

orange Bytes

Award Winning Newsmagazine of the North Orange County Computer Club

Vol 28 • No 11

NOVEMBER 2003

NOCCC MEETINGS - November 2

Microsoft Presents The New Office 2003 Suite

MAIN MEETING 1:00 p.m. *Irvine Hall* - see page 4

8:30 a.m.

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

9:00 a.m.

Autocad *Science 203*
Linux for Desktop Users *Wilkinson 111*
Visual Programming II *Science 109*
Visual C++ and Visual J++ for Beginners

9:30 a.m.

NEW TECHNOLOGIES *Irvine Hall*
See Hardware Essentials
Computer Aided Investing *Science 306*
Member Investment Strategies, Techniques and Software
Hardware Essentials *Irvine Hall*
Flatbed scanners....
Linux (intermediate) *Wilkinson 111*

10:00 a.m.

Linux for Server Administrators *Wilkinson 111*
Visual Programming III *Science 109*
Intermediate and Advanced Visual Basic

11:15 a.m.

Computer Security *Science 203*
Going virtual soon. See the SIG report for details

Linux Programming Concepts *Wilkinson 111*
Macintosh *Wilkinson 221*
Office Suites *Science 111*

Office suites applications

PC Q & A - Jim Sanders *Irvine Hall*

Most Qs A'd, some problems solved, assorted demos done

Understanding Operating Systems *Science 306*

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

Visual Programming IV *Science 109*

Office 97 VB for Applications programming.

12:00 Noon

PIG SIG *Argyros Hall Cafeteria*

A lunch get together and talk. See SIG Reports

1:00 p.m. Main Meeting, Irvine Hall

See box above

2:30 p.m.

Digital Photography *Irvine Hall*

All about taking, modifying, and printing digital photos

Genealogy *Science 111*

Discover your family history with modern tools

Hardware Essentials *Science 109*

Flatbed Scanners....

OS/2 News and Installation *Science 203*

NOCCC web site:
<http://www.noccc.org>

Future Meetings
Nov 2, Dec 7, Jan 4, Feb 1

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“Friends Helping Friends”



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for the following positions:

Circulation — Oversees the mailing and distribution.

Commercial Swap Meets • Distributes Orange Bytes and NOCCC material at swap meets.

Commercial Advertising • Obtains ads from both national and local vendors for the Bytes; the success of this helps our club finances.

President's Message

Big Microsoft Office 2003 Rollout

Microsoft will be showing their latest and greatest Office 2003 (to be released in late October) at our Nov. 2 main meeting. Instant messaging is now integrated in Outlook and a feature I personally like, is the ability to restrict forwarding of a specific email message! No more jokes with 20 sets of email addresses on them! Microsoft will also be bringing some nice raffle prizes such as an Xbox or MP3 player.



Just a reminder, that Windows 98 operating system will no longer be supported after December. That means no new security patches for Windows 98 after then. So maybe ask for a new computer for Christmas? That is another reason to check out the latest version of Office, since your new computer may come with it already loaded.

Old Computer T-shirt Contest-Nov. 2

At the November meeting at 12:30 in Irvine Hall, NOCCC will sponsor an Old, Vintage or Classic Computer T-shirt Contest. The proviso is that you must be still able to fit into the computer t-shirt (somehow..). Prizes will be given in the following categories: Oldest, Most Unusual, Geekiest, Holiest/Ratty, and Microsoft T-shirt (since that will be the Office 2003 day). You, the audience will get to vote on the best in each category! It should be very fun. Bring a friend to help judge the contestants!

I want to thank Chapman University, and Dr. Shugarman, for donating the computer books to our group. And I want to thank any members who donated books also. They may not have been the newest - that was why they were donated, but it offered our members an opportunity to pick up some of the more unusual books. And I think everyone had fun looking through the books. Any that were left were then donated to the Friends of the Orange Library.

Comdex is coming up in November and will be much smaller than before. There is another show the same week in Vegas called Enterprise IT Week, CDXpo, <http://www.cdxpo.com/> at the Mandalay Bay that focuses more on seminars and Enterprise IT. It should be interesting to have both shows in one place.

It should also be interesting to see the day after Thanksgiving computer sales. Sales of PC's have picked up, and with the new version of Office and the demise of Windows 98, it should be an interesting time. Digital cameras have become a commodity and everyone seems to have one or want one. Photo printers have become very inexpensive. There are a lot of new Album programs out as people learn how to manage all their digital photos. We will learn more at Comdex and the APCUG (Association of PC User Groups, that NOCCC belongs to) events, what is happening in the computer industry, and we will try to bring the latest information to you!

Bring a friend and tell your co-workers about the Office 2003 Rollout event at NOCCC, Nov. 2nd!

Membership Benefits

Member Discounts and Benefits

As a valued member, we bring you a section of discounts, offers, as part of the entire "Benefit of Belonging." (Caveat- we are unable to endorse these companies, but make these offers available as a service to our members).

Orange Bytes on PDF earlier in the month! Members ONLY- Watch your e-mail every month for the Password to get the award winning Orange Bytes much earlier in the month via PDF file on the www.noccc.org website. Make certain you let us know any e-mail changes (membership@noccc.org) so you can get the jump on all the great Reviews and Articles!

CompuUSA Discount- Fountain Valley Only One of our members, Joe Vezeau, Corporate Sales, has offered NOCCC members a discount. You have to call Joe and he will see if there is any discount available (some products are below cost and he cannot do anything) on the product you want. 714-965-4236 for Joe Vazeau).

McAfee Virus Scan discount 15% all McAfee online products at : <http://www.mcafee.com/usergroups/>

Aladdin Stuffit, Aladdin's best ZIP compression software, Stuffit 8, is now available. It has the strongest security and data protection technology for Windows. There is a special User Group discount of \$29.99. For more information go to: <http://www.aladdinsys.com/support/usergroups/index.html> and enter the code: PCUG 2002.

PowerQuest -- PartitionMagic v8 (List \$69.95) -\$35.00
-- Drive Image v7 (List \$69.95)-Full System Backup Utility, \$35.00. PartitionMagic, Drive Image, Both Educational CDs \$89. <http://www.ugr.com/order/> with group code UGAUGNOCCC. Phone 801-796-7370

VOPT XP – New Fast Defragmentation Program, is now out and will work with Win 95, 98, Me, 2000, and XP by Golden Bow software (www.goldenbow.com). Download a free 30 day trial to see how fast it will defragment your hard drive. Mention "Margolin" to get the user group discount \$30 or \$10 off the \$40 price.

O'Reilly Books Discount – If you order directly from O'Reilly, <http://www.oreilly.com>, orders@oreilly.com, or 800-998-9938, you are entitled to a 20% discount (and possibly free shipping). User Group discount code is DSUG.

NewRiders Books Discount – Go to <http://www.newriders.com> and check out their Promo section for User Group member's discounts.

October Board Meeting Minutes



The board minutes are published in the printed version of the Bytes which is mailed to members.

November 2nd Meeting Preview

MAIN MEETING 1:00 Irvine Hall

Microsoft will be presenting the new Office Suite 2003. The new Office Suite 2003 is going to be available in several versions. The one that a lot of members may be interested in is the academic version. This version of the Office Suite 2003 for students and teachers, not only has the best price, but has a licence that allows it to be installed on up to three machines. Not a student? Your local community college can solve that problem. Most of them have classes on MS Office and you win two ways. For the small cost of the class, you get a large discount on the software and learn about it at the same time. If the track record holds true, and I think it will, Microsoft will bring some goodies for a raffle. Some attendee at the meeting will probably take home a copy of the new Office.

The Club Raffle this month will include Adobe PhotoShop Elements V2.0 and PrintShop Photo Pro

Consignment Table

1. The consignment table is for members only. Only current members can place items for sale, but non-members are welcome to purchase items from the table. This is a great place to get some money for your surplus computer items, and help your Club at the same time.

2. The consignment table operates on a 90/10% basis — with the owner getting 90%, and the Club treasury 10%.

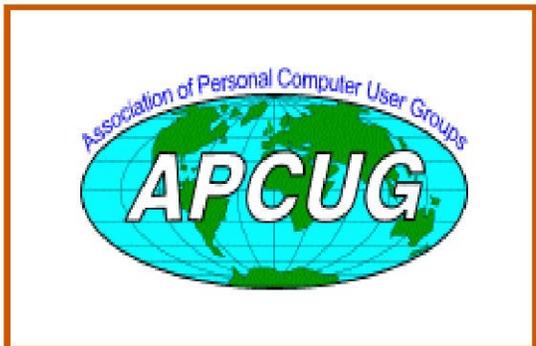
3. Fill out a tag on each item! It must contain: Seller's Name, NOCCC Membership Number, Item name, a short description and selling price.

4. Also, fill out the USER LIST with Name, Address, Phone Number. and a complete list of items and their selling prices.

5. All items and/or money may be picked up by the owner at any time, but MUST be picked up no later than 2 PM on day of sale.

6. Any items and/or money not picked up by 2 PM, will become the property of NOCCC and will be subject to disposal at the Club's discretion.

7. NOCCC is NOT RESPONSIBLE in any way for items bought and/or sold at the Consignment Table. Each item is placed and sold on an AS-IS BASIS.



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May Your Holidays Be Filled With Polygons

By Timothy Everingham, NOCCC

Again it is getting cooler. Fall has come and the holiday season is just around the corner. While many look forward to "chestnuts roasting on an open fire," too many of us are dreaming of polygons. Yes, it is the time for the largest release of games for computers and video consoles of the entire year.

This year we have gotten to the point of cinematic quality in games. Games like Vivendi Universal's *Half Life 2* (Tech TV just reported that it will now be delayed until April, 2004) and Electronic Arts' *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King* are up to the standards of what one would expect in an animated movie. Some game's artificial intelligence units which control the adversary units are improving so much that after a while the adversary will pick up on the player's tactics and make adjustments, which then requires the player to probably change tactics. However, some games continue to remain dumb so that your enemies don't even know you're there unless you hit them over the head with something. Games based on movies or TV shows continue to be generally bad; but there are some exceptions, like Electronic Arts' James Bond series of games. One trend concerning such games is that some of those games are directed toward the general population rather than toward hard core gamer. This has led to some games receiving bad reviews by the hard core gaming press and hard core gamers, but non-hard core gamers enjoying these games and they wind up as best sellers. Examples of these are Atari's *Enter the Matrix* and Electronic Arts' *Harry Potter and The Sorcerer's Stone*.

