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*North Texas*



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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.

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**DEADLINE**  
Copy deadline for September  
North Texas PC NEWS:  
Sunday, August 10th

**Meeting Dates:**

August 9, 1997 – 2nd Saturday  
September 20, 1997 – 3rd Saturday  
October 11, 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 . . . . .
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**Deadlines:** All advertising copy must be received by the PC News staff no later than the 10th day of the month prior to the month of publication unless other arrangements are made with the Publisher. NT PC News publication date is 10 days before the monthly meeting of the North Texas PC Users Group.

**Policies & Mechanicals:**

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

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

9:00 AM - 9:55 AM

### Corel WebMaster Suite Corel Corporation

Joanne Runte, Corel Product Specialist

Corel WebMaster Suite is the complete, professional software solution to create and manage your Web site. Easily incorporate frames, tables, hyperlinks, Java Applets, ActiveX Controls, image maps, forms and more. You get full FTP functionality and easy, editable HTML source code view, plus full featured client side/server side image mapping. Instantly add graphics, databases, 3-D VRML worlds or animation to your Web pages to get the notice they deserve. There will be a drawing for free products. \*

# PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS...

TIMOTHY CARMICHAEL

10:00 AM - 10:55 AM

### Click & Create (TM) for Multimedia Authoring, Lumiere (TM) Suite for Video Editing

Corel Corporation

Joanne Runte, Corel Product Specialist

Corel Click & Create software puts you on the cutting edge of 16- and 32-bit multimedia authoring. It allows you to create professional quality interactive games and multimedia titles, corporate and financial presentations, interactive training guides, kiosks, digital publications, and screen savers. Corel Lumiere Suite is software for editing videos. Incorporate music into your videos, choose from more than 60 video transition effects, add titles and credits, apply photo-editing effects, and take advantage of 2-D, 3-D and render effect capabilities. Drag-and-drop functionality, VCR-type controls and extensive libraries of ready-to-use audio and video tracks make it easy with Lumiere Suite. There will be a drawing for free products. \*

12:00 PM - 12:55 PM

### Hard Disk Drives: What You Should Know Before You Upgrade

Maxtor Corporation

Joe D'Amico and Bruce Riddell, Product Support Engineers;

What does downloading from the Internet, video/graphic applications, and Windows 95 have in common? They all demand space on your computer's hard disk drive. We will discuss the features you should look for in a new hard drive, what system requirements you need to be aware of, as well as troubleshoot any problems or questions that you may have with your current hard drive or operating system. At 7.0GB, the Maxtor DiamondMax 1750 is the highest capacity IDE drive available on the market. There will be \$30 mail-in manufacturer rebates, and there will be a drawing for two (2) free DiamondMax 1750 drives. \*

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

August 9

## SIGs NTPCUG SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP MEETING SCHEDULE

8:00 - 8:55

Internet - WEB Developers  
Microsoft Networking  
Visual BASIC - Beginning  
MultiMedia

8:00 - 9:55

Hardware Solutions

9:00 - 9:55

DOS/ Operating Systems  
General Genealogy  
Internet-Advanced  
SQL Server  
Introduction to the PC  
Quicken  
Visual BASIC  
Windows Applications  
WordPerfect/DOS

9:00 - 10:55

Dallas Corel

10:00 - 10:55

ACTI  
CAD  
Delphi

Emerging Technologies

Fox Pro Database

Networking

Internet-Beginning

PAF-Genealogy

UNIX

11:00 - 11:30

Business Meeting

11:00 - 11:55

Assembly Language  
Brother's Keeper

11:00 - 11:55 Ctd.:

CAD (Cont.)  
Investors  
Graphics

Microsoft FrontPage  
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  
Java

The Master Genealogist

1:00 - 1:55

ActiveX Developers  
Business Apps./DAC Easy  
C++/Beginners  
Lotus Notes & Domino

1:00 - 1:55 Ctd.

QuickBooks  
StreetSmart/e.Schwab

1:00 - 2:55

Word for Windows

2:00 - 2:55

Advanced Programmers

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

## BUSINESS MEETING IN 1061

We will be having the NTPCUG business meeting at 11:00 a.m. in Room 1061 through the month of September. We moved the meeting to Room 1061 in June and July because we weren't using the Auditorium. With the prospect of the Microsoft presentation lasting beyond our 11:00 a.m. starting time in September, I decided to keep the meeting in 1061.

Room 1061 is near the glass doors just outside the auditorium.

### AUGUST MEETING

Unless things change, Corel Corporation will be showing several of their products in the Auditorium during our August meeting. At least one of these products will have just been announced. Plan on being there for a first look.

Also note that the Introduction to the PC SIG will not be taking the month of August off. Instead, at 9:00 a.m., they will conduct a class on "Viruses and Their Prevention."

### SEPTEMBER MEETING

At the September meeting, Microsoft will be presenting their Developer Technology Tour 97 at

## VOLUNTEERS REQUESTED for a new NTPCUG Member Multimedia Rental LIBRARY

*Soon NTPCUG will offer  
(as a member benefit) access to training  
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Maren Riise (817) 858-3583 metro or e-mail: mriise@flash.net



10:00 a.m. and at 1:00 p.m. in the Auditorium. They are doing a mailing to all their customers in the North Texas area so plan on being there a little early to get a seat.

### Book Review

I read today that 67% of all C++ programmers are now learning the *Java* computer language. I don't know how they knew that, but I'm one of them.

Microsoft made 100 copies of their *J++ Compiler* available to the NTPCUG in May. (I've since upgraded my copy from Version 1.0 to Version 1.1.)

If you have the compiler, you've probably discovered that the book that comes with it is useful only as a doorstop. I counted 13 errors in the first chapter. In searching through the books at my favorite bookstore, I came across the book *Mastering Visual J++* by Steven Holzner, published by SY-BEX.

Now, you should know that I'm the kind of programmer that learns a language by programming in it, not by reading the language standard. This book has you writing code from Chapter 1 through Chapter 13. By the time you've finished the book, you've written 16 Java programs.

The writing style is clear and the author does a good job of explaining what the elements of the language are doing in each program. There are a few places where Version 1.1 had changed the user interface from Version 1.0 which the author had when he wrote the book. If you like to learn by writing code, this is a good way to learn J++ and Microsoft's new development environment, *DevStudio*.

Jim...

## My SUMMER VACATION.COM

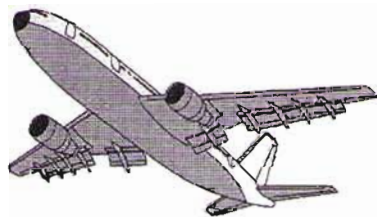
by Andy Oliver

Do you remember, during the first week of school, the teacher asking you to write an essay? After groaning loudly, she would tell you the subject. Write about your summer vacation, and if you did not go on vacation, write about something fun that happened to you during the summer. I decided to write about our vacation because it relates to computers. Where else does a geek go to plan the family's vacation but the Internet.

Our family traditionally heads to a beach to get away from the rat race. In an effort to expand our horizons and to see expanded horizons, we voted to go to Arizona and see Phoenix and the Grand Canyon. The planning effort began with a wrinkle. The desire to visit my dad in El Paso and for my daughter to see her grandfather (she has been away at school when he has visited us) led to the concern about airfares. Surf's up. I logged on and started searching for airfares, ending up at [www.iflyswa.com](http://www.iflyswa.com) (Southwest Airlines).

### Love Field - El Paso = Opportunity...

Suddenly, the trip to El Paso became an opportunity instead of a wrinkle. The U.S. Congress in their infinite wisdom passed the Wright Amendment many years ago restricting flights from Dallas' Love Field to the states adjoining Texas. Houston is not restricted and they have two airports. Neither are any other metropolitan areas in the U.S. with more than one airport. The reservation process then became a math problem (Is the geekometer beeping yet?) and booking a round trip from Dallas to El Paso and another one from El Paso to Phoenix. Booked, paid for, confirmed, and ticket issued (actually ticketless travel) on the Net,



No beach for Andy this year

from my house, on a Sunday afternoon.

### A PLACE TO STAY

Now we have to find a place to stay. Everyone on the Web has his/her favorite search engine. Mine happens to be [www.hotbot.com](http://www.hotbot.com). Jumping there, I searched for hotels in Phoenix and Flagstaff. You can futz around all day on the Web and not accomplish anything, so I reverted to the old standby, AAA. We have been members of AAA for years and we have learned to trust their ratings. So, we pulled out the Arizona Tour Book, saw that the Embassy Suites in Flagstaff sounded nice and then went to [www.embassysuites.com](http://www.embassysuites.com). A wealth of information awaited, including the ability to check on room availability, review amenities, and a 1-800 number if you want to call for reservations, or you can make them on-line.

### FLEXIBLE PLANNING REMOVES STRESS

Flagstaff accommodations were available for the week, now on to checking out Phoenix. Whoa, nothing was available when we wanted to go. Even looking through AAA, and calling places, quickly became discouraging. Remembering that what we wanted was a vacation and not another stress point in our lives, I decided to be flexible. The original game plan called for Phoenix first and then Flagstaff. Why not switch the two and see what turned up? It worked. As it turned out Arizona State and every high school in Phoenix were holding graduation that week, and every graduate's grandma, grandpa and cousin came to town to witness the event. The Pointe Hilton at Squaw Peak became our final resting point after checking out [www.hilton.com](http://www.hilton.com).

You can even join Hilton's frequent sleepers club on their Web site. A word of advice: print off the pages, and make sure you have the 1-800 numbers to call and check on your reservations later.

### WHAT TO DO - AFTER ARRIVING

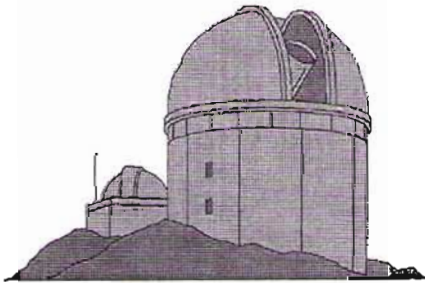
Air, check. Hotel, check. Next, what to do? What to do? Several Web sites are awaiting visitors to The Grand Canyon, including [www.thecanyon.com](http://www.thecanyon.com), [www.thegrandcanyon.com](http://www.thegrandcanyon.com) and my favorite

**My SUMMER VACATION.COM... Ctd.**

[www.kaibab.org/gc\\_homef.htm](http://www.kaibab.org/gc_homef.htm). The latter site is supported by Infomagic, an Internet services and Linux vendor out of Flagstaff. Included are, where are the best spots to view the Canyon, depending on how much time you are spending (and how healthy you are), and which trails are the best to take to go into the Canyon. The information is truly helpful and the Canyon is not describable, it is beyond words. About the healthy part, take heed of what the park rangers tell you about bringing water and food, taking a lot of breaks, and be careful. Deaths in the Grand Canyon occur through stupidity, including the failure to listen to people who hang around these parts most of their lives.

**Unplanned Side Trips...**

On the drive back from the Canyon, we stopped at Wupatki Pueblo ruins occupied in the 1100's. Three stories high in places, it contained almost 100 rooms and housed perhaps 200 residents. The ruins include an amphitheater and a ball court. The next day we decided to explore Flagstaff before heading back to Phoenix. We saw signs pointing to the Lowell Observatory when we were headed out of town for the Canyon, so we went up the hill to see it. The side trip is definitely worth it. The Lowell Observatory is the place where the planet Pluto was discovered.



Not too far from Flagstaff is the Walnut Canyon National Monument, the ancient home for the Sinagua Indians. Sinagua - Spanish for "without water" - were cliff dwellers who turned a relatively dry region into their homeland. Existing

over 800 years ago, they built one-room houses in the cliffs and dry-farmed corn and other crops on the tops of the cliffs. Again, a part of America that must be seen to be enjoyed.

Down from the mountains (65 degrees F. in Flagstaff) and back to Phoenix (95 degrees F.) is not a bad drive. The scenery changes from mountains, to pines, to oaks, to saguaro cactus. Phoenix and Scottsdale have many nice places to stay, and the Pointe Hilton's (there are 3 of them) are no exception. Everything the Web site says is true, and the photos do help. Most major cities are on the Web; either the Chamber of Commerce or some enterprising individual will put up a site to show off their town.

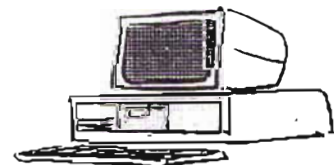
We checked out restaurants at [www.phoenixaz.com](http://www.phoenixaz.com), and [www.chilibeer.com](http://www.chilibeer.com) along with entertainment. Being married to a baseball fan, I decided to see if there was a team in Phoenix. The Phoenix Firebirds play AAA ball in Phoenix. They are a farm team for the San Francisco Giants, and this is their last year in Phoenix. Next season Major League Baseball comes to Phoenix with the expansion team, the Diamondback. I found the schedule for the Firebirds at [www.primenet.com/~firebird/schedule.html](http://www.primenet.com/~firebird/schedule.html). The team played Las Vegas, we went to a game and had fun. The Firebirds lost, but the beer guy was really entertaining, yelling "Cold brew, you know whatcha like".

