FREE

The DataBus

**Our Next DMA® General Meeting is
Tuesday, September 30 - 7:30 pm, at Univ. of Dayton**

DMA® Board of Trustees <u>Elections</u>
&
Awards and Prize Drawings
Thanking our Computerfest® Volunteers!

Nominees for the Dayton Microcomputer Assn. Inc. <u>Board of Trustees</u>.

DMA® Trustee positions are for three (3) years.

<u>**Candidates for Office**</u> **[You will be voting for three.]**

ELECTION TIME !

Childs, Dale   ☐

Drill, Terry   ☐   This is only a
                                   <u>Sample Ballot</u>

Rowe, Jim   ☐   The actual ballots
                                   to be used will be
Ruby, Robert K., II   ☐   distributed to all
                                   eligible voters at
Sye, Darlene   ☐   the September
                                   General Meeting
Turner, Gary *   ☐

Williamitis, Ronald   ☐   *Incumbent

DMA®'s October 28 Meeting: - TBA -

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Dayton Microcomputer Association Officers

DMA® Committee Chairs: DMA® ™

OTAP Acting Director (Ohio Technology Access Project)	Randy Young	937-298-5530	houserus@dma.org (& otap@dma.org)
Fall (Aug.23/24) Computerfest® '03	Gary Mullins Dave Thomas	937-623-2059 937-233-2001	chairman@ computerfest.com
Membership Chair	Carol Ewing	937-667-3259	ewingc@dma.org
Acting Program Dir.	Edwin Davidson	937-294-8524	winswim@msn.com
Publications Chair (DataBus Editor in Chief)	(Open)	937-294-8524	editor@dma.org
DMA® Website	Dave Lundy	937-426-1132	lundyd@dma.org
dmapub Administrators	Dave Nevel, Paul Alquist, Ken Phelps, Gary Turner, Bill Jacobs, Dave Lundy, & Dan Tasch		

DMA®

DMA® Info Line:
937-222-4DMA (4362)

Member Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce

apcug
Member of

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

Computerfest®

– – **Next Computerfest®: Mar. 13-14, '04**

http://www.computerfest.com

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

email info: computerfest@dma.org

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)
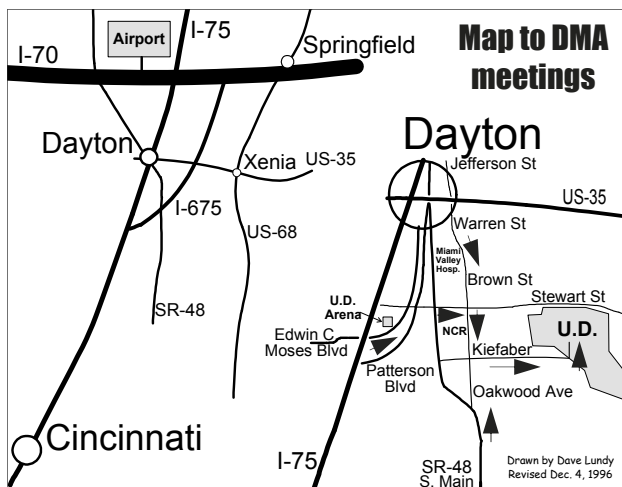
AGENDA FOR 9/30 MEETING:

Announcements & Reports......................................7:30 p.m.
(President Lisa Singh)

On tap: DMA® Trustee Elections....................7:45-9:00 p.m.
(& Computerfest® Volunteer prize drawings)

Q & A, Attendee Prizes…...…………………………..9:15 p.m.
(DMA® Board Member Leah Day)

Closing Statements …………………………………. 9:45 p.m.
(President Lisa Singh)

Meeting Adjourns ....10:00 p.m.

(Adjourn to Marion's for Pizza SIG @ Patterson/Schroyer)

If there is enough interest, an **'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). **The meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. Park in lot 'C' on campus (follow the map's arrows) to avoid parking tickets.**

Editor's Box:

This month is the annual DMA® Board of Trustees election. Seven candidates are running for three openings. Some difficult decisions lie ahead for the Board in the next year so it's vital to elect whomever you believe to be the most qualified candidates. Your vote counts!

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.

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 501c(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 gamingsig@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. Open to all, it is the "Pizza SIG". Come join us!

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.

- Letters, We Get Letters... -

Another View of Spam
- a rebuttal to Pat Suarez -
In the August 2003 issue of *The DataBus*, Pat Suarez wrote about the hopelessness of dealing with the problem of spam. I wish to offer a different point of view.

Count me a whiner if you will, but the spam problem is not so much the spam itself as the methodologies used by the mass marketers to thwart the spam filters.

One of their techniques is particularly heinous; the practice of forging return addresses and headers using legitimate domain names. This leads to the blocking legitimate domain names and/or DNSes. I know of several dozen (at least) folks who have blocked my domain name because of forged headers. And I know of at least one ISP who has blocked (albeit briefly) an AT&T mail server DNS because of forged spam headers. This will ultimately lead to chaos on the Internet as more legitimate correspondence is blocked by filters and as the spammers appropriate more domain names and DNS servers.

It is not the large legitimate marketing companies and newsletters that are the problem. They are meticulous in offering an opt-out choice in every communication they send - and those with which I have acquaintance are equally meticulous in honoring those requests. And as Pat says, "those who fiddle with the corporate super-giants will find themselves buried in hundreds of thousands of dollars in litigation fees." The problem is with the fringe outfits that deluge us with offers of sex and pills and bogus business opportunities.

Another weakness in Pat's argument is that these mass E-mails are profitable with a return rate of just one ten-thousandths percent. Any mail order

business knows that, when using the US Mail, profit can only be realized when the response rate is over two percent. That is partly because there are costs associated with mailing an offer. These costs are much less when the costs are borne by the target, not the sender, as is the case with E-mail. Therefore, the much lower return rate needed to realize a profit. If there were a way to make the sender bear the costs, there would be much less spam.

Sadly, Pat is correct in his assessment that anti-spam laws will be useless with the world chopped up into all of the national jurisdictions that exist. A US law would have no impact in Taiwan and vice versa. He is also correct that there will always be scofflaws who will attempt (probably successfully) to circumvent the laws.

However, to just throw up one's hands and say, "It's human nature and nothing can be done," is to be a defeatist. Something can and should be done. I return to the observation that the super-giant corporations will bury those who trifle with their name and domains in lawsuits. That suggests that there are ways of identifying spammers, even when they do all they can to conceal their true identities.

The great weakness in the spammers' scheme is that, at some point, the message must lead to a means of contacting the spammer to purchase the product. There is an organization that controls the licensing of domain name re-sellers worldwide. It is The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN). They can, and should, begin aggressively revoking the licenses of those re-sellers who specialize in servicing spammers by providing them with forged headers and rapidly changing domain names in their messages. And don't try to tell me that there is no way

to identify the true source of millions of the same message each day!

At present ICANN's policy to the public is:
"If you have a problem with one of the registrars, you should first try to resolve it with them. If you can't resolve your complaint with the registrar, you should address it to private-sector agencies involved in addressing customer complaints or governmental consumer protection agencies. Although ICANN's limited technical mission does not include handling customer-service issues, we do monitor complaints about registrars to discern trends. If you'd like to submit a complaint about a registrar to ICANN, please send an email to <registrar-info@icann.org>. Please include your name, your company/organization (if any), your email address, your phone number (optional), the name of the registrar, the specific domain names involved (if any), and a brief description of your problem or complaint. ICANN will forward your complaint to the registrar for review and further handling."

Note that there is absolutely no provision for revoking a registrar's license! The assumption they make is that their registrars will abide by the ICANN policy of not participating in spamming activities. Sadly, not all of them do and the practice "will forward your complaint to the registrar for review and further handling" is tantamount to placing the fox as guard of the hen house. I once filed such a complaint and the spam I received literally doubled within a week! I was not terribly surprised - the offending domain name owner and the registrar were the same individual! In Hong Kong!

ICANN's statement "you should address it to private-sector agencies

- Computer Addiction: A Primer -

By Jerry Wonderly, regular contributor to *The DataBus*. A native Daytonian, Jerry has been involved with computers since the mid-80's. "I cut my teeth on CP/M Plus." He says that 'computering' can be very expensive but doesn't have to be. "Ask questions. Think cheap. Shop around. And don't assume your computer needs to be traded in. I'd rather put my money in my 401(k) than spend it on a complete new system and software."

