

North Texas IBM PC Users Group

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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.

Articles:

Column width of articles is not critical, but please do not right-justify the copy. Article submission is preferred by modem (817-275-4109 or Startext 51563), or disk in ASCII format, unjustified. If you send a disk, please include a printed copy of the article to assure accuracy. Double spaced, typewritten copy is acceptable but must be received a week before the deadline.

Circulation:

North Texas PC NEWS circulation is 750. Member distribution is 580; remaining copies are distributed to PC user groups around the country, and to advertisers, prospective members and others with common interests.

August Program

We will have a look at an AT clone that is as close an IBM PC AT as can be legally made. Jeff Ewing and Earl Lloyd of A & A Microsystems will give a presentation on the Kaypro 286i.

Mike Bouton, Program Chairman

... from the Editor's desk.

It was with reluctance that we accepted the resignation of our Disk of the Month Chairman. Doug Windham ran the DOM service for over a year. He brought many good public domain and shareware disks to our Group. It is unfortunate that demands were made that could not be accommodated. In the past we were able to grant the DOM Chairman an exclusive for sale of public domain software at our meetings. This is no longer the case with our meeting arrangements as they now stand, and our rules are changing.

New Disk of the Month policies are set out in this month's DOM column. The good part is that the DOM price is reduced... the other part is that a little more help will be needed from members. But what the heck, only an hour a year! That is, for all except the Librarian and Reviewers... they'll have to do a little more. However, it's still a pretty good deal. Contact Stuart for details.

If the above work doesn't interest you, keep reading, I have more offers!

Our goal has always been to make the newsletter as self supporting as possible, using revenue from ads rather than support from our Treasury. To make this happen, we needed several things to happen. Some of these are pretty much accomplished, and it's time to get on with the rest of them.

1. We've needed a larger circulation base. Membership is now at 580 and GOING UP! This is a very select audience for advertisers, and with circulation increasing at approximately 50 per month, it won't be long before the advertisers will see that they can't afford NOT to advertise with us.
2. We've needed more original material from members. This is now becoming a reality, thanks to all our contributors, and should also continue to increase with the larger membership.
3. We had to have a better looking newsletter to provide a quality stage for advertisers and their promotions. There too, we've made great strides since that first issue three years ago, and we plan more.
4. Ad prices must be calculated to offset production costs. Present ad prices have been in effect since day one of PC NEWS and are due for a review. I predict an increase will be necessary soon.

Next PC NEWS deadline is Friday, August 23!

President's Corner



Our next meeting is August 10 at INFOMART. Once again, the exact schedule of meeting times has changed. The main meeting will be at 10:15, with SIGS at 9, 12:30 and 1:30. See inside for details. A number of INFOMART showrooms are expected to be open again, including IBM. In July, there were two demos of the IBM network at their showroom.

Once again, we expect to have 12-month INFO-CARDS for User Group members... we'll see.

New SIGs

The Science/Engineering SIG took on new life with Arlin Collins as SIG leader. Arlin is employed by a major company in oil industry. Doug Perine will lead the Investments SIG, which has also been dormant recently. One item to be discussed at the August meeting is possible joint meetings with the Dallas Apple Corps' Investments SIG. E F Hutton plans to demo their Hotline software at the September meeting, at the main meeting and/or the SIG meeting.

See inside for SIG meeting times.

Thanks

Special thanks to Tom Fowlston and Crossroads Audio for allowing us to use the superb projection system for our main meeting demonstrations. Also, Jim Hoisington has done yeoman service in helping move the equipment to and from INFOMART, setting it up and connecting it to the hardware brought by the speaker at the main meeting.

from the Editor (continued)

5. We've needed someone to contact prospective advertisers, fully coordinate their requirements and assure maximum participation. That we still need. We're accepting applications for Advertising manager for North Texas PC NEWS. The position requires an individual with imagination to prepare ad packages that can be delivered and discussed with local manufacturers, vendors and software houses, and mailed to national accounts where indicated. Followup is required to assure positioning of the ads at deadline. Jot down a few of your qualifications and things you might like to do to expedite ad revenue, and mail them to the Editor.

John

More Thanks

The SIG leaders have devoted much time and effort to building good SIGs. I would like to thank all the SIG leaders for their continuing work: Ricky Burke, Dr Neil Bennett, Ed Fries, John Hall, Jim Hoisington, Jim Janeway, John Keohane, Chris Morgan, Sid Nolte, Doug Perine, Becky Rahaim, Chris Wilde, Doug Windham and John Wolley.

Turbo SIG

The Turbo Pascal SIG attendance has grown dramatically since its inception in May. From 15 or 20 people, there were 74 in July, and the SIG leader, Chris Wilde, expects about 100 in August. This SIG put out a newsletter in June and is producing three (!) disks of source code to be sold under DOM auspices at the August meeting.

Volunteers Needed

This club is YOUR club. Its success is due to YOUR efforts. We need more help to continue the smooth operation of the meetings at INFOMART. If every member would contribute one hour a year, we would have more than enough help to do the minor chores that must be done each meeting.

You can help in two areas now. The information kiosks at the front of INFOMART need you to help pass out INFOCARDS and new member applications. Two people should be on hand at all times except during the main meeting. Folks from other User Groups will man our kiosk during that meeting, as we will for them during their main meeting. Also, you can help distribute the Disks of the Month at our DOM table in the Vendor Area. Two people should also be on hand whenever the DOM table is open: 9-10 and 12-3.

Please contribute one hour to the User Group.

Jane Hughson is coordinating both efforts. Call her at home to schedule your hour. Her telephone number is (214) 262-0457.

It Pays to Advertise

Your newsletter is the largest expense the User Group has. To help support the PC NEWS, we should solicit paid advertising. If you would like to be the PC NEWS Advertising Manager, please read the editorial beginning on the facing page, then contact the Editor, John Pribyl.

