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North Texas PC NEWS

North Texas PC Users Group, Inc.

January NTPCUG Officer Elections

See Pages 4 - 5 For Details

January 1996

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North Texas PC NEWS

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Deadline:

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:

North Texas PC NEWS circulation was 2,550 last month.

Member distribution was 2,188; remaining copies were distributed to PC user groups around the country, and to advertisers, prospective members and others with common interests.

The editors of North Texas PC NEWS use Microsoft *Word for Windows*. This issue of North Texas PC NEWS was composed using *Corel Ventura 4.2, Corel Draw 5.0, Arts & Letters Express 5.0, Micrografx Picture Publisher 5.0, Adobe Photoshop 3.0* and HP ScanJet IIp. Repro was printed on a HP LaserJet 4M. Principal typefaces include: Palatino, Helvetica, A&L Cafe, French Vogue, Lithos and Mistral.

DEADLINE
Copy deadline for February *North Texas PC NEWS:* Wednesday, January 10th

Meeting Dates:
January 13, 1996 – 2nd Saturday
February 10, 1996 – 2nd Saturday
March 9, 1996 – 2nd Saturday

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North Texas PC News

Advertising Prices and Policies

Ad Size	1X	3X	6X	12X
2-Page Spread	$400	$325		
Full Page (7 x 9)	225	195	$165	$150
Half Page (7 x 4 1/2)	150	125	110	100
Qtr Page (3 1/4 x 4 1/2)	100	80	65	55
Business Card (2 x 3 1/4)	65	50	40	35
Business Card (Members)	35	25	20	20

Reduced rates for multiple insertions of same ad. Require prior commitment in writing and payment in advance (3 months minimum). Copy and mechanical changes requested between insertions will be billed accordingly.

Deadlines: All advertising copy must be received by the *PC News* staff no later than the 10th day of the month prior to the month of publication unless other arrangements are made with the Publisher. *NT PC News* publication date is 10 days before the monthly meeting of the North Texas PC Users Group.

Policies & Mechanicals:

- Commercial ads must be in repro form, in final size, ready for printing.
- Halftones must be furnished as final size, screened prints or negatives.
- Halftone screens cannot exceed 100 LPI maximum.
- No ads on front cover. Bleed pages and color must be discussed with Publisher before submission.
- Related ads only; suitability is at discretion of the Publisher and the North Texas PC Users Group Board of Directors.

Payment: Payment in advance of publication.
Make checks payable to: North Texas PC Users Group, Inc.

NTPCUG Programs & Presentations . . .

Timothy Carmichael

JANUARY

9:00 AM - 9:55 AM (None)

10:00 AM - 10:55 AM

ABC Graphics Suite for Windows 95 and NT

Micrografx.

Bob Woods, Training Specialist

Finally, complete graphics for every *Office 95* user. An integrated offering of superior diagramming, flowcharting, clipart, drawing, painting and image editing tools. Micrografx combined *ABC Flowcharter, Micrografx Designer, Picture Publisher* and *ABC Media Manager* together to give users the ability to gain a competitive advantage in their careers. The *Office interface* provides multitasking and multithreading capabilities for faster graphics creation and file manipulation. Hallmark Connections Card Studio will also be shown. There will be special pricing offers for orders placed at this time. *

11:00 AM - 11:30 AM NTPCUG Business Meeting

January NTPCUG Elections & Continued Drawings for Prizes

There will be a drawing for prizes following the ballot collections! Come and participate while taking a chance for the really-big prizes held-back from the December drawings! Andy Oliver will preside over this massive give-away of software programs, T-Shirts, coffee cups, knives and other Comdex give-aways! You too can be a "big winner" at the January NTPCUG Business Meeting. There are even some "Suite" give aways in addition to hundreds of "Demo" CD-ROMs, 3.5" FD's and other prizes of inestimable worth and value!

1:00 PM - 1:55 PM *TurboTax Deluxe* and *TurboTax for Business*

Intuit Inc.

Jenni Wiese, Product Manager

Get ready early this year! Come see how *TurboTax Deluxe* on CDROM can offer you customized tax advice in a variety of text and video formats. Always easy to use, this TurboTax final edition has an Interview Navigator for the novice, Fast Track for experienced users, and improved Forms Navigation and TaxLink. Also included is the Netscape Navigator Intuit Edition for free access to the TurboTax home page on the Quicken Financial Network on the World Wide Web. If you have a business, you must see TurboTax for Business, with four versions for sole proprietorships to corporations and partnerships. 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.

SIGs NTPCUG Special Interest Group Meeting Schedule

8:00 - 8:55
Microsoft Networking
Visual BASIC - Beginning
MultiMedia

9:00 - 9:55
DOS
General Genealogy
Hardware Solutions
Internet-Advanced
Introduction to the PC
Quicken
StarText
Visual BASIC
Windows Applications
WordPerfect/DOS

9:00 - 10:55
Dallas Corel

10:00 - 10:55
BASIC – Classic (Language)
CAD
Fox Pro Database
Graphics
Networking
Internet-Beginning
PAF-Genealogy
Paradox
Introduction to the PC
WordPerfect/Windows
UNIX

11:00 - 11:55
BASIC Programming – Beginning
Assembly Language
Brother's Keeper (Genealogy)
CAD (Cont.)

11:00 - 11:55 (Cont.)
Investors
Graphics (Cont.)
MS Works
OS/2 — Q & A
Roots III/IV - Genealogy
Spreadsheets
Windows Developers

11:30 - 11:55
Orientation

12:00 - 12:55
Alpha Four
C++/Advanced C
Communications
Delphi
Desktop Publishing
Health Care Computing
OS/2 for End Users
Introduction to the PC
The Master Genealogist

1:00 - 1:55
Access
ACT!

1:00 - 1:55 (Cont.)
Business Apps./DAC Easy
DATAFLEX
C++/Beginners
Word for Windows
OS/2 Developers
Introduction to the PC

2:00 - 2:55
Advanced Programmers
QuickBooks
Application Developers (OLE and ODBC)

Please consult the BBS and remember to check the overhead display in the INFOMART lobby for latest SIG schedules and room locations.

It's Never Enough

In an all-volunteer organization, there are so many people to thank for their efforts in making the group successful. **Jim Hoisington**, thank you for another outstanding year as the 1995 President of the NTPCUG. We know it was the most difficult year of your life, and we appreciate everything that you do for the group.

COMPUSA Expo

Competition coming to town, and the software/hardware leader in this marketplace holds an Expo on Friday, Saturday and Sunday in early December at the Infomart. As opposed to most shows where the focus is on just testing the products, this show had the added "benefit" of stacks and stacks of product to buy and friendly cashiers on your way out. There were good prices on many products.

Home and Family Computer Show

Not as big as COMDEX, not as obnoxious either. A show co-sponsored by Compaq Computer Company and TIME magazine proved successful, two weeks before Christmas. Thanks go to our volunteers who worked the NTPCUG booth, and to **Doug Gorrie** for organizing and coordinating our participation in the event.

I worked the booth on Saturday morning (-11 degrees wind chill outside), and I want to thank all of the current user group members who just dropped by to say hello. The membership is the main reason the group continues to thrive, and the volunteers keep it alive.

A nice young lady with Hewlett Packard patiently explained the features of the ScanJet 4C scanner and said that she had not seen any of the city since arriving from Washington state. I hope she was treated to some barbeque to go along with the Texas hospitality at the show. This expo should have been easier on the vendors than normal trade shows. It certainly was friendlier and calmer.

G. Kent Cobb
Software Design and Development

P.O. BOX 551271
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Interesting things at the show included the 2 CD set on the history of the battle for the Alamo. The story is factually compiled by Texas Historians, and being used as a teaching tool in grades 1 through 12. Also there, Chrysler's Eagle division with an Eagle Vision, showing an automatic transmission that you can shift (if you want to) for all of you race car drivers relegated to family sedans.

Neatest thing at the show though, was all of the kids at the computers. The concept for the show is great. Not geared to technoweenies or corporate buyers, but instead to the future geeks and geekettes of the world. In 15 years, those who don't know how to use a computer will be looked upon as outsiders. Maybe we should invent a moniker for them, INVERDS, for inverse nerds.

The New Year

1996. How many times have you written 1995, so far? Look for change, because change is inevitable. The North Texas PC Users Group has survived through many transformations, mutations, and altered directions. The computer industry is beginning to view users groups in a different light. UG's moved from obscurity, banded together and were respected by software and hardware vendors, and now? I am getting the feeling that some of the companies view us somewhere below part-time employees on the food chain. They will put up with us as long as we are useful, but the first sign of trouble or uselessness, and we are history. Are the big companies at fault? Not entirely. Some user group representatives act more like parasites at functions like COMDEX and the industry, in my opinion, is getting tired of it. The NTPCUG works hard to keep an open, honest relationship with all vendors, and all we ask is to be treated the same way.

Other changes will depend on the membership's involvement in the group. Stay involved, volunteer, write letters to the Board of Directors (BOD)

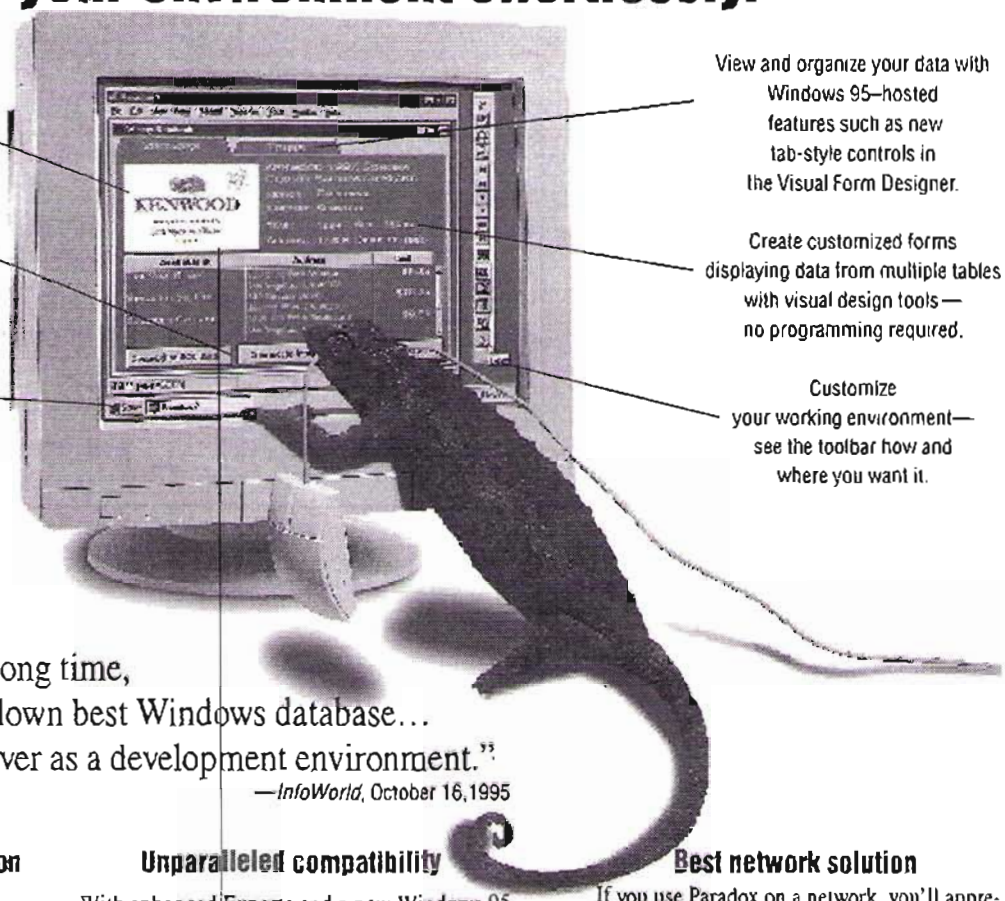
New Paradox 7 for Windows 95 and Windows NT

Adapt to your environment effortlessly.

Store a wide range of data types from number, text, date, and time to graphics and multimedia.

Build all levels of business solutions from single-user PC-based applications to LAN-based or client/server applications.

Use OLE Automation and OCX controls to make Paradox work seamlessly with other Windows applications.



View and organize your data with Windows 95–hosted features such as new tab-style controls in the Visual Form Designer.

