



mbug-pc newsletter

Established 1983 / Incorporated 1988

IN THIS ISSUE

MBUG Information	2
Discount Computer Magazines	2
President's Corner	3
Windows Tips & Tricks	4
General Meeting Review	4
The Hard Side of Computing	6
Thins, Thinglets & Thingassos	7
Thanks Milt Kegley	7
MBUG-PC Supporters	8
Microsoft's Big Day	9
MBUG-PC Workshops	10
MBUG-PC Calendar	11
F1 for HELP	12
Membership Report	12

Vector Graphics

MBUG-PC's General Meeting presenter will be **Markus Lewtschuk*** of **Jagged Earth** (www.JaggedEarth.com). Marcus, a commercial artist, will be speaking about vector art, a new way to create graphics. Whether making logos, business cards, web sites, signs, banners, brochures, letterheads, stickers or clothing, Jagged Earth uses vector graphics to its best advantage. Vector art is used as much as possible so that graphics are created only once, then sized to fit and converted for any need. This means graphics match down to the last detail, whether they are used on a business card, T-shirt, or web site.

Vector graphics are a different animal: vector files use mathematical equations to achieve lines and curves, and formulas to paint objects. No pixels are involved. If a vector image is resized, its equations and formulas recalculate themselves, producing images that are rescaled and in perfect focus. This allows images to be made in any size desired without suffering any consequences.

A vector graphic can be created at any size and then scaled as big or as small as needed. One graphic can be used for everything. Logos or graphics can be created once and the same file can be used for all mediums, from business cards to web, to T-shirts to billboards. One logo with one look - one big plus in product and logo recognition!

Come listen to Markus Lewtschuk as he explains how new logos can be created and existing logos can be reformatted using vector graphics. Contact him at (831) 583-0402 or e-mail contact@Jaggedearth.com This is a program you won't want to miss!

**(Yes, he is related to our esteemed former MBUG-PC President Jack!)* ♦

Do you think Microsoft makes MAPPING SOFTWARE?

(If they don't, they need it)

Jim Hinwood attends Microsoft's Big Day! Review on page 9.

Kristen Knutson

MBUG-PC
Program Chair
mcle@msn.com
www.mbug.org



**Friday, December 6, 2002 at 7pm
at the Pacific Grove Adult Education Center
1025 Lighthouse Avenue, Pacific Grove**

**Free and open to the public!
Invite your friends!
Enter our fund-raising RAFFLE for great prizes!**

DISCOUNT COMPUTER MAGAZINES

	1 Year	2 Years	3 Years
Computer Games	\$10.95	—	—
Computer			
Gaming World	\$14.95	\$28.95	\$41.95
ComputerShopper	\$16.97	\$32.95	\$47.95
Dr. Dobbs Journal	\$15.95	\$30.95	\$43.95
Mac Home Journal	\$15.97	\$29.97	—
Mac World	\$12.95	\$24.95	\$35.95
Maximum PC	\$9.95	\$18.95	—
Microsoft			
System Journal	\$21.95	\$39.95	\$57.95
PC Gamer	\$12.95	—	—
PC Magazine	\$25.97	\$48.95	\$68.95
PC World	\$16.95	\$27.95	\$40.95
Publish	\$17.95	\$33.95	\$48.95
Wired	\$6.00	\$12.00	—



Prices for new subscriptions and renewals. All orders must include check, cash or money order payable to **Herb Goodman**. Mail to Herb Goodman, 8295 Sunlake Drive, Boca Raton, FL 33496. Telephone: 561-488-4465 e-mail: hgoodman@prodigy.net

Allow 10 to 12 weeks for magazines to start. Renewals: you must supply an address label from your present subscription to insure the correct start. As an extra service I will mail a renewal notice about 4 months prior to the expiration date.

MBUG-PC VOLUNTEER VACANCIES

PROGRAM CHAIR: Have a few hours a month to spare? Good at personal relations? We desperately need someone once a month to schedule speakers for our Friday General Meetings.

FEATURES EDITOR: Good at writing short articles? Interested in reviewing computer-related magazine/Internet articles? We need someone for our newsletter once a month.

Interested? For more information call any Member of the Board of Directors below.

MBUG-PC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ann Mack	..... President,	622-7669	.....	ahmack@sbcglobal.net
	..... Columnist			
Donald R. Slaiter	..... Vice President,	655-4443	.....	slaiter@pacbell.net
	..... Assistant Treasurer, Membership Chair			
Tom Streeeter	..... Secretary/Treasurer	657-4249	.....	tom223@pacbell.net
Regina Doyle	..... Publishing Editor	375-4496	.....	reginadoyle@aol.com
Ralph Games	..... Meeting Facilitator	394-8876	.....	gamesri@redshift.com
Kristen Knutson	..... Program Chair	375-6072	.....	mcle@msn.com
Carolyn Lake	..... Publicity Chair	643-2023	.....	lakelyn@ix.netcom.com
S. Jack Lewtschuk	..... Columnist,	757-0123	.....	blacklion@royal.net
	..... Immediate Past President			
Clive Sanders	..... Workshop Leader,	521-6676	.....	simbacli@pacbell.net
	..... Columnist, Assistant Membership Chair, F1			

