



DECconnection

A professional association for networking organization for former Digital Equipment Corporation employees

September-October 2021

Events

Our MAJOR EVENT for 2021 - MAYNARD 150 BIRTHDAY and DINNER

MILL TOUR --DECcies in PARADE -- Maynard events -- DECconnection DINNER



Our Maynard 150th birthday event was fantastic! Special thanks to Jack Mileski, Ray Humphrey, Barrie Hunter, Jack MacKeen, Rod Sutherland, Stephen Jablonsky, Fred Isbell, and John Malcolm for their contributions to making this a special day. See our wrap-up, Rod's photos, and hear Ray's fascinating tales of what corporate security really did at Digital. (Click this link for details: [MAYNARD 150 EVENT PAGE](#))

Digital and the Industry

1. Calling all Zooming engineers! If you'd be interested in our holding occasional zoom sessions with designated Digital engineering speakers (volunteers among you, or suggested by you), please let us know. We're thinking calls of 30 minutes, 15-20 mins. for talk followed by 10-15 mins. of discussion/reminiscing. Email info@deconnection.org to indicate interest, volunteer to speak, or offer suggestions. Thanks to Bob Anundson for this idea.

2. Questions from Cyberspace

I'm not a member or a past employee, but was directed to this organization for possible answers to the below questions:

Does anyone, by chance, know who actually wrote the original PDP-5/PDP-8 floating point packages?

Stan Rabinowitz pointed me to Steve Wellcome who believes the *earliest* DEC employees wrote them. Steve mentioned Larry Portner, Jim Scanlon, Dick Palmer, and Dick Clayton as possible authors.

Does anyone know if any of these guys were the actual authors, or better yet, know any of them well enough to ask them about this question (if they are still with us)? Thanks, Bob Vines - email bobvines00@gmail.com

Digital Retiree Benefits Updates

1. HP Inc. entered into an agreement to purchase a group annuity contract from Prudential to transfer \$5.2 billion in U.S. pension plan liabilities. We believe it potentially will be beneficial for those who still have DEC Defined Benefit Plans at HP to be guaranteed by Prudential rather than the HP general account.

2. It is the yearly time to select retiree health insurance options. Though HP is featuring the Aon Health Care exchange, remember that once you leave the slightly subsidized corporate Harvard Pilgrim/Tufts Plans (now merged), you can't return. If you do decide to go through Aon, then your choice will be either an advantage plan or supplement plan. You might want to look at the Medicare notes from our last seminar posted under "special topics" in the left column of the front page of our website. You are essentially now in the retail world choosing a healthcare program.

DEC Connection Member News

Welcome to our new and renewing members during August and September: Stephen and Lois Adrian (MA), Curt Anderson (CO), Will Anderson (VT), Nicole Burkel (MA), Bill Cox (NJ), Bruce Dillingham (TN), Brian Edwards (MA), Royce Fuller (MA), Ed Furilla (MA), Les Goldman (FL), Jim Higgins (MA), Ann Hurd (MA), Maureen Johnson (MA), Don and Michelle LaBelle (MA), Richard Lary (CO), Jo Ann Masula (FL), Anthony Mongillo (CT), Anne Murphy Nault (WI), Maria Navedo (MA), Dian Pekin (MA), Alice Phalen (MA), John Rosala (MA), Jan Shineman (MA), Andrea Starr (MA), Leanne Woods Leonard (FL), Patricia O'Donnell (IL), Eugene Redner (MA), Tom Vallas (ME), Rick Watson (FL), and Deb Williams (MA).



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.
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Member Newsbytes: Please send your personal news updates to info@deconnection.org. We need your participation to provide an interesting and relevant newsletter for our readers. Thank you!

