

Orange Bytes

Award winning newsmagazine of the North Orange County Computer Club

Vol 27 No 4

April 2002

\$4.00

NOCCC MEETINGS - April 7

9:30 a.m. *Irvine Hall*
NEW TECHNOLOGIES
our very own Herb Wong
Maximizing your hard disk

1:00 p.m. *Irvine Hall*
GENERAL MEETING
SMC networks
on wireless networking

8:30 a.m.

Visual Programming I Science 109
Visual Basic and Visual Basic Script for Beginners

9:00 a.m.

Auto cad Wilkinson 111

Visual Programming II Science 109

Visual C++ and Visual J++ for Beginners

Windows Science 111

Windows ME & Windows 9x related questions

BeginningLinux Wilkinson 210

Partitioning hints, root user, users & groups, mounting a partition, and file types

9:30 a.m.

Java Science 203

Computer Aided Investing . Wilkinson 221

Mutual funds and other investmet options

Hardware Essentials Science 306

System power and basic over clocking

Intermediate Linux Wilkinson 210

Linux for programmers and system administrators

10:00 a.m.

Visual Programming III Science 109

Intermediate and advanced Visual Basic

11:00

Job Networking . . . Argyros Hall Cafeteria

Human networking for a new job.

11:15 a.m.

Office Suites!, Etc. Science 111

The Access import process, and queries that help

PC Q&A. Irvine Hall

The sound system for the Shuttle SV24

Quicken Science 203

Quicken and QuickBooks

Visual Programming IV Science 109

Office program development using VB

Macintosh Wilkinson 210

OSX capabilities and Apple CDs

Understanding O.S.s Wilkinson 111

Get Help with DOS, Windows 3.1/9x/ME, OS/2,...

12:00 noon

PIG SIG Argyros Hall Cafeteria

1:00 noon

General meeting Irvine Hall

2:30 p.m.

Internet Irvine Hall

Discussion of Internet sites

Hardware Essentials Science 109

System power and basic over clocking

OS/2 Science 203

OS/2 news and installation

<http://www.noccc.org>

future meetings
May 5, June 2, July 7

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Don't miss a single issue. Also, if we have your e-mail address, we can notify you of meetings and special events. Send address or e-mail changes to Alan Pearlman at membership@noccc.org Or Box 3616, Orange, CA 92857



President's Message

Last month's meeting was a big success. Steve Gibson's presentation was well attended. I actually had to stop the meeting for a few minutes so we could do the raffle. I found it amusing that several members crowded around him immediately. We jokingly said he received a denial of break attack by the NOCCC virus!

If you are interested in serving on the board next year, please let me know. The list of nominees is

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included in this newsletter. The election will be at the June meeting.

Please do not bring your coffee into any of the university buildings. WE have benches in front of Irvine Hall where you can sit and enjoy your coffee. This month we'll have genuine hot Krispy Kreme doughnuts. I'm only going to buy four dozen, so get there early!

Our new membership drive is still going on. The more new members we have, the bigger the drawing prize will be. We are still having our great membership raffle in June 2002. The rules to enter this drawing are simple, just get someone to join the club and you and the new member are automatically entered. The more members we get, the BIGGER the June raffle prize. If you know of any former members of NOCCC whose membership expired before 1995, they are also eligible for the raffle when they renew. Also, please remember that when any new members join, they get 12 free raffle tickets for the regular drawing at the main meeting, and the referring member gets 6.

Our membership raffle is for every one who joined since JULY 2001. Our current list of eligible members is below. If we have omitted anyone from the list below, please let me know so I can make sure you're included in the June drawing. In order to participate in the raffle, you must be at the main meeting in June.

Ronald Petty	Phillip Woolston
Williamson Uy	Michael Iwaki
Betty Wilson	Joe Spellman
Pete Madrid	Kaz Adachi
Larry Farkas	Chris Quinn
Kerry K Mullins	Steven M. Sloan
James C. Wagner	Kathryn Kane
Willi Pfeifroth	Chuck Varanay
Maurice Jacques	Jay Rodriguez
Roy Rosenberger	John Forgy, Jr
Tim Quinn	Michael Gordon

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Cathy Shimozone
Herb Wong N

MS Office tips

By John Heenan, NOCCC (<http://www.tipworld.com>)

A Word Table Template

Here's an example of not just how to create a template, but a template with a table. Some times you may have a form that you fill out and most of it is standard. So, a template can be a time saver.

Just open a new blank document and insert your table (choose **Table | Insert Table**). After you get the table laid out to your satisfaction, fill in the default cells. Finally, choose **File | Save As**. When the Save As dialog box opens, type a name for your template and click the arrow at the right side of the Save As Type list box. From the list, select Document Template. Then click Save to close the dialog box and save your new template.

To use the template, run Word and choose **File | New**. When the New dialog box opens, click your new template's icon and click OK.

PUTTING GRAPHICS INTO A WORD 97 TABLE¹

If you click the cell in which you want a picture to appear, then choose **Insert | Picture | From File**, locate the picture file, and double-click it, the picture will appear in the cell—and there it will stay.

However, if you must paste pictures of any kind into Word table cells, select the picture (in whatever application you are using) and press Ctrl-C to copy it to the Clipboard. Now click in your Word table cell and choose **Edit | Paste Special**. When the Paste Special dialog box opens, select Picture and then deselect the "Float Over Text" check box. Click OK to close the dialog box and continue. The pasted object will appear in the cell.

