

Amateur Computer Group of New Jersey NEWS

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Robert H. Todd
1942-2001



<http://www.acgnj.org>

Founded 1975

Bob Todd Dead at 58

Bob Todd, one of the early members of ACGNJ, and Editor/Publisher of the ACGNJ News for many years, died in Philadelphia on March 2, 2001 after an extended illness. He was born on August 12, 1942 in Ontario, Canada, raised in New York, and was very proud of being a naturalized United States citizen.

Old time members of ACGNJ, NYACC, PACS, PHUG, TCF, Denver PA HUG, and Frazer HUG will remember Bob as a very active member of all of these groups. In the many years before the World Wide Web, Bob was one of the driving forces behind the SIG/M and PC/Blue software libraries. He distributed disks containing CP/M, and later, PC/MSDOS software to hundreds of computer clubs throughout the world. Over the years, Bob was a member of the Board of Directors of ACGNJ, NYACC, PACS, and PHUG as well as a key member of the TCF Steering Committee. He contributed many articles to the club newsletters, gave presentations at meetings, and helped in other countless ways.

He was very heavily involved in the music community in the Philadelphia Area, including the Philly Folk Society, The Cherry Tree, and The Sacred Harp Shape

note singers, and was author/performer of a large body of children's music. He was also actively involved in the martial arts when he was able.

During his professional career, he was a partner in Graphnet Systems, and had worked for many years for First Ann Arbor Corporation as a software engineer and was responsible for the guidance software for the missiles in many military aircraft.

Those who worked with Bob on his various projects developed a profound respect for his dedication, and the countless hours he devoted to these efforts, as well as his generosity and willingness to help others resolve their computer hardware and software problems.

Few knew that for many years Bob suffered from a painful and debilitating illness called Crone's Disease. This made it impossible for him to hold a job or participate in many of his activities during the last years of his life and ultimately contributed to his death.

Our thanks to Sol Libes and David H. Lynch (Bob's partner in Graphnet Systems) for their recollections of Bob. ☐

Trenton Computer Festival — Saturday and Sunday May 5 and 6

Visit <http://www.tcf-nj.org/>

Back issues of ACGNJ News are available in PDF format with hyperlinks at <http://lightning.prohosting.com/~acgnj/>

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Tips for reviewers: Why does anyone need it? Why did you like it or hate it? Ease (or difficulty) of installation, learning and use. Would you pay for it?

Advertising: Non-commercial announcements from members are free. Commercial ads 15 cents per word, \$5 minimum. Camera ready display ads: Full page (7 x 10 inches) \$150, two-thirds page (4½ x 10) \$115, half-page \$85, one-third \$57, quarter \$50, eighth \$30. Discount 10% on 3 or more consecutive insertions. Enclose payment.

Publication Exchange: Other computer user groups are invited to send a subscription to ACGNJ at the address below. We will respond in kind.

Address Changes should be directed to Charlie Huffsmith (chaz026@aol.com) and/or to his attention at ACGNJ at the address below.

Membership, including subscription: 1 year \$25, 2 years \$40, 3 years \$55. Student or Senior Citizen (over 65): 1 year \$20, 3 years \$45. Family of member, without subscription, \$10 per year. Send name, address and payment to ACGNJ, PO Box 135, Scotch Plains NJ 07076.

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E-Mail Addresses

Here are the e-mail addresses of ACGNJ Officers, Directors and SIG Leaders (and the Newsletter Editor). This list is also on the ACGNJ Web Page (<http://www.acgnj.org/officers.htm>).

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From The DealsGuy

Bob Click, Greater Orlando Computer Users Group (dealsguy@mindspring.com)

New To The Column

Greg Lenihan, editor for Pike's Peak Computer Application Society's newsletter, and Amy Kriston, editor for Baltimore PC User Group's newsletter, e-mailed me about using the column. With lightning-like deliberation, my answer was "absolutely yes." They even included the information for my Web site in their request, which is rare. You will find their club's data and a Web site link on my distribution page.

Pike's Peak has gone to all electronic newsletters and Baltimore is in the process of doing the same, as have a number of other groups. I've been thinking about giving up on this column, but with this continued support, I'm still hooked. I just wish I could get more of the missing groups that use my column listed. Please e-mail me if your user group information is missing. One vendor was not impressed with my number count on the distribution page. How do I explain that it is still incomplete?

I Must Be Important

At a Greater Orlando Computer UG meeting the other evening, I decided to show the members the "AdAware" software I wrote about last month. Since I spend very little time on the Net, and only use a dial-up connection, I was dumbfounded when it found seven items on my hard drive that it didn't like. A knowledgeable member said they are all spyware. Of course I checked the box to get rid of them. Oh yes, I also have Norton Internet Security.

Talk About Spying!!

Fortunately, I don't get much of it, but many people have a habit of forwarding all kinds of jokes, sayings and other information they think their friends should know about. Some even forward advertisements they think you'd like. Two problems — they usually don't remove all the headers and Cc addresses, and many experienced computer users don't want all that junk. Think about it, you have just compromised all those people's e-mail addresses that were Cc'ed (carbon copy) when they should have been Bcc (blind carbon copy), and they might even be passed on again. I know if I were on that list, I wouldn't appreciate my name being passed around like spam, and possibly put in a "spam" address list.

Further, it is possible for the original sender of a message, usually spam, to include JavaScript code capable of actually reporting back to the original sender information concerning: if you read the message, if you forwarded it to somebody and who it was. It is even possible for this embedded code to capture part or all of any added text you might have forwarded and report it back as well. This JavaScript could also be used to send a proposal to someone and have the private messages of the other participants discussing it sent back to the original sender, unbeknownst to the recipients.

There is much more on this subject, so I suggest you go to <http://www.privacyfoundation.org> and learn more about all this. Learn how to turn off the JavaScript in your software, but that

doesn't stop it from still being in the forwarded message to the next person.

How Low Can It Go?

Many consider Net Object's Fusion 5.0 an excellent high-end Web development product and I noticed it listed for a second time in a PC Connection catalog at only \$49.95 after a \$50 mail-in rebate. Looks like they really want your business, so if you are interested, call PC Connection at 1-800-800-5555. It used to be \$495.00 when it was introduced a few years ago.

Prevent The Cat From Chasing Your Mouse

A few months ago I wrote about the CueCat, which was designed to actually be a spy if you installed their software. Now I find it doesn't have to be that way. Some may have read the article by Barbara Kreiss of Amador Computer Users Group about the CueCat, but for those who didn't, Barbara has given me permission to include an excerpt.

She says "Check out <http://www.readerware.com>, for a product that has been around for a while that now supports the CueCat, and with no tracking. Want to catalog your library? Swipe the bar codes, it does the rest. They actually have Linux support too. It is the CueCat software that does the tracking, so avoid CueCat's software and you have a very useful device with a great price." While the CueCat is free from Radio Shack, this software will cost you \$40 if you register it.

Pocket Sized Storage

You may remember my writing about the neat little Pockey drive I found at Comdex, and how small it is. I had occasion to correspond with their marketing manager and asked them for a deal. My Pockey drive easily fits in my tee shirt pocket and the twenty-gig model is the same size. Just plug it into your USB slot, install the drivers, and it comes to life. You also get two USB cables and a cloth pouch for it. I love mine and it does a good job. Inside, it contains a 2½" hard drive. As for speed, it is only limited by the USB capabilities. Go to <http://www.pockeydrives.com> for pictures and more info.

Their "Bob Click" offer is thus: Call Pockey Drives direct at 1-877-7POCKEY (1-877-776-2539) and mention "Bob Click." Pockey will give you a \$50 discount on the 10-gig drive (MSRP \$299.95, final answer — \$249.95), or \$80 discount on the 20-gig drive (MSRP \$399.00, final answer — \$319.95). A friend said it's better than you can find on the Web. They didn't mention deals on the 6-gig model. I don't know the S&H. They are great people to deal with.

I might also mention that I was told the reason I can't get mine to work on my Toshiba laptop is because Toshiba used some defective NEC chips in some of their laptops. Looks like I am back gunning for justice again. For more about that problem, goto <http://www.usb.org/forums/retail/messages/8286.html>.

