

# ***User Friendly***



**June  
2002**

**Next Meeting**

**Wednesday, June 12, at 7:30 p.m.**

**Jerry Moore**

**Instant Messaging Using Video**

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# From the President

By Don Yenché



The value of having sufficient memory in our computers was presented by Kelly Clark of Kingston Technology. She was our guest presenter on May 8<sup>th</sup>. I trust that after her informative presentation those of you with insufficient memory in your computers are seriously considering upgrading.

Do you have relatives and friends living at the other end of the country or the other end of the world? It sure would be fantastic being able to see them every time you make a telephone call. There is a way to accomplish that and see them "live". It is possible with today's technology which will be demonstrated at our club meeting in June. We will feature several of our club members presenting how easily it can be done. Leap into the future of internet video transmission. The demonstration will show us the endless possibilities of this new video messaging. Most important of all it will illustrate how you can simply accomplish this yourself. Logitech is just one of many companies that manufactures this process. It had the foresight to donate to our computer club two cameras and related software that fully accomplishes the job. This video messaging system will be viewed via our Association's projection system onto the ballroom's large screen.

You will see a two way video conversation by one of our staff talking to another from a remote location.

Our Web Master, Jerry Moore, conducted a survey via the internet with regard to a summer club picnic. The results indicated there was inadequate interest for us to proceed. Independent of that survey, our planning committee also canvassed many of our club members. The results were similar. I have to sadly announce that our picnic planning committee, after serious study and consideration, recommended we abandon any plans for a summer social. I still firmly believe our club should be something more than computers. It should be a social outlet for our members. Stay tuned for more ideas for some future social event. I will need your encouragement and support for this to materialize. It's up to you - our membership - to help us!

Speaking of the internet, you must visit our new and improved club web site. You now can maneuver around the site to get the information you desire. The links to informative sites on computers can usually answer most questions. We certainly owe our Web Master, Jerry Moore a debt of gratitude.

June will be your last opportunity to visit the Special Interest Group sessions before the summer break. Look for the schedule of the SIGs included in this issue. The SIGs and their leaders will be taking July and August off.

# Headers/Footers in Excel

By Herbert Sax

When creating a multi-page document in Excel it is often helpful to insert a header or footer. This is a line or two at the top or bottom of each page which can contain a variety of information. Let's go through our choices, one at a time.

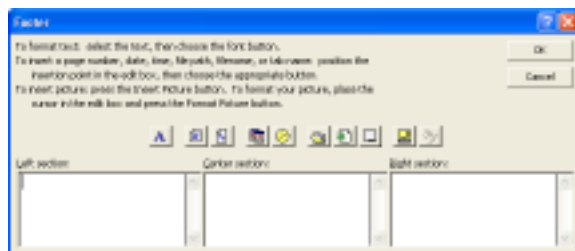
Open a blank Excel document, and type a few words or numbers in cells A1, A50, A100, and A150. Depending on the size of your screen and the font size you use, you will have created a document with more than one page. Now press Ctrl + Home to bring the cursor back to cell A1.

Click View + Header and Footer. You will see the following dialog box.



From this point forward, what you see may be a bit different from what I will show you, but it will be similar enough to enable you to follow along.

Click the Custom Footer button.



The three section boxes you see will left, center, or right align whatever you now insert. You

can enter any data you want in any of the three boxes, including images. These will appear on each page of your document, and will not change. You can also enter information that will change, depending on the number of pages in your document, the date, etc. These are shown as symbols above the boxes. (In Office XP there are ten symbols; your version of Excel may be slightly different.) We'll examine the symbols, one at a time.

**Font Button:** enables you to change the font, font size, and text style of the selected text in the Left section, Center section or Right section box.

**Page Number Button:** inserts page numbers when you print the worksheet and updates them automatically when you add or delete data, or set page breaks.

**Total Pages Button:** inserts total number of pages in the active worksheets and adjusts the page numbers automatically when you print the worksheet.

