DOS HUG NEWSLETTER

Volume 8 Issue 12 DECEMBER 1995

JOURNAL OF THE HUNTERDON PC USERS GROUP

DECEMBER MEETING

DOS HUG meets again on Saturday, December 16, 1995 at Hunterdon Medical Center, 8:30 for coffee, 9:30 for meeting, 10 for program. Anyone who is so disposed is asked to bring good stuff to eat. The program consists of eating and listening to Don Slepian's music. This can't be described. I was totally against "electronic music" when Don first played for us. He heard me complaining about it as we were setting up for the meeting and he just smiled. When he started playing I really found it hard to believe. If you hate music but are interested in computer hardware, check out the array of computers Don has combined. If you think of trying Don's act at home, remember that he was an accomplished pianist and organist before he built this nameless wonder.

If you've heard him before, think of some requests before he asks.

Ed Ulrich plans to run a series of VCR's on Visual Basic programming, starting after this meeting, or in January. Five people have already expressed interest in this. Call Ed at 782-6391 for details. (Don't use the number in your new booklet.)

THE NOVEMBER MEETING

The regular meeting of DOS HUG was held on Saturday, November 17, 1995, at the Hunterdon Medical Center, Flemington, NJ. This was a joint meeting, to insure a large enough audience to have a commercial presentation. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM by President Maureen Barron. About 75 people attended, including 30 from the Ewing Seniors PC Users Group. Their President, Mel Kemp, spoke briefly, explaining that the Learning Center where they have their computer classes is sponsored by Senior Net and by the AT&T Pioneers.

Local guests welcomed included John Vicari, a new user and friend of Joe Burger, Glenn Mamary, Branchburg Township, friend of Jac Carroll; and Tom Grandell of Whitehouse Station. The Ewing contingent was welcomed en masse, and urged to return.

Treasurer Jac Carroll reported a balance of $1167.30

The Secretary read letters from the Youth Corps teacher Carol Gbur and from a member of the Senior Computer classes, thanking us for. various forms of help. The Secretary also noted that the membership booklet is for members only. Entries have been updated and condensed. Corrections should be written in the master copy. Editing is ongoing.

In unfinished business, it was decided that the software received from ARC would be passed on to deserving recipients. Any donations to ARC would be entirely voluntary. and would come from individuals. not from the club. The motion was made by Judi Weinstein, duly seconded, and passed by unanimous vote. The software consists of several sets each of unopened but very outdated DOS versions of Lotus 123 and Harvard Graphics, and manuals only for WordPerfect, left over from someone's site license. Call Pat Frusco at 534-4481. for details. 2 sets of each are to go to the Office on Aging for the Senior computer classroom.

In further unfinished business, election of the slate for officers was effected by a request from the President that the secretary cast a ballot, since there were no contests.

Jim Russ announced that he has 4 XT computers and 2 286's available for worthy organizations. Call him at 908-685-1079.

Nick Wowchuk commented that he started with 22 computer students at the county jail and they have been dropping out as the material got harder.
(Ed.: In the Senior classes, we have had only one dropout due to difficulty, but health problems and trips to Florida regularly reduce class size)

THE PROGRAM

Steve McClatchy, representing Broderbund,. gave an entertaining presentation, showing excerpts of Print Shop Ensemble (CD-ROM), First Degree

Architect, Our Times, and **Dr. Seuss**, the 10th in the Living Books series.

Steve said that Broderbund sends him the package as you see it in the store, and he learns it by trying it out like any other consumer. He gives presentations to groups of salespeople in stores, to users groups, and to consumer groups in stores. He explained that Broderbund means Brotherhood. Two brothers and a sister started writing a few game programs to help pay for law school. The first **Print Shop** program came out in 1984, **Where in the World is Carmen Sandiego?** in 1985.

8 million copies of **Print Shop** have been sold. The CD ROM version shown to-day has 4500 graphics, 73 TrueType fonts, can use Paper Direct papers, business cards, etc., can have 10 objects on a page. It imports from **Photo Shop,** pictures can be resized with the mouse, rotated, flipped.. It takes up 38 Mbs of hard drive.

The second program shown was **In the 1st Degree.** This combines live action video with still backgrounds. You are the prosecutor, working from an office overlooking San Francisco Bay. The case involves stolen art and murder. You choose the questions in the pre-trial investigation, and in the trial. Your performance is critiqued by professionals, the actual Channel 2 News team. The game runs on 2 CD's.

