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News-at-a-Glance from The DEC Connection!

Here's the latest news about The DEC Connection, its members, events, and information on the website http://www.decconnection.org/.

2008 Membership and Renewals

First of all, welcome to our 3 newest members, Mary A. Thomas in FL, Steve Early in MA, and Giorgio Corsi from France. They (and several other new members) will be added to the Member Forum Index in the April quarterly update. We now have 620 paid members with another 800 on our mailing list (please join us!). Our Member Forum has registered all but the 50 who didn't provide their e-mail address.

Renewals: Most of our DEC Connection members have paid their 2008 dues or more. If you haven't done so, please do so <u>by either charging</u> <u>the payment (by clicking here</u>) or by sending \$10 per year check, made out to The DEC Connection, to Bob Moore, 28 Fernglade Rd, Burlington, MA 01803. If you're not sure whether you owe or not, write to <u>webmaster@decconnection.org</u> and she'll be happy to report your status.

Update on Events & Activities for 2008

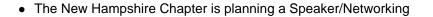
Summer event: a Lowell Spinners Baseball Game!

Based on the survey of activities for 2008, we have secured a limited number of tickets to the Lowell Spinners, a Red Sox farm team, for a 1:15 PM afternoon game on Sunday, August 3, 2008 in Lowell, MA. The park is a terrific place to watch a ball game and there is even a kids' amusement area in the left field outfield. The box seat tickets are only \$7.00. However, with a limited number of tickets, we expect them to go fast. And, you must be a paid up member. See the posting in the Members Forum for how to order tickets.









Series starting this Spring - **CALL FOR SPEAKERS.** If you would be willing to speak at an upcoming event - please contact Barbara Langdon at <u>blangdon@marketmomentumllc.com</u> or 603-493-1331. Here are some sample themes we know to be of interest from our survey, or suggest your own!

- 1. Small Business Development
- 2. Application of New or Emerging Technologies
- 3. Investing & Personal Finance
- 4. Networking & Job-Searching Advice

Just 4 Fun Contest

March Madness is here!

The 65 teams for 2008 Men's NCAA Basketball Tournament, lovingly called "March Madness" were identified last night, Sunday March 16th. Most local newspapers will have the brackets showing the time and location for who plays who on the way to the Championship game in San Antonio on April 7.

On March 23rd Bob Moore (jayhawkbob@verizon.net) will send a message to all members who have paid dues for 2008 with the names of the Sweet Sixteen who remain unbeaten after the first weekend (two rounds) of play.

Anyone who wants to predict the Final Four teams that will play on April 5th should send an e-mail to Anker Berg-Sonne (<u>Anker@AnkerSoft.com</u>) after they get the March 23rd e-mail and before March 27th, the start of knocking the 16 down to the Final Four.

So watch your e-mail and be quick to let Anker know your four choices.

Update on the Website

Our Member Forum now has 566 members registered online! If you haven't checked it out, take a look!

- Retirees and other former DECcies: we have a great new list about Who to Call for What info at HP for questions about your retirement, your stock plan, etc. See item on our home page.
- If you're a paid-up member, you can now join our Group on LinkedIn. Go to <u>DEC Connection LinkedIn group</u> on our website.
- Do you get the H-P New England Initiative e-newsletter? Any former DEC employee can subscribe at <u>hpneinitiative@hp.com</u>. We will post stories about DEC Connection members on our website. See recent stories about Bob Farquhar and Ron Olson, now posted in our Members section of the website.
- If you have trouble logging into the Forum... type your username and then password in *slowly*... it should work the second time, at worst.

HP Retirees Meeting Report

Members - Remember that e-mail you got from DEC Connection about the HP Retiree meeting at MR02. That was a good move on our part as several of us showed up for the meeting and we had not heard about the meeting until the Friday before. It was a well done event and a couple of our members who showed up walked off with some of the door prizes - there were about 20, and one of us won a \$450 GPS!



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The "Life after HP" area had several tables of interesting things that HP retirees are involved with, one of these being The DEC Connection. Several folks came by who did not know about us and took one of our fliers. Others came by and paid dues, some in cash, some by check and didn't have to use a 41Å¢ stamp.



Thanks to Bob Moore and Nancy Kilty for representing us at this meeting.

Gordon Goodwin Big Phat Band Concert

The Compaq Big Band will be hosting Gordon Goodwin's Big Phat Band at The Palace Theatre in Manchester, New Hampshire on Saturday May 31, 2008. The Los Angeles-based Big Phat Band is the hottest large format jazz ensemble in the world, comprised of the top studio jazz musicians in the country and led by Gordon Goodwin, winner of multiple Emmy and Grammy awards (www.gordongoodwin.com). This is the band's only New England stop in 2008.

Gordon Goodwin will also be conducting a separate 1-hour jazz composition and arranging clinic from 3:30pm to 4:30pm using the Compaq Big Band on stage, along with handouts, to give attendees an unprecedented view into his composing and arranging.

By the way the next Compaq Big Band performance is Saturday, April 12, 7-11 PM at UNH in Durham - for info go to www.compaqbigband.com

The DEC Innovation Legacy

Member Mary Cole wrote in today to suggest that we assemble a listing of businesses started as spinoffs from DEC, or established by former employees of Digital, similar to a recent article about the "Polaroid diaspora" that appeared in the Sunday Boston Globe on March 16th (this article is posted on our website; use link on home page).

We'll compile your contributions - send to webmaster@decconnection.org:

- Company name, location
- Founder names
- Date established, and is business still ongoing
- Short description of business
- Number of employees
- Website and other Contact info

We'll publish the results and refer you to related sources of information.

Please forward this e-mail to your DEC friends and <u>don't forget</u> to join up!



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