Orange Bytes

Award Winning Newsmagazine of the North Orange County Computer Club

NOCCC MEETINGS - SEPTEMBER 7

9:30 a.m. *Irvine Hall*
NEW TECHNOLOGIES
Herb Wong
Home Networking (wired and wireless)
See Page 4 for details

1:00 p.m. *Irvine Hall*
MAIN MEETING
Cheryl Wester
The Pocket PC: Why it is so hot
See Page 4 for details

8:30 a.m.
Visual Programming I .... *Science 109*
Visual Basic and Visual Basic Script for Beginners

9:00 a.m.
Autocad .... *Science 203*
Linux for Desktop Users .... *Wilkinson 111*
Visual Programming II .... *Science 109*
Visual C++ and Visual J++ for Beginners

9:30 a.m.
NEW TECHNOLOGIES .... *Irvine Hall*
 See box above
Computer Aided Investing .... *Science 306*
 Member Investment Strategies, Techniques and Software
Hardware Essentials .... *Irvine Hall*
 Home Networking (wired and wireless).....
Linux (intermediate) .... *Wilkinson 111*

10:00 a.m.
Linux for Server Adminstrators .... *Wilkinson 111*
Visual Programming III .... *Science 109*
 Intermediate and Advanced Visual Basic

11:15 a.m.
Computer Security - is going virtual .... *Internet*
 See the SIG report for details
Linux Programming Concepts .... *Wilkinson 111*

Macintosh .... *Wilkinson 221*
Office Suites .... *Science 111*
 Office suites applications
PC Q & A - Jim Sanders .... *Irvine Hall*
 Most Qs A'd, some problems solved, assorted demos done
Understanding Operating Systems .... *Science 306*
 Get Help with DOS, Windows 3.1, Windows 9x, OS/2, etc.
Visual Programming IV .... *Science 109*
 Office 97 VB for Applications programming.

12:00 Noon
PIG SIG .... *Argyros Hall Cafeteria*
 A lunch get together and talk. See SIG Reports

1:00 p.m. Main Meeting, Irvine Hall
 See box above

2:30 p.m.
Computer Games on PC/Mac .... *Science 127*
 Exploring Mac/PC games. Bring your friends! :-)
Digital Photography .... *Irvine Hall*
 All about taking, modifying, and printing digital photos
Genealogy .... *Science 111*
 Discover your family history with modern tools
Hardware Essentials .... *Science 109*
 Home Networking (wired and wireless)....
OS/2 News and Installation .... *Science 203*
Palms O/S PDA's .... *Science 306*
 Palm O/S applications, hardware....

NOCCC web site:
http://www.noccc.org

Future Meetings
Sept 7, Oct 5, Nov 2, Dec 7, Jan 4, Feb 1

• Box 3616 Orange CA 92857 • Founded April 1976 •

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"Friends Helping Friends"

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The Association of
Personal Computer User Groups

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
for the following positions:

Circulation — *Oversees the mailing and distribution.*

Commercial Swap Meets • *Distributes* Orange Bytes *and* NOCCC *material at swap meets.*

Commercial Advertising • *Obtains ads from both national and local vendors for the* Bytes*; the success of this helps our club finances.*

President's Message

Well, we have survived another summer and its' heat spells. And it is back to school for some of us. In August, many of your board members took time away from their busy lives to attend the Southwest User Group Conference in San Diego. It was a very energizing conference, with over 275 attendees from Southern California, and Arizona. There were great presentations by Intel, Adobe, Jasc (PaintShop Pro) and Microsoft. Plus we all learned about other clubs, their challenges and recommendations to address those challenges. I helped lead a session on Sources of Revenue and Affiliate advertising with Sue Crane from the Big Bear PC group. Another good thing is that we gathered a few more Raffle prizes! Rumor has it, sometime in the next few months, there will be an Epson C-82 printer in the raffle, so watch the Orange Bytes for when this will be raffled! Gerry Resch, Director, will be listing the major prizes of the month in the Bytes, so save your dollars for those raffles! The money helps feed the audio visual fund and the scholarship!

Our Publications team, led by Jim Sanders, won 2nd place in the newsletter contest at SWUG! They beat out many good newsletters for this honor! Congrats Jim and team!

I hope you did not get the MSBlast-LoveSan virus. This is a wake-up call to make certain you get the Microsoft Security updates (open Internet Explorer, Tools, Windows Update), and keep your virus checker updated. If you want to double check your virus checker, or are at a friend's house and they can still get to the Internet, , try the free House Call virus checker via the internet at **http://www.antivirus.com**, then click on HouseCall. It will run a version of Trend-Micro's **PC-cillin** via the internet.

In September, the PIG SIG will resume in Argyros Hall with the opening of the cafeteria. Sorry, no more hot dogs (thank you Alan Pearlman for this effort this summer!). Bring a lunch or get the buffet there and just hang out and chat informally with your fellow members. There is always an interesting conversation going on!

Herb Wong, SIG coordinator, after getting input from the SIG leaders at the NOCCC Pool Party, has done some re-assigning of rooms, so look at the schedule on the wall as you come into Hashinger Hall for the Sept. 7th meeting. To get to Wilkinson, you can either go out to the street or the shorter way around to the right (from Hashinger Hall). We have tried to minimize use of Wilkinson until the Library at Chapman is completed.

At our September 7th meeting, we will have a very very energetic speaker, Cheryl Wester, Los Angeles Pocket PC Users Group and Temecula User Group, on the Pocket PC- Why it is so hot, What you can do with it- wireless, Word, Excel, etc. She is a super energetic speaker and will tell us all about being connected with a small PDA.

Cathy Margolin, NOCCC President

Membership Benefits

Member Discounts and Benefits

As a valued member, we bring you a section of discounts, offers, as part of the entire "Benefit of Belonging." (Caveat-we are unable to endorse these companies, but make these offers available as a service to our members).

Orange Bytes on PDF earlier in the month! Members ONLY- Watch your e-mail every month for the Password to get the award winning Orange Bytes much earlier in the month via PDF file on the www.noccc.org website. Make certain you let us know any e-mail changes (membership@noccc.org) so you can get the jump on all the great Reviews and Articles!

CompuUSA Discount- Fountain Valley Only One of our members, Joe Vezeau, Corporate Sales, has offered NOCCC members a discount. You have to call Joe and he will see if there is any discount available (some products are below cost and he cannot do anything) on the product you want. 714-965-4236 for Joe Vazeau).

Free Virus Checker IT professionals can get a FREE copy of Panda Platinum v7 plus firewall for every computer in their homes. You Deserve Complimentary Protection At Home! Tired of spending up to $50 on AV and firewall licenses every year for each machine in your home? Qualify on our industry perks program and never pay again! (Cover all of your home machines too ? for no charge.). You'll get Panda Software's professional AV + firewall, the one that catches More Viruses, Faster?, even on machines you thought were protected! (Limited time, US-only program for qualified entrants only.) David Coursey,ZDNet.com said,"The Panda execs I met with said they are perfectly OK with AnchorDesk readers spoofing their form to get the software. " **http://www.w2knews.com/panda/download.cfm?ref=inn3107**

McAfee Virus Scan discount 15% all McAfee online products at : **http://www.mcafee.com/usergroups/**

Aladdin Stuffit, Aladdin's best ZIP compression software, Stuffit 8, is now available. It has the strongest security and data protection technology for Windows. There is a special User Group discount of $29.99. For more information go to:**http://www.aladdinsys.com/support/usergroups/index.html** and enter the code: PCUG 2002.

PowerQuest- -- PartitionMagic v8 (List $69.95) -$35.00

-- Drive Image v7 (List $69.95)-Full System Backup Utility,$35.00. PartitionMagic, Drive Image, Both Educational CDs $89. http://www.ugr.com/order/ with group code UGAUGNOCCC. Phone 801-796-7370

VOPT XP – New Fast Defragmentation Program, is now out and will work with Win 95, 98, Me, 2000, and XP by Golden Bow software (www.goldenbow.com) . Download a free 30 day trial to see how fast ti will defragemt your hard drive. Mention "Margolin" to get the user group discount $30 or $10 off the $40 price.

NOCCC

The Board Meeting Minutes are published in the printed version of the Orange Bytes, which is mailed to members
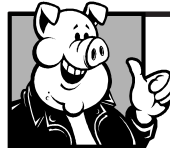
Pig SIG Open To ALL

Meet us in the Cafeteria in Argyros Hall around 11:30 am (until about 1pm). If you're hungry, there is a buffet lunch and snack bars open.

