



Newsletter

Volume 12 Issue 11

November 1999



**Judge rules
Microsoft is a
Monopoly!.
HCC meets
on November
20
anyway.**

The November meeting will be on Saturday the 20th, at HMC. Please keep trying to park far from the main entrance, even though the new design makes it harder. Jim Russ will show you how to tell where you are with Global Positioning software. You will never again need to face the humiliation of asking for directions. Of course, what we really need is software to tell us where our cars are in parking lots. Walking up and down beepings to see which car answers is pretty low tech. Plan ahead for the December meeting and Don Slepian's music., December 18.

THE OCTOBER MEETING

The regular HCC meeting was held on October 19 at HMC, Flemington. We made history by having the lowest attendance since our early years, and no guests.

President Lon Hosford called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M. and moved directly into the Q & A session. Ilene Shope raised the question of lack

of interest in computer clubs among younger people. Among explanations offered: : They know everything.....They take the computer for granted as a tool that they use all day and are not interested in it as a hobby.They have grown up with computers and don't have the Wow! And Gee Whiz! reactions of people who once used typewriters and mimeograph machines, or set metal type.

The only business transacted was the closing of nominations for the entire slate of officers. There were no nominations from the floor and the slate remains the same as shown on page 5.

One new member family joined us, the Meinhardts of 149 Thatchers Hill Road, Flemington. Eric Meinhardt is following Max Weinstein's career plan of starting with a big company as an industry trainer, then starting his own business. Max is taking advantage of the freedom this offers by leaving us in January to move to Boston. Max is continuing with training, while Eric is going into Web Site Design.

This space was saved for Eric's business card. DTTD (due to technical difficulties) it will appear next month. Translation: The Editor has misplaced the card. Eric's phone number is 908 782 8502

Lon Hosford commented on an Adobe workshop at an NJCC meeting. Jim Russ presented one of the short topics. Adobe presented Photo Shop., Illustrator, and Acrobat, all in one hour. Adobe wanted 140 people, but 100 attended. Problems from hurricane Floyd interfered.

Treasurer Jac Carroll reported a balance of \$572.23

There was discussion of the Pentium chip getting a new name, Intium. There was also comment that domain names which people got free or at very low cost are now selling at high prices. Lon said Yahoo was running a domain name auction.

In a sort of bad news round table, we heard about problems with Win98 not shutting down, with a took patch available; bugs in IE Explorer; a Java problem with a 6.3 Mb patch; bugs in Excel with a 2.8 Mb fix. Jac has found that IE 4 and 5 must be deleted to reinstall Win95, involving a 3 hour process and 6 pages of instructin. Joe added that Microsoft has put out a disk with Y2 K fixes, but Windows can't recognize it.



The Program Visio by Jim Russ

This program promises to turn an idea into a diagram, as far as company organization goes. We saw version 4. You can see more at *Visio.com*. Joe Burger noted that Microsoft now owns **Visio** and will add it to the next version of Office.

The upgrade costs \$74.69, full program \$133.74 to \$150. Supershopper Russ bought version 4 for \$39.00 at a show. It comes on 1 CD or 14 floppies. It takes 18 Mb on your hard drive or 1 Mb if you run the program from the CD.

Visio will design flow charts for projects, organization charts, office layouts or building networks. Jim saw little use for this program at home, although you could use it to show a family tree. You can install it to run or copy charts into **Word** or **Excel**. The newer versions let you save the chart as a web page.



PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

It was all flow with the October meeting demonstration from Jim Russ of using **Visio**. We got a club organization chart and most impressive the floor plan for the club president's office. And all in a few minutes

Thanks much Jim, and yes if you could work in the secret exit to the Millennium bug bunker from my office.

The meeting also hustled to close the Officers nominations for 99-00. Same old same old for Officers so next meeting the

Secretary casts one ballot and reinstates the lot of us.

And still another episode of Flash Hosford in "The World of Whoisn't"

Flash awakening in what appears as a trash can in an alley in downtown Toronto is actually a janitor's closet. Was he still on the planet Microsoft (bigger than Jupiter)?

Still dazed from a long unconscious state, Flash staggered down the hallways looking for help.

First he saw a sign, "Bank-->". He followed it and it led to a door with a sign "Anonymous". He knocked and no one answered. He opened the door and saw only computers and wires.

He continued and found another sign "Government-->". This too led to a door with a sign, "Anonymous". Inside were more computers and wires.

Starting to feel desperate, Flash continued and followed a sign that said "Education-->". And it led to another "Anonymous" door opening to computers and wires.