Next we watched **Architect.** This needs 4 MBs of RAM and is so far only done for PC's, not MAC. You can use 150 predesigned homes or make your own. After you draw a floor plan the camera mode shows you how the area will really look, and lets you edit in that mode. It produces a materials and price list, which you can copy into 123 or Excel.

The last program shown was **Our Times,** a picture encyclopedia of the 20th century, narrated by James Earl Jones. It calls up text from the *Columbia Encyclopedia.* Starting with "The horse is here to stay" it uses rare pictures of "What we knew", "What was new", and so on, for each decade.

Everyone in the audience received an order blank which allowed purchases of single copies at about half price. All of the programs shown are compatible with Windows 3.1 or 95.

In a rare display of serendipitous allocation, door prizes donated by Broderbund included the **Dr. Seuss Living Books,** won by Katrina Dufty, our youngest member, another program won by Karl Nielsen,a vere new member, and **Our Times**, won by your editor, who can remember most of the 20th century.. Eugenia Simberg won the club prize.

Steve made the hour fun, instructive, and fast moving. He let the programs sell themselves so there was none of the hardsell feeling common to many commercial presentations. "A good time was had by all" and the idea of holding a joint meeting to procure a commercial program was a success.

NEW MEMBERS & CORRECTIONS TO MEMBERSHIP BOOKLET

The booklet has several note pages at the end, where you can add these entries.

Terry and Bob Haberle, 489 West Hill Road, Glen Gardner, NJ 08826, 908-537-7791

Tom Grandell, 121 Main St., P O Box 608, Whitehouse Station NJ 08889 908-534-8774.

Karl Neilsen, 409 Stamets Rd, Milford, NJ 08848 Phone.908-996-4879 email: knielsen@postoffice.ptd.net

John Orrichio, 431 Church Road, Milford, NJ 08848 phone 908-995-9677

Add **Katrina Dufty** , with entry for Rich and Jean Dufty

Ed Ulrich's phone # has been wrong in every publication. Please correct to 908-782-6391.

Jonathan Cloud - phone # correction 908 -782-5643 and add email: AOL:CIS 70233,620

Robert Myers phone # omitted 908-782-1410

WHO'S ON THIRD?

Following is the list of program topics Maureen has collected from members. Take your choice of topic and date before she corners you. She is determined to have programs scheduled seveeral months ahead.

1. CAD - Peeter Barone, it is hoped
2. NETWORKING
3. SCANNERS-
4. BBS AND MODEMS
5. INTERNET
6. WEB SERVERS
7. PANEL OF USERS: ALL LEVELS (10 MINUTES EACH)
8. DESKTOP PUBLISHING- Newsletter in February, but lots of other angles you can do
9. OFFLINE READERS
10. DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT AND RETRIEVAL
11. FAXING- Bob Springer did this up brown in November
12. OPERATING SYSTEMS
13. JOB HUNTING ON THE WEB - Lon Hosford, January

ONE MILLION, TWO MILLION.....

Eileen sent a help for Christmas shopping: a reprint list of 100 best CD's. *CD-ROM Today* magazine's cover promises "more than 100 great gift ideas!" . *PC Computing's* cover offers the best 1001 Internet sites. To-day's mail offers 25000 graphic images, accompanied by a 563 page catalog. Windows Magazine prints 21 WIN95 utilities. Is anybody noticing that these numbers are ridiculous? As for the hundreds and thousands of fonts being peddled, a major newspaper limits itself to about 30 fonts. (Display ads of course use others.)

Some of the unusual titles on Eileen's list are **Frank Lloyd Wright: Presentation and Conceptual Drawings,** $1500 list; **Beethoven and Beyond**, $25; **Power Japanese**, $165. The reference list includes 2 dictionaries and 3 encyclopedias, with no clues as to choice. **Carmen Sandiego** is still on the list. **Oregon Trail II** is listed. I haven't seen this but it sounds superfluous. As long as that little man keeps whirling around shooting bears, a new version is not needed.

The list has a category called For the Coffee Table. Is this a big, heavy CD-ROM? Shall we have a coffee table computer on which guests can idly look at a CD-ROM?.....Sample titles: **The Way Things Work,** $50; **The Ultimate Frank Lloyd Wright**, $60.; **People Weekly**: 20 amazing Years of Pop culture. $30.

