PRint SCreen

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Newsletter of

Stanford Palo Alto Users Group for PC

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GENERAL MEETING
INDIVIDUAL SOFTWARE: Genealogy, PIM, & More
& MOUNTAIN NETWORK SOLUTIONS:
CD7, a CD-ROM Changer
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 7:30 PM

BBS Alive

The SPAUG BBS (415) 321-4497 (8-N-1) is back on-line with the double disk February issue of *CICA for Windows* spinning in the CD-ROM drives. That's 4855 fresh programs at 1,072 MB available for downloading. The virus protection programs have been updated by Nancy Helmy. You can find them in an area called *The Polo Club*. Further enhancements include upgrades to WildCat 4.01, a USR 14.4 Sportster, and a new operating system. I've made the system run faster with easier access. You don't have to wait for the SysOp to upgrade your security level. Just logon with your real name and choose your favorite password. It's a good idea to read the brief bulletins then you're cleared for take-off. Enjoy!

Genealogy, CD7 & Jim —- March Presentations

You asked for it and Individual Software has it to show at the March General Meeting. They will present their Genealogy Software, Personal Information Manager, and Ten Finger Touch Typing Made Easy for Two Finger Typists. Personal lessons can be arranged with a former aerobics instructor. Not to be left out, the Hardware for Power Users Committee has Mountain Network Solutions showing their new CD7 model. This is a seven (7) CD-ROM disk changer. Mountain will also show their tape drive back-up units. All this at the General Meeting plus Jim Dinkey's latest computer revelations and handouts during *Random Access*. This is Quality time with a capital "Q".

Pledge Dinner

The Annual Pledge Dinner is on the calendar for May 3rd. Call Beverly (415) 329-8252 and let her know what you can bring to the potluck.

A Tax Deduction

As per our accountant, SPAUG is an IRS recognized Nonprofit Organization. We are happy to help you with your tax bite by being recipient to your generous donations. Send us your extra computers, cars, and estate sale donations. We will use it to expand the information access SPAUG is presenting each month. SPAUG needs a laptop computer and LCD panel to use at the General Meetings. Together we can expand the BBS to multi-platforms and multi-megabytes of files. If you can help, please call Bev at (415) 329-8252.

See you on March 29. . .   *Brian*

Nominations Open for April Election of SPAUG Officers

Energy, energy, and energy. That's what Brian has cited for what's needed to keep SPAUG rolling along. To this end, nominations are open to fill SPAUG offices.

These people are nominated thus far:
President - Brian Christopher
Vice President - Nancy Helmy
Treasurer - Larry Weinberg
Secretary - Mildred Kohn
Director at Large.- Beverly Altman

Job descriptions might help. Pres presides over general and planning meetings and coordinates all group efforts. VP presides in absence of Pres. Treasurer prepares the budget and makes expenditures. Secretary takes minutes of planning meeting

Let's throw the bums out! Bring your nominations to the March General Meeting!

Membership Drive

Membership means energy. We need new members with new energy. Brian will be discussing a membership drive at the General Meeting. Check out the BBS for Larry's ideas for attracting new members, and post your thoughts. They'll need everyone's cooperation and participation in this effort. SPAUG's vitality and financial viability are at stake.

Potluck and Pledges

Watch for next month's PRinT SCreen to read about the volunteer jobs that are available and more about the Potluck Dinner on May 3.

Wanted: Newsletter Editor

PRinT SCreen is published 11 times a year. The newsletter editor's job involves:
  Editing articles submitted by members
  Selecting articles for reprint from other
  users groups' newsletters
  Gathering dates and information for the
  SPAUG calendar of events and resource center
  Laying out newsletter and ads
  Arranging for printing and distribution

Apply at SPAUG for May Issue
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY - NO PAY!

Software Review: Family Tree Maker 3.0

Floyd Kessler, SPAUG Member

Family Tree Maker 3.0
Banner Blue Software. Fremont. CA
List $42.50. DOS or Win versions.
510-794-6850

About two years ago I did some genealogy research on the paternal side of my family and with the help of a relative and the National Archives, I was able to gather some interesting facts about my father's family and its emigration to the United States. My goal was to build a family tree for my nuclear family.

With that information I started to build a graphic relationship using a spreadsheet program with the ability to construct "text" graphs with organizational relationship boxes. There it sat for two years—a static view of a small portion of the family relationships with no software links from one person to another.

So. I decided to try some shareware genealogy software programs. They seemed too labor intensive on the input for what was available as output. Someone suggested Family Tree Maker (FTM) and then I got enthusiastic about becoming the genealogy data bank for our family.

> Any problems I encountered were answered by reading the excellent, well-written user manual....

Why? In a nutshell, you feed the input forms presented by the program (an easy uncomplicated task with FTM) and Eureka! Among other output. FTM generates: lists of all family members (didn't know there were so many), graphic family trees of a number of types. calendars (with birthdays and anniversaries). family group sheets and individual's sheets. hierarchical lists that easily show relationships, and some custom reports also. It works with dot matrix printers. inkjet printers and comes with a special set of fonts for using with HP laser printers.

Installation is fast and simple and the choices to make are few (color?, type of printer, etc.). Once past the title screen. you are presented with a family sheet. Fill in the blanks (just names of parents and children) and there's enough data for the program to generate a family tree albeit short. Click on Index of Names or hit F2 and the names entered are shown in an alphabetical list.

Double click on a child's name and up comes their sheet. Then you fill in the family information. It's that easy. FTM keeps track of the relationships automatically. Only one caution: If you mistakenly designate a male as female, the program won't allow the name to be listed as "husband" (doesn't recognize same sex marriages, hmmm). For some reason the default is F for female unless your entry is M in that field. There are forms for including biographical data and medical history information about the ancestors. It provides for GEDCOM and ASCII data transfer. GEDCOM is the genealogical standard developed by the LDS (Mormon Church) and allows transfers. without reformatting, to other genealogical programs.

While this is a DOS program. the printer output is a screen view of the end product in WYSIWYG. You can maneuver through the whole tree or list with a mouse or arrow keys. With my dot matrix 8.5"x11" printer it displays the number of sheets (x-wide and y-high) that will print the displayed item. All that's left to do is print, align and join the pages together. and head for a copy shop to get a reproduction on a single sheet.

I wasn't trying to test the program. but I found no bugs. Any problems I encountered were answered by reading the excellent. well-written user manual (which I didn't have to refer to very much). The program is produced by Banner Blue software of Fremont and is available at most retail stores. The list price is $42.50 and it also is available in a Windows version for the same price with many more features and capabilities. Oh yes! It is an intuitive program (sorry. Intuit). As Groucho Marx used to say. "I must be going..." to prepare Family and Biographical data sheets to send to all of my cousins.

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Family Origins 3.0 for Windows
David B. Burnham

Family Origins 3.0 for Windows
Parsons Technology. Inc.
System requirements: 4MB RAM, 1MB HD,
  Win 3.1+, printer, mouse recommended

> You can import scanned photographs and attach them to an individual.... No more shoeboxes ....

