The Newsletter of Stanford/Palo Alto PC Users Group

PRinTSCreen

VOLUME 11 NUMBER 3 MARCH 1993

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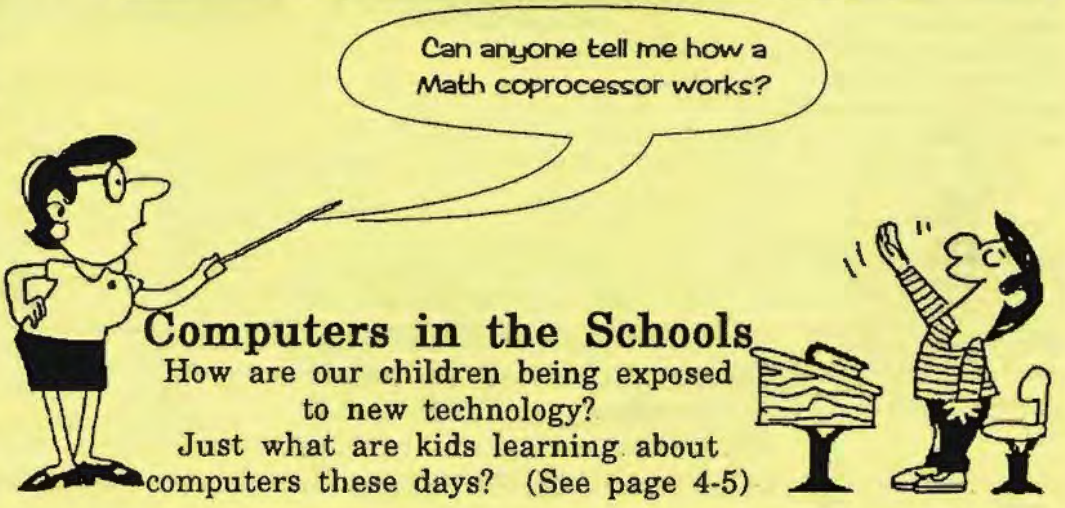


Computers in the Schools
How are our children being exposed to new technology? Just what are kids learning about computers these days? (See page 4-5)

CLUB NEWS

THE PRESIDENT'S PIECE

Well, it's taken me quite a while to get to this point. I'm actually writing this on a functioning, reasonably stable computer. This is a feat I had just about giving up hope of ever achieving, at least in the near future. What had started out as an innocent desire to upgrade my computer, has become a cascading series of glitches. In a future edition of the newsletter I'll tell my sordid tale of disappointment and deceit.

FAREWELL!

This is my last President's piece. I've had the privilege of being the president for these last two years, and it is now time to pass the mantle on. There have been many changes to the club over the last two years, and luckily, most have been good ones.

Probably the most important change has been the influx of new energy from members. This has made a huge difference in the overall sense of enthusiasm in the club.

It was very heartening to see the willingness expressed at our recent pot-luck. There were a lot of new and eager faces who bravely stepped forward and said "Yes, I'll be glad to help." And a lot of these folks volunteered to help in areas where they will be learning new skills. My hat is off to these souls who put their time and energy where their mouths were.

Since this is my last piece, I'm going to make my last appeal to all club members-GET INVOLVED! The next time someone comes up to you with a request, seriously consider saying yes to them. The more energy you put out, the more you'll get out of the club, the more you'll learn and the more fun you'll have! As a matter of fact, don't even wait to be asked. If you see something that needs to be done, raise your hand high and be the one who sees that it gets done.

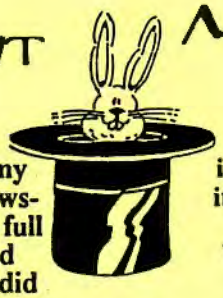
Paul Staley

SPAUG would like to thank:

PRACTICAL PERIPHERALS, INC.
of Westlake Village, CA
for their most generous help with a V32/42 modem for our BBS

OCTAVE SYSTEMS
of Campbell
for helping us with the hard drive for our BBS

WAS IT MAGIC?



Nothing up my sleeve! This newsletter is stuffed full of articles and features. How did that happen? We had several contributors this month and it really made a difference. Any more news and we'd be paying 52 cents for postage.

I had such a great time putting this month's issue. Please keep up the good work! See you next month...

Editor

Some articles could not be included in this issue due to it's length! Look for articles next month on "free" Windows applications, the Microsoft Diagnostic program and more!

ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD AT THE GENERAL MEETING

If you are interested in nominating someone (perhaps yourself?) or would like to know more about the election proceedings . . .

SEE PAGE 10 for More Details

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

Frank La Fetra
A.B. Le-Grand-Sawyer

AND THANKS TO RENEWING MEMBERS

David Baerncopf
Robert Ekedahl
Stanley Hutchings
Larry Manning
Glen Rupp
Ron Seltzer
Bill Tindle
Larry Turpen

April 7th (1st Wednesday) at 7:30pm
The location
1670 Oak Avenue, Menlo Park

Help us to make decisions about the club. All members are welcome. You don't have to be a club officer to get your views heard.

SPAUG
Member Information

(1) Individual Member: ($35)

An Individual Member can vote in elections, is eligible for all club privileges, and if 18 years of age can hold elective office. Dues are based on one full membership.

(2) Student/Concessional Member: ($25)

A Student/Concessional Member is a fulltime student, an employee of a sponsoring corporation, or a person who enrolls during a SPAUG membership drive. A Student/Concessional Member has the same rights and privileges as an Individual Member. Dues are based on a reduced rate not to exceed a reduction of half the dues of an Individual Member.

(3) Family Membership:($35)

A Family Membership consists of two or more members of an immediate family. A Family Membership has one vote. One person in a Family Membership, if at least 18 years of age, can hold elective office. Members of a Family Membership receive one newsletter. Dues are based on an increased rate over that of an individual member, not to exceed one and one-half times the dues of an Individual Member.

