# mini'app'les newsletter

**$2**

## the minnesota apple computer users' group, inc.

## DECEMBER 1995

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 7:00   5 | 6:30   6 | 7:00   7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 7:00   11 | 7:00   12 | 13 | 7:00   14 | 15 | 16 |
| | | | | | | |
| | 7:00 AM | | | | | |
| 17 | 7:00   18 | 7:00   19 | 6:30   20 | 7:00   21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 | **JAN** 1 | 7:00   2 | 6:30   3 | 7:00   4 | 5 | 6 |

**Board of Directors**
Mini'app'les members welcome.
Mathews Ctr., 2318 29th Ave. S., Rm. C
Brian Bantz, 835-3696

**Apple II/GS Main**
Augsberg Park Library,
7100 Nicollet Ave., Richfield
Tom Gates, 789-6981

**ClarisWorks SIG**
Southdale Library
7100 York Avenue South, Edina
Denis Diekhoff, 920-2437

**Macintosh Main**
Mathews Center
2318 29th Ave. S., Minneapolis
"Mary Beth, Broderbund"
Mike Carlson, 377-6553

**Telecommunications SIG**
MN Department of Health
717 SE Delaware St., Minneapolis
"NetAlliance"
Nick Ludwig, 349-0206

**Filemaker Pro SIG**
No meeting this month
Steve Wilmes, 458-1513

**Fourth Dimension SIG**
Metro II
1300 Mendota Heights Rd., Mendota Hgts
Bob Demeules, 559-1124

**Apple II Novice SIG**
Ramsey County Library
2180 Hamline Ave. N., Roseville
Tom Gates, 789-6981

**AppleWorks SIG**
Ramsey County Library
2180 Hamline Ave. N., Roseville
"Super Forms"
Les Anderson, 735-3953

**Digital Photography**
Southdale Library
7001 York Avenue South, Edina
Note: Date Tentative
Denis Diekhoff, 920-2437

**Macintosh Novice SIG**
No meeting this month
Tom Lufkin, 698-6523

**Macintosh Consultants SIG**
Byerly's
3777 Park Center Blvd, St. Louis Park
Mike Carlson, 377-6553

**Mac Programmers SIG**
No meeting this month
Gervaise Kimm, 379-1836

**Photoshop SIG**
Jacor
1410 Energy Park Drive
Suite 17, St.Paul
Eric Jacobson, 645-6264

# mini'app'les

## The Minnesota Apple Computer Users' Group, Inc.
### P.O. Box 796, Hopkins, MN 55343

## Board of Directors:

| | |
|---|---|
| **President** | Brian Bantz<br>(612) 835-3696<br>Brian_Bantz@tcm.mn.org |
| **Vice President** | Nick Ludwig<br>(612) 824-9423<br>niklud@bitstream.net |
| **Secretary** | Bob Demeules<br>(612) 559-1124<br>bob.demeules@medlake.com<br>Home Page: (not done) www.medlake.com |
| **Treasurer** | Melvyn D. Magree<br>(612) 559-1108 |
| **Membership Director** | Pam and Harry Lienke<br>(612) 457-6026<br>H.LIENKE@GENIE.COM<br>PLienke@aol.com |
| **Operations &<br>Resource** | Erik Knopp<br>(612) 636-3244 |
| **Publications Director** | Steven W. Thompson<br>(612) 452-4208<br>Steven_Thompson@tcm.mn.org |
| **Software Director** | Owen Aaland<br>Work: (507) 732-5090<br>Home: (507) 732-5697 |
| **SIGs: Mac** | Eric Jacobson<br>(612) 645-6264 |
| **SIGs: Apple II** | Les Anderson<br>(612) 735-3953 |
| **Past President** | Gregory L. Carlson |

**Introduction –** This is the Newsletter of Mini'app'les, the Minnesota Apple Computer Users' Group, Inc., a Minnesota non-profit club. The whole newsletter is copyrighted © by Mini'app'les. Articles may be reproduced in other non-profit User Groups' publications except where specifically copyrighted by the author. (Permission to reproduce these articles must be given by the author.) Please include the source when reprinting.

**Questions –** Please direct questions to an appropriate board member. Users with technical questions should refer to the Members Helping Members section.

**Dealers –** Mini'app'les does not endorse specific dealers. The club promotes distribution of information which may help members identify best buys and service. The club itself does not participate in bulk purchases of media, software, hardware and publications. Members may organize such activities on behalf of other members.

**Advertisers –** For information, see Newsletter Ad Rates box within this issue.

**Newsletter Contributions –** Please send contributions directly to our Post Office, Box 796, Hopkins, MN 55343 or upload them to our BBS at 824-4394.

Deadline for material for the next newsletter is the 1st of the month. An article will be printed when space permits and, if in the opinion of the Newsletter Editor or Manager, it constitutes material suitable for publication.

**Editor/Publisher:** Tom Ostertag 488-9979

**Newsletter Layout:** John Hunkins

**Mini'app'les BBS** –824-4394, 24 hrs. Settings: 8-1-0. Call in with FirstClass® Client software or any text-based terminal program.

**Mini'app'les Voice Mail** – 229-6952

**Printed by
Stout Typographical Society**
Menomonie, WI 54751
(715) 232-2895

# Mini'app'les Board Position Available

Effective immediately, the position of Treasurer on the mini'app'les board of directors is available. The duties of the Treasurer include maintaining the mini'app'les financial records, preparing monthly written financial reports, preparing the annual budget, maintaining our bank accounts, depositing funds and paying the bills. If you are good with numbers and/or have had bookkeeping experience, here's your opportunity to serve the membership! Experience with MYOB financial software is a plus.

Our current Treasurer, Melvyn Magree, will continue to perform the functions of Treasurer until a suitable replacement is appointed. Please contact President Brian Bantz (835-3696 or via the mini'app'les BBS) expressing your interest and qualifications.

### Moving?

Don't forget to send us a change of address when you are informing others. Save the club some money by taking a moment of your time and a few cents to drop us a card. You will help yourself by having your newsletter delivered directly to your new address without it having to be forwarded. Change of address should be sent to the following address: mini'app'les, Attn: Membership Director, Box 796, Hopkins, MN 55343.

## Notice:

Good Deals will no longer be published. Please check your mail for the user group store catalog. If you are a member and have not received a mailing please talk with Harry Lienke.

The Good Deals will be available through the club BBS. Look for it under the Applelink & PR conference.

We would like to thank Ken Slingsby and Thomas Mehle for their contributions to this ongoing article. Their efforts are greatly appreciated.

## Table of Contents

## NEW MEMBERS

*by Pam and Harry Lienke*

Please join us in welcoming the following Apple computer users who have become mini'app'les members during October.

Peter Fleck
Charles Paule
Scott Blixt

# Members Helping Members

| Macintosh | Key |
| --- | --- |
| Claris Draw | 3 |
| Claris Resolve | 2 |
| Claris Works | 2,8,9 |
| Cross-Platform File Trnsfr | 6 |
| FileMaker Pro | 2 |
| First Class | 2 |
| MacWrite Pro | 2 |
| Microsoft Excel | 3,6,7 |
| Microsoft Word | 6 |
| MYOB | 7 |
| Photoshop | 4 |
| Quicken | 3 |
| System 7 | 9 |
| Word Perfect | 5 |

If you would like to be a "Members Helping Members" volunteer, please e-mail Nick Ludwig with your name & phone number on our BBS, or leave a voice-mail message at 229-6952, or use the MultiForm mailer near the back of this issue.

| AppleII | Key | AppleIIGS | Key |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Appleworks | 1,6,9 | Hypercard GS | 1 |
| Applewriter | 6 | Smartmoney GS | 1 |
| Publish It! | 1 | | |
| To. Superfonts | 1 | | |
| To. Superform | 1 | | |



| | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. | Les Anderson | 735-3953 | DEW |
| 2. | Brian Bantz | 835-3696 | DEW |
| 3. | Mike Carlson | 377-6553 | D |
| 4. | Eric Jacobson | 645-6264 | D |
| 5. | Nick Ludwig | 349-0206 | E |
| 6. | Tom Ostertag | 488-6713 | EW |
| 7. | Ardie Predweshny | 823-6713 | DEW |
| 8. | Owen Strand | 427-2868 | D |
| 9. | Bruce Thompson | 546-1088 | EW |

*D-days (generally 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.)*
*E-evenings (generally 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.)*
*W-weekends (generally 1 p.m. to 9 p.m.)*
*In any case, call at reasonable hours and ask if this is a convenient time for them. By the way, these volunteers can also be reached on our BBS! We appreciate your cooperation.*

---

---

# Notes from the President

*By Brian D. Bantz*

As 1995 draws to a close, this has been a good year for mini'app'les.

Everyone, who has given of his person self this year, has made this a very successful Mac User Group. All are volunteers, of course, and will be recognized by a program that Nick is completing. Our membership rebate bonus, for signing new members, will reward those who go the extra distance. Thanks to Tom Gates who was the first to participate in the program. Bring a new member, get your reward.

Your board continues to pursue improvements in our Mini'app'les User Group! Our new address in cyberspace: www.miniapples.org.

Visit our web page on your net connection. We have investigated including another line on our BBS, for those of us who are frustrated, trying to get on at opportune times, at this time usage is below suggested usage levels for another line. A power backup device will have to be added to give our board added dependability, as you have read, NSP is having a bizarre year with lots of unexplained power outages. We have had several at our BBS site, at least one of four hours duration.

