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North Texas  NEWS

North Texas PC Users Group, Inc.

**GUESS WHO WON?
SEE PAGE 4 AND
YOU'LL KNOW TOO...**

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North Texas PC NEWS

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All advertising and other material for publication in North Texas PC NEWS must be received by the NEWS staff by the 10th of the month prior to publication. See deadline information below.

Circulation:

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DEADLINE
Copy deadline for March
North Texas PC NEWS:
Friday, February 10th

Meeting Dates:
February 18, 1995 - 3rd Saturday
March 25, 1995 - 4th Saturday
April 15, 1995 - 3rd Saturday

Submitting Articles for Publication in North Texas PC NEWS

1. **Article Style.** Type all copy flush left without justification. This includes headings, bylines, and the first line of each paragraph. Place a credit byline (author's name) between the title and first paragraph. Leave a blank line between paragraphs.

2. **Media.** All copy exceeding 10 lines should be submitted via the NTPCUG BBS or on floppy diskette(s) - (5.25" or 3.5" DOS formatted). If you want the disk returned please include a self-addressed return-postage-paid mailer. If you submit your article in hardcopy and expect us to transcribe it, bear in mind that we don't type so well. Most times, hardcopy-only-articles get filed in the Void.

3. **File Formats.** ASCII text files are preferred. Use .TXT extension for ASCII files. If formatting is crucial, Microsoft WORD and WordPerfect files will be accepted. Other word processor file formats may be acceptable but only if the article is accompanied by hardcopy and an ASCII file version of the article. Word processor files create a lot of extraneous work for the editors. If the article can be ASCII-fied, please do so.

4. **Submitting Articles.** You may use one of three methods.

a) NTPCUG BBS (Preferred). Log-on to the BBS and select (U)pload from the main menu. Your default file transfer protocol will be displayed. If you want to change your default protocol, use the (P)rofile option. Once you have set the file transfer protocol, select the (A)rticle option from the upload menu. You will be prompted for the filename to upload. Enter the filename (don't use drive or path name). The BBS will prompt you to begin the file transfer. (Refer to your communications software manual for instructions on transferring files.) After the file transfer has been completed, you will be prompted to, "press any key to continue..." You will then be prompted for a one-line description of the file. Enter the description. To exit the Article Upload Menu press ENTER until you get back to the Main Menu. (OPTIONAL - Send a BBS mail message to Gerry Heine regarding your submitted article.)

b) Snail Mail (a.k.a. U.S. Postal Service). Put the article on a floppy diskette and mail it to: 218 Virginia Ave., Waxahachie, TX 75165-2418

c) SneakerNet. Track down one of the editors at the monthly meeting and give them a diskette with the article on it.

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PROGRAM FOR FEBRUARY . . . TIMOTHY CARMICHAEL

9:00 AM - 9:55 AM

Rational Rose — Your Solution for Object-Oriented Development

Rational Software Corporation

Robert Foery, Account Rep. and Darrel Rader, Technical Rep.

Rational Rose is a graphical software-engineering tool that supports object-oriented analysis, design, CMVC, and implementation, helping your development team produce object-oriented applications more effectively. You can represent, verify, and communicate the analysis and design model of a software system, plus utilize smart code-generation and reverse-engineering capabilities for C/C++, Smalltalk, SQLWindows, and Ada. Rational Rose is a fundamental component of Rational's modern, object-oriented software-engineering solution, comprising software processes, products, and services, that give you control of your software development efforts and sharpen your competitive edge. There will be a drawing for free products.

10:00 AM - 10:55 AM

Experience the Power of Natural Media: Painter 3 & Dabblor

Fractal Design Corporation

Bruce Clapp, District Sales Manager

Painter 3 for Windows and Macintosh integrates image manipulation, PainterX2's revolutionary multiple floating selection technology and new professional digital video editing features with the amazing power of its now-classic Natural-Media tools, all in one program! Painter 3 provides extensive tools for the creative artist, whether using a drawing stylus or a mouse. Dabblor is a "Learn to draw and paint" program for Windows and Macintosh. It has Walter Foster Publishing included to teach anyone above the age of 5 to create exciting and colorful artwork in just a few minutes. Dabblor is a 16-bit program designed to run easily in Windows with four megabytes of RAM. There will be a drawing for free products.

11:00 AM - 11:30 AM

NTPCUG Business Meeting

1:00 PM - 1:55 PM

PC DOS 7

IBM Corporation

IBM PC DOS gets better! Get more of what you need from DOS — more memory, performance, and function in one, all-inclusive and integrated package. It includes award winning, full function DOS and Windows utilities that you need everyday: Stacker 4.0, Central Point Backup, IBM Anti-Virus Protection, Memory Manager (OEMM), IBM REXX, PCMCIA support, Program Scheduler, File Update Utility, and more. Come see for yourself why PC DOS 7 is better, before the official public release date of Feb 28. There will be a drawing for free products.

* Tickets for each drawing will be given out from 10 minutes before until 15 minutes after the start-time of the meeting to attending NTPCUG members who show proof of membership.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS SIGs FEBRUARY MEETING SCHEDULE

<p>8:00 - 8:55 Microsoft Networking Visual BASIC - Beginning MultiMedia</p> <p>9:00 - 9:55 BASIC Programming-Visual DOS General Genealogy Hardware Solutions Internet Personal Users Quicken StarText Visual BASIC Windows Applications WordPerfect/DOS</p> <p>10:00 - 10:55 BASIC - Classic CAD</p>	<p>10:00 - 10:55 (Cont.) Fox Pro Database Micrografx Networking PAF-Genealogy Paradox Personal Users WordPerfect/Windows UNIX</p> <p>11:00 - 11:55 BASIC Programming - Begining Assembler Brother's Keeper Genealogy CAD (Cont.) Investors Micrografx (Cont.) MS Works OS/2 — Q & A Roots III/IV - Genealogy</p>	<p>11:00 - 11:55 (Cont.) Spreadsheet Developers Windows Developers</p> <p>11:30 - 11:55 Orientation</p> <p>12:00 - 12:55 Alpha Four C++/Advanced C Communications Desktop Publishing Health Care Computing OS/2 for End Users Personal Users Roots III/IV (Cont.) The Master Genealogist</p> <p>1:00 - 1:55 Access ACT! BBS</p>	<p>1:00 - 1:55 (Cont.) Business Apps./DAC Easy DATAFLEX Middle C Word for Windows OS/2 Developers Personal Users Spreadsheet</p> <p>2:00 - 2:55 Advanced Programmers Community Services North Texas FreeNet Application Developers (OLE and ODBC)</p> <p>Please consult the BBS and remember to check the overhead display in the INFOMART lobby for latest SIG schedules and room locations.</p>
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NTPCUG & Publicity

"Best kept secret in Dallas..."

DFW Xchange Corporation began an experiment in November by taking out small ads in the classified sections of *The Dallas Morning News* and *The Fort Worth Star-Telegram*. The response exceeded our expectations. Quite a few people have told us that they had never heard about our meetings.

NTPCUG a Secret?

We didn't think the NTPCUG was a secret — until a locally-published, PC-oriented magazine referred to us as "The best kept secret in Dallas," in a recent issue. We're going to change that.

Peyton Weaver has created a new brochure describing the NTPCUG. He'll be talking about it at the January meeting. (Yes, I'm writing this before the January meeting has taken place.) Let me add this to Peyton's pitch. We'll have some brochures at our booth near the INFOMART entrance.

If you are taking a computer class at a school, work in a store, meet the public on a regular basis, I would encourage you to take a couple of brochures and give them to people who are interested in personal computers.

Let's not keep the NTPCUG a secret.

Membership Cards

We endeavor to provide a membership card to each person who joins or renews their membership in the NTPCUG. Since the process of creating the cards involves several members, let me clarify the procedure for producing the cards.

As Membership director, I receive membership applications and renewals during the month. At the end of each month, I produce a file and send it to



Charles Fernandez via the BBS. Charles feeds that file into a program written by **Fred Williams** that prints the cards on our TI printer. Charles also prints out the mailing labels for the NTPCUG monthly newsletter, *The PC News*.

Charles brings the cards to the next meeting and they are available at our Information Booth near the front entrance to INFOMART. If you do not pick the card up at the meeting, **Judy Griffiths** mails the remaining cards to the same address as you receive your newsletter.

Because there are always questions about when the new membership cards will be available, I would like to make several points:

- ❖ If your membership application or renewal is received at our post office box after the end of the month and before the meeting, you will not have a card at the that meeting.
- ❖ The cutoff for the membership cards is the end of the month before the meeting.
- ❖ Do not send a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your renewal or application. I receive the applications but do not have access to the cards.
- ❖ Judy is always very efficient at mailing the cards that are not picked up at the meeting.

Robert Hilliard Returns

Robert was an active member of our group up until about two years ago. Then, enticed by 1) a better job, or 2) temporary insanity (he won't say which), Robert left Dallas for Austin. The good news is that last month he came to his senses and moved back to Dallas.

Welcome back Robert! We look forward to your contributions to the group in 1995.

The Law Offices of Kent H. Roberts

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Cut development time from months to weeks

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OCF works with your existing code. Whether written in C++, OWL, or other frameworks. Which means that you can enable existing applications—and actually produce your first OLE 2.0-capable application in hours, not months! Better still, source code written in Borland C++ 4.5 is portable between all Windows platforms. Using the Multi-Target Project

Manager, you can create executables for all Windows platforms simultaneously, plus you get to use your VBX Controls in 32-bit applications, too. Talk about productivity!

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Don't stumble with Visual C++ 2.0

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If you want a competitive edge, you want Borland

Remember, for speed, ease, and openness, nothing can touch new Borland C++ 4.5. Especially Visual C++ 2.0, which forces you to leave DOS and 16-bit Windows behind. So don't wait. To get your copy of Borland C++ 4.5, see your nearest dealer today. If you want to get to OLE 2.0 and Windows 95 ahead of the pack, you better be running new Borland C++ 4.5.



Borland 1-800-336-6464, ext. 9695
The Upsizing Company

North Texas PC Users Group

PRESIDENT-ELECT AND DIRECTORS FOR 1995

And — The Winners Are:

The North Texas PC Users Group, Inc., President-Elect and Directors for 1995 were elected at the January 21, 1995 Meeting and by mail-in ballots submitted by members. Votes were tallied by John West, NTPCUG Secretary.

Andy Oliver, two-time President, is immediate past president of the NTPCUG and was elected to be President-Elect for 1995. Andy will become President of the NTPCUG in January, 1996—for the third time.



Andy Oliver

Newly-elected members of the NTPCUG Board of Directors (BOD) are:

Reagan Andrews, Timothy Carmichael, Doug Gorrie, Alex Lilley and Fred Williams. All will be returning to positions they held as members of the 1994 BOD.



Reagan Andrews



Timothy Carmichael



Doug Gorrie



Alex Lilley



Fred Williams

New Microsystems
PREZ SEZ . . . Ctd.

Revisiting Borland...

Several months ago, I wrote about my trip to Borland. I mentioned in the article that I was very impressed with Keith Maib, the new Chief Operating Officer. I have just learned that he has resigned.

Mr Maib is another in a series of people brought in to help Borland get organized and run as a profitable business. Of all the people that I met, I was most impressed with Mr Maib. He understood the problems and he knew what to do to solve those problems. It is unfortunate that he was only there from March to December of 1994.

