



# DECconnection

A professional association representing organization for former Digital Equipment Corporation employees

## Upcoming Events



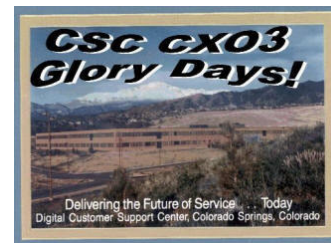
Sat. 2 Apr 2016 12 noon **Semi-annual Phoenix AZ luncheon** at Santisi Brothers Sports Bar, 2710 West Bell Road, Phoenix, Arizona. [Website](#) Info: Galen Davis - email [galendavis@aol.com](mailto:galendavis@aol.com)

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21 April 2016 - Digital Germany: Colleagues from the former WEGY offices (Cologne area) will hold their yearly meeting on 21st of April in Cologne. If you are interested to join us, please contact Ingolf Marzenski at [Ingolf@DECnett.de](mailto:Ingolf@DECnett.de).

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Fri. 22 April 2016 - Colorado Springs 14th Annual Reunion at the Academy Hotel Info: Theresa Cordova, [cosdecreunion@yahoo.com](mailto:cosdecreunion@yahoo.com) This is a BIG deal! Past events have drawn 150-400 attendees, DECcies and guests. Not just for CX03 :)



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Sat. April 30, 2016 - from 10 AM - 2 PM - Greater Maynard Area **Shredding Party with Barbeque - Sponsored by Legacy Financial Advisors** Join us for music, food, drinks and good company while we safely destroy your confidential documents. Bring family and friends. Nancy Kilty, DEC Connection president, will host participants from The DEC Connection. Please RSVP by email by Tuesday, April 26th to [ava@deconnection.org](mailto:ava@deconnection.org). (Please provide your name and name of guests, email and phone number.) There is no fee for this event. Location: Westborough Office Park, 1700 West Park Drive (Patio), Westborough MA

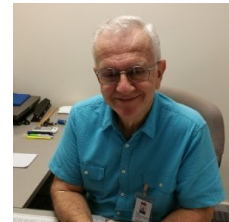
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Sat. 30 Apr 2016 - Southeast Florida - 7:30-11 PM  
**Casual Get-together in Boynton Beach FL** all ex-DECCies are invited, wherever you worked: LA/CR-Deerfield, Sales/Service, Retirees, Relocates, and Snowbird stragglers :) Good conversation and reminiscing along with hors d'oeuvres, desserts, wine/beer/soft drinks. Email Ava Schutzman with your name, guest name, and cell phone to [ava@deconnection.org](mailto:ava@deconnection.org)



Sun. 5 June 2016 - Maynard area - Scottish Music and Dinner. The Strathspey & Reel Society will have the honor of helping the Longfellow's Wayside Inn, Sudbury, MA, celebrate their 300th Anniversary by presenting a concert in the big tent on the grounds of the Inn at 72 Wayside Inn Rd, Sudbury, MA 01776  
Time: 2:00 P.M. Dinner optional before or after the concert (will be selling tickets). Info: [marilyngoodrich@comcast.net](mailto:marilyngoodrich@comcast.net)

Sat. 15 Oct 2016 - **The 30th anniversary of "Discover Digital in the Caribbean"**, a DECworld-like show in 1986, will take place in San Juan, Puerto Rico. To attend, contact Alex at [alexrsinger@yahoo.com](mailto:alexrsinger@yahoo.com)



*Alex Singer*

## Digital and the Industry

Denzil Doyle, DEC Canada (1963-1981) writes:  
Hi DEC Connection,

**Below is a note I wrote years ago that I think DEC Connection readers would find interesting. It is about the first minicomputer sold. It was a PDP-5. The customer was a nuclear reactor laboratory in Canada.**



### ***The Beginning of the Minicomputer Era***

In 1963, Digital Equipment Corporation installed a control system for a nuclear reactor at the Chalk River laboratories of Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd. The PDP-5 shown above was the first 12 bit computer supplied by Digital and it was designed specifically for this application. Digital's original plans for a small computer involved a 10 bit computer patterned after the L-1 designed at the MIT's Lincoln Laboratory. AECL insisted on a 12-bit machine because 12-bit analog-to-digital converters were used to collect signals from the reactor. The PDP-5 was succeeded by the PDP-8 which ushered in the minicomputer era a year later. The cabinet to the left of the PDP-5 was required to house an additional 8K of memory (12-bit words) in addition to the 4K contained in the main cabinet. The cost of this installation was about \$250,000 (about \$2.5 million in 1991 dollars).