**Date Button:** inserts the current date.

**Time Button:** inserts the current time.

**Path and File Button:** inserts the path and file name of the active workbook.

**File Name Button:** inserts the file name of the active workbook.

**Sheet Name Button:** inserts the name of the active worksheet.

**Insert Picture Button:** allows you to choose a picture to place in the active worksheet.

**Format Picture Button:** allows you to size, rotate, scale, crop and adjust the image you have chosen to place in the active worksheet.

Keep in mind that a number of these buttons insert dynamic codes. When you change the number of pages in the worksheet, the header/footer will also change. This is good. So, too will the date change every time you open the worksheet. So if you want the date to remain static, instead of using the code, type in the date. Similarly, be sure to type a "/" between number of pages and total number of pages. Alternately, for, let us say, a three-page document, you can type "Page", hit the spacebar, click the Page Number Button, hit the spacebar, type "of", hit the spacebar, click the Total Pages Button, hit the spacebar, and type "Pages". This will give you a footer that reads "Page 1 of 3 Pages".

# Auctions - Proceed with Caution

As internet commerce skyrocketed in recent times so have online auctions. Unfortunately, right along came the fraud artists. To be sure there are a few legitimate auctioners such as eBay and Amazon's Auctions. But even here you had better proceed with maximum caution.

Here are some steps recommended in the Email Newsletter by NOLO - Law for All, <[www.nolo.com](http://www.nolo.com)> which may help you from being taken by the unscrupulous.

## Ten Tips to Avoid Auction Scams

**1. Educate yourself.** Start slowly, whether you're a buyer or a seller. Carefully read the auction site's rules and FAQ pages before listing an item or making a bid. (You may also want to check out <[www.AuctionWatch.com](http://www.AuctionWatch.com)>, which offers a FAQ on auction basics, a glossary of auction jargon and other tips and tactics.) Spend some time on a particular site to get the lay of the land. The auction sites have different rules, which can be quite technical, so if you switch sites, make sure you understand the differences. When you're ready, start by bidding on relatively inexpensive items. Or, if you're selling, first sell a low-cost item or two. This reduces your risk while you learn how online auctions really play out.

**2. Check out sellers and buyers.** Take the time to find out more about the buyer or seller you're dealing with. Stay away from transactions with minors if you can spot them (called "kid-bids" in online auction jargon). Check out feedback on the other auction sites which allow users to post positive or negative comments about their experiences with other users. Be extra cautious when dealing with users with negative feedback or no feedback. And remember, you can't always believe positive feedback, since a user can use an alternate email address or a friend to pad their feedback with undeserved praise.

**3. Be wary of untraceable users.** While most sites require sellers to supply billing information (including an email address and a physical address) and sometimes pay a listing fee up front, most sites

do not require buyers to put up any funds or credit card information in advance. That makes it harder to find someone should a deal go sour. (Amazon, which requires and verifies credit card information from buyers and sellers, is one exception.) Worse, some auction sites do not prevent users from using anonymous email addresses. For example, Web-based email services, such as those provided by hotmail.com, myownemail.com, Yahoo! and Excite, may require a physical address for registration, but they don't verify the location, much less a user's identity.

**4. Check retail prices before bidding.** Don't assume you'll get a great deal – or even a good one – just because an item is being auctioned online. Internet auctions have become such big business that some folks (and even stores) are making an online living by buying low and selling high. Check the price of the same or a similar item elsewhere by searching online stores, classified ads and/or auction sites for comparable prices. Don't forget the costs of shipping and insurance, which may make buying locally a better deal.

**5. After you've figured out a fair price for the auction item, set the highest price you'll pay and stick to it.** If you don't, you may get swept up in the heat of the bidding moment and end up paying higher than retail (perhaps as the victim of a clever shill).

