

# Orange Coast IBM PC User Group

# README.DOC

February 2002

Newsletter

Volume 18.2

*ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD IN THE COSTA MESA SENIOR CENTER 695 WEST 19TH STREET  
AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF 19TH AND POMONA*

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## General Meeting 23 February 2002

**Microsoft Mindshare User Group Support Program of Windows XP**

**Speaker: Microsoft CEO Mr Steve Ballmer  
(via video tape presentation)**

Frank Mastroly Willd Demo the new Window XP and tell us about his experience with the XP program and Ed Leckliter will field Q&A on the XP program.

**Two Microsoft programs will be auction at our meeting  
( Bring your check book)**

**1. Microsoft Windows XP Professional a \$300.00 program that gives you the freedom to work the way you want. Windows XP Professional, the new standard in reliability and performance, is designed for businesses of all sizes and for individuals who demand the most from their computing experience. Windows XP Professional puts the advanced productivity tools of the digital age at you fingertips.**

**2. Microsoft Office XP Professional a \$479.00 programs puts features needed within easy reach at all times. Working alone, experience a smarter way to work. Working with others, collaborate more effectively. And increased reliability means never looking back -- which is perfect, because your best results lie in front of you.**

For our regular raffle we will have Microsoft Money 2002 Deluxe program Trial versions of Map Point , Visio Auto Demo , Share Point Portal Server. Pocket PC Starter Pak for Dummies and a Mindshare back pack.



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**General Meetings are held from 9:00AM to noon on:**  
**23 February 2002**  
**30 March 2002**  
**27 April 2002**  
**29 June 2002**  
**28 July 2002**  
 For details see inside pages of this issue, Web Page

**Meetings of the Executive Board will be held at 7:00PM on:**  
**25 February 2002**  
**25 March 2002**  
**29 April 2002**  
**24 June 2002**  
**30 July 2002**  
 All OCIPUG members are welcome.

**Special Interest Group (SIG) meetings are held monthly as follows:**  
**1st Saturday 9:00 AM - New User**  
**1st Tuesday 7:00 PM - Quicken**  
**1st Wednesday 7:00 PM - Internet**  
**2nd Tuesday 7:00 PM - Hardware**  
**3rd Tuesday 7:00 PM - Window 98/XP**  
**4th Tuesday 7:00 PM - DigitalPhoto**

## President's Message

*Robert Walker*

January's General Meeting with Richard Katz was a very good program. I have not had time to install my Photo Impact 7 program but am looking forward to see what it can do on my computer. Hope everyone received all the valentines they wanted.

If you change your e-mail address be sure to let Sandi Tierney know your new address so you will receive the notice when the Readme.Doc is ready to download or news of a SIG meeting you may want to attend. Sandi Tierney and Webmaster Michael Moore are working hard to update our member Data Base.

Dan Dickinson and his new Quicken SIG meeting on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7 PM had a great first meeting with 20 members attending. Red Davidson and Morris Fier are reviewing the results of your survey that Kevin Moser and Bob Strader prepared. They will report on the best way OCIPUG can use the talent of our members and to plan programs of your choice.



February 23, 2002 programs all about Windows XP With a Windows XP Professional and a Office XP Professional up for Auction What a great way to get two very expensive programs at a good price. Bring your check Book and take a new OS for your computer of a Professional version of Office XP.

Regular raffle will have many goodies for the lucky ticket holders. Come early with questions for our Q&A session with Ed Leckliter.

We are all trying to increase our membership. Let's see if we can double our membership in 2002. That is only one new member per current member. Bring a friend and help OCIPUG grow.

|                               |                          |                     |                                      |
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# SCHEDULES AND REPORTS OF EVENTS



## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (SIG) MEETINGS

(All Special Interest Group (SIG) meetings are held at the Costa Mesa Senior Center on the southeast corner of 19th and Pomona at the times noted below.) The next SIG meeting will be:

### 2 March 2002

**New User** - 1st Saturday, 9:00 AM  
JohnLunsford 714-995-0947  
jlunsford@gentech.com

### 5 March 2002

**Quicken** - 1st Tuesday, 7:00 PM  
Dan Dickinson daniel@cox.net

### 6 March 2002

**Internet / Web Publishing** - 1st Wednesday 7:00 PM  
1st Wednesday 7:00PM  
Michael Moore 714-535-0608  
mmoore@inreach.com

### 12 March 2002

**Hardware** - 2nd Tuesday, 7:00 PM  
Ed Leckliter elekliter@adelphia.net

### 19 March 2002

**Windows98/XP** - 3rd Tuesday 7:00 PM  
Frank Mastroly's computer was updated with

### 26 March 2002

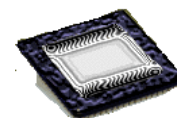
Digital Cameras / Scanning - 4th  
Tuesday, 7:00PM Robert Strader 949-646-1475  
rstrader@mediaone.net

## Quicken SIG – Meeting Notes February 6, 2002

Leader: Dan Dickinso  
Approximately 20 people attended the first Quicken SIG.

The featured topic was: Installing and setting up the program. Several options were demonstrated, and a checking account was started.

Next month, we'll set up savings, credit card and investment accounts. We'll review categories, and set up some new ones. If there's time, we'll enter transactions in the checking account and see how to use the categories we set up.



## Hardware SIG - Meeting Notes February 12, 2002

Leader: Ed Leckliter

There were only 12 attendees (including the SIG Leader, Ed Leckliter)  
The Featured Topic was: CPUs (first presentation in an updated series)  
Frank Mastroly brought in his Gateway system and we helped him install RAM, a FireWire card, and a CD-RW.

There was one person who submitted questions regarding upgrading the processor and RAM in his unbranded, 200MHz Pentium system (Intel VX chipset, EDO RAM). Ed advised him he'd have a lot of work to do to "modernize" it - change the chassis, power supply, motherboard, CPU, RAM (to start with). Ed also noted that there are still a few companies that produce CPU upgrade "kits" that provide an "interface" board with onboard voltage regulation. One such company is EverTech (<http://www.evertch.com/>). One of their products is the "Spectra 400" (<http://www.evertch.com/pdfs/Spectra/400/spectra400pis.pdf>) which would upgrade such a system to an AMD K-6 400. It appears to possibly still be available at \$99.99. They have a "pre-qualification" utility (<http://www.evertch.com/prequal/sysinfo.cfm?manufacturer=other>) to help in identifying the user's current hardware. Crucial also has a similar (very nice) "decode-my-current-PC" utility (the Belarc Advisor) which can be downloaded from [http://www.crucial.com/Support/belarc\\_download.asp](http://www.crucial.com/Support/belarc_download.asp). [The utility is intended to help you identify your motherboard so you can use Crucial's "Memory Selector" to see what memory they have for your system. It provides TONS more info - check it out.]

Please NOTE that the online slides have been updated from the actual presentation.  
Next Meeting: March 12, 2002 Next Meeting Featured Topic(s): Core Logic (Chipsets)

## ACP Swap Meet March 25, 2002

ACP Computer Swap Meet  
which is usually held on the  
fourth Sunday of the odd  
month, is held at 1319 East  
Edinger in Santa Ana



## Digital Cameras / Scanning

February 26, 2002



Understanding the language of digital photography  
Thinking about buying a digital camera for portrait Photography?  
Confused by all of the options and strange language?  
Bob Walker will answer some of your basic questions about  
digital photography. It will also help you know what to look  
for when comparing camera models.

