The CHM Muse

Breaking Ground for the Exhibition

The End of One Era…
By Karen Kroslowitz

The looks on the faces of the many docents attending the February 9th training session were evidence of the nostalgia we were all feeling for Visible Storage. "The end of an era!" they proclaimed.

"The beginning of another!" I reminded them. The Museum has been, very literally, moving onto greater goals as Visible Storage closed. About half of the artifacts were carefully packed, wrapped and moved to offsite storage; the remainder will stay on-site to be featured in the upcoming exhibition. The room will soon be reconfigured for centralized collections operations.

Special thanks go to Bud Warashina, Dave Bennet, Warren Yogi, Julie Neff, Jeff Shimbo and Kat Powell for helping the Collections staff to pack the small items.

We have a nice photo spread of the relocation project on **pages 2&3** so you can join in the historic experience of the launching the exhibition.


Where Did Visible Storage GO?

Amanda Grundmann & Alex Lux loading moving carts in Visible Storage

2. Internal Relocations
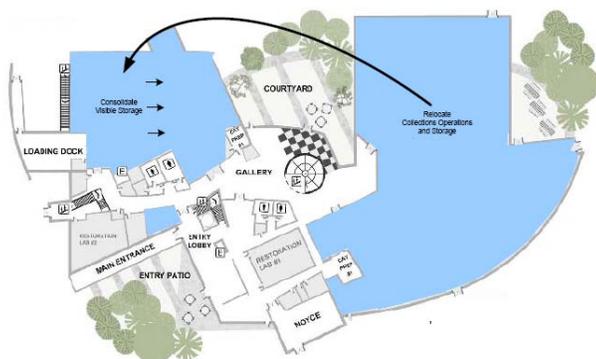
Schedule: January 31, 2010 – March 31, 2010

We have assembled a phase by phase Building Modifications schedule which outlines the milestones from January through exhibit completion in the Fall. If you would like a pdf copy, request one from gmatsushita@computerhistory.org
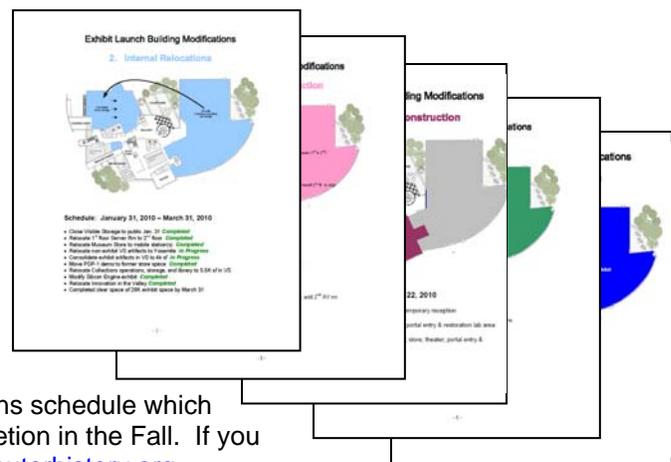
Relocation Project

Visible Storage: Move Step One: Where'd all the railings go?

WISC is on its way to offsite storage!

Securely-packaged unit ready to go

Each large, heavy artifact received a specially-designed skid for moving by our rigging vendors.

Movers load trucks bound for the Yosemite Warehouse

Did Jenny Daly really clear all those PC racks?

Great New Tour Spaces Debut

Visible Storage may be gone, but the creative CHM Collections, Exhibitions and Education teams have redesigned the Front of House tour areas to offer our guests a rich, informative experience when they visit the museum. Babbage demonstrations are as popular as ever, and the new layouts of existing attractions of Mastering the Game, Innovation/Silicon Engine, PDP-1, and the PC Explainer stations, along with the rollout by the Education team of docent-designed tours is adding new energy to the visitor programs.

