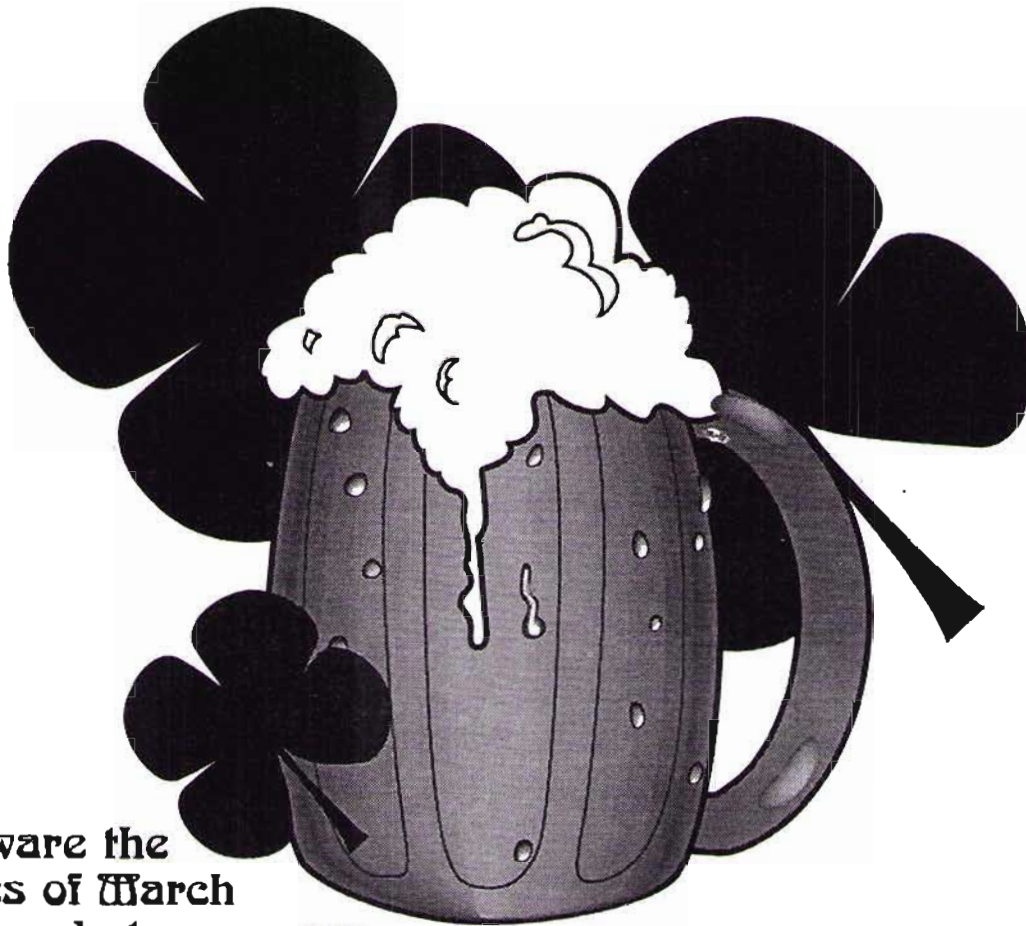


North Texas  NEWS

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*North Texas PC Users Group, Inc.*



**Beware the  
Ides of March  
... and strange men  
offering mugs of Green RoofBeer**

*March, 1996*  
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 3



# 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 2,475 last month. Member distribution was 2,123; remaining copies were distributed to PC user groups around the country, and to advertisers, prospective members and others with common interests.

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**DEADLINE**  
Copy deadline for April  
North Texas PC NEWS:  
Sunday, March 10th

**Meeting Dates:**  
March 9, 1996 - 2nd Saturday  
April 20, 1996 - 3rd Saturday  
May 18, 1996 - 3rd Saturday



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## North Texas PC News

### Advertising Prices and Policies

Ad Size	1X	3X	6X	12X
2-Page Spread . . . . .	\$400 . . . . .	\$325 . . . . .		
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**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.

9:00 AM - 9:55 AM

**Merriam-Webster's  
Collegiate Dictionary, Deluxe Electronic Edition**  
Merriam-Webster Inc.

*Alicia Di Leo, Publicity and Marketing Coordinator,  
and Brett Palmer, Editor*

Which field has put more words into the dictionary: computers, baseball, or medicine? How many words first appeared in print the year you were born? What's a 7-letter word that starts with I and means 'opposite'? These answers would be nearly impossible to research using a print dictionary. Merriam-Webster will show you how you can quickly and easily find answers to those questions and many

more with Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, Deluxe Electronic Edition on CD-ROM. This dictionary and thesaurus has advanced search options to allow word lookup by pronunciation, date of first use, or by the definition itself. Learn how to explore and discover language in a whole new way. There will be a drawing for free products. \*

10:00 AM - 10:55 AM

**Network Security,  
Firewalls and Windows NT**  
Raptor Systems Inc.

*Dale Lancaster, Regional Systems Engineer*

This presentation will overview the various attacks against network security, how firewalls are used to counter those attacks and an overview of Raptor's new firewall technology based on the Windows NT operating system. Dale is an expert in computer and network security technologies and issues related to Raptor's line of network security software. He started his computing career and was introduced to the issues of security as an employee of the National Security Agency. There will be a drawing for free products. \*

11:00 AM - 11:30 AM

**NTPCUG Business Meeting**

1:00 PM - 1:55 PM **Imagineer Technical -- The Electronic Napkin**

Intergraph Corporation

*Tony Wood, Mechanical Software Sales*

Imagineer, Intergraph's precision sketch tool is OLE enabled and WEB enabled providing a very powerful "Electronic Napkin" and viewing tool for users in any industry. Imagineer Technical (tm) is a low-cost 2D drawing and concept design tool, created expressly for engineers, designers, architects, scientists, inventors, and technicians. Designed for Windows 95 and Windows NT, this affordable software bridges the gap between complicated traditional CAD programs and simple drawing packages to bring you a powerful, 32-bit tool that can be used throughout the technical office. There will be a drawing for free products. \*

**NTPCUG PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS . . .**  
*TIMOTHY CARMICHAEL*

**MARCH**

**SIGs NTPCUG SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP MEETING SCHEDULE**

**8:00 - 8:55**  
Internet - WEB Developers  
Microsoft Networking  
Visual BASIC - Beginning  
MultiMedia

**8:00 - 9:55**  
Hardware Solutions

**9:00 - 9:55**  
DOS  
Emerging Technologies  
General Genealogy  
Internet-Advanced  
SQL Server  
Introduction to the PC  
Quicken  
StarText  
Visual BASIC  
Windows Applications  
WordPerfect/DOS

**9:00 - 10:55**  
Dallas Corel

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

**11:00 - 11:55**  
Assembly Language  
Brother's Keeper  
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  
ACTI

**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.

## Windows NT 4.0 Workstation Microsoft attracts 700+ at February Demonstration

The February 10th turnout for Microsoft's World Tour of NT 4.0 Workstation reminded me of the DOS 6.0 roll-out. Over 700 people showed up, thanks to Microsoft posting the announcement on their Internet Web Site. Since the seating capacity of the auditorium is only 514, this made for a standing room, sitting room, and general get friendly presentation.

Thanks go to **Timothy Carmichael** for the time spent in setting this up. I want to especially thank our Microsoft Networking SIG Leader extraordinaire and MS employee, **Debbie Lenhart**, for the presentation. Microsoft truly has an asset in Debbie. Rumor is that Debbie will repeat the presentation in her SIG this month, but you have to be here at 8:00am.

### BETA, BETA & MORE BETA

Many people signed up to be 4.0 beta testers at the February meeting. For the person who was upset about not getting a form for the beta, I apologize, but we (NTPCUG) had no control over the number of forms available, nor of the number of people who showed up.

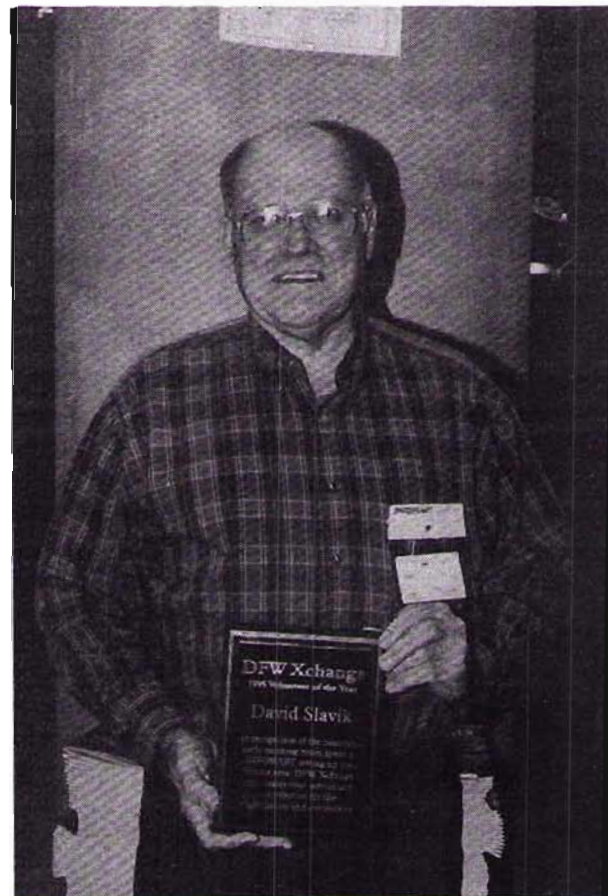
For the person who joined because he was told that you had to be a member of the NTPCUG in order to be eligible for the drawing, only to see that when 700 people showed up for tickets, we were handing them to everyone, and then demanding his membership money back, GET A LIFE.



It is \$24 a year, and the benefits are worth much more than the dues. This newsletter alone is worth millions in helpful information every month, and you get twelve of them.

### The Information Booth

The volunteers at the Info Booth are to be commended for their patience and professionalism. They were not forewarned about the expected



David Slavik, NTPCUG member and long-time volunteer was honored at the January Meeting when he was awarded this plaque by the DFW Xchange Corp. for his outstanding efforts.

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“Delphi is the summation of everything the software development industry has learned during the first decade of the Windows era.”

—Windows Tech Journal  
December 1, 1995

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DELPHI FACTS			
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OLE Automation and OCX support	✓	—	✓
Fully scalable client/server architecture	✓	✓	—
Fast learning curve for increased productivity	✓	—	✓
More than 100 reusable components	✓	—	—
High performance Visual Form Inheritance	✓	—	—
Object Repository for forms and Data Modules	✓	—	—
Scalable Data Dictionary	✓	—	—



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Computer City  
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Programmers Paradise  
1-800-445-7899

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## *Dust:* A Tale of the Wired West

CyberFlix, Inc.

4 Market Square, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902  
Retail Price \$79.95, Street price \$45.00 or less  
Available for the MAC as well as the PC

*Chris Carmichael*

It is the year 1882 and you are a stranger who just lost almost everything you had in a poker game to The Kid and then find out that he is cheating. You barely make it out alive, then you run out into the desert; soon you stumble into a small town in New Mexico called Diamond Back. While carrying only five dollars, you go through the town, talk to people and collect things.

