

# Orange Coast IBM PC User Group

# README.DOC

September 2002

Newsletter

Volume 18.9

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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Board of Directors Meeting

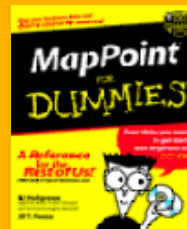
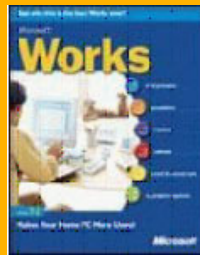
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## September 28 General Meeting



Orange Coast IBM PC User Group  
2973 Harbor Blvd Box 621  
Costa Mesa, California 92626-3934

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

*See mailing label  
or email address  
for membership  
expiration date.*

General Meetings are held from 9:00AM to noon on:

|              |      |
|--------------|------|
| 28 September | 2002 |
| 26 October   | 2002 |
| 23 November  | 2002 |
| 21 December  | 2002 |
| 25 January   | 2003 |

For details see inside pages of this issue, Web Page, or Information Line

Meetings of the Executive Board will be held at 7:00PM on:

|              |      |
|--------------|------|
| 30 September | 2002 |
| 28 October   | 2002 |
| 25 November  | 2002 |
| 21 December  | 2002 |
| 25 January   | 2003 |

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      |
| 2nd Wednesday | 7:00 PM - Windows XP    |
| 3rd Tuesday   | 7:00 PM - Window 98     |
| 4th Tuesday   | 7:00 PM - Digital Photo |

## September 28 Program

**Mindshare User Group Support Program** from Microsoft we will see a demo video of Digital Inage Pro, Windows XP Media Center Edition ,Windows CE for Smart Displays Pocket PC, Managing you Newsletters with Publisher 2002 ,Nicrosoft Works and lates mice and keyboarnds. We will have for our drawing Picture It Digital Inage Pro , Encarta 2003, Works 2003 Book Map Point for Dummies with a CD

**Picture It!** Digital Image Pro puts you in control of your photos through a unique combination of powerful digital imaging tools with helpful wizards and professional-quality photo projects. Picture It! offers advanced tools that let you make your digital pictures look the way you want them to. Choose from over 3,000 professional photo projects or a wide variety of special effects to enhance your photos for sharing through prints, email, and the Web.

**Microsoft Money** Save time organizing and managing your finances. Easily manage your cash flow, balance your checkbook, create and track a budget, pay your bills, organize your finances, and view a complete picture of your financial health in one place. Achieve your future financial goals. Reduce your debt, forecast your cash flow, finance an education or save to buy a house or car. Make smarter financial decisions. See where your money goes. Get a visual picture of income and expenses, cash flow, category spending, budget and more. Receive personalized, prescriptive guidance.

**Works 7.0** is the latest version of the popular essential home productivity software. It includes a word processor, spreadsheet, database, and calendar. Plus Works has new, professionally designed templates, and a new tool to help organize common projects. Works is even more affordable. Acquire Works 7 and get a \$15 USD/\$25 CND mail-in rebate in the box!

**MapPoint For Dummies** MapPoint is a unique product designed to help business get a leg up on the competition by creating geographic analysis based on real demographic and statistical information. MapPoint For Dummies covers the essentials a new MapPoint user needs to know — from how to handle simple mapping and plotting tasks to tying it into other Office tools and databases in order to analyze business trends and make informed decisions.

|                               |                |              |  |
|-------------------------------|----------------|--------------|--|
| <b>President</b>              | Leonard Stein  | 714-533-4971 | <a href="mailto:leonardstn@netscape.net">leonardstn@netscape.net</a>             |
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| <b>Secretary</b>              | Frank Mastroly | 714-960-9472 | <a href="mailto:fmastroly@earthlink.net">fmastroly@earthlink.net</a>             |
| <b>CFO/Treasurer</b>          | Kevin Moser    | 949-631-2766 | <a href="mailto:kevinmoser@attbi.com">kevinmoser@attbi.com</a>                   |
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| <b>Director-2002-2003</b>     | Ed Leckliter   | 310-944-5659 | <a href="mailto:eleckliter@adelphia.net">eleckliter@adelphia.net</a>             |
| <b>Director-2002</b>          | Mike Conway    | 714-962-2194 | <a href="mailto:mchbca@aol.com">mchbca@aol.com</a>                               |
| <b>Director-2002</b>          | Sandi Tierney  | 714-648-2218 | <a href="mailto:gadgetgoddess2002@hotmail.com">gadgetgoddess2002@hotmail.com</a> |
| <b>Past President</b>         | Robert Walker  | 949-642-7681 | <a href="mailto:rwalker820@msn.com">rwalker820@msn.com</a>                       |
| <br>                          |                |              |  |
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# SCHEDULES AND REPORTS OF EVENTS

## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (SIG)

(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:

**7 September 2002**

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

**3 September 2002**

**Quicken** - 1st Tuesday, 7:00 PM  
Dan Dickinson daniel3@cox.net

**4 September 2002**

**Internet / Web Publishing**

1st Wednesday 7:00PM  
Robert Strader 949-646-1475 rstrader@attbi.com

**10 September 2002**

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

**11 September 2002**

**WindowsXP** - 2nd Wednesday 7:00 PM  
Ed Leckliter eleckliter@adelphia.net

**17 September 2002**

**Windows 98** - 3rd Tuesday 7:00 PM  
Robert Strader 949-646-1475 rstrader@attbi.com

**24 September 2002**

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

**5 October 2002**

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

**1 October 2002**

**Quicken** - 1st Tuesday, 7:00 PM  
Dan Dickinson daniel3@cox.net

**9 October 2002**

**Internet / Web Publishing**

1st Wednesday 7:00PM  
Robert Strader 949-646-1475 rstrader@attbi.com

**ACP Swap Meet**

**September 29, 2002**

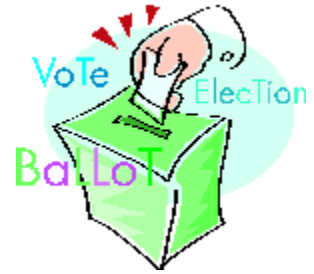
**ACP Computer Swap Meet**  
which is usually held on the  
fourth Sunday of the odd  
month, is held at 1319 East  
Edinger in Santa Ana

**BUY  
NOW  
AND  
SAVE**

## After all the Chads were counted.....

The new officers for OCIPUG are:

**President Leonard Stien.,  
Vice President Robert Strader,  
CFO/Treasurer Kevin Moser,  
Secretary Frank Mastroly and the new  
Board Members for two years terms are  
Red Davidson  
Ed Liickliter  
One year Board Members  
Mike Conway  
Sandi Tierney**



## OCIPUG Hardware SIG

Meeting Date: August 13, 2002

There were 7 attendees (including the SIG Leader, Ed Leckliter)

The Featured Topic was: Sound Processors, Sound Cards, and Speakers  
Hardware Submissions - "none".