(4) Corporate Sponsor: (Rate to be determined)

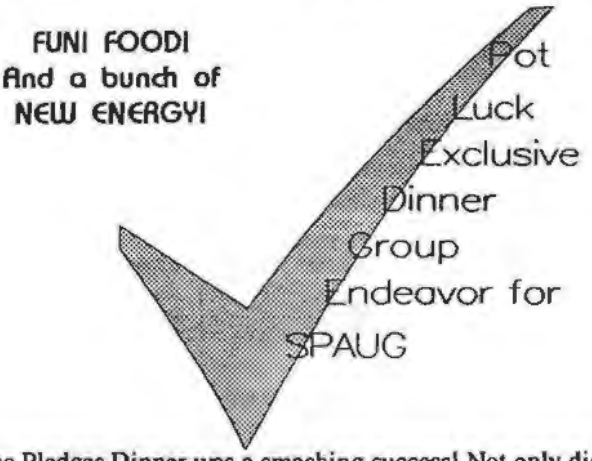
An organization may be recognized as a member for donations, monies and/or services contributed to SPAUG. An employee or member of a Corporate Sponsor's organization may join SPAUG as a Student/Concessional Member. A Corporate Sponsor is not limited to one year's membership. A Corporate Sponsor is not a voting Member.

Many PC Users Groups have reviews of software applications which are done by members and printed monthly in the newsletter. The software is often donated to qualified member reviewers in exchange for their opinions in print and a copy of the review.

Not to be outdone, our new Software Review Coordinator is Larry Turpen. Larry will be taking informal "surveys" of products which members would like to see reviewed. (If you're even luckier, maybe you could be chosen to do the reviewing!)

We are also considering the type of review you would like to read. Would you like to see a rating system? On what should the ratings be based? Would you like us to include the reviewer's background? Speak up! Please see him with your ideas and let your voice be heard!

PLEDGES DINNER MEETING



The Pledges Dinner was a smashing success! Not only did we recruit several new volunteers and candidates for SPAUG positions, but we ate really well too! The potluck turned up some great ideas for the upcoming year. If you missed it, it's not too late to volunteer! Just call Paul or Jan or speak with them at the next meeting.

Our new recruits knocked us out with their enthusiasm. Here are their names and positions, please give them a pat on the back for keeping your organization running.:

BBS Follow Up	Dean Senkbeil
Diskette Committee	Don Baird
Financial Manager	Beverly Altman
Mail Pick Up	Lou Popnis
Membership Committee	Beverly Altman
PrintScreen: Asst. Editors	Keith and Mary Smith
PrintScreen Mailing Chair	Jim Bailey
Program Committee	Jan Altman, Paul Staley, "Cookie" and Christine Cook
Publicity	Barry Smith
Resource Center	Rich Madden
Secretary	Brian Christopher
Product Reviews	Larry Turpen, Paul, Dean Senkbeil
Telephone Committee	Arthur Gala
New SIG's (see p. 11)	Scott Jackson and Bob Botini

EDITOR:If I missed anyone, please let me know so we can thank them here properly next month!

Mailing Party

Make new friends, check out their home computer systems and help mail the PRinTSCreen!

At the SAME TIME?!?!?!

The next mailing party will be at Jim Bailey's house on April 21st at 7:30pm. Don't miss this opportunity to network with other users and see their hardware/software. Call Jim at the number below for more information to verify the time and date. Then show up at Wednesday's party. The address is 804 Los Robles Avenue, Palo Alto 94306.

Don't Miss It!

(415) 494-0631

When are computers really obsolete and what does that have to do with forming an Educational Support SIG?

AN OPEN LETTER TO OLE' "TECHNO-BUDDY" BILL HUSTED, ATLANTA JOURNAL, AND MEMBERS OF THE ATLANTA PC USERS GROUP

Editor's Note: Although this writer lives in Georgia, his story could be told the same in California and around the U.S.!

By: J. Wesley Mercer, Sr., Novice Member of the APCUG, Secretary and Editor of the Atlanta PCjr User Group

Every Sunday in the Business Section of the *Atlanta Journal* and the *Constitution*, Bill Husted and Jack Warner write timely and helpful articles about PC hardware and software. Both of these gentlemen are on *Access Atlanta*, the Journal-Constitution's electronic information service to answer on-line questions subscribers may have about their PC's. Usually their articles are printed next to three-quarter page advertisements by Micro Center and Computerland Express or other mass merchandisers of computer hardware and software.

Every Sunday I rush to the paper to find these pages. The first thing I do is read the advertisements for the latest best buys offered by the mass merchandisers. The prices are unbelievably low as compared with what most of us paid for our less powerful and slow PC's. If we are to accept "Techno-Buddy's" message in the August 23rd Sunday paper, our PC's are not only less powerful and slow, BUT, our PC's are in the category of "OBSOLESCENCE." Just reading the advertisements about the deals for hot hardware and software makes me feel inadequate as a PC user.

Now my ole' "TECHNO-BUDDY" who I've enjoyed reading every Sunday tells the whole world in two articles in the same paper that my 8088, 4.8mHz CPU is "...an antique..." and is in the "OBSOLESCENCE" category. How will I face my friends? Now they all know! "TECHNO-BUDDY" said so in his article "A Brief History of the Computer Chip—By the Numbers" and especially in his article "Frustration Over Old Chips Justified".

Jack Warner does not talk about the issue of obsolescence directly in his products review article entitled "From Snoopy to Gnomes, PC Games for Children Combine Fun,Learning" but, as you read his article it can be seen that his terms like "mouse friendly", "unobtrusive audio sound cards" and "charming graphics" seem to assume the latest in hardware and software, lots of memory, and a fair number of bells and whistles.

