

SLO Bytes Hard COPY

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SLOBytes Elections & Reorganization

by Lach MacDonald

George Campbell has given SLO-Bytes an excellent outline of steps to be taken to preserve the organization and enable it to adjust to technological and generational changes we are facing.

The current and potential needs to be addressed will be unmet unless people step forward and accept responsibility and appointments to specific tasks. But first and foremost, new officers must be nominated and given support of the membership.

George has graciously acknowledged that the President's role is separate from the conduct of the General SIG and in the November 1 meeting he agreed to continue conducting the General SIG whenever travel and other conflicts do not prevent him from doing so. Several members present and others I talked to said the value of SLOBYTES to them is that they can get advice and information from listening to George conduct the General SIG. However, George also cautioned us that he is less and less involved in keeping current with the computer industry except in the word processing area.

I'd like to share some suggestions regarding officers and committees:

The President should be a person willing and able to manage the organization, but not necessarily a

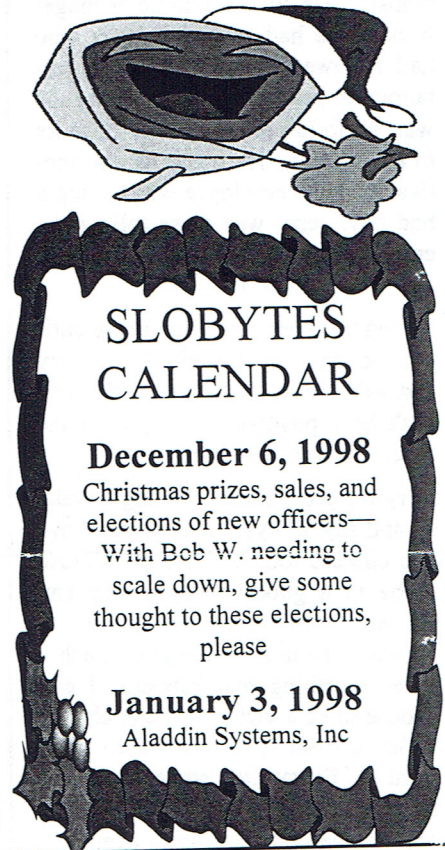
(ELECTIONS, Continued on page 3)

Santa Bob

Dear SLO Bytes member, Santa is busy filling his sack for SLO Bytes annual free-for-all. We will be giving away software, small peripherals (yes a mouse pad is a peripheral), and other stuff. Make sure your membership is up to date. Check your newsletter address label. Only those with an expiration date of December '98 or later will be in our database.

It's also a good time to bring your old hardware and software for the beg/buy/steal session where you have a chance to see just how little people are willing to pay for used equipment and/or software. Now you can't go wrong if you bring the results of Aunt Matelda's famous fudge recipe to share with others. Remember George likes his fudge

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Choices

From Steve Taty

Jerry is the kind of guy you love to hate. He is always in a good mood and always has something positive to say. When someone would ask him how he was doing, he would reply, "If I were any better, I would be twins!" He was a unique manager because he had several waiters who had followed him around from restaurant to restaurant. The reason the waiters followed Jerry was because of his attitude. He was a natural motivator. If an employee was having a bad day, Jerry was there telling the employee how to look on the positive side of the situation.

Seeing this style really made me curious, so one day I went up to Jerry and asked him, I don't get it! You can't be a positive person all of the time. How do you do it?"

Jerry replied, "Each morning I wake up and say to myself, Jerry, you have two choices today. You can choose to be in a good mood or you can choose to be in a bad mood. I choose to be in a good mood. Each time something bad happens, I can choose to be a victim or I can choose to learn from it. I choose to learn from it. Every time someone comes to me complaining, I can choose to accept their complaining or I can point out the positive side of life. I choose the positive side of life.

"Yeah, right, it's not that easy," I protested.

"Yes, it is," Jerry said. "Life is all about choices. When you cut away all the junk, every situation is a choice. You choose how you react to situations, how people will affect your mood, and you choose to be in a good or bad mood. The bottom line: It's your choice how you live life."

I reflected on what Jerry said. I soon left the restaurant industry to start my own business. We lost touch, but I

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Partition Magic 4.0

by Richard James

The Newsletter of the Greater Victoria PC Users' Association - Web Edition
Volume 15, Number 9, November 1998

What is it?

What is Partition Magic? It is a utility that allows you to create, resize, or move partitions on your hard disk. Without Partition Magic you have to use the DOS Fdisk utility to first delete then recreate any partition that you wish to change. This either requires you to backup and then restore all your programs or data that were on this partition or, if you can not do this, you have to reinstall all your programs and lose your data.

Why do I need it?

Most new machines arrive with a single partition on the hard drive which contains both the operating system and any pre-installed programs. It is much better, and strongly advised by most computer professionals, that you separate the operating system, data, and programs to simplify maintaining your system and doing backups. In addition, if you are not using a later version of Windows95 (known as OSR 2), Windows98 or OS/2 as your operating system, there are significant concerns about the way data is physically stored on the hard drive under the antiquated DOS file allocation table (FAT16) system used by DOS, Windows 3.x and the original retail release of Windows95. This manner of storage results in potentially large amounts of wasted space on large hard drives (anything over 1 gigabytes is considered a "large" hard drive).

