

North Texas  NEWS

North Texas PC Users Group, Inc.

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May, 1996

VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 5



# 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 2,500 last month. Member distribution was 2,177; 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 June  
North Texas PC NEWS:  
Friday, May 10th

**Meeting Dates:**  
May 18, 1996 - 3rd Saturday  
June 15, 1996 - 3rd Saturday  
July 20, 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.

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9:00 AM - 9:55 AM

*InterBase 4.0*

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NTPCUG PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS . . .  
TIMOTHY CARMICHAEL

10:00 AM - 10:55 AM

*ReportSmith 3*

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ReportSmith 3 lets applications developers and end users quickly create dazzling columnar, crosstab, and form reports using "live" data - and ReportSmith works with any PC or SQL database against local tables or large corporate databases. There will be a drawing for free t-shirts and products.

11:00 AM - 11:30 AM

**NTPCUG Business Meeting**

1:00 PM - 1:55 PM

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Delphi Desktop 2.0, combines all the power of a visual, component-based architecture, a 32-bit native code compiler and scalable database tools. Delphi Developer adds powerful programming and database tools including: a DataDictionary, complete ODBC support, the new 32-bit Local InterBase Server, sample ODBCx and more#everything you need for professional application development. There will be a drawing for free t-shirts and products.

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

**MAY**

**SIGs** NTPCUG SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP MEETING SCHEDULE

8:00 - 8:55 Internet - WEB Developers Microsoft Networking Visual BASIC - Beginning MultiMedia	9:00 - 10:55 Dallas Corel
8:00 - 9:55 Hardware Solutions	10:00 - 10:55 BASIC - Classic CAD Fox Pro Database Graphics Networking Internet-Beginning PAF-Genealogy Paradox Introduction to the PC WordPerfect/Windows UNIX
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	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 (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.

1:00 - 1:55 Access ACT!
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## Why Do They Do It?

The volunteers! Why do they keep showing up? Some of them, for the past 14 years, have returned each month to help you with your computer problems. Most, cheerfully, some, curmudgeonly, but they are always there to help.

Our Special Interest Group (SIG) leaders, who, among other duties, prepare for their SIG's during the month. Well, some of them prepare. Others are teaching or working in their subject-area every day, so tutoring the same subject one Saturday of each month is only slightly different from going to work.

Why would someone go to work an extra day each month? The answer lies in the personal computer. The conglomeration of hardware and software that has a master-slave co-dependent hold over us. We never know whether we are the master or the slave. Some days we're both.

Marketing people will have you believe that you just plug it in and turn it on, and it works. Those of us who live in the real world know differently.

That is where the cadre of volunteers comes from: people who have tried and failed and tried again; people who know how important a support organization can be; people who did not have a user group to help them; and people who did. The men and women volunteering their time and efforts. They are the North Texas PC Users Group.

### Who Are They?

The names listed in this newsletter, in the SIG Happenings section, are the soul of this group. Some of them are computer people who solve small business and corporate information systems problems daily. But many of the volunteers are not in the computer business; some are teachers, doctors, retirees from other occupations, engineers, and scientists.

If the SIG leaders are the soul, then the arms and legs of the group belong to the other volunteers, who work behind the desk, behind the scenes, and every place in between that make the meetings happen. Thank them for their efforts by pitching in and helping next month.



### Late June - Microsoft Comes To Town

Microsoft is planning a week-night trip to town in late June. This Users Group roadshow is focused on Microsoft's Internet strategy. Watch this column and your mailbox for further details.

*Andy Oliver*

### NTPCUG Walkabout

NTPCUG holds *Walkabout* tours of the SIGs and Infomart at every meeting. The purpose of the Walkabout is to familiarize new members with how User Group Saturday works. Membership benefits such as the BBS, Introduction to the PC SIG, User-To-User Program, *North Texas PC News*, magazine discounts, job bank and resource networking are also discussed.

Walkabout groups will depart from the Information Booth in the Infomart lobby at 9 AM, 10 AM, and 12 PM.

While this is open primarily to new members, anyone is welcome to come join us in the Walkabout. Whether you have been a member for a while or you have not yet joined, come to the Walkabout and learn more about what NTPCUG offers and how User Group Saturday works.

This Walkabout project will need volunteers, so if this appeals to you, please give me a call at 342-8833. I think this is a really fun project and I encourage every member to think about volunteering for it.

*Linda Moore*

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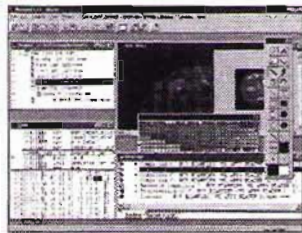
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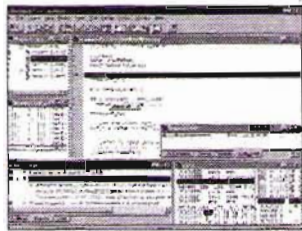
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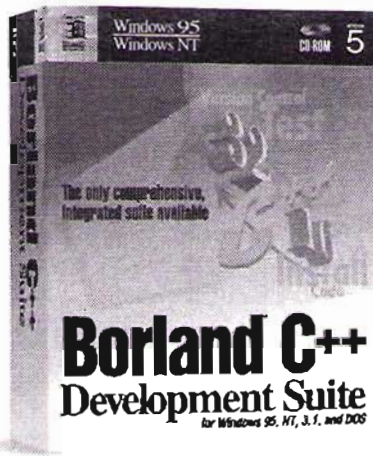
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FREE Java tools for the Internet, including GUI debugger	✓	✓	—
Windows 95 controls supported under Windows 3.1	✓	✓	—
MFC compilation support	✓	✓	✓
ANSI/ISO Standard C++ Library, including STL	✓	✓	—
Integrated 32-bit debugging and resource editing	✓	✓	✓
Point-and-click install expert with prebuilt components	✓	—	—
Automatic uninstall support for Windows 95	✓	—	—
Detects bad pointers, even outside of API calls	✓	—	—
Automatic detection, location, and diagnosis of memory bugs	✓	—	—
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AppAccelerator for up to ten times faster Java code	✓	—	—



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## Microsoft Developer Network (MSDN) Membership

Microsoft offers a three-level membership program for developers using Microsoft development tools. An MSDN Level 1 membership contains substantial information for Windows programmers and is the subject of this column. Level 2 includes the Level 1 information plus all the Microsoft development platforms including SDK's, DDK's and the Windows NT and Windows 95 operating systems. Level 3 includes all the Level 2 features plus the Back Office Test Platform for enterprise development.

### MSDN Level 1 Membership Covers VB and VBA

The Level 1 MSDN membership provides a quarterly CD (or CDs) which contain considerable information on the Microsoft Windows programming languages. Included are *Visual Basic* and *Visual Basic for Applications* (VBA) as implemented in *Office 95* applications with considerable coverage on *Access*. In order to explain the quality and quantity of Visual Basic coverage, I will review the information included in the current (January 1996) edition of *MSDN Level 1*.

### Technical Articles on Visual Basic

This edition contained over 200 technical articles with 36 articles on Visual Basic. Most of the articles were written specifically for MSDN and included topics on building Add-Ins for Visual Basic 4.0, creating OLE servers in Visual Basic to simplify Windows function calls, and several technical articles on Client/Server applications in Visual Basic.

### Visual Basic Sample Code

There are 35 examples of Visual Basic code to describe development techniques. The sample applications included file management, graphics manipulation, and drag-and-drop techniques. View-

# The VISUAL BASIC CORNER

by *JIM CARTER*

ing sample code sure gives us a leg up when we are faced with a "new" problem.

### Visual Basic Knowledge Base and Bug List

The CD contains the Knowledge Base and Bug List (updated quarterly) for all Windows development languages, but has the ones related to Visual Basic in one location for easy reference. The Visual Basic Knowledge Base contains nearly 1500 entries with bug reports and workarounds for all the versions of Visual Basic for Windows. These bugs are generally reported after a release of Visual Basic and workarounds are generated by/with Microsoft to fix the problem until the next release of Visual Basic.

### Visual Basic Tips

There are 155 "tips" for Visual Basic programmers on the CD. They cover many subjects. Accordingly, when you run up against a programming problem in Visual Basic, one of the first places to consult would be the Visual Basic Tips section on the MSDN Level 1 CD. Titles for a sampling of these tips are: (1) converting a number to hours, minutes, and seconds; (2) determining a program's name and path; and (3) converting a Word for Windows document to RTF format.

### Additional Information

There are entire books on the CD. Notable inclusions are the Visual Basic product documentation, Microsoft Press books like *Inside OLE 2* by Kraig Brockschmidt, and *Programming Windows 3.1* by Charles Petzold. There are many articles from such magazines as *Inside Visual Basic*, *Visual Basic Programmer's Journal*, *Visual Basic Developer*, etc. In addition, there are specifications, conference and seminar papers, and Unsupported tools and utilities. A little something for everyone! Fortunately, Microsoft has included a fast, full-text search engine to help us locate the information we want.

