NACC
NEW AGE COMPUTER CLUB

Bits and Bytes

Newsletter

Online

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NACC

New Age Computer Club

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Bits-and-Bytes
Newsletter

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DEC 10 2001

LVCG Internet Christmas Party

Bill Pryor, Bill Armstrong, Harry Trauggot, Allen Foresman
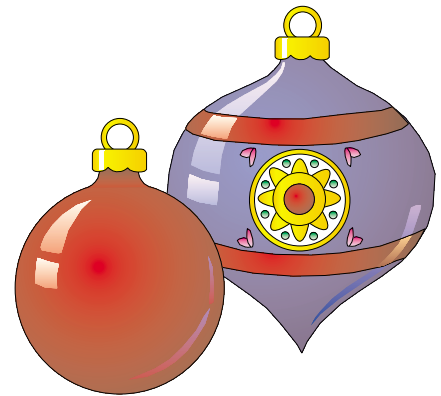
Hannukka

Kwanzaa

Bill Pryor analyzing a generated WAV file with voice and music components

Joe Secondo LVCG Founder with Vice Chairman, Babette

Internet Christmas Party

Val Scarcia as Yoda

Val Scarcia, Val Scarcia, Jr., Fran Pryor

Judy Frack,........................ Jan McIntosh
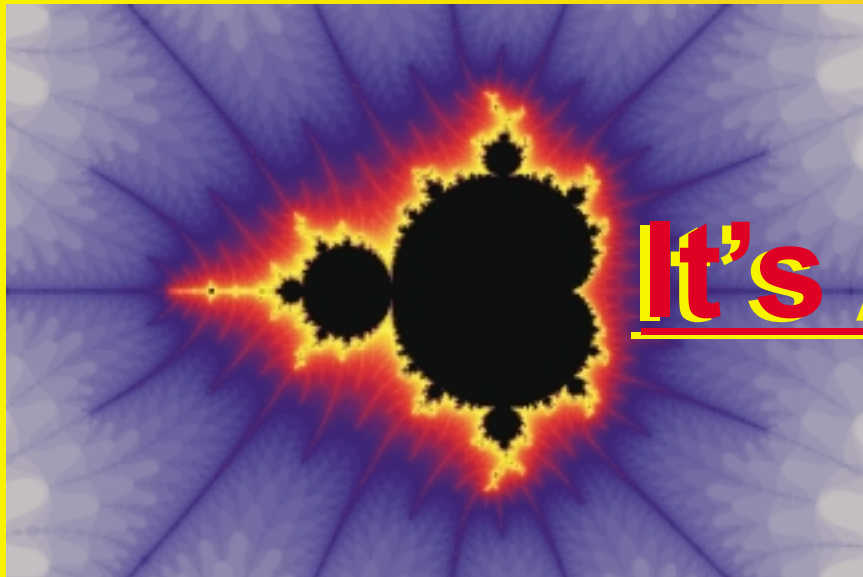
It's A New Age

Why The New Age Computer Club (NACC) Is Free
by Val Scarcia, Editor
mrval@rcn.com

I have been editor of many newsletters, and I am glad to be affiliated with the NACC and its openness. Since we can offer everyone a FREE newsletter, we do not require dues. Dues originated with most clubs to pay for the costs of newsletters. However, with the advent of the Internet, this has all changed. We offer our members a FREE color newsletter monthly that is easily downloaded from our website in standard PDF (Portable Document Format). Many senior citizens on fixed incomes who are retired today are not looking for additional annual expenses such as dues. We have not created appointed officers and treasurers to collect and justify dues. We do not try to remind our members how much we are doing for them, since we are all equal.

The NACC has FREE access to many professional meeting places which include libraries, churches, schools, etc. All our members have individual talents. Many are professional college graduates who are certified in scientific areas and teaching. Many have taken post graduate college courses and hold advanced degrees as well. Some are hobbyists, many are successful businessmen, many are past successful officers of other clubs and groups. We do not believe the meeting place is the most important thing for our club. The most important ingredient is the content of the material, and how it is approached and explained. We are not trying to build grandiose temples or shrines around us. Good meetings begin anywhere.

In addition to our successful diner meetings, I have obtained the Whitehall Library for us starting on September 19, 2001, which also includes the first Wednesday of the month for the rest of this year. This area lends itself to demonstrations and input. Please send us articles of interest of your choice for publication in our color electronic NACC newsletter. We look forward to hearing from you.