**LAST NIGHT IN TOWN...**

Last night in town. Out to a nice Mexican restaurant that we didn't find on the Web, we just happened to drive by it on one of our shopping excursions. And a little culture. My wife found the Web site for the Phoenix Theater at [www.arde.com/phxth/](http://www.arde.com/phxth/) and they were showing *Our Lady of the Tortilla*, a comedy by Luis Santeiro. The plot of this play centered on a Mexican American family where the aunt (Tia in Spanish) lived with the family and made tortillas as a side business to bring in a little money to support her bingo habit. The focus on the family problems changes suddenly after Tia sees the Virgin Mary in a tortilla. A well done performance.

So, no matter your interests, your destination, or your budget, you can find it all with a little surfing, a little luck, and a good modem.

Andy Oliver



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## THANKS FOR CALLING? A View of PC Support – FROM BOTH SIDES OF THE ISSUE

by Beverly Kurtin

For nearly four and a half years I had the honor of working for Mighty Microsoft as a support engineer. I didn't like answering the telephones I LOVED it. I had a PASSION for being THE voice of Microsoft.

No, that's not laying it on thickly. If you called in for support only one time in your life and you got me, I really was the only voice of Microsoft you ever spoke to. I wanted you to hang up with your shoes on the other side of the room. The next time Microsoft came up in a conversation I wanted you to sing our praises, particularly about how great our support was.

### LAST CALLS IMPORTANT AS FIRST CALLS

At the end of a long, hard, frustrating day, the telephone would almost always ring five minutes before my shift was up.

My co-workers got tired of me shouting "Show Time!" But that's what I had to do in order to answer the telephone in a way that said, "Wow, am I excited to help YOU tonight!" instead of "speak fast, I want to go home."

The last customer of the day, IMHO, deserved the same enthusiasm and attention that my first customer got, even though that first call was 7 hours ago. I really did not care if that last call lasted an hour as long as the customer said, "Wow, Bev, thanks, that really helped." They may have called about a Word for Windows problem, but I'd always give them an extra tip or FAX them something, or let them know about a new product I felt they could use.

### LOOKS DIFFERENT FROM OTHER SIDE...

Now that I'm retired and I'm on the other side of the call, I wonder why some "support people" are in the business. Surely there is some other avocation in which they can be happier. Why do they foist their negative attitude on us, the people who buy the products that bring home their bacon?

Most "support" people with whom I've had the misery of speaking have the enthusiasm of a condemned dead person walking. WHY are they there? More to the point, why do WE the consumers take this kind of abuse? We will get the kind of support we will accept.

So let's challenge the people who peddle software and hardware to raise the standard of service to that of excellence and let them know we won't take BAD service anymore. We are the customers. They have the products they need to sell us.

### HIDING POOR SERVICE MERITS RETURN?

But they hide behind the "no money back" if the service they provide winds up being a vacuum cleaner. If we all start to demand the right to return shoddy software that has shoddy service, we might get someone's attention.

Beverly Kurtin

[Editor's Note: Beverly Kurtin is the MS Word for Windows SIG Leader who recently took medical retirement from Microsoft following a prolonged illness. Given her perspective from both sides of the Telephone Support function, I felt her comments concerning this issue were particularly acute and important for both our users, and our vendors, to read.]

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# INSIDE THE NORTH TEXAS PC USERS GROUP COMMUNITY

## VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION



by Claude McClure

### The Pied Piper of NTPCUG

Another cog in the NTPCUG machine is Lewis Graber from Frisco, Texas who for several years has bound and made available for member checkout the monthly accumulation of PC newsletters we receive from other clubs. A handsome, dashing and modest fellow (he wrote that part), he also writes occasional BBS tutorials for us, and livens up the board with his postings.

Lewis has somewhat of a following of frequent bulletin board users, who can't sign off until they have read his most recent anecdote. He explained that the big bucks coming from the latter so occupied his mind that he

doesn't recall anything about his work, but his BSEE and MBA degrees, paralegal certificate, and collection of Dilbert cartoons probably have something to do with it. Come to think of it, we never did ask Lewis if Dilberts would ever attain the same value as Donald Duck animation cels.

We also want to remember all the volunteers whose names are mentioned in other sections of this newsletter and a special thank you to the volunteers who served in the specific areas mentioned on this page.

**Infomart Liaison**

Stuart Yarus  
Robert Hilliard  
Alex Lilley

**Vendor Setup/Breakdown**

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Neal Van Pelt

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Ken Burns

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James Doulon  
M. Pat Henley  
Arnold Krusemark

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Bernie Baars  
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Philip Bridge  
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Kent Haven  
M. Pat Henley

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Arnold Krusemark

**DOM Desk Scheduler:**  
Philip Bridge

**Disk Production:**  
Gene Carleton  
Howard Hamilton

**VOLUNTEER INFORMATION**

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

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

**3. By phone:**

**Auditorium Presentations**  
Timothy Carmichael ..... (972) 661-4626 (w)

**DOM Booth Scheduler**  
Phil Bridge..... (972) 422-5400

**DOM Software Review**  
Mark Gruner..... (972) 964-8147 (h)

**Information Booth and General Information**  
Claude McClure..... (972) 887-0978 (h)



## DEC v. Intel, Apple Board v. Amelio & The Fun Just Keeps Going On Forever As DRAM and CPU Prices Keep Falling

### *Did Compaq Really Buy Tandem for \$3 billion?*

Who ever called July & August the "Dog Days" for slow news? July has been especially bountiful with multi-mergers, acquisitions and continued acrimony among the PC industry mavens. For starters, the DEC (Digital Equipment Corporation) versus Intel continues to simmer in the cauldron with episodes of boiling, bubbling and out-gassing from time to time.

In a brief recap, DEC sued Intel for stealing their *Alpha* CPU design goodies to incorporate in the *Pentium Pro* and *Pentium II* CPU designs. Intel of, course, counter-filed and made a trifle of a 'Boo-Boo' by hinting that DEC would be cut off from the Intel CPU supply lines, i.e., all DEC's competitors would be able to get Intel CPU's, but DEC would be left sucking dry air. (Or, something to that effect, if one reads between the lines.) Wonder if the FTC folks who have been so attentive to Microsoft these days were listening? Maybe — haven't heard any more of the "have to reassess the business relationship" noise from Intel since the original threat.

Did hear some rumors that Intel and DEC were negotiating over all this, which was expected. Probably won't get any more 'hard' news for a while, and would expect this to drag on for about as long as the Microsoft — Apple debacle. (Remember when the *Infoworld* [then] columnist, Robert X. Cringley, predicted Apple would scoop \$800 million from Microsoft at an NTPCUG meeting?)

### **Blood Flows in Apple Halls CEO Gilbert Amelio Ousted — Jobs May Reign Forever?**

Apple's bloody halls continue looming as treacherous to managerial health. Precipitous changes at the Apple's top slot seem to emulate the historical politics of Byzantium or the Ottoman Seraglio more than a modern American corporation.

Dr. Gilbert. F. Amelio was supposed to be the 'Turnaround Wizard' who was going to save Apple — until he was squeezed out by Apple's Board of Directors on Wednesday, July 8.

This was handled in a manner surprising to everyone in the media and led to massive speculation over the role of Steve Jobs, Apple's co-founder who was shoved out by John Sculley in 1985, and who returned to

Apple as a 'consultant' when Apple purchased Next earlier this year.

Unlike the examples of Byzantium and the Seraglio (harem), Amelio leaves with his head intact and still attached. And, probably angry as Hell at the way Apple handled this affair.

### **Who's NEXT?**

Media speculated that Apple will have a very difficult time trying to attract another 'super star' to head up the ailing concern. A lot of men and women who would have been tempted 18 months ago would certainly have second (and third) thoughts about taking on Apple's problems and its Board of Directors after watching this from the sidelines. Steve Jobs' name keeps popping up in some media circles, and old line Mac fans would love to see this occur. Maybe.

# THE VARIETY STORE

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

by REAGAN ANDREWS

### **Who WERE THE PLAYERS?**

Real Apple management story in this issue may never be known. Or at least not until several of the involved players write their memoirs and we can consider several viewpoints. Number of rumors point to Jobs as a driving force in the ouster. That would make sense since he's been mentioned as a possible 'savior' in the rabidly pro-Apple circles who are desperate for a return to Apple's 'good old days' when arrogance was

# THE VARIETY STORE

in fashion and (they thought) Apple ruled the computer world. *The Wall Street Journal* named one of Apple's Directors, Edward S. Woolard, Jr., chairman of Dupont Co., as the 'spark plug' in pushing to be rid of the former National Semiconductor executive, but didn't hint at a possible Jobs return riding on a white charger. Not mentioned in any significant degree is another Apple stalwart, Mike Markkula, who has oft been mentioned as a major player on the Apple Board.

## Apple's Vision?

Looking back at massive lost opportunities, seeing Apple as a 'Visionary Company' is really difficult. Apple sat on the best small computer operating system (OS) released with the Macintosh for years and didn't deign to market their real strength until last year — after Microsoft had usurped the title and throne with *Windows 95*. By then, it was too late for Apple. Although they licensed the Mac OS to several clone makers, no market share was gained in the process, and one of them, Power Computing Corp. of Austin, TX, announced in July they would be producing 'Wintel' PC's in addition to the IBM/Apple/Motorola *Power PC*-powered Macintosh clones. The clone-makers don't appear to have broadened market share for the Macintosh — they only seem to cut into the share Apple Computing held.

## RUMORS of DOOM?

If Jobs does get back in command of Apple, what do his recent comments concerning a need to focus more Apple resources on hardware research mean for the Cupertino, CA, company? And, how does this fit into a long-term plan when other Macin-

tosh clone makers are scrambling onto the 'Wintel' (Intel CPU-powered PC's running Windows) standard as rapidly as possible.

Apple has released PR 'blurbs' that the company is going to restore its focus on high-end Macintosh machines and leave the low end to the clone makers. I have a lot of problems with this philosophy, especially since Apple has always been the "high-priced spread" and this doesn't sound like a winning strategy given Apple's past performance in this arena. I keep wanting to scream "It's the OS, stupid!" that's where Apple's future lies. Apple is aiming at a niche bound to be a really bloody battleground between the upper-end (and cheaper than Apple) Wintel machines will duel with the lower end (and cheaper than Apple) workstation vendors such as Sun, IBM, DEC and H-P.

## COMPAQ Buys TANDEM For \$3 billion — Aims At ENTERPRISE MARKET

Compaq caught us flat-footed with this one. Media wasn't surprised, though when Compaq shelled-out \$3 billion for Tandem after a two-year buying spree that garnered Thomas-Conrad (network interface cards and hubs) in 1995, Net-Worth (fast ethernet hardware) and Microcom (remote access products, i.e., modems, etc.) into the Houston, TX, based computer maker's folds.

Company is bigger than I had

thought — worth \$18 billion, and may be the first PC maker to penetrate the enterprisewide Fortune 500 market formerly the private domain of IBM, DEC and Hewlett-Packard. Compaq already has a "presence" in these markets via the excellent reputation its PC and servers have earned over the past several years. Acquisition of Tandem may be designed to allow Compaq to "fully service" such large concerns from top to bottom.

## COMPAQ Didn't Buy GATEWAY And may be SMARTING By Rebuf, Possibly by INTEL?

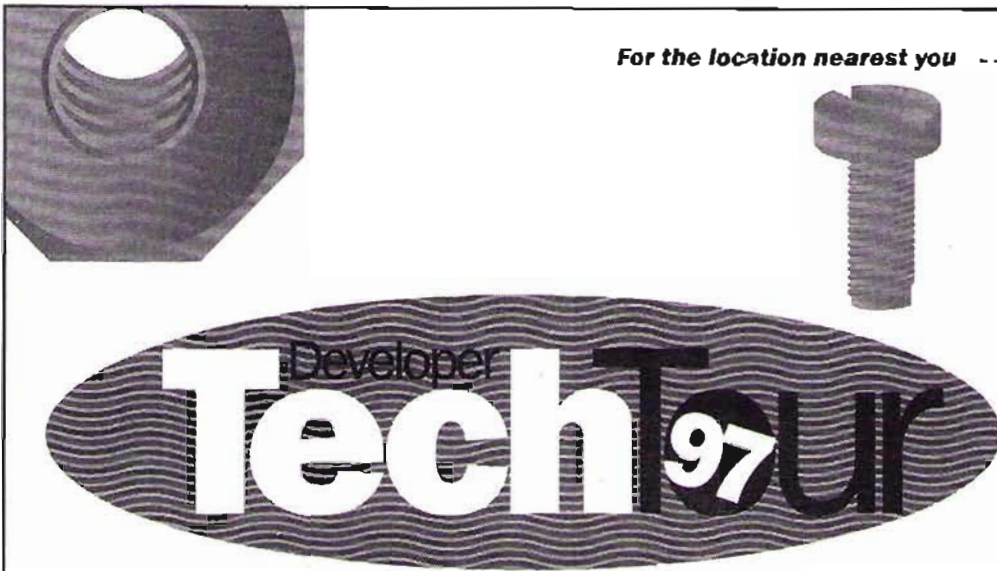
This one's wild. Lots of rumors that Compaq has been in intensive negotiations to buy Gateway (PC maker whose ads feature the black and white cows) in order to acquire advanced direct PC sales and manufacturing capabilities. According to various media, Compaq was given a polite "no" and shown the door.