Create customized forms displaying data from multiple tables with visual design tools—no programming required.

Customize your working environment—see the toolbar how and where you want it.

"What *InfoWorld* has, for a long time, considered to be the hands-down best Windows database... is now more powerful than ever as a development environment."

—*InfoWorld*, October 16,1995

Evolution on demand

Paradox® 7 will help your transition to a whole new world. Find out for yourself why *InfoWorld* says, "This is the first Windows 95 application that is improved enough to be a compelling reason to upgrade from Windows 3.x to Windows 95 and Windows NT."

What's New

New! Enhanced OLE support lets you categorize, control, manage, store, and share virtually any type of data—including documents, spreadsheets, and graphics.

New! OCX support means that developers can now create applications that use OLE custom controls such as Internet Web browsers, communications packages, or grid and graphing controls that seamlessly integrate with Paradox.

New! More than 100 new ObjectPAL methods give you the most powerful database language available.

New! Object Explorer helps you accomplish more by accessing properties, methods, and events, no matter what your level of expertise.

Unparalleled compatibility

With enhanced Experts and a new Windows 95 look and feel, you'll see the benefits of the new 32-bit technology from day one. Paradox 7 is compatible with previous versions of Paradox for Windows, so any data or applications you created in Paradox for Windows can be used in Paradox 7. You can even share your data with other people who may still be using previous versions of Paradox for Windows on the same network server.

Best suite integration

With new act-alike menus and toolbars, you'll appreciate the seamless integration of Paradox with Novell PerfectOffice 7 and Microsoft Office 95.

Powerful development language

Paradox 7's Integrated Development Environment is unsurpassed. New developer tools such as the enhanced program editor make ObjectPAL™ programming a snap. The editor boosts productivity with features such as color syntax highlighting, block indent, keystroke record and playback, and other tools. Our new high-performance 32-bit Borland® Database Engine (BDE) technology is at the heart of all Borland products. That means when you use Paradox 7, you can access more diverse data faster and easier than with any other database.

Best network solution

If you use Paradox on a network, you'll appreciate its LAN support. With its record-locking capabilities, Paradox allows you to create high-performance network applications, making it your best networkable database choice.

"It is without a doubt a must-have for all serious Paradox users and developers."

—*InfoWorld*, October 16,1995

Try Paradox 7 risk-free

If for any reason you're not fully satisfied, simply return it to Borland within 90 days for a full refund.

ORDER PARADOX 7 TODAY

FOR ONLY $89.95*

See your reseller or call today.

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Making Development Easier

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North Texas PC Users Group — 1996 Election Nominees

President-Elect Nominee — Jim Hoisington

Jim is a graduate of Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas. He and his family moved "up north" to Dallas in 1980. Jim joined the North Texas PC Users Group at its second meeting. Since then he has served 4 terms as President, two terms as a Director, and has been Membership Chairman for over four years. Together with Reagan Andrews, Jim leads the DOS SIG and he has been the back-up leader for the Advanced Programmers SIG since the SIG began. In addition, Jim was on the first Board of Directors of the Association of PC Users Groups (APCUG), was the first treasurer of the Computer Council of Dallas, and is the current vice-president of DFW Xchange Corporation. Jim is also a member of the Metrocrest Amateur Radio Society (MARS). When he isn't attending meetings, Jim does a little consulting to pay for all the computer "stuff" that he buys.

Nominees for North Texas PC Users Group Board of Directors

Reagan Andrews, Ph.D.

Reagan is currently a member of the Board, and a past NTPCUG President. He is Co-leader of the DOS SIG and stepped in two years ago to become "temporary" Publisher of *the North Texas PC News*, a tremendous volunteer task. The "Variety Store" column in this newsletter was his idea and has become a mainstay of keeping on top of industry news. Reagan works for the Dallas VA Hospital as a Clinical Psychologist treating veterans suffering from delayed stress syndrome. He and his wife, Connie, continue to be ambassadors to COMDEX.

Timothy Carmichael

Timothy serves as Program Chairman of the NTPCUG and has done so since 1989. Timothy is a current member of the Board of Directors. As the Program Chairman, he is responsible for the Auditorium presentations at our Saturday meetings and Timothy continues to do an excellent job for us. In his real job, he is an electrical and biomedical engineer doing research, applying computer hardware and software for medical measurement and diagnostic systems.

Doug Gorrie

Doug was the 1993 President of the NTPCUG. He is the Co-leader of the Communications, BBS and Internet SIG's and is involved in the day-to-day support of our Bulletin Board System. Doug's is the voice that you hear if you call the NTPCUG phone number, and he updates the message monthly as new information about our monthly meetings becomes available. He has spent the past 26 years with Southwestern Bell Telephone, 17 of those were working with IBM mainframes. The past six years he has worked as an Internal Auditor for SWBT.

Alex Lilley

Alex has been the Special Interest Group (SIG) Coordinator for the past three years and is also the room scheduler for all computer groups that meet at Infomart. In addition, Alex coordinates all audio-visual and white-board equipment used at the D/FW Xchange meetings at In-

North Texas PC Users Group — 1996 Election Nominees

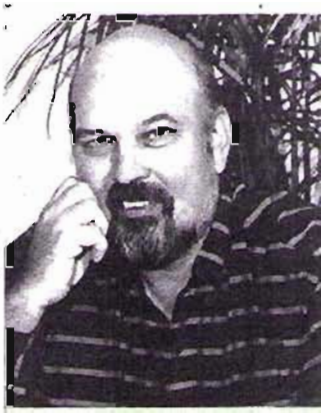
fomart. Alex is married with two grown children and works as an IS for a local commercial real estate company. He is a Certified Property Manager and graduate of Texas A & M.

Linda Moore

Linda Moore is founder of the NTPCUG *Walk Abouts* and you can find her most meeting days leading a group of new and prospective members around the halls of Infomart, visiting SIGs and generally helping folks get to know the NTPCUG. Linda's career in computers began in the 1960's and she has been active in the Association for Systems Management where she served as an officer as well as in the Planning Executives Institute and the Data Processing Management Association.

Linda has been an independent computer consultant specializing in software systems, operational analysis and technical communication since 1983. Linda's diversity began with her academic double-major in Mathematics and Journalism.

Fred Williams



Fred is a current BOD member and has been a member of NTPCUG since its founding in 1982. He has been SIG Leader for the Communications and LAN SIG's, and is the founder and current leader of the *Paradox* and *Delphi* SIGs. He chaired the BBS Steering Committee which reorganized the BBS support staff, and he provided project management and technical services while converting the BBS software to the current TBBS.

He is SYSOP of the BBS and helps maintain the system. He has been an independent software developer of communications and database systems for personal computers since 1982.

Official 1996 Ballot
(Detach and use original ballot — Copies are not acceptable.)

North Texas PC Users Group, Inc.
A Nonprofit Organization

Nominees for President-Elect:
(Vote for 1 — at right)

- ❑ Jim Hoisington
- ❑ _____

Nominees for Board of Directors
(Vote for 5 — below)

- ❑ Reagan Andrews
- ❑ Timothy Carmichael
- ❑ Doug Gorrie
- ❑ Alex Lilley
- ❑ Linda Moore
- ❑ Fred Williams
- ❑ _____

Mail Ballot to Secretary, North Texas PC Users Group, P.O. Box 780066, Dallas, TX 75378-0066, or bring to the January 21 Meeting. All ballots must be received by the secretary no later than January 16, 1996.

The Visual Basic Corner

by Jim Carter

First Book Review For *Visual Basic 4.0*

Selecting *Visual Basic 4.0 Nuts & Bolts For Experienced Programmers* as a first review candidate was an easy call. First, the book was co-authored by Gary Cornell, the author of one of the best books on Visual Basic 3.0 entitled *The Visual Basic 3 For Windows Handbook*. Second, the book was 1/3 the thickness of the typical Visual Basic 4.0 book. Finally, the book seems to fit a niche audience that few books on Visual Basic address; the experienced programmer wanting to capture the essence of Visual Basic 4.0 without having to wade through seemingly endless examples of how a For-Next loop works. This book, *Visual Basic 4.0 Nuts & Bolts For Experienced Programmers* by Gary Cornell and Troy Strain, is published by Osborne-McGraw Hill.

Early Chapters Introduce Visual Basic 4.0

Chapters 1 and 2 introduce the reader to Visual Basic 4.0 and describe the Integrated Development Environment (IDE) used to create Visual Basic applications. Chapter 3 describes the process for manipulating objects (forms and controls) within the IDE. Chapters 4 and 5 cover Visual Basic 4.0 programming techniques. Chapter 4 opens with a discussion comparing the "event-driven" nature of Visual Basic programming with the "top-down" nature of conventional programming, a concept that must be understood to become proficient in Visual Basic. programming.

Object Oriented Programming (OOP)

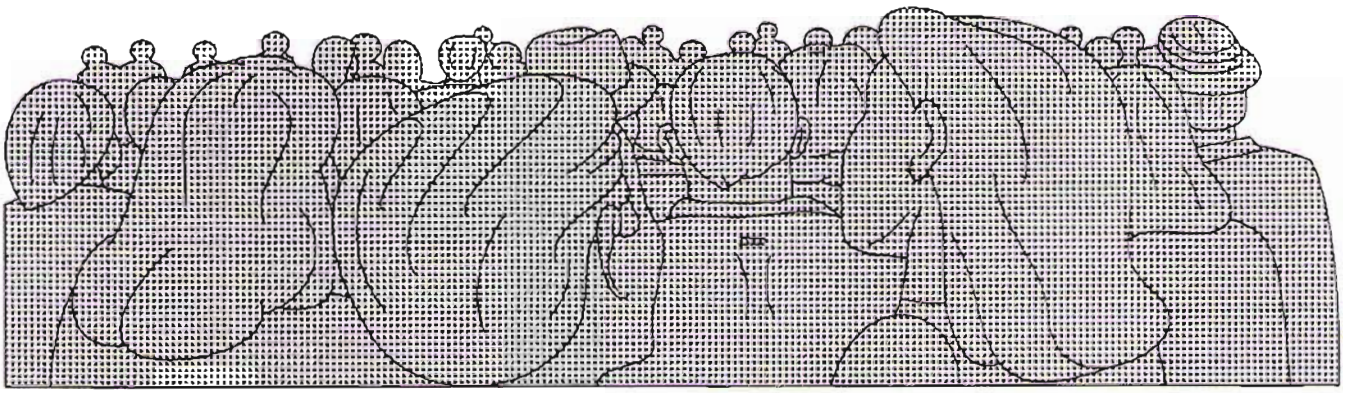
Visual Basic 4.0 is the first version of Visual Basic to incorporate OOP functionality. Microsoft has included a modest capability for creating new objects in Visual Basic 4.0. Chapter 6 includes an introduction to OOP concepts and definitions for the purpose of explaining

Andy Oliver

Prez Sez . . . Ctd.

or send them e-mail on the BBS. Fresh ideas are welcomed. They are not always enacted, but your BOD appreciates the input. If you want to help, try an hour in the Information Booth, or at the Disk of the Month table.

Andy Oliver



These members are all headed to the Auditorium For the NTPCUG Business Meeting to vote for new Officers — and, for the Gala, Giant Prize Drawings

the OOP functionality included in Visual Basic 4.0. The authors use an excellent analogy of a computer with its objects (power supply, disk drives, motherboards, etc.) in explaining object-oriented programming. Chapter 6 also describes the techniques for manipulating objects built into Visual Basic and how to create your own objects in Visual Basic. Chapter 6 concludes with a description of how to build your own Class Modules. The example used by the authors is a Deck of Cards Class Module. Later, in Chapter 10, the procedure for developing OLE servers is described.

Error Handling and Debugging

Chapter 7 covers the techniques for making your application user-friendly: when errors are encountered. Procedures for implementing error trapping are described to preclude catastrophic termination of your program. Chapter 8 describes tools and techniques for testing and debugging your programs. Following the techniques described in these two chapters will limit the "surprises" your customers will find in using your application.

File Management

The file management techniques used in Visual Basic are described in Chapter 9. Microsoft has added file-handling functions to Visual Basic that formerly required calls to the Windows API.

