

President's Message

From Linda Todd

During the last month we've added six more new members! We are on the grow! Watch for people at the April Meeting with **GREEN** name tags . . . These will be people who have joined BGAMUG during the last few months. Those with **RED** name tags are our visitors. Please help make these new members and visitors welcome!

Our April 23 Meeting at the KATI Campus will be a very full meeting. We will begin the meeting at 6:30 pm. Hope you will be there for every minute of this important meeting!

First order of business will be to elect a person to fill the remaining term of Secretary. The remaining term will be from this election until December or eight months. Here are the duties of this office as currently listed in our bylaws:

1. record and archive the minutes of all proceedings of the Executive Board, membership meetings, and special meetings.
2. archive all vital club documents.
3. report all Executive Board decisions to the Membership at the general membership meeting immediately following those decisions, and
4. perform such duties as assigned by the Membership.

Depending on who is elected, we may also need an Officer at Large to serve during these eight months. Here are the duties of an Officer at Large:

1. attend Executive Board meetings and
2. represent the membership.

Are you willing to serve in either of these positions? If you are willing to have your name included on the ballot, please email me at linda.todd@wku.edu today!

Next at our April meeting, we want to ask the membership to affirm two decisions made at our April Executive Board Meeting.

- First . . . to purchase liability insurance for the organization at the current rate of \$140.13 a year. Liability insurance is just good business practice and will possibly open other doors to us in the future.
- Second . . . is the result of a question asked by Bob Hunt at our March Meeting. With over \$2000 in our operating account, it is time again to work toward a new fundraising project."

Currently Jerry must constantly monitor his printer as each page is printed. Then, he must turn the paper over and again carefully monitor as each page is printed. He must constantly stop the process and clear paper jams and miss feeds! The newsletter editor needs a printer that will quickly print both sides of the paper. The printer Jerry feels will best help him is approximately \$800.

So The Executive Board voted to use money donated by Jay Eatherly for the Excel class he taught at Emerson and the Kroger Cares funds raised during the next three months to purchase a new printer for the BGAMUG Newsletter Editor.

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BGA-Bytes

Official newsletter of the Bowling Green Area Microcomputer User Group, Inc.

April, 2002 Volume 12 Issue 4

Visit our website www.bgamug.org

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And more....

BGAMUG's PC Placement Program keeps on "Placing"

By Gene Iglehart

Wow! We have one in a University in Pennsylvania now! Yes, a University! We are really branching out. This is particularly pleasing to me because it just proves again that value is in the eye of the beholder. Or, probably the programmer in this case. And, yes, it is probably only going to be used as a teaching tool, because it's a 1980s model Kaypro computer. And, yes, the University paid the \$50 shipping so it wasn't really a contribution. Still, once again, "Old computers never die. They just don't get no respect."

My thanks to club member, Patty Houchens, who bravely volunteered her daughter Ellen to make this all happen. I needed the room, couldn't find anyone who could use the computer, and Patty put it all together for me. Thanks a bunch to both of you.

The other activities of the program still continue to amaze and overwhelm me. Last year after a total of 101 placements, I had said, "This has got to change." It did. Only it increased instead of slacking off. At this point we have placed 40 computers, not counting the many repairs we have done and endless phone conversations trying to help out. Gosh! You would think I was as smart as Mike Moore!

For instance, last week Potter Orphanage had a water line break and soaked an important computer. It wound up in my garage and we did the best we could. Glad to try anyway. If a computer ever gets wet, remember to let it dry out for 2 or 3 days before turning it on. Given that much time it will usually heal itself.

We also had two things happen recently that are very rewarding and makes it all worthwhile. I had a letter from a Grandmother raising 3 grandchildren who have been giving her problems. We gave her a computer (Win 3.1 of course) and here is what she wrote:

"My 3 Grand children are ADHD and have poor coordination. In just the first week I could already see a change in them."

Another stopped by to report on the computer we gave his family. He said his child was dyslectic but when he got on the computer it would all go away.

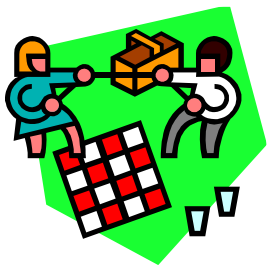
That is amazing to me. What a wonderful tool a computer can be in the proper application. I think back to the months we spent in Brazil where the best the Seminary had for their students were 1950 model typewriters. We probably seldom realize how much a computer has impacted our education and increased our skills. I also remember working with a group of 5 and 6 year olds at church and I asked,

"Do you suppose God had a computer in the garden of Eden?" "I believe so," replied one little boy. "It was called an Apple."

