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# KIPCUG Presents

**Intuit®**

**Quicken 2001**

**Quicken 2001**

**Matt  
McCann  
Returns!**

**Live &  
In-Person!**

**Public is welcome to Intuit's  
demonstration of  
Quicken and TurboTax at  
KIPCUG's General Meeting at Indiana  
University - Ogle Center**

**Free Program Starts at 6:30 PM**

**www.kipcug.org**

# KIPCUG

Next meeting

**QUICKEN 2001**

**INDIANA UNIVERSITY SE**

Tuesday, December 5th, 6:30 p.m.

# From The Editor

**W**e have a terrific line-up of meetings scheduled over the next few months! **December** - If you have never seen Matt McCann, you have missed one of the best! Matt represents Quicken and TurboTax from Intuit. Fifteen years ago it started with 1 idea and now 10,000,000 people trust Quicken with their money. As the expert, Matt will demonstrate Quicken2001's latest features AND answer your questions regarding your "version." **January** - This is your chance to see a computer built right before your eyes with every detail projected up on the big screen by our KIPCUG video camera man at the same time. You will be able to see every tiny detail, and listen to a blow by blow description of the whole process narrated by "Your Local Computer Geeks" Joe Sykora and built by Mark Uchida from Inter Space Computers. Of course they will answer all of our question on the process and tell us about all of the leading edge technology that just became available in the last few hours, .... all right, the last few days and weeks. This is one meeting that you really do not want to miss. **February** - Do you have a new CD burner under the Christmas tree? What is a MP3 and do you need one? What's happening with Napster or can I still download music from the Internet? KIPCUG has an entire evening planned to help you install a new CDRW drive, create your own music files, and perhaps show you a new way to backup your files. **Save** the 1st. Tuesday of the month, **KIPCUG** invites you to a great line of meetings! Ask about the Pig-SIG! (The meeting after the meeting at a local restaurant - location will be announced that evening.)

*How can we help you? John*

## Contributing staff writers

**Charley May   Susan Moore   Winnie Miller**  
**John Markham   Sam Cooke   Matthew Mercurio**



KIPCUG is a member of APCUG, an international association of computer groups. Information is available at [www.apcug.org](http://www.apcug.org)

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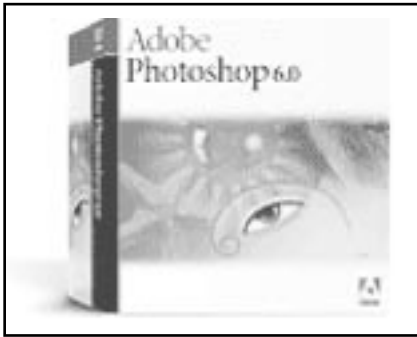
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# Over the Program Director's Shoulder

by Matthew Mercurio, Program Director

Last month at the November general meeting of KIPCUG, Schoun Regan with the Complete Mac gave our group a great presentation on Adobe's new Photoshop 6.0.



Adobe was unable to send their presenters out so KIPCUG's own Schoun Regan demonstrated the many new features built in to the software. As usual, Adobe really made some great advancements on their already superb software. Schoun showed us how to add affects with different tools that come with the software. He demonstrated new text tools and showed off some of the old ways of doing things.



Schoun also brought with him some of the really cool products Apple has come out with. A 21" Flat Cinema Screen monitor was on display out in the lobby for the guest's inspection as they shuffled into the meeting. Watching a DVD on this screen will definitely change the way you feel about computer screens. This screen is so clear and crisp that you can actually watch what ever is on the screen from a 180-degree angle just as clear as if you were sitting right in front of the



screen. Another crowd pleaser was the G4 Mac and it's easy open case. With a flip of a button the case unfolds out allowing you to easily work on any components inside. Not to say that the G4 needs much work as we all know the stability of the Apple Macintosh. And finally, on display were the Apple's "Drive Array" and the new "Airport". The "Drive Array" is the same size as the new "Cube" also made by Apple,

but has far greater storage capacity. 256 Gigs, that's right, I said 256. This little box easily plugs into your network and with a couple of configuration changes, adds 256 GIGS of storage to your network. If you haven't heard of the "Airport", then I suggest you check out Apple's web site and learn the scoop on how you can use the new "Airport" to make your home network completely wireless! Schoun Regan is the Training Director and media specialist for The Complete Mac located at 1041 Bardstown Rd. Schoun is also a regular cast member of the 84Online Radio show on 84WHAS and DotCom TV Show on Insight's Channel 8. We think Schoun did a great job and we say a big THNX to him for making the November meeting exciting and informative!



**VIVA Las Vegas!**

Every year millions of people flock to the desert for an oasis of gambling, bigger than life hotels, and world famous entertainment. A Disney World for adults as I have heard it put so eloquently. But each

## Getting to IUS from Louisville

Our meetings are in the Ogle Center at Indiana University Southeast.

Take I-65 north to I-265. Turn west on I-265 (after passing under the overpass).

Take the Grant Line Road exit from I-265.

Turn right at the intersection onto Grant Line Road. IUS is a half mile on the left.

Ogle Center is at the back right of the campus. You will not "get a ticket" for parking in the wrong lot or meter area. Park behind or in front of the building.

# Over the Program Director's Shoulder



fall the bright lights and the city of sin give way for the biggest Consumer Electronic show in the world. 250,000 people were expected to attend this years Comdex held at the Las Vegas Convention Center. Even when the attendance down to a mere 175,000, the Comdex proved to be exciting and informative. The Comdex has grown so big that it now occupies both the large 1,000,000 square foot LVCC and the smaller 500,00 square foot Sands Convention center. Media and press crews from all over the world were on hand to see the latest and greatest technologies unveiled at the event. Everyone from CNN to TechTV to a Korean news crew converged on the scene to see what was going to be premiered at the event. I was fortunate enough to be able to attend this year's show. I served in many capacities such as KIPCUG representative, WHAS press, and my day job as Monroe Shine's IS Manager. As KIPCUG's representative, I attended many of the APCUG

Round table and vendor sponsored events. Shown below are some pictures taken from these roundtable discussions held by APCUG, the national governing body of all users groups.



Hey we know that lady! A relaxing Judy Lococo after a hard day at the Roundtables.

It wasn't all work and no play, the group got a chance to take a break and get a bite to eat at the MGM Grand hotel.



Comdex was extremely busy and if you didn't have a game plan, you were going to miss much of it. The Comdex is so big that you can't see it all, so you need to plan out what you want to see and stick to it...only with all the gadgets out there; it was hard to stick to the game plan. Shown below are some the booths I visited.

This is a new portable MP3 player that also has a camera built into it.



How about a pet for Christmas? Only this pet requires no food, water, or paper scooper! This is Sony's latest toy just in time for Christmas. It comes complete with sensors and a built in camera to follow your every move and a price tag of around \$1500.00. Pricy yes, but think of all the dog food you will save!



Flat panel displays and new PDA's were a big hit this year as well



APCUG Round Tables provide training for member User Groups.

Picture courtesy of Rose Lynn, Gold Coast Macintosh User Group.

# On The Horizon . . .

Can you guess who this is? Is it really him? What do you think?



Overall, the Comdex seem to have five major themes this year. Bluetooth Wireless, portable MP3 players and devices, PDA's and accessories, speech recognition and displays that range from 17" flat panels for under a grand all the way up to 60" High Definition Televisions for a mere \$40,000.00. Wouldn't that make a great Christmas gift! We did get to see Bill Gate's keynote speech at the MGM Grand, where he eluded to a new product still in design. Ever wish you could carry your PC around the office with you? Well this new PC is the same size as a legal pad and is just as easy to use. It comes complete with a screen that allows you to write on it and it uses new handwriting recognition technology. He called it the "Tablet PC" and by the demonstration, this PC will surely change the way use PC's today. The Comdex and Las Vegas was big, exciting, tiring, fun and informative all wrapped into 6 days of blurry fascination. I loved it...but next time, I will be wearing very comfortable shoes!