Having read the advertisements reinforced by Bill's and Jack's articles, I am left with but one solution to solve my dilemma! I must hock the house and buy the most powerful and fastest CPU available with all the bells and whistles that can be attached and driven by the latest versions of Windows and/or OS/2, or maybe just plain old DOS 5.0!! What was the name of that "DOS Does All" article written by a "naked" user in a recent *LPT1:Atlanta* issue?

I interrupted my wife Jimmie's concentration and emphatically declared that I had to hock the house to immediately buy the most powerful and fastest PC complete with full multimedia capability!! She smiled as she always does before she speaks to me. Then she stopped her work, looked up from her job of paying the bills, steadily locked in on my eyes, and calmly asked me what was I going to do with all that computer "stuff" I already have? She supported her question with a statement that every week she hears me asking questions of David Wilson and others about the use of my computer equipment. In these conversations she quoted me as having said that I openly admit I haven't yet learned how to fully utilize my hardware or software or to write articles for *LPT1:Atlanta* that meet Nancy Wright's standards. I can't believe she said that! Then, as I was preparing to answer that fully documented question, which was like a blow to the solar plexus, she asked me how much faster in seconds of saved working time are 10, 3 0, or 50mhz CPU's as compared to my 4.8mhz CPU?

I had not completely formulated my answers to either of those questions when she knocked me to my feet by asking me what else I really needed to be able to do with the new PC equipment I proposed to buy that I couldn't accomplish with the old PC equipment, given that I am retired, have a few spare minutes on my hands, and given that I haven't yet learned to use what I have? I was exasperated that she would feed back to me my very own words and out of context, too.

I made no attempt to answer her questions. I emphatically told her she just didn't understand! I then slinked away to the comfort of my old, slow and obsolescent PC and left my wife to suffer in the stinging rebuff I had just handed her! After all it is a "Wife's Duty" to "understand." Jimmie had failed in her primary "Duty" of "understanding" so how could she understand? I just let her get back to her secondary duty of paying the bills on time!!

As I stared at my PC, I remembered that my grandsons wanted a new version of a baseball game called "Hardball III" and I could not get it to work on my computer because it required 2MB of Ram which I don't have. — Why didn't someone initially set RAM at 4MB expandable to 64MB instead of just 640KB? — I then recalled that "Hardball II" works well on my computer with just 640KB, so why do I have to buy a whole new rig just to install one new game which my grandsons will probably play for several hours and then move on to something more interesting? I remembered that "Hardball II" has features that none of my grandsons had used. They liked to play the game by simply pitching the ball, hitting and running the bases. They were not really interested in the full simulation of a league's tournament and the associated statistics. They certainly were not interested in down loading actual baseball statistics to a simulated league tournament which seemed to be one of the "Hardball III" requirements for huge amounts of memory. I began to feel somewhat better, if still inadequate, slow, old, and obsolescent like my PC's.

Further contemplation caused me to reflect upon my experiences as a school volunteer for the last three years. Like me, most of the schools' administrators were frustrated by the realization that most of their hardware and software was "obsolescent." They were particularly frustrated by the knowledge that many of the faculty, including themselves, were not sufficiently computer literate. How did they know that? Every visiting vendor told them that they needed the latest in hardware and software to be "network compatible" and they needed the latest in "multimedia" hardware and software because that's were the action is. What is "network compatible" and what is "multimedia"? Most of the faculty had just learned to speak "PC."

Additional frustration was heaped upon the faculty when the vendors didn't want to hear the teachers tell that they had never seen the realization of all the great things promised them when the first computers were purchased, particularly since they were being told that these computers were now obsolescent. As far as I could tell, none of the vendors made any effort to suggest that the schools take their typical twenty five to thirty 128K computers purchased over a period of the last seven or more years, install memory and network cards, and connect them to a purchased net work to construct a computer lab. Such a lab could be used by all classes and thus all students, not just a few students now and then.

Most schools could afford to purchase one new file server with sufficient memory and new net work licensed software to use with existing hardware to make up one computer lab. True, such an arrangement is not the latest in speed and graphics; but, the utility of the existing hardware could be raised to a level where all students and teachers could perform personal productivity skills of word processing, spread sheet, and flat field data base applications to school work.

Careful planning could make the file server and licensed network software useful beyond use in one computer lab. In discussions with vendor representatives, it became very clear to me that the vendors had no intentions of further support of the old hardware. Their mission was to sell the new hardware although through their smiling faces and carefully selected words it seemed as if they have been programed to avoid directly making such a statement!

Sitting before my old. slow, and obsolescent PC I somehow felt better. Then, I felt anxious! I knew what I had to do. I had to learn how to maximize the use of my existing PC hardware and software before I think about spending more bucks on new equipment. I think that's what my wife Jimmie said I had to do? Not only that, I needed to get busy on the proposal I made last month to form an Educational Support SIG.

We must first evaluate with school personnel the trade-offs and utility of making maximum use of existing equipment at the schools versus the schools buying costly new equipment for limited use by a few students. Why limited use by a few students? Simple!

Annual school budgets do not permit purchasing enough computer equipment at one time to completely equip a whole school. Accordingly and with limited budgets a few pieces of PC equipment are purchased each year.

Without a computer lab or a dedicated computer instructor, classroom teachers must find time to learn enough about how to use a single piece of new equipment to show a few students who are ahead in their school work to engage in "enrichment" activities. Funny thing about this process, so many of the students who are ahead in their school work have computers at home and know more about the use of computers than many of their teachers. The rest of the students get little or no exposure to the use of computers at home or at school. The teachers just do not have the time to individually instruct in the use of computers.

Our proposed exhibit and presentation to teachers attending "Microcomputers in Education '93" in March 1993 at Georgia State University must square with the realities of limited education budgets and the existence of old PC hardware and software at most schools. Our exhibit should be designed not just to "razzle dazzle" with the latest in computer technology but to inform and to provide practical solutions to the teaching of computer technology and computer use in schools at the elementary, middle and high schools levels by realistic example.