Hmm, aren't those the doors to the Store?
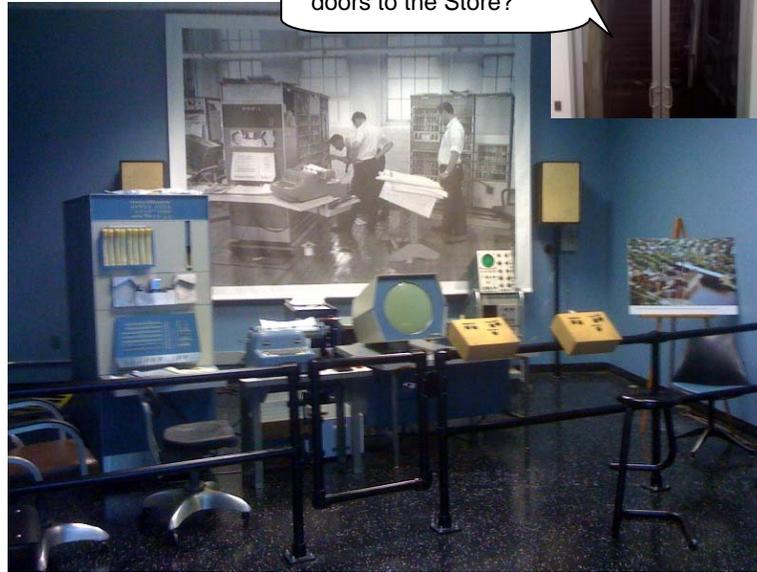
*PDP-1 in its new home in the lobby area*

The new PC Explainer stations

Innovation in the Valley & the Silicon Engine exhibits merge in a newly-designed space

Cray being prepared for its relocation…..
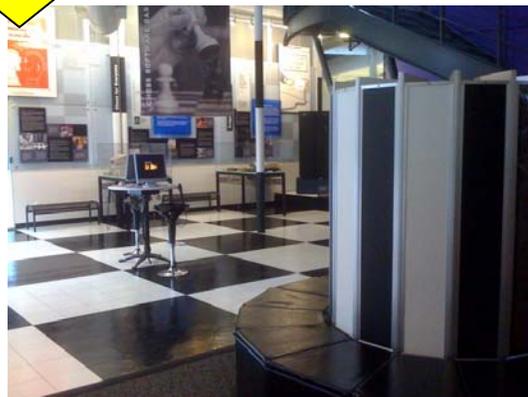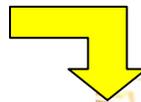
To a new home in the Gallery

Relocation Project

"Another Brick in the Wall"

By Mary Owens,
Director of Corporate Development

The Brick campaign continues to be a huge success! To date, we've secured over $33K in brick sales. We're continuing to expand the campaign with promotional mailings to Silicon Valley executives and technology focused alumni associations including Intel, HP and Intuit inviting them to make their impression at CHM through the purchase of a commemorative brick or wall plaque.

MAKE YOUR IMPRESSION

This campaign is not just another brick in the wall, we're making history!
If you're interested in the brick inscriptions or learning more about the campaign, please see Mary Owens.

Yotta Navigation Gift Kicks Off Founders Stock Program

Jacob Schlesselman (six year old son of Joe). Joe Schlesselman, CEO, Yotta Navigation Corp; Bill Deninger, CTO; and John Hollar, President & CEO of CHM

Here's a picture of signing day at the Computer History Museum for the Yotta Navigation stock gift to seed the brand new Founders Stock Program.

We signed the documents 12/23/09 to create the Founders Stock Program. Trustee Don Massaro, the Chairman of Yotta, contributed 150,000 shares, and Schlesselman and Deninger contributed 25,000 each.

Margie Bell Joins the CHM as Chief Financial Officer

By John Hollar, President & CEO

February 16, 2010

It's my pleasure to welcome Margie Bell to the team today as our new Chief Financial Officer.

Margie comes to us with a great track record as a finance professional. She joins us from her previous post as a Vice President of Accretive Solutions, a nationwide firm supplying short- to long-range financial professionals to companies and non-profits around the country. In that capacity Margie held a number of interim CFO positions with startups throughout the Valley.

Another major highlight of her background was her 11-year career with Xilinx as corporate controller during a time Xilinx went from $150 million to $1 billion in revenue and from 100 to several thousand employees.

Her experience and her strong interest in joining the Museum made her a great fit for our executive staff, and I'm proud to welcome her today.

Volunteers In The News

Volunteers

Fred Ware in Los Altos Town Crier

Recently, Fred Ware, a senior docent with the Museum and a resident of Los Altos, was interviewed for the Los Altos Town Crier. Below is a snippet of the interview.

Q: What is your favorite part of volunteering?

A: I've enjoyed experiencing the visitors' reactions to the museum. The older visitors often comment that they hadn't appreciated how much computing has evolved in just a few decades, and the array of artifacts (particularly the wall of personal computers) emphasizes this point very forcefully.
The very young visitors will occasionally express disbelief when I inform them that we didn't always carry a computer around in our pockets or have one in our homes. The complete article can be found at http://www.losaltosonline.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=20499&Itemid=47,

In Memoriam TED JOHNSTON

Ted Johnston, 79, died on January 12, 2010 after a long battle with lymphoma. Ted served as a regular Friday docent at the Museum from January 2004 to September 2008.