We've all been there whiling away the hours: A great new PC game or complex productivity software, chat rooms, email, instant messaging, downloading MP3s, and surfing, surfing, surfing the world wide web. Most of us keep our computer usage under control and within reason, but for some, it becomes an addiction. In this month's article, I'll try to hit the highlights of some of the signs, symptoms, and remedies of computer addiction so that we can be more vigilant of our own habits as well as those of our loved ones.

Computer obsession is a new phenomenon that so-called professionals cannot agree even exists. After all, this is the Technology Age and "computering" is not a single, isolated experience but rather several different tasks that we are involved in, many out of necessity. There are plenty of jokes about being a PC junkie but most of us just laugh them off. Some say it is merely a compulsion, not an addiction. By definition, a compulsion is one in which no harm is done, while an addiction is one where harm *is* done. I guess we need to judge for ourselves and discuss the circumstances with our loved ones.

From teenagers to the geriatric crowd, no segment of our culture is immune. For the shy, inhibited soul, chatting online offers them an ability to easily interact "socially" going so far as allowing them to create fictitious personalities and the like. For others, it may be the glitz of the net: the colorful animations, the variety of content, a spellbinding game, and even online gambling. Online game playing is reportedly to blame for many college kids flunking out. This Information Age is all new to us and understandably interesting and exciting – and tempting.

The symptoms of computer addiction are: impatience while interacting with "real" people, irritability when not playing a video game, withdrawal, emptiness when not online, failing grades, over-thinking of your computer when you're not using it, believing your best friends are strangers online, strained relationships with family members, spending an inordinate amount of your monthly budget on computers or accessories, and lack of control of computer time.

Now, here's the really disturbing part: Most of the support groups that deal with computer addiction are, unbelievably, online! In my research for this article, I didn't see any advice on treatment anywhere online; not that I searched for hours and hours either. Perhaps our culture is in complete denial. Maybe it's still too new a condition. Or, maybe the professionals don't want to give away any advice – they want to be paid for all of it. Years from now, a whole movement will probably look back and ask why we didn't see it and do anything. It's not

- Letters, We Get Letters (cont.) -

involved in addressing customer complaints or governmental consumer protection agencies" is nothing less than a specious abdication of their ultimate responsibility for regulating the registrars. We are all quite well aware that there are no laws or governmental rules or consumer protection agencies that apply worldwide to whom one could address such a complaint. ICANN's Registrar Accreditation Agreement says, "Registrar shall permit use of data it provides in response to queries for any lawful purposes except to: (a) allow, enable, or otherwise support the transmission by E-mail, telephone, or facsimile of mass, unsolicited,

commercial advertising or solicitations to entities other than the data recipient's own existing customers...." Note that nothing at all is said regarding whatever Registrar culpability there may be. And even that nearly irrelevant prohibition has no enforcement provision.

A this time there are only two reasons that ICANN gives for revoking a registrar's license: conviction in a court of law for a felony offense by the registrar company or company officer or failure to pay the minuscule $4000 annual license fee. At that low rate, a spammer can just re-apply for a new license if one is revoked.

Clearly ICANN sees no need to concern itself with what, to much of the world, is a major problem. Amazing, isn't it? Or would a better choice of word be "Outrageous!"

In short, if ICANN can be pressured into stepping up to the plate and meeting its regulatory responsibilities, the spam problem could be a distant memory in a matter of months. I am not naive enough to believe that it can all be stopped, but I am sure that the 80% of messages I receive that are spam would be significantly reduced.

Bill Taylor
http://www.billietaylor.com

- New Windows RPC Flaws Discovered -

by George Gibbs, Acting Co-Editor, The DataBus

Steve Gibson writes a quick-fix utility

From an email sent to subscribers of the SpywareInfo free weekly newsletter (www.spywareinfo.com):

http://www.microsoft.com/security/security_bulletins/ms03-039.asp

"Microsoft has announced a patch for a serious security flaw affecting Microsoft Windows NT, Windows 2000, Windows XP and Windows Server 2003.

"This is a flaw very similar to the RPC flaw announced in July that led to the MSBlaster email worm, and can lead to the exact same exploit. Be aware that even if you have installed the patch available in July, you still need to download and install this new patch.

"The MSBlaster worm, which was released after someone published detailed instructions to a security mailing list showing how to exploit the previous RPC flaw, caused severe problems all across the Internet. SpywareInfo asks all readers running affected versions of Windows to please install this patch as soon as possible."

* * *

What? Again?!?!
This replacement patch, which includes fixes for the three newly discovered vulnerabilities as well as the original one announced in July, can be obtained via Windows Update or by following the link at the beginning of the article to the Microsoft bulletin announcing it. Both this patch and the original one announced back in July deal with security vulnerabilities in a Windows Distributed Component Object Model (DCOM) Remote Procedure Call (RPC) interface.

Right as we went to press, Steve Gibson, well known for his http://grc.com website featuring "Shields UP!", announced a tiny (29 KB) free utility to disable DCOM entirely once the above patch has been applied. In his words:

"Microsoft's DCOM security patch leaves DCOM running, open, and waiting for the next malicious exploit. Our 29 kbyte 'DCOMbobulator' allows any Windows user to quickly check their system's DCOM vulnerability, then simply shut down the unnecessary DCOM security risk....

"DCOM serves no practical purpose for almost anyone and, as the entire world now knows, it creates a huge and unwarranted security risk. Therefore, it's crazy to leave DCOM running. Microsoft's DCOM vulnerability patch does fix this latest problem with DCOM. But this was not the first problem with DCOM, so there's little support for

the hope that this was the last problem....Since no typical Windows user has ever needed to have DCOM enabled, it should be shut down immediately and disabled (after first making sure that it's safely patched when it's enabled and running). The DCOMbobulator makes this as easy as pressing a single "Disable DCOM" button. You can then restart Windows and verify that DCOM has been safely taken out of service."

I recommend that users of all vulnerable Windows systems apply this Microsoft patch immediately, and then protect themselves further by downloading Steve's free 29 KB utility (http://grc.com/dcom/) to help ensure no further undiscovered DCOM exploits will affect you.

While you're at Steve's website, take a look at his other free utilities. "The DCOMbobulator" is just one of several useful utilities he has created in response to "unnecessary and dangerous" Microsoft services enabled by default. If you'd like to make your computer a little more secure, Steve's site is an extremely useful place to look around.

- Computer Addiction: A Primer (cont.) -

(Continued from page 6)
unlike the way we look back on previous generations who polluted our environment so badly.

In conclusion, many of us know at least one person whom we suspect is a computer addict. Since there is so little information out there regarding treatment, we're on our own to handle it. Good old midwestern common sense should do it. So, if you have a family member or a loved one who you think is going overboard with their computer life, say something, discuss it. Down the road, they may look back and really thank you for caring.

Congrats to:

Carol Ewing,

September'03

"Volunteer of

the Month"!

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.   <u>We do not have change at the meeting.</u>

Expired in August 2003

Anderson	Miles
Ball	Gary L.
Barfield	Arthur
Boedeker	Harold F
Cahill	Timothy
Clemmons	Dean
Cox	Bruce
Coy	Benjamin
Coy	Jonathan
Edwards	Robert L.
Esch	Carol
Foward Sr.	Alphonsa
Garringer	John
Gavin	Joe
Harris	Robert L.
Heinz	Patrick
Hepner	John
Horn	Charles
Horton	Jerry A.
Hostens	William
Humphreys	Edward N.
Kelley	Dayna L.
Klein	Kenneth
Leach	William
Lindsey	Charles R.
Lohnes	Ernest
Long	Carol A.
Lynch	F. William
Mahfouz	George
Massengil Jr.	Fred
McCoy	James L.
Odle	Royce
Omiatek	Joshua D.
Preis	William
Ruckman	Robert
Sage	Sarah
Smith	Frank
Smith	Karen (a)

Smith	Lee
Spreen	Arthur
Taylor	Elisabeth C. (a)
Troutman	Shawn
Walton	Jeff
Wilkin	Olivia
Zimmerman	Harold

Expires in September 2003

Baltes	Dick
Brodowski	Eleanor
Brookhart	Marjorie
Childs	G. Dale
Clemmons	Jeffrey (a)
Detweiler	Philip
DeVol	Stephen
Garcia	Dr. Oscar N.
Gaulden	Henry C.
Glidewell	Kay
Jones	Edward K.
Klenke	Thomas
Lee	Darla A. (a)
Lotspaih	Mark
Luneke	Kenneth C.
Melke	Harry B.
Nielson	Dean
Nies	Jim
Nieves	Erik H.
Pasha MD	Jaseem
Peirano	Mary E
Rhude	L. Roger
Stine	Gregory L.
Thorstenson	Carl E.

