

# README.DOC

MARCH 1992

ORANGE COAST IBM PC USER GROUP

VERSION 8.03

## SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 9:00 A.M.

# ST. SILICON



FACE-OFF BETWEEN

*MICROSOFT  
WORD FOR  
WINDOWS 2.0*

AND

*LOTUS AMI-PRO 2.0*

DETAILS  
INSIDE ON  
PAGE 15

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README.DOC is published monthly by the ORANGE COAST IBM PC USER GROUP, P. O. Box 6100-211, Costa Mesa, CA 92628. The group's recorded message number is (714) 843-2048.

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The purpose of the ORANGE COAST IBM PC USER GROUP is to provide a forum for members to share information and experiences that will help other members obtain maximum benefit and enjoyment from the use of their IBM PC and compatible personal computers.

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Full Page	\$ 150.00
Half Page	\$ 85.00
Quarter Page	\$ 50.00
Business Card	\$ 25.00

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#### DISTRIBUTION

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Camera ready copy produced with:

80386-33 WORD-tek	HP Scanjet IIC
HP LaserJet III	Ventura Publisher 3.0
Pacific Page Postscript 4.0	Corel Draw 2.0
with Pacific Type	Publishers Paintbrush

Printing by Champion Graphics, Santa Ana.

README.DOC is published monthly. A subscription is included with all paid memberships in the Orange Coast IBM PC Users Group.

Address all inquiries and address changes to:  
README.DOC, P. O. Box 6100-211  
Costa Mesa, CA 92628

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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 in ASCII text format.
2. **5 1/4" DISK** mailed to the Editor in time to meet the deadline: P. O. Box 8224, Newport Beach, CA 92658.

**DEADLINE FOR ALL SUBMISSIONS WILL ALWAYS BE 12 MIDNIGHT ON THE SATURDAY FOLLOWING THE GENERAL MEETING.**

# General Meeting Report

Harv Haight

At 8:56 a.m. Vice President Richard Villa opened this 84th General Meeting by introducing Bob Basaraba with Random Access. A question concerning Stac Electronic's club offer of STACKER II was referred to Steve Burnside, who later said he had no luck in attempted contacts with Chris Dominguez. Greg Arnold referred a question concerning C++ language to Borland's Technical Support. Factory backup is no longer available for Texas Instruments computers. DOLLARS AND SENSE is now owned by Software Toolworks; the original owner was Monogram. Failure of 386SX-25 CMOS to hold date/time can result from a weak battery, from interactive proximity to adjacent boards, or from motherboard traces shorted by metal standoffs. Several questions were asked about QEMM and STACKER II, especially with multiple logic drives (no problems with but a single STACKER II drive).

At 9:17 a.m. Steve Burnside commented on non-disclosure status of Microsoft's Windows 3.1, despite availability of copies to many members, and Microsoft's decision not to have an 800 number for technical help. Steve reminded members of the death in January of "Amazing Grace Hopper," a pioneer programmer (see sidebar).

Terry Currier next introduced Greg Arnold of Borland; with Greg were Shannon Kane and Jami Casey, Borland's user group representative. Shannon gave a full demonstration of QUATTRO PRO IV, released but a week before the meeting. This remarkable program requires but 512K

of RAM and can run on 8086 or 8088 machines, although it can take up to 5 MB of hard drive...for the full works, that is. Many features can be omitted to save space; Borland has found that 80% of QUATTRO PRO users need only 15% of what is available. Few of us need to see up to 32 spreadsheet views at a time! Version IV speedbar buttons work like those of Windows 3.0, only better. To satisfy Windows 3.0 buffs, Borland has also brought out QUATTRO PRO for Windows, with similar features for 286, 386, and 486 machines; Shannon's limited time prevented her from demon-

strating this version. Version IV is fully compatible with 2.X and 3.X versions of Lotus 123, SuperCalc, and Harvard Graphics. With many industry awards and an estimated 1.5 million copies sold, Borland now claims a 30% market share of spreadsheet sales.

After a break, and announcements by SIG leaders, BBS SysOp Bob Ottke, Jim Petit, Brian Parker, and Bob Basaraba showed how the new WILDCAT program works on our BBS. Bob Ottke spoke of the use

*Continued on Page 27...*

## "Amazing Grace"

In Arlington, Virginia, Dr. Grace Murray Hopper died on New Years Day, just a few weeks after her 85th birthday. Following her Doctorate in Mathematics from Yale in 1934, she was an Associate Professor at Vassar until 1943. In 1943 she joined the U.S. Naval Reserve as one of three coders on the Mark I digital computer at Harvard, first of its kind. She led the team, which in August of 1945, crawled inside this monster to find the fried bug which had shut it down. Ever since, the process of finding and removing computer flaws has been called "debugging."

In 1949, still in the Reserve, she went with Eckert-Mauchly Computer to program the Univac I and stayed through company transitions, first to Remington Rand and then to Sperry. It was "Amazing Grace," as she was affectionately called, who in 1952 developed the first compiler for Sperry's Univac line, and who in 1957 developed the "Flow-Matic" programming language. This predecessor of COBOL (Common Business

*Continued on Page 25...*

# President's Message

Stephen Burnside

## OCIPUG MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

At the last Board of Directors' Meeting I appointed a task force to explore ways of publicizing OCIPUG in order to increase membership. The committee members, Sunny Lockie, Robin Clark, Terry Currier, and I, set a goal of designing a promotional campaign to get the word out about OCIPUG. In the next few months you will see the results of our efforts. We plan to have a brochure that can be either mailed, or placed in businesses for distribution to the public. Another group we will be targeting with our advertising campaign will be potential advertisers for *README.DOC*. *README.DOC* consumes the largest portion of our operating budget. More advertising would help free up funds that could be used for equipment purchases and SIG space improvements. Along this same vein, Sunny Lockie, *README.DOC* Publisher is looking for someone to take on the role of Advertising Manager. If you are interested, please contact her.

We have no illusions that this printed material will accomplish our goals all by itself. We know that it will take the efforts of a lot of people so we are depending on you, our members, to help us get the word out. At our next General Meeting a small pack of OCIPUG promotional business cards will be given to each member attending. I urge each of you to take them with you and pass them along to people you come in contact with during the next month. In other words, we are asking each of you to become an ambassador for our club. If you have found membership in OCIPUG to be of value, tell a friend or an associate. With every one of us working to promote the club, we can't help but succeed.

## INTEL's ADVICE

I attended the February North Orange County Computer Club (NOCCC) meeting at the invitation of George Margolin, who is a member of OCIPUG as well as a member of NOCCC. George is the SIG leader for the IBM-PC SIG of NOCCC. The featured speaker was David Hoskins, Architectural Manager for INTEL. He gave a description of INTEL's future strategy and goals and described some of the features of INTEL's forthcoming processor the 80586. I have heard this presentation, in one form or another, for the last 2 or 3 years and heard nothing new. However, at the end of his talk David invited anyone who wanted more information to meet with him in one of the side rooms. It was there that I learned some valuable information which I'd like to pass on to you. If you are in the market for a 486 you'd be better off waiting till after the Spring COMDEX show which takes place next month in Chicago. David said that COMDEX should mark the introduction of a number of new motherboard designs featuring a fast local bus architecture featuring frame buffering. Local bus means that instead of video data being bottlenecked by the standard 8-12 Mhz bus transfer rate of current motherboard designs, it will instead tie in directly to the CPU. Thus video data will move many times faster. Frame buffering will help to manage the massive amount of data that is necessary for true-color and life-like color. This is particularly important for Windows users who find the slowness of displays in Windows frustrating.

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# ABCs of the BBS

Bob Ottke

As of this writing, we are now on the day before "BIG MIKE" day—March 6, the birthday of Michelangelo. If you have taken all the proper precautions, you should have no worry at all. I realize that I have spent a lot of time discussing viruses, but, to me, they are very important. Future evolution, in my opinion, could bring about much more sophisticated programs that will be able to evade even the best detection techniques. Of course, these things are always a chess battle between the forces of good and evil, and each new virus will eventually meet its match. No telling, though, the economic damage they could do in the meantime, not to mention the sheer nuisance to people like you and me.

Imagine, for example, the following scenario. A small midwestern bank receives a note instructing it to transfer a couple of million dollars to a numbered account in the Cayman Islands. If the transfer is not made in forty-eight hours, their mainframe will begin to experience difficulties. Hah! Another stupid extortion plot by a bunch of high school kids! Forget it!

Two days later, the mainframe slows down, and begins to show occasional mathematical errors. By closing time, the accounts are in a mess. The MIS director calls for the backup tapes, but they do not help the situation. Looks as though all data will have to be reconstructed from the hard copy. BIG job for a small bank, and virtually impossible for a large bank.

So what happens when Citibank gets a similar message asking for fifty million? By this time, the Federal Reserve is into the picture, and things are getting rather tense. Next, a small bank on Long Island collapses due to computer failure, and a note is received by the Feds claiming responsibility, and promising all out assault on bank computers unless their demands are met.

A similar, and much more elaborate scenario was developed several years ago in a rather obscure journal, the *Remnant Review* by Gary North.

Terrorism? You bet! Could it happen? I'll leave that to you.....

So, what about Michelangelo? It is roughly based on the "Stoned" virus, but is much more vicious. Like Stoned, it is a boot sector virus.

That is, it is memory resident in the diskette boot sectors, and moves from there to the hard disk partition table,

where it does its dirty work.

It is activated

when the system clock indicates March 6. It then proceeds to overwrite the hard disk with random characters. The McAfee ViruScan program (v.80+) will detect Michelangelo prior to activation, and McAfee Clean (v.80+) will remove it.

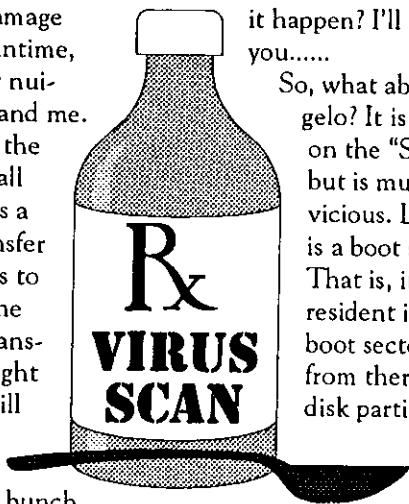
There are other viruses that should concern you. Jerusalem and its many variations is widespread. One of those variations is also

known as the "Friday the 13th" virus. By the time you read this, our Friday 13 for March will have passed. Jerusalem, unlike Big Mike, routinely infects EXE and COM files at the time they are executed. Have you ever run your machine without executing COM-MAND.COM? It is quite a nuisance, but will not do the extensive damage as some others. McAfee programs will handle it, as will many other commercial anti-virus programs.

Dark Avenger is another rather virulent infector. As do most viruses, it attaches to COM, EXE, and OVL files. It overwrites data in a more or less random fashion, and can do a lot of damage. There are a number of variations and, like most viruses, they have their origin in the Eastern Bloc nations, principally Bulgaria.

Well, prevention is the best way to handle viruses. You are unlikely to contract a virus from any reputable BBS. SysOps routinely scan ALL uploads, and those that fail are never available for download. Commercial software, until recently, has been quite reliable. There have been some unfortunate incidents recently, though. Most infections in shrink-wrapped software appear to come from the bad practice of some vendors in shrink wrapping returned software. Make sure that the factory seals are all in place, and even then, scan the disks before installation.

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# MICROSOFT USER GROUP OUTREACH PROGRAM

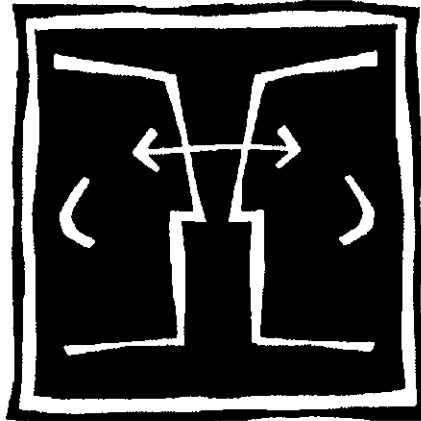
Dave Lorenzini

As the Microsoft contact for OCIPUG, I usually receive and distribute literature, notices, raffle prizes, and software for reviews; this is in addition to the materials I receive from Microsoft for our Word SIG. In mid-February, however, Microsoft hosted one to three members each from 29 of the largest User Groups in the country. Attendees had to finance their own round trip to the Seattle airport, but Microsoft paid for everything else. I was invited to attend with Steve Burnside, our President. Steve made a few comments regarding the trip at the February General Meeting, but the purpose of this report is to describe in more detail how OCIPUG will benefit from these Summit meetings.

Microsoft has a staff of several full-time employees assigned to coordinate User Group activities. They started planning for this Summit last November by asking us what issues we would like to discuss. They developed the Mindshare logo which accompanies this report, and attached it to newsletters, packages, disks, and even a sweatshirt we received when we arrived.

The purpose of the User Group Summit was to explain Microsoft's strategy for the next 18 months, get direct feedback from the User Group leaders, and establish a line of communication for the distribution of informational materials. Each attendee agreed to honor a non-disclosure agreement, since approximately half of the presentations involved confidential information.