My personal problem of PC utilization is simple compared with that of the schools, but the dilemma is similar. How can I, and should I, use my existing equipment to its fullest potential before purchasing the latest in the PC market? I think my wife Jimmie has already answered that question for me! Should the schools bring both equipment and teachers up to full use of existing PC equipment before embarking on another round of progressive purchases of advanced PC's over a period of years?

I think school budgets and existing equipment reality at each school answers those questions. Most importantly, how can we members of the Atlanta PC User Group best use our collective skills to help the school systems maximize their existing equipment to teach personal productivity skills in support of educational objectives while at the same time helping the schools systems plan for an orderly transition to a high tech teaching environment soon?

Is it possible that PC hardware is not completely obsolescent, if it is still in working order? Is it possible that old hardware and software are logical educational stepping stones to our better understanding of the evolution of the computer technology as well as our understanding and adaptation to the technological advances in computer hardware and software?

Back in the early days of my life time career in manufacturing largely as a Human Resources Manager, I was impressed by a book entitled "Manage or be Managed". That is the situation we have with PC hardware and software both in our personal lives as well in the schools which serve our children and grandchildren. We must individually manage personal use of our computers and we must collectively manage the use of computers in school or the mass merchandisers and manufacturers will constantly "manage" us into buying the next round of the hottest CPU with its associated bells and whistles before we ever make full utility of what we now have.

Is it fun to have the latest, the biggest, the hottest? You bet it is and if you are independently wealthy and have deep pockets make that leap. However, being in the situation that most of us are in and considering that our schools with their limited resources are faced with an overwhelming demand to bring education in line with the country's employment's skills needs, a way must be found to maximize the use of existing equipment while at the same time to manage acquisition of new hardware and software based upon a well developed plan of transition to a high tech teaching environment. Acquiring a few pieces of the latest and the fastest PC equipment on an ad hoc basis, driven by budget restraints only creates again the educational nightmare we now face of too few pieces of hardware and software for the size of the student body.

Consider what lessons we teach our children by not fully utilizing existing equipment for all students but just for a few of the students. Consider what we teach our children when we engage in another endless round of ad hoc, conspicuous consumption of what becomes limited use of show pieces of PC equipment?

Editorial: Just what are kids learning about computers in school?

*Computer services are a critical and often neglected part of education in this country and around the world. During my experience as a teacher for seven years, **computer equipment ranged from scarce to non-existent and training for teachers was almost unheard of** (or at the very least, voluntarily undertaken at the teacher's time and expense.)*

In those seven years, I taught computer skills to elementary and junior high students in compromising situations: first, with three students per computer (Apple II's with no hard drive) and only software I purchased myself - (none was provided); next, one computer for every six students and again no software or hard drive; last, half hour per week in a lab for every six weeks and two students to every computer. The latest (or even old!) software was rarely provided. I have even brought my own two computers to school for the use of my studentswhen there was no other option (There was not one computer in my department at the last school I worked.) Even though I have a fairly recent masters degree in Special Education, I have not been required to take even <u>one</u> computer education course as part of my post secondary education.

I wish I could say that my experiences are atypical, but my teacher friends are in the same boat. Teachers are often provided with few options: old, limited and insufficient quantities of equipment, unpaid or non-existent training, and a lack of administrative support for computer education. At best, teachers are often lacking the time required to upkeep equipment and update their skills. After working in a computer-related field for 7 months, I realize "the things I could have done" with the equipment which now sits on my desk. I urge the private sector to come to the aid of education and other non-profit organizations in regard to computers and our ever-changing technology. This is our children's future. We simply can't keep up without you.

What can you do to help?

CompuMentor

This non-profit organization matches volunteers with "needy" computer users.

Volunteers of varying skill levels are needed to help non-profit organizations like schools and churches set up databases, hook up to bulletin boards and networks, learn specific software programs, and more. If you want to more information, please contact them at the number below or pick up a CompuMentor Interest Card at the next meeting.

(See page 9 for more!)

(415)512-0173
(800)659-3579

Editor's Pick

Jennifer Wildman
PRinTSCreen Editor

My Adventures in Scanner Land

When the new Microtek ScanMaker IIXE arrived at work, I was ecstatic. Imagine a color scanner, up to 1200 dpi, right at my fingertips. Never having seen a scanner in action, I thought it might leap off my desk and do tricks. But alas, our new scanner was destined to sit still...and wait to be installed.

After some reassurance from my boss who was confident that I could install this new toy myself. I dared to venture into the "inerds" of my computer:

Six screws out of the cover of my computer tower. Pull off the cover. Read the scanner directions. "Turn off the computer. Unplug it and all of its peripherals. Put the card into an empty slot."

"O.K. there!" I thought, "That was easy enough."

Put the cover on. Screw all six screws in tight. Plug everything in. Turn on the computer. Enter Windows.

Ready to begin scanning, right? Almost. I installed the Scanner Module and Aldus PhotoStyler onto my system and prepared the first photo I wanted to scan. Ready, set, go.

Stop.

Error message: Can not communicate with scanner. Check to see that the scanner is plugged in, turned on and that you have installed it correctly.

Close PhotoStyler. Close Windows. Turn off the CPU. Forget unplugging stuff. Back off with the cover for my computer. Six screws out. Card out. Card back in. Cover back on. Replace four screws for good measure.

Start computer. Launch Windows. Start Photostyler. Prepare that photo for scanning. Ready, set, please go.

Error message: Can not communicate with scanner. Check to see that the scanner is plugged in, turned on and that you have installed it correctly.