I found installation and setup was a real snap. All went well, without a hitch. You can't do much better than that. I was particularly impressed when given the option of importing either a GEDCOM face, or surprise of surprises, I could directly import my data from my 10.000+ name PAF 2.31 face! Up and running, with a fully Ancestral Face Compatible option, in less than five minutes. Frankly, I call that impressive. Not to mention, a fully operational LDS ordinance option was included for Mormon users. An equally attractive option for both Mormons and non-Mormons. I liked that very much!

Why would a PAF user consider converting to Family Origins? There are several reasons. Most obvious is the full implementation of the Windows graphical interface. no compromises, a familiar Windows format. It is intuitive and comprehensive. That surprised me because of the program's minimal file size. The program is both compact and rich in the most often desired features.

The features list is also a surprise. Unlike PAF, you can import scanned photographs and attach them to an individual. That is an appealing option. No more shoeboxes full of photos which not only deteriorate, but also lose their captions and become unidentifiable over time. That feature alone should appeal to many PAF users. Add this to the Windows interface. and there is ample justification to consider converting to Family Origins for many genealogists.

But it gets better. Quoting from the box. "You can track information specific to your whole family (e.g., multiple births, genetic diseases) and produce reports of statistics like average ages at marriage and death. "In my family there are several "special circumstances," so I decided to test these features. They worked without a hitch. Nice enhancement to the usual PAF report options.

I tried a Custom printout with all 10.000+ names from my file. I wanted a printout sorted by Ancestral File Numbers (AFN). This allowed me to see what groupings or names were submitted in sequence. With this information I was able to evaluate each submission group for content and validity. I was able to make some important judgments about my data. The ease with which

I was able to accomplish this task was well worth the effort. The clues gleaned are a good example of how custom reports can open new research avenues for a genealogist.

And then there were the standard printouts themselves. Very, very nice. Much more graphically and aesthetically pleasing to the eye than the PAF options. But, like PAF. there was little opportunity to customize them to your preferences. Take it or leave it. Period! For instance, the Descendancy Charts were much too large for my tastes, with a resulting multiple page printout. This format requires pasting the pages together to produce a meaningful report. Otherwise, the unnumbered pages can easily become jumbled and disorganized. The print to disk file also promises more than it delivers. Once all the options are chosen for a custom form. it cannot be picked up easily by a full featured word processor without losing all of the formatting. Aagh! With a large file, that can become a bit frustrating.

In summary, for experienced PAF users, this is an excellent upgrade to a fully Windows compatible program. The system requirements are very modest, yet the printout options are both comprehensive and aesthetically pleasing. All in all. a surprisingly powerful package in a very modest presentation. With its full compatibility with PAF and GEDCOM. both uploads and downloads. it is a genuine bargain. I fully recommend it without hesitation.
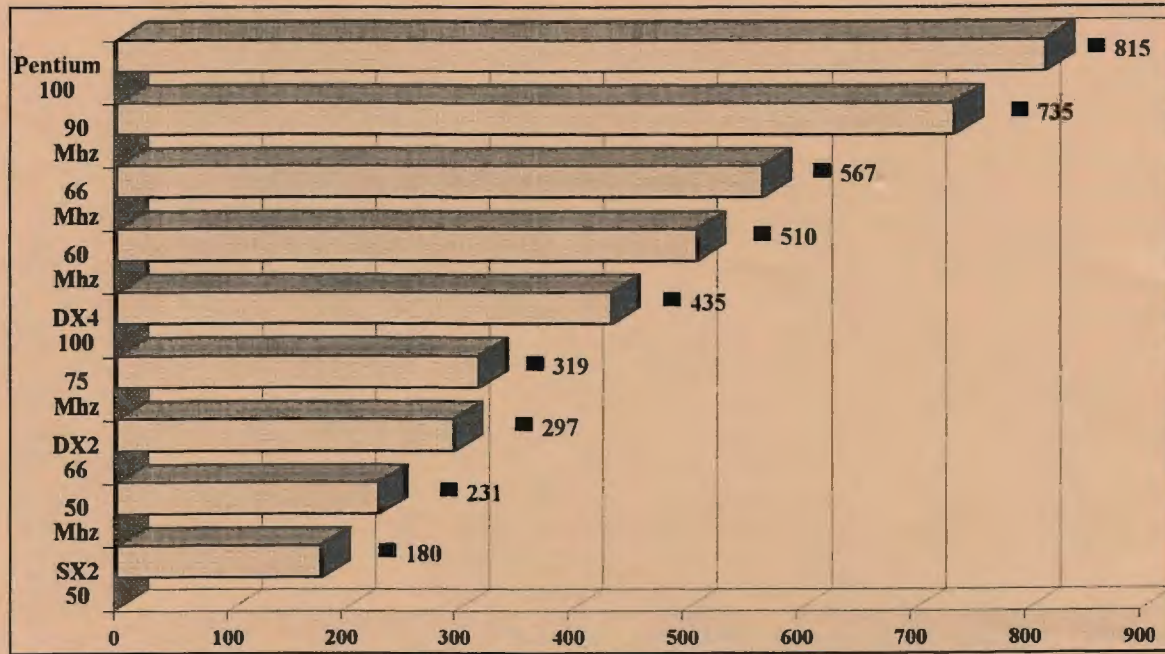
For those new to genealogy, the easy intuitive Windows interface makes it very attractive. The biggest problem is the sparse documentation. If you enjoy experimenting and tinkering, this will work well for you. If you need a lot of hand-holding. this lack of documentation may be a bit disconcerting. However, I do feel that this is an excellent program for the beginner to intermediate family historian.

The people at Parsons Technology can be proud of their contribution to the field. With the Family Origins 3.0 for Windows. there is no longer any reason to procrastinate. You can dive into the fascinating world of genealogy. compiling your unique family history for generations to come.

Intel Processors - Ratings by Intel using IComp Index

Bar chart showing IComp Index ratings:
- Pentium 100: 815
- 90 Mhz: 735
- 66 Mhz: 567
- 60 Mhz: 510
- DX4 100: 435
- 75 Mhz: 319
- DX2 66: 297
- 50 Mhz: 231
- SX2 50: 180

(X-axis: 0, 100, 200, 300, 400, 500, 600, 700, 800, 900)

Zeos Pricing History

Herb Huey. Excerpt from *Readme.doc*, Orange Coast PCUG.

Pricing at two "sweet spots": $2000 and $3500. $2000 is just above entry level and $3500 plus level is just below cutting-edge technology. Pricing has remained constant, but technology has made large strides.

