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DEADLINE
Copy deadline for July
North Texas PC NEWS:
Wednesday, June 24th

Meeting Dates:

June 20, 1998 – 3rd Saturday
July 18, 1998 – 3rd Saturday
August 15, 1998 – 3rd Saturday



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

North Texas PC News

Advertising Prices and Policies

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

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

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

Policies & Mechanicals:

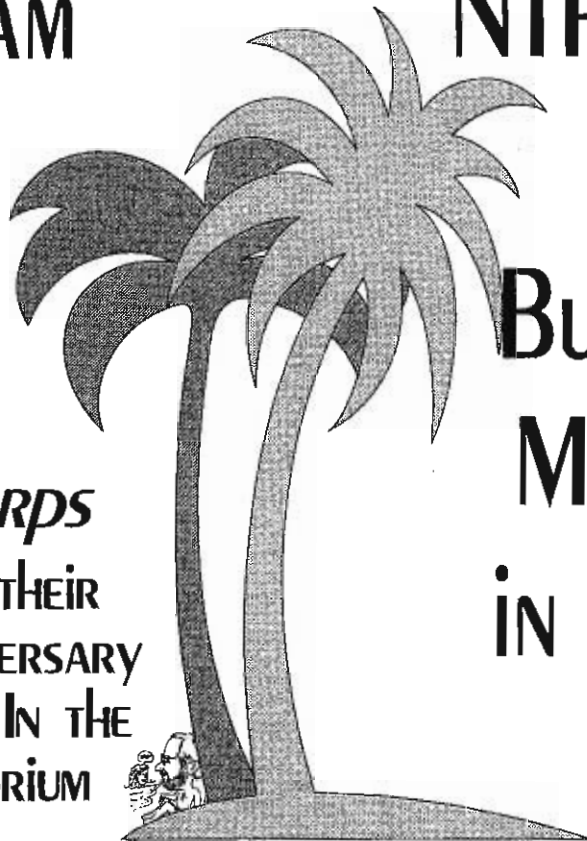
- Commercial ads must be in repro form, in final size, ready for printing.
- Halftones must be furnished as final size, screened prints or negatives.
- Halftone screens cannot exceed 100 LPI maximum.
- No ads on front cover. Bleed pages and color must be discussed with Publisher before submission.
-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

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Make checks payable to: North Texas PC Users Group, Inc.

11:00 AM

Try ONE of
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Apple Corps
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 TODAY IN THE
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NTPCUG

JUNE

BUSINESS

MEETING

IN ROOM

1061

JUNE 20, 1998

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
Introduction to the PC
SQL Server
Quicken
Visual BASIC
Windows Applications
MS Word for Windows

9:00 - 10:55
Dallas Core!

10:00 - 10:55
ACT!
CAD
Delphi
Emerging Technologies
Fox Pro Database
Networking
Internet-Beginning
Introduction to the PC
PAF-Genealogy
WordPerfect for Windows
UNIX

11:00 - 11:30
Business Meeting

11:00 - 11:55
Assembly Language
Family Tree Maker

11:00 - 11:55 Ctd.
CAD (Cont.)
Investors
Graphics
Microsoft FrontPage
Paradox
Ultimate Family Tree
Spreadsheets
Microsoft Visual C++/MFC

11:30 - 12:00
NTPCUG Orientation

12:00 - 12:55
Access
Alpha Four
C++ Language
Communications
Desktop Publishing
Introduction to the PC
Java
The Master Genealogist

12:00 - 1:55
VRGN Internet Gaming

1:00 - 1:55
ActiveX Developers
Business Apps./DAC Easy

Introduction to the PC
Lotus Notes & Domino

QuickBooks

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) and remember to check the hand-outs in the INFOMART lobby and at the NTPCUG Information Booth in the Vendor Area for latest SIG schedules and room locations.

NOT FUN . . .

The May user group Saturday meeting was not fun. The Infomart informed the DFW Xchange that we needed to extricate our belongings from the storage room on the 6th floor. We have been given temporary storage space in the basement parking garage, with the options for the future still up in the air.

This meant that stuff had to be moved. Alex Lilley and I started moving the NTPCUG equipment, DOM diskettes, and computer equipment at 9am. Between 11am and noon, we had a very good business meeting with a lot of participation, after which Jim Hoisington and I carried the user group envelopes that we stored on the 6th floor to his car, to be stored in the BBS office in Addison. Alex, who usually gets to the Infomart at 6:30am to set up the computers and check on the meeting rooms, had to leave to attend his son-in-law's college graduation.

I lost an hour somewhere, oh yes, I stopped for lunch, and then started picking up the user group computers. Claude McClure, King of the Information Booth, related to me that he did not get to lunch on Saturday. Richard Miles picked up the NT SIG computer because it has started having problems, and it is going in the shop at Lucky Computers. On picking up the other two computers and wheeling them to the basement, I found a note on one of them from Larry Linson, Access and ActiveX Developers SIG leader, stating that their computer locked up on them multiple times during his presentation. So, it needs to be looked at.

I did not make it to a SIG meeting, an auditorium presentation, and I spent about 15 minutes walking around the vendor area. So I can assess my day as not fun. Claude's day without a break certainly will fall in the range of not fun. Alex, who does so much behind the scenes and gets abuse when things don't go right, even if they are beyond his control, can certainly classify his day at the Infomart as one that provided very little "fun"

The point of all of this is not to discourage people from volunteering. We need some help, and it does not have to be computer-related. Setting up and putting away the equipment can be shared by multiple individuals. Alex does it month after month, while Claude does the Information Booth each month. Many times Claude gains the assistance from Booth volunteers, so that helps lighten his load somewhat.



THE REST OF THE NOT FUN DAY

After the meeting, I rented a U-Haul van. My wife and I loaded it up with furniture and drove to Houston to take it to our daughter. Our daughter and her roommate helped us unload the van except the entertainment center which we decided to save for Sunday. We collapsed in a hotel room at midnight. On Sunday, my daughter convinced three college guys to help with the rest of the move. The final load of stuff, including another entertainment center, got loaded in the van and returned to Dallas Sunday afternoon. I thought that if I wanted to be in the moving business, I would have just stayed at the user group meeting.

WHAT'S NEXT - FUN I HOPE

- ❖ Rule number one - make sure the troops get fed.
- ❖ Rule number two - find two things that you want to do on Saturday and do them.
- ❖ Rule number three - make sure that everyone who volunteers for the user group enjoys what they are doing
- ❖ Rule number four - convince more people to help
- ❖ Rule number five - get the fun back in the user group

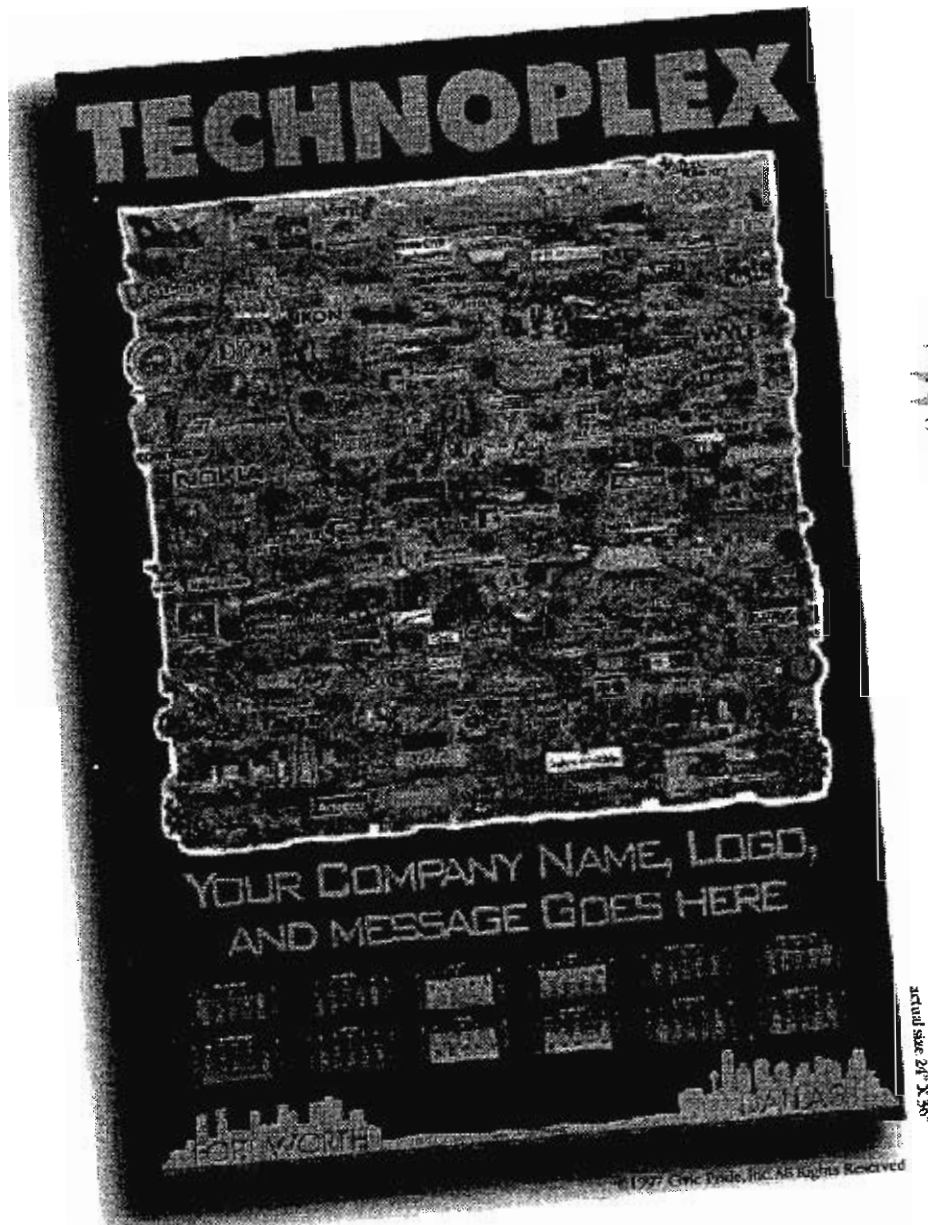
And if that doesn't work..