Close PhotoStyler. Close Windows. Forget turning anything off. Take off the four screws. Card out. Look at it to see if it's really all there. (How would I know?) Call Tech Support. Need to check for an unused memory address. Need to run Manifest. Read the manual for Manifest. Need to change the jumpers on the card. Pull off one, test the scanner. Again. Three or four more times. Call Tech Support. Need to exclude a memory address in my memory manager. Read the QEMM manuals. Give up. Look at my SysEdit files. Guess that the other "x=" statements in my autoexec.bat mean "exclude". Call my husband for a reasonable memory exclusion and a pep talk. Put card in again. Put the cover on the computer. Forget the screws.

Start computer. Launch Windows. Start Photostyler. Etc...

To make a very long story tolerably short: After four calls to Microtek Support Hotline, reinstalling both the card and the two programs, calling tech support, removing the "scan.par" file from my "twain" directory (don't ask me why; I do what I am told) and pulling out half of my hair, I was a scanning fool! It was so much fun to put a picture on the flatbed scanner and come out with such beautiful images on the screen...

Until the bulb burned out two weeks later. I called the company and the dealer who gladly replaced the scanner, quoting a "hardware problem" as the source of my troubles.

"Great!" I thought "I **know** how to install this thing now. It'll be a breeze!"

NOT!

There were no error messages, but the machine sounded like scraping fingers on a blackboard. When I couldn't get Scanner #2 to work, I called tech support who ruled out any problems on my system and suggested I return to the dealer (again).

After removing the card (again) and the scanner (again) and repacking it in my car (again), I drove to the dealer who prepared to test it by checking his **own** scanner. Ready, set, no problem, go.

Error message: Can not communicate with scanner. Check to see that the scanner is plugged in, turned on and that you have installed it correctly.

After an hour of watching the technician hunt around in his autoexec.bat, config.sys, win.ini, and system.ini for some mysterious solution to his problem, I couldn't bear it any longer. (Though I was secretly thrilled that this experienced technician was having problems like me!) I headed for home, a little confused, a lot frustrated, and ready to try something simple, like watching T.V.

At around 11:00 the next morning, the technician got **his** scanner working and tested mine.

"No problems could be found in your scanner. Do you want us to install the scanner for you at $60 an hour?" he said.

Hmmm....And let you have all the fun?

"It could take us an hour if it's a straight-forward installation," he said, "If there's a problem, it could be five hours."

Gee...Only three hundred dollars for you to put the card in for me?

"If you do it yourself, it would be the same thing...one hour or five; you just never know. We had to reinstall everything on our machine."

Everything?

"Even Windows."

Now that hurt! It's taken me eight months to get Windows running smoothly and in just the configurations I've always wanted.

I opted for door #3: one hour of pure installation heaven on the floor of my office, all by myself. With no reinstalling. (Please!)

"Don't forget to lock the scanner's bed before you take it back to your office," he said.

Do what? What lock? Suddenly the picture was clear. I was the victim of a locked scanning bed! So that was why my scanner wasn't working. Guess I missed that part of the directions. The support technicians didn't recognize it. The dealer didn't recognize it. I didn't recognize it until it hit me over the head. Guess it's our little secret now. (I feel like such a "techno-dunce".)

The best part about the whole experience is that, when I got back to my office, I only had to put the card in twice and install the scanner module once.

And the scanner works beautifully.

By the way, in case you were wondering, I also replaced all six of the screws in the back of my computer.

Jennifer

P.S. Not long after I wrote this article and exactly one month after I got the scanner, Windows self-destructed on my system. **I had to reinstall everything** including the scanner module and PhotoStyler. But I didn't even dream of looking at the card inside my CPU.

Boy am I lucky.

So what's so hot about OS/2?

by Bob Botini

Well let's talk about Jenny. All of us know people who specialize in a particular company's software and who teach other people how to use it. Imagine this: Jenny is a specialist in "Access" a new database for "Windows" by Microsoft. Now Jenny does have a regular class. But as is often the case with her students, she finds that they often call her about problems.

Jenny has developed a neat program with the help of OS/2. She sets aside a period of time during the week in which her students can call her, on her computer, and detail some problem that they are struggling with. Through the host mode on a good communications program Jenny can receive a statement of the student and/or download a file containing the problem the student was struggling with. With the student still on the "line" Jenny reduces the comm program to an icon and clicks on the "Access" program icon (which has been running in the background all along) and when the program flashes on the screen go to that part of the program that the student is struggling with. She can also bring up any downloaded file into the program and see exactly what the student has done. At that point she can make corrections or do whatever she thinks is best for her student. She can correct the uploaded file, etc. At this point she reduces the "Access" program to an icon. Clicks on the OS/2 icon(to get out of "Windows" and onto the OS/2 desktop where she then clicks on her comm program icon and is back on line with her student. All of this is instantaneous because the programs are all running and are not shut down when they are off the screen. She can then advise her student and upload a file to her.

This scenario can be done from her home office with ease. This is today. Through all of these machinations all of her software is running. OS/2, her comm program, "Windows", "Access", and whatever else she is involved with. She can be writing an article for "PRint SCreen" on "Word" with her comm program running in the background waiting for calls from her students. All of this is today. And there is much, much more. The freedom of operation that a program like OS/2 allows is astounding. "Windows NT" will allow the same amount of freedom and ease of operation when it arrives on the market.

NEW COMMUNICATIONS SIG

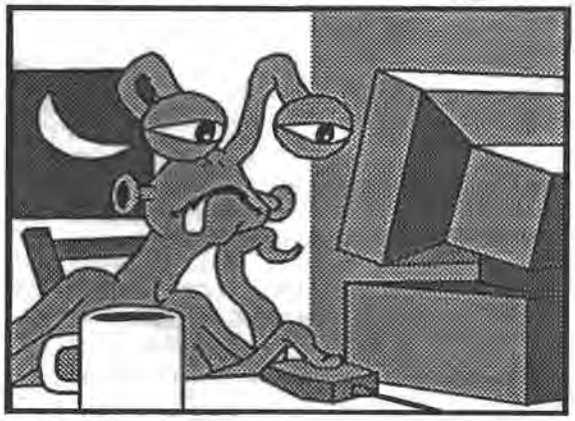
Join Bob Botini for a night of BBS adventures at the new Communications SIG. This session will be a demo of a communications program and incidentally of OS/2. Members will each have the opportunity to call the BBS and log on. The second session will be determined by the needs of the people attending the first session.

