



Brevard Users Group



July 2003

Pres Sez !

By George Rymer

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ! BUG Club Members.

We have just celebrated our 20th Anniversary in the computer club world. I am a youngster in this club, only about seven years, but there are a few that have lasted the full time. Over the years we have worked with many different brands of computers and many different operating systems. In the early days memberships were large and interested, because there weren't that many people knowledgeable about computers. All had a thirst to learn and be part of an up and coming way to work and play.

Today we have a more literate society and learning computers is much easier than it was 15 or 20 years ago. you don't have to write code and remember and type long command lines. Today for the most part, it is "point and click". Simple enough, until Bill Gates sends his "Blue Screen of Death" to visit you. Then things get a little terse at times. But for the most part, after a few clicks of the mouse, or a reboot, you are up and running again. As a result of the simplicity of the modern computers (user friendly) there aren't that many

people searching for more computer knowledge. If they have a good internet connection, they surf the net, send and receive e-mail's and photographs of their families. They use an Office Suite to do their correspondence, keep records and data, a money program to keep track of investments and finances.

The software of today is so user friendly that many people do not require help with their computers as they did in yesteryear. As a result of this modernization, the computer clubs are gradually seeing their demise. The memberships dwindle, the majority of those that are members, only come to take whatever they can, but shirk the responsibility of giving back something in return. Only a minute percentage of the members will contribute to the operation and management of the club. Fortunately there is usually a small core of dedicated people that will keep things going. I mention this now, because our Vice President just resigned. Fortunately some one stepped up and volunteered to fill that position. The Newsletter Editor is stepping down now and our First Member at Large will move into that position. His vacancy is being filled by another volunteer.

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**Mary
Alice
Grant**
Secretary

BUG MEETING, 16 June 2003

George Rymer, opened the meeting at 7pm. He announced the death of BUG club member, Mike Brock. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family.

Eric Arnold resigned as Vice President and Lucille Wagner volunteered to take Eric's place. Eric will stay on as the Web Master.

Tom Wojnar volunteered to become the 1st member at large. Jim Townsend will now become the Editor of the BUG Newsletter.

This is a VERY good direction the club is going in and the club gives a BIG welcome to the new officers. Thank you for your enthusiasm and support to the club.

Bob Wiler, from Wiler's TV gave a presentation on monitors. IBM built the first color monitor in 1981. In 1987 a VGA (Video Graphics Array) was built. VGA carries three colors, red, green, and blue. He noted that some cables from the monitor to the CPU have 15 pins while other have only 7 pins. People are sometimes confused and think they broke off some pins, when they may have a cable that originally had fewer pins to begin with. He is asked the question, "Should I leave my monitor on all the time?" and he answered this way. No, a monitor that stays on for one year is equivalent to seven years wear and tear on the monitor. So, it should be put into a sleep position or turned off when not using it. Never cover the top of a monitor, as it will cause heat damage. Also, never spray the front of the screen with a cleaner, as it will cause damage. Spray a cloth, and then wipe the screen for cleaning purposes. Alcohol is the best cleaner for the screen. He also said that when purchasing a monitor you get what you pay for. The cheaper monitor will break down faster and it will not be cost effective to have it repaired. Several questions were asked and the club members enjoyed his presentation. Thank you Bob for giving the presentation.

The club members enjoyed the beautiful cake and sodas for our 20th Anniversary. Mr. Rymer gave out several gifts to the members of the BUG club and the meeting ended about 8pm.



Found on the WEB

By Jack Nash, Bug member

Here are some handy sites with free programs that you may find useful. The first one is an excerpt from Fred Langa's "Langa List" sent to him by — Karen Swartz.

"Error Messages for Windows". This program might be helpful and it's free and only 62K download.

<http://www.gregorybraun.com/MSWinErr.html>.

This is what the page says about the program.

"Error Messages for Windows is a small utility that will allow you to look up MS Windows error code numbers and display a descriptive message explaining what the numeric code actually means. If you have software programs that produce numeric error codes now you can find out what they really mean.....Error Messages for Windows also provides a facility to display and print all of the error codes and messages defined for your version of MS Windows..... XP, Millennium Edition and 98 as well as MS Windows 2000 and 95/NT systems."

Belarc Advisor, this program will list everything on your system including the keys for all your installed programs. Mine ran about 9 printed pages.

Go to: www.belarc.com/free_download.html or go to Google search and type in Belarc Advisor.

Win 98 Support:

Microsoft has extended the support period for Win 98 until 1/16/2004. This buys a little time for those still using Win98. At some point, the OS will cease to be supported—eventually, there won't be any more patches, updates, and such—so if you're still using Win98, you still need to make concrete plans for the future. Also, the new end of life date for Win 98 is now 1/16/2005.