Computers continue to be donated, for which we are grateful. Some are repaired, some used for parts and some are junked. (We still get XT's.)

If you have participated in any of this, we say, "Thank You." Remember, we give computers to 2 categories of people. The Needy and the Worthy. Finding a home for one is as important as finding one to repair. Call or write if you know of someone we can help.

Thanks, Gene



**BGAMUG
Spring Picnic 2002**

**Sat. May 18th
11 AM—3 PM
Eat @ 12**

**Covington Woods Park
Shelter No. 2
Bowling Green**

POT LUCK

Rated FFF Food & Fun with Friends

Bring food and be ready for some fun as there will be many games. Some old games and some NEW.

In addition to food, bring a computer related software or hardware item you no longer need to use for game prizes.

DO NOT WRAP THE ITEMS.
Bring as many items as you can to assure we have enough.

The club will furnish soft drinks and tableware.

**Saturday, April 6
Barnes and Noble
"show-and-tell"**

Eight BGAMUG members joined me as we discovered the utility and frustrations of the latest Speech Recognition software known as Dragon Naturally Speaking. This product will take in high quality voice over a noise-canceling microphone headset and convert the speech with remarkable accuracy to text in any Windows Program, including the desktop itself. Of the most utility is a WordPad-like utility called the DragonPad that provides extended editing capabilities using the user's voice. We were able to test the noise canceling feature of the microphone by having the members of the audience ask me questions while I spoke on a topic. My voice was transcribed but there was not a hint of any inaccuracy due to the background "noise" that was going on.



We also saw how both Microsoft and Dragon Systems have the reverse technology available too, so that one can input text to the computer and have it read it out loud. Both of these applications have tremendous potential in the area of the home office, particularly if the user is either disabled, or finds that they can talk faster than they can type.

Even using the special microphone supplied, the program cannot always determine what I am saying, so there are spelling and correction tools along with voice-activated formatting, cut-and-paste and text movement tools. We were barely able to scratch the surface on Saturday with everything that is available in this package.

We talked about how first-time users must "train" the software to respond correctly to their voice, and Leon Vincent went through this training. The software can actually learn how a certain sound sequence is spelled, and store the results for that user but perhaps not for another user.

While not a comprehensive exposition on the benefits of continuous speech recognition, I think we did touch on most of the points to consider, and would not be surprised to see one of the attendees purchase this package. The Preferred Edition does not come cheap, at nearly \$170 on the street (Best Buy). There are other editions too, including one specializing in various features, such as USB input/output, foreign language translation, etc.

We hope to be able to continue these short and specific sessions on the first Saturday of each month at Barnes and Noble, 10:30am.

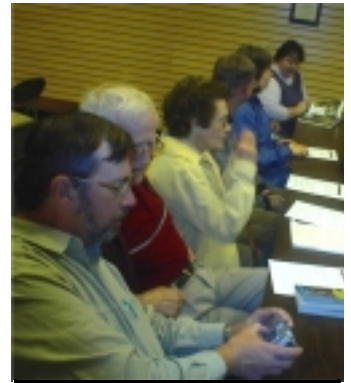
I would like to thank all of those that visited with me Saturday morning, it was a lot of fun and I enjoyed learning about the program enough to pass it on to you.

If anyone missed this presentation but is still interested in speech recognition, please e-mail me at webstar@premier.net, and I'll give you a run-down on this application and its uses.

Michael Moore



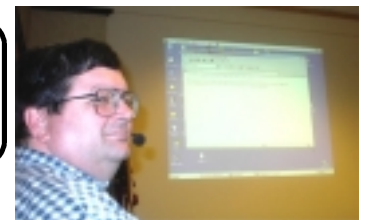
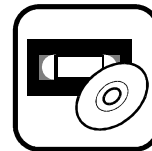
Edwin Phelps shows a digital camera to Leroy Collier.



Edwin Phelps, Leroy and Mildred Collier, Leon and Patricia Vincent, and Linda Todd participate in April Workshop.



