

Orange Coast IBM PC User Group

README.DOC

May 1997

Newsletter

Version 13.5

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*The April 26, 1997, 9:00 a.m.
General Meeting will feature:*

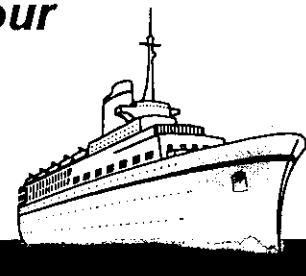
US Robotics — Modems
X2 Technology
Microsoft — Office 97
Word 97
Excel 97



*The May 31, 1997, 9:00 a.m.
General Meeting will feature:*

Cybermedia Utilities — First Aid 97
Oil Change 97

OCIPUG Web Page Tour



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Ken Kamber

OCIPUG may have had its first special Board of Directors meeting on March 16, 1997 for the singular purpose of addressing our membership problem. The elected leadership of our club was expected to attend and almost all did. It was gratifying to also see Russ Merrifield, Kevin Moser, Francis Reed and John Squirrell participating in the meeting and helping in our membership effort afterwards.

A lot of good ideas were discussed at that meeting. We discussed the need to identify those areas of our club that can be improved. A lot of reasons were expressed for our declining membership but those reasons were opinions and not facts. Richard Baznik brought a list of about 160 of our former members who had not paid their dues. People at the meeting volunteered to make phone calls to people on the list to see if they wished to rejoin our club or determine the reason for the person not wanting to rejoin. The second decision in the meeting was to design and distribute a brochure. This brochure would cost a lot less than either the Readme.Doc or SIG guide and could be more effective in bringing nonmembers to our meetings.

Although all the information is not yet in, a few things can already be said. A lot of people had just put off paying their dues, then forgot to do it. Some former members were flattered that someone from our club had actually called them. A few indicated that we were not very friendly to new people. Perhaps more than a few indicated that we were too advanced. Several indicated that they left because of "politics". Very few indicated that our dues were too high. Too many of our members had passed away. One former member admitted to purchasing a Macintosh.

Probably the most important result, so far, was an indicated need for us to be more friendly. Although some of us may only see our old friends once a month at our General Meeting, it would be great if we talked to that person sitting next to us that we don't really know. It would be terrific if the person sitting near a non-member talked to that nonmember during the break, or after the meeting, to answer his questions about our

club. You have probably noticed Doug Nowlin welcoming people at the entrance to the General Meetings. Doug has the right idea. We need to help him.

The Internet is a strong force in our society and is becoming stronger. At our last General Meeting only 3 persons indicated that they were not on the Internet. Although this may seem like a very high number of Internet users in our club, it is not surprising when one considers that almost all computers sold in the last couple of years included modems.

Our Club needs to thank Jay Benesh for giving our club the benefit of his foresight. Although almost all computer clubs have Web pages now, Jay had his Internet SIG about 3 years ago and established our Home page about 2 years ago. This foresight was shared by Bob Basaraba but Bob was busy being president while Jay was doing the work. Now that Bob is no longer president, he is doing almost all the work on our Web page.

One person could probably do all our work on our Web page if that person didn't have to work for a living. Since Bob does have to work for a living, he is starting to get help from Denise Warner, a webmaster, and will get help from our newly appointed webmasters Francis Reed and Jim Clymer. These people are going to have to do a lot of work. If you see something you like, drop them a note on our Web page. It wouldn't hurt to let me know also.

One little tip that will save you time is to use <http://www.webcom.com/ocipug/> to go to our home page on the Internet rather than <http://www.ocipug.org>.

The <http://www.ocipug.org> is easier to remember but it gives you a welcome screen before the pages with information. Using <http://www.webcom.com/ocipug/> will bypass the welcome page.

Now that you can get to our home page faster, take a look at what we have. When you click (left mouse button click) on the "Member Information" button you can see and use our new "UPL" (Uniform Person Locator) that was designed by Bob Basaraba. This is a very handy way to see who your club lead-

ers are. It is also a fast way of sending them, and me, notes on the great, or not so great, jobs we are doing. It is also a good way of send us your ideas on how we can improve our club.

I need to give a special thanks to Bob for this UPL. I had tried for 3 months to change the names of the OCIPUG officers in the APCUG (Association of Personal Computer User Groups). APCUG refused to let Doug Nowlin or myself change OCIPUG officer names until they saw our names in the UPL that Bob designed for our home page.

The "Membership Benefits" button on our home page will get you to a page you should read. This page was designed by Richard Hunter and Bob Basaraba. Members should read it to insure that they are getting all the benefits they are entitled to. It is also a good page to have read when a nonmember asks what benefits he can get from our club in exchange for his membership dues.

If you click on the "Informative Monthly General Meetings" button you will go to a page which has a button for individual monthly meetings. Alan Liebschutz wrote the pages that these buttons lead to. Alan told me that it only took about 3 hours to learn enough HTML to do the job. Although he took only 3 hours to learn the HTML he uses I suspect he spends a lot more than 3 hours writing what I see. Looking at what he has put on our home page I see that he has our webmasters scheduled for part of our General Meeting in June. Be sure to bring all your questions on our Web page to that meeting.

Right below "Informative Monthly General Meetings" area is the "Special Interest Groups & Seminars" area with the "This Months Calendar" button. Clicking on this button brings you to our SIG guide. Clicking on individual SIGs brings up their individual pages. Trying individual pages indicates there is room for a large number of people willing to spend 3 hours learning enough HTML to make and update individual SIG pages for our Web page.

Continued on page 4

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**Talbert Allyn
Steve Himmel
John E. Hinds**

We hope your association with us proves very rewarding. *OCIPUG* is based upon *sharing*. You will have many opportunities to learn from and to share your knowledge with other members. Don't be timid about asking advice. The only stupid question is the one not asked! No one of us knows everything

OCIPUG is unique among user groups in that we have our own facility with specialized rooms to fit our special needs such as Special Interest Group (SIG) seminars. So — come join us at one or more of the SIGs described in the SIG Guide insert to *Readme.doc*.

You get out of *your* Club what *you* put into it. Volunteers make our Club successful, effective, and *fun!* Your participation on a committee is encouraged and is most welcome. So — please contact any official to offer your services in whatever capacity you can.

FAREWELL TO OLD MEMBERS

**Our condolences and sympathies
to the families and friends
of our departed members.**

May time heal your sorrow

May friends ease your pain

May fond memories grow ever stronger

Bernard Fowle 6/96

Charles Lovin 3/97

George Walker 7/96

EXPIRING MEMBERSHIPS

If your name is on the list, won't you consider renewing your membership and use the features and advantages of *OCIPUG*. If you see the name of a friend on the list, won't you encourage your friend to renew. Names are listed by month of expiration.

April 1997

Richard Armenteros
Nathan Arnold
Larry Bailey
Charles Bilderback
Victor Camfield
Jim Dickerson Jr
John F Donan
Robert Duke
Thomas Feeley
Paul Frech
Dan Garcia
David Haag
Lauren Haag
Louise Haag
Steven Haag
Karla Heider
Harold Howarth
Janice Kennedy
David Marine
Frank McAninch

W. Mark Pickel
Ann Pierce
Ross Pierce
John Robertson
Jim Rogers
Howard Servais
Don Smith
Norman Suker
Robert Weikart
Warren Williams
John Woolston
Bob Murry

May 1997

Arthur Boughey
George Chappell
David Conway
Vince Dahlheimer
Cecil R Red Davidson
Terry De Witt

John Gallie
John Goodman
John Jordan
Gregory Kishel
Ben Kraut
Larry Leifer
Gregg Leonard
Joan Leonard
Len Leonard
Paul Lindemuth
David E. Lorenzini
Candace McCargar
John McCrickerd
Paul Melton
Richard Meyers
Kevin Moser
Herbert A Moss
Liz Myers
Ronald N Perkins
Leslie Potts
Chad Rowe

Jay Rowe
Jo-Marie Rowe
Justin Rowe
Hector Salas
Bill Salmi
Robert Shourt
John Squirrell
June Squirrell
Chrisanne Starbird
Jack Starbird
Lynda Starbird
Brian Sullivan
Tracy Timmons
Patricia Van Pelt
Vincent Van Pelt
Denise Werner
Jim Wertz
Audrey Wolden
Jack Wright
Wayne Ybarra

May Program

May 24, 1997 9:00 AM at the Orange Coast College Science Hall

Alan Liebschutz

General Meeting Schedule — May

- Q&A Springer et al 8:30 am
- President's Message 9:00 am
- CyberMedia Utilities
 - CyberMedia First Aid
 - Oil Change
- OCIPUG Web Page Tour with Bob Basaraba and Web Masters
- Announcements
- SIG Leaders
- Committee Chairs
- Product Drawing for Members

At the May General Meeting, CyberMedia will present two of its latest self-help utilities First Aid 97 and Oil Change. We will also tour the OCIPUG Internet Web Home Page.

First Aid 97

CyberMedia is one of the pioneers in system tuneups, software troubleshooting, and conflict resolution with the original First Aid 95. It has the advantage of running under Windows 95. Its elegant interface offers system tuneup, crash protection, and conflict resolution. If you want to have a complete arsenal of diagnostic tools, however, you'll need another package in addition, like Quarterdeck's Win Probe.

First Aid 97, which now works with both 16-bit and 32-bit applications, is designed to fix Windows problems automatically, to keep crashes and PC problems at bay, to protect your work in the event of a crash, and even find a solution to keep the crash from occurring again. It also provides a one-button complete PC checkup, and will warn you of an imminent hard drive failure days in advance so you can back up your data.

If your multimedia system is in trouble, for example, First Aid diagnostics may suggest fixes such as replacing missing drivers. If the necessary driver is in the wrong folder, you can move it with just a click of the AutoFix button. If the driver cannot be located, First Aid will open the appropriate Control Panel Wizard.

Specifically, this Doctor is at Home program will provide the following:

- First Aid gives your PC a complete physical. Just click on Check-Up and it checks every vital component of your PC.
- Protects against crashes and freezes and fixes them. Crash Protector intercepts crashes and will even search out the Internet to find bug fixes that can prevent future crashes. The Computer Program Reactivator (CPR), will even restart a frozen program.
- Checks over 10,000 software programs for configuration problems. Since First Aid has a large knowledge base of solutions to fix your software problems, it will peruse its knowledge base to look for the file the application requires.
- Fixes Internet access, multimedia, and performance problems. It checks all necessary configurations, parameters, and drivers.
- Lets you recover from PC disasters. You can add new games, programs, or cards without risk because First Aid takes a snapshot of your system whenever you make a change, similar to the Norton System Watch utility. You can thus return to the previous working condition if your PC misbehaves.
- Lets you ask the Advisor. Need to determine why your printer streaks or your mouse sticks? Just click on a problem and First Aid employs its Knowledge Base and even the Internet to answer your questions. This Advisor, however, doesn't have a natural language interface for typing queries. Updates itself automatically via the Internet. Just click on Update and First Aid automatically updates its Knowledge Base allowing you to fix more problems with the latest software and hardware.
- Provides a search and repair feature for corrupted Registry files.
- You get a copy of Dr. Solomon's FindVirus as an extra.

Consequently, with this utility you get a comprehensive tuneup and troubleshooting package to solve your Windows problems. No program of this sort can be perfect, but with the Internet, the company BBS, CompuServe, AOL, Prodigy, and MSN updates, First Aid attempts to stay current.

