

## what's new

by lach MacDonald & guy kuncir

April's meeting drew 53 attendees for the opening sessions: A guest presentation and a free-form, computer usage Q & A session. These were followed with a well-structured digital camera feature, complete with detailed printed handout, which was attended by approximately 65 members and guests. Guy Kuncir kept detailed notes on the meeting and kindly contributed the bulk of this report.

Keith Mosier of San Luis Obispo Big Brothers and Big Sisters led off the meeting with a short description of the organization's programs and appealed for mentors. Some 115 "connections" visit a young person once or twice a month and keep in touch by phone during the interim. Requirements are simple: interest, transportation and car insurance, getting a release to provide for medical attention. Keith said the youth in the program are 40 to 60 per cent less likely to get into trouble or do drugs than a comparable population. It was an upbeat way to open the program.

Alan Raul handled the general SIG's free-form Q & A.

### Q: Loading 98SE directly from CD?

A: Load the CD onto your C drive, then in DOS mode type SETUP, then INSTALL files. Ward noted .cab files are included in the folders copied onto the HD.

### Q: Delete cookies?

A: Cookies permit you to return rapidly to web sites you have visited. So basically cookies are not all bad,

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## early Q&A SIG

by alan raul

Alan Raul moderated the first SIG with questions, answers and comments from the group. Many subjects were covered including how to use "ScanReg Registry Checker" which is included with Windows 98. Each day, after a successful boot, a backup copy of your registry is created (containing the system.dat, user.dat, system.ini and win.ini files). By default Windows 98 allows you to keep up to 5 copies (rb???.cab - rb???.cab) of your registry. These copies are saved in the C:\Windows\Sysbckup folder. They are saved as \*.cab files, a Microsoft file format used to hold compressed files. If Windows detects a problem with the registry, it will automatically be replaced with a backup copy. You can increase the number of backup copies by editing the C:\Windows\scanreg.ini file. The good thing about this new feature is that you can easily restore a previous registry "by hand".

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### CLUB CALENDAR

**may 7th**

1 pm  
**Alan Raul & Bob Ward**  
will host another Q&A session

2:30 pm  
**Ralph Perez**, from Charter Pipeline will speak about cable modems, comparing them to ADSL and other methods of telecommunications.

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## what's new

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despite what you may have heard. Firewalls restrict cookies from affecting your system or allowing access to your data. Cookies reside in Windows\Cookies or Windows\Temp. If you use On-line shopping, cookies are used for your Shopping Basket. Some privacy and security issues arise when cookies are used to add you to a data bank for direct mailings. Cookies can be used to select advertisements appropriate to your usage of Search Engines. To delete cookies, use Select All on Cookies files and Delete, rather than taking to Recycle Bin.

### Q: Backups?

A: Always backup daily, at the first time you boot up. C: \Windows\Sysbckup. [Alan showed his complete desktop organization, including having the control panel, history, device managers and system information available from the Start menu.

**Q: Upgrades?** A: It is usually necessary to have your original program in memory before the upgrade will work, so don't lose or destroy the original before completing the upgrade. The Win98SE upgrade costs about \$20 compared to about \$90 for the full Win98 SE.

### Q: Change file associations?

A: See File/Options, but change only one file at a time.

### Q: Uninstalling and reinstalling?

A: Problems deleting files coupled to other systems. Check System Configuration (msconfig). Clean Sweep recommended.

### Q: Put content of My Computer on Toolbar?

A: Right click Toolbar, choose Toolbar; Add Toolbar, slide Toolbar to right. This will give you a menu with all items of My Computer. Try it.

The final session by Dave Kastner of Cal Photo (958 Higuera, SLO) was entitled "So You Want to Buy A Digital Camera." Check the website: [www.calphotoslo.com](http://www.calphotoslo.com). By the way, Dan Logan wrote a first-rate Tribune column prior to this meeting. Dave got everyone's attention with openers "Why You Already Have A Digital Camera" and "Why You Don't Want a Digital Camera."

The digital "camera" you already have includes: picture CD, photo CD, floppy disk, E-mail and Internet, and Scanners for prints and slides. With this graphics array, you have the ability to use digital photos without investing in more hardware.