# Windows XP

## Why You Oughta Upgrade

\* **Stability.** Windows XP has the ability to run a large number of apps without running out of resources, without crashing. (If you're running Windows 2000, you already have this, so there's no gain.)

\* **Security.** This is a huge topic that I can't adequately cover in a few sentences; suffice to say that security of your data and your privacy in Windows XP is leaps and bounds beyond anything available in Windows 9x. (Again, if you have Windows 2000, you already have most of the security capabilities of Windows XP.)

\* **UI enhancements.** A variety of changes in Start menu, taskbar, Windows Explorer, and Control Panel make everyday tasks such as launching programs, switching between windows, and managing files just a little bit faster, easier, and more convenient. These features can each be customized, so you can use the ones you like and change others back to Windows 9x/2000 style. (Similarly, you can banish the new look of Windows XP while still enjoying its other benefits.)

\* **Fast User Switching.** Great for shared computers, FUS lets someone else log on without requiring you to first close all your documents and applications.

\* **Power management.** Standby and hibernation let me save power (on desktop PCs as well as portables) yet still have fast boot time, bringing me right back to where I left off. (That is, all the windows that I left open when the system powers down are already open when I power up.)

\* **Digital photo support.** I was never a fan of digital photography until I got XP because it was such a hassle before. But the support for cameras and scanners, as well as the features built into Windows Explorer for viewing, printing, e-mailing, and manipulating images have actually made it fun and practical to work with photos in new ways.

\* **Remote Assistance.** The ability to actually see and work with someone else's screen while conversing with them through text, voice, and video chat is a killer feature for anyone who's looked upon as a computer guru and gets calls for support from relatives, friends, and neighbors. (I suspect that includes most PIBMUG members!)

\* **Remote Desktop.** The ability to connect with my home computer from the office (or vice versa) is awesome. It looks and acts exactly as if I'm at that computer five miles away, and I have access to all its files, printers, and other resources. And like remote assistance, it's acceptably fast if you have broadband Internet access. I also use it to work with other computers on my own LAN; that's sometimes easier than hopping back and forth between two computers.

\* **Better help.** It's easier to navigate, integrates information from the Microsoft Knowledge Base, and includes links to a number of diagnostic tools. (Of course, it doesn't have all the answers. You still need our book!) There are dozens of other enhancements—built-in CD burning, built-in ZIP file support, Windows Media Player, Movie Maker, etc. etc.—but those listed above are the ones that I personally find useful. What's Wrong with XP? Not Much What's wrong with Windows XP; we promised to talk about “what bites” but some felt we didn't deliver. That's because there really isn't much I don't like; here's my full list:

\* **Windows product activation (WPA).** I dislike it on principle, but in practice it's not a problem for me or for most users. It's anonymous, and it's a one-time operation that involves clicking Next a few times to get through a wizard—and then you never think about it again. Windows does NOT phone home on its own at any time to confirm your activation status, as has been reported. But as Ed mentioned, it's a classic Microsoft version 1.0 product. If you want to avoid activation altogether, get XP preinstalled on your next computer from a major OEM vendor like Dell. Those versions of XP do not have product activation, so it'll never kick in when you change a number of components in your system—one of the major flaws in the current implementation. You should be aware, however, that Windows XP versions from major manufacturers are linked to the system BIOS—which means, for example, that you can't take the Windows XP CD that comes with your Dell and install it on a Gateway or a white box system.

\* **Price.** Now that MS is enforcing the one copy/one machine limitation (it's always been part of the license agreement, but they've never had a way to prevent people from copying to all machines until WPA), I think the price—at least for copies after the first one—should be significantly lower, say \$50-75 for Home, twice that for Pro. OTOH, it is a pretty good value, even at \$100/\$200.

\* **Messenger and Passport in your face.** I use them constantly, so it doesn't bother me that they always start. But I'd be frustrated if I didn't want to use them and discovered how difficult it is to vanquish them.

\* **UI is too chummy in some respects.** Wizards have replaced some dialog boxes, advanced options are now further buried, etc. As a power user who knows his way around, these slow me down. Fortunately, there aren't many of these impediments in the areas that I use frequently.

\* **Support for “legacy” hardware.** Some people mentioned HP products in particular, but there are a number of unsupported products that are not that old. Microsoft has always left device driver development to hardware manufacturers, and it supplies plenty of support to manufacturers. It's clearly in Microsoft's best interest to have all hardware supported. Manufacturers, however, don't have any incentive (other than the wrath heaped on them by disgruntled customers) to provide drivers for discontinued products; they'd prefer that you buy their latest and greatest. Regardless of whose fault it is, it's a real problem that affects all of us consumers.

\* **Networking.** It's a little difficult to set up a mixed network—one with Windows XP and Windows 9x workstations. (But it's not impossible, and the steps to successful networking are fully documented in our book!) Windows XP Home Edition uses only the Simple File Sharing model, which is indeed simple, but also somewhat inflexible. You can set up a folder to be private (so that only your user account can access it, either when logged on locally or over the network) or you can share it with everyone. But you can't, for example, easily set up a shared folder that you and your spouse can access but your kids cannot. (As we mentioned, there is a workaround—detailed in the book—that lets you set up more complex security arrangements using Safe Mode.) Which Version is Best for You? Home Edition or Professional? The essential differences are these:

\* You can't use Remote Desktop to connect to a computer running Home Edition. (BTW, the computer you connect from can be running any version of Windows 9x/NT/2000/XP.) You can, however, use Remote Assistance to connect to a Home Edition computer.

\* You can't use Home Edition on a multiprocessor system.

\* With Home Edition, your computer can't join a Windows NT/2000 domain. (You can, however, use all domain resources if you have a domain user account.)

\* With Home Edition, you're essentially stuck with Simple File Sharing. You can share/protect only at the folder level, and you can only make a folder private or share it with everyone. The Windows 2000 security model that's available in Professional offers granular security control that lets you assign specific types of access to specific users for specific files. (Most home user won't need this level of control.)

\* If you install Professional now, you won't be able to upgrade to the Home Edition of the next version of Windows, so you'll pay an extra \$100 now and again the next time you upgrade Windows. Pro includes everything that's in Home. If you're unsure about which to get (that is, the points above don't seem to apply to you), try Home Edition. Worst case: you later decide to upgrade to Pro. The Home Edition-to-Professional upgrade is \$125, so you're only out an additional \$25 compared to purchasing Pro initially. You can find Microsoft's advice on this choice at <http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/pro/howtobuy/choosing.asp> What's the Bottom line?

\* If you're buying a new computer, get XP. (Before you do that, however, run the Windows XP Upgrade Advisor on your current system. Be sure that any software or peripherals you plan to use with your new system will work with XP, or can be inexpensively upgraded.) Don't fret too much about the learning curve for a new OS and its new features; nearly everything you know about your current system can be applied to Windows XP, and you can learn about the new features as you need them.

\* If you're using Windows 9x AND if your computer has the horsepower (practical minimum: 300 MHz processor, 128 MB RAM, 1.5 GB free disk space) and is compatible (run the Windows XP Upgrade Advisor), strongly consider upgrading to XP.

