HARD COPY

What's New

By Bob Ward

Time passes so quickly, it seems like we just finished one meeting and another is about to occur. Before we get into this coming month, let me recap our last meeting.

Mr. Enthusiastic, George Campbell, is blown away with the new Windows 3.0 as are several million other people. He devoted most of the DOS inquiry meeting to giving the audience a taste of what Windows is all about. I can't speak from experience as my 3.0 didn't come in the mail till yesterday and I won't have time to install it until this newsletter is out and in the mail. My only other experience is as a registered owner of version 1.0 many years ago. It had a nice clock, but running it on an XT with no hard disk and a monochrome screen didn't lend itself to much more than showing the time of day. I could have bought two wrist watches for the cost of Windows 1.0. Several other versions have come and gone but 3.0 looks like it might give the MAC people a run for their money.

After a short recess to clear one's mind, stretch one's muscles, and relieve one's water we settled down to look at a myriad of Toshiba Laptop computers from the T1000 model to the T5200. Thanks to Suzzane Frieder, representative from Toshiba and Ralph Oneal, we saw 4 or 5 Toshiba laptops which were set up in the museum. She started with a slide show and a history of Toshiba and their niche in the laptop computer industry. I think she found quickly that our group was more interested in the machines and what they could do, rather that what share of the laptop market was held by Toshiba.

The audience was interested in price, of course, as most of us are either frugal or of limited income. (We never have enough $$$$$ do we!) After being quoted list price for these machines, many of the more frugal decided to visit our software library. A discussion ensued about catalog purchases versus purchases from local dealers. Many of our frugal members buy via UPS or Federal Express. Unfortunately I

Logitech Scanman Plus

By Bob Ward
SLO Bytes PCUG

As the editor for your newsletter, I find that an occasional graphic or two placed in an article may help drive a point home... or at least fill up the hole left by a column that was a couple inches too "short". When the opportunity came along to evaluate the Logitech Scanman Plus I thought it would be a good way to "get my feet wet" with scanners.

First let's see how a "hand scanner" differs from its "big brother" the flatbed scanner. A flatbed scanner in reality is nothing more than a miniature Xerox machine. A sheet of paper containing text and graphics is laid on a piece of glass, the lid is closed and the scanner is started from the computer. The copy appears on the computer screen and can be saved as a graphic file in the computer rather than printed to a second piece of paper. Flatbed scan-

CONTENTS

Club Officers

President George Campbell
Vice President Sam Powers
Treasurer Teri Sorgatz
Secretary/Editor Bob Ward

SLO Bytes Library

I had to clear about 3 megs of software off my hard disk for the library this month. You'll notice we are starting back at disk #1. We have decided the first 50 disks in our library arn't worth much more than the magnetic media they are written on. Therefore we will be writing over most of the first 50 disks. They contained old .BAS programs (1984), most of which will be found in our library worked over, enhanced and compiled. Here's is what we have to offer this month:

#001 Games for EGA and VGA graphics. **EGAVGAPB** - a pinball game which runs on either EGA or VGA screens. **EGAMONOP** - this is an EGA monopoly game. It's great, very well written, and a must have for monopoly enthusiasts. Select up to 15 players. Run from the keyboard or mouse. **VEGASEGA** - Las Vegas Casino. Play blackjack or poker. Written by former dealer for Vegas.

#002 More games for EGA and VGA monitors. **DRWPOKER** - excellent poker game. I've only lost $2000 so far. Annoying registration windows pop-up but will disappear if you register this game. Quite good. **SHOOTG20** - Shooting gallery. Excellent VGA only game. Many variations from skeet shoot to shoot the "ducky". **COMIC2** - this is a take-off of the Mario Brothers' Nintendo game. This one drives my wife crazy. I haven't had dinner on the table all week!

#003 ShareSpell spelling dictionary. This is a shareware spelling dictionary to use with your favorite wordprocessor. **PCBEAT** - rock to bongos, or create you're own music with this one.

#004 THESAURS - a TSR pop-up thesaurus. Quite good for shareware. Better than my Turbo Lightning!