S H E L L f r o m I B M P C B A S I C

by James Pearson

Did you ever boot Basic on the IBM-PC and then wish that drive B was your default drive? Have you every wanted to check the available disk space while running Basic, only to have to go to system and then find that you had lost your Basic program? Or how about sorting a file from Basic using the DOS sort program instead of having to write your own? Well, all of this and more can be done using the SHELL command.

The commands that you type from the A> prompt are intercepted by the command processor program, COMMAND.COM, which in turn passes temporary control to the program needed to execute the command and then control is passed back to the command processor. This is all very straight forward when you are in command level.

If your BASIC programs and data files are on drive B it would be much easier if you could just type FILES to look at B's DIR. Also, if you want to SAVE your program, it is less likely that you save to the wrong diskette if your data disk is in the default drive.

From BASIC we call on the DOS by going to the SHELL of the operating system. Our request for help is then sent to the needed program, and if possible the program executes our request. Control then passes back to DOS and may pass back to BASIC, or may wait to see if further requests are coming.

You can change the default drive from BASIC(A)!

Be sure that your system disk, or a disk with COMMAND.COM, is in Drive A. Type the command

```
SHELL "B:" <- (the <- is used for the
ENTER key)
```

and note that drive A runs, and that when it stops the OK prompt of BASIC is on the screen. Now type the command

FILES

and note the DIR of drive B is displayed indicating that B: is now the default drive.

You may have wanted some of the additional information that is displayed from the command level DIR that is not shown from the BASIC command FILES. Well, it is there just waiting for you to ask for it.

Type the following command

```
SHELL "DIR" <-
```

and you will have displayed on the screen the directory of drive B in the same format as you get when you ask for DIR at command level, with file length, date and time all displayed. The options /P or /W are allowed here, also.

Now try the following command

```
SHELL "DIR A:" <-
```

You should have displayed the directory of files on the disk in drive A and be back in BASIC operating system again as indicated by the OK prompt.

You can also run .COM or .EXE programs from within BASIC. For example, type the following command which runs the CHKDSK.COM program from within BASIC. (Be sure that your disk in drive A has the CHKDSK.COM program on it.) The following assumes that drive B is still the default drive.

```
SHELL "A:CHKDSK A:" <-
```

Or, to run CHKDSK from drive A on your disk in drive B type the following command

```
SHELL "A:CHKDSK" <-
```

Maybe you want to look at the DIR on several disks. No need to SHELL each time. The SHELL command can be invoked with no request, and you will be returned to the DOS command level. The screen will appear just as if you had typed the SYSTEM command. In the case of SHELL, however, you are returned to COMMAND and the BASIC system and your program are left untouched waiting for your return.

Type the command

```
SHELL <-
```

You should now have the B> prompt on the screen. Type CLS <- . The Screen clears except for the prompt. Type DIR A: <- and the directory of drive A is displayed. Type DIR <- and the directory of drive B is displayed. Try DIR A:/W <- . Just as if you were in command level, right?

Try the Command

A: <-

followed by

DIR <-

and you will find drive A is now default drive.

Try the command #CHKDSK.COM must be on disk in drive A\$

CHKDSK <-

and the program is executed and information of drive A is displayed. Now type the command

EXIT <-

and the OK prompt of BASIC appears on the screen once again. If you had a BASIC program in memory you can type LIST <- to see that it is still there.

Let's try one other excursion into the world of SHELL. Type

SHELL <-

to get to the command operating level. Now we are going to see an error message that most have never seen. Type the command to load in BASIC just as though you really were at command level.

BASIC <-

and note the error message

YOU CANNOT RUN BASIC AS A CHILD OF BASIC

displayed on the screen.

Why did you get this message? Because you are still in BASIC and that system is still in charge of

the computer. You cannot load the system that is already in and running.

It is possible to get hung in SHELL. Always try to get back to BASIC by asking for

EXIT <-

if you appear to be hung up. If this does not return you to BASIC then all you can do is to type the CTRL-ALT-DEL sequence and re-boot. THIS WILL DESTROY ANY PROGRAM YOU HAVE IN BASIC, AND YOU WILL HAVE TO RE-LOAD BASIC AGAIN!!!! You did save that program before you tried your SHELL, didn't you?

SHELL can also be useful in editing a BASIC program. For Example, you have just debugged a program on the screen and now want to have the output go to the printer. You need to change your PRINT statements to LPRINT. You could go through the program line by line and make the change. If the program is very long this is time consuming, as well as leaving the possibility of missing a statement or so.

If you have the EDLIN.COM file on your system disk you can save a lot of time and effort by using this editor to make the change for you.

First, save your program as an ASCII file by typing

SAVE "ProgramName.EXT",A

This saves your BASIC program to the default drive as a file of standard ASCII characters. The ProgramName must be a valid name. EXT could be the extension ASC to let you know that the file is in ASCII.

Now type the following (Assuming drive B is default, and that A has Command.Com and EDLIN.COM).

SHELL A:EDLIN ProgramName.Ext

This will request the SHELL, load the EDLIN editor and read your basic program into the editor. The screen prompt will tell you how much of your file was read into memory. (If you do not know EDLIN commands, see the DOS manual chapter 6.)

To replace all PRINT statements with LPRINT type the following



SHELL (continued)

```
1RPRINT<F6>LPRINT <-
  [ <F6> means press F6 function key ]
```

All PRINT statements are now LPRINT.

Type E <- to end edit and save the changed file. This will also return you to BASIC.

At this point you have two versions of your program available. The unchanged version in memory and on the disk as ProgramName.BAK and the new version on the disk as ProgramName.EXT. Now type

```
LOAD "ProgramName.Ext"
```

and LIST your program. Note that LPRINT is now used where you had used PRINT before. When you run this program the output will be to the printer. Easy wasn't it?

EDLIN.COM will allow selective find/replace, also. See the DOS manual for instructions.