MBUG-PC Newsletter is published monthly by Monterey Bay Users Group-Personal Computer, Inc., a nonprofit, tax-exempt, charitable, educational corporation, 177 Webster Street, # A-354, Monterey, CA 93940, telephone (831) 373-6245, website www.mbug.org. **SUBSCRIPTION:** See back cover for rates. (Subscription is not tax deductible). **DISCLAIMER:** No warranty, expressed or implied, is made by MBUG-PC, Newsletter editorial staff, or any individual authors or contributors. This disclaimer extends to all losses, incidental or consequential, from the use of this publication. Unless specifically stated otherwise, the opinions expressed in any article or column are those of the individual author(s) and do not represent any official position of, or endorsement by, MBUG-PC which is a 501c3 corporation and is not affiliated in any way with any vendor or equipment or software manufacturer. Copyright © 2002 by the Monterey Bay Users Group-PC. Permission for reproduction in whole or in part is hereby granted for other nonprofit use, provided credit is given to MBUG-PC and to the author(s). Other reproduction without prior written permission of MBUG-PC is prohibited.

NEWSLETTER AD RATES: Special rate for local business card ads (approximately 1/10 page) is \$30.00 for 6 issues or \$50.00 for 12 issues. Full and partial page ads are available upon request. MBUG will publish at no charge classified ads for individual subscribers who have computer hardware or software for private sale. For information on advertising, contact Regina Doyle at ReginaDoyle@aol.com.

MBUG-PC VOLUNTEERS

Jim Anway	..... Columnist, F1	625-5618	.....	janway@redshift.com
Eileen Begley	..... Workshop Leader	655-4884	.....	eb@spyderbytes.com
Richard Binsacca	..... Raffle Sales	678-2518	.....	richard@dedot.com
Margaret Bradbury	..... Workshop Leader,	626-3573	.....	mgradbury2@earthlink.net
	..... Columnist			
Bob Brownlee	..... Newsletter Distribution	372-4757	.....	ttbb@earthlink.net
Norma Cocklin	..... Canterbury Woods Liaison	657-4257	.....	nmchec@aol.com
Jim Hinwood	..... Columnist	373-7393	.....	ehinwood@msn.com
Bill Hyler	..... Photographer	624-4456	.....	bhyler@redshift.com
Lee Keely	..... APCUG Rep, F1	626-8033	.....	leekeeley@attbi.com
John Laughton	..... Legal Advisor	649-1122	.....	john@netlawyers.com
Nick Mertes	..... Workshop Leader	659-2341	.....	nick@mbay.net
Helga Murphy	..... Hospitality	633-3018	.....	helgamurphy@msn.com
Pete Petit	..... Columnist	375-7798	.....	ppetit@redshift.com
Rita Soplosky	..... Hospitality .....		.....	ritasoplosky@msn.com
Phil Shortell	..... Workshop Leader	753-7777	.....	pjs@FourthR-Salinas.com
Bob Stephan	..... Historian, F1,	646-1899	.....	bstephan@redshift.com
	..... Columnist			
Bill Stockton	..... Recording Secretary	384-6130	.....	---
Allen Wasylchyn	..... Hospitality	422-9448	.....	allenmwa@redshift.com
Ed West	..... Webmaster, Listserv Owner ..	372-6200	.....	captain@mobie.com

15 - 20% Discount on all Computer Books at Borders Bookstores to MBUG-PC Members

Show your MBUG-PC Membership card at time of purchase. For a card, see Don Slaiter at any MBUG-PC General Meeting.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Ann
Mack

THERE'S ALWAYS A FIRST TIME

Hi there! Welcome to my first attempt at the MBUG-PC President's column. It is a bit daunting to fill a page with technical items of interest, so if you run across articles, comments or information on new, nearly new or important computer topics, please send them along to me to use here!

THANKS AGAIN, JACK!

It is also very daunting to follow such a terrific president like **Jack Lewtschuk!** All of MBUG-PC certainly appreciates what a great job he has done these past four years. He kept us going with his enthusiasm and hard work, always had up-to-date computer knowledge, supported all the workshops and told really bad jokes! Seriously, we all send you a big "Thank You Jack!" and please stay active on the board and at meetings.

GOT VIRUS PROTECTION?

So, now to computer related information: it is safe to start by reminding you all to get a virus protection program, install it and keep it updated. Recommended schedule: update once a week. If you

have DSL or a large hard drive then you should also consider a Fire Wall program. **ZoneAlarm** is the favorite of the MBUG-PC Directors and a version can be downloaded free from www.zonelabs.com.