Later Chapters Introduce More Complex Topics

Communicating with other Windows applications is the subject of Chapter 10. The topics include the simplistic methods of the Clipboard, the SendKeys statements, Dynamic Data Exchange (DDE), and Object Linking and Embedding (OLE 2). A significant portion of Chapter 10 is spent on OLE 2 describing ways you can create OLE objects.

Chapter 11 offers an introduction to graphics in Visual Basic.

Chapter 12 discusses the more advanced user interface features found in Visual Basic 4.0. The new Windows 95 controls (TreeView, StatusBar, ProgressBar, TabStrip, ImageList, ListView, Slider, and RichTextBox controls) are briefly described. Other user interface topics discussed in Chapter 12 include the common dialog box, mouse event procedures, and help systems.

Finally, Chapter 13 introduces the reader to the database features in Visual Basic. The Data Manager add-in is described and the database operations using the data control and the sample database provided with Visual Basic 4.0.

The Visual Basic Corner

by Jim Carter

Summary

This book will appeal to experienced programmers that have no specific knowledge of Visual Basic. It will help that programmer decide whether Visual Basic 4.0 is the appropriate programming language for a specific project. Once the decision is made to use Visual Basic, additional books will most likely be required that contain more detail and appropriate amounts of sample code.

The ISBN for *Visual Basic 4 Nuts & Bolts For Experienced Programmers* is 0-07-882141-X and retail price is $24.95.

Jim Carter

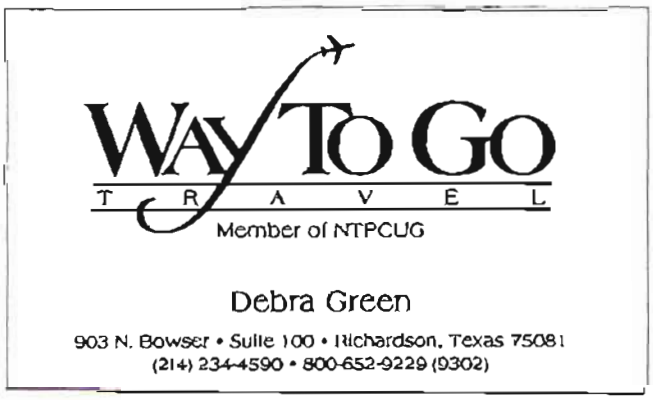
About Business Cards...

The PC News offers special, reduced rates for NTPCUG members' business-card ads as a service to our members.

In order to qualify for these rates for multiple insertions, submitted ads **must** be machine readable, i.e., as an EPS, TIF or PCX file. EPS is preferred since it allows small changes without too-much extra effort. Any changes to TIF or PCX files must be made by the advertiser/member and the new file sent to the PC News on the BBS.

We will scan submitted hard-copy cards at the advertiser's risk with no guarantee as to quality of reproduction. If a member wishes, the *PC News* can attempt, for an additional charge, to replicate the hard-copy card as closely as possible, usually with good success, but not always with identical fonts to those used by commercial printers.

Reagan Andrews



Arcada Backup for Windows 95

Reagan Andrews

Your old backup software may "fool" you into thinking it works with *Windows 95* — but, it really doesn't. There are lots of problems with long filenames and the Registry.

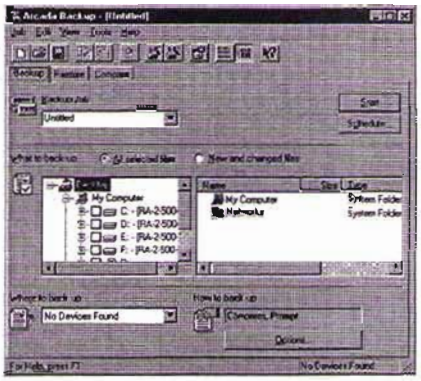
Arcada is a good example. I looked at the Conner Tape.Stor 4000 tape backup drive a couple of months ago (September, 1995) and really liked the new drive and the Arcada-written *Backup Exec* software that came with the Conner unit. Did the review in August, just on the verge of the release of Microsoft *Windows 95*.

The "old" Backup Exec looked like it was backing-up the Win 95 files and I was initially fooled into thinking it had. Arcada knows this and Arcada has written a package, *Arcada Backup for Windows 95*, to accommodate the move to the new version of Windows lots of users are making since the Microsoft release.

I tested version 1.0. Please remember that in reading this supplement to the original article. There are problems and Arcada knows about them — release 1.1 is due out shortly and is free to registered Arcada users.

Installation on Win 95 was essentially "brainless" and unusually quick and easy which is one of the very positive features of both the Arcada software and of Win 95. Took about six or seven minutes from the two 3.5" floppy disks enclosed with the new box.

Interface of the new Arcada product is strictly in keeping with Win 95. There are configuration, backup and restore "Wizards" that make the process quite easy and quick for even the new user. I was impressed with all three until I tried to look at some of the tape catalogs from previous backups with the Conner drive.



Surprise! The new Arcada software couldn't easily read the old catalogs, but had to make "new" catalogs from the tape — and couldn't store these "temporary" catalogs on the hard disk. Makes "archiving" a tad clumsy, slow and frustrating. Took the software approximately 25 minutes to do the job on an "old" tape.

Excellent Technical Support!

Phoned Arcada Technical Support, which isn't an "800" call. Spent better part of 30 seconds on "hold" before a technician answered and explained my difficulty! After significant portions of hours spent on "hold" with other vendors, this very rapid response was indeed astonishing.

Also, some very important issues were resolved with this call that created a lot of respect for Arcada.

First was fact that technician was unusually open in saying this was a known problem, was quite apologetic and very polite in suggesting I wait for the new version, and didn't make me feel like it was my problem. (If this doesn't impress you, try a similar call to IBM, Microsoft or a number of other vendors, then you'll believe.)

I did do a "fresh" backup with 1.0, and continued to observe the speed and quietness of the earlier review. I'm not sure if it was as fast as with the DOS version since Arcada's screens and information content were, again, not the same as that of the "older" DOS or *Windows 3.11* versions.

However, it did get the Registry information "right" and did retain the long filenames without

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I-net E-Mail on the NTPCUG TBBS BBS

by Lewis Graber

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(without using an off-line mail reader)

A. Restrictions on Your Messages

As of August 1995, these restrictions apply to I-mail (messages routed through the Internet) on our TBBS BBS:

1. Limit your outgoing messages to 9K or less. When or if this limit is raised, you will be happily notified.

2. Incoming messages should be limited to 2 Meg or less. Anything between 8K and 2 Meg will come to you in an "attached" or "enclosed" (TBBS terminology) file. Incoming messages over 2 Meg automatically incur the wrath of the cosmic shredder.

3. DO NOT SUBSCRIBE to any "mailing lists." Our system cannot handle that volume of traffic, and your TBBS ACCESS may be eaten by a grumpy SYSOP.

I-net Mail ... Again?

Yes, because Fred Williams, Doug Gorrie, etc al., have managed to make the NTPCUG BBS "UUCP Friendly" again, I/we thought it was time to run Lewis Graber's short manual on using the PCUG BBS for Internet E-mail again. It originally appeared in the September issue of the *PC News*.

B. How to Receive I-mail Messages Addressed to You

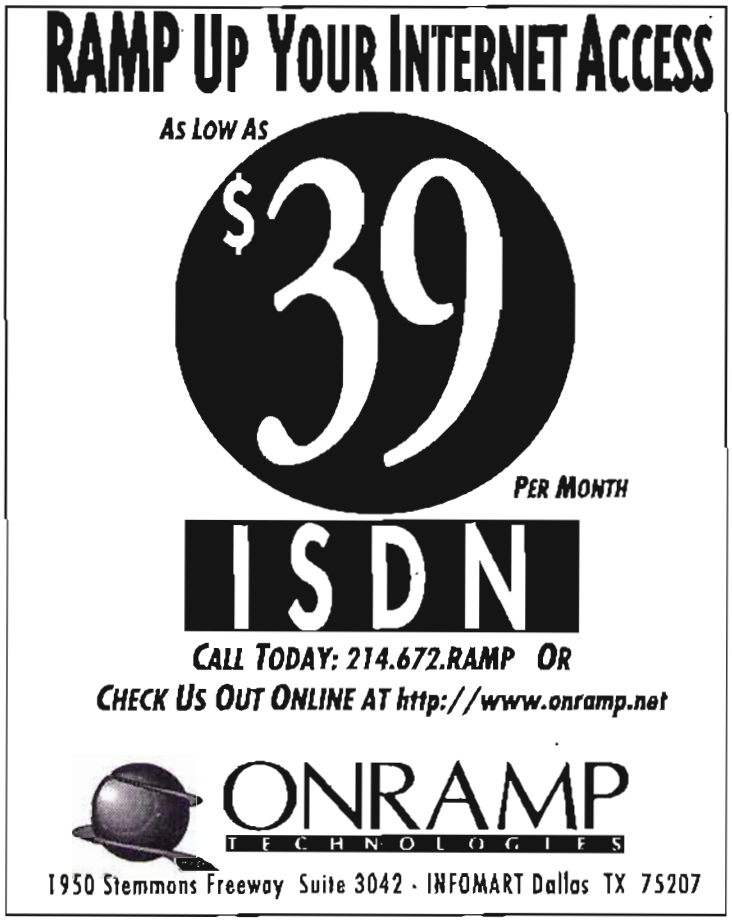
Your Internet I-mail address

First, you will want to tell your correspondents how to reach you. If your name on your PC-News mailing label and on this BBS is Max Newbie, then your I-mail return address on our NTPCUG BBS is:

max.newbie@ntpcug.org

Your correspondents must enter your address exactly; "close enough" won't get it, and you won't either, with no error message to you.

Incoming I-mail traffic will be accessible to you exactly like normal internal TBBS e-mail. When you first log onto TBBS, all your incoming message summaries (in-



Arcada Backup for Windows 95... Ctd.

the tildes (~) you'll see when a 16-bit program tries to handle the long filenames Win 95 incorporates.

Even though Win 95 comes with a basic tape backup module, many users may note that their particular drive isn't supported by the Win 95 module. Arcada supports a lot of drives Win 95 doesn't recognize/remember and can be a lifesaver for users with more exotic or older tape drives, particularly SCSI high-speed units.

My best suggestion is to wait for the new "debugged" version, then buy the *Arcada Backup for Windows 95* software.

Reagan Andrews

Internet Mail (I-Mail) Primer for the NTPCUG BBS... Ctd.

cluding I-mail shown as coming from UUCP MAIL) will display on your screen. You can choose to:

a) read them at that time on screen, (but preferably with your screen capture turned ON for later off-line file viewing), and

b) Cubbyhole them for later reading, or

c) choose NOT to read them right away, in which case those message summaries will be displayed again each time you log on – until you read the messages.

C. How to Prepare an I-Mail Message for Uploading to TBBS

(without using an off-line mail reader)

[If you don't know what one is, you don't have one]

Since our I-mail muncher (uh, processor) will look at the FIRST LINE of your message body text for the "TO:" info, start that first line with a LEADING SPACE in column one, followed by "To:" (not case-sensitive, and without the quotes), followed by a SPACE, followed by the Internet address of your intended recipient (in all lower case letters), as in this example:

(sp)To:(sp) elvis.presley@somewhereoutthere.com

Our mail muncher will extract the subject info from the SECOND LINE. Again, start with a LEADING SPACE, followed by "Subject:" followed by a SPACE, and then by subject matter description (all not case-sensitive), as in this example:

(sp)Subject: (sp)Message size instructions

Leave at least *ONE BLANK LINE* after your "Subject" line before starting the body of your message.

Example I-mail Message to Upload

==example TBBS Message Header to key in====

TO: UUCP MAIL key in exactly as shown (all caps with space)

SUBJECT: Z key in any dummy character to keep TBBS happy

===example Internet I-mail message to upload===

(sp)To:(sp) elvis.presley@somewhereoutthere.com

(sp)Subject:(sp)Message size instructions

Hello, Elvis. In the event you can send me Internet mail, I want you to know that while I can only send you messages of 9K or less from our NTPCUG BBS, you can send me up to 2 Meg. Can you type that much?