The Microsoft url for the complete story is:

<http://www.microsoft.com/windows/lifecycleconsumer.mspx>.



Treasurer's Report

By Ted Glaser

June 2003

Expenses:

Prizes/party	\$53.83
Newsletter:	
Printing	\$191.28
Mailing	\$60.00
Professional Fees	
PowWeb	\$15.00

Income:

Dues	\$275.00
CD Sales	\$19.00
Donations	\$35.00
N'ltr Ads	\$25.00

Assets:

Checking Acc't	\$356.30
Savings Acc't	\$1,956.53
Petty Cash	\$304.00

Renewals:

Cahill, W - #1123
Fiore, E - #1115
Hammergren, N - #1102
Lauritsen, H - #1124
Mackay, D - #1067
McEwen, E - #0910
Nash, E - #1125
Tanguay, J - #1126

New members:

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Strock, A - #1205
Wiler, B - #1207

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NEW LOCATION!

Phineas A. (Mike) Brock

Mike Brock, 81, Bug Club Member died June 10. He was born in Goldsboro, NC and moved to Indialantic in 1956.

He is survived by his wife of 60 years Nonie, his son David and a sister. He had 2 Grandchildren and 3 Great Grandchildren. Mike was employed by Pan Am World Services for thirty years and was a veteran of World War II serving on U.S. merchant ships.

Our Prayers and Sympathy to his family.



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From the Editor's Desk--Final Report

This is my last newsletter as your editor. The next months edition will be the responsibility of some other club member. Until someone steps up and takes over this responsibility, Jim Townsend has agreed to fill in on a *temporary* basis. The newsletter SIG will continue to function and provide support until a new managing editor is found. Without the help of the SIG members, this would be much more time consuming and difficult task.

I have enjoyed the last four + years as editor of this newsletter, it has been informative all the time and challenging much of the time. Looking at the amount of information in newsletters we exchange, and seeing what's on the web, I now have a firm grasp of how little I know--but this job has taught me much more than I ever expected to learn about computers. I'm sure the next editor will also benefit from the experience.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention those few who have been most responsible for whatever success we have had. Ed McEwen, Jim Townsend, & John Williams, are always there at every Saturday SIG. doing their part and John does the labeling and mailing on his own. My "Thanks", and appreciation for making this job easy.

We also owe a big "Thank You" to Jim Hally for his monthly column (that is often picked up by other newsletters in our exchange system). I hope Jim continues his outstanding efforts for the new editor(s).

My personal thanks to the Web Master for his inputs and help in so many ways in recent months, and to our elected Officers for getting their reports and inputs in on time, it sure helps to meet the deadline.

I wish the new editor the best of luck and the same level of support I have had. I will assist in any way I can.

30

Jack



Executive Board Minutes, May 2003

George called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm. Attending were: Ted Glaser; George Rymer; Eric Aronld; Dave Hixon; Jim Townsend; Jack Nash Mary Alice Grant was absent, so the prior minutes weren't read.

George Rymer is leaving on vacation May 17th until the first of June. Eric Arnold will chair the May monthly meeting. Bob Wiler is ready to speak at the monthly meeting.

The Treasurer reported:

\$1708.63 in the Savings Acc.

\$940.88 in the Checking Acc.

Two checks are outstanding, with a total of \$193.47.

The President thanked Eric for his continued efforts in obtaining speakers and advertisers.

We learned Iris Wilson's husband LaVern passed away last week, the club will send a sympathy card.

George reminded the Member's at Large to have members and guest sign in sheets available at the monthly meeting.

Raffle tickets have not been printed.

Due to last months speaker not appearing, an effort will be made to have someone that can respond with a weeks notice.

Jack Nash turned over all material pertaining to the NL sig to George, with the exception of the PageMaker 6 CD, which Jim Townsend has. Jack will not be responsible for the NL after the July issue. Jim Townsend will make up the June issue, and will fill in as editor until someone fills the position.

Jack Nash brought up a mailing he received for promo pens with the BUG name on them, the officers will look into these.

The club will be 20 years old in June, a motion was made by Eric seconded by Jim and passed, with Dave abstaining, to have a cake, soda and coffee at the June meeting. With a limit of \$50.

The Treasurer brought up a discussion on the NL advertiser rates. After much discussion Dave Hixon made a motion to change the advertiser rates,

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RECOVERING DELETED FILES

by Russ Merritt

At the March meeting, a question from the floor asked about retrieving a deleted file. The panel immediately described the file restore process from the Recycle Bin. Wrong answer. This file had already been deleted from the Recycle Bin. The consensus of the panel was that such file recovery was feasible, but involved hard disc disassembly by experts who do this sort of data recovery for industry. This is a very expensive process not generally used by individuals.