MATHMAZE - run through the maze by solving simple math problems. Degrees of difficulty can be selected.

#005 Educational Games - Brandon's "Lunch Box" Educational Games for kids 3 to 7 years old. **BOATBOX** - reading drills. **FLASHBOX** - reading and memory drills. **USABOX** - find the states and their locations.

#006 PC-LEDGR - a double entry bookkeeping system. **WEDDINGS** - use this one to budget, send out invitations, and give the bride away. Make sure to get their front door key so they can't return!

#007 BOOKS - Now if you're an avid book reader, get this database to keep track of all your readings. **CHKBKMNG** - manage any checkbook. I've seen better, but they don't balance my checkbook any better than this one. **DIALIT** - A $3,000 auto dialer if you include the price of the computer. **EXERCAL** - calculates calories burned when bicycling. Accounts for head winds, etc. **IRSLOG10** - keep track of computer use for IRS writes offs.

Additions to existing disks:

#196 ELFTREE - Just another menuing program. **PSEARCH** - Patriquin's powerful text search program.

#381 File Shield 1.3 - used by programers to shield existing and developing programs from virus attack.

Updates:

#166 Treeview from version 1.0 to 1.1 - added mouse support.

#196 Burnin 4.2 - new interface, new features. Use your mouse.

#242 Minihost updated to **Maxihost**

#312 ARCMASTER from version 4.0 to 4.51

#362 4DOS from version 2.2 to 3.0

The Evolution of DOS 1980... 1990

By John W. Tnudeau
Space Coast PCUG Newsletter
March 1990

I will start with the earliest information that I have read concerning the origination of DOS. However, this is not to say that other older versions of DOS did not exist.

Based on my information, it all started in 1980 when Seattle Computer Products Company developed a system called EDOS. This was for their own use. The next name to evolve was 86DOS, after EDOS was modified in late 1980. Then, in 1981, MicroSoft produced PC-DOS version 1.0 for IBM PC's; this version was for single-sided diskettes. Sometime in 1981 MicroSoft designed to correct bugs detected in version 1.0.

MicroSoft, also in 1981, marketed an operating system for IBM compatible computers. It was called MS-OS, Version 1.0, and was a progression of QDOS/86DOS/PC-DOS.

Version 1.10

Version 1.10 released in late 1981 and early 1982, contained incremental and functional enhancements, performance improvements, as well as support for the double-sided diskette, 8 sectors, 320K, 5.25" drive, and permitted redirecting the printer to a serial port. This version was 250 bytes larger than version 1.0. Further, BASIC/A was 200 bytes larger. This version made its debut prior to the advent of hard drives. It should be noted that version 1.0 was not totally compatible.

What's New

missed much of the controversy as we were down two officers last month; one sick, and one playing hooky. So I'm shooting from the hip on exactly what went on. But then, if you didn't attend the meeting you wouldn't know anyway, and if you were there you needn't read this. We appreciate Suzanne coming all the way to show us the Toshiba line. No, she didn't raffle one off as a door prize. Maybe next time.

Next month is going to be a little different. Yes we will have a "local" demonstrating before us. Do you realize we have had speakers from outside the club for about 5 months now. OK, you know who I'm talking about; George Campbell. He enjoys speaking before all of you. About the only time he gets out of his house is for the meetings. The rest of his time is devoted to writing computer articles or developing software. Perhaps he will treat us to his Mr. Hollywood disguise.

Now to the "different" part (I'm not implying George is different... forgive me George if you read this). The early meeting is usually devoted to DOS inquires, but this month the **WHOLE** meeting will be about Windows 3.0. George is bring in his 386, VGA system to display Windows. Yes, we will even have an LCD projection system to handle VGA. There will be a logical break in subject material between 2:30 and the beginning of the general meeting at 2:45..... and there will be time for questions and answers as usual. Plus, don't forget, during the months of July and December, we have your semi annual swap meet. Bring your hardware, bring your software or bring your kids to beg, barter or trade. Then after a short business meeting where your's truly will again ask for a person to take over editorial duties next year, George will spend another hour or so with Windows 3.0. I'll have to admit, it's pretty impressive; even the Solitaire game that comes with it. Just the other day George was showing me his computer screen divided into four win-

dows, one with Wordperfect, one with Microsoft Word, one with Ami Professional, and the forth with Procomm. And yes, they were all up and running at the same time. The key word is "running". The difference between the Macintosh and PC's with Windows is that Windows will multitask (do two things at once) where the Apple line will only run one thing at a time even though many programs may be loaded into memory. Gee, I hope I'm right here or I'll catch a lot of flack at the next meeting. Might even get an apple or two thrown at me.