Who was behind the door may be more interesting. At least one media maven suggested that Intel is interested in buying Gateway, and may have outbid Compaq in the process.

Should cause a lot of concern if it's true, since conspiracy buffs have claimed all along that Intel wants to totally dominate the PC marketplace and acquisition of a major PC maker is its first step in the process. Intel is already the leading vendor of PC motherboards and CPU's and a "nameplate" machine might give In-

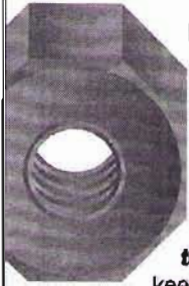
Database Services, DB2, Sybase, Oracle	Project Mgt
IEF, MS, IDMS	Strategic Planning
Software Specification	Feasibility, Life Cycle
Programming Services	Contingency Planning
<p><b>JOHN PATCHEN, CPIM, CPA, CSP, CDP</b> 40 Yrs. Software Computer Experience</p>	
Computing For Industries Inc. 1507 Dory Irving, TX 75061	President Software Consulting (972) 554-6660

For the location nearest you -----> **Tour Schedule**



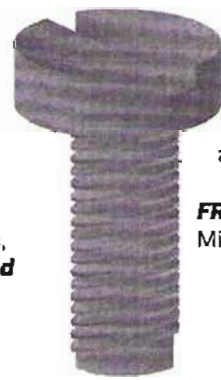
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Microsoft Corporation invites you to attend the **Developer Technology Tour 97** coming this **fall** to your local user group. This 15 city tour will demonstrate **the latest in Windows and Internet tools and technologies** designed to keep you in developing cutting-edge solutions.

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**Tuesday September 9th - Washington D.C.** - 7:00 pm  
 Advanced Systems User Group  
 The Renaissance Hotel and Convention Center  
 999 9th St NW, Washington, D.C.  
<http://www.mpro.org>

**Wednesday September 10th - New York** - 7:00 pm  
 New York's VB Large User's Group  
 Sheraton NY Hotel & Towers  
 811 7th Avenue 52nd Street, New York, NY  
<http://www.objectsoftcorp.com>

**Thursday September 11th - Boston** - 7:00 pm  
 New Technology Forum  
 The New England Hall  
 225 Clarendon Street, Boston, MA  
<http://www.vb-bootcamp.com>

**Tuesday September 16th - Houston** - 7:00 pm  
 Houston Area League of PC Users  
 George R. Brown Convention Center  
 1001 Avenida de las Americas, Houston, TX  
<http://www.hal-pc.org>

**Tuesday September 16th - Atlanta** - 7:00 pm  
 Atlanta Back Office User Group; Atlanta PC User Group  
 Omni Center At CNN Center  
 100 CNN Center, Atlanta, GA  
<http://www.intelli.net>

**Thursday September 18th - Oklahoma City** - 7:00 pm  
 Oklahoma City PC User Group  
 Civic Center Music Hall  
 201 Channing Square, Oklahoma City, OK  
<http://www.okpcug.org>

**Thursday September 18th - Ft. Lauderdale** - 7:00 pm  
 Gold Coast Microsoft Users Groups  
 Fort Lauderdale Airport Hilton  
 1870 Griffin Road, Dania, FL  
<http://www.hornick.com>

**Saturday September 20th - Dallas** - 10 am & 1:00 pm  
 North Texas PC Users Group  
 Informar  
 1950 Stemmons Freeway, Dallas, TX  
<http://www.nitpoug.org>

**Tuesday September 23rd - Cleveland** - 7:00 pm  
 Greater Cleveland PC User Group  
 Cleveland State University / Waegen Auditorium  
 2001 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH  
<http://www.gpcug.org>

**Tuesday September 23rd - Chicago** - 7:00 pm  
 The Information Management Group  
 Clarion International Hotel at O'Hare Airport  
 6810 North Mannheim Road, Rosemont, IL  
<http://www.midg.org>

**Wednesday September 24th - Toronto** - 7:00 pm  
 Developers Workshop  
 Metro Toronto Convention Center  
 225 Front Street West, Toronto, Ontario  
<http://www.developers.com>

**Thursday September 25th - Denver** - 7:00 pm  
 Rocky Mountain NT User Group & Windows on the Rockies  
 Adems Mark Hotel  
 1550 Court Place, Denver, CO  
<http://www.wrug.org>

**Tuesday September 30th - Santa Clara** - 7:00 pm  
 Software Forum  
 Santa Clara Convention Center/Multi-media Theatre  
 5001 Great America Parkway, Santa Clara, CA  
<http://www.softwareforum.org>

**Wednesday October 1st - Los Angeles** - 7:00 pm  
 North Orange County Computer Club  
 Sheraton-Anaheim  
 1015 West Ball Road, Anaheim, CA  
<http://www.noccc.org>

**Thursday October 2nd - Seattle** - 7:00 pm  
 Microsoft and surrounding user groups  
 Doubletree Hotel Bellevue in Kensington East/West  
 300 112th Ave SE, Bellevue, WA  
<http://www.microsoft.com/msdn/usergroup>  
 OR <http://www.bopa.org>





tel the leverage it supposedly is seeking. We'll see...

**Who Really Made Your PC? VENERABLE LABELS FALL TO KOREAN, JAPANESE COMPANIES**

When you go into a discount store and buy a PC, do you ever ask who really made the machine or owns the nameplate on it? Probably not. Most people don't care and couldn't understand the meaning of this blurb — until their PC fails or some component doesn't perform as advertised.

American PC makers who have fallen on less than favorable margins

and market share have been quick to grasp the helping hands of Korean, Japanese and Taiwanese companies eager to gain a foothold/share in the American market. Examples are AST Computers (Samsung of Korea), Packard Bell Computers (NEC of Japan) and disk drive maker Maxtor (Hyundai of Korea).

Packard Bell is not a surprise since it has been making products "to spec." for years and had gained a reputation as the "least-compatible PC maker in the industry" among IS circles for many years. AST was a close second, primarily as a result of its drive to produce everything in house, re-

sulting in almost impossible to maintain machines.

Is this good or bad? In the case of Packard Bell and AST, it may be good for consumers since both NEC and Samsung are major companies who have significant reputations at stake. Same issue holds for Maxtor/Hyundai.

**'BARGAIN' MOTHERBOARDS NOT ALL ALIKE, USERS MUST CHECK ISA SLOTS**

Thinking about a 'quickie' upgrade via a motherboard & CPU swap? If you plan to use a number of ISA-based accessory boards, look at the prospective replacement motherboard carefully. A significant number of replacement motherboards made to the 'Mini-AT' form-factor place the CPU power supply heatsinks on the 'ISA' side of the board, making installation of full-length ISA boards impossible in most ISA slots.

Worst offenders are modems, video cards and sound cards. Network interface cards (NIC's) run a close third to the others. Purchase of a new motherboard may preclude use of one or more of these cards which are fully-functional and not a factor in system speed.

Heatsinks are there because the newer CPU's operate from much lower voltages than earlier CPU's. This is particularly true of the 200 MHz+ CPU's we buy these motherboards to accommodate. However, vendors must make a choice which slots, ISA or PCI, will get short shrift. Seems to be the ISA slots that suffer most these days.

Somewhere, we all have to compromise. Replacing 'older' ISA boards with new PCI boards may be the easiest one for most users.

*Reagan Andrews*

**REASONS WHY SOFTWARE DEVELOPERS ARE IN THE WRONG BUSINESS:**

**Drug dealers**

Refer to their clients as: "Users."

"The first one's free!"

Have important South-East Asian connections (to help move the stuff).

**Strange jargon:**

"Stick," "Rock," "Dime bag," "E".

Realize that there's tons of cash in the 14- to 25-year-old market

Job is assisted by the industry's producing newer, more potent mixes.

Often seen in the company of pimps and hustlers.

Their product causes unhealthy addictions.

Do your job well, and you can sleep with sexy movie stars who depend on you.

**Software developers**

Refer to their clients as: "Users."

"Download a free trial version"

Have important South-East Asian connections (to help debug the code).

**Strange jargon:**

"SCSI," "RTFM," "Java," "ISDN".

Realize that there's tons of cash in the 14- to 25-year-old market.

Job is assisted by industry's producing newer, faster machines.

Often seen in the company of marketing people and venture capitalists

DOOM. Quake. SimCity. Duke Nukem 'Nuff said.

Do your job well, Damn! Damn! DAMN!!!

*Contributed by:  
Patrick Dryden  
Computerworld senior editor*

# 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)*

## Act! SIG

In June we had quite a lot of interest in the Act! SIG quite possibly because SIG leader **Deborah Bean** was showing off her just-released book along with co-author, **Neal Berkowitz**. The name of the book is *Learn Act! 3.0 for Windows 95* published by Wordware Publishing. A drawing was held for a free copy, won by **Caleb McAfee**. **Jim Thompson** will be having a general question and answer session in August while Deborah takes a much needed vacation. (Deborah, now that you have written a book, what are you going to do? [Yep, the answer is go to Disney.])

In September, the results of possibly trying Act! into *Access*, *Excel*, or even possibly *Peachtree* will be discussed as Deb and Neal see if Ole is now working. Wish us luck.

*Deborah Bean*

## Access SIG

"In August," **Larry Linson** says, "we're going to take a look at some ActiveX controls that come with the Developer Edition of Microsoft Access." First, however, we'll review the *Calendar ActiveX* which comes with the standard retail copy of *Access*. We will use material from **Michael Groh's** book, *Access 97 Power Toolkit*, as a guide, when appropriate. (If his name sounds familiar, it may be because, in addition to writing this and other books, Michael is Technical Editor of *Access - Office - VBA Advisor* magazine.)

In July, **Larry Linson** reviewed and demonstrated Access' new Tab Control, showing an example of using the tab control to control flow in a small application (which he does not recommend; it looks good, but takes extra implementation time), an example of simulating a tab control on a tab control, and, fi-

### FROM THE SIG COORDINATOR

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

#### New SIGs:

- **Java** [Contact Art English (972) 567-2253]
- **Lotus Notes & Domino** [Contact B.J. Shultz]

#### 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 Drebelbls (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

### SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS SIG LEADER LISTINGS

#### SIG Coordinator

Alex Lilley (972) 517-7430 h

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#### ACT!

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  
 Bill 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  
 Glynn Brooks ..... (972) 578-8737 h  
 ..... (972) 716-3281 w

#### Business Applications/DAC

Putt Shaw..... (972) 235-2559 h  
 Bruce Schubert ... (972) 394-5328 h  
 ..... (972) 233-8353 w

#### C++/Advanced

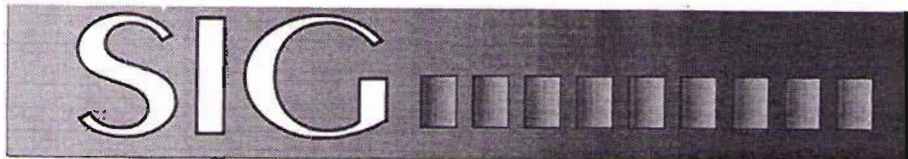
Kent Cobb..... (214) 343-3862 h  
 Tom Cook ..... (214) 341-1890 w

#### 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



nally, of using the tab control for a "property sheet", as is common in Windows software. The *mysterious disappearance* of PKUNZIP and WINZIP from the demo machine delayed the start of the demo.

The Microsoft Access SIG was formed in April 1993, so that we could *learn Access together*. We usually have between 40 to 60 attendees (but with an occasional spike to near 100, as when Fred annually presents his "Introduction to Database Design"), and we're still learning. We try, over time, to offer presentations and tutorials at every level, from introductory sessions for the new user, through power-user tricks with queries and macros, to developer tricks (though all users can benefit from many "advanced" topics just as much as developers). We invite everyone who's interested in learning more about Access to join us.