**6. Watch for shills and shields.** Spotting a shill (in auction lingo some sellers will employ a second email address or a friend to artificially pump up the prices for a particular item, forcing a buyer's bid upwards or sometimes prompting a bidding war) on the Internet can be difficult, but it's not impossible. Do a search of a seller's past sales. Often the same shill will have bid on everything the seller has offered to artificially jack up the price of the seller's offerings. The shill's email address may have the same domain name as the seller's (or an anonymous domain name) and the shill may have little or no feedback, or feedback that comes from the same seller or another shill with the same domain name. To spot a shield, look for the same person in other auctions in which the winning bidder has participated. Has this person ever actually won one of the auctions, or has he withdrawn his bid at the last minute? Some sites allow sellers to cancel suspected shield bids. However, no one can spot

Continued on page 5

### **Auctions, Continued from page 4**

every scamster, so the trick here is: don't get caught up in a bidding war.

**7. Contact the other party by phone.** Always telephone the other party before completing the deal – to confirm the details of what you've bought or sold, to verify the other party's phone number, and to discuss further details such as payment and shipping method. Buyers usually pay the shipping and insurance costs.

**8. Choose a safe payment and shipping method.** Buyers should pay in a way that can be traced, such as with a credit card or check. (Never send cash, and never send payment to a P.O. box.) Sellers shouldn't ever send the product unless they've received the money – money orders and cashier's checks are a sure thing, but if you accept personal checks, wait until the check clears before sending the merchandise to the buyer. Always use a traceable shipping method (such as FedEx, UPS or some types of U.S. Mail), and insist on shipping insurance. Since the buyer has to sign for the package, she can't say she never got it. One good solution for both parties is to use UPS's COD (collect on delivery) system, which costs about \$5 per delivery (in addition to the regular shipping cost). The driver won't release the package until the buyer hands over a money order or cashier's check. Even better, escrow services (which charge from 3% to 6% of the sale price) let the buyer inspect the goods for a short period of time. Here's how they work: The escrow company collects and verifies the payment from the buyer, then notifies the seller, who ships the item. If the buyer finds the merchandise satisfactory, the escrow company releases the funds to the seller. If not, the buyer sends the merchandise back to the seller. There are several online escrow companies including Tradenable.com and Escrow.com. They're excellent choices for transactions over \$250.

**9. Record every step of the purchase or sale.** Print out all details of every transaction, including the original product description and the bidding history. Take pictures of items you send and receive. Also print all email correspondence and the contact information for each buyer or seller you deal with. Report any problems. Contact the auction site's customer service or admin department. For complaints about shilling and bid shielding

on eBay, post your suspicions at the Shill Detectives website (not affiliated with eBay). If you're lucky, some good soul there may help you investigate your claim. In addition, you can register a complaint with the National Fraud Information Center <[www.fraud.org](http://www.fraud.org)>.

**10. Use common sense.** If something is too good to be true, it probably is. Watch out for fakes – online auctions have been known to list counterfeit Beanie Babies, watches and handbags. For rare or collectible items, have the seller send you a signed, written statement describing the product and its value before you pay for it. And now that we've done our best to scare you off, realize that the vast majority of online auction transactions are completed safely (including the ones we've tried), so if you follow these tips, you shouldn't get burned.

## **Computer Club Special Interest Groups**

**Special Interest Groups, SIGs, meet from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. on the Fridays specified below.**



**1<sup>st</sup> Friday --- Computer Hardware SIG (Monitors, printers etc.)**  
by Leonard Schupak

**2<sup>nd</sup> Friday --- Email and the Internet SIG** by Jerry Moore

**3<sup>rd</sup> Friday --- MS Office SIG (Word, Excel)** by NEW SIG LEADER, Barry Robbins (Note: 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.)