With Partition Magic you can change the size of partitions enabling you to create "free space" that can be used to either create new partitions to separate programs, data, and the operating system; or, to resize existing partitions to make better use of the space on the hard drive. In this process you can control the size of the clusters of data that are written in

FAT16 partitions to minimize the wastage. In some cases you can regain 20-30% of your disk space. OS/2 users should be using the HPFS file system which is inherently more efficient than any FAT file system and does not suffer from this cluster size problem.

What's New in this version?

Bundled with Partition Magic 4.0, are new versions of Drive Mapper and the Uninstall/Mover utility now called Magic Mover. There is also a new boot management utility called Boot Magic to help you set up multiple boot partitions or multiple boot sequences within a single partition and which on boot-up provides a menu to select which operating system you wish to use. This replaces IBM's Boot Manager shipped with version 3 of Partition Magic and is more like a clone of the program System Commander that was reviewed in the May 1998 issue of this newsletter.

There is very little new functionality in this version of Partition Magic. Maybe the most significant is full support for Linux partitions, allowing you to create, resize or move them. However, if you are not also running Windows95/98 on the system, you have to do this from a command line utility not the GUI Interface. Perhaps the most important new "dress up" feature is the use of preset scripts, called "Wizards." Another useful feature, but not new functionality, is the ability to preview the results of a series of operations and to execute them in a batch mode to automatically convert partitions between file formats including:

- FAT to FAT 32
- FAT to HPFS
- FAT to NTFS

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computer guru. The chief role of the president is to make sure all the other slots are filled with capable persons. When this fails to happen, too much burden falls on a few, as Bob Ward has demonstrated during the past years.

The Vice-President in many organizations is the Program Chair. This not only should include securing vendors and other presenters, but having assistance for meeting operations as follows: 1) Facilities Committee to Store, Set Up and Transport software, hardware, coffee pot and supplies. 2) Refreshments Committee, to purchase, prepare and set out refreshments and collect sufficient contributions to cover costs; and Awards Committee, to obtain and distribute prizes for drawings. These 3 committees would be coordinated by the Vice-President, who ought to also be on hand for furniture setup and take-down at the current location, or to arrange future locations for meetings if necessary.

The Secretary as we have seen becomes a burdensome position. Several of the tasks should be undertaken by others. Example: the minutes of meetings are actually the meeting report (which I have been writing for Hard Copy), and this can be a function of the Newsletter staff. The maintaining of the membership data base should a function of the Treasurer, who needs to issue checks to pay for bulk mailings and other related expenses of the membership. The Secretary should be the person to correspond with trade shows such as Comdex, make arrangements for facilities, acquire and dispose of property, coordinate with other user groups, etc.

Treasurer. Marvin has indicated he would handle the bank accounts, financial records and disbursements as well as enroll members and sell diskettes at meetings. He also is willing to maintain the membership data

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Review of Quicken Deluxe 99

by Dick

StewartAlamo PC Organization, Inc.

About 15 years ago (1983) I started using a program called Money Street, written by a man in Las Vegas (long since gone out of business) in assembly language with 100 categories. I thought it was great. Then Quicken was introduced. Boy, I jumped on it and have been using it ever since. I love it!

I have been teaching a Quicken SIG class for about 8 years now and find that about 95% of my students really like our help showing how to track their investments with Quicken, i.e., stocks, bonds and mutual funds. Having been a stock broker for 40 years, with a seat on the Stock Exchange, I feel very qualified to help people in that category.

At Stewart Center, (828-1221 in Alamo Heights) we use Quicken Deluxe 99 to maintain about four separate bank accounts, an investment portfolio with 20 different registrations, 74 different stocks, preferreds and bonds and about 15 mutual funds. They are all

linked together in one file called "All Accounts". At the push of one button, we can updated all accounts, both by individual registrations, with each category totaled and one grand total of everything, in about two minutes on the Internet (quotes are unlimited and free but delayed 15 minutes—which is no problem to me). The Quicken report prints out on two sheets and is a life saver. It's almost a mini-financial statement. We use it every day for our small business and all our personal business. The check register, reconciling, etc. are great. I believe it to be the best financial accounting program available.

You may ask, why don't you use Quick Books Pro V 6.0? We have it and its good. Its advantages over Quicken are:

1. It's great for invoicing
2. It's great for inventory

We don't use either, so we stick with Quicken 98 or 99.