SIGN UP FOR THE MBUG-PC LISTSERV

We guarantee, you will not get a ton of messages in your mailbox, there will be no SPAM and there will be about 5-10 useful messages per month generated by concerned MBUG subscribers on topics of general interest. Ed West is our listserv owner and carefully checks each message before it is sent out, ensuring that messages are computer-related. Directions for subscribing can be found at <http://listserv.redshift.com/mailman/listinfo/mbug>.



UPDATE YOUR MBUG-PC INFORMATION

If you change your e-mail address, phone number or local address, please make sure that you send the new, corrected data to Membership Chair **Don Slaiter** at

slaiter@pacbell.net for changes to the membership list and Newsletter mailing labels. Remember to also send such changes to the Listserv at mbug@listservredshift.com. Keeping your address up to date ensures that you will receive the latest virus warnings and not miss any important announcements!

And, the MBUG-PC Board of Directors decided that the words "Address Service Requested" would no longer be printed on the Newsletter. This means that after you move and if you want to continue to get your newsletter, you are responsible for sending us your new address. Asking the Post Office to forward your mail is not enough. The bottom line is: it's too expensive to continue to pay additional postage to send this piece to your new address (\$0.70 each)!

NETIQUETTE

On the subject of e-mail ... please remember to cut (erase) all the prior recipients of any e-mail that you forward. Jack says that this is good etiquette plus it stops SPAMMERS from using those extra addresses to send out more SPAM! It is a simple process: when you reply to e-mail, in the body of the message highlight the original "to", "from", "address" lines, other recipients and any extraneous comments and delete them. Your message will be clean, clear, concise, correct and courteous.

HOLES INTO INDIA'S INTERNET

Recently PBS aired an interesting segment titled "The Hole in the



Wall” (3 November), which you can read about at on a website. Apparently, on the morning of the 26th of January 1999, passers-by outside the NIIT headquarters in New Delhi were treated to an unusual sight: a computer peeped out of a hole that had been cut in the wall separating the NIIT premises from an adjoining slum. As the day wore on curious onlookers, mostly children living in the slum approached the computer. The TV-like device seemed inviting. First with hesitation and later with more assurance, the children began to explore. It took them a few minutes to work out the use of the touch pad embedded in the wall. After that, it was a series of “hits-and-misses” as they fooled around with the computer. This went on for the whole day, and the next, and the next. The program has continued with great success and NIIT has expanded to eight other sites. Indian children, both boys and especially girls are experimenting and becoming proficient on the Internet from a literal “hole in the wall.” This experiment was devised by Dr. Sugata Mitra, director of Center for Research in Cognitive Systems at NIIT. If you are interested in this program, log on to www.niitholeinthewall.com for a fascinating journey.

COMMENTS WELCOME

Any items you would like to pursue, or comment on, please let me know and we'll get an expert answer! Do come out to the December meeting. It's going to be a good one starting the celebration of the 20th year for MBUG-PC. ♦

*Ann Mack, MBUG-PC President
ahmack@sbcglobal.net*

WINDOWS 98 & OTHER TIPS

*WindowsXP
Tips from the
Douglas
Ludens
Webpage*



In previous versions of Windows, if you wanted to create a compressed or zipped version of a file (for instance, to email it), you would need third-party software. With Windows XP, creating zipped files is a built-in feature. To create a new zipped file in Windows Explorer, simply click the File menu -> New -> Compressed (zipped) Folder. A new folder will appear, and you can enter a filename (remember to use a .zip at the end) and press enter to save it.

You can also right-click an open area in Explorer or on your desktop and follow the same steps (New -> Compressed (zipped) Folder, etc.). Simply double-click the folder to open it, and then you can drag and drop files or folders into it to zip a copy of them.

Tip-Within-A-Tip

As Doug L. mentioned above, when you drag and drop a file into a zipped folder, only a copy of it will be placed in there. If you want to actually move the file into the zipped folder, hold the Shift key down while you drop it. You can tell the file will be moved rather than copied, because the small + sign next to the mouse cursor will disappear. CRS says the process is very similar in Windows 2000. ♦

*Clive Sanders, Workshop Leader,
Columnist, F1 for Help
simbaclive@pacbell.net*

MEETING REVIEW



**Ann
Mack**
Features
Editor

Hudson on the MBAY

MBUG-PC Members met MBAY.NET local Internet Service Provider (ISP) at the November meeting. **Matt Hudson**, a fifth-generation Peninsula resident spoke on MBAY's range of services and support. MBAY was founded seven years ago as an alternative service to AOL and local providers and has grown into a full-featured system.

Matt gave an update of MBAY services, starting with dial-up Internet. Customers can access their accounts all over the US with some international stations in Australia and Japan also available. The ISP price for 56K and ISDN dial up is \$18.95 for domestic lines. A 128K ISDN line costs \$34.90 per month for a pure digital signal, 2 channels and 2 modems. Both accounts offer up to 5MB of personal storage.

