

## February 2015 News-at-a-Glance



### Upcoming EVENTS:

**SAVE THE DATE for the Colorado Springs Annual Reunion! Fri., April 24, 2015, 5-9 PM.**

[Details on website at this link.](#)

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**The DEC Connection Board** would appreciate YOUR input as to what events you'd like to attend in the Maynard area in 2015. We are considering the following activities for this year - more detail on the survey page using link below.

- Kimball Farm (Westford MA) gathering
- Concord Lunch River Cruise
- Boston Harbor Cruise
- Whale Watching Cruise
- BBQ on Marlboro Lake with Boating and Games
- Red Sox Game with lunch or dinner in Boston
- Sunday aft. Concert in Aug: Scottish Orchestra at Wayside Inn
- Dinner/Karaoke Session - River Rock Grill, Maynard
- BBQ lunch -music- Shredding event in April sponsored by Legacy Financial Advisors (see below)

[Please click this link NOW to take our one-question survey to indicate your choices.](#)

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**Here is an exciting opportunity we've just learned about!**

**Vintage Computer Festival East** (Friday, April 17 - Sunday, April 19, Wall, New Jersey)

This very active techie user group will honor the **50th anniversary of the PDP-8** with a special pavilion with 9 operational PDP-8s! this event is open to the public so come one, come all! (Exhibit is located on the central NJ shore, about an hour from NYC.) [Here is some info on our website.](#)

Vintage Computer Festival East is a hands-on, family-friendly celebration of computer history. It offers a book sale, classes, consignment sale, exhibit hall, food, lectures, museum tours, prizes, vendors, workshops, and more. The event is produced by Mid-Atlantic Retro Computing Hobbyists (MARCH) and is hosted at the InfoAge Science Center. [See their website for details.](#)

Contact: Evan Koblentz [evank@midatlanticretro.org](mailto:evank@midatlanticretro.org) / (646) 546-9999

Here are some photos of the computers you may see running there this year!



An Education market PDP-8



MARCH Member David Gesswein's PDP-8 shown at a prior exhibit.

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## BBQ/Annual Shred Day - April 25 - sponsored by Legacy Financial Advisors

Simply bring anything you would like to have shredded to 1800 West Park Drive, Westborough, MA in the Westborough Office Park on **Saturday, April 25, 2015 between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm**. Sponsored by Legacy Financial Advisors.

Join us for a BBQ and music while you watch your papers being shredded.

Please RSVP by April 22nd to [ava@deconnection.org](mailto:ava@deconnection.org) with your name and email address. There is no fee for this event.

Secure shredding provided by Pellegrino Trucking. <http://www.pellegrinotrucking.com/>

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

## Memories of Digital: The Computer Museum in Boston (c. 1979-2000) lives on, by Gordon Bell



The Computer Museum when it was located in Boston - photos from TCM website

Gordon Bell - photos from the website - [link]

This update on *The Computer Museum - Alive and Well* - is from Gordon Bell on 2/24/2015.

[click here to see Gordon's annotated cyberspace tour of the Computer Museum.](#)

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## Where to donate your old Digital Equipment gear:

From time to time, we receive inquiries about where former employees can donate their old Digital computers, documentation, and/or logo souvenirs.

The DEC Connection has collaborated with a few different partners who have resources, real estate and an academic interest in keeping Digital Equipment Corporation and its legacy alive for future generations.

We are happy to refer folks to these partners. [Here is a new page on our website for this purpose.](#) If you know of additional organizations that would be interested in receiving like donations, email [webmaster@deconnection.org](mailto:webmaster@deconnection.org) with the details (organization name, contact name, email, phone number) and they will be added to our webpage.

Also, the DEC Connection website has a [museum page](#). Send a digital photo of yourself with your computer or logo souvenir collection to [webmaster@deconnection.org](mailto:webmaster@deconnection.org) to be posted on our page.

## DEC Connection Member News

Welcome to new and renewing members: **Klaus Ahlborn (Germany)**, **Lauris Ames (NH)**, **Glenn Boston (NH)**, **Margaret Britt (OH)**, **Bob DiGregorio (MA)**, **Kathy Dingelhoff (MA)**, **Doug Garber (MA)**, **Dick Helliwell (CO)**, **Marilyn Jenney (MA)**, **Larry Mello (SC)**, **Dick Parks, Jr. (MA)**, **Lou Philippon (MA)**, **Liz Robertson (MA)**, **Dick Rose (FL)**, **Rini Sofka (MA)** and **Remi Vervecken (Germany)**.

### 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](mailto:ava@deconnection.org) for help.

- You can also join us (or renew) at [www.deconnection.org/join-online.htm](http://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](mailto: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>