You must remember that Crash Protectors aren't the end-all; not every program can bounce back far enough to recover unsaved work. Troubleshooting possible and actual software problems is a tough job as I found out this week when my system with Win 3.11 crashed, and Bob and I ended up using Steve Gibson's superb Spinrite. But First Aid is reported to do an excellent job of catching and fixing problems, and is an excellent choice for those who want cleanup and software troubleshooting with a bit of hand-holding thrown in for good measure.

Oil Change

Getting the latest drivers often involves a nightmarish protracted search of finding out if you need an update, and then having to flip through layers of Web pages or calling tech support to get it. Oil Change, from CyberMedia, attempts to make this search more tractable and keep your system up-to-date. This utility dials into the company's Web site or BBS. It then scans your system, compares results with a database, and offers a list of relevant updates. You can view the descriptions and decide which ones you want. At your command the program downloads the files (via FTP) and even installs them. You can remove the update with an undo procedure; Oil Change then restores the earlier software version.

Oil Change specifically:

- Supports over 200 vendors and over 1,000 products. Since this database is constantly being maintained and added to, you will have access to the latest.
- Uses an automatic inventory which means that you don't have to know what products or versions you have installed on your PC.

Continued on Page 4

146th General Meeting

MARCH 22, 1997

Harv Haight

Michael Springer saved the day during the Random Access with no representative from Symantec showing up and chairman Alan Liebschutz unable to find out why, with a phone not working at the hall, but members seemed happy with Michael's answers to wide-ranging questions from the floor. He continued from 8:30 until 9:20

With the planned program trashed, and Symantec a no-show, President Ken Kamber came on next, with remarks about membership and his contacts with other local user groups. He was followed by reports and comments from SIG Leaders and Committee Chairs, moderated by Preston Hill.

Following a short break, John Goodman made the meeting worthwhile with his talk on "PC-Basics." His topics were:

1. What is a PC?
2. Some History of the IBM PC and its Near-Relatives
3. How the PC world is Changing
4. Some Advice about Disasters

To end the meeting, Jerome Man drew names for prizes. Prizes were tee shirts donated by Michael Moore, and programs from past presenters. OCIPUG thanks Michael and others for their donations. Winners included: Richard Bentley (3387)
Norm Bergman (2817)
Joseph Farber (11)
Oscar Leckliter (2353)
Don Peltz (2287)
Bruce Williams (3399).

Sidebar to General Meeting Report

Harv Haight

A topic that came up during the long Random Access of this meeting was the WINDOWS 95 command XCOPY32.EXE. This command is quite similar to the generic XCOPY.EXE command, but preserves the long filenames encountered in Win95.

The command itself has many possible modifiers (switches), but those of immediate interest are as follows: XCOPY32 [source] [destination] /f /s /e /k /h /m.

The command applies to drives, directories, subdirectories, and individual files.

/f displays source and destination filenames.

/s copies directories and subdirectories unless they are empty. This must be used if XCOPY32 is to be used with more than one directory.

/e copies all subdirectories even if empty.

/k copies all attributes including the read-only to the destination file. Without this switch, the destination file lacks this attribute.

/h copies files with the hidden (h) and the system (s) attributes. Without this switch, the system or hidden files will not be copied.

/m copies files with the archive (a) attribute set and removes this attribute from the source file after the copying.

Thus if you want to copy a full WINDOWS 95 drive to another drive that will hold ALL of the contents of the first drive, you issue the command

XCOPY32 C:*.* D: /f /s /e /k /h.

The /m switch is used under different circumstances, where it is possible to CHANGE the attributes of ALL files to (a) before issuing the command. Under such circumstances, the destination can be a series of disks, with files saved in readout form without compression. A future TECHTIPS article will give more details.

General Meeting Topics

(Continued from page 3)

- Gives a full description of the updates. The name, date, and size of the update is provided, as well as what the update will do for you. Every update has been tested by CyberMedia.

- Automatically downloads and installs most updates. Since most patches or updates are usually self-extracting files, Oil Change will install them for you.

OCIPUG Web Page Tour

Bob Basaraba and the other Webmasters will

President's Report

(continue from page 1)

While OCIPUG has the best Web page, you may also wish to visit other local computer clubs like the North Orange County Computer Club (NOCCC) at <<http://www.noccc.org>>, the Southern California OS/2 User Group (SCOUG) at <<http://www.SCOUG.COM/>> and WINNERS, a windows user group, at <<http://members.aol.com/ocwinners/>>. These are all good Web pages but Jay Benesh and Bob Basaraba got us there first.

HARD DISK WOES

Well, it had to happen! I reached the 2Gb hard disk limit on my Pentium Pro in only six months. I have been thinking of getting a monster drive (3Gb or greater) but the price of a good SCSI-based 4Gb drive is \$1000. I noticed that Fry's sometimes sells a SCSI-based 3.1Gb Quantum for around \$370. Why don't you get a 4Gb EIDE drive, Herb? Good question since I spotted a 4Gb Western Digital EIDE drive for only \$350 at a recent swap meet.

My Adaptec SCSI manual says that if I put in an EIDE drive then it will automatically become drive C: and my present SCSI drive will become drive D:. In addition, the number of primary partitions will drop from a maximum of four to two thus limiting my options. My present drive is divided into two partitions, C: and D:, and they will change letters. That may not be so bad but I will have to do some file shuffling. If I also decide to partition drive C:, there will be some more drive letter shuffling. To make matters worse, I also have Jaz and Zip removable drives and a CD-ROM that may get their drive letters changed as well. I also run MS-DOS 6.2.2, Windows NT 4.0 and Windows 95 that have file systems that are incompatible if I choose to abandon FAT16. Before I make any rash decisions on drive partitioning, it may be edifying to understand partitioning.

UNDERSTANDING PARTITIONS

A partition is a physical division in your hard disk. Once a disk has been physically formatted (i.e., low level formatted), it can be divided into separate partitions and logically formatted. Some of us may format the hard disk as one large partition. This strategy keeps drive letters to a minimum but is not the most efficient way to organize your files or maximize your disk space and your data security is low.

Multiple partitions are important if you want to:

- 1) install more than one operating system (OS)
- 2) make efficient use of your disk space
- 3) physically separate your programs and data so that they will be easy to find and back up
- 4) make your files as secure as possible.

There are two main types of partitions, pri-

Herb's Hangout

Herb Huey



mary and extended. You can have up to four main partitions on your hard disk; either as four primary partitions or three primary and one extended. A primary partition may contain any OS as well as data files and applications. You must logically format the primary partition with the file system that is compatible with your OS.

There are many file systems in use today. Some of the most common are: File Allocation Table (FAT or FAT16) recognized by DOS, Windows 3.x, 95 and NT as well as OS/2.

File Allocation Table 32 (FAT32) introduced in Windows 95 (version 4.00.950B or above).

New Technology File System (NTFS) used by Windows NT.

High Performance File System (HPFS) used by OS/2 and older versions of Windows NT.

Netware File System used by the Novell NetWare network operating system

Linux Ext2 used by Linux OS (a freeware version of the UNIX OS)

If you want to create multiple primary partitions, only one partition is active (visible) at a time. Therefore the data in a primary par-

tion can be accessed (in most cases) only by the OS that is installed on that partition. The exception is when the partition allows the user to install more than one OS on it. Even when this is possible, it is usually cleaner if you can keep all your OSs on separate partitions.

The other type of main partition is the extended partition. The extended partition was invented as a way to get around the arbitrary four-partition limit. It allows the user to further divide their hard disk into a large number of logical partitions. Even if you only intend to have one partition on the extended partition you must create a logical partition to hold your data. After logical formatting, each logical partition exists as a separate volume. Some OSs (e.g., OS/2) can boot from a logical partition. If this is the case then it is a good idea to install that OS onto a logical partition and save a primary partition for other uses.

The type of hard disk partitioning influences the way the computer boots up. When you boot up your computer, the central processing unit (CPU) immediately executes a short startup program in your computer's ROM BIOS. The last part of this program is the boot routine. The BIOS boot routine reads the Master Boot Record (MBR) from the first sector of the first physical drive and passes control to the Master Boot program and a partition table record that describes the disk partitions. The Master Boot program looks at the partition table to find the active primary partition. Each bootable primary partition has its own boot record in the first sector of the partition and its own boot program. The Master Boot program then starts the boot program for the OS. Operating systems like DOS, Windows 3.x and Windows 95 boot from the active primary partition on the first physical drive. Windows NT can boot from a logical partition but the Windows NT boot program must reside in the active primary partition of the first physical drive. To set up the disk partitions, a utility such as FDISK is run. FDISK is used by DOS, Windows 95 and OS/2. FDISK only creates FAT16 partitions that can be read by DOS, Windows 3.x, Windows 95, Windows NT, or OS/2. Every OS provides a similar utility that can change partition information. This

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Tech Tips

Herb's Hangout

Continued from page 5

is usually performed before the OS is installed and the disk is logically formatted.

We have covered a lot about partitions this month. Next month we will focus on partition sizes, clusters, drive letter assignments and partitioning strategy.

SIGNING OFF

One of the advantages of having a multi-OS platform is that I can run Norton Utilities for 95. The NT version is not as feature rich so I did not buy it. I ran Norton Disk Doctor to optimize my drive. This gave me an additional 95MB free that I did not have before. I noticed something funny about Disk Doctor that I think I should mention to Symantec. When running Disk Doctor, the animated Disk Doctor scans the disk surface with a magnifying glass. I do not mind the poetic license but the Disk Doctor is touching the moving disk platter with his left hand and that really bothers me. After all we are all taught not to touch the magnetic surface!

I finally received my Zip rebates back. For each of the three gig-a-pack of Zip disks I received a \$20 rebate check. I did not receive a \$50 rebate for the Zip drive. Before I sent out the rebate request, my wife threw away the Zip drive packaging that contained the UPC code. I made a copy of the software envelope with the serial number and the floppy label and mailed it with a letter of explanation. I received a letter back with all the paperwork that I had sent. Also enclosed was a letter stating that the rebate was not issued since I did not enclose the UPC. If I resubmit the paperwork with the UPC by May, I can still receive the rebate. Either the processor ignored my letter or he did not bother reading it. Well I still have another shot at getting the rebate.

More and more high schools within the districts served by Coastline ROP are switching to Windows 95 as an operating system. Both teachers and students find the icons and point-to-play moves of WIN-95 easier to handle than those of WIN-3.1 (many teachers and students have never heard of DOS commands).

With WIN-95, teachers find it more difficult to confine students to curricula. Despite rules against games, games slip in (often to cause problems with viruses). Most teachers ban disks brought in by students; others have a lower-grade computer set up strictly to scan for viruses.

Layout of stations makes it often difficult for the teacher or aide to monitor screens. Students sometimes face each other across back-to-back work benches; this simplifies wiring but makes visual checks difficult. In other classrooms, computers may line the four walls, with only printers at center tables. This often occurs to take advantage of existing wiring as upgrades may be quite expensive. You can get dizzy trying to see what's on student screens!

It's important for students to start up without extraneous matter on the desktop. This means avoiding convenient student shortcuts (convenient for the individual, that is, who seldom removes them). A specific shortcut, preset by a technician or teacher, can prevent the student going to the startup list, which often is the jumping-off place for many playful excursions.

Student errors that disturb a desktop arrangement or corrupt a program can result from casual mistakes at the keyboard. They're easy to make with WIN-95! So we have some careless, inattentive students (I did say SOME!). These the teacher must live with. Then we have the hot-shots with sometimes better computers at home. They decide to personalize the unit assigned to them, disregarding the other five or more students scheduled that same day or night on the machine.