On the Horizon...



**December's meeting** is going to be a great meeting! Matt McCann from Intuit will be here to show off the latest and greatest. He has promised a new product and I have heard through the grapevine, he is going to show off the new Quicken 2001!



Matt is a great presenter. His wit coupled with his informative demonstrations will surely be something to see. I saw Matt out at Comdex and he says he is ready to show off this great new product from Intuit. He assures me that we will be very impressed with its new features. What timing...just in time for tax season too.



**January's meeting** we are going to try something different. Charlie May our SIG Director has worked out a special presentation from a local retailer. Interspace Computers will take the stage to show exactly how to build your own PC! We will have special camera's set up to show off all the important steps in building your own PC. You will be able to sit and take notes, as we will assemble a computer right there on stage for all to see and learn. If you have been thinking of trying something like this then you won't want

to miss this meeting. ISC has been in business since 1996 and has quickly grown to be the 4th largest computer dealer in our area! The company has grown in many directions, but their latest venture is building corporate networks and infrastructure. They have many years of experience in the computer industry and they really know what they are talking about. So if you want to learn how to build your own PC, come watch "Your Local Computer Geeks" show you how to do it. They will teach you the things you need to know to build a reliable, dependable computer.

**February's meeting** we will continue our hands on learning seminar with CD burners. We will teach you how to install and use these writers to back-up your software as well as burn your own music. MP3's have become a hot topic of late and we are going to learn from some experts on how to properly install your burner and then use it for many projects. Ever wonder what the buzz about Napster is all about? Well we are going to walk you through



KIPCUG's General Meeting is held the 1st. Tuesday each month in the Ogle Center at Indiana University Southeast.

IUS is located at 2nd entrance off Grant Line Road, just north of I-265  
Parking is FREE

## On The Horizon . . .

downloading, saving, and then converting your favorite song titles to the MP3 format and burn them on a CDROM all at the same time!

**March's meeting** we will be vis-



ited by Randall Whittle from Iceka. Randall is a professional presenter that travels the country telling all about various pieces of software. Last year Randall visited us and he brought with him some really great video editing software from MGI. This year Randall returns and this time he is going to continue with our hands on sessions by bringing us piece software called SureThing. SureThing is made by Micro Division. SureThing is a CD labeler software that allows you to print high quality, professional looking CD labels. SureThing is not only a CD labeler, but it is an office label and print utility as well. They also make a great web page design software tool! Randall will have many tidbits to show us at the March meeting, so don't miss that one.

### On Tap...

KIPCUG is going into 2001 with a whole new attitude. We want to get involved with the community and do as much good as we can. With that said, we have many planned activities for next year and to start, we are going to hold the first annual KIPCUG PC-Nic! In May of 2001 KIPCUG, along with various retailers will sponsor an outdoor event. Come eat lunch Sunday, May 20th and listen to speakers of various

subjects while you browse the retailer tables and get a first hand look of their products. KIPCUG has also made a comittment to helping needy family's get into the PC world. WE have partnered with MyComputerGeek and WaySide Christian Mission to take old donated PC's and revamp them, then donate them to families in need. Along with the activities, KIPCUG has planned a great year worth of meetings! Iomega, ATI, JASC, Microsoft, Hewlett Packard, Peachtree, Borland, and Executive Software are all planned for the upcoming year!

It's a great time to be a KIPCUG member as we embark on a new year! We want you to get the most out of your membership so we are planning to pack each meeting with as much info as well as goodies as possible. Learn new technologies and become smarter more efficient users! I always welcome any idea you might have for me and if you would like to see KIPCUG get involved with a project or maybe you have an idea for a meeting...please email me at mail-to: mgmercurio@home.com. I always look forward to hearing from you! Even if the comments or negative, I love hearing those as well...because I can't help if I don't know what bothers you about the meetings or KIPCUG. So good or bad...drop me a note today and tell me what you think!

**Stay tuned more to come....**

## President's Desk

by John Markham, President KIPCUG

### IS THERE ANYONE OUT THERE?

I have suggested that KIPCUG give something back to the community by sharing our most precious commodities - our time and our talent. 250 computers have been given for our program, to refurbish and distribute to the poor.

I have received NOT ONE offer to work on the machines or to work with Wayside Christian Mission to distribute those machines OR to clean them up.

### IS THERE ANYONE OUT THERE?

I was asked to resurrect KIPCUG's job/position posting. My company is the ONLY company offering positions. And I have had NO requests for jobs. NO ONE wants a job out there? I don't believe it!

### IS THERE ANYONE OUT THERE?

IF YOU WANT TO:

Help with giving FREE COMPUTERS to the POOR;  
Find a JOB or FILL a POSITION;

Send me an E-mail -

John Markham  
President KIPCUG  
markhamkipcug@hotmail.com

# Louisville Computer Pioneer: Steve Roberts

by Sam Cooke, KIPCUG member

## Louisville Computer Pioneer Steve Roberts Honored by Museum

Lewis and Clark started their adventure from the Falls of the Ohio - and so did Steve Roberts. These pioneers 'hit the road' before there was a road. Both discovered a vast, new territory into which thousands, and later millions, followed quickly. The first was in space -- the second in cyberspace.

There was a time way back - before acronyms like PC and WWW and MB entered our vocabulary and even before there was a KIPCUG. Computer users then braved the difficulties of hardware development and software incompatibilities and had very few sources of chips and programs and advice. In the Louisville area there was Steve Roberts who operated Cybertronics out of Bluegrass Industrial Park. The Computer Museum History Center, located in Silicon Valley, honored him this past month. The Center presently houses a fantastic collection of 'ancient' computers and plans on building a museum in the near future. More information about this and their other activities can be found at [www.computerhistory.org](http://www.computerhistory.org).

Their press release, which follows, refers to BEHEMOTH as a high tech bicycle he later developed. Long before battery powered notebook computers, PCMCIA modems, and the cellular communication, he biked the United States reporting monthly via Compuserve. Those who knew him then will recall that BEHEMOTH was the

name he gave his first computer hand built from chips before microprocessors existed. This name was based on physical size. Strictly as an afterthought, the would-be acronym was hastily filled out (by Steve and myself) as: Badly Engineered Heap of Electrical, Mechanical, Optical, and Thermal Hardware.

A slightly edited version of the Computer Museum History Center press release follows:

Steven K. Roberts, Consultant, Author & "Technomad" speaking on "BEHEMOTH: From Bike Ride to High Tech Adventure" Wednesday, September 6, 2000, 6:00 p.m. at the NASA Ames Auditorium Room 201, Moffett Federal Airfield, Mountain View, CA

Background on the Speaker and his Talk

>From 1983 to 1991, high-tech nomad Steven K. Roberts pedaled 17,000 miles around the United States on a computerized and networked recumbent bicycle, the BEHEMOTH (Big Electronic Human-Energized Machine, Only Too Heavy). Now, Roberts has retired the \$1.2 million BEHEMOTH to build a pair of canoe-based amphibian pedal/solar/sail trimarans known as Microships. This fall, the bike goes on permanent loan to The Computer Museum History Center; in early 2001, Roberts and his partner, Natasha, will launch a multi-year expedition throughout the United States aboard their tiny Linux-powered boatlets.

Prior to Steve's life as a technomad, he owned a consulting engi-

neering business in the Midwest and published three books on microprocessors and industrial control system design. Steve's once-radical notion of "nomadic connectivity" has become a trend as computer and communication tools become ever smaller and more powerful.