In the game console wars, Nintendo seems to be losing. Twice this year Nintendo had to do a GameCube bundling special promotion when the GameCubes sales went significantly lower than Microsoft's Xbox. Over the last two years Nintendo has had many companies that had been exclusively developing for them start developing games for other platforms as well. This year, two well-known game publishers, decided to discontinuing publishing games for the GameCube. In addition Sony's Playstation 2 games are reported to be about 70% of the console games sold. Sony and Microsoft built their consoles with the concept of them not being just a console, but a home entertainment device. They also had plans for online gaming. Nintendo did not on both counts, which has hurt them. The next generation of consoles are expected to arrive 2005-2006, and the results may be a live or die situation for Nintendo as a console manufacturer.

For those of you that have recently bought or upgraded

PCs that have a good graphics card and CPU and want to show it off with some great games Vivendi Universal Games' *Half Life 2*, Electronic Art's *The Lord of the Rings: Return of the King*, and JoWood's *AquiNox 2: Revelation* are games you should consider. *The Lord of the Rings: Return of The King* will also be on the consoles too.

For some good WWII action titles are Electronic Arts' *Medal of Honor: Rising Sun* for the consoles (PC version later on) and for the PC Activision's *Call to Duty*. Electronic Arts has again brought out another of its excellent James Bond series, *James Bond Everything or Nothing* (consoles only for now). Ubisoft's *Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time* (PS2) and Tom Clancy's *Ghost Recon: Island Thunder* (Xbox) are definitely worth your consideration. For fans of Electronic Arts' *Battlefield 1942* (PC), there are the *Secret Weapons of WWII* and *Road to Rome*, expansion packs. The release date for Microsoft's *Halo 2* (Xbox) is March 2004, but the first version of this excellent first person shooter has now been released for the PC. Ubisoft's *Beyond Good & Evil* (PC & consoles) gives a unique mixing of game genres to provide an excellent action adventure. In you life survival horror games, try Kononami's *Silent Hill 3* for the PS2.

For those of you that like more thoughtful games look at Microsoft's *Rise of Nations* real-time strategy game (PC). Electronic Art's has an expansion pack for its RTS *Command and Conquer Generals, Command & Conquer Generals Zero Hour*. If you are a fan of the Sims, there is the *Making Magic* expansion pack where spells can produce love or turn someone into a frog. Microsoft's *Flight Simulator 2004: A Century of Flight* (PC) is another title you should look at. For aerial combat look at Microsoft's *Crimson Skies: High Road to Revenge* (Xbox) and Lucas Arts' *Secret Weapons Over Normandy* (PC, PS2, & Xbox). For you Star Wars fans there is Lucas Arts' *Star Wars: The Clone Wars* (Xbox).

For sports fans a football game you should look for is *Madden NFL 2004* from Electronic Arts (PC & all consoles), which fits the general rule that Electronic Arts either has the best game of a sport or is tied for first. As with all of Electronic Arts sports titles, only the Playstation 2 version is playable online. Microsoft's *Midtown Madness 3* (Xbox) is a racing-through-traffic game. For a fighting game there is Namco's *Soul Caliber II* (all consoles). If you like shooting things up with your racing try Midway's *Spy Hunter 2* (all consoles). Then there are games for those who don't want to follow the rules. Sony's *Downhill Domination* (PS2) is an off road outlaw bicycle racing game. Then, as a follow up to their successful *Outlaw Golf*, Simon & Schuster Interactive has come up with *Outlaw Volleyball* (Xbox). Of course, for those of you that really want to go outlaw, Rockstar Games' *Grand Theft Auto: Vice City* is now available for the PC.

If you are looking for a massively multiplayer online game (MMOG) Sony Online Entertainment's *Planetside* (PC) is a breakthrough on game play and real time



graphics. It joint venture with Lucas Arts, Star Wars Galaxies: An Empire Divided (PC) got of to a slow start, but many of the bugs have been fixed and it is becoming quite popular. SOE has also come out with an "All Access" subscription where you can play all their MMOG for \$21.95 a month. Square Enix's Final Fantasy Online XI also looks good (PC & PS2).

For many of you there will be polygons for you this holiday coming through your game platform. In many cases games are getting better, but some companies think they can get away with doing more marketing and tying the games to films or TV shows to overcome bad game design. Be sure to check the reviews and ask your friends so you will know where to best put your cash. If you are really in a quandary, you can always rent them first at your local video store. Remember to play with respect and thoughtfulness and to destroy the alien before it eats you.

Timothy Everingham is CEO of Timothy Everingham Consulting in Azusa, California. He is also Vice Chair of the Los Angeles Chapter of ACM SIGGRAPH. Further information can be found at <http://home.earthlink.net/~teveringham>, and reached at teveringham@acm.org. ■

Windows Up Grade Options

By Michael Horowitz

This is a change of pace--- a letter so complete and detailed, it's almost an entire feature in itself. It's from Plus! Subscriber--- and computing instructor--- Michael Horowitz (thanks, Michael!), and contains a wealth of great info, especially on two lesser-known upgrade options.

I'm personally more in favor of clean installs than Michael is. As Michael says, a clean install can be a good choice if the version of Windows you're upgrading has problems, because a clean install is a fresh start--- none of those problems get carried over to the new setup. I like clean installs because, in my experience, almost all versions of Windows that have been in use any significant length of time do have problems. Even if your current version of Windows seems to be OK, there's a good chance that something isn't right, somewhere in the system. A clean install gives you a fresh start, no matter what.

But if you follow Michael's wonderfully-detailed advice, you'll see that there's more than one way to accomplish a clean install; and that clean installs are just one of several options. Michael, take it away

When considering installing a new version of Windows on a computer, the first issue is whether your computer is fast enough for the new operating system. Microsoft and others publish both minimum and recommended horsepower (cpu speed, installed ram and available hard disk space). You can learn about the horsepower requirements for Windows XP at <http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp>.

The second issue is whether your computer and surrounding hardware is supported by the new version of Windows. Microsoft publishes a Hardware Compatibility List (<http://www.microsoft.com/hcl>) where you can see if Windows is supported on your computer. In addition, you should check your printer, scanner and other hardware to see if there are drivers for the new version of Windows. This is especially of concern when moving from a Windows 9x family OS to an NT class version of Windows (NT4, 2000, XP).

Software also has compatibility issues. Not all software runs on all flavors of Windows. Any software that you want to continue to use, should be checked to make sure it is compatible with the new version of Windows. Windows XP was the first version of Windows to address this issue. It has a feature that attempts to fake out a program so that it thinks it is running under an older version of Windows.

If you decide to install a new version of Windows, the next issue is how. Most people discuss two options. There are actually four ways to run a new version of Windows on your computer.

A new version of Windows can be installed as either an upgrade of an older existing copy of Windows or on a new empty hard disk. An upgrade install places the new copy of Windows on top of the old copy. A clean install puts the new copy of Windows on your computer as if the old copy never existed. There are pros and cons to each approach.

Upgrade installation

Con you lose the old copy of Windows. It is clobbered by the new copy being installed over it. Should there be any problems with the new copy of Windows, you can't fall back to your tried and true old copy. Con Compared to a clean installation an

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE 

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Upgrade from page 7

upgrade install is more likely to cause problems in the future. It's complicated, in a world where simpler is better. Pro Your existing applications, data and settings remain more or less unchanged.

Clean installation Con You lose not only the old copy of Windows, but everything that was previously on your computer. All your data and all your applications. Obviously this requires that you first back up all your data files. Don't forget any files _ if you fail to back up a file it is lost forever. It is easy to forget that email or an address book also needs to be backed up. Pro From a technical perspective, a clean installation is simpler and less likely to cause problems in the future compared to an upgrade installation Con It requires re-installing all applications and customizing things from scratch.

An upgrade installation is not always an option. It depends on the old and new versions of Windows. The rules for Windows XP are presented later.

Also, you should not do an upgrade installation if the old version of Windows is having problems. If your motivation for a new copy of Windows is to fix problems with the old version, then do a clean installation of either your current version of Windows or a new version.

Further complicating things is the fact that many (most?) copies of Windows that you buy in a retail store are not designed for a clean install. They are referred to as "upgrade" copies. Upgrade versions of Windows are much cheaper than "full" versions but are only for people who already own a prior copy of Windows. For example, the upgrade version of Windows XP Home Edition is under \$100, the full version is \$200 (as of February 2003). The upgrade version of Windows XP Professional sells for about \$200, the full version is about \$400. Upgrade versions of Windows are intended to be used to upgrade an old version of Windows. They require proof of ownership of a previous version of Windows. When you do an upgrade installation, the proof of ownership comes from the old version of Windows found on your computer. For a clean installation, you need to provide a CD-ROM from the earlier version of Windows as proof of ownership. Even though you own a previous version of Windows, you may not have a CD-ROM to provide as proof. Many computer manufacturers stopped providing this years ago. Instead they provide only a recovery CD-ROM.

It is safe to say, that both upgrade installations and clean installations are poor choices. There are two other options that offer none of the downsides previously mentioned. These next two options let you run both the old and the new version of Windows on the same computer. In effect, you can have your cake and eat it too.

The downside to these alternative approaches is that they require some technical skill and additional software.

The third alternative lets you run either the old or the new version of Windows, but only one at a time. When the computer starts up (boots) you are presented with a choice of

which version of Windows to run. The fourth alternative, lets you run both the old and new versions of Windows concurrently!

---A Third Alternative---

Installing two versions of Windows on one computer is done by giving each its own dedicated partition. The old copy of Windows remains where it is, but its partition will likely have to be shrunk. The new copy of Windows is installed in a different, and new, partition.

The vast majority of personal computers have a single partition whose size is the full size of the hard disk. In this case, this single partition has to be shrunk and a new partition created in the space freed up.

This approach is referred to a multi-boot or dual-boot or side-by-side installation. The terms refer to the fact that you can boot (techie speak for "start up") either of two versions of Windows.

No version of Windows comes with software that can non-destructively resize a partition. This requires a commercial product, known generically as partitioning software. Among the available software is Partition Magic from PowerQuest, Partition Commander from V Communications, Partition Expert from Acronis and Partition Manager from Paragon Software. There is also a free program, Ranish Partition Manager but the user interface is said to be very difficult and for a job like this, it is better to have technical support available. Note that resizing a partition is potentially a dangerous thing. Always back up your most important files first and run a full disk check beforehand.

Also, this approach requires more hard disk space than either a clean install or an upgrade install. After all, two separate and independent versions of Windows reside on the computer. Be sure to check the amount of available space on the hard disk before even considering this approach. In general, figure on two gigabytes of disk space as a minimum amount for installing an NT class version of Windows and one gigabyte for a version of Windows in the 9x family.

