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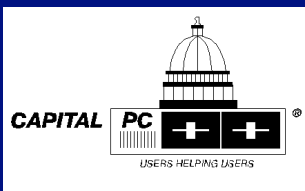
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and much more...**CPCUG
General Meeting
TechTalks**

CPCUG General Meeting TechTalks are held monthly, usually on the second Monday of the month. They are free to both members and non-members, but only members are eligible for door-prize drawings. Details about upcoming General Meeting TechTalks are on page 4.



Volunteers Needed to Keep CPCUG Programs Going

The Capital PC User Group is a magnificent asset to the greater Washington, D.C., area, having established a tradition of serving the community with much more than technological information. At this time, CPCUG has committed to supporting several projects to assist parts of the community in ways that only CPCUG can do. Without CPCUG, it is most unlikely that the projects would ever be accomplished.

Science Fair Judges

In 1996 CPCUG began a tradition of encouraging young computer scientists by honoring their outstanding projects in county science fairs around the region. The program grew from its beginnings because of CPCUG member support, and now depends on members to volunteer as judges for the county science fairs.

The events take place in March and April, usually on weekends, and require only a few hours of the volunteer's time. For more specific information about dates, times, and locations of the events, check the postings at www.cpcug.org/user/scifair/. If you want CPCUG to continue its tradition of recognizing and supporting

young people in their pursuit of understanding and discovery in the field of computer technology, please contact Walt Houser, the Science Fair Coordinator, via e-mail at houserw@cpcug.org, and volunteer to be a judge. The only real qualification required is enthusiasm for kids willing to learn and achieve, and wanting to show appreciation for their efforts.

Project Reboot

For the past seven years CPCUG has been doing a tremendous community service by refurbishing and recycling used computers and printers for donation to individuals, groups, and organizations in this country and around the world who are in great need of such devices but cannot afford to buy new equipment, such as schools, senior centers, and churches. The program is currently most in need of volunteers to help refurbish the machines, especially at this time when Project Reboot is preparing to move to a new location. Please help support this worthy effort so that it can continue for more years by contacting Gerry Rosenkrantz, at reboot20850@verizon.net, or Dave Barry at davbar20852@yahoo.com.



Register to Take a CPCUG Training Class

Most classes cost:
\$29-\$35 member fee
\$39-\$45 non-member fee

Classes Listed at
www.cpcug.net/trainingsearch.asp

Click *SEARCH CLASSES* to search by location

Two Training Centers: Annandale, VA, and Fort Washington, MD

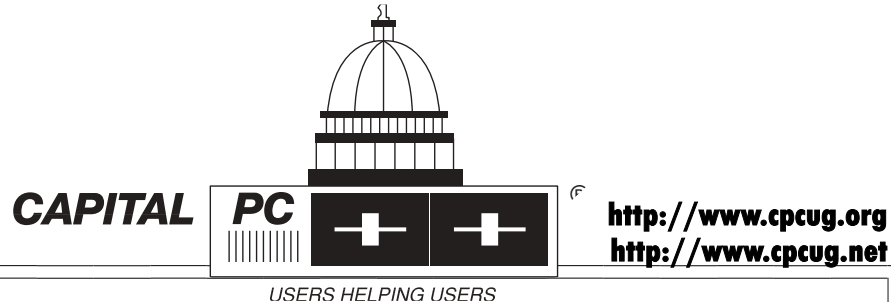
Register for Annandale classes online at
www.cpcug.net/trainingsearch.asp
or by calling the CPCUG Office at 301-762-9372.

Register for Harmony Hall (Fort Washington) classes
online at www.pgparcs.com or by calling 301-203-6040.

*Note: Before registering for Harmony Hall courses for the first time,
you must visit a Prince George's community center to
register as a SMARTlink client (bring driver's license).*

LAST CHANCE!

Offer Expires This Month



Bring a Buddy at 1/2 Price Training Certificate



This certificate is good for one person to register for a 3-hour hands-on training class and “bring a buddy at half price” to the same 3-hour class offered by CPCUG at our training facility at the Annandale United Methodist Church, Room 305, 6935 Columbia Pike Annandale, VA 22003.

- 9 To register or for more information call 301-762-9372 or visit www.cpcug.net/trainingsearch.asp (search by location and/or class title) or email training@cpcug.org.
- 9 Mention code **MONBUD2** when registering and bring this certificate to the instructor on the day of the class.
- 9 Class must be purchased by **2/28/2005**.
- 9 Certificate must be redeemed by **2/28/2005**.
- 9 Limit one certificate per person.
- 9 No copies will be accepted. Present this page from the Monitor.



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CPCUG Home Page

www.cpcug.org

**Get more
out of your
membership
in the
Capital PC
User Group—
Become a
VOLUNTEER!**

Contact a member of
CPCUG's Board of
Directors — all are listed on
this page. Most offer a choice
of e-mail or phone contact
information.



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Future SIGs

If you're interested
in starting a SIG,
please contact
CPCUG President
Dennis Courtney at
president@cpug.org.

The Internet SIG is
inactive. If you're
interested in helping
reactivate this
important SIG,
please contact Gabe
Goldberg at gabe@gabegold.com.

CPCUG is looking for a few good men – and women. Can you donate a few hours each week to help improve our group? Call 301-762-9372!

February 2005

Monitor is your publication. If you would like to discuss an idea for an article or column, please contact the editor at editor@cpcug.org.

Our style guide is at:
www.cpcug.org/user/monitor/Monstyle.html.

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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 file attachments (.doc (Word) or .rtf) 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 30 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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Address Changes. Please send change of address notices with current phone numbers to the Capital PC User Group, Attn.: Membership Director, 19209 Mt. Airey Road, Brookeville, MD 20833, or via e-mail to admin@cpcug.org. **Monitor** is not forwarded unless you have made special arrangements with your Post Office.

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The Fine Print. Unless specifically stated otherwise, the opinions expressed in any article or column are those of the individual author(s) and do not represent an official position of, or endorsement by, the Capital PC User Group. CPCUG is an independent, nonprofit user group and is not affiliated in any way with any vendor or equipment manufacturer.

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CPCUG News & Events

General Meeting TechTalk Locations and Times

CPCUG General Meeting Tech Talks are held in Northern Virginia at Washington Gas in Springfield, or in Washington, DC, at the Martin Luther King Library. Directions to the current month's location are on page 34. General Meeting TechTalks held at Washington Gas begin at 7:00 pm. Those held at the Martin Luther King Library begin at 6:30 pm.

Two Training Locations!

Annandale, VA
UHU (Users Helping Users)
Classroom: 12 PCs on a LAN
Annandale United Methodist
Church Room 305
6935 Columbia Pike
Annandale, VA 22003
To register for classes, call
301-762-9372

Fort Washington, MD
(HH) Harmony Hall
Classroom: 10 PCs on a LAN
Computer Room (2nd floor)
Harmony Hall Regional Center
10701 Livingston Road
Fort Washington, MD 20744
To register for classes, go to
www.pgparcs.com or call
301-203-6040.
Note: Before registering for
Harmony Hall classes for the first
time, you must visit a Prince
George's community center to
register as a SMARTlink client
(bring driver's license).

Directions to both sites:
www.cpcug.net/directions.asp

Upcoming General Meeting TechTalks

Meeting location may vary; please check below

For up-to-the-minute details on General Meeting TechTalks, check CPCUG's Web site: www.cpcug.org/user/comm/gen-meet.html .

Monday, February 14 (7:00 pm)

Topic: The Digital Home
Speaker: Art Silverglate, Program Director, Central Maryland Users Group

In this "Intel-in-a-Box" presentation, Art Silverglate will discuss how the digital home, PCs, and consumer electronic devices can work together to deliver digital media such as video and music to the parts of your home where you want it. In addition to information on the latest technology trends on this subject, the program will feature some exciting giveaways for CPCUG members.

Location: Washington Gas
6801 Industrial Road, Springfield, VA
Directions: Industrial Road is in the Shirley Industrial Park. It meets Backlick Road between the Beltway and Edsall Road.

See page 34 for detailed directions.

Monday, March 14 (7:00 pm)

Topic: How Parasites Attack Your System
Speaker: Robert Clemenzi,
Computer Engineer and CPCUG member

Location: Washington Gas (usually in the large auditorium)
6801 Industrial Road, Springfield, VA

For More Information: Check the CPCUG web site, or contact Program Director Gary Vaughan at buffalo1_us@yahoo.com. Suggestions for future Tech Talk topics are always welcome.

President's Notes

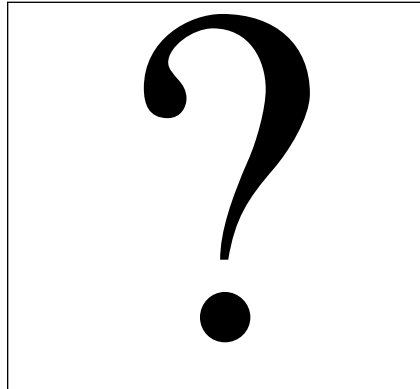
The Capital PC User Group is about to have a crisis. With all of the great and wonderful programs that we've put together, and a membership numbering well over 1,000, we cannot seem to find anyone willing to take over the leadership of this great organization.

Next month my term as President will end. I have been President for four years and feel that my time as President needs to be limited for a variety of reasons. Someone else needs to be taking over the reins of CPCUG and not a single person has come forward to help guide the organization for the next year. Not only do we need a new President but we need new Vice Presidents as well. John Sherman and Marilyn Weinstein have been stalwarts as Virginia and Maryland Vice Presidents, respectively, but they have indicated that four years is enough and they want to move on to other things.

So what do we do? Do we close up shop, divide the assets among the membership and call it "over" after 22 years? That hardly seems like a reasonable course of action considering that we still have a lot of life left in the organization. The TV show is going great (we're about to be carried on the Northern Virginia cable systems), we have reached an agreement in principal with a new partner to open up a new Training Room in Montgomery County, and we have just moved CPCUG.ORG to a new web server with lots of new functionality to reach out to our membership. Surely there must be someone willing to take on the challenge of guiding CPCUG for the next year.

In last month's President's Notes column, I outlined the need for volunteers and challenged each of you directly to get involved. I heard from one person. Frankly, I was underwhelmed by the lack of support. It made me wonder if our membership cares about the programs and information that we provide. It made me wonder if anyone is really paying attention. It made me wonder why so many of us have worked so hard for so long. Should we give you your remaining dues money back and just forget about CPCUG?

Capital PC User Group



President

Go over to the Reboot offices one day and read some of the letters that Gerry has on the wall from all manner of people thanking CPCUG and Reboot for their donated computer. The guys over at Reboot have given HUNDREDS of free computers to the poor and infirm. Is that a program that we should give up on? Don't you think that there is a place in the community for CPCUG and Reboot?

Our Training program builds new skills and sharpens old ones.

Should we dump it for lack of leadership? We reach out to the community through our SIGs, the Monitor Magazine, and the CPCUG TV Show. Should we just forget about those and pack it in?

I just cannot believe that someone, somewhere in our membership could not find the time to volunteer their leadership skills. But, the clock is ticking and someone had better step up soon or there won't be a CPCUG to worry about. I'm not kidding, folks.

Here is what we need at a minimum: three volunteers. Volunteers for President, Virginia and Maryland Vice Presidents. I have volunteered to stay on as Treasurer with Ann Dorsey volunteering to become the Secretary of the organization. Ann and I are both old hands at running CPCUG and have decided to stay on to help the transition of the organization to running under new leadership. That way a new President gets the support of both new volunteers and some experienced hands. The new volunteers bring some new excitement and ideas to the organization while the old hands offer stability and continuity so the new officers don't have to learn everything from scratch.

We have done our best to guide the organization and will do what we can to help the organization through its transition. The only question becomes: what transition? Do we undergo a transition to new leadership, or do we go out of business? The choice is literally yours to make. I hope you choose wisely.

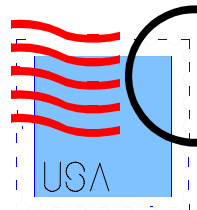
Dennis Courtney is the outgoing president of CPCUG. He can be contacted at president@cpcug.org.

Feedback



Feedback

Alternatives in Operating Systems



George Archer wrote to the **Monitor** to express his appreciation for the bit of coverage of alternatives to the mainstream Microsoft Windows and even Linux software applications and operating systems in the December, 2004, issue. He responded at length with suggestions for additional coverage, and much useful information about more alternatives. Specifically, Mr. Archer wrote to say that he'd like to see:

"1. More on alternatives — free/shareware for all platforms. (We used to have a user-supported/created free/shareware archive for CPCUG members. It would be nice to see software reviews of both share/free/commercial [software] in the **Monitor** again, not just mentions and in-text URL's. Due to paper/ mailing costs, maybe the URL's could point to the CPCUG webpage for these items.)

"2. ...Operating systems [other] than Windows, and not just Linux. There are some non-Linux/ Windows OS' many have never heard of:

"A. New Deal — a rewrite of GeoWorks with its own browser that sells for \$40. It is a 10 mb [megabyte] office package (WP, DB, Spreadsheet, browser, and IP tools) that runs on a 1 mb RAM and an AT class machine, written by a South African graduate of MIT who tried to liberate the warehouses of PC's that can't be sent to land fills with an OS that could be used by the Third World to make their citizens computer literate. With half the world living on less than \$1/day, having access to cheap IT is vital.

"For the techies, this OS (you need to have DOS-5 or higher as

its foundation) has all the tools Windows offers and illustrates how computing might have looked if Windows had not come along. I tinkered with the logon script that uses a DOS IP stack (BOOTP) and logged onto an IIS server to get Internet access with a DOS-based graphical interface browser that comes bundled with New Deal. I loaded the entire thing on a Toshiba 3400SL (386/25) with 256 kb of video RAM and connected to [the] internet on a dialup connection to show a user group that Windows users have alternatives.