The secret here is to avoid that Float Over Text function, which will interfere when you do a simple paste.

PICTURES IN A WORD 97 TABLE¹

Or, how to put graphics into a Word table cell, part deux: Choose **Insert | Picture | ClipArt**. Insert the picture of your choice. Select the picture (if it isn't already selected) and press Ctrl-X to cut the picture and send it to the Clipboard. Next, click in the cell where you want the picture to appear and choose **Edit | Paste Special**. When the Paste Special dialog box opens, click Picture to select it. Now deselect the check box labeled Float Over Text and click OK.

This time, let's discuss why simply inserting a ClipArt picture places the picture above the table. When you choose **Insert | Picture | ClipArt**, by default Word defines the picture as floating over the text. There is a good reason for this—you can grab the picture and move it around the page, placing it wherever you want. Of course, when you move the picture over a table cell, the table just splits to make room for the picture.

If you need that inserted picture to stay in one place, right-click it and choose **Format Picture**. When the "Format Picture" dialog box opens, click the Position tab and then deselect the "Float Over Text" check box. Click OK to close the dialog box and continue. The picture now stays put where you placed it.

BROWSING THROUGH WORD DOCUMENTS

One of the easiest ways to navigate through a Word document is to use the Browse By button. It's located at the bottom of the vertical scroll bar at the right side of the Word window between 2 double arrows. When you click this button, a pop-up box appears. You can use the mouse to select the type of navigation you want to use.

Suppose you need to check each heading in a long document. Select Browse By Heading. At this point, the double up arrows and down arrows above and below the Browse By button turn blue to show that you have activated them. Now, click the blue double down arrow to move to the next header.

INSERT A TAB IN A WORD TABLE?⁴

Normally, hitting tab will advance you to the next table cell.

To insert a tab character in a Word table cell, click where you would like the tab to appear, then press **Ctrl+Tab**.

PRINTING THE DATE IN WORD LETTERS¹

Ever notice that an old document you have saved will change its date, when you print it again. There are 2 ways to insert a date into a document. The first and easiest is to choose Insert | Date And Time, select the format. At the bottom of the dialog, deselect the Update Automatically check box, and click OK. Your document should keep the current date forever. On the other hand, if you select the Update Automatically check box before you insert the date, it will always update when you print the document.

The second method is to use **Insert | Field** and select Date and Time in the categories list. If you want a static date for a specific letter, choose CreateDate and click the Options button, and select a format. If you want a date for a form letter that changes with each printing, choose PrintDate.

Excel

DELETING A LINK IN EXCEL¹

When you try to delete links within a cell and Excel just navigates to the link. There are two ways to delete a link—you can use the arrow keys to navigate to the link cell and then press Delete, or you can right-click the cell and choose Delete from the pop-up menu. If you want to kill the link but leave the data in the cell, right-click the cell and choose Hyperlink | Edit Hyperlink. When the Edit Hyperlink dialog box opens, click Remove Link.

Please make sure we have your correct email address and phone number.

We will give it out only with your permission.

No one from NOCCC other than the President or Treasurer is authorized to call a member at home for club business.

You can update your membership at any regular meeting or by emailing membership@noccc.org

Stuff I wished I could have seen at COMDEX

by O.T. Stoll, NOCCC

COMDEX Fall 2001 was big, too big for me to see all that was going on. I dug out some of the publicity releases that made me wish I could have visited their booths and found out more about their products. Here is some information from those publicity releases.

Luxeon consumes less than one-tenth the power of an incandescent bulb; automotive taillights can be much smaller, opening up more trunk space and, many other products and applications can benefit from Luxeon's ability to leverage the small footprint and other benefits of chip-controlled illumination.

forget the trap, build a better mouse

Vertical Mouse Company

Have you been wondering about those new street lights that are suppose to save power, be brighter and are battery operated when the line power is out, **well the publicity release from LumiLeds provides us with some answers.**

Until now, LEDs have been used primarily to power the tiny lights on devices like computer monitors and printers. Now a new technology called Luxeon that enables LEDs to generate 10 to 20 times more light than ever before promises to transform the way we light the world. Developed and marketed by LumiLeds Lighting, a joint venture between Agilent Technologies and Philips Lighting, Luxeon offers a smaller, longer-lasting and more energy-efficient alternative to conventional light sources.

This means that: Lighting designers can create fixtures that require far less bulb space and do not require bulb replacement for decades, thanks to Luxeon's 100,000-hour operating life; traffic signals can be operated at dramatically lower cost because

Remember the old saying "Build a better mouse trap and the public will beat a path to your door. **The Vertical Mouse Company says forget the trap, build a better mouse.** Here is some information from their release.

The new **Vertical Mouse** has a truly ergonomic shape that supports the hand in a natural, comfortable handshake position. It eliminates the arm twisting required by a conventional mouse. It supports the fingers in extended positions for precise control. It is completely stable and does not move sideways when the user presses the buttons. It is the first major evolution in mouse ergonomics in many years. The Vertical Mouse offers a new level of comfort and control unmatched by other mouse devices.

In contrast, a conventional horizontal mouse requires the hand and forearm to be twisted almost 90 degrees out of the neutral position. The result is discomfort to the wrist and arm after prolonged use, and even injury in the long term. Although some conventional mice are slightly slanted for reducing arm twisting, their angles are too low to be fully effective.

The new Vertical Mouse has a suggested retail price of \$39.95.

See their website for pictures of the new mouse.