During his talks, Roberts presented the BEHEMOTH on stage along with other work in progress. They were discussed in broad detail, with close attention to the myriad conflicting design issues that drove the design process. Integration of a multilayered computer system into a tiny mobile platform created all sorts of interesting challenges, not the least of which was maintaining effective physical interface while dealing with a potentially fatal real-time physical environment. Additional design effort blended the substrates themselves with wireless network architecture, automated data collection and telemetry, solar power optimization, user interface design, audio/video routing, browser-based front end and communication tools, harsh-environment packaging, well-behaved embedded control systems, and more.

Roberts discussed the growing phenomenon of technomads, the blending of art and engineering, Internet collaboration, the critical importance of generalists in the design environment, and human factors issues in a complex multi-purpose system, interspersed with tales of his bike-ride adventures.

# 2001 Wish ...

by Winnie Miller, KIPCUG

What I wish for KIPCUG in the year 2001.

Know there are many women out in the wild blue yonder in Kentucky-Indiana that would like to belong to our KIPCUG. The younger groups are working and keeping the home fires burning. It is difficult to work to five, have home responsibilities and do the children's homework.

Many women think belonging to KIPCUG is "only a man thing". There are many grandmothers that have found e-mail. We may not know doodley-all-squat about the gray monster that sits in front of us but we know e-mail.

E-mail, the magic way of communicating with out putting words on paper. E-mail, the first thing one learns. We have the ways written down on a piece of paper. No. 1, turn the monster on and if one is lucky the last step will end in satisfaction in mail being sent on the wings of a dove.

If you accidentally lose the paper with the directions you are in deep "trouble".

I do not want our organization to become so complex that working women shy away from membership and the older ones hate to go out at night without a ride.

> Personally I believe our web site is one way to stay in touch with each other in the modern world. We have a Forum on the site that I find under-

used and I know will be one way to fill the gap when one is busy. There you may ask a simple or complex question about the gray monster and we have kind KIPCUG souls out in never land that would reply. You do not have to cross a bridge to belong to KIPCUG. You can help if you must stay at home by asking and answering questions and spreading the new word for our group in 2001.

We want the silent majority to join our membership, appreciate the many vendors that come to our meetings. We are searching for new ways for new times. Joining KIPCUG is a way to let a voice be heard.

I would like to challenge the men to ask a busy woman to join KIPCUG and belong to the silent majority.

I would like to challenge the stay at home members, the I can't join group because I must cross a bridge and new members to rise to the occasion and help answer questions on the Forum.

Challenge a high school student to belong to our group. Our site could become a powerful influence on our community in knowledge and service.

New ways for new times.

# Membership

by Susan Moore, KIPCUG  
Membership Director

## NEW MEMBERS

ED YOUNG  
JOHN HARBESON  
A WARE  
ROSEMARY VIELE  
FRANK GRUBER  
BILL A DOLLINGER  
EDWIN O WALKER  
GINA WILLIAMS  
GERALD JENKINS  
BRANDON GRUBER  
EARL MASTERS SR  
PEGGY MASTERS  
KEVIN M MONSOUR  
MARY THALE  
BILL BUZAN  
MARK JOHNSON  
MARGARET VANCE  
MARIA B BROWN  
CHARLES KIEFER JR  
KAREN GILL

Changes for mailing address, email address or telephone numbers should be sent to Susan Moore, Director of Membership. You can send the change to the regular KIPCUG mailing address printed on the back of the I/O or email to [susankmoore@iname.com](mailto:susankmoore@iname.com).

# Business Plan Writer 2.0

by Stanley Kerr Jr, KIPCUG

Hello, it is time for a new project and wanted to try something different. I talked with Joe at one of our meetings and he was willing to let me try a review. I installed and used Business Plan Writer 2.0 from Macmillan Software. The web address is [www.macmillanusa.com](http://www.macmillanusa.com). I installed it on an IBM Aptiva PII 333 with 112 Megs of ram. Installation took about twenty-five minutes but was faultless.

The program is actually four separate programs, Financial Planner, Plan Writer, Plan Publisher, and Business Forms Maker. I read the handbook and used the program and it seems the best way to tell about the whole program's many features is to briefly describe each one here with some excerpts from the handbook.

The Financial Planner is used to build the operational plan and the financial plan, two major components of the business plan. It is designed to help you prepare these plans easily and professionally, even if you have no previous experience in financial analysis. An easy-to-use Task Wizard leads you step-by-step through the data entry and analysis screens. A powerful Analysis module will help you analyze the validity of the financial plan, the risks involved, and the business opportunities. I found the online help useful in filling the formulas with the correct input.

The Plan Writer includes all the tools you need to write the business plan. A customizable topic list enables you to precede

topic-by-topic, with each topic supported by easy-to-follow instructions and samples. You can also link tables and graphs from the financial plan. The Plan Writer is a fully functional word processor, which has all the required functions to produce high-quality business documents.



When you finish writing all the topics and sections of the business plan document in the Plan Writer, the next step is to enter the Plan Publisher and produce the full business plan document. The full document includes the text from the Plan Writer and all linked tables and graphs from the Financial Planner.

Full customization is easy. You select the topics that you want to include in the document and set the parameters and styles that you want to use, such as the font name and size for each section. The Plan Publisher combines the text from the Plan Writer and the tables and graphs from the Financial Planner into a comprehensive business plan document that you can edit, print, save, and/or export to another word processor.

The Marketing and Sales Tips is a multimedia guide that offers valuable advice about marketing and sales techniques, for example, the most effective closing techniques

and customer buying habits.

The Business Writing Tips is a multimedia guide that discusses many topics of interest to all business writers including writing efficient memos and combating writer's block.

Also included are the Business Form Maker, and Marketing Materials Maker. Together they are, basically a program with features similar to MS Publisher 98. Publishing works well but the wizards are not as polished as in Publisher 98. Included in the program are many templates, backgrounds, and fonts not usually seen by the MS users. Their business forms are great. If you want to develop paper work for any industry it is ether on the cd or online. You can make your own set of very professional looking letterhead and stationery with the program. With that feature, rounding out your entire needs.

This seems ideal for small business person that needs functioning bookkeeping but does not want to spend the time or cost of setting up a computer based inventory or books.

Very little on the downside, information did not transfer from one program to another. You had to finish one project before starting a new one. The program overall had a feeling of being older than it was (1994?). It functioned very DOS like no offense anyone. But these are minor.

This is an idea program for the small business person starting out.

# .NET

By Barry Simon, contributor to PC Magazine.

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Microsoft's plan for the future is a vision, a plan and a mishmash. From various announcements and presentations, I believe there is a pony buried in that pile of horse manure but alas some parts of the company are so taken with the buzz around the term that everything has become a .NET even if it is distant from the true vision.

About every seven years Microsoft reinvents itself - not totally since it keeps the old stuff in place suitably evolved towards the new strategy. In 1975, Microsoft started out as a supplier of computer languages. In 1981, it took advantage of IBM's offer to become the DOS company and in the years around 1990, it morphed to the Windows company. In 1996, it embraced the web - later than some nimble newcomers but earlier than the other big guys and in an aggressive way that remade the company. I believe that we'll look back on .NET as a similar tectonic shift in the way Microsoft operates. And make no mistake: it is Microsoft's ability to reinvent itself that has caused it to thrive while the Novells and Word Perfects of the world have floundered.

