



The DataBus

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www.dma.org

August 2003

Association of PC User Groups Member (APCUG)

Our Next DMA[®] General Meeting is Tuesday, July 29 - 7:00 pm, at Univ. of Dayton **Live From the Help Desk...** **It's Tuesday Night!**

By Bob Kwater

(Note the Start Time change from our usual schedule)

At the General Meeting this month, DMA[®] is pleased to be hosting a LIVE remote broadcast of WMUB-FM's radio show "Help Desk". Join us, host Cleve Callison, and computer experts Ted Beerman and Guy Moore for their weekly question and answer session about computer problems, big and small, to be broadcast LIVE! The show will begin promptly at 7:00 PM so please come early. The regular DMA[®] business meeting will be held at 8:30 PM after the radio show. Whatever your problem may be, they will be there to help.

Imagine you have a problem with your computer. The store you purchased from is closed. The web site you usually go to for information is down and your favorite technical expert is away on vacation. What are you going to do? You could simply try poking around your system..., making changes until either your stumble into a solution or (what usually happens) you make matters even worse.

On the other hand, you might decide to wait until help is available. First, you try that American pastime - channel surfing - only to find that after sampling the cornucopia offered, you again are left wanting. You try relaxing to music, only to realize the CD you wanted to listen to is in the player in your car. Finally, you decide to simply listen to the radio while you try to sift thru the volumes of various books for the unintelligent that you purchased about computers. You tune the radio into what used to be your favorite station only to be shaken by sounds you believe to be coming from another planet. You remember that National Public Radio once broadcast jazz music. With a quick spin of the dial to 88.5 WMUB-FM, you settle in to listen to some classic jazz recordings. Instead, you hear voices discussing "how much RAM the latest version of a favorite game needs to operate."

At the same moment across town, another listener tunes in while driving

home from a frustrating day at the office trying to connect to the Internet. He is hoping that the topic on the radio show will help him, or at least take his mind off his trouble.

In Touch with the Help Desk

The above scenarios are similar to those being played out throughout Southwest Ohio. The possible answer to their questions might be found listening to "Help Desk", a locally produced computer talk show broadcast every Tuesday at 9:00AM and 7:00PM. The format of the show is that of a call-in show where you have a problem related to computers (both Windows-based and Mac). "Expert" advice is provided by the two hosts, Ted Beerman and Guy Moore, or by other listeners phoning in their solutions. There are also chosen topics for each show with occasional guests. Ted and Guy receive no compensation for their efforts other than the thanks from a grateful community

(Continued on page 5)

DMA[®]'s Aug. 26 Meeting: PowerQuest - Approaches to Backing Up your Hard Drive

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A=Trustee 3 yrs from 9/00 • B=Trustee 3 yrs from 9/02 • C=Trustee 3 yrs from 9/01

DMA® Committee Chairs:



OTAP Acting Director	Randy Young	937-298-5530	houserus@dma.org (& otap@dma.org)
(Ohio Technology Access Project)			
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dmapub			
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DMA®

DMA® Info Line:
937-222-4DMA (4362)



Member Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce

DMA® WEBPAGE: <http://www.dma.org>

email: info@dma.org

DMA® Data Line: 937-910-0006

DMA®'s general Post Office Box: P.O. Box 4005, Dayton, OH 45401-4005

Newsletter Winner:

**Best User Group Coverage / Large Newsletters,
1998 & 1999 Intergalactic 11 & 12 Conferences in N.Y.**

Computerfest®

-- Next Computerfest®: Aug. 23/24, '03

<http://www.computerfest.com>

email info: computerfest@dma.org

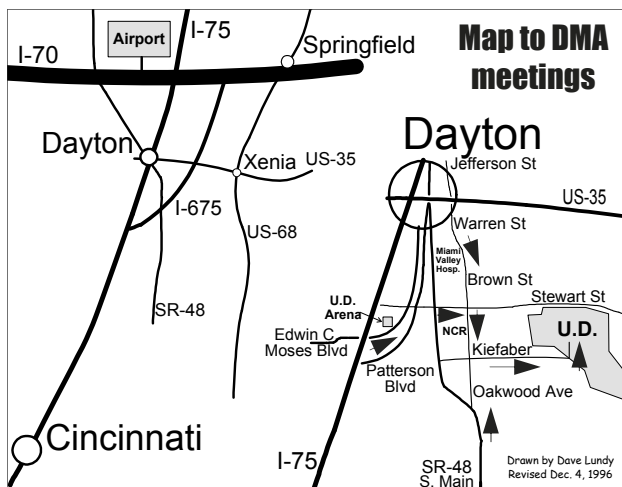
P.O. Box 2336
Dayton, Ohio 45401-2336

Computerfest® Volunteer Hot Line: 937-222-2010

Computerfest® Phone Nos: Attendee info line: 937-22C-FEST (222-3378)

Vendor info line: 937-223-FEST (223-3378)

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SPECIAL AGENDA FOR 7/29 MEETING:

On tap: WMUB "Help Desk" Live Broadcast.. **7:00-8:30 p.m.**
 Presenters: Cleve Callison, Ted Beerman, Guy Moore

Announcements & Reports.....8:30 p.m.
 (President Lisa Singh)

Q & A, Attendee Prizes.....8:45 p.m.
 (DMA® Board Member Leah Day)

Closing Statements 9:15 p.m.
 (President Lisa Singh)

Meeting Adjourns9:30 p.m.
 (Adjourn to Marion's for Pizza SIG @ Patterson/Schroyer)

If there is enough interest, the 'Internet Q&A' period may be held immediately prior to this Meeting, same room.

DMA®'s main meeting is held in Miriam Hall, O'Leary Auditorium, on UD's campus (add'l map p.25). This meeting only starts at 7:00 pm. Park in lot C on campus (follow the map's arrows) to avoid parking tickets.

Editor's Box:

Don't miss the special LIVE broadcast of WMUB's "Help Desk" at our July Meeting. Remember the special 7:00 pm start time and arrive early!

Computerfest® is just around the corner, August 23 & 24. See you there!

The DataBus

The DataBus is published monthly by the Dayton Microcomputer Association, Inc. (DMA®). Technical articles, product announcements, news items and other items relating to computers, computing and/or computer users are strongly encouraged.

The deadline for submitting material is the first day of the month of publication. Please submit files to the editors (Editor@dma.org) by "attaching" them to email in one of the following formats: (in order of preference) MS Word, Wordperfect, or .TXT (with line breaks) — or simply by handing a disk to the Editors at a General Meeting or mailing it to them. The editors reserve the right to edit for clarity, length & style, and to hold or reject any portions of submitted copy. It may be better suited to a later issue. *If you have a specific topic in mind but are not sure how useful it might be to fellow DMA® members, just call an Editor and discuss it.*

Advertisements and want ads are accepted for publication. Non-commercial (for instance, to sell your used printer) credit-card size ads are free to DMA® members. For members, commercial ads of that size are \$20.00 per issue. Our present circulation, targeted specifically to computer users, technicians, & IT Managers, is 2,000 copies. For more information on advertising rates, or to obtain a Rate Card, contact an Editor. The mailing address is: *Editor - The DataBus, P.O. Box 4005, Dayton, OH 45401-4005*

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Winner:
Best User Group Coverage
- Large Newsletters,
'98 & '99 InterGalactic
Conferences in New York

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 Dayton Microcomputer Assn., Inc.

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DMA® MEETINGS

Email: happenings@dma.org for updates

Meetings - Guests are always welcome.

- All general DMA® membership meetings are held at 7:30 p.m., University of Dayton, the last Tuesday of each month, except December. See our Web page (www.dma.org), dmapub, or email to: happenings@dma.org for more info.

Our monthly general meeting

consists of a brief opening, SIG reports, announcements, and a 60-90 minute program by a guest speaker, followed by door prizes for members.

Board Meeting - The regular DMA® Board of Trustees meeting will be held on the first Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at DMA's home at 119 Valley St. Dayton, Ohio

Board meetings are open to all.
Members are always welcome to attend.

OTAP RECYCLES COMPUTERS -

The Ohio Technology Access Project is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. This all volunteer group of devoted people generously give of their special talents & skills.

OTAP puts donated computers into the hands of people with handicaps, limitations, challenges and special needs - and provides computers to institutions which serve the needs of these individuals.

DMA® volunteers gather computers and then teach other volunteers machine inspection, testing, diagnostics, as well as adjustment and repair techniques.

After these donated computers are put into working order, they are then provided "as is" to qualified individuals and institutions which request them. Very basic, free, computer instruction follows some computer distribution.

If you would like to learn more about OTAP, please set your browser to <http://www.otap.org> Computer donations are tax-deductible and to date, more than 2000 computers have been distributed by OTAP.

If you or your organization wish to donate or receive used equipment, or if you would like to volunteer, please call the Project Manager. Al Russell at (937) 222-2755 or email russella@dma.org.

Located at 119 Valley St., Dayton, OH

DMA®'s Special Interest Group (SIG) Meetings

Do You Have a Specific Computer-Related Interest ? —

and need an organization to support that interest? Are there others you know who would join you? DMA® can help sponsor groups of approx. 6 or more who have common software or hardware interests by providing meeting venues, AV equipment, etc. Contact vice-president@dma.org for more information.

Apple-Dayton SIG -for those who want to get the most out of their Apple computer & learn about the Apple/Mac platform. Group meets the 3rd Monday at 7 p.m. at 119 Valley Street now, but watch our website. Contact Keith Ciriegio (meeting coordinator) at 937-773-0676, email: keithc@gemair.com

Certification SIG - Purpose: to assist you in passing various Certification exams. Meets 2nd Tues. and 4th Wed. of each month. Contact George Ewing, ewingg@dma.org or Larry Ford, lford@woh.rr.com or call 937-361-8917. **Networking SIG** meetings have been combined with this group which now covers both areas.

Classic Computer SIG - the keeper of the Dayton Computer Museum. Classes in older computer hardware and software are taught by the Curator, Gary Ganger; 1st & 3rd Sat. of ea. mo. 3 to 5 p.m. at the Sugar Grove Church, Email gangerg@dma.org or call Gary at (937) 849-1483 for directions.

Digital Photography SIG meets 1st Thursday of each month. Interested? Email millard@millard.net or call (937) 879-5419. Covering all aspects of digital photography in a friendly small group atmosphere.

Digital Textiles SIG - The place to indulge your interest in computerized machine embroidery, cross stitch, knitting, quilting and sewing. Meetings will start at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month at 119 Valley St. Explore what's new in the world of textiles and share your projects and experiences with others who share your passions. Contact Lou Childs for details at 888-276-3578 or lou@downhomedreams.com.

Gaming SIG - Now meeting online. Please contact SIG leader Bill Myers at gamingisig@technomutt.com or call him at (937) 275-3583 for further details, & see <http://www.dma.org/sigs.html> for the latest time/date/program information.

Northern SIG - one of DMA®'s newest SIGs, is for those interested in open source software who live near or north of I-70. For more details, see <http://www.dma.org/northernsig/> or contact Robert Ruby III- aprinciple@hotmail.com

Software Development SIG - The former Greater Dayton Delphi Group meets 2nd Thurs. each month at 6:30 p.m. at 119 Valley St.. Focusing on all aspects of software development including design, implementation and testing, we are language and platform independent. For more info, call Bill Gross at 937-602-3946 or email him at pss@woh.rr.com.

UNIX/LINUX SIG - Meets the 3rd Thurs. of each month at 7:00 p.m. in Wright State's Russ Engineering Center. Call Tony Snyder at 275-7913 for info. www.dma.org/linuxsig/

Venture Scouts - No fixed meeting time currently. Any new members are welcomed. For more information, please contact Ron Schwartz at: (937) 434-2144 or email to: schwartr@gemair.com

Pizza SIG

The unofficial snack or meal of the computer enthusiast is enjoyed following each DMA® General Mtg. at



Marion's Piazza on the corner of Patterson and Shroyer roads. **Use the DMA® coupon on page 26, or at the Mtg., to help raise funds for the Club!** Open to all, it is the "Pizza SIG".

Club Purpose and Membership

The Dayton Microcomputer Assn., Inc. (DMA®) is an Ohio non-profit organization dedicated to the education of, and providing information to, microcomputer users and the general public. DMA® members use and own a wide variety of computers and possess various levels of computer experience.

