



# Newsletter

Volume 10 Issue 3

March 1997

## NEXT

Every month has an Ides, but only in March is it a famous date. Celebrate Ceasar's death in 42, or come to your computer club meeting in 1997, or both, on March 15. Jim Russ, our new program chairman, promises two sessions of travel planning software. In March we will have a presentation of Travel Route, Road trips door to door.

Coffee starts at 8:30, meeting at 9:30, program at 10:00, raffle and miscellany 11:00.



## THE FEBRUARY MEETING

Thanks to Paul Glattstein and Marge Gelegonya for taking notes in the secretary's absence.

President Rick Williams called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM, February 15, 1997. Guests welcomed included Sue Adipetro from Frenchtown, Interested in learning more about computers, recently started with the Internet, and Greg Weisner from Ringoes, back after a lapse of over three years..

Rick and Joe Burger are working to update the member database. A list of member e-mail addresses was on the table with the sign-in sheet for members to add or correct their address. In addition, Rick passed around an unbound copy of the upcoming member address booklet for corrections.

The date for the May meeting remains Computer Volunteers:

May 17.

Joe Burger is still looking into the possibility of incorporating as a non-profit organization. He noted that the major benefits are limiting the liability for club officers and the chance to apply for a grant for something. There is a non-profit organization group that might help with the application details, but membership is \$50 and the benefits are uncertain.

Jac Carrol reported that the treasury balance is \$679.13.

The software library was closed for the day. Art Gerke brought the software, but the computer did not make it.

Bill Woodall is unable to continue as Program Chairman due to business commitments. Jim Russ will replace him. On behalf of the club members, Rick presented Bill with a computer timer cube in appreciation for his efforts. Jim has a list of proposed programs and is looking for volunteers. The program for March will be on **Road Trips Door to Door**, a trip planning software program.

The club still has two copies of the *Secret Guide to Computers* for sale., at \$9.00. Jim Russ commented that the author, Russ Walter, will be at the North Branch Computer Club meeting (2nd Wed of the month) in April or May.

The Trenton Computer Fair is April 26 & 27. So far there are no plans for HCC to have a table. For more information about the fair see their Internet page at <http://www.acnj.org> and the fair site at [www.tcf.net](http://www.tcf.net).

Still need someone for Norwescap GED class.

Nick Wowchuck is unable to teach the computer class at the Hunterdon County Jail this spring. The class is scheduled to meet for 10 weeks, one evening a week for 2 hours. Call him at 782-0702 for more details if you are interested in teaching.

Lucy Bentson, one of our Senior Computer class alumni, now has a new computer and the one provided by Eileen Mullen can be picked up.

The FCC is looking for comments on Internet access. You can e-mail them at [ISP@FCC.GOV](mailto:ISP@FCC.GOV) up until March 23. You can also contact them for more info at [WWW.FCC.GOV](http://WWW.FCC.GOV).

Joe Burger is partway through reading *The Mother of all Windows 95 Books*. He says it's very well written and informative and promises to write a review when he's done with it.

Jim Russ sold raffle tickets to John Warsinski's benefit.

## PROGRAM

### Uninstalling Programs - Bill Woodall

Bill Woodall gave a nice presentation on uninstalling programs in Windows (Windows 95, Nt and 3.x) and DOS.

For Windows 95 he tried four different uninstaller programs and likes **Clean Sweep 3.0** from Quarterdeck the best. It uninstalls programs, folders and DLL's and will also find duplicate files, empty groups and redundant DLL's. **Clean**



Sweep will save a compressed backup of all files it uninstalled. In fact, Bill noted, it always makes a backup even if you say no to that option. If you don't want the backup you can delete it afterwards. Another feature is Registry Sweep which cleans up the Windows 95 Registry. It works well but should be used with caution as it may clean out some items which are still required. **Clean Sweep** sells for less than \$40. Another option is to use the Windows 95 uninstall, but that only works with programs that include an uninstall routine.

