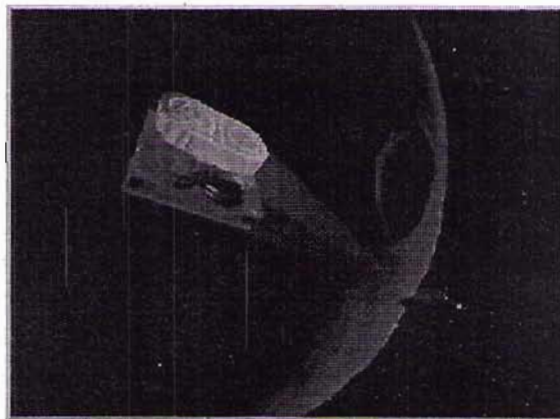
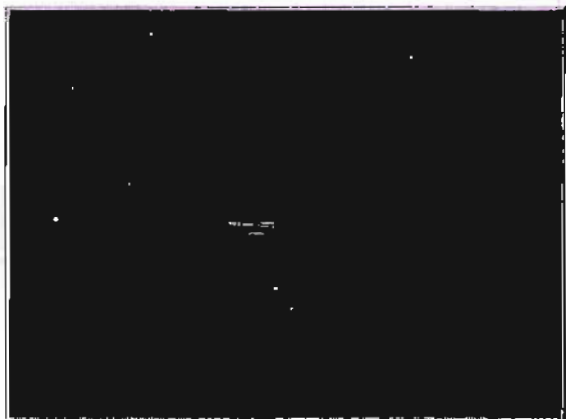
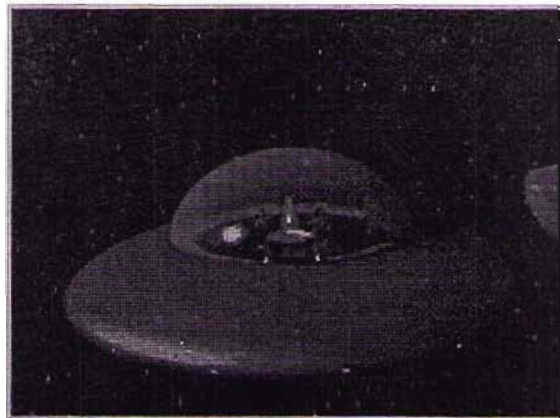


North Texas



PC NEWS



Aliens from outer space? See Page 4...

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Deadline:

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

Circulation:

North Texas PC NEWS circulation was 2,100 last month. Member distribution was 1,850; remaining copies were distributed to PC user groups around the country, and to advertisers, prospective members and others with common interests.

The editors of North Texas PC NEWS use Microsoft Word for Windows. This issue of North Texas PC NEWS was composed using Corel Ventura 4.2, Corel Draw 7.0, Arts & Letters Express 6.01, Micrograph Picture Publisher 5.0, Adobe Photoshop 4.0 and HP Scanjet IIp. Repro was printed on a HP LaserJet 4M. Principal typefaces include: Palatino, Helvetica, A&L Cafe, French Vogue, Lithos and Mistral.

DEADLINE
Copy deadline for June
North Texas PC NEWS:
Saturday, May 10th

Meeting Dates:

May 17, 1997 – 3rd Saturday
June 14, 1997 – 2nd Saturday
July 12, 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

"NaturallySpeaking, Now You're Talking"
 Creative Technology Group, Inc (www.dragonsys.com)
 Patrick Culp, General Manager and Chris Corwin, Sales Associate

We are happy to preview and demonstrate Dragon NaturallySpeaking(tm), the world's only continuous speech recognition and dictation program for GENERAL USE. Come see "REAL TIME" dictation into your PC. Users can speak general purpose text continuously and naturally, i.e., without pauses between words or using a special alphabet. Corrections can be done immediately or later without interrupting the user's thoughts. Dictation is readily handled by the extensive vocabulary. Almost anyone who generates texts can find themselves creating documents with ease and accuracy. YOU WILL BE AMAZED! There will be a drawing for free items. *

10:00 AM - 10:55 AM

PartitionMagic V3.0

Powerquest Corporation (www.powerquest.com)
 Dick Kellerman

Added a gigabyte hard drive to your system lately? Finding that it won't hold all the files you thought? You may be losing up to 40% of your disk space from large clusters and don't even know it! Find out more about this cluster problem and what you can do to fix it. The cluster problem will be discussed, and other important hard disk organizing techniques that will make your system perform better and safer. He will also introduce us to the new features of PartitionMagic V3.0 that was recently announced. There will be a drawing for free products. *

11:00 AM - 11:30 AM

NTPCUG Business Meeting

12:00 PM - 12:55 PM

To be Announced

See the NTPCUG web site and the BBS Meetings Conference.

* 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

MAY 17

SIGs NTPCUG SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP MEETING SCHEDULE

<p>8:00 - 8:55 Internet - WEB Developers Microsoft Networking Visual BASIC - Beglnning MultiMedia</p> <p>8:00 - 9:55 Hardware Solutions</p> <p>9:00 - 9:55 DOS General Genealogy Internet-Advanced SQL Server Introduction to the PC Quicken Visual BASIC Windows Applications WordPerfect/DOS</p>	<p>9:00 - 10:55 Dallas Corel</p> <p>10:00 - 10:55 ACT! CAD Delphi Emerging Technologies Fox Pro Database Networking Internet-Beginning PAF-Genealogy Introduction to the PC WordPerfect/Windows UNIX</p> <p>11:00 - 11:30 Business Meeting</p> <p>11:00 - 11:55 Assembly Language Brother's Keeper</p>
---	---

11:00 - 11:55 Ctd.
 CAD (Cont.)
 Investors
 Graphics
 Microsoft FrontPage
 OS/2 - Q & A
 Paradox
 Roots III/IV - Genealogy
 Spreadsheets
 Microsoft Visual C++/MFC

11:30 - 12:00
NTPCUG Orientation

12:00 - 12:55
 Access
 Alpha Four
 C++/Advanced C
 Communications
 Desktop Publishing
 OS/2 for End Users

Introduction to the PC
 The Master Genealogist

1:00 - 1:55
 Business Apps./DAC Easy
 C++/Beginners
 OS/2 Developers

1:00 - 1:55 Ctd.
Introduction to the PC
 QuickBooks
 StreetSmart/e.Schwab

1:00 - 2:55
 Word for Windows

2:00 - 2:55
 Advanced Programmers
 ActiveX Developers

SIG Schedules may be subject to changes at the last minute. Please consult the BBS, or the NTPCUG Web page (www.ntpcug.org) and remember to check the overhead display in the INFOMART lobby for latest SIG schedules and room locations.

NTPCUG TREASURER, RAYMOND REYES RETIRES ONE MORE TIME

After being the Treasurer of the North Texas PC User's Group for many years, Raymond Reyes is resigning. Raymond retired from his *real* job several years ago and moved to East Texas. He'll still be attending the meetings but he'll spend the rest of the month enjoying the piney woods.

If you are reading this note and are interested in becoming Treasurer of the NTPCUG, please contact me or one of the directors for further information.

FAREWELL TO OUR NEWSLETTER EDITOR, GERRY HEINE

After working on the newsletter for many years and being the Editor for the last few years, Gerry Heine has resigned to spend more time with his family. Gerry, thank you for all the hard work you put in. We'll miss you.

Apology to AMD CORPORATION

AMD presented their K6 microprocessor at the April meeting. While they were in the auditorium, someone took their MMX enabled game CD-ROM from their demo machine that was on a table outside the auditorium door. We apologize and we hope that this wasn't done by one of our members. We would like to replace the game if AMD will let us know the title and publisher of the CD-ROM.

LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION

The new location for the North Texas PC Users Group Information Booth isn't working to the Club's advantage. We have lost almost 500 members in the last five months. We think this was at least partially a result of the new location of our Information Booth. It was moved from the entrance to INFOMART to an outside wall in the Vendor Area in December. In May, we're going to try having it in the Vendor Area proper. While membership has been dropping, attendance in the vendor area has been increasing.



BEST KEPT SECRETS...

How many of you discovered the Users Group quite by accident?

One member happened onto Infomart during one of our Saturday meetings and stopped by the Information Booth to find out what was going on. That was some years ago and he has enjoyed his membership ever since. He lives in both Dallas and New York, but plans his schedule around our meeting dates as he says there is nothing like it in New York.

That's a compliment we can be proud of!

Learning and sharing information about computers is fun and enriching. Tell your friends, family and co-workers about us. Stop by the Information Booth and pick up some brochures to pass along to those interested.

Remember, too, that there are other users groups meeting during the day when we do: Apple Corps of Dallas, Atari Users of North Texas, Dallas Computer-Oriented Geoscience Society, Dallas TI Home Computer Group, Personal Robotics, Dallas Small Computer Society (Timex, Sinclair & Other), North Texas LINUX Users Group, DFW UNIX Users Group and SCOPE.

Knowledge is too precious to be kept a secret.

Jim...

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You can make a gift that will change the life of the recipient

That 386, 286, or 8088 that is no longer being used can allow a blind person to be able to read and write, edit, and print letters, reports, keep personal financial records, and many other things on a computer that he or she once did or perhaps never did before.

Computers with synthesized voices or screen magnifiers can open opportunities that were not dreamed of a few years ago. Even the older and slower models that can not easily run Windows can still provide an effective word processing, checkbook, daily calendar, list of recipes, and so many other things that the blind person must ask someone else to read, write, or compute for him.