The following program will create a file of random letters in groups of 3 as FILE1.DTA and then do a SHELL and sort the file using the DOS SORT.EXE file. Note that it is not necessary to open FILE2.DTA for output from within the BASIC program. SORT.COM created this file as it's output file, we do have to open the file for reading, however.

To run this program the program SORT.EXE file must be on the disk in drive A: and there MUST be a disk in drive B: with enough space for the two files generated.

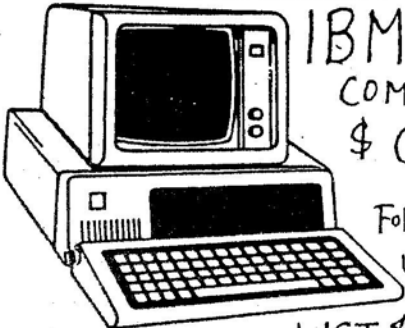
To execute a SHELL from BASIC, you MUST have a disk in drive A that contains COMMAND.COM. This is what is loaded when drive A runs when the SHELL is requested. The SHELL request can be general, you issue your commands after the SHELL command. In this case you use EXIT to return to your BASIC. SHELL followed by a command will go to COMMAND.COM, execute the command and return automatically to BASIC.

Jim

(Jim is Professor of Electronic Engineering Technology at De Vry Institute of Technology, Irving, Texas. He also teaches an Introduction to IBM PC course for DCCCD. Ed.)

Shell Program

```
10 DEF FNA(X) = 25 * RND(X) + 65: 'ASCII # of Char
20 OPEN "B:FILE1.DTA" FOR OUTPUT AS #1: 'FILE GENERATED
30 FOR I = 1 TO 50
40 RANDOMIZE(VAL(RIGHT$(STR$(INT(TIMER*100)),3)))
50 PRINT#1,CHR$(FNA(I))+CHR$(FNA(I))+CHR$(FNA(I))
60 NEXT
70 CLOSE: 'CLOSE FILE1.DTA TO DUMP BUFFER
100 SHELL "A:SORT < B:FILE1.DTA > B:FILE2.DTA": 'REQUEST
    SHELL
110 CLS
120 PRINT"FILE 1 CONTENTS"
200 OPEN "B:FILE1.DTA" FOR INPUT AS #1: 'OPEN FILE1
    FOR READING
210 OPEN "B:FILE2.DTA" FOR INPUT AS #2: 'OPEN FILE2 FOR
    READING
220 WHILE NOT EOF(1): 'READ & PRINT FILE1.DTA
230 INPUT#1,A$
240 PRINT A$,
250 WEND 300 PRINT"FILE 2 CONTENTS": 'READ AND PRINT
    CONTENTS OF FILE2.DTA
310 WHILE NOT EOF(2)
320 INPUT#2,A$
330 PRINT A$,
340 WEND
350 CLOSE: 'CLOSE ALL FILES
400 END
```



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C Programmer's Notebook

by Dick Barr

(The following reviews came from an Austin PC Newsletter, and were unsigned)

New and Inexpensive Programming Products

Run/C

Run/C is a rather unusual product, it is an interpreter for the C language. Since the rationale for C's existence is fast, compact code, and the stack oriented structure of C does not really lend itself to interpreted code, the use of an interpreter seems to go against the very nature of the language. Run/C is not designed to produce compact or efficient executable code, in fact it does not (a prime number program that takes 39 minutes and 45 seconds in Run/C takes about 10 seconds when compiled. This is NOT bad, just typical of interpreters.) Rather, it is designed for two purposes, program development and education. I think that it achieves these goals rather well.

Run/C features ease, convenience, nearly 500 pages of documentation with abundant examples, and a great number of program development features. The best way to use Run/C is to create a program with your favorite editor, then enter Run/C and load and run your program. At either the loading or program creation stage, Run/C will catch some syntax errors. If there are problems with your program, Run/C may stop and point out the error. At that point you can use its built-in line editor. Or you can turn its built-in profiler on, and take a look at your program's flow of control, and how many times each step has been executed. Or, you can use its Break command, which gives a very tidy display of the status of every global variable, and every active local variable. The interpreter also has an extremely good Trace function.

I'm a long way from being an expert on C, in fact I bought Run/C as a tool to learn C, but as far as I can tell, Run/C is pretty good on Compatibility, offers a great deal in terms of speeding up experimentation and program development, and has few bugs. It does lack typedef, extern, most preprocessor commands, register, and some redirection features, and most seriously pointers to functions. It does include a shell command, so you can leave

Run/C resident. The program is about 180k in length, and runs nicely on a 256k system and with floppies. The Age of Reason, the program's developer, is revising it at a fast pace, so I expect it to continue to improve, and Age of Reason has announced that they are going to fill in the remaining gaps in the structure of Run/C. In the future, I expect to use it to develop sections of code up to 200 lines or so, debug them, and put them into files for compilation. Run/C is published by Lifeboat Associates, and lists for 4150. I bought my copy for \$89 from Telasoft of Phoenix, AZ.

Ecosoft C

Having purchased Run/C, I had planned to wait awhile before investing \$500 or so in a C compiler from Lattice, Computer Innovations, or Mark Williams. However, I saw an ad in Dr. Dobbs Journal for a C compiler from Ecosoft, and I was tempted to try it for three reasons: I have a very close friend who is an actuary, and she regards Ecosoft's statistical software very highly. Secondly, Jack Purdum has written the best selling C textbooks, and he is the president of Ecosoft. Lastly, Ecosoft beats even Borland on price. I sent off a check for \$78.95 to Ecosoft (as far as I know they only sell direct), and for that I received FOUR disks including:

- The C compiler
- A 'make' program
- A complete set of ISAM functions
- Source code for the library functions
- Approximately 150 library functions

[It is \$49.49 for the compiler alone. ed.] All of this is easily equivalent to several \$300 to \$500 packages from other manufacturers. For example, the library includes a bubble sort, a shell sort, and a quicksort, soundex keys, get, make, or remove directory, Turbo-Pascal like interrupt calls, screen and color management functions and more.