###

New Members

A big WELCOME to those who joined our club this June

.

Fred Cutter	772-7234
Cecil Jones	239-1915
Paul Kristensen	481-4601
Walter Rheingans	542-9771
John & Betty Snow	
W.K. Vance	466-5123
Arlene Williams	434-2738
Lynn Wilson	238-4526

And to those who forgot to send us $18, I must remind you that this is your last newsletter unless we receive remuneration by the next meeting.

Robert Boyd
Robert Culbertson
Norb Goudeseune
Bill & Betty Henson
Claryce Knupper
Billy Mounts
Jack Prince
John Rogers

###

Bits n' Bytes

- Thanks to Cuesta Systems, a local company that makes uninterruptible power supplies, we have a large number of computer magazines which you can find in the library each month. Feel free to take them home. Anything left over after the meeting is discarded.

- We are still experiencing some difficulties with our second hard disk on the BBS. Until this problem is resolved we will not install a second phone line. It now seems to be a disk controller card incompatibility. Be patient, the second line will be here. Until then, put your communications program on autodial. You will get through; I do, on a daily basis.

	July 1990		
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed
Meeting 1	2	3	
8	9	10	1

Calendar

July 1st Microsoft Windows 3.0 will be demonstrated by George Campbell starting at 1:30.

Don't forget our swapmeet before the general meeting presentation.

###

Scanman Plus

ners are expensive with prices ranging from $1400 to $4000 or more. Hand scanners are inexpensive in comparison with prices ranging from $200 to $400. They are more restrictive as most will only copy to a width just over 4" and not provide all the graphic manipulative features found with flatbed scanners.

For home or small office use where an occasional graphic or piece of text is scanned a hand-held scanner would be your best choice. A hand-scanner, like the name implies, is held in the hand and rolled across a page of text or graphics. The image is digitized as it goes, sending the resultant code usually to the computer screen where it can be saved as a graphic file.

Logitech Scanman Plus

Installation of the Scanman Plus is simple, even for a novice. It consists of placing a board in your computer, attaching the 2 meter cable to the back of the board and running the accompanying PaintShow Plus software. I was scanning my first picture within 15 minutes of opening the box... and this includes cleaning off my desk to get to my computer!

The software installation analyses your computer system for memory and address conflicts and advises you accordingly. I guess the default settings are consistent with most computers as I didn't have to change any jumpers or reassign any addresses.

What better way to describe the hand-scanner than by scanning the

picture in the manual to show you its various parts. This picture was scanned at 300 dpi with the Line Art setting. The resulting TIF file was 220K. There are very few moving parts on the scanner. The scanning window (1) lets you see what is being scanned while it passes under the light sensor. The scanning speed indicator (2) lets you know when you are scanning too fast by flashing. The computer can only receive the digitized information so fast; if you scan too fast line art and graphics will drop out. The resolution switch (3) is set for 1,2,3 or 4 which represents the number of dots per inch (dpi) at which the image is scanned. (1 = 100 dpi, 4 = 400 dpi, etc.) The lower the resolution, the poorer quality picture, with lines being more jagged, and graphics more grainy. But then there is a trade off. The lower the resolution, the smaller the resulting file and the larger the picture area which can be scanned without running out of memory.