## MIND SHARE



Microsoft© User Group Outreach Program

The sessions started off with a presentation by Bill Gates of his "Information at Your Fingertips" concept. As a member of the OCIPUG Program Committee, I will use these ideas to suggest meaningful topics for future General Meeting programs. Next we were honored to have Gordon Letwin make a presentation. I have Gordon's book, *Inside OS/2* on how he wrote OS/2, and I was very impressed with the special projects he is working on.

Jon Roberts showed us the new Windows 3.1. Jon mentioned that only a small percentage of Windows 3.0 users sent in their registration cards. Registered users will get first notice to upgrade to Windows 3.1. From what I saw, I recommend that everyone check to make sure they're registered.

Pamela Goldschmidt made one of the most exciting presentations of the entire Summit. She brought us up-to-date on multimedia. My advice to OCIPUG members is to start adding multimedia capable components to their PCs as they

buy new equipment. This includes 256-color super VGA, CD-ROM units with at least 150K/second sustained transfer rate, audio boards, and multimedia extensions to Windows. If Microsoft includes the extensions in Windows 3.1, I predict an explosion of multimedia sales.

Nate Dixon, head of the Product Support Group, described the many ways Microsoft is providing support information. There is an interactive voice response to answer the most common questions, and they compile responses to all questions in a knowledge database available on CompuServe. Microsoft will send our club a CD-ROM each month with this information for use on our BBS.

Mike Maples, one of the three key executives in the recent reorganization, is in charge of the Worldwide Product Group. His presentation was probably the most appreciated because he spent the whole time in random access, and did not show any marketing slides.

We also saw presentations on LAN Manager/SQL, VisualBasic, Excel, and Word. The Word presentation included a tutorial on fields and macros. When I get to know them better, we will include them in our Word SIG meetings since they are so powerful. We were advised that Word for Windows 1.0/1.1 owners would receive a bonus for upgrading to Word for Windows 2.0 that the competitive upgraders would not receive. If you

*Continued on Page 15...*

gn

Sum

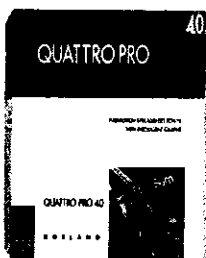
Font

Style

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Intelligent Graphs	Yes	No	No
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Multiple sheets	Yes	No	Yes
Multi-variable solver	Yes	No	*
<b>Easiest to Use</b>	Yes		
SpeedBar	Yes	No	No
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Read Lotus 1-2-3 files, styles & macros	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Best Performance</b>	Yes		
All features in 640K	Yes	?	No
Price	\$495	\$495	\$595

? Yes, but almost no room remains for data.  
\*Yes, but requires attaching an add-in.

# B O R L A N D

Software Craftmanship

©1991 J.D. Power and Associates® Computer End User Satisfaction Study: Phases I and III: Small to Medium-sized Businesses (responses from 1,784 business sites with 1 to 499 employees) and Large Businesses (responses from 1,094 business sites with 500 or more employees). Copyright © 1992 Borland International, Inc. All rights reserved. Pricing is in U.S. dollars. Offer good in U.S. and Canada only. Dealer prices may vary. BI 1471

# MAKE UNZIPPING EASY ... A batch file

Michael Springer

This batch file is intended to make unzipping files downloaded from a BBS easy and fun. As presented, it works with the PKUNZIP file from Phil Katz' PKZIP utility. 95% of the batch file content either checks the user's input or provides information on how to use the batch file.

Few people will be able to use the file as-is. It has been tested on computers using IBM's PC DOS 3.1 and 3.3 and the syntax works. Other versions of DOS may balk at some undocumented DOS techniques which have been used. The PKUNZIP file is assumed to be in the C:\UTIL directory; potential users probably have PKUNZIP elsewhere.

These are the things that may need to be changed or even deleted to make a working UNZIP.BAT batch file on your computer:

1) The "::UNZIP.BAT" line may cause problems; it is only a title and may be deleted.

2) Each "echo." line is supposed to produce a blank line in screen output for clarity of the info

screens; be sure to change or delete ALL of them if they cause trouble.

3) The file recognizes drives A: through F: (or a: through f:); this should be changed in BOTH of the "for %%d in (a b ... E F)" lines according to the valid drives in your computer.

4) PKUNZIP is assumed to be in the C:\UTIL directory; change the path to PKUNZIP in BOTH of the "c:\util\pkunzip ..." lines to reflect the actual location of PKUNZIP on your computer.

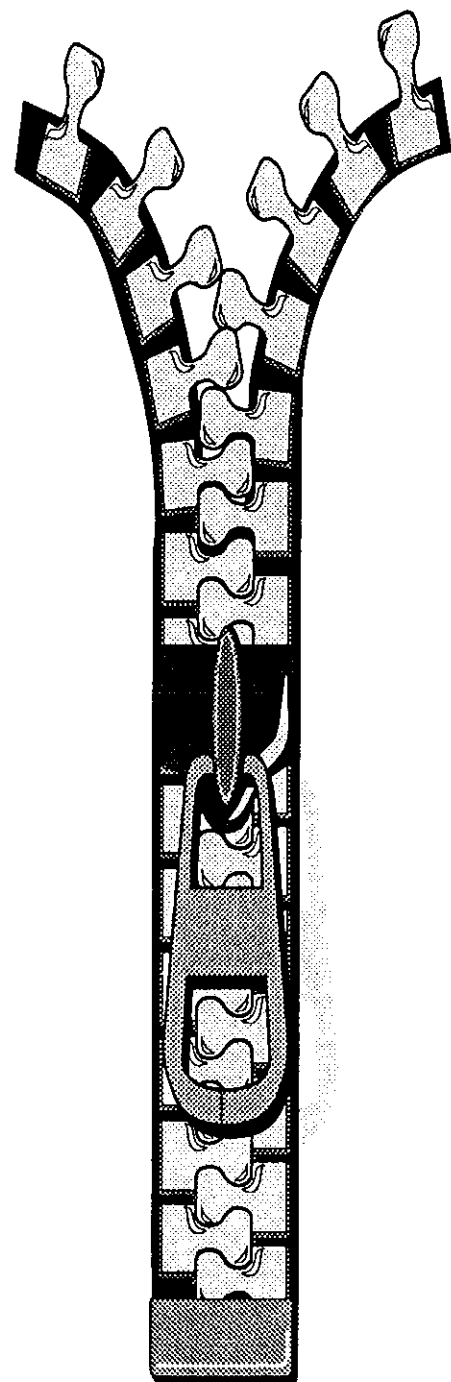
5) The file uses an environment variable %uzipdrv% in 9 places. If you see an "Out of environment space" message, you can shorten the variable to %u% and change the 3 "set uzipdrv=..." commands to "set u=..." or, preferably, use the SHELL statement in your CONFIG.SYS file to increase the size of the environment.

6) Blank lines and indenting in the batch file listing are for clarity and ease in understanding the functional groups; these lines and spaces are unlikely to cause problems, but they may be omitted.

The actual batch file listing follows:

```
::UNZIP.BAT
echo off
cls
echo.
echo *** %0 ***      Unzipping Utility - - - One moment please ...
if %1==?! goto HELP
    if %2!=! goto HELP
    goto START

:HELP
echo.
echo Command form: %0 [dest.drive] [zipped file root-name] (alt. sub-dir)
echo.
echo      Example: %0 A: V7N17 PCMAG717
echo.
echo *** %0 *** unzips a XXXXXXXX.ZIP file located in the current directory
echo      of the current drive.
echo.
echo The disk in [dest.drive] is checked to see if a subdirectory named
echo      XXXXXXXX already exists.
```



```

echo.
echo If not, a sub-dir will be created and the .ZIP file will be unzipped.
echo.
echo If so, a DIR of the existing files will be displayed. If an alternate
echo sub-dir has been specified and it does NOT exist, the .ZIP file
echo will be unzipped into the alternate sub-dir.
goto END

:START
for %%d in (a: b: c: d: e: f: A: B: C: D: E: F:) do if %%d==%1 goto CONTCHK
for %%d in (a b c d e f A B C D E F) do if %%d==%1 goto ADDCOLON
goto DRVMSG

:ADDCOLON
set uzipdrv=%1
goto CHKFILE

:CONTCHK
set uzipdrv=%1

:CHKFILE
if EXIST %2.zip goto BMSG
echo.
echo Did not find *** %2.zip ***. Please check your typing and try again.
echo.
dir /w/p
goto END

:BMSG
echo.
echo Be sure a disk is in Drive --%uzipdrv%-- and Strike a key when ready.
pause nul

if EXIST %uzipdrv%\%2\prn goto OVERRIDE
md %uzipdrv%\%2
c:\util\pkunzip %2 %uzipdrv%\%2
goto END

:OVERRIDE
if %3==! goto OVERMSG
if EXIST %uzipdrv%\%3\prn goto DUPEALT
echo.
echo Placing files in your alternate directory.
md %uzipdrv%\%3
c:\util\pkunzip %2 %uzipdrv%\%3
goto END

:DUPEALT
echo.
echo Even your alternate directory exists. Please choose another name for
echo the alternate subdirectory.
goto END

:OVERMSG
echo.
echo Directory %2 exists on Drive %uzipdrv% and contains the following files:
dir %uzipdrv%\%2 /w/p
echo.
echo If you really want to unzip %2, run *** %0 *** again and supply an
echo alternate sub-dir name after %2 .
goto END

:DRVMSG
echo.
echo *$*$*$* Specify a drive from A: to F: for the unzipped files. *$*$*$*
echo.
goto HELP

:END
set uzipdrv=

```

# OBJECT VISION 2.0

Rudy Wolf

When I first saw the demonstration of Object Vision 2.0 at the club last year I thought it was a "must buy" especially since the club member price was just at my limit of \$100. But, for some reason, I did not take advantage of the opportunity. However, the chance to evaluate it for the club provided me with the opportunity to try it and keep it.

Along with the evaluation package came a fancy loose-leaf binder that contained press releases about Object Vision; reviews that said how wonderful it was, a reviewers guide, a fact sheet, the always popular testimonials, and some slides and photographs. Now I know how some of the industry publications perform their first-look reviews: they publish information provided by the publisher.

One of the problems that I did have before was trying to define what OV is. During the club demo I thought it was a Windows database but the price and advertising did not call it that. It was advertised as an "application program generator." Borland realizes that other people have the same problem as I and, in fact, states that OV can be used as a forms designer, a database front end, an expert system, or an application development tool. And, of course, they infer that OV can do the job of approximately \$10,000 worth of software....all of this for a street price of \$100.

Knowing that many manuals leave a lot to be desired on the care and feeding of the software, and having edited several books for Que Publishing on a very little-known program, I thought that a third party book for OV would be available. Even though Borland states that several such books exist,

none could be found at the local bookstores, which included Crown Books, B. Dalton, Bookstar, and the UCI Bookstore. My first judgment was that this was not an extremely popular program or the manual was superior to any others I have seen.

When opened, the package consists of a *Reference Guide*, a *Getting Started* volume, disks in both formats (high density) and various advertising materials along with a registration guide.

Installation is easy and the simulated automobile speedometer lets you know where you are in the process. Basically, the program installs from one disk; a second disk contains a free runtime generator and numerous samples of what can be done with OV.

