

README.DOC

NOVEMBER 1990

Journal of the Orange Coast IBM PC User Group

VOL.6 NO.11

**November
17th
Meeting
Floptical Disk
Drives
Ashton-Tate
shows
Dbase IV**

FROM THE EDITOR

Jean Stevens

Now that the elections are over we are looking forward to a good year ahead for OCIPUG. Thanks are in order for a job well done by the outgoing administration, headed by John Goodman. I'm sure their time and talents spent on running our club this past year are greatly appreciated by all of us.

Now, let me take this opportunity to congratulate all the newly elected Officers and Directors. We wish them well, and hope that they will follow in the able footsteps of those before them who have, from the very beginning, dedicated so much time and effort to making OCIPUG one of the best User Groups in the country today.

My most sincere congratulations, however, must certainly go to Steve Burnside, our newly elected President. Having worked closely with Steve this past year on README.DOC, I

can say without hesitation that he is a man of honesty, integrity, and besides that he's a really nice guy. He has always come down on the side of the Club and how best to serve the interests of its members. He has done a great job as Publisher of README.DOC. spending many hours each month trying new and innovative ways in design and layout, making our newsletter one of the best among User Groups. I will miss working with Steve. From the beginning we worked as a team. Together, we weathered the frustrations of nagging the members about deadlines, equipment breaking down, trying to find competent printers, and on and on... But, we had a lot of fun, too! LOTS OF LUCK to you, Steve. I have no doubt that as President of OCIPUG, you will do a GREAT job!

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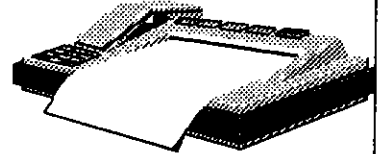
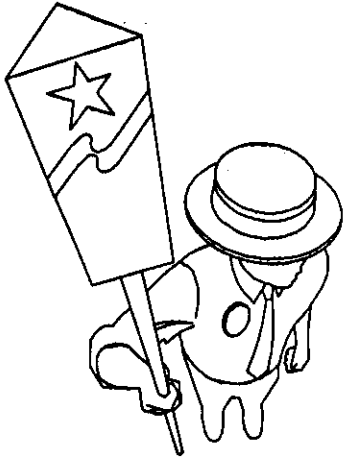
Send all submissions to the Editor, on or before the deadline listed below, using one of the following formats:

1. **UPLOAD** to the Bulletin Board indicating the format by extension, such as: ASCII.TXT, MSWord.WRD, Word-Perfect.WP.

2. 5 1/4" DISK mailed to the Editor in time to meet the deadline.

DEADLINE FOR ALL SUBMISSIONS WILL ALWAYS BE MIDNIGHT ON THEBBS, SATURDAY FOLLOWING THE GENERAL MEETING.

General Meeting Report



Harv Haight

The prospect of electing new officers and directors enhanced attendance at OCIPUG's 68th General Meeting. John Lunsford followed President John Goodman's welcome to newcomers with an excursive Random Access, extended by many inquiries from the floor.

Tom Stolp then supervised distribution of ballots and described the voting procedure: no write-in candidates, no markup of ballots to allow identification, sealing of ballots to assure privacy of choice, and ID number plus signature on outside envelope, to avoid multiple votes or votes by persons not currently members. Ballots were collected while Vice President Dave Carroll introduced David Coy of HSC Software.

HSC Software's Santa Fe MEDIA MANAGER and IMAGE TOOLS are not for the low-tech members of OCIPUG, with basic system requirements of a 80286, 80386, or 80486 microprocessor, DOS 3.3X or higher, a fast RAM complement of megabytes, an SVGA card with suitable monitor, and availability of 20 MB or more of fast hard drive space.

To those members using graphics or desktop publishing, the ability these programs have to capture

screens from many PC applications, and to import PCX, GIF, FLI and TGA (targa only) graphic files, as well as VOC and MIDI sound files, is indeed welcome. In particular, photo-realistic images, charts, graphics, video, and audio can be added to PARADOX database entries. Big Brother has arrived, since sorting or retrieval can thus reach a high of sophistication. Coy's demo showed how computer facial images can be enhanced and extrapolated to match many environments or scenarios.

Numerous announcements by SIG leaders and others were made prior to and after the break. Before the second presentation, election results were announced by Tom Stolp. OCIPUG's new officers are Steve Burnside - President, Richard Villa - Vice President, and George Mefferd - Treasurer. The vacant Secretary post will be filled at the first meeting of the new Board of Directors. New 2-year term directors are Ben LeGare, Bob Ottke, Stan Sabin, and Steve Silverwood. Incumbent directors are Terry Currier, Harv Haight, Sunny Lockie, and Jim Pettit.

Dan Wagner, Product Manager of Intel's Personal Computer Enhancement Operation, talked in detail about Intel's SatisFAXtion

board. His remarks were welcomed although interrupted by frequent calls of "Demo! Demo!" Members liked what they heard and saw: a fax board that works from within applications through a simple pop-up menu, that sends a document as easily as it can be printed, and that sends or receives while the computer is otherwise in use.

The board incorporates a 9600-bps Group III Fax, a 2400-bps V.22bis MNP5 data modem with error control (using the Hayes AT command set), and an Intel scanner port. It can support any application capable of formatting a file for an Epson FX85 printer. Its software includes drivers for all popular laser and dot matrix printers. Separate IBM Classic Bus and Microchannel versions are available, at list prices of \$499 and \$549, respectively.

Members applauded in particular how "FAXit for Windows 3.0" performed. A coupon for a free copy comes with the board, together with another coupon for the latest PC Tools DeLuxe package. Dan's question and answer period was cut short for the raffle, but was continued for a more select audience after the raffle and formal closing of the meeting at noon.

President's Message

The State of Our Club

John M. Goodman

This is my last President's column. Next month Stephen Burnside will speak to you from this space.

This month I am, I hope, starting a tradition: I going to give you a brief State of Our Club summary. I recommend Steve and his successors each do likewise at the end of their tenure.

OCIPUG is in good health. We have faced some of the challenges I inherited and solved them; others still need a solution. I will go over these in the following areas: Our Size, Assets, and Governance.

We do not have as many members now as we had a year ago. The membership was declining for several months before I assumed office and it has continued to decline, though there are some signs that the rate of decline is slowing. We are still one of the largest IBM compatible-oriented PC User Groups in the country.

One question the Board of Directors studied this year was whether or not we were losing an undue number of members by their failure to renew. When we contacted a sample of the non-renewing old members we found only good, valid reasons they had to leave OCIPUG. The key to our current decline seems to lie more in our effectiveness, or relative lack of it, in recruiting new members. With some newly planned initiatives to draw more new members we may actually be able to see an increase in our size in the coming year.

As I have said before, *you* have it in your power to affect the club's health in this area very significantly. Talk up OCIPUG to your friends and co-workers. Tell your management about what it has done for you and what it could do for others in your company. Word of mouth has always been the very best form of advertising.

Cash: We have less of it now than we did. This is no surprise. Two years

ago we raised our dues by what many thought was a painfully large amount. We offered them the chance to renew their memberships for several years at the old rate. We are still providing services to those members at a current cost to us with no current income from them to offset those costs.

Thanks to a very cautious approach to expenditures this year we will end my term with only a few thousand dollars less cash than we began. Our total cash on hand is ample for our needs for at least the coming year.

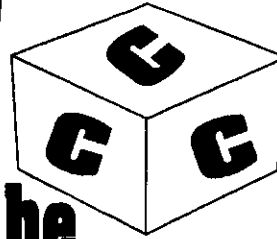
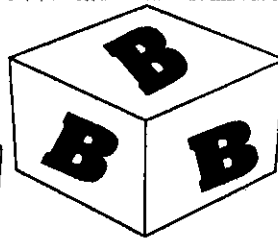
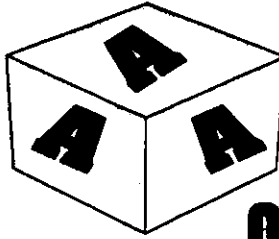
Non-cash assets: If you count in our total assets the value of the equipment donated to the club we'll end the year distinctly ahead of last year. We received a laser printer now used in the production of the *README.DOC*, the Willow VGA-TV board which has enabled us to give superior presentations without having to rent a VGA-capable video projector, a monochrome projector for the SIG space, and numerous items of furniture for that space. The most recent donation was a 140 MB disk drive from CMS Enhancements for use on the bulletin board (BBS) computer. We also have received donations and loans of equipment for the BBS and the loan of computers for general meeting and SIG presentations from several of our members, especially Thurman Wade, Jim Pettit, Richard Villa, and Dave Carroll.