And finally we have the would-be hackers, sometimes brilliant students, who try to get even with somebody or the school system by playing tricks. I think sometimes that they regard me as a foe, and they should too! If they're caught, school policy generally banishes them from use of any school PC.

Programs exist within the WIN-95 CD disks that make it possible to avoid key-in errors or vandalism. These have been successful at Irvine High with systems used for the InterNet. We'll discuss these further in another column. Another non-Microsoft program has been used profitably at Costa Mesa High SmartStuff's "Foolproof Security 3.0 for Windows 95." This is a source of mixed blessings. It works, but the teacher has to circulate to unlock certain features (and those kids watch closely when the password is keyed!)



COMDEX FALL 1996

Tony Dopazo

I think it appropriate to begin this report by relating my appreciation and thanks to Paul Fuller our 1996 APCUG representative. By his efforts and follow through Paul made it possible for the attendees to be truly well informed as to what to expect and well versed as to how to make the most of an otherwise large scale complex web of information events. Thank you Paul, and thank you Sharon for allowing us to meet at your place of business for several of our meetings.

Due to personal needs, I was not able to attend the APCUG Roundtables from start to finish...I am appreciative of those attendees that did make the events for filling us in on lessons learned and points of interest. I arrived about noon on Sunday, November 17th and after completing registration for APCUG and COMDEX was able to attend the User Group/Vendor Welcoming Reception sponsored by APCUG.

Additional events attended included:

Monday, Nov.18 the three breakfast, luncheon and reception events sponsored by Lotus Development, Adobe, and Microsoft in that order.

Tuesday, Nov.19 once again the three officers events as well as the 11th Annual User Group Summit sponsored by APCUG. The three officers events were sponsored by Intuit, Corel Corp. and Borland.

Wednesday, Nov.20 I attended the officers luncheon sponsored by Starfish Software and on Thursday, because of personal needs at home I departed Las Vegas a day sooner than planned.

Those events which I did attend were all informative and afforded opportunities to talk with attendees from other user groups as well as vendor representatives. Lessons or points of interest learned during my stay included:

User Groups are not "dead", while the internet was discussed repeatedly as perhaps taking a toll on user groups, it was generally agreed the internet can not replace the comraderie and community of an

active user group. During the APCUG summit meeting it was repeated by each of the members of the panel, in various forms conveying the same message: People go to user groups to get answers... Keep focused on why your group is in existence...Maintain an effective database regarding membership (re-evaluate membership needs). Throughout the various vendor sponsored events there existed a thread of discussion regarding the effect of the internet. The vendor representatives as well as other user group reps were all questioning the effect of the internet on user groups. Not all user groups are in decline and several reps spoke of their increased memberships. Additionally, it was clear that vendor budgets in support of user groups have been trimmed. We must be above board as we request vendor support. Most discouraging to vendor representatives visiting user groups are expectations for large audiences and their wasted preparations and costs when turn outs are less than had been planned.

Additionally, we can assist our user group vendor representatives by updating our officers and directors listings as well our points of contact. Often our vendors experience return mail costs and other conflicting requests. It will behoove OCIPUG to begin the new year by sending updated information.

Included in the APCUG Proceedings document, which was given to all attendees, is a section on User Group Success Stories. Not all user groups are losing membership and perhaps we can garner some ideas from the readings of these success stories.

Larry Shaw APCUG president made a plea that we notify APCUG of any user groups in our area that may not yet be affiliated with APCUG. Not to worry if they learn the group is already a member of APCUG. Simply knowing the group exists, the APCUG staff will followup. As APCUG grows we too will benefit.

As of Oct. 4, 1996 APCUG membership consisted of 476 user groups from nine different countries with a combined membership of over 200,000, including 441 from the USA, 21 from Canada, 7 from Australia, 2 from the UK, and 1 each from Belgium, Germany, New Zealand, and South Africa.

One of the documents I received from APCUG speaks to Vendor Policy Statements and Guidelines for User Groups. Of particular interest is the desire of our vendor contacts to receive product reviews published in our NEWSLETTER. Of the eight vendor statements contained in these published guidelines, only IBM expressed as their first priority, an electronic copy. The other vendors requesting newsletter copies included: Adobe, America Online, Intuit, Lotus, Microsoft, Power Quest, and Starfish.

User group support, in spite of diminishing budgets, was apparent from all vendors. Strongest words of support, in my opinion, came from Borland and Intuit...IBM and Microsoft, I assessed as being supportive but with an "air" of diminishing user group importance. Philippe Kahn came across as most interested in supporting user groups.

As per OCIPUG policy, I reported all items received with a value greater than \$50. I requested to retain the Quick Books Pro version 4, and thank the board members that supported my request.

An additional note of interest may be my experience testing the latest handheld PC by Casio Corp. "CASSIOPEIA". By virtue of my having contributed articles to README.DOC I was permitted to register as a media representative and allowed the opportunity to test drive the Cassiopeia.(See the product review in this issue.Editor)

OCIPUG Internal Network

Francis Reed

The first workstation on OCIPUG's internal network should be operational by the time you read this. The workstation, located at the back of SIG room A, consists of a 486 PC and an HP inkjet printer. The PC has 8MB RAM, 130MB hard disk, 3.5" floppy disk, and a network adapter card. The base software is DR DOS v6, LANtastic v6, and Windows v3.1.

The workstation, designated OCI03, is connected to OCIPUG's first network server, OCISVR1, by Ethernet twisted pair cables. The server is a 486 PC with 8MB RAM, 768MB hard disk space, and a double speed CD-ROM drive. The server is also running DR DOS v6 and LANtastic v6. The server hosts the application programs and data to be used on the workstation.

The server's CD drive normally holds Microsoft's TechNet CD. TechNet includes

the Microsoft Knowledge Base which contains reports on known bugs and instructions for commonly encountered problems. White papers and articles on Microsoft products are also included. SIG Leaders may obtain additional TechNet CDs from Preston Hill, Chairman, SIG Operations Committee.

Members who do not have access to the Internet can access a copy of the OCIPUG website from the internal network. Netscape Navigator is used to view the site. Hyperlinks to references within OCIPUG's website are functional but not hyperlinks to other sites on the Internet.

Netscape can also be used to view the latest copy of OCIPUG's policy and procedures manual.

System Commander from V Communications is used during the boot process to control what the user has access to on the workstation. The applications previously listed will be accessible to all members. Microsoft Publisher v2 has been installed for use by the Publications Committee.

Additional software packages can be made available on the OCIPUG internal network as needed. Packages requiring more than 8Mb of RAM will be accessed via one of the SIG space PCs.

Access to files on the server requires entry of a valid user ID and password. For most users, the System Commander and LANtastic passwords will be the same. The member password provides read-only access to the server. Additional passwords allow responsible member(s) to update their data on the server.

This is just the beginning of OCIPUG's internal network. Future plans include a Linux server for making UUCP dialup connections to the Internet for downloading news groups. More powerful PCs could house Windows NT or Novell servers. Additional modems and phone lines will allow volunteers to work on OCIPUG data from their home or office. The rate at which features can be added to the network depends on the donation of time and materials by members and vendors.

PRODUCTS FOR REVIEW

Norm Bergman

The following materials have been received by OCIPUG for evaluation. Qualified members may try them out and upon submitting a satisfactory review to the editor will be given the registration materials and the product will become the member's personal property. The reviewer shall agree to observe the club's rules on not sharing software with others. One should keep in mind the wide range of interests of club members and if, upon inspection, the product does not coincide with one's own interests, it should be returned to be reassigned. The reviewer should keep in touch with the editor if he/she runs into difficulties or delays. The reviewer shall agree to return the product if, in the editor's judgement, the review is not submitted in a timely manner. A balanced evaluation should point out the product's good points as well as its shortcomings. The review becomes the property of OCIPUG and may be edited and may be reproduced by the product donor and other user groups. The reviewer's name will be used as author of the article. In accepting the product the reviewer agrees to these stipulations. The writer will be given a copy of Guidelines for Product Reviews to assist in preparing the report.

COMPANY	PRODUCT	RECEIVED	I.D. #	ASSIGNED	REVIEWER
Connectix	Agent 95		83		
Corel	Ventura 7	12/96	177	3/97	Larry Pearce
CyberMedia	FirstAid 97	3/97	178	3/97	C.Edw. Wolfe
CyberMedia	Oil Change	3/97	179	3/97	Ralph Adcock
General Magic	Magic Cap		146	2/97	Stan Sabin
GreenSoft	GreenForm	9/96			
GreenSoft	GreenDesk	9/96			
Lotus	ScreenCam			3/97	Richard (?)
Microsoft	Publisher 97	1/97		3/97	Karla Heider
Microsoft	FrontPage		167	3/97	Don Bakos
Murach	Lessons Word W95	7/96	41	3/97	Bill Phillips
Murach	Lessons Win 95	1/97		3/97	Len Leonard
PowerQuest	PartitionMagic	1/97		1/97	Chas Schreiber
Quicken	QuickBooksPro,tape	3/97		3/97	Reg Roberts
Symantec	Act! 3.0	11/96	172	3/97	Rex Combs
Ultra	Market Advisor	11/96	173		

Special Interest Group GUIDE



OCIPUG

Orange Coast IBM
PC User Group

MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

May 1997

MEMBERSHIP & MEETING INFO

OCIPUG Voice Hotline (714) 662-2939
OCIPUG BBS (714) 751-3242
OCIPUG WEB Page <http://www.ocipug.org>

SIG SPACE HEADQUARTERS

1520 Brookhollow Drive Suite #38
Santa Ana, California

OUR MAILING ADDRESS

Orange Coast IBM PC User Group
1500 Adams Ave. #105-121,
Costa Mesa, CA 92626-3894

	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
MAY	27	28 <i>Executive Board Meeting</i> A7	29	30 Windows 95 Startup (A9:30 am) <i>Publications Committee</i> B7	1 DeskTop Publishing A7	2 UNIX/Linux A7	3 New User/ New Mem. A9 DOS and Utilities A1
	4	5 WordPerfect A7	6 Spreadsheet A7	7 Genealogy A7	8 Microsoft Office A7	9 Internet A7	10 <i>BBS Committee</i> E9 Programming A9 Delphi Beginners A1
	11 <i>Mothers Day</i>	12 GeoWorks A3 Windows 95 A7	13 <i>BBS Committee</i> B6 Modem A7	14 Internet Beg. A9:30 am	15 Now What Do I Do? A7	16	17 <i>BBS Committee</i> E9 3D Studio A10 Investing A2
	18 <i>ACP Swapmeet</i>	19 Lotus AMI/Word Pro A7	20 <i>SIG Oper. Comm.</i> A9 OS/2 A7	21 Windows 3.1 A7	22 Genealogy II A1 Hardware A7	23 OS/2 Warp Connect A7	24 <i>BBS Committee</i> E9
	25	26 <i>Memorial Day</i>	27 <i>BBS Workshop</i> E7 /Committee B6 Pers. Finance A7	28 NO Network dBase A7	29 <i>Executive Board Meeting</i> A7	30 <i>Readme.doc articles due</i>	31 General Meeting OCC - 9 am Science Hall Program Comm. OCC - Noon Internetworking Comm. A2
	1	2 <i>COMDEX 97 starts</i> WordPerfect A7	3 Spreadsheet A7	4 <i>Publications Committee</i> B7 Genealogy A7	5 <i>COMDEX 97 ends</i> Desktop Publishing A7	6 UNIX/Linux A7	7 New User/ New Mem. A9 DOS and Utilities A1

DAYTIME SIGs are being considered. Advise Preston Hill (714)893-2403 of topics desired.