While the official explanations obscure some of the key issues, I believe there are three basic concepts in play:

1. Centralized user data storage
2. The Programmable Web
3. A shift to software as a subscription service

Take e-mail - please. You access it from the office, from home and on the road. From the messages that I get as the occasional Outlook columnist for Woody's Office Watch I know that many you have problems juggling where mail is stored as you move from place to place. What we really need are ubiquitous really fast web connections and a place on the web to store our data accessible in some transparent way over the web. In some ways, this is already there for some. For example I know people on Exchange Server at work which they then access from home and haltingly while on the road. Or there are people using Visto on the web to synch their appointments from different places. But these are ad hoc solutions for only some data. Clearly, we need infrastructure - both the availability of better remote disk services and the OS support to make their access transparent. That's the promise of centralized data storage.

With cgi, perl, VB Script, Java Script, Jave, ActiveX and Active Server Pages, you may wonder how anyone can talk about the programmable web as vision rather than reality but those languages and technologies are about programmable web pages, not the programmable web. There is still no standard for exchange of information between web sites so that, a site like Yodlee has to do its magic by ad hoc agreements with each site it scarfs data from. XML has been a work in progress now for several years and

everyone agrees that it will be the plumbing below interpage programming but beyond that there is jockeying for the standard. Microsoft and IBM have embraced SOAP (Simple Object Access Protocol). Beyond ways for sites to exchange information programmatically, Microsoft's .NET programming model involves new paradigms for cross language programming.

If data is moved from local machines to the web, can programs be far behind? The third prong of Microsoft's vision is software that you run over the web. Once the software is there, the software vendor has the kind of control it can't have so easily with programs on your local machine. Some specialized software currently requires an annual license fee. There is run protection built into the product so it stops working if an annual fee is not paid but the model is regarded as heavy handed and only works in specific markets. A shift to a new model of online usage that a given user can access from anywhere could easily be accompanied by a switch to a subscription model which has long been Microsoft's dream. As programs become feature rich, upgrades become less attractive and revenue streams to vendors become less certain. The switch to subscriptions is the answer to a a software vendor's prayers. I think Microsoft may be surprised to find a reluctance of much of its customer base to be willing to make such a shift!

The first two of these elements are evolutionary in that some parts of each are present in most products that Microsoft already produces. Thus we have the absurdity that the

# Free Software Available!

marketing team for the latest iteration of Microsoft servers (Exchange, SQL, Commerce and 5 others) can trumpet themselves as .NET enterprise servers even though they are really very far from embracing the full .NET vision. So expect new versions of Microsoft software to have .NET added to their names whether they buy into the long term vision or not. Meanwhile, start thinking hard about how you and your company will react to a proposal for shifting to a subscription model for software for that's the one element of Microsoft's .NET vision where you and they may not see eye to eye.

*This article is brought to you by the Editorial Committee of the Association of Personal Computer Users Groups (APCUG)*

by Joe Rothstein, Review Editor

These are available on a 'first come' basis, and are available for pickup now or at the next KIPCUG meeting. Remember, when you take the software it is yours to keep AFTER you have submitted your evaluation within 30 to 45 days. This is a great opportunity to have the latest programs, and save \$ at the same time.

Following is a list of what is presently available.

PCSync [Laplink], File Transfer Solution; QuickTime4 [Apple], Media Supports; Firewall Log/Report Utility, [Brady Assoc]; ClearICE, ClearRoute, ClearZone; Genuine Fractals 2.0 [AltaMira Group], Adobe Photoshop plugin; FULLCRM 2.0 [UBSinc.],

Customer Experience Management; ArcSoft [ArcSoft], Digital Imaging/Internet/Entertainment; PhotoVISTA [MGI], Create & Share Immersive Panoramas; Diskeeper 6.0 [Executive Software], Automatic disk defragmenter; Windows Me Manual [Pogue Press], 'The Missing Manual' book; Instant Memos [Media Magic], Organize personal/professional life; Private File [Aladdin Systems], Protect your information; StarOffice 5.1 [Sun], Office Suite, free upgrades; DropChute+ [Hilgreave], Personal File delivery; GoBack Pro [Wild File], keeps earlier hard drive info

For additional information - contact Joe Rothstein at [joesr@iname.com](mailto:joesr@iname.com)

## KIPCUG Mentors - aka members helping members

The following members have volunteered to provide assistance to any current member on these topics:

**Debbie Bulleit** (dbulleit@ius.edu)  
*AskSam, ASAP, Excel*

**T.Lee Harris** (tlee@aye.net)  
*Pagemaker*

**Steve Goldberg** (stevehgold@aol.com)  
*Paradox, Quattro Pro, WordPerfect, Excel, AOL, CompuServe*

**Mike Shaikun** (mike@aye.net)  
*HTML and Basic WebPage Design*

**Schoun Regan** (sregan@completemac.com)  
*Macs, Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, PageMaker, GoLive, Acrobat, Image Ready, Dreamweaver, Flash, FreeHand, Director, QuarkXPress, Excel, Word, PowerPoint.*

**John Henderson** (jhenderson@win.net)  
*Webmaster, HTML and Basic WebPage Design*

For help with additional topics, post a message to the KIPCUG Web Forum at <http://www.kipcug.org>  
We are always interested in hearing from people willing to help out their fellow KIPCUG members.  
Please contact a member of the Board of Directors if you are interested in being added to this mentor list.

# Directory of KIPCUG Leaders

Name	Position	Home	Work
John Markham	President		327-9367
Steve Goldberg	Vice-President	282-5186	
Winnie Miller	Secretary	895-5360	
Anthony Krainski	Treasurer	429-5155	
Matthew Mercurio	Program Director		479-2279
Susan Moore	Membership Director	499-5222	
Robert Gibson	Volunteer Director		367-6172
Charley May	SIG Director	425-4604	
David Brooks	Webmaster	454-4421	540-2730
John Henderson	Editor, I/O Magazine		945-1102
Charlie Johnson	Publicity Director	239-0266	961-0903
Mike Shaikun	Legal Advisor	425-3326	589-4200
Joe Rothstein	Review Editor	451-3874	459-9751
Marvin Livingood	Director Emeritus	459-8888	459-8888
Larry Mand	Director		941-2384
Schoun Regan	Director		485-1243
Art Atkinson	SIG Leader	589-7411	
Martin Campion	SIG Leader	479-8952	
Don Daub	SIG Leader		589-6800
Glenn Fish	SIG Leader		589-6800
John Kilpatrick	SIG Leader	635-1153	
Grant McCormick	SIG Leader	935-2497	266-9999
Tom Scanlan	SIG Leader		477-1639
Jim Travelstead	SIG Leader	375-4796	852-4761
Doc Viele	SIG Leader	452-6878	
Larry West	SIG Leader	239-7378	
Gary McKnight	SIG Leader	448-6165	
York Stahmer	SIG Leader		
Phil Whitehouse	SIG Leader	899-5623	
Paul Gilles	SIG Leader		
Tom Scanlan	SIG Leader	502-477-1639	

## I/O Submissions

Articles submitted to I/O should be in ASCII text format and submitted one month in advance. If graphics are included, they should be submitted in TIF file format whenever possible.

## Advertising Rates for I/O

Ad size	Rate
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Full Page	250.00

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Discount	Rate
Three consecutive insertions	10%
Twelve consecutive insertions	20%
Special discounts offered to KIPCUG members	Call

**NOTE:** I/O is published electronically in addition to its printed edition. Advertising materials not supplied in electronic form will **not** be included in the electronic edition.

All Advertising must be paid for at the time of submission or on approved PO. Rates are for **electronic (JPG EPS TIF)** copy. The deadline for submission of advertising materials is the first of the month for the next month's publication.

**Send all advertising materials to:**

**Anthony Krainski, Treasurer. For more information, call (502) 429-5155 or send e-mail to: akrain@iglou.com**

## KIPCUG Supporters

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The vendors listed below have contributed hardware or software to KIPCUG to assist in production of the organization's monthly newsletter. We encourage you to support these vendors who are helping to support our organization.