CONNECTING YOU EVERY WHICH WAY

The DSL broadband service area is expanding all the time. If you live within the Monterey, Marina, Carmel, Pacific Grove, Salinas or Seaside areas there's a chance that MBAY can offer you DSL. Contact them at www.MBAY.net. Prices start

*MBUG-PC Members enjoy Milt & Allan's coffee (see box page 7) and a chat at break time with Guest Speaker **Matt Hudson** (third from left).*

Participants listen to Matt's presentation (below).



Photos by Bill Hyler, MBUG-PC



at \$53.95 a month for 384-128K and \$69.95 for 768-384K (download and upload speeds).

Cable access is now available in Monterey, Marina and Pebble Beach are due to come on line by year's end. Carmel is getting wired now and Carmel Valley's target date is late 2003. This is a good service if the connection isn't overwhelmed by large numbers of subscribers and if they don't all want to use it at the same time. Matt used the analogy of a drip hose to explain cable service: by the time water gets to the very end, there is a noticeable drop in pressure and in this case, speed. Service will come to Salinas at least a year and a half from now.

For remote access areas such as Big Sur, MBAY offers a satellite connection. This is really a "Star

Wars" approach — in two seconds a signal is beamed to the satellite and passed onto your dish and into your computer! At the present time this service starts at \$99.95 per month.

New connections and nodes are being set in place all the time and the best thing to do is to call either 642-6100 or 784-1300 for your particular area and configuration.

WHAT'S NEW?

MBAY's newest products: SPAM Filtering Service and Instant Messaging. For the SPAM service, you must be a customer and need to work with the software for about a week to customize the filter (much like working with voice recognition program). After that, a check every 2-3 weeks is enough to filter out SPAM. The Instant Messaging program allows you to interface with

major messaging programs (ICQ, AOL and MSN) and talk in "real time" to those subscribers. Again, you must be a customer of MBAY for this option.

SPYS AND OTHER SCUM

Matt explained how to speed up your computer. His favorite program can be found at www.lavasoftUSA.com. The program called AD-Aware 5.83 "is a free multi-spyware removal utility that scans your registry and hard drives for known spyware and scumware components and lets you remove them safely."

Former MBUG-PC President **Jack Lewtschuk**, who attended the meeting, seconded the use of Ad-Aware. He says if you run it once a week, your PC will stay trim and speedy.

ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS

In time for Christmas shopping, Matt described a new Intel product: a flat 6'x4' computer screen that can be placed on the wall with Velcro-like connections. It's less than 1/2 inch thick and can be rolled up like a beach mat! The price? Around \$2,500 so you have to be very, VERY good when Santa's watching! Larger screens will be available, but this one seems very practical and could easily replace a projector. Watch Comdex this month for further details.

MBAY generously donated a free DSL Install or 3 months of MBAY Internet Services or 3 months of their new SPAM Filtering Service. Those who attended went away well informed about the MBAY Internet products. Thank you for a good presentation, Matt. ♦

ahmack@sbcglobal.net



THE HARD SIDE OF COMPUTING

Afraid of Your Own Computer?

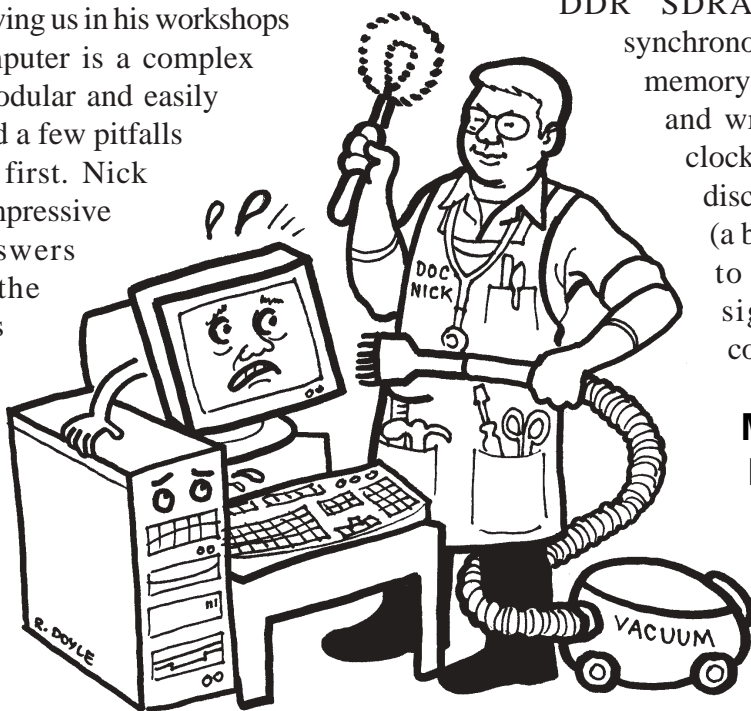
Jim Hinwood
MBUG-PC
Columnist



Are you afraid to open the side panel of your computer? Intimidated by the mass of confusing wires, so that you can't even clean out those dust bunnies you know are growing? Well **Nick Mertes' Hardware Workshop** is for you! Nick has been showing us in his workshops that even though the computer is a complex machine, that it is also modular and easily worked on if you can avoid a few pitfalls and see it demonstrated first. Nick Mertes' Workshops are impressive in that he always answers questions throughout the evening without losing his focus. By the end of the evening he has built a complete computer or covered a complete topic while answering any and all questions.

