



The San Jose IBM Quarter Century Club Newsletter 1st Quarter 2020

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A Message from the President

Joe Lucchesi

Dear Friends,

The club continues to work on its primary mission of communication with all of its members through the website, newsletters and visits to those that are sick.

I hope all of you are having a great year and look forward to seeing you.

Joe

Club Info

Web Site: www.qccsj.org

Email: qccsj@comcast.net

There is no phone, please use email

Note:

There is a new web site. THE NAME HAS CHANGED

It now also works with mobile devices

You are members of the **San Jose IBM Quarter Century Club**, some may think it is the same as the **IBM San Jose Alumni Club**. They are separate clubs even though we do many joint events and even though many of you are members of both. To access the SJ QCC web site go to <http://www.qccsj.org> To access the SJ Alumni Club web site go to <http://www.sjpc.org/sjrc/>.

Software Before Computers

The first computer, in the modern sense of the term, is generally agreed to be the ENIAC, developed in the USA in the final years of World War II. But the concept of software was developed well over 100 years earlier, in 19th century England.

Charles Babbage (1791-1871) was the son of a wealthy London banker. He was a brilliant mathematician and one of the most original thinkers of his day. His privileged background gave him the means to pursue his obsession, mechanical devices to take the drudgery out of mathematical computation. His last and most magnificent obsession, the Analytical Engine, can lay claim to being the world's first computer, if only in concept (Augarten, 1985: 44).

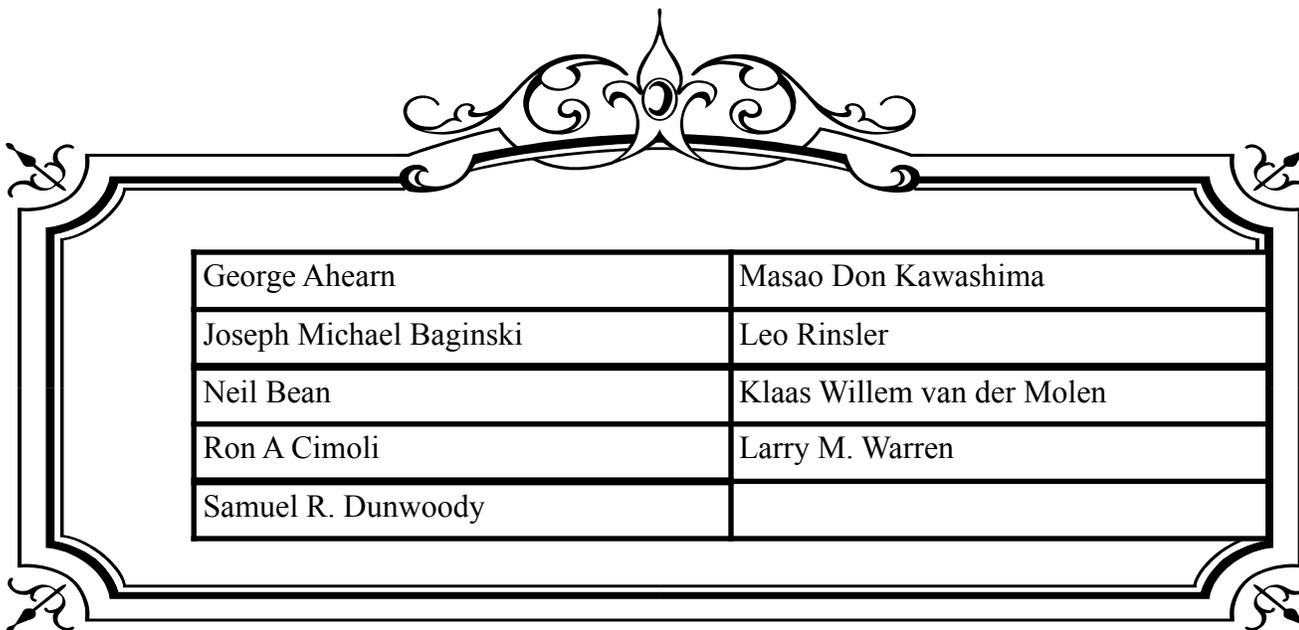
By the time of Babbage's birth, mechanical calculators were in common use throughout the world, but they were calculators, not computers – they could not be programmed. Nor could Babbage's first conception, which he called the Difference Engine. This remarkable device was designed to produce mathematical tables. It was based on the principle that any differential equation can be reduced to a set of differences between certain numbers, which could in turn be reproduced by mechanical means.