The negatives (excuse the pun) mentioned by Dave revealed something a dealer is obviously in position to judge: the current digital cameras have a 20-25% return rate, some are technological dead ends [maybe like Apple 2E or PCjr??] and, of most importance to serious photographers and publishers, digital has yet to

deliver adequate picture quality. If you go digital you must overcome computer phobia [assuming you are happy with your point-and-shoot and neighborhood film development service], deal with the hassle factor, realize standardization of equipment and media is still far off, be willing to correct each photo with re-takes or in-camera manipulation or at the computer, consider that storage media will become defunct (or do you still play 8-track tapes and vinyl phonograph records?). Finally, will you want prints of your photos, or do you want to carry your PC around in your wallet? More later on printing options.

Having prepared his audience with these caveats, Dave proceeded to explain why you need a Digital Camera. There are business uses, such as real estate agents who capture residence views for publication or faxing, Insurance agents documenting damages, or other uses where instant photography has been the medium of choice. Digital photos have personal applications such as family e-mail, product ads on e-Bay, news coverage, and new business and personal uses. The costs of photos and media can be reduced by proofing electronically and being selective in printing. In any event, Dave predicts, digital cameras will gain in popularity.

This is the point at which Dave got to the nuts and bolts of what to look for in a Digital Camera: is it compatible with your PC, USB, software system (check if the mfg. offers updated software for download on its website). Take it in your hands and assure yourself that it is easy to use.

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## people helping people

NAME	PROGRAM(S)	PHONE NO.	HOURS TO CALL
Bill Roch	Ami Pro	466-8440	anytime
Don Morgan	Word 6.0, Equation 3.1	543-6241	anytime
Dan Logan	Internet, MS Publisher	927-0515	M-Sat 8-6, Sun 12-6
Bob Hunt	Win '95, '98 Win3.11	461-1444	days
Bob Ward	Netscape, Win '95, '98, 3.11	528-0121	evenings

We could use some more volunteers here. If interested, contact Bob Ward!

## early sig

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Here's how...

1. Start Windows in MS-DOS mode (press the Ctrl key as soon as your PC starts. This will get you the boot up menu. Once the menu is up, choose Command prompt only).
2. Type "Scanreg /restore" at the prompt.
3. You will get a screen where you can select which registry backup to use.
4. Choose your backup and press Restore.
5. When ready you'll be prompted to restart your computer.

There are other command-line switches available, which can be used with ScanReg.

Another topic from the early meeting was the installation of Windows from a freshly formatted hard drive in lieu of a CD. Depending which operating system you are installing to your hard disk, you would copy the win95, win98 or the i386 (Windows 2000) folder from the CD onto your hard drive using the startup disk in DOS mode. Inside this folder are all the CAB files needed to install Windows. This folder is usually copied into C:\. Some system builders may choose to use C:\Windows\Options\Cabs\. By pre-installing the windows CAB files to your disk you will have a faster install and you won't need the Windows CD again unless you reformat your hard drive. This eliminates finding the Windows CD (which is always missing) when you need a driver for a new installed device.

Whenever Windows needs files off the CD it nabs them from the CAB files that are already "installed" (actually just copied) on your PC. These CAB files take up a considerable amount of hard drive space but that becomes a mute point with the size and price of hard drives today.

If you already have Windows installed on your hard drive you can use

Windows Explorer and move the appropriate folder from your CD onto your hard drive. You must "teach" Windows where your CAB files are now located. Launch the Windows Registry Editor and navigate to:

```
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Setup
```

Locate (or create) the SourcePath entry. Modify it to show the new path Windows should use to find your installation files. (Don't forget to end the pathname you enter with a backslash.) WARNING: Always back up your Windows Registry before editing. If you are unfamiliar with editing your Windows Registry you can download a FREE and simple 229Kb program made specifically for changing this key. The program is located at:

[http://members.xoom.com/\\_icer\\_/9xchange.exe](http://members.xoom.com/_icer_/9xchange.exe)

Files associations was also discussed. Specifically, the question was asked about "image" file association. All good image viewers, browser and editing programs will ask what image file extensions you want to associate with their program. If you later decide not to use that particular program you will have to re-associate the image files with another program. You can open Windows Explorer >> View >> Folder Options >> File Types >> highlight a particular file type >> select Edit >> Open >> Edit >> Browse and select the new image viewer program you wish to use. The former is by far a more simpler way to make the file association if your viewer has that option.