**Another BGAMUG Dazzling Demo
Barnes & Noble
Saturday May 4th @ 10:30 AM**



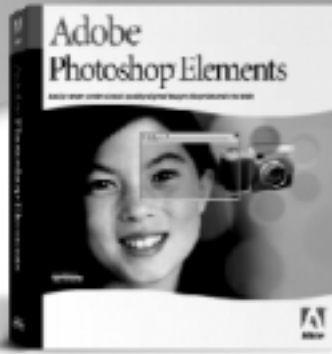
Ladies & Gentlemen,

Using Windows XP and Dorothy next month I hope to provide about a half hour seminar on the topic of archiving old home movies on videotape. I will use a standard video tape playback unit as an analog video and audio source. This unit will playback a selected home movie (completely family oriented, I assure you) into the Dazzle ...device.. (not sure what to call it). From here the digital signal is fed into the PC via a USB port and a digital movie is created using support from Dazzle software and Windows XP. If you prefer we use an off-the-shelf movie editor, I can switch to that because I have not started the presentation yet. The final movie would then be burnt to a CD and thus archived for approx. 300 years provided your grandchildren don't get a hold of the CDs and use them as skeet.

Please let me know what you think. I am open to any changes.

PS: This process would also have utility in converting old audio formats (AKA vinyl) or even digital music from the airwaves (like XM radio) into WAV or other sound formats.

Mike Moore



Adobe® Photoshop® Elements

Easily create
professional-quality digital
images for print and the Web

Adobe Photoshop Elements software offers unique features designed specifically for amateur photographers, hobbyists, and business users who want an easy-to-use yet powerful digital imaging solution. State-of-the-art image-editing tools free you to explore your creativity while mastering the elements of digital imaging. Work with photos taken with digital or traditional cameras and prepare your images for print, e-mail, or posting on the Web.

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See details at <http://www.adobe.com/offer/85200>



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President's report (Continued from page 1)

The month of May will be a very busy and exciting month for BGAMUG. I'll share more at our April meeting, but here are some special dates for you to put on your calendar:

- May 4 – 10:30 am - First Saturday Seminar at Barnes and Noble – presented by Mike Moore
- May 7 – 5:30 pm dinner and 6:30 pm Executive Board Meeting at Lone Star Steakhouse
- May 9 – Newsletter deadline
- May 18 – 11 am – 3 pm – Potluck Picnic at Covington Woods Park Shelter No. 2
- May 21 – Newsletter folding party 6:30 PM at BG Public Library
- May 25 – 10:30 am – Apollo Computer Basics Hands-on Workshop on Install and Uninstall Programs – presented by Jerry Gillette
- May 28 – May General Meeting at Bowling Green Community College or South Campus

The BGAMUG Potluck will be at Covington Woods Park Shelter No. 2 (the one near the basketball court), on May 18. Come with your special dish and be ready for a fun day of outdoor computer games and BINGO! If you've never been to one of our picnics, you are in for a treat. You cannot imagine the kinds of games Jerry Gillette can create using computers. Come and See! We always end the day playing BINGO. This year rather than BGAMUG purchasing any prizes, we are going to do something similar to what we do at the December Party . . . Everyone should bring something you no longer want. (Do not wrap your White Elephant item!) We all know that one person's trash is another person's treasure! If you have a piece of computer equipment or software or technology stuff you no longer need or want, please bring it! We'll have fun. It will be different from the Christmas Party because once you win a game and select an item, the prize is yours to take home.

Last . . . I want to point out that our May, June, and July meetings will be held at South Campus, the home of Bowling Green Community College or the school where I teach. You might ask 'WHY?' During these months, the KATI Campus is closed. These months, May, June, and July are the only months BGCC could host our meetings because every other month every room is used for classes during the evenings. We will have access to a wireless computer network and several computer classrooms for special workshops. Of course, I'm excited about sharing my school with you!

Plan to participate in all of these upcoming events
and bring a friend with you!

BGAMUG MINUTES
March 26, 2002
GENERAL MEETING

Howard J. Margolis - Interim Secretary

BGAMUG general meeting was called to order by President Linda Todd on March 26, 2002, at 6:30 p.m. at KATI. All officers were present except Newsletter Editor Jerry Gillette. Thirty-four persons, members and guests were present at the meeting. President Todd appointed Howard Margolis as Interim Secretary and Elbert Young to serve as Interim Officer at Large.

Irene Erskin presented the following persons as guests and new member.

New Member - Peggy Beasley Guests - Debby Miller Laverne Childress David Duffer Mona Bagby and son Kyle Doug Skinner Michelle Sterchi

Jim Molloy won the door prize, a software package, "gobe Productive".

President Linda Todd reviewed KATI house rules and reminded everyone about the fellowship time at the Dairy Queen after the meeting.

Officers/Coordinators Reports

Linda Todd - President

The audit of 2001 financial records has been completed and all was found in order.

Recognition for Outstanding Contributions by Bob Loggins, Gene Iglehart, and Jay Eatherly

Apollo Computer Partnership was presented to the membership, as discussed at the last Executive Board meeting. Jerry Gillette will be our liaison with this business organization.

