# New Hampshire Telephone Museum Officers and Directors



#### Peter Leberman, Chairman of the Board

Peter has been an attorney with Upton & Hatfield, LLP since 2015, serving business, non-profit, real estate, and estate planning clients from the firm's Hillsborough and Concord offices. Prior to joining Upton & Hatfield, Peter served as Vice President & General Counsel at Northeast Delta Dental headquartered in Concord, and formerly was a Director and Shareholder at Sheehan Phinney Bass + Green in Concord and Manchester.

Peter has been a New Hampshire resident since 1976, and he

graduated from the University of New Hampshire Magna Cum Laude with a BS in Business Administration and from Washington & Lee University School of Law. He also received an LLM in Taxation from Boston University School of Law.

During his 35+ year career, Peter has served more than twenty charitable, community, business, and government organizations. He currently serves on the MainStreet Warner, Inc. Board and the Monadnock Regional Advisory Board of the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation.

Peter lives in Contoocook from where he ventures to the mountains, lakes, and ocean for hiking, skiing, paddle boarding, biking, and other outdoor activities.



### Adam Davidson, CPA, CSA, Treasurer

Adam is a Partner of Davidson & Stone, PLLC, Franchise Owner of Davidson & Sons, a financial advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial, Inc. and Vice President of Davidson & Sons, Inc.

In his capacity as a CPA and Financial Advisor, he has served the Greater Capital region and New England for the past ten years. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting and Economic Finance from the University of Hartford where he was also named a

Theodore D. Veru scholar and named to the President's list on several occasions. He officially earned his CPA credentials in the fall of 2011 and received his Series 7 & 66 licenses in the winter of 2011. He later earned his insurance licenses in 2012.

Adam lives in Concord, NH with his wife, Dana, and their 3 children, Ellis, Cole, and Brooke.



## **Christine Perkins, Secretary**

Chris was an Administrative Assistant in the Human Resources Department at Merrimack County Telephone for 13 years. Prior to that she worked for 18 years at Sanders Associates in the Field Engineer department. As a Provisional Analyst she worked with the US Army on documents needed for the equipment they purchased from Sanders Associates and held a secret clearance in those positions.

She has been Treasurer of the Warner Village Water District (an elected position) for 10 plus years. She has also served as a

Supervisor of the Checklist for 15 years and is currently the Chairperson of that group.

She has served on Warner's Town Budget Committee, as well as in a variety of capacities with the United Church of Warner, including trustee, finance committee, church council and as a delegate to the Nancy Sibley Wilkens Trust Fund.

Chris and her husband, Lynn, have lived in Warner for 30 years, 20 of which they owned and operated Perkins Hardware.



### Walt Aydelotte

Walt has been a student of Telephony for over 40 years. He has been collecting, restoring, buying, and selling early American Telephones since the early 1970s and has been appraising phones and collections of individuals and Museums for the last 20 years.

He is a recognized authority on vintage American Telephones and related artifacts from the 1970s all the way back to 1876, when phones were first invented.

He is very active in Telephone Collector circles, operating on eBay under the Houndstooth handle. He is the Founder, past President and Board Member of the Telephone Collectors International where he is still a member. He is also very active in the Antique Telephone Collectors Association, where he is Member No. 303, dating to 1976. He is also a past member of the European Telephone Historical Group (THG) and the Canadian Telephony Society.



## **Kathleen Bigford**

For 30 years Kathleen was a teacher in public and private education. For most of those years she taught middle years students in a variety of settings where she emphasized involvement in community work with real-life expectations and goals. She is a recipient of the National Civic Star Award from the American Association of School Administrators for implementing creative methods to cultivate community partnerships that enriched student achievement. She also

received a fellowship from the Japan Fulbright Memorial Fund to study in Japan to broaden educational experiences of students in both countries.

Kathleen received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration and Economics cum laude from New England College, a Master of Arts in Liberal Studies with a concentration in Anthropology from Dartmouth College, and a Master of Education in Elementary Education from Antioch New England University.

Since retiring from education Kathleen was a co-founder of the Kearsarge Food Hub (Home of Sweet Beet Market, Farm and Café), where she Chaired the Board of Directors and remains a member emeritus of the Board; she is Editor and Board Member of "The Bradford Bridge," a monthly newspaper that serves Bradford; and was an initiator and is a member of the Bradford Energy Committee. She satisfies her yearning to spend time in local woodlands with land stewarding for the Society for the Protection of NH Forests.