Random Access

We spent most of our time trying to fix the Club's computer (subsequently taken by Ed Leckliter to reload from scratch with XP/Home - contributed by Kevin Moser).

Frank Mastroly used the Q&A Log to submit a question about Dazzel's "Hollywood DV-Bridge" product (hardware/software bundle) but the question was not addressed during the RAM session (sheet not looked at until the meeting was finished). To Frank's question, "...will it convert audio tape to digital?", I reviewed their web site ([www.dazzle.com](http://www.dazzle.com)) and concluded that it probably does so at least directly since the feed to their hardware is video (via a 1394/FireWire connection) is video. However the software that comes in the package may be able to use audio tape as a source for "background audio" during the recording of DVD output. As such, conversion may be included. I suggest he contact their "E-Mail us a Question" page in the "Customer Support Area".

Kevin brought in some info on "Air Gap Technology" from Whale Communications ([www.whalecommunications.com](http://www.whalecommunications.com)). He had communicated with the company regarding an end-user-level version of the "air gap switch" part of their products and asked the group for their opinions on this technology. See [http://www.whalecommunications.com/site/Whale/Corporate/Whale.asp?pi=29&doc\\_id=2361](http://www.whalecommunications.com/site/Whale/Corporate/Whale.asp?pi=29&doc_id=2361) for the answer to the question, "What is Air Gap Technology". Based on Kevin's brief description and his note that the commercial product ran around \$20K, no one had much of a response.

Next Meeting: September 10, 2002

Next Featured Topic: Other Components (Modems, NICs, Chassis, Power Supplies, HFAs, Fans, Keyboards, and Mice)

Following Meeting: October 8, 2002

Following Meeting Featured Topic: Planning for a New System (the beginning of a planning and hands-on assembly series)

File(s) attached - also posted on the OCIPUG Hardware SIG web site ([www.homestead.com/ocipughardwaresig/index.html](http://www.homestead.com/ocipughardwaresig/index.html))

Presentation slides in Microsoft PowerPoint format (.ppt).

For the latest Hardware SIG info, please check the SIG's web site or contact Ed Leckliter (SIG Leader) at [eleckliter@adelphia.net](mailto:eleckliter@adelphia.net).

# Windows XP



Meeting Date: August 14, 2002

There were 7 attendees (including the SIG Leader, Ed Leckliter)  
The Featured Topic was: Chapter 4 in "Microsoft Windows XP Step by Step" - "Adding Hardware and Software"

Ed went thru the text, installed a USB 2.0 adapter card, tested the card with an external Maxtor USB 2.0 hard drive, used a digital camera to demonstrate capturing photos, and installed

Corel WordPerfect Office 2002 (OEM) to demonstrate software installation.

Random Access - none significant (ran out of time)

## Next Meeting: September 11, 2002

Next Meeting Featured Topic: Chapter 5 in "Microsoft Windows XP Step by Step" - "Working with Files and Folders"

## Following Meeting: October 9, 2002

Following Meeting Featured Topic: Chapter 6 in "Microsoft Windows XP Step by Step" - "Personalizing Windows XP"

File(s) attached - presentation materials. Files are also posted on the SIG's web site (<http://www.homestead.com/ocipughardwaresig/WinXPMainPage.html>).

For the latest Windows XP SIG info, please check the SIG's web site or contact Ed Leckliter (SIG Leader) at [leckliter@adelphia.net](mailto:leckliter@adelphia.net).

## OCIPUG web site for the OCIPUG Win XP SIG

<http://www.homestead.com/ocipughardwaresigWinXPMainPage.html>



## Quicken SIG

Dan Dickinson will show us how to install and set up Quicken from scratch. If you missed the last session, be sure to come and see the proper way to set up this great program.

## Internet

Come see what Robert Strader has found on the Internet to show you. Bring your questions and interesting you have found to show others.

## Digital Photography

Herb Huey demonstration of the Canon G-2 4 mega pixel digital camera at our August meeting.

September:

Bob Strader will demonstrate After Shot from JASC, which allows you to create photo albums and then burn them to self-contained CDs



## President's Message

Hello everyone;

Just a short note to thank all of you for reelecting me as president for the following year. I will do my best.

This next meeting will be on Microsoft programs and a fine raffle. Also I would like to remind you that there is still time to attend APCUG's Las Vegas meeting before Comdex. See me or Bob Walker to find out how to sign up. It will be worth it. We are (the board) working on the program presentations or will be at the next board meeting so we can have interesting lectures. You are invited to attend. Until then I'll see you at the next meeting.  
Len

## General Meeting, August 24, 2002

The August General Meeting of the Orange Coast IBM PC User Group (OCIPUG) was held on August 24, 2002, at the Costa Mesa Senior Center. Twenty-three members and three guests were in attendance. Two of the guests were Warren Bradford and Russell Ushiro, both of whom plan to join OCIPUG.

Ed Leckliter conducted a very informative Random Access (Q&A) session. The main item of discussion was the slowing down of the Windows 98SE boot process after installation of a new 80gb hard drive, whereas the boot process was much faster with the old drive. Also, the boot times for Windows XP were unaffected by the installation of the new drive. Without knowing all of the details, Ed speculated that it could either be due to a corrupted Win98SE installation or that it could be a motherboard problem. Another problem noted with the new 80gb drive was that the PC would only format it to 72gb. Ed suspected that this could be a BIOS problem.

Bob Walker reported that he occasionally gets a "run time" error when running on Windows XP. Ed suggested that Bob note the precise error message and the application that he is using and then go to the Microsoft knowledge base to see if there is any information on what could cause this error message and how to prevent it from occurring in the future.

Ed was asked if it is worth it to upgrade from Windows ME to Windows XP. The answer is that if you can afford to do so you should, as WinXP is far more stable and boots up faster, whereas WinME (which really was only an interim OS between Win98SE and WinXP) crashes frequently. The only caveat is that you need at least 128mb of RAM (256mb is better) to use WinXP. Also, although WinXP has many device drivers already in it, it may be necessary to upgrade drivers for older pieces of hardware such as video cards, printers, scanners, etc.

All those in attendance were then reminded by Secretary Frank Mastroly to sign in and to note on the sign-in sheets any e-mail address changes and also if they did not receive the e-mailing of the July Readme.Doc. President Bob Walker is updating his mailing list and needs this information ASAP. Bob recently sent out a test mailing and received three "bounces," which when he followed up were due to members having new e-mail addresses. Bob then mentioned that we have new restaurant to try for our

after-meeting luncheon. It is the China Olive located in what was the Sizzler on Bristol near Macarthur and next door to Smart and Final. They have a buffet for \$5.95.