It is also possible to add a second hard disk to a computer and have each hard disk dedicated to one version of Windows. The advantage to this approach is that it can save the cost of partitioning software. In fact, a large enough hard disk can be had for roughly the same price as the partitioning software. Choosing an OS at start-up time could be handled by either the new version of Windows (if it is an NT class), the system BIOS or commercial software such as System Commander or Boot Commander. Nonetheless, you may opt for purchasing partitioning software for reasons explained below. The general approach of having different versions of Windows installed in different partitions can be used with any two versions of Windows. If done correctly, it does not matter which version of Windows is installed first or second.

The advantages of this are many. You can fall back and use the old OS if the new version of Windows causes trouble. You can migrate to the new version of Windows gradually rather

CONTINUED ON PAGE 17

A Trip Down Microsoft Office History Lane—

Another Day At The Office ...2003

By Bruce Pechman, *The Muscleman of TechnologySM*, Vice President, Atlanta PC Users Group, <http://www.mrbicep.com>

With the imminent release of Office 2003, and the newly branded Microsoft Office System, I started to ponder the Office family pedigree from a historical perspective. It seems there are so many configurations, releases, editions, and individual applications that make up the Microsoft Office System family. I wanted some answers to some very pressing questions.

Instead of reviewing Office 2003, I uncovered and compiled some interesting anecdotes and facts about the Office family pedigree in general. You will probably see oodles of reviews about Office 2003 ad nauseam in the months to come, so sit

back and enjoy the “sideshow.” I would like to thank Lisa Robbins with Waggener Edstrom and Aaron Ricadela from Information Week for providing me with historical information that made this article possible.

Let’s start off with a trip down memory lane for some Microsoft Office firsts. According to a Microsoft white paper “Key Events in Microsoft History,” the very first incarnation of Microsoft Word took place on 9/29/83. On this date, Microsoft introduced its full-featured word processing program, Microsoft Word for MS-DOS 1.00. OK, that might be too far back, but the first release of Microsoft Excel for Windows occurred on 10/6/87. Excel was a smash hit and just nine years later on 5/17/96, Microsoft reported that more than 30 million people worldwide use Microsoft Excel—making it the most popular spreadsheet program of all time. Wondering about the roots of PowerPoint? PowerPoint was actually developed by a company called Forethought, Inc. and was acquired by Microsoft on 7/30/87. Speaking of PowerPoint, according to

Continued on page 16

FIRST ANNUAL T-SHIRT CONTEST

At the November General Meeting in Irvine Hall

Dig out your old computer related t-shirts, **win a prize**

To win, the t-shirt and your club badge must be worn by you or a guest

PRIZES FOR: 1. Oldest, 2. Most Unusual, 3. Geekiest 4. Holiest/Ratty 5. Microsoft T-shirt

The contest will be held at 12:30. The winners will be judged by the audience.





Photoshop Restoration & Retouching

By John F Donan, NOCCC



Katrin Eismann 's "Photoshop Restoration & Retouching" Is The Only Book Specializing In Restoration And Retouching Of Photos By Using Photoshop. She is an internationally recognized photographer, artist, author and educator. Details on her background can be found at her website, <http://www.photoshopdiva.com/>. She also maintains a website to support both 1st & 2nd editions of "Photoshop Restoration & Retouching." She has coauthored three other Photoshop books. This book is different from other Photoshop books one may find as it is specifically about restoring old or damaged photographs.

The book first presents an overview of Photoshop usage. From here the reader is taken through all aspects of photo restoration. The book is exceptionally well illustrated holding 855 figures within its 366 pages. It has hints, notes and suggestions throughout the book, many of which can of value to even the most accomplished of Photoshop users.

Upon researching the Internet I found that most who commented on the book noted the unusual nature of the photos used. They are from Katrin's and her husbands personal collections. Paging through the book is much like looking through some ones family album. These pictures are not all historic as the last two of the books ten chapters are concerned with glamour and portraits. The book is organized in three main areas. First it is working with tone, color, contrast and exposure. This is followed with removing dust and mold and the repairing of damage. The last discusses retouching such as you would need to do for a portrait or commercial photography studio.

Restoration can require time and patience. Patrick O'Connell, an associate of Katrin, provided an example of the rewards of this. The book shows his before and after images of a badly tattered photo. (He has given permission to show them here.) This startling result required breaks

to refresh his eyes. His twenty five hours of work were distributed over a week.

Rather than include a CD-ROM, Katrin has set up a website where 115 of the photos from the book are available to download, some as both medium and high resolution versions. The website also has an option of downloading all of these images from the chapter at one time. An advantage of using a website to complement the book, rather than a CD, is that it allows for dynamic content. It is continually updated with additional resources and examples. To explore this feature, I downloaded Ch2_BWfamily.jpg. This 1950 Eismann family picture was used to illustrate a technique to increase contrast with the use of curves. I followed these procedures to produce an exaggerated result, shown here as Curvecontrast.



Katrin points out three ways to learn from the book: 1) Read along with the images. 2) Down load the images and do-along the steps in the book. 3) Apply the techniques of the book on your own material. She states in the book, "My students always surprise me with questions, challenges and examples of taking what I've taught them and going much further than I imagined possible." In applying the third way to my pictures I used a badly faded Ektachrome slide. I had previously tried improving its colors by using levels. This time, using her approach for reconstructing damaged color, I rebuilt the damaged color channel. The result was far better than any of my previous corrections, but not perfection. Quoting the book, "a repaired image will never be as perfect as one that wasn't damaged to begin with."

The book's website has a Reader's Gallery displaying before and after images sent by users of the book. Of the book's tips and advice, here are some that my digital imaging friends might appreciate, "Rather than use Photoshop as an afterthought to rescue a bad photograph, I opt to make the extra effort to get the picture right in front of the lens. - If you are still working with versions 4.0, 5.0, or 6.0 you will still learn a lot from this book.- If you use a Photoshop tool or command



three or more times a day, learning its keyboard shortcut saves time - In Photoshop 7 you can create a library of tool presets and never have to enter values again - I am a conservative retoucher with a large hard drive I don't throw away layers unless they are wrong or unnecessary - You can create up to 8,000 layers and layer effects, you can place related layers in layer sets (folders) which can be manipulated conveniently - The background layer is your original data and should never be retouched - Professional photographers always shoot more than one exposure - Keep your bookkeeping, paperwork and business phone on a separate desk - - -etc. " This and much more is just in Chapter 1 (Photoshop Essentials).

Chapter 2 is Improving Tone and contrast; Chapter 3 is Exposure and Correction, Chapter 4 is Working With Colors. Chapters 5 to 8 are on reconstructing photographs. Chapters 9 and 10 cover professional portraits and fashion retouching.

This book is Photoshop Restoration & Retouching, Second Edition

by Katrin Eismann (Author), Doug Nelson (Author)
New Riders 201 West 103rd Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46290
ISBN 0-7357-1350-2

The list Price is 49.99, it can be found at Amazon.com for 34.99

I would recommend this book not only for digital photographers but all Photoshop users. It is very easy to read and can be used handbook fashion. Its techniques can be used with most Photoshop applications. There is hardly a page that doesn't provide something to improve my Photoshopping.

While researching the Internet I noted many comments by persons who had received individual help from Katrin by email. She was lecturing in Mexico City when I requested permission to use photographs from the book. I received her response the next day. ■

MATHEMATICA 5

By Bill Allen, NOCCC

Mathematica 5 is one of the world's leading software systems for technical computing and symbolic programming. Almost two million users worldwide solve a wide range of math problems with all the versions of Mathematica. It is probably the top-most general math analysis program available to engineers, scientists, MBAs, college professors, and students, etc. Stephen Wolfram, a Ph.D. in theoretical physics from Caltech, is the founder of Wolfram Research Inc. Dr. Wolfram has been developing



Mathematica since 1986. He is also the author of the book, "A New Kind of Science". It is a twelve-hundred-page tome describing totally new scientific concepts. See <http://wolframscience.com/nksx>.

What is really unique about Mathematica 5 is its ability to do symbolic as well as numerical manipulation; that is, to calculate using algebraic symbols instead of numbers through all stages of a problem. The reason for this is to ensure always being able to provide an exact mathematical result instead of just a numerical approximation that may be limited by machine byte and word size. Intermediate calculations are retained in pure form, for example, as the square root of 2 instead of the numerical 1.414 value. Numerical results from symbolic results can be retrieved at any time using the Mathematica 5 `N[]` function.

Other unique features include fast sparse matrix operations (a significant capability needed for solving many Kalman filtering problems). Optimization of dense matrices is also provided for. Inequalities can be handled as well as regular equations. Large-scale linear programming including interior point methods can be handled. A comprehensive nonlinear curve fitting capability has been provided in this version of Mathematica. And extensive functions are provided to solve complex integral and differential equations. Functions for descriptive statistics and hypothesis testing of statistical data have been included in this new version of Mathematica.

Perhaps no other computer program available today provides such extensive support for math analysis as does Mathematica 5. The program has over one thousand five hundred math functions ranging from `ABS[]` (for finding the absolute value of a number) to `Z TRANSFORM` (for the analysis of digital filters and control systems). Applications to real world problems have ranged over such diverse mathematical fields as fuzzy logic, matrix algebra, neural networks, digital imagery analysis, wavelet and Fourier analysis, and parallel computing. Mathematica has been used to solve problems in finance, investments, control systems, signal analysis, optics, aerodynamics, electronics, antenna design, experimental testing, astronomy, options pricing, textbook publishing, Kalman filtering, teaching pre-college and college level mathematics, risk minimization, and profit optimization using linear and non-linear programming.

The program is relatively simple to use once certain unique requirements are mastered. Upon opening Mathematica 5 the computer screen shows a typical menu bar across the top of the screen together with a blank workspace on the left and a palette of symbols on the right. The workspace is in a Mathematica-unique notebook format. All text, including math functions, appears in Courier Boldface type as they are entered in the notebook. Each function entered from the keyboard is in a form consisting of a header and a set of arguments. For example, the `ABS` function is entered as `ABS [-213]`, `ABS` being the header and `-213` the argument. Mathematica 5 functions require the first letter of the function name to be capitalized, and all arguments be enclosed within square brackets, `[]`. Other requirements

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Product Reviews

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include all lists being enclosed in curly brackets { }, and math operations grouping with ellipses (). As one example, the following function will generate ten random integers between 10 and 90 . It shows the Mathematica format with three different nested functions .

```
For [i = 0, i < 10, i = i + 1, Print [Random [Integer, {10, 90}]]]
```

It can be seen that lists, i . e . {10, 90}, are surrounded by curly brackets while the functions For, Print, and Random have arguments surrounded by square brackets [] . Function activation is achieved by simultaneously pressing both the shift key and the enter key on the central keyboard space, or, alternatively, pressing only the enter key alone located at the far right of the numerical keypad . Using the central keyboard enter key alone results in merely a line feed and carriage return .