Annual dues are \$25 for regular members, which includes a subscription to *The DataBus* newsletter, and \$12.50 for associate members living at the same address. Associate memberships must run concurrently with a regular membership.

For other user groups with DMA®, see page 27.

- Live From The Help Desk — It's Tuesday Night! (Cont.) -

(Continued from page 1)

and the satisfaction they get from making technology a little less confusing.

There are several ways to get in touch with "Help Desk", first you can tune to 88.5 WMUB-FM, phone them at 1-888-877-3885, or try the web at helpradio@wmub.org. They have archived their previous broadcast on the web, as well as having a list of frequently asked questions. Another bonus is the "Tip of the Week Contest". You are invited to send your best computer-related tip to the show via the Internet. If your entry is chosen to be read over the air, they will send you a handsome WMUB coffee mug. Your tip should be:

- Either Mac- or Windows-related
- Easy to describe on the air
- Something that will make using a

computer easier, more fun, more productive, or just plain cooler. Entries will be judged by the staff of Help Desk. Ordinarily, no one may be the Tipster of the Week more often than once every three months.

About WMUB

Broadcasting from Williams Hall on the campus of Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, WMUB has served Southwest Ohio and Southeast Indiana for more than 50 years. With humble beginnings as a student-operated carrier station in the 1940s, WMUB began broadcasting in FM in 1950, and today provides more than 35,000 listeners with a unique blend of news, music, entertainment, and intelligent talk. WMUB combines programming from National Public Radio and Public Radio International, as well as an extensive array of origi-

nal locally produced programming. Their 24,500 watt broadcast tower is located on Taylor Road in Butler County, just minutes outside of Oxford, Ohio. WMUB-FM is licensed to the President and Trustees of Miami University and is operated under the auspices of the Office of the President and General Manager Cleve Callison.

Remember, the WMUB-FM broadcast will be LIVE and the show will begin promptly at 7:00 PM so please arrive early. The regular DMA® business meeting will be held at 8:30 PM after the broadcast ends.

And if for some reason you can't possibly attend the broadcast in person, you can still catch it on the radio. Just tune to 88.5 FM at 7:00 PM and listen in as DMA® presents "Help Desk" broadcasting LIVE, Tuesday July 29.

- Miscellaneous Windows Tips -

Provided by Joe Isaac, CKCS (Central Kentucky Computer Society)

Function Key Fun (the F keys)

All keyboards should come with at least 12 function keys.

When you're working inside Windows, you can think of the F keys as nothing more than shortcuts to help you navigate around the operating system without using your mouse.

The F keys also usually serve some purpose when applied to a specific program or piece of software. But don't think because an F key does something in one program that it will automatically do the same thing in another.

What do the F keys do?

F keys are most useful when used with Windows Explorer. Keep reading to find out all about F keys and how to use them. In order to demonstrate how some of the F keys work, you are first

going to need to open Windows Explorer.

Go to Start button, Programs (or All Programs if you're using XP), and select Windows Explorer. Or use this shortcut: Press the Windows button + E on your keyboard.

Once you have opened Windows Explorer, then give some of these a try:

F1 If you want to get help while working in a selected program just press this key. If you press this key while working outside a program (like Windows Explorer or from the desktop) you'll launch a Windows-specific help program.

If you want to get Windows-specific help while working in a program, just press the Windows button + F1. Press Shift + F1 to launch "What's This?" help.

F2 After navigating and highlighting a file or folder in Windows Explorer, just press this key to rename an item. It works just like right-clicking on a file or folder and selecting Rename. When you're finished renaming an object, just press Enter to move on.

F3 Press this key while working in Windows Explorer or on the desktop to generate the "Find Files" window. After searching for a file or folder, just close the Find Files window and go back to what you were doing.

F4 Press this key to open the Address bar in Internet Explorer. To close an open window press Alt + F4.

F5 Press this key to refresh your active window in Internet Explorer or Windows Explorer.

F6 Press this key to move the cursor around the structure of the Windows Explorer and Internet Explorer.

(Continued on page 7)

- Linux: What Have I Gotten Myself Into? -

by Nancy J. Christolear, DMA® member

The After-Installfest Panic

OK. You read my last article and decided to take the plunge. You attended the Linux Installfest and installed Linux on a machine. Everything looked good at the Installfest and one of the members gave you a quick rundown of the features. Then you took your machine home....

So here you are facing a login screen and you can't remember your login. Or, you do remember but your screen looks nothing like the Windows you are so used to. Where do you go from here?

Let's back up a moment. When you did the install on your system, you were asked to set up two users, root and a personal ID. Hopefully you wrote down the password for one of these somewhere. You can use either to get past the login screen. Which should you use? Well, we recommend that you only use root as a last resort. You should be able to do just about anything from the userID you set up. If you are using Windows XP, you will be familiar with the "user" concept. If you are not, well, this is just one of the new things you will have to get familiar with.

Linux is based on Unix, and Unix is a multi-user system. That means more than one person at a time can be logged in. Because of that, Linux has some of the tightest security around.

One of the first differences between Linux and Windows is that Linux does not have a C: drive. Everything in Linux is a file. The top directory (or folder in Windows-speak) is "/". This corresponds to the "My Computer" icon on the Windows Desktop. Underneath "/", you will find a series of directories.

We'll talk about the specifics of each later. For right now, we will just be concerned with "/root" and "/home". When you log in as root, your working directory will be the "/root" directory. This is the only ID that has its own top-level directory. All other IDs are located in the "/home" directory. So, if you set up a user ID for John Doe as "jdoe" then you would find all the work files in "/home/jdoe". Often, when you do the installation, you will find the /home directory is located on another disk partition. This is so the OS can be updated without destroying the personal files of the users.

So let's log in under the user ID. If you told Linux during the install to go to a graphical login, then you will automatically go into XWindows. If you didn't, you might end up at the command prompt. Don't panic! I know it's been a while since a lot of you have even seen a command prompt, but at one time they were common. You can still get the command prompt in most Windows-based machines. For today though, we will go into the XWindows system and save the command prompt for a later article. Just type "startx" at the command prompt and you should load XWindows.

So what is XWindows? Well, the X stands for Xerox, as in Xerox Palo Alto Research Center. This was the great "think tank" of the '80s that was so influential in the systems we have today. Steve Jobs created the Macintosh after having a tour of Xerox PARC. XWindows is the program that provides the windowing system. There is more involved for this article and we'll save the details for later.

Hopefully, when you installed your Linux system, you picked KDE or GNOME as your desktop. These are commercial packages that control the look and feel of your desktop. They also come with some built-in utilities that are quite useful. We will explore the KDE desktop. GNOME is similar enough.

As you look at the KDE desktop, it should look familiar to you. There are a series of icons on the desktop. You will notice at the bottom of the screen something that looks like a taskbar, and over on the left hand side is a "K". The "K" kind of corresponds to the Start Menu on a Windows 9x or later box. The icons on the top indicate your home directory as well as your floppy and CD drive. There may even be a trashcan.

If you double-click on the home icon, you will see the contents of your home directory (or, in the Windows vernacular, folder). This is where all your settings and personal documents will go. There should already be a couple, including one for your desktop.

Next, click on the K on the task bar. You will find a menu already set up for you. There are quite a few entries and many of them will seem to be duplicates. Don't let that bother you. Just click or hover over each menu selection. You will find that the Internet menu will have applications associated with the Internet. This would include Konqueror, the KDE web browser. You might also find KPPP. If you do, this is where you will set up your Internet access if you will be dialing in. Editors will have several text editors for you to try. You might find a few that even look like Word. The System menu will include those appli-

(Continued on page 7)

- Linux: What Have I Gotten Myself Into? (Cont.) -

(Continued from page 6)

cations that tell you about your system and help you to configure it. You will notice that most of the Linux applications have the kind of names that only a geek could love. This is another thing that discourages people. Spend some time working with the various applications. As you learn what each one is, you can change the name on the menu with one of the configuration tools.

Now let's look at the "taskbar". In KDE, this is referred to as the panel. You can add and subtract applications to configure your panel if you want. For now, let's just look at what's there. The first thing you should notice is the icon that looks like a computer monitor with a shell

on it. This is your command prompt. It's just like the MS-DOS prompt in Windows. Next, notice the monitor with a circuit card. This is the KDE control center. The Control Center will help you configure your KDE desktop. There are some other icons and you can click on them to see what they do.

At this point, you should just spend some time exploring the system. You didn't learn Windows overnight, and you won't learn Linux overnight either. Perhaps you should try out the various games that come with the system (wasn't Solitaire one of the first things you tried out in Windows?). Next, write a letter. If you feel comfortable hooking up to the Internet, give KPPP a try.

As you use your Linux system, write down the various questions you have. And you will have questions. Bring them to the next Linux SIG meeting on August 21st in the Russ Engineering Center at Wright State. Or come to the Linux Playground during Computerfest®. You can show what questions you have and you can ask a lot of questions. There are plenty of places to learn.

You may still be frustrated and be inclined to just go back to Windows. I encourage you to fight that impulse. Anything that has you doing things differently will take some time. Stay with it and I assure you, you'll get to enjoy your time on Linux.

§

- Miscellaneous Windows Tips (Cont.) -

(Continued from page 5)

F7 Only works inside a program.

F8 Press this key to access Windows Startup Menu during boot up. (Like Safe Mode).

F9 Only works inside a program.

F10 Press this key to activate the menu bar in programs.

Press Shift + F10 to bring up the shortcut menu. This works similar to the Application key.

F11 Press this key to open your current Internet Explorer window to "full screen," completely filling your monitor and making all of the toolbars disappear at the top.

F12 Only works inside a program.

* * *

Run Old Windows Programs in XP

If you're having trouble running older programs originally developed for previous versions of Windows, you're

not out of luck. Luckily for consumers, Microsoft built Compatibility Mode into XP. Compatibility Mode allows you to run a program using the shell of the original program it was developed for.

Here's how to access a program's Compatibility Mode in XP:

1. Find the executable or program shortcut icon you'd like to run.
2. Right-click the icon and select Properties.
3. Click the Compatibility tab and place a checkmark next to the text labeled "Run this program in compatibility mode."
4. Select the operating system that the program was originally intended to run on.
5. You may need to fine-tune the three fields under "Display Settings" if an older program requires 640x480 resolution or 256 colors.
6. Click Apply.

Try starting the program after making these changes. If it still gives you

trouble, try a different operating system. If the program was written for Win 95 and worked fine in Win 98, there's nothing that says it won't still work fine with Win 98.

OK, that's all well and good, but what happens if you try to install a program and it won't even install? Well, we found out that you can do the same compatibility trick with setup programs. To do it, put your CD into the drive. If XP brings up the "What do you want to do with this CD?" window, tell it you want to "Open folder to view files" (If it autoruns, cancel out).

If you don't get the option to "Open folder to view files" that's OK. Just hit the Start button, My Computer. Then right-click the CD ROM drive, and select Explore.

OK, you should be looking at the CD ROM's files. Look for a file called Setup.exe (you may not see the .exe). Right-click it and select Properties.

(Continued on page 19)

UH - OH !

These Memberships have expired, or are about to expire soon!

Remember to send your check & the completed application form (in the center of this newsletter) marked "DMA® Dues" to P.O. Box 340402, Beavercreek, OH 45434-0402. Or if you give them to Carol Ewing at the next General Meeting, please have the form filled out in advance and have correct change or a check. **We do not have change at the meeting.**

Expired in June 2003

Black	Kathi
Burgmeier	Bill
Carrier	David
Crabtree	George
Feigleson	John P.
Fleck	Shawn
Gyenes	Colleen
Hansford II	Paul D.
Harris	Robert L.
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Knapke	Mark Joseph
Landaburu	A. Carlos
Merrill	Gregory
Midlam	Tom
Nash	Tracy
Peters III	Roscoe H.
Straw	Douglas
Walton	Rhonda J. (a)

Expires in July 2003

Anderson	Mark
Bacher	James A.
Bennett	Barbara
Chiang	T. Derek
Cook	Gary L.
Cook	Jason
Cox	Alice
DeWaters	Ernie
DeWaters	Irma C. (a)
Elworth	Donald T.
Fabregat	Jorge Emilio
Feigleson	Mark
Ford	Larry
Hopson	John
Jones	David H.
Kouse	Penny C.
Krull	Jay J.
Lackermann Jr.	William
Lemen	Carolann
Lord	Steve
Mahurin	Don
Milano	Jack
Petersen	Steve
Reeves	Kent
Rotman	David
Stuart	James

Suarez	Patrick
Tasch	Daniel
Wineburgh	Lewis
Young, Th.D.	Barbara
Zarecky	Mark D.