There are several sets of tables where NOCCC people gather, eat and chat. Just look for the badges, grab a chair, and join in! This is an informal group, so many different subjects are discussed. It's a great opportunity to mix, mingle and network. See ya there!

September 7th Meeting Preview

MAIN MEETING 1:00 Irvine Hall

At our September 7th meeting, we will have a very very energetic speaker, Cheryl Wester, Los Angeles Pocket PC Users Group and Temecula User Group, on the Pocket PC- Why it is so hot, What you can do with it- wireless, Word, Excel, etc. She is a super energetic speaker and will tell us all about being connected with a small PDA.

NEW TECHNOLOGY 9:30 Irvine Hall

How home networking works, explained, its relationship to the Internet, and developments in wireless networking. We'll discuss how anything can distinguish *your* computer from any other on earth, how to connect your computer (including modems, switches, firewalls, DHCP), issues with Windows, advantages of wired and wireless networks, installation considerations, and much more

Consignment Table

1. The consignment table is for members only. Only current members can place items for sale, but non-members are welcome to purchase items from the table. This is a great place to get some money for your surplus computer items, and help your Club at the same time.

2. The consignment table operates on a 90/10% basis — with the owner getting 90%, and the Club treasury 10%.

3. Fill out a tag on each item! It must contain: Seller's Name, NOCCC Membership Number, Item name, a short description and selling price.

4. Also, fill out the USER LIST with Name, Address, Phone Number. and a complete list of items and their selling prices.

5. All items and/or money may be picked up by the owner at any time, but MUST be picked up no later than 2 PM on day of sale.

6. Any items and/or money not picked up by 2 PM, will become the property of NOCCC and will he subject to disposal at the Club's discretion.

7. NOCCC is NOT RESPONSIBLE in any way for items bought and/or sold at the Consignment Table. Each item is placed and sold on an AS-IS BASIS.
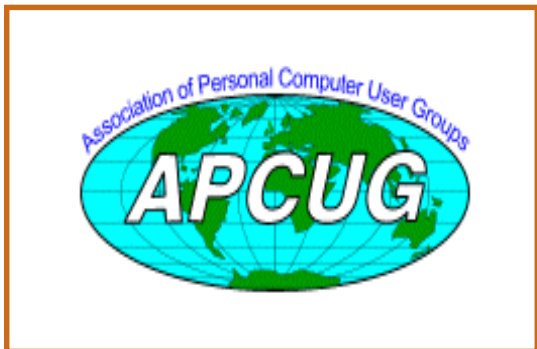
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Making Computers Think Wet:

Find Nemo & Other Things At SIGGRAPH 2003
By Timothy Everingham, NOCCC,
teveringham@acm.org

This year's SIGGRAPH 2003 Conference was held right next to San Diego Bay, and things were somewhat wet in the convention center too. This conference on computer graphics & interactive techniques had water everywhere in all of its forms.

First there was trying to simulate the way things look underwater. This was the job of the Finding Nemo production team from Pixar. In the movie they did not have to get it exactly the way the ocean looks underneath the surface because it was to be done in animated style, but had to get quite close to better pull the audience into the story. Water effects the motion of all that are in it and has visible signs. This includes the sway of the ocean that moves all things underneath it, resulting in fish and fauna moving back and forth. However, they realized that you could go too far with this when they set up the virtual camera to follow the ocean sway and discovered it would only make the audience seasick. Additionally a fish researcher taught the computer programmers and animators how the various types of fish species moved, which was programmed into the tools that made the movie. The movie crew had the underlying thought of "I get to film a movie in a Giant Submarine"; but they got to stay on dry land, only driving their computers.

The surface of the water was examined with Dreamworks Animation's Sinbad: Legend of the Seven Seas. There the problem was not as much of generating water that looked realistic, but generating water that matched to animation, including its look and feel. This is accomplished by generating multiple image layers, which then were composited together. Water in its solid form was exhibited in how do you smash a large block of ice against an outside window of a bar in a beer commercial, but have it break apart in the exact way you want it to. You create a virtual block of ice and virtual window, subdivide them into the pieces that will break apart, run the graphical simulation originally with all the pieces acting and looking like they were one block of ice or window, and when the virtual block of ice and window contact each other the break apart subprograms are activated. Then you composite the computer generated scene on the real scene and you have your beer commercial.

In regards to water in its vaporous form, a team from Purdue University talked how to generate realistically looking and acting clouds for movies, computer games and scientific research. One of the things they discussed was how the advances in graphic processing units (GPUs) have made this now so relatively cheap to do. Ten years ago you would have to buy a specialized computer graphics card

costing $10,000 dollars. Now you can use a mid level consumer computer gaming card for $150-$250. As such you will be seeing much more realistic simulations of nature, especially in games and other graphically oriented programs.

Sometimes things are spoiled by water. In the early 60 the rising waters of the recently built Aswan High Dam were flooding the last ancient Egyptian temple ever built. With the temple already partially flooded they decided to move it; however, the water had already damaged the 2,000 year old temple's inscriptions and drawings. So what do when you want to see how it looked when it was built? The University of Bristol brought in computers. Detailed drawings of the temple had been made before the Dam was built by which they were able to produce a computer model of the structure and the inscription and drawings. From other temples that still had pigmentation intact they were able to get an idea of proper coloring. Then to check that their drawings were correct they went to the reconstructed temple and projected their rendition on the actual walls and columns (Seeing a Windows XP start up screen projected on an ancient Egyptian temple wall is an unusual sight). They placed their model at the original position within a virtual model of the landscape that the temple was originally in and lit it virtually as sunlight, ancient Egyptian oil lamps, and torches would have lighted it.

Of course some things have been carried off via ships on water. Such is the case with the artwork covering the Parthenon in Athens, Greece. Some say that was actually fortunate. When this artwork was removed and scattered across the globe the Ottoman Empire was occupying Greece and was using the Athenian Acropolis as an ammunitions dump. Up to that point the Acropolis temples, including the Parthenon, had stood the test of time and were intact. However, later on there was an accident causing the entire Acropolis to be blown up leaving the shattered remnants we have today. The University of Southern California's Institute for Creative Technology took on the task of virtually reconstructing the Parthenon to the way it looked in ancient times. They took information on the structure of the Parthenon and constructed the buildings framework within a 3D modeling program. There happens to be a museum in Switzerland that has gone around the world making casts of all the existing artwork from the Parthenon and then reproducing the works from the casts in their museum. A team was sent to this museum to laser scan these reproductions. Then to check their scans were accurate they went to the British Museum in London where a great number of the originals are. They took the 3D images generated by the scans and laid them on their 3D Model of the Parthenon. They then placed their Parthenon in a model of the Acropolis and surrounding area and added lighting that

☞

would be representative of ancient times. Now they are able to create images of the Parthenon just as an ancient Athenian would have seen it.

Of course many the modern Athenians have PDAs, but like their ancestors travel by ship to get to the nearby islands in the Aegean Sea. They would like to generate messages and document on their PDA while on the ferryboat, but using a stylus is just too hard and bringing one of those foldable keyboards. But before the end of the year many manufacturers' PDAs will come out with projection keyboards. With this technology from Canesta the PDA sits in it normal stand in front of you, but it projects an image of a keyboard on the surface in front of it and you. When you touch the image of a key optical sensors in the PDA pick it up as a depression of that key. Now you will have a workable virtual keyboard that is easy to use that comes with your PDA.

Computers using graphics technology are able to be able generate images reflecting underneath the water, on the surface of water, and water in clouds to the benefit of our entertainment and scientific knowledge. They can also overcome the effects of water and global distances between objects. Lastly interaction with computers while traveling will be improved by graphics projection and sensor technology. As shown at the SIGGRAPH 2003 Conference, computers can think wet and thrive.

Timothy Everingham is CEO of Timothy Everingham Consulting in Azusa, California.   He is also Vice Chair of the Los Angeles Chapter of ACM SIGGRAPH. Further information can be found at http://home.earthlink.net/~teveringham. teveringham@acm.org ■

Finding the Pages You Want on the Internet

By Ira Wilsker, Golden Triangle PC Club

According to recently published information, there are now well over 3 billion Web pages in cyberspace. While much of the information is strictly of a personal nature and not of much use to others, there are still millions of Web pages that may contain useful information. The problem many users face is where to find the

exact pieces of information desired, and this is where a search engine comes into play.