Next, President Bob Walker presented plaques of appreciation for each of the outgoing board members (many of whom will be returning) as well as to Michael Conway for his efforts in editing and proof reading the Readme.Doc.

Member David Wintle gave a demonstration on using the Spyder ColorVision Color Calibrators for color management. Per information from the adobe website, color management is required because each device reproduces color differently; the color you see at one stage of design and production rarely matches what you see at another. In other words, color is device-dependent - the color you see depends on the device producing it. A scanner interprets an image as certain RGB values according to its particular specifications; a particular monitor displays RGB colors according to the specifications of its phosphors; a color desktop printer outputs in RGB or CMYK according to its own specifications. And, each press produces printed output according to the specifications followed (e.g., SWOP, TOYO, DIC) and the type of inks used. The Spyder device (made by Princeton Technologies ([www.princtontechologies.com](http://www.princtontechologies.com)) is placed on your monitor and calibrates your display, profiles your printer and confirms color accuracy. It works with both CRT and LCD displays. The price ranges from \$388 (including software) up to approximately \$1,100. Color calibration can also be done manually with some monitors, where you print an image, scan the print, and then compare the scanned image with the original. Monoco is another company that produces devices for color calibration.

In response to a question from the floor, Dave said that high gloss paper is better than matt for archival purposes, and that a properly cared for print can last for up to 100 years if printed using pigment ink and, very important, if protected from light. A glass frame is always a good idea. However, if stored digitally, the image can always be reprinted as required.

Dave then repeated the demonstration he presented at the most recent digital photography SIG where he takes film images of his wife's 8x9 paintings and processes them using Adobe Photoshop (or Photoshop Elements) until the final printed image matches the original. Dave stressed the importance of using layers when editing and to save the image as a TIFF file without flattening it so that it can be edited further if desired. As an aside, it was noted that even if you start with a JPEG ("lossy image") or other compressed image file format, you should convert the original and save the image as a TIFF ("lossless image") file while editing so that detail will not be further lost each time the image is resaved. As well as full size copies, Dave also prints business card sized images of all prints. He supplemented his presentation by circulating examples show thumbnails of his work.

Next, President Bob Walker requested SIG reports as follows:

- \* Quicken (1st Tuesday, 9/4/2002, Dan Dickinson) - As SeniorNet will be receiving Quicken 2003, we will demonstrate how the program is installed and the initial steps is setting up accounts
- \* Internet (1st Wednesday, 9/5/2002, Bob Strader) - We will demonstrate Go Live
- \* Hardware (2nd Tuesday, 9/11/2002, Ed Leckliter) - Will discuss hardware, such as fans, power supplies, NIC cards, etc.
- \* Hardware (2nd Wednesday, 9/12/2002, Ed Leckliter) - Using files and folders (Chapter 5 in Windows XP Step-By-Step book)
- \* Windows 98 (3rd Tuesday, 9/18/2002, Bob Strader) - To be

\* Directors 2003 (One Year) - Sandi Tierney and Michael Conway  
Outgoing President (will stay on the board as Past President) Bob Walker swore in the new board members.

Member David Wintle then made a presentation on downloading music (MP3) files in the post-Napster environment. Whereas Napster had a central server, the latest file-sharing services use a peer-to-peer process. Among these are Morpheus ([www.musiccity.com](http://www.musiccity.com)), Grokster ([www.grokster.com](http://www.grokster.com)), KaZaA ([www.kazaa.com](http://www.kazaa.com)), Imesh ([www.imesh.com](http://www.imesh.com)), etc. In each case once you download the free software, you can then make requests for not only MP3 files but, in some cases, other files including images, MPEG/Real Media video files, etc. As for your own security, you need to specify which folders and files that others may have access to. Many of these services allow you to listen to the music as it is being downloaded so that you can terminate the download if you feel that you really did not want that particular file. For more details, go to the particular site or to CNET ([www.downloads.com](http://www.downloads.com)).

To convert your own audio CDs to MP3s, one of the more popular applications is Music Match Juke Box ([www.musicmatch.com](http://www.musicmatch.com)) which comes in both a free and pay (\$20) versions. The free version will allow you to rip CDs and create MP3 files, while the pay version provides faster performance, higher audio quality, provides drag-and drop capability, and assists you in printing CD and jewel box labels. For more details go to the Music Match website. In response to a question from the floor, it was stated that whereas audio CDs require approximately 10mb per minute of music, MP3 files require only 1mb/minute with little loss in quality.

Bob Walker then demonstrated Media Browser (from Arc Soft, [www.arcsoft.com](http://www.arcsoft.com)), which will create slide shows along with musical backgrounds, with the timing of the changing of the slides in rhythm with the beat of the music. Bob also demonstrated how different music could give a different feeling to the same collection of slides, from somber to upbeat. To get a large selection of music, you can go to Mega Trax ([www.megatrax.com](http://www.megatrax.com)) to purchase rights to use various tracks and sound effects as part of your slide show. Of course, you can always use your MP3 files as background, but they will be converted to larger .wav files for the CD.

After the presentations we had our raffle, with the prizes taken as follows:

- \* Leonard Stein - Windows 2000 book
- \* Howard Hugger - IBM scanner contributed by SeniorNet, note pad, and a Windows 2000 VHS tape
- \* Frank Mastroly - Egyptian Mahjongg CD and ScanSoft PagisPro Scan Suite CD
- \* Bob Strader - Mindspring Hat and mouse pad
- \* Warren Bradford - Pro 120 computer tool kit
- \* Michael Moore - "Web Design in a Nutshell" book
- \* Red Davidson — Mahjongg CD and Tech Smith screen capture CD
- \* Arlene Kane - Microsoft .NET Resource CD

## My Road Trip with my Pocket PC

By: Cheryl Wester

Orange Coast IBM PC User Group



The computer conference in San Diego, California is over and we are off to Vancouver, British Columbia in our motor home. Will I survive two weeks without my regular computer? Will I handle being shut up in 28 feet? Time will tell! With the help of my HP Ipaq 3970, I hope to succeed. I'll even write this commentary on my PPC!

First off-directions. How are we going to find our destinations? I'm the navigator and I can't read maps at all. I'd get lost in my own house if I depended on a map. My PPC to the rescue. I've a GPS system installed. It is a compact flash GPS and has an extended satellite antenna should I need it. Prior to leaving home, I loaded maps on my Secure Digital card (SD card). With the card inserted in my PPC and the Compact Flash GPS installed in my CF sleeve I'm off and ready. I will be using it to stay on target. There are various brands of GPS systems but the one I'm using and can vouch for is the CoPilot. You can purchase it from TravRoute at [www.travroute.com](http://www.travroute.com).