A ten-minute tutorial is provided with the program to walk a new user through the program-unique keystrokes to ensure an entry level of mastery over the program . For a first time user it is strongly recommended the tutorial be thoroughly understood before commencing work . For example, a user must know that Mathematica 5 uses three forms of the “equals” sign . They are: (1) “=” which assigns a value to a variable, (2) “==” for establishing equivalence between the two sides of an equation, and (3) “:=” which assigns a value to a variable only after some proceeding operation has occurred . Extensive help is available, including examples that can be modified in situ to test values without actually harming the help files .

In addition to typing functions using the header and arguments format, it is possible to use a basic typesetting input palette located within the file menu . This palette holds a set of select symbols for functions such as square root, integration, differentiation, etc . A mouse click on a symbol in this palette results in the symbol being reproduced in the notebook . Small solid and open blocks then indicate where symbolic or numerical values are to be placed . There are eight additional palettes including one for typesetting commands, another for algebraic manipulations, and one for formatting a complete report including a table of contents, an index, and final printing instructions . Another palette is dedicated to producing a variety of notebook formats such as a report format, a tutorial, a demonstration, a classroom project, etc . Even developing a textbook is possible using the Mathematica 5 unique notebook with its palettes .

The notebook format is proprietary to Wolfram Research Inc . , the designers of Mathematica 5 and other Wolfram computer-based math analysis products . This unique format allows combining equations and text in typeset format in a user-friendly environment designed for use by the scientist, engineer, mathematician, and even the investment advisor . The resulting documents can be made publication-ready, thus saving considerable time and expense . The Mathematica 5 Notebook Documentation System combines all calculations, programming code, computation results, and graphics in one interactive technical document . It allows inclusion of almost every imaginable type of programming object and operation — be it

data, functions, graphics, programs, or even complete documents — to be represented in a single, uniform way as a symbolic expression . Mathematica 5 seamlessly integrates a numeric and symbolic computational engine, a graphics system, a programming language, a documentation system, and advanced connectivity to other applications .

Standard add-on packages for Mathematica 5 include additional algebra functions, calculus, discrete math, geometry, linear algebra, number theory, numerical analysis, permutations, combinations and statistics . An add-on entitled AuthorTools facilitates creating complete technical books and articles using Mathematica 5 . It can automatically generate a table of contents, an index, etc . Wolfram commercial add-on packages are also available on the Mathematica 5 web site . They include: Advanced Numerical Methods; Control Systems Professional Suite; Database Access Kit; Digital Image Processing; Dynamic Visualizer; Experimental Data Analyzer; Electrical Engineering Examples; Finance Essentials; Fuzzy Logic; Excel Link; Mechanical Systems; Neural Networks; Science Explorer; Optics; Parallel Computing Tool Kit; Scientific Astronomer; Signals and Systems; Structural Mechanics; Times Series; and the Wavelet Explorer .

Wolfram Research Inc . has developed a set of ancillary support programs to extend the use of Mathematica 5 . MathLM is a Mathematica 5 related program for managing multi-users on a corporate network with significant cost savings over buying multiple individual user licenses . Mathematica 5’s MathLink program allows real time interfacing with external programs, either to run the external program or to have it run Mathematica 5 . J/Link does the same for web browsers using Java . And NET/Link does likewise for code written in Microsoft .NET . gridMathematica is for operating clusters of computers or multiprocessor machines to process huge data dense problems such as corporate data mining, as well as complex multidimensional physics or biological problems . webMathematica is designed for websites that allow users to compute and visualize Mathematica 5 results through their web browser . MathML is a type of XML and is the W3C standard for publishing mathematical content . Mathematica supports the the MathML import, export, and manipulation . For presenting the results of Mathematica 5 calculations to those who do not have the Mathematica 5 program available, Wolfram Research also has provided a free notebook reader called Math Reader .

Mathematica 5 has a number of features that should enhance its application in large corporate operations . Mathematica 5 programs written on any Windows, Mac or UNIX computer will run on any other Windows, Mac or UNIX based computers without reprogramming . Moreover, Mathematica 5 readily interfaces with the C/C++ . Java, and Microsoft .Net languages . The program can also import and export data in over 50 popular file formats .

The program has just the two basic components: the notebook metaphor and a mathematics processing kernel . All the text and data entry, formula entry, appearance formatting etc. is accomplished in the notebook . All math computations,

tabulations, list processing, and pattern manipulation are accomplished by the kernel. The user generally is never aware of the kernel, which operates in the background. To support the user, comprehensive help has been provided for not only each and every math function, but also includes a complete comprehensive book on the Mathematica 5 program addressing each of the 1,500 functions and their applications. Upon request Wolfram Research will provide Mathematica 5 users, free of charge, a hardbound fifteen hundred page paper copy of the Mathematica 5 book. For the tyro Mathematica user, the latest edition of "The Beginner's Guide to Mathematica" by Jerry Glynn and Theodore Gray could be of greater help initially.

To evaluate the ease of use of Mathematica 5, a simple program was written to compare the output with that from an Excel spreadsheet. The program imports ten years of monthly Dow Jones Industrial Average data. Buy and sell prices are then selected randomly to calculate an annual compound growth rate for the transaction. A Monte Carlo data set of a thousand such transactions was generated and plotted with the span of transition in months against compound growth rates. The resulting graphic was almost identical with that from the Excel spreadsheet. Once the user achieves a journeyman level of expertise with Mathematica 5, the programming should not be significantly longer than that needed for Excel. However, a user should realize a forte of Mathematica 5 is the pure mathematical manipulation feature which Excel does not have.

A number of support sites exist for Mathematica 5. Some of those linked to the Wolfram website include the very comprehensive <http://library.wolfram.com> website which has 2,091 articles, 360 books, 367 conference proceedings, 91 courseware components, 174 demonstrations, 625 math application packages, and 205 technical notes. The <http://library.wolfram.com/explorations> website has 43 representative applications. Other relevant websites are (a) <http://www.wolframscience.com>; (b) <http://www.wolfram-media.com>; (c) <http://integrals.wolfram.com>; (d) <http://www.stephenwolfram.com>; (e) <http://gallery.wolfram.com>; (f) <http://scienceworld.wolfram.com>; (g) <http://www.mathmlcentral.com>; and (h) <http://store.wolfram.com>.

A technical FAQ site is proved on the Mathematica website at <http://www.wolfram.com/services/> as well as subscription to a Mathematica Journal and a Wolfram Journal. Additionally, there is a Mathematica newsgroup at <http://www.comp.softsys.math.Mathematica>. Some of the above services are free and some are fee based.

To further support the use of Mathematica 5, Wolfram offers a Premier service with the following features: (a) free technical support; (b) free use at home of the Mathematica 5 Applications Library; (c) 15% off the price of packages from the Application Library as well as the Wolfram Education Group Classes; (d) a free subscription to the Mathematica 5 journal; and (e) a copy of webMathematica Amateur for displaying Mathematica 5 work on the web.

As is to be expected, a program this comprehensive and exact is not inexpensive. Wolfram designates four categories of customers: commercial, government, academic and student. The

commercial version of Mathematica 5 is currently \$1,880 for Windows, Mac and Linux while the Unix-Linux version is \$3,135. However, the full version of Mathematica 5 is only \$139.95 for fully accredited students. A university with a site license is currently making Mathematica 5 available to students during the academic year for only \$25. Similar site license options should be available for corporate customers as well.

While Mathematica 5 may be expensive it is, more significantly, probably the most comprehensive math analysis program available worldwide. Purchased with an unlimited site license for a corporate network could reduce company-wide per capita math modeling and analysis costs to a level highly competitive with other well regarded programs. The author has surveyed other programs such as MathCad, O-Matrix, and MatLab but has found Mathematica 5 to be truly in a class by itself. It would be hard to imagine a math function that Mathematica 5 does not include. An impressive variety of Mathematica 5 applications has been and is being developed in Europe and Asia as well as here in the United States.

The program can be purchased directly on line from Wolfram Research Inc. at <http://www.wolfram.com>. Mathematica 5 is only one of a number of math analysis programs available from Wolfram Research Inc. This evaluation of Mathematica 5 was conducted on a 2.5 GHz, 512 MB RAM PC with a 40 GB hard disk and cable modem. ■

Windows XP Hacks

100 Industrial-Strength Tips & Tools

By Ted Littman, NOCCC

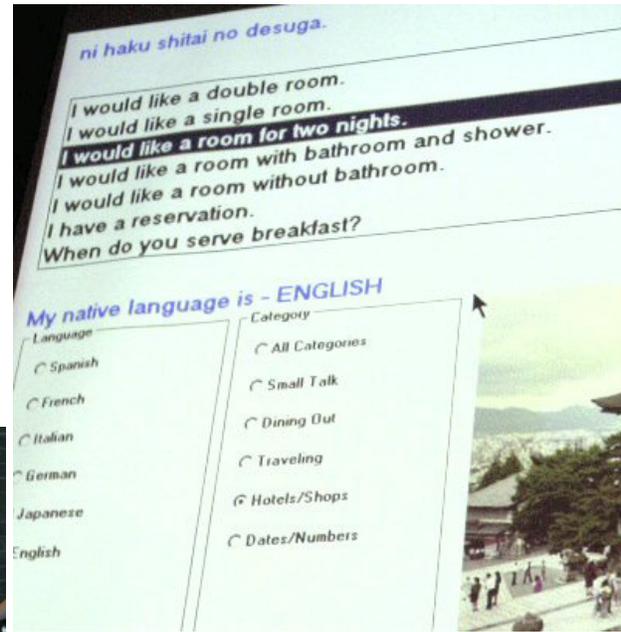
Another O'Reilly pocket book in the "Hacks" series, this new 392-page paperback is by author Preston Gralla. He has written more than 20 books on computers and the Internet, as well as technology articles for numerous magazines and newspapers.

According to the book's Preface, "This collection (of Hacks) is based on the hands-on, real-world experience of those who, in many cases, have been using PCs well before any version of Windows ever existed." Like other books in this series, you can effectively read it from cover to cover if you like, or browse and jump to the different sections that interest you most.

Initially, I did the "browse and jump" to get a sense of what's in the book and how useful it is. Then, I read it from beginning to end, applying those Hacks most useful for my computer. And I found quite a few to implement.