Note from Editor: a larger version of this picture is [posted on our website at this link](#).

Always-alert member Marcia Russell shares this news from the NPR email:

### **Ray Tomlinson, Inventor Of Modern Email, Dies**

Raymond Tomlinson, the inventor of modern email and selector of the "@" symbol, has died. He had been still working at Raytheon Co.

[Full article is at this link on the NPR website.](#)

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## **DEC Connection Member News**

## **Welcome to our many new and renewing members during March:**

Bob Arnett (GA), Ernie Bauer (MA), Jerry Bernath (FL), Gail Blizzard (MA), Jon Braley (MA), Stephen Brewton (CO), Michael Brittan (NH), Ken Brown (NH), Mark Brown (MA), Michael Bujnowski (NH), Jack Burness (CO), Tim Carlson (CA), Barbara Cochrane (NH), Clem Cole (MA), Richard Collins (MA), Paula Daley (MA), Allan Demers (FL), Joe Dempster (NJ), Eileen DerGurahian (MA), Lou DiFinizio (MA), Karen Dorhamer-Fadden (MA), Pete Durant (FL), Marce Enright (MA), Bob Farquhar (NH), John Fischer (CO), Vanessa Fox (MA), Ellie Gadomski (MA), Doug Garber (MA), Wayne Gaskill (FL), Barbara Gavin (CT), Ray Graber (MA), Karen Gremo (MA), Bernie Hall (MA), Vida H. (MA), Ron Hatfield (FL), John Hopkins (MA), Lyle Hughes (MA), Tom Jeleniewski (MA), Tom Iannotti (MA), Jackie Kahle (NH), Jim Kelley (NH), Peter Koch (NH), Tom Kopec (MA), Julie Labbe (MA), Berthold Langer (NH), V. Bradford Lawson (MA), Mattieu LeGuay (France), Lois Levick (MA), Dave Levy (MA), Kevin Liston (SC), Rich Loring (MA), Harry Manuel (MA), Eliane Markoff (MA), Dennis McMann (NH), Rodney Mitchell (NH), Pat Molloy (FL), Bob Moore (MA), Bob Morrison (MA), Don Murphy (MA), Cynthia Nadreau Whitty (MA), Jean Nagle (MA), Bob Newman (MA), Dick Nixon (NH), Dick Noddin (ME), Marty Palmieri (MA), Alessandro Peruzzetto (Italy), Lou Philippon (MA), David Polewarczyk (MA), John Potucek (NH), Sriram Ramanathan (NY), John D. Reilly (MA), Phil Reimann (MA), Liz Robertson (MA), John Rose (MA), Michelle Rosen (MA), Dale Rutschow (CO), Bob Schmid (CA), David Siembieda (IL), Mark Silverberg (MA), Andrea Starr (MA), Michael Temkin (MO), Liz Thibeault (MA), Bob Travis (ME), Peter Vatne (NH), Rick Watson (MA), Nigel Webb (CO), Penny Webb (CO), Steve Webber (MA), Barbara Weinstein (MA), Sue Weiss (MA), Steve Wells (NH), Bob Welzel (NJ), George Woods (MA), and Don Yelton (NH).



Thanks to those who renewed in response to our email reminder. If you have not paid dues in the past but are enjoying our e-newsletters please consider joining for a year 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](mailto:ava@deconnection.org) for help.
- You can also join us (or renew) at [Join the DEC Connection online!](#)
- You can also send a personal 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](mailto:registrations@deconnection.org) - do NOT use any Board member's personal email address.