We are in the midst of the process of soliciting additional equipment donations. It takes many months to cultivate these gifts and we will not know the outcome of our efforts till at least the end of this year.

All this also doesn't count the tens of thousands of dollars worth of prizes vendors donated for our raffles throughout the year.

Continued on page 9

The



of Using the BBS

Bob Ottke

There are thousands of questions that are raised concerning the BBS, its operation, and how to use it best. Many are asked and answered at the Modern SIG. We encourage all of you who have interest and/or fear of the BBS and telecommunications in general to come around and join us on the first Tuesday of every month at the SIG location. Bring your tough questions.

This month, we will devote our space to some of these more general questions that have been asked recently. Our thanks to Gerry Bretts for his questions and suggestions.

BBS QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Question 1. What are the differences among the various communication protocols, and how do I select which one to use?

Answer. Communication protocols are simply different technical methods to accomplish the objective of transmitting data without error, and to correct errors which may occur in the course of transmission. Some are a little more thorough in error checking, but these are likely to be somewhat slower.

The only important thing for the user to know is that both transmitter and receiver are functioning with the same protocol. For your first tries in telecommunication, you should probably stick with Xmodem. It is reliable, and is supported by all bulletin boards that

you are likely to encounter.

Sometimes, for no apparent reason, an upload or download simply doesn't go right. A change to a different protocol frequently solves the problem.

Don't worry about an occasional error message during an upload or download. When these are detected, the block is re-sent until it is received correctly.

Question 2. How do I protect my computer from a virus which might be transmitted as part of a download?

Answer. The subject of computer viruses is very complex, and a complete answer to this question could take many pages. First, you may be sure that sysops are alert to the dangers and take a lot of precautions to avoid contamination of the BBS.

Second, there is no virus at the present time that can infect your system unless the program containing the virus is executed.

Third, all new software from whatever source (except, perhaps, major commercial producers such as Microsoft) should be scanned before it is loaded and executed. There are many programs on just about all BBSs to detect viruses and to clean up an infected system.

Question 3. Besides downloading some shareware or public domain programs, what can I learn by participating in the BBS?

Answer. Of course, you learn just by doing. The more often you access this or other BBS, the more

proficient you will become in the art and science of telecommunications. Also, the BBS gives you immediate, direct access to many computer experts. Post just about any technical question in the computer field, and you will have several answers within a couple of days.

You may use the BBS for the non-commercial sale or purchase of computer-related equipment or software. The BBS serves as a message center for OCIPUG members.

Question 4. I'm interested in a particular subject, say, viruses, but I don't know how to find related programs on the BBS. What do I do?

Answer. There are several ways to approach this question. The most thorough, but the most time consuming, would be to download the FILESxx.xx file - the complete listing of all files available on this BBS. You can then examine each and every file name and description either on the monitor or on hard copy.

You can go into the (F)iles section, request (S)earch for VIRUS in (A)ll directories. If you enter the word without wildcards, you will see every use of the word VIRUS in filename or in the description. Using this "keyword" concept, you could search for "scan," "McAfee," or anything else related to the subject.

If you know part of the filename, you may (S)earch for, say, SCAN*. *. This will show you all files which have a name beginning with those letters.

Question 5. The shareware program that I downloaded recently looks quite interesting and useful, and I intend to use it frequently. What are my obligations?

Answer. Shareware authors rely on the goodwill of the users of their programs for support. Registering programs that you use fre-

continued on page 11

WORD SIG

Winston E. Jewson

FROM THE GUYS WITH: THE WORD

The October WORDSIG meeting welcomed several new-to-WORD users. They were urged to explore and become facile in working with each field within the formatting command families of **FORMAT CHARACTER**, **FORMAT PARAGRAPH**, and **FORMAT DIVISION**. Such understanding and familiarity with these fields greatly enhances the efficiency and joy of using WORD.



The main topic for the meeting concerned saving file formats. When a document is saved using the choice "WORD," Microsoft WORD applies its own code of invisible formatting that identifies an italicized word, an indented paragraph, fonts, font-size for each character choice, etc. Such sophistication is used for those in the WORD-using world.

To save documents for use in communicating with other (i.e., non-MSWORD) word processing worlds, WORD has two (unformatted) ASCII formats: (1) **TEXT ONLY**, and (2) **TEXT-ONLY WITH LINE BREAKS**. An ASCII (American Standard Code for Information Interchange) file contains only the symbols representing numbers, letters, spaces, line feeds, etc.

Another format-saving choice is the choice of **RICH TEXT FORMAT (RTF)** that is an in-between a WORD format and an ASCII format. In RTF all of WORD's formatting is preserved while at the same time it translates WORD's own coding into equivalent ASCII codes for any other program that understands Rich Text Format.

When and how to use each of the above choices of format was illustrated, and a good time was had by all.

At the November 26 meeting (4th Monday), we will discuss the many uses of **HIDDEN TEXT** which enables adding private or temporary comment to a document, including coding to incorporate graphic images or spreadsheet data, etc. In addition, **DAVE LORENZINI** will demonstrate some of his practical uses of WORD in his Architectural Resources Company documents.

Our mission in the WORDSIG is to have each one attending learn something new at each session so his use of WORD is more effective. See you on the 4th Monday, November 26! ■

WordPerfect SIG

Susan Novak

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!!

The WordPerfect SIG would like to extend a huge thank you to WordPerfect Corporation and Sandy Modersitski (WordPerfect Corporation User Group Coordinator) for their contribution of a licensed copy of WordPerfect 5.1 and WordPerfect Office 3.0 to the OCIPUG WordPerfect SIG. Their support and help is greatly appreciated.



The WordPerfect SIG's October meeting was opened with a random access. The questions ranged from spell checking, sorting, printing, macros and general usage. Everyone is encouraged to bring your questions to the meetings for assistance.

The group then turned its attention to a presentation on "styles." Attendants learned that through the use of styles, editing and creation of documents has become as easy as a couple of keystrokes. The demonstration included some of the following:

- 1) how to create style sheets for a single document,
- 2) how to apply styles,
- 3) how to edit styles,
- 4) how to delete styles,
- 5) how to save styles for future use,
- 6) how to set up a global style sheet for use with every document and
- 7) some tips on the practical usage of styles.

I would like to take this opportunity to tell you how much I am enjoying participating in the WordPerfect SIG – not to mention how much I have learned. I would like to encourage you to attend the WordPerfect SIG and to bring your questions regarding WordPerfect and its products. Through sharing your experiences, ideas and questions, we as a group can become more efficient WordPerfect users. ■

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PERSONAL FINANCE SIG

Max Lockie

The October meeting of the Personal Finance Sig was the second session covering Quicken. Quicken 4, which was recently released, was used for demonstration. The upgrade costs \$24.95 from Intuit.

Beginning with a review of the basics covered last month, two sample databases were used to demonstrate the new investment capabilities available with Quicken 4. Both Mutual Funds and Investment Accounts with many different stocks are handled. Of real interest is the update procedures which shows Percent Gain.

Finally, the different types of Personal Reports were reviewed along with the use of subcategories and classes.

Next month, on November 27, we will cover small business applications of Quicken. Come join us and learn more about Quicken even if you do not own a business or do any consulting. No meeting will be held in December as it would fall on Christmas. In January, we plan to cover Turbo Tax.

Q&A SIG

Terry Currier

At the November 28th meeting we will have as a guest speaker Tom Marcus. Tom is a veteran Q&A developer and consultant along with being technical editor for *The Quick Answer*, Pinnacle Publishing's monthly journal devoted exclusively to Q&A. Pinnacle Publishing will supply us with enough copies of their journal to give a free copy to everyone there. Tom will be showing some tips for Q&A and try to help solve any problems which you might have with Q&A.

Donna Staggs from Symantec Corporation will also be there to give everyone attending a free diskette containing Q&A sample database files.

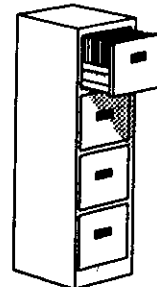
Pinnacle Publishing has also given us discount coupons for 25% off the subscription rate to OC-IPUG members for *The Quick Answer* and their other publications for FoxBase, Clipper, DataEase, SmartWare, Rbase, and that other one, dBase. If you can't make the meeting I will have the coupons at the membership desk in November. For the December and January meetings I will cover some of the sample database files from Symantec. ■



DATABASE SIG

Bob Schmiedeke

Ashton Tate will have a representative at our November 12, 1990, dBase Sig meeting, 17632 Metzler Lane in Huntington Beach at 7 p.m. There will be a demonstration with Q&A of dBase IV 1.1. Also scheduled is a raffle of Ashton Tate products, such as Control Room, File recovery, Programmer's guide and others.



The question has come up on how to get a Secondary file out of Word Perfect and back into a dBase file. To move a .dbf file into WP, you must copy the file to <filename>.TXT DELIMITED.

