

# HHC 2005 Conference Report

*Richard J. Nelson - Revision C 051003*

Thirty-eight HP Handheld Users met for their 29<sup>th</sup> Conference, this year in Chicago (Franklin Park) Illinois, to have fun by sharing their technical interests related to Hewlett-Packard handhelds, especially calculators. Last years Conference was held in San Jose California and I was especially impressed with comments following that Conference like "the best Conference ever" and "a really great Conference for variety of presentations." From what little I have heard so far HHC 2005 is in the same class, but it is too early to form a consensus.

CHIP Chapter Conference Committee Members; Ron Johnson (Registration, FAQ, and daily communicator), and Paul Hubbert (People problem solver, Chauffer, Saturday Dinner Coordinator, coffee & tea provider, and Hotel Investigator) did a tremendous job at making this a "Zero Cost" Conference in that no donation was accepted to cover the normal Conference items such as facilities, coffee & drinks, donuts, cookies, proceedings, etc. This was a zero cost Conference! Specifically mentioning this work is not to diminish the efforts of many other CHIP members such as Bob Jura who provided donuts, - the first class kind - and plenty of them for both days. Al Duba used his laptop and gathered all of the presentation materials for Ron to assemble the Conference CD.

CHIP Chapter Founder and Coordinator for three decades, Jack Stout, arranged the no-cost meeting room at ACE Metal Crafts. We invaded a full working sheet metal shop (specializing in 304 Stainless Steele design and fabrication for the food industry) occupying two tunnel-connected buildings. It must have been an interesting experience for everyone to wander through the maze of brakes, fixtures, products, laser cutters, and support functions to use the ACE Training Center where the Conference was held.



**HHC 2005 Participants (3 missing)**

*Figure 1 — The attendees after giving their introductory information as part of recording the Conference.*

Thank You Jack for all your work in making the Conference an especially memorable one. We especially thank ACE Metal Crafts for their many years of meeting support. See the group photo above of those who opened the Conference on Saturday morning. Several others joined the 36 shown (later in the day) and they will be added later.

We met at ACE at 4:00 PM Friday, chatted the afternoon away, went out for dinner at the Four Seasons, spent Saturday from just after 8 AM until "plenty past eleven" (PM), continued at 10 AM Sunday and repeated the "plenty past eleven" schedule. Sleep was NOT on the agenda - you do that on the plane home. Seventeen attendees met for breakfast at Encore on Monday at 9 AM before catching flights. Most left after breakfast but a few who had later flights visited Frys. Thanks again Paul for the transport, I sure wish I could have gone along.

We usually promote the HHC's as "International" Conferences and hope that the seriously active Hewlett-Packard User Community, HPUC, will participate. This year was no exception with enthusiasts flying into Chicago from Canada, The UK, Germany, and The Netherlands.

What did I personally find most memorable about HHC 2005? Two things.

(1) The Attendance. We have been steadily declining in numbers for the last decade. After ten years this really becomes noticeable. The attendance plot per year is very linear with a negative slope. This year was different for two reasons. First, we have reversed the slope of the plot. Secondly, it just may be possible that HP's recent increased activity in the market is getting more attention amongst their users. HP has worked very closely with the HPUC and this is evident from the open and detailed discussions that took place on Saturday with the presentations, questions and answers, and bi-directional dialog with Lee-Khuan (Calculator Marketing Manager) and Cyrille de Brebisson (Calculator R & D Manager).

(2) Attendee participation. This aspect of the Conference really hit home after the Conference at the Monday morning Breakfast where we occupied a cluster of four booths. We took about 90 minutes and during that time people rotated around to have that last personal discussion before heading home. The whole Conference was this way. These were not "elite" groups that "hung" together. The active personal exchanges, sharing, and most importantly "doing" throughout the Conference period (Mon - Fri) we spent together showed that the CHHU/PPC Spirit is still alive and well. Many of us have been doing this for three decades, but when I asked for a show of hands of the people who were attending their first HHC, five or six people so indicated. (Jake and Jack, can you check this when you review the Video?). It would be especially nice to have the inputs from these attendees. What did you like and what would you change?

