known as Wisconsin Bell Co) in Milwaukee in the 1940's.

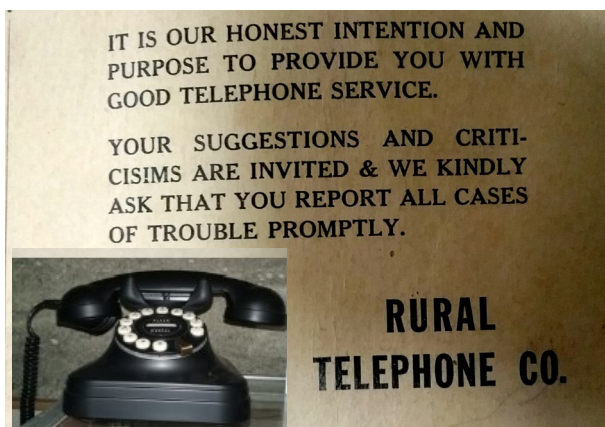
Every city and area had a unique exchange letters. The exchange letters in St. Cloud was BL1, which stood for "Blackburn 1." The exchange letters in New Brighton was ME3, which stood for "Melrose 3" and our telephone number was 633-5859.

In the 50s and 60s, WCCO produced a local television children's show that played at 5 pm daily and named "Axel and His Dog." It was a wildly popular show with children in the Twin Cities and in our house, we never missed an episode. The other connection my siblings had to the show: our last name was "Axell." While "Axel" was a first name and "Axell" was our last name, we still identified with it. This led my older sister to come up with a new greeting when

answering the phone, "Axell's tree house, which squirrel do you want?" It was hokey and was used once or twice, then dropped.

When we moved to Coon Rapids in the mid-1960s, we lived two blocks from the WCCO radio tower. Living in close proximity of the Tower, local residents and neighbors inherited a unique status. While connecting with your caller or between dead spaces in your conversation, you would hear the faint but distinct voices of 'CCO radio personalities such as Howard Viken, Charlie Boone and Roger Erickson on the telephone line. Depending on the time or day, you could hear the news, music or perhaps a Twins game playing on 830 AM.

The standardized black wall phone with the cork screw cord and rotary dial, as well as land lines, telephone exchanges and party lines are all history. New technologies and discoveries have replaced them. Soon these innovations will be replaced with new ones. More cutting edge discoveries lay ahead. But it all started with the simple concept to connect people to people.



Phone at Museum

- ◆ By 1940, fewer farmers had telephones than in 1920.
- ◆ In 1944, a bill was introduced in the U.S. Senate to establish a Rural Telephone Administration modeled after the Rural Electrification Administration (REA).
- ◆ In 1949 on bills to amend the Rural Electrification Act, making long-term, low-interest loans available to rural telephone systems
- ◆ After the establishment of the REA telephone loan program in 1949, the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) formed a telephone committee, composed of representatives of emerging joint electric-telephone cooperative organizations.
- ◆ In 1954, the time had come to form a separate national organization - NTCA, as the National Telephone Cooperative Association, was incorporated on June 1, 1954, reaching 100 rural telephone cooperatives by the 1960s <https://www.ntca.org/ruraliscool/history-rural-telecommunications>



## I felt like "E.T., phone home." Pat Ruffing

When I was very young in the 1940's and 1950' we had a mounted large brown telephone and our ring on the crank phone was 3 longs and our phone # was 19F30., I remember a couple things from this time- my teenage brother dialing the operator and he said "Operator" when she connected and was so embarrassed he hung up the phone instead of asking to be connected. A rural telephone switchboard, where the local operators were expected to have answers to many questions, while the rural party lines helped put people in touch, were great for emergency messages.



And my aunt not answering her phone ring because she wondered "who else on the party line had the same ring she did. "Rubbering" in on phone conversations was common and also allowed neighbors to know others' business.



When I was in my early teens, our party line black phone sat on a table in the corner of the living room. I would get off the school bus and as soon as my best friend Jeanette was home, I would call her and we would gab for as long as our folks would let us, or the operator cut in cuz someone else needed the phone line.

The common gag kids played on the local grocery store was to phone the store and ask "Do you have Prince Albert in a can?" When the clerk answered: "Yes", the response was "well let him out!"