I've Been Waiting For This One

I was promised this at Fall Comdex in Las Vegas and I finally ran into Dave Whittle again at a local user group presentation. He graciously delivered even better than originally promised.

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What's in a Name?

Vic Laurie, PPCUG (hampsi@bigfoot.com)

Everyone is acquainted with the usual type of address or URL (Uniform Resource Locator) used for Web sites. Things like www.microsoft.com have become as familiar to us as street addresses. The word "dotcom" has even become part of the language (and not just in English). However, the common form of addresses that we use, which contain letters and recognizable names, is for the convenience of humans only and is not actually the kind of Web addresses used by computers.

The Name Game

Human memory being what it is, some form of mnemonic aid is necessary for us, but computers need no such help and use numbers called *IP addresses*. Ultimately, computers work with 32-bit binary representations, but there are several equivalent formats for IP (Internet protocol) addresses. The one generally used is the so-called "dotted-decimal" form (also known as "dotted quad"). A dotted-decimal IP address has 4 numeric segments, each separated by a period. The numbers must range from 0 to 255 (eight bits). In this representation, Microsoft's real Web address is 207.46.230.229. (At least it was when I wrote this. Try it in your browser.) There are also other formats that you may encounter. For example, spammers may try to obfuscate an address with octal or hex formats. A good discussion of the multitude of ways to make addresses obscure is at <http://www.samspade.org/>. If you encounter a long URL with a number of % signs, you have probably run into one of these other formats. One place to go to get these types of URLs deciphered is <http://www.samspade.org/>.

Obviously, there must be some consistent system to the form that URLs have. Also every computer on the Internet has to have a unique address assigned to it. Keeping order and coordinating URLs on the Internet was originally done under the auspices of the US Federal government through organizations like the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) and the Inter-Networking Information Center (InterNic). More information on IANA can be found at <http://www.iana.org/> and on InterNic at <http://www.internic.net/>. The coordination has been privatized and is now administered by The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) whose home page is <http://www.icann.org/>.

The formats used for URLs come from standards proposed and agreed to in the beginnings of the Internet. Those with a historical/technical bent can read the papers at the Ohio State collection <http://www.cis.ohio-state.edu/Services/rfc/index.html>. For example, Tim Berners-Lee and others set forth the form for URLs in <http://www.cis.ohio-state.edu/htbin/rfc/rfc1738.html>. In schematic form, the prescription for a URL is

```
<protocol>://<user>:<password>@<host>[:<port>]/<url-path>
```

(The brackets indicate particular individual components and are not part of the actual URL.)

Let us consider each of these parts in turn. "Protocol" designates how the information is transmitted and retrieved. A colon and two forward slashes always follow the designation of the protocol. The colon is an integral part of the protocol name and denotes a device or process (similar to the colon in

drive designations). The two slashes indicate that we are seeking something on a remote computer. There are 10 different protocols mentioned in the document by Berners-Lee cited above as well as others but the typical PC user will almost always be dealing with the familiar *Hypertext Transfer Protocol* (*http* or in its more secure form *https*.) This refers to the format that uses hyperlinks, graphics, etc. coded in various versions of *hypertext markup language* (*html*) that our browsers know how to download and resolve into pages to display on our computers. This protocol is so overwhelmingly used that the *http://* part of URLs is often omitted and need not be entered into browsers anymore. The only other protocol that the typical user may encounter is *File Transfer Protocol* (*ftp*) whose name is self-explanatory. For example, there is a site for getting files at Microsoft with the address <ftp://ftp.microsoft.com/Softlib/index.txt>. Those who upload files may need FTP software but all the common browsers handle downloading of files.

The "user:password@" section is rarely encountered by the average user. It allows you to enter your user name and password for sites where they are required. It can also be used to obscure a URL. For example, you can substitute any fake name and password in <http://myname:mypassword@www.microsoft.com>, and it still works the same as <http://www.microsoft.com>. Try it.

We almost always encounter the "host:port" segment without the port specification. The average user need never think about "ports" in this context and discussing exactly what they are would lead us too far afield. It is enough to say that certain ports are assigned by default to each protocol when none is specifically designated. For example, HTTP is assigned port number 80. The "host" is the computer where the information that we want resides. As is the case for the example there are often three parts to the host name separated by periods or "dots". The first part refers to a name for a specific computer. It is often called "www" for World Wide Web but other names are common. The second part ("microsoft") is the local network where the computer resides, and the third ("com") is one of the so-called "generic top-level domains." Until recently, these domains were limited to *com*, *edu*, *org*, *net*, *mil*, *gov*, and *int*. At the moment the situation is in flux with ICANN currently in the middle of adding new domains. Check at <http://www.icann.org/tlds/> for details. The *com*, *net*, and *org* domains are available to persons and businesses worldwide (after proper registration). Originally, they were intended to be descriptive with *com*, *net*, and *org* meaning "commercial", "network", and "(non-profit) organization", respectively. However, these meanings have become blurred. Anyone can apply for a domain containing *org*, for example. The *edu* (education) domain is for properly registered four-year institutions of higher learning, *i.e.* colleges and universities. The *mil* domain is reserved exclusively for the United States Military and *gov* is reserved exclusively for the US Government. Certain organizations established by international

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treaty use *int* (for example, the UN). (For more discussion of these domains, see <http://www.iana.net/domain-names.htm>.)

Each country has a top-level domain of two letters to use as they may see fit. France is *fr*, Germany is *de*, and so forth. A list of country domains is at <http://www.iana.net/cctld/cctld-whois.htm>. (The little Pacific island nation of Tuvalu decided to cash in on its domain (*tv*) and sold the rights to it for \$50 million.)

The last part of our address, “/url-path”, is the path on the host computer to the particular page or file we wish to download. This part will often have the name of a directory, then some subdirectories and then a file, perhaps an *html* document. Naming will be similar to the paths on your own computer with the exception that **forward** slashes are used instead of back slashes to indicate subdirectories. For example, in <http://www.microsoft.com/windows98/usingwindows/maintaining/default.asp>, “default.asp” is a page (in a particular kind of format, ASP, that Microsoft likes) located in the sub-directory “maintaining” which is in the higher sub-directory “usingwindows” located in the directory “windows98” stored on the computer called “www” at Microsoft. (I use the term “directory” because a lot of Internet servers are UNIX machines but Microsoft probably calls them “folders”.)

Name or DNS Servers

When your browser sends off a request to your Internet service provider (ISP) asking to connect you to www.microsoft.com, the computer at the ISP (AOL, MSN or wherever) has to look up what those letters mean. The ISP will make use of a special computer (or probably computers) called a “name server” or sometimes a “DNS server.” DNS stands for “Domain Naming System”. These computers have databases that allow them to translate the human-friendly form into something that computers understand. The translation processes take some time, and if the name servers used by your ISP happen to be busy, the delay may be noticeable. (For a discussion of the DNS process go to <http://webcompare.internet.com/dns/index.html>.) If the DNS computer can't find the address you send it, you will get an error message. An error message could also mean that the computer at the site you are addressing is busy, that the ISP server is busy, or come from a variety of other causes. If you are reasonably sure you have entered a correct URL, try again.

The name server used by your ISP itself has an address which (in dotted-decimal format) is part of the information needed to configure your computer for your Internet connection. The installation software provided by most ISPs takes care of this but it is worth noting how to do this manually. For ISPs using normal TCP/IP (Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol, which includes almost everybody except AOL) the Windows applet Dial-Up Networking can be used to set up a connection. Along with the local telephone number of the ISP, your account name and password, it will require at least one (two is customary) DNS address (Fig. 1). Your ISP will provide this information.