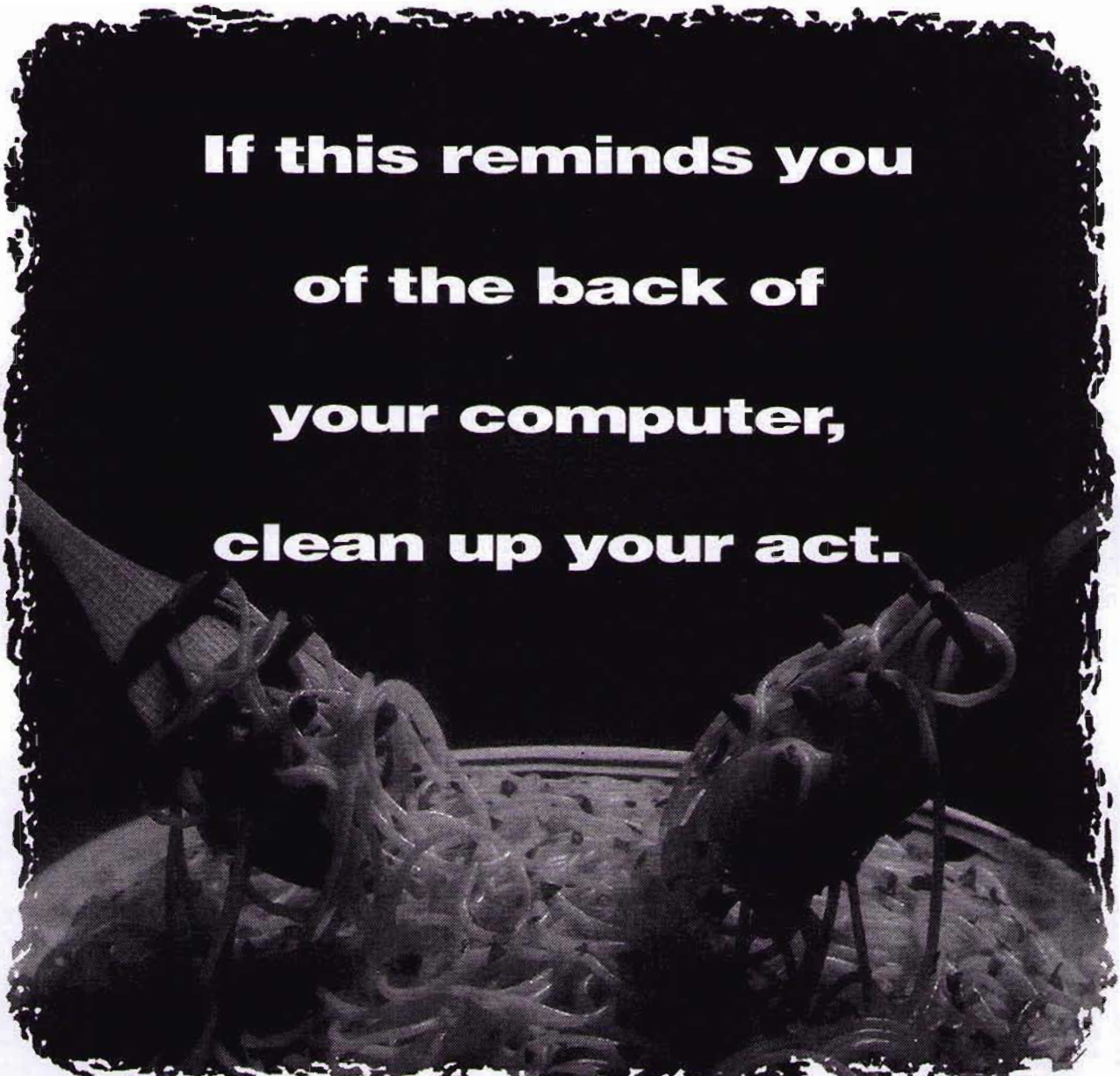
The software market is getting increasingly more difficult for software publishers. Margins are

much smaller than they were two years ago. Borland cannot afford to continue to make the kinds of mistakes that they have in the past if they want to continue to exist.

The Board of Directors of Borland is going to have to bring in someone and give them the authority to make the kinds of decisions that need to be made to make the company profitable or they will soon be history. The press and others have speculated that Phillippe Kahn, founder and President of Borland, is part of the problem. If that is the case, I hope that a way can be found to continue to channel Phillippe's creative energies and vision into future products without frustrating the people trying to pay the bills.

Jim Hoisington

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of the back of
your computer,
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REAGAN ANDREWS

THE VARIETY STORE

A personal view of new or unusual hardware, software, and applications for IBM small computers and compatibles

Judge v. Microsoft & DOJ not 'Top' Story — Aftershocks from Kobe may Rock American PC prices in 1995

Another 'Feeding Frenzy' in store?

Wow, what a month! Top of the news should have been the Microsoft and Department of Justice v. a federal judge. Kobe 'quake in Japan may shake things up more for American PC vendors. Two items may portend evil times (prices) to come for purchasers of Integrated Circuits (IC's), including CPU's such as Intel's *Pentium*, and laptop screens.

Even so, Microsoft story — the never-ending clash between Redmond and DC — will burn a lot of newsprint for the next month or so. Began in late December and just keeps popping up as media try to out-guess a federal judge and the gathered forces of darkness. This is a lot of fun to write...

Kobe 'Quake hits Silicon & LCD Producers in Jan.

Didn't think about this as news unfolded of the earthquake disaster in Kobe, Japan. Readers may remember similar stories last year, and one of the names, Sumitomo, involved should be familiar. News coming out of Japan reminds us that it really is a small PC world.

Saw Sumitomo first

Silicon ingots are at the heart of CPU and other IC production. Sumitomo is a leading producer of silicon ingots (which are later sliced into silicon wafers) in Japan, and also

produces approximately half the silicon used by Intel for production of 386, 486 and *Pentium* CPU's.

Unfortunately, among all the human damage done by the Kobe, Japan, earthquake, Sumitomo's silicon production plant near Kobe was hard hit by the tremblor and has stopped manufacturing operations. According to media sources, about half of the silicon used by Intel (and other vendors as well) comes from the Sumitomo plant in question.

Intel sources reported they don't see any major problems

since they will shift to other sources for silicon ingots.

Sumitomo again?

Last time it was a fire in an epoxy resin manufacturing site that made Sumitomo news. Pundits predicted (and were at least partially correct) that microchip prices would soar as a result of the diminished supply of the critical resin.

Did see increased prices, mostly on DRAM chips, quickly after the fire was reported, but this appeared to be more a matter of profiteering on the market news than real shortages in the supply chain.

Pretty sure this will happen again as vendors take advantage of the news to boost prices on existing chip stocks.

Kobe's impact on LCD's May be most serious blow For laptop PC buyers in '95

If it ain't one thing — it's another. Kobe earthquake hit at the heart of LCD, active matrix TFT screen/plate makers. Early stories coming out of the area state that the active matrix, thin-film technology (TFT) liquid-crystal display (LCD) plants involved in production of display screens for

THE VARIETY STORE

IBM, Toshiba, Sharp, Sanyo and Hosiden were also casualties of the January earthquake.

According to reports in *InfoWorld* and *PC WEEK*, Display Technologies, Inc., (DTI), the joint IBM/Toshiba manufacturing facility experienced significant damage to at least two production lines. Hosiden, a "Kobe-based TFT manufacturer" that supplies screens for Apple and Compaq also was hit hard by the quake.

Media sources quoted in the stories reminded that these products were in short supply before the earthquake, and impact of the plant damage may be extensive on the top end laptop market. There is no US manufacturer capable of replacing the supply of these products to laptop makers at this time.

Snakebit? Ask Microsoft Federal judge goes against Redmond and DOJ lawyers

The Judge read a book...

This is getting to be fun — almost as much fun as the (lost) AMD - Intel legal squabbles. Microsoft wasn't expecting the federal judge to throw a monkey-wrench into the anti-trust agreement it had with the Department of Justice. Actually, none of us were expecting the cavortings of U.S. District Judge Stanley Sporkin.

Judge Sporkin said he'd read a book — *Hard Drive: Bill Gates and the Making of Microsoft* — by James Wallace and James Erickson, and had formed much of his opinion/bias on that basis. *The Wall Street Journal*, reporting the story in January, quoted the judge as stating he declined to read a second book about Gates and Microsoft, on the grounds that he didn't know "what I might find?"

Media portrayal of the judge's antics in this matter sound funny — to everyone but Microsoft's lawyers (one of whom the judge labeled as 'untrustworthy' in public comments) and the Department of Justice's Anne Bingaman.

Sharks & Snakes Circle At Judge's bidding — Scent of Microsoft blood...

Lots of unusual aspects in Judge Sporkin's handling of this affair. Very late filings, input from non-parties, other decrees unsettling as story unfolds. The usual PC Sharks and Snakes were in full attendance at the hearings, sniffing possible scent of Microsoft blood and an opportunity to do with the judge's court what they hadn't been able to do in open competition.

According to media descriptions, the judge "played" to the overflowing crowd in the courtroom for the hearing.

Same stories described a room filled with attorneys representing Microsoft competitors, all anxious to get the ear of the judge and describe what "horrible and unspeakable" things Microsoft and Bill Gates had done to the PC community. I, and some of the media, have a major problem with this outpouring of affect about Microsoft. Time to do this was several months ago and a number of the players in this debacle definitely were not heard from then.

Some of these people had to be praying/preying that Judge Sporkin was as much of a "patsy" as he appeared to be in light of his public comments. Had to be as much truth here as is currently being displayed in the O.J. Simpson trial.

Makes me wish I were an attorney and could really lie well and with a straight face.

Apple tries again — Takes Microsoft, H-P Case to Supreme Court

Won't this thing ever die? Apple Computer, Inc., has pointed its long-running struggle against Microsoft and H-P to the Supreme Court: Don't know if the high court will hear the case, but kinda hoped Apple would roll over and play dead after the last go-around.

Just in case you've forgotten, this all began in 1988. Apple, who had stolen, excuse me, "applied" a lot of the things

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Steve Jobs saw at Xerox's PARC, Palo Alto Research Center, STAR Project, in their Macintosh OS, decided that Microsoft had "stolen" their "stolen/applied" technology and had been joined by Hewlett-Packard in the "conspiracy" against Apple Computer, Inc., in *Windows* technology.

Unfortunately (for Apple) the judge(s) involved in the massive litigation didn't agree. Apple lost and (we all thought) Microsoft and Hewlett-Packard won.

The lower courts "erred" in their decisions against Apple — according to Apple — as they systematically denied Apples assertions in the case. All has to do with "copying" and who did what to whom, when, and with what.

The *Wall Street Journal* article on the matter by Don Clark implied that most patent attorneys who have studied the case don't think Apple will get the Supreme Court to review the earlier decisions.

**A real 'shocker' —
AMD - Intel settle
All litigation in Jan.**

Gosh, AMD v. Intel was one of the 'Legal Front' standbys for this column — and now

it's gone. Happened in January when both sides finally heard what the judge (not Sporkin) said to them and agreed to settle all their outstanding litigation over the 386/486 CPU chips.

Talk about come-downs — AMD will pay Intel \$58 million for past 'infringements' of Intels 'ICE' code used in some 486 chips, and Intel will pay AMD \$18 million for breach of contract damages. That's a real contrast to figures being bandied about by media as possible damages Intel would reap from the litigation. Numbers ranged in the \$1 billion range and higher, should Intel have won the litigation.

I'm going to miss the litigation and claims/counter-claims. Was always good for at least four or five inches of copy and handy to fill in a blank spot in the column.

**AMD a winner —
In Compaq's K-5
Choice for servers**

There's a lot going on at Compaq that indicates a very nasty relationship brewing with Intel. The Houston, TX, based PC maker announced it had chosen the AMD K-5, *Pentium* competitor, for a new line of large, multiprocessor enterprise server PC's.

Remembering the Intel division debacle, Compaq reported it had already put sample K-5's through their paces and was satisfied with the new AMD CPU's. Company estimates indicate that the new chips will be available in the third quarter.

Report in *PC Week* indicated that the new CPU's will use the "SLIC/MP multiprocessing specification jointly supported by Cyrix Corp. and AMD, or a Compaq design that will include the SLIC/MP specification."

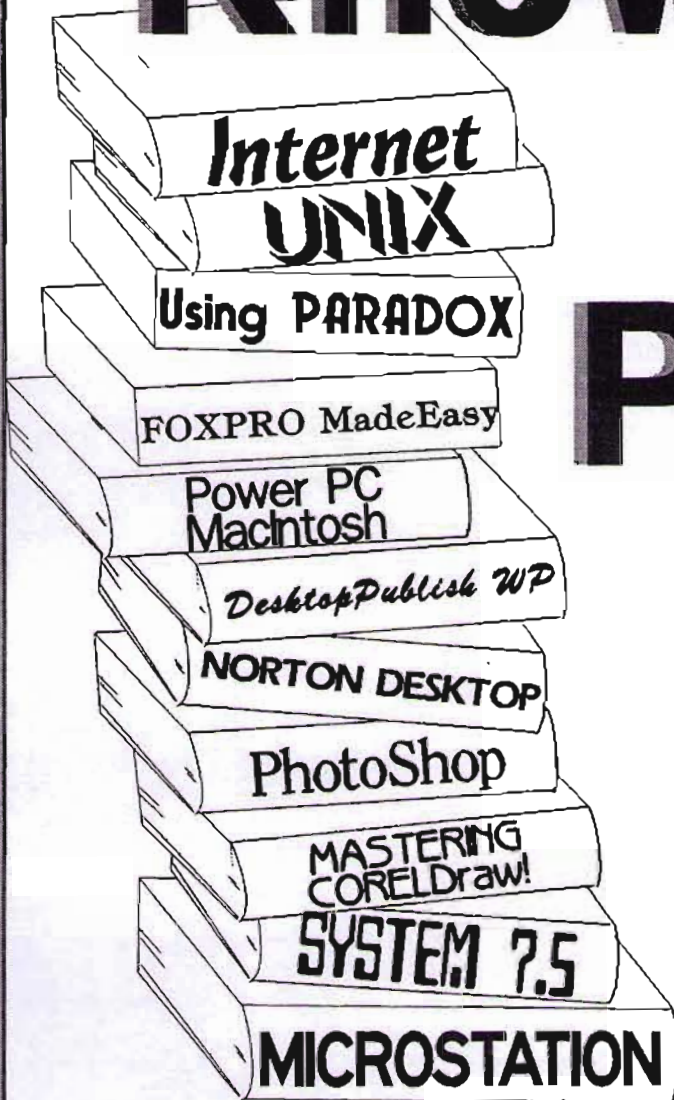
**Apple news on another
Front... Net more than
Quadrupled in Quarter**

Apple's flying high after stunning 1st Quarter results that quadrupled income over the same quarter one year ago. Caught a lot of analysts by surprise, and may put to rest some of the speculation that the Cupertino, CA, firm is 'ailing' and for sale.