It's A New Age

The New Age Computer Club has been a natural formation for those who have given many thousands of hours of their time to other nonprofit groups and clubs in the area, and find themselves without a place to be. Some of these people were founders of groups they are not part of today. The changing technologies and constant change in our society is producing people who believe "newer" is always better, and change for the sake of change is always the answer. It is becoming a world without history, a country without tradition, and limited insight. As computer hardware and software change by the minute, as new cars roll-off the assembly lines with new models annually, a subconscious vision is created that everything should change. The people changing everything don't even understand why they are doing it. It has become a national mantra. People keep changing everything just for the sake of change. Constant change will eventually bring a collapse, and scattering of efforts. Never forget, a nuclear bomb also works on the principle of a high rate of change!

The New Age Computer Club is a small group of friends getting together socially to have fun, and share ideas. We are not in competition with anyone else or any of the other fine clubs in the area. We do not require any dues or membership fees. We do not have any officers in our club, and hope we never will. We are not going out of our way to solicit members, and everyone is welcome. Growing to any specific number of members is not our purpose. All of us are equal, and we look to run the group as democratically as possible. This club will create the individual free-space needed for creative expression. We want different members to chair our monthly informal meetings creating an equanimity among all of us. We feel in this Information Age we can easily supply our group's needs without any monetary charges. We have our webpage up at http//www.angelfire.com/geek/bitbybit which is FREE.

We look forward to listening to everyone's views and interests. We will float in "free-space" for awhile before we get a full grasp of each other. We will have on-the-fly monthly meetings, and every member will get notified via e-mail. If you have interest, make sure you are on our e-mail list. We will strive to keep our outlooks high and provide the intellectual stimulation that is necessary in understanding science and computing today. But most of all, we need to understand and be respectful of each other, and realize we are all the result of all the past efforts of many others, better known as tradition and history.

Bill Pryor,
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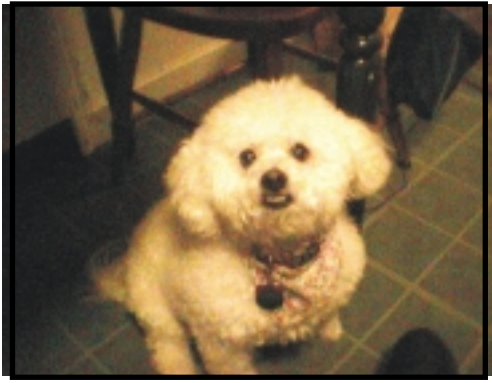
BREAKING NEWS

John Scott is going to resume his famous LVCG Windows SIG! John is a powerhouse who brings much to the table. A graduate Chemical Engineer, retired Professor from Kutztown University, two time LVCG Vice-President, SIG leader, one of the original LVCG Members now remaining who enrolled around the beginnings of the club! Started on computers before DOS. He has many interests which include botany and a great collection of books. He has the uncanny ability to sift out information , and come up with his own views and opinions . He is a good writer, diplomat, with a good sense of humor. The other day at a meeting he came in with a cool leather coat and leather pants, and I said John, you remind me of Elton John!

He's one of the Renaissance men of the club!

New Age Computer Club NACC

Thru the Window Pain !!
by John Scott

johndscott@mindspring.com

WUG revisited
Windows XP 👎 👎
Windows activation hacked?
Dream Machine

WUG is back. At the December Internet Sig meeting I was asked to reactivate the Windows Sig that I called the Windows Users Group. (WUG). With the availability of a stable meeting site (the former one wasn't) and the use of the LVCG's projector we can have some fun learning the ins-and-outs of Windows and Windows software. Despite my dislike of Microsoft, there are still more indispensable applications for Windows than for any other platform. We will start with the version that I am currently using — Windows 98SE, and see what others in the group can demonstrate for the newer versions.

Assuming approval by LVCG at its January Business Meeting, the first WUG meeting will be at the Whitehall Township Library on Mechanichsburg Road, Tuesday, February 14, 2002 at 7 PM. We will decide if this is a good time (Second Tuesday) and place. You will receive an official notice by email if you are on the LVCG or NAAC email lists or call me at 610-682-2809 after February 1.

This month my evaluation of Windows XP increases to 2 thumbs down 👎 👎.

Check out PC World for details of the Gotchas!

http://www.pcworld.com/news/article/0,aid,68796,pg,1,00.asp

"On October 25, the day it shipped the new OS, Microsoft posted multiple bug fixes, compatibility updates, and enhancements on its Windows Update Web site—more than 18 MB of them, all told.

For many users, however, problems within the OS itself are less pressing than compatibility problems with hardware devices and with third-party software.