'Not one asked for more information. Either they never had or never would have any technical curiosity to make the computer they use truly theirs. Too bad. They are/will be victims to a Windows-based market-driven world of perpetual upgrades and obsolete computers. I still use a 1995 483/33 and Warp3 with the DOS version SemWare Editor (aka Qedit) in a full screen DOS window as my principal editing machine. As Dvorak, true multi-tasking means using different machines running on the same desk to suit the task that each was designed to do best.

"I don't have all the current info on URL's and the state of this OS without having to dust off the Toshiba and cruise the net searching for it but I'm sure it is out there someplace.

"B. eCommerceStation [eCS] 1.2 — an IBM-licensed rewrite of Warp4 (a.k.a., Warp 5.5) that is now supported and distributed by Serenity, Inc., in the Netherlands with worldwide distributors. Contrary to the Windows-financed (advertising revenue-based) trade

press, OS/2 is not dead. Linux and eCS users share a common interest and share web-based resource sites."

Mr. Archer goes on to give much detail about eCS and OS/2, with excerpts from a letter he recently sent to the Computer Shopper magazine, that he believes may be of interest to "some others in the old CPCUG OS/2 user group and the related MIX OS/2 forum..."

In this letter, Mr. Archer elaborates further on his discussion about OS/2 surviving on its own, despite claims to the contrary that serve large commercial interests, writing that he'd "like to see a column that addresses technical issues for some of us who date back to the 1980's, command line interfaces, and non-MS [Microsoft] operating systems who still control our computers with hands-on knowledge rather than point-and-click 'intuitive interfaces' and such marketing claptrap....And speaking of contrarian opinions — OS/2 is not dead as vendors and advertisers of MS products have proclaimed:

"Since IBM dropped overt support to the mass market, OS/2 has been supported by various small groups of insurgent users and developers all over the world with a very large presence in Russia and Western Europe.

"It is still alive and well as eCommerce Station 1.2... Commercial banks who still care about security still use Warp for their ATM's; the others have gone to IIS and are vulnerable to malware being poked into their servers from ATM cards. Bill Joy of Sun Microsystems said it: The best security is obscurity. But for the

continued on page 14

The Digital Home

by Sherry Zorzi, APCUG Advisor

Will 2005 be the year your home entertainment goes digital? For many families, it will be. Get ready for the "Digital Home"!

In the "digital home," you can listen to your PC's digital music on your stereo or home theater system, portable music player, or wireless notebook computer. Photos you've stored on your PC can be viewed on your TV or home theater, wireless PDA, wireless notebook computer, or a digital picture frame.

When you set up your home to be "digital," you can access your broadband Internet connection from any PC in your home, or on your TV or home theater. You can access videos or home movies from your PC or its DVD drive and watch them on your TV or home theater, wireless PDA, or notebook. A video feed from a home webcam can be viewed on your PC, a wireless PDA or notebook, or any Internet connection.

In the "digital home," you can record live TV on your PC. You can program the PC to record every episode of a particular show or every show that features your favorite actor. You can pause and playback live TV. You can play multiplayer online games wirelessly on your gaming console, PC, and notebook computer in the home that is set up with a digital network.

Does this sound like a futuristic dream? Well, the future is now, and it's surprisingly affordable! Here's what you'll need to make your home a "Digital Home":

Start with a PC with an Intel P4 processor with HTT (hyper-threading technology.) This will give you the power needed to drive all that multimedia. The

hyper-threading technology allows for parallel processing, making it speedy as well as robust. Use Windows XP Media Center Edition 2005 as your PC operating system. This gives you a simple, built-in interface for all your digital media experience and can be controlled by wireless remote.

Make that PC the hub of your home network. It's powerful enough to handle the digital entertainment, the network, and still be used for running regular computer programs – email, Internet browsers, word processors, and the like. You can have other PCs and notebooks connected to it with a wireless network router, or you can use a wired connection to other PCs. You'll need a broadband Internet connection for accessing online TV guides, digital music, and video download sites, and online radio. Add a TV tuner card for connecting to your TV or home theater system.

You'll want a DVD burner if you'd like to burn recorded TV to DVD so you can take it with you for viewing on a notebook computer. A Digital Media Adaptor will allow you to stream your music, photos, and video to any room in your house. You can use your current TV and stereo system

as long as they are not antique!

To top it all off, throw in a portable MP3 player and PDA so that you can take all that media with you as you travel.

The beauty of the Digital Home is the seamless connection of the personal computer, Internet, TV, stereo (or home theater system), laptops, PDAs, and portable music devices. You can access any media over any device in any room at any time. Now that's entertainment!

Sherry Zorzi, a member of the Cajun Clickers Computer Club, in Louisiana, is the APCUG representative for that region, and has written many articles on computers.

This article is provided by The Editorial Committee of the Association of Personal Computer User Groups (APCUG), an international organization of which CPCUG is a member, and is reprinted with permission.

Subscribers to
cpcug.org:

If you are having technical problems accessing the Internet, call the Millkern System Status Line (301-738-9753) for a recording of the current system status.

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

See page 29.

MEMBERS ONLY



Can You Really Buy Legitimate Software Online at Extremely Discounted Prices?

by Linda Gonse, Orange County, CA., IBM PC Users Group

Probably you, like millions of others, have received e-mail offers with subject lines similar to these:

- Unbeatable software deals
- Amazing prices on software
- Take 95% discounts on Adobe, Microsoft, Corel products
- Receive discount ticket on Corel, Adobe, Microsoft software
- Get software at rock bottom prices

What's more, you may have seriously considered purchasing the programs described in the e-mails at prices that you have only seen in your dreams. An example of one such message is contained in Box 1.

The amazing prices in this example, and similar messages, are not legitimate. They represent the work of software pirates who are trolling for customers, looking to make illegal sales. Do not take the offers at face value. Stop and ask yourself how it is possible for programs that sell for hundreds of dollars to be discounted to a fraction of their usual retail cost. Clearly, these products are not being sold by the original manufacturers at wholesale, much less for these unbelievable prices. If

the companies did offer programs at these prices, certainly you would be reading about it in your newspaper, hearing about it on television or radio, or learning of it in your user group.

According to a *Washington Post*

Box 1: Have you received e-mail messages with content like the following?

Looking for inexpensive high-quality software? We might have just what you need.

Windows XP Professional 2002	\$50
Adobe Photoshop 7.9	\$60
Microsoft Office XP Professional 2002	\$60
Corel Draw Graphics Suite 11	\$60

article, "the U.S. software industry loses at least \$13 billion a year to piracy, according to the Business Software Alliance (BSA) estimates. The group, which represents some of the world's largest software companies, including Microsoft, Adobe, and Autodesk, does not know how much money the industry has lost to online piracy."

Still, user confusion about piracy prevails. Microsoft, attempting to educate software buyers, has posted a document that points out warning signs of counterfeit or illegal software. These warning signs include:

- Prices that are too good to be true.
- Products that are missing key elements such as user manuals, Certificates of Authenticity, or end-user license agreements.

Pirates often sell only the CD-ROM and jewel case without retail packaging. Look for the Certificate of Authenticity on the retail box.

- On all new machines, with the release of Windows 2000, the COA label is found on the tower of the computer. If you acquire a new computer and it doesn't have the COA label on the tower, you should question whether the

software loaded on the machine is genuine.

- Software or components that appear to be of poor quality, including:
- Back-up disks or CD-ROMs with handwritten labels.
- Poor imitations of security features such as edge-to-edge hologram etched into Windows 2000 and Office 2000 (first service release) CDs, or poor imitations of the hologram found on the hub of the Windows 98 CD that shows the word "genuine"

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The Whole World in My Hand Bringing the Library to You

by Tom Gutnick

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I left you hanging last month! I hope you got excited about the possibilities of carrying a digital library in the palm of your hand.

Now we can dig into the nitty-gritty details for actually doing it.

E-Book Software

As noted last month, the first thing you need in order to read electronic books is an e-book reader. Unfortunately, there are several competing formats for Palm e-books, each with its own software requirements, which makes things a bit confusing. These are the formats I consider the most important:

- “Palm Doc”: this is the *de facto* standard, having been around longer than the others. A lot of content in this format, much of it for free, is available.
- Palm Digital Media e-Book: this format was created by Palm itself a few years ago, and has some nice functionality for formatting logical pages on the screen.
- Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF): basically the same as on a PC or other desktop system, with some compromises to deal with the limitations of the small screen.

You can read about all the formats at www.memoware.com/mw.cgi/?screen=help_format.

Here are some suggested e-book readers (all of which can be downloaded at www.palmgear.com):

- *ReadThemAll* is a freebie that reads Palm Doc format, as is *Tiny*

Book Reader (TiBR). Both are surprisingly full-featured.

- *TealDoc*, from TealPoint Software, is one of the few pieces of software I’ve actually bought for my Palm. It handles the Palm Doc format, with a very extensive range of features.
- *eReader* is designed for Palm Digital Media format, but also reads Palm Doc files. This one comes closest to displaying e-books to look like traditional hardcopy books. You can buy the “Pro” version or use the free “basic” version.
- A Palm-based version of *Adobe Acrobat Reader*, for reading PDF files. The files are actually converted from standard PDF to a special Palm format. In my experience, complex PDF documents don’t always transfer well, but if you’ve got a lot of them that you don’t want to convert to one of the other formats, you’ll try to live with the imperfections.

Finding E-Books

Once you’ve installed the software, you need something to read! As I mentioned last month, MemoWare (www.memoware.com) is an excellent starting point, with a wide range of content, much of it free. If you’re willing to spend some money (and you should be: just because a book is in digital form doesn’t make its ideas less valuable than the paper edition), Fictionwise (www.fictionwise.com) and Palm Digital Media (www.ereader.com) are good sources. Here are some others to consider:

- HandHeld Crime: free crime fiction at www.handheldcrime.com.

[ereader.com](http://www.ereader.com). Unfortunately, the site proprietors have decided to “retire,” but an archive with 36 issues is still on-line.

- Project Gutenberg: imagine a web site with all the world’s literature on it — or at least whatever isn’t covered by copyright. They still have a long way to reach their goal, but in the meantime, there are over 10,000 documents available — all as unformatted ASCII text (which can be easily converted to Palm Doc format), but some are in Palm Doc format too. Find them at www.promo.net/pg.
- University of Virginia Library’s Electronic Text Center promises “1,800 publicly-available e-books, including classic British and American fiction, major authors, children’s literature, American history, Shakespeare, African-American documents, the Bible, and much more.” Everything’s free, in Palm Doc format, at etext.virginia.edu/ebooks.
- The Online Books Page at the University of Pennsylvania, at digital.library.upenn.edu/books, lists over 20,000 free books in a variety of formats (including some in Palm Doc format).
- Blackmask Online, at www.blackmask.com, has a variety of content, much of it free.

Creating Your Own

If you have your own content that you’d like to put onto your Palm, it can be done, quite easily. Once again, it just takes some software; here are a few possibilities:

- For Palm Digital Media format,

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Applications for Spyware Removal

By Ira Wilsker, APCUG

Editor's Note: The following two articles, both written by Ira Wilsker, present helpful information about applications for the removal of software that has come to be known as "spyware."

Spyware has become one of the most pervasive problems afflicting computers, as described in Part 1. More than just a nuisance that slows computing operations or bothers users with pop-up interruptions, spyware presents serious risks to the privacy of users' computing behavior or personal information. (Perhaps one measure of the recognition of the pervasiveness of the problem is Microsoft Corporation's very recent entry into the anti-spyware application arena. More on this in a future issue.)

As more people are alerted to the problem of spyware, however, the risk of it getting on your computer appears to be increasing, ironically, as pointed out in Part 2, due to unsavory practices by questionable businesses on the Internet. As outlined in the article, it is important to stay aware of these developments.

Ira Wilsker is a member of the APCUG Board of Directors, a columnist for The Examiner in Texas, a radio show host, and a police officer. He has written numerous articles on computers.

These articles are provided by The Editorial Committee of the Association of Personal Computer User Groups (APCUG), an international organization of which CPCUG is a member, and are reprinted with permission.

Part 1: Getting Rid of Spyware and Pop-ups

Next to spam mail and viruses, one of the most irritating facets of web surfing is the annoying popup ads that so many of us receive. What many people may not be aware of is that about 80% of the popups that we get while online, and many that also may appear while we are offline, are generated by spyware that is unknowingly installed on our computers. Spyware are software programs that typically install without our knowledge or informed consent, and may also be a part of a program that we purposely installed.

Spyware, as its name connotes, is software that often gathers information on our surfing habits and may send that information to third parties. At its worst, spyware may be used to gather personal information from our computers, including passwords, user names, and other information, and send it to persons unknown who may illicitly use that information to empty our bank accounts, charge goods in our name, and commit

other various forms of identity theft.

Spyware can get on our computers by visiting some unethical websites, or by installing some downloaded or commercial software. Several forms of spyware can infect our computers via viruses and Trojans. Among the most notorious sources of spyware are popular file-sharing utilities such as Morpheus and KaZaA. Some of the "cookies" or small text files placed on our computers by some web sites can also be used to create personal profiles on us, and distribute that information to third parties. It should be noted that some software titles will no longer function if their attached spyware is deleted, as the spyware is intended to provide a continuing revenue stream for the software publisher.

Fortunately, it is generally easy to detect and kill spyware, or otherwise render it inert. It should be understood at this point that, as a general rule, even the

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Part 2: Beware of Programs Pretending to Remove Spyware

One of the most frequent topics of concern these days is the spyware which threatens our computers and the safety and security of our personal information stored on them. We should all be aware that spyware is rampant, existing on as many as 80% of our computers, according to media reports. While there are several excellent, reliable, and sometimes free anti-spyware products on the market, there are also some less reputable products pretending to be anti-spyware software. More than coincidentally, many of these same disreputable products are marketed using methods that users may consider unethical.

