

## What's New

—By Bob Ward

THE JUNE MEETING is quickly approaching so I'd better get my plug in for the next meeting and what happened last month. Let's talk about last month first. Our thanks to Call America and SLO Net for their demonstration of the Internet. I knew we were in a little trouble when someone from the audience asked if Joanne was demonstrating for Call America or America OnLine. Let me try and dispel the confusion. At least you will have something in writing for reference. Hope I too, get it right.

Call America is a local long distance phone service mostly for the business community. They do provide access to the Internet for those who wish to sign up for their service. For club members, that's \$30 per month with no set-up charge. That will get you on the Internet for 30 hours, maybe even more now, as I heard something mentioned about 200 hours per month. You would have to contact them for details. Every hour over what ever you get for \$30 is \$1 per hour. If you are outside their local calling area, don't worry, you can obtain an 800 number for no extra charge.

If you wish to spend less money per month and have a different type of access to the Internet, you can join SLO Net. They have several plans although I do recall something about \$10 per month which gets you on for 1 hour per session with 15 minutes off before you can log on again.

What is the difference between the two services other than cost? Call America allows you to access the

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## "Updating to Windows 95" & "Getting Started with Windows 95"

a pair of VHS training videos by ViaGrafix

—By Pete Madle, SLO Bytes

"HEY PETE", SAID BOB, "Here's two Windows 95 training videos I'd like you to review". "WOW!", said this peon, "Good timing! - I installed the Final Preview version of Windows 95 just a few weeks ago and I've still got lots to learn - Thank you".

So - this is what happened when I followed the approach suggested by ViaGrafix at the beginning of each tape.

First, I viewed each tape straight through. Then, I rewound each tape and went through it again, this time stopping at the "pause points" which ViaGrafix has provided at strategic places, to practice what I had just learned. ViaGrafix provides a floppy

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## Club Calendar

June 4th

Linda Orban from Knowledge Adventure will return showing us KA's latest additions.

July 2nd

OPEN  
(Yep, we will have a meeting!)

August 6th

Lee Tarbet from Novell will demonstrate Perfect Office.

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## 70,000,000 Phone Numbers

—By Bob Ward

I'M SURE HAPPY we have CD ROM's! Just where would I put a database with seventy million phone numbers? That's what is offered by American Business Information on two CD ROM disks, one for the Western U.S., one for the Eastern half of the country.

Documentation is limited, but really isn't needed with the on-line help and simple interface. The program comes in both DOS and Windows versions, both which can be loaded from either CD. I chose the Windows version just for ease of use. Two icons are created in the PhoneBook group. One is the program, the other a short help database. The Windows version takes up 4.8 megs of hard disk space and includes a couple LARGE DLL files. The data files remain on the CD ROM's as expected.

Clicking on the program brings up a very simple and logical interface. Fields for entry include Lastname, Firstname, Middle Initial, City, State, ZIP and phone number. Several combinations are possible but all require a last name unless you enter the phone number. If you have a sound card and opt to turn the sound on through the program options menu, you are greeted by a male or female voice in English asking you to enter a Lastname with a city, state or ZIP code, or a phone number. If English is a second language you can also pick French or Spanish in a female voice at which time all the program titling also

turns to the language of choice. This is a nice added feature but really not necessary.

So going for the "big one" I chose to list all the WARD's in California. To start displaying all the Ward, A. listings took about 3 seconds, although to do a total count (another option) took about 1.5 minutes. The phone book found 5,405 "Wards" in California. Now there's something to wither your ego seeing all those other people out there with YOUR NAME! Obviously you can narrow the search by entering the city,

state or ZIP code. The search takes longer but is more specific.

Across the top of the screen is a menu bar. It includes search, display, count, clear, online, options services, help and exit. After entering the data, click on the search binoculars. Within a couple seconds the Display magnifying glass becomes active. If there is more than one "hit" it will list the first 14 records in alphabetical order. To see more use the scroll bar to the right of the display. I found the scrolling to be

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## Library News

—By Bob Ward

I STUMBLED OVER a couple great disks that have been sitting in front of my computer for a couple months. Shame on me for not discovering them sooner. If you want to try your hand at desktop publishing, use the following two disks.