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## DEC Connection Member NewsBytes

send yours to: [ava@deconnection.org](mailto:ava@deconnection.org) [See our NewsByte archive page.](#)

\* **Dick Helliwell** reports that he and his family moved from Colorado Springs, CO to Dayton, NV in 2015. [rph@stanfordalumni.org](mailto:rph@stanfordalumni.org)

\* **Michael Temkin** writes: These days I am still working for HPE in the Technical Services Support organization, performing network design and configuration work for short engagement, corporate customers. Outside of work I am still an avid baker (when I can) and I have been performing in community theater and choruses for the past 5 years. I am currently with the Gateway Men's Chorus here in St. Louis, MO. [michael.temkin@mac.com](mailto:michael.temkin@mac.com)

\* **Dale Rutschow** sent his membership renewal in with some very sad news: he is in hospice from a form of ALS and Lyme disease. Although he cannot speak, he can communicate via email and would love to hear from former co-workers in the Colorado Springs Gold and NASDAQ support teams (1995-2003), Chapel Hill NC support (1983-1988), and Rockford IL/Chicago (1990-1995) support organizations. Please email him at [dalerutschow@comcast.net](mailto:dalerutschow@comcast.net)

\* **Dave Levy** writes: I am the Technology Coordinator for the [Pilgrim Area Educational Collaborative](#) in Pembroke, MA. I also do bookkeeping work for [Brookwood Community Farm in Milton/Canton MA](#). Other than that, you can find me riding my bicycle (4,000+ miles last year) and playing with my grandkids. [david.alan.levy@gmail.com](mailto:david.alan.levy@gmail.com)

\* **Fred Balfour** writes that he and wife Sharon have enriched their retirement by relocating from their 33-year home in Newton to homes near their two daughters and 5 grandchildren in Freeville NY (Ithaca) and Somerville MA. In addition to grandchild time we've enjoyed travel to visit other family and friends, and we participate in book clubs and civic activities. [fred.balfour@gmail.com](mailto:fred.balfour@gmail.com)

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## Sad News Department

Please see note from Dale Rutschow above in Member Newsbytes - he'd love to hear from former co-workers in Chapel Hill NC, Rockford IL/Chicago and Colorado Springs.

Sadly, we have some deaths of former Digital employees to report:

- \* Dale J. Roberts, 61, Chandler AZ, 23 Mar 2016
- \* Glenn Foley, 65, Marlborough MA, 23 Feb 2016
- \* Gino Berno, Macedon and Pittsford NY, 21 Feb 2016

As a result of sending our invoices we were saddened to learn from family of the 2015 deaths of two of our DEC Connection members:

- \* Bud (Hilton G.) LaCure, 78, Sudbury MA, 7 Aug 2015
- \* John B. Wyatt, 70, Chapel Hill NC, 14 Jul 2015
- [Details are on our Memorial Page.](#)

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## Website Features and Updates

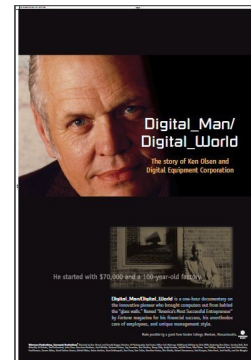
- [Where to Donate your Digital Equipment gear](#)

The PBS video of the documentary about Ken and the history of DEC, **Digital\_Man/Digital\_World**, is available online (\$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: [Link to Ken Olsen/Digital Video](#)



- **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](mailto:webmaster@deconnection.org). They should be one page or less and be entertaining to our members. [Click on this link.](#)

- **Featured Member Entrepreneur** - Email [ava@deconnection.org](mailto:ava@deconnection.org) 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 LinkedIn to be added or email [ava@deconnection.org](mailto:ava@deconnection.org).

**Hewlett-Packard Alumni Association info (membership not required)** Thanks to Curt Gowan for sharing all of this valuable advice.

- US - Medicare webinar presentations and Q-and-A: Medicare is much more complex than one would think... and there can be some expensive surprises. 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.

- HP stock and options issues: <http://www.hpalumni.org/stock>

- HP U.S. Phased Retirement Program: <http://www.hpalumni.org/PRP>

- Leaving HP? 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. [Go to](#)

<http://www.hpalumni.org/asap>

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Web Version

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