



# mbug-pc newsletter

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### Who's dumping GARBAGE in my mailbox?!



Read about Bob "The Frugal Hacker" Stephan's experiences on page 6!

Kristen  
Knutson

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



## “Backup, Backup, Backup!”

**Gene and Linda Barlow of PowerQuest Corporation** will speak to us on “Approaches to Backing Up your Hard Drive”, a subject about which we all need to revise and remember from time to time.

Your hard drive is the heart of your computer and contains all of the operating system modules and application programs that make it function. It is also where you store the priceless data files that you create using your computer, whether for a home-based business, homework, hobbies or gaming. To lose any or all of the files stored on your hard drive would be a major disaster that would take weeks or months to recover from. You may never recover from the loss of your most important files.

Protecting yourself from the loss of your hard drive with a well-thought-out backup plan is essential for every one of us to implement. Gene and Linda will explore the many backup options available to you and help you pick which one is best for your needs. This is a vitally important topic that every PC user should understand and implement on their computers.

Gene and Linda have a solid reputation behind them: PowerQuest Corporation is a global provider of automated deployment and recovery solutions from large corporations down to individual users. Based on the company's **Virtual Volume Imaging** technology and **Active State Management** architecture, PowerQuest products and services simplify the management of storage throughout the technology lifecycle. Some of their best known products are **Drive Image**, **Partition Magic** and **Drive Copy**.

So come along and get some backup advice from the experts. Bring your questions and a friend or two. This is a program you won't want to miss.

**Friday, November 7, 2003 at 7pm**  
**Pacific Grove Adult Education Center**  
**1025 Lighthouse Avenue, Pacific Grove**

**FREE! MBUG-PC Members, the Public and potential new members are Welcome!**

**Good coffee, great fund-raising raffle, smart people!**

## WE ARE LOOKING FOR MBUG-PC VOLUNTEERS!

### Program Chair

We need someone once a month to help schedule guest speakers for General Meetings (the first Friday of each month). This person schedules speakers to come to the Adult Center on the appointed date and works with them to develop our front page announcement. You will get lots of back up assistance from other Board Members and friendly advice from Kristen Knutsen (the incumbent).

### Meeting Reviewers

More people are needed to attend General Meetings and/or other workshops (e.g. "Hardware", "Windows", "XP", etc.) and write up one-page (500 word) reviews for the Newsletter.

### Workshop Leaders

If you'd like to share your knowledge about a particular computer program or feature or know someone who can, how about creating a workshop for MBUG-PC? Monthly, every other month or quarterly as desired.

**INTERESTED?** E-mail or call Vice-President **Don Slaiter** at [slaiter@pacbell.net](mailto:slaiter@pacbell.net) ☎(831) 657-4443

### MBUG-PC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Donald R. Slaiter	.. Vice President	..... 655-4443	..... <a href="mailto:slaiter@pacbell.net">slaiter@pacbell.net</a>
	Assistant Treasurer, Membership Chair		
Tom Streeter	..... Secretary/Treasurer	..... 657-4249	..... <a href="mailto:tom223@pacbell.net">tom223@pacbell.net</a>
	Workshops Coordinator / Newsletter Proofreader		
Regina Doyle	..... Publishing Editor	..... 375-4496	..... <a href="mailto:reginadoyle@aol.com">reginadoyle@aol.com</a>
Ralph Games	..... Meeting Facilitator	..... 394-8876	..... <a href="mailto:gamesri@redshift.com">gamesri@redshift.com</a>
Jim Hinwood	..... Features Editor, Columnist	..... 373-7393	..... <a href="mailto:ehinwood@msn.com">ehinwood@msn.com</a>
Kristen Knutson	.... Program Chair	..... 375-6072	..... <a href="mailto:mcle@msn.com">mcle@msn.com</a>
Carolyn Lake	..... Publicity Chair	..... 643-2023	..... <a href="mailto:lakelyn@ix.netcom.com">lakelyn@ix.netcom.com</a>
S. Jack Lewtschuk	..... Columnist,	..... 757-0123	..... <a href="mailto:blacklion@royal.net">blacklion@royal.net</a>
	Immediate Past President		
Clive Sanders	..... Columnist,	..... 375-5376	..... <a href="mailto:simbacli@pacbell.net">simbacli@pacbell.net</a>
	Assistant Membership Chair and F1 Help		

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### MBUG-PC VOLUNTEERS

Jim Anway	..... Columnist, F1 Help	..... 625-5618	..... <a href="mailto:AnwayJ@comcast.net">AnwayJ@comcast.net</a>
Eileen Begley	..... Workshop Leader	..... 655-4884	..... <a href="mailto:eb@spyderbytes.com">eb@spyderbytes.com</a>
Richard Binsacca	..... Raffle Sales	..... 678-2518	..... <a href="mailto:richard@dedot.com">richard@dedot.com</a>
Bob Brownlee	..... Newsletter Distribution	..... 372-4757	..... <a href="mailto:tttbb@earthlink.net">tttbb@earthlink.net</a>
Norma Cocklin	..... Canterbury Woods	..... 657-4257	..... <a href="mailto:nmchec@aol.com">nmchec@aol.com</a>
	Liaison / Newsletter Proofreader		
Bill Hyler	..... Photographer	..... 624-4456	..... <a href="mailto:bhyler@redshift.com">bhyler@redshift.com</a>
Lee Keely	..... APCUG Rep, F1 Help	..... 626-8033	..... <a href="mailto:leekeely@attbi.com">leekeely@attbi.com</a>
John Laughton	..... Legal Advisor	..... 649-1122	..... <a href="mailto:john@netlawyers.com">john@netlawyers.com</a>
Nick Mertes	..... Workshop Leader	..... 659-2341	..... <a href="mailto:nick@mbay.net">nick@mbay.net</a>
Helga Murphy	..... Hospitality	..... 633-3018	..... <a href="mailto:helgamurphy@msn.com">helgamurphy@msn.com</a>
Pete Petit	..... Columnist	..... 375-7798	..... <a href="mailto:ppetit@redshift.com">ppetit@redshift.com</a>
John Rowe	..... Columnist	..... 384-3617	..... <a href="mailto:johnr@tolt.com">johnr@tolt.com</a>
Rita Sopolsky	..... Hospitality	.....	..... <a href="mailto:ritasopolsky@msn.com">ritasopolsky@msn.com</a>
Phil Shortell	..... Workshop Leader	..... 753-7777	..... <a href="mailto:pjs@FourthR-Salinas.com">pjs@FourthR-Salinas.com</a>
Bob Stephan	..... Historian, F1 Help	..... 646-1373	..... <a href="mailto:bstephan@redshift.com">bstephan@redshift.com</a>
	Columnist		
Bill Stockton	..... Recording Secretary	..... 384-6130	.....
Ed West	..... Webmaster, Listserv Owner	..... 372-6200	..... <a href="mailto:captain@mobile.com">captain@mobile.com</a>