October 1989

Low Price System - $1890
286/12 Mhz with 512K RAM
32 MB Hard Disk
14" VGA Monitor

High Price System - $3490
386/20 Mhz with 1 MB RAM
80 MB Hard Disk
14" VGA Monitor

October 1990

Low Price System - $1995
8\386SX/16 Mhz with 1 MB RAM
80 MB Hard Disk
Paradise 16-bit VGA 1024 color card
14" High Resolution VGA Monitor

High Price System - $3695
386/33 Mhz with 4 MB RAM
80 MB Hard Disk
Paradise 16-bit VGA 1024 color card
14" High Resolution VGA Monitor

October 1991

Low Price System - 1995
3886SX/20 Mhz with 2 MB RAM
85 MB Hard Disk
Diamond SpeedStar Plus 16-bit
VGA 1024 color card
14" High Res 1024 x 768 VGA Monitor

High Price System - $3095
3886SX/20 Mhz with 2 MB RAM
130 MB Hard Disk
Diamond SpeedStar Plus 16-bit
VGA 1024 color card
14" High Res 1024 x 768 VGA Monitor

October 1992

Low Price System - $1995
486SX/25 VL Local Bus/4 MB RAM
130 MB Hard Disk
1 MB VL Local Bus Video Card
14" High Res 1024 x 768 VGA Monitor

High Price System - $3695
486SX/25 VL Local Bus/4 MB RAM
340 MB Hard Disk
1 MB VL Local Bus Video Card
14" High Res 1024 x 768 VGA Monitor

1993

Low Price System $1995
486DX/33 VL Local Bus MB/4MB RAM
214 MB Hard Disk
1 MB High Speed VL Local Bus Video Card
   0.28mm dot pitch

High Price System - $3595
486DX/33 VL Local Bus MB/8MB RAM
452 MB Hard Disk
Diamond SpeedStar SVGA card/1 MB
   RAM (16.7 million colors)
   0.28mm dot pitch

1994

Low Price System - $1995
486DX2/66 Mhz PCI bus/256K Cache
   with 8 MB RAM
528 MB Hard Disk
PCI Local Bus SVGA video
14" SVGA Monitor

High Price System - $3738
Pentium-90 PCI bus/256K Cache
   with 16 MB RAM
528 MB Hard Disk
Diamond SpeedStar 64/PCI Bus
Graphics Card with 2 MB RAM
17" SVGA Monitor
2X CD-ROM drive
16-bit sound card, stereo speakers

HP LaserJet 4L
Tim Klaver
Reprinted from Fox Valley Tech PCUG
via *Orange Bytes*, No. Orange County CC

It's only been recently that laser printers have come down in price so that more home PC users can afford them. Several new lasers are available for street prices between $600 and $700. Among them is the new 300dpi HP LaserJet 4L, selling for around $600 on the street.

The 4L is about the smallest laser you can find. Measuring 14.5" wide and only 14" deep, it will fit on almost any desk or shelf. The unit is a mere 6" high and weighs in at a measly 16 lbs. The power and parallel cables conveniently fit into recessed sockets on the sides of the machine.

After its small size, the next thing you notice about the 4L is the absence of an on/off switch. The printer is on whenever it is plugged in. It goes into a sleep mode after 15 minutes of inactivity and instantly fires up when you send it something to be printed, maintaining all the fonts you've downloaded. In sleep mode it uses less than 5 watts of electricity. Because it uses so little electricity, the 4L qualifies for an Energy Star designation by the Environmental Protection Agency.

The 4L borrows many features from its grown-up HP cousins. It uses HP's Resolution Enhancement Technology to make 300dpi look like much higher resolution. Output is sharp and crisp and it even does a fine job on printing shades.

The 4L also features the LaserJet 4 Memory Enhancement Technology which makes the printer's 1MB RAM do the work of 2MB. A bi-directional parallel port enables the printer to send messages to your PC, notifying you of paper jams and other problems. If you have a sound card on your PC you'll also get an audio message to supplement the visual cues. If you find the audio notification annoying (I did), you can turn it off as you can any other Windows system event with the Sound program in Control Panel. In addition to the software, the 4L has four small lights that signal errors.

The printer comes with drivers for DOS and Windows as well as an HP Explorer program that lets you change settings in DOS, much as you would in Windows. The Windows and DOS programs control most of the printer functions—the one button on the printer takes the printer on-line or off-line, resets it and outputs test pages.

From what I've described so far you might think that the 4L is the perfect printer, but it definitely lacks important features you may need later on. The printer doesn't accept any HP-standard font cartridges and is a PCL5 printer only. You'll have to spend $400 more for the LaserJet 4ML if you want Postscript. As a matter of fact, the only upgrade available is to add a 1MB memory module, bumping the total RAM up to 2MB. You won't find a serial port on the 4L either. Paper handling options are limited to a 100 sheet drawer that tucks into the front of the machine. The 4L will print labels, envelopes and transparencies but only manually, one piece at a time. If you routinely run large volumes of these types of pieces, you'll want to look at other lasers. The 4L is no speed demon either but most home users probably won't notice. I found it prints full page graphics in less than 30 seconds, much faster than a dot matrix or inkjet printer.

And, after all, it is a personal printer, not one you'd hook up to a network and share among multiple users. The HP LaserJet 4L is an attractive choice for a personal laser. If you are cramped for space the small, stylish box will fit almost anywhere. For most home users, the 4L's limited expandability won't be a handicap. Just don't expect to share it at the office.

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Epson Action Laser 1500
Nancy Helmy, SPAUG

This printer compares favorably with the HP4L. Santa found it at Access for under $500. Overall print quality can be judged by PRinT SCreen.

The main features are 300dpi and 6ppm with 1MB RAM. The paper tray holds 150 sheets letter- and legal-sized paper. Envelopes can be hand-fed. The technology is Resolution Improvement Technology (RITech) for crisper text and graphics. The Action Laser 1500 uses HP IIISi emulation, differing by fewer scalable fonts and more bitmap fonts (8 vs. 13, and 14 vs. 10).

The printer weighs 22 lbs. and is 8.9x14.5x18". First print is within 20 seconds. A standby mode kicks in after 15 minutes of inactivity and warms up again within 35 seconds. The standby mode can be disabled. Options include memory expansion to 5MB, font cartridges, paper trays, and parallel and serial interface boards.

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Towards Plug and Play Imaging Peripherals
Charles Reis
Reprinted from Silicon Valley Computer Society *Journal*

There is a forthcoming technology developed by Microsoft known as Plug-and-Play technology. Installation of any new piece of hardware onto your PC will be accomplished with ease. Although it will not take place all at once, users of the PC will be exposed in the near future to the thrill of not having to configure hardware additions. This will only be accomplished if their computers are equipped with a new BIOS which will recognize an identification and coding within a ROM assigned to a specific device. With "Chicago," the code name for Microsoft's version 4.0 of Windows. users will discover this new technology which will vastly improve their ability to install new hardware or software with much greater ease.

Most users of IBM-PCs or compatibles have. at one time or another. voiced the same complaints: "Why is it so difficult to install new hardware or software on my PC?" As a PC user you probably already know how difficult it is to install any new hardware. For example, there are times when installation of a floppy-HD controller board. a CD-ROM player or any device can be a real headache for the user.

Problems During Hardware Installation

From its very beginning DOS and Windows have presented problems for the novice and professional alike. Most PC users know how the installation of a piece of hardware on their PC can become their worst nightmare. Macintosh and Quadra users have never experienced this problem. The main reasons for the popularity of the Macintosh and other Apple computers is their ability to install hardware or software without any of the hassles that face IBM-PC or compatible users. Mac users remain loyal to their favorite computer because it is so easy to use.