A variety of other questions and answers came up during this session. These included the pros and cons of cookies from the Internet and using TweakUI to remove programs from your Add/Remove Programs menu which you had improperly deleted from Windows Explorer. If you missed this question/answer SIG don't worry as we will be doing the same thing this coming meeting. So bring your specific computer questions and we'll do our best to answer them.

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## microsoft vs the justice department

by Bob Ward, editor

What does your crystal ball say about Microsoft? Although not a great performer over this past year if you were in it for the stock appreciation, it's one of the few holdings with a good PE ratio and positive earnings. Despite what the government is trying to do, Microsoft will survive as one or more companies.

Although just rumor at the moment, sources are saying the government might try and break it up into two companies, one with the Windows operating system keeping Internet Explorer as part of Windows, and the other company, just about everything else. Am I missing something here? Does anyone, including the government remember the original complaint brought by Netscape? I believe Netscape cried foul because Windows bundled and integrated their I.E. browser with Windows 98. If indeed

this is the case, and there is anyone left in Washington with logic and brains, then Microsoft will defeat the government's case. Another example of the *have-nots* complaining about *the haves*. The government hears from special interest groups all the time about these things and usually evens the playing field by punishing the successful. Are we any better off now that AT&T is too many companies to count? I need a PHD to even read my phone bill every month. And don't believe things are always cheaper when the government acts. One of my phone bills from Comdex last year included a one minute phone call from my hotel room. Cost: \$7.65 and this was after 5pm!

Will the possible breakup adversely affect Microsoft? Not if they play their cards right. So Bill, hang out two shingles instead of one. If they make

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## what's new

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What is the quality of the image? The key is the pixel x pixel resolution, from 640 x 480 to 2048 x 1536. The maximum of 3.3 mb is still way short of the 18mb image on your clunky 35mm film slide.

Dave delved further into the lack of standardization (file format options include JPEG, TIFF, MPEG, JPEG2000 and storage media choices range from floppies and smart cards to compact flash, Clik, Memory Stick, etc.) Other options that represent applications familiar to photographers include such features as macro, sports burst mode, wide angle, zoom, different optics and the video-still hybrid, voice and stylus annotation and various software add-ons. [At this point you definitely want to talk to a camera professional like Dave.]

The picture development options for connecting to the computer include cable and peripheral and, soon, wireless. Then manipulation software includes Adobe's Photoshop and PhotoDeluxe, Arcsoft and others. Printers include Inkjet and Laser, dye sublimation and using on-line services.

Market issues to consider is that products are issued in small batches so that most popular models may be hard to get, there is constant turnover every six months to year, and prices are unstable. Dave's Crystal Ball indicates either the death of film, or a future hybrid film-digital, a further distinction between us consumer types and professionals, the new world of camera gameboys, watches and trinkets, and the convergence of everything such as connecting digital cameras with PCs, cell phones, you name it...

Dave's handout also included a list of manufacturers, many of which have links on his web page calphotoslo.com). You may also check out Photo Marketing Association International (pmai.org) and (wynit.com). Dave can

share results of camera evaluations by these and other organizations. His presentation was very thorough and well-received. Wish you were there...me too.

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## microsoft

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you open your Windows architecture to the outside world, can you not take advantage of this and integrate this with Windows Office as you do now? I don't see how anyone, including the government can make you publicize millions of dollars of R&D so the other side has an "equal" advantage. If this is our government's idea of fairness, should we not give all our military secrets to the rest of the world? Fair is fair!

Look at the abundance of software for Windows and PC's. If indeed, Microsoft is such a "bad guy" would we not see empty shelves, would we not see just a handful of shareware? Adobe, Oracle, Corel surely wouldn't be the giants they are today if their only audience was the Macintosh. Instead we see thousands of software programs, both commercial and shareware, or even free, **ALL** written for the PC and Windows platform. Why? Because if you spend thousands of dollars developing a product, you want it to run on the majority of machines in existence which just happen to be PC's using Windows.

Sorry Bill, your software is just too popular. Something must be done about that. Shame on you for offering Internet Explorer for FREE while Netscape was still trying to eek out a buck or two for their browser. Perhaps your opponents would call it bait and switch. Well, what ever you call it, the rolls are reversed. Netscape which used to be the most popular browser out there is now number two. Is that because it won't work with Windows? Of course it will. They are both free, so that evens the playing field. Then the reason must be such mundane things like features, ease of use, etc. Bill, you

should have offered the government a cookie (figuratively speaking) and included Netscape on your Windows CD. Then Ford would be forced to put Chevrolets in their showrooms, Rolex would be forced to sell Timex, and we would be one happy family. What happened to free enterprise where those with brains, fortitude, and business skills were rewarded? Ask the lawyers!

