

NEXT MEETING

We meet again on Saturday, April 20, at 8:30 AM, at the Hunterdon Medical Center. Richard Wilkins will demonstrate some games, when the program session starts at 10:00. We have some more review copies to pass out, and we will raffle another copy of Works for Windows.

The March Meeting

The regular meeting of the Hunterdon Computer Club was held at the Hunterdon Medical Center on Saturday, March 16, 1996. Doris Moore acted as host. Marge Gelegonya helped with secretarial chores while the Secretary was in the auditorium preparing the presentation. Eugenia Simberg brought a loaf of fine Irish soda bread. President Barron brought green bagels which did not get eaten as fast as normal colored ones.

This account is given from shreds of audible talk on the tape recorder.

President Barron called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M. About 45 people attended.

Guests welcomed included **Daniel Barron** who was immediately put to work replacing Alan Nass as salesman; Merlin Douglass, 304 Pittstown Road, Pittstown, 08867 908 735-8367. Merlin is a Senior Beginners graduate, from Bob Springer's class, and is now in the new second level class, and is the club's newest member; **Ann Notzeman**, and **Ken Kerrigan**, both of Flemington; **Wayne Voorhees**, from Bethlehem, Pa.; and **Suzette Platko**, from Lebanon

Bill Woodall agreed to review a program

called **Paper Magic**, and Richard Wilkins took on a game CD called **Congo**. John Vicari won the monthly prize.

Lon Hosford announced that he has 2 Epson wide carriage printers, available free to any non-profit organization, or for sale for \$20.00 each, to individuals. They



are in working order, with extra ribbons, manuals. FX 100. Lon also asked for old 386 boxes, cards, and discarded hard drives to use in his class at Raritan Valley, for students to take apart and put together. He needs about 5 stations. Lon also announced that he had received a double shipment of software from Broderbund, and would like to sell the extras at his cost. These were ordered at the special prices offered at the Broderbund presentation.

The Q and A session covered advice to a beginner purchasing a first computer, problems with screen savers, (general advice, stop using them) setting up a modem, (heated discussion about ports

and conflicts) saving your icon arrangement in Windows. Someone asked for a setup disk for an AT&T 386. Other questions: How do I clone a Windows 95 hard drive? Do you have to install the program Uninstaller prior to installing the program you want to get rid of? (No.)

COMPUTER VOLUNTEERS

Maureen read the secretary's report: There are eight beginner classes running at the Senior Center, with seven teachers, some working in pairs; and one second level class. 50 more people have applied for beginner classes and more than 50 want second level classes. John Warsinski is teaching and doing a lot of work on the machines. (Since this report was written, John has gotten rid of the infamous password that someone left on one of the AT&T 386's.) As usual, the Center would like to receive donations of newer machines, and especially of better monitors. Vision problems are common with Senior learners. Some grant money made possible the purchase of a new dot matrix Panasonic printer, nearly the last of its kind, which has made teaching a lot easier.

A new request for help has come from Catholic Charities, who want help in training employees on **WordPerfect 6 for DOS**, in one or two sessions. If you can help with this, please call Pat Frusco or Eileen Mullen.

Bill Woodall, Program Chairman, listed upcoming programs, adding to those previously announced a session on the Internet for August. This led to discussion on service providers. Bill said AT&T does not consider Hunterdon or Morris Counties worth a local access number, and clients will have to call New

Brunswick or Bethlehem, PA. Another member noted that AT&T has said that they have 93 million Internet customers but only 200 access points.

The Treasurer's report was postponed, since he was in the auditorium setting up.

Librarian Art Gerke again noted the large collection of shareware available.

A copy of **Works for Windows** and a CD ROM **Serif Page Plus Monster** were raffled. The program **Family Origins** was taken for review. Names were not audible.



THE PROGRAM

Newsletter production, by Evelyn Stewart

Since I have insider info on this program, the following is a combination of what I said and what I meant to say.

First, thanks to Jac Carroll and Bill Woodall for making the presentation possible. Bill made the sound and projection system work, in the absence of Rick Williams. We learned that the system needs 20 minutes to warm up, with red being the last color to appear. Jac helped me put my files on his computer, and carried the machine in and set it up and guided me through the perils of an unfamiliar machine.