President Todd discussed Sandra Lancaster's resignation as Secretary and requested volunteers to fill this office.

Betty Lyne - Vice President of Protocol

Betty discussed the function of the rules committee and the review of the organization's constitution and bylaws.

Michael Moore - Webmaster/System Administrator

Michael discussed his presentation on E-mail attachments and the placing of the presentation on the BGAMUG web site.

Pat Vincent - Librarian a.Pat presented two packages for review, OmniPro Plus (an OCR package) and Spell Catcher Plus, (a spelling check tool)

Jerry Gillette - BGA - Bytes Newsletter Editor

President Todd delivered Jerry's report on matters involving the newsletter.

Howard Margolis - Program Director

President Todd gave Howard's report on upcoming presentations.

Ginny Malloy - Sergeant-at-Arms .Ginny discussed the requirement to have decorum at the meeting so all can hear the presenter and persons giving reports or asking questions.

Gene Iglehart - PC Placement Program

Gene reported he has given away 35 computer systems so far this year and he has nine more promised. He feels that he will surpass the number of systems that were given away last year.

Betty Lyne - Digital Library Mentoring Program

Betty has been in touch with the library about the mentoring program.

Michael Moore - Saturday Seminars at Barnes & Noble

Michael will be giving a demonstration of voice recognition software made by "Dragon Corporation" at the next Saturday seminar

Ramona Bobbitt - VP of Membership and Treasurer Ramona presented a balance in the organization's account of \$2,628.98. She also stated that the audit of the financial records went well and all is on order. Kroger Cares - at the present time she has \$785.00 towards the \$5,000.00 goal.

April dates to Remember

April 2nd - Executive Board Meeting - The Alamo Room at Lone Star Steakhouse "5:30 p.m. dinner and 6:30 p.m. meeting.

April 6th - Barnes & Noble Training/Workshop - 10:30 a.m. "Dragon - Naturally Speaking Demo

April 11th - BGA-Bytes Newsletter Deadline

April 16th - BGA-Bytes Folding Party - 6:30 p.m. - BG Main Branch Library

April 23rd - General Meeting at KATI Campus - 6:30 p.m.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:12 P.M.

A Presentation by Michael Moore on E-mail Attachments and Questions & Answers session lead by Betty Lyne followed the meeting.

MIX

Eighteenth in a series of interviews with BGAMUG members sharing an exchange of information

by Betty Lyne, your Rovin' Reporter



It's a rare privilege when an out-of-towner comes into your group and immediately becomes one of us, just like home folks! That's the way we feel about the subject of this month's MIX. Since we've been working together on the Rules Committee, I've come to appreciate the many areas of expertise that Howard J. Margolis has to offer our organization. Not only did he volunteer (imagine that!) to serve on the Rules Committee and to be a mentor in our training program at the Digital Library, but he also agreed to be our Program Director for the next two years; all of that after just one year of BGAMUG membership. This fact alone is enough to prove his willingness and sincere desire to promote all of BGAMUG's objectives.

Howard came to Bowling Green in 1980 when he came here to manage the construction of the mechanical systems for the Corvette Assembly plant. It was during this time that he fell in love with Bowling Green, and so Howard and his wife Pat returned to Bowling Green in 2000 to make their home.



They most recently lived in San Diego, California where Howard was engaged as a Primavera Authorized Trainer/Consultant for the past seven years. He has worked with clients from diverse industries and government levels, training them in the application of Primavera's project management tools, helping them implement their specific project solutions. He has provided project management processes and procedures manuals, developed in-house custom training courses, and participated in claim resolution meetings representing the client, as a project planning expert.

Howard J. Margolis has had more than thirty years experience in all aspects of mechanical and general construction, project management, contract management and negotiation, cost control, and claim resolution. He has applied his analytical abilities and communication skills to a wide range of assignments in diverse industries, including AEC, Energy, Pharmaceutical, Automotive, and Aerospace/Defense. As a Primavera Solution Provider, Howard provided product training, implementation, mentoring and project solutions to a variety of companies.

Howard was born in Binghamton, New York. His family moved several times across the country and ended up in Hollywood, Florida where he attended high school. He received a BS in Industrial Engineering from the University of Florida. He has completed courses in Project Management, Project Planning, Cost Control, Contract Management and Negotiation, Claim Resolution, Law and PMP. Howard has managed projects ranging from Atomic Power Generation Plants, Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plants, Hospitals, Medical Buildings, Automotive Assembly Plants, High Rise Office Buildings and was Instrumentation Division Manager and Manager of Cost and Scheduling on the Plutonium Facility for Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory.