Select the dither/Line Art setting (5) depending on whether you are scanning a black and white photo, color photo or line art. This in conjunction with the brightness control (6) will give you good renditions of photos with a little practice.
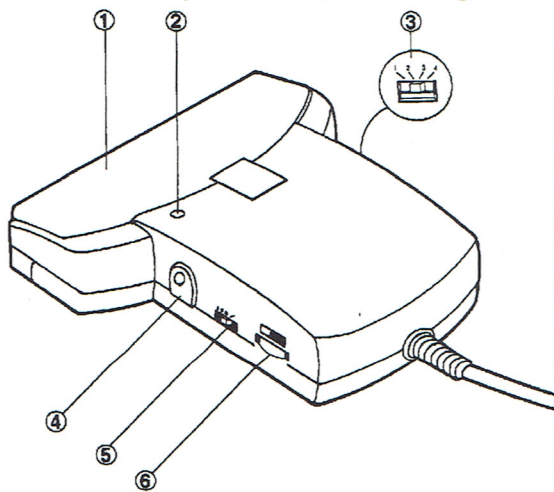
The scanning process can be started by several methods, the simplest through the Paintshow Plus software. Call up the program, click on the "scan" window with your mouse and the yellow green light comes on your scanner. Press the Scan Button (4) and slowly roll the scanner over the image. The picture will appear on the screen at the same time and rate you scan the picture (real time mode). From here you can manipulate the picture and save it in one of several standard

graphic formats. I first scanned a picture of my little girl and found she didn't look too good after I added a beard to her face with Paintshow Plus. In fact she almost came to tears. So watch it, this is powerful software!

Logitech's HandHeld User's Manual is written in simple English and is very straight forward. Chapters are broken down into Installation, Scanning Fundamentals, and scanning from various accompanying programs. Most scanners are accompanied by some type of paint program. Logitech's Paintshow Plus is typical of most paint programs with cut/paste, erasing and fill capabilities. It lends itself nicely to the Logitech Scanman Plus.

Using a hand scanner does require some technique as the scanner must be smoothly drawn across the image being scanned. Line art is by far the easiest form of art to scan and probably the one to start with. Photos require more technique in selecting correct contrast and dithering. With time anyone can become an "expert" with a hand scanner. Other than the scan size limitations that occur with all hand scanners, this scanner will fulfill most of your scanning needs.

Next Month...

Logitech's CatchWord OCR software

100 dpi

200 dpi

300 dpi

DOS Evolution

Version 2.10

Version 2.10 was released in 1983; only seven years ago! This version was made necessary by the IBM-XT. It included these major changes: Support for the 9 sector, 360K drives, support for a 10 Meg hard disk, UNIX-like tree structure, directory support, concept of filters, BACKUP-RESTORE-TREE-CD-MD-RD-PATH (GOTO- IF-ECHO-FOR batch files), the ability to install non-IBM device drivers, improved BASIC with extended graphics commands, and added background print spooler with print command. Version 2.10 for the IBM-PCjr was also released in 1983 and this version included new support for the plug-in cartridges and half height disk drives.

Version 3.0

Version 3.0 was developed in 1984 to include support for the IBM-AT. A significant change feature: A drive name and a path name could now be specified before an external command of program name. With this, you could now run programs that did not reside in the current directory.

This version added support for a 20 Megabyte hard drive, support for the high density 1.2M, 5.25" drive, and support for an international keyboard (SELECT/KEYBxx/COUNTRY).

Version 3.0 included the new commands, ATTRIB, LABEL, SHARE, SELECT, GRAFTABL, and KEYBxx. BACKUP and RESTORE, DATE and TIME, FORMAT and GRAPHICS commands were changed.

COUNTRY, FCBS, LASTDRIVE and VDISK.SYS were features that were now available for the CONFIG.SYS file.

Version 3.10

Released in 1984, version 3.10 provided for network support and corrected some bugs in version 3.0. This version also added the new commands of JOIN and SUBST, as well as changing the LABEL and TREE commands.

Version 3.20

Version 3.2, released in 1985-86, included support for the IBM convertible. Changes included were: support for the 720K 3.5" disk drive with the DRIVER.SYS device driver.

REPLACE and COPY were new commands for this version. Commands?Directives that were changed included SHELL, ATTRIB, COMMAND, DISKCOPY, DISKCOMP, FORMAT and SELECT.