My thought at my first class was, "why bother opening my computer?"

That's why you buy a 3-year extended warranty from Gateway or Dell etc. Why take a chance on messing something up? My answer after a few workshops is because it's easy and gives me a better idea about how my machine works, not to mention the \$90.00/hr that you save in doing upgrades and simple maintenance yourself. The more we explore the computer as a club hopefully the more interest we will have as members in probing deeper. Some will want to stretch their comfort zone a bit and others won't but if this sounds good to you Nick will make it about as painless as possible.



SYSTEM MEMORY

In his last (October 16th) workshop, Nick covered memory management. He has been in the computer business for 22 years and has seen a lot of changes in the types and prices of memory. He talked about a time when a 20MB hard drive cost \$500.00 and now you can get 120GB for \$150.00. He also talked about the difference in the size of memory today. He showed us an old 5MB hard drive that was the size of two large dictionaries stacked on top of each other and then a 2GB laptop hard drive the size of a playing card and no more than 1/4 an inch thick. Nick explained the difference between RAM (random access memory) and extended memory (your hard drive), DIMM's and SIMM's (dual inline memory module, where both sides of the module have memory chips, and single inline memory modules). He explained SDRAM (synchronous dynamic random access memory), which is synchronized with the system's bus speed, and

DDR SDRAM (double data rate synchronous dynamic random access memory), which can perform reads and writes on both sides of any clock cycle. This led to a short discussion of the front side bus (a bus is a signal pathway used to allow information and signals to travel between components of a computer).

MEMORY MANAGEMENT

After this basic discussion of memory hardware he moved on to the main topic of the evening, memory management. It does matter how much memory

you have for certain applications, but one of the keys to memory intensive programs such as Adobe Premier and Photoshop is managing the memory you do have!

The reason we need to manage the memory in our computers is because, even though Windows has taken away most of the management functions, there are still some we can perform to get better memory management. When a program is closed it doesn't always let go of the memory allotted for that particular programs tasks. We then get messages about system resources being low.

When we get a message like this the computer is talking about RAM.

One of the ways we can **free up system resources** according to Nick is through use of the “msconfig” run command. We go to start, run, type in “msconfig” and we get the system configuration utility window. We then click the far right tab labeled startup and this will give us a list of those things set to run on startup in the system tray at the bottom right of our computer. These are the things that we have set to run all the time, or programs which automatically set themselves to run all the time (Real Player is one of the worst offenders). If we have a lot of programs running that we are not using, it drains system resources, like leaving all the lights on in the house even in rooms that are not being used. This way we can run these programs when we want to use them and not have them running in the background all the time.

Nick then went to a discussion of **how to use two DOS command lines to configure memory**, edit “autoexe.bat” and edit “config.sys”. These are command lines that will help in the management of memory on your computer. These commands are explained in detail on the list serve this month if anyone is interested in more detailed instructions.

IT'S A CLEAN MACHINE

Nick then finished the evening with a discussion of how to clean out the inside of your computer with the combination of canned air and the vacuum cleaner, blowing the dust with the can towards the vacuum nozzle so that dust is removed not just rearranged. This he recommends about once every six months to prevent dust buildup that leads to overheating problems. We also discussed some free downloadable programs to monitor temperature within the computer.

Thanks to Nick for his ongoing workshops on PC hardware and for removing some of the reluctance we might have to getting hands on with our own computer maintenance. ♦

Don't be intimidated by your own machine: come to Nick Mertes' next Computer Hardware workshop on January 8, 2003. Beginners, intermediate & advanced computer users will all learn something!
ehinwood@msn.com

THINGS, THINGLETS & THINGASSOS



S. Jack Lewtschuk
MBUG-PC
Columnist & Immediate
Past President

A SHORT HISTORY

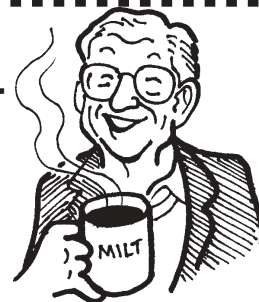
On August 12, 1981, IBM made the first computer available to the general public. I found a compact chronology of events which led to this event:

- <http://www.islandnet.com/~kpolsson/comphist/>
- <http://www.byte.com/documents/s=132/byt19990823s0001/>
- <http://www.byte.com/documents/s=132/byt19990826s0042/>
- <http://www.computerworld.com/news/2001/story/0,11280,62990,00.html>
- <http://www-1.ibm.com/ibm/history/>

Interesting, I think.