Expires in October 2003

Baltes	Doug
Bergman	Phyllis
Bowen	Paul
Burris	Keith W.

Buttermore	Jack
Carrigan	Dan
Davis	Donald G.
The Dayton Foundation	
c/o Marilyn A. Campbell	
Doria	Edward L.
Falkner	Laura
Fuchs	Shirley
Gray	Richard B.
Grover	Don G.
Guenther	Julie
Habenicht	Larry
Heidorn	Don
Jump	N. Gregory
Kamphaus Jr.	August (Gus) C
Lee	George E.
Lingo Sr.	William J. (Bill)
Linton	Kathleen
Lundy	Bruce
McLefresh	Thomas G.
Moler	Teffan
Montgomery	Richard A.
Moore	Jerry
O'Brien	Kevin M.
O'Quinn	David
Pamatat	Albert
Perkins	Chet
Pesa	Henry
Prater	James W.
Shine	Bob
Small	Donald M.
Smith	Dara S.
Waldo	Where's
Walton	Ronnie G.
Watt	Brian
Wick	Gary H.
Wiese	Vernon L.
Zulauf	Michael H.

- Game Review - Pocket Tanks Deluxe -

by Dan Woodard, DMA® member, DataBus Software Reviewer

Dan Woodard: *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 .*

Every computer system has probably had some form of artillery game, from the Atari all the way up to the PowerPC. I remember playing something called 'Scorched Earth' back in 1990 on my DOS 386 machine. Players usually take on the role of a tank and take turns lobbing various types of ordinance back and forth. Whoever does the most points of damage wins the game. Today, one of the best examples of this 'blast from the past' is Pocket Tanks Deluxe from Blitwise Software.

The game's interface is so intuitive that no manual is needed. When loading the game, players first choose from 1 player, 2 player or Target Practice. Next, they choose the color of their tank, and the 'intelligence' of the computer opponent (if playing 1 player), which ranges from 1 to 10. The weapon shop then displays, allowing players to select their weapons of choice. Since there are 10 different rounds in each game, each player can select 10 weapons total, from the 20 that are displayed. To keep any one player from having an obvious advantage, each takes a turn selecting their favorite weapons so no one really gets an advantage there. A 'random' button exists for those who essentially want to skip the weapon selection process, and just get to the action. Once these selections have been made, the actual game begins.

As mentioned earlier, Pocket Tanks Deluxe is turn-based, not real-time. As such, you have plenty of time to look at the angles and distances involved. Tanks can also move horizontally up to 4 times per game. The simplicity in-

volved is refreshing after trying some games that make game players spend about as much time looking through the manual as they get to spend playing the game. A typical game lasts about 3 to 5 minutes.

This game has a lot going for it. The system requirements are low, so it can be installed and played on just about

any computer system that was manufactured in the past 5 years. It also has excellent replay value (which is very important when the typical game lasts less than 5 minutes). Often when I thought I would play only one game, I found myself saying "just one more…" over and over, until I had played 10 games or more. This is the type of game that is excellent when you just have a few minutes over lunch break, or can also do a fine job of filling in for half an hour.

The variety of weapons is really what makes this a fun game, and also has a hint of strategy. Yes, there is a bit more involved than just blasting your opponent in Pocket Tanks Deluxe. Combinations can be found in some of the weapons that are offered. Take the dirtball and the worm, for instance. The dirtball lobs an exploding ball of

dirt that covers your opponent. Once you have done this, most of your opponent's weapons will explode and cause him damage when he tries to shoot you during his next turn. If he doesn't succeed in blowing away the entire covering, you can follow up with a worm - a ground-penetrating missile. Another combo would be napalm and pile driver. Napalm unleashes a torrent of flame, while pile driver blasts a vertical section of ground out from underneath the detonation. Normally, napalm gives an intermediate amount of damage, but if the fire is focused into a small area, it can be devastating. Pile driver can allow a player to 'trap' an enemy tank where it can't move, then deliver a focused flame attack. Since there are 120 weapons in the registered version, you can imagine how many different combinations there are.

Summary: For $16, Pocket Tanks Deluxe is one of the best shareware values that I've encountered in some time. With almost endless replayability and an excellent weapon variety, it is likely to be one of the rare software titles users revisit for years.

Rating: 8.5 out of 10

Requirements: 150 MHz CPU, 32 MB RAM, Windows 95+

Reviewed: P4 1.4GHz, 128 MB RAM, 32 MB Video, 40x CD, Win ME, DirectX 8

Best Price: download shareware version or register for $16 at www.blitwise.com

Demo: www.blitwise.com/ptanks.html

- Technology.talk — An Imperfect Life -

*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.

Common Sense Deficiency

Recently, I saw a tech news article about a poll that showed that Mozilla, the core Web browser within Netscape Navigator, cannot really compete with Internet Explorer. Time Warner, which gave AOL its walking papers, also released Mozilla in much the same fashion that baseball teams release players no longer found useful to future winning strategies. The Mozilla team breathed a sigh of relief, now able to take full advantage of the open source community. While Time Warner didn't necessarily need Mozilla, the Web-wandering world does.

Mozilla provides something in the way of competition to Internet Explorer. It also is a vastly superior browser, but try telling that to Web users who lock-step to Microsoft.

The irony here is that those same lock-step IE browser users whine, gripe and complain about Web ad pop-ups, pop-unders and, my least favorite, those slimy layered ads that appear and ooze around a Web page but don't create a new window. You cannot get rid of them until you either click to look at their contents or they decide to vaporize, in their own good time. With IE and Netscape, you get them; with Mozilla, you don't. It's great. And it's free.

But try getting through the thick mental leather of people who simply refuse to even try this free application. "It won't work with Microsoft-specific Web page coding," they 'reason'. Poppycock. I use Mozilla exclusively, and I never have problems with any site. I try mightily to tell anyone who natters on about pop-ups and creeping, slippery ads about the virtues of Mozilla, but they act as

if I'm demanding that they sample a live eel as an appetizer.

If I sound annoyed, well, I am. I will never understand a general population that is too intransigent and stubborn about this, and yet cannot stop yowling about irritating Web ad technology. You can buy or download additional apps that block popups, but you add another program to all that background hoo-ha that Windows makes us run if we want to remain off the front page of the newspaper.

For the love of heaven, Mozilla is free, rock-solid, better than Opera and even has powerful e-mail and newsgroup apps. And, once in Mozilla, if you go to Edit, Preferences, Privacy & Security, Popup Windows and check 'Block unrequested popup windows', you will never, ever get any of the three Web screen hassles I listed earlier in this diatribe, er…, article.

But wait, there's more! You can configure the popup blocker to allow any Web site you want to present popups. Can IE do this? No. Can Netscape do this? No. Essentially, the difference between Netscape Navigator and Mozilla is the popup blocking feature. Why anyone would use Netscape when he or she could use Mozilla is a mystery to me. They look the same; they function the same; one is as much of a pain about popups as IE, while the other offers clean Web browsing. Yeesh.

Find Mozilla at www.mozilla.org. Please.

Keystroke Cat-and-Mouse

It was with more than a tinge of irony that, on the same day, I bumped into ads whose products dealt with privacy

and monitoring but radically conflicted with one another.

The first was an ad for a $150 product called eBlaster (www.eblaster.com). EBlaster is keystroke-logging spyware that records the hapless target's keystrokes. Yes, this is old news. But here's what isn't: when the target sends e-mail to someone, eBlaster sends a copy of the message to the person doing the monitoring. The ad and eblaster.com proclaim this to be an effective way to monitor your child's online habits when the parent isn't around to watch little Sally sally forth electronically with someone who might be a 35 year old man inviting little Sally to do something that would instantly land him in jail in Greene County. Maybe, but I think it's meant for employers who want a more convenient way of keeping an eye on their employees' international desk-voyages during working hours. Mom and dad might cough up $50 for this, but $150 is more in the price range of businesses than that of most consumers, and that's the price tag for eBlaster.

As a parent or employer, you might feel a bit more relaxed having read about eBlaster. You might even be considering its purchase.

