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Send address changes to: Membership Director, NTPCUG, P.O. Box 780066, Dallas, TX 75378-0066.

Managing Editor Reagan Andrews
(214) 828-0699

Editor Gerry Heine
(972) 938-7268

Assistant Editors Alan Intel
(214) 220-7829

Doug McCoy
(972) 496-0366

Linda Moore
(214) 342-8833

John Gourd
(972) 783-9829

Newsletter Exchange Lewis Graber

Advertising Director Connie Andrews, (Acting) -
(214) 828-0699
Mail all advertising material and ad payments to
North Texas PC NEWS
c/o 3100 Lincoln Plaza
500 North Akard
Dallas, TX 75201-3320

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

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DEADLINE

Copy deadline for January
North Texas PC NEWS:
Tuesday, December 10th

Meeting Dates:

December 14, - 2nd Saturday
January 18, 1997 - 3rd Saturday
February 8, 1997 - 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 AM - 9:55 AM

Knowledge Adventure Returns
Knowledge Adventure
Nita Simmons, Regional Sales Representative

Come see all the latest and greatest products from our favorite educational software company. Among the titles to be demonstrated are new additions to the award-winning JumpStart series of full-year curriculum software programs. These new additions include JumpStart Toddlers, JumpStart 2nd Grade, JumpStart Adventures for the 3rd Grade: Mystery Mountain and JumpStart Adventures 4th Grade: Haunted Island. Each product blends an entire grade level of age-appropriate curriculum with dozens of puzzles and games that include reading, math language arts, science, art, and music. There will be coupons for great discounts, and there will be a drawing for free products. *

10:00 AM - 10:55 AM

TurboTax Deluxe —
America's #1 Tax Software
Intuit, Inc.

Elizabeth Dougherty, Product Marketing Associate

TurboTax Deluxe on CD-ROM includes everything in TurboTax—plus expert multimedia tax advice—to make taxes easy and save you money. On-screen versions of over 30 IRS publications, Money(r) Magazine's Income Tax Handbook, How to Pay Zero Taxes and the Tax Planner help you reduce your taxes now and in the future. There will be a drawing for free products. *

11:00 AM - 11:55 AM

The New OS/2 Warp 4 —
The Easiest Way to a Connected World
IBM Corporation

Maureen Kinard, Technical Software Sales

Are you talking to your computer yet? If not, then you need OS/2 Warp Version 4. Talking to your computer is just one of the many new capabilities we will feature in our presentation. You will learn about the Internet-aware desktop, voice integration, and office networking. Everything you need to get connected to the computing world is in one box. If time permits, we will discuss Java, Netscape, and Notes Domino, and other hot topics. There will be a drawing for plenty of free giveaways. *

1:00 PM - 1:30 PM

NTPCUG Business Meeting *

* 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.

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

DECEMBER 14

**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 ACTI CAD Emerging Technologies Fox Pro Database Networking Internet-Beginning PAF-Genealogy Paradox QuickBooks
9:00 - 9:55 DOS 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

11:00 - 11:55 (Cont.)

CAD (Cont.) Investors Graphics OS/2 — Q & A Roots III/IV - Genealogy Spreadsheets Microsoft Visual C++/MFC
12:00 - 12:55 Alpha Four C++/Advanced C Communications Delphi Desktop Publishing OS/2 for End Users
Introduction to the PC The Master Genealogist
1:00 - 1:55 Access Business Apps./DAC Easy C++/Beginners OS/2 Developers Introduction to the PC

1:00 - 2:55 Word for Windows
1:30 - 1:55 Orientation
2:00 - 2:55 Advanced Programmers ActiveX Developers [was - 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.

Your Users Group

The NTPCUG Business Meeting time changed in November from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Less than 15 people showed up. This month we will make it more enticing to attend when we conduct our annual software, T-shirt, and other stuff giveaway.

Disk of the Month

One way that we pay the bills of the Users Group is through our Disk-of-the-Month library. (It is certainly not through business meeting attendance.) Shareware, public domain software, and software demos are available on 3-1/2" diskettes for \$3.00 per disk. The tables are set up in the basement in the same location every month.

In the past the Group received a lot of this software through the U.S. mail. Lately, with the advent of the Internet, the floppy-through-the-mail method has gone away. The DOM Squad now finds available software programs on the Net.

Our basement diskette operation is unique in that we have members try the software, and then he or she will write a short, standard-format README file which goes on each disk before we add it to the library. We need reviewers, especially people who use Windows and Windows 95. There are a lot of utilities that we would like to distribute after they are reviewed.

Game lovers need to step up and help the DOM. You can keep the game after you write up the readme file. It is not difficult, and any member can do it.

Interested? Contact **Jan Parkhill** at 214-828-2216 or e-mail him at jpark@altinet.net or jan.parkhill@ntpcug.org. If you have a review, you can drop it off on diskette at the DOM table on any meeting Saturday.

Thanks a Million

Thank you to the member who dropped off a million dollar bill for the Users Group. Maybe we will give it away this month.



Really Thanks a Million

I first ran for President-Elect of the NTPCUG in 1990 against Jim Hoisington. Jim won, became President in 1991 and ask me to run for the President-Elect position, which I did in 1991. Our bylaws require that the President serve for a year as a voting member of the Board of Directors and as President-Elect, then that person automatically becomes President during the following year.

I have served as President-Elect in 1991, President in 1992, and repeated this process in 93-94, and 95-96. After more than six years of service to the NTPCUG, I am still delighted when someone says that we have helped them. That is our mission and sole purpose. When we fail to help or educate, then the Users Group will have outlived its usefulness and it will go away.

The running of this corporation requires less in the way of computer skills, but more in the way of people skills. Motivating volunteers, managing crisis, paying bills, conducting meetings, and gaining a consensus before implementing new policies are all jobs that the President and the Board of Directors deal with, while holding down real jobs in the real world. You have to love helping people to step up and want this job.

I want to say thank you to **Jim, Reagan, Timothy, Alex, Doug, and Fred** for another outstanding year on



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Checkfree Bill Payment Services — The Good *and* the Bad

Doug Gorrie

Some time ago, I wrote here about my experiences with *Checkfree*, an "electronic" payment service that pays your invoices for you. Once signed up, virtually all your bills can be paid through *Checkfree*, and without having to change banks in the process. After a couple years with the service, I now have both good *and* bad news.

First, how does it work? Using free software provided by *Checkfree*, merely define each account that you will be asking *Checkfree* to pay. This takes a little while, because you must include each vendor's name, mailing address, contact phone number, and your own account number. Once complete, just generate a transaction to *Checkfree* to pay each vendor a desired amount on a certain day. Upload the data to *Checkfree* using their custom software (no charge to you). *Checkfree* will initiate payment to the vendor far enough in advance to get it delivered on the day requested. If you incur any late fees due to *Checkfree's* error, they will pay those fees up to \$50.

PREZ SEZ ... Ctd.

the Board of Directors. **Raymond** as Treasurer, **John** as Secretary, **Connie** in Advertising, **Rob** in Publicity, **Jan** at the DOM, and **Claude** for wrangling volunteers. The SIG leaders, the SYSOPs, and the many volunteers who help each month to pull this off. These people are who make your Users Group successful, and it is with great pride that I can stand up and say that I am the President of The North Texas PC Users Group.

Andy



Checkfree is not truly "check free". Although you contact them electronically, their payment to your vendor(s) may be made electronically or by check. Their check may be drawn on their own account, or it may be drawn on your personal or business account just as though you wrote it yourself. If paid by *Checkfree* (from their account), the designated amount is electronically transferred from your checking account back to *Checkfree* on the day you indicated to pay the vendor.

Charges for this service are \$5.95/month for up to 20 payments, and @2.95 for each additional group of 10. In return, you save up to \$6.40 in postage (first 20), plus up to \$3.20 for each additional group of 10 payments. You also save in envelopes, checks and time. Additional services are available for an additional fee.

Besides saving postage, you are now able to arrange payment of most or all your bills in just a single sit-down session each month, if you wish, and the pay-

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ment will generally arrive on the date you specified. So even if you travel a lot, your bills get paid. Recurring payments (mortgage, etc.) can be set up to pay each month on a certain date, eliminating the need to enter them more than once.

Now, the BAD news .

If you have been a Checkfree user for over a year, you may not be aware that Checkfree redesigned their pricing structure around October of 1995. Before that date, their cheapest service offering was \$9.95/month to make 20 payments for you, rather than today's \$5.95. *Supposedly*, Checkfree mailed all subscribers information about the changes, and "offered" to drop them from the \$9.95 rate to the \$5.95 rate (\$4.00/month savings). Since my notification never arrived, I was not aware of the change until I found it through other sources. As a result, I was overbilled for nearly a year.

Checkfree apparently took the stance that if you didn't say anything, you still wanted to pay \$9.95/month. In my view, since the minimum service level I subscribed to went down \$4.00/month, my Checkfree payment should have been reduced accordingly. After being contacted, they did refund the overcharge, but never would admit to the error of their ways.

If you are a Checkfree subscriber, verify what you are currently being charged. If you want a refund, you will have to ask for it by calling 800-297-3180. If you get any flak, ask for Terri Adkins in the "Problem Resolution Group". If you *still* get flak, contact their President, Pete Kight, at P.O. Box 2168, Columbus, Ohio 43216.

Other considerations

If you begin using Checkfree (which I still recommend), schedule your vendor payments initially to arrive at least a week early. Some vendors get confused when receiving Checkfree payments in your name, and may need more time to post the payment to your account. After noting how promptly they post your payments, you can adjust your payment arrival times accordingly.

In cases of controversy with a payee, Checkfree will go to bat for you. They can usually talk a vendor out of an unjust penalty. But sometimes getting Checkfree to understand your issue/concern is a little difficult if you do it through the e-mail portion of their software. So if in doubt, call them on their 800 number.



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Also, don't forget that a large number of your payments still go through the U. S. Postal Service and as a result may be delayed. In those cases, it can't be counted as a Checkfree error.

Lastly, be aware that their software can be used to track your other checking account entries as well - deposits and non-Checkfree payments. It can also be used to balance your checkbook each month. But, it is nowhere near as comprehensive if you have other financial tracking needs, so in such cases, Quicken or other financial software may be needed to meet those goals. You may want to ask Checkfree if you can use other software with their service, rather than Checkfree's software.

If you want to try Checkfree, the first 30 days are free. Contact them at 800-297-3180, or their Web site at www.checkfree.com. And if you feel so inclined when signing up, ask them to give referral credit to Doug Gorrie in Plano, Texas !!

From the NTPCUG BBS:

NetworksExpo/Windows World 96

by Glynn Brooks

I attended the Networks Expo/Windows World show at the Dallas convention center last month. \$5 for parking seemed like a lot, but with showers in the forecast, I did not feel like taking chances.

I realized after being there for three hours that it must be smaller this year than last, and that several of the vendors listed in the early literature for the show were no-shows. The number of attendees was also down.

Good News — Bad News

This was good news and bad news. The good news was that I got more attention from the exhibitors, and could get all my questions answered without worrying about all the other people waiting to ask their questions 'cause there weren't many people waiting.

I was especially impressed with Wall Data's newest *Rumba* edition (not just a screen-scraper anymore). Wrightline computer furniture is better looking and more adaptable than ever.

Bad News — No-Shows

The bad news was that some of the no-show vendors were the ones I especially wanted to see. Franklin Quest and NetManage (makers of *Ascend 97* and *Ecco*, respectively) were not there, so I could not do my annual review of PIMS.


I was also wanted to see *Visio 4.5* in action, but Visio Corp. wasn't there, either. I would have liked to see also *Partition It*, a *Partition Magic*-type product from Quarterdeck, but no luck there, either. To read about *Partition It*, visit

<http://arachnid.qdeck.com/qdeck/press/part-it.html>

Note to NTPCUG members who bought *Partition Magic Version 2* after the PowerQuest presentation last month: I saw a demo of *Version 3* at the show today and it adds some nice new features, primarily support for the NTFS, FAT32 (coming to Windows 95) and the ability to convert FAT16 to/from FAT32.

You can now move partitions, and it comes bundled with the application mover portion of MicroHelp's *Uninstaller 3.0*. It also has IBM's Boot Manager and some new diagnostic tools. V3 is to be released in mid-November and will carry a \$69 retail (up \$10 from V2).

The sales rep I talked to at the show said that recent purchasers of V2 will probably be eligible for an inex-



Goodbye 214

Hello 972

For over 400 exchanges in the Metroplex, Area Code 214 is going the way of the 29 cent stamp. It will be replaced with 972.

The phone company will work its magic on Saturday, September 14, 1996.