### #639 & 640

**GeoPub-1 & 2** - GeoPublisher from Geoworks. Here's a great desktop publishing program to get your feet wet. It's NOT a Windows program and does not require that you own GeoWorks to run it. Many of the bells and whistles found in larger DTP packages are present here. It's well worth the diskcopy!

### #641

**XNIPNT50** - AniPaint - full featured paint & animation program.  
**MRM110** - Machinist/Math - solve geometric & algebraic problems for machines.

### #642

**DRFORM32** - Dr Forms 3.2 - create forms simply & fast.  
**ECKWIN10** - E-Z Credit Kit 1.0 credit counseling.  
**LABELS11** - converts MYM for Windows data to Quicken.

I have about 20 megs of software waiting on my hard disk to be transferred to the BBS. Hopefully you will see many new files by the time you read this newsletter.

For the new people who aren't really sure how to use the library, read the following. Only members and their immediate family can use the library during the meeting. We have several computers set up in the museum for your use. All are menu driven to help speed the process of copying. Our total library of files is available for you to transfer. You can buy the most recent disks we have added to our library for \$1 each. This month, #639-#642 may be purchased from the treasurer. We also have 2 library copies of the disks mentioned above if you wish to make your own copies. For a nominal fee we will sell you blank formatted disks. Feel free to bring your own blank disks as well. We do ask that they are formatted to save time in the copying process.

We have one computer set up with a CD-ROM loaded with 600 megs of additional shareware files. Jump in and selectively copy those files that interest you.

If you are looking for a specific file, you can search for it on our file locator disk by filename, keyword or disk number. If all else fails ask the library monitor or treasurer for help.

Happy computing.



# How To Write For Your Newsletter

By Sam Miller, editor of  
*Orange Bytes PCUG (Reprinted from Big Blue & Cousins, January 1995)*

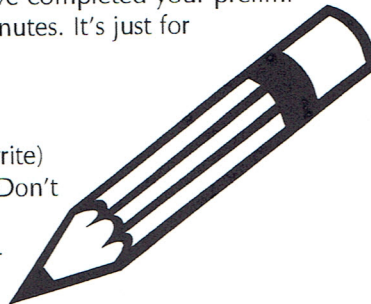
**BEFORE YOU START TO WRITE:** do your research, test the product (if that's what your article is about) and think carefully about everything that will go into the article. Firm up your conclusions and create an outline in your mind.

## Initial Outline.

Now, quickly write your initial outline. If you've completed your preliminary work, this shouldn't take more than a few minutes. It's just for reference while you write your first draft.

## First Draft.

With this initial outline before you, type (or write) without interruption the first draft of your article. Don't stop to make typo corrections, or reorganizations. An interruption could subtract from the completeness and spontaneity of your draft.



## Rewrite.

Now, take the time to carefully edit the draft, reorganize and delete where needed to reduce the article to its essentials.

## Reduce Wordiness.

An initial draft often contains too many words. Since newspaper style publication demands spare language, you must concentrate on reducing wordiness.

EXAMPLE: "Wilson was really fearing a negative recommendation by the doctors, which could only mean that he would have to be operated on."

REVISION: "Wilson feared the doctors would have to operate."

Note how the revision shortened the sentence, converted two passives to a single active construction, and removed unnecessary descriptive words.

Many of the examples given below reduce wordiness.

## Long Paragraphs. Long Sentences. Obscure Words.

**LONG PARAGRAPHS.** Look at the first page of the New York Times or your local newspaper. You will find a paragraph seldom goes to more than three sentences. Neither should our newsletter's paragraphs.

**LONG SENTENCES.** Some long sentences contain a number of statements, separated by commas, which can be complete in themselves. If possible, convert the statements into separate sentences. Try to avoid the use of semicolons. A sequence separated by semicolons often can be broken up into several sentences.

Go over the entire draft carefully and rewrite any phrases that you can efficiently restate with fewer words. Shorter sentences are easier to read.