I have a WinTv board and really enjoy watching TV when working at the computer. Here is information on more of their products as outlined in their release.

WinTV-PVR-PCI and WinTV-PVR-USB (PVR - Personal Video Recorder)- A TIVO like box on a board providing TV tuner and composite/.S video input, adjustable MPEG2 compression, TIVO like manipulation of images download to your PC's hard drive, PC monitor viewing and CD burner software (requires separate CD burner). PCI and USB units have similar specifications. Major difference is compression limitation on USB machines. Save hours of content on your hard drive. Burn content CDs. Be ready for DVD-rw free software (will require separate DVD burner) to be provided by Hauppauge.

WinTV-HD (HD-High Definition TV)-Allows detection of both HDTV (all 18 ATSC formats) as well as analog TV and display on your high resolution PC monitor in full resolution. The pictures are breathtaking. The technology is here. If you have a

minimum 433 MHZ PC and high resolution monitor you are ready. The board also displays all non HD stations as well.

Our current products- We offer a full line of PCI boards. Our WinTV-GO #190 providing basic TV tuning, video input and monaural sound to our WinTV-Radio #401 providing all the features of the 190 plus dolby stereo and FM radio. Our USB products featuring the #602 providing the same functions as the #190 as well as the 621 which adds monaural FM tuner round out the bulk of our product offerings. See www.Hauppauge.com for more information.

I have more items on my list but this is getting too long, so, I will save them for next time.

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Deleting “.TMP” file and downloading 101

by Don Edrington, PC CHAT (at@mediaone.net)

Deleting Temporary Files: When I wrote recently that it's safe to delete all those temporary files in your Windows\Temp folder, Alan Jarrett wrote to say that sometimes other types of files can be sent to this folder and that you should check its contents before deleting anything. Agreed - double-checking anything you're about to delete is always prudent. Moreover, clearing this folder out on a regular basis makes it easier to spot that occasional “needle in the haystack.” I empty mine at least once a week. I've occasionally had downloaded “ZIP” files end up in this folder - sent there on the theory that once the file has been “unzipped” and its contents extracted into another folder, it would then become an unneeded “temporary” file.

Download Basics: This might be a good time to review the whole concept of downloading files, since I get so much mail saying, “I downloaded a file, but I can't find it,” or “I downloaded a file, but don't know what to do with it.” Whenever you download a file, there's a good chance it's been “compressed” before being uploaded by the sender. A “compressed” file is one that's been made smaller so it will upload, travel the phone lines, and download faster. If multiple files are involved, they'll often be compressed into a single file which will need to be decompressed by the recipient so that its contents can be “extracted” back to their original formats. The program used most often to perform these tasks is called WinZip - thus the words “zip” and “unzip” have become synonymous with “compress” and “decompress.” Nowadays many computers come with other software that will unzip your downloads in the background and present you with the reconstituted files automatically. If this is the way your system works, you may never need WinZip, much less need to learn how to use it. However, if you download a file named, say, PHOTOS.ZIP that just sits on your hard drive waiting for you to unzip it, you'll need WinZip. If you already have WinZip on your hard drive, just double-clicking PHOTOS.ZIP will bring up a series of prompts that will lead you through the process of decompressing and extracting the individual photos. If you don't have WinZip, an

evaluation copy of the shareware can be freely downloaded from www.winzip.com. Some users prefer ZipMagic, which is available at www.zipmagic.com. These programs will come to you as “self-executing unzips” which will help you get them installed properly. Getting back to “temporary” files, in the above example PHOTOS.ZIP will continue to exist as a file containing the compressed photos even after your viewable copies have been extracted. This is why the file may have been destined for the Windows\Temp folder in the first place. Whether to keep it as a backup and/or to send it on to others is your decision. Beyond that, if you do send it to someone else, you'll actually be sending a “copy” of PHOTOS.ZIP while your own copy remains in place. Getting back to “I can't find my downloaded file” - by default, different systems attempt to download files to specific folders. However, you can tell the downloads to go wherever you want. Once you've made the decision to click DOWNLOAD or DOWNLOAD NOW or SAVE THIS FILE TO DISK, a dialog box will appear which shows the file's proposed destination on your hard drive. Clicking SAVE or OK will send the file to this location, which, hopefully, you will have made a note of. Beyond this, however, there will always be a “browse” box with a little down arrow, which lets you choose a different location. I generally choose Desktop, because it's normally the easiest place to find something. You can always move it to another folder later.

More on “NORMAL.DOT”: Regarding a couple of recent columns which discussed ways of fixing MSWord's “normal.dot” problem, Stan Moss sent the following solution: Create a file called “new_normal.dot” with your desired formatting before deleting “normal dot.” Then rename “new_normal.dot” to “normal.dot.” What Stan means by “desired formatting” is setting MSWord's toolbars, file menus and other parameters the way you want them. We'll talk more about this next time. In the meantime, more PC Tips can be found at www.pcdon.com along with all PC Chats from 2000, 2001 and 2002, (not to mention all kinds of free downloadable music, cartoons, weekly classic pinups, and some strange but true stories).

Marketing With Signature Files

by Azam Corry (*BizBits@NowSell.com*)

A signature file is a short paragraph of text that you place at the end of your email messages or any articles that you write. It should be about 5 or 6 lines long and contain your contact details with a brief summary of what you or your company offers. The signature file offers you the best free advertising available anywhere on the internet and can be a very powerful tool if used correctly...

