

DEC Connection
About Digital
Reminiscing and Ruminating...
The lowest Badge Number I ever met....

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Author

Topic: The lowest Badge Number I ever met.... (Read 1770 times)

SEHarker

Newbie



Posts: 17



The lowest Badge Number I ever met....

« on: November 15, 2007, 02:18:00 PM »

[QUOTE](#) [MODIFY](#) [DELETE](#) [SPLIT](#)



....was Walter "Wally" Majewski. Wally was somewhere in the 600's (there may have been others who I met who were lower, but Wally stands out). When we first met, Wally rode herd over DEC's Printing & Circulation Services Group in Northborough (a.k.a., "Northboro"), MA. What I recall about our first meeting was a page from the Digital Telephone Directory, cast in bronze, hanging on a wall of Walt's office. Walt took pride in noting it wasn't "a" page, it was the "only" page of the first Directory to be printed, and his name was on it. When the opportunity arose I was able to sneak a closer look and, yes, indeed, there it was under "M".

(One reason for installing this as a topic was that, depending on when you entered the Corporation, your Badge number seemed to take on greater or lesser importance. If you entered in the Seventies, you tended to hold any number under 5000, in reverence, and any under 1000 and its holder as an Apostle of Ken's. Much later, on several occasions, I had an employee look at my Badge (29xxx) and whistle, "Boy, you must be an old timer". Invariably, I would wave off the comment explaining I had entered over twenty years after Digital's incorporation, (But, I still walked off feeling a little smug).)



[Report to moderator](#) 66.189.36.56 (?)

Isegal

Newbie



Posts: 23



Re: The lowest Badge Number I ever met....

« **Reply #1** on: January 22, 2008, 08:18:48 PM »

[QUOTE](#) [MODIFY](#) [DELETE](#) [SPLIT](#)




Does Ken (# 1) count? 😊

I literally almost ran into him as I was leaving (3rd shift supv) and he was arriving back in 1980. He rounded the corner of Bldg 4 (IIRC) from the parking lot in a hurry and I was coming up close to the building heading towards the parking lot.

A few years later my office (MLO12-1) was located where the corporate entrance was created (we got kicked out to build it) and I used to run into Ken and chat with him in the hallway and in the men's room on numerous occasions.

I'm pretty sure that one of my former VPs (Jim Cudmore) had a 2 or 3 digit badge number.



Report to moderator  66.31.158.61 (?)

Isegal

Newbie
★
Posts: 23



Re: The lowest Badge Number I ever met...

« Reply #2 on: January 22, 2008, 08:42:05 PM »

[QUOTE](#)  [MODIFY](#)  [DELETE](#)  [SPLIT](#) 

Just found out that apparently we can't edit our own posts.

Prior post . . . I stated MLO4 and I'm now sure that I'm wrong and I think it was MLO2 where I almost ran into Ken.



Report to moderator  66.31.158.61 (?)

Steve Marino

Newbie
★
Posts: 3



Re: The lowest Badge Number I ever met...

« Reply #3 on: January 29, 2008, 05:04:59 PM »

[QUOTE](#)  [MODIFY](#)  [DELETE](#)  [SPLIT](#) 

One of the lowest badge numbers that I recall belongs to a DECconnection member that I first met when I joined DEC in 07/1977. That person is Cliff Fuller. I think he was badge # 49.



Report to moderator  72.85.217.204 (?)

GalenDavis

Newbie
★
Posts: 2



Re: The lowest Badge Number I ever met...

« Reply #4 on: March 16, 2008, 07:53:14 PM »

[QUOTE](#)  [MODIFY](#)  [DELETE](#)  [SPLIT](#) 

I am new to this DEC Connection site but not new to the "low badge number syndrome. " It was a status symbol due to the sequencing of corporate worldwide new hires badges. Employees returning with a gap in service could apply for "their" old number back. Your badge number became yours and was retired when you left the company. My badge in 1962 was #307 and I wore it proudly until 1992. We would track the number of employees with badges lower than ours .. to Ken's #1. In the 90's there were an amazing number of two and three digit badge numbers in the company. When visiting facilities we would pay courtesy calls on lower badge numbers merely to congratulate them on their longevity. DEC always remembered it's veteran's anniversaries with awards and dinners. The recognition was transparent to pay grade or position in the company. My badge was always the introduction to a story of "DEC in the early days."
Galen Davis, Phoenix, AZ



Report to moderator  207.200.116.12 (?)