Howard now enjoys a very busy semi-retirement as he continues to do some construction consulting. He enjoys fishing and boating on Barren River and returned to golfing last year. His three children and six grandchildren live in Chattanooga, San Diego, and near Portland, Maine. Traveling to visit family, seeing the country and the world takes up all available spare time.

We feel so very fortunate to have Howard in our organization and look forward to enjoying many years of advancement from his enlightenment and guidance. Let's all let Howard know how much we appreciate him and offer our support to his programming activities.

Until next time, this is your Rovin' Reporter, Betty Lyne

Gene Iglehart writes;

One of you sent me a very aggressive virus recently !!!

This virus affected my mouse. I've made a picture of the damages to show you...



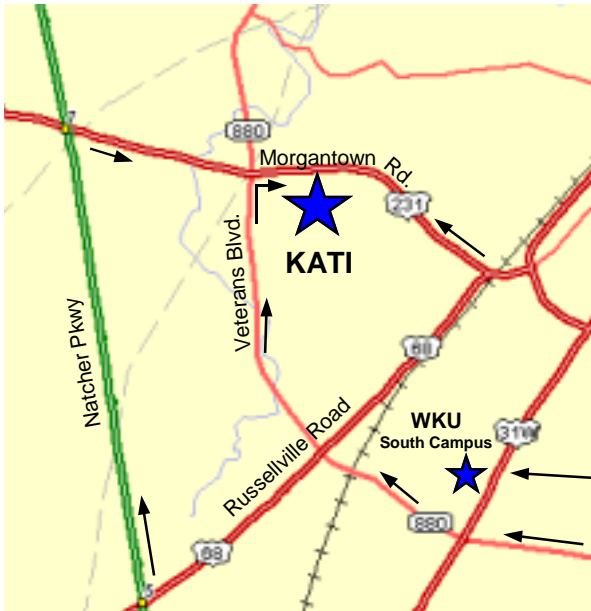
Now.....who was it ?????

GOT QUESTIONS ??

Send them in for the Q & A Session!

Why not e-mail your questions any time during the month when you run into a problem? In this way, not only will you be able to articulate more accurately your immediate problem, but I will have your question typed up in advance and placed in the box ready to present at our regular meeting. Thanks and looking forward to seeing you there.

Betty Lyne, Q & A Chairperson bbl6728@aol.com



Remember, in May, June, & July we meet at WKU South Campus on Nashville Road.



The Kentucky Advanced Technology Institute, KATI, is the official BGAMUG meeting location for 2002. KATI is located at 1227 Morgantown Road, just east of Veterans Boulevard.

Just look for the sign



We will meet on the 2nd floor in the "Round Room". The gavel will fall at 6:30 PM sharp so you may want to arrive early.

As KATI is closed May, June, and July we will meet at the WKU South Campus, also on the above map.

For Sale

The club has a very nice HP printer. Model 820 CSE Professional Model. It need cartridges but should be a steal for a \$50 donation.

ALSO, if you needed to network printers, we have the cables and boxes. A \$20 donation will get you what you need.

Contact Gene Iglehart 842-4570
Or IGLEHART@AOL.COM

Notice

Kroger Care Gift Services Change

By Ramona Bobbitt

Some changes in Kroger Cares starting March 4, 2002, our account will be serviced by the Gift Services department in Louisville, KY, NOT Nashville TN. Jean Reader and Mary Japely will be happy to serve you. The number for us in KY is (800) 292-5574-ext 4957. The smallest amount you can order is \$200.00.

For more details, email me at Ramona1930@aol.com or call 843-6918.

Diskeeper 7.0

Automatic Disk Defragmenter for Windows (server version)

Review by Michael L. Moore

Introduction

Executive Software has been around for several years, primarily providing disk defragmentation tools in the Windows NT product family, for which there were no built-in solutions provided by Microsoft. I have used the Workstation version of this product going back to v5.0 for our own Windows NT server running the BGAMUG BBS.

My own experience with PCs goes back to the early 1980s when hard drives were more concerned with faithfully recording data, much less getting it placed all in a row. If you have ever watched a disk defragmenter at work, you realize how very well suited these products are to the PC perfectionist. There is something about defragmentation very like the bedroom cleaning scene in *Mary Poppins*, where toys and junk go merrily flying about, only to land exactly in their place, like ducks in a row. A word to the wise about watching any defragmenter go about its task: you can fall into that maelstrom. There is something poetic and strangely neurotic about a complex system that organizes itself in front of your very eyes. I have awaked, staring at a kaleidoscopic displays such as what is provided by Diskeeper, only to realize that hours had past since I'd started the process.