When? April 6th at 7:30 PM

Where? 3636 Hoover Street
Redwood City

Directions: Take Hwy 101 to Marsh Road, head toward Atherton. At the first light, just after exiting 101, make a 180 degree turn, go a short distance to a "T" with Hoover. Make a left at Hoover and continue for 3 blocks. My home is on the corner of 16th St. and Hoover.

Analog Man in a DIGITAL WORLD



I CAN'T WAIT TILL VERSION 12.1 COMES OUT. THIS ONE IS JUST TOO BUGGY!

How to Join InterNet

Some members expressed interest in joining this Bulletin Board. I called them and 3 days later received an informative brochure:

InterNet is a world-wide computer net-work used to transfer files and mail to people all over the globe.

Users can contact other users personally (EMail) or join a distribution list for a managed organization.

If you are interested in joining InterNet, write to:

NetCom Communications
4000 Moorpark Ave., Suite 209
San Jose, CA 95117

Their voice number is 554-UNIX.

The Fees? $15.00 one time setup fee; $19.50-1st month; then 17.50 the 2nd month on. There is no Connect Charge.

Word Rapping

With
JAN
ALTMAN

Easter Eggs

With Easter just around the corner, I thought I'd spend some time talking about Easter Eggs. What? you say. What does that have to do with Windows applications? Plenty, I answer. Windows, Word, and Excel all have them. An Easter Egg is a little hidden treasure within a program that not everyone knows. Easter Eggs are undocumented, and can only be learned through the grapevine (or via this column). They all perform some cute little trick, and they're great to pass around. The keystrokes required for an Easter Egg are purposely bizarre, to avoid discovery by the casual user. If you're ready, grab your Easter basket and let's go hunting!

Windows 3.1

- Select *Help, About Program Manager.*
- Hold down **Ctrl** and **Shift** while you double-click the little Windows icon in the top left corner of the dialog box. Nothing special happens.
- Click OK to close the box.
- Select *Help, About Program Manager* a second time.
- Hold down **Ctrl** and **Shift** and double-click the Windows icon. A flag waves in dedication to the Windows 3.1 team.
- Click OK to close the box.
- Select *Help, About Program Manager* a third time.
- Hold down **Ctrl** and **Shift** and double-click the icon. Credits roll, showing the names of everyone on the development team.

Word for Windows 2.0

- Make sure that paragraph marks are showing. (Click the paragraph mark button on the far right of the ribbon, or go to *Tools, Options, View*, and turn on Paragraph Marks.)
- Select *Tools, Macro.*
- Enter **spiff** as the Macro Name, and click Edit. (Winword developers love Calvin and Hobbes just as much as I do. Spiff was the program's internal development name.)
- Delete the first line ("Sub MAIN") and the last line ("End Sub"), leaving only the middle paragraph mark.
- Close the macro window, saving your changes.
- Select *Help, About*, and click the Winword icon in the top left corner. As little men are threatened by the WordPerfect dragon, Word for Windows saves the day. After a celebration, the credits roll amidst fireworks.

(Note: Because this Easter Egg creates a macro, you'll be asked to save global changes when you exit Word. Just answer no.)

Excel 4.0

- Click the right mouse button on the toolbar and choose *Customize*; or go to *Options, Toolbars, Customize.*
- Choose the Custom Category.
- Find the deck of cards in the top row of tools (second from right), and drag it onto the worksheet.
- Click Cancel in the *Assign to Tool* box, and Close in the *Customize* box.
- Hold down **Ctrl** and **Shift** while you double-click the deck of cards. 1-2-3 limps onto the screen and, ridden with bugs, is booted out by Excel. Keep holding down **Ctrl** and **Shift** as the credits roll.

(Note: When you're done, go to Options, Toolbars, and delete the new toolbar you created. It's called "Toolbar1.")

Jan is the Vice President of SPAUG and a certified Microsoft Trainer.

Send your questions on Windows products to 3655 Pruneridge Avenue, No. 135, Santa Clara, 95051, (408)243-5955.

CompuMentor

COMPUTER-SAVVY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you enjoy helping others learn to use computers, you can use your skills to help nonprofit organizations in you community.

Just a face in the crowd? Now is your chance to help others use computers in their organizations.

We're the CompuMentor Project, a nonprofit organization based in San Francisco, and we're looking for skilled personal computer users who can help nonprofits solve their computer problems.

In operation for 6 years, CompuMentor has recruited more than 1500 computer professionals and power users and has provided assistance to more than 700 nonprofits, including social service, health, legal, environmental, women's, minorities', arts and community organizations of all kinds. We serve nonprofit communities from Sonoma to Santa Cruz with this type of "matchmaking".

Our volunteer mentors are essential because nonprofits rarely have computer-proficient staff members or adequate funds to pay for consultants, yet they must use computers effectively to fulfill their vital missions. Our mentors are provide the missing link - sometimes with one phone call, sometimes through ongoing consultation and teamwork. These mentors solve problems ranging from computer setup and emergency phone support to debugging software and designing databases.

Currently we're looking for both Mac and PC Users who are experienced with any of the following:

- ✓Mac/DOS Basics: set-up, file management, troubleshooting, etc...
- ✓Needs Assessment
- ✓Databases: especially FileMaker, FileMaker Pro, Paradox and dBase
- ✓Local Area Networks
- ✓Accounting Software Packages

No matter what your area of expertise, CompuMentor would like to hear from you! If you are interested in volunteering, or would like more information, please contact The CompuMentor Project at (415)512-0473 or (800)659-3579.

