HHC 2009 Committee HP Calc "Bio" Information

How much experience does the HHC 2009 Committee have with HP Calculators/handhelds? Who are these people, and what are their interests? In order to find out we made a list of questions among ourselves for us all to answer and we have added one question and updated our "answers" since last year. Some photos have also been updated.

Here are the questions and answers from each member along with their major area of expertise used while serving on the committee. Each one of us has been active in the HP User Community, HPUC, for 29 years or more – total 168 years. Among us, we own every calculator since the HP Advanced Products Division first started producing handheld calculators in Cupertino CA in 1972 with the first shirt pocket scientific calculator ever manufactured, the HP-35A. Many HP machines that were not released are also part of the Committees' legacy. We hope you enjoy our newly redesigned (HP-41 30 year oriented) HHC 2009 web site, and find it informative throughout the year – until the next HHC.

All members of the HHC Committee are still very active contributing to the HPUC and the cutting edge of HP Calculators.

Joseph K. Horn - Webmaster

(33 yrs)

- 1. What year (and month?) did you become involved with HP Calculators? September 29, 1976.
- 2. What was the model that got you started? HP-25A, given to me on that day by my brother Jim, along with a 1-year gift membership in the HP-65 User's Club.
- 3. What is your favorite model? HP 50g.
- 4. What models do you now have that are still operational?
 - 15C, 16C, 21S, 30S, 32SII, 33S, 38G, 39G, 39g+, 41CX, 48SX, 48G, 48GX, 49G, 49g+, 50g, 65, 71B, 75C, 97, 200LX.
- 5. Which HP calculators did you ONCE own and use, and wish you hadn't gotten rid of? "It still brings a tear to my eyes that the following got stolen, destroyed, or given away: 11C, 15C, 16C, 19BII, 21S, 25A, 28C, 28S, 34C, 42S, 71B, 85(!)"
- 6. How often/much do you use your machine today? Very/too.
- 7. Do you do much programming? Yes.
- 8. If you could receive, as a gift, any HP calculator/handheld that you don't have, which model would it be? "Wished to have and never did: the HP-19C, sorta like an HP-25 with printer built in. Oooh, how I wanted one of those!"
- 9. What calculator/handheld articles, books, manuals, or publications have you authored? Book: HP-71 BASIC Made Easy. *rjn- Plus many articles in the UK Datafile, PPC Journal, Programming Class Handouts, and the CHHU Chronicle. Add to this the Goodies Discs, and many helpful postings on the Newsgroup.*



- 10. What HP products have you beta tested in the past? 32SII, 38G, 28S, 48GX, 49G, 49G+, 50g, 33s, 35s, 20b.
- 11. What conferences do you consider especially memorable?
 - a) 1981, Corvallis, OR. The huge "HP Panel Discussion" on stage in the auditorium of OSU at one of the early Corvallis conferences. It was great to finally put a face with all the names that had appeared in the PPC Journal over the years.
 - b) 1991, Corvallis, OR. Gary Friedman's presentation of the Data Egg. Such an energetic and entertaining talk! He won Best Speaker award by a landslide. It's my all-time favorite HHC talk.
 - c) 2004, San Jose CA. The tour of a particle accelerator somewhere... I think Jeremy organized it? It was like a pilgrimage for me.
 - d) 1997, London UK. The Programming Contest at the HPCC/HHC London conference at which the Meta-Kernel team pooled their talents and won First Place. More people took part in that contest, and there was more enthusiasm about it, and there were more variations in the submitted contest entries, than in any other Programming Contest. Very exciting!
 - e) 2003, Newport Beach CA. The Saturday Evening Banquet which my boss (Abbot Eugene Hayes) attended. It was great that he finally met the group that he'd been hearing me talk about for 25 years.

There are a bunch more but I gotta stop somewhere.

Wlodek Mier-Jedrzejowicz - Coordinator attendees from Europe (31 yrs)

1. What year (and month?) did you become involved with HP Calculators? Involved, as in "interested in" would be about May 1972, when the Spectroscopy lecturers at my college got very excited about the HP-35 that their friends were getting in the US, and told us (the students) about it. Involved as in "owning" was not till about February 1978 when I purchased a second hand HP-25.



- 2. What was the model that got you started?

 The HP-35 I could not afford one, but a few were available, on security stands, for Physics students to use in lab classes.
- 3. What is your favorite model?

 Must be the HP-41CX still the calculator I first think of when looking at a problem even if I usually pick up a 49G to actually work on the problem.
- 4. What models do you now have that are still operational?

 Um all of them? I tried to get one of each when I was writing my "Guide to HP Handhelds".