On my office computer, which lacks the pop-up blocker I have on my home computer, I recently received a pop-up which gave the dire statement, "WARNING! This computer is infected with dangerous SPYWARE which is stealing your personal information. CLICK HERE to run a free spyware scan." I am not so naïve as to believe a pop-up ad, but I was intrigued, as minutes earlier I had scanned my computer with two just updated major anti-spyware products, and my machine was free of spyware. Checking to make sure that my antivirus software was updated and running properly, and violating my own premise that I would never click on a pop-up, I decided to see what this pop-up would do. When I clicked on the pop-up, a rapidly advancing progress meter, too fast to be really scanning my

computer, appeared. Moments later, another pop-up window appeared. "WARNING! This computer is infected with SPYWARE! See the attached list of SPYWARE on this computer." Below, in a small font, was a lengthy list of spyware titles, allegedly on my computer. "CLICK HERE TO REMOVE THIS SPYWARE" appeared in large bold print below the disturbing list of threats. Clicking on the link opened a web page advertising an anti-spyware product that I knew from experience had a terrible reputation, and was also the subject of complaints by legitimate anti-spyware publishers who alleged that this product was a knock-off using pirated code from the legitimate products. The large headline on the page said that I must purchase this product for \$39.95, download it, and run it, or I would likely be the victim of identity theft, and my bank accounts would be vanquished by predators. To the uninformed, this frightening scenario could evoke enough concern to encourage them to unwittingly become another victim of near useless software. Even more, it could foster a false sense of security, and possibly open the victim to further attack.

In order to detect and prove that their software is being pirated or otherwise stolen by purveyors of this "scumware," most of the legitimate companies include some inert dummy entries in their program code and database of spyware signatures. If these unique

but inert dummy entries are found in other programs, then there is good evidence of piracy. Regrettably, this piracy is more common than many users realize, and sometimes these users end up paying top dollar for inferior pirated anti-spyware software that may provide little or no protection. One of the many documented cases involves the very popular application, "Spybot Search & Destroy," which is published in Germany and offered as free software, and the New York based "1ClickSpyClean," which is sold on its own web site for \$29.95. Spybot included some inert dummy entries in its database, and these dummy entries showed up in the "1ClickSpyClean" database, according to a news article posted on the Spybot web site. After some legal demands, Spybot recently reported that Secure PC Solutions, the company that makes "1ClickSpyClean," has apparently complied, and purged its database of the allegedly purloined content, which reduced its detection capacity by about 60%.

Unfortunately, there are many such questionable anti-spyware products being marketed, often by such dubious means as spam mail, multi-level network marketing, the pop-up mentioned above, and others. A comprehensive list of these questionable products is online at "Rogue/Suspect Anti-Spyware Products & Web Sites" (www.spywarewarrior.com/rogue_anti-spyware.htm). According to

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Letters to “Late Nite”

Hosted by Marty Shinko



Q05II.0: What are the components involved in getting and sending e-mail? What computer terms do I need to know just to get some help with getting and sending e-mail?

A0: There are three components involved with e-mail (four if you count software for composing the messages). They are:

- (1) the software you use for sending and retrieving messages,
- (2) an e-mail account or address for receiving and sending messages,
- (3) an e-mail service or Internet access provider for connecting your computer to the computer that holds your e-mail messages until you retrieve them.

The same company or service might provide two or all three of these components, but it's important to distinguish between them in order to figure out where a problem resides. For example, I use Juno software for sending and retrieving messages, my e-mail account is provided by Juno (mshinko.cpcug@juno.com), and Juno has an extensive list of phone numbers that my computer can dial up to retrieve and send my messages (without incurring any long-distance phone charges). On the other hand, someone could use Earthlink to access the Internet, have an e-mail account provided by Yahoo.com, and use Microsoft Outlook software to retrieve and send their messages.

By the way, the Juno software I use is just fine for composing messages, but sometimes I use Notepad software when composing messages, then “copy” and “paste” the text into the text windows of the Juno software, because the Juno software must be

used to send it. Juno software also has an option to “Export Message to Text File...” so I can optionally use other software (e.g. Notepad) to read messages I receive.

Q05II.1: Do you have any analogies to the physical world for these three components of e-mail?

A0: Yes. The software for getting and sending e-mail is like a physical mailbox that you have at your house. A mailbox in the middle of the woods wouldn't be much good — it needs to be associated with a house or a particular location on the side of a road. In other words, it needs to be associated with an address, one that distinguishes it from every other mailbox, and one that allows the mail service to find it. The e-mail service component is like the U.S.P.S. or other delivery services, like Federal Express, that transport and hold your messages until they are delivered to you.

When contacting me about a question appearing in my column, please refer to the question number.

Every question is numbered in the form Q'YR'MO.seq#, with a 2-digit year, and Roman numeral month. The answers will have a code for the responder, e.g., A0 = Marty Shinko.

P.S., one mailbox can service multiple accounts; you and your spouse and children and parents, etc., can all get mail through the same mailbox, or you can get mail addressed to your business at home. In the same way, the same e-mail software can be used to access multiple accounts from the same family computer.

Q05II.2: What other e-mail terms are important to know?

A0: An important term to know is “plain text,” which is text reduced to its elemental form (the letters of the alphabet, numbers, and a few special characters). Plain text is just the words and characters of the message, and doesn't include any formatting — no bold or underline or italics, no colors or changing fonts or font sizes, no background, no margins, no headings. This is important because e-mail has to be working okay for simple plain text messages before any other data can be communicated.

Another term to know is “formatted”; it's important to know that word processor software usually creates “formatted” data files, such as *.DOC files, and these are NOT plain text. They have to be transmitted as attachment files, or else they arrive without their formatting.

HTML (HyperText Markup Language) files consist of plain text characters, but it takes additional software (e.g., web browser software) to display them so people can read them easily.

Note: the term “plain text” is also used in cryptography for the original unenciphered text of an encrypted message.

Q05II.3: Why do I need to know anything about the components and terminology involved in simply getting and sending e-mail, anyway?

A0: As with many aspects of computers, if everything is working okay you probably don't need to know anything about the internal details, except for your own edification. However, when things aren't working right, you need to know a lot of details in

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Book Review: *Online Investing Hacks: 100 Industrial Strength Tips and Tools*

Reviewed by Gloria Loew

This is another book in the O'Reilly Publishing "Hacks" series. In this series, the term "hack" does not refer to the meaning that it has come to be associated with when talking about computers, that of breaking into systems or violating computing networks. Rather, it refers to a creative way to do something, or a "quick and dirty," but effective, solution to a problem.

Online Investing Hacks provides quick and simple tools and techniques for analyzing investments and managing financial portfolios with assistance from online resources. The author defines and addresses nine different aspects of investing, each covered in its own extensive chapter. For each aspect, she lists what she believes to be the best web sites and tells you how to get the most from these online investing tools. She also explains how to create and customize Excel spreadsheets to help you manage your investments.

Bonnie Biafore, the author, is highly qualified as an authority on investing. She has written several books about finance and investing, including the *National Association of Investors Corporation (NAIC) Stock Study Handbook*, for which she earned an award. She also writes a monthly column for the NAIC magazine. Her bias toward quality and growth (stocks of companies expected to increase

in price more than the overall market as they grow their revenue and earnings) is evident in the explanations and advice she gives along with the hacks.

The book begins with the chapter "Screening Investments," which covers systems for sorting through savings rates, fixed income investments, and loan or mortgage rates, as well as stocks, to find those that are financially most attractive. It includes listings of web sites that offer free and fee-based stock screening tools, and describes how to download the results of stock screens to Excel spreadsheets. It also explains how to use Excel to filter the results so that you can get what you want.

The next chapter, "Hacking Excel for Financial Analysis," goes into detail about the features and functions of Excel that are used in the author's approach, and referred to throughout the rest of the book. The chapter begins with an explanation of how to use the web query function to download stock data into Excel, and then shows how the information can be formatted automatically according to your own criteria. The chapter continues with guidelines for using Excel features to check your logic, perform subroutines, prevent calculations from blowing up, reference data, and more.

There is a wealth of financial data available on the Internet, and

the third chapter, "Collecting Financial Data," tells where to go online for the best financial information and mutual fund data. It explores different elements of financial information, and how to make use of this data. It also looks at sources for news about investments, and how to set up and receive alerts.

The following two chapters show how to make good use of the collected data in conducting fundamental and technical analyses. "Analyzing Company Fundamentals" is quite thorough in covering measures of company performance that indicate whether a stock is sound and properly valued. The reader is taught the finer points of many fundamental terms, including an array of financial ratios and other analysis methods. In addition, the reader learns ways to calculate these measures, what online and Excel tools are the best to use for these analyses, and how to use the results to identify growth companies and quantify that growth. This chapter also looks at how to evaluate company balance sheets, and identify "cooked books."

A good overview of Technical Analysis is given in the chapter with that title. Beginning with a discussion of the importance of money management when using technical analysis in trading, the

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Feedback / Letters continued
from page 6

ordinary user, it's time to bring
eCS out of the closet.

"Now users are unhappy with
MS's market monopoly and it is

the trade press that has and
continues to make MS dominant
by keeping readers ignorant of the
alternatives. A little cour-age is
called for. Let's hear it for some of
the other alternatives in the

marketplace (a.k.a., free market
competition for you would-be
capitalists <g>). Why don't you
walk-the-walk and be a good

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George Archer's Quick Tour of the Current Status of OS/2 and eCS:

eCS related URL's:

<http://www.os2ezine.com/20040916/index.html> — OS/2 online magazine

<http://www.os2voice.org> — another email magazine and site for new program announcements

The two above sites have an archive of articles written by real users, not vendor flacks, on what they are doing with the OS as it has evolved since 1995.

<http://www.ecomstation.org/drivers/> — a new user-based driver source

<http://hobbes.nmsu.edu/pub/os2> — a vast depository of free/shareware for OS2 & EcS

<ftp://hobbes.nmsu.edu/pub/os2/> — same site for ftp downloads

Hobbes' Mirrors

Leo archive in Muenchen <ftp://leo.org/pub/comp/os/os2/leo/>

<http://archiv.leo.org/pub/comp/os/os2/leo/> (Dec 2003)

www.leo.org/archiv/os2

Leo Mirrors:

<ftp://ftp.uni-heidelberg.de/pub/os2/> Heidelberg, Germany

<ftp://ftp.uni-siegen.de/pub/os2/> Siegen, Germany

<ftp://xenia.sote.hu/pub/os2/munich/> Budapest, Hungary

<ftp://ftp.man.poznan.pl/pub/os2/> Poznan, Poland

<ftp://crydee.sai.msu.su/pub/comp/os/os2/leo/> Moscow, Russia

<ftp://software.ibm.com/ps/products/os2/os2ddpak> — IBM's own driver source

<ftp://service.boulder.ibm.com/ps/products/>

<http://www.OS2Warp.be> — large site with OS/2 software and drivers

<http://www.os2world.com/freeos2> — mark's OS/2 Freeware list

<http://netlabs.org> — tools and utilities mySQL/2, NEPM, and many more

<http://mozilla.org> — the best WEB browser mail, news, IRC client

Third Party (a small sample of the more high tech software available):

FotoGet, ver 1.0.5 (freeware) by Herwig Bauernfeind <herwig.bauernfeind@aon.at> a freeware utility to transfer photos from a digital camera to eComStation (or OS/2) PC.

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/fotoget/> — digital camera support

WarpVision by Alex Strelnikov

- multimedia player for mpeg1/2, avi, asf, mov, mp3 audio, wav, real media, ogg, ogm

Download: ftp://ftp.netlabs.org/pub/wvgui/wvgui_latest.zip

Web site: <http://os2.kiev.ua/en/wv.php>

Support Forum: <http://os2.kiev.ua/en/forum.list.php?f=1>

Voice Recognition: Sphinx4 written in Java

<http://cmusphinx.sourceforge.net/sphinx4/>

DFSEE ver 6.17 <http://www.dfsee.com/dfsee.htm>

<http://hobbes.nmsu.edu/pub/incoming/dfsee614.zip> — a hard disk utility that supports Win/Linux (2.6 kernel)/OS2/eCS and does things Partition Magic can't even dream of doing (on-the-fly replacing the HD media descriptor so Windows can disable OS/2 and Linux bootstrap loaders, repartitioning, support for journaled file systems, and HD mirroring, undelete for HPFS/NTFS, imaging, cloning, for IDE/SCSI and more)

Maul Desk Top Publishing <http://www.manglais.com/>

RSJ Software - CD/DVD Writing software — including DVD-RAM and UDF media

http://www.rsj.de/stage/en/cdwriter/cd_os2.asp

(table continued on page 22)

Technology News Review

by Sue Crane, Big Bear Computer Club, CA.

U.S. dictionary publisher Merriam-Webster says “blog” topped the list of most looked-up terms on its Web site during the last 12 months. The word will now appear in the 2005 print version of Merriam-Webster’s dictionary, defined as “a Web site that contains an online personal journal with reflections, comments and often hyperlinks.” However, Oxford University Press says “blog” is already included in some print versions of its Oxford English Dictionary and has entered mainstream usage. According to an Oxford U. Press spokesman, “Now we’re getting words that derive from it such as ‘blogosphere’ and so on.” According to the Pew Internet & American Life project, a blog is created every 5.8 seconds, and blog analysis firm Technorati estimates that the number of blogs in existence now exceeds 4.8 million.

In a sign that wearable technology is gaining greater acceptance, the Gap recently introduced a fleece jacket with a built-in radio for kids. The “Hoodio” has a control keypad located on the sleeve and a hood that conceals the speakers. Xybernaut sells a wearable, 1.9-pound computer with an 8.4-inch touch screen. And MP3 players are now in sunglasses. Oakley’s “Thump” line is available in seven combinations of lenses and colors. The shades have earphones and lenses that flip up and down. Meanwhile, NanoHorizons has developed socks containing silver and gold nanoparticles, which kill foot odor and bacteria.

NanoDynamics has come up with a golf ball that can correct its own flight path so it flies straighter than conventional balls. The

design of the ball, and the materials it’s made of, serve to better channel the energy received from the club head and thus correct a wobble or slight drift. The company believes the ball complies with the rules of the United States Golf Association, and will provide samples for testing to get USGA approval soon. Earlier this year, Easton Sports announced it was developing a set of bike components made from carbon nanotubes that would be stronger and lighter than conventional parts. And other companies have developed nanotennis balls that don’t lose air and golf shafts constructed with nanomaterials.