Eileen's list came from Ellison CD-ROM KIOSK, 61 W 62nd St #16M, NYC, phone 800-757-3015. Their prices are generally $10 to $20. below list ($500. on Frank Lloyd Wright)..

I am about to delete the ***American Heritage Talking Dictionary*** because it seldom has the words I look up. I have yet to look up a topic in **Encarta** that I can settle down with and get my teeth into the way I can with a Britannica article. The CD-ROM encyclopedias seem to be adapted to the style of *USA Today* and TV, with gee whiz short articles. The whole **Britannica** was on an $800 CD-ROM disk at the Edison show. THAT could be tempting. You would be buying six feet of shelf space, if you could actually bear to burn the old books

For painless shopping, visit Border's bargain book tables, or give a subscription to *Wired* magazine. The graphics have been subdued to a readable level. The text ranges from flashes to articles long enough to tell the whole story. It's much more interesting than reviews. of the best 500 whatevers.

This month's choice is a screen saver, absolutely the silliest program I have yet seen. You should watch its complete cycle just once, to marvel at what some people spend time on. The art work is upper first grade. I saw a paragraph about it on the silly page in the back of some magazine and asked Jac Carroll to download it for me. He searched CompuServe and the Net and didn't find it. Bill Woodall found it "via an archive in Germany". After you read the German intro, it asks "Archiv auspacken?" Say yes and the files will outpack, onto your Trading Post disk .. Make a directory for it on C: (e.g. MD Chickens.) Copy the files to CHICKENS, then copy three files (skip the Readme) to C:\Windows. Then in Windows, go to Main, to Desktop, to Screen Savers, choose Chickens. The test doesn't give the whole story. Leave your screen idle, and watch this until the sequence repeats - read a magazine with one eye. It's slow. George Luther will love the last scene. Apparently America's favorite (?) dinosaur is not a success in Germany. Use the File Manager to delete -once is enough..

Also trading this month are SoftDisk introductory disks, one for DOS and one (pair) for Windows. They came with a letter that says "I have enclosed complementary (sic) introduction issues of Softdisk PC and Softdisk for Windows. Please feel free to distribute these to your members." I take this to be permission to copy. These have games, utilities, graphics, wall paper, the same assortment that I showed a few months ago, but different titles.

Trade a blank for each one you want.

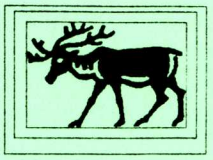
WHAT S THAT WHATZIT? ~ ~ ~ ~

David Nowotnik asked Jac (on MMW) what the **tilde** means. Jac passed. Bill Woodall explained:

It's an indicator for a "relative" address - a shorthand of sorts. It's used on Unix hosts, to make the paths a bit easier. For instance, on the Eclipse.net web server, the host name is solar.eclipse.net. A typical user's page would be http://solar.eclipse.net/~woodall/ (this one works!) but the ACTUAL path of the directory being accessed is /usr/home/voyager/woodall/public_html - so the tilde saves a considerable amount of typing and data transfer.

p.s. My "domain" of http://www.woodall.com/ is translated into http://solar.eclipse.net/~woodall/ - woodall.com is only a series of directories on the solar server.

þ CMPQwk 1.4 #797 þ ...Every morning is the dawn of a new error...



THE SECRET GUIDE TO COMPUTERS

Russ Walter's 21st edition is out, with 639 pages (paper binding). Of course it tells all about how to use WIN 95. It also covers " a totally new way to program". It illustrates new techniques "by using QBASIC, then translate them to Visual BASIC and other languages." This is a long established, readable, useful book famous for being easy and fun to read.. Owners of each current edition are welcome to call Russ for free advice any time , and they do. We could have Russ for a speaker, in his wizard suit, for $60 an hour plus $360 travel expense. His talk is in his books, and his presentation is so breathless that the book is easier to digest, and, of course, to go back to. The older editions have useful info about older machines and programs. These are how-to reference books. I have a cherished copy of Volume 1 from 1984.

I'll put the 19th edition on display, and maybe the 21st, at the December meeting. If you want a group order, I'll handle the money, send the order, and bring the books to the January meeting.

The new 21st edition costs $15. 00; $12. if we buy 2 copies, $9.00 if we buy 4 to 39 copies. You can have old editions, with blemished covers, at 80 cents for edition 11 in 2 volumes; $2 for the 15th, $4.00 for the 18th, $5 for the 19th. NO shipping charges. Don't let these prices fool you into thinking these books are junk. Russ has a missionary attitude about teaching. He does his own publishing, keeps costs down, and works on high volume sales.