**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 ad rates 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](mailto:ReginaDoyle@aol.com).

**3 good reasons to join MBUG-PC?**  
**Free computer help, a GREAT Newsletter and a 15 - 20% Discount on all Computer Books at Borders Bookstores!**  
**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

photo: R. Binsacca, MBUG-PC



**Ann H.  
Mack**

## CLIMBING THE FAMILY TREE

If you weren't there for the October General Meeting, you really missed a good program on new Internet tools for the long-suffering genealogist. **Karen Clifford**, our local celebrity genealogist, gave a rapid overview of the new tools and software (see **Barbara Tyrrell's** Meeting Review on the next page).

One very special program mentioned by Karen is **ANIMap**. With AniMap, any physical location whence your family roots may have sprung can be traced from first settlement dates through all of their state, county and township boundary changes. Some of my people are listed as coming from three different counties in the United States, but never once moved!

Go to the rootsweb.com homepage under the "Mailing List" heading, to see a comprehensive index of surname, locality, ethnic groups and cities. These are well-monitored lists that you can subscribe to in either "digest" or "letter" format. I find them very useful!

And new genealogy resource sites are being created all the time. The most exciting are **libraries** that are sharing more and more of their resources, some of them offering original full-sized photocopies — no more squinting at microfilm viewers. Amazingly, the prints

generated from home computers from online images are much better than those old horrible pictures from the films. Why is this, I wonder?

Karen shared her favorite software programs with us, most of them available at little or no cost, e.g. **Legacy** ([www.legacyfamilytree.com](http://www.legacyfamilytree.com)), **Personal Ancestral File** ([www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org)), **Family Tree Maker 10** ([www.genealogy.com](http://www.genealogy.com)). The new kid on the block is a program call **Bygones** ([www.home.utah-inter.net/bygones](http://www.home.utah-inter.net/bygones)) which is not linked to the other lineage-linked programs but, for what it's worth, is a free software stand-alone program.

**Bob Stephan**, MBUG-PC's personal genealogy guru, is still willing to run a **Genealogy Workshop** if members are interested. Contact him at [bstephan@redshift.com](mailto:bstephan@redshift.com) to make it happen. Check out Bob's column in the July 2003 MBUG-PC Newsletter to see what genealogy programs he recommends.

## SAVE THE DATE

On Saturday, **February 7, 2004** the local **Family History Conference** will be hosted by the **Daughters of the American Revolution** and our local **Monterey California Family History Center**. Call (831) 394-1124 for more details.

## LEARNING NEW TRICKS

Last summer I signed up for the **HP Learning Center** at [www.hp.com/sbso/busproducts.html](http://www.hp.com/sbso/busproducts.html). HP offers a variety of courses approximately every six weeks, which run 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at your own time and at no cost. Obviously the price is right, the pace is your own and I must say the content is good. Check this out!

## LINUX UPDATE

Back to one of my favorite magazines, **Wired**: this month's cover story was "**Linus Torvald: Leader of the Free World**" by **Gary Rivlin**. It is a fascinating read, giving the details of Torvalds' development of Linux, his concept for an **Open Source program** and what amounts to a huge base of beta testers. At the present time 18 million people around the globe use his operating system. Quite a lot of accomplishments for a 33 year old!

Linux is "*robust enough to run the world's most powerful supercomputers yet sleek and versatile enough to run inside consumer toys like **TiVo**, as well as television set-top boxes and portable devices such as cellphones and handhelds*".

But even more impressive than Linux's increasing prevalence in living rooms and pockets is its growth in the marketplace for servers, the centralized computers that power the Internet and corporate networks. "*It's only a matter of time*", concluded **Goldman Sachs** in a study released early this year titled "**Fear the Penguin**", "before Linux displaces Unix as the dominant operating system running the world's largest corporate data centers."

The free software program and Open Source development is the most revolutionary undertaking of the past decade. It has changed the computer world, and **Wired** has investigated a plethora of other applications to share the goal, the work and the results for better products and, eventually, profit. In the spirit of Open Source, [www.wired.com](http://www.wired.com) lets you read the full text of this story (November 11, 2003 issue). ♦ [ahmack@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ahmack@sbcglobal.net)



# MEETING REVIEW

**Barbara  
Tyrrell**  
MBUG-PC  
Columnist



photo: B. Hylar, MBUG-PC

## Rooting for Your Kin

**Karen Clifford** of **Genealogy Research Associates**, Salinas ([karengra@aol](mailto:karengra@aol)) spoke at the October General Meeting on seeking information about our ancestors, overturning some of our concepts on how to do it. She led us down pathways unsuspected — electronic lures to databases generated from worldwide archives, enticing us to rush further to the triumphant gold ring for another merry-go-round ride.