A fourth generation Californian, Ted was born in Paso Robles in 1930 and lived the majority of his life on the Peninsula. He graduated from Sequoia High School in 1947. In 1950, he graduated from the California Maritime Academy in Vallejo, after which he served as a deck officer in the merchant marine and the U.S. Navy from 1950 through 1960. Leaving the sea behind, in 1960 he joined IBM as computer salesman and programmer and moved to Sacramento.

In 1969, he joined the computer center at the SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory on the Stanford University Campus, from which he retired in 1992. In retirement, Ted biked and hiked many of the Bay Area roads and trails in addition to several regions in France during trips he made with the British Ramblers hiking club.

From the Software SIG Newsletter January 2010

We're very pleased to announce that the *IEEE Annals of the History of Computing* has published a special issue on "Mainframe Software: Database Management Systems" co-edited by guest editors Thomas J. (Tim) Bergin and Burton Grad. This issue was produced under the auspices of the Software Industry SIG and includes eight articles by industry pioneers recording the history of significant database management software products as well as two articles by prominent computer historians (Tim Bergin and Thomas Haigh) which provide historical context and interpretation of the events described by the industry pioneers. This issue of *The Annals* is the fourth special issue produced by the SI SIG and its predecessor, the Software History Center. Previous special issues were:

"The Start of the Software Products Industry", Vol. 24, No. 1, January-March 2002
"PC Software: Word Processing for Everyone", Vol. 28, No. 4, October-December 2006
"PC Software: Spreadsheets for Everyone", Vol. 29, No. 3, July-September 2007

A fifth special issue on Relational Database Management Systems is scheduled for publication in 2011. In addition, eleven articles or anecdotes by software industry pioneers have been published in other issues of *The Annals* as a result of the encouragement and support of the SI SIG. Supporting the publication of these stories about the early development and evolution of the software industry is one of our most significant efforts to insure that this information is saved for posterity.

You can receive a copy of this special issue on DBMS by making a donation of $150 or more to the Software Industry Special Interest Group. Make your check payable to the Computer History Museum, note on the check that it is for the Software Industry SIG, and mail it to Computer History Museum, 1401 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View, CA 94043-1311, Attention Accounts Receivable. You will receive an acknowledgement from the Museum confirming your tax deductible contribution.

Thanks,
Luanne Johnson & Burt Grad
Co-Chairs, Software Industry SIG

A Bird's Eye View of CHM

Here's a nice little note & picture from Board member Dotty Hayes to Len Shustek & John Hollar….

Our family Christmas present this year was a Zeppelin ride from Moffett field, which we did today. What a kick! Thought you would like to see this aerial shot of the museum. We probably also went over both of your houses, but I didn't know enough to identify them!

Dotty

A Lunch with Our Donors

The Miner sisters, long time CHM software program supporters, have lunch in Marin with CHM software archivist Sarah Lott and software curator Al Kossow.
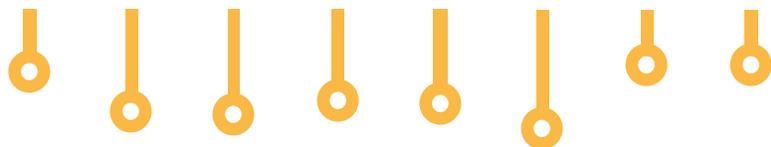
The Monthly FOH Metrics

	December	January
Open Hour Visitors	1713	2057
Babbage Demo Attendees	1167	1014
Tour Attendees	976	777
PDP-1 Demos (1st & 3rd Saturdays)	93	70
Store Sales	$5283	$5422
Front Door Donations	$1413	$1260
Volunteer Hours	1316	971
Total Volunteers	83	95

This Month in History

February 26, 1996

Silicon Graphics Inc. buys Cray Research for $767 million, becoming the leading supplier of high-speed computing machines in the U.S. Over a forty year career, Cray founder Seymour Cray consistently produced most of the fastest computers in the world – innovative, powerful supercomputers used in defense, meteorological, and scientific investigations.

Trivia Question

Last Issue's Trivia Question:
What year was the word "computer" first used to describe a mechanical calculating device?
A. 1897 B. 1912 C. 1926 D. 1942

Answer: A. 1897 - According to the Oxford English Dictionary, the word "computer" was first used to describe a mechanical calculating device in 1897. Although the word existed previously, it had been used to describe "a person who computes or performs calculations."

February Trivia Question:
Kay McNulty, Betty Snyder, Marlyn Wescoff, Betty Jennings, and Fran Bilas are known for their work with which early computer?