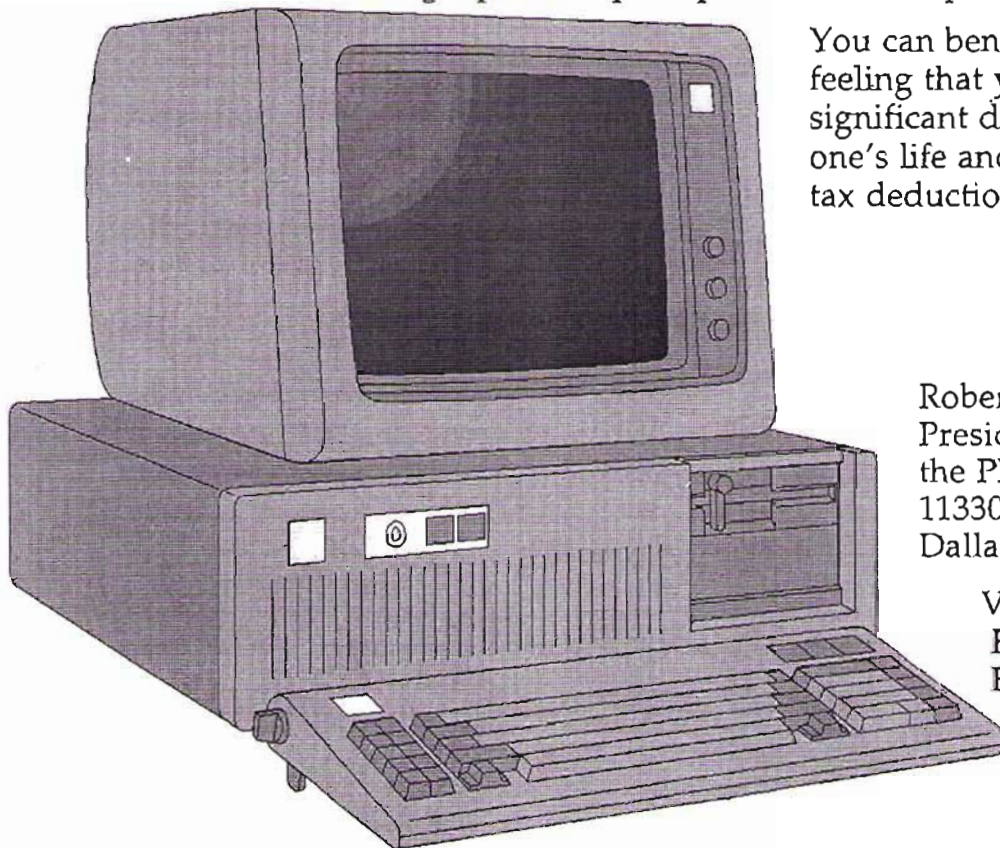
The Texas Center for the Physically Impaired is taking your no longer-needed computers and making sure that they are ready for the new owner, plus providing recorded tutorials, counseling, information and encouragement that will bring a person up to speed in the computer world.

You can benefit from the warm feeling that you have made a significant difference in someone's life and gain an income tax deduction as well.

Contact:

Robert Langford, Ph.D.
President, Texas Center for
the Physically Impaired
11330 Quail Run
Dallas, Texas, 75238

Voice: (214) 340-6328
FAX: (214) 340-0870
E-mail: robert.langford
@ntpcug.org



Backup Exec for Windows 95 v2.0 SEAGATE/ARCADA Did it Right

by Reagan Andrews

I've been playing with Seagate's *Backup Exec for Windows 95 v2.0* for the last couple of months and can't find enough superlatives to describe it. The new version is everything the "old" software wasn't and then some. It's a full 32-bit version that features One-Button backup and restore functions, and will work with NetWare 3.x data, including Bindery and Trustee information.

For starters, backup media is anything the PC can write to, including ZIP drives, JAZ drives, QIC-80 tape drives, just about every vendors' DC6000, 4mm, 8mm, IDE/ATAPI and SCSI tape drives, optical disk drives and floppy disk drives including the Compaq 120MB 3.5" drives — if your computer can write to the device, Backup Exec likely can backup to it.

Most important, Backup Exec can create an Emergency Recovery disk that will allow restoration of the operating system and backup software without having to re-install Windows 95. It works.

I've been using Backup Exec primarily with the Seagate 8G SCSI tape drive and it retains the drive's blistering speed while making backups across the home network an intuitive task. Somebody spent a lot of time on user friendliness and making the Windows interface pleasurable.

It also allows reading from my older, QIC 80 tapes (made with Colorado drives and software) on the Seagate SCSI tape drive and restoring selected files to disk. It solved a substantial problem for me and



prompted resurrection of a 250MB Colorado drive that had been gathering dust in a cupboard.

Reason, I frequently update my office PC at the VAMC Medical Center with files/programs downloaded from the Internet at my home PC. Some of these files are 15MB in size and I get tired swapping floppy disks. Using Backup Exec and the resurrected 250MB drive to write the files to a QIC-80 tape at home, I can carry the tape to my office at the hospital and Restore the file to any directory. Easy, fast and uncomplicated.



Seagate's Backup Exec for Windows 95 actually handles the home network Connie and I use for production of the *PC News* much more efficiently than the *Windows NT* version I reviewed last year. I didn't test it with a NetWare system, but Backup Exec handles the Novell NOS from Windows 95 quite well according to the documentation. Since everything else they claimed worked smoothly and intuitively, I would imagine that the NetWare functioning is equally impressive.

Installation is Painless...

Installation is quick and painless from the Seagate Backup Exec for Windows 95 CD-ROM. If you have a sound card installed in your system, don't pass up the marketing demo included. It's priceless and very entertaining. It's also the source of the "Aliens" on the front cover of this issue of the *PC News*.

After installation, users are given the opportunity to register Backup Exec online. I'd suggest doing so — or disabling the offer to remind you again in two weeks. It can be a trifle irritating.

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I did like the default backup parameters suggested in the Backup Wizard. It suggests, and I agree, that users turn Verification "On" when doing a complete backup. Only price user pays is time, since it will take roughly twice or three times as long to complete.

Example: I backed-up several volumes across a Windows 95/ WFWG 3.11 network on three machines totaling 1.06G. Backup Exec took 58 minutes at 18MB/minute to accomplish the backup portion and an additional hour to complete the verification phase. Resulted in average of 9MB/minute. If you read my last review on this tape drive, you're probably shaking your head at this number.

Easy to understand. The 60MB/minute rate was doing backup alone – no verification – on my primary production PC which is a 6x86/166+ with 64MB DRAM, Adaptec 2940 SCSI controller and Quantum Atlas SCSI UW disk. ISA-bus I/O wasn't involved.

For the current test, it was networked with my backup machine, a 5x86/100 with 32MB DRAM and IDE drives, and with Connie's PC which is an antique, 386/33 with Cyrix 386Dru2 CPU (emulating a 486DX2), 8MB DRAM and old IDE disk. All machines had ISA-bus network interface cards (NICs) joined with BNC "thinner" cables.

I think the 18MB/minute backup rate is pretty impressive considering the hardware involved. 9MB/minute with verification is equally impressive.

Backup Exec for Windows 95 v2.0 comes with an impressive array of Wizards to assist the beginner or novice user in working with backups. I was impressed with the ease of use, clarity and appropriateness of the "suggested" settings, and with a Help function that was actually helpful and a pleasure to use as reference.

Backup Exec is fully integrated with the Windows 95 System Agent. This allows comprehensive scheduling and backup management. I didn't test this feature this time around, but similar scheduling in the earlier Windows NT package worked well. Seagate does report significant enhancement in ease of scheduling via improved Wizard technology in this version, however.

Recommendations

Of the Win 95 backup packages I've tried/tested, the new Seagate v2.0 software is a clear winner. The Emergency Restoration disk really does work and the Backup Exec's Help facility makes creation and testing

relatively easy to accomplish. This feature alone is worth the cost of the package. The rest is icing on a very well-baked cake.

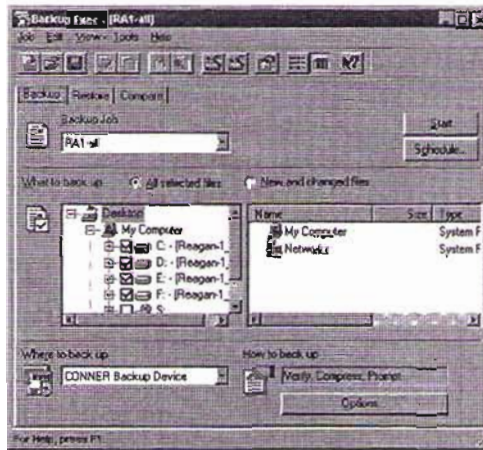
System Requirements

Any 386 or better PC running Windows 95 with at least 8MB DRAM, 10MB free disk space and equipped with a CD-ROM drive can run Backup Exec for Windows 95 v2.0.

Price for Backup Exec v2.0

How much will all this power cost? PC Connection is selling it for \$64.95. If you have a copy of Arcada Backup Exec for Windows 95, or Seagate Backup Exec for Windows 95, and registered your copy, Seagate will upgrade to version 2.0 on CD-ROM for \$29. Owners of Arcada or Conner Backup for Windows can upgrade for \$59. You can order the upgrade from Seagate's Web site, www.seagate.com.

Reagan Andrews



To All MEMBERS:

If you have any preferences for a specific vendor presentation, please let me know. I try to bring you the most current and highest-interest topics, but cannot always get who you may want to see. You can help by encouraging any product representatives to contact me to get in the queue of possible speakers.

Timothy Carmichael, Program Chairman

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MICROSOFT Office 97 FOR Windows 95 ACCESS 8.0 DATABASE

Part Two of a Multi-part Software Review

by Larry Linson

Access 1.0, released in December 1992, was the first of the popular Windows databases to market. The fact that it was first was a major factor in its becoming the most widely-used Windows database; the fact that it was, and has continued to be, a very good and very easy-to-use database has been a major factor in its retaining that position through several minor and major updates. It didn't hurt, either, that Access is the database component of Microsoft Office, which in just a few years took a commanding lead as the most popular Windows Office suite.

Access 8.0, more commonly known as *Access 97*, builds on this base. Its immediate predecessor, *Access 7.0/95*, never made the "splash" it might have, because a great portion of the marketplace was still running 16-bit Windows 3.1 and because *Access 7.0* was a major rewrite, it suffered from some "apparent anomalies". More and more users have now moved to Windows 95 or to Win-

dows NT Workstation (those being what comes pre-installed on virtually every new PC-compatible nowadays), and most of the "apparent anomalies" have been solved in *Access 97*.