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## using your calculator

k-Byte, March/April 2000

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Windows comes with a calculator that can do both regular and scientific calculations. To bring up the calculator, click on Start, Programs, Accessories and then Calculator. Click on View and select Scientific to use the scientific calculator.

Right-click on any of the buttons and click on "What's This?" for an explanation of what a particular button does and the key strokes you can use instead of clicking on the button with your mouse.

When you have completed a calculation and want to use the result in another calculation, store the results of the first calculation in memory by clicking the MS (Memory Store) button. You'll see an M in the gray box above all the "M" buttons when something is stored in memory. When you are ready to insert the result of your last calculation into a new one, click on the MR (Memory Retrieve) button. Clicking the M+ (Memory Plus) button and then on the MR button will add the currently displayed value to the value stored in memory. The MC (Memory Clear) button clears anything stored in memory, and clicking on the MS button overwrites anything stored in memory.

To create a Desktop shortcut to the calculator, right-click on the Desktop, select New and click on Shortcut. In the "Command Line" box type

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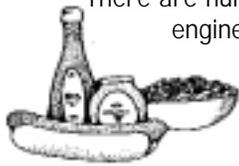
# junk food

## the surf board

by dorothy kirk

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Since reportedly 45% of the persons in the US weigh more than they should, this month's chosen sites may offer inspiration for change - one way or another!



There are hundreds of sites pertaining to junk food from one search engine alone. No, I did not review them all. Below is a representative sampling. After looking at dozens of web sites about junk food, I was inspired to check out the cookie jar - actually it was empty, thank goodness.

**ASK THE DIETITIAN: JUNK FOOD** <http://www.dietitian.com/junkfood.html> -

What is junk food? A dieticians practical approach to "empty calories".

**THE JUNK FOOD MECCA** <http://whpress.com/mecca/> - Junk food lovers, unite! A comprehensive list for "junkies" telling you where to find, cost, nutrition and more.

**HEALTHY FIXES FOR JUNK FOOD CRAVINGS** <http://www.babycenter.com/refcap/669.html> - This site is directed to pregnant women and their irrational cravings, but since it uses common sense the five rules should work with everyone. Gives substitutions for common cravings.

**KIBO'S JUNK FOOD REVIEWS** <http://www.kibo.com/kibofood> - This is a tongue-in-cheek site that features reviews of little known junk food such as Dr. Pepper clones, snacks from Chinatown markets, and a "thumbs down" review of drinks you never heard of anyway.

**PREVENTION: EXPENSIVE JUNK** <http://www.prevention.com/poll/980811/> - Vote on whether you would be in favor of a junk food tax. Read the pros and cons to make an informed decision.

**THE RACE AGAINST JUNK FOOD** [http://vegsource.org/books/snak\\_posse.htm](http://vegsource.org/books/snak_posse.htm) - Basically this is an ad for a book for kids. It states that their comic book really helps kids to eat healthy foods. I find it hard to believe that a child would reach for the broccoli instead of the hamburger.

**WELCOME TO SET MART** <http://fallout.gamestats.com/vault/junkfood.html> - Pictorial spoofs of well-known junk food products: Hostage Cupcakes, Plastered Peanuts, Freetoes and more.

**CHILDREN GLUED TO THE TUBE AND JUNK FOOD** <http://www.theage.com.au/daily/980619/news/news25.html> - A fairly short article about an Australian study of children and the likelihood of their eating junk food while watching TV. You guessed it - they are more likely to eat junk food while watching and the more they ate the more they weighed.

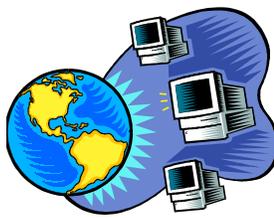
**INTERNET FLORIST: JUNK FOOD BASKET** [http://www.iflorist.com/if/items/if\\_9900.htm](http://www.iflorist.com/if/items/if_9900.htm) - Want to order a junk food basket for a "junkie" friend (or enemy, depending on your attitude)? Only \$44.95 (delivered) plus \$6.95 service fee. Note: this is not the only florist on the Web who offers a junk food basket. Can you believe this?