During the string of hurricanes that hit the U.S. last summer, satellite phones were often the only reliable means of communication, because they use orbiting satellites rather than landlines and cell towers to transmit signals. “They cover such a broad area, I can use it anywhere,” says one Iridium customer. “The call may get unclear, but if you wait about five or six seconds, it gets better. A cell phone would just drop the call.”

Passwords will soon be a thing of the past, according to Microsoft Chairman, Bill Gates. Gates predicted that people will soon rely on other ways of verifying their identity. “A major problem for identity systems is the weakness of passwords,” Gates said. “Moving to biometric and smart cards is a wave that is coming, and we see our leading customers doing this.”

Microsoft’s new small business software gives you financial info at a glance. Looking to offer small businesses an integrated approach to accounting, contact management, and general productivity, Microsoft announced that a beta

version of its newly announced small business management product is now available for testing.

Japanese electronics giant TDK has developed a tough new coating named ‘Blu-ray’ that makes DVDs scratch-proof. In a test conducted by CNET News.com, a DVD treated with TDK’s coating survived a determined attack with a screwdriver and a Sharpie permanent marker with no effect on playability.

Researchers at the Toho University School of Medicine in Tokyo have found that long hours spent in front of a computer screen may increase the risk of glaucoma in near-sighted people. The research is based on a study of 10,000 workers in Japan, with results correlated to data on how many hours were spent on the computer and pre-existing visual problems, such as myopia. Scientists said they believe the optic nerve in myopic people might be more vulnerable to computer-caused stress.

Kawada Industries in Japan has been putting the final touches on a large bi-ped robot that can do what no humanoid its size has done before: lie down, get up, and help a human carry light loads, like suitcases and briefcases.

Watch for hefty increases in annual subscription rates for anti-virus software as major security companies encourage subscribers to upgrade to full Internet Security Suites which include firewall, anti-spam, and anti-spyware, as well as anti-virus.

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Part 1: Get Rid of Spyware continued from page 10

best antivirus programs, while effective at detecting and preventing virus and Trojan infestations, are generally ineffective at dealing with spyware. Firewalls, if properly installed and configured, can prevent many spyware types from sending information from the computer, but many spyware programs utilize known security weaknesses, and other vulnerabilities in our operating systems. Contemporary thought is that we all need a good anti-spyware program properly installed, configured, and updated, every bit as much as we need updated anti-virus software and a firewall on our computers.

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?

101 Fleet Street
Rockville, MD

Hours for donation drop-off:
Mondays 2:00 – 6:00 PM
Wednesdays 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Contacts:

Gerry Rosenkrantz
reboot20850@verizon.net

Dave Barry
davbar20852@yahoo.com

One of the top rated anti-spyware programs is the recently updated “Spybot Search & Destroy”, available for free (donations encouraged) at www.safer-networking.org and other major download sites. Spybot can detect and destroy over 13,000 spyware products, and immunize our computers from future infection by almost 1800 types of spyware. Spybot can also prevent some pesky web sites from changing our “home” or browser startup pages, and make it difficult for spyware to write itself into our Windows registry. An integral utility makes it easy for Spybot to check for and install the periodic updates necessary to detect and kill the latest types of spyware.

Another popular anti-spyware utility is “Ad-Aware”, available for download at www.lavasoftusa.com. The free version of “Ad-Aware,” the “Standard Edition,” is possibly the most widely used anti-spyware program, with over 42 million copies downloaded since July, 2003. “Ad-Aware” comes in several versions ranging from the “free for personal use” Standard Edition, to the \$27 “Plus” edition, and the \$40 “Pro” version. “Ad-Aware” frequently releases updated “reference files” which contain lists of newly created or revised spyware information.

A popular commercial program, which is a “Swiss army knife” type of program comprising many different utilities, including an excellent spyware (parasite) detector and killer, is the “SpyHunter” included with System Mechanic, version 4. System Mechanic is available locally at retail (about \$49), and for download at www.iolo.com. A fully functional 30 day free trial version is available for download. Like its competitors, System Mechanic’s SpyHunter checks for updated spyware listings and installs them seamlessly. SpyHunter has been

proven to be an effective spyware detector and killer, and the other utilities included in System Mechanic make this a most useful program.

While not directly marketed as an anti-spyware product, “STOPzilla” is a very effective spyware remover that specializes in those spyware products that produce about 80% of the annoying pop-up ads that we may get while surfing the web. A recent update to “STOPzilla” also includes an integral utility that can detect and kill most other forms of spyware, including tracking cookies. With almost daily automated updates, and excellent 24/7 free tech support, including toll-free numbers, STOPzilla is available for \$30 at www.stopzilla.com.

One of the most comprehensive spyware detecting and killing programs on the market is PestPatrol (\$40), available at www.pestpatrol.com. This is an excellent program that can both detect spyware and block many types of infection. PestPatrol has an integrated utility that enables all parts of the application to be updated on a regular basis in order to maximize the detection and removal functions. PestPatrol offers a free online scan that will detect, but not eliminate, almost all known forms of spyware.

Any of the titles referenced above will do a reasonable job of reducing popups, and securing your computer from spyware, provided they are frequently updated and run. While there are several other decent anti-spyware programs available, one caveat is appropriate here. There are some unethical purveyors of some anti-spyware programs that use spam emails, popup ads, and deceptive sales practices, including telling you that your computer is infested with spyware, and charging a fee to remove it. (*Editor’s Note: For more about this, see Part 2.*)

Part 2: Spyware Removal Pretenders continued from page 11

this site, there are nearly 150 such rogue products being marketed and promoted, as well as several dozen web sites containing allegedly helpful anti-spyware information, but are instead promoting rogue products. Several of the rogue products are actually the same software, but marketed under different titles. If you are using an anti-spyware program, check this list to see if it is legitimate or not.

The rogue anti-spyware software may be worse than useless, because some titles install their own spyware, or pretend to clean the machine but in fact do a poor job, or nothing. This could be dangerous because the user may get a false sense of security, and believe that he is protected, when in reality he is quite vulnerable and likely being victimized.

Anti-spyware programs that were once considered reliable, such as "Aluria Spyware Eliminator," may lose some credibility as they deal with companies considered by many to be purveyors of spyware. According to media sources such as Ziff Davis, the Boston Globe, eWeek, Aluria has recently reached a deal with an ad-ware vendor (ad-ware is generally considered as a type of spyware). Aluria will be included in the ad-ware vendor's web page tool bar that is supposed to remove unwanted spyware, but may not block the vendor's particular ad-ware. And the Alluria program may itself be a type of spyware.

For safety sake, as well as peace of mind, be absolutely sure of the spyware solutions you use, and never purchase such software from pop-ups, spam mail, or other questionable means.

Buying Discount Software continued from page 8

when tilted in the light

- Low quality print, letters that aren't evenly spaced, etc.
- Products marked with phrases that do not describe the transaction, including:
 - "For distribution with a new PC only,"
 - "Special CD for licensed customers only,"
 - "Not for retail or OEM distribution," or
 - "Academic price – not for use in a commercial environment"

Note that counterfeiters often use these types of phrases to fool consumers into believing that they are getting genuine product that was over-stocked or otherwise deserves to be discounted.

Consumers dealing with software vendors over the Internet should also beware of:

- Companies or individuals unwilling to verify their identity or full business name, or provide a physical street address and telephone number for follow-up after the transaction has occurred.
- Online distributors unwilling or unable to provide adequate or satisfactory descriptions of their return, service, or warranty policies.
- Online distributors that offer unusual inventory explanations (e.g., special deals with the software publisher, liquidated inventories, or acquisition through bankruptcy sales).
- Vendors offering software products at prices and in packaging inconsistent with offerings through legitimate retail channels.
- For Microsoft software, software components being sold solely as a CD housed in a jewel case or as a loose or individual end-user license agreement,

because these items are not distributed in this form through legitimate channels.

Save your money and your time when you receive "rock bottom" software offers, while withholding support for software piracy. There are no legitimate "unbelievable deals" out there on name-brand software.

Let this be your guiding mantra: If it sounds too good to be true – on this you can rely – just walk away and say no, you can't buy!

This article is provided by The Editorial Committee of the Association of Personal Computer User Groups (APCUG), an international organization of which CPCUG is a member, and is reprinted with permission.

O'Reilly Books Available for Review

Thanks to the generosity of O'Reilly & Associates, one of the leading publishers of computer and networking books, CPCUG is well stocked with titles.

We'll have books at meetings and make them available there or by other means to people who will make a commitment to review them for the *Monitor*.

We always need product and book reviewers — people who'll exercise a product or read a book carefully, then share thoughts with fellow members. Reviewing a product or book is a contribution that helps your fellow members, and it's what user groups are all about.

If you're interested — it's easy, fun, and you can get writing guidelines and editing help if you wish — contact editor@cpcug.org.

February 2005

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March 2005

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order to get things fixed.

Computer “gurus” usually use precise computer terminology, and the terms they use are so familiar to them that they often have a hard time trying to define them or explain them in novice or “layman’s” vocabulary.

Another reason to want to know some details is to avoid being overcharged for computer services, software, and equipment. If someone fixes your computer for you without offering to explain what they did, why, and how to avoid the problem in the future, there’s a good chance that they did some unnecessary work and charged you extra for it. They may have also arranged things the way they’d like them rather than a way that might be better for you.

Keep in mind that many, many people are virtually clueless about computers, so there are many salespersons and repair people who assume that you know nothing about computers and it’s a waste of their time trying to explain anything. At least that’s what I’ve found, and that’s my motivation for being involved in the CPCUG: to try to get correct, unbiased information about computers!

Q05II.4: When will Linux software be ready as a substitute for Microsoft Windows software?

A0: Usually when people use the term “Linux” they mean “everything that comes with Linux in a Linux distribution package.” In that sense, Linux is a complete operating system software package. Strictly speaking, though, this question is like comparing two very different things, such as the proverbial apples and oranges, because the term Linux properly refers to just the kernel of the operating system software, while Windows consists of several components, including a user interface

along with an operating system. In that sense Linux itself is an alternative to Windows, and will never be a substitute for Windows.

Q05II.5: How is Windows different from an operating system?

A0: The purpose of the operating system software on a computer is to run other programs (the operating system itself is just a program). Do you remember when Windows first came out, as Windows 3.1, before Windows 95? At that time Windows software wasn’t an operating system at all; it was just a user interface that ran “on top of” DOS (the Disk Operating System). DOS was the operating system controlling the computer. Only after Windows 95 was released could Windows itself be called an operating system, and it still has other functions, such as a user interface, bundled together in it. On a multi-user computer system, the operating system also has another purpose: it’s supposed to keep the users from interfering with one another.

Q05II.6: What are the software components needed to run a computer?

A0: To run a computer you need several software components:

- an operating system kernel (for memory management and for controlling hardware devices),
- monitor software (the program that runs other programs, part of the operating system),
- a file system (which can be distinct from the operating system),
- a Graphical User Interface (GUI) or other user interface.

Windows XP contains all these 4 components, along with other software and utilities.

Q05II.7: Doesn’t Linux come with a user interface?

A0: There are at least two user interfaces available for Linux: KDE and Gnome; some “distributions” of Linux come with one or the

other of them, or both. But the user interface isn’t part of Linux, and Linux is designed to work with any compatible interface. (In contrast, the only user interface available for Windows is Windows).

Q05II.8: Doesn’t Linux include all the software needed to run a computer?

A0: Yes, when you use the term “Linux” to mean “everything in a Linux distribution package.” One way of looking at the difference in concept between Linux and Windows is like the difference between a small retail store that has no store brands, and a store like Sears, which carries its own store brands as well as other brands.

The Linux kernel uses data structures to determine what program to run next, etc., and various individual, alternative programs (which are not part of Linux itself) can be used to edit and manipulate those data structures. With Windows, only “store brand” Windows software (and some unauthorized software and assorted viruses) edits and manipulates the internal data structures used to determine what it will run next. Additionally, Windows has “store brand” software for word processing, Internet browsing, e-mail, spreadsheets, databases, project management, and on and on.

It’s probably safe to say that there is software that runs under Linux for everything that runs under Windows. And there’s an additional alternative: you can even run Windows under Linux (and thus run under Linux any software that runs under Windows, though it might not be as fast that way).

Q05II.9: Is there anything that doesn’t run under Linux?

A0: Not every manufacturer of

continued on page 24

Book Review continued
from page 13

chapter goes on to explain the various kinds of charts and chart patterns, as well as other indicators that technical analysts are concerned with. Important technical factors, such as volume and levels of support and resistance, are addressed. The author concludes the chapter with references to what she considers the best technical analysis tools, as well as both free web sites and proprietary technical analysis software.

"Executing Trades" is a short chapter that delves into the nitty gritty of buying and selling stocks and bonds. It discusses the differences between market and limit orders and warns of the dangers in after-hours trading for beginners. The chapter also includes information about folio investing and buying bonds online.

Screening mutual funds, and calculating their costs and returns, are features of the seventh chapter, "Investing in Mutual Funds." Using Excel, again, to aid in analyzing the data, the author shows how to evaluate and compare the performance of different funds, assess expenses and hidden costs, and account for tax consequences on returns. This chapter also covers deciding when it might be time to sell funds, picking new funds, and spotting funds that may engage in questionable practices.

Once a portfolio of investments has been established, investing takes on another dimension. The chapter, "Managing Your Portfolio," addresses this dimension with an examination of asset allocation and tracking of results before delving into portfolio management matters using Excel or online tools. The author then takes these concepts further to explore the forecasting of future returns and evaluation of returns for alternative investments. Sell

signals for the fundamental investor are also covered here.

The final chapter, "Financial Planning," discusses various types of accounts, features of online brokerages, what to consider in picking a broker, how to find a financial planner, and investing for college and retirement.

Online Investing Hacks is an excellent reference for both beginner and advanced investors. Basic concepts are explained before going into the more advanced issues the investor should think about. Web page addresses are the complete URL that gets you to the exact page being described. And Excel users can learn many advanced features that will help in collecting, analyzing, and massaging data. This book deserves a place in your investment library, not only for the references and specific advice it gives, but for the questions it leads you to ask, which will improve your investment acumen.