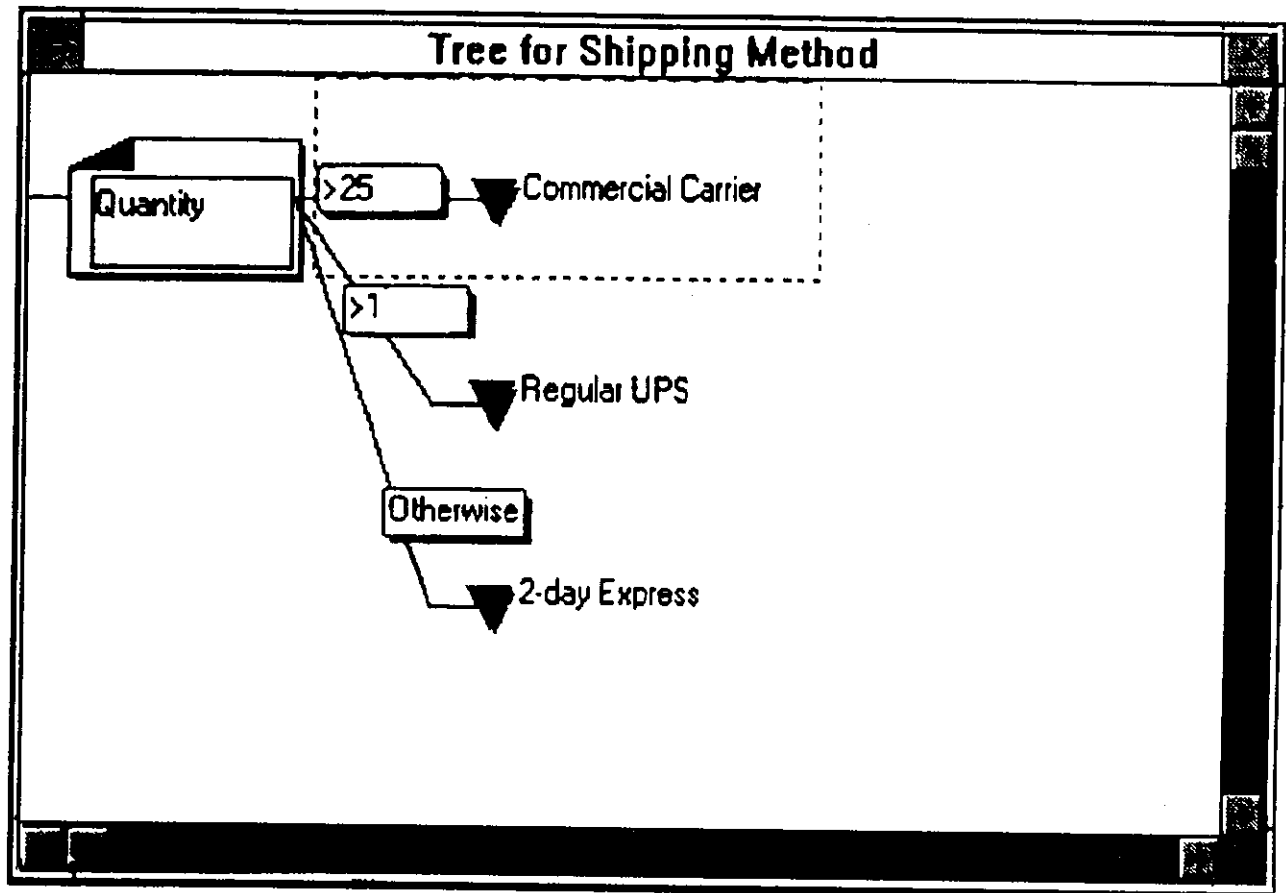
The way I attacked this evaluation was to use the step-by-step tutorial that is contained in the *Getting Started* volume. A brief summary of my findings is that OV is an object-oriented programming language that allows visual prompting of computer novices to enter data for use in a database program, primarily Paradox 3.5, although dBase and Btrieve are supported.

The introduction to the tutorial provides more information about database design than some other database manuals I have read. The tutorial itself is very simple to follow and provides enough screen representations to assure the user of being in the right spot. I did find several spots where the user could be confused but, all in all, I would rate the tutorial very good or excellent.

In using the tutorial the user develops two forms, a customer form and an invoice form. The creation of these forms is accomplished by placing objects on the form. A field

is an object, a figure is an object, a line is an object, and a table is an object. Properties of these objects are defined with what Borland calls a property inspector, the user selects, say a field, then presses the right mouse key (similar to the Quattro 4.0 demo at the last General Meeting) and an option menu appears. From this menu, everything, from the size and type font to appear in the field to the addition of very complex calculations, can be defined. The only problem I had with this was when the type of field was defined, the user was returned to the field selection; hence, the right key would again have to be pressed to select the next property to define. Nevertheless, having taught some beginning database classes, I feel this feature provides a very user-friendly approach to field definition. The table object was very interesting to me and I hesitate to mention it here because I don't understand how it works. The user places a table object on the screen that, say, contains seven lines and when the table is completed a scroll bar appears at the right side. This allows the final user to enter as many line items on one form as needed. I have never seen anything like this but it may be quite familiar to many of you.

Calculated fields are created with what Borland labels "Value Trees." These also use objects in the form of branches for decision making. I found this much easier than the "If-Then-Else" statements that I use in other database and spreadsheets. When a calculation is to be made, a "Conclusion" object is chosen and the calculation is entered, either manually or by scrolling through a very extensive list of functions. As the tutorial points out, selecting from the list does



avoid typographical errors which may be hard to spot. Also OV allows the user to magnify the display when in the Value Tree so that formulas are easier to read.

Before I go further, I must state that along with the tutorial are several Paradox database files that have been created and filled with data for use by the application being developed by the user. What I didn't try, was to select different field properties than what the tutorial specified to see if there would be any problem in writing data to the underlying database file.

After completing the tutorial I came to the following conclusions:

1. Designing forms on the computer is not really that easy.
2. The primary use for OV is as a database front end. Which means, to me, that the raw data is entered via the OV generated application. Then the data base, into

which the data is transferred, is used for reporting, analyzing etc.

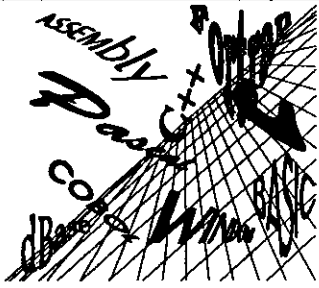
3. It can be used as an Expert System, but what complexity is allowed, I don't know.

4. OV is not a database. One of the samples given is a checking account program and I could never get the checks to sort numerically. They always sorted using an ASCII collation, i.e. 1, 10, 11, 12 ... 2, 20, 21 ...

Because I am not a Paradox user, or an application developer, I could not really exercise OV using my own data. I also could not compare it to anything else similar, if anything else like this exists. I would request club members who may be familiar with this program or others like it to provide some of their own thoughts. Remember, not everybody makes it to the General Meeting or the SIGs so this is a good forum to at least expose ev-

erybody to what we are doing.

However, from what I was able to do, I would rate this package as very good. But one may want to wait for the Windows version of Paradox to be released. I would bet that the programming language and forms capability will be present in that release. The reason I say that is because I have started using Superbase 4 Windows, which has a forms capability, a programming language, and a database all in one. I am sure that the competition for our software dollars will bring improvements such that Paradox for Windows will include OV capabilities. ■



# INTRODUCTION TO PROGRAMMING

Wendy Sarrett

This month we will attach a specific example to the design steps discussed last month.

Recall the steps for design that we discussed last time:

1. Decide what you want the program to do.
2. Determine the design of the user interface.
3. Determine your high level design.
4. Write the code.

We will go through steps 1 - 3.

One point that should be made is that these steps are not rigid 1-2-3 like a cookbook recipe. All the steps feed off each other. For example, your high level design might lead you to go back and modify your user interface or even lead you to modify what you want the program to do.

## Step 1 - Decide what you want the program to do

In a checkbook one needs to do the following things:

- a. Set starting balance.
- b. Make deposits.
- c. Write checks.
- d. Balance the checkbook.
  - subtract bank charges.
  - mark checks as cleared.
  - add interest.
- e. Edit previous transactions.
- f. Display checkbook. (transactions, current balance, etc.).

I'll add an additional item:

- g. Allocate money to special accounts for a future check. (For example, record a credit card purchase now and write the check to the credit card company later.)

This will then require the following additional function:

- h. Create additional account.

## Step 2 - Design the User Interface

This is the point where one determines how the program should look. This requires the answer to several questions. First, do we want command line input/output, drop down menus, dialog boxes, etc. In this case, I want a drop down menu system and input to be from dialog boxes. Furthermore, accounts will be displayed in windows. With this decided it is time to get out paper and pencil or wake up your favorite drawing program and start drawing.

Here is an example of what one might come up with:

<b>Transaction</b>
Transaction Number
Check Number
Amount
<input type="button" value="Yes"/> <input type="button" value="No"/>

Another example of user interface design is designing the dropdown menus. Below is an example of how one might lay out the menus for the checkbook program.

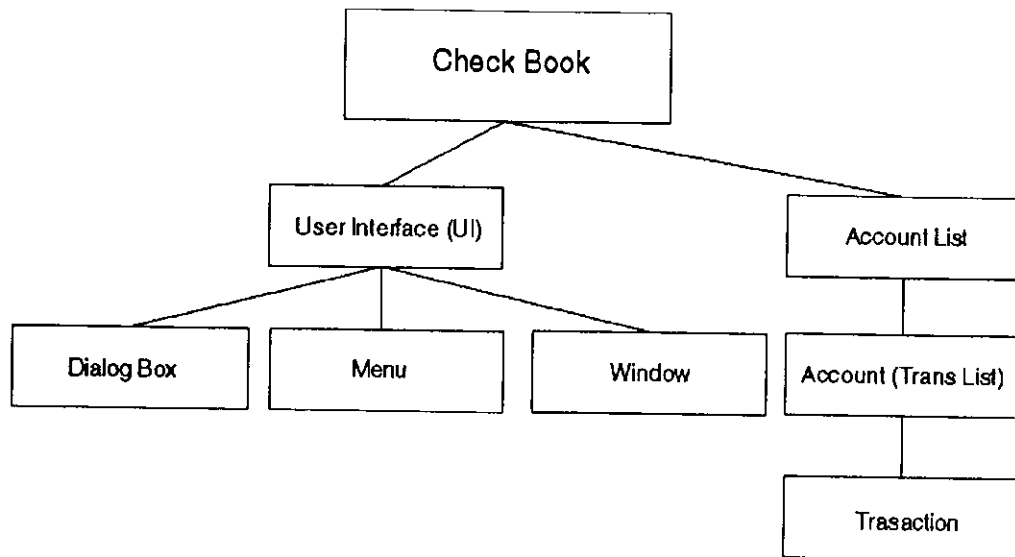
File	Transactions	Reports
New	Write a check	Transaction List
Open	Deposit	Balances
Save	Record Interest	
SaveAs	Credit Card	
Exit		

When designing your user interface, think in terms of making things as easy for the user as possible. Also, be aware of things that might confuse the user. For example, in the dialog box above "yes/no" is used rather than "OK/Cancel," as it was pointed out to me recently that "yes/no" has been shown to be less confusing.

## Step 3 - High Level Design

Here is where it gets interesting. The main question here is how to break up the program into logical pieces. What parts need to be built? One guideline here is to consider the fact that your going to want to make changes at some point. Thus you want to break stuff up such that if you make a change to one piece, it won't affect the other pieces. Another guideline is to build pieces that you can RE-USE in other programs. One way to think of this is, of all things, how you might select your wardrobe. For example, if you buy a few basic items that can be "mixed and matched" you get many outfits rather than just a few.

Below is a rough design for the checkbook program:



As you can see, I separated the user interface from the main functionality of the program, maintaining the checkbook accounts. This serves both design guidelines I mentioned above. First, one can change the user interface and not have to touch the main functionality of the program. Second, the user interface components can be RE-USED in other programs. If they are done correctly little or no changes would be needed.

The next step is to go through the modules and determine, for each, what data it will contain and the functions that will manipulate this data.

As an example, let us look at the transaction module:

#### DATA

Transaction number  
 Check number  
 Amount  
 Description  
 Type (check, deposit, etc)

#### FUNCTIONS

CreateTransaction - Do a new transaction  
 EditTNumber - Edit the Transaction Number  
 EditCheckNumber - Edit the check number  
 EditAmount - Edit the amount involved in the transaction  
 EditDescription - Edit the description attached to the transaction  
 EditType - Edit the type of transaction  
 GetTNumber - Returns the transaction number  
 GetCheckNumber - Returns the check number

GetDescription - Returns the description

GetType - Returns the type

WriteTransaction - Writes a transaction to a file or other buffer

ReadTransaction - Reads a transaction from a file or other buffer

Notice that this set of functions will allow other functions to access the data comprising a transaction but still allow the details of how the data is implemented to be hidden. In other words, other functions calling these functions only have to know the function call, what input, if any it requires and what it returns. Thus the details of how these functions work can be changed without affecting the functions using the data. This is known formally as "information hiding." This practice is especially valuable if the data is complex or the function has to manipulate the data in an complicated way.

Thus, we have shown how one can get from a basic idea of what they want a program to do to a list of functions they need to write. Let me again emphasize that this is not like a cookbook recipe. As you go through the process, you will flesh out your ideas and often go back and change things. For example, as you break the program into its high-level design, you might decide that the user interface should be changed or that some additional functionality should be added.

Next month the next step of this process will be discussed. That is, implementation issues. ■

# Herb's Hangout

Herb Huey



## BLOATED PROGRAMS REVISITED

A funny thing happened to a friend of mine and his 386SX computer. He runs Windows 3.0 on his computer and just tried to install Word 2.0 for Windows. To his horror, he received the dreaded "Disk Full" error message on his 40 MB hard disk. Word 2.0 for Windows requires 15 MB of disk space! Let's see Windows 3.0 requires 3.4 MB and Lotus 123 Release 3.1 requires another 5 MB. Add 2.8 MB for MS-DOS 5.0, 3 MB for PCTOOLS 7.1, 2.5 MB for Norton Utilities 6.01, and 850 KB for Procomm. It's easy to see how my friend's 40 MB hard disk capacity disappeared. This is merely Rule #17 of my "Rules of Insanity" (June 1991 README.DOC), "Storage Insanity—No matter how big your hard disk is, you will run out of storage space!"

## MEMORIES OF BYGONE DAYS

I remember back in 1983 when the first IBM XT's arrived at work with 10 MB hard disks. What was I going to do with 10 MB of disk storage? Today, with 160 MB of storage space, I frequently get down to my last 5 MB of storage and somehow I must jettison another underutilized application. Since the beginning of the year, I have archived forty-two 2.8 MB Stacker 3 1/2" floppies or roughly 110 MB of programs. I have almost as much stuff offline as

I have on my hard disk! So what is the reason for this large amount of programs? Is it casual sloppiness on my part?