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June 5, 1996



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<b>Ft. Lauderdale, FL</b>	6260
<b>Minneapolis, MN</b>	6261
<b>Chicago, IL</b>	6262
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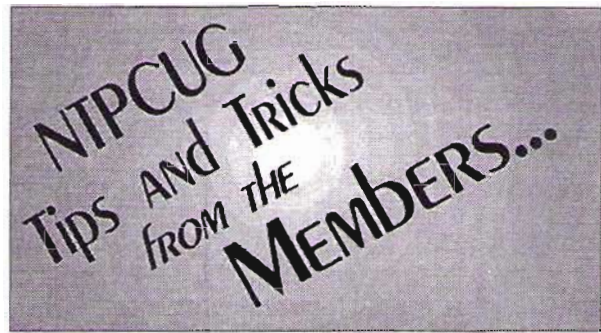
# Autorun.C

by Fred Williams

This is the first in a series of articles intended to give a beginning and intermediate C programmer some insight into some simple but useful programming algorithms, while providing a means to expand the programmer's knowledge of the C language. I have chosen an actual production DOS program as a basis for this series, as it provides an excellent vehicle for the introduction to the C language in a simple environment. The chosen example program is devoid of the inherent complexities of the Windows development environment and C++ constructs.

The program, Autorun.exe, is currently in production on the NTPCUG's BBS network's "mail muncher" computer system. I developed this bit of code while planning and implementing the Users' Group's UUCP feed connection for Internet e-mail and Usenet news group services.

During UUCP feed implementation planning, it became apparent that some method of automated timed-event launch was going to be needed to ad-



dress the periodic nature of the intended UUCP feed. The BBS is located at an unmanned site, and all normal maintenance is done remotely. This remoteness means any feature implemented for the BBS must be reliable and self-sustaining. In order to better understand the need for Autorun, it might be best to outline how the UUCP feed works.

The BBS's UUCP feed is a dial-up connection to our Internet service provider, OnRamp Technologies. This means that on a periodic basis, a data call is initiated to OnRamp's UUCP feed computer system, UUCP e-mail and news group article data packets are exchanged, and the connection is then terminated.

Prior to initiating a UUCP feed call, the BBS's "mail muncher" computer "scans out" all outgoing e-mail and news group articles. Once the UUCP feed data call has been completed, the "muncher" "tosses" the incoming e-mail and news group articles into the proper electronic "bins", for subsequent retrieval by users of the BBS. Once a day there is also a requirement for a special job to run against the news group database, in order to "compress" the base by dropping all news group articles meeting pre-established aging guidelines.

In addition to the periodic scheduled jobs outlined above, there is a need to allow for ad hoc, on-de-



In addition to the CD, Microsoft sends us a bi-monthly copy of the *Developer Network News*, two phone-support incidents related to the installation of

MSDN, and grants a 20% discount on Microsoft Press books.

All this for \$195 plus tax, shipping and handling. Yes, it is a bit expensive. It does keep a Visual Basic programmer up-to-date on the development environment however, and we must each set our own value on that.

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## Autorun.C... Ctd

mand, jobs which might be required by a remotely located BBS System Operator (Sysop) attempting to perform a special maintenance function on the "mail muncher". Additionally, some changes that may be made to the "muncher" computer may require the system be rebooted in order for new changes to take effect.

tempting to perform a special maintenance function on the "mail muncher". Additionally, some changes that may be made to the "muncher" computer may require the system be rebooted in order for new changes to take effect.

With the need for both scheduled and on-demand remote job execution defined, a specification for a program to accomplish these functions was developed. This program specification was what initiated the development of Autorun.

To review the specification for our new program, I will list the functions to be addressed. Autorun must meet the following minimum requirements:

1. Automatically initiate both scheduled and unscheduled events.
2. Allow for an unlimited number of tasks with an unlimited number of scheduled execution times.
3. Protect against the "false" execution of a scheduled task in the event of a system reboot.

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4. Be small, simple, fully self-contained, and as "bullet proof" as possible.
5. Produce as small a resource load on the host system as can be implemented.

In order to accomplish this seemingly simple list of performance requirements, surprisingly I ended up using a pretty fair set of unique programming algorithms. The final product contained the following interesting coding features:

1. DOS Command Line and parameter record token management.
2. DOS time calculation.
3. Singly-linked lists.
4. Dynamic memory allocation.
5. Random number generation.
6. Text file I/O.
7. Console I/O.
8. Program "Spawning".

In this series of articles I will address each coding feature and endeavor to explain how and why they work. Once I have finished, I would hope that the reader will have gained a useful utility, and a little greater insight into the power and grace of pure C programming. Not bad praise of a high level language, coming from a former, hard-core, bare-metal assembler coder, I'd say.

I used the Borland Professional Developer's C++ compiler, TSE Editor, and the command line version of Turbo Debugger, all running from the DOS command line, to develop and test Autorun.C. One should not expect an old bit slinger such as myself, to use one of them fancy, smancy Windows IDE development environments to produce

*Autorun.C... Ctd*

such fine handcrafted work. Turbo C++ developers should have no problems following along.

For all of you Mickeysoft Visual C++ types out there, I'll leave to your own devices as to how or why you should wish to take advantage of this series. Once upon a time, before the Redmond gang went full tilt Windows, there were only minor implementation differences between Borland's and Mickey's C compilers. It has been about five years since I last tortured myself with a development session using MS C and CodeView, so I'm at best, out-of-date on the latest and greatest Visual C++.

With that said, I will point out that, given the reader's own expertise in another programming language, both the program design and algorithms can easily be implemented in any number of other languages. Both Pascal and Assembler come to mind. FORTRAN might prove a little out-of-focus, but I'm certain APL'ers could do it all on the back of a match book cover, with room left to write the documentation!

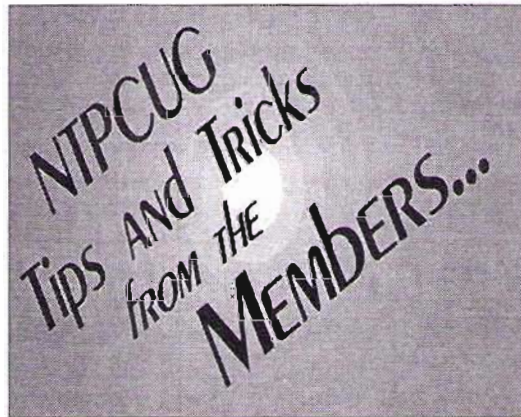
After my initial resistance to C, coming from my assembler-oriented mind-set, I have found C to be an amazingly boundless and powerful development environment. The possibilities are truly unlimited, and the developer is provided with a virtual arsenal of computer "nuking" language features. Headlined by the insidiously powerful C "pointer". The Pointer in C is arguably the most powerful and equally dangerous feature of the language, in my humble opinion.

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Autorun's code relies quite heavily on C pointers, and therefore should prove an excellent debugging exercise for the semi-experienced programmer. Almost every function contains some form of pointer manipulation. Dynamic memory allocation and management also offer unlimited debugging opportunities as well. We will even do a little math, so that the reader will not grow lonesome for his old College programming days, where everything was a math exercise disguised to look like a programming assignment.



I think to best dissect Autorun, I will first describe the overall design implementation, and then examine each feature down to pulling apart and examining the functions that make up a given program feature. I implemented the design to basically suit the

needs of the NTPCUG BBS's UUCP feed. There are things in the program that are there only because that is what I thought would be best for the intended environment. Once you have a working program, you can tailor it to suit your own private set of needs.

At startup, Autorun reads its list of tasks from a specially formatted ASCII text file. An example task file can be found in Figure 1. The list of tasks, with their starting time list, is stored in a dynamically allocated linked list in memory. The program consists of a never-ending loop, which every five minutes, checks to see if it is time to run a task from the stored task/time list or if a human has showed up and pressed the "Esc" key.

If a human is thumping around on the keyboard, and manages to hit the "Esc" key, Autorun foolishly returns computer control to the "higher" intelligence. Otherwise, if no task has reached its launch time, Autorun just picks a new random spot on the

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## *Autorun.C... Ctd*

computer monitor and display's its "I'm running things" banner. If it is time to execute a

task, Autorun builds an appropriate command line and spawns the task to be executed. At that point, Autorun rolls the majority of himself out of memory and lets the spawned task run the show. Once the task has completed, control is returned to Autorun, who immediately goes back to waiting to start the next scheduled task.

Since Autorun was developed before a real ship date for Win'95 ever materialized, he was designed for a single-threaded environment. This means that a limitation of the design is no two tasks, or a single task with multiple start times, can be scheduled to overlap. Having said that, I'll mention that as a side effect of one of the design requirements, Autorun will attempt to resolve an overlap by executing a "missed" program for up to thirty minutes after the "official" start time. This inadvertent feature will become apparent once the reader becomes familiar with the nitty-gritty details of Autorun's implementation.

So stick around until next month. That is when I will begin an in depth look at the code that makes up Autorun.

