



DECconnection

A professional association representing organization for former Digital Equipment Corporation employees

January-February 2021

Events

Planning for 2021 Events

Once again the DEC Connection Board is planning for 2021 events (maybe!) and would like to solicit your input for events you would like to see, pandemic-permitting. Please send ideas to info@deconnection.org.

Covid-19 Avoidance Activities

We'd also like to hear your heartwarming or funny stories about how you've coped with the past year, or during periods of quarantine or relative inactivity. Maybe you can inspire some former DECcies to take up a new hobby in the process! Please send nice stories to info@deconnection.org.

Maynard's 150th Birthday Celebration Update

Not a lot to update other than website: www.maynard150.org

We have been speaking with the planners of the Maynard Sesquicentennial for which many activities have been delayed thru Sept 2021 due to the coronavirus pandemic. The DEC Connection made a generous contribution towards the signage for permanent display in the Ken Olsen Plaza at the corner of Main and Walnut. See photo of current plan, [on our website, here](#); you can see the entire 3rd panel is devoted to Digital.

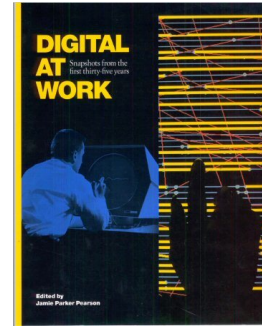
[Here is a recent article about the panels.](#)

Upcoming:

- Phoenix AZ Luncheons, GalenDavis@aol.com - ON HOLD (pending safe social-distancing environment for get-together)
- [See the Compaq Big Band in New England](#)

Digital and the Industry

Thanks to Dave Price for sending a link to the publication *Digital at Work*, edited by Jamie Parker Pearson, 1992. You can download it here. Dave also notes that used paperback copies can be purchased on amazon.com for \$92.50! davep116@gmail.com



Stephen Jablonsky wants to know: "Who wants to ride the Alta Vista blimp?"
stephen.jablonsky@comcast.net

Lost and Found

- DEC Connection member Ron Ham would like to contact former DECcie Paul Saia. If you can help email Ron at rjham@aol.com. Thanks!

DEC Connection Member News

Welcome to our new and renewing members during December and January: Jack (John R.) Anderson (MD), Fred Balfour (NY), Chris Berry (Northampton UK), Ron Chestna (SC), Angela Cossette (MA), Gene Cronin (NC), Ron Ham (MA), Karen Hamilton (MA), Dick Helliwell (NV), F. Cary Hobson (MD), Lindalee Cummings Johnson (CO), Julie Labbe (MA), Al Mullin (FL), Frank Pascucci (CT), Dilip Phadke (MA), Lou Rubino (MA), Grant Tilby (Philippines), and Phil Viscomi (CT).



Please RENEW your membership if you're due - members check the Member Service Center (instructions below). Other readers, if you are enjoying our e-newsletters please consider joining and sending in a brief update on your activities for our newsletter. Here is how to join

or renew:

Membership Renewal Procedure

* Click link to see if your membership is current in our [Member Service Center](#) and pay online with a credit card. If you have paid dues since 2010 you will be there - use the email address we have on file - no leading or trailing spaces - email ava@deconnection.org for help.

* You can also join us (or renew) at [Join the DEC Connection online!](#)

* You can send personal checks made out to DEC Connection to Nancy Kilty, 33 Forest St. Unit 416, Lexington MA 02421.

* If you prefer to use your PayPal account directly (not via our website), use our payment address: registrations@deconnection.org - do NOT use any Board member's personal email address.

Member Newsbytes: Please send your personal news updates to info@deconnection.org. We need your participation to provide an interesting and relevant newsletter for our readers.

▪ **Ron Ham** writes: My two sons and a grandson put together our Ham Ancestry thru 1800. This effort included the four of us on a two week visit to Poland. It was great! We actually knocked on the door of The old Ham Farm. (In fact, it is a tree farm and saw mill that has been in continuous operation by a Ham (actually Cham) since 1850. Really cool. In case you missed it above, Ron is also trying to locate Paul Saia. rjham@aol.com

▪ **Helena Prindle aka Helena Veilleux** writes: I worked at DEC for 19+years and my last day was the Friday before Compaq took control. For the majority of my tenure, I was part of the A&SG, Corporate Customer Visits, and Corp Sales Training. I spent a good amount of time trying to find another company that had the same kind of culture that DEC had - without much success. Some came close though. I retired last year and now live in Florida, The Villages. My husband Ted and I wanted to retire to an active community and found our piece of heaven on earth. Various activities keep us busy. We have 3 grandsons ages 18-22. To this day and all the jobs, Digital remains the one with the fondest memories. helena.prindle@gmail.com