Expires in August 2003

Anders	Larry
Anderson	Miles
Ball	Gary L.
Barfield	Arthur
Biawitz	Stephen A.
Boedeker	Harold F.
Brodowski	Thomas C.
Browne	Michael J.
Buechly	Harold
Cahill	Timothy
Clemmons	Dean
Cox	Bruce
Coy	Benjamin
Coy	Jonathan
Davis II	William N.
Edwards	Robert L.
Esch	Carol
Fitzmartin	Susan
Forrai	David
Foward Sr.	Alphonsa
Garringer	John
Gavin	Joe
Georges	Mark
Goss	Susan M.
Green	Ina (a)
Green	Ray
Harris	Robert L.
Heeg	James E.
Heinz	Patrick
Hepner	John
Horn	Charles
Horton	Jerry A.
Hostens	William
Houser	Dennis W.
Huckeby	Kenneth R.
Hughes	Kathleen M.
Humphreys	Edward N.
Kannik	Kathleen
Kelley	Dayna L.
Klein	Kenneth

Leach	Jane (a)
Leach	Robert
Leach	William
Lindsey	Charles R.
Lohnes	Ernest
Long	Carol A.
Lynch	F. William
Lytle	Glenn A.
Mahfouz	George
Markowski	Carroll F.
Massengil Jr.	Fred
McCoy	James L.
McKosky	Michael W.
Mullins	C. Fred
Myers II	William A.
Odle	Royce
Omiatek	Joshua D.
O'Quinn	Nicole R. (a)
Ormbrek	Nathaniel
Preis	William
Priess	Joseph
Quijas	Perry
Reibert	Gary
Roth	Thomas
Ruckman	Robert
Sage	Sarah
Smith	Frank
Smith	Karen (a)
Smith	Lee
Sondergelt	Erik
Spren	Arthur
Stackonis	Peter J.
Swafford	David
Taylor	Billie
Taylor	Elisabeth C. (a)
Troutman	Shawn
van Alden	Jon
Walton	Jeff
Wasserman	Miriam
Welsh	Joseph C.
Wilkin	Olivia
Williamitis	Ron
Williams	James F.
Zimmerman	Harold

(a) indicates an associate member

- Game Review - Strategic Command -

by Dan Woodward, DMA® member, DataBus Software Reviewer



Dan Woodward: *At the tender age of 9, Dan got his start enjoying computer games on his TI-99/4a home computer, and he's been at it ever since. He graduated in 1996 with a B.S. in Environmental Studies. Dan has been a DMA® member since 1993 and enjoys playing Othello, other strategy and role playing games, backpacking, fishing and gardening. He also dabbles in computer repair and upgrades. Dan is a regular software reviewer in the pages of The DataBus. He can be reached by emailing him at dgw@dmapub.dma.org.*

World War II was the widest ranging war in history, with parts taking place in various hemispheres. It involved numerous charismatic leaders, generals and heroes. The largest tank battle in history took place during World War II, and the airplane finally came of age as an important part of military strategy. It added words like 'blitzkrieg' to our lexicon, and also gave us the atomic bomb. Because of all these factors, and the appeal of trying out "what if" scenarios, it is not surprising that battlefront.com has released a WWII game, Strategic Command: European Theater.

Strategic Command is a good simulation of the war, from the area east of Moscow all the way to the U.S.A., and from 1939 to 1946. It covers the traditional areas of activity for the war but still leaves room for a lot of things that could have happened. For example, playing as Germany, I invaded the Baltic States early in the game, prompting a much earlier than expected entry of Russia into the war on the side of the Allies. The Baltic States looked tempting - but I hadn't realized that the Soviets had plans to annex them in less than a year, and they didn't take kindly to my interference. As another example, playing primarily as France and England (Allies), I decided to invade the Low Countries in order to more easily side-step German defenses. This action seemed to delay the entry of the U.S. into the war, costing me dearly.

Game play is turn based, with all of the Axis troops making their moves, resupplying and entrenching, and then the Allied side getting their chance to do the same. Players can choose which

side to play, a difficulty level, and from many other factors, such as fog of war. They can also choose to start play at the very beginning (1939), or else at a number of other pivotal points along the way. This allows a choice between a rather long game and much shorter ones. Players improve their lot by increasing the number of Military Production Points (MPPs) that they collect each turn. Cities, ports, mines and oil sites are all worth various amounts of



MPPs each turn. MPPs can be used to purchase new units, heal damage taken during combat or to research new weapons such as jet aircraft or sonar.

There are a lot of things to like about this game. It is very easy to pick up the basics quickly, but like Othello, it takes a while to master. With all of the user configurable options, you can play several hundred times and play will still seem fresh. As your skills improve, you can increase the difficulty setting, causing the computer AI to represent a true challenge. I truly love the research options included in this game. As time goes by, you can begin producing new classes of improved tanks and aircraft - a feature that has been missing from many WWII games I have played previously. This also causes players to face a tough choice: should they pro-

duce more units, or invest in the possibility of being able to produce better ones through research? There is also a robust scenario editor included with the game, and a number of new scenarios have been posted to the Internet. Also, battlefront has signaled its continued support of this game by releasing a multiplayer patch recently online. The only real negative aspect is that the game can get bogged down a bit towards the end, when there can be up to a hundred or more units in play.

Summary: Like Panzer General, Strategic Command is a modern day classic wargame. It is easy to learn, but offers so many user options that it has great replay value. This is truly a game that you will likely still be playing several years down the road.

Rating: 9.5 out of 10

Requirements: 166 MHz CPU, 32 MB RAM, 1024x768 video, 50 MB HDD, CD

Reviewed: Athlon 700, 128 MB RAM, 32 MB Video, 50x CD, Win ME, DirectX 9, 30 GB HD

Best Price: \$32, includes shipping, at battlefront.com/products/stratcom/stratcom.html

Demo: www.battlefront.com/products/stratcom/stratcom.html

Strategy Guide: <http://ww2n.com/schq/SC-StrategyGuide-Rev1.pdf>

Additional Campaigns (mods) for Strategic Command: <http://ww2n.com/schq/cam.htm>

- Technology.talk — Spam Spam Spam...Satisfying A Willing Audience -

By Patrick J. Suarez—Regular Contributor to *The DataBus* - pjsuarez@gemair.com



Patrick J. Suarez is a nationally recognized Internet writer, trainer, speaker and consultant. He has appeared on numerous radio and TV programs across the United States. He is the Internet speaker at the annual Computerfest® trade show in Dayton, OH each spring. Mr. Suarez published a tutorial software program called "The Beginner's Guide to the Internet" in 1993, and a book by the same title followed in 1995. In addition, Mr. Suarez has been published by Que. Mr. Suarez operates a Web site supporting people who have just learned that they have a tumor. Pat is an independent writer and trainer and shares his computing time between Linux and Windows.

In the quirky Paul Thomas Anderson film "Punch Drunk Love", jumpy, neurotic loner Barry Egan (played intensely by Adam Sandler), seeking female companionship, called a \$1.99 per minute phone sex line, something he thought would also offer anonymity and safety. He did this in spite of having been offered live companionship in the form of Lena Leonard, played by the fetching Emily Watson.

The question, why would Egan make that decision, is directly related to the question, why are spammers so successful? And that question is related to this question: why can't we stop Central and South American countries from exporting so much heroin and cocaine into the USA?

Everything points to human behavior.

Spam is our current national obsession. That obsession will pass, like everything else does in this country, but until it does, we are stuck with it as a prime topic of news and conversation.

Spam is not about technology; it is about people. Which brings me back to the hapless Mr. Egan, for whom telephone technology was the safer, less potentially humiliating choice for nothing more than a chat with a woman. Indeed, he made his selection, and the phone sex industry benefited.

Consider Barry Egan as symbolic of those who respond to spammers' pitches. And, respond they do.

The positive spam response rate is 1

in 10,000, or .0001 percent. The spammer I know personally sends 33 million messages each month, a comparative lightweight given others in his trade. Do the math: 33,000 people a month flash plastic to his clients, usually for products that cost more than \$10. This fellow takes his cut, which keeps him comfortably in new cars and hors d'oeuvres. Although he's a pauper compared to coke and heroin pushers, he does all right.

Again, everything points to human behavior, and it's humans who are needy, desperate, alienated or who otherwise feel that they are lacking in something who respond to spam.

I have a cousin who once told my mother, "Aunt Suzanne, I learned (from a college psych course) how to separate people from their money and I am going to devote my life to it." That was in 1968.

And so he has. My cousin has dedicated his every waking moment to direct mail marketing. He knows just exactly how dissatisfied we are with ourselves, especially in our most private moments, alone, just out of the shower, observing ourselves in the mirror and rejecting everything we see, from our physical appearance to our bank accounts to our relationships. Inside and out.

We have given my cousin sufficient motivation to peddle enough dissatisfaction-numbing junk, including "good luck" pyramids under which too many people have sat (to absorb good luck, no kidding...and he sold a zillion of them), to enable him to pur-

chase, with cash, a 26,000 square foot, four story home, gated within a gated community. All \$16 million of it. And this was before the advent of spam.

The geeks are trying mightily to employ technology to battle human behavior. How naïve. They are investigating everything from having computers perform math equations each time the computer spits out an e-mail message to heuristic methodologies that try to figure out if "Hi, from an old friend" is or is not spam. The government is even considering an e-mail stamp costing one one-hundredth of a cent. Some wags think that receiving too much spam will deter e-mail. Ha! Charging people for e-mail is what will kill e-mail. But, who will get the money and what will they do with it? And what will keep the miniscule charge from ballooning over time?

Policy makers are also considering antispam laws. Does anyone seriously think that will slow the flow of spam? If so, think again. We have laws against murder and fascinating technical wizardry to fight it. "C.S.I.", television's most popular show for the past two years, is about the uphill battle of technology vs. murderers. Yet, people still commit murder every day and many of them never face justice.

But the legal folks forge ahead. In a sort of perverse twist on today's priorities, it might become easier to commit and get away with first-degree murder than to send spam. That tells us where our national concerns lie.

Proposed antispam technology and

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- Technology.talk — Spam Spam Spam (Cont.) -

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legislation sound impressive, but drug sellers and murderers (and even spammers) know that neither has ever stopped all of them. Ironically, many antispam technologies might even increase the amount of spam. With a few programming commands, spammers could establish technological work-arounds that include tripling the amount of spam, confident that some will get through if only by overwhelming a system.

On the legal front, spammers who do not fake headers and do offer legitimate merchandise will, in fact, win any attempt to blacklist them or stop them as they perform what really is an alternate form of advertising. Pass all the laws you want, or have some overzealous programmer keep mass e-mail sent by General Foods or P&G from

getting to millions of addresses, and those who fiddle with the corporate supergiants will find themselves buried in hundreds of thousands of dollars in litigation fees and lost cases. Advertising is advertising, and don't ever bet against a determined, billion-dollar multinational corporation.

Remember that the Internet is life's intersection of people and technology. Ending spam (or illegal drug use) means coming to grips with those who respond to it. When they feel that they don't need the products that spam brings, then spam will stop because the purveyors will find themselves without a market.

But until that happens, you might as well quit whining and install the spam filter that suits you best.

§

***Congrats
George
Ewing,
July '03
“Volunteer
of the
Month”***

- DMA® Board of Trustee and Officer Elections -

Elections are held at the annual General Meeting in September. The DMA® by-laws state specific requirements to be a nominee for a Board of Trustee or Officer position. Each year, three people will be elected as Board of Trustees for a three (3) year term by the membership present at the September General Membership meeting. At the October Board meeting, the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer are nominated and then elected by The Board of Trustees for a one (1) year term.