But before you make a move, consider Symantec's Norton Antivirus 2004. It has buffed up to include spyware-sniffing technology that defeats keystroke-loggers and spyware. Hah! If little Sally's parents are not as PC-savvy as she is, they might fork over $150 for nothing. Little Sally could show mom and dad the bright yellow install disk for NAV 2004 and tell them it's the updated virus-killer that

(Continued from page 10)

she's going to install, making her PC safe from digital nasties. Picture, then, mom and dad beaming at their bright little daughter's proactivity against Windows-wrecking infections…and against them.

Employees might not get away with this as easily as little Sally. More and more companies are locking down their systems against employee-installed software and hardware. Too many people, well intended or not, have created too many productivity-killing nightmares with all the goodies they bring to the workplace. Let the employee beware: The Man can legally watch what you do while you are on his dime and any court of law will take his side. You've been warned.

A postscript about NAV 2004: It joins Windows XP and other products in the growing ranks of programs that cease to function if you don't register the product with a unique and traceable key included with the disk. The door is closing on free copies of software downloadable with a serial number that "works".

And Now You Are in the Crosshairs
This country started losing manufacturing jobs to overseas workers in the 1950s. "Made In Japan" used to be a sure-fire crack-up in Mad magazine, but nobody's been laughing in the appliance, auto and steel industries for a long time.

Now, in 2003, we are losing high tech jobs in a similar manner. All those geeks who looked down their noses at factory workers now find themselves sharing unemployment lines with them. For the same reason. And forever.

IBM has announced that, over the next few years, it will begin taking white-collar jobs to India and other places where they pay a fraction of US wages for equal brainpower. For IBM, this is news. For other companies, those you

wouldn't imagine, it isn't. And it is becoming an epidemic. It's almost as if one company stumbled onto something and other companies rushed in, too, wishing that they had thought of it first.

I recently took an online course with the Defense Acquisition University (DAU). When I needed help logging in, I called the toll free number and a heavy accent greeted me. I had to call three more times for other reasons, and the same sort of accent greeted me each time. No surprise: they were working the night shift in Hyderabad, India. For DAU.

The US is in a major jam. We have become a service-oriented country that imports finished goods. We are now on the verge of importing intellectual property. Our budget is a half trillion in debt for 2004. Our leadership talks as if this is a positive situation for us.

Most of our kids for the past generation or so eschewed science and math as too hard and boring. Meanwhile, Pacific Rim kids have been winning science and math contests for years on the west coast. We buy powerhouse computers for our children and they use all of that horsepower to…play elaborate computer games. I know: I've read that playing videogames sharpens the thought process and reaction time in kids. Right. I'm sure that millions of youngsters will be fighter pilots as adults. But it seems as if that's all teens want to do with these electronic marvels. This calls to mind a comment I heard years ago: our kids are more interested in science fiction than in real science. And when they grow up and create a new generation of people, they pass down all that they know and have learned. Hmmm.

We are reaping a bitter harvest that has no end for at least another couple of generations. The post-war (WW II) boom is over, folks. Get used to it. What good is having The Bomb when a sizeable chunk of your brainpower

sits at home with advanced degrees but without paychecks? Why go through the intensity of earning a B.S., Master's degree or Ph.D. if IBM won't hire you but instead uses an immigration loophole to hire foreigners?

It's no shocker, coincidentally, that the online sex industry will balloon to $20 billion by 2006. As more and more young, attractive men and women find themselves with new bachelor's degrees and no work (or are still in college), many of them will say, what the heck, I can earn $100 an hour and I need to pay the rent. Or buy gasoline. Or eat.

And the audience for this fare is insatiable and global. Boring to watch repeatedly? Yep. The same thing only different every single time? Check. Horrid dialogue in those movies? Naturally. No dialogue in those movies and film clips? Probably. Will males and females, young and old, spring for at least three or four Web sites at a rate of $20 to $40 a month to get this stuff, especially if they subscribe to broadband Internet connectivity? Count on it. Is the market saturated? Saturated? Are you kidding?

Much of this sounds eerily like Germany in the late 1920s and early 1930s. And it's more than a little depressing and frightening. Where's my Zoloft?

Computers Make Our Lives Easy
The computer revolution that has dominated the past two decades has made us both more productive and more spoiled. And maybe more impatient. Access to information and contact with people far away from us, or across the same room, is unparalleled in the course of human history. Instant gratification takes too long. And is a birthright. Right?

But let's think about these appliances, PCs. Their inability to work with regu-

- Initial Dayton LANfest Was A Success! -

by Jim Rowe, Dayton LANfest Coordinator

As the coordinator of Dayton LAN-fest, I had the luxury to lead a great team of college age members of R.A.G.E. LAN and Dayton LAN in to creating the second largest LAN in southwest Ohio on our first attempt! My team included Warrick Mann from R.A.G.E. LAN (Webmaster and Tournament Coordinator), Dayton LAN members Kevin Carter (Networking), Samantha Combs (Registration), Travis Waddle (Publicity) and Richard Davis (Security), and Jim Horton and Dan Chapman from the Cisco Academy of Sinclair Community College.

While the R.A.G.E. LAN and Dayton LAN teammates worked on setting the groundwork for creating an awesome LAN party, Jim and Dan, along with Kevin Carter, set out to create a bulletproof Cisco network backbone that was second to none. Jim and Dan encouraged Sinclair networking students in working the LAN party as part of their grade. Their task was to ensure that the network was set up correctly and ran efficiently and non-stop over the 31 consecutive hours of gaming.

Warrick, Samantha, and the rest of the team, with input from Computer-fest® Exhibitors Coordinator Randy Young, embarked on the logistics of putting on a LAN party on a scale none of them had ever participated in creating. This included Travis, Randy, and Warrick contacting companies to garner interest in prize do-nations, Samantha learning the logistics of the day-of-show Registration process, including Volunteer coordination, and Richard meeting with a Computerfest® Ombudsman and Grey's Security on procedures to deal with issues out of his team's control, especially during the overnight session.

One of the biggest issues was coming to grips with the scale of the project. We brought in Joshua Green from Wright-Patt to take our hen scratching and create a dynamic Visio drawing of the LAN party layout. This crucial step enabled Randy Young to give Hara a precise drawing of our requirements, accurate to the inch. Other team members, like Michael Mueller, Andrew Payne, and Tom Thorpe, provided valuable input and day-of-show assistance in supporting the network and maintaining security for the event.

Oh, the event? We had 200 seats available for 31 consecutive hours of gaming. This is a first for Computer-fest®! Dayton LANfest brought in David Stellmack from Tom's Hard-ware Guide and David Makin from Team AMD to speak to our gamers, as well as to the entire Computer-fest® show, as part of the Computer-fest® Keynote speech. David and David brought with them Vivian Lien, Director of Marketing and PR for DFI, Jim Wong from Hitachi's Digital Media division, as well as members from All-American Com-puter Systems, to serve as a guest panel to both the Computerfest® Keynote speech and the Q&A session for the Dayton LANfest participants.

Dayton LANfest provided attendees the ability to frag (in the gaming world, "to kill") 102 other attendees in a variety of tournaments. Some of the tournaments we ran during the LAN party included America's Army, Unreal Tournament 2003, Quake 3 Arena, Battlefield 1942 (in 2 different mods, or simulations), Unreal Tournament (in an unofficial tournament mode), and Warcraft. Prizes were given out to all winners of each tournament. The biggest highlight of the event was the ability to play David Makin and the rest of Team AMD in the America's Army tournament, their game of choice. Of the twelve participants, three teams were formed in a round robin format. Team AMD, as expected, won easily.

For the first time, the popular gaming drink Bawls was served at the party. We do not have verifiable numbers, but the rumor is that Hara sold 25 cases of the drink and had to go get more! A special thanks goes to the entire Hara staff for working with us to make this event a success.

Guess what? Dayton LANfest will be back at the March Computerfest®! You can check out our web site at http://www.daytonlanfest.com for all the latest news on our next big event.

DMA® Booth Winner

The winner of the DMA® booth new member prize drawing for a $50 Best Buy gift certificate is:
Joe Polley of Dayton, OH.

Congratulations, Joe!! Happy shopping!!

Why do you click on Start **to exit from Microsoft Windows? Hmmm....**

DMA® Elections - Candidate Statements

A note from your Editor regarding Nominee Qualification Statements:

The nominees' Board of Trustees candidate statements which follow have not been subjected to my usual editing scrutiny aside from adding in, as needed, those pesky ® symbols that people constantly forget to put in after DMA® and Computerfest®. They are otherwise reproduced exactly as I received them, either from the Nominations Committee Chairman, Bob Kwater, or directly from the nominees themselves (and as copied to the Committee).