Flash continued for many hours and days with similar signs such as "Insurance-->", "Stocks-->", "Electric power-->", "Hotels-->", "Airlines-->", "Sex-->", "Doctor--", "Clothing-->" and every facet of daily existence led to doors of "Anonymous".

The halls seemed to continue forever in this repeating pattern.

And then ... Flash came to a sign that said "You-->". Flash hesitated. Was this a trap? He slowly proceeded and turned into a long poorly lighted hallway that appeared to dead end with a door.

As he approached the door seemed to move away. He began to run toward it and the door continued to move away pacing his speed. Then he stopped. Quick witted, he turned to look back. And right

behind him within inches was another door.

On the floor in front of the door was a sign broken in two pieces. One piece had an "E". The other an "M" or was it a "W"? Flash opened the door and entered a room with bright lights and no floor.

Tune in next time when we learn if Flash falls to his death or is caught inside the Microsoftians' web site or he has discovered a plot for a new universe of nameless peopleless services controlled by the evil Ming over the Internet.



New Members and changes

Lela, Paul and Eric Meinhardt
149 Thatcher's Hill Road
Flemington NJ 08822
908 782 8502
e- jember@hotmail.com

Merlin Douglass has gone off to Arizona
7827 E. Baker St
Tucson AZ 85710
Email still merlindouglass@sprintmail.com

Harvey Schramm
130 Cedar Run Road
Bayville NJ 08721

Tom Grandell
57 Barbary Lane
Columbus NJ 08022-2312

Do you have a web site yet? Tell Paul at pglatt@ptd.net

Free Radio

From Ed.'s e-mail

<http://radio.www.com/>

You can download (FREE) a "radio" player. Then after you install it and go back to the website, you can customize your "radio" (it's not really a radio... plays continuous music without commercials or chat). You can customize up to 7 buttons on your radio with the kinds of music you like to listen to (HUNDREDS of different types of music!).



Fontasia!

From Liz Dunbar

>Elbow Grease - the Webmonkey newsletter

><http://www.webmonkey.com/>

>-----
>-----

Wednesday, 29 September 1999

As I installed the 10,000th font on my computer at home this weekend, I realized it was time for a celebration. Over the years, friends and family have expressed concern over my excessive lust for fonts, but I've learned to tune them out and just listen to the sweet, sweet tones of a hearty Hoefler or a mind-blowing Chank. Helvetica Bold never ditched me on prom night - what promised to be the most important and sensational night of my life!

Anyway, font sites are some of the most entertaining and well-designed sites out there, and sometimes I go there just to feel better about humanity. Here are some of my favor-

ites:

- > dincTYPE: <http://www.girlswhowearglasses.com/>
- >-> Andreas Lindkvist: <http://www.lindkvist.com/>
- >-> Rotodesign: <http://www.rotodesign.com/>
- >-> Eyesaw: <http://www.antidot.de/eyesaw/>
- >-> Chank Diesel: <http://www.chank.com/>
- >-> The Hoefler Type Foundry: <http://www.typography.com/>

WHERE'S GEORGE?

Paul Glattstein remarked during the October meeting that you can now track your money. Another member, Eleanor Cole handed me the NY Times Thursday CyberSection for 10/28/99 with the details. Go to www.wheresgeorge.com to track your own dollar bill. You register your dollar's serial number on the web site, then mark your dollar with the web site address, spend it, but success after that success depends on the people who pick up your dollar reporting to the web site to tell where they got your dollar. "55,000 people have entered nearly 900,000 bills..."



Catchup

An e-mail forward.... This sounds like Oil Change, a commercial product of a year or so back.

My cable modem tech told me about this today.... This site is www.catchup.com This searches your hard drive, or any drive you want it to, for programs, drivers, etc. Any .exe files. It then lists all of them that

it finds on your system.

THEN - it will search the Internet for updates, upgrades, patches, etc for every-one of those files it found on your system. Then you can just click on a link for each one, individually, and it will take you to the download "place" for each one if you want to download it....



SHOW

Ken Gordon Edison November 13,14
www.pcshow.com

YOK bug -- or things don't get better, they get different

----- Forwarded message -----

Translated from a Latin scroll dated 2 BC

Dear Cassius: Are you still working on the Y zero K problem? This change from BC to AD is giving us a lot of headaches and we haven't much time left. I don't know how people will cope with working the wrong way around. Having been working happily downwards forever, now we have to start thinking upwards.

You would think that someone would have thought of it earlier and not left it to us to sort out at this last minute.

