The DataBus

Monthly Newsletter of
The Dayton Microcomputer Association
Volume XII (New Series) Nº 10 (October 2022)

The V-2 & Apollo Guidance Systems
Tuesday, October 25
T.J. Chump’s in Huber Heights

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Save a Tree (or at least a branch)! If you prefer to print your DATABASE rather than read it directly from a monitor, don’t print page 15 unless you wish to become a member or renew your membership.
Established in 1976, DMA is a group of Dayton-area professionals and enthusiasts in the field of computing and digital information technology. General Membership Meetings are usually held on the last Tuesday of each month. DMA has a number of Special Interest Groups (SIGs) in areas ranging from digital investing and genealogy to the Linux operating system. Each SIG meets according to its own schedule. DMA is a member of the Association of Personal Computer Users’ Groups (APCUG) and the Affiliated Societies’ Council (ASC). Click on any of the logos—including our own (top left)—to go to that organization’s Web site.

Submissions ...

The DataBus welcomes compliments, complaints, suggestions, and especially articles. We can accept articles in ASCII, or as attachments in plain text, Microsoft Word, Open or Libre Office Writer, or, yes, even in WordStar (a word-processing program that goes back to about 1980!). Send articles to:

Editor@DMA1.org

All articles are subject to editing for spelling, grammar, usage, and space. Retain a copy of your work, as The DataBus cannot be responsible for loss. When articles are of roughly equal quality and importance, those by paid-up DMA members receive preference.

All registered trademarks, for example: the DMA Arrow, APCUG, Microsoft 365, WordFence, YouTube, or Zoom, are the property of their respective owners. However, the Registered Trade Mark symbols (® or ™) have been omitted for better readability. The Editor occasionally inserts comments into articles. Such comments are sometimes preceded by the phrase: “Editor’s Note,” are often in square brackets [like these], and are always in sans-serif type, like these paragraphs.

The DataBus is written and published by volunteers. We do not give professional advice on hardware, software, or network installation, repair, security, or troubleshooting. If you need expert assistance or repair for your digital device or network, please seek the advice or services of a qualified professional.
May Meeting: 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, the 31st
No Driving—No Charge*

* This is a “hybrid” meeting: via Zoom, but also in person. Come at 6 p.m. if you wish to join us in person for dinner at T. J. Chump’s Restaurant in suburban Huber Heights, next door to the Meijer’s Supermarket. Click here for a map. The restaurant has free parking. It is also accessible via RTA bus routes 18 and 19, but there is a short walk from the bus stop in the Meijer’s department store parking lot to the restaurant.

Annual Business Meeting

The V2 and Apollo Guidance Systems

... Presented by Stephen Frey

October holds many firsts for rocketry. The Space Age began October 3rd 1942 with the first successful launch of the German A4 (aka V2) rocket. The V2 was the first man-made object to reach space. Stephen will talk about the guidance system and flight control computer used in the 1940s German V2 and how the concepts developed then evolved into the systems that got us to the moon in the 1960s.

Stephen will describe how gyroscopes are used in the inertial guidance system to sense attitude, how an Integrating Gyroscopic Accelerometer works and the information it provides. The mathematics of mixer functions and PID control were accomplished by the vacuum tube based analog flight control computer using 19402 technology. He will show his Estes V2 model, complete with an inertial guidance system, and show it “flying” in a wind tunnel. Stephen will also give an overview of the guidance systems and computers used on the Saturn V launch vehicle and the Apollo Spacecraft developed during the 1960s.

On October 4th 1957, the Soviets sent the first artificial satellite, Sputnik, into orbit. October Sky is the name of a book and movie about a real-life group of young men known as the Rocket Boys. Homer Hickam and a group of his friends from a coal mining town in West Virginia, were Inspired by the launch of Sputnik. The boys began building their own model rockets and fought their way out of the mining town. All the boys went on to higher education and technical careers, with Homer landing a position at NASA.

The meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. DMA members will receive an invitation by e-mail for the Zoom meeting. Others may request an invitation by using:

http://www.dma1.org/contact-us/
The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Gary Coy, via Zoom. Trustees present: Glady Campion, Gary Coy, Edwin Davidson, Peter Hess, Chester Howes, Ken Phelps, and Dave Schwab. Excused: Gary Turner. Absent: Ed Skuya. Guests: Mark Camden, Suzette de Guzman, Stephen Frey, Pat Flynn, Roy Smith, Monica Snow, and Mike Stock.

SPECIAL GUEST: Monica Snow from Preservation Dayton

Monica provided the board with background information about issues Peter Hess is bringing before the board related to the Computer Museum project.