A Big Thank You

Victoria Parry, Regional Manager for TenFour US (www.tenfour.com), our 10am presenter in May, made a \$250 contribution to the NTPCUG. Even though her presentation encountered audio difficulties, Victoria wanted to help out. The user group is truly grateful.

Continued on Page 4.

SIZE DOESN'T MATTER!



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NTPCUG Ticket Policy Unfair

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Saturday, April 11, 1998

North Texas PC Users Group, Inc.
 Mr. Andy Oliver
 President
 Box 780066
 Dallas, TX 75378-0066

Dear Mr. Oliver:

Enclosed is my renewal membership check, but I am sending it in with a valid protest!!!!!!

PREZ SEZ . . . Ctd.

Any of you

For anyone (or any company) who is flush and wishes to donate to the NTPCUG, we are a qualified 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. The donations are tax deductible.

ART English

Long time NTPCUG SIG leader and user group member is moving on to Pennsylvania. The land of cheesesteak's gain is our loss. Good luck Art.

DOM Disk GIVEAWAY


Since we lost the storage room at the Infomart, we have a lot of DOM disks that have no home. We will be giving them away at the June meeting. Maybe we'll give you 10 3-1/2" disks, but you have to take 10 5-14" disks with you.

PEOPLE MOVE ON

John West, NTPCUG Secretary for many years, is being pulled in the direction of the job that pays the bills. John has been spending a lot of time in London, which makes it hard to attend NTPCUG meetings. John's behind-the-scenes hard work and contribution to the user group has been truly appreciated. John, we hope to still see you at the meetings when you are in town.

Andy

Members' Gripes NTPCUG Comments & Opinions



If I have to bring my membership card and/or monthly mailer to prove that I am a member in good standing to participate in the drawings, I adamantly object to nonmembers getting to participate in the drawings too!

I do not care how many extra tickets you give me. It does not make up for the number of nonpaying attendees in the drawing process. Further, what incentive, if any, does it provide for them to join NTPCUG, if they can participate in the drawing while sitting beside a paying member? [Ed. Note: We agree with your point, however, a number of our vendors demand that all people attending their presentations be given tickets for the product drawings regardless of NTPCUG membership.]

I must confess that I seriously considered not wasting my \$30 renewal; however, NTPCUG is worth more than \$30 to me. The monthly newsletter isn't free. The building and other expenses are not free and volunteers can only do so much, so I sent in my money.

But you need to quit giving free rides to people who don't belong.

Last month, MSFT had a drawing and nonmembers were allowed to participate because the sponsor of the event supposedly made a mailing error. Fine, let them make another error and reimburse me my \$30. Only then will the sponsor correct their ways.

Congratulations on a hard job mostly well done!!

Bullishly,

Bullish Bob

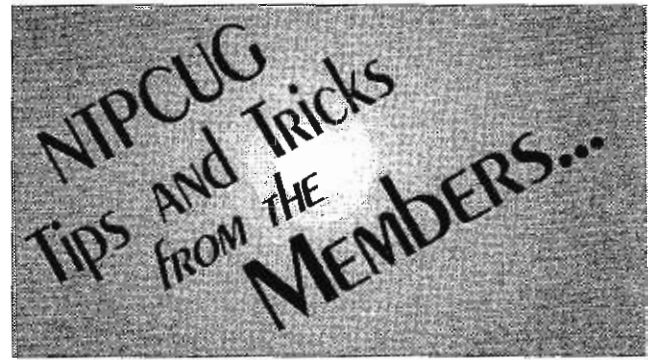
Ask Verio

Ask Verio will be a regular feature of the NTPCUG newsletter that allows you to have your Internet questions answered by the members of the Verio-Texas technical staff. If you have a question regarding the Internet that you'd like answered please forward your inquiries to . With offices located in Dallas/Ft.Worth, Houston and Austin, Verio-Texas is the state's largest Internet service provider. To learn more about Verio-Texas' products and services visit .

Q. I purchased a 56K modem, but don't get 56K speeds, even though my ISP says he has V.90 modems at his end. In fact, I don't get much better speed than I did with my 33.6K modem.

Why not?

A. You're all revved up, but your not getting there as fast as you'd like. Unfortunately, the answer to your question begins with that dreaded phrase, "it depends" Although the confusion, and non-interoperability of 56K modem technology, has seem-



ingly been eliminated with the adoption and deployment of the new V.90 standard, one fundamental issue can't be solved by any standards body—the type of telephone connection you have. Due to the fact that 56K technology requires at least one side of the connection to be entirely digital, the path that the phone line takes from your home is the major determinant as to the ultimate speed of your connection. For example, many locations are serviced by a device known as a DACS box, which is used by the phone company to efficiently deliver phone lines to neighborhoods. Although this device works well for the phone company, it disrupts the digital connection between your home and your service provider, thereby slowing the speed of your connection below the desired rate of 56K.

This reliance on the quality and type of connection to achieve full 56K connectivity is acknowledged by all of the leading modem vendors. A closer review of their documentation will reveal some type of disclaimer indicating that 56K speeds represent a theoretical maximum throughput (40-45Mbps is typically more realistic) under the proper conditions at both ends of the connection. Fortunately, there is a way to determine if 56K technology is available where you live. By visiting the following URL: and following their detailed instructions you can quickly see if an investment in a new modem, or an upgrade to your current version is worth your time and effort.

Q. I've heard that there may be ways for an ISP to cache heavily-accessed Web pages to improve a customer's browser performance. Does Verio do

Who's Verio?

Verio merged with ONRAMP earlier this year. Verio will be hosting the NTPCUG Web page and assisting with transition to a more integrated site that will feature member E-mail and newsgroup access in the future.

ONRAMP
TECHNOLOGIES

Voted "BEST REGIONAL ISP"
by *SmartMoney* Magazine (May 1997)

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WHAT'S THAT WINDOWS KEY GOOD FOR?

By Beverly Kurtin

Do you have a Windows compatible keyboard? You can tell by just looking at your keyboard. If you have a "flying windows" key between your Control and Alt keys, you have one.

But are the keys good for anything other than just popping up the Start menu? You betcha. Whole bunches of things.

Let's say that you've got four or five applications open and you want to get back to your desktop in a hurry. Press the Windows key (I'll call it the WinKey for the rest of this article) and the letter "M," and in an instant, you're on the desktop.

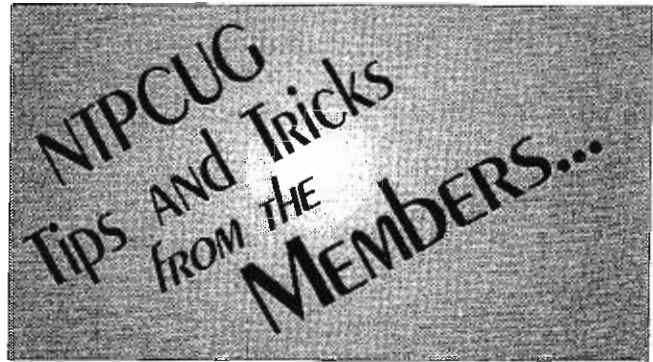
Ask Verio ... Ctd.

this? If so, what keeps a cached page current when the real page updates?

R. Network caching can improve the overall speed and performance for your Internet users. The key question is where is this function best deployed?

Caching Web pages is extremely processor and disk intensive because you're obviously storing a great deal of information locally. The benefit to your users is that they aren't forced to completely download a new page from the Internet with each new request. Ensuring that users are receiving the most recent version of updated pages is a function of setting shorter "Time to live" (TTL) intervals on the caching serving. By setting shorter TTL intervals the server polls the Web page with greater frequency to increase the likelihood that it is displaying the most recent version.

Because caching is both disk and processor intensive the most cost effective and efficient way to implement this capability is to communities of common interest. Using this approach minimizes the number of Web pages actually cached to those most commonly accessed throughout the organization. As a result caching is best implemented at the individual business or organizational level where a commonality of Web site requests can be expected. Since the interests of any ISP's subscriber base, including Verio's, are wide ranging to say the least, caching is not a function that can truly be effectively implemented (for a variety of obvious cost and service reasons) by your ISP.



Want to go back to the last application in which you were working? Press Shift + WinKey + M. Ta-daa, you're there!

An alternative is to press the key combo WinKey + D. That is a toggle which will take you to the desktop, pressing the combination a second time takes you back to the application in which you were working. Need the Accessibility Properties box? Just press WinKey + A. WinKey + E takes you to Exploring My Computer, WinKey + F opens the Find dialog box.

WinKey + P allows you to see your printer setup, and WinKey + R brings up the Run dialog box. Finally, WinKey + F1 opens Windows Help.

So what about that odd-looking key on the right side of the keyboard, just to the left of the Control key? That's the context menu key. Try pressing your left mouse button. Now press the menu key. Same menu, just a little easier for those of us who like to use keyboard strokes instead of reaching over for the mouse.

Not all of these keyboard combinations may work with all EOM versions of Windows 95. As you're no doubt aware, each computer manufacturer messes around with Windows a bit. This group of keys was tested with a Packard Bell Platinum 4500.

If you happen to use Internet Explorer 4.x, try pressing the WinKey + R. When the Run dialog box appears just type www.whatever.com, press Enter, and IE will launch with that site as its opening page.

[Ed. Note: Beverly forgot to mention that the WinKey will also reduce a DOS application and place it on the Task Bar so that other applications/games can be employed in Win 95. To get it back, just click on the application.]

Beverly Kurtin

REFLECTIONS ON A WASTED YOUTH, POKER AND REAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN 'WINNERS' AND 'LOSERS' IN THE DOJ v. Microsoft 'Monopoly' Suit . . .