\* If you're using Windows 2000 and you're happy with it, hold off on upgrading until you get your next computer. If one of the nifty features like Remote Desktop, Remote Assistance, or digital photo support would make your life easier, pop for XP now. I've decided that XP Professional is right for my newest systems (the rest run Windows 2000), but I don't mean to suggest that it's right for everyone. Besides, Ed and I have written books about earlier versions of Windows too. We'd be just as happy if you bought one of those books. :- ) Get Some Help Here are a few URLs that'll help you with the upgrade: Microsoft Product Lifecycle: This site tells you when support dries up for each version of Windows. <http://www.microsoft.com/windows/lifecycle.asp> Windows XP Upgrade Advisor: The program available at this site checks your computer for hardware and software that may be incompatible with Windows XP. When available, it includes links to upgrade information for the incompatible components. <http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/pro/howtobuy/upgrading/advisor.asp>

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**How do you track those pesky, annoying, rebates:** Many of my family and friends have heard me make my famous comments about rebates, "I just hate them, why can't they just reduce the price and sell us the item at a good price"

Do you make those remarks? You know it isn't so much the rebates, it's tracking them. I know until I came across this Rebate! Rebate! program, I saved all kinds of paper work but never on my computer. Shame on me, I guess! Rebate! Rebate! came out of a company called Six International, Inc. from Austin, Texas and now their web site is gone. I don't know if they went out of business or what happened.

The important fact is that you can download. **Rebate! Rebate!** off the PC World web site at <http://www.pcworld.com>. All you have to do is search for the file called Rebate20.exe and you are home free. This software is FREE and the program download is almost 6 MB. (Editor: Here's the URL directly to the program - [http://www.pcworld.com/downloads/file\\_description/0,fid,8341,00.asp](http://www.pcworld.com/downloads/file_description/0,fid,8341,00.asp)) Rebate! Rebate! is the premier rebate tracking program for those of us who never really put their hearts into rebates.

With this program on your computer, it does lift some of the load from your back, and you can track when and what money you have coming back from those nasty rebates. Some tips on assuring that you get your rebate are as follows: read the rules very carefully, make sure the rebate didn't expire, send them what they want, and make sure you fill the form out exactly the way they want it. I think most of the time, the vendors use a clearinghouse to take care of the rebates. If you have a problem with one of these gems, call the number that is on the form and if that doesn't work, call the manufacturer. They are responsible by law, if you did your part correctly. A tip for you: make copies of everything you send out for the rebate and keep it in a hard file folder with any other rebate information that you have.

**Rebate! Rebate!** does everything for you, you just have to fill in the blanks. The program opens with the main toolbar across the top and includes Exit; Print; Cal (calculator); Dialer; Options; Web; Tip; and Help. Within this page there is a second window with the working part of the program in it. This has a row of toolbars in it also and it is very easy to understand what the nine buttons mean. I will run through an entry and not drag this out. The first button is labeled New. When you double-click on it, a form opens and you just fill out all the information it is asking you. There are three tabs on this page: Product Information; Rebate Information and Follow-up. I am not going into the information they are asking you to fill out, but believe me if you fill out the form correctly, you will have any data you will ever need on that rebate offer. The second button on this page is Unsent. If you didn't have time to send the rebate out, this is where you will find the form, that you create under New. Pending; that one is easy, you just click on this and see who owes you money.

Overdue; another no-brainer, this will list the rebates that are overdue. Paid; you can see who you received the rebate checks from. Active Follow-ups speaks for itself. Rejected; one none of us wants to see or hear about. All will give you all the rebates you have entered into the database. Statistics gives you a summary of your rebates. You can also enter a new rebate form by going to the upper tool bar File; New Rebate. I have worked in this program and I find it very good. I would rate it with a 5 star mark. It's free, which really makes it another great find for we who hate rebates. I strongly suggest you hurry to PC World's site and download this program, before it's gone forever. I saved my file on my ORB disk, so I will never lose it and in time I may write it to a CD disk, time will tell.

# Loretta's Hints, Tips and Ideas

Loretta Buscher is a Director of the Tri County Computer Users Group of Port St. Lucie, Florida. She occasionally writes a column of Hints and Tips. (Note- Many of Loretta's tips refer to Outlook Ex-press) This month's column is by Jim Barnar

## Form an attachment

Learn how to use email to share photos, documents, and other files

### Attachment basics

Before you dive into email attachments, there are a couple of topics you should know about: viruses and file sizes

### Avoiding viruses

Treat all email attachments with suspicion, even if they appear to come from people you know. To avoid virus infections do this: Don't double click an attachment in any email message unless you know it's safe. In order to trigger the virus you usually have to open the attachment itself, not just the message it came with. If you do want to open the attachment, save it to another folder on your computer and scan it with antivirus software to make sure it is safe.

### Email is not for sending large files:

You should avoid sending large files to email messages. Why? If your recipient has a dial-up connection, a large attachment can take forever to download. Keep the total size of all attachments in an email message under 500KB (512,000 bytes). To find out the size of a file in Windows, right click it and select properties.

### Sending attachments

In many email programs, a shortcut to attaching a file to an email message is simply to drag the file into the message window using your mouse, and release the mouse button. If this doesn't work for you, though, the following steps will.

### Microsoft Outlook Express

1. Click the Attach button.
2. Use the Attach dialog box to locate the file on your computer.
3. Click the file once to select it and click the Attach button.

### Earthlink 5.0 Mailbox

1. Click the Attach button
2. Use the Open dialog box to locate the file on your computer.
3. Click the file once to select it and click the Attach button.

### Eudora

1. Click the Message menu and select Attach File.
2. Use the dialog box to locate the file on your computer.
3. Click the file once to select it and click open button.

### Viewing Attachments

As was mentioned earlier, the safest way to view email attachments is to save them in another folder and you can then scan them for viruses first. These instructions will focus on how to save attachments you've received. Follow the instructions for email program:

### Microsoft Outlook Express

1. Click the File menu, choose Save Attachments, and select either All or the name of the attachment you save.
2. Use the dialog box to choose a folder in which to save the file.
3. Click Save.

### Earthlink 5.0 Mailbox

1. Click the Attachments button in the upper - right corner of the window displaying the text of the message.
2. Select one of the attachments from the menu.
3. When MailBox asks whether you want to open the file or save it, select save this attachment.
4. In the Save Attachment As dialog box select a place on your computer where you want to save the file, and then click Save.

### Eudora

1. Right - click the attachment icon at the bottom of the message and then select Save Attachment from the menu that appears.
2. Use the dialog box to choose a folder in which to save the attachment, and click Save.

## Patch for Internet Explorer

### Read This First

The "11 February 2002 Cumulative Patch for Internet Explorer" update eliminates all known security vulnerabilities affecting Internet Explorer 6, as well as six new vulnerabilities, and is discussed in Microsoft Security Bulletin MS02-005. Download now to protect your computer from these vulnerabilities, the most serious of which could allow an attacker to run code on your computer.

For additional information about these issues, read Microsoft Security Bulletin MS02-005.

### System Requirements

This update applies to:

- \* Internet Explorer 6.
- \* Internet Explorer 5.5 SP2.
- \* Internet Explorer 5.5 SP1.
- \* Internet Explorer 5.01 SP2 on Windows 2000 only.

