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North Texas PC NEWS

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Deadline:

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

Circulation:

North Texas PC NEWS circulation was 2,425 last month. Member distribution was 2,100; remaining copies were distributed to PC user groups around the country, and to advertisers, prospective members and others with common interests.

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

DEADLINE

Copy deadline for September
North Texas PC NEWS:
Saturday, August 10th

Meeting Dates:

August 10, 1996 - 2nd Saturday
September 14, 1996 - 2nd Saturday
October 12, 1996 - 2nd Saturday



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Visit the North Texas PC Users Group web page:
<http://www.ntpcug.org>

North Texas PC News

Advertising Prices and Policies

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

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

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

Policies & Mechanicals:

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

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

9:00 - 9:55 AM

Graphics and Multimedia Tools
Fractal Designs Corporation
Bruce Clapp, Regional Sales Rep.

Come see the number-one Paint and Draw programs on the market, *Painter 4* and *Dabbler 2*. See the 24-bit color compatibility of *Painter 4* with *Photoshop*, *Freehand* and *Illustrator*. *Dabbler 2* has natural media tools like those in *Painter* with tutorials on how to draw cartoons and animation. *Poser* will give you a 3D rendering of the human body, and *Ray Dream Studio* will provide 3D modeling with animation. There will be a drawing for free products. *

NTPCUG PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS . . .
TIMOTHY CARMICHAEL

10:00 AM - 10:55 AM

First Aid 95 Deluxe and Oil Change

CyberMedia
J. J. Schock, Product Manager

Having problems in Windows? CyberMedia has the solution for you. The top-selling *First Aid 95 Deluxe* diagnoses and fixes your Windows software problems at your desktop. It fixes applications, multimedia, and networking problems. It intercepts crashes before your work is lost and allows you to roll back to a previous working condition if your PC misbehaves. CyberMedia is also introducing *Oil Change* which will keep your software applications and hardware drivers up-to-date via the Internet. There will be a drawing for free products. *

11:00 AM - 11:30 AM

NTPCUG Business Meeting

1:00 PM - 1:55 PM

NO Presentation

* 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.

AUGUST 10

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
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	Introduction to the PC WordPerfect/Windows UNIX
	11:00 - 11:55 Assembly Language Brother's Keeper CAD (Cont.)

11:00 - 11:55 (Cont.) Investors Graphics (Cont.) MS Works OS/2 - Q & A Roots III/IV - Genealogy Spreadsheets Windows Developers
11:30 - 11:55 Orientation
12:00 - 12:55 Alpha Four C++/Advanced C Communications Delphi Desktop Publishing Health Care Computing OS/2 for End Users Introduction to the PC The Master Genealogist

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

15 Years and Counting

June marked the 15th anniversary of the North Texas PC Users Group. Fifteen years ago a group got together to help each other, exchange software, and learn more about their personal computers. Some of those original enthusiasts are still active members, with a subset of those being perpetual volunteers, leaders, officers, and directors of the NTPCUG. I am not one of the 15-to-lifers, as my association only goes back about seven years.

A lot has changed, and a lot has not. Our purpose remains: to help computer users with the technology, to teach, to answer hardware and software questions, and to share our experiences. The group's membership keeps growing (it is about 2,200 now), and the financial obligations to sustain the corporation continue to grow. You, the members, are what make this work. Once you come through the front door at the Infomart, you are no longer consultants, judges, truck drivers, secretaries, attorneys, or retirees, you become people seeking help and people offering help.

What has changed is the technology. As several of us have discussed, no matter when it is, the computer that you want always costs \$2,500. The hardware now operates at 166 megahertz versus less than 5 megahertz; RAM memory moved from 64,000 bytes to an average of 32,000,000 bytes; disk storage went from a 180,000 bytes floppy to a 2 billion bytes hard disk; sound jumped from a beeping speaker inside the box to stereo-blasting stereo-quality external speaker systems; and the screen changed from green phosphorous on a black background to eye-popping full motion television and video. The programming focus was on the Basic language, now it's Visual Basic and Visual C++ and HTML and Java. CD-ROM's certainly were not on anyone's mind. We were still mourning the demise of the 8-track player.



We have weathered these changes and changed along the way. The NTPCUG is a non-profit corporation with Officers and a Board of Directors. Our staff consists of these members and of other members who volunteer their time. The Officers and Directors take their jobs seriously. The President-Elect and the BOD are elected annually and the Officers are appointed by the Board. Board membership has increased from five to seven members since the group started. The structure, policies, procedures, and governing bylaws are what keep the corporation focused and progressing.

However you want to look at the group, from the people that have been helped, to the education that our volunteers receive each month through interaction with other computer enthusiasts, to the month-to-month business of running a corporation, or through the eyes of the person who came up to me and said, "Wow, you guys ought to think about doing this every week.". Please remember that we remain committed to bringing you the best user group experience possible.

4th Floor - Charity Haul Off

On the 4th floor of the Infomart, the NTPCUG maintains a storage room. Over the years, we have accumulated hardware, software, furniture and other unexplained and unexplainable items.

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The CORNER VISUAL BASIC

by **JIM CARTER**

PREZ SEZ... Ctd.

We are going to open up the area (Room 4060) from 11:30am until 1:30pm on Saturday, August 10th to our members, and for a charitable donation of \$5.00, you can have anything that you can carry out in one armload. The money will go directly to the Dallas Computer Literacy Program for continuing their good works.

Software Pirate Criminal Bootleg Busters

The DFW Xchange Corporation, who run the vendor area in the basement, recently discovered a vendor who was trafficking in very obviously bootlegged software. The vendor was thrown out of the basement area with no refund of the fee they paid to rent the tables.

The North Texas PC Users Group, the Apple Corps of Dallas, and the DFW Xchange Corporation will not condone the sale, distribution, or use of illegally copied software. Good work guys. The next time the vendor may not be so lucky.

Mailing List Busters

When you join NTPCUG or renew your membership, one question on the application form asks if you want your name to be included on a mailing list that the user's group occasionally sells to computer-related companies. The mailing list is sold, under contract, for a one-time usage, and we note who it is sold to as well as seed a name on the list so we can tell if it is ever used again. We are discriminating about who we sell the list to. For example,



Kicking Your Visual Basic 4.0 Skills Up a Notch with Mastering Microsoft Visual Basic 4.0

A new series of learning tools is being developed by Microsoft called the "Mastering Series." One of the first titles in this series is *Mastering Microsoft Visual Basic 4.0*. This column reviews this title.

Purpose of Mastering Microsoft Visual Basic 4.0

This CD-ROM based training application is intended for experienced Visual Basic 4.0 programmers, not beginners. The primary focus of the training is to present more detailed instruction on the more advanced features of Visual Basic 4.0 like (1) manipulation of remote databases, (2) calling a function within a Dynamic Link Library (DLL), (3) using OLE Automation with programs in the Microsoft Office family, and (4) creating OLE Servers and Visual Basic Add-Ins

Organization

The information is divided into two main headings, Library and Course. The Library heading contains technical reference material such as Visual Basic Knowledge Base articles, frequently asked questions on Visual Basic, sample programs, and tips from experienced Visual Basic programmers. The Library also includes a glossary of common Visual Basic terms and a listing of additional resources such as books, magazines, Online resources, etc.

when a vendor is sponsoring a special event, we want to make sure that our membership is invited.

Well, a mailing went out to our members in July who agreed to be on the list, but we did not sell the list to that company. As I am writing this, our Membership Director, is discussing the matter with our attorney and we will pursue this matter to protect our property. After all, the list is an asset of the corporation.

Andy Oliver

The Course heading consists of thirteen chapters which each address a specific subject. Examples of subjects include "Using Data Access Objects", which discusses the database access object collection; "Crystal Reports", which examines the creation of standard and advanced reports; and "Creating an OLE Server", which discusses the benefits of OLE servers and describes the process for creating an OLE server. . Additional chapters address the topics of input validation, error trapping, data access, advanced database development, Crystal

Reports, and distribution of completed Visual Basic applications.

Each of the thirteen chapters contains a number of lessons related to the subject followed by a self-check (a few exercises to allow you to check your grasp of the subject matter). Each chapter concludes with a Lab exercise to test your understanding of the chapter.

Features

Features contributing to the effectiveness of this training program include (1) a powerful search engine permitting fast and effective access to the desired information, (2) self-paced and self-directed learning, (3) excellent demonstrations with voice narration for clarity, and (4) lab exercises to ensure a proper understanding of the subject material. A significant feature is the ability of the user to study the subjects in the order of importance to the user.

Requirements for *Mastering Microsoft Visual Basic 4.0*.

This new learning system, distributed on a CD-ROM, requires either Windows 95 or Windows NT version 3.51 or later. Memory requirements are 10 MB but 16 MB are required if you will be running Visual Basic 4.0 simultaneously. Hard drive requirements are 8 MB. An MPC-2 compatible CD-ROM drive and sound board is required as well as a Super VGA or higher resolution monitor capable of displaying at least 256 colors. Visual Basic 4.0 is required to run the lab exercises.

Conclusion

Mastering Microsoft Visual Basic 4.0 is a valuable tool for experienced Visual Basic 4.0 programmers needing to master some of the more difficult techniques presented in Visual Basic 4.0. The retail price is approximately \$100 but most large computer outlets are giving their normal discounts.

Jim Carter

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Lessons Learned...

**'No Good Deed Ever
Goes Unpunished
For Very Long'**

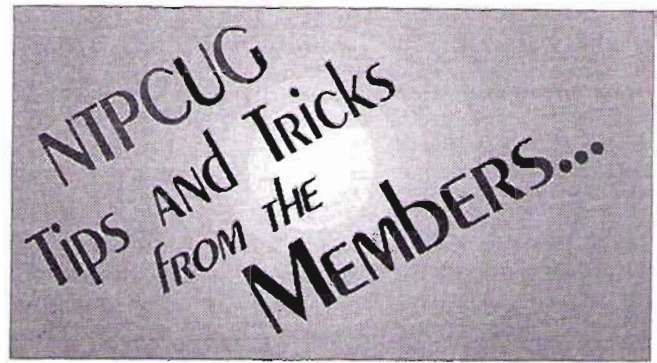
- Or -

Upgrading Takes Planning

by Judy Griffiths

It started innocently enough. I noticed an ad for SIMMs that were priced at a quarter of what they were last year when I bought my Pentium. At that rate it seemed feasible to update my husband's hand-me-down 486SX that had 8 MB of RAM and a compressed 120 MB hard drive.

Since DFW Exchange Saturday was the next day, I decided to wait and make the purchases from our vendors. As expected, they were selling memory for even less than the glitzy computer store ad. (Let's not talk about how much less it is as I write this!) So I headed home with 16 MB of RAM and a 1.2 G hard drive.



A year ago in an attempt to save a little money, several people in my office went together and bought a Colorado external tape backup that runs off the printer port. It seemed like a sensible approach. None of us had big time data at home to backup, and this device would save each of us the shuffling of 50 to 100 diskettes needed to do an occasional full system backup. However, since no one had it full-time, none of us became particularly familiar with it. And since each of our systems was different, we seemed to have different experiences with it.

A Good Beginning...

I got the machine and did a full backup. The device came with DOS and Windows software. When I had used it before, one of the other owners told me he couldn't get the Windows software to work, but he used the DOS successfully. However, I couldn't get the DOS software to work, so I went with the Windows version.

I did have the foresight to read the restoring instructions, which indicated you could do the restore in DOS after making the backup in Windows.

A Good Idea...

I know a neighbor who moonlights doing PC repairs, so I called him for a price on installing the SIMMs and hard drive for me. When he said \$25, I knew it would be nuts for me to tackle it myself. (You may remember that my last major battle with hardware was a modem that said sarcastic stuff like "The number you are calling from can only accept collect calls." It was not a pretty sight.)