My aim was to show how I do the newsletter, not how Desktop Publishing in general should be done. I use MSPublisher 2, which currently costs about \$80. at Staples. There are cheaper publishing programs, down to \$15. and shareware, and there are the big, old, famous ones - Ventura, PageMaker and

FrameMaker, which sell for hundreds of dollars.. They all try to do the same things. The question is how easily they let you do it, and how stable they are. Serif Page Plus, famous for free disks and heavy advertising, lists around \$95. I really tried to use it so I could send you a newsletter showing the results of different programs, but after about three General Protection Faults I deleted it. The big ones cost hundreds of dollars.

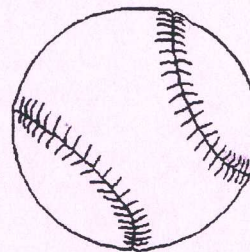
My machine is a custom built and added onto 386 with 8 Mbs of RAM, one 1/2 gig hard drive, and a second, smaller hard drive, and a CD player. It has a tendency to freeze after a certain number of graphics are loaded for the newsletter. Jac tells me this is a memory conflict problem and I should buy a new video card. Joe Burger says he can keep many pages open in PageMaker with no trouble, but that Pub freezes for him too. He says it uses resources for everything you try, even if you decide not to keep it. Liz Dunbar has told me that she sometimes resorts to Publisher when Ventura locks up and a deadline looms. The big programs don't have Wizards like Publisher does, so a beginner has more to learn, using them. So much for choosing a program. I used Express Publisher happily for many issues, until I saw MicroSoft Publisher. The masters are printed on the HP Inkjet 500 that the Executive Committee decided to give me several years ago when they got tired of dot matrix masters.

Some cardinal rules of publishing are: 1. Save all the trial pages and don't empty the trash until the letter is in the mail.. You never know when you may need to cut and paste - with scissors and glue stick - one letter or one line that comes out wrong when you're in a hurry. 2. Save each page as soon as it suits you, on a floppy, and print each page, too. Since we're not using large sheets

folded, pagination is is not a problem and you can deal with one page at a time. If you save constantly, when the graphics freeze the machine, you only have to do one page over. 3. Believe that everything you type is in there somewhere, and will print where you don't want it, unless you delete it. 4. The first inch of the scotch tape always has dust or dog hair on it, which the copier sees clearly.

Publishing starts with a word processor and then moves to your publishing program. I use Word6 in Windows 3.1. So - it's time to start a new letter. Each month I remember the fifth grader who looked at our first wonderful word processor (a TRS 80) and said, "Yes, but you still have to think of something to say." To this end, I keep a folder called Next Letter, for clippings and notes. As I think of something, or hear something on the phone, or read something, or see something on the club board, I write the article and save it in a directory of WORD called NEWLTR, with a file name starting with the month I'm working on, as 4program. Then I move the reference article or note to the folder for that month. I read all the messages on Midnight Machine Works, and try to choose things of varying interest levels, trusting that the upper echelons are writing accurately

when I use something I can't understand. Uniquick, my off-line reader, has a choice called "Add to File" which saves a copy of the message in ProComm\MSG.



So a lot of material can be ready ahead of the meeting that the issue focuses on, but not very far ahead, or it will be out of date. Then the meeting comes and I can write the lead article about the next meeting and the last. These are always on the first page. It is tempting to change the whole format and layout each month, but one must always remember that the purpose of writing is to have someone read it, and people in a hurry like to find things where they are

supposed to be, which actually means where they were the last time.

Then it's time to look over the accumulated articles and start choosing and arranging. I start with the articles saved from MMW. I showed a message filed by Pete Barone, as it came from the bulletin board, 17 lines long, and the rewritten article of 3 lines. If someone downloads material from the Internet, then uploads it to Jac's board, it usually needs a lot of reformatting. One type will align left, center, or right, but not full. It takes a lot of delete key pushing to tidy up a downloaded file. Liz kindly cleans up (i.e. reformats) files before she emails them.

