HAPPY NEW YEAR

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Another great holiday club party. Don Slepian provided the requisite live entertainment, there was lots of sweets, and members brought in donations for food banks.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 18th. The topic is "Pocket and Notebook GPS" by Peter Czerwinski with Jim Russ.

If you want an idea why you need to know about this area of technology try http://www.pocketgps.co.uk/faq.asp. The site is a bit slow, but you can get an overview of the technology available to GPS owners with this one page.

The club needs press! We need a member to take on the job of public relations officer. There is a job description elsewhere in this newsletter. Currently the club is getting no press! Making the club known to others is how we keep from shrinking into oblivion. This is a simple job and takes less than one hour per meeting to do. The reward is great as your efforts will result in visitors which is refreshing to us all and you will represent a great computer club to the press community. So I am expecting someone to take on the job! Preferably someone who is not doing a current job in the club. I want to hear from you!

As the club enters a new year, we are stable. Interest remains positive in the club's activities and through word of mouth folks are finding us in drips. Mainly members bringing guests is the main source of new visitors - good work.

The club has active SIGs (special interest groups), supports through members community education and maintains a goal to volunteer expertise where possible.

This year I want to make the focus on club presence in the community. The club has a lot to offer but is quickly becoming invisible outside the membership. One, having an active public relations officer is helpful, and two, every member looking for ways to expose the club's presence.

Lets make 2003 another great year!

GPS = GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM

(gpsstore.com)

GPS is a constellation of satellites that orbit the earth twice a day, transmitting precise time and position (latitude, longitude and altitude) information. With a GPS receiver, users can determine their location anywhere on the Earth. Position and navigation information is vital to a broad range of professional and personal activities, including hiking, hunting, camping, boating, surveying, aviation, national defense, vehicle tracking, navigation and more.

The complete system consists of 24 satellites orbiting about 12,000 miles above the Earth, and five ground stations to monitor and manage the satellite constellation. These satellites provide 24-hour-a-day coverage for both two-and three-dimensional positioning anywhere on Earth.

Development of the $10 billion GPS satellite navigation system was begun in the 1970s by the US Department of Defense, which continues to manage the system, to provide continuous, worldwide positioning and navigation data to US military forces around the globe. However, GPS has an even broader civilian, commercial application. To meet these needs, GPS offers two levels of service, one for civilian access and the second encrypted for exclusive military use. The GPS signals are available to an unlimited number of users simultaneously, and there is no charge for using the GPS Satellites either.

The basis of GPS technology is precise time and position information. Using atomic clocks and location data, each satellite continuously broadcast the time and its position. A GPS receiver receives these signals, listening to three or more satellites at once, to determine the users position on earth. By measuring the time interval between the transmission and the reception of a satellite signal, the GPS receiver calculates the user and each satellite. Using the distance measurements of at least three satellites in an algorithm computation, the GPS receiver arrives at an accurate position fix. Information must be received from three satellites in order to obtain two-dimensional fixes (latitude and longitude), and four satellites are required for three-dimensional positioning (latitude, longitude and altitude).

Under normal conditions, the GPS signal will provide a civilian user an accuracy of better than 15 meters (50 feet). However, using a technique called differential GPS (DGPS), the user can increase the overall accuracy of the GPS receiver to approximately 1-3 meters.

GPS receivers provide positioning, velocity and navigation information for a variety of markets and purposes. This information can be used in charting and mapping, plotting a course, navigating from point to point, tracking vehicle movement, locating previously identified sites, or any number of similar functions.

SAMPLE POSTINGS FROM THE DISCUSSION BOARD

(by Lon Hosford)

Lon Hosford: I am debugging a problem with Windows 98 SE machines that have the system lock including Ctrl+Alt+Del is inoperable if left idle and the monitor is off.

If found eliminating stuff in System Configuration (msconfig), after careful analysis and research, helped solve problems in Windows 98.

In these machines I have two identical entries. LoadPowerProfile Rundll32.exe powrprof.dll,LoadCurrentPwrScheme

I suspect these have to do with the powersaver crapola which I like to have completely disabled.

Can I remove or uncheck these without penalty?