When my kids were growing up in the 1980's, and I was at work, I felt like the E.T. " a lonely alien", who wants to reach his family back home in space. His way of communicating his desire is to say "E.T., phone home." In the 1980s, I don't have cell phone, much less intergalactic calling ability, but we installed two phone lines in our house in hopes of being able to call home, when away, as my 5 kids hung on the phones talking to

friends and usually didn't give each other or me any message received over the phone. Sometimes driving to work, I would stop at a public phone booth and call home to make sure my kids made it out the door to the school bus.

Now, I would not know how to live without my smart phone's instant connection to the whole world and directions to everywhere. E.T. do I have "intergalactic calling ability"- oh darn the grandkids probably do, but I have not yet mastered my "too smart" android phone.



## Telephone Data QUIZ

1. What year did Alexander Graham Bell invent the telephone?
2. What year was Minnesota split into three area codes, with 218 to the north of the Cities and 507 to the south .
3. In 1996 area code \_\_\_\_ took over all 612 numbers outside the metropolitan area.
4. In \_\_\_\_ St. Paul and suburbs switched to the 651 area code.
5. In 2000 area codes \_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_ were created.
6. In 1965 phone numbers in the local directory reflected a change from exchange names to all \_\_\_\_
7. On December 1, 1982, the Twin Cities adopted the \_\_\_\_ emergency number, eliminating the need for those ubiquitous orange stickers on phones with the City's police and fire department numbers.
8. On July 10, 1962, Telstar, the world's first international communications satellite, was rocketed into orbit with the collaboration between NASA and the Bell System. Telephone calls could now be \_\_\_\_ off a \_\_\_\_ to a switching station.

Answers:  
 1. 1876 2. 1954 3. 320 took over all 612 numbers outside the metropolitan area 4. 1998 5. 952 and 763 6. Numbers 7. 911 8. "bounced" satellite

Remember on give to the Max Days

Maple Grove Historical Preservation Society

Maple Grove Historical Preservation Society



**(612) 425-XXXX** By Linda Klapperich

You knew someone lived in Maple Grove if they had a (612) 425-XXXX telephone number. You would go to your kitchen, where the phone hung on the wall, put your finger in the hole in the clear section over the number printed on the phone that you wanted and turned the dial to the right. When it hit the end, you let go and it went back into position and you then dialed the next numbers until you got the phone ringing on the other end. If you were lucky the others on the party line were not wanting to make a call at the same time you did and the line was available. Then you stood within about 3 feet of the phone put the cup end at your ear and the other at your mouth and made your call. Your cord would get stretched out and you would twirl it around while talking. Then you would hang the phone receiver by the cord and it twirled back around because the handset was so heavy before putting it on the hook. If someone else was calling you while you were on the phone they got a busy signal and you had no idea someone was trying to reach you as there was no caller ID or call waiting, only an annoying sound. You would randomly try later to see if you could get through.



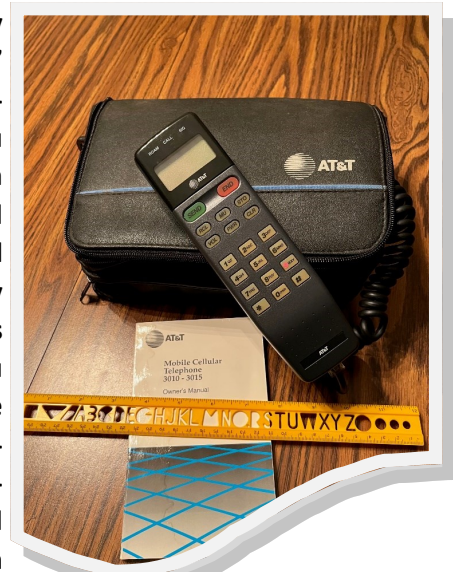
Phone book at the MG Museum

Then the population of Maple Grove, now a city, grew and we needed to have two phone number options; introducing (612) 420-XXXX. 425 or 420 depended on what part of the city you lived in. I still remember wondering how one of my friends got to keep the last 4 digits of her phone number when we had to get a whole new number. Then the other person in your party line got the next number in the sequence.

Eventually the stress on your finger was gone as the Touch Tone / Pulse Phone came into being. Then you got to go to the buttons and just press the numbers. You were still stuck within 3 feet of the kitchen wall but it was amazing. And if you were lucky the house actually had more than one phone by then.

What?!?! NO cord...yes then the cordless phone was an option you could put the cradle where ever you wanted in your house and could walk around, go to the couch, sit on the bed, where ever you wanted as long as you remembered to recharge the phone. Eventually the (612) exchange became full and (763) was introduced for the northwest suburb of Maple Grove.