### AUTORUN task file

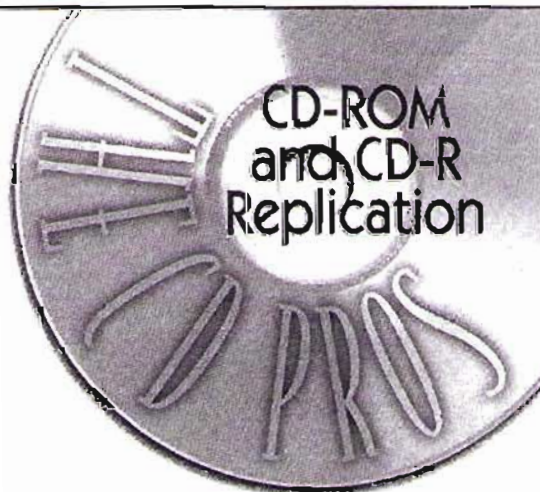
```
chkboot,00:00
inetupdt,00:00
mailrun,00:00
mailshot,6:00,10:00,14:00,18:00,22:00
specjob,00:00
net clock \\host,01:00
logspool,01:05
prune,02:00
```

*Fred Williams*

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## Windows 95 - The Basics: Could You? Should You? Would You?

by John Pellet

Windows 95 is the greatest thing since sliced bread. Unfortunately, I don't consider sliced bread anything to write home about. On the other hand, I'm one of those millions of folks that have been running Windows 95 since the first day it was released. I plan to answer those basic questions: Could you, should you, and will you upgrade from earlier version of Windows to 95?

### Could You?

Windows 95 is a new operating system. Unlike earlier versions (excluding NT), with 95, your computer starts in Windows, rather than loading DOS then Windows. Like most things new and improved, Windows 95 wants more of your system. Microsoft's minimum setup requires the following:

- ❖ 80386 or better CPU
- ❖ 4 megabytes of dynamic RAM (DRAM)
- ❖ 40 megabytes of free hard disk space, and
- ❖ VGA video card with 14 inch monitor.

In reality, this is the minimum, not the recommended system. Most reviews I've read recommend:

- ❖ 80486 or better CPU running at 33 megahertz or better
- ❖ 8 megabytes of dynamic RAM (DRAM)
- ❖ 100 megabytes of free hard disk space, and
- ❖ Video card and monitor capable of 800x600 resolution at 256 colors.

If your hardware is greater than the latter list, you should see some benefits running Windows 95. I personally recommend all of the memory and hard disk space you can afford, for reasons I'll discuss presently.

With respect to software, while there have been many rumors and lists, everything I use runs under Windows 95. Most software runs better.



### Should You?

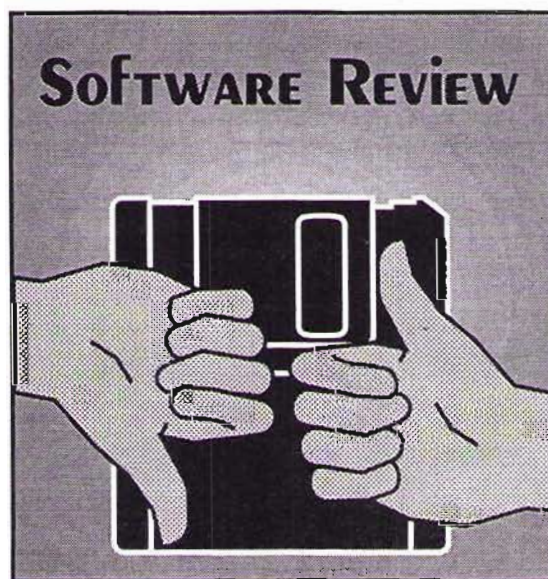
Windows 95 is a major upgrade - the first since Windows 3.0 (I consider Windows NT a different product). There are many significant changes.

Windows 95 makes major improvements to your user interface. The nested program groups in the program manager, requiring you to double-click to open multiple groups to find the program you want, are gone. Gone also is the program manager itself. Instead, Windows 95 puts a task bar along the edge of your screen if you choose.

Every running program gets a box on this task bar. Since the task bar stays along the edge of your screen in applications, you can always swap to another application by simply clicking on it, in contrast to earlier versions

which required use of the Alt-Tab keys. Rather than the nested program manager groups, Windows 95 installs a "Start" box on the task bar. The start box provides a series of cascading menus to your program groups, as well as a list of frequent applications.

Windows 95 also makes extensive use of the right mouse button, which, when clicked, will pop up a list of options for the object you clicked on, allowing you to rename, delete, *Continued on Page 13.*



## It's Spring, We're Back — And the Web Awaits! PC Mix 'n Match Becoming a Real Problem as 'Who's with Who?' Grows Much More Complex

With apologies to JAMES JOYCE AND BULWER-LYTTON...

Oh! Such a twisted web we've woven this year! There are strands twisted hither and yon, beyond the ken of any rational being! Such a magnificent trap for the unwary, waiting silently, surely draped in shadows and darkness, woven with care and oft with deceit and cajolery, all quiescent, all shimmering, all in wait, all for the innocent.

Yep! It's "VARIETY STORE" AGAIN.

This month, I'm focused initially on the Web and the new national rave pastime — providing endless streams of dollars for the great, new, national waiting game. That's 'specially' if you're tapping in at modern speeds, i.e., at 28.8 or 14.4 KBPS. All the hoopla and gilt, the magic graphical wonderland awaits in a manner similar to a Las Vegas casino filled with shining and glittering slots. At 28.8 or 14.4, all that glitter exacts a significant price in terms of the user's time, and in real dollars.

### Glory? Who's Paying Those On-line Service Bills

World Wide Web in all its glory — and, wait till you get the on-line service bill:

All those seconds, minutes and hours waiting while too-ambitious graphical expositions very S L O W L Y load on your Web browser aren't "free" for most of us. Look at the bill, and then you'll understand the hyperbole and superlatives are often empty lies, spun from the fabric of blind trust and naiveté, foisted with the hope of wresting each and every (possible) cent from the unwary.

### PURPLE PROSE RETURNS BUT, NO 'PURPLE HAZE' JUST TANGLED WEBS ...

Guess that means it's a month shrouded in blackness. Not really. And, it's not a diatribe against the Internet — I use it a lot and find it a major source of news, drivers and upgrades. I'm

just addicted to *Purple Prose* and a gnawing compulsion to drop full-speed into all the really neat words, similes, metaphors and constructions I couldn't allow in formal use.

I am focused briefly on the Internet's WWW, and on the media's instant love affair with all things WWW or anything Internet in even the most minor way. "Explosion" doesn't do the issue justice unless it's framed in 100-megaton, thermonuclear terms. And, that may be unfortunate, given this is the 10th anniversary of the Chernobyl "accident."

A *tangled-web* is the best way to describe all the recent actions/ interactions/ permutations/ agreements/ acquisitions involving major software/ media/ communications vendors and wannabe-vendors on the Internet. LSD 2-5 comes to mind. (No, I didn't drop some *Purple Haze* just before writing this column, even if it may appear that way in parts.) I'm referring to the LSD experiments on

spiders during the 60's and the pictures of the distorted webs resulting from the drug.

### CHARTS AND GRAPHS? LOTS OF CONFUSION RESULTS

Initially, I had hopes of beginning this month's column with a (brief) series on the recent agreements/combinations between the major players in the software world and the on-line vendors. Was going to do some really wonderful charts and graphs, and a

few Venn diagrams, explaining the various agreements between Microsoft, IBM, Corel, AOL, CompuServe, AT&T, MCI, GTE, Netscape and a number (hundreds) of others.

Page almost became solid black. There were so many intersecting lines, joins, crosses and combinations that I realized there were no common, unifying factors involved — just incomprehensible junctions that made no sense to me.

### MAJOR VENDORS ENTERING ISP WARS BIG TIME —BUT, WHO'LL SURVIVE?

What I could see was all the major telephone-related vendors such as AT&T, GTE, and MCI have decided to become ISP's (Internet Service Providers) and have decided at this first foray into the ISP Wars that \$9.95 per month for a few "free" hours on line will be "standard." Every additional hour looks to be \$2.50 or so.

### 'Additional Hours' — Major TRAP FOR THE UNWARY

I think they are counting on lots and lots of "additional hours," given relative modem speeds on increasingly crowded and 'noisy' lines. And, it's the graphical interface on the WWW that will provide the ISP's with many,

many additional-hour dollars. CompuServe (CIS), Prodigy and AOL saw the "Gold in Graphics" several years ago and began pushing their users toward graphical interfaces with a vengeance. CIS is even restructuring its service to be usable *only* in graphics mode and make "text only" use a relic of the past.

Not everybody is delighted with this state. Some Web sites are beginning to recognize the growing impatience/anger more savvy users are feeling and have advertised "text only" capabilities for their sites up front. Cyrix is an example (<http://www.cyrix.com>) and displays this prominently on their home page. Yes, we know most browsers allow (or have in the past) users to turn off the graphics, but many beginners and casual users usually don't know how to do it. It would mean going into the browser's configuration setups and making the switch — and most such users probably just use their browsers in their installed *default* configuration.

Why? First, most don't read their documentation or use the (Netscape) on-line Help facilities. Second, most configuration menus are daunting even to skilled users. Third, most of us (including me) either are lazy, or aren't willing to take the time to do so.

I think the vendors and ISP's are counting on this ...

So much for Internet this month. Really felt good for me — hope it was just as good for you. Be even better topped-off with a cigarette and a snifter of brandy.

### CYRIX GOES FOR THE GOLD ANNOUNCES NEW PC'S AND, SUPER PERFORMANCE

Speaking of Cyrix, there've been a lot of Cyrix announcements in the last two months, including their entry into the PC business. Cyrix is very clear that this move, announced on their Web page April 1, 1996, is meant to threaten the traditional box builders, i.e., Compaq, IBM, Micron, et al. But it is designed to get the Cyrix name and logo in front of the PC public. Cyrix' 6x86 boxes were shown to the public at their shareholder meeting, according to Fred Williams, and were very, very fast from what he saw.