If properly used, almost any general-purpose search engine can locate useful sites with the desired information. The better search engines are easy to use, fast, flexible, and frequently updated. Fortunately, most of the major search engines meet those requirements.

Recently, the Nielson NetRatings rated the popularity of the Internet's major search engines. The most popular search engine was Google (www.google.com), followed by Yahoo (www.yahoo.com), Microsoft (www.search.msn.com), AOL (www.search.aol.com), and Ask Jeeves (www.ask.com). Other popular search engines are Alltheweb (www.alltheweb.com), Lycos (www.lycos.com), Hotbot (www.hotbot.com), Alta Vista (www.altavista.com), and hundreds of other free-standing search engines.

It is interesting that Google has licensed its search technology to AOL, Yahoo, and others. It is also noteworthy that several of the major search engines have taken over others, combining their services. Yahoo has recently purchased the popular search engine Inktomi and is attempting to buy out Alta Vista.

To add to the confusion, there are hundreds of Meta search engines that, rather than maintaining their own website databases, search several other search engines and display the information as an integrated solution. Two of the most popular Meta engines are Dogpile (www.dogpile.com), where the user "fetches" data, and Mamma (www.mamma.com), the Mother of All Search Engines.

While most search engines are still capable of using Boolean logic to narrow selections, they have also made searching easier by utilizing intelligent search technologies. Most engines also allow for search requests to be in the form of a question in addition to simple terms. Ask Jeeves was one of the first masters of the "search by asking a question" format, which has now become almost universally accepted.

My personal favorite search engine is Alltheweb. As I type this, Alltheweb states that it has over 2.1 billion Web pages in its database, which it can search in an instant. Using a very clean interface, Alltheweb can search for anything in billions of websites, countless news stories, and hundreds of millions of pictures and other graphics, videos, audio files, and programs available for download. In addition to Web pages, Alltheweb also has catalogued tens of millions of word processor documents, mostly in Microsoft

Finding The Pages You Want on the Internet

Word Doc or Adobe PDF formats.

While I use the basic search interface, there is an easy to use, advanced interface available that offers tools to narrow and filter searches. Using one of the most widely used search technologies, the Norwegian-designed FAST system, Alltheweb scans the entire Internet every 7-to-11 days, verifying and updating all of its billions of listings, adding new finds, and deleting obsolete links, which ensures that its users get current and accurate results. Capable of searching for and translating Web pages in 49 languages, Alltheweb is truly international in scope. I frequently need to search for news stories, and here is where this site shinesùit receives news feeds from thousands of sources and automatically catalogues hundreds of news stories every minute.

Google, the most popular search engine according to Nielson, has earned its ranking. According to the Google website, it currently has catalogued over 3 billion websites and is capable of searching the Web for data, images, and news. It also has the capability to search the countless postings on the tens-of-thousands of newsgroups for any tidbits of information. The news search gathers stories from over 4500 sources and updates its news database continuously. For those that like to search from a menu rather than a search box, Google offers a Directory style search using a menu hierarchy similar to that developed by one of its major competitors, Yahoo, over a decade ago.

The Microsoft and AOL search engines, while comprehensive and popular, owe their high rankings not necessarily to the quality of their listings and features, but to the fact that they are the built-in default search mechanism for their respective users. While tens-of-millions of AOL users can access any search engine manually, any automatic search on AOL will by default use AOL's own integral engine, which accounts for its ranking.

Microsoft can thank its millions of MSN users for the rankings of its engine, as well as to the fact that the default search built into recent versions of Internet Explorer (IE) will automatically direct any user to the Microsoft search engine. To demonstrate this, click on the Search icon on the top of most versions of Internet Explorer and enter a search term in the box that opens in a left window on the browser. Notice that it automatically searches the Microsoft search engine.

To change the default search engines in IE, click on the Search icon, then "Customize" on the top right of the Search window. Since most users do not change the defaults, the hundreds of millions of IE users default to the Microsoft search. However, regardless of the search engine used, any of the major ones can expand the availability of information to the user and enhance the Internet experience.

A Hot Time at the Pool Party

Story Telling

The SIG Leaders

A bit smokey

Chef Alan Pearlman
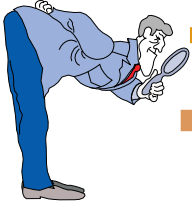

Herb Wong and Anson Chapman

OT Stall, Elise Edgell, Vance Jochim

Host George Margolin

Hostess Cathy Margolin (our Pres)

NoLimits Rollercoaster Simulator

By Richard Irwin, NOCCC

With the great popularity of the various "Sims" and "Tycoon" simulations, NoLimits Rollercoaster has taken a much-needed step back by giving the consumers what we really want. NoLimits Rollercoaster is not a simulation of completing tasks, watching little men walk around a park sweeping up nothing they call litter. What NoLimits Rollercoaster does, is that it gives the user's imagination the privilege of designing a realistic rollercoaster and it gives that user and other users the ability to ride their creations in the comfort their own home. Some of the features of NoLimits are a rollercoaster track editor, sixteen starter tracks (three coasters taken from Six Flags Magic Mountain), real time coaster rendering, and great 3D sound and video.

I installed NoLimits Rollercoaster on a 1.2-MHz processor with a 32 MB NVIDIA GForce MX card. The minimum recommendations for the program are Windows 95 to Windows XP, 300-hertz processor, 15 MB of free HD Space and a 3D accelerated video card with 16 MB of video-ram (32 MB ram is better). I have a reasonably nice video card, but with NoLimits Rollercoaster shadowing and visual capabilities, I would not recommend a card of less than 32 MB of video-ram.

One problem I found with the NoLimits Rollercoaster Program is the rollercoaster editor. Besides looking like a grid I used in Windows 3.1 there was no real concise instructions that I could find. After a couple of hours, I was able to get the basics and develop a rollercoaster with a hill and a loop. My recommendation is that NoLimits would create a simplified version of the proof editor that does not take a bachelor degree to build a rollercoaster.

NoLimits Rollercoaster, on first view, looks like it has not much to offer. However, we should never judge a book by its cover. My first few times of using the program I was ready to give it a thumbs down, but it redeemed itself as I started to investigate and found two sites linked on the NoLimits Rollercoaster website (http://www.nolimitscoaster.com and www.nolimitscoaster.de) that are CoasterSims (http://www.coastersims.com) and Tia's NoLimits Tools (http://www.coastersims.com/tia/).

Tia's Tools allows users to update their environments and tracks to get the most out of the simulation. Coastersims.com on the other hand allows free membership access to more than 65 of NoLimits User's coaster creations. Of course, also on Coastersims.com, are links to Nolimits competitors, one being Ultimate Ride, which is currently my favorite for coaster simulation.

In conclusion, NoLimits has a lot to offer when it comes to the thrill of rollercoaster simulation. It offers realistic simulations that even coaster professional such as John Wardley who uses NoLimits to develop and demonstrate to his clients proposed rides not on paper, but in a third dimension. I recommend to anybody with a passion for rollercoasters like myself, to visit http://www.nolimitscoaster.com and download the current full version 1.261 for $25 dollar or its free demo version just to try it. I am sure you will come to enjoy the simulation of NoLimits Rollercoaster as much as I do.

Please email me at tarzapopohead@hotmail.com if you to are also a rollercoaster simulator fan. I would love to know your thoughts. ■

Spamfire Pro V. 1.3.2

By Don Stone, NOCCC

Spamfire for Macintosh was my first experience with an anti-spam product. It installed easily and, although Mac users have an aversion to manuals, I gave the tutorial a quick look. It opens with an animated explanation of how the program works. Spamfire logs on to your existing email provider, examines all mail on the server and creates a spam list. You can scan the spam list to see if there's anything you wish to keep. If so, it's easy to "rescue" it. If not, delete the spam. Then download your spam-free email as you normally would.

Set-up is also painless. The first time you open Spamfire a "Set-up Assistant" appears. This allows you to identify your server, add your Password, and import your email address book.

Spamfire works by passing each message through a series of about 15 filters that score each message. These scores are summed and those with high cumulative scores are sent to the spam list. Filters look for items like: bulk mailings, 800 numbers, removal instructions, and key words related to "selling", credit, refinancing, etc.