Thousands of people will read your signature file when you post to an email list or forum. If you've written something interesting, there's a good chance that many of them will click on your link to find out more about you. Which leads me to another point... make sure you include the full URL with the 'http://' bit and start your email address with 'mailto:'

Why?

Because online and in most email programs links are "clickable," but only if written out in the full form. You'll lose many potential visitors or inquires if you force people to copy, paste and (in the case of an URL) add the missing information at the beginning.

Avoid lengthy signature files... people will take offense at a lengthy and blatant attempt to make money from your signature (bad netiquette!). Some may also refuse you public postings. Keep it short and to the point.

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Continue Marketing

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It should have:

1. Your name
2. Your company name
3. Your web site URL
4. Your email (or autoresponder) address
5. A very brief description of your web site, product or service.

You should end up with something like this:

Azam Corry
Now Sell!
[Http://www.NowSell.com](http://www.NowSell.com)
Making Money on the Internet.
No-nonsense, what-you-need-to-know help for
YOUR success online.
[Mailto:demosig@nowsell.com](mailto:demosig@nowsell.com)

NOTE:

You need a password
to get a copy of the
current PDF version
of ORANGE BYTES.

The passwords will
be emailed 2 weeks
before each meeting.

Keep your signature within 65 characters wide as this the maximum viewing width of some e-mail clients. If it's wider than this it may "break" onto the next line, taking up more space.

If you need more room for marketing punch - this is your ad, remember ;-) - drop your company name, don't increase the overall length!

Got a free offer?... this is a great place to advertise it. Just think of how many visitors you could get from an attractive free offer advertised at the end of your posting to a list with 5000 subscribers!

Create several different versions of your signature files using alternative wording. Use these to add relevancy to the medium in which you're posting when you promote each of your main products or services.

To aid in tracking the effectiveness of your marketing efforts you can also use different email addresses or aliases that correspond to the locations in which your file appears.

Use your signature file all the time in all the mail you send, including those letters sent out from your autoresponders (advertise a different product/service to that for which the automatic reply is generated). You should also use your signature file when posting to e-mail discussion groups, newsgroups, and message boards.

- 1999-2000 Azam Corry "Do it Better. Do it Faster. Do it Right!"

Azam Corry owns Now Sell! Bursting with inside information, tools and resources to help you profit online. Top Rated by Go.com and Recommended by About.com. Visit: <http://www.NowSell.com/?SigFile>

*==> Get Azam's Biz Bits, viewed a "must read" ezine by thousands of online business owners:
<mailto: BizBits@NowSell.com>*

JOB INTERVIEWS THAT MEAN BUSINESS

reviewed by *GENE SOLTYS, NOCCC*

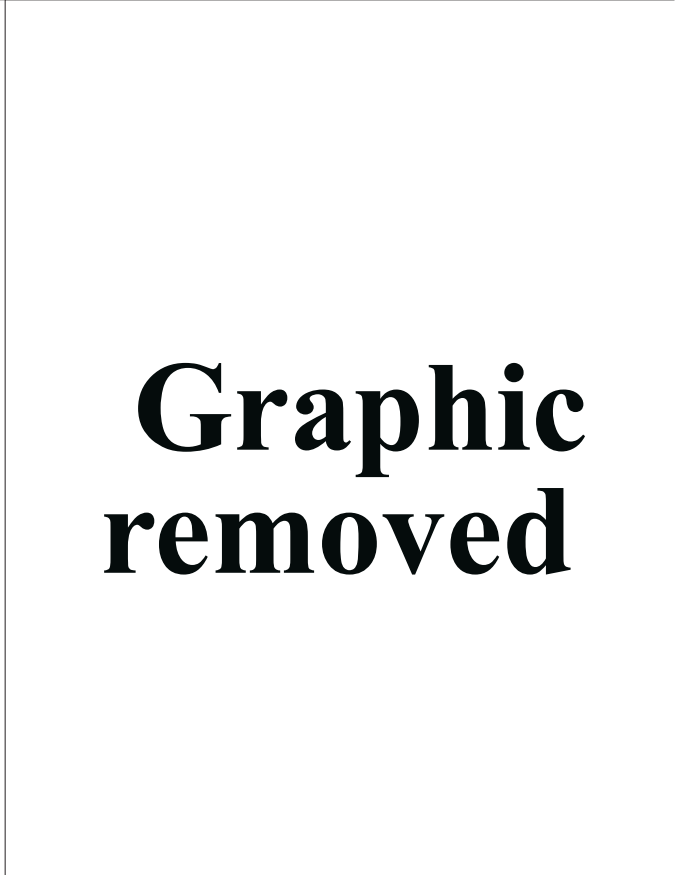
218 pages with copy, **charts and examples.**

JOB INTERVIEWS THAT MEAN BUSINESS is a practical guide to prepare you for your next job interview. It covers your employment cycle from finding a job and securing an interview through following and ultimately negotiating your terms of employment. The objective is to increase your chances of doing each of these things successfully. By reading you gain the kind of understanding and confidence that only comes from knowing the hiring process and mastering the techniques that impress interviewers.

It follows the sequence formula of the actual cycle and gives the reader advice on....