First, I checked the number of applications that I have. It seems that the number of my applications has grown. Let's see back in 1983, I used my IBM for word processing (WordStar 1.0 and 2.0), spreadsheets (Lotus 123 Release 1A) and....I guess that's it, and oh! yes, some Basic programs. Today, I've added communications, programming languages (QuickBasic, Fortran, C++, and Pascal), utilities (PCTOOLS, Magellan, and Norton Utilities), finance, graphics, and yes I'll admit, lots of games!

Applications have also increased in size and capability since 1983. Lotus 123 Release 1A could be run with just four 360 KB floppies, two in normal operation and the last two containing Printgraph and other utilities. WordStar 2.0 easily fitted on just two 360 KB floppies. Remember these were the days when 10 MB hard disks were running for over \$2000!

## TODAY'S REALITIES

Today, among spreadsheets, Lotus 123 Release 3.1+ is over 7 MB in size, Lotus 123 for Windows requires 6.6 MB, and Excel 3.0 gulps up 3.4 MB. Among word processors, Ami Pro 2.0 requires 11 MB, WordPerfect 5.1 needs 4.5 MB, WordPerfect for Windows at least 10 MB, and Word 2.0 requires an awesome 15 MB. In finance,

Quicken 5.0 requires 1.4 MB while the Windows version needs only 1.3 MB and TaxCut laps up 2.4 MB.

In the graphics arena, PrintShop requires 2 MB, AutoCad needs 4 MB while CorelDraw (Steve Burnside's favorite) hacks out 7.3 MB plus 9 MB of clipart libraries, and Freelance Graphics for Windows chews up 11 MB of precious disk space. Game programs have not been spared either. Any graphics adventure program typically chews up 1-2 MB while Indiana Jones requires 4.5 MB and Elvira, Mistress of the Dark, requires 10 MB! Heading into the world of programming languages, QuickBasic requires a modest 1.5 MB, MS Fortran requires over 5 MB, the latest version of Borland C++ requires a mind boggling 24 MB while Microsoft C++ requires a mere 20 MB! Let's not forget the 2.8 MB required for MS-DOS 5.0 and 3.4 MB for Windows 3.0.

Programs are becoming ever more graphics intensive, requiring massive amounts of storage space. Unless somebody finds a new algorithm with a compression ratio of over a million to one, storage requirements for these programs will continue to increase. Part of our problem is that we desire help files, which try to replace the manuals that we get anyway, additional clipart libraries, macro processors, and plenty of utilities for which we are willing to provide the necessary disk space. I pointed out this trend

to ever larger programs in the October issue of *README.DOC*, but programs seem to be reaching for the moon with new storage requirements.

Software designers are inclined to say that storage space is cheap and Rule #17 comes into play. Disk space is actually cheap. A 200 MB hard disk can be had for under \$600 which comes to less than \$3 per megabyte. Compare this to the 10 MB hard disk that cost \$2000 in 1983 or \$200 per megabyte. If you have a laptop, every last kilobyte is dear even with a 60 MB hard disk!

### A SOLUTION

Every one of us, users as well as designers, has been blinded by the ever larger hard disks installed in our desktop systems. But Word 2.0 for Windows which requires 15 MB, 3.4 MB for Windows (don't forget another 5 MB for disk swap space), and 2.8 MB for MS-DOS 5.0 for a total of 20.2 MB (or 25 MB) is a luxury few laptop owners can afford. Why can't software designers also scale down some of these programs for laptop and smaller hard disk owners? It would be nice to see more programs that will install only what is necessary so that a minimum program size is less than 1 MB! Accommodating all levels of user systems is an excellent way to insure more sales even among the most tight-fisted users.

### IN CLOSING

I went to the January ACP Computer Swap Meet looking for a 200 MB hard disk drive. To my surprise I saw only one, a Maxtor 213 MB hard disk. I also noticed that hard disk prices have gone up and that complete systems were being offered with smaller drives. I started checking into my theory that hard disks, especially IDE types, were in short supply. A few calls to vendors and other sources confirmed that hard disks will be in short supply until April. Well, I guess I can wait a little longer.

Lionel Dyck corrected an error

in my coverage of OS/2.0 (January 1992 *README.DOC*). I described OS/2 support for DOS, Windows, and OS/2 would be accomplished by using MOST (Multiple Operating Systems Tool). Instead OS/2 will be able to support DOS applications via a window or a full screen, either singularly or in multiple sessions. Windows, likewise will be able to coexist in either a window or full screen alongside native OS/2 sessions. The expectation is that DOS applications may run slower (but faster than within Windows 3.0) but Windows applications will be able to run faster due to improved screen management and multi-tasking techniques. I can't wait to get my hands on a copy of OS/2; it looks like a winner ... if IBM can meet its March 31 delivery date.

I've received some excellent shareware programs since Christmas. From Tengware Enterprises of Mission Viejo comes Easy Access version 6.2. This is an easy to use menu program that I used to set up my daughter's 286 computer system and now my 386 system. Features include 26 options per menu with an unlimited number of sub-menus, user log-on, screen saver, calendar and reminder subsystem, and point and shoot capability from your mouse. I am very impressed with the power of this utility. Shareware registration is \$25.

From Nels Anderson come several high quality games: Shooting Gallery, Mah Jongg, and EGA Trek. Shooting Gallery Release 2.0 simulates 7 rounds of shooting fun that tests your shooting skills at a carnival booth, skeet shoot, quick draw, and hitting the bad guys in a western town. Written in C, the graphics are VGA quality and mouse support is included. Mah Jongg Release 3.3 is a solitaire type game using mah jongg tiles stacked in a pyramid. The object is to remove pairs of free tiles until all tiles have been removed. This is easier said than done.

EGA Trek is a new variation of

an old favorite. The object is to prevent a Klingon invasion of the galaxy. As captain of the Enterprise you are equipped with the standard complement of phasers and photon torpedoes. The graphics displays are excellent and are a vast improvement from the versions that I played on the mainframe back in my graduate school days. I wrote a version for my old Radio Shack TRS-80 back in 1979 and was pleased to see the captain's performance statistics return with this version. As an expert player I was immediately promoted to Admiral in my first game. Shareware registration is \$15 for any of these games or \$35 for all three games.

Another variation of an old favorite is CD-MAN, an improved PAC-MAN clone. This pre-release version was written by Swedes, Attila Biro, and Anders Moree of Creative Dimensions. The VGA graphics are absolutely stunning! You take CD-MAN through the Enchanted Forest and South Pacific scenarios. I play at level 19 (out of 100) and it's fast enough for me. My much younger cousins can handle level 35. Little touches include a flattened CD-MAN with a RIP cross on top, after the monster eats you in the Enchanted Forest or in the South Pacific scenario, you are pursued by Sharks who drag you underwater with a pool of blood rising to the surface! Other scenarios that are planned include Deep Space, Cities of the World, and The Dark Ages.

Another old favorite is Monopoly Version 2.0 written by Richard Tom. This program is in tune with modern times by allowing you to have negative balances of money. Instead of throwing dice you stop a rapidly moving electronic display. A nice touch is the paddy wagon that hauls you off to jail. Monopoly is written in Turbo Pascal and \$25 gets you a registered Monopoly Designers Toolkit. Enjoy! ■

# MICROSOFT WORKS FOR WINDOWS

Paul Fuller

Since Microsoft Works for DOS was the first word processor I learned to use, I thought it would be interesting to compare it to the new Microsoft Works for Windows. They are both packages that seamlessly integrate a word processor, spreadsheet, and database. Naturally, each of these applications is limited when compared to the BIG GUYS (i.e., WordPerfect, Lotus 123, Q&A, etc.) The upside is the ease of exchanging data between applications, a consistent interface, and an extremely reasonable list price of \$199. The competitive upgrade price from the DOS version is only \$79.

Microsoft Works for Windows adds a Draw Program, Chart Creator and the Works Wizards that don't exist in the DOS version. The new Draw Program allows you to easily add artwork to your word processing documents. The Chart Creator has a gallery of more than 31 chart styles from which charts can be created. A button at the top of the spreadsheet screen quickly creates charts and graphs from selected data. Works Wizards helps the novice user to build an address book (in three different formats), and to create and print mailing labels and form letters. The Wizards take advantage of the visual aspects of Windows and do a good job of leading you through the process. However, its simple interface comes with a price: the Wizards' label and form letter processes work only with the Wizards' address book.

Because it runs under Windows, Microsoft Works for Windows has several generic advantages and disadvantages. The bad news is that you must have a machine that can

run Windows. I spent 2-3 hours tweaking my 386SX with 2MB of RAM just to get Windows to run in standard mode (which is the minimum needed to use Microsoft Works for Windows). Microsoft Works for DOS will run on any machine (including XT's) with 640K of RAM. The good news is that it has the GUI interface including buttons, colors, data exchange, communications program, printer support, and multitasking.

There are a few limitations: The Draw Program can only be accessed from the word processor; columns are not simple to create; and you cannot word wrap around graphics. Microsoft Works for Windows looks and feels better than Microsoft Works for DOS. Both have a relatively strong word processor, adequate spreadsheet, and weak flat-file database. They are solid programs that get the job done (with a relatively short learning curve), if you don't need the esoteric flourishes of the expensive programs. Both have excellent tutorials that will actually assist the novice user. If you already use Windows, the new Draw Program, Chart Maker, and Wizards, make Microsoft Works for Windows the better choice. ■

*(Editor's note: Microsoft also ships Works for Windows, Multimedia Edition. It also lists for \$199 and comes on a CD-ROM. This software incorporates digital sound, animation, and pictures in an On-line Tutorial and On-line Reference for training purposes. You also need the Multimedia Edition of Windows.)*



## BORLAND

Screen Screenery - \$49

Gerald Bretts  
Bill Bunning  
Mark Porter  
Jean Stuart  
Rex Combs  
Bob Weaver  
Robert Weikart  
Fred Huson  
Dick Held  
Michael Tarkanian

Quattro Pro 4.0 - \$449

Herbert Huey  
Ray Bock  
Tom Medanich  
Robert Basaraba  
Paul Delke  
Gerald Sinykin  
Reg Roberts  
Mike Cangi  
Robert Stollenwerk

## ROBERT MARCZY

WordPerfect  
TShirt & Hat - \$25

Robert Buzerak

## STEVE BURNSIDE

Warlords - \$50

Richard Baznik

## GGEOWORKS

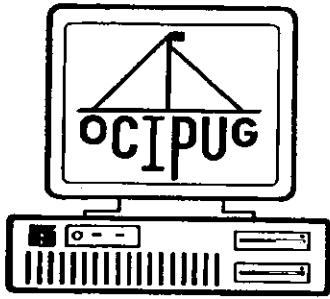
Geoworks Pro - \$150

Tuong Le

## ANONYMOUS

Displaywrite - \$349

Ginger Buck



# 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
<b>MAR</b>		OCIPUG Board Meeting 6:30 PM		Multimedia	Modem		New Users 9 AM DOS 1 PM
	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>APRIL</b>	Modem-BBS Seminar 1-4 PM		Spreadsheet	Word Perfect	Graphics		Real Estate-8 AM Pacific Beach Escrow Programming 9 AM OS/2 1 PM
	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
	Windows 3.1 2 PM	MS Word	Database	Office/Basics 10 AM	Corel Draw 6:30 PM @ Graphix Zone		Q & A 1 PM
	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
		Genealogy	BBS		Hardware	Geo-Works	9AM - OCIPUG General Meeting O.C.C. Science Hall
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	
	OCIPUG Board Meeting 6:30 PM	Personal Finance					
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>			

All Special Interest Groups (SIGs) are held from 7 PM to 10 PM at our SIG SPACE, located at 17632 Metzler Lane, Suite 211, Huntington Beach unless otherwise listed.

**BBS**

SIG Leader: Bob Ottke 714/759-1515

Monthly work party on the BBS. Meet in office area of SIG SPACE.

**3RD TUE****COREL DRAW/VENTURA****3RD THU**

SIG Leader: Steve Burnside 714/722-0327

This SIG will cover intermediate and advanced topics relating to both *Ventura Publisher* and *Corel DRAW!* At the April meeting we will continue are discussions of the leading drawing packages. Please come with your questions. Meeting starts at 6:30 PM.

So. Cal. Graphics Resource Center (formerly the Graphix Zone), 38 Corporate Park, Irvine - Near Jamboree & Alton Pkwy.

**DATABASE****2ND TUE**

SIG Leader: Bob Schmiedeke 714/536-1178

This SIG discusses various database programs, specializing in *dBASE*. At the April meeting we will finish discussions of text delimited files and discuss programming from the dot prompt and editing and the validation of entries. We will also have random access.