Personally I do not have the time to "hang out" on the News Group or the HP Museum to keep up to date, but I find the contrast very interesting between those who primarily isolate themselves from the HPUC and those who are more personable enthusiasts who invest in the one-on-one exchange that the HHC offers. These two groups remind me of my Amateur Radio days. You could sit at home in your PJ's and talk to the world. You could also join an Amateur Radio Club and also get involved on a personal basis. Attending an HHC, however, is much more expensive and that is why we work very hard to keep the Conference costs to the bare minimum. For me it is much nicer to see and hear a fellow HP User during a focused Conference. I think that HP also sees the value of personal meetings and there have been many HP-HPUC relationships developed during the last three HHC's - London, UK; New Port Beach, CA; and San Jose, CA.

The Chip Chapter (second Chapter formed, Dayton was the first founded by the late Dean Lampman who attended HHC 2001 before he died of cancer) did not want to labor over a binder type Conference Proceedings. Instead they will mail a Conference CD using HP's latest LightScribe technology. We had hoped that Kent Henscheid, who was at one time the HP-PPC Corvallis Communicator, is the LightScribe Product Manager. He was too busy traveling to drop by and give us a LightScribe technology presentation. He did want to come however, and he tried to arrange his many trips to include Chicago. The many details of the talks, schedule, and photographs will be on the HHC 2005 Conference CD that is being assembled by Ron as I type this 24 hours after the Conference ended.

When we discussed the Conference and a possible HHC 2006 [HHC 2007 will be in London] as the last topic there were three suggestions.

- (1) Boise, ID — Cyrille de Brebisson will investigate.
- (2) San Jose, CA — Ted Kerber will investigate this Northern CA possibility.
- (3) San Diego, CA - Richard J. Nelson will investigate this far Southern CA possibility.

One issue for me is that I plan on buying a home next year so I will be able have more easily accessible space for all of the HP material that I now have in storage (100 miles South from where I live). This will consume much of my time mid-year. Two factors beyond my control may impact these plans and I won't know until early 2006 if my major life style change will be realized.

Deciding the date for an HHC Conference uses a two-step process that has worked very well. Find the first weekend after September 15<sup>th</sup>. In 2006 it is the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. The second constraint is any major holidays for that weekend. If there is a conflict we usually have the HHC on the following weekend. We need feedback, especially International feedback, for any conflicting weekend dates. So far it looks like September 16 & 17 is 99% sure IF we have one.

Traditionally the HPCC in London has an HHC every five years (years ending in 2 or 7) and it is not unreasonable to look to 2007. The London group is losing their "connection" with Imperial College and most likely that conference will be held elsewhere. They held their first HHC in a hotel so we know that it is possible. This will add a great deal more work and planning. It is not too early to be thinking about this. It will be a bit more important to announce this Conference early so International travelers may make plans.

**What is new?** The Conference attendees got a peek at the new HP48/49 Advanced Users Reference Manual. If you didn't attend the Conference you will have to wait (a few weeks?) until HP releases this tome on their website. Bill Butler (from Canada) was so impressed with the contents of the AUR that he is inspired to dust off his HP49g+ because the technical information essential for a serious user is/will be available. We also got a "first look" at a machine to come. Since it is not our purpose to pre-announce HP's machines we will have to wait a short while until HP makes this official. This is one advantage to "in person" participation in the HPUC. You "know" the facts and do not have to depend on Internet rumors.