How to find a job, how to get an interview, how to prepare for the interview, how to arrive and present yourself for the interview, what to say and not say during the interview, what to do and not do during the and how to interpret the messages sent by the interviewer. Also described is how to link the entire interview cycle into a smooth and complete presentation of your assets, avoid surprises and deal with the ones that come anyway. Be prepared to reply to what kinds of questions to expect and what to ask your interviewer. Learn how to enhance the impact of your interviewer by networking. How to follow up effectively and how to negotiate salary and terms of employment are all explained as part of the process.cgmargolin

Included is a chapter on technology and the interview that contains sections of videotaped interviews, satellite and computer supported interviewing, background checking, psychological testing, handwriting analysis and other means that employers use to evaluate your personality, character, honesty and aptitudes.



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Legal matters such as discrimination and privacy are covered, with emphases on practical rather than adversarial advice. Also included is a chapter on covering the role sexual attraction might play at interview time and how to deal with it. While the primary emphasis is on mainstream candidates, a concluding chapter provides help for interviewees in the following categories.

Older workers, women returning to the job market, candidates interviewing after being fired, candidates new to the country, its culture and hiring procedures. It also includes categories for candidates competing for a position beneath the status they previously held, so you can convince others that you can accept less. Early retirees seeking a second career and students securing their first professional position are covered.

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Web Servers, Security, & Maintenance

reviewed by Dave Keays, NOCCC

*written by Eric Larson & Brian Stephens
published by Prentice Hall; The Foundations of
Website Architecture series
ISBN: 0-13-022534-7
list: \$46.00*

work towards a webmaster certificate

This interactive workbook for webmasters is used both in classrooms and for self-study. (The Server Administration class at Santa Ana College uses it).

“Web Servers, Security, & Maintenance” is part of a four book series which works towards a webmaster certificate from World Organization of Webmasters (WOW). WOW was created to “enhance the role and position of those individuals who create, manage, maintain, and market Web sites.”

According to the book, you should have a server to experiment with, but it says that installing Linux and Apache will do the job. (editors note: a list of possible down-load sites for different Linux distributions were published in the February 2002 ORANGE BYTES.) It doesn't matter which server you use since the instructions are as platform neutral as possible. In the Santa Ana college class, Apache on a NT4 is installed.

The training is more than just a book. Prentice Hall has set-up a web-site to facilitate the exercises which makes the lessons more real-life. The books walks you through exercises and explains them so you get both book knowledge and the understanding that comes from hands-on experience. In one exercise, SSL (secure socket layer) is demonstrated by having the reader fill-out a form on the companion site and sniff the results (look at the actual network data packets). There are exercises about reading log files, noticing suspicious activities, server side programming

(Common Gateway Interface, Server Side Includes, Active Server Pages, and Java Server Pages), and more.

To learn more about Prentice Halls interactive learning or their Webmaster certificate, go to:
www.phptr.com/phpinteractive

The companion web site at
www.phptr.com/larson_stephens/.

Even more questions can be found at
www.phptr.com/phpinteractive/architecture/index.html.

WOWs address is www.joinwow.org.

The book is available at:

fatbrain.com	\$46
bookpool.com	\$41.50
Amazon.com	\$46 (new) or \$36 (used)

Continue INTERVIEWS

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The purpose of this book is to prepare the reader for the important first meeting with the new employer and colleagues. Newfound knowledge helps make the most of the opportunity. From the moment you express interest to your acceptance of the job offer, this book will help you take the next step up the ladder. It is a “gold mine” of information.

This book is in its second edition and has a price of \$12.95.

It is published by Random House in New York.

Macintosh SIG

by John Willner (willner@earthlink.net)

When merchandise is purchased by NOCCC members through the Macintosh User's Group Store, points are accumulated. These points can be redeemed for prizes. Since a brand new dual processor G4 computer with flat panel display was purchased during the past month, the MUG store just went ahead and sent us appropriate prizes. They happened to be two iMac T-shirts and one USB port expander. We had a drawing, and the winners received their awards about mid-way through the program.

The main theme this month was the new Microsoft Office 2002 for OS X. Office consists of "Word", "Excel", "PowerPoint" and "Entourage". In one sense they are anchor programs like major stores in a shopping mall. Microsoft has come through for the Macintosh in advance of the same programs for Windows. All four applications were demonstrated using a power book and LCD projector.

Starting with "PowerPoint", it was obvious that more templates had been added (for example, some slides will now accept two or four illustrations). Also, the locations of controls have been altered to take advantage of OS X feature. Since we are new to OS X and new to this latest Microsoft implementation, the presentation proceeded somewhat by trial and error. However, through persistence certain added built-in sounds, animation and movie shorts were found and displayed. In typical Microsoft manner, a plethora of new tool bars were made available across the board (i.e., on all four programs). One could see that with experience original presentations having a bit more complexity than before can be implemented handily. Experienced users will face a learning curve imposed by all of the changes. As part of the demo an older "Power Point" presentation was opened. It played without a hitch.

"Excel" was checked next. It mainly has a new look. Ability to incorporate illustrations has been enhanced. An older "Excel" file was opened, and it

could be worked on easily. However, the prior multiple highlight controls have been changed in some way, because this feature could not be demonstrated without chasing down the new key strokes. Highlighting separate rows or columns of data will be necessary before graphs can be produced.

"Word" has the new three-dimensional candy look in its menus. The fonts menu showed what each font looks like (finally copying a feature of "Write Now" that has been around for over ten years). Especially interesting are a half dozen great new fonts provided by OS X. Otherwise, if one knows how to use earlier versions of "Word", it should be possible to proceed with this version without much difficulty. We really did not have time to check out all of the features, but procedural changes appeared to be minimal.