Hope to have Cyrix demonstrate these at the May meeting — and that's another gamble you'll understand if you read my DOS SIG notes in the *SIG Reports* section of this newsletter. Hope the demonstration can answer a lot of questions raised by the really super performance specs reported.

### WANT A CHEAP UPGRADE? LOOK AT THE NEW 5X86 BOARDS IN THE BASEMENT

Need more speed than the "pedestrian" 486's and don't have the budget for the new *Pentium* or 6x86 PC's? Cyrix and AMD (now) are producing 5x86 CPU's at prices that are very seductive. Have seen a number of motherboards with Cyrix or AMD 5x86 CPU's in the Infomart basement at



## Design Contest!

Win a free, one-year membership to the NTPCUG! Redesign the NTPCUG Tri-fold. Pick up a copy of the current one at the Information/Registration Booth, the redesign it!

Submit your entries there or to any board members, or mail to the NTPCUG address shown on the back of this newsletter!

**Good Luck!**



## THE VARIETY STORE

less than \$200 for 120 MHz versions. Most of these boards can accept a combination of 72-pin and 30-pin memory modules and a number have both PCI and VL bus sockets as well.

### Want Good End-user Support and Service? Try Adaptec and H-P

Had recent "service experiences" with both Adaptec and Hewlett-Packard (H-P) that were very gratifying and unexpected. First of these was with H-P "the other disk vendor" concerning a 1 G SCSI hard disk that apparently was "losing" sectors. Discovered this when installing *Windows 95* and kept receiving numerous error messages after the installation was supposedly completed. Phoned H-P, explained the problem to one of their technicians in Colorado who agreed it sounded as if the disk was faulty. She suggested that H-P would send me a new disk under warranty via UPS and I could return the old disk via UPS. 36 hours later, the new disk arrived complete with a return UPS ticket courtesy of H-P.

### ADAPTEC EQUALLY IMPRESSIVE

Had a similar experience with Adaptec and one of their SCSI-II adapters. Talked at length with Adaptec's technician about the board and tried a number of suggestions put forth by the young man to no avail. We struggled with a number of hardware, software and BIOS parameters via telephone until he suggested that the board was probably bad. He offered to repair the old board or send a new board within 24 hours of receipt by Adaptec of the old board. I had the new board back within 48 hours and didn't get a lot of argument in the process.

I was impressed with Adaptec since there was no point in the discussion(s)

where any attempt was made to blame me, the end-user, for the problem, nor was there any lack of concern or courtesy in the process. That's service.

### An Old Hand in A New Stable — Gene Barlow

Gene Barlow used to be a familiar sight at NTPCUG meetings some years back. Gene was IBM's PC Users Group Coordinator for a number of years and was instrumental in formation of a number of PCUG's around the

### Windows 95 - The Basics ...Ctd.

and set other properties. For example, if you want to change your display resolution, screen saver, or desktop background, simply right-button click anywhere on the desktop, choose "Properties" on the resulting menu, and you can do all of the above.

Windows 95 handles task sharing much better than earlier versions of Windows. Especially if you are using an online service, Windows 95 will allow you to do this



country after the introduction of the IBM PC in 1981. Gene was based in Dallas and was often seen at Infomart at PCUG meetings.

Now Gene is with PowerQuest as manager of User Group Relations. You may recognize PowerQuest as publishers of *Partition-Magic*, the power utility that allows users to re-partition or change partition characteristics on the fly without re-formatting or losing data on the hard disk.

Nice to see Gene back in the middle of the PCUG community and active again in fostering interactions between vendors and PCUG's.

*Reagan Andrews*

and something else much more smoothly.

Windows 95 offers much more customization on your desktop. For example, you can change base display fonts. Windows 95 also supports adding new hardware and software much better than earlier versions. 95 also integrates support for the Internet and other networking options. Internet support is especially enhanced with the Plus! package, which is sold separately.

With all of this added power, comes some cost. Windows 95 is a real memory hog. It simply uses a large amount of RAM getting all of this loaded. My system, adding several background options, like faxing, takes more than 20MB of RAM to load, before loading any major applications. This means any system with 16MB or less RAM should expect Windows 95 to need some hard disk space for virtual memory. While Windows 95 handles virtual memory much better than earlier versions, this

## Windows 95... Ctd.

and set other properties. For example, if you want to change your display resolution, screen saver, or desktop background, simply right-button click anywhere on the desktop, choose "Properties" on the resulting menu, and you can do all of the above.

Windows 95 handles task sharing much better than earlier versions of Windows. Especially if you are using an online service, Windows 95 will allow you to do this and something else much more smoothly.

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When I was running earlier versions of Windows, I would get computer crashes (e.g., General Protection Faults) every day or two of heavy use. Moreover, available resources would decrease over time. As a result, I would have to reboot the computer every day or two, and several times a day if I used it heavily. With Windows 95, I rarely have to restart the system. Most software crashes do not affect the operating system and system resources are never a problem. As a result, my system needs restarting only every week or so.

Every Windows application I use runs at least as well under 95 as it did under earlier versions. Several of the interface enhancements are available. Examples include the improved file open box and font/color support.

However, I am not a big games fan. I could easily believe DOS games might have problems. Windows 95 does offer a boot-to-DOS option, that would likely be required for some games.

If you have 16MB of RAM and a lot of free hard drive space, Windows 95 is likely to enhance your computer. If you do a lot of communications-related work and have the hardware to support it, Windows 95 will be an improvement. If you are tired of Windows crashing all the time, Windows 95 will make it better. On the other hand, if you have 8MB of RAM or less or are relying on disk compression for everything to fit on your hard drive, you should recognize that Windows 95 may push you to a hardware upgrade, even if it runs



on your current system. In that vein, I just upgraded my system from 16MB to 32MB RAM, which significantly speeded up Windows 95 starting and swapping programs.

### Would You?

## PC @ 2000 A.D.? Check It Out

More and more articles are being written in the computer publications about the problem that computer software and hardware is going to have with the year 2000. Our personal computers are no exception. Many, recently-produced personal computers, have clock chips that will not go beyond 12/31/99! Here's how to find out if your computer is one of the unfortunate ones.

1. Get to a DOS prompt. C:
2. Use the DATE command to set the date to 12/31/99.  
C:DATE  
Current date is Sun 04-21-1996  
Enter new date (mm-dd-yy)  
12/31/99
2. Use the time command to set the time to 3 minutes before midnight.  
C:TIME  
Current time is 5:48:10.47p  
Enter new time: 23:57
3. Turn off your computer for five minutes.
4. Turn your computer back on.
5. Check the date by using the DATE command.  
C:DATE

If your computer tells you that it is 1980; plan on replacing it in the next four years.

*Jim Hoisington*



# Selected SIG Reports . . .

**News and meeting notes of Special Interest Groups**  
*(Material for this column should be sent to NTPCUG BBS SIG Upload Area before the 10th day of each month)*

## Access SIG

At our May meeting, Larry Linson will speak on the subject of *application frameworks* (sometimes called *shell* or *skeleton* applications). By having much of the structure you'll need for any application already packaged with support code that is often needed, you can get a head start on developing new applications. You take a copy of your application framework, modify a few items, and add the application-specific portions.

Perhaps it's not as high-tech as object-oriented programming, but it's certainly a tried-and-true way to reuse functions, forms, queries,

tables, and modules. It saves development time and effort for the developer, improves the speed with which your users get their application, and saves on cost for customers and employers. Larry has a "local example" in his Address Book application, and a review copy of *Start Developing with Access* from Moss Micro. If all goes well, there'll be a copy of the Moss Micro package for the regular giveaway drawing at this month's meeting, too.

Thanks to Jim Hart, independent consultant and trainer, for his very informative and clear explanation, at the April meeting, of event sequences and how to use the timer event of Access forms

## 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 Diehl @ (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

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### 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 h

### Assembly Language SIG

Glynn Brooks ..... (214) 578-8737 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

# SIG

for several different purposes. Jim didn't even mention the Intermediate Access class he was about to begin teaching at Tarrant County Junior College.

You might keep an eye on the TCJC schedule in the future, if you are in need of Access training. It's inexpensive and Jim's obviously a good teacher.

Jack Atkinson has agreed to host the June and July meetings, to give Larry a little time off from his SIG Leader duties.

Still needed: speakers on Access and Access-related subjects for future meetings, and Access examples and other Access-related software for an Access SIG freeware disk for the NTPCUG Disk of the Month operation. We may have enough to package for our first disk by the time you read this.

Between meetings, keep up with the group, and Access, on the NTPCUG electronic bulletin board system. We have our own local MS ACCESS message conference where you can post questions, answers, or announcements. Attached to a message there, you'll find a copy of Silly Little Mail Reader (SLMR), good, solid, and (best of all) *free*ware, to use to read the Internet newsgroup "comp.databases.ms-access" available for downloading only (you can't view it online). Check inside the back cover of this issue for the BBS telephone numbers.

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

Larry Linson

## Application Developers (OLE and ODBC) SIG

In May, Dan Ogden will help us refocus on our chosen subjects, with a presentation about OLE Structured Storage, one of the more exciting improvements in the new world of Windows 95 and Windows NT.