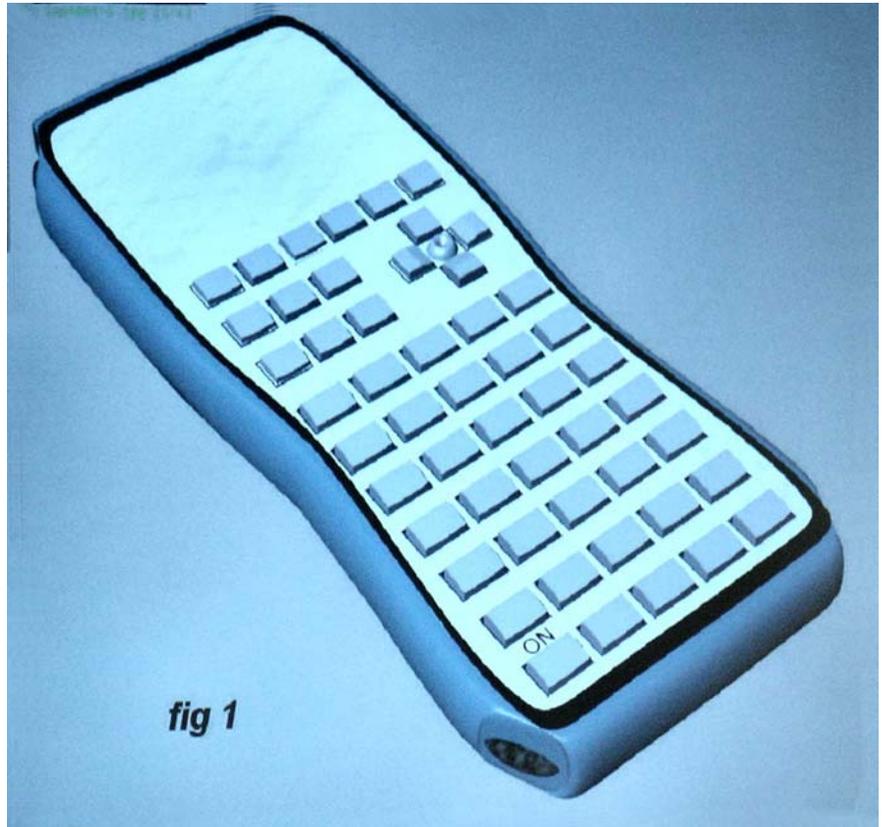
Another new product showing was Tim Wessman and John Evers demonstrating their new survey system. While this project was first reported at HHC 2004 it was nice to see it progressing with "hands on" experience with the hardware. New HP third-party entrepreneurs still exhibit the enthusiasm that well

thought out HP products inspire. Tim explained that the existing manufacturers have a closed mind when it comes to improving performance. The speed and ease of programming the HP49g+ runs circles around the staid "boxes" that are now being sold — at many times the cost of an HP49g+ based system. It takes the energy of a new user to be able to take on the "big boys". Good luck Tim. It must be really nice to have a new wife who "understands" the technical passion that moves technology forward. Time is money and I am sure that the surveyor professionals will quickly realize that a better tool is available.

Tim also showed us his winning Entry in HP's 2005 Create-a-calc Contest. It is obvious why he won - with such an interesting and powerful concept.

See the photograph at the right of the projected screen of the concept Tim suggests. He wanted to be practical and use current technology. The idea is that the complete calculator surface is a display. The possibilities are endless and very versatile. The key notations may change as you progress through an application.

It is very suitable for customization, which is a unique HP concept. HP needs to emphasize this distinctive idea more in its promotions and this certainly is a great start. Good Job Tim!



## HHC 2005 Best Speaker

Eric Smith was selected by his fellow Hewlett-Packard Handheld users as the best speaker of HHC 2005 at Franklin Park, IL, USA, September 17 & 18, 2005.

HHC 2005 Conference Committee

Ron Johnson

Wladislaw Mar-Jedrzejewicz

Zsolt Schwartz

Paul Hubbert

Joseph K. Hurn

Richard J. Nelson

Eric Smith also showed a new piece of hardware that the group related to very strongly. It was his "modern classic" machine. It is a multi-personality handheld that is customizable to make it an HP-25, HP-41, or whatever classic you wish. This is not like a PDA emulation. It is real hardware, and the "real" machine. What impressed me is that essentially it is a handheld that you may customize and create as your own machine. You design the machine on the PC and you download it into Eric's hardware. The group voted Speaker Eric as Best. He received an "official" HHC Certificate and had first pick from the prize table.

Having door prizes is a slightly "controversial issue." I think that this is more of a US tradition as many HPCC members seem to frown on such things. Even a prominent CHIP member thinks that they are not important. He did well (won) this year so maybe he may change his mind and that it may not be so bad after all. We had many donations for door prizes and I want to thank everyone, especially HP, for their donations. I even had people who were not able to attend send me calculators for the door prize drawing.

I didn't get a chance to make a list but I am sure there were photographs. This is another example of the sharing that our group practices.

We had nearly as many door prizes as we had attendees. HP donated three of the latest versions of the HP12C Platinum, which had the new keyboard notations (parenthesis etc.). We had an HP-41CV with card reader, and a \$50 Radio Shack gift certificate as the "high end" door prizes. We require the randomly drawn winners to be present or to have a friend represent them. We divide the donated door prizes into a "high end" group and a "low end" group. After the Best Speaker (and Programming Contest winner, etc.) takes his pick, the "low end" prizes are given away using a physical random drawing. After that drawing the numbers are put back into the box and everyone gets a chance at the "high end" prizes.