Reagan just couldn't keep quiet any longer

Back in my less illustrious youth, I discovered Poker. This led to several other discoveries. Two of which were that playing Poker well involved a lot of hard work and study (I display profound allergic reactions to both), and if the player didn't make the investment in the former, he or she could plan on losing a lot of money to those who did. Shunning one route to social success and too lazy to learn the piano or guitar, I observed that poor players were rarely aware of their lack of skill and blamed their losses on "luck" and fact that other (winning) players were unduly "lucky."

They also didn't know when to quit playing. I probably made as much as the "winning" Poker players by lending money at "nominal" interest rates (\$10 for \$20) and I would be waiting at the end of the pay line. That was a long time ago — when I wore my country's uniform for \$78 a month.

Microsoft v. Department of Justice (DOJ), et al. (SUN, Netscape, Rebak, Noorda, and about a bazillion states attorneys general) reminds me greatly of those days. Only now, the "poor players" are loudly hollering "Monopoly" instead of "Luck."

Sorry, chumps, you're still losers and name of the game is "Marketing." Gates and Microsoft do this extremely well. IBM, DRI (Digital Research Inc.) and others don't/didn't at critical times in the PC's history. We live in a "Windows World" now because all of the other players looked in the wrong direction and tripped over their own feet.

IT ALL STARTED AT THE PC'S BIRTH IN 1981

IBM released the first IBM PC in 1981 and when we bought our first machine in early 1983, we had three choices of operating systems, PC-DOS 1.1 for \$30, CP/M-86 (DRI) for \$195, and "pseudo" systems based on FORTRAN and PASCAL for \$600+. We, as did most other PC buyers, chose PC-DOS figuring we could switch to one of the other operating systems (OS's) later, if necessary to obtain software we wanted.

Ergo, my first word processor was *EDLIN* and I actually wrote some long assessment reports using the line editor. Second was another IBM program, *Word Proof*

which cost \$50 and had both word-wrapping as well as spell checking and other "real" editing tools. IBM had a *winner* in *Word Proof*, but failed to see its value and didn't market the product aggressively at all, focusing instead on *EasyWriter*. When I finally got a "real" word processor, *MS Word 1.0*, it cost \$495, and didn't have a built-in spelling utility. It was DOS-based and fit on a single 360K floppy disk. I don't use *Word 1.0* anymore, but do still use both *Word Proof* and *Word 6.0* (DOS) as well as *EDLIN*.

Most of us continued to work primarily in DOS until *Windows 3.0* arrived. I had tried DRI's *GEM*

THE VARIETY STORE

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

(*Ventura Publisher*) and various versions of *Windows 1.x* and *2.x* that were quite unsatisfactory. *GEM* could have taken off if DRI would have marketed it well. Same thing applied to *DR DOS*. Although a worthy contender to *PC/MS-DOS*, it failed to flourish even after Novell with much better resources tried their hand at marketing an OS other than *NetWare*. ("Novell Marketing" then was considered an oxymoron.)

THE VARIETY STORE

LET THE REVOLUTION BEGIN

Windows 3.0 set the stage and *Windows 95* took it over almost completely. Applications makers who were good at forecasting, immediately focused on the Windows platform. Lotus and WordPerfect, with their respective near monopolies in the DOS arena, didn't. Both have been gobbled up and are owned by somebody else now. And, both have been replaced by Microsoft applications as most users' choices.

Even Apple noticed something important was happening. Instead of innovation, i.e., licensing the Macintosh OS and creating some really significant platform competition, Apple took the less cerebral route, called in their attorneys and sued Microsoft for stealing the features from the Macintosh that Apple had stolen originally from Xerox. When Apple finally lost and realized their huge blunder they tried to rectify the situation by OS licensing to cloners, but Jobs put a quick end to that last year when he came back to a rapidly-failing Apple on a white charger — after divesting himself of most if not all of his Apple stock. (Steve may be brutally arrogant, but he's not stupid.)

IBM had been nursing OS/2 for several years with little if any success. Even by DOS+Windows standard it was huge, demanded immense hardware resources and was an exercise in pain during installation. Comdex/Fall '95 saw IBM actually trying to market a product — OS/2 3.0 Warp. With one exception, it wasn't the same

old OS/2. Warp was fast, parsimonious with system resources and very powerful. The one exception, difficulty in installation and setup plus timing, probably killed Warp as a real threat to the new Windows 95 released three months earlier by Microsoft.

MICROSOFT GETS EVERYBODY'S ATTENTION

Windows 95 was big all the way around. It completed the competition for the home users' desktops and in combination with *Windows NT* made a real play for the big corporate environments. This was seconded by a determined foray into the Internet sphere as Microsoft shifted its attention/marketing/programming to the World Wide Web. This definitely got SUN, Novell, Netscape and IBM's attention as they saw their various hegemonies threatened by the Microsoft juggernaut.

The Microsoft haters crept out from under their slime-covered, slippery rocks, hopped back in their saddles, herded together their slaving, ravening hoards of attorneys and descended afresh on the new Mecca for "even playing fields," Washington, DC. This vanguard had been preceded by copious donations to the coffers of those worthy legislators at election time and now the piper(s) wanted recompense.

Some of the criticism was probably valid, since Microsoft learned a lot about marketing from IBM and Novell who could and did play real hardball at this

level. Criticisms of Microsoft marketing practices/techniques, have frequently mentioned "FUD" (Fear, Uncertainty & Doubt) as if Microsoft invented this ploy. It was most definitely an IBM invention of old and was very skillfully wielded by Big Blue's (IBM) reps long before Microsoft existed.

One of the earlier Netscape-inspired, *monopolistic* charges that Microsoft's giving *Internet Explorer (IE)* away rather than charging for it was "unfair" was so funny it was incomprehensible. Netscape's *Navigator* then owned 80% of the browser "market." I put market in quotes because I never paid for Navigator, nor do I know anyone else who did pay for the browser. It has always been available from their Web site as a download. There were/are other browser vendors, but competing with Netscape's free product doomed most to oblivion even though several were much better than either Navigator or IE.

NETSCAPE AVOIDS THIS LITTLE 'HISTORICAL NUGGET' NOW.

Connie got her copy of Navigator as part of her Internet setup package from AT&T. I received a similar copy of Navigator from SWBELL when I switched from I-Link who gave me *Mosaic* in their package.

Connie was so angry at Netscape's attempting to "weasel out" of the limelight after slinging profuse quantities of mud that she planned to switch to IE as a result. Her decision solidified when she recently encountered problems with her AT&T home page not working. After being unable to send a message to find out what was happening, she placed a call to AT&T. She discovered that Netscape had re-

cently updated their software from her Version 2.02E to a newer version, which didn't recognize most of her home page and is why she couldn't even communicate electronically about the problem. Seems the upgrade notice and new software which was supposed to have come in the mail, did not. At her request, AT&T rep was only to happy to send new IE INSTEAD of Netscape to accommodate her wishes. Seems she was not the first person to encounter this problem.

I have a suspicion that most users simply used the browser installed by their ISP and never really paid attention to whether it came from Microsoft or Netscape.

DOJ DigS really deep For latest Microsoft Monopoly charges?

Evil Microsoft has been pitiless in its pursuit of obscene profits and has illegally used its huge share of the market to "stifle innovation and keep prices artificially high." (*Evil, pitiless and obscene* are my usage, they were implied by DOJ spokespeople in discussing this new DC spin on the DOJ case against Microsoft recently.) When reminded of the extremely low prices MS is charging for its software, DOJ response was that it would be even lower and more economical if MS didn't have their current market position. Duh!

This gets funnier by the minute. Applications software pricing is the most brutal battlefield around next to hard disks, CD-ROM drives and DRAM. In addition, MS and other publishers lose \$billions annually to offshore software pirates.

Microsoft critics, however point to constantly dropping PC prices



as example of Microsoft's obscene power to keep prices artificially high. The comparison displays significant ignorance of the business and a lack of any regard for the two different realities. They also are ignoring the growing number of former PC makers who have been forced out of the market by the bloody price wars.

Hardware has several advantages over software that aren't immediately apparent to the casual observer. Much of the initial cost of the PC was a factor of numbers and the omnipresent "learning curve." In the CPU arena, makers often lose money on initial chip offerings, but become profitable as they advance on the learning curve and are able to increase chip yields significantly. Intel is expert in this game and their position on the learning curve has made challenging their supremacy very, very difficult for upstarts in x86 arena.

As chip-making technology advances and extremely large scale integration becomes more common, system prices drop as a result of reduced number of chips involved, easier fabrication and lower failure rates. Also, a chip or board design may be constant for several years as opposed to current 6-9 month upgrade

cycles experienced by the software industry.

Software publishers, on the other hand, don't have the luxury of "standard parts" that can be assembled into an entire program in spite of concerted efforts to develop this technology. Often entire suites of applications must be rewritten from scratch quite quickly in order not to be left behind in the competition for upgrades. Setting prices too low coupled with failure to get new product ready on a timely basis can be deadly to a company's survival prospects. Just ask Borland.

Comparisons at the OS level are quite informative. See below.

Word 2.0 for Windows came with a speller, Word Art, drawing program, linking , etc.

Somehow this doesn't look like predatory pricing. The "*" referred to competitive upgrades of

1983	DOS 1.1	2 FDs	360K	\$30.	IBM
1983	DOS 2.0	2FDs	360K	\$60	IBM
1985	DOS 4.0	4 FDs	360K	\$90	IBM
1987	DOS 5.0	3 FDs	1.44M	\$89	MS
					Nissan Maxima \$15,000
1990	DOS 6.0	4 FDs	1.44M	\$90*	MS
1991	DOS 6.22	1FD	1.44M	\$10	MS
					Upgrade from 6.0
1995	Win95	22 FDs	2.0M	\$150	MS
1997	Win 95	CD-ROM	660M	\$80	MS
					Upgrade from 3.0
					Nissan Maxima \$28,000
Or, we could look at word processors					
1984	Word 1.0 DOS	3 FDs	360K	\$495MS	
1990	Word 2.0 Windows	9 FDs	1.44M	\$129*MS	
1997	Word 97	CD-ROM	660M	\$90*MS	

THE VARIETY STORE

the product. By DOS 6.0, MS was including virus checking, undelete features and a real backup program in the basic program as well as a much better EDIT function than EDLIN. I'd rather forget DOS 4.0 since it was written primarily by IBM and MS had to debug it extensively before release to other vendors.