We have been approached by TC/PC, asking us to consider a consolidation, or probably, holding joint activities, with them, to save on duplicated items. We have 15+ meetings, they have 20+, several overlap. Both of us have difficulties with meeting rooms, projection/display equipment, newsletter production and membership turnover. NAUG-SAW, suggests that the future will necessitate software specific groups (Cross platform FileMaker Pro, etc.) rather than hardware specific groups. In the next two years, all current platforms (MacOS, DOS, Windows, OS/2 Warp, and UNIX) will be able to run on one platform architecture developed by Kalaeda, a joint venture of Apple and IBM. Potential members will come to us, not knowing what platform they are using. They may have software from several platforms, operating under concurrent multitasking.

Thanks, again for your support in helping this to be an excellent year.
Brian

# Mac eDOM #941 -Handy Things

### ALIAS REPAIR 1.0
*by Daniel Azuma*

System 7 aliases are not perfect. Sometimes they come unattached from their targets, forcing you to manually create a new alias. Then Alias Repair is just what you need. To install it, simply move it into your Extensions Folder and restart.

USING ALIAS REPAIR

When the Finder is not able to find the target of an alias, Alias Repair will kick in and give you some options:
• "Cancel" just does nothing.
• "Delete" trashes the offending alias.
• "Repair" lets you reattach the alias to its target.

Usually, you'll want to click "Repair." Alias Repair will then give you a dialog from which you can choose a target. Just select a target, and click "Attach." Alias Repair will repair your alias, and open the new original item, letting you continue your work without breaking stride.

Note that, using Alias Repair, you can reattach the alias to an object different from its original target. If, for example, an alias to an application comes unattached, Alias Repair will let you reattach it to something else like a disk. The Finder will update the icon automatically.

Alias Repair requires System 7.x. Alias Repair is 32-bit clean and should be compatible with all mac models from the Mac Plus on. It has been tested with Systems 7.0, 7.0.1 and 7.1.

### Aurora™ 3.1
*Written by Mike Pinkerton*
*©1992-5, All Rights Reserved*

Aurora is a cdev (Control Panel device) that sits in your System Folder. With it, you have full control over the colors used to draw your windows, buttons, scroll bars, and menus. Ever wanted a mauve menu bar? No problem! Ever wanted puce scroll bars? Now's your chance! It's also very easy to do — as simple as choosing colors from the standard Apple color wheel — and you're off to colorizing (and personalizing!) your desktop.

Aurora is not an INIT (system extension). It does not load at boot time, and if you remove it from your System Folder, it will still work.

Aurora needs System 4.1 or above and works with all varients of System 7 (including 7.5 and 7.5.1).

Installation is simple. Just drop it in your System Folder. If you are using Sys7, you will be asked if Aurora should be placed in the Control Panels folder. Click OK. Have fun!

### clip2gif v.0.6

clip2gif is a utility program for converting PICTs and GIFs to PICTs, GIFs or JPEGs. It can also display PICTs and GIFs.

The input can be one of the following:
•PICT or GIF file
•PICT clipboard
•PICT AE object

The output can be one of the following:

•PICT, GIF or JPEG file

•PICT AE object

•PICT, GIF or JPEG AE string

Options include output size, pixel depth, interlacing, transparency, dithering, gray shades only, JPEG compression quality, and drawing of simple graphic elements via AppleEvents.

If that doesn't make sense for you (maybe it does only for me), let's say clip2gif is a powerful graphic converter.

Requirements

clip2gif needs System 7 or above and 32-bit Color Quickdraw. QuickTime is needed for JPEG conversion. AppleScript is obviously needed to Apple-script clip2gif. Both input and scaled output images must fit in RAM; set the application memory partition appropriately (Get Info in the Finder).

### Find File Patch 1.0

The "Find File" utility in System 7.5 is really cool (finally, the Finder deserves its name !) but it would be even cooler if the app would quit when you open an item from the "Result" window.

This little patch will modify Find File version 1.1.1 (from System 7.5 update 1.0) so that the app automatically quits when you open, print, do a get info on, or open the folder of any found items.

### List Files 2.4.1 info
*Alessandro Levi Montalcini*

List Files is a great utility that creates a text catalog of any disk, folder or document you drop on it. It has file filters, lots of formatting options, easy-to-use worksets, automatic catalog saving, text file searching for fast file retrieval, and much more.

### ShrinkWrap™
*A drag and drop utility for managing disk images.*
Copyright ©1994-1995, by Chad Magendanz. All rights reserved.

ShrinkWrap™ was created for four basic purposes:

1. To create DiskCopy™ disk images quickly and efficiently:

Using ShrinkWrap™, you can create DiskCopy™ disk images by simply dragging and dropping your floppy disk icons onto the ShrinkWrap™ icon.

2. To provide a convenient and reliable means of mounting multiple disk images on the desktop:

Like Apple's MountImage™ control panel, ShrinkWrap™ will mount image files on the desktop that to the system will appear identical to the original floppy disks. However, since ShrinkWrap™ is an application, it will never cause INIT conflicts and will never require any memory until it's actually run. To mount image files, simply drag and drop the image file icons onto the ShrinkWrap™ icon.

3. To seamlessly handle image files in their archived form:

ShrinkWrap™ will automatically compress and decompress archived image files on the fly with Aladdin's StuffIt Engine™.

4. To provide a freely distributable alternative to Apple's DiskCopy™, DART™ and MountImage™.

System Requirements

ShrinkWrap™ is a System 7-only application. It is AppleEvent aware, 32-bit clean, Power Macintosh, AV, '040 cache and virtual memory compatible. Although a Macintosh SE or better is required for full functionality, the Mac Plus can still use ShrinkWrap™ to mount, verify and convert disk image files.

## Mac eDOM #942 - Reunion Demo
*Copyright © 1995 Mini'app'les*
*NOV 1995*

### Reunion 4.0 Demo
WHAT IS REUNION?

Reunion is a full-featured genealogy software program for Macintosh and Windows.

LIMITS OF THE DEMO VERSION:

This is a full working version of Reunion except for the following limitations:

• Only 35 individuals can be entered in a family file.

• Gedcom Import/Export is disabled.

• Graphic charts can't be saved or copied.

FEATURES

• Creates large graphic tree charts including descendant charts up to 99 generations, pedigree charts up to 35 generations. Full on-screen editing of box color, font, font size, shadow, border, connecting lines, and captions. Move boxes or branches on-screen by clicking-and-dragging. Automatically change chart orientation; including top-to-bottom, left-to-right, and waterfall models. Zoom out to give you the big picture of the entire chart.

• Creates reports and forms. Provides index, event calendars, family group sheets, family histories, register reports, ahnentafel reports, person sheets, questionnaires, mailing lists, and mail merge files.

• Calculates relationships. Tells you, at a glance, how people are related to you. Creates custom relationship lists. For example, a list of all your removed cousins or a list of all descendants.

• Links people to color or B&W pictures: old photographs, birth certificates, wills, maps, etc. You can link multiple pictures to a single record, or a single picture to multiple records. Reunion will also magnify and reduce images on screen. You can use up to 40 characters to "describe" each picture and the picture's description appears in its window.

• Creates custom lists such as: all males born before 1685 who have more than 8 children.

• Five user-defined fields can hold medical, military, education, or other information most meaningful to you.

• Supports 16 different date formats.

• Pop-up lists for repetitive place and surname entries.

• Automatically opens reports in any word processor.

• Reference notes for document-

ing sources of information. A Family file log keeps track of your research efforts: which libraries you've visited, your written correspondence, etc.

• Shows the weekday for the birth, death, or marriage date, the age at marriage, the current age or life span of a person, the length of a marriage (in years and days), and life expectancy.

• GEDCOM import/export.

# Connectix Announces Connectix Videophone For Windows And Macintosh

*Submitted by Tom Mehle*

**Affordable and easy to use videoconferencing for business users**

SAN MATEO, CA, OCTOBER 13, 1995—Connectix Corporation released this month the first low-cost videoconferencing solution for business and home office use. Connectix VideoPhone™ includes the world's leading digital camera, QuickCam™, and robust, field-proven software technologies for videoconferencing. A software-only version that takes advantage of any available video input device (Video for Windows™ or Apple's QuickTime™, depending on platform) was also released. Both versions work over standard high-speed networks (TCP/IP; or AppleTalk for Mac, Netware for PCs).

Placing a call with Connectix VideoPhone is simple. Users select "Call" from the file menu and pick the person to conference with. Network routing is taken care of automatically, so connecting with colleagues takes just seconds. In addition to sharing video and sound, Connectix VideoPhone provides a collaborative whiteboard for exchanging information quickly and conveniently, the ability to take pictures, record the conference (Mac version only), full multicast broadcasting support, SMNP/MIME compliant video messaging capabilities, and more.

"Connectix is the first vendor to offer low-cost videoconferencing solutions for both Macintosh and Windows users," said Roy McDonald, president and CEO of Connectix. "By basing our solution on the remarkably affordable Connectix QuickCam, we are able to offer true business-quality videoconferencing for the first time at under

$150 (street price) a seat. Now it becomes practical for large organizations to deploy this technology on a wide basis."

Connectix VideoPhone does not require a video capture card, therefore installation is simple and does not require opening the computer. Video is captured via the parallel port or serial port, depending on platform. The software installation is automatic and takes only a few minutes. In addition to the videoconferencing software, Connectix VideoPhone includes software for users to send video mail, and create stand alone movies and still pictures.

## FULL-FEATURED VIDEOCONFERENCING SOFTWARE

Connectix VideoPhone provides an affordable solution without sacrificing quality or features. The sharing tools enhance communications by allowing users to mark up documents and share comments simultaneously, making group decisions faster and more convenient. The multicast broadcast support allows organizations to set up training, security, or company-wide presentations easily and quickly. Connectix provides free multicast broadcast viewing software that can be freely distributed, so organizations can have every user receive broadcasts, even if they don't have a video-equipped computer.

