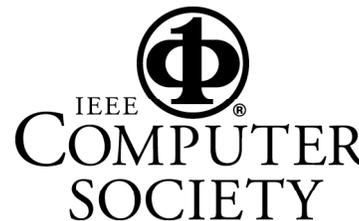


PRINCETON ACM / IEEE-CS CHAPTERS
MAY 2008 DINNER MEETING



The Early Days of Computer Hobbyists

Sol Libes

The personal computer is the result of the efforts by many hobbyists building their own computers in their homes, basements and garages. Beginning in the 1960s, companies discarded aging computers and components. These found their way to amateur radio flea markets, junkyards, and dealers of used electronic equipment. Hobbyists bought these units for experimentation at home. They transformed computers originally designed for military, commercial, and business use into general-purpose programmable personal computer systems.

Sol Libes was one of these computer hobbyists. His talk will describe these early hobbyist efforts. Sol will also show pictures of hobbyist-built computers constructed in the 1960s and 1970s – long before one could buy a personal computer in a store.

Sol Libes was the founder of the Amateur Computer Group of New Jersey in early 1975. The ACGNJ is the oldest personal computer club in the world serving both PC and Macintosh users. Sol served as ACGNJ President for six years, in other positions for another four years, before retiring in 1986. Sol was also the co-founder (with Allen Katz) of the Trenton Computer Festival.

Sol was a Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Programming at Union County College for 25 years, retiring in 1993. He has a BA from the City University of New York and an MS from Rutgers University. Sol is the author of 16 books, most of them on personal computer hardware and software design. He has authored over 300 magazine articles that have appeared in more than 30 different magazines and journals. He was a monthly columnist in *Byte* magazine for six years beginning in 1976, and he was the Editor of *Microsystems Journal* from 1979 to 1988.

The May dinner meeting will be the final ACM/IEEE-CS meeting of the 2007-2008 season. Monthly meetings will resume again in October 2008.

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| Date: Thursday, May 8, 2008, 7:00 pm (cash bar at 6:30 pm) |
| Place: Charlie Brown's Steakhouse, 4591 Rt. 27, Kingston, NJ (restaurant phone number (609) 924-7400) |
| Information: Dennis Mancl (908) 582-7086, David Soll (215) 854-3461 |
| On-line info: http://www.acm.org/chapters/princetonacm |

ADVANCE RESERVATIONS REQUIRED – please fill out the form below

Make my reservation for the annual ACM Dinner Meeting on May 8:

Name: _____ Phone number: _____

Menu choice:

Prime Rib

Chicken Francaise

Eggplant Parmesan

Dinner includes salad, potato, vegetable, dessert, and coffee/tea

Please make your reservation by May 2.

Send your check for \$25 per person and this form to:

PRINCETON CHAPTER OF ACM

Treasurer, P. O. Box 1324, Princeton NJ 08542