**4<sup>th</sup> Friday---Photo Editing & Scanning SIG** --- by Don Yenche

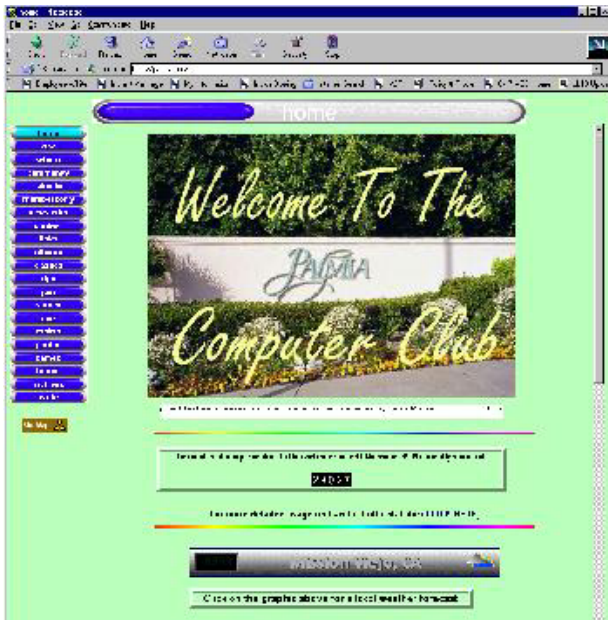
There is also a "**Beginning Basics**" SIG. This SIG, intended for beginners, is designed to answer your basic questions relating to computers. (This is hands-on, one-on-one education, and is not a structured class). It meets the first, third and fourth Mondays of each month from 10:00 a.m. to noon. The SIG leader is Joe Lebovitz.

# Web Surfer

By Jerry Moore

## PALMIA.ORG

In preparation for the upcoming APCUG best newsletter and website contents, your computer club website at <http://www.palmia.org> has undergone a major overhaul. Here's a screenshot of the new format with improved navigation buttons on the left-hand side of the screen.



## CONTEST

Speaking of contests, we still don't have a winner for the palmia.org web surfing contest. Here are the details:

**WHAT** - Win money by surfing this web site

**HOW** - Locate the member email address hidden somewhere within [www.palmia.org](http://www.palmia.org) other than the Members Only page. If it's your email address, you are a winner. Just click on the "write" button and tell us what page has your name. If you find another person's name, be a good sport and keep quiet. You will get another chance next month.

**WHY** - Your club's Board of Directors wants to give you added incentive to surf this site and to share your email address with other club members. Remember that you can't be eligible for this contest if we don't have your email address.

**WHEN** - You may enter the contest at any time. Each month a new email address will be added. If there is no winner from the prior month, then the prize fund will be increased by \$5.

## GOOGLE WHACKING

Have you heard of the latest computer geek sport called Google Whacking? The objective of the challenge is to open the search engine at [www.google.com](http://www.google.com), enter any two words found in an English dictionary and obtain a result that says one of one page found. It's not as easy as it sounds. For example I tried Palmia and computer and got a result showing 193 results found. Google also kept me honest by listing my two search words at the top of the results screen with only one of the two words highlighted with a hot link to the dictionary indicating that the other word wasn't legal for the purposes of a Google Whacking contest.

Considering the fact that Google has indexed over 2-1/2 billion web pages, finding a single web page with two unique words is definitely a challenge. Try entering a simple word like "the" and see how many hits you get.

## SOFTWARE DOWNLOADS

Are you searching for that elusive single purpose utility program needed to solve a particular problem? Are you curious about what are the most popular programs currently being downloaded from the Internet? Would you like to see product reviews on a program you are considering downloading and installing? If the answer to any of these questions is yes, then you should pay a visit to Stroud's CWS Apps - The Original Internet Software Resource at <http://cws.internet.com>. This well organized and informative site is always my first stop when searching for new software.

Happy surfing!

# SAVE THE DATE

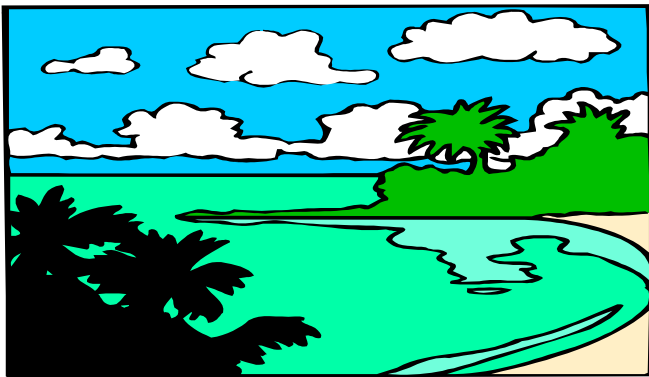
## AUGUST 9 – 11, 2002

A great opportunity awaits you at the upcoming APCUG (Association of Personal Computer User Groups) 9th Annual Southwest Regional User Group Conference in San Diego on the above dates.