By the late 1980's early 1990's the "mobile" phone started to become available if you were willing to pay a lot for it. You carried the huge bag around that was mostly battery or luxury cars had them built in! You hoped that the entire route you were traveling actually had coverage as you watched the phone poles seem to fly by as you drove by them along the road. The popularity of mobile phones took off and more numbers



This was my first mobile phone. You plugged it into your cigarette lighter in your car. It was quite amazing technology for the mid-1990's.

were needed so the distinction of knowing where someone lives by their phone number is gone. Now homes are not wired with phone lines and phones that fit into the palm of your hand are everywhere and everyone has one no matter their age.

## Who was Alvin Eugene Bottineau, a Long time Museum member?

Alvin Eugene Bottineau, age 92 of Ramsey passed away on September 6, 2021. Al (Gene) enjoyed hunting, fishing, woodworking, driving his old cars and spending time with family. He is survived by his wife of 71 years, Janice; children, Clarice "Sunny", Shari and Keven; He enjoyed his 31 years as an employee of Anoka Hennepin School District #11 and a bus driver for Kottke Bus Company. Funeral Services were held on Monday, (9/13/2021) at Thurston-DeShaw Funeral Home, 13817 Jay Street NW, Andover. Interment at Morningside Memorial Gardens.

What was Alvin's connection to Maple Grove?

Here is the story your editor pieced together:

Alvin Eugene was preceded in death by his parents, Francis Alfred Bottineau (1886–1974) and Ica Mae Olds Bottineau (1899–1987). Alvin's dad, Francis Alfred Bottineau married Ica May Olds about 1916 possibly in Maple Grove Minnesota. They were the parents of at least 5 sons and 5 daughters. Alvin Bottineau was one of the younger children in the family (1929–2021).

When Alvin's grandfather Francis Alfred Bottineau (1886-1974) was born on Oct 14, 1886, Buffalo MN , Alvin's great grandfather Alfred Francis Bottineau ( 1854-1940) was 32 and his great grandmother Cora Ellen Meacham Bottineau( 1869-1891) was 17. They had married 16 June 1885, in Monticello, Wright, Minnesota.

Alvin's great grandfather, Alfred Francis Bottineau was born on January 22, 1854, in St. Anthony, Hennepin, Minnesota. His father, Sévère Bottineau, was 40 and his mother, Julia Chênevert Bottineau was 15. Sévère Bottineau dit Mendemoya married Julia Chênevert at St Anthony of Padua in Minneapolis on 13 October 1852.

So Alvin Eugene Bottineau's great, great grandparents Seveyor Buttineau age 38 and his wife Julia age 22 appear in the 1860 Census for Maple Grove, Hennepin Co., MN, with their children Alfred age 7, Delin age 6, Henry age 4, and Margaret age 7 mo.; Living next door is his brother Pierre Bottineau.

Survezer Botinean age 50 and his wife Julia age 32 appear in the 1870 Census for Maple Grove, Hennepin Co., MN, with their children Alfred age 17...

Sévère Bottineau died Dec 4, 1872 and is buried in St. Vincent's Cemetery in Osseo. Julia died in 1888 and is buried in St. Vincent's Cemetery in Osseo.

Severe "Surveyor " Bottineau was born in 1822 in Red River of North Dakota. His parents were Marguerite Machequayzaince /Son-gabo-ki-che-ta/ and Charles / Bottineau. One of his older brothers was Pierre Bottineau. He and Pierre were at Fort Snelling in 1837. Severe spoke 4 languages French, English, Ojibway and Dakota. ( MN. Hist. Society. Vol. 9 Biography Sketches.)

Both Pierre and Severe received acquired property through the

*RG 75, Entry 363, "List of Persons to Whom Scrip was Issued under Red Lake & Pembina Treaties...." Halfbreed Scrip No. 45, issued Feb 12, 1873, under the authority of Secretarial Decision, Jun 12, 1872, delivered Feb 12, 1873*

*National Archives, RG 75, Entry 364, "Treaty of APR 12, 1864, Red Lake and Pembina Half-Breeds," Scrip Stubs, Number 45 [checked], dated Feb 12, 1873, 160 Acres, delivered Feb 12, 1873, issued to Severe Bottineau, delivered to Agent E. P. Smith.*

## MAPLE GROVE HISTORICAL PRESERVATION SOCIETY

City of Maple Grove Government Center  
12800 Arbor Lakes Parkway, Maple Grove MN 55369-7064

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