Will you be prepared?

(There will be a 4-month permissive dialing period.)

Contact us now to quickly and easily update all your data bases using our latest release - the ***EZ-Split Wizard***.
Appointments will be at our mutual convenience.

P6 Consulting

(Simple Soft Services, Inc.)

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pensive upgrade, but had no details. For more information visit

<http://www.powerquest.com/powerquest/pm3.html>

Note to Lewis Graber and the Internet SIG: Attachmate was there, showing Inter/Intranet products in general and Emissary in all its glory. I walked away from their booth with a coffee cup, hologram mouse pad, tee-shirt and pen. Not a bad haul for 15 minutes of my time and an interesting demo, to boot!

NTPCUG Impressive...

It was nice to see the NTPCUG booth there, and to hear some of the comments from visitors to the booth. They could not get over how much a membership could benefit them, and some of the out-of-towners said their local PC user groups were no where near as useful or accessible.

NetworksExpo will be back next year — at Infomart this time — and the site will be much more convenient for many NTPCUG members. Since I've never gotten to go to a Comdex, local shows are all the more important to me.

Glynn Brooks

Blazing Speed — Reasonable Price Seagate Tape●Stor 8000™ in NT 4.0 Screams at 50 M/Minute Backups

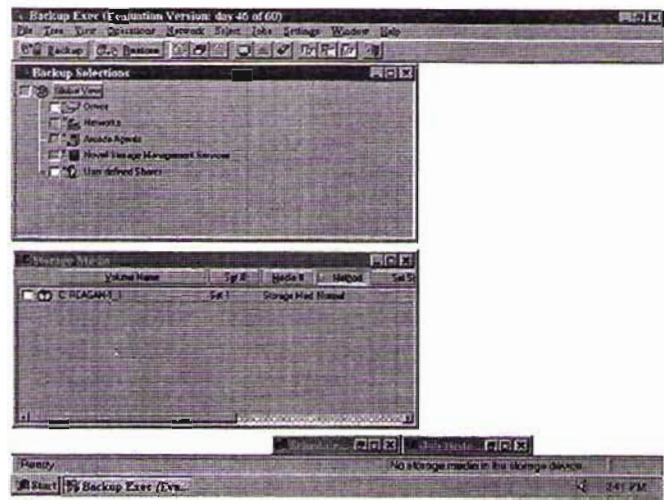
Hardware Does Make a Difference

You want fast, really fast backup? At a reasonable cost? Usually these two PC backup parameters are mutually exclusive.

Not with the Seagate Tape Stor 8000. This is the second part of the Seagate/Conner 8G tape backup review, held up by waiting for *Windows NT 4.0 Workstation* to be released.

I installed 4.0 on my new machine, a PCI-bus motherboard sporting a Cyrix 686-166+ CPU and 64M EDO DRAM. The machine is equipped with a Quantum *Atlas* 2.1G SCSI-II hard drive controlled by an Adaptec 2940U SCSI adapter. There's also a Conner CT1060 1G drive and 4X CD-ROM drive in addition to the Quantum drive and Seagate tape backup unit on the SCSI adapter.

Although tedious to list, it's important to note the new capabilities compared to the "old" DX2-66 machine which had Adaptec's VL-bus driven AHA 2842 SCSI adapter and 32M DRAM. The hardware improvements really do make a substantial difference when discussing any tape backup system speed.



Lulled Into Complacency...

After installing 4.0, I installed the NT backup software sent with the drive (at my request) Arcada *Backup Exec for Windows NT*. Since 4.0 went right out and discovered my CD-ROM and our 3.11 Workgroup network and all three PCs attached to it, I was lulled into complacency. The Arcada/Seagate software comes on a CD-ROM and is accompanied by a very substantial user manual which is unusual in this day and time.

A quick note about NT 4.0 installation: Although it looks like *Windows 95*, it definitely doesn't install itself and everything it finds on the PC automatically. The

Computer Jobs

If you are a computer professional with the minimum 1 year of experience in the following areas:

- | | | | | |
|-----------|----------|-----------------------------------|--------------|-------|
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Blazing Speed... Ctd.

user has to install/activate almost everything and this included the tape drive — which I forgot until Arcada's backup program told me it couldn't find the Seagate tape drive for the fourth or fifth time. Sometimes it takes a little "nudge" for me to see clearly.

I ran "simple" backup of the volumes on the 2.1G drive for a start with the NT software. Boy was I surprised when it completed backing-up 640M in a little more than 12 minutes (actually 12 minutes, 41 seconds) for an average of 50.4 M/minute backup speed in Arcada's suggested (default) configuration. That's fast, really fast for a drive which should be selling at around \$400 or less from local vendors.

Hardware really does make a difference. With the "old" setup, I was seeing about 30 M/minute backups which I had thought were pretty fast.

About Arcada/Seagate's NT software. It's gross overkill for a home PC network. There are capabilities in the *Backup Exec for Windows NT* that I'll never use. This is definitely "professional" network administrator territory and much more suitable for a large, complex installation than for a simple peer-to-peer home network. Since I made the mistake of installing the NT *Workstation Service Pack 1*, just before testing the software at the *network* level rather than off a single machine, I'm suspicious that some of the problems I encountered may be a result of Microsoft's "bug fixes" and not the drive or software. I never completed an en-

The Programmer's Quick Guide To The Computer Languages

Contributed by Patrick Dryden

The proliferation of modern programming languages (all of which seem to have stolen countless features from one another) sometimes makes it difficult to remember which one you're currently using. This handy reference is offered as a public service to help programmers who find themselves in such a dilemma.

TASK: Shoot yourself in the foot.

C: You shoot yourself in the foot.

C++: You accidentally create a dozen instances of yourself and shoot them all in the foot. Providing emergency medical assistance is impossible since you can't tell which are bitwise copies and which are just pointing at others and saying, "That's me, over there."

FORTRAN: You shoot yourself in each toe, iteratively, until you run out of toes, then you read in the next foot and repeat. If you run out of bullets, you continue with the attempts to shoot yourself anyways because you have no exception-handling capability.

Pascal: The compiler won't let you shoot yourself in the foot.

Ada: After correctly packing your foot, you attempt to concurrently load the gun, pull the trigger, scream, and shoot yourself in the foot. However, when you do, you discover you can't because your foot is of the wrong type.

ture network backup as a result of errors which stopped the process.

Discussed this with Seagate's Nick Blozan, Director of Product Management for Desktop Products, at Comdex just before finishing this and he suggested I try the new NT Workstation backup software which is in beta and due to be released shortly. He agreed to send a "solid" copy of the software which may help a great deal. Stay tuned ...

In summary, I love the drive and the DOS, 3.1x and Win 95 software. There's a lot of speed and capacity for a very reasonable price, about \$400 — especially when I remember that I paid somewhat more for my first Colorado 250M drive.

Reagan Andrews

Programmers' Guide... Ctd.

COBOL: Using a COLT 45 HANDGUN, AIM gun at LEG.FOOT, THEN place ARM.HAND.FINGER on HANDGUN.TRIGGER and SQUEEZE. THEN return HANDGUN to HOLSTER. CHECK whether SHOE-LACE needs to be re-tied.

LISP: You shoot yourself in the appendage which holds the gun with which you shoot yourself in the appendage which holds the gun with which you shoot yourself in the appendage which holds the gun with which you shoot yourself in the appendage which holds the gun with which you shoot yourself in the appendage which holds...

FORTH: Foot in yourself shoot.

Prolog: You tell your program that you want to be shot in the foot. The program figures out how to do it, but the syntax doesn't permit it to explain it to you.

BASIC: Shoot yourself in the foot with a water pistol. On large systems, continue until entire lower body is waterlogged.

Visual Basic: You'll really only _appear_ to have shot yourself in the foot, but you'll have had so much fun doing it that you won't care.

HyperTalk: Put the first bullet of gun into foot left of leg of you. Answer the result.

Motif: You spend days writing a UIL description of your foot, the bullet, its trajectory, and the intricate scrollwork on the ivory handles of the gun. When you finally get around to pulling the trigger, the gun jams.

APL: You shoot yourself in the foot, then spend all day figuring out how to do it in fewer characters.

SNOBOL: If you succeed, shoot yourself in the left foot. If you fail, shoot yourself in the right foot.

Unix:

```
% ls foot.c foot.h foot.o toe.c toe.o
% rm * .o rm: .o: no such file or directory
% ls
%
```

Concurrent Euclid: You shoot yourself in somebody else's foot.

370 JCL: You send your foot down to MIS and include a 400-page document explaining exactly how you want it to be shot. Three years later, your foot comes back deep-fried.

Paradox: Not only can you shoot yourself in the foot, your users can, too.

Access: You point the gun at your foot and pull the trigger. A little flag pops out of the gun which reads, "Error: call to undefined dynalink". The gun then proceeds to explode in your hand.

Revelation: You're sure you're going to be able to shoot yourself in the foot, just as soon as you figure out what all these nifty little bullet-thingies are for.

Assembler: You try to shoot yourself in the foot, only to discover you must first invent the gun, the bullet, the trigger, and your foot.

Modula2: After realizing that you can't actually accomplish anything in this language, you shoot yourself in the head.

[Ed. Note: Patrick Dryden is an NTPCUG member of many years and a Senior Editor for *ComputerWorld*. He has contributed a number of humorous, PC-related pieces he has either composed or discovered during his many trips to Usenet.]



INSIDE THE NORTH TEXAS PC USERS GROUP COMMUNITY

VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION



by Claude McClure

Windows World World-Class Volunteers

Facing the deadline for this month's preface to the listing of volunteers in action is no fun. It means fielding calls from the editor. All of the excuses have been presented with just the right mixture of pleas for more time thrown in for seasoning.

Foraging for the right words sent me to computer shops, a stack of computer news articles, and finally to computer group meetings. I thought, "Surely the Dallas Convention Center and NETWORKS EXPO should have something to thaw the frozen creative juices."

Finding the NTPCUG booth manned by our own volunteers was fortunate and made easy by the good location at the show. Quite a few members of our group were there, and they were busy explaining the benefits of group membership to everyone who

would stop for a moment or take one of the new tri-fold hand-outs. We all owe a debt of thanks to the show volunteers: **Deborah Bean, Neal Berkowitz, Kliff Barnes, Gladys Clayton, Pat Cote, Marsha Drebilbis, Randy Durham, Dick Fisher, Chuck Fiedler, Bill Green, Ed Mouritsen, Dan Ogden, Thelda Opella, Raymond Reyes, Jim Thompson, Fred Toulmin.** They processed several membership applications and did some good public relations work.

Finishing this month's copy was made easy after the inspiring example of teamwork and volunteering demonstrated by those capable members. They make this one of the best PC User Groups in the country.

Thanks to the many volunteers from our recent meeting who are listed on this page.

Infomart Liaison

Stuart Yarus
Robert Hilliard
Alex Lilley

John Ivers
David Martin
Bob McNeil
Foy J. Mills
Carl Oehmann
Raymond Reyes
Paul Williams

Philip Bridge
Linda Campbell
Gene Carleton
Norm Dang
William Farris
Brad Ficke
Martin R. Gluck
Edwin Griffin
Jimmy Hurst
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
Howard Hamilton

Vendor Setup/Breakdown

Anchor:
David Slavik
Neal Van Pelt
Kenneth Berg

Crew:
Roger Crutchfield
Dick Abbon
Larry Miller

Booth Crew:
Roger Bopp
Chris Brooks
Randy Durham
H.E. Gaspar
Judy Griffiths
Claude McClure
Ken Sauter
Fred Toulmin
Matthew Williams
Bob Wuller
Newsletter Circulation:
Charlie Fernandez

Auditorium Presentations

Timothy Carmichael
Chris Jung
Chris Carmichael

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

Information/Registration

Booth
Statistician:
Connie Andrews
Ralph Beaver (Assistant)
Scheduler:
Bob Wuller
Anchor:
Ralph Beaver
Deborah Bean (Double)
Albert Champon
Lorin Cranford
Eteta Eta
Hank Holt

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

1. Via BBS: (972)387-2751, (972)387-2752 or (972)263-9036 (metro). Sign up on the Volunteer Conference - make the subject matter your area of interest.

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

3. By phone:

Auditorium Presentations
Timothy Carmichael (972) 681-4626 (w)
DOM Booth Scheduler
Phil Bridge (972) 422-5400
DOM Software Review
Jan Parkhill (214) 828-2216 (h)(w)
Information Booth and General Information
Claude McClure (972) 867-0978 (h)

Battle for Supremacy of Las Vegas Skies, Feast, Famine, Fire and Floods — All Highlight Small, 'Flat' Comdex/FALL '96

Huge Disks, Flat-Panel Displays, Internet Held Show Floors

"Mano-a-Mano" reigned in the skies over Las Vegas as the Fuji Film blimp, circling its prey and deadly as a silent and menacing shark, surged toward the *Alta Vista* airship on the third day of Comdex/FALL '96. Like two gliding wraiths, the airships gracefully weaved, twisted and slowly turned in their bizarre and lethal, serpentine dance.