When we arrive at our destinations we hook up our Dish satellite. Remember, I'm not used to camping and this has to be comfortable! My PPC again comes to the rescue. We use the GPS system to find the latitude and longitude in setting up the satellite dish in the shortest time possible. I also have Pocket TV Browser installed on my Pocket PC and can look up all my favorite shows. It gives me reviews and allows me to put a reminder in my calendar so I'll never miss my shows again. This handy little program can be purchased from [www.pimcity.com](http://www.pimcity.com).

As I'm winding down for the evening I enjoy reading a good book. I don't even have to find my paperback. My PPC comes with Microsoft Reader installed and I'm quickly engrossed in the new book by Robert Jordan, *Glimmers: The Prologue to Crossroads of Twilight*. I can even download books directly onto my PPC if I wish. All I need to do is be connected and purchase the book of my choice.

In the morning my PPC wakes me up using the alarm I set. As I prepare for the day I realize that I haven't checked my email. Since I'm at a location with phone access I take my Pocket PC and compact flash modem to the clubhouse and plug into my ISP provider. I quickly check my POP 3 email and finding nothing major I log onto hotmail using third party software. When I see enough Viagra ads I log off and surf the Internet. I haven't checked some of my favorite sites lately and want to make sure my paycheck has been deposited in the credit union.

I still haven't received my email from my sister, so as we are cruising down the 101, I log onto my PPC using my Bluetooth cell phone, my PPC (having built in Bluetooth) and my ISP provider. It is great to be able to have my PPC in my hand and my cell phone tucked away in my purse. With Bluetooth I have a 30-foot range that allows me to access my phone with my PPC without physically handling both. Bluetooth technology is like a simplified wireless. With the right attachments I can print, talk on the cell phone, surf the net, check my email, and ActiveSync within a 30-foot radius. Just think, you could be all comfortable in bed and use your PPC to print out important papers to use the next morning. Talk about being spoiled. I have not tried that yet as I don't have the attachment for my printer.

As it gets closer to school starting (work for me), I realize I need to contact some teacher friends. Even though I'm on vacation some work still needs to be taken care of. Again, my PPC to the rescue as in my contacts I have all the phone numbers and email addresses I need.

We are seeing some of the most beautiful country. I haven't been in Northern California, Oregon, and Washington for a while and have forgotten how beautiful it is. I have been taking a tremendous amount of pictures on my digital camera and I'm anxious to see how they look. I pop the compact flash (CF) card out of my camera and insert it in my PPC. Now I can look at the pictures using one of several picture programs. On this trip I have Picture Perfect installed. It allows me to view all my pictures, see thumbprints, enlarge them to full screen, zoom in on them for a closer look, and have them in a Slide Show where they automatically change for me. This nifty little program can be found at [www.applian.com](http://www.applian.com).

One of the things I decided to do on this trip was keep track of how much I was spending. I could have used the built in Pocket Excel program but decided to use a program called Traveller instead. I purchased this program from Two Peaks Solutions, Inc. You can find it at [www.twopeaks.com](http://www.twopeaks.com). With this program I was able to keep track of my food purchases, gas expenses, toll roads, and other items as well. It put in my calendar the dates and locations of our destinations to make it easy to keep track of our trip. When using this for a business expense it even exports it so you can print it out in a form your accountant appreciates. When looking at this I found that our major expense using our motor home was gas. The price of gas sure does vary around the country.

Okay, I'm relaxing now-I'm on vacation. I put my feet up on the dash, plug my headphones in and listen to my favorite music using the built in Windows Media Player. It can't get much better than this.

Will I do this again? Time will tell, but with my husband and my Pocket PC probably. I can honestly say having my Pocket PC with me made this trip easier and a lot more fun. I was truly carrying my PC around with me in my pocket! I wonder where we'll take off to next time?

Vacation time is over and I need to get ready for work. My To Do list is getting long - so until next time. . .

# Handspring Launches Next-Generation Treo

New handheld is the first device to support Sprint's nationwide 3G network.

*Matt Berger, IDG News Service*

On the heels of the launch of the first third-generation voice and data network in the United States, handheld maker Handspring Monday released the latest version of its Treo combination phone-PDA that supports the wireless high-speed network.

The Treo Communicator 300 is being made available from Handspring and Sprint PCS Group, based in Overland Park, Kansas, which last week launched its high-speed CDMA 2000 network

capable of sending voice and data to wireless devices at speeds equivalent to a 56-kbps modem connection. "It represents another step in our strategy of reorienting a large part of our business around the wireless space," says David Weilmuenster, director of business development at Handspring, in Mountain View, California. "We believe, in the handheld category, that this particular [wireless] segment is by far the best opportunity for growth."



The previous versions of the Treo, including the Treo 180 and the more recent Treo 270 color version, are based on the GSM wireless telecommunications technology. Few new features have

been added to the latest hardware release, other than its ability to support CDMA 2000 technology, Weilmuenster says.

**Handier Handheld** The Treo 300 runs a customized version 3.5 of the Palm OS that includes features specific to Handspring devices. The Treo 300 includes 16MB of memory and a 33-MHz processor. It features a Web browser, e-mail, and text-messaging software, as well as basic organizer functions, with an added feature for dialing a number directly from the device's phone book.

## The device also has a built-in keyboard and a color screen.

The Treo 300 carries a price tag of \$500 and is available through Sprint PCS sales channels as well as on Handspring's Web site, Handspring said. Pricing for phone and data service on Sprint's network will range from \$45 to \$120 a month, depending on the number of voice minutes and the level of data transmission a user wants, according to Sprint. Handspring is one of the first hardware makers to release a device equipped for Sprint's new 3G network. Other devices that are expected to become available in the coming months include mobile phones from Sanyo Electric and Samsung Electronics, a Sprint-branded digital camera that can e-mail pictures directly from the device, and wireless cards for PCs and laptop computers.

## Antispam Bill Crawls Toward Senate



**Senators try again to can spam**, but privacy advocates say measure isn't tough enough. *Scarlet Pruitt, IDG News Service*

Senator Conrad Burns expressed confidence this week that his proposed legislation against unsolicited advertising e-mail—spam—would pass an upcoming Commerce Committee vote and reach the U.S. Senate floor. This would bring the bill one step closer to becoming the first U.S. federal law that fights spam. The Montana Republican introduced the "Can-Spam Act" along with Senator Ron Wyden, a Democrat from Oregon, saying that the legislation is a necessary step for accelerating the growth of e-commerce.

Burns said Wednesday that based on feedback he has received from colleagues, he is confident the legislation will survive a May 16 markup in the Commerce Committee, of which he is a member, and sail onto to the Senate floor. **Fines Threatened** The Can-Spam Act comes on the heels of earlier similar legislation by Burns and Wyden. The House was considering an antispam bill as well. Neither completed the legislative process, however. The new legislation requires online marketers to include a working return address and prohibits them from using phony or misleading subject headers.