Final responsibility for ensuring candidate statements meet all nomination requirements rests with the Committee. What is presented here represents the latest communications from them regarding each statement.

The order of the statement placements is purely last-name alphabetical and, just as with the space-filling graphic on p.19, nothing herein should be construed in any way, shape or form as indicating a preference for any nominee(s).

We again this year have a healthy slate of candidates to present. It's great to see seven nominees running for the three openings on the Board of Trustees. They offer themselves here for your consideration and would most certainly appreciate your attendance at the September General Meeting and your participation in the voting process.

George Gibbs, Acting co-Editor
george_dma@gibbsmail.net

This year we have a slate of nominees that run the gamut from those with membership of 20 years or more to those new to DMA®. Experience ranges from the very technical to the home user. With only three positions open and seven people from which to choose, you, the membership, must weigh the selection carefully. DMA® is at a transitional phase, as is the industry in general, and hard choices will need to be made in the coming year. It truly has been encouraging to see that so many individuals are willing to use their time and energy to help make DMA® better.

Thank you to all the nominees, and to Millard Mier and Susan Kendall without whose assistance this selection would not have been possible.

Bob Kwater
Nomination Chairman

Dale Childs

> No Picture Submitted

I have been a computer owner and user since 1979. With experience on various PC clones and Apple systems, I find it easy to "speak" understand both environments, and conclude that there is no one system better than the next.

No sooner did I move to Dayton in 1982, I quickly joined and became involved with Apple-Dayton, DMUG, as well as DMA®. As a long time user group member I maintain the belief that user groups are first created for the support of its members and secondly for the community.

While active in the Digital Photography and Software Development SIGs, I have been interested in expanding DMA® Special Interest Groups. To this degree I have assisted my wife (Lou) begin the Digital Textiles SIG.

Since retiring from the Air Force and now employed at Lexis-Nexis my education and work emphasis is Electrical Engineering and Computer Engineering with interests in Avionics and Artificial Intelligence.

I hope to bring my technical expertise and business skills to service the Board of Trustees and DMA® in general wherever I can help.

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Terry Drill

I am a co-founder of the Northern SIG, a Special Interest Group

that has just celebrated its first year anniversary this month. I have also co-chaired the Computerfest® – IT position for Computerfest® for the Spring 2003 and Fall 2003 shows with responsibility of building and maintaining the network used during the show.

Presently I am a student at Edison Community College having completed 97 credit hours in 6 semesters towards three Information Technology degrees (AAB) among these credit hours is the completion of the Cisco CCNA track at a Cisco Network Academy. At the end of this year, I hope to transfer to a four-year program to continue my studies of Business and Information Technology.

Other accomplishments in technology include having held a Novice

(Continued from page 13)

Amateur Radio License when I was 15. I studied closed circuit television at Montgomery county JVS during my sophomore and senior years of High School. I served six years as an electronic warfare technician in the US NAVY where I obtained the rank of Petty Officer 3rd Class. I have also completed an AAS degree from Rets Tech in Electronic Engineering.

I enjoy working with those interested in learning today's new technology. It would be an honor to serve on the board of the DMA® to help bring this organization further along in its travels to introduce and help teach others the use of technology. In addition, as a relative newcomer to DMA®, I can look at things with a fresh eye and an open mind not encumbered by the past.

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Jim Rowe

Email:
photog@dma.org

Past Positions Held with DMA® groups:
DMA® Board of Trustees 2000-2002
Vice President 2000

Computerfest®
Various positions, including Networking Coordinator, Ticket Coordinator, Ombudsman and Dispatch. Served as Vice Chairman of the March 2002 show and Coordinator of Dayton LANfest at the August 2003 show.

Professionally: Systems Administrator for Computer Sciences Corporation

Affiliations with other Organizations:
Troop Committee Member - Boy Scouts of America, Troop 116
Member - All-Ohio State Fair Youth Choir Alumni Association

Coach - Centerville Baseball League
Coach and Referee - Centerville United Soccer Association
Past Member - Centerville Noon Optimist Club

Personal: Married to wife Jody (September 2003) and son, Jamie.

Why do I feel I am qualified for this position?
I feel that my experience and ability to make authoritative decisions will be a benefit to the Board. My workings with other groups provide me with a perspective that can be very beneficial in being a Team Player and Leader on the Board.

If elected, I would assist and support the Organization in growth as well as work with fellow Trustees in areas needed to ensure the well being of the Organization and to support the Board in its goals.

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Robert K. Ruby II

Bob is always willing and able to assist the DMA®, by way of recruiting. He co-founded the NorthernSIG with Terry Drill. By Volunteering, he was co-chair of the IT/Networking committee for Computerfest® (Spring and Fall 2003). And by serving as ambassador to the public at large, Bob is an IT instructor at Edison College, where he actively promotes the DMA®'s principles of Informing and Educating the public about current technology.

He was originally asked to help bring the Computerfest® IT/Networking area into the present and to prepare for the future. He developed a strong working relationship with not only the Computerfest® staff but with Gemair the Board of Trustees as well.

Learning that there were individual interested in meeting to discuss computing but not able to drive the distance to Dayton, he envisioned beginning the NorthernSIG. The drive and enthusiasm Bob shares inspires those around him to become a part of the future of the whole organization. Join Bob in his efforts to provide long-standing future leadership to assist the DMA® in upholding the belief that technology is meant to be shared and that you can contribute by sharing your experiences with someone less experienced.

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Darlene Sye

Darlene has been an active member of DMA® since 1992. She has worked hard on the Computerfest® Committee for several years. and has served as Secretary of Computerfest® for two shows. In addition she has worked on the Computerfest® Booth and in the Exhibitor Office. More recently, Darlene has taken her love of Geneology and added it to one of the features of the Computerfest® seminars. Darlene has plans to lead in the development of a Geneology SIG for DMA®.

Darlene has worked with Sinclair Community College as a technical trainer and is currently working with Siemens. She has been a leader in bringing training to the underserved and believes in improving access to technology to all those interested in the benefits technology provides.

She sees the difficulties that face DMA® at this time as more of a challenge than a barrier to growth. Not one to sit back and watch others work, Darlene is eager to "roll up her sleeves" to help where needed.

DMA® Membership Application/Renewal (only <u>one</u> person per form, please)
PLEASE ALLOW UP TO THREE WEEKS FOR APPLICATION PROCESSING AND INTERNET SET-UP

1 Name: _____ Birth date:_____/_____/_____
                                                                                                    mo.   day   yr.

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____-_____

Phone: (Home) (_____)_____-_____ Phone: (Work) (_____)_____-_____x_____

I wish to have my name and address published in the club roster: YES [ ]   NO [ ]   E-mail address _____

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: _____

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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.)   [   ] **$25**

Family Associate Membership (must live at same address as regular member)   2.)   [   ] **$12.50**

Free* Student Membership   3.)   [   ] **FREE** *<u>for students under 22 years of age</u>

Please assign me a user ID for E-mail and Usenet news access   4.)   [   ] **$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

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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®'sHelpline 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@sprint mail.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 Corbet	9 am - 9 pm	604-8793	M-F	Thelinuxguy @gemair.com
What is your specialty?	**Your Name Here**				

I have been working hard to post various articles on my Web site that I think are interesting and well-written items I found in the newsletters I receive. I've had no feedback from anybody on how many are using them and I have no Web log on that site. I don't know if it was all for naught, or if my readers and some editors are actually getting some good stuff from it. Please let me know if I am getting things you like, or if you want something else. I need input.

I also find many other useful items, such as tips, in the newsletters I receive and try to save many of them for future reference, not to mention all the interesting and useful URLs I have saved. It sure makes large files. The reviews I post are mostly for novel things, or items many might be buying now, such as cameras and color laser printers. That's because most UG newsletters are full of reviews for books and popular software.

I've also noticed something else. Many of the authors I ask for their articles have been around computers for some time. When I get the file from them, it is often written in older software. Looks like I am not the only person who is not buying new software because what I already have is working fine. If some vendors have their way, your software would only run for one year and would then have to be renewed.

*Reminders:
Russ Walter's book "The Secret Guide To Computers"
[http://www.secretfun.com] was not a special, but user groups can always use it as a fundraiser by purchasing at the volume discounts and reselling them to members. Masque Publishing's "A Computerized One Armed Bandit,"
[http://www.masque.com] game for

the discounted price of $19.95 is still good this month. They might even give us a special on another of their games next month. I'll ask.