Though most compatibility upgrades are free, some are not. And if you rely on Symantec's WinFax Pro 10.02, PowerQuest's PartitionMagic or Drive Image, or a few other programs that need costly upgrades, your software bill for achieving Windows XP compatibility could run hundreds of dollars beyond the cost of the OS itself."

Same Old Same Old

"What do all these pitfalls add up to? A version of Windows that is starting to look a lot like previous ones, upgradewise. Interface glitches, incompatible applications, missing drivers, shutdown problems, crashing—these classic upgrade snafus have plagued just about every version of Windows that Microsoft has produced.
And just as with previous versions, Microsoft has indicated that a follow-on to Windows XP is in the works. The ETA: no later than 2003. Can you say Windows XP Second Edition?"

The Good News!! Update: Product Activation Hacked

From PC World: *"XP's antipiracy technology has apparently been hacked. Officials of the British software security company BitArts Ltd. say that, within hours of the operating system's launch on October 25, software to bypass the Product Activation feature was already circulating on the Internet."*

The Bad News!!

A search on **Google** yielded two sites for "activation hacked". Neither site existed! I wouldn't want to seem paranoid, but are these sites being blocked?

This month's Dream Machine

While it is hard to match specs from PC maker to PC maker this month's buy for an advanced system is from MicronPC. $1,512.14 gets a Millennia XP+ Xtreme with AMD Athlon XP 1800+, 512MB PC2100 DDR Sdram, 60GB ATA-100 hard drive (7200 RPM), Integrated ATA-100 Controller, 16x48x Variable Speed DVD-ROM, 64MB nVidia Geforce2 MX400 w/TV out, Integrated Dolby Digital 5.1 Sound, Altec Lansing AVS300 3-Piece Speaker System, 56K V.90 PCI Modem, Integrated 10/100 Ethernet Controller, Microsoft Windows XP Professional, DT Next Business Day On-Site 1st Yr, DT Parts Only 2nd-3rd Yr. *As mentioned previously, the AMD 1800 runs at 1.3 Ghz and performs better than a 1.8 Ghz Pentium 4! You have to watch several things. Motherboards are reducing the memory slots to 2 as the memory chips are getting bigger (512 Mb and 1 Gb) You can also save money by shopping for your own monitor.*

TTWP is now being published simultaneously in the LVCG Journal and the NACC electronic newsletter.

jds

Using Pop-Up Stopper On NetZero
by Tom Burke, President of CESOP
Computer Educational Society of Philadelphia
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I had an unusual incident in Philadelphia last week when I lost my highspeed Comcast cable service to the Internet. Having no other ISP, I used the FREE, 10 hour a month, NetZero to keep me running for a few days, until my regular service resumed.

One of the biggest problems today is the myriad of JAVA windows popping up all the time on so many Internet sites as you enter them. One program I have found very effective is Pop-Up Stopper, which I have installed on my computer for months now.

When using FREE services like NetZero, that are mainly sponsored by advertisements, pop-up windows never stop, but with Pop-Up Stopper on there, it does! I highly recommend this FREE program to use. If you want a window to pop-up (another browser frame), just press the Control key on your keyboard when you click your mouse, and it will override the Pop-Up Stopper.

You can download this program at:
http://www.enter.net/~lvcgi/PopUpStopper.24.exe

Below Are Mapquest Directions To NACC Meetings:

Computing By Instinct
by Bill Pryor

December 16, 2001

I honestly do not know how people can continuously upgrade programs and operating systems so often, and still have a "feel" of what a program can do. I realize we are all different by nature in our basic abilities and interests. Some of us have very good memories, while others do not. Some of us have better motor skills and retention, but using a program well should be like driving a car; you should not have to think about what you are doing if you are proficient at it. Of course, at first, there is a steep learning curve, but after awhile, using certain programs should be second-nature to you. The longer you use a program and an operating system together, the easier it becomes to use, in fact, there is no program published even ten years ago that I think I know all the features contained in it. But the more I use the original, older configurations, the more I can do with it, and the more instinctual it becomes.

What I am stating may be complete heresy in a throw-away society, but I do not think constant upgrading of Windows program versions and operating systems is beneficial to the user, especially if he is trying to use the program in an instinctual way! I run on instinct; it is the only thing I know, and I can't be any different. I am not interested in memorizing. Memorizing is not understanding. In the "new" version, changing dropdown box positioning, and interfaces causes the new and experienced users to think too much to execute what they already know!

The other question is what are people doing with the programs to start with? What new uplifting things have you done lately in your favorite program?