The Difference Engine was a far more complex machine than anything previously conceived. It was partially funded by the British government, and partially by Babbage's sizeable inheritance. He laboured on it for nearly twenty years, constantly coming up against technical problems. But the device too complex to be made by the machine tools of the day. He persevered, and was eventually able to construct a small piece of it that worked perfectly and could solve second-level differential equations.

The whole machine, had it been completed, would have weighed two tonnes and been able to solve differential equations to the sixth level. After battling with money problems, a major dispute with his grasping chief engineer, the death of his wife and two sons, and arguments with the government, the whole project collapsed (Augarten, 1985: 48). Part of the problem was Babbage's perfectionism – he revised the design again and again in a quest to get it absolutely right.

By the time he had nearly done so he had lost interest. He had a far grander idea – the Analytical Engine – which never came close to being built. This remarkable device, which lives on mainly in thousands of pages of sketches and notes that Babbage made in his later years, was designed to solve any mathematical problem, not just differential equations.

The Analytical Engine was a complex device containing dozens of rods and hundreds of wheels. It contained a mill and a barrel, and an ingress axle and egress axle. Each of these components bears some relationship to the parts of a modern computer. And, most importantly, it could be programmed, by the use of punched cards, an idea Babbage got from the Jacquard loom. The first programmer was Ada, Countess of Lovelace, daughter of the famously dissolute English poet Lord Byron.



George Ahearn	Masao Don Kawashima
Joseph Michael Baginski	Leo Rinsler
Neil Bean	Klaas Willem van der Molen
Ron A Cimoli	Larry M. Warren
Samuel R. Dunwoody	

George Ahearn Joined IBM in 1959 in Endicott and transferred to San Jose in 1967. He worked as an engineer and manager in storage control development and was a manager on the 2305 Zeus project. In recent times he was a key member of the team that restored two 1401 systems at Computer History Museum, revisiting a product from his Endicott days. George had served in the US Navy.

Joe Baginski was a computer programmer who worked at the Palo Alto Programming Center and at Santa Teresa/Silicon Valley lab during his nearly 40 year IBM career.

Neil Bean had a 34 year IBM career working as a programmer, manager, and systems analyst in Vestal and Oswego, NY; Burlington, VT; and San Jose. He retired in 1990. Neil had served in the US Army. He was living in St. Louis, Missouri.

Ron Cimoli was an industrial engineer who was a planner in facilities.

Sam Dunwoody worked in production control.

Don Kawashima had two simultaneous careers, IBM and his family's nursery business. At IBM he worked in the building 10 education center and another later assignment was as site telecommunications manager.

Leo Rinsler managed a manufacturing administration group for control systems and later managed a disk drive product engineering department.

Bill van der Molen served as site safety engineer at Cottle Road for many years. He had a parallel career with the US Army Reserves.

Larry Warren spent most, if not all, of his IBM career working in technology endeavors in the Los Gatos lab. At one point he managed a group which made prototype VLSI (Very Large Scale Integration) circuit modules.

UP Coming Events 2020

These are Alumni Club events which QCC members are welcome to attend.

Page numbers refer to pages in the Alumni Newsletter.