Yours,

Roger Freeman

roger.freeman@ntpcug.org

===end of example Internet I-mail message====

You will upload this message into the private E-mail area. When TBBS asks you for "To:" information, key in:

UUCP MAIL

All caps and the embedded space are REQUIRED. When TBBS asks you for "Subject:" info, anything will do. Since this info will be thrown away, we suggest using the letter "Z" – to fool TBBS into letting you proceed with the upload.

==========

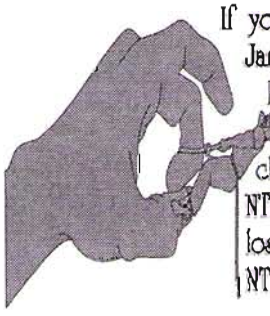
May all your messages be delivered and may the cosmic file shredder starve a horrible death!

==========

Lewis Graber

Don't Forget to Vote!

It's important to you – and to us. Make a choice of who you think will represent you best – and VOTE . . .



If you don't vote at the January 13 NTPCUG Business Meeting – or mail in your ballot for the President-Elect and your choice of five (5) members of the NTPCUG Board of Directors, you'll lose your voice in how the NTPCUG is run!

Please see Pages 4 - 5 for more information.

The Corel Corner

Just a few comments I downloaded from CorelNet in December that pertain to Draw 6.

CorelNET Draw 6 Fave Raves

This area is a bit different. The focus here is strictly on what you've found in Draw 6 to be new and improved. What's your favorite new feature? How has it made you more productive? Have you come up with a script that you'd like to share? A tip?....

"Check out that eraser and knife utility! It's great! It even works on Power-Clips, so you can jig-saw along!! First I was a littlebit sceptical about the Corel6-suite, mainly because XaraStudio is a much better artists-package just for drawing, but when it comes to technical and less-artistic drawing and painting, well there's no alternative then Corel (And I'm not getting paid for this....)"-Jippe@xs4all.nl

"My area is presentation graphics and the ability to open multiple files, as opposed to multiple copies of CorelDRAW is a great productivity enhancement. Other great features are the ease and comprehensiveness of the toolbar and menu customisation - very, very useful. Automatic polygons and spirals are a bonus too."-slipper108123.iafrica.com

"Despite the fact that the Draw 6 manual doesn't even mention the Movie menu in PhotoPaint, I've found it to be just the ticket for creating and editing mini-AVI movies for use as animated WWW icons. In case you weren't aware, the new Microsoft Internet Explorer 2.0 has a new "extended" HTML tag in the form IMG DYNSRC="movie.avi". These icons, which can have optional loop=infinite attributes (etc.), then show up as animations on your web page. With a little clever programming, you can also set other browsers, such as Netscape, to display a regular GIF or JPEG in their place, for full compatibility with the widest range of browsers. I used PhotoPaint, and its ability to create these AVIs and transparent, interlaced GIFs, to create many of the graphics at The Computer Paper's home page."-pm017.vcr.wis.net

"A very handy new feature is the ability to check the separations directy in the Print Options dialog box. You don't have to actually print the separations to check them out. This saves a lot of time and paper. "-pc97.datamedia.se

"Has anyone noticed this very useful feature? When you import a Photoshop image into Draw6, any alpha channel in the image is recognised and treated as a mask, so rendering the masked areas transparent. I'm using Photoshop 2.5 and haven't tried it yet with version 3. Has anyone else?"-ad51-156.compuserve.com

"Here's an example of a new and nifty thing in Draw 6: In the PostScript Preferences dialog box, you can enable a new Auto Increase Fountain Steps option, which will increase the number of steps in your fountain-filled objects to the appropriate number for your output device. A related option, Opti-

Continued on page 17 ...

IMPORTANT COREL ADDRESSES & PHONE NUMBERS

Corel Corporation
1600 Carling Avenue,
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
K1Z 8R7

- Technical Support Representatives 800-818-1848
- F Release, CD-Rom only(latest "fixes" and patches for Corel products) 800-772-6735
- Customer Service Representatives 800-772-6735
- IVAN (Interactive Voice Answering Network).....613-728-1990
- 24 Hour Automated Fax System 613-728-0826 Ext.3080
- Technical Support hours are 4AM to 8PM (EST) excluding holidays
- To obtain our catalogue please request document #2000

COREL CORPORATION

Disks of the Month for December

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

Disk 1020. Buttons for DOS 6.0, 11/95 – Buttons (Icons) Menu for DOS, Triad Software, a division of Triad Pictures Corp., P.O. Box 1299, Sequim, WA 98382. Shareware Fee: $49.00.

BUTTONS FOR DOS, Version 6.0 (VGA) offers POINT & CLICK access to Non-Windows software. Pops up on exit from Windows and/or at boot-up time. It easily handles alternate boot configurations. It does not limit memory. This may be the EASIEST DOS MENU TO USE yet. It won Home PC Magazine's BESTBUY AWARD.

This shareware version is limited to 18 button icons, where the registered version allows 900. It lacks the Password feature, and the four free accessories supplied with the registered version.

Buttons for DOS allows you to assign any DOS program to a button. When you click on the button, the program will run. Buttons has 50 pages of buttons. To change pages, click on the Prev Page or Next Page buttons, or use the Page Index tabs. You can use the ESC key to quit from almost anything in Buttons for DOS.

Buttons for DOS takes itself completely out of user memory when you launch a program, leaving the maximum memory space for your DOS software. A mouse is suggested, but you can use the keyboard except for some advanced features.

An optional password system is available including a Manager Password and individual button passwords, but some or all passwords can be disengaged.

Buttons Macros, which are simply lists of DOS commands can be created and associated with a Button.

Buttons for DOS has extensive on-line help, an automatic screen-saver, and provides for alternate system configurations for games, etc.

GETTING STARTED:
Type "INSTALL" to install Buttons for DOS. A new directory, C:\BUTTONS, will be created, and "Buttons" installed there. Buttons for DOS will set itself up to run every time you exit Windows, or every time you start your computer (your choice).

The source of this disk is NTPCUG member **Jan Parkhill**.

This README prepared by John Puckette, edited by Gene Carleton.

Disk 1021. PC-CONFIG 7.31, 12/95 – System Info/Benchmark Program, Michael Holin, Buchrainweg 61, 63069 Offenbach, Germany, Telefon ++49 69 833587 / ++49 172 6912576, Fax ++49 69 845242, CIS 100441,1366. Shareware Fee: $35.

NEW DISKS ...from the DOM Squad

by Jan Parkhill

PC-CONFIG is the ultimate shareware Systeminfo/Benchmark Program for MS-DOS. PC-CONFIG is a program which lists the components of your computer without your having to touch a single screw to look inside.

What can PC-CONFIG do that other programs do not?

- 1) Shows ISA, EISA, MCA, VLB and PCI Mainboards
- 2) Built-in CD-ROM benchmark
- 3) Identify C&T, G2, OPTI, ELITE, SIS, ETEQ, UMC, Forex Chip Sets
- 4) Identify 386 & 486 processor caches and their size (8-256 KB)
- 5) Tell a DX from a SX CPU, identify RapidCAD, Cyrix486, Pentium
- 6) Identify VGA- card manufacturer, chip-set and BIOS version.
- *7) Identify over 600 expansion cards in Microchannel (MCA) systems
- 8) Identify a variety of hard disk cache software
- 9) Show HI-DOS memory under DOS 5, 386MAX, QEMM386 and MOVE'EM
- 10) Find areas of memory of different speeds in the first megabyte and in extended memory
- 11) Test for hardware shadow-RAM for main and VGA BIOS.
- 12) Show the physical parameters of ESDI hard disks
- *13) Identify SCSI HD-controllers and their manufacturers
- 14) Establish the rotational speed of the hard disk
- *15) Display the name, cache size and controller version IDE hard disks
- *16) Identify the frame speed for VGA cards

* Registered Version only!

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS: IBM PC, XT, AT or compatible with minimum 280 KB free RAM. MS-DOS Ver. 2.0, better with Ver 3.0 or higher. CGA, MDA, EGA, VGA compatible graphics adapter.

The source of this disk is NTPCUG member **Jan Parkhill**.

This README prepared by John Puckette, edited by Gene Carleton.

Disk 1022. PACKTREE, 12/95 – MS-DOS Tree Command Enhancer, PACKTREE, May 1993, Jim Russell-Redman (NTPCUG), PFG Inc., 214-250-0118. Shareware Fee: $0 (no registration required)

PACKTREE is an extender for the MS-DOS utility, "TREE", which draws a tree of directories and subdirectories, showing the directory structure of the storage medium. By adding the parameter "/F", TREE will show the files in each directory and subdirectory. However, the files are listed one per line, requiring an excessive amount of paper.

PACKLIST reads the output from TREE, and packs the alpha-sorted file names several to a line. The program will ask for the number of columns on a page of the printer in use (up to 200, but usually 80, or 132 if condensed printing is used). The program reduces this limit to the next lower exact multiple of 5. A sample output with 80-columns specified might look something like that in the sample output at the bottom of this page.

GETTING STARTED:

First, execute the MS-DOS TREE command and write its output to a file named INTREE, as follows:

TREE /F C:\ INTREE

Then, execute

PACKTREE

PACKTREE will ask for the required limit of columns. Answer 80 initially. Output will go to a file named NUTREE, which you can edit further or print. If you have a very large number of directories/files, you will get a message that says "Need larger page limit". Just reduce the size of the INTREE file and PACKTREE will work just fine.

The source of this disk is the author.

This README prepared by John Puckette, *edited by* Gene Carleton

DOM DISKS ...Continued

Disk 1023. BETTER ALT-TAB, 2/95 – Windows Enhancement Utility, Toggles Boolean, PO BOX 4204, Sta. E, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1S 5BN, Internet: 71534.3255@compuserve.com. Shareware fee: $20.00

BETTER ALT-TAB improves on the method for changing from one program to another program that is already running under Windows 3.1. By default, pressing ALT-TAB will allow you to cycle between all the running applications. The main problem with Alt-Tab as you know it, is the speed with which you do your searching and how many times you run past the selection you want to make. BETTER ALT-TAB improves this situation by presenting a graphical method of displaying your ICONS and a de-

MS DOS TREE Sample output:

Directory PATH listing

Volume Serial Number is 12ED-201A

A:.

BRTHDAYS.FRG BRTHDAYS.FRM BRTHDAYS.FRO CATALOG.CAT
ROSTER.FRM ROSTER.FRO UNTITLED.CAT

PRNTFILE

CARS5.A06 APLCNT4.623 BRTHDAY5.624 BRTHDAY5.A06
ROSTER5.317 ROSTER5.613 ROSTER5.B07

PROGRAMS

LAPSCHEK.FRO NAMENADR.FRG NAMENADR.FRM NAMENADR.FRO
SUMMARY.FRM SUMMARY.FRO

Top Twenty DOM Disks

Want to know what's hot? These are the 20 most popular NTPCUG DOM Library disks - as of November 27, 1995.

1008 . . *VirusScan & VSheild 2.26E* (Possibly the . . . . . best virus finder)

980 . . . *Modem Doctor 5.2* (Make that rascal perform)

991 . . . *WALL $TREET, The Bottom Line 1.5*

990AB. *Netscape 1.10N*, Web browser (2 disk set)

984 . . . *WinZip 5.6* (Use zipped programs without . . . . . unzipping them)

986 . . . CTS Serial Port Utilities, 1.3

982 . . . *Tips for Using Windows for Workgroups 3.11*

978 . . . INTERNET Help Files

997 . . . ProComm Plus Upgrade

996 . . . ProComm Plus Bonus Disk

972 . . . *Professional Screen Capture Systems 1.02* . . . . . (Windows)

993 . . . Intel's AT Commands for Modens Online . . . . . Manual

979 . . . *HOT BUTTON for Windows*

969 . . . *WINFORMAT 1.0* (Windows Program . . . . . Uninstaller, Plus)

985 . . . *Duplicate File Locator 3.40*

987 . . . *AMIsetup 2.60* for working with your . . . . . CMOS setup

992 . . . *BLUE WAVE 2.12* Offline Mail Reader

958 . . . *Windows Bonus Pack* (FAQ and *.INI . . . . . guidance files, a must)

976 . . . *BLOCKER 1.01*

989 . . . *Boxer/DOS 7.0* text editor

ADA UPGRADE

Portable Upgrades

Introducing the AIRport™ 2000 kit, for quick, wireless infrared file transfer and synchronization between notebooks and desktop PCs. Now updating your files can be as easy as changing TV channels with a remote control.

