North Texas IPC NEWS

November, 1983

Vol 2 North Texas IBM Personal Computer Users Group No. 11

Another New Meeting Place

Our next meeting will be held at a different location. Please make a note of the site so you can plan to be there.

Date: Saturday, November 12
(Second Saturday of the month)
Time: 9:45 AM
Place: Jesuit Preparatory School
12345 Inwood Road
(South of LBJ, in the Galleria area)

This is the same location where the Apple Corps meets each month. In fact, some of our SIG sessions this month will be together with the Apple group.

The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

9:00 - 9:30 Board Meeting ..... Room 106
9:45 - 11:00 General Session ..... Auditorium
Presentations:
1. Lotus 1-2-3 by a rep from Lotus Development Corp
2. Quadlink Board by a rep from Quadlink Corp
11:00 - 12:00 Programmers Group ..... Room 106
11:00 - 12:00 Beginners Group ..... Room 107
11:00 - 12:00 Business/Spreadsheet Group .... Auditorium
12:00 - 1:00 Engr/Scientific Group ... Room 105
1:00 - 2:00 Comm, Modems & Ham Radio Room 111

There will be Apple Corps programs throughout the afternoon, including sessions on Printers & Hardware, Pascal Programming, Graphics, and CP/M. Full agenda for the Apple sessions will be posted in the cafeteria.

Vendors will be located in the cafeteria. A setup fee ($15.00 single table, $25.00 double) will be collected by Bob Roe. Vendors can set up at 9:30 and remain all day.

Tutorial Update

by Jeanne Pitz

The first problem of getting people to teach tutorials has been eliminated. Thank you to the many people who volunteered their time. Please make an outline of the course you want to teach and let me have it at the next meeting, or mail it to me at the address below.

If you've thought about teaching but are afraid you don't have the experience, this is a good way to get some experience and also the best way to learn the subject.

The next step is to find suitable facilities. I will be looking into this at our next meeting.

The third step is the question of course materials. I feel some charge will have to be made to cover the cost of xeroxing. I will also be looking into this question.

The final step is setting a date and getting people to sign up. This will have to wait until I can get

(Please see "Tutorial" on page 4)

Board Mtg

. There will be a Board of Directors meeting Saturday, Nov 12, just before the regular meeting. The Board meeting will be in room 106 beginning at 9:00 AM.

Vending machines containing drinks and light snacks are available in the cafeteria.

While attending the meeting, park in the area between the school and stadium. Please do not park across the street at the convent.

Chris Morgan

Next Meeting November 12, 1983

Jesuit College Preparatory School
12345 Inwood Road, Dallas, Texas
(See map on page 2)
9:45 to 12:00

North Texas PC NEWS

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Deadlines:
All material for publication in PC NEWS (articles and ads) must be received by the NEWS staff no later than the fourth Friday of the month prior to publication.

North Texas IBM Personal Computer Users Group

A non-profit, independent group, not associated with IBM Corporation. The Group meets on the second Saturday of each month. See page 1 for meeting time and place.

Officials:

President	Alan Elliott	(214)941-8475
Program Chairman	Chris Morgan	(214)446-0484
Treasurer	Bill Hood	(214)350-9784
Secretary	Charles Kroboth	(214)699-8088

Special Interest Groups:

Beginners	Mike Durbin	(214)271-8779
Business Applic.	Dick Barr	(214)692-2605
Disk of the Month	Will Janoschka	(214)231-6449
Programmers	Neil Bennett	(214)238-7650
BASIC Applications	Charles Loftin	(214)492-3594
Comm & Networking	(open)	

Telephone (during business hours) (214)361-0304

Dues: Professional Membership - $36.00 year
Regular Membership - $24.00 year
Student membership - $12.00 year
Payable in January. Dues are prorated for balance of year when applicant joins after January. Mail dues to: Treasurer, NT IBM PC UG, 10400 N. Central Expwy #210, Dallas, TX 75231

SIG Notes:
The BASIC Applications SIG does not meet every month... It meets only for special applications in BASIC as announced in PC NEWS. Contact Charles Loftin if you would like to propose a specific subject.