Having bunches and bunches of goodies is all fine and good, but the quality appears to be there as well (as above, I am no C expert, and I have only had the product for two weeks.) Ecosoft makes an excellent first impression by providing really slick batch files to install the program, and a very thorough and well done reference manual (though cheaply produced, OK for the price) that is probably not for the novice. Ecosoft calls its make

(continued on page 16)

Special Interest Program Reports

Assembler SIG

Main Topic: Unconditional and conditional jumps were covered. INTERRUPTS were skipped in July, so we'll try to cover two in the August meeting.

Group Buy of MASM: Microsoft version 3.0 is still the frontrunner; we are currently looking around for the best price.

In-Between Meetings: These meetings will be resumed in September after vacations are over.

John Wolley, SIG Chairman
HOME PHONE: (214)238-9443

BASIC Applications SIG

Enika Pearson will speak at the August meeting about interfacing InfoStar, dBase, and BASIC. Ms. Pearson is publisher of Legal Assistant Today, a quarterly journal published for the legal profession. In addition to Ms. Pearson's presentation, we'll take about a half hour for any questions about BASIC that members of the group wish to discuss.

At our July meeting, Herb Wilson ably chaired the BASIC SIG, standing in for John Keohane. Don Taylor was guest speaker, with a presentation on BASIC structures, with emphasis on arrays. Thank you, Herb and Don.

The TRS/80 Group has invited us to attend a class in Beginning BASIC. This is a repeat of a previous class. It runs for eighteen months, and will start in September. The TRS/80 Group meets at INFO-MART.

John Keohane, SIG Chairman
WORK PHONE: (214)690-8092

Genealogy SIG

Members interested in genealogy are cordially invited to join with the Apple Users during the Saturday meetings. Meetings are scheduled for 9:30 a.m. and normally run for about one hour. Check at the desk for meeting room assignment.

The program for August will be presented by one of our original Genealogy SIG members, Judge N. L. Linebaugh. Judge Linebaugh will demonstrate the most popular genealogy program of our group, FAMILY ROOTS. He has a great deal of experience with the program and has been a great help to us in using the FAMILY ROOTS program.

During the past 13 months, we have had demonstrations of several other computer genealogy programs. Some of these run on the IBM PC. In addition to looking at available packaged programs, we have had programs where we studied genealogical methods and practices. And... we try always to have time for questions.

Join us at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, August 10, at INFOMART and hear Judge Linebaugh's presentation on FAMILY ROOTS.

I have a modem if you would like to contact me through the Apple BBS.

Minnie Champ, Leader
PHONE (214)341-6507

Business Applications SIG

At our last meeting we had a discussion on accounting packages, spreadsheets and telecommunications. At our next meeting we will have another short presentation on Lotus as a business tool by Bob Russell, and Stacey Smith will present a short business application of SuperCalc III. If time permits, we will have a discussions on accounting and graphics. Anyone interested in attending is welcome.

Ricky Burke,
Co-Chairman
H:(214)276-5003
W:(214)272-0515

Ed Fries,
Co-Chairman
W:(214)783-8543

Special Interest Program Reports

C Language SIG

Susan Spensor from Greenleaf Software in Carrollton will give a presentation on C libraries at the August meeting. Join us!

Sid Nolte, SIG Chairman
HOME PHONE: (214)233-6178
WORK PHONE: (214)995-3868

Database SIG

We had a good second meeting of our new SIG. In addition to followup discussion on the FORMULA IV database system, which was the subject of the main meeting presentation, we started to go through a systematic discussion on the features of relational, programmable database systems. We will probably take several meetings to completely go through the total set of criteria with which a variety of systems will be compared.

Next meeting, the format will include 20 minutes to take questions from the floor. Come prepared with your favorite question. Another 20 minutes will be for a special presentation on "Databases and Networking." The other 20 minutes will be spent on the continuing discussion about database features.

Chris Morgan, SIG Chairman
WORK PHONE: (214)245-4763

Investment SIG

This SIG is meeting for the first time beginning in August. Get in on the ground floor! Come early and join the crowd.

Doug Perine, SIG Chairman
Work Phone: (817)478-0815

Programmers SIG

Chairman Neil Bennett was back and led the group in another of our 'famous' round table discussions.

As is usually the case, a wide number of topics were discussed. The first topic was the IBM Enhanced Graphics Adapter. The only two sources of information for this card seem to be the IBM "Options & Adapters Manual" and its updates and a "PC Tech Journal" articles of several months ago. Currently only Microsoft Word 2.0 and DisplayWrite III seem to be using the capabilities of the EGA.

There followed a discussion of the various rumors of PC II and of the 80386 chip. The Intel Above Board was discussed again; the only person who reported having one was using it only for RAM-disks. AT&T's Concurrent UNIX was discussed; this brought up the fact that late versions of AT&T's Olivetti machines may actually lock up when the '87 chip is used. Also discussed was the fact that NEC's 8088-alike chip actually performs far below the level that the advertising hype would lead you to expect -- in general, it offers little or no performance improvement over a real 8088.

Also discussed were: IBM's new BASIC compiler (it may be an IBM internal product), the new Bernoulli boxes, and how can a program tell which color card is installed so as to use that card to its best advantage.

This month's meeting promises to be just as interesting and informative as the last. Join us for hot rumors and technical tips!

Carrington Dixon

Turbo Pascal SIG

Our Special Interest Group is making healthy progress. It's been three months since our first SIG meeting was held in that small SMU classroom. The group has grown fast. Every month we get a bigger room; Every month we run out of chairs.

Fast growth is not easy to manage. During June and July, we've all worked hard to define the purpose and services of the group. August will unveil new benefits. With this in mind, there are three groups to thank: ▶

Special Interest Program Reports

First, we appreciate the contributors of personally written source code. Their work not only brings education and challenge to other Turbo Pascal programmers, it has inspired some creative brainstorming sessions - a valuable benefit.

