

MONITOR

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September 2002

Volume 20 Number 9

The magazine of the **Capital PC User Group, Inc.**, a nonprofit organization of "Users Helping Users"

Features

Marylands New Touch
Screen Voting System
by Kurt Germann

Microletter
by Paul Shapiro

Rich's Ramblings
by Rich Schinnell

Networking a Home or
Small Office
by Bob Simanski

Creating Your Own
Website
by Philip Naudus

For Inveterate XP
Tweakers Only
by Carl Siechert

and much more...

CPCUG Continues Growth at NBC4 Expo

CPCUG continued on its recent growth spurt by signing up more than a couple dozen new members at the NBC4 Digital Edge Expo held this month at the Washington Convention Center. This is the second year of the event hosted by Channel 4's Digital Edge news personality, I J Hudson. The show features community and corporate groups that can be of help to the Washington DC digital community.

Once again this year in addition to the CPCUG informational booth, our own PDA Guys, Shawn Goo-

gins and Ray Wiley put on their popular PDA presentations.

During the weekend exhibit CPCUG volunteer booth staff talked to hundreds of area computer users and spread the good news about all of the recent upgrades in CPCUG programs and training.

Special thanks to booth wrangler Beth Barnett and all of the booth volunteers for putting out such a great effort to reach out to the community to tell them what CPCUG offers.

photo by Lee Perkins



CPCUG Booth at NBC4 Expo was a busy place...

Thanks to all who helped out at recent CPCUG Events. We had many volunteers staff our booth at NBC4 Digital Edge. As you can see from the photo on the right, the CPCUG Booth was a busy place. It was a lot of fun talking to hundreds of computer users about all CPCUG has to offer.

Do you want to make the world a better place ... but can't make a regular commitment?

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- ___ Senior citizens who may not be familiar with computers and who want to find good web resources and email friends
- ___ Community members who speak English as a second language, work in blue-collar environments, and would like to move into office professional work

Besides English, I speak (check all that apply)

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(2) email a brief summary (100-200 words, in paragraph format) of your qualifications—including any professional teaching experience—to kislano@aol.com. This summary will be posted on CPCUG's website. Be sure to include your full name in your email. We will contact you to discuss details and upcoming classes that you may be interested in teaching.



Info Bytes from Byte Back

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Serving the unemployed, the underemployed, and at-risk youth

Founded in July 1997 as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

Four Training Tracks

Evening/Weekend Classes: Beginner to Advanced, open to the community.

Intern Program: Intensive training for IT careers in NT, Database, and Web.

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Metro Police Boys and Girls Club

Brief Byte Back Stats

Over 100 classes per week

800 students served per week

33 Interns in Training

22 Intern Graduates

Graduate salaries average over 35K!

Closing the Digital Divide!

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in the
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become a
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**contact a member of
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listed on this page,
most offer a choice
of e-mail or phone
contact information.**

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<http://www.cpcug.org/user/monitor/Monstyle.html>.

Publication Submissions

Guidelines. Be sure to put each graphic (200-dpi TIF format preferred) and table in a separate file—do not include text, graphics, and tables together in one file. If you prefer to include everything in one file, please send each table and graphic separately in addition. Include your name, e-mail address, and day and evening telephone numbers at the top of your article so we can contact you if we have questions.

Submittal. Send articles as zipped file attachments to editor@cpcug.org, with copy to admin@cpcug.org. In the body of your message, include the names of files attached and the software formats of each. Or you may send articles in ASCII text format directly in the body of an e-mail message.

Conditions. Articles must be received at least 60 days before publication. All articles are subject to editing. Articles accepted for publication in the print version of the *Monitor* will also appear in the Internet Web pages of the *Monitor*.

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MONITOR

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Maryland's New Touch-Screen Voting System

by Kurt Germann

On the afternoon of 28th August I went to see the new touch-screen voting machines that will be used in the September 10 primary elections and the November 5 elections in several counties in Maryland.

With these new voting machines the voter makes the selections by touching the screen at the candidate's name or the yes/no choice for ballot issues.

When a voter enters the polling place the voter may be given a Voter Instruction Card [see Figure 1] and when the voter has signed in with the election officials the voter is given a voter access card (a "smart card") instead of the punched cards. This voter access card is coded with the precinct number and the type of ballot (for the Primary election this is Republican, Democrat, Unaffiliated) and the voter then takes it to one of the new voting machines. Inserting the card into the reader activates the system and brings up the appropriate screens. On the first screen the voter selects the lan-

guage; English and Spanish are supported in Maryland. The second screen shows the instructions for using the system. The following screens show the offices with candidate choices and ballot issues. The voter touches the NEXT or PREVIOUS touch areas at the bottom of each screen to proceed through all the screens. The system is set up so that over-voting is not possible; the big square that is the primary touch selection point in front of a candidate's name or the yes/no choice for a ballot issue is filled with a big X on a red background as a selection is made and the box in front of unselected choices disappears when the correct number of choices have been selected. The voter can change a choice by touching a selected choice to remove it (which brings back the selection square for other choices) and then selecting the new choice. A write-in choice is also shown, and when selected puts up a keyboard image on the touch-screen where the voter can "type" the name of the write-in candidate. At the end of the process, the voter is shown a summary screen showing all the candidates "voted" for. If the voter made no selection for an office or ballot issue, then that description is shown with a pink background to alert the voter that some items were skipped. At this point the voter touches "Cast Ballot" to finalize the vote; or the voter can change any of the choices previously made by touching the item to be changed on the summary screen which then takes the voter back to the appropriate selection



screen. When "Cast Ballot" is touched the votes are updated in the computer and the voter access card is ejected from the reader. The voter then returns the voter access card to the election officials to be cleared and made ready for another voter.

On the whole, the system does a good job of guiding the voter through the selection process. There may be some problems while voters get used to the new system, but in the future this should reduce the time it takes to vote.

There are some relatively minor human factors items I would like to see changed.

" Once a voter has selected a language and proceeded to the instruction screen there is no way for the voter to change the language; however, the election officials may be able to do that for the voter. By adding a "PREVIOUS" touch area on the instruction screen and the first ballot screen the voter could make this change without having to call an election official.

" The icon used to mark a selected choice is a black X in a red background. I think a better choice would be a black checkmark in a green background.

" If the voter has difficulty reading the screen there is no way for the voter to go to a larger font size; however, the election officials may

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Presidents Notes

In the last issue of the Monitor I complained a little about how swamped I was getting and how the pressure of putting out the Monitor and being President was starting to get to me. Little did I realize what kind of reaction I was going to elicit from the membership! When I got back from my August vacation my Email box was full with CPCUG members offering to help out in various ways. What a response!

One of the ways that response manifested itself was in the Monitor itself. Take a look at the articles this month - all but one article are from CPCUG members, I didn't have to hunt around for material from other User Groups to fill the Monitor. Quite a few regular authors stepped up and even a few new authors thought they might try their hand (I hope you enjoy the variety that brings to the Monitor).

The moral of that story is, the more we get involved the better this group becomes. The variety and commitment of the volunteers in this organization never ceases to amaze me. Just this past month we have had people volunteering to teach in our revamped education program, staff an information booth at the convention center and write articles for the Monitor. And this is no small effort, we're talking DOZENS of volunteers here. These volunteers are spreading the word about CPCUG to people who may never have heard what we can offer them as an organization. They are telling them why we have been around for 20 years and are still the biggest User Group east of the Mississippi - we're best computer deal in town!

The word is spreading about CPCUG. We've been on Channel 4 with I J Hudson, we've done a guest spot soon to air on Montgomery Cable Public Access, we've manned booths at FOSE, NBC4 Digital Edge and at small gatherings from individual churches to the Takoma Park Fair. We're talking with other, smaller User Groups about affiliating with CPCUG. We're making speeches about bridging the digital divide to community groups and we're working with local vendors so they know who we are and what we offer. All of this is creating a buzz about CPCUG.

How do I know this? I know this because people are coming to CPCUG for their computer needs again. It seems like every week we gain a "new" member who tells me that they were an old member who dropped out because CPCUG dropped off their radar. I know this because I see the faces of new members at the various meetings I attend. And I know this because of the calls and emails coming into the office. CPCUG is thriving again and it is because of the hard work of an ever growing corp of volunteers who believe in what we do.

As President I am sometimes overwhelmed by the amount of work required to lead this organization. With more members, more volunteers and more offerings there is so much more to do as President. It is kind of a nice problem to have though, and I'm thankful that you all have decided to share your time and talents with this organization. There is still a lot to accomplish.



Entertainment Books available now

A Straight Up Plug!

Every year CPCUG sells Entertainment Books as a fund raising effort to help offset some of the free programs we offer. Alta Oben and Gabe Goldberg lug books around to that various SIG and General Meetings hawking the books for \$35 a copy. Every year we sell a few books and make a couple of bucks for CPCUG but I wonder why we don't sell out.

If you don't know what Entertainment Books are, they offer hundreds of half off (50%) discounts on restaurants, hotels and events in the DC area. My wife makes me buy one every year and we save hundreds of dollars eating out. While I don't know what that says about the amount of romance let in our 29 year marriage, it sure is nice on the pocketbook!

I want to urge EVERY CPCUG MEMBER (yes, YOU!) to purchase at least one of these books. You can save hundreds of \$\$\$ and they make great gifts too.

If you don't run into Alta or Gabe selling them, contact the CPCUG Office or order one online on CPCUG.NET. We have Virginia and Maryland editions and can special order editions for almost any U.S. city.

-Dennis

MICROLETTER

by Paul Shapiro

READ PLEASE!

Now that I am still struggling to talk to my computer with Dragon NaturallySpeaking (see http://geocities.com/paul2711/microletter/mltr2001.htm#MICROLETTER_130), I find that technology continues to permit my computer to talk to me in different forms.

First I had my Eudora e-mail program (limited free version at eudora.com) tell me the subject and author of e-mail as it came in to my machine. The sounds are not always right, but I can be out of the room within earshot and tell who my incoming mail is from and what it is about, if I have set up my mailbox filters properly. By not being always right, I mean such things as hearing that I have a message from Barbara Connecticut, which "of course" really is from Barbara Conn, a well known CPCUG member.

Now I can hear in one of four easily switchable voices (two male, two female) any text that I copy to the clipboard first. Like other novelties this is quite fascinating at first, despite the monotone artificial voices. I first used it with an MS Word file, a half-hearted autobiography I am sluggishly building. Although the voice was not mine I was just stupefied to hear all the goings on of some of my growing-up years (which I had forgotten); all I had to do was just sit and listen. Gee, now I can make a talking cassette version for anyone who wants: of the

five or so billion people in the world, I can think of at least one, my grandson.

So how is this miracle of modern technology realized? Through a program called "Read Please 2002".

Copy a text passage of almost anything to the clipboard, click on the desktop Read Please 2002 icon. A screen pops up: edit, then paste into the displayed window. Clicking again, this time on the displayed "Play" button will cause the words to pour forth, out loud, just like that!

There is a free version and a 30-day version of the program. So far I am only discussing the free version. It has some nice options. I look forward to the trial version after I get through playing around with the options already available and included in the nine-megabyte setup program download; both versions come in that download.

When Play is initiated, the entire text file is pasted onto the screen, and initially, the words are shown in black on a yellow windows. As each word is spoken, it is displayed in white. These three colors are customizable. You can also adjust the spoken word speed to rather slow, or quite fast, as in some of those rapid fire radio commercials which specify limitations in their products. Or you can also adjust the fonts. A very user friendly program with easy learning curve.



If you record this description to a .wav sound file it is over 33 megabytes! Large hard drives and CD-burning make it easy to keep such a file should you care.

So how to get this stuff? I discovered the link in a magazine. Go to pcworld.com/12281.

PRINTING MORE THAN ONE PAGE

Using an inkjet printer is nice. So it was surprising when at a meeting recently, I passed around a multiple-page sample printout of a web site download. "How did you print on both sides of the page?" I was asked by someone having a senior moment. I was so surprised at the question (there are no dumb questions, but this came close). My answer was simply, "I turned the page over and reinserted it." Maybe that was a dumb answer because I hadn't really understand the meaning of the question, just what I heard.

So we went into a discussion of simplifying the printing of multiple pages, where at most all you have to do is insert enough blank pages in the printer feeder and turn the whole pile over once, whether it be 3 or 33 pages. Many programs permit choices of printing odd pages (numbers 1,

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Shapiro's MicroLetter

(continued from Page 6)

3, 5, 7,...) or even pages (2, 4, 6, 8..etc.). I know Word Perfect, MS Word, and Acrobat Reader 5 permit this. If you are dealing with a web page you can save the material as a text file and then use the word processor, etc., to print a lot of pages easily. Thats a whole lot better than turning over a page 3 (or 33) times and printing.

Here's the way I did it for an eight-page document. Its so easy you can quickly mess things up if you think about it and not just do it.

I inserted 4 sheets of paper into my printer paper feeder, and selected the option to print odd pages (pages 1,3,5,7). On my Epson printer the paper feeds from the top and the output pages pile on top as they come out. In this case a pile of sheets came out, numbered from bottom to top, 1, 3, 5 and 7.

Next I turned the pile over, and reinserted it into the paper feeder. At this point the backside of page 1 is on the top and the backside of page 7 on the bottom, as they should be. I then requested the printer to print pages 2, 4, 6, 8.

And voila! The four sheets come out, with the sheet containing pages 7 and 8 on top. Finished!

So what is the problem? None if you are thinking straight.

What often happens is that we do not want to print a whole batch of pages without making sure they are printing in the proper order. So we examine the pages as they come out. And

then being assured that we will be printing properly, make the mistake of arranging the pages in numerical order, our ultimate printout goal, then flipping the pile over and reinserting into the printer feeder. DO NOT DO THAT. You want the back of page 1 on top, not page 7. The idea is to keep focused.