But don't be misled — *Access 97* is far from a "maintenance release in disguise".

There are enhancements of varying degree to all the features and functions that have made previous versions of *Access* so popular:

- ❖ There are Wizards for almost any function you can imagine, from generating one of many kinds of complete database applications to generating controls on a form, or "morphing" one type of control into another, generating different kinds of queries, automatically generating several kinds of forms or reports based on either a table or a query, and also for some new features we'll be discussing;



- ❖ Database replication (often used to coordinate notebook copies of a master database), introduced with *Access 95*, to allow partial replication;

- ❖ The Query Builder itself has an easy-to-understand "Query-By-Example" form, but also allows you to view, and modify, the text-based Sequential Query Language (SQL) that it generates, and it has been extended with Filter by Form capability which makes a template from your form or datasheet for defining selection criteria on the fly, either for queries or tables, and by Filter by Selection, which applies the contents of any highlighted field as the selection criteria;

- ❖ Access to, and modification of, the "properties" of each kind of database object has never been so easy, nor so extensive, including the Jet database engine's Data Access Objects (DAO) by which the database can be accessed programmatically; and

- ❖ When you really need to get down to "brass tacks", the Basic Language you use is now consistent across all the Office applications: the Visual Basic for Applications language is shared by each of the Office applications — learn to program one and all you need to program another is to understand its object model.

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But there's one phrase that characterizes the changes in Office 97, and it's truly applicable to Access: "Internet-enabled". Most everyone's current application releases can publish any "document" in static HTML format and, of course, Access can, too, but that's just the beginning of Access capabilities in this regard. There's a "Publish to the Web" Wizard to make it even easier. Not everyone allows you to generate dynamically updated live views of your data — Access does, for Web sites hosted either by Microsoft's Internet Information Server, or the Personal Web Server that's included with Office 97. Not everyone allows you to import data from or attach/link to an HTML table — Access does. As far as I can determine, no one else includes a native hyperlink that you can use to link either to HTML files locally or on the Internet — Access and Office 97 do, and, just to make it better, allow the same link to work for Office documents, too. Replication has also been extended to the Internet; you can coordinate copies of a master database either on-line or by Internet File Transfer Protocol (FTP).

What remains the same is Access' range: it's an easy-to-learn and easy-to-use database for the casual user, but a powerful database for the professional developer, as well. Some comparative reviews may rate one or another of its competitors as better for one or the other end of the spectrum; none I've seen have rated any other database as better across the entire range of tasks; most give Access the top rating of all the Windows desktop databases. It provides connectivity to just about all popular database formats, with the ability for most to "link" to those databases and update their tables without even having to convert them. It provides connectivity, through its support of the ODBC standard, to all databases, including those on server systems, which support ODBC.

In fact, many have used Access as the client in robust client-server applications. I've used it with several server DBMS products: Microsoft and Sybase SQL Server, Informix, and Sybase SQL Anywhere. That capability is now enhanced with the improved Jet database engine

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3.5 and a new ODBC-Direct feature, which can, if you wish, bypass the Jet engine, completely.

I'm not going to try to list each, or even most, of the new and/or enhanced features of Access individually; there is, after all, limited space in each issue of *The News*. Check out some good Access books at your local computer or bookstore, or better yet, join us at the NTPCUG Access SIG, meeting at 12:00 noon on each Computer User Saturday.

End of Part Two

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TOP TEN CHANGES MADE TO THE NEW RELEASE OF "STAR WARS"

This humorous take-off of a popular talk-show host is one of a series of such articles taken from usenet and submitted for readers' amusement by Patrick Dryden.

- # 10. Intel logo present on all Death Star monitors.
- # 9. Princess Leia now sporting the "Rachel" haircut.
- # 8. C3PO speaks Ebonics.
- # 7. Lightsabers replaced with zip guns.
- # 6. Liberal footage of sand creature nudity.
- # 5. In violent scenes, careful screening reveals Chewbacca's stunt double to be Alf.
- # 4. Space-age technology creates eery illusion that Mark Hamill can act.
- # 3. Yoda replaced by Ernest Borgnine.
- # 2. Special flashing arrows point out bit players who are dead by now.
- # 1. R2D2's baud rate updated to 28.8



Dallas Corel

In a recent Dallas Corel SIG program, Marsha Drebelbis demonstrated construction and design of a Web site using Corel's *Web.Graphics Suite*. Those page files are complete and the two Web sites are now online. You may view them at www.litigraph.com and at www.drebelbisengineering.com to see how they turned out.

One problem was encountered with links in the pages, which was discovered when uploading to the Web Server. The error was caused by a problem with case sensitivity. *Web.Designer* caused a mismatch with the Web server so the Web page could not find the files. We were using the original *Web.Designer* Version 1.1 Build 78. Now an update, Version 1.2 Build 18, has been issued to correct this and other problems. Download it free at www.corel.com/support/docs/gandp/designer/1216.htm and save yourself some headaches.

Corel WebMaster Suite

Corel WebMaster Suite now promises to offer a new level of power to the world of Web site creation and management. How is it different from *Corel Web.Graphics Suite* which was released last fall? A phone call to Corel Customer Support provided the answer. The new *WebMaster Suite* can be considered an upgrade.

In addition to the contents of *Web.Graphics Suite* (*Designer*, *Transit*, *Move*, *Draw*, *World* and *Gallery*), *WebMaster* includes *Web.Data* and *Web.SiteManager*. It also allows you to design frames and provides for bitmap editing.

Owners of *Web.Graphics Suite* can upgrade for \$59.99 + \$5 shipping. Call Corel Customer Service (800-772-6735). Have your *Web.Graphics* serial number nearby.

30-day trial versions of the *Web* products are available for download from Corel's Web site starting in March, 1997.

Corel News Groups

Corel has made available, free of charge, an extensive series of *Corel Graphics and Publishing News Groups* via the Internet (accessible from www.corel.com/support/newsgroup.htm). These areas are intended to provide users the opportunity to exchange information, tips, and techniques regarding *Corel* applications with other users. In addition to the specific product discussion areas listed below, links are provided to various web-based support resources including *Corel's Service and Support* section (comprising *Technical Support* and *Customer Service*), *FTP Site*, *Knowledge Base*, *Frequently Asked Questions*, *Support Documents*, *Tips and Tricks*, *Printer Drivers*, *Network Administration*, and *Training and Certification*.

In addition to the resources offered on *Corel's Web site*, *CorelNET* (www.corel-net.com), the independent, third-party Web site dedicated to *Corel* topics has a host of discussion areas and mailing lists related to



Corel products and related technologies. *CorelNET* has recently added a "Corel Office for Java Discussion Area" at: www.corelnet.com/hyper/wpjava/index.html.

1997 International Corel-WORLD User Conferences

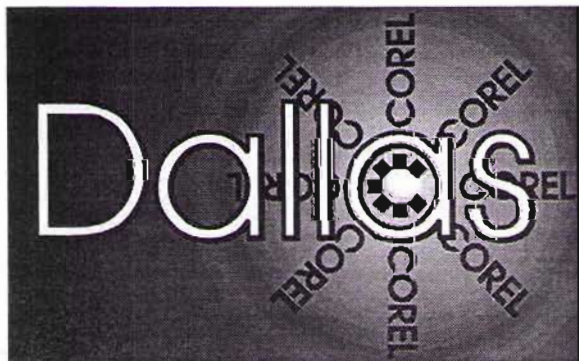
Make your plans now for 1997. Conferences are located and scheduled as follows: August 17-20: Toronto, ON and September 21-24: San Diego, CA. For more details, watch the following URL address in the coming weeks and months. www.altman.com/world.htm. Please send e-mail to: corelworld@altman.com or call toll-free 1-888-DRAW-NOW.

Corel Magazine

For a limited time, *CorelDRAW* users can enjoy an online version of the previous month's issue of *Corel Magazine USA* on the *Corel Magazine Website* FREE OF CHARGE. Beginning in March, any visitor to www.corelmag.com can have unrestricted access to the February issue. Visitors can also download *Corel Magazine's* screensaver just for signing in the guestbook.

For those Internet design wizards using *Corel* products to produce websites, *Corel Magazine* is also conducting "Spring Break Challenge" Web design contest. Entrants can compete to win valuable tools including an Alps MD 4000 color printer/scanner, a HP Scanjet 4c Color Scanner and a Hitachi Digital Graphics Multipad graphics tablet. Take the challenge!

Marsha Drebelbis



Dallas Corel is A SIG Of North Texas PC Users Group

INTEL DROPS 'OTHER SHOE' IN PRICE SLASHING, AMD GETS CPU DEALS FOR DEC AND H-P, Apple's Blood Loss Looks ARTERIAL NOW

AMD & Cyrix Settle Intel Suit, Cyrix Sued by Creative Labs

Wow! And I thought this was going to be a slow news month. Unfortunately, everything broke loose just at PC News press time and it was a scramble just to get the highlights. There are also the usual mergers/sales/spin-offs, rumors of same and continued posturing and realignment of Web-oriented businesses — so many that I've decided to quit covering them unless there's something absolutely earth-shattering about the deals.

May may also mark the end of my ongoing (forever) series of tape-backup hardware and software reviews. Been there, done that and I'm tired of writing about it. Last piece on page 4 of this issue did result in some fun, though. Space aliens as a marketing tool isn't something I would have thought of, but Seagate's multimedia clip on the installation CD-ROM was so well done it all made sense. That's where this month's cover art came from. Well, maybe not. Exabyte has been very, very active in the tape-drive market (as has just about every one else who can produce a tape drive) and their new Eagle's Nest and Eagle line of TR-3 and TR-4 tape drives are very, very competitive in terms of features and pricing.

But first, on to Intel, Cyrix and AMD...