By initially importing your email address book, all "friends" mail is allowed to pass the spam filters. After about a week or two I found that I rarely had to rescue a "good" email message.

Overall, I found Spamfire to be fast, effective, and trouble free. I had no complaints from those I usually communicate with that I missed a message from them. Spamfire has speeded up receiving and reviewing my

email. I used to dread being away and finding 200 email messages—mostly spam—when I returned home. Now, the spam never gets downloaded.

Spamfire was tested on a Mac G-4 machine. It requires OS 9.1, OS 10.1 or a later version. Spamfire offers free technical support that I did not need or use.

Spamfire Pro is available from MAC Warehouse for $39.95 plus about $8.00 S&H or as a download from http//:www.matterform.com for the same price. Matterform also sells a Spamfire Lite for $24.95 that doesn't include filter updates. ■

PrintMagic 1.1 for Windows

By Ted Littman, NOCCC

According to the vendor, MacEase, this program "provides users with complete control over the information they print" and it "lets users print anything from a single character to multiple pages in any application and adds a virtual desktop printer to users' desktops." "PrintMagic makes its users significantly more productive while significantly reducing their expenditures on ink, toner, and paper and reducing environmental waste."

The software is available for downloading from the vendor's website http://www.macease.com for $24.95 and there is a 30-day money back satisfaction guarantee. A free, fully functional demo version also is available. The program will work with Windows 98/ME/2000/NT/XP.

I found PrintMagic to be a "cute" little utility with features that include a "Printboard" that accepts multiple dragged and dropped text selections, time stamps, and on-the-fly notes. It also works with the standard Ctrl_C, Ctrl-V copy/paste through the Clipboard. On the negative side, the program does not duplicate the actual fonts in the text you are copying/printing and it wont copy images. In many ways, it is like Microsoft's Notepad, but with fewer steps.

In comparison to a full-blown word processor, like Word, well, there is no comparison. Sure, Word takes longer to copy and print a selection or multiple selections from documents or Web sites, but it also gives you a much better replication of the original. However, if all you want to do is print lots of snippets of text from documents or the Web, PrintMagic may be of interest to you. But, before buying it, you should download the free demo and try it to see if the features are OK for you. ■

Win Patrol 5.2 Plus

By Ted Littman, NOCCC

This utility software from BillP Studios will, according to the vendor, "sniff out Worms, Trojan horses, Cookies, Adware, Spyware, Klez, Asumption, and other malicious programs." It comes in two versions, a free WinPatrol and a $12.95 one with significant added capability, both of which can be downloaded at http//www.winpatrol.com. The software is designed for all versions of Windows from 95 to XP.

The free software monitors your system and alerts you when any new file or program has been added. The pay version, in addition to providing free "lifetime" updates,with access to WinPatrol's online database that includes information on over 200 programs/modules to assist you in making intelligent decisions to remove unwanted and dangerous intruders.

After you install the software, it places a Scotty-dog icon in your Windows System Tray. When you double click on the icon, the program displays the pertinent information about your system: Startup Programs, Existing Services, Active Tasks, Cookies, WinPatrol Options, and more. When you highlight an item, and click on Information, WinPatrol will display highlights of what it knows about that file or program. If you want more details, there is a link to WinPatrol's on-line Program Information Page that has additional links to the WinPatrol's Knowledge database and website of the file's vendor.

The database and links place WinPatrol Plus head and shoulders above Windows built-in capability (Program Manager) as well as other programs that I have tried. And well worth the modest $13 cost.

The program's options will autodetect and warn on the addition of new files/programs/cookies, and changes to Internet Explorer's Home & Search Pages. You can set the frequency of "sniffing" for changes and whether WinPatrol starts automatically when you start your computer. (I found that reporting on cookies was too disruptive when working on the Web and I prefer checking manually.)

WinPatrol detected 30 Startup Programs that loaded when my computer booted and I was able to remove six unnecessary ones and speed the startup process. If you are not sure on whether removing something is safe, you can temporarily disable it to see the impact.

It also lets me regularly delete unneeded/unwanted cookies based on the information on them that WinPatrol provided. Some cookies are useful and expedite your return to Web sites, when needed. Another nifty feature provides Web Domain Ownership Information when you type in the name.

If you want more information on this great little utility, check out WinPatrol's website. Try it - you'll like it! ■

The Orange Bytes Takes Second Place

in the South West Regional User Groups conference
Newsletter Contest against the stiff competition shown below.

Jim, Cathy, and Elise at the SWRUG Vendor Faire
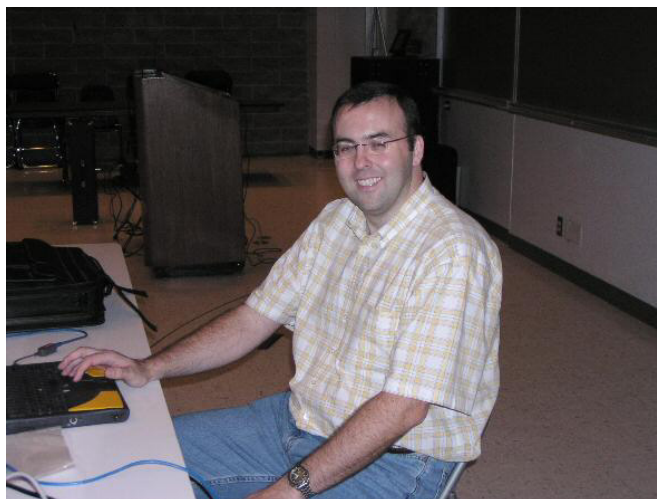
Cathy leading a seminar

One of the SWRUG meals

The SWRUG crowd listening to Microsoft - *photo by George Margolin*

Meeting Speaker Patrick Crispen

INTERESTING TALK ON THE SECRETS OF GOOD GOOGLE SEARCHING

Mr. Crispen also addressed the Digital Photography SIG led by Jack Donan on Macromedia's Fireworks

Photo by S. Breitbart

Photo by Jim Morrison

Jerry Resch

Photo by Jim Morrison
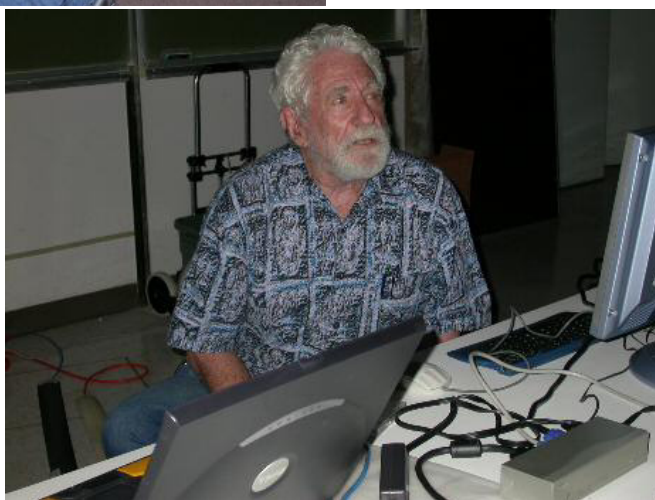
Secretary Alan Pearlman and Larry Klees
Photo by Jack Donan

Vice President John Johnson
Ran the meeting this month

Larry Klees leading the PC Q&A SIG
Photo by Jack Donan

Reviews Editor's Corner

If you write a review for the *Orange Bytes*, you may keep the item. If you would like to review a specific product (software, hardware, or book), please let me know and I will try to obtain it. If you are interested, please contact me:

Ted Littman
NOCCC Reviews Editor
- **(714) 779-1936**
- **reviews@noccc.org**
- **TedLit@Adelphia.net**

PRODUCTS AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW

A number of products have been obtained from vendors for review by qualified NOCCC members. If you are interested in doing a review (which will be published in Orange Bytes), please call or send an e-mail to me and provide your membership number, phone number, and e-mail address.

Remember, you get TO KEEP the HARDWARE, SOFTWARE, OR BOOK!

Currently available are the following products:

Boxed Programs and CDs

StudioQuartet – Ulead's new complete digital media production suite for professional videographers. Includes PhotoImpact 8, MediaStudio Pro 7, DVD WorkShop AC-3, and Cool 3D Studio. System requirements are Windows 2000 or XP, P4 2.0 GHz CPU, DVD-ROM drive, 512 MB RAM, Dual Head (AV Out) Graphics card, 2 GB free hard drive space for installation. MSRP is $895!