INTERNET JOLLIES IN EUROPE — FREE SPEECH IN BAVARIA STRIKEN AGAIN IN MAY!

This is a tale of weak minds, weak wills and trembling knees. It isn't pretty.

When I was stationed in Germany during the early 1960's, anti-Nazi sentiment was quite high (at governmental levels.) It was illegal to play *Deutschland, Deutschland Über Alles*, the former German National Anthem and the Army's name had been changed from the Wehrmacht to the Bundeswehr. Recent article in the Wall Street Journal made me feel at home again.

Bavarian (Southern Germany) officials discovered the Internet in 1995. In the process, they also discovered that pornography could be found on the Web. Never terribly friendly toward free expression, Bavarian officials aimed their wrath first at CompuServe. America Online and Deutsche Telekom were targeted later, in 1996.

CompuServe "blinked" and tried to bar its 220,000 German customers from the offending newsgroups that had enraged the Bavarian officials. The rest (mostly) was a debacle as Com-

puServe blocked all its 4 million members from the Usenet newsgroups. This got a lot of attention from free speech advocates around the world. Issue? WSJ reported "Police in a conservative corner of a European state with restrictions on free speech were, in effect dictating what computer users in the U.S. could see."

German business community was even more disturbed and moved quickly to defend the ISP's in Germany with result that German law was changed to absolve the ISP from responsibility for content that is "technically possible and practical" to block from users/

Bavaria didn't give up. Offending CompuServe manager was brought to trial in Bavaria in May of this year and found "guilty" and fined \$56,000 by the judge, Judge Hubbert, even after the original prosecuting attorneys took the side of the defense and requested an acquittal for the CompuServe manager. It will be appealed.

Leads to a question on my part, though. How could Germans find the Internet pornographic while Hamburg's Rieper Bahn is still in business? I can't imagine anything on the Net comparable to walking down this infamous district's streets and gazing at the sights in the display windows.

3COM/US Robotics STRIKES ONE MORE TIME

The humor — and pain — just keeps flowing this month. I read the advertising, looked in the stores, and bought a US Robotics

Courier V. Everything in December, 1996. With heady expectations that 56K was just a step or two away. I also read the big sign on the side of the modem box that US Robotics promised "free upgrades" to the 56K "standard" when announced. That mother cost \$300+ when purchased.

Read the documentation, went to USR's Web site, downloaded some software that directed me to USR's BBS and went through a lot of back and forth garbage.

Then, I changed ISP's for SWBELL.NET who were at 33K. Period: Later this year, after seeing messages that indicated logging on at 26.4 and 28.8, SWBELL announced upgrading to 56K flex standards pending final release of the V.90 standard. Went back to 3COM/USR's Web site, which copiously advertised 56K upgrades and downloaded another utility that would be needed to go back to some BBS to upgrade.

The USR software was ready to upgrade, I was ready to upgrade, but then noticed they were requesting a credit card number so they could charge me \$60 for the upgrade. Hmmm. \$60 misses my definition of "free" by a substantial amount. Left a message on the Web site in March asking why. This is late May and I still haven't received an answer. However, I've seen a number of modems advertised as 56K ready, now, for somewhat less than 3COM/USR's \$60 fee.

Reagan Andrews

Selected SIG Reports . . .

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

Access SIG

In June: FMS, Inc.'s *Total Access Code Tools* - are software tools to make life easier for the Access user and developer, whose Hot Features list includes: Code Cleanup to add error handling and standardize existing code for increased readability and maintainability; Code Builders to simplify common programming tasks (procedures with error handling and comment blocks, a message box builder, conversion of SQL string to a variable in code, conversion for long text, a Select Case builder, and a new Property Builder for the class modules you create); and additional functions such as Book Maker to keep notes and tasks for each object, Access and System information, a List Fill function builder, and a Constants Generator. Whew! How did we ever get along with-

out it? SIG Leader Larry Linson will show and discuss Code Tools.

Caveat: If the demo machine is still "acting up" despite three attempts at correction, expect a presentation projected from transparencies or one backed up by the whiteboard

(Larry will try to remember to bring his own erasable marker this time). In either case,

That presentation *may* be on *Odd and Not-So-Odd Items of Interest* - near to and far back from the bleeding edge (many not even be remotely connected with Internetting), instead of the planned subject.

In May, regular SIG attendee Derrel Allen did a great demonstration and presentation of *Speed Ferret*. When Access people talk about

FROM THE SIG COORDINATOR

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

Groups Looking for Help in Leading their SIGs:

- MS Word for Windows [Contact Jan Patton @ (903) 886-6249h or janpat@unicomp.net]
- Spreadsheets SIG [Contact Eb Foerster @ (214) 357-7602 h]
- Dallas Corel [Contact Marsha Drebelbis (214) 951-0266]
- Hardware Solutions [Contact Charles Miller (903) 938-4220 h]

The requirements for forming a SIG are:

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

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

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

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS SIG LEADER LISTINGS

SIG Coordinator

Alex Lilley (972) 517-7430 h

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ACT I

Jim Thompson (817) 261-6159 h

..... (972) 487-8499 w

Deborah Bean (972) 475-7463 h

..... (972) 475-3124 w

Access

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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 Cavalito (972) 423-9221 h

Glynn Brooks (972) 578-8737 h

..... (972) 716-3281 w

Business Applications/DAC

Patt Shaw (972) 235-2559 h

Bruce Schubert .. (972) 394-5328 h

..... (972) 233-8353 w

C++ Language

Howard Harkness (972) 492-1508

CAD

Bill Saphon (972) 296-1799 h

..... (972) 387-3500 w

Neil Culver (972) 690-6552 h

..... (972) 235-3031 w

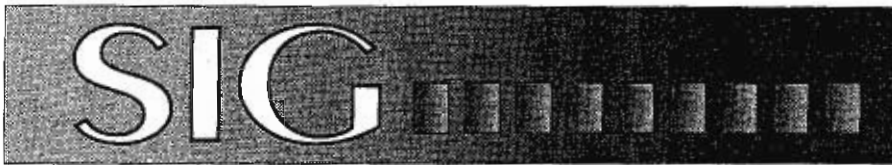
Communications

Alan Brosz (972) 548-7928 h

..... (972) 498-1237 w

Birl Smith (972) 960-8227 h

..... (214) 220-9388 w



add-ins for global search and replace, the commercial software they mention is Speed Ferret. Derrel confirmed that its reputation as solid and stable is justified. *Black Moshannon Systems* sent us a giveaway copy for Access 97, we had another for Access 95 donated by a SIG member, and yet another SIG member donated a giveaway copy of "The Book" (*Access 97 Developer's Handbook*, by Litwin, Getz, and Gilbert, published by SYBEX).

Looks ahead: Alas, the NTPCUG has lost the convenient storage space where our demo machine in its roll-about cabinet (and other NTPCUG material used each meeting day) are stored. The Board is looking into alternatives, but after June, we may be without a demo machine for an indeterminate period unless we have guest speakers who bring their own notebook. Unfortunately, our budget does not appear to allow us to replace the demo boxes with laptops unless some very generous donors step forward! In the meanwhile, plan on presentations with discussion, transparencies, and whiteboard. *GH*

Larry says he's still waiting to hear about *That Presentation You've Been Planning to Tell Larry You'll Do*. It can be for any level of Access user, novice through professional developer, on most any aspect of Access or on Access-related items. And, it'd be even better (see above)

Between meetings, 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. Oh, yes, while you're on the BBS, take advantage of the free Internet e-mail.

If you're on the Internet, the Access "meeting place" is the *comp.databases.ms-access* newsgroup.

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

Larry Linson

ActiveX Application Developers SIG

In June, Co-Leader Dan Ogden will present or will lead a discussion session on topics germane to our chosen subjects: ActiveX and Application Development. Larry and Dan seem to be having some voice-mail and e-mail communication difficulties, so the specific topic is unknown at the time of this writing.

In May, the hot topic of our discussion group was "estimating computer development projects". The consensus: break it down ("decompose" in the parlance of project management, though that makes me think of "biodegradable projects" which, come to think of it, is a perfectly accurate description of some projects I've observed) into manageable-sized parts, compare the work to be done to work that you've done before, estimate each part, and add the component estimates together, then apply a "realism" correction factor because every programmer, present company included, has a tendency to underestimate or, in rare cases, overestimate. (Hey, with a little more detail, this might make an article for *NTPC News* !)

The *ActiveX Application Developers SIG* addresses issues of developing applications under the *Component Object Model (COM)* using ActiveX Controls and other ActiveX components. Just because so many of our attendees work in Microsoft Office

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Dallas Core!

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Reagan Andrews (214) 828-0699 h

Delphi

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Desktop Publishing

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Emerging Computer Technologies

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Lynn Peterson
Walter Johnston (972) 612-0604 h

Fox Pro

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Genealogy - General

Al Sanford (972) 278-7888 h

Genealogy - Family Tree Maker

Nell Sunderland (972) 272-2869 h

Genealogy - PAF

Joe Waldrop (817) 498-5856 h

Genealogy - Ultimate Family Tree

John Wylie (972) 495-4410 h

Genealogy - The Master Genealogist

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..... (972) 475-3124 w

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Ralph Beaver (817) 624-9530 h
Gary Johnson (972) 938-0344 h

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Internet-Advanced

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Investors

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

JAVA

Lotus Notes & Domino

B.J. Shultz

MS Word for Windows

Jan Palton (903) 866-6249 h

Microsoft FrontPage

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

Microsoft Networking

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..... (972) 756-7832 w
Richard Miles..... (214) 767-7315 w
..... (972) 296-5356 h
Gil Brand (214) 508-8370 w
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MultiMedia

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Networking

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

Paradox

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



and other software using it, we have considerable emphasis on VBA issues. We still ask and answer a few questions about *Open Database Connection (ODBC)* 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 June, and we will, as usual, do our best to make it interesting and productive for you.