Just how good is OLE Structured Storage? Well, it's good enough to attract the attention of Daniel Appleman, known for his *Visual Basic Programmer's Guide to the Windows API*, whose company, Desaware, has released a product in this area. It's also the basis for quite a number of data and file activities in the current and planned releases of the Operating Systems themselves.

Dan is very excited about the potential of this new feature and I'm sure we'll find his presentation both informative and useful. I just can't resist "hitching a ride" on the overwhelming wave of Internet interest by saying that this approach is very much applicable for applications intended to be used on an Internet or a company's Intranet Web server.

Thanks, too, to Dan, for stepping in at the last minute to present a comparison of Windows 3.1, Windows 95, and Windows NT memory use and stability. It was enlightening and explained why the Windows NT environment is inherently more stable than either Windows 95 or Windows 3.1. Dan's presentation was, unfortunately, not advertised in advance.

To add even more to Dan's load, he's agreed to host the June and July meetings, to give Larry a little early-summer break.

## SIG LEADER LISTING

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

### Communications

Doug Gorrie ..... (214) 618-8002 h  
..... (214) 464-4568 w  
Birl Smith..... (214) 960-8227 h  
..... (214) 220-9388 w

### Dallas Core!

JoAnn Elliott ..... (214) 231-5332 h  
Marsha Drebels (214) 951-0266  
Susan Biggs..... (214) 340-7794

### 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  
Tom Browning..... (214) 692-9784 h  
Frank Cavallito .... (214) 423-9221

### Desktop Publishing

Mark Stuert..... (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 - Brother's Keeper

Neil Sunderland .. (214) 272-2869 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

**SIG LEADER LISTING**

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

**Hardware Solutions... Ctd.**

Gary Johnson ..... (214) 938-0344 h

**Health Care Computing/Informatics**

Dawn Gracey ..... (214) 964-0954

**Internet-Beginner**

Tom O'Keefe ..... (214) 247-8812 h

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

..... (214) 464-4568 w

**Internet-Beginner Ctd.**

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**

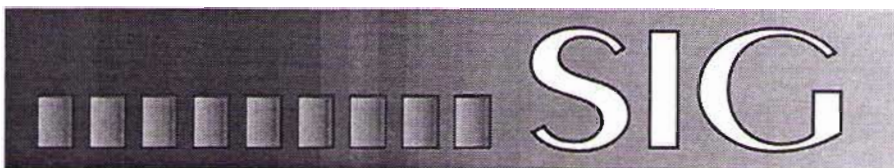
Leroy Tennison

Francis Bright

**OS/2 Developer**

James Dunn ..... (214) 279-5712 h

..... (214) 497-8978 w



Our originally-scheduled speaker for April, Ann Goss, of GTE, was transferred out-of-state by her employer and, understandably, found the "commute" from Florida back here to be just a bit much. We'll try again soon to obtain a speaker on the subject of Joint Application Design (JAD).

Come join us for the May meeting!

*Larry Linson*

**COMMUNICATIONS SIG**

We will be joined in our May meeting by Fred Williams, our BBS SYSOP. We will be inquiring about our expanded access to news groups and possible changes to the Bulletin Board System. Fred has frequently discussed converting from TBBS to Windows NT.

The Communications SIG will be asking for the users' hardware and software requirements for the next BBS system.

We will ask Fred when those menu options will return a message other than to be completed at a future date. Also, if you are considering opening your own BBS, this may be an opportunity to ask a certified expert.

*Birl Smith & Doug Gorrie*

**Dallas COREL SIG**

**May 18 Meeting**

Our May program will be our annual Members Showcase. Members and attendees are encouraged to bring something to share; computer files, or printed mate-

rial, even from your own printer. We all would enjoy seeing the various products and uses of CorelDraw, so don't be shy now! We'll have extra tables set up to display items, and everyone will have the opportunity to talk about their work if they so desire.

**March Meeting in Review**

In March JoAnn Elliott gave a demo of Windows 95, and led us through a custom install of CorelDraw 6! Then, Susan Biggs gave a demo of Draw 6, pointing out the new features that differ from Draw 5. Hal Hulbert also lent a hand, showing his favorite new tools.

Thanks to all who participated.

**Thank you, Rocky Stonewall**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Rocky Stonewall for all her help during the last two years. She and her husband have moved to Seattle, Washington to a nice location overlooking the Bay! Talk about a place for inspiration!

Among the things Rocky assisted with was newsletter editor, free product go-getter, program ideaman, adman, presenter at meetings, board member, all-around helper when needed, and a good friend.

Our monthly planning meeting is held second Wednesdays 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 anyway. Open to all! Yes, we really do value your input!

# SIG

## Tips and Tricks

### Check this out!

CorelXARA - Handy Hints and Tips  
<http://www.xara.com/hints/hinttips.html>

### June meeting — JoAnn's Last Hurrah

In June I will demonstrate the other products in the CorelDraw 6 Suite, including *Corel Presents*, *Corel Dream 3D*, *Corel Motion 3D*, and *Corel Depth*. July will find me packing for a move to Crystal Beach, Florida, as my husband, Bill, has decided to leave the rat race and retire! However, I will still be actively pursuing customers over the Internet and elsewhere!

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

## Delphi SIG

Well, I hope the April SIG meeting presentation worked out. As I am writing this article, the planned VCL library demo, to be done by yours truly, is still questionable. The two previous times I have attempted to add the components to my Delphi pallet have caused me to lose the rest of the components. Bummer! Well, at least I will be more than qualified to do a Delphi reinstall demo if things don't improve.

For the May meeting, I have decided not to schedule anything formal, as Borland is to be present for the entire day Saturday. Borland will be showing products for all three main auditorium presentations. Frank Cavallito is even trying to get someone to

bring along Turbo Assembler for an Assembler SIG presentation!

If things work out, I hope to have a Borland representative drop by the SIG meeting for a more in-depth discussion of Delphi. Also, depending on the presentation schedule, we may just adjourn to the Main Auditorium for the formal Delphi 2.0 demo. Please check the overhead projectors in the Infomart lobby prior to the meeting hour, for final instructions. Either way, I expect we will have a pretty good Delphi day.

I've been working night and day (we won't go into why) on my first major (paying?) Delphi project. I've learned Delphi can come very close to a RAD environment, for sure! I have gone from zero to debugging in about four very long days.

One thing that is going in the bit bucket is the ReportSmith mess. I have heard more than one Delphi developer on the Net call it by a much less flattering, Report@#&\$! I tend to agree! My Crystal Reports upgrade just arrived by FedEx.

With the exception of RS, I'm really liking everything I see! I'm getting back the total control I used to have with dBASE, and keeping much of the "good stuff" from the Paradox development environment. The last remaining issue is a smooth way to package a Delphi application for delivery. There has to be a better way than a "fist full of disks"!

Drop on by the SIG, and let's all ask the guy from Borland, "What's the @#!@ deal with the 2.0 help files?"

Fred Williams

## SIG LEADER LISTING CONTINUED ...

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

### OS/2 for End Users

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

### OS/2 Q&A

Larry Truesdale ... (214) 684-4790

### Paradox

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

### Programmers

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

### QuickBooks

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

### Quicken

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

### Spreadsheet/Spre.Dev

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

### SQL Server

Ada Finigan.....  
 Steven DeSalvo... (214) 716-2684  
 John Penaska.....(214) 431-3979  
 Erin Welker.....(214) 462-6033

### 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

## SIG LEADER LISTING CONTINUED ...

Legend: h = Home #, w = Work #

### Windows - Applications... Ctd.

Deborah Bean.....(214) 475-7463 h  
.....(214) 475-3124 w

### Windows - Developers

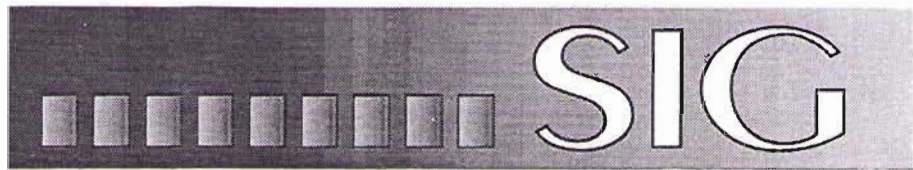
Art English.....(214) 618-1266 h  
.....(214) 232-3310 w

### WordPerfect / DOS

Dawn Hopkins.....(214) 613-8815 h  
.....(214) 740-8085 w

### WordPerfect / Windows

Cindy Adams.....(817) 481-1300 wM



## Desktop Publishing SIG

"Everything written symbols can say, has already passed by. They are like tracks left by animals." - Kimura Kyuho, *On the Mysteries of Swordsmanship*, 1768.

Type is the most basic element — after paper or the substrate upon which the letterforms appear — in document design. Knowledge of some basic typographic principles is essential to successfully communicate with letterforms. These principles point to the one thing that girds virtually all successful documents: legibility. A document is truly successful when attention is called not to the footprints, but to the animals they represent, to paraphrase Kimura Kyuho.

In the swirling static of available fonts—jamming CD-ROMs and cluttering the cyberspace ether, waiting to be sucked into our computers like the sweet meat from an Alaskan king crab claw—the principle of typographic restraint seems to get lost. Instead, many desktop publishers seem guided by another principal: If it can be done, do it.

In this context, type is reversed, stretched, squashed, perforated, bent, twisted, given layers of drop shadows that defy the laws of physics, and otherwise tortured into submission. And then there are those fonts that are downright frightening in their natural state, as though their original purpose was to serve as special effects props in a George Romero film.