Editor's Note: Interest Cards will be available at the March meeting if you would like to send them instead of calling. Also, my husband Quinn has volunteered through CompuMentor. If you have any further questions, please see me at the meeting. The time and effort required to volunteer can be minimal and non-profits need your help! The organization also accepts software and hardware donations. Please consider this valuable opportunity to help a worthy cause.

The State of the State of Technology

Computers Needed at San Jose State University's English Department

David Mesher of the English department at San Jose State, who attended one of our meetings last year, requesting donations of hardware and software, once again needs help in filling the computer needs of his school. This time, however, weary of budget cuts which have deeply affected the staff and supplies at the university, we called them! (This educational issue of the PRinTSCreen reminds us that former requests often extend indefinitely.)

The turn-out from his last request was good; they received hardware and software from both individuals, businesses and our club. They have, however, encountered some interesting stumbling blocks along the way. First, software "legalities" have created a mountain of obstacles for the university. For example, David speaks with concern and dismay about an offered donation of a site license which could not be accepted. The offer was from a company that was switching from WordPerfect to Word. The license donation for the software was not approved by WordPerfect because their donation program only covers K-12 schools. Other software has also been donated and rejected for approval by their parent companies. In addition, higher end software such as Ventura Publisher, has graciously been donated, but no machines of "Windows" caliber exist in the English department to run that software.

As for hardware, they do have a modem, some computers and printers which are sufficient to do the job. But they also have a stack of 8088's which are essentially unusable. Unfortunately, they too are victims of a "legality". It seems that state property can not be donated or given away to anyone other than another state agency. And so the 8088's are doomed to collect dust while the English department wishes for 286 and up computers for student and staff use.

Where is state funding for this equipment? As David explains, the now dwindling staff is "begging" for books from the library...it's hard to imagine money for software and hardware coming available any time soon.

If you can help, by donating computers (286 or up), hardware (except modems and printers) or software, please call David Mesher at (408)924-4440.

Editor: Thanks David, for calling and telling me your story.

Don't Try This At Home!

GILLETTE RESIDENT IS ARRESTED AFTER SHOOTING HIS COMPUTER

From the Echoes-Sentinel, Somerset County, N.J., September 17, 1987

PASSAIC TWP. -- A Gillette man was arrested at his home last Thursday night after he fired eight bullets at his home computer, according to police. The man, Michael A. Case, 35 of 64 Summit Ave., was arrested shortly after 11 p.m., at his house, when police said they received a report that shots were fired. They arrived at the home to find a .44 Magnum automatic handgun and a shot-up IBM personal computer with a Princeton Graphics System monitor.

The monitor screen was blown out by the blasts and its inner workings were visible, Lt. Donald Van Tassel said on Monday. The computer, which had bullet holes in its hardware, was hit four times while four more bullet holes were found in various areas next to the computer, Van Tassel said. "The only thing he (Case) said was that he was mad at his computer so he shot it," Van Tassel said. The handgun, which the lieutenant identified as an Israeli Arms Desert Eagle .44, has " a lot of firepower," he said. "It's a big gun." Case used hollow-point, or dum-dum, bullets,he added. Cas was surprised when police arrested him because he didn't think he was breaking the law, Van Tassel said. "He couldn't understand why he couldn't shoot his own computer in his own home, " Van Tassel said.

Case was charge with recklessly creating a risk and using a firearm against the property of another, because the house is reportedly owned by a relative. The walls were also damaged by the shots, according to police. He was also charged with unlawful posession of a firearm without a permit, and with possession of illegal bullets, police said. In addition, Case was issued two summonses, for discharging a weapon in a restricted area and for discharging a single-projectile weapon, police said. Case spent early Friday morning in the Morris County Jail and was released later in the day on $2,500 bail, according to police. A Municipal Court appearance is scheduled.

THE SPAUG FUNDRAISER

There were some really great bargains at the Sidewalk Faire and here are some more. Are there computer users on your shopping lists? To purchase any of these items call Beverly Altman at (415) 329-8252 and it will be brought to the next meeting or you can arrange to pick it up.