Any other suggestions as to why Windows 98 SE locks the mouse after idle with mouse off. Problem started once I switched from static TCP/IP to DHCP to use the cable modem.

Admin: Disable the indicated lines and you should be ok. You are correct, these are powersaver profiles, and can generally be eliminated.

Win98SE/WinME all seem to feel a switch from static IP allocation to DHCP is a good reason to re-enable power management... I suspect there have been very few Win98/ME machines inside Microsoft for years now, or they'd have rethought this "feature."

Jac Carrol: I've been adding X10 devices to my house that can be controlled from my PC. What I'd really like is a X10 device that can turn-on and turn-off the cable TV (the coax cable) where it comes into the house. I want to kill it at the source so the kids can't readily bypass it. I could swear I saw such a thing in some catalog but have since lost it.

Admin: Check http://www.smarthome.com/ and look at home theater and/or video distribution systems. You may have to homebrew a solution using a basic driver module and a relay...

Extension .XML? Viewing criteria?

Ilene Shope: How long should it take for an URL with an .XML extension to open on screen? (I know that .PDF files take a long time to open up). Or, could the term .XML be explained here. Maybe .XML will not open in my computer? Thanks.

Lon Hosford: Answer, instantaneously if using IE web browser and the file is indeed XML.

File extension "indicate" a type of file but do not guarantee what is in the file. XML "eXtensible Markup Language" defines data using a tagging convention like HTML. However, it does not have formatting information like HTML although there is the ability to tie in style sheets in the latest specifications.

The xml file should be viewable in a text editor like notepad and will contain tags similar to HTML. In particular it should contain the first tag of IE web browsers can display files containing XML in a tree navigation mode.

Look at http://www.w3schools.com/xml/default.asp for more learning.
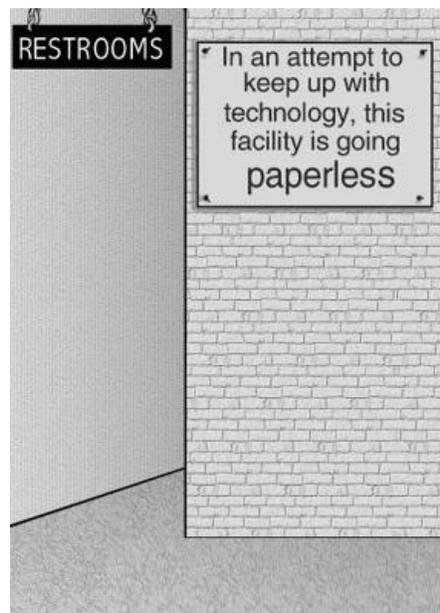
JOB OPENING
PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER

The Hunterdon Computer Club is looking for a public relations officer. The minimum requirements of the job are press announcements for all meetings which includes the regular meetings and SIG meetings.

The work involves changing a template Word document with the meeting information and either emailing or faxing to the news organizations in the area.

The press templates and the news organization contacts are already set up. We just need someone to use them.

Estimated work load is about 1 hour per meeting or about 12 to 16 hours per year!

Additionally expanding the job is optional but open ended. This is a very important job that is being neglected for the club.

We need to attract new members and regular press is one way it happens.

So consider joining a very successful club management team and let Lon Hosford hcc@hosfordusa.com or any club officer know and we can help you get started.

MESSAGE FROM THE DARKROOM
An Appreciation of Peter Czerwinski
(by Ilene Shope)

Peter, he speaks well who speaks fair, for whom the walls knock three times dark, when e'er he stalks the midnight hour, chasing hidden clouds with wizard wand; present sharp unsharpened layered colors, dipped in blues, in red and greens. Then in patient moving dashes, 'lassos' the air that breaths white color; and quick as eye can wink at him, he pulls the veil and he, 'magician', shows the lake water's pattern… lift… reverse… reflected … spectacular! … The sky cloaks now in lake-like water… he waves the wizard wand… reveals in SIG … Adobe Photoshop images…

THE MAD SHOPPER RETURNS
(by Evelyn Stewart)

In October, the Greenwich Center opened on the north side of Rt 22, going west, approaching Phillpsburg, before the orange roof of an ex- Howard Johnson's, before Home Depot and ShopRite on the same side and Walmart Center on the south side. This is just after I-78 comes in from Pennsylvania and joins 22. There is a Michaels craft store, with some fancy paper, a Circuit City, a Staples, a Target and Linens and Things not open yet. I discovered this only recently. Circuit City staff people were friendly and helpful. Besides, they had the Case Logic plastic CD sleeves I wanted, not the Fellowes brand nor the Staples brand. Ink prices were about the same as Staples, and both stores had ink on peg boards instead of behind glass.

