



DECconnection

A professional association representing organizations and former Digital Equipment Corporation employees

November-December 2024 News-at-a-Glance



Happy Holidays from DEC Connection

It's that time again... happy and safe holidays to our members and friends.

EVENTS: SAVE THE DATE -

This year's summer baseball outing at the Worcester Red Sox will be Sunday, June 22 at 1 pm. (This is after Father's Day.) We'll be returning to the section now called Shaw's Visitors Bullpen Terrace on the left-hand side.

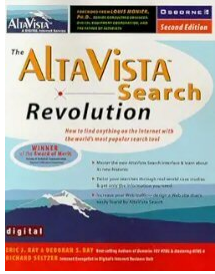


Save the date for a special DEC Connection Corporate Zoom!



Corporate Talk #2 - February 4, 2025 - 1 pm Eastern/10 am Pacific/6 pm GMT -

An Open Discussion with Digital's "Internet Evangelist" and author Richard Seltzer on Alta Vista, the beginning of the search engine, and Digital's Internet Business Group



We are going to try something fun and different! This DECconnection Corporate Zoom with 19-year DEC veteran Richard Seltzer is about all your questions on Alta Vista, the birth of search engines, and Digital's Internet Business Group. Richard served as our "Internet Evangelist" from 1995-1998 when he wrote a book on Alta Vista and spoke about it to Digital customers all over the world. He is a talented writer who wrote the DECWORLD newsletter and all of Ken's MGMT MEMO newsletters.



Since DEC, he has authored 25 different books - [One Family](#) was just published (a fascinating blend of genealogy, history, essay and mystery) and it contains a chapter about Ken Olsen which Richard is happy to share with you here ([link to Medium](#)).

We welcome participation from Internet search fans of all persuasions!

To sign up for this event, email info@decconnection.org. Provide your name, and email address for the Zoom invite (which will be emailed about a week ahead of the event). We ask that you be a paid-up DEC Connection member to participate in this very interactive Zoom session (which will be recorded, but we all know it's way better to be in the Room Where it Happened). If your membership has expired or you haven't ever joined up, [please do so now at this link](#). One year of membership is only \$10 and is OH-SO-SATISFYING.

Digital and the Industry

This is a personal appearance by David Mark to deliver his History of DEC presentation. [Sign up at the link below right](#) to attend on January 4, 2025 at 1 pm at the Maynard MA Public Library.

The History of Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC)

Saturday, January 4th @ 1pm

Maynard author and historian David Mark will speak about the rise and fall of Digital Equipment Corporation in Maynard, a 41-year arc that started in 1957 with Kenneth "Ken" Olsen and Harlan Anderson renting space in the mill buildings.

Digital peaked in size and sales in 1990 with the mill complex being the world headquarters of a 125,000 employee empire, making Maynard the "Minicomputer Capital of the World."



Please register at
www.maynardpubliclibrary.org/calendar

The Digital Federal Credit Union and First Tech Federal Credit Union have revealed plans to merge through a merger of equals in a move to create a new credit union worth \$28.7bn. [Link to some info here.](#)



DEC Connection Member News

Membership Updates

Welcome to our new and renewing members during October and November: Stephen Adrian (MA), Jim Boice (MA), Bill Cox (NJ), Gary Finerty (NH), Royce Fuller (MA), Richard Golembeski (MA), Toby Greim (NH), Barb Harpin-Fuller (MA), Janice Lounsbury Kendall (MA), Fred Kraus (AZ), Richard Lary (CO), Mary Ellen (Mel) Lewandowski (MA), Peg Masjoan (FL), J. Tom McKinney (NH), Raj Melville (MA), Jean Nagle (MA), Dave Price (MA), Jack Rahaim (TN), Claire Messier Robinson (MA), Steve Rothman (MA), Laura Schwartz (CA), Linda Trapasso (NH), Gil Vondrasek (CO), Jim Willis (NC), and Nancy Woolsey (GA).



Please RENEW your membership if you're due - members check the Member Service Center (instructions below). Other readers, if you are enjoying our e-newsletters please consider joining 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 for help.