**Clean Sweep** works with Windows NT, but not all of the functions work. The Registry Editor in particular won't run under NT. The best choice for Windows NT may be to wait for MicroHelp's Uninstaller for NT due to be released in a few weeks.

For Windows 3.x the best program is Uninstaller from MicroHelp. It maintains a database of all files, programs, DLL's, etc and does a really clean job of uninstalling.

It is also possible to uninstall programs manually in DOS and Windows. The key is to find the directory for the program files and delete all of them. It's easier if you make sure to install all major programs in their own directory. Most DOS and Windows programs do this automatically, but some such as WinFax 4.0, put files all over your hard disk and you may find stray files weeks and months later. In most cases you can delete duplicate files and DLL's and only keep the most current one.



**BOSTON COMPUTER EXCHANGE**

For years ads of this company gave the impression that it was a trading place for individuals getting rid of or shopping for single used machines. Not

so. An article in the NY Times for 2/23/97 calls the company "a large national seller of used, overstocked, and discontinued equipment". In one example, a buyer received \$500 for his NEC laptop, and paid \$1250 for a discontinued, never used, Toshiba that had recently sold for \$1900. The NEC was to be resold for \$750. Close-out and overstocked machines have a reasonable warranty. Used machines have a 30 day parts and labor warranty.

Other sources of discontinued machines are The American Computer Exchange in Atlanta and Onsale, an auction site on the Internet.



**SERIOUS SPUTTER ADDRESS**

If you have printable comments about the telephone companies' plan to charge you to use the Internet, even over a local phone line, here is an e-mail address to use.

ISP@FCC.GOV

This information comes from Liz Dunbar, who urges you to use it.

**MYSTIC PC PHOTOS**

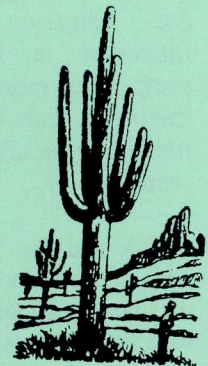
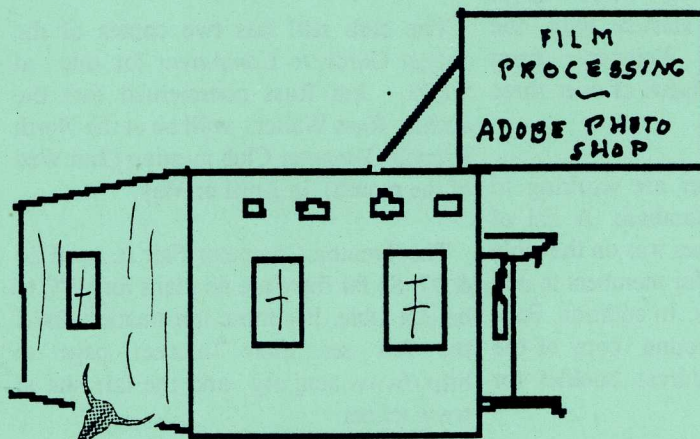
by Evelyn Stewart

This is not an ad. It is a report of news from a company I have dealt with happily for many years.

Mystic Color Lab, an old, reliable, ordinary mail order film developing company, suddenly offers to put your whole roll of film on a disk., for MAC or PC. For instance, a 24 exposure roll of 4x6 prints costs 8.95, a second set is free, and for \$4.95 more you get the whole set on a 3.5 floppy, that runs on a 386 with 4 Mb of RAM, and Win 3.1 or 95. "No hard disk space is required". You can use the pictures with Works, Word, Harvard Graphics, Corel Draw, MS Pub, Lotus, and more. The disk includes the software that makes it work. You can print pictures in your letters. You can e-mail pictures to the family. You can copy the disk and send that off. Each disk comes with a card of thumbnail pictures of everything on the disk. Think of the shelf space you won't need for big, thick photo albums!

"Coming soon" Mystic will e-mail you when pictures are done and you can view them over the Internet, and download the ones you want.