Requirements:

- Must be a paid up individual regular or associate member of DMA® in good standing for at least the 12 months prior to election.
- Must be twenty-one (21) years of age before the date of the election.
- You are required to sign both forms and return to the **Nominating Com-**

mittee Chairman by August 31, 2003.

Any DMA® member wishing to run for a Board of Trustee position shall contact the Nomination Committee Chairman or committee members. The Committee will send you a Nomination Packet consisting of a copy of the current DMA® by-laws, an Expression of Interest and Commitment form and DMA® Code of Ethics Form.

The Nominating Committee Chairman will send every eligible nominee a certificate of acceptance notice. Every eligible nominee will be asked to send a short write up, electronic form preferred, not to exceed 500 words, and a photograph before September 1, 2003, to be printed in *The DataBus*. This write up should include a Biography and why you would like to be a DMA® Trustee.

If you know of a member of DMA® that you think would make a good Trustee, let us know and we will contact them.

Nominations will not be accepted from the floor on the evening of the election, Tuesday, September 30, 2003.

A copy of the complete DMA® By-Laws are on the website at http://www.dma.org/DMA_BYLAWS_7_25_2000.html

Contact your Nomination Committee today:

elections@dma.org

George Ewing, Chairman
ewingg@dma.org
Millard Mier
millard@millard.net

- Computerfest® Expands Your Opportunity To Learn -

by George Ewing, Computerfest® Advance Training Chair

Send your computer knowledge "Flying into the Future" by attending one of Computerfest®'s Advanced Training classes. Held during the 5 days prior to the Computerfest® show, these provide affordable classes in an intensive, but fun, learning environment.

Computerfest® is proud to announce it is expanding the training opportunities offered prior to the Saturday & Sunday show to five days. Starting on Monday, August 18, we will open the doors for what will be another first for Computerfest®. This will be the first time we have offered five-day classes. The five-day classes we are offering are **Mac OS X and Mac OS X Server Essentials** and **Linux Sys Admin**.

For the latest announcements, more information, and to register, visit the COMPUTERFEST® ADVANCED TRAINING web page at:
<http://www.computerfest.com/advtrain.shtml>.

* * *

Ann Sykora, from **MIAMI-JACOBS COLLEGE**, will once again be teaching our introductory class:

Introduction to Computing and the Internet - This ONE DAY HANDS-ON CLASS, available each day August 18, 2003 through August 22, 2003, provides an introduction to the Windows operating systems and Office applications. The terminology and operating system command structure will be integrated throughout. Topics to be covered: Computer Basics, Computer Programs, File Management, The Internet, and Outlook Express. Tune-ups and preventive maintenance will be included. 7 Hours of Hands-ON Instruction from a Miami-Jacobs Career College Instructor and Courseware book. Only \$79.95 per person, per day.

* * *

We want to welcome **Apple Computers**. They are coming on board in a big way by offering four classes. They are:

Getting Started with Mac OS X - This ONE DAY HANDS-ON CLASS is available each day August 18, 2003 and August 19, 2003. If you thought you could live without a Mac, it's time to reconsider. Everyone's talking about the fantastic looks and features of the newest version of OS X. But how hard will it be to learn? It's as simple as purchasing the newest training. Getting Started with Mac OS X provides new and current Mac users with instructor-led training on the Macintosh operating system, Apple tools, applications, and technologies. Only \$299.00 per person.

Mac OS X and Mac OS X Server Essentials - This FIVE DAY CLASS, August 18-22, 2003, teaches how to manage a Mac OS X client and server system, covering topics such as installation and configuration, email, printing, file sharing, internet and web access, startup and shutdown, testing, and troubleshooting. These courses prepare the candidate for the Apple Certified Technical Coordinator (ACTC) certification exams track. Prerequisites can be met by taking the Getting Started with Mac OS X course. Presented by Apple Certified Trainers. \$2499.00 after July 27, 2003. Early Bird Special - Only \$2299.00 until July 27, 2003 - Save \$200.00!

Troubleshooting Mac OS X - This THREE DAY CLASS, August 20-22, 2003, provides students with the skills, tools, and knowledge to deploy and maintain a Mac OS X-based system. Students will learn how to set up and configure stand-alone Mac OS X workstations to access network-based services. In addition, this course provides the theory and practice for troubleshooting a variety of representative problems. A combination of lecture, demonstrations, and practice exercises provide practical real-world experience. Presented by Apple Certified Trainers. \$1,499 per person after July 27, 2003. Early Bird Special - Only \$1,399 per person until July 27, 2003 - Save \$100.00!

Mac OS X Client Management - This TWO DAY CLASS, August 18-19, 2003, Teaches how to manage a Mac OS X client and server system, covering topics such as installation and configuration, email, printing, file sharing, Internet and web access, startup and shutdown, testing, and troubleshooting. These courses prepare the candidate for the Apple Certified Technical Coordinator (ACTC) certification exams track. Learn how to take advantage of Apple's powerful suite of tools to effectively plan and centrally manage Mac OS X systems throughout your organization. Remotely configure and access your network of computers. Simplify the administration of your Mac OS X-based systems. Instantaneously customize and control preferences for different users and groups. Presented by Apple Certified Trainers. \$599 per person after July 27, 2003. Early Bird Special - Only \$574 until July 27, 2003 - Save \$25.00!

* * *

Don Corbet, from **SINCLAIR COMMUNITY COLLEGE, MIAMI-JACOBS COLLEGE & D. L. Corbet & Associates**, is providing training for those interested in LINUX. We have two offerings:

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- Computerfest® Expands Your Opportunity To Learn (Cont.) -

(Continued from page 12)

Understanding and Using Linux on your Desktop –

This HANDS-ON 2 DAY CLASS, August 19 - August 20, provides an introduction to the Mandrake Linux operating system and Linux applications. Topics to be covered: basic concepts, free software concepts, user tools, history of Linux, major applications, file management, and more. \$449.95 after July 27, 2003. Early Bird Special - Only \$399.95 until July 27, 2003 - Save \$50.00!

Linux System Administrator Course - This HANDS-ON FIVE DAY CLASS, August 18-22, 2003, is an in-depth System Administration & administering a workstation administration Course including theoretical and practical applications using Mandrake Linux. This course prepares participants for CompTia's Linux+ and Linux Professional Institute LPI 101 certification. Topics to be covered include Basic concepts, Installation, Administration Basics, Advanced Use of the Shell, TROUBLE-free Administration, User SERVICES & Server SERVICES (SAMBA & APACHE). Class Includes Textbook, Workbook & Pro Version of Mandrake Linux. \$1,499 per person after July 27, 2003. Early Bird Special - Only \$1,399 per person until July 27, 2003 - Save \$100.00!

* * *

Russell Kall, a Microsoft Certified Trainer, from **Sinclair Community College**, will present:

Microsoft MCP Certification - This THREE DAY HANDS-ON CLASS, August 18-20, 2003, provides Test Prep for the Windows 2000 Professional and Server. This

exam prep class will help prepare the student to pass the 70-210 and 70-215 exams. Familiarity with Windows is required. Includes 21 Hours of Hands-ON Instruction from Microsoft Certified Trainer Russell Kall. Also includes a Microsoft Official Training Kit with evaluation software. \$495.95 per person after July 27, 2003. Early Bird Special Only \$395.95 per person until July 27, 2003 - Save \$100.00!

For the latest announcements, more information and to register, visit the COMPUTERFEST® ADVANCED TRAINING web page at

<http://www.computerfest.com/advtrain.shtml>

Classes for Beginners to IT Professionals.

- Dates: Monday - Friday, August 18-22, 2003
- Classes will be held at Hara Arena Convention Center, Silver Arena Entrance.
- Times: 9 AM till 5 PM
- Teachers are highly qualified Professional Instructors.
- Class fees include a ticket to Computerfest® good for all the weekend's activities (except the Gaming Area)

Note: Most classes have a minimum number of students needed in order for that class to be held. If a class does not have the minimum number registered by August 8, 2003, then that class only will be cancelled and money paid will be refunded to each person signed up for that class. If you have any questions please email us at:

Computerfest-Advanced-Training-Coordinator@computerfest.com.

- DMA® and Computerfest® Shirts Seen Around The World! -

by George Gibbs, acting co-editor, *The DataBus*

The Editors of *The DataBus* are pleased to present another photo of a DMA® member vacationing while wearing an official Computerfest® tee shirt. This time we're featuring one taken of John Daniel, Computerfest® Exhibitor Committee F03. John sent this note along with his picture:

"I've been I've been busy since last Computerfest®. What am I saying?... I was busy before the last Computerfest®! In any event, my new wife and I were finally able to go on our honeymoon in mid-April. (We were only married in February!) One of the stops included Waikiki, Hawaii and well, let's just say that I was thinking of everybody. Even while away, I was 'flying the colors' for the DMA®."

We'd like to encourage others to help "spread the word" as well. Here's what to do. The next time you travel somewhere (the farther, the better), whether it's for business or pleasure, take along a shirt featuring DMA® or Computerfest® on it. Then have your picture taken wearing it in front of some famous local landmark there. Email it to us at Editor@dma.org. Be sure to tell us the approximate date it was taken and where you were. Each month, we'll select one or more of your photos and publish them in the next issue. Will your picture be featured here next month? Send it in and find out!



- Has Your Web Surfing Seemed Slower? -

by Ira Wilsker, APCUG Board of Advisers

Recently, I found that my Internet access seemed sluggish, with pages loading more slowly than usual. I also had some other problems, which I have not had in the past, such as errors when burning CDs, or lockups when loading a recorded CD, or viewing multimedia files. I would now also sometimes get a "blue screen of death", the infamous blue window telling me that "IEXPLORE caused an invalid page fault", which often required a reboot to clear the locked computer. Other errors that occurred were "This program has performed an illegal operation and will be shut down", "Rundll32 caused an invalid page fault in module Unknown at 0000", and other similar errors.

To try and solve the problem, I reviewed any changes I had made to my machine. I had not recently added any new hardware. Diagnostics on my Internet connection showed a typical connection speed and throughput, so that was not the problem. Scandisk showed no hard drive errors, and there was no significant disk fragmentation to hinder performance. Other than daily updates, I was using the same version antivirus as usual. I ran an online virus scan at www.housecall.antivirus.com just to see if a virus or Trojan had slipped by my antivirus software between updates, and my computer was free of viruses and Trojans, either of which could have caused the problems. Then I updated and ran my favorite spyware checker, Spybot Search and Destroy, available for free from its website at spybot.safer.networking.de and it found a new "browser helper" called "New.Net" had somehow been installed recently. This spyware is somewhat benign, downloading and installing its updates silently in the background, while enabling access to non-standard, upper-level Internet domains. I allowed Spybot to remove the New.Net files from my computer.

Some quick online research on New.Net uncovered several interesting tidbits about this pest. Microsoft recently (June 4) posted a Knowledge Base article about New.Net, labeled KB302463, which described many of my problems exactly. Microsoft told about the problems with New.Net, and how to resolve them. The support section of another excellent spyware killer, PestPatrol, available from www.pestpatrol.com, indicates that New.Net has been known to crash Internet Explorer regularly.

About the only new software I had installed recently was the latest version of RealOne, the popular free multimedia player that I had downloaded from Real Networks, www.real.com. I had been trying to manipulate some unusual audio formats, and the new version of RealOne was listed as being capable, so I downloaded it and installed it. It was shortly after installing RealOne that I started having trouble web surfing and burning CDs. According to PestPatrol, RealOne is one of many programs that installs New.Net.

Looking up RealOne issues on the search engine Alltheweb, I found many references to problems similar to mine, and that the effective way to resolve the conflicts was to also remove RealOne from the computer. RealOne, in addition to being a comprehensive multimedia player also tries to read or write any CD inserted, as well as intercepts "calls" for other multimedia functions. According to the reports, this can cause the sluggish performance issues I encountered. I uninstalled RealOne using Microsoft's integral uninstall function by clicking on My Computer – Control Panel – Add/Remove Programs, clicking on RealOne, and uninstalling it. Almost immediately, my performance improved to where it was prior to the installation of RealOne, and my lockups and page faults were gone.