For PCMCIA connectivity, the 16-bit SlimSCSI® kit is the best way to take advantage of the fastest portable peripheral connection—up to 2MB per second. It's complete with a 3 foot cable and Adaptec® EZ-SCSI™ software.

Upgrade your portable with up to seven SCSI peripherals via the parallel printer port with the MiniSCSI™ Plus kit. Or for data transfer rates of up to 1 MB/sec upgrade with the MiniSCSI EPP (Enhanced Parallel Port) adapter.

Desktop Upgrades

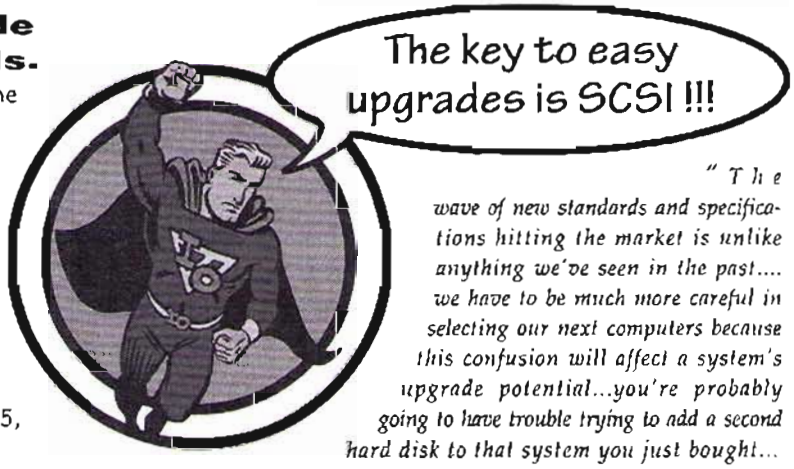
The Adaptec TotalConnect™ kit, with the AVA™-1515 host adapter, is an affordable solution for single users or small offices needing connection to a wide variety of SCSI peripherals—up to seven.

The TotalCD™ kit, with the AVA-1505 host adapter, is an affordable solution for users who simply want to upgrade to virtually any Fast SCSI-2 CD-ROM drive. For both internal and external CD-ROM drives.

The SCSI Direction™ kit with the AHA®-1522 SCSI host adapter connects up to seven SCSI-2 devices. Including audio, data and photo CD-ROM, removable media, magneto-optical, hard drives and scanners. All on one I/O slot.

SCSI delivers a wide range of peripherals.

For over a decade SCSI has been the performance I/O choice on the PC. And now it is becoming the easiest way to upgrade. With SCSI, adding peripherals is quick and easy. Just plug in the peripheral and install the related software. SCSI can support up to seven peripheral devices and is compatible with all current application software and DOS, Windows® 95, Windows NT™ or OS/2®.



"The wave of new standards and specifications hitting the market is unlike anything we've seen in the past.... we have to be much more careful in selecting our next computers because this confusion will affect a system's upgrade potential...you're probably going to have trouble trying to add a second hard disk to that system you just bought...

John C. Dvorak,

PRINTER | CD-ROM | MO | TAPE | SCANNER

To receive a general Adaptec product catalog by fax press "2", then press "2" again for an interactive fax product directory. © 1995 Adaptec, Inc. All rights reserved. Adaptec, the Adaptec logo, IOware, the IOware logo, AIRport, SlimSCS

PTEC REPORT 1996

Adaptec IOware PRODUCTS

Performance Upgrades

The SCSI Master™ kit, with the AHA-1542CP card, is the hero of all SCSI host adapters for virtually any ISA PC. It delivers high overall system performance for multitasking operating systems like Windows 95 and OS/2 Warp.

This Adaptec PCI SCSI Master™ has already improved the performance of over one million PCI/Pentium-based PCs. With our PhaseEngine® RISC processor you'll be reaching transfer rates faster than a speeding bullet.

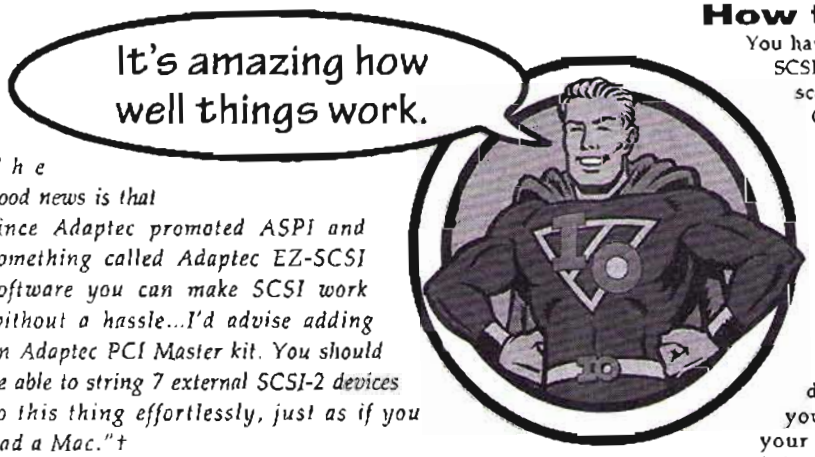
The PCI Ultra Wide SCSI Master™ kit is the fastest SCSI ever! Use it now for super fast PCI performance. And, when you upgrade to UltraSCSI peripherals, you'll be doubling the transfer rates and the bandwidth. For four times the I/O muscle.

Build a Better Server

The AHA-3940 card unleashes server I/O performance with PCI multichannel SCSI. With two I/O channels, data transfer burst rates can reach up to 133 MB/sec. Each channel is powered by its own PhaseEngine® RISC processor to optimize performance and response.

Now that you're leaping buildings in a single bound, you're ready for remote SCSI management. Adaptec CI/O™ software remotely monitors and manages SCSI peripherals from any Windows® desktop. So you can keep track of the server down the hall, or across the world.

Until now RAID 5 was too pricey for smaller sized LANs. That's why we introduced the AHA-3985 RAID adapter. Our unique design eliminates the need for the costly microprocessors and memory of conventional RAID controllers—without sacrificing performance.



T h e good news is that since Adaptec promoted ASPI and something called Adaptec EZ-SCSI software you can make SCSI work without a hassle...I'd advise adding an Adaptec PCI Master kit. You should be able to string 7 external SCSI-2 devices to this thing effortlessly, just as if you had a Mac."†

July 1995 PC Magazine

How to Buy:

You have a choice. So ask your dealer for a SCSI peripheral. Whether you're buying scanners, high-capacity hard drives, CD-ROM drives or tape drives. CD-recordables, magneto opticals, or removable media drives. External or internal. Make sure it's a SCSI peripheral.

To find out where to buy, for product information, or to find out more about SCSI, step into the nearest phone booth and call **1-800-804-8886 ext. 1839** now. For faxed information dial **1-408-945-2570***. Or perhaps you would prefer to read about your favorite super hero while you surf the net. To visit our home page type **http://www.adaptec.com**

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I/O. NOW MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER.

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DOM DISKS ...Continued

scription of what that icon represents. You may do the default alt-tab or use your mouse pointer to click the icon. Either way, you will find that you have far better control of the next icon or program you wish to select. You can even back up by using ALT-SHIFT-TAB if you desire.

You can see all your applications that are running at a glance making your decision far easier to make. This is ALT-TAB the way it should have been designed in the first place.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS:
Any 386 PC capable of running Windows 3.x or higher.

INSTALLATION:
Unzip the ZIP file into a directory named \ALTTAB, then run Windows FILE, RUN and put ALTTAB.EXE in the command line. Place the new ALTTAB icon in your Windows STARTUP Group so it runs each time you launch Windows.

Shareware downloaded and submitted by North Texas PC Users Group.

This README prepared by Jan Parkhill, *edited by* Willard Davis.

Disk 1024. PLUG-IN FOR WINDOWS 2.11, 5/94 – An enhancement utility for Windows, Planet Crafters (D. Mandell), PO BOX 450, Alpharetta, GA 30329, (404) 740-9821, Internet: 73040.334@compuserve.com, dmandell@aol.com. Shareware fee: $20.00 + $2.00 S&H

For this outstanding program, it might be best to list the many wonderful enhancements you will have to make Windows Program Manager (PM) more user friendly. I rather like the EXIT choices when you close Windows; you may Exit, Restart Windows or Reboot your Computer. How many times have you needed those choices when configuring Windows? Let me list some of the features of this excellent enhancement utility for Windows:

PM Enhancements: Nested groups & group management, customizable Group icons and PM titles, menus of all group items, save settings now button.

Custom Cursors: Change shape and size, enhance by bolding, sizing, cursor wrap at screen edge, reverse colors.

QuickRun Menu: Instant access to any application, install software command that searches all drives and CD-ROM.

Title Bar Display: Date, time, resources, stopwatch, fonts, color and style.

Alarms and Scheduler: Reminder of events with a pop-up dialog box, schedule programs to run while you are away from machine and sounds to remind you.

Sound: Talking clock, chimes and event sounds when you close, open, minimize or move applications.

Miscellaneous: Screen saver enhancements such as instant-on and never-on corners plus a short cut key. Plug-in has a central control panel accessed from the title bar where you make all your configurations in one place at one time...the way it should be done.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENT:
Any PC running Windows 3.1 or WFW 3.1.

INSTALLATION:
Unzip the file to a directory named \PLUGIN. From Windows, FILE, RUN, enter the path and SETUP.EXE.

Shareware downloaded and submitted by North Texas PC Users Group.

This README prepared by Jan Parkhill, *edited by* Willard Davis.

Disk 1025. MCP 1.50, 2/95 – Master Copy: The Better XCOPY Command, Mike Johnson, Box 1151, Longmont, CO 80502, 303-772-1773, Internet: m.p.johnson@ieee.org. Shareware fee: $25.00.

MCP (Master Copy) is an enhanced command line copying tool designed to improve the existing DOS XCOPY command. There are over 20 option switches one may use to further enhance what you may do with this command.

In the default setting for MCP, files which have the same date or newer will not be changed; only those with older dates will be overwritten. Of course, there are option switches to allow you to set your own style for copying files. MCP also allows you to move files, an improvement over the XCOPY command. It is also a quick way to implement disk mirroring style backups to multiple diskettes. The author points out the limitation here is that the files being copied or backed up must not exceed the diskette size and that a normal backup program would better serve your needs if rather large files need to be backed up.

This file is simple and has a help screen that is easily called by adding the /h or /help switch to the MCP command. You may store this file in your DOS directory for use at anytime you would normally use XCOPY.

More helpful to making backups and large moves, is that the program will create directories on the destination disk for you. You may direct the command to copy your empty directories as well.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS:
Any PC running DOS.

INSTALLATION:
Unzip the program files and place the MCP.EXE into your \DOS directory. The command syntax is: MCP source [destination] [switches].

Shareware downloaded and submitted by North Texas PC Users Group.

This README prepared by Jan Parkhill, *edited by* Willard Davis. 12/95

Disk 1026. IDE Identification, 1/93 – DOS Utility to Identify HD Parameters. Shareware fee: $ 0

IDE Identification is an older utility experiencing a comeback since this code was written in 1991. This is a simple to operate command that will reveal the following parameter information about your IDE hard drive:

Drive	x
Cylinders	xxx
Heads	xx
Sectors	xx
ECC bytes	xx
Model Nbr (example)	Maxtor 7345 AT
Firmware rev	8A5H3065
Serial Nbr	D50QWJPS

A good utility program is recognized for its utilitarian purpose and the simplicity of design. This IDE identification command easily qualifies as a worthy tool for your utility disk at any time.

Beginners and power users alike will find a need for this utility to keep your computer records up-to-date and accurate. All users need to know what the parameters of their hard drive are so changes and corrections can be made to the CMOS settings in the event of a battery failure, etc. This utility is an essential part of good computer housekeeping duties.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS: Any PC with an IDE hard drive installed.

INSTALLATION: Unzip the utility file to your \UTILS directory or diskette. Type ID.EXE at the DOS command line to read your hard drive parameters.

Shareware downloaded and submitted by North Texas PC Users Group.

This README prepared by Jan Parkhill, *edited by* Willard Davis.

