

SPAUG PrintScreen



Post Office Box 3738, Stanford, CA 94309-3738
Vol. XVI No. 10 - Newsletter of the Stanford / Palo Alto Users Group for PC
A Non-Profit / Educational Organization - <http://www.mediacity.com/~spaug>

Jim Dinkey - Notes From the Prez

The Wednesday, October 28 meeting will have Jan Altman as the featured speaker. She is a specialist in Excel so bring tons of questions for her. Plan to project foils or overheads if you want complete comprehension of your problem.

The next month, Wednesday, November 25 we will have:

John Lomax - Genealogical Consultant - Menlo Park LDS Church.

How to use the genealogical computer tools available.

We have tentatively scheduled for the January 27th meeting:

Suzanne Eaton - Marketing Communications Manager - Mylex Corporation

RAID systems for super integrity of your data.

We STILL are working over the fact that we do not have yet a handle on how to get the Media City mail processors to work correctly. As a desperation move, we are investigating using the mail list processors of some other ISPs as there is no requirement that the list server be on the same ISP.

Plan on the SECOND and THIRD Tuesdays for the Internet and Win95/98 SIGs.

The response about Hank Skowinski's knowledge of the problems associated with PCs, means that I just might ask him back about mid next year for an update.

Meeting Agenda

- 7:30 Sig Reports
Norm Wintemute - Win95 SIG
Jim Dinkey - Internet SIG
- 7:40 DOM (Disk Of the Month)
Robert Mitchell - some changes to be announced.
- 7:50 Announcements
- 7:52 Guests introduction
- 7:55 Random Access (Crosstalk)
- 8:00 Break (10 minutes to resolve cross talk issues) Note that issues resolved should be given to Ron Nicholas.
- 8:10 SPEAKER - Jan Altman - Tips and tricks with Excel
- 9:25 RAFFLE
- 9:30 ADJOURN



General Meeting @ Elks Lodge - Wed. Oct. 28th @ 7:30 PM
4249 El Camino Real - Palo Alto (directions on page 5)

Future Meetings

November 25 John Lomax - Genealogy master and docent at the Menlo Park LDS Genealogy annex will show you how to use the various tools that are available and how to make a full book. He will discuss the various resources and CD sets that are available both at the Center and by mail order.

SIG News.

Internet - 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7pm:
10 November 1998.

Meetings are held at Jim Dinkey's home; 3380
Cork Oak Way, Palo Alto. Tel: (650) 493-9307.

dinkey@ix.netcom.com

Win95/98 - 4th Tuesday of the month at 7 pm:
27 October 1998.

Meetings are held at Jim Dinkey's home. All are
welcome. Bring a friend - or several.

Planning meeting Minutes

The Planning Meeting of October 7, 1998 met
at the home of Jim Dinkey.

Present were Jim Dinkey, John Sleeman, Bob
Mitchell, Walt Varner, Stan Hutchings, and Ron
Nicholas.

Our treasurer, Walt Varner reports a balance of
\$3018 not including last month's DOM sales.

It was suggested we try new approaches to
obtain software for our "door prizes". Perhaps
approaching the SW (software) manufacturers
for self demonstrating kits of their software
would be possible; and SW donations to follow.
Many SW makers want large audiences to
justify their demonstrator/speaker. Suggestions
from the membership are encouraged.

The member skill list, who would volunteer to
help other club members, appears to need

updating. If anyone has acquired new skill in a
new operating system, program, or such, please
send the information to John Sleeman, our
newsletter editor.

The old SPAUG computer is disassembled, and
parts that are useable are available to resurrect
other relics.

Our Co-webmaster, Stan Hutchings, continues
to be disappointed with the e-mail list server. A
free replacement is being sought but is difficult.
The SPAUG website now lists the e-mail
addresses of Spaug members. Now you can e-
mail your club members. The concept of latest
webpage updates be shown was thought to be
a nice feature. The co-webmaster will
investigate.

Respectfully submitted,
Ron Nicholas (ron1nick@juno.com)



A Special Thank You

We should like to express our gratitude to the
Elks Lodge for the use of their room. Apart from
the excellent accommodation, it provides us
with a reliable meeting place, without the worry
about last minute changes in schedule that we
had in the past.

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 ★
 ★ **General Meeting @** ★
 ★ **Elks Lodge** ★
 ★ **4249 El Camino Real** ★
 ★ **Palo Alto** ★
 ★ **October 28th, 7:30 PM** ★
 ★
 ★ **Jan Altman will offer more wonderful tips and** ★
 ★ **tricks she has discovered to get the most out of** ★
 ★ **Excel. She will also answer questions on Excel** ★
 ★ **and (time permitting) Word for Windows** ★
 ★
 ★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

DOM 9810 – By Robert Mitchell

The following applications will be on the October DOM 9810. It is a two disk set.