(QUICKEN, Continued on page 5)



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SLOBYTES Nominating Committee Report to Members

By Ray Miklas

SLOBYTES Nominating Committee is pleased to announce the following nominees who graciously agreed to serve in 1999. A vote by General Membership is required in accordance with the Articles of Incorporation of SLOBYTES PC Users Group for the President/Chairman of the Board, the Vice President/Vice-Chairman, the Secretary and the Treasurer. The following are nominated:

1. President/Chairman of the Board: Ramutis (Ray) Miklas
2. Vice President/Vice-Chairman:

Guy Kuncir

3. Secretary: Robert Ward
4. Treasurer: Marvin Baxandale

The following volunteers (appointed positions) agreed to serve in the following Committees:

1. Newsletter Editor: Nancy Watts, assisted by Lachlan McDonald, Alan Raul, or Teri Sorgats.
2. Programs Coordinator: Jerry Mintz, assisted by Bill Avery
3. Membership: Debbie Schmitt, assisted by Sandra Nichols
4. Refreshments: Nancy Vrooman,

assisted by Norma Henderson

5. Prizes Acquisition: George Campbell, assisted by Debbie Schmitt and Sandra Nichols

7. Setup/Clean up: Ken Stilts, assisted by Cliff Buttschardt, John Enos, Keith Murray, Bill Parlmeron, Robert Vulgamore and Nate Wallenstein

8. Special Interest Groups (CIG):

- (a) General: George Campbell
- (b) Win95/98: Bob Hunt

P.S. Dave Bates wishes to take a break from Publicity

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FAT 32 to FAT and, Move applications from one partition to another with Magic Mover. Perform a number of maintenance functions including: resizing FAT clusters, hide and unhide partitions, expand the Windows root directory to accommodate more files, run extensive file system diagnostics, use Windows NT 64 KGB FAT clusters and maintain drive volume labels

Does it Work?

Well, I guess you could say that this is a "pretty stupid question"! Well, it is and it isn't. Doing anything to a partition is potentially extremely risky. Notwithstanding the reliability of any piece of software or hardware, I would strongly recommend that you have good backups before doing anything with any utility that changes the partitions. I have used Partition Magic since the original version was released, and I have made extensive use of it under a number of hardware and operating system configurations. Apart from problems created by mixing versions of FDisk, I can safely say that Partition Magic has not caused me any grief. In fact, I would say the opposite and state that in my opinion it is an indispensable program in the toolbox of any serious computer user or person who is maintaining computer equipment.

Things That you Should Know About

Partition Magic can not operate on any partition with open files. This includes the boot partition and the partition containing the Partition Magic software. Users can either create a small bootable maintenance partition on their hard drive and install the basic operating system plus Partition Magic there to perform all maintenance operations or, create a set of bootable floppy disks that provide the simplistic command line interface for DOS or OS/2. Partition Magic can then be run in command line mode. This is also required for both OS/2 and Linux where PowerQuest have not provided a GUI Interface in this version. Windows users of this version will find that it reverts to a DOS session to automatically run the command line version when performing these operations.

The printed manual provided with version 3 of Partition Magic included critical background information in Chapter 4 to assist users in understanding disk partitioning, why it was desirable and what it meant. With this version this material

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often thought about him when I made a choice about life instead of reacting to it.

Several years later, I heard that Jerry did something you are never supposed to do in a restaurant business: he left the back door open one morning and was held up at gunpoint by three armed robbers.

While trying to open the safe, his hand, shaking from nervousness, slipped off the combination. The robbers panicked and shot him. Luckily, Jerry was found relatively quickly and rushed to the local trauma center.

After 18 hours of surgery and weeks of intensive care, Jerry was released from the hospital with fragments of the bullets still in his body.

I saw Jerry about six months after the accident. When I asked him how he was, he replied, "If I were any better, I'd be twins." I asked him what had gone through his mind as the robbery took place. "The first thing that went through my mind was that I should have locked the back door," Jerry replied, "Then, as I lay on the floor, I

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base and to issue labels for newsletter mailings. It may be that he will need software and even a label printer to do this efficiently.

Webmaster. I think that is a catchy title, compared to Web Site Manager, and Bob Ward seems agreeable to continuing in that role. Hey, it is going to get bigger and bigger in the future. Pretty soon Bob will be training assistants! Newsletter Editor. As well as editing the newsletter (currently by Nancy Watts), the arrangements for duplication, assembly and mailing, and for bulk mailing (Nate) are related functions. The Newsletter Committee should have labels provided by the Treasurer. The Newsletter Committee should also include someone to write meeting reports, someone (or two or three) to scan exchange newsletter articles to

be reproduced, and someone to solicit software and get members to write reviews of same.

Publicity and Memberships: Publicity of meetings and recruitment of new members should be the function of one person or a Publicity and Membership Committee. George has clearly stated the membership needs. Besides announcements of meetings, the publicity committee should produce pocket cards of concise information that members can hand to computer-interested persons at Costco, computer shows, etc.

Special Interest Group Leaders include Bob Hunt (Windows), but could be expanded. A survey of member interests could reveal clusters of needs, such as Internet, Graphics, Desktop Publishing, etc.

QUICKEN, Continued from page 3

What's new in Quicken 99?