Second, we say a long-distance "Thank You!" to our largest Turbo Pascal code contributor, "PC SOFTWARE INTEREST GROUP", Sunnyvale, California (408) 730-9291. You may know them as the publishers of a 350 page directory of public domain software. They sent us a selection of yet unpublished Turbo code. (At least 80% of our first SIG offering was gleaned from this source.)

Third, we especially acknowledge those new members who've been watching and waiting for us to get things organized. We appreciate their patience, and hope they'll appreciate the SIG's August goodies.

New Disks - Lower Prices

Those of you who attend the August meeting will receive free documentation on three new Turbo Pascal SIG Disks. You'll be impressed. The material is high quality valuable code. In fact, two national distributors will be offering our SIG's disks (with our name) on a national level. Back in July, we announced each disk would cost Members \$6; However, at the August meeting, Members will pay only \$2 each.

SEE Y'ALL AUGUST 10th

If you have any questions or if you want photocopies made of documentation (to be distributed) call Chris Wilde at (214) 386-6578.

Chris Wilde, SIG Chairman
HOME PHONE: (214) 521-6066/-6173
WORK PHONE: (214) 386-6578

Science/Engineering SIG

The July meeting was very informal and about fifteen were in attendance. An opening discussion provided several ideas for topics of future sessions.

One item was providing a Sci/Eng Disk-of-the-Month. The idea was well received, when a disk of such programs is gathered, they will be given to Doug Windham for distribution to the entire club. Another topic was an interest in sources of algorithms for use in solving Sci/Eng problems. There is interest in Graphics, from 3D geometry to an AutoCad demo. Other interests include ASYST and MuMATH.

Arlin Collins gave a brief discussion of the commercial product TK! Solver. TK! allows the user to input a series of inter-related equations and the known values of some of the variables. TK! will do its best to provide numerical solutions for unknown variables, using direct and iterative numerical analysis methods.

The topic for the August meeting will be 'A Survey Sci/Eng Programming Languages'. The members of the Sci/Eng SIG have a very broad base of experience with various applications, languages and computers. We will each share our programming experiences with Fortran, Basic, Pascal, C, etc. as they apply to Sci/Eng applications.

Arlin B. Collins, SIG Chairman
Home Phone: 214/436-7697 (w/recorder)

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BYLAWS

North Texas IBM PC User Group, Inc.

The following amendments to the bylaws are recommended by the Officers and Board of Directors. A vote will be taken at the September meeting.

ARTICLE I GENERAL MATTERS

Section 1.1 NAME

Current:

The name of the corporation is the North Texas IBM PC Users Group, Inc., hereinafter referred to as the "Users Group", a corporation formed under the provision of the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act.

Proposed:

The name of the corporation is the North Texas PC Users Group, Inc., hereinafter referred to as the "Users Group", a corporation formed under the provision of the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act.

Rationale

Since there are many "IBM-compatible" machines available, our group will appeal to many non-IBM users. A survey of our members indicates that up to 1/3 of our members use non-IBM machines. Dropping "IBM" from our name will make the name more indicative of our membership.

Section 1.2 PURPOSE

Current:

The Users Group is formed exclusively for the purpose for which a corporation may be formed under the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act and not for pecuniary profit or financial gain. No part of the assets, income, or profit of the Users Group will be distributable to, in inure to the benefit of its members, directors, or officers except to the extent permitted under the said Non-Profit Corporation act. The Users Group will not take steps which will serve to facilitate the transaction of specific business by its members or promote the private interest of any member or engage in any activities which would constitute a regular business of a firm ordinarily carried on for profit.

Section 1.3 OBJECTIVES

The objectives for which this Users Group is formed are to unite into a common organization those individuals who are users of and those who share a common interest in the various versions of the IBM Personal Computer or compatible product lines, peripherals, operating systems and software; to provide the membership with a forum for the exchange of information of interest and for the benefit of the membership; to render services designed to meet the needs and interests of the membership; and to provide to the membership any form of assistance that will lead to the more efficient and effective utilization of the membership's Personal Computers.

Proposed:

Add the paragraph under 1.3 OBJECTIVES to section 1.2 PURPOSE and delete the words "The objectives for which". Capitalize "This".

Add new Section 1.3 OBJECTIVES

The objectives for which this Users Groups is formed are:

- a. To provide an opportunity for both formal and informal education in computer applications, hardware, and software technologies.
- b. To provide a medium of communication with user groups in other areas (location and orientation).
- c. To provide an opportunity for the formation of special interest groups.
- d. To provide a medium for the exchange of public domain and contributed software. The illegal copying, use, or distribution of software will not be condoned.
- e. To assist members in acquiring computer hardware and software.
- f. To promote the effective interchange of ideas between members and vendors of IBM and compatible PC hardware and software. ▶

ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP

Section 2.2 MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFICATIONS

Current:

There will be three classifications of membership as follows:

(a) Regular membership shall be that of any individual who is the owner of or has an interest in an IBM Personal Computer and comparable product lines, peripherals, operating systems and software and does not meet the requirements of any other membership classification;

(b) Professional membership shall be that of any individual who engages in business either directly or indirectly related to the personal computer products and wishes at any time during the tenure of his membership to present products for sale to the membership at member's meetings.

(c) Student membership shall be that of any individual who otherwise qualifies as a Users Group member and is also enrolled on a full time basis as a student in any public or private institution of learning.

Proposed:

Change lead-in statement to reflect two classifications of membership, delete section 2.2 (b) and reletter (c) to (b).

ARTICLE III DUES

Section 3.3 NOTIFICATION OF DUES

Current:

At least thirty (30) days prior to the Users Group's annual renewal date, the Treasurer will notify each member of the membership renewal date and the amount of his annual dues; provided, however, failure to give such notice within thirty (30) days prior to the annual renewal date will not relieve the member from payment of dues.

Proposed:

Members will be notified of their membership renewal date. However, failure to give such notice will not relieve the member from payment of dues.