Paul Shapiro can most quickly be reached at Internet e-mail address pauls@cpcug.org . As a prostate cancer survivor for over six years, he continues to beat the cancer survival odds, by as point of fact contributing to newer and better survival odds. Not to become complacent, he still visits an oncologist every three months, a urologist and other doctors as needed, eating very little meat, lots of tomatoes, veggies and soy, with an occasional pizza relapse. Life does go on, without hot dogs, hamburgers, steaks, roast beef, all things he loved. This year he has found a new meaning for the expression "spirit of 76". Without spirits.

More Stupid Uses of Technology

Wired magazine reported in March that two German designers have invented a computer game with hand sensors allowing the administration of shocks and burns to opponents, with the winner being the player who can stand it longer.

Painstation (not affiliated with Sony) is based on the old game Pong, and if a player misses the ball, it will hit randomly arranged Pain Inflictor Symbols (heat, jolts, shocks of varying degrees). The game ends when one player lifts his hand off the Pain Endurance Unit. [Wired News, 3-7-02]

Need a Ride to the General Meeting?

How About Ride Sharing?

We have had a lot of comments about how difficult it is to get to the General Meeting at Washington Gas in Springfield, Virginia. CPCUG Member Fred Fisher decided to really get into the spirit of *Users Helping Users* by offering his services to car pool from the Springfield Metro stop to Washington Gas.

Here is how the car pool works: Call FRED FISHER sometime before the General Meeting and let him know that you want to be part of his car pool. Fred's number is (703)451-1745.

Fred will wait at the Springfield Metro stop until 15 minutes before the meeting time for anyone who wants a ride.

Fred can't do this for every General Meeting but we are hoping that his generosity and inventiveness inspires some other CPCUGers to help out so that anyone who wants to can attend the General Meeting. Who knows, now that you can look up other CPCUG members in your area on CPCUG.NET, maybe Fred will start a trend of *Users Helping Users* get to the meetings.

If you have an idea that you would like to participate in that would help CPCUG and/or its membership like Fred has done, contact Brad Shaw, Director of Volunteers and let him know how you would like to help.

Great idea Fred!

Rich's Rambblings

by Rich Schinnell

I spent 3 days in New York City for PC-Expo during the last week of June. It was not as big a show as the last FOSE (In DC) that I attended. The promoters made it look more crowded by narrowing the isles and closing off part of the display area. There were still some very interesting vendors.

I picked up a few goodies as most of us do at trade shows. Several neat things, like the small (3" long and about 1" around) key chain USB hard disk. There vendors claiming capacity up to 2 gigabytes, although I only saw sizes up to 512Megabytes. It is a small device attached to a key chain that is plugged into a USB port. My laptop Toshiba treated it as another removable disk. Writing to these devices is like writing to a floppy or Zip disk. Except, it fits easily into your pocket. Encryption software is most times included when you purchase one. The latest operating systems (XP) automatically recognizes the device. Windows 98 requires an USB driver.

AMD was giving out a 16 megabyte device with their press release written to it. Theirs was made by WWW.CYBERKEYCORP.COM. Additionally there was an M-Systems 512MB capacity DiskOnKey personal storage device at the "Show Stoppers" Press gathering. <http://www.diskonkey.com> Is a site where you can see all the different diskonkey things.

Prediction:

If 2 gigabyte devices in a keychain are just around the corner. The days of the physical hard disk are limited. Once the size of these devices get increased to 50-100 Gigabytes, then the power hungry massive hard disks are going the way of the 5 1/4" floppy diskette.

Commercial from Rich:

Before I went to NYC, I had already purchased a 128 Megabyte USB port device from my favorite computer store in Gaithersburg. The Computer Place, across from NTIS in the Diamond Square Shopping center in Gaithersburg. They have a web site <http://www.tcponline.com/TCPOonline.htm> and give a discount to CPCUG members if you ask. I did not know about the discount for the longest time but stumbled upon it on the cpcug.net web site. The staff are friendly and they participate in many of the local computer shows. They have been around for many years and I do not hesitate to recommend them for your computer needs. Phone them at 301-330-6016 for directions to their Gaithersburg store and 703-246-9188 for their Virginia store. (PS: I do not receive any more of a discount than you for recommending them).

I have a mobile phone and the one thing that I would like to be able to do, now that I have coverage in the lower 48 states without roaming charges, is to be able to use my

laptop and log into my ISP (CPCUG.ORG) and retrieve my e-mail easily. I use Verizon for my mobile provider and when I was in NYC for PC-EXPO, the coverage was great. On the train ride up and everywhere I went in NYC I had good service. I spent a few days in Seattle a couple of months ago and my phone worked great there also. For \$35 a month (USA wide plan) for 300 prime minutes and 3000 non prime minutes, it seems like a good deal for me. I digress, I ordered from Motorola a special USB-phone cable to try to use my phone as a modem. I went to the Motorola web site, ordered the cable and software. \$80 and 3 days later, our friendly UPS delivery person arrived with the box. I was impressed on how easily it installed and connected to my mobile phone. It has a cable that plugs into the bottom of my phone, allowing for the battery charger to attach to it and a USB plug on the other end. I really did not want the PIM software that they provide as I really only wanted the drivers for the Mobile phone modem. After a few fits and starts, which required me to turn the phone off completely, plug the USB cable into the laptop, turn the phone on, then power up the laptop. I ended up resetting the phone by turning it off and then back on again. Seems to be the key to getting it to work properly.

I was able to dial my mobile phone (it is treated just like another

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Rich's Ramblings

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Modem) via the dial-up-networking option on my PC. Although the connection via Verizon was only a 14.4KBS connection. I had no trouble in connecting to a couple of the local dial up numbers for CPCUG.ORG. I collected my E-Mail and visited a couple of web sites. It brought me back a few years to the 300-2400bps modems and such. Ahh!, those were the days <G>

As I travel on occasion to different areas of the country, I will report back on it's performance in places like Las Vegas and Seattle. It is a good thing that I have 3 USB ports on my laptop now that so many devices are USB only. Laptop manufacturers don't provide a Printer or Communications port on most of the newer laptop computers. USB is the weapon of choice..:)

One of the perks of writing an occasional column (check out my web site for past columns: <http://www.schinnell.org>) for the Monitor, is being invited to the press-only events at trades shows. In NYC, I had a good/great time. On Monday evening the 24th, I attended the event called "DigitalFocus/MobileFocus", The evening of the 26th, I attended "Show Stoppers". These are both Press-Only events where you have to be pre approved to attend. The food was great, plenty of different selections for any taste from carnivores to vegans:). One nice thing are the vendors who have small booths at these two events were very willing to part with schotskies and free products (for review of course). It seems that I learn more at these types of events than on the show floor as you

get to interact on a more personal level with their technical people.

Many of the vendors who participate in these "press only events" do not exhibit on the show floors. It is cheaper for them to participate in these organized press events than to pay big bucks to put up with the tire kickers on the show floor. I have attended these kinds of events in Las Vegas for years, COMDEX Fall is the big November trade show and there are several companies that put on these types of events for vendors who wish to interact directly with the press.

I always go to the press room at trade shows in order to pick up the show vendors literature (most now provide their press materials on CD-ROM which saves in having to lug all that heavy paper around.). The press room normally has great food (which means it's free :)) And you meet some of the people who we read about in national trade magazines. Bill Machrone from PC-Magazine/E-Week is one guy that I have seen for almost 15 or so years. Walter Mossberg (who lives in Potomac MD.) and writes for the Wall Street Journal is another one. His technology columns in the WSJ are read by millions of people and as you would think, vendors clamor for his attention to their products. Others that I run into are familiar names to those who subscribe to PC-World, PC-Magazine, E-Week, Info-World and such. Enough name dropping:!)

BACKUP-BACKUP-BACKUP:

I would like to take this time to remind each of you to Backup your critical data. It is even more critical

to have backups now that you can buy a 100 Giga Byte hard disk for less than \$100. Of course with CD-R drives less than \$50, you should consider this option. Remembering that there is a difference between CD-R and CD-RW. The RW means Re-Writable. If you ever have to restore this data, then some of the older cd-rom drives will not read these re-writable disks. The CD-R which means Write Once are better as they are readable on most of the cd rom drives installed. There was an advertisement from CompUSA for 50 CD-R media for less than \$3. An 40X 12X 48X CD-RW/R drive for less than \$60. (I do not own stock in CompUSA) so there is no excuse for not doing a good backup of your system. DVD-R & R/W is just around the corner but the standards are not yet set. It is still in the Beta/VHS time frame for DVD. Recordable DVD's are in the \$500 range as of now but they are coming down in price and then 4.7 gigabytes of backup storage will be possible.

Pet Peeve of the month:

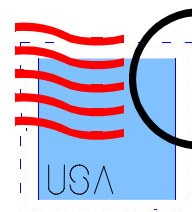
The prices that are listed in ads for everything from computer stuff to furniture are jumping on the Mail In Rebate train. This makes their products appears cheaper than their competitors. It started with the computer stores and required you to submit Bar codes from the packaging, sales receipts and a rebate coupon. Good luck. I have received a few but sometimes (too often) they just get lost in the rebate cycle. I am not sure that the fulfillment firms (they are hired by companies to process all rebates) receive a commission based on how many they throw in the trash.

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Feedback



Feedback



To the Editor:

There is a way to filter spam that improves on the CPCUG junk mail filter described by Barbara Conn in her July Feedback article. If I recall correctly, setting up that filter requires a walk-through of UNIX command language, and multiple visits before reaching a comfortable level of nearly spam-free email. It never worked to my satisfaction, outsmarted as it was by mailers in Thailand, Denmark and elsewhere, not to mention unwanted follow-on advertisements from outfits I've done business with.

The solution to spam is ChoiceMail, a permission-based email management system that gives you full control of who gets to your mailbox. I found it easy to install and set up, and within a few days felt that the reduced frustration and time in handling my email well justified the \$29.95 cost. A 30-day trial copy is available without charge, but the program was described so well in the online Frequently Asked Questions that I eagerly applied for the licensed version.

ChoiceMail, downloaded from www.digiportal.com, runs on MS Windows and supports all POP-based applications such as Outlook Express and Eudora. An installation wizard guides you through the setup. There is also a 47-page Adobe format guide which helps in familiarization. Any contact listed in your address book, any list server or newsletter to which you have sub-

scribed, and anyone to whom you have sent an email message is automatically authorized to send you email without interference. All others get a new-sender registration form to be returned to you for approval before their stuff passes into your mailbox. All this is transparently handled while you retain full ability to observe all that goes on in mail handling.

The net result is that if you receive mail it is because you wanted it.

Jack Butler
jabutler@cpcug.org

Jack,
I've used a freeware product called MailWasher to help clean (and bounce) unwanted Emails. It works with any POP3 mail service.

To the EDITOR;

I received an offer to upgrade Norton anti Virus 2002 from Best-Defense. Unfortunately, I ordered it. I received a receipt saying the merchant name was Virtual Decisions and the order would be shipped shortly. I never received it. My efforts to contact best.defense101@laposte.net were futile. I was able to get the charge removed from my credit card. I thought the offer was from Norton. I should have known better. This is definitely a scam. So, if you get this offer from Best Defense, Delete it.

Frank Camp
fscamp@erols.com

Frank,

I must get 3 emails a day offering me a discounted price for Norton SystemWorks (which includes antiVirus). I've never answered the ads because I already own Norton SystemWorks. Now I'm glad I didn't.

To the Editor:

What is involved with getting a topic discussed at the General Meeting? I have some ideas for topics that I think the membership would like to have presented.

Name Withheld

Take a look at Page 2 of the Monitor. The CPCUG Program Director Gary Vaughan is the place you should take your ideas. Gary is the guy who sets up almost all of the General Meeting topics. Be careful to give Gary a lot of lead time to work with your ideas though. General Meetings are usually booked a few months in advance so we make sure everything is taken care of. There are a lot of logistics to planning General Meetings that most members aren't aware of. Gary does a great job of covering topics and taking care of the speakers needs. Contact him at buffalo1_us@yahoo.com

Write to us and let us know what you think:
editor@cpcug.org

Rich's Ramblings

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I always make copies of my submissions but the original is sent off. Sometimes it takes over 3 months to finally receive the \$20 I was promised. Personally, I feel that this is just a sales gimmick. I know of people who spend a lot of time keeping track of their rebates and I commend them for that. I would much prefer that I get it up front. The vendors know that many of the people who buy things based only on price will never send in the "correct" parts of the refund request, so they make more money in the long run.
End of Rant.

Rich Schinnell has written columns for the Monitor since way back in the early 1990's. He can be reached via email at schinnel@cpcug.org. He is not on the cpcug helpline anymore as he is semi-retired from User Group activities. That means it is someone else's turn in the barrel :) (that's a smile) His home phone is (301) 949-9292 if you just want to talk about his columns, calling him to complain won't get you very far. He still does a bit of professional consulting to a select group of small business's. His personal web page is located at [HTTP://WWW.SCHINNELL.ORG](http://www.schinnell.org)



If you are having problems with your computer hardware or software, why not give the **CPCUG Helpline** a call?

MEMBERS ONLY

Touch Voting

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be able to do that for the voter.

" If the voter requests a larger font, the summary "Vote Review" screen is still shown in the same font size, not a larger font size. This may be a problem for voters with vision problems; use of a larger font here may cause the "Summary Page" to flow over more than one screen.

" An office that is under-voted currently is not highlighted on the summary screen, but should show blank entries with pink background for the un-voted slots to draw the voter's attention to the under-vote condition.

" On each screen, except the last one, the lower left has a touch box that says "PREVIOUS" and takes one back to the prior screen. On the final screen where one reviews the selected choices before pressing "Cast Ballot" the touch area at the lower left is labeled "Review Ballot" but all it does is take one back to the prior screen and so should be labeled "PREVIOUS" and not "Review Ballot" which implies some special undefined step needed before ballot completion.