FREE MONSTERS

Serif is offering 250,000 copies of a new Monster Collection of graphics and fonts, 1000 monsters and 100 fonts on CD, or 500 monsters and 65 fonts on floppies.. Send $6.95. to Serif, PO Box 803, Nashua, NH 03061, or call 800-697-3743. Tell them code WMG1295, so they'll know you heard about this in Windows Magazine for 12/95. Specify CD-ROM or 3..5 floppies. If you call, they will try to sell you their publishing program, Page Plus, which is now $99.95, but if you stand firm you can have just the monsters. What could be more fitting for the season?

KEYNOTES

Tag line for laughs: **Hit any key to continue, any other key to exit.**

Real error message at boot , encountered by Liz Dunbar. **TO CONTINUE PRESS ALMOST ANY KEY**

Which key would <u>you</u> avoid?

SCANNER FOR SALE

Hewlett-Packard ScanJet Plus flatbed greyscale scanner, with interface card, cable, software drivers. $250.00

Call Bill Woodall at 908-526-5980

WHO INVENTED HYPERTEXT?

"Ted Nelson coined the concepts hypertext and hypermedia in 1965." He predicts that Wal-Mart will buy Apple, and maybe Quarterdeck will buy IBM. (Byte Magazine, November 1995, p. 312.)

BILL AND GOD

from Eileen Mullen

A poor employee had been suffering dreadfully during the building of Gates' infamous new home. The poor architect had used a Mac to undertake the interior and the wrath of Gates had fallen upon him. In fact, this guy was so distressed at the thought of using Windows in a design environment that he just got up one day and took his own life.

He reappears at the gates of heaven where St. Peter is sitting with his clipboard., Nervously he walks up to St. Peter. "Ah", St. Peter says, "you're the poor fellow who suffered at the hands of Gates. Don't worry, you're in heaven now. Everything is all right. Still quivering, the poor architect says, "At last. That's wonderful. But you promise me that Bill Gates won't appear here."

St. Peter lets out a broad laugh. "Is the Pope Catholic? You know what they say about rich men, needles and camels... anyhow, we use Amigas.".. Then suddenly, beyond the pearly gates, a familiar figure appears. The poor architect falls into an apoplectic fit. "Look, Look, you told me he'd never find a place in heaven., but it's him."

St. Peter turns around to see the sight. "Ah, no, my son, that's God. He just thinks he's Bill Gates."

CD-ROM JEWEL CASE LABELS

Suggested by Marge Gelegonya

Permanent white correction tape, one line size, will fit neatly on the edge of a jewel case, for labeling. It's self- adhesive. If you are storing your CD's in a horizontal slide-in holder, it's pretty tiresome sliding each one out to find the right one. You could use thin strips cut from an address label, but the correction tape is neater, faster, better. This is one more product that will soon be unobtainable, as the last typewriters retire to closets, but so far it is still listed in big stationery catalogs.

HOME ON THE WEB

Lon Hosford is the second of our members to report setting up a Web Home Page. He notes that any page on the Web can be browsed directly, as well as through links. If you want to see the club page on Bill Woodall's Home Page, you use http://www.woodall.com/doshug.html. Otherwise you go to Bill's page and that leads you to the club page, in Other Activities.. Lon's WEB page address is http://users.aol.com/clickhq/click.htm (Ed.: Bill's page is primarily a business entry, and he has used up time and space to add DOS HUG as one more service to the club.)

A *TRUE CHRISTMAS STORY*

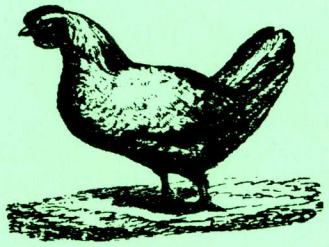
Fifth grader produces his Christmas list on the family computer. Heading:

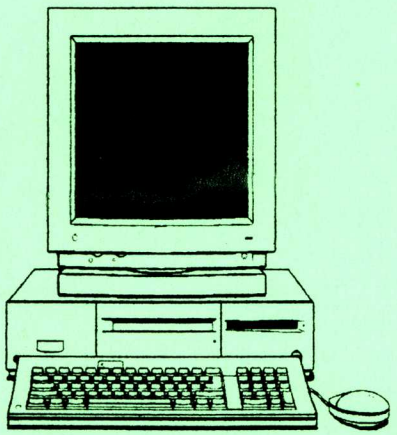
BOLD= REALLY WANT

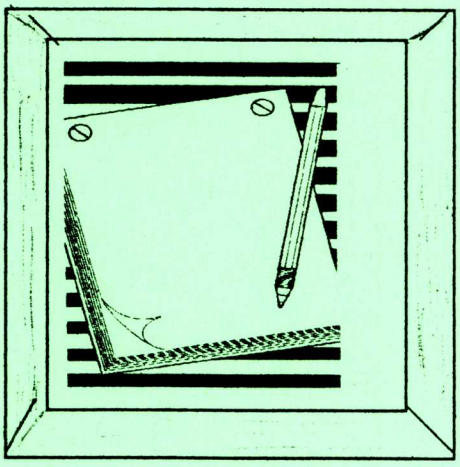
The first bold entry is **BEAGLE.** The list goes on through several thousand dollars worth of electronics, radio controlled cars and planes, sports equipment, etc. When the work is done, fifth grader asks Mom, " Should I make copies for the aunts and uncles too?"

PROGRAMMING DOWN ON THE FARM
by Michael Spence
downloaded for you by Liz Dunbar

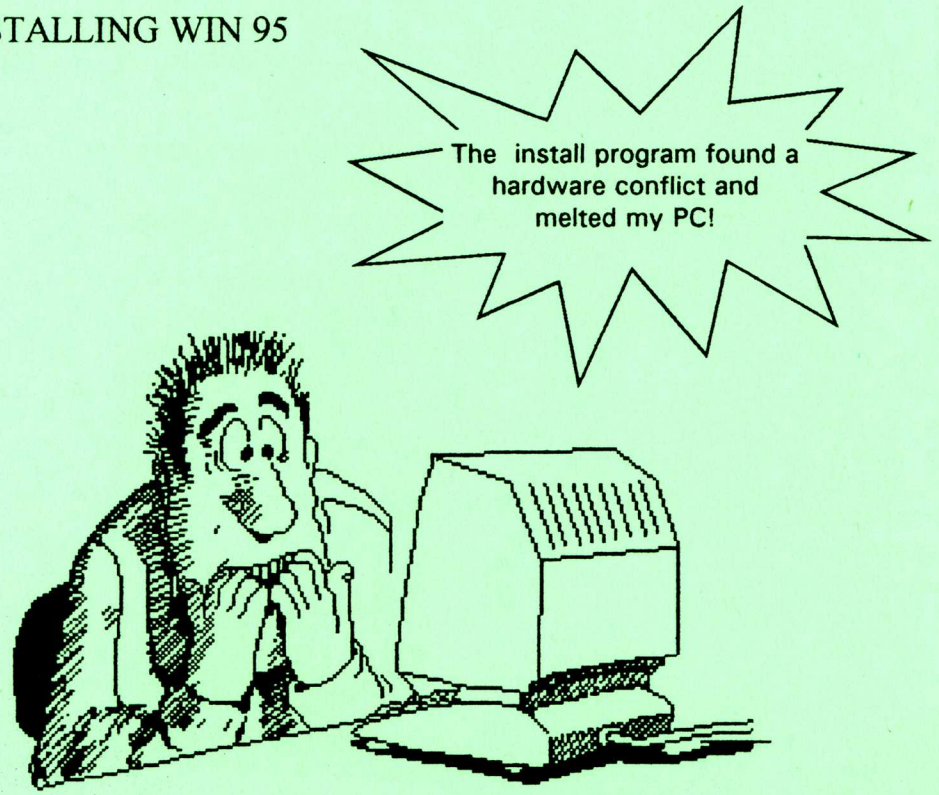
As all those with computers know,
Input-output is called I-O,
But farmers using these machines
See special letters on their screens.
So when they list a chicken fence
To " egg insurance and expense",
Into what file would it go?
Of course to EIE I-O.







INSTALLING WIN 95



Microsoft Tech support. How may I help you?
I see. Your PC melted .... Well, sir, that's what's so great about WIN95. If it can't run on your PC, nothing can.

BEGINNERS' CORNER- USING PICTURES IN WORD

Importing a picture in WORD is no problem. If it arives immense, find a corner, wait until the mouse pointer turns into a double arrow, then hold the left mousse button down and move toward the size you want. The problem arises when you want tomove the picture or put text near it.