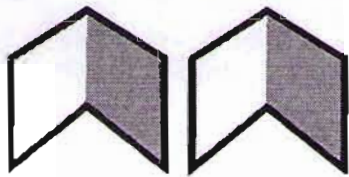
Key was increased sales and higher profit margins which are counter the trend in PC vendors' experience over the past several years. *WSJ* quoted 29% margins on two machines, the Power Macintosh and the Performa 630 as responsible for the record revenue increase to \$2.83 billion. That's up from \$2.47 billion for a similar period last year.

News may backfire on Apple which has just recently licensed its OS to another ven-

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dor, Radius, Inc., which will allow the San Jose, CA, company to produce and sell Macintosh clones. This kind of profitability is good news for analysts, but seen by purchasers as possible "gouging" which is a reputation Apple has had to fight since the inception of the Macintosh in 1984. Latest news may open the door for Radius to produce machines at a significant reduction in price vs. comparable Apple machines.

Writers did note that the "home market" appears responsible for much of Apple's new-found success in spite of declining market share in other venues when compared to Compaq and Packard Bell — top-ranking vendors of x86-based PC's this year.

Biggest 'Unknown' company, Computer Associates Int'l, Also posts impressive gains

Saw a recent *Wall Street Journal* article on Computer Associates International, Inc., CA, which they described as the "biggest unknown software company in America." That's really strange since CA is very well-known in the mainframe world and has made some progress in penetrating the PC software marketplace.

CA announced a 40% jump in profitability for its 3rd quarter net income based on sales of software for mainframe and midrange computers. Numbers released are \$174 million earnings in the quarter ended December 31. Number of ana-

The VARIETY STORE

lysts pinned the impressive CA gains to an unexpected upsurge in sales of IBM mainframes over the year, but CA reported its revenue from mid-range software sales had more than doubled in the quarter.

Comdex attendees last year will remember CA for massive give-aways (approximately one million copies) of its financial and tax computation software for PC's.

Borland not in this race As Scotts Valley firm Reports 40% reductions

"Restructuring" is the word Borland uses to announce a 40% reduction in employees as the firm moves to cut losses from reduced software sales. Layoffs are scheduled to be completed by June, 1995, and will reduce Borland's employee ranks from approximately 1,700 to 1,050 worldwide.

The 40% figure surprised media who had expected a 20-30% reduction in employee roles. However, people quoted in the series of articles by *PC Week*, *InfoWorld* and *ComputerWorld* agreed that this was Borland's most logical direction in light of less than expected *dBASE* software sales over the past quarter.

Move follows announcements, almost daily, of major officer departures, shifts and reassignments, including resignation of Philippe Kahn, founder and chairman of Borland.

Intel joins 'losers' In 4th quarter with Massive write-off

My estimate was way too low last month when I said Intel would take a \$200 million shot in their profits as a result of the *Pentium* "bug." Real number is closer to \$475 million.

The Wall Street Journal reported in January that Intel's net for the fourth-quarter dropped by 37% after the pre-tax charge for costs involved in replacing the *Pentiums* that can't divide for unhappy and irate users. *WSJ* also stated that Intel actually beat the analysts speculations for income before the charge was figured for the quarter.

Reason for error in estimating Intel's replacement costs appeared to be early media underestimates of Intel's *Pentium* inventory. Analysts later began to appreciate the actual size of the Intel inventory and were not surprised so much by the final figure.

Reagan Andrews

Disks of the Month (DOM) for January

Note: All of these disks are distributed on 1.44M disk only

Disk of the Month (DOM) for January

Note: All of these disks are distributed on 1.44M disks only.

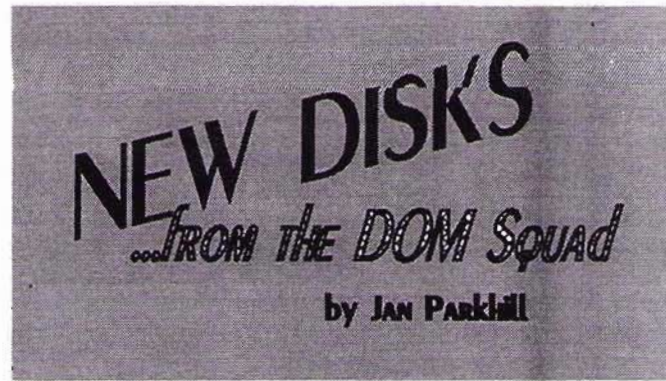
Disks of the Month released at the January meeting:

Disk 935. AM-Tax 1994, 11/94 - 1994 Tax Preparation Software, AM SOFTWARE, P.O. Box 25010, Kansas City MO 64119. Phone orders: (800) 859-8537.

AM-Tax is a software program designed to assist you in the preparation of your 1994 federal tax return. This is the shareware version of AM-

Tax, but there are several advanced versions. It can prepare a complete tax return consisting of the Form 1040 and Schedules A, B, C, D, E, EIC, F, R, and SE. All of the forms and schedules (including the 1040) print in a format that can be filed directly with the IRS. For simple tax situations, the shareware version may be all you need to use. Registration to use this version is \$20.

The "Personal" version (\$39) and "Professional" version (\$150) provide support for additional forms with each increase in cost, with support for graphic 1040 on dot-ma-



trix and laser printers. Versions of AM-Tax are also available for form 1120 (\$150), 1065 & 1120S (\$150), and several state tax forms (\$29 for each state). An "Electronic Filing" version is available with the "Professional" software that allows a tax preparer to transmit tax returns to the IRS by modem.

HARDWARE REQUIREMENTS: IBM PC, XT, AT, PS/2 or compatible; DOS 3.0 or later; at least 340K of available memory (up to 512K for advanced versions); one 360K drive or hard drive (hard drive required for the Professional version).

****WARNING**:** This and other tax preparation programs should be thought of as fast and semi-smart adding machines only.

The IRS will hold you responsible for all errors in your return, whether mathematical or substantive. Reliance on a tax program will probably not save you from penalties (including fraud) or interest charges, if you claim some tax benefit you are not entitled to.

Use this and other tax programs for preliminary calculations and "what if" scenarios to check the tax effects of making or not making IRA contributions, etc. Thoroughly check the instructions that the IRS furnishes with each form to be sure that you are entitled to use the form, and that the data is properly entered and that all adjustments and limitations have been applied.

Be sure that you are not required to fill out additional forms or schedules not included in this package. And manually check all calculations and table lookups to be sure that the figures are correct. There could always be obscure errors that do not show up in trial runs with sample data. The prudent user would also check with AM SOFTWARE to be sure that errors have not been discovered and fixed after the date of this software release.

Software donated by NTPCUG Member Jan Parkhill.

This README prepared by Mark Gruner, edited by Will Davis (1/95).

Top Twenty DOM Disks

Want to know what's hot? These are the 20 most popular NTPCUG DOM Library disks - as of January 21, 1995.

- 910 *Auto Net 2.2* — Internet
- 904 *MicroSoft Diagnostic Utility 2.11*
- 923 *IconMaster 1.2d*
- 905 *SYSCHK 2.4* — Diagnostics
- 891 *Beginners Guide to Internet 1.0*
- 902 *PC Magazine Utilities 94, May-Sep*
- 908 *VirusScan and Vshield 2.12E*
- 903 AB. *ButtonFile 1.0*
- 907 *The Constitution Notebook*
- 909 *VirusScan for Windows & OS/2 2.12E*
- 930 *Fixtime 1.1*
- 921 *Rockford! 3.0*
- 929 *WhatPort 4.0*
- 933 *WinZip 5.0*
- 906 *CD Index*
- 922 *WinPost 2.0*
- 919 *CUTZIT 1.1*
- 920 *2COL 4.5*
- 911 *Color View 2.53*
- 932 *DCOPY 2.0*



DOM DISKS

...CONTINUED

Disk 936. PhantomScreen 1.0, 5/93 — DOS-based screen saver, OSCS Software Development, Inc., 354 NE Greenwood Avenue, Suite 108, Bend, Oregon 97701-4631. Shareware Fee: \$25.00 + \$5.00 S/H.

PhantomScreen is a DOS-based screen saver utility which not only helps protect against screen "burn-in," but protects your computer from unauthorized access while you are away, displays the time, livens your workplace with scanned images or computer art, leaves messages for those who may visit your desk, etc. A variety of colorful, customizable effects are included. The user can set up this screen saver program to be functionally useful as well as entertaining.

While the program offers over twenty (20) different venues to select from, this reviewer especially liked the windshield wiper routine with the bugs striking the windshield during nighttime driving.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS: IBM PC, XT, AT, PS/2 or 100% compatible computer, CGA, MCGA, EGA, VGA, Hercules monochrome or compatible graphics card and monitor, 512K minimum memory, hard disk, MS-DOS or PC-DOS 3.1 or later, and Microsoft, Logitech or compatible mouse (optional).

Shareware provided by NTPCUG Member Jan Parkhill.

This README prepared by Jan Parkhill, edited by Will Davis (1/95).

Disk 937. Bowl101Q 14.0, 11/94 - Bowling League Management Program, 101 Computers (Bowl101), 250 Anahay Dr, Fortuna, CA 95540.

Voice (707)-725-9750 BBS (707)-725-9745 Fax (707)-725-1334. Shareware Fee: \$49.95 + 3.95 S/H.

Bowl101 is a powerful, totally configurable, user-friendly bowling league management program. This program will handle almost all scoring systems available, from 2 to 40 teams, 1 to 10 bowlers per team, 100 subs, 1, 2, 3, or 4 games bowled, swap subs and/or bowlers, with powerful edit features allowing you to scroll forward and backwards through teams, bowlers and subs while editing.

It also handles split season, position rounds, match points, peterson points, difference between team averages, forfeits, auto lane assignments, mixed leagues, ban-tam, all-male or all-female leagues, separate handicap for male and female, minimum and maximum handicaps for male and female, individual points for game and/or series and scratch or handicap leagues.

Keep entering averages for up to 21 games or have the computer calculate them from the start. Zero high games weekly or have the computer keep them for the entire year.



Add or remove teams or bowlers at any time. Prebowl or makeup games are also easy to do with Bowl101. Bowl101 will tell you if you have any awards pending by showing any bowler and score that are high enough to qualify. Finds "most improved" bowler.

You have many printouts available. Standings sheets, recap sheets, alternate standings sheets allow custom printouts.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS: IBM compatible computer with 640K of RAM and DOS 2.11 or above.

Shareware provided by NTPCUG member Jan Parkhill.

This README prepared by Jan Parkhill, edited by Will Davis (1/95)

Disk 938ABC. OzWIN 1.1, 12/94 - CompuServe navigation program, Storm Your Way Thru CompuServe...From Windows!, Ozarks West Software, Inc. & Alchemy Intl., Ltd. Shareware Fee: \$69 (Standard—two user) \$109 (Commercial—five user).

OzCIS for Windows (OzWIN) is a powerful, flexible automated navigation program for accessing CompuServe Mail, Forums and other services. OzWIN provides both traditional ASCII access to these services as well as using CompuServe's Host-Micro Interface (HMI) protocol for reliable communications, and provides the widest range of power and features of any auto-navigation program for Windows.

For a couple years, people "in the know" that use CompuServe regularly have been using OzCIS, the DOS version of OzWIN, because it was powerful and quick, saving lots of money for on-line charges. The automated log-on would scan for messages, forum updates, library updates, download the information automatically, and log-

off. Off-line, messages could be read and replies prepared; then a second pass would log-on and post replies. Testimony of the popularity of OzCIS could be found daily in the hundreds of messages posted in the OzCIS Forum. OzCIS for DOS was not widely distributed to those not familiar with CompuServe. Now comes the Windows version, QzWIN.

OzWIN provides all the power and flexibility of the DOS version and adds many new enhancements: more powerful and "much" more reliable on-line operations, more powerful message management, more powerful QuickScan management, more powerful library tools, more powerful Forums management, full network support, multitasking. If you have the DOS version, OzWIN shares the CIS.INI file so your log-on/log-off scripts remain the same.

A third disk contains an updated Windows Help file in ZIPPed format.

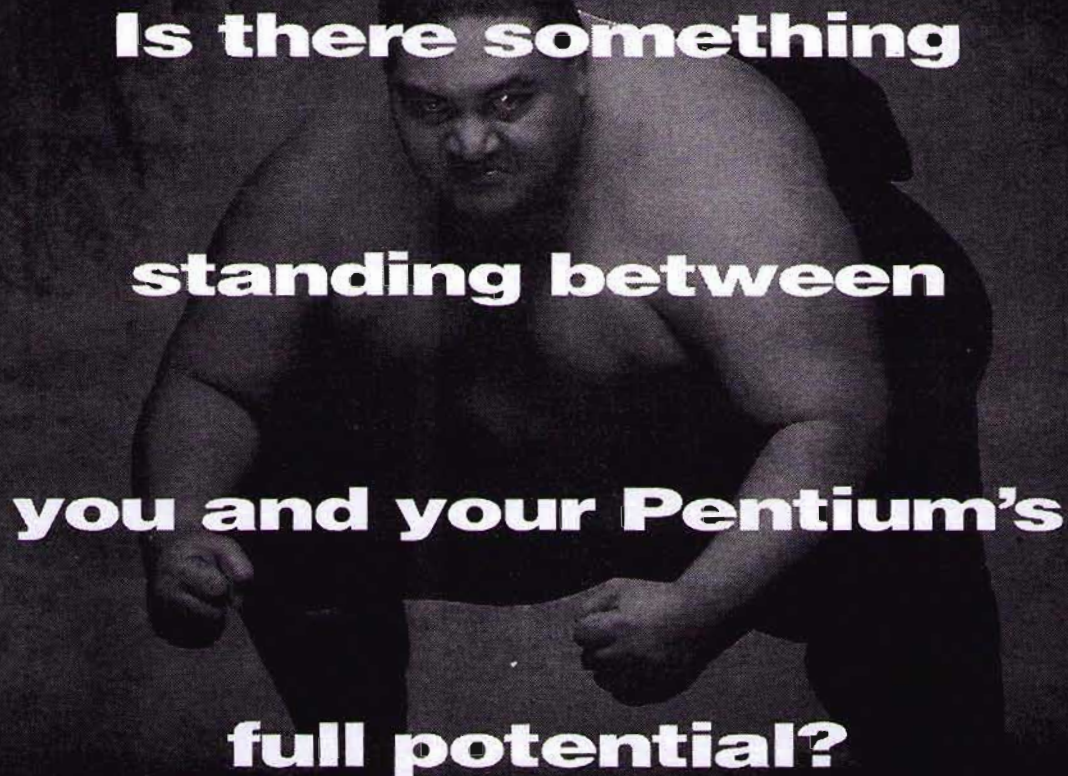
System requirements: 286 or better; Windows 3.1 or later; 3 megabytes RAM (more or a swap file if you maintain very large message files—4000 or more). Installation will require 4Mb hard disk space (less without the spellchecker).