**JUNK FOOD ANIMATIONS** <http://bestanimations.com/Food/JunkFood/JunkFood.html> - Four animated junk foods.

**DEAR JOAN** <http://www.thriveonline.aol.com/eats/experts/joan/joan.04-02-98.html> - Tips for cutting back on or cutting out junk food. Common sense ideas.

**JUNK FOOD JUNKIE** <http://www.besthealth.com/wellness/ws15.html> - More tips for kicking the junk food habit.

**FOOD FINDER** <http://www.olen.com/food/> - A comprehensive list of food facts for 20 fast food restaurants - calories, fat, cholesterol, etc.



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# Window's Tips

## Use the Run Command to Open a Web Page or E-mail Message

You can use the Run command to open a Web page or start your e-mail program. In the Start menu, choose Run and type a URL in the format `www.server.com` or `mailto:e-mail address`. If you type a URL, your browser will open and display the Web page. If you type an e-mail address, your e-mail application will open and display a new message with that address in the To field.

## Add My Computer as a Toolbar

If you have Internet Explorer 4.0 or 5.0 installed, you can turn My Computer into a toolbar by dragging it from your desktop and dropping it at the very edge of your screen. Now you have a toolbar listing your computer's key components. Hold the Ctrl key and click a drive icon to see all the folders and files in that drive.

## Put Tools Where You Need Them

Buried deep in a series of menus cascading from the Start menu are some of Windows 98's most useful disk maintenance tools: Disk Cleanup, System Information, and Registry Checker, to name a few. But you don't have to dig for the buried treasure when you need it. Windows 98 lets you create many desktop shortcuts simply by dragging and dropping items from any of the Start menu's submenus.

If you want to place a whole folder from the Start menu onto the desktop, though, you need to do it the Windows 95 way: right-click the Start button, and select Open or Explore. Navigate through the Program folder to the subfolder with the stuff you want. Right-click the appropriate folder, and before releasing the mouse button, drag the folder onto your desktop. Select Create Shortcut(s) Here from the pop-up menu.

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## tips

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### Change Your Folder-Opening Style

My Computer offers you the option of opening each folder in a new window or opening it in the existing window. Regardless of the setting you're using, you can choose the opposite option whenever you open a folder by pressing the Ctrl key as you double-click the folder name.

### Make Your Quick Launch Bar Quicker

For easier access to your Quick Launch bar, right-click the Taskbar and select the Always On Top command.

### Shortcut for Renaming Files

The typical way to rename a file is by single-clicking the file name twice and typing the new file name over the old one. However, accomplishing this task with two single-clicks can be frustrating, since you inevitably end up double-clicking the file instead. Here's an easier way to rename a file. If you don't have the Active Desktop enabled, select the file by clicking it once and press F2. Type the new name into the text box. If you have the Active Desktop's single-click mode enabled, select the item by hovering over it and press F2.

The above tips were provided by CNET help.com

## URLs

by dorothea kirk  
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URLs, Uniform Resource Locator, is just the name for an Internet *address*. It indicates where a file is and what a browser should do with it. Each file on the Internet has a unique URL. The first part tells the browser how to deal with the file that it is about to open. The most common is HTTP (HyperText Transfer Protocol). The second part is the name of the server where the file is located and then the path that leads to the file, finally, the file name itself. Sometimes the URL ends in a forward slash with no file name given; this then refers to the default file in the last directory in the path (usually the home page).

Other common URL beginnings for Web pages are FTP (File Transfer Protocol) for downloading files from the Internet; Gopher for searching for information; News for sending and reading messages posted to a Usenet newsgroup; Mailto for sending electronic mail; and File for accessing files on a local hard disk.

The first part is generally followed by a colon and two forward slashes. Mailto and News, however, take only a colon. The File beginning uses three slashes after the colon. The first part of the URL should always be in lower case. When you see an address without the first part, you can assume that the complete name should be preceded by `http://` or `http://www`.

CD-R and CD-RW are acronyms that stand for Compact Disc-Recordable and Compact Disc ReWriteable respectively. Both CD-R and CD-RW drives are extensions to the standard CD-ROM (Compact Disc Read Only Memory) drive format found in most every computer. These two systems are related to each other and present the consumer with a wide number of upgrade choices in this brave new world.