A new CONFIG.SYS feature was STACKS, which sets the number and size of the DOS internal stacks.

Version 3.30

This version was released in 1987 and supports the IBM PS/2 and compatibles, all IBM-PC/XT/AT's and compatibles (CPUs 8088, 80286, 80386, ????). New features included support for the high density 1.44M, 3.5" drive, support for COM4 and the ability to use switchable code pages (international character fonts.)

New commands were: APPEND, CHCP, FASTOPEN, and NLSFUNC.

Changed commands and CONFIG.SYS directives were: BUFFERS, COUNTRY, SHELL, ATTRIB, BACKUP, DATE and TIME, DISKCOPY, DISKCOMP, FDISK, FORMAT, GRAFTABL, KEYB, MODE, and RESTORE. The DISPLAY.SYS and PRINTER.SYS device drivers were improved.

Batch file improvement included support for using the environment variable (%variable%), @ for suppressing display of a line, and the CALL subcommand for running a second batch file and return control to the first batch file.

Version 4.0

This version release by IBM was for AT's only. Microsoft version 4.0 was released later. Major changes are: 7ma2ems.sys and Xmaem.sys (device drivers for expanded memory), BUFFERS, VDISK.SYS, FASTOPEN 4.0, DEBUG can use EMs, supports more than 32M with FDISK + SHARE INSTALLED. DOSSHELL runs a user interface programs. MEM-INSTALL= and -SWITCHES= are new commands. Updated commands are APPEND 4.0, CHKDSK, ERASE/P, FASTOPEN 4.0 /X SWITCH uses EMs memory for storing addresses.

Version 4.01

This version is a bug chaser, and provides improved extended memory control.

To upgrade your DOS, all you need is a disk that is formatted/S (which puts the DOS system on it), and the new DOS files. Place the Disk in your A: drive and boot your computer. This will put the updated system in your computer temporarily. It may be safer to try using the computer before putting the system on your hard drive. If you don't use a hard drive, you can use any version of DOS to boot the computer. If you have a hard drive, it will be necessary to transfer the system your boot drive, normally C:. This is done by typing the command, SYS C: return; this is a must in order to replace the old DOS files with the new ones.

Note

When referring to the disk operating system, this does not mean all of the files that come in a DOS revision. The shell is a good example, you are free to use it where it helps you. Another that comes to mind is extended and expanded memory files, most people will not use them. I don't mean that they are not good, just that at this time in the history of DOS, software and hardware are not aligned.

The size of DOS has increased with each version. This has had an effect on the amount of memory needed and the way we use it.

LaserJet Maintenance

By Christine Rivera, NYPC

Reprinted from PC News, Journal of the Indianapolis
Computer Society, August 1988

This month I'd like to present a potpourri of tips I've come across in my use of the Hewlett-Packard LaserJet.

Cleaning the LaserJet Printer

To keep your printer operating smoothly, you should clean it once a month--more often if it is shared by others or heavily used. Always make sure the printer is turned off before cleaning. If you've just been using the printer, you should wait five to 10 minutes to let it cool off, since the inside fuser roller gets quite hot during use.

The HP manual has good instructions with clear diagrams. After lifting the top cover, you should gently clean the inside area with a soft cloth (you can dampen the cloth slightly, if you wish). Clean the transfer corona wire, located toward the front of the printer, with a cotton swab dipped in alcohol. Be very careful not to break the crisscross filaments above the transfer corona wire -- they are very delicate.

Toward the back of the printer is the green fusing assembly cover. Open it and remove the green fuser roller cleaning pad. Clean the green pad with a damp cloth to remove excess toner particles. Although Hewlett-Packard doesn't mention this, I have found that the fuser roller may accumulate toner particles, which can cause streaks on pages. Cleaning the fuser roller with a soft cloth (make sure the roller is not too hot) removes the particles and eliminates the streaking. You may also want to clean the green roller located inside the toner cartridge as well. I've seen toner particles stick to this roller also.

Clean the outside of the printer with a soft, damp cloth. You can use a mild detergent (applied to the cloth, not the printer) if you like, but I have found that a slightly damp cloth works just fine.