Larry Linson

COMMUNICATIONS SIG

The May meeting featured **Debbie Trofholz** from **PageNET**, the world's largest wireless messaging company in the world and based in Dallas. Debbie provided an overview of PageNET and described how the paging business has transformed into a nation-wide communications network where messages are sent "on-demand" and with "real-time" transmission (well almost if the satellite is working!).

New paging systems from PageNET incorporate voice-mail, news groups, and 2-way EMAIL. A new product from PageNET was very exciting and contained a flip-top LCD screen, keyboard, and IRD port for connection to your stand-

ard PC. Thanks Debbie for a great presentation and check out PageNET at www.pagenet.com for your messaging needs.

Our June meeting will feature a presentation from our very own **Alan Brosz**. Alan will present "PC-to-PC Communications" using Win95. WIN95 features support for interconnecting PCs so that resources on each PC can be shared between users. These resources typically include h/ds and printers but may also include CDs and modems (I think!). The use of serial ports and NIC cards (for LANs) will be discussed along with the set-up procedure for a typical configuration. So if you have several PCs at home and want to learn how to interconnect them for resource sharing or plain old fun, plan on attending our Communications SIG meeting in June.

Alan Brosz and Birl Smith

DALLAS COREL SIG

June's SIG topic is not yet determined, as of this writing. Something interesting always materializes, so come anyway.



Dallas Corel SIG members participated in the annual Member Showcase April 16, 1998. Corel SIG members on the back row, left to right are: Richard Blair, Howard Kreisner & Rob Alschbach. On the front, left to right are: Marsha Drebelbis & Cynthia Burch



May in Review

This year's Dallas Corel SIG Member Showcase brought out the best in Dallas Corel SIG members who shared work they accomplish using Corel products. **Richard Blair** designs and illustrates effective direct mail pieces for his son's Houston business and prints them on his color desktop printer. He also projected the files on our big screen for all to see. **Rob Alschbach** brought exquisite laser etched work on various craft and business items. He also scanned a beautiful gravure in sections and reassembled it seamlessly in PHOTO-PAINT before successfully printing it in various new configurations. **Howard Kreisner** designs textile prints for the apparel industry and showed fascinating samples of his work which will be used on garments in Penny's department stores next spring. He also described how he calibrates printer color so he gets it just right. **Cynthia Burch** and her husband own an automotive store and she is responsible for the business's direct mail promotion. Her designs, which she prints on her desktop color printer, are getting great response. **Marsha Drebelbis** creates demonstrative exhibits for litigation attorneys. Her wide format color examples show charting, image editing and design examples and include extensive use of CorelDRAW, PHOTO-PAINT and Chart. Thanks to all the contributors who made our session informational, interesting, and fun.

CorelDRAW 8 Maintenance Release

The first maintenance release for owners of DRAW 8, called Build 369, is now available. You may receive this patch free by downloading it (37MB) from Corel's Web

site. If you would rather get it free on CD (we recommend it), you may order by visiting <http://livewire.corel.com/revisions/> or by phone at (800) 77COREL. Shipping is \$9.95 for either ordering method. Yes, you need to do it. First releases of all Corel software are notoriously buggy but Corel has a history of eventually fixing them with subsequent maintenance releases.

Corel VENTURA 8

VENTURA 8 is now shipping. This powerful publishing software gives professional level results. This new version promises advanced capabilities for text and graphics with state-of-the-art Internet enhancements. The package includes Corel's VENTURA 8, PHOTO-PAINT 8, WordPerfect 8 and DataBase Publisher. Advertised at an upgrade price of \$199, VENTURA 7 and CorelDRAW 8 users should jump at the chance to

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

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Quicken

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 Phil Faulkner (972) 239-0561 h

Spreadsheet/Spre.Dev

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SQL Server

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

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Visual Basic — Beginning

Thomas Lewis (972) 994-6387
 Jim Carter (972) 235-5968 h
 Jim Hart

Visual Basic — Advanced

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

VRGN Internet Gaming

Al Altman

Windows - Applications

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

WordPerfect / Windows

Gindy Adams (817) 481-1300 wM
 Diane Bentley

get it for only \$99 until June 30. Corel calls it their "Loyalty Upgrade". This makes the decision to upgrade a no-brainer. Call 888-295-0646 to order.



From Corel Clips - PHOTO-PAINT 8 FAQ's

1. Where are the Photo Edges located and how can I apply them?

The Photo Edges are located on CD-ROM #1 in the PHOT_EDG folder. To apply the Photo Edges to a bitmap, perform the following steps:

- (a) Open an image in Corel PHOTO-PAINT 8.
- (b) Click Effects, Auto F/X Photo/Graphic Edges 3.0.
- (c) Click Outset Effect, and follow the instructions.

2. Where are the Plug-ins located? Why don't they appear on the Effects menu?

To install the Plug-ins, perform the followings steps:

- (a) Click Tools, Options, Workspace, Plug-Ins.
- (b) Click Add.
- (c) Browse to the C:\COREL\GRAPH-ICS8\PLUGINS folder. Double-

click the first Plug-ins folder. Repeat this process for all remaining plug-in folders.

(d) Enable the Initialize filters at start-up.

3. Why is the Auto F/X option unavailable on the Effects menu?

Auto F/X Photo Edges do not support black and white or paletted images. Click Image, Convert To and click one of the following options: Grayscale (8-bit), RGB Color (24-bit), LAB Color (24-bit), or CMYK Color (32-bit).

4. Can the Undo level be changed to a higher number?

By default the Undo level is set to 1. To change this setting, click Tools, Options, Memory, and enable the Enable Undo check box. The maximum number of Undo levels is 30.

Note: The more undo levels used, the more swap disk space Corel PHOTO-PAINT 8 requires.

Recent Programs at Dallas Corel SIG

❖ Jun/97 - Productivity in DRAW 5, 6 & 7

❖ Jul/97 - CorelDREAM 3-D 7

❖ Aug/97 - WebMaster Suite, Lumiere and Click & Create

❖ Sep/97 - Presentations 8

❖ Oct/97 - Font Management and Acrobat

❖ Nov/97 - Customizing CorelDRAW 7

❖ Dec/97 - CorelDRAW 8 Launch by Corel Corp.

❖ Jan/98 - Roundtable Discussion

❖ Feb/98 - Inkjet Desktop Printing Papers by Red River Paper Co.

❖ Mar/98 - DRAW 8 Tips & Tricks

❖ Apr/98 - Web Page Design Tips & Trends

❖ May/98 - Member Showcase

Marsha Drebelbis

DOS/OPERATING SYSTEMS SIG

Having problems with the EIDE channels in your system? Number of users are reporting periodic loss of access to their CD-ROM drives and/or hard disks connected to the second IDE channel on newer mother/mainboards. Source of these problems usually isn't the boards or BIOS sets, but are actually a result of Windows 95's handling of the IDE/EIDE channel.

Users with a single hard disk and CD-ROM attached to the "primary" IDE channel seem to be relatively immune to the problem, but those with multiple devices using both the primary and secondary IDE channels are running into problems with some combinations. Solution may be a "patch" to Windows 95 that corrects the problems with the secondary IDE channels.

Shuttle has such a patch for their *Spacewalker* line of mainboards and other vendors have similar solutions to the Windows/IDE problem. Look at your vendor's Web site for assistance in this area.

Issue raised this month to illustrate a modern verity — that applications software packages, operating systems and system BIOS sets are not finished products. Far from it,



Dallas Corel Is A SIG Of North Texas PC Users Group



all are in a state of change and, sometimes, only nearly approaching completion.

Look at DOS. I only know of two DOS versions that were actually finished, 3.32 and 6.22, after a series of patches, modifications and slipstream upgrades. *WordPerfect /DOS* may be an even better example of this trend with almost-weekly patches coming out of Utah for WordPerfect users. System BIOS sets are no different. Check your system vendor's Web site or BIOS vendor's Web site if your system is more than six months-old and I'll bet you find at least one if not more upgrades to the BIOS Flash EPROM for your system in the "Support" area.

Applications and OS software is the same story. Go to the vendor's Support area on the Internet and you will find patches and "Support Paks" galore for various products, suites and packages. Even if you aren't having problems, surfing these sites for FAQ's (Frequently Asked Questions), new drivers and program updates can be well worth the users' time and effort. WordPerfect wasn't the only vendor who used "slipstream" upgrades/bug fixes — Microsoft, IBM, Borland (or whatever their new name is these days) and Corel did/does it as well.

Reason? Vendors are on such short turnarounds and product upgrade cycles that nothing is "finished" and really ready for the user when released. It's contemporary fact of PC life and price we all pay for "new and improved" PC products. Also, takes us all back to 1980's when we went to our PC dealers for the latest "bug fix patches" for PC/MS DOS.

Reagan Andrews

INTERNET SIG - BEGINNING

Our May meeting focused on *search engines*, sites on the Internet that ease the task of finding information on the World Wide Web. Familiar search engines are Yahoo, Excite, HotBot, AltaVista, Webcrawler and others. We examined ways to make your searches more accurate by using Boolean terms and quotes. We even looked at how we could search Usenet newsgroups without having to endure some of their more boring, sometimes obnoxious "chatter".

Since the past two months' presentations have been somewhat formal, it is time for a **general Question and Answer session**. So **June 20th** will focus on what YOU have to say (or ask) about the Internet. Bring your questions and we'll see what we can do to resolve them.

We are always looking for feedback as to what our members want to see presented. This is an ongoing request. We encourage you to contact Doug Gorrie (dgorrie@on-ramp.net) with whatever thoughts you may have.

The ongoing purpose of the Beginning Internet SIG is to improve your understanding of the Internet. This includes such things as how to choose and connect to an Internet Service Provider (ISP), what software options are available, what hardware is needed, and how to decipher all those confusing acronyms and buzzwords. Although we have several "prepared" sessions and speakers, look for general Q&A sessions (Question and Answer) periodically, too.