Lexmark	Novell
Optra R+ Laser Printer	Netware 4.1
Adobe	Intuit
Photoshop 3.0	Quicken 5.0
PageMaker 6.5	

# December 2000 KIPCUG Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; font-size: small;">                     Nov 2000                      S M T W T F S                      5 6 7 8 9 10 11                      12 13 14 15 16 17 18                      19 20 21 22 23 24 25                      26 27 28 29 30                 </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; font-size: small;">                     Jan 2001                      S M T W T F S                      1 2 3 4 5 6                      7 8 9 10 11 12 13                      14 15 16 17 18 19 20                      21 22 23 24 25 26 27                 </div>	1			2
3	4 Hardware SIG 6:30 PM	5 General Meeting 6:30 PM	6	7	8	9 Access SIG 10:00 AM NT Certification SIG 10:00 AM
10	11 New Users SIG 6:30 PM	12 Board of Directors 6:30 PM	13	14 Investing SIG 6:30 PM Visual Basic SIG 7:00 PM	15 Intermediate Users SIG 6:30 PM	16
17	18 Genealogy SIG 6:30 PM	19 PDA SIG 6:30 PM	20 Linux SIG NEW 6:30 PM	21	22	23 Access Programming SIG 10:00 AM
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

# The SIG Scene Directory

## **ACCESS PROGRAMMING SIG**

Meets 10:00 am on the 4th Saturday of the month at the New Horizons Learning Center, at 10200 Linn Station Road in Suite 110 of the Triad E. Bldg.  
Contact SIG LEADER John Kilpatrick at 635-1153 or jewel@win.net

## **BASIC ACCESS SIG "NEW"**

Meets 10:00 am on the 2nd Saturday of the month at the New Horizons Computer Learning Center, at 10200 Linn Station Road in Suite 110.  
Contact SIG LEADER York Stahmer at stahmer@yahoo.com

## **GENEALOGY SIG**

Meets 6:30 PM. on the 3rd Monday of the month at the Louisville Free Public Library, Eline Branch, located in the St. Matthews City Hall Building at the corner of Grandview Ave and Fairfax Ave. about 3 blocks south of Shelbyville Rd.

Contact SIG LEADER Susan Moore at 499-5222 or susankmoore@iname.com (www.win.net/mooresk)

## **HARDWARE SIG**

Meets 6:30 PM. on the 1st Monday of the month at the Louisville Free Public Library, Eline Branch, located in the St. Matthews City Hall Building at the corner of Grandview Ave and Fairfax Ave. about 3 blocks south of Shelbyville Rd.

Contact SIG LEADER Grant McCormick at (wk) 266-9999 ext. 213, (home) 935-2497 or CO-LEADER Charley May at 425-4604 or hardware@sig.win.net

## **INTERMEDIATE USERS SIG "NEW"**

Meets 6:30 PM. on the 3rd Friday of the month at the training center located in the CompUSA Louisville store at 825 S. Hurstbourne Pkwy. (PIG SIG @ 8:30)  
Contact SIG LEADER Tom Scanlan at 1-502-477-1639 or tpscan@bluegrass.net

## **INTERNET USER & TELECOMMUNICATIONS SIG**

Moving to new location.

Contact Charley May, 425-4604 or sig@win.net

## **INVESTING SIG**

Meets 6:30 PM. on the 2nd Thursday of the month at the Louisville Aero Club, Bowman Field. We do not discuss the merits of Mutual Funds.

Contact SIG LEADER Doc Viele at 452-6878 for details.

## **LINUX SIG "NEW"**

Meets 6:30 PM on the 3rd. Wednesday of the month at the New Horizons Computer Learning Center, at 10200 Linn Station Road in Suite 110.  
Contact SIG LEADER Ron Wechsler, 267-5855 or ron-wech@attglobal.net

## **NT CERTIFICATION STUDY SIG "NEW"**

Meets 10:00 am on the 2nd Saturday of the month at the New Horizons Learning Center, at 10200 Linn Station Road in Suite 110 of the Triad E. Bldg.

Contact SIG LEADER Gary (Joey) McKnight at 448-6165 or joey@eclipse-net.com

## **NEW USERS SIG**

Meets 6:30 PM. on the 2nd Monday of the month at the New Horizons Computer Learning Center, at 10200 Linn Station Road in Suite 110 of the Triad E. Bldg. Pig SIG starts at approx. 8:30 PM.

Contact SIG LEADER Charley May at 425-4604 or sig@win.net

## **PDA (Personal Digital Assistant) SIG "NEW"**

Meets 6:30 PM. on the 3rd. Tuesday of the month at Franklin Covey store in The Mall St. Matthews Mall.

Contact SIG DIRECTOR Paul Gilles or Sam Cooke

## **SPREADSHEET DEVELOPMENT SIG "NEW"**

Meets 6:30 PM on the 4th. Wednesday of the month at Jewish Community Center, at 3600 Dutchmans Lane at Cannons Lane.

Contact SIG LEADER Phil Whitehouse at 899-5623 or basicpop@aol.com

## **VISUAL BASIC SIG**

Meets 7:00 PM. on the 2nd Thursday of the month at the New Horizons Computer Learning Center, at 10200 Linn Station Road in Suite 110 of the Triad E. Bldg.

Contact SIG LEADER Martin Campion at 479-8952 or mccampion@aol.com

## **WEBMASTER SIG**

Moving to new location.

Contact Charley May, 425-4604 or sig@win.net

## **WINDOWS, WORD & EXCEL SIG**

Meets 6:30 PM. on the 4th Monday of the month at the training center located in the CompUSA Louisville store at 825 S. Hurstbourne Pkwy.

Contact SIG LEADER Jim Travelstead, 852-4761 (W), 375-4796 (H) or jim.travelstead@louisville.edu

## **SIG Director:**

Interested in starting a new SIG? Give Charley a call or drop him an E-mail.

Charley May, 425-4604 or sig@win.net

# The SIG Scene

by Charley May, SIG Director

Where to find the scoop on your Special Interest Group

## First, "HEADLINE NEWS".

You should really consider attending the newly formed SPREAD-SHEET DEVELOPMENT and IMPLEMENTATION SIG, if you have been longing to chart some information in your life to make it simpler and faster to find or understand and if that data could be affected by other conditions and you want to know exactly how things changed or if you just want to do some simple price comparisons and have a hard copy to carry to the stores. We still have a lot of computers for YOU to use during the presentations, so put us on your planner. Meeting date for December 2000 will be on the regular 4th Wednesday of the month and we are looking forward to seeing YOU at the Cyber Lab. So now is the time to send your name, phone number and preferred email address to SIG LEADER Phil Whitehouse, "basicpop@aol.com" (please type "Spreadsheet D & I SIG" in the subject line) to receive meeting notices. See the Directory or more information that follows for details.

A lot of you may be thinking about a hand held PC after KIPCUG's General Meeting put on by Microsoft and the Blackberry GM, but have also heard many good things about the Palm Computer and are unsure of which unit to purchase for your use. Well, maybe KIPCUG SIGs can help. The PDA (Personal Digital Assistant) SIG for hand held computers has been formed and is

meeting on the third Tuesday of the month. Mr. Paul Gilles of Franklin Covey is the new SIG LEADER. Please read more on the PDA SIG in "The SIG SCENE" below and come check us out before you buy that hand held computer.

KIPCUG SIGs are looking for people interested in attending and/or leading a DESKTOP PUBLISHING SIG. At the present time there are several people interested in finding others that want to learn about Desktop Publishing. If you are interested please Email "sig@win.net" with your name, preferred Email address and phone number to be kept informed of the dates, times and formation of a DESKTOP PUBLISHING SIG (please type "DESKTOP PUBLISHING SIG?" in the subject line).