### How to Download and Install

1. Select your language from the drop-down list above and click GO.
2. Click the Security Update link to begin the download.
3. Choose Run this program from its current location and click OK, (in Internet Explorer 6, click Open).
4. Click Yes if asked whether you would like to install and run Q316059.exe.
5. Click Yes to begin the installation process.
6. How to use Restart your computer to complete the installation security Update, February 11, 2

### Technical description:

This is a cumulative patch that, when installed, eliminates all previously discussed security vulnerabilities affecting IE 5.01, 5.5 and IE 6. In addition, it eliminates the following six newly discovered vulnerabilities:

- \* A buffer overrun vulnerability associated with an HTML directive that's used to incorporate a document within a web page. By creating a web page that invokes the directive using specially selected attributes, an attacker could cause code to run on the user's system.
- \* A vulnerability associated with the GetObject scripting function. Before providing a handle to an operating system object, GetObject performs a series of security checks to ensure that the caller has sufficient privileges to it. However, by requesting a handle to a file using a specially malformed representation, it would be possible to bypass some of these checks, thereby allowing a web page to complete an operation that should be prevented, namely, reading files on the computer of a visiting user's system.
- \* A vulnerability related to the display of file names in the File Download dialog box. When a file download from a web site is initiated, a dialog box provides the name of the file and lets the user choose what action to take. However, a flaw exists in the way HTML header fields (specifically, the Content-Disposition and Content-Type fields) are handled. This flaw could make it possible for an attacker to misrepresent the name of the file in the dialog box, in an attempt to trick a user into opening or saving an unsafe file. [www.microsoft.com](http://www.microsoft.com) for more information.



## January General Meeting

Minutes Of the OCIPUG General Meeting, January 26, 2002  
Costa Mesa Senior Center, 695 W 19th Street, Costa Mesa CA 92727

Ed Leckliter conducted a very informative Random Access Session. The main topic discussed was Frank Mastroly's desire to upgrade his tower to add an internal CD-RW, firewire card, and more RAM. The main issue was that although the motherboard can accept this, the fact that he currently has a DVD-ROM as well as a zip drive complicates matters. It is OK to connect two hard drives or two CD drives to the same cable. However, if you connect a CD-RW to the same cable as the hard drive, the hard drive operation will be adversely affected. Frank will most likely have to give up either the zip drive or the DVD-ROM or perhaps do other modifications so that the operation of the hard drive is not adversely affected.

Another item discussed was adding RAM to a Dell computer, with the recommendation being to try to match part numbers. It was mentioned that Linktronics in Santa Ana will install RAM in any computer and guarantee that it will work.

To see what is running in the background, go Start/Run and type msconfig. It will also allow you to specify which programs you want to run at Start-Up (the ones that appear in the system tray just to the left of the clock). The more programs that you have running in the background the more resources that are being used. For those with Windows XP, msconfig is accessed the same way as in Windows 98.

President Bob Walker then started the General meeting by asking who, if anyone, had received the e-mail announcing the December 2001 Readme.Doc. There was a delay in posting the newsletter on the OCIPUG website due to server hardware problems. The December issue can be found at [www.ocipug.org/files/newsletter/1341b2.pdf](http://www.ocipug.org/files/newsletter/1341b2.pdf).

Page 2 of the December issue shows the new SIG schedule, with most SIGs now on Tuesday evening except for Internet/Web Page Design which be on the first Wednesday of each month. Dan Dickinson will start conducting a Quicken SIG on the first Tuesday of the month. Other than that and the change in days, the SIG schedule is essentially unchanged.

Bob then announced that at the February General meeting we will have presentations from those who attended the APCUG/Comdex conference in November. We will also have raffle prizes picked up during the conference, including a copy of Windows XP Pro which will be auctioned off. Finally, Kevin Moser has compiled the results of the member survey and has e-mailed it to all current OCIPUG members for whom we have up-to-date e-mail addresses.

The main presentation was a very informative presentation by Richard Katz of Katz Brothers Associates ("two brothers of different parents") representing ULEAD ([www.ulead.com](http://www.ulead.com)), the creators of several digital photography and digital video editing products. Among the products demonstrated were

Photo Impact 7 which Mr. Katz likened to a Lexus where PhotoShop is a Rolls Royce. The program is more object based vs layers. The program is "smart enough" to identify the region you want to edit and does not expect you to be an artist. He demonstrated this by taking a single image of a building against a blue sky and then adding different effects, such as darkness, clouds, and even "the storm of the century."

In passing, Mr. Katz recommended that all editing be performed in a "lossless" format (TIFF, PST, BMP, etc.) before saving the final version as a JPEG image. If starting with a JPEG image, first save it as a TIFF or similar file and then perform your editing. The program also can do perspective control, such as "squaring off" the tops of tall buildings that normally would appear to be narrower as you go up. Finally, the program has web page building capability. It needs Internet Explorer to preview the page but will work with Netscape.

Video Studio 5.0, which will transfer video images from DV/D8/Hi8 camcorders, VCRs. Digital cameras, and TV tuner card, and convert them to Real Media, Windows Media Player, VCD, NTSC (the standard analog video format) and PAL (used in Europe) formats. The program will allow you to combine clips from several sources and merge them into a single product, complete with music and voice-overs. One word of caution, however, and this applies to all video, is that 10 minutes of high-resolution video will take up 1.2gb of storage. If your hard drive is not large enough, you probably need to have external fire-wire storage or burn the files on VCDs (most newer CD-RWs and DVD players will accommodate video CDs).

Photo Explorer, which can be used to print photos in various special formats, such as calendars, slide shows, etc. The program can also be used to retitle images.

Cool 360, which will create panorama from a sequence of digital photos and produce self-contained slide shows on CDs.

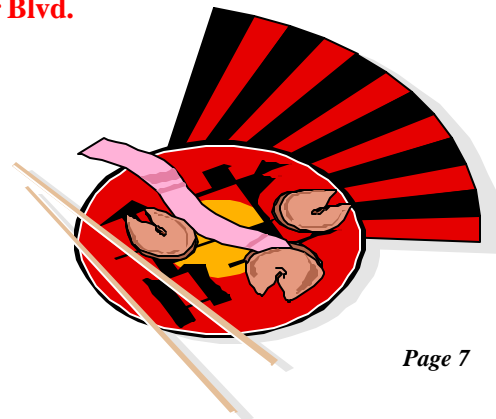
After the presentation various packages of the software as presented were available for purchase at discounted prices.

President Bob Walker closed the general meeting by announcing that the club has copies of Paint Shop Pro 7 and Web Editor 5 (both from JASC) as well as a copy of InstaFiles (for viewing and organizing files), which members can have for free in return for doing a review of the products.

**After the meeting we held our raffle. Among the prizes won were**

**Video Studio 5 with DVD Plug-In — Bob Walker**  
**PC Tool Kit and Sufit - Leonard Stein**  
**T-Shirt - Henry Trinh**  
**Drag Strip - Frank Yaeger**  
**Mini Flash Light - Leonard Robertson**  
**Mug and Adobe Sampler CD - Sandi Tierney**

**As is our custom, ten members then treated our presenter Richard Katz to lunch at the Golden Dragon restaurant on Harbor Blvd.**



# ASK DR. DOS



**The Doctor of Computing is available to answer all of your computing questions.**

By Steve Bass

Dear Dr. DOS:

I'm thinking about switching over to Unix, XENIX, Linux, or maybe even Zipnix from Unysis. Any idea which is faster, niftier, or slicker? —Power User, Los Altos

Dear P.U A

It looks like you're stuck in the Power User's Credo of, if it's not broken, fix it. A workshop at Fall Comdex convinced the Dr. DOS staff that 1) your wife has no idea how much you're really spending on computer equipment, and 2) making your computer go faster, slicker and niftier leads to severe emotional fragmentation. Stick with Windows XP.