The next day the neighbor returned the machine with the new innards. After he left, I remembered Reagan telling the DOS SIG that a big hard drive should be partitioned to avoid the problem of large cluster size. So I got out the DOS books and tackled Fdisk. The instructions seemed pretty rea-

Continued on page 8

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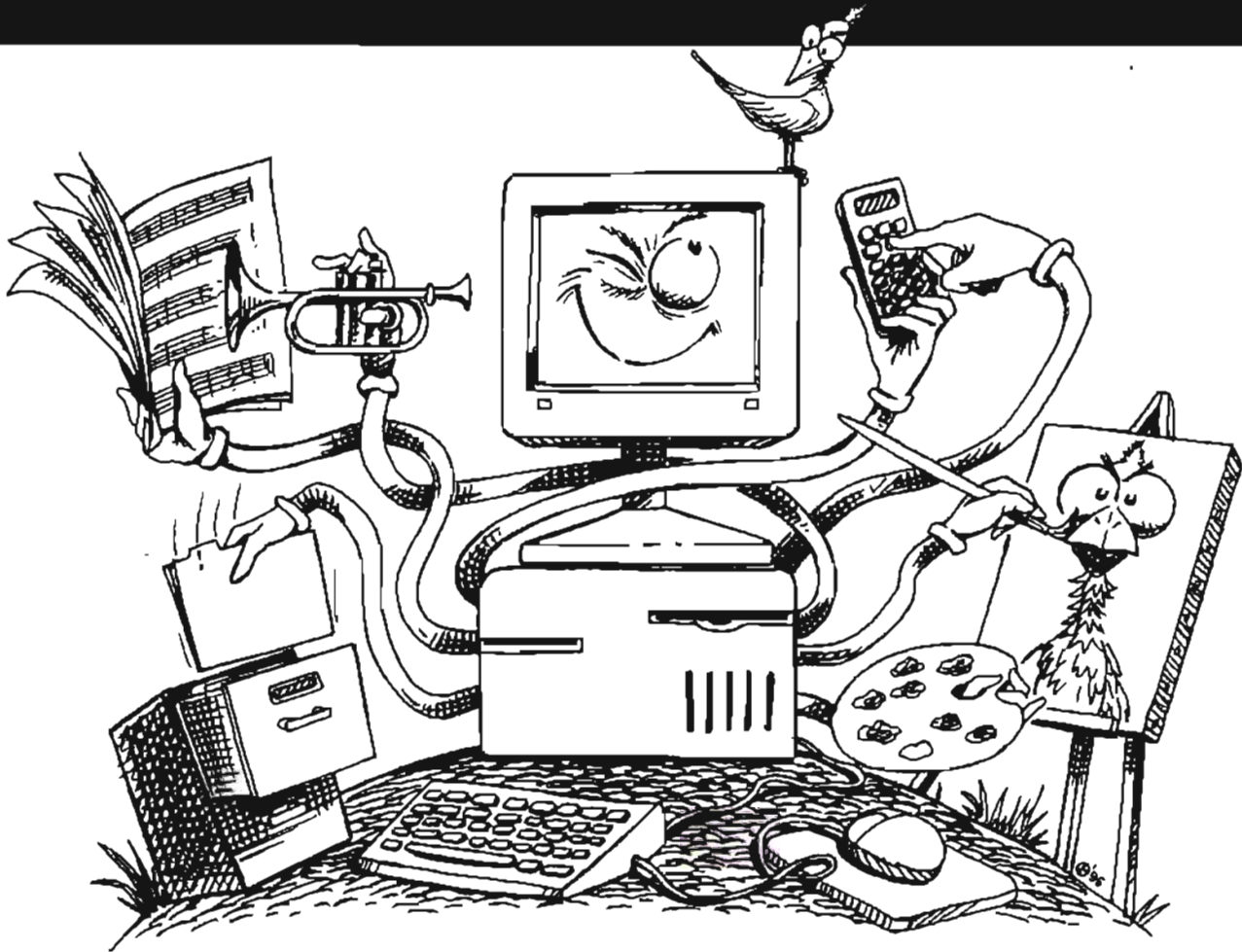
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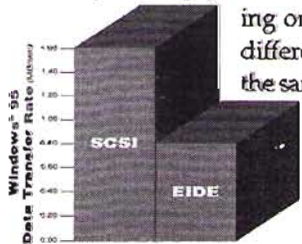
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Lessons Learned... Ctd.

sonable, but when I got to the part where you tell it you want to partition, it told me I had 504 MB. So where the heck did the rest of this 1.2 G drive go? Did I get ripped off? Repeated tries got the same results. Of course my books were full of examples of partitioning 40 or 80 MB drives. Really relevant nowadays.

Desperate, I called the guy who installed it for me. He explained that this was a DOS limitation. The solution was a piece of software which he brought over called EZDisk. It made quick work of chopping that sucker into three partitions.

Oops! Upgrade Only...

Now it was time to restore from my backup tapes. The first job involved getting DOS installed. (My neighbor explained that the drive had DOS 6.22 on it, but he deleted it, as he knew I had DOS 6.2.) So I dug out my DOS diskettes and ran Setup. To my surprise, it told me that since it couldn't find an older version of DOS, I could forget it, as this was an upgrade. Problem was that last year in a fit of cleanliness, I had tossed my disks with versions 3.3, 4.0 and 5.0. After all, why would I ever need them again?

Then I remembered a PCTools backup of this PC. I dug out the PCTools book and disks, ready to restore from the 61 diskettes. Oops, the first line of the restore instructions said that it assumed you had DOS installed on the disk.

Inspiration...

Well, what about my Pentium PC? I checked out the stuff that came with it, and found that DOS and Windows were on CD-ROM. Since this 486

had no CD-ROM drive, that was no help. So I decided to copy the DOS directory off the Pentium, and on to the 486. I doubted it would work, but surprisingly it did.

Now, I tackled the restore, using the DOS version of the backup software. In retrospect, I was crazy to expect it to work. It didn't. For some reason, it made an endless number of subdirectories under DOS, called "DOS," that contained only a subdirectory called "DOS." As I tried to see where it was going, at one point my prompt was c:\DOS\DOS\DOS\DOS\DOS. Getting rid of them with Remove Directory was hopeless, so I resorted to Format C: and copied DOS again.

Using the Windows version of the software meant I had to get out the Windows disks and install them. Fortunately, they didn't require an old version of Windows to work. Then the Windows version of the backup software installed smoothly, and the restore worked seemingly well.

'Missing' DLL's — The Fun Begins...

Ah, but the fun was just beginning. It worked fine in DOS, but attempts to bring up Windows resulted in endless messages about .dll files it couldn't find. I'd go to the other computer, copy it on a floppy and add it. After doing this 10 to 12 times, I finally got Windows up.

However, launching applications resulted in more demands for .dll files. All of them seemed to be in the windows or windows\system directories on the Pentium. I remembered that the restore software had responded to my choice of "Always Over Write Files" with something like "You ninny. We know better and won't overwrite vital Windows files.

If you REALLY want to do this, do a selective restore." So I decided to try doing a selective restore of Windows and its subdirectories. I watched and this time it copied in 24 more files than it had before. Now Windows and applications launched from it worked fine.

Lessons Learned...

Why am I telling you all this stuff? Well, for you experts, there were at least *nine* chances in this saga for you to say "Damn, that's dumb."

For the rest of us, there are a few things to learn from my floundering. Making a backup is not the whole battle. You need to look at what it takes to do a restore:

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,
then, 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 Adventures Of Pc Tech

Chapter 25

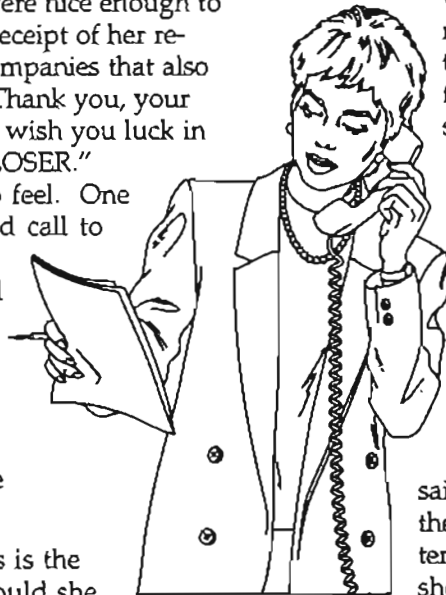
by Ben Thar

In our last adventure, Mary Margaret started the journey to finding a new job. She answered, on the average, five newspaper advertisements a week. A few of the positions were a stretch for Mary's qualifications, but she figured that the first task was to get her foot in the door. Days and then weeks went by with no responses.

Finally, a few of the companies were nice enough to send a postcard acknowledging receipt of her resume. Those were usually the companies that also sent very nice rejection letters. "Thank you, your qualifications are wonderful. We wish you luck in finding the right position, YOU LOSER."

At least that how MM started to feel. One company, Megasoftware, Inc., did call to talk to her about a Technical Manager's position that she had applied for, and they wanted to know how big of a cut in salary she was willing to accept. MM told them that she would move for a lateral in pay, but not for a reduction. That was the last she ever heard from Megasoftware.

Mary Margaret thought that this is the real test of her determination, could she



stick with the job that became more unbearable by the day and still have rejections waiting for her when she came home. MM's boss, Mr. O., continued his ways of management by non-participation. He did not show up for work some days, and other days around 11:00 in the morning. His secretary caught him once when he said he would be at a vendor presentation, and the vendor called in the next day to make sure that he enjoyed the golf game. Yet, this is the same person who would gripe about people not being at their desk covering the phones in the morning, when the majority of the calls were for mainframe systems support, another group on Central Do-Nothing Time.

The heads of the other divisions did not know who the IT Director was because he never left his office to meet with them, talk about their needs, and offer the Information Technology Department's assistance in solving problems. As the PC Tech supervisor, Mary met all of the department heads, managers, and company presidents. They knew her by her first name, and they called on her to help solve their problems.

A critical project came up that required setting up a network in 3 weeks time. Mr. Oblivious, when posed with the dilemma of focusing the majority of the department's resources on one project said, "Let them hire contractors, and then they will see how valuable we are." After thinking, "What a stupid answer," she replied, "We want to do this, this is what makes this job fun, and we will do

it even if we have to work nights and weekends." The project completed on time and Mary and her crew won praise and admiration for their responsiveness.

In Technical Support, you take the praise when and where you can, because 99% of the calls are people with problems. A few people get bent out of shape at the slightest infraction of their computer. Mary told her staff, "You would think that a General Protection Fault is a declaration of war. The more sophisticated the hardware and software gets, the more likely it is to not work together all of the time. Yet we have a few users who will start paging us over the silliest things." As she cupped her hands over her mouth and said, "Mary, come to the research office, the floppy

Lessons Learned... Ctd.

- ❖ Most methods require loading DOS first. Can you do it from the diskettes you have?
- ❖ If you use Windows to back it up, you'll probably need it to do a restore.
- ❖ Your backup and restore software may try to protect you from yourself in ways that complicate things.

As for the partitioning, the partitioned 486 now shows 8192 bytes in each allocation unit, while my other 1.2 G without partitions shows 32,768 bytes. Since the size of this article is about 8000 bytes, you can see the value of partitioning for those of us who work with small files.

Judy Griffiths

The Adventures of PC Tech... Ctd.

disk color doesn't match my mouse pad." or "Technical Support, pick up line one, the Montana office needs to know if their monitor is big enough to support another program."

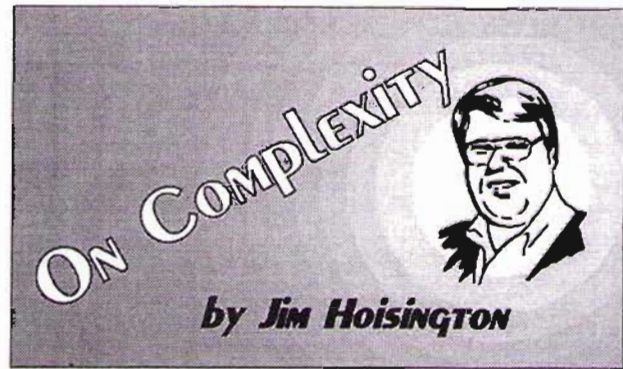
A few job interviews went well. Mary liked the company, and they seemed to like her. But alas, it wasn't meant to be. One company, ready to hire her, suddenly fired their CFO (and this being the person MM would interview with next). The recruiter called her and said that he did not feel that she should go to work at the company because of the internal turmoil. Good thing, three weeks later the CFO won a restraining order, the President got fired, and the company laid off 40% of the staff. "Close call," thought our heroine. She came in second in another job search, for a startup company that sounded neat, but they ran the ORNYX operating system, which Mary would have to learn.

It paid off when MM answered a blind ad and received a phone call about an interview. She kept all of the ads that she answered and copies of the cover letters were on her computer. Digging through the ads, she realized that she had applied for over 200 positions in the past year. The ad gave her no clue about the job. The first interview turned out to be a phone interview and lasted for an hour.