The complete list of speakers and topics with added minor comments is provided as Appendix A. This list was also posted before the Conference on the HHC 2005 website in schedule form. Appendix B lists the Attendees, their email addresses, and where they are from.

The Conference could not have been "advertised" if it wasn't for our website maintained by Joseph Horn. Thanks Joseph for putting up with our requests for "instant" changes. Jake Schwartz was also on the Committee providing historical reminders and his videography as he has done so many times in the past. Wlodek is our connection to Europe and we all know how well he does that by coming to nearly every HHC. The HHC Committee is listed on the website along with lost of other information about the HPUC.



Fig 2 — HP-41 Modern classic

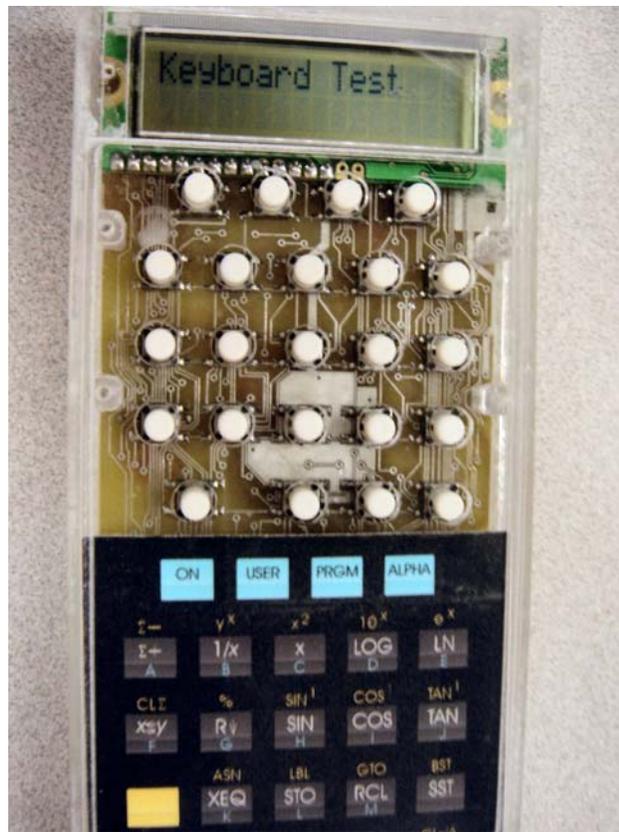


Fig 3 — Make your own keyboard and slide it on.

Hewlett-Packard Participated and contributed greatly to the success of the Conference as previously mentioned with the donation of door prizes and presentations.

In addition Lee-Khuan unexpectedly bought lunch for everybody on Saturday. She also gave each participant an HP promotional watch. It was a nice gift to take home to spouse, girlfriend, or granddaughter. 😊

See photos at the right for the details.



*Fig. 4 - HP watch in round dark blue plastic case.*



*Fig. 5 - HP conventional watch face close up.*

## Conclusion

I was delighted at the success of the Conference for several reasons. The most important reason is the reversal of the declining attendance/interest in HP's machines. Perhaps this was influenced by a growing maturity of the new HP Team, the central Conference location, rumors of changes at TI (loss of faith in the future of calculators with all R&D projects cancelled), and increased resources of an "older" HPUC. We are learning - and understanding - the issues involved for the business plan being implemented by the HP Calculator Group General Manager, Fred Valdez. It is obvious that the HPUC is personal and virtual. I have always favored the former and consider the latter a tool for the former. HHC 2005 vindicates my faith in the HPUC and our history of documenting the HPUC accomplishments at Conferences. We will continue this rich tradition with our information packed CD, soon to be available to all interested HP users. Ron Johnson is assembling the Conference CD as I write this report. He decided to go for the full capability of the LightScribe system to make a really nice label. This will require over 24 hours of "burn" time to make a CD for each of us.

Every HHC 2005 participant demonstrated that the CHHU/PPC spirit is alive and well. This was especially evident to me this year. Everyone gave a great deal of money, materials, energy, and most importantly, time to the experience. Some of us have been doing this for over 30 years and while our local meetings usually end before midnight because we live normal lives with family, etc., I was amazed that the synergy kept us going beyond midnight for three days! We didn't sleep-in the next day either. That is the excitement that HP's products are capable of providing. HHC 2005 also demonstrated the close working relationship between HP and the HPUC. As HP's present product line stabilizes and TI's stagnates, there is a new player poised to dominate — Casio. This presents a tremendous opportunity for us to help inspire (and participate with) HP to produce the next generation of high-end scientific calculators. We did not talk about the long-term future of calculators at this Conference, but I suspect that this topic would be a great theme for a future conference. Eric Smith and Tim Wessman demonstrated that the development tools and the ability to manufacture low quantities of products with modern

technology is helping to reduce the barriers of taking an idea and making it a working product. This may be for business or fun. Either way, the HHC is a great starting place to make it happen.