" The language and font size selection could be left to the voter if a LANGUAGE and FONT-SIZE touch area is provided at the top edge of each screen.

Now to the serious flaw in this new system.

All vote information is "kept in bits" in "four different places in memory" and submitted electronically for vote totaling purposes. There is no provision (as far as I could tell) for anything like a manual re-count if there are serious questions about the vote totals. As a software developer I find the idea that the only vote totals are managed and kept by a computer to

be frightening; this from a background of over 30 years of computer software design and development. At some time in the future we may be able to develop hardware, software, and communications technology that deserve to be trusted with such very sensitive information. I trust computers to keep my bank statements correct - but only because I can examine the printed statement and compare it to my records on credit card or check usage to verify that it is correct. I may not always do that, but clearly I have the choice to such verification whenever I choose. This new voting system appears not to have any such safeguards.

Here is what I would like the new voting system to do.

Process the vote selection with the changes described above.

As each voter finalizes the vote selections, the voter access card is removed and taken by the voter to a print station (at least two per precinct for redundancy) and using the card to activate the print station prints out that voter's ballot. This printed ballot will show only the actual vote cast, just as on the summary page. The voter examines the printed ballot and if still acceptable takes this printed ballot and the voter access card to the appropriate election officer where the printed ballot is inserted into the voting box (as in past elections) and the voter access card is inserted into a reader which will register the electronic vote and clear all data on the card so it cannot be used to re-print or otherwise examine the associated vote.

If the voter decides there is an error in the printed ballot the voter takes

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Networking a Home or Small Office

By Robert E. Simanski, ABC
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If you have more than one computer in your home or office, you can share files, printers, and high-speed Internet connections among them by using the peer-to-peer networking capabilities built into every consumer version of Microsoft Windows since Windows 95. In fact, many people today are networking their computers solely in order to share their Internet access. The hardware that you need to set up a Windows peer-to-peer network is easily available and the additional cost is relatively small.

Hardware That You Will Need

Virtually all Windows networks use a technology called Ethernet. Most Ethernet hardware available today supports Fast Ethernet, which has a bandwidth of 100 megabits per second (Mbps). Even faster Ethernet technologies are either available or on the way, but they are much more expensive than Fast Ethernet and will be used primarily on large LANs before they filter down to products designed for the home and small-office user.

Each computer on the network must have a network adapter card. Good adapter cards are available from Intel and 3Com, starting at about \$35. I have had good results with the Intel InBusiness 10/100 Ethernet adapter. You can buy Ethernet cards for as little as \$10, but they will not give you the performance of the Intel and 3Com products and therefore I do not recommend them.

To connect the computers on your network, you will need one or more

Ethernet cables. There are two basic types of cables, patch and crossover. If you want to network only two computers, you can connect them to each other directly with a crossover cable. If you have more than two computers, or if you are connecting your systems through a hub or switch (see below), you will need patch cables. Most of the cables that you find for sale are patch cables, so if you need a crossover cable, you will have to search for it carefully.

Ethernet cables of both types are classified by category number. The higher the number, the later the technology and the greater the bandwidth that it can handle. Most cables available today are either Category 5, Category 5e, or Category 6. For most peer-to-peer networks, Category 5e is more than adequate.

Cables are available in a wide variety of lengths, from about 10 feet to as long as 100 feet. Cost typically ranges from about 50 cents to \$1 per running foot, depending on the length of the cable. The 14-foot length is the most commonly used and is adequate for most purposes.

If you need to network more than two computers, you will need an Ethernet hub or switch. They typically have ports for connecting between four and 24 computers. For a Windows peer-to-peer network, a six- or eight-port model is a good choice because it gives you room for future growth. I recommend that you use a hub or switch even if you are networking only two computers because of the additional flexibility that it gives you.

The main difference between a hub and a switch is that with a hub, the available bandwidth is shared among all of the systems transmitting or receiving data at the same time, while with a switch, each sending/receiving pair gets the full rated bandwidth. If your primary reason for networking is to share an Internet connection, you have only two or three computers on your network, and all of your hardware supports Fast Ethernet, a hub would be adequate because the speed of your Internet connection is likely to be much less than even the shared internet bandwidth available to each computer. On the other hand, if you are also sharing files and/or printers or if you have more than three or four computers on your network, you would be better off with a switch.

To set up a basic peer-to-peer network, then, you need a network adapter card in each computer, a hub or switch, and cables to connect each computer to the hub or switch. Plan on about \$40 for a basic hub or \$75 for a good-quality switch and about \$50 per computer for the adapter cards and cables.

To share a high-speed cable or DSL Internet connection, you will need an additional piece of equipment called a cable/DSL router. The router is used to establish a connection between two networks, in this case your local peer-to-peer network and your Internet service provider's remote network. You connect the cable or DSL modem to the router. Most cable/DSL routers also include a

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four- or eight-port hub or switch. This makes it very easy to network your computers and share your Internet connection. Prices that I have seen range from about \$80 for an inexpensive home-use router with an eight-port hub to \$375 for the business-class router and eight-port switch that I use. No doubt there are even more-expensive models on the market. For simple home use, the \$80 models would suffice. If you depend on your computers for your living, however, I would go with a business-class model.

Wireless Networking

In an office setting, the normal way to connect computers that are in different rooms is to run Ethernet cabling through the ceilings and walls and install an Ethernet jack in each room. The wires all come together at a centrally-located hub or switch. Many newer office buildings are already wired for Ethernet.

For reliability and performance, it's pretty hard to beat a wired Ethernet setup. In a small-office setting outside of your home, it's definitely the way to go. If you don't want to run wires through the walls, you may be able to run them along the baseboard or under carpeting, as long as you are careful not to create a safety hazard.

In a home setting, however, Ethernet wiring may not be an option, particularly if the computers to be networked are widely separated and on different floors. In that case, you have several options, none of which are foolproof. Earlier technologies that address this problem use existing phone or AC lines, and products based on them are still available. However, they are losing ground to a

newer technology, wireless Ethernet. This would be my first choice, if only because this is where most of the development effort is going.

To add wireless Ethernet to an existing Ethernet network, you need a wireless access point, or WAP, connected to the hub or switch, and a wireless network adapter for each computer that is not wired directly to the hub or switch. The WAP uses two-way, low-power radio transmission to communicate with the wireless network adapters. Some wireless adapters connect to an existing Ethernet adapter while others connect to a USB port. If your computer is less than three years old and you have an available USB port, use it. If your computer is much older than that (in which case its USB support may not be adequate) or if you do not have a USB port, you will need to add either a network adapter or a USB controller card.

Most of the affordable hardware available today uses the 802.11b standard, often called "Wi-Fi" for Wireless Fidelity. This standard is rated at 11 Mbps in the 2.4 GHz radio transmission band but delivers only about 7 Mbps in practice. Thus it is much slower than the 100 Mbps available on a Fast Ethernet network. An evolving standard, 802.11a, is much faster and uses the 5 GHz band but is not backward-compatible with 802.11B.

Wi-Fi may look fine on paper and is being used successfully by large organizations that have the resources to do what is necessary to get it to work. In a home setting, it is often used to enable laptop computers to share an Internet connection.

Unfortunately, at least for users with limited resources, Wi-Fi has many drawbacks and may not work well in

certain environments. Because it uses low-power radio transmission, its range is limited and it is subject to blocking or interference from many sources. To complicate matters, it works on the same transmission band used by many other common devices, such as microwave ovens, cordless phones, and cellular phones. If someone in your house turns on the microwave or uses a cordless phone while you are downloading a large file from the Internet, your download could be interrupted. Also, don't count on being able to place the WAP next to your computer or router. You may need to experiment extensively with the placement of the WAP and may also need to add active repeaters to your wireless network adapters to get acceptable performance. One of my clients had to place the WAP at the top of a stairwell and run a long Ethernet cable through the ceiling to the router one floor below in order to get acceptable results.

You can buy cable/DSL routers that include a WAP as well as a hub or switch. While the idea of an integrated product is appealing, this limits your options regarding the placement of the WAP. The reason is that the router must be close to the cable or DSL modem and is usually wired to at least one of the computers on the network as well. Therefore you are better off getting a separate WAP and connecting it to your hub or switch with an Ethernet cable.

Plan on spending at least \$100 for the WAP and about \$100 for each wireless network adapter. If the connection between the WAP and a specific computer is not satisfactory, you may need to add one or more active repeaters between the wireless net-

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work adapter and the computer to which it is attached and place the adapter in a hallway. Allow between \$30 and \$50 for a 16-foot active repeater.

Configuring Your Network in Windows

After you have installed all of your networking hardware, you must configure each computer on your network to enable them to connect to the network and share its resources. If you are adding a cable/DSL router, you must also configure the router according to the instructions provided by your Internet access provider. At a minimum, you will need to know whether they have assigned a fixed external IP address to your connection, and if so, what that address is. You may also need other information, such as whether your connection uses a gateway.

Be aware that most residential cable and DSL providers discourage sharing connections and do not support networking. Therefore they may not have given you the necessary information and you may have a hard time getting it from them. Business DSL providers, on the other hand, expect you to share the connection and are more likely to give you the information that you need.

Once you have configured your router properly, the next step is to determine whether it can act as a Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP) server. If so, it can assign internal IP addresses dynamically to each computer on your network. If not, you must determine the router's internal IP address, as opposed to the external IP address that it uses to connect to the Internet.

You must then assign fixed IP addresses to each computer on your network from the same family of addresses as that used by the router. For example, some cable/DSL routers have an internet IP address of 192.168.1.1 and a subnet mask of 255.255.255.0. To assign an IP address in the same family, use the same numbers for the IP address and subnet mask except for the last number of the IP address. That last number must be unique for each computer on the network. Any IP address from 192.168.1.2 to 192.168.1.254 will work.

If the router also acts as a DHCP server, I would enable that feature. It will assign the IP addresses dynamically, usually from a pool of 50 IP addresses beginning with 192.168.1.100, whenever a computer logs onto the network. A DHCP server leases the address to the computer for a fixed period of time and renews the lease as needed. If the computer is no longer connected to the network at the end of the period, the address goes back into the available pool.

Now that you have the necessary information, you can configure the computers on your network. Begin with the ones that are wired directly to the hub or switch, starting with the most important computer on your network. You may need your Windows installation discs, so be sure to have them handy. The instructions for computers connected via a wireless network adapter may be different, so follow the instructions provided with the adapter for these systems.

In Windows 95, 98, and ME, open the Network applet in Control Panel and select the Identification page. The default workgroup name is WORKGROUP. In Windows XP,

however, it's MSHOME. Because the workgroup name is more difficult to change in XP than in the other versions of Windows, if you have a system running XP or expect to add one, make the workgroup name MSHOME on all of your computers. The computer name and description can be whatever you want. The default names are often cryptic and make little if any sense. I recommend making the computer name one word, with a maximum of 12 characters, that has meaning to you. For example, I name my systems PUBPROWORK01, PUBPROWORK02, and so forth. Make the description meaningful as well.

Now go to the Configuration page and set the primary network logon to Client for Microsoft Networks. From now on, you will see a logon screen with fields for your user name and password every time that Windows starts. If you already get this logon screen, use your existing user name and password.

Next, select the TCP/IP protocol attached to your network adapter, click the Properties button, and select the IP address page. The correct settings will depend on whether your router is acting as a DHCP server. If so, make sure that "Obtain an IP address automatically" is selected. If not, select "Specify an IP address" and enter an appropriate IP address and subnet mask.

Depending on the instructions that you have received from your Internet access provider or that came with your router, you may need to make other changes to the TCP/IP settings. For example, you may need to add gateway information.

When you click OK to close the Network applet, you may be asked to

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insert your Windows in-stallation disc. In some cases, the computer manufacturer may have placed the installation files on your system. If so, Windows will take what it needs from them and you will not need to insert the disc. After Windows has copied the files that it needs, you will need to restart the system.

Note: The locations of these settings on a Windows XP system are different from those in earlier versions of Windows. Unfortunately I do not have access to an XP system as I am writing this, so please consult your XP manual or online help.

After the system has restarted, test your connection to the Internet by opening your Web browser. If your system is configured properly, your home page should come up quickly. To be absolutely sure, however, clear your browser's cache of temporary Internet files, then visit another Web site that you know comes up quickly and is always available. You can use my site at <http://www.yourpubpro.com>. If you have a problem accessing Web sites that you regularly use, double-check the router's configuration. If it appears to be correct, double-check your computer's configuration.

If your Internet connection is working properly, make the printer attached to your computer sharable. Also make one folder sharable. My Documents will do. Do not require passwords for now. The purpose is to make sure that the other computers can see the resources on your network after you have configured them. Be sure to leave this computer on and make sure that the printer is turned on as well. You can disable the folder and printer sharing later,

after you have every-thing working properly.

Repeat this procedure for every other computer on your network, except for sharing the printer and a folder. (If you are using a wireless network adapter, the instructions for the adapter take precedence over all others.) After you have restarted the computer, check its Internet connection. If there is a problem, the router is probably OK so focus on the computer. Finally, double-click on the Network Neighborhood icon. You should see the name of the current computer as well as the names of all other computers that are logged onto the network. Double-click on the name of each one to view its shared resources, if any.

Leave each computer on after you have configured it until you are finished with all of the systems. Make sure that each computer can see every other computer that is logged on and part of your workgroup. If a particular computer fails to show up when it should, you may need to double-check its network settings.

Tips and Cautions

* If you have a software firewall installed on a computer, it may make that computer invisible to the rest of the network. In that case, you will have to configure a rule for the firewall that allows access from any computer within the range of internal IP addresses used by your network.