The key feature of CD-R and CD-RW drives over their now commonplace relative the CD-ROM drive is their ability to write data to a disc. CD-R media can be written once only to any particular area on the disc. CD-RW drives build on the CD-R standard and allow the user to write and rewrite to any particular area on a CD-RW disc many times. Most CD recordable drives available today have rewriteable features and can process both CD-R and CD-RW media. However, a CD recordable must have rewriteable features to rewrite CD-RW discs. In other words, a CD-RW drive can only rewrite CD-RW media (not a CD-R discs) and a CD-R only drive can not process CD-RW media.

One of the caveats with CD-R media is that once its has been written or marked it can never be erased. Thus, working with CD-R media is quite similar to writing everything with a permanent ink pen: Nothing can ever be erased. Moreover, if a mistake is made, the whole process must be restarted and the erroneous disc is simply trashed. It was because of this vexing problem that CD-RW technology, using phase-change media was developed.

CD-R and CD-RW drives, unlike most drives, can record in a variety of formats, each of which effects the final utility of the finished disc. The most common CD-R and CD-RW formats are discussed as follows:

1. The Packet Writing Format - This means of using the disc allows for the disc to easily act as a removable media

## will CD-R and CD-RW become the "floppy of the future"?

by Surya Singh (spns@utk.edu)

East Tennessee Computer Society in Knoxville Tennessee.

Ten years ago the common method of sharing files was via a square piece of plastic, five and a quarter inches in diameter. This "floppy" disk held either 360 kilobytes or 1.2 megabytes depending on which type was being used. With today's ever increasing need for removable storage however, CD-R and CD-RW, may become as popular as the floppy disk was in its heyday.

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## cd / cd-rw

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drive. If CD-RW media is used, the drive responds and acts as a diskette or Zip drive would. However, the disc first needs to be formatted to the UDF format style which reduces the storage capacity to approximately 550 MB. CD-R packet written discs can be read by any CD-ROM drive as long as they are at least "temporarily closed." If the UDF drivers are installed on a PC, a CD-RW packet written disc can be read by most modern CD-ROM drives as long as they support packet reading.

2. Standard Data Track Format - This means creates a CD data disc similar to most CD-ROM disc distributed with software. This format allows the user to store the full 640 MB that the disc can hold; however, the disc data must be processed using a CD recording application (e.g., Adaptec's CD Creator) and can not be written to directly.

3. The Audio Track/Multisession Format - This is the standard means that digitalized forms of audio are added to CD discs. However, each time a series of songs are recorded, a new session is created. For a "multisession" to be read, the CD player must support the multisession format

Why is CD recording such a complex system? Basically, it stems from the history of CD technology. CD technology was invented by Phillip's Electronics and others almost two decades ago. The original CDs started out as an optical incarnation of long-playing vinyl records (LPs). For this reason CDs, unlike diskette and hard drives, read/write along a continuous, spiraling track instead of sectors. This causes the drives to vary their speed as data is read at various points on the disc because on the outside, more "media" goes by for a given angular velocity. However, data storage is best done using a sector or packet based approach and not the spiral-track approach of CDs. To accommodate data, CDs often place all their data in the first "track" along with a Table

of Contents that stores information about all the files and where they are located. Even the speed ratings of most drives are a product of CD history as drive multipliers (e.g., 8x) are in proportion to the speed of the first drives that operated at a rate of 150 kilobytes per second.

Another reason for the great popularity of CD recorders is their economies of scale, which makes them extremely cost competitive for the storage of a large amount of data. CD-R discs or media cost about one dollar per disc and CD-RW discs are approximately \$5 dollars a disc. This results in exceptionally low unit costs, or cost per megabyte (measured in ¢/MB). CD-R discs have a unit cost of less than 1/6 ¢/MB and CD-RW disc have a unit cost near 1 ¢/MB. In comparison, hard drives have a unit cost ranging between 3 and 6 ¢/MB and Iomega Zip disks have a unit cost almost 100 times greater than CD-R (i.e., 12 ¢/MB). In addition to cost, CD-R and CD-RW are gaining popularity because of their backward compatibility with the CD-ROM standard. This allows distribution of data on CD-R discs to a wide number of users without having to worry if the user has the right drive to read the media.