The next day an e-mail was received from the gentleman who told me the file had been retrieved. I called immediately to get the details. Kenny Williams, the Computer Columnist for the Observer News had been at his house on Wednesday and spent several hours trying to recover the file. He left with the message that he needed to do some research and would be back on Thursday. He came back on Thursday, inserted a CD and recovered the deleted file. This was the subject of Kenny's article on March 13, 2003 and I hope most of you had a chance to read it.

The gentleman was very, very pleased to get back his data, but he had no idea how it was done.

Not to be outdone, I went to the Internet SIG the next Saturday morning and asked them to do some research on recovering deleted files. By that afternoon, I had a WEB site. There were several programs offering the capability to recover deleted files, but the one that caught my attention was some freeware out of Germany. So I downloaded PC Inspector, installed it on a CD and emptied my Recycle Bin. In this group of files were two graphics files (JPG). When the File Recovery program of PC Inspector was run, the complete list of files from several Recycle Bin dumps were listed, but they all had been renamed in sequence. The two JPG files stood out and were easy to recognize. I selected one, saved it, quit the program and looked for the JPG file. It was fully recovered.

I took a copy of the program to the Laboratory and talked about the file recovery process. The

question came up— what if the file was deleted not using the Recycle Bin (hold down the shift key and hit delete). So I went home and tried it, and this time the file was easily recognized. The full file name was displayed. I simply saved it and it was recovered.

The program is remarkably easy to use.

How can these files be recovered? First you have to understand that when a hard drive is formatted, sectors are formed. The Operating Systems use these sectors to store files, one to each sector. If the file is too big to fit in one sector, the Operating System moves the next pieces of data to a new sector, and so on until the whole file is saved. When you delete a file, the data is not erased. The Operating System simply removes the file reference that shows where the data is stored. Now, without a file reference point, the Operating System can reuse the sector for data from a new file.

If you should accidentally delete a file, the first thing to remember is, do not save any other data. The Operating System may select the sector(s) where your deleted file resides to store the next file. This will result in your erased data being overwritten and make recovery difficult if not impossible.

If you want a copy of the file recovery program, you can use your search engine, type in PC Inspector File Recovery and you should find this site. http://www.pcInspector.de/file_recovery/UK/welcome.htm

Reprint from The Journal of Sun City Center, FL. May 2003



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DOES FAIR USE APPLY?

By Ed Foster

Reprint from "Cyber Chat" of the Chautauqua Cyber Club, April 2003

If I loan a book to a friend to read, am I committing an act of piracy? The day is fast approaching when at least some people will answer that question in the affirmative.

Amid the sound and fury generated by our recent discussions of TurboTax product activation, an important point had to take a backseat to the more immediate concerns readers were expressing about Intuit's move to restrict use of pass-along CDs. Now that the smoke has cleared at least a little, I'd like to get back to it.

Several readers were somewhat taken aback by my earlier comments comparing a copy of TurboTax to a book or video. 'I don't like the analogy,' wrote one reader. "It's too easy to make an illegal copy of software, for one thing. Even if you pass along the CD without retaining the program on your hard drive, you're depriving Intuit of a possible sale to the person you pass it on to. That's piracy as far as I'm concerned."

Of course, passing along the CD while keeping a copy of the program for yourself would be piracy. If that had been Intuit's primary concern, however, it would not have needed to upset users with a complex product-activation scheme. The type of copy protection used by many game software publishers, requiring the CD to be present for the program to run, would have sufficed.

But does passing on the CD without keeping an illegal copy still constitute piracy? After all, tax software vendors would seem to be particularly vulnerable to such pass-alongs because, after filing their own taxes, the original customers would not likely have further need for the program until the next tax season.

But that's exactly why I think the analogy between TurboTax and a book is actually quite appropriate, even more so than for other types of

software. A book is also a product you use once and then might never use again. But if you pass a book along to a friend or even sell it to a used bookstore, aren't you potentially depriving the book publisher of possible sales as much as a TurboTax customer passing along the CD?

So why don't we feel like pirates when we loan someone a book? Or, for that matter, when we give away a video, music CD, or DVD? Books may not be as subject to casual copying as software programs, but the music and motion picture industries are crying piracy even louder than the software industry. And even the worst of the anti-fair-use laws their lobbyists are pushing Congress to pass wouldn't block resale of a legal copy.

In fact, just one relevant difference exists between that TurboTax CD and a book when it comes to defining what is and isn't piracy. The software comes with a sneak wrap license agreement that restricts use of the product to the computer on which it was originally installed. It makes you wonder if book publishers are just too stupid to live. Why don't they put their own license agreement on the inside cover to prohibit transfer of the product?