The HHC 2005 Committee, especially the CHIP members, did an outstanding job of making the Conference a fun, exciting, and learning experience. Thank you Jack and all the "CHIPies" who made it happen. It is this spirit that continues to inspire me personally and it has done so since I first put word to paper in June 1974. I am continually amazed at the sharing spirit that permeates the HPUC and these Conferences.

X <> Y,

Richard

#####

Comments received so far. Our HHC List is down so we don't have that media at the moment to share thoughts.

Wlodek - And Richard, THANK YOU! for all the work and effort you put into making this a GREAT HHC! It was friendly, informative; it was good to see more people than last year and new people. I found it less tiring than usual - maybe because there was no programming contest (I had thought this was bad, but maybe it is good to leave us more time for other things).

*I believe that I heard a similar no-programming-contest comment from Bill Butler.*

Jake - The enthusiasm, hospitality and friendliness of the CHIP group continue to amaze.

Also, perhaps special thanks should go to Cyrille, who I believe has attended 7 of the 9 conferences since 1997, and continues to put up with us all this time. Gradually, he got to understand us enough to appreciate us, even as he transitioned from hacker extraordinaire to the dark side (tongue in cheek) as an HP employee.

Heard from a first time attendee - "I enjoyed it so much, I'll be coming to the conferences every year from now on!"

## Appendix A — HHC 2005 Presentations page 1 of 2

Speaker	Presentation Topic/Comments
Monte Dalrymple's report by rjn	NEWT Microprocessor and 41CL Progress Report. Monte Dalrymple couldn't make it this year. <i>See Conference CD for Update.</i>
Gene Wright	HP's New 48/49 AUR. <i>It is big, heavy, quite complete, and it is packed with technical information NOT in its predecessor, the HP48 AUR. Many members of the HPUC contributed to it.</i>
Tim Wessman	Description of the Winning Entry in HP's 2005 Create-a-calc Contest. <i>We were surprised that a teacher didn't win this contest. It was clear, however, that Tim's entry should have won.</i>
Eric Smith	Nonpareil Emulator. <i>This work has been reported in previous Conferences and it just grows and grows. It is now reflected in physical hardware. See below.</i>
Namir Shammas	Root Seeking Methods, Survey of root-seeking algorithms. <i>This was a "just right" technical level review of this most difficult subject. Use this as a starting point if you are interested in root solving methods. We had four sessions on Solving Equations.</i>
Cyrille Marie Henry Hervé de Brébisson, HP R&D Manager	Digging past the core of the apples. Beyond the skin (User RPL), the Flesh (System RPL) and the core (Assembly) lies the seeds (ARM system) of the apples platform (HP graphing series) where everything is possible... <i>This was an excellent overview and inspiration presentation covering what is being done at the cutting edge of HP49g+ programming. The HP49g<sup>+</sup> is packed with unleashed power.</i>
Lee-Khuan Goh, HP Marketing Manager	Marketing issues, what's happening? <i>We learned some of the market issues and the direction for HP in promoting their products in the Educational and Financial markets.</i>
Cyrille & Lee-Khuan	General HP Q & A. This was your rare opportunity to "Ask HP." <i>Every question and issue was openly and honestly addressed.</i>
Paul Hubbert	Battery Update & Bargain Accessories for the HP User. <i>AC adapter congestion on power strips is no longer a problem. This is a 99-cent solution for each three AC adapters, "bricks." ALL of your AC adapters on one power strip was demonstrated, plus battery rechargers — a really small traveling design, etc. ALL SUPER LOW COST!</i>
Rick Furr	HP Calculator & Curta Posters. How they came to be. <i>A really great illustration of solving the technical problems to realize a passion for calculating machines. Rick donated Curta and HP Calc Posters as door prizes. We all learned tips on how to illustrate and display our machines.</i>
Brian Walsh	HP49 Programming User Interface Example for Applications. <i>Brian illustrated a nice interactive user interface for solving complex equations.</i>