I was now back to my original need for a full-functioned multimedia utility. I have Microsoft's Windows Media Player, but I do not use it because of some of the performance and privacy issues associated with it. The need was promptly satisfied by downloading the latest version of a small (800k), excellent, free utility discussed previously in this column, Irfan View, written by a Bosnian computer science student. Available for download at www.irfanview.com, this small program has enormous capabilities. If the optional "plug-ins" are installed, Irfan View can play or manipulate virtually any multimedia format, including images, audio, and video. Streaming media, including real player format, QuickTime, and other video formats are also supported with the available plug-ins. I recommend that Irfan View be installed, and then the Irfan file "ALL Plug-Ins" be downloaded and installed.

Now, I can play my streaming formats without the degradation in performance I had with RealOne. Irfan View is written in tight code, which utilizes fewer resources such as memory and processor time, than its larger competitors.

If you are having similar sluggish performance while surfing the net, playing or burning CDs, or using streaming media, consider removing RealOne, and using Irfan View with its plug-ins. Also scan for viruses and spyware, as I did, and run Scandisk and Defrag. While not a cure-all for performance problems, this might be an easy solution for many of the problems that "we" are having.

Happy and safe computing!

* * *

Ira Wilsker is on the APCUG Board of Advisers. This column of his is reprinted courtesy of Mr. Wilsker and THE EXAMINER, Beaumont, Texas, where it originally appeared.

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Name of DMA® member who recruited me: _____ (only new regular memberships)
Current or recent DMA® Member: Yes ☐ No ☐ Change of Address Only ☐ Today's date: ____/____/____
Membership number (from your *DataBus* mailing label) _____

Type of Membership

Application is for: New Membership ☐ Membership Renewal ☐ Associate Membership* ☐ Internet Service ☐
If applying for free student membership, please give school name and student ID number: Available **only** for students under 22 years old.
School Name: _____ Student ID#: _____

* A family associate membership is for an additional membership for a member of your immediate family that is living in the member's household. If this is a family associate membership, give name of regular member: _____

2

Dues/Fees

(Dues and Fees are subject to change without prior notice)

*Note: A \$10.00 fee will be charged
for all returned checks.*

Membership (one year - New or Renewal)	1.) <input type="checkbox"/> \$25
Family Associate Membership (must live at same address as regular member)	2.) <input type="checkbox"/> \$12.50
Free* Student Membership	3.) <input type="checkbox"/> FREE *for students under 22 years of age
Please assign me a user ID for E-mail and Usenet news access	4.) <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 one-time setup fee for new accounts.
Total - - - Lines (1 or 2) (+4 if checked)	= 5.) \$ _____

Please complete sections 1 & 2 of this form. Make your check payable to DMA®, - Dayton Microcomputer Association, Inc.
then send the check and application to: ----- PO Box 340402
Beavercreek, OH 45434-0402

DMA® Use only: Membership # _____ Exp. Date: ____/____/____ Processed by: _____ REV: 02Jun2003

3

Internet Service Application

Modems at 910-0006 settings 8-N-1

Optional

The **Internet Service Application**, along with terms and conditions of use, is now available online on DMA®'s web site.

Please read, print, sign and include the Internet Service Terms and Conditions agreement from the URL

<http://www.dma.org/dmapub-user-agreement.html>

with your membership application if you are also establishing an Internet service account through DMA®.

Helpline: Computer Resource People

DMA®'s Helpline listing below lists members who are willing to accept occasional telephone calls at home to give free assistance to **other DMA® members (only)** when they have a problem with a particular software or computing concept.

Will **you** please consider signing up, like those good people below, if only on a trial basis? Call George Gibbs (937-429-9072) or Edwin Davidson (937-294-8524), or email us at Editor@dma.org. Everyone has a particular program or game, or ability with certain hardware they know pretty well. Maybe you use it all day at work, or all night at play, or recently installed a board or upgraded your PC, etc. This makes you more knowledgeable than someone who has not yet used that software or installed that hardware and you could possibly be a great help in solving a problem of another DMA® member. Or perhaps you write programs in certain languages, or are a developer, networker, webmaster, or use search tools skillfully, etc., and their questions would be easy for you. The field of possibilities is nearly unlimited.

You choose the time(s) and day(s) you can provide assistance, and the subject. We'll ask the caller to be ready to provide his/her membership number (on the back of each DataBus) to you; to respect your stated times; and to keep inquiries to a minimum.

Callers: Please be prepared to give the Helpline volunteer your membership number; DMA® membership has its privileges! Please do not ask for assistance outside of the stated times. If you reach a telephone answering machine, leave a message, as many people screen calls or otherwise prioritize their time. E-mail addresses are provided so that you can contact them if you have trouble getting in touch via telephone. (Remuneration may be appropriate when a member spends a longer than normal time providing help.)

Problem with this?	Call Member:	Times:	Phone No.	Days	Email addresses:
Apple Macintosh, FrontPage98	John Driggers	9am-2 p.m.	800-227-9597 x5870	M-F	johndriggers@sprintmail.com
PowerPoint, Internet Basics	Carol Esch	6-7:30 p.m.	339-0202	M-F	eschc@dma.org
MS Publisher	Bob Esch	4-7 p.m.	339-0202	M-F	eschb@dma.org
QuickBooks	John Friedenbach	7-9 p.m.	294-8113	M-F	jlfriedenb@aol.com
MS Word	Carol Gudorf	7-9 p.m.	606-363-0690	M-F	gudorfc@dma.org
MS Word/Excel/Access/Works	Doug Johnson	7-9 p.m.	252-7991	M-F	johnson@dma.org
Investment Clubs	Hank Pesa	7-9 p.m.	435-1146	M-F	pesa@erinet.com
MS Office, Word/Excel/PwrPt; MS Works, Internet Searching	Millie Tanner	7-9 p.m.	513-489-7273	M-W-F Sat. & Sun.	tannercm@fuse.net
Windows 98 + Internet	Gary Turner	9 am - 9 pm	253-5090	Tue.-Sat.	turnerg@dma.org
Routers, Hubs, Switches (Cisco)	Ron Wagner	before 9 p.m.	W - 264-7244 H - 698-4854	M-F	wagner@dma.org
Oracle Database (sql / pl-sql), CADD (Microstation in particular) use and application development, C/Java/C++ programming, Enterprise Integration	Jerry Walter	—	Use email.	—	gwalter1@woh.rr.com
Serial/Parallel Ports	Verne Wiese	7-9 p.m.	429-2969	M-F	vwiese@dma.org
Linux	Don Corbett	9 am - 9 pm	604-8793	M-F	Thelinuxguy@gemair.com
What is your specialty?	Your Name Here				

The Deals Guy

Bob "The Cheapskate" Click,

Greater Orlando Computer User Group



***Alas, It's Another Goodbye From a Great User Group Supporter**

I was about to release the August column to my editors when I received Bonnie Mitchell's e-mail with the sad news that Casady & Greene is closing their doors after 19 years in business. Bonnie, their users group coordinator, sent out her sad goodbye to all of us who are users group contacts. While we were only connected with C & G for eight years, many of you have met Bonnie at APCUG or regional events across the country. She was always ready to help with review products and prizes for drawings. C & G supported us when the expense of it might have been questionable, but they were there when we needed them. This recession is certainly taking its toll in the business community, and in the process, the user group community is losing some great friends along the way. Thanks for everything Bonnie, and good luck in any new endeavors.

***Eliminating The Competition**

I read that Palm has declared its intention to purchase Handspring and they will do business under a new name, but with two different units, one for handhelds, and the other for "so called" smart phones. Since Palm is not an APCUG sponsor, it looks like Handspring will be gone too. According to Value Line, Handspring's liquidity was deteriorating and revenues were significantly below last year's levels. Sales for both have been declining so perhaps it's time.

***Ink Jet Deal Is Jetting Back Again**

I don't often repeat a deal, but this one was very popular. Susie McLean of Inksell.com agreed to repeat the original deal offered last year and extend it until the end of this year (2003). The

differences are: the expiration date, the coupon code, and free shipping on orders over \$49.00 (an improvement). I am repeating it below with the changes.

"InkSell.com is a discount printing Supply Company that specializes in cartridges for all makes of ink jet and laser printers, solid ink printers, copiers, and fax machines. We sell brand names, new compatible cartridges (for most brands), and remanufactured cartridges and refill kits. Our compatible cartridge quality is certified to match that of the manufacturer and our prices are up to 70 and 80% less. We would be happy to offer DealsGuy readers a 10% discount on purchases at our online store.

"A discount coupon code will be valid through Dec. 31, 2003. To redeem the 10% discount, (not valid with any other discount or offer), simply visit our site, [<http://www.inksell.com>], place your order and continue to 'check out' where there will be a blank to enter the discount coupon code (DealsGuy2003). The discount will be automatically calculated. Should anyone have questions or need assistance, please telephone customer service at 1-800-255-0483, or send e-mail to [help@inksell.com]. Don't forget the free shipping on orders over \$49.00."

***It's Not Free This Time, But It's Still A Bargain**

Colleen Toumayan from Executive Software e-mailed me to let my readers know that they have a good price on Undelete and Diskeeper bundled together. The bundle is \$39.95 and would normally be \$59.90 if bought separately. About Diskeeper: "they say built-in defragmenters are slow, labor intensive and use too much system resources to keep up with the performance demands of today's comput-

ing needs. Ultimately, they don't get used. Running Diskeeper is like hiring an expert to constantly monitor and maintain your system's maximum performance."

About Undelete: "you store a lot of data on your computer, and you need to protect it 24/7. Re-creating accidentally deleted files takes a lot of time, and using backups to restore deleted files is not always reliable—especially if you've created and deleted something between backups. New Undelete replaces your recycle bin with a Recovery Bin, which catches all the files you delete so file recovery is quick and easy."

These products in the bundle are for home use and you can check them further at [<http://consumer.execsoft.com/home.asp>] to order them if you wish.

***What's Going On Your Web Site?**

If you have a Web site, it often helps if you know all the statistics about the visitors. One problem though, if you're using the free space given to you by your ISP, you probably have no access to the log for it (and can't use this product). On the other hand, if you have a paid Web space, usually you have access to the server log for your site. You should find out if your server log is accessible. You could analyze things the hard way and download the log file, then sift through it manually to see what you can determine. Sure it will work, but it's time consuming. I know in my case, I'd like to know which files were hit, and for how long.

I talked to Sane Solutions about offering a discount on their products and they agreed to do it. I have to say,

(Continued on page 19)

The Deals Guy — (Cont.)

(Continued from page 18)

their NetTracker Professional software is already much cheaper than another well known software for the same purpose, but Sane Solutions feels theirs does it better. They did not give me a product to review so you will have to do your own evaluation, but you can download a fully functional two-week trial version to evaluate. Check their Web site at [<http://www.sane.com>] and look at the product descriptions.

NetTracker Professional sells for \$495.00 and NetTracker Enterprise is \$995.00. Darryl Cunningham, sales manager of Sane Solutions, said that if you call him with your request, he'd personally handle the order giving you a 20% discount on their products and support. Wow! That's a \$99 discount just on NetTracker, making it very competitive! The 20% discount is good on all orders through August 31, 2003. You can contact Darryl at 1-800-

407-3570 ext. 122 to order. Don't forget to tell him you heard this from the DealsGuy.

***Talk About Tweaking!**

Many of you have used TweakUI and loved it. It performs many very useful tasks for Windows. Lee Reynolds of Boca Raton Computer Society Inc. wrote some time ago in his monthly "Nibbling At The Net" column about another even more useful utility that he feels is much better than TweakUI. It is Xteq X-Setup and can be found at [<http://www.xteq.com>]. It's absolutely free for home users. However, they do take donations if you enjoy using it.

This product has an incredible number of features that you can hardly imagine. It is also updated constantly. To add to its value, it also offers to help other software such as Office 97 and 2000; not to mention hardware installed on your com-

puter. Sounds like a great product. Thanks for letting us know Lee.

That's it for this month. Meet me here again next month if your editor permits. This column is written to make user group members aware of special offers I have found or arranged, and my comments should not be interpreted to encourage, or discourage, the purchase of any products, no matter how enthused I might sound.

Bob (The Cheapskate) Click
[Bobclick@mindspring.com]

Please visit my Web site at [<http://www.dealsguy.com>] for past columns. I have also been busy putting up some interesting new articles on my Web site, so take a look. My thanks to the authors I was able to reach. However, they don't all answer their e-mail so I miss posting many very good articles there.