Dear Dr. DOS:

I'm one of the holdouts still using floppy disks for storage of critical data files and foremergency boot disks. There are times when I seem to have to wait forever for my floppy disks to format. Any ideas for speeding things up? —Slowpoke, Cincinnati

Dear Slowpoke:

Floppies are notoriously slow, especially compared to other external storage devices. The reason is the material floppy disks are coated with tends to catch the arm of the disk drive. Floppy manufacturers have known how to solve the problem since the early eighties and haven't because of the cost. Dr. DOS suggests a light coating of PAM (hold six inches from the disk and spray for no more than three seconds) to the upper portion of the disk. We recommend using only the best quality disks and never try this with Iomega Zip or JAZZ disks. Be careful—one dimwit tried using SPAM either due to an existential disorder or a typo and caused his disk drive to crave white bread.

Dear Dr. DOS:

Every time I sit down at the computer I feel a great sense of discomfort as the time seems to speed by very quickly. Just what is happening? —Whoosh, New York

Dear Whoosh:

Computer time is different from other time. Watches, clocks, and other time pieces seem to become inaccurate when you're at the computer. Every five minutes of computer time is equal to what seems equal to one hour of my wife's time, at least from her perception. Actually, for every five minutes at the computer, only 25 minutes goes by on the clock. It's a simple recalculation based in the number of time slices your computer uses. For example, when we first started using PCs, they used an 8088 processor with an internal clock that ticks about 18 times a second (Mean Greenwich Time). This time factor (8088s only) pushes time ahead 25 minutes for each 5 minutes of real or actual time. The ratio of 5:1 is obvious (except to you, Whoosh). An ancient AT class machine (80286) pushes the time factor to 7:1; 80486 machines provide an even faster 11:1 ratio. Nowadays, a 1.5GHz class machine pushes the envelope at 45:1

Experiment with these time factors in conjunction with your spouse. "Dinner is ready," she'll say. "Five minutes, Honey," you respond. Take careful

note at the strong relationship between the time factor of your older PII and, say, a newer PIII, and the length, depth and substance of your marriage. This is to inform you that this column is allegedly humorous and we strongly urge you to ignore the advice contained within, especially anything suggesting spraying substances into or around your PC or its peripherals.

Bass's attorney, Bernie

Dewey, Cheatum, and Howe, Attorneys

Steve Bass is a Contributing Editor with PC World and runs the Pasadena IBM Users Group. He's also a founding member of APCUG. Write to him at [steve\\_bass@pcworld.com](mailto:steve_bass@pcworld.com). Check PCW's current edition at [www.pcworld.com/resource/toc/index.asp](http://www.pcworld.com/resource/toc/index.asp) and sign up for the Steve Bass online newsletter at [www.pcworld.com/bass\\_letter](http://www.pcworld.com/bass_letter).

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## Preventive Maintenance B.S.O.D.

By: Russell James

Is there anyone who has a computer and does not know what these letters stand for? The cursed **Blue Screen of Death**. The message tells you that something has caused a fatal exception in some ridiculous number that doesn't mean anything to most humans. The end of the message tells you that you may be able to continue with your Windows session but the "any key" usually has no effect and we end up pushing the reset button and rebooting our system. What can we do about the errors and what exactly is a fatal exception? I thought this was a peaceful operation. Isn't working on the computer supposed to be fun? Where do you start to try to figure out what is going wrong and how to correct it? These are some of the questions that we will try to answer this month.

Fatal exception errors are codes that are returned by a program when invalid code, data, or illegal instruction is accessed by an application, or when an operation is executed or tries to execute, on a wrong level. They will usually occur when you attempt to shut down your computer, start Windows, or start a program in Windows. The exception is generated by the processor and passed on to the operating system, which promptly stops all action on your system and gives you the prehistoric blue screen of death. Sometimes you will be able to hit a key and continue with your programs. Most of the time, the fatal exception will cause the entire system to crash and you will be forced to reboot the computer. When this happens, you will have lost whatever had not been saved before the crash. This is why you are always being hounded to save your work. Nobody plans for his or her system to crash, it just happens. You have two choices when working on your computer To save or not to save, that is the question.

There are many different reasons why you might get a fatal exception. There are two types of problems that we have discussed in the past, hardware and software. According to Microsoft, Windows does not cause these errors but has the exception-handling routine for that particular processor exception, which displays the error message. There is always a possibility that faulty hardware is causing the error, but there is also a chance that it could be caused by corrupted software or some new flaky software program that you just installed. The key to correcting the errors is to have an open mind about what could be causing it. Pay attention and make notes about what changes you have made with your system recently. Newly installed programs or updates to old programs. Newly installed hardware or updated drivers for your hardware. Write down the

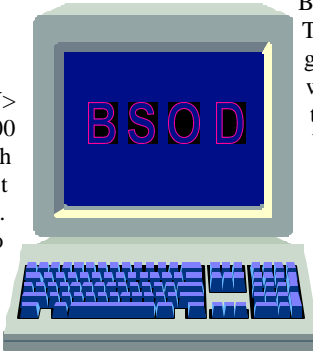
## Preventive Maintenance

error message, especially any file names that appear in the message.

It could be that the new addition to your system is conflicting with other programs or hardware. If you have a corrupted dll or vxd, you might be able to correct the problem by extracting the file that is causing the problem from your original Windows disks. For those of you with Windows 98, you can use the System File Checker program to extract the file. You can access the program through System Information or by typing sfc in the Run line. The program will ask you if you want to back up the file that you are replacing and you should answer yes. This way you can change the file back if it does not correct the problem. If you are using Windows 95 you will need to learn to use the extract program.

What do these messages tell us that will help us? The typical message would look something like this:

A fatal exception <XY> has occurred in xxxx:xxxxxxx  
The X's and Y's would be hexadecimal numbers. The <XY> is the exception that has occurred, a number going from 00 to 0F and the other would be the memory address in which the exception occurred. The memory address is usually not going to be relevant to finding a solution to the problem. You want to take notes on the error so you will be able to tell whether it is the same message or a random message. If you want to know what the exception codes stand for, you can look it up in the Microsoft Knowledge Base (<http://search.support.microsoft.com/kb/c.asp>) on the web, you can search for Q150314 -



What Are Fatal Exception Errors.

You will be able to get a much more in depth look at what the errors are and what causes them. Within the article is a more in-depth look at troubleshooting Fatal Exceptions. By looking at the exception, you might be able to get a general idea of what area the problem is occurring. What is the exception and why was it generated? What files are associated with the error message and what programs were you running at the time of the error?

There are 16 different processor exceptions that are listed in the Microsoft article. There is the Divide Fault, Overflow Trap, Double Fault, Stack Fault, and twelve others that are too numerous to mention by name. The most common error that I see is OE. This error refers to a Page Fault or when Windows asks for a program to be recalled to memory and an error occurs. Windows uses a swap file to allow you to multitask between the different applications that you might have running. Whichever program is being used will be loaded into the available ram for your system.

Any programs that will not fit into ram will be paged to the swap file until they are called to the front. This paging of programs from RAM to swap file and back is where the Page Fault errors occur. Errors can occur when the programs that you are using try to access the same memory space in which another program is being stored. You cannot have two programs in the same space as this will result in a Page Fault or a Fatal Exception OE. How do you go about correcting the errors that you might encounter? The first step would be to try to recreate the error. Try loading the same programs and see if the error occurs again. Try booting your system up in Safe Mode and see if you can recreate the error. If the programs run in Safe Mode and the error continues to occur, then you might need to start looking at whether you have a hardware problem. Take a look at the names of any files that are referenced by the error message. Search your computer for the file name and look at the properties of the file to see what type of file it is. Is it a file that is used by the printer or one of your programs.