Rational

Since we no longer have a specific "annual renewal date", this wording accomplishes the purpose and notification can be on the newsletter label.

ARTICLE IV MEETING OF MEMBERS

Section 4.2 REGULAR MEETING

Current:

The regular membership meeting shall be held on the third Saturday of each month at a time and place disclosed in a monthly announcement. The announcement may be made in the Users Group's Monthly Newsletter, stating the date, time and place of the meeting, and shall be mailed to the general membership no later than five (5) days prior to the meeting in which case the notice of time and place shall be sent to the members not later than ten (10) days and not more than fifty (50) day prior to the meeting.

Proposed:

The regular membership meeting shall be held each month at a time and place disclosed in a monthly announcement. The announcement may be made in the Users Group's Monthly Newsletter, stating the date, time and place of the meeting, and shall be mailed to the general membership no later than five (5) days prior to the meeting in which case the notice of time and place shall be sent to the members not later than five (5) days and not more than fifty (50) day prior to the meeting.

Rationale

We no longer meet on the third Saturday of the month. Changing the time requirement for notice of the meeting from ten to five will allow this notice to appear in the newsletter immediately preceding the annual meeting.

Section 4.3 Special Meetings

Current:

(b) NOTICE. Note less than ten (10) days and not more than fifty (50) days before a Special Meeting, each member will be sent to his last known address a notification of such meeting.

This notification will contain the subject or subjects to be considered and the date, time and location of the special meeting. Only matters contained in the notification may be considered at said meeting.

Proposed:

(b) NOTICE. Not less than five (5) days and not more than fifty (50) days before a Special Meeting, each member will be sent to his last known address a notification of such meeting. This notification will contain the subject or subjects to be considered and the date, time and location of the special meeting. Only matters contained in the notification may be considered at said meeting.

Section 4.4 PARLIAMENTARY RULES

Current:

The usual parliamentary rules as prescribed in "Robert's Rules of Order" or its equivalent will govern all deliberations, when not in conflict with these Bylaws.

Proposed:

The usual parliamentary rules as prescribed in "Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised" or its equivalent will govern all deliberations, when not in conflict with these Bylaws.

Rationale

"Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised" is the newer and generally accepted version. This change brings us up to date.

ARTICLE V BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 5.7 QUORUM

Current:

Two-thirds (2/3) of the Directors present in person or by written proxy at any meeting shall continue a quorum at any meeting of the Board.

Proposed:

Three-fifths (3/5) of the Directors present in person or by written proxy at any meeting shall continue a quorum at any meeting of the Board.

Rationale

We have 5 Directors, 2/3 of 5 is 3.33333 etc. Three fifths is more precise.

Section 5.8 PARLIAMENTARY RULES

Current:

All meetings of the Board of Directors will follow parliamentary proceedings as prescribed in "Robert's Rules of Order" or its equivalent when not in conflict with these Bylaws.

Proposed:

All meetings of the Board of Directors will follow parliamentary proceedings as prescribed in "Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised" or its equivalent when not in conflict with these Bylaws.

Rationale

"Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised" is the newer and generally accepted version. This change brings us up to date.

ARTICLE VIII SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Section 8.1 CREATION

Current:

The President or Board of Directors may create special interest groups ("SIG"). Creation of a SIG will require the documentation of the area of Special Interest that will be addressed by the SIG. Each SIG will have a Group Leader. Each SIG may adopt rules for its on government not inconsistent with these Bylaws or with rules adopted by the Board of Directors.

Proposed:

The President or Board of Directors may create special interest groups ("SIG"). Creation of a SIG will require the documentation of the area of Special Interest that will be addressed by the SIG. Each SIG will have a Group Leader. Each SIG may adopt rules for its own government not inconsistent with these Bylaws or with rules adopted by the Board of Directors.

Rationale

Editorial change (correction of typo).

Section 8.2 SIG LEADER

Current:

The SIG leader is to be elected annually by the members of the SIG and will serve a one-year term. The SIG Leader shall be responsible for all SIG activities and affairs. The SIG Leader, or his appointed alternate, will preside at all SIG meetings.

Proposed:

The SIG Leader shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the President. The SIG Leader shall be responsible for all SIG activities and affairs. The SIG Leader, or his appointed alternate, will preside at all SIG meetings.

Rationale

The President is active in establishment and formation of all SIGs. Appointment of SIG leaders is part of that action.

ARTICLE XI FISCAL YEAR

Current:

The fiscal year of the Users Group commences on the first of January and ends on the last day of December. This year may be changed by resolution of the Board of Directors.

Proposed:

The fiscal year of the Users Group commences on the first of August and ends on the last day of July.

Rationale

Our fiscal year has been determined by the state of Texas as August to July.

ARTICLE XV AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS

Current:

These Bylaws may be amended, repealed, or altered in whole or in part by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all members in person or by written proxy at any regular or special meeting or by mail ballot adhering to the same voting requirements. Notification of the general membership of an upcoming vote shall be made at least two weeks prior to the scheduled date of the subject vote.

Proposed:

The Board is responsible for proposing amendments to the bylaws. Members may propose amendments by submitting them in writing, with rationale, to the President for consideration by the Board of Directors. These Bylaws may be amended, repealed, or altered in whole or in part by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all members in person or by written proxy at any regular or special meeting or by mail ballot adhering to the same voting requirements. Notification of the general membership of an upcoming vote shall be made at least five days prior to the scheduled date of the subject vote.

Rationale

The procedure for initiating amendments to the bylaws was not specified. Changing the time requirement for notice of amendments to the bylaws from ten to five will allow this notice to appear in the newsletter immediately preceding the meeting at which the vote will be taken.

P O T P O U R R I

One of our members is writing computer articles for area newspapers. John Keohane is writing a monthly column entitled "Our Information Age" appearing monthly in the Plano Review. Another column is published every Monday in Richardson Daily News. The weekly article is called "Computers and You." John is most interested in your comments, and suggestions.