DNS systems have figured in some recent Web hacks involving, among other things, denial-of-service attacks. For example, during a period of several days in January most of

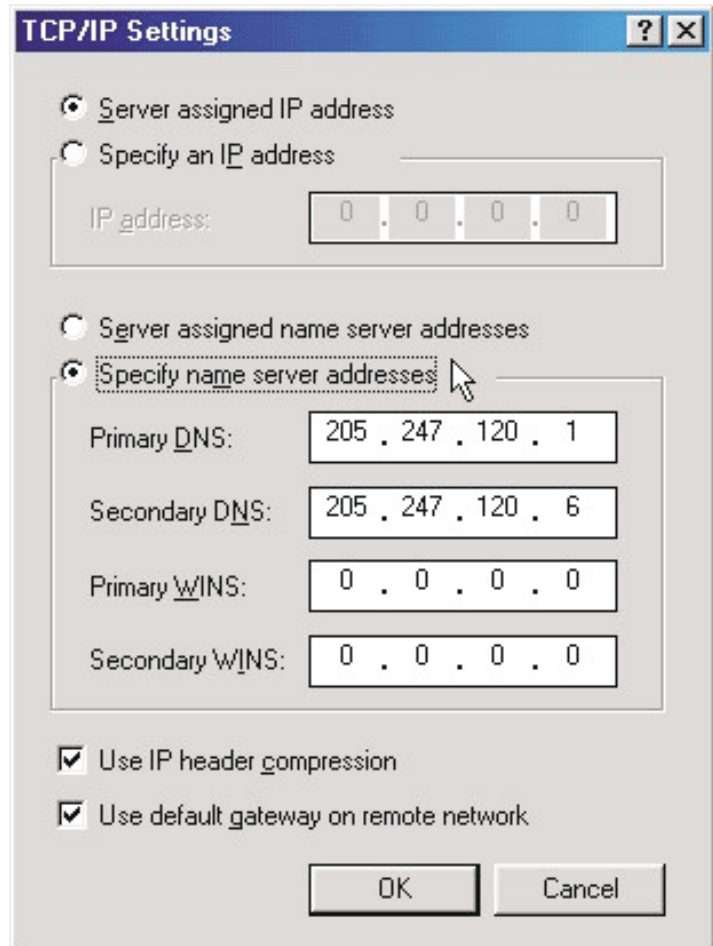


Figure 1. DNS Settings

Microsoft's sites were down at various intervals. For more details see <http://www.zdnet.com/zdnn/stories/news/0,4586,2681845,00.html>

What's My Name?

Note that your own computer must have an IP address when it is connected to the Internet. Dial-up ISPs are assigned a block of these addresses and they temporarily provide your computer with one of them each time you sign on. Thus the address will vary each time you go on-line (but will always come from the ISP's assigned block). However, cable and DSL connections often have a permanently assigned IP address. If you are curious about which address you have when you are on the Internet, you can make use of an often-overlooked utility called “Winipcfg” that comes with Windows. Your Windows folder should contain a file *winipcfg.exe*. To use it, go to **Start|Run** and enter *winipcfg* into the Run line. It will also run in a DOS box. If for some reason you wish a record of your IP address, enter *Ctrl+c* from the keyboard. A copy of your settings will be placed in the Clipboard. From there it can be pasted into another application.

Acknowledgement

My thanks go to Sol Libes and Joel May for reading over the manuscript of this article. ☺

Scylla And Charybdis

Burton Shane (bshane39@yahoo.com)

Humanity has always responded with creativity and ingenuity to the challenges of life. For twenty years we have enjoyed the increasing power and utility of the personal computer but recently, it seems that we have become the victims of diminishing returns as imperceptible speed increases and saturated market penetration (>50% in the U.S.) have altered a netscape accustomed to doubling and tripling performance levels, and exponential growth.

The future is bright, however, though the twin barriers of bandwidth and storage capacity must be overcome. The bandwidth bottleneck, which prevents our enjoyment of full-screen, full-motion video, is diminishing as DSL and Cable modems gain popularity. The future promises even more as DirecTV and other wireless satellite systems demonstrate the feasibility of wide-spread internet availability in countries unable to afford an expensive, hard-to-build, hard-wired infra-structure.

Technologically speaking, storage has proven to be a knottier problem. Yes, we can now purchase \$100 10 Gigabyte Hard Drives, but 10 Gigabytes is required to store one high-quality, 2 hour movie. CDRWs have given us \$1 disks holding one Gigabyte. DVD-R (re-writable) gives us \$20 disks holding 10 Gigabytes, and DVD disks are readily available at your local movie video rental stores.

The real break-through in storage, however, is MFD, Multi-layer Fluorescent Disk (1 Gigabyte/sec throughput as compared with the fastest 160 MB/sec Hard Drive). This and similar technologies (functioning drives have already been demonstrated) will eventually provide one Terabyte (1000 Gigabytes!) disks. Enough storage to hold the fabled Library of Alexandria! We will stamp them out like cookies, and fling them like frisbees onto the vaunted monoliths of Scylla and Charybdis as we go sailing unhampered out to the vasty deep on our un-ending quest for knowledge.

Meanwhile, for entertainment, you can preview this brave new world of unlimited storage and light-speed throughput. Free registration at <http://www.cinemapop.com> gives you free access to several hundred B movies that filled out TV schedules in the '50s. For only \$5 per month, you have unlimited access to their entire film library (more ancient B movies).

Last night, I registered at <http://www.alwaysi.com> They offer 3 free full-length movies and current movie trailers. For \$5 per month, you get unlimited access to thousands of classic movies and experimental new films. We watched Van Heflin, Kirk Douglas, and Barbara Stanwyck in a fatal love triangle, a somber example of film noir. One-half screen with DSL provided satisfactory viewing. Full screen leaves something to be desired. Like clarity.

Ad Astera Per Aspera — To the Stars (Movie) Through Difficulties (Narrow Bandwidth and Limited Storage)

Dealsguy, *continued from page 3*

This is a great offer during April and May — be sure to take advantage. Since these prices are the same as he offers at user group presentations, this is a great chance for small groups with an attendance too small to qualify for Dave's official presentations. I'm sure all of you are familiar with the products — if not, check their Web site at <http://www.mgissoftware.com>, so I'll simply list the prices. I was especially impressed when he converted a group of pictures to a panoramic view. Here are the deals:

MGI PhotoSuite 4 (retail \$49.95)— special \$30

MGI VideoWave 4 (retail \$99.95) — special \$50

Bundle of PhotoSuite 4 + VideoWave 4 (retail \$149.90) — special \$60

MGI PhotoVista 2.0 (retail \$49.99) — special \$25

MGI SoftDVD MAX 4.0 (retail \$39.99) — special \$20

Set of all 4 titles (retail \$239.88) — special \$90

Add \$6.95 for shipping (Dave says he'll offer FREE S&H *IF* you write "DealsGuy" on your order!)

You may order by US mail if you pay by check, or by fax or mail if you pay with VISA or MasterCard. Please provide your name, complete mailing address, phone number, and e-mail address. Then list the product(s) ordered and the prices. Total it all up and include your check or credit card # with expiration date, and signature. Send your order to:

Webworking Services

653 North 600 East

Springville, UT, 84663

Or fax your order (CC orders only) to 1-801-489-0609

All Together Now, Synchronize - Say What?

LapLink was one of the APCUG sponsors at Fall Comdex events and took very good care of us at their event. At the event, I talked to their Sr. Public Relations Manager who sent me this special offer for APCUG members. LapLink's PCsync is normally \$69.95, but temporarily you can purchase PCsync for just \$49.95 (US). They demonstrated it in the presentation and we saw large data files virtually fly from one laptop to another. Key benefits include:

Move large files or groups of files quickly

PCsync's ultra-fast USB Network cable and serial cable included!

Designate a folder on your hard drive to share with other PCsync users.

Securely access files over the Internet.

To take advantage of this offer, call LapLink at 1-800-343-8080 and tell them you are an APCUG member.

That's it for this month. Meet me here again next month if your editor permits. This column is written to make user group members aware of special offers I have found or arranged, and my comments should not be interpreted to encourage, or discourage, the purchase of products, no matter how enthused I might sound. Bob (The Cheapskate) Click . Visit <http://www.dealsguy.com> for past columns. Also, I keep adding to my "articles of interest" there. ☺

On Track's System Suite 3.0

Dick Freymoyer PPCUG (dickfrey1@aol.com)

You may remember that when I tested On Track's System Suite 2000, I found that System Suite was almost as good as Symantec's System Works. I expected this revision to be even greater. Version 3.0 supports Windows 95; 98, ME, Windows 2000; Fat, Fat32 and NTFS file systems.