See you June 20th!!

Doug Gorrie, Tom O'Keefe & Kiff Barnes

INTERNET SIG - ADVANCED

June 20th presentation — VoIP, by Cisco Systems (see below)

At the May 16th meeting, we had intended to discuss a product called **Internet Phone**, a software product that can be used to place voice calls over the Internet. Due to the workload placed on our volunteers, we were not prepared to demonstrate the product as planned, but instead had a spirited discussion on this and related topics. Our thanks to **Tom O'Keefe**, **Bruce DeGrasse**, and **Pat Hykkonen** for addressing these issues so well and in such an impromptu fashion.

We still plan to look at Internet Phone, but may take a different tack. At the May meeting, we secured e-mail addresses and phone numbers from interested attendees, and plan to do an online "conference" on this and other products between our monthly meetings. We will be setting up these "meetings" at various dates and times, and e-mailing those interested with the details. A conference call number will also be provided so the group can call in and jointly compare notes and ask questions. If you wish to be added to this list, please send e-mail to dgorrie@on-ramp.net.

But, we're not through yet talking about the concept of sending **voice over IP (VoIP)**, which is being described and debated frequently in newspapers and data-comm industry publications. Your view of whether it is a working or a non-working technology will depend on whether you converse over the Internet (publicly available to everyone) or an intranet (private, corporate-owned "Internet"), and what facilities and service providers you use.

As those present last month learned, there are several factors to be considered in doing VoIP. The biggest hurdle with voice over the

Internet is that voice "packets" moving between you and "Aunt Matilda" are sharing the same facilities as those millions of other users browsing the Net, sending/receiving e-mail, transferring files, etc. Hence, when using the low-end/low-cost solutions, your words may be delayed before arriving at the other end, or may be lost altogether. This makes for difficult conversation, since the human mind does not deal well with large gaps of silence, missing words, etc.

Yet the writing is on the wall. Many large, well known firms are committing research funds to developing products that will eliminate delays and lost packets. Even long distance companies such as AT&T are planning to offer VoIP to their customers, realizing that VoIP will be taking over parts of the long distance market.

Cisco Systems, the foremost provider of the routers used in public and private data networks, is aggressively addressing the inclusion of VoIP technology into their equip-

WHAT HAPPENS AT THE INTRODUCTION TO THE PC SIG?

Introduction to the PC SIG

Our classes will continue to be updated so that our members and guests may stay abreast with trends in PC hardware and software. Your suggestions are also welcome for adding new subject material.

We welcome John Randall as an assistant SIG leader. John's PC experience includes completion of several community college classes, experience with networks, and building his own PC.

Our program for June brings us "Neat & Necessary Software" at 9:00, "Multi-Media Software & Hardware" at 10:00, "Virus Protection & Utilities" at 12:00, and just for you at 1:00 P.M., we will have NTPCUG's favorite presentation



ment. As a leader and policy maker in this field, we felt their involvement in our VoIP discussions would be extremely enlightening. So at our **June 20th meeting**, we are pleased to have **Mr. Dave Drewes**, SE Manager with Cisco, with us to describe VoIP and update us on what Cisco is doing to make this technology usable in both intranet and Internet environments. Dave is very technically astute, and I have been assured that this will be a technical discussion, not a marketing presentation.

Whether your firm is considering VoIP as a way to reduce corporate voice communications expenses, or you just want to lower your personal long distance bills, I encourage you to join us at 9:00 AM to learn more about VoIP.

by its favorite presenter - "PC's into the 21st Century."

Our SIG now has its schedule and class synopsis updated monthly on the Web. Pay a visit at www.ntpcug.org/sigs/intro_pc/ and keep informed.

July will be a break for this SIG and we will resume a full schedule in August with Introduction Classes #1 through #4. In July, see you with another SIG, at an auditorium presentation, AND the vendor area.

We can use another assistant group leader. Any volunteers? Please contact me at e-mail Spike@altinet.net or telephone 972-231-0730.

Harold (Spike) Smith

And, don't forget that we are always looking for additional assistants for the Beginning and Advanced Internet SIGs. Many of you probably have Internet and/or Web experience, or have access to speakers within your firm that could be persuaded to volunteer some time. Your assistance would be greatly appreciated.

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

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

We encourage you to join with us June 20th.

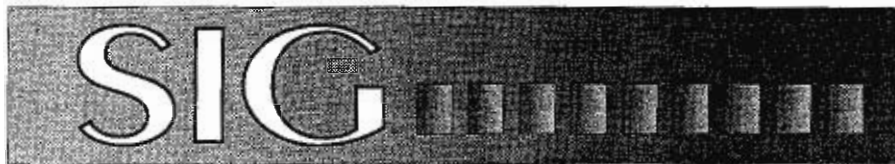
*Tom O'Keefe & Doug Gorrie,
with ongoing assistance by
Bruce DeGrasse*

INTRODUCTION TO THE PC SIG

The following is the tentative schedule for SIG classes that will be offered as an Introduction to the PC during the next listed months. Classes can be taken in any order suitable to the individual student's schedule. Printed notes are provided during classes.

June 20, 1998

❖ 9:00 Class 13
Neat and Necessary Software



MS Networking SIG

Upcoming Schedule:

June 1998 - Windows 98 Overview

Paul Sloane and a working group of 3 put together a peer level network of 2 WinNT Workstations and 2 Win95 PCs and will do a more interactive presentation for the next meeting in June. This will build on May's presentation, which was plagued by a number of technical hardware difficulties.

July 1998 - Another Installment of NT Monitoring (See Feb-Mar below).

Purpose of the SIG:

To technically showcase Microsoft Networking products, including Windows NT Server, Windows NT Workstation, Systems Management Server, Exchange, SNA Server, Internet Information Server, and Windows 95.

The SIG highlights the capabilities and features of these products for all users, from individual end-users to corporate users, small and medium size businesses, and beginning to experienced administrators. We present the various options within Microsoft's networking products line and help members understand how they are positioned to solve their computing, connectivity and business needs. We help members understand how these products interoperate with other third party and legacy products.

The strength of an effective users group is the opportunity to share common experiences and learn from others. We try to end each meeting with an open question and answer session which can transition to other SIG meetings, the DFW Exchange vendor area, or the Infomart restaurant.

By staying informed of the activities of other NIPCUG Special Interest Group's (SIGs) and area Users' Groups with common interests, we

- ❖ 10:00 Class 14
Multimedia Software & Hardware
- ❖ Noon Class 15
Virus and Protection Programs
- ❖ 1:00 Class 16
PC's Into the 21st Century

July 18, 1998 - No Classes

August 15, 1998*

- ❖ 9:00 Class 1
Introduction to the PC
- ❖ 10:00 Class 2
A Lot About Files & Directories
- ❖ Noon Class 3
(DOS) Disk Operating Systems
- ❖ 1:00 Class 4 MS Windows

September 12, 1998*

- ❖ 9:00 Class 5 PC Graphics
- ❖ 10:00 Class 6
Word Processing
- ❖ Noon Class 7
Spreadsheets and Databases
- ❖ 1:00 Class 8
Modems/Telecommunications

October 17, 1998*

- ❖ 9:00 Class 9
PC Hardware
- ❖ 10:00 Class 10
PC Printers
- ❖ Noon Class 11
Quicken/Money
- ❖ 1:00 Class 12
Networks and Such

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

Spike Smith

Microsoft Visual C++ SIG

It seems that all of Microsoft's newest technologies are based on COM. Without a solid understanding of COM, developers will have a difficult time making the most of these technologies. With the May session, we began a two-meeting look at COM and are discussing exactly what it is and how it can help you write more robust apps. These two sessions will form the basis for future discussions of other COM-based topics, such as OLE DB, DirectX, and ATL.

We began by looking at what COM is and how interfaces are used to communicate with COM objects. We examined the IUnknown interface and discussed reference counting and querying interfaces for other interfaces supported by the object. We wrapped up the discussion with a practical example of using a COM object in a simple application.

In the June meeting we will discuss more advanced topics, such as class factories, containment, aggregation and, time permitting, marshalling.

The June meeting will be a self-paced session. Please feel free to ask questions along the way. We'll also provide outlines to help guide you through the COM maze.

Please make every attempt to be present for this session.

Wade Emmert

answer members' questions and help them identify other resources available in the Dallas/Fort Worth area.

Past Meetings:

May 1998 - **Richard Miles** presented an overview of Peer-to-Peer Networking (Win95, WinNT, Mixed 95/NT). While he covered a significant amount of ground, technical problems prevented completion of the presentation within the available time.

At the end of the meeting, we agreed to have Paul Sloane and a working group of 3 put together a peer level network of 2 WinNT Workstations and 2 Win95 PCs and do a more interactive presentation for the next meeting in June.

April 1998. **Richard Miles** and **Gil Brand** discussed the SIG's project for implementing the NTPCUG's Internet server. The project's approach will be a business-like managed project which could be used as a model for a small to medium-sized business in putting together a Web presence on the Internet. The SIG members will benefit from a practical application of Windows NT Server and Microsoft networking technologies in a fully integrated Internet networking environment. Members interested in what it takes to have a presence on the Internet and those interested in working on the SIG project are especially encouraged to volunteer.

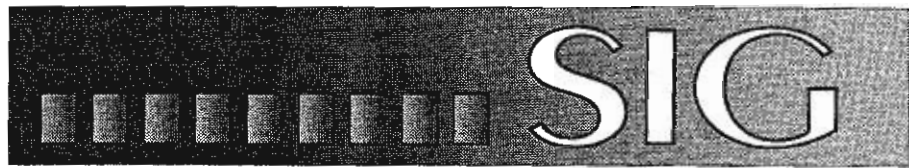
Site-of-the-month:

- ❖ www.ntinternals.com This site is arguably the best site on the Web for NT technical information and source code.

February and March 1998 - **Gil Brand** discussed Windows NT Server monitoring

Site-of-the-month:

- ❖ www.genevasoft.com This site contains a full functional evaluation copy of Geneva Software's



Windows NT AlertPage software for monitoring the Windows NT Event Log and paging defined systems administrators.