For Windows 95/98/NT

CTIC.EXE 78KB - A computer version of a Tic Tac Toe Game.

CROSSP.EXE 470KB - CROSSWORD POWER v8.00 Use your vocabulary words and clues to create crossword puzzles and kriss- kross activities. Quickly create a variety of activities from each vocabulary word list.

PRTSCN.EXE 927KB -This program will allow the user of Windows 95/98/NT to print almost anything that is on the screen. This works using the "Prt Scrn" button like in the good old DOS days before Windows came out and took this button out of service. This program can be used to restore its use... something Microsoft should have integrated within Windows in the first place. - Shareware ---

TTFEXT.EXE 338KB - This utility adds more properties to allow the user to display information about fonts that is not included on their system.

REGCIN41.Exe 773KB - RegClean analyzes Windows Registry keys stored in a common location in the Windows Registry. It finds keys that contain erroneous values, and after recording those entries in the Undo.Reg file, it removes them from the Windows Registry.

Suggestions for improvements are welcome. Send an e-mail to Robert Mitchell at: rfmitch702@aol.com

Webmaster Wanderings

by Kendric Smith

Is Your Phone Line 56K Ready? Test it with Line Test.

3Com Line Test
http://www.3com.com/56k/need4_56k/linetest.html

LineTest has only TWO REQUIREMENTS:

1. Any manufacturer's V.34 modem, installed and

connected to a phone line

2. Any terminal application (such as Windows95 HyperTerminal, RapidComm, QuickLink II, or MacComCenter)

How to Use LineTest

1. Close your Internet connection, then open a "terminal window" in your communications software. For detailed instructions, consult your software's documentation.

2. Dial this number from your computer: 1-847-262-6000.

Most communications programs offer the ability to dial from a "phone book." Alternately, you may send the following command to your modem:

ATDT1-847-262-6000

3. You'll be connected to the LineTest system, and asked if your system supports graphics. Press the 'Enter' key to proceed.

4. You'll then be prompted for your first name.
Type in: line
Press the 'Enter' key.
Next, you'll be prompted for your last name.
Type in: test
Press the 'Enter' key again.

The LineTest system will perform a series of diagnostics on your connection, and will inform you of its conclusion. This may take a minute or so.

If you see: "This connection supports 56K* technology!" Congratulations -- you're in good company!

Tech Alert!

At this point, if you press the 'Enter' key, you'll see the first of two screens of line statistics. Press the 'Enter' key again for the second screen. When you're done, type in the letter g, then press the 'Enter' key to disconnect.

If you're not interested in this information, type in the letter g, then press the 'Enter' key to disconnect.

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Questions and Answers

The SPAUG Web Page

available at

<http://www.mediacity.com/~spaug>

sponsored by

MediaCity
500 Logue Ave
Mtn View, CA 94043
(650) 321-6800

PPP/T1/Frame Relay/ISDN

General Meeting
Sept 30th, 7:30PM
at Elks Lodge,
4249 El Camino
Palo Alto



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Listserver

spaug-list@mediacity.com

Any member on the spaug-list can send messages to all other members on the list automatically by sending e-mail to this address. This list is intended for announcements of interest to all SPAUG members. Please avoid excessive or trivial announcements, since they tend to annoy some members, especially those paying for connect time. Additions or corrections can be sent to:



<i>Name</i>	<i>Area Of Expertise</i>	<i>Phone</i>	<i>Hours</i>	<i>E-Mail</i>
Jim Bailey	DOS , Quick Books 6, Quicken 98	650 494 0631	9AM - 9PM	Jimby@pobox.com
Jim Dinkey	Win NT/Win 98	650 493 9307	9AM - 9PM	dinkey@ix.netcom.com
Bill Goldmacker	DOS	650 691 0911	6PM - 9PM	gold@svpal.org
Bill McElhinney	Quicken, Dazzle, Plug In, Word Ex-	650 325 9808	9AM - 9PM	Mcels@aol.com
John Sleeman	Fortran	650 326 5603	9AM - 8PM	sleemanj@earthlink.net
Walt Varner	All PC areas: Software and Hardware incl.	408 739 3488	9AM - 9PM	walt2222@aol.com

Elks Lodge, 4249 El Camino Real, Palo Alto, CA 94306-4496

The Elks Lodge is at 4249 El Camino Real on the North side of the street, between Charleston and San Antonio Road, but very close to Charleston. It is next to Ricky's Hyatt House, which is on the corner.

Park your car in the parking lot at the front of the lodge, and proceed to the center door. This is a keycarded door so we will have someone at the door to let you in. Proceed to the Lodge Room straight ahead, and to the left.