Backup for Workgroups 1.0 – A new backup & disaster-recovery program from Lockstep Systems for small & mid-size businesses using a disk-based backup program with Windows for 3 clients. MSRP=$299/3 Clients.

PowerQuest's SecondChance 2.0 - Your computer's first line of defense against system crashes, application conflicts, and user errors. It returns your system files to a safe state. You can copy and restore individual files, directories, or entire drives from selected Checkpoints. For use with Windows 95/98/ME only.

Symantec/Roxio's Go Back 3 Deluxe – Travel back in time on your computer to undo PC problems & restore the system to normal operations. MSRP = $30.

Powerquest's Drive Image 7 – The successor to Drive Image 2002 designed for Windows 2000 and XP operating systems to back up your entire computer, including the OS, programs, settings, and files to virtually any internal or external drive. It uses "hot imaging" to create backups from within Windows. MSRP = $70.

Stomp's Record Now Max 4.0 Platinum – "Simply the finest set of tool available for creating CDs & DVDs."

CrazyTalk Standard Edition 2.5 – The "Talking Heads" program from Reallusion. Make your own still images look like they are talking! MSRP = $40.

Stuffit Deluxe 8.0 – The latest version of this great compression program. MSRP = $40.

ActivePDF Composer – A desktop PDF creation tool that enables users to easily create and disseminate PDF files for Windows NT/XP/2000 operating systems at a considerably lower price that Adobe Acrobat.

QuicKeys Pro X2 – The "best most powerful" macro utility for Mac OSX to automate your daily computing tasks with hot keys, powerful toolbars, & timers. MSRP = $80.

Programs to Download from Vendor's Web Site

RedBox Organizer 5.0 – Award-winning Personal Information Manager for Windows from Inkline Global with a comprehensive set of simple-to-use utilities. MSRP=$40.

Scopeware Vision 1.3 – An index utility that simplifies the way you access & use information stored on your computer & shared network drives for Windows 2000/XP.

Watznew 1.9.5 – Award-winning software that regularly checks your favorite web sites & mailboxes & notifies you of changes.

Essential Net Tools 3.1 for Windows - A suite of network tools.

Apycom Java Menu Applets 3.0 - Create cross-browser drop down menus, bars, buttons, etc. for your Website.

Sygate's Home Network 4.2 for 6 Users – The top-notch firewall to protect your home network.

Red Earth Software's Policy Patrol 2.5 - Protect yourself against e-mail security threats with

Preparing a Review Article for the Bytes

By Ted Littman, NOCCC Reviews Editor

The following suggestions for preparing a review article for the Orange Bytes were extracted from an ORCOPUG article authored by Alan Jarrett and are intended as a guide only. As a reviewer, your audience wants to know your opinion (as an end user) of the product (hardware, software, book) you are reviewing. Please fully identify the product and its cost so that interested club members may be able to purchase it. After you have tested the product consider these questions:

1. What is the product's stated purpose and does it meet it?

2. Within its category of software (i.e., word processor, spreadsheet, database, etc.), does it stand out?

3. What are its major features?

4. Is it easy to use, even for a novice?

5. Can you quote or reference articles/reviews in the computer magazines? The following list contains more specific questions that apply to either software or hardware:

1. Requirements:

1. Operating systems?
2. Windows?
3. Memory?
4. Disk space?
5. Is a Mouse supported?

2. Installation (do not overemphasize details):

1. Was it difficult?
2. Copy or write protected?
3. Does it allow drive and directory selection?
4. Does it automatically configure system? Can you control it?

3. Information about your system:

1. Hardware?
2. Operating system? Version?
3. Memory?
4. Video display?

4. Documentation:

1. What is supplied? Manuals (paperback, electronic) Tutorial? Templates? Table of Contents? Index?
2. Was it clear, concise, helpful?
3. Is there a troubleshooting section?

5. Product Support:

1. How is the vendor's tech support?
2. Does it cost anything?
3. Is it a toll call?
4. Does the vendor provide Internet support?

6. About the product:

1. What comes with the product?
2. What is the cost? (list & street)
3. Version number? Release date?
4. How difficult is the learning curve?

5. Would you buy/use the product?

6. Do you recommend it?

7. What don't you like about it?

8. What improvements or changes would you like to see?

9. Can the software be downloaded from the vendor's Web site; is there a free trial period before buying?

10. What warranty is there on hardware?

7. What are the Name, Address, Phone number (including 800#), and WEB address (e-mail & URL) of the vendor? After you have answered all these questions you should have enough information to write your review. Please be precise but do not make it so technical that only a few people can understand. Please advise the Orange Bytes Editor if you need graphics, pictures, or illustrations to get your point across?? ■
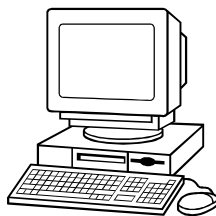
Guidelines for Submittal

Important! Please limit the length of your submittals. We request you limit **general** articles and software reviews to a maximum of 1300 words, SIG reports to 700 words, book reviews to 600 words, low cost CD-ROM titles to 600 words, and more sophisticated CD-ROMs to 1000 words. As far as the minimum is concerned, we'd just like to see you do justice to any general article or to any product that's reviewed. An **expensive** software package ($300-700) deserves at least 1,300 words. An inexpensive program ($50 or less) might have 500 words. Reviews must be completed within 2 months so that the Reviews Editor (Ted Littman) can, in a timely

manner, send a copy to the vendor. If you change your mind about doing the review, please call him (714)779-1936 ASAP to make arrangements for returning the product for reassignment. We hope you enjoy writing your review.

You can now e-mail articles directly to the Editor through the North Orange County Computer Club's Web Site: editor@noccc.org or just give the file on disk and printout directly to Cathy Margolin (President), Jim Sanders (Publications Chm.), or Ted Littman on the next meeting day. If you e-mail your review, please send a copy to TedLit@Adelphia.net.

To transfer your article from your Windows word processor, click at the beginning of the article with your mouse, shift down arrow to the end of the article, then Edit Cut (^C), open your e-mail program, and Edit Paste (^V). This will convert the file to ASCII. If your article is too long to include in an e-mail, please save as ASCII file with a .TXT extension. Then zip the article and attach it to your e-mail.

All documents should have flush left margins, and double carriage returns (skip a line) between paragraphs. The editors will bold your paragraph headings, etc., in order to obtain consistent formatting throughout the Bytes.

Don't use CAPS for emphasis; that's like shouting at someone! We usually have to delete and retype them, which can be a lot of work. CAPS are reserved for computer commands or file names, like AUTOEXEC.BAT or KNOW.TXT. For titles of books and software, capitalize the first letter of each word. We will add the underlining in PageMaker.

Also please spell check your article, and try to follow the ordinary rules of grammar. Don't use columns, tabs, indents, justification, hyphenation or formatting codes. (If columns or tables are absolutely needed, send us a hard copy to guide us.)

We look forward to seeing your review in print and on the Web site. ■

Main Meeting

By Eric Saca

Patrick Crispin, co-author of the famous website, Internet Tourbus (www.tourbus.com), joined us in August to give us a presentation on Advanced Googology, the science of searching the Internet with Google (www.google.com).

The meeting was opened by VP John Johnson and announcements were made.

Jim Morrison introduced Patrick Crispin who co-authored the Internet Tourbus (www.tourbus.com), an online free e-mail newsletter published twice a week. It is read by about 100,000 people in 130 countries around the globe. It explains Internet technology in plain English, with a dash of humor. Since 1995, Tourbus riders have been getting the scoop on search engines, spam, viruses, cookies, urban legends and other topics. Patrick works at Cal. State University, Fullerton.

Patrick began by presenting a special website, www.netsquirrel.com. He runs this site and provides Internet, PC and classroom resources through it.

The first item Patrick showed us on netsquirrel was an article he wrote on how to use MSCONFIG, the Microsoft System Configuration Utility that comes with Windows 98, 98SE, ME and XP. MSCONFIG is a useful little utility that can help you troubleshoot computer problems.

He also showed us another article about the Weekly Fab Five – computer maintenance items that everyone should perform religiously. They are as follows:

1. Update your virus definitions.
2. Run Windows Update/Software Update.
3. Run ScanDisk/DiskFirstAid.
4. Run Defrag (or preferably, Norton Speed Disk, which is considerably more thorough).
5. Backup your data.

He explains each of these important tasks very clearly for the average reader.