The bill includes enforcement measures that give the U.S. Federal Trade Commission authority to impose fines of up to \$10 per infringing e-mail, with a cap at \$500,000. This amount could be tripled if courts decide that the violation is willful. Additionally, state attorneys general would be allowed to file suits on behalf of residents of their states, and Internet service providers would also be able to file lawsuits to keep spam off of their networks. **Bill Called Weak** However, antispam advocates feel that the bill does not go far enough in stemming the tide of unsolicited e-mail. "This legislation is too weak. It doesn't make spam illegal, and it doesn't allow the people receiving spam the right to sue," said Jason Catlett, president of Junkbusters, a privacy advocacy and antispam group.



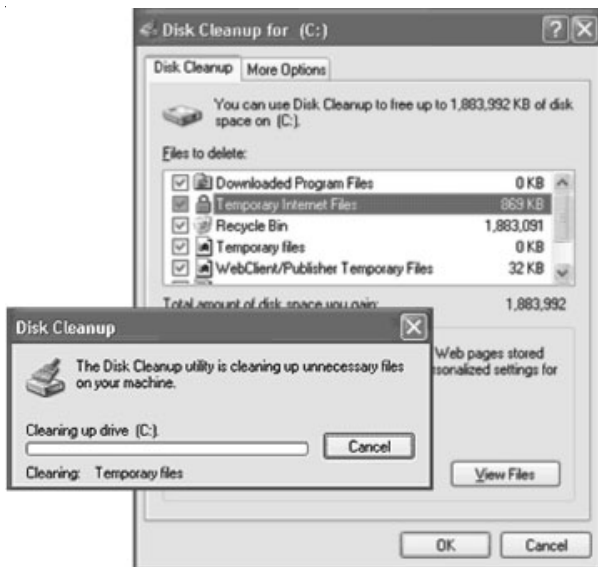
Catlett and other spam opponents are seeking legislation that sets opt-in rules for spam, rather than the Can-Spam Act's opt-out provision, and allows a private right of action for individuals to sue spammers. Because government agencies and state attorneys general have limited resources to fight spam, Burn's bill will do little to deter spammers, Catlett said. However, Congress has

# Step by Step: Reclaim Hard-Drive Space

PCWorld.com

**Windows utilities help you delete unwanted files**, apps, and OS components; convert to FAT32; adjust your browser cache; and defrag your hard drive.

Today's hard drives feature jaw-dropping amounts of space. But no matter how big your drive, you'll be amazed at how quickly application installs, browser caches, and temporary files can eat up your free space and clutter your system. Some simple hard-drive cleaning measures can free up valuable disk space and get rid of applications and data files that you no longer use or want. A raft of commercial utilities can help clear disk space, but you don't need to lay down the bucks to get the job done. Windows has an array of built-in tools for doing a thorough drive cleaning. You can sweep away many megabytes—and sometimes even gigabytes—of unneeded files. As always, before you begin, do a complete backup of your system



## 1. Fire up Windows' Disk Cleanup.

Double-click My Computer, right-click the icon for your C: drive, and choose Properties. Then click the Disk Cleanup button. Windows will show you a list of types of deletable files, along with the space that can be reclaimed from each. Highlight each category for an explanation of what will be swept away, and check the ones you want cleaned out. Then click OK. Windows will ask you to confirm your choice, and then it will delete the files for you. Repeat this step for each hard disk in your PC.



## 2. Remove unneeded Windows components.

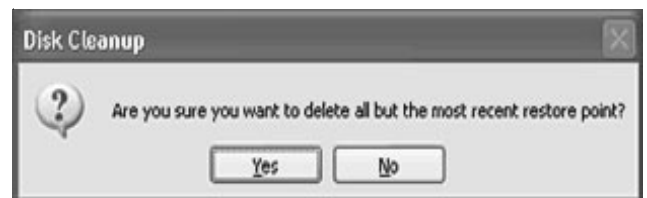
Follow the instructions in step 1 to get to the Disk Cleanup screen. Choose the More Options tab, and click the Clean up button under 'Windows components'. You'll see a list of components you can uninstall. For example, if you don't play games, you can save 12MB by deleting them. Checked components are installed; to uninstall them, first click the check mark to clear it and then click OK on the Details dialog box and Next on the Windows Components Wizard. Then follow the on-screen directions. You can reinstall components later.

## 3. Remove unused applications.

The longer you use Windows, the more likely you are to fill up your hard drive with applications that you rarely use. To see what you've installed, click Clean up in the 'Installed programs' section of the More Options tab. In Windows 98 and Me, you'll go to the Add/Remove Program Properties screen. Highlight the program you want to delete, and click the Add/Remove button. Windows XP gives you more information when you click each application, including how often you use it and how much space it occupies. To remove each application, choose it, click Change, and then follow the directions.

## 4. Delete restore points.

In Windows Me and XP—though not in 98—the system stores settings you can use to "go back" if a system change causes problems. If you do a lot of installing and uninstalling, you'll have many restore points taking up space. To delete all but the most recent one, click Clean up under System Restore on the More Options tab.



## 5. Convert to FAT32.

If you upgraded an old Windows 95 system to 98 or Me, find any FAT drives and convert them to the more-efficient FAT32 system. Right-click each drive icon and pick Properties to list the file system. To convert drives in Win 98, go to Start, Programs, Accessories, System Tools, Drive Converter (FAT32) and follow the directions. Me users should boot from the Emergency Disk created when the OS was installed. To convert a drive, type CVT, press the spacebar, and type the drive letter followed by a colon (for example, CVT C:) at the A:> prompt.

## 6. Adjust your browser cache.

Internet Explorer and other browsers cache Web pages you've accessed. To limit the size of this cache, right-click the Internet Explorer icon and choose Properties. On the General tab, click the Settings button under 'Temporary Internet files'. Decrease the 'Amount of disk space to use' value.



## 7. Finish up.

Make sure all of the deleted files are gone. Empty your Recycle Bin. Finally, defragment each of your hard drives. To do this, open My Computer, right-click the drive icon, and choose Properties. Choose the Tools tab, and click Defragment Now.

*Stan Miastkowski*

### A GROUP OF SENIORS WERE SITTING AROUND TALKING-

"MY ARMS ARE SO WEAK I CAN HARDLY HOLD THIS CUP OF COFFEE," SAID ONE

"YES, I KNOW, MY CATARACTS ARE SO BAD I CAN'T EVEN SEE MY COFFEE," REPLIED ANOTHER.

"THAT HAS GOTTEN TO WHERE I CANNOT HEAR ANYTHING ANYMORE," SAID ONE IN THE LOUDEST VOICE OF THE GROUP.

I CAN'T TURN MY HEAD BECAUSE OF ARTHRITIS IN MY NECK," SAID THE FOURTH,

TO WHICH SEVERAL NODDED WEAKLY IN AGREEMENT. "MY BLOOD PRESSURE PILLS MAKE ME DIZZY," CLAIMED ANOTHER.