**OBSCURE WORDS.** Don't use words like "paradigm," "tour-de-force," and "extirpate." Use ordinary English words.

## Delete Unneeded Adjectives And Adverbs.

Quite often you can make a sentence stronger if you delete adjectives and adverbs which aren't necessary. You should look over all your adjectives and adverbs to see what you can do without. (But try especially to replace or delete overused words like truly, interesting, really, great.)

EXAMPLE: I highly recommend this truly marvelous spreadsheet program.

REVISION: I recommend this spreadsheet program.

## Write With Action Verbs.

Newspaper and technical editors demand writing with action verbs. They lead

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## What's New

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Internet using PPP or Point to Point Protocol. So what, you might say. Well, if you want a full graphical interface through Windows with graphics, sound, pictures, etc. presently your option would be Call America. You access this service through two programs in Windows (both shareware), one to dial the service, the other to supply the graphical interface.

SLONet, likewise offers access to the Internet but in a non-graphical mode. They use what is called Lynx... a Unix term for hypertext. There are no pictures to view, no sounds to hear but you can get around to most of the areas on the Internet with this interface. To jump from one area to another you tab to a word in their text format that is highlighted or a different color. This jumps you to that area in question on the Internet. SLONet also offers many local areas of interest you might not find on the regular Internet. To access SLONet you can use your home grown garden variety telecommunications package, either Windows or DOS based.

Both services give you an E-Mail address so anyone in the world who also has access to the Internet can send you mail. Both provide powerful search engines such as "Yahoo", offered by Stanford University. This lets you search the whole "Net" for areas of interest by key word. You can also use the Lynx version of the Internet with the Call America service. I find Lynx much faster if I want to Telnet or FTP to another site and don't care about the fancy graphical home pages. More about that at another meeting.

I have been kicking around the idea of having an Internet meeting in Fisher Hall 286 maybe 2 or 3 times a year where we can explore the most effective uses of this new area of communications. Unfortunately, the only access to a phone line is in Fisher 286 so it would take up part or all of the general SIG that meets in that room. Please give us your opinion at the next meeting. It's your club, we just provide the entertainment!

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## How to Write

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to more forceful writing and eliminate wordiness. With action verbs you can replace certain nouns (created from verbs or adjectives), replace forms of the verb "to be," and replace the passive form with the active form. Examples are given below.

### Replace Certain Nouns With Action Verbs.

EXAMPLE: It is our expectation that we will see productivity improvement when the workers learn the new system.

REVISION: We expect the workers to produce more when they learn the new system.

In this case the action verbs expect and produce replace nouns which had been formed from verbs, boosting clarity and vigor in the recreated sentence. Look for such nouns to see if you can replace them with action verbs. They frequently have the endings -tion, -ment, -ance, and -ing.

### Replace Forms Of The Verb "to be" With Action Verbs.

EXAMPLE: I find it is extremely distasteful for me to work here.

REVISION: I hate to work here.

The example sentence contained the "to be" verb "is." The forms of "to be" are colorless in themselves. Their removal can often tighten and strengthen a sentence. "To be" words you should attempt to remove include is, am, was, are, were, be, been, being and it's.

### Replace The Passive Form With The Active Form.

EXAMPLE: A little lamb was owned by Mary.

REVISION: Mary had a little lamb.

This example of the passive was converted to the active by removing the "to be" verb was. You can recognize a passive construction by the use of a form of the verb "to be" combined with a past participle.

### Viewpoint And Tense.

Be careful with your use of I-you-third person and present-past-future.

EXAMPLE: I installed the program easily. You will find the second menu tricky, however, and a user will be best advised to avoid using it.

REVISION: The program installs easily. The second menu is tricky, however, and should be avoided.

Note that the example paragraph employs all three of the I-you-third person (the user) viewpoints, but the revision is exclusively in the third person. (The revision could have been rewritten in either the first or second persons).

Note also that the example paragraph uses both the past and future tenses, but the revision uses exclusively the present tense.

### Stand Up For Your Convictions. Don't Write Evasively.

The other night at a local restaurant, my daughter-in-law asked the waiter, "Do you folks use MSG?" He answered, "No, I think we don't." What he meant was "I don't really know," or possibly, "Actually, we do use MSG."

But everyone sitting at the table knew that he was evading the truth. The evasive statement didn't cover up his intellectual dishonesty.