My own search had been more vertical than horizontal, ending with a gratifying dozen 3-ring binders of information gleaned the old-fashioned way — from original records, some at feeding frenzies in document centers in England or in drafty lofts with unprotected old church records. Informants were interviewed, leads pursued, stories written. My memories were captured on 5-1/4 inch floppies (that really flopped), and on a computer with a wee screen and the capacity to match. Borrowed pictures were copied, old houses visited, new old relatives unearthed. It wasn't **Alex Haley's "Roots,"** that inspired me, as I started decades before, but Haley certainly fired up many during that time. Karen continues to keep that fire kindled in the rest of us.

Karen showed us that today, in the comfort of your home workstation, the power of the Internet is at our fingertips

and virtual visits to hundreds of archives are yours for the digging. Genealogical sites help you plan research, provide forms to record data, trace individuals through different worksheets, and keep track of websites and information. Electronic records speed organization and retrieval of data without riffling through paper notes. The speed of electronic searches on names, locations and words is gratifying and the cut and paste feature from citations and research notes eliminates retyping. Viewing, sorting and printing in different formats from the once-typed information is now possible.

Karen introduced us to a number of genealogy programs, such as **Legacy**, **Personal Ancestral File (PAF)**, **Family Tree Maker (FTM)** and **The Master Genealogist (TMG)**, a favorite of MBUG-PC's genealogist **Bob Stephan**. These programs maintain the organization and relationships of data, to follow threads and connections of individuals and to generate charts.

Karen's legacy to us was "new" websites to carry us down that path to the genealogical gold. Even if the only



photo: Ann Mack MBUG-PC

*Karen Clifford with Ralph Games, Meeting Facilitator.*

trace you find of long-lost great-uncle Charlie is a pair of photos (one full-face and one profile with a number below), you'll be hooked. The chase is the fun of it!

A few of Karen's many great tips were:

- **Remaining Organized** (*Filing* is not the problem, *retrieval* is: it must be orderly, simple and should cross-reference. A complete system for staying organized is at [www.fileyourpapers.com](http://www.fileyourpapers.com)).
- **Research Assistance** (To understand records go to [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org); find "Site Map" in the homepage; go to "Research Guidance"; locate the state and time period you want and study it).
- **Finding Aids** (Look at **ANIMap** at [www.Goldbug.com](http://www.Goldbug.com); go to [www.cyndislist.com](http://www.cyndislist.com); check out [www.Google.com](http://www.Google.com); or look for available nearby University aids).
- **Super Sites for Original Documents** (check the World Wide Web for [Ancestry.com](http://Ancestry.com), [Genealogy.com](http://Genealogy.com), [USGenWeb.com](http://USGenWeb.com), [rootsweb.com](http://rootsweb.com) and [familysearch.org](http://familysearch.org)).
- **Use Search Engines** (go to [Google.com](http://Google.com), [Ask.com](http://Ask.com), and [Kartoo.com](http://Kartoo.com))
- **Historical Clues** (visit [historychannel.com](http://historychannel.com), [historyseek.com](http://historyseek.com) and [hyperhistory.com](http://hyperhistory.com))
- **Original Manuscripts** (Use the Library of Congress aid known as the National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections online at [www.lcweb.loc.gov/coll/numuc/numuc.html](http://www.lcweb.loc.gov/coll/numuc/numuc.html) or search manuscript collections at major genealogy libraries, e.g. Library of Virginia <http://www.lva.lib.va.us>). ♦

[tyrrellb@earthlink.net](mailto:tyrrellb@earthlink.net)

# THINGS, THINGLETS & THINGASSOS

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



photo: R. Binsacca, MBUG-PC

## INTERNET FRAUD COMPLAINTS TRIPLE

Fraud on the Internet rose sharply in 2002, with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) reporting more than 48,000 complaints referred to prosecutors — triple the number of the year before. By far the most common complaint was **auction fraud**, followed by **non-delivery of promised merchandise**, **credit card fraud** and **fake investments**, according to a recent report from **Internet Fraud Complaint Center**, run by the FBI and the **National White Collar Crime Center** based in Richmond, Virginia.

The total dollar loss of Internet fraud reported to the center in 2002 was \$54 million, compared with \$17 million the year before. The 48,252 complaints referred for prosecution were far more than the 16,755 such complaints referred in 2001, but they still represent only a fraction of the crimes authorities believe are occurring. The center also received almost 37,000 other complaints in 2002 that did not constitute fraud but involved such things as **unsolicited e-mail** or **SPAM**, **child pornography** and **illegal computer intrusions**.

As more people do business on the Internet, fraud is expected to continue to increase, officials said. They also said the rise in complaints could stem from greater awareness of the Internet fraud center as a site for victims to fight back. The center *“helps victims by putting fraud information into the hands of law enforcement ... so these complaints are responded to quickly,”* said **Jana Monroe**, Assistant FBI Director in charge of their Cyber Division.

The report provides a glimpse into common types of fraud, its perpetrators and victims. For instance, almost 80 percent of known perpetrators are male and about 71 percent of those bringing complaints are also male.

Fraud complaints came from all over the United States, with a third filed in highly populated California, Florida, Texas and New York. Complaints also came from Canada, Australia, Britain, Germany and Japan. While online auction fraud accounted for 46 percent of complaints, the average amount lost in these cases was just \$320. Victims of **Internet identity theft** averaged \$2,000 in losses, with **check fraud losses** averaging \$1,000.

One persistent scam described in the report is the so-called “Nigerian Letter,” complaint which rose from 2,600 in 2001 to 16,000 in 2002. Victims are presented with an opportunity to receive nonexistent government money, often from the “Government of Nigeria,” as long as they pay an upfront fee often characterized as a bribe to that government.

The report did not say how many complaints received by the Center resulted in criminal convictions last year, but it did detail high-profile examples. One case involved \$800,000 in losses by 300 people in a scheme to sell computers online and never deliver the merchandise. The perpetrator in this case, **Teresa Smith** of Worcester, Massachusetts, used several identities to prevent authorities from catching her. Smith pleaded guilty in December to federal mail fraud and wire fraud charges and is awaiting sentencing.