The object of the game is to save a native woman's heritage by solving the mystery in the old St. Francis mission. But you only have five days to solve the mystery in the mission. To do this you have to talk to people, collect things, and trade the things you pick up for information to find out how to solve it. You have to collect things for time to go by.

Also when you get tired of looking for things you can always go and play Checkers in the

turnout for the auditorium presentation, and I understand that they handled the crowds quite well.

I heard that in order to work a one hour shift at the Information Booth you have to know the answer to three questions: (1) Where is the auditorium? (2) Where is the bathroom? and (3) What is going on at Market Hall?

Remember to volunteer for one hour. We promise to teach you the answers.

### **The DFW Xchange Corporation**

The DFWX Corp. runs the vendor area in the basement of Infomart on meeting Saturdays,

*Andy Oliver*  
**PREZ SEZ . . . Ctd.**



Bottler store and Poker, Blackjack, and Slots in the saloon. The games in the saloon cost money to play and if you win, sometimes you can win a lot of money, then you can put it in the bank. There is a target range to improve your shooting because you will need to use a gun later on in the game. This game is much like the hit game *Myst* in that you can set your own pace. Everything you see in the game is created with well-done computer graphics.

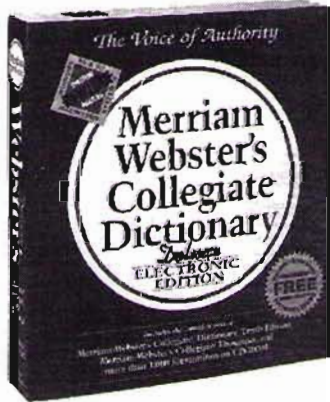
schedules the upstairs meeting rooms with Infomart, oversees the rental of audio-visual equipment for the users groups, and negotiates the contract for meeting space. The North Texas PC Users Group owes a debt of gratitude to our volunteers who also serve on the DFWX Board, **Stuart Yarus**, President, **Jim Hoisington**, *Evil Vice President*, **Alex Lilley**, Meeting Coordinator, and **Mark Gruner**, Treasurer. Also, thank you to the Apple Corps of Dallas volunteers who fill out the DFWX board, and the volunteers who show up each month to help with setup and teardown.

Keep your eyes out for NTPCUG and DFWX Web Pages coming to an Internet near you.

*Andy*

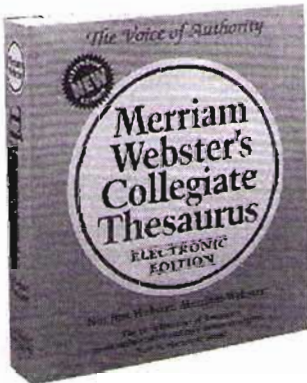
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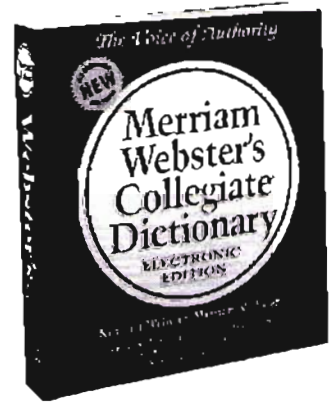


### Merriam-Webster's Collegiate® Thesaurus

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## Beginners Guide to the Internet

by Erik Leaseburg ([erik@metronet.com](mailto:erik@metronet.com))

Are you tired of feeling like all the roads leading to the Information Superhighway are closed to you? Have you wondered why all the roadmaps to the Net seem to be written in Swahili? If these questions have crossed your mind while search for access to the Internet, then this article is just for you. You'll learn about the hardware you need, the Internet vocabulary with which to be familiar, the easiest to use Internet starter kits and books, and the methods for keeping up with the ever-changing online world. So fasten your seat belts, because getting on the InfoBahn can be a little rough. I'll do my best in this article to smooth out the ride.

---

### DUST -- REVIEW ... Ctd.

Dust runs best on a double-speed or faster CD-ROM with 300 kb/sec or better transfer rate. But it will run on at least 265 kb/sec. On slower machines it will not be as quick responding and as smooth. This game works on Windows: it will work on Win3.1, Win95, and Windows NT 3.51 with a 486 or faster processor with 8 MEG of RAM. DUST also requires SVGA with 256 colors, and a sound card.

This game is equipped with extremely good graphics, sound, and a plot. This is a very good mystery! You can explore the town and sometimes the people you talk to have very funny things to say. Also the characters are life-like and they respond differently to different questions. Luckily, there is always help in the Curiosity Shop when you need it and every day there is a sale. This is a great game if you want to play a game that is slow and not full of fast

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# BEGINNER'S INTERNET Guide



### Information Superhighway Equipment

A major hurdle for many future Internet surfers to overcome is having the right computer system. The following list gives the typical minimum requirements and optional hardware your PC should be equipped with before you venture out onto the Information Superhighway. Making sure your system meets or exceeds these requirements will help you avoid a big pothole found on the Information onramp.

#### Minimum Requirements

386 PC Compatible  
MS DOS 5.0  
MS Windows or Workgroup 3.1  
3.5" Floppy Drive  
4MB of RAM  
9600 Baud Modem

---

action. The only bad thing about this game is that it is slow to respond to commands with a slower CD-ROM drive.

So, in summary this is a great game.

*Chris Carmichael*

[Editor's Note: Christopher (Chris) Carmichael and his father, Timothy, have been members of the NTPCUG for many years. A lot of our members know Chris as the young man handing out tickets and assisting with vendor drawings at the auditorium presentations along side Chris Jung. It's a pleasure to print Chris' software review this month.]



Standard Analog Phone Line  
4MB Free on Hardrive

**Optional Hardware**

VGA/SVGA Monitor and Graphic Card  
CD-ROM Drive  
8-Bit Sound Blaster Compatible Sound Card

If you don't have Windows and can't afford to upgrade your computer system but still want to get on the Internet, see the book list later in this article for *The PC Internet Tour Guide*. With this book, enclosed software, and some extra work a DOS user can still enjoy many of the Internet resources. Remember that the Internet was around long before Microsoft introduced Windows.

**Internet Lingo**

If you want to connect to and use the Internet with some amount of style and grace, a general understanding of the vocabulary is a necessity. The *Internet* is the largest computer network in the history of mankind, connecting millions of people into an exciting new international cul-

# BEGINNER'S INTERNET Guide

ture. Computers on the Internet can share information because they all use the same protocol, *TCP/IP*. Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol is the basic communication protocol that forms the foundation of the Internet. All other protocols (FTP, Gopher, HTTP, explained later) are built on top of TCP/IP. To connect to the Internet you must install software on your PC which translates TCP/IP to commands your computer can understand. There are two relatively identical software protocols which perform this job, *SLIP* - Serial Line Internet Protocol and *PPP* - Point-to-Point Protocol. If you have a choice, pick PPP since it is a newer protocol offering a more robust connection.

So who do you call to establish an Internet connection? That would be your friendly neighborhood Internet Service Provider (*ISP*). An *ISP* is a company which sells you a connection to the Internet. If you wish to connect an entire company to the Internet, you will probably want to pay extra for a dedicated connection, a telephone connection that stays open 24 hours a day. However, individual Internet users usually opt for the cheaper dial-up connection. The DFW area has several top *ISPs* with (214) and/or (817) access phone numbers (e.g., NetCom, IBM, Texas Metronet, Onramp, PSI, and more). The process of dialing your *ISP* and establishing an Internet connection is very similar to dialing up any BBS.

Our computer is now connected to the Internet, in theory, but nothing magic seems to be happening. If I may speak metaphorically again, at this point we've found an onramp connecting to the information superhighway (established a

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# BEGINNER'S INTERNET Guide




connection to the Internet), but we need to start the car (run specialized Internet software applications on our computer) before we can meet friendly people (E-mail or talk live with people via keyboard or voice!), visit great places (Telnet or connect to a Web, Gopher, FTP, or Usenet News site), and take home some cool souvenirs (download free software, news articles, pictures, movies, songs). Keep in mind that there are many different makes and models of each Internet software utility for your computer as I describe them below.

A World Wide Web (WWW or Web) browser is the most powerful utility vehicle (Internet software utility) a netsurfer can own. Think of a Web browser as a plush stretch Limo/Land Rover built to make cruising the information superhighway as pleasant an experience as possible. The WWW is the fastest growing information resource on the Internet. The Web utilizes the HyperText Transfer Protocol (HTTP) to send multimedia documents (containing text, pictures, sounds, and *hypertext links*) from remote Internet computers to your PC. A Web browser is the program you run on your PC to find and view these multimedia documents. Just as the underlined, colored text in Windows' Help files jumps you to another help screen with related information, a Web hypertext link jumps you to another multimedia Web document somewhere else on the Internet. Most Web browsers are also powerful and versatile enough to view other common Internet resources. The following four paragraphs give details on these Internet utilities: Gopher, FTP, Usenet Newsgroups, and E-Mail.

*Gopher*, the predecessor to the Web, has the ability to store different types of files (text, pictures, movies, sounds) but limits you to only retrieve one type of file at a time instead of a single multimedia document as the Web allows. Browsing a Gopher information site on the Internet is very similar to finding a file on your computer with the Window's File Manager. The difference is that Gopher uses longer, more descriptive names for the files and folders than a PC allows. To browse through a Gopher site, you click your way through a set of directories till you find an interesting file. This file must then be downloaded from the remote Gopher computer somewhere on the Internet to your hard drive for viewing.

An alternative to connecting to a Gopher site for download a file is to connect to a File Transfer Protocol (FTP) site. Two significant differences exist between browsing a Gopher site and browsing an FTP site. First, the file and folder names found at FTP sites are shorter and more cryptic (like DOS file names). Second, some FTP software programs require you to know a few basic commands for changing directories, copying files, etc. (just like using DOS). Lucky for native Window's users, newer FTP programs try to emulate the Window's File Manager process for copying files from one directory to another. That is, files are copied by simply dragging them from the directory listing for the remote FTP computer to your PC's directory listing. If you don't know what FTP site contains the file you are looking for, you can use an *Archie* program on your PC to search through a filename database of all publicly accessible FTP sites on the Internet.

If you like reading newsgroups on local BBS's that cover topics of interest to you, you'll love the variety provided by Internet *Usenet Newsgroups*. Usenet is the Internet's worldwide bulletin board system, con-

<b>PC&amp;S</b>	K.B. Barton President
<b>PC Services &amp; Solutions, Inc.</b> Software/Network Professionals	
7046 Azalea Lane Suite 100 Dallas, Texas 75230	214 - 750-3662 Fax: 214 - 750-3664 Pgr: 214 - 805-5951 Internet: kbarton@pcssi.com
	

sisting of over 5,000 topical discussion groups, called newsgroups.

Of course, one of the first uses of the Internet was to send electronic mail *E-Mail* from person to person. Most ISPs let you choose your own E-mail address so anyone on the Internet can drop you a note at your own personalized address.

The Internet utilities mentioned in the previous paragraphs are available in a limited form via a Web browser. There are also programs, each designed to perform only one of the Internet tasks just mentioned. These separate Internet programs add specialized features that the Web browser can't accommodate.