Volunteers for Special Interest Programs

The North Texas IBM PC User Group SIGs are currently searching for club members who would like to volunteer their time. We need substitute SIG leaders who will fill in for our regular leaders when necessary and speakers who will make presentations on specific topics of interest. Occasionally, we need leaders for newly formed groups and replacements for SIG leaders who must give up their positions.

We hope you will consider giving a small amount of your time to Special Interest Groups who can benefit from your skills and knowledge. If you are interested, please answer the following questions and mail the questionnaire to the SIG Coordinator at this address:

Becky Rahaim
 SIG Coordinator
 P. O. Box 796114
 Dallas, Texas 75379

NAME	-----	HOME PHONE	-----
ADDRESS	-----	WORK PHONE	-----

1. Please indicate each group to which you believe you can contribute. Use the following symbols as often as needed: (A-leader, B-substitute leader, C-speaker)

	A	B	C		A	B	C
BEGINNERS	-----	-----	-----	SCI./ENG.	-----	-----	-----
BASIC APPLIC.	-----	-----	-----	C LANG.	-----	-----	-----
BUSI. APPLIC.	-----	-----	-----	TURBO PASCAL	-----	-----	-----
ADV. PROG.	-----	-----	-----	INT. SOFTWARE	-----	-----	-----
ASSEM. LANG.	-----	-----	-----	INVESTMENTS	-----	-----	-----
DATABASE	-----	-----	-----				

2. What new groups would you like the club to organize and how can you contribute (A-leader, B-substitute leader, C-speaker)?

	A	B	C
-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----



PAWS FOR GREAT DEALS



NEW PRODUCT

Overon Omni-Scan will read a page of text into your own word processor. The ideal solution to multiple computer systems that need to share the same files. Print them out on one computer and read them into the other. Connects to a computer with serial interface.



BOARDS

Brande Byte memory for AT-128k installed mem. \$295.00
 1TB Graphix Plus II 371.25
 Hercules Graphics 389.00
 Quadcolor I 250.00



BOOKS

Mastering Symphony \$22.95
 Programming in C 18.95
 Think Tank Book 13.95
 Running MS DOS 16.95
 Wordstar Made Easy 11.95



SUPPLIES

Lucite Dust Covers \$15.50
 Roll-top disk box-holds 100 diskettes 31.25
 Small Printer Rack 15.00
 3 x 5 cards, on continuous feed 8.10
 1000 sheets laser perf paper 11.25
 Rolodex cards standard forms, other disk boxes in stock.



PRINTERS

CR11 Parallel LQ \$375.00
 FX80 349.00
 RX80 235.00

Prices good as long as supply lasts.

BUSINESS



Latest version of Multimate with its own
 Speller \$371.25
 Wordstar 2000 371.25
 Data Base Manager II 221.25
 dBase III 521.25
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WILDCAT COMPUTING, INC.

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With Paint. Use this smooth-rolling gadget to draw high quality pictures.
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Wildcat Computing, Inc.
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 Plano, Texas 75074
 (214) 424-3582
 1168 West Main
 Lewisville, Texas 75067
 Metro 436-7322



PC-2-85



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____ NEW OR RENEWAL _____
 ADDR. CHANGE _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone: Home _____ Metro? _____
 Work _____ Metro? _____

Send completed application with your \$24 check to:
 Membership Chairman, 135 Skyline Dr., Dallas, TX 75074



DISK OF THE MONTH

Doug Windam resigned as Disk of the Month chairman on July 16, 1985. The contract technically expired in April, 1985 but was extended by mutual agreement. Doug decided not to continue, and the Officers and Directors of the User Group have instituted a new method of distribution.

DOM Price Now \$2.00

To offer the Disk Of the Month at \$2.00 will require a substantial volunteer effort from the members of the User Group. The User Group will provide the diskettes and means of duplication.

Software will be welcomed from any source provided that it shall include a disclaimer by the author stating that the software is the original work of the author and is released for public distribution by the User Group. All other software must be identified by source. Pirated software is completely unacceptable.

The User Group therefore needs a Software Librarian. Several Software Reviewers will be needed on a rotating basis to insure a high quality Disk of the Month. Distribution of the DOMs at the User Group meetings must involve a number of volunteers. If each member of the User Group participates, one hour per year will provide the necessary staffing at the DOM table. In return, each volunteer will receive his/her choice of one of the available DOMs.

Since the User Group does not yet have a Software Librarian, Jane Hughson will schedule the volunteer for the August 10 meeting. Please tell

August Door Prize

Hurley Computing has given the Users Group an IBM Compact Printer for a door prize. This printer is a thermal printer with a serial port to an IBM PCjr. There will be a drawing from current members who are at the business session of the main meeting August 10th. BE THERE!!!

her the hour you prefer. The DOM table will be open from 9 to 10 and from 12 to 3 in the Vendor area and at the conclusion of the main meeting in room 7011. Jane's number is (214) 262-0457; please be prepared to leave your name, phone number and preferred shift on the answering machine, if necessary.

If you are interested in the position of Software Librarian or Software Reviewer, please call Stuart Yarus at (214) 867-8012.

AUGUST 1985

The August DOM is a new double entry accounting system called PC-DEAL. The shareware package features monthly budgets, bar graphs, chart of accounts, eleven reports, sub-accounts and single entry accounting if you prefer.

There will also be three disks of Turbo Pascal source programs provided by Chris Wilde and the Turbo Pascal SIG. The price of these disks is also \$2.00 each.

swap  shop

Four lines free each month to members, otherwise cost is 15 cents per word. Mail ads to the Editor.

IBM-PC-Jr 2nd Disk Drives
Disk drive, Controller & Software ... \$329
Controller & Software alone \$139
COMPUTER RESET - Voice 276-8072 (Dallas)
BBS 272-7920 (300bd,8 bits,1sb,no par)

John Keohane, Consultant. Superior Computer and Business Expertise. Expert in IBM Mainframes and PCs. MBA, University of Chicago. (214)690-8092

WANTED: Advertising Manager for North Texas PC NEWS. Excellent opportunity to meet the business world. No pay in dollars, but great rewards in personal satisfaction! Help support your newsletter. See article on editorial page.