INTEL ANNOUNCES MASSIVE CPU PRICE SLASHING IN APRIL MOVE TO WARD OFF AMD & CYRIX

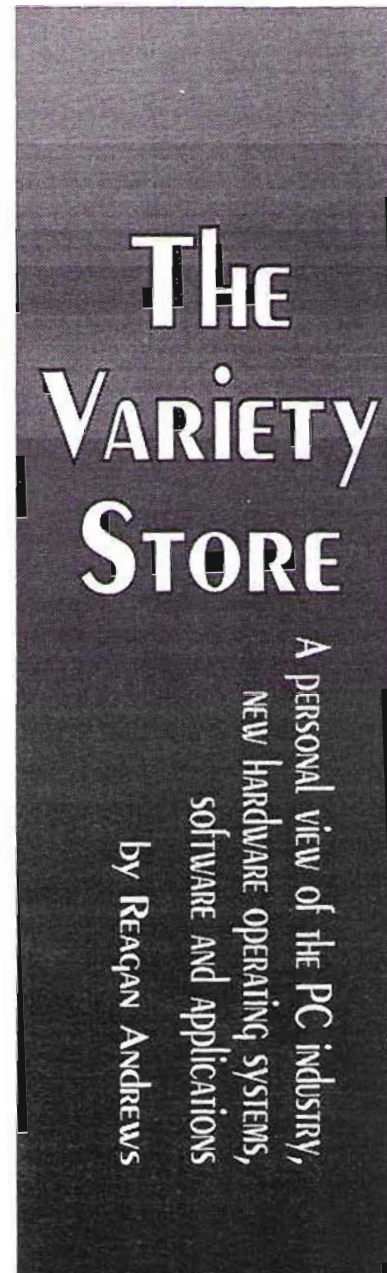
Wholesale prices on 'older' Pentium CPU chips will be slashed by as much as 48% according to articles in *The Wall Street Journal* and *PC Week* published April 25 and April 21. The latest round of Intel price cuts was seen by media as a move to push the market to upgrade to their next-generation (and much more expensive) CPU's reported Dean Takahashi in *WSJ*.

Other media sources see the move as a response to the earlier-than-expected release of the Cyrix *MediaGX* chip and the AMD K6 following the delayed introduction of their K5 Pentium clone CPU. NTPCUG members were treated to a view of the K5 and K6 at the April meeting AMD presentation. Both chips are very competitively priced by AMD and may pose a threat to Intel at both ends of the CPU spectrum.

Intel will drop the price of the 'standard' 200MHz Pentium chip at \$240, down from its current \$500 tag. MMX enabled Pentiums will not see such impressive drops, according to *WSJ*, with the 200MHz MMX Pentium scheduled to drop a mere 8% to \$485. Before the AMD and Cyrix CPU's were in production, Intel dropped its former practice of 10% to 20% quarterly price cuts across the board.

CYRIX & AMD SETTLE INTEL TRADEMARK SUIT IN MARCH & APRIL

Both Cyrix (first) and AMD (next) decided not to tilt at the Intel legal windmill over the MMX lable on their CPU's shortly after my column for the April *PC News* went to bed for the month. Both chip vendors have significant experience in legal frays with Intel, including the years-long struggle by AMD with Intel over the 80386 microcode and rights



to produce the 486 CPU as a result of early contracts between the two.

AMD eventually prevailed in court, but lost valuable time and momentum in the CPU Wars as a result. At least, that's what a lot of media pundits reported.

AMD obviously didn't intend for that to happen again in light of their early success with the K6 CPU chip. Cyrix had similar experiences with both Intel and TI and may have been convinced along the same lines after

THE VARIETY STORE

obtaining an initial agreement with Compaq.

AMD is Rolling On With CPU Contracts Inked with DEC & H-P

AMD is on a roll this month, with Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC) and Hewlett-Packard (HP) agreeing to use AMD CPU's in their respective PC lines. DEC will use the K6 in a future PC line to be announced later this year. H-P will use the K5 in the lower-priced Vectra line of PC's.

These are very important contracts, along with the Cyrix/Compaq deal and assure that AMD will gain the kinds of production numbers of the K5 and K6 CPU chips that will allow continued competition with Intel. Numbers were DEC's biggest problem with their magnificent Alpha RISC CPU line of extremely fast, agile chips. MIPS/SG had a similar problem with the R10000 RISC CPU and never did achieve the production numbers necessary to drop the CPU price into the power-user/business PC market range.

AMD has a long history of survival against substantial odds and the K6 may prove to be the CPU that will prevail against Intel. I hope so since Intel has shown what it will do to/for users in the absence of real competition.

Why is all this IMPORTANT? Why does REAGAN CARE So Much About CPU's?

Easy. Highest cost component in any PC is the CPU chip. More

CPU's a vendor can sell and these prices fall, the less expensive PC's will become. It's a matter of simple supply and demand v. production costs and the 'learning curve.'

CPU vendors start out against a very steep learning curve and initial production costs of any CPU. Profits and decreased CPU unit costs are a result of how well the vendor is able to increase number of 'good' chips per silicon wafer (yield) v. the number of 'reject' CPU chips per wafer. Intel is very, very good at this game.

Typically, Intel has a substantial lead over the competition (Cyrix and AMD) because they are further into the 'learning curve' and have high yields per wafer compared to newcomers who are facing the early stages of production. This is why Intel can drop costs on their CPU's so rapidly in the face of competition.

AMD has a long history of expertise in production of high-speed, RISC CPU's at their service. Cyrix isn't a 'foundry', but does have IBM and CSF Thompson, who are experienced, producing their CPU chips. All are racing Intel toward the 0.18 micrometer (micron) trace-width 'wall' for CPU design and production. This is extremely important to all CPU houses.

CMOS Holds THE CARDS — And, SETS THE HEAT v. Speed RULES IN THE CPU GAME

I'm going to tell you more than you ever wanted to know about semiconductors and integrated circuits. CMOS sets the rules. That's all. There is an inexorable relationship

between CPU clock rates, waste energy and IC trace widths.

Rule is simple. More you increase the clock rate on a CMOS-based CPU, the more waste heat is generated in the chip. That's all. But, that assumes a given voltage that the CPU operates at. If the IC trace widths are made narrower, the voltage levels can drop and the 'waste-heat' power loss can also drop. That's why CPU's that used to run at 5.0 Volts and are now running at 2.9 Volts, and lower. Because of the reduced trace widths.

If the vendor can reduce trace widths and increase thermal conduction from the substrate to the package surface — and heatsink/fan, then the clock rate on the CPU can be increased. That's what AMD has done with the K6. That's also what Intel has done over the years — go from a 0.55 micron trace width to a 0.35 micron trace width, and smaller with the next-generation CPU's.

That's why I saw 'huge' heatsinks (those aluminum-finned thingies sitting on top of the CPU chips) on the original DEC 500MHz Alpha CPU's at Comdex in 1985. They were there simply to get rid of the 'waste heat' generated by the CPU's at such high clock rates. Heatsinks I saw then would have been adequate to cool the power transistors on a 35-watt stereo amplifier.

Cyrix RUNS Afoul of SOUNDBLASTER — I.E. OF CREATIVE LABS ON MediaGX

This hasn't been confirmed in any other media source. I ran across it in the March 24 and April 7, 1997, issues of *Electronic News*. Cyrix' MediaGX CPU advertising brings down the wrath of Creative Labs in the form of a lawsuit against the Richardson, TX, CPU design house. Singapore-based Creative Labs, producers of the *SoundBlaster* PC audio cards, charged Cyrix with 'false advertis-

ing, trademark infringement and unfair competition' according to *Electronic News*.

Creative Labs filed suit in federal court in San Frisco against Cyrix and also named tow OEM's, Compaq Computer and Tiger Direct, the *Electronic News* articles stated, for distribution of computer suystems using Cyrix' *MediaGX* CPU set. According to the articles, Cyrix advertises (as do many other sound-card vendors) the *MediaGX* chip set as 'fully SoundBlaster compatible.'

Creative Labs disputes this claim and said that the Cyrix CPU set 'falls far short of compatibility with a genuine SoundBlaster audio product' in the words of John Danforth, General Counsel of Creative Labs. In spite of the strong words against Cyrix, Creative Labs was careful to avoid similar pejoratives against Compaq Computers and a Creative Labs spokesperson was quick to add that Creative Labs is seeking 'an amicable solution' with both Compaq and Tiger Direct.

According to Creative Labs, Cyrix not only claimed/mislead consumers that the audio systems are compatible, but also posted the SoundBlaster driver(s) and applets on its Web



site in violation of Creative Labs' copyrights.

Cyrix reported they had removed all of the 'offending material' from their Web site, according to the *Electronic News* April 7 article.

POOR Ole' Apple – Stuck AT THE END of THE STORY While ARTERIAL Blood Spills

Gosh, I hate writing this one about further declines at Apple Computer Company. Results are in for the quarter and Apple suffered massive \$losses over the period. Apple reported a \$708 million loss for the quarter which was absolutely not expected by media experts and surprised almost everybody.

According to *PC Week*, this would apparently open the door to a hostile takeover of the Cupertino, CA, 'alternative computer' concern by Oracle's Larry Ellison. Ellison has made several announcements that he is interested in a takeover of Apple, most of which have been met by the media

with giggles. Implication has been that Ellison is a 'touch grandiose' and smarting from failure of the 'NC' to destroy Microsoft.

He's beginning to sound a lot like Ray Noorda, former CEO of Novell and current major shareholder of Caldera in his antipathy toward Microsoft. Maybe he forgets/forgot that much of the sucess of the Macintosh in business arenas was due to Microsoft producing Macintosh business-oriented software packages when no other major publisher would.

At any rate, Apple will introduce several new Mac OS server lines across a broad spectrum of potential applications and consequent media blitz in business-oriented publications such as *The Wall Street Journal*. These will be matched only by the multi-page spreads sponsored by SUN pushing JAVA.

CHAOS? YOU Ain'T SEEN NOTHING YET – NSF Will LEAVE DOMAIN NAMES ROLE

NSF — The National Science Foundation — has announced it will desert onerous task of overseeing domain name registrations for the Internet. NSF will leave regulation/registration of domain names up to 'market forces' as it abandons its contract with Network Solutions, Inc., a private group that has had authority for assigning domain names for four years.