About the Book:

Online Investing Hacks: 100 Industrial Strength Tips and Tools, by Bonnie Biafore.

Published by O'Reilly Media, Inc., June, 2004.

ISBN: 0-596-00677-2
504 pages, \$24.95 US

Gloria Loew is a member of CPCUG who often attends the Investment SIG.

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containing the line:

SIGNOFF CPCUGCAL-L
No entry in the subject line is required.

**Volunteers
Wanted**

**Writers & Reporters for the
CPCUG magazine, Monitor**

The *Monitor* is always looking for good articles! If you are interested in writing an article, reporting on an event, taking photos at an event, or reviewing a book or software program, please let us know.

Monitor Advertising

Do you know a corporation or entrepreneurial business that might benefit from an ad in the *Monitor*? Help make it happen by showing the *Monitor* to its decision makers. Increased advertising revenue means a larger magazine and more money for CPCUG's member benefit programs. And you can earn a commission on ads you place!

Contact: editor@cpcug.org

Feedback / Letters continued
from page 14

capitalist citizen rag even if
shareware news does not get you

advertising revenue. Not every-
thing for computers has a price
tag on it. All my hardware choices
are made with little thought for
prices but rather to support

interoperability of [three] OS' in
one box: Linux, Win2K and eCS.
"eCS has IBM-written driver

continued on page 24

George Archer's Quick Tour of the Current Status of OS/2 and eCS

(continued from page 14):

Third Party (continued):

InJoy — telecommunications <http://www.fx.dk/Injoy/>

SciTech — universal device drivers based on IBM GRADD architecture; practically every video chip is supported

http://www.scitechsoft.com/sdd_os2.htm

http://www.scitechsoft.com/chiplist/snap_os2_chiplist.html

Related newsgroups: <news.scitechsoft.com> <news.scitechsoft.display.doctor.os2>

Innotek — Java apps with plug-ins for Mozilla browser for OS/2

http://www.innotek.de/products/javaos2/javaos2readme_e.html

http://www.innotek.de/products/javaos2/javaos2faq_e.html

Odin Project — run Win 32 bit apps under OS/2; Innotek is developer

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/odinusers/>

Virtual Station, a.k.a. SVISTA — virtual machine support under eCS with NT/W2K running as a guest

http://www.serenityvirtual.com/support.php?url=content/howto/svista_ecs_net.html

Watcom — Open source version of a compiler distributed with eCS 1.2

<http://groups-beta.google.com/group/openwatcomos2>

http://openwatcom.org/product/features_content.html

Newsgroups:

comp.os.os2.advocacy — (AVOID) Supporting and flaming OS/2.

comp.os.os2.announce — <http://www.bix.com/pub/os2ann/pindex.htm>

Notable news and announcements related to OS/2. (Moderated)

comp.os.os2.apps — Discussions of applications under OS/2.

comp.os.os2.beta — All aspects of beta releases of OS/2 systems software.

comp.os.os2.bugs — OS/2 system bug reports, fixes, and work-arounds.

comp.os.os2.comm — Modem/Fax hardware/drivers/apps/utils under OS/2.

comp.os.os2.mail-news — Mail and news apps/utils (on- & off-line) under OS/2.

comp.os.os2.marketplace — For sale/wanted; shopping; commercial ads; job postings.

comp.os.os2.misc — Miscellaneous topics about the OS/2 system.

comp.os.os2.multimedia — Multimedia on OS/2 systems.

comp.os.os2.ecomstation *comp.os.os2.games*

comp.os.os2.networking *comp.os.os2.networking.misc* *comp.os.os2.networking.server*

comp.os.os2.networking.tcp-ip *comp.os.os2.networking.www*

comp.os.os2.programmer/ *comp.os.os2.programmer.misc* *comp.os.os2.programmer.oop*

comp.os.os2.programming *comp.os.os2.scitech*

comp.os.os2.setup *comp.os.os2.setup.misc* *comp.os.os2.setup.storage*

comp.os.os2.setup.video *comp.os.os2.utilities*

comp.lang.rexx *comp.text.tex*

fr.comp.os.os2 *news.opera.os2*

ecomstation.advocacy *ecomstation.announce* *ecomstation.apps*

ecomstation.apps.adopt *ecomstation.lists.ecomstation* *ecomstation.gui*

ecomstation.requirements *ecomstation.support.dtoc* *ecomstation.support.misc*

ecomstation.support.hardware *ecomstation.support.install* *ecomstation.support.smp*

ecomstation.support.lvm *ecomstation.support.networking* *ecomstation.test*

ecomstation.support.smartsuite *ecomstation.support.staroffice*

ecomstation.support.wisemachine

ecomstation.lists.ecomstation_multimedia *ecomstation.multimedia.misc*

(table continued on page 23)

George Archer's Quick Tour of the Current Status
of OS/2 and eCS (continued from page 22):

Bulletin Board (dialup and IP access):

OS/2 BBS - Pete Norloff (The largest BBS in the world dedicated to OS/2)

PO Box 3271

Oakton, VA 22124

bbs: 703-242-4482

www.os2bbs.com

During Warp's heyday, IBM employees wrote software, known as Employee-written Software (EWS) and put up on sites around the world:

Employee Written Software ftp site (not recently tested for currency):

[ftp.pc.ibm.com/pub/pccbbs/os2_ews](ftp://pc.ibm.com/pub/pccbbs/os2_ews)

195.ATM7-0.GW5.ATL1.ALTER.NET (146.188.233.5)

usibm-gw.customer.alter.net (157.130.39.38)

129.33.49.161 (129.33.49.161)

<http://www.funet.fi/pub/os2/ibm/ews/>

<ftp://ftp.funet.fi/pub/os2/ibm/ews>

Software vendors with sizeable OS/2/eCS offerings of commercial software:

BMT Micro <http://www.bmtmicro.com/catalog>

User Groups:

Phoenix, AZ

<http://www.possi.org> Home page for Phoenix OS/2 Society

SCOUG (Southern Calif OS/2 Users Group)

<http://www.primenet.com/~rwhite/scoug.html>

<http://www.scoug.com/chat/index.html>

OS/2 User Group of South Australia

<http://www.os2.org.au> -Gramm Utils

Cleveland OS 2 Users Group

[ftp.wariat.org/pub/os2](ftp://wariat.org/pub/os2)

Greater Chicago OS/2 - 3 user grps

<http://www.gco.com>

Philadelphia PA OS/2 User group

<http://www.phillyos2.org>

Annual Conferences of Warp/eCS users and products in venues around the world: Warpstock <http://www.warpstock.org/>

Linux/OS-2 development collaboration

<http://sourceforge.net/> and do a search for OS/2 or eCS

<http://www.unixos2.org/>

IRC Channel - Warp Doctor - meets weekly

<http://www.warpdoctor.org/walter.metcalf>

<http://irc.fyrelizard.com/> - for IRC server list

Mail list: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/os2user/files/> - Yahoo OS/2 newsgroup file area

(OS2 Hardware list: os2hardware-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/os2user>

Thank You

The **Monitor** is very grateful to Gia Warringa for her donation to CPCUG of her collection of over 15 years of **Monitor** back issues.

O'Reilly Book Discounts

CPCUG members get a 20% discount when ordering direct from O'Reilly. Log in to Member Specials at www.cpcug.net to get the discount code.

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Dr. Dobbs Journal	\$15.95	\$30.95	----
Mac Addict	\$10.97	----	----
Mac Home Journal	\$15.97	\$29.97	----
Mac World	\$12.95	----	----
Maximum PC	\$ 9.95	\$18.95	\$27.95
Microsoft System Journal	\$21.95	\$39.95	----
PC Gamer	\$12.95	----	----
PC Magazine (22/44/66 issues)	\$25.97	\$48.95	\$68.95
PC World	\$16.95	----	----
Wired	\$ 6.00	\$12.00	\$17.00

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Please allow 10 to 12 weeks for your magazines to start. For renewals, you must supply an address label from your present subscription to insure the correct start of your renewal. As an extra service you will be mailed a renewal notice about four months prior to the expiration date.

In the last few years many computer magazine subscribers have used my services for the over 300 titles I carry, also at excellent prices. With almost everyone having email they have just emailed for a price and I send them the price also via email. - Herb

you can buy eBook Studio or download the free DropBook (which requires you to use a special markup language). Details at www.ereader.com/dropbook.

- For Palm Doc format, there are a number of conversion utilities, free and otherwise. I mostly use one (mis)named DocReader, which allows me to highlight, copy, and paste any text on my PC to create an e-book.
- For Microsoft Word: depending on which model of handheld you own, it may have come with a free copy of Documents To Go. If you've got a Word document on your PC, you can drag it to the Documents To Go desktop icon to copy it to your Palm.
- For other formats, refer to MemoWare's help at www.memoware.com/mw.cgi/?screen=help_create.

I've tried to give you a quick introduction to e-books on a Palm, but it's a rich subject. You can get more details on both software and content in the PalmSource expert guide on e-books at www.palmsource.com/interests/ebooks. In the meantime, load up your Palm with content, so you can not only keep on trucking, but also keep on reading.

Tom Gutnick is president of Sunny Banana Information Technology Consulting, and a Palm Powered Software Champion. He teaches classes on the use of Palm hand-helds, and provides both individual and organizational consultation for their effective implementation and use. He can be reached at tag@sunny-banana.com or by phone at 703-786-5541.

computer hardware has embraced the concept of Linux and Open Source software, so there are modems (notably "Winmodems"), as well as some printers, integrated video logic chips on some motherboards, CD burners, and DVD players that don't work under Linux. (There was also some issue with the MPAA (Motion Picture Association of America) and its CSS (Content Scrambling System) used for "copy protection" of movies on DVD, which (when I last checked) was only ever licensed for use on computers running Windows software or on Apple computers).

Q05II.10: How would you summarize the consumer readiness of Linux at this time?

A0: The key to running Linux successfully seems to be suitable hardware, e.g., having common, generic hardware. Alternatively, the key is that you need to know your hardware. Many people don't, and many people don't want to. Those that do, though, will be ready for the future, in my opinion.

Marty Shinko has been involved with the CPCUG since the early 1990s, as a volunteer instructor and advocate for beginners. He's used computers for over three decades, from PC's to supercomputers. His interests include sub-atomic physics, astronomy, epistemology, mathematics, engineering simulation and computer modeling, satellites, brain psychology, sail-boating, amateur radio and robotics. He can be reached via e-mail at mshinko.cpcug@juno.com or via phone at (301) 253-1743. Or come to the CPCUG General Meetings and meet in person at the "Late Nite" sessions that follow the Tech Talks.

support for everything running on modern PC's (IR, USB, SATA/ DVD drives, networking, IP, broadband (we let installers set it up on a Windows machine and then move the configuration specs over to an OS/2/eCS machine without a problem; IP is IP), multi-booting, Linux/ NTFS file system inter-operability.

"Third party vendors supporting eCS have software for a virtual machine and universal screen drivers that offer cross-OS support for Windows and Linux on multi-booting boxes. If readers are flocking to Linux, they should also get a look at eCS... For a 'dead' operating system, there is a lot going on. I'd like to see CS get back to its 'roots' and really support its readers by educating them to alternatives to increasing complexity, cost, and frustration users now experience using their computers."

Regards,
George W. Archer
garcher@wdn.com

Thanks to George Archer for his comments, and all of the information he provided about OS/2 and eCS. If you find this information to be helpful, have additional information to offer in this arena, or have other reactions to the comments made, please send a message to editor@cpcug.org.

As for Mr. Archer's request for reviews of freeware, shareware, and commercial software, the Monitor is always looking for submissions from contributors. Send in your reviews, or proposals for software to be reviewed, for consideration.

James Katz, Editor
editor@cpcug.org

Check out the half-price iBring a Buddy
training certificate on page 1.



Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

The Capital PC User Group has Special Interest Groups (SIGs) that meet throughout the Washington, DC, metro area. By attending SIG meetings, you can learn a computer-related subject of your choosing, continue to learn after mastering the basics, share your knowledge with others, and gather with peers in social/networking environments.

Access (Microsoft)

- Monthly, third Wednesday, 7:00PM
- 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—www.cpcug.org/user/access/
- E-mail announcement list: [accesssig-l](mailto:accesssig-l@cpcug.org) hosted at cpcug.org
- E-mail discussion list: [accesssigd-l](mailto:accesssigd-l@cpcug.org) 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!

- 1st Sunday of every month 3:00-5:00PM
- **Note Location:** Harbour Square Cooperative Library, 500 N St, SW, Washington, DC
- Contact—Rick Shaddock Rick@CICorp.com, 703-486-2222

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.

Beginners (and Beyond)

- Usually monthly, at "Late Nite" following General Meetings/TechTalks, usually second Monday, 9:00PM
- Same location or meeting room as the General Meeting
- URL—www.cpcug.org/user/beginner/
- E-mail announcement list: [beginsig-l](mailto:beginsig-l@cpcug.org) hosted at cpcug.org
- E-mail discussion list: [beginsigd-l](mailto:beginsigd-l@cpcug.org) hosted at cpcug.org
- Contact—Marty Shinko, d/e/w: 301-253-1743 or 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 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

Serve as a:

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

To help in any of these or other capacities, contact Marty by calling 301-253-1743, sending him a message via e-mail at mshinko.cpcug@juno.com, or meeting him during Late Nite following most General Meetings.

Clipper

- Monthly, last Thursday, 7:00PM
- Meets at different local restaurants—subscribe to the Clipper e-mail

announcement list to learn current month's location

- E-mail meeting announcements, monthly: To subscribe, send an e-mail request to SIG Chair Naseem Saab at Naseem_Saab@DPS-Consulting.com
- www.DPS-Consulting.com/Clipper
- Contact—Naseem Saab, 703-713-6900, Naseem_Saab@DPS-Consulting.com

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/consultants in the Washington, DC, area, (2) to help newcomers to the Clipper world appreciate and learn about the power of the language. If you need a Clipper programmer/consultant, we maintain a list of Clipper SIG members specializing in Clipper and Clipper-to-Windows conversions. Send an e-mail with the job description and requirements to Naseem Saab at Naseem_Saab@DPS-Consulting.com for distribution to the mailing list.