OFFICERS’ REPORTS

President – Gary Coy

Gary thanked the Trustees for putting up with recent absences while he completed the next level of EMT training.

Gary is convinced that use of a hot spot for the Zoom connection at our general membership meetings has allowed us to avoid connection drops. He has also been trying out a microphone lent to us by Ed Skuya for these meetings and suggests we purchase something similar for continued use.

Vice President – Edwin Davidson

Edwin is trying to attend some of the SIG meetings.

Secretary – Pat Flynn, Glady Campion

Glady presented minutes for the August board meeting. Peter Hess moved the minutes be accepted as corrected. Dave Schwab seconded, and the motion passed with Glady and Gary Coy abstaining.

Treasurer – Glady Campion, Pat Flynn

Pat presented a report for August.
COMMITTEE REPORTS

APCUG Representative – Peter Hess

Peter forwarded an e-mail from Judy Taylor about free webinars.

Audit – Glady Campion

In progress

Computer Museum – Peter Hess

Gary Ganger donated much of his collection of computer equipment to the museum workshop. Stephen Frey and Mark Camden provided the muscle and transported the equipment to the workshop.

Stephen Frey demonstrated his relay computer at the Riverside Historical Society Museum Ice Cream Social on Saturday, September 17. Stephen is next scheduled to do a presentation at Edison State Community College for their Women in STEMM Expo on Friday, November 4. Affiliate Societies Council (ASC) of Dayton is planning an in-person Techfest event at Sinclair for February 18-19 of 2023. Stephen and Gary Ganger plan to put together an impressive museum display.

Peter emphasized the need for a security system with cameras for the museum workshop. Stephen Frey agreed. Peter asked Pat Flynn to segregate the museum workshop expenses when he delivers the Treasurer’s report and asked that Pat create a budget for the museum workshop.

**Peter moved we accept an offer from Roy Smith to provide a petty cash fund for the museum workshop, initially set at $100, to be replenished up to a total of $500, until the end of 2022. Dave Schwab seconded, and the motion passed.**

**Peter moved the address of the museum workshop be kept confidential and provided only to those with a need to know. Edwin Davidson seconded, and the motion passed.**

**Peter moved that we create a separate fund at The Dayton Foundation for the future computer museum. The motion was discussed but not voted on.**

Fund Raising – Peter Hess

Peter repeated his request for a separate fund at The Dayton Foundation solely for the future museum.

Marketing – Peter Hess, Edwin Davidson, Pat Flynn, Debra McFall, Catherine Devlin

Peter placed an acrylic stand with a DMA flier and pack of DMA business cards at Digital Cowboy Computers in Vandalia. He is asking for more DMA business cards.

Membership – Glady Campion

The membership numbers for August are: 48 Regular, 4 Associate, 0 Student, and 5 Lifetime members for a total of 57. Attendance for June was 25, with 16 in person at TJ Chumps.

Door Prizes: Gary Coy chose the Epson Expression Home Inkjet printer. Chester Howes picked up the Roku Express. Eric Ottoson snatched the PNY 128GB 3.0 flash drive.

Net Administration Team – Ken Phelps, Gary Turner, Pat Flynn, Brent Kerlin, Mark Camden

DataYard announced it is no longer offering domain name service and domain name registrations. Mark Camden recommended we start using Dreamhost instead and offered to handle the transfer.

Dreamhost recently sent us a bill, charging fees for PHP extended support and for storage overage. Mark Camden updated PHP installations on our account and Mike Stock will work
on a solution for the storage overage issue.

Mark Camden also updated the primary contact for Dreamhost from Mike Carr to Pat Flynn.

**Programs – OPEN!**

Thank you to Mark Camden for presenting “Intro to WordPress” at our August meeting.

September – DMA Annual Meeting & Trustee Elections, plus a talk from Gary Coy on Windows 11 22H2

Suggestions for future meetings:

- The Tarnished Side of Cryptocurrency; Fiber Internet; Touchless security from Evolv Technology and how they spot threats such as concealed weapons using digital sensors. Also suggested were Installing Linux on a Google Chromebook, or running Linux on the Windows subsystem for Linux (WSL), or installing Windows on a Linux Virtual Machine.

**Publications** – Martin Arbagi

- No **DataBus** for August. The editor suffered a major hardware crash. We wish him a speedy recovery.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Wright State Archives** – Martin Arbagi, Glady Campion

- Still in progress

**Next Board Meeting**

- Next Board Meeting will be 7:00 p.m, on Monday, October 3, 2022. We shall continue to use Zoom.