In California, **Raj Trivedi** of San Diego pleaded guilty in December 2002 to a 96-count federal indictment and was sentenced to three years in prison for using the Internet to peddle computers, camcorders and other electronic gear but delivering none of the goods. More than 700 people worldwide were swindled of some \$922,000 in that case.

## LICENSE TO COMPUTE?

There are people who feel that everyone who uses the Internet should be licensed. I don't think so. But the notion that all computers should be running antivirus software — the way most U.S. States require people to use seatbelts in autos — is something worth exploring. People who leave their computers without any updated virus or firewall protection are doing a disservice to us all because they are helping to promulgate the spread of mass-mailing worms and other malware (software designed to destroy, aggravate and otherwise make life unhappy). It's idiotic, and it has to stop.

I am now off the stump! ♦

*blacklion@royal.net*



# THE FRUGAL HACKER



by Bob "I Don't Do Windows" Stephan

**hacker:** "Original meaning of the word: a person who fixes things — makes them work better." National Public Radio (NPR), August 1991

## SPAM, THE SWEN VIRUS AND OTHER NUISANCES

In a recent column I discussed my homegrown method of dealing with spam (unwanted e-mail). This method consisted of mainly routing all messages containing HTML into my trash folder where I occasionally checked to see if any desirable messages crept in. Since almost all spam messages are written in HTML, this worked very well. I accompanied this with an "Opt in" policy in which I filtered messages from addresses I knew I wanted to receive into my inbox whether they contained HTML or not. This took care of the few uncooperative correspondents who could not, would not, or did not know how to eliminate the ubiquitous HTML from their text-only messages.

(Do you really think people should be sending e-mail if they don't know or could not control what their messages contain? Would you write a letter to someone if Microsoft or AOL stuffed something in the envelope that you did not see or know was there?)

Then along came **SWEN** and I started getting over 200 SWEN virus-containing messages a day. The count rapidly

rose to over 3,000 messages received over a several day period. Since these messages did not contain HTML coding, my HTML filter was not working on them. I started filtering them based on their "From" and "Reply to" addresses, but SWEN was very clever with its spoofing of addresses and seldom used the same address twice. Then I started building filters based on words commonly used by SWEN such as "Microsoft," "MS," "Update," etc. I got this working quite well and was able to route almost all SWEN messages to my trash folder, but SWEN messages are rather large and with my modem connection, it took a lot of time to download before they could be deleted or routed. I was able to tell my mail reader to delete some of the messages before downloading which helped to a certain extent, but this was still not a satisfactory solution. As of this writing I am still receiving over 100 of those pesky messages a day, but no

longer on my own computer as I will explain later.



illustration by: R. Doyle, MBUG-PC

My next strategy was to tell my mail reader to download only the headers of the messages. This speeded up the process of dealing with hundreds of nuisance e-mails. It allowed me to delete messages that were obviously spam or SWEN before downloading the entire bodies. This worked, but I still had to scroll through hundreds of message titles and manually delete the obviously nuisance ones before downloading the legitimate ones. I was spending way too much time just sorting my e-mail much less on the time to enjoy reading it.

## SPAMARREST TO THE RESCUE

Then I heard about *SpamArrest.com* and decided to give it a try. **SpamArrest** turned out to be a way to implement my "Opt in" policy on steroids. By subscribing to SpamArrest no e-mail gets to my computer unless I have authorized SpamArrest to let the sender's messages through. No more spam and no more SWEN getting to my computer!

Could it possibly be true or was it just a dream? Not a dream — it works!

I first read about SpamArrest from a satisfied user in “*Eastman’s Online Genealogy Newsletter*” (Vol. 8, No. 40, October 6, 2003). You can read it at [www.eogn.com](http://www.eogn.com). Here are a few paragraphs from the article: “*The SpamArrest software resides on the company’s servers and connects to your Internet provider’s mail server every two minutes, moving your new e-mail messages onto the SpamArrest server. Upon arrival, the e-mails are processed by the SpamArrest system. Messages from verified senders and mailing lists are immediately moved to your SpamArrest inbox, where your regular e-mail program can retrieve them whenever you wish.*

*“Messages from unverified senders are held, pending verification. Upon verification by the sender, the message gets delivered to your SpamArrest inbox. Once a sender verifies himself/herself, that e-mail address is added to the list of “approved senders. Future e-mail messages from that person fly through immediately; nobody is ever required to verify an e-mail address a second time. You may review your unverified e-mail in the “holding pen” on the website at any time. No spam mail ever arrives in your e-mail program! Best of all, there is no software to install in your computer. All you need is your regular e-mail program that you already use, such as Outlook, Outlook Express, Eudora, Incredimail, Netscape, etc. However, you do have to change some settings in that e-mail program, directing it to SpamArrest in place of your regular mail server.”*

I can verify that the procedure works as advertised. It was not difficult to set up and get started. I entered the e-mail addresses of most of my regular correspondents so that they would not have to bother to get verified. I also entered the information about the news groups to which I subscribe so I would continue to receive the postings in the groups that interest me. The input of spam and SWEN on my computer immediately dropped to zero! What a welcome relief. What a pleasure to let all that junk languish on SpamArrest’s computer instead of mine. I signed up for six months for \$20 and got a two-month bonus for signing up early. For fewer than 10 cents a day I am relieved of the time and tedium of dealing with spam and SWEN and feel it is well worth it. At latest count I have about 100 authorized senders

and over 400 blocked senders. If you have questions about it, send them to me in an e-mail to see how it works.