 Though obviously I can't use them all at the same time most are stored in boxes and occasionally taken out to try, or to check a point for a book or article.
- 5. Which HP calculators did you ONCE own and use, and wish you hadn't gotten rid of? Get rid of an HP calc??? I've never been that desperate;-)

- 6. How often/much do you use your machine today?

 Less and less, I fear. I use an HP-11C, an HP-15C or an HP-12C for day-to-day calculations, whichever is nearest, a few minutes a day. Sometimes a 49G or an HP-41CX for a longer calculation. I stopped using an HP Jornada 928 WDA (Wireless Digital Assistant combined mobile phone and PDA) a while back. My HP200LX does not have a mobile phone but does have some databases and a nice built-in calculator I use that when I need one of the databases.
- 7. Do you do much programming?

 Not much programming any more, unfortunately. Maybe one HP49G program a month.
- 8. If you could receive, as a gift, any HP calculator/handheld that you don't have, which model would it be? The next one? The HP handheld I do not have that I would really like to get is the Jornada 428 HP's early hand PC that was made for the Chinese market and was not available elsewhere.
- 9. What calculator/handheld articles, books, manuals, or publications have you authored? One HP manual for the HP41CV Emulator card for the HP48SX. Part of the manual for a third-party HP-41 accessory the Eramco plug-in database unit, rather like an MLDL. Four books about HP calculators and handhelds. Submitted papers for HHC Conference Proceedings. Coedited RCL 20, authored several of the articles in it. About 400 articles, mostly in Datafile, some in the PPC Journal and the CHHU Chronicle.
- 10. What HP products have you beta tested in the past?

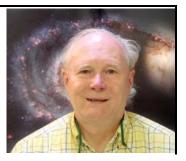
 I beta tested the HP32SII (called the HP32S+ at the time), and HP49G. Had several others just to look at and comment on a few weeks before release, such as the HP28C, HP48SX and HP38G.
- 11. What conferences do you consider especially memorable?
 - a) London, 1982, my first conference and the first time I met a group of people with similar interests in calculators to mine. A very European conference with visitors from all over Europe and Richard Nelson from the US too
 - b) Corvallis, 2008, the most recent one, and exceedingly well done, but also a chance to see how things have changed at Corvallis, while meeting friends who worked there as well.
 - c) London 1997, when we had many visitors from the US, including members of the HP calculator team. I have many personal reasons for remembering this one, including the fact that I was so involved in organizing it, and had support from friends in London and from the US. My thanks to everyone who helped at that one.

But really, every conference is memorable for its own special reasons!

Richard J. Nelson - Schedule and Speakers.

(37 yrs)

- 1. What year (and month?) did you become involved with HP Calculators? July 1972 after receiving my HP-35A from HP.
- 2. What was the model that got you started? The HP-35A, announced January 1972, it took a while to get one. See: http://holyjoe.net/hhc2007/Remembering%20The%20HP35A.pdf
 - 3. What is your favorite model? HP48GX, the HP50G if I can find it.



- 4. What models do you now have that are still operational?
 All High End Scientifics including HP-28, HP-71B & HP-75CX, all Pioneer Series, most finance models, Xpander, Jornada X25, all 10 Series (Voyager), HP-01, all Nut series, assorted others.
- 5. Which HP calculators did you ONCE own and use, and wish you hadn't gotten rid of? HP-19C, the printer was nice. I still have lots of the small rolled printer paper.
- 6. How often/much do you use your machine today?

 A least once each day, the HHC 2008 HP35s. Conversions and basic calculations are done the most. I still like my HP48GX the best. I am glad that I have several "back up" machines.
- 7. Do you do much programming?
 I write programs for recreation. When I am working on a recreation problem I program during snippets of spare time and the average time doubles or triples, especially when I am documenting the programs. The HP-48GX is my favorite machine to program. The HP-41CX is too slow. NEWT?
- 8. If you could receive, as a gift, any HP calculator/handheld that you don't have, which model would it be? An HP97S or a never produced HP-95C. I have the manuals for the latter. I just recently won an HP70 as an HHC door prize, very nice!
- 9. What calculator/handheld articles, books, manuals, or publications have you authored? I have probably written, edited, and published as much material on HP calculators as anybody. This includes 5,200 pages (at over 2,000 words per page, the PPC Journals & CHHU Chronicle pages are 2,200 w/p) on PPC CD's (Thanks Jake), numerous articles in HPCC's Datafile, HHC Conference proceedings, contributor to *RCL 20*, *PPC ROM Manual* (along with hundreds of other contributors), eight articles in industry trade magazines, EduCALC Technical Notes, HP48 Programming Class Notes/exercises over four years, articles in HP's Key Note, and several papers in WESCON calculators' sessions. Most recently articles on the various HHC websites, One Minute Marvels on HPCalc.org., HP Calculator firsts, http://h20331.www2.hp.com/Hpsub/cache/392617-0-0-225-121.html, and the RPN Tips column in *HP solve*, http://h20331.www2.hp.com/hpsub/cache/580500-0-0-225-121.html.