Greenwich is pronounced Grenitch or Green Witch depending on your childhood. In Bloomsbury it is Green Witch. In either case, there is a traffic light for safe entry and exit. From 519 one turns right at the light in Alpha then proceeds directly across Rt. 22 into the new center.

I learned by asking, that Michaels ads (and discount coupons) appear in the Easton Express-Times, which explains how they could put up this Center in secret, but I am onto them now and when a telemarketer called to offer me the Express, I startled her by accepting, at least the Sunday edition.

COMPUTER VS. CAR
(submitted by Carl Heitzman)

For all of us who feel only the deepest love and affection for the way computers have enhanced our lives, read on.

At a recent computer expo (COMDEX), Bill Gates reportedly compared the computer industry with the auto industry and stated, "If GM had kept up with the technology like the computer industry has, we would all be driving $25.00 cars that got 1,000 miles to the gallon."

In response to Bill's comments, General Motors issued a press release stating: If GM had developed technology like Microsoft, we would all be driving cars with the following characteristics:

1. For no reason whatsoever, your car would crash twice a day.
2. Every time they repainted the lines in the road, you would have to buy a new car.
3. Occasionally your car would die on the freeway for no reason. You would have to pull over to the side of the road, close all of the windows, shut off the car, restart it, and reopen the windows before you could continue. For some reason you would simply accept this.
4. Occasionally, executing a maneuver such as a left turn would cause your car to shut down and refuse to restart, in which case you would have to reinstall the engine.
5. Macintosh would make a car that was powered by the sun, was reli-

able, five times as fast and twice as easy to drive-but would run on only five percent of the roads.
6. The oil, water temperature, and alternator warning lights would all be replaced by a single "This Car Has Performed An Illegal Operation" warning light.
7. The airbag system would ask "Are you sure?" before deploying.
8. Occasionally, for no reason whatsoever, your car would lock you out and refuse to let you in until you simultaneously lifted the door handle, turned the key and grabbed hold of the radio antenna.
9. Every time a new car was introduced car buyers would have to learn how to drive all over again, because none of the controls would operate in the same manner as the old car.
10. You'd have to press the "Start" button to turn the engine off.

Do you interests lie underwater? Here are some great sites.

http://www.shipwreckmuseum.com
http://www.marinebio.com
http://www.scubaduba.com
http://www.oceanexplorer.noaa.gov
http://www.tetra-fish.com
http://www.virtualfishtank.com
http://waquarium.otted.hawaii.edu

TECH EXPOS
NYC & Washington DC
(by Ilene Shope)

(JANUARY)
LINUXWORLD-Conference & Expo 2003 (www.linuxworldexpo.com/) CONFERENCE-JAN 21-24...EXPO-JAN 22-24 ...
at the Jacob Javits Convention Center, 655 West 34th Street,New York, NY 10001 (Tel: 212 216 2000)

(JANUARY)
COMNET CONFERENCE & EXPO 2003 (www.comnetexpo.com/) Conference-JAN 27-29...Expo-JAN 28-30... at the Washington Convention Center, Washington DC ... (Attractions: security, web servers, storage, wireless infrastructures)

www.cartoon.ru

"Damn Cat" submitted by Carl Heitzman

A PERSONAL VIEW OF THE DECEMBER MEETING
(by Ilene Shope)

DON SLEPIAN was on his Kurzweil Professional Keyboard playing for HCC Members again. HCC was happy to see him at this December Meeting. He gave us the excerpt from Handel's Messiah— The Hallelujah Chorus. Then he played holiday tunes at the request of members. Jim Russ asked for a tune with the Samba beat. Go Jim!