I begged members to use the club board more and talk about interesting things to copy. I also hoped aloud that someone would design a nifty new banner for us and put it on a disk for me.

I showed the file that results from using the capture command in your communications program - ALT+F1 in ProComm - which records everything that goes by and puts file in the main ProComm directory. To use any of this you import the file to WORD then delete a lot to trim it down to some pithy message.

After the ProComm messages I look over the things I've written, use pencil notes to tell in what order I want them to print. Then I start a new file in WORD called OLIOFEB, for example, and insert one article after another, with a few blank lines after each one. This must be saved as a WORD2 file because Publisher can't read WORD6. If you import a WORD6 file you get neat rows of little boxes. Joe Burger has uploaded a shareware file that is supposed to make Pub read Word6, but I haven't tried it yet. In Word6 there is an option to save the file as a Publisher document, but I haven't made out well with that.

At this point I closed Word and

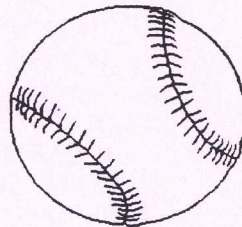
opened Publisher.

[In real life, at this point I change the WORD6 long file to 3 columns, and 10 point type, and edit at length before I start working in Pub.]

As an aside, I showed the template menu in which is concealed a very useful 4 page folder template, hidden in Business Forms. I use this regularly for dinner programs, and it would be fine for church bulletins.

You can do newsletters in Word or WordPerfect, but it's not worth the struggle. In Publisher you can do it alone, or use a Wizard. (A template sets a pattern, but a Wizard holds your hand.) I ran the Wizard on screen so people could see it work in real time. I chose Classic style, pointing out that it doesn't matter, as it gets changed. I called for 4 pages, to save time, but I always start with 8 for the real letter. If I run out of news on page 5, we get a 6 page letter, but if the news runs onto page 6 or 7, then you get cartoons and an 8 page letter. 8 pages - 4 sheets of paper - is a safe weight for first class mail, and the maximum for neat folding. People keep suggesting bulk mailing to save money, but we don't have the numbers to qualify, and you probably would not get the letter before the meeting it invites you to.

After the Wizard is finally done, I go through and delete all the preprinted text frames. Therefore I have to draw new text frames, and this is where you begin to appreciate Publisher. The column guides work. The text frames stay where you put them. If you slip and move a frame by mistake you can easily put it back exactly where it was. The mouse pointer is a clear two headed arrow for changing size, and you wait for the bus pointer to move things. You learn that each line, each tiny motif, each frame, is an object and must be dealt with separately.



Set portions (boilerplate) such as the Banner, Officers, our address, and the back mailing page were copied from an earlier issue, one by one, and pasted into the new issue, but I have just realized I can make a template file, and have done so. Finally comes the dramatic moment when you import the combination file into Pub. Pub asks if you want to use AutoFlow. I never do. Autoflow will pour the whole text into column after column, but if you have left one period in a text frame, it skips that frame and your articles appear on some distant page. So I choose manual, and one column fills up. I click on the symbol at the bottom of that column and a pitcher appears, running over. I click on the next column, or wherever I want that article to continue, and the text pours out. Et cetera. There is a lot of et cetera in publishing. There are continual shifts between Actual Size and Full Page, and continual waits for the screen to redraw.

As the Wizard worked, I typed in the name of the newsletter. The Wizard then puts this on each page, with the page number, alternating the number from left to right. To change what the Wizard is putting on each page, choose Go to Background. You can see this when you are working on the foreground but you can't change it. If you can't see the background lines at the bottom of the columns, you just shorten the text frame until the lines show up. As you shorten the text frame, the excess text is moved to the start of the next column and the entire text shifts through the eight pages.

You can drag and drop the rulers from top and side to help with lining things up. You can put a box or a circle around a clever tag line, but when you move something on another page, the tag line will move, but the box stays put and must be moved with the mouse. You can prevent this by drawing a text frame to put

the tag line in. Text frames stay put. If you want a box or a frame to print, you click on the far right icon and choose the point size line you want. If you want a shadowed box you go to the format menu.