The contract between NSF and Network solutions expired in March and won't be renewed according to a *Wall Street Journal* article that appeared on the April 25, 1997.

Reagan Andrews

The Systems Group, Inc. has achieved record growth and has been recognized as one of Dallas' Top 100 fastest growing companies for the third year. More importantly, we have demonstrated our ability to retain the quality employees that have joined TSG during this period. We have an impressive client base that is continually expanding and providing exciting career opportunities.

With three dynamic pay plans and a comprehensive benefits package to choose from, all of our consultants come out on top. If you are an IS professional with experience in any of the following areas, contact us today to be a part of our continued growth. We have development and support opportunities available in the following:

- Windows 3.1
- Windows 95
- Windows NT Workstation
- MS Office
- UNIX Administration
- OS/2
- Microsoft Networking
- Novell 3.x, 4.x
- Microsoft C
- Microsoft C++
- OLE/ODBC
- MS Visual C++/MFC
- MS Visual Basic 4.0
- MS Access
- MS SQL Server
- Internet - WEB
- Fox Pro

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INSIDE THE NORTH TEXAS PC USERS GROUP COMMUNITY

VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION



by Claude McClure

Not the Same Computer You Came in With

Most user group members don't have the same computer they came in with. Modems, video cards, processors all have much improved in the last two years.

Fortunately, members of the NTPCUG are able to upgrade their home boxes with new features. Members are able to bring their questions on modifications to a number of knowledgeable volunteer leaders. Sometimes their answers are made part of the one or two hour sessions that take place in the twenty or so assembly rooms at the Infomart monthly meeting. The terrific advantage to members is that many of their add on solutions may be found in the Vendor area. They can make their computer faster, smarter, or more colorful the same day they hear the advice.

I'll bet your old workhorse has a new larger hard drive, a faster modem, 3D video or PNP sound card that came from one of our special Saturday vendors. I'll bet a Club volunteer can tell you which memory chip or utility program will give you improved performance. I'll bet you saved a bundle on the combination of free information and discount merchandising at the NTPCUG in the last year.

Thanks to Club volunteers and officers who maintain the monthly forum for productive thinking and working with computers. Thanks to the professionals who must love their work enough to give the Group the benefit of their experience. A special **thank you** to other volunteers who served in the specific areas mentioned on this page.

Claude McClure

Infomart Liaison

Stuart Yarus
Robert Hilliard
Alex Lilley

Vendor Setup/Breakdown

Anchors:

David Slavik
Kenneth Berg
Neal Van Pelt

Crew:

Dick Abbott
Jim Berg
Lewis Berg
Mark Guyer
James Guyer
Aaron Burton
Tony Pham

Auditorium Presentations

Timothy Carmichael
Dawn Mjohus
Bill St. John
Josh St. John
Janette St. John

Newsletter Labels

Charlie Fernandez

Information/Registration

Booth

Statistician:

Connie Andrews
Ralph Beaver (Assistant)

Scheduler:

Bob Wuller

Anchors:

Ralph Beaver
Deborah Bean (Double)

Albert Champon

Eteta Eta
John Ivers
Cinda Lovil
David Martin
Bob McNeil (Double)
Foy J. Mills
Carl Oehmann
Raymond Reyes
Fred Toulmin
Paul Williams

Booth Crew:

Roger Bopp
Jim Boyce
Vernon Cates
Lorin Cranford
Randy Durham
Ned Keig
Ken Sauter

Disk of the Month (DOM)

DOM Shift Supervisors:

Joe Allen
Roy Bales
Don Chick
James Donlon
M. Pat Henley
Arnold Krusemark

DOM Desk Crew:

Richard Abreu
Michael Ashley
Douglas Athas
Bernie Baars
Richard Blair
Jim Boyce
Philip Bridge
Linda Campbell

Gene Carleton
Norm Dang
William Farris
Brad Ficke
Martin R. Gluck
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

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

With Special Thanks to:

Set Up Crew:

Mark Gruner
Kent Haven

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

1. Via BBS: (972)387-2754, (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) 661-4626 (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)

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

Fred Williams, one of our most popular guest speakers, is returning with the latest, greatest, and most updated version of his tutorial, *Introduction to Relational Database Design*. Fred takes you from the typical flat-file database design of the past and shows you how to implement a real-life sample in relational form. He explains "normalizing" your database design, the advantages of

normalization, and when it's more practical to judiciously "un-normalize" for performance. Actually, we are hosting the second hour of Fred's presentation, so to get full value, you need to attend the Delphi SIG at 10:00 AM for the first part. It's not "product specific" so it's applicable to all users of any relational database and all are welcome – of course, all are welcome to the Access SIG anytime, but especially so for this tutorial.

SPECIAL DATABASE ANNOUNCEMENT

There will be a special introductory presentation of general interest for those interested in database design. This is a two hour session, which will begin in the Delphi SIG and end in the Access SIG meeting rooms at this month's meeting. If you are interested in designing databases, simple or complex, this will be a valuable opportunity to learn about this area.

Many thanks to Jack Atkinson, long-time Assistant Access SIG Leader and perennial favorite presenter, for his presentation on getting the description of errors from the error number and a simple approach to complex graphing at the April meeting. Thanks, too, Jack, for your patience while we reloaded our software into the newly-upgraded demo machine before you could demonstrate your techniques.

FROM THE SIG COORDINATOR

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

New SIGs:

- Microsoft *FrontPage* [Contact Robert Masters @ (972) 462-7490 hw]
- *StreetSmart/e.Schwab* [Contact Jon Uysterlinde @ (972) 250-5274 w]

SIG Name Changes:

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.

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 Lukers..... (972) 423-4308 h

Alpha 4 / 5

- Ron Jackson (972) 276-3661 h
- Eiji Parker..... (214) 369-5889 h

ActiveX Developers

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

SIG



Thanks to the North Texas PC User Group Board of Directors for authorizing the expenditure for the upgrades to our demo machine. Very special thanks to Fred Williams and Doug Gorrie for giving up at least one Saturday of spare time to install the new components. Now no longer limited by the demo system's performance, you can soon see demonstrations of Access 97, as well as Access 2.0.

In coming months, we plan to demonstrate features and functions of Access itself, and also to have reviews of third-party software with Access for imaging and for maintaining Access databases. What can, or will, you show us? We are still (for which, read "always") on the lookout for guest speakers on any level of Access and Access-related topics.

Check out our local MS ACCESS message conference on the NTPCUG BBS (electronic bulletin board system) telephone numbers are inside the back cover of this issue. Our Internet newsgroup "comp.databases.ms-access" is not expected to be restored to service until the big change of the BBS to a Windows NT server system (coming soon, Fred says).

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

Larry Linson

Assembler SIG

Our April meeting featured a question and answer session by AMD representative Lee Little following his 10 AM presentation in the auditorium. This session was geared more to the interests of the Assembler programmers than the general presentation.

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

Frank Cavallito

COMMUNICATIONS SIG

We will discuss Online services in the May meeting. There has been so much change in online services because the major players are offering Internet connections and pricing packages. With the announcement that America Online wanted to purchase CompuServe, we want to discuss the impact of this merger. AOL and CompuServe were voted in the top three Internet Providers for the NTPCUG membership in the last survey.

Also, we would like to hear from the group the progress AOL has made in their delivery of service since the announcement of a flat fee for unlimited usage. Also, we will discuss the other online services, Genie, Dow Jones, etc. We will be watching the development of the 56K modems and should have a report for you each month.

Birl Smith & Alan Brosz

Dallas Corel SIG

Member Showcase in May

Bring your proudest results to share with the Dallas Corel SIG in May. Each spring we have fun seeing something humorous or serious, created for work or for play, just as long as you created it with a Corel product. Don't be shy! We enjoy learning from each other and often come away with ideas to implement on our own. This program is one of our most popular each year, and your participation will make this year's even better.

What to bring? Printed labels, brochures, posters, mugs, T-shirts, catalogs, illustrations, decals, fine art, logos, recipes, slide shows, animations, web pages, videos and more. Our VHS player-monitor and our overhead projector will be available if you want to use them. Bring files on zip disk, floppy disk or Colorado tape backup

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Genealogy - Brother's Keeper

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Genealogy - PAF

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

Genealogy - Roots III / IV

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

Genealogy - The Master Genealogist

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..... (972) 917-3917 w

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Gary Johnson..... (972) 938-0344 h

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Doug Gorrie (972) 618-8002 h
..... (214) 464-4568 w
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M = Metro #

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- 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) 268-2071 hM
- Jan Patton (903) 886-6249 h
- (903) 886-6466 w
- Bob Rice (214) 885-0202 w

Microsoft FrontPage

- Robert Masters ... (972) 462-7490 hw
- Jeff Cooper

Microsoft Networking

- Bruce Wynn (972) 335-2507 h
- (972) 756-7832 w
- Richard Miles (214) 767-7315 w
- (972) 296-5356 h
- Gil Brand (214) 508-8370 w
- (214) 341-7182 h

Microsoft Visual C++/MFC

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

MultiMedia

- Dennis Rice (972) 680-8299 h

Networking

- Mike Momen (972) 238-1244 h
- (972) 915-2158 w
- Leroy Tennison
- Francis Bright

OS/2 Developer

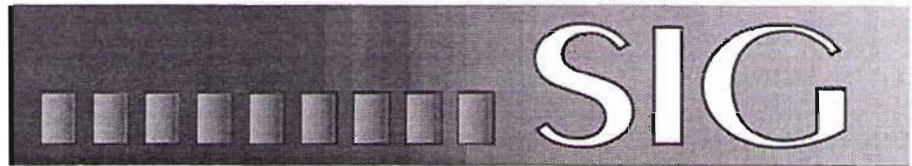
- James Dunn (972) 279-5712 h
- (972) 497-8978 w

OS/2 for End Users

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

OS/2 Q&A

- Larry Truesdale .. (972) 684-4790



for use on our P-166. We are ready for your 5 minutes of fame.