- Miscellaneous Windows Tips (Cont.) -

(Continued from page 7)

Next, click the Compatibility tab as described in the first part of the tip and pick an older version of Windows from the drop box. Hit OK.

Now, double-click the Setup.exe program and setup should run. With any luck, you'll be able to install the software now.

* * *

Customize Internet Explorer 6 Toolbar

You can choose which features you want on the Internet Explorer 6 toolbar. If you want to simplify the toolbar, you can remove icons, change to smaller icons, or remove the text labels displayed next to the icons. To customize the toolbar:

1. Right-click the Standard toolbar, and then click Customize.
2. In the Text options list, click No text labels to remove them.
3. In the Icon options list, click Small icons to change the default setting.
4. In the Current toolbars list, click any icon that you want to remove, and then click Remove.

To keep your changes safe, right-click the toolbar again, and make sure to select the Lock Toolbars check box.

* * *

Choosing Similar Fonts

Have you ever had a font that was *almost* what you were looking for? Well, here's how to look at fonts that are similar to the one that's almost right.

1. Click the Start button, Settings, Control Panel (XP users, click the Start button, Control Panel). Open

the Fonts folder. Some users may need to click the "View all control panel options" or "Switch to classic view" link that's on the left side of the control panel.

2. From the View menu, select "List fonts by similarity".

That's it. Now, just use the "List fonts by similarity to:" pull down box to select the font that almost made the cut. You'll get a list in descending order of similarity. Double-click a font to see a sample.

* * *

Win XP Shutdown Shortcut

Right click on your Desktop, select New then click on Shortcut and paste in (with no space after \SYSTEM32): C:\WINDOWS\SYSTEM32\SHUTDOWN.EXE -s -t 00 Rename shortcut "WinXP Shutdown".

- More Benefits of Being a DMA® Member -

Just look at the many money-saving member benefits listed below! If you manage or own a company or store, or know of one that would like to join in attracting DMA® customers, please contact Carol Ewing, ewingc@dma.org or 937-667-3259. As a Board Member, Carol is always listed on page 2 of The DataBus. Discounts are printed in The DataBus every month. They are also on the web site, www.dma.org

For more information on any of these discounts, call the store or email Carol Ewing - ewingc@dma.org..

Members MUST show their current membership card* to receive any discounts. Please check The DataBus each month for new and even more exciting discounts for our members. NOTE: Discounts are subject to change without prior notice.

- **Books & Co.** 350 E. Stroop Rd.
937-298-6540 Kettering, OH 45429
www.booksandco.com

20% off computer books ONLY. This discount does not apply to any other books, any magazines, or any other items in the store. Please take computer book purchases to the regular cash registers, not Special Orders Desk.

- **Borders Books Music & Cafe**
2040 Miamisburg-Centerville Rd., Dayton, OH 45459
937-434-3800
Discount of **20%** on computer books (except NET books). Please remind them DMA® is on their "Corporate Listing"

- **Dayton's Original Pizza Factory**
1101 Wayne Avenue, Dayton, OH
937-224-4477
Discount is **10% off** any pizza order, and
Discount of **20% off** any pizza order over \$50.00
Not valid with any other discount coupon or offer.

- **Dorothy Lane Market** www.dorothylane.com
Oakwood Washington Square Springboro
2710 Far Hills Ave. 6177 Far Hills Ave. 740 N. Main St.
Dayton, OH 45419 Dayton, OH 45459 Springboro, OH 45066
937-299-3561 937-434-1294 937-748-6800

Go to the DMA® web site for information on how to sign up. You will be mailed a free Club DLM card to receive store discounts. Use your Club DLM card with EVERY purchase to receive special offers. The Club DLM card is also honored at other participating retailers. DMA® can get up to a 1% rebate on your purchases. DMA® Charity # 518.

- **Fairborn Camera & Video**
14 E Main St Fairborn, OH 45324
937-878-4392 faircam@erinet.com
10% off digital camera accessories when purchased with any digital camera or digital camcorder. Valid through 5-31-2004.

- **GEMAIR, Inc. (See ad on page 15.)**
2555 S. Dixie Hwy, Suite 102, Kettering, OH 45419-1532
937-913-0083 or 877-443-6247 (toll free)
www.gemair.com **Special DMA® member rate** \$149.95 annually (equivalent to \$12.50 / month).

- **Microsoft Press Books**
20% off, all DMA® members:
a) Visit <http://mspress.microsoft.com> b) Select a book.
c) Call 1-800-MSPRESS d) Give them the code MCPC
(indicating you are a User Group member).

- **PC Club Ohio** - www.pcclub.com
291 N. Springboro Pike 2602 Colonel Glenn Highway
Miamisburg, OH 45342 Fairborn, OH 45324
937-434-3888 937-427-8808

5% off any regular priced product. Expires 5-1-04.

- **CompUSA** www.compusabusiness.com
221 N. Springboro Pike, Dayton, OH 45449
937-436-7239 Valid thru 9-30-03
Call Marty White or stop at Corporate Desk, M-F 8-6.
Order pickup other hours at the Customer Service Desk.
Computers - Lower of: **10% over cost** or shelf price
Software - Lower of: **15% over cost** or shelf price
Accessories - Lower of: **10% under retail** or shelf price
Training - **\$149.00** (reg. \$199) course voucher

- **The Mac Depot**
2025 E. Dorothy Lane, Kettering, OH 45420
937-643-2667
Save **25%** off Macintosh Computer Repair.
Discount applies to labor charges only; excludes parts.
- Maximum discount is \$25.00 Valid through 31 Dec. 2003

- **Ohio Custom Computer**
1866 S. Maple Ave. Fairborn, OH 45324
937-879-9650 www.ohiocomputer.com
5% off regular priced items - valid through 12-2003.

- **Sam's Club** **Sam's Club**
6955 Miller Lane 1111 Miamisburg-Centerville Rd.
Dayton, OH 45414 Dayton, OH 45459
937-454-6200 937-436-0299
www.samsclub.com

DMA® membership card qualifies you to receive an Advantage Membership for \$35.00. This is for you & anyone in your household. *But they must live at the same address as the DMA® member.* Call Sam's Club, identifying yourself as a DMA® member, for information on their specials of the current month.

- **Nuclear Computers**
6333 N. Dixie Dr.
Dayton, OH 45414 nuclearcomputers@hotmail.com
937-264-8260
10% off labor bill over one (1) hour in Shop.

If you have a question or problem with a Benefit Discount Store, contact Carol Ewing.

DO NOT HASSLE THE STORE !

Be sure to mention you learned about these discounts in The DataBus.

*For membership card, send a SASE to: DMA® Membership, PO Box 4005, Dayton, OH 45401-4005

- DMA® Member Benefits - Page 2! -

*It was just a matter of time before we had to start **Page 2!** Check out these newest additions to your member benefits.*

If you manage or own a company or store, or know of one that would like to join in attracting DMA® customers, please contact Carol Ewing, ewingc@dma.org or 937-667-3259. As a Board Member, Carol is always listed on page 2 of The DataBus. Discounts are printed in The DataBus every month. They are also on the web site, www.dma.org.

For more information on any of these discounts, call the store or email Carol Ewing - ewingc@dma.org..

Members MUST show their current membership card to receive any discounts. Please check The DataBus each month for new and even more exciting discounts for our members. NOTE: Discounts are subject to change without prior notice.

• Click Camera & Video

Nine area locations - see www.clickcamera.com

10% off digital camera accessories with purchase of any digital camera or digital camcorder.

10% off prints from digital cameras.

Not valid with any other coupons or offers.

Valid through 12-31-2003.

• O'Reilly & Associates - www.oreilly.com

Members get 20%* off any O'Reilly book they purchase directly from O'Reilly. Just use code DSUG when ordering.

*Group purchases with better discounts are available

• Down Home Dreams - www.dhd-emb.com

433 Troy St.

www.embroiderydreamers.com

Dayton, OH 45404

937-224-4586

10% off all regular priced items to DMA® members.

25% off all regular priced items to DMA® members who are also members of the Digital Textiles SIG.

May not be combined with other offers.

• Another great member discount will be coming to this space soon.

*** Watch for it! ***



GEMAIR^{INC}
... making the Internet work for you



Green Eyed Monster Advanced Intergalactic Relay

For more information
Call (937) 913-0083 Locally

Welcome to our newest DMA® members

May your association with DMA® bring you many new friends, be enjoyable, informative & entertaining. Introduce yourselves to those around you when you attend our meetings. Any questions?

Since the July 2003 issue of *The DataBus*

Last Name	First Name	City
Klotz	David A.	Beavercreek

(Sometimes there are additional new members who indicated they do not want their names published and are not listed, but none this month.)

If you would like to automatically receive occasional mailings describing the upcoming meeting topic and other timely DMA® news, simply place "subscribe dma-announce" (without the quotes) in an email message area and send that message to:
majordomo@dma.org

- Microsoft Swats at Stealthy Web Bugs -

Attributed to "Thomas Fitzgerald", From off the Internet — Original source unknown

Privacy advocates say a shift by Microsoft could effectively marginalize a particularly intrusive use of Web bugs, the tracking and profiling devices used by online marketers and spammers.

Last month Microsoft retooled its Hotmail service, adding a feature that allows users to block Web bugs placed inside e-mail messages. A similar option exists in the most recent version of Microsoft's widely used Outlook Express e-mail program, and the company says the next release of its other e-mail program, Outlook, will block the tracking mechanisms by default.

"For consumers concerned about being tracked, we are giving them the flexibility to turn this new feature on or off," said J. C. Cannon, a strategist in the corporate privacy group at Microsoft.

Web bugs, which online marketers refer to as pixel tags, are used by creators of Web pages and advertisers to keep track of visits to a page. Often, the images are so tiny that they are invisible.

Creating a Web bug is a relatively simple technique that takes advantage of log entries generated automatically when a viewer calls up an image on a Web site. The site's logs capture the visiting computer's Internet Protocol address, the Web page viewed and the time.

Embedding a Web bug in an e-mail message enables the sender, by means of the same logging technology, to capture information about the computer that received the message, including its I.P. address. Marketing companies and spammers use such messages - often called HTML mail, for hypertext markup language, the Web's lingua franca - to gather information about responses to the messages they send. HTML mail may also contain links to Web pages that contain Web bugs, enabling marketers

to track those who click from the message to various Web sites.

Marketing analytics companies like DoubleClick and WebSideStory use HTML mail to provide this kind of tracking service to their clients. "It provides an understanding of the effectiveness of marketing campaigns," said Jay McCarthy, vice president for product strategy and chief privacy officer at WebSideStory. "Clients can better target their marketing." Mr. McCarthy said the e-mail enhancements by Microsoft could hinder the marketers. Privacy advocates, however, welcomed the changes, which would also block HTML ads and offensive images from unknown senders.

"Giving consumers the ability to block HTML images and Web bugs from e-mail is like adding windshield wipers to a car: a necessity that will make traveling - in this case, on the Internet - much more enjoyable," said Stephen Keating, executive director of the Privacy Foundation. "It also removes a tool from the spammers' arsenal."

To use the new Hotmail feature, click on Options, then Mail Display Settings. Then choose "Remove images until messages are viewed." In Outlook Express, go to Tools, Options, Read, then select "Read all messages in Plain Text."

If you use an e-mail program that does not have an option to block HTML images, another tactic is to view your messages when your computer is offline.

With Outlook 2003, users will be able to use new junk-mail filtering features to restrict HTML in incoming messages. Content from external Web sites will be turned off by default, which means that if a user receives a message that includes a connection to a Web site, that connection will be blocked, said Samantha McManus, a Microsoft spokeswoman. In contrast,

mail from inside a business's Intranet or pictures sent inside e-mail are not blocked, she said.

Web bugs have become more common among Web sites seeking to monitor visitor traffic and tailor their pages to visitors' preferences.

Well-known businesses like Yahoo, Best Buy and Orbitz, the travel Web site, use the technique but disclose that they do so in their privacy policies. Most promise to not correlate tracking data to personally identifiable information that they may have collected like credit card numbers, phone numbers or e-mail addresses. When used in concert with third-party cookies from advertisers, however, some Web bugs (often the ads themselves) can log an individual's moves across sites that are tied in with the same ad servers.