1. A new home page with plenty of summaries of all categories and key elements.
2. Enter transactions quickly with the new Quick entry time saver.
3. Greatly enhanced financial downloading of historical stock and fund quotes up to 5 years history so that you'll be more informed to make investment decisions.
4. Results at a glance with new Financial Activity Centers, which include Banking, Financial Planning, Investments, Home, Vehicles and Taxes.
5. One step update: download multiple financial information from different banks, brokerages etc. and other on line data with one click and one password.
6. Download directly from the Web into Quicken 99.
7. Put your full investment portfolio on a website (password protected of course) and check it from anywhere, for the latest prices and performance.
8. Taxability for investment transactions, cost basis option, either average cost or separate lots, which ever is to your advantage.
9. Simplified budgeting. Its great and very useful. I swear by it.

I could go on and on but I'm still learning, it never ends does it?

One more thing

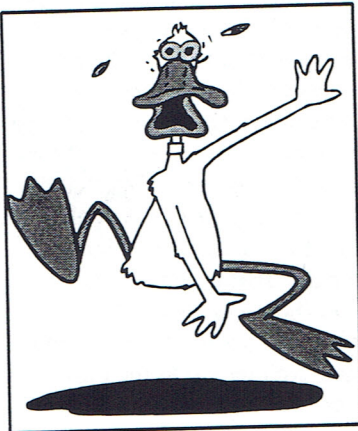
Import, free of charge, into Turbo Tax, all of your Quicken income tax data and prepare your tax return on-line right from Quicken 99. At the end of each calendar year we print out all our categories, expanded (which means listing every single check we write in that category). This takes about 10 pages that we then we print on one page summaries or one line totals of each category and give this Quicken report to our accountants who easily prepare our

(QUICKEN, Continued on page 7)

Ducks

From Linda Troutfetter via Jean Cool, herself a doctor

Five doctors went duck shooting one day. Included in the group were a Family Practitioner, an Obstetrician, a Psychiatrist, a Surgeon and a Pathologist.



After a time, a bird came winging overhead. The first to react was the FP who raised his shotgun, but then hesitated. "I'm not quite sure it's a duck," he said, "I think that I will have to get a second opinion." And of course by that time, the bird was gone.

Another bird appeared in the sky thereafter. This time the OB drew a bead on it. He too, however, was unsure if it was really a duck in his sights and besides, it might be pregnant. "I'll have to do some more investigations," he muttered, as the creature made good its escape.

Next to spy a bird flying was the sharp-eyed psychiatrist. Shotgun shouldered, he was more certain of his intended prey's identity. "Now, I know it's a duck, but does it know it's a duck?" The fortunate bird disappeared while the fellow wrestled with this dilemma.

Finally a fourth fowl sped past and this time the surgeon's weapon pointed skywards. BOOM!! The surgeon lowered his smoking gun and turned nonchalantly to the pathologist beside him. "Go see if that was a duck, will you?"

Review of QuickBooks Pro 6.0

*Alamo PC Organization, Inc.
Sandra Medlock and Bill McClusky*

QuickBooks and QuickBooks Pro is a low-cost accounting program that has a 80% market share and nearly 2 million world-wide users. Its easy-to-understand features appeal to people who need a small business, double-entry accounting package but may not have the background to understand accounting jargon.

For example, QuickBooks uses the terms "increase" or "decrease" or "payment" or "deposit" instead of "credit" and "debit." No entry to account ledgers can be made without a corresponding offset entry, so the user can't make out-of-balance entries and corrupt their books. And unlike some accounting programs, corrections can be made in an account ledger instead of through the more confusing General Journal entry. For example, a common journal entry is one for fixed asset depreciation. The QuickBooks user can make the entry directly in the depreciation asset ledger, showing the offset to the depreciation expense account. No more struggling with which general ledger account gets credited and which gets debited. QuickBooks also allows the user to memorize repetitive entries, so that invoices, billing statement entries, checks, vendor payments, or journal entries can be created routinely as scheduled.

Improvements

The version the authors reviewed is an upgrade to versions we have used previously. Versions 5 and 6 of QuickBooks includes a Navigator screen which provides the user with a guide through the accounting tasks necessary to maintain the company books. The QuickBooks 6.0 Navigator is improved, but still contains tabs that provide alternate screen views for different functions of QuickBooks, such sales and accounts receivables, purchases and accounts

payable, and payroll, and other tasks, making it easier to create invoices, perform electronic banking, manage inventory or payroll, and even prepare for tax time.

The latest version of QuickBooks also includes a new help systems, right mouse menus, an improved and more detailed password protection system, integrated online payroll, direct deposit, banking and payment, and new wizards. QuickBooks Pro integrates with a time tracking program making it easier to track time and bill for time. Jobs can now be invoiced by milestone, date or percentage complete.

QuickBooks Pro 6.0 is also a networkable product, allowing up to five users at a time to access the QuickBooks data (QuickBooks 6.0 cannot be networked). QuickBooks Pro can be purchased as a stand-alone, single user product. For multiple users, multiple licenses must be purchased for the network version. The five-license package offered by QuickBooks is the best buy for owners who are installing QuickBooks on a network.

The chart "Which one is right for you?" can help you choose whether QuickBooks or QuickBooks Pro is the accounting program you need.

Security

QuickBooks has always been recognized for its ease in correcting book-keeping mistakes. But what's positive for some users, may be a nightmare for some accountants and accounting managers. Now QuickBooks allows you more flexibility in assigning users and user passwords and using audit trail reports. With the addition of more than one user, the accounting manager can also setup personal preferences as opposed to company preferences and monitor audit trail reports by individual users.