The book is written in a very easy to read style with most of the Hacks containing detailed examples that are easy to understand and implement, even if one is a novice. Noteworthy, is the first Hack, "Customize Multiboot Startup Options," which I read too late to help restore my system after its first major crash! However, my boot menu now contains the options necessary to trace startup problems or run Windows XP Pro in Safe Mode in

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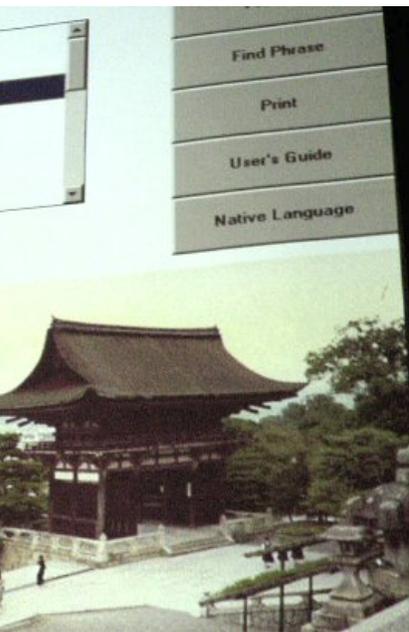


Who would have thought hooking up an s-video connection to the projector could be so hard?

Mark Haley of Analytical Software Inc. put on an interesting presentation of his collection of travel and learning DVDs. You can learn more about them at his website, <http://www.mypctalks.com>

The book sale attracted the interest of the members. Most of the computer books were middle aged, but an eclectic selection



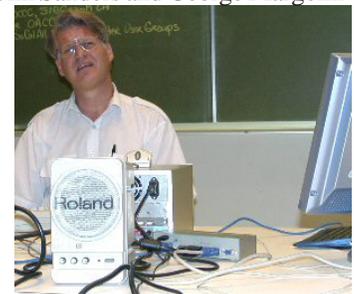


Quite a few members lined up to buy Mark's DVDs after the presentation



C. Lemire presenting the New Technologies SIG

photos by Jim Sanders and George Margolin



Larry Kleez at the PC Q&A SIG



Ted Littman, reviews editor

Windows XP Hacks from page 13
addition to normal startup. And they work.

There are twelve chapters in the book that cover just about every topic of interest to customize and fine tune your system. Gralla provides numerous recommendations for using unscripted Microsoft Windows utilities (like downloadable TweakUI) as well as freeware/shareware utilities when Microsoft's options are not quite up to the job. Gralla occasionally recommends commercial utilities (like the excellent firewall from ZoneAlarm, which offers a free version). However, I believe that he relies too much on shareware programs when commercial products are superior and competitive (or almost so) in price.

So, if you want to become an XP "power user," or just make improvements to the way your system works "out of the box," Windows XP Hacks may be for you. Priced at \$24.95 (less a 20 % discount for user group members if you buy direct from O'Reilly, <http://www.oreilly.com> or 1-800-998-998), this book contains a lot of useful stuff in a small, easy-to-read package that you can keep on your desktop for handy reference.

For more information about the book, go to <http://www.oreilly.com/catalog/winxphks/>. Several sample hacks are available free online at <http://www.oreilly.com/catalog/winxphks/chapter/index.html>. ■

Windows XP in A Nutshell

By Robert Ameeti, NOCCC

O'Reilly Publishing is a very well respected publisher in the computer field. It has published many excellent references for operating systems, programming languages, and other technologies that people who use computers will be interested in.

This 634-page book is aimed at the mid level users who wish to gain a deeper understanding of the XP operating system than they might discover on their own. XP In A Nutshell accomplishes that goal without a doubt. The book is laid out in a logical manner with clear descriptions and figures. The depth and scope of the book makes it a good value as I've found most every O'Reilly book. Chapter 4 alone, which covers XP applications (those included with the OS), easily becomes a 'must have' reference as it details and explains every application that we so easily pass over, always saying to ourselves, 'I wonder what that app is for? Oh well, maybe later.' This chapter is for later use as a reference. The book is an excellent read and will often be returned to while I use XP.

Having said that, I must say that I found an excessive number of typographical and technical errors throughout the book. Many of the chapters have errata data available on the O'Reilly website but unfortunately, not all chapters have yet been noted within the errata data. If you should have an eagle

eye and notice something that just does not make sense, do take time to peruse the web site for a clarification or correction. This exercise may well clear up the difference.

Book by David A. Karp, Tim O'Reilly, & Troy Mott

Published by O'Reilly & Associates, <http://www.oreilly.com>

First Edition – April 2002, MSRP \$30. (User Group members can get a discount and free shipping.) ■

Microsoft Office History from page 9

the Nerdy Books newsletter, "there are over 250 million PowerPoint users and approximately 30 million presentations are given every day."

For you database fans, Microsoft announced the availability of Access Database for Windows on 11/16/92 at Fall Comdex. Now let's test your memory skills. How many versions of Office for the Windows platform have been released? Would you believe seven! Sure—many of you knew about Office 97, 2000, Office XP and certainly the new Office 2003. But the other 3 lesser known are Office 3.x, 4.x, and of course, Office 95. For you trivia fans, Outlook first appeared in Office 97. Another first for Office 97 is what became known as the Office "Developer Edition." This edition was aimed at developers to learn how to build solutions with the new features of Microsoft Office 97.

There are over one million developers who use Microsoft Office to build business solutions. In fact, according David Bennie, group Manager at Microsoft, there are about 245 million people worldwide that use Office products. It's no mystery that Microsoft makes up 90% of the Office Suite market. Office 2000 introduced the option of a "Premium Edition" that bundled some previously stand-alone applications such as Publisher, Front Page, and PhotoDraw.

By the way, not included in Microsoft Office, but still considered in the "Office Family," are Microsoft Project (first announced on 9/18/95), Microsoft Visio, and Microsoft MapPoint. If you are wondering about Microsoft PhotoDraw, Waggner Edstrom confirmed that no new versions are planned and the PhotoDraw team has been deployed to work on future Microsoft .Net technologies. New programs, depending upon the edition of Office 2003 you choose are InfoPath and OneNote.

You know the irony of all this nostalgia is these dates don't seem all that long ago yet according to CNET, Office and other desktop applications accounted for 37 percent of Microsoft's \$6.46 billion revenue in one quarter. According to Microsoft in 2001, approximately 55 percent of the world's 120 million licensed Office customers still have the 97 version. Approximately 5 percent have Office 95, and the remaining 40 percent have Office 2000.

The future of the Office franchise is still very much a subject of speculation, but industry analysts say there is a good chance the next Office version may go by the moniker "Office.Net" and possibly adhere to the .Net platform's

subscription-based services model.

There is no restriction against any non-profit group using this article as long as it is kept in context with proper credit given the author. This article is brought to you by the Editorial Committee of the Association of Personal Computer User Groups (APCUG), an international organization of which this group is a member.

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than in a big bang. Software and/or hardware that is not supported in the new version of Windows can be run from the old one. Also, the new version of Windows is installed cleanly which means it's less likely to experience problems.

The down side is that it requires a reasonable amount of technical skill to set up.

However, if the old version of Windows is from the Windows 9x family and the new version is from the Windows NT family, and there is an available empty partition for the new version of Windows, then the new version of Windows has some crude, but usable features for managing the two versions of Windows. During installation of the new version of Windows, the old version will be detected. Thereafter, the new version of Windows offer a list (menu) of Windows instances on the computer at start-up time. You get to choose which copy of Windows to run every time the computer starts up. I am not a big fan of this approach however.

For one thing, the description of the older version of Windows is sometimes wrong. Also, files get installed in the partition where the older version of Windows resides. If the time ever comes that you want to get rid of the old version of Windows, it is very difficult. Finally, one copy of Windows sees the files that constitute the other copy, an accident just waiting to happen.

A far better approach is keep each copy of Windows totally separate, distinct and unaware of the other copy of Windows. This way, a problem in one copy of Windows cannot affect the other one. Also, each copy of Windows can be re-installed, removed or upgraded with no effect on the other copy. On their own, the NT class versions of Windows cannot keep two copies of Windows totally isolated from each other.

There are also software programs that manage multiple copies of Windows on a single computer. The most popular such program is System Commander from V Communications. It offers a list of operating systems that you can chose from each time you start the computer. The software is easier to deal with than the corresponding features in the NT class versions of Windows.

However, multi-boot software such as System Commander costs money and can be confusing to install. Also, it gets in the way of the normal Windows startup process, so if Windows fails to boot, debugging is all the more difficult. I'm not sure if it can keep each copy of Windows totally separate.

Total isolation of each copy of Windows requires up-front planning to hide the partition with the old version of Windows. At the time the new version of Windows is installed, the computer thus appears to have an empty hard disk. This worked better with the 9x versions of Windows. Windows 2000 and XP will see the hidden partition at install time, but they can be directed to ignore it both at install time and after the fact.

You can have total isolation each OS, a 100% normal boot process (i.e. no multi-boot software) and still run either OS. The trick is a program called program called pqboot included with PartitionMagic which has to be installed in each copy of Windows. The computer will always boot the last used OS. If this is not the OS you want to run, pqboot can be run to shut down the current OS, hide its partition, and boot the other OS. There are DOS and Windows versions of pqboot. The DOS version supports command line switches. In the best case scenario, there can be an icon on the desktop that invokes the DOS version of pqboot to shut down the current version of Windows and start up the other version. This automated OS switching requires only that the user double-click. Data files can be made visible to each OS by placing them in a logical partition within an extended partition. Pqboot makes no changes to logical partitions. Of course, this data partition has to be formatted with a file system (FAT16, FAT32, NTFS) supported by both versions of Windows.

Finally, there is yet another totally different approach. Providing the best of all possible worlds, this approach lets you run both the old and the new version of Windows at the same time. You start up Windows, in the same manner you start any other application, such as Word or Excel.

This is done using virtual machine software. Two companies offer this software for home use, VMware (<http://www.vmware.com>) and Connectix (<http://www.connectix.com>). They vary in the flavors of Windows they support and in cost. VMware costs \$330, Virtual PC from Connectix is \$230. Connectix was acquired by Microsoft in March 2003. These products are installed on the old version of Windows (know as the host OS), just like any other software. When you run them initially, you create a Virtual Machine with a virtual hard disk and virtual RAM. You install a new copy of Windows (known as a guest OS) inside a Virtual Machine. Virtual machines are logically powered on and off, simulating a real computer. Powering a Virtual Machine on/off is somewhat akin to opening and closing a document with a word processing program.