The National Semiconductor NSVideo™ video compressor has been licensed by Connectix and is supplied on both platforms. NSVideo provides state-of-the-art, real-time video compression. Not only is the compression faster and better quality than those provided with QuickTime and Video for Windows, but users can adjust it for performance and

quality as needs arise. For example, to reduce network load or get higher frame rates over slower channels (one ISDN B channel, for instance), the user might set the number of key frames to be less frequent and the compression quality to a slightly lower setting. On local area networks with plenty of bandwidth, the user might adjust NSVideo to perform better quality compression with more key frames. Making these adjustments is easy, and even set to its lowest levels, NSVideo provides state-of-the art compression with excellent picture quality and frame rates.

Other standard features in Connectix VideoPhone include full duplex sound, multiple simultaneous users (Mac version), security/privacy controls, and conference recording (Mac version). Connectix VideoPhone is supported by a one-year hardware warranty, 7-day a week toll-free tech support, and a 30-day money-back guarantee.

LOWEST COST SOLUTION Current videoconferencing solutions are typically $1000 per user and more due to expensive hardware/software configurations that require an NTSC camera, digitizer board, hardware compressors, and software package. With an expected street price of around $150, businesses will find that deploying videoconferencing has suddenly become affordable. Connectix VideoPhone makes configuration and setup easy, since the installer need not open or configure the hardware in any special way. If the computer is already connected to a network or an ISDN line, a Connectix VideoPhone can be added to that machine and fully functional in less than three minutes. For users who already have video hardware,

the Connectix VideoPhone software is also available separately, with an expected street price of under $60.

## NETWORK CONFIGURATION IS MADE SIMPLE

Connectix VideoPhone uses Netware or TCP/IP based networks on Windows-based PCs, or an AppleTalk-based or TCP/IP network on Macs. In most cases, users have the connection necessary to begin videoconferencing. Connectix VideoPhone makes network setup simple by working with most network configurations right out of the box. Wide area use is possible with an ISDN or faster link. Both Mac and Windows versions are automatically set for your network during installation, and the Macintosh version uses Apple Guide to step the user through their preferences and show them how to change them.

## SUPPORTS ANY VIDEO DEVICE

The Connectix VideoPhone software is written to standard Video for Windows or QuickTime specifications. In addition to using the included QuickCam camera, virtually any video capture device may be used. With video capture cards, an NTSC camera, videotape recorder, or TV tuner may be used in conjunction with Connectix VideoPhone's multicast ability for businesses wishing to broadcast training videos or corporate announcements—the possibilities are limitless.

## PRICING AND AVAILABILITY THROUGHOUT THE US

Connectix VideoPhone has a suggested retail price of $249US, with expected street price as low as $150, and is widely available through Connectix' distribution channel at over 6,000 retail locations, including CompUSA, Egghead, Computer City, and Micro Center. Connectix VideoPhone is also available in virtually every country outside the U.S. through Connectix' extensive international distribution system.

## FUTURES

The Connectix VideoPhone software for Macintosh was developed by Apple Computer Inc. using their QuickTime and QuickTime Conferencing technologies. Connectix is committed to extending and enhancing the basic technology provided by Apple. Connectix recently acquired InVision, one of the leading PC videoconferencing vendors, and the InVision technology forms the core of the Windows version of Connectix VideoPhone. Connectix VideoPhone version 1.0 represents the first of many steps Connectix will take to provide leading edge videoconferencing technology to businesses and consumers. Both versions already look and operate alike, reducing training costs, and the next release will improve the interoperability of the products, both across platforms and with other videocon-

ferencing products.

"We intend to make Connectix VideoPhone the leading videoconferencing solution," said Thom Hogan, Group Product Manager for applications at Connectix. "Since the first video phones were shown at the World's Fair [NY 1963], everyone has expected that someday we'd all be communicating with them. Connectix intends to make that possible by providing state-of-the-art videoconferencing products at consumer prices."

Founded in 1988 and based in San Mateo, CA, Connectix Corp. designs, manufactures, distributes and publishes award-winning personal computer enhancement products. The company's flagship products include QuickCam, RAM Doubler, Speed Doubler, and Connectix VideoPhone. For more information, contact Connectix at 800.950.5880, 415.571.5100 or fax 415.571.5195. The company can also be contacted for more info via AppleLink or America OnLine at "Connectix" and CompuServe 75300,1546, or via the Internet at: www.connectix.com

QuickCam, RAM Doubler, Speed Doubler, and Connectix VideoPhone are trademarks of Connectix Corporation. All other trademarks are the property of their respective holders.

# Newsletter Submissions

*By John Hunkins Jr.*
*Submitted by Tom Ostertag*

Newsletter article submissions are required by the 1st of the month rather than the 9th as previously required. The change is to facilitate the printing of the newsletter.

Articles will be used in the following month's newsletter where space is available.

Send your articles to the Editor/Publisher, Tom Ostertag. The easiest way to do this is through our BBS. The articles should be submitted as raw text. Tom will edit them for content and format, you do not need to format your documents.

If you have any questions about the newsletter, please feel free to contact one of the board members or Tom Ostertag.

# UNOFFICIAL COMPUTER LAWS

*Submitted by Harry Lienke*

Yes, you've probably heard of most of these before, but how many of them have you ever seen correctly credited or attributed? More to the point, are there any laws that you can help us attribute? Please... if you reprint this section of GEnieLamp, leave the credits intact. At GEnieLamp, we believe that just because a person understands both brevity and wit is no reason to steal their words.

**BRADLEY'S BROMIDE:** If computers get too powerful, we can organize them into a committee--that will do them in.

**BROOKS' LAW:** Adding manpower to a late software project makes it later.(Frederick P. Brooks, Jr., The Mythical Man-Month: Essays on Software Engineering)

**LAW OF COMPUTABILITY APPLIED TO SOCIAL SCIENCES:** If at first you don't succeed, transform your data set.

**COMPUTER MAXIM:** To err is human, but to really foul things up requires a computer. (The Farmers' Almanac, 1978 edition)

**LAWS OF COMPUTER PROGRAMMING:**

(1) Any given program, when running, is obsolete.

(2) Any given program costs more and takes longer.

(3) If a program is useful, it will have to be changed.

(4) If a program is useless, it will have to be documented.

(5) Any given program will expand to fit all available memory.

(6) The value of a program is proportional to the weight of its output.

(7) Program complexity grows until it exceeds the capability of the programmer who must maintain it.

(8) Make it possible for programmers to write programs in English, and you will find that programmers cannot write in English. (SICPLAN Notices, Vol. 2, No. 2)

**DIJKSTRA'S PRESCRIPTION FOR PROGRAMMING INERTIA:** If you don't know what your program is supposed to do, you'd better not start writing it. (Stanford Computer Science Colloquium, 18 April 1975)

**FIRST COMPUTER AXIOM:** When putting it into memory, remember where you put it.

**A LAW FOR THE FUTURE:** If it's not in a computer, it doesn't exist.

**ÀGALLOIS' REVELATION:** If you put tomfoolery into a computer, nothing comes out but tomfoolery. But this tomfoolery, having passed through a very expensive machine, is somehow ennobled, and no one dares criticize it. (Pierre Gallois in Science et Vie reprinted in Reader's Digest)

**GILB'S LAWS OF UNRELIABILITY:**

(1) Computers are unreliable, but humans are even more unreliable.

Corollary: At the source of every error which is blamed on the computer you will find at least two human errors, including the error of blaming it on the computer.

Laws 2-7 omitted.

(8) All real programs contain errors until proved otherwise--which is impossible. (Tom Gilb, "The Laws of Unreliability, Datamation, March 1975.)

**GOLUB'S LAWS OF COMPUTERDOM:**

(1) Fuzzy project objectives are used to avoid the embarrassment of estimating the corresponding costs.

(2) A carelessly planned project takes three times longer to complete than expected; a carefully planned project takes only twice as long.

(3) The effort required to correct the error increases geometrically with time.

(4) Project teams detest weekly progress reporting because it so vividly manifests their lack of progress.

**GRAY'S LAW OF PROGRAMMING:** n + 1 trivial tasks are expected to be accomplished in the same time as n trivial tasks.

---

# PAM WORKS WITH CLARISWORKS...

*by Pam Lienke*

I like using keyboard shortcuts whenever I can. When closing a ClarisWorks window or quitting the application you are greeted with a dialog box if you have not saved your work —Don't Save, Cancel, Save. The default is Save which can be activated by pressing return. But if you don't want to save, it means using the mouse. Not so quick! Keep your fingers on the keyboard! By holding down the Command Key and pressing the D for Don't Save or the Period (.) for Cancel, you can keep your fingers on the keyboard and eliminate another trip to the mouse.

---

LOGG'S REBUTTAL: n + 1 trivial tasks take twice as long as n trivial tasks for n sufficiently large.(Ed Logg.)

HGROSCH'S LAW: Computing power increases as the square of the cost. If you want to do it twice as cheaply, you will have to do to it four times as fast. (Herb Grosch, editor, Computerworld)

HORGAN'S HOMILY: We won't have personal computing until we can get them little and talking.

HALPERN'S OBSERVATION: That tendency to err that programmers have been noticed to share with other human beings has often been treated as if it were an awkwardness attendant upon programming's adolescence, which like acne will disappear with the craft's coming of age. It has proved otherwise. (Mark Halpern)

HOARE'S LAW OF LARGE PROGRAMS: Inside every small program is a large program struggling to get out. (Tony Hoare)

IBM POLLYANNA PRINCIPLE: Machines should work; people should think.

LANDAU'S PROGRAMMING PARADOX: The best programmer has to be someone. The more human-like a computer becomes, the less times it spends computing and the more time it spends doing more human-like work. A software committee of one is limited by its own horizon and will only specify that far.