As I've mentioned before, this idea has occurred to book publishers — many times, in fact. They thought of it at least as early as the 1800s, which is why we have more than 100 years of court decisions affirming the "first sale" doctrine of copyright law. Once the publisher has sold a copy of a book or other copyrighted work, first sale says purchasers may do whatever they please with their copy except make a copy of it. Time and again, courts have ruled that notices printed in a book prohibiting its resale; mandating the price it can be sold for; or limiting where, when, or to whom it can be sold are not binding on the purchaser.

Let's pause here to address a few readers' objection to the software book and agreed that a pure consumer product such as TurboTax ought to be treated the same as books or other copyrighted

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Fair Use Continued from page 7

products, but they worried about software licensing in business-to-business transactions. For example, what about when one software company licenses technology to another? Am I saying that the licensing company can put no contractual restrictions on how its technology is used or to whom it might be sold?

No, of course not. But the very fact that the question comes up shows the absurdity of treating consumer software purchases as a form of licensing when they are as ordinary as a book purchase. A real license involves a real contractual relationship with terms and limitations both parties understand up front, not a hidden list of restrictions you can't even see until you've made the purchase. Book publishers also used to claim their products were "licensed, not sold," but that didn't make it so. And Intuit's not wanting TurboTax customers to pass along their CDs also doesn't make doing so piracy.

The software business and the book business are very different, and the same can be said for the movie, music, TV, radio, and computer magazine businesses. Yet can anyone doubt that, one way or another, digital technology is going to change how we do business with our customers? Sooner or later, a common set of rules will exist. Maybe those rules will include the fair use and first sale principles we've taken for granted for so long, or maybe the rules will be hidden away in sneak wrap licenses and enforced by digital rights management technology. We have a choice. What's at stake is how free we are to share information, which means what's at stake is how free our society really is.



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What You Should Expect From Your Recycled Ink Jet Cartridge **“A Guide for the New User of Recycled Ink Jet Cartridges”**

*Reprint Courtesy of Charlie Brown Distributing, Inc./
Dynamic Laser Products*

If you are new to recycling - in particular to the use of recycled ink jet cartridges - we think it might be helpful for you to understand how your cartridges work and to learn more about what you should expect from your recycled ink jet cartridges. You already know recycling is good for the environment and that you can save up to 50% off the price of your cartridges by recycling. But just how long will your recycled cartridges last? To answer that question, let's first look at how they work.

The printhead and circuitry which perform most of the work of the ink jet printer are contained on the small ink jet cartridge itself.. Today, there can be anywhere from 48 to 320 nozzles or "jets" on the printhead located at the bottom on your cartridge.

Each nozzle or jet is smaller in size than a human hair and each is connected electronically to a heater or resistor which heats and cools the ink inside the cartridge. When the ink is heated, a bubble forms. When the heat source is removed, the bubble "bursts" sending dots of ink on the page through the nozzles or jets. These dots form the print characters on the page at the rate of up to 6000 drops per second. The heating and cooling process is happening at very high rates of speed, too.

It was once believed that the heaters in the cartridge would only last for one use of the cartridge. But we've learned that the heaters will continue to do their work and the jets will continue to fire for more than one use of the cartridge in most ink jet cartridges. In fact, the heaters or resistors on most ink jet cartridge will continue to fire until they either burn out completely or weaken significantly. On the average, that happens from the third to fifth time the cartridge is used.

How many times a cartridge can be recycled varies from cartridge to cartridge. From 5 to 10% of most common cartridges can't be recycled even once. Some cartridge styles, including most tri-color

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cartridges, have higher “unserviceable” rates. At the same time, some cartridges can be recycled more than five times. The only thing that is predictable is that all ink jet cartridges will eventually wear out — and probably won’t happen at the same time your cartridge runs out of ink. Once you decide to start recycling your ink jet cartridges, keep in mind you’ll eventually have to buy new cartridges. Ink jet recycling doesn’t mean you’ll never buy another new cartridge. It just means you can save money for several cycles until your cartridge needs replacing. Each time you do recycle, you’ll see those savings mount.

So what are the signs that your cartridge is getting worn out? If a jet in your cartridge is “burned out,” you will see horizontal bands or white streaks in your print. Print characters may appear incomplete and fill on graphics will show areas with no ink.

A word of caution, these white streaks can also be caused by other problems, so don’t assume your cartridge is gone when you see them. Some of the things that can cause the white streaks are fixable.