OzWIN is Shareware. This version is not crippled or limited in any way. You may try out the program for up to 30 days, and must either register the software or cease using it after the trial period.

Software downloaded from the OzCIS Forum on CompuServe by Douglas Athas.

This README prepared by Douglas Athas, edited by Will Davis (1/95).

Disk 939. CARPAL, 1/94 - Tunnel Syndrome Cured Without Surgery, Ernestine Townsend, RNC, 2916 Commercial Ave., Suite 107, Anacortes, WA 98221. Tel (206)



**Is there something
standing between
you and your Pentium's
full potential?**

**Pentium has the potential.
SCSI unleashes the power.**

Sometimes the I/O bottleneck can look pretty intimidating. But don't give up. You only need two things to get around this little

**Here's what the experts are
saying about SCSI and PCI:**

"If you've got a PCI-based PC or server, you want the fastest SCSI peripherals... the ease of installation and potential for high performance make PCI SCSI a natural for intensive I/O applications."

—PC Magazine, 6/2/89 "The Perfect PC"

obstacle: a PCI local bus and SCSI-based peripherals. Most Pentium PCs are now

shipping with PCI so all you need is SCSI.

IOWare[®] products from Adaptec[®] bring SCSI connectivity, performance and reliability to Pentium PCs running I/O-intensive desktop applications. Like multitasking programs running under Windows 95 and OS/2. Or multimedia applications with huge storage demands. SCSI can connect up to seven peripherals including CD-ROM drives and mass storage hard drives while maintaining overall system performance.

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products

Pentium is simply the fastest processor, PCI is the fastest bus and SCSI is the fastest, most flexible I/O technology. Call 1-800-934-2766 and ask about the PCI SCSI Master™ kit.* Because with a neck size this big, you'll need more than a good half-nelson.

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*Call 1-800-934-2766 to qualify for a free 45-day evaluation of the PCI SCSI Master kit[®] and our primer, "Wrestling With The I/O Bottleneck."

*Offer good in the US and Canada only. Supplies are limited. PCI SCSI Master kit includes A5140-2960 from Adaptec, software and cable. © 1995 Adaptec, Inc. All rights reserved. Adaptec, the Adaptec logo, IOWare and PCI SCSI Master are trademarks of Adaptec, Inc. which may be registered in some jurisdictions. All other trademarks are owned by their respective owners.

293-5645. Shareware Fee: \$8.00.

This text file program was written by Ernestine Townsend, a Registered Nutrition Consultant, as an alternative cure and preventive program for dealing with Carpal Tunnel Syndrome and another rare and crippling hand disorder called Dupuytren's Contracture.

The author claims this is remarkable coverage of the treatment of these two painful hand conditions caused by repetitive hand and wrist movements. Computer operators, check-out clerks, assembly workers and those who knit or crochet are all vulnerable to developing this disorder.

You will learn how to identify and look for the early warning signs and how to treat this painful condition with proven, natural, alternative treatments.

The program consists of several documentation files accessed by a user-friendly menuing system. You just type BEGIN to start the program. The author will introduce the reader to supplementary diet aids, diet programs, herbs, and instructional material.

I suppose with the heightened interest in CT Syndrome, we should explore the various options that concern proper care to avoid this problem before it occurs. In that case, this text file may benefit some of the readers.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS: Works with any IBM compatible computer.

Shareware provided by NTPCUG member Jan Parkhill.

This README prepared by Jan Parkhill, edited by Will Davis (1/95).

Disk 940. NAG BUSTER 1.1, 4/94 - Remove NAG screens from Shareware. Erik Famm, Hertzbergst. 7A, N-0360

OSLO, NORWAY. Shareware Fee: \$39.00.

A "NAG" on a PC is a screen window that contains a message from the author, often with a timed delay, begging you to pay for his shareware program. (Hence, the name "Begging for Bucks"). Nags do not include a "one line" text message included with a program or a "box containing information" on registration that is usually requested by the user. Nags are screen windows that hinder the operation of the program you are wanting to test and use on a trial basis. These Nags are used to display information that should properly be included in a readme file and stored in the files.

NAG BUSTER offers two options at the opening menu. You select DOS or WINDOWS programs to remove the Nags from. A nice feature is the log that is generated automatically when you run a "patch" to remove the screen window from a program. The log keeps a reminder of the programs you have already patched.

System Requirements: All PC compatible computers running shareware.

This software was downloaded from the Collector's Edition BBS by Jan Parkhill.

This README prepared by Jan Parkhill, edited by Will Davis (1/95).



DOM DISKS ...CONTINUED

Disk 941. Wintune 2.0, 12/94 - A Windows tune-up kit, WINDOWS Magazine's Benchmarks and Improvement Tips. Freeware.

Originally, Wintune was the benchmarking program developed by *WINDOWS Magazine* for the evaluation of systems being reviewed in the magazine.

This upgrade goes much further. As mentioned in the January, 1995 issue, "the new version goes beyond diagnostics and benchmarks. It acts like a personal consultant, giving you advice on how to fix the specific problems it finds while examining your system." The article is an introduction to Wintune 2.0 and serves as a guided tour to the program. While not necessary, the article is worth the price of the magazine if you use the program.

The benchmark portion will test your CPU, FPU (floating-point unit), your video system (video card and monitor), your hard disk and your RAM. Performance measurements are given in Dhrystones MIPS, Whetstones MFLOPS, Pixels/Second, KBytes/Second, etc. in a details section.

For many people, all these details look great but what do they mean? Even if you understand each term intimately, it doesn't tell you very much about your machine in comparison to others. Wintune 2.0 will compare your performance to various machines (35 models from 386sx thru several Pentium-90's) that *WINDOWS Magazine* has tested and give a graph comparison between your system and any four of the models (your choice).

Wintune 2.0 also performs application benchmarks by testing system response to various generic word processing and spreadsheet system calls.

By default, Wintune 2.0 will run in "Quick Test Mode" but can also be instructed to run in "Full Test Mode" for more precise results (and five times longer).

Finally, Wintune 2.0 will give you tips on how to increase the performance of your system with detailed suggestions like: "Increase your cache size", "Use a custom video driver", or "Create a permanent swap file".

Save your results with a notation like "Jan 6 test before new RAM chips" and compare new hardware, different CMOS settings, Windows system requirements of different software applications.

And there is much more. Not bad for free! (With Wintune 2.0 running, go to HELP/ABOUT and click on "from"....).

This software was downloaded from America Online BBS by Douglas Athas.

This README prepared by Douglas Athas, edited by Will Davis (1/95).

Disk 942. DIALW 1.20, 7/92 - A Windows phone dialer by Robert Wilcox, 920 N. Washington, Owosso, MI 48867. Shareware Fee: \$10.00.

DIALW is a telephone speed dialer for Windows. A very intuitive, user-friendly screen resembling many of the dialer telephones on the market today makes this helpful phone dialer a nice helper for Windows.

All the commands needed to operate this program are on

DOM DISKS ...CONTINUED

the screen when you begin installing your necessary telephone numbers. You can have 24 numbers displayed at any one time and dialing is accomplished by pressing a button next to the name or number you wish to dial. The dialer actually holds 96 phone numbers in the total directory and you click to turn the directory listings one page at a time. There is no limit to the number of phone number files that may be used.

Some nice features included are delayed redial of busy numbers, fast tone dialing, ringing log (popup window), a programmable alarm and modem transmit and receive windows. This is a great dialer; simple to use and it does what it says it does. The price is certainly right, so what more could you ask for?

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS:
Any 386 or better system running Windows 3.x.

This software was downloaded from the Shots Fired BBS by Jan Parkhill.

This README prepared by Jan Parkhill, edited by Will Davis (1/95).

Disk 943. FILL DISKETTE 1.20, 6/92 — Windows utility for copying files by John Pounds, 9257 Warwick, Detroit, MI 48228. Shareware Fee: \$5.00.

FILL DISKETTE is a Windows-based utility that does exactly what the title says it does. Often times, we have a need to copy all the files from a large subdirectory to a floppy diskette and we want to accomplish that move with two objectives; store information on several diskettes and have those diskettes as full as possible, hopefully with 0 bytes remaining on the floppy. That is

the purpose of FILL DISKETTE 1.20.

There are some nice features like the SORT feature allowing you to determine the order of the copy procedure by Extension, date, name, size, etc. or an ascending/descending file order can be used.

The intuitive menu is self-explanatory and you only have to make two or three choices, such as what drive to copy to:, what drive/subdirectory to copy from:, the Sort order, if any, and the rest is handled by the program.

This is a nice way to do a dirty job that no one really likes to do. The author even makes a delightful suggestion that we play a game of Solitaire while the copying is being done! Now, that's quality multitasking!

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS:
Any IBM compatible running Windows 3.0 or 3.1.

Shareware provided by NTPCUG member Jan Parkhill.

This README prepared by Jan Parkhill, edited by Will Davis (1/95).

Disk 944. POW120, 11/94 - Powerline Offline Reader for Windows v1.20, A QWK mail reader including Spell Checking. Gina Davis, London, England, Southland Trading Company, 900-91 Howard Avenue, Escondido CA 92029. Shareware Fee: \$35.00.

POW is a thorough, easy-to-learn, easy-to-use offline reader for Windows that handles "one at a time QWK packets" for reading and replying to your E-mail. It also handles Internet E-mail with automatic TO: insertion in the first line of your text body.

POW offers selective taglines, auto-quoting of messages and address books for TO: and SUBJECT: lines. You can view bulletins, News, NewsFiles, Session Text, including ANSL Replies you generate are automatically stored to a special folder for this purpose.

One of the great features is the ability to Add, Drop or Reset the Maildoor Conferences you want to view each time you download messages. This helps you avoid spending on-line time tinkering with the .QWK configuration file because it's handled by POW automatically during your .QWK packet upload.

If you are eager to enter the world of off-line readers, this is the program that will make it easy for you...learning and using this program is made even better by the fine context Help included with the program.

Also included is the POWDUS.ZIP file that adds a Spell Checker dictionary. This feature is not often found in OLR programs and it works effortlessly.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS:
IBM AT 286 or better (VBRUN300.DLL dated 12 May 93 for 286); 3 Mb memory minimum, preferably 4 Mb or higher; Windows 3.1; approximately 400k HD space for program, not including VRUN300.DLL, plus an additional 1 MEG if dictionary/spell checker is added. Terminal and Arial Fonts must be installed in Windows.

Software donated by NTPCUG member John Pellet.
This README prepared by Jan Parkhill, edited by Will Davis (1/95).

Archive 1. The README Files for Disks 8212 to 8703 and 0001 to 0899.

This Archive disk contains the README files for disks issued by the DOM. The name of each archive file reflects the disk numbers of the README files contained in

that archive. For example, "500-599.EXE" would be the README file for Disk # 0500 to Disk # 0599. A README file ending with an AB or other letters indicates that the disk was released on more than one disk.

The NTPCUG Disk-of-the-Month does not sell software. We provide access to software. Try the programs — that is why you bought the disk. But if you use the programs on it, we ask you to register the software with the author. The cost of registration is a small price to pay for quality software.

The user-supported software concept, or shareware, is an attempt to provide software at a low cost. The cost of offering a new product through normal retail channels makes it difficult for many independent authors and small companies to get started in the marketplace. Shareware is an attempt to develop a low cost marketing/distribution channel.

THESE DISKETTES CONTAIN SOFTWARE MADE AVAILABLE TO CLUB MEMBERS AS A SERVICE.

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This file prepared by Mark Gruner, current as of 01/95.

INSIDE THE NORTH TEXAS PC USERS GROUP COMMUNITY

VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION



by Claude McClure

The Volunteers are Coming

They come from many different industries and directions as they fill the parking area and file in the doors of the Infomart. They come for the monthly meeting of the NTPCUG. They are responsible for the full day of interesting activities we all take part in twelve times a year. They lead the SIG's, develop the programs, and keep us informed.