Delphi

- Monthly, first Wednesday, 7:00PM (except no meeting in January and July)
- Inter-American Development Bank, 1350 New York Ave, Washington, DC
- Luncheon meeting—usually third Thursday, 11:30AM (Pentagon City Mall near movie theatres)
- URL—www.cpcug.org/user/delphi/
- E-mail announcement list: [delphisig-l](mailto:delphisig-l@cpcug.org) hosted at cpcug.org
- E-mail discussion list: [delphisigd-l](mailto:delphisigd-l@cpcug.org) hosted at cpcug.org
- Contact—Thomas Miller 703-503-5600, tmiller@bss-software.com

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.

Digital Video

- Monthly (except July, August, and December), third Tuesday, 7:30PM
- usually Bethesda Chevy Chase Services Center (BCCSC), 2nd floor Multipurpose Room. *Check the Web site for verification.*
- URL—www.dvug.org
- Contact—Merrill M. Hessel, 301-840-1258, dvug@meral.com

Typical Agenda

7:30PM	SIG Business
7:40	Demo
8:00	Presentation
8:25	Video clips
9:00	Adjourn

Digital Camcorders are more popular than ever, but what do you do once you have taken the video? Put it into your computer and massage it, add titles, add music, and then improve your technique!

The Digital Video SIG of the Capital PC User Group (also known as the Digital Video User Group, DVUG) has an exciting program and opportunities for those interested in video. The group focuses on all aspects of the revolution in the production of digital videos, such as:

- Digital nonlinear editing system set-up and use
- Digital cameras
- Digital color correction
- Digital video authoring of DVDs
- Special effects and use of such software packages as Adobe After Effects
- Digital sound editing, sweetening, filtering of hum and extraneous noises, and other effects
- Digital lighting
- 3D effects

Upcoming Meeting

Tuesday, February 15, 7:30 pm
Bethesda-Chevy Chase Services Center

Many of you know how to send photos or other graphic files to associates, friends, and family. This DVUG meeting will answer the questions many of you have about how to distribute or show your videos (the great film you produced, or your latest home movie) to viewers on the Internet.

Merrill Hessel, the DV SIG chairperson, has produced and distributed many downloadable and streaming videos up to an hour-and-a-half long on the Internet for various organizations. In the two years since Merrill last made a presentation on streaming media significant technological advances have occurred. Both MAC and PC video editing packages now include options to prepare your videos for the Internet. In this meeting Merrill will talk about

various options for preparing these videos, including procedures, compression, costs, and tradeoffs, to enable you to have your videos on the Internet.

In addition Jeff Pledger, President of AbleTV.net will discuss important considerations for enabling persons with disabilities to enjoy these videos. Jeff is a winner of the Best New Freedom Communications Award for Able-TV, a Web-based television network that is accessible to users with a variety of disabilities. Jeff's web site, www.abletv.net, contains over hundreds of hours of videos.

Other DVUG members who now have videos on the Internet will also share their experiences.

7:30 pm	DVUG Business
7:35 pm	Merrill Hessel, Jeff Pledger, & other DVUG members with videos on the Internet: "Putting Your Videos On the Internet: Preparation, Cost, Distribution, and Considerations for Disability Viewing"
8:45 pm	Questions, General Discussion
9:00 pm	Meeting Ends

For directions to the meeting site at the Bethesda Services Center, see the web site, www.dvug.org. Good parking is located one block from the metro station.

Please Note: If Montgomery County Schools close because of weather or other conditions, the meeting will be cancelled.

Check the Web site, www.dvug.org, for information on the next meetings and directions. For any questions, or to be added to the e-mail list, send a message to Merrill Hessel at dvug@meral.com.

Entrepreneurs and Consultants

- Monthly free meetings, usually third Saturday, 1:00PM
- Occasional workshop "extras" (varying fees)
- usually *Cleveland Park Library*, 3310 Connecticut Ave, NW, Washington, DC
- URL—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, 703-569-6080, mpinho@cox.net

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 |

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Results™ is an integrated customer relationship and business management software package (www.Results-Software.com).

Upcoming Events

Sat., February 19, 2005, 1:00-3:15 pm

Topic: Taxes: What Every Entrepreneur and Consultant Needs To Know

Speaker: Jina Etienne, CPA

Is your business paying more in taxes than required by law? Whether your business grosses millions of dollars each year or you are just getting started as an independent consultant, you probably hire an outside accountant to handle tax return submission. The ultimate responsibility for paying appropriate taxes, however, is yours. Do you have the basic accounting knowledge needed to supervise the work of your accountant? Do you stay current on tax law changes? Because tax return deadlines for corporations and individuals are approaching, the focus of this presentation will be on income tax compliance and preparation rather than on tax planning and consulting issues. This presentation will alert you to mistakes and oversights that can cost you money, and to tax law changes you need to know about. The presentation will be followed by a question and answer session, so gather your questions and join us.

Jina Etienne, CPA, has more than 15 years of public accounting experience. She began her career with Deloitte & Touche, where her focus was tax planning and compliance for corporations, partnerships, and S corporations ranging from government contractors and vending companies to hospitality and retail firms. When she left Deloitte & Touche, her focus shifted to the needs of small- and medium-sized businesses. With her own practice, Jina Etienne provides a wide range of accounting services for businesses and individuals, including tax planning and preparation, and business consulting. Her client base is diverse, including retail and service-based businesses as well as consultants and contractors. For individuals, her services generally include tax return preparation and tax planning, including tax research and representation before the IRS.

Ms. Etienne earned an M.S. in taxation in 1993 and a B.S.B.A. in accounting in 1989 from American University. Jina has also taught accounting as an adjunct professor at American University and currently teaches QuickBooks at local

accounting seminars and conferences.

Jina may be reached at jina@etiennec-pas.com.

Meeting Notes

The Entrepreneurs and Consultants SIG is for computer consultants and entrepreneurs using computers. Our monthly meeting presentation topics are varied, and we welcome everyone. Attendees include business owners, independent computer consultants, managers of entrepreneurial entities within larger companies, new graduates, career changers, and those transitioning from a one-person consultancy to a business with full-time employees.

For the most up-to-date information about the activities of our SIG, including any meeting date, time, location, and topic changes, please subscribe to our content-I LISTSERV list at: www.cpcug.org/list/lwgate.cgi/CONTENT-L/subscribe.html.

At many meetings there are handouts. To ensure we have handouts for all attendees, please register for each meeting via our Web form: www.cpcug.org/user/entrepreneur/meet-reg.html.

Future Meetings

If you have an idea for a topic or speaker, please send an e-mail message about it to bconn@cpcug.org.

GLITCH DC

GLITCH DC SIG (Gay and Lesbian Information Technologists of Washington DC, Inc.). Diverse group of men and women of all ages, all fields, from main frame programmers to novice users.

- Meets second Sunday of each month for brunch and technical presentation, 11:00AM
- Dupont Italian Kitchen, upstairs dining room, 17th and R Streets, NW
- Special events announced via mailing list at glitchdc-announce@yahoogroups.com
- Contact: Wallace Dickson, 202-265-0591, wdickson@wdn.com, or Cliff Bailey, 703-237-7486, cbailey@myexcel.com
- URL—www.glitchdc.org
- Jobs are listed via mailing list at glitchdc-jobs@yahoogroups.com

Investment

- Monthly (except August), third Wednesday, 7:30PM
- Bethesda Library, 7400 Arlington Road, Bethesda, MD
- URL—www.cpcug.org/user/invest/
- E-mail meeting notices, monthly: To receive, send your e-mail request to skatz@highstream.net with your name

and e-mail address.

- Contacts—Andy Thompson, Thompson01@erols.com or e/w at 301-270-6790. For information on Investor's FastTrack mutual fund and stock data base and software sessions, contact Ferd Hassler 301-718-6253 or Carl Berninger at cberninger@mindspring.com.

General meeting program schedule:

7:30 pm FastTrack session

8:15 pm Q & A session; Investment SIG business

8:30 pm Main presenter

9:30 pm 'Market Watch' (if no outside speaker)

Our meetings have two components. Each meeting begins with a 45-minute discussion related to FastTrack software, which is widely used for analyzing and tracking mutual funds and individual stocks. At 8:15 pm the Investment SIG formally begins and our typical agenda consists of an initial 10-15 minutes of questions, answers, SIG business, and CPCUG concerns. Then we have a main presentation(s) lasting 60-90 minutes addressing issues related to fundamental or technical analysis of stocks, mutual funds, bonds, or trading methods such as options and market timing. The topic of technical analysis indicators is frequently visited.

After the main presentation, if the speaker is from outside the group, there is a 'Market Watch' discussion by our members. The meetings are free and open to the public.

We also have a library for our members. If you have any suggestions for future Investment SIG meeting topics, or if you have something ('non-commercial') you would like to present at a meeting, please e-mail Andy Thompson.

Upcoming Meeting

Wednesday, February 16, 7:30 pm
Bethesda Library, 7400 Arlington Road,
Bethesda, MD

For directions go to:

<http://www.montgomerylibrary.org/apps/libraries/BranchInfo/be.asp>

Meeting agenda:

7:30 to 8:15 pm FastTrack SIG

1. Information sharing, plus Q and A
2. Continuation of our last meeting on when to sell, or "market exit strategies". Ferd Hassler will demonstrate the use of Bollinger Bands combined with a 200 day M.A. This is a new and interesting use of Bollinger Bands for determining market extremes.

8:15 pm Investment SIG Q and A

8:20 pm Sidney Teweles Mutual Fund Update (about 10-15 minutes)

8:30 - 9:30 pm Interview distilling the wisdom of Sidney Teweles' investing philosophy and methodology (as well as celebrating Sid's 90th birthday)

9:30 pm Introducing the 800 pound gorilla: China's impact, an overview of the pacific rim investment climate viewed through selected international indices and trading vehicles - Carl Berninger

Microsoft Office

- Usually monthly, fourth Wednesday (except November and December), 7:00PM
- American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) at 10801 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD
- URL—www.cpcug.org/user/comm/sig-supply.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.

PalmOS

- Monthly, day varies, 6:30PM
- Usually at American Psychological Association, 750 First Street, NE, 6th floor, Executive Office Suite, Washington, DC
- URL—www.interpug.com/dcpug/
- Contacts—Shawn Googins, d: 301-496-5774, theoophile@yahoo.com; Craig Simpson, d/e/w: 301-942-3921, macshimidh@earthlink.net, icq#58070639; Frank Sokolove, frank.sokolove@verizon.net.

Pocket PC

- For date, time, and location, send e-mail to Ray Wiley (see below)
- URL—www.cpcug.org/user/pocketpc
- E-mail announcement list: pocketpc-lhosted@cpcug.org
- E-mail discussion list: pocketpcd-lhosted@cpcug.org
- Contact-Ray Wiley, d: 703-682-5325 or rainman@gokatgo.net

The Washington Area Pocket PC Users Group, a Special Interest Group of the Capital PC User Group, meets 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!

Robotics (Provisional SIG)

- Usually the 3rd Thursday of each month
- Time: 6:30-10 PM: 6:30-7:30 SIG admin, 7:30-8:30 presentation, 8:30-10 workshop
- Location: Pangborn Hall, Room 303, Catholic University of America 620 Michigan Avenue, NE, Washington DC 20064
- Contact—Janet Lathan, 240-393-1464, janetlathan@comcast.net; Ann Dorsey, 240-888-8295, a.dorsey@deskpilot.com

<http://admissions.cua.edu/visit/map.cfm>

<http://welcome.cua.edu/maps.cfm>

http://tour.cua.edu/default4.cfm?Building_Id=39

The purpose of the CPCUG Robotics SIG is to sponsor activities on robotics for CPCUG and its communities.

Got a question?
Have a computer
problem?
Need some
cyber help?

*A great resource is CPCUG
"Late Nite" – a question-
and-answer meeting held at
9:00PM after most Monday
evening General Meeting
TechTalks*

"Late Nite" consists of smaller and more informal gatherings of computer users, from novice to expert, after each General Meeting TechTalk. In addition to a place for beginners and intermediate computer users to continue to learn how to get more out of their computers, it provides an opportunity to learn more about CPCUG, its benefits, its special interest groups (SIGs), and its training opportunities.

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

Activities will include informational meetings, workshops, demonstrations, and competitions.

Upcoming Events

**Thursday, February 17, 6:30-10:00 PM
SIG MEETING**

Seniors

- Monthly, first Saturday, 10:00AM-NOON
- Bedford Court - 3701 International Drive Silver Spring, MD [Directions: Take Georgia Avenue north from Beltway to third traffic light past intersection with Connecticut Ave, and turn right on International Dr to the tall building two blocks east. We meet in the Activities Room on the ground floor.]
- E-mail discussion list: *seniorsig-d-1* hosted at cpcug.org
- Contact—Paul Shapiro, paul.shapiro@gmail.com. When not online, he can be reached at 240-643-8729.

The Seniors Special Interest Group meetings are open to all. They help attendees get more from their personal computers. We'd like member participation in arranging SIG programs, and need you to help get the word out about the Seniors SIG. The Seniors SIG is for everyone, from beginner to expert. CPCUG members and visitors are welcome and encouraged to attend our meetings whenever possible.

Statistics

- Monthly (except June through August), *usually* second Wednesday, 12:30PM
- 1800 M Street, NW, South Tower, Third Floor, Room S3031, 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—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

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 S3031, 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 & many links of statistical interest can be found at the SIGSTAT Web site, www.cpcug.org/user/sigstat/.

Upcoming Meetings

Wednesday, February 9: Graphics with R (<http://www.r-project.org/>)

The ease of making graphs in R is one of its strongest attractions. Some examples of making graphs were discussed in Part I. In this second part, the topics of making graphs which are annotated with equations, of putting multiple graphs on a single page, and of using polygons will be discussed. Mike Fleming will be the speaker.