Other Internet utilities not directly accessible via a Web browser include the following. *Telnet* is a terminal emulation protocol that turns your PC into a dumb terminal that can connect to other computers on the Internet. There are many computers on the Internet that allow ac-

# BEGINNER'S INTERNET Guide



cess to the general public (i.e., no specific name or password are required to login). This type of connection is necessary to hold chat sessions where you type live to other users logged into the same Internet machine. There are also several role-play and educational computers on which you can establish a Telnet connection to fight dragons and take online classes! Internet Relay Chat (*IRC*) is a combination between a newsgroup posting and a live chat session over a Telnet connection. With IRC you choose the

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group (or room) that contains other people talking (actually typing) about a topic of interest to you. An IRC program running on your PC is required to access the IRC network. The most recent addition to live chat is that of the human voice. With the addition of a sound card, microphone, and speakers to your PC you can hold CB-style (I talk then you talk) conversations with other Internet users from around the world. The great news is that the phone company can't charge you for the call!

There are some final steps you must take after copying files (text, graphics, movies, sounds) from different Internet sites down to your PC's hard drive so that you can view or hear the contents. Because a modem connection to the Internet is relatively slow (e.g., a 1MB-sized file takes approximately 12 minutes to transfer), most files are compressed. This saves storage space on the remote computer and decreases the time necessary to download the file to your PC's harddrive. There are several common compression methods on the Internet, but the main one used to compress PC-compatible files is PKZip. There are several programs available which help you decompress (unzip) these files so you can view them. If you are concerned with protecting your PC from viruses, you'll want to check all files you copy from Internet sites with some type of virus scan software. You're exposing your computer to files copied from exotic sites all over the world and viruses spread easily in the global information environment. Now that the file is decompressed and free of any virus, your PC must run software that knows the format of the file and knows how to display or play its contents. *Viewer applications* allow your PC to display images, play sounds, or run a movie.

Most of the Internet starter kits and books I mention in the following section contain the software mentioned above. If you are missing an Internet utility, chances are you can find a shareware version of it on the Internet. Read the Internet guide book that comes with your starter kit for detailed instructions.

## Internet Starter Kits and Books

To move you quickly on your way to connecting to the Internet, I have rated several common Internet starter kits and books. My rating system lists the best products at the top based on their descriptions, magazine reviews, and my several years of Internet experience. Although I was unable to personally load and test each individual product, I do have experience using many of the Internet software tools included in these kits and books. My objective was not to provide a thorough listing of all the Internet starter kits and books available. Instead I listed those which can easily be found in most any computer or book store, are relatively inexpensive, contain the most important Internet applications, provide a simple process for making a connection to an ISP, and include good written information on the Internet and its many resources. The pricing and availability of the starter kits is based on a recent trip I made to a local CompUSA computer store. The pricing and availability of the books which include Internet access software is based on a recent trip I made to a local Barnes and Nobles bookstore. Expect pricing and availability to vary from store to store. If CompUSA and Barnes and Nobles carried the same book or starter kit, I noticed that the CompUSA price was usually cheaper.

### Internet Starter Kits

*Everything you need for fast, easy, direct Internet Access (Green Box) \$40*

- connect quickly and easily via NetCom's National Network

- 2 good books: *What's on the Internet* and *Access the Internet*

*Internet in a Box v2.0 (Brown Box) \$90*

- connect in 5 min. via Spry/Internet Division (CompuServe)

- great Net guide: *The Whole Internet Users Guide* by Ed Krol



**Internet Membership Kit (White Box) \$40**

- connect quickly via IBM's Internet Connection Service
- 2 books: *Windows Internet Tour Guide* and *Internet Roadside Attractions*
- also includes a CD of Internet Roadside Attractions and additional software

**NetCruiser CD Internet Software (Hitchhikers Guide-Looking Box) \$25**

- connect quickly and easily via NetCom's National Network
- requires a CD, all manuals are on the CD along with a video introduction

**Internet Books with Starter Software*****Access the Internet (Green Book) \$20***

by David Peal (Sybex)

- connect quickly and easily via NetCom's National Network
- includes 1 3.5" disk with NetCom's NetCruiser Software

***The Internet for Windows for Dummies Starter Kit (Yellow Book) \$35***

by Margaret Levine Young and John R. Levine (IDG Books)

- connect in 5 minutes and choose from 5 different ISPs
- includes 2 3.5" disks with Internet Chameleon

***Using the Internet 2nd Edition (Black Book) \$40***

by Bill Eager (Que)

- connection requires you to search out ISPs in your area (phone numbers provided)
- includes a CD with all the Internet tools you'll ever need

***The PC Internet Tour Guide (White Book) \$25***

by Michael Fraase (Ventana Press)

- if you don't have Windows, this book shows how you can still access the Internet
- includes 1 3.5" disk with Minuet (E-mail, FTP, news, no Web software,...)

**Keeping Up with the Internet**

The world of the Internet is the newest and probably most dynamic area in the PC industry. Some books and software utilities written only a year ago are already out of date. Publishers and software firms are rushing to keep up with the tre-

# BEGINNER'S INTERNET Guide



mendous growth of the Internet. Most good Internet books are into their 2nd edition and program versions are jumping from v.1 to v.2. Always buy the latest version of any book or software package. Often book and computer stores will put the old and new versions close together.

As a new Internet user, I suggest that you thoroughly read the Internet book provided with your starter kit. You'll learn much more about how to effectively use the Internet, if you take the time to read a good reference guide to the Internet. Some people hope to gain all the knowledge they need by simply using the Internet tools. I, on the other hand, have found that reading a good Internet book really helps increase the depth by understanding.

After getting a firm grasp of the basic Internet concepts, you can keep your knowledge current by subscribing to any of the monthly Internet magazines (e.g., Internet World, Online Access, NetGuide, etc.). Most computer and bookstores (and even some grocery stores) carry several of them. Build a network of other NTPCUG members and friends who share an interest in the Internet. The NTPCUG has a beginner and advanced Internet SIG that meets each month to talk about current developments and products. Listen to the DFW Talk Radio Show, *Internet@Night*, with Tony Reynolds on KGBS 1190 AM. The radio show, which is on Monday - Friday 9:00pm till Midnight, covers topics of interest to Internet users.

The Internet is an exciting place to be. Good luck on your journey.

*Erik Leaseburg*

## Disks of the Month for February

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

Disk 1034: *EUDORA v1.4.4* 12/94 - E-Mail Software for Windows. University of Illinois, Licensed to QUALCOMM. Shareware fee: Freeware

*EUDORA* is perhaps the finest Internet Electronic Mail (EMail) software product for the money...it's free! ...and it's very good! Until now, it has been the standard for sending E-mail on the Internet unless you used a "monthly payment" program like America Online, CompuServe, etc. Many of the new net browser programs are beginning to offer E-mail service, but this one has "been there, done that" for some time.

If you have an Internet connection and want a better than good E-mail software, this is the answer. Of course, you have to have a SLIP/PPP, or TCP/IP connection, with Winsock, to utilize this software.

### GETTING STARTED —

Make a directory on your hard drive and copy the ZIP file into that directory. Use PKUNZIP to unzip this file. Follow the instruction carefully in the MANUAL.DOC to install the program correctly. At the C: prompt type

```
PKUNZIP eu14.zip
```

### SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

- Any IBM AT or better system.
- Windows 3.1 or higher.
- WinsockAPI 1.1 or better

- 640K of free RAM
- Account with a POP3 server (Post Office Protocol v3.0)

Software provided by the North Texas PC Users Group.

*This README prepared by Jan Parkhill, edited by Gene Carleton. 02/96*

and replying to your E-mail. It also handles Internet E-mail with automatic TO: insertion in the first line of your text body.

POW offers selective tag-lines, auto-quoting of messages and address books for TO: and SUBJECT: lines. You can view bulletins, News, NewsFiles, Session

CC:, Format text, Spell Checking, Cut/Copy/Paste functions, and others.

If you are eager to enter the world of offline readers, this is the program that delivers the Windows environment for you...the easy learning curve of this program is made better by the improved context Help.

Now included is the Spell Checker dictionary that was an add-on previously. This feature is not found in all OLR programs and it works effortlessly.

### GETTING STARTED —

The file README.TXT has instructions for automatic installation. Other useful information is included to help make installing easy.

### SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS —

IBM AT 286 or better (VBRUN300.DLL is required extra);

3 Mb memory minimum, preferably 4 Mb or higher; Windows 3.1;

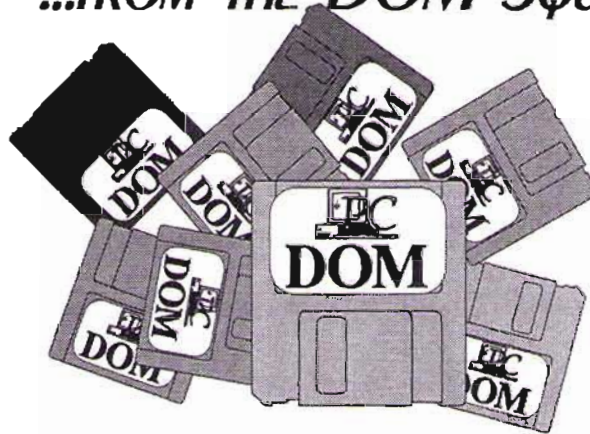
approximately 400k HD space for program, not including VRUN300.DLL, plus an additional 1 MEG if dictionary/spell checker is added.

Terminal and Arial Fonts must be installed in Windows.

Software downloaded from London, U.K. by NTPCUG member Jan Parkhill.

*This README prepared by Jan Parkhill, edited by Gene Carleton. 02/96*

## New Disks ...FROM THE DOM SQUAD



by JAN PARKHILL

Disk 1035. *POW v2.0, 1/96* — Offline mail reader for Windows. A QWK mail reader including Spell Checking. Author: Gina Davis. GD Custom Software, Little Meadows, Upottery, Honiton, Devon, EX14 9QT, U.K. Shareware Fee: \$29.95

POW is a thorough, easy-to-learn, easy-to-use offline reader for Windows that handles "one at a time .QWK packets" for reading

Text, including ANSI. Replies you generate are automatically stored to a special folder for this purpose and you may SAVE messages that you may want to review at a later date.

One of the great features is the ability to Add, Drop or Reset the Maildoor Conferences. This helps avoid spending on-line time tinkering. The best new feature is the new Toolbar for the Text Editor; including buttons for

**Calling all ShareWare & FreeWare!  
Volunteer... And Get Paid for a Job  
Well Done!**

Each month, the NTPCUG DOM (Disk of the Month) has an on-going need to find new shareware disks for the following month. The best way for this to happen is when our members VOLUNTEER to download new shareware programs. You may have found a new shareware program on a local BBS or the Internet, copied one from a CD-ROM disk you own, purchased a new disk from another shareware vendor or you may have a favorite shareware utility that makes your computing simpler each day.

**VOLUNTEER to share it with us!!**

Your NTPCUG is an organization founded and run with volunteer effort and spirit. What better way to support our Users Group than to volunteer to donate some shareware disks from time to time? Send one a month...or five! We encourage you to donate something each month; it's amazing what one or two donations can add up to over a month's time!! It takes so little time and we can use your assistance.