Dick Kline and Val Scarcia both advised me there was a great official version Corel Draw 9 book on sale at Ollie's which comprises 873 pages of information, just on Corel Draw 9. It is a great book, well written, but how does a new user of this program or any other program begin to understand the basics? Programmers have made the lastest version too much of a mental, mechanical process of memorizing dissrelated facts. My answer is to go back to the earlier versions of Corel Draw 2 and 3, since the basics are there, and then work your way up. This is how I would teach it. Many of Corel Draw 9 features are handy, but really bloatware, and confusing to new users.

At the last Internet SIG Meeting, I showed the basics of making sound files in WAV and Real Audio formats using the powerful "Cool Edit 96," since it is very basic, right to the point, and short on code. I did not use the newer "Cool Edit 2000," or "Cool Edit Pro" to teach the basics. I even went into Notepad, and cut and pasted ordinary words, then I used this analogy to apply to audio wave functions and sound portions. All Windows programs are simple cut and paste, and people have to be reminded of this, especially at the beginning. If you can use a word processor and understand the "cutting and pasting" of words, along with the UNDO function, you can create your own sound files and music through Cool Edit 96. It is that simple with this clever program!

I think program manuals that are often too complex to understand are being written by people who do not see or understand the whole picture. In modern America, the more complex the explanation, the smarter one must be--this is an American paradigm--I've seen this all through my college days, and it is a turn-off. If you can not explain the subject matter so others can understand it, how well do the stated experts or manual writers comprehend it?

This society believes in complexity, the more the better, and the smarter people have to be the more complex ones. _I do not believe this, and never will._ I believe in simplicity and instinctual insight, and wherever possible, I use it!

Investment Terminology
by Joanna Broder <bcjoanna@qwest.net>

Bull Market - A random market movement causing an investor to mistake himself for a financial genius.

Bear Market - A 6 to 18-month period when the kids get no allowance, the wife gets no jewelry and the husband gets no sex.

Momentum Investing - The fine art of buying high and selling low.

Value Investing - The art of buying low and selling lower.

P/E ratio - The percentage of investors wetting their pants as the Market keeps crashing.

Broker -What my broker has made me.

"Buy, Buy" - A flight attendant making market recommendations as you step off the plane.

Standard & Poor - Your life in a nutshell.

Stock Analyst - Idiot who just downgraded your stock.

Financial Planner - A guy who actually remembers his wallet when he runs to the 7-11 for toilet paper and cigarettes.

Market Correction - The day after you buy stocks.

Cash Flow - The movement your money makes as it disappears down the toilet.

Yahoo - What you yell after selling it to some poor sucker for $240 per share.

Windows 2000 - What you jump out of when you're the sucker that bought Yahoo @ $240 per share.

Institutional Investor - Past year investor who's now locked up in a nuthouse.

Profit - Religious guy who talks to God.

Alan Greenspan - God

Bill Gates - Where God goes for a loan

Every Thursday of the Month
The Diner SIG Meets

Bethlehem Diner Montage by Dick Kline

Penny Pinching With a Digital Camera

Val Scarcia, mrval@rcn.com

I got into digital photography because of the immediacy-- I can take a picture and immediately print, e-mail, or Web-publish it, with no intermediate processing and scanning. But a lot of people go digital because it saves money. You already know the reasons no film to buy, no processing, no paying for a bunch of prints that came out terribly.

But there are other ways to watch your pennies, and that's good news now that you're faced with a post- holiday credit card bill.

Choose Your Camera Wisely

If you want to shop frugally, start with the camera. When I bought my Nikon CoolPix 990 last fall, local stores were selling it for $1200.

Online, I found the same camera for hundreds less. While there are benefits to shopping locally, like being able to carry your purchase home and knowing the camera will come with a full warranty, Internet pricing is hard to ignore.

(Some "gray market" online and mail order camera shops sell products that lack the manufacturer's warranty. Such cameras can save you a lot of money, but there's obviously some risk as well. If in doubt, check to see if your camera will bear a full warranty before you buy.)

The Sweet Spot for Digital Film

The 8MB memory card that comes with many digital cameras is downright anemic. You'll want to upgrade to a bigger card that can accommodate lots of images or long MPEG movies, but don't go overboard. Find the sweet spot in the memory card curve to buy the most megabytes for your dollar. Here's an example I found a 128MB CompactFlash memory card for just $50.

That's great, but a 256MB card is dramatically more expensive. The cheapest I could find was $129, which means you could very nearly buy three 128MB cards for the price of one 256MB card.