There is no limit to the number of Virtual Machines you can define and use other than the hard disk space on your computer. The speed of your CPU and the amount of RAM in your computer, limit the number of Virtual Machines that be run concurrently. When a Virtual Machine is running, the interface to it is a normal Windows window, which can be minimized and maximized. The virtual machine is just another running application. You can switch between a virtual machine and

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Reviews Editor's Corner

If you are an NOCCC member and write a review for the Orange Bytes, you may keep the item. If you would like to review a specific product (software, hardware, or book) not listed here, please let me know and I will try to obtain it. If you are interested, please contact me:

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PRODUCTS AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW

A number of products have been obtained from vendors for review by qualified NOCCC members. If you are interested in doing a review (which will be published in Orange Bytes), please call or send an e-mail to me and provide your membership number, phone number, and e-mail address.

Remember, **YOU GET TO KEEP THE HARDWARE, SOFTWARE, OR BOOK!** Currently available are the following products:

Boxed Programs and CDs

LapLink Gold 11.5 – The standard for PC-to-PC connectivity with enhance Internet functionality, speedy file transfer, controllable security levels and compatibility with any Windows PC. Includes a USB v1.1 cable & supports USB 2.0.

Go Back 3 - Roxio's disaster-recovery program for all Windows' users.

Second Chance 2.0 – PowerQuest's program to restore your system back to an earlier point in time after a crash for users of Windows 95/98/ME.

Backup for Workgroups 1.0 – A new backup & disaster-recovery program from Lockstep Systems for small & mid-size businesses using a disk-based backup program with Windows for 3 clients. MSRP=\$299/3 Clients.

QuicKeys Pro X2 – The “best, most powerful” macro utility for Mac OSX to automate your daily computing tasks with hot keys, powerful toolbars, & timers. From C.E. Software. MSRP=\$80.

WipeDrive 3.0 – This program from WhiteCanyon Software will permanently erase everything from your hard drive in the event that you are selling/rebuilding/donating a computer. Meets U.S. DOD standards.

SecureClean 4.0 – Used to permanently delete individual files on your computer. Includes SecureClean Scanner that can be used to find previously “deleted” files and to verify that SecureClean removed unwanted files.

Easy Uninstall 2.0 – Aladdin System's easiest & most complete program uninstaller for Windows operating systems.

NotePager Pro 3 – Sends SMS and text messages to mobile phones, pagers, and handhelds. For Windows operating systems. Messages can be sent through a modem or the Internet.

PhoneWorks Pro 2002 – The “ultimate” Windows Personal Assistant software for telephone, voice mail, fax, & email. Integrates with Outlook & Outlook Express. From RingCentral. MSRP=\$120.

DVD PictureShow for Mac – Ulead's new digital image creation software to easily & quickly transform digital photos into entertaining slide shows. MSRP=\$30 to download.

Programs to Download from Vendor's Web Site

RedBox Organizer 5.0 – Award-winning Personal Information Manager for Windows from Incline Global with a comprehensive set of simple-to-use utilities. MSRP=\$40.

Watznew 1.9.5 – Award-winning software that regularly checks your favorite web sites & mailboxes & notifies you of changes.

Sygate's Home Network 4.2 for 6 Users – The top-notch firewall to protect

your home network.

Red Earth Software's Policy Patrol 2.5 - Protect yourself against e-mail security threats with virus scanning, spam blocking, and other tools. MSRP=\$350 for 10 users.

ViraLock – The first software that prevents the spread of e-mail-borne viruses by preventing them from escaping an infected computer. It is complementary to current anti-virus programs.

Kaspersky Labs Anti-Hacker 1.0 – A personal firewall from Russia. Designed to ensure reliable defense of home computers from Internet hackers, wherever they are.

IconLover 1.11 - A great solution for extracting, cataloging, and managing PC computer icons.

PicaLoader 1.1.8 for Windows – A fully automated, multi-threaded, link-following, picture-retrieving robot that will retrieve all the pictures you want from any

CONTINUED ON PAGE 26 

Preparing a Review Article for the Bytes

By Ted Littman, NOCCC Reviews Editor

The following suggestions for preparing a review article for the Orange Bytes were extracted from an ORCOPUG article authored by Alan Jarrett and are intended as a guide only. As a reviewer, your audience wants to know your opinion (as an end user) of the product (hardware, software, book) you are reviewing. Please fully identify the product and its cost so that interested club members may be able to purchase it. After you have tested the product consider these questions:

1. What is the product's stated purpose and does it meet it?

2. Within its category of software (i.e., word processor, spreadsheet, database, etc.), does it stand out?
3. What are its major features?
4. Is it easy to use, even for a novice?
5. Can you quote or reference articles/reviews in the computer magazines? The following list contains more specific questions that apply to either software or hardware:

1. Requirements:

1. Operating systems?
2. Windows?
3. Memory?
4. Disk space?
5. Is a Mouse supported?

2. Installation (do not overemphasize details):

1. Was it difficult?
2. Copy or write protected?
3. Does it allow drive and directory selection?
4. Does it automatically configure system? Can you control it?

3. Information about your system:

1. Hardware?
2. Operating system? Version?
3. Memory?
4. Video display?

4. Documentation:

1. What is supplied? Manuals (paperback, electronic) Tutorial? Templates? Table of Contents? Index?
2. Was it clear, concise, helpful?
3. Is there a troubleshooting section?

5. Product Support:

1. How is the vendor's tech support?
2. Does it cost anything?
3. Is it a toll call?
4. Does the vendor provide Internet support?

6. About the product:

1. What comes with the product?
2. What is the cost? (list & street)
3. Version number? Release date?
4. How difficult is the learning curve?

5. Would you buy/use the product?
6. Do you recommend it?
7. What don't you like about it?
8. What improvements or changes would you like to see?
9. Can the software be downloaded from the vendor's Web site; is there a free trial period before buying?
10. What warranty is there on hardware?

7. What are the Name, Address, Phone number (including 800#), and WEB address (e-mail & URL) of the vendor? After you have answered all these questions you should have enough information to write your review. Please be precise but do not make it so technical that only a few people can understand. Please advise the Orange Bytes Editor if you need graphics, pictures, or illustrations to get your point across?? ■



Guidelines for Submittal

Important! Please limit the length of your submittals. We request you limit general articles and software reviews to a maximum of 1300 words, SIG reports to 700 words, book reviews to 600 words, low cost CD-ROM titles to 600 words, and more sophisticated CD-ROMs to 1000 words. As far as the minimum is concerned, we'd just like to see you do justice to any general article or to any product that's reviewed. An **expensive** software package (\$300-700) deserves at least 1,300 words. An inexpensive program (\$50 or less) might have 500 words. Reviews must be completed within 2 months so that the Reviews Editor (Ted Littman) can, in a timely

manner, send a copy to the vendor. If you change your mind about doing the review, please call him (714)779-1936 ASAP to make arrangements for returning the product for reassignment. We hope you enjoy writing your review.

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 Cathy Margolin (President), Jim Sanders (Publications Chm.), or Ted Littman on the next meeting day. If you e-mail your review, please send a copy to TedLit@Adelphia.net.

To transfer your article from your Windows word processor, click at the beginning of the article with your mouse, shift down arrow to the end of the article, then Edit Cut (^C), open your e-mail program, and Edit Paste (^V). This will convert the file to ASCII. If your article is too long to include in an e-mail, please save as ASCII file with a .TXT extension. Then zip the article and attach it to your e-mail.

All documents should have flush left margins, and double carriage returns (skip a line) between paragraphs. The editors will bold your paragraph headings, etc., in order to obtain consistent formatting throughout the Bytes.

Don't use CAPS for emphasis; that's like shouting at someone! We usually have to delete and retype them, which can be a lot of work. CAPS are reserved for computer commands or file names, like AUTOEXEC.BAT or KNOW.TXT. For titles of books and software, capitalize the first letter of each word. We will add the underlining in PageMaker.

Also please spell check your article, and try to follow the ordinary rules of grammar. Don't use columns, tabs, indents, justification, hyphenation or formatting codes. (If columns or tables are absolutely needed, send us a hard copy to guide us.)

We look forward to seeing your review in print and on the Web site. ■

Main Meeting

By Eric Saca, NOCCC

In October, Mark Haley from Analytical Software, Inc. presented their exciting DVD and CD-ROM products on travel, languages and nature.

BIG MICROSOFT PRESENTATION NEXT MONTH -- President Cathy Margolin opened the meeting and made several announcements. At the next meeting (November 2), we will have a BIG meeting Microsoft will be here presenting their brand new and hottest software *Microsoft office 2003!* **NOCCC will be one of the first computer clubs in the country to see this presentation.**

OLD COMPUTER T-SHIRT CONTEST -- There will also be a fun and funny **Old Computer T-Shirt Contest**. Everyone is encouraged to come dressed in an old T-shirt advertising a type of computer system or software or a system or software company. Categories will include the oldest, grubbiest, holiest and prettiest. Prizes will be given at the December 7th meeting. Bring a friend to both meetings!

HOME MADE CHRISTMAS CARD CONTEST In December, there will be another contest. Computer-generated Christmas cards! They will be given to local senior centers and charity childrens homes. In January, lists of places will be offered to help you **Re-cycle your old monitors**.

NO MORE SUPPORT FOR WINDOWS 98 --After December, Windows 98 will no longer be supported by Microsoft (with operating system updates). Thus, 98 users will not get any more security updates and may be more vulnerable to attacks. (A show of hands demonstrated that most attendees were still running 98.)

Our Orange Bytes Editor, Jim Sanders, requested volunteers to help him remove special formatting (bold, italics,

underlines, etc.) from submitted Bytes articles. They cannot be incorporated into the final revision. The more volunteers, the better. Anyone who can help is asked to e-mail Jim at editor@noccc.org.

George Margolin introduced Mark Haley.

Mark started his presentation with his software My PC Talks. This product allows you to enter text and have your PC speak the text through its sound system. With that capability, it also helps you learn other languages. It is programmed with six languages French, German, Italian, Japanese, Spanish and of course, English.

Statistics show these to be the most common languages in countries that Americans visit. Thus, if you are traveling to another country, you can use My PC Talks to help you learn it s language and you can take it with you on a laptop, as a translator.

To use My PC Talks, you do not have to be a native English speaker. You can specify your native language to be any of the six. Thus, if you have an older relative from another country who never learned English, this program can help him or her.

My PC Talks is great at helping you learn common phrases in other languages. A multitude of common phrases are built-in and categorized for easy reference. You can see how all the phrases are spoken in all six languages. You can practice the phrases yourself in the languages you don t know. You can have My PC Talks repeat each one as many times as you need to learn it. Moreover, you can enter your own phrases, have them translated and have My PC Talks speak them for you. The demonstration proved that My PC Talks is extremely easy to use.