System Suite 3.0 has 6 powerful integrated program utilities (Fix-It Utilities; Crisis Center; Virus Scanner; Easy Uninstall; Crash Proof and Data Eraser), so you get a lot for your money. You also get a seventh program, a powerful file manager for free-PowerDesk 4 Pro as well as a great Zip program. If you were to buy these as separate programs, it would probably involve big bucks. The Suite looks the same, as far as the 10 groups of utilities are concerned, but there the similarity ends. OnTrack has added several new features and improved on some of the existing features

Loading System Suite 3.0 was problem-free — it loaded in about 2½ minutes, even creating a rescue disk. The first thing I noticed was that you now have a choice of Typical or Custom Installation. Under the Custom, you select what Utilities to load, so if you like the Anti-Virus program you already have, you don't have to install another. The rescue disk you make when loading the program and revise whenever you make changes to your system will help you restore your computer even if you can't get into it in the safe mode. It doesn't work like Power Quest's Second Chance or Wild File's Go Back, but it could save you from a major disaster. When you boot with the Rescue disk, an 8-choice menu comes up: Help, Edit (text editor), Partition (does fdisk and partitions your drive), File Undelete (works only if files have not been overwritten), Back-Up (the safest way to recover files), System Restore (restores the files you have found to their original location), Disk Fixer (repairs errors in the hard drive structure) and Command Line (DOS prompt). The rescue disk loads a mouse driver, your CD drive, and other devices; it also makes a RAM drive, where it copies everything you need for recovery. After you finish loading System Suite and have rebooted, you should register your program and check for updates. With all this done, let's look at the new items and see if any of the needed revisions are there.

Jet Defrag (in the Disk & Files menu) looks like last year's issue, but is even faster. The drive is still divided into 4 zones, and it still does not allow locating files like the Swap file where you want them.

DataEraser has been added. This writes zeros to your hard drive, permanently preventing recovery. You must run this program from a floppy disk, which will be made from within your Windows environment. After the disk is made, you reboot into the floppy and the program overwrites all data on your hard drive. A printable Validation Certificate will be created on the floppy disk. If you sell or donate a computer or drive, this will make sure you are not giving away sensitive data with it. In a corporate environment, you will want to print the certificate to make the boss happy. (Western Digital's free Diagnostic Utilities contains a similar program.)

PC Diagnostics (System Diagnostics Menu) has been greatly improved. It now Stress Tests the hard drive, it also tests your

DVD drive and your USB ports, and it looks and tests better than Norton's. I am using a monitor that has some problems, and the program detected the problem.

Smart Defender, another new feature in the System Diagnostics menu, sounds like a comic book critter, but actually tests your hard drive for physical health and reports if it is heading for a failure. I couldn't evaluate this feature, since I don't have a failing hard drive. It did tell me that all the drives I have are good. There are three different tests levels: Smart Status; Short Smart Test and Extended Smart Test, but my older Western Digital drives don't support the Short or Extended Tests.

Easy Recovery (Crisis Center menu), a program to recover lost files, has been improved. According to the book, you can recover up to 50 files at a time, compared to 10 at a time in the previous version. It will also work with NT, which makes it valuable, since most programs don't support both platforms.

Zip Utilities have apparently not been changed, but I don't think there was any room for improvement. It is one of finest Zip programs I have ever seen. If you need a full-fledged Zip program, that is enough justification for buying this suite.

Virus Scanner also seems unchanged, and is also good enough to justify buying the suite. Deep Virus Scan looks for memory-resident viruses, boot sector viruses and scans all files. Easy Updates connects to OnTrack's web site, and automatically downloads, unzips and installs updates.

They Could Improve...

Install Monitor to make it less confusing. It watches when you install a program if enabled, but I couldn't tell if it was really working. Documentation on this task is still confusing. When you want to remove a program, it scans the hard drive and although it finds the programs, the scan seems very slow. In **Jet-Defrag**, I'd like a way to specify where I want to put a file or folder. I've already mentioned changes I'd like to see in the System Monitor and its help information, which has so little information that the item is nearly useless.

But I love...

Win Customizer, the **Zip Program**, the speed of the **Jet Defrag**, the **Data Eraser**, and the **Smart Defender**. The price is a big factor, and as always I love lower affordable prices. The **Help menus** are great and I find they are in the most part, very helpful. I give System Suite 3.0 a 4-star rating!

Bottom Line

Would I recommend you buy System Suite 3.0? Without a doubt! The store price is \$59.95 with a \$20 rebate. I have seen it advertised for \$49.95 (\$29.95 after the rebate, a great price). You may find it for even less at a computer show. You would spend as much to purchase an anti-virus program — with System Suite 3.0, you get 7 good programs integrated into one. There is a 60-day no-questions-asked money-back guarantee. My thanks to OnTrack and Nicolle Martin for the opportunity to review System Suite 3.0. OnTrack's web site is <http://www.ontrack.com> — I recommend you visit it. ☐



Talks and Forums - Saturday

AS OF 3/31/2001	Internet	Special	Graphics & Games	Software Systems	Technology	Education	Hardware	Networks Systems	Databases Systems	Amateur Radio	Special Exhibits	
Room	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
10:15am - 11:10am	Searching the Internet B. Bell	Palm Pilot More Than a PDA C. Lewart	Fun with Paint-Draw Programs L. Sragow	Cable and DSL Security S. Heffner	Marketing on the Internet R. Elbanna	Getting Started with Word Processing H. Hinitz	Tips for Buying Computers Part I S. Orlando	Intro to C++ M. Redlich	LINUX on a Desktop M. Conlon	Amateur Radio License Testing	Special Exhibits and Demos. on Robotics	
11:20am - 12:15pm	Computer Consulting F. Wehrhahn	SETI A Project Update P. Shuch	Digital Photos and Video R. Whittle		Controlling Devices with a PC P. Bergsman	Best WEB Sites and Software K-8 Grades E. Kaplan	Tips for Buying Computers Part II S. Orlando	C++ Advanced Features M. Redlich	Knowledge Management for Small Business C. Roberts		E. Music	
12:25pm - 1:20pm	Designing Web Sites D. Egolf	Organizing your Hard Drive G. Deckelnick	Computer Graphics Theatre D. Dixon J. Posdamer	Credit Card Security on the WEB C. Uriarte	Building a Walking Robot P. Bergsman	Ultimate Tech Support E. Dunbar	Digital Music and the Internet M. Fries	Home Networks S. Vincent	Adv. WEB Math. Analysis (Linking Java to Math Aps.) A. Andrea		Digital Imaging (Cameras And Video)	
1:30pm - 2:25pm	Internet Job Search D. Hsu	Government's Role in Internet, Telecom. and E. Publishing D. & A. Mihram	Theremin: E. Music S. Marshall	Why Computers Shouldn't Count Votes R. Mercuri	Digital Photography S. Mochalla	Autonomous Robotics J. Wetterling					Multimedia Comm.	
2:35pm - 3:30pm	Featured Key Note Speaker: Emmanuel Goldstein on Hacking and Computer Security											
3:40pm - 4:35pm	Internet Forum J. Wetterling	Streaming Web Media D. Dixon	Computer Games 2001 R. Amidon	Adv. Web Develop. Tools D. Hsu	Neural Nets and the Stock Market D. Fishbein	Book Printing on Demand M. Paris	Global Positioning Systems R. Lazinski	WEB Prototyping G. Ghare	Metadata for Image Databases D. Bhat		Amateur Radio Forum J. DeGood B. Boccardi	Exhibits continued