**List of DMA accounts** – Glady Campion

- Still in progress

**Summer Picnic** – Glady Campion

- Our picnic was held Saturday, August 27, at Shellabarger Park in Riverside. The weather was perfect. A big thank you goes to Dave Schwab and Gary Turner for manning the grills. The spread of carry-in dishes was impressive. Many people commented on the variety of foods.

**VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH/QUARTER/YEAR**

- Dave Schwab & Gary Turner were nominated for their skills as grill-masters at the picnic. Thank you both!

**ADJOURNMENT**

- Peter Hess moved to adjourn at 9:45 p.m. Edwin Davidson seconded, and the motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Glady Campion,

... Secretary
Patronize Our Member—Advertisers!

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425 Memorial Drive
P.O. Box 320
Greenville, OH 45331
Phone (937) 548-5035
www.waynefourman.com

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Computer repairs, upgrades, & custom builds. Home networking.

Gary Coy
Computer Technician
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Springfield, Ohio 45502
937-360-1464
gcoy@woh.rr.com
In-home services available

Travel Through Time On Indiana’s Most Scenic Railroad
Whitewater Valley Railroad

765-825-2054
www.whitewatervalleyrr.org
Have you heard....?

by Glady CAMPION

Digital License Plates

Digital license plates have become legal for all cars in California, after a trial that’s lasted almost four years with a select number of drivers, according to a new report from the Los Angeles Times. Why? Users can change the messaging at the bottom of their plates through a phone app, and even give safety notices and alerts, such as marking the car as stolen. There’s currently just one company, a firm called Reviver, authorized to offer these plates. The plates come in two models: battery-powered or hard-wired. The cost is tied up in a minimum 2-year subscription, which can be paid as $20 per month for two years or $215 per year for four years if you want the battery-powered option. The hard-wired version is even more expensive, at $25 per month for two years or $275 per year for four years, and is currently only available to commercial businesses. Only Arizona and Michigan allow digital license plates for personal vehicles, but Texas does allow digital plates for commercial vehicles.

Gizmodo.com

Microsoft Office is Retiring

After more than 30 years, “Microsoft Office” is retiring. Not the product, just the name. The suite will now be called “Microsoft 365”. Microsoft Office was first released in 1990. Over the next few months, Office.com, the Office mobile application, and the Office app for Windows will adopt the Microsoft 365 branding and get new looks and icons. The key difference between the old and the new is the price and access to upgrades. Microsoft 365 is a monthly subscription service and Microsoft Office is a one-time purchase. People who subscribe to Microsoft 365 have the latest updates included in their plan, while those with Microsoft Office have to buy the latest version of the software.

Gizmodo.com

40 Years of Emoticons and Emogi

At 11:44 A.M. on September 19, 1982, Scott Fahlman, a computer science professor at Carnegie Mellon University, posted “: - )” on the school’s online bulletin board, and made Internet history. It was dubbed the “first digital emoticon”. In the 40 years since, emoticons and later emoji became central to our conversations online and sometimes offline. They offer deeper meaning to the words used

(Continued on page 9)
in our messages. While Fahlman continues to work at Carnegie Mellon as a Professor Emeritus, researching artificial intelligence and its applications, he has given talks around the world on his emoji creation. He says, “It’s fun to be a little bit famous for something”.

**CNN.com/business**

Drones finding dogs
The founder of a Facebook group which has helped to return thousands of lost dogs to their owners using drones is being honored. Former newspaper photographer Graham Burton will receive the International Fund for Animal Welfare Award. The 66-year-old set up Drone SAR for Lost Dogs UK, which uses a network of volunteers and drones to find animals. Mr. Burton said: “You can cover areas where people can’t walk — cliff faces, or large areas of fields that would normally take hours to search by foot can be done in 20 or 30 minutes by using a drone.” The group is responsible for reuniting more than 2,750 dogs with their distressed owners. It uses a volunteer network of more than 3,000 drone pilots and more than 2,500 ground searchers across the UK and Ireland.

**BBC.com**

Beware of robot dog
The nearly 2,000-year-old remains of the city of Pompeii now has a robot guard dog. Boston Dynamics’ Spot is patrolling the ancient ruins to keep an eye out for grave robbers and relic hunters, all while gathering data for useful studies.

**Mashable.com**

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**Do you have an interesting news item related to digital technology you’d like to include in future columns? E-mail it to Editor@DMA1.org.**
Monitor and Protect Your Precious Data with Hard Disk Sentinel

By Gabe Goldberg / Potomac Area Technology and Computer Society

Storage devices are unappreciated workhorses: spinning hard drives and immobile memory chips reliably and rapidly save and fetch your data, year after year. Until -- uh oh, something’s wrong, and where’s my data?!