(continued on page 9)

MILT KEGLEY, BEHIND-THE- SCENES VOLUNTEER



Milt Kegley has been co-chair of our Hospitality committee since January 1999. He and Allen Wasylychyn shared the job of providing coffee at MBUG-PC General Meetings. Unfortunately, the always cheerful, pleasant and very reliable Milt is “retiring”.

You have probably enjoyed that coffee, but did you know that it (and the soft drinks, cookies, etc.) are cost-free to MBUG-PC? We've offered to pay, but Milt and Allen have refused reimbursement for the last 48 months! Thanks guys! Milt, your contributions of time and money have been **greatly appreciated**. Don't be a stranger.

A Grateful MBUG-PC



MBUG-PC SUPPORTERS

James W. Anway

Retired IBMer
Computer Consultant

Phone: 831 625-5618
Fax: Call first



**MONTEREY
COPY CENTER**

WE SHIP, TOO!

Steven Hardy, Owner
(831) 333-0174 Fax 333-0176

730 Lighthouse Avenue
Monterey CA 93940



**THE
FOURTH R[®]**
Computer Training Solutions

**Computer Classes
Private Tutoring**

www.FourthR-Salinas.com

Phil Shortell, MS Certified Instructor and MBUG-PC Workshop Leader
31 West Market Street, Salinas CA 93901
(831) 753-7777



**Computer
Classes**

Pacific Grove Adult Education Center

1025 Lighthouse Avenue, Pacific Grove CA 93950

70th Anniversary Special
FREE COMPUTER CLASSES
through December 21, 2002

See the PGAEC catalog and web pages for class descriptions.

Call the computer office at (831) 646-6657

or e-mail Bruce Cates: bcates@pgusd.org

<http://www.pgusd.org>

“Learning for Life”

COMPUTER POWER

Star Reierson
star@redshift.com

Fax: (831) 373-0671
1173 Ninth Street

(831) 373-3919
Monterey, CA 93940

Clive R. Sanders
Sanders and Associates

Computer Consultants

**636 Spazier Avenue
Pacific Grove
California, 93950**

**Telephone: 831-521-6676
Fax: 831-375-1446
E-mail: simbacli@pacbell.net**

(continued from page 7)

FRUSTRATION

We all have something in common. Everybody has been a victim of computer caused frustration. You may be a brand new computer user unpacking your first computer, or a seasoned victim, losing your hair, hands numb and shaking, eyes squinting. You called tech-support and after 45 minutes on hold, you are told to reformat your hard drive.

Finally, there is some help: turn up your sound and give it a try before you pop that Valium! <http://www.primat.se/primat/apelogic.htm>

SMTP, ESMTP, POP3?

Have you ever wondered about SMTP, ESMTP and POP3? I am sure that when you first configured your computer to receive e-mail, you were casually, introduced to two of these acroonyms. Maybe later, you used them in conversations, feeling rather “geekish” and “in”. Did anyone ever ask you what these are? Did you feel “ungeekish”?

If you have a minute (well, maybe a few minutes), take a look at these web sites:

<http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc0821.txt> (SMTP)

<http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc1869.txt> (ESMTP)

<http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2554.txt> (ESMTP)

<http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc1939.txt> (POP3)

Now that you know, I pronounce you a geek and urge you to join the “MBUG F1 For Help” Team.

SPAM RULES!

A survey shows that up until recently computer users primary worry was viruses. Not any more, now it's SPAM. In 2001, SPAM cost businesses \$500.00 per employee in time lost. We can protect ourselves from a virus much easier than from SPAM. What are you doing to reduce the SPAM traffic?

COMPUTER ON VACATION

What do you do with your computer when you go on vacation, if you don't take it with you? Most of us turn it off. Some of us program our computer to let the world know that we will not be home for a month. What do you do when you return? 1. Turn on the computer? 2. Check your e-mail?

Better not! Have patience! While you were away, how many times has your anti-virus program been updated?

RECEIVED YOUR LATEST INOCULATION?

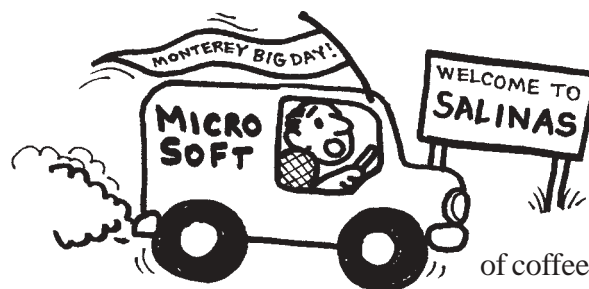
In fall and winter we get protection against the flu virus, but computer viruses roam throughout the year. By now, I hope, we all have anti-virus programs and are updating it at least weekly. But when was that program installed? Have you checked with the manufacturer to see if it's too old and no longer supported?