A Caution: under no circumstances should you use household cleaners, such as window, appliance or bathroom cleaners, on the printer (or on any other computer equipment, for that matter). The chemicals in such cleaners can damage your equipment. Also, never apply water to the printer -- dampen a cloth if you need to use water, and make sure the cloth is damp, not wet. Water can also damage printer components.

Changing the Toner

When the LaserJet's toner level is low, the printer's display will indicate "Toner Low." Older LaserJet models will display the number 16. The first time this message is displayed, there is enough toner to print 30 to 100 more pages. You can resume normal operation and get more mileage out of the toner cartridge by removing it and rocking it back and forth gently several times to redistribute the toner. After you replace the cartridge the message will not appear again for a while. When it does, you should change the cartridge.

I've seen ads for refilling toner cartridges, but Hewlett-Packard warns against doing this, saying it can damage the printer. According to HP, the parts inside the toner cartridge have the highest failure rates, and are meant to be replaced when the cartridge is used up. HP warns that if printer damage is caused by a refilled toner cartridge, it will not cover printer service or damaged parts under your warranty. Although it could be argued that HP wants to protect its supply business, I'd rather be safe than sorry.

Make sure you purchase the proper cartridge. The LaserJet Series II uses a newer cartridge, so you can't use the older cartridges in the new printer and vice versa.

Changing the toner cartridge is easy. You make sure the printer is off, and that it has cooled down completely if recently used. After removing the old cartridge and inserting the new one, remove the green fuser roller cleaning pad and throw it away. The new cleaning pad will have a small piece of cloth at one end. Use this end to clean the fuser roller, then remove the cloth, insert the fuser roller cleaning pad, and you're ready to go. HP also includes a cotton swab and cleaning instructions with each cartridge; a reminder to clean the printer, if you haven't done so since the last cartridge change.

Adjusting the Print Density

One way to make your toner cartridges last longer is to set the print density to a lighter setting. If you open the cover of the printer you will see a green dial in the left front corner. The higher the number on the dial, the lighter the print

DOS Evolution

Examples are:

VER	SIZE	DATE	FILES	SIZE	REMARKS
1.10	4,959	05-07-82	26	139,169	(XT only floppies)
2.11	15,957	06-27-85	33	215,435	(Tandy & others)
3.20	23,612	03-21-86	39	363,128	(For all types)
3.30	25,308	02-02-88	54	630,038	(For all types)
4.01	37,557	12-19-88	76	1,616,519	(For AT's only)

DOS is redesigned for each model computer by the engineers of the company building the system, and may or may not work on other systems.

###

Laser Jet Printer

density, so that less toner will be used for each print job. A lower number uses more toner and results in darker print. The number 5 is about average.

Paper Tips

HP has improved paper handling with the LaserJet Series II. The printer will handle a wider variety of paper grades and weights. I've used standard copier paper, various weights of bond, and letterhead and envelopes without problems. I've rarely had paper jams, but when I do, the LaserJet II handles the situation admirably. The display indicates "Paper Jam" (error 13 on older models). I open the cover and clear the jam, and the Series II picks up my print job right where it left off, reprinting the page where the jam occurred.

Paper jams usually occur when the printer tries to grab two sheets of paper at once. This can be avoided by practicing some simple precautions. Make sure the paper tray is properly filled. If there's too much or too little paper in the tray, it can become improperly aligned and cause jamming.

Paper storage is also important. Make sure that the paper is stored in an environment that's not too cold, hot, humid, or dry. If the storage conditions differ significantly from the room where the paper is used, move the paper to that room 24 hours before using.

During the winter months, the air tends to be dry, and static can build up in the printer. Try to avoid too dry an environment by using a humidifier, or turning down the heat.

Christine Rivera is a microcomputer consultant and trainer whose specialties include using laser printers with various software applications. She can be reached at 212/344-6676.

The LaserJet Journal

In one of my previous columns I mentioned The LaserJet Journal as an excellent resource. I've gotten many helpful hints from it, some of which I've passed along in this column. I'd like to take the opportunity now to discuss this publication in more detail.