Unlike the Apple computers (which have no clones and are widely accepted by industry and business). hardware and software installation onto the PC platform requires that users have some minimal knowledge of DOS and/or Microsoft Windows operations. That means they have to read the operating instructions. something that few people want to do.

> **PC users will have the thrill of not having to configure hardware additions.**

With previous versions of DOS and Windows. there have always been conflicts associated with installation of hardware. Until now. Microsoft has continued to supply upgraded versions of their software that pretty much followed the same conventions they had previously used. Support vendors, because they had no other alternatives. could only accept Microsoft's suggested guidelines. There have been a few brave support vendors who employ their own software development techniques that allow the locating of addresses and IRQs automatically during the installation procedure. Unfortunately, the vast majority of other support vendors continues to accept the Microsoft design specifications given to them as a guide for their developments. Because of this. hardware conflicts and confusion usually occur during the user's installation.

Plug and Play Technology

An answer to solving this hardware installation problem is found in a proposed industry-wide specification. This specification is called Plug and Play. The specification is the joint effort of a number of companies lead by Intel. Compaq. Phoenix Technologies. and Microsoft. One of the first pieces of software to support the Plug and Play (P&P) technology will be Microsoft's Window 4.0.

P&P is an architecture developed by hundreds of PC hardware and software vendors. It defines the way software communicates with any hardware device connected to the PC. With P&P technology. there is a dramatic improvement in the integration of PC hardware and software. allowing superior ease of use and much lower operating costs.

According to Microsoft, there are three main benefits associated with the P&P technology: First. P&P automatically installs and configures add-on devices without user intervention. Secondly, P&P dynamically reconfigures the system during use. an entirely new level of functionality. Lastly, P&P reduces product development and support costs for the vendor resulting in lower prices for the user. This important piece of information comes from

the fact that 50 percent of all support calls to operating system and device manufacturers result from installation and configuration problems. By making these operations easier and automatic manufacturers can achieve lower support costs and pass these savings on to their users.

New Requirements Needed

P&P will require the following changes to hardware devices and drivers, the BIOS, and the operating system:

1. Every hardware device on the system will be assigned a unique identification.
2. There will be an applied procedure for the BIOS and operating system to install and configure each new piece of hardware.
3. There will be a mechanism for the system and applications to recognize that a configuration change has occurred while the system is running.

System Characteristics

P&P architecture is an open, flexible and cost-effective framework for designing hardware products. It is open because it was developed by a working group of support vendors who reviewed the design proposals with hundreds of other vendors at conferences and through on-line forums. P&P can be implemented by any operating system or hardware manufacturer.

It is flexible because it provides a framework that works on multiple bus architectures (ISA, SCSI, PCMCIA, VL, PCI, and many others) and is extensible to future bus designs. It is cost-effective because vendors can implement it in their products with little or no increase in cost.

Because the P&P initiative will eventually be found in every aspect of personal computing, it will probably take a number years before it will be fully deployed.

Problems to be Addressed

Current PC users will not be able to use the advantages of any of the new P&P boards. The BIOS in current systems doesn't have coding that permits recognition of P&P boards.

A suggested solution to this problem is to have P&P boards shipped with an Intel configuration software utility that allows users to input data about older cards already in their system. This utility will store information in a database so conflicts will not occur with the new P&P cards or other devices. When a P&P system BIOS is added to an existing machine, any recognized P&P card will be automatically configured. Unfortunately, such a utility cannot change settings for the older cards that were manufactured without P&P ROM coding and identification.

Twain Connections

There is a growing acceptance of the so-called TWAIN standard for imaging peripherals; that's a cooperative effort among commercial imaging vendors in particular to see that the interface for software driver functionality for specific input devices (boards, cameras, scanners) is easily compatible.

It's encouraging that there is not only overlap between TWAIN and P&P supporters, but as a leading TWAIN developer told us, "Since Plug-and-Play will use unique identification numbers, TWAIN and P&P will ultimately have to be optimized to work together." Microsoft is well aware of that. That firm's sheer clout today certainly means the P&P idea will take hold. As many as 2300 "Chicago" developers are aware of these possibilities and are responding. And current as well as evolving Intel CPUs will clearly be "P&P ready."

Over time, P&P systems will arrive and with them system BIOS chips made to recognize P&P peripherals. Vendors are already shipping PCs designed to accept P&P hardware even before the release of Windows 4.0. In this case, the P&P system will automatically configure the system board and P&P devices, but any non-P&P devices that are added to the system cannot be configured automatically. Users must manually configure these non-P&P cards to make certain they will play and not conflict with other cards in the rest of the system.

This article has described changes that will take place before widespread acceptance of plug and play technology becomes a reality. Over the long haul, Plug-and-Play technology should prove itself to be worthwhile for both vendors and users.

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A Lesson to Be Learned From the Automobile Industry

Robert X. Cringely, InfoWorld

APCUG Guest Editorial in 1994

American software companies are merging and buying each other as fast as they can.

In the last recent past Novell has bought WordPerfect Corporation and the Quattro Pro spreadsheet business from Borland, Adobe Systems has bought Aldus, and Symantec has bought Central Point.

What we are seeing is just the start of a process of maturation that will take several more years to finish. It exactly parallels what happened in the American automobile industry earlier this century.

In 1920 there were about 300 American companies building automobiles. By 1930 this number had dropped to 25. By 1940 there were 10. Today there are three, if you ignore the Hummer.

The same thing is happening in the software business, only faster. We took 70 years to accelerate from zero to 100 million cars, but we torqued to 100 million PCs in less than 20 years.

So expect the software shakeout to take five years tops, starting a year ago. The shakeout in the American automobile business began when Alfred Sloan brought together a dozen car companies under one name—General Motors—creating a company so big, with such economies of scale, that the other car companies had to grow too or be unable to compete. In the software business of today, Microsoft is General Motors, with nearly half the industry. Novell is Ford. Lotus Development is Chrysler.

Everyone else is either a merger candidate, a maker of expensive custom cars, or doomed. All the smaller companies want to merge with Novell, because Novell is considered the only company that can stand up to Microsoft. Even Lotus wants to merge with Novell, though Lotus CEO Jim Manzi's ego demands that we call it Lotus buying Novell rather than the other way around.

In the particular round of consolidation (other rounds will follow), all the big players are concentrating on filling out their application suites (packages of several bundled applications like Microsoft Office, Lotus SmartSuite, and Borland Office), because suites are the future of applications.

Of course only Microsoft makes big bucks with its suites, al least so far. That's in large part because Redmond's suites are the best integrated, so they sell the best.

It's to improve integration, to make the products work better together, that WordPerfect needed to own Quattro Pro. It's to have a suite at all that Novell needed to buy WordPerfect. It's to avoid certain death that WordPerfect needed Novell.

So, if every big company needs a suite, and every suite needs a database, this stage of the consolidation is far from finished.

Look for Lotus and Novell to soon start fighting over the bones of Borland. Conventional wisdom says Borland can't survive on its own, and giving Novell one million free copies of Paradox (included in the deal to sell Quattro Pro) clinches that. Borland can't expect to make any money selling Paradox if Novell has a million free copies to literally give away, and Borland doesn't have enough money to simply wait until all Novell's Paradox copies are gone. Lotus wants to weld onto Notes the media server bits of Interbase. Paradox, too, would be a nice higher-end database to go with Approach. Borland's language group could either be merged into Lotus or sold to Computer Associates, the Ferengi of the PC industry.