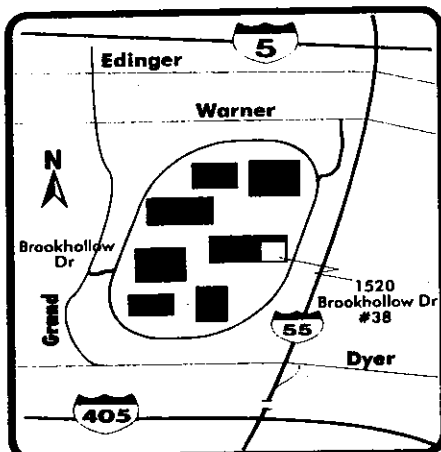
For latest meeting dates and topics, check Hotline (714)662-2939, BBS Bulletin #5 (714)751-3242, and WEB page (<http://www.ocipug.org>). Call the Facilities Improvement and Maintenance Committee chairman, Red Davidson, at (714) 548-0413 for any donations of funds and/or equipment for our SIG facility.

CALENDAR SYMBOLS

A	SIG Room A
B	SIG Room B
E	Equipment Room
8, 9, 10	8 a.m., 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
1, 2, 7	1 p.m., 2 p.m., 7 p.m.
6.5, 7.5	6:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m.

Special Interest Group Meetings held at the OCIPUG SIG space.

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <p>3D Studio 3rd Sat May 17
10:00AM Room A</p> <p>Leader: David Carroll 714-775-3130</p> <p>We discuss the new Windows NT based 3D Studio Max and review its capabilities. Call SIG Leader for specific topics and details.</p> <p>Lotus AMI/Word Pro 3rd Mon May 19
7:00PM Room A</p> <p>Leader: Stan Sabin 714-968-7307</p> <p>Lotus Ami Pro and Lotus Word Pro are discussed. Call SIG Leader for specific topics.</p> <p>dBASE 4th Wed May 28
7:00PM Room A</p> <p>Leader: Max Lockie 714-720-8170
Guru: Tom Toner 714-537-9175</p> <p>Relational features and applications of dBASE database for DOS and Windows are discussed. Call SIG Leader for specific topics and details.</p> <p>Delphi Beginner's 2nd Sat May 10
1:00PM Room B</p> <p>Leader: Maurie Seymour 714-633-2914
Guru: Greg Stevenson 714-457-9621</p> <p>There will be no meeting so we can all attend the Delphi Developers Conference.</p> <p>See http://www.ocdlephi.org.</p> <p>Desktop Publishing 1st Thu May 1
7:00PM Room A</p> <p>Leader: Charles Schreiber 714-377-0439
Leader: Preston Hill 714-893-2403</p> <p>We review various programs from basic word processors to sophisticated Desktop Publishing programs used to publish newsletters and similar documents. Share your problems and expertise. Call SIG Leader for specific topics and details.</p> | <p>DOS and Utilities 1st Sat May 3
1:00PM Room A</p> <p>Leader: Ed Miller 714-470-9319
Leader: Richard Black 714-536-0036
Guru: John Goodman 714-537-6400</p> <p>OPTIMIZING MEMORY MANAGEMENT REVISITED - John Goodman will bring us up to date on the proper way to take advantage of memory in our machines. You've heard of the "Sorry out of memory" message. What are the ways to avoid same? What kind of memory are we talking about?</p> <p>Now What Do I Do? 3rd Thu May 15
7:00PM Room B</p> <p>Leader: John Donan 714-633-6616
Guru: John Goodman 714-537-6400</p> <p>Learn how experts in different areas solve present and future PC-related problems that you and others bring. Experts-of-the-month are John Goodman and Mike Springer. Bring your questions, preferably on disk or paper, and a blank (1.44MB) diskette. <i>Take notes to remember the information presented.</i></p> <p>Genealogy 1st Wed May 7
7:00PM Room A</p> <p>Leader: Stan Sabin 714-968-7307</p> <p>Genealogy computer programs are discussed with primary emphasis on Windows-based programs such as Ancestral Quest (PAF for Windows). Call SIG Leader for specific topics and details.</p> <p>Genealogy II 4th Thu May 22
1:00PM Room A</p> <p>Leader: Preston Hill 714-893-2403</p> <p>NOTE NEW DAYTIME DATE/TIME;</p> <p>We will discuss various methods for keeping genealogical records in genealogical programs, databases, spreadsheets or specialized record keeping programs.</p> | <p>Geoworks 2nd Mon May 12
7:00PM Room A</p> <p>Leader: Charles Schreiber 714-377-0439
Leader: Reg Roberts 714-842-5399</p> <p>NOTE NEW DATE/TIME: Questions, tips and demonstrations will follow a Beginners Q&A, including setup and configuration tips. Bring a disk with problems! Call SIG Leader for specific topics and details.</p> <p>Hardware 4th Thu May 22
7:00PM Room A
Leader needed</p> <p>Leader: David Yap 714-847-1517
Guru: Bob Basaraba</p> <p>New computer hardware and peripherals are discussed. Bring your hardware related problems for possible solution. Call SIG Leader for specific topics and details.</p> <p>Internet 2nd Fri May 9
7:00PM Room A</p> <p>Leader: Richard Armenteros 714-378-9321
Guru: Jay Benesh (818) 568-0655</p> <p>This EVENING SIG demonstrates connecting to the Internet and using various tools to locate sites and handle data. Call SIG Leader for specific topics and details.</p> <p>Internet DAY 2nd Wed May 14
9:30AM Room A</p> <p>Leader: Frank Disparte 714-960-7494
Co-Leader: Preston Hill 714-893-2403</p> <p>We will have an extensive Q&A review session and will demonstrate using off-line readers to send, receive, and save e-mail and attachments over the Internet.</p> <p>Investing 3rd Sat May 17
2:00PM Room A</p> <p>Leader: Tony Mellini 714-536-8733</p> <p>We discuss various computer programs for accessing and analyzing investment information. Call SIG Leader for specific topics and details.</p> |
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SIG Space and Headquarters

**Most evening SIGs are held from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. at our SIG space
1520 Brookhollow Drive, Suite #38
Santa Ana, California**

The Brookhollow Office Park is easily accessible via the northbound and southbound Dyer Road exits from the 55 Freeway. Abundant, well-lit parking is available a few feet from the ground level entrance.

For late-changing information:

OCIPUG Hotline: (714)662-2939
OCIPUG BBS: (714)751-3242
OCIPUG WEB Page: <http://www.ocipug.org>

Visitors are always welcome. Please join us

Visitors are welcome at all SIGs and monthly General Meetings.

Microsoft Office 2nd Thu May 8
7:00PM Room A

Leader: Ken Kamber 714-637-4496

We will exchange ideas in the use of Microsoft PowerPoint and linking with other MS Office components. If we have a new user, we will start from scratch.

Modem 2nd Tue May 13
7:00PM Room A

Leader: Kim Kymlicka 714-495-1319
Co-Leader: David Yap 714-847-1517
Guru: Michael Springer

We will demonstrate on-line methods to upload and download files on our BBS.

Network 4th Wed May 28

Leader: Francis Reed 714-733-1750
Leader: Ken Kamber 714-637-4496

There will be no meeting because SIG Leader is out of town.

New User/New Member 1st Sat May 3
9:00AM Room A

Leader: John Lunsford 714-995-0947

This first of a repeating 4-part series starting from scratch to introduce you to the basics of computers and their effective use. Ask questions freely! You can begin with any part.

OS/2 3rd Tue May 20
7:00PM Room A

Leader: Steve Schiffman 714-531-0376
Guru: Gary Granat 714-731-0457

We will demonstrate various utilities and other features to help you manage OS/2. Call SIG Leader for specific topics and details.

OS/2 WARP Connect 4th Fri May 23
7:30PM Room A

Leader: Steve Schiffman 714-531-0376

Features of OS/2 Warp Connect are discussed with emphasis on connecting to the Internet and local networks, including generating HTML documents. Call SIG Leader for specific topics and details.

Personal Finance 4th Tue May 27
7:00PM Room A

Leader: Max Lockie 714-720-8170

A Q&A session will cover Quicken, QuickBooks and other DOS and Windows programs for managing your personal and small business finances. Call SIG Leader for specific topics.

Programming 2nd Sat May 10
9:00AM Room A

Leader: Francis Reed 714-733-1750

We'll continue our discussion of Visual Basic for Applications and Microsoft Office in a client/server application.

Spreadsheet 1st Tue May 6
7:00PM Room A

Leader: Neil Carman 714-964-1901

This SIG will be cancelled unless there is more interest. Call SIG Leader or Preston Hill 714-893-2403, if interested in continuing with May and subsequent months.

Features and tips/tricks for using various DOS and/or Windows based spreadsheets are discussed. Call SIG Leader for specific topics.

UNIX/Linux 1st Fri May 2
7:00PM Room A

Leader: James Clymer 714-840-8238
Leader: Jim Kennedy 310-436-4945

We continue with Bourne Again Shell (BASH) programming. We will sell some Linux distribution CDs for as little as \$4.00 each. So, while the supply lasts, get an up-to-date copy of Linux and all of the support programs.

Windows 95 2nd Mon May 12
7:00PM Room A

Leader: Frank Disparte 714-960-7494
Guru: Bill Phillips 714-281-8171

Share your problems and solutions for installing and using Windows 95. Call SIG Leader for specific topics and details.

Windows 95 Startup Wed May 7
9:30AM Room A

Leader: Rudy Wolf 714-528-3715

This weekly DAYTIME SIG is being cancelled unless sufficient interest is expressed to continue.

Please advise SIG Leader or Preston Hill, 714-893-2403, as to your desires.

Windows 3.1 3rd Wed May 21
7:00PM Room A

Leader: Richard Hunter 714-968-6362

We will have the usual Q&A and an open pot-pourri to include discussing trouble shooting techniques for solving Windows 3.x problems.

WordPerfect 1st Mon May 5
7:00PM Room A

Leader: Jeff Sinn 714-775-2390
Leader: Richard Baznik 714-869-8974
Leader: George Austin 310-375-7213

We will review the basics of DOS and Windows versions of WordPerfect. Call SIG Leader for specific topics and details.

General Meeting 4th Sat Apr 26
9:00AM OCC Science Lecture Hall

Leader: Alan Liebschutz 714-859-5815

At the May General Meeting, **CyberMedia** will present two of its latest self-help utilities:

First Aid 97 - Automatically fixes Windows problems, for 16 bit & 32 bit applications.

Oil Change - Fetches application updates from mfgs. to keep your system current.

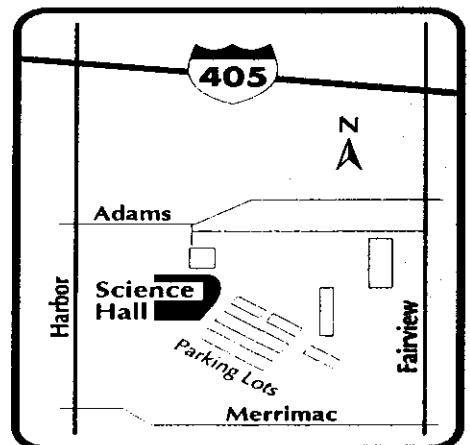
We will also tour the OCIPUG Internet Home Page.

Monthly General Meetings

Orange Coast IBM PC User Group (OCIPUG) meets in the Science Hall of Orange Coast College in Costa Mesa, California. Random access question and answer session begins at 8:30 am, and presentations begin at 9 am on the 4th Saturday of the month, unless otherwise noted.