The Communications and Networking SIG is looking for a leader. If you are interested, contact Alan Elliott for details.

Deadline

Since our meeting date has been moved to the second Saturday of the month, deadline for receipt of PC NEWS copy is now the last FRIDAY of the month prior to publication. This allows time for typing, proofing, page layout, preparing repro copy, printing, address labeling, mailing and other odds and ends that must be taken care of to get the NEWS to you before each meeting.

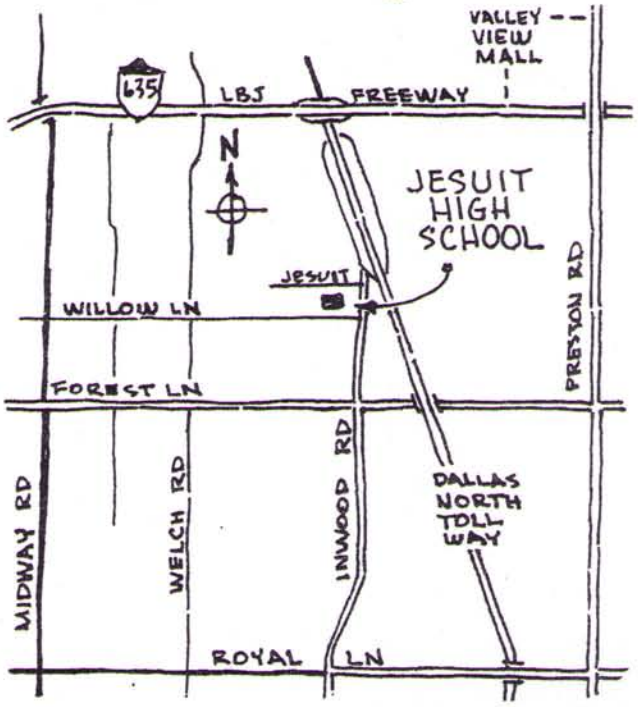
Material received at the editorial offices after the deadline, will be held up until the following issue. Note that it is essential to allow two days for the postoffice to deliver letters from the Dallas area to the Editor. To be sure your material gets in the current issue, mail it to the editor, or transmit by phone to Tom Prickett, no later than Wednesday morning before the deadline.

(Contributors from outside the Metroplex area please allow additional mail transit time.)

Thanks for your cooperation.

PC NEWS Editorial Staff

Next Meeting:



Our Guys Make Good

by Betsy Symacher

PC Magazine editors were "quite impressed" with Dr. Neil Bennett's Professional Basic when Program Chairman Chris Morgan showed it to them on his recent trip to New York City. Dr. Bennett is the leader of the Club's special interest group for programmers.

(The Professional Basic language is being published by Morgan Computing Company of Dallas.)

During his demonstration of Professional Basic for the editors, Morgan said he got a good reaction --especially when he showed its ability to simulate the program written in Professional Basic running backward.

At that point, former editor Jonathan Lazarus nudged present editor Bill Machrone and said, "Oh, I've always wanted that!"

Morgan liked Machrone, who worked without a tie through the confusion of staffers walking in and out of his office to pick up supplies. He enjoyed the shoptalk, including some telephone conversations Machrone had with several computer stores, attempting to reserve PC Junior computers that the stores evidently had been told not to sell yet.

The office is on the seventh floor of One Park Avenue -- about a block and a half from the Empire State Building. The office "was like a war room," Morgan said. "They had computers and manuals ... piled high and junk from one end (of the office) to another...."

The editors were busy preparing a new publication on the yet-to-be-announced PC Junior, even though no hardware or software is available to write about yet.