There are two easy ways to VOLUNTEER and deliver your shareware to the DOM. First, you can deliver your donation on an old disk and drop it off at the DOM booth during our monthly meeting date. (The DOM booth is located in the far right corner of the basement area during the computer vendor show.) If you prefer the "High Tech" method, you can attach a zipped shareware file to a private E-Mail message (put it to my attention) on the TBBS board and I will take it from there. This is an easy and enjoyable way to VOLUNTEER each month and it only takes a few minutes.

And, listen to this...!! Your name will be mentioned prominently in the README file, letting everyone know you made the software contribution. You also get bribed (read that as "paid") with a VOLUNTEER TOKEN good for any DOM disk of your choice! Don't forget to ask for your token...you've earned it.

**README Help available**

Furthermore, if you have a problem preparing a README file, don't despair...ask me for help and I'll pitch in to assist you! You don't have to be an author or technical writer!

Come on...pitch in...VOLUNTEER today! If you're new to our group and don't understand shareware, I especially look forward to speaking with YOU!!

Best regards,

*Jan Parkhill*  
**DOM Squad Leader**  
**(214) 828-2216**

**DOM DISKS**  
*...CONTINUED*

(515) 223-1290, (515) 223-7749 FAX

"In testing, we used ECI's Disc Detective quite extensively. This impressive utility will test your finished CD-ROM for data integrity and file structure, compare discs and image files, read data, and transfer data to DAT or tape."

*INFOWORLD*, June 6, 1994

Disc Detective, a versatile collection of software tools, will allow verification of the quality and integrity of data on all of your compact disc projects. It gives you access to every sector of your CD. Disc Detective Professional will allow a complete sector by sector comparison between the disc and source tape, image file on a hard disk drive, or source CD.

You can even test the open/close function of a CD ROM door!

When connected to an Exabyte or DAT tape drive, Disc Detective Professional will transfer all or a part of a compact disc to a tape, thus allowing to be ready for mastering at virtually any CD replication facility in the world.

Disc Detective provides critical analysis tools for multi-session CD-ROMs, and confirms correct post gap at the end of the data track.

If you ever had an unsolvable problem with reading a CD-ROM

disc, Disc Detective is your answer!

**GETTING STARTED —**  
Make a directory on your hard drive and copy all the files on this disk to your directory. This diagnostic tool works well on a single disk. Just copy all the files to the directory on a disk you want. You even could use this disk.

For example: (on your hard drive)

- MD c:\discdetv (or any name you prefer)
- xcopy a: c:\discdetv

**SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS**

Any IBM based system using DOS 2.2 or better.

Software provided by the North Texas PC Users Group.

*This README prepared by Jan Parkhill, edited by Gene Carleton. 02/96*



## Hallelujah! WordPerfect finds a Hero! Daughty Corel Corp. to the rescue — . Mighty Sun rejected by tottering Apple

### *Borland wins in Supreme Court*

WordPerfect finds a home — in Canada, this time. Corel grabbed WP for a lot less than Novell paid for it, \$150 million as opposed to Novell's outlay of approximately \$900 million, to the surprise of lots of people. Not me after thinking about the two companies for a few minutes.

The fit's a natural. Corel tends to be a very aggressive, yet cerebral, group with very impressive marketing skills who aren't afraid of stepping out on the 'bleeding edge' of technology — and, sometimes taking their users along for a wild and rough ride with them. The 'real' WordPerfect had a lot in common with Corel in days of old.

Not Novell. Novell had/had problems with this aspect of the PC business in spite of early *NetWare 4.0* users' claims otherwise. It just didn't make for a good fit between the two Utah-based organizations.

### **WHAT'S COREL GETTING?**

So, what did Corel get for their money (stock) and a seat on the Board of Directors they gave Novell? According to Michael Cowpland, Corel CEO, "The products we are getting from Novell are:

- ☞ *PerfectOffice for Windows;*
- ☞ *WordPerfect for Windows, DOS, Mac and UNIX;*
- ☞ *QuattroPro for Windows, DOS;*
- ☞ *Presentations for Windows, DOS; and*
- ☞ *InfoCentral.*

Raises another question, though. Why would Novell want such close association(s) with Corel? First, to loosen the WordPerfect 'noose' from their necks since WP was losing

value with each passing day (Apple hasn't learned this one yet.) And, as a bonus, Novell is in association with a real SCSI expert.

### **NOVELL GETS SCSI EXPERTISE**

Although most of us tend to see Corel as primarily an 'art' house, Corel has a long history of significant expertise in the SCSI area at the software and hardware levels. Corel also has some very, very gifted Windows programming staff who have shown ability to work very quickly under deadlines that would stagger some other, larger (much larger) groups.

### **INSTALLED WP BASE NUMBERS ATTRACT COREL'S INTEREST MAKE DEAL POSSIBLE**

Why would Corel want a nearly-defunct product array? That's easier than Novell's side in this trade.

Corel wants the installed WordPerfect user base. WP may be

# THE VARIETY STORE

A PERSONAL VIEW OF THE PC INDUSTRY,  
NEW HARDWARE OPERATING SYSTEMS,  
SOFTWARE AND APPLICATIONS

by REAGAN ANDREWS

number three in office suite sales, but the installed base is huge when combined with Corel. Corel CEO Cowpland estimates the combined customer (and potential customer) base at 25 million PC users. Also, with the rising tide of Internet interest in the commercial community, access to the Novell base makes a lot of sense for both companies.



**Apple rejects Sun, sends  
suitor packing, does  
replace ailing Spindler**

I sat on pins and needles during this debacle! It still doesn't make a lot of sense to me, but I obviously haven't a glimmer of the whole story.

Apple on the other hand didn't sell itself to Sun — or anyone else (so far.) Meanwhile, the Macintosh OS loses value with each passing minute unless Apple is able to roll out a significant upgrade in the next month or so.

Amelio's in and Spindler is gone, though. That may free up some other management potential within the Apple organization that can make the company run again. Apple announced in February that former CEO Michael Spindler is gone, gone, gone, and Gilbert Amelio is his replacement.

**Did blood flow in  
Cupertino Halls?**

This must have been a real blood bath, since another member of the Apple Board of Directors left with Spindler. Problem for Apple people is Amelio's reputation as a corporate 'Mr. Fixit' who worked miracles with National Semiconductor — while allowing layoff-blood to flow in the National corridors.

**Top designers leave  
first in troubled times**

Problem is with the top Apple designers — who have already left Cupertino, CA, in droves according to rumor. These are the very folks Apple needs to survive.

**The  
VARIETY  
STORE**

In the midst of all this (and Amelio's rumored \$10 million/year deal) Apple is lowering prices on existing Macintosh machines and still facing unprecedented losses for another quarter. Rumors of warehouses filled with unsold Mac's and Newtons are unabated and add some gist to the predictions of doom and gloom abounding in the media.

**Borland scores a massive win  
and can breathe somewhat  
after Supreme Court decision**

What a difference a year — or so — can make in the relative importance of a story! This was reported on the back pages of *The Wall Street Journal* and other media in January.

**Court decision leaves issue(s)  
in doubt as to meaning ...**

I'll go with the majority of the media and scratch my head while trying to decide what the almost un-noticed Supreme Court decision not to pursue Borland in the *Quattro Pro* affair really means. Best guess is that 'Look & Feel' may not be a good measuring stick for copyright infringement suits.

**Borland wins,  
Manzi eats his  
'Cashectomy' crow**

Borland won. No doubt about that. Question is what did Borland win other than an opportunity to stuff Jim Manzi's 'Cashectomy' where the sun don't shine (for Jim, that is.)

Rest of the industry is trying to figure-out the 'new' rules and guess where the court ruling has left them in attempting to protect their rights as far as software goes. Think we'll hear/see a lot more





# A D A UPGRADE

## Portable Upgrades



**NEW!**  
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 key to easy upgrades is SCSI !!!

"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,



# ADAPTEC

## REPORT 1996



### 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 CWO™ 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.



It's amazing how well things work.

The 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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about this issue in the future, particularly in regard to the Internet. Like the industry and media mavens, I have somewhat mixed feelings about the decision/non-decision flowing forth from the nation's highest court.

I do think there's a line drawn somewhere in the sand, across which we only tread with apprehension, but damned if I can figure out where it is.

### **CYRIX, INTEL AFTER CPU SPEED RECORDS AGAIN IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH**

This is getting to be fun — and confusing. Both Intel and Cyrix killed a bunch of trees over the last two months getting out their respective press releases concerning CPU speed measurements. Think I like the releases from Cyrix best of the bunch, though.

Gist is that Cyrix (and others) have come up with another way to measure CPU speed and throughput. This after Intel admitted in January their advertised CPU marks were 'possibly' optimistic in regard to measuring Intel *Pentium-Pro* performance above 100 MHz. The group decided to use Pentium benchmarks by processor speed as a starting point, and grade their CPU's as a percentage of Pentium performance at various speeds. Looking at the benchmark processes, it seems to make sense and may provide users with a more realistic way to make CPU decisions

Upshot is that Cyrix has a number of 6x86 CPU's that seriously challenge the Intel CPU chips in both 16-bit and 32-bit programs. Actually, the Cyrix CPU's blow-away the Intel units at substantially lower prices (this month.)

## THE VARIETY STORE

### **DEC Alpha CPU Gets new life in FX!32 program**

It's no secret that he who wins the CPU production race wins almost everything. Numbers have always been a problem for DEC, MIPS and (almost) Sun in their efforts to get the 'exotic' workstation CPU's into the desktop main stream.

A stalling point for each has been ability (lack of ability) to run *Windows 3.11* and *Windows 95* software under *Windows NT* in something other than a software 'emulator' which usually slows performance below that of the comparable *Pentium* CPU's in 'traditional' motherboards. Best example is Sun's *WABI* which is/was stable, but less-than-breathtaking in terms of speed.

That will change — as the 'legacy' software fades away (out of use.) Until then, DEC has an answer for *Alpha* CPU powered *Windows NT* workstations.

According to DEC (Digital Equipment Corporation), their new FX!32 software will run *Windows* applications significantly faster than traditional 'emulator' packages have in the past. FX!32 is specifically aimed at *Windows 95* applications which can be run without re-compilation under *Windows NT*.

DEC also announced a new version of Insignia Software's *SoftWindows* for 16-bit applications to permit continued use of cer-

tain 'legacy' applications on the DEC platform when running *Windows NT*. According to DEC, this compliments the already 1,500 *Windows NT* applications packages that have been 'ported' to the *Alpha* platform.

### **Tape is tape is tape is tape EXCEPT WHEN THE TAPE IS VERBATIM'S QIC-EXTRA**

What's the capacity of your tape backup drive? Verbatim says it just got a lot bigger. Verbatim's new series of *QIC-EXtra* minicartridges ranges from the *DC 2120 EX* with 400/800 MB capacity in (former) 120/250 MB *QIC-80* drives, to 2.6/5.2 GB in the *MC 3000 EX* cartridges. Will current tape backup software support it? Maybe.

What it really is is a new, larger cartridge with much longer tapes than the previous cartridges available for *QIC-80* (and higher) tape drives. What it does is breathe new life into the older 250 MB drives made by Colorado, Archive, Conner and other vendors. The new cartridge holds 1,000 feet of tape as opposed to the standard 307 feet of tape in the *QIC 2120* cartridges we're used to seeing in stores.