The desert sun turned the Fuji airship into a silver omen while intensifying the stark white presence of the *Alta Vista* blimp. Connie cheered for Fuji, thankful for the eclipse and respite from the blazing orb over a hot Las Vegas the day before.

Quickly, two Las Vegas Police helicopters joined in the fray. Startled spectators on the Las Vegas "Strip," watching the unexpected aerial brawl above instead of the Treasure Island Casino mock sea battle (on schedule in spite of the inferno of slow-motion combat erupting above), and later described the flickering sparkle of automatic weapons fire between the two leviathans of the heavens as the Police choppers vainly tried to intercede in the conflict, gave up and departed to other, safer, areas.

Powerless and immobile, two hapless Corel hot-air balloons, caught in the crossfire, vainly struggled to avoid the powerful conflict raging between the minions of American-based DEC *Alta Vista* (Digital Equipment's powerful Web search engine) and the Japan-based Fuji interloper into the blazing, chromium-blue skies of Las Vegas.

IN OTHER WORDS ...

It's VARIETY STORE AFTER Comdex/FALL '96!

And, you can tell by the "purple" prose above, product of a somewhat undisciplined imagination set free by sheer boredom, the giant show was that "flat."

"Flat" doesn't mean uneventful — it's in Las Vegas, remember. Most of the excitement wasn't on the show floors, though.

EUBANKS & GATES TALKS MAKE COMDEX/FALL '96 WORTH TRIP TO LAS VEGAS

I got one and a half of the two things I look forward to most in terms of Comdex. Eubanks and Gates. We heard an excellent and spontaneous talk by Gordon Eubanks, CEO of Symantec, and a rehearsed *Office 97*

rollout presentation by Bill Gates (that's the "half" mentioned above) Microsoft's CEO. Both talks were held at APCUG-sponsored events. Eubanks' comments regarding his views of the PC industry and coming trends were great.

Eubanks remained focused throughout his talk on the role of the PC, interface with the user and his vision of the problems facing the industry. Symantec's CEO included the PC users groups in his equations for change and stated that both the industry and PCUG's have to recognize the evolution being caused by PC users who are after a "TV experience."

People Buying PCs CHANGED FROM 'TECHIES' of Old

He typified the new, non-savvy PC users as unwilling to become "a me-

THE VARIETY STORE

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

chanic just to drive the car to the grocery store." and continued the parallel with anecdotes stemming from the early days of computers and PCs. People are unwilling to learn the "mechanic" role and will fight any system too complicated to allow easy use to achieve their goals. Eubanks did feel that a major role for PCUGs was to teach and remove the obstacles new PC users stumble across while attempting to learn how to use the PC effectively.

THE VARIETY STORE

In this regard, he acknowledged the role of PCUGs in providing end-user support that is no longer affordable to vendors or available via the traditional sources, i.e., computer stores, manufacturers and other commercial venues. Symantec's CEO did feel that both PCUGs and vendors need to acquire a better "feel" for the needs and wants of the "people," and to change their approaches in order to meet those desires.

'NCs' No Threat Eubanks Thinks Offer Less for \$\$\$

Eubanks did dismiss the "threat" of the NC (network computers) which he feels still haven't solved the support problems for MIS and bring new problems to the foray instead. He described the "NC" as no solution, just a less capable alternative to Windows and hinted a lot of the emphasis on the NC was really an envious, anti-Microsoft/Intel attack.

Computing 'freedom' for the users via 'real' PCs will be very difficult to take away he hinted. People have become accustomed to the power and privacy of a self-contained platform and will fight MIS attempts to remove this capability in the name of 'Economy' and ease of support.

SYMANTEC INTERESTED In Possibly Acquiring Borland and Delphi?

A couple of Eubanks remarks were met with some surprise. He was very enthusiastic about Borland's *Delphi* as a development platform, and continued this enthusiasm when describing several of Borland's *Java*-based tools as well as Symantec's new *Java* tools. Later heard some

comments that Symantec may be "interested" in Borland as a possible acquisition target as result of Eubanks' enthusiasm over *Delphi*. Hmmmm....

WHAT WAS 'Big' AT Comdex? INTERNET, Disks & Displays, BUT, Mostly Loud GAMES

Internet, Ho hum. Lots and lots of Internet Service Providers (ISP's) browsers, utilities, plug-ins, and general hoopla on the floors. Even in the non-Internet areas. Was all pretty boring. Every vendor tried to make their exhibit 'Internet-aware' to the extent that it often came across as ridiculous.

Modem makers were worst of the group. Everybody who can make a modem was showing (display-only) a 56K modem. Everybody. Even vendors whose hardware would barely make a clean 2400 connection were claiming 56K units would be available "real soon now," i.e., 1st

Quarter, 1997. Nobody wanted to discuss the little secrets about 56K operation — line-noise sensitivity and non-full duplex operation — except MultiTech who is working hard for DSVD acceptance as the 'real' solution to Internet operation. However, even MultiTech announced that 56K units would be available in the 1st Quarter, 1997.

Big Disks - Ask MAXTOR

Think 5.1G, below 10 ms access times and EIDE, then think Maxtor. Maxtor's new *DiamondMax* 5.1G drive has to be seen to be believed. They'll be followed by other drive vendors shortly at this level. My problem is "where will it all end?" By this time next year, my new 2.1G SCSI-II drive will be considered "small" and the 8G Seagate tape drive will need two tapes to backup our machines.

FLAT-PANEL Displays

What really caught my attention at Comdex? Saw a number of vendors showing respectable flat-panel displays ranging from 15" to 20" and looking very good.

Best of the bunch was the 15" display seen at the Panasonic OEM booth with both good sharpness and excellent contrast at 800 X 600 resolution. Also saw very good flat-panel displays at Sharp, NEC and Visionic booths, particularly the 20" NEC panel. 15" units have same 'real' display sizes seen in a number of 17" monitors, and 20" units are substantially 'larger' than their 21" equivalents.

This has to be the future for PC displays. Even the large, NEC unit was only a few inches deep which means significant savings in desktop area devoted to a bulky monitor. Units are still "pricy" but much less than 50% of quoted suggested retail prices we heard last year at Comdex.



PAIN FROM GAMES

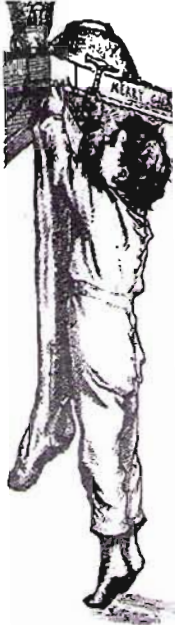
Walking the halls at Comdex was occasionally a painful experience. Mostly because of the many, many interactive games and videos being used to demonstrate the capabilities of various PC platforms, video cards and audio cards. A couple (maybe more) years back, I was surprised by the many machines left with Windows' Solitaire on the screens during quiet moments. This year, games appeared to be a major demonstration medium to show speed and capability.

FEAST AND FAMINE, FIRE AND FLOODS, VEGAS HAD IT ALL

FEAST?

Las Vegas has available some of the finest food in the world (at a \$\$\$ price during Comdex in spite of the stories you hear to the contrary.) This is a major attraction for Comdex attendees and booth personnel after the convention halls close for the day. Heading out to restaurants and parties after the show closes also contributes to some of the long, long, long taxi lines mentioned later.

We (Andy Oliver, NTPCUG President, Pat Oliver, Connie and me) met



Douglas McQuaid, former *PC News* editor, at Buzios in the Rio Hotel for dinner Tuesday evening. After drinks and a lot of talk about the *Power PC* and Motorola (Douglas' Austin, TX, employer now), we had some of the best seafood we've ever had.

That was followed Wednesday morning by Symantec's APCUG breakfast meeting where the usual buffet lines were supplemented by custom-prepared omelettes while attendees waited. Even though I watched the chefs very carefully, I still don't think I'll ever learn the art of flipping an omelette in a pan with the expertise they displayed. Dessert was Gordon Eubanks and his spontaneous, candid and thoughtful comments concerning trends in the PC industry he sees ahead.

During the day Thursday, Connie and I sampled the Italian cuisine at Piero's Restaurant across the street from the Las Vegas Convention Center courtesy of Pat Meiers, PR consultant, who invites the Press to sit, eat and meet her clients in the bistro. That's where we made contact last year with the Merriam Webster group, who presented at the NTPCUG earlier this year, and met some interesting media folks from London this year.

FAMINE?

Softbank did it again! In the past, press rooms at Comdex have been stocked with coffee, soft drinks, yogurt, rolls, croissants and fruit in the morning, and by sandwiches, fruit, etc. in the afternoons. This custom allows press members to snack while they plan for interviews, write stories and transmit copy to their publishers

(I'm using "press" for all media here).

Softbank puts on Comdex (and *WindowsWorld*) and provides the pressroom. Monday through Wednesday, all was "normal." Thursday, it was gone. Saw same thing at the October Dallas show. Don't know if this is Softbank's policy, Oriental attitudes/custom toward the press, or poor planning. Heard a lot of grumbling from some of the major media figures in the area who were equally surprised by the early cutoff.

Maybe a response to a lot of people with press credentials I see who would ordinarily not qualify for them, but who do take advantage of all the "perks" they can grab once they get the red badge holder.

FIRE?

Think Sands. The old Sands hotel is mostly gone now with only the shell of the round tower and a casino facade still standing on Las Vegas Blvd. (the "Strip"). When we arrived, I noticed a wrecked-out C-123 cargo plane (members may remember them from the movie *Air America*) and several sets of rails/tracks in the area.

Monday morning at the Las Vegas Convention Center (LVCC), Connie looked back toward the strip and saw thick plumes of billowing black smoke coming from the "Strip." She thought it was one of the construction projects ablaze and was concerned that it not spread to adjacent hotels (i.e., Treasure Island where we were staying.)

Nope. It was just Hollywood — taking advantage of the scene and (coming implosion of the main tower

The VARIETY STORE

shell) to grab some footage for a future film epic.

Flood?

Las Vegas is a constant surprise during Comdex. We've had false fire alarms, false building evacuation alarms, snow two years ago — and now, floods!

Some background: Las Vegas gets an average of about five (5) inches of moisture in the form of rain and snow per year. Drainage hasn't been a big problem for desert-bound city. Give the city between 0.75" and 1.0" of rain over a six-hour period and all Hell breaks loose.

I know, I was caught in it. So was Connie. And, it was mostly my fault. I wanted to see *AdultDex '96*, where all the XXX-rated CD-ROM vendors were supposedly forced to flee last year by Softbank, which was being held in the Sahara Hotel convention area. It had been drizzling off and on most of the afternoon Thursday. Connie and I took a cab to the Sands Convention Center where she took three FedEx boxes to be shipped back to Dallas. I went on to *AdultDex '96* at the Sahara.

On arrival at the Sahara, I made my way to the convention area, noticing lots and lots of buckets set out by the hotel to catch water from their leaking roof. Didn't think anything about it as I went through a maze of corridors and construction tunnels.

AdultDex was somewhat sleazier than last year. Were live "models" signing promotional pictures for their movies/CD-ROMs, but also several Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and Web developers/ site management groups as well. The man selling

printer parts and supplies wasn't there this year.

Left the "show" shortly and was glad it was free to the press.

On the way back to the taxi area, passage was blocked by one of the Sahara management staff and a security officer while a third man was standing on a ladder with his head hidden above the ceiling. Manager was fearful that the generously-leaking ceiling was about to collapse, and was telling people trying to negotiate the corridor between the hotel section and the casino area they would have to walk outside in the rain to get to their destination. Security guard suggested they could route pedestrians through the theater and kitchens and avoid the rain (and angry feelings from their guests.) Got a "tour" of the Sahara kitchens and theater I hadn't anticipated.

Took more than an hour to get a cab once I reached the taxi area. People in line were cold, wet and worried whether they would make scheduled airline flights, dates or even get back to their hotels.

Saw many, many people trying to cover themselves with garbage bags, box lids or show bags from the LVCC as they

walked through the rain and very deep pools of water at the road curbs, drenched and quite unhappy.

Saw a lot of stalled vehicles, drowned-out by the high standing water in the streets.

Saw an alley turned into a raging torrent that trapped at least one car and occupant during the hour ride back to the Treasure Island.