Ample free parking is available on campus lots off of Adams, Merrimac and Fairview (see map at right). All facilities and parking are handicap accessible.

Visitors are always welcome. Please join us.



OCIPUG Membership Information

Orange Coast IBM-PC User Group (OCIPUG), a non-profit all-volunteer organization, was formed in 1985 and has grown to become one of the most respected user groups in the country. Our purpose is to provide computer enthusiasts with an opportunity to gain related knowledge and to offer assistance when needed.

An individual, family or student (verified 12 undergraduate units or 6 graduate units) membership includes:

- a subscription to *Readme.Doc*, OCIPUG's monthly newsletter
- discounts on public domain, shareware and commercial software
- access to OCIPUG's online services: a local bulletin board and our World Wide Web site at <http://www.ocipug.org/>
- an opportunity to purchase Internet e-mail access through OCIPUG's bulletin board for an additional \$12 a year per member
- eligibility for the drawing at the monthly general meeting
- a Support Group Hotline

To become an OCIPUG member, complete the application below and mail it along with your check or money order to:

OCIPUG

1500 Adams Avenue #105-121

Costa Mesa, CA 92626

To request more information, call: (714) 662-2939

Benefits of OCIPUG Membership

OCIPUG is a valuable resource for computer users. Help is readily available to assist with software or hardware problems. You will get answers to your questions, learn more about computers or a particular program, attend Special Interest Group (SIG) meetings and exchange ideas and information on related issues.

OCIPUG monthly general meetings are a great place to see new product demonstrations and the latest releases of established products, often prior to initial shipment. At these meetings we often host the industry's top-of-the-line manufacturers such as Microsoft, Novell, Lotus, IBM and others who send their representatives to demonstrate their latest products. Some of our guest speakers provide significant insight into current hardware and software issues that affect the industry as a whole.

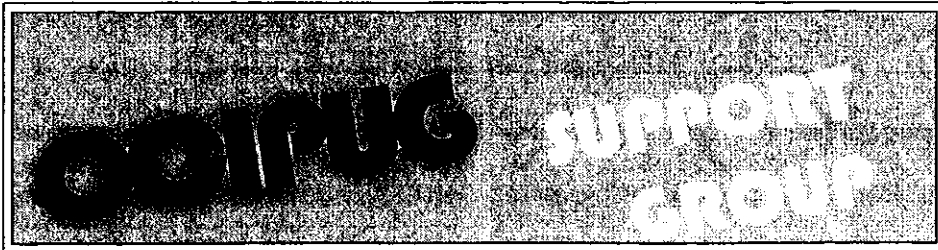
OCIPUG's online services include a BBS, (714) 751-3242, which runs at speeds up to 14.4Kbps, and a World Wide Web home page which contains useful information about the group and its educational resources. We also carry a full line of public domain and shareware software available on disk at our general meetings and as downloads from our BBS.

OCIPUG publishes an award-winning newsletter, *Readme.Doc*, which contains insightful and informative articles and product reviews by OCIPUG members and interesting reprints from other user group newsletters from around the country.

OCIPUG has more than twenty-five SIGs that meet at various times during the month. These SIGs focus on specific areas of computing and often host speakers with expertise in that field. It would be difficult to find such an abundance of knowledge anywhere that is so readily available to all our members.

OCIPUG has it all! Why not join today?

Orange Coast IBM PC User Group		Today's Date: _____
1500 Adams Avenue #105-121 Costa Mesa, CA 92626		RM
Title: Mr. Mrs. Ms. Dr. Prof. Hon. (Circle one)		Membership: New <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal <input type="checkbox"/>
First Name: _____	Last Name: _____	
Street Address: _____	City: _____	State: _____
Zip: _____		
Home Phone: () _____	Work Phone: () _____	Fax: () _____
Occupation: _____	Company: _____	
Individual Membership? <input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership? <input type="checkbox"/>		Family Member(s) Names: _____
E-mail address: _____		
Annual Dues:	Individual	\$45.00 \$ _____
Make check payable to OCIPUG and mail to the above address or bring to the General Meeting.	Family	\$60.00 \$ _____
	Full-time student (U-grad 12 units; grad 6 units)	\$25.00 \$ _____
	Internet e-mail	\$12/person-yr x #persons \$ _____
	Donation	\$ _____
Requires signed Acceptable Use Agreement which will be mailed to you upon receipt of your application.		Total Amount Paid: \$ _____
Have you been a member of OCIPUG before? _____		Type of computer: 8088/86 (XT) <input type="checkbox"/> 286 AT <input type="checkbox"/> 386 <input type="checkbox"/>
If so, what was your membership number? _____		486SX <input type="checkbox"/> 486DX <input type="checkbox"/> Pentium <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
I heard about OCIPUG from: _____		Modem? _____ Printer: _____
I consider my skill level to be:		Fax Capability? _____ Type of Monitor? _____
Beginner <input type="checkbox"/> Intermediate <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced <input type="checkbox"/>		



The members listed below have generously offered to serve as resources for other members in need of assistance with specific hardware or software problems. They are there for you, but please bear a few things in mind:

■ The times listed are when these volunteers are available to assist you. Please respect their times by limiting your calls to the hours indicated.

■ Your questions should be specific and reasonably brief. Consult your manual, tech support, etc., first, so as not to take up their time needlessly.

■ All of our volunteers have expertise in the areas shown, but nobody knows everything, so be understanding by not expecting them to know everything.

■ This service is free, available to our members only. Our volunteers are not doing this for personal gain, but as a service to benefit their fellow PC users, thereby making OCIPUG a stronger organization.

Abraxas

Kevin Post — Anytime.....969-9495

AccPac Simple Accounting

Ron Collins — 6-10 p.m. M-F
Wkends after 9 a.m. 493-6520
Christian Malm — 9 a.m.-9 p.m. M-F
Anytime Wkends 966-5339

Ami Professional

Stan Sabin — 5 p.m.-9 p.m. M-F... 968-7307
Richard Sinor — 6 p.m.-10 p.m. 951-1892

Approach

Maurie Seymour-9 a.m.-9 p.m.M-F 633-2914

BBS (OCIPUG's Bulletin Board Service)

Preston Hill - 9 a.m.-9 p.m.....893-2403

BASIC

Herb Huey — 6 p.m.-10 p.m. 525-1608

Borland Delphi

Maurie Seymour — 9a.m.-9p.m..... 633-2914

Champion Business Systems

Kevin Post — Anytime 969-9495

Computerized Investing

Tony Mellini—9a.m-5p.m.536-8733

Clipper

Bob Wendorf—Anytime.....892-1031

Corel's Ventura

John Goodman — 2 p.m-12 mid....537-6400
(Preferred).....agoodman@earthlink.net

dBase IV

Preston Hill — 9 a.m.-9 p.m. 893-2403

dBase Programming

Tom Toner — 10 a.m.-8 p.m. 537-9175

Disk & Memory Management

Harv Haight — 9 p.m.-11 p.m. 546-0820
John Goodman — 2 p.m.- 12 mid....537-6400
(Preferred): agoodman@earthlink.net
Bill Krehbiel — 24hrs daily 645-8561

DOS

Harv Haight — 9 p.m.-11 p.m. 546-0820
Herb Huey — 6:00 p.m.-10 p.m.....525-1608
John Goodman — 2 p.m.- 12 mid...537-6400
(Preferred): agoodman@earthlink.net
Bill Krehbiel — 24hrs daily 645-8561

Excel

Herb Huey — 6:30 p.m.-10 p.m. ... 525-1608

Fortran

Herb Huey — 6 p.m.-10 p.m. 525-1608

FoxPro

Stan Hetrick — 6 p.m.-10 p.m. M-F
Anytime Wkends 774-3115

Genealogy

Stan Sabin — 5 p.m.-9 p.m. M-F... 968-7307
Preston Hill— 9 a.m.-9 p.m. 893-2403

Hardware

John Goodman — 2 p.m.-12 mid ... 537-6400
(Preferred): agoodman@earthlink.net
Harv Haight — 9 p.m.-11 p.m. 546-0820
Bill Krehbiel — 24hrs daily..... 645-8561

Internet

Richard Armenteros—6pm-11pm...378-9311

MAS 90

Christian Malm — 9 a.m.-9 p.m. M-F
Anytime Wkends..... 966-5339

Microsoft Word

John Goodman — 2 p.m.-12 mid....537-6400
(Preferred).....agoodman@earthlink.net

Microsoft Works

Bill Krehbiel — 24hrs daily.....645-8561

PC TOOLS

Preston Hill — 9 a.m.-9 p.m.....893-2403

PageMaker

Preston Hill — 9 a.m.-9 p.m.....893-2403

Paradox DOS/Windows

Jim Samuelson — 6 p.m.-10 p.m. 472-9822

PerForm

Richard Sinor--6 p.m-10 p.m.M-F951-1892

QModem/ProComm

Bill Krehbiel — 24hrs daily.....645-8561

Quattro Pro

Preston Hill — 9 a.m.-9 p.m. 893-2403

QuickBooks for Windows

Cathy Hall — Anytime434-7307
Max Lockie—6 p.m.-9 p.m.720 -8170

Quicken

Preston Hill — 9 a.m.-9 p.m. 893-2403
Ron Ross — 6 p.m.-10 p.m. M-F
Anytime Wkends 964-5137

Quickpay

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

Real Estate Software

Stan Sabin — 5 p.m.-9 p.m. M-F 968-7307

Stacker

Harv Haight — 9 p.m.- 11 p.m. 546-0820
John Goodman — 2 p.m.- 12 mid 537-6400
(Preferred).....agoodman@earthlink.net
Bill Krehbiel — 24hrs daily.....645-8561

Visual dBASE

Max Lockie— 6 p.m.-9 p.m.....720-8170

Windows 3.x and 95

Richard Hunter—9a.m.9p.m.M-Sa968-6362
Bill Krehbiel — 24hrs daily.....645-8561
Bill Phillips—9 a.m.-9 p.m.....281-8171

WordPerfect for DOS

Preston Hill— 9 a.m.-9 p.m..... 893-2403

WordPerfect for Windows

Richard Baznik—9 a.m.-6 p.m.....669-897

(Note: If you would like to be listed here as a volunteer to help with any PC-related subject, please call Preston Hill (714-893-2403) 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.)

Corel Draw 7 Part II

Tony and John Dopazo

As indicated in our initial installment, this powerhouse program continues to impress us with both its comprehensive coverage and ease of use.

CorelDRAW 7 Illustration and Page Layout is an extremely powerful vector-based program. The functions and improvements over version 5 are many. Productivity in this program is made simple through the utilization of its many timesaving functions and streamlined toolbars. These features enable production of anything from a simple logo for the team or company to complex brochures and graphics. The graphics and text handling capabilities are extensive. Documentation supplied in the three manuals is well written and easy to follow. This factor, along with the tutor and ability to experiment with the many features, continues to impress us with the vast capabilities of this suite. After our educational visit with the tutor, we proceeded to test our understanding. The following are some highlights.

We have had the opportunity to create some minor tasks and some fun graphics. Though we have not yet developed an in-depth fluency with this program, we have been able to work out most everything we have tested. We found our best friend to be the "What's this" pop-up help function. With a simple right click on a tool or dialog box, we readily learn how to, or why to, use it. This simple right clicking changes the help selection available depending on the tools or functions on the screen. Another new feature that helps to speed things along is the context-sensitive toolbar, which also changes according to the tool or object selected.