Don Slepian is a pianist and keyboard musician. He dabbles with sound tape restoration, baking polymer tapes (those music sounds of 'old' -- the mylar/ polyester tapes), re-mastering and producing CDs and DVDs. He is known to be a computer programmer and we hope he may show us the art of transferring old tapes to new media soon, in a program at our club. I believe the baking is done in a dehydrator, which swells the tape at about 135 degrees Fahrenheit. I will wait for Don to explain later. (I don't think acetate tape is baked. This is the reddish brown tape that was used until the Sixties. These do not stretch and can be brittle).

The Hunterdon Medical Center gives us the courtesy of direct kitchen help and two large pots of hot coffee. The Middletons (Mike and Barbara) set out bright red trays to hold the puffed up assortment of bagels. Barb brought in a bowl of diced fruit and trays of devilled eggs.

Melinda offered her photo album "Alaskan Tapestry" for viewing to the membership. She had taken these photographs in September and is seen in the album wearing a warm heavy Eskimo patterned wool sweater, which her mother identified as belonging to Melinda's grandfather.

Fruit, cookies... more cookies, more fruit. Thanks go to the Belgards (Dennis and Barbara) and to the Middletons (Barbara and Mike) for this horn of plenty display. Barb positioned them pleasingly, on the green and red Holiday tablecloth. Evelyn's cookies were a modern twist in color, 'dark brown on brown'.

A good supply of canned goods was contributed by members for the local Food Bank. Marlyn offered to take these in her car and distribute. Lon was seen helping her load the many bags into her vehicle. This food is a contributing effort of the Club at this time of year-Happy Holidays and for 2003.

THE BIG TWO O FOR THE INTERNET
(by Lon Hosford)

The Internet hit the big two O January 1, 2003. It was in 1983 that about 400 computers, connected to a computer network called ARPANET, switched to the TCP/IP networking protocol which we endearingly call the Internet.

ARPANET at the time represented the major network in the United States connecting research, education and government experts.

The TCP protocol was proposed by network engineers Vinton Cerf and Bob Kahn in 1974. TCP stands for Transport Communications Protocol.

TCP is the quality inspector of data sent over networks. During transmission, data may change or become lost. TCP detects these occurrences and retransmits the data until the complete and correct receipt is verified.

ARPANET started in 1969 using a protocol called NCP or Network Communications Protocol. In the 70's networks such as BITnet and UseNet switched to NCP to stay in the mainstream of intellectual communications.

In 1978 the IP or Internet Protocol was added. This handles message routing instructions. You may be familiar with the IP number that identifies computers on the network. The IP numbering system is defined in the IP protocol along with how to handle the routing of the message data packets using the IP number.

TCP was faster than NCP and at the time network communication speeds were measured as 120 bit and 300 bit per second as compared with today's top modem speeds of 56,000 bits per second.

The deadline for ARPANET to switch to TCP/IP was midnight December 31 1982. Many computer installations on ARPANET had already made the switch before but a few pushed the deadline.

In 1983 you could find network administrators wearing buttons inscribed with "I survived the TCP/IP transition".

For a short course on TCP/IP try http://www.yale.edu/pclt/COMM/TCPIP.HTM

For a book on the internet's history try: http://www.historyoftheinternet.com/. There are a few free chapters excerpts that you can read online.

CABLES
(Smart Computing, 01/03)

The computer world hasn't gone totally wireless. Chances are that your desktop PC is one of the millions that still has cables leading to the monitor, mouse, and keyboard.

Take care of your cables so they continue to work properly. Don't pinch your mouse cable under your monitor or route your cables where you could step on them, or they may develop broken or dangerously exposed wired. If a cable's connector has thumbscrews, be sure to screw them in. This could keep a heavy cable from falling out of its port or bending pins.

GO GOOGLE YOURSELF
(by Lon Hosford)

Its the craze. Goto to www.google.com, type in your name and hit the "I'm Feeling Lucky" button. The Google spider goes out into the Internet monthly accumulating web addresses for it's Internet search database used by Yahoo and America OnLine (AOL).

In the process Google ranks the address pages based on the number of links to that page in addition to the other typical factors such as the title and page text.