In all seasons Kathleen loves to be outside on her bicycle or skies, or hiking, swimming, and gardening. She has enjoyed life in New Hampshire since 1974. Together with her husband they raised a daughter and a variety of pets and gardens.



#### **Bruce Ellsworth**

Bruce received his Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering from the University of New Hampshire, is a registered professional engineer in the State of New Hampshire and holds the rank of Colonel (retired) in the U.S. Army Reserve. He served as Commissioner of the NH Public Utilities Commission from 1986 to 1998 and has worked for the past 20 years as a Consultant on Energy and Regulatory Issues.

He has served on a number of Boards and Chairs through his career. Currently he serves as Chair of the North American Energy Standards

Board Advisory Council and the Hopkinton NH Planning Board. He is also a member of the North American Energy Standards Board and the Executive Committee of the New York State Reliability Council.

Bruce lives in Hopkinton with his wife, Gail.



#### **David Hatfield**

David began his telecommunications career with Merrimack County Telephone in 1980 by working on the line crew and performing vehicle maintenance while home from college. After graduating from Hiram College with a bachelor's degree in computer science he began working full time for MCT and was responsible for creating the Information Systems Department and bringing all computer operations, including billing and customer service, in-house. David worked closely with Paul Violette to develop the billing and customer service infrastructure required to bring cable television to Warner, Bradford, Sutton, and

Newbury. In the mid 1990's he led the team that formed one of New Hampshire's first internet service providers which provided many of MCT's customers their first access to the internet.

After moving to Minneapolis in 1997, David spent 20 years as a consultant and software developer designing and implementing systems for a variety of clients in the telecommunications, medical devices, and aerospace industries. While in Minnesota, he became a commercial, instrument, multi-engine rated pilot and earned his Airframe and Powerplant certificates. He was a founder and Secretary of the Minnesota Pilot's Association until he and his wife, Linda, moved back to New Hampshire in 2017.

David and Linda live on a residential airpark in West Ossipee NH where he is restoring a 1942 Stearman open cockpit biplane and is the current president of the Windsock Village Aviation Corporation.



## **Douglas S. Hatfield**

An attorney with Upton & Hatfield, Doug provides clients with estate and investment advice, assisting individuals in financial planning for all aspects of their personal, family and business needs. His practice includes general business and real estate transactions.

Doug is active in numerous non-profit organizations including the United Church of Christ, Children's Alliance of New Hampshire (former Board

Member), Havenwood-Heritage Heights Retirement Community, Big Brothers/Big Sisters of the Monadnock Region (former Board Member), Hillsborough Pride, Board Member of the Smith Memorial Church in Hillsborough, NH, Town of Hillsborough Economic Development Committee, Board Member of the Hillcat Summer Theatre. He is also the former secretary and board member of MCT Telecom.

Doug and his wife, Judy, live in Concord NH.



### James W. "Jim" Milliken

Jim was born and grew up in Concord, NH. He graduated from Concord High School and went on to college at the University of New Hampshire.

While in high school, he started working at the Concord Police Department. When he reached age 21, he became a Concord police patrolman. While in college he was a proctor, an intern at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, and a part time Concord policeman.

After college he enlisted in the US Army, served in Vietnam, and was later stationed in Ft. Gordon, Georgia and Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri. He was an Army Criminal Investigator (CID).

After his service he returned to NH to start his working career. For a short period of time, he was again a Concord Police patrolman. This was followed by several changes of employment to include Director of Highway Construction Training at the Associated General Contractors, Director of Apprenticeship Training for the State of NH, Business Manager for the program Mental Health Approaches to Problem Offenders, Executive Director of the Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce, Assistant General Manager-Administration at Merrimack County Telephone Company, Incorporator and President of Job for NH Graduates, and currently is a Financial Representative with Modern Woodmen of America.

Over the years Jim has chaired and served on many volunteer committees including Treasurer of the Greater Concord Council of Churches, Chair of the Concord Regional Food Program, a Founder and Board Member of Volunteer NH, Chair of the NH Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives, Chair of the NH Private Industry Council, NH Representative to the U.S. Small Business Administration, Chair of the Task Force Against Racism and Intolerance, Founder and Chair of Leadership Greater Concord, Member of the Concord Regional Development Corporation, Treasurer of the New Hampshire Telephone Association, Chair of the Board of the Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce, Chair of the Concord Regional Crimeline, Founder and Chair of the Concord Historical Society, and Vice President of the Concord NH 250th Anniversary Celebration. He also organized several state and community events including the NH Folk Festival, and the New Hampshire Celebration of Flight. Honors include Concord's Citizen of the Year in 1996.