GalenDavis

Newbie
★
Posts: 2



Re: The lowest Badge Number I ever met...

« Reply #5 on: March 18, 2008, 01:51:28 PM »


[QUOTE](#)  [MODIFY](#)  [DELETE](#)  [SPLIT](#) 

Attached are the first 100 badge numbers issued by DEC in 1957-1959, with the employees name. (Word Document)


Anyone on this list could be called a true "plank owner." Many of these names may not appear in the history DEC as they either did not remain with the company or held important, but less visible, positions. Most growth at DEC happened after 1960 when research continued and products were developed, sold, shipped.

Regards,
Galen Davis
Phoenix, AZ



 [Badge Numbers 1-100 First Employees of DEC.doc](#) (28.5 KB - downloaded 31 times.)

[Report to moderator](#)

 207.200.116.12 (?)

lfigg

Newbie



Posts: 2



Re: The lowest Badge Number I ever met...

« **Reply #6 on:** March 19, 2008, 02:34:24 PM »

[QUOTE](#)

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[SPLIT](#)


Quote from: GalenDavis on March 18, 2008, 01:51:28 PM

Attached are the first 100 badge numbers issued by DEC in 1957-1959, with the employees name. (Word Document)
Regards,
Galen Davis
Phoenix, AZ

Galen, thanks for posting that list. I met at least a dozen of those people but never realized, or more likely didn't remember their badge numbers.



[Report to moderator](#)

 12.44.168.99 (?)

Les - Figg

lsegal

Newbie



Posts: 23



Re: The lowest Badge Number I ever met...

« **Reply #7 on:** March 20, 2008, 12:12:06 PM »

[QUOTE](#)

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[SPLIT](#)


Galen,

Many thanks for that list.

Forgot about some wrt low badge numbers: Dick Best (#20) - I recall meeting with him at least once, Jim Cudmore (#65) was our VP and I worked with him a lot during a particular crisis, and a few others that I think I ran into a few times over the years.



[Report to moderator](#)

 71.192.250.26 (?)

dmurphy

Newbie



Posts: 1



Re: The lowest Badge Number I ever met...

« **Reply #8 on:** March 21, 2008, 01:25:02 PM »

[QUOTE](#)

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[SPLIT](#)



Being Badge # 144 and being there for 40 years it is probably safe to say I knew nearly everyone from 1 to 300 and many above that. Many very good friends. I was a very lucky person to be part of that special family during those incredible years.

Don Murphy



« Last Edit: March 23, 2008, 12:27:02 PM by Ava Schutzman »

Report to moderator 205.188.117.144 (?)

Don

Bruce Filgate

Newbie



Posts: 2

Re: The lowest Badge Number I ever



met....

« Reply #9 on: March 26, 2008, 11:19:57 AM »

QUOTE

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Unlike some others, I think I have only met about 4 of the first 100.

- Ken Olsen, if you worked in the Mill, you would run into him from time to time, or get summoned to his office
- Stanley Olsen worked in MK, and frequently ate in the cafeteria
- Richard Best was one of the most unassuming people I ever met in DEC, considering he was the Chief Engineer. If you were a design engineer, first step was to visit Dick's office for a part number. Dick was also a stickler for the womb to tomb system that was DEC engineering responsibility. Every part number had a "DE" designated engineer assigned, for the corporate life of the employee (this changed after Dick's tenure)
- Gordon Bell got involved in many engineering programs, and was never shy about pointing out areas of possible improvement
- Steve Lambert was working in storage engineering in the 90s, if you were working with disk testing or returns, you would probably have met him



Report to moderator 72.93.223.16 (?)

jacksonsk

Newbie



Posts: 1

Re: The lowest Badge Number I ever



met....