Timid, inexperienced technical writers may hesitate to draw conclusions and make positive statements on the matters they write about. They may fear that a positive statement could somehow compromise them, and therefore resort to weak and evasive language. Unfortunately, readers see through this, just as we did at the table.

EXAMPLE: From the data submitted, we might conclude that the data pattern seems to be best expressed by a third order exponential curve.

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## What's New

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At our next meeting, June 4th, grab a couple kids, yours or your neighbors (with their permission of course) - Linda Urban from Knowledge Adventure will return showing us KA's latest additions including "My First Encyclopedia", "Random House Kid's Encyclopedia", "Spider Man Cartoon Maker", "Aviation Adventure", and more. This demo will bring out the "kid" in all of us. Also remember she brings boxes of product for sale at reduced prices. So bring your check-books. She'll be happy to make you a Knowledge Adventure owner.

Many thanks for Gus Thomasson, George's stand-in at last month's general SIG. George had a splitting headache (probably was thinking about the meeting too much) and couldn't make it.



Gus will be back in his regular room next month kicking off a new 3 month course for new computer users. This is a valuable course if you just purchased your first PC. Of course if you owned a MAC you wouldn't need a beginning class, but then you wouldn't have the money to buy gas to get to the meeting anyway. Arn't I terrible! I just like Red Delicious more than any other apple.

Bob Hunt will be dragging in his multimedia studio for the Windows SIG next to the Beginners SIG. And George, barring any unsuspecting headaches will be with us again this coming month. See ya then.

Twice a year we have our members swapmeet. Here's your chance to clean off those software shelves. Beg, buy, barter that old software. Remember, software should include original disks and manuals. All other copies should be destroyed. This is also a great time to trade up your hardware or peripherals. Bring it all, set up shop and do your thing.



## How to Write

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**REVISION:** We conclude that a third order exponential curve best expresses the data submitted.

The tell-tales of this kind of wishy-washy writing are expressions of this nature: It appears that..., ...seems to be..., We might conclude...

Look for these tell-tales and replace them, as illustrated. Readers readily accept positive statements, but do not value weak evasive language.

### Punctuation And Grammar.

Look for and correct any too-often repeated words or expressions, check your punctuation and grammar, and spell-check the article.

Above all, correct the two most frequent punctuation errors — the confusion of “it’s” and “its,” and the incorrect use of a comma or period ending a quote. The correct usages are illustrated in these examples:

1. “It’s” is a contraction for “it is,” as in “It’s incredible.”
2. “Its” is a possessive, as in “She read its first two chapters.”

Observe in the first example that the period (the same applies to a comma or exclamation point) must precede the quotation marks. It doesn’t seem logical, but it’s correct American punctuation.

### Final Thoughts.

Many times it’s better not to make a rewrite change, because you can’t find a better way to express the thought, or the alternate seems clumsy or silly.

An example is the use of the “to be” word “was” in the following sentence: “George Washington was president.” Where a “to be” verb is used to identify, there may not a better way to express the sentence.

Get a qualified person to both critically review and proofread your draft.

It’s a good idea to put your article away, review it yourself after a day or two and continue to improve it.



## Training Videos

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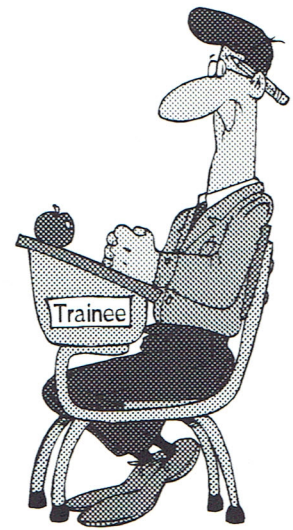
disk, containing special files for these practice sessions, with each tape.