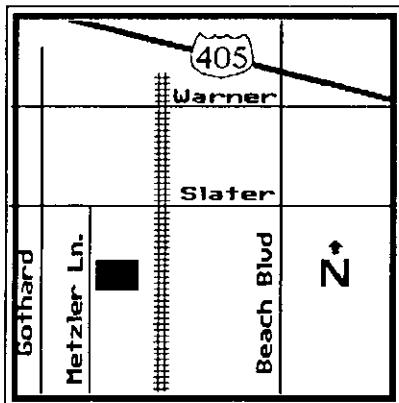
**DOS and LANGUAGES****1ST SAT**

Co-SIG Leader: Chris Lloyd 714/894-4837

Co-SIG Leader: Bob Peringer 714/633-3232

Designated Guru: John Goodman 714/895-3195

This SIG covers DOS, helping you to take command of your PC. At the April meeting Michael Springer will show you to optimize your *AUTOEXEC.BAT* and *CONFIG.SYS* files for your system. We will also have random access.

**SIG SPACE**

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

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

**GENEALOGY****3RD MON**

SIG Leader: Stan Sabin 714/968-7307

For beginners to experts. If you know a little about Genealogy or a lot this SIG is for you. Check the **HOT-LINE** for April's topic. Please bring your questions. Everyone welcome!

**GEOWORKS****4TH FRI**

SIG Leader: Bob Basaraba 714/559-6539

This SIG covers the new product *GeoWorks Ensemble*. In April we will learn how to transfer information between *GeoWorks* applications using the mouse and keyboard. We will look at the new features of *GeoWorks Pro* & using *GeoWorks Pro* with *DR DOS 6.0*. We will also look a *GeoWrite's* mail merge and spell checker.

**GRAPHICS****2ND THU**

SIG Leader: David Carroll 714/775-3130

Designated Guru: Dave Lorenzini 714/496-3050

This SIG covers hardware and software products in computer graphics and animation. At the April meeting we will show *Micrografx Designer 3.5* and show the new *TrueVision's Bravado "Video-in-a-Window"* board.

**HARDWARE****4TH THU**

SIG Leader: Bob Basaraba 714/559-6539

This SIG is one of the most popular, judging by the strong attendance. At the April meeting we will demonstrate *3-D* scanners for use in desktop publishing and graphics.

**MODEM****1ST THU**

SIG Leader: Bob Ottke 714/759-1515

Designated Guru: Rich Sabin 714/965-6734

Reach out and access the whole world of information through telecommunications. Check the **HOT-LINE** for April's topic.

**MULTIMEDIA****1ST WED**

Co-SIG Leader Dave Carroll 714/775-3130

Co-SIG Leader Richard Villa 714/841-6991

**NEW SIG.** This SIG covers hardware and software products for use in Multimedia presentations, including the new MPC specifications. We will cover both end-user applications as well as development tools. At the April meeting Dave Carroll discuss hardware requirements, including his "Buyer's Guide" to the latest products available. This is a good SIG to attend **BEFORE** you buy. Come see what Multimedia is all about!

**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 ONE in the cycle. You may start at any point in the cycle.

**OFFICE/BASICS****3RD WED**

SIG Leader: Anne Fawcett 714/968-5000  
**DAYTIME SIG for BEGINNERS!**

10 AM to Noon: DOS & WordPerfect 5.1

Noon to 1 PM: Lotus 1-2-3 Ver. 2.2

Small Businesses! Free training! Buy memberships for employees to attend on company time. Learn the basics of these "industry standards." Bring any file problems on disk.

**OS/2****2ND SAT**

SIG Leader: Dave Lorenzini 714/496-3050  
 Designated Guru: Steve Schiffman 714/531-0376

Come learn about what OS/2 is all about and what this new operating system can do for you. Come learn about OS/2. In April we will explore how to do seamless Windows under the Work Place Shell of OS/2 v2.0 and how to use the Migrate feature to automatically install DOS and Windows programs into the WPS desktop. Also, your SIG Guru will have available the forms and instructions needed by owners of IBM OS/2 v1.x software to upgrade to the OS/2 v2.0 now that IBM is shipping the GA product.

**PERSONAL FINANCE****4TH TUE**

SIG Leader: Max Lockie 714/644-0103

This SIG discusses the various financial packages for the PC. At the April meeting we will demonstrate Ascend by LeTECH International which is used with the Franklin planner. Come expand your personal productivity with this advanced information and time management software.

**PROGRAMMING****2ND SAT**

SIG Leader: Wendy Sarrett 714/733-9906

This SIG covers various aspects of programming and programming languages. Check the HOT-LINE for April's topic.

**Q & A****3RD SAT**

SIG Leader: Terry Currier 714/774-2018

Come and learn about this popular database and word processing program. At their April meeting we will look at the IDG book PC World Q&A Bible.

**REAL ESTATE****2ND SAT**

Contact Person: Jim Dickerson 714/536-8444

Contact Person: Tom Sutro 714/754-7045

Jointly sponsored by OCIPUG and several local Boards of Realtors, this is one of our largest SIGs. Check the HOT-LINE for April's topic. Meets from 8 to 10 AM.

Beach Pacific Escrow, 16401 Gothard St. (NW corner Gothard & Heil), Huntington Beach.

**SPREADSHEET****1ST TUE**

SIG Leader: Neil Carman 714/964-1901

This group covers popular spreadsheet programs, including Microsoft Excel, Lotus 1-2-3 & Quattro Pro and shareware products, for both beginners and advanced users. At the April meeting we will optimize menu modules in Quattro and discuss financial functions.

**WINDOWS 3****3RD SUN**

SIG Leader: Richard Villa 714/841-6991

Asst. SIG Leader: Steve Burnside 714/722-0327

This SIG covers software for *Microsoft Windows 3.0* during the first half, and specializes in *PageMaker 4.0* or other advanced topics in the last half. At the April meeting we will present the newly released *Microsoft Windows 3.1*. **WE WILL MEET AT 2PM ON SUNDAY APRIL 12TH.** Note: We will also discuss new directions for this SIG, including the creation of a Multimedia SIG.

**WORD****2ND MON**

SIG Leader (Word for Windows):  
 Michael Muller 714/650-4041

SIG Leader (Word 5.5):  
 Dave Lorenzini 714/496-3050

Both *Microsoft Word for Windows* and *Microsoft Word 5.5* are powerful and popular word processing packages. Note the Word SIG covers *Word 5.5* (DOS text & graphics) AND *Word for Windows 2.0*. In April, at the Word for Windows 2.0 (Latest version 2.0A) session: (1) Demos showing how to speed your commands; (2) Using the new ToolBar; (3) Formatting with the ribbon. At the Word 5.5 (DOS) session: (1) Production ideas, tips and tricks for making the hard easy. See you on April 13th!

**WORDPERFECT****2ND WED**

SIG Leader: Susan Novak 310/594-4144

W-310/491-3081

Contact Person: Jeff Sinn 714/775-2390

Come and learn about this popular word processing package. At the April meeting the topic will be fonts and font programs. Members will be demonstrating various programs, including Publisher's Powerpack, MoreFonts, Bitstream's Facelift and Adobe Type Manager.

Saturday, March 28th, 1992 - 9:00 AM to Noon

Saint Silicon

**GENERAL  
MEETING**

Windows Word Processing Face-Off

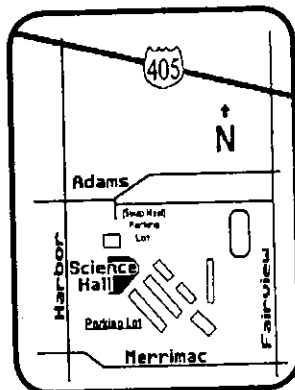
Lotus Ami Pro 2.0

Microsoft Word for Windows 2.0

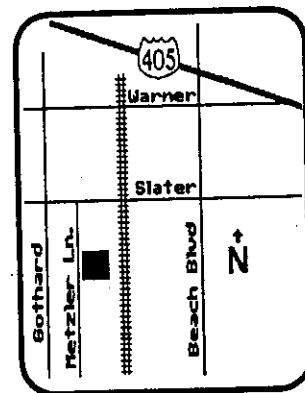
⇒ 8:40 to 9:00 AM - Random Access!

**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.  
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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

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.X, Aldus PageMaker 4.0, Corel Draw! 2.0 & Publisher's Paintbrush for Windows using an HP LaserJet III with Pacific Data Product's PacificPage XL & PacificType PostScript-compatible cartridges, including Adobe downloadable fonts. Graphic illustrations by Richard Villa, Steve Burnside, & David Carroll.

Keeper of the Calendar: Richard Villa - 714/841-6991 - Deadline for May Calendar: Friday, April 10th

Microsoft User Groups  
...continued from Page 4

have already upgraded, you should contact Microsoft. Our SIG received a maintenance update for Word for Windows version 2.00a that corrected some problems and bugs. It is available to registered users through Microsoft or through the Word SIG.

We also learned about Microsoft's Consultants Relations Program. Microsoft is administering a test to certify consultants in all their products. Those qualifying as Member will receive a newsletter and other information. Those qualifying as Partner will be put on a special list for referrals. The test will be given in Orange County for a fee of \$50. There will be a study guide and the test is open book. You can call (800)227-4679 for more information.

In summary, I am extremely encouraged by the direction Microsoft is going. Computing will continue to be exciting and rewarding for years to come. There are several programs that will benefit our members over the coming months. Some of these include:

- a. DOS 5.0 upgrade support tools to help customizing problems.
- b. Knowledgebase on CD-ROM for all Microsoft products.
- c. Microsoft support for a VisualBasic SIG and another one to be announced.
- d. Ideas for meeting programs.

The excitement of the Summit was epitomized by the fun event of the trip which had nothing to do with computers. Microsoft treated us all to the Lakers-Sonics basketball game at the King Dome. The lead changed all night and the game was finally won with a Sonics 18-foot shot that went through the basket simultaneously as the game-ending buzzer! It was a game and a trip that I won't easily forget for a long time. ■

# MARCH GENERAL MEETING

Terry Currier

SAINT \$ILICON, a high tech comedian, headlines our March General Meeting. He is founder of C.H.I.P., the Church of Heuristic Information Processing, the world's first user-friendly religion. He will surely enlighten us!

He is the author of *The Binary Bible*, which he will offer for sale. He has just finished another book which he hopes will be printed in time for the meeting.

The second part of the General Meeting will be a face-off between Microsoft Word for Windows 2.0 and Lotus Ami Pro 2.0. If you were thinking about getting a Windows word processor, come and see what these two have to offer. In choosing a word processor there really is no "best" one; there is merely one which best suits the user. In comparisons done by *PC Magazine* and *InfoWorld*, both Ami Pro and WinWord came out on top of the list of Window word processors. So come see which features, bells and whistles, you like the most.

**MARCH 28, 9:00 A.M. -12:30 P.M.**

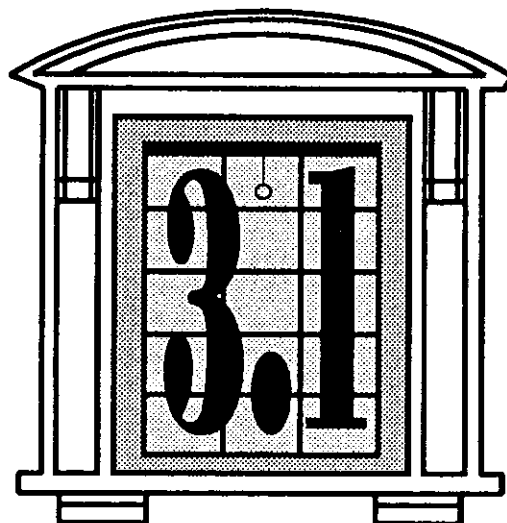
The Program Committee will meet at 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 28, after the General Meeting, at the Sig Space.

---

**If everyone lit just one little  
Cursor, what a bright world it  
would be.**

---

COMING  
IN APRIL





**Perform**

Richard Sinor ..... 6 p.m.-10 p.m.....970-1323

**Q&A**

Mark Burrell ..... 9 a.m.-12 noon..... 777-2130

Terry Currier ..... 8 a.m.-9:30 a.m.  
7:30 p.m.-9 p.m..... 774-2018

**Quattro Pro**

Preston Hill ..... 9 a.m.-9 p.m.....892-1291

Mark Burrell ..... 9 p.m.-12 p.m..... 777-2130

**Quicken**

Preston Hill ..... 9 a.m.-9 p.m.....892-1291

Ron Ross..... 6 p.m.-10 p.m. M-F.....964-5137  
Anytime Wkends

**Quickpay**

Ron Ross..... 6 p.m.-10 p.m. M-F.....964-5137  
Anytime Wkends

**Stacker**

Harv Haight ..... 9 p.m. - 11 p.m..... 546-0820

**Ventura Publisher**

John Goodman ..... 12 noon-12 midnight...895-3195

**Windows**

David Black ..... 3 p.m.-8 p.m. M-F  
9 a.m.-8 p.m. Wkends .830-9203

Mike Wierman ..... 6-9:30 p.m. M-F  
Anytime Wkends.....894-4040

Steve Burnside ..... 11 a.m.-8:30 p.m.....722-0327

Darren Major ..... 8 a.m.-2 p.m. M-F  
Anytime Wkends.....646-6904

**Word**

John Goodman .....12 noon-12 midnight .. 895-3195

**WordPerfect Products**

Susan Novak.....5-8 p.m. M-F ..... (310) 594-4144

**WordPerfect**

Ann Fawcett (Beg.) .....8 a.m.-9 p.m..... .968-5000

Mark Burrell .....9 a.m.-12 noon ..... 777-2130

Preston Hill.....9 a.m.-9 p.m..... 892-1291

Mike Wierman.....6 p.m.-9:30 p.m. M-F  
Anytime Wkends ..... 894-4040

Linda Leydekkers.....10 a.m.-4 p.m. M-F ..... 963-8444

Susan Novak.....5-8 p.m. M-F ..... (310) 594-4144

**XTree**

Richard Sinor ..... 6 p.m.-10 p.m. .... 970-1323

(Editor's note: If you would like to be listed here as a volunteer to help with any PC-related subject please give me a call at 644-1017 or leave a message on the BBS. We need volunteers in many more software and hardware areas. The success of this program depends on your help. Jean Stevens) ■

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  - WINDOWS: ScrapBook ..... 99.95
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  - WINDOWS: PFS Prof. Write ..... 159.95
  - MICROSOFT DOS 5.0 ..... 49.95
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# BATCH FILE BASICS

Michael Springer

The saga of FOR-IN-DO continues. A very versatile command, FOR-IN-DO has both batch file and command line (that's just to the right of the DOS prompt where the cursor flashes) uses. Let's review the structure of the command.

```
FOR %%variable IN (set) DO action using
%%variable
```

So far, we have provided elements of the set that represented keystrokes. We even made provision for both upper and lower case responses (A E P a e p). But, this is only a drop in the bucket.