Move this file to the subdirectory that contains the WP convert program. After running the convert program, you then have a WP Secondary File. To take this file or any other secondary file to dBase you must reverse what the convert program has done.

The WP representative told me, after putting me on hold for 20 minutes that they did not know how to move the file back into dBase. With help from Susan Novak (our WP expert), this is how it is done. Using the search and replace functions do:

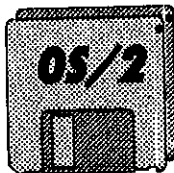
1. Search for {END FIELD} {HRT} replace with [",].
2. Search for {END RECORD} {HRT} replace with [{"{HRT}"}].
3. Place a [" before the first field of the first record and remove the extra quote from end of the last record.

Save to <filename>.TXT. Copy to dBase subdirectory of your dBase structure. While in dBase type: Use <filename>.DBF. Append from <filename>.TXT DELIMITED. All records and fields will be added to the .dbf file. ■

OS/2 SIG

Dave Lorenzini

The October OS/2 SIG was filled with anticipation. Bill Phillips was finally able to attend and demonstrate his use of the High Performance File System (HPFS) residing on the same hard disk with a File Allocation Table (FAT) based file system. Bill uses his C drive for DOS and OS/2 in dual-boot mode. Drive D is also a FAT type file system. Drive E is initialized as a HPFS with the CONFIG.SYS statement:



```
IFS = C:\OS2\HPFS.IFS /C:64 /AUTOCHECK:E
```

This installable file system driver works like a device driver to communicate with OS/2 in terms of disk activity.

Reading files on Bill's Drive E showed a new type of directory listing with the filename to the right side of the monitor screen. This change is necessary because file names can be up to 256 characters long and the portion of the filename off the screen is the part which mostly goes unused.

Switching to the DOS compatibility box, Bill's computer was also able to display filenames on Drive E. However, the filenames were cut off to the typical 8 plus 3 format. Bill had proved the two systems can co-reside on the same hard disk, as long as the 8.3 filename format is maintained.

Finally, no lost clusters.

Why would anyone want to go through all the trouble to deal with a new, non-compatible file system? Bill explained that HPFS has no clusters, uses 512-byte sectors, allocates large sectors to reduce defragmentation, and needs only 3 indexing levels to find any file, no matter how large the hard drive is.

When the FAT was originally conceived, it was an excellent solution to disk management, primarily because it was only used on floppy disks, which were rarely larger than 1 MB. However, the use of the FAT on hard disks, logically speaking, is a near disaster.

The HPFS solves the FAT file system problems, but it is a totally different concept. It takes advantage of the OS/2 multitasking environment and can accommodate device drivers for storage devices still under development.

HPFS uses a B+ tree system of nodes to point to and store data. It only takes two nodes to describe a file of 480 sectors, with a theoretical limit of 7.68 GB (that's 7,680 MB).

Directories in a HPFS are allocated in 2 KB

blocks and are always in alphabetical order. With an average filename length of 13 characters, a directory block can hold about 40 entries, and a three-level tree can hold up to 65,640 entries. In other words, any file can be found almost instantly with a maximum of three disk hits, as Bill explained earlier. By comparison, a FAT-based file system would have to read more than 4,000 sectors before it found out that a particular file was not present.

Extended Attributes

Another benefit includes Extended Attributes (EAs). EAs are defined for each application and may include icons, names of dependent files, and more sophisticated purposes yet to evolve. Each file can contain up to 64 KB of EAs.

Perhaps the most important benefit is its high performance, just as the name suggests. HPFS uses advanced data structures, contiguous sector allocation, intelligent caching, read-ahead techniques, and deferred (lazy) writes to boost performance.

Most of Bill Phillips' computer knowledge comes from hard work and many hours of dedication. Bill is an avid reader of computer technical literature and referred us to some valuable articles on HPFS:

IBM Personal Systems Technical Solutions:
Issue 2, 1990 – "Design Goals and Implementation of HPFS," p. 24 (Special issue on OS/2 which can be found in large quantities in the SIG space)

BYTE Magazine:

Jan 1990 – "A First Look at HPFS," p. 137

Mar 1990 – "To HPFS or not to HPFS," p. 101

May 1990 – "Digging into HPFS," p. 109

Jul 1990 – "Comments," p. 100

OS/2 Notebook, a book by Mark T. Minosi.

As large hard drives drop in price and become more common, computer users are going to realize that HPFS will provide more value than money spent for a faster average access time. OS/2 may become the operating system of choice for many who just want to be able to use the HPFS. The compatibility issue may be resolved when the 32-bit version of OS/2 is finally released, since multiple DOS applications can be run at the same time without the restriction of the compatibility box.

The OS/2 SIG is the place to come on the second Saturday of each month at 1:15 p.m. to answer your questions on OS/2. We had two novices show up in October, and we are going to review some of the OS/2 basics in the months to come. Won't you join us? ■

DOS SIG

Audrey Wolden

The following were subjects for discussion during the random access period:

DESQview vs. Win 3.0 - The question was "which one is best?" No one at the meeting professed to be even moderately proficient with either. From Quarterdeck's ads, one can see that they think that there is a place for DESQview. The PageMaker/Windows SIG was suggested as the place to find people with more insight regarding this question.

Multiple Configurations: Some application software needs the computer to be configured in a particular way (extended vs expanded memory, can use RAM disk to advantage, needs Windows, doesn't like Windows, etc.) or needs environmental variables set to specific values, an unusual PATH statement, etc. Setting up a batch file for every application you use can solve many of these problems. Include the 'particulars' required by the program. For those programs that require a reboot configuration change, one needs multiple sets of AUTOEXEC.BAT and CONFIG.SYS files. This can be done with batch files or an utility like RECONFIG, which can maintain up to 100 sets of these files.

BASIC or DBASE?: An inquiry was made about using a version of BASIC or DBASE application language to write a program. Newer versions of BASIC (QuickBASIC, TurboBasic, etc.) support advanced functions, but an application specific language might do certain needed operations better and easier than a general purpose language. A person should consider availability of language software, familiarity with the languages, language capabilities, ability to create stand-alone programs if needed, and need for security of the finished product.

Cache: There are two categories of cache; disk cache and memory cache. Disk caching works between a storage device and memory and usually takes a chunk of RAM memory. Separate disk caches are becoming standard hardware on new IDE drives and some drive controllers. Memory cache is usually fast-access static RAM in the data path between the CPU and regular dynamic RAM memory. This memory is added to speed up the total processing of the CPU. If you want memory cache, you need a motherboard that has memory cache provisions. Disk cache programs that use expanded, extended or conventional DOS memory do not need a special motherboard.

DOSPRACT.ZIP and INFOP125.ZIP were suggested for persons who want to hone their DOS savvy and to get a detailed report on their computer's hardware and setup.

Mike Springer presented the featured subject, an 'INTRODUCTION TO BASIC.' He started by asking "why use BASIC, and, more generally, why learn to program in any language?" Some of the reasons Mike gave were that learning to program develops your problem-solving ability; programming does not necessarily mean math; it can make you a more educated consumer when purchasing software and make it easier for you to evaluate ads and sales claims, as well as enable you to develop your own programs for your special requirements; and programming can provide challenge, fun and psychological satisfaction.

BASIC (Beginners All Purpose Symbolic Instruction Code) predates IBM'S PC. Although some form of BASIC generally is supplied with DOS and is thus free, Mike highly recommends MicroSoft's Quick BASIC which supports truly structured programming, street cost about \$65. He described interpreting versus compiling and how today's implementation of many languages is blurring the line of distinction.

An example program completely void of math showed the mechanics of writing, testing and running a program in both GWBASIC and QuickBASIC. Some attendees requested more time be devoted to BASIC programming. ■

Last month I described in great details the mysteries surrounding the SHARE command and using DOS, version 4.x on large disks. I reported that this was raised as a question at the "Random Access" question and answer period at the OC-IUG General Meeting a few months ago. Brent Ethington, our local Microsoft Systems Engineer, was kind enough to research the answer to that and a couple of other questions. This month I want to finish the story.

First, one further comment on the SHARE problem. The reason people did not want to load SHARE while using DOS 4.x on a large disk drive was that they already were feeling the pinch of not enough system RAM. They did not want to give up an extra 6 kB for some mysterious purpose.

The real solution to this and many other problems is to use a different version of DOS. At our August General Meeting Gregory Ewald, from Digital Research, discussed their DR DOS, version 5. He explained how it loads much of itself in high memory, leaving much less of a crunch in the lower 640 kB. Reliable rumor has it that before the end of the year we will see a new version of DOS from Microsoft which also has that feature.