How about volunteering as a guest speaker? Any subject related to Access is of interest, whether for beginners or more advanced users: tutorials on features of any version of Microsoft Access, reviews of books about Access, or Access-related product reviews. Let any of the SIG leaders know if you are willing to speak.

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. It's where we ask and answer questions, post sample code, and keep in touch between monthly meetings.

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

Larry Linson

### ActiveX Application Developers (OLE and ODBC) SIG

Our topic for August is "Bridging the Client/Server-Internet Gap with MS Visual Basic 5.0," a presentation by **Bill Vaughn** and **Lane Sorgenson**, on videotape, originally satellite down-linked to the Microsoft Developer Days meeting earlier this year. Microsoft has graciously provided the ActiveX Application Developers SIG this and other tapes from Developer Days. If you missed Developer Days or if you just need to refresh your memory on this subject, and think this might be useful, join us for the replay. Since we may be meeting in the room with the special video equipment, rather than the one with our usual demo machine, be sure to check the schedule projected on the wall for our meeting room in August!

Attendance in July was a little higher than we've had in the last few months, and attendees were very complimentary about the videotaped presentation "Microsoft Office 97 as an Enterprise Client," a presentation by **Scott Horn** and **Neil Charney**. It's another of the tapes from Microsoft Developer Days earlier this year, graciously provided by Microsoft.

Looking ahead: In September, we will dismiss the SIG meeting so we can attend the "main-tent" *Microsoft Developer Technology Tour 97* meeting in the auditorium. In October, **Jim Hart** will tell us about an application that he's done using ActiveX/OLE technology to combine *Visual Basic*, *Microsoft Word*, and *Excel*. In November, **Glynn Brooks** will speak about his use of ActiveX Documents for simple distribution of software over an Intranet or over the Internet.

The ActiveX Application Developers SIG addresses issues of developing applications under the Component Object Model (COM) using ActiveX Controls and other ActiveX components. We still ask and answer a few questions about Open Database Connection (ODBC)

### SIG LEADER LISTING

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#### Communications

- Alan Brosz.....(972) 548-7928 h
- .....(972) 498-1237 w
- Birl Smith.....(972) 960-8227 h
- .....(214) 220-9388 w

#### Dallas Corel

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

#### DOS/ Operating Systems

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

#### Delphi

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

#### Desktop Publishing

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

#### Emerging Computer Technologies

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

#### Fox Pro

- Kevin White.....(972) 383-5211 w

#### Genealogy - General

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

#### Genealogy - Brother's Keeper

- Neil Sunderland ..(972) 272-2869 h

#### Genealogy - PAF

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

#### Genealogy - Roots III / IV

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

#### Genealogy - The Master Genealogist

- Jeri Steele .....(972) 306-1596 h
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#### Graphics

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

#### Hardware Solutions

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

#### Internet-Beginner

- Tom O'Keefe.....(972) 247-8812 h
- Doug Gorrie .....(972) 618-8002 h

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**Internet-Advanced**

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- Doug Gorrie ..... (972) 618-8002 h

**Internet-Advanced Ctd.**

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- Erik Leaseburg ... (817) 265-7550 hM
- Pat Hykkonen .... (214) 340-9621 h
- ..... (972)-234-6400 w

**Internet-WEB Developers**

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

**Introduction to the PC**

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

**Investors**

- Dick Richtman .... (972) 437-0322 h

**JAVA**

- Art English ..... (972) 567-2253

**Lotus Notes & Domino**

- B.J. Shulz .....

**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**

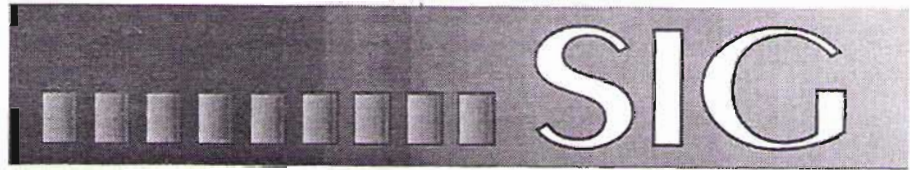
- Art English ..... (972) 567-2253

**MultiMedia**

- Dennis Rice ..... (972) 680-8299 h

**Networking**

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



technology, too. As hot as the Internet is, our topics aren't necessarily about *Internetting*, since ActiveX controls work equally well on the desktop and in client/server environments. That's one of the attractive features: one type of control, usable in many environments.

Come join us in August, and keep on coming in the future. We'll do our best to make it interesting and productive for you.

Larry Linson

**ASSEMBLER SIG**

Our July presentation was a review of the *Sourcer Disassembler* and *Windows Source* from V Communications. Both products are highly useful (and highly recommended) tools to explore all types of 80x86 executables, including DOS, Win3.X, Win32 and OS/2 programs. It was obvious from looking at various WinNT programs that much of the direct hardware access common in the earlier operating systems has been moved to device drivers - for example, I could find no evidence (at the application level, including the Norton Utilities) of programs accessing the disk sector by sector.

Two topics were proposed at the meeting for future presentation topics which allow some long-term planning. Our meeting in August will feature a discussion of the PE (Win32 Portable Executable) format, and how to determine imported and exported functions. The other suggestion was to look into the Year 2000 problem on the PC - we will attempt to do this for the October meeting.

We hope to see you in August - as usual, suggestions for future presentations are always welcome.

Frank Cavallito

**C++/Advanced SIG**

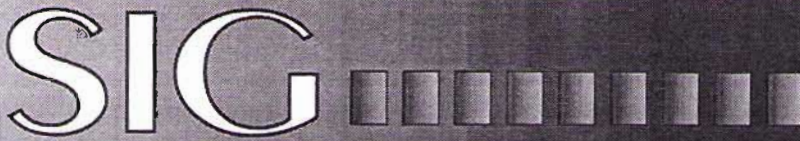
Hi all! I'm Fred Williams and I have once again stood up when I should have shut up. I am the temporary (?) SIG Leader for Advanced C++. A bit about how this all happened.

Seems I was considering starting a C++ Builder SIG, since I haven't started a SIG for awhile, and Borland has brought out this new "killer" RAD (Rapid Application Development) product named, appropriately, C++ Builder. Tom Cook and I were recently discussing this in the Infomart coffee shop. Tom thought that I would be a good prospect (sucker) to follow on with the Advanced C++ SIG leadership, as he wished to lay down the mantle.

Well as normal, I spoke without engaging my brain, and Tom struck while the iron was hot. Now in retrospect, I feel you, the SIG attendees need to step up and give us all some sense of direction from this point forward. I do not intend, and never meant to "steamroll" the Advanced C++ SIG into the C++ Builder SIG.

I have had some small amount of discussion with the attendees of the June SIG meeting. I know that the summer is slow, so I plan to steer things at least until I am either impeached, run out of town, or another sucker "prospect" steps forward. I will continue to devote a "direction" discussion time at each future meeting until an agreeable situation is arrived at.

The potential for basing each future meeting on a development platform of the presenter's choice seemed to have some level of interest. Development platforms are becoming much more tightly integrated and therefore not unlike unique individuals with distinct "personalities". Many of these new platforms generate C++ code as the



end result, but the process of arriving at that point is as different as using a spreadsheet and a word processor in most instances.

I have the NTPCUG copy of Microsoft's latest Visual C++ development platform, which I intend to install on the meeting room SIG computer at the next NTPCUG meeting. I will also install a copy of C++ Builder as well. This will give us access to two major C++ development platforms. Should any other C++ platforms show up on NTPCUG's front door step, so to speak, I will install them as well.

At the June meeting I did a quick and dirty demo of C++ Builder, as I lacked anything better to do. Those in attendance felt they would be interested in a more elaborate and polished version of the same presentation. As you read this, I should have duly presented the "new and improved" C++ Builder presentation at the July meeting.

So what is planned for the August meeting, you ask? Well, since I am a point-and-click, drag-and-drop, kind'a guy with limited C++ skills, and if someone else does not step forward, I'd bet on yet another insightful look at Yep you guessed it! In fairness, as I said earlier, there will be a "direction" discussion at the beginning of each SIG meeting. The major topic will always be: "Do I hear a Volunteer?"

So, save your Advanced C++ SIG from total Borland domination! Show up with a Visual C++ presentation or even a Watcom ditty and I'll gratefully relinquish the floor!

*Fred Williams*

**Dallas COREL SIG**

August Program

We are pleased to announce that Corel Corporation has accepted our invitation

to give the Main Auditorium Presentation in August. Our SIG will attend Corel's presentation in Alexandria Auditorium on the first floor during our usual 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. time slot, and NOT in Suite 7007. A Corel Product Specialist will provide a morning of demonstrations on Corel's newest graphics products. *WebMaster Suite* will be presented at 9:00. At 10:00 will be Corel *Click & Create* (multimedia authoring software) and *Corel Lumiere* (video editing software). This is the perfect opportunity to discover the power and performance offered by Corel's newest graphics software. Plus, all NTPCUG members have a chance to win great prizes! Special User Group pricing will be available on select Corel software for all who attend.

**July Program in Review**

SIG member **Jim Suttles** gave a most welcome presentation on *CorelDREAM 3-D* in July. For those among us with little experience plotting points in the 3-D world, Jim broke

**IMPORTANT COREL ADDRESSES  
& PHONE NUMBERS**

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

- ❖ Technical Support Representatives.....800-818-1848
- ❖ G1 Release, CD-Rom only (latest "fixes" and patches for Corel products) ..... 800-772-6735
- ❖ Customer Service Representatives ..... 800-772-6735
- ❖ IVAN (Interactive Voice Answering Network)..... 613-728-1990
- ❖ 24 Hour Automated Fax System ..... 613-728-0826 Ext.3080
- ❖ Technical Support hours are 4AM to 8PM (EST) excluding holidays.
- ❖ To obtain our catalogue please request document #2000

**SIG LEADER LISTING  
CONTINUED ...**

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

**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
- Phil Faulkner.....(972) 239-0561 h
- .....(214) 654-6610 w

**Spreadsheet/Spre.Dev**

- Mark Gruner.....(972) 964-8174 h
- .....(972) 605-8447 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) 343-6500 w

**WordPerfect / Windows**

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

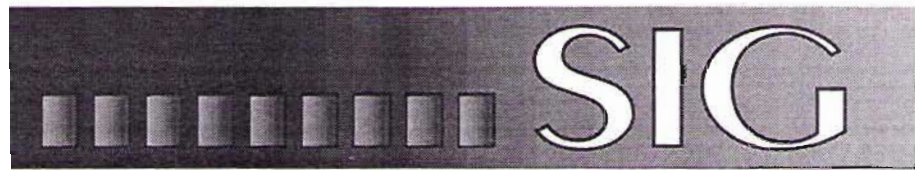


the ice by demonstrating the easy navigation tools and special effects possible in this powerful module of *CorelDRAW* 7. Competing software packages to DREAM 3-D are *Lightwave*, *SoftImage* and *AutoCAD*. Jim has longtime experience with 3-D graphics and his enthusiasm for DREAM 3-D was contagious. With a video engineering background, Jim is owner of Irving Custom Computer Configurations, where he is also a multimedia and graphics specialist. He took us step by step through this fascinating world of 3-D. He demonstrated the Free Form Tool, showed how to manipulate the "sweet path" and edited points with the Cross Sections Menu. With the advances in PC power machines in the past two years, 3-D has become more accessible to the casual user. Still, Jim cautioned us to not even think about using 3-D without a minimum of 32 MB RAM. Artists working in 3-D every day require equipment with 64 to 128 MB Ram to be productive. He gives us new courage to tackle the 3-D world. Thanks, Jim!

NTPCUG member **Ed Ellis** was the lucky winner of the top door prize: the *RayDream 3-D* instructional book and CD, donated by Jim Suttles.

**Check the i/us Web Site**

*i/us* is an online resource dedicated to helping people use their applications software more effectively. Its initial focus is in the DTP/graphics/publishing sphere, as well as *WordPerfect*. The founders of *i/us* Corp. are Arlen Bartsch and Chris Dickman. Past Director of Sales and Marketing for Corel Corp., Arlen Bartsch is Vice President



of Centrepoint Technologies, an Ottawa-based company developing computer telephony solutions for the small office/home office market. Chris Dickman is known for his work helping the user community via his books on *CorelDRAW*, the founding of *The CorelDRAW Journal*, and his CorelNET site, which for over two years provided a ground-breaking online resource for users of Corel Corp. applications. Find the site at <http://www.i-us.com>.

*Marsha Drebelbis*

**Tips & Tricks**

**Custom Screens in Win95**

This is a tip for changing your logon and logoff screens in Windows95. The file that controls the opening screen is located in your root directory and is called *logo.sys*. The files that control the "Please wait..." and "It is now safe to shut down your computer..." are located in your Windows directory and are named *logow.sys* and *logos.sys*.