*Our Friend Dave is Baaaack
Dave Whittle was kind enough to remember the DealsGuy and his readers. He sent this message the other day that I will include. Many of you know Dave very well since he has presented to your users groups.

"I seem to have been fortunate enough to survive the high-tech downturn. My current clients (replacing MGI) are Intel, iSeeMedia, 3D Album, muvee, and Alpha Software. Each of my client software companies has agreed to let me offer some great deals to user group members, and, as always, we limit our offerings to those products that are of almost universal appeal and adhere to our high standards of quality and usability. We've earned your trust over many years of helping user group members find the best software from hot new categories, just as you've earned their trust by ferreting out great deals. Here are some great deals on great software you can offer your readers:

"3D Album PLUS DVD Converter (Animation Capture) [www.3d-album.com]. Create beautiful, eye-popping 3D slide shows from your digital photos. Share by saving the show and music as an executable file or a folder containing everything you need to burn an auto-run CD. You can also convert the slide shows to movie formats for use with a DVD authoring program such as VideoWave 5.

Low Internet Price: $39.95 + $24.95 + $7.70 S&H = $72.60.
User Group Price: ONLY $35!

"muvee autoProducer DVD Edition [www.muvee.com] . Process any raw

video footage (such as your home movies) quickly and easily, converting it into a fascinating movie or music video in one of over a dozen different styles, automatically! Save it as an .AVI, .MPEG, .MPG2, or a variety of other formats. This software is the perfect complement to any video editor or DVD authoring software. Includes manual and CD not available when you order direct from the muvee web site.

Low Internet Price: $59.95 + $14.95 for CD + S&H = $74.90.
User Group Price: ONLY $35!

"iSeeMedia PhotoVista Panorama 3.0 [www.iseemedia.com]. Create fully immersive, interactive, 3D panoramas automatically from a series of digital photos. Upgrade to Version 3.0 to get improved workflow and the ability to stitch an additional layer vertically.

Low Internet Price: $59.95 + $9.95 S&H = $69.90.
User Group Price: ONLY $35!

"ALL THREE OF THE ABOVE: ONLY $95! INCLUDING Shipping and Handling FREE if your readers say they saw the offer in your Deals Guy column. Save over $114! Offer expires October 30, 2003.

"To order, simply provide us with the following:
- Name
- Shipping address (and billing address if different)
- Credit card # and expiration date (VISA or MasterCard only)
- Which product(s) you want

"You can e-mail the above information to [orders@webworkingservices.com] or

The Deals Guy — (Cont.)

mail it with a check to Webworking Services Corporation, 653 N 600 E, Springville, UT 84663, or fax it to (801) 489-0609."

DealsGuy note: While I have not heard of any problems, be aware that sending a credit card number by e-mail may not be the most secure method. If you are unsure about any pricing or S&H, contact Dave for clarification.

*Do Much Long Distance Calling?
A long time ago I wrote about [http://www.bigzoo.com], which I though was a good deal, and it still is. The rate is 2.9 and 3.9 cents for calls in the US with various rates for other countries, all very good. It's also good in motels etc. when you are away from home. Just go on line and sign up by using your credit card to put some money into an account. I don't normally find dialing Bigzoo a problem unless it was busy and I have to keep trying. I simply use a speed dialer for the access number

and the pin number. According to Kiplinger, here are some other options:

[http://www.onesuite.com] has two versions. Dialing one of its local access numbers gives you domestic long distance calling for 24/7 at just 2.5 cents per minute. If you prefer toll-free access numbers, the price goes to 2.9 cents per minute.

If you prefer the convenience of just dialing 1 (doing it the old fashioned way), try [http://www.gtctelecom.com] and LD calling will cost you just 5 cents per minute 24/7, and no monthly charges. For that, they require you be billed online and use a credit card. This one won't include Alaska or Hawaii at that price. A paper bill would cost $1.95 per month. (If you check your phone bill now, you are probably already paying a hefty fee for having your long distance calls included on your phone bill). In the article I read they also included some URLs for doing comparisons.

[http://www.tollchaser.com], [http://www.SaveOnPhone.com] and [http://www.getconnected.com] which also includes wireless.

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 or freebies 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 often must give up on many good articles for lack of response.

DMA® Elections - Candidate Statements (cont.)

Gary Turner

The office of Trustee is an important one and I promise to do my best. I have been a member of DMA® since its creation and have held various offices in the organization including Trustee for the past three years, four years as President, four years as Vice-President, Chairman of Computerfest® two plus times, President and Vice President of GEMAIR, and current Ticket Chair for Computerfest® 2003.

New technology is bringing change and the club is changing to reflect the needs of its members. Only by changing, can the club fulfill its purpose of educating its members and the public while keeping pace with the newest computing technologies.

I believe with my history in DMA® and my knowledge in the computing field I can help direct DMA® to a successful future.

Ron Williamitis

No Picture Submitted

I am a Dayton native who has been in the Dayton work force for over 23 years. I have served in officer positions in various service clubs and organizations during this time.

I am known both in the business community and by the governmental officials. Since I have worked in the law and financial fields, I feel that I can offer my knowledge and creativity in clarification of either legal or financial matters as needed.

- 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! ***

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 September 2003 issue of *The DataBus*

Last Name	First Name	City	Last Name	First Name	City
Brodbeck	Julius R.	Huber Hgts	Polley	Joe	Dayton
Bruckner	Anton	Huber Hgts	Schrodi	Jerry	Dayton
Cuppy	Charles C.	Medway	Sheets	Darrell	Huber Hgts
Groth	Rick	Lebanon	Tanner	Millie	Bainbridge
Hamelton	Gerald H.	Dayton	White	Leroy	Dayton
Harvey	David	Dayton	Williamitis	Debbie (a)	Oakwood
Jensen	Roger	Kettering	Wysong	John	Lewisburg
Lauderbach	Dave	Fairborn	Zamonski	Kathy (a)	Dayton

(Sometimes there are additional new members, three this month, who indicated they do not want their names published and are not listed here.)

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

Computerfest® In Pictures

Photos by Tom Sheibenberger, Don Corbet, Dave Lundy, Millard Mier III and Samantha Combs

Dayton LANfest brings over 100 to Computerfest® for an all-night gaming event. Gary Mullins awards Grand Prize, a multimedia computer sytem to Jim Mills of Cincinnati Ohio. David Stellmack from Tom's Hardware Guide delivers keynote address. The Volunteer pizza party was fun for all. Thanks to everyone who volunteered, exhibited or attended!

- DMA® Board Minutes - August 4, 2003 -

by Carol Ewing DMA® Board Secretary

DMA® Board of Trustees Meeting

Call to order by Lisa Singh at 7 pm

Trustees and Officers present: Leah Day, Gary Mullins, Carol Ewing, Millard Mier, Gary Turner, Lisa Singh, John Friedenbach.

Absent: Carolann Lemen, Don Corbet, Bill Jacobs.

Visitors present: George Ewing, Jim Hendrix, Bob Kwater, Dave Lundy, Randy Young, Lillian Rudolph, Jeff Wolf, Ted Creek.

Officer Reports:

President - Lisa Singh. The September board meeting falls on Labor Day. Gary Mullins made a motion, Millard Mier 2nd, to move the Sept. board meeting to Tuesday, Sept. 2, 2003. Yes-4, No-0, Abstain-0. Motion passed. The location will be determined later.

Vice-President - Gary Mullins. Gary asked to be excused from 7-20 & 21, 2003 special board meeting due to a very important conference call with Computerfest®. Millard Mier made a motion to excuse the absence. Yes-4, No-0, Abstain-1. Motion passed. Leah Day asked to be excused from 7-20 & 21, 2003 special board meeting due to being out of town due to her work schedule. Motion to accept her absence by Carol Ewing, 2nd by Gary Mullins. Yes-3, No-1, Abstain-1. Motion passed.