One thing Mary Margaret realized in her quest for a new employer was that since she had a job, she could be more selective about where she would work, she was more relaxed at interviews, and she learned at each opportunity how to better present herself and her qualifications. An important lesson, If you can not do something, tell them up front, while adding that you could quickly learn the task. No one in the computer business knows it all, and if they say they do, kick them out of your office. The recruiter on the fired CFO job gave her many tips about interviewing, including being enthusiastic about the job. Do not be shy, stiff and formal. If you are excited about the opportunity, let the person across the desk know it.

Next chapter, the process, the offer, and the big kiss-off to Mr. O.

Ben



No. 79 in a Series

In a recent column in *PC Magazine*, John C. Dvorak said that the cable companies are not going to be a viable service provider in the near future. I'm glad to see someone else has figured it out. In the rush to provide more bandwidth to the home, the cable companies have a lot of deficiencies to overcome.

The only thing the cable companies have going for them is that they own the *right of way* to install a sophisticated network. However, the investment to upgrade their existing system to one that would be capable of providing reliable digital service to homes is tremendous.

In the meantime, cable companies are facing competition from the DSS type satellites. This competition will force them to cut their prices which will not give them the cash flow to upgrade their systems.

I don't think that TCI will be able to offer me anywhere near what GTE and SWB will be offering me in added bandwidth until well after the year 2000.

Jim...

For comparison, see table below:

Cable Companies	Telephone Companies
Built their network out of cheap parts.	Built their network out of expensive parts
Built their network for one-way communication.	Built their network for two-way communication
Use only analog technology.	Already use a lot of digital technology. Are currently installing digital loops from the switch into the neighborhoods.
Have very little diagnostic equipment. They wait for the customer to call. Then they respond slowly, if at all.	Use sophisticated computer-based diagnostics to monitor the network and correct problems before the customer is aware of them.
Have a poorly-trained workforce; often use small contract firms.	Have a highly-trained workforce.

DOM Disks Released In July

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

DOM Disks Released in July:

Disk 1059. F-PROT 2.23a, 6/96 -- Virus Detection/Protection Program

Disk 1060. WINSNTP, v2.7 32-bit PC Time Synchronizer via Internet 2/96

Disk 1061. WINSNTP, v1.9f 16-bit PC Time Synchronizer via Internet 2/96

Disk 1062AB. VirusScan, Windows/OS2 2.2.12, 5/96 -- McAfee's Virus Protection

Disk 1063. ViruScan/VShield for DOS v 2.2.12, 5/96 -- McAfee's Anti-Virus Scan

Disk 1064. PKZ for DOS, Windows, OS/2, & Utils -- From PKWare Website

Disk 1059. F-PROT 2.23a, 6/96 -- Virus Detection/Protection Program

F-PROT 2.23a. Virus Detection/Protection Program. Frisk Software International. Posthof 7180. IS-127 Reykjavik, Iceland. sales@complex.is e-mail. Command Software Systems Inc. (USA Agent). Tel: +1-407-575 3200. Fax: +1-407-575 3026

This program has been consistently rated as one of the top computer virus scanners. The English-language shareware version of the F-PROT anti-virus program is free of charge for any individual using it on his/her personally owned computer, which is not used for commercial purposes.

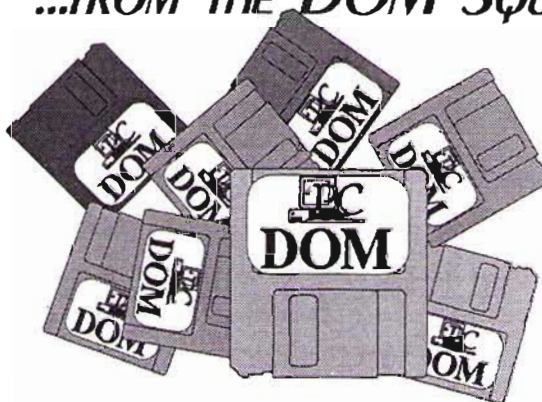
The F-PROT anti-virus package contains a virus scanner combined with a disinfection program, as well as a resident monitoring program for intercepting known viruses. This pro-

gram is free of charge for private users, but others are required to register (see ORDER.DOC). It provides virus scanning, disinfection and information. Several levels of virus detection, including Heuristic Analysis, are available. Most users will find the menu-driven interface to be very user friendly. Command line options are available for use in batch

and 7.x document files for known Word macro viruses and disinfects them by disabling and overwriting the viral macros.

VIRSTOP.EXE (Put this program in your AUTO-EXEC.BAT) The function of VIRSTOP.EXE is to intercept known viruses - it will prevent the execution of any program infected with any of the viruses it recognizes.

New Disks ...FROM THE DOM SQUAD



by Jan Parkhill

files. F-PROT first performs a self-test, to see if it has been infected with a virus, and then it loads the search strings into memory. The next step is to search for viruses in memory, then on your disks.

This version also includes F-MACRO a scanner and disinfecter for MS Word document macro viruses. F-MACRO is a DOS program which searches Word 6.x

Documentation having the extension .DOC (actually text files) are included as well as a file containing information on computer viruses in general

This software was donated by North Texas PC Users Group.

This README was prepared by Mark Gruner and edited by Gene Carleton. 7/96

Disk 1060. WINSNTP, v2.7 32-bit PC Time Synchronizer via Internet 2/96. Solaris Technologies. 1577 Fairway Drive. Los Altos, CA 94024-5313. REGISTRATION FEE = \$26 See the Register file for details.

IMPORTANT !!! This is the 32-BIT version of WinSNTP and is designed to run under Windows NT, Windows 95, or a 32-bit operating system.

WinSNTP is an implementation of the Simple Network Tune Protocol and runs as a Windows application and is designed to keep a distributed set of computer clocks synchronized to the correct time with a very high degree of accuracy.

To use WinSNTP you need a PC equipped with network access and a Winsock compliant TCP/IP implementation. WinSNTP will operate correctly over a wide range of different network connections from SLIP links to high speed local area networks. You will also need access to an NTP server - contact your system provider or network administrator for pointers to a nearby NTP server. Some SMTP servers will work.

When you first run this program you will be asked about which NTP server you want to use. After that you will need the time zone you want to use. You also will have to know the time difference between that zone and GMT. The difference between CST and GMT is six hours.

This software was downloaded for the North Texas PC Users Group.

This README prepared by Gene Carleton. 07/96

Disk 1061. WINSNTP, v1.9f
16-bit PC Time Synchronizer
via Internet 2/96. Solaris
Technologies. 1577 Fairway
Drive. Los Altos, CA 94024-
5313. REGISTRATION FEE =
\$25 plus Handling fee: \$1.00.

See the Register file for de-
tails.

IMPORTANT !!! This is
the 16-BIT version of
WinSNTP and is designed
to run under Windows 3.0,

Top Twenty DOM Disks

Want to know what's hot? These are the 20 most popular NTPCUG DOM Library disks - as of May 18, 1996.

- 1026 .. IDE Identification (Have you forgotten your
..... hard drive parameters?)
- 1021 .. PC-CONFIG 7.31 (Make your system hum)
- 1030 .. SoLaTor Suite 1.2 (Five Solitaire games)
- 1029 .. Caller IDS 5.3 (Caller ID system for telephone)
- 1038 .. WinTune 95 (Win 95 tuneup and trouble-
..... shooting kit)
- 1039 .. WinZip 6.0 (ZIP/UNZIP/Check-Out Software
..... utility)
- 1027 .. WINZIP FAQ (Helpful Q&A about running
..... WinZip!)
- 1040 .. WinZip95 (Windows95 version of WinZip
..... Check-Out program)
- 1031 .. Wisdom of the Ages 2.1 (Quotes for windows
..... to spice up your speech)
- 1033 .. CD Quick 1.11 (Quick cache to improve CD-
..... ROM speed)
- 1043 .. F-PROT 2.22 (Very good virus detection with
..... nice menu)
- 1024 .. PLUG-IN FOR WINDOWS 2.11 (What
..... Windows should have had!)
- 1008 .. ViruScan & VSheild 2.26E (Virus protection,
..... perhaps the best one)
- 1007 .. CopyQM 3.22 (One-pass diskette duplicating
made easy)
- 1032 .. Internet Phone (Telephone calls on the Internet
..... made easy)
- 1009 .. ViruScan-Windows/OS2, 2.26E (Virus check for
..... Windows or OS/2)
- 1014 .. PGP 2.6 (Pretty Good Privacy...did you say
..... Private E-mail?)
- 1020 .. BUTTONS FOR DOS 6.0 (Make DOS more
..... user friendly)
- 1036 .. Disc Detective 2.84 (CD Disk Diagnostics
..... made simple)
- 1034 .. Eudora 1.4.4 (Internet E-mail Software for
..... Windows)

DOM DISKS ...CONTINUED

3.1, or a 16-bit operating system.

WinSNTP is an implementation of the Simple Network Time Protocol and runs as a Windows application and is designed to keep a distributed set of computer clocks synchronized to the correct time with a very high degree of accuracy.

To use WinSNTP you need a PC equipped with network access and a Winsock compliant TCP/IP implementation. WinSNTP will operate correctly over a wide range of different network connections from SLIP links to high speed local area networks. You will also need access to an NTP server - contact your system provider or network administrator for pointers to a nearby NTP server. Some SMTP servers will work.

When you first run this program you will be asked about which NTP server you want to use. After that you will need the time zone you want to use. You also will have to know the time difference between that zone and GMT. The difference between CST and GMT is six hours.

This software was downloaded for the North Texas PC Users Group.

This README
prepared by Gene
Carleton.
07/96

Disk 1062AB. VirusScan, Windows/OS2 2.2.12, 5/96 - McAfee's Virus Protection. McAfee Inc. 2710 Walsh Avenue. Santa Clara, CA 95051-0963. (408) 988-3832 Office, 970-9727 Fax, 988-4004 BBS. CompuServe: GO MCAFEE. Internet Support @mcafee.COM. America Online: MCAFEE. <http://www.mcafee.com>. WSC-22FE.ZIP, WSC22FE1.ZIP and WSC22FE2.ZIP (VirusScan for Windows v 2.2.12) REGISTRATION FEE = \$65

Scans and checks floppy, hard, CD-ROM, and compressed (SuperStor, Stacker, Doublespace, etc.) disks on both stand-alone and networked PC's as well as network file servers for pre-existing infections of known and unknown viruses; and disinfects all common viruses (file, boot sector, partition table infectors) with options to overwrite and delete infected files.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS:
WSCAN requires Windows 3.1



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

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

VOLUNTEER to share it with us!!

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

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

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

README Help available

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

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

Best regards,

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

OSC-22FE.ZIP (VirusScan for OS/2 v 2.2.12) REGISTRATION FEE = \$65

Scans and checks floppy, hard, CD-ROM, and compressed (SuperStor, Stacker, Doublespace, etc.) disks on both stand-alone and networked PC's as well as network file servers for pre-existing infections of known and unknown viruses; and disinfects all common viruses (file, boot sector, partition table infectors) with options to overwrite and delete infected files.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS:
Windows 3.0 or better

OS2SCAN requires OS/2 operating system 2.0AG or better.

To install VirusScan for Windows, make a directory on your hard disk and enter that directory to make that directory current, copy both these disks to your hard drive. At the prompt type A:PKUNZIP A:WSC*.ZIP.

You should create a different directory for OS/2 and repeat the process except replace WSC-22FE with OSC-22FE.

This software was downloaded for the North Texas PC Users Group.

*This README prepared by
Jan Parkhill, edited by Gene
Carleton. 0796*

Disk 1063. ViruScan/VShield for DOS v 2.2.12, 5/96 - McAfee's Anti-Virus Scan. McAfee Inc. 2710 Walsh Avenue. Santa Clara, CA 95051-0963. (408) 988-3832 Office, 970-9727 Fax, 988-4004 BBS. CompuServe: GO MCAFEE. Internet Support @mcafee.COM. America Online: MCAFEE. <http://www.mcafee.com>. REGISTRATION FEE = \$65 for single users; (more if you're married?)

**** NEW **** : McAfee has added a new INSTALL.BAT program to assist with installing ViruShield to your hard drive. The batch file will backup all necessary files and perform the installation for you.

Scan checks floppy, hard, CD-ROM, and compressed (SuperStor, Stacker, Doublespace, etc.) disks on PC's for pre-existing infections of known and unknown viruses; and disinfects all com-

Continued on page 17.



PC Vendors Wilt, Die in the Withering Price Wars as Component Prices Still Plummet in July, August 'Dog Days'

Who'll be Left by Comdex/FALL 96?