PRESENTATION QUALITY SLIDES & PRINTS
(from IBM PC compatible graphics)
Personal service, reasonable rates
Ricky Burke WIZARD GRAPHICS 276-5003

C Programmer's Notebook (continued from page 5)

function CC, and it is a pleasure to use -- if you have a program that has four C sections and two in assembler, and you modify the third C section and the second assembler function, cc is smart enough to recompile only the third C section and to reassemble only the second assembler section, and then to link them together. The compiler handles the textbook programs that I've thrown at it without any problems, and seems to produce the execution speed of Lattice or DeSmet C. The compiler itself is not super fast, this is a deliberate tradeoff in order to include a code optimizing step and to do more thorough error checking. The published reviews that I have read agree with my more subjective testing, and also reflect a very high degree of completeness and compatibility. The compiler produces detailed English error messages, and also refers you to the correct page of Purdum's C Programming Guide! The fact that Purdum's books are documentation for this product specifically are additional advantages. At this stage of the game, the only thing that I can see

MODEM GROUP PURCHASE

We received approximately 70 responses to the modem questionnaire at the July meeting. Most responses indicated interest in 1200 baud, with preference for internal/external split about 50-50. All want Hayes compatible. All bids are not in, but so far we have a good price on EVEREX 1200 baud internal (\$150) and U.S. ROBOTICS 2400 baud external (\$390). Still working on the others. We'll have a full report at the August 10th meeting...

Jim Graham

that it lacks is the full size data and program segments of the industry standard packages. I would be very pleased with the product at several times its price, I'll keep you posted as to how it fares as I get deeper into it as time passes.

(Next month: DeSmet C Compiler. Dick)



Room Assignments

Saturday, 10 August 1985



Check room numbers in lobby at INFOMART

MAIN MEETING: 10:15 - 11:45

(R O O M 7 0 1 1)

9:00 - 9:55	Room	12:30 - 1:25	Room	1:30 - 2:25	Room
Advanced Prog.	_____	Business Applic.	_____	Databases	_____
BASIC Applic.	_____	Turbo Pascal	_____	Assembly	_____
Beginners	_____	C Language	_____	Science/Engr.	_____
Int. Software	_____	Investments	_____		



North Texas IBM Personal Computer Users Group
P.O. Box 780066, Dallas, TX 75378-0066

The North Texas IBM PC Users Group is a non-profit, independent group, not associated with IBM Corporation. Membership is open to owners and others interested in exchanging ideas, information, hardware, predictions, and other items related to the IBM Personal and compatible computers. To join the Group, complete the application blank printed elsewhere in this issue, and send it with \$24 membership dues to address shown below. A subscription to the newsletter is included with each membership.

The Group meets once each month, usually on the second Saturday. See cover for date, time and place of the next User Group meeting.

Officials:

President	Stuart Yarus	(214)320-7263 w
President-Elect	Jim Graham	(214)245-4763 w
Program Chairman	Mike Bouton	(214)495-4534 h
Treasurer	Bill Hood	(214)960-4754 w
Secretary	Jane Hughson	(214)262-0457 h
<u>Membership Director</u>	Bob Russell	(214)422-4269 h
<u>Operations Director</u>	open	
<u>Setup Team</u>	open	

Special Interest Groups:

SIG Coordinator	Becky Rahaim	(214)385-8205 h
Assembler	John Wolley	(214)238-9443 h
BASIC Applic.	John Keohane	(214)690-8092 w
Beginners	John Hall	(214)495-2375 h
Business Applic.	Ricky Burke	(214)276-5003 h
	& Ed Fries	(214)783-8543 w
C Language	Sid Nolte	(214)223-6178 h
Databases	Chris Morgan	(214)245-4763 w
Disk of the Month	open	
Integ. Software	Jim Janeway	(214)349-0314 h
Investments	Doug Perine	(214)478-0815 w
Programmers	Dr. Neil Bennett	(214)422-5673 w
Turbo Pascal	Chris Wilde	(214)386-6578 w

<u>Telephone</u>	(214)242-4187
<u>Bulletin Board</u> SYSOP:	open

Payment of dues, address changes, and inquiries about membership should be directed to:

NTPCUG Membership Chairman
135 Skyline Drive
Plano, Texas 75074

Check newsletter mailing label for your membership renewal date. No separate renewal notice will be sent.

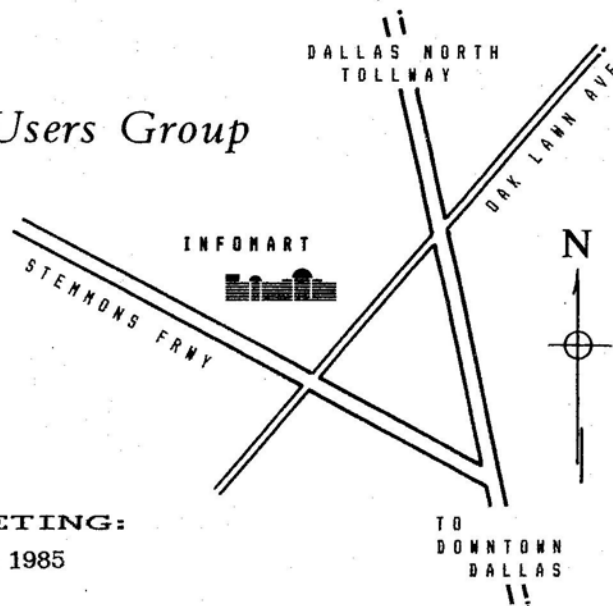


North Texas PC NEWS

2025 Rockcreek Drive, Arlington, Texas 76010



North Texas IBM PC Users Group



NEXT MEETING:
10 AUGUST 1985