The LaserJet Journal is "The Official Publication for Hewlett-Packard LaserJet Printer Users." It's usually 24 pages in length, and is chock full of information about how to use your LaserJet printer more effectively.

Each month the Technical Support column features techniques for using fonts with different software, printing with different sized paper and envelopes, and other extremely useful tips. The Questions and Answers column features commonly asked questions. If you have a question you'd like answered, there's a form for you to fill out. All questions are answered by Hewlett-Packard support engineers.

There's also a list of third party vendors--you'd be surprised at how many software and hardware products support the LaserJet printer.

LaserJet Profiles features different companies each month, describing how they've saved money and/or increased productivity with their LaserJet printers. And Focus on Fonts is a regular column that discusses available fonts, and how to best utilize them with various software packages.

Also included are New Product News, which usually features third party vendors with new supporting products for the LaserJet and Notes from HP, which keeps you up-to-date with new developments at Hewlett-Packard.

Just to give you an idea of the type of information the journal provides, here are some headlines from recent issues: Selecting a Print Box for Printer Sharing; New 48 Point Soft Fonts Break Size Barrier; Phoenix Drivers Increase Compatibility of LaserJet and Lotus; Microsoft Word 4.0 Provides More LaserJet Support. The last article mentioned is four pages of details on using LaserJet fonts with the new Microsoft Word.

The LaserJet Journal is written for people who are already familiar with their word processors (or other software), and want to take full advantage of the special features available on their laser printers. It is assumed that you know about your software's printer drivers, page layouts, and margin and pitch setting. If you're new to computers, these things can be a bit overwhelming, so you may want to wait before you subscribe. For those of you who are ready now, you can subscribe to the LaserJet Journal by calling 800/323-2686. A one year subscription (6 issues) is $49, and is well worth it.

###

dBASE Hint of the Month

By French Morgan

It takes time for DBASE to echo results of record counting to the screen. You'll notice improved results, especially with dBASE III PLUS, if you SET TALK OFF before doing anything that sends data back to the screen. This takes care of a few instances were screen reporting takes place. Also, try this undocumented feature with dBASE III PLUS: before copying, appending, or modifying structure a database, SET ODOMETER TO 10. Counting in groups of 10 is displayed, saving screen reporting time.

dSLO dBUG dBASE User Group meets the 4th Tuesday of each month.

###

XCOPY Command

By Curtis Marten
Humbolt PCUG

Have you been looking for a faster way to copy files between disks or directories? Wished that you could copy files created after a certain date? If you have DOS 3.2 or later, XCOPY is the answer. XCOPY is an external command that copies either files or directories and optionally the directory's subdirectories. Like COPY, XCOPY copies between different disk drive types or different media types.

The command syntax is:

XCOPY source pathname [target pathname][/A][/D:date][/E][/M][/P][/S][/V][/W].

Source pathname is the drive, directories, and/or file you want to copy. XCOPY uses the wildcard *.* and copies all files in the directory, if you omit the filename.

Target pathname is the drive, directories, and/or file to which you are copying. XCOPY copies to the current directory if you omit the directory.

/A copies only source files that have their archive bit set. It does not change the archive bit of the source file. See ATTRIB in your DOS manual for more information on setting the archive bit.

/D:date copies only files changed on or after the given date.

/E copies all empty directories of the specified directory. /E may only be used with /S.

/M copies files that have their archive bit set, and turns off the archive bit in the source files.

/P prompts you to confirm that you want to copy each file. /S copies the specified directory and its subdirectories that are not empty. If you omit /S, XCOPY works within one directory.

/V verifies the file as it is written to be sure it is identical to the source file.

/W waits to begin copying the files. XCOPY displays a message to press a key to start. Press a key or CTRL/C to cancel XCOPY.

Examples

XCOPY A: B:/S/E Copies all the files, directories, and subdirectories on drive A to drive B.

XCOPY PAYROLL A:\WORKERS XCOPY copies all the files in the directory PAYROLL to A:\WORKERS. XCOPY will create the directory WORKERS if the directory does not exist.