Phone 800-367-6061, or write Mystic Color Lab, Masons Island Road. PO Box 144, Mystic, CT 06355-9987.





**JUNK E-MAIL**

For \$50 a month you can send unlimited e-mail through a company called Cyber Promotion. You must remove from your list any recipient who asks you to. Sanford Wallace, founder of this wonderful enterprise, claims to send 4 million e-mail ads each day.


**Spread Sheet for Beginners**  
**TRACKING MEDICARE**

To track bills for one operation, I tried a commercial program called **MedSure**. Even with polite tech support I couldn't use it easily. This time I'm using **Quattro**. You could use any spread sheet. For simple record keeping, all spread sheets do the same things. I used the following headings: Document number, (DOC #), Date Rec., Date of Service, Provider, Provider charge, Medicare approved, Medicare Paid, Blue Cross paid, We paid, We owe, Co-Pay, We received.

As each piece of paper arrived, bill or explanation or whatever, I wrote on it date rec, doc # and the spread sheet line #. As Medicare Part B began to drift in, I entered each document on its own line, but added a see also referring to earlier documents for the same service

You can make columns as wide as you want. In Quattro you put the cursor on the bar above the first row of cells, hold the left mouse button and move the column line to suit. You can enter the provider's whole title by leaving several columns empty. A spread sheet program will let you write across as many cells as you want, as long as they are empty, so leave a lot of empty columns for provider before the next heading.

As the pile grows, your headings disappear. if you can't figure out from the

manual how to "freeze" them so you can see them as you work on down, highlight (select) the heading row, click Edit and Copy, then paste in a new heading row when the last one goes off the top of your screen. Make the heading row bold. In Quattro you can select the whole line by clicking on the left margin at the end of the line.

If you want the program to give you totals you only need the simplest formula, but it varies a little from program to program. In Quattro it's @sum( A1.A20) for instance. The variation is usually in the way you designate the block you want added., whether with a dot or a colon.) The program will add any numbers it finds and ignore any words that appear to be in the way. Look up Total or Formula or Sum in the Help screens or manual index.

**Quattro** uses notebooks as sections of one main file. I put the above document entries in one notebook, and a day by day list of events in another. This is useful when you are trying to remember which ambulance went where.

The time to fool around with spread sheets is when you don't need one. This is not a good thing to learn under stress. Try it now. **WORKS** has a good spread sheet program.

**MEMO****VIRUS ALERT!!!!**

[Sent to you by Alan Nass, a valuable member we lost when he decided to go build a cabin in the north woods. Send an e-mail hello to [asnass@cyberportal.net](mailto:asnass@cyberportal.net) ]

Immediately scan your computer for the following viruses:

**PAT BUCHANAN VIRUS:** Your system works fine, but it complains loudly about foreign software.

**COLIN POWELL VIRUS:** Makes its presence known, but doesn't do anything. Secretly, you wish it would.

**HILLARY CLINTON VIRUS:** Files disappear, only to reappear mysteriously a year later, in another directory.

**O.J. SIMPSON VIRUS:** You know it's guilty of trashing your system, but you just can't prove it.

**BOB DOLE VIRUS:** Could be virulent, but it's been around too long to be much of a threat.

**STEVE FORBES VIRUS:** All files are reported as the same size.

**PAUL REVERE VIRUS:** This revolutionary virus does not horse around. It warns you of impending hard disk

attack: Once, if by LAN; twice if by C

**POLITICALLY CORRECT VIRUS:** Never identifies itself as a "virus," but instead refers to itself as an

"electronic micro-organism."

**ROSS PEROT VIRUS:** Activates every component in your system, just before the whole thing quits.

**TED TURNER VIRUS:** Colorizes your monochrome monitor.

**GOVERNMENT ECONOMIST VIRUS:** Nothing works, but all your diagnostic software says everything is fine.

**NEW WORLD ORDER VIRUS:** Probably harmless, but it makes a lot of people really mad just thinking about it.

**FEDERAL BUREAUCRAT VIRUS:** Divides your hard disk into hundreds of little units, each of which does practically nothing, but all of which claim to be the most important part of your computer.