At its best, type engages the reader and relaxes the eye; it doesn't call attention to itself at the expense of the material. One

way to become familiar with type (and avoid being overwhelmed by the sheer volume of available fonts) is to collect it in suites. Carefully browse through a collection of fonts (for example, those that come with CorelDraw!), and collect up to 12 of your favorites for each suite: text; headline; and accents. Your text suite might include Times Roman, Garamond and Bembo. Your headline suite might contain Futura, Helvetica and Goudy. Your accent suite might have Nuptual Script, Bernhard Modern and Copper Plate Gothic.

This method provides some usage limitations until the feel of type as an instrument is absorbed, a thing that is awfully hard to do if your hard drive is jammed with enough fonts to stop-up deep tunnel. Along the way, as your eye becomes more discerning, you may wish to add some faces to your suites and discard others, and occasionally pull a font from that CD-ROM/Cyberspace expanse because it is perfect for the project at hand, never to use it again.

Over the next few sessions, we will spend quite a bit of time on type, because it is so basic and critical to desktop publishing. Please call me if you have any questions or suggestions on how to approach this.

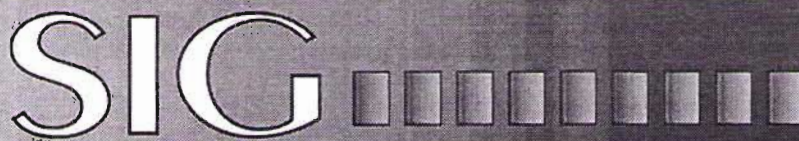
Mark Stuertz

## DOS SIG

Hoist by my own petard!

May DOS SIG sees me gambling with my own (*PC News*) deadlines! The Gamble is Cryix.

# SIG



Will Cyrix appear to demonstrate their new 6x86 CPU's and PC's? Only May 18th will tell for sure.

Problem is *The PC News* publication deadlines this month. Cyrix promised an answer whether they would be able to do the demonstration at the May DOS SIG meeting on May 18 — on Monday, April 29. Sharp-eyed readers may note that's a bit after the usual newsletter deadline.

I'm gambling they'll say "Sure, we'll be glad to come and show our super new CPU's and PC's." If they can't come, I'll probably find some way to make Jim Hoisington the guilty party and look especially 'innocent' at the DOS SIG meeting.

Why the interest in Cyrix and their new series? Because CPU and hardware choices are becoming particularly important to users' operating-system (OS) choices and the 'usual standard' may not be the user's best choice for a given OS and application.

Media reports have indicated significant speed differences between the Cyrix 6x86 and Pentiums with equivalent clock speeds. The Cyrix CPU is usually a clear winner in these tests / comparisons running Win 95. Adding to the media reports, Fred Williams, BBS Sysop and Cyrix stockholder, described the new Cyrix PC's in very glowing terms after demonstrations at the recent Cyrix Shareholders Meeting at the Cyrix Richardson, TX, facility.

Come to the May DOS SIG and see if Fred was right ...

*Reagan Andrews*

## INTERNET SIG - BEGINNING

At the April 20th meeting, we originally intended to have ANET, a local Internet Service Provider (ISP), provide us with an introduction on how to gain access to the Internet. By the time of our meeting, however, ANET had to provide a last minute (VERY last minute) stand-in who was not familiar with nor prepared for the scheduled presentation.

For those expecting a more beginner-oriented presentation, we apologize.

One thing we did learn from all this is that there is a need for more frequent "rank beginner" sessions. As a result, our May meeting will address the needs of folks who have only heard the word "Internet" but have little to no comprehension of what it is. We'll start with the very basics and move forward from there. Perhaps that will make up for the way things went last month!!

See you May 18th !

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

## INTERNET SIG - ADVANCED

Doesn't it tick you off that ISDN (Integrated Services Digital Network) is just now becoming a viable tool for connecting to the Internet, after being "around" for the past 10 years? But now that you can get it, ISDN will end your search for reasonably priced bandwidth, right?? WRONG!!

In May, our topic will be Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line (ADSL), possibly the NEXT rea-

sonably priced bandwidth tool that you will be offered. Still in its infancy, GTE has a trial underway to test its performance, reliability and user acceptance.

Throughput in one direction can reach 6 megabits/second upstream and 576 kilobits/second downstream, although results could easily be less. All this occurs over your existing telephone line. And while the necessary associated equipment may still be priced beyond what most folks would pay, it has the potential for coming down fast.

GTE has agreed to bring us up to speed on what ADSL is, how it works, what can be expected from this technology, and how the trail is progressing. We'll be requesting that they bring along their technical experts to handle your "heavy" questions. But if you want to get familiar with ADSL prior to the meeting, go visit GTE at <http://wcn.gte.com/adsl>.

In April, we were privileged to have Pat Hykkonen join us to explain "How to Find Your Way in the Darkness of the Internet". Pat provided a demonstrations on how to track your TCP/IP messages as they route through the network. In fact, Pat did such an excellent job that we plan to invite him back in the near future.

See you May 18th.

*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.

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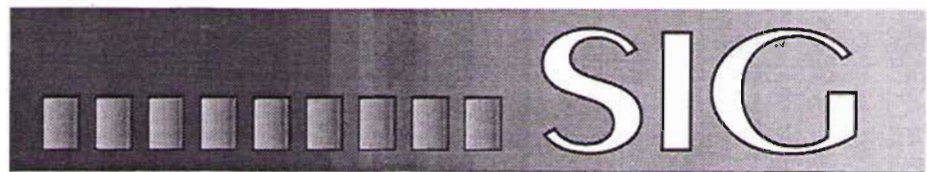
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**May 18, 1996**

- ❖ 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

- ❖ 10:00 Class 14  
Overview of Multimedia Soft-  
ware & Hardware
- ❖ Noon Class 15  
Disk of the Month (DOM)
- ❖ 1:00 Class 16  
PC's Into the 21st Century

September 14, 1996\* No Classes

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

*Alex Lilley*

**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

**Paradox SIG**

Resisting a very strong urge, I'm  
going to sit in the back and let Tom  
Browning do his normal good  
show for the April meeting. I  
could do a little ceremonial presen-  
tation on the Pdox Runtime, but I  
think it is probably best I take a  
couple of months to cool down.  
Plus, there is no fire extinguisher in  
the SIG room!

**July 20, 1996**

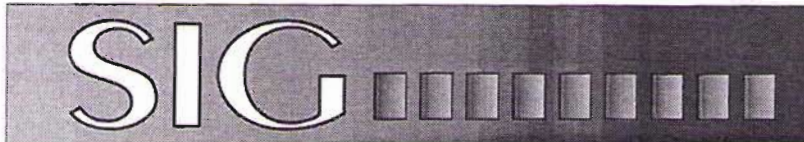
- ❖ 9:00 Class 9  
Hardware for the PC
- ❖ 10:00 Class 10  
Printers for the PC
- ❖ Noon Class 11  
Overview of Quicken Account-  
ing Software
- ❖ 1:00 Class 12  
Modems & Telecommunications
- ❖ 2:00 Class 12a  
NTPCUG Bulletin Board Sys-  
tem (BBS)

By the way, you can ignore all  
those nice things I said about Pdox  
Runtime last month. That was be-  
fore the final "rubber met the road!"

For the May meeting, I hope to  
have someone from Borland drop  
by the SIG. Borland will be in  
town for what might be called a  
"Borland" Saturday. Borland will  
be doing product demos in all  
three main auditorium presenta-  
tion time slots. Depending on the  
main auditorium schedule, we will  
either have a Borland person at the  
SIG for a more in-depth look at  
Pdox 7.0, or we will adjourn to the  
main auditorium for the formal  
presentation. I would suggest  
checking the overhead projectors in

**August 10, 1996\***

- ❖ 9:00 Class 13  
Overview of Microsoft Windows



the Infomart lobby prior to the meeting time.

I would like to strongly urge all of you to forward all the detailed documentation you can about any known bugs related to Paradox 5.0, both the full release and Runtime, right away. There is to be one final(?) release of Paradox 16 bit. If this is to be the last release, it needs to be as bullet-proof as can be. There are a couple of nagging bugs that have been around since release 4.5. I think we need to make an extra effort to cause Borland to address all of these continuing issues.

The place I have been told to submit bug reports is to, [www.borland.com](http://www.borland.com). I haven't looked yet, but I hope the "Submit Bug" icon does not look like a MAC Trash can!

*Fred Williams*

## PRO SIG

**Bob Webber** led a discussion of Hot Java from Sun and Latte from Borland. **Fred Williams** volunteered to lead a discussion of Black Label from Jack Daniels and left early to do some research.

Join us next month when we discuss the impact of Jolt Cola on programming styles.

*Jim Hoisington*

## SOL SERVER SIG

This month we'll take a look at Microsoft's SQL Server 6.5. Some of the features of this release include:

- ❖ Improvements for Online Analytic Processing and Online Transaction Processing

- ❖ SQL Trace, a tool allowing for selective monitoring of all operations submitted to SQL Server
- ❖ The ability to create Web pages from SQL queries
- ❖ Point-in-time recovery of transaction logs
- ❖ The ability to insert stored procedure results directly into a table as well as enhancements to replication, SQL Enterprise Manager and Distributed Transaction Coordination.