## ACCESS PROGRAMMING SIG

At the October 23rd meeting SIG leader John Kilpatrick showed a database that consolidated sales reports from various countries. This requires currency conversion to dollars and mapping data from different accounting structures to a consolidated set of accounts. Since the various sets of accounts may change in one country or another, it also had to allow for a fairly simple way to change how the data from any one country was handled. The neat trick was to put filter definitions and the calculation for consolidation into fields of a table with a module that allows the user to construct the formula for the calculation. That made

the code for building the reports relatively simple since the complexity was handled in the filter and calculation definitions. This technique allows great flexibility while simplifying a complex set of calculations

The Access Programming SIG met at the New Horizons Learning Center at 10 a.m. till 12 am on November 18, 2000. The SIG normally meets on the 4th Saturday of the month with SIG Leader John Kilpatrick and assumes a good working knowledge of Access and focuses more on issues involving programming and techniques. For November, York Stahmer led the meeting's open discussion period. John's Guest Presenter, Joan Combs Durso, a financial analyst for UPS, gave her presentation on making Metric conversions. Her topics included a history of the metric system, the use of significant digits and rounding in conversions, some web sites containing useful conversion tools, and some simple techniques for converting metric to English measurements, and vice-versa.

John will still be unavailable in December, so York Stahmer has volunteered to lead the next session, which will take place on Saturday, December 16th, 10 a.m. to 12 noon, at New Horizons Learning Center. This SIG usually meets on the fourth Saturday of the month but changed November and December dates due to the holidays.

The Access Programming SIG will meet January 27, 2001 at the New Horizons Learning Center. If you've been working in Access and are willing to share solutions you've found, email John and come tell us

# The SIG Scene (cont.)

about it. The topic for the meeting is open, so if you have a problem that would make a good meeting subject or would like to present how you solved a problem, give John a ring or email him at "jewel@win.net".

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## **BASIC ACCESS SIG**

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No report

The December 9, 2000 meeting topic to be announced. Contact SIG Leader York Stahmer at stahmer@yahoo.com

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## **GENEALOGY SIG**

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The September, October and November meeting covered the types, features and uses of flags and how to utilize flags and the other fields within TMG to generate very detailed reports. Flags are a method used to analyze your data one time and then be able to use the results many times. Flags can save a lot of time in reviewing your data. October and November included specific examples that the SIG members worked through with answers provided at the end. These were followed by question and answer periods.

Due to the Holidays, the December SIG meeting is cancelled. Because of Martin Luther King Jr. 's Birthday the January SIG is cancelled since the Louisville Free Public Library will be closed.

On February 19, 2001 the

Genealogy SIG will hold its next meeting at the Eline Branch of the Louisville Free Public Library at 6:30pm. The topics have cycled and we will again start at the beginning with How to Get Started with TMG. The new version of TMG may have been released by the time of the meeting. This is an excellent meeting to come to if you are just getting started, or if you need a review, so please mark your new calendars to attend this meeting. There is plenty of room for everyone.

Even if you are not ready to devote serious time to Genealogy, please come to the meeting to find out what you need to do to help yourself out, before any more of your ancestors die.

If you have any particular questions before the next meeting, please email Susan at susankmoore@iname.com.

We are looking for suggestion for additional topics.

SIG LEADER Susan Moore and all of the SIG's attendees are looking for YOU to join the SIG at a future meeting. We have room for more attendees. If you need details on how to get to the SIG, go to "www.win.net/mooresk".

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## **HARDWARE SIG**

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The November 7, 2000 meeting was very interesting; SIG LEADER Grant McCormick worked on the LINUX SIG's computer, installing a LAN (Local Area Network) card so

that we can go out on the WWW in the Linux SIG. By the way many of you were interested in the Linux SIG but could not come because it met on the fourth Saturday morning of the month. We are now happy to announce that the meeting location has been changed to New Horizons Computer Learning Center, at 10200 Linn Station Road in Suite 110 of the Triad E. Bldg. and will meet on the third Wednesday night of the month at 6:30 PM. This meeting showed attendees interested in connecting their second computer to their main computer at home or wanting to access the WWW from more than one computer on the same ISP at the same time, just how to do it.

We talked to attendees about having a field trip in December to Wayside Christian Mission and would like to have as many volunteers to help work on used computers, taking them apart, building a whole computer, checking them out and getting them ready to use for people that have never used computers before, so that they can learn new job skills. Being in December, this should put all of us in the Season's Spirit. If you can operate screwdriver or help by loading software, please come to this meeting.

The January meeting date falls on New Years Day and will not be held.

We are looking for suggestions from YOU for additional topics for this SIG.

If you have a HARDWARE problem that you would like to bring to the meeting, to hopefully be solved, PLEASE call one of the phone num-

# The SIG Scene (cont.)

bers listed in the proceeding SIG Directory. This will get you in the queue so that the HARDWARE TEAM Members can be prepared to handle your problem. With this advance planning you may not have to bring, as much of your computer equipment with you and the HARDWARE TEAM will be better prepared to help you.

## INTERMEDIATE USERS SIG

(Geared for users with some experience)

The Intermediate User SIG meets the third Friday of each month in the Training room of Comp USA. This last month we talked about free or

low cost Utilities that you can download. The first being from Microsoft, who offers many downloads, TweakUI being one. You can find this clever control panel add-in at <http://www.microsoft.com/networkstation/downloads/PowerToys/Networking/NTTweakUI.asp>. Microsoft® has put together a set of productivity tools called PowerToys. If you're a Windows power-user, go ahead and try them out, but realize these are unsupported tools. Tweak UI 1.33 can adjust your Windows User Interface, including menu speed, window animation, and Microsoft Internet Explorer.

A second tool is a compact (under 2 Mb), flexible text editor called UltraEdit. It handles HTML, hex

code and programming, as well as typical chores. It can open hundreds of files at the same time, limited only by disk space. I use it for email creation, web page work and because it does more than I can explain here, you are welcome to come to our meeting and find out more about it.

Our next meeting will be on the third Friday of December 15, 2000 at 6:30 PM. SIG Leader Tom Scanlan will continue the PC Utilities Series with other utilities you can download to help diagnose and adjust your computer. The INTERMEDIATE USER SIG is devoted to exploring technical issues that are beyond new users, but are important to understanding practical computer usage.

If you would like information about the Intermediate User SIG, contact Tom Scanlan at [tpscan@bluegrass.net](mailto:tpscan@bluegrass.net) or 1 (502) 477-1639.

**NEW HORIZONS  
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## INVESTING SIG

SIG LEADER Doc Viele moderates the Investment SIG discussions, which have been ongoing since 1986. There were 13 attendees at the November 9, 2000 meeting. Meetings consist of round table exchanges of information on any economic subject of current interest to the group. Questions and presentations are encouraged.

Next SIG Meeting will include general information on investing and the usual information exchange.

# The SIG Scene (cont.)

This is not an investment club; they DO NOT discuss mutual funds.

## **LINUX SIG (NEW)**

The November 15, 2000 meeting of the Linux SIG was at our NEW meeting location, New Horizons Computer Learning Center, on Wednesday evening at 6:30pm, instead of our previous Saturday morning meetings. There was a good turnout, double the previous meeting location and because of the new location, it appears that the LINUX SIG is now off to a roaring start. Ron performed a successful installation of Star Office 5.1.

The new surroundings are great. We even had a projector. Mr. Wechsler has a new hard drive which he will dedicate to the SIG. It is a 30GB, 7200 RPM IBM EIDE drive, WOW! It will give us plenty of room to install whatever we need. Also, TEAM MEMBER, Chris Parrish, who previously had schedule conflicts, was able to attend and promised to continue to attend.