Jim lives in Concord, NH, with Susan (Violette). They have been married for 52 years. They have 3 sons, Jim Jr. who lives in Lyndeborough, NH, Andy who lives in Middletown CT and Josh who lives in Warner and one granddaughter, Grace Milliken, who lives with her dad in Warner.

Jim has a BS in Business Administration from the Whittemore School of Business at the University of NH and is a Graduate of the Institute of Organization Management at the University of Delaware.



## **Greg Sargeant**

Greg is a Behavior Analyst with the South Coast Educational Collaborative, Vice President of the Antique Telephone Collectors Association (ATCA), Moderator of a Classic Rotary Phones Forum, and Administrator of the Antique Telephone Signs Facebook page.

He became interested in antique telephones about 15 years ago when he was looking for parts to fix an old phone he had found in his basement. Next thing he knew, had acquired over 100 telephones from various eras. He specializes in early New England phones and signs. Greg serves as Chair of the museum's Collections Committee.



### Marc A. Violette

Marc has 30+ years in Telecom and held a variety of positions including installation/repair, marketing, sales, business development and several management positions. Marc served as executive VP for the Telephone Association of New England.

Marc has served on the Board of Directors for several Chambers of Commerce in NH, The NH Telecom Advisory Board, and as a Commissioner for the NH Enhanced 911 Commission.

Marc is currently an active Real Estate Associate and is a partner in Violette Rentals and Property Management. He also serves on the Board of Directors for the Lake Sunapee Board of Realtors.



## Ryan A. Violette

Ryan was born and raised in Warner NH. He is a graduate of Kearsarge Regional High School and has an Associate's Degree in Business Administration from the New Hampshire Technical Institute. He also attended Coastal Carolina University and Mississippi State University where he studied Professional Golf Management.

After graduating from college, Ryan worked at the Lake Sunapee Country Club in a variety of roles before moving to Chicago and working for PHMG as a Media

Development Executive. He missed NH, so he moved back to the area and went to work at The Granite Group as a Sales and Management Trainee. He has since worked his way up to his current position as Operations Manager.

He and his fiancé, Abby, recently bought a home in his hometown of Warner. Ryan is the great grandson of the museum's founder, Alderic O. "Dick" Violette.



### Paul E. Violette, Director Emeritus

Paul is a retired telecommunications executive who began his 40–year career as a Lineman, working his way through all of the technical craft jobs, to becoming a supervisor and finally a manager and executive. He is a U.S. Navy Veteran, trained and serving as a Communications Technician on surface ships. After his military service he joined the technical staff at the local independent, Hopkinton Telephone Company, which later became Merrimack County Telephone Company. He retired as President & CEO

when MCT sold to Telephone & Data Systems (TDS) in May 2002.

Paul was instrumental in establishing the NH Telephone Museum (NHTM) as a Non-Profit Educational Corporation in 2001 and was elected President & Treasurer. He was the person in charge of all aspects of the museum, from building design and construction; to layout, displays, fixtures, functions, staffing, operations and programs.

A Warner NH native, Paul is a Certified NH Firefighter and served 35 years with the Warner Fire Department, 12 of those years as Chief. He served over 30 years as a Forest Fire Warden & Deputy Warden and as a Special Deputy Warden for the State of NH. He was a Selectman and served on the Budget Committee and Planning Board. He is a member of numerous Clubs & Organizations in Warner and is a former Director at Oxford Networks in Lewiston, Maine; a Board Member of Sunapee Mutual Fire Insurance Co.; and a member of the Investment Committee of Concord General Mutual Insurance Co.

Paul and his wife, Lisa, live in Florida.

## **Past and Current Board Members**

J.D. Colcord 2001-2014 Marc Violette – 2001-Present Dick Violette – 2001-2013 Paul Violette – 2001-2021 (Emeritus) Jim Henley – 2001-2015 Doug Hatfield – 2001-Present John Boatright – 2001-2009 Richard Cutting – 2002-2017 Liz Hager – 2014-2016 Gary Richardson – 2014-2018 Rebecca Courser - 2016-2019 Larry Ballin – 2016-2018 Bruce Ellsworth - 2018-Present Walt Aydelotte – 2018-Present Christine Perkins – 2018-Present Donald Picard - 2018-2019 Ed Raymond – 2018-2022 Adam Davidson – 2019-Present Peter Leberman – 2020-Present David Hatfield – 2020-Present Jim Milliken – 2022-Present Greg Sargeant – 2022-Present Ryan Violette – 2022-Present Kathleen Bigford – 2022-Present

Purple denotes founding board member