* You must log onto your computer properly in order to be able to access other computers and printers on your network. Even if you do not use a password, never press Escape or click the X at the top right to close the logon dialog box. Always press Enter or click the default button to complete the logon process. If you

press Escape or click the X, you will be able to work on your local computer but you will not have access to shared resources on other computers.

* Make the least-used computer on your network your designated file and printer server. Sharing files and, in particular, sharing a printer can put a considerable load on some systems. This is a good way to use an older system that has been retired but is still in good working order.

* Map network drives to the shared folders that you access frequently and make them persistent from session to session. These virtual, or "pretend," drives will appear in My Computer and Windows Explorer, making them much easier to access.

* Some applications allow you to have global files that can be used by everyone on your network who has the same program. For example, recent versions of Microsoft Word allow a separate location for workgroup templates. Eudora Pro, my e-mail program, allows for a global address book available to everyone, as well as a personal address book available only on the local computer.

Conclusion

Your Publications Pro! can set up a peer-to-peer network to enable you to share your files, printers, and/or high-speed Internet connection with more than one computer at your home or office. For further information, please contact us by e-mail at rsimanski@yourpubpro.com or by phone at 703-404-8665. For information about all of our services, please visit our Web site at <http://www.yourpubpro.com>.

Volunteers Needed!

Booth Staffers for Computer-Related Trade Shows and Other Special Events

Enthusiastic CPCUG members are needed several times a year to staff CPCUG booths at various computer-related trade shows and other special events including FOSE, FedWeb, eXtreme, and ITrecruitermag.com. It's fun! And all you have to do is hand out CPCUG literature and giveaways, and tell attendees about CPCUG and membership benefits. At trade shows you also get a free pass to visit the booths of exhibiting vendors.

Contact: volunteer@cpug.org

General Meetings and Saturday Seminars

1. Seminar panelists
2. Greeters

Contact: president@cpug.org

Education and Training

1. Course Developers
2. Instructors for the following: PCs for Beginners, Using Windows, (most versions), Microsoft Office 97/2000, Internet Explorer, Netscape Communicator, JavaScript, Java, PERL C++, and more!
3. Teacher Assistants
4. Technical Editors
5. Copywriters
6. Designers and Desktop Publishers

Contact: training@cpug.org

Monitor, CPCUG's periodic magazine

Photographers are needed for all CPCUG events. Even if you have little or no experience if you own a digital we need your help. We also need writers, editors, reporters, product and book reviewers, illustrators, cartoonists, photographers, and proofreaders.

Contact: editor@cpug.org

Helpline

The Helpline is always in need of more helpers. The Capital PC User Group motto is "Users helping Users," and one of the best places to do that is through the Helpline. You don't have to be a real expert to be of help. Most users requesting help have very basic questions. By volunteering, you can not only help others, but you can learn from the experience and also get a good feeling doing it. Take a look at the "Helpline Directory" in the Monitor to see the subjects currently covered. If there is a subject that you are interested in that is not listed, we can add it. A particular need is for volunteers who can answer the phone during the day. Windows 95 and 98 are in need of more volunteers. And Microsoft Office. Contact: **Elliott Fein** at elliott.fein@erols.com, or by snail mail at 5 Carter Court, Rockville, MD 20852-1005.

Science Fair Judges

CPCUG's Program of Recognition of Young Student Scientists

In 1996 CPCUG presented awards to students in two Maryland counties. In 1997, due to excellent CPCUG member response, we expanded the program to include students participating in science fairs in 12 areas of Maryland, Washington, DC, and Virginia. Help us cover at least as many science fairs this year and beyond. Contact: **Walt Houser** at houser@cpug.org

Internet SIG

Become a reporter for the Internet SIG. For more information, contact **Gabe Goldberg** at gabe@gabegold.com

Monitor Advertising Director

Do you know a corporation or entrepreneurial business that might benefit from an ad in CPCUG's magazine, the Monitor? Help make it happen by showing its decisionmakers the Monitor.

Increased advertising revenue means a larger magazine and more money for CPCUG's member benefit programs. Contact: Editor@cpug.org

Monitor Photographers

CPCUG has more than a dozen events every month. If you have a digital camera and a little time on your hands where you could attend a couple of CPCUG events each month, why not volunteer to be the official photographer for the Monitor.

Contact: Editor@cpug.org



Reboot

CPCUG's Active Computer Recycling Program

10 Volunteers
Working 1 or 2 or More
Afternoons a Month

Have hardware to donate?
Have a few hours a month
and want to help?

Contacts:

Gerry Rosenkrantz
g.rosenkrantz@worldnet.att.net
et

or Dave Barry
dbarry@netkonnnect.net

Creating Your Own Website

by Philip Naudus

The Internet gives us a two-way portal to the world. Unfortunately, most of us only use the Internet in one direction (i.e. receiving information). Many people never take advantage of the full potential the Internet gives - some don't even know what they are missing. Yet, we can never maximize the usefulness of the Internet until we take advantage of both sides of the spectrum and join the vast network of people who supply information as well.

Creating a website is an easy and inexpensive way to tell the world what is important to you. You might be surprised how many people will be interested in your opinions, job, family, or maybe even your recent backyard barbeque.

Several months ago, I created a website for our family (www.naudusfamily.com). It started out as a simple site to just tell what our family has been doing recently. None of us expected anything from it. I was so surprised when hundreds of visitors flocked to our site and our friends sent us emails telling us how much they enjoyed and appreciated it. Even such a simple site has been so rewarding.

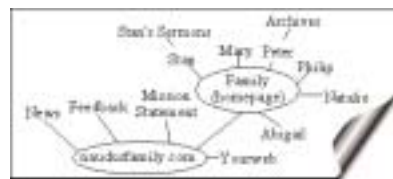
In this article, we will discover how you can easily create your own site at little or no expense. Some very useful programs exist that make web development a simple task. No skill is needed. Experience is not required. Learning HTML is unnecessary. Simply point, click, drag and drop,

let the program write all the HTML for you, and you're on the road to creating a great site!

Let's Start From the Very Beginning...

A very important first step is to decide what your site is going to be about. Who is your audience going to be? Is your website for everybody, or for specific people? What are they interested in? Be specific. Write it down. Once you are able to formulate your thoughts clearly on paper, you are ready to proceed onto the next step.

Next, think about specific pages you want on your site. Write down everything you think of. Finally, take everything you have written and organize it into a site map. Making a site map will help you visually plan the navigation of your site. Avoid putting too many links on the home page. If the number of links exceeds 10, group them under several broad links. For example, if your site is about music, instead of having links for Mozart, Beethoven, Bach, etc. on the home page, you would have one link named "composers."



Site Map Rendering

Remember, taking some time to plan before you begin can save you a lot of trouble in the future. Planning will

also give your site a feeling of continuity, visitors can easily find what they are looking for, and as a result they will want to come back.

Web Page Editors

A web page editor (sometimes referred to as a "web editor" or simply "editor") is an invaluable tool that will assist you in making web pages. Requiring no knowledge of HTML, some editors have a WYSIWYG (What You See Is What You Get) interface in which all you need to do is drag and drop items, and it writes all the HTML for you. However, some people think that to be really good at web development you need to be able to code in straight HTML. Furthermore, they declare that using a web page editor is "cheating." But the very opposite is true. By using an editor you can design impressive web pages without even knowing HTML.

I have looked on the Internet for a web page editor that is free, easy to use, requires no knowledge of HTML, and is full-featured. While free editors have been made, many are of poor quality. One editor I found had nothing more than "stone aged" features - except for the ad it places at the bottom of each page telling your visitors that they can make their pages look just as bad for free.

By far, the best editor I found is "Selida." You can download it at <http://www.amaryllis.8m.com> and

continued on Page 20

October 2002

All meeting and class times are tentative, check your Email and CPCUG website at <http://www.cpcug.org> before attending

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Building a Web Page

(continued from Page 17)

click "download."

Note: Selida is a rather large file. If you have a dial-up connection, it can take over an hour to download. With an effective program I found called "Download Accelerator," I was able to download it in 15 minutes. Check it out at www.speedbit.com.

Selida

Selida has a WYSIGYG, so you don't need to know HTML to use it. The WYSIWYG is called "Design Mode." For your convenience, Selida



Selida's Design Mode Menu

has an objects menu that can make your development even easier. For example, if you want an image on your page, you would simply click in your document where you want the image to go, and select "Image" from the menu. Reducing the complex process of web development to a simple point-and-click, the Objects menu can help cut out a lot of the time needed to make your web pages.



Selida's Objects Menu

Selida also comes with some very useful templates. If you find a template you like, simply edit it, save it, and you've finished a web page. It's that easy! (No, it's not cheating.)

Microsoft Word 97/2000/XP

If you have Microsoft Word, you have a very powerful tool at your disposal. Although its templates are nothing compared to Selida's, Word has a very helpful Web Page Wizard. Unfortunately, Microsoft Word is a very sloppy editor. It will cause your pages to take up more disk space and take longer to load. Furthermore, your web pages will work mainly with Microsoft Internet Explorer and other Microsoft products. (What else could you expect from Microsoft?)

Fortunately, thanks to "Tidy Tools," you can tidy up web pages made by Microsoft Word 97 and 2000. Once you've completed your page in Word, open it with Selida and select Tidy Tools from the View menu. Although Tidy Tools also works with Microsoft Word XP, XP already does a pretty good job of "cleaning up after itself."



Tidy Tools Menu from Selida.

Note: If you chose a visual theme from Microsoft Word that uses different font colors, Tidy Tools will change all font coloring to black. To avoid much frustration, don't spend too much time on the font colors while designing your page with Word. Once you've "tidied up" your page, put in the coloring as desired using Selida.

Conclusion

I strongly encourage you to start developing your own website. Even

if you don't think you have the skill, you might be surprised how easy, fun, and rewarding it can be. When I started working on our family website, I simply wanted to learn and enjoy web development. But once I launched it, I found that it was a lot more than just fun. It has been very useful and rewarding. One of the best things about web development is that it's free - if you decide you don't like it, (which I hope won't occur) you're not obligated to keep going because you bought an expensive editor and paid for a year's hosting service. You can even get web hosting for free!

In the next month's Monitor, I'll discuss free web hosting services and what to expect from them. Until then, have fun creating your website!

Philip Naudus is a homeschooled 16 year old. He enjoys programming, developing web pages, playing the trumpet, and reading about science and computers. He is also enjoying his new baby sister.

Stupid (and Expensive) Uses of the Internet

The FBI said Ann Marie Poet, a bookkeeper for a small Berkley (MI) law firm, embezzled \$2.1 million from the firm's accounts between February and August, after scam organizers persuaded her to wire huge amounts of money to bank accounts in South Africa and Taiwan to expedite the transfer of money to the United States.

Dr. Mbuso Nelson said he was an official with the Ministry of Mining in Pretoria, South Africa. And he offered to pay a \$4.5-million fee to a 59-year-old Rochester Hills woman if she would help him transfer \$18 million from South Africa to a bank account in the United States.

http://www.freep.com/news/locoak/checks21_20020921.htm

For Inveterate XP Tweakers Only

By Carl Siechert, Co-Author, Microsoft Windows XP Inside Out

One of the fun things about Windows XP and Windows 2000 is that there is so much tweaking you can do if you want to. You don't need to do any of the things that I described at a recent Pasadena IBM User Group presentation, but if you like peeking under the hood and making a few adjustments so things run just the way you like, you can. Here's a little more information about some of the topics I discussed:

Group Policy lets you make all manner of settings--everything from configuring the desktop to hiding certain drives to preventing the creation of scheduled tasks. These settings (and hundreds more) are stored in the registry, which you can edit directly.

But Group Policy is much easier to use than a registry editor. A few notes before you dive in:

****To use Group Policy, you must have Windows XP Professional or Windows 2000; it's not available in Windows XP Home Edition.**

****To use Group Policy, you must be logged on using an account that's a member of the Administrators group.**

****If your computer is not a member of a Windows 2000 Server domain, any settings you make in Group Policy affect everyone who uses your computer. (There is a crude workaround that lets you set up two groups of users--those who are affected by Group Policy settings and those who are not. For details, check out pp. 1074-5 in "Microsoft Windows XP Inside Out." [Caution: this is the first of several plugs for my books.])** Restart Group Policy by choosing Start, Run and typing "gpedit.msc". (If you end up using Group Policy very much, you'll want to make a shortcut to gpedit.msc.) The next two folders and their subfolders house the most interesting policies, although you might want to check out

the others as well.

Then, in the left pane, select a subfolder of Computer Configuration\Administrative Templates or User Configuration\Administrative Templates. Select a useful sounding policy in the right pane, and an explanation of the policy appears. Keep poking around until you find something that interests you. To make a setting, double-click the policy name and then choose an option in the dialog box that appears.

Pretty easy stuff, but you're exploring where few Windows users dare to tread. Unless you work hard to enable policies that, for example, prevent you from logging on, the settings under Administrative Templates are pretty safe. Nonetheless, you should read the explanation carefully before you make a policy setting.

Want more information? For a complete reference to Group Policy in Windows 2000, visit

<http://www.microsoft.com/windows2000/techinfo/reskit/en-us/default.asp>

Look for Windows 2000 Group Policy Reference in the contents pane. Nearly all the information in this reference applies to Windows XP Professional as well, although it doesn't include the policies that are available only in Windows XP. Another good resource is the Group Policy Object Settings spreadsheet, which you can download from

<http://www.microsoft.com/WindowsXP/pro/techinfo/productdoc/gpss.asp>

Although the spreadsheet doesn't explain the settings, it lists all Administrative Templates policies and shows which ones apply to each operating system; it also provides a convenient way to record your own settings. You'll also find more

information in "Microsoft Windows XP Inside Out" (Chapter 34) and in our new book, "Microsoft Windows Security Inside Out for Windows XP and Windows 2000" (Chapter 19). The latter book, which should be in stores in August, includes a number of specific recommendations about policies you can set to better secure your system.