Talks and Forums - Sunday

AS OF 3/31/2001	Internet	Networks	Applications	Computer Security/Sys.	Software	SIG/User Group	SIG/User Group	Applications	Amateur Radio	Special Exhibits	
Room	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	10	11	
10:30am - 11:30am	Searching the Internet B. Bell	Digital Photos and Video R. Whittle	Marketing on the Internet R. Elbanna	Cable and DSL Security S. Heffner	Intro to Java M. Redlich	User Group Officers Meeting S. Vincent	Genealogy SIG F. Warren	Lotus Domino as WEB front end Database M. Barlow	Amateur Radio License Testing	Special Exhibits and Demos. on Robotics E. Music	
11:40am - 12:40pm	WEB County Almanac Project J. Freedman	Ultimate Tech Support E. Dunbar	Controlling the World With Your PC P. Bergsman		Java Advanced Features M. Redlich		Macintosh Users Meeting A. Migdal	Intro to Stock Trading on the Web D. Libes			
12:50pm - 1:50pm	E-Book Technology Z. Provenzano	Home Networking S. Vincent	Best WEB Sites and Software K-8 Grades E. Kaplan	Digital Music and the Internet M. Fries	Overview of Wireless Technologies T. Wu	Fun With Popular Paint Programs L. Sragow	Mac World Happenings M. Comeau	Programming Access 2000 R. Elbanna			Digital Imaging (Cameras And Video)
2:00pm - 3:00pm	Organizing and Protecting your Hard Drive R. Whittle		How to Build a Walking Robot P. Bergsman		Moonbounce and Computers A. Katz	Screening stocks to win S. Koepf	living off software you didn't write R. Nelson	Computer Consulting F. Wehrhahn			

Auctioneering

Advertising to Attract Bidders

Barbara DeGroot (bdegroot@ptd.net)

Your merchandise is in tip-top condition, your photos are ready to go — it's time to write your ad copy. This chore is divided into sections: Title line, Description, and Boilerplate.

Title Line

This is a test for your headlining abilities. Write a one-line description of your item that will grab the interest of auction shoppers and make them read your ad. Eliminate every unnecessary character — your title will be limited to approximately 45 characters, depending on which auction site you use. Scan other auctions to find acceptable abbreviations. Never waste space on such words and phrases as “L00k”, “Must See”, etc. Make every character count. Never use all-caps. If you have decided to use AuctionWatch, check out their tips for ad writing. Include the brand-name if it is one that is sought after, use the space for some desirable quality if the brand-name is not significant.

Descriptive Copy

It should go without saying that the item for sale should be described in detail, pointing out its attractive qualities. Include any unusual qualities and include all defects or flaws, etc. trying not to discourage bidders. If there is a remedy for a flaw, say so. I once advertised a new pair of jeans with a prominent area that was miswoven. In the description, I stated that I was offering them for sale in this condition only once, and that if they didn't sell I would add a few decorative appliques and offer at an appropriately increased price. They became the object of a bidding competition — an occurrence sellers love!

Try to anticipate questions and answer them in your ad copy. For example, if you are selling clothing, bidders will not be satisfied with an ad that merely states a size — they will want all of the relevant measurements, and will ask for them if they are not included in the ad, so you might as well put the information in right at the start. I include garment measurements for chest/bust, waist, hip and length (above waist and below waist separately). As you list merchandise and receive inquiries, make note of the questions asked and provide that information in subsequent listings. Many bidders will ask questions, but many more will pass by ads that don't give them the information they want in favor of those that do. If you are at a loss as to what to say, do some more research — do a search for that kind of item and see how other sellers describe it, then improve on their ads — and pay attention to which of them actually sold their merchandise. Be sure to include shipping charges in your ad copy, and specify whether you charge actual shipping or add a handling charge.

Boilerplate

This is information that is included in every ad. Get it together and save it so you don't have to rewrite it for each ad. How soon will you ship after payment is received? What forms of payment will you accept? Will you hold shipment until checks clear? Who pays for shipping? Do you ship by Postal Service or another carrier, or will you offer a choice? Will you ship out of country? Under what circumstances will you offer

a refund, if any? Will you allow returns, and if you do will you refund shipping? Will you discount shipping for multiple purchases (most sellers do)? What about insurance? The following is the boilerplate text I use — feel free to copy whatever applies to your auctions.

Unless there is some sort of disaster, I ship next business day after payment or BidPay confirmation is received EXCEPT I hold shipment until check clears if your feedback is less than 10 or you have a negative or neutral in the past 6 months. * * * * Buyer pays shipping to US address only. Add \$1.10 for optional insurance. I recommend insurance as I cannot be responsible for loss or damage during shipping. * * * * No international shipping. * * * * Buyer must email shipping address within 3 business days of auction close, and payment must be received within 14 business days of close unless other arrangements have been made. * * * * Buyers of multiple items can often save on combined shipping (amount saved depends on weight of items and chosen shipping option), so please check my other auctions. * * * * AOL users: if you are blocking email, please add me to your “accepted” list before auction closing. * * *

I offer full refund for defective merchandise only, so check measurements carefully and ask for more if you need them. (Tip: measure a similar garment that fits you.) Sorry, but I cannot refund for items that don't fit.

I do my best to make sure my offerings are as good or better than the descriptions, but once in a while I fail. Please do not assume I intentionally omitted mention of a flaw. Send email describing the problem within 10 days of delivery, but do not return anything unless I ask you to. Shipping will not be refunded for returns without email first.

Using Templates

It is possible to set up an acceptable ad without the aid of templates, especially if you have some knowledge of HTML language, but the templates offered by AuctionWatch and other auction-support sites are so attractive that it really isn't worth the time it takes to do it yourself. There is little more to be said on the subject, except that when I started using the templates there was a noticeable increase in hits on my ads. (Hit counters are available whether or not you use a template.) Try your ad against several templates to see which ones look best. Be on guard against garish colors, blinking text, or tone-on-tone combinations — keep in mind that your purpose is to make your ad attractive and easily read.

Setting Policies

Most policy issues have been covered in the boilerplate section, but I think it is important to emphasize that you should set your policies on payments, shipping and returns with careful consideration before a problem arises. State your policies clearly, then be prepared to make an exception if necessary. Customer satisfaction (and avoidance of negative feedback) is always the most important consideration. ☐

SIG News

Java

Mike Redlich (mike@redlich.net)

<http://www.webspan.net/~redlich/javasig/>

The new Java Users Group is a new SIG made its debut on Friday, February 9. It will be a forum for discussion of beginner, intermediate, and advanced level Java programming. Primary focus is on developing useful/practical applets and applications, but can include related topics such as object-oriented programming and software design issues. Meetings start promptly at 7:30 PM with a short random access session followed by the main presentation. ☐

Main Meeting

Scott Vincent (scottvin@optonline.net)

<http://www.acgnj.org/groups/main2k-1.htm>

April 6: Use of Scanners, Transmitting Scanned Data via Email. Host Jerry Entin.

May 4: No meeting due to TCF 2001

June 1: Web Technologies (Dynamic HTML, Cascading Style Sheets, XML, XHTML, SSL) and the use of these technologies to do “neat” things to a website with very little effort. Host Mike Barlow.

Changes and updates will be posted to our website ☐

Layman's Forum

Matt Skoda (som359@aol.com)

<http://www.acgnj.org/groups/laymans.html>

We discuss issues of interest to novice users or those who are planning to get started in computing. Watch our Web page. ☐

MCP

(Preparing for Microsoft Certification Exams)

Scott Vincent (scottvin@optonline.net)

<http://www.scottsville.net/mcp.htm>

We meet Wednesdays from 7 pm to 10 pm except the fourth Wednesday of the month. We review typical exam questions. Attendees are encouraged to bring a PC properly configured with NT, 10BaseT network card, and Netmeeting 2.1. Most of us have the 4-volume set of Exam Cram books. We do not teach, but help prepare for the exam. Meetings are hands-on and everyone is expected to participate. For more info, reading assignments, course schedule, visit our website. ☐

Random Access

Scott Vincent (scottvin@optonline.net)

<http://www.acgnj.org/groups/random.html>

Those of us who have been involved in computer user groups for a long time remember when the Random Access Session was the only source of information about your particular computer. Although PCs and the software that runs on them are pretty much standardized now, users occasionally have problems or want more information. Random Access is for everyone. There is no such thing as a dumb question. Everyone usually benefits from the discussed topics regardless of their level of expertise. Many of the regulars can help you solve your problem, or at least get you started in the right direction. This is an official “Newbies too” group. ☐

Lotus Notes

Mike Barlow (mwb@injersey.com)

<http://www.njlnug.org/njlnugweb.nsf/pages/homepage>

Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at the offices of Bright Ideas Software, 1060 Amboy Avenue, 2nd Floor, Edison NJ and start at 7 PM (Random Access starts at 6:30). Bright Ideas has graciously provided us with a voice mail line for information on future meetings, locations, directions, etc. Call (732)417-5778 for last-minute changes, cancellations, etc. Directions are posted on our Web page. ☐

Internet

Martin Rosenblum (m.rosenblum@ieee.org)

<http://www.acgnj.org/groups/inetsig.html>

Meetings first Thursday of each month. ☐

PC Users Group

Steve Rodriguez (help72@bigfoot.com)

<http://www.intac.com/~tinarock/pcug.html>

We focus on any topic that touches on personal computers. Some meetings are fairly technical and some are oriented to newbies. Our members reflect this mix. Come out and get to know us — we're friendly. See news of previous meetings at our Website.