Should have been a five minute ride, but so many main streets were blocked by the water that a somewhat indirect route was necessary during the peak of Comdex rush hour.

Was really glad to get back to the hotel. Even more glad when I read in the Friday *Las Vegas Review-Journal* that one underpass was under 14 feet of water...

Reagan Andrews

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COREL CORNER

Excerpt from *Corel Clips*, November 1996:

Corel Office for Java

Revolutionary "Corel Office for Java" is the first suite of office productivity applications written entirely in Java. Merging the expertise of Corel's award-winning product developers with the strengths of *Java*, Corel Office for Java offers a platform independent, document centric, network centric, modular and extensible environment for document creation and workgroup collaboration.

Written entirely in Java, Corel Office for Java is platform independent. All that's required is a platform that implements the Java Virtual Machine (JVM). The number of supported operating systems and browsers increases almost daily. To date, these include: SUN Solaris, JavaOS, Win 95 (Netscape Navigator 3.0 and Internet Explorer 3.0, HotJava). The cross platform capabilities of the suite extend beyond executing the applications on multiple platforms: Because Corel Office for Java also uses Java to represent the document, users can create office documents that are immediately publishable to their local printer, the Intranet, or the Internet. No conversion or reformatting is required. Any Corel Office for Java document can thus be shared across multiple platforms in any computing environment.

The Document-Centric Approach

With Corel Office for Java, the application resides within the document rather than the document residing in the application. This

means that users can seamlessly incorporate multiple components into their documents without ever leaving the main window. For example, a user can start creating a document using the word processor, embed a spreadsheet, chart the resulting data in a colorful bar graph, and the main interface always remains the same. Toolbars and menu items update as required. This document centric approach is implemented using an OpenDoc-like container-component framework call CAF (Corel Application Framework, described in more detail below). CAF allows containers to contain multiple components which in turn can contain other components and provides for the communication between components and containers, such as in-place editing of an embedded spreadsheet. Compared to Microsoft's OLE, this approach requires much less overhead and is available across platforms.

The Network-Centric Approach

Unlike today's office suites which are centered around a "fat" client, Corel Office for Java is network centric. This means that applications and application components reside on the server and are seamlessly downloaded to the client as required.

As a result of this network-centric approach, maintenance



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

of software is greatly simplified. To update an organization's productivity software simply requires an update of the software on the server. Software distribution and upgrading, version compatibility, and multi-platform environments are no longer an issue.

This network-centric approach to computing also creates an ideal workgroup environment. Users can share any Corel Office for Java document across the network without giving a second thought to standards, file formats, or individual operating systems. Documents can be viewed with any Java-enabled browser. For example, one team member can edit a document's text and then return it to the network server so that another can change the chart formats while working from home. Meanwhile, server-based version control keeps track of the changes and controls user access.



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Extensibility

Because Corel Office for Java is fully JavaBeans compliant, its functionality can be easily extended by adding Java applets for specific features or entire application components. To develop these extensions, programmers can either use pure AWT or take advantage of the capabilities provided in Corel's Application Framework (CAF).

Third-Party Development - Corel CAF

The Corel Application Framework for Java (CAF) the framework on which all Corel Office for Java's applications are based is a library of integrated Java classes and interfaces designed for the rapid development of platform-independent GUI applications. CAF is written entirely in Java. Applications based on CAF will therefore run on all Java-virtual machines and are portable across different platforms today and tomorrow. Corel CAF will be publicly available in November 1996.

Availability

The first commercial release of Corel Office for Java is targeted for the first quarter of 1997 and will include:

- ❖ word processing
- ❖ spreadsheet analysis
- ❖ presentations
- ❖ charting
- ❖ business graphics
- ❖ calendaring and scheduling
- ❖ address book
- ❖ email

The preview version of Corel Office for Java is available for live access at: [HTTP://officeforjava.corel.com](http://officeforjava.corel.com)

Corel On-Line Addresses:

- ❖ <http://www.corel.com>
- ❖ Product Info:
www.corel.com/products

Notes From The PC News Publisher...

From the Publisher/Managing Editor seems like a weighty way to open a "sometimes" column. But, I felt that I/we needed to communicate some important information to the readers and writers in the Club.

Lately, *The PC News* has "stumbled" slightly in terms of accuracy. Sharp-eyed readers who really dig into this newsletter may have noticed that in our zeal to update all the telephone numbers in the October issue to reflect the new 972 Area Code, We (actually Connie - followed by my not catching it before it went to the printers) inadvertently changed the exchange numbers for the BBS on the inside back cover.

Mea Culpa! Fred Williams made a comment in his *BBS Online* that we should only indulge *after* the newsletter went "to bed" for the

month, not before. How does he expect us to finish it then?

The BBS numbers were corrected last month (November) and we do apologize for any inconvenience our slip may have caused readers.

Serious Note(s)

On a more serious note, also associated with the BBS, I'd like to ask SIG leaders and others who submit copy for the newsletter to forego the temptation to use Internet E-mail to accomplish transmission. It just isn't working well, particularly with formatted text in some word processor's native file format.

What you sent may have beautiful, but what I see after transmission is usually garbage since we ain't (apologies to Fred) Mime compliant to the extent of attached file transmission and receipt. This isn't Fred's fault — he's been warning all of us that there are problems in the system for anything except ASCII text. "Unscrambling" the results takes a lot of time and effort and tends to produce screams of agony and foul language (mine) in the process.

Happier note(s)

We may have a new NTPCUG logo shortly, and a new *North Texas PC News* style as a result. Marsha Drebelbis has been working with a local group of commercial design students on a new NTPCUG logo for the Club. Initial samples produced for us look quite promising and may be close to "final."

Our original logo — an impression of the original IBM-PC, circa 1982. — is becoming a little "dated" and the BOD felt it was a good time for a change in our public face.



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- ❖ Web Mail / Photo CD's for Download: <http://commerce.corel.com/>
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- ❖ Partners/ Developers: www.corel.ca/partners_developers
- ❖ Free Stuff & Fun Stuff: www.corel.ca/freefunfantastic/

Marsha Drebelbis

Reagan Andrews

Selected SIG Reports . . .

News and meeting notes of Special Interest Groups

(Material for this column should be sent to NTPCUG BBS SIG Upload Area or to Connie Andrews, Special Interest Group Editor, before the 10th of the month)

Access SIG

Gene Harris, of *Tetron Software, L. L. C.*, of Edmond, Oklahoma will speak to us in December on one of his favorite subjects. Of course, that would be the *Team Access* software for "version control". That is, it assists you in keeping track of the objects in your application, who's working on what, and who can or cannot be allowed to update which part. Marketplace acceptance of *Team Access* has been high, and they've recently concluded a marketing agreement with *FMS, Inc.* To top all this off, Gene has a new version to show us. It's a major rewrite, using innovative methods to reliably synchronize the activities of multiple developers. Administrative functions have been split into a separate application, including database reports, to provide for a smaller, less-intrusive add-in that won't get in the developers' way. Gene has hinted that he'll discuss some new and very interesting techniques he's discov-

ered, too, including sensing and responding to some Windows messages. You've heard of message capture and callback software for Visual Basic, but Gene's the first I know to have done it in Access! We'd better not miss this presentation.

Thanks to **Sara Lovegrove** for her outstanding presentation at our November meeting. Sara and many others have pitched in, too, to lend a hand with the SIG in the past few months and I extend my personal gratitude to all who've been so kind and helpful - I won't try to list you all, because I'm sure I'd miss someone.

My most special thanks are due to **Dr. Tom Lukers**, our newest Assistant SIG Leader - you've seen him at the front of the meeting room for a few months; you'll soon see his name in the sidebar in the Selected SIG Reports section of the North Texas PC News. Tom and I had discussed his starting a new SIG,

FROM THE SIG COORDINATOR

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

SIG Name Changes:

— **Microsoft Visual C++/MFC** - was - **Windows Developers**

Groups Looking for Help in Leading their SIGs:

- **Introduction to the PC** [Contact Alex Lilley @ (972) 517-7430 h]
- **Visual Basic** [Contact Jim Carter @ (972) 235-5968 h]
- **Dallas Corel** [Contact Marsha Drebelbis (214) 951-0266]
- **Hardware Solutions** [Contact Charles Miller (903) 938-4220 h]

The requirements for forming a SIG are:

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

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

If you have a group that meets these qualifications or would like help in finding others who might share your interests, please contact me at (972) 517-7430 (H) or (972) 960-4276 (W).

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS SIG LEADER LISTINGS

SIG Coordinator

Alex Lilley (972) 517-7430 h

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

ACT I

Jim Thompson (817) 261-6159 h
..... (972) 487-8499 w
Deborah Bean..... (972) 475-7463 h
..... (972) 475-3124 w

Access

Larry Linson (817) 481-2350 hM
Jack Atkinson..... (817) 481-6623 h
Dianna DeCicco.. (972) 446-0639 h
Tom Luckers (972) 423-4308 h

Alpha 4 / 5

Ron Jackson (972) 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..... (972) 417-1916 w

Assembly Language SIG

Frank Cavallito (972) 423-9221 h

Business Applications/DAC

Putt Shaw..... (972) 235-2559 h
Bruce Schubert... (972) 394-5328 h
..... (972) 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..... (972) 296-1799 h
..... (972) 387-3500 w
Neil Culver (972) 690-6552 h
..... (972) 235-3031 w

Communications

Alan Brosz..... (972) 548-7928 h
..... (972) 498-1237 w

SIG

specializing in *Beginning Access* issues and planned for him to present to us a sample session for the new SIG. When I discovered I would need surgery and have to be out for some months Tom volunteered, instead, to take over for me for as long as I needed him to do so. He's done presentations, scheduled other speakers, kept me up-to-date on what's going on, and has led the SIG in grand style. I am much indebted to Tom and very much appreciate the time and effort he's expended leading the SIG, and, as well, his boundless enthusiasm and energy. We missed Tom in October - he was called away due to illness in his family.

We have had excellent luck, far better than most SIGs, in having interested volunteers to speak on Access and Access-related subjects. Don't you have a subject of interest you would share with the Access SIG? We need all levels, from items of interest to beginners (and to refresh the memory of the more experienced) to neat tricks useful to

both end-users and professional developers. We haven't had nearly so much luck in gathering donated Access examples and other Access-related software for an Access SIG freeware disk for the NTPCUG Disk of the Month operation, but we're still hoping!

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 online). 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 December meeting. Come join us!

Larry Linson

Application Developers (ActiveX/OLE/ODBC)

The Application Developers (ActiveX/OLE/ODBC) SIG has decided to keep pace with the ever-changing Windows object technologies by changing our name to the "ActiveX Developers" SIG. We believe this change accurately reflects our SIG's mission, which is to focus on using the object and database technologies inherent in MS Windows environments for application development. Microsoft recently changed the name of its Windows object technology from "OLE" to "ActiveX", and additionally is using the term "ActiveX" in a broader sense to mean Windows object component-based applications, including applications that use ODBC technology. We are not abandoning our



SIG LEADER LISTING

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

Communications ... Ctd.