With floppy-based tape drives, major deficit will continue to be speed. In spite of longer tapes, etc., these drives will continue to roll along at the speed dictated by the floppy-drive interface.

*Reagan Andrews*

Corel News —

**WordPerfect Acquisition  
Creates Web Blockbuster**

Heard about the WordPerfect Acquisition by Corel? Wonder why a Canadian "art" company would take a foundering albatross\* off Novell's hands? Found this on CorelNET on the Web, it probably will answer many of your questions as to why.

*A Message from  
Michael Cowpland*

(Mr. Cowpland is President and CEO of Corel Corporation)

Corel is proud to announce the acquisition of the WordPerfect family of software programs. This catapults us to world's Number 2 independent personal productivity application vendor right behind Microsoft, with a combined user base of over 25 million.



Dallas Corel Is A SIG Of North Texas PC Users Group

The products we are getting from Novell are:

- ❖ *PerfectOffice for Windows;*
- ❖ *WordPerfect for Windows, DOS, Mac and UNIX;*
- ❖ *QuattroPro for Windows, DOS;*
- ❖ *Presentations for Windows, DOS; and*
- ❖ *InfoCentral.*

These products have received accolades from the press, winning almost every review against Microsoft and Lotus products.

The new Windows 95 versions, now in beta, look to be world beaters, with super new features and powerful connectivity to the Internet. For example, in *Corel WordPerfect 7* you can directly publish home pages via HTML output.

Also, in *Corel Quattro 7* you can go from any cell directly to any URL site on the Internet and you can directly link tables and numbers from any home page into your spreadsheet, an ideal feature for stock portfolios, price quota-

\* [Editor's Note: WordPerfect became a 'foundering albatross' under Novell's mismanagement. Corel can make it fly again.]

tions, etc. Using *Corel Presentations 7*, you can play your slide shows directly onto the web. The inclusion of *GroupWise* also gives Notes-like groupware power combined with Internet capability. These unique new features combined with Corel graphics and multimedia content should make *Corel PerfectOffice 7* Number 1 in power, value and features when it is launched in April and enable Corel to leap ahead of the current industry leader, *Microsoft Office*. Our new partner Novell is Number 1 in the world in networking, with a user base of 50 million clients and 5 million *GroupWise* installations, greatly exceeding Notes' 3 million users. We expect an excellent on-going collaboration with our new partner and we are tremendously excited by these new arrivals to Corel's line-up of quality software.

Regards, Mike Cowpland

JoAnn Elliott

[joannelliott@e-pagination.com](mailto:joannelliott@e-pagination.com)



**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

# INSIDE THE NORTH TEXAS PC USERS GROUP COMMUNITY

## VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION



by Claude McClure

### Volunteers Possess Dedication

Thanks to the many volunteers who are named on this page. Those words are often used in the closing sentence on this page just before the listing of the members who manned the stations at our recent meeting. That thought might get lost, stuck down there at the end of this paragraph. That would mean some might not notice how much we really thank these members for their time and effort spent making our meeting the success it is every month. Volunteers notify us in advance that they will do a certain job in the upcoming month. Calls during the month confirm the schedule and fill any vacancies.

Thanks are due for the real concern our volunteers have for every member's full realization of what the NTPCUG has to offer in new computing methods and how to use them. Volunteers plan around their commitment to the User Group when they go to SIG meetings and other activities. We thank them for promptly reporting in and even spending a little extra time when events demand. Thanks to them for giving their time to others.

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  
Alex Lilley  
Robert Hilliard

#### Vendor Setup/Break-down

**Anchors:**  
David Slavik  
Kenneth Berg  
Ross Jones  
**Crew:**  
James Guyer  
Mark Guyer  
Neal Van Pelt  
Kenneth Tillman  
Larry Matzek

#### Auditorium Presentations

Timothy Carmichael  
Chris Jung  
Chris Carmichael



#### Information/Registration Booth

**Statistician:**  
Connie Andrews  
Ralph Beaver (Assistant)  
**Scheduler:**  
Bob Wuller  
**Anchors:**  
Ralph Beaver  
Deborah Bean (Double)  
Eteta E. Eta  
Judy Griffiths  
Allan Harbaugh  
Hank Holt  
John Ivers  
Cinda Lovil  
David Martin  
Foy J. Mills  
Paul Williams

**Booth Crew:**  
Lorin Cranford  
Tim Foster  
James Gorak  
Jackie May  
Claude McClure  
Linda Moore  
Martin Moomaw  
Carl Oehmann  
Jean Waldrep  
**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)263-9038 (metro). Sign up on the Volunteer Conference - make the subject matter your area of interest.

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

#### 3. By phone:

**Auditorium Presentations**  
Timothy Carmichael . . . . . (214) 661-4626 (w)

**DOM Booth Scheduler**  
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

Jack Atkinson, Assistant SIG Leader, and a favorite Access SIG speaker, will be back with a tutorial session at our March meeting. Jack will be discussing and showing us a simple example applet to illustrate: a macro using the Dcount domain aggregate function to control application flow, a form using unbound controls and simple bit maps under timer control, and a simple program using several events to trigger selection of font name and size, color, and the Visible property. We always look forward with eager anticipation to Jack's clear explanation of Access' features and functions.

Many thanks to Noel Fouts for his presentation at our February meeting. Noel showed us how he connected Access databases to the HTML content of an Internet World Wide Web page, using the DBWeb product, and an HTML editor called "Hotdog". Noel even brought his own demo system (not a laptop, either) running Windows NT, to run the HTML application. Now that is real volunteerism.

Thanks, too, to Linguistic Technology Corporation, for their donation for our giveaway of a copy of *English Wizard*, a very interesting English-language query builder. Some attendees have used Eng-

### FROM THE SIG COORDINATOR

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

#### New SIGs:

- Emerging Computer Technologies - Dick Vedder @ (817) 481-6457 M
- Internet - WEB Developers - Mark Camp @ (214) 583-9012

#### New SIG Leaders:

- Desktop Publishing - Mark Stuert @ (214) 528-5311 h
- Visual Basic - Ed Dlahl @ (214) 687-9043 w
- Healthcare Computing - Dawn Gracey @ (214) 964-0954

#### 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]
- 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  
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

#### 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

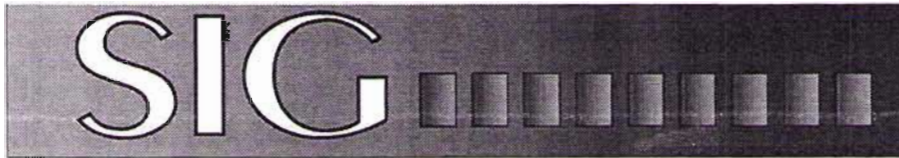
Kent Cobb..... (214) 343-3862 h  
Tom Cook ..... (214) 341-1890 w

#### C++/Beginning

Tom Cook ..... (214) 341-1890 w

#### CAD

Bill Sephton..... (214) 296-1799 h  
..... (214) 387-3500 w  
Neil Culver ..... (214) 690-6552 h  
..... (214) 235-3031 w



lish Wizard and gave it "good marks". A few copies of the *English Wizard Wisdom* newsletter and of a flyer about English Wizard training were left over and will be available at the March meeting, along with a list you can sign to get additional information about English Wizard.

Different recruiters call almost daily, seeking Access and Visual Basic developers. Most are looking for contractors to work in the DFW area, but some have called from other areas, too. I even had two requests to fax the list with the latest updates from people at our February meeting! If you want your name and number given out to such callers, you must sign the list at the meeting giving your permission. If you are already "on the list", you should be getting calls. By the way, six more "Access for Hire" people signed up in February.

We are still looking for speakers on Access and Access-related subjects for future meetings, and still soliciting donations of Access examples and other Access-related software for an Access SIG freeware disk for the NTPCUG Disk of the Month operation. We have nearly enough for our first disk right now.

Between meetings, keep up with the group, and Access, on the NTPCUG electronic bulletin board system. The Internet "comp.databases.ms-access" newsgroup is available for downloading to read with your favorite offline reader software - if you don't have one, see the DOM folks for a copy of Silly Little Mail Reader (SLMR), good, solid, and, best of all, freeware (or check for a copy attached to a message in our own local MS ACCESS message

conference). You can also post questions, answers, announcements, or just keep in touch. Check inside the back cover of this issue for the BBS telephone numbers.

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

Larry Linson

## Alpha Four SIG

For the last couple of months the main program has been based on Alpha Four for DOS. In March, we move back to Windows, and take a look at Alpha Five version 2. This is the Windows 95 release of Alpha Five! With any luck, the production release will be available by that time. If not, we will look at the Beta release.

Several of you were able to see a demo of the Beta version when Peter Ashton of Alpha Software was kind enough to meet with us when he was in town recently. We will walk through many of the things that Peter showed us, and talk about the new features. One of the best new features will be the new lower price. For their retail packaging, Alpha Software will include the network versions for both Windows 95, and Windows 3.1 in the same box for a price of \$49.95! This covers both windows platforms with only one purchase, and from what I hear, stores are very excited about the price point.

This release is the Home and Business version, with the Developer's kit to be released a little later. The advertising campaign will stress the tremendous ease of use of Alpha Five. My only concern is that it looks like the power of the product will not be empha-

## SIG LEADER LISTING

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### Communications

Doug Gorrie ..... (214) 618-8002 h  
..... (214) 464-4568 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

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

### Delphi

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

### Desktop Publishing

Mark Stuertz..... (214) 528-5311 h

### Emerging Computer Technologies

Dick Vedder ..... (817) 481-6457 w  
Lynn Peterson  
Walter Johnston

### 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

### Hardware Solutions

Charles Miller ..... (903) 938-4220 h  
Ralph Beaver ..... (817) 624-9530 h  
Gary Johnson..... (214) 938-0344 h

### Health Care Computing/Informatics

Dawn Gracey ..... (214) 964-0954  
Zeke Rabkin..... (214) 321-9462 w



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

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- Doug Gorrie ..... (214) 618-8002 h
- ..... (214) 464-4568 w
- Erik Leaseburg ... (817) 265-7550 hM

**Internet-Advanced**

- Tom O'Keefe ..... (214) 247-8812 h
- Doug Gorrie ..... (214) 618-8002 h
- ..... (214) 464-4568 w
- Erik Leaseburg ... (817) 265-7550 hM

**Internet-WEB Developers**

- Mark Camp ..... (214) 583-9012
- David Maxwell .... (214) 977-7584 w
- ..... (214) 299-6295 h

**Introduction to the PC**

- 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**

- Leroy Tennison
- Francis Bright

**OS/2 Developer**

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

**OS/2 for End Users**

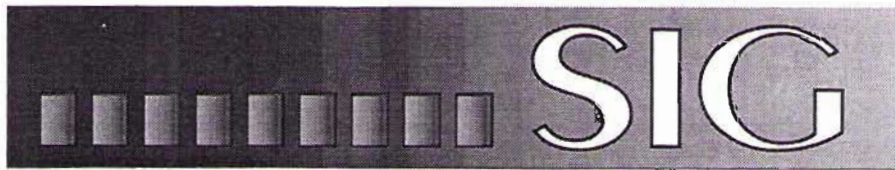
- Bob Fermier ..... (817) 481-6625 h
- ..... (214) 444-2195 w

**OS/2 Q&A**

- Larry Truesdale

**Paradox**

- Fred Williams ..... (214) 492-1315 h
- Tom Browning .... (214) 692-9784 h



sized for those people who might feel there is not enough capability to create complex applications. Unfortunately, marketing in a Microsoft world means you gotta do what you gotta do to stay alive. Fortunately, Alpha Software has been financially successful for a small company, so we can look forward to continued availability, and improvement, of Alpha Five.