And while QuickBooks has never included a "period end closing," as some accounting softwares do, the accountant can set a closing date, in which a password is needed to delete, add, or edit any transaction created with a date prior to the closing date. QuickBooks 6.0 includes the routine initially seen in version 5.0 that creates an accountant's copy of the books. This allows the accountant to make adjustments to the books which are then imported into the working QuickBooks file in which the user has continued to process bookkeeping tasks.

System Requirements

QuickBooks system requirements are Windows 95 or higher or Windows NT 4.0 or higher and can be used on a Novell NetWare network. Intuit recommends a computer with 32 MB RAM and a Pentium processor. While the minimum recommendations are less than this, some users have had problems with the program on machines equipped with less RAM. 45 MB free space on the hard drive is needed for QuickBooks, 55 MB for QuickBooks Pro. The program works with any printer supported by Windows 95 and a 3.5 inch floppy or double speed CD-ROM is required for installation. Installation from the QuickBooks CD-ROM is a snap. The disk contains an autostart routine, and the user can choose to install QuickBooks, the QuickBooks Timer, and Internet Explorer 4.0 as the Internet browser. The installation routine automatically places a shortcut to the program on the desktop. Once QuickBooks Pro is installed, the user can set the program for multiple users by configuring the program through the File menu ("switch

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 income tax return. We used to do our taxes ourselves in Turbo Tax, but I'm getting older and lazier so I gave the program to one of my tenants in our building.

Websites

Time Magazine says: "If you're good for only one stop—then go to: Quicken.com. This is the place to settle in and soak up its selection of financial information!" It's all-free.

For small businesses: get advice, news and information tools you need to succeed plus business forms and travel services, go to: www.quickenBiz.com

For information on choosing small business loans, leases or credit or to apply for a loan, go here: www.cashfinder.com

You can shop for mortgage loans, compare loans from different lenders, apply on line at www.QuickenMortgage.com The place to go when you need financial news and information: www.CNNfn.com

System Requirements

IBM PC or compatible (486 or higher), Windows 95 (8MB Ram), Windows 98 (16MB Ram) or windows NT 4.0 (16MB Ram), 10MB free disk space, Windows-compatible inkjet or laser printer, Internet Explorer 3 and Internet access.

As you know Quicken is a product of Intuit, San Diego, CA. Q-98 Deluxe Tech Support 1-520/618-7101 (5,6) Support is free except you pay for the call. Intuit Sales: 1-800/446-8848, Quicken Visa Gold Card: 1-800/225-5709..



Food for Thought

Nancy Watts

Nonprofit groups, face increases of 10% to 20% in Postal rates after January 10. "largest hikes are nonautomated, small local mailings, including church bulletins, school and club publications..." Is there another group with which we could comingle service? Use a "mailing service" or "drop-ship?"* What do these terms mean?

Do you want your letter only on-line? (Not my idea!)

*The Kiplinger Washington Letter, July 24, 1998.

(QUICKBOOKS, Continued from page 6) to multiple user") and setting up user IDs. The QuickBooks Navigator contains shortcuts to the Internet support resources. You must start your Internet connection before using these shortcuts. One of these resources is a shortcut to the Professional Advisors web page. Several San Antonio accountants are listed.

Caveat Emptor

When it comes to recommending QuickBooks and QuickBooks Pro to small, medium, and home-based businesses with routine bookkeeping and job costing needs, the program wins hands-down, particularly for those bookkeepers who hate or fear accounting tasks. Job administration is easily managed when compared to the complexity of other accounting programs. QuickBooks' "class" feature allows the accounting manager to differentiate between income and expenses for different departments or cost centers. QuickBooks reports can be customized and filtered to allow an accounting manager to create very specific reports.

Users with complex accounting, inventory or assembly, or job costing issues should explore the program more thoroughly before purchase, preferably with the 25-use trial version that is available from the Net or by phone. Some weaknesses in customized reports have been reported by users with intense needs for custom-designed reports. You can, how-

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People Helping People

NAME	PROGRAM(S)	PHONE NO.	HOURS TO CALL
Jeffrey Mintz	Computer Networks, Win95, Netscape 3.0,Internet	547-9668	Sat 12-6, Sun 12-6
Jerry Mintz	Word 6	547-0774	Sat 12-6, Sun 12-6
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 Ward	Netscape, Win '95, 3.11	528-0121	evenings
Bob Hunt	Win '95, 3.11	461-1444	days

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is now only on the CD ROM.

Users with multiple operating systems should be careful to use only one version of the FDisk utility as there are known incompatibilities between the way that these utilities partition hard drives.

Users of large (in this case larger than about 500 Megs or 1024 cylinders) hard drives who are using disk management utilities to provide support on older motherboards should be aware of specific version limitations and the procedure to follow to avoid conflicts. Basically, Partition Magic works provided that the disk management utility is loaded and running before you run Partition Magic.

Users of Norton Utilities should be aware of some erroneous error messages that these utilities may display. The Manual gives explicit instructions concerning this.