"Entourage" is sort of a convenient data base for keeping track of people and cookie type information. It has internet and phone calling capabilities. Being integrated with the other three applications has some advantages. However, the manner in which it will compete against older data base systems such as "FileMaker" remains to be seen. They are really different animals. "Entourage" has the advantage of being here already for OS X.

The tide of new programs for OS X is growing. Adobe has just announced a new version of "Photoshop" to be released in April, if not sooner. A new version of "Canvas" is already out. We are only just beginning to understand that the world of Unix programs can run on the new Macintosh computer when we learn how. Also, MacintoshÆs come with unique scripting capabilities that allow the more advanced programmers to create their own functions or complete applications. Nothing like these capabilities really exist for other competing desktop or laptop computers.

Next month we will continue with understanding OS X capabilities and show the latest CDs received from Apple.

PC Q&A SIG report for March 2002

by Jim Sanders

The topic for this month's meeting was the Shuttle SV24 computer. The first computer that I have ever bought in large part because it was cute. But aside from that, for a case that is about two thirds the size of a tall shoe box, it is quite a bit of computer. The one that I bought was on sale at Fry's Electronics for \$299.00. That is the basic box plus in this instance an Intel 933Mhz P3 CPU. I still had to add memory (256M), a CD-RW, a floppy disk, and a 80G hard disk. In combination with my 15" LCD display, it is far easier to carry to a meeting than my mid-tower case and 17" monitor. The fact that this computer has a single PCI expansion slot has drawn some flak from a couple of people that I know. However, when you consider what comes built into the motherboard, that is not a major problem from my point of view. It has a decent S3 3D video chip, 2-IDE, 1-Ser., 1-Par., PS2-KB, PS2-mouse, 4-USB (2 in front), 2-Firewire, NTSC and S-Video ports, 10/100 LAN, sound system with line-in/line-out on the back and mic-in/speaker-out on the front.

I installed XP Pro on the system to see how it would handle the hardware and had no problems. I would have used Win2K because I do not like the way XP violates my privacy, but I need to be familiar with XP from a professional stand point. The other reason for installing an NT based OS, was to be able to show the difference between a FAT32 partition and a NTFS partition. I setup four near equal drives, with C:,D:, and E: as FAT32 and F: as NTFS. When I formatted F:, I had the option of choosing the cluster size and picked the 1024 byte selection. I was a little surprised when the format finished and announced that almost 70Meg of the disk had been used as part of the format process. If I had picked the 4096 byte size that number would have been smaller. The FAT32 drive was set up with 16K byte clusters and no choice. When I copied the Office XP CD-ROM to both drives, it was very easy to see the difference in wasted or "slack" space between the two. On the FAT32 partition when I clicked on properties for the office

folder, it reported a size of 501M bytes with 532M bytes of disk space used. On the NTFS partition when I clicked on properties for the office folder, it reported a size of 501M bytes with 502M bytes of disk space used. So if I filled each drive with copies of office, I would have, in very round numbers, about 1100M bytes of wasted space on the FAT32 drive and 110M bytes of wasted space on the NTFS drive.

The other experiment that I demonstrated was attaching USB mass storage devices to the USB ports to see if they were properly recognized by XP without having to install a driver. The first device I tried on the front USB ports was the QUE! LS240 Superdisk. This unit is USB bus powered and worked right away. It was listed as a 240Mb B: drive. I next tried the "DiskonKey" USB 8Mb flash RAM drive and that worked fine. The next item was a 6Gb 2.5 inch HD in a USB adaptor case. It worked on the first try. I then tried hooking up my Panasonic digital camera which has a built in 120Mb USB LS120 drive. XP did not recognize it.

Next month I am going to explore how the built in sound system of the SV24 works with the VIA Voice 9 voice recognition software.

ARTICLES WANTED!

(written by NOCCC members)

**TIPS, REVIEWS, OR
ANY COMPUTER TOPIC
YOU'RE INTERESTED IN!**

Email: EDITOR@NOCCC.ORG

Office Suites

by John Heenan (jc_heen@a-ware.com)

Last month, we talked about how Access exports data so that you have a better idea of what data looks like if it were imported to Access. It is a good idea to review and compare the source's export types with the available import types that Access supports and choose the best match. With text type input, it is important to review the data delimiters to insure that the delimiter is not part of the data. And even though 2000 has come and gone, dates with a 2 digit year will be a continual problem. We discussed these two topics briefly, but we'll look at more examples next month.

We saw how easy it was to either import or to link Access mdb type file. The Import Wizard opens to list all the Access tables for import from the source DB. The wizard also shows all the objects in the DB making it easy to use this method to copy a form or report from one application to another.

We then looked at the process to import a delimited file. A delimited file is one where each field of a line (record) is defined by a comma, tab, semi-colon, space or any other character. It is most likely have an extension .txt, .csv, .tab or .asc. All four file types can be viewed with Notebook or Wordpad. Once opened the wizard recognizes the characteristics of the file.

We opened a file known to be a tab delimited file and noticed that the Import Wizard has already recognized that the file is delimited by the tab character. The first question is "what are the little squares distributed through each row of text?" The little square characters represent the tab as a character within the text. The Next screen shows the fields that have been delineated by the tab character. It also shows that the first row contains field names. Check the box.

The first time you import a file you will choose "In a New File"; the second "In an Existing Table". The Next dialog screen allows for a change in field name, data type. It also provides for naming indexed fields. The Next dialog let's us choose one of those fields that are indexed in the previous screen as a primary key. Since this is the first time we are creating this file, let's not have a key. Next name your file and check for errors that are found in the table ending in ImportErrors. It's that easy.