And the blood flows! I feel like I'm in the middle of some virtual-reality "slasher" epic there's so much blood and gore covering the ground, the walls, the ceiling. Everywhere I look there's blood! The stable of PC vendors is narrowing, others, the victims of unrelenting PC price plunges, have sunken into the depths of business hades — all shrouded in shades of red ink — emulating the life's blood sucked from the corporate corpus, leaving only the bare bones, dereft of muscle and flesh, bleaching in the burning July/August sun.

'Purple Prose' For Fun & Profit

Boy, was that fun! Even in my "purple-prose" periods I've never felt comfortable/been able to use some of these words. It's the August *PC News*, and this is *Variety Store*, so it must be OK. Seriously, it's been that kind of month with lots of surprises, shocks and unexpected pleasures filling out the days 'till Comdex/FALL 96. Guessing game of the moment, is trying to figure out who'll survive till then.

AST, PACKARD-BELL FEEL PRICE CRUNCH, GET NEW OWNERS

Bleached, bare bones? Could be AST and Packard-Bell down the road. Each has fallen prey to foreign vultures who have been waiting patiently for last groans of life to vanish into the unlistening, desert skies. AST has fallen to Samsung of Korean fame (South, that is) while NEC paid off Packard-Bell's massive (\$400+ million) debt to Intel and pretended Packard-Bell had, in fact — if not in fantasy — acquired NEC rather than the other way around.

BUYERS USED TO NON-STANDARD STANDARDS?

That's no big deal for Packard-Bell buyers since they're used to buying no-name components in non-standard boxes produced by the lowest bidders to Packard-Bell non-industry-standard specs. AST has been down the same

road — "almost" standard components in the box, but, not quite enough "standard" to allow real interchangeability.

On the other hand, Andy Oliver, NTPCUG President, assures me that's all in the past, and that AST has reformed and changed their ways of yore. Unfortunately, I've got a long memory (sorry bout the short-term recall, though) and still have one of AST's "Premium 386" machines. There's not a "standard" part in the box. Memory is proprietary, motherboard is not on any "standard" form factor I'm aware of, and upgrading is a fantasy.

I'VE HAD THE SAME EXPERIENCE WITH PACKARD-BELL.

With NEC in the picture, that may change. NEC needs a strong presence in the US, having been relatively unsuccessful in breaching the tough US PC market on their own. NEC is also the chief producer of boxes with the super MIPS RISC CPU chips

THE VARIETY STORE

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

by REAGAN ANDREWS

next to Silicon Graphics. May mean a lot of power for the desktop is close at hand for users.

In this regard, can't count out AST/Samsung. Samsung recently struck a deal with DEC (Digital Equipment Corporation) to produce the DEC "Alpha" RISC CPU chips for Samsung consumption. If AST (as a label) produces an "Alpha" box at a reasonable price, might put a crimp

in Intel *Pentium-Pro* sales. Can you say "500 MHz?"

What makes all this speculation possible is Microsoft's *Windows NT*. We're headed toward NT eventually, whether we like it or not. *Windows NT* is the great "leveler of the playing field" with true multi-platform (CPU) capability not shown so far by Microsoft's competitors.

Speaking of Windows NT...

Am hearing lots of rumors that some of the "serious" NT beta testers (4.0) are feeling a little "burned" by the latest 4.0-Beta release. Seems that after installation, several have gotten the "magic" Microsoft message that the "License has expired" and the installation won't run. Ask Jim Hoisington about his experience(s) with the new release. He'll talk at some length about frustration, lack of MS support response and other inanities involved.

CAN'T BE AS FRUSTRATING AS Microsoft's Web page.

I'm making a list of web sites that really make me angry as result of too-ambitious graphical designs. Microsoft is headed toward the top of the list in interminable waits while truly insipid graphics load at 28.8 KBPS. Enough already! Most of us hit the Web with modems.

Few of us are lucky enough to be able to afford ISDN connections — or come in through a T-1 line. You are spending our money with this stuff. Moral to this is that it looks fast from the server side, but drives the users crazy.

If it were really good, that would be one thing, but it isn't. If you want good, go look at the <http://mips.com/home> page. That's good graphics.



Good Service - Crummy Drives

I've written here about the really excellent user support available from Hewlett-Packard. It's among the best available in the PC vendor community. Had an opportunity to use it again, just before press time.

My third H-P 1G SCSI drive bit the dust and cratered. That's in a six-month period. May be one reason H-P is getting out of the disk drive business. I've always been impressed with H-P quality and service in the past, and have recommended H-P products to others as a result. Again, H-P asked no questions, just replaced the drive within 30 hours of my call to H-P product support. My question is what to do with the replacement drive?

I don't feel comfortable installing it in any of my PC's that are hard to service, i.e., located where it's hard to get into the PC box to swap drives, etc. (Like, at my office at the VAMC Dallas.) I had been using it with a Conner 1G drive on my "main" PC at home, but will replace both with a 2.1G (somewhat faster) Micro-polis SCSI-II drive.

'Old' Equipment Disposal?

Good Question — What do users do with "old" equipment?

Looking around the area where I write this column, I have a 200M SCSI Maxtor drive (\$1,200 new), a 340M Maxtor IDE drive (\$900 new) and a 212M Maxtor IDE (\$450 new) lying on a shelf, replaced by larger, faster and lots

cheaper drives. You can tell I used to like Maxtor products a lot.

I could donate any/all of these to a worthy cause. But, each was replaced because I felt they had reached the end of their useful life. Giving them to a charity would be a questionable gesture that might be much more trouble than its worth to the group in question. So would donation of a couple of 386 motherboards that I thought were "flakey" when they were replaced.

INTEL DROPS 'OTHER SHOE' SAYS WON'T DROP PRICE ON PENTIUM CPU'S

This could get interesting. Intel, dropping its usual practice of price reductions on existing product lines, announced it won't cut prices on its *Pentium* CPU's as expected. Bar on dropping prices apparently doesn't apply to the *Pentium-Pro* line of CPU's according to media. Means the *Windows NT* superior CPU may be less expensive than the "older" *Pentium* line in coming months.

Don't think I really understand this gambit, but Intel has been very, very crafty in the PC CPU pricing wars to date and may have another (or a bunch of) card(s) up their sleeve(s). At any rate, should make life quite interesting for both Cyrix and AMD who are competing with Intel (now) at the *Pentium* level. Does this mean that Intel has another "standard" waiting in the wings?

May be. Intel has been talking about placing all kinds of multimedia "hooks" in their

The VARIETY STORE

CPU's/motherboards of late and speeding-up release of their next-generation CPU chips. Don't know how much processing power can be placed in one CPU at this time, but can't forget what TI promised with their sub-0.2 micron trace-width process fabrication capabilities. Intel's Pentium-Pro series was pegged by Intel at 0.35 micron and another generation may demand even narrower trace widths.

MICROSOFT '96 INTERNET EXTRAVANGAZA SHOWS COMMITMENT TO WEB

If you missed the *Microsoft Internet User Group Tour* July 17 at Infomart, you missed a really great show! That's for a number of reasons, not least of which was watching Windows NT 4.0 and all the MS Web goodies demonstrated. Shawn Morrissey demoed a number of MS product beta's aimed at Web development, including Ms' *Front Page*.

Fun here was in watching someone who really knows the products put them through their paces, in spite of the limitations of beta software. Demo made me want to redo the DOS SIG Web page (at www.ntpcug.org) and, maybe, do a couple of other pages as well. He made it look that simple.

Shawn prevailed over the occasional "crashes" attributed to running beta software in front of a large audience and displayed unaccustomed candor and wit from an MS demonstrator. Well, what else can one do in presence of typical MS warning messages while trying to show-off? Fact

that MS gave away a lot of software didn't hurt the demonstration either.

Most fun was seeing Fred Williams, NTPCUG BBS Sysop/guru win a copy of MS's *Front Page*. Was worth the whole show for me. Fred Williams — a Web page designer? I'm going to watch the BBS very carefully from now on...

CYRIX LEARNS, SHOWS NEW 6x86 PC'S AT INFOMART VENDOR AREA IN JULY

Saw a lot of "strange" sights at last NTPCUG Meeting. Not least of which was Cyrix folks at tables in the Infomart basement showing new Cyrix 6x86 PC's. This is a distinct turn of affairs for the Richardson, TX, CPU design house. I'll have to remind Michelle Moody, Cyrix PR maven of her comments at past Cyrix Comdex booths in Las Vegas, NV, concerning Cyrix and the end-user markets. Actually, Cyrix is very concerned with getting the Cyrix brand before the public. That's major reason for their decision to produce their own PC's — to get the CPU in the public eye. Cyrix made the July meeting with assembled Cyrix PC's, but may make the August meeting with motherboards and CPU's in light of "typical" systems shown in the Infomart basement.

Number of other vendors, all selling motherboards with Cyrix CPU's were grumbling about being in competition with the company that's supplying them with CPU chips, but with crowds I saw in July, would appear

there's enough room for both Cyrix and Intel, given the traffic.

IS IT REALLY "PAPERLESS"? NOT YET, NOT HERE EVEN IF WE TRY

Hear a lot about the "paperless" society, even heard a suggestion recently that the NTPCUG cease production of the user group's monthly newsletter, *The PC News* since it was so "old fashioned" and a www web Zine could do the job much better. Person who suggested/demanded this (based on the cost of the newsletter to membership as a major percent of membership dues) initially made me angry. After I thought about it for a while, could see some point to the suggestion.

The APCUG (Association of PC Users Groups) of which the NTPCUG is a member, has a Web site, www.apcug.org, which does include past newsletters of several member organizations. Checked several of these out after the NTPCUG Meeting Saturday.

Bulk of the groups were displaying newsletters from January and February, 1996. That's not "news." Evidently, editors/publishers of these newsletters feel same way about this issue as I/we (NTPCUG) do.

Again, the person making the suggestion added that they were forming a "Zine" for the D/FW area and wanted to include NTPCUG news/SIG announcements as a feature of this for-profit endeavor. Things kinda "cleared up" at that point. This person felt like it was the NTPCUG's obligation to provide copy for their profit-centered enterprise, and any objection the officers/directors might have were irrelevant in light of this effort and their needs.

Hmmmm. Think I've heard this song before, maybe at a 'Three-Card Monte' game/demonstration.

NTPCUG – 'FREE' To Anyone/EVERYONE WONDERS OF THE WEB

Why not? There are some good reasons for this decision.

Recent NTPCUG demographics survey results tell the story. Most of the NTPCUG membership doesn't "cruise the Web," much less use their PC's/modems regularly. Wouldn't be much use to them under any circumstances.



In addition, a significant number of our members are well into the "Bifocal" years and prefer reading materials in more convenient format, i.e., paper, which is easily transportable, can be perused at leisure (i.e., whenever and wherever the reader might wish, including the bathroom) and can be easily adjusted to the needs of the reader.

Does that mean we'll never put *The PC News* on the Web? No.

We/I plan to include portions of the NTPCUG newsletter on the user group's web page, perhaps with sections available for perusal via Adobe Acrobat viewers.

However, we/I have no plans to provide free copy for a profit-centered, personal enterprise of any individual. That would be both against the best interests of the NTPCUG and not terribly bright, either.

Reagan Andrews

Continued from page 13

common viruses (file, boot sector, partition table infectors) with options to overwrite and delete infected files.

Operates from the DOS command line while other files are not being used, making it the most thorough virus scanning program available. It's strongly suggested, however, that two or more virus programs be used to cross check for spurious error messages sometimes reported by one or more virus scan software programs. This program will detect and remove most all the viruses you will encounter and it's competently kept up to date by McAfee.

WARNING: This new version will detect the new MACRO VIRUS (Word 6.0), but there are problems removing the virus. This is being worked on at the present time, but until then, it's suggested the Word 6.0 Macro Virus program (Word Prot) be used until a complete solution has been worked out.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS:

SCAN requires DOS 3.x or above.

This software was downloaded for the North Texas PC Users Group.

*This README prepared by Jan Parkhill, edited by Gene Carleton.
0796*

Disk 1064. PKZ for DOS, Windows, OS/2, & Utils – From PKWare Website. PKZIP/PKUNZIP/PKSFX For DOS, Windows, & OS/2, PKLITE, PKZFIND/PKZOOM, & RENZ10, By PKWARE Inc., 9025 N. Deerwood, Drive, Brown Deer, WI 53233, <http://www.pkware.com>

The data compression software included on this disk is direct from PKWARE's FTP site accessible from their website at the address in the title. This disk contains what you will need to save hard disk space and transmission time on DOS, Windows, Win95 and OS/2 platforms. The software available on this disk is described:

PKZ204G.EXE: PKZIP/PKUNZIP/PKSFX version 2.04g for DOS PKZIP compresses one or more files into a single ZIP file. PKUNZIP decompresses the individ-

ual files in a ZIP file into their original formats.