Along those lines, Corel is acquiring WordPerfect and QuattroPro from Novell. The announcement I have does not mention Novell's zillion copies of Paradox. However, a year ago, Corel licensed certain non-exclusive rights to Alpha Five. So, Alpha Software may end up with another outlet, if Corel can do any effective marketing.

Come take a look at the power of the new capabilities of a great product. I think we will have some more interesting announcements for you by meeting time.

*Bill Parker and Ron Jackson*

**Application Developers (OLE AND ODBC) SIG**

In March, we'll be taking a look at *Genexus*, a cross-platform application prototyping and generation tool. Cesar Rodriguez and Dave Head, of G.C.C. International, Inc., U.S. distributors of the product, will demonstrate and explain it. On the PC, it uses Xbase tables in prototype code, but generates applications for front-ending the IBM AS400, for PC's, for LAN use, for UNIX, and for various Client-Server databases. Originating in Uruguay, it is very heavily used in South and

Central America, has a significant number of European users, and, although rather recently introduced in the U.S., is reported to be "catching on fast". This presentation is certainly about application development, but isn't specific to OLE and ODBC - join us if you have an interest in cross-platform development of any kind.

In the following two months, April and May, we'll have presentations by Ann Goss, on Joint Application Design/Development methodology - a proven technique for resolving user's requirements, functional specifications, and external design in a very short time frame and by Dan Ogden on OLE-Structured Storage, one of the more exciting improvements in the new world of Windows 95 and Windows NT.

At the February meeting, Larry Linson concluded his discussion of OLE in the new generation of Windows software, begun in January and Dan Ogden showed us some "Secrets of the Windows 95 Registry". Many thanks to Dan for volunteering to cover that subject on *very* short notice.

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 March meeting!

*Larry Linson*

# SIG

## BUSINESS APPLICATIONS/DAC SIG

As most of you are aware, our January SIG meeting was incorporated with the *TurboTax* presentation in the Auditorium. After a rest in February, we'll be on hand again in March with a program of our own.

*Timeslips* revisited... In October, we were given a look at *Timeslips Deluxe for Windows* by Rose Rice, a certified consultant for Timeslips Corp. Shortly thereafter, Bruce Schubert agreed to do a written evaluation of *Timeslips* and in March he will reveal the results of his testing from a user's standpoint. Bruce will have had time to use the program in his work environment for several months and should be able to provide a real-life look at the benefits which are claimed for this latest release.

It should be of interest to all of those who saw the October presentation, as well as those others who may have missed the first go-round. We hope that you will take advantage of this rare opportunity to look at this software from two perspectives. See you on March 9, at 1:00 pm.

*Putt Shaw*

## COMMUNICATIONS SIG

We will be hosting Jim Needham in our March SIG Meeting. Jim is National Account Manager for Hayes Microcomputer products. Jim Needham will be discussing new products that have been introduced.

Analog and ISDN products will be discussed. The Hayes prod-

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

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

*Birl Smith & Doug Gorrie*

## DALLAS COREL SIG

### March 9 Meeting

Our March program will be demonstrating *Windows 95* and *CorelDraw6*. Also, *Micrografx* will be presenting their new *ABC Graphics Suite* at the Graphics SIG at 10:00, so depending on that, we may adjourn to their room 7015 (check the overheads in the lobby to be sure of the room number) at that time. It is also remotely possible that *Metatools* will be here in March or April in the auditorium, and hopefully also visit our SIG. Check out the Dallas Corel area on the NTPCUG BBS for program updates, or my announcement in the User Group area of CorelNET.

### Upcoming meetings:

Begin to collect your materials to share at our annual **Members Showcase!** This program of showing off what you do with *CorelDRAW* is normally held in the Spring. More to follow. We are looking for presenters, so if you have something to share, please let us know.

Our monthly planning meeting is held second Tuesday at the Luby's Cafeteria just north of LBJ on Midway Road, from 11:30 to whenever. So if you cannot get there until a bit later, come any-

## SIG LEADER LISTING CONTINUED ...

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

### 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

Chuck Mencke.....(817) 496-6579 h  
Jim Boughton .....(817) 478-6665 h  
.....(817) 265-8044 w

### 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

Ed Diehl.....(214) 687-9043 w  
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

way. Open to all! Yes, we really do value your input!

### January Meeting in Review

Marsha Drebelbis, presenter and founder of *Litigation Graphics*, brought many samples of the visual aids she created for her clients and gave a wonderful presentation at the January Dallas Corel meeting. Marsha explained how to communicate with clients; how people learn, visually and verbally, and how to use visuals and verbal tools to get a point across to a specific audience.

### Tips and Tricks

Did you know that using a simple text file and *CorelDRAW* you can create labels, and even include the graphics you want on every label? You can mail merge form letters in Draw as well. We were led through the procedure by attendees **Rob Alschbach** and **Rocky Stonewall** at the February meeting. You can find the instructions on pages 380-382 in the Draw 5 manual.

*JoAnn Elliott*

### Delphi SIG

Even competing with the Microsoft Windows NT 4.0 roll-out in the main auditorium, we managed a pretty good turnout for the last half of my "Introduction to Relational Database Design" presentation. I hope everyone gained something for the time spent. One guy did for sure. He won a copy of Paradox Windows 5.0.

We had some discussion, which was mostly speculation, on the new three-way packaging split for Delphi 2.0. No one knew for sure what was in either the "Desktop" or "Developers" versions. Everybody did agree that it really didn't matter what was in the "Client\Server" addition, consid-

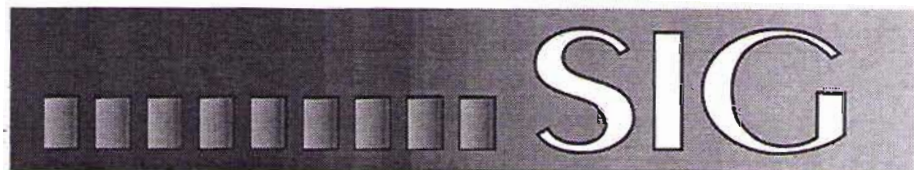
ering we were all single-station developers.

I'm personally going to opt for the Developers version when I upgrade. Sounds to me, like Borland is attempting to produce a product mix that is similar to the Turbo and Professional versions of the C++ Compiler. I use the Professional version of C++, so stands to reason as a professional developer, I'll need the Developers version of Delphi.

Anyway, this month's presentation will be done by one of our fellow members, **Lawrence Jenkins**. Lawrence is going to show us what he has been doing with a third-party graphics VCL, "LightLib". I took a quick look at LightLib a while back, and was very impressed with the "drop in" power. I'm certain Lawrence will provide us with an interesting presentation.

In keeping with the long range presentation planning we are attempting, I am waiting to receive a demo copy of a Delphi VCL library from a software company, who said they would be shipping in a couple of weeks. Should I not hear from them in a timely manner, we got a couple of other potentials standing by. I'm also going to be in touch with Jeff Hopper of Borland and arrange a close Borland look at the Delphi 2.0 release. I'll announce that one, as soon as I get the schedule firmed up.

Meanwhile, come on by the March meeting. LightLib is a pretty impressive product. I think you'll be pleased to see just how much you can do with a single "drag and drop".



*Fred Williams*

### Desktop Publishing SIG

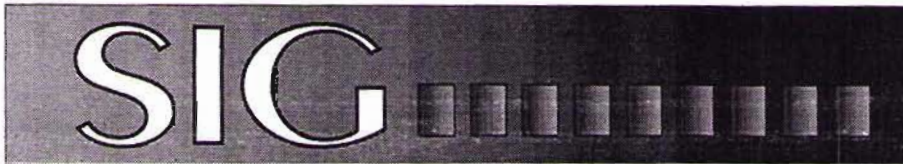
"By convention there is color, but in reality there are only atoms and space." — Democritus, Greek philosopher, 460 B.C.

Color is, quite simply, light energy of varying wavelengths. Color is also fundamental to desktop publishing. A basic understanding of color is critical to DTP success, whether your final output is a computer monitor, a color desktop printer, or a 4-color press laying ink on high-quality glossy paper stock.

The visible color spectrum is nestled between the invisible infrared (long wavelength) and ultraviolet (short wavelength) light waves and the spectrum runs consecutively from red, to orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet. An easy way to remember this is with the name Roy G. Biv. The capital initials in Roy's name represent the most dominant primary colors: red, green and blue.

Red, green and blue compose the primary color system (RGB) upon which computer displays are based. Printed matter is based on a secondary color system known as Cyan, magenta, yellow and black (CMYK).

In the March meeting we will explore these color systems, how they interrelate, and why a basic understanding of their underlying principles is essential to successful desktop publishing. In addition, we will touch on indexed color, lab color and the hue, satu-



ration and brightness (HSB) color model.

In the February meeting, we explored some of the basic principles of imaging, including picture elements, bitmaps, vector graphics, resolution and half-tones. For a copy of the meeting notes from the February meeting, come to the March meeting or give me a call.

*Mark Stuertz*

## DOS SIG – Redux

Sorry 'bout those promises (lies, all lies) for the February DOS SIG Meeting in last month's DOS SIG notes! But MS and *Windows NT 4.0* were too great a temptation to resist.

We'll try again to address the issue(s) of running DOS applications under *Windows 95* at the March DOS SIG. It's still a hot topic for many users and **Jim Hoisington** and I (Reagan Andrews) will strive to keep on track and away from rumors and speculation for a change — and, actually perform as promised (see the first line in this note.)

An interesting question we'll ask is "What DOS applications are users running and why?" during the meeting. We know there's "legacy" DOS software that can't be easily replaced in a Windows environment, and we'd like to hear from users what their feelings on the issue are. A major question will be whether the DOS application is really necessary, or are users unwilling to learn newer, more powerful applications.

At any rate/cost, members can't lose by coming to the March DOS SIG meeting. Watch us turn purple when the questions asked during the Q&A session at the end of the meeting are beyond our kin — or when the meeting is usurped by the C/PM and OS-9 ruffians/thugs/ bikers and held hostage for *new S-100 bus hardware*...

*Reagan Andrews*

## INTERNET SIG - BEGINNING

In February, we had dual, even triple, topics presented. **Ken** and **Kathryn Loafman** covered Telnet, a valuable piece of software every new Internet user should become familiar with. Telnet lets a person connect to remote machines on the Internet, just like terminal programs such as Procomm, Telix, Window's Terminal, and COMit let you connect to BBS's over a phone line. While they were at it, they also threw in a touch of FTP, another of the basic Internet protocols. A double-decker! Thanks to Ken and Kathryn.

**Mark Camp**, of the new Webmasters SIG, completed the hour by discussing *Shockwave*, a Web browser add-on product from Macromedia. Shockwave allows viewing of visuals created by their development product, called "Director": The end result is some extremely interesting methods of visual presentation.

