

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.deconnection.org/>.

2008 Renewals (have *You* renewed?) and New Memberships

First of all, welcome to our two newest members, Cy Gaydos and Don McInnes. They (and several other new members) will be added to the Member Forum Index in the next quarterly update.

Renewals: A majority of The DEC Connection have paid their 2008 dues. If you haven't done so, please do so.

The DEC Connection is a not-for-profit group dedicated to keeping the DEC community together through communications, events and other activities. All board members and others volunteer their efforts without compensation. However, there are expenses such as maintaining the web site, office expenses, and, in some cases, subsidizing the cost of events.

You are encouraged to take care of this obligation as soon as possible [by either charging the payment \(by clicking here\)](#). Please note that there is a non-refundable \$1.50 per year processing fee for credit card payments), or by sending a \$10 check payable to The DEC Connection for 2008 membership.

Checks should be mailed to:

Jean Neal
Five Mission Road-Unit #106
N Chelmsford MA 01863

Any questions should be directed to info@DECconnection.org or to Bob Moore at jayhawkbob@verizon.net or 781-270-0252 voice or fax, or via snail mail to C Robert Moore, 28 Fernglade Rd, Burlington, MA 01803



Update on Events & Activities for 2008



- In December we asked people to submit some potential event activities in 2008. The top billing thus far was a Red Sox game and a Boston Harbor cruise in the summertime. We'll plan on a boat ride but the Red Sox group tickets are sold out. We thought that a minor league game might be in order (Nashua Pride, Worcester Tornadoes). Please note that, with limited tickets, you will have to [be a member](#) to sign up for these events. Also, please submit your thoughts on the minor league game and other ideas via an Email to: info@DECconnection.org.
- We also plan on going back to Gordon College (probably in September) to view the new Ken Olsen Science Center and enjoy a potential cookout.
- Are you interested in a Florida DECconnection Chapter? [Take my Survey: DECconnection in FL Interest Survey](#). We've received 25 replies to the survey so far, and have exchanged contact info among members in the same counties. We found a group of 50 DECcies who were with the Latin American group based in Boca Raton; other pockets of interest are in Tampa and Ft. Myers/Naples. If you'd like an introduction to DECcies in your area contact webmaster@deconnection.org.
- The New Hampshire Chapter is planning a Speaker/Networking Series with a focus on growing your small business using new technologies and methodologies. Please see the Call for Speakers below.

Call for Speakers!

The NH Chapter of The DEC Connection proudly announces a seminar series consisting of speakers from our membership and their contacts, along with a business networking hour. We are asking our members and friends to consider sharing some of their expertise with their fellow DECcies. We will start in March at a location in Nashua for convenience of other New Englanders who wish to join us.

THIS IS A CALL FOR SPEAKERS! ANYONE INTERESTED IN PRESENTING TO OUR GROUP PLEASE TAKE NOTE!

We envision a series of meetings, every other month, that can be staged in 2-2.5 hour slots (weekday evening or Sat AM or afternoon). It will combine the speaker(s) with a business networking session.

- 1 speaker, in-depth topic: 45 minutes plus 15-30 min. Q&A.
- Related topics with 2 or 3 speakers: 20-30 minutes each plus 15-30 min Q&A.
- Business networking with cash bar - 1 hour following speakers.

CALL FOR SPEAKERS! If you would be willing to speak at an upcoming event - please contact Barbara Langdon at blangdon@marketmomentumllc.com or 603-493-1331. Please submit a short description of your topic and your bio, whether you'd prefer the in-depth or short presentation, and which evenings or time Sat. (morning or afternoon) you would be available, and she'll be in touch to chat. Please note that we are looking for volunteer speakers, and your obvious expertise will serve as its own sales pitch. 😊

Here are some sample themes and topics we know to be of interest from our survey, or suggest your own!



Themes:

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

Sample Topics:

1. Email marketing: A strategic and tactical tool for building strong customer relationships
2. Web-enabled PR
3. What are Content Management Systems and how are they impacting websites
4. To blog or not to blog: Can blogs play a role in your business?
5. Social media and the 21st century business person: Leveraging uTube, Face Book, blogs, etc.
6. SEO and the small business owner: What you need to know to look big on the web
7. Pulling it all together: Integrating traditional and Internet marketing
8. Selling over the Internet
9. Strategic Alliances and Partnerships
10. Do technology stocks make good retirement investments?

The DEC Connection on LinkedIn

We've added yet another Members-Only benefit of joining The DEC Connection - a Corporate Group on the popular business networking website LinkedIn. Within 3 days of sending a notification e-mail to our 550 paid members, 100 of us were approved to join our LinkedIn group! That seems to be quite a testament to the interest and effectiveness of this innovative online community.

If you are already a paid DEC Connection member, to apply for membership in our LinkedIn group click on this link:

<http://www.linkedin.com/e/gis/44568/13697C6BC1ED>



DEC Connection Member Predicts SuperBowl Outcome Introducing our Just 4 Fun Contest!

In our trial Just 4 Fun Contest, various members predicted the score of the Super Bowl. Congratulations to Stanley (Stan) Tabol from Framingham who predicted that the New York Giants would beat the New England Patriots 20-17 in Superbowl XLVII. We are sure that Stan was rooting for the Patriots and was just playing the odds to win the contest 😊 Stan gets our first Bragging Rights Recognition from the new contest!



This month's contest will be to predict the final four colleges participating in the Finals of the NCAA March Madness tournaments. Paid-up members, watch your e-mails for voting procedures - we will a send members-only e-mail once the Final Sixteen are known and before the first of those eight games is played. The process will be similar to the voting done for approving the constitution and choosing our new name The DEC Connection.

Another reason to renew your dues or sign-up!

Update on the Website

We've updated our website for 2008, and added a new feature:



- Our Member Forum now has 543 members registered online! If you haven't checked it out, take a look!
- This month we added a section in the Personal Interests category for Classified Ads. For Sale, For Rent, Wanted. Got a vacation home to rent out but want to be sure you get reliable tenants? This is the place to post! Want some good 2nd hand golf clubs? etc. etc.
- Dave Goodwin, a DEC engineer in the UK, who worked for the company for 30 years, is pursuing a long held dream doing a PhD at Birkbeck University in the UK on the the ultimate fortunes of DEC and would like to speak with former executives - particularly in Finance and Human Resources. Any contact or input would be really appreciated. Please submit your thoughts on the [DECconnection Forum](#) (in the "About Digital" category, "So what went wrong?" topic) or Email him at: dave.goodwin@gmail.com
- Do you get the H-P New England Initiative e-newsletter? Any former DEC employee can subscribe at hpneinitiative@hp.com. We will post stories about DEC Connection members on our website. See stories about Bob Farquhar in last issue, and Ron Olson in the current issue, on our Members section of the website.
- If you have trouble logging into the Forum... type your username and then password in slowly and deliberately... it should work the second time, at worst. 😊

Please forward this e-mail to your DEC friends and [don't forget to join up!](#)

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