Patrick next took us into the Classroom Resources section (of netsquirrel), which contains PowerPoint presentations he wrote on many computer topics, for use in classroom teaching. An interesting presentation he pointed out, called ms_producer, explains how to use Microsoft Producer to turn ordinary PowerPoint 2002 slideshows into media-rich presentations.

Finally, from the Classroom Resources section, he downloaded a presentation called google_201, which contained the entire topic he was discussing.

Google_201 was the more advanced of two presentations Patrick created about Google searches (via www.google.com). The title was Advanced Googology. Patrick launched this slideshow and began his presentation.

The first slides explained how Patrick believes Google searches the Internet. He drew this belief from extensive research, but still admits that it might be completely wrong.

With the next set of slides, he explained Google's "shocking secrets," i.e., advanced features and ways of using Google, which include the following:

· Google's Boolean default (for working with multiple search parameters) is AND. It will automatically search for web pages containing ALL the keywords you entered. In fact, you cannot use the word AND in a search expression (e.g., disney AND fantasyland) because it will generate an error that AND is already the default.

• The Boolean OR is possible by placing the word OR between search words (CAPS required) or by using the pipe (|) character, e.g.,

fantasyland OR pirates. Also, fantasyland | pirates.

• Google is not at all case sensitive (except for keywords like OR), i.e., disney fantasyland pirates will yield exactly the same results as DISNEY FANTASYLAND PIRATES.

• To enhance the speed and relevancy of searches, Google ignores common words and characters known as stop words, such as a, the and an. You can include a stop word in a full search phrase, however, with a plus (+) sign, e.g., "It's +a small world."

• Google allows the asterisk (*) wildcard for search words. For example, a search for "* wars" may yield both "star wars" and "clone wars." Note that the * wildcard cannot be used for portions of words, just whole words.

• Google has a hard limit of TEN keywords. (Stop words won't count as part of this limit.)

• During the first part of its search, Google puts all search words together and looks for them as a complete phrase. Because of this, the order of your search words matters and can make a difference in the results that Google produces.

• Google itself is continuously updated by a tool called the Spider, which constantly searches the Internet for updates, 24 hours a day. It actually then copies updated pages (with HTML, text, images, etc.) into Google's HUGE cache, which at any given time, contains a complete copy of most of the Internet. The cache is actually searched by Google – not the Internet itself. When Google finds the pages you seek in its cache, it then gives you pointers to the real pages on the Web.

• Because of this method of caching web pages, Google offers a great deal more — which you can do with searches, through the use of several advanced modifiers, such as daterange:, inanchor:, intitle:, phonebook: and stocks:.

Patrick briefly discussed all the advanced search modifiers and closed by providing some helpful resources to learn more about Google.

All the information Patrick presented is in the PowerPoint slideshow that can be downloaded from the website: www.netsquirrel.com, file google_201.zip.

Next Meeting – A rare treat with Cheryl

Wester an amazingly knowledgeable and DYNAMIC presenter. She knows all and tells all that you'll need to know about Pocket Computers. These areReal computers and real computing that can go with you wherever and whenever you go. Her presentations are a truly informative JOY! You'll see the future of computing in the palm of her hands. ***Don't miss the September 7th NOCCC Main Meeting.*** ◼

PC Q&A SIG
???????

By Larry Klees, NOCCC

I had the privilege to fill in for Jim at the SIG for August.

My attempt to show how the computer BIOS has gone from a hot topic to

very cold to a recent revival in interest turned out not to be very interesting. However when I started talking about the CMOS interest picked up greatly. (That did require a third keyboard. Jim's keyboard has a USB connection which is useless for getting into the setup routine. John Donan who helped get the computer to the SIG also brought a keyboard but it had the wrong connector for Jim's computer. John rounded up another keyboard and things went well after that.)

The topic about shadowing the Video BIOS to speed up system performance was well received.

The topic about passwords resulted in a discussion lasting at least 15 minutes. Two methods two create reasonably secure passwords were discussed. One (for touch typists) is to move your hands from the home keys to the keys in the row above. Thus "The quick brown fox" with the spaces removed, becomes "%y3178dig492hr9s". Another method

is to create "Fsasyaofbfotcann" from "Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation" both of these are easy to remember and with some minor modifications of your own are fairly secure.

The method of removing the CMOS battery and using a shorting jumper for removing forgotten CMOS passwords was discussed. One of the members pointed out that in the newer mother boards with flashable BIOS there is no longer a CMOS chip or battery for it. Unless you have the ability to reprogram the BIOS' EEPROM externally, you better not forget your password.

The BIOS password provides additional protection for the Windows password if the Windows password is properly used. (Which due to lousy documentation is rare!) Most people think that main Windows password does a bad job of keeping others out of the Windows OS. The actual purpose of the main Windows password is not to keep anyone out of anywhere. It's purpose is to make it easier for the authorized person to get into other secure areas. For example, Windows allows any directory/folder to have a one password to keep people out altogether and another one to let some people read but not edit or delete a file. It would be very easy for you to need 15 or 20 passwords on a Windows computer. When you enter the main Windows password, Windows remembers all of the other passwords and automatically enters them for you at the appropriate time. After you pick a master password, the very next thing you should do is put a password on the Windows directory/folder where Windows keeps the .pwl file (pass word list). If you also use a BIOS password, it becomes very difficult for unauthorized people to gain local access to your computer without physically opening the computer.

Since the meeting I have learned about a $39 program by JP Cybertech, Inc. called Enigma II. It is a simple to use program that acts like a password

safe with an 800 bit key to protect your other passwords for use on the internet etc. Members of ORCOPUG were able to purchase it for half price.

Jim Sanders says: I would like to thank Larry for filling in for me while I was at the South West Regional Users Group meeting. As he ran out of time to finish the topic he was on, and several people expressed an interest in having him finish the topic, he will start off the September meeting at the point that he stopped in August. Depending on how much time is left, I will explore a few more areas of sound recording. Hope to see you there. ◼

Macintosh SIG

By John Willner, NOCCC,
willner@earthlink.net

Claire came back from a training course with copies of ""MacWorld digitalHUB"", including CDs. She likes the CDs with over 80 games and quite a bit of shareware.

Then we had a discussion on a Meade binoculars/digital camera gift that comes with Windows software and apparent problems when trying to run it on the emulated Windows operating system. Pictures result in relatively large files, and part of the problem seems to be not enough memory. The Mac operating system, Windows operating system, photo software and picture files themselves are tying up all of the memory resources.

A lesson was learned this past month never to insert a Korean cartridge into an Epson printer (just to be able to finish printing a black and white file). That adventure resulted in unbelievable hardware and software

Macintosh SIG

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

problems. After reviewing with an Epson technician, the conclusion was to buy a new printer since the cost of fixing would have been prohibitive. The new Photo 900 is very nice and much quieter than the old model (although slower).

My dual 800 G4 desktop computer visited the genius bar at one of the local Apple stores this past week. The icon for getting into DSL had disappeared. All kinds of solutions were imagined, but those guys know what they are doing. Evidently an OS X library file had become corrupted. With their T1 line and sources for all operating system packages, the icon was restored in short order. Furthermore, the disk drives and other elements were carefully checked. The system appears to be in good working order as this report is being written.

We discussed various ways to transfer large files between a desktop G4 computer and a lap top—— especially older laptops such as the Lombard. We agreed that hooking up an ethernet hub, making all of the selections required on both computers and doing things in correct order was quite a bother. The steps are not easily remembered. Furthermore, that procedure means resetting many network options afterwards just to get back on internet. There are all kind of ways to slip up. Therefore, alternative solutions are going to be investigated.

After the flap about changes rooms to another building because of construction, we are just as glad that no changes were made for the MAC Sig. Most of us are learning how to navigate around the construction site by now, and we have the advantage of access to a classroom LCD projector.

TechTool Pro is due to be released before our next meeting. Also, we might have more information on the new G5. ∎

Computer Aided Investing (CAI) SIG

By Bob Krishfield, NOCCC

This month we changed the meeting room to Scince 306 due to the contruction that isolates Wilkinson Hall from the rest of the NOCC activities. Although on the 3rd floor, the room is large and well equipped, and was acceptable by the members who found us in the new location.

The CAI SIG meetings generally cover technical analysis of the stock market an mutual funds, and how to apply computer tools and web services to aid decision making of selection, trading, and tracking performance. Member's experiences make this SIG helpful to others getting started or those seeking changes to improve their methods and ideas for making money.