"I CAN'T EVEN REMEMBER WHAT I'M DOING HALF THE TIME; IF I DON'T MAKE MYSELF A NOTE, I FORGET WHAT I AM TRYING TO DO IN THE FIRST PLACE," CHIMED ANOTHER.

I GUESS THAT'S THE PRICE WE PAY FOR GETTING OLD," WINCED AN OLD MAN AS HE SHOOK HIS HEAD.

THEN THERE WAS A SHORT MOMENT OF SILENCE..... "THANK THE LORD WE CAN ALL STILL DRIVE."

# Microsoft PowerToys for Windows XP

## Windows XP Professional > Downloads

They're back! PowerToys are additional programs that developers work on after a product has been released to manufacturing. They add fun and functionality to the Windows experience.

Note We've taken great care to ensure that PowerToys operate as they should, but they are not part of Windows and are not supported by Microsoft. For this reason, Microsoft Technical Support is unable to answer questions about PowerToys. PowerToys are for Windows XP only.

### Important Notes

You must uninstall your old PowerToys before installing the new ones. PowerToys will only work with US-English regional settings.

Just look at your PowerToy choices:

### Open Command Window Here

This PowerToy adds an "Open Command Window Here" context menu option on file system folders, giving you a quick way to open a command window (cmd.exe) pointing at the selected folder.

### Alt-Tab Replacement

With this PowerToy, in addition to seeing the icon of the application window you are switching to, you will also see a preview of the page. This helps particularly when multiple sessions of an application are open.

### Tweak UI

This PowerToy gives you access to system settings that are not exposed in the Windows XP default user interface, including mouse settings, Explorer settings, taskbar settings, and more.

### Power Calculator

With this PowerToy you can graph and evaluate functions as well as perform many different types of conversions.

### Image Resizer

This PowerToy enables you to resize one or many image files with a right-click.

### CD Slide Show Generator

With this PowerToy you can view images burned to a CD as a slide show. The Generator works downlevel on Windows 9x machines as well.

### Virtual Desktop Manager

Manage up to four desktops from the Windows taskbar with this PowerToy.

### Taskbar Magnifier

Use this PowerToy to magnify part of the screen from the taskbar.

### HTML Slide Show Wizard

This wizard helps you create an HTML slide show of your digital pictures, ready to place on your Web site.

### Webcam Timershot

This PowerToy lets you take pictures at specified time intervals from a Webcam connected to your computer and save them to a location that you designate.

## Windows XP Update Nears Release

**Service Pack 1** allows more user defaults for applications, adds support for Mira and Freestyle.

*Matt Berger, IDG News Service  
Thursday, August 29, 2002*

The impending update to Microsoft Windows XP is expected to give end users more control over applications that launch by default on PCs, as well as more-advanced wireless connectivity. Microsoft is set to deliver Windows XP Service Pack 1—a set of bug fixes, feature upgrades, and technical tweaks—to manufacturing “in the next ten days,” said Charmaine Gravning, product manager with Microsoft’s Windows division. Eventually users will be able to download it or (soon after) purchase it for \$9.95 on a CD, Gravning said.

The company is required to make the service pack available to all users by November 6 in order to satisfy its proposed antitrust settlement with the U.S. Department of Justice and nine state attorneys general. Antitrust Compliance Service packs are a standard element in Microsoft’s operating system release cycle. The package of updates for Windows XP, however, is especially notable because it will introduce changes to the operating system that bring Microsoft into compliance with the proposed antitrust settlement. For one, users are expected to be able to manually set the default “middleware” applications that open when Windows XP machines boot up.

Microsoft has built two new tools into the Start menu to help it comply with the proposed settlement deal. One is a function that allows users to add and remove their Microsoft middleware applications. The other is a menu designed to allow users to “set program access and defaults” that specify which middleware applications open by default. For example, instead of launching Internet Explorer to view a Web page, the user could set the default to launch the Netscape browser; or the user could launch RealPlayer instead of the Windows Media Player to play back audio or video files.

In its early incarnation, however, the menu will give users limited applications (other than those from Microsoft) to choose from when they try to set new defaults. To make their applications appear in the new menu, third-party vendors must tune them with a set of APIs that Microsoft has disclosed under additional terms of the proposed consent decree. So far, no third-party vendor has made use of those APIs, Gravning said. Users who have already set a third-party application as a default by some other means will be able to use their current settings as the default, she said. License Price Drops

The noticeable changes will occur on vendor-configured PCs, according to Rob Enderle, research fellow with Giga Information Group. “This is more targeted at the OEM installation, so when they ship a PC they will provide a load of software to choose from,” Enderle said. Software vendors are expected to work with PC vendors to outfit their applications to appear in the default setting menu, he said. Other minor upgrades to Windows XP include some changes to the controversial product-activation feature, created to prevent a single copy of Windows from being illegally installed on multiple machines. That feature requires a user to have a unique product key to run the software. Users will be prevented from installing a single copy of Windows XP on a second PC, and will

now be referred to a Microsoft Web site where they can purchase a second product key online. Microsoft plans to begin discounting the price of these additional product keys by \$5, so a second license will cost \$15 to \$30 less than buying another full copy of the OS, Gravning said. With the service pack, Microsoft will outfit its latest operating system to work with new technology that supports a remote control, known by its code name Freestyle.

Windows XP Service Pack 1 will also add support for new systems such as the Tablet PC and the Mira desktop PC, officially known as the Windows Powered Smart Display. Its monitor and CPU are connected wirelessly, allowing users to access their hard drive and the Internet from the detached monitor. These technical changes won’t be apparent to current Windows XP users because both Mira and Freestyle (officially known as the Windows XP Media Center Edition) will work only on specialized PCs in development by some vendors. Hewlett-Packard, for example, will release an entertainment-laden PC with TV and VCR functions based on Freestyle.

## As a courtesy to OCIPUG members the memberships up for renewal are published in the Readme.Doc

### IS YOUR NAME LISTED BELOW ?. DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP.

#### June 2002

Dick Cruse

#### July 2002

Donald Bixler  
Edward Eales  
Rocky Ford  
Helen Martin  
Dennis Matthews  
Jim Petit  
Don Reis

#### August 2002

Cheryl Wester  
Karl Wester  
Larry Thomas  
Richard Hunter  
Bob Fulkerson  
Warren Frandsen  
Robert Strader  
Ruby Strader  
Hugh Wilkoff

#### September 2002

Richard Baznik  
Jesse Bequette  
Marshal Boslow  
Victor Olcott

#### October 2002

Margaret Morgan  
David Yap  
Frank Yaeger  
Ralph Morgan  
William Singleton

#### December 2002

Henry Trinh  
JoAnna Edman  
John Goodman  
Frank Mastroly  
Larry Pearce  
Sandi Tierney



## OCIPUG Board Of Directors Meeting

August 26, 2002

The August Executive Board of Directors Meeting of the Orange Coast IBM PC User Group (OCIPUG) was conducted on August 26, 2002, at the Costa Mesa Senior Center. President Bob Walker called the meeting to order at 7:05pm, with all officers and directors present except Vice President Morris Fier who is still recovering from a medical condition. Incoming Treasurer Kevin Moser, incoming Directors Ed Leckliter and Michael Conway, and member Dave Wintle were also present. The minutes of the July Executive Board of Directors Meeting were approved as published in the July 2002 Readme.Doc and attached to the meeting agenda. The version in the Readme.Doc had typographical errors due to it having been scanned. This has been corrected in the agenda.