Novell likes the Borland databases, too, but won't move until after Borland pays damages to Lotus for the 1-2-3 macro infringement case. An American court recently found Borland guilty of violating some Lotus copyrights, but the penalty Borland will have to pay has not yet been set.

Novell doesn't want the judge to award Novell money to Lotus, and so will wait until after the judgment is ordered to make an offer for the rest of Borland. Whichever company gets Borland, the other will turn its attention to either Powersoft or Gupta, two companies that have good technology but probably can't survive as independents in the long run.

Lotus likes Powersoft a lot, and might run in that direction anyway.

So here are my predictions for how the American software industry will change over the next few months.

This is important information if you own (or are considering) products from any of these companies.

Lesson cont. . . .

(1) Novell will keep buying pieces of Borland until:

All that is left is the Lotus liability.

The Borland stock price drops to a point it is cheaper to buy the whole company.

The Quattro Pro deal has not been completed yet.

Jim Manzi of Lotus and Ray Noorda are talking about a settlement if Borland would cease to exist.

(2) Lotus has offered to buy the Paradox database from Borland and terminate the legal settlement. Borland might go for that.

(3) Borland's new CEO was hired by the major stockholders and has total control of the company. Philippe Kahn, who founded Borland, is on an advisor now. The new CEO has a reputation of selling companies in parts.

(4) Lotus wants Paradox and Borland's Mail APIs. but does not care about the language compilers.

IBM wants the compilers.

Look for one of the big database firms (Sybase or Oracle) to buy Interbase and gut it for its technology.

No one seems to want dBase. which is ironic and, since I've seen dBase for Windows, I consider it could be a BIG winner.

Buying Borland's dBase business would be a good chance for some Japanese company to get a jump-start in the worldwide applications business.

Sprint would be an awesome addition to a mail product. but Lotus and Microsoft haven't figured it out.

(5) Who will buy Quarterdeck?

Something happened to them recently (which I can't share) that may put them in the market for a new owner.

Microsoft needs their technology. They'd be a good fit to some of Novell's upcoming R&D efforts.

(6) Symantec?

Interesting situation. All of their products are very profitable. however. their business is dependent on things Microsoft is doing poorly. I expect them to buy the compiler group from Borland.

(7) Powersoft?

The good money is on Lotus buying them, however Computer Associates is interested as well. The smart move would be for Powersoft to buy Borland's compiler business.

(8) Microsoft?

The US Department of Justice has been reconsidering whether to take legal action against Microsoft for trying to run a monopoly and Bill Gates has been scared. Microsoft messed up bigtime with the Stac Electronics case. where they were shown to have willfully violated Stac patents on data compression technology. I predict DOS will be put into the public domain as a settlement. In true Gates style, it will be brilliantly timed and have no impact on Microsoft. When Windows 4.0 ships. DOS could become useless.

Just like donating the Crown Jewels one week before they turn to dust.

(9) Hostile takeovers?

You cannot acquire a software company with a hostile takeover. All of the value of the company is in the minds of the developers, the only people on the globe who can get a new $100,000 a year job in 30 seconds. Annoy the developers and your company is worthless.

Anyway, we're about due for some stupidity in the industry. I predict Computer Associates or Symantec will mess up in 1994.

(1) Software Publishing?

Almost worthless and directionless. They're looking for a new owner. Symantec almost makes sense.

(11) Micrografx?

Another misguided company. They would be a good deal for Lotus or Corel. They'd be most valuable to Microsoft but egos and old grudges between Bill Gates and Micrografx CEO Paul Grayson will prevent that.

Of course this model comparing American software companies to American automobile companies says nothing about Toyota. Nissan. or Honda.

That stage won't be reached for another 10 years, but eventually some foreign software companies will break into the US market and teach even Microsoft a very expensive lesson.

Robert X. Cringely is an InfoWorld field editor from Palo Alto, California, best known for his "Notes from the Field" gossip column. This column is read by more than 500,000 computer professionals every week. He surfaced in public appearances in 1992 when his book, Accidental Empires, *was released. Look for another new book soon. Cringely is a former Stanford professor and foreign correspondent.*

Procomm 2.1 for Windows
Julia McCullough et al
Excerpted from Meeting Report, *Sacra Blue*, Sacramento PCUG

Procomm 2.1 for Windows
Datastorm. Sales: 800-315-3282

Procomm 2.1 for Windows Takes Data by Storm

Howard Myers and Dick Cravens, Product Managers for Datastorm Technologies, took the stage at the general meeting of Sacramento PCUG to present Procomm 2.1 for Windows. Launching immediately into the program, a rundown of features included support for 34 terminal emulations, 9 comm ports, and networks. Eleven transfer protocols are included, including all the popular ones such as Zmodem and Kermit to connect to the mainframe. The program supports Net BIOS, N14, NAXI, NASI, and modem redirection.

The terminal window looks similar to version 1.0, but the tool bar is now configurable. Icons can be added to run scripts or pull up the dialing directory. "In addition to being totally configurable. you can have up to five tool bars— one up at the top, one on the left, one on the right. below—any and all combinations you want. It gets awful busy with lights, but if you like that, it works." The tool bars can be resized and placed conveniently on the screen.

The speaker also described some changes in mouse functionality. "The right mouse button brings up a configurable menu. In setup. you can set this right mouse menu to have any items that the product supports. When you're online, the functions you use most often will be right there at the touch of the right mouse button." A quick-select line at the bottom of the screen allows terminal emulations and protocols to be changed without going into the setup. There are also modem lights on screen, so people with internal modems can see what their modem is doing.

Mr. Myers introduced the new dialing directory. "In the previous version, the dialing directory had kind of a spreadsheet look to it. We had some nice features. but it was a little hard to get around and do much with. We've tried to keep all the power of the old one, but make it much easier to use."

"We've added a group concept, which works with voice, fax. or data numbers. This allows you to do massive or subsequent callings very easily by double-clicking on that group. For example, your BBS has three different phone numbers. You can put those phone numbers in there in separate entries, or put them under one group and dial until you connect to one. Maybe you have five different sites you check for mail on a regular basis. You can step through all five of them as a group without having to repeatedly go back and hit each one. It's really a great convenience."

Waiting Disable is a convenient feature that allows call waiting to be disabled on both incoming and outgoing calls with a click of the button. Procomm also supports Distinctive Ring for those who have several phone numbers, each with a different ring, all on the same phone line. "Another feature we support is caller ID. You can build a little database with phone numbers and names, and whenever a call comes in, if you have the caller ID feature from your telephone company and your modem supports it, the status line will tell you where the call is coming from. If it's not in your database. the phone number will be put in for you." *[Caller ID is not yet available from California phone companies.—Sacra Blue Ed.]*

Procomm has added fax support as well. Both data and fax calls can be answered, with automatic switching to handle both types of calls. Pages from different applications can be mixed in a single fax. A scheduler allows files to be sent at designated times. Procomm also has improved fax in the background capabilities for use with Windows NT and OS/2 by adding a .DLL approach.