I installed and operated version 7.0 of Diskeeper Server, build 398, in December 2001. This copy was distributed to BGAMUG by Executive Software at no cost. The machine tested with this software is a HP LH2 NetServer with 192 Mb RAM and dual Pentium II-300 processors with one IDE hard drive and five hot-swappable SCSI hard drives running Windows NT server version 4.0, sp6. This machine is connected on a standard ethernet Windows network to two other PCs, one running Windows 98 and one running Windows XP. This version of the product is offered to network administrators at a street cost of \$210 to \$240, and volume and academic licensing is available. The product can also be downloaded and activated on the World Wide Web. There are 5 and 10 pack workstation license packages available as well.

The goals of this review are as follows:

- ◆ Review the product installation on the host and client machines
- ◆ Assess the scheduling aspects of the product against manufacturer claims.
- ◆ Determine that the software is properly analyzing and defragmenting over a standard Microsoft TCP/IP network, on both the server machine and client machines.
- ◆ Look at improvements over previous products in the Diskeeper line.

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A primer on disk defragmentation

To a byte, a hard disk drive is a vast wasteland - a tract of information real estate that would seem infinitely long and wide, and to us three dimensional souls, tall as well. Physically, hard drives have several whirling platters of magnetic recording media, each with a sliver of metal that floats across the surface of each disk, its read/write head wildly indexing in and out toward the center or periphery. Modern drives whirl about at between 5400 and 10,000 rounds per minute. Even at these unbelievable speeds, the drive's hardware can keep track of exactly what track and sector the read/write head is over at any given microsecond.

PCs don't really need to internally represent each platter though. And to understand drive defragmentation technology, you don't need to know much about the various sub-structures of hard drives, like volumes, clusters, tracks and sectors. It's more convenient for us to think of the drive as one continuous series of bytes, and that is how Diskeeper will display the drive.

PC's store information in *files*, and a file is nothing more than a series of *bytes* that comprise one purpose and is given a name. A byte is roughly equivalent to one character of information storage. Beyond names, each file will have several attributes, such as whether or not it stores text or numeric information, its size and the type of file it is from the perspective of the operating system, in this case, Windows NT. Some kinds of files do not lend themselves to reorganization by defragmenters, and thus files types become important to this technology.

NT has several different file tracking protocols, called *file systems*. But regardless of the file system, the operating system holds an enormous amount of information on the physical location of every part of each file. Some kind of index is necessary to locate parts of every file, because the nature of files is such that they don't all have to be in one place on the hard drive. They are routinely scattered across the drive - this is a normal and necessary concept of how hard drives can do what they do so well. Each block of data in a file (roughly 256 characters,) is recorded wherever a free sector on the hard drive happens to be. The block of data contains information as to where the next block, and the previous block can be found. Thus, the information in what we perceive to be a compact and self-contained file, is really scattered across the drive in what programmers call a *linked list* of information.

Because each drive's *File Allocation Table* can internally keep track of all of this information, it is possible to reorganize files so that their blocks of data are *contiguous* - immediately next to each other on the drive's surface. This results in less indexing of the read/write heads and less waiting (if you can call several billionths of a second 'waiting') as the platter comes around to the necessary location to be read or written to. This is the void that NT defragmenters have sought to fill. Microsoft did not include defragmentation technology in Windows NT 3.5, and did not even support it until the introduction of Windows NT 4.0. With the advent of 4.0, the proper block transfer instructions were incorporated into the operating system and the field was wide open to engineers, such as the fine folks at Executive Software, to provide a solution.

(Continued on page 9)

Installation and Operation.

Diskkeeper 7.0 Server installed without any complaints on the NetServer. I would have hoped to have had at least one client (workstation) installation included with the package, but apparently you need to buy licenses for each client machine you install from. I handled this by downloading a free demo version of Diskkeeper 7.0 workstation for the Win98 Client. I never did get the Server to recognize my licensed copy of Diskkeeper 6 on the client running Windows XP. It should have, according to the documentation.

The product has a remote installation feature that will save on service calls, particularly on larger networks. This feature alone is worth the differential in cost versus the workstation version. However, the server also allows you to schedule defragmentation sessions over the network, further reducing support costs, and assuring that the process is completed across the enterprise in a standard way. You do need to purchase additional seat licenses for the workstation clients.