## WHY ME LORD, WHY ME?

So why was I receiving so many junk messages that I had to resort to taking such drastic action? I’m sure that one source of my e-mail address getting into the wrong hands has to do with my subscriptions to several **Usenet news groups**. I did not take the precaution, as do many subscribers, of disguising my e-mail address so it was available in these public groups for easy harvesting by spammers. I am equally convinced that another reason is that there are quite a few people who have my address in their **Outlook Express** address books where spammers and crackers can just as easily harvest it. There is no doubt that we could eliminate a lot of spam, and especially virus danger, if everyone would stop using the vulnerable Outlook Express and switch to another e-mail client such as the free Eudora ([www.eudora.com](http://www.eudora.com)) or Netscape. That’s the way I see it, let me know what you think.

## GENEALOGICAL JUNK

The other nuisances that my above title refers to are various genealogy scams. If you receive e-mail advertising **GenealogyTechs.com** you might as well ignore it. As reported by Eastman, “*Elias Abodeely, owner of the similar-sounding GenealogyGiants.com, GenSeekers.com and a long string of other websites was arrested in August for money laundering and identity theft, all in conjunction with his pseudo-genealogy websites. GenealogyGiants.com was owned and operated by the now-indicted Elias Abodeely of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, the new GenealogyTechs.com has a business address used by Andrew Abodeely of San Diego, California. Indeed, there seems to be a close relationship here: two similar sites seemingly operated by two different men named Abodeely.*”

Just a word to the wise! ♦

**Bob “I don’t do Windows” Stephan** is an OS/2 enthusiast with over 35 years of computing experience. He welcomes comments and questions that *The Frugal Hacker* can respond to. He can be reached as [bstephan@redshift.com](mailto:bstephan@redshift.com) or snail mail at the MBUG-PC address. Bob has a home page under construction at <http://www.bobstephan.net>.



# DRIVING THE FRONTSIDE BUS

**Jim Hinwood**

MBUG-PC Columnist &  
Features Editor



photo: Bill Hyster, MBUG-PC

## RIPPING THE LIGHT FANTASTIC

After reading my last two columns, you've decided to start using your computer for multimedia. You went out and got the killer stereo speakers and now you've got **5.1 Surround Sound** for \$60.00. If not, at least you've run a cable to your stereo system and are using your computer as the brain for your stereo system. You're enjoying **Internet Radio** and taking advantage of all the commercial-free music available on the Internet.

Now you want to learn about how to take and **convert your CDs to MP3 format** (called "ripping CDs") and put them all on your computer so that your computer can manage your whole music collection. This enables you to quickly make one to eight-hour play lists of your favorite songs that you can listen to around the house or while you're on the Internet without having to change a single record, tape or CD. You can also cut that play list to a CD and have it any time to play in your CD player. You can also now download that same play list to an MP3 player the size of a cigarette pack and carry that music with you while you go jogging or take a walk. That same MP3 player will plug into your car stereo and will play in your car. Your life can now have a soundtrack the same as in the movies. So, you ask, *"How do I do that?"*

There are many MP3 players that are free for download on the Internet that work very well. Some are strictly players and others are all-in-one units that do everything. **Dean Kerringen** gave a presentation on multimedia and preferred the **WinAmp** player. It's strictly a player so you need an MP3 conversion program too. I have tried every one and prefer **Music Match Jukebox (MMJ)**. It has everything

you need all in one program. I will use MMJ as my example for this article but you are welcome to try others to find whichever one you prefer.

I like Music Match because of the ease of use. You first get on the Internet and then put in your CD. MMJ will automatically look up all your information (album title, artist, genre, names of all the tracks etc., in an online database). You will see this information in the play list window. The CD will automatically begin to play and you then hit the stop button to stop the CD from playing while you "rip" it (it rips slower if you are ripping and playing the CD at the same time). You then hit the record button and a new window will open that is not shown in the picture below. This record window will automatically find the same information in the play list window and if it doesn't find the information you click on "refresh" and it will look it up if it's available. You then click on the "record" button again in the record window and you can watch the progress as MMJ begins to convert all your tracks to MP3 and put them in a music file in your "My Music" folder. It also automatically puts it into your

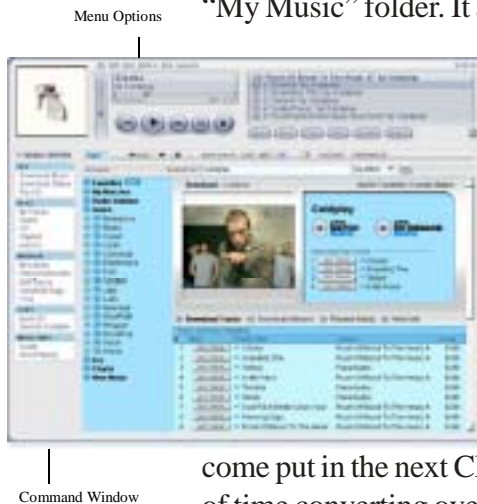
library window under a new listing.

When the conversion is finished the CD ROM drawer will automatically open and if you have gone off to do something else while it is converting you will hear the drawer open and you can then

come put in the next CD for conversion. I spent quite a bit of time converting over two thousand songs into 226 files and used 6.5 GB of space but you only have to do it once. Those two hundred plus disks can now be cut to nine CDs and you have backed up a large CD collection to only nine little disks.

If you ever have a problem with your computer you can now reinstall your whole collection quickly off of only a few disks. MMJ also supports **MP3 ProFormat**, which has better quality and uses *half* that much space, so you can put a two hundred CD collection on 4.5 disks. It truly is amazing what compression technology can do!

Now that everything is installed in your library you either drag and drop a cut from the library to the playlist window



or double click on the cut and it appears in the window. You can do this with all your favorite cuts and soon you have a 100 to 200 cut playlist of all your favorites without all the filler they always put on a CD.

After you have your playlist set up you can play the list or use the buttons under the playlist window (open, save, clear, burn, shuffle, repeat, and send). You *save* your playlist with a name, and when you want to play it, click “open”. “Clear” to clear the playlist window, “burn” to make a CD, “shuffle” to put the cuts into a random order, “repeat” to have the playlist play endlessly, and “send” to send the list to an external device (to an MP3 player).