Wednesday, March 9: PROC UCM - Unobserved Component Models (<http://www.sas.com>)

Unobserved Component Models are very general time series models that incorporate trends, seasonality, cycles, regression effects, and autoregressive effects. Trends and seasonality can be allowed to change randomly. UCMs can be considered as generalizations of ARIMA and smoothing models. The basics of UCMs will be covered as well as some examples. PROC UCM is new in SAS/ETS version 9. Charlie Hallahan will be the speaker.

Our Web Pages

The SIGSTAT pages, at 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 SIG

- Monthly, third Monday, 7:00PM
- Washington Gas, 6801 Industrial Road, Springfield, VA
- Jurisdiction for inclement weather cancellation: Fairfax County
- URL — www.cpcug.org/user/vasig/
- E-mail announcement list: *virginiasig-1* hosted at cpcug.org
- Contacts—Luis Garcia, d: 202-606-9848, e/w: 703-425-6902, lgarcia51@yahoo.com

7:00PM Open Forum and General Information
7:45 Presentation
8:45 Q&A

Meeting Notes

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

HELPLINE

The CPCUG Helpline listing is for CPCUG members only. Volunteers provide assistance on listed subjects during the times and days outlined.

Membership has its privileges. Please be prepared to give the Helpline Volunteer your membership number. Please do not ask for

assistance outside the stated times. If you reach voice mail, leave a message — many people screen calls or otherwise prioritize their time. Some volunteers have provided e-mail addresses so that you can contact them if you have trouble getting in touch by phone.

If you would like to volunteer

your services in any area, please contact Henry Whitney, the Helpline Coordinator, at helpline@cpcug.org, providing your membership number, subject(s), phone number and/or e-mail address, with the days and times you're available.

Member	Phone	Days	Time	E-Mail
ACCESS				
ACCESS SIG Discussion List Scott Mohnkern	301-738-0097	M - F	www.cpcug.org/list/lwgate.cgi/ACCESSIGD-L/subscribe.html 9:00a-4:00p	scott@mohnkern.com
ADOBE PAGEMAKER				
Lisa Connors	301-527-0650	Tue - Thur.	7:00p-9:00p	lamc8@comcast.net
ADOBE PHOTOSHOP				
Sam Odio	888-282-2846	All	All	sam@odioworks.com
ALPHA FOUR				
Guy Durant	202-529-6744 202-529-6744	All	8:00a-11:00a 9:00p-11:59p	
APL LANGUAGE				
Frank Ditto	304-725-3283	All	12:01p-11:59p	fditto@shentel.net
APPLE Macintosh (Hardware, Networks, OS, Software)				
Phil Marchetti	301-404-2210	Mon-Sat	10:00a-7:00p	Phil@MarchettiAssociates.com
ASSEMBLY LANGUAGE				
Walter Nissen (Near Cleveland, OH)	440-243-4980	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net
ASTRONOMY				
Walter Nissen (Near Cleveland, OH)	440-243-4980	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net
BASIC LANGUAGE				
Walter Nissen (Near Cleveland, OH)	440-243-4980	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net
BROTHER'S KEEPER				
Alta Oben	703-938-5831 703-938-5831	Mon-Fri Sat-Sun	6:00p-10:00p 9:00a-10:00p	alta@cpcug.org
BUILD YOUR OWN				
Chip Dodge	703-425-7038	All	Reasonable	
Sam Odio	888-282-2846	All	All	sam@odioworks.com
BUYING DECISIONS				
Sam Odio	888-282-2846	All	All	sam@odioworks.com
Robert Simanski	703-404-8665	All	6:00p - 10p	rsimanski@yourpubpro.com
C LANGUAGE				
Wayne Derroncourt				wayned@cpcug.org
Scott Graham	301-437-2745 301-593-2744 301-593-2744	Mon-Fri Mon-Fri Sat-Sun	9:00a- 6:00p 6:00p-9:00p Reasonable	sgraham@scobar.com
Walter Nissen (Near Cleveland, OH)	440-243-4980	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net

Member	Phone	Days	Time	E-Mail
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 (Near Cleveland, OH)	440-243-4980	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net
COMMUNICATIONS - DATA/ MODEMS				
Walter Nissen (Near Cleveland, OH)	440-243-4980	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net
COMPUTING - GENERAL				
Walter Nissen (Near Cleveland, OH)	440-243-4980	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net
Sam Odio	888-282-2846	All	All	sam@odioworks.com
Marty Shinko	301-253-1743	All	Reasonable	mshinko.cpcug@juno.com
DBASE				
Guy Durant	202-529-6744	All	8:00a-11:00a	
	202-529-6744	All	9:00p-11:59p	
DELPHI/PASCAL				
Richard Maley	301-840-1554	Mon-Fri	9:00a- 5:00p	75127.17@compuserve.com
Dennis Courtney	202-623-2884	Mon-Fri	9:00a- 5:00p	dennisc@iadb.org
DOS				
Walter Nissen (Near Cleveland, OH)	440-243-4980r	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net
Henry Winokur	301-320-2104	All	Reasonable	henwin@atlantech.net
DOS Communications Packages				
David Chessler	301-229-3984	All	7:00p-10:00p	
EUDORA (3 and 4)				
David Chessler	301-229-3984	All	7:00p-10:00p	
EUDORA 5				
Robert Simanski	703-404-8665	All	6:00p - 10p	rsimanski@yourpubpro.com
EXCEL				
Scott Mohnkern	301-738-0097	M - F	9:00a-4:00p	scott@mohnkern.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
FOXPRO				
Guy Durant	202-529-6744	All	8:00a-11:00a	
	202-529-6744	All	9:00p-11:59p	
GGEOWORKS				
Herb Fredricksen	301-840-2056	All	2:00p-11:00p	
HARDWARE - GENERAL				
Wayne Dennoncourt				wayned@cpcug.org
Sam Odio	888-282-2846	All	All	sam@odioworks.com
Robert Simanski	703-404-8665	All	6:00p - 10p	rsimanski@yourpubpro.com
HD TV/Home Theatre				
Rodolfo La Maestra	703-690-6336	Mon-Sat	Reasonable	rodolfo.lamaestra@verizon.net
HTML (Hypertext Markup Language)				
HTML SIG Discussion List				www.cpcug.org/list/lwgate.cgi/HTMLSIGD-L/subscribe.htm
Harold Goldstein	301-854-0388	All	Reasonable	mdbiker@goldray.com
Walt Houser	301-299-0593	All	7:00p-10:00p	houser@cpcug.org
Scott Mohnkern	301-738-0097	M-F	9:00a-4:00p	scott@mohnkern.com
Sam Odio	888-282-2846	All	All	sam@odioworks.com
INTERNET - NOT CPCUG.ORG				
Walter Nissen (Near Cleveland, OH)	440-243-4980	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net
INTERNET - BASICS				
Paul Shapiro	240-643-8729	All	9:00a-9:00p	paul.shapiro@gmail.com

Member	Phone	Days	Time	E-Mail
INTERNET - CPCUG.ORG (cpcug.org subscribers only)				
Scott Mohnkern	301-738-0097	M-F	9:00a-4:00p	scott@mohnkern.com
INTERNET E-MAIL				
David Chessler	301-229-3984	All	7:00p-10:00p	
INTERNET EXPLORER				
Walter Nissen (Near Cleveland, OH)	440-243-4980	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net
Robert Simanski	703-404-8665	All	6:00p - 10p	rsimanski@yourpubpro.com
ISO-9000				
Edward H. Jentsch	301-279-0134	All	Reasonable	ejentsch@cpcug.org
JAVA (SUN)				
Keith Bennett	301- 840-1161	All	8:00a -9:00p	kbennett@cpcug.org
LAN (See also Networking)				
Wayne Derroncourt				wayned@cpcug.org
LINUX				
Cliff Bailey	703-237-4174	Mon-Fri	10:00a-8:00p	cbailey@myexcel.com
LOTUS APPROACH				
David Littlefield	202-723-9527	Mon-Fri	8:00a-10:00p	
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	
MEMORY MANAGEMENT				
Henry Winokur	301-320-2104	All	Reasonable	henwin@atlantech.net
MICROSOFT OFFICE				
Scott Mohnkern	301-738-0097	M-F	9:00a-4:00p	scott@mohnkern.com
MOZILLA				
Cliff Bailey	703-237-4174	Mon-Fri	10:00a-8:00p	cbailey@myexcel.com
NETSCAPE (3 and 4)				
David Chessler	301-229-3984	All	7:00p-10:00p	
NETSCAPE COMPOSER, Ver 4.01				
David Littlefield	202-723-9527	Mon-Fri	6:00p-10:00p	
NETWORKING/LAN				
Sam Odio	888-282-2846	All	All	sam@odioworks.com
Robert Simanski	703-404-8665	All	6:00p - 10p	rsimanski@yourpubpro.com
NOVICE (Beginner)				
Walter Nissen (Near Cleveland, OH)	440-243-4980	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net
Sam Odio	888-282-2846	All	All	sam@odioworks.com
Marty Shinko	301-253-1743	All	Reasonable	mshinko.cpcug@juno.com
Robert Simanski	703-404-8665	All	6:00p - 10p	rsimanski@yourpubpro.com
Henry Winokur	301-320-2104	All	Reasonable	henwin@atlantech.net
NUMBER THEORY				
Walter Nissen (Near Cleveland, OH)	440-243-4980	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net
OLX and other Off-line Readers				
David Chessler	301-229-3984	All	7:00p-10:00p	
OPENOFFICE				
Cliff Bailey	703-237-4174	Mon-Fri	10:00a-8:00p	cbailey@myexcel.com
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	

Member	Phone	Days	Time	E-Mail
OUTLOOK				
Scott Mohnkern	301-738-0097	M-F	9:00a-4:00p	scott@mohnkern.com
PARADOX AND PAL FOR DOS				
Ron Hicks	703-528-1009	All	Reasonable	ronhicks@cpcug.org
PERSONAL EDITOR II				
Walter Nissen (Near Cleveland, OH)	440-243-4980	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net
C. Patrick Zilliacus	301-384-0972	Sat-Sun	12:01p-9:00p	
PKZIP				
David Chessler	301-229-3984	All	7:00p-10:00p	
PRINTERS - GENERAL				
Henry Winokur	301-320-2104	All	Reasonable	henwin@atlantech.net
PVCS VERSION MANAGER 5.2				
Edward H. Jentsch	301-279-0134	All	Reasonable	ejentsch@cpcug.org
QBASIC (IN MS-DOS)				
Paul Shapiro	240-643-8729	All	9:00a-9:00p	paul.shapiro@gmail.com
QUICK BASIC 4.5				
Paul Shapiro	240-643-8729	All	9:00a-9:00p	paul.shapiro@gmail.com
QUICKBOOKS				
Dennis Courtney	301-570-9334	Mon-Fri	6:30p-9:00p	dennisc@cpcug.net
	202-623-2884	Mon-Fri	9:30a-5:30p	
QUICKEN				
Robert Simanski	703-404-8665	All	6:00p - 10p	rsimanski@yourpubpro.com
SATELLITES, EARTH				
Walter Nissen (Near Cleveland, OH)	440-243-4980	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net
SMALLTALK				
Cliff Bailey	703-237-4174	Mon-Fri	10:00a-8:00p	cbailey@myexcel.com
SQL				
Dennis Courtney	301-570-9334	Mon-Fri	7:00p-10:00p	
	202-623-2884	Mon-Fri	9:30a-5:30p	
STUFFIT				
David Chessler	301-229-3984	All	7:00p-10:00p	
Timeslips (DOS and Windows)				
David Chessler	301-229-3984	All	7:00p-10:00p	
TROUBLESHOOTING - GENERAL				
Wayne Dernoncourt				wayned@cpcug.org
Walter Nissen (Near Cleveland, OH)	440-243-4980	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net
Marty Shinko	301-253-1743	All	Reasonable	mshinko.cpcug@juno.com
Robert Simanski	703-404-8665	All	6:00p - 10p	rsimanski@yourpubpro.com
Henry Winokur	301-320-2104	All	Reasonable	henwin@atlantech.net
UBASIC LANGUAGE				
Walter Nissen (Near Cleveland, OH)	440-243-4980	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	301-738-0097	M-F	9:00a-4:00p	scott@mohnkern.com
UTILITIES				
Walter Nissen (Near Cleveland, OH)	440-243-4980	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net
VIDEO CONFERENCING				
Paul Shapiro	240-643-8729	All	9:00a-9:00p	paul.shapiro@gmail.com