A lot of attention has been focused on making tools and related functions more available in a more convenient and streamlined fashion. The text functions used to be in three separate locations and are now grouped into one convenient tool box. We tested this feature by creating a directional street map. A simple task, and with the text editing all located in one area, it was a breeze. A user can do so many text related changes that any task has a truly professional look, even for the beginner. Simply type the intended text and with a double click rotate and position

the text as desired. Another way to accomplish this is through use of a feature that enables fitting the text to a specified path.

Customization is the key to productivity and, as in version 6 and most programs, you can customize even further with the use of the right mouse button. The property bars and pop-up menus can be customized with very few commands.

The addition of a spell checker, grammar checker and thesaurus from WordPerfect can be set to run manually or automatically. As in WordPerfect the misspelled word is underlined with a red squiggly line. Right click on the word and a pop-up list of alternatives is displayed. Clip is easy to locate and use with the Scrapbook. Simply pick-click-drag and drop. The only problem we encountered was the decision of what to use. With so many photos, clipart, frills, and borders, we recommend the user spend a few hours exploring the Scrapbook. We also extend a tip: title and keep favorite mixes of borders and clipart in the Scrapbook to gain easy access for other projects.

CorelPHOTO-PAINT 7 Photo Editing and Bitmap Creation is geared for editing video files, editing images, and retouching scanned photographs. An interesting new feature that could be a time and CPU saver for very large files is the option to open only a portion of a file. While opening the file, simply click on the options button and choose the partial load option. Double click on the file folder and choose from a grid the portion that you would like to open. Also, you can save this portion separate from the original file by selecting the save as partial option.

A photograph that had been carried in a wallet for an extended time presented an opportunity to review the retouching feature. The image had faded, been scratched and just was no longer in good condition. The function that most impressed this reviewer was the intelligence filter. This is a new feature that will analyze and correct a photographic image either automatically or manually. This filter performs four types of photo enhancement to restore the original quality of the photo: tone, sharpness, saturation, and despeckle. Using this filter along with the dust and scratch filters we were able to re-

pair scratches and rejuvenate color effects. The many filters and tools in this package can be great fun for an accomplished photographer or a novice. You can change anything, sharpen or soften the focus, level tones, change brightness, and contrast intensity to correct for over or under exposure. The limits are set only by your imagination. A future project is to create a family photo album on disk that can be recreated and shared. This would also allow the creation of an interesting wallpaper for a Windows background.

Now if you really want to get creative, you can either create your own art from scratch or use any of the numerous filters and fills to change and transform the normal into the sensational. Through the use of special effects and enhancement filters, all features of this suite, you can really set your work apart from the usual. Effects of motion, swirl, ripple, tile, puzzle, and many more liven the most mundane of images. Anything is possible, from creating a page curl effect, or Vignette effect that lends your photos an edge fade portrait look. You can even use the Alchemy filter to create an illusion of a painting from a photo image. Thirty (30) user definable parameters and preset styles are available to add brush strokes to your RGB, 16 or 256 color image. This effect runs a bit slow compared with other filtering effects but the results are very much worth your time.

Another fun tool is the clone tool. Use it to transform that photo of mountains and plains into a field of bright flowers with your children or grandchildren playing in the field. The clone tool lets you accomplish these and many more fun images. Get wild and use smear and fills to change an ordinary image into art. Blend two or more images together and create wild effects of fish swimming in the sky over your house. Experimenting with these effects was great fun. The user is encouraged to spend some time here using the documentation, experimenting, learning, and being creative. This program provides a great deal of enjoyment as well as productivity.

CorelDREAM 3D Modeling and Rendering is a Bezier-based modeling program able to create complex full color 3D illustrations. With the modeling wizard as a guide it was

fairly easy to get started. However, this is not an easy environment to master. There are many effects to set up and change to create 3D views that can be manipulated and rendered as a 2D phototype image. This feature requires additional time. Over the next few weeks we will spend more time here to update this and the manager functions as we gain greater appreciation and knowledge.

CASSIOPEIA

Tony Depazo

The handheld PC features the new Microsoft Windows CE Operating System. The system can send faxes, receive wireless messages, send and receive LAN E-mail, connect to a digital camera, and solve financial calculations, these last two features are options which are obtainable with a mail in coupon.

Automatic data linking with a windows 95 compatible computer is a feature requiring as a minimum 486/33 DX, a Pentium P90 is recommended, and the Win 95 or later operating system.

Built in are microsoft pocket word and microsoft pocket excel. Internet access (e-mail, WWW browser) requiring a modem and a subscription to an internet provider. The modem capability, (separate purchase), included in this test drive was a Motorola 33.6 modem/fax PC card with cellular capability. Supported with two AA batteries (most limited connect time), it is recommended modem be used with AC power adapter. The COMDEX price for this modem was an impressive \$99 plus Nevada tax for a total of \$105.53. I noted a large interest on the purchase of this modem card, apart from the Cassiopeia, as it can be used in compatible laptops. The handheld PC was available for \$375. Away from COMDEX these units are considerably more expensive and the PC has been on sale for around \$500. Business functions included in the PC are a calendar, contacts, tasks, calculator, a world clock, and of course solitaire.

From my limited test drive, I personally have no need for this handheld PC, and do not think this unit will be preferred by many others over say a laptop. I was not impressed

with screen viewing and found it to be poor. The unit incorporates a backlight display which is said to make all operations easier to view, but that was not my experience. I found screen viewing difficult and resorted to holding the unit under a lamp for ease of viewing. The keyboard is much too small for a touch typist, and hunt and peck typing was necessary. The unit does come with a probe that allows screen actions and easier use of keyboard. Overall, I was not favorably impressed and do not believe this unit will have a significant place between desktop units and laptops.

Desktop Publishing

Charles Schreiber

The April 3th meeting featured Denise Warner and Bob Basaraba describing how **Microsoft Publisher** version 2.0 was used in laying out past award winning versions of the Readme.Doc newsletter. Bob mentioned that the club has four copies of this program donated by Microsoft to be used by volunteers on the publication in the hope that more members will join us in this task.

MS Publisher runs under Windows 3.x, Windows 95, and Windows NT 3.51. It can run on a 386 machine with as little as 8 Mb of RAM but they recommended at least 16 Mb of RAM and a 486-33 Mhz computer.

Bob likes to keep his windows directories clear of fonts and does this by deleting those put into the windows\system subdirectory by a program such as **MS Publisher** and reinstalling them elsewhere. He keeps track of newly installed fonts in the system subdirectory by placing a semicolon at the end of the font section of the *system.ini* file before installing a program so that these fonts will follow the mark after the installation by a program.

Denise started out with a blank page and used the page guides to establish one-half inch margins. She then used the layout guides to establish lines and columns within the page. By using 60 lines, a 10p/12p font giving 6 lines per inch (60 lines in the 10 inchs of the page) could easily be used. A Garamond typeface was selected. Titles used Futura typeface. Three columns were usually used.

The background of the pages was next discussed. The footers for the odd and even pages are set up with automatic page numbering and the newsletter title or month. This footer was reversed to stand out from the rest of the page.

The four types of frames (boxes) used in **Publisher** were discussed and demonstrated. The margins used within the text and table frames initially came on as 0.04 inch and they had to be set to zero by Denise since there seems to be no way of changing this setting. The word art and picture frames do start with zero margins. Frames can overlap and allow for effects such as text over picture.

The INSERT menu brings into the document, text files, picture files, clip art files, objects, dates, and page numbers.

Text can flow from one text frame to another text frame with manual operation using a bucket to carry text and a pouring out of text occurring and automatic flowing also possible.

Publisher has a property for a text frame of either *continuing on page* or *continued from page* which may be used for articles stretching across multi pages.

Styles are used to format the text including titles, subheadings, drop-caps, bulleted lists, pull quotes and emphasized text boxes and sidebars.

Design the different sections of the newsletter such as Board Meeting Minutes, President's Message, General Meeting Report, General Meeting Outline, SIG Reports, Product Reviews, Periodic articles e.g. Herb's Hangout, Membership Information, SIG Guide, and Covers.

Fit the sections into total number of pages which must be a multiple of four because of the way printers layout the publication. The SIG Guide is an insert into the middle of the newsletter so that we must know where the "middle" of the publication exists. Advertisement restrictions might also exist.

Text appearance depends upon the printer driver used and will differ when two different printers are used by **Publisher**. Therefore, sharing of the document among people in a workgroup

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can lead to difficulties. Also, the GDI of the windows system differs in the various versions of this system and WYSIWYG is not to be relied upon but work with the printed copy

DOS and Utilities

Tom Tersigni

The DOS and Utilities SIG, scheduled to meet on the first Saturday of each month, met at the OCIPUG SIG facility on April 5 to witness a demonstration of System Commander version 3.05 by SIG leader Ed Miller, assisted by Kevin Moser. Kevin had used version 2.2 of System Commander to set up the OCIPUG club computers in both SIG spaces to allow numerous different operating systems (OS) to be installed on the same machine. Amazingly, no operating system interferes with another.

The demonstration computer was running DOS 6.22 and Windows 3.1. After the upgrade to System Commander 3.05, PC DOS 7 was installed. The ease of upgrading to System Commander 3.05 was really nice. Installing PC DOS 7 was just as easy and the configuring of System Commander to show the presence of this DOS was also straightforward. It was easily seen that System Commander would be a welcome addition to any computer system with the need to have more than one operating system in use. For those not attending the SIG, you can see the operation of System Commander at the SIG site. The "A" SIG room computer has several different operating systems installed using System Commander to give each SIG its own specific parameters.

Ed will contact V Communications to see if they will make System Commander available at a group rate discount for OCIPUG members.

During the Q & A session prior to the System Commander demonstration, Michael Springer explained how the fixed hard drive with a singular primary partition designated by the letter "C" can initially be divided to add three additional primary partitions to have a total of four. Furthermore, one of these added partitions can be further divided into what is called extended DOS partition, using other letters of the alphabet to name logi-

cal drives until all the letters are exhausted.

Following the main topic demonstrating the installation of System Commander, Springer demonstrated how some DOS batch file techniques could be utilized to configure a single machine to give it multiple personalities by tailoring the system files for an appropriate match to the application to be run. Michael presented his concept of multiple computer personalities at the March 1995 General Meeting, where he showed that one set of system files appropriate for running the Windows program would be completely inappropriate for running a computer aided drafting, or CAD, program.

In this SIG demonstration, he displayed a very large batch file for providing his computer the capability of booting with the appropriate personality to match the application to be run. Being a large file that was thoroughly documented with comments provided Michael the opportunity to emphasize the importance of well documented batch files.

The next SIG meeting will be May 3 and will feature a talk by John Goodman on the subject of DOS memory management.

Geoworks

3/21/97 recorded by Norm Bergman

This is the last of many sigs led by our long-time guru Paul Fuller. Nineteen members and two children were in attendance to wish him bon voyage and to thank him for so many years of dedicated leadership and service to the club. Charles Schreiber volunteered to co-lead the sig, although he is a new user of the program himself. Other members said that they would pitch in as they could but did not want the title.

The group in attendance voted to change the meeting time to the second Monday of the month at 3 PM. Some thought this would allow them a dinner break and that they could then stay for the Windows 95 SIG at 7 PM.

The latest version of Geos is called NEW DEAL OFFICE (NDO) and it represents what would have been Geos 2.05. They can be reached at www.newdealinc.com on the web or (1-800) 985 4263, 9 AM to 8 PM EST. Paul gave us a handout with this

and pricing information on the "new" version. One member showed us the new documentation he received with his copy. They can also be contacted on AOL at NewDealRep@aol.com. where there are many links to Geoworks and NDO. Paul puts bookmarks on the ones he visits most often. He reminded us to be sure to choose 'English' unless we want articles in German also. There are also many 'newsgroups' on the Web. It was pointed out that NDO works well on OS/2 and Win 95 (I am running it in OS/2 right now.) Paul suggested you could copy Geos2.01 files and help into ND97 if you want to.