Users of antivirus software should be aware that Partition Magic changes partition tables immediately. If you are only running OS/2 or Linux then you will be buying a package that contains just a command line version of the basic utility and you will not be able to use the additional components, Magic Mover, Drive Mapper and Boot Magic as these are Windows95/98 applications only. This seems an unreasonable way to package the product when you are paying for software that you cannot use. OS/2 users should stick with version 3 which provides a full GUI interface or version 2 which again has the GUI Interface and does not contain the Windows95 only applications.

If you own a copy of Partition Magic then bear in mind that you already have the basic functionality of the program and all you are gaining are new versions of the additional utili-

ties, the "Wizards" that perform nothing new and the preview/batch option.

System Requirements

For a GUI interface, Windows95/98 is required on a 486/33 or better with 16 megs RAM, 12mb of free disk space, a 4x CD ROM and VGA video support. For FAT32 support, Win95 OSR2 or Win98 are required. The command line interface is supported via a floppy boot (or separate maintenance partition) for OS/2 and Linux. For DOS or Win 3.x, 8megs of RAM and 6 megs of free HD space are required, also with DOS 5 (or 6.2 for Win3.x) for the DOS command line version. Partition Magic is available from most computer stores starting at \$79.95

Sales: 800-379-2566

Bus: 801-226-9877

E-mail: magic@powerquest.com

(QUICKBOOKS, Continued from page 7)
ever, export reports by using the "print to file" command and customizing a report in Excel, Lotus, or through a tab-delimited file.

QuickBooks can be purchase at all computer retail stores, including warehouse clubs, and from the Internet. The average price is about \$200 for a single user copy, \$600 for 5-user pack. Upgrade rebates of \$30-\$100 are available to those upgrading from previous versions of QuickBooks or Quicken. To obtain the rebate you must supply original pages from the user manual as described on the rebate coupon. You can contact Intuit at QuickBooks at 1-800-466-8848 or at <http://www.quickbooks.com>

Sandra Medlock is a local freelance writer, the director of Comp-U-Learn Training Center, and a software trainer specializing in database and accounting software. Bill McClusky is a computer software trainer for Comp-U-Learn Training Center specializing in QuickBooks,



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GRAINY. We will be happy to accept cookies or other goodies that we can share with the crowd in the kitchen area. There will be an early meeting, but the give-a-way won't start until the general meeting 2:45. Also it's time to think about our election of officers for this next year. The election committee has been busy rattling cages and shaking bushes for everyone who would really like their name in lights as a SLOBytes officer. It looks great on one's resume. We don't run on party platforms, we're not liberal, not conservative, just computer users who need to speak a little geek language to fellow users once a month.

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remembered that I had two choices: I could choose to live or I could choose to die. I chose to live."

"Weren't you scared?" I asked.

Jerry continued, "...the paramedics were great. They kept telling me I was going to be fine. But when they wheeled me into the ER and I saw the expressions on the faces of the doctors and nurses, I knew I needed to take action."

"What did you do?" I asked. "Well, there was a big burly nurse shouting questions at me," said Jerry. "She asked if I was allergic to anything. 'Yes,' I replied. The doctors and nurses stopped working as they waited for my reply. I took a deep breath and yelled, 'Bullets!' Over their laughter, I told them, 'I am choosing to live. Operate on me as if I am alive, not dead!'"

Jerry lived thanks to the doctors and also because of his amazing attitude. I learned from him that every day we have the choice to live fully. Attitude, after all, is everything.

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, and drawings at the end of meetings.

Article Submission: Deadline for submission of articles is the 10th of each month. Articles should be provided in ASCII format without any type of for matting from your word-processor 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.

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 Nancy Watts. Members may advertise personal computer equipment or software for free. Direct all correspondence and newsletter submissions to:

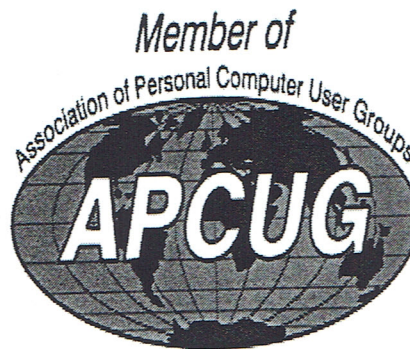
Nancy Watts
1805 San Luis Drive
San Luis Obispo, CA. 93401
543-3107
nwatts@jps.net

Meeting Times

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

The general meeting starts promptly at 2:30pm.

Special Interest Groups (SIGS) meet at 1:00pm - 2:15pm



Want to renew by mail?
Send your check to:

Bob Ward
2100 Andre Ave.
Los Osos CA 93402
528-0121

Make checks payable
to SLO Bytes.