They are THE VOLUNTEERS, and to paraphrase the quote from Pogo: "They are us."

The benefits we get from NTPCUG depend on this 100% volunteer group. YOU can help next month by asking one of them where to sign up to join this team of interested members. You can ask your SIG leader or someone at the DOM desk or the Information desk. May I thank you in advance for an hour of your time?

It is with great pleasure that I list the names of our volunteers each month. Those from the December meeting are listed on this page.

Please say "Thanks" when you are helped by a volunteer.

Infomart Liaison

Stuart Yarus

Vendor Setup/Breakdown

Anchors:

David Slavik
John Ivers
Kenneth Berg (double)

Crew:

Larry Johnson
Larry Matzek
Ross Jones
Bill Shurtleff

Auditorium Presentations

Timothy Carmichael
Chris Jung
Christopher Carmichael

Information/Registration Booth

Statistician:
Connie Andrews
Scheduler:
Bob Wuller

Anchors:

Al Aston
Ralph Beaver
Eteta Eta

Judy Griffiths
Allan Harbaugh
John Ivers
Ned Keig
Cinda Lovil
David Martin
Paul Williams
Bob Wuller

Booth Crew:

Laurie Barnett
Deborah Bean
Lorin Cranford
Larry Fisher
Claude McClure
Bob McNeil
Foy T. Mills
Ed Moreland
Xeita Nagy
Anthony Nagy
Brian Sayers
Fred Toulmin
Art Ullman
Will Watson
Tom Zabel

Disk of the Month (DOM)

DOM Shift Supervisors:

Joe Allen
Roy Bales
James Donlon
M. Pat Henley (double)
Arnold Krusemark

DOM Desk Crew:

Doug Athas
Bernie Baars
Chris Balthrop
Gil Brand
Philip Bridge
Gene Carleton

Don Chick
Norman Dang
Dale Diamond
James Donlon
William Farris
Charles Fernandez
Judy Griffiths
Kent Haven (double)
Jim Hunt
Edward Keig
Duane Martin
Mac McKeethen
Nancy Ogden
Bob Post
John Primm
Paul Prosek
George Read
Oscar Tyler

With Special Thanks

to:
Set Up Crew:
Kent Haven

M. Pat Henley
David Huckabee
Jerry Stone
Jan Parkhill
Inventory and Take-down Crew:

Arnold Krusemark
Gil Brand
Bob Post

Paul Prosek
Jan Parkhill
DOM Desk Scheduler:
Charles Cashion
Disk Production:
Howard Hamilton
Willard Davis



VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

1. Via BBS: (214)387-2751, (214)387-2752 or (214)263-9036 (metro). Sign up on the Volunteer Conference - make the subject matter your area of interest.

2. Meeting day: Sign up at the Information Booth or DOM Booth to work those areas in a coming month.

3. By phone:

Auditorium Presentations Timothy Carmichael	(214)661-4626 (w)
DOM Booth Scheduler Charles Cashion	(214)661-0952 (h) (214)519-2583 (w)
DOM Software Review Frank Miller	(214)231-1345 (h)
Information Booth and General Information Claude McClure	(214)867-0978 (h)

Selected SIG HAPPENINGS

News and meeting notes of Special Interest Groups

(Material for this column should be sent to Alex Lilley, SIG Coordinator, before the 10th day of each month)

Access SIG

Our guest speaker for February will be **Fred Williams**, with Part II of his outstanding presentation on "Relational Database Design", covering the what and why of relational database design, normalization, when we should be strict in our adherence to the rules, and when we can, with judgment, not follow them so strictly. Fred is a member of the NTPCUG Board of Directors, leader of the Paradox SIG, SYSOP of the NTPCUG BBS, and a regular contributor to the *North Texas PC NEWS*. He has long experience with computers from mainframes to PC's and a wide variety of software, including database experience with Oracle, Paradox, and dBase.

If you missed Fred's January session, it's not too late, because he'll give a brief synopsis to bring you up-to-date before concluding the presentation. Fred's discussion isn't specific to any particular DBMS software, but it is required knowledge for anyone who's seriously interested in any kind of relational databases — we know you'll be glad you came. And, who knows, you might even hear some things in the Questions and Answers and Tips and Hints segment to spark your interest in Access DBMS.

In the near future, we'll have two presentations on real life experiences of users implementing Access applications for their business needs: **Frank McCoy** will describe building a medical provider database with his bare hands and a lit-

FROM THE SIG COORDINATOR

As technology changes, so do our needs and therefore our SIGs. The following are changes/additions/needs/proposals that the NTPCUG has made to the SIG's.

New SIGs:

- **MultiMedia** — Meets from 8:00 until 8:55 (Leader — Dennis Rice)
- **OS/2 Questions and Answers** — Meets at 11:00 (Leader — Larry Truesdale)
- **Health Care Computing/Informatics** — Meets at 12:00 (Leader — Zeke Rabkin)

New SIG Leaders:

- **Windows Applications** — Neal Berkowitz @ (214) 475-7463 h
(214) 475-3124 w

Groups Looking for Help in Leading their SIGs:

- **Middle C** [Contact Tom Cook @ (214) 871-8177 w]

The requirements for forming a SIG are:

- Leadership** — at least one individual willing to lead the SIG, and an assistant.
- Membership** — at least eight individuals willing to attend the SIG fairly consistently.

If you have a group that meets these qualifications or would like help in finding others who might share your interests, please contact me at (214) 517-7430 (H) or (214) 527-0922 (W)

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS SIG LEADER LISTINGS

SIG Coordinator

Alex Lilley (214) 517-7430 h

Legend: h = Home #, w = Work #
M = Metro #

ACT!

Jim Thompson (817) 261-6159 h
..... (214) 953-0051 w
Deborah Bean..... (214) 475-7463 h
..... (214) 475-3124 w

Access

Larry Linson (817) 481-2350 hM
Jack Atkinson..... (817) 481-6623 h
Dianna DeCicco.. (214) 446-0639 h
Frank McCoy..... (817) 232-2483 h

Alpha 4

Ron Jackson (214) 276-3661 h
Mac McKeethen.. (214) 556-1352 h

Applications Developers (OLE & ODBC)

Larry Linson (817) 481-2350 h
Linda Moore (214) 342-8833
Vince Prehn (214) 880-0000
Dan Ogden

Assembler

Glynn Brooks (214) 578-8737 h

BASIC - Beginning

Chuck Jacobus ... (817) 379-8840 h
..... (817) 379-5287 w

BASIC - Classic

Mike Firth (214) 827-7734 h

BASIC Visual

Woody Pewitt (214) 283-2292 h
..... (214) 230-3485 w
Jim Carter (214) 235-5968 h

Brother's Keeper

Neil Sunderland .. (214) 272-2869 h

Business Applications/DAC

Putt Shaw..... (214) 235-2559 h
..... (214) 869-9633 w

SIG



the assistance from Access and Peggy Mitchell will tell us how she made building her application easier by using Asymetrix' Info-Modeler to help her design the database.

And, speaking of solutions, I am in the process of gathering Access Samples and Examples for a diskette for the Disk of the Month operation. One sample I'm going to include is my Access Basic code to calculate the number of workdays between two dates; don't you have some you'd be willing to contribute?

I've cleared the decks for action by deleting almost all the old messages from the Access message conference on the NTPCUG electronic bulletin board system (BBS). It's a conference all our own and is a great way to keep up-to-date, address problems, discuss issues, and get any late-breaking Access SIG news. You can even upload and attach to your message an Access database to illustrate a problem or to demonstrate a solution you've discovered. Call and check it out. BBS telephone numbers are on the back cover of this issue.

See you at the Access SIG on February 18!

Larry Linson

Application Developers SIG (OLE and ODBC) SIG

If you're interested in applications that take advantage of the power that's in your OLE-enabled office or other software by using Microsoft's Component Object Model and Open Database Connection, come visit the SIG where every member (at least unofficially) is a leader. Our success depends on a high level of SIG member involvement, and we invite you to join us this month for discussion of preparing Windows HELP files and other topics of interest to application developers who want to ride the OLE and ODBC wave into the future.

It's our intent to be a high-tech, low-key SIG featuring member discussion of component application techniques, demonstrations and examples, occasional guest speakers, and sometimes just getting together to talk about the subject. In keeping with this goal, Larry Linson will lead a discussion at the February meeting on the subject of preparing Windows HELP files. We'll talk a bit about building a help file with Word for Windows 6.0 and the Windows Help Compiler, and some alternatives that can take some of the pain out of the process. Come prepared to offer your experiences and opinions.

Thanks to Dan Ogden for explaining to us, at the January meeting, some of the OLE automation techniques he's using in the Microsoft Office-based software he's developed to support his legal practice. Dan's one of the official Assistant SIG Leaders of this SIG, and a long-time attendee of the Microsoft Access SIG, as well. He needed specialized software, couldn't find appropriate vertical market software, and has become an accomplished software developer.

Thanks to Jeff Hopper, of Borland International, for an outstanding demonstration, at our December meeting, of Paradox for Windows 5.0. Not only did he show us this Windows DBMS, enabled both as an OLE 2.0 Automation client and server, but he gave us a sneak preview of Borland's new application generator, code named *Delphi* (and called in the press, "VB Killer"). Now, those of you who missed the meeting, aren't you sorry you did? Both were impressive demonstrations of software from a leading company in the programming language and database arena.

Thanks, also, to the NTPCUG Board of Directors for adding a CD-ROM (and sound board) to the demonstration machine, so Dan could run Microsoft Office from the CD-ROM, and especially to Fred Williams, who stayed late after the

SIG LEADER LISTING CONTINUED ...

Legend: h = Home #, w = Work #
M = Metro #

Business Applications... Ctd.

Bruce Schubert ... (214) 690-5848 h
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Kent Cobb (214) 343-3862 h
Tom Cook (214) 871-8177 w

Middle C

Tom Cook (214) 871-8177 w

CAD

Bill Sephton (214) 296-1799 h
..... (214) 641-7301 w

Communications

Doug Gorrie (214) 618-8002 h
..... (214) 464-7942 w
Birl Smith (214) 960-8227 h
..... (214) 220-9388 w

Community Service

Brian Mickel (214) 521-2938 h
..... (214) 521-6670 w
Alex Lilley (214) 517-7430 h
..... (214) 527-0922 w

DOS

Jim Hoisington (214) 416-3101 h
Reagan Andrews (214) 828-0699 h

Dataflex

David King (817) 640-6130 hM
..... (214) 313-0408 w

Desktop Publishing

Deborah Bean (214) 475-7463 h
..... (214) 475-3124 w
Ray Hackney (214) 437-2439 h

Fox Pro

Kevin White (214) 644-5008 w

Genealogy - General

Al Sanford (214) 278-7888 h

Genealogy - PAF

Joe Waldrop (817) 498-5856 h

Genealogy - Roots III / IV

John Wylie (214) 495-4410 h

Genealogy - The Master Genealogist

Jeri Steele (214) 306-1596 h
..... (214) 917-3917 w

SIG LEADER LISTING CONTINUED ...

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Ralph Beaver..... (817) 624-9530 h
Gary Johnson..... (214) 938-0344 h

Health Care Computing/Informatics

Zeke Rabkin..... (214) 321-9462 w

Internet

Tom O'Keefe..... (214) 247-8812 h
Doug Gorrie..... (214) 618-8002 h
..... (214) 464-7942 w

Investors

Dick Richtman.... (214) 437-0322 h

MS Word for Windows

Beverly Kurtin..... (817) 355-9594 h
Janet Patton..... (903) 886-5249 h

MS Works

Mike Firth..... (214) 827-7734 h
Ralph Logan..... (817) 498-9746 hM

Micrografx

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..... (214) 475-3124 w

Microsoft Networking

Debbie Lenhart... (214) 625-9680 h
..... (214) 716-2704 w
Bruce Wynn..... (214) 335-2507 h
..... (214) 756-7832 w
John McCrae.....

MultiMedia

Dennis Rice..... (214) 680-8299 h

Networking

Bernie Van Roekel
..... (817) 451-4540 h
..... (817) 461-4120 w

OS/2 Developer

James Dunn..... (214) 279-5712 h
..... (214) 497-8978 w

OS/2 for End Users

Bob Fermier..... (817) 481-6625 h
..... (214) 444-2195 w

OS/2 Q&A

Larry Truesdale

Paradox

Fred Williams..... (214) 492-1315 h



December meeting to install the multimedia pack.

The Microsoft Windows Component Object Model, based on the Object Linking and Embedding (OLE) and the Open Database Connection (ODBC) technologies, enables application developers to use commercial software (such as the Microsoft Office products) as integral parts of their own applications.

Our initial focus will be on using Visual Basic or Access as OLE containers and Microsoft Office software, Paradox 5.0 for Windows, and Visio as OLE servers in component applications. Other applications, "applets", and OLE custom controls will be added to our agenda as they become available.

We need speakers for future meetings. Topics of particular interest are demonstration and presentation of component applications, tutorials on any software that is OLE 2.0-enabled, Excel's Visual Basic for Applications, and Word for Windows 6.0's Word Basic.