January 1998 - **Richard Miles** presented an overview of Win95/NT components/products and how they relate to each other. The reference handout will be particularly useful, especially if you (like me) have trouble remembering just which components are part of Site Server, Option Pack, or Enterprise Edition NT.

Site-of -the-month:

- ❖ www.nmrc.org/files/nt This site contains "The Unofficial NT Hack FAQ". It contains information on numerous NT security concerns. Last update was October 97.

December 1997 - There was no formal presentation this month. A general Q&A session was held.

Site-of -the-month:

- ❖ www.microsoft.com/windows95/info/kerneltoys.htm Kernel Toys is a set of Win95 utility programs from the kernel support team at Microsoft. One of the best is the Windows Process Watcher, which displays the CPU utilization percentage for all programs that are running. Try it out!

November 1997 - Windows NT v5.0 Features Preview

Mark Moore of Microsoft was back to do his presentation on the upcoming features of Windows NT v5.0. Bring all of your questions and wish list items. Mark should have updated his presentation since our initial attempt to have him in October.

October 1997 - Dial-up Networking and RAS

Paul Sloane, one of our members, did an excellent step by step presentation on installation and configuring Windows NT RAS (Remote Access Server) on a Windows NT server and a Windows 95 laptop client. Many thanks to Paul on the fine job he did for the SIG.

*Bruce Wynn, Richard Miles
and Gil Brand*

Pro SIG

The topic of the month was Windows 98. Many of the people in the room had tried to uninstall Microsoft's browser and install an alternate browser. Only one programmer said that they were successful and that person uses a Macintosh.

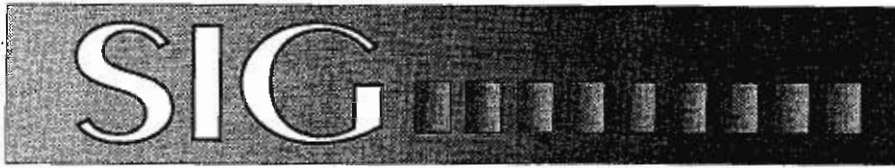
Join us next month for a discussion of creative uses for the right mouse button.

Jim Hoisington

Visual Basic SIG - BEGINNING

The June 20th 1998 meeting of the Beginning Visual Basic SIG will feature a presentation by SIG member **Donald W. Chick** on development of help files for your Visual Basic application. Don is an experienced Visual Basic programmer who develops his own Help files using the ForeHelp software. For those of you interested in a demonstration of an alternative method for developing Help files for your own Visual Basic applications, attend our meeting and take advantage of Don's expertise and techniques.

Last month, **Thomas Lewis** gave a presentation on Visual Basic Classes and their functions in a Visual Basic application. The presentation was extended through the next hour to discuss more advanced features of Visual Basic



Classes. I hope you all got to attend this special presentation.

The July meeting of the Beginning Visual Basic SIG will feature a discussion of the Visual Basic education opportunities available in the Metroplex. There have been no volunteers to participate in the panel discussion I had hoped for, so I will report on the various institutions that have supplied information about their programs. If you have specific information about a program here in the Metroplex, bring it to the July meeting to share with others.

Bring your questions about Beginning Visual Basic to our meeting beginning at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday June 20, 1998 at the Infomart. Check the projection screens in the vendor area on the first floor for the correct room assignments. See you there.

Jim Carter

Visual Basic SIG - Advanced Looking Back

Thanks to everyone who came to the special 2-hour presentation on Visual Basic classes. I do apologize for the 6 reboots during the presentation. It looks like the presentation machine may need an upgrade or a format. I may have to resort to lugging my desktop from home to do presentations! Technical difficulties notwithstanding, I hope everyone was able to learn something about Classes and my thanks to **Jim Carter** for allowing me to present the fundamentals of Visual Basic classes during his SIG time.

Visual Basic 6.0

Caught your attention, didn't it? Everyone is interested, including myself, about the new release of Visual Basic 6.0. With Visual Interdev, Visual J++ and Visual Foxpro 6.0 betas released, I would not be surprised to see the Visual Basic 6.0 beta release soon. I have gotten a few e-mails asking if I know anything about it. Unfortunately, I do not. Even if I did, I probably could not talk about it due to Microsoft's non-disclosure agreements.

My advice to you is to go to the Visual Interdev, Visual J++ and Visual Foxpro Web sites and look at their reviewer's guides. You may see functionality in those applications that will be passed onto Visual Basic. I think some of the functionality you may see in the next version of Visual Basic will be:

- ❖ 1. Tighter integration of Active Data Objects and wizards that support it.
- ❖ 2. Tool to easily create Microsoft Transaction Server components.
- ❖ 3. More advanced data tools in the Enterprise edition.
- ❖ 4. HTML/Dynamic HTML integration.
- ❖ 5. Better intellisense technology.
- ❖ 6. Task Lists.
- ❖ 7. A much needed update to the Object Browser.
- ❖ 8. Integration into the Developer Studio IDE.

Remember, this is not the "Psychic Friends Network." These are my own predictions and only based on functionality I have seen in the other betas which I think can be easily incorporated into Visual Basic.

I would take a look at the Visual J++ reviewer's guide since Microsoft has lately been of the opin-

ion "Write your COM components in Visual J++, and interface with Visual Basic." To add substance to this opinion, the Visual J++ reviewer's guide shows you how to create a Visual J++ component and use it in a Visual Basic application. Although Microsoft seems to be supporting this type of architecture, I am partial to writing components in Visual Basic and calling them with Visual Basic or HTML.

When the beta becomes available, we will have a presentation of it. So stay tuned.

Tools for the Toolbox

Have you heard of the Option Compare statement? Don't confuse it with the Option Explicit statement which forces explicit declaration of all variables in the module it is declared in. The Option Compare statement allows you to declare the default comparison method to use when string data is compared. You can set it to Text, Binary, or Database. If the Option Compare statement is not used, it defaults to Binary. Option Compare Database can only be used within Microsoft Access. An example follows:

Set comparison method to text.

```
Option Compare Text ' ("ZZZ" = "zzz")
```

Set comparison method to binary.

```
Option Compare Binary ' ("ZZZ" = "zzz")
```

Remember, the Option Compare statement is used at the module level only.

This is another great tool to keep in your Visual Basic toolbox.

Looking Forward

By unanimous vote from the last presentation, the next presentation will be "Using Objects for Database

Access". This topic is about how to create applications that access data through objects. Active Data Objects will be used for our data access model. There will be handouts from Sheridan Software and Data Dynamics. We will also have a software giveaway! Remember, you must be a member to participate in the software giveaway.

*Thomas Lewis
aliensite@msn.com*

WORDPERFECT/WINDOWS SIG

For those of you not on vacation this month, we are going to discuss the many PerfectExpert Projects that ship with WordPerfect 8 as well as create a new one. These Projects were formerly known as Templates to many of you who are upgrading. You will find this Project dialogue box when you go to File | New. Projects are arranged in categories for the different applications in the wp8 Suite and you are also able to create new categories. We will also create a new Project and pull in some macros to show you how automated this process truly can be.

If you created templates in any previous version of WordPerfect, you can copy the templates into the Custom Template folder in the \Suite8\template folder. Then the templates will now appear when you go to File | New. For those of you experienced template creators, to create new projects the same process you created templates in previous versions. Time permitting, we will also show you how to create your own Custom Categories for PerfectExpert Projects!

So take a break from the heat and join Diane and myself this month for more adventures in WordPerfect 8!

Cindy Adams

Tip of the Month -- QuickBullets & Numbers Lists for WordPerfect 7 & 8



Format-As-You-Go enables you to create quick bulleted lists by typing certain characters which are converted into bullets.

Type one of the characters shown below, then Tab.

Each time you press Enter, another bullet will appear.

At the end of your list, backspace over any unneeded bullet.

Type: o (lowercase o)... to get ...

* (asterisk)

O (capital O)•

^ (caret)

(greater than)

+ (plus)

- (hyphen or minus)|—

Now ... try the above steps, substituting numbers (1. I. A. a.) in place of the bullets.

WordPerfect 6 did not include this feature. However, in any of the versions, you can accomplish this by choosing your bullet or number through:

- . Insert, Bullets & Numbers
- . Select a bullet or number style
- . New Bullet or Number on ENTER

Tips in a Tip: if you added explanatory text in between your bulleted or numbered items, you can continue your bullets or numbering with the next consecutive number with Ctrl+Shift+B. If you want to start numbering over with "1" or "A": Insert, Bullets & Numbers, Starting Value, 1, OK (or my personal shortcut, Alt+INV1).

Check your Toolbar for these buttons: Numbering, Bullets

Diane Bentley



INSIDE THE NORTH TEXAS PC USERS GROUP COMMUNITY

VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION

by Claude McClure



The Other Side of the Coin

If you have glanced at this page over the last few years, then you know the news can be presented in a positive way, with a smile and a congratulatory comment aimed toward some deserving member. This is a little different story though, and it is hard to find the silver lining in this one. I just saw a computer Value Added Retailer throw in the towel, and close the doors. My business lets me work with a number of these small to medium-size companies, and you can't help but share in their emotional highs and lows. I sincerely hope this is just a "glitsch" on the path.

I hope there will always be a place where a guy who loves to build a good machine and transfer that enthusiasm to a buyer can survive. There are a lot of computers out there that perform heroically and unflinchingly because they contain the heart of some VAR who loved assembling a great performer.

A number of our club members have jobs that help supply the local market with great equipment. They enjoy the business they are in. Those members bring this enthusiasm to our meetings and share their knowledge with us. We need them, but they also need us, in a global symbiotic sort of way. Professional members give the NTPCUG authority and orientation in an extremely fluid environment. They address those issues that are vital in the computer industry and search for solutions that will answer personal and business demands.

