

Committee HHC 2016 Report - Richard Nelson 160924

The Future?

How many more conferences we will have? The committee is committed for 2017 and we are getting very good at doing them. Everyone seems to have a great time. We have used the same formula since the first one and it works very well.

HHC 2016

We charged \$20 to attend HHC 2016. (44 registered attendees @ \$20 = 880 deposited in the bank⁽¹⁾.) The expenses were \$158.44 for shipping prizes and some catered items not covered by HP. HP provided three meals, drinks, and snacks. A donor provided the numbered 50 thumb Drives (estimated cost \$250⁽²⁾), and Jessie Dodd donated ice, plates, bins for the drinks, etc. I was with him the first Friday Walmart trip for bins, cups, plates etc. and it was \$43. He made more trips on Saturday and Sunday for ice and more paper plates, so I estimate the total to be at least \$90 - \$100.

Some history

The first conference was in 1979 (Santa Clara CA) and we have averaged 1.2 conferences per year over the 38 years. We did not have a conference in 1993, and there were two conferences in 1981, 1982, & 1992. One year, 1993, had three conference. Table 1 summarizes the locations. California and Illinois have been the most popular states.

Table 1 - Summary of Past Conferences by Location per Website List

US States	IL – 6	PA – 2	Non-US
CA – 8	MD – 1	RI – 1	UK – 7
CO – 4	MN – 1	TN – 2	Netherlands – 1
FL – 1	NV – 2	VA – 1	
GA – 1	OR – 4	WA – 2	

Next conference?

Tim may not be able to have HP pay his travel to wherever we decide it to be. Continued HP support is also ever more questionable. CA and TN seem most likely. See the comments next.

Last conference?

We have enough money in the bank (\$3,526.63) so that the last conference could be a free one with no donations or help from HP. It seems that standby funds not exceeding the cost of one conference is adequate. We are there now! We could subsidize Tims travel.

Sales for all non-Prime machines are falling, some rapidly. Jason Smith does not believe that Prime sales will ever reach even one year of unit sales (100K) of the HP-41 (and more for HP-12) because of convergence obsoleting the dedicated educational calculator market – the last profitable segment. The R&D focus is strengthening the Prime platform. This could provide the basis for an additional model(s) if the market is still valid. The future is clear, the question is: How fast will it happen? Current changes at HP, rapid technology advances, and an uncertain financial/political environment all indicate that the demise could be quick. We should watch closely. Remember Kodak film and digital photography.

Our conferences could “coast” for a short while after HP’s exit from the calculator market. The real question to ask the User Community Leadership is: What are your/their interests? Mine are certainly fading because of other interests. The DIY community is one facet, but they are typically very specific/specialized and Internet driven. Do they do a conference? I do not think so.

What are your thoughts?

Notes:

(1) Having the money in the bank and using a debit card really makes the finances simple, easy, and well documented. I wish I had done this many years ago. Here is a screen capture of the HHC Wells Fargo account summary.

Available Balance Learn More		\$3,526.63	
Final HHC 2016 Expenses. 160924			
Transactions		Download Account Activity	
▼ Show Transactions		<input type="text" value="Find Transactions"/>	
Show: All Transactions		for Last 90 Days <input type="button" value="Go"/>	
Set Default View			
Date ↓	Description	Deposits / Credits	Withdrawals / Debits
Pending Transactions Note: Debit card transaction amounts may change Learn More			
No pending transactions meet your criteria above.			
Posted Transactions			
09/23/16	ONLINE TRANSFER TO NELSON R REF #IBE8PY4FCP CHECKING TTIM FOR FOOD PICKUP Cash to Tim Saturday 9/16.		\$40.00
09/23/16	ONLINE TRANSFER TO NELSON R REF #IBECLZLNQ65 CHECKING TOTIM FOR FOOD Cash to Tim Sunday 9/17.		\$70.00
09/22/16	PURCHASE AUTHORIZED ON 09/21 THE UPS STORE # 40 MESA AZ S586265724754244 CARD 0005 Ship Best Speaker Certificate & book.		\$5.35
09/19/16	Deposit in Branch/Store 09/19/16 04:17:13 PM 365 S POWER RD MESA AZ 0005 View Details Registration proceeds from Gene.	\$880.00	
09/12/16	PURCHASE AUTHORIZED ON 09/09 THE UPS STORE # 40 MESA AZ S306253842540345 CARD 0005 Ship Anita's door prizes.		\$32.28
09/09/16	PURCHASE AUTHORIZED ON 09/07 PAPER PLUS 770-659-4565 FL S306251833178095 CARD 0005 Ship Envelopes, etc. for Conf. Materials.		\$10.81
Totals		\$880.00	\$158.44

(2) Here is the \$250 thumb drive cost estimate basis. The Donor didn't/wouldn't say. I used \$5 each.

Shop for SanDisk 9 GB thumb driv... on Google

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 <p>SanDisk Cruiser Glide ...</p> <p>\$6.99</p> <p>Staples</p> <p>★★★★★ (2k+)</p>	 <p>Sandisk - Cruiser 8gb ...</p> <p>\$4.99</p> <p>Best Buy</p> <p>★★★★★ (2k+)</p>	 <p>Sandisk 8GB Cruiser Blade ...</p> <p>\$3.65</p> <p>oempcworld.c...</p>	 <p>Sandisk Cruiser Glide 8gb ...</p> <p>\$4.49</p> <p>Adorama Ca...</p> <p>★★★★★ (3k+)</p>	 <p>8GB USB 2.0 Flash Drive ...</p> <p>\$3.99</p> <p>oempcworld.c...</p>
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