Not surprisingly, Datastorm has jumped on the Internet bandwagon by adding TCP/IP connectivity to Procomm 2.1. "We've added a full-blown graphical-based FTP client. I think it's one of the cleanest interfaces I've seen and one of the easiest to use. It will show you the directories both on your machine and the machine to which you're connected. You can transfer files both ways, view the files. run them. and delete them if you are properly authorized. You can set up a whole list of connections. similar to what you can do with the dialing directory for normal modem."

Datastorm is offering Procomm 2.0 at $69 to user group members. This package can be either an upgrade from version 1.0 or a full package. "For anyone who has 2.0 or buys it before 2.1 comes out, the 2.1 will be downloadable and will upgrade you automatically for no fee at all, either from our CompuServe forum (GO DATASTORM) or from our BBS. We also offer those by disk. if you prefer it through mail. though we do just charge a minor handling fee." Call 800-315-3282 and mention your user group to take advantage of this offer.

Procomm Q&A

Why the upgrade? What was wrong with Procomm version 1.0?

Great question. We've always had the capability for the terminal screen to virtually eat up the entire window that's available. With the 2.0 and 2.1 products, we now ship in a default mode that auto-sizes the test, the font size, so that it eats up as much room as it can. It doesn't guarantee to eat it all up, but will eat up as much as it can without going beyond the areas you've made available to it. During the installation you choose whether you want the borders or not, and you can turn them off later or back on later if you change your mind. It will use the maximum real estate you want with configurable options during installation. These are changeable later if you change your mind.

Do you have any edit or OCR capabilities?

We currently don't have any OCR (Optical Character Recognition—a program that converts graphically-received characters, like those in faxes, into text you can process). That's one of the areas where our fax application is slightly weak compared to some of the fax-only applications out there. There are OCR products that will work just fine off the shelf with our faxes. Down the road we'll be adding that sort of functionality as well. When we were doing our evaluations, gearing up for 2.0, we weren't very happy with the OCR technology that was out there. If you can make sure that anything that gets sent to you gets sent at fine resolution fax, your OCR will be at least an order of magnitude better.

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Bug Report

WordPerfect for Win 6.1
Bug occurs under one set of conditions:

If you load Quattro Pro for Win 6.0 *after* WordPerfect for Windows 6.1, then several shared files are replaced with an older version.

The culprit is WTWSP60MS.DLL found in the OFFICE\WPWIN\WPC20 subdirectory. If the .DLL file is dated 9/16/94, you are in trouble. The file *should* be dated 11/4/94. To fix it you have to do a custom reload of the shared files only. Replacing the 9/14 version of this file with the 11/4 version fixes the problem.

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Microsoft
Submitted by Jim Dinkey

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Microsoft Download Service   206-936-6735
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Searching for the Perfect PIM

James Alexander

Over a year ago I was faced with The Challenge: To find a software solution that can run on a LAN, coordinate the activities of my seventeen employees (working on about 12,000 cases) as well as provide information about their cases to forty-five other employees in eight other work offices. The sixty-two people do not do the same type of work. The work titles range from my boss (a Tax Chief) to Attorneys, Claims Adjusters, Collections and Compliance Officers, Fraud Investigators, Legal Secretaries, Office Collectors, Status Examiners, Tax Auditors, Telephone Collectors, and (of course) Supervisors. Cases must be passed on to others, or shared among several different work titles. Just to make this fun, hardware has not yet been delivered to more than forty of these employees. Also, most of the employees have little or no experience with personal computers and especially with the Windows environment.

The Challenge is to find a LAN software product that manages up to 50,000 cases (collection or compliance contacts, procedures, legal actions, collection results, staff statistics and provide activity profiles.) The perfect Personal Information Manager (PIM) must be Windows based, easy to use, easy to learn, provide multiple reports for management, and generate forms and letters in the order and time required.

The past year has been frustrated by the hardware issues, but provided some experience with possibilities. Initially, I wanted to try some of the Sales Contact Management software, but was not able to find any of the more powerful programs on Windows and networking. PIMs were into the Windows environment, but my small budget kept me from PackRat and GoldMine (meaning not cheap enough or no evaluation copy). I was able to beg or afford copies of Any Time, Info Select, and On Time toward the end of 1993. I have worked with each of these products and can recommend them for those areas they do best.

Any Time

Any Time is a great calendaring program. It is network compatible and recently available for Windows. The program could best be called the electronic Day-Timer, though it prints out many formats. It provides weekly, monthly and yearly views of your scheduling. Rescheduling is easy and recurrent events happens in a snap. The calendar printouts are very good and the pricing is affordable. The problem is there is no individual case control or tracking, nor is there any activity tracking. Ideal for supplementing daily planning, it will not solve my problem.

On Time

On Time is more expensive than Any Time, but it also has more complexity and even better printout features. Primarily, it is a networking solution to scheduling and coordinating complicated time conflicts. If you need to schedule and manage meetings, this is the product for you. This is really a group (daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly, yearly) planner. The to-do list and follow up notices are great for projects (without Gannt charts). There is a search capability, which allows you to find names and events, past or future. Some contact information can be obtained, but again, not enough for my project.

Info Select

Info Select is not a calendar or planner program. It could be compared to a rollodex, but the comparison falls apart when you query the file. I could try to explain this as a nonrelational, word matching, card file. Easier to illustrate than explain. Like an index card, I enter information about a person, place or thing in any order I want. Like those research papers of many years ago, I try to enter one thought only per card. Then, unlike the research paper, where you keep all cards for one paper separate, I throw all the index cards into one giant pile. Whenever I need one of those cards, I query a word or number, such as "Linda" or 555-1212. All index cards having a match are selected, and I can then view them for the one card I need. Additional notes or facts can then be added to the card, the capacity is limited by physical storage only. For my personal work station, I love this program. But without the scheduling and some form of structuring, this also falls short of my needs.

ECCO Professional

ECCO Professional takes a different approach to how information should be managed. There is scheduling and calendaring. but the strength of the program is in organizing material for projects. Highly praised in most of the computer trade magazines. I was a little confused as to why all the honors. After working with the program. I suddenly realized the reason. Most of the writers need a material organizer. ECCO is superb at tying together and providing outlines for projects (building my tool shed) and for writing (topic-chapter section-paragraph-sentence). The value of the product is enhanced by way of the calendar and phone book. Information can be sent and received from other applications. Especially useful is the ability to attach notes (including text and drawings). If you are a journalist or writer, I believe this is the very best program for you. For collectors or legal staff. the need for case management is not met, so I move on. I need to note that when I received version 1x to review, version 2.0 was just being released. Perhaps we can get a copy of 2.0 to be reviewed fully by someone it would be a help to.

Opportunity has made it possible to obtain several other packages. which I am still reviewing. Presently. I believe the solution will be either a contact manager or a customized Workflow forms system. Until then. I hope this will have helped you find your perfect Personal Information Manager.