LUBARSKY'S LAW OF CYBERNETIC ENTOMOLOGY: There's always one more bug.)

OSBORN'S LAW: Variables won't, constants aren't. (Don Osborn, State of Arizona Solar Energy Commission)

PARETO'S LAW (20/80 LAW): ...twenty per cent of the compo-nents account for eighty per cent of the cost, and so forth. (after Italian economist Vildredo Pareto)

THE PROGRAMMER'S NEMESIS: Experts theorize that, through evolution and: inbreeding, programmers may become a distinct sub-species of the human race.

SHAW'S PRINCIPLE: Build a system that even a fool can use, and only a fool will want to use it. (Christopher J. Shaw)

STEINBACH'S GUIDELINE FOR SYSTEMS PROGRAMMING: Never test for an error condition you don't know how to handle....

SUTIN'S SECOND LAW: The most useless computer tasks are the most fun to do.

TROUTMAN'S PROGRAMMING POSTULATES:

(1) If a test installation functions perfectly, all subsequent systems will malfunction.

(2) Not until a program has been in production for at least six months will the most harmful error be discovered.

(3) Job control cards that positively cannot be arranged in improper order will be.

(4) Interchangeable tapes won't.

(5) If the input editor has been designed to reject all bad input, an ingenious idiot will discover a method to get bad data past

(6) Profanity is the one language all programmers know best.

TURNAUCKA'S LAW: The attention span of a computer is only as long as its electrical cord....

WAIN'S CONCLUSION: The only people making money these days are the ones who sell computer paper.

WEINBERG'S SECOND LAW: If builders built buildings the way programmers wrote programs, then the first woodpecker that came along would destroy civilization. (Gerald Weinberg, University of Nebraska)

**UNATTRIBUTED LAWS**

(1) Fallible men design fallible computers. A computer does what you tell it to do, not what you want it to do.

(2) One good reason why computers can do more than people is that they never have to stop and answer the phone.

• Can any reader help us identify the sources of any of the above?

# December Telcom SIG — Netalliance

*Submitted by Niklas Ludwig*

For those of you who have already seen Tora!, Tora!, Tora! a zillion times, and are looking for a new and different way to spend the 54th anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor, come on over to the Minnesota Dept. of Health building on December 7 for a sneak attack on the Internet, led by Admirals Kelly Breit & Derrick Bohlin of Netalliance, a local Internet Service Provider.

Netalliance offers personalized Internet access, including something I haven't seen before: on-site installation—yes, they will come to your humble abode and install on your computer the dozen or so pieces of software you need to navigate the 'net. This is a great idea, particularly as configuring 'net software is not at all intuitive, and, asking for help on the 'net doesn't go over very well, unless you enjoy being flamed and called a 'newbie'! These guys are Mac experts and can help make your getting on the Internet a pleasant experience, instead of a miserable chore.

At this meeting, we will also announce mini'app'les own Web site! Although it is in heavy construction stage (we are looking for laborers, mechanics, pipefitters, carpenters, bricklayers, and web weavers, by the way...), you can check it out at http://www.miniapples.org/miniapples/miniapples.html . Netalliance is providing the server for our site, and we are grateful for their help and assistance. Check out our site frequently for new stuff!
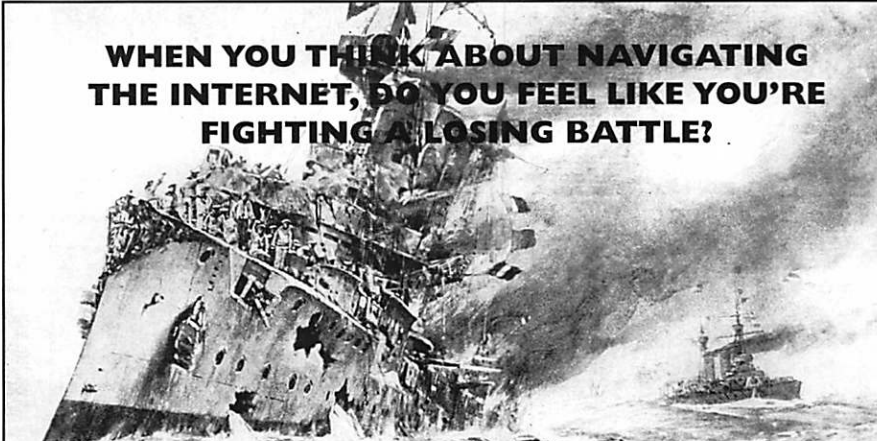
As usual, we'll also have time for questions and I'm sure we'll have an opportunity to check out all of your favorite web sites, so bring along your URL's!

December Telcom SIG— Thursday, December 7, 1995

MN Dept. of Health Bldg., 717 Delaware St. SE, Mpls. (on the corner of Delaware & Oak Sts., U of M East Bank campus). 7-9 PM

For more info. call Nick Ludwig @349.0206 or e-mail niklud@bit-stream.net.

# October AppleWorks Meeting

*By Les C. Anderson*

The October AppleWorks SIG was one of the best attended meetings for several months. Several past attendees that we hadn't seen in months were there, and several new members attended. The main topic was TimeOut TextTools, but most of the meeting consisted of general discussion and questions. Q&A sessions are often helpful to more than just the person who asked the question. I urge anyone who has problems or questions to attend these meetings. We can use as much time as possible to help members.

I have confirmed the dates of Jan 25 and Feb 22 for the AppleWorks SIG at the Ramsey County Library, Roseville. Now we need topics. Tom Ostertag suggested File transfers. Lets have some more ideas.

See you at the next meeting.

# Digital Photography SIG Update

*Submitted by Tom Ostertag*

Marty Probst of Gibbco was kind enough to volunteer to be the main attraction at the first Digital Photography SIG meeting on 13 September. He did an excellent job of answering questions about digital cameras and Speed and RAM Doubler. In the meantime, Marty misplaced his list of Door Prize winners, so if you are one of the fortunate winners who haven't received their prize (Speed Doubler) please give him a call at 831-4890, thank him for his excellent work and leave your name and address so he can get your prize to you.

# Projector City!

*by Denis Diekhoff*

A couple days ago I got a request from Steve Thompson, on behalf of the Club's Board of directors, to attend an open House at Tierney Brothers Inc. at 3300 University Ave. (near the KSTP tower). Erik Knopp had visited Tierney's earlier in the week to get help with the Clubs overhead projector and found out about the Open House. Tierney Brothers specialize in VISUAL PRESENTATION not only through sales but rentals too. Tierney Brother's Open House was a chance to see their line of goods (projectors), talk with the factory representatives, and eat free (if you like roast beef and Swiss sandwiches, and fresh fruit, etc., etc.).
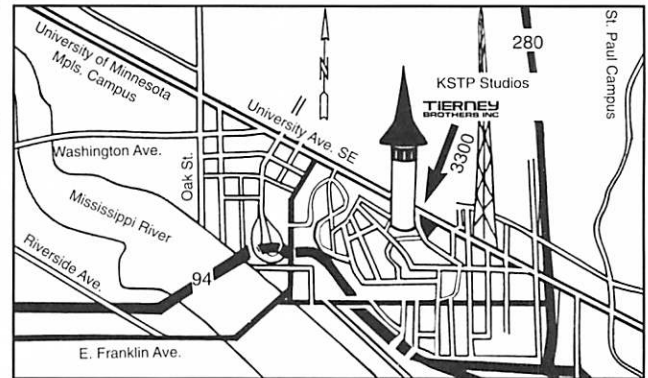
Harold Watson came along, well, he drove actually, since my Diesel Rabbit still wouldn't start. We were very fortunate that the second person we met there was Tom Tierney himself, and when he asked what we were interested in, we just came right out and told him that we were representing the Club and needed a free projector for some of our meetings. Tom never missed a beat, and wanted to know more about the club; and I'll be darned if he didn't end up offering, to SIG leaders only, free use of one of his data projectors from his rental fleet. He liked the idea of getting some " free ink" in our newsletter from time to time, but basically he is just a nice guy!

If you SIG leaders need a projector for your meeting, give Tom Tierney a call at 331-5500 to arrange the specifics. It probably helped our cause when I told Tom that most of our members were Captains of Industry, Top Executives, Business Leaders, and Corporate Buyers in the Metro area.

Here is a map for those of you not familiar with the area east of the U of M.



# New Multimedia Tools Website!

*Submitted by Tom Mehle*

We are a licensed Mac developer and have recently launched our multimedia web site to allow more users to obtain demo versions of our multimedia authoring tool, Special Delivery 2.1, and to see multiple examples of how our tools are used in the business, education and professional marketplace.

We invite you to explore our web site, located at URL: http://www.imcinfo.com

We also invite you to link to it from any appropriate multimedia, graphics, or music sites you or your members may maintain.

Our site also includes reviews, datasheets, technical tips and links to other useful and relevant sites.

Our tool has proven so useful and popular, that Apple used it to create the in-box demos that ship on all US Macintosh 580, 630, 5200 and 6200 computers.

We welcome your questions, comments and suggestions.
Sincerely,
Peter Rosenthal
Interactive Media Corporation



Stout Typographical Society

# Apple II Novice SIG Meeting Minutes

*Submitted by Tom Gates*

The Novice meeting became a //e surgery class. Had about 4 different //e's all in different states of disrepair/despair. Owen worked some magic - even taking his soldering iron out with 20 minutes of library time remaining and fixed a shot key switch in the keyboard.

Pie SIG covered propane vehicles and how I could add a propane boost to my diesel Blazer. But what's a guy to do with the extra horses? As Owen pointed out, if were a tractor, put a bigger plow behind it and still go the same speed.