Also, SHARE will no longer be needed for large media. The things it does in version 4 for using FCBs and large disks will be included in the base operating system

with the new version. (Dare we call it version 5.0?) Until that product moves from vaporware to reality you may need to refer to my article in last month's issue on SHARE to know when you must and when you need not load it.

Now for the other question Brent researched for us. It had to do with the use of Windows 3.0 and a particular DOS external

PATH definition you may need to use SUBST to keep its length in bounds. Also, if you merely want to refer to files located in some deep sub-subdirectory quickly, it will save you lots of typing if you define that directory as another fictitious drive's root directory.

(Before you can use SUBST to define a fictitious drive you must tell DOS you may be defining

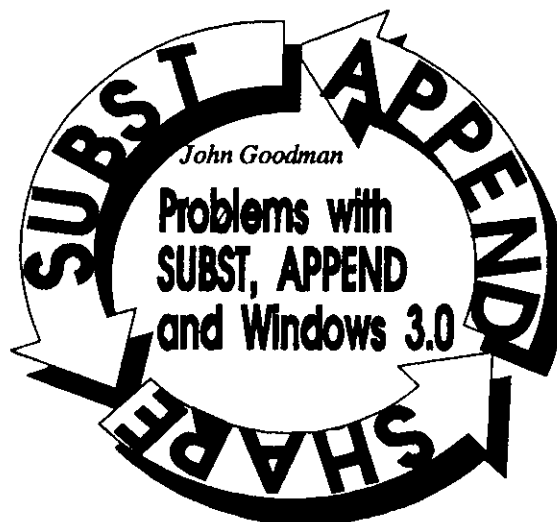
Windows 3.0 tries to remember where all the files it uses are located. It doesn't merely remember their names, nor does it try to remember where on the disk they are located. It tries to remember for each one the exact path it can use to find the directory entry for that file. For example, if you have a file ALICE.EXE in a directory C:\MYFILES, Windows will remember it as C:\MYFILES\ALICE.EXE.

Suppose that before you start Windows you use this command:

```
SUBST M:
C:\MYFILES
```

If you do, DOS will know that M:\ALICE.EXE is the same as C:\MYFILES\ALICE.EXE. If you run Windows and add ALICE to the collection of programs in some program group, Windows will remember where to find it, probably, as M:\ALICE.EXE. If at some later time you run Windows without first using the same SUBST command, Windows will be unable to find that program.

The problem with APPEND is similar, but even more serious. Any time Windows can find a file without using an explicit path, it will remember that file's location this way: It will take the current DOS default directory and add it to the file name. For example, suppose the current directory happens to be D:\WINDOWS. You run a program that asks for a data file, GEORGE.DAT. Suppose further that you previously defined an APPEND path including



command. The documentation that comes with Windows says one should not use SUBST. Brent adds to that the advice to avoid using APPEND. Until now, though, no source I am aware of told us anything about why we shouldn't use those very powerful DOS commands with Windows.

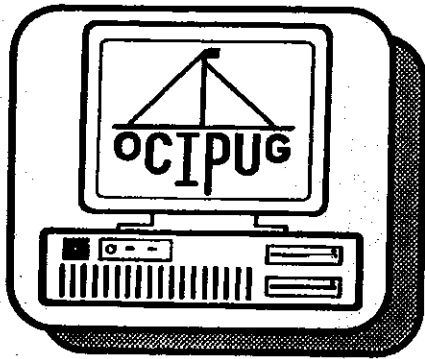
First, a quick review. What do these commands do for you?

SUBST (which is short for SUBSTitute) is a way to tell DOS that when you refer to some fictitious drive, e.g., drive O, you really mean a certain subdirectory on one of your real drives, e.g., C:\UTIL. If you like having many subdirectories in your

those high drive letters. You do this by the statement LASTDRIVE = x in your CONFIG.SYS file, where x is replaced by the letter of the highest fictitious drive you want to use.)

The PATH is a list of subdirectories that DOS uses to find executable files. APPEND sets up a similar list that application programs can use to find data or program overlay files.

What is wrong with using either SUBST or APPEND with Windows 3.0? Microsoft tells us "they prevent Windows from creating well formed paths (WFPs)." Got that? In case you didn't, let me explain a bit further.



Orange Coast IBM PC User Group SIG GUIDE

A Calendar of Meetings & Events
published by Richard Villa

For more information on membership, write to OCIPUG at PO Box 6100-211,
Costa Mesa, CA 92628. Call Voice - 714/843-2048 or BBS - 714/843-0388

	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
NOV	Computer Design 1 PM 18	OCIPUG Board Meeting 6:30 PM @ St. Andrews 19 Genealogy	Int. DOS Seminar 8:30-10:30 AM DataEase BBS 20	Investors 21	<i>Thanksgiving Day</i> 22	23	24	
	Computer Design 1 PM 25	MS Word 26	Int. DOS Seminar 8:30-10:30 AM Personal Finance Real Estate 8 AM 27	Q & A 28	29	30	New Users 9 AM DOS 1 PM	
	Computer Design 1 PM 2	3	Int. DOS Seminar 8:30-10:30 AM Spreadsheet 4	Desktop Pub./ Windows 3.0 5	Modem 6	7	OS/2 1:15 PM 8	
DECEMBER	Computer Design 1 PM 9	Word Perfect 10	Int. DOS Seminar 8:30-10:30 AM Corel Draw 6:30 PM @ Graphics Zone Database 11	Programming 12	CAD/ Graphics 13	14	15	
	Computer Design 1 PM 16	OCIPUG Board Meeting 6:30 PM @ St. Andrews 17 Genealogy	Int. DOS Seminar 8:30-10:30 AM DataEase BBS 18	Investors 19	20	21	22	
	Computer Design 1 PM 23/30	24/31	<i>Merry Christmas</i> 25	Q & A 26	Hardware 27	28	29	
	9AM - OCIPUG General Meeting O.C.C. Science Hall							
	<p>All Special Interest Groups (SIG's) are held from 7 PM to 10 PM at our SIG SPACE, located at 17632 Metzler Lane, Suite 211, Huntington Beach unless otherwise listed.</p>							

BBS 3RD TUE

SIG Leader: Bob Ottke 714/759-1515

Monthly work party on the BBS. Meet in office area of SIG SPACE.**CAD/GRAPHICS 2ND THU**

SIG Leader: David Carroll 714/775-3130

Designated Guru: Dave Lorenzini 714/751-9262

This SIG covers hardware and software products in both computer aided design and graphics. **At the December meeting we will continue the discussion of multimedia for the PC, including ASK-ME 2000, a multimedia authoring system.**

COREL DRAW/VENTURA 2ND TUE

SIG Leader: Steve Burnside 714/758-8957

Asst. SIG Leader: Sunny Lockie 714/644-0103

This SIG will cover intermediate and advanced topics relating to both *Ventura Publisher* and *Corel DRAW!* **At the December meeting we will be Fiona Rochester of Corel will present Corel Draw 2.0. Please come with your questions. Meeting Start at 6:30 PM. SPECIAL DATE THIS MEETING.**

Graphix Zone, 38 Corporate Park, Irvine - Near Jamboree & Alton Pkwy. NEW LOCATION

DATABASE 2ND TUE

SIG Leader: Bob Schmiedeke 714/536-1178

This SIG discusses various database programs, specializing in *dBASE*. **Check the HOT LINE for December's topic.**

DATAEASE 3RD TUE

Co-SIG Leader: Bill Ulrich 714/721-1371

Co-SIG Leader: Dick Barker 714/639-2865

This SIG covers *DataEase*, a 4th generation application development language. **Check the HOT-LINE for the topic for December.**

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Public Bulletin Board (BBS) - 714/843-0388

Private Line - 714/843-9248

(Members may access and download files and messages from either line)

Hot-Line-For latest information on meetings and events - 714/843-2048

DESKTOP PUB./WINDOWS 3 1ST WED

SIG Leader: Richard Villa 714/841-6991

Asst. SIG Leader: Steve Burnside 714/758-8957

This SIG covers software for the new *Microsoft Windows 3.0* during the first half, and specializes in *PageMaker* and other advanced topics in the last half. **At the December meeting we will demonstrate FAX PUBLISHING, using PageMaker, FAXit, Intel's Satisfaction board, and other programs to create and publish faxed publications.**

DOS and LANGUAGES 1ST SAT

Designated Guru: John Goodman 714/895-3195

Come to this group to learn more about how your PC works and how to get it to do what you want. This SIG is about the program you use everyday: DOS. Also about languages (e.g. BASIC) & other system issues. **At the December Meeting John Goodman will discuss the differences between base, expanded and extended memory, and discuss the various types of systems.**

GENEALOGY 3RD MON

SIG Leader: Stan Sabin 714/968-7307

For beginners to experts. If you know a little about Genealogy or alot this SIG is for you. **Check the HOT-LINE for December's topic. Everyone welcome!**

HARDWARE 4TH THU

SIG Leader: Bob Basaraba 714/733-3310

This SIG is one of the most popular, judging by the strong attendance. **Check the HOT-LINE for December's topic.**

INVESTORS 3RD WED

SIG Leader: Dan Jacobs 714/675-5895

Designated Guru: Joe Farber 714/642-6993

Explore the world of computer-aided investing. **Check the HOT-LINE for December's topic.**

MODEM 1ST THU

SIG Leader: Rich Sabin 714/843-6967

Reach out and access the whole world of information through telecommunications. **At the December meeting we will go back to basics using modems. Come and random access with us.**

ATTEND A SIG MEETING THIS MONTH - FIND OUT WHAT'S HOT!