April In Review

Rick Altman was the surprise guest-speaker at our April 12 Dallas Corel SIG meeting. His acceptance of our invitation came after the *PC News* deadline, so all those in attendance relished the unexpected opportunity to hear Rick's latest take on Corel's graphics products. The author of popular CorelDRAW books gave an informal but valuable Q & A session on all things Corelian.

Following are a few of the topics Rick covered at the April meeting:

- DRAW 7 and VENTURA 7 are becoming a strong partnership that can do anything and much more than QuarkXpress. Corel must maintain updates and if they do, this partnership will be way in front of all the competition.

- There is a paradigm shift required of users from the old standby VenturaPublisher 4.2 to the new VENTURA 7. But in the end, it will be one big publisher, all accessible through this new navigation tool. It will give us the ability to take in a file from anywhere (various software), then work with it, and publish it anywhere (various media). Users must "climb the mountain" again to reach that point, however.

- Rick is a frequent user of Adobe Acrobat. The free Adobe Acrobat Reader allows you to view, navigate, and print PDF files across all major computing platforms. Acrobat Reader is the free viewing companion to Adobe Acrobat 3.0 and to Acrobat Capture software. Place a document in a PDF file on your Web site, for example. That would allow someone to download it and then view and print your document in its proper layout without need of the native software application in which it

was created. Acrobat has been available for some time and has become the standard that many people use.

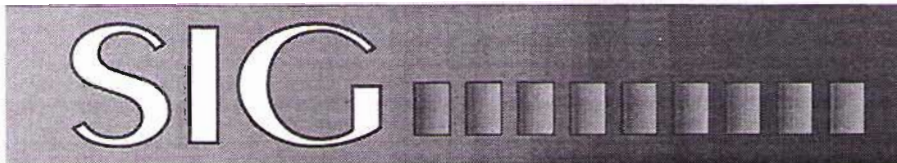
- Adobe has been such a leading contributor in early computer advances, it should rule the world now. However most Adobe applications for Windows suck. Only Illustrator 6.5, which it sluffed off to Macromedia, is not bad. Its applications for the Mac, on the other hand, are very rich. Quite perplexing.

- In response to questions about the usefulness of CorelTRACE, Rick described its operation as turning "stupid pixels into smart curves". In short, TRACE takes a bitmap image (perhaps one you scanned) to a vector image. Then instead of working on it in PHOTO-PAINT (bitmap image editor), you can do your cleanup in DRAW (vector image editor) and thereby achieve clean edges. Only some intricate designs benefit by use of TRACE because simple designs are more quickly and satisfactorily redrawn using DRAW.

Rick's business, R. Altman & Associates, is based in Cupertino, CA, but Rick was in Dallas to host the national *Ventura Summit 97*, April 13-16. The three-day Summit attracted 150 attendees and is in progress at this writing. We attended the Sunday "crash courses", which included Foster Coburn's CorelDRAW 7 and David Huss's Corel PHOTO-PAINT 7. Rick's Web Page Construction course occurred concurrently. A day with these entertaining guys can jump-start your



Dallas Corel is A SIG Of North Texas PC Users Group



learning and improve your productivity with these in-depth tools.

Several Dallas Corel SIG members served as volunteers for VENTURA SUMMIT 97: Dick Hoierman, Rob Alschbach, Susan Bradt, Caroline Brooks, Maren Riise, Michael West, and Marsha Drebelbis. Providing security services were Timothy Carmichael and Chris Carmichael. Thanks to all!

Now available is the book, *Mastering CorelDRAW 7 (3rd edition)*, ISBN: 0-7821-2058-X, Author Rick Altman, for \$42.95. The videotape, *CorelDRAW Cool Tricks (for versions 5, 6, 7)*, Author Rick Altman, for \$45.00. To order call (408)252-5448 or online at <http://www.altman.com>.

For the remainder of the April 12 meeting, we returned to our SIG member Tips & Tricks in PAINT and DRAW as planned. The recent Unleashed Seminar stimulated many of us to learn the new version features. Using the newly enhanced SIG computer, Maren Riise graciously agreed to an on-screen demonstration. She recreated Foster Coburn's ad of the Ferrari zooming down a country road, which gave us all the opportunity to see her use the various steps required in PAINT 7 and DRAW 7 to produce the dazzling results. Thanks, Maren. Now the rest of us are ready to dig in!

Recent Dallas Corel SIG Programs:

- ☆January - Web page design with Corel Web.Graphics Suite
- ☆February - Photo Retouching in CorelPHOTO-PAINT 7
- ☆March - VENTURA 7 Demonstration
- ☆April - Tips and Tricks in CorelDRAW & PHOTO-PAINT 7

New CorelPRESS Titles

- ☆Corel PHOTO-PAINT 7: *The Official Guide, Second Edition* ISBN: 0-07-882321-8, Author: David Huss.
- ☆CorelDRAW 7: *The Official Guide* ISBN: 0-07-882278-5, Authors: Foster Coburn and Peter McCormick. Available: Mid February
- ☆Corel VENTURA 7 for Windows: *The Official Guide* ISBN: 0-07-882169-X, Authors: Ed Brown, John Faunce, and Carol Lovelady. Available: Mid April
- ☆Corel WordPerfect 8 Suite for Windows 95: *The Official Guide* ISBN: 0-07-882327-7, Author: Alan Neibauer. Available: Mid May
- ☆Web Publishing with Corel WordPerfect Suite: *The Official Guide* ISBN: 0-07-882348-X, Author: Jeff Hadfield. Available: Mid May

To order call 1-800-565-5758 or on the Web, www.corel.com/bookstore.

Marsha Drebelbis

IMPORTANT COREL ADDRESSES & PHONE NUMBERS

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- ❖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 #

Paradox

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

Programmers

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

QuickBooks

- Dave Guier.....(817) 429-7417 h
-(817) 265-1618 w

Quicken

- W. L. Harris.....(972) 291-7616 h
-(972) 462-3676 w
- Phil Faulkner.....(972) 239-0561 h
-(214) 654-6610 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

StreetSmart/e.Schwab

- Jon Uyerlinda.....(972) 250-5274 w
- Keith Powell.....(713) 960-0394 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
- Jim Hart

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

Delphi SIG

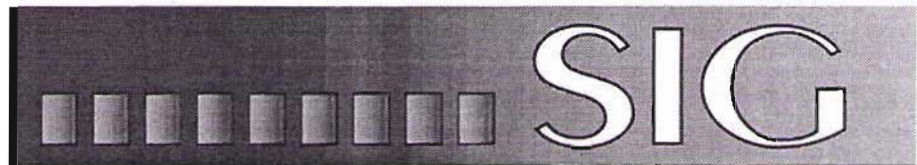
April's SIG meeting was a general question and answer, and future Delphi 3.0 content speculation session. I had planned on doing a formal presentation using some of the code I have developed for one of the "chicken scale" companies I have been working with. That failed to happen, because as life goes, the SIG computer upgrade I was ramrodding between meetings failed to go as planned. Now, who would have ever guessed. Thanks to **Reagan** and **Connie Andrew's** understanding, these SIG notes are being submitted "fashionable late" for the same reason.

Larry Linson (Access SIG Leader and all around good guy) and I had a powwow on the BBS recently. We decided it was about time to repeat the two-part "Introduction to Relational Database Design" presentation I do when my schedule permits and we think sufficient interest is there for an audience. The plan is to do the first part of the presentation in the Delphi SIG at (10:00 AM) and wrap up the last part in the Access SIG meeting at (12:00 noon).

This presentation is non-database product specific, therefore we do not feel that spanning database product type SIG's is an inappropriate method of doing this, longer than one hour presentation, all in one month. Plus, it allows us to meet with our fellow, less fortunate, developer peers in a friendly and sharing way.

So this month, the first half of the "Introduction to Relational Database Design" presentation will be done in the Delphi SIG with the last half to be held in the Access SIG. This is a formal presentation with, for the first time, computer-generated and displayed full color graphics. No more clumsy transparencies! There will be handouts (black and white) for the first 30 current NTPCUG member attendees. So come early to the Delphi SIG, and bring proof of membership to secure your copy.

The presentation covers data normalization in depth. We begin with a totally un-normalized data set and evolve it into a full relational database, progres-



sively using three of the five formal levels of normalization. Along the way, we will also learn one method of graphic presentation of database Entity Relationships, as well as what all the above technical jargon means in the real world.

So drop by the Delphi SIG, and learn what it takes to do a "good job" developing a robust database application long before the first line of code hits the debugger. We can break for lunch and wrap things up at the Access SIG.

Fred Williams

DOS SIG

I'll have to be careful what I say about plans for the May DOS SIG meeting this month. At the April meeting, we actually did what I wrote we would do in the April DOS SIG Note! Only because my feet were held to the fire by a determined member...

May would be a good time to continue looking at eliminating unnecessary "clutter" in Windows and how to control its proliferation. I've reached a point that I'm highly reluctant to load anything for a trial since I know it's going to leave behind a bunch of unwanted junk after I uninstall it.

One solution I use is to avoid installing anything new on my production PC.

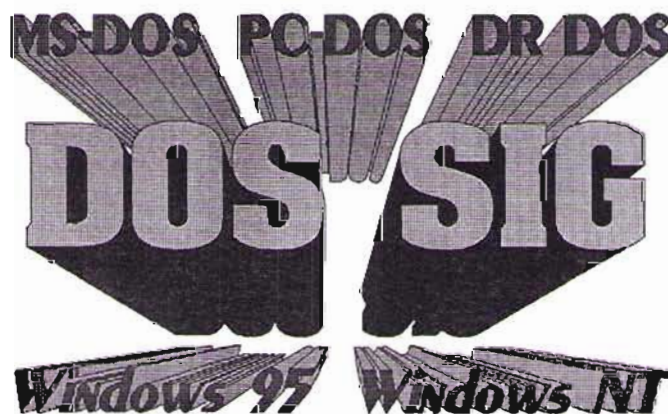
Instead, I have a second PC networked to the main PC where I tend to try new stuff out before loading it on the primary PC. When this machine becomes too cluttered with "leftovers" I do a rapid FDISK and reinstall DOS 6.22 and Windows. I've quit purchasing any software that comes on more than three floppies, so reinstalling programs I want to use on this machine is relatively easy from CD-ROMS.