The main subject of the August meeting was how to use technical indicators for entering and exiting the market. A look the at charts of the Dow and NASDAQ charts provided us with a signal - they had just crossed below the 50 day moving average (8-4-03) which is a sell alert condition. (see StockCharts.com for examples)

For more specific examples we used the market timing commentaries from Paul Charbonet, author of the FastTrack software program. These comments applied to SPY (the SP500 spyders) and are available by downloading the FastTrack program and its associated files (free at FastTrack.net). Once setup, look for the file c:/ft/ft4web/wincmt/2184.htm and open it with your web browser.. The latest page (../2183.htm) contains a SPY sell signal on 8-6-03 which corresponds to the sell signal we saw on the charts. We spent time going back over a year, looking at FastTrack's buy & sell signals and how they applied various technical indicators to make their decisions. The SIG members identified some other ideas in applying technical indicators, including volume spikes (an indicator not included in FastTrack) and the coincidence of MACD, RSI and Stochastic indicators which resulted in better buy & sell points. We concluded that the commentary was not indended as complete authority for timing the market, but more of a tutorial to demonstrate how to use FastTrack's features for timing. This raises the question of how dependable and accurate are any of the tutorial discussions provided with stock market tools – are they mainly for learning the tool and incomplete as an analysis of the market conditions? Do they just represent proper use of the tool and lack complete and proper analysis of the market?

Our discussions led into a topic of how one might combine multiple indicators into a more comprehensive signal that systematically took all conditions into account. One example where this work already exists is in using TRADE, the 3rd party helper program to FastTrack developed by Ed Gilbert. (free download at pages.prodigy.net/eyg/trade). Very complex signals are developed using scripts processed by the TRADE program that runs against the FastTrack data base. Discussions of these signals and copies of the script files are available on the website www.ft-talk.com/forums (a $100/year subscription website)

A paper that discusses how to setup Yahoo charts of you favorite stocks was presented as a means of easily viewing up to date charts of your stocks and favorite indices with multiple views – intraday, 5 day, 13 weeks. . Download at home.socal.rr.com/bobkrish/ cainvestor.html

Upcoming meetings we plan to discuss TC200 and some of the new features in its

latest upgrade. We plan to review changes to MetaStock , version 8 and if the fix has made the upgrade usable.

Don't forget for Sept. – bring a friend and get them started in the CAI SIG. ■

Palm Sig

By Vance Jochim, NOCCC

We have a new room, Science 306 for the September 7th meeting. Unfortunately, our column from last month was not printed in the Orange Bytes, but you can read it on our website via www.webworks66.com.

Come to the meeting to see new stuff about the Palm OS devices and ask questions. I will have three O'Reilly books on Palm software development in case you want to look at them.

If we can get access to a projector, we will demonstrate Quicken for the Palm OS, and a freeware flashcard software program that lets you create your own flash cards to drill yourself on any subject.

We will also discuss alternate meeting sites that have a projector or ideas on how to get one. Send any ideas to me at vjochim@webworks66.com, and check our website via the link at www.webworks66.com for the latest news. vjochim@webworks66.com, Newport Beach, CA, (714) 771-6564

LAST MONTHS COLUMN

We will be taking a month off for August. There will not be a meeting until September.

We are trying to locate a room with a projector at the better meeting time of 2:30pm.

Our July meeting in Wilkinson 111 did result in 9 attendees, but we had to walk a city block around the construction site at Chapman, and could not gain access to a projector. Thus I am trying to locate a free room in the Science building with a projector for

2:30pm.

But we did have a good meeting in July with some new members visiting. I finally found the secret for getting my memory expansion card to work, and wrote up all the details on expansion cards in some documents on expansion cards in the Hardware section of articles on our website (find it via the link at www.webworks66.com).

We have received three Palm development related books (not for end users) from O'Reilly publishing and will be writing reviews soon, which will appear in the NOCCC newsletter and well as on our website.

In the works for the September or later meetings:

• Demonstration of Act for the Palm

• Demonstration of Quicken for the Palm

Keep watching our website for updates!

May your Palm OS keep you organized until we meet again! ■

Security SIG

By Dave Keays, NOCCC

The group had one of it's best turn outs- 16 people showed up.

Starting next month, this group will be going virtual. While it almost sounds like a disease, what I mean is that we'll be meeting on the web.

However, to satisfy the need for human contact, we'll also be getting together in the cafeteria during lunch (the PIG SIG) on a voluntary basis. If you are a member of the security SIG, I will ask that you show-up at least once

a quarter and let us know how the SIG is working for you.

This new format will work in four steps:

First; if you want to join the forum, e-mail me the handle you want to go by in the web forum and your member number. Also include your real name and your e-mail address. If you don't want me to share this information with other members of the SIG, please state that in this e-mail.

Second; each month read or download the notes posted on the SIGs topic for that month, and any comments or questions in the forum other members posted.

Third; when you have any comments or questions about the topics posted, or answers to questions someone else had; e-mail them to me. But include the PDF "Orange Bytes" password (sent to you by NOCCC each month) in the subject line. While anybody can read the forum and the SIG notes, only paid members can participate in the SIG!

Forth; about once a quarter stop by the cafeteria and chat with those of the people at the table from the security SIG.

Eventually what I want to do is have a newsgroup like Gibson Research Center (GRC.COM). But that will happen later, for now all conversations will be mailed to me and then posted on the web site after I have made sure they are appropriate.

Now, back to the August meeting. the main topic was ACLs- Access Control Lists. Not a sexy topic. While it isn't as exciting as TCP/IP attacks, it is an important concept in the security world. An ACL is considered a formal definition of a security policy because it states how you see the relationship between network resources, users, who can define rules to access those resources, and who can break those rules. While there are several different kinds of ACLs, the two main ACLs are Mandatory and Discretionary (sometimes called "need to know").

The main differences between a

SIG List

Those who have listed an e-mail address would prefer to be contacted by e-mail rather than by phone whenever possible

SIG	Bldg	Room	Time	Leader	E-mail	Phone
Autocad	Wilkinson	111	9:00	Joe Mizer	jmizer@earthlink.net	909-688-9848
Computer Aided Investing	Wilkinson	211	9:30	Bob Krishfield	bobkrish@socal.rr.com	714-532-3096
Computer Security	Science	203	11:15	Dave Keays	rdksoft@sbcglobal.net	714-821-4792
Digital Photography	Irvine Hall		2:30	Jack Donan	john donan <jfdonan@sbcglobal.net>	714-633-4084
PC/Mac Games	Wilkinson	221	2:30	Claire Lemire	NOCCCGamingSIG@earthlink.net	714-740-1058
Genealogy	Science	111	2:30	John Johnson	jrosjohnson@juno.com	714-991-3314
Hardware Essentials	Science	306	9:30	Herbert Wong	ocug@singularitytechnology.com	714-968-7264
Hardware Essentials	Science	109	2:30	Herbert Wong	ocug@singularitytechnology.com	714-968-7264
Linux for Desktop Users	Wilkinson	210	9:00	Bob C. Ray	bobcray@pacbell.net	714-634-7520
Linux for Server Administrators	Wilkinson	210	10:00	Bob C. Ray	bobcray@pacbell.net	714-634-7520
Linux Programming Concepts	Wilkinson	210	11:15	Bob C. Ray	bobcray@pacbell.net	714-634-7520
Macintosh	Wilkinson	221	11:15	John Willner	Willner@earthlink.net	714-838-1434
New Technolgy	Irvine Hall	—	9:30	George Margolin	Inventor@pobox.com	949-645-5950
Office Suites	Science	111	11:15	John Heenan	jc_heenan@csi.com	714-998-7660
PALM SIG	Wilkinson	111	2:30	Vance Jochim	vjochim@webworks66.com	714-771-6564
PC Q&A	Irvine Hall	—	11:15	Jim Sanders	jsanders@ligasmicro.com	714-636-5523
Understanding OS's	Wilkinson	111	11:15	Charlie Moore	mooreca@adelphia.net	714-529-9071
Visual Programming I	Science	109	8:30	Anson Chapman	aeccrcss@hotmail.com	909-860-9515
Visual Programming II	Science	109	9:00	Anson Chapman	aeccrcss@hotmail.com	909-860-9515
Visual Programming III	Science	109	10:00	Anson Chapman	aeccrcss@hotmail.com	909-860-9515
Visual Programming IV	Science	109	11:15	Anson Chapman	aeccrcss@hotmail.com	909-860-9515
	Please report SIG changes to			Herbert Wong, Jr.	OCUG@SingularityTechnology.com	714-968-7264