I spoke to Caesar the other evening. He

was livid that Julius hadn't done something about it when he was sorting out the calendar. He said he could see why Brutus turned nasty. We called in Consultus, but he simply said that continuing downwards using minus BC won't work and as usual charged a fortune for doing nothing useful. Surely we will not have to throw out all our hardware and start again?

Macrohard will make yet another fortune out of this I suppose. The money lenders are paranoid of course! They have been told that all usury rates will invert and they will have to pay their clients to take out loans. Its an ill wind

As for myself, I just can't see the sand in an hourglass flowing upwards. We have heard that there are three wise men in the east who have been working on the problem, but unfortunately they won't arrive until it's all over.

I have heard that there are plans to stable all horses at midnight at the turn of the year as there are fears that they will stop and try to run backwards, causing immense damage to chariots and possible loss of life. Some say the world will cease to exist at the moment of transition.

Anyway, we are still continuing to work on this blasted Y zero K problem. I will send a parchment to you if anything further develops.

If you have any ideas please let me know,

Plutonius



YOUR NEW PRINTER

By Paul Glattstein

Most printers are now designed to use your computer CPU, memory and Windows operating system to manage most of the printing functions. These printers no longer accept raw ASCII data and process it into a formatted document with the proper margins, page breaks, etc. Instead, your computer does most of the work behind the scenes and sends output ready data to the printer.

The advantage is that printers can be manufactured at lower cost since they don't need to have much memory or fast microprocessors to print complex documents quickly. The downside is that you need to have a computer that will feed the right data stream to the printer. Currently, this means a Windows machine. You can be running Windows 3.x, 95, 98 or NT or even DOS from within Windows and everything will print well. If you try booting directly into DOS with one of these Windows dependent printers you're in trouble and, I suspect, they also won't work with other operating systems such as Linex.

Earth Tuner

from Ed.'s e-mail

From: TipWorld <tips@tipworld.com>

Subject: Hot Shareware [Earth Tuner and more... - 10/22/99]

Listen to the latest news from Russia, quirky pop from Japan, and watch English soccer all from the comfort of your PC. Earth Tuner turns your PC into a Global Media Receiver with over 1,000 stations. ET supports RealAudio and Video, and its interface comes equipped with an animated globe for easy browsing and programmable presets for easy launching of your favorite sites.

<http://www.pcworld.com/r/shw/1%2C2087%2C6180%2C00.html>

Book Store

Ed Ulrich recommends the A1 Computer Book store in Hackettstown, which has survived the demise of 5 1/4 disks, shareware, and a lot of years. He brought home this card.



ACRONYMS

Sent by Rick Williams

PCMCIA - People Can't Memorize Computer Industry Acronyms

ISDN - It Still Does Nothing

SCSI - System Can't See It

DOS - Defective Operating System

BASIC - Bill's Attempt to Seize Industry Control

IBM - I Blame Microsoft

DEC - Do Expect Cuts

CD-ROM - Consumer Device, Rendered Obsolete in Months

OS/2 - Obsolete Soon, Too

WWW- World Wide Wait

MACINTOSH - Most Applications Crash; If Not, The Operating System Hangs

PENTIUM - Produces Erroneous Numbers Thru Incorrect Understanding of Mathematics

COBOL - Completely Outside Business Oriented Language

AMIGA - A Merely Insignificant Game Addiction

LISP - Lots of Infuriating and Silly Parentheses

MPS - Meaningless Indication of Processor Speed

WINDOWS - Will Install Needless Data on Whole System

MICROSOFT - Most Intelligent Customers Realize Our Software Only Fools Teenagers

RISC - Reduced Into Silly Code

CONVENTIONAL WISDOM UPDATE

First graders were asked to complete these well known (the teacher thought) proverbs:

Its better to be safe than Punch a 5th grader.

Strike while theBug is close.

Don't bite the hand that looks dirty.

A penny saved is not much.

If at first you don't succeed.....get new batteries.

It's always darkest before Daylight Savings Time.



HCC 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 \$25. for an individual, \$30. for family. Non-member 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 email to estewart@ptd.net .