Disk 1027. WINZIP FAQ, 5/95 – How To Use WinZIP and Other Questions, downloaded from the Internet, Ivan Hyslip (ivanh@iconz.co.nz), Auckland, New Zealand. Shareware Fee: $ 0

First of all, if you don't use WinZIP 5.x in your everyday life to handle .ZIP files, GET A LIFE! Life is too short to waste time working with .ZIP files without the help of WinZIP. This is the life blood of the DOM crew working with preparing new disks each month...It's a remarkable program and available as Disk #984, titled WinZIP 5.6.

Now that you have it, we are offering this new disk that addresses the most frequently asked questions (FAQ) regarding how to use the program.

The author has taken the time not only to compose this document, but he's included "snapshot" or print screen views (in color) to illustrate the various pulldown menus as he discusses them. WinZIP is many things to many people, depending on what you want to do with Zipped files. Most commonly, you want to open them to see what a program can do and WinZIP does that for you while allowing you to control storing information on your hard disk until you are ready to do so. In other words, you may "try before you buy" by peeking inside and actually operating a program before you "unZIP" the file permanently. This FAQ document covers the "how to" steps of running this excellent program.

If the DOM could strongly suggest a worthwhile program, it would be the WinZIP program; and this FAQ only enhances the user's understanding and allows one to reach new heights in utilizing that program in your day to day ZIP compression needs.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENT: Text file in Windows 3.x format for WRITE (.WRI file).

INSTALLATION: Unzip the utility file to your hard drive or diskette. Open Windows. Write and call the file for viewing or go to Windows File Manager and view the file.

Shareware downloaded and submitted by North Texas PC Users Group.

This README prepared by Jan Parkhill, *edited by* Willard Davis.

DOM DISKS ...Continued

The Corel Corner Ctd ...

Ctd. from page 11

Optimize Fountain Fills, will reduce the steps in objects that have too many. You can enable both simultaneously, if desired. This takes much of the rocket science out of creating smooth fountain fills. That's one of my favorite new things--what about yours? – Chris Dickman/CorelNET"-kazak.tor.hookup.net

Send CorelNET your mail to:comment@corelnet.com

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JoAnn Elliott

Inside the North Texas PC Users Group Community

Volunteers in Action

by Claude McClure

COMDEX Lorelei Calls:

Many of our members have professional reasons for attending the COMDEX Computer Show. This means they were unable to be at the monthly NTPCUG meeting during COMDEX. Those of us who stayed behind to tend the home fires can only dream of the new equipment and software debuting at the annual computer convention. Some volunteers filled in the positions normally served by our missing regulars. While there may not be a tee shirt from Las Vegas waiting for those valuable substitutes, we want to thank them and our many dependable leaders for their continual support.

Thanks to the Anchors and Shift Supervisors from the DOM, Information Desk, and Computer Marketplace who made sure their positions were staffed and service to our many members remained high. Thanks also to the SIG leaders who directed their groups as echoes of COMDEX promised new capability as yet unwrapped.

Thanks to all of the many members who work behind the scenes to put it all together on our monthly meeting date. Thanks to the many volunteers who are named on this page.

Infomart Liaison

Stuart Yarus

Vendor Setup/Breakdown

Anchors:
- David Slavik
- Kenneth Berg
- Ross Jones

Crew:
- Dick Abbot
- Larry Johnson
- Neal Van Pelt
- David Temple
- Wayne Washburn
- Larry Matzek

Auditorium Presentations

Timothy Carmichael
Chris Jung
Chris Carmichael

Information/Registration Booth

Statistician:
- Connie Andrews
- Ralph Beaver (Assistant)

Scheduler:
- Bob Wuller

Anchors:
- Deborah Bean
- James Boyce
- Albert Champon
- Eteta E. Eta
- Allan Harbaugh
- Hank Holt
- John Ivers
- Ned Keig
- Cinda Lovil
- David Martin
- Bob McNeil (Double)
- Foy J. Mills
- Anthony Nagy
- Paul Williams

Booth Crew:
- Chris Brooks
- Tim Foster
- James Gorak
- Jackie May
- Claude McClure
- Martin Moomaw
- Raymond Reyes

Walkabout:
- Linda Moore
- Perry Slack

Disk of the Month (DOM)

DOM Shift Supervisors:
- Joe Allen
- Roy Bales
- James Donlon
- M. Pat Henley
- Oscar Tyler

DOM Desk Crew:
- Michael Ashley
- Douglas Athas
- Bernie Baars
- Richard Blair
- Gene Carleton
- Mark Christopher
- William Farris
- Charles Fernandez
- Martin Gluck
- Mac McKeethen
- Jan Parkhill
- Bob Post
- George Read

With Special Thanks to:

Set Up Crew:
- Mark Gruner
- M. Pat Henley
- David Huckabee
- Jan Parkhill

Inventory and Take-down Crew:
- Richard Blair
- Mark Christopher
- Jan Parkhill

DOM Desk Scheduler:
- Philip Bridge

Disk Production:
- Gene Carleton

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) 681-4626 (w)

DOM Booth Scheduler
Phil Bridge ..... (214) 422-5400

DOM Software Review
Jan Parkhill ..... (214) 828-2216 (h)(w)

Information Booth and General Information
Claude McClure ..... (214) 867-0978 (h)

Selected SIG Reports . . .

News and meeting notes of Special Interest Groups

(Material for this column should be sent to NTPCUG BBS SIG Upload Area before the 10th day of each month)

Access SIG

At the January meeting, plan on a tutorial presentation by **Jack Atkinson**, Assistant SIG Leader and a favorite speaker, or another tutorial by **Larry Linson**. We'll also have a Questions, Answers, Tips, & Hints segment with participation by all attendees, and a drawing for (more or less) valuable prizes.

Larry has had a great many calls in December, seeking Access (and Visual Basic) developers for both contract assignments and permanent employment. If you want your name and number given out to such callers, you must sign the list at the meeting giving your permission.

Our goal is to cover subjects of interest to every level of Access user, from the person still deciding on a database to the experienced developer. We need speakers for future meetings on Access-related subjects, for any of these user populations. If you have good information, but could use some help in preparing your presentation, see any of the SIG leaders (Larry, Jack Atkinson, Dianna DeCicco, or Frank McCoy) and we'll try to help.

FROM THE SIG COORDINATOR

The following are changes/additions/needs that the NTPCUG has made to the SIG's.

SIG Name Changes:

— **Introduction to the PC** – *formerly* **Personal Users SIG**

New SIGs:

— ***Delphi*** – Fred Williams @ (214) 492-1315

New SIG Leaders:

— ***StarText*** – Bill Jones @ (214) 423-8486 h

— ***StarText*** – Chuck Menke @ (817) 496-6579

Groups Looking for Help in Leading their SIGs:

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

— **Networking** [Contact Bernie Van Roekel @ (817) 451-4540 h; (817) 461-4120 w]

— **Desktop Publishing** [Contact Deborah Bean @ (214) 475-7463 h 475-3124 w]

— **Visual Basic** [Contact Jim Carter @ (214) 235-5968 h]

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
Ken Brooks ..... (214) 238-5959 w
Bill Parker..... (214) 369-5889 h

Applications Developers (OLE & ODBC)
Larry Linson ..... (817) 481-2350 h
Linda Moore..... (214) 342-8833
Vince Prehn ..... (214) 880-0000
Dan Ogden..... (214) 556-0668 w

Assembly Language SIG
Glynn Brooks ..... (214) 578-8737 h

BASIC - Beginning
Chuck Jacobus ... (817) 379-6840 h
..... (817) 379-5287 w

BASIC - Classic

Brother's Keeper
Neil Sunderland .. (214) 272-2869 h

Business Applications/*DAC*
Putt Shaw..... (214) 235-2559 h
Bruce Schubert... (214) 394-5328 h
..... (214) 233-8353 w

C++/Advanced
Kent Cobb..... (214) 343-3862 h
Tom Cook..... (214) 871-8177 w

SIG

We'd especially be interested in observations on Access 7.0 for Windows 95, but many of us will continue to be using Access 2.0 for some time to come!

Between meetings, keep up with the group, and Access, on the NTPCUG electronic bulletin board system. The Internet "comp.databases.ms-access" newsgroup is back in operation and chock-full of good questions and answers. We also have our own local MS ACCESS message conference for questions, answers, announcements, and just keeping in touch. Check inside the back cover of this issue for the BBS telephone numbers.

We look forward to seeing you at the January meeting. Come join us!

Larry Linson

Application Developers (OLE and ODBC) SIG

We are hoping to have a guest speaker from a major software company at our January meeting on the subject of the enhanced OLE and ODBC capabilities of products in the new world of Windows 95/Windows NT. The alternative plan is for a free-for-all question and answer session.

We're looking for more presenters on the subject of early experience with Windows 95 and the "new generation" of applications, with emphasis on our chosen topics, OLE and ODBC (both improved in the new environment). If you've begun to work in these areas, won't you share your insights with us?

Come join us for the January meeting!

Larry Linson

Business Applications/ DAC SIG

If all goes well, **Bruce Schubert** will have given a demonstration of *QuickBooks*, at the December meeting. Those who were interested were encouraged to visit the QuickBooks SIG, which meets during the 2:00 pm time slot, where they will have an opportunity to meet with other QuickBooks users and check on their satisfaction with the software.

The Business Applications SIG will not meet during January's Users Group Saturday so that we can attend a presentation which should be of interest to our usual participants. The folks from Intuit Software will be giving NTPCUG a look at the Final Edition of *Turbo Tax* for the 1995 tax year. This will probably be the first opportunity to see the up-date which will be on the shelf and which will be shipped to those who purchased the "Pre-release" version.

We will be back in action in February and look forward to seeing you then.

Putt Shaw

Dallas Corel SIG

January 13 Meeting

Marsha Drebelbis will be the presenter at the January Dallas Corel meeting. First Marsha consults with the attorney, then

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C++/Beginning
Tom Cook ..... (214) 871-8177 w

CAD
Bill Sephton ..... (214) 296-1799 h
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Communications
Doug Gorrie ..... (214) 618-8002 h
..... (214) 464-7942 w
Birl Smith ..... (214) 960-8227 h
..... (214) 220-9388 w

Dallas Corel
JoAnn Elliott ..... (214) 231-5332 h
Marsha Drebelbis (214) 951-0266

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

Dataflex
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..... (214) 313-0408 w

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

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

Graphics
Neal Berkowitz .... (214) 475-7463 h
..... (214) 475-3124 w

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

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Health Care Computing/Informatics
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Internet–Beginner
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Doug Gorrie ..... (214) 618-8002 h
..... (214) 464-7942 w
Erik Leaseburg ... (817) 265-7550 hM

Internet–Advanced
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Doug Gorrie ..... (214) 618-8002 h
..... (214) 464-7942 w
Erik Leaseburg ... (817) 265-7550 hM

Introduction to the PC
(formerly Personal Users)
Alex Lilley ..... (214) 517-7430 h
..... (214) 527-0922 w
Bob Russell ..... (214) 422-4269 h

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

MS *Word for Windows*
Beverly Kurtin ..... (817) 355-9594 hM
Jan Patton ..... (903) 886-6249 h
..... (903) 886-6466 w
Bob Rice ..... (214) 885-0202 w

MS *Works*
Ralph Logan ..... (817) 498-9746 hM

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
Leroy Tennison
Francis Bright

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

SIG

designs and produces the visuals. Marsha works with lawyers to communicate a complex story quickly to a lay audience (the jurors etc.) with both visual and verbal means. She explains how people learn, visually and verbally, and uses visuals and verbal tools to get the point across to the audience.

Marsha provides the tools, primarily posters, which are easy to use. Types of information most commonly displayed are technical (scientific, medical) maps, numerical info, and timelines. She says that as an illustrator one must know all the tools available and give the client a product that works for them. Video and other media as well are at times appropriate. Output is large – 3 ft. x 4 ft. or 40 in. x 60 in.(5 ft.), mounted on a stiff backing, often laminated, sometimes magnetized, hinged, or with Velcro add-ons.

Marsha uses *Corel* Suite products for nearly every project she does. These are useful tips for any communications specialist, and adaptable to anyone working with an audience.