NEW USER/NEW MEMBER 1ST SAT

SIG Leader: John Lunsford 714/995-0947

This is the best SIG to attend first. The meetings run on a 4-month cycle and this month is number **FOUR** in the cycle. You may start at any point in the cycle.

OS/2 2ND SAT

SIG Leader: Dave Lorenzini 714/751-9262

Come learn about what OS/2 is all about and what this new operating system can do for you. **At the December meeting we will start with the basics and go thru a step-by-step process of loading the new generic OS/2 1.21.**

PERSONAL FINANCE 4TH TUE

SIG Leader: Max Lockie 714/644-0103

This SIG discusses the various financial packages for the PC. **We will not meet in December for the Christmas Holiday. See you in January!**

PROGRAMMING 2ND WED

SIG Leader: Wendy Sarrett 714/733-9906

NEW SIG. Check the HOT-LINE for the topic for December.

Q & A 4TH WED

SIG Leader: Terry Currier 714/774-2018

Come and learn about this popular database and word processing program. **At the December meeting we will cover software from the Symantec BBS.**

REAL ESTATE LAST TUE

Contact Person: Kent Pierce 714/536-0271

Contact Person: Tom Sutro 714/754-7045

Jointly sponsored by OCIPUG and several local Boards of Realtors, this is one of our largest SIG's. Check the **HOT-LINE** for the topic of the month. (Coffee at 7:30 AM) **Will not meet in December for Christmas Holiday.**

Newport Harbor - Costa Mesa Board of Realtors Boardatorium, 401 North Newport Blvd., Newport Beach.

SHAREWARE 2ND SAT

SIG Leader: Bonnie Ulanovsky 714/646-5230

The Shareware SIG will **NOT** meet for this month. We will resume in the near future.

SPREADSHEET 1ST TUE

SIG Leader: John Alesi 714/770-1130

Designated Guru: Neil Carman 714/964-1901

This group covers *Lotus 123* and other popular spreadsheet programs, including shareware products, for both beginners and advanced users. **At the December meeting we will discuss using graphs.**

WORD 4TH MON

SIG Leader: Winston Jewson 714/544-4330

Microsoft Contact: Dave Lorenzini 714/751-9262

Microsoft Word 5.0 is a powerful and popular word processing package. **We will not meet in December due to the holiday season. See you in January!**

WORDPERFECT 2ND MON

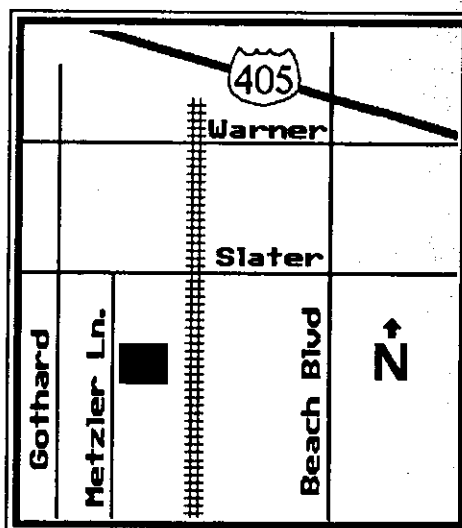
SIG Leader: Susan Novak 213/594-4144

W-213/491-3081

Contact Person: Ben Swanson 213/865-4555

Come and learn about this popular word processing package. **At the December meeting we will learn the file management system and see how to create 68 character file descriptions.**

SIG SPACE



**17632 Metzler Lane, Suite 211
Huntington Beach**

WANT TO START A SIG? CONTACT THURMAN WADE AT 846-6067

GENERAL MEETING

Saturday November 17th, 1990 - 9:00 AM to Noon

Insite - 3 1/2 21 Meg Floppy Disk Drive

Ashton-Tate - dBase IV 1.1

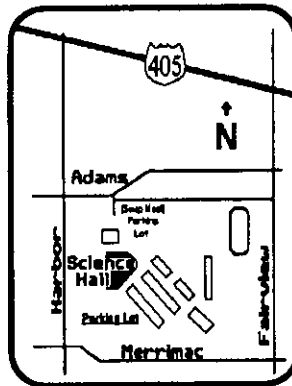
◆→ 8:40 to 9:00 AM - Random Access!

MEETING LOCATIONS

Orange Coast College

Costa Mesa
2701 Fairview Rd.

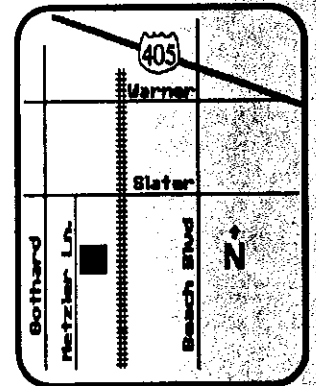
General Meeting:
Science Hall (next to
Chemistry Bldg.)
Parking in campus lots
available off Adams or
Merrimac.



SIG Space

Huntington Beach
17632 Metzler
Lane, Suite 211

SIG Meetings:
Take elevator to 2nd
floor.
Parking in lot or on
street



MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Orange Coast IBM PC User Group (OCIPUG) was formed in 1985, and has become one of the largest and most respected User Groups in the country.

OCIPUG, a non-profit corporation, is an all-volunteer organization which provides PC enthusiasts with an opportunity to gain knowledge and gives assistance to those who need it.

Membership includes:

- ✓ subscription to README.DOC, the monthly newsletter published by OCIPUG
- ✓ discounts on Public Domain, Shareware and User Supported software
- ✓ access to the OCIPUG RBBS private telephone line
- ✓ eligibility for monthly raffle at General Meeting
- ✓ free copies of software and publications

If you would like to become an OCIPUG member please call 714/843-2048 and request an application for membership, or write: **OCIPUG, PO Box 6100-211, Costa Mesa, CA 92628-6100.**

OCIPUG SIG GUIDE camera ready copy produced with: *Microsoft Windows 3.0, Aldus PageMaker & Corel DRAW!* using an *HP LaserJet III* with Pacific Data Product's *PacificPage 4.0* PostScript-compatible cartridge. Graphic illustrations by Richard Villa & Steve Burnside.

SIG Committee Chairman: Thurman Wade - 714/846-6067

Keeper of the Calendar: Richard Villa - 714/841-6991 - Deadline for January Calendar: Nov. 30th.

SUBST. CONTINUED

the directory C:\MYFILES and that GEORGE.DAT is in that directory. Windows will get confused. It will think your data file can be found as D:\WINDOWS\GEORGE.DAT.

There is no such file there. This means the next time Windows tries, it won't be able to find it.

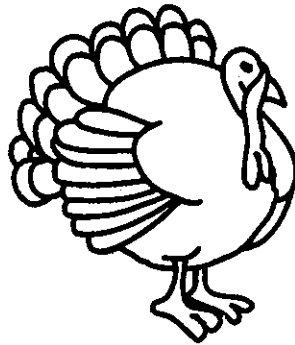
The simple answer to this is, don't use APPEND. Almost all modern applications don't need its help to find their data files. Why might you want to anyway? For one example, if you have a very old version of Wordstar it can't find its program overlay files without that or some similar help. Why are you running an old version of Wordstar with the latest version of Windows? Please don't.

What's worse, the latest version of Microsoft's DOS automatically installs APPEND for you. That is generally unnecessary, wasteful of precious system RAM, and will likely cause serious problems with Windows 3.0. The solution, if you installed MS-DOS or PC-DOS, version 4.0 or 4.01, is to examine your AUTOEXEC.BAT file for a line starting with APPEND (or C:\DOS\APPEND). Remove it.

That is it. Again, thank you Brent for your help in tracking down these arcana. You have made the mysterious understandable. Better, you have helped us decide when to save RAM and when we can or even must use the DOS commands SHARE, SUBST, and APPEND. ■

Happy Thanksgiving!

from the staff of README.DOC



President's Message

continued

We no longer have those items as assets, but you, our members, do.

Governance: This has been a major focus of my administration.