To change these screens, open a graphics file or picture that you like in *PhotoPaint*, or create a new file. The steps mentioned here were done in *PhotoPaint 7* but you can modify them for an earlier version. Make any changes you wish or add a text message to your file or files. For best results, convert to 256 colors or less. Next convert your image to Paletted (8-bit) under the Image menu. When the dialog box opens, select the Adaptive option under Palette type, and the Error Diffusion option under the dither type. If you have not already converted to 256 colors, you can do so in this dialog. Next go to Im-

age/Resample and resample your image to 400 pixels high by 320 pixels wide exactly, and 100 dpi. At this point, your image will probably look squashed, but it will sort itself back to landscape format when used.

Finally, save the image(s) as Windows bitmaps (BMP) format. In your root directory, save the existing *logo.sys* file to something like *logo.old*. Move your new bitmapped image to the root directory and rename it *logo.sys*. This file will come up as your opening screen when you boot. Move your two closing bitmapped files to your Windows directory. Rename the current files from *logos.sys* and *logow.sys* to something with an \*.old extension or similar, and rename your two new files. Your computer will now boot and close down with the new files in place. This method can be used to personalize your opening screen with your company name, address and phone number or some other distinctive identifying message. If your computer is stolen and the thief does not know how to reformat your drive, it just might be the ticket to reclaiming your property.

*Susan Biggs*

**DOS/OPERATING SYSTEMS SIG**

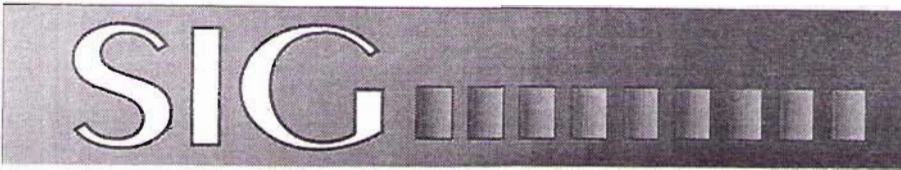
'Dog Days' are on us again. Temperature and humidity are up, tempers are frayed and some of us may be experiencing unexpected 'hangs,' crashes and other things that go 'bump' in the night. We are also watching our tithe to the local electric utility company escalate wildly as we contribute mightily to their coffers via cooling our homes and offices.

All are related and we'll talk about them at the August SIG Meeting.

Cause(s) are often a product of trying to minimize the contributions we are making for electricity and cooling by allowing the temperature to rise inside to

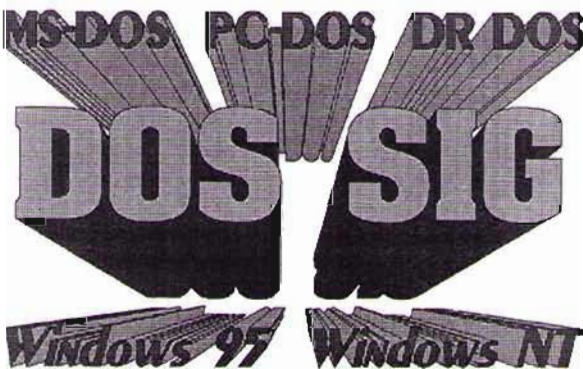


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less comfortable but more economical levels. Our contemporary PC's are much more temperature sensitive than ever before, particularly the super-high-speed PC's with 200+ MHz CPU's. Most modern CPU's try to save themselves, i.e., not burn themselves up — by shutting things down for a while.

Unfortunately, DOS and Windows don't tend to recognize this survival ma-



neuver and either 'crash' or 'hang' forcing a reboot or power-down and reboot. Microsoft was kind enough (in *Windows 95 OSR2*) to give us at least a partial safety net following one of these, but earlier versions of Win95 and Win3.1 don't include such a feature and can leave lots of cross-linked or fragmented files laying about as a result of system crashes.

Don't think having a fan and heatsink on the CPU chip is always sufficient to prevent this. Not all heatsinks and fans are equal. Some do a much better job of keeping the CPU inside at safe heat margins than others, and all can be defeated by an ambient temperature that is too high. A system that worked fine this winter when the room temperature was 72°F may not do so well when the room starts hitting the 80°F mark.

Yes, the margins are that close.

**Sticking with the 'Old Standards'?**

Clanking along with *DOS 5.0* and *Windows 3.11*? Lots of users are because of 'legacy' applications that just don't do well under Win95 or WinNT and they aren't willing to replace or abandon.

It's still a good idea to upgrade to the latest DOS (6.22) and *Windows 3.11*, even if you won't be using the networking features in Win 3.11. There have been a number of substantial improvements in various Win 3.11 modules over the original Win 3.1 versions. In addition, Microsoft has updated several Win 3.11 modules and all are available from Microsoft's Web site, FTP servers and BBS.

Among the upgraded files, one may be particularly important to users who have been having problems online via their modems, SERIAL.386 which 'cures' some of the problems encountered with 16550 UARTs. Upgrading to DOS 6.22 may assist in getting a CD-ROM to work properly since it includes the latest DOS version of MSCDEX.EXE, Microsoft's CD-ROM driver.

Upgrading to DOS 6.22, Win3.11 and the upgraded modules will be worth the effort.

*Reagan Andrews*

**Delphi SIG**

I'm planning on having a copy of Delphi 3.0 for the August meeting. I've

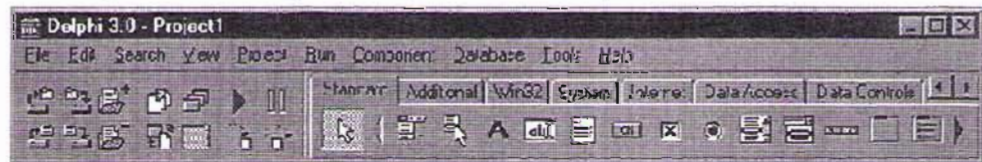
been so busy working with Delphi 1.0, I have not had the time to spend messing with 3.0. I am still finding most Windows projects require "legacy" Windows (16-bit) support. There is a very slow trending down of Windows 16-bit systems out there in the work-a-day world, but the migration to 32-bit is going much slower than Microsoft and everyone else selling software was hoping for.

In major corporations things do not just happen overnight. And, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it", still reigns supreme. I am afraid there is still no strong compelling reason to move to 32-bit Windows. The move will be made more through attrition rather than conversion. As new machines arrive to "push down" the old ones they will most likely be 32-bit systems, but that old legacy system gets pushed down and does not go away immediately.

The only more like "industrial-strength" 32-bit Windows, Windows NT, is where all the "Enterprise" people want to go, but NT chokes on most of those old DOS apps everyone insists on carrying forward. Businesses tend to view '95 more like what it really is, a bug fix release of Win 3.1 which mostly trades a bunch of old bugs for a whole new set of pretty bugs.

Anyway, that's my excuse for dragging my feet on jumping to Delphi 3.0. As I have said before, I have done absolutely zero projects in Delphi 2.0, and could have saved my money and just skipped it, in hindsight. Perhaps with the pending release of Windows '9x, Delphi 3.0 will prove to be a more profitable investment.

As I mentioned in last month's notes, since most development in Delphi is heavily involved in database manipulation, Delphi 3.0 has a most serious improvement which directly affects the ability to attach and manipulate "third party" databases. With the release of



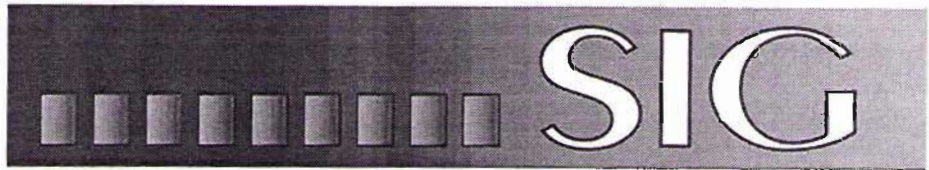
Delphi 3.0, Borland "pushed down" the TDatabase object in Delphi's object tree. I'll attempt to expand on that news this month.

On the surface, pushing the TDatabase component down one notch does not sound like much, but for database-aware component developers it is a windfall. Anyone who has been closely involved using Delphi to develop database "front ends" knows just how "kludgy" most third-party database component sets have been to date.

Most require the use of their own "proprietary" database access and database-aware components. Borland's native DB Objects were simply out of reach because the TDatabase object was too high up the Delphi object tree. Replacing or coexisting with the TDatabase component was the only real possibility, prior to Delphi 3.0.

With the new change in object structure, database component developers can "hook into" the object tree above the new TDatabase component with relative ease, and therefore take full advantage of Delphi's native data-aware components. At least that is what I'm hearing around the industry.

A very callous, long-time developer using Borland products, I still stand by my belief that this new location for TDatabase goes a very long way in "decoupling" Delphi from the Borland Database Engine (BDE). It might also be noted that, with the sale of *Paradox*, the BDE no longer has the "weight" it used to have in the pre-*Paradox* sale Borland.



One of the major sticking points in the Corel and Borland *Paradox* negotiations was the ownership of the BDE. Without the BDE, *Paradox*, the product, is effectively totally disconnected from the *Paradox* database table structure. With the "decoupling" of Delphi from the BDE, Borland moves a big step further back from dependence on the BDE within Borland products. Eventually I expect Corel to get their wish, and acquire ownership of the BDE and not have to settle for a licensing arrangement.

Meanwhile back here in Dallas, we are going to have yet another session of how Fred weighs chickens if no one else volunteers to step forward. Actually if I get the time, I intend to do a little looking around Delphi 3.0, and I'll do a little show and tell of Delphi 3.0 if I do actually get around to it. Can't interfere with that paying Delphi 1.0 work just to look at what might be in Delphi 3.0 though!

One of the projects I'm currently working on is converting an Access application to Delphi. This one is interesting in the fact it is for use in a bar code scanning environment. Should it actually come together prior to the August meeting, I might be able to do a little show and tell on that one.

*Fred Williams*

## Graphics SIG

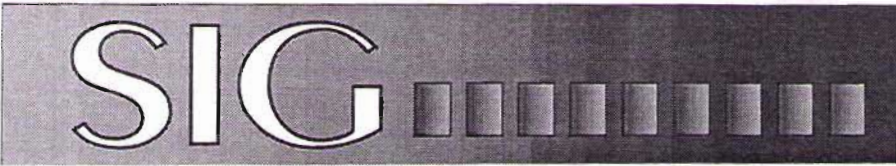
July was an interesting Month for the Graphics SIG. With a bit of luck, **Reagan** will be able to squeeze the happenings for July into the August Newsletter, so here goes with what happened.

The presentation by Micrografx on *Simply 3D* held the attention of the audience. **Brian Edgin** gave a very informative presentation and showed off several features which most of the group had not realized the program can do. *Simply 3D* is not a high-end program that requires months to learn, although looking at

some of the end products, one might think so. With just a few quick mouse clicks Brian was able to generate some extremely impressive floating, zooming, and cascading examples of text which he was able to export to sample Web pages. Look for some of the examples soon on the Gaphic's SIG page (if I ever get a few free minutes.....)

Even more impressive were some of the things he was able to do with shape manipulation. The basic shapes, lighting, and surface textures were old hat. What was interesting was the number of tools available to shape and distort 3D objects to turn them into desired forms. In less than five minutes he created a sword consisting of theommel followed by the creation of a two edged blade with point, followed by joining the objects allowing them to be rotated together through space. Impressive!

The demo of the new Draw was even more impressive. If your interest lies in creating very graphical Web pages, this can easily become the tool of choice. Building elaborate buttons of various shapes, links to other Web sites and Web locations, and exact placement on the page of graphical elements were all extremely easy. Even more interesting was the ability to build animated GIFs. The final show-stopper was the ability to embed active 3D elements into a page with the help of a plug in, which makes the object into a user manipulatable 3D image. Zooming, rotation, and similar properties were all available under user control. As a teaser, Brian also stated that the objects could be loaded into *PowerPoint* demonstrations. A text block that had several simultaneous rotations could be coded in less than 100K. For those of us who always like things to go faster, this feature definitely got our attention.



We concluded the presentation with a drawing for Simply 3D which was won by Pam Newcomb. Congrats, Pam!

What is in store for future months? We are still trying to get the August program finalized. Depending upon what is going on in the big Auditorium, we might cancel the small room and meet

in the Auditorium. Another option is to meet again with Micrografx. I will be out of town that day, so I will have to leave the SIG in somebody else's hands. Any takers?

Either November or December will feature Simply 3D again, this time the new version that is scheduled for release early next year. From what I hear

of some of the new features, all I can say is WOW! The demo should be really impressive. Everything else right now is up for grabs but Micrografx really wants to work with us.