**GALLUP VIRUS:** Sixty percent of the PCs



infected will lose 30 percent of their data 14 percent of the time (plus or minus a 3.5 percent margin of error).

**TEXAS VIRUS:** Makes sure that it's bigger than any other file.

**ADAM AND EVE VIRUS:** Takes a couple of bytes out of your Apple.

**CONGRESSIONAL VIRUS:** The computer locks up, and the screen splits in half with the same message appearing on each side of the screen. The message says that the blame for the gridlock is caused by the other side.

**AIRLINE LUGGAGE VIRUS:** You're in Dallas, but your data is in Singapore.

**FREUDIAN VIRUS:** Your computer becomes obsessed with marrying its own motherboard.

**PBS VIRUS:** Your programs stop every few minutes to ask for money.

**ELVIS VIRUS:** Your computer gets fat, slow, and lazy, then self-destructs, only to resurface at shopping malls and service stations across rural America.

**OLLIE NORTH VIRUS:** Causes your printer to become a paper shredder.

**NIKE VIRUS:** Just does it.

**SEARS VIRUS:** Your data won't appear unless you buy new cables, power supply, and a set of shocks.

**JIMMY HOFFA VIRUS:** Your programs can never be found again.

**KEVORKIAN VIRUS:** Helps your computer shut down as an act of mercy.

**STAR TREK VIRUS:** Invades your system in places where no virus has gone before.

**HEALTH CARE VIRUS:** Tests your system for a day, finds nothing wrong, and

sends you a bill for \$4,500.

**GEORGE BUSH VIRUS:** It starts by boldly stating, "Read my docs... no new files!" on the screen. It proceeds to fill up all the free space on your hard drive with new files, then blames it on the Congressional virus.



## MARCH RAFFLES

A CD: Corel Professional Photos Sampler, donated by Liz Dunbar.

19 copies of "Really good games for your PC" CD ROM Disk sent from Sierra, thanks to the User Group Connection. It has demos or samples of Caesar 2, Civil War, Cyber, DB4 (Dr. Brain) Hunter, ICI2, Lords 2, Mission, Tbase2, and UPB2. One copy goes to Richard Wilkins because he writes such good game reviews. The other copies go to the elite who have 486 machines with 7168KB free. Midi and joystick are not required. The disk has a detailed test report that tells you where your system passes and fails, with respect to being able to run this disk. Your modem needs to process 300 pix per second. (Mine tests at 74. Shame.)



## WEB SITES

Mystic Color Lab  
<http://www.mysticcolorlab.com>  
for postage free mailers and other stuff

Update Windows95  
to download ServicePak 1 and many other fixes for assorted problems You don't need this if you have Win95 version

4.00.950b. You can tell what version you have by right clicking on the My Computer icon, and selecting Properties. It should tell you 4.00.950a or b.

Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility, a site created by Chris Hibbert offering suggestions on getting rid of junk e-mail

<http://www.cpsr.org/cpsr/privacy/junkmail.html>

Just for fun

Electric postcard at  
<http://www.media.mit.edu/Postcards> to send postcards by e-mail, free

The Finley Quality Network  
<http://www.tiac.net/users/mharney>

Weblust Funny pages, a link from  
<http://www.Weblust.com/imdex.html>

[www.camp-gone-to-the-dogs.com](http://www.camp-gone-to-the-dogs.com) a real camp in Putney, VT for dogs and people of all breeds, and where a mutt is honored as a Designer Dog

[www.knight.city.ba.k12.md.us](http://www.knight.city.ba.k12.md.us)  
done by Liz Dunbar's Web Page Club at City College HS



**Hippocratic Oath For Software Engineers**  
a Glatstein download

Never write a line of code that someone else can understand.