OCIPUG is no longer a small, young, private club. It is a non-profit corporation. As such we have some new privileges. We also have some new responsibilities, to the state and to the community beyond our own members. No longer can we afford the leadership of just a few strong personalities. We have bylaws and we must live "by those laws." Many hours have been spent this year updating our bylaws and assuring that all of our actions conform to them.

We also must not be held hostage to the good will, fortune, or health of any key personnel. We have moved in the past few years from a single newsletter editor and single BBS operator to committees that perform these vital functions.

The shareware library is another such key club function. Bonnie Ulanovsky gave us 5 years of non-stop, quality library services. Now her health prevents her from continuing it. One of my last actions as President has been to appoint a Library Committee, with John Lunsford as chairman, to help stabilize that valuable service as well. (If you want to help him, and in the process get first crack at some nifty shareware, call him or leave a message on the club hotline.)

Steve, I hand to you a vital club with many wonderful members eager to serve each other and their community in many innovative ways. I have greatly enjoyed working with and for them, and I am sure you will feel the same one year from now. Good luck to you.

And thank you all for the privilege of being your President this year. This is not goodbye. I will continue to serve on the Board of Directors as the Past President for the coming year, and I'll be at many of our meetings. See ya. ■

Batch File Basics

Michael Springer

Many, possibly even most batch files simply automate the startup of a program. These batch files may be very complex (install a memory marker, install TSRs, switch drives and directories, set environment variables, change PATH and prompt, preload keyboard buffer, run program, undo all above and return system to normal), but each is actually a simple, always do the same thing, typo-free, non-changing, eliminate drudgery set of instructions obeyed in order from beginning to end. Once created and debugged, these batch files become faithful, brainless servants that perform without deviation from the prescribed route.

Humans seldom settle for rigid, non-varying operation of a device with so much potential for variation as a computer. So, it should be no surprise that some (possibly more than one) human just had to provide at least one way for variation to be added to batch file operation. Since I have 'spilled the beans' and admitted that there is at least one way to vary the operation of a batch file, I suppose that it is only fair to provide some information about this. I think an example is appropriate here.

Situation:

I am lazy and abhor typing DIR C:\UTIL /W/P to have a directory displayed on screen in wide format with page pauses should there be enough files in the directory that the first files would scroll off the screen. I want to reduce the amount of typing required, but I also want to be able to vary the drive and/or directory which will be displayed.

Solution:

A batch file.

Details of solution:

A one line batch file, let's call it

DW.BAT, can easily solve the 'reduce typing' criterion if we will accept no variation in drive and/or directory:

```
DIR C:\UTIL /W/P
```

With this batch file, typing only DW will produce the desired results with an astonishing saving of 14 keystrokes! However, for this tremendous saving, we have given up flexibility. (You don't get something for nothing, or in other words, there is no free lunch.)

We can take advantage of something called a REPLACEABLE PARAMETER and add flexibility to the batch file. The new, improved, better-than-ever batch file called DW.BAT has this line in it:

```
DIR %1 /W/P
```

To use it, we could type at the DOS prompt

```
DW C:\UTIL
```

and get the same results as the old, less-than-better version would have produced.

But, we can also type DW C: or DW D: or DW A: or DW C:\BAT or DW C:\WP\DOCS\LTRS or ... (you get the picture).

The data following the name of the batch file gets put into the line of the batch file when it is executed, thus customizing the line. The data REPLACES the PARAMETER '%1' thus providing variation in the final results.

To be more rigorous, the first group of characters following the batch file name will replace every occurrence of %1 in the batch file. %1 stands for first data group. Expanding this logically, %2 stands for the second data group, %3 stands for the third data group, etc. up to 9 data groups. All that remains is to define a data group.

Data contained in the com-

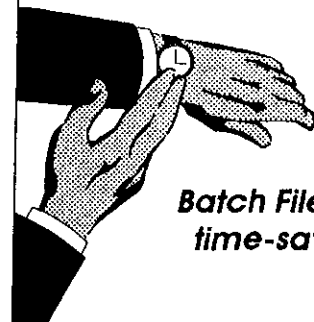
mand line (following the name of the batch file) is divided by the space character into groups. This means that there can be no spaces within a group. The position (left to right) of each group determines its assignment to the appropriate '%N' replaceable parameter. The batch file name automatically becomes group zero and %0 can be used in the file (more on this later).

Generalization:

Some DOS commands that can be used in a batch file need specific information to complete the command, such as DIR XXX, COPY SSS DDD, CHKDSK drive, DISKCOPY from to. The information needed can come from the command line (what you type at the DOS prompt) in the form of data groups which will affect the outcome of the batch file. Replaceable parameters in the batch file content make possible the use of the data groups.

The use of replaceable parameters in a batch file requires the user to determine the data values (dir name, drive, etc.) BEFORE the batch file is executed. This drawback can be reduced with techniques we'll discuss later. Do not let it deter you from writing batch files that take advantage of replaceable parameters. ■

Author's note: You will be interested in batch files and you will enjoy them!



**Batch Files are
time-savers!**

continued from page 3

quently will insure that the author will keep regular updates and improvements coming. Many of the shareware programs reserve some of the nicer amenities for registered users.

You have no legal obligations, but strong moral ones if you make extensive use of a program. Let your conscience be your guide.

Question 6. When I log on to other BBSs, many of them ask a lot of questions about me. I am afraid of getting on a lot of mailing lists, etc. Should I answer truthfully?

Answer. One of the things that will REALLY turn off a sysop will be those misguided individuals who sign on as "Darth Vader," "Albert Einstein," "Richard Nixon," etc. You never know

what those guys are going to do!

By all means, sign on with your correct name, and give whatever other information is requested. When you use a BBS, you are a guest in the home of the sysop. It is not likely that you will get on mailing lists, or receive unwanted phone calls, although the sysop may call once to verify the information you have given.

Question 7. I really enjoy a little "action" now and then - know what I mean? How about some GIF files, and maybe some good telephone numbers?

Answer. Every BBS has a personality, often that of the sysops, and often that of the general membership of the sponsoring organization. No BBS that deals in credit card numbers or commercial software will be around long. I doubt that San Quentin permits BBS op-

eration. Other than that, get to know the personality of a system, and choose those that suit you. There are many that offer porno GIF files, and many that serve as dating services. As a guide, the OCIPUG BBS has just one GIF file - that of a genuine strawberry!

Of course, there are a lot of you that have questions. Please let us have them, either by uploads to the BBS, or by a note or telephone call to me (759-1515). Questions of general interest will be answered in this column. Those of a more specific nature will be answered by 1.) A telephone call; 2.) A visit to the Modem SIG (that is the best way!). ■

GARDEN of EDE

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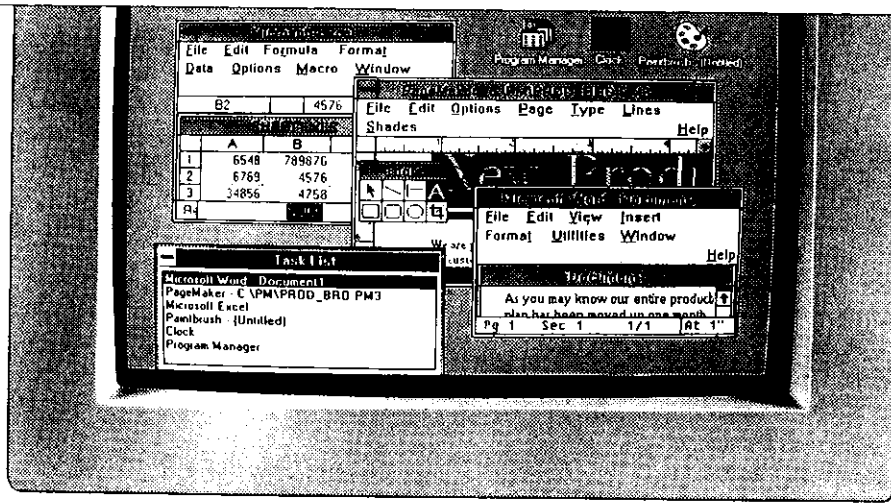
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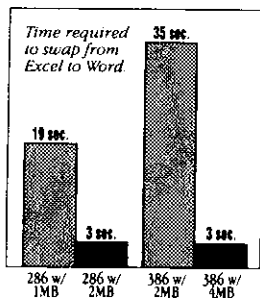
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SAM - 6PM MON-FRI ... 10 TO 6 SAT

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*With 6MB PageLock memory option. †Timing performance test conducted using an IBM PS/2 Model 50 and Above Board 2 Plus running Windows 3.0 in standard mode, and an IBM PS/2 Model 70 and Above Board ME-32 running Windows 3.0 in enhanced mode. © 1990 Intel Corporation. Above and 386 are trademarks of Intel Corporation. ®Windows, Word for Windows, and Excel are trademarks of Microsoft Corp.