The secret is in the View Menu. Change to Page Layout. Import the picture. Then from the Insert menu insert a frame. This makes a frame of many tiny lines. Then click anywhere on the picture and when a cross bar turns up, you can move it. To move the picture you have to wait until the pointer gets a little square tail, then drag and droove the picture, by holding down the left button and sliding the mouse.. I find I can't type around the picture, but I can move it into the midst of a block of text and then the text wraps around the picture.

Switching back to Normal View moves all the text back into lines away from the picture.

. The same thing works with a block of text. Select it first, frame it, move it.

There are at least three ways to select . Get the cursor at the start of what you want to select. Press , but don't hold, function key F8, then use arrows to highlight the text. OR hold a shift key down whikle you use arows to highlight. OR move the mouse across the text with the left button held down. Shift and arrow method is the surest for getting exactly the letters you want. One arrow will highlight text and the opposie arrow will unhighlight it, in case you went too far.

C program run,
C program crash,
C programmer cry.

Tag Line from Bill Woodall

DOS HUG NEWSLETTER is published monthly at 2 Millview Road, Milford, NJ 08848, shortly after the regular meeting, which is normally on the third Saturday. Subscription is included in the annual dues of $20. for an individual, $25. for family. Non-mmember subscriptions, out of state only, are $8.00 a year. Contributions are eagerly sought, and may be on paper, by phone, on disk, or file or message on Jac Carroll's BBS, Midnight Machine Works, 908-782-8026, directed to Evelyn Stewart. Or just chat on MMW and your comments may end up in print, unless you object.

Editorial Staff:
Evelyn Stewart, Editor
Marge Gelegonya, Editorial Consultant, Proof reader, Production Assistant.

OFFICERS and Chairpeople

President,
Maureen Barron
908-735-5939

Vice-President,
Pat Frusco
908-534-4481

Treasurer,
Jac Carroll
908-782-4325

Secretary &
Newsletter Editor
Evelyn Stewart
908-995-4042

Librarian, Art Gerke
908-249-1596

Program,
Bill Woodall
908-526-5980

Ways and Means
Alan Nass

Welcoming
Doris Moore

Computer Volunteers
Howard Asplen
Peter Barone
Pat Frusco
Eileen Mullen

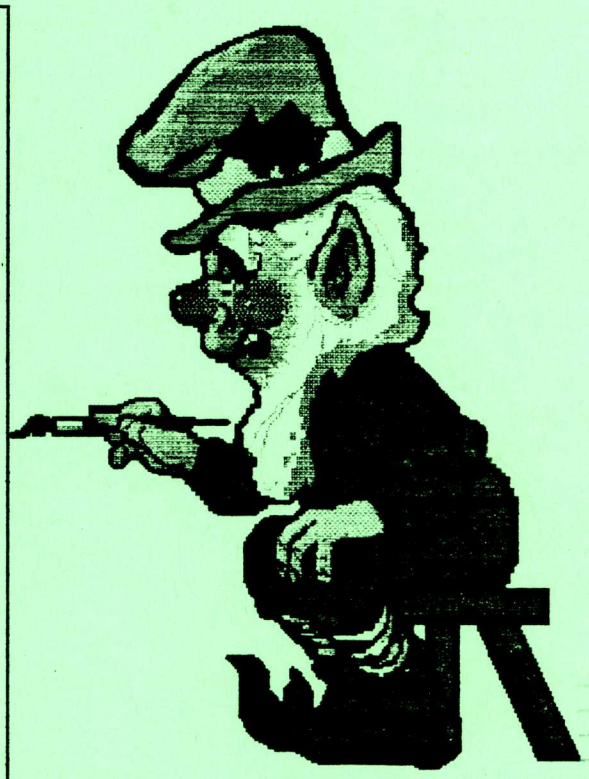
Don Slepian brings music to DOS HUG
(Hunterdon PC Users Group)
Saturday, December 16, 1995

Hunterdon Medical Center
Rt 31 North
Flemington, New Jersey

Coffee at 8:30
Meeting at 9:30 to greet guests
Music whenever Don gets set up

Bring treats if you want to

Guests and families welcome



DOS HUG NEWSLETTER

Evelyn Stewart, Secretary
DOS HUG
2 Millview Road
Milford, NJ 08848

Renewal date 6/96
Lon Hosford
22 Goritz Road
Milford NJ 08848