Much of the command's power results from its ability to work with a wide range of set element types. We are not limited to single character set elements. We can even use the DOS wildcards (\* and ?) if the set elements represent filenames.

Set elements are separated from each other by characters that DOS considers to be *delimiters*. So, the complexity of a set element is very dependent on the characters it must contain. In other words, a set element cannot contain any character that DOS considers as a delimiter. Such a character will be considered the dividing point between *two* set elements, despite what you think that character is for.

Some characters that are considered delimiters are the space, the semicolon, the forward slash and the equal sign. Three illegal characters that can never be used (they cause a "syntax error" message) are the piping bar, the greater-than and the less-than.

The colon and back slash are not treated as delimiters and are legal anytime, though they are used usually as part of file or directory names. The asterisk and the question mark (\* and ?) are legal only when used in a set element that is a valid wildcard form of a filename.

There may be other characters that either are treated as delimiters or are illegal. I have not checked all 256 possible characters. If you know of any specifically, drop me a card care of OCIPUG, P.O. Box 6100-211, Costa Mesa, CA 92628. I'll list them in a future article.

Let's try using the command line form of FOR-IN-DO to check out several characters as delimiters. Read carefully, the difference between the batch file form and the command line form is only double versus single percent signs.

```
FOR %z IN (a b c d) DO echo %z
for %z in (a;b;c;d) do echo %z
for %z in (a:b:c:d) do echo %z
for %z in (a>b>c>d) do echo %z
```

The first two tests (space and semicolon delimiters) should have produced 4 separate outputs. The third test (colon delimiter) should have produced one output. The fourth test (greater-than delimiter) should have produced an error message. By the way, upper/lower case in the first line was only to make the command form more obvious to you, DOS does not care.

DOS power users should be skeptical of the results of the fourth test. The ECHO command is picky about greater-than signs. So, let's change the test such that it uses a DOS command that is oblivious to the value of %z —

```
for %z in (a>b>c>d) do ver
```

The results should still be a "syntax error" message. COMMAND.COM treats the piping and redirection characters in a special way as it interprets a DOS command. COMMAND.COM is trying to work with the FOR-IN part of the command when it finds a character that is not compatible with what is supposed to be happening. The error is caught before the DO part is analyzed.

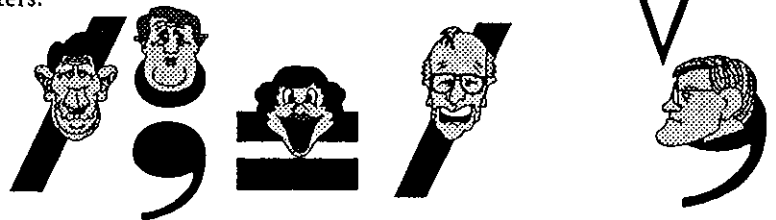
Let's do a command line FOR-IN-DO that uses DOS wildcards. We all know that the TYPE command requires a specific filename, no wildcards permitted. How gauche! Try this—

```
for %x in (c:\bat\*.bat) do type %x
```

Useful? Maybe. But it illustrates the power of wildcard set elements. And, you are not limited to just one per set. You can have several.

```
for %q in (c:\bat\*.bat c:\bat\*.txt
c:\dos\*.txt c:\dos\*.doc) do type %q
```

Have fun with FOR-IN-DO. Next time, using FOR-IN-DO to be lazy. ■



# GENEALOGY

*Preston Hill*

With his usual outstanding dedication to OCIPUG, Stan Sabin (in a wheelchair) led a SRO group of genealogists in a discussion of Personal Ancestral File (PAF), answered questions, and described KinWrite—a tool for converting PAF data to narrative format.

For example, KinWrite can take an individual's name, birth date, and place of birth from PAF data files and "write" a narrative describing the individual's birth. The resulting narrative can then be imported into a word processing program, such as WordPerfect, for polishing into final form. Stan showed several examples of pages he prepared for members of his family. This program should drastically minimize the need to type narrative by the author of a family history. Stan will discuss KinWrite further at the March SIG meeting.

Ted Carpenter demonstrated GIPSI—a utility to convert genealogical records that are in GEDCOM format to formats such as database (.DBF), PAF's Research Data Filer (.RDF), Lotus (.WKS), delimited file format, and formatted (.TXT) files such as can be read by LIST (on OCIPUG BBS).

Files for ALL Carpenter families in Kentucky had been down-loaded by Ted in GEDCOM format from the International Genealogical Index (IGI), on CD-ROM disks at LDS Family History Centers, to his floppy diskette. Ted used GIPSI to convert the GEDCOM files to Research Data Filer's "data" format. He then searched and selected records, using keywords, for only the Carpenters from Fleming County, KY. These selected family records were then sorted by birth date so individuals could be compared, spouses and children identified, and determination made as to who was in Ted's family line. The LDS Batch # was also used to sort and, thus, display names of interest to the submitter that might have otherwise been missed by Ted.

GIPSI appears to be a valuable tool in culling pertinent records from the IGI and similar databases. GIPSI2 is Shareware, on disks that Stan or Ted sold (at their cost only) at the November and December Genealogy SIG meetings. A commercial version is now also available.

As the PAF data files on the OCIPUG computer appeared to have been scrambled, Stan re-installed PAF and answered questions as he demonstrated the installation and configuration procedures for PAF and for FRU, a useful utility to accompany PAF. FRU is on diskettes that Stan sold (at his cost only)

at previous meetings.

FRU is handy for making global changes in spelling of names, either in ALL data fields or only in selected fields. It can also aid in entering common phrases to the NOTES section of numerous individual or family records.

A blank line in the NOTES section of PAF records can be removed by placing the cursor on the line to be deleted and typing CTRL-ALT-D. Stan strongly recommended that PAF be configured to "N" for the line, "Sort names for alphabetical browse before display." If the choice is "Y" you may accidentally sort your names when you didn't want to do so. E.g., typing "1" when in "4-Pedigree Search" invokes the alpha browse rather than the Rin that you may have intended. Sorting can be specified later when desired.

Some users of PAF reported that they showed several names in the data file with zero bytes and asked how to remove these names that had occurred because of errors in original entry of the name. Unfortunately, there appears to be no way to remove these names to conserve bytes. ■

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## MODEM

*Bob Ottke*

The Modem SIG was held, as usual, on the first Thursday of the month (3/5/92) at the SIG space.

Attendance was outstanding! We had an overflow crowd fifteen minutes before the scheduled start of the meeting. The big attraction, of course, was Brian Parker and his continuing presentation of the details of the new Wildcat! BBS software, the new Qmodem 4.5, and the OffLine Express mail reader.

Since these three programs (Wildcat!, Qmodem, and OffLine Express) are all offered by Mustang Software in Bakersfield, we can expect very clean interfaces, and no surprising incompatibilities. Both the comm program (QM45TD-1.EXE, QM45TD-2.EXE, and OLX-TD.ZIP) are available for download from our BBS. They are shareware versions, and are virtually identical to the commercial version, Qmodem v.5.0.

The commercial version is available directly from Mustang Software (805) 395-0223 for list price \$99. It should be appearing in the retail outlets in the near future. The main disadvantage of the shareware version, though, is the need to print out a couple of hundred pages of the documentation! Of course, both the commercial and the registered shareware versions will entitle you to full customer support.

Brian showed a lot of the neat features of both the comm program and the mail reader. Even in a three hour session, though, it was not possible to do justice to it.

Bob Ottke made available (at cost of a buck) disks containing the shareware versions of the above programs, plus PKZ110.EXE, and a modem diagnostic, MODEMD40.ZIP, for those who did not want to take the time to download them all from the BBS.

Since this was the day before BIG MIKE (Michelangelo), there were a lot of questions and a lot of discussion of this threat. With proper precautions, though, I trust that everyone got through the old man's birthday without problems.

We hope that the outstanding attendance will continue for our future meetings. The next is scheduled for Thursday, April 2. In the meantime, please let us know what you would like to hear. We have been trying to bring in some interesting outside speakers, but have not had much luck on that recently.

Most important, crank up those modems, and take advantage of all the great stuff available to you on our rejuvenated BBS...■

## HARDWARE

*Anthony Missico (Edited by Bob)*

About 40 people attended the February Hardware SIG meeting.

SIG leader Bob Basaraba welcomed guest speaker James Ralph, Director of Quality Assurance at Gibson Research. Mr. Ralph used the overhead projector to present an extremely thorough discussion of just how hard disks work. He also passed around two different disassembled hard disks for the attendees to examine during the lecture. The discussion centered around hard disks and hard disk interfaces, in particular, Intelligent Drive Electronics (IDE) and Small Computer System Interface (SCSI). Mr. Ralph carefully explained the common techniques used to position heads found in older drives, and the faster voice coil head positioning mechanism used in current drive interfaces. He continued discussing how various head-aligning techniques relate to low level formatting of the drive media, which prepares the disk for high level formatting by the operating system (DOS, UNIX, etc...)

This lead naturally into a discussion of how and why periodic use of SpinRite can protect against data loss by realigning data under the read/write heads within the hard disk. During this testing, SpinRite applies a very detailed pattern-testing algorithm to detect "weak" sectors in order to move data to a safe location somewhere else on the hard disk, and mark this new faulty sector "bad," thus guarding against future data loss. In fact, Mr. Ralph presented proof of why embedded Sector Servo (both double and single) drives CANNOT be low-level formatted! The hardware on these drives is intelligent enough to know that a low-level format will destroy the track addressing information, and simply reports to the user that a low-level is being done when, in fact, the drive does nothing. Again, this is only the case for a low-level format of an embedded Servo drive, and does not affect the ability for the operating system to high-level format or partition the drive.

Mr. Ralph discussed why SpinRite should be used AFTER optimizing your hard disk, not before. Several members complained that SpinRite was slow, but the reply was that when it comes to relocating your data....SpinRite would never do anything as risky as that just for pure speed. Better to wait a little than face an increased chance of a drive failure. SpinRite also has a disk head parking utility to use prior to shutting down your machine. The question came up... "Most IDE drives self-park, so why

## HARDWARE

...Continued

bother with a park program?" Well SpinRite's PARK.COM places the heads over the engineering track which is used at the factory and holds none of your data. Also, if you get up from your computer and leave it running, it's a good idea to park the heads in case the power goes down or the machine is bumped or something.

Then the discussion turned to IDE vs. SCSI drive interfaces. The IDE mimics an RLL drive by fooling DOS into thinking that the proper drive is connected. An IDE is also limited by the system BIOS while, on the other hand, a SCSI drive, if it needs a device driver specific to the device, is not limited to system BIOS. Furthermore, in many cases, if the adapter card (controller) has a BIOS on it, as do the Future Domain cards, then the on-board controller BIOS chip makes the need for a device driver irrelevant, until you intend to add more than 2 SCSI Hard Disks or 2 floppy drives. A SCSI is more or less generally faster than an IDE drive. SCSI can also be used with system BIOS or "on the fly calculations," but will run at the same speed as an IDE. Both of these drives can be disk-cached by hardware, but it seems that using a good software caching utility would remove any potential problems that can be caused with disk hardware caching. A drive with a buffer (not a cache) is not affected the same way as an on-drive cached one, and in this case the use of a hardware disk cache on the adapter card is not going to cancel the effects of the software cache. The IDE controller only allows 2 additional devices to be installed. While the SCSI allows multiple devices (theoretically 14,000 peripherals on one bus!! but usually only 6 hard drives in one computer.) The IDE drive is generally inexpensive compared to SCSI, mostly because the SCSI adapter cards are more expensive than IDE interface cards (To build each of the drives, the initial hardware cost is virtually the same), but due to the high production of IDE drives and their popularity with low-end clone builders the cost to the end-user is lower.