Summary Draft of Minutes October 29th, 1990 Board of Directors Meeting

(As submitted by Neil Carman, Sec'y)

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

John Goodman, President
Dave Carroll, Vice President
Neil Carman, Secretary
Stephen Burnside
Terry Currier
Sunny Lockie
Richard Villa

Robin Clark
Harv Haight
Jim Pettit

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Toni Massoth, Treasurer
Paul Curtis, Past President
Bonnie Ulanovsky

MEMBERS AND GUESTS

Ginger Buck
George Mefferd
Tom Stolp
Thurman Wade

Ben LeGare
Michael Springer
Ned Stuart

The regular meeting of the OCIPUG Board of Directors convened at 6:40 pm on October 29, 1990 at the OCIPUG SIG space. The President presided and the Secretary was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 1 OCTOBER 1990 MEETING

Harv Haight moved to approve the minutes with one minor correction.
Motion passed.

OFFICIAL REPORT OF ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Tom Stolp reported that the following have been duly elected.

President: Stephen Burnside
Vice-President: Richard Villa
Secretary: (vacant position)
Treasurer: George Mefferd
Director:
Ben LeGare
Stan Sabin

Bob Ottke
Steve Silverwood

CONFIRMATION OF INTERIM TREASURER

Dave Carroll moved to confirm John Goodman's appointment of George Mefferd as Treasurer to complete Toni Massoth's term. Motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

George reported problems reconciling the bank statements with the reports which have appeared in README.DOC. There appears to be an unrecorded expense(s) totaling \$206.94. Jim Pettit agreed to help George try to find the source of the discrepancy. Mike Springer, Jim Pettit, Sunny Lockie and George Mefferd will explore the possibility of using Quicken to handle our finances. Harv Haight moved that George Mefferd choose a more convenient financial institution to handle our finances and move our funds to that institution. Motion passed.

PROPOSAL FOR SUNGLASSES DONATED BY CMS ENHANCEMENTS

The board discussed uses for the 50 pair of sunglasses donated by CMS Enhancements.

README.1ST

Sunny presented a another revised draft copy of README.1st. The board discussed the document and made a few suggestions. Various board members requested quantities of the document to distribute once it is finished.

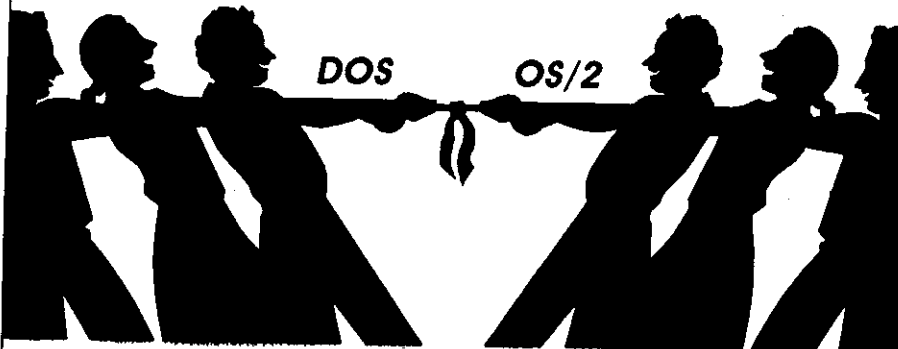
PROPOSAL FOR A NEW SIG

The proposed SIG would assist computer novices in learning about their computers. This SIG would provide very basic information and is intended to be a precursor to the New User SIG. Terry suggested charging a modest amount of \$5.00 to non members.

Continued on page 15

Protected Mode DOS?

Dick Lewis



Last month I quoted from Ray Duncan's column in the mid-October issue of *PC Magazine* but goofed on the date: It was actually the Oct. 16 issue, not Oct. 15. Sorry about that.

This was the first of Duncan's two-part foray into DOS; the part second appeared in the Oct. 30 issue. To my mind, they're watershed pieces on the evolution of PC operating systems — including internecine squabbles between IBM and Microsoft. Lots of spicy bits here.

Moreover, Duncan makes the case (persuasively, to my mind) for a "Super DOS." Microsoft could do it, he says, without having to "break any new technological ground. But it would require that Microsoft reconcile itself to the marketplace's resistance to the size and complexity of OS/2, and commit itself wholeheartedly to making DOS everything it can be — regardless of the impact this might have on Microsoft's Joint Development Agreement with IBM or on OS/2 sales." (For the record, 1989 shipments of DOS and OS/2 were, respectively, 10 million-plus vs. 125,000 copies.)

In Duncan's view, OS/2 is "massive overkill for normal desktop computing tasks." This reminds me of the rueful admission

of the passenger on the *Titanic*: "I rang for ice, but this is ridiculous." Duncan's alternative is a DOS version which, when installed, would automatically configure itself to the processor present on the host PC. Functional compatibility with application programs would be retained; the "lowest common denominator" DOS mentality wouldn't. Ergo, if the CPU could handle protected mode, DOS would have the smarts to make the most of it. This would free up major chunks of conventional memory (640K and below), and open up the entire address space. In short: the major benefits of OS/2 without the "overkill."

Duncan addresses another issue which has plagued DOS programmers for years: undocumented DOS functions and internal data structures. Whereas the DOS 'kernel' has a documented function to load resident programs, writing good ones has always been a black art. The worst thing a TSR can do is "pop up" while something sensitive (such as disk I/O) is going on; another no-no is making a DOS 'function call' while the kernel is busy servicing another request. Avoiding these pitfalls *absolutely* requires knowledge of many DOS mystery areas. Yet Microsoft has

been adamant in its refusal to document this information, holding that it might change in future DOS versions. Duncan's response: "...so many important commercial products (including several of Microsoft's) depend on these undocumented functions that they can never be allowed to change." Munch on that, Mr. Gates.

Will Duncan's fully-documented, "Super DOS" come to pass? If so, when? Duncan himself denies being part of the Microsoft inner sanctum. But new kid on the block? Not hardly. He is also clearly aware of what's afoot in DOS 5.0 and OS/2, version 2.0; and he probably knows more about DOS 6.0 than he's ready to acknowledge. That one, he hints, may be "it." Let us pray...

New subject: The September general meeting and the Redmond "road show." I understand that Microsoft made its own pitch for the event to people in this area, using its mailing list. No problem with that. But Microsoft also stated that the raffle would be open to all comers — OCIPUG members or not — and only told us about it after the fact. My point is simply this: How we run our meetings is for us to decide; that's why we elect officers and directors. And when I voted at the last meeting, I didn't see Bill Gates' name on the ballot. ■

Editors Note: Opinions expressed are the author's own, not necessarily that of OCIPUG.

PROPOSAL TO USE THE SIG SPACE FOR AN INTERMEDIATE DOS CLASS

Mike Springer has proposed using the SIG space from 8:30 to 11:30 on Tuesdays for the next 6 to 9 weeks to teach an intermediate DOS class for Coastline Community College students. The classes would also be open to OCIPUG members. There would be a nominal charge to students who were not OCIPUG members. The fees collected would go to OCIPUG. The board discussed the proposal. Jim Petit moved to allow Michael Springer to use the SIG space for the class.

Motion passed.

Michael Springer asked for direction on what the class fee should be. Dave Carroll moved that the fee be \$5.00 for nonmembers and that there be no charge for members.

Motion passed with one dissenting vote.

COMMENTS ON SURVEY FORMS

Sunny used a comment analysis software program to analyze the comments submitted from our recent membership survey. The board thanked Sunny for the excellent job of organizing the comments, wishes, and gripes of our members. Stephen Burnside announced that he would study the results carefully and use them to help chart a course during his Presidency.

JEWISH HOLIDAYS

John Goodman reported being asked by Si Liff if our general meetings could be scheduled to avoid the major Jewish Holidays. Dave Carroll mentioned that our attendance is lower when we move the meeting from the last Saturday of the month and that we have only moved meetings to avoid national holidays. The board discussed the matter further. John Goodman suggested that we solicit input from other members and make a decision at a future meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

The board discussed its concerns regarding the club library. The President will look into various solutions.

Dave Carroll moved that we acquire plaques for board members and certificates for SIG leaders. After a brief discussion, the consensus of the board was that we not spend a lot of money for plaques. Motion failed.

Richard Villa and Sunny Lockie will investigate less expensive alternatives so we can still recognize SIG leaders, committee chairmen, and board members but at minimal expense to our treasury.