I also mentioned the Services snap-in, which is included in the Computer Management console. To open Computer Management, right-click My Computer (on the Start menu or in an Explorer window) and choose Manage. In the left pane of Computer Management, select Computer Management (Local)\Services and Applications\Services. (Tip of the day: You can open the Services snap-in within its own console. You can find a shortcut to Services in the Administrative Tools folder, or you can simply choose Start, Run and type "services.msc".)

So which services should you turn off by changing their startup type to Manual or Disable? This Web site offers some good advice:

<http://www.blkviper.com/WinXP/servicecfg.htm>

And (time for another plug) "Microsoft Windows Security Inside Out for Windows XP and Windows 2000" provides a brief description of every service included with Windows XP and Windows 2000 and offers recommended settings.

Copyright © 2002 by Carl Siechert. Reproduced with permission. Article reproduction coordinated by Steve Bass, Pasadena IBM Users Group. Reaching Carl Siechert is easy--his company site is <http://www.swdocs.com> Discussions, links, tips, and other good things are at <http://communities.msn.com/WindowsX-PIInsideOut> and, as you'd expect, you'll find links for ordering the book online.



Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

by Elizabeth Dial

Access (Microsoft)

- Monthly, third Wednesday, 7:00.
- Veterans Affairs Medical Center (adjacent to the Washington Hospital Center), 50 Irving Street, NW, Washington, DC (use Emergency Room Entrance), 4th floor, IRM Room, 4C106a
- URL—<http://www.cpcug.org/user/access/>
- E-mail announcement list: accesssig-l hosted at cpcug.org
- E-mail discussion list: accesssigd-l hosted at cpcug.org
- Contact—David Kiasi, d: (301) 350-4752, David.Kiasi@appalt.com

Sign up for our meeting announcement and vibrant discussion lists where you can get insight and suggestions for solving your Access problems.

ACT!

- Usually monthly, at Late Night following General Meetings, usually second Monday, 9:15
- Washington Gas, Springfield, VA
- URL—<http://actdc.org/>
- Contact—Rick Shaddock, d: (202) 829-4444, rick@cpcug.org

ACT! SIG meetings are a place for users to discuss and share their use of ACT! and to ask and answer questions of other ACT! users at all levels of expertise.

Our meetings are designed to give ACT! users the opportunity to learn more about using specific features of ACT! and the many products that seamlessly integrate with ACT!, and to meet other ACT! users in the Washington, DC, area. We will be performing demos of new versions of ACT!, offering solutions to technical support issues, and suggesting tips to increase user productivity.

Our SIG creates a forum to learn from other ACT! users and industry specialists, encourages the exchange of ideas about

ACT!, and creates an opportunity to keep abreast of the latest business solution developments.

Baltimore

- Monthly (except June, September, and August) from 6pm - 8pm check to confirm by visiting the website.
- Meeting site currently Enoch-Pratt Free Library 6310 Reisterstown Road Baltimore, MD
- URL—http://www.rlpystems.com/balt_sig
- E-mail meeting announcements, monthly: To subscribe, send an e-mail request to RLPSystems@aol.com
- Contact—Robert Pettigrew, d/e/w: (410) 358-5840, RLPSystems@aol.com

We are seeking a new, more regular meeting space. If you know of a suitable meeting place in the Baltimore area, please contact SIG Leader Bob Pettigrew

Beginners (and Beyond)

- Usually monthly, at late Night following General Meetings, usually second Monday, 9:15
- Washington Gas - Springfield, VA in the auditorium following the General Meeting
- URL—<http://www.cpcug.org/user/beginner/>
- E-mail announcement list: beginsig-l hosted at cpcug.org
- E-mail discussion list: beginsigd-l hosted at cpcug.org
- Contact—Marty Shinko, e/w: (301) 253-1743 mshinko.cpcug@juno.com

Marty Shinko is coordinating the Beginners (and Beyond) SIG for computer beginners and intermediates. He'd also be interested in hearing from those who work with beginners.

Not exactly a beginner, but also not an expert? This SIG may be just what you've been looking for, a place for those no longer beginners to continue to learn more about how to get more out of their computers. And as computers evolve, the issues facing beginning computer users change.

Join us for fun, lively discussion, and computer talk. Experts are welcome to share their insights as well, of course.

How You Can Help

- Primary contact person
- Alternate contact persons
- Representative to attend CPCUG Board of Directors meetings
- Contact person at General Meetings
- Reporter to write SIG update reports for *Monitor*

To help in any of these or other capacities, contact Marty by calling (301) 253-1743, sending him a message in the MIX NOVICE Conference or via e-mail at Marty.Shinko@mix.cpcug.org, or meeting him during Late Night in the NIH cafeteria following most General Meetings.

Clipper

- Monthly, last Thursday, 7:00
- Meets at different local restaurants—alternates monthly between Gaithersburg, MD, and Vienna, VA—subscribe to the Clipper e-mail announcement list to learn current month's location
- URL—<http://home.us.net/~jimf/clipper.html>
- E-mail meeting announcements, monthly: To subscribe, send an e-mail request to SIG Chair Naseem Saab at Naseem_Saab@DPS-Consulting.com or Assistant SIG Chair Jim Fauntleroy at JimF@us.net
- Contacts—Naseem Saab, (703) 713-6900,

Naseem_Saab@DPS-Consulting.com;
Jim Fauntleroy, JimF@us.net

The Washington Area Clipper Users Group (WACUG) became the Clipper SIG of the Capital PC User Group. The mission of the Clipper SIG is (1) to form a presence for Clipper programmers in the Washington, DC, area, (2) to learn about new technologies and how to leverage Clipper experience into future products and languages, and (3) to help newcomers to the Clipper world appreciate and learn about the power of the language.

Consultants

Need a Clipper consultant? Our Assistant SIG Chair, Jim Fauntleroy, maintains a list of Clipper SIG members specializing in Clipper and Clipper-to-Windows conversions. For the latest update to this list or to be included, send e-mail to Jim at JimF@us.net.

Delphi

- Monthly, first Wednesday, 7:00 (except no meeting in January and September)
- Inter-American Development Bank, 1350 New York Avenue, Washington, DC
- Luncheon meeting—usually third Thursday, 11:30AM (Pentagon City Mall near movie theatres)
- URL—<http://www.cpcug.org/user/delphi/>
- E-mail announcement list: delphisig-1 hosted at cpcug.org
- E-mail discussion list: delphisigd-1 hosted at cpcug.org
- Contact—Dennis Courtney, d: (202) 623-2884, dennisc@iadb.org

Meeting Notes

If you know of other Delphi developers, please let them know about our meetings. We have presentations, technical discussions, contests, door prizes, leads, and fun.

Entrepreneurs and Consultants

- Monthly, usually third Saturday, 1:00PM
- Cleveland Park Library
- URL—<http://www.cpcug.org/user/entrepreneur/>
- E-mail discussion list: conent-1 hosted at cpcug.org
- Contacts—Barbara Conn, d: (202) 508-1494, e/w: (202) 452-7428, bconn@cpcug.org; Marie Pinho, d/e/w: (703) 569-6080, mpinho@erols.com

Typical Agenda

- 1:00 Welcome
- 1:05 Accounting Tips/Tax Updates, Jina Etienne, CPA
- 1:15 **Main Presentation**
- 2:40 Q&A
- 2:55 Closing announcements
- 3:00 Door Prize Drawing (when available)
- 3:00 Informal queries, conversation, networking

Internet

Meeting Notes

Internet SIG meetings begin with a general question/answer dialog. This is an opportunity to discuss Internet triumphs achieved, information/resource treasures found, or mysteries to be resolved. Internet novices are most welcome. We encourage grizzled Internauts to help novices gain expertise by answering their questions in complete sentences consisting primarily of English words understood by all.

Door Prizes

Donated door prizes are an Internet SIG meeting tradition. Prizes are reserved for CPCUG members. Please bring CPCUG membership card, *Monitor*, or your membership number to facilitate claiming prizes. To encourage prompt arrivals, door prizes are sometimes awarded to someone at the SIG meeting by 7:15PM. The remaining prizes will be awarded at meeting end. To ensure vigorous premeeting discussion, we may discontinue door prize ticket distribution at the time of the 7:15PM drawing—so, to be sure of having a chance to win, attend the 7PM discussion.

Among regular prizes offered are books from O'Reilly & Associates, Inc. (<http://www.ora.com>), Internet access from Millkern/CPCUG (<http://www.millkern.com> and <http://www.cpcug.org>), and occasional gifts from Microsoft (<http://www.microsoft.com>).

Post-Meeting Supper

After meetings, dedicated Internauts sometimes seek a late supper. Join us for a friendly meal and personal networking.

Transportation

From northwest Washington, DC, at the Van Ness Metrorail stop: Harold Goldstein drives to most Internet SIG meetings. To arrange a ride, send him e-mail (dcbiker@goldray.com) or call him at (202) 966-9091.

From Springfield, Virginia, Metrorail stop: John Wells can sometimes provide transportation to and from meetings for those who can be at the Metrorail stop between 6:30PM and 6:40PM. Please reserve early via jdwellssr@yahoo.com.

Wanted: Transportation Volunteer

We need volunteers to help people get to and from the Metrorail and Internet SIG meetings. If you're available for shuttle duty using any Metrorail station near the meeting site, please contact Gabe Goldberg at gabe@acm.org.

Wanted: Reporters

The Internet SIG would like a volunteer at each Internet SIG meeting to take notes on Q&A sessions and presentations, record relevant resources mentioned, and create a post-meeting mailing for the 500-plus subscribers to the Internet SIG e-mail distribution list. If you can do this at one or more meetings, please contact Gabe Goldberg at gabe@acm.org.

Investment

- Monthly (except August), usually second Wednesday, 7:30
- Usually Bethesda Chevy Chase Services Center 4805 Edgemoor Lane, Bethesda, MD or occasionally at Washington Gas in Springfield, VA
- URL—<http://www.cpcug.org/user/invest/>
- E-mail or postcard meeting notices, monthly: contact Andy Thompson (301) 270-6790
- Contacts—Andy Thompson, d/e/w: (301) 270-6790; Ferd Hassler, d/e/w: (301) 718-6253; Sondra Katz, sondrakatz@yahoo.com; Carl Berninger, cberninger@mindspring.com; Dave Barry, dbarry@netkconnect.net

Our Web Pages

Investment SIG's Web page creator and pagekeeper, Harry Rood, demonstrated our Web pages at a CPCUG General Meeting. Have you visited our Investment SIG Web pages? Do you visit regularly? If not, you should. *snap.com* awarded our "Charts by CPCUG InvestSIG" page at www.cpcug.org/user/invest/charts.html#5 a Snap Editors' Choice designation (www.snap.com) in recognition of excellence in design, content, and editorial presentation.

In his book, *Making Money Online*, Dr. Paul B. Farrell, CEO and Editor-in-Chief of "Wall Street News," an Internet broadcaster, states, "One of the best meta-

lists for serious investors is InvestSIG, a special interest group of the Capital PC User Group . . . InvestSIG's Web site appears to be the work of a sophisticated investment club, complete with mention of . . . monthly seminars (on subjects such as Investments in the Pacific Rim, Gold Futures Roll-Forward Strategies, and seminars on Telescan and Reuters Money Network). This is one of the best meta-lists, with a solid collection of links. . . . The list is very professional. Bookmark it!"

FastTrack Group Seminars

Occasionally the FastTrack Group holds a hands-on "Introduction to FastTrack Software" seminar for our SIG's novice FastTrack users. In the past we have been able to accommodate 12 participants. For more information, contact Ferd Hassler, (301) 718-6253.

Maryland Multimedia

- Irregular—to be announced in *Monitor*
- Montgomery Community Television Studios Classroom, 7550 Standish Place, Rockville, MD
- URL—<http://www.cpcug.org/user/comm/sig-suppl.html#md-mm>
- Contact—Stan Doore, d/e/w: (301) 572-4939, stan.doore@worldnet.att.net

The focus of the Maryland Multimedia SIG is the integration of computers and television.

Our SIG now meets on an occasional basis. Watch this space in future issues of the Monitor for the next meeting.

Microsoft Office

- Monthly, fourth Thursday (except November), 7:00
- American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) at 10801 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD
- URL—<http://www.cpcug.org/user/comm/sig-suppl.html#office>
- Contact—Marie Parker, d: (301) 897-5700 X4220, mparker@ASHA.org

If you are interested in joining a group where you can exchange ideas, get answers to your questions and concerns, and increase your knowledge of Word, PowerPoint, and Excel, and the integration of these three applications, then this SIG is for you.

