

January 2014 News-at-a-Glance



EVENTS

- We are excited to announce a reunion for folks who worked in/closely with **BOIS** (Business & Office Information Systems, located at TTB in Nashua, the group that marketed ALL-IN-1 and other fine products). Event will be **Wednesday, March 19th, 6:30 PM**, at the [Glenview Pub and Grill](#), 248 Princeton St., North Chelmsford, MA, 978-251-3591. Appetizers will be served, full cash bar available. Other than the cash bar, there is no charge for this event for paid-up members. Cost is \$10 to join the DEC Connection for 2014. To register, email webmaster@deconnection.org to let us know you are coming and then pay online by joining if you're not a member. [To join DEC Connection, now go to this link](#) and note BOIS in the Other Comments field. Limit of 35 attendees in our private room so get your reservation now! Please feel free to circulate this invitation to BOIS/TTB friends. Any questions to Jack at jack@deconnection.org or 1-978-897-2192. As a prep for this event you might enjoy this link to Skip Walter's Jan 2012 blog: [The Making of Enterprise Software ALL-IN-1](#).



Jack Mieski



Skip Walter

- We are delighted to announce that our sponsor **Legacy Financial Advisors, Inc.** is again offering DEC Connection members an educational seminar about saving taxes and estate planning called "**Live a Less Taxing Life**". The dinner Seminar will be held on **Thursday, March 6th at 6:30 PM** at the **River Rock Grill** in **Maynard**. Some of the topics to be discussed are shown below.

- Complimentary Dinner Seminar
Sponsored by: Legacy Financial Advisors, Inc.

Live a Less Taxing Life

Featured Speakers: Paul Mauro, CLU, ChFC

Louis V. Sorgi., Estate Planning Attorney

- > Can you convert your IRA assets to ROTH assets at a reasonable rate?
- > Can you use financial tools to produce tax exempt income?
- > Do you want to make your estate 100% tax free for your children?
- > How do state taxes, federal taxes and medicare taxes impact choices?
- > How do estate planning tools reduce income taxes for the family?

To register, email webmaster@deconnection.org with your name(s), email address, address, phone, # people attending (1 or 2), put Legacy Financial Seminar in Subject line. [The River Rock Grill](#) is at 163 Main St. in Maynard, across the street from the Mill. (978) 897-5500. Any questions about the seminar, contact Nancy Kilty at 781-861-7487.

- **Compaq Big Band** Valentine's Dance is Back! Saturday February 15th Crowne Plaza Nashua NH. Tickets are available on www.compaqbigband.com for \$18 per person. Doors open at 7:00pm, and there will be a beginner-friendly swing dance lesson by Dance2Swing Studios 7:30pm-8:30pm. The band will play 8:30pm-11:30pm.



DEC Connection Member News

A new year, it's membership renewal time...a hearty Re-welcome to our renewing members: **Regina Barton, Greg Bassett, Ken Chernack, Art Clockedile, Guillermo Barrera Fierro, Ellie Gadowski, Colleen Goleman, Marilyn Goodrich, Karen Hamilton, Dick Helliwell, Joe Hynes, Larry Kennedy, MaryEllen Kennedy, Ivan Kristoffy, V. Bradford Lawson, Ed**



LoTurco, Joanne Masingill, Terry Melle, Aline Migrants, Nancy Mongelli, Ellen Simarano, David Velten, and Pam Verrill.

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 for you - no leading or trailing spaces and it should work - email webmaster@deconnection.org for help.

- You can also join us (or renew) at www.deconnection.org/join.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 - please do NOT use any of the Board members' personal email addresses.

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: www.deconnection.org/mail.htm

Preaching to the Choir - about DEC Connection and Digital

Ava recently received an inquiry from a journalist in Switzerland who plans to write an article about Digital and DEC Connection. She sent the reply below; we'll certainly let you know about any article that ensues.

"We started the DEC Connection in 2006 (as an expansion of the original Digital Retirees Association, created by some folks in the USA retiring from Digital Equipment Corporation in the early 1990s with the first early retirement program offered), thus opening up an association to all former employees of Digital. We are a handful of volunteers, all former employees, and do not have any formal corporate affiliation. We run this program to help former employees of Digital network and keep in touch by running events and sharing news. We are only one of many such organizations across the world. [The ones I know of are listed with contacts on our website on this page.](#) So while we have a couple thousand folks on our direct mailing list, the number of alums keeping in touch worldwide is probably 25 times that. Digital over the years had over 350,000 employees worldwide. We do have one member from Switzerland now. I will forward this note to him and ask him to get in touch with you if he wishes to share his experience, maybe you can get some local color.

One might ask why so many people want to keep alive an affiliation with a company that unfortunately went out of business more than 15 years ago. It is a matter of uniqueness and corporate culture that we are all proud of and wish to preserve. Digital was a unique experience in our lives both technologically and personally. The technology was innovative and engineering-driven, which was a first in the computer industry. But Ken Olsen's (Digital's founder) values and corporate culture were unique and still are in most of our professional experience. As an individual employee we each had the opportunity to create, propose, and lead efforts in our own areas of expertise, relatively unhampered by bureaucracy. You could contribute at Digital like nowhere else. Throughout the 1960s-1980s, Digital was a place to strive for professional self-actualization within a pretty supportive environment. As a behavioral consultant, you will probably appreciate this point. [Here is a summary on our website](#) that explains the corporate values as well as our technological uniqueness. Many

consultants and former employees have written about the Digital culture. I can refer you to one or two of them should you want to delve further."

DEC Connection Member NewsBytes: send yours to:

webmaster@deconnection.org. [See our new NewsByte archive page.](#)

- Guillermo Barrera Fierro, Miami FL writes: I like to stay active. After I sold my dot.com back in 2002 I have been studying the market for new opportunities, and many have come true. I am open to working with interested parties. gbfierro@gmail.com

Sad News Department

One of our SE Florida Chapter members, **My-Quan Tran**, is battling lung cancer. He'd welcome notes and prayers from former co-workers, send email to him at myquant@gmail.com. My-Quan was delighted that former co-worker Robert Sarao from MA, who worked with him at the Mill, recently made a trip to see him.

Our sincere condolences to family and friends of:

- our member **John R. Trubiano**, 71, Sudbury MA, who passed away on January 14th. His wife Mary, also a DECcie, can be reached at trubianoquality@verizon.net.
- **Gene Owens**, 71, Greensboro GA, who passed away on December 23rd.

[Details are on our Memorials Page](#)

Trying a New Feature - Tech Talk

Jack Mileski has suggested a regular area where we can submit questions and request answers and advice from our members and readers.

His first question is: **Microsoft is going to end support of XP in April 2014. I am running Microsoft XP Pro. Can I upgrade (i.e. not a "clean" installation) from XP to Vista and/or Windows 7 with leaving my files and setting unchanged? If so, how?"**

If you have advice to share please email it to webmaster@deconnection.org and it will be published next issue (and given to Jack immediately :))

Please send your own questions also! No limit.

Also of great interest is the paper that our member **Dave Goodwin** of Digital U.K. researched and wrote for an advanced degree thesis about the reasons for Digital's ultimate failure. [You can download his 12-page paper at this link](#), and we will print comments and discussion sent to webmaster@deconnection.org.



Dave Goodwin

Website Updates

- 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 on their computers, the free version 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 always collect your unusual, humorous or just favorite DEC stories. Email them to webmaster@deconnection.org. [Click on this link](#) to enjoy.
- 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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