## Appendix A — HHC 2005 Presentations page 2 of 2

Speaker	Presentation Topic/Comments
Frank Travis	Bring back the midrange scientific! <i>The message is clear, there is strong interest in this class of machine. Ideas of its implementation were discussed.</i>
Richard J. Nelson	Magnets, An End of Day Change of Pace Demonstration. They sing, they fly, and they mystify. <i>I thought that this would be a little different. Demonstrations are always dangerous because Murphy always attends. US currency (green ink) really is magnetic.</i>
Eric Rechlin	hpcalc.org Update. <i>Eric presented Statistics to indicate how the interests of various aspects of HP calculator usage are changing.</i>
Ron Johnson (SUNDAY↓)	HP LightScribe Recordable Disc Labeling Technology. <i>This technology was presented in a "user" format and content packed with inside views.</i>
Namir Shammas	Solve For HP Calculators, Comparison of SOLVE in different HP calculators. <i>The changes in HP's Solver in the various "families" of machines was described using performance data including a comparison with TI's 200.</i>
Wlodek Mier-Jedrzejowicz	Delayed Evaluation, and why RPN users hate unreliable keyboards. <i>This view provided great food for thought in the understanding of the use RPN compared to other methods. The conclusion is surprising. Again, HP has it all.</i>
Eric Smith and Richard Ottosen (not attending)	New Classics. <i>Eric kept the hardware a "secret" right up to the presentation when he pulled it out of a bag. What a neat idea. It illustrates how today's tools allow so much to be done by an individual instead of a large team.</i>
Gene Wright and Wlodek Mier-Jedrzejowicz	HP's Teachers Conference Report, ideas for the future? <i>HP hasn't done so well in this professional arena, but is learning. Much needs to be done to inspire the teachers. Will a newsletter help? We think so.</i>
Tim Wessman & John Evers	The "Virtual Calculator" is about our online calculator program designed to demonstrate use of the DC49 to the public. <i>The DC49 hardware was shown by John. All of us can relate to the issues involved in surveying. Modern technology is rapidly changing this field. You keep up or . . .</i>
Jake Schwartz	The HPCC Datafile CD - An Additional Year, plus some Adobe Acrobat Observations. <i>Jake showed us the new HPCC Data file issues and Wlodek explained why we are behind. It is vital for HPCC's existence. It is not unlike the Interex situation described on the HHC website. Jake shared a few "secrets" of how he does his great work.</i>
Richard J. Nelson	Using An HP48/49 Program To Create More Powerful Solver Equations (Programming Exercise style). <i>Time did not permit presenting. The time was given to other topics. Besides, we had three other "solver" talks. The documentation is 58 pages and available anytime.</i>
Richard Schwartz	Solving Certain Polynomials of Interest. <i>Richard does a lot of polynomial analysis while earning his living investing in the stock market and he applied his expertise to the HP-30s which is supposedly non-programmable. It made for a nice "platform" to understand some advanced math.</i>

## Appendix B — HHC 2005 Attendees<sup>1</sup>

#	Name	Email address	From <sup>2</sup>
1	Cyrille de Brebisson <sup>3</sup>	cyrille@hp.com	ID
2	Bill Butler	vipond@vax2.concordia.ca	Canada
3	John Cadick	jcadick@cadickcorp.com	TX
4	Thomas Chrapkiewicz	TChrapkiewicz@aol.com	MI
5	Al Duba	gduba@comcast.net	IL
6	John Evers	john@pssllc.com	OH
7	Rick Furr	rfurr@vcalc.net	VA
8	Lee-Khuan Goh <sup>3</sup>	lee-khuan_goh@hp.com	CA
9	Felix Gross	Felix.Gross@i-dial.de	Germany
10	David Hagen	david_e_hagen@hotmail.com	IL
11	Roger Hill	rhill@siue.edu	IL
12	Paul Hubbert	PaulnBren@comcast.net	IL
13	Ronald Johnson	rbj.jes@att.net	IL
14	Bob Jura	rjura@climatemp.com	IL
15	Ted Kerber	tedkerber@hotmail.com	CA
16	Thomas P Kline	thomas.kline@uni.edu	IA
17	Gordon Lau	lau01@sbcglobal.net	IL
18	Peter Marschall	Pedromar@swbell.net	OK
19	John McClurg	ujm8ikl@yahoo.com	WI
20	Wlodek Mier-Jedrzejowicz	wlodekmj@yahoo.co.uk	UK
21	Richard J Nelson	rjnelson@aemf.org	CA
22	Don O'Rourke	Intlcalc@Aol.Com	FL
23	Frank Pittel	fwp@deephought.com	IL
24	Eric Rechlin	eric@hpcalc.org	TX
25	Richard Schwartz	richas@earthlink.net	CA
26	Jake Schwartz	jakes@magpage.com	NJ
27	Namir Shammass	NShammass@aol.com	VA
28	Eric Smith	eric@brouhaha.com	CA
29	Jeremy Smith	jeremy@peak.org	CA
30	Marc Staps	mstaps@xs4all.nl	Netherlands
31	Jack Stout	jackstout1@comcast.net	IL
32	Viktor T Toth	vttoth@vttoth.com	Canada
33	Frank Travis	travisf@itsd.ci.detroit.mi.us	MI
34	Jeff Turner	60hz@ieee.org	OH
35	Brian Walsh	bpwalsh@speakeasy.net	IL
36	Tim Wessman	timwessman@yahoo.com	UT
37	Gene Wright	genela@comcast.net	TN
38	Bertram Zinner	zinnebe@auburn.edu	AL