There are close to 60,000 viruses out there on the WWW and their ranks are growing. Protect yourself or just say, “NO” to the Internet. ♦

blacklion@royal.net

Microsoft's Big Day in Monterey

by Jim Hinwood



A CONFUSING START

The recent **Microsoft Big Day event in Monterey** got off to kind of a strange start recently when they moved the location from the State Theatre to the Casa Munras Hotel on the morning of the event. It turned out they could not get the projection equipment up the stairs at the State Theatre so they moved the venue at the last minute. After finding all-day parking for the event, I

strolled up to the front of the State Theatre only to be told that it had been moved. I sprinted back to my car and drove over to the Casa Munras trying to make sure I wasn't wearing the cup of coffee I had purchased right before I got there.

I arrived at the Casa Munras and found that the schedule had been changed in order that everyone who was in the same position as I was, would have time to arrive. The event had been listed for Salinas on the web and below that, it was listed as in Monterey at the State Theatre. All this conspired to make me feel that whoever planned this event for Microsoft was not familiar with or had never been to Monterey.



All the local vendors were there at this event for small business owners, **Byte Technology**, the **FourthR**, etc. The ongoing partner in these presentations is **Compaq**. They gave a presentation at the last event in the Steinbeck Center, Salinas but were absent from the presentations this time, although they did have a booth.

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATION

Matt Berg gave the presentation for **Microsoft** as he had at a previous Microsoft Big Day I attended. I was just as impressed this time as I was before with his professionalism and easy ability to make a technical presentation easy to understand. He went through a few programs in the Microsoft Office XP Suite. He spent time with Power Point, Word and Front Page showing some of the new functionality and ease of use that comes with OfficeXP. He particularly stressed how XP documents can be moved between applications: create a Word document, import a spreadsheet from Excel and send it to Outlook to be mailed out, all within OfficeXP and easier than before. Matt also demonstrated new features within these applications showing how to add animation to Power Point presentations and other things to make them look more professional.

Matt then went into some other applications, MapPoint showing how you can plan a business trip, map out the route, and select a restaurant anywhere in North America. You can then download it to your PDA from MapPoint. I had been very interested in this program at the last Big Day event and was lucky enough to win it in the raffle that ended the day's events. I won the book for MapPoint at the last MBUG-PC meeting, so it could not have been more perfect for me. The raffle at the end always has some nice prizes at these Big Day events and this one was no different. In addition to my MapPoint, a copy of OfficeXP was raffled off as well as an Ipaq PDA, which went to MBUG-PC's own **Ed West!**

ALL IN ALL, WORTH THE TRIP

Microsoft Big Day events are a good overview of the products Microsoft produces but there is limited time so a lot of in-depth study of any one application should not be expected. If you haven't been to a Big Day, you usually come away with a few insights or ideas that make the trip worthwhile. The next MBD event will be on the Tablet PC: you can sign up at msbigday.com◆

ehinwood@msn.com

Windows98/ME WORKSHOP

Phil Shortell

Workshop Leader

Telephone (831) 753-7777

e-mail pjs@FourthR-Salinas.com



Wednesday, December 18

7:00 to 9:00pm

at Archer Park Center

Let's continue our running theme of looking at all things Windows (control panels, file managers, desktop settings, defragmentation, disk cleanup, back up, scan disk, screen savers, recycle bin, wherever you want to go). I'll start the ball rolling by walking you through one feature and we'll go wherever we need to from there.◆

Phil

INTERNET, E-MAIL & BEYOND

Clive Sanders

Workshop Leader



Friday, December 20

7:00 to 9:00pm

Adult Education Center,
Pacific Grove

Whatever you need to know about browsing the Internet, using search engines and "visiting" web sites, we are willing to explore. We welcome beginners up to advanced Personal Computer users and highly encourage your active participation. Bring your questions as well as your answers regarding e-mail, anti-virus, SPAM ... and beyond!

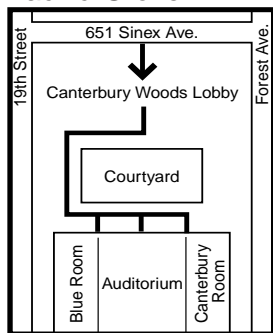
Have a clever idea? Want to get answers to a particularly pesky problem? Contact me in advance at simbacli@pacbell.net or call (831) 521-6676 if you have any specific concerns you'd like me to bring up at this workshop.◆

Clive

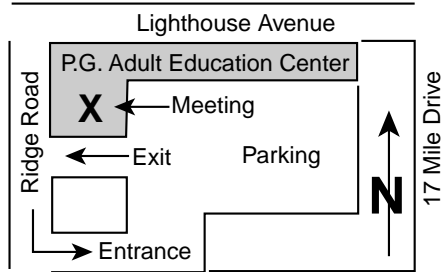
MBUG - PC Calendar of Events - December 2002