Charge--Don'tDispose--Your Batteries

I never get tired of recommending rechargeable batteries. The most expensive part of a digital camera can be the four AA alkaline batteries, which, since I take a lot of pictures, I found myself replacing almost weekly back in the old days. So, instead of spending $300 a year on batteries, I bought a single set of NiMH rechargeables for about $20.

Of course, with rechargeables, you also have to pay for the electricity to recharge them. Rechargeables also wear out, so you may have to replace them once a year or so. But even so, rechargeable batteries are a bargain.

Fit More on the Card

If you don't plan to print enlargements, you can pack more pictures on your memory card by reducing your shooting resolution. Sacrificing resolution is never a decision to make lightly, because fewer pixels always give you less flexibility for cropping and printing. But if you really need to take a boatload of pictures, switching from 3 megapixels to 1 can give you hundreds more images per card and save you the expense of buying a new Memory Stick, CompactFlash, or SD card.

Remember this rule of thumb3-megapixel images print as large as 8 by 10 inches quite nicely. Two megapixels give you a 5-by-7-inch enlargement, and 1 megapixel yields 4-by-6-inch prints.

Print Carefully

Digital cameras let you decide what pictures to print, at what size, and with what sorts of processing and cropping. But at nearly $1 per sheet, the premium-quality photo paper can cost more than traditional photo processing and printing. The solution? Print lower-quality prints, like proofs, on plain paper. Only switch to the good stuff when you're ready to make the final print.

You can also find specially sized 4-by-6-inch paper in computer and photo stores that can save you from printing on larger sheets and cutting them apart, wasting expensive paper.

Get the Most Out of your Prints

Once you've taken some great pictures, don't let them go to waste. Web sites like Club Photo and Ofoto turn prints into coffee mugs, T-shirts, enlargements, posters, greeting cards, and more. http//www.ofoto.com
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Internet SIG Meeting January 14, 2002
by Bill Pryor

1) We will start off the New Year showing you how to use Real Audio sound formats for music and voice using Cool Edit '96. I will actually create at the meeting sound files from beginning to end, and show everyone how easy it is to create these files from start to finish. The program is a FREE download. This software revolutionized computer voice and music recording. It is one of the best pieces of software ever written for sound.

2) I will show everyone how to create webpages using Homestead. You can view my demo page at: http://billpryor.homestead.com If you are just starting out, you will find this type of webpage very easy to create.

3) With the hundreds of articles I have written over the years for the club, I am going to start running meetings on many varied topics derived from my past articles and newsletters. Programs can range from Quantum Computers to Cutting and Pasting In Windows.

4) By numerous requests, I am going to start a **CorelDraw Festival.** Each Internet Meeting will have time allocated for CorelDraw basics. The main theme will be: **Layout and Design.** In the end, you will see how CorelDraw can do most anything from designing and creating newsletters and flyers, to making roadside billboards!

5) With all the viruses on the Internet geared to Microsoft Outlook mail programs, I do not advise using them. There are thousands of discontented ex-Microsoft programmers out there who are familiar with the source code and the interaction of the programs, and can easily write viruses for them. One of the last ones were written by a 21 year old. Most people I know who have been doing computing for years have the same opinion. That is why I rather show features of e-mail programs like Eudora that are less popular. Rather than going crazy with anti-virus programs to protect Microsoft software, getting rid of Outlook may be your best protection. We will go over more Eudora features, including sending soundfile attachments.

6) The importance of **Computing by Instinct**. At the meeting, I will go into details on this topic.

Bill Pryor, Internet SIG Coordinator, K2ROH
http//www.enter.net/~lvcgi, **Internet Homepage**
http//come.to/lvcg **Internet Homepage**
http//billpryor.homestead.com **Demo Homepage**
http//www.angelfire.com/geek/bitbybit **NACC Homepage**

Scaleable Vector Graphics and XML
by Bill Pryor
December 23, 2001

The W3 (World Wide Web Consortium) that makes up the universal definitions of communication on the WWW has been writing a new language called XML to replace the current HTML. XML will be more flexible and encompassing, with simpler and extended name tags when writing code to produce webpages. The newer version browsers can read XML. XML contains the ability to read SVG or scaleable vector graphics.

SVG, scaleable vector graphics, have the ability to create graphics and pictures with mathematical equations rather than using grids and squares as in raterized formats such as BMP, JPG, TIF, PCX which programs like Photoshop, Paint Shop Pro, Corel Photo-Paint, etc. use. What really happens is that SVG produces one mathematical equation for all sizes of one type of graphic which makes it scaleable when specific values are plugged in for a particular size picture. All that is uploaded to a browser is a mathematical equation of small file size, rather than large rasterized or bitmap files.