PKSFX turns a ZIP file into a self extracting EXE file so that decompression does not require PKUNZIP. Other utilities and documentation is included.

PKZWS201.EXE: PKZIP/PKUNZIP/PKSFX version 2.01 for Windows Same capabilities as PKZ204G.EXE but is a 16-bit program for Windows and compatible with Windows 95. Supports drag and drop, Win95 long filenames, opening multiple ZIP files.

PKZ102-2.EXE: PKZIP/PKUNZIP/PKSFX version 1.02 for OS/2 Same capabilities as PKZ204G.EXE except for OS/2. Probably includes additional capabilities, but no additional information available from the website.

PKLTS201.EXE: PKLITE Professional version 2.01 EXE/COM program compressor PKLITE is designed for developers so that their programs can save disk space for EXE/COM/SYS/DRV/DLL files. PKLITE compresses the

files and attaches a small "Loader" to the file that decompresses the underlying file when loaded into the computer's memory. In some cases, the program will actually load faster with the "loader" than without the "loader".

PKZF15.EXE: PKZFIND/PKZOOM version 1.50, file finder plus PKZFIND is a file finder with a plus. When "finding" files, PKZFIND will not only search all directories, but also ZIP, and PKSFX self-extracting files as well. With PKZFIND, you can find any file in any directory, ZIPped or not. PKZOOM takes file finders a step further. PKZOOM can search up to five filespecs at a time, on multiple disks, and using pull-down menus.

RENZ10.ZIP: Rename Zip Utility to remove references to illegal filenames.

This software was downloaded from PKWARE's website by Mark Gruner.

*This README prepared by Mark Gruner, edited by Gene Carleton.
07/96*

INSIDE THE NORTH TEXAS PC USERS GROUP COMMUNITY

VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION



by Claude McClure

It Takes a Volunteer to Know a Volunteer

I was going through my e-mail the other day, and was impressed by a report on one of the many volunteers who make this user group function so well. Larry Linson was complimenting one of the frequent speakers and helpers who show up at the Application Developers SIG. If you have flipped through the pages of this newsletter over the last year or so, then you know Larry can often be found describing SIG happenings and describing the virtues of *Access* and companion computer applications. Larry Linson knows his stuff and he can be very helpful in digging that extra performance out of your database.

Larry introduced Dan Ogden as an enthusiastic and helpful member of NTPCUG who's dedication is coupled with his technical knowledge and ability to give interesting presentations. Dan is described as an outstanding volunteer who has contributed software and leadership in the SIG. When I hear these kind words from Larry Linson, I must say, "It takes one to know one."

It is a pleasure to be able to thank our many volunteers for giving us a meeting day of education, training and fun. Many volunteers from our recent meeting are listed on this page. Take a moment to thank one of them when they do some service for you at the next meeting.

Infomart Liaison

Stuart Yarus
Robert Hilliard
Alex Lilley

Vendor Setup/Break-down

Anchor:
David Slavik
Kenneth Berg
Ross Jones

Crew:
Roger Crutchfield
Joseph Denison
Ken Burns
Larry Matzek
William McRae
Kenneth Tillman
Neal Van Pelt

Auditorium Presentations

Timothy Carmichael
Chris Jung
Chris Carmichael

Information/Registration Booth

Statistician:
Connie Andrews
Ralph Beaver (Assistant)

Scheduler:
Bob Waller

Anchor:
Al Aston
Ralph Beaver
Deborah Bean (Double)
Albert Champon
Lorin Cranford

Eteta Eta
Judy Griffiths
Allan Harbaugh
Hank Holt
Cinda Lovil
David Martin
Bob McNeil
Raymond Reyes
Paul Williams

Booth Crew:
Roger Bopp
Claude McClure
Anthony Nagy
Fred Toulmin

Walkabout:
Linda Moore
Perry Slack

Disk of the Month (DOM)

DOM Shift Supervisors:
Joe Allen
Roy Bales
Don Chick
James Donlon
M. Pat Henley
Arnold Krusemark

DOM Desk Crew:
Richard Abreu
Michael Ashley
Douglas Athas
Bernie Baars
Richard Blair
Jim Boyce
Philip Bridge
Linda Campbell
Gene Carleton
Norm Dang
William Farris

Brad Ficke
Martin R. Gluck
Tom Jackson
Tom Jones
Mac McKeethen
Mark Miller
Nancy Ogden
John Primm
George Read
Jim Russell-Redman
Oscar Tyler
Lee Williams

With Special Thanks to:

Set Up Crew:
Mark Gruner
Kent Haven
M. Pat Henley
David Huckabee

Jan Parkhill
Jerry Stone
Inventory and Take-down
Crew:
Richard Blair
Mark Christopher
Brad Ficke
Martin R. Gluck
Arnold Krusemark
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 these areas in a coming month.

3. By phone:

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

DOM Booth Scheduler
Phil Bridge (214) 422-5400

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

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

Selected SIG Reports . . .

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

Access SIG

Many thanks to Jack Atkinson for hosting our June and July meetings. Jack did not disappoint us - we can always count on Jack for useful and interesting presentations.

Larry Linson, at the August meeting, will demonstrate *application frameworks* for Access, using his Address Book Example and Moss Micro's product, *Start Developing for Access*. It's not object-oriented programming, but packaging frequently-used components with needed support code can save development time, effort, and cost. Moss Micro has provided a review copy of their product and do-

nated an additional copy for a giveaway at the August meeting.

Tom Lukers will present "sample session" of the proposed new Access Beginners SIG, here at the Access SIG at our September meeting. Tom announced at the June meeting that he is exploring interest in this new SIG, featuring tutorials based on a popular Access self-study book (or books). If you are interested, be sure to let one of us know, or, even better, send Tom an Internet e-mail message at tlukers@onramp.net.

Volunteers are still needed to speak on Access and Access-related subjects for future meetings. We're also still hoping you'll do-

FROM THE SIG COORDINATOR

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

Groups Looking for Help in Leading their SIGs:

- Networking [Contact Bernie Van Roekel @ (817) 451-4540 h; (817) 461-4120 w]
- Visual Basic [Contact Jim Carter @ (214) 235-5968 h]
- Dallas Corel [Contact Marsha Drebelbis (214) 951-0266]
- Hardware Solutions [Contact Charles Miller (903) 938-4220 h]

New SIG Leaders:

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

The requirements for forming a SIG are:

Leadership - at least one individual willing to lead the SIG, and an assistant.

Membership - at least eight individuals willing to attend the SIG fairly consistently.

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

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS SIG LEADER LISTINGS

SIG Coordinator

Alex Lilley (214) 517-7430 h

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

ACT !

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

Access

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

Alpha 4 / 5

Ron Jackson (214) 276-3661 h
 Bill Parker..... (214) 369-5889 h

Applications Developers (OLE & ODBC)

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

Assembly Language SIG

Frank Cavalitto.... (214) 423-9221 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

Communications

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

SIG

nate Access examples and other Access-related software for an Access SIG freeware disk for the NTPCUG Disk of the Month operation.

Check inside the back cover of this issue for the NTPCUG electronic bulletin board system telephone numbers and keep up-to-date with the group, and Access, between meetings. There's a local MS ACCESS message conference where you can post questions, answers, or announcements and the Internet newsgroup "comp.databases.ms-access" (the newsgroup is available for downloading only; you can't view it on-line). Attached to a message in the MS ACCESS message conference, you'll find a copy of Silly Little Mail Reader (SLMR), good, solid, and (best of all) *freeware*, that you can download to use to read the newsgroup.

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

Larry Linson

Alpha 4 / 5 SIG

At the July meeting we got a taste of the capabilities that will be in Alpha Five version 3 when it ships this fall. Since I was just back from a trip to Alpha Software in Boston, there was not much time to work with the Beta of the new product. Fortunately, we had a real world technical presentation by Ken Brooks, who discussed some of the tips and tricks that people requested in June.

This month, we will actually demonstrate the Beta of A5v3, the Developer's Edition for Win95. This version adds the Xbasic language from Win 3.1 to the Win95 edition

of Alpha Five, and is a major upgrade of Xbasic to what is now called Action Programming. Action Programming continues Alpha's long tradition of continually making complex tasks easier and easier. As in A5v2, genes do most of the work when adding buttons or other objects to forms, applications, etc. The code behind these buttons is now accessible through Action Programming which should be much more intuitive for non-programmers to use. Any old Xbasic code you have is upward compatible. However, since some of the menus changed from Win 3.1 to Win95, if your Xbasic was based on the user interface, some changes must be made.

In addition, this version will have ODBC drivers to provide for a client/server environment. We will also talk about the range of other features that will be in this release. This release sets the direction in which Alpha will be moving for a pretty good while. So come by and see where things are going. It should save us all a lot of development time!

Bill Parker & Ron Jackson

Application Developers (OLE and ODBC) SIG

Many thanks to Dan Ogden for hosting our June and July meetings. Although the June meeting was dismissed in favor of the "hot Netscape topic" at the auditorium meeting, I very much appreciate Dan "standing in" for me for two months in a row.

At the August meeting, plan on a presentation by Larry Linson on the subject of "Estimating Software Projects". *Don't* plan on a de-

SIG LEADER LISTING

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

Communications ... Ctd.

Birl Smith.....(214) 960-8227 h
.....(214) 220-9388 w

Dallas Corel

Marsha Drebelbis (214) 951-0266
Susan Biggs.....(214) 340-7794

DOS

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

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
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

SIG LEADER LISTING

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M = Metro #

Internet-Beginner... Ctd.

..... (214) 464-4568 w
Erik Leaseburg ... (817) 265-7550 hM

Internet-Advanced

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

Internet-WEB Developers

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

Introduction to the PC

Alex Lilley (214) 517-7430 h
..... (214) 527-0922 w
Bob Russell (214) 422-4269 h

Investors

Dick Richtman (214) 437-0322 h

MS Word for Windows

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

MS Works

Ralph Logan (817) 498-9746 hM

Microsoft Networking

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

MultiMedia

Dennis Rice (214) 680-8299 h

Networking

Leroy Tennison
Francis Bright

OS/2 Developer

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

OS/2 for End Users

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

OS/2 Q&A

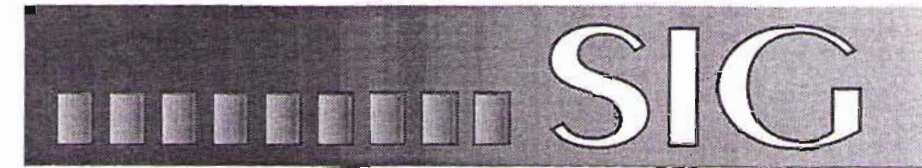
Larry Truesdale .. (214) 684-4790

Paradox

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

Programmers

Jim Hoisington (214) 416-3101 h



scription of a "drop the yellow sheets in the top and turn these handles to produce a bid" estimating machine. We will discuss what you need to know and when you need to know it to make an educated guess; we'll also discuss strategies for lowering the risk of underestimating by *staging* and *phasing* projects.

We are entering the "new age of OLE and ODBC" as Microsoft extends the concepts for use on Internet applications. The Internet extensions and supporting software, all in Beta, have been featured at three major Microsoft "events" since the beginning of the year: "A Day at the Microsoft Movies", "Developer Days", and the Microsoft-North Texas PC User Group meeting, "Activate the Internet". If not all those extensions are quite ready for prime time, that'll be no barrier to a hardy bunch of OLE developers who were "quick to catch the wave", though. We'll be looking for some useful and entertaining presentations on these subjects in the near future.

We'll also continue to explore using OLE and ODBC in our traditional desktop and network environments. Too, we'll cover topics of more general interest to developers, such as our past coverage of fixed-price contracts and obtaining and documenting user requirements.

Come join us for the August meeting!

Larry Linson

ASSEMBLER SIG

Our July meeting did not have a prepared presentation. In addi-

tion to a continuing discussion for ideas for the NTPCUG Web Page, there was discussion on efficiency issues, CISC vs RISC programming and Win32 Assembler programming. Your suggestions for future presentations are welcome.

I am still working with Cyrix to have them give a fairly technical presentation to the SIG (I wonder sometimes if my Internet mail is actually getting out!). Information on this presentation will be made via the newsletter, club BBS and SIG meetings.

Hope to see you in August.