Secretary - Carol Ewing. Carol had to delete her email to the board stating she did not get any reports because she finally got a lot of reports. She is still missing several reports. She re-read all the minutes from Oct. 2002 and will email a list of items the board has not addressed and finalized yet. Leah Day made a motion to accept the 7-7-03 board minutes, Millard Mier 2nd. Yes-5, No-0, Abstain-0. Motion

passed. Carol needs a copy of every contract, agreement or resolution that DMA® has signed or made since Oct, 2002. This includes StreaminGiant contract, Hara/Computerfest®, Hara/Time Warner RoadRunner, insurance policies, rental agreement, etc. These will be stored in Treasurer office. Millard Mier said we also need copies of any policies put in place. Carol did a chart on board absence. She read the by-laws rules on absenteeism. Bill Jacobs missed more than 4 total meetings in a twelve-month period and officially is off the board. Gary Turner made a motion, Millard Mier 2nd, that Mr. Jacobs is no longer a member as Trustee of DMA®. Yes-5, No-0, Abstain-0. Motion passed. Don Corbet missed 4 total meetings in a twelve-month period and officially is off the board also. Don, per phone call, asked to be reinstated as a DMA® Trustee. Gary Turner made a motion, Millard Mier 2nd, to recognize the vacancy and nominate Don Corbet to fill the remainder of his term. Yes-5, No-0, Abstain-0. Motion passed. Carol asked about the availability of Miriam Hall at UD for August's General Meeting. Gary Turner will check on this.

Treasurer - John Friedenbach. He emailed the financial reports. He sent insurance information and Mr. Ferneding, DMA® insurance agent, will attend the Sept. 2, 2003 board meeting. He hopes to get information to the accountant next week, before August extension deadline expires.

Committee Reports:

Membership - Carol Ewing. Attendance for July general meeting was 94, 1 new, 2 renewals, one student renewal and 11 guests. Total membership count is now 807. She has scheduled a membership committee meeting for Aug. 11, 2003. August is the last time we can use Marion's Piazza fundraiser. We can only use it once a year, not once a month.

DMA® booth will have a prize drawing at Computerfest®. Gary Turner is eligible to run for Trustee as his second consecutive term per *The DataBus* and DMA® Board of Trustee minutes. He must resign as Nomination Committee Chairman before applying to run for Trustee.

Computerfest® - Gary Mullins. He had Carol Ewing email his report to board on Friday. He said David Stellmack, Contributing Editor from Tom's Hardware Guide, and David Makin, from Team AMD, will be Computerfest keynote speakers and will have Q & A sessions. They will have a Q & A session during Dayton LANfest also.

Nomination Committee - Gary Turner. He has two names. Gary announced his resignation from Nomination Committee Chairmanship. He will run for a Trustee position. Millard said there is a question of eligibility regarding one of the candidates. They are a current associate, but the full membership lapsed in the last year. .Per Bylaws Article V, Section 3-A, they are eligible. Motion was made by Gary Mullins, Gary Turner 2nd, to allow the candidate in question to be placed on the ballot. Yes-5, No-0, Abstain-0. Motion passed. Lisa Singh appointed Bob Kwater as Nomination Committee Chairman. A motion was made by Millard Mier, Leah Day 2nd, to accept Bob Kwater as Nomination Committee Chairman. Yes-5, No-0, Abstain-0.

GEMAIR/DMA® - Millard Mier. He sent report with clearance from John Friedenbach. Any discussion will be in Executive Session.

Financial Review - Gary Turner. Ted Hooker agreed to be on the committee but is not a CPA. Gary Mullins will provide some CPA names.

GEMAIR - John Friedenbach. He asked if it is appropriate to mass email

(Continued from page 23)

all members information on the new ICG Communications business partnership. Millard Mier said we need a privacy policy. They will announce ICG's VoicePipe™ service and to contact GEMAIR. Motion by Gary Mullins, Leah Day 2nd, to approve the email. Yes-5, No-0, Abstain-0. Motion passed. The privacy policy will be discussed at the membership committee meeting.

Budget - John Friedenbach. He sent report. Had meeting. Reduced expenses of $7,500.00. He will have another meeting before Sept board meeting.

Old Business:

Certification SIG - George Ewing. He got a cabinet which is DMA® property. He will use one side for Certification and the other side for Amateur Radio SIG. He thanked Peter Hess and Millard Mier for getting and transporting it to 119 Valley. He will set up speakers in the front and back of room.

Amateur Radio SIG - George Ewing. He is still looking for SIG leader. He is planning a road trip for Sept. 2 meeting.

Volunteer of the Month - Lisa Singh. This will be discussed later in the meeting.

Skills database - Lisa Singh. She got letter from Joe Mahran; will email for board comments. This will be tabled until Sept. meeting.

OTAP Management Services - Carol Ewing. She researched the payments for Access Systems. Motion made by Gary Mullins, Leah Day 2nd, to pay all back pay from Jan. 2002 to present for difference of $512 to $625 per month and continue to pay $625. Yes-5, No-0, Abstain-0. Motion passed.

Conflict of Interest - Millard Mier. He merged Ethics Code and Conflict of Interest. There was some discussion on exact wording. He will review this and will be discussed next month.

Break: 8:35 to 8:50 pm

New Business:

Computerfest® Resolution - Randy Young. Millard Mier made a motion, Gary Mullins 2nd, to go into Committee of One. Yes-5, No-0, Abstain-0. Motion by Millard Mier, Gary Turner 2nd, to come out of Committee of One. Yes-5, No-0, Abstain-0. Millard Mier made a motion, Gary Mullins 2nd, to adopt the resolution made in the Committee of One. Yes-5, No-0, Abstain-0. Motion passed.

Insurance - John Friedenbach. This was covered in Treasurer report.

Fundraising - Lisa Singh. This was tabled until next month.

Yellow Pages Advertising - Lisa Singh. Lisa will research prices for next month.

dmapub - Gary Turner. They need more memory, 72 pin ECC. He wants to look for donations first. He will give more information next month including costs. He will ask OTAP.

Executive Session - Lisa Singh. 9:40 pm. Motion by Millard Mier, Gary Turner. 2nd, to go into Executive Session. Yes-5, No-0, Abstain-0. 10:15 pm. Motion made by Millard Mier, Gary Mulllins 2nd, to come out of Executive Session. Yes-5, No-0, Abstain-0.

Volunteer of the Month - Lisa Singh. Carol Ewing, Membership Chairman, was nominated.Yes-4, No-0,Abstain-1

Good of the Order:
Millard Mier – "Sigh."
Carol Ewing - happy to get reports by noon Friday deadline.
Leah Day - no comment.
Gary Mullins - nothing.
Gary Turner - hopes we do well at Computerfest®.
John Friedenbach - no comment.

Adjournment:
Motion by Gary Mullins, Leah Day 2nd,to adjourn Yes-5, No-0, Abstain-0

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 pm.

Carol Ewing,
Secretary, DMA®

- National Do Not Call Registry Goes Live October 1 -

It's finally upon us! Phone numbers registered with the National Do Not Call Registry on or before August 31 will be included when it goes live on October 1, 2003. For numbers registered September 1 and later, telemarketers may take up to three months to remove your number from their lists.

So now that it's here, what can you expect? The FTC has an excellent FAQ page (http://donotcall.gov/FAQ/ FAQConsumers.aspx) that should answer most all of your questions. It covers all aspects of registration, as well as such things as: under what circumstances your number may be removed from the list, who may still call you after you register, and how to file a complaint if you do get called improperly.

If you've already registered, your dinner hour is about to get a little more peaceful. If you haven't registered, what are you waiting for? Head over to the Registry website: http://donotcall.gov/register/Reg.aspx right now and get signed up. Computer not working? Phone in your registration at 1-888-382-1222. You must make the call from the phone number you wish to register.

George Gibbs
george_dma@gibbsmail.net

- 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 -

(Nothing received this month)

* * * *

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.
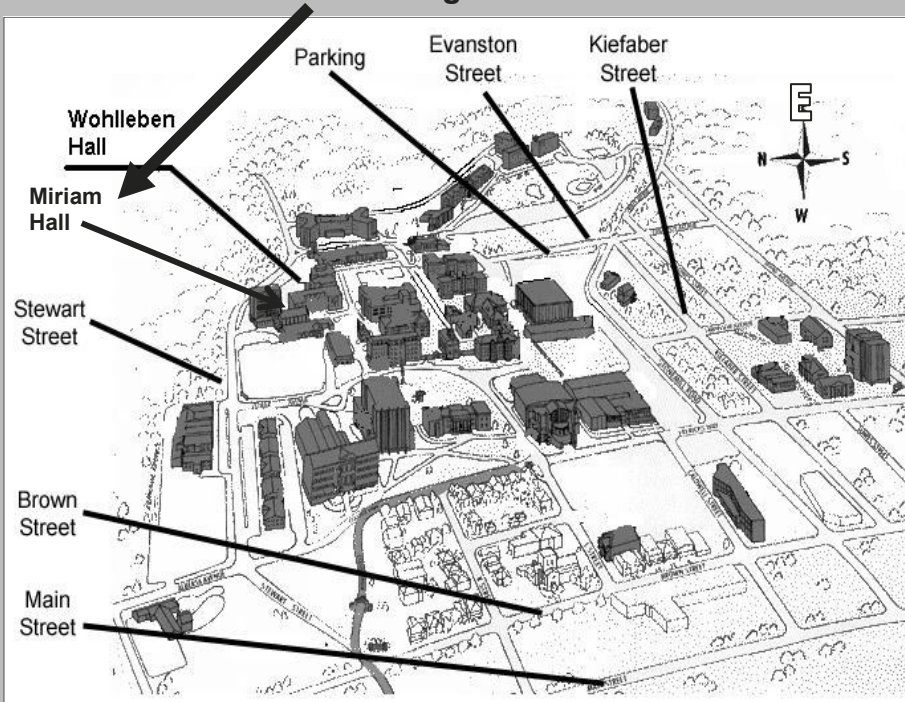

Map courtesy of Millard Mier III, DMA®

Location Change!