Mark also demonstrated some of his many DVD offerings on travel and nature. Most of them presented breathtakingly beautiful scenery. He demonstrated the

following

American National Parks and Forests (includes Banff, Canada)

Japan Samurai, Geisha & Technology
Birds

Planets & Stars A guide to the Universe. Contains interactive star charts.

The World s Great Cities, Parks & Wildlife

Mark mentioned that another one on the UK is coming soon. He noted that these all make great stocking stuffers. His company also has some darker offerings, as follows:

Grand Theft Auto

Johnny Walker Blues

Girls Gone Wild

Mark suggested that everyone get DVD players for home. By the end of 2003, over 60 percent of Americans will have them and manufacturers are already phasing out VCRs.

On the other hand, he advised against investing much money on DVD recorders. The technology is still being perfected. Presently, there are two recording formats + and -. Players for the + format cannot play DVDs recorded in the - format and vice-versa. They just started releasing recorders that can handle both formats and their prices are dropping rapidly.

He offered NOCCC discounts for his products on hand that day. My PC Talks was selling for \$15.00 each (regular \$35.00). Everything else was \$10 each. Many of our members stood in line to purchase them at these NOCCC bargain prices. To learn more about all his products, check out his company s website at www.mypctalks.com. ■

Membership Drive

Please tell more people about the advantages of membership in NOCCC.

Computer Aided Investing (CAI) SIG



Bob Krishfield, NOCCC

The performance of the DOW this past month caught most of the members off guard – it was up by 69 points since September’s meeting, and the majority voted that it would go down over 100 points. This month’s vote is evenly split between up, down and within 100 points. Most expert opinion on the market is also split on what direction the market will take over the next few weeks. A review of the charts showed that we haven’t broken any trendlines, and we’re at high levels for the year, but not historically. Favorite chart site used is [Stockcharts.com/public galleries/Chip Anderson’s charts](http://Stockcharts.com/public_galleries/Chip_Anderson's_charts).

A survey of the membership found that a third had sold stocks during the last month, while just a few put new money in the market during that time. Technical signals are mixed at this time. Most of the trading systems went to a sell signal by Sept 26th, after the large drop in the Dow. Since then, most markets have risen back to their peaks and a few FT trading system signals have switched back to a buy state (dfsrt – 10/7, rutvolx – 10/7, rut5 – 10/3).

TC2000 was the subject of our main product discussion. Free software was given to two members. Others can get started by calling 1-800-776-4940 or going to TC2000.com to sign up for a getting a mailed free disk. We discussed TC2000 three main functions: charting, screening, and note-taking. TC2000 is an excellent product for charting stocks and market indices, using many technical indicators, trend lines, etc. The user interface is great and makes it a good choice for beginners to learn about technical analysis and practice chart reading. But that doesn’t mean it is limited to novices. Data services

cost \$29.95/month and downloaded daily by dial-up or broadband for updating end-of-day plots. Up to 4 windows can be displayed. Many chart formats are available and easy to apply – or customize. Stocks are organized into lists, and managing lists through various scanning / screening methods is very easy and powerful. The startup package includes a video CD with tutorials of “how to do” important tasks, such as using/building screens and scans, charting and applying technical indicators. The other main feature is making notes about charts you reviewed, and looking at notes made available with the downloads made by the Worden Bros and how they interpreted a few charts. This lets one look over the shoulder of these experts to gain understanding how the indicators are applied to the charts and what might be interpreted from a stock’s chart pattern. A few SIG members are users of TC2000 and others have shown interest to learn more about technical analysis – which TC2000 provides a lot of help.

We discussed a number of investing websites that have proven to be useful. A new guide of investment web sites has been published in the AAI Sept Journal. This guide is 35 pages, covers many investing subjects, and includes the “good and bad” about the sites. This is a very helpful guide to sort out the junk from useful sites on the web, and allows comparison of sites before one signs up to get the full benefits. Note AAI will be hosting its Annual Convention in November at the Riviera Hotel in Las Vegas from Nov 5th – 7th.

Ten FastTrack trading systems have been made available by Don Gimpel, chairman of the West LA AIIA CAI SIG. He presented them to the Cycles group in a talk on Ten Market Timing Systems which cover various markets. They overlap some of the systems we have previously discussed, and are posted on my website for download (home.socal.rr.com/bobkrish).

Next Month we plan to continue to discuss Vector Vest software, various trading systems and their results. ■

Digital Photography

By Jack Donan, NOCCC

The October SIG featured Volker Thorey, Photoshop instructor at Santa Ana College. Besides teaching the introductory and advanced courses in Photoshop he teaches five other related classes. He came with two CD’s he had burned to support his presentation.

The first third of the meeting was devoted to Murphy’s Law. Jim Morrison brought his newly acquired laptop to drive our projector. It wouldn’t read the CD’s.

Volker came prepared, he had Zip drive cartridges for back up. The lap top has no Zip drive

Jack drove off and picked up a USB Zip drive. All three scurried around connected the system, loaded the Zip. The optical mouse (radio link) wouldn’t work except in uncontrollable spurts. Of course the remote mike must be interfering.

We disconnected the audio system and the mouse still wouldn’t work. As a last resort we proceeded by using the computer’s touchpad. Because of the pad’s small size the cursor on the screen took many a wild swing but at last we were started. At this point along came Cathy to provide us with an example of Margolin’s Law: “Always carry an extra mouse with you, wherever you go.” Cathy’s mouse number two saved the day.

Volker gave a demonstration of the most important features of Photoshop. He started with layers, starting with the analogy with motion picture cartoons. A layer is analogous to an image on a transparent piece of acetate material. Layers can number as high as 255 if you have enough memory, can have transparency ranging from 0% to 100%, can be stacked in any order, copied with a click, trashed with a drag, and moved into other pictures by simply dragging. Layers

CONTINUED ON next PAGE 

Digital Photography from page 21 can be used to change the color character of the original picture entirely without touching the original. They can assume qualities involving drop shadows, glowing outlines, chiseled in stone effects, and renamed as needed. They can be grouped together so that changes in one affect all others in the group. Layers alone make Photoshop a premier editing program. Its other capabilities are even more profound in effect.

Selections, channels and their relationship were also covered.

The presentation was so well received that it was requested that we postpone the raffle planned so that we could hear more, carrying us beyond the 4:00 exit time. Volker will consider returning with a program extending from our October meeting. ■

Security SIG

By *Dave Keays, NOCCC*

This month, we looked at an international method for evaluating computer products and procedures for security concerns- Common Criteria. (COMMONCRITERIA.ORG)

Previously there were several evaluating systems around the world. Two of the most common were coordinated by the Department Of Defense and the European Union. Unfortunately, having different systems (each having their own unique strengths and weaknesses) just led to fragmented chaos. So this is an attempt to unify all of them into one world-wide system. It is organized by ISO, the same people who authored the OSI 7 layer networking model.

It is not perfect yet. There are still some wrinkles in the system that are being ironed-out. It is currently in version 2

and version 3 is due to be out soon.

A quick overview of version 2 involves three main steps.

First, a general product or procedure is defined. Next, the claims of a specific product is evaluated by independent laboratories. A rating from 1 to 7 is given the product. One being the worst and seven being the best. Finally, the product is "certified", which means that it meets the security needs of the PP (as defined in step one).

There was a heated discussion in the group about the fact that Windows 2000 got a high rating 4+ (the highest rating possible for an Operating System) and the only Linux evaluated got a rating of 2+.

Additional research revealed that a vendor has to pay the cost of getting evaluated; logic tells me that someone does have to pay somewhere, so I guess this is fair- but it still doesn't sit right with me. I go into more details in the October 2003 notes on my web page. (See RDKSOFTWARE.COM and go to the SECSIG link in the middle of the top of the page.)

The topic next month will be decided by the group. It will either be the details on the Smurf attack (and how to defend against it) or hardening (securing) a router. Since I've been saying it would be the Smurf attack for the last few reports, I'll be ready to do it. But if there is enough interest in hardening a router, I'll do that. It will complement the topic Herb has been giving in the Hardware SIG for the last two months. He has talked about the SMI Barricade router (last month he went into how to configure the router and covered some special networking features it offers). So I'll also be ready to go over the steps necessary when hardening a router, not just the Barricade router, but any router, the Barricade included.

You just got a SOHO router to go with your broad band line.

What do you do in today's hacker heavy world?

Come to SCIENCE 203 at 11:15 and find out! ■

An Interesting Use of E-Mail

By: *Elise M. Edgell, North Orange County Computer Club*

In my search for things that the computer can do for me I found a very intriguing Web site. It helps people to unclutter their homes. I am a packrat by heritage and never learned how to get rid of possessions. After living in the same home for over 20 years I have come to the realization that it is up to me to figure out how to get rid of the excess of things in my house. I have had dreams of having a professional organizer come in and do it for me. Realistically, that is very expensive and I probably would not be happy with the results.

Then I heard about the Flylady web site (www.flylady.com) which has over 190,000 subscribers. On the web site it gives you some information about what they are all about and lets you sign up for multiple e-mails that assist you in decluttering your home and assistance in developing routines for keeping your house clean and uncluttered. It gives a lot of testimonials about how people have been helped by following the simple procedures.

How is this different than reading any one of the many "how to" books that are available? The many e-mails that are sent on a daily basis. They continually remind you what you should be doing, from putting on your lace-up shoes in the morning to going to shine your kitchen sink before going to bed so you will feel good about going into the kitchen in the morning. There are brief messages about what part of the house is going to be addressed that day. There is philosophy about the value in getting

Continued on page 24

Upgrade from page 17

other applications in the usual way (task bar, alt-Tab, etc). VMware offers a full screen mode, running a virtual machine in full screen mode makes it really look like a real computer.

VMware and Virtual PC have limitations on the versions of Windows they can be installed onto and the versions of Windows (and Linux) that can be installed in a Virtual Machine. In addition, the guest OS may have limitations that prevent it from running inside a Virtual Machine. Two examples are BIOS locked copies of Windows and the product activation feature of Windows XP.

One caution with VMware, the thirty days of technical support starts the day you get the software, whether you install it or not.

Note again, these final two approaches require a non-trivial amount of technical expertise.

Most likely, the new version of Windows you will be installing is XP. Many programs originally written for Windows 95, 98 or Me will not run correctly under XP. For the most part, the burden of researching this falls to you. For every program you care about, go to the web site of the vendor to see if it is supported under Windows XP. Be especially sure to check your anti-virus and firewall programs.

As for an upgrade install (XP on top of an older version of Windows), the Home Edition of XP can be installed on top of only Windows 98 and Windows Me. The Professional Edition of XP can be installed on top of Windows 98, Me, NT4 (only SP6) and 2000. If you are running Windows 95 (or 3.1 for that matter) you can not upgrade to XP, instead you will have to opt for one of the other three approaches.