Consumers who want to block Web bugs while surfing have several options. Ad-blocking services like Ad-Subtract (www.intermute.com) and Guidescope (www.guidescope.com) screen them. The use of such cloaking services like the Anonymizer (www.anonymizer.com) offers the protections of an anonymous I.P. address and the ability to block third-party cookies. Without knowledge of HTML coding, spotting a Web bug is not easy. But the Privacy Foundation offers a free bug-spotting program, Bugnosis, at www.bugnosis.org, adding that a new beta version of the program is now available.

Finally, users can consider deleting all cookies, then setting their Web browsers to block third-party cookies to weaken cross-site tracking. According to Richard M. Smith, a Boston privacy and computer-security consultant, about 80 percent of Web bugs are the type used by advertisers for cross-site tracking. "This will make them lose that cookie, which is very valuable," Mr. Smith said. "I recommend it."

§

- DMA® Board Minutes - June 2, 2003 -

by Carol Ewing DMA® Board Secretary

DMA® Board of Trustees Meeting

Call to Order by Lisa Singh 7:12 pm

Meeting was delayed to wait for a board quorum.

Randy Young notified the Secretary he would be late.

Millard Mier notified the Secretary he would be absent.

Trustees and Officers present: John Friedenbach, Carol Ewing, Leah Day, Gary Mullins, Carolann Lemen, Don Corbet, Lisa Singh.

Absent - Bill Jacobs, Millard Mier, Gary Turner.

Visitors present: George Ewing, Jim Hendrix, Dave Lundy, Dave Smith, Randy Young, Bob Kwater, Dave Thomas.

Recognition of Visitors:

Dave Lundy said he put up a phpBB on web site and a few people signed on. He set up a list for each SIG and added a link to the home page. Ed Ontko volunteered to help get some groups started.

Officers Reports:

President - Lisa Singh. Lisa attended the ASC meeting. ASC wants DMA® involved in any future TechFest, possibly held every 18 months or 2 years.

Vice-President - Gary Mullins. Nothing. Don Corbet said Gary Mullins did a great job leading the May 28 General meeting.

Secretary - Carol Ewing. Due to the new "housekeeping rules" approved by the board last month, if a report is not sent to the Trustees by the deadline of Friday noon before Monday board meeting, the agenda item will show a report was not sent and it will be tabled until next month. Carol Ewing gave Dave Smith the front door and Treasurer keys from Carolann Lemen. Dave Smith handed out new

keys at general meeting. Motion to accept 5-5-03 minutes by Carolann Lemen, 2nd Gary Mullins. Yes-5, No-0, Abstain-0.

Treasurer - John Friedenbach. John emailed the financial reports to board. Spring '03 Computerfest® bills are paid. John wants all Computerfest® mails sent to PO Box 2336. Gary Mullins will announce this at the next staff meeting. We need to start working on the 2004 budget in August. Lisa Singh said she still wants an audit done.

Committee Reports:

Membership - Carol Ewing. Total membership is 852. We had 78 attending May general meeting, 2 guests and one associate renewal. She got a request from a member for dues refund for a specific reason. The board approved the request. The board will deal with any future refund requests case by case.

GEMAIR, Inc. - John Friedenbach. They had a small net loss. They are getting into web design and web hosting. They are in partnership with ICG. ICG has an open house June 10 from 3 -7 PM at DoubleTree Hotel. Lisa Singh asked every trustee try to attend, and email John .

Programs - Lisa Singh. June meeting is INTEL. Lisa will talk to Editors to send newsletter front page article to DDN by monthly deadline. Gary Mullins will try to schedule Click Camera in Oct. or Nov.

Computerfest® - Gary Mullins. A lot of exciting things are planned. There will be a Gaming Lanfest in North Hall, with a goal of 200 attendees. We are working with a few local gaming groups. This could pull in some big name gaming corporate supporters. Advanced Training ads are out and training will be the week prior to show. The Computerfest® SPC com-

mittee will have nominations for Spring 2004 Chairman to the board at the July board meeting or before.

OTAP - Randy Young. All inventory needed to fill current orders is available. Plans to clean out Locker #8 in July. They will not accept computers less than P233. Sinclair may provide students to help. Randy said Lisa Singh's unscheduled visit caused some work time issues.

Old Business.

Publications - Don Corbet. No meeting, some emails. He needed input from Millard Mier and Ed Davidson but they are absent. Carol Ewing, Membership Chairman, asked to be added to the committee email list.

StreaminGiant Contract - Gary Turner. Gary was absent so George Ewing gave report. They are still working on contract, probably 2-3 more meetings and then take to attorney. They are spending about 6 hours per week. Gary Mullins questioned a bill for Computerfest® domain name. Lisa Singh apologized for not notifying anyone but the committee decided to reserve the name while it is available. Contract covers 90 days from show, board already approved 60 days extension that will start June 15.

Computerfest® SPC - Randy Young. Meeting discussed gaming Lanfest, web page issues and future show chairmans. Next meeting June 8 at 7 PM.

Nominations - George Ewing. He has the packets ready, sent detailed article for newsletter.

E.D. Ad-Hoc - Lisa Singh. She sent report by email. The board discussed the report. Gary Mullins suggested the committee should meet, has not yet.

Certification SIG - George Ewing. Tabled until next month.

(Continued on page 24)

- Minutes of June 2, 2003 (Cont.) -

(Continued from page 23)

Full Disclosure - Millard Mier.
Millard absent, tabled until next month.

GEMAIR-DMA® - Millard Mier.
Millard absent, tabled until next month.

Volunteer of the Month - Lisa Singh. Leah Day nominated George Ewing, passed Yes-5, No-0, Abstain-0. Don Corbet suggested doing this by email monthly.

New Business.

Posse - Don Corbet. Tabled until next month.

Board Development - Lisa Singh.
Lisa handed out report on board attendance and talked about developing board members & more participation.

Good of the Order.

Don Corbet - excellent meeting, great new agenda.

Carolann Lemen- good meeting.

Carol Ewing - likes the new agenda.

Gary Mullins - good meeting, good new agenda.

John Friedenbach - same as everyone else.

Lisa Singh - nothing.

Lisa Singh asked if any visitors had anything to say. NO comments.

Adjournment.

Motion to adjourn by Carolann Lemen, 2nd Don Corbet. Yes-5, No-0, Abstain-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Carol Ewing,
DMA® Secretary

- GEMAIR is Looking For Volunteers -

GEMAIR is searching for volunteers with the necessary technical skills to assist us in putting together a New Setup CD. This project could look extremely good on a technical resumé and may be a great way for underemployed IT pros to stay sharp.

The easiest way to do this (easy for me to say...) would probably involve using the Internet Explorer Administration Kit to install the latest I.E. version from CD and then using Visual Basic to detect and set up I.E. and Outlook Express for the user. The downside of this is that it forces all users who install from the CD to use Internet Explorer.

Another option would be to use an HTML/JavaScript-drive set of menus to determine the user's

current default browser and then direct them either to an installation page to install the latest version of that browser or to a setup page with HTML setup instructions on how to configure their current browser.

Therefore, we need individuals who are skilled in either Visual Basic and/or JavaScript. Any knowledge of the Internet Explorer Administration Kit (IEAK) or the Netscape Client Customization Kit (CCK) would also be welcomed.

For more information or to express an interest in helping,
please contact:

John Friedenbach
GEMAIR President,
johnf@gemair.com

Online Forums at www.dma.org

At the request of George Ewing and Gary Mullins, we have added some online discussion forums to our web site:

Invision Power Board at www.dma.org/invboard, phpBB2 at www.dma.org/phpBB2, and w-Agora at www.dma.org/w-agora.

They are all rather similar, but each has a few unique characteristics. Both phpBB2 and Invision support user groups with various permissions and surveys. Invision Power Board has a calendar and birthday reminders and w-Agora has a user-selectable option to display topics in a threaded style. It has been brought to my attention that w-Agora stores and displays user e-mail addresses in such a way that spambots can harvest them, so you should not use your primary e-mail address in that forum. Several forums have been created in each system. Please try each system both as a guest and as a registered user. We'll set up a survey so you can let us know which one you prefer after everyone has had a chance to try them all. Eventually we'll settle on just one system.

- Dave Lundy
lundyd@dma.org

No one ever says, "It's only a game," when their team is winning.

If it's true that we are here to help others, then what exactly are the others here for?

- Volunteers Needed -

Volunteer Coordinator.— Someone who will help coordinate volunteers for Computerfest®, Heartland Regional conference and other groups and events DMA® puts together over the year.

Program Director — Do you like the monthly meetings? Have you ever thought “I wish we would get these people in to give a demonstration of some software.”? If you like talking on the phone and getting more information about your favorite software, this could be the position for you.

Board members — for GEMAIR Inc. Your club-owned local ISP and web hosting green-eyed monster is in need of guidance as we move into competition with high speed Internet, low cost dial-up, and other Internet realities. Do you have ideas to help guide the direction GEMAIR, Inc. needs to take to meet the needs of the club ?

President of GEMAIR Inc.— John Friedenbach is stepping down and would like to get someone who can take over the responsibilities of making executive decisions for GEMAIR. You should be able to handle the fiscal responsibilities of payroll and other logical duties as needed.

Fundraising Committee Members — Are you good at raising money? Would you like to try? We are looking to find other ways to fund our yearly expenses. Computerfest® is no longer keeping up with our expenses. We need people who can help the club raise new funding.

Write to us here at *The DataBus* if you are interested in any of these DMA® positions, to Editor@dma.org, or write to a board member that you know, as they are listed on page two. You can also come to the monthly meetings, or possibly the board meeting. See Calendar on page 28 for other events.

- Member News -

Thanks for sending us more member news of interest this month. DMA® Member Rammy Meyerowitz graduated from Sinclair College on June 14, 2003 with an Associate Degree in CIS. He graduated WITH HONORS with a 3.89 GPA. He had the highest score on AMATYG, a national math competition for two-year colleges. He posted a school record for most questions answered correctly on a weekly math competition called "Problem of the Week".

We want to congratulate him on his math awards and college graduation and wish him the best of luck in the future. Excellent job, Rammy!

Do you have news of interest about any of our members? Send it to Carol Ewing, Membership Committee, at ewingc@dma.org, or email it directly to The DataBus editors at Editor@dma.org.

Map courtesy of Millard Mier III, DMA®

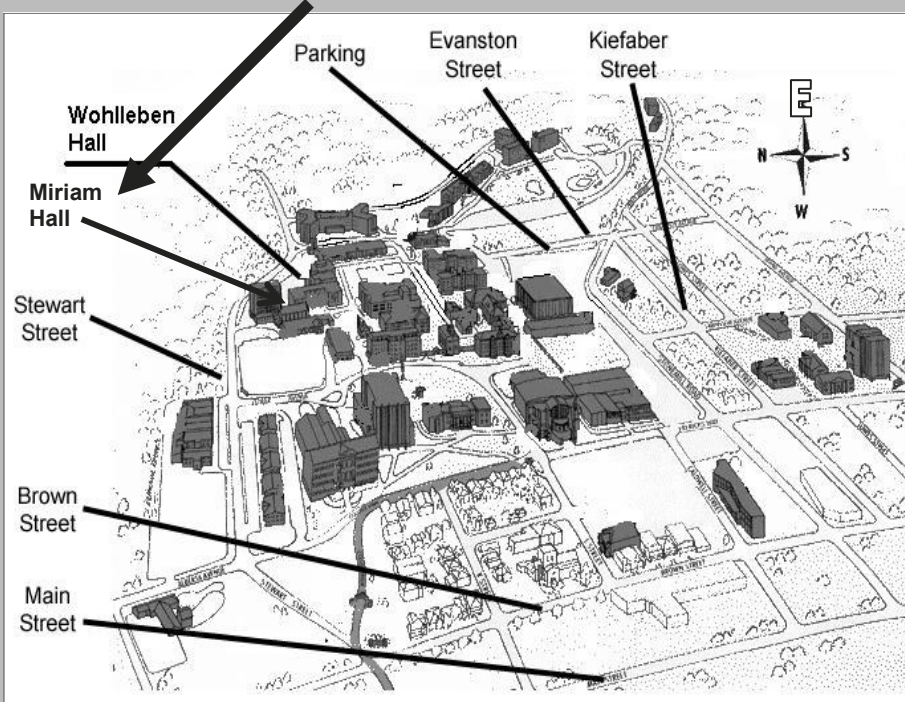
Location Change!