All those remaining near closing time at Baker's Square were mildly disappointed when we weren't able to try out the new vacuum cleaner - it was the carpet cleaner's night to make a mess.

# NAUG's Demise

*Submitted by Harry Lienke*

I received the latest issue of the NAUG Forum today. Following is the first paragraph.

This is a difficult note for us to write, but after ten years of service to the AppleWorks community, NAUG will close its doors on December 31, 1995. It was a hard decision, but with declining memberships and rising costs, the writing is on the wall.

The ClarisWorks Journal is not affected by this announcement, except that Forum subscribers with remaining subscription time can transfer their subscriptions to the Journal.

# FREE MEMBERSHIPS

*by Pam and Harry Lienke*

Don't forget to be recruiting new members and, in return, extend your membership.

From October 1, 1995, to March 31, 1996, membership renewals are free to members who recruit new members. Every new recruit sponsored by a member entitles that member to two free months of mini'app'les membership. Any current member that sponsors six new members will be rewarded with a one year extension of his/her membership at no cost.

Here are the rules.

1. The recruits must have never been mini'app'les members or must be former members who have not belonged to our group for at least two years.

2. The recruits must list you as their sponsor on their enlistment forms.

For every new member that you recruit, the Membership Director will extend your membership by two months.

Help our club grow!

# ClarisWorks Tip: Creating a 'Ditto' Macro

*by Pam Lienke*

If you've ever used one word processor, spreadsheet, database, or other program and fallen in love with it, you know how difficult it is to give up features that you have grown accustomed to. Sometimes we stick with a program or version of a program because it has a certain feature that the newer version or another program doesn't have, even if it means not being able to take advantage of other features. That's what it's like for former AppleWorks users. They've had a great program on their Apple II's. Now as some of them switch to Macs, they find the separation sometimes difficult. ClarisWorks offers them many features, but the features are not always just as the users remember.

One feature found in the AppleWorks database and spreadsheet environments is the "Ditto" command. It allows the user to copy information from a particular field in a record and paste it into the same field in the next record. Although it is not a standard feature with ClarisWorks, the user can create a macro (one action that performs a series of commands) to perform the same function. The following directions assume the user knows how to create a database. These directions are given in database terminology; the operation is analogous in the spreadsheet environment. To create this macro you need two records. To begin, place your cursor in a field in the second record. Next select Record Macro under the Shortcuts menu in the File menu. You are presented with a dialog box. Here you give the macro a name. Let's call this one "Ditto" in honor of our AppleWorks friends.

# WHAT ARE DESKTOOLS IV?

*by Harry Lienke*

The topic of discussion at the September AppleWorks SIG was 'DeskTools IV' (DIV).

DIV is a collection of TimeOut Applications that appeared in several previous collections: DeskTools, DeskTools II, PowerPack, SpreadTools, and TextTools. The tools in DIV represent the 22 best TimeOut applications from those collections that were not integrated into AppleWorks 4. They may be used with either AppleWorks 4 (AW4) or AppleWorks 5 (AW5).

### "Area Codes"

Area Codes provides lists of area codes, states plus the state abbreviation, capital cities plus their area codes, cities by state plus area code, and so forth. It has a data base file which can be edited to correct the information or to add notes.

### "ASCII Values"

ASCII Values displays ASCII, decimal, hexadecimal, binary, code, and screen equivalents for numbers from 0 to 65535. You can scroll the display to show the values or can enter an individual number to see its equivalents.

### "Calculator +"

Calculator + Is Reverse Polish Notation (RPN) based. It holds data in a stack and performs mathematical, scientific, and financial functions on that data. Numbers can be imported from a spreadsheet and/or exported to a spreadsheet.

### "Calculator"

Calculator performs standard arithmetic operations using algebraic notation. It has one memory location and a 'tape' to record operations. It exports data to a word processor (WP), spreadsheet (SS), or data base (DB) file.

### "Case Converter"

Case Converter changes an entire document (DB, SS, or WP) to upper case or lower case or capitalizes all sentences or words.

### "Desktop Sorter"

Desktop Sorter works on the Desktop Index (oa-Q display). You can alphabetize the entire menu or exchange the places of any two files. This little item is handy for setting up the desktop index so you can use the oa-Q and oa-CTRL-Q macros from the default macro set.

### "Directree"

Directree displays or prints file lists using an indented format. AppleWorks files are marked by an Open-Apple (oa) symbol. AppleWorks files are loaded when they are selected (highlighted plus RETURN). Directree also has a feature which enables you to find files with a particular string in their name.

### "Envelope Addresser"

Envelope Addresser allows you to designate and place the address and a return address on an envelope. You can also enter and place other text on the envelope.

### "File Encrypter"

File Encrypter provides the capability to hide DB, SS, and WP files by encoding them. The AppleWorks control characters are not encoded so you can still see the 'shape' of the file. The keyword that you used to encrypt the file must also be used to decode the file.

### "File Librarian"

File Librarian reads the catalog of the current disk and stores the data in the current desktop file (must be a data base file). Extra categories can be added to provide room for entering information about the files.

With AW4 and DB Pix or with AW5 you can create a library of your graphics files and then view the graphics as you browse through the data base.

### "Formula to Value"

Formula to Value replaces a block of spreadsheet formulas with their current values. This reduces the memory and disk space occupied by the SS file.

### "Help Screens"

Help Screens compiles text files into Help Screens which are available as TimeOut applications. Your lists, explanations, and reference material are just a few key strokes away and no desktop space is used.

### "Line Sorter"

Line Sorter works within a word processing file to sort a range of lines based on one column and the following data on each line. You select the starting column and the first and last lines, and specify an alphabetical or reverse alphabetical sort. The selected lines are sorted while the remainder of the document is untouched.

### "Measurements"

Measurements converts length, volume, weight, and time between units (feet to meters, for example). The result can be exported into an AppleWorks file at the current cursor location.

### "Note Pad"

Note Pad is a convenient little tool for jotting down those thoughts that occur while you are working with AppleWorks. The notes can be viewed or printed. This little gem also enables cell notes to be used in AW4 spreadsheets (a standard feature with AW5).

### "Page Preview"

Page Preview uses the graphics screen to show the page format of word processor files. One period per character is used so that multiple pages can be shown on each graphics screen.

### "Printer Manager"

Printer Manager sends control

codes to your printer. It has fourteen configurable menu items for sending control codes; you can also type in text strings or hexadecimal code strings to send to the printer.

### "Program Selector"

Program Selector allows you to set up a menu of up to four programs that you can run and then automatically return to AppleWorks.

### "Screen Out"

Screen Out blanks your screen to help keep your valuable data from prying eyes. It can be configured

with a password so that no one else can work with your computer without your permission.

### "Screen Printer"

Screen Printer works like the oa-H command except that you can select a part of the screen instead of printing the full screen.

### "Stop Watches"

Stop Watches has a set of 5 stop watches for timing events up to 24 hours long. You can individually start, stop, and clear the stop watches.

A twenty character memo can be added to identify each event being timed.

### "Word Count"

Word Count tells you how many words and characters you have in your word processor document (this one had 912 words and 4490 characters before the editor started working on it).

If DeskTools IV sounds like it might be useful, give Quality Computers a call (1-800-890-8263). DIV is available for $29.95.

# Apple II History
## Part 22 -- Telecommunications [V1.0 :: 14 Sep 92]

*Compiled and written by Steven Weyhrich Copyright 1992, Zonker Software*

### REACH OUT AND BYTE SOMEONE

Since the earliest days that it was available, there have been those who have found ways to communicate using their computers with other Apple II's users over the phone lines. Although some inexpensive imaginative methods have been employed (such as A.P.P.L.E.'s "Apple Box" that used the cassette port to send and receive programs via the phone line), the release of the DC Hayes Micromodem II in about 1979 made it possible for a new type of computing. Although there were those who wanted to use their Apple II as a home terminal for access to a school or business mainframe from home, many users created their own small systems that could be called from elsewhere. These "bulletin board systems" consisted of a single computer that was always waiting to answer the phone. When it rang, the computer would answer the phone and establish two-way communication via the modem. A program running on this computer would then allow the calling computer to do various things, such as reading messages left

by other users, to posting messages for others to read. As these systems became more sophisticated, it became possible to send and receive programs or other data files on these BBS's, play games, and participate in online surveys. The system operator ("sysop") was responsible for maintaining the software and the message databases, often leaving his computer on for 24 hours a day to be available for callers.

The success of these small, local systems encouraged the larger, mainframe-based systems to expand and offer services to non-business users during off-peak hours. They figured that since the equipment was idle during that time anyway, they might as well have SOMEONE use it and earn them some extra money. Most of the major online services that started in the late 1970's are still in business, in one form or another, and others have entered the game since then. Competition has increased, the number of users accessing these national systems has grown, the number of features offered has also gone up, and the cost of online communication has dropped.

The ability to transfer files from one Apple II to another has evolved

over time. Initially, an Applesoft or Integer BASIC program might be "downloaded" (sent from the BBS to the calling computer) by simply doing a "LIST" of it. That was fine, unless the program had some machine language parts added on. Then, the bytes of that assembly code had to be sent as hex digit pairs (i.e., 20 00 BF 65 10 03 04, etc.), since anything shared between the computers had to be in printable ASCII codes. With the noise possible on some telephone connections, this could result in a single character becoming garbled now and then, resulting in a program that wouldn't run because of the error that was introduced. Various programs for the Apple II were devised over time to make this more efficient, including some that used the method of encoding the hex bytes (digit pairs) into single printable ASCII codes that were then decoded on the receiving end into a usable program.