Unlike bitmap images that rely on every "bit" in the image being absolutely plotted, SVG graphics aren't created using set pixels. Instead, the length and position of every line and fill is described relatively. When the SVG graphic is resized, the image is simply redrawn using the same information scaled up or down as needed.

Simply put, everything I have said above, means CorelDraw. CorelDraw is one of the most powerful programs out for producing SVG naturally. There is hardly anything you can not do with CorelDraw. It contains the power and individuality that no other program in graphics has. You can easily produce SVG alone, or use bitmaps with SVG to produce combined graphics known as metafiles. The SVG used in CorelDraw are behind the program, and you do not see the mathematical equations with plugged-in values, the program does it for you behind the scene, every time you resize or manipulate your drawing or graphic! Corel has created an export filter for the W3 SVG/XML standard which is a FREE downloadable file on the Corel website which allows CorelDraw files to be in compliance with the new XML/SVG standard when exported using this filter.

With CorelDraw you can design CD covers, business cards, logos, webpage graphics, newsletters, PDF files, labels, catalogs, poems, books, billboards, flyers, spec sheets, magazine covers, greeting cards, graphs, etc.

I am going to start a CorelDraw Festival at my meetings, showing the CorelDraw basics.
The newest officially approved CorelDraw 9 book is out, printed by Corel Press has 870 pages, and I can not do it in one evening. There are many amazing features and techniques to this powerful program that I have never used, and amazingly, there is always more than one way to arrive at a final drawing or answer, if you know your basics.

Having a simple mind, and a basic approach, I'll easily get everyone going. All you need is the desire to do it, and we'll get there! If you like the beauty of graphics and colors, you are on your way!

Val Scarcia, Editor
mrval@rcn.com

Office XP TipsMacros 101

Ah, the joys of fatherhood. No parent can forget a child's
developmental milestones. Those first words, those precious first
steps across the carpet, the development of motor skills. Soon after my son learned to walk, he padded all over the house, exploring every nook and cranny. One day, I watched down the hall from my spot on the couch as he wrapped his chubby little fingers around the corner of the refrigerator door and tugged it open. He beamed at me, triumphant. Delighted, I exclaimed what any father would"Hey, way to go, buddy!

Grab me a soda outta there, will ya?" With glee, he pulled a soda off the shelf and brought it to me, practically bursting with pride. OK, maybe you had to be there. But trust me, it was a joyous occasion--one that was repeated many, many times.

I tell you this story today, friends, because that is what a macro is like A proud, soda-bearing toddler. That might seem like a bit of a stretch, but it's true that macros live to serve. Office XP lets you create macros that perform unpleasant or repetitive tasks, then run them whenever you want by clicking an icon or pressing a key combination. And while Office doesn't currently provide soda-fetching capabilities, there's almost no limit to the kinds of tasks you can automate in Word, Excel, and PowerPoint.

Macro Basics

A macro is a series of commands, keystrokes, and/or mouse clicks that you save and run whenever you want to. If you find yourself repeatedly performing a particular task in Word, Excel, or WordPerfect, you can lighten your workload by combining the steps into a macro that can be run by clicking an icon or pressing a key combination.

There are two ways to create Office macrosRecording them or writing them from scratch. Writing a macro from scratch requires that you learn a language called Visual Basic for Applications, or VBA.

However, most of the time, it's easier and just as effective to record
your keystrokes or mouse clicks using the macro recorder in Word, Excel, or PowerPoint. This week I cover the basics of recording macros. VBA is beyond the scope of this newsletter, but I'll cover some basic concepts in future issues, trying my best to steer clear of programming nerd-dom.

Macro Creation

The process for recording a macro is very similar in Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. You open a new document, worksheet, or presentation and choose Tools, Macro, Record New Macro to open the Record Macro dialog box. There, you assign your macro a name, choose a location for it, and give it a description. Word and Excel let you assign a shortcut key you can use to run the macro later. Word also lets you give the macro a toolbar icon.

Once you complete those tasks and click OK to dismiss the Record Macro dialog box, the Macro Recorder records your keystrokes and mouse clicks. Just type and click away, knowing that whatever you do will be recorded in the macro. You'll notice a tiny floating toolbar that has just two optionsStop Recording and Pause Recording. To take a short break, click Pause Recording. Click the same icon when you're ready to resume. When you're finished recording, click Stop Recording.

Congratulations You're the parent of a bouncy baby macro.

A Task Pane Macro

Let's create a very simple macro to get your juices flowing. I'll create this macro in Word, but the process is so similar in the other applications that you can easily create it in Excel or PowerPoint as well.