By attending this conference you will have the opportunity to meet face-to-face with all of the major software and hardware vendor representatives, and be exposed to many of the current and future computer technology initiatives and changes. More importantly though, you will also get the chance to meet others, just like you, from all of the other Western States who are involved in computer user groups. This is another great opportunity to get any of your PC and Mac questions answered, and have a fun weekend at the same time. Spouses are welcomed and encouraged to attend! There are also other activities and fun things to do, besides computer related events.

Be sure to visit the Southwest Regional website at [www.swugconf.org](http://www.swugconf.org) for detailed information regarding registration fees, hotel reservations, etc. Your registration package includes admission to all workshops, vendor fairs and all meals from Friday until Sunday, when the conference concludes.

It would be great if we can get enough of our club members together to make this a Palmia fun weekend! I hope your interest has been aroused enough that you will want to attend. You must hurry though. The registration deadline is July 26, 2002. If you have an interest please let Don Yenche, our president, know or call Art Green at 581-5889.



**Don't miss this.**

## Answers to Questions

By Jerry Moore

### Question

What are Easter Eggs? Not the variety kids hunt for on Easter Sunday.

### Answer

This is an interesting question. Isn't it strange how many computer related terms make reference to food: cookies, Easter Eggs, Spam!



In terms of computer software, Easter Eggs are special pieces of code that programmers have hidden within an application to produce "surprise" results. Sometimes this is done with the knowledge and approval of their employers, such as rolling credits for a team of developers, and sometimes it is done without anyone's knowledge or approval. There have been cases where programmers have been fired for sneaking in unauthorized code. I guess it's just a human trait that people want to leave their mark of distinction just like gangs tag certain neighborhoods with graffiti.

A good example of an Easter Egg is the Windows 95/98 screen saver. Go to control panel - display, click on the screen savers tab, select "3D Text", click on settings and in the graphics text box type "volcano". The screen saver will now show the names of volcanoes. Another example is in the Netscape web browser; when you press Ctrl-Alt-F simultaneously you are directed to a "fish cam".

In a broader sense, Easter Eggs can apply to many other different types of media, such as Movies, Music, TV, Books, Art and even hardware. There are certain models of Mr. Coffee machines that will display the name of the patent holder when you press the right combination of buttons in the proper sequence. DVDs, with their growing popularity, are notorious for containing many hidden "tidbits".

If you would like to learn more about Easter Eggs and test a few out yourself, two good sources on the Internet are [www.eeggs.com](http://www.eeggs.com) and [www.millan.net/funp/40/eastereggs.html](http://www.millan.net/funp/40/eastereggs.html).

# Tips and Tidbits

By Barry Robbins

## Slowdown Issue

Be careful when using complex pictures as your Windows background. Windows must constantly recalculate the colors, images, and locations each time you move a mouse, double click, or move a window. This can greatly slow down your computer. You might want to use a less detailed picture, or when doing heavy duty processing, temporarily have no background at all.

## SoundSentry

For those individuals who are hearing impaired, Windows Me has a feature called SoundSentry that will visually alert you to events. It also provides text in certain speech programs that act very much like Close Captioned TV.

SoundSentry is located within the Accessibility options in the Control Panel, along with many other options for those individuals who may require accessibility features.

## Firewall Problem

If you have two computers that you are trying to connect with a LAN or Direct Cable Connection and are having difficulty, check to see if either of the computers has a personal firewall. If so, check the software manual to see how to allow a specific IP address to have unlimited access. Your firewall will prevent connections by unknown computers and may be misinterpreting the LAN or DCC connection as an attempted hostile attack and block it.

## Loud Modem

If the screeching sound made by your modem (called handshaking) is too loud, you can decrease the volume. Go to the Control Panel and click the modem icon. Click the Properties button and in the general tab, slide the speaker volume as far to the left (towards off) as you want until the sound is at a level that you want. You can even turn the volume all the way off, if needed.