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 <i>DIRECTORS MEETING</i> Canterbury Woods PG Begins at 7pm <i>Everyone Welcome!</i>	4	5	6 <i>General Meeting</i> Adult Ed Center PG 7:00 - 9:00pm <i>Markus Lewtschuk</i> <i>Vector Graphics</i>	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 <i>"Windows 98/ME"</i> Archer Park, Monterey 7:00 - 9:00pm <i>Phil Shortell</i>	19	20 <i>"The INTERNET, E-MAIL & BEYOND"</i> Adult Ed Center PG 7:00 - 9:00pm <i>Clive Sanders</i>	21
22	23	24	25 Christmas Holiday	26	27	28
29	30	31 New Year's Eve	<i>Coming in January 2003: New columns by Pete Petit</i> <i>"Looking Back: 20 & 10 Years Ago in MBUG-PC"</i> <i>and "Web Sites Worth Visiting"</i>			

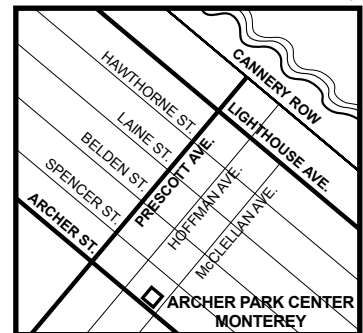
Canterbury Woods
651 Sinex Avenue
Pacific Grove



General Meeting Location
Adult Education Center, PG
1025 Lighthouse Avenue, Pacific Grove



Archer Park Center
542 Archer Street
Monterey



Tentative Calendar January 2003 *Please Check the January Newsletter for Final Dates & Times*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 New Year's Day	2	3 <i>General Meeting</i> Adult Ed Center PG 7:00 - 9:00pm <i>Topic & Speaker to be announced</i>	4
5	6	7 <i>DIRECTORS MEETING</i> Canterbury Woods PG Begins at 7pm <i>Everyone Welcome!</i>	8 <i>"Computer Hardware"</i> Archer Park, Monterey 7:00 - 9:00pm <i>Nick Mertes</i>	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 <i>"The INTERNET, E-MAIL & BEYOND"</i> Adult Ed Center PG 7:00 - 9:00pm <i>Clive Sanders</i>	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



monterey bay users group-pc
177 Webster Street, Suite A-354
Monterey, CA 93940



Non-Profit
Organization
U. S. Postage Paid
Monterey, CA
93940
Permit No. 273



NEED HELP? CALL MBUG F1

Just as your computer keyboard has an "F1" button to push when you want help, **MBUG-PC "F1 for Help" volunteers** will respond to your specific computing problems. Come to us with your questions during MBUG-PC meeting breaks -- look for our "F1" name tags. Or contact the **F1 for Help** team by e-mail. We offer our services free of charge with the understanding that MBUG-PC, its Board of Directors, and the F1 volunteers themselves are in no way responsible or liable for the accuracy or the outcome of any advice or suggestions. Leave a message at our **MBUG Answering Service** (373-6245) or contact:

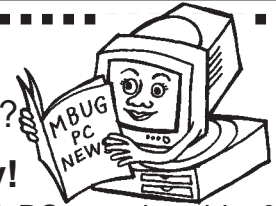
- **Jim Anway (Windows98/Me/XP)**
STRICTLY Wednesdays & Fridays
from 2p.m to 5pm at 625-5618
- **Lee Keely (Access)**
Prefers e-mail at leekeely@attbi.com
or call 626-8033
- **Bob Stephan (Genealogy)**
E-mail to bstephan@redshift.com
or call only between 9am-5pm
646-1899
- **Clive Sanders (Windows95/98/2000)**
E-mail to simbacli@pacbell.net
or call only between 1pm to 9pm
cellphone (831) 521-6676
Pretty good at solving pc problems?
Join our MBUG-PC F1 for Help Team. Share your knowledge! ♦

Check your (upside down) label.

Does it say "Exp: December / 2002"?

Don't miss an issue. Renew today!

Check the expiration date of your MBUG-PC membership & newsletter subscription: Electronic \$20, US Mail \$25, both \$35. Additional tax-deductible donations welcome! Send name, address, telephone and e-mail address with your check to: Monterey Bay Users Group-PC, 177 Webster Street, #A-354, Monterey, CA 93940.



MEMBERSHIP REPORT



slaiter@pacbell.net

**Don
Slaiter**
VP &
Membership
Chair

Current MBUG-PC Membership is 185

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

name	number
Joyce L. Elisha	218
Albert G. Giordino	1217
THANKS TO OUR DONORS	
William Fisher	450
Sean L. McCabe	1186
Vaughn McIlrath	342
Jay Muther	429
Gail Stephan	663

THANKS FOR RENEWING

name	number
Barry Binns	1130
E. R. Brown	1189
Leo Clarke	1117
Connie D'Attilio	1064
Clive Dawson	1073
William Fisher	450
Dick Gamble	1132
Bob Hawn	911
Sean L. McCabe	1186
Vaughn McIlrath	342
Jay Muther	429
PC People	5
Leroy Schwab	717
Donald Slaiter	1016
Gail Stephan	663
Jim Van Vorhis	1094