**President's Report:** — President Bob Walker reported that he received a letter from Matt McCann of the Katz Brothers saying that for the time being they will no longer be making Quicken presentations to user groups. As a result, there will be no Quicken presentation at the September General meeting.

However, Bob received our semi-annual kit from the Microsoft Mindshare Group Support Program containing the latest versions of Picture It! Digital Image Pro, Encarta 2003, Works 2003, and Money 2003. In addition, the package includes full versions of Publisher 2002 and Front Page 2002, which can be used in preparing our newsletter. Also included are TechNet, trial versions of MapPoint and a book, and a copy of Smart Computing magazine. Finally, the package includes a demo video covering Digital Image Pro, Windows XP Media Center Edition, Windows CE for Smart Displays, Pocket PC, Managing your group's website with Front Page 2002, creating your group's newsletter in Publisher 2002, and the latest in mice and keyboards. Bob will review this material to see what can be presented at the September general meeting.

**Secretary's Report:** — Secretary Frank Mastroly reported that we received one membership renewal during the August general meeting and that the check has been given to the treasurer, with copies of the renewal application given to President Bob Walker, incoming treasurer Kevin Moser, and Director Red Davidson.

**Treasurer's Report:** There was no formal report. Rather, a summary of the activity for the period to date was distributed to all board members. As this the close of the fiscal year, a report for the 2001-2002 year will be prepared and distributed at the next board meeting. There are still some checks outstanding and this will be noted in the report.

**Activities Report:** Because there was no July general meeting due to the Center being closed, the presentation originally planned for that meeting by Dave Wintle was instead presented at the August general meeting (see minutes of the August general meeting). As noted in the President's report, there will be no Quicken presentation in September, but that we have Microsoft Mindshare material to present. Outgoing Director Chris Davidson still has material on Windows XP that can be presented at the September general meeting, perhaps in addition to the material received from Microsoft Mindshare (see also President's report). Director Sandi Tierney still plans to have a representative from PC Club to attend the September meeting and perhaps later assist us in getting vendor representatives to give presentations.

Member Cheryl Wester is tentatively scheduled to give a presentation on the Pocket PC at either the October or November meeting depending upon her schedule.

**SIG Report:** For the sake of completeness, the SIG reports from the August general meeting are presented below.

- \* Quicken (1st Tuesday, 9/4/2002, Dan Dickinson) - As SeniorNet will be receiving Quicken 2003, we will demonstrate how the program is installed and the initial steps is setting up accounts

- \* Internet (1st Wednesday, 9/5/2002, Bob Strader) - We will demonstrate Go Live

- \* Hardware (2nd Tuesday, 9/11/2002, Ed Leckliter) - Will discuss hardware, such as fans, power supplies, NIC cards, etc.

- \* Hardware (2nd Wednesday, 9/12/2002, Ed Leckliter) - Using files and folders (Chapter 5 in Windows XP Step-By-Step book)

- \* Windows 98 (3rd Tuesday, 9/18/2002, Bob Strader) - To be determined

- \* Digital Photography (4th Tuesday, 8/29/2002, Bob Strader) - Herb Huey has promised to give a demonstration of the Canon G-2 4 mega pixel digital camera. Also, time permitting Bob Strader will demonstrate After Shot from JASC, which allows you to create photo albums and then burn them to self-contained CDs. SIG Coordinator Bob Strader again asked if there would be any interest in having a Pocket PC SIG, now that several members own them. Also, as usual, volunteers were requested to assume some of the SIG responsibilities.

**SeniorNet Report:** Secretary Frank Mastroly reported that the schedule for the next session of classes, which starts Monday September 9, 2002, is as reported at the July board meeting.

During August, the E-Machine was connected to the TV with both Windows 98SE and Windows XP installed in a dual boot configuration. In addition, as a trial effort, one of the class computers has successfully been set-up likewise using the new 20gb hard drive. However, for the classes starting in September, the 20gb drive will be disconnected with only the 6gb drive with Win98SE active.

**Community Service Report:** No report

**Election Committee Report:** The election results were reported by Dan Dickinson at the August General meeting as follows:

- \* President - Leonard Stein

- \* Vice President - Robert Strader

- \* Secretary - Frank Mastroly

- \* Treasurer/CFO - Kevin Moser

- \* Directors 2004 (Two Years) - Red Davidson and Ed Leckliter

- \* Directors 2003 (One Year) - Sandi Tierney and Michael Conway

Outgoing President (who will stay on the board as Past President) Bob Walker swore in the new board members. The new officers will assume office on September 1, 2002.

**Facilities Report:** — See Maintenance And Improvement Report below.

**Maintenance And Improvement:** Incoming Director and Hardware SIG leader Ed Leckliter has repaired the club computer. Both the BIOS and Restore functions are password protected, and Director Red Davidson has the passwords. However, Ed only installed Windows XP, as he felt that the current 10gb hard drive is too small for a dual boot configuration. In a motion by Leonard Stein, seconded by Frank Mastroly, and carried, Red Davidson, with inputs from Ed Leckliter, was authorized to spend up to \$80 for a new 40 or 60gb hard drive. The existing 10gb drive will be retained for additional data storage.

Publications Report: President Bob Walker reported that the September Readme.Doc would be published as soon as all inputs are received. He has received inputs from most of the SIG leaders, as well as material from Member Cheryl Wester.

Advertisings and Public Relations Report: No report, as Vice President Morris Fier was absent as he is still recovering from his recent illness.

Membership Report: Director Red Davidson reported that the rosters that he and President Bob Walker have are in full agreement. We currently have 70 paid-up members. Red will give a copy of his membership database in Works format to incoming Treasurer/CFO Kevin Moser.

Director Sandi Tierney again repeated her suggestion that each board member try to sign up at least one new member each year. She reported that she gives out her business card whenever she can, and wondered if it were possible to distribute copies of the Readme.Doc (this issue was left unresolved). Finally, she stressed the importance of publicizing OCIPUG at the SeniorNet classes, as we have had several new members join after taking SeniorNet classes.

#### Old Business

Norton Anti-Virus - Director Bob Strader has updated our subscription to receive live updates from Symantec.