For more info please go to their site at <http://www.sjpc.org/sjrc/>

Date	Activity	Page	Contact	Phone
Jan 7, 2020	Harrah's Northern CA. Indian Casino <i>(Sold out)</i>	4	Topsy Thompson	408-377-4314
Jan 14, 2020	IBM PC Club—YouTube Sharing	2	Walt Cole	408-674-1401
Feb 12-19, 2020	Iceland's Magical Northern Lights	6	Bob Martinez	408-835-3393
Feb 13, 2020	Bay Area Military History Tour - Gary Holloway	7	Sandy Suekawa	408-316-0731
Mar 3, 2020	Graton Indian Casino	4	Topsy Thompson	408-377-4314
Mar 20-27, 2020	Southern Sights and Southern Nights	4	Christina Anhorn	831-438-3437
Apr 10-27, 2020	Magical China	6	Art & Sharry Dill	831-338-3069
Apr 21, 2020	San Juan Bautista Tour	7	Sandy Suekawa	408-316-0731
May 3-5, 2020	Reno: Circus Circus, Pepper Mills, Atlantis	4	Topsy Thompson	408-377-4314
May 19, 2020	Big Sur with Gael Gallagher	7	Sandy Suekawa	408-316-0731
July 7, 2020	Table Mountain Indian Casino	4	Topsy Thompson	408-377-4314
Aug 2-7, 2020	Big Hike—Mammoth	—	Bill Desler	408-268-3025
Sep 1, 2020	Cache Creek Indian Casino	4	Topsy Thompson	408-377-4314
Sep 16–28, 2020	OBERAMMERGAU Passion Play, Switzerland, Alpine countries	5	Bob Martinez	408-835-3393
Oct 17-29, 2020	Portugal and its islands: the Azores	5	Art & Sharry Dill	831-338-3069
Nov 3, 2020	Red Hawk Indian Casino	4	Topsy Thompson	408-377-4314

Krazy Kampers

We are a group of IBM Alumni belonging to the IBM* Camping Club, the Krazy Kampers. The club has been around for over 20 years and we would like to invite other IBM Alumni who like camping to learn about and perhaps join us on our fun campouts. There is a campout almost every month in the area.

2019

Apr 25-28	Paso Robles	Gil Hernandez	408-315-6163
May 30-June 2	Jackson Rancheria	Mel Rinehart	530-809-4274
Oct 10-13	Morro Bay	Bruce Reed	408-268-5393

Portugal and Its islands; the Azores – how romantic is that!!

October 17 – 29th, 2020 (13 days)

Begin this amazing trip in Lisbon, Portugal with its medieval towns and coastal villages, regional wines and cuisine and folkloric entertainment. Immerse in the UNESCO World Heritage sites; Jeronimo's Monastery, Monument to the Discoveries and the Impressive; Tower of Belem, Explore the town of Sintra (UNESCO) the summer residence of Portuguese Kings for 6 centuries. Continue to Portugal's Riviera with visits to Cascais and Estoril and indulge in Portuguese cuisine and wine while local artists perform the traditional Fado. Travel to the Silver Coast of sleepy villages of white washed houses and vineyards guarded by hill top castles. Then Fly off to the Azores, the incredible archipelago with its year-round springtime temperatures. The Azores are often referred to as the Hawaii of the Atlantic. They are the Ultimate Islands. Soaring mountains, and rich valleys and lakes resting in ancient craters, hot springs, fumaroles and thermal fountains. First is St. Michaels, with beautiful vistas of the mystical Lagoa do Fogo (Fire Lake).

Stroll through Terra Nostra Botanical Park and a wonderful Pineapple plantation. Have lunch stewed in the heat of the volcanic earth. Explore a Tea plantation and then chose to take an optional tour to swim with the dolphins or take a whale and dolphin watching boat trip. Or just kayak and hike around Sete Cidades. There will be an interactive cooking demonstration and finish the evening with an incredible dinner. Then journey on to the twin lakes of the Seven Cities; nestled inside a volcanic crater; One lake Blue; reflecting the sky and the other lake Green; reflecting the ground. See the famous waterfalls of Ribeira dos Caldeiros. Visit a family owned Liqueur shop to taste the local liquors....and More

This is a **Leisure Stay tour**; Un-pack only 3 times the whole trip! Includes: R/T air from SFO, Air taxes, Fees, Surcharges, Hotel + Transfers. 18 meals. Home Town pickup.