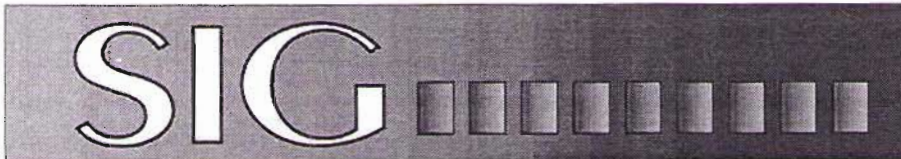
That's in the past. A new trick made possible by my favorite backup software is to make a tape backup of the original base configuration including those software packages I know I will want in any case. Zap the C:\ drive, then restore the system via the Emergency Restoration disk created by the backup software when it was installed. It's worked twice so far.

Be careful here, though. Several new *Windows 95* backup packages advertise this capability. Seagate's Backup Exec 2.0 for Windows 95 emergency restoration works for me — *Cheyenne's Backup v2.0* didn't on the same machine.

Plug 'N Pray will probably give us unlimited topics for future DOS SIG meetings. So many members are discovering that this just doesn't work as advertised that it will continue to attract attention when users want to add capabilities to their PC platforms. Coupled with *Windows 95's* tendency to "lose" resources and software vendors' habit of replacing DLL's with their own versions without checking to see if other programs need the original version, we'll have lots to look at over the months ahead.

*Reagan
Andrews*





INTERNET SIG - BEGINNING

At our April SIG meeting, **Mark Camp**, co-leader of the Web Developer's SIG, continued his demonstration of the most popular World Wide Web browser, *Netscape Navigator*. This discussion started in March, but with all its features, Netscape proved to be a two-meeting topic. We thank Mark for his continued interest in presenting "Internet basics" topics.

At our May 17th meeting, we plan to focus on how to read and write to Usenet "news groups", which are publicly accessible conference areas. Each conference area is geared to a specific subject, and there are literally thousands of them across the Internet. News readers are built in to Netscape and Internet Explorer, among several browsers, so you probably already have the necessary software. With a browser or other suitable shareware, and a connection to an Internet Service Provider, you are probably ready to experience the Usenet.

The primary purpose of the Beginning Internet SIG 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 Internet acronyms and buzzwords. Although we have several "prepared" sessions and speakers, look for general Q&A sessions (Question and Answer) periodically, too.

We hope to see you on May 17th.

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

INTERNET SIG - ADVANCED

At the April meeting we discussed urban legends on the Net as they applied

to electronic mail and such. We hope you were able to attend.

At the May meeting, co-leader **Pat Hykkonen** will make a presentation on Internet Firewalls and Network Security. This is a significant topic for both users and administrators; as corporate break-ins can result in major damage to data and reputations. If you have not given this topic the thought it deserves, you should plan to attend.

The Advanced Internet SIG is intended to address topics and issues that are of interest to experienced Internet users, who are looking for more in-depth content. Sessions address such topics as IP addressing, Domain Name Services, Internet phone and teleconferencing capabilities and tools, basic Web page development, Web server options and features, network and data security, search engines, and more.

Sessions include time to address member's questions. Answers may come from SIG leaders, session presenters, or from other attendees in the audience.

We encourage you to join us May 17th.

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

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.

May 17, 1997

- ❖ 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

June 14, 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)

July 12, 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

August 9, 1997* No Classes

September 20, 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.

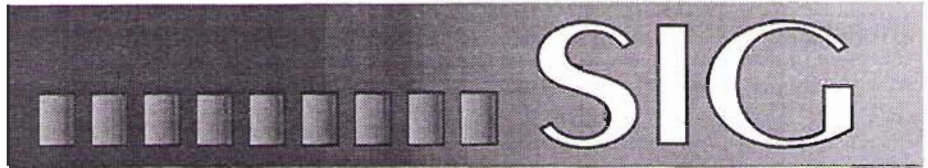
Alex Lilley

LOTUS DOMINO/Workflow

The train is leaving the station. You can get on board or wave goodbye from the depot. White hanky recommend.

Anyone who has worked with Domino/Notes already knows that it is the most powerful and exciting development tool available today. The Fortune 500 knows. Domino leads the industry in Internet/Intranet development, workflow development, e-commerce, and document management. If you're not already familiar with the power of Domino, you need to find out more. A Lotus Domino/Notes representative will overview the software and answer questions at the SIG's first regular meeting: May User Group Saturday at 1:00 pm. Room assignment will be posted.

What is Domino? Lotus Domino is the premier "groupware" product on the market today. While it is difficult to define Domino, it is a development environment for database and workflow applications. It allows data replication and communication throughout a distributed enterprise,



including mobile or remote users, over the Internet, standard and switched phone lines. Domino enables development of a Web-enabled, enterprise-wide workflow application in a matter of hours. It can generate a sophisticated business Web page in about 20 minutes. This is the real stuff and is at least a few years ahead of any other product line on the market. This is the leading tool for real Internet business applications (like e.Schwab: \$9 billion in assets managed over the Internet w/ Domino) and is the leading workflow tool for the Fortune 500. See www.lotus.com for more information.

Leadership/Focus/Communication: We have a group leader and a backup leader, both IS/IT professionals, both Domino/Notes developers & administrators w/ wide ranging experience with a variety of PC-based platforms. We will gauge participant needs at the first meeting and build accordingly. SIG direction will remain flexible to meet the needs of the participants. Because of the nature of the software, however, the SIG will be directed toward network administrators and

developers. Domino is fully scalable so it is well suited for small business as well as large organizations. Users are welcome and are certain to benefit. We intend to maintain a Domino server on the Web for development, testing, and SIG communications. We hope to take care of SIG business by E-mail to maximize effectiveness of the meetings.

Bottom Line: The Internet isn't just for surfing. Mobile/remote/distributed computing isn't just E-mail. FrontPage isn't the end of the rainbow for Web development. And workflow isn't just another empty buzzword. In 1997, Domino is the Iron Eagle Express. The Domino/Workflow SIG is your ticket. Get on the train or get out your hanky.

E-mail: bjshultz@juno.com for more information and to let me know you're interested or planning to attend

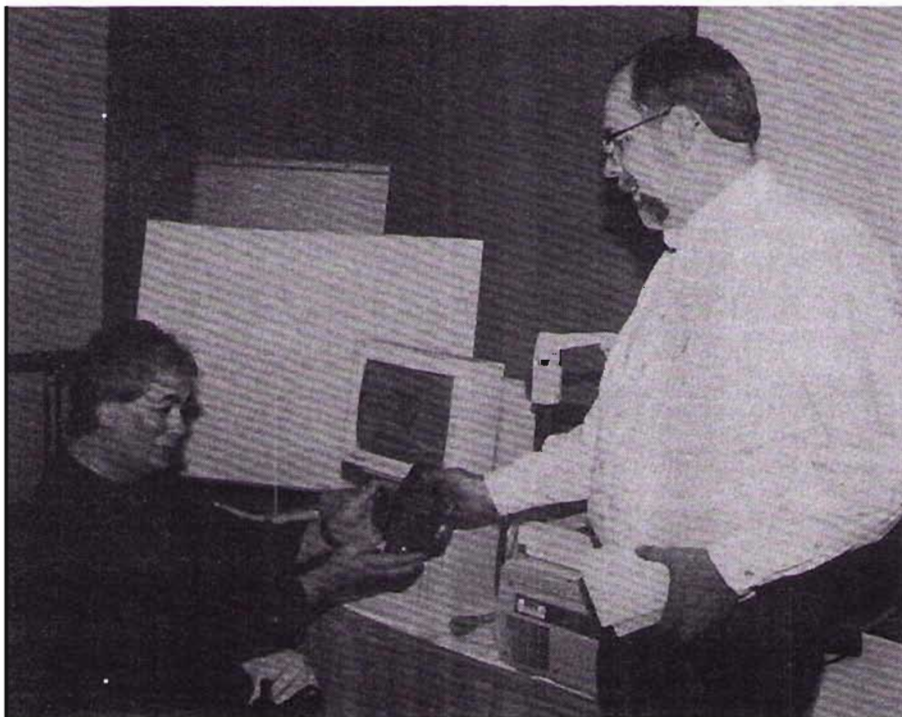
B. J. Shultz

PARADOX SIG


The new video plate worked fine for the first time at April's meeting. The only wrinkle is to figure out how to get the notebook to display on both the projector and the notebook screen simultaneously. So now we can once again be dazzled by Tom Browning's eclectic (uuuugly?) color choices for forms design. Thank goodness Tom is a much better Paradox guru than he is a graphic artist! At least one can say Tom's forms are "eye catching".

We are going to continue on with our new approach toward the "back to basics" presentations in future SIG meetings. We will be covering more things Paradox can do for the everyday user, than what can be done behind the screen

Beverly Kurtin, Left, Microsoft Word SIG Leader, receives a Texas-shaped plaque from Andy Oliver, Right, NTPCUG President-Elect, commemorating her for her outstanding service to the NTPCUG as Word SIG Leader



SIG



as a ObjectPAL developer. We will be covering things like interactive table, form, and report design.

There is just a whole lot of power build into Paradox without ever dropping in a line of ObjectPAL code. Tom and I will be exploring the use of both "coaches" and "experts", as well as

pure manual methods, to develop robust database applications.

We are all looking forward to the, soon to be released, "Corelized" version of Paradox as this will give us some feel for how Corel plans to execute future Paradox-related issues. Corel has breathed some new life back into the other pieces of the Corel "Perfect Of-

ATTENTION ALL SIG LEADERS!

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

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

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

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

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

Reagan Andrews

SPECIAL DATABASE ANNOUNCEMENT

There will be a special introductory presentation of general interest for those interested in database design. This is a two hour session, which will begin in the Delphi SIG and end in the Access SIG meeting rooms at this month's meeting. If you are interested in designing databases, simple or complex, this will be a valuable opportunity to learn about this area.

Since we are looking forward to much the same for Paradox.