I’ve been running HD Sentinel (HDS -- http://www.hdsentinel.com/) for about four years on two computers -- my desktop system and my wife’s laptop. It’s a powerful tool for monitoring storage device health and learning more about how they work than you likely imagined possible. While the tool’s website focuses on simple hard drives, HD Sentinel also supports other storage devices: SSDs, SSHD (hybrid drives), memory cards and thumb drives (where available), tape drives, RAID controllers, and NAS (network attached storage).

On both my systems, I’ve configured it to show icons for each connected hard drive: one on the laptop and three (one internal, two external) on my system. By default, the icon shows the current disk temperature (with green/orange/red visually indicating status); mousing over icons displays a summary of disk health, and clicking opens the comprehensive display.

HD Sentinel can be used for maintaining one’s at-a-glance comfort level (I like all my drives described, “The hard disk status is PERFECT. Problematic or weak sectors were not found, and there are no spin up or data transfer errors. No actions needed.”) and for drilling into drive history (temperature patterns, various sorts of errors, performance information, and more.

For many years, hard drives have included S.M.A.R.T. technology — https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/S.M.A.R.T. — described as “a monitoring system included in computer hard disk drives (HDDs) and solid-state drives that detects and reports on various indicators of drive reliability, with the intent of enabling the anticipation of hardware failures.” But most operating systems don’t easily make that information – or recommendations/warnings — available. At least twice, based on such warnings, I’ve been able to replace drives in the process of failing before any data were at risk. So I’m a firm believer in having software running to disclose drive information while there’s time to act on it.

HDS is developed, maintained, and supported by a dedicated developer who's passionate about his product and brilliant at both tech support and answering questions about product usage. As a result, it’s available at a bargain price for a lifetime license (no renewal or subscription costs, free version upgrades) and a worthwhile investment in both knowledge and comfort.

List prices are $29.95 for a single-system license and $54 for a five-system “family” license. The vendor is again providing discounted prices to members of APCUG member groups. These are good until October 31; please do not share these links outside your group or in a public forum. With 40% discount:


Hard Disk Sentinel Pro Family (5 PC lifetime license with free updates) with 40% discount: https://order.mycommerce.com/cart/add?vendorid=200020088&PRODUCT[300431980]=1&COUPON1=XYZZY

(Continued on page 11)
The prices are a bargain considering the comprehensive nature of HDS reporting and (especially) the friendly/comprehensive support provided.

[EDITOR’S NOTE: This article was supplied through APCUG. Standard APCUG policy is to disable authors’ e-mail addresses by substituting (at) for the @ symbol, for example: NoOne@Nowhere.com becomes NoOne (at) Nowhere.com. This discourages spam since addresses must be typed by hand. However, the author of this article, Mr. Goldberg, asked that his e-mail address be completely omitted, and THE DATABUS is honoring that request.]

Help DMA by using Amazon’s SMILE program!

AMAZON, the Internet’s largest retailer (if you haven’t noticed, Amazon isn’t just for books any more!) has a “Smile” feature whereby Amazon donates a percentage of almost any purchase you make to a selected nonprofit organization. There is no extra cost to you. Click here to learn more or here to go directly to the sign-up page. Be sure to put DMA down as the beneficiary of your donations.
### DMA Events for Oct 16 – Nov 19, 2022

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<td><strong>Computer Museum Committee</strong>&lt;br&gt;7:00pm Online</td>
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<td><strong>Python Self-Study</strong>&lt;br&gt;2:00pm, Online PyFri Discord&lt;br&gt;See <a href="http://d8ndl.org">http://d8ndl.org</a></td>
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<td>** MAIN MEETING**&lt;br&gt;7:00pm Online • AND • TJ Chumps&lt;br&gt;7099 Executive Blvd&lt;br&gt;Huber Heights</td>
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<td>Nov 6</td>
<td>Daylight Savings</td>
<td>DMA Trustees&lt;br&gt;7:00pm Online</td>
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Have a business card? Are you a DMA member?

Any paid-up member of the Dayton Microcomputer Association is entitled to a free business card–sized advertisement in THE DATABUS. Send a good–quality image (600 dpi or better) to Editor@DMA1.org, or give your business card to Martin Arbago, the Editor, at any DMA meeting. We can embed a link to your Web site (if you have one) within the image of your card. Under weird IRS regulations, your Web site may not include discount coupons for DMA members, although discount offers may be included in the advertisement itself.

Help DMA by using Amazon’s SMILE program!