*Neal Berkowitz*

### INTERNET SIG - BEGINNING

At the June meeting, Erik Leaseburg, one of the Beginner Internet SIG leaders, demonstrated the dynamic world of IRC - Internet Relay Chat. IRC allows Internet users to join one another in topical chat rooms where real-time conversations are held by typing back and forth to one another. Erik showed how to use two popular IRC programs, mIRC 5.2 <http://www.createch.net/mirc/> and Microsoft Chat 2.0 <http://www.microsoft.com/ie/comichat/>. Both can be downloaded for free from the Internet at the above mentioned Web addresses. Everyone seemed to especially enjoy Microsoft Chat with its expressive comic strip characters and witty sayings.

At our July 12 gathering, we repeated our multi-hour "Introduction to the Internet" session. This was its usual success, and the 75 folks that began the session seemed to learn a lot in the five hours available. We could have covered more about the Internet, but chose not to due to lack of voice !!

For those that missed the session, note that a major portion of the handout appeared in the July issue of *PC News*. Written by SIG Leader Erik Leaseburg, it gives unfamiliar users the basics needed to access, use and understand the Internet.

At the upcoming August 9th meeting, we plan to follow up by delving into the world of electronic mail (E-mail). E-mail is the most commonly used feature of the Internet, allowing communication between persons all over the world. Messages can include attached files, and the files can be just about anything (text, multimedia, graphics, executables, etc.). Since both Erik and Doug use *Eudora Lite*, you can be certain it will be covered, but we hope to

### 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*

include at least one other E-mail package for comparison.

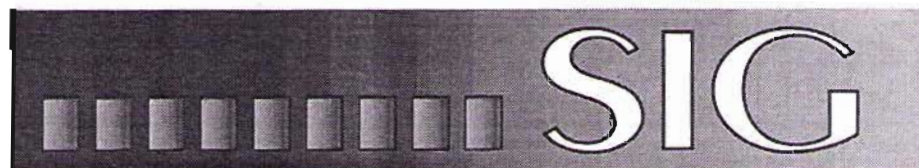
The primary purpose of the Beginning Internet SIG is to explain the Internet to those unfamiliar with it. This includes such things as how to choose and connect to an Internet Service Provider (ISP), what software options are available, what hardware is needed, and how to decipher all those confusing 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 August 9th.

*Erik Leaseburg, Doug Gorrie  
& Kiff Barnes*

## 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 indi-



vidual student's schedule. Printed notes are provided during classes.

### August 9, 1997

- ❖ 9:00 Viruses and Their Prevention

### 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

### October 11, 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

### November 15, 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)

### December 13, 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

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

*Alex Lilley*

## A QUICK NOTE FROM THE PC NEWS PUBLISHER

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

[reagana@swbell.net](mailto: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*

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*

# SIG

## LOTUS DOMINO/NOTES SIG



The July meeting concluded an "Introduction to Lotus Domino/Notes" phase of the SIG's development. We've established a healthy and growing membership base and plan to concentrate on education and problem solving at future meetings.

The SIG has obtained evaluation copies of ACT! for Notes and Win32 from Symantec and has begun the evaluation process. We will plan to issue a brief report of our findings at the August meeting. Additionally, we hope to compare notes with the ACT! SIG of NTPCUG.

Preliminary plans for the upcoming year should be completed by E-mail discussion in time for the August meeting. Discussion will include a clear statement of purpose and a relatively firm meeting agenda for future months. We will plan to ratify a mission statement and a proposed agenda schedule for the upcoming year. This information will be posted at [www.ntpcug.org](http://www.ntpcug.org) and at [www.webdallas.com](http://www.webdallas.com) as soon as available.

Beginning in August, meetings have been moved to room #5006 to facilitate a live Internet connection and use of a flat-panel display during demonstrations. The August meeting will include: Critical review of a notes application, tentatively scheduled for review of an executive information summary, preliminary review of ACT! for Notes, SIG organizational decisions, and an open forum for development and administration issues. The group is currently circulating books and training videos for application development and administration. Contact us for additional information.

To learn more, express interest in the books or training videos, submit topics for the open forum, or participate in the group in any way, please contact me at [bjshultz@juno.com](mailto:bjshultz@juno.com).

B. J. Schulz

## MS WORD FOR WINDOWS SIG

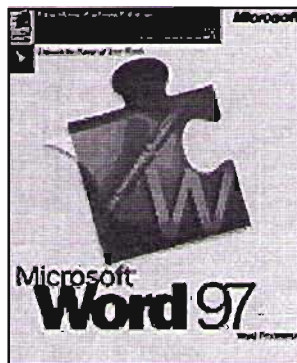
What did you miss if you missed the last Word for Windows SIG? Not much really, unless you have always wondered about how to create an index or table of contents or perform the magic inherent in cross-references.

We also played with some of the new features in *Word 97*. *Office 97* has so many new features that I've had to buy a hardback textbook to show me the way through many of them.

Frankly, my first impulse was that if Office 95 ain't broke, don't fix it by messing with 97. All it took was a few sessions of painlessly converting my stand-alone computer into what amounts to an Intranet and I was hooked.

I've not been able to contact the powers that are that can change the SIG meeting time, but as soon as I do, I'll give you plenty of notice of any changes. I realize that our moving the SIG time (if at all possible) may inconvenience some and I apologize in advance for any trouble that may cause you.

However being at the 'mart until 3pm really messes with my medication times. When you have the delightful combinations of disorders that I have, virtually every pill you take has a sedative effect. I need to be able to time my meds so that I'm not driving when they peak.



Enough of my personal difficulties, on to this month's

## Tips of the Month

At times it is convenient to build a temporary table of contents. This is particularly so when editing a long document. Even if you are not going to have a Table of Contents in your final document, you will find that it makes finding parts and pieces of your document much easier.

I know, I know. You have heard that in order to create a Table of Contents you have to use headings. You may not want headings to appear in your final printout. Besides, it can be downright ugly, albeit handy, to use headings.

So what if I told you that you can simply select a word or phrase, press the key combination ALT+SHIFT+O and mark your selection for inclusion in a Table of Contents?

Here's the great thing about it. Once you press ALT+SHIFT+O, you can leave it up on the screen until you are really ready to close it. You can look for other items you want to include in your Table of Contents and then click on the "Mark Table of Contents Entry" dialog box that appears, click on Mark, then go back to your document.

Now there IS one caveat you need to look out for. If you try to create a Table of Contents you will get the maddening message, "Word found no paragraphs with heading styles to include in the table of contents."

Now wait one cotton pickin' minute. You went to the bother of marking all these words and now Word doesn't see it? In a word, no. It doesn't see your markings because they are not heading styles.

So how do you fix it? When you go to include an Index or Table you must do two extra steps. First you must choose options (on the right side of the dialog box), and then you must mark "Table entry

fields" in the lower left side of the options dialog box.

If you do that, your life will be filled with joy and happiness. If you do not, you will toss your computer out the window. If it happens to be a higher speed laptop, please give me a call first. I will provide you with a 286 or a 386 to throw out the window. I will, of course, take your laptop with me in exchange.

**WHY BOTHER?** Because you will then be able to double-click on any item's page number and instantly be taken to that reference. Try it sometime. You will throw pedals of flowers at my feet for this suggestion.

The second tip has to do with indexes. Pressing the key combination ALT+SHIFT+X allows you to mark items for inclusion in indices. Same rules apply as for the Table of Contents. Just leave the dialog box where it is and mark away to your heart's content.

Hope to see y'all in August!

*Beverly Kurtin*

## PARADOX SIG

**Tom Browning** returned from his toes-in-the-sand get away last month. I think he liked it so well, he is planning on yet another venture away for this month's meeting. Guess I'm going have to try something like that my own self.

In Tom's absence I am planning on another walk-through of one of Paradox 7's "Experts". Paradox 7 has a lot of handy features for all users, no matter what level of expertise. I've been doing some "on the side" work with Paradox 7. I have found the "new" Experts to be a real timesaver for the functions they address.



In Paradox 7 there are just a whole lot of improvements aimed directly at increasing usability and efficiency. I especially like the new "Object Explorer". I guess it might be because it reminds me of Delphi. But I'm rambling off toward "developer" kinds of things, and Tom and I promised to keep things user oriented.

I'm still waiting to hear Paradox news from Corel. They (Corel) have announced *Perfect Office 8*, but I have not seen any references to Paradox in any of the print ads yet. I would hope that something will be forthcoming soon.

Tom showed us last month how to circumnavigate the "nonexistent" long-time standing Portrait/Landscape printing anomaly Paradox has displayed since release one of PdoxWin. I say nonexistent because everyone with whom I have discussed the problem, claim Borland has always heard about the issue for the first time with each report.

I would hope, those are the kind of issue resolutions that are delaying the announcement of the "Corelized" version of Pdox. Paradox is a very strong and mature product, perhaps the most mature PC database out there, if you don't count dBASE. With Borland's release of the Windows code, there were some aggravating weirdities, which Borland failed to resolve through several releases. With the Corel acquisition, I have hope they will finally be resolved.

Drop on by and see if by August meeting time the Corel version of Pdox will be on the streets. If not, I'll still do the Expert thing and have a question and answer period. Paradox questions only please, the "meaning of life", and etc. are beyond the scope of this presentation.

*Fred Williams*

# SIG

## PRO SIG

The July meeting has been the traditional "come as you are" meeting. Costume judging was performed by **Chris Balthrop** who himself was attired in a tuxedo shirt and jacket and Dockers shorts. The winner this year was **Fred Williams** who .... Well, his exact costume can't be described here but we'll leave that to your imagination. Join us next month when we have a contest for the most disgusting code fragment.

*Jim Hoisington*

## QuickBooks SIG

The June 14 session was mainly a discussion about changing our format of taking problems of those in the group to specific topics and prepared presentations.

Topics for presentation included :

- ❖ Converting Quicken files to QuickBooks
- ❖ Entering Bills (using payables) vs. simply writing checks
- ❖ Payroll
- ❖ QuickBooks 5.0's Online banking features
- ❖ Job Costing vs. Classes
- ❖ Pro's and Con's of using a Chart of Accounts
- ❖ Reports Feature
- ❖ Accountant's Review

The July 12 meeting was a presentation of a conversion of QuickBooks 3 and Quickpay files to QuickBooks 5.0 from someone who has done it. The conversion was fast and easy. The biggest problem was in the area of converting Quickpay records to QuickBooks 5. However, upon review of the records, QuickBooks 5 (the converted records) were correct and the Quickpay records were in error. Other questions

# SIG



included credit card receipts and how to automatically include the transaction charge when depositing. No one came up with anything that could be automatically set up in the system to compute and deduct this fee from the deposited amount. Other questions involved use of company credit cards and how to account for personal and business purchases on the same card.

In August we are scheduled to consider entering bills and then paying the bill as a payable versus writing a check when the bill is paid and not entering the invoice. In September we will cover payroll. Both these subjects will be presented by CPA's.

Various members of the group have also volunteered to research banks in the area who offer online banking to QuickBooks users. The results of our research will be covered in the August meeting. If there are other topics you would like discussed, please let me know. You are welcome to attend the session or E-mail me at [Dguier@Aol.Com](mailto:Dguier@Aol.Com)

*Dave Guier*

## EDITOR'S NOTE ON LOGOS

I've begun using logo graphics in this section. Most have been taken from the NTPCUG SIG listings at [www.ntpcug.org](http://www.ntpcug.org), including the graphic for the DOS/ Operating Systems SIG, the Java Programming SIG and the MS Visual C++/MFC SIG. Others were taken from the vendors' own Web sites.

If your SIG has a monochrome logo that will print in the PC News, I'll be glad to include it with your SIG notes.

The graphic **must** be sent as a separate file, **not** as part of the SIG note file.

## Visual BASIC SIG - BEGINNING

The August meeting scheduled for August 9, 1997 will be our semiannual meeting entitled "For Beginners Only" and will emphasize the resources available to a beginning programmer in Visual Basic. This presentation is updated and given each August and February to help beginning programmers get started in Visual Basic.

This month, we will be introducing Visual Basic 5.0 in general, and the new Visual Basic 5.0 Learning Edition. The major topics of the presentation will include a brief history of Visual Basic, descriptions of resources available for beginners in Visual Basic, an introduction to the Windows environment, discussion of Visual Basic 5.0, and demonstration of the new integrated development environment (IDE) made a part of Visual Basic 5.0. Sample programs will be run on the NTPCUG computer projection system. Everyone is welcome to attend, of course. If you have a friend, relative, neighbor, etc. who would like to see what Visual Basic is about, bring them to this meeting.

Last month, **Jim Hart**, the Assistant SIG Leader, gave a presentation on list boxes. We will be hearing more from Jim Hart in the future.

Bring your questions on Beginning Visual Basic to our meeting beginning at 8:00 AM on Saturday, August 9, 1997 at the Infomart. Check the Infomart lobby for the correct room assignments.