I use the Format menu to set styles. This shows you a sample of each font. I set HCCTEXT to 10 point Times New Roman, Headline1 to 12 point bold, Headline 2 to 14 point italic, or variations thereof. If you don't set a Style PUB keeps going back to its own choice of font.

The use of Wingdings or fancy single letters, or bold face type, or a silly picture is just to break up the page so the reader is not put off by a solid black page. Pub will import graphics of many types. Once a picture is in your document, you click on it, and change the size by moving the mouse pointer to any of the dots on the frame, holding down the left button and moving the mouse. If you change from the corners, the proportions remain constant. If you change from the sides you can create tall skinny figures or short fat ones.

I frequently put one picture on the clipboard and copy it repeatedly, wherever I need to fill a space or break up solid text, changing the size as needed. You can put a picture or a Wizard calendar or a WordArt design anywhere and the text will immediately wrap around it. This will lead to some strange word breaks and you need to move the picture until the text wrap is sensible. In Express Publisher a picture would frequently disappear, or it would appear on the screen but not print. Pub is reliable and everything will print. You have to keep remembering that the whole newsletter moves up and down the columns, every time you insert a picture or make a headline bigger, or delete a line.

On the rare occasions when a member gives me a business card, I tape it in place and make a master copy at home, since big copiers don't take to scotch tape. Two people handed me business cards on the spot. More are welcome. When you tape for a copier, tape all the edges. The copier

photographs the shadow between the two pieces of paper if you leave a loose edge.

Copyfitting - A professional editor plans the space available between the ads, and orders text of so many lines to fit. There are neat formulas for this, depending on type sizes. I just change the wording to stretch or shrink a paragraph as needed. I have a personal dislike of searching for the end of an article on a distant page, so I almost always continue an article on an adjacent page or column. You can frame a section of text and move it off the printing area from one page and then move it back onto another page where it fits better, or cut and copy.

Proofreading - Judging by the results it's hard to believe that I proofread. But I do. I use Arial 12 point in Word so I can see it easily, and I do use the spell checker. Then I proof read again in Publisher, which is in 10 point type, but can be zoomed as big as you want. If I get done in time, Marge Gelegonya proof reads it again and always finds things I missed. And then when I print the final masters the first thing I see is another error. There comes a point when I can't stand to look at it again, and the last errors stay. No amount of proof reading will help a person who can look at the wrong date in 12 point type and not see it.

The main source of error is last minute fill-ins which I type directly I and hurriedly into a text frame. You could do the whole thing in Pub, but importing is better. You might lose your mind waiting for the screen to redraw every time you finish a few lines. Publisher has a spell checker but it seems to have trouble deciding which story it's checking.

As we grow bigger and more famous, I begin to worry more about copyright so I have started building cartoons. To draw a straight line I have learned (from Liz) to hold down Shift while I draw. The balloon for the character's comment is the bottom icon on the left side. Again you have to click on the top right icon and choose what

weight of line you want printed, or none will print.

Staples copies and staples the letters. Marge and I fold them and stick on mailing labels and stamps. We mail about 150 copies to members, recent guests, all the libraries in the county, and any person or company that is mentioned in the current issue. I file one copy in the secretary's notebook, one in the file for the month, and one in my collection as a member.

Then it's safe to delete all the separate articles, and the MMW files in ProComm, and the ~ temp files that Pub leaves in DOS. I save the olio long WORD file and the finished PUB file on floppies.

That's it. It's time to start the next issue.



WARCRAFT II

a game review by Danny Springer

Warcraft II by Blizzard is an excellent sequel to a not so interesting **WarCraft I**. This strategy game's objective is to carry out various missions or scenarios as either a human party or an orc party. To succeed, a mission has to save citizens, build towns and of course the always fun "Destroy All".

The game requires 8MB RAM, 25 MB hard disk space, SVGA graphics, a modem for "modem" play, and an optional sound Blaster. Without the S.B. sound, this game is disappointing, but with the sound it is one of the best games on the market. On a scale of 1-10 (10 being highest), I'd give it a nine, losing one point for too many cheats

available. (If you want these cheats, get in contact with me.)