Another sign that your cartridge may be nearing its useful life is the appearance of dramatically lighter than normal print. This can mean the heaters are weakened and putting less ink on the page.. Again, this can be caused by other “fixable” problems. Here are some common fixes that can often resolve a print problem in an ink jet cartridge:

1) Run a little warm tap water over the printhead. This can dissolve any ink which may have dried in the cartridge. This is especially helpful if the cartridge has been removed and exposed to air for any length of time.

2) “Dirty resistors” or heaters can often be cured by cleaning the contacts on the cartridge and on the printer carriage. This can be done with water or alcohol. After cleaning, snap the cartridge in and out a few times to be sure you have a good connection between contacts in the cartridge and the printer.

3) “Smearly” print can be caused by build-up of ink on the wiper blade found in most HP Deskjet models. If this is your problem, clean the wiper blade according to printer manual instructions.

If these tricks don’t work, contact your dealer to have your cartridge tested. Save a print sample to help diagnose the problem. The dealer may have cleaning methods and other procedures which may solve the problem. Once the dealer has fully tested the cartridge, you’ll either have the problem fixed or you’ll learn the cartridge has reached its useful life. Then it’s time to buy a new cartridge and start recycling again.

Since we know all ink jet cartridges will fail eventually —your dealer can’t be expected to replace your cartridge when it wears out anymore than you would expect your car dealer to replace your car when it wears out. But most dealers will allow you to recycle another cartridge at no cost if your cartridge fails before it is less than 75% used. The warranties on most ink jet cartridges do have a time limit— both new and recycled— because ink jets can be harmed when removed from the printer for extended time. So contact your dealer as soon as you suspect your cartridge may have a problem.

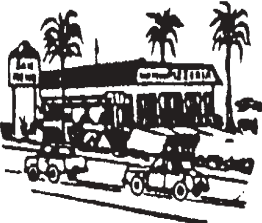
Although, ink jet cartridges won’t last forever we know from successful testing and use throughout the world that recycled ink jet cartridges work and they can save you money.

So don’t throw those cartridges in the trash— it’s like throwing money away!



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GOOD HOUSEKEEPING

by Gary English

So your hard drive is filling up and you need to make some room in order to install that new piece of software. How does one go about finding the stuff that is OK to get rid of?

Microsoft has been making this an easier task in recent versions of Windows by including a disk cleanup utility. At least I know that this does apply to Windows 98 and later.

I don't have a PC running Windows 95 any more, so I'm not sure that Windows 95 has what I'm about to describe. I'll cover another way that will work with Windows 95 in a bit.

Windows Cleanup

To get to the Disk Cleanup Utility, open My Computer, then highlight your disk drive, right-click, and select Properties. Make sure you are looking at the General tab. You should see a pie chart and details about your disk drive size and usage.

Just below and to the right of the pie chart should be a button labeled Disk Cleanup. The utility will run briefly, then present a list of likely groups of files that can be removed, and show you how much disk space they occupy. Selecting each category will display a brief description to help you decide whether to remove them or not. Place a check mark next to each category that you would like to remove, and then click the OK button.

The disk cleanup utility is a quick and painless way to make some room, but there are still other ways to make room on your hard drive. Before we get into that, let's help the folks who do not have access to the disk cleanup utility. Everyone can follow along here, especially if you've upgraded your operating system on this computer. There may be some files hanging around that the disk cleanup utility did not find.

The Temp Solution

This method is best to do right after a **fresh** reboot and before you open any programs. Open My Computer, select your disk drive, right-click, and select Explore.

A plus sign (+) beside a folder means that it

contains sub-folders. Clicking on the plus sign will expand the folder list to show you what's there. What you need to do is scroll down the folder list and expand the Windows folder. Then continue to scroll till you find the Temp folder.

The Temp folder is where Windows programs place "stuff" on a temporary basis. Well-behaved programs are supposed to remove this stuff when no longer needed, but sometimes do not, for many and varied reasons.

As a general rule, you can always delete stuff in the Temp folder that is dated prior to your last reboot. Just to be safe, I recommend leave anything with today's date alone. To make that task easier, select the View/Details, then click on the Date Modified column heading. This will sort the files and folders by date. Scroll through the list just to make sure that you have not inadvertently saved something of value in here.

Once you are satisfied there is nothing of value, select the files you want to delete. An easy way is to click on the first file in the group, hold down the Shift key, and click on the last file of the group. With the files selected, you can right click on any of them and pick Delete. This removes the files from the Temp folder. However, to actually gain disk space you'll have to empty the Recycle Bin. If you have not already emptied the Recycle Bin, now would be a good time.

Other Hidden Space

Another place to find some space is to look for and uninstall programs you no longer use. Be sure to use the Add/Remove Programs applet in the control panel.