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Book Review: The Little Online Book
Mike Weaver
Reprinted from *Sacra Blue*. Sacramento PCUG

The Little Online Book
Alfred Glossbrenner
Peachtree Press. 1995. $17.95

I highly recommend this book for the novice or intermediate modem user. Almost everything you can think of about online communications is discussed here. I'm going to keep it by my desk for reference.

The book begins with reasons for going online and proceeds with downloading. conference. online services. Internet. etc. Next. it steps through how to buy a communications program and what to look for. Chapters 5 and 7 discuss modem settings. and page 47 has a good chart on control codes to use when you are online. There is a rather skimpy troubleshooting section for modems and networking. but you can't put everything in a book.

The main body of the book describes in good detail the different services offered by the Big Five: Prodigy. America Online. CompuServe. Genie. and Delphi. The author favors American Online. and I agree with him—although I haven't tried it yet. There is a whole section on the Internet. but it barely scratches that entity's surface. Tackling the Internet needs a book by itself.

If you are a beginner. or even pretty well versed in going online. I recommend this book over most of the others on the subject. It's easy to read and inexpensive. It even includes moneysaving coupons for various things.

ॐ

Virus Alert
Reprinted from Arkansas PCUG via *Orange Bytes*. NOCC

Texas Virus
Makes sure it's bigger than any other file.

Congress Virus
Runs every program on the hard drive simultaneously. but doesn't allow the user to accomplish anything.

Adam and Eve Virus
Takes a couple of bytes out of your apple.

Sears Virus
Your data won't appear unless you buy new cables. power supply. and a set of shocks.

George Bush Virus
It starts by boldly saying. "Read my text. No new files!" on the screen. proceeds to fill up all the free space on your hard drive with new files. then blames it on the Congress Virus.

Hardware: Conner 4GB Tape Drive
Ron Ogg
Reprinted from *Diablo Blue*, Diablo Valley PCUG

Conner has recently introduced their new Tape-Stor™ 4GB SCSI internal backup tape drive—at the amazing list price of $659. If you've been interested in high-capacity tape backup, you know that a 4GB drive sells for around $1,500 or more. Well, Conner has completely obliterated that price point with this exciting new drive.

The drive uses a new DC-2000 style cartridge made by Sony, the QW-3080XLF. This tape cartridge is responsible for the capacity of the Conner drive. Compared to the DC-2000 or DC-2120, the 3080 (we'll call it that for short) has a wider and longer tape. Coupling this new tape with Conner's SCSI tape drive mechanism that squeezes more data per square inch of tape yields a capacity of 2GB—about 4GB with compression.

With two SCSI disk drives in my system—a 680MB drive and a 1.8GB drive—I found that my Colorado Memory Systems 250MB tape drive was taking 6 tapes to do a complete backup. And it was taking over 4 hours if I was there to swap tapes when one filled up.

So I purchased one of the new Conner drives. The installation process is fairly straightforward. Since this is an internal drive, I had to open my case, remove the Colorado Memory Systems drive, and install and connect the power and SCSI cables to the Conner drive. The SCSI cable proved to be a bit of a problem, since I now have 5 SCSI devices (2 hard drives, a CD ROM drive, a Bernoulli drive, and the new Conner tape drive), but an internal SCSI cable that supports only four devices. It's hard to find a SCSI cable

that lets you connect this many devices, but Dell has one available from their Service Parts department, so I ordered it and the installation went smoothly.

The drive comes with Arcada Software's Backup Exec software for DOS and for Windows (Arcada is owned by Conner). The software installation also went very smoothly. Each version (DOS and Windows are installed separately) detected the tape drive, ran its configuration routing, including formatting a blank tape (which takes only 1 minute—compared to over 90 minutes to format a tape for the Colorado Memory Systems 250 drive), and did a quick backup and compare test.

The next step was to select my hard drives (C, D, and E) and run the backup. And I am pleased! I backed up 27521 files totaling over 1.256GB (including resetting all file archive bits on the hard drive) in 71 minutes, and used about 30% of the capacity of the tape. Compression was about 1.8 to 1, and the backup ran at about 19MB/minute. The program backed up each drive as one volume on a single tape cartridge, and the tape directory as a fourth volume.

The only problem with this drive is that the Sony QW-3080XLF are in short supply. One tape is included with the drive, but finding additional tapes is a real challenge. Any QIC-3080-MC preformatted tape will work in the drive, but at this writing only Sony is manufacturing tapes.

The street price of the drive should be around $530. If you're in the market for a tape backup drive, and have a hard drive that's over 500MB, check out the Conner TSM-400R-SBE. ॐ

An Update on SyQuest Drives
Tom Gardner, SysQuest Employee & SPAUG

As a SPAUG member and SyQuest employee, I would appreciate the opportunity to update members on SyQuest drives. There is important information not included in the article on Bernoulli drives in the February issue. ["Bernoulli Drives," Larry Graf, *PRinT SCreen*, Feb. 1995. Reprinted from *Sacra Bleu*, Sacramento PCUG.]

SyQuest's 5.25" drive family consists of 44, 88 AND 200 million byte models; each drive model can read and write its native cartridge AND all lower capacity cartridges. Thus the SQ2000C (the 200 MByte drive) can read and write 200, 88 and 44 MByte cartridges.

In addition, SyQuest has a family of 3.5" drives with 110 and 270 million byte models, again featuring downward compatibility. Amongst small form factor cartridge disk drives the SQ3270C (the 270 MByte model) has the highest capacity and fastest performance.

The author reported he was told that Bernoulli disks are more durable than SyQuest disks. While it is no doubt true that there are selected durability tests that favor Bernoulli, as in the 8-foot drop test cited, there are other tests that favor other cartridge technologies. For example, a Bernoulli drive while in use (unlike most other cartridge drives) contacts the disk, causing wear—that's why Bernoulli utilities indicate "Disk Life" remaining on their cartridges. Since Bernoulli cartridges wear out, it is possible to select a test that will cause them to fail long before other technologies.

I suggest in the real world these marketing distinctions are well beyond most users' needs. My opinion appears to be confirmed by a recent Mac-User Labs article entitled, "Tough Enough?," which after torture-testing Bernoulli, SyQuest and magneto-optical concluded, "Don't worry about ruggedness—modern removable cartridges can take care of themselves quite well, thank you." [*MacUser Magazine*, July 1994, pp. 143-144.]

MacUser recommends that when deciding among cartridges based upon different technologies, the user should consider price, performance and speed. I would add compatibility. Such criteria would likely lead to a choice of one of the two SyQuest families, since over a wide capacity range the SQ3270 has the lowest price and highest performance, while the SQ5200C offers service bureau compatibility and a price and performance that is second only to the SQ3270.

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Catholic Mac and Protestant PC
Umberto Eco
Excerpted from *Espresso* via *Blue Notes*
San Francisco PCUG

Insufficient consideration has been given to the new underground religious war that is modifying the modern world. It's an old idea of mine, but I find that whenever I tell people about it they immediately agree with me.