If you cannot get in the center door because you are late, press the new wireless doorbell that will be in place for each SPAUG meeting, and someone will come and

Arlan Kertz - "SPAUG 501(c)"

This is to remind you that SPAUG is a non-profit organization registered with the IRS under Internal Revenue Code 501(c)(3). In this regard, your dues (except for \$12 for the newsletter) are deductible. Also, any additional cash and or other non-business assets donated to SPAUG are also deductible.

Membership Application in the Stanford / Palo Alto Users Group for PC \$35 annual dues payable to SPAUG

Name: _____ Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Home: _____ Work: _____ Fax: _____
E-Mail: _____
New Member: _____ Renewal: _____
Special Interest Group: _____

The above information is for SPAUG use only.

Mail to: The Stanford / Palo Alto Users Group, PO Box 3738, Stanford, CA 94309-3738

(Continued from page 3)

If you see: "Your line does not support 56K technology." Type in the letter g, then press the 'Enter' key to disconnect.

Since line conditions can change from call to call, we recommend that you make several calls to LineTest to ensure an accurate diagnosis. If you have multiple phone lines available for use, we recommend that you try calling from each line.

If you see: "56K is not currently possible on this connection, or is likely to be highly impaired." Type in the letter g, then press the 'Enter' key to disconnect.

The most likely reason for this response is more than one analog-to-digital conversion in the connection to your provider. If multiple calls indicate that your line won't support 56K technology, keep in mind that telephone network configurations can change, so your chances of making high-speed connections may improve over time.

If you see: "Cannot determine 56K capability, test must run in V.34 mode." Type in the letter g, then press the 'Enter' key to disconnect.

You may get this response if you have excessive "noise" or static on your phone line. Since line conditions can change from call to call, we recommend you try again at another time.

Important Note

We've taken great care to ensure that LineTest reports accurate results. However, due to the complexity of the diagnostics LineTest performs, we can't guarantee 100% accuracy. We'll improve and enhance LineTest as your feedback rolls in.

* Capable of receiving at up to 56 Kbps and sending at up to 31.2 Kbps. Due to FCC regulations, receiving speeds limited to 53 Kbps. Actual speeds may vary. Requires compatible phone line and server equipment. Complies with both the determined V.90 ITU 56K standard and x2 technology. Standard officially determined in February, 1998; ratification expected in September, 1998. See www.3com.com/56k for details.

Cookies

These Cookies Are Not For Eating !

By Bob Mitchell

The Absence of a "no" does not mean yes! How many times did you deliver that line to your kids? Their rationale was of course, "We were afraid if we asked, you would say no". This, only to point out that the old bromide, "there is nothing new under the sun" still applies. Yes, I know, it's from the Bible. For purposes of this article, I give you the marketing sites on the Internet.

Normally when you access a site for information, entertainment or just plain curiosity, you review the material say goodbye and the affair is over. Not exactly. The lady has left her calling card...sort of. She has actually left her "cookie" so to speak. Now before you start thinking I am suggesting you are into nudie cutie sites, the "lady" to which I refer is *any* marketing site. Whew!

So what is this "cookie"? A "cookie" is a file with information the web site that you have accessed places in your hard drive, (*without your approval I might add*). It allows administrators from that web site to determine if you have previously accessed their web site and what you have viewed and/or purchased. Invasion of privacy? Perhaps. Legal? Probably so. How do they get away with it? After all they are only saving the data that came about as a result of your mouse clicks or keyboard entries that you have made within their web site. This tells them your likes and dislikes which can help them direct you to areas that would be most appealing to your wants and needs. Perhaps reasonable if you don't mind a label being placed on your forehead for all the clerks to view when you walk into your local supermarket .

The idea of others entering information onto your hard drive is of course nothing new. America On Line for example updates your graphics files all the time. The difference is they tell you about it when they do it, and they do it to update your graphics. It is done to

improve the look of your screen when you access AOL. Perfectly acceptable.

Is there any value to a "cookie" for a user? Maybe. If your kids use your PC to access the Internet you can spy on them. You can go to the "cookie" file and review what sites they have accessed. It also means they can go to the same "cookie" file to review what **you** have accessed. Do you have any problem with that? How would you like to spend an hour viewing Mr. Clinton's "cookies"? By the way, those "cookie" files can be located under Windows \cookie file folders. You will also find others under a windows\temporary internet file folder.

Can I remove these "cookie" files? Yes you can, although I would suggest that you make a backup copy before doing so. Merely go to the files that contain "cookies" and delete them. Is there any danger in doing so? Most likely not although it may slow down your accessing the site the next time you use it. After all they must have time to establish another "cookie" in your hard drive in the belief you are accessing their site for the first time.