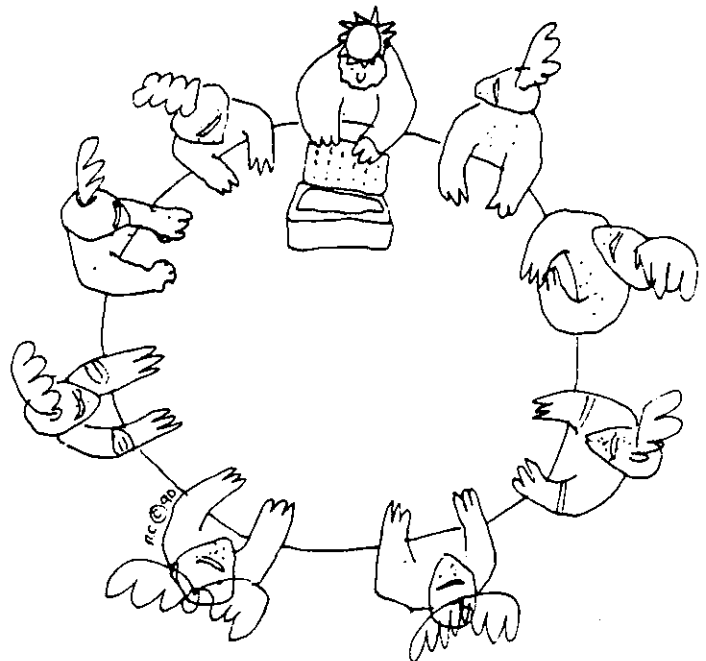
Jim Petit announced that he was donating a Hayes 9600 baud modem to the club for the BBS. The board thanked Jim for his generosity.

Terry Currier announced that CMS Enhancements has donated a 140 Mb EDSI hard drive to the club. The drive will replace a hard drive loaned to the BBS by Jim Petit.

Ben LeGare has a used copier which he is willing to donate to the club, however it needs some PM service. Ben did not know the cost of service would be but guessed that it would cost about \$250. Ben will find out what it would cost to do the PM service and report back. The meeting adjourned at 8:25.

(Editors note: The above minutes do not become official or certified until adopted by the Board at their next Board Meeting)

COMPUTIMES by Rac Hark



"Percival, you look for the grail, and Lancelot, you vanquish the Green Knight, and--aw, hey, Merlin--you scheduled me in for two crusades in the same week!"

WE WELCOME THESE NEW MEMBERS

Frédric Apt	Elton Epley	Richard Miller
Vance Avis	George Feyerabend	Coleman Mobley
Rod Ayers	Joni Goodnight	Michael Muller
Sharon Ayers	Tiffany Griebenow	Paul Nelson
Patrick Barry	Mark Griswold	Bill Pan
David Black	Sue Griswold	W. Mark Pickett
Richard Black	Ella Hatfield	Andrea Ryan
Bill Brown	Jim Hicks	Steve Ryan
Catherine Burnside	Julia Holgaard	Tom Scalese
Stephen	Herbert Husy	Nicholas Shishkoff
Clark Wilson	Gary Jacobson	Anthony Stelmack
Donald Crow	Tom Kilpatrick	Catherine Su
Tracy Day	Don Koontz	Rolland Thomas Jr.
Chuck Durgin	Ted Lincoln	Barto Wash
Donald Earhart	Wendy Luther	Ruth Wash
Jeannine Englehart	Gail Maraglian	
Michael Englehart	Louis Maragiano	
Wayne Englehart	A.J. Marchin	
Des Epley	Bill Menna	



THESE MEMBERSHIPS EXPIRE IN NOVEMBER

Jack Appleman	Jon Frederick	Tom Mc Rorie
Gordon Austin	John Gulsby	Andrew McGill
Michael Begnield	Howe Hop	Marvin Milkes
Terry Battelle	Hal Ingram	Butch Miller
Kim Betterley	Joelle Jellick	Carol Peterson
Rita Botwin	C. Ross Jennings	Rey Pinollar
L. Ann Brice	Tom Juengel	Dean Reavie
Leamon Calloway	Noel Justus	James Samuelson
Brian Chwan	Sharon Kilpatrick	Margaret Sheldon
Monica Coleman	Larry Klees	Robert Sigmon
Bill Crane	Donald Lafferty	Shirley Sigmon
Mark Davia	Si Liff	Jerry Smith
Ivan Dotterer	Sue Liu	Carl Williams
Bernard Egbert	Tony Liu	Vernon Williams

THESE MEMBERSHIPS EXPIRE IN DECEMBER

Ralph Alcalá	Bernie Goldware	Russell Merrifield
Lars Anderson	Daniel Groner	Doug Mize
Janice Baylis	Harv Haight	Larry Pearce
Carl Bergerson	Hazen Hoyt	Angelo Ponce
Mumo Bobo	Dan Jacobs	Joe Reednick
Randy Boelens	Richard Jespersen	Gary Rhodes
Charles Bracher	Hugo Johnson	Martin Ruby
Ken Brosius	George Kashner	Philip Saint-Erne
Joseph Brugman	James Kazlauskas	George Samuels
Edward Butler	Steve Kilmer	Robert Sandstrom
Marge Butler	Jack Kindig	Roger Stover
Maria Cermenaro	Richard Lorsche	Gilda Strom
Irwin Chapnick	Ann Lee	William Strom
Jim Clary	Dick Lewis	Roger Stumm
Olga Clary	John Lunsford	Alex Syfrett
Steve Codd	Dan Maher	Dawn Thomas
Rex Combs	Tom Mahood	Ellis Thomas
Ralph Davis	Oran Marsbury	Kevin Thomas
Kenneth Dréws	Stanley Matsui	Sandra Thomas
Bernard Engdahl	Robert McDermott	George Walker
Jim Fulton	Tim McPherson	Dale Warnke
Dick Gerber	George Mefferd	Michael Wierman
Danny Geter	Pat Mellino	Terah Woodcock
William Goldwag	Raymond Mendoza	

OCIPIUG OCTOBER, 1990 FINANCIAL REPORT

George Mefferd, Treasurer

	Unrestricted Funds	Tim Smith Fund
Cash Balance October 1990	8,318.26	3,998.99
CASH RECEIPTS:		
Interest	229.26	176.02
Advertising	150.00	
Membership Dues - New	873.00	
Membership Dues - Renewal	1,2658.00	
Total Cash Receipts	2,510.26	176.02
CASH DISBURSEMENTS		
Rental - General Meeting	175.00	
Rental - SIG Space	767.00	
Printing	964.57	
Postage	295.57	
Telephone	200.38	
Meeting - General	205.12	
Meeting - SIG's	119.16	
Meeting - Board	21.26	
Other	21.26	
Total Cash Disbursements	2,822.99	
Net Change in Cash Balance	<312,73>	176.02
Cash Balance - October 31, 1990	8,005.53	4,175.01

1990 OCIPUG Board of Directors

OFFICERS

President	John Goodman	895-3195
Vice President	David Carroll	775-3130
Secretary	Neil Carman	964-1901
Treasurer	Toni Massoth	788-7620
Past President	Paul Curtis	774-1827

DIRECTORS

Steve Burnside	1990	758-8957
Robin Clark	1990	786-7880
Terry Currier	1991	774-2018
Harv Haight	1991	546-0820
Sunny Lockie	1991	644-0103
Jim Petit	1991	841-3699
Richard Villa	1990	841-6991
Bonnie Ulanovsky	1990	646-5230

People and Numbers to Know

Membership	Robin Clark	786-7880
SIG Chairman	Thurman Wade	846-6067
Program Chmn.	Dave Carroll	775-3130
Librarian	Bonnie Ulanovsky	646-5230
Bulletin Board	Robert Ottke	759-1515
Facilities Chairman	Joe Farber	642-6993

OCIPUG Phone numbers

BBS Public Line (1200/2400)	843-0388
BBS Members only (1200/2400)	843-9248
OCIPUG Info & Message line	843-2048

OCIPUG General Meeting Dates 1990

Our General Meetings are held on the last Saturday of each month except when there is a conflict with a major holiday (asterisked months in list below).

October 27

*** November 17**

*** December 15**

Membership Form

Bring to General Meeting or mail to return address on the back cover

New Renewal Information Update Date: _____

Have you ever been a member of OCIPUG? ___ If so, what is your member number: _____

Individual Membership \$36.00 per year Family Membership \$45.00 per year

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Title: Mr., Mrs., Ms., Dr. (Circle One)

Occupation: _____

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____ Family Members: _____

Address: _____ Unit No. _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ - _____ Work Phone: _____ - _____

I consider myself to be: Beginner Intermediate Advanced

OCIPUG Business Sponsorship Program



843-9262

The Orange Coast IBM PC User Group thanks PCR Personal Computer Rentals,
for renewing its commitment to OCIPUG.

Your support enables us to better serve our members.

If you or your company would like more information on this program please call
Harv Haight at 714-546-0820

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