Birl Smith..... (972) 960-8227 h
..... (214) 220-9388 w

Dallas Coral

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

DOS

Jim Hoisington (972) 416-3101 h
Reagan Andrews (214) 828-0699 h

Delphi

Fred Williams (972) 492-1315
Tom Browning..... (214) 692-9784 h
Frank Cavallito (972) 423-9221

Desktop Publishing

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

Emerging Computer Technologies

Dick Vedder (817) 481-6457 w
Lynn Peterson
Walter Johnston.. (972) 612-0604 h

Fox Pro

Kevin White..... (972) 644-5008 w

Genealogy - General

Al Sanford..... (972) 278-7888 h

Genealogy - Brother's Keeper

Neil Sunderland .. (972) 272-2869 h

Genealogy - PAF

Joe Waldrop..... (817) 498-5856 h

Genealogy - Roots III / IV

John Wylie..... (972) 495-4410 h

Genealogy - The Master Genealogist

Jeri Steele..... (972) 306-1596 h
..... (972) 917-3917 w

Graphics

Neal Berkowitz.... (972) 475-7463 h
..... (972) 475-3124 w

Hardware Solutions

Charles Miller..... (903) 938-4220 h
Ralph Beaver (817) 624-9530 h
Gary Johnson..... (972) 938-0344 h

Internet-Beginner

Tom O'Keefe..... (972) 247-8812 h
Doug Gorrie (972) 618-8002 h
..... (214) 464-4588 w
Erik Leaseburg (817) 265-7550 hM

SIG LEADER LISTING

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

Internet-Advanced

Tom O'Keefe (972) 247-8812 h
Doug Gorrie (972) 618-8002 h
..... (214) 464-4568 w
Erik Leaseburg ... (817) 265-7550 hM
Pat Hykkonen (214) 340-9621 h
..... (972) 234-6400 w

Internet-WEB Developers

Mark Camp (214) 583-9012 w
David Maxwell (214) 977-7584 w
..... (972) 299-6295 h

Introduction to the PC

Alex Lilley (972) 517-7430 h
..... (972) 960-4276 w
Bob Russell (972) 422-4269 h

Investors

Dick Richtman (972) 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

Microsoft Networking

Debbie Lenhart... (972) 625-9680 h
..... (972) 716-2704 w
Bruce Wynn (972) 335-2507 h
..... (972) 756-7832 w
John McCrae.....
Frank Drewes

Microsoft Visual C++/MFC

Art English (972) 618-1166 h
..... (214) 232-3310 w

MultiMedia

Dennis Rice (972) 680-8299 h

Networking

Leroy Tennison
Francis Bright

OS/2 Developer

James Dunn (972) 279-5712 h
..... (972) 497-8978 w

OS/2 for End Users

Bob Fermier..... (817) 481-6625 h
..... (972) 444-2195 w

OS/2 Q&A

Larry Truesdale .. (972) 684-4790

Paradox

Fred Williams..... (972) 492-1315 h
Tom Browning (214) 692-9784 h



focus on using OLE or ODBC in application development. Rather, we are broadening our emphasis to cover the entire ActiveX spectrum from such matters as using ActiveX/OLE controls and ODBC access in desktop applications to using ActiveX Scripting, ODBC-Direct and OLE Database technologies in client-server and Internet application development.

To this end, in December we have tentatively arranged for **Kari Koehler** of Microsoft to give us a preview of the object technologies in *Microsoft Office 97*. Kari will cover not only the Office 97 object architecture but also the new version of Visual Basic for Applications, VBA 5.0, that is built into Office 97. This VBA capability in Office 97 exists for the first time across all Office applications and extends the Visual Basic development environment internally into Office 97. Additionally, all Office 97 apps are now full OLE Servers and Clients, including OLE Automation Servers and Controllers, and can also host ActiveX/OLE controls. Kari will also discuss the newest version of the Microsoft Office family, the Office 97 Developer's Version. Please come join us for what promises to be a lively and informing presentation on the newest Microsoft object technologies!

Note- We will be posting updated information on our SIG at the WebDallas web site, "www.webdallas.com". Please check this site for last minute changes and confirmations for our monthly meeting topics and speakers.

Dan Ogden

ASSEMBLER SIG

Our November meeting featured an excellent presentation by **Glynn Brooks** on the USB (Universal Serial Bus).

We have had a number of requests for a presentation on MMX programming.

Since **Bob McGhee** (of Cyrix) had volunteered to talk on the subject, we will try to get him scheduled as soon as possible. In the meantime, our December meeting will feature a talk by Frank Cavallito on timing and optimization issues.

We hope to see you in December. Suggestions (and volunteers) for presentations are always welcome.

Frank Cavallito

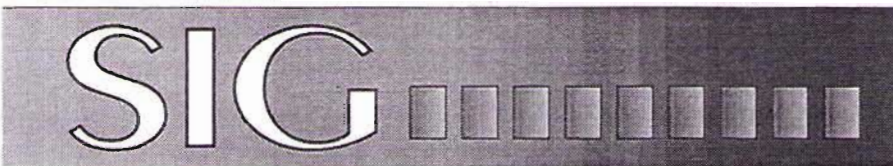
C++/ADVANCED SIG

At the November meeting of the Advanced C++ SIG, I finished my series on OLE automation and MFC. After three months of laying the groundwork, we finally got around to talking about OLE automation. We covered the IDispatch interface, the MFC classes and macros that provide support for OLE automation, and the support that App Wizard and Class Wizard provide. Unfortunately, equipment problems prevented us from using the overhead projector to demonstrate. Nonetheless, the debate was lively, the questions were insightful, and a good time was had by all.

Having concluded the OLE series, we'll have another free-form session in December. If you have any C++ questions you'd like to ask, or topics you'd like to discuss, this is the time to bring them up. Please join us!

Our plans for next year are indefinite, but there are a couple of presentations I'm trying to arrange. One is on *Java* programming, and the other on *Optima++*. Nothing has been finalized, but I hope to schedule both of them in the first quarter of next year.

Kent Cobb and Tom Cook



COMMUNICATIONS SIG

Lots of people are using the Internet for transport of real time applications. These applications include voice and multimedia and are starting to appear with relatively good performance and quality. To help understand time-sensitive applications, Joe Pueck from our Comm-SIG will discuss how he plays Bridge on an international level.

His success stories, Internet service provider, and "trial and tribulations" with the multi-user subscription service will be shared at the December meeting. Join us at noon Saturday to learn more about this very exciting and "real-time fun" over the Internet.

Birl Smith and Alan Brosz

Dallas COREL SIG

December Program

Our SIG has received a copy of *Web.Graphics Suite* and we will try to have it loaded on our PC in December and ready for a hands-on exploration of it in Room 7007. We have also been promised a copy of *DRAW 7*, which is expected to arrive in a few weeks. Come to the December meeting to learn and share *DRAW* and *Web.Graphics* tips and questions with others.

Volunteers

Volunteers to present future programs at Dallas Corel SIG are welcome. Call Marsha Drebelbis at 214-951-0266 or e-mail to mdreb@litigraph.com. The more you give, the more you get.



Dallas Corel is A SIG Of North Texas PC Users Group

November Meeting in Review

Corel Corporation gave a "gee whiz" presentation in November in the main auditorium. Frank Tomei of Corel Corporation introduced the new CorelDRAW! version 7, Web.Graphics Suite, and WordPerfect 7 Suite. True to Corel form, Frank's presentation held the auditorium audience riveted to their seats all morning. Ooh's and aah's greeted many of the exciting new features he demonstrated.

Overheard behind-the-scenes comments from beta testers about *DRAW 7* are uncommonly favorable. Supposedly it's already very stable and usable, even in its first release. Frank mentioned that as of this date (Nov. 9), 20 million copies have already been ordered by customers and Corel will start shipping within days. You can be sure the new and desirable features from this leader in PC graphics software will keep it on the cutting edge.

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 #

Programmers

Jim Hoisington.....(972) 416-3101 h

QuickBooks

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

Quicken

W. L. Harris(972) 291-7616 h
.....(972) 462-3676 w
Phil Faulkner(972) 239-0561 h
.....(214) 819-4446 w

Spreadsheet/Spre.Dev

Mark Gruner.....(972) 964-8174 h
.....(972) 605-8447 w
Adam Peterson.....(972) 682-0725 h
.....(972) 864-2760 w

SQL Server

Ada Finigan
Steven DeSalvo....(972) 716-2684
John Penaska.....(972) 431-3979
Erin Welker.....(972) 462-6033

StarText SIG

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

UNIX

Pat Hykkonen.....(214) 340-9621 h
.....(972) 234-6400
Doug Scott.....(817) 261-4653 hM
.....(817) 878-0367 wM

Visual Basic — Beginning

Jim Carter.....(972) 235-5968 h

Visual Basic

Ed Diehl.....(972) 687-9043 w
Jim Carter.....(972) 235-5968 h

Windows - Applications

Neal Berkowitz(972) 475-7463 h
.....(972) 475-3124 w
Deborah Bean(972) 475-7463 h
.....(972) 475-3124 w

WordPerfect / DOS

Dawn Hopkins.....(972) 613-8815 h
.....(214) 740-8085 w

WordPerfect / Windows

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

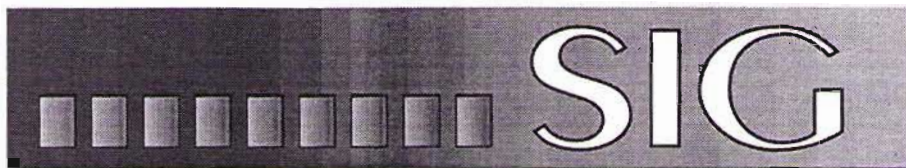
The upgrade from any previous version to DRAW 7 is \$249. The lowest upgrade street price we found so far is from Tiger Software at \$224.99. Phone 1-800-888-4437. DRAW 6 owners wanting to upgrade should call Corel and give their registration number to get a special upgrade bonus.

Recent Programs at Dallas Corel SIG:

- ☆January - Poster Artwork Created Using Corel
- ☆February - Tips and Tricks Demonstration on Corel 5
- ☆March - Windows 95 and CorelDRAW 6 Demonstration
- ☆April - Epilog Graphics Engraver Etches Corel Designs
- ☆May - Corel SIG Members Showcase Their Work
- ☆June - CorelDRAW 6's "Other" Modules Demonstrated
- ☆July - Power Scanning Instruction
- ☆August - Fine Art and Corel
- ☆September - Image Editing Instruction
- ☆October - Web Page Design Instruction on HotDog
- ☆November - Web.Graphics Suite and CorelDRAW 7 Introduction

CorelNET

Every Wednesday from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. ET, Corel, in conjunction with CorelNET and Chris Dickman, hosts an on-going series of Internet chat events. Guests are invited to join the chats and ask Corel representatives questions about the featured topic of discussion. While visitors to Corel's home page who use a Java-enabled browser can use the Java chat applet provided at <http://irc.corel.com/corel.com/index.htm>, any IRC chat client will do. If you prefer to use an IRC client, connect to irc.corel.com on the channel #corelnet. Transcripts of past events are available at <http://www.corel.com/corelnet/talk.htm>. Stay tuned to CorelNET (www.corelnet.com) and



Corel's home page (www.corel.com) for updated chat schedules.

Marsha Drebelbis



TIPS & TRICKS
from
Laurie McCanna

Exporting from CorelDRAW for the Web

You've exported as a 256 color .gif from CorelDraw. You end up with jagged edges, a bad dither, and a little white line all the way around the image you've tried to export. You try exporting using the "Selected Only" box on the export dialog box. Same results. Frustrated, but by this time determined to succeed, you export your file as a bmp or tiff. Same result as number one, with the exception that if you've exported as a 16 million color file, at least you aren't seeing a bad dither any more. You will, however, still see jagged edges and a little white line all around your image.

Until you get CorelDRAW 7, Xara or Web.Graphics Suite, do this:

1. Forget the Export function from CorelDraw. Instead, open PhotoPaint. Now, open your .cdr file. You will have to specify how many pixels and the dpi that you want to open your file at. Make the pixel size a little larger than you want your final art to be.
2. Your image still has jagged edges. If your image has excess white area, use the selection tool to select the portion of your image you want to keep. Then, from the Mask menu, choose Crop Image.
3. Now, to get rid of the jaggies, resample your image. Choose Resample

from your menu. Up pops the following dialog box. Make sure that the Process box reads Anti-alias, and that you have the Maintain Aspect checkbox checked, so your image doesn't end up squished horizontally or vertically. Anti-aliasing will help to eliminate the jagged edges. If the edges still look a little too jagged, you can resample again. Once you're happy with the appearance with your artwork, use the Image Menu, Convert To, 8bit (256) colors. Then save your file as a .gif, and live happily ever after.

Find Laurie McCanna's Web page at www.mccannas.com.

Marsha Drebelbis

Delphi SIG

I finally had a plan come together! For the November meeting I was able to do the demo of *JetSet* an Access connectivity VCL set from Eagle Research. We also had a pretty good discussion of other Access connectivity products that appear to be somewhat more mature than *JetSet*.

The two most widely known are *Titan* from AmiSys, and *DirectAccess* from Opus. I plan to do a future demo of the Opus VCL as they have a "full featured" release available for download from their web site, www.opus.ch. (Yes, that is right. CH) I intend to snag a copy of it, real soon now, and do some testing.

I found the handouts for *JetSet*, after I got back home Saturday. I'll try to remember to bring them to the December meeting.

Speaking of the December (this month's) meeting, I am planning to do the rescheduled demo of *ReportPrinter Pro* which was originally scheduled for the October meeting. Good thing,

SIG

as I have still not had the time to finish the coding required to convert my company Invoice printing to Delphi from compiled dBASE.

I will tentatively plan on showing Opus "DirectAccess" at the January meeting.

Frank Cavallito is doing some heavy-duty connectivity using Delphi and OS/2, DB-2. Out of this has evolved a good understanding of Delphi Winsock programming. Frank has agreed to share this hard-won knowledge with us at the February meeting. This should prove to be a good one.

Fred Williams

DOS SIG

I'm wishing for an extra-special Christmas Present from Symantec this year. I seriously doubt I'll get it though — and, "what's this have to do with DOS?" you might ask.