OS/2

- Monthly, usually second Tuesday, 7:00

- location to be announced—first-time attendees should contact Richard Price at Richard_Price@compuserve.com or at (202) 452-8425 with name, address, and telephone number
- URL—<http://www.os2bbs.com/os2sig/>
- E-mail meeting and other OS/2 announcements, monthly (hosted by CPCUG member Pete Norloff's OS/2 Shareware BBS): To subscribe, send e-mail to OS2SIG@listserv.os2bbs.com with Subject: Subscribe
- Contacts—Richard Price, d/e/w: (202) 452-8425, Richard_Price@compuserve.com; Patrick Zilliacus, e/w: (301) 384-0972, patrick.zilliacus@mix.cpcug.org; Kirby Thornton, rocket@mnsinc.com

7:00 General Q&A;
Announcements; Product
News/Rumors; SIG News
8:00 Presentation
9:00 Door Prize Drawings

George Falcon points out an interesting article on OS/2's position in the new millennium:

<http://www.osopinion.com/perl/story/6657.html>

PalmOS

- Monthly, fourth Thursday, 6:45PM
- American Psychological Association, 750 First Street, NE, 6th floor, Executive Office Suite, Washington, DC
- URL—<http://www.interpug.com/dcpu/g/>
- Contacts—Shawn Googins, d: (301) 496-5774, theoophile@yahoo.com; Craig Simpson, d/e/w: (301) 942-3921, macshimidh@earthlink.net, icq#58070639

PocketPC

- Monthly, third Wednesday, 6:00pm.
- High Performance Technologies, Inc
Stafford Place II
4121 Wilson Blvd, Suite 200
Arlington, VA 22203
- URL—<http://www.cpcug.org/user/pocketpc>
- E-mail announcement list: pocketpc-l hosted at cpcug.org
- E-mail discussion list: pocketpcd-l hosted at cpcug.org
- Contact—Ray Wiley, d: (703) 682-5325 or rwiley@hpti.com

The Washington Area Pocket PC Users

Group, a Special Interest Group of The Capital Area PC Users' Group, meets monthly to discuss topics relating to the Pocket PC Platform. If you're interested in learning how a Pocket PC can help you at work and play, please join us at our next meeting. Current Palm users are highly encouraged to attend!

Project Management

- URL—<http://www.cpcug.org/user/comm/sig-suppl.html#pm>
- E-mail announcement list: pmsig-l hosted at cpcug.org
- Contacts—Ruben Worrell, worrellr@cpcug.org; Bruce Cottom, e/w: (301) 869-5690, bcottom@cpcug.org

The Project Management SIG is not active at this time. If you are interested in helping with a new startup of this SIG, please send e-mail to president@cpcug.org.

Seniors

- Monthly, first Saturday, 10:00AM
- Bedford Court - 3701 International Drive Silver Spring, MD (near Leisure World)
- URL—<http://www.cpcug.org/user/comm/sig-suppl.html#sr>
- E-mail announcement list: seniorsig-l hosted at cpcug.org
- E-mail discussion list: seniorsigd-l hosted at cpcug.org
- Contact—Paul Shapiro, d/e/w: (301) 770-9512, pauls@cpcug.org

The Seniors SIG started meeting again in 1999. Our meetings are open to all and help attendees get more from their personal computers following introductory classes. We'd like member participation in arranging SIG programs, and, most of all, we need you to help us get the word out about the Seniors SIG.

The Seniors SIG is for everyone, from beginner to expert, and we welcome both CPCUG members and visitors.

Statistics

- Monthly (except June through August), usually second Wednesday, 12:30
- 1800 M Street, NW, South Tower, Third Floor, Room 3056, Washington, DC—first-time attendees should contact Charlie Hallahan at hallahan@ers.usda.gov or (202) 694-5051 to have their names put on the admittance list
- URL — <http://www.cpcug.org/user/sigstat/>
- E-mail meeting announcements, monthly: To subscribe, send e-mail to

Charles Hallahan,
hallahan@ers.usda.gov

- Contact—Charles Hallahan, e/w: (703) 532-2930, hallahan@ers.usda.gov

Our Web Pages

The SIGSTAT pages, at <http://www.cpcug.org/user/sigstat/>, contain an extensive set of links to Web pages of interest to statisticians. Each month we'll look at some sites relevant to that month's demo.

Virginia

- Monthly, third Monday, 7:00
- Washington Gas Auditorium, 6801 Industrial Road, Springfield, VA
- Jurisdiction for inclement weather cancellation: Fairfax County
- URL — <http://www.cpcug.org/user/vasig/>
- E-mail announcement list: virginiasig-l hosted at cpcug.org
- Contacts—Luis Garcia, d: (301) 457-1451, e/w: (703) 425-6902, lgarcia51@yahoo.com; Ken Deuel, ken.deuel@mix.cpcug.org; Ann Dorsey, abdorsey@cpcug.org

- 7:00 Open Forum and General Information (includes earlybird drawing)
- 8:00 Presentation
- 9:00 Q&A
- 9:15 Door Prize Drawing

Meeting Notes

The main presentation can be on any general microcomputer utilization issue: hardware, software, Internet, training, and so forth.

Visual Basic

- URL—<http://www.cpcug.org/user/vbsig/>
- E-mail announcement list: vbsig-l hosted at cpcug.org
- E-mail discussion list: vbsig-d-l hosted at cpcug.org
- Contact—Jon Wasserman, d: (202) 686-3373, cpcug@hotmail.com

The Visual Basic SIG is not active at this time. If you are interested in helping with a new startup of this SIG, please send e-mail to president@cpcug.org.

Windows

- URL—<http://www.cpcug.org/user/windows/>
- Contact—Pat McVeigh, d: (301) 881-

7900, e/w: (301) 963-7304

The Windows SIG is not active at this time. If you are interested in helping with a new startup of this SIG, please send e-mail to president@cpcug.org.

WordPerfect

- URL—<http://www.cpcug.org/user/wordp/>
- E-mail announcement list: wpsig-l hosted at cpcug.org
- E-mail discussion list: wpsig-d-l hosted at cpcug.org
- Contact—John Sherman, d/e/w: (703) 569-4247, j4247@aol.com

The WordPerfect SIG is not active at this time. If you are interested in helping with a new startup of this SIG, please send e-mail to president@cpcug.org.

Web Sites of Interest

Corel WordPerfect:
<http://www.wordperfect.com>

Corel Support:
<http://www.corel.com/support/index.htm>

For WordPerfect macros, visit the WordPerfect Wiz:
<http://www.wp wiz.com>

Elizabeth Dial is a research fellow at Logistics Management Institute in McLean VA where she works with (among other things) World Wide Web and database design. She can be reached at by E-mail at: libby_dial@hotmail.com

**Got a Question,
have a problem
with your comput-
er, need some help?**

**Why not try
CPCUG Late Night?**

**After Each General Meeting
at 9:00pm - LateNight**

"LateNight" consists of smaller and more informal gatherings after each General Meeting. It provides an opportunity to learn more about CPCUG, its benefits, its special interest groups (SIGs) and its training opportunities.

SIGSTAT Topic for October

October 9, 2002: STAMP 6.0

STAMP is a package designed to model and forecast time series, based on structural time series models. These models use advanced techniques, such as Kalman filtering, but are set up so as to be easy to use -- at the most basic level all that is required is some appreciation of the concepts of trend, seasonal and irregular. The hard work is done by the program, leaving the user free to concentrate on formulating models, then using them to make forecasts. Structural time series modelling can be applied to a variety of problems in time series. Macro-economic time series like gross national production, inflation and consumption can be handled effectively, but also financial time series, like interest rates and stock market volatility, can be modelled using STAMP. Further, STAMP is used for modelling and forecasting time series in medicine, biology, engineering, marketing and in many other areas.

SIGSTAT is the Special Interest Group in Statistics for the CPCUG, the Capital PC User Group, and WINFORMS, the Washington Institute for Operations Research Service and Management Science. All meetings are in Room 3056, 1800 M St, NW from 12:30 to 1:30. Enter the South Tower & take the elevator to the 3rd floor to check in at the guard's desk. First-time attendees should contact Charlie Hallahan, 202-694-5051, hallahan@ers.usda.gov, and leave their name. Directions to the building & links of statistical interest can be found at the SIGSTAT website, www.cpcug.org/user/sigstat/.

HELPLINE

compiled by Elliott Fein
elliott.fein@erols.com

This helpline listing is for
CPCUG MEMBERS ONLY!
The volunteers will provide
assistance on their listed subjects
during the times and days outlined.
Please be prepared to give the

Helpline Volunteer your membership
number; membership has its
privileges! Please do not ask for
assistance outside the stated times. If
you reach a telephone answering
machine, leave a message as many
people screen calls or otherwise pri-
oritize their time. Some volunteers
have provided e-mail addresses so

that you can contact them if you have
trouble getting in touch by telephone.
If you would like to volunteer your
services in any area, please contact
Elliott Fein on the Internet at
elliott.fein@erols.com providing
your membership number, subject(s),
phone number and/or e-mail address,
days and times.

Member	Phone	Days	Time	E-Mail
ACCESS				
ACCESS SIG Discussion List			www.cpcug.org/list/lwgate.cgi/ACCESSSIGD-L/subscribe.html	
Scott Mohnkern				mohnkern@cpcug.org
Aida Mullu	703 892-5613	Tue - Wed	10:00a-11:59a	aida_m@excite.com
ACT!				
Rick Shaddock	(202) 829-4444	All	9:00a-9:00p	Rick@CICorp.com
ADOBE PAGEMAKER				
Lisa Conners	301 527-1041	Tue - Thur.	7:00p-9:00p	lamc@bellatlantic.net
ALPHA FOUR				
Guy Durant	202 529-6744	All	8:00a-11:00a	
	202 529-6744	All	9:00p-11:59p	
AMI PRO				
Robert Simanski	703 404-8665	Mon-Fri	7:00p - 10:00p	rsimanski@yourpubpro.com
	703 404-8665	Sat-Sun	10:00a - 10:00p	
APPLE MacIntosh (Hardware, Software, OS, Network)				
Phil Marchetti	301.404-2210	All	12:00p-11:00p	fditto@shentel.net
APL LANGUAGE				
Frank Ditto	304 725-3283	Mon - Sat	11:00a-9:00p	philm@erols.com
ASSEMBLY LANGUAGE				
Walter Nissen	440 243-4980 Near Cleveland	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net
ASTRONOMY				
Walter Nissen	440 243-4980r Near Cleveland	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net
BASIC LANGUAGE				
Aida Mullu	703 892-5613	Tue - Wed	10:00a-11:59a	aida_m@excite.com
Walter Nissen	440 243-4980r Near Cleveland	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net
BROTHER'S KEEPER				
Alta Oben	703 938-5831	Mon-Fri	6:00p-10:00p	alta@cpcug.org

Member	Phone	Days	Time	E-Mail
BUILD YOUR OWN				
Chip Dodge	(703) 425-7038	All	Reasonable	
BUYING DECISIONS				
Robert Simanski	703 404-8665	Mon-Fri	7:00p - 10:00p	rsimanski@yourpubpro.com
	703 404-8665	Sat-Sun	10:00a - 10:00p	
Randy Steer	(202) 548-3288	Mon-Fri	8:00p- 11:59p	
	(202) 548-3288	Sat-Sun	11:00a- 10:00p	
C LANGUAGE				
Wayne Dernoncourt				wayned@cpcug.org
Scott Graham	(301) 437-2745	Mon-Fri	9:00a- 6:00p	sgraham@scobar.com
	(301) 593-2744	Mon-Fri	6:00p-9:00p	
	(301) 593-2744	Sat-Sun	Reasonable	
Aida Mullu	703 892-5613	Tue - Wed	10:00a-11:59a	aida_m@excite.com
Walter Nissen	440 243-4980	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net
	Near Cleveland			
C++ LANGUAGE				
Keith Bennett	(301) 840-1161	All	8:00a -9:00p	kbennett@cpcug.org
Scott Graham	(301) 437-2745	Mon-Fri	9:00a- 6:00p	sgraham@scobar.com
	(301) 593-2744	Mon-Fri	6:00p-9:00p	
	(301) 593-2744	Sat-Sun	Reasonable	
Walter Nissen	440 243-4980	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net
	Near Cleveland			
COMMUNICATIONS - DATA				
Walter Nissen	440 243-4980	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net
	Near Cleveland			
COMMUNICATIONS - MODEMS				
Walter Nissen	440 243-4980	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net
	Near Cleveland			
COMPUTING - GENERAL				
Walter Nissen	440 243-4980	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net
	Near Cleveland			
Robert Simanski	703 404-8665	Mon-Fri	7:00p - 10:00p	rsimanski@yourpubpro.com
	703 404-8665	Sat-Sun	10:00a - 10:00p	
DBASE IV				
Guy Durant	202 529-6744	All	8:00a-11:00a	
	202 529-6744	All	9:00p-11:59p	
DBASE V				
Aida Mullu	703 892-5613	Tue - Wed	10:00a-11:59a	aida_m@excite.com
DELPHI/PASCAL				
Richard Maley	301 840-1554	Mon-Fri	9:00a- 5:00p	
Dennis Courtney	(202)623-2884	Mon-Fri	9:00a- 5:00p	dennisc@iadb.org
DESKTOP PUBLISHING				
Robert Simanski	703 404-8665	Mon-Fri	7:00p - 10:00p	rsimanski@yourpubpro.com
	703 404-8665	Sat-Sun	10:00a - 10:00p	