The fact is that the world is divided between users of the Macintosh computer and users of MS-DOS compatible computers. I am firmly of the opinion that the Macintosh is Catholic and that DOS is Protestant. Indeed, the Macintosh is counter-reformist and has been influenced by the *'ratio studiorum'* of the Jesuits. It is cheerful, friendly, conciliatory, it tells the faithful how they must proceed step by step to reach—if not the Kingdom of Heaven—the moment in which their document is printed. It is catechistic: The essence of revelation is dealt with via simple formulae and sumptuous icons. Everyone has a right to salvation.

DOS is Protestant, or even Calvinistic. It allows free interpretation of scripture, demands difficult personal decisions, imposes a subtle hermeneutics upon the user, and takes for granted the idea that not all can reach salvation. To make the system work you need to interpret the program yourself: a long way from the baroque community of revellers, the user is closed within the loneliness of his own inner torment.

You may object that, with the passage to Windows, the DOS universe has come to resemble more closely the counter-reformist tolerance of the Macintosh. It's true: Windows represents an Anglican-style schism, big ceremonies in the cathedral, but there is always the possibility of a return to DOS to change things in accordance with bizarre decision; when it comes down to it, you can decide to allow women and gays to be ministers if you want to.

And machine code, which lies beneath both systems (or environment, if you prefer)? Ah, that is to do with the Old Testament, and is talmudic and cabalistic....

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DOS BATCH FILE
Nancy Helmy, SPAUG Member

This batch is handy for checking out whether a telephone prefix in the Palo Alto area is a free call. The batch uses the FIND command from DOS 6.2, but one could substitute any text search utility. The data file was prepared in a spreadsheet, imported to a word processor, and stored in ASCII.

Wanting to check out Uncle D's BBS reminded me of this batch, my data for which was slightly out of date. I revised the data using the local calling area information near the front of the phonebook. Using the batch, I checked out Uncle D's 364 prefix and found, sure enough, it is a local free phone number. Yes, I know it took me longer to find out this piece of information than for instance by calling the operator, but am now prepared to check out any unfamiliar prefix in seconds.

It would be easy enough to build your own data file for local calls. The idea came originally from the BABBA listings for local calling areas.

```
::LOCAL.BAT
::Local telephone prefixes
echo off
cls
type local.doc
if %1!==! goto NOPARAM
:MAIN
find "%1" local.doc /c
::Returns count 1 if local
echo.
goto END
:NOPARAM
echo.
echo  Usage:  LOCAL %%1 (telephone prefix)
echo.
:END
```

```
LOCAL.DOC

PALO ALTO LOCAL: Updated  11/94
(408)    245 481 522 524 541
         720 721 730 732 733 734 735 736 737 738 739
         742 743 744 745 746 747 749 752 756 773 774
         933 991 992
(415)    233  254  261  299
         306 321 322 323 324 325 326 327 328 329  390
         335 336 354 361 363 364 365 366 367 368  369
         404 424 428 464 473 493 494 496 497 498
         506 508 568 591 592 593 594 595 598 599
         604 610 617 637 688 691 694
         723 725 747 780 796
         802 812 813 843 851 852 853 854 855 856 857
         858 859
         903 917 926 933 940 941 948 949 960 961 962
         964 965 966 967 968 969 988
(510)    494 505 713 744 745 790 791 792 793 794
         795 796 797
```

Sidekick for Windows 1.0
O.T. Stoll
Reprinted from *Orange Bytes*, North Orange County Computer Club

Do you remember a commercial a few years back telling you that "It isn't your father's Oldsmobile"—then showing you the racy new model. Well, this isn't your father's Sidekick. Back in the early days of personal computers, Terminate and Stay Resident programs (TSRs) were new and wonderful. One of the most successful and widely used was Sidekick. It was amazing, push a hot key and up popped a calculator. Over the years Sidekick lost some of its luster as other TSRs provided more.

Borland's release of Sidekick for Windows offers a lot more than a calculator and, like the old DOS version, once the hot key is turned on, it is always available. It is available no matter what program you are in. And by clicking on Sidekick Icon, the icon is always available.

Let's assume you're in the middle of word processing and you want to make a phone call. You click on the icon and up pops Sidekick. You look up the number in the card file and refer to the notes. During the call, you can take notes within the program. These capabilities impressed me most. But there's more. Reports can be printed, a trashcan can delete files, a launch bar can create icons for applications. There's a calculator, drag and drop from one feature to another, and more. All of these pop up very fast when compared with similar Windows programs.

Based on what I've written you've no doubt guessed that I recommend this program for Windows' users.

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SPAUG Planning Meeting

Wednesday, Apr. 6, 7:30 PM, 1670 Oak, Menlo Park
For info, call Bev Altman, 415-329-8252

PRinT SCreen Mailing Party

Monday, Apr. 10, 7:30 PM, 198 Pine Lane, Los Altos
For info, call Mildred Kohn, 415-949-1833

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SPARC, the SPAUG BBS

415-321-4497	14.4bps	8-N-1

GENERAL MEETINGS

Last Wednesday of the month
Varian Associates, Bldg. 7 Auditorium
3075 Hansen Way, Palo Alto
7:30 PM

The Top Ten

Ways to Submit PRinT SCreen Articles

10. Courier
9. United Parcel
8. Greyhound
7. Rickshaw
6. FedEx
5. St. Bernard
4. SneakerNet
3. At SPAUG Meeting
2. USPS
1. SPAUG BBS

Number 1 Way to Submit PRinT SCreen Article – SPAUG BBS

First name? *FULL NAME,*
          PASSWORD [note comma]
[C]ont ... [S]top? *Enter*
[C]ont ... [S]top? *Enter*
Enter bulletin? *Enter*
Press [ENTER] to continue? *Enter*
Main Menu Command:
          M [=Message menu]
Message Menu Command:
          E [=Enter a message]
Enter conf? *Enter* [Any conf ok]
To? *NANCY HELMY*
Subject? *NEWSLETTER ARTICLE*
Return receipt [y/N]? *Y [=Yes]*
Full screen editor [Y/n]? *Enter*
After typing message, hit *ESC.*
Edit Message ? *T [=aTtach]*
Attach a file [Y/n]? *Enter [=Yes]*
Name file to attach? *GREAT.TXT*
Select protocol? *X [=Xmodem]*
Start your comm program's upload
   process. Choose same protocol;
   retype filename, naming path if
   necessary.
After successful upload, hit *ESC.*
Edit Message? *S [=Save]*
Message Menu Command:
          G [=Goodbye]
Wish to logoff? *Enter [=Yes]*

PALO ALTO ON INTERNET

City of Palo Alto's Home Page:

http://www.city.paloalto.ca.us/home.html

8/1/95

MAP
SPAUG GENERAL MEETING
LAST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH
7:30 PM

NOT TO SCALE

↖N

←To SF   HWY 101   To San Jose →

OREGON EXPWY ⇒

EL CAMINO REAL

PAGE MILL RD ⇒

Ramos Way

HANSEN WAY

VARIAN ASSOCIATES, 3075 HANSEN WAY,
BLDG. 7 AUDITORIUM, PALO ALTO

Hanover St

Porter Dr

FOOTHILL EXPWY

←To SF   HWY 280   To San Jose →