Membership E-Mail List - President Bob Walker and Director Red Davidson are continuing to update their membership rosters, with emphasis on having the current e-mail addresses of all members. Thus all members are requested to e-mail any changes to both Red and Bob.

Membership Dues Update - President Bob Walker reported that the September Readme.Doc will list those members who renewals were due in June, July, and August.

APCUG General Conference/Comdex Exhibition: There will be an APCUG conference in Las Vegas starting November 16, 2002, in conjunction with Comdex which starts the following Monday. Currently, Bob Walker, Incoming President Leonard Stein, Secretary Frank Mastroly, Director Sandi Tierney, and members Morris Fier and Cheryl Wester plan to attend.

SIG Reports For Readme.Doc: Once again President Bob Walker repeated his request that SIG leaders provide both a summary of the most recent SIG and a brief synopsis of what is planned for the next SIG for inclusion in the Readme.Doc.

#### New Business:

New Budget: A proposed new budget for the fiscal year starting September 1, 2002, was distributed to all board members. There was a brief discussion of several items. All board members were requested to review the proposed budget for discussion at the September board meeting. One unresolved issue was the possible merger of the money market account with the cash budget.

Long Range Planning: Bob Walker will present a long-range plan for discussion at the September board meeting.

Calendar For 2002-2003 — Incoming President Leonard Stein will distribute a detailed day-by-day schedule for the year beginning September 1, 2002 at the September board meeting.

Older Computer From SeniorNet Classes — The PC previously used in the SeniorNet classes for the TV has been returned to OCIPUG. It has not yet been decided as to its final disposition. It will most likely be refurbished and donated to a local community service group.

Search For New Webmaster - President Bob Walker reported that Michael Moore may be able to reassume the position of OCIPUG Webmaster in the near future. However, we may still need a temporary (or permanent) replacement depending upon Michael's availability.

#### Miscellaneous:

The key to the club computer has been given to incoming President Leonard Stein, while the key to the club post office box was given to Secretary Frank Mastroly.

We need to get a revised bank account signature card as a result of the change in officers. Secretary Frank Mastroly will e-mail the previous request letter to Bob Walker for revision.

A sealed package containing the ballots of the recent election has been given to Secretary Frank Mastroly. Per the by-laws, this package is to be retained for three years.

Director Red Davidson brought up the possible need to revise the Policy and Procedures manual. Incoming Treasurer Kevin Moser will e-mail a copy of the current manual to all board members.

New committee assignments will be presented at the September board meeting. It was pointed out that one does not have to be on the board to serve on a committee.

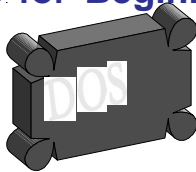
Adjournment: Moved by Director Red Davidson, seconded by Secretary Frank Mastroly, and carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm. The next board meeting will be on Monday, September 30, 2002, at 7:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Mastroly, Secretary

## Tips 'n Tricks for Beginners

Tom Coleman



Everyone is good at something. It gets to be frustrating when you are not good at what you are trying to do. I am hopeless at creating Web Pages. My last few efforts put me off permanently so that now I farm out the job. There is a limit to how much new knowledge you can absorb. We need to decide that there are some things that we choose not to know. Then if it comes up we can “pass on that one”. I believe that this attitude can be a real saviour when it comes to computing. No one can be good at everything so a list of priorities helps to save time and stress. However it can be an excuse to be lazy or to spend money instead of learning or developing better habits.

### DOS Can Help!

No one needs to learn DOS these days. Whilst a grasp of DOS will make some things easier, or even possible, generally it is not part of today's computing requirements. That said, there are still a few tricks that are useful. For example you can spend a lot of time resolving the source of a printing problem using Windows. Some printer programs are better than others at assisting your troubleshooting a printer. If the printer works from the DOS prompt then the problem is not the printer, nor the cable, nor the port. If it does not work from DOS, then the problem is the printer, the printer cable or the printer port. If it prints from DOS then the problem is in Windows or the program you are using.

How do you print from DOS? You can go to Start | Programs | MSDOS Prompt or Start | Shut Down | Restart in MS DOS mode. Either way you will end up at the DOS prompt. It looks like this  
C:\WINDOWS>

if you went through Start | Programs | MSDOS Prompt . Otherwise it will be

```
C:>
```

Both of these prompts are followed by a flashing cursor. At the DOS prompt type in  
DIR \*.TXT

and press {enter}. This will give you a listing of files with a TXT extension. These files are usually plain text files, they have no formatting and they are usually easy to print. Now, if your list of files is too long for the screen just type  
DIR \*.TXT/P

and press {enter}. This will cause the list to pause at each screen full. And for the smartypants who know too much. Do not use DIR \*.TXT/W because we want to see the size of the files. You should pick a file that is less than about 3000 bytes. The files size is the first group of numbers after the file name and extension. The idea of picking a file of less than 3000 bytes is that this will all fit on one page. There is no point in printing multiple pages if all you want to do is to see whether or not the printer prints anything.

Of course you may get the dreaded “File Not Found” message. In this case substitute \*.BAT or \*.INF for the \*.TXT.

### Test the Printer

Having chosen a file of an appropriate length (There is a nice one called SUPPORT.TXT in C:\WINDOWS in W98 SE) you can send it off to the printer with the command COPY SUPPORT.TXT PRN

Of course, this assumes your printer is plugged in, turned on and has paper in it.

If the printer springs into action and produces the appropriate work, all well and good. However some documents, for reasons best known to troublemakers and malcontents, lack the signal to tell the printer to spit the page out. This is known as a Form Feed.

The form feed signal is the ASCII number 12 which we can generate at the DOS prompt with ^L (L is the twelfth letter of the alphabet). This is also known as Control L (also written as Ctrl+L), because you make it by holding down the Control key and tapping the L key once.

You need to send the Form Feed off to the printer, so the command ECHO ^L > PRN will do the trick.

Translated into English this means Make a copy of a Form Feed and send it to the printer ECHO ^L > PRN



Management at the Zebco Novelty Co. continued to be puzzled by the company's declining productivity.



**OCIPUG**  
 Orange Coast IBM  
 PC User Group  
 (OCIPUG)©

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

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**Publication Deadline**

Material for the **October** issue must be received on or before **September 20, 2002**  
 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 or bring to the General Meeting.

|                    |         |          |
|--------------------|---------|----------|
| Individual         | \$30.00 | \$ _____ |
| Family             | \$35.00 | \$ _____ |
| *Full-time student | \$20.00 | \$ _____ |
| Donation           |         | \$ _____ |

I consider my skill level to be:  
 Beginner  Novice  Intermediate  Advanced

Total Amount Paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \*(U-grad 12 units; grad 6 units)

I learned about OCIPUG from: \_\_\_\_\_

Today's Date : \_\_\_\_\_