The Beginner's Internet SIG has not yet decided on the March presentation. We're constantly searching for interesting topics and ideas that help new Internet users learn how to use the vast resources available online. We

would like to hear from you, if you have an idea, suggestion, or presenter in mind.

See you March 9<sup>th</sup>!

*Doug Gorrie, Tom O'Keefe, & Erik Leaseburg*

## INTERNET SIG - ADVANCED

In February, our topic was real-time voice conversations over the Internet. Member **David Martin** did an excellent job discussing how a sound card, 14.4k or greater modem and a SLIP/PPP Internet connection can be used to an talk live over the Internet with anyone in the world, without incurring long distance charges! David discussed the features and limitations of several real-time audio software packages: *Real Audio*, *IWAV* by VocalTech, *Internet Phone*, and *DigiPhone*. Thanks David, for an eye opening presentation.

We're still working on the topic for March and the months after. If you have an idea or know someone who wants to present on an Internet topic, please feel free to contact us.

See you March 9<sup>th</sup>.

*Doug Gorrie, Tom O'Keefe, & Erik Leaseburg*

## 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 listed months. Classes can be taken in any order suitable to the individual student's schedule. Printed notes are provided during classes.

March 9, 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, 1996 No Classes

May 18, 1996

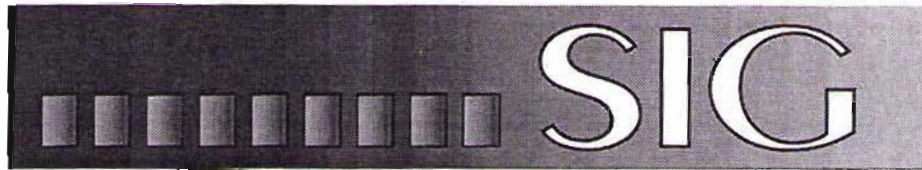
- ❖ 9:00 Class 1  
Introduction to the SIG and the Personal Computer
- ❖ 10:00 Class 2  
Working with Files & Directory Structures
- ❖ Noon Class 3  
Disk Operating System (DOS) - Part I
- ❖ 1:00 Class 4  
DOS - Part II

June 15, 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

July 20, 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)

\* 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

Even considering we were up against the Microsoft Windows NT 4.0 roll-out presentation in the main auditorium, we had a reasonably good turnout for the "Introduction to Relational Database Design" presentation, done by yours truly for the February SIG meeting.

I'm trying to find the time to contact **Jeff Hopper** of Borland to arrange a show and tell of Paradox 7.0. Meanwhile, **Tom Browning** claims to have a bottomless bag of tips and tricks he will be presenting from. That is what is planned for March. Tom has really taken to this SIG presentation thing and he seems to always have something of value to share.

I've been messing about with attempting to call a Windows API from Paradox. Not much progress at the time I'm writing this. Anyhow, should I ever get what I'm doing to fly, I'll slip a "how I did it" in some SIG meeting gap in the future. What is aggravating, is someone did a how to call a Windows API presentation at a PUNT meeting I attended in recent history. He had a handout but ran out before I snagged one. Rats!

Tom is becoming almost as bad as me at wearing a multitude of hats. He says he has even been doing a little *Access* work lately, oh horror of horrors! At least it appears he has enough sense to not try and wear three or four hats at the same time. We were chatting after last month's Delphi SIG and Tom claims Paradox Windows is still his favorite.

So come learn some more neat tricks Tom has found, and catch up on the latest industry rumors.

*Fred Williams*

### PRO SIG

**Kent Kingery**, Pro SIG leader, returned for a visit. Contrary to common rumor, he had not been held prisoner by the Evil Vice President of DFW Xchange Corporation. It seems that Kent, who is really into object-oriented programming, managed to polymorph his own body and was abstracted to another space-time continuum through a temporary template.

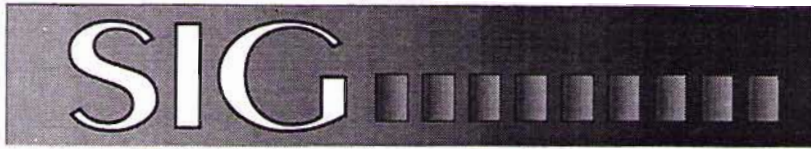
Join us in March when we attempt to factor a Fibonacci number series using a program written in RPG.

*Jim Hoisington*

### QUICKEN SIG

Following the most popular personal budgeting/financial record keeping software, the Quicken SIG, appeals to both beginners, as well as the more experienced devotee.

April features **Sean Wolfe**, Branch Manager of Texas Commerce Bank--Market Center, as guest speaker. His topic will be "On Line Banking Using Quicken Software".



For March, an income tax program oriented to Quicken is planned.

Each session also offers ample opportunity for questions and dialogue. Both the DOS and Windows versions of Quicken are covered.

Your participation is encouraged.

*Phil Faulkner*

## Visual Basic SIG - BEGINNING

The March 9th meeting of the Beginning Visual Basic SIG will feature a continuation of the "For Beginner's Only" session from last month. We will examine the Integrated Development Environment (IDE) used in Visual Basic to develop Windows Applications. We will demonstrate the tools and tutorials provided in the IDE.

Last month, we initiated the discussion of Visual Basic Beginners. We also demonstrated the upgraded "teaching computer" to include Windows 95 and Visual Basic 4.0, Professional Edition. Windows 95 has been installed in the dual-boot mode in order that we may run Visual Basic 3.0 in the Windows 3.1 mode and Visual Basic 4.0 in the Windows 95 mode.

There is substantial interest in the formation of Visual Basic Workshops. If you can arrange for a meeting place for four or five individuals to meet on a weekly basis you could act as a host for one of these groups. For those who can commit to being a host, I will immediately form a group and assign them to you. In this way, we could get these workshops run-

ning. Give me a call at 235-5968 if you can help.

We will be raffling off a copy of Visual Basic at this month's meeting. Be sure to bring proof of membership to show your eligibility for the drawing.

Bring your questions on Beginning Visual Basic to our meeting beginning at 8:00 AM on Saturday, March 9, 1996. Check the Infomart lobby screens for the correct room assignment.

*Jim Carter*

## Visual Basic SIG

I finally got Deborah Kurata's *Doing Objects In VB 4.0*. I read the orientation chapters at the start and learned the new terminology. Now I can drop buzz words with all the young guns: i.e. abstraction, encapsulation, inheritance and polymorphism. For that alone I am glad I bought the book. But is all of this new lingo really necessary? While a collection may be more than an array, in what way is a template different from a class?

TEMPLATE is a concept I and a lot of the other OO illiterate understand. Why can't I call a class a template? Ms. Kurata calls them "cookie cutters". It sure appears that even to her the term CLASS does not convey the real nature of these gizmos (another technical term). Hey, why not just go ahead and call them cookie cutters and open up communication with those who don't even know what a template is?

I suspect that we will find a lot of OO terms that will be (or could be) replaced with words we already use. But then how could

one distinguish the truly initiated from the mere pretenders.

I have not yet gotten to the part of the book that talks about how these cookie cutters find their way into our programs, but as long as I think of them as cookie cutters I can make some pretty good guesses as to the role they play. For instance the concept of "reusable". I make one cookie cutter out of some rigid material and then I can make all the cookies of that shape that I want to. Thus classes (there I used it) have some of their value in that I can make one and easily use it to make others.

If classes are the cookie cutters, then objects must be the cookies themselves. I remember making cookies at my grandmother's house at Christmas. We had different colors of frosting, different colors of sugar granules and those wonderful BB-sized, silver-colored sugar pellets that looked like lights on the Christmas Tree shaped cookies. The point is that we made a lot of cookies and not one of them was exactly like any other.

I would like to spend the next several sessions investigating the uses of cookie cutters in the construction of programs. I have questions like: "What kinds of latitude do I have in creating cookie cutters? Are cookie cutters created to be used in a single application or as tools to be put on a shelf? I might make a lot of them. How then can I keep track of them? What kinds of programming problems lend themselves to being best addressed by cookie cutters? Also, I suppose I could make a machine (cookie cutter) that makes cookie cutters. When would I ever use something like that?"

Join us for the March session. We'll learn together. If you can, get Ms. Kurata's book, or even better, one of the books she recommends and add your perspective to our discussion. It is obvious that OOA, OOD and OOP have the BIG MO so we had better go

with the flow. Also, we will raffle off a copy of VB 4.0. You might be the lucky person.

*Ed Diehl*

## WORDPERFECT/WINDOWS

Hello again. At this month's meeting I am going to try a new approach to the class. Rather than focus on one "feature," we are going to start focusing on "projects." My goal, with the "project-oriented" meeting, is to help you be more pro-

ductive in an everyday office environment. Therefore, this month we will be creating a Newsletter using columns, styles, templates, and graphics. By the end of hour you'll see how easy it is even for the novice user can create a stylish newsletter in a matter of minutes! Coming up with the text

will take the most time! Look forward to seeing you there.

### Tip of the Month:

*"How can I create a full page of labels without typing all of them, or copy/pasting them?"*

In the February meeting the topic discussed was Merge and there is an *Option* in which you can create this label page. This is what you do:

1. Select the Label size you want.
2. Center your pages (Format \_Page \_Center \_Current and Subsequent Pages).
3. Type your address information.
4. With your text on this page choose: Tools \_Merge \_Form File
5. Select "Use file in Active Window"
6. Select "None" for associating to a data file, \_ OK.
7. Then choose "Merge" from your feature bar that has now appeared at the top of your document.
8. Select "Merge" in the "Perform Merge" area.
9. Select "Options."
10. Select "Number of Copies per Record" to be the number of labels on your label sheet (i.e., a standard label sheet is 30 labels per page).
11. Choose OK and OK again. In a new document, you can now print out your label page!
12. I always recommend you print out a copy of this label page on white paper just to make sure that the Labels fall where they should on your label sheet.

*Cindy Adams*

## ATTENTION ALL SIG LEADERS!

We want your SIG notes. It's important that NTPCUG members know what your SIG has done and will be doing at your meetings and presentations. But, you must get them to the *PC News* before they can be printed in the newsletter. The best way is via the NTPCUG BBS.

It's easy and quick. After you have written your SIG note, sign it at the bottom and give it a file name that will help the editors know what it is. A good naming convention would be four letters identifying your SIG, date of publication and followed by .SIG suffix.

Once you log on to the NTPCUG BBS, here's the procedure:

- ❖ From the BBS Main Menu, select "F" — (F)ile Up/Download. That will take you to the NTPCUG Up/Download Menu.
- ❖ Select "I" — S(I)G Happenings upload for newsletter, located in the Upload area in the bottom half of the screen.
- ❖ Then, select "S" to submit. You'll be asked for the 12 character filename which is DOS's familiar "8.3" naming convention, then you'll be asked to write a brief description of the file you are going to upload to the SIG area.
- ❖ Next the screen will show the name of the file you are uploading and the default file-transfer protocol. If you haven't selected a "default" protocol in the user menu, it will be X-Modem.
- ❖ At this point, you should give your communication software's upload command and select the file transmission protocol to match the one the BBS thinks you will use. The BBS will tell you when the transfer is completed.
- ❖ Most problems users experience are either a failure to match protocols, i.e., using Z-Modem to upload when the BBS expects X-Modem, or not having the file to be uploaded in the appropriate upload directory. Another source of difficulty (for mixed-use shops) is inadvertently sending a Macintosh file to a PC BBS or vice versa.