Betsy

Using Published Programs - A Clarification

In a letter to Softalk magazine by Charles Walker, Elm Grove LA, Charles requested permission to copy programs from Softalk for distribution to members of Northwest Louisiana IBM User Group. The editor wrote:

"Thanks for giving us the opportunity to clarify. We emphatically encourage you to copy programs published in Softalk. You may also print them in user group newsletters and list them on nonprofit bulletin boards. We'd like for them to reach as many people as possible. Technically, Softalk holds a copyright on everything published in Softalk. What this means in practical terms is that we'd take issue with anyone who chose to sell a program that we'd published, or print it, without our permission, in a book or a competing magazine. Apart from these limitations, please make free with our material in any way you wish."

This is a great attitude, one that could easily be shared by other magazines. It certainly represents our attitude toward material published in PC NEWS. The only thing I would add is, where practical, proper credit should be given to the author and the publication.

Beginning with this issue of PC NEWS our Group will begin exchanging newsletters with other IBM PC User Groups around the country. Tom Prickett volunteered to coordinate this effort. He will have his hands full; there are over a hundred groups listed in current magazines and the number is growing rapidly. Thanks, Tom, for taking on this added chore.

John

Syncom, a diskette manufacturer, compiles a monthly summary of computer-related articles that you can get free by mail or at some computer stores.

The September edition of the publication, INFOSCAN, is 11 pages long (the pages are about five inches square).

It contains one-sentence synopses of stories from PC Magazine, PC World, Softalk (for the Apple and for the IBM), Microcomputing, Creative Computing, Compute!, Nibble, Micro, 80 Micro, Personal Computing, Byte and other similar publications. The August issues of most of these magazines were summarized.

To get a subscription, call 800-843-9862 or write Syncom at P.O. Box 130, Mitchell, SD 57301.

Betsy Simnacher

Tutorial Update
(continued)

everything organized. I will try to schedule the first tutorial in January.

The topics I have volunteers for so far are:

1. Basic Programming for Beginners
2. Assembly Language Programming
3. Introduction to DOS
4. Using Wordstar
5. Using Lotus 1-2-3
6. Using EasyWriter

It should be emphasized that these tutorials will be aimed at beginners. They are meant to be a comprehensive overview of the topic in easy-to-understand terms.

If you have any questions or have any recommendations please let me hear from you.

Jeanne Pitz
1509 Woodoak Drive
Richardson, TX 75081
(214)669-8797

Special Interest Programs

Programmers

The multi-tasking, multi-user operating system, QNX was the subject of the October meeting. Wayne Reich discussed the features of this $650 operating system by Quantum, and then demonstrated it using two PC systems and peripherals. As a special to club members, Wayne is making the basic QNX system available for $550 through the end of the year. The basic system includes a full screen editor, communications, multiple windows, a macro assembler, and a C compiler.

Dick Gall

Business and Spreadsheets

A continuation of the discussion of Lotus 1-2-3 will be the main topic of the Business/Spreadsheet SIG session. Have your questions ready... we'll have a representative from Lotus Development Corp with all the answers.

Dick Barr

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DISK OF THE MONTH

by Will Janoschka

NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

GAMES RETURN!

747.BAS

A flight simulator program with visual display. Officially named the Jet Simulator Electronic Trainer (JETSET), this interpreted basic program won BYTE Magazine's game contest and an extensive writeup in the November 1982 issue. The program lets the pilot activate the control surfaces of the jet aircraft, adjust engine thrust, and tune navigational radio equipment. 747 continues until the jet lands and rolls safely to a halt or the flight ends in disaster.

Flying lessons include taking off, maneuvering, navigating, practicing VOR navigation, and practicing instrument landings. JETSET author Eugene Szymanski of Princeton, NJ designed it to be "technically sound and complex enough to require a certain amount of skill and judgment at the keyboard." Includes brief instructions in a .DOC file, but access to the complete description in the Nov. 82 BYTE issue significantly enhances the game for unlicensed pilots. (Note: instead of < and >, the comma and period are actually used by the program for aircraft rudder control.)