[Ed: PCMAG gives this 4 stars; list price \$50. Blizzard's Web page address is <http://www.blizzard.com>]

Correction

This is the last word on YourTools, the Internet service provider which promised to bring light to Holland Township. The actual correct local access number from Holland is 610-346-6008, for hardy souls who have actually signed on with them..

PROLOG

Signing up with Prolog went like this: I called the advertised number, 800-804-5783. A pleasant woman promised to send me an application form. This arrived in 2 or 3 days. I filled out a simple form for name, address, type of phone service, password, some questions about my computer. In a few more days a packet arrived with 2 disks of NetScape, a 4 page glossary of Internet terms, and a promise that my account would be activated in about 24 hours. I installed NetScape without trying anything twice. ProLog had installed all the hard stuff on the disks. I could see the Netscape screen but there was no contact. 24 hours later I tried again, and there I was on the Internet, for \$19.95 a month, full service. This includes Eudora Light for email. The number my modem dials is indubitably a local call, 908-995 - 0284 just like my own.

Prolog's home page is at <http://www.ptd.net>. There is a Clinton access number 908-730-8929. Their other access points are far away. PTD in the Web address stands for PenTeleData - part of the Prolog company name.

And my new email address is estewart@postoffice.ptd.net

REVIEWERS NEEDED

The User Group Connection is becoming very active. I write for anything they offer. Besides the three programs assigned at the March meeting, we have *Vote America*, an intense look at the Presidential election, for a member who has a 486 or better, with 8 MB of RAM, 256 colors, a CD-ROM player, and 5 MB of space on a hard drive. This is from Virtual Entertainment of Needham, MA.

We also have *Aldus IntelliDraw* 2.0, on 6 3/2 inch disks, which will allegedly run on a 386 or 486 with 8 MB of RAM and 20 MB space on the hard drive. Three manuals are included (old fashioned usable book-type, not on-line) including a Clip Art Catalog, that shows the path for each group of illustrations, and ideas for use.

What's more, we have a 30 day trial version of QuickSite, which enables anyone to "create a Web Site in minutes". You can download the same

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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

trial version at www.deltapoint.com (One doesn't dare print a period at the end of an Internet sentence - a new symbol for end of transmission on paper is needed.)....After the trial and demo at a meeting, that the company hopes for, members can buy the full program for a special price of \$79.95 How many Web sites is one person likely to want to create? Does the world need one or more from each person?

If each person who takes a review copy were to give a demo of it at a meeting, Chairman Woodall would have programs for months ahead.

You will be repeatedly reminded (nagged) for reviews, after a month or so.. One vendor states bluntly that more review material will be available AFTER a review in a newsletter is received

The User Group Connection, invites you to join a mailing list by sending a message topcug-member-request@ugconnection.com To get off any list send a message to the same address, subject UNSUBSCRIBE.

Jac Carroll has found the Web page of the Melbourne, Victoria, Australia Users Group. "Australia's largest user group and the second largest in the world.. In February 1996 we had more than 10,550 members." Total accesses to their Web page from April 27 to December 31, 1995 = 79597..... Where do you suppose they meet? In a football (rugby?) stadium? Look for MELBPC User Group.

Twin Monitors

You can get a video adapter from Colorgraphic that lets you spread one screen across two monitors set side by side, for \$650 to \$1395.

1996 olympics

<http://www.atlantavr.com>

TRADING POST

Remember the Periodic Table of Elements stretching across the Chemistry room wall? Here's the whole thing on the April Trade disk. Click on an element and you get a list of its properties. This is shareware copied from a \$4.95 CD-ROM called Secondary Education, available at Staples at the moment. The disk also has the complete text of Aesop's Fables, Frankenstein, A Study in Scarlet (Sherlock Holmes), the Constitution, and about 15 other programs.