The biggest apparent advantage of the SCSI interface is its suitability for multitasking and networking environments (GeoWorks, Windows, Novell, DesqView, UNIX X-Windows, etc...) When receiving multiple command signals designated for peripherals, the SCSI interface allows the command sender (a.k.a. host or initiator) to disconnect and

allow other command senders to issue commands to other targets. Targets may send data when it is convenient to do so. This means that a typical SCSI target peripheral (hard disk) can satisfy many requests for data from different programs or tasks and the requester need not tie up the bus while waiting for the request to be completed. Devices are thus released while the others that they depend on are busy and a reconnection can be established when the data is ready for the command initiator.

Bob put up several references which contain more detailed information and comparisons of these interfaces

BYTE Feb. 1990 pg. 267 (SCSI)

BYTE Mar. 1990 pg. 291 (SCSI)

PC MAGAZINE Dec. 31, 1991 pg. 313

(Compares ESDI, IDE, ST - 506, SCSI)

PC MAGAZINE Feb. 25, 1992 pg. 245

(Compares EISA, ESDI to SCSI Controllers)

A few notes on SCSI: There is a SCSI interface standard but it is not rigorously followed by all manufacturers. Mr. Ralph pointed out that this is also the case with IDE interfaces, but not as much as in the past. Consequently not all older SCSI products are robust in compatibility. Bob suggested that you remain very aware of what you are getting. One story is that a man bought all of his SCSI stuff at swap meets, ads, and the like, to find that they didn't work together. So, if your interested, check articles in magazines to find a few choices then write to the manufacturer requesting literature.

March's SIG will be a general question and answer session, held by Steve Shiffman. In April, we are hoping to have the manufacturer of a 3D scanner demonstrate its product. In May, we should have Chris Huffman back from Micro 2000 to show us their new diagnostic tools and software, and we are going to get special club pricing!! (I'm always looking out for you guys!)

This SIG was a great success, mostly due to the professionalism of Gibson Research and James Ralph. I would like to thank them for a great presentation. The explanations that he provided were patient, thoughtful, and enlightened us all. I can't wait to get my copy of Steve's TechTalk Anthology. Gibson Research can be reached at (714) 830-2200. ■

## WINDOWS

In February we demonstrated the Multimedia Extensions to Microsoft Windows 3.0. Multimedia is the addition of sound and CD-ROM Extensions to Windows. The demonstration used a Media Vision Pro AudioSpectrum sound board and a Sony CD-ROM player. The Pro AudioSpectrum can play back stereo sounds at 44kHz, which is one of the best on the market today. It also includes the SCSI interface, sound input and output & a MIDI interface. (Note: Media Vision has just announced the Pro AudioSpectrum 16, which will have 16-bit access and support Sound Blaster and MPU-401 MIDI protocols).

With the software under Windows, you can record and play back stereo .WAV files, which are digitized sound files. It can also play audio Compact Disks from the CD-ROM player, allowing track-by-track selection of the music. You can even make a catalog of your CDs and select the titles you wish to listen to!

We demonstrated two CD-ROM packages from Microsoft. The first was the Multimedia Beethoven: The Ninth Symphony. Besides being a quality CD of the Viennese Philharmonic and State Opera, the software offers a Pocket Guide, with sections including Beethoven's World, The Art of Listening and an entertaining multi-player game called "The Ninth Game" which tests your musical and historical knowledge.

When playing the music, the software is interactive, describing each of the many movements, and using the MIDI controls to play the various themes. In the choral movement, the text is shown in either English or German.

Next we demonstrated the Microsoft Bookshelf for Windows in CD-ROM that includes: The American Heritage Dictionary, Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, The Concise Columbia Dictionary of Quotations, The Concise Columbia Encyclopedia, Hammond Atlas, Roget's II Electronic Thesaurus, and The World Almanac and Book of Facts 1991.

Over all, each of these items separately could occupy their own CD-ROM, so it is not as complete as I feel it could be. The Atlas has interesting maps and when you click on a country's capital, the national anthem plays through the MIDI port. The graphics are good, and the information is easy to access. But, the software has some incompatibilities with some drivers, including my Intel Fax board software.

We plan, in June, to continue our presentations on Multimedia, to include Windows 3.1 and many

of the new packages introduced at the Spring COMDEX in Chicago. NOTE: In April we will move our meeting date to Sunday April 12th at 2 p.m. to introduce Microsoft Windows 3.1! Come early to get a good seat. ■

## WORDPERFECT

*Susan Novak*

The WordPerfect SIG started off its New Year with a presentation from Keith Lue (WordPerfect Representative and OCIPUG member.) The group was polled in December and Keith was asked to demonstrate Rymer, Screen Extender, and DrawPerfect. Keith did an excellent job on the presentation.

Rymer is a TSR which is used to suggest words which rhyme with the word selected.

Screen Extender allows you to substitute any of the 512 characters which are visible on the screen, with a character which is currently displayed as a box on the screen. For example you could substitute the diamond (◆) character for the 2/3 character (Ctrl-V, character set 4, character 65). This substitution would allow you to see the 2/3 character on the screen but not the diamond.

Keith then turned his presentation to DrawPerfect. He illustrated how easy it is for a WordPerfect user to use DrawPerfect. The user can use the same function keys in WordPerfect as DrawPerfect, or the pull down menus. Keith demonstrated how to change images by copying, rotating, sizing, modifying and stretching. He also demonstrated how easy it is to insert text in a drawing with any of the 35 different typefaces that are available. Keith showed how easy it is to bring an image created in DrawPerfect over to WordPerfect with the help of Shell (which is included in the DrawPerfect package.) He then showed the transfer of the image from WordPerfect back to DrawPerfect. He ended the demonstration with a couple of macros from the macros keyboard—the Alt-S to shade text or figures and the Alt-T to rotate text around a curve.

For those who stayed, a raffle was held for books, tapes, shirts, and the holiday pack of clipart.

The WordPerfect SIG members would like to thank Keith Lue for his time and patience in demonstrating these programs at our SIG. ■

## SIG REPORTS

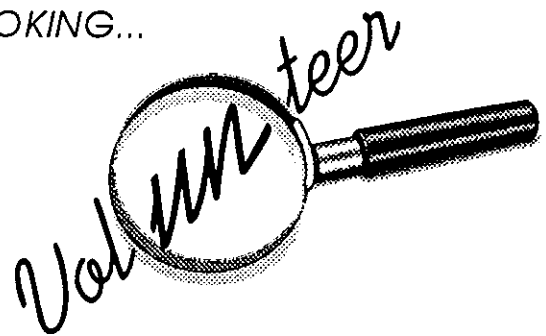
# PROGRAMMING

Wendy Sarrett

In February we did "Show and Tell." Several members of the SIG brought software they have been working on at home and discussed the techniques they have been using. We discussed user interface design and Windows programming techniques.

In March, Dr. Steve Hampson will talk about neural net programming. ■

THE PUBLICATIONS  
COMMITTEE IS  
LOOKING...



...for volunteers to join the committee in the area of advertising.

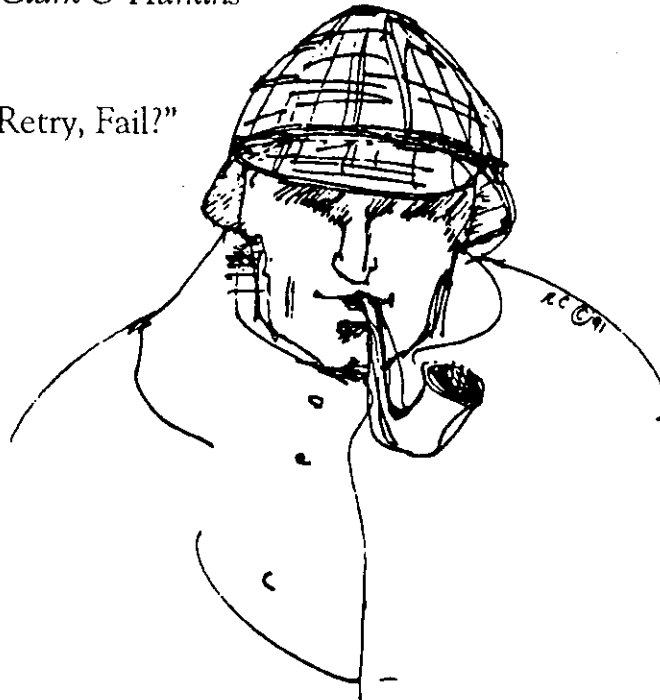
We need people who would be interested in contacting prospective advertisers in *README.DOC*, as well as an Advertising Manager, who would coordinate this effort.

Anyone interested in helping to put our newsletter on a self-sustaining basis should contact the Publisher, Sunny Lockie, at 631-2880 during the day or 644-0103 in the evening.

**WE NEED YOU!**

COMPUTIMES by Clark & Harkins

"Abort, Retry, Fail?"



"Tragically, the combination of seaside air and a particularly difficult case revealed to us the astonishing truth—that my good friend Holmes had been, all along, a computer.

ABCs of the BBS  
...Continued from Page 3

The next step in prevention is to install a program such as McAfee's VSHIELD. It is a TSR that will do a quick scan of any program prior to execution. It is effective, but I don't like it for two reasons: first, I avoid TSRs as much as possible, and, second, it does slow down your machine.

Of course, you are making frequent backups, and you don't engage in indiscriminate exchange of floppies. In other words, you do practice SAFE HEX!

So what can you do if you do contract a virus, in spite of everything? First of all, head for the Big Red Switch. Shut down your computer entirely, at least until you recover from your panic. Now is the time for your SYA disk; you do have one, don't you? (See ABCs of the BBS, September 1991) Use SCAN to identify your virus, and CLEAN to remove it. Your SYA disk should have all the docs on it, so you know what you are doing.

While not necessary, you may find it comforting to have the latest version of Patricia Hoffman's VSUM virus summary available. This magnificent work will tell you all you need to know about any known virus in convenient HyperText form. You will find the latest versions of all the above shareware programs available on this BBS. I have tended to emphasize the McAfee products simply because those are the ones I use. Updates are immediately available, and telephone support is there if necessary. This is not to imply that there are not good commercial products out there. You can always count on Norton, and the Anti-Virus is no exception. Central Point also makes an effective virus program, as do many other manufacturers. Main point: **DON'T GO NAKED!** ■

# BBS - MODEM SEMINAR

*Is your interest in the OCIPUG BBS and modems a bit greater since the last General Meeting?*

Get on-line and take advantage of the OCIPUG BBS

- hundreds of public domain and shareware files
- leave and get messages to/from other members
- ask questions, get help between meetings
- stay in touch with your favorite SIGS

To help you get started, a one-day seminar will be conducted Sunday, April 5, 1992, from 1 to 4+ p.m.

Starting at the beginning, you'll see an example of installing communications software, getting the modem connected, making the call, navigating the BBS, downloading files and leaving/reading messages. We'll take the mystery out of the OCIPUG BBS.

A clear picture of the BBS structure and an understanding of the BBS commands make using the BBS a simple matter. Many people confuse the BBS commands with their communication program commands. We'll help sort this out.

Having trouble with either your communication software or modem? Bring your manuals, modem hardware and at least two disks. We have shareware communication programs and modem diagnostic programs that may help you. As time permits, we'll look at specific hardware.

And don't forget the MODEM SIG and BBS SIG meetings each month. ■

SUNDAY, APRIL 5  
1:00 - 4:00 P.M.

## CORRECTION TO SHAREWARE NOTES

Harv Haight

Member Paul Conway has found that EQUICOPY, a shareware program I praised in "Shareware Notes" last month, doesn't work with a 286 machine. With a 3-1/2" 1.44 MB programmed disk in his drive B, the program appears to transfer fully to a 5-1/4" 1.2 MB disk in his drive A. BUT .COM and .EXE programs on the new disk won't work, nor can it self-boot.

My 286 unit has two 1.2 MB drives, so for the article I wasn't able to check what he checked. With very red face, I again checked the disks about which I wrote. On my 386SX-16 everything worked as before. BUT when these workable disks were inserted in either A: or B: 1.2 MB drives of my 286, they were not recognized. Paul is right! And I apologize for not checking further. I'll let author Michael Stowe (not Stone, incidentally) know what we've found. ■

### AMAZING GRACE

...Continued from Page 1

Oriented Language), still widely used today, used English-like instructions. It and FORTRAN (FORmula TRANslation...an algebraic and logical language), prior to BASIC, PASCAL, FORTH, and others, were the programmers' major tools until the sixties. Because of her age, the Reserve retired Dr. Hopper in 1966, but recalled her within the year to help standardize Navy programming languages. She stayed on active duty until 1986 with final rank as Rear Admiral and, until her death, served as senior consultant to Digital Equipment Corporation in Washington.

Two quotes from Amazing Grace bear repeating:

- 1) "If it's a good idea, go ahead and do it. It's much easier to apologize than it is to get permission."
- 2) (I'm most proud) "of all the young people I've trained over the years-- that's more important than writing the first compiler."