The “Updating to Windows 95” tutorial covers the following list of topics:

1. Covering mouse support
2. Discussing the Taskbar
3. Desktop Icons
4. Using right-click context menus
5. Hard drive properties
6. Hard drive folders
7. Using a group window control menu
8. The Start button
9. Maximizing and minimizing windows
10. Running Windows demo programs
11. Browsing files
12. The Explorer
13. Displaying the Explorer toolbar
14. Creating a folder
15. Copying files
16. Formatting a floppy
17. Using the Run dialog box
18. Using App Install Wizard
19. Exploring The MS-DOS command window
20. Using the Printing Install Wizard
21. Deleting an application
22. Options in the Control Panel
23. Changing the Desktop’s display
24. Customizing the Taskbar
25. Creating a briefcase
26. Updating a briefcase file
27. Shutting down Windows 95

The “Getting Started with Windows 95” tutorial covers the following list of topics:

1. Covering The Taskbar
2. Desktop Icons
3. Creating a folder
4. Renaming folders
5. Moving folders
6. Customizing the desktop
7. Using the Paint program
8. Converting PCX files
9. Discussing Desktop properties
10. Opening the WinPad Organizer
11. Scheduling an appointment
12. Importing files to WinPad
13. Opening documents in WordPad
14. WordPad features
15. Using the Clipboard
16. Opening the Clipbook Viewer
17. Creating files



18. Saving files in the Local Clipbook
19. Installing a CD-ROM application
20. Using App Install Wizard
21. Creating a shortcut
22. Demonstrating the CD Player
23. Creating a Playlist
24. Finding applications
25. Creating a Desktop shortcut
26. Examining the New Device Wizard
27. Windows 95 System tools
28. Backing up files
29. Using Explorer
30. Formatting a floppy

For future power-users these two tapes are worth their suggested retail price of \$49.95 each; they compliment each other with little duplication or redundancy. The presenter methodically goes through each of the features listed above and briefly demonstrates how to access or use it. In many cases I do mean “briefly” - it is often a case of “Now we’ll show you how to do (some feature) — Click on this icon” <<the screen suddenly shows a new view>> “Now click on this button to close” - and that’s that. The speaker quickly moves on to the next topic. Most of the time even that brief view, especially when the newly powerful right-mouse-button is used (an unusual event in previous versions of Windows), is all that is needed to alert you that an unexpected or new feature is just a click away. ViaGrafix packs a lot into these tapes. You’ll want to refer back to the tapes many times as you gradually get used to the new and unusual features of Windows 95.

Since I had been using Windows 95 for several weeks, I had already

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## Training Videos

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discovered much of the material "THE HARD WAY" by persistently clicking around the screen. Life would have been simplified if I had acquired the tapes earlier.

I will be the first to agree that Microsoft has done a splendid design job with Windows 95, it is one of the simplest operating systems to install and use that I have ever encountered and I became used to the basics of it very quickly. It installed itself over Windows for WorkGroups 3.11 in a seamless and direct manner, displacing and replacing existing files, and inheriting most of the structure that was already in place. It knew the printers, modem, and CD-ROMS that were installed without any effort on my part. Nevertheless, the desktop looks and acts different to that of Windows 3.1 and 3.11 and there are an enormous number of features, many of which are not self-evident.

At first, immediately after installation is finished, the desktop looks startlingly different from any previous version of Windows. Gradually, as one "spelunks" (experiments) ones way around the "new-look" desktop, one discovers that, under the skin, many features act in a similar manner to the way they did in Windows 3.1 and 3.11; BUT, there are new features and new ways to do old things - one needs either serendipity, or A GOOD TUTORIAL, to discover these new goodies.

The two tutorials are very clearly enunciated. The young man and young woman talk clearly and avoid mumbling. It is easy to follow the steps "that they demonstrate". I would have said "that they teach" but I suspect that neither of them has ever been taught how to teach. They don't teach - they simply read a poorly written script. The technical material is well prepared, informative, and I am glad that I have the tapes; BUT, the way the material is presented makes it sound like a mechanical "talking-head" is reading the telephone book. The man does most of the talking. He uses a sharp, staccato, delivery which reminds me somewhat of a young child who has

recently learned how to read. "THE, CAT, SAT, ON, THE, MAT". Each word spoken very clearly. Short pauses between each word. Longer pauses between each of the short phrases. "MOVE, THE, MOUSE, POINTER, TO, HERE" <<pause>> "CLICK, ON, THE, BLA-BLA, BUTTON". Zero attempt to modulate his voice. Zero attempt to use complete sentences. Zero attempt to explain why many of the things were done.