## A Spam Suggestion

One place to pick up a lot of unwanted spam

is in a newsgroup. Therefore, when you participate in a newsgroup, you should mask your e-mail address. For example, if your e-mail address is jane@wherever.com, enter it in the newsgroup as <jane@delete\_wherever.com>.

With your e-mail address entered this way, people who need to send you e-mail can see that they have to delete the "delete\_" party of the address. Computer programs that troll for e-mail addresses aren't that smart.

## Removing The Marks When Forwarding Outlook Express 6 E-mail

When you forward e-mail, you may not want the recipient to get all those < marks that are used to indent an original message. You don't have to use these marks in Outlook Express 6. Just choose Tools | Options. When the Options dialog opens, click the Send tab. Now, under "Mail Sending Format" click Plain Text Settings. Deselect the check box labeled "Indent the original text with < when replying or forwarding" and then click OK. Back in Options, click OK to close the dialog box and save your new selection.

## Rundll32 and Other Errors

Sometimes you get an error, such as a Rundll32 or Msgsrv32 message, but Windows seems fine and keeps running. Don't get too comfortable. Although nothing seems wrong, Windows is attempting to handle the error, but it may just be a ticking time bomb waiting to halt your system.

Go ahead and save all your data, close your applications, and restart Windows. It's easier than having to retype everything when Windows comes to a screeching halt and you have two hours worth of work to redo.

## Setting Cookie Rules In Microsoft Internet Explorer 6

You can accept or block cookies from specific sites using Microsoft Internet Explorer 6. Let's suppose that you want to block all cookies from <www.dirtycookies.com> (If you like this domain name,

## **Tips, Continued from page 8**

it appears to be available).

To deny that site's cookies, run IE 6 and choose Tools | Internet Options. When the dialog box opens, click the Privacy tab. Click Edit and type the address into the "Address of Web site" entry box. Click Block to block that site's cookies or Allow to accept them. Click OK to save the settings. Back in Internet Options, click OK to close the dialog box.

### **Change Explorer Fonts**

You can change all the fonts that appear on your desktop and in Explorer. In Windows 98, right-click on the Desktop, choose Properties, and click on the Appearance tab. Choose Icon from the list of Items, and select the desired font name and size.

### **Using the Outlook Express Preview Pane**

Although the Outlook Express preview pane is very handy, in these days of e-mail virus contamination, many users believe that it's safer to do without the preview. To turn off the preview pane, choose View | Layout. When the dialog box opens, deselect the "Show preview pane" check box and click OK.

Now, you can look at the "From" information and decide whether to open an e-mail or just delete it.

### **Show Desktop**

To quickly return to the desktop without having to minimize all of your application windows first, simply click the 'Show desktop' icon located just to the right of the Start button in the Quick Launch Toolbar.

### **Functions**

I once watched a neophyte Windows user using the small arrows to click and drag the window edges to the edge of the screen. When I inquired, she stated she wanted the window to be as big as possible. There is an easier way.

At the top right of the window, there are three buttons. The one on the left is the Minimize button. This button will shrink the window down and

off the screen. The application is still running, but it is invisible. The middle button is the Maximize/Restore button. This button will make the window as large as it will get, or if already maximized, will put the window into 'restore' mode, which allows you to shrink or increase the window size. The button on the right is the Close button. This will close the window and the application. Always save your work before using this button.

### **Hotmail in Outlook Express 6**

If you'd like to read your Hotmail with Outlook Express, just choose Tools | Accounts. When the Internet Accounts dialog opens, choose Add | Mail. Fill in your name and then press Enter. Type in your Hotmail address and press Enter again. At this point, Outlook Express will automatically add the correct mail server address for Hotmail. Press Enter and type in your password. Press Enter again and then click Finish.

### **Thumb**

Whenever you delete a file, always assume that you will NOT be able to restore it. So if there is a remote chance you will need the file, instead of deleting it, archive it or move it to a floppy or tape drive.