Treasurer's Report

by Bob Ward

Beginning Balance: \$1472.51

Expenses:

Newsletter (Sept, Oct): \$191.12
APCUG Dues: \$50.00
Rent: \$75.00
Xmas Gifts: \$151.22
Bulk Mail: \$100.00
Deposit: \$166.00

New Balance: \$1071.17

Projector Fund

Beginning Balance: \$2463.96
Deposit: \$00.00
Ending Balance: \$2463.96

Officers

President

George Campbell

Vice President

Gus Thomasson

Treasurer

Marvin Baxendale

Secretary/Program Chair

Bill Avery
Jerry Mintz

Editors

Nancy Watts

SLO Bytes Home Page
www.thegrid.net/slobytes

Floppy Disks 4-Sale at the Meeting

DSDDD 360K Formatted Floppy Disks with labels, tabs, & sleeves.	.55 Each
DSDDD 360K Formatted Label Over Floppy Disks	.45 Each
Generic High Density Formatted Floppy Disks (5.25" X 1.2 Mb)	.70 Each
Generic 3.5" X 720K Formatted Floppy Disks	.70 Each
Generic 3.5" X 1.44 Mb Formatted Floppy Disks	.70 Each
New Library Disks	1.00 Each

All Disks fully guaranteed against defects.

SLO BYTES ELECTIONS & REORGANIZATION

Overview

With considerable regret, I am withdrawing from seeking the Presidency of SLO BYTES in the upcoming elections in December. After over 10 years of serving in that capacity, I find that other interests and business issues demand more and more of my time. I also find it necessary to travel more on weekends, making it more difficult to always be available at these meetings. Also, I am no longer as deeply immersed in computer technology as I once was, making it increasingly difficult to stay current on new technology and software. In addition, I believe that it is time to reorganize SLO BYTES to insure its continued activity and to inject some new ideas. As many of you know, the job of the President was primarily ceremonial, in any case, and I think we need a new officer who can take charge of the group for the future. I will continue to do occasional presentations for the General SIG, when asked, and when I am available.

Immediate Needs

A Nominating Committee

Nominations are needed before the December meeting for the following positions: **President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, and Program Chairman**. A nominating committee should be formed to locate willing and capable candidates and to create a roster of candidates for the election. SLO BYTES also has a Board of Directors, normally filled by the first four of those position, although this can change. A brief description of the current duties of these officers is on the reverse of this page.

Continuing and Future Needs

Refreshment Committee

Currently, Kathy Yakal and Norma Henderson fill this role, providing coffee and cookies for each meeting and preparing the refreshment table. Since Kathy may not always be at the meetings in the future, a standing refreshment committee is needed. Currently, donations fall short of covering the costs of refreshments, so this may be a budgetary matter in the future. This committee needs to purchase supplies prior to the meetings and transport them. They also are responsible for cleaning up the refreshment area.

Setup and Cleanup Committee

Currently, Bob Ward, Kathy Yakal, Norma Henderson and myself arrive an hour prior to the meetings to set up the hall and remain to lock up the IOOF hall following the meetings. Again, since not all of these people will be available at all meetings, a committee needs to be established, with the chairperson handling all keys.

Equipment Storage and Transportation

Approximately 6 boxes of materials needed for the meeting, a coffee pot, and other sundry items must be stored between meetings and transported to the meetings, arriving roughly an hour before the meeting begins. Currently, I am doing that, but this needs to be taken over by another person or persons.

Presentation Equipment

A computer and projector are needed for most meetings. Currently, I supply a laptop computer for General SIG presentations and to run the prize picker software for drawings. This laptop will not be available at meetings I don't attend. Also, our presentation projector is currently supplied by Bob Ward, and is owned by Cal Poly. The club does not own this equipment, so it may not be available for all meetings. Other arrangements may need to be made.

Prizes for Drawings

Currently, most prizes for the drawings come through unsolicited software sent to Kathy Yakal and me by software companies. This resource is dwindling, as software companies are sending less software. This is especially true, since both of us are reviewing a narrower range of software types. A committee may be needed to request software from vendors for the drawings, although we will provide what we can. Vendors sometimes donate such software to users' groups, but soliciting it requires considerable effort and excellent communications skills.

(OVER)

Other Potential Needs

Membership Committee

The membership of SLO BYTES is decreasing steadily. This leads to reduced revenues and may well make it impossible in the future to meet the group's financial needs in renting meeting space, paying for insurance, and dealing with the costs of publishing the newsletter, along with other costs. If the group is to grow, or even to remain stable, a serious, planned effort will be needed. A committee should be formed to plan membership drives.

Web Site Manager

Currently Bob Ward is performing this function, on a volunteer basis. Requires several hours per month.

Officer's Duties (Current)

SLO BYTES has always operated on an informal basis, with no set duties for its officers, who have worked together, in the past, in whatever capacity they could manage, to plan and conduct the meetings, with Bob Ward doing most of the work, quite frankly. While this served well for a number of years, a more formal organization may be needed in the future, since future officers may not know each other as well or have so many years of experience with the group. The next set of officers should establish their own methods and responsibilities, rather than simply adopting the status quo.

President

Currently, the position of President is mainly ceremonial. As President, I have conducted the General SIG as well.

Vice-President

Currently, this position is vacant.