Member	Phone	Days	Time	E-Mail
VMWARE				
Cliff Bailey	703-237-4174	Mon-Fri	10:00a-8:00p	cbailey@myexcel.com
WEB SEARCH ENGINES				
Harold Goldstein	301-854-0388	All	Reasonable	mdbiker@goldray.com
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@atlantech.net
WINDOWS 95				
David Chessler	301-229-3984	All	7:00p-10:00p	
Henry Winokur	301-320-2104	All	Reasonable	henwin@atlantech.net
WINDOWS 98				
Walter Nissen (Near Cleveland, OH)	440-243-4980	All	Reasonable	wnissen@tfn.net
Sam Odio	888-282-2846	All	All	sam@odioworks.com
Robert Simanski	703-404-8665	All	6:00p - 10p	rsimanski@yourpubpro.com
Henry Winokur	301-320-2104	All	Reasonable	henwin@atlantech.net
WINDOWS ME				
Henry Winokur	301-320-2104	All	Reasonable	henwin@atlantech.net
WINDOWS NT - SYSTEM POLICY EDITOR				
Ron Hicks	703-528-1009	All	Reasonable	ronhicks@cpcug.org
WINDOWS 2000 PROFESSIONAL				
Sam Odio	888-282-2846	All	All	sam@odioworks.com
WINDOWS XP				
Sam Odio	888-282-2846	All	All	sam@odioworks.com
Robert Simanski	703-404-8665	All	6:00p - 10p	rsimanski@yourpubpro.com
Henry Winokur	301-320-2104	All	Reasonable	henwin@atlantech.net
WINFAX PRO				
Howard Weeks	301-924-0400	Mon-Fri	2:00p - 6:00p	
WORD				
Edward H. Jentsch (ver 6.0/7.0)	301-279-0134	All	Reasonable	ejentsch@cpcug.org
Arquilla Ridgell	301-946-3041	Mo,We,Fr	7:00p-9:00p	Clockone@aol.com
	301-946-3041	Sat-Sun	6:00p-9:00p	Clockone@aol.com
Robert Simanski (*97-2003)	703-404-8665	All	6:00p - 10p	rsimanski@yourpubpro.com
Henry Winokur (ver 6.0/7.0, *97-2003)	301-320-2104	All	Reasonable	henwin@atlantech.net
WORDPERFECT				
WordPerfect SIG Discussion List				www.cpcug.org/list/lwgate.cgi/WPSIGD-L/subscribe.html
Arquilla Ridgell	301-946-3041	Mo, We, Fr	7:00p-9:00p	clockone@aol.com
	301-946-3041	Sat-Sun	6:00p -9:00p	clockone@aol.com
WORDPERFECT (5.1 & 6.0 DOS)				
Wayne Dernoncourt				wayned@cpcug.org
WORDPERFECT (DOS & WINDOWS)				
Howard Weeks	301-924-0400	Mon-Fri	2:00p- 6:00p	
WORDPERFECT (DOS-ALL)				
David Chessler	301-229-3984	All	7:00p-10:00p	
WORDPERFECT (WINDOWS 7-9)				
David Chessler	301-229-3984	All	7:00p-10:00p	
WORLD WIDE WEB				
Harold Goldstein	301-854-0388	All	Reasonable	mdbiker@goldray.com
Walt Houser	301-299-0593	All	7:00p - 10:00p	houser@cpcug.org
Scott Mohnkern	301-738-0097	M-F	9:00a-4:00p	scott@mohnkern.com



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Millkern Communications, Inc.
Tel: 301-738-0097

Directions to Washington Gas February 14 General Meeting TechTalk

The February CPCUG General Meeting TechTalk will be held at:

Washington Gas
(usually in the large auditorium)
6801 Industrial Road
Springfield, VA 22150

Directions:

Industrial Road is in the Shirley Industrial Park. It meets Backlick Road between the Beltway and Edsall Road.

By auto from I-495 Beltway Inner Loop (North):

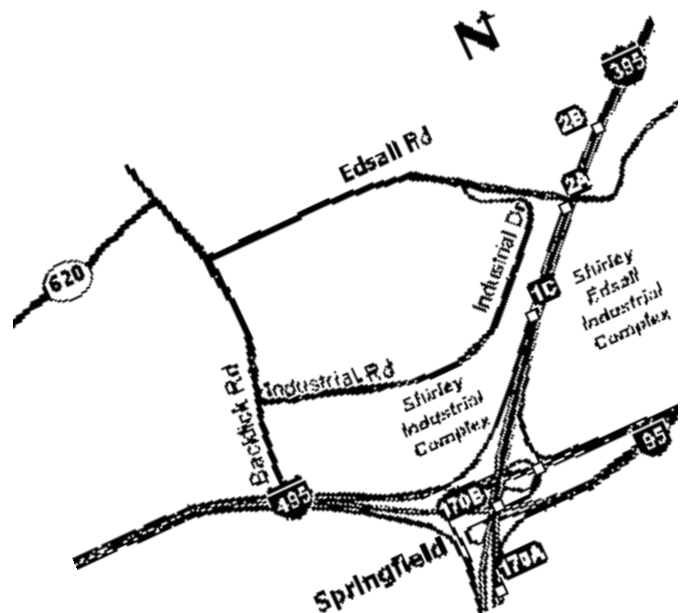
Take I-395 North.
Continue with I-395 directions.

By auto from I-395:

Take Exit 2, Edsall Road (Route 648) West.
Turn left at end of road onto Backlick Rd (Rt 617).
After approx. .4 mile, turn left on Industrial Road at the traffic light.
Enter the Washington Gas parking lot on the right after passing the sign with white lettering on black background, at the "Payment Depository" sign.

By auto from I-495 Beltway Outer Loop (South):

Take Exit 5, Braddock Road (Route 620) East.
After approx. 1.8 miles, turn right on Backlick Road (Route 617).
After approx. .7 mile, turn left on Industrial Road traffic light.
Enter the Washington Gas parking lot on the right after passing the sign with white lettering on black background, at the "Payment Depository" sign.



*Please see page 4 for details on
upcoming General Meeting TechTalks.*

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 e-mail addresses used to send certain

messages or announcements to a group of people simultaneously who have a common interest in the message contents. 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 e-mail you can get started exploring mailing lists right away!

To make using LISTSERV (the trade name for the most popular mailing list management software in the world) easy for even 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 Web site 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 web site.

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

www.lsoft.com/info/default.asp?item=manuals

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 PalmOS 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 News List)**
- OFCSIG-L** (CPCUG MS-Office SIG Announcement List)
- PMSIG-L** (CPCUG Project Mgm't SIG Announcement List)
- POCKETPC-L** (CPCUG Pocket PC SIG Announcement List)
- POCKETPCD-L** (CPCUG Pocket PC SIG Discussion List)
- SCIFAIRD-L** (CPCUG Science Fair Discussion 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)
- VBSIGD-L** (CPCUG Visual Basic SIG Discussion List)
- VIRGINIASIG-L** (CPCUG VA SIG Announcement List)
- WPSIG-L** (CPCUG WordPerfect SIG Announcement List)
- WPSIGD-L** (CPCUG WordPerfect SIG Discussion List)

* MIX-L – CPCUG members only. Send e-mail to David Chessler <chessler@cpcug.org> to subscribe.

** NETSIG-L cannot be subscribed to or signed off from cpcug.org as it is hosted on AOL. To subscribe to NETSIG-L mailings, send e-mail to: LISTSERV@LISTSERV.AOL.COM containing the line:

SUBSCRIBE NETSIG-L <firstname> <lastname>

To subscribe to any list, send an e-mail message to LISTSERV@CPCUG.ORG. Include in the message the line: SUBSCRIBE <listname> <yourfirstname> <yourlastname>. Do not include the angle brackets. No entry in the subject line is necessary.



The software for maintaining the mailing lists, LISTSERV®, 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.

10 Reasons To Join CPCUG

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*, the magazine of the Capital PC User Group.

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. 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.

5. 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 membership pays for itself.]

6. Internet service options available only to CPCUG members at competitive rates through our Internet domain cpcug.org.

7. Access to new member-only e-mail distribution lists being created to supplement our more than 30 public discussion and announcement lists. List subscribers can ask and get answers to computer hardware and software questions, and stay informed about CPCUG activities and Training.

8. 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.

9. Member-only door prizes—available at some General Meetings, some special interest group (SIG) meetings, and at occasional seminars. [This benefit has more than paid for the annual membership fee of many active CPCUG members. Software prizes have included Lotus Domino Go Webserver, MS Office Professional, and Adobe Photoshop. Hardware prizes have included Hewlett Packard Pocket PCs and Palm handhelds.]

10. Opportunities to develop and/or enhance leadership and management skills, while building your professional network, by volunteering with CPCUG.

The biggest benefit of all may be that by becoming active in the Capital PC User Group you become part of a very helpful community of computer users and IT professionals who are truly "Users Helping Users."

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

The Capital PC User Group, Inc. (CPCUG), a nonprofit 501(c)(3) educational 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.

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 _____

New Membership 1 year—\$42 Outside the
 Renewal 2 years—\$78 United States,
 Change of Address 3 years—\$110 \$60 per year

Payment method: Check VISA MasterCard

Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature (required for credit cards): _____

List my name in the next Membership Directory? Yes No
Name and address information from this Membership Directory may be very occasionally made available to computer-related businesses, most often on a one-time basis 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.

Please check this box if you would *not* wish to receive a monthly e-mail message with current CPCUG training and meeting topics. We are considering using this means of keeping the membership informed of scheduled events and changes more rapidly than is possible via the *Monitor* magazine.

Your membership starts with the first *Monitor* 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.

Five dollars of the membership fee is for a subscription to the *Monitor*.
902w

Capital PC User Group, Inc. *A Resource for Technology Users and IT Professionals*

Phone: (301) 762-9372

Fax: (301) 762-9375

E-Mail: admin@cpcug.org

Snail Mail: 19209 Mt. Airey Road
Brookeville, MD 20833

URL: <http://www.cpcug.org/>

President: Dennis Courtney
president@cpcug.org

Events Calendar:

<http://www.cpcug.org/user/comm/cal-6mon.html>

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To advertise in this space, please
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New Millkern Services for CPCUG.ORG members

DSL

Millkern is now able to provide DSL at speeds up to 3.0 MBPS through Covad throughout the United States. We've negotiated for competitive rates for CPCUG.ORG members. For additional information see www.millkern.com/dslnow.

Web Accelerator

For users who rely upon dial-up, we are now offering Slipstream software as an add-on service to cpcug.org members. Speed up your connection as much as five times faster than dial-up for the low fee of an additional \$4 a month.

For information on how this software works see www.millkern.com/docs/webaccel. To sign up, fill out the application at www.cpcug.org/apps/cpcugaddapp.html.

CPCUG Meeting Site Abbreviations & Addresses

1800 M = 1800 M St., NW, South Tower, 3rd Floor, Room S3031, Wash., DC

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

ASHA = American Speech-Language-Hearing Assn, 10801 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD

AUMC = Annandale United Methodist Church (see UHU Annandale, VA)

BCCSC = Bethesda Chevy Chase Services Center, 4805 Edgemoor Lane, Bethesda, MD: 3 locations on the 2nd Floor: Rooms A & B; Room C; and Multipurpose Room

Bedford = Bedford Court, Activity Center, Senior Living Community, 3701 International Dr, Silver Spring, MD

BLib = Bethesda Library, 7400 Arlington Road, Bethesda, MD

CESC = Carver Educational Services Center, Auditorium, 850 Hungerford Dr., Rockville, MD

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

CU-P = Catholic University of America, Pangborn Hall, Room 303, 620 Michigan Avenue, NE, Washington, DC

DIK = Dupont Italian Kitchen, upstairs dining room, 17th and R Streets NW Washington, DC.

HH = Harmony Hall Regional Center, 10701 Livingston Rd., Ft. Wash., MD

HSCL = Harbour Square Cooperative Library, 500 N St, SW, Washington, DC

IADB = Room B-300, Inter-American Development Bank, 1350 New York Ave., NW, Wash, DC

IVL = Interstate Van Lines (Community Room), 5801 Rolling Road, Springfield, VA

KL = Martin Luther King Jr. Library, 901 G St., NW, basement auditorium, Room A-5, Washington, DC

MS = Microsoft Corporation, 5335 Wisconsin Ave, NW, 5th floor, Washington, DC

PC = Pentagon City Mall Eatery

Reboot (computer recycling) = 101 Fleet St, Rockville, MD

Teaism = Teaism Restaurant, 400 8th St, NW, Wash., DC

UHU = Annandale United Methodist Church, Room 305, 6935 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA

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

WCC = Washington, DC Convention Center, 801 Mt. Vernon Place, NW, Washington, DC

WELib = West End Library, 2nd Floor, Large Meeting Room, 1101 24th Str, NW, Washington, DC

WGas = Washington Gas, 6801 Industrial Rd., Springfield, VA

Keep Updated!

Capital PC User Group meeting plans may change after the **Monitor** has gone to press. To get the latest information about meetings and special events (including topics, when available, and date, time, and location changes), bookmark and check www.cpcug.org/user/comm/.

CPCUG Training

UHU Annandale
Annandale United Methodist Church (AUMC),
Room 305
6935 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA 22003

\$29 CPCUG & AUMC members, \$39 non-members.
All classes 6:00-9:00 pm, except where noted. Register online at www.cpcug.net/trainingsearch.asp or call CPCUG at 301-762-9372.

February

- 1 – Personal Disaster - Recover and Backup Techniques
- 3 – Shopping, Traveling, and Auctioning on the Internet
- 8 – Under the Hood
- 10 – How to make the most of your PDA
- 15 – Introduction to Creating Web Pages with HTML
- 17 – Burning CD's With Roxio EZ CD Creator 6
- 24 – Introduction to Creating Web Pages with ASP

March

- 1 – Introduction to MS Powerpoint
- 3 – Introduction to MS Word
- 8 – Intermediate MS Powerpoint
- 10 – Introduction to MS Word II
- 15 – Working with MP3s
- 17 – Job Hunting on the Internet
- 22 – Introduction to MS XP Operating System
- 24 – Basics of Computers for Very Beginners
- 28 – Organizing Files & Folders with Windows Explorer
- 31 – MS Word - Form Letters, Mail Merge & Labels

Please check the CPCUG Web site, www.cpcug.net/trainingsearch.asp, for the April schedule.

Harmony Hall Regional Center
Computer Room, 2nd Floor
10701 Livingston Road
Fort Washington, MD 20744

\$35 Residents & CPCUG members. \$45 non-residents.
All classes are 6:00-9:00 pm. Register online at www.pgparks.com or call Harmony Hall 301-203-6040. Please note: Before registering for Harmony Hall classes for the first time, you must visit a Prince George's community center to register as a SMARTlink client (bring driver's license). SMARTlink class numbers, where known, are listed.

February

No Classes Scheduled

March

Schedule to be determined

Late Nite

The Beginners (and Beyond) SIG, also known as "Late Nite," immediately follows the General Meeting TechTalks when held at Washington Gas.

Bring your questions! "Late Nite" begins at approximately 9:00 pm.

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

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Membership Benefits

1. Helpline for PC and Internet questions
2. Award-winning *Monitor* magazine
3. Economical classes at member rates
4. Mentors for computer specification/building
5. Discounts on software, hardware and training
6. Internet service options through CPCUG.ORG
7. Access to members-only e-mail lists
8. Free software and books for review writers
9. Valuable door prizes at some events
10. Opportunities to enhance leadership skills