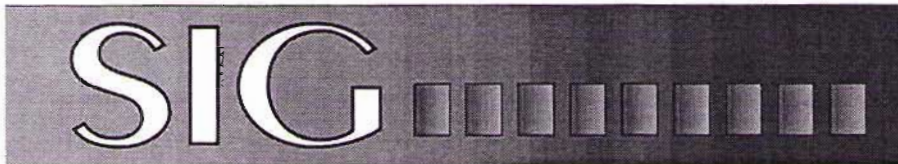
Frank Cavallito

C++/ADVANCED SIG

At the July meeting of the Advanced C/C++ SIG, we started a series on OLE automation and MFC. OLE is of special interest to C++ programmers because of its object-oriented aspects; the MFC connection provides an interesting case study of how Microsoft has wrapped a non-object-oriented API in several C++ classes.

We started in July with a discussion of some basic OLE terminology and concepts, and looked at how OLE uses the registry to facilitate some of the OLE technologies. The debate was lively, the questions were insightful, and a good time was had by all.

In August, I plan to continue the series on OLE. We will be building on the topics we covered in July, and talking about interfaces and class factories. After we cover the OLE fundamentals,



we'll look at how they are implemented in MFC. Please join us!

Kent Cobb and Tom Cook

COMMUNICATIONS SIG

Our August meeting will be general Q&A on member's communications-related concerns. These sessions give folks a chance to ask those large and small questions that have been nagging at them, or causing them day-to-day grief. Previous Q&A sessions have discussed telephone network problems, BBS access issues, Win95 dial-up capabilities, ISDN, ADSL, etc. Bring your questions, or answers, and join us. Perhaps we will have SYSOP Fred Williams update us on the conversion of our BBS to Windows NT, a formidable project that will position us for improved Internet access.

At our July meeting, member Gordon Huff presented *Blue*

Wave, his favorite off-line mail reader. An OLMR is a vehicle for reading and creating electronic e-mail *without* having to be connected to the associated online service. Two computers are involved - the Bulletin Board System (BBS) that handles your mail, and your PC. Gordon did an admirable job describing this sometimes-complex issue of reading and responding to that mail once it arrives at your PC.

Join us on August 10th.

Birl Smith & Doug Gorrie



Dallas Corel is a SIG Of North Texas PC Users Group

DALLAS COREL

August Meeting Program -

Get inspired by Wes and Judy Loper: Masters of the Digital Art Print

Wes and Judy Loper are serious artists who are equally at home with a traditional paint brush in hand or the latest technology mouse (or stylus) and PC. Come and see their creative work and hear them describe the technology they use at our August SIG meeting. They like to use Corel and compatible software to create their paintings, designs or photo enhancements. Then they output the work on their large format Encad NovaJet color plotter (maximum 36 wide by whatever) to produce the final art product.

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
- ❖ To obtain our catalogue please request document #2000

SIG LEADER LISTING CONTINUED ...

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

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

- Pay Hykonen
- Doug Scott.....(817) 261-4653 h
-(817) 878-0367 w

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

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 w

Wes and Judy combine their backgrounds of fine arts schooling with small business know-how. Their Art Design & Sign business services reach the high quality levels demanded by ad agencies, film makers, arts institutions, and other artists. A critical color sense is their stock in trade. Steeped in a background of traditional fine art printmaking, they have experimented with inks and papers and have adapted these new technology tools to create limited edition fine art prints of their own work and for other artists as well. Come to the Dallas Corel SIG in August to learn tips and get inspired!

Color Desktop Printing Papers

Did you ever wonder what paper looks best or costs the least for your color desktop printer? Dallas Corel SIG members Dick Tranke, Ed Ellis and Dick Blair volunteered to test various papers on different type desktop printers (inkjet, thermal, etc.) and to show and tell their findings at the August meeting. Inquiring minds want to know. We're all waiting on the edge of our seats for full disclosure.

Volunteer and Have Fun

We Dallas Corel SIG regulars always appreciate new input and ideas. Now is the time to come forward to add yours. A SIG leader and various task masters are needed to keep our SIG going. Call Marsha Drebelbis at 951-0266. Volunteer anonymity is not assured. Door prizes may be included.

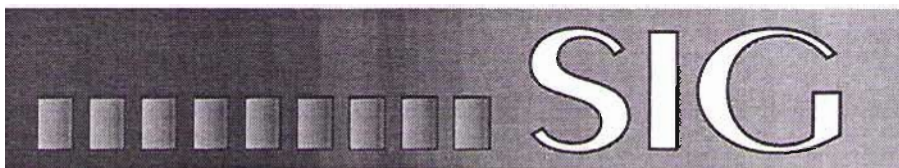
Marsha Drebelbis



TIPS & TRICKS

If you are using CorelDRAW! 6.0

and would like to replace your Align roll-up dialog with the easier-to-use old style Align dialog



from CorelDRAW! 5.0, you can download the script, ALIGN.CSC, from "dpthelp.com/software/index.html" (note: no www. should precede dpthelp in the address).

You can go to dpthelp.com and find all manner of interesting tips. There is also a place to join the "CorelRoom" Discussion area there, or just send a message to dpthelp.com with the following in the body of your message:

JOIN CorelRoom @ [your Internet address, i.e. Susie951-0267yz.com].

Susan Biggs

Delphi SIG

Naturally the "plan" was not to be. I know now, even before the meeting next week, the "Wise" demo is not to be. Seems time is just not there. Maybe this month (August).

I am planning on a Tom Browning style, "tips and tricks" type presentation for September. I've got a couple or two little ditties that are helpful in a given situation. How to build them is not readily apparent from the "surface" of Delphi.

I think the things I intend to demo will demonstrate just how much can be done with Delphi. If it can be done in Windows, or even if it can't, you have a very good chance at getting it to happen in Delphi. The true beauty of Delphi is that it greatly simplifies the mundane tasks of developing a Windows application, while retaining full and robust access to the "guts" of a powerful Windows development environment.

I just got Steve Teixeira's latest; *Delphi 2 Developer's Guide*, Xavier

Pacheco and Steve Teixeira, Borland Press - Sams Publishing. 1239 pages, not counting the index. It oughta be! List price at Barnes and Noble was a mere \$59.99. Has the now "standard" goodies CD-ROM in the back. With this book and *Delphi 2 Unleashed*, Charles Calvert, Sams Publishing, one should have all the information a sane(?) person should hope to ever know about Delphi.

I happen to have one of the "few" early Delphi 2 Developer Edition CD-ROMS that has an apparently unending nest of zero length sub-directories where Delphi 1's install disk set is supposed to be. Might want to check your DE CD. Borland will send a replacement free of charge, if you call.

Brace yourself, the projected ship date is, "more than three business weeks." Must have been an awfully large number of a "few" CD's! By the way, they have a way of determining if you actually have a copy of the bad CD. I will not disclose that method here, as only the deserving need a "free" upgrade.

The Delphi news groups continue to overflow with message traffic. There are now possibly more custom third party VC's than the world will ever be able to digest. Several northern forests will be felled printing the newest wave of Delphi tomes. And rumor has it, Delphi 3 will evidently replace canned beer in greatness! Come on along, if Borland can get the corporate act together, Delphi is on a Roll!

Fred Williams

SIG

DOS SIG

No new name — and, we moved again in July just to thwart the onslaught of the TRS-DOS and CP/M crazies. Unfortunately, aaagghhhh, it was to the notorious 'Cave' (7001).

About the name: the DOS SIG's name may be misleading, but the following excerpt from the DOS web page may explain the rationale.

The DOS SIG looks at much more than just PC-DOS from IBM or MS-DOS from Microsoft since *Windows 95*, *Windows NT*, *OS/2 Warp* and *UNIX* are all Disk Operating Systems (DOS's). And, each can be affected by the intimate relationship between hardware, BIOS, peripherals and operating system parameters. We are aimed at the core of the PC — the interaction between machine and the users' operating software — and how this facilitates or impedes operation of the PC running applications software and games important to the PC user.

DOS SIG meetings may be consumed by discussions and tutorials on aspects of DOS, on the interaction between DOS and users' hardware, or on specific applications software that's troublesome to users. Often, the SIG meetings are an open forum with give-and-take interactions between members and SIG leaders.

Our meetings feature advice and tips for PC users across the spectrum from beginners to experts. Check us out, and check out the DOS SIG's web page at <http://www.ntpcug.org>.

Reagan Andrews

Graphics SIG

After two months of false starts, the Graphics SIG is moving again! This month we will be having **Bruce Clapp** of Fractal demonstrating the latest in computer painting programs. Bruce has been around to our SIG several times in the last few years, and each time his demos have been fascinating. This time things should not be any different. When I last spoke to him, Fractal had just merged with a 3D graphics company (I still can't remember which....) and Bruce was getting up to speed on the latest Fractal product. He is ready to show off his new knowledge to us.

This presentation will be big- so big that it will start at 9 in the main auditorium followed by 2 hours upstairs with the SIG.

For those of you who have tried to figure out all the intricacies of Paint and Dabber, this will be the

chance to see what can be really done with the programs and how to get all those neat effects.

This is going to be a fun presentation.

What is upcoming in the future months? For starters, Micrografix is back to working with us which should give us some interesting presentations. If Computer Support Corporation (The Arts and Letters folks) were not with us in July, we will try again to get them for September. A&L has always had some of the best designed clip art and from what they have said, there are a few new programs in their lineup, all of which are very inexpensive.

Neal Berkowitz

INTERNET SIG - BEGINNING

At our August meeting, we are privileged to have **Kevin Chenette** of Netscape Corporation give us the "beginner's tour of the Netscape browser. Netscape is the predominate browser in use today for "surfing" the World Wide Web. Although easy to use, it has a lot of

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, then, 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!

features and capabilities that might be daunting to new users. It incorporates Web browsing, e-mail, Usenet newsgroups, and makes management of "bookmarks" (past sites visited and worth going back to) easy. Kevin will bring us up to speed on how to get Netscape, how to use all these neat features, and more!!

In September, we anticipate having a presentation on how to setup and use Windows 95's built-in Dial-Up Networking feature to connect to your Internet Service Provider over the telephone network. Such connectivity is needed before you can "surf the Net", and is not provided with all Internet software. If you use or are interested in using this feature of Win95, join us to learn how.

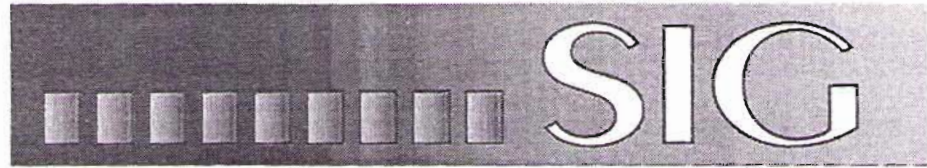
In a later session, we plan to cover the various search "engines" available on the Net. Search tools enable users to find the Internet sites containing desired information, but their use can be a little tricky. Any new user will benefit from doing searches, because they answer the question of "What is on the Net of interest to me?". Keep an eye out for this presentation.

At our May and June meetings, we addressed the real basics of the Internet, stressing Q&A. We plan to have these "rank beginner" sessions more frequently in the future, and build on these beginnings in the months afterward.

This SIG's primary purpose is to explain the Internet to those unfamiliar with it. This includes such things as how to choose and access an Internet Service Provider (ISP), what software options are available, hardware needed, and what all those acronyms and buzzwords really mean.

See you August 10th !

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



INTERNET SIG - Advanced

As we go to press, we have not yet decided on the August topic, but we know you will want to be there for whatever surprise we come up with.

In July, Pat Hykkonen continued a previously begun session on Internet IP (Internet Protocol) addressing, subnets, and Domain Names. These are some of the base level components to Internet access, and understanding them is essential in managing networks and supporting users. As usual, Pat did an outstanding job covering a complex issue.

At our June meeting, we were privileged to have GTE with us to discuss Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line (ADSL). The folks at GTE are conducting a trial of this new technology, which in my view could easily become the preferred vehicle for high-speed access to access the Internet, or for telecommuting from home.

With its expected reasonable pricing, and throughput rates reaching six megabits/second upstream (and 576 kilobits/second downstream), it sure beats ISDN. And while the necessary associated equipment may still be priced beyond what most folks would pay, it has the potential for coming down fast. Go visit GTE at <http://wcn.gte.com/adsl> for more info.

As you can see, we cover some *very* interesting issues. Come join us on August 10th.

*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.