The Scheduling capability of Diskkeeper (known as “set it and forget it,”) is second to none. Hard drive maintenance is not something most of us think about on a regular basis, and it’s nice to be able to set up a defragmentation event, fully configurable as to which drive, which day and the time of day it will occur.

The operation of Diskkeeper is fast and reliable. The product will defragment several file types that were unavailable to defragmenters prior to version 6. So-called boot time defragmentation of the Windows swap file and registry will keep your system tuned for maximum performance.

On one heavily fragmented volume of 14 gigabytes, Diskkeeper finished its task in about 25 minutes. There is a nice report that shows on the screen before and after defragmentation to let the operator know what exactly was improved on the drive. The colorful display shows fragments of files in red and has other color coding to indicate different types of files. The display is somewhat disheartening from a purely aesthetic point of view, as there are times when a fully defragmented file system can show up looking still fragmented on the display.

I tested defragmentation over the network without incident. The process is easy to learn.

The product claims independent test results indicated a potential 200% improvement in system performance after defragmentation. This was not seen on my test box, but my system is not under a heavy load anyway and tends to plug along at a good clip regardless of what is going on with the hard drives. Without looking at actual numbers, the drives did seem to be faster after defragmentation. However, speed is only one benefit of defragmentation. There is evidence that a fragmented drives is more prone to failure than one that has been routinely maintained with a defragmenter.

Altogether I am very happy with Diskkeeper 7.0 Server. It provides a network-wide solution for administrators who would like to keep their machines defragmented but do not have the staff to deploy to make this happen. Even installation of the client side of this line can happen over the network.

Michael Moore



Power of Prayer

Every single evening
As I'm lying here in bed
This tiny little prayer
Keeps running through my head.

God bless all my family
Wherever they may be,
Keep them warm and safe from harm
For they're so close to me.

And God, there is one more thing
I wish that you could do.
Hope you don't mind me asking,
Bless my computer too.

Now I know that it's not normal
To bless a mother board,
But listen just a second
While I explain to you 'My Lord'.

You see, that little metal box
Holds more than odds & ends
Inside those small compartments
Rest so many of my FRIENDS.

I know so much about them
By the kindness that they give
And this little scrap of metal
Takes me in to where they live.

By faith is how I know them
Much the same as you
We share in what life brings us
And from that our friendship grew.

Please, take an extra minute
From your duties up above
To bless those in my address book
That's filled with so much love!

Wherever else this prayer may reach
To each and every friend,
bless each e-mail Inbox
And the person who hits Send.

When you update your heavenly list
On your own CD-Rom
Remember each who've said this prayer
Sent up to God.com.

Amen.

Author unknown, contributed by Ramona Bobbitt

Editor's note: Ramona's prayer was answered as she received a timely gift of Norton's Antivirus and is once again without an infected system.

Computing Tip's & Tidbytes

Windows XP Error Reporting

By Jerry Gillette

I've been using Windows XP since its release, and I can assure you that it is very stable. However, applications still crash sometime. When they do, XP users get a message asking them to click a button that will send the crash information to Microsoft. It's called "error reporting."

They claim to need this information so they can make updates to correct the problems. Sending it benefits everyone, so I have been sending the information.

Microsoft says it's only interested in the technical data and no personal information is gathered. But with today's aggressive competitive practices, it makes you wonder, does Microsoft's marketing department get a peek at what's installed on your system? .

Is this just another little intrusion into our privacy? When you get this message, you'll probably want to be helpful too and click Send; but, if you never send the information and would rather not even be asked, you can turn error reporting off altogether.

Here's how:

1. Right-click on My Computer and select Properties
2. Click on Advanced and then, Error Reporting
3. Check the box to disable error reporting

WEBSITE TIP FROM GENE IGLEHART Free Fast Technical Support

Do you have a computer question and can't wait until the next club meeting?

I highly recommend www.protonic.com. These guys answer quickly, courteously and thoroughly. I recently asked a question I had previously asked several gurus about pulling drivers off operating computers, and they gave me an answer that worked.

They state on **protonic.com** they are an online community which provides technical support to computer users for free.

Each protonic.com support tech is a volunteer, and they have been featured in many media publications including *USA Weekend*, *Yahoo! Internet Life* and *.net magazine*.

If you have a computer problem - anything from hardware to HTML problems - then submit your question for help! They support nearly everything: PCs, Macs, Unix and PDAs.

If you get satisfaction from helping out other users, or just want to advance your computer knowledge by tackling real-life problems - you may consider joining their team.

That's www.protonic.com. Check it out!