« Reply #10 on: May 02, 2008, 06:32:05 AM »

QUOTE

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Wow, that list bring back some memories. I knew and worked with many of those people for many years even though my badge number was up in the four digit range (3585). Lots of those folks were still in the Mill when I got there in 1967. I especially remember hearing Art Clockadile's name being paged all the time on the paging system.

I met many of these folks, including Ken, many times at the Engineering Meetings in the front corner of building 3 near Ken's office. I wasn't a regular, but when something wasn't going well or was critical and the call came down to be there, you went!

Stew Jackson



Report to moderator 68.189.246.5 (?)

Isegal

Newbie



Re: The lowest Badge Number I ever



met....

QUOTE

MODIFY

DELETE

SPLIT

Posts: 23

« **Reply #11 on:** May 02, 2008, 06:48:48 AM »

Stew,

Welcome to the group! Glad to see you here. Hope all is well.

Len

[Report to moderator](#) 71.192.250.26 (?)**colaianni**

Newbie



Posts: 1

Re: The lowest Badge Number I ever met...« **Reply #12 on:** May 02, 2008, 01:20:28 PM »[QUOTE](#)[MODIFY](#)[DELETE](#)[SPLIT](#)

Hi, I used to live a couple houses down from Jack Smith (#12) on Lake Ft. Meadow in Marlboro. Of course this was his 'summer' home. When I played sax with the DecBigBand, we played for Gloria Perazzo's (#6) retirement. It was amazing what she got as gifts: solid gold #6 badge, tapestries from the New Mexico site (they said she liked them when she was there), a mill clock made from the wooden floor of her office, etc. Even though I started in Oct, 73, my badge number was in the 25000's. I am still with the company (now HP) and have gone through a lot of change including the change of my badge number that is now in the 4 millions. I miss the good ole DEC 'family', beer bashes, etc. I actually still have a 300 baud acoustic coupler. 😊 Randy

[Report to moderator](#) 15.235.153.107 (?)**tmcintyre**

Newbie



Posts: 3

Re: The lowest Badge Number I ever met...« **Reply #13 on:** September 26, 2008, 09:52:08 PM »[QUOTE](#)[MODIFY](#)[DELETE](#)[SPLIT](#)

When I came to DEC in 1978 I was working on 5-5 and would often wander down through the board shop on the way to Terminal Engineering. There was a lady with a single digit badge number who was attaching the handles to the board using a riveting machine. At that time she had been there 20 years I suppose. I remember someone remarking that her stock options were worth several times her annual income. 😊



My best Ken story was when I was working in the Mill and we were trying to find the light control for one of the crackerbox conference rooms on 5-5 before the renovation. My software development gang worked very strange hours and it was around 9:00 pm. We were climbing all over the place trying to trace the wiring for the flourescent fixture when Ken walked up and asked what we were doing. When we told him, he pointed out the breaker box about 15 feet away behind a panel. When I asked him how he knew it was there, he said because he put it there when they put up the jury rigged partitions.

[Report to moderator](#) 66.189.87.170 (?)

Tom McIntyre

cfuller

Newbie



Posts: 1

Re: The lowest Badge Number I ever met...

« Reply #14 on: January 24, 2009, 03:56:13 PM »



From DECconnection Member Cliff Fuller (posted by Webmaster for Cliff):

It IS an OLD badge number. You may post it if you want. I joined DEC on Jan, 11, 1960. One of the most beautiful days that I have ever seen! Left for five years from 1966 to 1971. Then stayed with it until I retired in 1992. Still relish those days and wish I had not taken five years off. Wife, two Daughters, two Son-In-Laws and one son worked for DEC at one time or another. Fabulous Company!

Thanks for the interest,

Cliff Fuller



Report to moderator 76.109.157.244 (?)

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