So, we'll see you at 9:00 Saturday morning for a quick peek into the near future of SQL Server.

*Ada Finigan*

## VISUAL BASIC SIG - BEGINNING

The May 18th meeting of the Beginning Visual Basic SIG will continue the demonstration of the integrated development environment in Visual Basic 4.0. We will demonstrate some of the sample code that is included with Visual Basic 4.0.

In the March issue of the NTPCUG newsletter I mentioned that our Visual Basic Workshops were in need of a meeting room. Well, a well-known company here in the Metroplex has offered a small meeting room that should serve our needs well. The location is in Irving so we should have a Visual Basic Workshop up and running real soon. Again, I appeal to those of you who can volunteer to lead a Visual Basic Workshop to call me at 235-5968.

In the March and April meetings, we conducted door prize drawings for copies of Visual Basic 4.0 Enterprise Edition thanks to Mi-

crosoft. Be sure to bring proof of membership to show your eligibility for any future drawings.

Bring your beginning Visual Basic questions to our meeting on Saturday, May 18, 1996. Check the Infomart lobby screens for the correct room assignment

*Jim Carter*

## VISUAL BASIC SIG

The May 18 meeting of the Visual Basic SIG will continue the discussion of object-oriented design in Visual Basic. This discussion will be based on the article in the March 1996 issue of *VB Tech Journal* entitled "Objects in Visual Basic - Really" by Dan Kuhn. We will discuss the author's implementation of polymorphism.

Last month, we discussed the article by Dan Kuhn on the implementation of inheritance in Visual Basic. We also gave a brand new Enterprise Edition of Visual Basic 4.0 as a door prize thanks to Microsoft. Bring your proof of membership to the meeting to qualify for any door prizes we may have this month.

Bring your questions on Visual Basic to our meeting beginning at 9:00 AM on Saturday, May 18, 1996. Check the screens in the lobby for the correct room assignment.

*Ed Diehl*

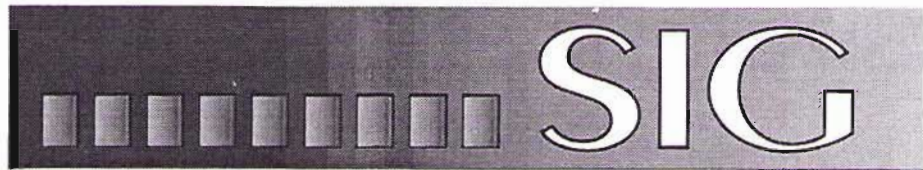
## WINDOWS DEVELOPERS SIG

The main topic for the April meeting of the Windows Developer's SIG was the new Internet development language—JAVA. JAVA was developed by Sun Corporation for creating embedded programs within HTML scripts and standalone applications. At the April meeting we discussed JAVA fundamentals and took a look at the new Widow JAVA development system from Symantec called Café.



At the May meeting the Windows developer's SIG will continue its focus on the Internet by exploring some of the Internet development tools from Adobe. We will have several speakers to discuss developing Adobe portable document files (PDF) using tools such as Acrobat and PageMaker—as well as Adobe tools that can be used for developing Web sites.

*Arthur English*



### WordPerfect/Windows

This month we have a guest presenter - Diane Bentley. Diane has been working with WordPerfect for years and trains it as well.

This month we are going to look at Templates. The 55 templates

that ship are great and easy to use. However, you may want to customize them more. You are going to learn how to build prompts, use macros, use the address book feature and create new groups within the Template Dialogue box.

### Tip of the Month:

How many of you have used the "Coaches" under the *Help* menu? This is a cool feature for this version of WordPerfect for Windows. If you can't remember how to put a *Paragraph Border* on, or any of the features the Coaches work with, just engage in a Coach. It will walk you through it.

If you are coming from another application (such as WordPerfect 5.1 for DOS, or even Lotus Ami Pro) you can select the "Upgrade Expert." On the left of your screen are features from your original application, and on the right, it will show you how to do it in WordPerfect 6.1! Now you can choose to have the "Coaches" come in and show you; go directly to the features with "Show Me," or if you want to take the direct approach and "Do It."

What is nice about both the Coaches and the Upgrade Expert is the fact that you do not have to start from a blank document. You can engage these features while you are in a document that you want the features to affect. So click on over in the Help section and enjoy having your own WordPerfect tutor on the screen!

*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*

## A New Love Affair! Fred Discovers NT, Apologizes to MS

May already! Next month officially starts the tourist season. Ah, but time flies while having fun?

### Good News, Good Guys

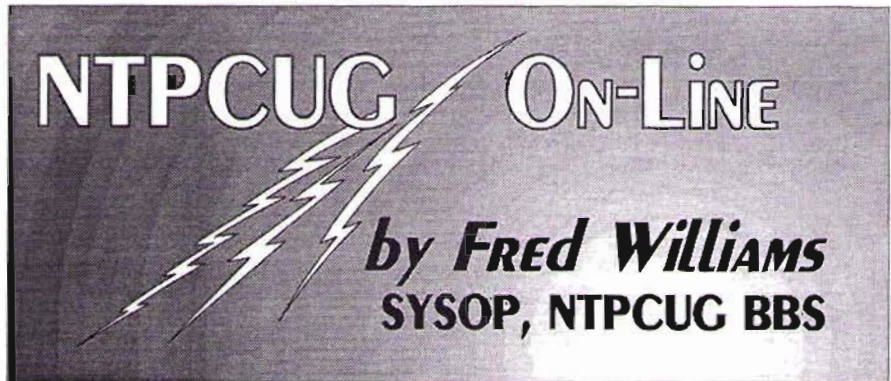
Got some very good news from **Debbie Lenhart**, of Microsoft fame, naturally right after last month's newsletter went to the presses. I am awaiting delivery of both the new *Exchange Server* and NT Internet connectivity tools. Those will go nicely with the *NT Server* copy we received from the Microsoft Mindshare folks a day or so before Debbie's call. We all owe yet another debt to **Timothy Carmichael**, who was responsible for arranging the NT Server donation from the Mindshare group.

I am filling in all my "free" time studying NT, both the Server and Workstation Beta. I have worked up a request for bid for a new machine to host the NT Server. I will be submitting the proposal at the April BOD meeting. With a little luck and some spare time, I hope to be testing the Server system by the time you read this.

One really great thing is that Debbie wants to do everything she and her staff at Microsoft can do to insure we have a successful BBS replacement project. Replacing a BBS with a remote access network server seems to be a somewhat unique concept. And, I guess she has heard some of my comments about some of the other software vendors, when I've had a bad day with one of their products! Seriously though, having Microsoft intensely interested will certainly be a great asset to the project.

### Meanwhile, back at the farm...

Looks like Southwestern Bell is about to gobble up Pacific Bell.



Doug Gorrie is hopeful that Pac Bell's cheap ISDN service charges will rub off on SWB. Let's hope it doesn't go the other way! Southwestern Bell's monthly charges are not that bad, it is just the installation fee that is a bit of a choker. And you think 28.8 modems are expensive, take a look at ISDN "modems"!

**Birl Smith**, has asked me to do a BBS presentation at this month's Communications SIG. I'm planning on an overview of how the current system is put together. Now you can all find out how the BBS system talks to the "Mail Muncher", and the muncher connects to OnRamp. Along with a multitude of other exciting BBS details. I guarantee you there will be at least one member of the crowd who will want a detailed, step-by-step, "how to sign on the BBS" explanation. Sorry, that is beyond the scope of this presentation!



### A Look at the Future...

I hope to also give a somewhat vague and sketchy description of how I think the "new" NT Server based system will replace the current BBS. The trick will be learning how to think about the new system as a "real" network and not continue to think of it as a BBS. BBS's are great tools for solving a very few specific communications needs. This extreme specialization is the Achilles heal of the BBS, and is what is causing the more robust Internet to rapidly displace a very great number of BBS's.

Easier and more reliable Internet connectivity is one of the very strong selling points of a move to an NT based system. For the future "BBS" user, this can only mean greater Internet-related services and features. We will be getting a "commercial grade" e-mail and messaging system with more direct ties to both Internet e-mail and news groups.

The mysteries of file upload and download will vanish, as a user will be able to "drag and drop" files between the Server and his system. Plus as an extra bonus, an environment will exist that is limited only by the imagination, as any client/server application can be installed or developed with no more effort than required to install on any other NT network.

*Fred Williams*

## Corel Corner

New products available from Corel Corporation:

Corel Corporation is inviting its customers to discover the new features of *Corel WordPerfect Suite 7 for Windows® 95* through an exclusive preview offer. Beginning April 8th, Corel WordPerfect Suite 7 (Beta 3) will be available from Corel's North American Customer Service Centers for \$19.95 US, plus shipping and handling. This special offer to try out the beta CD-ROM expires at the end of May 1996. Quantities are limited to one copy per customer.