*continued on next page*



Make the simplest line of code appear complex. Use long counter intuitive names. Don't ever code "a=b", rather do something like:

```
AlphaNodeSemaphore=*(int>(&
(unsigned long)(BetaFrameNodeFarm));
```

Type fast, think slow.

Never use direct references to anything ever. Bury everything in macros. Bury the macros in include files. Reference those include files indirectly from other include files. Use macros to reference those include files.

Never include a comment that will help someone else understand your code. If they understand it, they don't need you.

Never generate new sources. Always ifdef the old ones. Every binary in the world should be generated from the same sources.

Never archive all the sources necessary to build a binary. Always hide on your own disk. If they can build your binary, they don't need you.

Never code a function to return a value. All functions must return a pointer to a structure which contains a pointer to a value.

Never discuss things in concrete terms. Always speak in abstract. If they can understand you, they don't need you.

Never complete a project on time. If you do, they will think it was easy and anyone can do it and they don't need you.

When someone stops by your office to ask a question, talk forever but don't answer the question. If they get their questions answered they don't need you.

Load all sentences either written or spoken with alphabet soup. When someone asks you out to lunch, reply:

"I can't because I've almost got my RISC-based OSI/TCP/IP client connected by

BIBUS VMS VAX using SMTP over TCP sending SNMP inquiry results to be encapsulated in UDP packets for transmission to a SUN 4/280 NFS 4.3 BSD with release 3.6 of RPC/XDR supporting our ONC effort working."

Never clean your office. Absolutely never throw away an old listing.

Never say hello to someone in the hallway. Absolutely never address someone by name. If you must address someone by name, mumble or use the wrong name. Always maintain the mystique of being spaced out from concentrating on complex logic.

Never wear a shirt that matches your pants. Wear a wrinkled shirt whenever possible. Your shirt must never be tucked in completely.

Button the top button without wearing a tie. This will maximize your mystique.



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## SUBJ: An Interesting Anecdote on Seymour Cray excerpted from "MacWay"

Evangelistas probably know of the recent death of supercomputer legend Seymour Cray. Here at Cray Research we have been asked to submit "Seymour Stories," of which there are many -- he was an eminently quotable guy. One such story, that I heard years ago, might be of interest.

Apple Computer purchased a big Cray supercomputer in the mid-1980s. In fact, Steve Jobs was Cray's first and only walk-in customer. He arrived unannounced (so the story goes) at Cray headquarters in Mendota Heights, Minnesota, and asked to speak to someone about buying a Cray. They nearly threw him out. It's only slightly less eccentric than someone walking into NASA Johnson Space Center and inquiring how to purchase a shuttle orbiter.

Later, Cray president John Rollwagen phoned Seymour and told him that Apple had just purchased a Cray that would be used in designing the next Macintosh. Seymour thought for a bit, and replied that that seemed reasonable, since he was using a Macintosh to design the next Cray.



## SUBJ: MSN Support, Can I Help You?

One of Microsoft Network's finest support techs was drafted and sent to boot camp. At the rifle range, he was given some instruction, a rifle, and a few bullets.

He loaded the rifle and fired several

shots at the target.

The report came from the target area that all attempts had completely missed the target.

The tech looked at his rifle, and then at the target. He looked at the rifle again, and then at the target again. He put his finger over the end of the rifle barrel and squeezed the trigger with his other hand. The end of his finger was blown off -- whereupon he yelled toward the target area:

"It's leaving here just fine; the trouble must be at your end!"