The idea of using the links to a page was envisioned by Google's founders Larry Page and Sergey Brin both Stanford University graduates.

When you search in Google, the top listed entries are not weighted by advertising dollars, misuse of keywords in hidden page text and other sorts of manipulation you find on other sites including those that use the Google data search engine.

On top of that, the search engine is fast fast fast. The site is not burdened with a complex home page. As soon as you get to the site you are faced with the simplest of web pages for the Internet.

You can either search for a listing of results or if you are feeling lucky see if the Google search engine will take you to the site that has the most links for the subject you are searching.

If you choose to search, you find that Google limits two advertisers with non-graphic listings to the top of the search results page and a few unobtrusively to the right side of the page.

Google also sports a super image search. You do not have to go to free image sites with a multitude of pop up windows and overburden by a multitude of ad images.

This Xmas I found myself at 1 am without gift labels. I went to the image search and looked for Xmas images of a small size and downloaded a few to insert into Microsoft Word, stuck some colored paper in the printer and had instant gift la-

bels. The effort took about 30 minutes.

Recently Google added a news section which is still in Beta testing as of this writing. The news page is fast and free of advertising. To top this the Google organization is profitable mainly from the licensing from Yahoo and AOL.

So I no longer Yahoo but instead Google.

For an in-depth article see Newsweek, "The World According To Google", December 16, 2002, page 47 or online at popup land MSNBC http://www.msnbc.com/news/844175.asp?0sl=-41

NO OFFENSE INTENDED SUBJECT: OLD FOGIES

30 Years difference

1972: Long hair
2002: Longing for hair

1972: KEG
2002: EKG

1972: Acid rock
2002: Acid reflux

1972: Moving to California because it's cool
2002: Moving to California because it's warm

1972: Seeds and stems
2002: Roughage

1972: Hoping for a BMW
2002: Hoping for a BM

1972: The Grateful Dead
2002: Dr. Kevorkian

1972: Going to a new, hip joint
2002: Receiving a new hip joint

1972: Rolling Stones
2002: Kidney Stones

1972: Being called into the principal's office
2002: Calling the principal's office

1972: Screw the system
2002: Upgrade the system

1972: Disco
2002: Costco

1972: Parents begging you to get your

hair cut
2002: Children begging you to get their heads shaved

1972: Passing the drivers' test
2002: Passing the vision test

1972: Whatever
2002: Depends

Just in case you weren't feeling too old today, this will certainly change things. Each year the staff at Beloit College in Wisconsin puts together a list to try to give the faculty a sense of the mindset of this year's incoming freshmen. Here's this year's list:

The people who are starting college this fall across the nation were born in 1983. They are too young to remember the space shuttle blowing up.

Their lifetime has always included AIDS.

Bottle caps have always been screw off and plastic.

The CD was introduced the year they were born.

They have always had an answering machine.

They have always had cable.

They cannot fathom not having a remote control.

Jay Leno has always been on the Tonight Show.

Popcorn has always been cooked in the microwave.

They never took a swim and thought about Jaws.

They can't imagine what hard contact lenses are.

They don't know who Mork was or where he was from.

They never heard: "Where's the Beef?", "I'd walk a mile for a Camel", or "de plane Boss, de plane".

They do not care who shot J. R. and have no idea who J. R. even is.

McDonald's never came in Styrofoam containers.

They don't have a clue how to use a typewriter.

"TECHNO-word...The Guillemet and its Adaptation"
(by Ilene Shope)

Angle brackets! These are two keys on the computer keyboard ...Left! ... Right! ... The symbols (<) and (>) are the Left and the Right GUILLEMET. These are punctuation QUOTE symbols in printed books. In the English Language there are two variations, the single guillemet <...> and the double guillemet <<...>>.

Guillaume, William is attributed with the word GUILLEMET (diminutive of Guillaume). The usage varies in other Languages (French, Russian, German, Finn and Swede), showing deviations in the arrowed-positions of the quotation marks to open and close the written text. OPEN is the left guillemet and CLOSE is the right guillemet.