The acronym PPC has many meanings. One was defined in my paper, "The Role of PPC's in Computerland", in the *NCC '78 Personal Computing Digest*. I used the acronym at that time as Personal Programmable Calculator. It was much later that *the* **PPC** was called the Personal Programming Center. At least 25 meanings have been attached to PPC over the years; other examples are Personal Programmables from Corvallis, and People Programming Calculators. We were also confused with other organizations such as the Professional Photographers of California.

- 10. What HP products have you beta tested in the past?
 HP-67, HP-41C, HP41 Barcode Wand and barcode reproduction, HP75C and IL peripherals, HP-28S, HP-33s, HP-35s, HP48SX, HP-48GX, & HP49G.
- 11. What conferences do you consider especially memorable?
 - a) The first, 1979 in Santa Clara, CA, when John Kennedy, in the audience, and HP speaker William Kahan debated the HP-34C Solver as the rest of us just intently listened.
 - b) The Corvallis Conference in 1981 when HP provided a plant tour with an HP employee standing at every possible location to prevent any "spies" from the group from getting into unauthorized areas. We saw how injection molded keys were made, and we were given a coaster made by HP as shown at the right. HP really went "all out" during this HP-41 heyday Conference.



- c) London, 2002, the most documented Conference so far, I cranked the Babbage Difference Engine calculator at the British Science museum during our special tour.
- d) 2003 in New Port Beach honoring Joseph Horn. Even his "boss" was at the Saturday dinner. Jim Chumbly (National Semiconductor NS-7100 developer) also attended and we could remember the "old days." I consulted on that project and it helped to inspire the PPC ROM.
- e) London, 1997. I knew that HP was undergoing changes and I watched as they interviewed attendees "in the back room" to build the technical team for ACO. They hired most of the "French team."

Jake Schwartz - Videographer.

(38 yrs)

- What year (and month?) did you become involved with HP Calculators? Sept. 1971.
 When on a co-op job with RCA in Camden, NJ, I saw the HP9810 for the first time and was hooked.
- 2. What was the model that got you started? HP35A
- 3. What is your favorite model?

 HP41C its announcement was the point when all activity increased at such a high rate that the Philly group changed meetings from quarterly to monthly and, I believe, the Orange County group changed from monthly to weekly. I don't believe that such an exciting time has repeated since.



- 4. What models do you now have that are still operational? 35, 80, 34C, 16C, 41C, 41CX, 71B, 75C, 12C, 15C, 32E, 34C, 10B, 10B-II, 14B, 17B, 20S, 21S, 22S, 32S-II, 42S, 38G, 39G, 40G, 48SX, 48GX, 49g, 49g+, 50g, 6S, 6S Solar, 8S, 9S, 9G, 10s, 30S, 33s, 35s, 17BII+, 20b, QuickCalc.
- 5. Which HP calculators did you ONCE own and use, and wish you hadn't gotten rid of? HP65, HP67, HP25A, HP31E, HP32S, HP28C and HP28S.
- 6. How often/much do you use your machine today? Around a half hour a day usually the emu48/49 HP48/49 emulator running in the iPAQ h1955. Base conversions, mostly.
- 7. Do you do much programming?
 My day job is programming on Unix boxes. Not much programming on calculators, lately, except relatively short keystroke programs.
- 8. If you could receive, as a gift, any HP calculator/handheld that you don't have, which model would it be? HP10C or HP27S.
- 9. What calculator/handheld articles, books, manuals or publications have you authored? A few dozen articles in PPC Journal, CHHU Chronicle and HPX Exchange, edited the Peripheral Routines documentation (61 pages) in the PPC ROM manual, many papers in the HP calculator conference proceedings (1979-2002), contributor to *RCL20*, wrote the HP41 Port-X-Tender user

manual, wrote the user manual for the HP16C Emulator Library for the HP48.

- 10. What HP products have you beta tested in the past?
 HP41 Barcode Wand, HP41 Plotter Module, HP75C, HP48 PDL software, HP49G, HP35s, HP20b
- 11. What conferences do you consider especially memorable?
 - a) The 1980 affair in Chicago with all the HP41 excitement and Bill Wickes (as a civilian) and Dave Conklin visiting Rolling Meadows was amazing, including the night-before meeting at Jack's house, which included the barcode session in Wes Staples' RV.
 - B) Also, that first 1981 conference in Corvallis was definitely memorable for me with the huge crowd, the plant tour, the barbecue on the HP grounds and the week of HP75C and HP-IL beta testing with us and Jim DeArras during the week prior to that conference.
 - d) The 1990 Chicago conference was terrific with all the HP48SX interest, that one actually turned out to be four meetings, because there was the night before at Ace Metal, the conference itself at Rolling Meadows, later that night back at Ace Metal and then after a few days at Summer CES there was the CHIP meeting that following Wednesday back at Ace. (All videotaped, totaling 16 hours). I'll stop with those three.