So, what's the "Advanced..." button all about? This button displays the all the parameters of the import, and gives you a chance to make any changes. For example, you may want to omit some fields or change file names. However, be sure to check the Date parameters.

If you expect to import data from this source again, click the "Save As" button to give these import parameters a name. The saved specification can then be used as a parameter in a macro that does the import at a push of a button.

One member of the Sunday's group needed help with a conversion of 34 new PCs with both Windows XP and Office XP. There may be individual Access 97 applications as well as a networked payroll application in Access 97 running on some and maybe all workstations. His question "will I have any problems

File Format Compatibilities

between Different Versions of Access

File Format	Access 97?	Access 2000?	Access 2002?
Access 97	Yes	No	No
Access 2000	No	Yes	Yes
Access 2000	No	Yes*	Yes
Access 2002	No	No	Yes

*(Access 2000 features only)

NOTE:

You need a password to get a copy of the **current** PDF version of ORANGE BYTES.

The passwords will be emailed 2 weeks before each meeting.

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converting from Access 97 to Access 2002?; in 25 words or less.

The table (see page 20) shows the compatibility between file formats from a particular version of Access and other versions of Access. "Yes" means that the file can be used in the application without conversion.

More information can be found at

<http://office.microsoft.com/assistance/2002/articles/acDefaultFileFormatAccess.aspx>

<http://support.microsoft.com/search/preview.aspx?scid=kb;en-us;Q208769>

Next month, We will continue the import process with queries that will convert the input data and make it usable within your database.

General Meeting Report - March 3, 2002

by Eric Saca

In March, we were honored to receive a presentation by well-known network security expert Steve Gibson. Steve has performed extensive research on maintaining security on the Internet. From this research, he offers a wealth of FREE security-enhancing utilities on his website, <http://grc.com>. This is the website for his company, Gibson Research Corporation, which markets his popular hard drive data recovery and maintenance utility, SpinRite 5. He has developed the famous and often-used Shields Up! - a utility to test firewall effectiveness. Not only do major hardware and software vendors seek Steve's approval for their firewall and security products, but the United States government often seeks his help for national network security matters as well. President Alan Pearlman opened the meeting at about 1 PM. Before Steve's fascinating presentation, Alan reminded all members to ensure that NOCCC has their current e-mail address. This allows the club to communicate when no other methods are available. Case in point: a delay in the mail system caused the March Bytes issue to be delayed. Thus, few members had received their copies by the March meeting. Alan also announced that annual elections will be held in June 2002. Announcements were made as short as possible to allow Steve Gibson maximum speaking time. Steve enthralled the audience with his explanation of recent Denial of Service attacks he had received through the Internet - and how he defended against them. Through these attacks, his website was literally blasted off the Web on a few occasions. He basically had to reconfigure his system security and work with his Internet service provider just to get reconnected. It was a fascinating and complex tale but with great eloquence, Steve was able to relate it clearly and understandably. There were two major episodes in which Steve was hit by Denial of Service attacks. These are explained in detail on his website - at a level that even beginning network administrators can understand. His first attack, related as The Classic DoS Attack Report, is at <http://grc.com/dos/grcdos.htm>. His second and more advanced, The Distributed Reflection Denial of

Service Attack is explained at <http://grc.com/dos/drddos.htm>. Links to both these reports can be found on Steve's home page at <http://grc.com>. After explaining these attacks, Steve fielded a wealth of questions from the audience, forcing the meeting to extend into time normally taken by the Internet SIG. (Internet SIG members agreed to allow Steve to keep speaking, as the discussion related to their SIG.) At the end, Steve had remembered a helpful Windows utility he had developed - Wizmo. This provides a simple interface to perform uncommon but useful functions, such as triggering a screen saver, adjusting the volume or powering off the monitor. There is a link to Wizmo on Steve's home page. It can be found at <http://grc.com/wizmo/wizmo.htm>. The meeting ultimately concluded at about 4:15 PM. Next Meeting - SMC Networks will send Tony Stramandinoli - Director of Product Marketing - to put on a presentation of the marvelous line of Routers. He'll tell us about what's new in Wireless Networking at SMC.

Wireless is the future, folks, don't miss this meeting. We'll ALL learn where the world is going.

DEADLINE

All articles and reports for the BYTES must be sent by the Wednesday after the meeting to **EDITOR@NOCCC.ORG**.