Fred Williams

PRO SIG

May is the month for the annual tug of war down on the Trinity River bottoms between the structured programmers and the object-oriented programmers. The judges will be the RPG and APL programmers. Last year's match ended in a tie when someone tried to recursively derive an object which had structured, multiple inheritance. Join us next month when we will examine the relationship between stack underflow and the shortage of Shiner Bock in the cafeteria.

Jim Hoisington

QUICKEN SIG

For May, our Quicken SIG intends a "Back to the Beginning" session. Among the items to be covered will be establishing the original accounts, setting up categories, splitting transactions in the check register, the peculiarities of the investment account, and other tasks associated with getting started.

Quicken, made by Intuit, is now linked to the Internet. Its Web-based Quicken financial network has been "beefed up" with news, stock quotes, and other financial products like insurance on-line. It also offers the Morningside Mutual Fund Performance Summary—updated for a small fee—on a quarterly basis.

For those purchasing the latest Windows 6 Release, Quicken offers free

technological support for up to one year. Recent calls to their "help desk" reflect a much improved level of service (wait is much shorter than earlier years) and the quality of the assistance appears more knowledgeable. As in earlier Quicken products, a few "glitches" have developed and the Intuit help desk appears more than willing to replace, on a complimentary basis, the newer version (#4) to install over the original, sometimes problematic, version (#1). To determine which release of Windows 6 for Quicken you are using: from the opening menu bar's "Help" selection, click "About Quicken"—which presents the house and car logo; then, enter "V" from the keyboard. The number, 1-4, will appear with the higher figure representing the more current issue.

With routine attendance of 25-30, our SIG has plenty of opportunity for questions and answers. While most participants are on a Windows platform, we still have a number of participants who cherish their original DOS-driven programs for speed and simplicity.

A QUICK NOTE FROM THE PC NEWS PUBLISHER

The PC News is now accepting SIG Notes across the Internet! Address is:

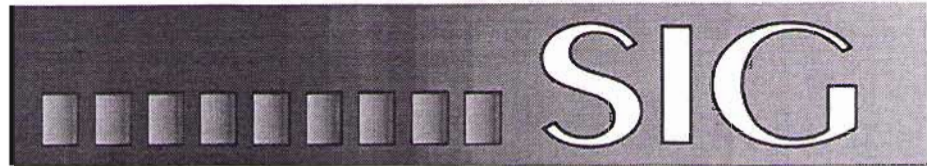
reagana@swbell.net

Send your SIG Notes as attachments to your E-mail message and please heed the following concerning word processing formats and Long File Names.

You've got a stable installation of *Windows 95* or *NT 4.0* and the absolute latest version of your favorite, super, 32-bit word processor? Everything works well together and you're basking in the warm glow?

That's great!

But... Please, please, please don't submit your SIG notes or articles with Long File Names (LFN's), or in the latest version of your word processor if the vendor changed file formats. The *PC News* layout and formatting is still being done via *Ventura Publisher 4.2*



Phillip Faulkner

Visual Basic - BEGINNING

The meeting scheduled for Saturday, May 17, 1997 will feature a presentation by our new Assistant SIG leader **Jim Hart** on the subject of developing Help files for our Visual Basic applications. Jim's presentation will introduce the techniques required to keep your application's users on track with the application with the aid of a Help file.

Another reminder to all attendees that membership in the North Texas PC Users Group is required for winning any of the door prizes during our meetings. Make sure your dues haven't expired! We don't have any in hand yet, but Microsoft has indicated that goodies are coming "real soon now!" We all know what that is supposed to mean.

which definitely won't deal with LFN's and most of the latest word processor versions. That's especially true for *Microsoft Office 97* which was Microsoft's latest file-format switch in the *Word* series.

Do we enjoy being archaic? No.

We haven't upgraded to *Ventura 7* — yet — and the 5.0 version was so unstable and buggy that I reinstalled 4.2 after a number of unpleasant surprises. I still rely on an "old" DOS-based file manager, *Norton Commander*, which also doesn't handle LFN's gracefully. When I convert fully to 32-bit applications and utility software, the story may be different, but for the present, stick to the "antique" DOS 8.3 file naming convention and word processor versions *Word 7* (*Office 95* version) can convert to *Word for Windows 2.0* format.

Of course, ASCII is always welcome.

Reagan Andrews

Do you want to make a presentation to our Beginning Visual Basic SIG? If you are interested, please see me at the meetings or give me a call in the evening at (972) 235-5968. Remember, your audience will be beginners in Visual Basic.

Bring your questions on Beginning Visual Basic to this month's meeting beginning at 8:00 AM on Saturday, May 17, 1997. Check the Infomart lobby screens for the correct room assignment.

Jim Carter

WORDPERFECT / WINDOWS SIG

If you ever had a question about the new Address Book in *WordPerfect 7*, bring them all! **Lori Quinn** is going to show us everything, and then some, about this powerfully improved feature in the latest version of *WordPerfect*. We will merge information from the Address Book, edit information, show you how you can have multiple "Personal Information" at your fingertips, see how you can change certain information in the integration of Templates and much, much more! One thing Lori doesn't do, is move slowly. I recommend you bring a tape recorder and enjoy!

Tip of the Month

Have you ever lost a document due to the error "WPWIN7 caused an Invalid Page Fault (IPF) in module WTSPE61.DLL?" I have and it is very frustrating! However, Corel is aware of this problem and has posted the following information on the Web at <http://www.corel.com/products/wordperfect/cwp7/support.htm>

Answer:

Delete the file *WTSP61MS.DLL* file found in the \COREL\OFFICE7\SHARED\PFIT7 directory.

FRED WRITES THIS MONTH OF MANY THINGS — COMPUTERS, CANNIBALS, NT AND EXCHANGE 5.0

Wow, yet another month has passed! Seems I just get the last column text finished and submitted in time to start on the next.

This month saw some changes in direction to better accommodate needs in other areas of the NTPCUG organization. Both SIG computers totally "ran out of gas" at the March meeting. Seems both hit the wall in the same month. During a "now what are we going to do" meeting of the leadership, like a dumb @##, instead of shutting up, I stood up. After some level of both expense and effort, (Thanks once again, **Doug Gorrie**) we now have two updated SIG computers for use at the monthly meetings.

I guess you are all wondering what that has to do with the BBS. To cut cash outlay, and to better utilize current resources, it was decided to "cannibalize"



Copy the file manually over from the Corel CD. You can also perform a reinstallation by performing the following steps: Click on Start | Run. On the run line type D:\SETUP.EXE /COPYVERIFY (where D: is the drive letter of the CD-ROM).

During the installation process, this particular file does not get installed properly. By using the *COPYVERIFY* command, a log is produced in your temporary file. If any errors occur during the installation, they are written to a log called COI7.LOG. This can be viewed in any text editor.

Cindy Adams



the NT Server machine for parts to use in upgrading the two SIG computers. It is really not as bad as it sounds.

When the dust settled, the NT Server had dropped from a Cyrix P166+ to an Intel P90-S, and was short a video board. All other things remained the same for the machine. By the time you read this, the server will have a new video board and will, with some luck, be being used to test the latest Microsoft Intranet software.

Further discussions with Microsoft have produced some further insight into possible future Intranet support configurations. The P90 processor should prove adequate for proof of concept testing. Should we take the most likely route of deploying multiple machines, I would think the P90 will do fine in some future role.

The current thinking is to deploy Exchange Server in the role of "site message manager" with NT Server han-

dling security and log on services, RAS Server will manage the dial up services, and Internet Information Server will handle all of the Web and Internet/Intranet issues.

Where each of these individual pieces of the puzzle will reside is to be determined. Current feeling is we will not be able to run everything on a single machine when actual implementation is completed. The two "old" BBS computers, and the remnants of one of the old SIG computers, look like likely candidates.

We are awaiting the arrangements for current versions of both Exchange Server, Release 5.0, and Internet Information Server(IIS), Version 3.0. IIS 3.0 has serious enhancements implemented. There is now native support for POP 3 e-mail as well as news group management, plus a multitude of additional enhancements.

On a closing note. Following the latest system "shuffle" conducted at the BBS office, the place is beginning to look very much like a white elephant burial ground. I figure there are at least four or five various sizes of formerly useful hard disk drives, A half dozen or so "old" modems, a couple of tape drives, and a true "boat anchor" TI 820 printer with matching AST 286 system.

This prompts the thoughts of a BBS office clearance give away to be scheduled for a future, to be announced, business meeting. With every priceless piece awarded there will be a written "as is, where is" disclaimer issued, and possibly one free case of 360Kb 5 included.

Fred Williams

NTPCUG USER - To - USER PROGRAM

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

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

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 Cole.....	(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				

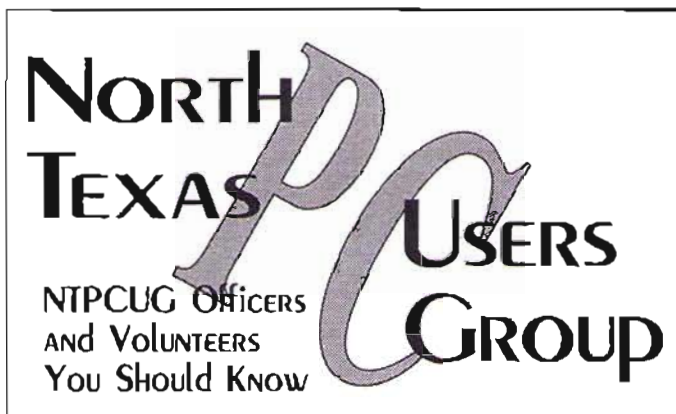
North Texas PC Users Group, Inc.

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

Jim Hoisington *Chairman*
Reagan Andrews *Marsha Drebelbis*
Doug Gorrie *Alex Lilley*
Andy Oliver *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	Jim Hoisington	(972) 416-3101 b
President-Elect	Andy Oliver	(972) 462-1896 h (972) 960-4215 w
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*
Andy Oliver

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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North Texas PC Users Group

*Next Meeting:
17 May 1997*