TYPE	ITEM	DESCRIPTION	SPAUG PRICE	PRICE*
Software	NORTON ANTIVIRUS For Windows and DOS	Comprehensive Virus Defense Detects over 1000 Viruses!	36.00	99.00
Software	NORTON BACKUP v1.2 For DOS	Simultaneous Backup of Multiple Drives Flexible and fast; Award winner	40.00	**
Software	NORTON BACKUP v1.2 For DOS and Windows	Automatic schedule for Windows backups. Restores from damaged diskettes.	32.00	**
Software	THE NORTON EDITOR Version1.0	Created to meet the needs of programmers Written entirely in Assembly language; fast	20.00	**
Software	THE BUDGET EXPRESS 1.1 by Symantec	Goal Tracking, "what if", Instant Summary Views, etc. for Lotus 1-2-3	28.00	**
Software	DESIGNER v2.0 by Micrografx	A top rated drawing and technical illustration program for Windows.	90.00	309.00**
Software	ALLSAFE by XTree	An integrated security program, including password protection, keyboard locking, etc	30.00	89.95
Software	COMPUTER CHECK ORDERING	KIT	10.00	39.95
Software	hDC FileApps (for Windows)	Undelete/View/Search/Share/Transfer, etc.	12.00	49.00
Software	FileF/X (for Windows)	Enhanced file management utilities	20.00	–
Software	FORMWORX for Windows by Power Up!	An excellent forms processing program.	40.00	199.99
Software	JUST WRITE	Fast, easy word processor	40.00	199.99
Software	LAPLINK PRO	File Transfer Tool	50.00	104.95
Software	MENUWORKS SECURITY	Complete data protection	28.00	99.99
Software	ON TIMES for Windows	A calendar and list mgr.	40.00	99.99
Software	QUIKMENU III	Program Manager	8.00	25.00
Software	SYMANTEC GAME PACK	Fun for Windows: Jacks, Hangman Pick Up Sticks, Code Breaker, etc	20.00	49.95
Software	SQZ! PLUS by Symantec, for Lotus	Spreadsheet File Utility System; compress spreadsheet files by up to 95%.	20.00	**
Software	TRADING POST by LaserTools	A PostScript printer manager (PCWorld Best Buy)	10.00	79.00
Software	VIRTUAL MONITORS	Desktop expansion for Windows	12.00	39.99
Book	CYBERPUNK	True stories of outlaws and hackers on the computer frontier	5.00	12.00
Book	EXCEL 4 (for Windows-1992)	A Self-Teaching Guide	9.50	19.95
Book	MICROCUMPUTER EXPERIMENTATION		4.00	31.95
Book	MICROSOFT WORKS	Quick Reference Guide	3.50	7.95
Book	WINN ROCHE HARDWARE BIBLE	Complete reference for all hardware	12.00	29.95
Book	PC POWER!	Boosting Your PC's Performance	10.00	26.95
Book	WINDOWS 3.1 SECRETS	InfoWorld's Super Windows book with 3 disks	18.00	39.95
Book	PHENOMENAL PC GAMES	15 Games and 1 Disk	10.00	24.95
Book	WORDPERFECT for Windows (1992)	"Business Publishing Power"	26.95	9.60

* *The current discount price - where available.* ** *Not the latest version - larger reduction*

CLASSIFIED ADS

Classified ads of a non-commercial nature are free to all members. The rates for commercial ones are:

Business card	**$10**
Quarter page	**$60**
Half page	**$100**
Full page	**$170**

For further details contact:
Beverly Altman [415] 329-8252
or Jennifer Wildman (408)335-7892

ELECTIONS

By Don Baird

No nominations have yet been received for the offices of President, Vice President, and Treasurer. Thus, for those of you perhaps thinking of skipping the next meeting (Wednesday, March 31st) because of the possibility dreary election proceedings, it is more than likely that the election will take less than 5 minutes. The nominations remain open right up until we vote, so some chance still exists for a slightly more involved voting procedure - should the incumbents receive some opposition.

I, Don Baird, at (415365-6822 and (415)365-8267, as the Elections Officer, will take nominations by phone or letter until 6:00 PM, March 31, 1993.

THE SPAUG RESOURCE CENTER

OFFICERS

President	Paul Staley	[415] 941-5872
Vice President	Jan Altman	[408] 243-5955
Treasurer	Bev Altman	[415] 329-8252

MANAGERS

Bulletin Board (SPARC) Sysop	Henry Hollwedel	[415] 591 8509
PRinT SCreen Editor	Jennifer Wildman	[408] 335-7892
Resource Center	Rich Madden	[408] 253 2075

SPAUG members are encouraged to make themselves available to other members to answer questions about hardware or software. Your area may be general or specialized. If you are willing to have your name added to this list, please contact the Resource Center Manager, Rich Madden at [408] 253-2075.

SOFTWARE

Accounting	Larry Mehl	[415] 329-6037
Lotus 1-2-3	Larry Mehl	[415] 329-6037
Quicken	Floyd Kessler	[415] 493-7780
Windows Products	Jan Altman	[408] 243-5955
R:Base	Larry Mehl	[415] 326-6037
Borland Products	Quinn Wildman	[408] 335 7892

LANGUAGES

C	John Watson	[415] 325-7632
Fortran	John Watson	[415] 325-7632
Pascal	John Watson	[415] 325-7632
Smalltalk	John Watson	[415] 325-7632

Club Events in April

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

March 31 Last Wednesday - *GENERAL MEETING*
7:30pm Building 7 at Varian, 3075 Hansen Way, Palo Alto
See the adjacent map for directions
TOPIC: A Sneak Preview of Microsoft DOS 6.0

April 6 *COMMUNICATIONS SIG*
7:30pm This month's SIG will give members opportunities to log on to the BBS and incidentally get a taste of OS/2. The meeting will be at 3636 Hoover Street in Redwood City. See page 7 for more details.

April 12 Second Tuesday - ***WORD FOR WINDOWS SIG***
7:30pm We meet at Oakridge Appartments Rec. Room, 3655 Pruneridge Ave. Santa Clara: just west of Lawrence. The group is led by Jan Altman, a Certified Trainer in Word for Windows. For more information, please call Jan at [408] 243-5955.

T.B.A. *QUICKEN SIG*
Floyd Kessler, [415] 493-7780
For the latest meeting information see the notice on the Bulletin Board System.

April 20 Third Tuesday - ***PARADOX SIG***
7:30pm This SIG has become a "joint" SIG with the Silicon Valley Users Group. At the April Meeting, Lisa Biow, author, will speak about Paradox for Windows. The group meets at 10100 N. Tantau in Cupertino.
Please contact Scott Jackson at (408)738-0424 for more information.

April 28 Last Wednesday —
GENERAL MEETING
7:30pm Building 7 at Varian, 3075 Hansen Way, Palo Alto.
See the map below for directions.

SPAUG MEETING LOCATION

The Stanford/Palo Alto
PC User Group

P.O. Box 3738
Stanford, CA 94309

CLUB INFORMATION

Meetings	Paul Staley (415)941-5872
Membership	Beverly Altman [415] 329-8252 $35 per year
Bulletin Board	[415] 321-4497
Newsletter	Jennifer Wildman [408] 335-7892

Your membership expiration date is on the mailing label.
Please renew promptly, using the enclosed envelope.