Dave Keays, BYTES editor

Current SIGS

SIG	Time	Building	Leader	E-mail
Autocad	9:00	Wilkinson 130	Joe Mizer	Jmmizer@Juno.com
Hardware Essentials	9:30	Science 306	Herbert Wong	ocug@singularitytechnology.com
Hardware Essentials	2:30	Science 109	Herbert Wong	ocug@singularitytechnology.com
Internet	2:30	Irvine Hall	James C. Smith	Jamescsmith@bigfoot.com
Java	9:30	Science 203	Terry Warren	Twarren@Alumni.caltech.edu
Beginning Linux	9:00	Wilkinson 210	Bob Ray	bobcray@Pacbell.net
Intermediate Linux	9:30	Wilkinson 210	Jim Holder	caholder@surfbest.net
Macintosh	11:15	Wilkinson 210	John Willner	willner@earthlink.net
New Technologies	9:30	Irvine Hall	George Margolin	Inventor@Pobox.com
Office Suites	11:15	Science 111	John Heenan	Jc_Heenan@Csi.com
Os/2	2:30	Science 203	Terry Warren	Twarren@Alumni.caltech.edu
PC Q&A	11:15	Irvine Hall	Jim Sanders	jSanders@ligasmicro.com
QuickBooks	11:15	Science 203	Linda Russell	goodnewsent@compuserve.com
CAI	9:30	Wilkinson 221	Bob Krishfield	bobkrish@socal.rr.com
Visual Programming I	8:30	Science 109	Anson Chapman	aecrcss@Hotmail.com
Visual Programming II	9:00	Science 109	Anson Chapman	aecrcss@Hotmail.com
Visual Programming III	10:00	Science 109	Anson Chapman	aecrcss@Hotmail.com
Visual Programming IV	11:15	Science 109	Anson Chapman	aecrcss@Hotmail.com
Windows	9:00	Science 111	James C. Smith	Jamescsmith@bigfoot.com
Understanding O.S.s	11:15	Wilkinson 111	Charlie Moore	Mooreca@aol.com

SIG ALERT !!!

New information about special interest groups at NOCCC

**Members have asked for two groups, Geneology and Gaming.
So if you can lead one of them, call or email Dave Keays.**

Send the meeting reports to EDITOR@NOCCC.ORG by Sunday after the previous meeting.

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You can now e-mail articles directly to the Editor through the North Orange County Computer Club's Web Site: editor@noccc.org, or just give the file on disk and printout directly to Dave Keays at the next meeting.

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If you haven't joined, you're missing a lot!

Meetings - Keep up with what's going on in the computer world. Hear outstanding industry representatives make presentations of the latest and greatest in computer products.

Special Interest Groups - Our 23 SIGs cover a broad spectrum of user interest; they invite you, whether you rank as beginner or seasoned computerist, to take in the lectures and demonstrations they sponsor, and to share computer knowledge.

Get Help with your current Computer Problems - In the Random Access portions of the meetings you ask your question of the entire assemblage, and more than likely someone will have the answer.

The NOCCC HelpLine - Some 100 NOCCC volunteers, experts in their fields, stand ready to assist with your problems, as close as your telephone.

The Orange Bytes Newsmagazine - Our award winning newsmagazine mailed monthly to your address reports on current activities and gives you articles and reviews geared toward your needs.

Raffles - We distribute thousands of dollars worth of hardware and software raffle prizes at our general and SIG meetings.

Product Review - Write a review for the newsmagazine and keep the software, hardware, book, or Cd-ROM. Members review more than 20 products a month. For a list of products available email (items@noccc.org).

Consignment Table - We have a thriving consignment table on our regular meeting day, in which we assist members to sell or buy all kinds of computer items. Use our handy on-line form to prepare your paperwork in advance.

Volunteer Work - You are given opportunities to help our activities with interesting assignments. An all-volunteer organization, you can join with other members in a variety of activities like writing articles for our newsmagazine to conducting a seminar, and more

You may attend a meeting without joining NOCCC. Dues are \$30.00/year. Members are entitled to the many benefits listed above.

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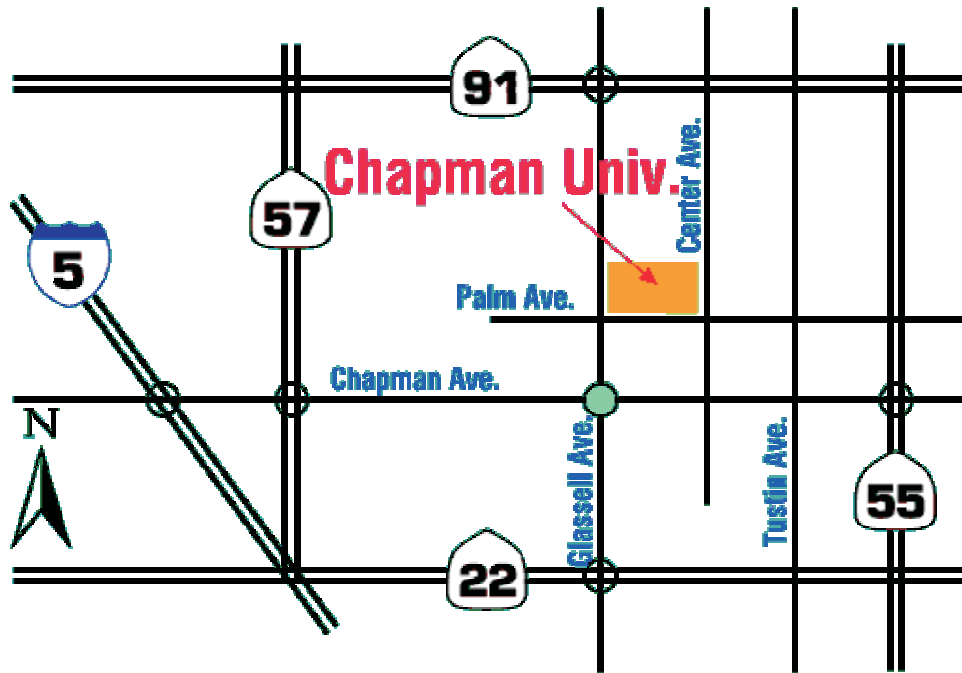
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Parking is also free on the campus-side of the surface streets. The city of Orange's parking laws prohibits parking in front of residential housing. Expensive parking tickets will be issued to violators.