August 10, 1996

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

September 14, 1996

- ❖ 9:00
Viruses and Their Prevention


October 12, 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

November 9, 1996*

- ❖ 9:00 Class 5
Graphics for the PC

SIG



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

December 14, 1996*

- ❖ 9:00 Class 9
Hardware for the PC
- ❖ 10:00 Class 10
Printers for the PC

- ❖ Noon Class 11
Overview of Quicken Accounting Software
- ❖ 1:00 Class 12
Modems & Telecommunications
- ❖ 2:00 Class 12a
NTPCUG Bulletin Board System (BBS)

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

Alex Lilley

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 "T" — 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

PARADOX SIG

Ah, how time flies! I'm guessing Tom Browning did his now standard fine presentation on some choice tidbit from his life and times since receiving Pdox 7.0 for the July meeting. I'm too busy working on everything but Pdox of late, it seems.

I've seen messages in the Paradox News Group, claiming Borland has pulled the 7.0 Runtime from availability in the U.K. Someone has claimed their copy of the printed documentation for the 7.0 16bit release only had new covers, the text still heavily referenced the 5.0 release, with no direct mention of 7.0.

I'm holding back on 7.0 until I gain some reassurance that the major issues I have faced in the past have been addressed. I had a call from Borland, Scotts Valley, a month or so ago. Basically the question I was asked was, "What would it take to get you to upgrade to Pdox 7.0." Buzzzz, BAD QUESTION! About thirty minutes later, I think they had learned more than they ever wanted to know about Pdox-Win's legacy shortcomings!

Had a call from a member this afternoon. Seems there were problems with a Pdox application he had developed and shipped to a

client. He remembered the problems I had suffered related to hard coded, drive and path assignments, so called me.

He was using explicitly defined "Referential Integrity" within his data tables. The client's system had failed to function at all, terminating with an error message indicating the .VAL files was "out of date". His copy was fine. He had developed the application on his standalone machine and the client had installed on a network.

We kicked around various things trying an easy fix. He finally nuked the .VAL files and was able to open the base tables after that. He restructured, and reassigned referential integrity, on a couple of files, as a test. He then opened the resulting .VAL files and found, you guessed it, hard coded drive and path assignments. Sigh!

Well, come on by the SIG and see what interesting Tom has found this time.

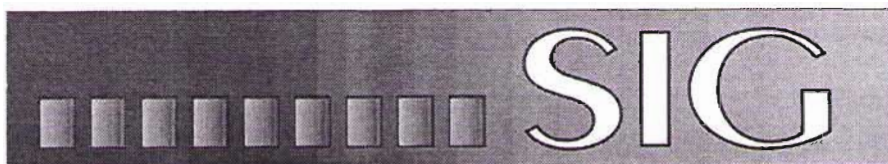
Fred Williams

QUICKEN

For August, our Quicken SIG intends a "Back to the Beginning" session. We will discuss setting up original accounts, qualifying the categories, and splitting transactions in the check register—along with other tasks in becoming launched.

A recent survey of our SIG attendees found the primary uses for Quicken were register/check writing assignments, tracking investment performance, and running small businesses.

With routine attendance of 25-35, our SIG has plenty of opportunity for questions and answers. While most participants are on a Windows platform, we still have a number who cherish their original DOS-driven programs.



Quicken, made by Intuit, is now linked to the Internet. Its Web-based Quicken financial network has now been "beefed up" with news, stock quotes, and other financial products like insurance on-line.

Another recent release is the \$40 Quicken Financial Planner—available on disk or CD-ROM. This program was recently critiqued by Walter S. Mossberg in his Thursday "Personal Technology" column in the *The Wall Street Journal*. From an organizational point, he gave it high grades—especially for estimating future financial goals, like retirement (or college), followed up by a detailed "action plan" to point you to the appropriate periodic savings and yield requirements to meet those goals. Notwithstanding a number of pluses, Quicken Financial Planner, in his opinion, was blind to two big realities of modern life: dealing with/adjusting to excessive consumer debt and unexpected medical costs. Perhaps future releases will address ways of dealing with these two "swing items" on a more persuasive venue.

Phillip Faulkner

PRO SIG

Dr. Reagan Andrews regaled the group with stories of the ancient computer systems used in the governmental agency for which he works. According to Reagan, they have instructions that in an emergency, they are to dial IX I. I.

Join us next month for a demonstration of keypunch techniques.

Jim Hoisington

SQL SERVER SIG

There are a number of configuration tasks that can be performed after installation to fine-tune SQL Server. SQL Server configuration options control various aspects of SQL Server performance and memory allocation. Some of the configuration options can be reset to fine-tune performance and refine storage allocation. There are a number of configuration tasks that can be performed after installation to optimize a server or client for your particular network, database, and business environment.

This month Erin and Steven will discuss some ways you can fine-tune SQL Server for optimum performance.


Ada Finigan

VISUAL BASIC SIG - BEGINNING

The August 10 meeting will be our semiannual meeting entitled "For Beginners Only" and will emphasize the resources available to a beginning programmer in Visual Basic. This presentation is updated and given each August and February to help beginning programmers get started in Visual Basic.

The major topics will include a brief history of Visual Basic, descriptions of resources available for beginners in Visual Basic, an introduction to the Windows environment, discussion of Visual Basic 4.0, and demonstration of the Visual Basic integrated development environment (IDE). Sample programs will be run on the NTPCUG computer projection

SIG



system. Everyone is welcome to attend, of course. If you have a friend, relative, neighbor, etc. who would like to see what Visual Basic is about, bring them to this meeting.

Bring your questions on Beginning Visual Basic to our meeting beginning at 8:00 AM on Saturday August 10, 1996. Check the Infomart lobby screens for the correct room assignment.

Jim Carter

Windows Application SIG

Timothy sprang a nice curve on me this month. I had been planning to do a demonstration of cutting and pasting showing the differences between DDE, OLE, and simple cutting and pasting. While I know the presentation would be riveting and worthy of an Oscar if anyone were to film it (I am giving the presentation...), I have been put on hold for a month. The presenter of the 10 o'clock presentation in the main auditorium will be visiting our SIG for a previsit.

All I know of the presentation so far is that the topic will be Windows Utilities. Look at the front page for more information!

As Reagan often remarks, we have been a bit lax about getting our SIG reports in to the newsletter in time. Because of this many of you might not know what we do in the SIG. We often ask ourselves that question. We have not yet decided (after two years) what direction we want to take the SIG so we kinda' wander around.

In previous months we have investigated Windows Applications like Winfax and Word. We have also looked at the application of Windows components like print manager and control panel. We have also covered how to apply Windows by discussing optimization and hardware requirements.

To make matters even more complex we are currently discussing the pros and cons of new Windows verses old Windows. Our demo unit only has four Meg of memory so we run only Workgroups 3.11 on it. But our assistant SIG leader is a 95 fan and has twice now brought his "optimal" Windows 95 machine (64 Meg, 3 Gig of hard drive, P166, with a 4 Meg video card) for demonstrations.

This has lead to some interesting confrontations especially when the demo outperforms the "monster".

Neal Berkowitz

Windows Developers (Microsoft Visual C++/ MFC) SIG

The Microsoft Visual C++/MFC meeting scheduled for Saturday, August 10th will introduce you to the Visual C++ Component Gallery. At this meeting we will discuss the purpose of a technique of adding components to your Visual C++ application using classes, ActiveX controls, and other components found in the Component Gallery. We will show you how to use Component Gallery to add functionality to your program such as splash screens, progress dialogs, right mouse-button menus, and ActiveX controls.

We will also look at some of the new ActiveX and other types of components that I am able to collect at the Microsoft Visual C++ Developers Conference in San Francisco on July 21.

If we have time I will also review conference highlights and other interesting events that occurred at the conference. To learn more about the conference you can check out the conference web page at www.vcdj.com.

Last month, we overviewed the Microsoft Visual J++ development system. Visual J++ (code named Jakarta) is Microsoft's new Java development system that has been added to the Microsoft Developer Studio integrated development environment. At this meeting I overviewed the differences between C++ and Java—as well as demonstrated how to build applets and applications using Visual J++.

In September, we will be looking at the MFC class library extensions developed by Stingray Software. Stingray software publishes MFC class library extensions that you can easily bolt on to MFC. The Stingray Objective Grid++ is an MFC class library extension that implements a full-featured grid control that is powerful-but easy to implement. Their general purpose class library extension to MFC, SEC++, contains numerous

MISSING SIG'S?

If you don't see your favorite Special Interest Group's SIG Notes here, take a few minutes to remind your SIG Leader that *The PC News* will be glad to report what your SIG is doing — if the SIG Leader will send us your SIG news.

Deadline for SIG news is usually the 10th of the month preceding publication. We are anxious to report what your SIG is doing.

Reagan Andrews

classes that you can use to enhance your MFC applications.

SEC++ includes classes for working with bitmap images (SECDib, SECGif, SECJpg, SECPcx, SECTga, and SECTiff), classes for extending and altering the MDI user interface, a CView zooming class, classes to implement Excel-like tabbed windows, and more. Stingray Software also has one of the best (if not the best) sites on the Internet that is devoted to MFC programming.

In October, I will be giving a very important class: "How to become a Microsoft Certified Solution Developer in Visual C++/MFC." At this meeting I will cover all the aspects of becoming a Microsoft Certified Professional such as: benefits, test-taking strategy, and study materials.

Remember to get the latest news on the Visual C++/MFC, check out the Digital Artistry web site at www.artistry.com. If you have questions about the Visual C++/MFC SIG or just need Visual C++/MFC technical help you can reach me at art@artistry.com or call (214) 232-3310.

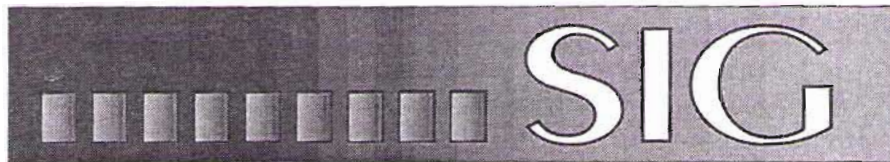
Arthur English

WORDPERFECT/WINDOWS

SIG

In the past two months we have learned about Templates and Macros. This month we are going to tackle Template Macros. If you find yourself making the same keystrokes and movements when working with a particular template, you can trigger macros to do the job for you.

You have twelve different triggers you can use, with six being for before you do a task (such as print), seven after you do a task (such as close the document). By associating macros, toolbars, and menu items, you can virtually take your



favorite features that you have customized with you to another location in your template.

Tip of the Month:

Take your favorite macros and put them on your Menu Bar! Create a new menu bar by pressing your right mouse button and chose Preferences. If you have not created your own Menu Bar yet, you need to. Highlight the WPWin 6.1 Menu and select Copy, highlight again the WPWin 6.1 Menu and choose Copy. You will be prompted to name the toolbar and choose OK. You are now back at the Menu Bar Preferences screen. Select the Tool Bar you just created and choose Edit.

To create a new item on the Menu Bar, double click *Menu* from the bottom right corner. You will now have an option of *Menu* on the menu bar. Double click this and you can rename it to be anything you want, like MyMacro's.

From there, you can start macros and put them under your new group. Select "Play a Macro" and then you can choose the macro you want to play. This will usually end up at the end of the Menu Bar you have just created. Simply click on it and a hand will appear. Move the hand to the position directly under your new title of "MyMacro's" and release. If WordPerfect has named your macro with a number behind it, simply double click the name and rename it.

Remember: You are putting the macros you want on this new Menu Bar. WordPerfect will not automatically alphabetize it for you. So make sure if you want it alphabetized, you must manually do it.

By putting macro's on the Menu Bar, all you have to do is click on the name and the macro plays.

Cindy Adams

NTPCUG On-Line — Continued from the following page.

The latest in the bloody saga. On-Ramp upgraded their end of the UUCP feed. This action was taken with no prewarning to the customer base.

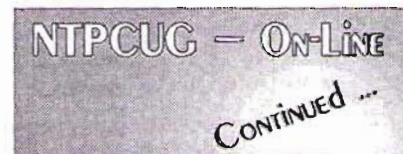
No wonder Unix weenies have such a hard time being taken seriously in the business community! The upgrade naturally blew away our end of the feed. Good thing we asked, or I would most likely still be trying to figure it out.

With each event, my e-mail manager gets stronger and stronger, and I am learning more and more than I ever wanted to know about

Internet e-mail. This time required me to do a little C code to massage the incoming news group packet file names into something the Aussie's code can recognize. Plus, I had to enhance my mail processor to do a better job of recognizing mail packets.

So this past month has been a busy one. A little too busy for all the wrong reasons. But, I'm planning on a better remainder of July.

Fred Williams



Of Shoes and Ships And Sealing Wax & All Things 'NT'...