Eventually, Apple II BBS programs (and the terminal programs that were used to call those BBS's) began to use the "XMODEM" standard devised in 1982 by Ward Christensen to more efficiently and accurately send such files over a phone line. As Apple software

became more sophisticated, and as the files to send became larger and larger (particularly with the introduction of the IIGS), protocols were established to allow more than one file to be sent in a single transmission. The first major protocol that was agreed upon among the major online services was the Binary II protocol. Designed in 1986 by Gary Little, this allowed a standard method of grouping files that could work for any of the disk formats available on the Apple II. In 1988, Andy Nicholas designed a more comprehensive method of not only putting several files into a single file (usually called an "archive"), but also compressing those files to save time and space when transmitting them between computers. He called this protocol "NuFX" (NuFile eXchange), and implemented it and the data compression in a program called ShrinkIt (and later GS-ShrinkIt) that he released as "freeware" (that is, he did not charge for the use and distribution of his program). The NuFX protocol was adopted by Apple Computer as the official protocol for file transmission for the Apple II, and Nicholas later went to work at Apple after his graduation from the college that he was attending when he designed the protocol.

## NATIONAL ONLINE SERVICES

Since there are far too many local systems to discuss in even a passing manner here, let's take a look at the various nationally available systems and their history as it applies to the Apple II.

### Internet (1970's-Present)

The United States Department of Defense began a computer network in the late 1960's called ARPAnet (Advanced Research Project Agency Network) to facilitate communication between widely scattered universities and research centers. To make it possible to have real-time intercommunications, electronic mail, and the ability to exchange files and other important information, they developed a set of standards to make it possible to carry out these functions. The effort was very successful, and eventually the university research groups wanted to use it for everything, not just Department of Defense work. Eventually it was opened up to non-Defense projects (with restrictions to prevent commercial ventures) and it was called Internet. To gain access to Internet required a computer "node" (usually through a university). Although the term "Internet" is often used to refer to all of these computer networks, there are at least three major ones that are linked together at most sites: Internet, Bitnet, and Usenet. Internet is most commonly used to send electronic mail and messages.<1>

With the widespread penetration of Internet across the country, there have developed many different groups and forums, including ones that were specific to the Apple II. Since Internet was already in existence when the Apple II was released, and long before any home users with modems created single-user bulletin board systems, it probably represents the first online "service" available for the Apple II. The original newsgroup was called "comp.sys.apple", and in 1990 its name was changed to "comp.sys.apple2" to distinguish it from newsgroups that were dedicated to the Macintosh. Through Internet addresses, Apple II users can even communicate directly with employees of Apple who have accounts on the net.<1>,<2>

### The Source (1979-1989)

The Source began in 1979 and lasted until 1989. For much of its life, it was owned by Reader's Digest. It was accessible through Telenet or Tymnet nodes; that is, through com-

puters in a locality that act as gateways to many other online computer services across the country. (Often there is an additional fee for using the Telenet or Tymnet node, in addition to the charges for the specific service being accessed). The Source had many services available online, including over twenty financial and business services, access to several national and international news services, and computer-specific news features. An online encyclopedia, shopping, interactive games, and airline reservations were also available. One feature unique to The Source was the capability to create "scripts" that the mainframe kept track of (rather than being on the user's local terminal program disk). These scripts could be used to quickly move to certain areas and perform repetitive functions (such as scanning and reading electronic mail, and checking for new files in the library).

The Apple II had a presence on The Source from its earliest days, but the APPLESIG was updated in 1987, and Joseph Kohn (who currently writes articles for inCider/A+ and works with the Big Red Computer Club) was the chief sysop. He operated the APPLESIG from May 1987 until The Source closed down.

Kohn worked to make APPLESIG a major information source for Apple II users. Registered with Apple as a user group, they had expert advice available, as well as a large library of articles and software. The online charges were lower for APPLESIG, which also made it attractive for users. As with other online services, a bulletin board section was also maintained for ongoing discussions between users about various topics of interest. They also had an online presence maintained by "The Apple IIGS Buyer's Guide", and were allowed to reprint articles from "MicroTimes" and "A+" magazines.<3>

According to Kohn, one thing that likely contributed to the demise of The Source was their insistence on a $10 monthly minimum charge, long after other national online ser-

vices had either eliminated or significantly lowered such charges. Another problem that he identified was that their system was not as easy to use as some other services (although former users feel that the Source's library search protocol was better than any other). The Source was bought out by CompuServe, and its subscribers merged with that service in 1989.<4>,<5>

## CompuServe (1979-Present)

This service originally began as "Compu-Serv" in 1969 as an in-house computer processing center for Golden United Life Insurance Co. During the next ten years they expanded their offerings to business users, and by 1972 had over four hundred accounts across the country. In 1977 the name was officially changed to "CompuServe Incorporated", and by 1979 they were ready to begin offering service to computer hobbyists. Their new service was called MicroNET, and it started on July 1, 1979 after two months of testing with the 1,200 members of the Midwest Affiliation of Computer Clubs. Items available online were bulletin boards, databases, and games. Soon after they started this, an Apple II special interest group was begun. It gave itself the name "MAUG" (for "MicroNetted Apple User Group").

In 1980, CompuServe merged with H&R Block, and changed their personal computer service name from MicroNET to CompuServe Information Service. They have continued to expand their services and capabilities through the years, and are widely available across the country.<6>

Each user on CompuServe is assigned an eight or nine digit ID code, divided into five digits, a comma, and then the other three or four digits. For example, a user's code might be 76543,4321. When directing electronic mail to a specific user, it is necessary to use that ID code so the system knows exactly WHICH Joe Smith you want to receive your message.

The bulletin board and message sections on CompuServe are divided up into Forums, usually dedicated to a specific service. The MAUG section covers more than one forum, since the volume of message traffic is too large to manage in a single forum. Messages within a forum are organized under major subject, and then under minor subjects. Each message is assigned a number, and the various messages are linked together into "threads". For instance, user #1 asks a question about a brand of modem. User #2 links his answer to that message and answers the original question. User #3 also answers the question, but adds a comment about terminal programs. User #4 picks up on THAT comment, and adds his views about the terminal program that HE likes, without mentioning anything about the modem question that user #1 asked. And on it goes. Eventually, the topic will probably die out, to be restarted later by someone else when it is necessary. The message thread can be followed when reading these posts, or you could simply read all the messages sequentially by their message number. A sequential scan would read ALL messages about ALL topics, whether the messages were connected or not. Following the thread pursues one conversation; following all of the messages pursues ALL conversations that are going on.

One problem that can occur with this type of system depends on the volume of message traffic. The software that CompuServe uses will assign a new number to each new message, but when the total number of messages has passed a certain point, the first messages will be deleted. If the range of messages when signing on Monday runs from 15000 to 17000, by Tuesday it may run from 15500 to 17500 (and the first 500 messages from 15000 to 15499 have disappeared). If there are any especially useful conversations going on, the Sysop (system operator) for that forum may choose to save the messages and their threads into a file in the library for access in the future by those who were not

involved in the conversations when they were going on.

Each forum on CompuServe has the capability of supporting live conferences, where many users can be present at the same time and hold live interactive conversations (as opposed to the bulletin board conversations where you must post a message, and then log on later to see if there has been a reply to it).

The MAUG libraries hold programs that have been uploaded for years; some are from the early part of the 1980's (if you can wait for the file scan to get back that far). Of course, there are also many files that are new, and they are added daily by the active people there.

As with the other major online systems, there are many other services available online besides the MAUG forums, including news services, online shopping, games, and much more.<7>

### Delphi (1982-Present)

In 1982 the General Videotex Corporation began an online service called Delphi (probably named after the oracle of ancient Greek mythology). They have not been a major player in the competition for customers between national online services, but neither have they succumbed to financial pressure and passed away. Like The Source, they are accessible through Telenet and Tymnet. They have had an Apple II SIG (Special Interest Group) since around 1985. Erik Kloeppel has been head Sysop for that SIG for the past several years.

In January 1992, General Videotex purchased the BIX online service operated by Byte magazine in an effort to enlarge Delphi and increase its market share.

### GEnie (1985-Present)

GEnie is owned and operated by General Electric, and the name stands for "General Electric Network for Information Exchange". It has been in business since 1985, and, like other online systems, offers many different services to its sub-

scribers, including news, an online encyclopedia, online shopping, games, financial information, and areas of interest to users of various brands of computers.

Where CompuServe's sections are called Forums, GEnie calls their sections Roundtables (or RTs for short). Each RT is divided up into a bulletin board, library, and conference rooms (called "Real Time Conferences", or RTC's). The bulletin board is divided up into a number of categories, and each category consists of a number of topics. Each topic then has individual messages that (hopefully) deal with that topic. Unlike CompuServe, messages will not disappear from a topic until the Sysop decides to delete them (and this does not occur until the number of messages either get too large to be manageable, or they become old and outdated). If a topic contains messages that are particularly helpful (such as information about the use of a common computer utility program), the messages may stay up for YEARS. If it becomes necessary to purge old messages, they may be placed into the library so they are still available for reading in the future.

As for user ID's, GEnie decided to use a combination of letters and other symbols to give each user a unique name, instead of the number system CompuServe employs. A new user is typically assigned a user name that consists of their first initial, a period, and their last name. If there is another user with the same user name at that point, a number is added. For instance, Joe Smith would be given the name J.SMITH; if there already are three Joe Smith's on the system, then this name would be changed to J.SMITH4 to tell him apart from the other ones. A user may ask for a different name (for a price) if the one assigned to him or her is not satisfactory. These tend to be as varied as vanity license plates on automobiles. If J.SMITH4 owns a restaurant, he may ask GEnie to give him a name such as EAT.AT.JOES instead of his original name.