Thanks to SIG leaders and other knowledgeable members without whom the NTPCUG would not be the same. Thanks to other volunteers who help during the monthly meeting. Many volunteers' names are mentioned below. Thanks to the officers and leaders who plan and guide the direction of the NTPCUG. Thanks for the high points of the meeting listed in this month's Newsletter.

Infomart Liaison

Stuart Yarus
Robert Hilliard
Alex Lilley

Vendor Setup/Breakdown

Anchor:

David Slavik
Kenneth Berg
Dick Abbott

Crew:

Mark Guyer
James Guyer
Jim Delaney
Robert Whiteside
David Williams
Leo Zipper
Neal Van Pelt
Tony Pham

Auditorium Presentations

Timothy Carmichael
Chris Jung
Christopher Carmichael

Newsletter Labels

Charlie Fernandez

Information/Registration Booth

Statistician:

Connie Andrews
Ralph Beaver (Assistant)

Scheduler:

Bob Wuller

Anchor:

Vernon Cates
Hank Holt

Cinda Lovil (Double)

David Martin
Bob McNeil (Double)
Fred Toulmin
Paul Williams
Matt Williams

Booth Crew:

Al Aston
Deborah Bean
Glynn Brooks
Randy Durham
James Gorak
Herbert Gross
Steve Martinson
John McNeil
Carl Oehmann
Raymond Reyes
Ken Sauter

Disk of the Month (DOM)

DOM Shift Supervisors:

Joe Allen
Roy Bales
Philip Bridge
Don Chick
James Donlon
M. Pat Henley
Martin R. Gluck
Arnold Krusemark

DOM Desk Crew:

Richard Abreu
Michael Ashley
Douglas Athas
Bernie Baars
Richard Blair
Jim Boyce

Linda Campbell

Gene Carleton
Norm Dang
William Farris
Brad Ficke
Edwin Griffin
Jimmy Hurst
Tom Jackson
Tom Jones
Mac McKeethen
Mark Miller
Nancy Ogden
John Primm
George Read
Jim Russell-Redman
Oscar Tyler
Lee Williams

M. Pat Henley

David Huckabee
Jerry Stone

Inventory and Take-down Crew:

Richard Blair
Mark Christopher
Brad Ficke
Martin R. Gluck
Arnold Krusemark
DOM Desk Scheduler:
Philip Bridge
Disk Production:
Gene Carleton
Howard Hamilton

With Special Thanks to:

Set Up Crew:

Kent Haven

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 Grunerl..... (972) 964-8147 (h)

Information Booth and General Information

Claude McClure..... (972) 867-0978 (h)

NTPCUG User - To - User Program

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

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

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

SUBJECT	HELPER	PHONE	DAYS/HOURS	SUBJECT	HELPER	PHONE	DAYS/HOURS
Access				Excel			
	Ram Bhandari	(972)243-4056 h	M-F 1300-1700		Warrington Williams.....	(214)348-6869	M-F 1800-2100 S&S 0900-2100
Assembly Language				Hardware Help			
	Frank Cavallito	(972)423-9221	7 1800-2200		Charles Miller.....	(903)938-4220(*)	7 1900-2400
	Glynn Brooks.....	(972)578-8737	M-F 1700-2200	Internet - General			
BASIC					Erik Leaseburg	(817)265-7550(m)	7 2000-2200
Beginner Problems					David Martin	(972)930-0283	M-F 1900-2200
	Jan Parkhill.....	(214)828-2216	M-Sa 0900-1700	Internet - Telnet, FTP, NetScape, Web Explorer (OS/2)			
	Shirley Hudgens.....	(903)432-9780	7 0900-2000		Bob Wilson	(972)517-1434	M-F 1900-2200 S-S 1000-2200
Brother's Keeper				Javascript			
	Neil Sunderland.....	(972)272-2869	7 0900-2200		Don Benish	(972)705-9512	M-F 1900-2200 S-S 0900-2100
C++ (the language)				LANs — Novell			
	Bob Adams.....	(214)328-1455	M-Sa 0900-1900		Joseph Beasley	(972)225-8752	7 0800-2400
	Howard Harkness.....	(972)492-1508	7 1000-2100	— Lantastic			
CA Clipper					Joseph Beasley	(214)410-3818	7 0900-2200
	Richard Mitchell.....	(972)625-9130M	M-F 1900-2100 SS 0900-2300	Managing Your Money			
CorelDraw					Glynn Brooks	(972)578-8737	M-F 1700-2200
	Linda Hume	(817)472-7555	M-F 1900-2200 S-S 1300-2200	Modems			
Batch Files					Erik Leaseburg	(817)265-7550(m)	7 2000-2200
	Charles Miller	(903)938-4220(*)	7 1900-2400	MathCAD			
Borland C++					Bob Adams	(214)328-1455	M-Sa 0900-1900
	Bob Adams.....	(214)328-1455	M-Sa 0900-1900	Norton Utilities			
	Howard Harkness.....	(972)492-1508	7 1000-2100		John Dyer	(972)790-3311	M-Sa 0800-2200
Borland Turbo C				OS/2			
	John Keohane.....	(972)690-8092	7 1900-2100		Larry Truesdale	(972)442-7074	7 1000-2200
CompuServe				PC Tools/Win			
	Bob Adams.....	(214)328-1455	M-Sa 0900-1900		Glynn Brooks	(972)578-8737	M-F 1700-2200
DOS				Paradox			
	Bob Russell	(972)422-4269	7 1900-2200		Fred Williams.....	(972)492-1315	7 1300-2100
	Erik Leaseburg	(817)265-7550(m)	7 2000-2200				
DR DOS							
	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
PKzip/PKUNzip	Erik Leaseburg	(817)265-7550(m)	7 2000-2200
ProComm/ProComm+	Bill Green.....	(817) 731-1308	
ProComm/ProComm+ (Ctd.) ...	Joseph Beasley	(972)225-8752	7 0800-2400
	Joseph Beasley	(214)410-3818	7 0900-2200
Publisher (Microsoft)	Bob Russell	(972)422-4269	7 1900-2200
	Pat Cote.....	(972)831-8055	M-F 0800-1700
	.....	(972)496-3894	7 1000-2200
Quicken	Jim Hall.....	(214)348-7848	7 1000-2100
Quickbooks	Jim Thompson.....	(214)953-0051	M-F 0800-1800
SPFPC	Doug Gorrie	(214) 464-4568	M-F 0800-1700
	.....	(972) 618-8002	S-S 1000-1900
UNIX	Doug Scott.....	(817)261-4653	7 1830-2200

SUBJECT	HELPER	PHONE	DAYS/HOURS
Virus & Anti-Virus	Charles Miller.....	(903)938-4220(*)	7 1900-2400
Visual Basic -	Jim Carter	(972)235-5968	7 1700-2130
	L.J. Johnson	(972)495-9067	7 1700-2130
	Gene Hamelman.....	(972)495-6342	7 1700-2130
Windows for Workgroups	Joseph Beasley	(972)225-8752	7 0800-2400
	Joseph Beasley	(214)410-3818	7 0900-2200
	Bob Russell.....	(972)422-4269	7 1900-2200
Windows NT 4.0 & 3.51	Richard Miles	(972)296-5356	M-F 1900-2200
	.....	.....	SS 10:00-16:00
	.....	(214)767-7315	M-F 1500-1700
Word for Windows	Bob Russell.....	(972)422-4269	7 1900-2200
XENIX	Doug Scott.....	(817)261-4653	7 1830-2200
XTREE	John Dyer	(972)790-3311	M-Sa 0800-2200

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

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)464-4568 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.



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

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

Applications should be mailed to: North Texas PC Users Group, P.O. Box 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.

Areas Needing Helpers:

- CAD
- dBase
- Delphi
- Forte Agent & Free Agent
- Fox Pro
- Harvard Graphics
- LapLink
- Microsoft C
- Microsoft C++
- Microsoft Visual C++
- Microsoft Word
- Pagemaker
- Roots
- Sound Blaster
- TurboTax
- Corel Ventura
- WordPerfect/ Windows
- XTREE

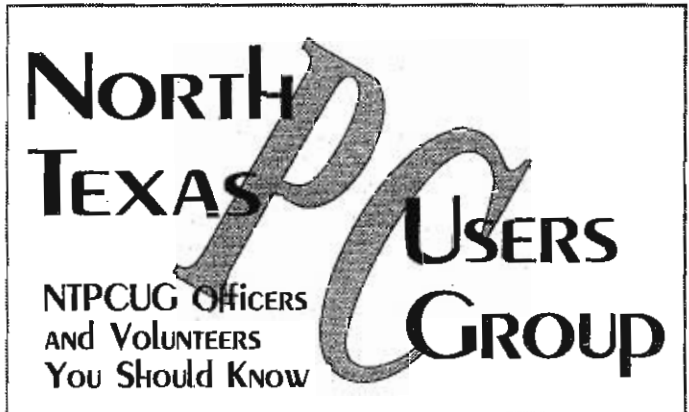
North Texas PC Users Group, Inc.

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

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

Andy Oliver *Chairman*
Reagan Andrews **Marsha Drebelbis**
Timothy Carmichael **Alex Lilley**
Jim Hoisington **Fred Williams**

NTPCUG Bulletin Board

NOTE: To access the BBS Metro line from outside Area Code 972, use Area Code 972. (This is NOT a toll call from Fort Worth and the Mid-Cities area.)

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

NTPCUG Officers

President	Andy Oliver	(972) 462-1896 h (972) 960-4215 w
President-Elect	Jim Hoisington	(972) 416-3101 h
Program Chairman	Timothy Carmichael	(972) 566-4626 w
Treasurer	Eb Foerster	(214) 357-7602 h
Secretary	(Open)	
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	(Open)	
Volunteer Coord.	Claude McClure	(972) 867-0978 h
Bulletin Board	Fred Williams	(972) 492-1315
DFW Xchange	Information	(214) 746-3365 www.dfwxchange.com

Members Emeritus

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

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

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..)



North Texas PC Users Group
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Dallas, Texas 75370-3449

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North Texas PC Users Group

Next Meeting:
20 June 1998