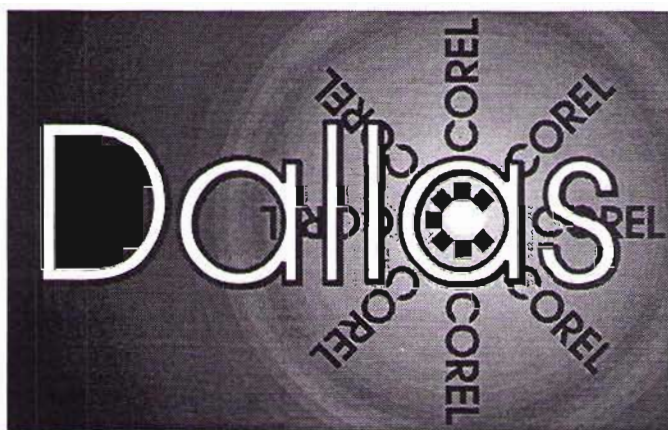
The Corel WordPerfect Suite 7 (Beta 3) CD-ROM will consist of Corel WordPerfect 7, *Corel Quattro® Pro 7*, *Envoy 7*, *Corel Presentations 7.0*, *CorelFLOW 3*, *Starfish Software's Sidekick 95* and *Dashboard 95*. Most version numbers have been changed to version 7 for ease of use and consistency moving forward.

Customers may call 1-800-451-5151 to order their Corel WordPerfect Suite 7 (Beta 3) CD-ROM. Technical support and documentation will not be provided.

### IMPORTANT COREL ADDRESSES & PHONE NUMBERS

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

- ❖ Technical Support Representatives ..... 800-818-1848
- ❖ G1 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



Dallas Corel Is A SIG Of North Texas PC Users Group

**CorelWEB.DESIGNER:** the First Complete HTML Authoring Toolkit, is scheduled to launch in April. It is a suite of tools that will simplify the Web page creation process and give consumers access to thousands of Internet-ready clip art images.

Users require no HTML programming knowledge and have easy to use WYSIWYG HTML authoring, editable HTML source code view, 120+ professionally designed templates, support for *Java* applets, client-side image mapping, and automatic/transparent BMP file conversion to GIF or JPEG.

Components included are:

#### CorelWEB.Transit

Allows effortless publishing of existing documents to the Web:

- ❖ a tool to convert legacy documents into HTML format (conversion process transparent to the user)
- ❖ supports all popular word processing programs (WordPerfect, Word, Ami Pro, RTF)
- ❖ powerful customization
- ❖ allows users to create single source documents for paper and Web publishing

#### CorelWEB.GALLERY

A time-saving, easy-to-access library of Internet-ready clip-art images :

- ❖ 8000+ graphic files, over 200 photos custom made for the Internet
- ❖ royalty-free images
- ❖ backgrounds, separators, buttons, bullets, arrows and drop caps

**CorelWEB.DESIGNER** is currently undergoing beta testing and will run on *Windows 3.x*, *Windows 95*, *Windows NT*. It will be available for worldwide distribution in April and will carry a suggested list price of \$149 U.S.

Corel Corporation

JoAnn Elliott  
joannelliott@e-pagination.com



# INSIDE THE NORTH TEXAS PC USERS GROUP COMMUNITY

## VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION



by Claude McClure

### Discus Of the Month

Track and Field Sports include an event called *relay running* and winning depends on the smooth handling of the baton to the next runner. This month I was impressed with the smooth handling of the DOM team volunteer scheduling as performed by Philip Bridge. The baton seems to be in firm hands.

A visit to the Disk Of the Month area will introduce us to a crew of eager and capable volunteers, many of whom are recruited by Philip Bridge. He wants every team member to be recognized, and is quick to mention a special job performed by a volunteer. Call him today

if you would like to be a part of the DOM team. Philip's telephone number is (214) 422-5400.

The DOM is a positive link to the software world and especially to the shareware and betaware arena, where some of our own members are contributors. This team of pro's lets us experience the classic original or newest versions of the programming art. Volunteers from our last meeting are listed below. Drop by the DOM and meet the pro's. (Verify their Autographs for authenticity - as you never know when they will appear on a trading card).

#### Infomart Liaison

Stuart Yarus  
Alex Lilley  
Robert Hilliard

#### Vendor Setup/ Breakdown

**anchors:**  
David Slavik  
Kenneth Berg  
**Crew:**  
Neal Van Pelt  
David Temple  
Kenneth Tillman  
Wayne Washburn

#### 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  
Lorin Cranford  
Eteta E. Eta  
Judy Griffiths  
Allan Harbaugh  
Hank Holt  
John Ivers  
Cinda Lovil  
David Martin  
Bob McNeil (double)  
Raymond Reyes  
Fred Toulmin  
Paul Williams

**Booth Crew:**  
Tim Foster  
Claude McClure  
Ken Sauter  
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  
Arnold Krusemark  
Jan Parkhill  
**DOM Desk Scheduler:**  
Philip Bridge  
**Disk Production:**  
Gene Carleton

### VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

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

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

#### 3. By phone:

**Auditorium Presentations**  
Timothy Carmichael . . . . . (214) 661-4826 (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)

# 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	
<b>Assembly Language</b>	Frank Cavallito .....	(214)423-9221	7 1800-2200		.....	(817)624-9530	SS 0900-2100	
	Glynn Brooks.....	(214)578-8737	M-F 1700-2200	<b>Hardware Help</b>	Charles Miller.....	(903)938-4220(*)	7 1900-2400	
<b>BASIC</b>	Mike Firth .....	(214)827-7734	7 0800-2200	<b>Internet - General</b>	Erik Leaseburg .....	(817)265-7550(m)	7 2000-2200	
<b>Beginner Problems</b>	Jan Parkhill.....	(214)828-2216	M-Sa 0900-1700		David Marin .....	(214)717-0523	M-F 1900-2200	
	Shirley Hudgens.....	(903)439-9780	7 0900-2000	<b>Internet - Telnet, FTP, NetScape, Web Explorer (OS/2)</b>	Bob Wilson .....	(214)517-1434	M-F 1900-2200	
<b>Brother's Keeper</b>	Neil Sunderland.....	(214)272-2869	7 0900-2200		.....		S-S 1000-2200	
<b>C++ (the language)</b>	Bob Adams.....	(214)328-1455	M-Sa 0900-1900	<b>LANs — Novell</b>	Joseph Beasley .....	(214)225-8752	7 0800-2400	
	Howard Harkness.....	(817)267-6227	7 1000-2100		— <i>Lantastic</i>	Joseph Beasley .....	(214)410-3818	7 0900-2200
	Doug Cochran .....	(214)578-9258	T&T 1800-2030	<b>Managing Your Money</b>	Glynn Brooks .....	(214)578-8737	M-F 1700-2200	
<b>CorelDraw</b>	Linda Hume .....	(817)472-7555	M-F 1900-2200	<b>Modems</b>	Erik Leaseburg .....	(817)265-7550(m)	7 2000-2200	
	.....		S-S 1300-2200	<b>MathCAD</b>	Bob Adams.....	(214)328-1455	M-Sa 0900-1900	
<b>Batch Files</b>	Charles Miller .....	(903)938-4220(*)	7 1900-2400	<b>OS/2</b>	Larry Truesdale .....	(214)442-7074	7 1000-2200	
<b>Borland C++</b>	Bob Adams.....	(214)328-1455	M-Sa 0900-1900	<b>PC Tools/Win</b>	Glynn Brooks .....	(214)578-8737	M-F 1700-2200	
	Howard Harkness.....	(817)267-6227	7 1000-2100	<b>Paradox</b>	Fred Williams.....	(214)492-1315	7 1300-2100	
<b>Comm Software</b>	Doug Gorrie.....	(214) 464-4568	M-F 0800-1700	<b>PKzip/PKUNzip</b>	Erik Leaseburg .....	(817)265-7550(m)	7 2000-2200	
	.....	(214) 618-8002	S-S 1000-1900	<b>ProComm/ProComm+</b>	Doug Gorrie.....	(214) 464-4568	M-F 0800-1700	
<b>CompuServe</b>	Bob Adams.....	(214)328-1455	M-Sa 0900-1900		.....	(214) 618-8002	S-S 1000-1900	
<b>dBASE III, III+, IV &amp; Windows</b>	Ted Gillam.....	(214)964-7923	7 0800-1700		Bill Green.....	(817) 731-1308		
<b>Delphi (Borland)</b>	Howard Harkness.....	(817)267-6227	7 1000-2100					
<b>DOS</b>	Bob Russell .....	(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>			
	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      | Smart Notes   |
| CAD                  | Sound Blaster |
| Datalflex            | Stacker       |
| Desktop Publishing   | TurboTax      |
| Easy Text            | Corel Ventura |
| First Choice         | XTree         |
| 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                |               |

## 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. Or, visit our Web Page at [www.ntpcug.org](http://www.ntpcug.org)

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 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 Conrie Andrews  
Kathryn Loafman Reagan Andrews  
Fred Williams Timothy Carmichael

### 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

### Password problems?

Call Doug at ..... (214) 464-4568

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

### Address Changes, etc...

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

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

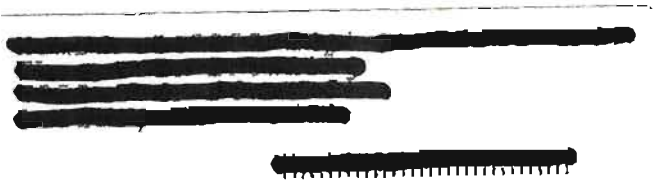


North Texas PC Users Group  
P.O. Box 780066  
Dallas, Texas 75378-0066

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Address Correction Requested

15.5



*North Texas PC Users Group*

*Next Meeting:*  
**18 May 1996**