The LINUX SIG is looking for members interested in finding out how to install, setup and operate the new operating system. The SIG will not limit itself to any one "brand" of Linux or Linux applications and will gradually work its way through all the different "brands" available. Please come and support the new SIG LEADER Ron Wechsler and bring your ideas and suggestions to help give Ron a direction for this new SIG to head in. If you are an established user of Linux, please

come help with a future presentation.

Although our computer is sufficient to run Linux, more memory and a faster CPU are required to run many of the applications that we wish to demo. For example, Star Office ran like a turtle in molasses. VMWare, which we hope to demo, requires a minimum 266MHz CPU and 64Megs of memory. We have a 133MHz and 32Megs. But we are looking for a faster computer for our meetings (got a older one setting in the corner gathering dust?) if not, keep your eyes and ears open for us.

Next month subject to be announced.

If you would like to be included in the meeting notification email list, please send your name, phone number and preferred email address to "sig@win.net" and type "LINUX SIG?" in the subject line of the email.

## **NT CERTIFICATION STUDY SIG**

The NT CERTIFICATION STUDY SIG meets the second Saturday of each month from 10:00 AM to noon at New Horizons Computer Learning Center. SIG LEADER Gary (Joey) McKnight did not hold the November 11, 2000 meeting of the NT CERTIFICATION STUDY SIG due to a bout of viral pneumonia, but will be up and running for the December 9, 2000 meeting.

The January meeting topic will be announced by email to past attendees.

If you are involved with NT in any way or want to learn about it, please try to attend the next meeting to welcome the new SIG LEADER and make your thoughts known as to where you would like to see the SIG headed as the New SIG LEADER continues to plan for future meetings. YOUR suggestions for future meeting topics would be appreciated!

## **NEW USERS SIG**

The NEW USERS SIG held its November 13, 2000, 6:30 p.m. meeting at the New Horizons Computer Learning Center, its regular location. This session was our second "Back To Basics" since restarting the series. We had the big room this time. We started with the basics of the MS Windows operating system 95/98 and took our first look at some of the tools that come with the Windows operating system that will help you keep your computer running smoother and talk more about the process of adding programs to your computer. Charley reviewed past subjects that attendees had questions on after Attendees practiced at home and answered questions that came up during the meeting.

Are YOU planning install a new software program on your computer in the near future? Would you like to know what to do to your computer to make the install a "clean as

# The SIG Scene (cont.)

possible"? December 11, 2000 is the night to come and find out the simple steps required to do a clean install.

If you are a new computer user or just want to review, please consider coming to the NEW USERS SIG. We don't go too fast and Charley leads Attendees through each step of each feature and you learn hands-on, by following the presentation your NHCLC computer. After the presentation we will try to answer all attendee's questions on problems that they have had at home during the previous month.

The SIG has two TEAM MEMBERS, Dick McGavic and Ken Dawson, plus Charley May at each meeting to help assist you if you get hung up during the presentation. So "come on down", have some fun and learn something new! If you don't have time for supper before the meeting, join us at the PIG SIG at T. G. I. Friday's after the meeting. Lois Dean Mallrich and Winnie Miller operate the PIG SIG

January meeting topic to be announced.

If you want to be on the NEW USERS SIG email notice list, send your name, phone and preferred email address to sig@win.net, please type "NEW USERS SIG?" on the subject line of your email and we will add you to the list.

PDA (Personal Digital Assistant) SIG (NEW)

The PDA SIG continues to meet on the third Tuesday at the Franklin

Covey store in Mall St. Matthews. On October 17, the topic was hacks. This particular topic focused on Palm PDAs since hacks are programs to extend the Palm OS. A disk containing the freeware and shareware was given to each attendee. Some of the features you could add to your Palm are: drag and drop text from one application to another, put current time on screen at all times, expand abbreviations to full words, behind the scenes spell check, and turn back-light on when Palm activated during selected (night time) hours

The November 21 meeting started with a demonstration and comparison of wireless internet using both the Palm VII (Palm.net) and the Palm V (OmniSky). Email sending and receiving and stock quotes and trades

were demonstrated by Chuck Russman and Larry Hughes. Program enhancements were then demonstrated and 'beamed' by Price Hanna, Palm guru at Franklin Covey. Some of the enhancements demonstrated were: Datebook -- This Week; Phonebook -- TealPhone; To Do List - Franklin Planner; and Memo Pad -- Diddle Bug. Websites for these and other downloads (and payments) were described.

Discussion of other related topics was lively and refreshments were provided by Franklin-Covey.

Join us on December 19 for a program devoted to mind games such as mazes, card or board games, and-crossword puzzles.

## **SPREADSHEET DEVELOPMENT and IMPLEMENTATION SIG**

The Spreadsheet SIG has developed into two diverse groups - those with a wealth of experience and those with little or no experience. We are trying a novel approach for the November meeting, thanks to Susan Moore. We will start the experienced group on a project using graphs, whole continuing to work on very basic spreadsheets for the novices. Since time restraints do not allow after the fact results, this report is made before the actual meeting. I cannot foretell how this approach will be accepted, but I feel it is very workable - only time will tell.

There was no meeting in October since Phil was in the hospital with a heart attack. He seems to have made a good recovery, but needed to cut way back on the number of hours he was working.

There will be no meeting in December since the meeting date falls so close to the holidays.

Phil, from all the SIG Attendees and myself, we are glad you made it OK and wish you good health in the future!

If you are interested in future meetings, now is the time to respond. Please send your name, phone number and preferred email address to Phil at

# The SIG Scene (cont.)

"basicpop@aol.com" (please type "Spreadsheet D & I SIG" in the subject line) to receive meeting notices.

## **VISUAL BASIC SIG**

The VB SIG met as usual on the second Thursday, November 9, 2000 at the New Horizons Learning Center. SIG leader Martin Campion presented the results of his recent experiments with using a data environment and the new (with VB 6.0) VB report designer. First he showed the basics of creating a report with these tools. Then he showed how a data-aware class could be substituted for the data report. This substitution allows the programmer a great deal more control of the data used and the final appearance of the report.

The December 14, 2000 meeting subject is possibly going to look again at using VB as an internet tool, and probably continue on that subject in January.

If YOU have ANY interest in learning VB or think YOU might be interested, please come to this SIG and give it a try.

## **WINDOWS, WORD & EXCEL SIG**

SIG Leader Jim Travelstead held the October 23, 2000 meeting of the WINDOWS, WORD & EXCEL SIG at COMP USA's Training Center. Jim went over the using

Columns in MS Word and took a quick look at forms. Jim also gave us our first look at Windows Millennium Edition (ME).

The November 27, 2000 meeting location is in doubt at this time, watch for your email meeting notice from Jim Travelstead.

Our next meeting will Continue Windows Millennium and if time allows, we will go over Internet Faxing. In January, the topic will be Windows/Office Security Tips & Tricks.

Between meetings, if you have any questions on W, W & E save them and bring them to the SIG or Email Jim Travelstead at "jim.travelstead@louisville.edu" and Jim will have your answer at the next SIG meeting.

SIG Director's Notes:

KIPCUG SIGs are still looking for a SIG LEADER for a VISUAL FoxPro SIG. At the present time, there are 8 people interested in finding others to study Visual FoxPro. If you are interested or can suggest a good meeting place, please Email "sig@win.net" with your name; preferred Email address and phone number to be kept informed of the formation of a SIG (please type "Visual FoxPro SIG?" in the subject line).

KIPCUG SIGs are looking for people young and old, interested in attending a GAMES SIG. At the present time there are a half dozen people interested in finding others to play and learn about games with. We have a meeting place with a

large screen projector so sharp that you can see every pixel! If you are interested please Email "sig@win.net" with your name, preferred Email address and phone number to be kept informed of the schedule for formation of a GAMES SIG (please type "GAMES SIG?" in the subject line). We are getting close on starting this SIG, so email your name today.