### **Monitor Your Monitor**

If you are looking to upgrade your monitor, here are some tips to go by!

- 1) Buy at least a 17" monitor. Your eyes will thank you for it!
- 2) CRT is good; Flat-Panel is better (usually). Prices vary greatly between the two!
- 3) If you go for a CRT, make sure the screen is square (no curved edges).
- 4) Have lots of controls to customize what you like.
- 5) Do NOT buy a monitor with built in speakers. It's too expensive and the quality is not as good as a good computer speaker system.

One side note - if you leave your computer on for long periods of time, such as when doing downloads, and are not around, turn off your monitor. It uses a great deal of power.

### **From the President, Continued from page 2**

They all deserve the brief vacation.

We will also compact USER FRIENDLY during July and August into one issue that will be delivered to your doorstep early July. Don't miss that issue for some special news!

Our new computer, as well as our other computers, is available for our members' use. It is strongly recommended that users have adequate knowledge of computers. The best approach to making your life more pleasant and rewarding with using computers is that you take some classes in computing!

The Wednesday, June 12th general meeting will begin with our usual question and answer period at 7 PM. This mini session will be off stage in an informal setting. I am looking forward to seeing you early. The official meeting starts at 7:30 PM. We brew our Starbucks decaffeinated coffee just for you. It is located on a table next to the kitchen entrance. Enjoy it during our entire meeting period.

We also encourage you to stick around after the meeting. You can continue to enjoy the freshly made coffee and delicious desserts. It is a great time to socialize with your fellow club members and guests and have some of those computer questions answered.

SURF OUR WEB SITE AT — [www.palmia.org](http://www.palmia.org).



## **ELIMINATE DIAL-UP CONFIRMATION BOX**

By Jeff Levy

If you connect to the Internet with a Modem, you can eliminate those pesky questions and confirmations you have to click to before your computer dials into the Net. You can eliminate those time wasters. Here's how.

If you use Windows 95/98, double-click on My Computer and then click on Connections on the menu bar at the top of the windows. Click on Settings, and then click on the check marks next to "Prompt for information before dialing" and on "Show a confirmation dialog after connected".

For Windows XP, click on Start and then on Control Panel. If you use the Category view of Control Panel, click on Network and Connections options and then on the Network Connections icon. If you use Control Panel's Classic view, double-click on the Network Connections icon.

Now right-click on the icon that represents your dial-up connection and left-click on Properties. Click on the Options tab and click on all four of the check marks that appear in the Dialing Options section. Click OK to close and then close the Network Connections window. Restart your computer by pressing Ctrl + Alt + Del twice for Windows 95/98/ME or press the Windows key, the letter U and then the letter R.

Now Windows will connect to the Internet without asking you questions or requesting confirmation.

## **WAV To A Relative**

Want to send baby's voice to a loved one? How about a personalized email with a voice message? You can do these tasks using the Windows Sound Recorder that's located in Start/Programs/Accessories/Entertainment and finally, Sound Recorder. Use the buttons just like you would a tape recorder and save the file to wherever you want, and then attach it to an email

## TechMart

### Dazzle 6-in-1 Reader

Condensed from Computer User, May 2002

One of the reasons 35mm film remains popular is because the media is ubiquitous. You can go into any Wal-Mart from Boston to Beirut and buy a roll of film that fits every model and brand of 35mm cameras made since WWII. This is not true with digital cameras. In fact, there seem to be more image-storage options with differing physical configurations and storage capacities. This media proliferation is why serious digital imagers need a multifunction card reader.



Now, in an attempt to fill this need, [www.dazzle.com](http://www.dazzle.com) has introduced the **Universal 6-in-1 Reader**. It accepts six different kinds of media making it the most versatile available. It will accommodate SmartMedia and CompactFlash, IBM Microdrive, MultiMedia Card, SecureDigital, and Sony's Memory Stick. It is smaller than a mouse and uses a dual slot configuration that takes CompactFlash I and II in its top slot, and the others in the bottom slot. Although there are two slots, Dazzle suggests you only insert one card at a time.