It could be that it is a problem with the software that is trying to run your hardware. It could be your modem driver conflicting with your video or sound card drivers. Updates to drivers for your system are usually avail-

able on the website of the company that made the individual cards. Take a look at the brand name of the card or the name that is listed in Device Manager

Try searching on the Web to see if there is an updated driver that will correct your problem. Start by looking on the Website of the company that made your computer. If you cannot find updated drivers with the manufacturer, try <http://www.windrivers.com/>. They have links to most of the company Websites and you can search for your particular card or search by manufacturer.

If the problem cannot be recreated in safe mode, take the note that you made about the error message and look it up in the Microsoft Knowledge Base. Look at the articles that are retrieved with your search. There will be a small part of the article on the page that will give you a general idea about what the article is about. Look at what programs each of the articles talk about and see if any of them have some of the programs that you use. You will need to become somewhat of a detective in most cases. It could take you a while to find the article that points you in the right direction. Most of the error messages that you will encounter have been encountered and fixed in the past by someone else. All you have to do is access the information that others have gathered and follow the instructions to correct the errors.

Most of the information that you can get by calling and talking to a company tech support person is available free on the web. They would rather you find the information and correct the problem yourself, than call them. This saves them and you time and money. You don't have to spend so much time on the phone waiting for them to tell you what to do, and they don't have to pay the Tech Support to talk to you. It is a win-win situation for the company and for you. Don't just put up with the errors that can occur in Windows. Take the bull by the horns and search for the solution. When you find the solution and are ready to tackle the problem, remember to have a plan and be able to get back to where you started. If you make the problem worse by trying to fix it you will just drive yourself crazy. Take your time and have a plan. And don't forget that this computer stuff is supposed to make our lives easier.

Reprinted from the PC Alamode, Alamo PC Organization  
Russell James is Operations Manager at BJ Associates of San Antonio. They are an authorized service center for IBM and Toshiba systems. They are the laptop specialist and also handle system builds and parts for desktops. They can take care of any IBM compatible PC problem that you have.

### Title Bar Tricks

Here are a couple of tricks with title bars of windows:

Double-click a window's title bar to maximize it (if the current window supports maximizing). Double-click the window's title-bar again to restore the window to its previous size.

Right-click on a window's title bar to bring up a list of options. These will probably include such things as "Close" and "Minimize;" but windows such as the "DOS Prompt" will give other useful options.



**A magazine recently ran a “Dilbert Quotes contest. They were looking for people to submit quotes from their real life Dilbert-type managers.**

### **Here are the finalists:**

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1. “As of tomorrow, employees will only be able to access the building using individual security cards. Pictures will be taken next Wednesday and employees will receive their cards in two weeks.”

(This was the winning quote from Fred Dales at Microsoft Corp. in Redmond, WA.)

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! 2. “What I need is a list of specific unknown problems we will encounter.”

(Lykes Lines Shipping)

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3. “E-mail is not to be used to pass on information or data. It should be used only for company business.”

(Accounting manager, Electric Boat Company)

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4. “This project is so important, we can’t let things that are more important interfere with it.”

(Advertising/Marketing manager, United Parcel Service)

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5. “Doing it right is no excuse for not meeting the schedule.”

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6. No one will believe you solved this problem in one day! We’ve been working on it for months. Now, go act busy for a few weeks and I’ll let you know when it’s time to tell them.”

(R&D supervisor, Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing/3M Corp.)

7. “My Boss spent the entire weekend retyping a 25-page proposal that only needed corrections. She claims the disk I gave her was damaged and she couldn’t edit it. The disk I gave her was write-protected.”

(CIO of Dell Computers)

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8. Quote from the Boss: “Teamwork is a lot of people doing what I say.”

(Marketing executive, Citrix Corporation)

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9. My sister passed away and her funeral was scheduled for Monday. When I told my Boss, he said she died on purpose so that I would have to miss work on the busiest day of the year. He then asked if we could change her burial to Friday. He said, “That would be better for me.”

(Shipping executive, FTD Florists)

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10. “We know that communication is a problem, but the company is not going to discuss it with the employees.”

(Switching supervisor, AT&T Long Lines Division)

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11. We recently received a memo from senior management saying: “This is to inform you that a memo will be issued today regarding the memo mentioned above.”

(Microsoft, Legal Affairs Division)

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12. One day my Boss asked me to submit a status report to him concerning a project I was working on. I asked him if tomorrow would be soon enough. He said, “If I wanted it tomorrow, I would have waited until tomorrow to ask for it!”

(New business manager, Hallmark Greeting Cards)

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13. As director of communications, I was asked to prepare a memo reviewing our company’s training programs and materials. In the body of the memo in one of the sentences I mentioned the “pedagogical approach” used by one of the training manuals. The day after I routed the memo to the executive committee, I was called into the HR director’s office, and told that the executive vice president wanted me out of the building by lunch. When I asked why, I was told that she wouldn’t stand for perverts (pedophiles?) working in her company. Finally, he showed me her copy of the memo, with her demand that I be fired-and the word “pedagogical” circled in red. The HR manager was fairly reasonable, and once he looked the word up in his dictionary and made a copy of the definition to send back to her, he told me not to worry. He would take care of it. Two days later, a memo to the entire staff came out directing us that no words, which could not be found in the local Sunday newspaper could be used in company memos. A month later, I resigned. In accordance with company policy, I created my resignation memo by pasting words together from the Sunday paper.

(Taco Bell Corporation)

# Humor from the I/O Port Computer Terminology Explained

**Alpha** — Software undergoes alpha testing as a first step in getting user feedback. Alpha is Latin for “doesn’t work.”

**Beta** — Software undergoes beta testing shortly before it’s released. Beta is Latin for “still doesn’t work.”

**Computer** — Instrument of torture. The first computer was invented by Roger “Duffy” Billingsly, a British scientist. In a plot to overthrow Adolf Hitler, Duffy disguised himself as a German ally and offered his invention as a gift to the surly dictator. The plot worked. On April 8, 1945, Adolf became so enraged at the “Incompatible File Format” error message that he shot himself. The war ended soon after Hitler’s death, and Duffy began working for IBM.

**CPU** — Central propulsion unit. The CPU is the computer’s engine. It consists of a hard drive, an interface card and a tiny spinning wheel that’s powered by a running rodent - a gerbil if the machine is a 286, a ferret if it’s a 386 and a ferret on speed if it’s a 486.

**Default Directory** — Black hole. Default directory is where all files that you need disappear to.

**Error message** — Terse, baffling remark used by programmers to place blame on users for the program’s shortcomings.

**File** — A document that has been saved with an unidentifiable name. It helps to think of a file as something stored in a file cabinet - except when you try to remove the file, the cabinet gives you an electric shock and tells you the file format is unknown.

**Hardware** — Collective term for any computer-related object that can be kicked or battered.

**Help** — The feature that assists in generating more questions. When the help feature is used correctly, users are able to navigate through a series of Help screens and end up where they started from without learning anything.

**Input/Output** — Information is input from the keyboard as intelligible data and output to the printer as unrecognizable junk.