A Simple Way to Fight Spam

by James Gegner



Here's a simple way that I've found to fight the problem of spam (a slang term for junk e-mail). The inspiration for this tip comes from the August 1999 issue of *Smart Computing*.

Here's how to set up a simple filter to eliminate spam in Outlook Express 6 (this procedure is similar in other mail clients like Eudora 5.1). Note: This tip will NOT work with AOL mail, because AOL uses its own proprietary standard for sending and receiving mail.

To set up a simple mail filter to eliminate spam in Outlook Express 6, do the following:

1. Open Outlook Express 6 as you normally would.
2. Click the Tools menu, click Message Rules, and then click Mail.
3. In the New Mail Rule dialog box, in the Select the Conditions for your rule box, click the check box next to "Where the To or CC line contains people."
4. In the Rule Description box, click the underlined words "contains people."
5. In the Select People dialog box, type your e-mail address, click Add, and then click Options.
6. In the Rule Condition Options dialog box, click the button next to the words "Message does not contain the people below." Click OK twice to return to the New Mail Rule dialog box.
7. In the Select Actions for your rule box, place a check mark next to the words "Delete it." What will happen is when your messages are downloaded from your ISP's mail server, they'll be automatically placed in OE6's Deleted Items folder.

That's all there is to it!

Editor's note: This is a great example how valuable past issues of Smart Computing Magazines can be. I can almost assure you, if you scan through an old copy, even two, or three years old, you will find topics covered that detail computing issues you face today.



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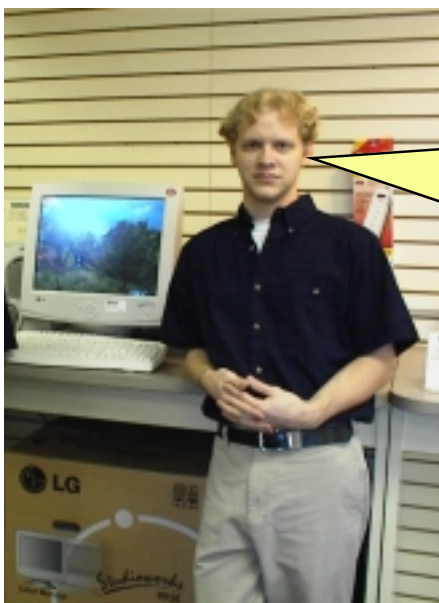
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Coming Soon

BGAMUG Hands-On Workshops

Thanks to Apollo Computers



Hi! I'm Chad Brook of Apollo Computers located on Scottsville Road in Bowling Green across from Red Lobster.

We are inviting BGAMUG to use our showroom display computers to conduct hands-on training and workshops for their members. The first such event is scheduled for

Saturday, May 25th at 10:30 AM

with Jerry Gillette walking members through the step-by-step procedures, tricks, and traps of installing and uninstalling application software.

Hope you can attend.

April 2002

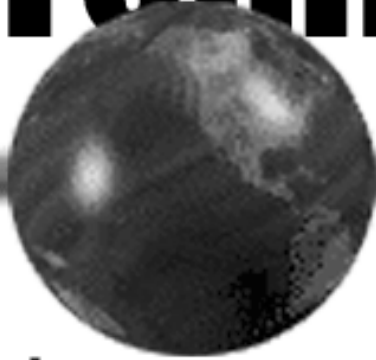
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2 Exec. Board Meeting 6:30 PM @ Lone Star	3	4	5	6 Workshop 10:00 AM @ Barnes & Noble
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16 Newsletter Folding 6:30 @ Library	17	18	19	20
21	22	23 BGAMUG Meeting 6:30 @ KATI	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

May 2002

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4 Video Demo 10:30 AM @ Barnes & Noble
5	6	7 Exec. Board Meeting 6:30 PM @Lone Star	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18BGAMUG PICNIC Covington Park
19	20	21 Newsletter Folding 6:30 @ Library	22	23	24	25 Hands-on SW Installation Workshop Apollo Computers 10:30 AM
26	27	28 BGAMUG Meeting 6:30 @ South Campus	29	30	31	

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Kentucky Advanced Technology Institute

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BGAMUG is a member of the Association of PC User Groups (APCUG).

BGAMUG holds regular presentation / membership meetings the fourth Tuesday of each month (except December) at the Kentucky Advanced Technology Institute, 1227 Morgantown Road, Bowling Green.

The public is invited to attend our regular presentation meetings. To join, our annual membership dues are \$25 for an individual, and \$35 for a family membership.

ADVERTISING RATES

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