Larry Linson

Assembler SIG

At our January meeting, we concluded our discussion of video cards by examining some Assembler code that works directly with the video hardware ports and registers. We also decided that as rapidly as hardware is changing, we could revisit many of 1994's topics in 1995 and still have plenty of new material to cover. Thus, we came up with this plan for the next few months:

- ❖ February - DOS, OS/2 and Win95 Directory and File Management
- ❖ March - Bi-Directional Parallel Port Programming
- ❖ April - Accessing and Programming the AT Realtime Clock

❖ May - Sound on the PC

❖ June - DOS/Windows Interface in Assembler.

If you want to know about these things come hear how it's done; if you have done some of these things, come add to the discussion. Either way, we would be delighted to have you at the meeting.

Assembler language tip of the month: in the December issue, we recommended using the EQU directive to make programs easier to understand. EQU makes it possible to associate a meaningful label to a constant value, for example:

```
Video_Segment EQU B800h
Video memory segment location
```

We pointed out that using equated identifiers instead of numbers lets you refer to expressions, strings and other values by name, thus making programs easier to read and modify. That leads us to this month's tip: Don't confuse the EQU directive with the equal sign (=). Although they appear to be equivalent, they serve different purposes:

Difference # 1 is that EQU can declare all kinds of equates including numbers, expressions and character strings. The equal sign (=) can declare only numeric equates.

Difference # 2 is how the Assembler handles the two kinds of equates. In the case of EQU, the label preceding EQU is locked to the expression to the right of the EQU and cannot be changed anywhere else in the same module of code. But when an = is processed, the assembler evaluates the expression to the right of the equal sign and assigns that computed value to the label to the left of the equal

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sign. If the same label is used later in the module with a different numeric expression to the right of the = the assembler computes the new value and uses it instead of the previous value. Note that this action occurs at assembly time, not at execution time.

This ability of = to affect the result of equated expressions can be useful, but frequently just creates bugs. My suggestion: always use EQU instead of =. That way your constants are guaranteed not to change!

Glynn Brooks

Beginners Basic SIG

The Beginners BASIC SIG features GW-Basic & QBasic step-by-step program writing with small sample programs. Four to ten page instruction sheets and sample programs are available at each meeting. Questions and answers on any Basic code subject are welcome at any time. This group does "No Windows Basic" (NOW Basic for short).

Two DOM disks are available for SIG members covering the topics discussed during the 1993 and 1994 classes. DOM disk #846A was released in August '93 with all the SIG material covered to then. DOM disk #846B was released in December '94 with sig materials for the past year (1994.)

A few of these disks are available at each SIG meeting and members should check with either the SIG Leader at the meeting, or down in the DOM area in the Infomart basement on meeting days.

To be covered in 1995: Bit/hex/decimal conversion, more graphics programs, payroll programs, general ledger programs, your own spread sheet program, inventory control, your own database

program code (Not necessarily in that order).

Charles Jacobus

Business Applications/DAC SIG

WE'RE BAAAAACK !!!!!

After many months of inactivity, the Business Applications/DAC Accounting SIG is back in action. January's meeting was a follow-up to the Main Auditorium presentation of *askSam*, a free form database program for Windows, presented by **Wade Goodman**. Wade is Manager of Tech. Services & Applications Developer for askSam Systems, and came all the way from Florida to share his program with the NTPC Users Group. We'll have more to say about this at a later date. The askSam program has been around since 1985 in DOS format but the recent versions and the new Windows version have come a long way!

Bruce Schubert will demonstrate his brand new favorite contact management programs at our February 18th meeting at 1:00 pm in Room 7014. Check the bulletin board in the lobby for last minute room changes. In Bruce's words:

"Come to our February Business SIG meeting to stand in awe of how Pacific Rim managers appear at your office to study your world-renowned system of organization. Imagine the self-esteem you'll feel when Newt Gingrich begs you to show congress how to run The House as effectively as you run your business. Is this only a day dream? Just marketing hype? Is this too good to be true?

"Not when you use 'Maximizer' on your computer. Yess-sirr-

SIG LEADER LISTING CONTINUED ...

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Programmers

Kent Kingery(214) 317-0125 h

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Quicken

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Phil Faulkner(214) 239-0561 h

.....(214) 819-4446 w

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Mark Gruner(214) 964-8174 h

.....(214) 605-8447 w

Adam Peterson.....(214) 682-0725 h

.....(214) 864-2760 w

Startext

Jim Boughton(817) 478-6665 h

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UNIX

Jim Stallworth.....(214) 789-3783 h

.....(214) 604-2226 w

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.....(817) 878-0367 wM

Windows - Applications

Neal Berkowitz(214) 475-7463 h

.....(214) 475-3124 w

Windows - Developers

Art English.....(214) 618-1266 h

.....(214) 301-1203 w

WordPerfect / DOS

Lori Quinn.....(817) 481-6453 h

.....(214) 255-0555 w

WordPerfect / Windows

Mitch Milam(214) 406-9054 w

eee, Folks. Come and see the one, the only, the best little contact manager this side of the Solar System. Come and see this gem at the Business Applications/DAC SIG meeting in February and we'll kick the tires on this little beauty."

I just realized who it is who writes the Westway Ford TV commercials. Bruce (not unlike his personal hero, Bob Newhart) only masquerades as a CPA. Be with us in February to see if "Maximizer" and Bruce can live up to this advance billing.

Putt Shaw

Communications SIG

We will be hosting Jim Needham in our February SIG Meeting. Jim is National Account Manager for Hayes Microcomputer products. Jim Needham will be discussing where the communications industry is going in the future.

Analog and ISDN products will be discussed. The Hayes products that will be discussed are the Hayes ESP Card and the tiers of products available (Ultra, Optima Accura).

Hayes announced some new products and technologies at Comdex. The new products are switched voice and data and shared voice



and data. Hayes has been shipping their V.34 modems since October 21, 1994.

We will be having a drawing for prizes. Only North Texas PC Users Group members will be eligible to participate.

Birl Smith & Doug Gorrie

DOS SIG

Hmmmmmm... I lied again. We never did get to Multimedia and all those pesky IRQ's and hex addresses in January. Blame it on leaving early for the free cake and coffee at Infomart's "Birthday Party."

We'll try again in February. I know this area really belongs in Charles Miller's "Hardware Solutions SIG," (He's covered this in past meetings) but IRQ/address conflicts really plague DOS users as well and are important enough to take over the February DOS SIG. Getting this area "right" is now nec-

essary for almost any DOS and/or Windows software installation.

Big question for DOS users is "What do we do when we run out of 'available' IRQ's and addresses?" I thought this was a ghost of the 8-bit PC/XT past, but we're getting 'close' again with addition of more devices that demand their place on the bus.

Take the machine this is written on for example. I've got an internal, Intel modem/FAX board that needs two (2) IRQ's and addresses. I also have a NIC (network interface card) that wants its own IRQ and address, a scanner that wants another IRQ and address, a serial mouse (ditto), a second active printer port (ditto) and I'm considering adding a CD-ROM drive (ditto) and sound card (ditto). If I want to add another IDE hard drive to the existing two IDE hard drives, I'll need yet another IRQ.

My immediate solution is to make everything possible SCSI. That would take care of the 3rd hard disk, scanner (with TWAIN driver), CD-ROM and sound card. It's still an expensive proposition.

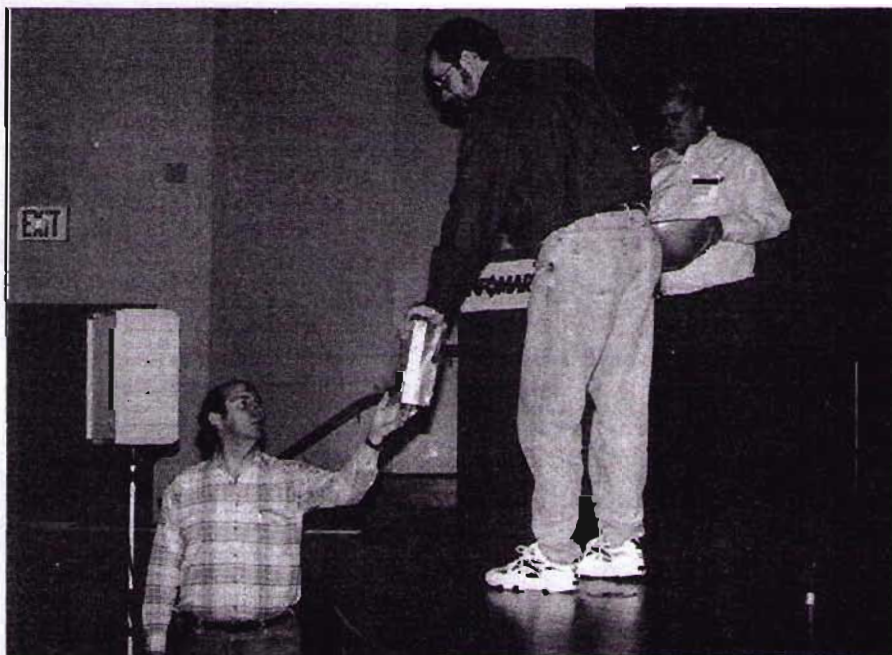
Reagan Andrews

Genealogy SIG - General

The General Genealogy SIG is one of five genealogy SIG's that meet on User Group Saturday. It is the only genealogy SIG that is not tied to any specific computer hardware or genealogy software. It meets from 9 to 10 am in room 1059 with about 60 people present.

The December program was to have been on OS/2 in genealogy. At the last moment, the OS/2 speaker could not make the meet-

Left, Alex Lilley, SIG Coordinator, hands out prizes with help of Andy Oliver, center, and Jim Hoisington, right.



SIG



ing. The December topic was a review of the book *Genealogy Online* by Elizabeth Crowell. A copy of this book was given to each of the genealogy SIG leaders for review and comments. It is published by McGraw-Hill and is available at the local book stores for \$27.95.

Genealogy Online is a book for genealogists, written by a genealogist. Elizabeth Crowell has given lectures on bulletin boards for genealogy at previous GENTECH meetings. (By the way the GENTECH 95 meeting is the weekend after the January 1995 User Group Saturday, January 27 & 28th (call 214-495-1569 for more information). She has published numerous articles over the past several years and knows every facet of what she writes in her book.

Genealogy Online is a book for anyone interested in using a modem for genealogy research. The book starts from the beginning and describes the basics of genealogy research ("For those new to genealogy," ... "Where computers come in."). Next is a background and introduction to Electronic Mail (E-Mail) Bulletin Board Systems (BBS), networks and echoes. The function of BBS networks (FIDO, ILINK, etc.) are explained and the reader is shown how to access the information available. Usenet and the soc.roots newsgroup databases are covered next.

Usenet has the largest online genealogy message database, called soc.roots and can be accessed through a gateway to the Internet. All commercial online services (CompuServe, GENie, America-online, Prodigy, Delphi, etc.) and the major BBS node FIDO, etc., links, provide routing of mail on the Internet. On the Internet there is another large genealogy message base called Roots-L, which can also be reached through using E-Mail.

Included in the book is a 3-1/2" disk with a shareware copy of

Brothers Keeper, a popular genealogy program. The book's appendices include list of various online information sources.

The February 1995 program will be on a local BBS called Chrysalis and its emphasis on genealogy and the Internet.

Al Sanford

Genealogy SIG — PAF

The PAF SIG meets from 10 to 11am in Room 1059 with about 50 present. There is a question and answer period and then a discussion. There is a computer, overlay, and overhead projector present so the computer monitor's output can be projected onto a large screen. PAF (Personal Ancestral File) is the most widely used genealogy software program, costs \$35 and can be ordered from Salt Lake Distribution Center, 1999 West 1700 South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84104, or by phone for \$2 more (VISA or Mastercard) by calling 1-800-537-5950.

PAF is led by Joe Waldrop, who teaches courses in PAF and *Brother's Keeper* (BK) in the Fort Worth Community College system (primarily for Senior Citizens, I think). PAF version 3.1 is now available. It has just been released and fixes the "bugs" of version 3.0. There are still a few cautions regarding the use of PAF version 3.x version over version 2.2. First, if you have an older computer system (prior to 386) then, on loading PAF, you will always get the message "There may be insufficient memory". Generally, you can just ignore this message. The second is that PAF 3.1 can modify your CONFIG.SYS file with [set pafconfig =d:\paf] to speed up the operation of your program. You can remove this if you desire.

The PAF SIG group was reminded that you can shell to DOS using Ctrl-LSHift-RShift. Also, PAF can be setup to operate from Windows

in two ways. One operates PAF as a straight DOS operating system. The other (effective if you have a 286 or greater CPU) allows the screen to be split (when you want) into a PAF screen and a utility (i.e. Write) screen. This is useful in using a word processor, such as Microsoft Write, to write your notes and then paste them into the PAF note file.

A new book that might be of interest to some of you is *Publishing A Family History From A Personal Ancestral File*, by Ilene Miller. It is not as much an end product, as a "how to" book. It gives 5 steps to follow in publishing a book from PAF.

- ❖ PAF Entry and Checking Procedure
- ❖ Book Generating Software
- ❖ Preliminary Considerations
- ❖ What a Difference a Word Processor Makes.
- ❖ Finishing Touches

It is available from Ilene Chandler Miller, 9712 Mirage Circle, Garden Grove CA 92644, 714-636-3536. Cost \$15 +\$3.50 S&H.

Al Sanford

Hardware Solutions SIG

Our last meeting featured a special treat of the kind I would like to see more of in the future.