Although it's not obvious, the answer is "Simple." I do almost all my file and disk management from DOS.

Even in *Windows 3.11*, *Windows 95* and (now) in *Windows NT 4.0*, I still prefer one of Symantec's "old" DOS applications. *Norton Commander*. Commander is the major reason I haven't converted to long file names (LFN) use in Win 95 and NT. That's a real drawback and reason for my "wish" above, i.e., that Symantec would release a new version of Commander that could handle both LFN in Win 95's DOS box, and NTFS, Windows NT's more secure file system in its DOS box.

There are a lot of advantages in a simple DOS disk and file manager that I don't find in *Windows 3.11's File Manager* or in *Win 95* and *Win NT's Explorer*. For many tasks, the GUI (graphical User Interface) in these "newer" managers is slow, frequently clumsy and usually non-intuitive in simple file management. That is, they

make me work harder to accomplish tasks that are simple and fast in most DOS file managers.

A good example is when the user wants to delete a number of files in a directory. Every good DOS file manager allows the user to "mark" selected items in a directory, then execute the desired operation on them. Commander does this with the right mouse button or Ins (Insert) key, other programs may use the space bar or other key combinations.

In Win 3.x File Manager, you can accomplish this (if you are not using the mouse) by initiating the sequence via pressing Shift+F8, then using the space bar to select desired files out of sequence as you move the cursor through the directory using the keyboard.

Using Ctrl+mouse click with left button does make selection much faster in File Manager and Explorer. Given a choice, I still prefer the "old" Win 3.x File Manager to Explorer, but, again, you lose ability to handle LFN's.

File management will be topic for the December DOS SIG. Since I'll be see-



ing Gordon Eubanks, Symantec CEO, at Comdex, maybe I'll have some good news (for me at least) to report at the SIG meeting if not here. It will be fun even if I don't convince them to release one more DOS version.

Reagan Andrews

INTERNET SIG - BEGINNING

At the November meeting, Southwestern Bell discussed their new Internet services. Free connection software which included *Netscape Navigator* was provided to all who attended. There were also prizes given away including T-shirts and mouse pads. If you missed the meeting you can contact Southwestern Bell about their Internet services at 1-888-SWB-INET.

In December, **Doug Gorrie** and **Erik Leaseburg** will review and reveal the many features of Microsoft's Internet Explorer Web browser. Frequently a new user's first exposure to surfing the Internet is through a Web browser. However, inter-nauts can do much more with a Web browser than just view information on the World Wide Web. They can also send email, peruse newsgroups, and download files. Doug and Erik will also explain how to install and customize Internet Explorer.

With the growing popularity of the Internet, we continually have new individuals coming to the meetings wanting to learn the Internet basics: What is the Internet? What must I purchase or do to connect to the Internet? What software and hardware do I need? How do I find what I want on the Internet? The SIG leaders and volunteer member **Kiff Barnes** will be holding the first "Introduction to the Internet" course in January. This course will last approximately three hours and will start around noon. Rank Internet beginners can come to this course to get a broad overview of what the Internet is all about.

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

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

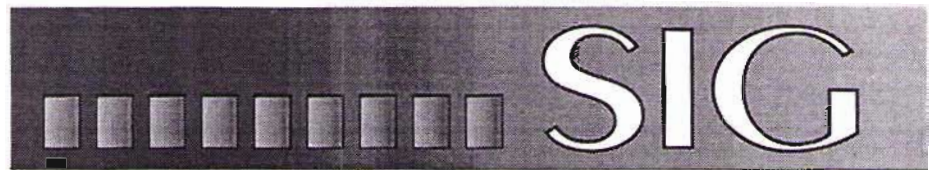
INTERNET SIG - Advanced

During the November meeting SIG leader, **Tom O'Keefe**, discussed the details of the coming 56K modem standard. The new standard abandons typical modulation/demodulation signal processing used by current modems. Instead the digital nature of the telephone system's backbone is utilized rather than being ignored. The new modem standard is hardly standard; however, since Rockwell and US Robotics are proposing two different 56K standards which are not compatible. Hopefully the details will be ironed out before these modems hit the consumer market. A Southwestern Bell representative was also on hand to discuss some advanced details about their new Internet services.

The discussion about the impending meltdown of the Internet, which was to occur at the November meeting, has been moved to December. Tom O'Keefe and **Pat Hykkonen** will break through the hype to discuss the consequences of an Internet that is feeling some growing pains. In January, Tom O'Keefe will invite a network expert to discuss the sometimes nebulous Internet backbone.

The purpose of the Advanced Internet SIG is to cover current and future technologies and issues relating to the use and functioning of the Internet. If you have suggestions for future meeting topics or would like to present a topic yourself, feel free to contact any of the SIG leader's listed below.

*Tom O'Keefe, Pat Hykkonen,
Doug Gorrie, & 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.

December 14, 1996

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

January 18, 1997

- ❖ 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)

February 8, 1997

- ❖ 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

March 8, 1997*No Classes

April 12, 1997

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

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

Alex Lilley

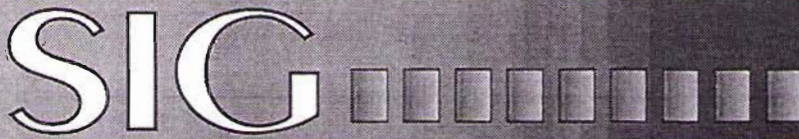
MS Word for Windows

Attendance at the November's meeting was down because of the mix-up of dates, but those who were there went back to the basics. We tackled margin settings and other basics then moved onto some more advanced topics such as whipping up a quick HTML page complete with graphics.

Thanks to *Internet Assistant* combined with *Internet Explorer* we saw how simple it is to create a page and have it ready for publication in a few minutes instead of a few hours.

If you have access to the Internet don't forget to visit what can be considered our SIG's page:
<http://www.startext.net/homes/bevku/word/word.htm>. Plans for that page are to have something new each week or two

SIG



and for back issues to be archived, so you'll always be able to find just the information you want.

It's going to take a bit of time for me to get it all together but by the time we next meet the pages will be available. This assumes, of course, that my stamina holds up. All I can do is what I can do and what I can't has to wait. I'm

finding that I have to ration my time or my brain locks up! (Grin)

Tip of the month:

Before you try this month's tip, select Options from the Tools menu, then choose the General tab. Make certain that the second and third options are turned off (Help for WordPerfect users

and Navigation Keys for WordPerfect Users).

Do you sometimes yearn for a clean, full screen to see what you're working with? Just touch the ALT key, then type V, U. You will have a perfectly clean screen on which to type. In order to return to the more cluttered appearance, press the ESC key in the upper left corner of your keyboard.

If after pressing the Alt, V, U (you COULD select Full Screen from the View menu, but this is one keyboard shortcut that's too good to miss), you see various objects; such as the vertical or horizontal scroll bar and/or the status bar, press ALT, T, O and choose the View tab. Hint: try pressing the letter V to get to the View tab.

In the center of the tab you will see, under Window, the three items we just mentioned. If they're checked, turn 'em off. Then press OK. Ta-daa, they're gone.

Even the Windows 95 task bar, provided you're using Win95, goes bye-bye and you wind up with a nice clean, uncluttered screen on which to do your thing.

Next month's meeting will be on December 14th. Hope to see you all then. No topic has been chosen yet, so if you've any ideas or suggestions, drop them off to me at bevku@startexl.net.

Beverly Kurtin

MICROSOFT VISUAL C++/ MFC SIG

The December meeting will be about debugging Windows applications using *BoundsChecker* from NuMega Technologies. Jim Lavin, an independent Windows development consultant, will be the speaker.

NuMega Technologies, Inc., located in Nashua, NH, was founded in 1987 to develop software development diagnostic tools for the Windows operating systems. NuMega is recognized as a leader in automatic error detection and ad-

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 "P" — S(D)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.

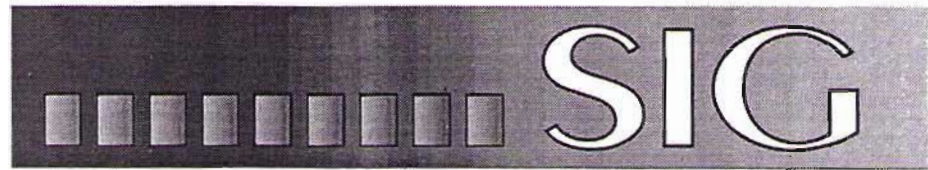
If you want to make doubly sure that your note gets to the *PC News* — after you've sent it to the SIG Upload Area — you can also include it as a (F)ile attached to a BBS E-mail message to me, Reagan Andrews. You might *also* post this on your SIG's BBS Conference area in addition to the above.

Reagan Andrews

vanced debugging tools. NuMega currently offers solutions for Windows 95, Windows NT, Win32s, Windows 3.1 and MS-DOS.

In 1989, NuMega introduced BoundsChecker, an automatic error detection tool. When released, BoundsChecker was the first tool to detect errors involved in memory allocation and access, find null pointers, and pinpoint resource leaks. In December of 1991, NuMega released SoftICE for Windows to meet the needs of developers performing advanced debugging in the Windows environment.

Today, BoundsChecker Professional Edition offers the most thorough and complete error detection available for the Windows C++ developer. Features include integration with Microsoft Visual C++ and the newly introduced Compile-time Instrumentation which yields unprecedented quality improvements early in the development cycle. BoundsChecker Professional Edition detects up to 72 unique categories of Windows programming errors and has versions for Windows 95 and Windows NT. At this meeting, I will be overviewing BoundsChecker's features and demonstrating how it works. There will also be drawings for free software at the meeting.



At the November meeting, **Gene Daniel** did a presentation on building Windows NT device drivers. Gene has been developing software for 20+ years. Many of those years were spent developing assembly language and firmware code for many different hardware projects. For the past four years, Gene has been a Visual C++/MFC developer and recently Gene has worked on Win32 device driver projects. At this meeting, Gene will overview the process of building Win32 device drivers and point out where the best sources of information are for continuing your Win32 device driver education.

Arthur English

PARADOX SIG

Alas, the time has arrived to discuss in seriousness, the future of the Paradox SIG. With only four people in attendance, **Tom Browning** chose to forgo his standard stellar formal presentation. We discussed the future of both Paradox and the NTPCUG Paradox SIG.

It was decided that in the post-Corel purchase world of Paradox for Windows, and the continuing apparent loss of interest, I would approach the Corel SIG leadership and see what they would be interested in doing in relation to Corel Paradox. I plan on meeting with Corel SIG leadership at the upcoming Board Of Directors meeting to explore our options.

Personally, I have continued to do a large amount of Paradox for DOS work, but I have written off Paradox Windows in favor of the much more Developer-oriented Delphi. I will most likely continue to support clients in their efforts to abandon Paradox DOS, but will most likely migrate them to Delphi and Crystal Reports, rather than Paradox for Windows.

I do wish Corel great future success with Paradox. Quite possibly the transfer of ownership is the best thing that could have happened to Paradox. I feel Paradox had dropped to "stepchild" status within Borland, after the initial success of Delphi.

Reports I have heard concerning *WordPerfect*, after the Corel acquisition, has been very positive. Some even feel Corel might return the, now Corel, Office Suite back into a true market contender. The acquisition of Paradox rights can only enhance this effort.

So, I guess it truly ain't over till the fat lady sings. But than again, some claim they can hear her humming!

Stay tuned for further developments. Check the overheads in the Infomart lobby prior to the December SIG meeting for potential changes. Logistically we may be able to "modify" before the December meeting.

Fred Williams

PRO SIG

Heeee's back! Just as the party was in full swing, the Evil Vice President of DFW Xchange showed up. He confiscated our white board, our *holiday punch* and even our cookies. And as he departed, he muttered something about "*cancelling Christmas*".

Join us next year if he doesn't cancel the new year as well.

Jim Hoisington

SQL SERVER SIG

For our December meeting we will review some basic SQL Server administration and maintenance tips. What needs to be done and how often. What kinds of things should be watched closely. How to tell if an inexperienced

SIG

user is about to bring the server to it's knees.

We meet at 9:00 a.m., usually in Room 7004 - but check the schedule. See you then.

FYI: Microsoft has made more information about SQL Server available on their web site.

Ada Finigan

Visual Basic SIG - BEGINNING

The December meeting of the Beginning Visual Basic SIG is scheduled for Saturday, December 14, 1996 and will feature a demonstration of adding a menu bar to your Visual Basic application. There are certain conventions to be followed to make your application effective and consistent with other standard Windows applications. See how easy it is to design your own menu bar using the Menu Designer in Visual Basic. For those wanting a head start, this subject is covered in Chapter 12 of Gary Cornell's *The Visual Basic 4 for Windows 95 Handbook*.