<< guillemet >> (French and Russian utilize a space between the text and the symbol)

>>guillemet<< (German- no space used)

>>guillemet>> (Finn and Swede- no space used)

The guillemet is easily recognized in computer electronic mail (E-mail). 'TECHNO-WORD', in the MS WINDOWS environment, the Right guillemet (>) symbolizes a re-direction of e-mail (FWD ...e.g. (>), (>>), (>>>), etc. (Note: Typing the guillemet (<) and (>) in the UNIX environment produces a 'space' instead).

Related Web Site:
http://marvin.sn.schule.de/~typoecke/satzz/an_ab.htm. Pictorial of quote marks as used in various Languages (note-this web site is in German)

Related Web Site:
Microsoft WINDOWS Character Set http://www.microsoft.com/typography/developers/fdsspec/punc.htm Microsoft- LATIN 1- Punctuation Design Standards/Quotes/Pointing quotation marks - Guillemets

Related Web Site:

http://www.cs.tut.fi/~jkorpela/latin1/3.html#AB (updated 12/27/2002) A TUTORIAL on Character Code Issues (includes- Guillemets)   (Note: this website is very technically detailed out, in 'techno writing'- 29 pages)

NETWORK
(Smart Computing 01/03

A network consists of two or more computers connected using networking hardware and software for the purpose of sharing data and peripherals. Networks vary from one another depending on their topology (arrangement of computers and networking hardware), support system (Ethernet, wireless, phone line, and other technologies can be used to support a network), and size. A LAN (Local-area network), for example, is a network for a relatively small number of computers, usually within the same building, and a WAN (wide-area network) is one that extends beyond a single building and connects any number of computers via fiber-optic cables, wireless technologies, or other means.

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Computer Volunteers
ALL MEMBERS

H.C.C.   HUNTERDON COMPUTER CLUB

Attn: Donald Colombo –Membership HCC, 18 Lambert Lane, Lambertville, NJ. 08530 – (609) 397-1265 dc1944@hotmail.com

MEMBERSHIP FORM ❏ **RENEW** ❏ **NEW** ❏ **LAPS**
ANNUAL DUES **$25 Single** **$30 Family** **$190 Life**

PLEASE PRINT THE FOLLOWNG INFORMATION:

First Name _____ **Last Name** _____

Address _____

City_____State_____ Zip Code_____

Home Phone (_____) _____   E-mail _____@_____

Fax (_____) _____

Information that will help us help you:

1. **WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO HELP THE CLUB ? (circle one or more)**
   Club officer   Technical advisor   Setting up for the meeting   Taking club minutes   Newsletter   Programs
   Other_____

2. **DO YOU HAVE AN AREA OF COMPUTER EXPERTISE?____   IF SO, WHAT IS IT?**
   _____

3. **PLEASE LIST ANY COMMENT AND/OR LIST WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IN OUR COMPUTER CLUB**
   _____

SPAM COUNT UPDATE

(by Lon Hosford)

Here is the 2002 report.

I received 24,702 spam messages for 2002. The entire last year the count was 4,500. Basically over 67 per day versus the over 12 per day last year. Basically 550% increase in one year.

This is the last spam count report I will provide as I will no longer track them and in fact the email account will hope-fully be phased out over 2003.

Submissions for articles, cartoons, pictures, or other information pertinent to the club are due to the editor by the 3rd of each month. If you plan to email your submission, please be sure to include HCC in your subject line.   Send to:

mreuter@ptdprolog.net
or
marlynreuter@hotmail.com

or use snailmail to return address on next page.
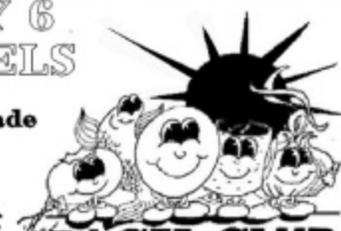
Guests Welcome — all ages all levels

Program: Pocket & Notebook GPS
by Peter Czerwinski with Jim Russ

8:30 A.M. To Noon

Rt. 31 Flemington NJ
Hunterdon Medical Center
Next Meeting Saturday, January 18, 2003

Hunterdon Computer Club

HUNTERDON COMPUTER CLUB

Marlyn Reuter
267 Federal Twist Road
Stockton, New Jersey 08559

Happy
New Year

FIRST CLASS MAIL
Address Correction Requested