Setting up the Dazzle Reader is simple for Windows or Mac OS users. Just install driver software and restart. For Windows Me or XP users, it's even easier; just plug and play. For Mac users, all you have to do is restart; plug the reader into an available USB port and you're ready to go.

Retail price is under \$50.

## Hooray to our Watchful Congress!

Submitted by Mort Harris

Once upon a time the government had a vast scrap yard in the middle of a desert. Congress said someone may steal from it at night, so they created a night watchman position (GS-4) and hired a person for the job.

Then Congress said, "How does the watchman do his job without instruction?" So they created a planning position and hired two people: one person to write the instructions (GS-12) and one person to do time & motion studies (GS-11).

Then Congress said, "How will we know the night watchman is doing the tasks correctly?" So they created a Q.C. position and hired two people, one GS-9 to do the studies and one GS-11 to write the reports.

Then Congress said, "How are these people going to get paid?" So they created the following positions, a timekeeper (GS-09) and a payroll officer (GS-11) and hired two people.

Then Congress said, "Who will be accountable for all of these people?" So they created an administrative position and hired three people: an Admin. Officer (GM-13), an Assistant Admin. Officer (GS-13) and a Legal Secretary (GS-08).

Then Congress said, "We have had this command in operation for one year and we are \$18,000 over budget, we must cutback overall cost," so they laid off the night watchman.....

## Tech News

### Wiring the Fashion Trend of the Future

Looking for the ultimate accessory? Someday, you might be able to wear your computer. JPL engineer Ann Devereaux is hard at work developing the Wearable Augmented Reality Prototype (Warp), a personal communication device. The voice-activated wearable computer allows easy, real-time access to voice communication, pictures, video, people and technical reports. It's kind of like having your computer with you all the time.



# Secretary's Message

By Bill Reinholtz



Our President, Don Yenche, called the May 8th meeting to order. Barry Robbins had hosted an informative question and answer session from 7:00 to 7:30 prior to the meeting.

Don made announcements concerning the July picnic plans and a future program featuring Jeff Levy of KFI radio fame.

Don then called on Vice President Richard Jenkins to introduce the evening's program. Richard introduced Kelly Clark who is a Marketing Rep-

resentative for Kingston Technology, the largest manufacturer of computer memories. She presented a very interesting program about the different types of computer memory available. She also went to their Web Site [www.kingston.com](http://www.kingston.com) where even more information is available.

After the program, Ernest Maunders won \$22 in the 50/50 drawing. Jim Noon won the Palmia T-shirt door prize. In addition, Ralph Lazar won a Kingston T-shirt.

The meeting ended with all enjoying coffee and delicious pastry treats.

## ISP List

In a recent article by the Orange County Register regarding the selection of an ISP (Internet Service Provider) a reference was made to the web site [www.thelist.com](http://www.thelist.com). If you go to this web site you will find an encyclopedic proportion of information on ISPs. It covers local, statewide, and nationwide as well as worldwide listings. It provides comparisons of services, fees, area telephones covered and more.

Try it. You will find it fascinating.  
Thanks to Doug Harley for the discovery.

### Be a User Friendly Pro-Active Friend

- ◆ Write articles to publish
- ◆ Send clippings of general interest
- ◆ Let's know what you like to read
- ◆ Leave material at the Clubhouse



## Help Line

Subject	Person to Call	Tel/Email
PC-General	Barry Robbins	699-0572
Windows	Jerry Moore	jerryamoore@cox.net
MS Word	Barry Robbins	699-0572
Excel/ Access	Barry Robbins	699-0572
Quicken	Hal Zeschmann	830-9882
Internet	Jerry Moore	jerryamoore@cox.net
Photo Editing	Don Yenche	457-1081
Graphics	Ali Tabikh	699-1962

## spell checkers

I have a spelling checker.  
It came with my PC.  
It plainly marks four my revue,  
Mistake I cannot see.  
I've run this poem threw it,  
I'm sure your please too no.  
Its letter perfect in it's weigh,  
My checker tolled me sew.