Jake continues. Does anybody remember the 1985 conference in Atlanta with the stack of around ten daisy-chained 9114 HP-IL disk drives being used by Mike Markov to copy swap disks?

How about 1998 at HP Vancouver when during Brian Walsh's talk, (1) he "collapsed," (2) Richard yelled "Help! We need help!," then one of the HP women trotted in, holding a small flag which read "PAM" and said something like "PAM to the rescue!," after which Brian got up and gave his "PAM for the HP41" presentation.

Remember the one-on-one conversation Jim De Arras had (from the audience) with Bill Egbert (on the stage), discussing the low-level details of the Nut processor in 1981 at Corvallis?

Anybody remember that at the 1984 Chicago conference with both PPC and CHHU people there, The tension was so thick you could cut it with a knife? That was the one where Bill Wickes presented the HP41 Translator ROM for the 71B, and the group all went to visit Jack Stout's "Three threes" and we all took pictures. Brian Walsh joked that next we'd go see the "four fours," and Roger Hill then suggested that ultimately we'd end up at the "Fifteen F's", which cracked everybody up.

Gene Wright – Registration and trainer.

(29 yrs)

- 1. What year (and month?) did you become involved with HP Calculators? June 1980, when I graduated from High School.
- 2. What was the model that got you started?

 The HP-41C. Alpha characters just blew me away. It switched me from a former TI man.
- 3. What is your favorite model? The HP-41C.
- 4. What models do you now have that are still operational?



+ HHE 2009 4.

HP 9G, HP 9S, HP-10B, HP-10BII, HP-10C, HP-11C, HP-12C, HP-12C Platinum, HP-14B, HP-15C, HP-16C, HP-17B, HP 17BII, HP 17BII+, HP-18C, HP-19C, HP 20B, HP-20S, HP-21, HP-21S, HP-22, HP-22S, HP-25C, HP-27, HP-27S, HP-28C, HP-28S, HP-29C, HP 30S, HP-31E, HP-32E, HP-32S, HP-, 3C, HP-34C, HP-35, HP-37E, HP-38C, HP-38G, HP 39G, HP 39G+, HP 39GS, HP 40g, HP 40gs, HP-, 1C, HP-41CX, HP-42S, HP-45, HP 48GII, HP-49G, HP 49G+, HP-48GX, HP 50g, HP-55, HP-65, HP-67, HP-70, HP-71B, HP-75C, HP-80, , HP-91, HP-92, HP-97. (65 total.) Might be a few more.

- 5. Which HP calculators did you ONCE own and use, and wish you hadn't gotten rid of? None. The two I was foolish enough to have sold in the past I bought back on eBay.
- 6. How often/much do you use your machine today? I use the 12C every day at work.
- 7. Do you do much programming? I have written several HP-41C/42S games. I do not program much on the 12C, because it does not have enough programming features for me.
- 8. If you could receive, as a gift, any HP calculator/handheld that you don't have, which model would it be? Probably the HP-35 red dot I sold in a fit of insanity. And, probably an X25 and perhaps an original HP 40g too
- 9. What calculator/handheld articles, books, manuals, or publications have you authored? I wrote an article for PPC back in 1985. I am the author of textbook "Quantitative Analysis for Business", a time value of money and statistics textbook using the HP-10B, HP-12C. I am also a video lecturer for Allen Resources in Rhode Island for the CFA exam. One of my videos is for the HP-12C calculator, one of two the test allows. I have written all the learning modules for the HP calculators on the HP site. I authored the HP 35s Quick Reference Guide that ships with that model. I helped edit the HP 49G+ / HP 50g Advanced User Reference Manual (AUR). I revised the HP 12c platinum owner's manual to include algebraic examples. I chaired a team that revised the HP 12c solutions book to add algebraic versions of all RPN programs, the PDF of which is available as a download from an HP website somewhere
- 10. What HP products have you beta tested in the past?

 The HP 12c platinum, the HP 49g+, the HP 10S, the HP 20b, the HP 35s and couple others.
- 11. What conferences do you consider especially memorable?
 - a) I remember watching the 1990 Chicago conference when the HP 48SX was new, AT HOME, on VHS tapes provided by Jake. I watched several years worth of conferences, perhaps one of the only ones to do so afterward. :-)
 - b) First REAL conference was in 2004 in San Jose. Met Richard Nelson there for the first time. Still haven't gotten him to autograph a PPC ROM manual for me. Perhaps this year.
 - c) Attended the 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008 conferences afterward.