



# DECconnection

A professional association for retiring organization members of Digital Equipment Corporation employees

## November-December 2025 News-at-a-Glance

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### Happy Holidays from The DEC Connection



Hard to believe it's that time of year again! Happy holidays to our members and friends.

### Events

It's been a while since our last DEC Connection Zoom Talk - either Tech Talk or Corporate Talk. (We had one in the works that stalled, but for a good reason). Interested in sharing your professional experience and reminiscing with some former associates for an hour? It's a fun time! Email [info@deconnection.org](mailto:info@deconnection.org) with your suggested topic.

### Digital and the Industry



Just a quick update from Sandy Mackenzie on the U.K. Digital Reading Revolution exhibits: after a great year of events and exhibits, they will close in 3 weeks; the Digital computers and personal artifacts will be returned to donors and The National Museum of Computing at Bletchley.

The Reading Museum is working on a permanent web-based exhibit. They are meeting in mid-December and we will apprise you of the permanent plan in our next e-newsletter. Thanks, Sandy!

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### DEC Connection Member News

#### Membership Updates

Welcome to our new and renewing members during October and November:

Jack Anderson (MD), Will Anderson (VT), Jay Frazer (CO), Paul Gavin (CO), Ira Kolmaister (MD), Thomas Nieburg (Sweden), Craig Pickering (GA), Robin Russo (MA), and Debra Tuttle (NH).

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Terri Kennedy has written to tell us of another museum that accepts donations of old computers: The Large Scale Systems Museum in New Kensington PA, near Pittsburgh. Depending on the amount of equipment involved, the LSSM can arrange shipping or pickup. Volunteers have even traveled outside the US to collect particularly rare equipment. We've added this museum to our DEC Donations web page. Recognize the PDP-11/70 in the photo? [terri@glaver.org](mailto:terri@glaver.org)

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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**

\* We now offer Zelle as another payment method for membership dues and events! Our payment address is **[registrations@deconnection.org](mailto:registrations@deconnection.org)**. Please enter your name, cell #, and email address, and what payment is for, in the memo line. Zelle doesn't charge us any fees and is offered by 2200 U.S. banks with more coming. For info see the [Zelle website](#).

- 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.
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## DEC Connection Member NewsBytes

Let's hear from our members about what's going on! Send a short update to [info@deconnection.org](mailto:info@deconnection.org).

▪ Member **Ned Forrester** writes: I worked at DEC for about 10 years total, all in Terminals Engineering:

Coop student 1973-76 (some work on LA-36), Terminals Engineering:

1976-1985: VT-100, Dragon graphic chips. I had so many supervisors, it's hard to recall them all (sorry for omissions): Mike Morganstern,

Mike Leis, Bernie Geaghan, Cathy Learoyd, John Elsbree... And of course, so many excellent colleagues. After DEC, I spent the rest of my career

at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution designing/upgrading various underwater vehicles: manned (Alvin), tethered and autonomous. Together

with our group leader and others in our group, I was a founder of a

spinoff that builds our autonomous vehicles: Hydroid, sold to Kongsberg, then to Huntington Ingalls Industries. I still work (very part time)

for both WHOI and HII. Janice and I celebrated our 40th this year. We

have a son in the space industry in LA, and a daughter in big-law in

Chicago, where we moved to be a 5 min walk away from our granddaughter

and to have a shorter flight to LA. [nedforrester@alum.mit.edu](mailto:nedforrester@alum.mit.edu)

▪ New member **Paul Gavin** writes: Program manager at the CXO Center For Migration Services. Competitive technical sales support. Software migration from many platforms to OpenVMS. After DEC, consulted for 13 years on VMS applications. Then 13 years at a microelectronics mfr on VMS and Unix systems. Semi-retired doing support on OpenVMS. [paulgavinco@gmail.com](mailto:paulgavinco@gmail.com)

▪ New member **Jack Anderson** writes that he worked at DEC for many years, some in Sales Training reporting to Keith Myles. He now lives in southeastern MA near the Cape. [jackra\\_1@hotmail.com](mailto:jackra_1@hotmail.com)

▪ New member **Craig Pickering** worked and still lives in Alpharetta GA. Craig retired in 1994. [cjp568@gmail.com](mailto:cjp568@gmail.com)

▪ New member **Ira Kolmaister** writes that he worked at DEC over 18 years field service in the DC area. Much in 72J. Joined in 1982 and purged in 2000. [DEC-tech@iglobal.com](mailto:DEC-tech@iglobal.com)

▪ Lost & Found: Mike Devault is hoping to be reconnected with Rosie Cepeda, who used to work at the Marlborough facility, but came to DEC from Atlanta. Please contact him at [devaultmike42@gmail.com](mailto:devaultmike42@gmail.com) with any info.

▪ Lost & Found: Cy Gaydos would like us to try for whereabouts of his friend John Allen Jones one more time. John worked for DEC in Maynard with a 3-digit badge number. Then in Australia. Cy worked for him in New Jersey when he returned to US as Corporate Group Account Manager; he then moved to England in the UK where he was Corporate Group Account Manager for British Telecom. He retired when DEC offered the first retirement package. Bob

Brownson helped Cy catch up with him when after he moved from the UK to New Haven, CT. But this past year his email address no longer responds. realestate@cygaydos.com

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## Sad News Department

Our sincere condolences to friends and family of:

\* DEC Connection member Tony (Anthony M.) Bento, 72, Pepperell MA, October 30, 2025

\* Steve Benson, who worked at DEC in Menlo, Galway Ireland, and lived in Salinas CA, October 5, 2025

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

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## Website Features and Updates

▪ Our **WEBSITE** 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).

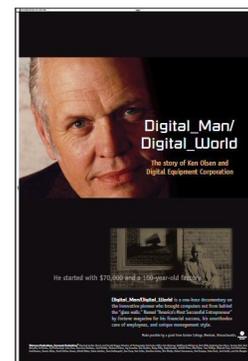
▪ Use your **MEMBER SERVICE CENTER!** Use the Member Login menu under About Us if you have paid dues since 2010. There are queries to find members in your area, and forms to submit to update your profile, send your news, DEC stories, etc. You can check your dues status and renew your membership online.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



## 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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