April: Marty Fries will speak on MP3s. Please see below for details. (Rescheduled from Feb.) His book has been called “The Bible of MP3” and is widely recognized as the most user-friendly, comprehensive book on the subject. His presentation includes a discussion of how MP3 and the Internet are revolutionizing the music industry and a live demo of recording and playing music on a PC, using MusicMatch Jukebox, Winamp and CoolEdit. See more details at <http://www.intac.com/~tinarock/mp3.html> ☐

Web Development

Jim Wong (webdev@acgnj.org)

<http://member.apcug.org/acgnj/webdev/>

A new SIG on web development (WebDev?) will have their kickoff meeting at 7 PM on Monday, March 19, 2001, and will meet on the third Monday of odd-numbered months. On the even-numbered months, the Excel/VBA SIG, led by Jim Ditaranto, will hold their meetings. They are redirecting more of their activities toward the Web, so the two groups should have much in common.

This SIG is intended for those who have written HTML and been involved in some type of development. Our objective is open ended but primarily revolves around technologies related to web development on the Microsoft platform. This may include things like IIS, ASP, tools, utilities, CSS, JavaScript, XML, VB, and database. We can get a better sense of direction after the kickoff meeting.

Next meeting in May — watch our Website ☐

continued

Lunics (Linux/Unix)*Andreas Meyer (ahm@spies.com)*<http://www.acgnj.org/groups/lunics.html>

This is a group for those who share an interest in the Linux operating system and its relatives (UN*X, BSD, Coherent, AIX, etc.) Currently there is a strong interest in Linux as an alternative to other operating systems, especially since there is no charge for the system. It and its source code are freely distributable. We meet at 8 PM the first Monday of the month. ☐

VBA & Excel*Jim Ditaranto (fryr92a@prodigy.com)*<http://www.excelvba.homestead.com>

VBA is currently implemented in Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Project and Microsoft Access. In the future, Microsoft will implement VBA in Word and PowerPoint. Anyone interested in using any one of the Microsoft Office products and VBA is urged to attend. We meet at 7 PM on the third Monday of even-numbered months.

April 16: Getting Windows Scripting Applications to Interact with Excel Windows Script technology exposes some of the underlying functionality of the Microsoft Windows family operation systems to script developers. It can also be used to expose of all methods and properties of a Microsoft application such as Excel. ☐

Macintosh Users Group*Keith Sproul (ksproul@noc.rutgers.edu)*<http://dorm.rutgers.edu/~ksproul/acgnjmug.html>

The Macintosh group generally meets at 7 PM on the fourth Friday of the month in Hill Center, Room 114, Busch Campus of Rutgers University, Piscataway NJ. In June, November and December, the meeting is usually pushed to the third Friday. Those who come straight from work meet in the Student Center Food Court for supper around 5 PM. ☐

Symposium*John Raff (jraff@home.com)*<http://www.acgnj.org/groups/symposiu.html>

April 13: This is the rescheduled Jan. 12 meeting. Speaker: Rick H. Elbanna, Topic: building Microsoft Access 2000 applications using visual basic for applications (VBA). ☐

Genealogy*Frank Warren (kb4cyc@webwarren.com)*<http://www.webwarren.com/kb4cyc/gensig.html>

The Genealogy SIG is for genealogists interested in computers and computer users interested in genealogy. We provide a forum to assist members in furtherance of both computing and genealogical endeavors. Meetings usually focus on genealogy more than on computers. We meet at 8:00 PM on the fourth Thursday of the month.

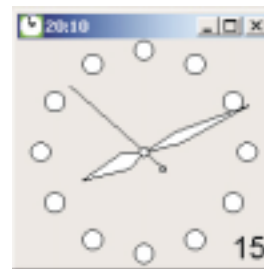
April 26: The topic is Family Tree Maker 8.

In addition to our Web page, we also have an electronic mailing list. Messages to the list should be addressed to gensig@webwarren.com. To subscribe, include the line "subscribe gensig" in the body of the message. ☐

C/C++ Programming*Bruce Arnold (barnold@blast.net)*<http://www.blast.net/barnold>

This group is devoted to discussing programming languages in general and C, C++, and C++ for Windows programming in particular. Each month a small but hopefully useful program (complete with source code) is presented for discussion.

March: Windows Graphical Programming was demonstrated with an Analog Clock program called "AClock". Microsoft Visual C++ and MFC have an unbelievably large number of functions related to graphical programming. There are functions for color, size, shape, attributes, and modes of various objects. You can type in one color and draw lines and shapes in another. Viewports can be scaled and modified. Co-ordinate functions can be in convenient units. You can draw lines, arcs, polylines, beziers, circles, pies, rectangles, and other figures which can be empty or filled with color. Bitmaps can be inserted and fonts can be changed. See sample code at <http://www.blast.net/barnold/Csig0103.htm>. ☐

**Investing***Sheldon Koepf (sheldonk@intac.com)*<http://www.intac.com/~sheldonk/invsig>

March 8: We reviewed the American Association of Individual Investors (AAII) current list of 209 Shadow Stocks. This is a list of stocks screened out from all listed on all the major US exchanges using AAII's Stock Investor program. We also looked at the AAII's spreadsheet of the screen results. AAII suggests that these should be further screened to find the best current investments. Further screening used a newer version of the IBD Excel spreadsheet that we wrote for our September 14, 2000 meeting. This version added the recent IBD composite rating to the data. We only used the portion of the list that had IBD composite ratings. This narrowed the list to a total of 64 stocks. The next step was to look at MetaStock charts of those stocks. We quickly found that the "best" charts and strongest stocks were those with the highest IBD composite ratings, 97 to 99 (a total of 5 companies). This very short list had held up well during the recent bear market and seemed to be the best bet to continue strong. I emphasized that this technique was only an example of screening techniques. Depending on individual investing style, other screens could and should be used. The primary technique is to use 2 or 3 successive screens that use different techniques to finally arrive at the best list of investment candidates. There was much discussion about the various candidates and screening techniques, their strength and weaknesses. We had a very good session with all present participating.

Next meeting May 10, subject to be announced. ☐

An Idea That Changed the World Forever

Steve Fox, editor in chief, CNET Networks

Most of us never heard of Claude Shannon, which is a pity. Because Shannon, who passed away last weekend at the age of 84, had an idea that changed the world forever (<http://one.digital.cnet.com/cgi-bin1/flo?y=eBjY0EEMK0W00fSEj>).

The year was 1948. Shannon, a young Bell Labs scientist, reached the startling conclusion that all information could be expressed in binary format — as a series of 1s and 0s. Though the technology of the day wasn't advanced enough to take advantage of these findings, they eventually became the basis for digital technologies as diverse as modems, magnetic storage, the Internet, and satellite transmissions. Other

impressive contributions in mathematics and cryptography followed.

Yet Shannon, a distant relative of Thomas Edison, was perhaps best remembered within the scientific community for his wacky inventions, such as the rocket-powered Frisbee, and his freewheeling antics, such as riding his unicycle through the halls while juggling. Consider this an appreciation of a true original. Thank you, Claude Elwood Shannon, for all you've given us.