Curiously, Microsoft didn't assign a key combination to open the Task Pane. You can open it by choosing View, Task Pane or by manually invoking the same menu command with three keystrokes (Alt-V-K), but both methods are a bit chunky. Instead, let's create a simple macro that opens the Task Pane when you press Alt-T.

TID BITS (continued) Office XP Macros

Open a new Word document, <u>making sure the Task Pane is closed</u>. Choose Tools, Macro, Record New Macro. In the Record Macro dialog box, type "TaskPane" in the "Macro name" box. Next, leave the "Store macro in" list set to All Documents (Normal.dot) and highlight the text in the Description field. Type "Opens the Task Pane." Then, click the Keyboard icon to open the Customize Keyboard dialog box. Move the cursor to the "Press new shortcut key" field and press Alt-T. Leave the "Save changes in" list set to Normal.dot. Finally, click Assign, then click Close. Now you're recording.

At this point, press Alt-V-K, then click the Stop Recording icon (the little square) on the floating Macro toolbar. Word opens the Task Pane and the Macro toolbar disappears. Now, any time you want to open the Task Pane, just press Alt-T. OK, it's not like having your own miniature servant to fetch you a frosty beverage from the fridge, but you get the idea.

A Few Rules

Keep these rules in mind when creating macros - <u>Naming the baby</u> When you assign a name to your macro, you can't use spaces. Also, be sure to give your macro a logical name so you know what it does later.

- Choosing the crib When you determine a location for your macro, you're saying whether you'll run it in the current document or in all documents. Most of the time, you'll want to make the macro available to all documents. In Word, choose All Documents (Normal.dot). In Excel, choose Personal Macro Workbook. PowerPoint lets you store the macro in the open presentation only.
- Waking the baby When you assign a key combination you'll later use to run the macro, you must choose one that's not already assigned to something else (like Ctrl-C, which is assigned to the Copy command).

The Record Macro dialog box will warn you if you try to take an assigned combination. It's also helpful to choose one that's related to the task at hand, such as Alt-B for "baby."

- Select a security blanket Because some very mean people spread viruses via macros, XP provides a choice of three security levels, High, Medium, and Low. You set the level by opening an office application and choosing Tools, Macro, Security to open the Security dialog box. If your security is set to High, you won't be able to run macros. <u>If you want to run macros, you'll need to choose either Medium or Low</u>. If you don't mind seeing alert boxes when you run macros, Medium is probably best. If you create macros frequently and don't want to see a lot of alert messages, choose Low.

Plain and Simple

Finally, it's best to keep things simple. Complex macros don't always work like you'd expect. Plus, the simplest macros tend to be the most useful.

<u>The Task Pane macro is simply a basic example to show how macros work.</u> I hope I've inspired you to create your own macros that will save you time and effort. In future articles, I'll present some of my favorite macros and cover Office XP's macro capabilities in more detail. <u>And I promise to stay away from puberty jokes.</u>
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E-Mails

To(Recipient list suppressed)
SubjectHappy New Year 2002, Version 1, Service Pack 0

Before any updates come out, I would like everyone to realize that the beta testing will be officially over at 12 PM tonight for the year 2001.

Here are some important details(ÁÖ)½ÅÈ ´Â ÀÌ°°À° ÅäÁ¾ ¹ç¸¶´Ã ¸À» ¾ö¼±, ÀÌÃ¼ÀÇ È¥ÇÕÀ̪ª Ã·°¡¹°¾øÀÌ 100% ¼øµµÀÇ ¼ø¼öÇÑ ºÐ¸»ú È¯À·Î Á Á¶Çß½À´Ï´Ù. ±¹»ê¸¶´Ã °¡°ø Àü¹®¾÷Ã¼·Î ºÐ»À° ¹°·Ð ¶ÃÃÊ, µî Á Ç°±°À» °À¯Çï°í ÀÖ½À´Ï´Ù. °¡¥ÝÀ° ¶´ÃÈ¯ 250g¿¡ 4 9Ã̵¿¿ø ¶´Ã°Ð » 230g¿¡ 4 5Ã̵¿øÀÔÏ´Ù. ¶´ÃÀÇ È¿ ´É·ú °¹¿ë¹æ¹ý ¹× ¶´ÃÀ¿ë ´ÙÀ̾î̮ť®¹ýÀ» ÀÚ¼¼È÷ ¼³ íÇÑ ¼ÒÃ¥ÅÚµµ º ³»µå ³´Ï´Ù. ÀÏ»ó¾»ýÈ° ²ÙÁØÈ÷ ¶¹ëÇ̽Ã ¸é ½°Å×Ï¾Ã ¸é È°ÂÅÀ» ³ô¿©ÁÖ°í µ¿ Æ°æÈ ´ç¢ °£°ú À§¾¼Ï µî¿Ç ¿¡¹¹æ¿µµ ¾ÆÁÖ ÁÁ½À´Ï´Ù. ¶´ÃÀ° ½ÄÇ° ¶Ç´Â À½½¾ÄÀÏ »ÓÀÏÁö¸ ¶´Ã¾È¿¡ µé¾¼îÀÖ´Â °¢Á¾ ¾à®¼¼ºôÐÀÌ ¿ì®¸ ¸ ¸öÀ» ÀÌ·Ó·Ô ÇØ