November Meeting in Review

Several things happened at the November meeting. First of all, **Gary Biggs** got us onto the Internet!!! For many it was the first time ever on the Superhighway. There is a peer group lurking out there on the Net that critiques the best of the best Web pages and the Communications with Parrots Homepage page Gary designed for Irene Pepperberg made the top 5 %!!!!. Quite a coup! Point Communications even sent a special Top 5% of the Web awards logo to add to the page! See it for yourself at: http://rampages.onramp.net/~perfect/pepperbg/index.html. Congratulations Gary!

Sharon Chandler showed us her tips for working with .GIFs to make them transparent.

Rocky Stonewall showed us examples of color coupons, easily created with many DRAW!5 effects on a "puny" PC and just 8 MB RAM. The difference between "Tiled Print" for signs and "Tiled Symbols" for designs was demonstrated. We were shown how to export placeable .EPS files with downloaded fonts for the Mac; handouts will be available.

Tips and Tricks

See the "Corel Corner" early in this issue for some CorelDRAW 6 tips.

JoAnn Elliott

Delphi SIG

The December presentation was done by yours truly. I did a stirring rendition (remember I'm writing this prior to the December meeting, so I know it is going to be great!) of how to install and use custom VCL components. We also gave away two demo copies of DFL's, LightLib, a custom VCL graphics manipulation component.

For the January meeting one of our long time members, and

SIG

consultant extraordinaire, **Terry Brantley**, will be giving a "how I do it", presentation on using *Crystal Reports* in place of that barking dog, *Reportsmith*. I spent about two hours stumbling around in RS before deciding to delay the report design and development part of my *Delphi* project until I could find a "real" report generator. I guess PDox's report function has me spoiled rotten.

I have used the version of Crystal Reports included with Visual dBASE and find it much, much more to my liking, so I am looking forward to Terry's presentation. I'm also going to order the full release of Crystal Reports real soon now. Crystal seems much less cumbersome and a whole lot "lighter" and quicker in both design and install. Of course we all have our favorites, but I do urge you to take a good look at Crystal Reports.

For the month of February, the plan is to have the second hour of my two-session "Introduction to Database Design" presentation which I do periodically. The first hour will be done in this month's Paradox SIG.

The last time I did the presentation it was for the Access SIG, which required two SIG meetings to complete. By doing the first hour in the Paradox SIG, and the second hour in the Delphi SIG it will be more convenient for those wishing to attend and will not soak up two consecutive SIG meeting slots in any one SIG.

For March, I would like to find someone to give a presentation on how they are packaging and delivering their custom Delphi application, preferably a database application. There has been much bantering about on the Internet Delphi News Groups on what a hassle delivering a Delphi-developed application is when it is intended for a remote user to do the install. I'm certain many would be interested in seeing how someone is addressing the delivery issue.

Meanwhile drop on by this month's meeting. Terry has a lot of design and development experience under his hat, and I am looking forward to the Crystal Reports thing. Hope to see you there.

Fred Williams

DOS SIG

Where to go with the DOS SIG? Several months back, I jokingly suggested changing the name of the DOS SIG to "HOPGEN SIG," mostly in response to several questions/incidents raised during recent SIG meetings.

Windows 3.1 and *Windows 95* have changed a lot of directions that seemed "sure" in our previous planning for the DOS SIG over the past two years. Even though we do get some questions about DOS "under" Windows, both Jim and I have been looking at and discussing during meetings aspects of the PC world far afield of what the name "DOS SIG" would suggest.

This is in spite of (or because) we've been trying to address DOS problems in the OS underneath Windows, particularly the importance of basic hardware and OS configuration on

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Tom Browning.....(214) 692-9784 h

Programmers
Kent Kingery.....(214) 317-0125 h
Jim Hoisington.....(214) 416-3101 h

QuickBooks
Jim Thompson.....(817) 261-6159 h
.....(214) 953-0051 w

Quicken
W. L. Harris.....(214) 291-7616 h
.....(214) 462-3676 w
Phil Faulkner.....(214) 239-0561 h
.....(214) 819-4446 w

Spreadsheet/Spre.Dev
Mark Gruner.....(214) 964-8174 h
.....(214) 605-8447 w
Adam Peterson.....(214) 682-0725 h
.....(214) 864-2760 w

***StarText* SIG**
Bill Jones.....(214) 423-8486 h
Chuck Mencke.....(817) 496-6579 h

UNIX
Jim Stallworth.....(214) 789-3783 h
.....(214) 604-2226 w
Doug Scott.....(817) 261-4653 hM
.....(817) 878-0367 wM

Visual Basic — Beginning
Jim Carter.....(214) 235-5968 h

Visual Basic
Jim Carter.....(214) 235-5968 h

***Windows* - Applications**
Neal Berkowitz.....(214) 475-7463 h
.....(214) 475-3124 w
Deborah Bean.....(214) 475-7463 h
.....(214) 475-3124 w

***Windows* - Developers**
Art English.....(214) 618-1266 h
.....(214) 232-3310 w

***WordPerfect* / DOS**
Dawn Hopkins.....(214) 613-8815 h
.....(214) 740-8085 w

***WordPerfect* / Windows**
Cindy Adams.....(817) 481-1300 wM

the day-to-day operation of the PC. Yet, there's also a "HARDWARE SIG" and a "WINDOWS SIG" under the NTPCUG umbrella that also address these issues. Is what we do a repetition of these SIGs and therefore redundant?

I don't know, but both Jim Hoisington and I agree we're open to members' suggestions for direction of DOS SIG efforts.

Cyrix on the other hand...

I've had number of interesting "Cyrix experiences" in the last two months — and a number of interesting conversations with Michelle Moody, Cyrix' Worldwide PR Manager, about the Cyrix 5x86 and 6x86 CPU's you've probably seen at vendors in the Infomart basement "Computer Marketplace." We'll have another combined SIG meeting with the HARDWARE SIG hosted by Cyrix to discuss advantages of the new Cyrix CPU chips, upgrade details and a listing of motherboards that support (well) the new CPU's.

Reagan Andrews

Internet SIG - Advanced

As we go to press, the topic for the January meeting has not yet been determined. We try to choose topics that represent the interests of the more advanced Internet users, and are always interested in your ideas. If you have a topic in mind, and especially if you have a presenter for it, let us know.

See you January 13th !

Doug Gorrie & Tom O'Keefe

SIG

Internet SIG - Beginning

At our December 16th meeting, **Lana Bryan** of TeacherSoft arranged a presentation on *InterGO*. InterGO is the first product to seamlessly integrate browsing, searching, e-mail, file transfer, virus scanning, *and screening for objectionable material*. Also included with InterGO is a wealth of reference material--an encyclopedia, dictionary, thesaurus, atlas, Internet guide, and hyperlinked literary library.

As we go to press, the topic for the January meeting has not yet been determined. We try to choose topics that are of interest to beginning Internet users, and are always interested in your ideas. If you have a topic in mind, and especially if you have a presenter for it, let us know.

See you January 13th !

Doug Gorrie, Tom O'Keefe & Eric Leaseburg

Internet - WEBmasters

In December, new SIG Leaders **Mark Camp** and **David Maxwell** held an organizational meeting to establish an advanced Web page developers SIG, now known as WEBmasters. Web development is a hot topic right now, and the initial interest suggests that this SIG can really take off!

As we go to press, we expect the SIG to meet monthly at 8:00 AM, but we strongly encourage you to examine the overhead displays near the Infomart elevators to confirm the time and room.

Come join us on January 13th!

Doug Gorrie, Mark Camp and David Maxwell

Introduction to the PC SIG

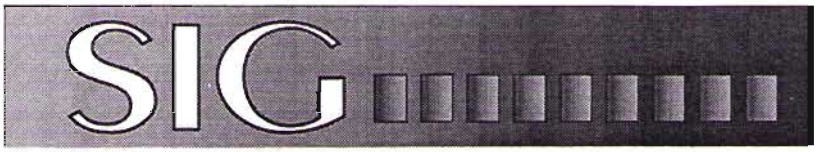
The following is the tentative schedule for SIG classes that will be offered as an Introduction to the PC during the next four months. Classes can be taken in any order suitable to the individual student's schedule. Printed notes are provided during classes.

January 13, 1996

- 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

February 10, 1996

- 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)



March, 1996*

- 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

April 20, 1995*

- 9:00 Class 1
  Introduction to the 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.

Alex Lilley

Paradox SIG

If you made the December SIG and saw my rescheduled presentation, originally intended for November, you will have learned how I trim up the Paradox environment so as to protect my programs and the poor user from himself. There are some very basic steps you can take each time you start up an application that will "clean up" the display and turn off access to many unnecessarily, and downright dangerous, Paradox interactive functions. I am certain in my November absence **Tom Browning** did one of his dependable and entertaining presentations.

This month we will once again be seeing Tom present yet another interesting and informative presentation, the subject of which is yet to be announced. As soon as is practical, maybe even this month, we will be scheduling a presentation of Paradox 7.0. As soon as **Jeff Hopper**, of Borland fame, has it in hand, I hope to have him swing by for a full frontal, gee whiz, ain't it gonn'a be great, roll out demo of 7.0. So don't miss a meeting.

In February (Wow! *Two* months in advance planning!) Tom and I have decided it is about time for my "Introduction To Database Design" presentation, once again. Last time I did it in two monthly Access SIG presentations. This time we are planning on doing the first hour in the Paradox SIG, and the second hour in the new Delphi SIG. That should be a little more convenient for those interested in attending, and will not soak up two months of presentation time in any one SIG.

So drop on by the Paradox SIG this time, or you just might miss the premiere showing of PDox 7.0.

Fred Williams

Pro SIG

The topic for the month was 7 level baudot paper tape code and how to correct miss-punched tapes. A few really old programmers still had the little white stickies to cover holes in cards but the square card patches did not cover the round holes in the paper tape. **Stuart Yarus** saved the day with a pair of scissors and some patch tape that had all the holes punched.

Join us in January when we pass out Crayolas and coloring books and we see if really advanced programmers can color within the lines.

Jim Hoisington

Spreadsheet SIG

Attention Spreadsheet SIG and Spreadsheet Developers SIG attendees. Beginning with the January meeting, the two SIGs are combining into a single SIG meeting at 11:00. This change was needed because I was often discussing the same topics in both SIGs and it appeared that attendance was down. For all of you faithful 1:00 SIG attendees, you can now attend another SIG, the auditorium presentation, or the vendor area. At the January meeting, I will try to compare the database capabilities of *1-2-3* and *Excel*. As always, the Spreadsheet SIG takes time at the beginning of each meeting to answer questions that users have on spreadsheets. If you have a question about or problem with your spreadsheet program, come on by in January.

Mark Gruner

Visual Basic SIG - Beginning

The January 13 meeting of the Beginning Visual Basic SIG will continue discussions of reusable code started last month. This month we will look at more examples of reusable code and how it can be utilized.

For background reading on reusable code, see the October issue

of *VB Tech Journal* articles by Tony Kyle and Edward Troxel.

The February 10 meeting of the Beginning Visual Basic SIG will be "For Beginners Only" and 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. who would like to see what Visual Basic is about, bring them to this meeting.

SIG

Bring your questions on Beginning Visual Basic to our meeting beginning at 8:00 AM on Saturday, January 13, 1996. Check the Infomart lobby screens for the correct room assignment.

Jim Carter

Visual Basic SIG

The January 13th meeting of the Visual Basic SIG will feature a Q&A session pending the selection of a new SIG leader.

I invite any member of the SIG to present a program at the Visual Basic SIG meeting. If you have a topic you would like to discuss, contact me to make arrangements.

The Visual Basic SIG will meet at 9:00 AM on Saturday, January 13, 1996. Members with any sort of questions about Visual Basic are invited to bring the questions to the meeting for discussion. Check the screens in the Infomart lobby for room assignment.