From C|Net Digital Dispatch, March 1, 2001 Vol. 7, No. 9. Reprinted with permission. ☐

Rick's Software Review FTP within Access

Rick Elbanna (rick@omnc.com)

We are having a great success with the Access 2000 VBA (meeting at my office in Iselin on the 2nd and 4th Monday of every month, please visit the club's site or the SIG's site at mastersofthecode.com for details). When all said and done creating the Access application, we thought of a scenario where the user might want to download or upload files to the server. I was concerned about giving users an FTP program (there is a bunch of them out there). The problem is that this involves additional support for the particular FTP program. Access 2000 Developer edition comes with an active X component called Internet Control Transfer (ICT 6.0), (at this point I have to get it out of my system saying that I am sick and tired of the TLA (three letter acronym)). The ICT lets you

quickly and easily create a form where you can download or upload files from and to the server. The form has five fields: IP Address or server name, user name, password, local path and server path and three buttons: download, upload and close form. This worked pretty good and did not give us any problems whatsoever, of course as long as you are on the Internet while using the application. Some members told me that it was not recognized and did not work on Access 97. The trick here is that the application has to be bundled and deployed using the deployment wizard so it contains all active X controls and dependencies. For resources on this topic or VB and Access VBA topics please visit my SIG's Web site at www.mastersofthecode.com. ☐

New Product Alert 3-way tie for best draw/graphics program

Bill Machrone

A challenger to Adobe Illustrator? Imagine that! After you've read what you can do with Corel Draw 10, you may want to reconsider your drawing package choices. But it's never that simple, is it? You'd love to use the best package, but not if it entails relearning how to do basic tasks and definitely not if you're a mixed-platform shop and you have people running Illustrator on Macs.

Paint programs are a little different. Corel Photo-Paint is a darn good program, but Photoshop is better. Our review tells you why. But neither of them can do the tricks that Canvas can, where everything is editable, all the time.

Even the best draw/paint packages have some limitations when it comes to preparing Web graphics. Macromedia Fireworks, however, is purpose-built for the task, and nothing is better. The details are in the review.

Most people think you need to be an artist to use a draw program or to do the fancy stuff beyond color correcting and resampling images in paint programs. I'm no artist (just ask

any of the art directors I've worked with over the years), but I've used these programs, mostly the Corel suite, heavily over the years. I've created lots of flyers, some award certificates (printed with one of those Tektronix/Xerox solid ink printers on thin, sheet aluminum — very snazzy), logos, sample magazine covers, decals, and even some very precise numeric scales for the controls on my benchtop milling machine (<http://www.billsbest.com/thatlus.html>).

I've also done a lot of photo manipulation with both the Corel and Adobe products, and like our reviewer, I'd give Photoshop the edge in sheer power. Take a look at the latest versions of all these tools — there's a lot to like.

Read PC Magazine's Review of Graphics Tools at <http://cgi.zdnet.com/slink?85769:2139974>. To subscribe to New Product Alert, go to <http://www.pcmag.com/alert.htm>. For other free ZDNet e-mail newsletters, visit <http://www.zdnet.com/cc/email.html>.

(Reprinted with permission from ZDNet's PC Magazine and ZDNet Reviews 3/09/01.) ☐

Guru Corner

Jo-Anne Head

If you need help with any of the technologies listed below, you can call on the person listed. Please be considerate and call before 10 PM.

	Hardware	
	Scott Vincent	973-361-5793
	Software	
HTML	Jo-Anne Head	908-769-7385
	Mike Redlich	732-469-2072
CSS	Jo-Anne Head	908-769-7385
	Frank Warren	908-756-1681
ColdFusion	Jo-Anne Head	908-769-7385
Java	Mike Redlich	732-469-2072
C++	Bruce Arnold	908-735-7898
	Mike Redlich	732-469-2072
ASP	Mike Redlich	732-469-2072
Perl	John Raff	973-533-0664
	Frank Warren	908-756-1681
XML	Mike Redlich	732-469-2072
e-Commerce	Rick Elbanna	800-323-7575
Genealogy	Frank Warren	908-756-1681
Networking	Scott Vincent	973-361-5793
Home Automation	Charlie Huffsmith	732-549-1734
	Frank Warren	908-756-1681
	Operating Systems	
Linux	Andy Meyer	908-382-4297
Unix	Andy Meyer	908-382-4297
WindowsNT	Scott Vincent	973-361-5793
Windows95	Rick Elbanna	800-323-7575
Windows98	Rick Elbanna	800-323-7575
Windows3.1	Ted Martin	732-636-1942
	Charlie Huffsmith	732-549-1734

<http://www.4reseller.com>

Nalit Patel (nalit_patel@yahoo.com)

This site seems unique as they provide B2B solution for manufacturers, distributors, wholesalers, retailer and liquidators. I have bought a couple of items from them, most recently 128Mb ram PC133 Specktec memory for \$32. I also had an opportunity to deal directly with other sellers of product and this company provides trade between unknown people using escrow services. At first I was very skeptical and I did a small transaction for a PCMCIA network card xircom 10/100 and I picked it up for \$23. I came across other good item — soho networking kit for \$50. A 10/100 Hub 8 port, 3 NIC cards, 3 15-ft patch cables, 5 year warranty. This company's NIC cards are used by AOL TimeWarner.

Since this site is only for B2B customers, you have to register and provide your tax-ID by faxing your reseller certificate. Upon verification customer service immediately issues a login password and off you go. ☺

Netscape 6

Dennis Ryan

CNET recent revisited Netscape 6, the all-new browser from the folks who brought you the first good one. While Netscape 6 has some good points, it's too slow and buggy for prime time. The editors say stick with Communicator/Navigator version 4.x (4.76 as of this writing) and wait for the bug fixes and enhancements that will come with Netscape 6.1.

I've tried two versions of Netscape 6 so far, and I'd have to agree it was released too early, but on the plus side it's gotten better. There are a few things I'd like to see, such as the ability to open the Bookmarks file in its own window, as in 4.x. I like and use both IE and Netscape, but there are different things I like about each. I hope Netscape keeps the things that make its browser different from Microsoft's. ☺

ACGNJ MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

	US/CANADA	FAMILY OF MEMBER (No Newsletter)	Dues	FOREIGN	STUDENT	SENIOR CITIZEN (Over 65)
1 Year	\$25	\$10		\$55	\$20	\$20
2 Years	\$40					
3 Years	\$55					\$45

Mail this application and your check to:
 AMATEUR COMPUTER GROUP OF NEW JERSEY, INC., P.O. BOX 135, SCOTCH PLAINS, NJ 07076

New Member Renewal Address Change

First Name _____ Last Name _____ Phone _____

Mailing Address _____ E-Mail _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ URL _____

What topics would you like to see covered at club meetings? _____

Other Local Computer Groups		
Princeton Macintosh User Group: 7:15 pm 2nd Tuesday, Jadwin Hall, Princeton U. (609) 252-1163	NY/NJ/CT Relational Database User Group: Corporate and independent users. (212) 839-0125	New York Personal Computer Club: For information call hotline, (212) 533-NYPC
Computer Education Society of Philadelphia: 7:30 pm, 2nd Wednesday, St. Asaph's Episcopal Church. Lee Le'mon, (717)786-2260	Brookdale Computer Users Group: 7 pm, 3rd Friday, Forums 103 at Brookdale Community College, Lincroft NJ. Andrea Tarr (732) 229-2959.	Macintosh User Group: Third Tuesday, Dickson Hall, Montclair State University, Montclair NJ. (201) 893-5274 http://www.njmug.org .
WordPerfect SIG of PCUG of So. Jersey: 2nd Tue., Queen of Heaven School, Cherry Hill; 4th Wed., Cherry Hill Library. (609) 354-1159.	Hunterdon Computer Club: 8:30 am to noon 3rd Saturday, Hunterdon Medical Center, Rt 31, Flemington. (908) 995-4042	PC Club of South Jersey: 7 pm, 2nd Tuesday, Holy Cross HS, Route 130, Delran NJ. Pat Murphy, (609) 428-8759
Philadelphia Area Computer Society: 3rd Sat., 9 am Main Meeting, groups follow. Drexel Univ., Philadelphia. Pat Murphy, (609) 428-8759	Central Jersey Computer Club: 8 pm, 4th Friday, Rm 74, Armstrong Hall, Trenton St. College. Rich Williams, (609) 466-0909.	NJ PC Users Group: Bergen County Community College, Paramus NJ. Maureen Shannon, (201) 853-7432
Morris Micro Computer Club: Bill Traywick, (201) 635-5393.	Fairlawn Computer Club: Last Monday, Fairlawn Senior Citizen Center. Joe Mathias (fair.lawn.computer.club@juno.com)	Princeton PC Users Group: 2nd Monday, Lawrence Library, Rt 1 & Darrah Ln, Lawrenceville, Paul Kurivchack (609) 466-1530, http://pluto.njcc.com/~ppcug
Workshop, Hands-On: 2 P.M. to Midnight on last Saturday of the month. First United Methodist Church, Church and Atlantic Streets (one mile from GSP exit 117A), Aberdeen NJ. Bring your project, computer and extension cord. For information call Burke Mawby, (908) 566-7445.		