Member	Phone	Days	Time	E-Mail
DOS				
Arnie Kuzmack	301 949-3268	Mon-Fri	7:30p-10:30p	Arnie@kuzmack.com
	301 949-3268	Sat-Sun	12:01p-10:30p	
Aida Mullu	703 892-5613	Tue - Wed	10:00a-11:59a	aida_m@excite.com
Walter Nissen	440 243-4980r Near Cleveland	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net
Henry Winokur	301 320-2104	All	Reasonable	henwin@cpcug.org
Dreamweaver 3.0				
Aida Mullu	703 892-5613	Tue - Wed	10:00a-11:59a	aida_m@excite.com
EXCEL				
Scott Mohnkern				mohnkern@cpcug.org
Aida Mullu	703 892-5613	Tue - Wed	10:00a-11:59a	aida_m@excite.com
Arquilla Ridgell	(301) 946-3041	Mon-Wed-Fri	7:00p-9:00p	clockone@aol.com
		Sat-Sun	6:00p -9:00p	clockone@aol.com
FAMILY EDGE				
Jesse Roth	301 460-8437	All	8:00p-11:00p	
FoxBase, any version				
Rick Shaddock	(202) 829-4444	All	9:00a-9:00p	Rick@CICorp.com
FOXPRO				
Guy Durant	202 529-6744	All	9:00a-10:00p	
Rick Shaddock	(202) 829-4444	All	9:00a-9:00p	Rick@CICorp.com
FrameMaker (Adobe)				
Lee Greathouse	703 206-7575	Mon-Fri	8:30a-6:00p	Lgreat@netkonnnect.net
	703 360-3072	Mon-Fri	6:00p- 8:00p	
	703 360-3072	Sat-Sun	10:00a- 8:00p	
FRONTPAGE 2000				
Aida Mullu	703 892-5613	Tue - Wed	10:00a-11:59a	aida_m@excite.com
GGEOWORKS				
Herb Fredricksen	301 840-2056	All	2:00p-11:00p	
GRAPHICS				
Robert Simanski	703 404-8665	Mon-Fri	7:00p - 10:00p	rsimanski@yourpubpro.com
	703 404-8665	Sat-Sun	10:00a - 10:00p	
HARDWARE - GENERAL				
Wayne Dernoncourt				wayned@cpcug.org
Arnie Kuzmack	301 949-3268	Mon-Fri	7:30p-10:30p	Arnie@kuzmack.com
	301 949-3268	Sat-Sun	12:00p-10:30p	
Robert Simanski	703 404-8665	Mon-Fri	7:00p - 10:00p	rsimanski@yourpubpro.com
	703 404-8665	Sat-Sun	10:00a - 10:00p	
HTML				
HTML SIG Discussion List			www.cpcug.org/list/lwgate.cgi/HTMLSIGD-L/subscribe.htm	
Harold Goldstein	202 966-9091	All	Reasonable	dcbiker@goldray.com
Walt Houser	301 299-0593	All	7:00p - 10:00p	houser@cpcug.org
Scott Mohnkern				mohnkern@cpcug.org

Member	Phone	Days	Time	E-Mail
Aida Mullu	703 892-5613	Tue - Wed	10:00a-11:59a	aida_m@excite.com
IBM BASEBAND				
Jim Laughlin	703 241-0110	All	7:00p-10:00p	jim.laughlin@jlaughlin.com
InterACT				
Rick Shaddock	(202) 829-4444	All	9:00a-9:00p	Rick@CICorp.com
INTERNET - CSS (Cascading Style Sheets)				
Aida Mullu	703 892-5613	Tue - Wed	10:00a-11:59a	aida_m@excite.com
INTERNET - JAVA				
Aida Mullu	703 892-5613	Tue - Wed	10:00a-11:59a	aida_m@excite.com
INTERNET - JavaScript				
Aida Mullu	703 892-5613	Tue - Wed	10:00a-11:59a	aida_m@excite.com
INTERNET - NOT CPCUG.ORG				
Walter Nissen	440 243-4980 Near Cleveland	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net
Robert Simanski	703 404-8665	Mon-Fri	7:00p - 10:00p	rsimanski@yourpubpro.com
	703 404-8665	Sat-Sun	10:00a - 10:00p	
Peggy Ireland	301 423-1618	Mon-Sat	Reasonable	ireland@cpcug.org
Arnie Kuzmack	301 949-3268	Mon-Fri	7:30p-10:30p	Arnie@kuzmack.com
	301 949-3268	Sat-Sun	12:00p-10:30p	
Paul Shapiro	301 770-9512	All	9:00a- 9:00p	pauls@cpcug.org
INTERNET - Web Site Development				
Aida Mullu	703 892-5613	Tue - Wed	10:00a-11:59a	aida_m@excite.com
INTERNET - CPCUG.ORG				
Scott Mohnkern				mohnkern@cpcug.org
INTERNET EXPLORER				
Walter Nissen	440 243-4980 NearCleveland	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net
ISO-9000				
Edward H. Jentsch	301 279-0134	All	Reasonable	ejentsch@cpcug.org
JAVA				
JAVA SIG Discussion List				www.cpcug.org/list/lwgate.cgi/JAVASIGD-L/subscribe.html
Keith Bennett	(301) 840-1161	All	8:00a -9:00p	kbennett@cpcug.org
LAN (See also Networking)				
Wayne Derroncourt				wayned@cpcug.org
LOTUS 1-2-3				
Aida Mullu	703 892-5613	Tue - Wed	10:00a-11:59a	aida_m@excite.com
LOTUS APPROACH				
David Littlefield	202.723-9527	Mon-Fri	6:00p-10:00p	dwlit@cpcug.org
MATHCAD				
Roland deWit	(301) 299-4697	Mo,Tu,We,Fr	7:00p- 9:00p	
MATHEMATICA				
Roland deWit	(301) 299-4697	Mo,Tu,We,Fr	7:00p- 9:00p	

Member	Phone	Days	Time	E-Mail
MEMORY MANAGEMENT				
Henry Winokur	301 320-2104	All	Reasonable	henwin@cpcug.org
MICROSOFT OFFICE 95/97/2000				
Scott Mohnkern				mohnkern@cpcug.org
MULTIMEDIA				
Multimedia SIG Discussion List				www.cpcug.org/list/lwgate.cgi/MMSIGD-L/subscribe.html
NETSCAPE COMPOSER, Ver 4.01				
David Littlefield	202.723-9527	Mon-Fri	6:00p-10:00p	dwlit@cpcug.org
NETWORKING				
Jim Laughlin	703 241-0110	All	7:00p-10:00p	jim.laughlin@jlaughlin.com
NORTON UTILITIES				
Randy Steer	(202) 548-3288	Mon-Fri	8:00p- 11:59p	
	(202) 548-3288	Sat-Sun	11:00a- 11:59p	
NOVICE (Beginner)				
Arnie Kuzmack	301 949-3268	Mon-Fri	7:30p-10:30p	Arnie@kuzmack.com
	301 949-3268	Sat-Sun	12:01p-10:30p	
Walter Nissen	440 243-4980 Near Cleveland	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net
Robert Simanski	703 404-8665	Mon-Fri	7:00p - 10:00p	rsimanski@yourpubpro.com
	703 404-8665	Sat-Sun	10:00a - 10:00p	
Henry Winokur	301 320-2104	All	Reasonable	henwin@cpcug.org
NUMBER THEORY				
Walter Nissen	440 243-4980 Near Cleveland	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net
ORACLE				
Michael Shunfenthal	703 866-9729	Mon-Fri	7:30p- 9:30p	
OS/2				
Keith Bennett	(301) 840-1161	All	8:00a -9:00p	kbennett@cpcug.org
C. Patrick Zilliacus	301 384-0972	Sat-Sun	12:01p-9:00p	
OUTLOOK 95, 97, 98,2000				
Scott Mohnkern				mohnkern@cpcug.org
PARADOX				
Larry Lynn	301 585-2300	All	Reasonable	CIS: 71401,1374
PARADOX AND PAL FOR DOS				
Ron Hicks	(703) 528-1009	All	Reasonable	ronhicks@cpcug.org
PEACHTREE				
Norman Risch	301 754-0735	Mon-Fri	6:00p-9:00p	norman.risch@mix.cpcug.org
	301 754-0735	Sat-Sun	Reasonable	
PERSONAL EDITOR II				
Walter Nissen	440 243-4980r Near Cleveland	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net
C. Patrick Zilliacus	301 384-0972	Sat-Sun	12:01p-9:00p	

Member	Phone	Days	Time	E-Mail
PGP				
PGP SIG Discussion List				www.cpcug.org/list/lwgate.cgi/PGPD-L/subscribe.html
PIBTERM				
David Chessler	301 229-3984	All	7:00p-10:00p	
POWERPOINT 95,97,2000				
Aida Mullu	703 892-5613	Tue - Wed	10:00a-11:59a	aida_m@excite.com
PRINTERS - GENERAL				
Henry Winokur	301 320-2104	All	Reasonable	henwin@cpcug.org
PVCS VERSION MANAGER 5.2				
Edward H. Jentsch	301 279-0134	All	Reasonable	ejentsch@cpcug.org
QBASIC (IN MS-DOS)				
Paul Shapiro	301 770-9512	All	9:00a- 9:00p	pauls@cpcug.org
QUICK BASIC				
Paul Shapiro	301 770-9512	All	9:00a- 9:00p	pauls@cpcug.org
QUICKBOOKS (DOS & WINDOWS)				
Mark Gollub	301 670-6349	All	Reasonable	mgollub@ix.netcom.com
Dennis Courtney	301 570-9334	Mon-Fri	6:30p-9:00p	dennisc@cpcug.net
		Sat-Sun	9:00a-9:00p	dennisc@cpcug.net
QUICKEN				
Mark Gollub	301 670-6349	All	Reasonable	mgollub@ix.netcom.com
SATELLITES, EARTH				
Walter Nissen	440 243-4980 Near Cleveland	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net
SLMR				
David Chessler	301 229-3984	All	7:00p-10:00p	
TROUBLESHOOTING - GENERAL				
Wayne Dennoncourt				wayned@cpcug.org
Walter Nissen	440 243-4980 Near Cleveland	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net
Robert Simanski	703 404-8665	Mon-Fri	7:00p - 10:00p	rsimanski@yourpubpro.com
	703 404-8665	Sat-Sun	10:00a - 10:00p	
Henry Winokur	301 320-2104	All	Reasonable	henwin@cpcug.org
UBASIC LANGUAGE				
Walter Nissen	440 243-4980 Near Cleveland	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net
UNIX				
Scott Graham	(301) 437-2745	Mon-Fri	9:00a- 6:00p	sgraham@scobar.com
	(301) 593-2744	Mon-Fri	6:00p-9:00p	
	(301) 593-2744	Sat-Sun	Reasonable	
Scott Mohnkern				mohnkern@cpcug.org
Aida Mullu	703 892-5613	Tue - Wed	10:00a-11:59a	aida_m@excite.com
UTILITIES				
Walter Nissen	440 243-4980 Near Cleveland	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net

Member	Phone	Days	Time	E-Mail
VIDEO CONFERENCING				
Paul Shapiro	301 770-9512	All	9:00a- 9:00p	pauls@cpcug.org
VISUAL BASIC				
Visual Basic SIG Discussion List				www.cpcug.org/list/lwgate.cgi/VBSIG-L/subscribe.html
VISUAL C				
Scott Graham	(301) 437-2745	Mon-Fri	9:00a- 6:00p	sgraham@scobar.com
	(301) 593-2744	Mon-Fri	6:00p-9:00p	
	(301) 593-2744	Sat-Sun	Reasonable	
WINDOWS				
Windows SIG Discussion List				www.cpcug.org/list/lwgate.cgi/WINDOWSIG-L/subscribe.html
WINDOWS 3.1				
Guy Durant	202 529-6744	All	8:00a-11:00a	
	202 529-6744	All	9:00p-11:59p	
Henry Winokur	301 320-2104	All	Reasonable	henwin@cpcug.org
WINDOWS 95				
Arnie Kuzmack	301 949-3268	Mon-Fri	7:30p-10:30p	Arnie@kuzmack.com
	301 949-3268	Sat-Sun	12:01p-10:30p	
Aida Mullu	703 892-5613	Tue - Wed	10:00a-11:59a	aida_m@excite.com
Robert Simanski	703 404-8665	Mon-Fri	7:00p - 10:00p	rsimanski@yourpubpro.com
	703 404-8665	Sat-Sun	10:00a - 10:00p	
Henry Winokur	301 320-2104	All	Reasonable	henwin@cpcug.org
WINDOWS 98				
Walter Nissen	440 243-4980 Near Cleveland	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net
Henry Winokur	301 320-2104	All	Reasonable	henwin@cpcug.org
WINDOWS ME				
Arnie Kuzmack	301 949-3268	Mon-Fri	7:30p-10:30p	Arnie@kuzmack.com
	301 949-3268	Sat-Sun	12:01p-10:30p	
WINDOWS NT - SYSTEM POLICY EDITOR				
Ron Hicks	(703) 528-1009	All	Reasonable	ronhicks@cpcug.org
WINDOWS XP				
Henry Winokur	301.320.2104	All	Reasonable	henwin@cpcug.org
WINFAX PRO				
Howard Weeks	301 924-0400	Mon-Fri	2:00p- 6:00p	
WORD				
Aida Mullu	703 892-5613	Tue - Wed	10:00a-11:59a	aida_m@excite.com
WORD FOR WINDOWS 95,97,2000				
Edward H. Jentsch	301 279-0134	All	Reasonable	ejentsch@cpcug.org
Henry Winokur	301 320-2104	All	Reasonable	henwin@cpcug.org
George McLennan	703 354-9839	All	8:00a -8:00p	
John Lidell	301-595-3779	Mon-Fri	9:00a-10:00p	ravenworth2000@msn.com
		Sat-Sun	10:00a-11:30p	(301)595-4669 FAX
Scott Mohnkern				mohnkern@cpcug.org

Member	Phone	Days	Time	E-Mail
Arquilla Ridgell	(301) 948-3041	Mon Wed- Fri	7:00p-9:00p	clockone@aol.om
		Sat-Sun	6:00p -9:00p	clockone@aol.com
Robert Simanski	703 404-8665	Mon-Fri	7:00p - 10:00p	rsimanski@yourpubpro.com
		Sat-Sun	10:00a - 10:00p	

WORDPERFECT

WordPerfect SIG Discussion List			www.cpcug.org/list/lwgate.cgi/WPSIGD-L/subscribe.html	
Arnie Kuzmack	301 949-3268	Mon-Fri	7:30p-10:30p	Arnie@kuzmack.com
		Sat-Sun	12:01p-10:30p	
Arquilla Ridgell	(301) 948-3041	Mon Wed- Fri	7:00p-9:00p	clockone@aol.om
		Sat-Sun	6:00p -9:00p	clockone@aol.com
Alan Scher	301 657-8862	Mon-Fri	7:00p- 9:00p	

WORDPERFECT (5.1 & 6.0 DOS, WINDOWS)

Wayne Dernoncourt				wayned@cpcug.org
Howard Weeks	301 924-0400	Mon-Fri	2:00p- 6:00p	
Aida Mullu	703 892-5613	Tue - Wed	10:00a-11:59a	aida_m@excite.com

WORLD WIDE WEB

Harold Goldstein	202 966-9091	All	Reasonable	dcbiker@goldray.com
Walt Houser	301 299-0593	All	7:00p - 10:00p	houser@cpcug.org
Scott Mohnkern				mohnkern@cpcug.org

WORLD WIDE WEB CONTENT DEVELOPMENT

Harold Goldstein	202 966-9091	All	Reasonable	dcbiker@goldray.com
Scott Mohnkern				mohnkern@cpcug.org

Touch Voting

(continued from Page 11)

the printed ballot and the voter access card to a "re-vote" election official who immediately shreds the printed ballot and inserts the voter access card into a reader to authorize a re-vote and re-print with this card. The voter then returns to a touch-screen voting station, inserts the authorization card and modifies the selected vote. The machine will display the vote as last selected (and printed) and allows the voter to modify the vote. This should be an extremely rare occurrence.