We're back at U.D.'s Miriam Hall, again in O'Leary Auditorium,and still the last Tuesday of each month.

However, you should know that Gary Mullins and others are looking into alternate locations (due to the fact that it appears we may outgrow O'Leary Auditorium in the near future.)

Add'l directions online at: <http://www.dma.org/to-us.html>

Note the change in DMA®'s monthly General Meeting location!



- Amateur Radio SIG -	Digital Photography SIG	
<i>by George Ewing, Amateur Radio SIG leader</i>	<i>by Millard Mier, Digital Photography SIG leader</i>	
<p>The DMA® Amateur Radio SIG was scheduled to meet on Tuesday, July 1st. At that meeting, we planned to be talking about the Field Day from which some of us are still recuperating, the upcoming Computerfest®, Hamfest, and ideas for future meetings. Discussion was also scheduled on Hamvention and what people thought and bought. A request for information about any future hamfests was also planned.</p> <p>If anyone has any suggestions for future meetings, please email or call me. For more info on the SIG, send an email to: k8dma@dma.org or call George Ewing, WD8NHI, at 937-667-3259.</p> <p>All DMA® SIG meetings are free and everyone is welcome to attend.</p>	<p>The August 7th meeting of the Digital Photography SIG will feature a presentation on file formats for digital photographers. We will be discussing JPG, GIF, TIFF, BMP and others. Come and learn which files are best for archiving your files, which are best for editing, and which are best for distribution. We will also be discussing archiving strategies, and will look at several album style photo archiving programs. The meeting will be held at 206 Fawcett Hall at Wright State University at 7:00 pm on Thursday August 7th, 2003. Come to the meeting and find out how to deal with all photographs that are cluttering up your hard drive!</p>	<p>The July meeting of the Digital Photography SIG featured a group discussion on buzzwords. Participants learned to interpret the sales gibberish and found the true meaning of terms like "megapixel", "lux" and "digital delay". It was a great meeting for people who were planning their first digital camera purchase, as well as for members that just wanted to learn before their next upgrade.</p> <p>Parking is available in the Visitors lot at WSU (just follow the signs on campus). After parking, cross the street one crosswalk to west of the entrance to the Visitors parking, keep going straight (north) and you will pass between Allyn and Rike Halls. Fawcett Hall will be straight ahead of you at the end of the Quad.</p>

Pizza SIG

Marion's

Piazza

Pizza Party
Sponsored by
Dayton Microcomputer Association, Inc.

Tuesday, July 29, 2003
Marion's Piazza
711 Shroyer Road
(937) 293-6991

Ticket good ONLY
July 29, 2003
From 8:30 pm – Closing
Pizzas, Sandwiches &
Spaghetti ONLY
Eat In or Carry Out
**Please present this Ticket
when Ordering**

As many of you know, DMA®'s Pizza SIG meets after every General Membership meeting. We have been meeting at the Marion's Piazza located at 711 Shroyer Road in Oakwood. Marion's Piazza has started a new program where, if you purchase pizzas, sandwiches or spaghetti AND use the SPECIAL Coupon (at left) when ordering, DMA® will receive up to 20% of the amount of your food purchase.

We know some of you don't get a chance to come to the meeting but still like to join us at the SIG meeting. We can NOT distribute these coupons at the restaurant so be sure to bring this one. We will also have coupons available at the meeting for those of you who are able to attend.

Now Accepting DMA® Trustee Nominations

Each year at the September General Membership meeting, the membership of DMA® elects three new Trustees. We start accepting nominations on June 1, 2003 and will close them on August 31, 2003. The three Trustees elected will each serve for a three year term. The four DMA® Officer positions are each for a one year term and are elected by the Trustees.

If you or someone you know is interested in one of these positions, please contact the Nominations Committee at elections@dma.org or call George Ewing at (937) 667-3259.

Additional Area User Groups

This list is provided as a service to anyone looking for a group supporting a particular computer, operating system, etc.

These user groups are not directly associated with DMA®. See page 4 for a list of DMA®'s Special Interest (SIG) Groups & their meeting times.

If you know of a user group which would like to have their meeting schedule listed here, send details or a current newsletter to:

EDITOR, DMA®'s *The DataBus*

DAYTON MICROCOMPUTER ASSOC.
119 Valley St.
Dayton, OH 45401-4005

ACM - Association for Computing Machinery holds monthly dinner meetings, dinner 6:30 PM, 7:30 p.m. speaker. Contact Marie Hreha (937) 435-7822

AITP - Association of Information Technology Professionals (formerly DPMA) meets the 2nd Thursday each month. Holds dinner meetings at the Antioch Shrine Temple at 107 E. First St, Dayton [1st & Jefferson]. Contact Jim Stryker (937) 865-6800x2599 for details.

AMITECH AMIGA USERS GROUP - (AMIGA-DAYTON has merged with this group.) Meets the third Saturday of the month at 1:30 PM at the Huber Heights Library. A Programming SIG will meet after the general meeting. Soft drinks/snacks will be provided. Contact Ron Schwartz, (937) 434-2144.

BDPA - The Black Data Processing Associates is made up of data processing entrepreneurs, managers, and employees. Their objective is to accumulate d.p. knowledge and business experience to strengthen the expertise and broaden the data processing knowledge of the minority data processing community as a whole. Contact Denia Byndon 937-455-0373.

CCCC - Cincinnati Commodore Computer Club meets the third Sunday of the month at 2:00 PM at the School of the Nativity, Norwood, OH. For more info call Ed Gase at (513) 829-0942.

CCS - Columbus Computer Society holds two meetings per month: the second Monday (at Chemical Abstracts) and the Wednesday nine days later (OCLC). 6:30 p.m. - New member orientation; 7pm General meeting. For further information, contact their Information line at (614) 447-0227.

CINTUG - Cincinnati TriState Users Group meets the 2nd Saturday at Messiah Lutheran Church. Go South from Forest Fair Mall on Winton Road and turn left on Lakeview Dr. (on the north side of Winton Lake) then left on Bossi Lane. Contact Terry Ferguson at (937) 825-2505 for more information.

CPCUG - Cincinnati Personal Computer Users Group meets the second Monday of the month at 7pm in the auditorium of the Cincinnati State College - Evendale Branch at 10100 Reading Road. For more information call (513)333-6777 or www.cincypcug.org on the web.

DACUG - Dayton Area Computer Users Group meets the second Saturday of each month at 3:00 P.M. at the Moraine Civic Center in Moraine. Contact Mona Spurgeon at (937)298-6743.

DAYTON.PM - A group for programmers of all levels who use Perl. Meetings: 2nd Wed. of each month. Website at ????????.pm.org or contact: eric.smith@b2.wpaaf.af.mil

DACW - Dayton Advocates for Computing Women, meets the 4th Mon. of ea. mo. Oct-May, (except Dec.) at the Stockyards Inn. Networking is at 5:30, 6 PM dinner, 7 PM speaker. Contact Chris Zurbuchen 227-9500x303(days), 767-1043(evenings) or dacwweb@yahoo.com

DECUS - the Digital Equipment Computer Users Society is the world's largest volunteer-run computer users organization focused on a single vendor. The Greater Dayton Local Users Group Chapter meets the last Tuesday of every month.

Contact: Jim Poltrone (937) 438-0140

IEEE - The Computer Society of IEEE meets third Thursday of each month from 11:30- 12:30 during lunch (can vary). Bring own lunch. Meetings are held at TASC, across from Wright State University.

Contact Bret Givens at (937) 255-8635.

NASAC (Xenia PC users group) – meets 7pm on 2nd Thursdays in at Library, 76 E. Market St., (1/2 block E. of Detroit St / RT.68), behind Police Dept, downtown. Visit our website at www.nasac.org for details.

TMG/ The MAC Group - is an Apple Corp. authorized Macintosh User Group. Meets: 2nd Saturday of each month at Kettering Arts Building 2900 Acosta St., Kettering. from 10:00 AM to 12:30 PM. More information? Call (937) 293-6980.

Mailing Label Explanation:

If this issue was mailed to you, you will see your membership number (left) and your membership expiration date (right) are on the line above your name.

If it wasn't mailed to you, it only costs \$25.00 per year to be kept up-to-date with DMA® news and with our next speaker/ presentation.

To become a member, simply fill out the application at the center of this issue and mail it to the address on the back cover.

DMA® Events for July 20 - August 30, 2003

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>Jul 20</i>	<i>Jul 21</i> Apple SIG 7:00 PM 119 Valley Venture Crew 7:00 Oak Creek UCC 2:00 PM OTAP	<i>Jul 22</i>	<i>Jul 23</i> 2:00 PM OTAP Certification 7:15 PM 119 Valley	<i>Jul 24</i>	<i>Jul 25</i> 2:00 PM OTAP	<i>Jul 26</i> 12 PM "On Technology" 12 PM Northern SIG Edison College, Piqua
<i>Jul 27</i> <i>The DataBus deadline is the 1st day of each month.</i>	<i>Jul 28</i> 2:00 PM OTAP	<i>Jul 29</i> Main Meeting → 7:00 PM O'Leary Auditorium, Miriam Hall	<i>Jul 30</i> 2:00 PM OTAP	<i>Jul 31</i>	<i>Aug 1</i> 2:00 PM OTAP	<i>Aug 2</i> 8:30 AM OTAP 12 PM "On Technology" 3:00 PM Classic Computers
<i>Aug 3</i>	<i>Aug 4</i> Board of Directors 7:00 PM 119 Valley 2:00 PM OTAP	<i>Aug 5</i> Amateur Radio SIG 7:00 PM 119 Valley	<i>Aug 6</i> 2:00 PM OTAP	<i>Aug 7</i> Digital Photography 7:00 PM 206 Fawcett Hall, WSU	<i>Aug 8</i> 2:00 PM OTAP	<i>Aug 9</i> 8:30 AM OTAP 12 PM "On Technology"
<i>Aug 10</i>	<i>Aug 11</i> 2:00 PM OTAP	<i>Aug 12</i> Network & Certification 7:00 PM 119 Valley	<i>Aug 13</i> 2:00 PM OTAP Perl Mongers 7:00 PM 119 Valley	<i>Aug 14</i> Software Development 6:30 PM 119 Valley	<i>Aug 15</i> 2:00 PM OTAP	<i>Aug 16</i> 8:30 AM OTAP 12 PM "On Technology" 2:00 PM OTAP Board 3:00 PM Classic Computers
<i>Aug 17</i>	<i>Aug 18</i> Apple SIG 7:00 PM 119 Valley Venture Crew 7:00 Oak Creek UCC 2:00 PM OTAP	<i>Aug 19</i> Gaming SIG 7:00 PM on-line	<i>Aug 20</i> 2:00 PM OTAP	<i>Aug 21</i> Digital Textiles 7:00 PM 119 Valley Linux / Unix 7:00 PM Rm 150 Russ Engr Ctr, WSU	<i>Aug 22</i> 2:00 PM OTAP	<i>Aug 23</i> Computerfest® 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM 12 PM "On Technology"
<i>Aug 24</i> Computerfest® 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM <i>The DataBus deadline is the 1st day of each month.</i>	<i>Aug 25</i> 2:00 PM OTAP Dave Lundy's 60th birthday	<i>Aug 26</i> Main Meeting 7:30 PM O'Leary Auditorium, Miriam Hall	<i>Aug 27</i> 2:00 PM OTAP Certification 7:15 PM 119 Valley	<i>Aug 28</i>	<i>Aug 29</i> 2:00 PM OTAP	<i>Aug 30</i> 12 PM "On Technology" 12 PM Northern SIG Edison College, Piqua

Remember:

- DMA® General Meeting is July 29 in O'Leary Auditorium, Miriam Hall
- Note the special early start time (7:00 pm) for this meeting only. Arrive early!
- Send membership applications & renewals to PO Box 340402, Beavercreek, OH



TM

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PO Box 340402
Beavercreek OH 45434-0402



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