▪ **Wayne Gaskill** writes: Mary-Jo and I are doing fine living in the Tampa, Florida area. We have been retired for 15 years and I love helping others in the community and church. We still do boating in the Florida way, which is a smaller boat so we can scoot around the area waters. We have two grandchildren who are twins in the DC area. Life is GOOD! c.wayne.gaskill@gmail.com

▪ **Ruth Armknecht** writes: Being in Georgia just isn't the same as the old times when my first location was on Parker Street and a short commute to Concord. Now I've become a Southerner but still talk New England!
rarmkn9561@gmail.com

▪ **Angela Cossette** is a new DEC Connection member. Angela started work at Digital in 1963 and took the SERP in 1992. Managed DECUS for several years and also worked for Software Services and Field Service Administration. She also developed the Gold Key Program for Distributors and Resellers.
fourkids10grand@aol.com

HPAA Group Newsletters have Moved

Curt Gowan, who runs the HP Alumni Assn. (HPAA), moved their group newsletters in December, from Yahoo Groups which shut down, to Google Groups. We recommend subscribing at their new groups so you can easily keep up with anything you deem important. As before, each group has a separate email subscription list. The specific group is given in the subject line of each email in square brackets -- i.e. [HPAA Benefits, which includes Digital Retiree Benefits]. Groups you can monitor include: News, Benefits, Finance, Jobs, TechTalk, and Memorials. As before, content is moderated. Every email has an easy unsubscribe link at the end. Go to <https://www.hpalumni.org/> for the website and you can subscribe to specific newsletters there.

NOTE TO OUR READERS: Please do not be concerned if, when clicking on a link in this email, your browser or antivirus program tells you that you are attempting to visit a dangerous or unsafe web address. Many browsers now flag any site without an SSL certificate (i.e., encryption) as unsafe (it's not). When you purchase tickets through our website, we transfer you to the PayPal website, which DOES use SSL encryption software.

Sad News Department

Sadly, we were informed of these deaths of former Digital employees since last newsletter. Our condolences go out to friends and families of:

- * Dick Stevenson, Colorado Springs, 24 Jan 2021
- * Geoff Shingles, 81, England, UK, 14 Jan 2021
- * Jill McPhee, 66, Hopkinton/Harvard MA, 8 Jan 2021
- * Ray Michel, 79, Lowell MA, 24 Dec 2020
- * Jim Albrycht, 81, East Sandwich/Stow MA, 6 Mar 2020
- * Dan Vertrees, 69, Houston TX, 30 Mar 2019

[Details are on our Memorial Page.](#)

Website Features and Updates

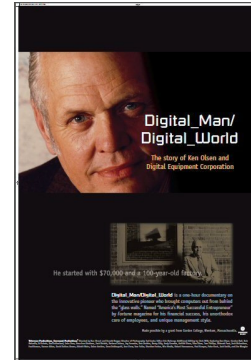
- **Topics of Interest** tab: We've added a button on the left-hand menu that takes you to articles that have appeared in past newsletters. Here are some sample topics: Medicare Seminar & Research - 6/20; AON Exchange Feedback from retirees - 10/18; Harvard Business School's Baker Library (Ken Olsen Collection); and, David Mark's series of 11 articles on Digital - 11/19-3/20
- [Where to Donate your Digital Equipment gear](#)

- The PBS video of the documentary about Ken and the history of DEC, **Digital_Man/Digital_World**, is available online at

[Digital Man/Digital World](#)

It's a wonderful hour-long nostalgia trip. Enjoy!

- Another URL to watch same documentary on your computer is: <http://video.wfyi.org/video/2282149336/>



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- **Use your MEMBER SERVICE CENTER!** Use the gold Member Login button if you have paid dues since 2010. There are queries to find members in your area, and forms to submit to update your profile, send your news, DEC stories, and business listings for our public online yellow pages. You can check your dues status and renew your membership online. You can email a small photo for your profile, and send info for articles such as Featured Entrepreneur.
 - **[DEC Stories]** submitted by our members and readers - We are still collecting your unusual, humorous or just favorite DEC stories. Email them to info@deconnection.org. [Click on this link.](#)
 - **Featured Member Entrepreneur** - Email info@deconnection.org with details - 2-3 paragraphs about your business and your photo.
 - If you need info about your **Digital defined benefit plan/retirement**, start by calling the HP Retirement Services Center at Fidelity: 1- 800-457-4015
 - For **Stock plan** info, try Morgan Stanley: 1-210-677-3652 or [this website](#)
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