At 12 PM tonight you will have the final version of the year 2001. The Universe will be issuing a new version of the 2001 year known as 2002 at midnight. If you would like to know more details about the Universe's annual upgrade to 2002, and any Y3K problems, please be free to e-mail me or come to our computer meetings. -)

Happy New Year, (¸¶´ÃÀ° ½ÄÇ° ¶Ç´Â ,)
Bill and Fran Pryor
bill@sos-prod.com

ToPaulhertl2@cs.com
SubjectReHappy New Year 2002, Version 1, Service Pack 0
Cc

Hi Paul,

II appreciate your good wishes and comments. You have been a member of the club for a longtime, and your support and input has always meant a lot to me. Always glad to see you at our meetings and functions, and wish you the best always.

Regards
Bill and Fran

At 0512 PM 01/01/2002 -0500, you wrote
A Happy 2002 in good health to you and Fran. I pray you will continue to make computers as interesting for us as you have in the past. We do not express it as often as we should but I for one am grateful that you and people like you are willing to take the time to prepare and then share with us your knowledge and outlook on science and philosophy.

Sincerely,
paul hertl

January 1989

Distance
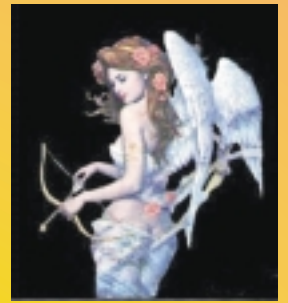
by Bill Pryor

The distance between a flower and a star
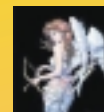Is just a moonbeam away,

The distance between two harmonious notes
Is just a beautiful symphony,

Maybe the face of the beautiful moon
Is reflected in its only sun,

But the distance between you,
The unknown,
And the never living,
Is more than an eternity away

Poetry and Quantum Mechanics
Bill Pryor, Unplugged

December 23, 2001

I believe reading and understanding good poetry is the easiest way to understand quantum theory.   In fact, I can not see any difference between quantum mechanics and good poetry. My real bewilderment is why doesn't anyone else say this? Where is the merging of science, language, and reality so people can understand the world about them? Do scientists have to remain on the altar of complete logic, be completely unemotional, and not relate to any other disciplines of reality that can create understanding?.   Nowhere else will you read a statement like this, that poetry and quantum mechanics are the same thing, and it is so obvious, it drives me crazy. I have read numerous books on physics and chemistry over my lifetime, and no one, has ever said or related poetry to quantum mechanics, and you know, they are alike. And in order to teach people to understand quantum theory, I would first teach them to understand and enjoy poetry. Read E E Cummings, Robert Frost, Wallace Stevens, William Blake. Learn that words and vocabulary have shadows, nuances. Learn what a metaphor is: *trees are umbrellas*. This is necessary to understand quantum mechanics.

Words and sentences to a poet have multiple meanings. The more meaning a word can entail, the closer you get to describing the reality about you. The more you dissect reality in the name of understanding, you create an ambiguous situation. In science, this is called quantum theory, and so, if you know the speed of an electron at the atomic level, you do not know its position, and if you know its position, you can not know its speed; this is known as the Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle in physics and is the basis of quantum theory. Quantum Theory or Poetry, will lead to the development of the Quantum Computer, since what the Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle is really saying is an electron is everywhere at once, and since it is everywhere at once, information is everywhere at once. Poetry is everywhere at once too. And is the most essential ingredient to understanding anything. One evening I will talk about this, since it is so important. Always remember, poetry and quantum theory are really the same thing. The workings of poetry are really behind the algorithms of the quantum computer.

One day people may realize our lives are really a poem written by the universe we live in.

We hope you have enjoyed our Newsletter

NACC
New Age Computer Club

Allentown, Pa.

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