The source of information about "Amazing Grace" is an article by Mitch Betts in the January 6th edition of *Computerworld*. ■

### President's Message

...Continued from Page 2

Another new innovation will be INTEL's much talked about, and advertised, processor upgrade or speedup chips. INTEL is producing a special processor which can be plugged into a socket on a 486 system that will double the internal clock speed of the CPU while the external speed remains the same. This means a 486SX or DX running at say 25 Mhz could be boosted to 50 Mhz and thus have a tremendous increase in performance. A bit of advice David offered was to make sure the motherboard or system supplier guarantees that the system you purchase will meet the INTEL specifications for upgradeability. At present only a handful of current systems meet those specifications. More should be available after COMDEX.

Another recommendation David made was to be sure to buy a system which has a write-back secondary cache. INTEL has determined that a write-back secondary cache makes a significant improvement in system performance. Since the data transfer rate differs so markedly between the electronic component of a computer, memory, and the CPU, and the mechanical component, the hard drive, the best way of bolstering system performance is through a well-designed cache. We will hear much more about these subjects at our October General Meeting when INTEL will be here to show us the 586 and we hope to have a few sample machines from various manufacturers. The 586 is scheduled to be released sometime between June and September; however, I thought it important to pass along these recommendations now for those considering a system purchase at this time. ■

# MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING - MARCH 2, 1992

As submitted by Ginger Buck, Secretary

## BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Stephen Burnside, President	Jim Bonacci
Richard Villa, Vice President	Robin Clark
Ginger Buck, Secretary	Terry Currier
Preston Hill, Treasurer	Sunny Lockie
Bob Basaraba	Bob Ottke

## BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

John Goodman, Past President	Stan Sabin
Ben LeGare	

## MEMBERS AND GUESTS

Tom Stolp, Parliamentarian	Dean Raustadt
Nick Abaco	Michael Springer
Jim Petit	

The Regular Meeting of the OCIPUG Board of Directors convened at 7:00 p.m. at the SIG Space with Stephen Burnside presiding.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 27, 1992

Richard Villa moved to accept the Minutes with two corrections, Bob Basaraba seconded and the motion passed.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Preston Hill distributed copies of his report in three different formats so the Board could offer suggestions as to which format should be used for the Financial Report in *README.DOC*. (A) the one presently being used, (B) similar, with different categories, (C) the most brief. Board Members offered their opinions. Sunny Lockie asked for clarification by the Board on what goes into *README.DOC*. Tom Stolp explained the protocol whereby the President reports to the Board which, in turn, reports to the Members, and that the Board does have the right to prevail over the Publications Committee because it has an obligation to the membership to enlighten them. Stephen Burnside stated we are responsible for providing a financial report, Board Minutes and decisions/information concerning elections. Stephen Burnside conducted the vote on formats with (B) being chosen. Bob Ottke moved to accept the Treasurer's Report, Richard Villa seconded and motion passed.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership Committee Chairwoman Robin Clark distributed Membership Renewal Rate sheets to Board Members and stated that we have 960 active members. Preston Hill moved to accept the Membership Committee Report, Sunny Lockie seconded and motion passed. BBS Committee Chairman Bob Ottke reported that we

now have 3 nodes running, two on rotary for members' use and one reserved for SysOps, Co-SysOps, Board Members and the Newsletter Staff. We have the capacity to run 4 nodes, if necessary. Jim Petit said we have 4MBs of RAM in each node and the server is a 386/33 with 16MBs of RAM. He offered to upgrade the Club's equipment to a 486 and take the AST with 5MBS of RAM in trade. Stephen Burnside is to incorporate this matter into his President's column next month. Discussion ensued regarding the cost involved in adding a fourth node and reimbursing Jim Petit for the extra memory. Jim Petit informed Stephen Burnside that the total cost for each box, including memory, is \$616. Bob Basaraba moved we trade the AST for Jim Petit's server, plus \$616 to cover the cost of 14MBs of additional memory, and 3 CPUs with power supply. Robin Clark seconded and motion passed. Publications Committee Chairwoman Sunny Lockie said Borland placed a full page ad in the March issue of *README.DOC*. Stephen Burnside said he will keep asking for advertisement from Microsoft. He also stated that OCIPUG is in the top 30 User Groups and right at the top in terms of membership, attendance, and female members. Ginger Buck moved to accept the Publications Committee Report, Bob Ottke seconded and motion passed. Program Committee Chairman Terry Currier reported St. \$ilicon will attend our next General Meeting. Microsoft Word for Windows will also do a face-off with Ami Pro. Discussion ensued regarding finding a larger meeting place, members' seating arrangements and raffle prizes. Robin Clark said the Raffle is important to our members who feel prizes should be given to members only; they get upset when prizes are given to non-members. Stephen Burnside suggested that vendors set aside a certain amount of prizes for members and non-members. Various proposals were made regarding how to handle this concern. Bob Ottke moved to accept the Program Committee Report, Sunny Lockie seconded and motion passed.

## OLD BUSINESS

Stephen Burnside said we are two months late on budgets and asked again that everyone get their budget requests in. Sunny Lockie requested copies of the membership database for the Publication Committee and Robin Clark requested Board approval to release this information. Stephen Burnside directed Robin Clark to provide Sunny Lockie with the membership information needed.

## NEW BUSINESS

PROPOSAL FROM NICK ABACO REGARDING SIG SPACE - Mr. Abaco is our new landlord and a new member of OCIPUG. He addressed our Club's future growth, our need for increased SIG Space and offered us the option to rent more space at discounted rates for the first four months, depending upon location. Robin Clark inquired whether an expenditure of this size should be put to the general membership and was informed that it should. Board members expressed their pros and cons on the rooms offered, increased rent involved, and requested more time to consider this matter. Mr. Abaco will try to keep the smaller room (340 square feet with the air conditioning control) available for us as long as possible. He stated when we renew our lease, we will continue to get the first month free.

APPOINTMENT OF PUBLIC RELATIONS-MARKETING COMMITTEE - Stephen Burnside said our membership is getting stagnant and appointed the following for this committee: himself, Robin Clark, Terry Currier and Sunny Lockie. He also invited any other willing Board member to join. The first meeting will convene at Sunny Lockie's home on Saturday, March 7 at 11:00 a.m. Stephen Burnside will contact Orange Coast College about renting the Robert Moore Theater on a long-term lease for our General Meetings and providing video capabilities there. He also discussed various video equipment and requested Jim Petit to check with Jovian for a new box that eliminates the over-screen scan. Richard Villa stated there will be a SIG for the Windows roll-out on Sunday, April 12 at 2:00 p.m. Michael Springer suggested making our README.DOC available in ASCII form for the blind on a disk and Stephen Burnside said he should discuss this with Sunny Lockie. Michael Springer also offered to conduct a MODEM SIG on Sunday, April 5, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Bob Basaraba said we are getting donations of equipment that do not work. It was determined that all donations must be in working order and manuals/documentation supplied. If these conditions are not met, we cannot accept the donation.

Bob Ottke moved that the meeting adjourn at 9:25 p.m., Sunny Lockie seconded and motion passed. ■

*(Editor's note: The above minutes do not become official or certified until adopted by the Board at their next Board meeting.)*

# PRODUCTS FOR REVIEW

*Jean Stevens, Editor*

The products listed below are available for review by Club members. If you would like to be a reviewer for any of these products, or want more information, please give me a call at 644-1017.

The ground rules are that the reviewers are required to write a minimum 300 word review for README.DOC within thirty days of receiving the product. Upon receipt of a satisfactory review, the product then becomes yours to keep, subject to the manufacturer's license agreement, restrictions and limitations. These are complete applications with documentation, not demo disks.

## SOFTWARE:

QUICKEN - Finance Software (new Windows version)

QUICKEN - Finance Software (DOS version 5.0)  
PrintQ Version 5.0 - Print Spooling Software

## *General Meeting Report*

*...Continued from Page 1*

now on the BBS of a FANtastic LAN interface between the two available phone lines, automatically switching a caller on either to an open input. He credited Mike Springer, as well as those present, for effective setup and troubleshooting, and again, (to much applause) thanked Thurman Wade for his generous financial help. Jim demonstrated how an internal modem could be installed, and Brian discussed details of the WILDCAT program. A full manual and documentation is available on the BBS as WCNEWUSR.ZIP. Brian showed that use of an asterisk before first name, last name, and password could facilitate a painless sign-on (\*SAM JONES PASSWORD).

The meeting closed with the usual raffle, this time heavily endowed with QUATTRO PRO IV and other programs from Borland. OCIPUG members certainly appreciate Borland's generosity and will put prizes to good use; winners are listed elsewhere. ■

As a courtesy to OCIPUG members, the memberships up for renewal are published in README.DOC every month.

**IS YOUR NAME LISTED BELOW? DON'T FORGET TO RENEW!!**

**THESE MEMBERSHIPS EXPIRE IN MARCH**

John Alesi	Michael Lee
Marylou Baffoni	Taoward Lee
Catherine Burnside	John Maness
Rebecca Burnside	Christine Modrow
Stephen Burnside	Doreen Nakamoto
Janice Burrell	Joe Nilan
Mark Burrell	Don Norton
Charles Cambron	Suzanne Oliveri
Rafael Cardenas	Charlie Oostdyk
David Chereb	Alan Peters
Bruce Cleeremans	John Pitre
Bruce Clumpner	Robert Potter
Stanley Cochran	Clifford Pratt
Jinx Cochrell	Emilia Pratt
Sandra Condon	Jim Pulley
William Condon	Arun Ray
Karen Cooper	Allan Roberts
Elvin Daugherty	Joy Sabin
Phyllis Daugherty	Linda Joy Sabin
Wil Decker	Stan Sabin
Edward Fitch	Rick Schultheis
George Fowles	Al Shkoler
Mervin Frank	Gody Siason
Paul Fuller	Debra Smith
Donna Fulmizi	Harvey Smith
Francis Gates	Milli Smith
Larry Goodman	Robert Stephens
Keith Hawthorne	Norman Suker
Doug Hockett	Mike Taibi
Shirley Hockett	Gail Thomas
Barry Holland	Rick Tunning
Karen Holland	Donna Walker
Garland Holt	Bob Weaver
Alka Jobalia	David Weaver
Tom Jobalia	Ronald Weimer
Robert Klein	Richard Wells
Nancy Koontz	Plug White
Henri Laborde	Hugh Wilkoff
Alex Lancaster	Liza Williams
Jeanne Le Van	Stew Wilson

**THESE MEMBERSHIPS EXPIRE IN APRIL**

Joy Agnew	John Long
David Allen	Ramon Lugo
Larry Bailey	Eileen Maag
Jack Bentley	Frank McAninch
Charles Bilderback	Donald Mikami
Gerald Bretts	Gary Nelson
Andy Broadway	Stephen Novak
Debbie Broadway	Susan Novak
Donald Burdorf	Eleanor Parmalee
Victor Camfield	Dave Patterson
Gene Carter	Ann Pierce
Betty Casteel	Ross Pierce
Joyce Cheng	Donald Pousha
Tony Cheng	Phillip Roberts
Tom Childers	Dave Robinson
Chin-Yong Chong	Herb Rosner
Edward Dalton	James Rush
Joe De Carlo	Gordon Savage
Julie De Carlo	Patricia Seitsinger
Syd Deem	Muzaffar Siddiqi
Steven Dela	Don Smith
Jim Dickerson	Ellis Thomas
Albert Ellenbogen	Don Tunnell
Edward Etter	Richard Villa
Richard Evins	Dennis Walz
Richard Foster	Robert Weikart
Paul Frech	Terry Weiss
Kathleen Garrison	Michael Wilson
John Gillis	Herbert Wolfson
Billy Hall	Joe Zebrowski
Katherine Ann Hall	
John Hamaker	
Carl Held	
Harold Howarth	
Dan Jacobs	
Richard Kenyon	
Mary Klempen	
David Kodama	
Evelyn Langford	
Ben LeGare	



*Our Treasurer's Report will be published next month.*

## 1992 OCIPUG BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### OFFICERS

President	Stephen Burnside	722-0327
Vice President	Richard Villa	841-6991
Secretary	Ginger Buck	534-7878
Treasurer	Preston Hill	892-1291
Past President	John Goodman	895-3195

### DIRECTORS

Bob Basaraba	1993	559-6539
Jim Bonacci	1992	650-2922
Robin Clark	1993	786-7880
Terry Currier	1993	774-2018
Ben LeGare	1992	472-0944
Sunny Lockie	1993	644-0103
Robert Ottke	1992	759-1515
Stan Sabin	1992	968-7307

### PEOPLE AND NUMBERS TO KNOW

Membership	Robin Clark	786-7880
SIG Chairman		
Program Chairman	Terry Currier	774-2018
Bulletin Board	Robert Ottke	759-1515
Library Committee		

### OCIPUG BBS & MESSAGE LINE NUMBERS

Public Line (1200/2400/9600)	843-0388
Members only (1200/2400/9600)	843-9248
OCIPUG Info & Message line	843-2048

## OCIPUG General Meeting Dates 1992

Our General Meetings are held on the last Saturday of each month.

**March 28**

**April 25**

**May 30**

**June 27**

## 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)

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

My computer is a       None       8088(XT)       286(AT)       386SX       386       486SX       486

# OCIPUG Business Sponsorship Program



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Your support enables us to better serve our members.

If you or your company would like more information on this program, please call Sunny Lockie at (714) 644-0103 or (714) 631-2880.

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