Correction

In the August 2003 issue of the Bytes, the review by Bill Allen on p. 13 inadvertently referred to the excellent Wolfram Research software as "CalcCenter 2." The correct name for this program is **CalculationCenter2**. Your Reviews Editor apologizes for this oversight. ∎

Digital Photograpy SIG

By Jack Donan

The attendence at the August meeting was over 30 even though a number of regular attendees were in San Diego. The program was too ambitious for the 90 minutes allotted and only three members were able to show photo alterations which they had made. It was pointed out that it would be of greater benefit to the members if more emphasis would be placed on the step by step processes involved rather than the end result. This will be done at the September meeting which will be a continuation of members work integrated with the scheduled program on the same subject (Repairing Photographs) to be presented by Robert Brooks.We were privileged to have the main speaker of the day stay over and narrate his Powerpoint presentation on Macromedia Fireworks which can be found at

http:/216.239.33.104search?q =cache:ty02bNIm8M0J:training.scottcounty.net/ PowerPoint%2520FilesPatrick%2520 %40%2520NetSquirrel/ web_design_2_2001.ppt+%22fireworks %22%2Bcrispen&hl=en&start=4&ie=UTF-8

or as Jim Morrison assisted me with, "Jack, I found Crispen/ Fireworks links. As soon as we got home I did a Google on "fireworks"+crispen and got tons of references, most of which, on casual perusal, seemed valid and useful." Patrick embellished the slide show with a number of creations at 72 ppi.It is hoped that Patrick can visit us again in the future. ∎

NOCCC Help Line

The Help Line is in the true spirit of NOCCC, which is to help others to learn more about computers. The following is a list of Help Line Volunteers. The list is organized by the topic that each volunteer is willing to help you with. Please help us to keep this list current. Call or e-mail editor@noccc.org with additions, deletions, or corrections.
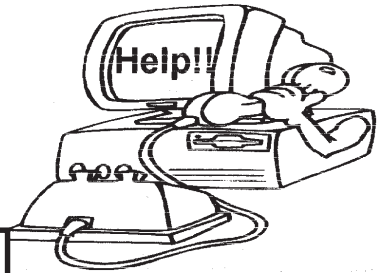
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Amiga
Apple
Apple II
Apple/Educator
C/C++
Computer Boards
Corel Draw
Excel(IBM)
Excel(Mac)
MacIntosh
MacIntosh
Memory/Interrupts
Modem Hardware
Modem Software
Neural Networks
OS/2
Pagemaker 6.0/6.5
PC, Beginners
PC Hardware
Quicken 6.0
Quickbooks 5.0
Quicken 2000,2001
Quickbooks
Quicken Home &
Business 2000, 2001
Powerpoint
Realtime Control
Robotics
Tcl/Tk
Unix
Windows 9X
Windows 9X
Windows 2000
Word
Word
WordPerfect

The Help LIne phone numbers are published in the printed version of the Orange Bytes, which is mailed to members

New volunteers for the Help Line would be appreciated!
Macromedia volunteers needed.

Security SIG

Mandatory Access Control (MAC) and a Discretionary Access Control (DAC) is that a MAC is considered prohibitive (anything that is not specifically allowed is prohibited) and a DAC is more flexible.

We also touched on two other topics- GRC (Steve Gibsons web site) being considered the #1 attacker by some, and what people thought was the best security certificate.

I mentioned Steve Gibson's problem because his explanation was a good illustration of TCP's 3-way handshake. (One computer starts communication by sending data [a "packet"] with a SYN flag set. The other computer sends a packet back with both the SYN and ACK flags set. Then the first computer sends a packet with only an ACK.)

His problem was caused by the fact that he has been plagued recently by hackers sending him packets with the SYN flag and a false address (the source IP address was a random location, not the hackers- surprise!).

So when his computer did what it was supposed to- returned the SYN packet with a SYN-ACK, if the random location submitted their logs to DSHIELD (as many are doing), GRC would be reported as an attacker. All DSHIELD would see is that GRC send that random location a SYN + ACK packet with-out the SYN packet being sent- a kind of attack.

The topic next month will be about the LAND attack and the SMURF attack. How to recognize when you are being attacked this way and what to do to protect your network.

To get the notes and the forum,

1) go to either NOCCC.ORG or RDKSOFTWARE.COM

2) navigate to the Security SIG ■

Please Share Your Expertise

We need articles in the *Orange Bytes* written by NOCCC members! Why don't you share some of your expertise with the rest of us by writing an article for our **Computer Talk** section?

Products

virus scanning, spam blocking, and other tools. MSRP=$350 for 10 users.

ViraLock – The first software that prevents the spread of e-mail-borne viruses by preventing them from escaping an infected computer. It is complementary to current anti-virus programs.

Kaspersky Labs Anti-Hacker 1.0 – A personal firewall from Russia. Designed to ensure reliable defense of home computers from Internet hackers, wherever they are.

IconLover 1.11 - A great solution for extracting, cataloging, and managing PC computer icons.

PicaLoader 1.1.8 for Windows – A fully automated, multi-threaded, link-following, picture-retrieving robot that will retrieve all the pictures you want from any part of the Internet. MSRP=$39.

Vicman's Photo Editor Pro 7.0 – A powerful, easy-to-use photo editor from Russia with an intuitive, skin-based interface & lots of powerful features. MSRP=$30.

Currently available are the following books:

Linux in a Nutshell, 4th Edition – A desktop quick reference from O'Reilly by Siever, Figgins, & Weber.

JavaScript by Example – A Prentice Hall book-plus-CD by Ellie Quigley that is technically strong & useful, as well as interlaced with examples to demonstrate the fun & practical aspects of the language.

Upgrading Your PC, 2nd Edition – This new book-plus-DVD is authored by Mark Edward Soper and published by Tech TV in association with New Riders Publishing. It shows you how to make the upgrades you want to create the computer you crave.

If you would like me to try to obtain a specific product (software, hardware, or book) to review, please contact me by phone or e-mail:

Ted Littman, NOCCC Reviews Editor

(714) 779-1936   tedlit@adelphia.net

8/18/2003 ■

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- **Raffles**. We have distributed thousands of dollars worth of hardware and software raffle prizes at our New Technologies and General meetings.

- **Product Review.** Write a review for this newsletter and keep the software, hardware, book or CD. Members review several products a month.

- **Consignment Table**. We have a thriving consignment table on our regular meeting day in which we assist members to sell or buy all kinds of computer items.

- **Volunteer Work**. You are given opportunities to help our activities with interesting assignments. An all-volunteer organization, you can join with other members in a variety of activities, write articles for our newsletter, conducting a seminar, running a SIG, maning the help desk, showing new members around, help the membership commitee, and more.

Parking Information — Chapman University's main parking lot is on the north side of the campus (enter from Walnut) and is free of charge for NOCCC's meetings on Sunday. Please feel free to park in the parking lots.

Parking is also free on the **campus-side** of the surface streets. The city of Orange's parking laws prohibit parking in front of residential housing which is across the street from Chapman University. **Expensive parking tickets will be issued to violators.**

The NOCCC Information Desk, Membership Desk, Reviews Desk, Consignment Table, and most of the meeting rooms are in Irvine/Hashinger Hall and the Science Center on the east side of the campus (near Center Street).

Become an NOCCC member by signing up at the Membership Desk on our general meeting day, usually the first Sunday of the month. Or simply fill out the form on the reverse side of this page and send it in!
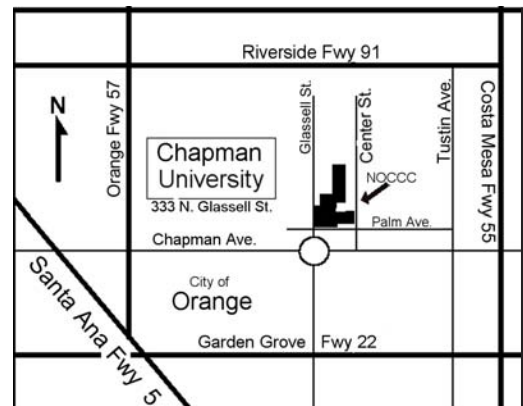
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