Tonight we could not find why some could not stop an extra page from printing. We found a bug in that the 'keyboard' gets lost and has to be recalled. We experimented with international diacritical marks such as the cedilla and umlaut in French and German respectively. Paul brought some mathematical symbols and expressions with which he wanted help. Some include the radical sign with an extended bar, fractions shown with horizontal rather than the slanted bar, how to show powers of powers (exponents) the 'divided by' sign and others. We solved most of the problems. It was shown that exporting text is preferred to dragging and dropping if true editable text is desired. Paul showed us how to make our own backgrounds upon which text could be superimposed. He showed us that a graphic layer should be the last thing added to a document because once it is in place text cannot be edited without interfering with the graphic also.

Paul's wife provided us with delicious cookies and soft drinks. Several members stayed to visit after the end of the session.

GENEALOGY II

Josephine Wilde and Preston Hill
SIG Leader Preston Hill announced that beginning April 24 the Genealogy II SIG will meet the 4th Thursday starting at 1:00PM in the afternoon.

At the March meeting questions and answer started shortly before the nominal 7:00PM starting time. Several attendees were ver-

new to genealogy so Preston demonstrated the ease and convenience of Pedigree Pursuit. Questions were raised all during his demonstration and were quickly answered. We learned that with Pedigree Pursuit, it is possible to type a source one time only, save it permanently in the bibliography, and thereafter access it quickly to copy onto a new database or with a different person.

The latest version of Pedigree Pursuit is version 3.56 dated 2/7/97. The program is shareware and costs about \$50.00 to register. Upgrades within the 3.5x series are free. Upgrades from prior series (3.0x, etc) are \$20.

Preston pointed out some of the pitfalls waiting for the unwary using the LDS Ancestral File data that is available on CD-ROMs at the various Family History Centers of the Mormon Church. That is, Ancestral File data is only as accurate as the submitter is accurate. The people in Salt Lake City do not review such submittals. However, there are provisions for others to submit revisions to Ancestral File records.

Another pitfall is the use of junior and senior appellations after names in Colonial times. Such designations did not necessarily indicate a father and son and could merely be unrelated individuals residing in the same area.

Preston warned that newspaper clippings with important genealogical information should be copied onto archival paper since newsprint disintegrates rather quickly.

In conclusion, Preston accessed the Internet on his Netcom Internet service provider account using the Netscape browser. At 9:00 p.m. he was connected within a few minutes. After showing us several general areas in which we might be interested, he tried to retrieve genealogical data. However, although connected at 28,800bps, the overall average bytes per second being transmitted were reduced to such a low number (e.g., 175 bytes/sec) that he signed off.

Preston hopes that moving to a daytime SIG will enable attendance by those who do not drive at night. He will continue to coordinate his Genealogy II topics with those of Stan Sabin's night time Genealogy SIG meetings.

Internet Day

Bob Anderson and Preston Hill

Frank Disparte and Preston Hill, SIG Leaders, opened the March meeting with a Q&A session. It was obvious that several attendees were new to the Internet, including the principal reporter for this report. Of the 15 present, three had never been on the "Net" and two used AOL. The group decided to concentrate on discussions of Navigating the Internet, searching the Net for specific sites or subjects, selecting a service provider, retrieving and editing e-mail, and the addresses for Web (World Wide Web) sites versus e-mail addresses.

Preston demonstrated navigating the Internet and gave a short history of the Internet that was initiated in 1969 by connecting computers at UCLA with those at Stanford. It initially linked Defense Department and University researchers with a relatively secure and damage resistant network thus the "internet". The World Wide Web was started about 1989 to enable transfer of graphic images rather than just text. It, aka "www" or "Web", is now the major part of the overall Internet system, if it can be considered a "system", and is what most people think of when speaking about the Internet.

Preston briefly described the hardware involved from your computer to your modem, through the telephone company circuitry, to the other (host) modem and computer (server). In between you and the host may be many intermediate sites with modems and servers (large hard drives in a computer). A normal telephone connection may be switched thru many different lines. Once connected the overall circuit acts as if it were a single wire used exclusively by the parties at each end.

On the other hand, data sent over the Internet is broken into small (e.g., 512 byte) "packets" that go from your computer/modem to a service provider's computer/server and is then "routed" thru any one of numerous intermediate computer/servers to the ultimate destination. Each packet or group of packets may go thru different intermediate servers, and may arrive at the ultimate destination out of sequence. Each packet is initially assigned its specific name/address so the "routers" (such as those made by Cisco or

3COM) can reassemble them in their proper order for delivery to the desired recipient. The sender and recipient are oblivious to all this manipulation and need not be concerned. There is no single or central control point so a nuclear attack or accident at any one site does not destroy the overall transmission.

What is the difference between a "provider" and a "browser" and how do you select one? A "provider" provides you with a connection to the Internet. There probably are several hundred providers in Southern California with Netcom, earthlink, kaiwan, AT&T, PacBell, and Microsoft Network (MSN) being among the most prominent in our area. In addition, AOL, CompuServe, and Prodigy are among the old-line "service providers" that originally had their own proprietary services with "forums" and other specialized and private discussion groups such as for genealogy or computer topics. All now provide connections to the Internet as well as retaining some, if not all, of their original private groups.

An Internet Service Provider (ISP) may or may not provide all of the features available. For example, the OCIPUG BBS (electronic bulletin board system) is a "provider" but is limited to e-mail (electronic mail) only whereas Netcom and others are "full-service" providers including e-mail.

A "browser" does NOT connect you to the Internet. Browsers are just that, a program that enables you to browse the Internet, especially the World Wide Web graphical portion, and translates the language of the Web into graphical images or easily read text. Each provider usually has its own browser, such as Netcruiser and NetComplete for Netcom or Microsoft Internet Explorer for the MSN, as well as enabling the use of other browsers such as Netscape, the leading one.

The "language" of the Web is HTML (HyperText Markup Language) that the browser translates into the formatted text and/or graphics displayed on the screen and/or printed. HTML documents can be read by any ASCII reader, but will have all of the HTML codes included. These can be removed by a word processor's search and replace commands a cumbersome process if a suitable browser is not available.

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The address of a Web site is called a Universal Resource Locator (URL) and is written as `http://www.ocipug.org`, for example, where `http://` tells the system that you are addressing a Web site using HTML language; `www` indicates it is a Web site (not always included); `ocipug` is the name of the site; and `org` is this broader classification of the site. ".com" indicates a commercial site, ".gov" a government site, and ".org" indicates an organization. Often letters as part of the URL will indicate a country such as ".ca" for Canada.

E-mail may, or may not, involve the Internet. If sent via the Internet, it must have the proper address. For example, `preston.hill@ocipug.org` is Preston's address at the OCIPUG BBS site. `prestonh@ix.netcom.com` is his e-mail address on Netcom. Thus, the individual's name precedes the "@" and the e-mail server's address follows. These addresses are unique and controlled by a central agency.

Preston logged on to Netcom with his incoming e-mail screens having been selected to display immediately. The provider and/or browser enables you to select what will be displayed when you connect. An e-mail address is akin to a post office mail box in that mail is stored on the provider's server (multi-gigabyte hard drive) until you log on and retrieve the mail. The box may be emptied automatically when mail is retrieved or only when you so instruct the server. As with a post office box, your e-mail box may get too full and no more messages can be received. Therefore, be sure to do your periodic housecleaning.

Off-line readers, scheduled to be discussed, will be covered at future meetings. All in all, the SIG was a very informative and timely for one for those of us who were not Internet experts.

Linux/UNIX

Jim Clymer

During the March 4th SIG meeting we discussed the history and use of the Linux utility UUCP. Jim had hand-outs for all present showing a step-by-step method for installing and configuring the Taylor version of

UUCP. He also explained how important UUCP has been even before the Internet came into being and even today for folks who want unattended transfers of files, mail and news. This can be done off hours when phone rates are lower or if you live out of metro areas where it would be a toll charge to call your ISP. After the meeting Jim sold several CD's containing the three latest distributions of Linux for only \$4.00.

Linux/UNIX

Jim Clymer

For the April Meeting, we discussed and demonstrated the Bourne Again Shell. This is the De-facto standard shell included with most versions of Linux. We covered some subjects like BASH basics, command-line editing, customizing your environment. However, we did not have time to go over basic shell programming. In addition Jim furnished hand-outs so everyone could follow along.

In addition to the subjects we covered, there was a limited quantity of Linux Distribution Disk on sale for only \$4.00. The disks on sale were Linux-Nut Ver. 4 distribution from SSC and a disk containing Red Hat Ver. 4.0, Slackware Ver. 3.1 and Debian Ver. 1.2 from the Linux Systems Laboratory. Hurry, these disks will only be available while supplies last.

MODEM

March 11, 1997

Greta Iannelli

The SIG began with Kim Kymlicka reading an article from PC Magazine regarding ZyXEL modem. He feels that it is the best modem on the market at this time. Kim also requested what the group would like to have covered in future SIGS. BBS workshop, update, cleanup of servers and backup servers were suggested. In the May meeting he will cover CMP Quick off-line reader to download mail. At the June meeting we will cover AOL Messaging and the delete button to delete messages.

Topics discussed in the current meeting:

1. Installation of 33.6 modem. DTE vs. DCE speeds, should they be alike?

2. Attach file to message before sending or printing.
3. Retrieve View/Read attached file (OLX-TD).
4. Plug & Play modem for Win 95 & Win 3.1: how to make them work on one computer together?
5. Resource conflict resolution (MSD = Microsoft Diagnostic)
6. Internal vs. external modems
7. Effective transfer speeds = modem DCE speed (e.g., 28.8Kbps) divided by 10 to give characters per second (e.g., 2800) actually transferred.

It was suggested that your modem should always be connected to COM2 to minimize IRQ conflicts. Hardware has to set parameters, you tell hardware how to talk to device. Data Terminal Equipment (DTE) is the connection between computer and modem. Typical settings are: DTE speed-19600, data bits-8, Parity-N, Stop bit-1. Flow control of transmissions is XON/XOFF for software control and CTS/RTS for hardware control.

The line between your modem and the device on the other end is the telephone company line, which can cause distortion depending on the condition of the line and other influences. Once the device on the other end answers, the phone company is finished. The modems determine the highest speed permitted or capable to use, they communicate at DCE speed (Data Communication Equipuse reliably. The DTE speed is higher (e.g., 115.2Kbps) than the DCE speed (e.g., 28.8Kbps), the telephone line speed between modems.

External modems have some advantages. One is that signal lights show if there is transmission still going on, and they are easier to disconnect. US Robotics WINMOD is a somewhat limited modem in that it forces the user to run Windows. The CPU and computer's comport software emulate what has been taken out of the modem. The CPU can not troubleshoot in DOS.

To use Windows 95 and Windows 3.1 you should let the Windows 95 hardware manager configure and configure under 3.1 in a non-changeable mode. Cancel auto configuration and force setup in Windows 3.1 then configure Windows 95, not the other way around.

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

March 31, 1997

Morris Fier

A quorum being present, the meeting of the Executive Board of OCIPUG was called to order by President Ken Kamber at the SIG space, 1520 Brookhollow Drive, Suite #38, Santa Ana, California, at 6:30 p.m.