Also, review all your music and video files. These take up quite a bit of room and can always be written to a CD or a Zip disk.

Look for any of the distribution files for programs you downloaded from the Internet. These, too, can be off-loaded to other media, or discarded once the program has been installed. Many can be downloaded again if needed later.

Lastly, you can gain a lot of room by emptying the browser cache. For Internet Explorer, right-click on the icon, select Properties, and in the

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Good Housekeeping, continued from page 10

Internet Files section, click the Delete Files button. For Netscape, it's an option in the Preferences menu.

Benefits of Defrag

After you've finished cleaning out your disk, now is a good time to run Disk Defragmentation Utility. It can be found on the Tools Tab of the disk drive properties sheet and has a very good help file. You should disable any disk monitor programs and your anti-virus program while it runs. Defrag can take a good bit of time to run, so don't start it until you can do without your PC for a couple of hours.

As a general rule, even if you do not need the space, it is a good idea to do this clean up procedure at least twice a year. Fall and spring seem to fit my schedule best, but of course any time will do.



Newsletter CD

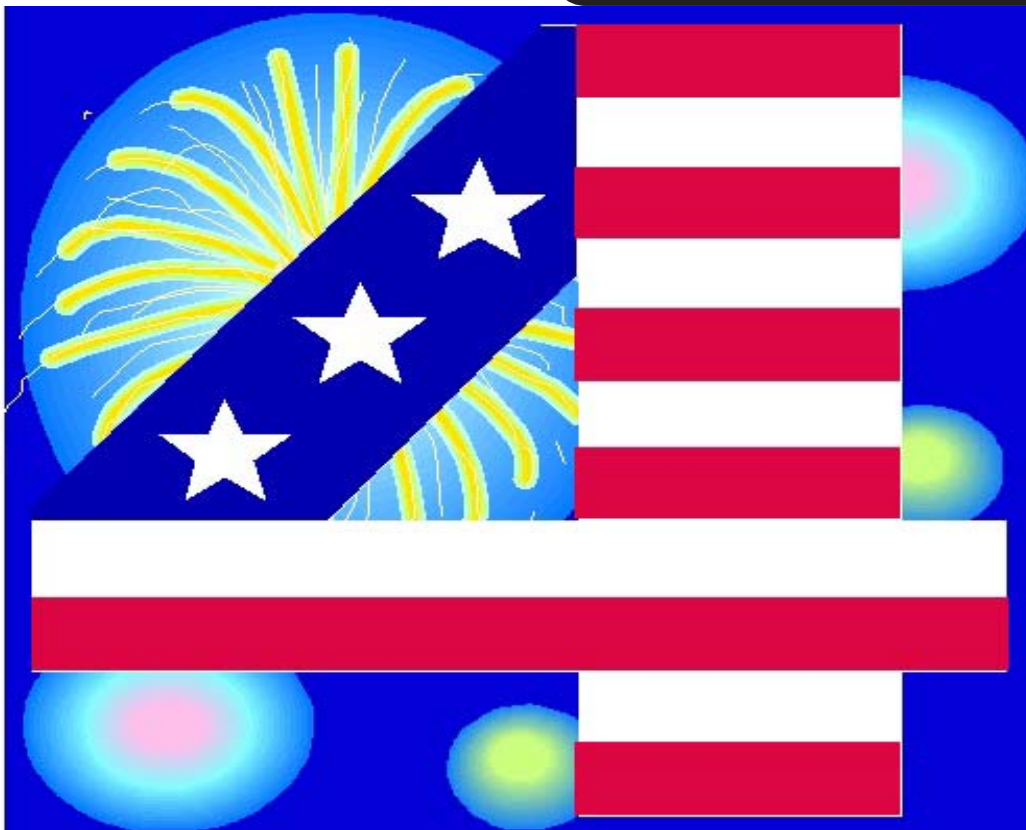
The 2003 Newsletter CD is now available, it contains the issues from February 1999 to December of 2002.

The CD is in Adobe Acrobat format (.pdf) and will autorun when inserted in your CD drive, if you have that feature enabled on your machine.

The disc also contains the Acrobat Reader 5 program along with the viewer files for MS Word 97, MS Excel 97, and MS Powerpoint 97. Those files will allow you to only view these programs, handy when you receive something through e-mail and don't have MS Office on your machine. Also included on the disk are two free office programs, **Open Office** and **Easy Office**

To access the other files, close the program, right click the CD-ROM drive and pick **open** from the menu. The cost is only \$5.00, if you have the 2002 edition you can return that and purchase the new CD for \$3.00.

Contact Jim Townsend at any of the monthly or Windows SIG meetings.