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

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

Parking

Evanston Street

Kiefaber Street

Wohlleben Hall

Miriam Hall

Stewart Street

Brown Street

Main Street

Amateur Radio SIG

by George Ewing, SIG leader

The September 2nd meeting of the DMA® Amateur Radio SIG was scheduled to be held at Bruce Lundy's house in Xenia. Bruce, KA8EDE, volunteered to open his shack up for a demo of his homemade crystal set which he showed us at our April SIG meeting. He was also expected to be showing his VLF and Microwave 'stuff'. Visit Bruce's web site < http://home.earthlink.net/~belundy/ >.

As of now I do not have a topic for our Oct meeting. Any ideas? If you have any suggestions for future meetings, please email or call me.

For more info on the Amateur Radio SIG, send an email to k8dma@dma.org or call George Ewing, WD8NHI, at 937-667-3259

All DMA® SIG meetings are free and everyone is welcome to attend.

Digital Photography SIG

by Millard Mier, SIG leader

The September meeting of the Digital Photography SIG was a smashing success! The topic was "Show And Tell" and nearly half of the 37 members present brought something to share. We had samples of image editing, samples of panoramic photographs stitched together, demos of slideshow programs and lots of cool hardware. We learned about BLOGs (web logs, for the uninitiated) that point us to savings on equipment and had a demonstration of the tiniest digital camera we have seen yet. An Archos digital storage drive was the most fancy toy shared, and a lesson in the pitfalls of digital flash photography was the most thought provoking. Joe Solch continued his monthly tips for photographers with another great application of layers. It was a great opportunity to meet the group!

Our next meeting will be on October 2, 2003 and will feature a presentation by Steve Hayden on creating slideshows with your photos. He will show us how to assemble photos into a slideshow, synchronize them to music and

add captions, sound bytes and graphics. You can then burn the slideshow to CD as a self-running program for your computer, or even make a VCD or DVD from it for playback on a standard DVD player. This is one great idea and promises to be our best meeting yet!

The November 6, 2003 meeting will revisit the creation and editing of digital videos on your computer. We will edit and assemble a brief video at the meeting and will discuss ways to save it to DVD, VCD and other formats for computer use.

The December 4, 2003 meeting will feature scrapbooking on the computer. A guest speaker from Creative Memories will show us how to add captions, borders and highlights to our photographs and discuss archival strategies to ensure that the pictures do not degrade over time.

The January meeting will be another "Show and Tell" session. With all the new Christmas toys we hope to have, it promises to be even more exciting than the September meeting! The meeting date will be changed to avoid the 1st of the year. Check the January issue of *The DataBus* for details.

Joe Solch has agreed to run the February, March and April meetings while Millard travels to India. Please thank him for stepping up and ensuring the continuation of the group.

Our meetings are held at Wright State University in room 206 of Fawcett Hall at 7:00 pm on the first Thursday of the month. 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. Jog slightly to your left, to pass Oelman Hall, and keep going east across the quad. Fawcett Hall will be straight ahead of you at the end of the Quad. Feel free to contact us at digiphot-contact@dma.org, visit the website at www.dma.org (and select special interest groups on the menu), or phone Millard Mier III at (937) 879-5419.

- Technology.talk (cont.) -

larity supports an entire industry dedicated solely to fixing or replacing them. To protect computers from other PCs, human miscreants and even themselves, you have to buy antivirus software, software to keep the operating system from eating itself, software that guards the PC's boundaries, software that watches other software and an endless parade of new software to replace the old software. PCs require constant attention: defragging and registry maintenance, disk scans and patches. Most people don't understand how their PCs function, landing them in immediate hot water when the inevitable occurs. It's almost enough to make television appealing… Nah…

Most PC users have become tolerant about the irony of depending on technology but not learning how it works or how to fix it. Actually, they've

given in. They have accepted the truth that if they want to enjoy the fruits of online sowing, they have to pull the silicon plow themselves, blissfully aware that they don't know how to fix the plow when it cracks. They rely on PCs for their productivity, news, entertainment and relationships, but PC technology remains jittery and breakable.

With that in mind, the next time you need to go somewhere, think of how much fun driving would be if our automobiles required as much non-stop tweaking as our computers. Count your blessings. I do every time I get behind the wheel of my inexpensive and reliable Hyundai Sonata. It, maybe more than anything I own, gives me confidence that someone, somewhere is building something of quality that didn't cost very much money. I just wish it came from the USA. Someday, it might.

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.wpafb.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.

DMA® Events for September 21 - November 01, 2003

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sep 21	*Sep 22* 2:00 PM OTAP	*Sep 23*	*Sep 24* 2:00 PM OTAP **Certification** 7:00 PM 119 Valley	*Sep 25*	*Sep 26* 2:00 PM OTAP	*Sep 27* **10 AM Northern SIG** Edison College, Piqua 12 PM "On Technology"
Sep 28	*Sep 29* 2:00 PM OTAP	*Sep 30* **Main Meeting Elections!** 7:30 PM O'Leary Auditorium, Miriam Hall	*Oct 1* 2:00 PM OTAP	*Oct 2* **Digital Photography** 7:00 PM 206 Fawcett Hall, WSU	*Oct 3* 2:00 PM OTAP	*Oct 4* **8:30 AM OTAP** 12 PM "On Technology" **3:00 PM Classic Computers**
Oct 5 *The DataBus* deadline is the 1st day of each month.	*Oct 6* **Board of Directors** 7:00 PM 119 Valley 2:00 PM OTAP	*Oct 7* **Amateur Radio** 7:00 PM 119 Valley	*Oct 8* 2:00 PM OTAP **Perl Mongers** 7:00 PM 119 Valley	*Oct 9* **Software Development** 6:30 PM 119 Valley	*Oct 10* 2:00 PM OTAP	*Oct 11* **8:30 AM OTAP** 12 PM "On Technology"
Oct 12	*Oct 13* 2:00 PM OTAP Columbus Day (Observed)	*Oct 14* **Network & Certification** 7:00 PM 119 Valley	*Oct 15* 2:00 PM OTAP	*Oct 16* **Digital Textiles** 7:00 PM 119 Valley **Linux / Unix** 7:00 PM Rm 150 Russ Engr Ctr, WSU	*Oct 17* 2:00 PM OTAP	*Oct 18* **8:30 AM OTAP** 12 PM "On Technology" 2:00 PM OTAP Board **3:00 PM Classic Computers**
Oct 19	*Oct 20* **Apple SIG** 7:00 PM 119 Valley 2:00 PM OTAP	*Oct 21* **Gaming SIG** 7:00 PM on-line	*Oct 22* 2:00 PM OTAP **Certification** 7:00 PM 119 Valley	*Oct 23*	*Oct 24* 2:00 PM OTAP	*Oct 25* **10 AM Northern SIG** Edison College, Piqua 12 PM "On Technology"
Oct 26 Daylight Savings ends - set back 1 hr.	*Oct 27* 2:00 PM OTAP	*Oct 28* **Main Meeting** 7:30 PM O'Leary Auditorium, Miriam Hall	*Oct 29* 2:00 PM OTAP	*Oct 30* *The DataBus* deadline is the 1st day of each month.	*Oct 31* 2:00 PM OTAP	*Nov 1* **8:30 AM OTAP** 12 PM "On Technology" **3:00 PM Classic Computers**

Remember:

- **DMA® General Meeting is Sept. 30 in O'Leary Auditorium, Miriam Hall**

- **Send membership applications & renewals to PO Box 340402, Beavercreek, OH**

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Association of Personal Computer User Groups

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