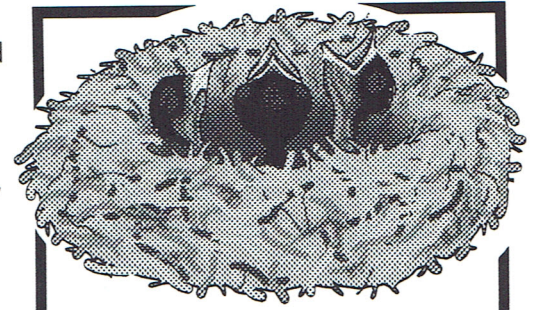
Believe me, I was really concentrating. I want to learn Windows 95 so that, hopefully, I can explain some of it to my neighbors when the final version is available on the market. As I just said, I was really concentrating - but twice I went to sleep! Too bad!

I offer a few suggestions to ViaGrafix for their future commercial success. Get a script writer who can form sentences into flowing, interesting text. These tapes are written in a "choppy" fashion and abruptly jump from one topic to the next with virtually no continuity. Admittedly, achieving a smooth presentation that rivets the viewers attention is an exceedingly difficult task when a large number of "dry" facts must be communicated. Try harder. Put some explanations into the scripts - it is not always clear why one should, for example, open an application and then immediately close it again and rush on to the next topic - tell the audience that you were simply demonstrating how to open it and how to close it and that another training session would be needed to teach how to use it. Lastly - but probably of the greatest importance - Get actors that can put some expression, life, and feeling into their voices. Get the audience excited - you'll sell more copies!

All-in-all these tutorial tapes are well worth their suggested retail price. I now know things that I would probably have never discovered for myself.

A listing of over 280 available training titles is available from:

**ViaGrafix**  
5 S. Vann Street  
Pryor, OK 74361  
(800) 842-4723, (918) 825-6700  
The reviewed VHS tapes are  
priced at \$49.95 each.



## Newbees

WELCOME, new members, to SLO Bytes. Glad you can join us. We hope to be of service.

<b>William Daillak</b>	<b>238-1262</b>
<b>Viola McGartland</b>	<b>473-4894</b>
<b>Richard Pack</b>	<b>239-1689</b>
<b>Don Wallace</b>	<b>546-8688</b>
<b>Nathan Wallenstein</b>	<b>772-1364</b>

## Phone Numbers

Continued from page 2

sluggish. I think this is a function of the speed of the CD-ROM drive rather than the program. But then, I have the \$129 special!

When you find the record of choice you can click on it for more detail. A counter which is automatically installed with the program deducts 1 from the 5,000 maximum number of detailed records one can obtain with the CD. I thought this odd that a company would place this restriction on their product. A call to customer service gave me the answer. Their thinking is that for the list price of \$29.00 they do not want some commercial firm using such a disk to distribute mailing lists for big profits. I'm sure the counter is hidden somewhere on the hard disk, but it isn't my intention to write on how to defeat their program limits.

As I mentioned earlier you can do a total count of last names or last and first names for a city, or state. I'm really not sure the purpose of such information unless it is to show you how many John Smith's you are going to call in Los Angeles to find the one you are looking for.

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# The Hardware Handyman

—By Bob Shanteau, MBUG,

Newsletter of the Monterey Bay User's Group January 1995

LAST MONTH, I DISCUSSED the things you need to know before upgrading your video card, including the bus type of your computer and the capabilities of your monitor. This month, I'll give some suggestions on selecting an appropriate video card.

Actually, when you buy a video card, you're not only buying the card, but also the software drivers for the card that either the manufacturer or some third party provides. A fast card with bad drivers is a poor choice. It is the software driver that takes advantage of a card's accelerated functions. Since drivers are written at the hardware level, they are dependent on the operating system. For instance, it seems that every card has drivers for Windows. Drivers for OS/2 are becoming more common. It is always wise to check out the drivers before buying a video card. Just because the box says the drivers are available does not mean they support the card's accelerated functions, or that the drivers are bug-free.