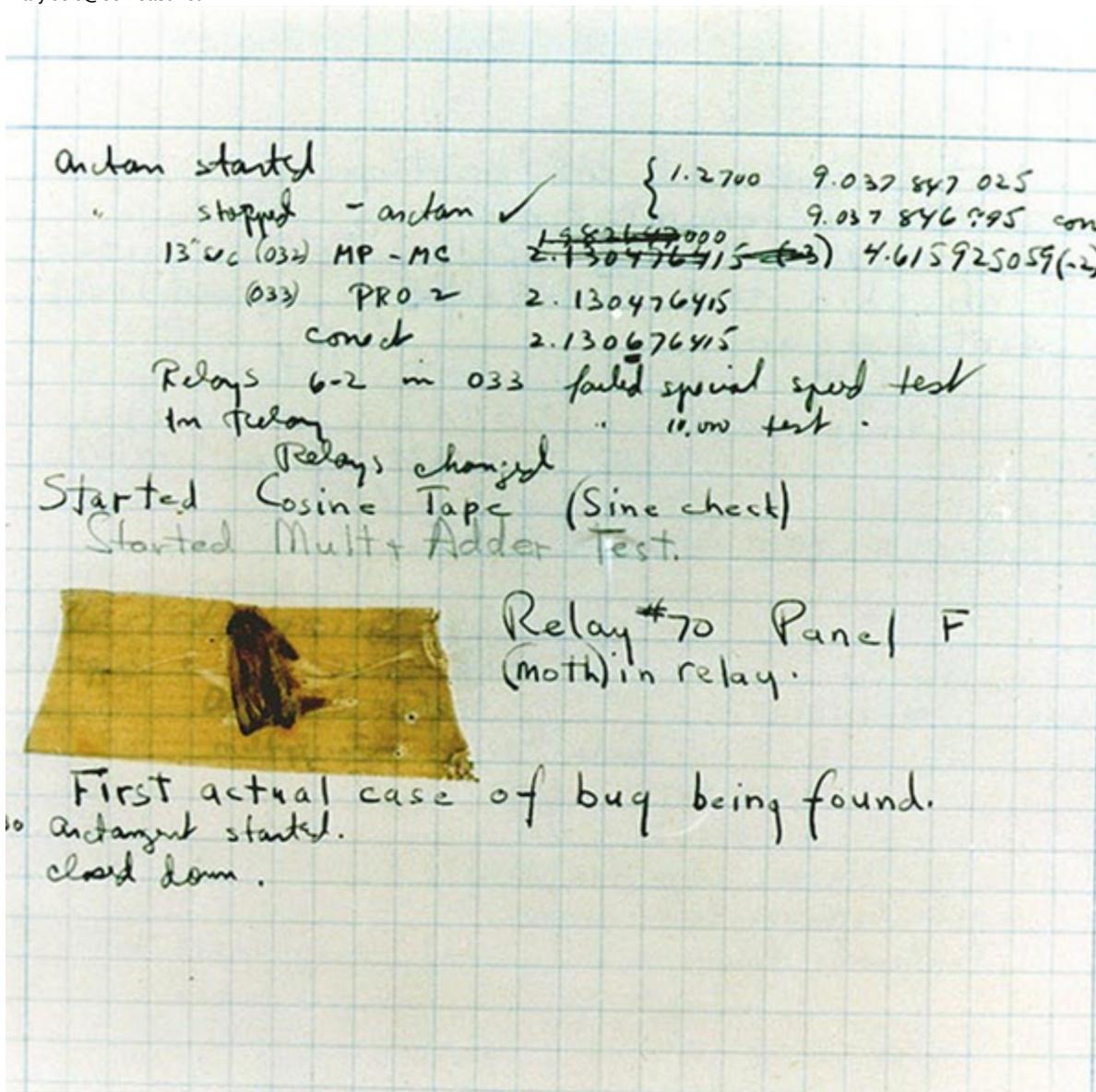
**DEC Connection Member NewsBytes:** send yours to: [ava@deconnection.org](mailto:ava@deconnection.org).

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

- **Klaus Ahlborn** joined DEC Connection: I started with DEC in Germany 1980, leaving HP 2002. Now at BERIS Consulting, Leader Base Solution & Services, delivering Application Management Services for Customer Volkswagen in Germany, Wolfsburg. [klaus.w.ahlborn@t-online.de](mailto:klaus.w.ahlborn@t-online.de)
- **Marcia Russell** writes: I am working with Gordon College to ensure the data and documents of John Clarke, Engineering Mgr, Desktop Systems will live on. It was John who chose CMOS technology for the Decmate. IT was his engineer John Kirk who did the CMOS layout that launched the industry technology that still remains today. it was I that first created the mnemonic PC for the CMOS desktop (that IBM had the whereforall to copyright grrrr)  
Other Updates: Keep up the good work.. blessings to all of you who support this infrastructure that allows us to

remain connected. marciarussell@comcast.net

- **Anita Moeder** wrote to clarify that the application developed in Israel called the Cicret bracelet - the tablet projected onto your skin - is actually a concept demo. still pretty neat!
- **Mary Cole** sent in another historical gem: Remember the famous story about Grace Hopper and computer "bug"? Well, here's Grace's first actual, real bug. The year was 1947 if you believe Wikipedia. A bit of history floating around on the internet: (Notice she was working on arctangents, sines, and cosines... wow, huh?)  
mary.cole@comcast.net



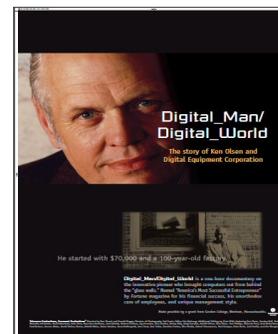
### Other News

- SOAR55, the agency in the Newton MA area that coordinates volunteer placements, publishes a monthly update of volunteer opportunities and news. [Click here for their Volunteer page and contact info.](#)

### Website Updates:

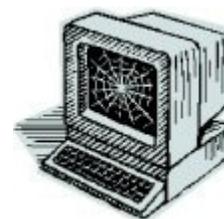
- [Where to Donate your Digital Equipment gear](#)

- 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](mailto: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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