Secretary

Traditionally, this position has been the primary one in the club and was held, until last year, by Bob Ward, who continues to do most of the work of this position, in an unofficial capacity. The Secretary maintains the membership database, handles paper and email correspondence, operates the club's web site, manages the newsletter mailing list, handles the bulk mail account at the Post Office, and much, much more. In the future, these tasks may be better distributed within the group, since they require far more hours than should be required of a volunteer. Currently held jointly by Jerry Mintz and Bill Avery, who primarily perform the tasks of Program Chairperson.

Treasurer

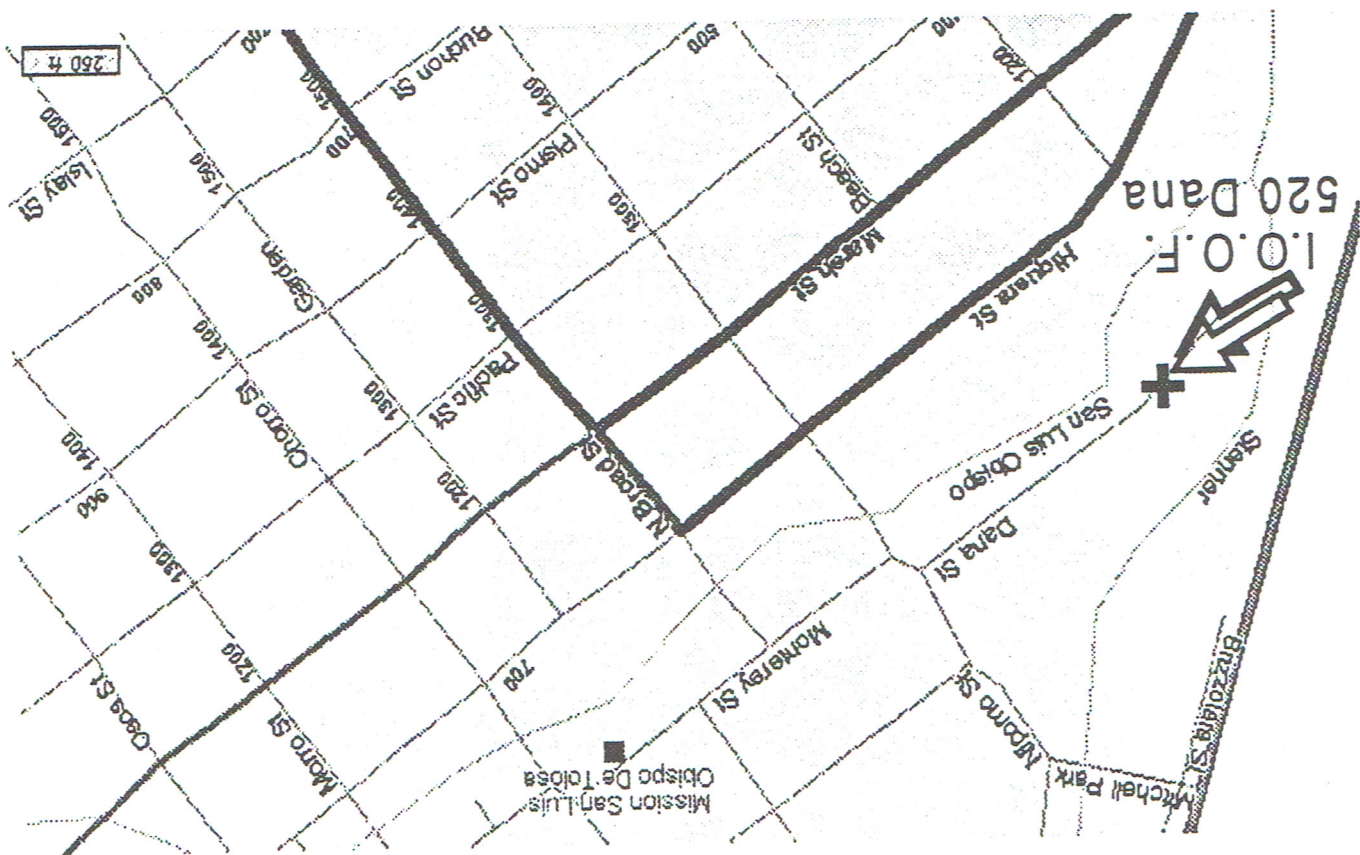
Currently, this position is being filled on an interim basis. The treasurer maintains the club's bank accounts, financial records, and handles all disbursements. The treasurer also mans a table in the hall and accepts memberships and sells diskettes. When there is a raffle, the treasurer also handles tickets, etc. Marvin Baxendale is willing to accept a nomination to this position, and is well qualified for the job.

Newsletter Editor

Creates and edits the club newsletter, working with other writers and other newsletters to publish a monthly newsletter. Arranges for duplication and mailing of the newsletter. Currently held by Nancy Watts.

Program Chair

Arranges with vendors and others to provide presentations at the meetings. This is a difficult job, requiring knowledge of the industry, a high degree of tact, and excellent communications skills. Currently handled by the Co-Secretaries, Bill Avery and Jerry Mintz.



SLO Bytes PC User's Group
c/o Bob Ward
2100 Andre Ave.
Los Osos, CA. 93402

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