If you want to make doubly sure that your note gets to the *PC News* — after you've sent it to the SIG Upload Area — you can also include it as a (F)ile attached to a BBS E-mail message to me, Reagan Andrews. You might *also* post this on your SIG's BBS Conference area in addition to the above.

*Reagan Andrews*

**Unexpected Dividends!  
Blazing Speed!  
Thrilling Content!  
I-mail @ntpcug.org**

During the pre-NT roll-out Internet e-mail frenzy that landed on Timothy Carmichael's doorstep, thanks to Microsoft listing his e-mail address as the only contact for the February Dallas road show appearance, Timothy noticed the apparent quick turnaround of his e-mail, and asked if we were still just linking with On-Ramp twice a day. It suddenly occurred to me that I had not put the word out on the latest e-mail changes.

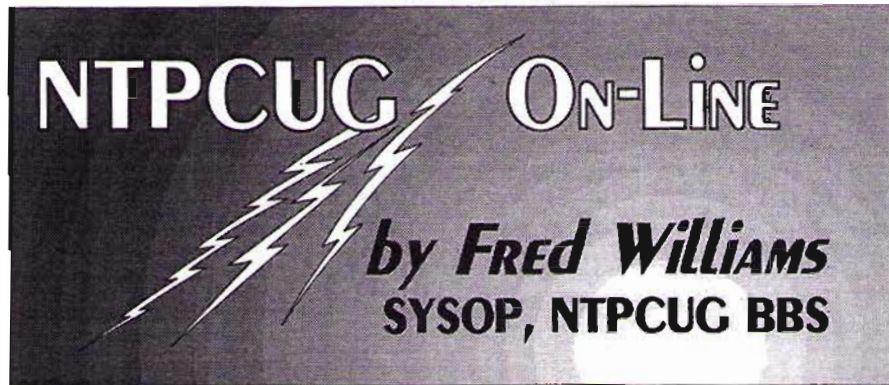
### UUCP Feed Link Schedule

Back during the Doug Gorrie e-mail cleansing, I upped the number of UUCP feed links to six times a day, to cut the turnaround time required for testing. Once the feed settled out, things were running so well, I decided to just leave the new link schedule in place.

So, for everybody who would like to know, the UUCP mail runs are now on the following daily schedule: 2:00 AM, 6:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 2:00PM, 6:00 PM, and 10:00 PM. The 2:00 AM time is approximate, all others are exact.

Someone asked how close to the schedule an outgoing message can be posted in order to make the next feed link. The message may be posted at anytime prior to the actual QWK download run done by UUCP MAIL, the packet boy from H#@@, as the UUCP mail software is affectionately known by around the BBS Sysop crew.

If you don't see the Packet Boy on line at the same time you are post-



ing, your message will make the next scheduled run, period.

### Internet Mailing Lists

Also, to keep everyone up-to-date on BBS policy changes, I will announce here that we are confident enough with the feed to allow those who wish to subscribe to any Internet mailing lists that they so desire. Prior to now, mailing list subscription has been off limits. But, things are working so well now, I feel the BBS/UUCP Feed can take the extra load.

So go wild and subscribe to that Bass Fisherman or doily knitting mailing list you've been pining for.

By the way, we are still not sanctioning e-mail FTP at this time. The reason for this continuing restriction is that e-mail FTP tends to place a much higher resource loading stress on the entire Internet/BBS link. In the past, we

had a couple of users, not knowing any better, attempting e-mail FTP. This contributed to us, the Sysops, to drive to Addison more than once. Those users are now aware of the FTP restrictions, and Addison's tourist business has dropped off again.

### Future BBS Stuff

We are still pressing forward with the NT solution for the BBS. I know we just picked up more Board of Director support for a change this month. Seems Timothy discovered how much work could be caused trying to respond to a large number of Internet e-mail messages using the current setup. Unfortunately there was nothing I could do to ease the burden with the current configuration.

Like I said earlier, Timothy kind of got dumped on inadvertently, when his e-mail address turned up as the only published contact point for the NT presentation. He had inquires from as far away as Sweden, so I understand. And I thought Charles Miller travels a long way to make the monthly meeting!

Oh, and I almost forgot. The BBS diskette will be ready "real soon now".

*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	SUBJECT	HELPER	PHONE	DAYS/HOURS
<b>Access</b>	Larry Linson .....	(817)481-2350	M-Sa 1300-1500	<b>DR DOS</b>	Ralph Beaver .....	(817)336-0570	M-F 0800-1700
					.....	(817)624-9530	SS 0900-2100
<b>Assembly Language</b>	Frank Cavallito .....	(214)423-9221	7 1800-2200	<b>Hardware Help</b>	Charles Miller .....	(903)938-4220(*)	7 1900-2400
	Glynn Brooks .....	(214)578-8737	M-F 1700-2200	<b>Internet - General</b>	Erik Leaseburg .....	(817)265-7550(m)	7 2000-2200
<b>BASIC</b>	Mike Firth .....	(214)827-7734	7 0800-2200		David Martin .....	(214)717-0523	M-F 1900-2200
<b>Beginner Problems</b>	Jan Parkhill .....	(214)828-2216	M-Sa 0900-1700	<b>Internet - Telnet, FTP, NetScape, Web Explorer (OS/2)</b>	Bob Wilson .....	(214)517-1434	M-F 1900-2200
	Shirley Hudgens .....	(214)352-2800	7 0900-2000		.....		S-S 1000-2200
<b>Brother's Keeper</b>	Neil Sunderland .....	(214)272-2869	7 0900-2200	<b>LANs - Novell</b>	Joseph Beasley .....	(214)225-8752	7 0800-2400
<b>C++ (the language)</b>	Bob Adams .....	(214)328-1455	M-Sa 0900-1900	<b>- Lantastic</b>	Joseph Beasley .....	(214)410-3818	7 0900-2200
	Howard Harkness .....	(817)267-8227	7 1000-2100	<b>Managing Your Money</b>	Glynn Brooks .....	(214)578-8737	M-F 1700-2200
	Doug Cochran .....	(214)578-9258	T&T 1800-2030	<b>Modems</b>	Erik Leaseburg .....	(817)265-7550(m)	7 2000-2200
<b>CorelDraw</b>	Linda Hume .....	(817)472-7555	M-F 1900-2200	<b>MathCAD</b>	Bob Adams .....	(214)328-1455	M-Sa 0900-1900
	.....		S-S 1300-2200	<b>OS/2</b>	Larry Truesdale .....	(214)442-7074	7 1000-2200
<b>Batch Files</b>	Charles Miller .....	(903)938-4220(*)	7 1900-2400	<b>PC Tools/Win</b>	Glynn Brooks .....	(214)578-8737	M-F 1700-2200
<b>Borland C++</b>	Bob Adams .....	(214)328-1455	M-Sa 0900-1900	<b>Paradox</b>	Fred Williams .....	(214)492-1315	7 1300-2100
	Howard Harkness .....	(817)267-6227	7 1000-2100	<b>PKzip/PKUNzip</b>	Erik Leaseburg .....	(817)235-7550(m)	7 2000-2200
<b>Comm Software</b>	Doug Gorrie .....	(214) 464-4568	M-F 0800-1700	<b>ProComm/ProComm+</b>	Doug Gorrie .....	(214) 464-4568	M-F 0800-1700
	.....	(214) 618-8002	S-S 1000-1900		.....	(214) 618-8002	S-S 1000-1900
<b>CompuServe</b>	Bob Adams .....	(214)328-1455	M-Sa 0900-1900		Bill Green .....	(817) 731-1308	
<b>dBASE III, III+, IV &amp; Windows</b>	Ted Gillam .....	(214)964-7923	7 0800-1700				
<b>Delphi (Borland)</b>	Howard Harkness .....	(817)267-6227	7 1000-2100				
<b>DOS</b>	Bob Russett .....	(214)422-4269	7 1900-2200				
	Erik Leaseburg .....	(817)265-7550(m)	7 2000-2200				

SUBJECT	HELPER	PHONE	DAYS/HOURS
	Joseph Beasley .....	(214)225-8752	7 0800-2400
	Joseph Beasley .....	(214)410-3818	7 0900-2200
<b>Publisher (Microsoft)</b>			
	Bob Russell .....	(214)422-4269	7 1900-2200
	Pat Cote .....	(214)522-1717	x266 M-F 0800-1700
	.....	(214)424-1738	7 1000-2200
<b>Quicken</b>			
	Billy Pitts .....	(817)430-8148	7 1830-2100
	Jim Hall .....	(214)348-7848	7 1000-2100
<b>Quickbooks</b>			
	Jim Thompson .....	(214)953-0051	M-F 0800-1800
<b>SPFPC</b>			
	Doug Gorrie .....	(214) 464-4568	M-F 0800-1700
	.....	(214) 618-8002	S-S 1000-1900
<b>TurboVision</b>			
	Don Cochran .....	(214)578-9258	T&T 1800-2030
<b>UNIX</b>			
	Doug Scott .....	(817)261-4653	7 1830-2200
<b>Virus &amp; Anti-Virus</b>			
	Charles Miller .....	(903)938-4220(*)	7 1900-2400

## 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
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**WordPerfect 6.x WIN**

Georgene Harkness .....	(817)267-6227	7	1000-2100
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**Works, Microsoft**

Mike Firth .....	(214)827-7734	7	0800-2200
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**XENIX**

Doug Scott .....	(817)261-4653	7	1830-2200
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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.

**LEGEND:**

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

**Areas Needing Helpers:**

- Borland Turbo C
- CAD
- Datalfax
- 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
- O & A
- Roots
- Smart Notes
- Sound Blaster
- Stacker
- TurboTax
- Corel Ventura
- XTree

# North Texas Users Group, Inc. Membership Application

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

Member # \_\_\_\_\_

Name: (Last) \_\_\_\_\_ (First) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: (Check Preferred No.) Home \_\_\_\_ ( \_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Work \_\_\_\_ ( \_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ (Ext) \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation/Profession: \_\_\_\_\_

**Check one from each column below**

Payment:	Membership 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 lists sold for the NTPCUG's benefit to advertisers of IBM compatible products.

# North Texas PC Users Group, Inc.

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

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

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

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

## NORTH TEXAS PC USERS GROUP Officers and People YOU SHOULD KNOW . . .

### North Texas PC Users Group, Inc.

#### Board of Directors

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

### NTPCUG Bulletin Board

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

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

#### NTPCUG 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

#### NTPCUG Officers

President	Andy Oliver	(214) 462-1896 h
President-Elect	Jim Hoisington	(214) 416-3101 h (214) 960-4215 w
Program Chairman	Timothy Carmichael	(214) 661-4626 w
Treasurer	Raymond T. Reyes	(903) 569-2638
Secretary	John West	(214) 620-8741 h
Membership Dir.	Jim Hoisington	(214) 416-3101h
Advertising Dir. (Acting)	Connie Andrews	(214) 828-0699h
Publicity	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

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

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### 15.3

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## North Texas PC Users Group

*Next Meeting:*  
**9 March 1996**