Jim Carter

WordPerfect/Windows

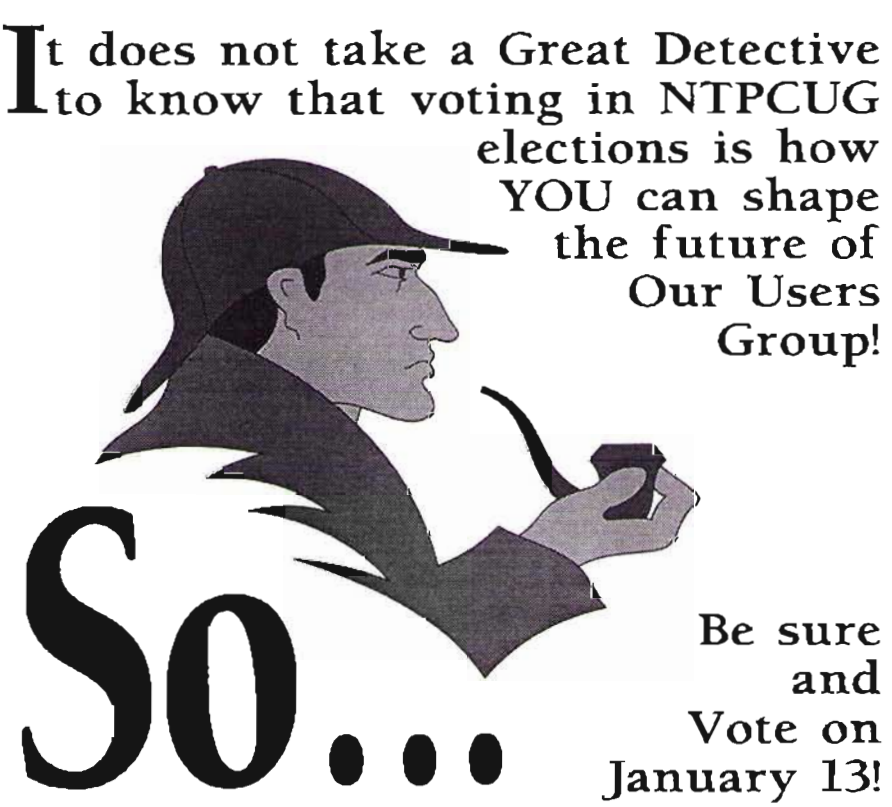
I hope everyone has recuperated from the holidays and is ready to do some learning! This month we are going to create a Table of Contents, an Index and generate them both! Whether for a school report or the year-end business report about why you need a million dollars next year for more software, you will need a Table of Contents at the beginning of your document. Indexes are used at the end of document for quick and easy reference (i.e., a cookbook). After you have created the look you want for your Table of Contents and Index, you have to generate your information. Your final product will be just like any other book you have ever read.

Quick Tip

Does printing seem to take forever? Speed up printing by changing your print options to PRINT GRAPHICALLY. Graphics take less memory than fonts! How you do this is choose *File _ Print _ Options _* and in the bottom left-hand corner, mark the check box () to Print Document Graphically and choose OK!

See ya!

Cindy Adams



NTPCUG — On-Line

by Fred Williams
SYSOP, NTPCUG BBS

UUCP Feed Back & *Evil* FTP I-Mail Banished From BBS Forever!

I am happy, and much relieved, to announce the official reestablishment of the Internet UUCP feed! **Doug Gorrie**, Co-Sysop, and Onramp's, **Eric Schnoebelen**, have completed their excellent work, and we are now back in a feed monitoring mode. How sweet it is!

Doug's stepping up to the plate is an example of what a great organization the North Texas PC Users Group can be, when individuals are willing to do more than their share for the good of the group. Doug is always there and doing his part, plus some. Thanks again Doug.

Skunk Works?

I have finally completed work on a BBS "skunk works" project of mine. I hope by the time this is published, we will have the first "NTPCUG BBS" users' diskette on sale. For availability and additional information, inquire at the NTPCUG Disk of the Month booth of the Computer Marketplace, located in the Infomart basement on User Group Saturday.

The BBS user's disk is a slightly customized version of that pretty impressive DOS-based communications utility with the silly name, "*Banana Com*". Banana Com is shareware published by Montana Banana Programming.

Licensing First

By the time you are able to purchase the BBS diskette we should have completed the proper licensing, which allows no additional cost distribution. Once licensing is in place, Banana Com upgrades will be available from the DOM as soon as they are received from Montana Banana and can be packaged for distribution.

Banana Com self-configures during installation. This makes Banana Com a very appealing little product for the first-time modem user. The user does not have to know anything about his system's communication ports or modem. Banana Com is smart enough to go out and find what is where, and do the proper installation. The first thing the user sees is the dialing directory, when he starts up Banana Com each time.

The BBS diskette not only contains a customized copy of Banana Com, but also contains a special "Readme" menu and text file help system. The Readme system provides additional information related to first time and continuing use of our NTPCUG BBS. The diskette is designed such that a user can keep it in his disk library for later reference to the information contained in the Readme documentation.

First Time Ever

I know that modems and online communication is a very intriguing and appealing aspect of computer usage for most users of computers. I still remember my first ever BBS sessions connecting at 300 baud to the Apple Corp's BBS, DalTRUG BBS, Heath Kit BBS, and a handful of other old timer BBS's. That was long before **Jim Hoisington**, **Tom Prickett**, and a couple of others, launched the NTPCUG BBS.

Now with the Internet tidal wave, everyone is jumping on the communications bandwagon. One of the best places to take those first learning steps is on a local BBS, and for our members, what better BBS than our own NTPCUG BBS? So snag a copy of our new NTPCUG BBS Banana Com diskette from **Jan Parkhill's** disk of the month gang, and we will soon see you online.

Fred Williams

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.

SUBJECT	HELPER	PHONE	DAYS	HOURS
Access				
	Larry Linson	(817)481-2350	M-Sa	1300-1500
Assembly Language				
	Frank Cavallito	(214)423-9221	7	1800-2200
	Glynn Brooks	(214)578-8737	M-F	1700-2200
BASIC				
	Mike Firth	(214)827-7734	7	0800-2200
Beginner Problems				
	Jan Parkhill	(214)828-2216	M-Sa	0900-1700
	Shirley Hudgens	(214)352-2800	7	0900-2000
Brother's Keeper				
	Neil Sunderland	(214)272-2869	7	0900-2200
C++ (the language)				
	Bob Adams	(214)328-1455	M-Sa	0900-1900
	Howard Harkness	(817)267-6227	7	1000-2100
	Doug Cochran	(214)578-9258	T&T	1800-2030
CorelDraw				
	Linda Hume	(817)472-7555	M-F	1900-2200
			S-S	1300-2200
Batch Files				
	Charles Miller	(903)938-4220(*)	7	1900-2400
Borland C++				
	Bob Adams	(214)328-1455	M-Sa	0900-1900
	Howard Harkness	(817)267-6227	7	1000-2100
Comm Software				
	Doug Gorrie	(214) 464-7942	M-F	0800-1700
		(214) 618-8002	S-S	1000-1900
CompuServe				
	Bob Adams	(214)328-1455	M-Sa	0900-1900
dBASE III, III+, IV & Windows				
	Ted Gillam	(214)964-7923	7	0800-1700
Delphi (Borland)				
	Howard Harkness	(817)267-6227	7	1000-2100
DOS				
	Bob Russell	(214)422-4269	7	1900-2200
	Erik Leaseburg	(817)265-7550(m)	7	2000-2200

SUBJECT	HELPER	PHONE	DAYS	HOURS
DR DOS				
	Ralph Beaver	(817)336-0570	M-F	0800-1700
		(817)624-9530	SS	0900-2100
Hardware Help				
	Charles Miller	(903)938-4220(*)	7	1900-2400
Internet - General				
	Erik Leaseburg	(817)265-7550(m)	7	2000-2200
	David Martin	(214)717-0523	M-F	1900-2200
Internet - Telnet, FTP, NetScape, Web Explorer (OS/2)				
	Bob Wilson	(214)517-1434	M-F	1900-2200
			S-S	1000-2200
LANs — Novell				
	Joseph Beasley	(214)225-8752	7	0800-2400
— Lantastic				
	Joseph Beasley	(214)410-3818	7	0900-2200
Managing Your Money				
	Glynn Brooks	(214)578-8737	M-F	1700-2200
Modems				
	Erik Leaseburg	(817)265-7550(m)	7	2000-2200
MathCAD				
	Bob Adams	(214)328-1455	M-Sa	0900-1900
OS/2				
	Larry Truesdale	(214)442-7074	7	1000-2200
PC Tools/Win				
	Glynn Brooks	(214)578-8737	M-F	1700-2200
Paradox				
	Fred Williams	(214)492-1315	7	1300-2100
PKzip/PKUNzip				
	Erik Leaseburg	(817)265-7550(m)	7	2000-2200
ProComm/ProComm+				
	Doug Gorrie	(214) 464-7942	M-F	0800-1700
		(214) 618-8002	S-S	1000-1900
	Bill Green	(817) 731-1308		

SUBJECT	HELPER	PHONE	DAYS	HOURS
	Joseph Beasley	(214)225-8752	7	0800-2400
	Joseph Beasley	(214)410-3818	7	0900-2200
***Publisher* (Microsoft)**				
	Bob Russell	(214)422-4269	7	1900-2200
	Pat Cote	(214)522-1717 x266	M-F	0800-1700
		(214)424-1738	7	1000-2200
Quicken				
	Billy Pitts	(817)430-8148	7	1830-2100
	Jim Hall	(214)348-7848	7	1000-2100
Quickbooks				
	Jim Thompson	(214)953-0051	M-F	0800-1800
SPFPC				
	Doug Gorrie	(214) 464-7942	M-F	0800-1700
		(214) 618-8002	S-S	1000-1900
TurboVision				
	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

LEGEND:

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

NTPCUG User – To – User Program

Visual Basic -			
Jim Carter	(214)235-5968	7	1700-2130
L.J. Johnson	(214)495-9067	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
Bob Russell	(214)422-4269	7	1900-2200
Word for Windows			
Bob Russell	(214)422-4269	7	1900-2200
WordPerfect 6.x /Win			
Georgene Harkness	(817)267-6227	7	1000-2100
***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 Doug Gorrie at (214)464-7924 M-F 0800-1700 or Sa & Su 1000-1900 at (214)618-8002. Doug will send you a form on which you can list your qualifications and sign.

Areas Needing Helpers:

Borland Turbo C
CAD
Dataflex
Desktop Publishing
Easy Text
First Choice
First Publisher
Fox Pro
Harvard Graphics
LapLink
Money Counts
Microsoft C
Microsoft C++
Microsoft Visual C++
Microsoft Word
MKS products
Norton Utilities
PAF
Pagemaker
Q & A
Roots
Smart Notes
Sound Blaster
Stacker
TurboTax
Corel Ventura
XTree

North Texas PC Users Group, Inc.

Membership Application

The NTPCUG is as 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 Classification:	Application Status:
Cash _____	Regular ($24.00) ___	New Member ___
Check _____	Student ($16.00 ___	Renewal _____
Credit Card ___		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

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 PC USERS GROUP
Officers and People 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 Officers

President	Andy Oliver	(214) 462-1896 h
President-Elect	(To be decided)	
		(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	JoAnn Elliott	(214) 231-5332
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
Fred Williams — Timothy Carmichael

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

Address Correction Requested

Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Arlington, TX
Permit No. 823

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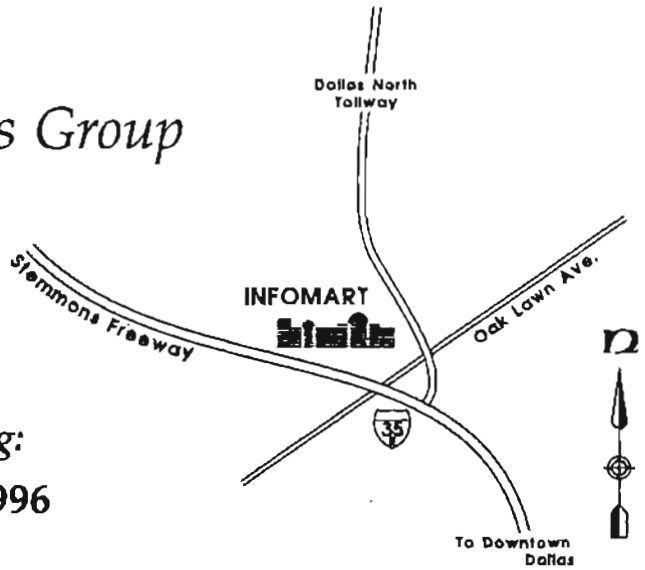
[redacted]

North Texas PC Users Group



Next Meeting:

13 January 1996