



# DECconnection

A professional association for working organizations for former Digital Equipment Corporation employees

## November-December 2023

### Events

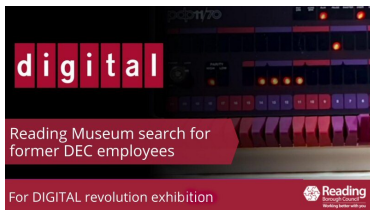
It's the holiday season and we expect that many ex-DEC groups will hold their annual (or whatever) reunion parties. We're happy to advertise the date for you; email [info@deconnection.org](mailto:info@deconnection.org) with specifics.

Afterwards, please send us a group photo with names and a paragraph about what you are doing so we can all enjoy the season's festivities. International parties welcome!



In the meantime, here's what we know about for upcoming events:

- 28 April 2024, 5-9 pm in Stow MA - Management Sciences - contact Carol Ehrlich at 978-779-5439 or [ce35@cornell.edu](mailto:ce35@cornell.edu).



DEC Connection Zoom: The UK's Reading Digital Revolution - Wed., December 13

Did you know that our UK Reading office housed, among other functions, the corporation's development/maintenance team of 1000 ALL-IN-

1 engineers? That's an interesting fact you can ask about during our DEC Connection Zoom with our UK DEXODUS team and their talented partners!

Dear DEC Connection and DEXODUS friends, and all ex-DECcies,

Please save Wednesday, December 13 at 11 am EST, 4 pm GMT, and 8 am PST for an exciting DEC Connection Corporate Zoom event.

We are excited to invite you to hear the first presentation of the history and plans for the UK's *Reading Digital Revolution* project. This will culminate in 2025 in a display at the Reading Museum celebrating the 60th anniversary of Digital's

opening its Reading UK office. Digital's foothold began the build-up of a technology center that over the years built a thriving economy in Reading and led to creation of a center of technology and computer education.

The entire effort is an effective and motivated partnership between once-private industry (Digital UK's DEXODUS and UK DECUS), government (UK Reading Museum, the National Museum of Computing, and the UK National Lottery Fund) and private education (University of Reading Computer Science Department).

This first presentation will feature 6 speakers: an introduction from Sandy Mackenzie from the DEXODUS team; Brendan Carr, Reading *Digital Revolution* project director from the host Reading Museum; Jacqui Garrad, Director of the UK's National Museum of Computing, and her consultant Gavin Clarke; Ian Severn, Chairman of UK DECUS; and John Barrett, Chairman of DEXODUS. Each speaker will describe their personal role in the original organizations and with this project, describe what their group is doing, and comment on the impact that Digital and the technology center had on the success of their organization, and the greater impact on Reading and its economy over the years.

To sign up for this event, email us at [info@deconnection.org](mailto:info@deconnection.org). Provide your name, and email address for the Zoom invite (which will be emailed about a week ahead of the event).

Generally, these sessions have run about an hour - 30-45 min. talk, 15-20 min. Q&A/discussion. Since we have several speakers we might run a bit longer this time. We record the sessions and post the links on the website.

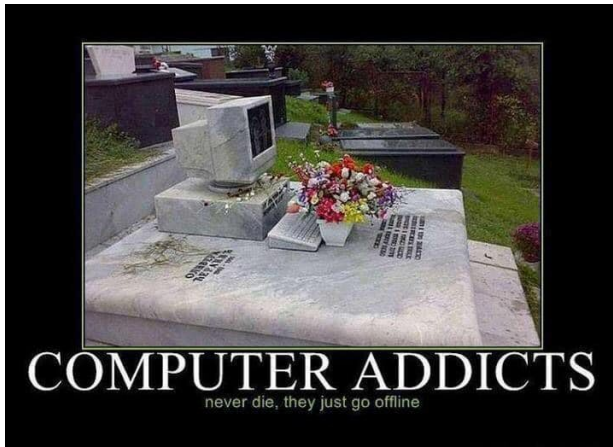
We are not going to require DEC Connection membership to attend this special Zoom session, but we do [welcome new members!](#)

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## Digital & The Industry

Thanks to Jack Mileski, Mike Lawrence and Tony Priborsky for sending pointers to a recent article of interest on [arstechnica.com](http://arstechnica.com). Click on the link for a treat. [Long gone, DEC is still powering the world of computing.](#)

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Ed Mierzwa sent a couple of cartoons for us to enjoy... thanks, Ed!

Interestingly, this first one was from the UK.



"Refresh my memory: Are we hard-selling software or soft-selling hardware?"

## DEC Connection Member News

Welcome to our new and renewing members during October and November: Lauris Ames (SC), Jon Braley (MA), Tom Colatosti (MA), Michael Cooper (WV), Rob Dandrade (DE), Karen Dorhamer-Fadden (MA), Don LaBelle (MA), and Helena Veilleux Prindle (FL).



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](mailto: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](mailto:registrations@deconnection.org) - do NOT use any Board member's personal email address.

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## DEC Connection Member NewsBytes

▪ **Jeff Bergart** writes that he ran into Thornton Ash, who lives 1 town away from him in MA, on vacation in Banff, in Canada. When back home, they got together to see Jeff's Finance collection. [Take a look at this link](#) Jeff says: "Lots of fun reminiscing! We both have such fond memories of DEC - especially in the early years. I was at DEC for 22 years (1976-1998). I have lots of various old financial budgets and reports, LRP's, Finance Training topics (e.g. New Product intro, Cost accounting, etc). I also have a number of product and project management binders from my US CSS days. Is there any place/persons interested in these? Might make for great background information for an MBA thesis on DEC."

[jeffbergart@gmail.com](mailto:jeffbergart@gmail.com)

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## Sad News Department

Sadly, we were informed of these deaths of former Digital employees since last newsletter. This month's loss of Jack Shields, who was our last remaining senior exec vp, will evoke special memories for many. Our condolences go out to friends and families of:

\* Jack Shields, 85, Naples FL and Gloucester MA, 14 November 2023

\* Rich Hollingsworth, 74, Lincoln MA, 8 October 2023

\* Harry Siegler, 83, Coon Rapids IA, 25 September 2023

\* Lee Sharon (Strout) Erb, 70, Nashua NH, 17 September 2023

\* Enrique Gomez, 71, Westford MA, 27 August 2022

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

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## Website Features and Updates

- **MAJOR UPGRADE OF WEBSITE** unveiled in July 2023 uses a convenient **drop-down menu**. Send your suggestions to [info@deconnection.org](mailto:info@deconnection.org), and any content to [ava@deconnection.org](mailto:ava@deconnection.org).

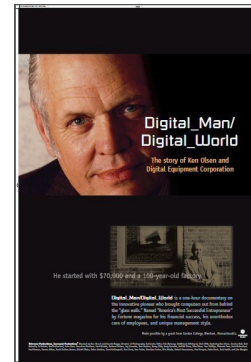
- **Use your MEMBER SERVICE CENTER!** Use the Member Login menu under About Us if you have paid dues since 2010. There are queries to find members in your area, and forms to submit to update your profile, send your news, DEC stories, etc. You can check your dues status and renew your membership online. 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/>



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### 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.
- You can contact the Prudential Pension Dept. at 1-877-778-2100 if your pension has been transferred there.
- 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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