## Computer Buzzword Redefinitions

forwarded by Paul Glattstein

- ISDN: It Still Does Nothing
- APPLE: Arrogance Produces Profit-Losing Elitists
- IBM: I Blame Microsoft
- DEC: Do Expect Cuts
- CA: Constant Acquisitions
- CD-ROM: Consumer Device, Rendered Obsolete in Months
- OS/2: Obsolete Soon, Too.
- SCSI: System Can't See It
- DOS: Defunct Operating System
- BASIC: Bill's Attempt to Seize Industry Control
- WWW: World Wide Wait



>>To subscribe to the "**HumourNet**" mailing list, send the following command to "listproc@csf.colorado.edu" (without quotes):

subscribe HumorNet your\_name, your\_city, your\_state or countryC where "your\_name" is your real name, and "HumorNet" is spelled the American way -- with only one "u" (though the \*official\* name for the list remains "HumourNet"). Thus, my sub request would read: subscribe HumorNet Vince Sabio, Washington, D.C.

To unsubscribe, send the command "unsubscribe HumorNet" (without quotes) to listproc@csf.colorado.edu.



## COMPUTER SHOWS

At last HCC has a speaker at The Big One - Trenton Computer Fair, moved years ago from Trenton State to Monmouth County College. (TSC is now the College of NJ.) Liz Dunbar is on the workshop list.

Dates April 26 and 27. There are rumors of financial and other problems with this show which has grown to monster size, so maybe this is the year you should go.

## PETER TRAPP SHOWS

Bethlehem, Pa. Sunday, March 23, Stabler Arena, Lehigh U.

Same location Sunday, April 19

These shows tend to close abruptly at 3:00 or 4:00. Check by calling 607-369-2796 or look up [www.petertrapp.com](http://www.petertrapp.com)



## VIDEO PROFESSOR TAPES

We reviewed a sample tape long ago, and reported it here as excellent. The offer of a free tape (\$4.95 s/h) video is



still open. Call 1-800-554-2050 to choose among Win95, Internet, DOS, Word, WordPerfect, Lotus, Excel, Works and Quicken. You will be invited to look at a second one, which you can return with no argument. This is true. I did it. (es)





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### REPLACEMENT TAG LINES

Indecision is the key to flexibility.

All things being equal, big people use more soap.

You can't tell which way the train went by looking at the track.

By the time you make ends meet, they move the ends.

Nostalgia isn't what it used to be.

The world gets a little better every day, and worse in the evening.

Things are more like they are today than they have ever been before.

I have seen the truth and it makes no sense.

If you think there is good in everybody you haven't met everybody.

Suicide is the most sincere form of self-criticism.

One seventh of your life is spent on Monday.

The more you run over a dead cat the flatter it gets.

This is as bad as it can get but don't bet on it

Just in time, this month's disk is GARDEN. It has sound gardening information, recipes, and an excellent list of all the good garden catalogs, so you don't have to save all of them. Check out Seeds of Change and Cook's Garden. Garden prints planting charts. It's a 1992 DOS program. Gardening doesn't change a lot.

PLEASE bring blanks to trade, and to pay back. Last month three more were taken than were replaced. I know Staples had disks for sale for just the sales tax recently, but still .....



### **Baffled Readers' Dept.**

ISDN stands for Integrated Services Digital Network. Your old phone is analog. ISDN is digital. With ISDN your modem connections run twice as fast as before. Bell Atlantic charges \$100 to \$150 for installation, with monthly fees of \$35 to \$50 for 60 hours. You can use your old analog phone on your ISDN line. "ISDN has a well-deserved reputation for being difficult to set up. You can't just plug an ISDN adapter into the phone line; it must be configured to work with your specific phone." One adapter, however, called Adtran, can figure out the switch type and SPIDS. And that stands for Service Profile Identifier. Adtran costs \$469 list, \$320 street)

The good news is that this is for Win95 users, and even they don't have to change. And your old machine will keep on working the same as ever while the Joneses go ISDN.



HUNTERDON COMPUTER CLUB

Next Meeting - Saturday, March 15  
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  
Program: Road Trips Door to Door Travel Software

Guests Welcome - all ages all interests

**HCC NEWSLETTER**

**HUNTERDON COMPUTER CLUB**  
Evelyn Stewart, Secretary  
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Renewal date 6/97  
Lon Hosford  
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