Reminders of the Month...

E l e c t i o n s

. By now, the Board of Directors will have appointed a nominating committee for elections to be held at our January meeting. This committee will propose a slate of nominations in December for the positions of three directors at large, and the President-Elect for the coming year. The nominations will be published in the December newsletter.

D u e s

. January is Membership Renewal Month. Dues can be paid any time during the next couple of months; they must be paid by the end of January for you to remain on the rolls. Mail them to: Treasurer, NT IBMPC Users Group, 10400 N. Central Expwy #210, Dallas, Texas 75231, or pay at the regular meeting.

STARTREK.BAS

Jeanne Pitz has provided a fixed version of this eternal favorite.

TRUCKER.BAS

A word game of attempting to drive a truck across the country for fun and profit.

MAP.BAS

A States/Capital's demo said to be very good. Requires color/graphics adapter.

SHUTTLE.BAS

Draws various views of the shuttle.

UTILITIES AND MISC.

*SDIR22.COM is a list directory (LD) program usable with DOS 2.0. The .ASM source code is also provided for study by budding assembly language enthusiasts.

*RV-EDIT.BAS (and .DOC) is a BASIC full screen editor and documentation from California.

*COLBLNK & MONOBLNK.COM blank the display screen after five minutes of PC inactivity. Instructions included in BLANK.DOC.

*SORTDEMO.BAS demonstrates different types of sorts and the time each one takes. Requires color/graphics.

*SPOOLER.EXE is a variable-size print spooler program that even works with DOS 2.0.

Will

DISK DETAILS

Price: $5.00. Available at the general membership meeting. Media: DSDD 5" diskettes formatted single-sided. Public domain software only, standard full disclaimers. Sales are made before and after the general membership meeting only. Call disk of the month chirman Will Janoschka at 231-6449 to submit material and programs for future Disk of the Month issues. Most back issues are available.

PC SHOP & SWAP

(Four lines free each month to members, otherwise cost is 15 cents per word. Ads will run three consecutive months unless notified earlier to cancel. Ads must be renewed after three months if continuation is desired. Mail ads to the Editor.)

FOR SALE: Used Amdek 300 B&W monitor for sale. Asking $150.00 but will negotiate. Bill Jacky, (214)386-9731.

FOR SALE: 10 Megabyte Shugart hard disk drives for the IBM PC. New, 1 year warranty. $1200. James Hickman, 578-8091.

Consultants Directory Listings in DALLAS COMPUTES. Microsystem Consultants Agency, 561 W. Campbell Rd. No. 303, Richardson, TX 75080, phone 680-9420. Next deadline: January 27. Ads also available.

FOR SALE: Multiplan. Never opened. $135.00. Contact Fred Born (214) 233-3333 or (214) 239-3842

WANTED: Advertisers for N. Tex PC NEWS. Rates are reasonable, exposure is great! Current circulation approximately 300 PC users/owners. Contact John Pribyl, at phone (817)275-4109 for particulars.

Member address labels for sale. Check with PC NEWS Editor for price and details.

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SUPERTAX II: Includes the efficient SUPERTAX I program as well as the more detailed SUPERTAX II program which makes all of the SUPERTAX I calculations, but which also PRINTS THE INCOME TAX RETURN. This program prints Page 1, page 2, Schedules A, B, and G (income averaging) of the FORM 1040 as well as FORM 3468 (investment tax credit) on standard government forms or on blank computer paper for use with transparencies. Any input item can be changed in seconds and the entire return recalculated almost instantly.

SUPERTAX III: This package includes both the SUPERTAX I and SUPERTAX II programs PLUS a program to calculate and print Schedule C of the FORM 1040. Also included is a stand alone depreciation program which calculates and prints your depreciation schedule using both the old rules and the new ACRS rules. Output from the depreciation program is designed to serve as a supplement to IRS FORM 4562.

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