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Computer Volunteers
ALL MEMBERS

BURN THIS

Those of us used to writing technical and business reports know how difficult it can be to use just the right phrase to convey the true depth of your topic. Now, professionals and students alike can seem like etymological geniuses, thanks to the "Systematic Buzz Phrase Projector" created by Phillip Broughton, a U.S. Public Health Service official. Using only 30 carefully chosen buzz words, you can woo your way through any written or oral presentation:

Column 1	*Column 2*	*Column 3*
0. integrated	0. management	0. options
1. total	1. organizational	1. flexibility
2. systematized	2. monitored	2. capability
3. parallel	3. reciprocal	3. mobility
4. functional	4. digital	4. programming
5. responsive	5. logistical	5. concept
6. optional	6. transitional	6. time-phase
7. synchronized	7. incremental	7. projection
8. compatible	8. third-generation	8. hardware
9. balanced	9. policy	9. contingency

USAGE: Randomly pick any three-digit number. Now select the corresponding buzzword from each column. For instance, "748" produces "synchronized transitional hardware", or "839" yields "responsive reciprocal contingency", a phrase which can be dropped into any report with the ring of authority. "No one will have any idea what you're talking about," says Broughton, "but they're probably not about to admit it."

Subject: Computer viruses

From: "Warren Rees"
<wsrees@voicenet.com>

FYI.

There are many e-mail messages being circulated about computer viruses. Most are hoaxes. Before you circulate these messages, you can check the following web sites to determine whether the message you received is a hoax or not.

Virus Hoaxes: <http://www.symantec.com/avcenter/hoax.html>
 Virus Hoaxes: <http://ciac.llnl.gov/ciac/CIACHoaxes.html>
 Real Viruses: <http://www.virusbtn.com/>
 Urban Myths: <http://www.urbanmyths.com>



From: John Carroll
<jcarroll@eclipse.net>
Subject: local radio, new found fame...

Received a call from one of the announcers from WJHR, 1040AM radio. He was looking for a WinNT expert who would like to provide a quote for the show... it's WinNT's 16th Birthday.

It seems as though we have lost yet another great AM STEREO music station. Jersey's Hometown

Radio 1040 WJHR AM STEREO in Flemington, NJ officially switched to a Talk format on May 3, 1999 at 3:00 pm and is now known as Chat Radio 1040. WJHR now has local talk and news programs from 6 am to 7 pm, and they also carry the syndicated talk shows of G. Gordon Liddy and Jim Bohannon in the evenings. As well, they carry Coast to Coast AM with Art Bell from 1 am to 6 am.

Prior to their official format change, there was an absence of DJ's and music on WJHR, and the presence of a continuous looping promo with construction sound effects in stereo and a message stating, "Construction is underway on a brand new radio station, designed exclusively for Hunterdon County. Find out what everybody will be talking about on May 3rd at 3 pm."

Encouragingly, WJHR is still broadcasting in AM STEREO and hopefully they will continue to do so for a long time to come.

SIERRA RUINS PRINT ARTIST

by Evelyn Stewart

From **Instant Artist** for DOS by the Pixellite Group, through Instant Artist for Windows and then Print Artist by Maxel, through version 4, this has been the easiest card making program to use, leaving **Print Shop** behind. There were no disks to switch, you changed font size with a flick of the mouse, etc.

Version 6 from Sierra began the down hill curve. It couldn't be installed with the code numbers it came with, the graphics selector was messed up. It was generally agreed that it was just a test for

version 8. We were spared version 7.

Version 8 comes in 3 sizes, with the Grand Suite the largest, with 8 CD's. Sam's Club has it for 19.95 after either the store rebate of \$20, or with the rebate sticker on the box. The Grand Suite requires 220 Mb of hard drive space, and will not run until you change settings to 800x600 and 16 bit resolution. After which you can hardly decipher what's on the screen. Where previous version showed a large clear preview of each graphic or layout, now we get a narrow vertical column with 2 previews of the same layout, one for side open and one for top open, impossible to get more than a vague impression until you open it. There is an inconvenient conversion for project files from version 4. Projects from the great version, Classic 3, do not run at all on 8.

You still have to cope with libraries of graphics with the proprietary extension .wmf. The added programs which allowed browsing and working with individual files in a given library are no longer available. Of course you have to switch disks to use the 7 left after installation. Print Artist Clip Art is spread over 3 of them, another has Jpegs, and 3 cover Art Mania for Print Artist. 300 fonts are automatically installed. The next step will be deleting most of them.

The glamorous purple box does not list, even in fine print, the hard drive space and the setting requirements.

These are my notes after installation and doing one project (and resetting the screen resolution so I can read things.) People on the 3 Print Artist List-Serves have other complaints. They also report that the old war horse **Print Shop** is now great again in version 10. Some people are returning version 8. Most are just going on with versions 3 and 4, and putting v 8 back on the shelf.

Hunterdon Computer Club

Next Meeting Saturday, November 20, 1999
Hunterdon Medical Center
Rt 31 Flemington NJ

8:30 A.M. To Noon
Program: Global Positioning

Guests Welcome – all ages all levels

HCC NEWSLETTER

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FIRST CLASS MAIL
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