▪ **Will Anderson** retired a few years ago from his career started at Digital as a software development manager, and splits his time between coastal Maine in the summer and Vermont in the winter(!) with his wife Juliana.

wcanderson@verizon.net

▪ **Gloria Roe** writes: I enjoyed the picnic at Kimball's recently and hope to march in the parade in Maynard in September. My career of 42 years in Human Resources started at Digital in the early 70s on Thompson St. then on to Parker St. in Maynard. I enjoyed various jobs within HR/Employment/Employee Relation for about 14 years in the 70s and 80s leaving in the early 90s. I continued in Human Resource jobs at BAE, Nortel Networks, Right Management Consultants, and Raytheon until I retired in 2015 from Raytheon. We've continued to live in Boxborough doing upgrades to our house and gardening. I help with childcare for my 2 young grandsons who live locally. My husband Ted & I have also traveled primarily in Europe & Great Britain upon retirement. I enjoyed singing and leading a group of youth singers in our local UCC Boxborough church. I look forward to when we can return to singing and traveling again some day. gloria.a.roe@gmail.com

▪ **Curt Anderson** writes: I am doing well in Colorado and loving it. My wife and I moved here (Broomfield) from the Houston area about 3-1/2 years ago. I'm staying busy playing lots of tennis, biking, and working for the Colorado Rockies during the baseball season. Sorry to miss all the upcoming Maynard fun events. Please pass my regards to my old OIS comrades. Curt6305@comcast.net

▪ From **Fred Isbell**: If you can, please support my JDRF bike ride on 9-25-21 – details at <https://www2.jdrf.org/site/TR?>



fr_id=8386&s_participantTrID=8386&pg=personal&px=11685840 I will be riding from my home in Maynard to Acton, Westford, Carlisle, Bedford, and via the Minuteman Bikeway to Cambridge and Belmont, and coming back the same way and going through Concord, Acton, Boxboro, and Stow to end up back in Maynard - 75 miles. Great cause – my daughter Katie was diagnosed with T1 Diabetes at age 14; she’s now a first-year law student at Northeastern (where she got her undergrad degree in journalism), and this is my 5th ride in 6 years in her honor. fmisbell@comcast.net {Ed. note - that's also Fred holding the left side of the Digital banner at the Maynard 150 parade, in photo at top of newsletter.}

Sad News Department

Sadly, we were informed of these deaths of former Digital employees since last newsletter. Our condolences go out to friends and families of:

- * Michael D. Leis, Framingham MA, 11 September 2021
- * Ruth Ellen Daugherty, 74, Colorado Springs, 7 September 2021
- * William (Bill) R. Demmer, 87, Bonita Springs FL, 5 August 2021
- * Daniel T. Smith, 75, Jacksonville FL, 2 August 2021
- * Melvin Arsenault, 86, Gloucester MA, 24 June 2021
- * David N. Adoretti, 72, Sterling MA, 18 June 2021

[Details are on our Memorial Page.](#)

NOTE TO OUR READERS: Please do not be concerned if, when clicking on a link in this email, your browser or antivirus program tells you that you are attempting to visit a dangerous or unsafe web address. Many browsers now flag any site without an SSL certificate (i.e., encryption) as unsafe (it's not). When you purchase tickets through our website, we transfer you to the PayPal website, which DOES use SSL encryption software.

Website Features and Updates

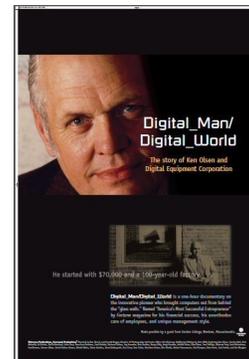
- **Topics of Interest** tab: We've added a button on the left-hand menu that takes you to articles that have appeared in past newsletters. Here are some sample topics: Medicare Seminar & Research - 6/20; AON Exchange Feedback from retirees - 10/18; Harvard Business School's Baker Library (Ken Olsen Collection); and, David Mark's series of 11 articles on Digital - 11/19-3/20
- [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 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/>



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- **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, 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 info@deconnection.org. [Click on this link](#).
 - **Featured Member Entrepreneur** - Email info@deconnection.org with details - 2-3 paragraphs about your business and your photo.
 - 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
 - For **Stock plan** info, try Morgan Stanley: 1-210-677-3652 or [this website](#)

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