*Jim Carter*

## Windows Application SIG

The Windows Apps SIG will not meet in August since the leader and Assistant leader will be out of town. We have had a request to have a presentation on user profiles in September, so that will probably be the primary topic covered. Have you ever wanted to custom-configure Windows for each member of

your family? With the profile feature, you can give each person their own start button with programs selected for the respective individual. While not foolproof, it provides a fairly safe way for each person on the machine to have their own personal look and feel.

*Neal Berkowitz and Deborah Bean*

## WORDPERFECT / WINDOWS

Due to the rising questions and curiosity of the Web and creating Web pages, we will design our own Web page this month using Corel's WordPerfect 7! You will understand why it is not necessary to purchase more software just to create a Web page. In June we went into deep discussion on hypertext links and how these links can jump you from one spot in a document to another. This month we will take it a step further . . . all the way out to the World Wide Web. So bring a friend and let's design!

## Tip of the Month

The address book for WordPerfect 7 is very different. At the top of the book, there is a tab for each book you have open. If you do not see a tab for a book you know should be there and it isn't, you have closed it. Simply go to File: Open and you can open the correct address book up!

*Cindy Adams*





## NTPCUG Intranet Project Stalled — Fred Seeks Other BBS Solutions ...

### *NT 4.0 History?*

Had a little discussion with the BOD, and it was decided to seek alternate sources for our Intranet Web site. This was reluctantly done because we were receiving very little of what is needed from Microsoft. So now the plan is to start looking at alternatives. Maybe even Netscape!

This has turned into much more than a frustration for yours truly. I cannot believe it has taken this long, with as many false starts as have happened. If I didn't feel it is absolutely imperative something be done to replace the current BBS, I would have trashed the whole project last year.

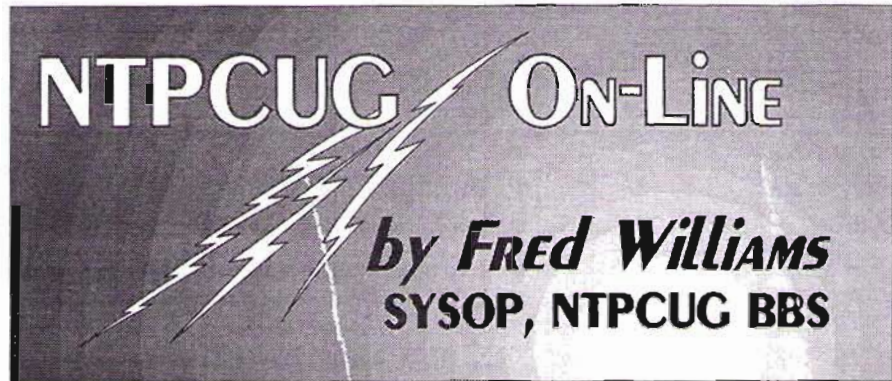
### **Great Time-Eating Bird...**

I still have more needs than my personal time allows. I even had to cut loose a paying project recently just to get some breathing room. I was just simply too busy and the client's schedule just too tight for me to keep delaying his delivery milestones. I transferred it into very conscientious hands, so I know he will be happy with the change.

Then, almost the very next day, I heard from a client for the first time in about four months. This one is complicated enough that the client feels uncomfortable with attempting a hand off, which has been offered more than once. Oh well, one should not complain.

### **BBS Traffic Increasing**

Meanwhile I have noticed some amount of increased message traffic on the "old" BBS. There have been some really good troubleshooting sessions of late. Questions have been asked. Situations have been described, and good solid answers and solutions have been forthcoming.



My old Paradox compadre, **Tom Browning** has evidently continued to dabble in *Access*, as he has received answers to some recent *Access* questions. A good number of both hardware and software issues have been addressed for others as well. It is good to see this kind of activity, as that is the whole intent of having a club BBS in the first place.

The club President, **Jim Hoisington**, even had complements for the BBS's Internet E-mail feature, in last month's Newsletter. Evidently Jim has been relying quite heavily on Internet E-mail to arrange the coming big Microsoft "do" at, I believe, the September meeting.

I even took the time to give a flaming liberal and professed Democrat a quick intro on how to use the BBS's Internet E-mail feed. Now, I do have to admit that was a tough one, politically speaking!

Speaking of politics, reminds me of **Lewis Graber**, one of our BBS's able SYSOP staff members and closet militia maven, has been occasionally passing along some entertaining ditties he has been snagging off the Net. I know Lewis is a big user of the E-mail link as well.

### **Web Waits = Frustration**

I have not checked the BBS usage statistics lately due to time constraints, but from recent message traffic it looks like not everyone is living full-time on the Web. I know that my frustration level rises each time I log on the Net and start looking for something.

I do have to admit, just out of curiosity, and really needing an answer, I recently did a Yahoo search on "Modulus 10", and received better than a dozen hits! I started reviewing the hits and managed to find a good description of both Mod10 and Mod11 check digit calculations, as well as some sample "C" code for them.

I'm going to try "UPC/EAN 128 Barcode" after I finish this article. Seems there are some formatting issues that are rumored to be important, but not addressed in our shallow printed documentation. I mean after receiving multiple hits on Modulus 10, UPC/EAN 128 Barcode should be a "no brainer"!

*Fred Williams*



## DOM Disks Released In July

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

Disk 1105. Apollo-Mission to the Moon 1.2, (6/97) - Space Simulation Game

Disk 1106. Clipmate 4.26, (5/97) - Enhanced Clipboard in Win31 or Win95

Disk 1107. Fund Manager, (5/97) - Investment Tracking Software

Disk 1108. Pro Backgammon 2.0, (4/97) - Game

Disk 1109. SnagIt Ver 4.0 Video Capture Program

Disk 1105. Apollo-Mission to the Moon 1.2, (6/97) - Space Simulation Game, Apollo-Mission to the Moon, Roger Robertson, PO Box 6217, Bluefield WV 24701-6217, cna00037@mail.wvnet.edu, Registration Fee: \$10.00

Apollo - Mission to the Moon is a simulation/game in which you command a spacecraft bound for the moon. Photo realistic graphics and authentic audio place you inside the cramped craft as it descends to the lunar surface. The game is divided into three distinct phases: Lunar Landing, Orbital Docking, and Earth Re-entry. Four levels of difficulty and a practice mode with online help are included. Clicking in the left corner brings up an options menu and in the right corner the play menu. High scores are kept. This is about as realistic as it gets. The graphics are superb, and the audio so authentic you'll swear you're in a spacecraft. Control of the craft is via the keyboard. This is the ultimate lunar-lander simulation.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS: Windows 3.1 or Windows95. Author suggests minimum hardware requirements are 486 or higher CPU, 8 meg of RAM 3.5 meg of hard drive space 256+ color video card, and sound card.

To install the program, place this disk in drive, make a directory on your hard disk. Copy this disk to that directory. Type the following with this disk in your "A" drive:

```
a:
apollo
```

This auto decompresses the Apollo.exe file. You can delete the apollo.exe file after you get the game going. The game is now ready to play, however, you may want to run the SETUP.EXE. To start the game, run the file APOLLOMM.EXE from Windows or Win95.

This software was downloaded from the ZD-Net internet site by Mark Gruner.

*This README prepared by ZD-Net & Mark Gruner, edited by Gene Carleton.*

Disk 1106. Clipmate 4.26, (5/97) - Enhanced Clipboard in Win31 or Win95, Clipmate 4.26, THORNSOFT Development, P.O. Box 26263, Rochester, NY 14626, www.thornsoft.com, Registration Fee: \$25.00

An answer to the age-old question: "Isn't there a better way to cut and paste in Windows?"

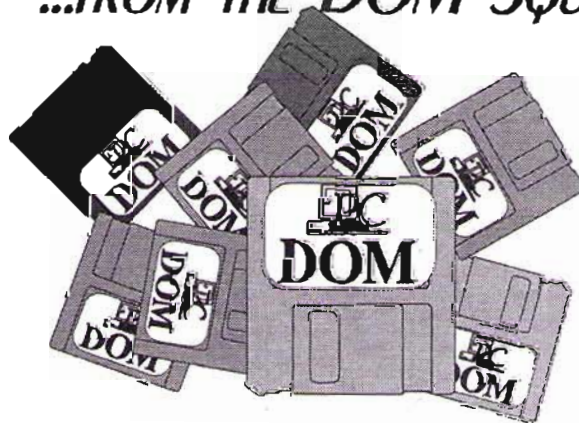
ClipMate is designed to enhance the functionality of the Windows clipboard. As you probably realize, the cut/copy/paste capability of Windows works well for transferring single items of data, but becomes very cumbersome if you want to move a lot of data or keep

data for a period of time longer than until your next cut or copy (at which time Windows overwrites the clipboard whether you were ready or not!)

ClipMate works alongside the regular clipboard in Windows by capturing every piece of data that you copy to the clipboard, and storing it in a collection. ClipMate can easily store hundreds of text & graphic data items. Using ClipMate's Thumbnail Grid (in the Picker Window), you can look at miniatures of all of your graphic items. Once the data is in ClipMate, you can select an item and it is automatically placed back on the clipboard, ready to paste into any application. You can view, print, edit, re-format, convert to upper/lower case, search for, re-name, and re-order clip items. In addition, you can create an unlimited number of collections in which to store your data. You can name them anything you'd like, and you have full control over the retention rules so that your collections will fit your own work process. You can use a "Short-Term" collection for a catch-all, and create "Long-Term" collections for topics like Tips & Tricks, Hot Internet URLs, Clip Art, Project X, or whatever you wish. ClipMate will help you be sure that you never accidentally lose a piece of data to the clipboard that you might have been able to use again later, and offers all the functionality you'd expect from a fully-featured clipboard utility.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS: Windows 95, NT 3.51 or NT 4.0 (for CM32\_426.EXE). Windows 3.1 or Windows for Workgroups 3.11 (for

## New Disks ...FROM THE DOM SQUAD



by MARK GRUNER

CM32\_426.EXE). 1 MB free disk space for program files, 8 MB RAM, any mouse or pointing device supported by Windows.

To install the Windows 3.1 version, run the file CM16\_426.EXE on this disk. To install the Win95 or NT version, run the file CM32\_426.EXE on this disk.

This software was downloaded from the Author's internet site by Mark Gruner.

*This README prepared by Author & Mark Gruner, edited by Gene Carleton.*

Disk 1107. Fund Manager, (5/97) - Investment Tracking Software, Fund Manager for Win 3.1 version 9.4, Fund Manager for Windows 95 version 2.4, Mark Beiley, P.O. Box 51641, Phoenix, AZ 85076-1641, <http://members.aol.com/Beiley/fundman.html>, Registration Fee: \$23.00 for Win 3.1 version \$29 for Win95

This disk contains both ver-



sions of the program in separate zip files. FM16.zip is for Windows 3.1 and FM32.ZIP is for Windows 95.

FM16.ZIP - Fund Manager for Windows is a portfolio management application, designed to help individual investors monitor and analyze their investments with a wide variety of easy to use graphs and reports. You input price, investment, and distribution information then review history, compare performance, etc. FM

will import from Prodigy and Quicken or retrieve the latest from AOL or CompuServe. This update adds QuickStock and complies with new PCQuote formatting. Fund Manager is an exceptional portfolio management program. A must have for any serious investor.

FM32.ZIP - Fund Manager for Windows 95 is a portfolio management application, designed to help individual investors monitor and analyze their investments with a wide variety of easy to use graphs and reports. You input price, investment, and distribution information then review history, compare performance, etc. FM will import from Prodigy and Quicken or retrieve the latest from AOL or CompuServe. Fund Manager is an exceptional portfolio management program. A must have for any serious investor. This minor update covers changes to PCQuote internet reply formatting.

**SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS:** Windows 3.1 or Windows 95 as appropriate.

To install the program, COPY either FM16.EXE or FM32.EXE to a temporary directory on your hard disk. Then go to that directory and type the name of the file you copied, i.e. FM32. To run or start the program type SETUP.EXE.

This software was downloaded from the ZD-Net internet site by Mark Gruner.