*New BBS 6x86 PC
Finds Fred Smiling at Last*

Things NT have finally started to move! We were unsuccessful in our search for a happy donor, so we now own a purchased, custom-built, Cyrix 6x86 based machine which will be the new NT Server.

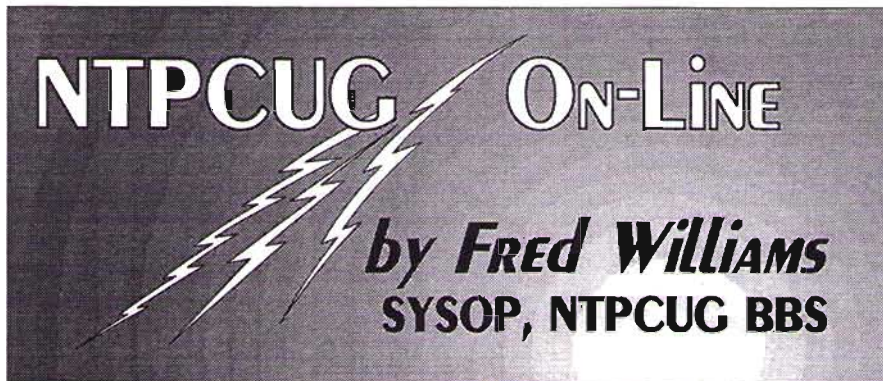
The details of the new machine, my favorite brand, Mama San:

- ❖ Cyrix 6X86 166/133MHz
- ❖ PCI Motherboard w\512k Triton II burst mode cache
- ❖ 32Meg SIMM EDO RAM Memory
- ❖ 2Gig 12ms EIDE Hard disk
- ❖ 6X EIDE CD-ROM
- ❖ 4Gig Conner EIDE tape drive
- ❖ Cirrus 1Meg PCI VGA video card
- ❖ VGA Mono monitor

The machine was custom built by my favorite local PC distributor.

A funny thing happened while acquiring the machine. Seems I was busy doing real work and simply did not have the time it would \could take to build up and debug the multitude of individual parts that were to be the final machine. I know from previous experience, this can take from hours to days.

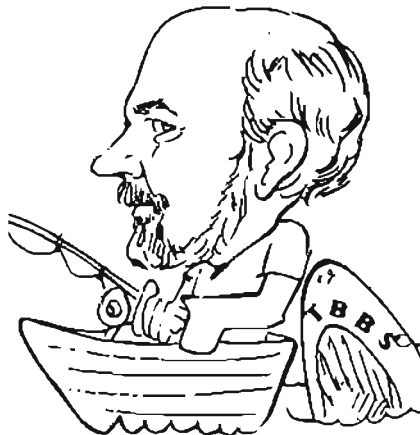
I was at a loss as to what could be done to resolve the situation. I called a couple of board members to get some additional insight. **Jim Hoisington**, asked the obvious. "Can the distributor assemble the system for a fee?" Now why didn't I think of that?



Fred Discovers Nirvana

I placed a call to my distributor and asked what would it cost to have them assemble the system. The answer totally blew me away. Remember, I have been buying system components from these people for years, and spending untold hours tacking down errant IRQ's, memory footprint conflicts, and just the normal strangeness which can occur when building a scratch system. My sales representative told me they would be happy to assemble and test the system for an additional **ten dollars!**

I went wild! You mean all this time, I could have had you guys building up these *expletive-deleted* things for \$10? This caused great hilarity on the other end of the phone line! Up until then, I guess she always thought I liked poking myself in the eye with a sharp stick.



Anyhow, after a couple of days wait, I dropped by and picked up the new system. Everything was installed and working.

The only lingering problem is, with my wife's new 5x86, and this screamer 6x86 sitting around, my 486/66 DX2 is sure looking tired. If it were not for my old 486/33 test machine, I'd have the slowest processor on the block!

Practice Makes Perfect?

I have done a couple of NT Server installs. When the instructions say, "If the Domain Administrator's password is lost a complete reinstallation of NT Server will be required," I recommend you write down the Domain Administrator's password! Oh well, I needed the practice anyway.

I am now spending all the time I can researching and developing an implementation project plan. I hope to have the actual project begun well before the end of July, although I am having a hard time devoting "spare" time to the project.

It seems the old BBS system is aware something terminal to its health is afoot. I have had more than enough lost NT project time this last month trying to keep the wheels on the current UUCP feed. Doug Gorrie has once again provided excellent support and assistance during these continuing trying times.

Continued on Preceding page.

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
Access				DOS			
	Larry Linson	(817)481-2350	M-Sa 1300-1500		Bob Russell	(214)422-4269	7 1900-2200
	Ram Bhandari	(214)243-4056	M-F 1300-1700		Erik Leaseburg	(817)265-7550(m)	7 2000-2200
Assembly Language				DR DOS			
	Frank Cavallito	(214)423-9221	7 1800-2200		Ralph Beaver	(817)336-0570	M-F 0800-1700
	Glynn Brooks	(214)578-8737	M-F 1700-2200		.....	(817)624-9530	SS 0900-2100
BASIC				Hardware Help			
	Mike Firth	(214)827-7734	7 0800-2200		Charles Miller	(903)938-4220(*)	7 1900-2400
Beginner Problems				Internet - General			
	Jan Parkhill	(214)828-2216	M-Sa 0900-1700		Erik Leaseburg	(817)265-7550(m)	7 2000-2200
	Shirley Hudgens	(903)439-9780	7 0900-2000		David Marlin	(214)717-0523	M-F 1900-2200
Brother's Keeper				Internet - Telnet, FTP, NetScape, Web Explorer (OS/2)			
	Neil Sunderland	(214)272-2869	7 0900-2200		Bob Wilson	(214)517-1434	M-F 1900-2200
C++ (the language)					.....		S-S 1000-2200
	Bob Adams	(214)328-1455	M-Sa 0900-1900	LANs — Novell			
	Howard Harkness	(817)267-6227	7 1000-2100		Joseph Beasley	(214)225-8752	7 0800-2400
	Doug Cochran	(214)578-9258	T&T 1800-2030	— Lantastic			
CorelDraw					Joseph Beasley	(214)410-3818	7 0900-2200
	Linda Hume	(817)472-7555	M-F 1900-2200	Managing Your Money			
	.....		S-S 1300-2200		Glynn Brooks	(214)578-8737	M-F 1700-2200
Batch Files				Modems			
	Charles Miller	(903)938-4220(*)	7 1900-2400		Erik Leaseburg	(817)265-7550(m)	7 2000-2200
Borland C++				MathCAD			
	Bob Adams	(214)328-1455	M-Sa 0900-1900		Bob Adams	(214)328-1455	M-Sa 0900-1900
	Howard Harkness	(817)267-6227	7 1000-2100	Norton Utilities			
Comm Software					John Dyer	(214)790-3311	M-Sa 0800-2200
	Doug Gorrie	(214) 464-4568	M-F 0800-1700	OS/2			
	.....	(214) 618-8002	S-S 1000-1900		Larry Truesdale	(214)442-7074	7 1000-2200
CompuServe				PC Tools/Win			
	Bob Adams	(214)328-1455	M-Sa 0900-1900		Glynn Brooks	(214)578-8737	M-F 1700-2200
dBASE III, III+, IV & Windows				Paradox			
	Ted Gillam	(214)964-7923	7 0800-1700		Fred Williams	(214)492-1315	7 1300-2100
Delphi (Borland)							
	Howard Harkness	(817)267-6227	7 1000-2100				

SUBJECT	HELPER	PHONE	DAYS/HOURS
PKzip/PKUNzip			
	Erik Leaseburg	(817)265-7550(m)	7 2000-2200
ProComm/ProComm+			
	Doug Gorrie	(214) 464-4568	M-F 0800-1700
	.....	(214) 618-8002	S-S 1000-1900
	Bill Green.....	(817) 731-1308	
	Joseph Beasley	(214)225-8752	7 0800-2400
	Joseph Beasley	(214)410-3818	7 0900-2200
Publisher (Microsoft)			
	Bob Russell	(214)422-4269	7 1900-2200
	Pat Cote.....	(214)522-1717 x266	M-F 0800-1700
	.....	(214)424-1738	7 1000-2200
Quicken			
	Jim Hall.....	(214)348-7848	7 1000-2100
Quickbooks			
	Jim Thompson.....	(214)953-0051	M-F 0800-1800
SPFPC			
	Doug Gorrie	(214) 464-4568	M-F 0800-1700
	.....	(214) 618-8002	S-S 1000-1900
TurboVision			
	Don Cochran	(214)578-9258	T&T 1800-2030

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

NTPCUG USER - To - USER PROGRAM

UNIX			
	Doug Scott	(817)261-4653	7 1830-2200
Virus & Anti-Virus			
	Charles Miller.....	(903)938-4220(*)	7 1900-2400
Visual Basic -			
	Jim Carter	(214)235-5968	7 1700-2130
	L.J. Johnson	(214)495-9067	7 1700-2130
	Gene Hamelman.....	(214)495-6342	7 1700-2130
Windows for Workgroups			
	Joseph Beasley	(214)225-8752	7 0800-2400
	Joseph Beasley	(214)410-3818	7 0900-2200
	Bob Russell.....	(214)422-4269	7 1900-2200
Word for Windows			
	Bob Russell.....	(214)422-4269	7 1900-2200
WordPerfect 6.x /Win			
	Georgene Harkness.....	(817)267-6227	7 1000-2100
Works, Microsoft			
	Mike Firth	(214)827-7734	7 0800-2200
XENIX			
	Doug Scott.....	(817)261-4653	7 1830-2200
XTREE			
	John Dyer	(214)790-3311	M-Sa 0800-2200

North Texas Users Group, Inc. Membership Application

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

Member # _____

Name: (Last) _____ (First) _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

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

Occupation/Profession: _____

Check one from each column below.

Payment:	Membership	Application Status:
Cash _____	Classification:	New Member _____
Check _____	Regular (\$24.00) _____	Renewal _____
Credit Card _____	Student (\$16.00) _____	Address Change _____

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

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

The subject areas below do not have a volunteer to answer questions. If you would like to assist or add possible categories for the future, please contact Doug Gorrie at (214)464-7924 M-F 0800-1700 or Sa & Su 1000-1900 at (214)618-8002. Doug will send you a form on which you can list your qualifications and sign.

Areas Needing Helpers:

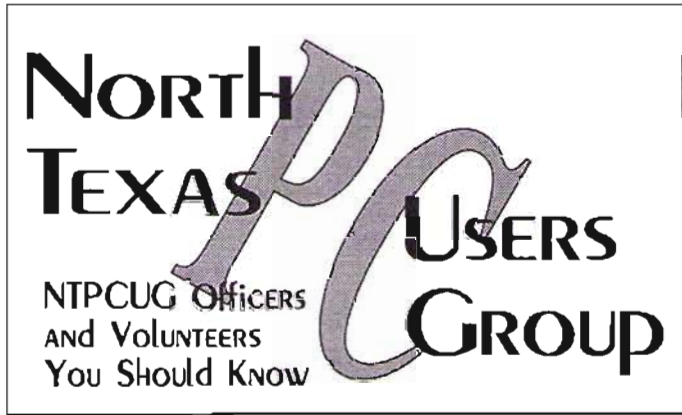
Borland Turbo C	Microsoft Visual C++
CAD	Microsoft Word
Dataflex	MKS products
Desktop Publishing	Pagemaker
Easy Text	O & A
First Choice	Roots
First Publisher	Smart Notes
Fox Pro	Sound Blaster
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Money Counts	Corel Ventura
Microsoft C	
Microsoft C++	

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

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, 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 (214) 960-4215 w
President-Elect	Jim Hoisington	(214) 416-3101 h
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	(Open)	
Disk of the Month	Jan Parkhill	(214) 828-2216 h
Volunteer Coord.	Claude McClure	(214) 867-0978 h
Bulletin Board	Fred Williams	(214) 492-1315

Members Emeritus

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

NTPCUG 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

(Check newsletter mailing label for your renewal date..)

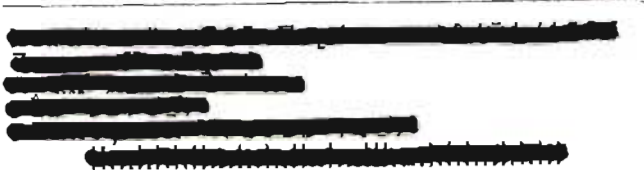


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North Texas PC Users Group

Next Meeting:
10 August 1996