The vote counts accumulated electronically will constitute a "preliminary" election result. For close elec-

tions, or if a recount is required, the printed ballots can be processed at a central site which will need an OCR reader programmed for the font used by the ballot printers. Since the font is known, and presumably selected for maximum accuracy by these OCR readers, a high level of accuracy should be expected from this process. Furthermore, since the printed ballot is human readable it is the perfect vehicle in the few instances where a manual recount is required.

Kurt Germann has been in the software industry for over 30 years, first with a consulting firm in the Boston area, then with IBM., and lately with his own consulting company. He has been a member of CPCUG for 10 years and can be contacted at germannk@cpcug.org

URL's for More Information

Diebold is the manufacturer for the touch-screen voting system
<http://www.diebold.com/solutions/election/>

The Virginia State Board of Elections
<http://www.sbe.state.va.us/>

Voting Systems Used in Virginia
http://www.sbe.state.va.us/Election/Voting_In_Va/virginia_voting_systems.htm

On-line demo of the Touch-screen system
<http://www.mdvotes.org/demo/>

Maryland State Board of Elections
<http://www.elections.state.md.us/>



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Directions to Washington Gas, Springfield, Virginia

Some Virginia SIG meetings, including Internet and Virginia, are held at Washington Gas at 6801 Industrial Road, Springfield, Virginia. Industrial Road is in the Shirley Industrial Park. It intersects Backlick Road between the Beltway and Edsall Road.

From Washington, DC—

- (1) Take the 14th Street Bridge.
- (2) *Continue with I-395 directions.*

From Beltway Inner Loop (North)—

- (1) Take I-395 North.
- (2) *Continue with I-395 directions.*

From I-395—

- (1) Take Exit 2, Edsall Road (Route 648) West.
- (2) Turn left onto Backlick Road (Route 617).
- (3) *Continue with item (3) in Beltway Outer Loop (South) directions.*

From Beltway Outer Loop (South)—

- (1) Take Exit 5, Braddock Road (Route 620) East.
- (2) After approximately 1.8 miles, turn right onto Backlick Road (Route 617).
- (3) After approximately 0.7 mile, turn left onto Industrial Road.
- (4) Enter the Washington Gas parking lot on the right after passing the "Payment Depository" sign (white lettering on black background).

CPCUG Mailing Lists



The Capital PC User Group maintains many mailing lists for distributing and sharing information. A mailing list is a list of people's names and addresses used to send certain messages or announcements to a group of people simultaneously. These recipients are usually have a common interest in the message contents. You you can join and leave the list as your needs dictate. Electronic mailing lists are a logical extension of bulletin board systems like the late CPCUG Membership Information Exchange (MIX). They provide very much the same functionality as the MIX did without requiring dialing into a separate message server. If you have access to the Internet and net-based e-mail you can get started exploring mailing lists right away!

To make using LISERV (the trade name for the most popular mailing list management software in the world) easy for even the the newest user we have installed a web-based gateway to these lists. From this gateway, users can get information about the various lists that are available. They can subscribe to, unsubscribe from, and set personal preferences (subscription options) for any of the lists that are open to the public. To reach this gateway go to our website at www.cpcug.org and select the "Mailing List" option from the main menu. Some of the lists are for information distribution only (no individual posting allowed), and others are open for posting (discussion lists). Most of the list owners maintain archives of messages, and those archives that are available can be read via the gateway at CPCUG's website.

You can retrieve a manual and other information about the workings of List Servers from:

<http://www.lsoft.com/manuals/index.html>

Below is a compilation of some of the most popular of CPCUG's current e-mail lists.

- ACCESSSIG-L** (CPCUG Access SIG Announcement List)
- ACCESSSIGD-L** (CPCUG Access SIG Discussion List)
- BEGINSIG-L** (CPCUG Beginners SIG Announcement List)
- BEGINSIGD-L** (CPCUG Beginners SIG Discussion List)
- CONENT-L** (CPCUG Entrepreneurs and Consultants SIG Discussion List)
- CPCUGCAL-L** (CPCUG Event Calendar Distribution List)
- CPCUGGEN-L** (CPCUG General Discussion List)
- DCPUG-L** (CPCUG Palm SIG Discussion List)
- DELPHISIG-L** (CPCUG Delphi SIG Announcement List)
- HTMLSIG-L** (CPCUG HTML SIG Announcement List)
- HTMLSIGD-L** (CPCUG HTML SIG Discussion List)
- JAVASIG-L** (CPCUG Java SIG Announcement List)
- JAVASIGD-L** (CPCUG JAVA SIG Discussion List)
- MIX-L** (CPCUG Member Info. eXchange Discussion List)
- MMSIG-L** (CPCUG Multimedia SIG Announcement List)
- MMSIGD-L** (CPCUG Multimedia SIG Discussion List)
- MONITOR-L** (CPCUG Monitor Announcement List)
- NETSIG-L** (CPCUG Internet SIG Meeting/News List)*
- PMSIG-L** (CPCUG Project Mgm't SIG Announcement List)
- POCKETPC-L** (CPCUG Pocket PC Announcement List)
- POCKETPCD-L** (CPCUG Pocket PC Discussion List)
- SCIFAIRD-L** (CPCUG Science Fair Announcement List)
- SENIORSIG-L** (CPCUG Seniors SIG Announcement List)
- SENIORSIGD-L** (CPCUG Seniors SIG Discussion List)
- TRAIN-L** (CPCUG Training Program Announcement List)
- TRAIND-L** (CPCUG Training Program Discussion List)
- VBSIG-L** (CPCUG Visual Basic SIG Announcement List)
- VIRGINIASIG-L** (CPCUG VA SIG Announcement List)
- WPSIG-L** (CPCUG WordPerfect SIG Announcement List)
- WPSIGD-L** (CPCUG WordPerfect SIG Discussion List)

The software for maintaining the mailing lists, LISERV®, has been made available through a generous donation from L-Soft International, Inc. The web-based gateway, LWGate, is a perl script written by © 1995 David W. Baker, dwb@netspace.org. This program is free software under the terms of the GNU General Public License as published by the Free Software Foundation. LISERV® is maintained and administered for the CPCUG by Karl Signell.



The Capital PC User Group, Inc. (CPCUG), a nonprofit organization established in 1982, provides a forum for sharing information, experience, and resources among computer users, from novice to advanced. Although the group serves primarily the Washington, DC, metropolitan area, members are found around the world.

10 Benefits of CPCUG Membership

Capital PC User Group (CPCUG) membership entitles each member of your family living in your household to all CPCUG membership benefits—

- 1. Helpline**—a great way to get help from experts for your hardware, software, and Internet questions and problems at no additional cost. The Helpline Directory is updated and published in the Monitor Magazine of the Capital PC User Group
- Mail delivery of a print copy of our **award-winning magazine**, the *Monitor*, with its practical tips for computer users; technical articles; regular columns; CPCUG-member-authored reviews of software, hardware, and computer-related books; CPCUG event calendar; and special interest group (SIG) and Training Program information.
- Computer education and training **classes**, seminars, workshops, discussions and labs **at low member rates**—some are even free to members while others are for members only.
- Assistance from CPCUG Build Team **mentors** in specifying and **building your own computer**. CPCUG's popular "Build" Workshop gives participants the knowledge and confidence to select appropriate components to build and later upgrade their own computers without additional paid assistance. This workshop is only \$75 and is only available to CPCUG members.
- Discounts** on software, hardware, and training are periodically made available to members of our user group. [If you take advantage of several discounts available only to CPCUG members, your memberships pays for itself].
- Internet service** options available **only to CPCUG members at competitive rates** through our Internet domain cpcug.org.
- Access** to new member-only **e-mail distribution lists**. List subscribers can ask and get answers to computer hardware and software questions, and stay informed about CPCUG activities and Training.
- New software and/or computer reference books**—available **without charge to members** who review them for our magazine, the *Monitor*. You'll also get a byline in the *Monitor* and become a member of our product review coordinator's team.
- Member-only **door prizes** are available each month at most General Meetings and some free Saturday Seminars and special interest group (SIG) meetings. [This benefit has more than paid for the annual membership fee of many active CPCUG members—prizes from visiting vendors have included valuable software, such as Office 2000, and hardware such as a Hewlett Packard Pocket PC.]
- Opportunities to develop and/or **enhance leadership and management skills**, while building your professional network, by volunteering with CPCUG.

Before you know it, you will also become a **User Helping Users**.

Membership Form

Mail to: Capital PC User Group, Inc.
19209 Mt. Airey Road,
Brookeville, MD 20833

Call to (if paying by credit card): (301) 762-9372
Fax to (if paying by credit card): (301) 762-9375

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Telephone (Evening/Weekend) _____

Telephone (Day) _____

E-Mail Address _____

Member Number _____

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 Change of Address 3 years—\$110

Payment method: Check VISA MasterCard

Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature (required for credit cards): _____

List my name in the next *Monitor* Membership Directory?
 Yes No

Name and address information from Membership Directory may be made available to computer-related businesses as approved by the Editor. Most often the list is released to vendors desiring to announce their General Meeting presentations. If you do not wish to be included in the directory, mark the "No" box above.

List my company name in bold in the Membership Directory. (I have inserted my company name in the first address line on this form. I have also checked the "Yes" box above for listing in the Membership Directory.) \$10

Your membership starts with the first magazine mailed to you. It may take 4–6 weeks before you are included on the mailing list or receive your membership card. Please be patient.

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CPCUG MEETING SITES

1800 M = 1800 M St., NW, South Tower, 3rd Floor,
Room 3056, Wash., DC

APA = 750 1st St., NE, 6th Floor, Executive Office
Suite, Wash., DC

ASHA = 10801 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD

BCCSC = 4805 Edgemoor Lane., Plaza Level, Bethes-
da, MD

BEDFORD = 3701 International Dr, Silver Spring

CPL = 3310 Connecticut Ave. NW, Large Mtg Rm,
Washington, DC

DD = 300 Montgomery Street, Suite 201, Alexandria,
VA

EPFL-RR = 6310 Reisterstown Road, Baltimore, MD

HH = 10701 Livingston Rd., Ft. Wash., MD

HPTI = 4121 Wilson Blvd., Suite 200, Arlington, VA

IADB = 1350 New York Ave., NW, Wash, DC

PC = Pentagon City Mall Eatery

Reboot = 101 Fleet Street, Rockville, MD

Teaism = 400 8th Street NW, Washington, DC

VAMC = 50 Irving St., NW, 4th Floor, IRM Room,
4C106a, Wash., DC

WGas = 6801 Industrial Rd., Springfield, VA (direc-
tions, p. 34)

WIT = 2440 Wilson Blvd., 2nd Floor, Arlington, VA

Keep Updated!

Capital PC User Group meeting plans may change after the *Monitor* has gone to press. To find out the latest information about General Meetings, SIG meetings, and special events (including meeting topics, when available, and any date, time, and location changes), bookmark and check all our Corporate Communication Web pages via links available at—

<http://www.cpcug.org/user/comm/>

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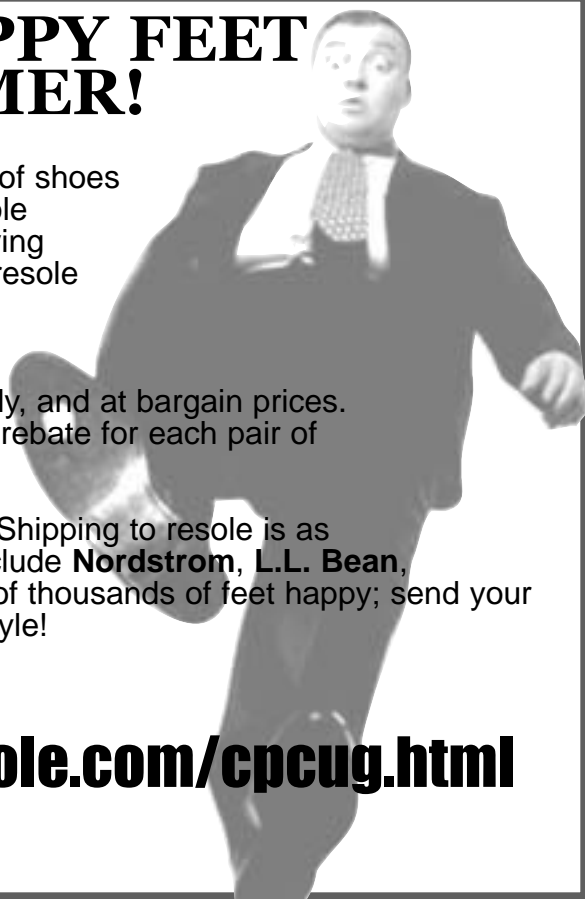
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