## SELECTED TIPS TO PREVENT PROBLEMS

- Keep all your music files in *one* easily accessible file
- The library in MMJ or any other player does not contain the tracks: the actual files are in your music folder. MMJ merely makes file associations between your library and the files in the “My Music” folder. If you move the tracks MMJ will no longer be able to find your music and the library cuts you click on to play will no longer play.
- If you need to clear the music library for any reason you can reconnect the file associations and reload your jukebox by going to “options”, “music library”, “search and add tracks from all drives”, “browse”, “My Music”, then “OK” and all the file associations will be reloaded into your library. When you clear your library your music is still there in the “My Music” folder but it needs to be reloaded into the player.

Music Match Jukebox also has a few nice extra services in its upgraded (pay) version, like the **Auto DJ**. You input the genre and how many hours you want and it automatically creates playlists for you can save if you like. Honestly though, I’ve had more problems since I upgraded than I ever did with the free player. I *never* had problems with the program freezing before I upgraded but that could be because I have tried so many competing players that incompatibilities crop up.

Now we have the basics of audio technology on the computer: all we have to do is find a victim to do a workshop on converting old LP’s and tapes to CD and MP3 format. Programs like **Cool Edit** and **Easy CD Creator** will take out the hissing, popping and scratches, but this is beyond the scope of a Newsletter article. I’m working on it! ♦

*ehinwood@msn.com*

## WINDOWS TIPS & TRICKS



**Clive  
Saunders**  
*F1 for Help,*  
**Columnist,**  
**Assistant**  
**Membership**  
**Chair**

*photo: Ann Mack MBUG-PC*

*MBUG-PC’s resident genealogy expert  
Bob Stephan and columnist Clive Saunders  
at October’s “F1 for Help” session (where our experts  
help explore and solve your computer queries).*

*The following tips are reprinted with permission from **Smart Computing**. See how Smart Computing can benefit both you and MBUG-PC at [www.smartcomputing.com/groups](http://www.smartcomputing.com/groups).*

## FINDINGS THINGS ...

**More Than Maps:** If you need driving directions, you probably go to **MapQuest.com**. But if that site only scratches the surface of your hunger for geography, you might need something a little meatier. It’s then time to serve up the **Geography Network** ([www.geographynetwork.com](http://www.geographynetwork.com)). This global network of geographic information users and providers lets you access tons of content, including dynamic maps and downloadable data sets that you can use with mapping software. Far more than just static map images, this site boasts resources related to everything from agriculture and ecology to water resources.

## ... OR NOT!

**Hide Files and Folders (Win98/Me/2000/XP):** Do you have files or folders you do not want others in your house to see or access? Hiding them is easy. Locate the file or folder in **Windows Explorer**. Right-click it and select “Properties”. Under the “General” tab in the “Attributes” section, click the “Hidden option” and close the window. This procedure will hide the file or folder from everyone, including you, so you must remember where it is located. It might help to create a central folder on the “Desktop” and place all your hidden files in that folder. ♦

*simbacli@pacbell.net*





**CORRECTION:** We're not taking back any of the praises we sang for **Ed West, Webmaster and Listserv Owner**, ("MBUG-PC Newsletter" October 2003, page 4), but we do want to let you know that ... **heeeee's BACK!!!**

Ed has quite graciously decided to continue on as **MBUG-PC Webmaster** (which post he has held since creating the website in 1996) until February 2004!

In Gratitude,  
**The MBUG-PC**  
**Board of Directors & Subscribers**

## GENEALOGY WORKSHOP?

After attending our October General Meeting on genealogy, more of you may want to sign up for a **GENEALOGY WORKSHOP** led by **Bob Stephan**. Here's your chance to learn how to keep track of your family history using a computer program.

**We need 10 or more MBUG-PC members** to express interest in a workshop in order to set up dates & venue

E-mail Bob at [bstephan@redshift.com](mailto:bstephan@redshift.com) if you are interested!◆

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# LOOKING BACK AT MBUG-PC

**Pete Petit**

MBUG-PC Columnist



## 20 Years Ago

“*New IBM Products*” was the speaker’s subject at the November 1983 meeting that was held at the **Defence Language Institute**. MBUG-PC announced that it was purchasing more public domain software to add to the library and that a newsletter exchange with other user groups around the country was being instituted. The latter would be made available at monthly meeting for browsing.

The Newsletter’s feature article was entitled “**BATCHIN’ IT**”. It introduced readers to the **autoexec.bat** file and suggested creating other BATch files to perform routine tasks. Reference was made to the **DOS 1.1** and **DOS 2.0** manuals. Newsletter readers in 1983 were, I am sure, interested in learning for example:

*“When checking for the value of a parameter in a batch file it is often convenient to concatenate the % and some arbitrary character that also appears on the opposite side of the double equal character.... The format of the statement can be something like: IF %1 == . GOTO NULL*

*This statement simply checks to see whether a %1 parameter has been provided. In the case there is no %1 parameter, the condition becomes .==. which is true and the branch is taken. If there is a parameter the condition is false.”*

Oh, how our interests have changed over the years! Now we have **WindowsXP Updates** (patches) and viruses to keep our attention.

In 1983, MBUG Member discounts were being offered at **Alco Business Machines** in Salinas and at **Monterey Computer Consulting** and **Computerland**, both in Monterey.

The “*Cheers and Jeers*” corner cheered **Jade Computer Products** in Hawthorne CA for excellent service and jeered **MPI Co.** of Fairfield NJ for advertising a computer switch four months before the switch ever went into production.

## 10 Years Ago

**Kelley Little**, Area Manager for **Word Perfect Corporation**, provided “*a lively and well-attended presentation of WordPerfect 6.0 for DOS, followed by a brief introduction to WordPerfect for Windows 6.0*” at MBUG’s November ’93 meeting. She donated gift certificates for **WordPerfect 6.0** and **WordPerfect Presentations** that the Club sold by silent auction.