It happened that a fellow named Tony had wandered in off the street and to the NTPCUG Information Desk where he asked if it was possible to get some help with his sick computer. Mike Firth alertly brought him straight up to the Hardware Solutions SIG where up until Tony's arrival we had just been doing some miscellaneous Q&A. We all eagerly jumped on the opportunity to do some hands-on work for a change. With the cooperation of more than a dozen interested volunteers, and equipped with nothing more than a fingernail clipper for a screwdriver, we began diagnosing Tony's problem.

His computer is a clone 386SX with a newly installed Western Digital Caviar 540 meg IDE hard disk. The system would boot, but would not

recognize the high density floppy drive and thus Tony had not been able to install his newly purchased MS-DOS 6.22 upgrade. The hard disk was empty except for a \DOS directory.

After puzzling over the floppy problem for some time, someone was alert enough to suggest typing VER. Upon discovering we were booted up on a disk formatted with DOS 2.01 (no, that is not a typo) it was pretty obvious why the high-density floppy would not work. It was also then pretty obvious we had all been looking at a 32 megabyte partition without realizing it.

For more than an hour we tried various methods of formatting that hard disk, all to no avail. Though we were able to format the drive using DOS commands, we could not get it to boot from the hard disk. Finally, as our time grew short, and partially out of desperation, we tried formatting the disk using that floppy disk shipped with so many hard disks. Colloquially known as "DiskMangler," Ontrack Systems makes many different version of the program *Disk Manager* for inclusion with different hard disks. The program does not enjoy a very good reputation with a lot of PC techs, probably because you can get into trouble by using *Disk Manager* on a model of hard disk for which it was not intended.

In the case of our project of the day, *Disk Manager* was just what we needed to format the disk. The version of *Disk Manager* shipped with the WD 2540 disk rewrites the boot sector of the hard disk with appropriate programming to overcome the 528 megabyte limit.

As our meeting time came to an end, we just had time to get the screws back in the case so we could send Tony home with a working computer. The hands-on experience was a benefit to all; I think all in attendance, including me, learned a few things. As Bill Green pointed out, Tony came away from the meeting with a working computer and minus a repair bill which would certainly have been a lot more than the \$24 I am hoping he will pay for his NTPCUG membership. We hope to see you again next month, Tony!



For our discussion topic this month, I am going to reprint a BBS message from Glynn Brooks in which he so clearly explains the BIOS and IDE limits which are responsible for the 528 megabyte limit and the reasons Tony had run into the problem formatting his 540 meg disk.

Charles Miller

Health Care Computing/ Informatics SIG

Do you work in the health care arena? Do you often say to yourself "There must be a better (or easier) way to do this!" Do you know of medical computer applications that are better than whole wheat sliced bread? Would you like to learn from others whose noses are bleeding from bending over a grindstone too long? Are you willing to share some of the things you learned "the hard way"???? Would you like to see DEMO's of some of the medical computing applications on the market? The Medical/Health Care Computing/Informatics SIG.....(like all others in NTPCUG) is open to the public.

Please let your friends in the health care world know that this is the place to come and not have to worry about asking *dumb* questions.....since we will strive for an atmosphere where the only *dumb* questions.... are the ones that are not asked! . In this SIG we will focus on "informed decision-making." For those wondering "what should I buy" or "what should I take the time to learn how to use" we'll help them develop strategies for making those determinations. Come and let us know what else you'd like from this new SIG?

Zeke Rabkin

Internet SIG

The Internet is changing! Initially used academically and by researchers, commercial use is now

common. This may well be what keeps the packets switching into the next century.

Ownership of the various networks is changing. Funded publicly, the National Science Foundation developed and operated the Internet's "backbone" network. NFS's mission is complete. The interconnected networks are finding private, commercial solutions to continue to exist and interconnect.

As a result, Internet access providers are emerging. Thus making it easy and affordable for anyone with a computer and a modem to get connected.

This month's speaker is Steve Linebarger. Steve founded Texas Metronet, the first provider in the Metroplex to offer Internet access to individuals. He closely follows the issues of commercialization and privatization.

Come see the future of the Internet, as it is being shaped by these processes today.

Last month, SIG leaders Tom O'Keefe (okeefe@metronet.com) and Doug Gorrie (DG8489%DL5MAIL1@SWGATE2.sbc.com) conducted a question and answer session. Frequently asked questions were addressed. Topics included: what hardware and software is required, the difference between shell/session accounts and SLIP/PPP access, and access providers in our area.

Tom O'Keefe
& Doug Gorrie

Microsoft Networking SIG

February will see the Microsoft Networking SIG presenting Remote Access Service (RAS). RAS allows the user to dial in and connect to a remote network via asynchronous, X.25. One can easily use resources on the network from home; this dif-

SIG

fers from remote control. John McCrae will be discussing this topic.

Last month, I finished up my informal talk on NT Security and Administration. You'll remember that we have talked about NT administration previously from the standpoint of setting up users, creating profiles, etc. We have now completed the circuit by looking at file and share access rights, setting permissions on NTFS versus FAT versus HPFS partitions. One great thing about showing how it works is you can see how easy it is to set permissions with NT Server.

Rob Wickham of Microsoft PSS (Product Support Services) was here in December covering (well, covering is a lie, there's too much to cover in one hour) SMS, Systems Management Server. He discussed some internal technical details of SMS operation, with much more to see. We will arrange to do a working demonstration of SMS in the near future.

Bruce Wynn will be doing another Mail or Exchange-related presentation in months to come. He has been very interested in some of the mobile mail technologies, so may be able to get something of that nature scheduled. Stay tuned.

As always, if you have a technical topic you would like to see presented, my mail address is deborahl@microsoft.com.

See you EARLY Saturday morning at 8:00!

Debbie Lenhart

Paradox SIG

Heard a rumor. Seems DOS Paradox 5.0 was ready to ship and Borland squelched the release because they felt that the remaining Paradox DOS market would not be big enough to recover the cost of the release. This does not speak well for the DOS market. If Windows '9?

ever ships it will most likely be the final nail in the DOS coffin.

Still no word as to when *Delphi* will begin shipping. Maib, the much-heralded turnaround expert, has resigned after less than six months at Borland. It is rumored that the work force will be cut in half real soon now.

Someone asked me if I was going to stick with the Paradox SIG. I said I would for as long as there are enough members to justify continuing. I have started three NTPCUG SIG's over the years. With a whole lot of luck I just may avoid having to shut my first one down!

Fred Williams

Personal Users

The following is the tentative schedule for the Personal Users classes that will be offered during the next five months. Classes can be taken in any order suitable to the individual student's schedule. Printed notes are provided during Classes.

February 18, 1995

- ❖ 9:00 Class 5
Graphics for the PC
- ❖ 10:00 Class 6
Word Processors
- ❖ Noon Class 7
Spreadsheet Programs
- ❖ 1:00 Class 8
Other Software for the PC

March 25, 1995

- ❖ 9:00 Class 9
Hardware for the PC
- ❖ 10:00 Class 10
Printers for the PC
- ❖ Noon Class 11
Overview of Quicken Accounting Software
- ❖ 1:00 Class 12
Modems & Telecommunications

- ❖ 2:00 Class 12a
NTPCUG Bulletin Board System (BBS)

April 15*

- ❖ 9:00 Class 13
Overview of Microsoft Windows
- ❖ 10:00 Class 14
Overview of MultiMedia Software & Hardware
- ❖ Noon Class 15
Disk of the Month (DOM)
- ❖ 1:00 Class 16
PC's Into the 21st Century

May 13* No Classes

June 17, 1995

- ❖ 9:00 Class 1
Introduction to Personal Users SIG and the Personal Computer
- ❖ 10:00 Class 2
Working with Files & Directory Structures
- ❖ Noon Class 3
Disk Operating System (DOS) - Part I
- ❖ 1:00 Class 4
DOS - Part II

* These dates are subject to change. Check your PC NEWS and/or the NTPCUG BBS for corrected dates before the meetings.

Classes are FREE and OPEN to ALL Beginners, Novices, New PC Owners, Soon-To-Be PC Owners, etc. COME JOIN US AS WE LEARN THE FUNDAMENTALS!

Alex Lilley

Programmers SIG

Fresh from their victory over the Evil Vice President of DFW Xchange Corporation, the PRO SIG now has a white board again. In February, Leroy Tennison will be diagramming the relationship between the reveal codes in WordPerfect 6.1.3.0a.

Jim Hoisington

UNIX SIG

Happy New Year! I hope that all of you are enjoying an excellent New Year!

After a brief slowdown over the holidays, we will again pick up our continuing discussions of basic use and administration of Unix systems.

In January, we asked for additional or different topics to add to the discussion list. Currently have backup and recovery, networking and communications, and free software and the Free Software Foundation as the remaining topics for the next few months. If anyone has suggestions or ideas for topics they are interested in, please let us know.

I recently noticed an error in the NTPCUG Newsletter that I want to clear up. My home telephone number is now 789-3783. I've sent a request to have the newsletter number changed.

February meeting will have us discussing appropriate backup and recovery strategies, tools, tips, and things to watch out for. A good backup is the one of the best friends that an administrator can have when things go wrong.

We will briefly discuss the scheduling and execution of backups. Many commercial tools are available that can automatically execute regularly scheduled backups. While these are great tools to have, many of us can't afford to spend that kind of money, or don't need the capabilities that they provide. For those who fall into that category, like me, we'll talk about the utilities available with your system, or freely available from various sources.

Included with this discussion will be our usual amount of general banter about things Unix. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

Jim Stallworth

Visual Basic SIG - Beginning

The February 18th meeting of the Beginning Visual Basic SIG will feature a presentation entitled "For Beginner's Only" that will cover topics of interest to those just getting started in Visual Basic. This presentation is repeated each February and August to assist newcomers to Visual Basic in getting started.



The major topics will include a brief history of Visual Basic, descriptions of resources available for beginners in Visual Basic, an introduction to the Windows environment, discussion of the features of Visual Basic 3.0, and demonstration of the Visual Basic integrated development environment (IDE).

Sample programs will be run on the NTPCUG computer projection system. Everyone is welcome to attend, of course. If you have a friend, relative, neighbor etc. that would like to see what Visual Basic is about, bring them to this meeting.

Last month, **Chris Schnick** was scheduled to describe the methodology he used to develop the Help file for his Lottery X program. Chris developed the Lottery X application to teach himself the basics of Visual Basic programming.

Future meetings of the Beginning Visual Basic SIG will feature Relational Database Structure in March, An Introduction to Objects in April, and An Introduction to the Setup Wizard in May.

Two Visual Basic Workshops have been formed under the leadership of **Charlie Uhl** and **Tom Browning** and both are very active. A third workshop should be formed soon. Each meeting of the Beginning Visual Basic SIG now includes a status report from each of our Visual Basic Workshops. If you are interested in starting a workshop or participating in one, see me at the meeting (preferably before the meeting starts at 8:00 AM). We will try to get all interested parties together.

Bring your questions on Beginning Visual Basic to our meeting beginning at 8:00 AM on Saturday, February 18, 1995. Check the Infomart lobby screens for the correct room assignment.

Jim Carter

WordPerfect (DOS) SIG

It's going to be a fun year. We've formed a new fictional business called "Trainer Chicks" (sorry, guys, but we felt Trainer Roosters and Chicks is something that would be found on Hee Haw) that provides WordPerfect training to large companies. We'll follow the startup of our new business beginning with the design of our logo. Then we'll incorporate the logo in our letterhead, envelope, business cards, and brochures.

One month, Trainer Chicks will need to create proposals (page number, table of contents, bookmarks). Another month will be invoices (table and math). Other months will include hypertext (to train our new employees) and creating documentation (master and sub documents).

We've devised a unique way of bringing both versions to you simultaneously. We'll have two LCD panels hooked up to 2 laptops, each one producing the same information. A third person will be coaching; you just look at the version that applies to you.

We'll provide you with a booklet that outlines what we'll be covering each month. There will be places to get stickers for attendance and oohs and aahhs.

At the end of the year, we'll have Jeopardy back. And we'll award certificates for attendance and to people with the most oohh and aaahhh stickers.

Char, Diane, Cindy and myself are looking forward to working with the SIG again this year. We know you'll learn a lot and we'll have a lot of fun, too!

Tip of the Month!

Getting past the codes. Many of the codes in WordPerfect (both versions) are paired codes. You turn them on, type the text, then turn

Status of Internet Feed

Progress continues on our future Internet feed. I have begun to receive responses to our Request For Proposal for UUCP feed services. I am hoping, not much longer.

BBS Future Directions

On a totally different issue. It would appear that some serious, and even realistic, GUI-based BBS efforts are coming to fruition. This emerging technology is moving rapidly into the forefront of interest among many in the on-line world. So to prevent becoming yet another belly-up armadillo on the side of the "Information Super Highway", I have been reviewing future directions for our group's BBS.

I have posed a question to our current BBS users as to what their feelings are on such a BBS implementa-

SIG

them off. The text between the two codes take on that code's characteristics. Examples of paired codes are underline and bold. When you delete one of the codes, the mate automatically disappears as well.

Surprisingly, the "off" is there all along. Using the "off" keystroke just jumps the cursor past the off code. In 5.1, you can also use the {Right Arrow} or {End} keys to jump past the code. Sadly, 6.0 does not do this unless you have reveal codes on (drives me nuts).