Can I prevent them from slipping me a "cookie" in the first place? You can be alerted through the use of 3rd party software designed for this purpose. Prior to the download of a "cookie" you can "just say no". Will that mean I will be denied access to that site. Probably not. They still want your business even if you refuse to accept their intrusion into your privacy.

So where can I get this software that will alert me to the fact that a cookie is about to be placed on my hard drive and will allow me to "just say no" or offer permission for it to take place on a selective basis? There is an excellent site on the Internet with the name, Cookie Central. Their URL is www.cookiecentral.com. From this web page you have a number of hot links that will offer you much more additional information. One hot link will take you to a list of "cookie" software products that will do everything you want to do as it relates to the detection of cookies, how to get rid of them and how to refuse them. On the other hand, if you like "cookies", the kind without chocolate chips or creamy centers, ignore all of the above.



Alphabetize "Favorite Places"

By Bob Mitchell

Yes Virginia, There is a way to put your bookmarks in alphabetical order

As all AOL users know, whenever they add an interesting URL to their "Favorite Places" list, the addition does not neatly fall into place in alphabetical order. As the list grows longer it becomes more difficult to locate the site you want.

To date AOL has done nothing to correct the problem. Well take heart. With just a little manipulating of file folders you can establish everything in order and keep it that way forever more.

Favorite Places is a file folder. Each new addition is a new file. You could drag the files to different positions within the Favorite Places file folder or establish a new file folder and drag all of your choices to the new file folder one by one starting with the "A"s taking each one in order until all files have been moved to the new file folder. Voila! Your files are in order. The problem is you must do this over again as you add new sites.

Instead, you might create 26 new file folders giving each one a letter of the alphabet. You may also wish to label one folder "Numbers" for those sites that are titled with a number. Drag each file from your "favorite places" file folder to the appropriate alphabetical file folder. Each time you add a site, place it in the appropriate folder. When you view "Favorite Places" you will find them all in alphabetical order by the first letter of the site name.

Now, step by step:

1. Click the Favorite Places icon at the top of your screen.
2. Click the Add Folder button in the Favorite Places window. (In AOL 4.0 click New, then New Folder).
3. Type in the name (alphabetical letter) you wish for that new file folder and then press OK.
4. Repeat these steps until you have the desired new file folders.
5. Drag your files from the Favorite Places file folder to the appropriate new folder.

Another idea! Instead of alphabetizing by file folder, label your file folders by subject category



and place your favorite sites in folders based on the subject matter. Good luck!

Q: How do I turn my Etch-A-Sketch off?
A: Pick it up and shake it.

MS TIP OF THE WEEK

Q: What's the shortcut for Undo?
A: Pick it up and shake it.

Quick Defragging For Windows 95 Users
One of the easiest ways to increase Windows 95's workstation performance is with the built-in System Tool, Disk Defragmenter. It's a simple process that can be quickly accomplished if it's done on a regular basis; often the hardest part is convincing yourself to take the few minutes at least once a week to run the program, particularly if your PC has multiple drives. Learn all about this easy performance enhancement at:

Q: How do I create a New Document window?
A: Pick it up and shake it.

http://premium.microsoft.com/da_smallbiz/tech/tip.htm

Q: How do I set the background and foreground to the same color?
A: Pick it up and shake it.

The Y2K Problem Has Been Solved!

Q: What is the proper procedure for rebooting my Etch-A-Sketch?
A: Pick it up and shake it.

A lower cost alternative for solving the Y2K (Year 2000) issue has been identified!

Q: How do I delete a document on my Etch-A-Sketch?
A: Pick it up and shake it.

The goal is to remove all computers from the desktop by December 31, 1999. Instead, everyone will be provided with an **Etch-A-Sketch**. There are many sound reasons for doing this:

Q: How do I save my Etch-A-Sketch document?
A: DON'T pick it up and shake it.

1. No Y2K problems.
2. No technical glitches keeping work from being done.
3. No more wasted time reading and writing e-mails.

Don't Forget!

Your SPAUG Home Page contains a wealth of information as well as hot links to some terrific web sites. Kendric Smith and Stan Hutchings are constantly updating the material. You may be surprised at what you see. You will certainly find something new and useful at every viewing. Reach it at:

<http://www.mediacity.com/~spaug/>

Frequently Asked Questions from the ETCH-A-SKETCH Help Desk.

Editor's Corner.

Q: My Etch-A-Sketch has all of these funny little lines all over the screen. What do I do?

This is your newsletter. Your contributions are wanted. We need material!

A: Pick it up and shake it.

Please email me at sleemanj@earthlink.net with your articles, notes, tips, and opinions.