In November, we covered the subject of arrays, both control arrays and variable arrays. We also had a very active



Q & A session. We hope to have more information on the new Visual Basic 5.0 Control Creation Edition for the December meeting.

I continue to receive calls from folks that are looking for Visual Basic programmers. If you want me to give them your name and phone number,

Continued from next page...

machine I noticed a noise emanating from the Mail machine.

Threw the Main machine into "Defrag" mode and set about looking at the Mail machine. Didn't know one of those teeny little CPU cooling fans could make that much racket! Went back to AllTex electronics for a replacement.

Seems during the power up, power down, power up, process of troubleshooting the Mail machine, the Lantastic subdirectories got "scrambled". Took about two hours of SCANDISK-ing and reinstalling to get the network connection back hot.

All the Fun I Could Stand

I shuffled and played with modems and phone lines, until I managed to get the Metro and the line to OnRamp back alive. By then I had had all the fun I could stand for one Addison visit, so I gathered up the questionable modems and headed for the house.

At home I tested the three of the four modems that were in service during the lighting show that started this whole mess. Two were history. The 14.4 USR Sportster (former OnRamp connection) and our brand spanking new Hayes 28.8 were fried.

I guess quality does count. Looks like the only two modems that survived

please sign up at the meeting. It is rare that they are looking for beginners, however. But, maybe you can convince one to take a chance!

Bring your questions on Beginning Visual Basic to our meeting beginning at 8:00 AM on Saturday, December 14, 1996. Check the Infomart lobby screens for the correct room assignment.

Jim Carter

NTPCUG - On-Line

CONTINUED ...

were both of the high dollar, USR Courier V.everythings.

I returned to the BBS office and managed to get two lines back up. By placing the "old" Hayes 14.4kbps modem back in service, I was also able to reestablish the OnRamp UUCP feed.

After the dust settled, it would appear that the act of God, conveyed by Southwestern Bell equipment, (as explained by Doug) was responsible for "toasting" two modems and one communications port on the four port Digiboard, and most likely contributed to the downfall of the system power supply.

One of our members, with years of telecommunications design experience, has volunteered to look over our BBS installation and make some recommendations to reduce future risks. I am looking forward to getting some changes in place to reduce the risk of a reoccurrence of this one.

Many asked about the UPS "guarantee". Seems the UPS did its job, but the modems had no external isolation from the phone lines. This was where the damage was done. My only relief is in knowing it could have been much worse.

Fred Williams

'Ounce of Prevention'? Lack Brings 'Pounds of Cure'— Lightning Zaps Power Supply & Ports

This is getting serious! I apologize for missing the newsletter deadline last month, but I'm very, very, busy right now. Then on top of all that, what an eventful time for the BBS!

Seems as I was contemplating my good fortune to be so busy with all this real work, a higher authority stepped in to insure I have absolutely no chance to put the finish coat of paint on the building in the backyard. I tried to blame what happened on Southwestern Bell, but **Doug Gorrie** quickly pointed out the error of my ways, by informing me that Southwestern Bell only supplied the wire. And although some of us don't believe it, he claims SWB is not quite powerful enough to summon up thunderstorms.

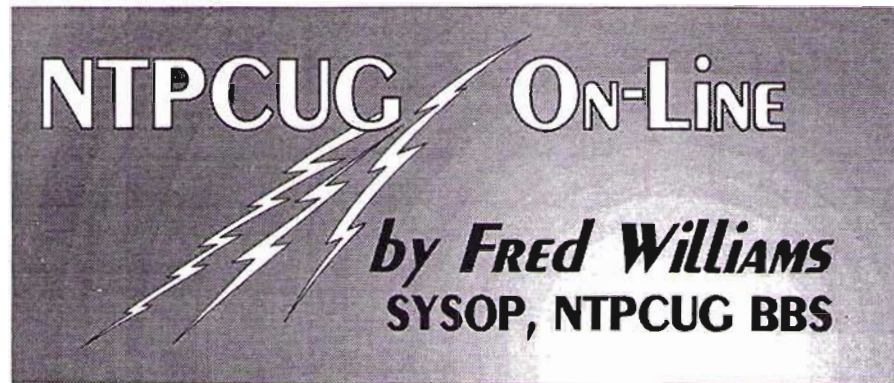
Area Code Lighting?

This all happened after we survived the new area code change for the BBS numbers as published in the October newsletter. Seems after the October newsletter had been sent to the printer, an unnamed Andrews called and "confessed" to blundering on the BBS area code change to be printed for the first time in October newsletter.

I mean three out of around a hundred or so ain't all that bad, now is it? Murphy's Area Code Change Law clearly states, "All inevitable errors must be made on some of the most visible numbers requiring change."

I appreciate everyone's cooperation in not rubbing salt in the wound, as I know the unnamed source was already quite distraught by the whole affair. I have told them both, time and time again, to keep the cork in the scotch until after the newsletter is put to bed, but...

Please do make it a point to thank them both, **Connie and Reagan**, for the con-



tinuing excellent publication they are consistently producing each and every month on a "temporary" basis.

Real Lightening

Then it really happened! During the initial surge of thunderstorms that pushed through the area late in October the BBS went all the way down. This is not supposed to happen as we have a healthy 1500 watt UPS with everything plugged into it. Donna and I were just about to leave on a shopping extravaganza, to take place at the Addison Sam's Club, when I discovered the problem.

Once we had created a little localized retail sales boost, we continued on to the Addison BBS office. All this during an old fashioned "Toad Strangler", as we call that kind of precipitation in Arkansas.

Upon arriving at the BBS office, I noticed things seemed a little darker than usual. I entered the building and found



the reception area light switch. It was "on", but the lights weren't. I locked up and we started back to the house.

When we reached the Midway intersection, I noticed a TU Electric service truck parked at the curb, with a forlorn looking soul in a big yellow "Southwester" rain suit standing next to the truck and holding a piece of a former power transformer. He told me the storm had been pretty rough on the northern part of the metroplex, but he hoped to have power restored "soon."

It was well into the next day before I got a response from any of the BBS lines. Then I could only get one line to respond. The bad part was, I was about to leave for deep east Texas when I discovered the problem. I left word with Doug, and headed east at a high rate of speed.

Fatal Smells & Smoke

Upon returning from Lufkin, Donna told me Doug had called and left one of his epic phone messages. She had summarized the content for me. Seems as Doug was trying desperately to bring most of the BBS back to life, during one of the power down and up cycles, he noticed a fatal smell arising from the main BBS machine! This brought an abrupt halt to his efforts.

I was not able to return to the BBS office until that following Saturday. I spent most of that Saturday working to breath some life back into a very wounded setup. Seems after I replaced the blown power supply in the main

Continued on previous page.

DOM Disks Released In November

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

Disk 1071. Zip Code Explorer v1.2

Disk 1072. DUNCE 2.4 - Dial Up Network Connection Enhancements

Disk 1073. JUNO - FREE E-mail Software and Provider

Disk 1074. MS Windows 95 Tutorial - Learn to use Windows 95

Disk 1075. PROVIEW for Windows v1.2a - Integrated System Analyzer and Viewer

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

This README prepared by Gene Carleton.

Disk 1072, DUNCE 2.4 - Dial Up Network Connection Enhancements, Vector Development

DUNCE is an outstanding addition to your utilities box if you do any dial up to

auto-dial settings for you and even provides your password if you want that chore handled for you. Another neat chore is DUNCE will continue dialing your dial-up number until it connects. Then, if you should have a dropped carrier, DUNCE will automatically redial your provider number so quickly it's almost unnoticeable that you have

\$45 bucks to buy that program to begin with.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS: IBM compatible computer running Windows 95.

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

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

Disk 1073. JUNO - FREE E-mail Software and Provider, JUNO Online Services, L.P., 120 West 45th Street, 39th Floor, New York, NY 10036, (212) 478-0800, (212) 478-0700 FAX, info@juno.com

Disk 107L. Insight Software Solutions Inc, P.O. Box 354, Bountiful, UT 84011-0354
Phone: 801 295-1890, FAX: 801 299-1781, CompuServe: 71672,3464, Internet: 71672.3464@compuserve.com, Registration Fee: 24.95 (U.S. Dollars)

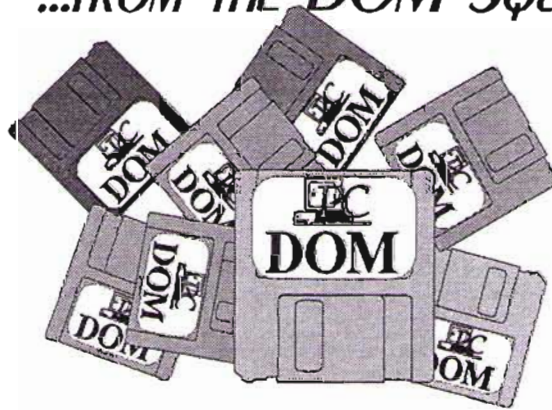
Product Description

Zip Code Explorer v1.2 for WIN is a utility allowing easy look up of U.S. Zip Codes and their associated cities, states, counties, area codes, time zones and current time. Search by Zip, City, County, State or Area code. Copy entire ranges of zip code data to the clipboard of printer. Verify the spelling of a city or make sure the zip matches the correct city. Or verify the current time before making a call.

Required Configuration

Minimum OS: Windows 3.1, Standard RAM:- 4Mb, Hard Drive - 2Mb. If you don't have a directory named TMP, then create one or use another directory of your choice. Use your directory's name in the installation.

New Disks ...FROM THE DOM SQUAD



by JAN PARKHILL

the Internet. DUNCE (acronym for 'Dial Up Network Connection Enhancement') will handle all the simple chores that are bothersome each time you attempt to log on to the Internet.

You will find that DUNCE can do all the simple routine work for you. For instance, Windows 95 has a problem with auto-dial settings that can drive you to distraction. DUNCE handles all the

dropped the carrier signal. It's done automatically once you tell the configuration how you want it done.

DUNCE can also start other programs for you if your connected and force connections at a given time. This is a recommended program for people having problems with the Win 95 PLUS auto dialer program or for those that don't want to spend the

FREE FREE FREE

Let me repeat myself. This is FREE! If you have become accustomed to "NO FREE LUNCHES", settle back and enjoy a great e-mail software program. The software is FREE and the dialup account is FREE. You can send e-mail around the world at ABSOLUTELY no charge (unless you place a long distance call...!) This is NOT a free trial; it's FREE...period! It even comes with a toll free 800 number if there is no local number for you to call.

JUNO is perhaps the most outstanding software for sending and receiving FREE Email that you will see. This program has been designed with the beginner in mind and it literally installs itself. The only problem I had was opting to do a manual modem installation and the software balked at recognizing my US Robotics 28,800 internal modem. When I instructed the installation program to "try

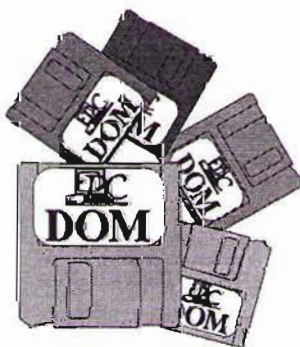
again", it installed the settings perfectly.

Why FREE? The author's policy is that "All e-mail was intended to be free." How do they accomplish this feat and not lose money? Advertising! They followed the example set by many Internet companies and sell small banner advertising that shows up across the upper right corner of your software screen. This is very much like the ad banners used by Yahoo and others on the Internet. In addition, you will occasionally receive e-mail messages selling a product. You may ignore them, delete them or read them...it's totally up to the individual user. It seems a small price to pay for such a fantastic program as I have seen today.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS:
28.800 baud modem preferred, IBM compatible running Windows of all types, 4 MEG RAM memory and 10 Megs of free disk space.

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

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



Disk 1074. MS Windows 95 Tutorial - Learn to use Windows 95, Microsoft Corporation, <http://www.microsoft.com>

MS Windows 95 Tutorial will walk you through the many areas of Windows 95 that you need to know about as you learn to use your operating platform.

The tutorial is simple and easy to follow. The plain vanilla interface instructions let you go to the NEXT step or BACK to the previous step if you want to review what you have just studied. Naturally, the entire interface is similar to the Windows 95 interface you will be working with.

You are invited to use one of two options: you can walk yourself through the tutorial at your own speed or you can let the computer guide you effortlessly through all the steps. Either way, you will be learning about the various areas where you can configure and customize Windows 95 to work the way you want it to work.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS:
IBM compatible computer running Windows 95.