Classified

FREE TO MEMBERS. Use our classified ads to sell off your surplus computer stuff. Send copy to Classified, ACGNJ NEWS, P.O. Box 135, Scotch Plains NJ 07076 or e-mail to the editor, bdegroot@ptd.net. Classified ads are free to members, one per issue. Non-members pay \$10. Send check payable to ACGNJ Inc. with copy. Reasonable length, please.



<http://www.apcug.org>

Radio and TV Programs

Computer Radio Show, WBAI 99.5 FM, New York, Wednesday 8-9 p.m.

Software Review, The Learning Channel, Saturday 10-10:30 p.m.

On Computers, WCTC 1450 AM, New Brunswick, Sunday 1-4 p.m. To ask questions call (800) 677-0874.

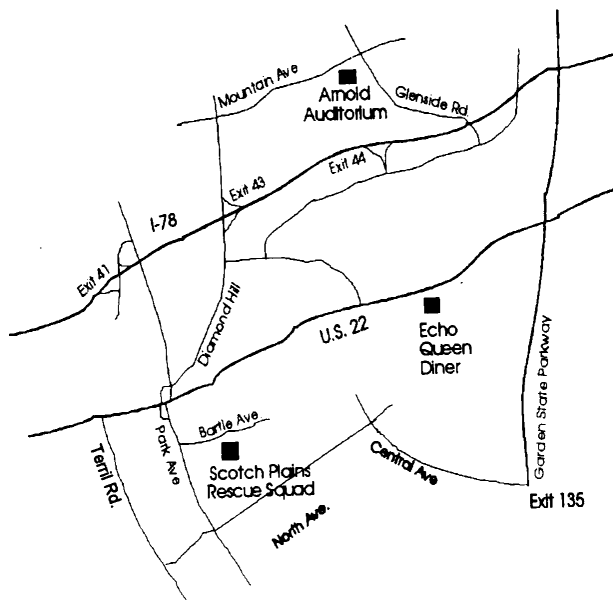
PC Talk, Sunday from 8p.m. to 10 p.m., on 1210 AM Philadelphia.

KGP Computer Shows

(For more information visit <http://www.pshow.com>)

April 14: FDU-Rothman Center, Hackensack, NJ (Free admission after \$5 rebate)

April 21-22: South Jersey Expo Center, Route 73 South, Pennsauken, NJ



Directions to Meetings at Scotch Plains Rescue Squad, 1916 Bartle Ave., Scotch Plains NJ

From New York City or Northern New Jersey

Take Route 1&9 or the Garden State Parkway to US 22 Westbound.

From Southern New Jersey

Take Parkway north to Exit 135 (Clark). Stay on left of ramp, follow circle under Parkway. Bear right to Central Avenue; follow to Westfield and under RR overpass. Left at light to North Avenue; follow to light in Fanwood. Right on Martine (which becomes Park Ave). Right on Bartle Ave in middle of shopping district. Scotch Plains Rescue Squad (2-story brick) is located on the right. Do not park in the row next to the building — you'll be towed.

From I-78 (either direction)

Take exit 41 (Scotch Plains); follow signs to US 22. Turn right at light at bottom of hill and use overpass to cross Rt. 22. Follow US 22 Westbound directions.

From US 22 Westbound

Exit at Park Avenue, Scotch Plains after McDonalds on the right, diagonally opposite Scotchwood Diner on the left, immediately before the overpass. After exiting, turn left at the light and use overpass to cross US 22. Bear right at bottom of ramp to continue south on Park Avenue. Turn left at the second light (a staggered intersection). Scotch Plains Rescue Squad (2-story brick) is on the right. Do not park in the row next to the building — you'll be towed. We meet on the second floor, entering by the door at the right front of the building.

From Western New Jersey

Take US 22 Eastbound to the Park Avenue exit. The exit is about a mile past Terrill Road and immediately past the overpass. Exit onto Park Avenue South and follow the directions above to the Rescue Squad building.

ACGNJ NEWS

AMATEUR COMPUTER GROUP OF NEW JERSEY, INC.
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ACGNJ MEETINGS

For the very latest news on ACGNJ meetings visit the ACGNJ Web Page (<http://www.acgnj.org>)

Monday, April 2, 2001

8 P.M. - Lunics. Andreas Meyer (ahm@spies.com).

Tuesday, April 3

7 P.M. - Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, April 4

MCP Study Group, Scott Vincent (scottvin@optonline.net),
973-361-5793

Thursday, April 5

8 P.M. - Internet. Marty Rosenblum (m.rosenblum@ieee.org),
973-376-8965.

Friday, April 6

8 P.M. - Main Meeting. Scott Vincent (scottvin@optonline.net), use
of Scanners, Transmitting Scanned Data via Email. Host Jerry
Entin.

Monday, April 9

8 P.M. - Layman's Forum, Matt Skoda (som359@aol.com),
908-359-8842

Wednesday, April 11

MCP Study Group, Scott Vincent (scottvin@optonline.net),
973-361-5793

Thursday, April 12

8 P.M. - Computerized Investing, Sheldon Koepf
(sheldonk@intac.com), 201-741-2489

Friday, April 13

8 P.M. - PC Symposium, John Raff (jraff@home.com),
973-533-0664

Monday, April 15

8 P.M. - VBA, Jim Ditaranto (jfyr92a@prodigy.com)

8 P.M. - Lotus Notes, Mike Barlow (barlowm@bright-ideas.com),
(732) 417-5778 ext 5

Tuesday, April 17

8 P.M. - C/C++ Users, Bruce Arnold (barnold@blast.net),
908-735-7898

Wednesday, April 18

MCP Study Group, Scott Vincent (scottvin@optonline.net),
973-361-5793

Friday, April 20

8 P.M. - PC Users Group, Steve Rodriguez (help72@bigfoot.com).

Thursday, April 26

8 P.M. - Genealogy. Frank Warren (kb4cyc@webwarren.com),
908-756-1681

Friday, April 27

7 P.M. - Apple/Macintosh, Rutgers Univ., Piscataway, NJ, Keith
Sproul (ksproul@noc.rutgers.edu), 732-821-4828

8 P.M. - Random Access, Computer Q&A, Scott Vincent
(scottvin@optonline.net), 973-361-5793

Tuesday, May 1

7 P.M. - Board of Directors Meeting


Wednesday, May 2

MCP Study Group, Scott Vincent (scottvin@optonline.net),
973-361-5793

Thursday, May 3

8 P.M. - Internet. Marty Rosenblum (m.rosenblum@ieee.org),
973-376-8965.

Saturday and Sunday, May 5 and 6

Trenton Computer Festival at New Jersey Convention Center in
the Raritan Center, Route 514 - NJ Tpke. Exit 10, Edison, NJ.
Opening 9 A.M. flea market, 10 A.M. indoors, closing 5 P.M. Satur-
day, 4 P.M. Sunday. Visit <http://www.tcf-nj.org/> 

All meetings, unless otherwise noted, are at Scotch Plains Rescue Squad, 1916 Bartle Ave., Scotch Plains, N.J.
Directions and map inside back cover.