**Mike Hagerty** railed against adoption of “*Clipper Chip*” encryption that had recently been advocated by **President Clinton**. Mike wanted encryption capabilities but none provided by “big brother” thank you!

**Bob Stephan** set some kind of record for copy-inches. His “*Frugal Hacker*” column that was devoted to **OS/2** took up three tightly spaced columns. He followed that with four book reviews, all about OS/2 of course, which filled three more columns. Elsewhere in the Newsletter it was announced that Bob would be organizing a new SIG (“Special Interest Group”, now called “workshops”), whose subject would be \_\_\_\_\_ ... yes, you guessed it!

**Bing Perry** reviewed **CorelDRAW** and the other six integrated programs (**CorelPHOTO-PAINT**, **CorelCHART**, **CorelMOVE**, **CorelTRACE**, **CorelMOSAIC** and **CorelSHOW**). He suggested forming a CorelDRAW interest group. The resulting SIG was organized the very next month and was lead for several years by **Lee Keely**.

Software reviews previously published in other user-group newsletters were sometimes reprinted in ours. In November 1993 these included an article on **NetRoom 3.0**, a “memory manger”, reprinted from the **Manatee PCUG** (Bradenton Florida) newsletter and one on **FontMinder for Windows** first published by the **Chicago Computer Society**.

Listed FOR SALE: **Logitech Scanman** 256 Gray Scale Scanner with Ansel Windows-based editing software --- for \$125.◆

[ppetit@redshift.com](mailto:ppetit@redshift.com)



# MBUG-PC SUPPORTERS

**James W. Anway**

Retired IBMer  
Computer Consultant

Phone: 831 625-5618  
Fax: Call first



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# WIRELESS INTERNET UPDATE

photo: Bill Hylar, MBUG-PC



**John Rowe**  
**MBUG-PC**  
**Columnist/  
Tolt Technologies**

## WHEN INSTALLING WIRELESS NETWORKS, DON'T FORGET THE WIRE!

Here's a funny story. My co-worker **Willy** and I travelled to Chillicothe, Missouri to install a wireless network at a warehouse and were told to pick up the ethernet cable (cable needed to connect the access points to the network) at any **Home Depot** on the way. We flew into Kansas City and had a 90-mile drive to Chillicothe so we figured we'd see a Home Depot on the drive and pick up the cable then. Willy and I were having such a great time talking that nearly an hour of driving went by before we noticed that we hadn't seen a Home Depot yet. We stopped at the next town and asked where the nearest Home Depot was, and they said "*Kansas City*". Anyway, to make a long story short we ended up going back to Kansas City to get the cable! Then the last day of the install we needed an enclosure (a metal box), so we called some other hardware stores in Chillicothe and found out they also had ethernet cable. What's even funnier is we only bought two 1000 foot boxes of cable and nearly ran out during the install! From now on I'm going to get one or two extra boxes at least!

## AAA WI-FI INSTALLS TWO NEW WI-FI HOTZONES

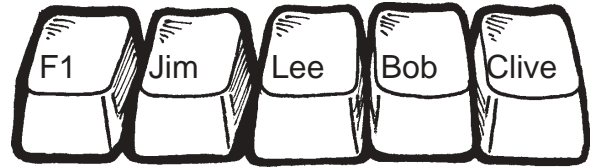
In October, AAA Wi-Fi deployed a Wi-Fi Hotzone at *The Staff Of Life Grocery Store and Café* in Santa Cruz. A 20-foot antenna mast installed on the roof with an amplified high gain omni antenna provide a powerful Wi-Fi signal. Now you can bring your Wi-Fi laptops and PDAs to the Staff Of Life's Café and beyond (a mile or more with line of sight).

Also, AAA Wi-Fi and Tolt Technologies installed a *NetNearU Wi-Fi Hotzone* for *Intera Corporation* at the *Clipper Yacht Harbor* in Sausalito. Service will be available by the beginning of this month (November 2003).◆

[johnr@tolt.com](mailto:johnr@tolt.com)

## Computer Help is Just a Click or Call Away with F1

You know you push the "F1" button on your computer when you need help. But do you also know that you can call or e-mail MBUG-PC "F1 for Help" with your computer questions?



Our expert team of helpful volunteers is willing and able to share experience on software and hardware. And if they don't know the answer, they'll direct you to someone who does.

To get computer help:

- (1) Contact any of the people listed below;
- (2) Ask questions during any MBUG-PC meeting break or Q&A session;
- (3) Leave a message at MBUG-PC's Answering Service (373-6245); or
- (4) Broadcast a message to all members through the MBUG-PC Listserv ([mbug@listserv.redshift.com](mailto:mbug@listserv.redshift.com))  
**in plain text only** (NO html, please)!

**Services are 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).

### ■ Jim Anway

STRICTLY Wednesdays & Fridays  
from 2pm to 5pm at 625-5618

### ■ Lee Keely

Prefers e-mail at [leekeely@attbi.com](mailto:leekeely@attbi.com)  
or call 626-8033

### ■ Bob Stephan

E-mail to [bstephan@redshift.com](mailto:bstephan@redshift.com)  
or call only between 9am-5pm  
646-1373

### ■ Clive Sanders

E-mail to [simbacli@pacbell.net](mailto:simbacli@pacbell.net)  
or call only between 1pm to 9pm  
cellphone (831) 375-5376◆



## COMPUTER HARDWARE



**Nick Mertes**  
*Workshop Leader*

**Wednesday,  
November 5**  
7:00 to 9:00pm  
**Archer Park Center Monterey**

It's almost the end of the year and if you've been good boys and girls (or if you've just been good about saving up a little) I'll suggest some nice presents to put under the tree or on your own wish list to Santa! I'll tell you about some new items on the market for work, play or prestige.

As in past hardware workshops, I'll also run through some computer hardware basics (ways to keep your system cool and clean) as well as answer questions from the audience.