Notes: (1) Fifteen of the 50 US States were represented; 10 from IL, 6 from CA; 2 each from MI, OH, TX, & VA; and 1 each from AL, FL, IA, NJ, OK, TN, UT, & WI.  
 (2) From the USA unless shaded. Four other countries are represented.  
 (3) Representing Hewlett-Packard

## Appendix D — HHC 2005 Attendee Photos



Butler, Bill.jpg



Cadick, John.jpg



Chrapkiewicz, Thomas, Debra.jpg



de Brebisson, Cyrille.jpg



Duba, Al.jpg



Evers, John.jpg



Furr, Rick.jpg



Goh, Lee-Khuan.jpg



Gross, Felix.jpg



Hagen, David.jpg



Hill, Roger.jpg



Hubbert, Paul.jpg



Johnson, Ron.jpg



Jura, Bob.jpg



Kerber, Ted.jpg



Kline, Thomas.jpg



Lau, Gordon.jpg



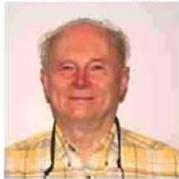
Marshall, Peter.jpg



McClurg, John.jpg



Mier-Jedrzejewicz, Wlodek.jpg



Nelson, Richard.jpg



O'Rourke, Don.jpg



Pittel, Frank.jpg



Rechlin, Eric.jpg



Schwartz, Jake.jpg



Schwartz, Richard.jpg



Shamas, Namir.jpg



Smith, Eric.jpg



Smith, Jeremy.jpg



Staps, Marc.jpg



Stout, Jack.jpg



Toth, Viktor.jpg



Travis, Frank.jpg



Turner, Jeff.jpg



Walsh, Brian.jpg



Wessman, Tim + Katie.jpg



Wright, Gene.jpg



Zinner, Bertram.jpg

**HHC 2005 Attendees**  
 Ace Metal Crafts  
 Franklin Park, IL  
 Photos by Ron Johnson

## Appendix D — CHHU/PPC in Los Angeles

The HP-65 User's Club started in Orange County California in June 1974 where I lived at the time. In those days we had weekly meetings that started at 7 PM and usually "ended" when the sun came up and we went out for breakfast. Six years ago I moved from Orange County North to Los Angeles County and we have had to shift our meetings to a more central location. Gary Tenzer offers his home for this purpose because he drove the many miles to Orange County for many years and he is happy not to have to make the long drive. We are scattered all around the LA basin and most of us drive at least one hour to get to a now monthly (3<sup>rd</sup> Friday) meeting. This is typical for most groups.

Below is a photo taken at one of our recent meetings. John Fedel gave me the singing magnets because he knew that I was interested in magnets. His wife, Leonie, often comes to the meetings as well. Thanks again John. This is one of the rare times we see JKH because his life style has changed in the last few years. Roger Hill comes "home" to California from Illinois once or twice a year between school semesters. All of these people have been active contributors to the HPUC for many years. Photo by Gary Friedman. Each person is holding one of the technical "toys" discussed at the meeting.



*Standing Left to right: Joseph K Horn, Gary M Tenzer, David Shier, and Richard J. Nelson.  
Sitting left to right: Gary Friedman, Roger Hill, Richard Schwartz, and John Fedel*