= MACHWORK - 01/14/96 06:24

From: **DAVID NOWOTNIK**

Here is a list of some of the interesting Web sites I have found which are based in (or provide information on) Hunterdon County:

Hunterdon Central Regional High School HCRCS Web page was originally located at:

<http://www.ios.com/~egreaney/> but they have moved to <http://www.hcrhs.hunterdon.k12.nj.us/hcrhs.html>

(I have not succeeded in reaching the new Web page yet)

Internet America, NJ

<http://www.iamerica.com/nj/nj.html>

NJ information; this site is still "under

construction"

Raritan Valley Community College
<http://www.raritanval.edu/>

The "unofficial" Hunterdon County Home Page
<http://home.ptd.net/~alarmdoc/hunterdn.html>

This includes a list of 'local' Internet providers.

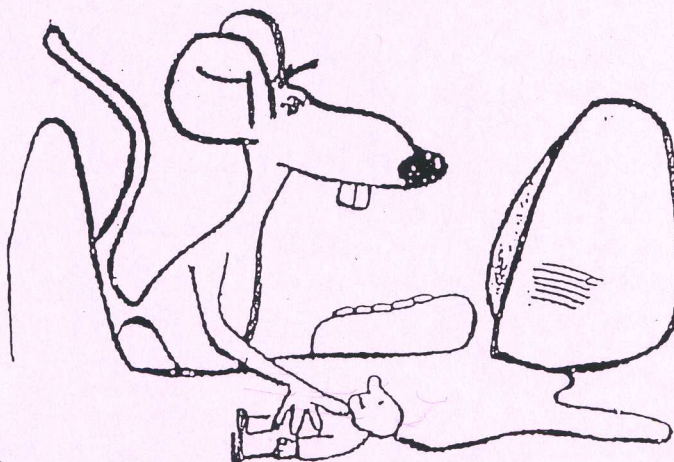
New Jersey Info-Web
<http://www.zdh.com/~njlw/>

Lynx New Jersey Web
<http://www.njweb.com/njlinks.html>
It claims "the best set of links to New Jersey Web sites"

The List - 908
<http://thelist.com/908.html>
A list of 908 area code Internet providers; there are also lists for 201 and 609 area codes (201.html and 609.html, of course!)

I haven't included the Eclipse site and Bill's page, as these have been published in DOS HUG newsletter already. All of these were found using my current favorite search engine. Alta Vista from Digital (<http://altavista.digital.com>).

I hope that this list is of interest to some of you!



LIZ DUNBAR DOWNLOADED THIS FOR YOU

From: "Bryan D. Boyle" <bdboyle@maverick.erenj.com>
Date: Tue, 20 Jun 1995 15:36:42 -0400
Subject: (Fwd) FW: Dr. Suess & modern technology

What If Dr. Seuss Did Technical Training Manuals?

Here's an easy game to play.
Here's an easy thing to say:

If a packet hits a pocket on a socket on a port,
And the bus is interrupted as a very last resort,
And the address of the memory makes your floppy disk abort,
Then the socket packet pocket has an error to report!

If your cursor finds a menu item followed by a dash,
And the double-clicking icon puts your window in the trash,
And your data is corrupted 'cause the index doesn't hash,
Then your situation's hopeless, and your system's gonna crash!

You can't say this?
What a shame sir!
We'll find you
Another game sir.

If the label on the cable on the table at your house,
Says the network is connected to the button on your mouse,
But your packets want to tunnel on another protocol,
That's repeatedly rejected by the printer down the hall,

And your screen is all distorted by the side effects of gauss
So your icons in the window are as wavy as a souse,
Then you may as well reboot and go out with a bang,
'Cause as sure as I'm a poet, the sucker's gonna hang!

When the copy of your floppy's getting sloppy on the disk,
And the microcode instructions cause unnecessary risc,
Then you have to flash your memory and you'll want to RAM your ROM.
Quickly turn off the computer and be sure to tell your mom!

HUNTERDON COMPUTER CLUB

Next Meeting - Saturday, April 20
Coffee 8:30 AM Meeting 9:30 Program 10:00

Raffles, Q AND A SESSION, 11:00 - 12:00

Hunterdon Medical Center Main Entrance
Rt 31 North of Flemington
Presenter: RICHARD WILKINS - GAMES

Guests Welcome - all ages all interests

HCC NEWSLETTER

HUNTERDON COMPUTER CLUB
Evelyn Stewart, Secretary
2 Millview Road
Milford, NJ 08848



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