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Rekindling a Relationship

Former Muskegon Business College, Now Baker College, Teacher and Student Rekindle Relationship and Discuss Evolution of Information Technology Over Past 40 Years

As published in the Coopersville Observer

► Forty years ago, automated information technology was just beginning to enter into mainstream business world, used primarily for accounting purposes. Robert Hogan had been a salesman for IBM for 12 years when he decided to settle down in Muskegon MI to raise a family. Because of his history selling IBM mainframe technology to his customers, Bob was approached in 1968 to begin a new curriculum for the Muskegon Business College called Data Processing & Programming, now known as Information Technologies.

Recently, Hogan and Slater were unexpectedly reunited at a church turkey dinner in Ravenna. Greg recalled the inspiration of Robert, and how his visionary enthusiasm for a new industry had been instrumental in the formation of CCS Technologies, with two locations in Coopersville and Grand Haven. "Had it not been for Bob, CCS Technologies may not exist, and so it has been exciting to share with him just how influential his enthusiasm had been on me 40 years ago. Bob had a natural humor that he shared with his students, and that is what made him so memorable to me."

Robert Hogan continued to develop curriculum for Muskegon Business College, eventually developing the IT curriculum utilized at the Baker Business University & Conservatory of Music in Flint, Baker of Owasso and other Muskegon Business College locations that later became Baker College. He adapted curriculum for his students from working with early IBM mainframe computer models that took up large rooms and would need a full day to process data, to the early PC's. In addition to teaching, Bob served the students as the V.P. of Student Services and teaching until his retirement in 1995.

When asked, Bob related to us that he still uses his computer for maintaining his health records, to do his taxes and to play Solitaire and has left Facebook to his wife and grandchildren.

CCS Technologies today is still focused on the operational needs of their clients just like they did 35 years ago. They have gone from utilizing Litton and Burroughs equipment in the data processing days, then starting with a Televideo Novell Network in the early PC era to now working with equipment from Acer, Lenovo (IBM), Lexmark and many more major PC brands. The basics of early computing are still the basis for a strong company of forward thinkers and still provide technology today that will meet the needs of their clients now and in the future.

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CCS Technologies Store Hours
Grand Haven Store *Coopersville Store*
 M-TH 9:00 am to 6:00 pm M-F 8:00 am to 5:30 pm
 Fri 10:00 am to 6:00 pm Sat 9:30 am to 12:00 pm
 Sat 10:00 am to 3:00 pm



Greg Slater and Robert (Bob) Hogan

In 1972, the Muskegon Business College was servicing 300 students. After graduating from Spring Lake High School in 1971, Greg Slater was quickly captivated by this new industry trend of Data Processing and began to pursue this major along with accounting. Slater was able to capture his mentor's excitement and vision and a sense that this burgeoning industry would continue to become more important to mainstream businesses. Slater utilized this industry excitement as a springboard for CCS Technologies, serving the business community and now the public for 35 years, a feat that demands the ability to project and deliver rapidly changing IT needs within his client base.

Holiday Hours: normal store hours except the Coopersville store will be closed Saturdays 12/24 and 12/31 From all of us at CCS Technologies we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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