At the heart of every video card is its video chipset. Some manufacturers of chipsets include Trident, Cirrus Logic, S3, and Tseng. I've only seen Trident chipsets on cards manufactured by Trident, but the other three supply chipsets to a wide variety of card manufacturers. Furthermore, a manufacturer usually has a family of chipsets with varying prices and speeds. Also, some chipsets are designed for ISA cards, while others are designed for VLB, EISA, PCI, or MCA cards. Prices range from about \$70 to over \$500. What do you get for your money?

Inexpensive cards offer features today that were available on only the most expensive cards just a few years ago. For instance, I recently paid \$80 for a VLB card with a Cirrus Logic 5428 chipset that is as fast as the most expensive cards were just a few years ago. There are basically two reasons for this: First, advanced chipsets are getting cheaper as even more advanced chipsets are developed. Second, the VLB bus is a lot faster than the ISA bus.

In fact, if you have an ISA motherboard, you may want to consider upgrading to VLB for this reason alone. (I'll talk about motherboard upgrades next month.)

Regardless of the chipset manufacturer, make sure you get the most advanced chipset you can in your selected price range. For instance, Cirrus Logic also makes a 5426 chipset that is considerably slower than the 5428.

Inexpensive cards tend to be generic, no-name brands. More expensive cards are usually brand names such as Diamond, ATI, Matrox, #9, Spider, or Orchid. The generic cards usually have the chipset listed on the box, while the more expensive cards do not, preferring to differentiate themselves through advertising and, in some cases, with strange names. For instance, there is the Spider Tarantula, Orchid Fahrenheit, and Diamond Stealth. If you choose a more expensive card, then you'll probably have to open the box and look at the card to discover the chipset being used.

The amount and type of memory on the card also make a difference, both in price and performance. I recommend buying a card with 1 MB or more of memory. Also, sockets for additional memory are desirable. For instance, the Cirrus Logic card I bought came with 1 MB of memory with sockets for an additional 1 MB. More memory can mean more colors at higher resolutions. Of course, if your monitor does not support higher resolutions, then 1 MB should be

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## Phone Numbers

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American Business Information has several other services including an on-line business search service. It will provide you with business profiles and TRW business credit reports. Of course these services require an established account with ABI and are not free by any means. They can also provide you with mailing lists and labels for virtually any group of business in any area of the U.S.

The 70 Million Household Phone book is just as it says, it is for household use. I would not try and use it for a business, more for just looking up old friends and neighbors. I found only one major fault with the program (don't all reviews have to find at least one thing wrong?). A detail listing shows only the street of the individual. No street addresses are listed. So you aren't going to mail anything to someone you find on these CD's. You will have to use the phone to make contact. But then, for \$29 I would expect limitations. A more complete program for the serious searcher might include ProPhone USA. This is a 6 CD set and includes complete addresses with a list price around \$200.

I'd try the inexpensive version of a phone book CD first, such as the one offered by American Business Information. For \$29 you can spend many evenings getting phone numbers of many old friends you probably won't call anyway.

**70 Million Households Phone Book**  
\$29.00  
**American Business Information**  
P.O. Box 68127, Omaha, NE 27347  
(402)593-4595

## The Computer Programmer's Drinking Song

(To the tune of 100 Bottles of Beer)

100 bugs in the code, shizam,  
100 bugs in the code!  
Fix one bug, compile it again,  
101 bugs in the code, shizam!  
(repeat until bugs = 0)

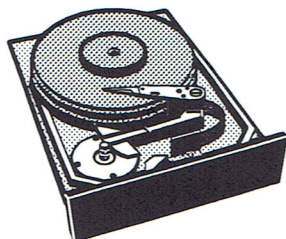
—via the INTERNET



# A Trick to Save Some Hard Drive Space

—By Bruce Carson, Tulsa Computer Society, March 1995

I HAVE A LAPTOP with a 320 meg hard drive which is used for club demonstrations by me, and occasionally by other people. For that reason I keep copies of the three major program groups on the lap top. They are Microsoft Office Professional which requires 82 megs for a full installation, Lotus Smart Suite which requires 92.8 megs, and the Novell Office Professional which requires a whopping 138 megs of hard drive space. These three very large packages would use up nearly the entire hard drive without even counting DOS, Windows, data and fax communications packages or anything else. I did not want to use a Stacker type program for several reasons, including the fact that it is another complexity for the already loaded computer to deal with in addition to laptop battery power management, PCMCIA drivers, etc. So the solution I came up with is to use PKZip to highly compress and store the programs that I use infrequently. It even stores the directory structure for the program being compressed, then removes files and directory tree. I can then restore even a large program and



its directory structure in about five minutes, and then when it is no longer needed (sometimes for several months) it can be recompressed in about 5 minutes. The result is that my normal configuration with all these programs on the hard drive still has over 50 megs of empty hard drive space! Here are the contents of the batch files that do the trick:

## SAVEQUAT.BAT

(Compresses Quattro Pro)  
pkzip c:\save\quatsave.zip -rP -m  
c:\office\qpw\\*.\*

Creates a ZIP file in the c:\save directory. The -rP switch reads all files in all sub directories including and under the specified one and preserves the directory structure. The -m switch moves (erases) the files and directory structure after compressing and saving everything in the ZIP file.

## LOADQUAT.BAT

(Un-Compresses Quattro Pro)  
pkunzip -d c:\save\quatsave.zip c:\del  
c:\save\quatsave.zip

This batch file unzips the QUATSAVE.ZIP file. The -d switch restores the directory structure. After the unzip is complete, the zip file is deleted. Remember to ZIP only things that you don't use often, and this trick should gain you some precious hard drive space.

# The Pentium Again

—MBUG, January 1995

AS IF FLUNKING THE MATH TEST were not enough, now we find that Intel's Pentium chip has a problem with future dates. Granted, the problem won't appear until midnight of 12-31-99, when the system clock should roll over to the year 2000. It doesn't. At the stroke of midnight, Pentium machines will flip over to 1-1-1980. Probably Intel expects all Pentium machines to self-destruct before the end of this century, but considering how many IMB-XT machines are still chugging away in less-demanding jobs, it is a safe bet that some Pentium machines will be around to see the year 2000 arrive—as 1980.

## Newsletter Submissions Wanted

Like to get your hands  
on some FREE SOFTWARE?  
Feeling a little verbose?  
**HARDCOPY**  
is perpetually looking for  
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evaluate and review  
software titles.  
**ASK BOB WARD, Club Sec.**  
528-0121

## Hardware

Continued from page 7

sufficient. Video memory comes in two major types, DRAM and VRAM (for Dynamic or Video RAM). VRAM is faster, but more expensive. DRAM is becoming more common as manufacturers figure out how to get acceptable speed out of the slower memory.

Installation of a new video card is straightforward, usually consisting of a simple card swap. Before swapping cards, though, make sure to revert to VGA first. It will make the job of installing the new drivers much simpler. To install the drivers, just follow the instructions in the card's documentation. Video cards do not require an IRQ, an address, or a DMA channel, so that part is easy. They do require a portion of ROM memory, but that is standardized and should cause no problems. After you install the drivers, you select the resolution, number of colors, and refresh rate. Be sure to select a combination that is compatible with your monitor. Check your monitor's documentation to make sure; you may get a stable image but still damage the monitor.

Test the new card and drivers with your favorite software. There are various benchmarks you could run, but the real test is whether you are satisfied.



## 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. Newsletter only is \$16 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, 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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(805) 756-2164

## Meeting Times

GENERAL MEETINGS are held the 1st Sunday of every month, unless noted otherwise in the newsletter calendar, at 2:45 pm in the Cal Poly University Biology Department, Fisher Hall 286.

Special Interest Groups (SIGS) meet at 1:00 to 2:30 pm.

**General Information SIG:**  
Fisher Hall 286

**New computer user SIG:**  
Fisher Hall 289

**Windows SIG:**  
Fisher Hall 287



## Slo Bytes Officers

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## Treasurer's Report

Expenditures  
May, 1995

Beg. Checking Bal.	+ 1191.20
Expenses:	
Newsletter 4/95	- 152.83
BBS Phone Bill 4/95	- 10.63
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Stamps	- 32.00
	- 227.46
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	+ 480.00
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14,400 / 8 / N / 1  
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and Message Section

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Generic 3.5" X 720K Formatted Floppy Disks .....	70c Each
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