You can turn on the codes, then type the text, then turn it off. Or you can block selected text and assign the code. The "on" and "off" will be in the appropriate spots.

In both versions, you can also use the 'font normal' option. This is great when you have several codes. For instance, turn on underline, bold and italic, then type the text. You can turn them all off individually or use {Ctrl}{F8}, then choose the Normal option. This causes the cursor to jump past all the off codes for that set.

Lori Quinn

NTPCUG — ON-LINE

by *Fred Williams*
SYSOP, NTPCUG BBS

tion. I am not getting an overly positive response from them, as most have been using DOS-based BBS's for some time and have naturally become somewhat resistant to change.

Who I really need to ask the question of are those members who do not currently wish to scale the required technology wall to gain access to our BBS and other DOS-based BBS's. So, I'm asking all who read this to catch me at the next meeting and give me a little input on your interest in the potential of having access to a very "Windows"-like BBS that requires very little user technology expertise to gain access to and use. By the way, you can even use your rodent to navigate around the BBS!

Fred's BBS Suggestion Box

If you do not catch me, and you still wish to make your feelings known, I intend to have a "Fred's



BBS Suggestion Box" somewhere at the NTPCUG Information Booth located in the Infomart foyer. So scratch your input on an old bubble gum wrapper or other handy piece of paper (only clean TP please), and stuff it in the BBS box.

I have been looking very closely at a BBS product named "Excalibur" from a company located in Tulsa, Oklahoma. There are two Excalibur BBS's here in the metroplex that I know of. One is "Midi Madness" and the other is "The Wild Side". I am not even going to attempt to list the phone numbers here as I already have two people looking for me I am sure, based on the fact I screwed up the "Midi Madness" modem number twice in messages on the BBS.

DOS-Based Service Still Available on BBS

Should we actually attempt to implement a GUI BBS, I intend to continue with our existing BBS for as long as is required to support those members who want nothing to do with all this newfangled "fancy, smancy GUI garbage". I would see this being two totally different BBS's networked together in a manner to allow them to share a common message base.

Technically all of this is very possible. All I need from y'all is enough interest in a "Windows" BBS system to justify going forward with the project. So I urge you to drop by the NTPCUG Information Booth this February and drop your input in the BBS Suggestion Box.

Fred Williams

NTPCUG USER - TO - USER PROGRAM

NTPCUG USER-TO-USER PROGRAM

Introducing the NTPCUG User-To-User program, composed of members who are willing to donate their time to help others with software and hardware questions. Some of our helpers are professional consultants. All have joined the User-to-User Program because they want to share their knowledge with others and help them. They agreed to answer questions that they are comfortable handling over the phone, without charge, and within reasonable time limits (at the volunteer's discretion).

These individuals are volunteering to assist NTPCUG members. NTPCUG is assisting in finding these volunteers for you, but cannot be responsible for unsatisfactory outcomes. Next to each subject, we will list the person's name, phone number and the times they are available. Please honor the wishes of our helpers by seeking help only during those hours.

Please try to resolve your problem by reading the manual and any on-line help BEFORE calling.

SUBJECT	HELPER	PHONE	DAYS/HOURS	SUBJECT	HELPER	PHONE	DAYS/HOURS
Access	Larry Linson	(817)481-2350	M-Sa 1300-1500	Hardware Help	Charles Miller.....	(903)938-4220(*)	7 1900-2400
Assembly Language	Frank Cavallito	(214)423-9221	7 1800-2200	HyperAccess	Woody Pewitt.....	(214)230-3485	M-F 0800-1800
	Glynn Brooks.....	(214)888-0625	M-F 0800-1600	LANs -- Novell	Joseph Beasley	(214)225-8752	7 0800-2400
BASIC	Mike Firth	(214)827-7734	7 0800-2200	-- Lantastic	Joseph Beasley	(214)410-3818	7 0900-2200
Beginner Problems	Jan Parkhill.....	(214)828-2216	M-Sa 0900-1700	Managing Your Money	Glynn Brooks	(214)888-0625	M-F 0800-1600
	Shirley Hudgens.....	(214)352-2800	7 0900-2000	MathCAD	Bob Adams	(214)328-1455	M-Sa 0900-1900
Brother's Keeper	Neil Sunderland.....	(214)272-2869	7 0900-2200	OS/2	Larry Truesdale	(214)442-7074	7 1000-2200
C (the language)	Howard Harkness.....	(817)267-6227	Sun 0900-1200 T&T 1800-2030	PC Tools/Win	Glynn Brooks	(214)888-0625	M-F 0800-1600
C++ (the language)	Bob Adams.....	(214)328-1455	M-Sa 0900-1900	Paradox	Fred Williams.....	(214)492-1315	7 1300-2100
	Howard Harkness.....	(817)267-6227	Sun 0900-1200 T&T 1800-2030	ProComm/ProComm+	Doug Gorrie.....	(214) 464-7942	M-F 0800-1700
	Don Cochran.....	(214)578-9258	T&T 1800-2030		.....	(214) 618-8002	S-S 1000-1900
Batch Files	Charles Miller.....	(903)938-4220(*)	7 1900-2400		Bill Green.....	(817) 731-1308	
Borland C++	Bob Adams.....	(214)328-1455	M-Sa 0900-1900		Joseph Beasley	(214)225-8752	7 0800-2400
	Howard Harkness.....	(817)267-6227	Sun 0900-1200 T&T 1800-2030		Joseph Beasley	(214)410-3818	7 0900-2200
Comm Software	Doug Gorrie.....	(214) 464-7942	M-F 0800-1700	Quicken	Billy Pitts.....	(817)430-8148	7 1830-2100
	.....	(214) 618-8002	S-S 1000-1900		Jim Hall.....	(214)348-7848	7 1000-2100
CompuServe	Bob Adams.....	(214)328-1455	M-Sa 0900-1900	Quickbooks	Jim Thompson.....	(214)953-0051	M-F 0800-1800
dBASE III, III+, IV & Windows	Ted Gillam.....	(214)964-7923	7 0800-1700	SPFPC	Doug Gorrie.....	(214) 464-7942	M-F 0800-1700
					.....	(214) 618-8002	S-S 1000-1900

SUBJECT	HELPER	PHONE	DAYS/HOURS
TurboVision			
	Howard Harkness	(817)267-6227	Sun 0900-1200
	.....		T&T 1800-2030
	Don Cochran	(214)578-9258	T&T 1800-2030
UNIX			
	Doug Scott	(817)261-4653	7 1830-2200
Virus & Anti-Virus			
	Charles Miller	(903)938-4220(*)	7 1900-2400
Visual Basic - Advanced			
	Woody Pawitt	(214)230-3485	M-F 0800-1800
Visual Basic - Beginning			
	Jim Carter	(214)235-5968	7 1700-2130
	L.J. Johnson	(214)495-8067	7 1700-2130
	Gene Hamelman	(214)495-6342	7 1700-2130
Windows for Workgroups			
	Joseph Beasley	(214)225-8752	7 0800-2400
	Joseph Beasley	(214)410-3818	7 0900-2200

NTPCUG User - To - User PROGRAM

SUBJECT	HELPER	PHONE	DAYS/HOURS
Word for Windows			
	Beverly Kurtin	(817) 355-9594	7
WordPerfect 5.x /Win			
	Georgene Harkness	(817)267-6227	Sun 0900-1200
	.....		M-F 1800-2030
Works, Microsoft			
	Mike Firth	(214)827-7734	7 0800-2200
XENIX			
	Doug Scott	(817)261-4653	7 1830-2200

The subject areas below do not have a volunteer to answer questions. If you would like to assist or add possible categories for the future, please contact Bill Drissel at (214)264-9680 M-F 1830-2200 or Sa & Su 0900-2200. Bill will send you a form on which you can list your qualifications and sign.

Areas Needing Helpers:

LEGEND:

- 7 All 7 days of each week M-F Monday through Friday
- T&T Tuesday and Thursday M-Sa Monday through Saturday
- S&S Saturday and Sunday (*) Caller should incur any Long Distance charges

- \$ & Sense
- Borland Turbo C
- CAD
- Corel Draw
- Dataflex
- dBase, dBase III+/IV
- DeskLink
- Desktop Publishing
- DOS (MS)
- DR DOS
- Easy Text
- First Choice
- First Publisher
- Fox Pro
- Fund Watch Plus
- Harvard Graphics
- It's Legal
- LapLink
- Mathematica
- Modems
- Money Counts
- Money Plans
- Microsoft C
- Microsoft C++
- Microsoft Visual C++
- Microsoft Word
- MKS products
- Norton Utilities
- OS/2
- PAF
- Pagemaker
- PC Hookup
- Personal Tax
- Preparer
- PKzip/PKUNzip
- Portfolio Analyzer
- Q&A File
- Q & A
- QuietWrite
- Roots
- Smart
- Smart Notes
- Sound Blaster
- Stacker
- SuperCalc
- Symphony
- TurboTax
- Corel Ventura
- Publisher
- Word (see Microsoft)
- XTree

North Texas Users Group, Inc. Membership Application

The NTPCUG is a non-profit independent organization of individuals learning to apply personal computers to practical problems. For additional information, call (214) 746-4699.

Member # _____

Name: (Last) _____ (First) _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE:(Check Preferred No.) Home ____ (____) _____

Work ____ (____) _____ (Ext) _____

Occupation/Profession: _____

Check one from each column below		
Payment:	Membership,	Application Status:
Cash _____	Classification:	New Member _____
Check _____	Regular (\$24.00) ____	Renewal _____
Credit Card _____	Student (\$12.00) ____	Address Change _____

Applications should be mailed to: North Texas PC Users Group, P.O. Box 780066, Dallas, TX 75378-0066 (Make checks payable to NTPCUG.)

Please initial here _____ if you do not wish to have your address included on member lists sold for the NTPCUG's benefit to advertisers of IBM compatible products.

North Texas PC Users Group, Inc.

P.O. Box 780066, Dallas, TX 75378-0066

Phone (214) 746-4699 for recorded information about the North Texas PC Users Group and scheduled meeting date times and locations. Please leave a message if you would like specific information about the Group.

The North Texas PC Users Group, Inc., is a non-profit, independent group, not associated with IBM or any other corporation. Membership is open to owners and others interested in exchanging ideas, information, hardware, predictions, and other items related to IBM Personal and compatible computers. To join the Group, complete the application blank printed elsewhere in

this newsletter, and send with \$24 membership dues to the Membership Director — address shown below. Subscription to the newsletter is included with each membership. The Group meets once each month, usually on the third or fourth Saturday. See inside front cover for date, time and place of the next North Texas PC Users Group meeting.

NORTH TEXAS
Officers AND People

PC

USERS GROUP
You should know . . .

North Texas PC Users Group, Inc.

Board of Directors

Jim Hoisington, Chairman
Reagan Andrews Timothy Carmichael
Doug Gorrie Alex Lilley
Andy Oliver Fred Williams

NTPCUG Bulletin Board

NOTE: To access the BBS Metro line from outside Area Code 214, use Area Code 214. (This is NOT a toll call from Fort Worth and the Mid-Cities area.)

Bulletin Board Settings: N - 8 - 1
(No parity, 8 data bits, 1 stop bit)

NTPCUG Officers

President	Jim Hoisington	(214) 416-3101 h
President-Elect	Andy Oliver	(214) 223-4044 h (214) 960-4215 w
Program Chairman	Timothy Carmichael	(214) 661-4626 w
Treasurer	Raymond T. Reyes	(903) 569-2638
Secretary	John West	(214) 620-8741 h
Membership Dir.	Jim Hoisington	(214) 416-3101h
Advertising Dir. (Acting)	Connie Andrews	(214) 828-0699h
Publicity	Peyton Weaver	(214) 462-0552
Disk of the Month	Jan Parkhill	(214) 828-2216 h
Volunteer Coord.	Claude McClure	(214) 867-0978 h
Bulletin Board	Fred Williams	(214) 492-1315

Members Emeritus

John Pribyl (1924 - 1993)
Phil Chamberlain Jim Hoisington
David McGehee Stuart Yarus
Tom Prickett Connie Andrews
Kathryn Loafman Reagan Andrews

NTPCUG BBS Telephone Numbers:

..... (214)387-2751
..... (214)387-2752
..... METRO (214)263-9036

SYSOP: Fred Williams
Assistant Sysop: Tom Prickett
Assistant Sysop: Doug Gorrie
Information Mgt: Lewis Graber
User Relations: Adam Peterson

Voice line for validation problems:
(214)682-0725..... Ask for Adam

TI PRO BULLETIN BOARD..... (214)361-5275
SYSOP: Tom Blackwell

Address Changes, etc...

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

NTPCUG Membership Director
P.O. Box 780066
Dallas, Texas 75378-0066

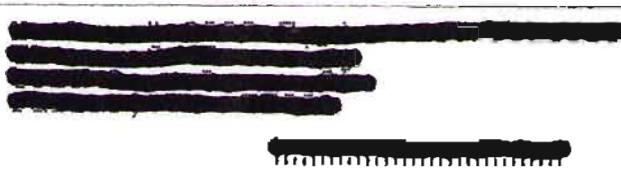


North Texas PC Users Group
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Permit No. 823

Address Correction Requested

14.2



North Texas PC Users Group

*Next Meeting:
18 February 1995*