GEnie started supporting the

Apple II computer on October 27th, 1985, about five days prior to its going public. Kent Fillmore was the first Apple Information Manager, and the first Sysop was Cathy Christiansen. Fillmore started the "America Apple RoundTable" (AART), for the Apple ]\[ and /// Computers, as well as the A2PRO RT (Apple II Programmers) with Michael Fischer (MFISCHER), A+ Magazine RT with Maggie Canon (A.PLUS), the Apple/Mac User Group RT with Leonard Reed (BIBLIA), the ProTree RT with Bob Garth (PROTREE), and the GEnie Sysop's private RoundTable.<8> Fillmore left GEnie in October 1987 and Tom Weishaar took over some of those RTs. Fillmore later returned to GEnie in June 1992 to become the Product Manager for Computing RoundTables/ChatLines.<9>

To stay competitive with older and sometimes larger information services, GEnie has usually kept its online costs below those of the other systems. The association with Tom Weishaar and his newsletter, "A2-Central" (originally "Open-Apple"), has been beneficial for both. GEnie's 100,000th member in March 1988 was an Apple II user that joined because of a special offer through Open-Apple. And Weishaar has been able to keep more direct contact with Apple II users, from both those who work professionally with the II to those who use their Apple II's for special purposes only.<10>

### AppleLink-Personal Edition / America Online (1988-Present)

Beginning in May 1988, Apple Computer contracted with Quantum Computer Services to start a consumer version of its AppleLink network. Apple's original network, in operation since 1985, had been used primarily for communication functions within Apple Computer and its various sites across the country, as well as a source of technical support for certified Apple developers. When their new consumer service, AppleLink-Personal Edition (ALPE) was introduced, they changed the

name of the original network to AppleLink-Industrial Edition. Apple's hope was to use ALPE as a method of providing better support to its customers.

AppleLink-Personal Edition was unique for an online computer service in its use of a custom terminal program. Rather than requiring the user, (possibly a novice) to spend a lot of time in learning how to use a terminal program, a modem, AND ALPE, Quantum and Apple designed a special program that handled all the communications details, including the sign-on password. Each time that the user signed-off from ALPE, a new, randomly selected password was selected and saved on the ALPE disk for the next time. ALPE was aware of this password, and so the chances of someone breaking in on another user's account and using time (and money!) was nearly eliminated.

The ALPE terminal program was intuitive, as was the use of the Macintosh (and Apple IIGS) desktop interface. Icons (pictures of desired functions) were selected with the mouse or cursor (depending on how you had it configured). Making the call and logging in were handled by the terminal program, transparently to the user. When the connection was made, a choice between Apple-specific services and ALPE general services was available. The general section was directed to entertainment, business services, online shopping, and general education. There

was also a place for playing online games, alone or with other users. An "auditorium" could be used for members to attend conferences with special guests, allowing direct questions and answers with the guests.

The Apple Community section was the part most important to the dedicated Apple II (or Macintosh) user. Here direct contact with Apple Computer, Inc. was available (through the "Headquarters" icon), as well as other hardware and software vendors. Apple product announcements and information about products in testing could be found here, as well as direct access to Apple engineers and developers. There were Forums (special interest groups) for various aspects of Apple computing, Apple University (with courses on productivity, programming, and specialized software applications), and Software (library of available programs for downloading).

In 1990, AppleLink-Personal Edition was modified to connect with the services Quantum provided for other home computers, and the name was changed to America Online. It was still slightly less expensive than the other major online services, and because of the icon-based terminal software, still the easiest to use for the beginner.<11>

The main benefit for an Apple II user on a large, online service such as those described above is the availability of many experienced users that can provide prompt, timely

answers to questions or problems. Some hardware and software companies maintain an online presence, to allow immediate feedback for their customers with technical problems. There are also many files in the libraries on these services, providing software at low cost, some quite professionally written. Apple Computer has also allowed most of these services to act as official "user groups", and so have availability of official technical notes and file type description notes for the Apple II series.

NEXT INSTALLMENT: Renaissance?

**NOTES**
<1> E'Sex, Lunatic. GEnie, A2 ROUND-TABLE, Feb 1992, Category 2, Topic 16.
<2> Bouchard, J. GEnie, A2 ROUND-TABLE, Jan 1992, Category 12, Topic 7.
<3> Kohn, Joseph. "The Source", CALL-A.P.P.L.E., Jan 1989, pp. 25-28.
<4> Kohn, Joseph. (personal mail), GEnie, E-MAIL, Feb 1992.
<5> Utter, Gary. GEnie, A2 ROUND-TABLE, Feb 1992, Category 2, Topic 16.
<6> Gerber, Carole Houze. "Online Yesterday Today And Tomorrow", ONLINE TODAY, Jul 1989, pp. 12-19.
<7> Apfelstadt, Marc. "All About CompuServe", CALL-A.P.P.L.E., Nov 1988, pp. 44-47.
<8> E'Sex, Lunatic. GEnie, A2 ROUND-TABLE, Feb 1992, Category 2, Topic 16.
<9> Fillmore, Kent. GEnie, A2 ROUND-TABLE, Sep 1991, Category 2, Topic 16.
<10> Weishaar, Tom. "All About GEnie: General Electric's Online Information Service", CALL-A.P.P.L.E., Sep 1988, pp. 46-50.
<11> Cooper, Vince. "AppleLink-Personal Edition", CALL-A.P.P.L.E., Jul-Aug 1988, pp. 8-13.

# TidBITS#292/28-Aug-95

**Topics:**

Speed Doubler Quickens the Pace

## Speed Doubler Quickens the Pace

*by Richard C.S. Kinne <kinnerc@snymor-va.cs.snymor.edu>*

The world is obsessed with speed and nowhere is that more prevalent

than in the computer industry. Anyone who can find a way to make our computers work faster gains our appreciation - and our dollars.

Connectix Software has a reputation of doing more with less. One of the longest lines at Boston's Macworld Expo this year was filled with people waiting for their newest miracle: Speed Doubler. Speed Doubler claims to double the speed of your Macintosh and - at its best - fulfills that promise. Let's take a

closer look.

### From Garden Hose to Big Pipe

Speed Doubler has three components. The first of these is a disk caching extension called Speed Access. One of the bottlenecks in computer performance is that the computer's CPU works far faster than it can read from or write to any disk. For example, if you could do it, you'd love to fill your new in-ground pool using a five-foot diameter water

pipe instead of a garden hose. For both 68K and Power Macintosh computers, Speed Doubler simulates a larger water pipe as far as disk operations are concerned by improving disk caching algorithms. Although the Macintosh does have disk caching built into the operating system, the Mac's disk caching, essentially a "blind" cache, operates the same way regardless of work patterns or data types, and it hasn't been significantly improved in several releases.

Speed Access replaces and improves the regular Macintosh disk cache, intelligently caching frequently used data in preference to other, less-used data. Upon installation, Speed Doubler sets the cache depending on the amount of RAM you have. You can control this cache through the Memory control panel. When using Speed Access, allocate as much RAM as you can to the cache while leaving enough RAM to open all your needed applications. If you don't want to, you don't have to use any more cache memory than you normally do.

### Multitasking in the Finder

The second component of Speed Doubler, an extension called Speed Copy, enables you to continue using your Mac while copying files. Speed Copy allows you to continue working in the Finder while copies are going on. You can also start multiple copies and have them proceed simultaneously. However, copying multiple sets of files at the same time significantly slows down your machine. Other utilities, such as CopyDoubler and Aladdin Desktop Tools, provide similar performance enhancements in slightly different ways, but Speed Doubler gives you this capability in yet another consumer mix.

Along with enabling you to do other things while copying files or emptying the trash, Speed Doubler's Finder enhancements also offer extra information and capabilities. You'll know how long the computer will take to copy those files now, and if you don't like the idea of corporate

spies getting their hands on your secrets, the new Empty Trash dialog box gives you a security erase option and lets you to select particular files in the Trash that will be deleted (if you have the Trash's Warn before emptying checkbox set).

### Faster Than a Speeding Power Mac

The final component in the Speed Doubler suite is the PowerPC Speed Emulator, and this component is what earns Speed Doubler its name. One of the weak points of a Power Mac is that it must run in the slower emulation mode when working with 68K-based software. Apple took some heat earlier this year for improving the Power Mac 68K emulator for the PowerPC 604-based Macs and not improving emulation in first- generation Power Macs. Well, fret no more. Not only does Speed Emulator improve the speed of your Power Mac when running 68K applications, it's reputed to be 30 percent faster than Apple's improved emulator! I've noticed a dramatic improvement of at least 50-75 percent over the week I've used it. Speed Emulator won't improve the performance of native software - since native software already takes full advantage of the PowerPC chip - but remember that significant portions of the Mac OS are still non-native and Speed Doubler improves performance in those areas. Of course, Speed Emulator only works with Power Macs and is of no use on 68K-based machines, but Speed Doubler works on _any_ Power Mac, not just Apple's latest crop.

### What's it Gonna Cost Me?

That's the first question I put to Connectix's at Macworld. The simple answer is $99, about $60 street price, or even less for owners of other Connectix products. But what about RAM? Ever since realizing 8 MB of memory was not enough to effectively run a Power Mac, I've been very conservative with my RAM. Speed Access - the disk caching area of the program - takes as much memory for disk caching as you

specify in the Memory control panel. On Power Macs, Speed Emulator is advertised to use about 800K of RAM; however, I've observed my System size increasing by perhaps 1.5 MB. The system size increase will be greater for computers with a greater amount of available memory (because they need to purge material less frequently), which effectively means Speed Emulator is more efficient on machines that routinely have significant amounts of free memory.