**Interim Release** — A programmer’s feeble attempt at repentance.

**Memory** — Of computer components, the most generous in terms of variety, and the skimpiest in terms of quantity.

**Printer** — A joke in poor taste. A printer consists of three main parts: the case, the jammed paper tray and the blinking red light.

**Programmers** — Computer avengers. Once members of that group of high school nerds who wore tape on their glasses, played Dungeons and Dragons, and memorized Star Trek episodes; now millionaires who create “user-friendly” software to get revenge on whoever gave them noogies.

**Reference Manual** — Object that raises the monitor to eye level. Also used to compensate for that short table leg.

**Scheduled Release Date** — A carefully calculated date determined by estimating the actual shipping date and subtracting six months from it.

**User-Friendly** — Of or pertaining to any feature, device or concept that makes perfect sense to a programmer.

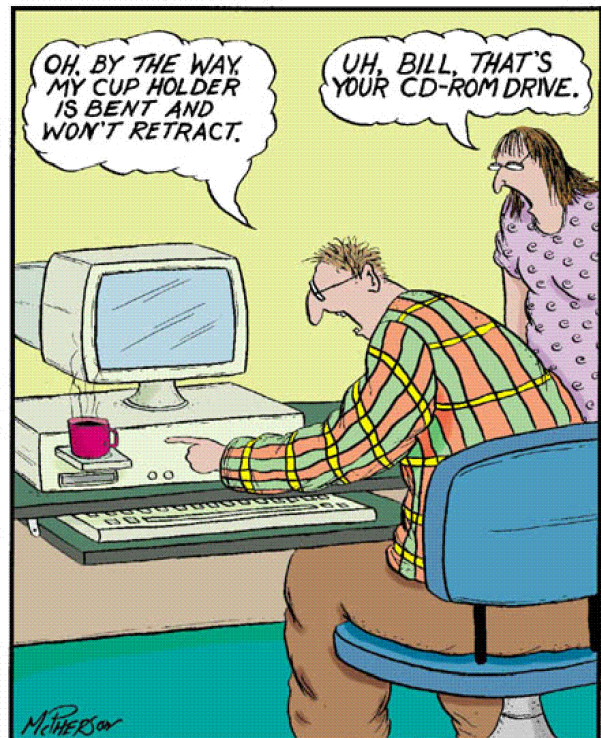
**Users** — Collective term for those who stare vacantly at a monitor. Users are divided into three types: novice, intermediate and expert.

**Novice Users** — People who are afraid that simply pressing a key might break their computer.

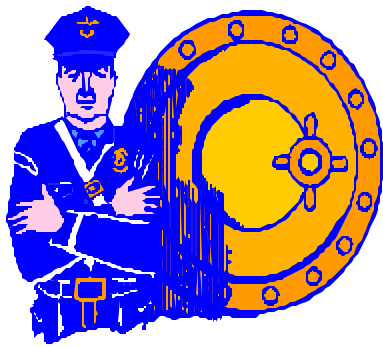
**Intermediate Users** — People who don’t know how to fix their computer after they’ve just pressed a key that broke it.

**Expert Users** — People who break other people’s computers.

Printed in the I/O Port Newsletter of the Tulsa Computer Society. There is no restriction against any nonprofit group using the article as long as it is kept in context, with proper credit given to the author. This article is brought to you by the Editorial Committee of the Association of Personal Computer User Groups (APCUG), an International organization to which this user group belongs.



Bill's co-workers began to suspect that he had lied about having a master's degree in computer science.



**How's your System Resources?**

By Lee Besing

Just the other day, someone called me to complain about being out of memory. He had been saving his music CDs down to his hard drive and suddenly his computer told him that he needed more memory. His question to me was that his neighbor friend had recently installed a new 30 gigabyte hard drive in his system, "So how could I be out of memory so soon?" As it turned out, he had plenty of free hard drive space on both his old "C Drive and his new 30GB "D" Drive. The error message had occurred because he had too many programs opened at the same time, and had used up his system resources, not memory.

As you run programs, they each use system resources and when all of your system resources are used up, your system can give you an error message or simply lock up. Windows 95 and newer have built in programs that will monitor and display your current resources. Look under "Start", "Program Files", "Accessories", "System Tools" for programs called "Resource Meter" or "System Monitor".

Some programs use up resources and then "forget" to free them up when the program closes. Over a period of time, your computer starts running slower and slower, and eventually may crash. How do you prevent this? Run the Resource Meter on your task bar and watch the green indicators. If the green bars on the Resource Meter Icon drop to a single yellow or red bar, your resources are getting too low and you need to terminate one or more programs or restart your computer. The Resource Meter will use a tiny percentage of resources itself, but you can use it to watch how much each application uses when you start it up, and whether the resources return to "normal" when it shuts down.

A more informative report of your usage of system resources, is "System Information" from Symantec's Norton Utilities. I often endorse the use of Norton System Works 2001 and use these tools to diagnose misbehaving computers. I never allow the "System Doctor" to run automatically in the background because I find it slows down most systems, but I will run the "Win Doctor" and "Disk Doctor" on a regular basis.

If you are running Windows 98, there is a little used program "msconfig" that you can access by going to "Start", "Run" and enter "msconfig" in the box and hit Enter. This program is not available for Windows 95 or Windows ME systems as far as I am aware. Click on the "Startup" tab and look at the list of applications running when your computer starts up. Uncheck any application which you don't think you need running, such as the reminders to register in 14 days. Click "apply" and allow your system to restart. If you find that you needed that program, run "msconfig" again and click on the box to turn it back on.

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**Board Of Directors Minutes**

The January 28, 2002, Executive Board Of Directors Meeting of the Orange Coast IBM PC User Group (OCIPUG) was called to order by President Bob Walker at 7:02pm with all officers and directors plus one member present.

**Secretary's Report** - Frank Mastroly reported that we had received three pieces of mail, including a dues renewal from Dennis Martin, a Members Survey response from Dennis Martin, and promotional material from the University of Phoenix.

**President's Report** - President Bob Walker distributed revised calendars reflecting the change of SIG meeting nights to Tuesday at 7:00pm except for the Internet/Web Page Design SIG which will be held on the first Wednesday of each month, and the addition of a Quicken SIG (hosted by Dan Dickinson) on the first Tuesday of each month.

There will be SeniorNet team meeting on Friday, February 1, 2002, at 10:00am. If any OCIPUG members are interested in teaching or coaching SeniorNet class feel free to attend or contact Dan Dickinson directly.

**Activities Report:** Member Kevin Moser reported that he received responses to our membership survey which he prepared with assistance from Director Bob Strader from approximately 50% of the membership, and this is considered excellent. Kevin has e-mailed both a summary of the survey and a package of all comments to all current members for whom we have up-to-date e-mail addresses. Included in the responses was offers to conduct SIGs in Quicken (Dan Dickinson) and Windows XP (Ed Leckliter). Kevin also distributed a floppy disk containing the results of the survey, a portion of which follows:

**OCIPUG SURVEY REPORT ATTACHMENT 1**

**REPORT OF OCIPUG SURVEY**

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TABULATION

1. What type of programs do you like:

| Weight (1=Hi,4=Lo): | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4 |
|---------------------|----|----|----|---|
| New Products        | 24 | 4  | 7  | 0 |
| How-to              | 19 | 18 | 3  | 2 |
| Tutorials           | 3  | 14 | 15 | 6 |
| Other               | 1  | 1  | 5  | 8 |

2. Which of the following SIGs have you attended:

| Weight (1=Hi,6=Lo): | 1  | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|---------------------|----|---|---|---|---|---|
| Internet            | 6  | 2 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 3 |
| Hardware SIG        | 11 | 8 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Web Design SIG      | 2  | 3 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 6 |
| Windows SIG         | 10 | 4 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 1 |
| Digital Photography | 7  | 1 | 7 | 5 | 4 | 0 |
| New User            | 5  | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 6 |

3. What New SIG would you like to have 14 comments

4. Would you like to lead a new SIG YES 6 NO 33

5. Would you help run a SIG YES 8 NO 31

Which SIG? 8 comments

6. Do you have something you would like to present at a SIG or General Meeting: 1 response

7. Would you be interested in a MINI-SIG or SIGLET: YES 28 NO 10

8. Would you be interested in participating in presenting Such a SIGLET or MINI-SIG? YES 9 NO 25

9. What type of systems do you use  
Desk Top 40 Network 11  
Laptop 15 PDA 4

In a motion by Director Red Davidson, seconded by Vice President Morris Fier, and carried, the board thanked Kevin Moser and Bob Strader for their efforts in preparing the survey and compiling the results.