CD-R and CD-RW systems however, are not perfect. One key disadvantage is that CD-R and CD-RW drives can be somewhat expensive. For example, CD-RW drives range from \$200 to \$400 depending on the drive's speed and interface. A second disadvantage with CD-R and CD-RW drives is that they are relatively slow. Most of these drives operate only two or four times the speed of the original CD-ROM specification. Thus, even the fastest CD recorders are 10-15 times slower (while writing) than a hard drive and 2-3 times slower than CD-ROM readers.

In terms of marketability and support, CD-R and CD-RW have not seen a major advertising campaign (excluding a small campaign by Phillips electronics) nor have they been endorsed by any major computer vendor. Nonetheless, CD-R and CD-RW drives have generated a great deal of end

user support and are increasing tremendously in popularity. Since CD-R and CD-RW are not proprietary standards, there is a great deal of competition between a number of CD-R and CD-RW manufactures. This competition should not only lower the prices on the drives, but may help CD-R and CD-RW become more widely accepted in the computing industry.

In summary, the complexity of today's software and the data files associated with it, has grown exponentially. One of the most promising and cost effective solutions could be the CD-R and CD-RW system. However, for this technology to "replace the floppy" the price of the drives must come down and performance must be increased.

*This article is brought to you by the Editorial Committee of the Association of Personal Computer User Groups (APCUG), an International organization to which this user group belongs. Surya Singh is a member and SIG leader of the East Tennessee Computer Society in Knoxville Tennessee.*

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## spell checker blues

contributed by

Rogergr@mail.freewwwweb.com

CEBUG PCUG - Date unknown

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Eye halve a spelling chequer  
It came with my pea sea  
It plainly marques four my revue  
Miss steaks eye kin knot sea.

Eye strike a key and type a word  
And weight four it two say  
Weather eye am wrong oar write  
It shows me strait a weigh.

As soon as a mist ache is maid  
It nose bee fore two long  
And eye can put the error rite  
Its rarely ever wrong.

Eye have run this poem threw it  
I am shore your pleased two no  
Its letter perfect in it's weigh  
My chequer tolled me sew.

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## calculator

continued from page 4

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"CALC.EXE" (without the quotes) and click on Next.

Type "Calc" (without the quotes) and click on Finish. You can drag the Calc shortcut onto the Quick Launch bar just to the right of the Start button.

When you have more than one icon displayed on the task bar, switching between them is easy. Just press the Alt key, and while holding it down, press the Esc key. Each time you press the Esc key, a different item will appear highlighted on the task bar. When you let go of both keys, the task bar item you highlighted appears. Pressing and holding the Alt key, and then pressing the Tab key, will also let you rotate between open applications. Releasing both buttons will open the application displayed on the screen.

See, that wasn't so hard, now was it?

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## Configuring Windows with TweakUI

the gazette, spug computer club,  
Springfield, Illinois

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The TweakUI component for Windows 95/98 offers a great way to customize your Windows. It is available in two separate editions: Windows 95 and Windows 98. You must use the edition specific for your version of Windows.

### Windows 98

Place Windows 98 CD-ROM in drive. Go to the Start menu and choose Find then Files or Folders. In the Named field, enter tweakui.inf. In the Look In field, select your CD-ROM drive. Click the Find Now button. When the search is complete, right-click the tweakui.inf entry and choose Install. Follow the instructions. Reboot computer when finished.

### Windows 95

Launch your web browser and go to <http://www.microsoft.com/windows95/downloads/>. Scroll down to the Power and Kernel Toys section and click Windows 95 Power Toys Set. At the bottom of the next page, choose the Download Now button. On the resulting dialogue box, choose Save Program to Disk (or equivalent). In the file save dialogue box, go to the Save In field at the top and choose C:. Click on the New Folder icon (folder with star) and name the folder Powertoy. Click Save button.

Once the file is downloaded, go to the Start menu and choose Run. Enter C:\Powertoy\W95powertoy.exe. Click OK. Once the file is extracted, launch Windows Explorer, under Start - Programs - Windows Explorer, and navigate to the Powertoy folder on the C: drive. Locate and right-click tweakui.inf and choose Install. Follow the instructions and reboot when installation is finished. Once TweakUI has been installed, you can access it by going to Start - Settings - Control Panel. Double click on TweakUI. This launches the settings area.

Under the Mouse settings tab, you can control settings such as double-click speed and how fast right-click menus appear. General contains settings for default file locations, and some other settings for animation, plus the default Internet Explorer search engine.