* You can also join us (or renew) at [Join the DEC Connection online!](#)

* You can send personal checks made out to DEC Connection to Nancy Kilty, 33 Forest St. Unit 416, Lexington MA 02421.

* 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.

DEC Connection Member NewsBytes

Let's hear from our members about what's going on! Send a short update to info@deconnection.org.

▪ **Cynthia Nadreau Whitty** writes: I am currently working full time as the grants manager for a local community college. I love the learning environment, helping low-income students by securing funding for support services and programs, and using my writing and strategizing skills. I worked for DEC from 1982-1993, mainly as a manager in Media Services (Bedford, MA) and then for a couple of years as a tech writer in Spitbrook (Nashua, NH). Loved my years at DEC!

▪ New member **Gil Vondrasek** writes: Started with DEC in 1980 as the HR Manager for our newly opened Customer Support Center in Colorado Springs. In 1991 moved to an Organizational Development Consultant role for Customer Services. I left DEC/Compaq in 2000 and had my own consultancy for a dozen years and then worked for Dish Networks and the University of Colorado as an OD Consultant. Retired in 2023. gilvon2001@gmail.com

- DEC Connection president Nancy Kilty, who lives in Lexington MA, says: You will want to see the following 400 drone light show displayed Oct 20, 2024 in Lexington MA. From this Oct date, it is six months until the 250-year celebration of our country's independence. Many events are planned for 2025.[Here is a link to the video on You Tube.](#)

Sad News Department

Our sincere condolences to friends and family of:

- * Bruce Garland, U.K., October 27, 2024
- * Allan Erny, 87, Encinitas, CA, October 13, 2024
- * Paul E. Blair, 83, Batesburg SC, October 3, 2024
- * Kenneth B. Fine, San Antonio TX, September 28, 2024
- * Kannancote (Sri) Srikanth, 71, Lexington MA, September 24, 2024
- * Bob Deguisse, 79, Amherst NH, August 8, 2024
- * George E. Hitz, Jr., 81, Sudbury MA, May 11, 2023

Details are on our Memorial Page.

Website Features and Updates

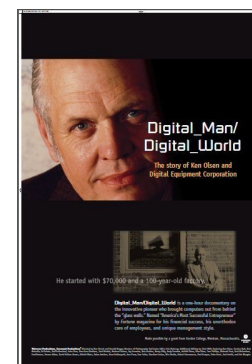
- Our **WEBSITE** uses a convenient drop-down menu. Send your suggestions to info@deconnection.org, and any content to ava@deconnection.org.
- Use your **MEMBER SERVICE CENTER!** Use the Member Login menu under About Us if you have paid dues since 2010. There are queries to find members in your area, and forms to submit to update your profile, send your news, DEC stories, etc. You can check your dues status and renew your membership online. You can email a small photo for your profile, and contribute articles to Our DEC Stories, Member Publicity, or Members In Print.

- The PBS video of the documentary about Ken and the history of DEC, **Digital_Man/Digital_World**, is available online at

Digital Man/Digital World

It's a wonderful hour-long nostalgia trip. Enjoy!

- Another URL to watch same documentary on your computer is: <http://video.wfyi.org/video/2282149336/>



HELP WITH RETIREE BENEFITS

- If you need info about your **Digital defined benefit plan/retirement**, start by calling the HP Retirement Services Center at Fidelity: 1- 800-457-4015.
- Contact Empower (company that acquired Prudential's pension business in April 2024) Customer Service at 1 (855) 756-4738 if your pension has been transferred there.
- However, although Empower manages your account, the actual distribution is still being handled by Prudential's Tax service. If you need to change the bank account number for your distribution, you should call 1-800-392-4643 at Prudential Tax Service, LLC, 30 Scranton Office Park, Scranton, PA 18507-1796. Phone #: 1-800-392-4643
- For **Stock plan** info, try Morgan Stanley: 1-210-677-3652 or [this website](#)
- [Go to the HPAA website DEC page!](#) Don't miss all this useful information.

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