Amazon, the Internet’s largest retailer (if you haven’t noticed, Amazon isn’t just for books any more!) has a “Smile” feature whereby Amazon donates a percentage of almost any purchase you make to a nonprofit organization that you select. There is no extra cost to you. Click here to learn more or here to go directly to the sign-up page. Be sure to put DMA down as the beneficiary of your purchases.
About The Dayton Microcomputer Association, Inc. (DMA)

By Peter Hess, DMA President, 2018-2020

Almost fifty years ago, a small group of computer enthusiasts from the Dayton, Ohio area gathered around a kitchen table looking at, and playing with, an early personal computer called the Altair 680 that one of them had purchased. This computer had been featured earlier on the cover of the January 1975 issue of Popular Electronics magazine. Paul Allen had shown the selfsame article about the Altair to Bill Gates, and later, they wrote software together for that computer. Still later — and still together — Allen and Gates founded the Microsoft Corporation.

Shortly thereafter, those Dayton-area computer enthusiasts joined with many others to form The Dayton Microcomputer Association (DMA), now one of the oldest (if not the oldest) continuously operating computer user groups in the world. Typically, computer user groups, and the newer iteration, technology user groups, are volunteer-run operations. The DMA is an all-volunteer led, organized, and run 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Now, there are hundreds of computer (or technology) user groups in the world, all of which continue to foster improved communication between technological equipment and software publishers, and users of their products. User groups (both computer and technology) provide an environment where more experienced technology users introduce additional and advanced techniques to novices.

DMA offers both monthly General Membership Meetings, which cover new and innovative topics including a wide range of generic technological topics, and its Special Interest Groups (SIGs) which address concerns about specific technology interests. There are eight different SIGs sponsored by the DMA, covering such topics as the Linux operating system, various programming languages such as Python, the use of technology to investigate genealogy, and digital aids to investing. Neither SIG members nor attendees at DMA General Meetings need be members of the parent organization, though they are encouraged to join so DMA can continue providing its services to the public.

Annual dues for DMA membership, which have not been raised for decades, are $25 for Regular Members, and $12.50 for Family/Associate Members (someone living at the same address as a Regular Member). Nonvoting Student Memberships are free to students through age 22. Door prizes at General Meetings, picnics, banquets, and other DMA events, and both product and service discounts are available to all DMA members.
Dayton Microcomputer Association Membership Form

☐ NEW Please credit the DMA member who recruited me: __________________________

☐ RENEW Contact information below is new ☐ Y ☐ N

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP

☐ REGULAR Name ____________________________________________ Home / Work (___) ___-_____

                                                      Email ____________________________________________ Mobile Phone (___) ___-_____

☐ ASSOCIATE Family Associate membership is for a family member living at the same address as a
Regular member. Name of Regular member: ____________________________

                                        Name ____________________________________________ Home / Work (___) ___-_____

                                                      Email ____________________________________________ Mobile Phone (___) ___-_____

☐ STUDENT Free Student membership is available to those under 22 years of age, enrolled full-time in a
program of higher education. Name of School: ____________________________

                                        Name ____________________________________________ Home / Work (___) ___-_____

                                                      Email ____________________________________________ Mobile Phone (___) ___-_____

Home Address ____________________________________________

City ____________________________ State _____ Zip _____________

INTERCHANGE

Skills & interests you might share with DMA ____________________________

What you hope DMA will provide ____________________________

☐ SHELL ACCOUNT A shell account on the DMA web server provides file storage, hosting of a personal
non-commercial website, @dma1.org email alias (forwarding address), all for a one-time fee of $10. A username
must be 8 alpha characters. The usual default is last name and first initial, no caps or punctuation. DMA reserves
the right of final decision on all usernames: 1st choice ____________________________ 2nd choice ____________________________

DUES AND FEES

Regular membership $25.00 x ☐ 1yr ☐ 2yr ☐ 3yr $_____

Family Associate membership $12.50 x ☐ 1yr ☐ 2yr ☐ 3yr $_____

Student membership FREE $ 0.00

One-time setup fee for Shell account $10.00 $_____

Total ______________________________________________________ $_____

*Note: $10.00 fee will be charged for any returned checks

Make your check payable to: Dayton Microcomputer Association, Inc
Mail check and application to: PO Box 4005
                                         Dayton OH 45401-4005

Or use Paypal to send your payment to: membership@dma1.org

DMA use only

Member# _________ Exp __/_____ [ ] Cash [ ] Check# _________ [ ] Paypal Proc by _________

Member# _________ Exp __/_____ [ ] Cash [ ] Check# _________ [ ] Paypal Proc by _________

Member# _________ Exp __/_____ [ ] Cash [ ] Check# _________ [ ] Paypal Proc by _________

Revised February 25, 2020