Under the "We Need You" category: if you are an intermediate or advanced computer user and if you feel that you could contribute a little time and knowledge to your fellow KIPCUG Members as a Guest Presenter, please call or Email me -- Charley May at 425-4604 or "sig@win.net".

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# Deals Guy

by Bob Click, The Deals Guy, Greater Orlando Computer Users Group

I attended the Florida Association of Users Groups' one-day fall conference and it was a great meeting. It had 57 attendees representing 15 user groups. We all had a wonderful time with great roundtables and an interesting presenter. The next FACUG [[www.facug.org](http://www.facug.org)] meeting will be March 2-4, 2001 in Kissimmee, FL.

## **\*The Old Disappearing Tech Support Trick**

I found out the hard way that Symantec no longer offers free voice tech support on its products. Not even the 90 days they used to give. You must pay, or use the on-line knowledge base. You can also e-mail them and wait for an answer, hoping the answer solves the problem. I hope your luck is better than mine. I knew I should have gotten Zone Alarm, which is free. I wash my hands of Symantec's products.

I've had the same experience with Creative Labs and 3Com. I would like to see APCUG keep a database about vendors giving no tech support. Regardless of opinions regarding Microsoft, I have unlimited telephone tech support on my MS Office Professional and MS Money (not all MS products offer unlimited). I know tech support cost money, but without it, how do you solve your problems, or their bugs.

## **\*Received From the MS Rep Microsoft Press 20% Discount Code**

Use the code MCPC to receive a 20% book discount for user group members. Call 800-MSPRESS to order your books. Select a title from the Microsoft Press page: [<http://mspress.microsoft.com/>]. Also, if you are interested in receiving the Mindshare newsletter, go to [<http://www.microsoft.com/mindshare>]. (I found the discount on the Mindshare site, but not the newsletter info. You may be better at digging than I am.)

## **\*More Book Discount**

Louise Miller from Adobe called and asked me to remind you about the discounts on Adobe Press and PeachPit Press books of 20% to 40%. Go to the Adobe Web site [<http://www.adobe.com/usergroups>] and download the new form. Louise said it should be posted by the time this gets published.

## **\*How About Some Trivia (No deal here, I just liked it)**

Lost your dog and can't seem to find it? You've looked all over and have given up. Don't give up just yet --- try [<http://www.ThePoop.com>] where you'll find data concerning some 5600 different dog rescue groups (I enjoyed the artwork). In this database, you can search for a rescued dog by the breed. Then narrow it down by city, state, zip code or even an organization. Originally, this site was meant to help owners find lost dogs, but more importantly, to help families adopt animals from various shelters around the country. Good luck!

On the other hand, if you lost your job instead of your dog, try

[<http://www.flipdog.com>]. No connection as far as I know. How they connect "Flipdog" with jobs, I'll never know.

## **\*Other Office Suites of Distinction - Just A Reminder**

How much did you pay for your Office Suite? I was lucky. I won Office '97 in a Raffle. We had a great deal on Corel Office 2000 in NY at the APCUG events, and my laptop came with SmartSuite installed. I have seen a couple of glowing reviews for StarOffice 5.2 from Sun Microsystems [<http://www.Sun.com>], which is absolutely free and it is multiplatform. However, I did read a complaint about poor importing of WordArt files.

Another suite receiving complimentary reviews is Applixware 5.0 from [<http://www.vistasource.com>] selling for \$99. This one is for Linux and Unix, and their AnyWhere Office Suite is also for Windows. That one works with fewer resources. I read two complimentary reviews on Applixware that did include a couple of complaints. I'm only pointing out some other Office Suite choices. (Actually, you can sometimes buy Corel WordPerfect Suite for less than Applixware, which I feel is a better deal and would be my preference.)

If you are a full power user, these might not be for you, but it is a known fact that even most power users don't use more than 35% of the capabilities of the software they are using.

# Deals Guy (cont.)

## \*Handy Accessories

I was looking through the "Mobileplanet" catalog the other day and found some interesting things. Do you dig through your car's armrest or glove compartment for your cell phone when you make a call? Mobileplanet has a cell phone holder that fits in the cup holder. I also saw a holder to affix a cell phone to a laptop screen for better data transmission.

I saw the QuickLink Pen Optical Scanner listed for \$139.95, which is almost as good as the UG special offer I published last year. They also offer Palm accessories. [<http://www.mobileplanet.com>]. (1-800-675-2638) Specialty catalogs are never cheap, but this one was not bad.

## \*Corel Rebate Stuff

Dave Gerber from Sarasota User Group suggested I include the following item:

Many rebates and deals are available for a variety of Corel software. Check out this long URL: [<http://r1.corel.com/servlet/click?9hkLsDZEikLlpKLgmFliJNnDhknE0Eikht hmpghl>] to learn more about the following offers:

- Buy CorelDRAW(R) 9 Premium Color Edition and Get \$150 US/\$200 Cdn cash back.

- Buy WordPerfect(R) Office 2000 Voice, WordPerfect Pro or WordPerfect Small Business and Get a Logitech Cordless Wheel Mouse.

- Buy CorelDRAW(R) 9 Office Edition and Get \$30 cash back.

- Buy Corel(R) KnockOut 1.5 and Get \$50 US/\$60 Cdn cash back.

- Buy Paradox(R) 9 and Get \$50

cash back.

- Buy WordPerfect(R) Family Pack and Get \$20 cash back.

- Buy WordPerfect(R) Office 2000 for Linux(R) Standard and Get \$20 cash back.

- Buy WordPerfect(R) Office 2000 for Linux(R) Deluxe and Get \$40 cash back.

## \*Wow, Great Graphics For Nuthin'

Here is a graphics program that picks up the pieces and makes something out of them. Its called "Hotmedia 3.0" and is by IBM no less. I read a very positive review for this software and it would take too much room to adequately describe it. However, it will combine video, audio and 3D files and produce a great finished product. It runs on Windows 95/98/2000/NT or Macintosh. The best part is it's free just for the download, check [<http://www6.software.ibm.com/dl/hotmedia/hmkt-p>]. The panorama capability sure piques my interest.

According to the Web site, it looks like you may get the new 3.5 version now. I had problems with this URL, but it worked OK for friends.

## \*Are You Right On Cue, Literally?

Have you asked for your CueCat yet? At a Space Coast meeting recently, they were showing a neat gadget - a hand-held scanner that you run across bar codes. Its input into your computer will instantly take you to the URL and more information. That sounds great if you have tried typing in a long URL, especially if you made a typo. They

are FREE just for the asking at any Radio Shack store. They are also seen advertised in some magazines - just call and ask for it to get it free.

Right away, I wanted one, but I also wondered why a company would go to that much cost to get thousands of them into people's hands, and free. Included in the package is the cable, booklet and installation disk. The fact that you must register personal information when you install the software to receive an activation code might alert you that something is up. So I kept an eye out for more info, which I found. Nobody tells you that each device has its own unique serial number, or the reason for that. Neither is that fact in the material included with the CueCat, although I didn't check the CD.

The device works with many kinds of bar codes, that you see everywhere, and your TV can also be hooked up to provide bar codes. It sounds like a great device, but if its true, I am not ready for it to collect statistics about my browsing habits. However, if you have no qualms about privacy concerning your surfing, you now know where to get one, and it's free. I could create a new person at my address and see how long it takes before he gets junk mail.

That's it for this month. This column is written to make user group members aware of special offers I have found or arranged, and my comments should not be interpreted to encourage, or discourage, the purchase of products, no matter how enthused I might sound. Bob (The Cheapskate) Click

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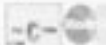
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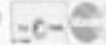
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