

April 2015 News-at-a-Glance



Recent EVENTS:

The initial get-together of the new **Southwest Florida Chapter** came off not quite as planned with several folks unable to attend due to illness, but nonetheless they are now up and running. Thanks to **Sally Hering** for organizing the dinner and to **Joanne Haddad Jacobs** for sharing these pictures. **SAVE THE DATE** now for next year's reunion - February 24, 2016 at the Bayside Bar & Grill on the beautiful waterfront in Naples FL. **Snowbirds welcome!**



Ronny & Al Sorkin, Sheila Pidgeon Hill and Joanne (Haddad) Jacobs enjoying a drink on the waterfront, while our organizer Sally Hering recovered at home.

The **Colorado Springs (CXO)** 13th Annual Reunion held 24 April 2015 attracted 146 DEC alums. Photos available soon. The 14th annual DEC reunion will be held on April 22nd, 2016 – always the 4th Friday of April. Save the Date!

Thanks to Nancy Kilty and **Legacy Financial Advisors** for sponsoring the 25 April BBQ Luncheon and Shredding Day in Westborough MA.

Reunion With Your Peers - [click here for information](#) about running your own reunion locally with DEC Connection support.

UPCOMING:

A reminder that a family-sponsored memorial event will celebrate Ted Johnson's life at the DeCordova Museum in Lincoln MA on Sunday, May 17, 2015. 51 Sandy Pond Rd, Lincoln, MA 01773. (781) 259-8355. Time not yet announced.



Maynard Area Summer Event



Based on the positive response to our recent survey, the DECconnection summer event this year will be held at Kimballs Farm, 400 Littleton Road, Westford, MA the afternoon of Saturday, June 13th.

Lots of fun to be had for everyone with games, rides, food, drinks and of course their famous ice cream. You can see what they have to offer by visiting their website at <http://kimballfarm.com>.

DECconnection will provide \$10 gift certificates for all registered members – these can be spent on anything that takes your fancy (food, drinks, rides, games, ice cream, etc.) Non-members/guests are welcome to join us, but will not receive a gift certificate.

Plan on being there anytime after 1:00 and look for the DECconnection banner.

To sign up (no advance tickets required, but we'd appreciate knowing if you plan to attend) please email Ava@deconnection.org with your name, email address, and # of attendees.

In the event of rain, outing will be postponed 2 weeks until Saturday, June 27th. We'll announce cancellation on our website home page.

DEC Connection Member News

Welcome to new and renewing members: **Lester Cuff (NH), Paul Donovan (CT), Greg Hoffman (CO), and Barry Rosen (MA)**.

Membership Renewal Procedure:

Best method to renew: Click this 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 www.deconnection.org/join-online.htm
- You can also send a check to The DEC Connection, c/o Bob Moore, 28 Fernglade Rd., Burlington MA 01803. \$10 for 1 year, \$25 for 3 years.
- 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.

Staying on our email list: Our newsletter contact manager removes names if the recipient mail server sends a rejection notice. If you haven't received DEC Connection's News-at-a-Glance in a while, or you changed your email address, re-register for our free e-news at: <http://www.deconnection.org/mail.htm>

DEC Connection Member NewsBytes: send yours to: ava@deconnection.org.

[See our new NewsByte archive page.](#)

- Congratulations to DEC Connection Member **Helen and Don Von Gunden** of Elbert CO, who were honored for extraordinary dedication to community service at the April Black Forest AARP meeting. They were presented the national AARP Chapter and REA Unit Community Service Award and a commemorative pin for their exceptional hard work and dedication to community service. The prestigious award, co-signed by AARP President, Jeannine English and AARP CEO Jo Ann C. Jenkins, reads in part, "Your efforts have

enriched the lives of friends and neighbors and made your community a better place to live." During the past year Helen and Don both volunteered many hours working Chapter and AARP Colorado information tables and health fairs. Don also served as the Chapter 1100 web site developer and as an AARP Foundation Tax Aide volunteer. Helen skillfully edits, publishes and distributes a professional monthly Chapter Newsletter to all Chapter members and selected members in the community. She is also the Chairperson of the Chapter Catering Committee that planned several very successful catered Chapter events during the past year. See award presentation photo below. Congrats may be emailed to Helen at helenv5@msn.com. (Note from Editor: Thanks to the Colorado Springs Group for publicizing this great news.)



Award Photo: Black Forest AARP Chapter 1100 President Chuck Karlstrum (L) and Chapter Award Chairman Ted Lunacek (Far Right), present the 2015 AARP Chapter and REA Unit Community Service Award to Don and Helen Von Gunden.

Sad News Dept.

We are saddened to report the recent deaths of these former Digital engineers. [See Memorial page for details.](#)

- Randy Vance, Colorado Springs, 21 April 2015
- William C. (Bill) Blake, Lunenburg MA, 18 April 2015
- Mark J. Eager, Colorado Springs, 4 April 2015
- Dale C. Troppito, Carlisle MA, 18 March 2015

Website Updates:

- [Where to Donate your Digital Equipment gear](#)
- US - **Medicare webinar presentations and Q-and-A** now online: Medicare is much more complex than one would think... and there can be some expensive surprises. The presentations and Q-and-A from the HPAA Medicare webinar are now online. Both speakers are very experienced, succinct, and practical. <http://www.hpalumni.org/medicare>
 - Part 1 -- Medicare explained -- with Heads Up Warnings, by non-profit health insurance counselor Connie Corrales.
 - Part 2 -- Medicare for HP Retirees, by Aon Retiree Health Exchange analyst

David Rew.

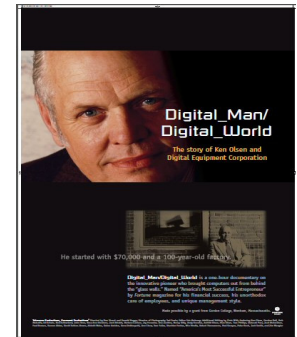
- Part 3 -- Q and A. Again thanks to Curt Gowan for this valuable advice.

- A handy list of health-related resources for "near-seniors" is on our [Links page](#).
- If you know someone who has been offered the HP 2014 U.S. Phased Retirement Program, please send them this link: <http://www.hpalumni.org/PRP>
This independent site has advice and reference info from HP alumni who have gone through previous retirement/layoff cycles. We also have an email list for updated info and moderated discussions. Thanks to Curt Gowan for this info.
- Know someone who is leaving HP? Please pass the word to anyone leaving HP to use the HP Alumni Association's "ASAP Checklist" immediately. It has advice and mutual help -- developed by HPAA members -- on the many things you have to do before you lose access to HP's internal systems. Thanks to Curt Gowan for this posting. Go to <http://www.hpalumni.org/asap> (HPAA membership not required.)
- The PBS video of the documentary about Ken and the history of DEC, Digital_Man/Digital_World, is available online (\$25+s/h) from the PBS store:

<http://www.shoppbs.org/product/index.jsp?productId=13315614>

It's a wonderful hour-long nostalgia trip. Enjoy! For those who prefer to watch the free version on their computers, the URL is: <http://video.wfyi.org/video/2282149336/>

- 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, access or request membership in our LinkedIn Group, 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 webmaster@deconnection.org. They should be one page or less and be entertaining to our members. [Click on this link](#) to enjoy the ones submitted so far.
- Featured Member Entrepreneur - Email webmaster with details - 2-3 paragraphs about your business and your photo.
- If you are a member you are entitled to join our Linked In DECconnection Group. Request from within LinkedIn to be added or [email webmaster](#)..



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