Newbies Corner

by Jim Hally B.U.G. member

DVD Part II

Let's start with a short trip back to DVD Video, for a minute. When 5 1/4" floppy disks first hit the scene they were single sided. By this, we mean the data is written to one side of the disk. The capacity of the 5 1/4s started at about 360 Kb with an eventual common capacity of 720 Kb. Next in line was the 3 1/2" floppy which started at 720 Kb., and eventually increased to 1.44 Mb. This increase was the product of DS/HD or Double Sided/High Density.

DVD Video makes use of much of the same language, with a few changes. Some examples of DVD Video are:

SS/SL; single sided/single layer, about 2 hrs. of video.

SS/DL; single sided/double layer, about 4 hrs. of video.

DS/SL; double sided/single layer, about 4 1/2" hrs. of video.

DS/ML; double sided/mixed layer, about 6 1/2 hrs. of video.

DS/DL; double sided/double layer, about 8 hrs. of video.

DVD-RAM SS/SL; single sided/single layer, 2.4 Gb.

DS/SL; double sided/single layer, 4.7 Gb.

Having never owned a DVD player, I am at a loss when it comes to recording or playing DVD's. From what I understand you will probably need a decoder to play a movie DVD on your computer. Many DVD ROM drives come with the software which, when installed, will allow you to view the disc.

Computer Club vs. Video Club.

Our first experience with optical media was with CD ROM drives. At first the media was used to use one disc to install large programs instead of multiple floppy disks. The next step was the CD R drive, which allowed us to copy files to the discs and then re-read them at a latter date. We used them to

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Executive Minutes, continued from page 5

Ted Glaser seconded it and it passed unanimously. The new rates will be an increased term for the same price on the 3 and 6 month bussiness card ads.

The other size ads will conform along the same lines

4 months for \$25

8 months for \$45

12 months for \$85

Jim Townsend submitted to the Treasurer \$15 from NL CD sales, and \$106 from Jim Hally for Newbies CD sales. Eric submitted \$50 to the treasurer for NL ad renewals.

Ted Glaser brought up a notice he received from the Melbourne Beach Library for a Brevard County Club Day to be held on Sat. Nov 8th. The officers will bring this up and ask for volunteers at a monthly meeting, to staff the table. They will also check into having a table at the Super Flea Market for members who wish to sell excess computer parts, and to promote the group. Also look into a booth at the Melbourne Mall for the groups promotion. This will depend on having enough volunteers to staff these events.

A motion was made by Dave Hixon and seconded by Ted Glaser to give the clubs printer to the Tinkers SIG. The printer is not working and they may be able to do something with it.

The meeting closed at 7:15

☺

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Newbies continued from Page 12

transport large files from one computer to another or to safeguard our data. The next logical step was to be able to re-write to the discs with the CD RWs. Of course this called for a different drive and different discs. After the first models came out it got a little sticky. You had to remember what all the speeds were. For example a 12x 4x 32x wrote the data at 12, rewrote the data at 4 and read the CDs at 32 speed. Don't forget that was under optimum conditions and subjective testing. It is much like the mileage posted on new automobiles.

DVD drive speeds are a little different. I will forgo a chart and just type out some of the data.

Read the following, as DVD speed equals CD rate.

DVD drive speed	Data rate	Equivalent CD rate	CD reading speed
1x	11.08 Mbps (1.32 MB/s)	9x	8x-18x
2x	22.16 Mbps (2.64 MB/s)	18x	20x-24x
4x	44.32 Mbps (5.28 MB/s)	36x	24x-32x
5x	55.40 Mbps (6.60 MB/s)	45x	24x-32x
6x	66.48 Mbps (7.93 MB/s)	54x	24x-32x
8x	88.64 Mbps (10.57 MB/s)	72x	32x-40x
10x	110.80 Mbps (13.21 MB/s)	90x	32x-40x
16x	177.28 Mbps (21.13 MB/s)	144x	32x-40x

Continued on Page14

DVD technology is similar to CD technology but it is much more complicated as far as users go. The fact of the matter is it can get down right complex. Let's start with the media (discs). There are 4 basic types, DVD-R, DVD-RW, DVD+R and DVD+RW. As you can see we have added to the mix with the + items. The complexity starts with the DVD-R media. There are two types DVD-R(G) and DVD-R(A). The (G), indicates general use whereas the (A) stands for authoring or professional use. The bottom line is that if you decide to go with a -R drive you have to make sure you get the right media. These media types involve different drives, speeds and lasers. Make sure you know your Grapes (G) from Apples (A).

The Second version of the Newbies CD is now Available. The cost is \$5.00, or \$3.00 if you return the First version. See Jim Hally at any of the club meetings.