Following a motion by Director Red Davidson, seconded by Secretary Frank Mastroly, and carried, a committee consisting of Red Davidson, Morris Fier and President Bob Walker will review the results of the survey and put together a package for the membership.

**Membership** - Director Sandi Tierney is working with Webmaster Michael Moore to update the e-mail address list to reflect changes due to the recent demise of Excite@home. All members should see to it that Sandi and Michael have current data. It is especially important that the data in the Readme.Doc be correct. Badges have been prepared for all members except JoAnne Edman who joined last month. Sandi also reported that the badges use Publisher that she does not have, and President Bob Walker will work with her on this. Finally, Sandi repeated her request that each board member try to recruit one new member each year.

**Programs/Drawings** - At the February 2002 General meeting (which will be on February 23, 2002) we will have presentations from those who attended the APCUG/Comdex conference in November. We will show a video of the speech by Steve Balmer (President and CEO of Microsoft). We will also have raffle prizes picked up during the conference, as well as in a package supplied by Microsoft, including a backpack and several programs including a full-up (OEM) version of Windows XP Pro. Director Chris Davidson and Past President Leonard Stein also have several items for prizes. In a motion by Morris Fier, seconded by Charles Schreiber and Sandi Tierney, and carried, it was decided that we would auction off WinXP Pro, with a minimum bid of \$100.

**Treasurer's Report** - Treasurer Charles Schreiber reported that we have received 3 renewals, and that the raffle at the General meeting raised \$73. He will check with former treasurer Larry Pearce to see if the hot line has been discontinued as decided upon at the December 2001 meeting.

**SIG Meeting Report** - Nothing to report except for the change in SIG schedule. We have received a copy of Quicken 2002 Deluxe for the Quicken SIG. President Bob Walker to assist Dan Dickinson in this SIG, the first session of which will cover program installation and set-up.

**Long Range Planning Report** - Will await the results of the survey summary.

Financial Review - Still TBD

**Maintenance and Operations** - Still looking for a NIC for the PC connected to the TV (Secretary Frank Mastroly has a spare 3Com 10/100 Ethernet card that he is will to donate if someone will remove it). Red Davidson will work with Steve Schiffman on installing it and Steve will set up the network. There is also the possibility of getting individual e-mail addresses for the SeniorNet computers, including the one for the TV. We are working on getting copies of Windows XP and Adobe PhotoShop elements on the club computer. President Bob Walker will give Secretary Frank Mastroly names and addresses of contacts for possibly getting free copies of both programs which, incidentally, were given to all attendees at the APCUG/Comdex conference.

**Webmaster Report** - Webmaster Michael Moore reported that he is giving some thought to changing the ISP (In-Reach) which hosts the club's website. However, this is on hold for the time being. Most members are pleased with our posting our newsletter on the website, but some want mailed hard copies as it take too long to download via a dial-up connection. Jeff Levy liked our newsletter and will be put on distribution and from this we may get some exposure. Mike has a list of returned e-mail addresses, including some from AOL and MSN that rejected it because they thought it was Spam. He even got a response from Roy Cone who is still a member even though he now lives in Texas. Mike will compile a list of those who want mailed copies for one reason or another.

**Publications (Readme.Doc)** - Bob Walker requested that all SIG leaders present a synopsis of the most recent SIG as well as a summary of what is planned for the next session. He also wants all SIGs to have a more structured format rather than being 100% freeform. He suggested that at least the first hour of each SIG be devoted to a specific topic, with the remainder an open forum.

**Public Relations** - Vice President Morris Fier will investigate how we can get publicity in the "Daily Pilot." We are already listed on "OC Now." We also need flyers in markets.

**Miscellaneous—**

1. The comment was made that Microsoft will no longer support Windows 95, and those still using it will have to resort to the very comprehensive knowledge base for Win95

2. Director Bob Strader reminded the members about the security hole in Windows XP universal plug and play utility, and reminded all to go to Steve Gibson's website www.grc.com to download a patch.

Adjournment - Moved by Red Davidson, seconded by Leonard Stein, and carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm. The next BOD meeting will be on Monday, February 25, 2002.

Respectfully Submitted  
Frank Mastroly, Secretary



# ORANGE COAST IBM PC User Group (OCIPUG) ©

## Mailing Address

2973 Harbor Blvd, Box 621  
Costa Mesa, CA 92626-3934

## Meetings Location

Costa Mesa Senior Center  
Southeast Corner of 19<sup>th</sup> and Pomona

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## **Publication Deadline**

Material for the **March** issue must be received on or before **March 8, 2002** by  
**rwalker820@msn.com**

## **Publication Guidelines**

All material submitted will be published *exactly* as submitted, but may be subject to editing at the *Editor's* discretion. We reserve the right to refuse any material submitted for publication. Send all submissions as follows:

1. Send via Internet e-mail to: editor: Robert Walker  
rwalker820@msn.com and newsletter coordinator  
Michael Conway 714-962-2194 mchbca@aol.com
2. Mail a 3.5" disk so as to be received by the deadline by the Newsletter Coordinator at the OCIPUG mailing address above.
3. Hard copy to Editor at the OCIPUG mailing address above.

## **Membership**

Benefits of OCIPUG Membership include, but by no means are limited to:  
\* Subscription to OCIPUG's monthly newsletter, *Readme.Doc*, with up-to-date information on meeting schedules as well as the newest software and hardware.

\* Free monthly General Meetings with speakers from industry and academia describing advances in technology.

\* Free Special Interest Group (SIG) meetings/seminars to exchange tips and tricks and to solve problems.

\* Free technical support from knowledgeable fellow members via telephone and/or e-mail.

\* Pleasure in helping your fellow member solve their problems.

\* Camaraderie with those of similar interests.

\* Discounts from vendors on software, hardware, and other items.

## Orange Coast IBM PC User Group

2973 Harbor Blvd Box 621  
Costa Mesa, CA 92626-3934

Membership status:  New  Renewal - Member # \_\_\_\_\_

Membership type:  Individual  Family

Title: Mr. Mrs. Ms. Dr. Prof. Hon. ( ) (Circle one)

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Profession/Trade: \_\_\_\_\_  Retired  Current Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Family Member(s) Names: \_\_\_\_\_ Company: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Annual Dues:**

Make check payable to OCIPUG  
and mail to the above address  
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|                    |         |          |
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| Individual         | \$30.00 | \$ _____ |
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