Officers

Ken Kamber, President
Doug Nowlin, Vice President
Morris Fier, Secretary
Larry Pearce, Treasurer

Directors

Tony Dopazo
Preston Hill
Jim Kirkpatrick
Alan Liebschutz
Reg Roberts
Richard Black
Richard Hunter
absent Dean Sowers

Several additional OCIPUG members were also present.

MINUTES

The minutes of January 27 as corrected in the February 24 minutes were further corrected as follows: Tony Dopazo said his motion in the Secretary's Report should be amended to read: "Tony Dopazo moved, seconded by Doug Nowlin, that the Secretary update cooperating vendors with a listing of OCIPUG positions authorized to communicate with vendors. Listing to be by OCIPUG functional positions, with reference to policy and procedures manual regarding vendor communications." Ken Kamber suggested adding an attachment to the letter being sent to vendors advising them to send software products to the appropriate recipient according to function.

Correction to the February 24 minutes: Page 4 (page 6 of the Board packet), third paragraph, should read "discount cost plus 13%" instead of 12%."

Alan Liebschutz, seconded by Tony Dopazo and passed, moved to approve the minutes as corrected.

CORRESPONDENCE

Software that went direct to Ed Miller did

not get logged in, Tony Dopazo said. Auction material should go direct to Alan Liebschutz. Larry Pearce received a letter from Pac Bell and forwarded it to the secretary but he didn't keep a copy. A letter to Paul Fuller was delivered to him. The president noted that since Paul is no longer on the board, mail should have been redirected to the appropriate board member. The secretary was requested to put a summary of correspondence received on the BBS so the president can include it in his letter.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Larry Pearce received a higher phone bill than previous billing, which has been the case since December. He said the BBS Committee is going to try to avoid toll call charges. Larry saw on the BBS names of two members who have not renewed their membership. The BBS Committee has been working on the problem with e-mail. The elections/nominations committee went over budget; he pointed out there is no budget for this activity. Election cost was \$497.09, including \$300 for postage. The board discussed changing the bylaws to allow for bulk mailing returns in the election procedure. It was noted that this should not be a problem this year since last year the date of publication of Readme.Doc was changed, requiring a special mailout in connection with the election procedure.

Doug Nowlin reported on suggestions for the membership directory. The bottom line is to use names and phone numbers but exclude addresses. Names should be used per members' BBS names and e-mail addresses, to be published on diskette for a nominal donation. The information will be updated every six months to a year, at which time another diskette will be made available.

MOTION

Doug Nowlin moved, seconded by Alan Liebschutz and carried, to put a notice to this effect in the Readme.Doc. Membership applications will also in future contain a space for approval or not of the applicant's being included in the directory. Richard Black referred to Page 26 of the Board packet:

"... of all those members who wish to be included," suggesting that the motion be amended to read "in writing." The motion carried with a vote of 5:2.

MOTION

Doug Nowlin moved to revise the time of the Board meeting to 7:00 p.m. on a regular basis, effective the next board meeting. Motion carried. At 7:15 the board meeting was suspended to allow "for the good of the group" discussions by those present. Ed Miller advised that the BBS Committee has e-mail up and working but they are waiting for a new phone number to the ISIP. We should have CD-ROM capability within a short time, and a lot of new files available for download as well.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The following reports were received by the board: Calendar specialist; Property, SIG Operations, Publications, Program, and Membership Committees. Preston Hill moved that the charge for the printer repair be charged to the Publications budget and that the charge for the Minolta Computer be charged to the SIG Operations budget. The motion was seconded by Tony Dopazo and carried, with one abstention.

APPOINTMENTS

Charles Schreiber, Co-Leader of the GeoWorks SIG; Ned Stewart, member of the Publications Committee; James Clymer and Francis Reed as Webmasters; Louise McCain, Co-Leader Microsoft Office SIG.

OLD BUSINESS

Richard Baznik noted that membership Accounting was omitted from the board package, Ken Kamber noted that the BBS henceforth is going to be our primary forum for communications. Both the internet and BBS will be used. Dean Sowers announced that people often sign on and off the BBS without leaving messages. During the month of March 192 persons used the BBS.

MOTION

Tony Dopazo moved, seconded by Richard Black and carried, to table a proposed contract revision until next month.

ADJOURNMENT

Doug Nowlin, seconded by Alan Liebschutz, motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. The next meeting will be April 28, 1997, at 7:00 p.m.

Morris Fier, Secretary

These draft minutes prepared by the Secretary become official only as adopted by the Executive Board. (Editor)

Bailey's Book House

Charles Law

Alamo PC User's Group

Bailey's Book House is a multifaceted program directed toward children 2 to 5 years of age. It is one of 4 programs in a set, also containing "Trudy's Time & Place House," "Millie's Math House" and "Sammy's Science House." EDMARK has provided, over the last 25 years, other sets of programs for children through 14 years of age.

I had encountered Bailey's Book House before, and earlier versions seemed to run faster than this edition on CD, even after transferring the program entirely to hard disk. The picture is in a window, with a gray textured border background about 2.5 inches each side that contributes nothing to the viewer.

REQUIREMENTS: Bailey's specs indicate it will run under any Windows, 4Mb ram (8 recommended), 386 DX33 or better, VGA w/ 640x480 and a minimum of 256 colors. A hard disk requirement of 2 Mb free surely refers to minimum downloading and access to the CD for running data. A mouse is required, a Windows compatible sound device, and of course a CD player.

Optional hardware are a Windows compatible printer, and the EDMARK Touchwindow, which attaches to your monitor to provide easy direct input for younger children, or a child with special needs. My four year old daughter and six year old son have both fallen in love with Bailey's and demand it be first when I set up the computer for their use. I feel that easy access to programs like Bailey's can help a slow learner to catch up and keep up with their classmates as well as benefit the more talented child. All text is spoken, so sound and sight are linked to each other, to strengthen the hearing and reading bond.

Original areas are SIMPLE PREPOSITIONS enacted by a dog and a clown, ALPHABET DRILL with funny animal antics, SELF EXPRESSION by creating cards. CREATE A STORY interactively builds four-part printable stories. MAKE UP RHYMES alters old standards with new endings and THREE LETTER WORDS where children place appropriate animal icons into the correct roller coaster cars and finally

EXPLORING ADJECTIVES by changing body parts on MY FRIEND.

There is a 30 day satisfaction guarantee of cash refund or exchange for other products. I was able to locate this program at CompUSA, which gives Alamo PC members discounts. Price is \$39.95 but a better bargain can be had by buying the triple bundle of BBH MILLIE'S MATH, and SAMMY'S SCIENCE HOUSES, priced at one source at \$74.95

WANTED CANDIDATES FOR OFFICER or DIRECTOR of OCIPUG

Any OCIPUG member in good standing who is willing to be nominated and serve if elected (Bylaws, VIII-3-a); and who is NOT an officer, director or executive board member of another computer user group (Bylaws, V-1; VI-1).

There will be four officer positions to be filled for the period September 1, 1997 through August 31, 1998 President, Vice President, Secretary, Chief Financial Officer (Treasurer).

There will be four director positions to be filled for the period December 1, 1997 through August 21, 1999.

Names of nominees will be presented at the May 29, 1997 meeting of the Executive Board and published in the July issue of Readme.Doc distributed on or before June 20, 1997.

Please send your name to Ken Kamber, President, at 714-637-4496, or on the BBS, or via e-mail to kkamber@ix.netcom.com or kkamber@bigfoot.com pending appointment of a Chairperson, Nominating Committee.

MSN Billing Snafu?

*courtesy of the Blinkin Cursor
Milwaukee Area IBM PC Users
Group
Mar/April 97*

All of the Cybersurfers on the Microsoft Network who were awaiting that humongous bill they were warned about can relax. The MSN billing system had been on the blink, failing to send bills and letting users' charges mount up. But now Microsoft is quietly notifying users who didn't receive bills that they will be charged only a minimum monthly fee for usage between May 1 and October 31 of last year. For most U.S. users, that's about \$4.95 a month. Why the clemency? Microsoft won't say, but it sounds like a way to avoid a PR nightmare. Or maybe Microsoft can't figure out exactly who owes what?

Editor's Notes

Norm Bergman

Thanks are due the many volunteers that help produce your newsletter each month. We are very fortunate to have qualified and talented writers, editors and layout persons, those that make and attach the mailing labels, pay the postage, obtain ads, get the copy to the printers etc. All these things happen behind the scenes without our giving much thought to how we are able to receive our Readme.doc each month. The answer is *we all pull together.*

Now to the reason for this commentary. We need more input from the membership.

We would like to hear from *you*. Surely you have some interesting news or commentary to share with us. Perhaps you have tried new product and could share your experiences with us. If you attended an interesting SIG you could volunteer to take the notes and, along with the SIG leader, provide us all with new insights and encourage us to also attend and participate. We can all be reporters on our own newsletter. We hope to hear from you.

OCIPUG Executive Board

Officers

President	Ken Kamber	637-4496
Vice President	Doug Nowlin	838-1890
Secretary	Morris Fier	646-8292
Treasurer	Larry Pearce	543-5661

Directors

Richard Black	1998	536-0036
Tony Dopazo	1997	897-3912
Preston Hill	1997	893-2403
Richard Hunter	1998	968-6362
Jim Kirkpatrick	1998	642-8795
Alan Liebschutz	1997	859-5815
Reg Roberts	1997	642-5399
Dean Sowers	1998	531-0477

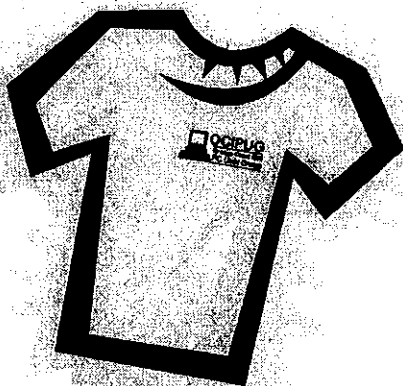
OCIPUG Information & Resources

Bulletin Board (2400 to 28800)	751-3242
OCIPUG Information & Message Line	662-2939
OCIPUG Emergency Line	662-2539
World Wide Web	http://www.ocipug.org

People and Numbers to Know

BBS Committee	Ed Miller	470-9319
SYSOP	Dean Sowers	531-0477
Internetworking Comm	Bob Basaraba	559-6539
Webmaster	Jay Benesh (818)	868-0655
Webmaster	Denise Werner	229-0032
Calendar Specialist	Maurie Seymour	633-2914
Publications Comm.	Preston Hill	893-2403
Editor - newsletter	Norm Bergman	536-2951
Advertising	Max Miller	960-0244
Library Committee	Bob Blakeley	549-0958
Membership Accounting	Richard Baznik	669-8974
Membership Promotion	Reg Roberts	642-5399
Membership Services		
Property Committee		
SIG Operations	Preston Hill	893-2403
Facility Improvement	Red Davidson	548-0413
Program Chairman	Alan Liebschutz	859-5815
Policies & Procedures	Tony Dopazo	897-3912
Community Outreach	Russ Merrifield	786-8129
Long Range Planning	Richard Hunter	968-6362
Rules & Bylaws Comm		
Nominating Committee		
Elections Committee		

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Coming Up...

28 June 1997

AMD — Motherboards and Processors

26 July 1997

Global Village

Toshiba — New Desktop Computers

New Notebook Computers

30 August 1997

Microsoft

The deadline for May Readme.Doc articles, reports, product reviews, and other copy is April 25, 1997.

Copy received after deadline may be held for future issues.

The SIG Topics deadline to SIG Guide Coordinator is April 30, 1997.

Please renew early to save costs of renewal notices. Check label for expiration date.

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