From here the next progression goes to

Newbies continued from Page 13

I will just skip over the tactic of not closing a session after burning a disc for this column.

Another tier of this technology is the + series. The DVD+R is similar to the CD technology as well. I guess the first question that comes to mind is why do we need two different formats? It is a niche battle plain and simple. The DVD+R soon evolved into DVD+RW. The reason it was accepted, by the DVD Forum, and its members was that it was supposed to be only for computer data and not video. This placated the members of the forum, even those who were advocating the -R format. The forum is not a group that sets standards. It has no real power. Once the group of electronics manufacturers got the pat on the back from the forum they were off and running.

DVD+RW

This format uses something called phase-change media with a high-frequency wobbled groove that allows it to eliminate linking sectors. You can bet the house that I really don't know what that means. I would imagine it is a variation of the groove as in lands and grooves. Thinking further I would guess the length of the wobbled groove makes it different from other wobbled grooves, which must be different from regular grooves. My information tells me DVD+RW drives read DVD-ROMs and CDs and usually read DVD-R and DVD-RWs. These drives also write CD Rs and CD RWs. All that I have written is just peachy if it works with your current hardware. I am not sure there are any guarantees with the possibility of the manufacturer's web site. Use the following as a GUIDE to compatibility.

	DVD unit	DVD-R(G) unit	DVD-RW unit	DVD-RAM unit	DVD+RW unit
DVD ROM disc	reads	reads	reads	reads	reads
DVD-R(G)disc	often reads	reads, writes	reads,w rites	reads	reads
DVD-R(A)disc	usually reads	reads	reads	reads	reads
DVD-RW disc	often reads	reads	reads, writes	usually reads	usually reads
DVD-RAM disc	rarely reads	doesn't read	doesen't read	reads, writes	doesn't read
DVD+RW disc	usually reads	usually reads	usually reads	usually reads	reads, writes
DVD+R disc	often reads	usually reads	usually reads	reads	reads,m ay write

At the present time, with so few of our members having DVD writers of any type, we are without definite answers to some of our questions. I think the cost, of the DVDs are a little out of range for most of us. Couple that with the fact that most of us have a slew of unburned CDs this may be a good time to begin investigating DVDs. The more I think about it, the more I am convinced that I will probably be in the latter half, of our group, to make the move to a DVD writer. I will probably have a DVD player long before I have a writer.



Prez Sez, Continued from page 1

For your long term planning, the Treasurer will not continue after this year. Who will step up to the plate and take that job? While we are on the subject, I will not serve another term as President after this one is over. Three years is enough for one time. It is now time for someone else to come forward, grab the reins and steer this club deeper into the 21st century. Nomination time is just around the corner and elections are in January. You better be thinking about who you want to lead you through next year and beyond!

See y'all next month George



Special Interest Groups

WINDOWS SIG

Meets 7:00 PM Thursdays
1st & 3rd Thursday at Eau Gallie Library.
All Other Thursdays at Melbourne Library
on Fee Avenue.

IMAGING SIG

Meets at 7:30 PM the second and
fourth Thursdays, after the Windows SIG,
at the Fee Ave Library in Melbourne.

NEWSLETTER SIG

Meets twice a month on the Saturdays before
and after the BUG monthly meeting.

Members interested in helping develop the
newsletter are welcome.

Place is Jim Townsend's home
call 728-5979 for directions.

TINKERS SIG MEETS

on most Sundays at
Bob Schmidts house.
Call 952-0199 for directions
and to verify meeting.

BUG Club Information

BUG E-MAIL LIST

To be included in the BUG E-Mail roster,
send an E-Mail to George Rymer at:
grymer@cfl.rr.com.

We will need your full name, E-Mail address
and your BUG membership number. You will
then receive notices and updates on BUG
activities, special events, changes to
schedules, etc.

BUG Board of Directors

Meets the second Wednesday of the
month at C.M. Corley's home.

Time 6:00 pm

Call 253-3050 for directions.

Sponsorship Rates

	4 Months	8 Months	12 Months
Full Page	\$160.00	\$ 310.00	\$ 550.00
Half Page	\$ 85.00	\$ 160.00	\$ 300.00
Qtr Page	\$ 45.00	\$ 85.00	\$ 150.00
Bus Card	\$ 25.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 85.00

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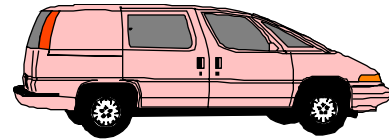


Membership

is by application and payment of \$25.00 annual dues. Membership is for 12 months from receipt of dues and includes a year's subscription to the newsletter.

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<http://bugclub.org>

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Hardware (Tinkers) SIG:

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jimtownsend@earthlink.net

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