Contact Sharry and Art Dill, arthdill@comcast.net for brochures and Trip Presentation information.

(831) 338-3069 home (408) 828-9845 cell number - Text messages always welcome.

Iceland's Magical Northern Lights



8 Days • 11 Meals: 6 Breakfasts, 5 Dinners

HIGHLIGHTS... Reykjavik, Northern Lights Cruise, Golden Circle, Thingvellir National Park, Geysir, Gullfoss, Vik, Seljalandsfoss, Skogar Folk Museum, Skógafoss, Jökulsárlón Glacial Lagoon, Skafafell National Park, Vatnajökull Glacier, Lava Exhibition Center, Blue Lagoon

ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

Day 1 Overnight Flight
 Day 2 Centerhotel Plaza, Reykjavik
 Days 3 – 5 Hotel Dyrholaey, Vik
 Days 6, 7 Centerhotel Plaza, Reykjavik

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

For more information contact

Bob Martinez - IBM Retiree Travel
 408-612-8052 Home and 408-835-336

bobloves2travel@yahoo.com

Book Now & Save \$100 Per Person:

Double \$4,229; Double \$4,129*
 Single \$4,859; Single \$4,759;
 Triple \$4,189 Triple \$4,089

Included in Price: Round Trip Air from San Jose Intl Airport, Air Taxes and Fees/Surcharges, Hotel Transfers for groups of 10 or more
Not included in price: Cancellation Waiver and Insurance of \$315 per person

* All Rates are Per Person and are subject to change, based on air inclusive package from SJC

For your information

2019 Alumni Club President's Chat about the future

Our Grand Finale Holiday Party was on Tuesday, December 3rd. It was a wonderful party, with over 180 people attending. Thanks to Art and Sharry Dill for organizing and running this grand finale event.

We are almost to our sunset date, when the IBM Alumni Club will cease to be, January 2020.

Here are a few notes about your club finances: Most of the dues we all paid to join the club have been used to subsidize our social events (ie. Annual Picnic and Holiday Party). Part of the money was used to cover various administrative expenses. Maintaining our web site requires an annual subscription to keep our club's domain name active. In addition there are distribution costs for our newsletter. The cost to maintain an e-mail distribution list is included with our internet service providers package. However there are restrictions on how large these lists can be. Your club has a distributions list of 1400+ requiring a data base subscription to maintain and process our club notifications. Our club's subscription will run out shortly after the final newsletter early next year. Email notices to all club members will come to an end.

Just a reminder, the PC Club will continue to host our website after we formally sunset the club in January 2020. The website will continue to have information about travel and golf activities but the newsletter will no longer be published. The PC club has agreed to fund the costs to keep our web site active for a few more years. Thank you, PC Club!

The Golf and Travel groups will continue as long as the current committee volunteers are willing to host these activities. (Note: the Day Trips will only continue thru 2020). If you wish to stay in the loop for these activities you should contact the activity volunteers below to make sure you are on their personal email distribution lists. The list below will also be available on the web site:

Here are the Travel and Golf contacts.

Day Trips: Sandy Suekawa	sandysuekawa@yahoo.com	408-316-0731
Day Trips: Topsy Thompson	no email	408-377-4314
Long Trips: Bob Martinez	bobloves2travel@yahoo.com	408-835-3393
Long Trips: Art & Sharry Dill	arthdill@comcast.net	831-338-3069
Long Trips: Chrisna Anhorn	leswede@aol.com	831-438-3437
Golf: Andy La Scola	lascolandy@comcast.net	408-371-3329