Any software that modifies low-level functions of your computer teeters on edge of disaster in regard to software compatibility. I've used Speed Doubler for over a week on three separate machines, including a Power Mac 6100/60, and can report only one potential software conflict with a very specialized application. Every major application and game I've run has had no problems, and has benefited from increased performance. [I've also had trouble- free performance on a Power Mac 7100 and PowerBook 520. -Tonya]

### And the Verdict is...

Speed Doubler offers three basic improvements. Speed Access, its disk caching element, hasn't impressed me because I haven't seen much improvement that I can attribute to it. On the other hand, this is such an under-the-hood addition that it can be difficult to tell what portions of other speed-ups it may have been responsible for. Connectix did better with regard to their Finder improvements; the ability to copy files and continue to work with the Finder is a worthwhile addition, although not a new one. The biggest way Connectix could have improved this area was to find a way to multitask the formatting of a disk. Finally, on Power Macs, the Speed Emulator is a big win for those of us who still working significantly with 68K-based applications. I found it a noticeable improvement with no problematic conflicts.

If you like speed, have a Power

# Mini'app'les Handy Form

**Name:** _____

**Address:** _____

**Company:** _____

**City, State, Zip:** _____

**Phone (Home):** _____ **(Work):** _____

**Occupation:** _____

**Member ID#(if applicable):** _____ **Expiration date:** _____

If this is a change of address notice, please afix your current mailing label here, or provide the corresponding information. Be sure you have written your new address on the lines above.

ID#: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Name: _____

Street: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

---

## Yes... I'd like to join!

If this is a new membership, or a renewal, please take a few minutes to fill out the questioniare.

**Which personal computer(s) do you use?**
❑ Power Macintosh model(s) _____
❑ Macintosh model(s) _____
❑ Apple II model(s) _____
❑ Other _____

**What attachments or peripherals do you use?**
❑ QuickDraw printer
❑ PostScript printer
❑ Modem
❑ Scanner/digital camera
❑ Drawing tablet
❑ Voice mail
❑ MIDI
❑ Other_____

**What are your areas of special interest?**
❑ Business applications
❑ Household applications
❑ Educational applications
❑ Desktop Publishing
❑ Programming
❑ Networking
❑ Games
❑ Other_____

❑ Check if you want your name withheld from commercial and other non-club mailing lists
❑ Check if you are interested in volunteer opportunities (see other side)
❑ Check if you were referred by a club member. Please give name

_____

---

## eDom Orders

**Prices:**

| | |
|---|---|
| 5.25" eDom: | $3.00 |
| 5.25" System: | $1.00 |
| 3.5" eDom: | $5.00 |
| 3.5" System: | $3.00 |
| Mac System 7(9 disks): | $15.00 |
| GS/OS 6.0.1(6 disks): | $10.00 |

(Prices include 6.5% Minnesota sales tax)

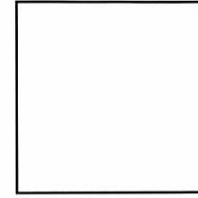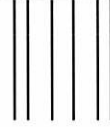| Disk size | eDom | Title or Description | Qty. | Price @ | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

| | |
|---|---|
| Total merchandise | |
| Double price for non-members | |
| Add $1/disk shipping ($4.00 max) | |

**Make checks payable to "Mini'app'les"**

| | |
|---|---|
| Grand Total: | |

### Current Apple System Software

| | Version | Date | Format |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Apple II, II+, IIc, IIe** | | | |
| Dos 3.3 System Master | n/a | 09/10/85 | 5.25" |
| Apple II System Disk (128K required) | 4.02 | 05/06/93 | 5.25/3.5" |
| ProDOS Users Disk (64K machines) | W/ProDOS 1.9 | 02/05/85 | 5.25/3.5" |
| **Apple IIGS** | | | |
| GS/OS System (6 disks) | 6.0 | 4/92 | 3.5" |
| HyperMover(2disks) | n/a | n/a | 3.5" |

Next, under Options, assign key strokes or a function key to execute the macro. Let's select the letter 'd' for ditto. You want to use the shortcuts so say you do want a shortcut and you want it in the shortcuts palette. Since you can only use this macro in the database and spreadsheet environments, select only those for this macro. If everything is correct, press RETURN or click Record. You are now recording the steps you want followed each time you press Command-Shift-Option-D.

1. Press Command-Shift-Return to move you to the same field in the previous record.

2. Select the data in the field by pressing Command-Shift-Up Arrow.

3. Copy the select text by pressing Command-C.

4. Move to the same field in the next record by pressing Command-Return.

5. Select the field by pressing Command-Shift-Up Arrow.

6. Paste the text by pressing Command-V.

7. Return to the menu bar and select Stop Recording in the Shortcuts menu in the File menu.

Your macro is now ready to use. Try it by placing your cursor in a particular field in the record below the record with the information you want duplicated. Press Command-Shift-Option-D. Presto! You have copied the information from the previous record into the same field in the next record.

Remember that this macro is to appear in the Shortcuts palette? Now that the macro works, let's design the shortcuts button. Select Edit Macro from the Shortcuts Menu in the File Menu in the menu bar. Click on the gray box in Options. You now have the Edit Icon Button dialog box. Select a color for the text of your icon and draw the

design of your choice. Make two capital letter I's to look like the IIe or IIgs logo. When you finish, select OK. You are done, so press Done and return to carry on where you left off before you started defining the macro. Have fun. It is possible to switch programs and not lose your favorite feature even if it is not a standard feature of the new program.

Macintosh, and use 68K applications, get Speed Doubler. But if you have a 68K-based Macintosh, the package may only be worth it to you if find yourself doing a good bit of waiting for files to copy.

[Connectix has just released a patch to Speed Doubler allowing users to update their machines and master disks to Speed Doubler 1.0.1. Among the fixes included are better reliability on machines with PowerPC upgrade cards and the ability to run Microsoft Word 4.0 with Speed Emulator. -Geoff]

ftp://ftp.mid.net/pub/Macintosh/Ap plications/SpeedDoubler/SD101U.s it

http://www.mindvision.com/

Connectix -- 800/950-5880,

415/571-5100
<sales@connectix.com>

For information on TidBITS: how to subscribe, where to find back issues, and other useful stuff, send email to: <info@tidbits.com> Send comments and editorial submissions to: <editors@tidbits.com> Issues available at: ftp://ftp.tidbits.com/pub/tidbits/issu es/ And: http://www.dartmouth.edu/pages/Ti dBITS/TidBITS.html To search back issues with WAIS, use this URL via a Web browser: http://www.wais.com/wais-dbs/mac-intosh-tidbits.html.

# Treasurer's Report October 1995

*Profit & Loss Statement\** . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . *Submitted by Melvyn D. Magree*

**Income**

| | |
|---|---|
| Memberships | $570.00 |
| Advertising\*\* | $220.00 |
| **Total Income** | **$790.00** |

**Expenses**

| | |
|---|---|
| Publications/Newsletter | $403.21 |
| Shows & Conventions | $20.00 |
| P.O. Box Rental | $104.00 |
| Hardware/Resource Support | $46.80 |
| **Total Expenses** | **$574.01** |

**Net Profit/(Loss)** . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . **$215.99**

\* *Savings interest <$10.00 not credited yet*
\*\* *Billed but not paid*
• *Does not include $65 for newsletter postage*

# The Macintosh Bible guide to ClarisWorks 3 (Peachpit Press® 1995)
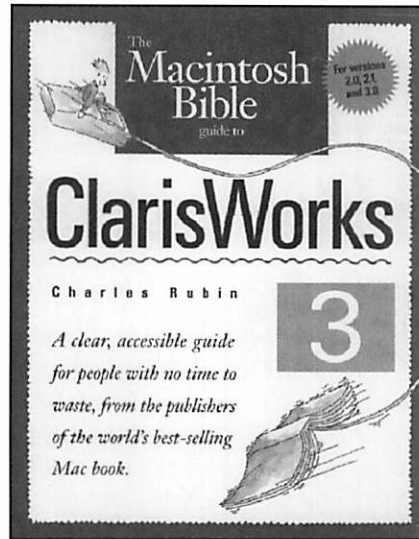
*By: Charles Rubin*
*Reviewed by: Ken Slingsby*

Why would a person purchase a book for software that has been updated since the book was written? I did this because at the time of purchase, ClarisWorks (CW) 4.0 was just released and because the CW 4 upgrade added new features without modifying much of the old commands.

Any CW user who used the early versions will remember the excellent reference book packed with the program. This book contains much of the material contained in the CW reference. The style of the book is "how to" although the language is readable and isn't condescending. Each chapter deals with unique topics. The first three chapters deal with the basics; functions common to each module. Then follows six chapters dealing with the major modules. Every chapter contains a trouble shooting guide also helpful tips and warnings as needed. The final chapters deal with advanced functions including frames, macros, mail merge, etc. The index seems complete, listing all items I have sought.

The Guide is not meant to be read cover to cover. It certainly could be read like a library book, however.

A user should read at least the first several chapters on the common functions, then skim the remaining chapters to get a feel for the book. This is not a thin comic book, but is over 400 pages long. It covers the basics well, even detailing how to change the program's memory size. The more complex functions are covered equally well. Where needed, distinctions of how a given function might operate differently in the database as compared to the spreadsheet environment, for example, are given. There are ample cross references to other sections of the book pointing to additional details.

The only mistake I found in the book was minor. The description of scientific notation explains the separator e+. This is followed by an example: "In this case, the 1.23456e+12 means 1.23445 raised to the power of 1012." I corrected the error with my pen and continued on.

I have been using CW since version 1.0. This book taught me several new tricks and helped me recall many seldom used features that are so often seen in the popular press and quickly forgotten. I recommend the book to any ClarisWorks user. When the version 4 book is released, I intend to buy it.