If you want to know anything in advance about hardware, (especially if you're considering buying something for Christmas) send your questions to me at [nick@mbay.com](mailto:nick@mbay.com) ♦  
*Nick*

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## WINDOWS XP



**James Anway**  
*Workshop Leader  
& MBUG F1 for Help*

**Wednesday,  
November 19**  
7:00 to 9:00pm  
**Archer Park Center Monterey**

This is a continuation of a series of workshops I started in June. As usual, I will start with some general thoughts using Power Point, with a chance to review prior discussion items along with some planned new demonstrations and tips. But as usual, the workshop is open-ended and what is discussed is in part based on the flow of the meeting. This flow will, as always, depend on the mix of the attendees and what is hot at the moment. Remember that beginner, intermediate and advanced users are welcome to join us with questions, maybe trade some answers and generally explore Windows XP. If you have thoughts, in advance, of a specific topic you would like me to consider covering, send an e-mail to me at [AnwayJ@comcast.net](mailto:AnwayJ@comcast.net) ♦  
*Jim*

photo: R. Binsacca MBUG

### COMING IN DECEMBER

## PERSONALIZED GREETING LETTERS IN WORD

**Margaret Bradbury**  
**Wednesday, 10 December**  
7:00 to 9:00pm  
**Archer Park Center Monterey**

Make decorative, personalized Christmas or other seasonal, holiday letters with Microsoft Word! Mark your December calendar and come to my special workshop to find out how to add colorful borders, place cut-and-paste pictures, photos and other graphics, make "drop capitals", change, enlarge and skew fonts, and even do some original art work, all with your existing, basic word processing program.

[bradbury@mlml.calstate.edu](mailto:bradbury@mlml.calstate.edu) ♦

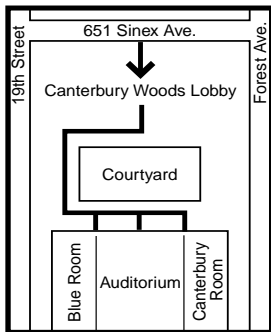
*Margaret*



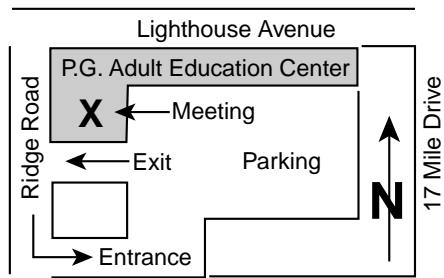
# MBUG - PC Calendar of Events - November 2003

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4 <i>DIRECTORS' MEETING</i> Canterbury Woods PG Begins at 7pm <i>Everyone Welcome!</i>	5 <i>"Computer Hardware"</i> Archer Park, Monterey 7:00 - 9:00pm <i>Nick Mertes</i>	6	7 <i>"PowerQuest"</i> Adult Ed Center PG 7:00 - 9:00pm <i>Gene &amp; Linda Barlow</i>	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 <i>"WindowsXP"</i> Archer Park, Monterey 7:00 - 9:00pm <i>Jim Anway</i>	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

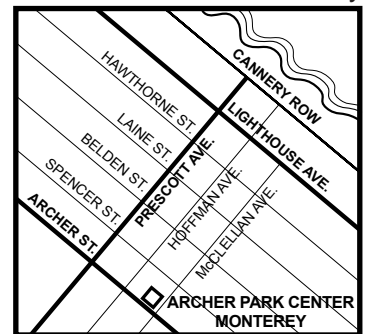
**Canterbury Woods**  
651 Sinex Avenue  
Pacific Grove



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



**Archer Park Center**  
542 Archer Street  
Monterey



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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 <i>DIRECTORS' MEETING</i> Canterbury Woods PG Begins at 7pm <i>Everyone Welcome!</i>	3	4	5 <i>General Meeting</i> <i>"Aladdin"</i> Adult Ed Center PG 7:00 - 9:00pm	6
7	8	9	10 <i>"Personalized Greeting</i> <i>Letters in Word"</i> Archer Park, Monterey 7:00 - 9:00pm <i>Margaret Bradbury</i>	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 <b>MERRY</b> <b>CHRISTMAS</b>	26	27
28	29	30	31	January 1, 2004 <b>HAPPY</b> <b>NEW YEAR</b>	January 2, 2004 <i>General</i> <i>Meeting on</i> <i>January 9th</i>	



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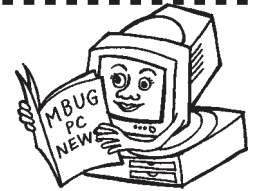
**Carolyn Lake, Publicity Chair**



It's true: one person's trash is another person's treasure, and here at MBUG-PC we treasure your **empty, original-equipment printer ink cartridges** (no compatibles or remanufactured, please). We actually get money for these little pieces of plastic and it helps to delay a teensy bit of waste added to our landfills. You satisfy your environmental conscience, the ink-refill company gets demos for trade shows and MBUG-PC gets money for its educational programs! So keep bagging your empties and bringing them to meetings! ♦

*lakelyn@ix.netcom.com*

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## MEMBERSHIP REPORT



**Don Slaiter**

**Vice President, Assistant Treasurer & Membership Chair**

MBUG-PC Membership entitles you to 12 issues of this fine Newsletter, use of the MBUG Listserv, computer book discounts at Borders and free computer F1 Help. Want to join? Contact me today! ♦ *slaiter@pacbell.net*

**THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR GENEROUS DONORS: YOUR EXTRA EFFORT TO KEEP MBUG-PC GOING ARE APPRECIATED!**

Ralph Lee ..... 1192  
Susan Long ..... 1184  
Gail Stephan ..... 663

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Joyce L. Elisha ..... 1218  
Janice Roberson ..... 1183  
Gail Stephan ..... 663  
Ralph Lee ..... 1192  
Susan Long ..... 1184

Photo by Bill Hylar, MBUG-PC