If you are installing XP on top of an older version of Windows, then you can use a program on the Windows XP CD-ROM called the upgrade advisor. It checks for some programs known to be incompatible with Windows XP. You can run it from the XP CD (assuming it

is the D disk) with D:\i386\winnt32 check upgrade only. This program is very limited in its scope however.

These articles offer some advice specific to XP upgrades.

Article HOW TO Troubleshoot Windows XP Problems During Installation When You Upgrade from Windows 98 or Windows Me

http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=kb;en_us;310064

Article Last Call for Windows XP Upgrades. PC World Magazine. May 2002. Tips on how to do an upgrade installation of Windows XP.

<http://www.pcworld.com/resource/article/0,aid,86927,00.asp>

Article Windows XP Professional Upgrade Center

Information from Microsoft on the four steps to upgrading to Windows XP <http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/pro/howtobuy/upgrading/default.asp>

Article Bugs and Dust Balls A 'Clean' Installation.

The New York Times October 24, 2002 By Sarah Milstein

The horrors of upgrading from Windows 98 to XP. The article contains a number of technical mistakes.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2002/10/24/technology/circuits/24basi.html>

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ARE YOU THE WEAKEST LINK?

Below are 4 questions. Answer them instantly. You can't take your time. Answer them immediately. No pencil or paper! OK? Let's find out just how smart and clever you really are. Ready? ...GO!!!

FIRST QUESTION You are participating in a race. You overtake the second person. What position are you in?

ANSWER If you answer that you are first, then you are absolutely wrong! If you overtake the second person and you take his place, you are second! Try not to screw up in the next question.

To answer the second question, don't take as much time as you took for the first question. (You know you took too much time.)

SECOND QUESTION If you overtake the last person, then you are...?

ANSWER If you answered that you are second to last, then you are wrong again. Tell me, how can you overtake the LAST person?!

THIRD QUESTION Very tricky math! Note This must be done in your head only. Do NOT use paper and pencil or a calculator. Try it.

Take 1000 and add 40 to it.

Now add another 1000.

Now add 30.

Add another 1000.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24

SIG List

Those who have listed an e-mail address would prefer to be contacted by e-mail rather than by phone whenever possible

SIG	Bldg	Room	Time	Leader	E-mail	Phone	
Autocad	Wilkinson	111	9:00	Joe Mizer	jmizer@earthlink.net	909-688-9848	
Computer Aided Investing	Wilkinson	211	9:30	Bob Krishfield	bobkrish@socal.rr.com	714-532-3096	
Computer Security	Science	203	11:15	Dave Keays	rdksoft@sbcglobal.net	714-821-4792	
Digital Photography	Irvine Hall		2:30	Jack Donan	jfdonan@sbcglobal.net	714-633-4084	
Genealogy	Science	111	2:30	John Johnson	jrosjohnson@juno.com	714-991-3314	
Hardware Essentials	Science	306	9:30	Herbert Wong	ocug@singularitytechnology.com	714-968-7264	
Hardware Essentials	Science	109	2:30	Herbert Wong	ocug@singularitytechnology.com	714-968-7264	
Linux for Desktop Users	Wilkinson	210	9:00	Bob C. Ray	bobcray@pacbell.net	714-634-7520	
Linux for Server Administrators	Wilkinson	210	10:00	Bob C. Ray	bobcray@pacbell.net	714-634-7520	
Linux Programming Concepts	Wilkinson	210	11:15	Bob C. Ray	bobcray@pacbell.net	714-634-7520	
Macintosh	Wilkinson	221	11:15	John Willner	Willner@earthlink.net	714-838-1434	
New Technology	Irvine Hall	—	9:30	George Margolin	Inventor@pobox.com	949-645-5950	
Office Suites	Science	111	11:15	John Heenan	jc_heen@csi.com	714-998-7660	
PC Q&A	Irvine Hall	—	11:15	Jim Sanders	jsanders@ligasmicro.com	714-636-5523	
Understanding OS's	Wilkinson	111	11:15	Charlie Moore	mooreca@adelphia.net	714-529-9071	
Visual Programming I	Science	109	8:30	Anson Chapman	aecrcss@hotmail.com	909-860-9515	
Visual Programming II	Science	109	9:00	Anson Chapman	aecrcss@hotmail.com	909-860-9515	
Visual Programming III	Science	109	10:00	Anson Chapman	aecrcss@hotmail.com	909-860-9515	
Visual Programming IV	Science	109	11:15	Anson Chapman	aecrcss@hotmail.com	909-860-9515	
	Please report SIG changes to					Herbert Wong, Jr. OCUG@SingularityTechnology.com	714-968-7264

Link from page 23

Now add 20.

Now add another 1000.

Now add 10.

What is the total?

ANSWER Did you get 5000? The correct answer is actually 4100. Don't believe it? Check with your calculator! Today is definitely not your day.

Maybe you will get the last question right?

LAST QUESTION Mary's father has five daughters Nana, Nene, Nini, Nono. What is the name of the fifth daughter?

ANSWER Nunu? Nana? Nene? NONO! Of course not. The fifth daughter's name is Mary. Read the question again.

You ARE the WEAKEST LINK!! Pass this along to someone else who could stand a little fun and a challenge today. ■

E-mail from page 23

rid of the clutter and lots of suggestions about how to do it.

I have found that the constant reminders about what to do, how to do it, and the value of doing it really helps me to get into decluttering my house and get into routines to clean it. If I didn't have the constant e-mail reminders I would get sidetracked very easily. It is a really great way to develop new habits.

I keep thinking that the same method of sending e-mails could be used in many different situations to assist people to develop new habits. It could even be used to remind people to back up their computers, update their virus protection, and checking for security patches for other programs.

I am very impressed with the implementation of an effective use of e-mail by the Flylady.

Please contact the author at EliseME@aol.com ■

NOCCC Help Line

The Help Line is in the true spirit of NOCCC, which is to help others to learn more about computers. The following is a list of Help Line Volunteers. The list is organized by the topic that each volunteer is willing to help you with. Please help us to keep this list current. Call or e-mail editor@noccc.org with additions, deletions, or corrections.



AI
Amiga
Apple
Apple II
Apple/Educator
C/C++
Computer Boards
Corel Draw
Excel(IBM)
Excel(Mac)
MacIntosh
MacIntosh
Memory/Interrupts
Modem Hardware
Modem Software
Neural Networks
OS/2
Pagemaker 6.0/6.5
PC, Beginners
PC Hardware
Quicken 6.0
Quickbooks 5.0
Quicken 2000,2001
Quickbooks
Quicken Home &
Business 2000, 2001
Powerpoint
Realtime Control
Robotics
Tcl/Tk
Unix
Windows 9X
Windows 9X
Windows 2000
Word
Word
WordPerfect

The member of the Helpline are published in the printed version of the Bytes which is mailed to members.

FREE AD SPACE

If you are an NOCCC member, and have a computer-related, non-commercial ad that you would like to have placed on the Internet, visit the *Classified Ads* section of our website at: www.noccc.org or contact Jim Sanders at jsanders@ligasmicro.com

Club members are also welcome to post "Wanted" or "For Sale" notices on the kiosk, but please do not tape them on doors, windows, or walls.

New volunteers for the Help Line would be appreciated!
Macromedia volunteers needed.



Products from page 18

part of the Internet. MSRP=\$39.

Vicman's Photo Editor Pro 7.0 – A powerful, easy-to-use photo editor from Russia with an intuitive, skin-based interface & lots of powerful features. MSRP=\$30.

Books

Interprocess Communications in Linux – The definitive guide to Linux processes and IPF for programmers and system administrators by John S. Gray from Prentice Hall. MSRP=\$50.

Managing Linux Systems with Webmin – System Administration & Module Development by Jamie Cameron from Prentice Hall. MSRP=\$45.

PC Hardware in a Nutshell, 3rd Ed. – O'Reilly's comprehensive guide to buying, building, upgrading, and repairing PCs. A desktop quick reference. MSRP=\$40.

Modern Cryptography Theory & Practice – From Prentice Hall & authored by Wenbo Mao, an indispensable book for tech pros who implement strong security in real-world apps. Hardcover. MSRP=\$55.

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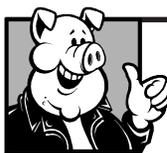
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Meet us in the Cafeteria in Argyros Hall around 11:30 am (until about 1pm). If you're hungry, there is a buffet lunch and snack bars open.

There are several sets of tables where NOCCC people gather, eat and chat. Just look for the badges, grab a chair, and join in! This is an informal group, so many different subjects are discussed. It's a great opportunity to mix, mingle and network. See ya there!

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**Orange Bytes is published monthly by:
North Orange County Computer Club
P.O. Box 3616, Orange, CA 92857
(714) 998-8080**

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Production—Camera-ready copy of this issue of *Orange Bytes* was produced with Adobe PageMaker 7.0

Type set with True Type: Times New Roman, Bauhaus 93, Arial and Humanist 521BT fonts

Printed by

Windsor Enterprises

PO Box 731

Garden Grove, CA 92842

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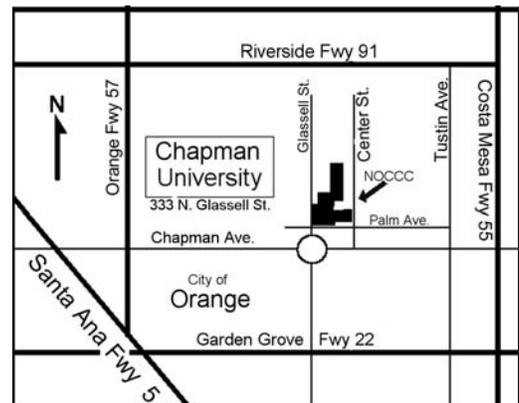
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Parking Information — Chapman University's main parking lot is on the north side of the campus (enter from Walnut) and is free of charge for NOCCC's meetings on Sunday. Please feel free to park in the parking lots.

Parking is also free on the **campus-side** of the surface streets. The city of Orange's parking laws prohibit parking in front of residential housing which is across the street from Chapman University. **Expensive parking tickets will be issued to violators.**

The NOCCC Information Desk, Membership Desk, Reviews Desk, Consignment Table, and most of the meeting rooms are in Irvine/Hashinger Hall and the Science Center on the east side of the campus (near Center Street).

Become an NOCCC member by signing up at the Membership Desk on our general meeting day, usually the first Sunday of the month. Or simply fill out the form on the reverse side of this page and send it in!



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