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

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

Disk 1075, PROVIEW for Windows v1.2a - Integrated System Analyzer and Viewer, McAfee Associates, 2710 Walsh Avenue, Suite 200, Santa Clara, CA 95051-0963, (408) 988-3832 office, (408) 970-9727 fax, (408) 988-4004 BBS, CompuServe GO MCAFEE, AMERICA ONLINE MCAFEE, Internet: support@mcafee.com

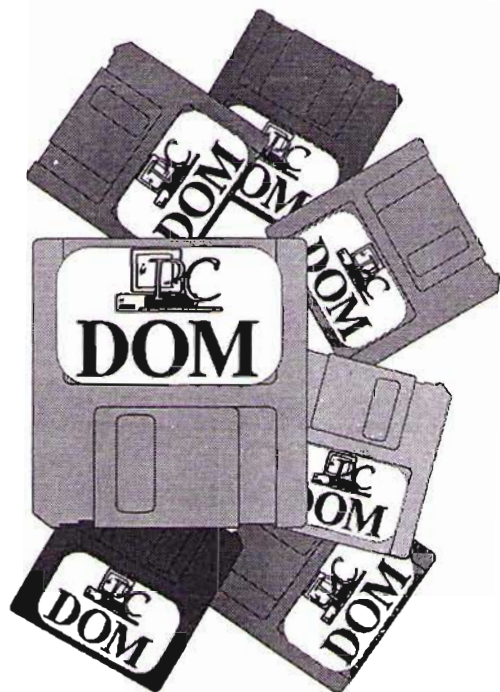
DOM DISKS ...CONTINUED

PROVIEW for Windows is a program used to analyze, view and edit the basic components of a system, including

Top Twenty DOM Disks

Want to know what's hot? These are the 20 most popular NTPCUG DOM Library disks.

- 1066 .. MS Excel Interactive Tutorial
- 1064 .. PKZ for DOS, WIN, OS/2 + Utils
..... (PKZIP 2.04g and other Toys)
- 1065 .. Waste for Windows 1.5 (H/D cluster
..... diagnostic utility)
- 1054 .. Power Toys for WIN95 (Utilities)
- 1053 .. SUPER WinWARE, Vol 6 (Windows
..... Magazine Programs/Util's)
- 1049 .. PLUG-IN FOR WINDOWS & WIN95
..... (Desktop enhancement utility)
- 1063 .. ViruScan/VSheild DOS, 2.2.12 (McAfee's
..... DOS-based Anti-Virus program)
- 1062A&B ViruScan, WINDOWS 3.x-OS2 2.2.12
..... (McAfee's Anti-Virus for Windows 3.x
..... and OS/2 systems)
- 1055A&B Time & Chaos 5.1.3 for Windows 95 (PIM -
..... Personal Information Manager - for WIN95)
- 1038 .. WinTune 95, 1.0 (Windows Magazine's test and
..... tuneup kit for Windows 95)
- 1048 .. Multimedia 1 (Audio/video presentation
..... software)
- 1057 .. SLMR 2.1a (Silly Little Mail Reader - Off-Line
..... Mail Reader)
- 1056 .. VGACOPY (High speed disk duplicator)
- 1045 .. Easy Reminders (display schedules)
- 1060 .. WINSNTP for Windows 95 (Internet time
..... synchronizer; set your computer clock)
- 1039 .. WinZip 6.0 (ZIP/UNZIP/INSTALL utility)
- 1058 .. LFNSORT (DOS or WIN95 Long Filename
..... directory sort)
- 1030 .. SoLaTor Suite 1.2 (Five Solitaire games)
- 1046 .. DD 4.08 (DIR replacement)
- 1050 .. Roger's Rapid Start (A quick and efficient
..... Windows exit and restart utility)



ing the system memory, system interrupts, device drivers, CMOS and installed disk drive sectors and file contents. PROVIEW will allow you to view system elements in HEX, ASCII or disassembled code format.

Full searching and editing functions are included. It also provides a system audit function to determine whether programs have been added to a system, deleted from a system or have been changed since the last audit. PROVIEW displays data in real time. For example, if you are viewing a memory location that is being updated by the system (the clock interrupt, for example), PROVIEW will display the changes as they occur.

PROVIEW provides an extensive on-line context-sensitive help function. At any point in the program you may press the key to display help text for the process you are currently engaged in. NOTE: The WPV.HLP file must be in

the same directory as the WPV.EXE file.

PROVIEW is Novell Network-aware. You may view any network file and edit any network file that is not locked.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS:
Any IBM compatible running Windows 3.1, WFWG 3.11

INSTALLATION: To install, run the INSTALL.EXE from the DOS prompt. Follow the instructions from that point and it's quickly done. Click the PROVIEW icon in Windows to start the program.

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

*This README prepared by
McAfee Associates, edited
by Gene Carleton. 11/96*

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*

NTPCUG User – To – User Program

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

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

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

SUBJECT	HELPER	PHONE	DAYS/HOURS	SUBJECT	HELPER	PHONE	DAYS/HOURS
Access				Internet - General			
	Ram Bhandari	(972)243-4056 h	M-F 1300-1700		Erik Leaseburg	(817)265-7550(m)	7 2000-2200
Assembly Language					David Martin	(972)930-0283	M-F 1900-2200
	Frank Cavallito	(972)423-9221	7 1800-2200	Internet - Telnet, FTP, NetScape, Web Explorer (OS/2)			
	Glynn Brooks	(972)578-8737	M-F 1700-2200		Bob Wilson	(972)517-1434	M-F 1900-2200
BASIC					.....		S-S 1000-2200
	Mike Firth	(214)827-7734	7 0800-2200	LANs — Novell			
Beginner Problems					Joseph Beasley	(972)225-8752	7 0800-2400
	Jan Parkhill	(214)828-2216	M-Sa 0900-1700	— Lantastic			
	Shirley Hudgens	(903)432-9780	7 0900-2000		Joseph Beasley	(214)410-3818	7 0900-2200
Brother's Keeper				Managing Your Money			
	Neil Sunderland	(972)272-2869	7 0900-2200		Glynn Brooks	(972)578-8737	M-F 1700-2200
C++ (the language)				Modems			
	Bob Adams	(214)328-1455	M-Sa 0900-1900		Erik Leaseburg	(817)265-7550(m)	7 2000-2200
	Howard Harkness	(817)267-6227	7 1000-2100	MathCAD			
	Doug Cochran	(972)578-9258	T&T 1800-2030		Bob Adams	(214)328-1455	M-Sa 0900-1900
CorelDraw				Norton Utilities			
	Linda Hume	(817)472-7555	M-F 1900-2200		John Dyer	(972)790-3311	M-Sa 0800-2200
	.....		S-S 1300-2200	OS/2			
Batch Files					Larry Truesdale	(972)442-7074	7 1000-2200
	Charles Miller	(903)938-4220(*)	7 1900-2400	PC Tools/Win			
Borland C++					Glynn Brooks	(972)578-8737	M-F 1700-2200
	Bob Adams	(214)328-1455	M-Sa 0900-1900	Paradox			
	Howard Harkness	(817)267-6227	7 1000-2100		Fred Williams	(972)492-1315	7 1300-2100
CompuServe				PKzip/PKUNzip			
	Bob Adams	(214)328-1455	M-Sa 0900-1900		Erik Leaseburg	(817)265-7550(m)	7 2000-2200
dBASE III, III+, IV & Windows				ProComm/ProComm+			
	Ted Gillam	(972)964-7923	7 0800-1700		Bill Green	(817) 731-1308	
DOS					Joseph Beasley	(972)225-8752	7 0800-2400
	Bob Russell	(972)422-4269	7 1900-2200		Joseph Beasley	(214)410-3818	7 0900-2200
	Erik Leaseburg	(817)265-7550(m)	7 2000-2200	Publisher (Microsoft)			
DR DOS					Bob Russell	(972)422-4269	7 1900-2200
	Ralph Beaver	(817)336-0570	M-F 0800-1700		Pat Cote	(214)522-1717 x266	M-F 0800-1700
	.....	(817)624-9530	SS 0900-2100		.....	(972)424-1738	7 1000-2200
Hardware Help							
	Charles Miller	(903)938-4220(*)	7 1900-2400				

NTPCUG User - To - User Program

SUBJECT	HELPER	PHONE	DAYS/HOURS
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
	.....	(972) 618-8002	S-S 1000-1900
TurboVision			
	Don Cochran.....	(972)578-9258	T&T 1800-2030
UNIX			
	Doug Scott.....	(817)261-4653	7 1830-2200
Virus & Anti-Virus			
	Charles Miller.....	(903)938-4220(*)	7 1900-2400
Visual Basic -			
	Jim Carter.....	(972)235-5968	7 1700-2130
	L.J. Johnson.....	(972)495-9067	7 1700-2130
	Gene Hamelman.....	(972)495-6342	7 1700-2130
Windows for Workgroups			
	Joseph Beasley.....	(972)225-8752	7 0800-2400

SUBJECT	HELPER	PHONE	DAYS/HOURS
	Joseph Beasley.....	(214)410-3818	7 0900-2200
	Bob Russell.....	(972)422-4269	7 1900-2200
Word for Windows			
	Bob Russell.....	(972)422-4269	7 1900-2200
Works, Microsoft			
	Mike Firth.....	(214)827-7734	7 0800-2200
XENIX			
	Doug Scott.....	(817)261-4653	7 1830-2200
XTREE			
	John Dyer.....	(972)790-3311	M-Sa 0800-2200

The subject areas below do not have a volunteer to answer questions. If you would like to assist or add possible categories for the future, please contact Doug Gorrie at (214)464-7924 M-F 0800-1700 or Sa & Su 1000-1900 at (972)618-8002. Doug will send you a form on which you can list your qualifications and sign.

Areas Needing Helpers:

- Borland Turbo C
- CAD
- Dataflex
- Delphi
- Desktop Publishing
- Easy Text
- First Choice
- First Publisher
- Fox Pro
- Harvard Graphics
- LapLink
- Money Counts
- Microsoft C
- Microsoft C++
- Microsoft Visual C++
- Microsoft Word
- MKS products
- Pagemaker
- Q & A
- Roots
- Smart Notes
- Sound Blaster
- Stacker
- TurboTax
- Corel Ventura
- WordPerfect/
- Windows
- XTREE

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

North Texas PC 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 (\$30.00) _____	Renewal _____
Credit Card _____	Student (\$25.00) _____	Address Change _____

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

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

North Texas PC Users Group, Inc.

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

Phone (214) 746-4699 for recorded information about the North Texas PC Users Group and scheduled meeting date times and locations. Please leave a message if you would like specific information about the Group. Or, visit our Web Page at: www.ntpcug.org

The North Texas PC Users Group, Inc., is a non-profit, independent group, not associated any corporation. Membership is open to owners and others interested in exchanging ideas, information, hardware, predictions, and other items related to personal and compatible computers. To join the Group, complete the application blank printed elsewhere in this newsletter, and send with \$30 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 second or third 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 972, use Area Code 972. (This is NOT a toll call from Fort Worth and the Mid-Cities area.)

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

NTPCUG BBS Telephone Numbers:

..... (972) 387-2751
 (972) 387-2752
 METRO (972) 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

NTPCUG Officers

President	Andy Oliver	(972) 462-1896 h (972) 960-4215 w
President-Elect	Jim Hoisington	(972) 416-3101 h
Program Chairman	Timothy Carmichael	(972) 661-4626 w
Treasurer	Raymond T. Reyes	(903) 569-2638
Secretary	John West	(972) 620-8741 h
Membership Dir.	Jim Hoisington	(972) 416-3101h
Advertising Dir. (Acting)	Connie Andrews	(214) 828-0699h
Publicity	Rob Alschbach	(214) 368-4979 b
Disk of the Month	Jan Parkhill	(214) 828-2216 h
Volunteer Coord.	Claude McClure	(972) 867-0978 h
Bulletin Board	Fred Williams	(972) 492-1315

Members Emeritus

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

Address Changes, etc...

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

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

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

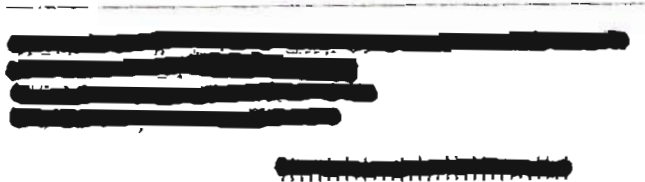


North Texas PC Users Group
P.O. Box 780066
Dallas, Texas 75378-0066

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Address Correction Requested

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North Texas PC Users Group



Next Meeting:
14 December 1996