The Explorer tab allows you to choose what type of icon you want overlaid on shortcuts (default: arrow), startup options such as tip of the day, whether to add "Shortcut to" to shortcuts, and if to adjust the case of 8.3 filenames. The IE4 tab only appears on Windows 98. You can control whether to show Favorites and Documents on the start menu, whether to allow log-offs, and other settings pertaining to IE4 and the Active Desktop.

The Desktop area lets you add, remove, or rename desktop icons you couldn't otherwise. My Computer has a listing of drive letters. You can uncheck one to prevent it from being displayed in My Computer if it exists. Control Panel includes a listing of all items in

Control Panel, allowing you to remove ones you don't want.

Network settings allows you to automatically log on to your network at startup. The New tab allows you to add or remove items from the right-click - New menu. Add/Remove allows you to edit the items on the Add/Remove Programs list. The Boot menu handles boot settings, including boot menus, available function keys, and other settings.

The Repair menu allows you to repair a many settings that can become corrupted. Paranoia lets you cover your tracks.

slo bytes welcomes  
new members

**Donald Biesiadecki  
Bob & Wanda Pilcher  
Pete Gannon  
James & Grace Kiraly**

## How to Copy Your Entire WINDOWS Folder

by Cruz Moncivais  
Computer User's Group, Greely, CO

If you try to copy your entire C:\WINDOWS folder, either to another directory or another drive, Windows copies most of the files and folders before it hits WIN386.SWP. Then it terminates the copy, because it prevents itself from reading and copying that virtual memory system file. Here's a workaround: Create your destination folder, then open your WINDOWS folder and choose Edit/Select All. Scroll to the end of the folder and locate WIN386.SWP. Hold down the Ctrl key and click once on the file to deselect it. Now just drag and drop all the other files and folders to your destination folder.

## club information

**HARD COPY** is a monthly publication of SLO BYTES PC User's Group located in San Luis Obispo, California. Information in this Newsletter is derived from both our own membership and other PC User Group Newsletters. The purpose of this publication is to inform our members of meetings and provide information related to the use of IBM PC's and compatible computers.

**Membership:** Dues are \$25 per year. Full membership entitles you to our monthly newsletter, full use of the public domain software library software drawing at the end of the meetings.

**Article Submission:** Deadline for submission of articles is the 15th of each month. Articles should be provided in ASCII format without any type of formatting from your wordprocessor including tabs, indents, extra spaces, or highlighting. We prefer articles on disk but will accept hardcopies if necessary.

**Disclaimer:** Neither SLO BYTES PC User's Group, its officers, editors, or contributors to this newsletter assume liability for damages arising out of this publication of any article, including but not limited to the listing of programming code, batch files and other helpful hints.

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Los Osos, CA. 93402  
(805) 756-2164



## meeting times

GENERAL MEETINGS are held the 1st Sunday of each month. Our meeting location is the San Luis Obispo I.O.O.F. Hall on Dana Street.

The general meeting starts promptly at 2:30 p.m.

Special Interest Groups (SIGS) meet at 1:00 p.m.–2:15 p.m.

## slobytes website

[WWW.THEGRID.NET/SLOBYTES/](http://WWW.THEGRID.NET/SLOBYTES/)

## slobytes officers

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M. Baxendale (Tres) [marvin@surfari.net](mailto:marvin@surfari.net)  
B. Ward, editor

### for sale

Do YOU have some computer-related item you would have like listed in this space? Contact Bob Ward, Editor at 756-2164.

## treasurer's report



april 15, 2000

### OPERATING FUND

Beginning Balance	\$2,153.37
Income	
Membership Dues	275.00
Refreshments	29.07
Fee for projector usage	75.00
Interest	9.14

### Expenses

Room Rent	75.00
NL Xerox	121.52
Postage	99.00
Insurance	183.00
Refreshments	27.56
Overhead projector rental	10.00

New Balance \$2,025.50

### EQUIPMENT FUND

Beginning Balance	\$52.74
Interest Income	.32
New Balance	<u>\$53.06</u>



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Cable Modems

2:30pm

Early SIG's

1:00pm

May 7th

Sunday

Next Meeting



SLO Bytes PC User's Group  
c/o Marvin Baxendale  
543 Gularte Road  
Arroyo Grande, CA. 93420