XCOPY PAYROLL A:\WORKERS\ /V Copies all the files in the directory PAYROLL to A:\WORKERS, and verifies that they are identical.

XCOPY A: B:/D:03/26/90 Copies all the files on drive A changed after March 26, 1990 to drive B.

XCOPY A: B:/D:03/26/90 /S/E/V Copies all the files, directories, and subdirectories on drive A changed after March 26, 1990, to drive B, and verifies that they are identical.

XCOPY works by reading as many files from the source as memory will allow, and then writing them to the target. This makes XCOPY faster that COPY. COPY spent 3 minutes and 16 seconds to copy 21 files from A: to B:. XCOPY spent 2 minutes and 12 seconds to copy the same 21 files from A: to B:.

###

Bits

- If you can anticipate not staying through the whole presentation during the general meeting, please sit to the outside seats as not to disturb others when you leave. Thanks.

- It's our bi-annual swap meet in July. If you have anything to sell, give-away or trade (computer stuff of course) bring it to our next meeting. Original software and docs only.

- When making small purchases at the meeting, please have correct change or something less than a $20 bill. We only keep $30 petty cash. Also when you renew your membership it helps to have your old card so we can see on what month your membership expires. This can also be seen by looking at the upper right corner of the newsletter mailing label.

Club Information

The SLO BYTES Newsletter 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 $18 per year. Newsletter only is $10 per year. Full membership entitles you to our monthly newsletter, full use of the public domain software library and discounts at local computer stores.

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, editor, 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.

Reprinting of this Newsletter: Articles from this newsletter may be reprinted by other user groups if credit is given to both the author and newsletter from which it was taken. Reproduction of articles with a specific © Copyright notice is prohibited without prior permission from the original author.

Advertising: Commercial advertisers, request ad packet from Bob Ward. Members may advertise personal computer equipment or software for free. Submit your ad to Bob Ward.

Direct all correspondence to Bob Ward, 2100 Andre Ave., Los Osos, CA. 93402. Call (805)756-2164 M-F 7:30am - 5pm and (805)528-0121 all other times.

Treasurer: Teri Sorgatz, 832 S. 7th Street, Grover City, CA. 93433 Phone 489-2516

Meeting Times

General meetings are held the 1st Sunday of every month, unless noted otherwise in the newsletter calendar, at 2:30 pm in the Cal Poly University Biology Department, Fisher Hall 286. Special Interest Groups (SIGS) meet at 1:30 - 2:15 pm.

New User's SIG - F.H. 286

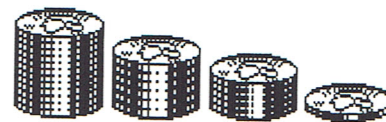Our Public Domain Library is in Fisher Hall 292. Hours 12 Noon till closing.

SLO BYTES BULLLETIN BOARD

(805) 528-3753 2400/8/N/1

PC Files & Message Section

SYSOP: George Campbell

All Welcome - 24 Hours

Treasurer's Report

Here's what's in the bank as of June 20, 1990

Previous balance	:$1113.90
Newsletter (5/22):	$93.70
Software:	$5.00
Deposit:	$252.00
Balance:	**$1276.20**

DISCOUNTS

Paradise Computers 3485 Sacramento, unit B San Luis Obispo 544-7127	5%	All computers. peripherals and software.
	10%	Ribbons, paper, disks & other expendable items.
Star Computers 855 Morro Bay Blvd. Morro Bay 772-7827	5%	Any software in stock.
	10%	Paper, ribbons, cables, and other supplies.
Computer Logic 973 Foothill Blvd. #4 San Luis Obispo 544-8347	10%	Off list - all computers, software, computer peripherals, and products. Contact Bruce, Paul or Dave for discount.
WITCO Computers 3563 Sueldo, Bld. B San Luis Obsipo 549-0811	10%	Off complete systems, peripherals, supplies but not including software.
	5%	Off computers alone.

Ziff-Davis User Group Magazine Discounts

PC-Magazine - $24.97
PC-Computing - $14.97
Have your mailing label handy for renewals
Call 1-800-777-2547 and ask for your
user group discount