*This README prepared by ZD-Net & Mark Gruner, edited by Gene Carleton.*

Disk 1108. Pro Backgammon 2.0, (4/97) - Game. Pro Backgammon 2.0, WinGames, Inc., 3905 Sandia, Plano, TX 75023 USA, (972) 612-0839, email: [wingames@win-](mailto:wingames@win-)

[games.com](http://games.com), Registration Fee: \$10.00

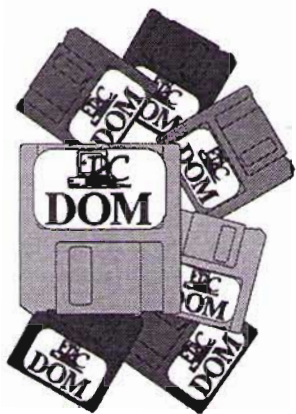
Enjoy a stimulating game of Backgammon with Pro Backgammon. You'll find an opponent for all levels. The game offers five types of match play, three levels of computer play, or play

against a human opponent on a single PC or via the Internet or a LAN. Match games can be saved and loaded. The included Board Designer lets you specify the playing piece colors and the design/colors of all aspects of the game board it-

## Top Twenty DOM Disks

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

- 1064 .. PKZip for DOS, WIN, OS/2 + Utils  
..... (PKZIP 2.04g and other Toys)
- 1066 .. MS Excel Interactive Tutorial
- 1065 .. Waste for Windows 1.5 (H/D cluster  
..... diagnostic utility)
- 1054 .. Power Toys for WIN95 (Utilities)
- 1053 .. SUPER WinWARE, Vol 6 (Windows  
..... Magazine Programs/Util's)
- 1070 .. HotDog 1.004 (HTML Editor with tables, etc.)
- 1073 .. JUNO (FREE E-mail SW and Provider Disk)
- 1077 .. PKZIP for Windows 2.50 (Compression utilities)
- 1079 .. SYSCHK 2.43 (System infor checker)
- 1074 .. MS Windows 95 Tutorial (Learn to use  
..... Windows 95)
- 1063 .. ViruScan/VSheild DOS, 2.2.12 (McAfee's  
..... DOS-based Anti-Virus program)
- 1076 .. F-PROT 2.25 (Virus detection and protection)
- 1075 .. PROVIEW for Windows
- 1080 .. Screen Thief 95 1.02 (Windows 95 screen capture)
- 1068 .. SmartDraw 95
- 1055A&B Time & Chaos 5.1.3 for Windows 95 (PIM -  
..... Personal Information Manager - for WIN95)
- 1062A&B ViruScan, WINDOWS 3.x-OS2 2.2.12  
..... (McAfee's Anti-Virus for Windows 3.x  
..... and OS/2 systems)
- 1071 .. Zip Code Explorer 1.2
- 1072 .. Duncce 2.4 (Dialup net connection enhancements)
- 1057 .. SLMR 2.1a (Silly Little Mail Reader - Off-Line  
..... Mail Reader)



self. Music and sound can be toggled. A detailed Help file will get you up and playing quickly. This program will give even the expert Backgammoner a run for their money. This evaluation version will allow you to play 10 games.

**SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS:**  
Windows 95

To install the program, copy the file PROBACK.EXE to a directory on your hard disk and Start the program from Windows95. Use either Explorer or the RUN Command, i.e. at the RUN command, type:

C:\Your Directory  
Name\PROBACK

where Your Directory Name is the name of the directory you copied the program to.

This software was downloaded from the ZD-Net internet site by Mark Gruner.

*This README prepared by  
ZD-Net & Mark Gruner, edited  
by Gene Carleton.*

Disk 1109. SnagIt Ver 4.0  
Video Capture Program,  
SnagIt Ver 4.0 32-bit (ver  
2.16 16-bit version),  
TechSmith Corporation, P.O.  
Box 4758, East Lansing, MI  
48826-4758, TEL : 517-333-  
2100, FAX : 517-333-1888,  
Support: sup-  
port@techsmith.com, WWW  
: <http://www.techsmith.com>,  
For a 45 day evaluation pe-

riod, the single-user license price is \$39.95.

SnagIt is a powerful Windows image, text, and video capture program that allows you many options. SnagIt is for any computer user who needs to capture more than a few screens for any purpose, such as:

- Capturing screens and menus in a Windows program to create documentation.
- Saving a screen to send to someone else.
- Printing screens to help plan program design changes.
- Saving a long window, even if it scrolls off-screen, with a single capture instead of clipping them together.
- Creating a multimedia program or computer based training (CBT).
- Integrating SnagIt's capture functionality into other applications through it's Dynamic Data Exchange (DDE) support.
- Reducing the number of repetitious steps required to capture many screens.
- Capturing AVI movies from live program action on your computer screen.
- Capturing text files from screens.

**SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS:**

Microsoft Windows 3.1x,  
Windows For Workgroups  
3.1x, Windows NT 3.51  
(or higher) or Windows 95 in-  
stalled and configured on  
your system. A mouse or  
other pointing device.

Installation :

Put this disk in your "A"  
drive.

From the Start menu, select  
Run

For Windows 3.1x and Win-  
dows NT 3.51 users:

From the Program Man-  
ager menu bar, choose File,  
and select Run from the  
drop down menu.

For all users:

In the dialog box, enter:  
a:\setup

SnagIt's installation will  
prompt you for all directory  
names/assignments.

This software was down-  
loaded from the ZD-Net in-  
ternet site by Mark Gruner.

*This README prepared and  
edited by Gene Carleton.*

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

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

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

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

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

**README Help available**

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

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

**Mark Gruner  
DOM Squad Leader  
(972) 964-8147**

# 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
<b>Access</b>				<b>Hardware Help</b>			
	Ram Bhandari .....	(972)243-4056 h	M-F 1300-1700		Charles Miller.....	(903)938-4220(*)	7 1900-2400
<b>Assembly Language</b>				<b>Internet - General</b>			
	Frank Cavallito .....	(972)423-9221	7 1800-2200		Erik Leaseburg .....	(817)265-7550(m)	7 2000-2200
	Glynn Brooks.....	(972)578-8737	M-F 1700-2200		David Martin .....	(972)930-0283	M-F 1900-2200
<b>BASIC</b>				<b>Internet - Telnet, FTP, NetScape, Web Explorer (OS/2)</b>			
	Mike Firth .....	(214)827-7734	7 0800-2200		Bob Wilson .....	(972)517-1434	M-F 1900-2200
<b>Beginner Problems</b>							S-S 1000-2200
	Jan Parkhill.....	(214)828-2216	M-Sa 0900-1700	<b>LANs — Novell</b>			
	Shirley Hudgens.....	(903)432-9780	7 0900-2000		Joseph Beasley .....	(972)225-8752	7 0800-2400
<b>Brother's Keeper</b>				<b>— Lantastic</b>			
	Neil Sunderland.....	(972)272-2869	7 0900-2200		Joseph Beasley .....	(214)410-3818	7 0900-2200
<b>C++ (the language)</b>				<b>Managing Your Money</b>			
	Bob Adams.....	(214)328-1455	M-Sa 0900-1900		Glynn Brooks .....	(972)578-8737	M-F 1700-2200
	Howard Harkness.....	(817)267-6227	7 1000-2100	<b>Modems</b>			
<b>CA Clipper</b>					Erik Leaseburg .....	(817)265-7550(m)	7 2000-2200
	Richard Mitchell.....	(972)625-9130M	M-F 1900-2100	<b>MathCAD</b>			
	.....		SS 0900-2300		Bob Adams.....	(214)328-1455	M-Sa 0900-1900
<b>CorelDraw</b>				<b>Norton Utilities</b>			
	Linda Hume .....	(817)472-7555	M-F 1900-2200		John Dyer .....	(972)790-3311	M-Sa 0800-2200
	.....		S-S 1300-2200	<b>OS/2</b>			
<b>Batch Files</b>					Larry Truesdale .....	(972)442-7074	7 1000-2200
	Charles Miller .....	(903)938-4220(*)	7 1900-2400	<b>PC Tools/Win</b>			
<b>Borland C++</b>					Glynn Brooks .....	(972)578-8737	M-F 1700-2200
	Bob Adams.....	(214)328-1455	M-Sa 0900-1900	<b>Paradox</b>			
	Howard Harkness.....	(817)267-6227	7 1000-2100		Fred Williams.....	(972)492-1315	7 1300-2100
<b>CompuServe</b>				<b>PKzip/PKUNzip</b>			
	Bob Adams.....	(214)328-1455	M-Sa 0900-1900		Erik Leaseburg .....	(817)265-7550(m)	7 2000-2200
<b>dBASE III, III+, IV &amp; Windows</b>				<b>ProComm/ProComm+</b>			
	Ted Gillam .....	(972)964-7923	7 0800-1700		Bill Green.....	(817) 731-1308	
<b>DOS</b>					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				
<b>DR DOS</b>							
	Ralph Beaver .....	(817)336-0570	M-F 0800-1700				
	.....	(817)624-9530	SS 0900-2100				

# NTPCUG User - To - User Program

SUBJECT	HELPER	PHONE	DAYS/HOURS
<b>Publisher (Microsoft)</b>			
	Bob Russell .....	(972)422-4269	7 1900-2200
	Pat Cote .....	(972)831-8055	M-F 0800-1700
	.....	(972)496-3894	7 1000-2200
<b>Quicken</b>			
	Jim Hall .....	(214)348-7848	7 1000-2100
<b>Quickbooks</b>			
	Jim Thompson .....	(214)953-0051	M-F 0800-1800
<b>SPFPC</b>			
	Doug Gorrie .....	(214) 464-4568	M-F 0800-1700
	.....	(972) 618-8002	S-S 1000-1900
<b>UNIX</b>			
	Doug Scott .....	(817)261-4653	7 1830-2200
<b>Virus &amp; Anti-Virus</b>			
	Charles Miller .....	(903)938-4220(*)	7 1900-2400
<b>Visual Basic -</b>			
	Jim Carter .....	(972)235-5968	7 1700-2130
	L.J. Johnson .....	(972)495-9067	7 1700-2130
	Gene Hamelman .....	(972)495-6342	7 1700-2130

SUBJECT	HELPER	PHONE	DAYS/HOURS
<b>Windows for Workgroups</b>			
	Joseph Beasley .....	(972)225-8752	7 0800-2400
	Joseph Beasley .....	(214)410-3818	7 0900-2200
	Bob Russell .....	(972)422-4269	7 1900-2200
<b>Windows NT 4.0 &amp; 3.51</b>			
	Richard Miles .....	(972)296-5356	M-F 1900-2200
	.....	.....	SS 10:00-16:00
	.....	(214)767-7315	M-F 1500-1700
<b>Word for Windows</b>			
	Bob Russell .....	(972)422-4269	7 1900-2200
<b>Works, Microsoft</b>			
	Mike Firth .....	(214)827-7734	7 0800-2200
<b>XENIX</b>			
	Doug Scott .....	(817)261-4653	7 1830-2200
<b>XTREE</b>			
	John Dyer .....	(972)790-3311	M-Sa 0800-2200


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

**LEGEND:**

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

**Areas Needing Helpers:**

- Borland Turbo C
- CAD
- Delphi
- Fox Pro
- Harvard Graphics
- LapLink
- Microsoft C
- Microsoft C++
- Microsoft Visual C++
- Microsoft Word
- Pagemaker
- Roots
- Sound Blaster
- TurboTax
- Corel Ventura
- WordPerfect/ Windows
- XTREE



## North Texas PC Users Group, Inc

### Membership Application

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

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

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

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

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

Phone (Check preferred) Home: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Work: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Ext. \_\_\_\_\_

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

*Check one from each column below*

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Cash _____	Classification:	New Member _____
Check _____	Regular (\$30.00)	Renewal _____
Credit Card _____	Student (\$25.00)	Address Change _____

Applications should be mailed to: North Texas PC Users Group, P.O. Box 703449, Dallas, TX 75370-3449 (Make checks payable to : NTPCUG.)

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

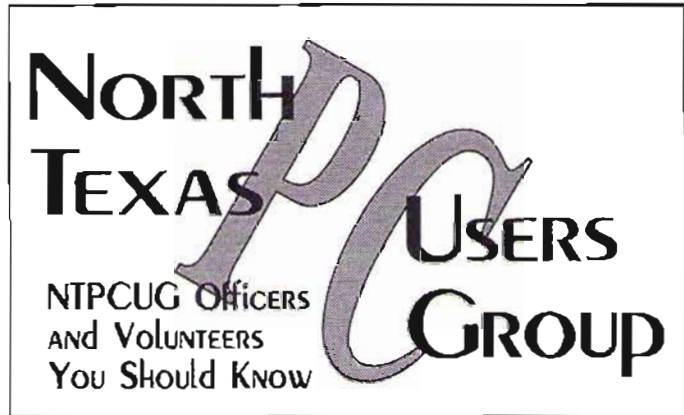
# North Texas PC Users Group, Inc.

P.O. Box 703449, Dallas, TX 75370-3449

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

The North Texas PC Users Group, Inc., is a non-profit, independent group, not associated with 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

## Address Changes, etc...

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

**NTPCUG Membership Director**  
**P.O. Box 703449**  
**Dallas, Texas 75370-3449**

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

## NTPCUG Officers

President	Jim Hoisington	(972) 416-3101 h
President-Elect	Andy Oliver	(972) 462-1896 h (972) 960-4215 w
Program Chairman	Timothy Carmichael	(972) 661-4626 w
Treasurer	Eb Foerster	(214) 357-7602 h
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	Mark Gruner	(972) 964-8147 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**  
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## North Texas PC Users Group

*Next Meeting:*  
**9 August 1997**

